THE RINGING WORLD

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PROMISE OF THE FUTURE.

Although the year that has just closed has produced no record-breaking peal lengths, it cannot be said that 1938 was without notable achievement. There was, for instance, that great performance of the six spliced Surprise Major methods on handbells, while in six-bell ringing the number of methods in seven complete 720's was raised to 84. It is impossible yet to say how many peals, in all, were rung during the year, but they number over two thousand, for only the third time in history; while peals in new methods also show an increase. These are signs of real vitality in the Exercise, but most promising of all is the number of young men who are coming into the forefront, and showing ability not merely as ringers but also as conductors. The future of the Exercise depends upon the youth of to-day, and in various parts of the country there is a strong element of young men who, if they keep their keenness, will do much to maintain the standard of ringing. That, however, is not to say that efforts to encourage new blood can be even temporarily relaxed. There are many gaps which remain unfilled; many bells that are unrung. We hope that in the year before us there will be renewed endeavours to fill the ranks and to bring in young people of the right type who will treat their ringing not merely as a hobby but as a contribution to the work of the Church.

In a letter which appeared in our last issue a correspondent wrote that those ringers who only go about from tower to tower to ring peals and practise to suit themselves are no good either to the Church or to other ringers. This is a drastic statement with which many will disagree, but there is considerable truth in it, although, happily, it applies only to a small minority of ringers. In every walk of life a purely selfish element is to be found, and ringing is no exception. But the vast majority of ringers render loyal and generous service to the Church and acknowledge the debt which they owe to it, for does it not provide the instruments without which it would be impossible to follow the art? On the other hand, it must be appreciated that those who gain practice and experience by peal ringing can render the best service in the belfry by the higher standard which they are able to set. Those ringers who think of nothing but peals and their own convenience render very little real help to the cause of ringing, but the ringer who fulfils his duty on Sundays and takes his peal ringing in his stride, as it were, is a valuable asset to the Church and to the Exercise. We hope that in the coming year service and peal ringing may be combined in a happy blend which will raise still higher the status of the ringers and add lustre to the art.

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TWELVE BELL PEALS.

LIVERPOOL.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 26, 1938, in Three Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 39¾ cwt. in C.

LESTER L. GRAY	...*Treble*	*RICHARD D. LANGFORD ...	7
RALPH G. EDWARDS	2	PERCIVAL W. CAVE	8
THOMAS S. HORRIDGE	3	ERNEST F. BENNETT... ...	9
HARRY F. HOLDING	4	EDWIN C. BIRKETT	10
GEORGE R. NEWTON	5	FRANK VARTY	11
THOMAS B. WORSLEY	6	HUGH ROBERTS	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by PERCIVAL W. CAVE.

* First peal of Stedman Cinques.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Monday, December 26, 1938, in Three Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 30 cwt.

FREDERICK G. SYMONDS	...*Treble*	*ARTHUR J. W. HUGHES ...	7
WILLIAM J. NUDDS	2	GEORGE RADLEY	8
ARTHUR RADLEY	3	GEORGE H. CROSS	9
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH	4	ERNEST W. FURBANK ...	10
MRS. C. J. MATTHEWS ...	5	CECIL J. MATTHEWS	11
CHARLES T. COLES	6	THOMAS BEVAN	...*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS.

* First peal on tower bells.

OXFORD.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, December 26, 1938, in Three Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5001 CHANGES;

Tenor 30½ cwt.

WILFRED WILLIAMS ...	...*Treble*	NELSON ELLIOTT	7
JACK M. CRIPPS	2	FRANK E. DARBY	8
EDWIN F. PIKE	3	GEORGE W. CECIL	9
FRANCIS E. TAYLOR	4	RAYMOND G. COUSINS... ...	10
WALTER F. JUDGE	5	JACK A. WAUGH	11
LEONARD FOX	6	JOSEPH T. DYKE	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by WILFRED WILLIAMS

TEN BELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Tuesday, December 20, 1938, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5017 CHANGES;

Tenor 37 cwt.

GEORGE E. FEARN ...	...*Treble*	MORRIS J. MORRIS	6
DANIEL T. MATKIN	2	ERNEST MANSELL	7
*SIDNEY O'C. HOLLOWAY ...	3	WILLIAM C. DOWDING ...	8
FRANK E. PERVIN	4	FRANK E. HAYNES	9
ALBERT WALKER	5	JOHN S. MASON	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

* First peal of Stedman Caters. Rung in honour of the 40th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Walker.

BRADFORD, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 26, 1938, in Three Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5080 CHANGES;

Tenor 25¾ cwt. in D.

ARTHUR ARMITAGE ...	...*Treble*	ERNEST H. SIMPSON	6
CHARLES E. LAWSON ...	2	GEORGE ROBINSON	7
WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON ...	3	WILLIAM WOODHEAD	8
*KENNETH SIMPSON	4	ADAM DEAS	9
LESLIE W. G. MORRIS ...	5	FREDERICK SEAGER ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by LESLIE W. G. MORRIS

* First peal on ten bells and first attempt.

WREXHAM, DENBIGHSHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD AND THE NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, December 26, 1938, in Three Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,
A PEAL OF OXFORD AND KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 25 cwt.

ROBERT SPERRING	...Treble	FRED HARTMAN	6
RALPH G. EDWARDS	2	ARTHUR PRINCE	7
GEORGE R. NEWTON	3	HARRY PYE	8
WILLIAM E. FLETCHER	4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	9
FRANK VARTY	5	PERCY SWINDLEY	...Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by R. SPERRING.
First peal of Oxford and Kent Royal by all the band except the conductor.

LEICESTER.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
(ST. JOHN'S SOCIETY.)
On Monday, December 26, 1938, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-DIVINE,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5147 CHANGES;
Tenor 21 cwt.

*G. HAROLD NORMAN	...Treble	EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD	6
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD	2	†ARTHUR DEBENHAM	7
†SIDNEY HARRISON	3	‡FRANK HOWE	8
‡ARTHUR WILLIAMS	4	WILLIAM H. CLARKE	9
H. EDWARD NORMAN	5	JOHN GRANT	...Tenor

Composed and Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.
* First attempt for a peal. † First peal of Grandsire Caters. ‡ First peal on ten bells and first peal of Grandsire.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, December 27, 1938, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALKMUND,
A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 17 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb. in E.

*FREDERICK W. STONE	...Treble	RALPH NARBOROUGH	6
*JOSEPH W. COTTON	2	*EDWARD F. GOBEY	7
*JACK BAILEY	3	*GEORGE TANDY	8
*WILLIAM LANCASTER	4	RONALD H. DOVE	9
FRANK BRADLEY	5	FREDERICK A. SALTER	...Tenor

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE. Conducted by F. A. SALTER.
* First peal of Royal. First ten-bell peal on the bells since re-casting.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BANGOR, NORTH WALES.
THE NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, December 17, 1938, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DAVID,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 13½ cwt.

*JOHN FLOOD	...Treble	JACK L. EVANS	5
ROBERT SPERRING	2	JAMES FULLER	6
†JACK DEAN	3	PERCY SWINDLEY	7
†GERALD BROMLEY	4	ARTHUR E. PEGLER	...Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by A. E. PEGLER.
* First peal of Major. † First peal. Rung for the golden jubilee of St. David's Church.

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, December 17, 1938, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 14½ cwt.

*ALBERT MALLEN	...Treble	HAROLD SHUCK	5
ROBERT MATTHEWS	2	BERNARD ASHFORD	6
JOHN BASS	3	JOHN LLOYD	7
CLIFFORD SKIDMORE	4	PERCY RICHARDS	...Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by R. MATTHEWS.
* First peal. Rung as a wedding compliment to Mr. John Pagett and Miss Florice Bradley.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, December 20, 1938, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt.

HENRY RANZETTA	...Treble	ERNEST J. BUTLER	5
JAMES BENNETT	2	FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN	6
*MRS. F. W. HOUSDEN	3	ROBERT C. HEAZEL	7
GEORGE R. PYE	4	JOHN H. CRAMPION	...Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by J. H. CRAMPION.
* First peal in the method. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Wesley Watson and Mrs. E. J. Butler.

LEWISHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, December 22, 1938, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 22¾ cwt.

JACK DAFFERN	...Treble	GEORGE H. DAYNES	5
HARRY HOSKINS	2	*ROBERT L. W. JONES	6
MISS HILDA OAKSHETT	3	JAMES BENNETT	7
REV. ARTHUR S. ROBERTS	4	EDMUND MOUNTER	...Tenor

Conducted by J. BENNETT.
* First peal.

LEICESTER.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, December 24, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor 12 cwt.

JOSIAH MORRIS	...Treble	*WILLIAM ROOT	5
HARRY BROUGHTON	2	REDVERS F. ELKINGTON	6
ALFRED BALLARD	3	*JOSEPH S. CARTER	7
RICHARD F. ROE	4	ERNEST MORRIS	...Tenor

Composed by ERNEST PYE. Conducted by E. MORRIS.
* First peal of Superlative. Rung on the 'Stelfox' eight.

WELLINGTON, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, December 24, 1938, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 22 cwt.

THOMAS W. JEANES	...Treble	JAMES HUNT	5
*ALEC A. WALKER	2	*HENRY CHURCHILL	6
ALFRED J. WYATT	3	JACK ROY	7
WALTER H. POOLE	4	WILLIAM G. GIGG	...Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by W. G. GIGG.
* First peal of **Major.**

WOMBOURNE, STAFFS.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Saturday, December 24, 1938, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BENEDICT,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 10 cwt.

CYRIL TABERNER	...Treble	JOHN LUCK	5
MAURICE TURNER	2	BARNABAS G. KEY	6
HOWARD HOWELL	3	AUBREY PICKERING	7
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER	4	ARCHIBALD CLARKE	...Tenor

Conducted by BARNABAS G. KEY.
A birthday compliment to C. Wallater.

SOUTHPORT, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, December 26, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 10 cwt.

JAMES W. GROUNDS	...Treble	WILLIAM PILKINGTON	5
JOHN BOOTH	2	JOSEPH RIDYARD	6
GEORGE B. JACKSON	3	JAMES MARSH	7
*ALAN CARPENTER	4	WILLIAM DICKENSON	...Tenor

Composed by REV. H. E. BULWER. Conducted by J. MARSH.
* First peal in the method.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, December 24, 1938, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF BISHOP RYDER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lb. in F sharp.

JOHN S. MASON	...*Treble*	THOMAS H. REEVES	5
NORMAN J. GOODMAN	2	C. HOWARD STANLEY	6
ERNEST T. ALLAWAY	3	ALBERT E. NORMAN	7
GEORGE E. FEARN	4	WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT	...*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT.

Arranged and rung in connection with the centenary celebrations at this church, and also as a birthday compliment to Mr. James George, Ringing Master at Bishop Ryder's.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, December 26, 1938, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb. in D.

THOMAS W. TOMLINSON	...*Treble*	DOUGLAS R. HAYES	5
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE ...	2	COLIN A. HOPPER	6
ERNEST J. AYLIFFE	3	RAYMOND OVERY	7
ALFRED H. PULLING	4	GEORGE W. SIBERE ...	...*Tenor*

Arranged and Conducted by J. A. TROLLOPE.

GREAT BADDOW, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 26, 1938, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 14¼ cwt.

GEORGE GREEN	...*Treble*	*PATRICK J. SPENCER PHILLIPS	5
HIRZEL EDWARDS	2	PERCY GREEN	6
NORMAN T. GRINHAM ...	3	HORACE J. MANSFIELD ...	7
*JOHN M. GAYFORD	4	ARTHUR H. EVERETT...	...*Tenor*

Composed by F. W. ROGERS. Conducted by PERCY GREEN.

* First peal in the method and first attempt. Arranged and rung in honour of the birthday of H.R.H. the Duchess of Gloucester.

WIGAN, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 26, 1938, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 28 cwt.

JAMES MARSH	...*Treble*	WILLIAM PILKINGTON	5
JOHN BOOTH	2	GEORGE T. JENES...	6
ALBERT PARKER...	3	JOSEPH RIDYARD	7
*ALAN CARPENTER	4	JAMES W. GROUNDS ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. RIDYARD.

* First peal in the method.

TIMBERSCOMBE, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 26, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETROCK,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

ALFRED J. WYATT ...	...*Treble*	WALTER H. POOLE	5
SYDNEY A. WYATT	2	WILLIAM G. GIGG	6
*JOHN PUGSLEY	3	JACK ROY	7
ARTHUR H. REED	4	JAMES HUNT	...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by JAMES HUNT.

* First peal of Major.

DARESBURY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, December 26, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

CHRISTOPHER GUDGEON	...*Treble*	*JOHN HASSELL	5
*ALAN J. BROWN	2	*HAROLD WORRAL	6
CECIL RADDON	3	STANLEY N. HARRISON ...	7
HARRY PARKER	4	*SYDNEY ANTHONY ...	...*Tenor*

Arranged and Conducted by C. GUDGEON.

* First peal of Stedman Triples. Rung as a welcome to the new Vicar, the Rev. E. W. L. M. Protherowe.

MILNROW, LANCS.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 26, 1938, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 18¾ cwt.

*SELWYN HOLT DEARDEN	...*Treble*	*HARRY BYRON	5
JOHN MEADOWCROFT, JUN.	2	IVAN KAY	6
†DENNIS HOLLOS...	3	HAROLD HAMER...	7
STEPHEN LLOYD PARRY ...	4	†ALBERT BUCKLEY ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by HAROLD HAMER.

* First peal. † First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor. Rung as a welcome to the new curate, the Rev. R. C. Gaul, B.A.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 26, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12¾ cwt.

HERBERT A. HOLDEN'...	...*Treble*	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ...	5
EDWIN A. BARNETT	2	HARRY PARKES	
PHILIP A. CORBY	3	EDWIN BARNETT	7
HERBERT E. AUDSLEY... ...	4	DEREK M. SHARP... ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by HERBERT E. AUDSLEY

A silver wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. F. G. A. Murphy, parents of the ringer of the 5th.

BEXLEY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 26, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 7¾ cwt.

ERNEST H. OXENHAM ...	...*Treble*	HERBERT A. HOLDEN	5
HERBERT E. AUDSLEY... ...	2	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ...	6
DEREK M. SHARP...	3	PHILIP A. CORBY	7
EDWIN A. BARNETT	4	HARRY PARKES	...*Tenor*

Composed by E. WIGHTMAN. Conducted by P. A. CORBY.

CLIFFE-AT-HOO, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 27, 1938, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

ERNEST H. OXENHAM ...	...*Treble*	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ...	5
EDWIN A. BARNETT	2	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ...	6
DEREK M. SHARP	3	HARRY PARKES	7
HERBERT A. HOLDEN	4	PHILIP A. CORBY	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 90). Conducted by P. A. CORBY.

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MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, December 27, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor 12½ cwt.

Ernest H. Oxenham	*Treble*	Edwin A. Barnett	5
Derek M. Sharp	2	Herbert E. Audsley	6
Geoffrey V. Murphy	3	Philip A. Corby	7
Herbert A. Holden	4	Harry Parkes	*Tenor*

Composed by C. Middleton. Conducted by Herbert E. Audsley
G. V. Murphy's 100th peal for the association.

SITTINGBOURNE, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, December 27, 1938, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
At the Church of St. Michael,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Washbrook's No. 1. Tenor 21 cwt.

Walter H. Dobbie	*Treble*	George A. Naylor	5
Doris G. Dobbie	2	Stanley B. Dobbie	6
Ernest J. Dobbie	3	Clarence H. Dobbie	7
William A. Wood	4	George Wood	*Tenor*

Conducted by Clarence H. Dobbie.
Birthday peal for Mrs. S. B. Dobbie. First peal as conductor on tower bells.

LLANGIBBY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, December 27, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
At the Parish Church of St. Cybi,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt.

George Popnell	*Treble*	Trevor M. Roderick	5
John W. Jones	2	Robert E. Coles	6
Francis C. Mogford	3	Ernest Stitch	7
*Albert M. Tyler	4	Donald G. Clift	*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. Roberts. Conducted by Donald G. Clift.
* First peal in the method.

SHERBURN-IN-ELMET, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, December 27, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
At the Church of All Saints,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Parker's Six-part. Tenor 15 cwt. (approx.).

C. Palfreeman	*Treble*	Mrs. E. Bradley	5
Mrs. J. Render	2	W. Hawley	6
*H. Bradley	3	E. Bradley	7
Miss M. D. Hawley	4	*J. Bradley	*Tenor*

Conducted by E. Bradley.
* First peal and first attempt. First peal on the bells by the local band.

SAFFRON WALDEN, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, December 27, 1938, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

Frederick Dench	*Treble*	Frederick W. Housden	5
Alfred E. Pitstow	2	Francis E. Gleaves	6
Harold N. Pitstow	3	Alfred L. Simmonds	7
Leonard E. Pitstow	4	Walter Ayre	*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. Washbrook. Conducted by A. E. Pitstow.

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DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

PULBOROUGH, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, December 27, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 13½ cwt.

Oliver Sippetts	*Treble*	William T. Beeson	5
Frederick W. Rogers	2	Jack M. Cripps	6
Kenneth Snelling	3	Frederick Page	7
Alfred J. Bull	4	C. Ernest Smith	*Tenor*

Composed by Rev. H. Law James. Conducted by C. Ernest Smith
First peal of London on the bells. This was W. T. Beeson's 50th peal of London.

SIX BELL PEALS.

SHENLEY, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, December 10, 1938, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of London, Norwich and Cambridge Surprise, Double Court, Double Oxford, St. Clement's and Plain Bob.
Tenor 17 cwt. 3 qr. 2 lb. in E flat.

H. William Barrett	*Treble*	William Henley	4
George Martin	2	Cecil C. Mayne	5
William Welling	3	Tony Price	*Tenor*

Conducted by Tony Price.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, December 12, 1938, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,
At the Bell Foundry,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven 720's called differently. Tenor 8½ cwt.

*Paul L. Taylor	*Treble*	Leslie W. Stevens	4
Colin Harrison	2	John Saddington	5
Charles Allsop	3	G. Ronald Edwards	*Tenor*

Conducted by G. R. Edwards.
* First peal and first attempt.

IBSTOCK, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, December 15, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
At the Church of St. Denys.
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one extent of Double Court and two each of Court Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt.

*Cecil Verey	*Treble*	*A. Raymond Tonks	4
Joseph W. Cotton	2	*William T. Goadby	5
William H. Curson	3	Arthur E. Rowley	*Tenor*

Conducted by Arthur E. Rowley.
* First peal in four methods.

WALPOLE ST. ANDREW, NORFOLK.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, December 17, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
At the Church of St. Andrew,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Double Court, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Oxford Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qr. 18 lb. in F.

Thomas Bush	*Treble*	Wallace Cousins	4
Lewis Bush	2	Claude Cousins	5
John A. Godfrey	3	Tony Price	*Tenor*

Conducted by Tony Price.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, December 24, 1938, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different 720's. Tenor 12½ cwt.

Victor Evans	*Treble*	Percy Newton	4
Edward Timpson	2	Walter Lee	5
Harry C. Jones	3	Roland Biggs	*Tenor*

Conducted by Roland Biggs.

NEWHALL, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, December 26, 1938, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being three 720's of Oxford Treble Bob and four 720's of Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb. in A flat.

WALTER G. SOAR ...	...*Treble*	JOSEPH W. COTTON	4
WILLIAM J. DUMOLO	2	TOM J. DUMOLO	5
RONALD H. DOVE	3	ARTHUR E. ROWLEY ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ARTHUR E. ROWLEY.

ASH PRIORS, TAUNTON, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, December 26, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 11¼ cwt.

EDGAR QUICKE	...*Treble*	WALTER STEVENS	4
EDWIN BRANCHFLOWER ...	2	CYRIL STEVENS	5
*FRANK BRANCHFLOWER, R.N.	3	CLAUDE TARR	...*Tenor*

Conducted by E. QUICKE.
* First peal of Grandsire Doubles.

HAWORTH, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, December 26, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being three extents of Plain Bob, two of Kent Treble Bob and two of Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 11¼ cwt.

WILLIAM SILVERWOOD	...*Treble*	MISS MARY WHITE	4
ERNEST H. SIMPSON	2	KENNETH SIMPSON	5
HERBERT HELLIWELL... ...	3	ARTHUR BAIRSTOW ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ERNEST H. SIMPSON.

UPLOWMAN, DEVON.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(TAUNTON DEANERY BRANCH.)
On Tuesday, December 27, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 10 cwt. (approx.).

STANLEY N. BRISTOW	...*Treble*	GEORGE ALDERMAN	4
CYRIL J. STEVENS	2	WALTER STEVENS	5
*FREDERICK ALDERMAN ...	3	†WILLIAM C. NEWBERRY	...*Tenor*

Conducted by F. ALDERMAN.
* First peal. First peal as conductor.

MAULDEN, BEDS.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, December 27, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being an extent each of St. Albans Delight, Cambridge Surprise, College Exercise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 10¾ cwt. in F sharp.

SAMUEL DANIELS... ...	...*Treble*	REGINALD J. HOUGHTON ...	4
RONALD J. SHARP	2	C. HENRY HARDING	5
ANDREW C. SINFIELD	3	C. EDWARD JEFFRIES ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. E. JEFFRIES.

NEW RADNOR, RADNORSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tuesday, December 27, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
One 240 of Morris' arrangement and 40 six-scores, 11 callings. Tenor 7⅛ cwt.

ALFRED HUGHES ...	...*Treble*	TREVOR JONES	4
HARRY T. CHANDLER ...	2	JOHN F. BUTLER	5
*WALTER EVANS	3	†JOSEPH BAKER	...*Tenor*

Conducted by TREVOR JONES.
* First peal 'inside.' † First peal. A farewell peal to P.O. H. T. Chandler, who is shortly leaving for the East.

WISTASTON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tuesday, December 27, 1938, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST MARY.
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being three 720's of Oxford Bob and four 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 6 cwt. 6 lb.

*KENNETH THOMASSON	...*Treble*	GEORGE H. CRAWLEY... ...	4
ERIC CLAREE	2	RICHARD T. HOLDING... ...	5
ALBERT THOMAS...	3	ALBERT CRAWLEY ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by A. CRAWLEY.
* First peal. The 50th peal on the bells.

STAPLEGROVE, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, December 27, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-EVANGELIST,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven 720's, five callings. Tenor 12 cwt. (approx.).

*CHARLES TREMLETT...	...*Treble*	ARTHUR H. REED	4
JACK ROY	2	JAMES HUNT...	5
WALTER H. POOLE	3	WILLIAM G. GIGG ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by JAMES HUNT.
* First peal of Minor. First peal of Minor on the bells. Rung to celebrate St. John's Day.

REPORTS OF PEALS.

May we ask those responsible for sending in reports of peals to do so immediately after the peals are rung, and not to delay them, as is often done, for a week or even more? It adds to our difficulties, and is unfair to those who make a point of forwarding their reports promptly.

Also, we would request those who send reports of peals to copy the form always used in 'The Ringing World.' It will avoid the omission of essential details and consequent delay in publication.

GAMSTON, NOTTS.
THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, December 28, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one extent of Oxford Treble Bob, two extents of Kent Treble Bob and four extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt.

REGINALD ASHFORTH ...	...*Treble*	HAROLD DENMAN	4
MISS KATHARINE BURCHNALL	2	*IVAN SALT	5
MISS GRACE BURCHNALL ...	3	CLIFFORD A. VESSEY...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by CLIFFORD A. VESSEY.
* First peal 'inside.'

HANDBELL PEAL.

WEST BRIDGFORD, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, December 22, 1938, in One Hour and Thirty Minutes,
AT 9, PATRICK ROAD,
A PEAL OF BOB DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HAROLD BROWN	1-2	RALPH NARBOROUGH	3-4
		*HAROLD PARFREMENT ...	5-6

Conducted by R. NARBOROUGH.
Witness—Mrs. R. Narborough.
* First peal 'in hand.'

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MR. C. W. CLARKE'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN BEDFORDSHIRE RINGING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—As one who has been closely acquainted with Mr. C. W. Clarke, of Bedford, for more than 30 years, I feel that the account of his ringing career, which appeared in 'The Ringing World' recently, did not give him anything like the credit he deserves, but no doubt it was owing to his own reticence in not sending fuller information of his ringing activities.

As regards peals for the Bedfordshire Association, in addition to the Bob Minor at Biddenham you mentioned, he called the first peal of Bob Triples, Bob Major and Royal, Grandsire Triples and Caters, Stedman Triples and Caters, Treble Bob Major and Royal, Double Norwich and Superlative, and took part in the first of Cambridge Surprise Major. He also called the longest peal yet rung by the association, 10,176 Kent Treble Bob Major rung at Irthlingborough, a 6,000 in nine Minor methods at Harrold, 7,200 in 10 methods at Bromham, and 10,080 in 14 methods at Emberton. The latter peal had been attempted three weeks previously, but was lost through a rope breaking after five hours. Charles Clarke never likes leaving anything unfinished, so he made arrangements for another try, which was successful.

When one considers his only means of travel, a push bike, and the condition of the roads at that time, especially in winter, one can only admire the wonderful enthusiasm he displayed. No matter what the weather was like, if he had promised to meet he would always be there. You referred to him in Belfry Gossip once as the grand old man of Bedfordshire. It was a splendid compliment to him and one that he fully deserved. It would be good for the Bedfordshire Association if someone was coming along who could fill his place, now that advancing years prevent him from doing as he used to do in former years.

H. W. G.

AN OLD CUSTOM AT DARLINGTON.

The custom of ringing the bells at St. Cuthbert's Parish Church, Darlington, Co. Durham, on Christmas Eve, while the citizens are doing their Christmas marketing, has long been kept, with the exception of the war years, and again two years ago, when the bells were away for recasting. Last Christmas Eve a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by W. Oliver 1, Roland Park (conductor) 2, T. Cooke (first quarter-peal) 3, F. Newton 4, J. Gibson 5, F. Tinsley 6, W. A. Pack 7, L. Venus 8. Ringers of 1, 2 and 7 belong to Holy Trinity band, the rest to St. Cuthbert's.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A HASTINGS TOWER TO REJOIN.

A meeting of the Eastern Division was held at St. Clement's, Hastings, on Saturday, December 17th, when members attended from Hailsham, Eastbourne, Heathfield, Rotherfield, Etchingham, Battle, together with the local ringers. The Master of the association (Mr. H. R. Butcher) was also present. The service was conducted by the Rector, who gave a most interesting address. Afterwards he presided at the tea and business meeting.

At the commencement of the meeting he referred to the death of Mr. A. Hobden, of Waldron, who had been a member of the association for a great many years, and, as a mark of respect, the members stood for a few moments in silence.

It was with great pleasure that the secretary (Mr. A. C. Pankhurst) announced that Christ Church, Blacklands, wished to be affiliated in the New Year.

A vote of thanks was proposed to the Rector for the use of the bells, conducting the service and for presiding at the tea and meeting, also to Mr. Piper, of Eastbourne, for bearing the whole cost of the tea.

The members then went on to All Saints' tower, where they were joined by three members from Horsmonden, and the bells were kept going until after 8 o'clock.

WEDDING BELLS AT ARMLEY.

BRIDE A YORKSHIRE RINGER.

The wedding took place at Christ Church, Upper Armley, Leeds, on Saturday, December 24th, of Miss Olive Renton and Mr. Harry Whitehouse. The bride had been a keen and regular ringer at Christ Church for the past 12 years and is a member of the Ladies' Guild and the Yorkshire Association. The local company, kindly assisted by members from Headingley, Bramley and Rothwell, rang for about an hour previous to the ceremony, and as the happy couple left the church some very well-struck Queen's and Firing completed the proceedings

At the ceremony, which was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. J. S. Hollingworth, M.A. LL.D., one of the bride's fellow-ringers officiated at the organ. The Vicar spoke very appreciatively of the bride's services as a ringer and of the other ways in which she had played her part in the work of the Church.

A reception was held in the Co-operative Hall, attended by about 70 guests.

On Sunday for evening service a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung in honour of the event: Jos. Thackray 1, F. Tindall (Ripon) 2, James Hey 3, A. Fieldhouse 4, J. Benton 5, F. Raymeut (conductor) 6.

John Taylor & Co.

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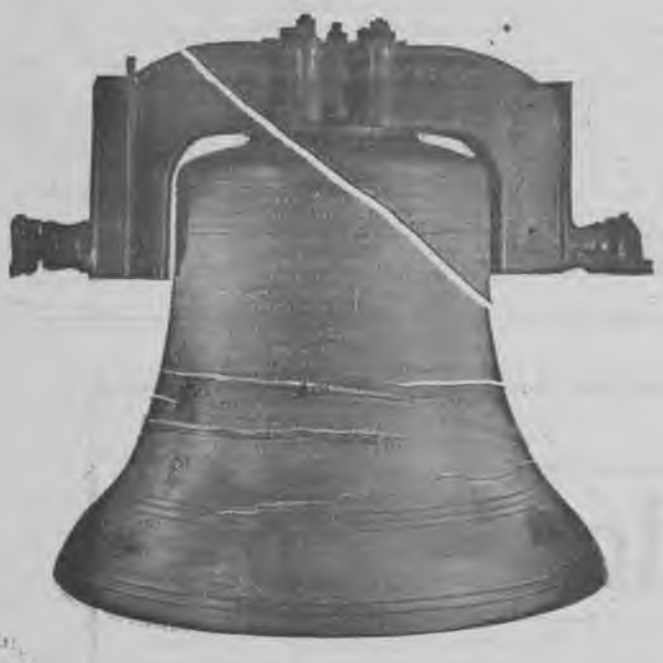
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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Mr. William H. Fussell, of Slough, is in King Edward Ward, Windsor Hospital, where he was operated on last Saturday. He is cheerful and progressing favourably. Ringers everywhere will wish him a rapid and complete recovery.

The joint meeting of the Liverpool and Wigan Branches of the Lancashire Association at Liverpool, which was to have been held on January 14th, has been postponed to January 28th. The meeting of the Preston Branch, advertised for to-morrow, has been postponed to the 21st.

Mr. E. Alex. Young, of Bromley, who was formerly hon. secretary of the Central Council, is sailing to-morrow, with Mrs. Young, for South Africa. He will be away for some four months.

In the figures of Mr. C. J. Sedgley's peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major printed on page 850 last week, the calling of the course 56234 should have been Wrong and Home. The Wrong was accidentally omitted.

Mr. R. Maynard rang the old year out at Walthamstow on Saturday night for the 65th time. It would probably have been the 67th time but for the silencing of the bells during the war. He has rung in celebration of Christmas in every year of his long career.

We are happy to state that Mr. James George has made such rapid progress during the past ten days that he has now been discharged from hospital and is home again.

Sympathy will be extended to Mr. J. H. Swinfield, of Burton-on-Trent, in the sudden death of Mrs. Swinfield, which occurred on the last day of the year. Mr. Swinfield has been a member of the Midland Counties Association since 1883 and has represented the association on the Central Council since 1929.

NEW YEAR BELLS.

WHAT THE B.B.C. GAVE US.

A New Year's Day feature of the B.B.C. programmes was the recorded 'greetings' from many European countries, in native languages, followed in each case by 'a peal of the most famous bells in that land.'

Those who listened must have been disappointed. They heard words spoken in unknown tongues and, in most cases, a jangle of bells, but they had little or no idea from which countries they came.

There were two or three carillons, upon which a few chords were heard; England was represented by call changes, apparently at St. Clement Danes, the rest was the usual Continental clashing of large and small bells (except for one or two instances of the tolling of single bells).

'After this,' one non-ringer said to us, 'no one need write to "The Ringing World" about bad striking in this country.'

St. Clement Danes' bells formed a good deal of the basis on which the programme of 'New Year Greeting,' heard just before midnight on Saturday, was built up.

ANCIENT GUILDS.

ST. STEPHEN'S, BRISTOL, AND OTHERS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—May I again pay tribute to the wonderful industry with which Mr. Trollope still pursues his researches. I have often made inquiry from my Bristol friends in reference to their Elizabethan Society of Ringers. The article in your last issue tells us much, even if, here and there, we read between the lines. Mr. Trollope always gives us much to ponder over, so that we shall await the concluding article with added interest.

I have been particularly struck by the company's old rule (No. 20) adopted when, according to Mr. Trollope, it was founded in 1620. This sternly enjoined every Companion to kneel and pray, on entering the belfry (not the ringing room, I observe). If we, to-day, had but the courage of our forefathers! There is, however, one point re this rule upon which Mr. Trollope might kindly enlarge, viz.: Why, though he concurs with Toulmen Smith that it is probably a mediæval one, he is still so sure that this newly-formed secular body coldly adopted it (if I may be forgiven the paraphrase) with the same nonchalance as they might one about Grace before food? I feel some doubt as to this. And I cannot remember any rule like it in those of other contemporary secular ringing bodies.

'Ringers and singers are little home bringers.' One is tempted to say, with a smile, in view of this then current gibe. Did they put the rule in for just 'eye-wash'?

In reference to what I might term the two rivers of ringing: (1) Service reverential, and (2) secular scientific-cum-jollity, Mr. Trollope has not yet commented upon the Master's quotation from Spenser at the College Youths' tercentenary. I would like to take this opportunity to quote from a 'catch' also Elizabethan and rather significant: 'All, into Service let us Ring' (1600 or before).

E. ALEX. YOUNG.

Bromley.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—52.

WILLIAM SHORT.

On the 25th of this month, Mr. William Short, towerkeeper and conductor at Clent, Worcestershire, will reach the jubilee of his first peal as conductor, which he rang at Hagley, where, only two months before, on November 24th, 1888, he scored his first peal. Both these were Grandsire Triples. Since that time Mr. Short has spent 50 years in encouraging and helping others in the art of change ringing. He was Deputy Ringing Master of St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham, from 1899 to 1906, instructor to the Hereford Diocesan Guild from 1902 to 1915, and Master of the Worcestershire Association from 1934 to 1938. He represented the association on the Central Council for nine years, was a member of the Central Committee for 25 years and has been a member of the association for 51 years. This is an honourable and enviable record of service in the interests of change ringing, and in recognition of all he had done for the Worcestershire Association he was made the first 'Freeman' and a lay vice-president.



MR. WILLIAM SHORT.

In addition to all this, however, Mr. Short has helped to make history in ringing, for he has shared in a number of record performances as well as other notable peals. He conducted the record peal of Stedman Cinques, the 11,111 at St. Martin's, Birmingham, on December 26th, 1901, and took part in the record length of 14,112 London Surprise Major, rung at King's Norton, on May 11th, 1903; also in the records of 10,176 of Double Oxford Major at Brierley Hill, Staffs, on December 27th, 1909, and the 9,728 of Superlative Surprise Major at Clent on December 26th, 1910. Mr. Short called the first peal ever rung on the sea, a peal of Stedman Caters on handbells while crossing from Dublin to Holyhead on May 29th, 1901, after a tour in which he had conducted the first true peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal in Ireland and had taken part in the first Surprise peal rung out of England.

Ten years earlier, on October 24th, 1891, Mr. Short had rung in a peal of Grandsire Triples at Windsor Castle, the only one on the bells during last century. On August 1st, 1898, he rang in the only peal of Stedman Cinques on the old twelve at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, and to do this he cycled there and back, a distance of 90 miles.

He conducted the only peal of Stedman Cinques on the old twelve at Worcester Cathedral, and the last peal on the old ten at Birmingham Cathedral, this latter having been rung in 1903, although the bells were not recast until more than 30 years later. Mr. Short conducted the last peal on the old ten and the first on the new at Warwick, both Stedman Caters, in 1900 and 1902 respectively. He conducted in 1897 the first peal of Double Norwich and in 1899 the first of Double Oxford Major rung in Birmingham, and in 1907 the first of London Surprise in that city.

He was one of the first, if not the first, to ring peals on all numbers of bells from five to twelve, which he completed in 1912, and among the tower bell peals which he has rung have been silent peals of Stedman Triples and Cambridge Surprise Major. On handbells he has rung Stedman from Triples to Cinques, including 8,888 Caters, which, when it was rung on March 23rd, 1898, was the record length in the method 'in hand.'

Born at Pershore, Worcestershire, on April 12th, 1868, Mr. Short, despite his 70 years, is still active in peal ringing, and has now rung 919 peals, of which he has conducted 329. They have been spread over 24 counties in England, Ireland and Wales, and have been rung for eleven associations.

A HALF-PEAL.

At All Saints' Church, Kingston, for watchnight service, a half-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 1 hour 45 minutes: E. Parker 1, C. C. Rayner 2, G. C. Goodman 3, W. Massey 4, H. G. Andrews 5, H. W. Barrett 6, F. E. Hawthorne (conductor) 7, W. Maxwell 8. With the exception of the ringer of the 5th, all are Sunday service ringers at this church. It was the longest length by ringers of 1, 2 and tenor.

CONDUCTORS AND CONDUCTING.

HINTS ON CALLING PEALS.

The following article has been specially contributed to 'The Ringing World' for the benefit of would-be conductors.

The conductor's job is threefold. He has to call the bobs at exactly the right time and in the right place. He has to make sure that throughout the peal the bells are ringing the correct changes, and to stop it when once things have gone wrong. He has to correct mistakes and trips to the best of his ability.

The last is the most spectacular of the three, and many people judge of a man's capacity as a conductor simply by his ability to pounce on a ringer who has made a trip, or by the way he can drag a band out of a mess or save a peal when more than half the band are hopelessly lost.

Actually, however, these are the least important of a conductor's duties. The correcting of trips is a job which belongs to any one of the band and not exclusively to the conductor, though usually he is the one best fitted and best able to do it; but whether it is a good thing to save a peal after nearly everybody has lost himself is one of those things which are open to argument. 'Give one good fire and do as I tell you' is good advice when your object is to pile up as many peals as possible, but in these days when peals are so many and comparatively so easy to get, it is better to have a higher standard and to stop before things get as bad as that.

The young conductor is justified in taking up the attitude that it is not his business to ring all the bells in the tower, and if the others can't ring the method without losing themselves they ought not to have the credit of scoring a peal.

BOB CALLERS WITH LIMITATIONS.

In bygone days it used to be considered sufficient if a man could call the bobs at the right places and if, now and again (say at the part ends), he could see that the right changes came up. Some could not do even so much as that. They called the bobs at the right places as far as they were able, but they did not know in the least whether the bells were right or not, and often went on perhaps for an hour or two right to the end of the peal before they discovered that anything was wrong. These people were contemptuously termed bob-callers and not conductors and the breed is not yet extinct. There is, however, this to be said that many a good peal has been rung in this way. It means that everybody in the band has to ring his own bell and not make too many trips or the peal cannot be rung at all.

Jasper Snowdon in his 'Rope-Sight' (which every ringer should own and study even if he thinks Plain Bob is too elementary stuff to bother much about), gives some directions for calling Bob Major and tells us how a good average conductor called his peals 50 years ago. Things have advanced since then and to-day the standard is much higher and the conductor ought to know a good deal more than Snowdon thought necessary.

It very often happens that a young conductor has to call as his first peal one of Grandsire Triples. This is rather unfortunate, because Grandsire Triples is one of the most difficult of all methods to call properly. It is much harder than, say, Superlative. That is the reason why although there are scores of available peals in the method practically only one is ever rung. It used to be Holt's Ten-part; now it is Parker's Twelve-part. There is, of course, the Original, but that stands in a class by itself.

HINTS ON DOUBLE NORWICH.

Bob Major is the best method to learn conducting in, as it is the best method to learn to ring in, but many companies think it rather beneath them and the young conductor will perhaps have to call his first peal in a more advanced method. We will suppose it to be Double Norwich. The first thing he should do is to write out clearly a full plain course—not merely a lead. The next thing is to choose a peal to call, and here he will do well to select a simple peal, and there is no better for the purpose than the six-part which usually goes by J. R. Pritchard's name, though it has been composed by quite a number of people, including Henry Johnson.

5,184

23456	1	5	6
42635		—	
26435			—
64235			—
32465	—		—
24365			—
43265			—
62345	—		—
23645			—

Five times reneated. Single at 4 in last course of third and sixth parts.

(Continued on next page.)

HOW TO LEARN A COMPOSITION.

(Continued from previous page.)

He should write out the whole of the peal and not merely one part as given here. Then he must decide which bell he will ring himself. He will probably pick the tenor, because it is the observation bell and at first is the easiest to call from.

Now let him turn to his plain course and study, first, what positions he will be in when he has to call the bobs and then exactly where he will meet the bells which are in second's, third's, fourth's, fifth's and sixth's at the course ends. The sixth's place bell is the one he dodges with at front and behind; the fifth's place bell is the one that comes to the seventh after he leaves that bell. Those are easy to see. The others are not quite so easy and he need not bother at first about all of them, but some are important. After the course end before he makes his far places from behind he should take particular notice of the bell he dodges with in 3-4, which will be the second's place bell. As he goes to dodge on the front or behind with the sixth's place bell he should take particular notice of the bell which has been dodging with that bell, which will be the fourth's place bell.

He can then learn the calling of his peal, which will not take him a couple of minutes—Five and two Sixes, One and three Sixes, One and two Sixes, five times repeated—and if he has a good memory that can be the thing he mainly relies on for calling. But he wants to know a good deal more.

He must learn the sixth's and fifth's place bells throughout the peal. It will not take a great deal of doing and it will enable him to know at very short intervals whether two at least of the bells are in their right places. The sixth place bell is fixed for the whole of a part and he cannot miss that.

He must notice which bells are affected by the bobs at 1, 4, 5 and 6. The bob at 6 does not shift either the fifth's or sixth's place bells, and as one is called in every course except the first (where there is a 5), he will have no difficulty about them.

The bob at 1 alters the fifth's place bell and puts into that position the bell which was in second's at the last course end. So what the conductor must do is to notice which bell he dodges with as he goes to make his far places from behind; if it is the one he wants for his new fifth's place bell he must call the bob at 1.

When he studies the figures of his composition he will notice that there is one bell (the second) which throughout is never in fifth's or sixth's, but it does a very regular work. It is at home at the part ends and it is always a fourth's place bell whenever a bob at 1 is called.

CALLING FROM A WORKING BELL.

In the same way the conductor can find out many things which will enable him to see at once whether the bells are in their right places, without having to depend on noticing any particular rows which sometimes are not too easy to read. It is a mistake, however, to try and learn too much at first. Enough should be known to give frequent checks of different bells.

It may be that a conductor cannot ring the tenor and has to call from another bell. He can choose the seventh, which is as much an observation bell as the tenor, or he can call from one of the working bells.

Good conductors will ring any bell and call from the tenor just as if they were ringing it themselves. Better conductors still will ring any bell and call from the positions of all the bells. But those things take practice. A beginner calling from one of the working bells can learn the work of that bell at the bobs and so call his bobs, checking himself by the position of the tenors, which he can notice by sight and sound. Some people seem to think that this is not a legitimate way of calling, but it is a perfectly sound and safe method, the only objection being that it takes some amount of trouble. Some men call peals from a working bell by counting the number of leads between the calling positions. That method is not to be recommended.

The best plan is to know always what position your bell is in at the course end and what effect any bob will have on it. Suppose you are ringing the second and have to call 1.6 in the first course. At the 1 you will make the bob which will make you a fifth's place bell. At the 6 the fifth's place bell has just finished its near places from behind. It is not a great task to find out what every bell is doing when any bob is called, and, when you are ringing a working bell, directly you call a bob you can work out where you will be at the next bob.

This is a most excellent method of calling, and if you learn it for Bob Major you will find that it applies in exactly the same way to Superlative, Cambridge, London, Yorkshire or any other method which has second's at the plain lead and fourth's at a bob.

NEARLY A FAMILY AFFAIR.

Five out of six of the ringers of a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles on December 27th at Wicken, Northants, belonged to one family: Miss K. Green 1, A. J. Green 2, James A. Green 3, F. Green 4, J. A. Green (conductor) 5, R. Carr 6. It was the first quarter-peal by ringers of treble and tenor.

LADY'S PEAL RINGING RECORD.

MISS SYLVIA BOWYER HEADS 1938 LIST.

Other Interesting Performances.

The year 1938 witnessed a great deal of peal ringing activity without the incentive of any national rejoicings such as had been provided by the Coronation in the previous year. It is not yet possible to say exactly how many peals were rung in the twelve months, but the number is likely to exceed 2,030, the highest since 1932, when 2,199 peals were rung. Indeed, on only one other occasion has the total been more than two thousand, and that was in the record year of 1913, when 2,359 peals were rung.

For the first time in history a lady heads the list of peal ringers, Miss Sylvia Bowyer, of Ipswich, rang no fewer than 62 peals during the year.

Among others of the younger generation who have been busy in this direction are Mr. P. A. Corby, who rang his 50th peal of the year on the last day of December, and some of the members of the Crayford band.

Some of those, too, who have reached the veteran stage have not lost their youthful ardour for peals. Mr. Frank Bennett, of Brighton, for instance, rang 56 and conducted 30; Mr. G. R. Pye, of Chadwell Heath, rang 51; Mr. J. H. Shepherd, of Swindon, scored 32 peals between Scotland and Cornwall and measured many more tenors; while Mr. George Williams, Master of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild, who was 81 last May, rang 36 peals, of which he conducted 12. They included peals of Bob Major and Royal, Double Norwich Major, Kent Treble Bob Major, Royal and Maximus, Stedman Triples, Caters and Cinques, Cambridge Surprise Major and Royal, and London, Bristol, Yorkshire, Superlative and Norfolk Surprise Major. What a record for an octogenarian! But then, Mr. Williams is only 81 years young.



MISS SYLVIA BOWYER.

There are many ringers, of course, with totals for the year between 25 and 50, or even over, and among the most notable performances have been those by the Hertfordshire Surprise band. Here, for example, is the list of Mr. Harold Cashmore, who, as conductor of the talented company ringing the Spliced Surprise peals on handbells, has achieved such great distinction. In 1938 he rang 28 peals, of which he conducted 24. They included the following 12 Surprise methods rung for the first time: Ickleton, Apsley, Kendal, Hitchin, Southall, Sedbergh, Raunds, Woodston, Delrow, Verulam, Tilehurst and Newbury. There were also two others, the first by all the band, Minsmere and Deben, and, in addition, a peal of Grandsire Caters, one of Superlative, two peals of London and Bristol Surprise, and on handbells a peal of Bristol, two in four Spliced Surprise methods, one in five methods and one in six methods. The mere list almost makes one dizzy.

These peals in new methods are part of the increase made in new methods rung during the year. Altogether there were peals in 19 new Surprise Major methods, one new Surprise Royal method and one of Major and one of Royal in plain methods. In 1937 fourteen new Surprise Major methods were rung and three new plain Major methods.

Mr. and Mrs. Rupert Richardson rang the most peals together of any married couple last year. They were in 32 peals together, and, in addition, Mr. Richardson rang four others.

Miss Bowyer's ringing career has been meteoric. She began ringing exactly four years ago and rang her first peal on February 8th, 1936. In that year she rang eight peals, but in 1937 she scored 42 and incidentally set up a record for a lady. Her 62 peals last year is, of course, a new record. It is a comprehensive performance, and her 51 peals for the Suffolk Guild is the highest number rung in one year by a member of the Guild. She is the only lady to ring peals in eight different Maximus methods, including six Surprise methods, and she is the first lady to call peals of Cambridge on 6, 8, 10 and 12 bells. She conducted them all in 1938. She has rung peals of Kent Treble Bob on 6, 8, 10 and 12 bells, and of Yorkshire Surprise on 8, 10 and 12 bells.

(Continued on next page.)

PEAL NOTES.

PEALS, WEATHER OR NO.

Ringers, particularly in the East and South-East of England, who had peal arrangements at Christmas and had to travel, were faced with some of the worst weather conditions for years, but, judging from the reports that have come in, most of them, at any rate, kept their engagements.

An interesting name appears among those who this week are recorded as having rung their first peal. Paul L. Taylor, who rang the treble to a peal of Bob Minor at Loughborough Bell Foundry, is the youngest son of the late Mr. John W. Taylor, and has entered the business which has been in the family for many generations.

Three peals of Stedman Cinques were rung on Boxing Day. Lancashire and Cheshire men scored one at Liverpool, members of the College Youths, drawn from London, Surrey, Sussex and Somerset as well as Oxford, rang one at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, and the Royal Cumberland Youths were successful at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, London, where peal ringing opportunities are restricted to an attempt only on the morning of Boxing Day.

At Oxford, a 5,001 Stedman Cinques by C. W. Roberts was rung for the first time. It starts with a quick six:—

1234567890ε 5 6 19

* 61452378ε90
413265 — —
A 312465 — 2
214365 — 2
213465 S 2
314265 — 2
415263 — 3
513264 —
312465 — 2
316452 Eleven courses from A
† 1324658709ε
134265 Ten courses from A
* 83.5.6.9.12.16. † 2.85.6.13.14.15.16.

The peal of Stedman Cinques at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields was Mr. J. S. Goldsmith's 50th peal on twelve bells. They have been rung in 27 towers and are made up of Stedman Cinques 37, Grandsire Cinques 1, Kent Treble Bob Maximus 1, Cambridge Surprise Maximus 9, Spliced Cambridge and Superlative Surprise Maximus 2.

MISS BOWYER'S PEALS.

(Continued from previous page.)

Miss Bowyer, who is only 22 years of age, is now Master of St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich, and was recently elected the first hon. secretary of the new Eastern Branch of the Ladies' Guild.

In the following interesting list of Miss Bowyer's peals, it will be noticed that she is credited with a 'half' as conductor in two peals of Minor. In these peals she shared the conducting.

	1938 Rung	1938 Cond.	Total Rung	Total Cond.
Pudsey Surprise Maximus	1		1	
Rochester Surprise Maximus	1		1	
Yorkshire Surprise Maximus	1		1	
Superlative Surprise Maximus	2		2	
New Cambridge Surprise Maximus	1		1	
Cambridge Surprise Maximus	3	1	7	1
Kent Treble Bob Maximus			2	
Double Norwich Court Bob Maximus	1		1	
Stedman Cinques			1	
Rochester Surprise Royal			1	
Yorkshire Surprise Royal	1		1	
Cambridge Surprise Royal	1	1	2	1
Kent Treble Bob Royal	2		2	
Grandsire Caters			1	
London Surprise Major	4		4	
Yorkshire Surprise Major	3		3	
Superlative Surprise Major	4	1	6	1
Cambridge Surprise Major	7	2	10	2
New Cambridge Surprise Major	1		2	
Kent Treble Bob Major	1		6	1
Oxford Treble Bob Major			1	
Double Norwich Court Bob Major			2	
Bob Major			2	
Stedman Triples	1		1	
Grandsire Triples	1		3	
Minor—7 methods	8		12	
6 methods			1	
5 methods	3		4	
4 methods	4	1½	10	2½
3 methods	3	½	6	1½
2 methods	1		1	
Cambridge Surprise Minor	2	1	5	1
Kent Treble Bob Minor	2	1	2	1
Oxford Treble Bob Minor	1		1	
Bob Minor	2		5	
Bob Doubles			1	
Totals	62	9	112	12

A peal of Stedman Cinques as one's first peal on tower bells is an unusual performance, but Mr. A. J. W. Hughes distinguished himself in this way by ringing the 7th at St. Martin's.

The last of the peals in honour of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Walker's 40th wedding anniversary was to have been a 5,040 Stedman Cinques at St. Martin's, Birmingham, on December 20th. Owing, however, to unavoidable circumstances, the band met one short and a peal of Stedman Caters had to be substituted. However, it gave Mr. S. O'C. Holloway the opportunity to complete peals of Stedman from Doubles to Cinques.

HOW CINQUES WAS BOILED DOWN TO MAJOR.

The peal at Leicester Cathedral on Christmas Eve was a birthday compliment to Mr. T. Taylor, towerkeeper at St. Martin's, who attained the age of 80 years a few days previously. A peal of Stedman Cinques had been arranged, but a funeral service in the Cathedral did not allow sufficient time. The Coroner's Officer was forthwith released to attend to his official duties and the Lancashire lad was packed off to Lancashire. A peal of Caters was then decided upon, but as one of the ringers put in a very late appearance, this also had to be abandoned. Two more ringers were 'shunted' and the peal of Cinques 'boiled down' in the end to a peal of Major on the light eight. But the seven visitors to the tower did not have their journeys in vain.

A peal arranged in honour of the birthday of H.R.H. the Duchess of Gloucester was rung at Great Baddow, Essex, on Boxing Day. One of the band was Pat Spencer-Phillips, son of the Master of the Essex Association (Dr. Spencer-Phillips), who rang his first peal of Double Norwich at the first attempt. He only learned to handle a bell a year ago and has rung his first three peals in three methods. Those who have rung with him predict a brilliant ringing future for this young enthusiast.

Mr. Percy Green, the conductor of this peal, would like to thank Mr. H. J. Mansfield, of Maldon, and Mr. A. H. Everett, of Boreham, who very sportingly turned up in spite of the extremely bad weather.

Three ringers travelled from Newcastle-on-Tyne to Bradford, Yorkshire, to take part in a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal at the Cathedral on Boxing Day. They were Messrs. C. E. Lawson, W. J. Davidson and Adam Deas. The peal was arranged for them, and, despite the weather, they kept the 'date.'

BLIND RINGER'S ACHIEVEMENT.

The golden jubilee of St. David's Church, Bangor, North Wales, was celebrated with a peal of Bob Major on December 18th.

The fourth bell was rung by Mr. Gerald Bromley, who has been blind from birth. It was his first peal and he struck his bell admirably throughout. Mr. Bromley graduated B.A. at Oxford and now rings at Llandudno. He has mastered four standard methods and is learning Double Norwich.

After the peal the band were entertained by Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Pegler, whose kindness was much appreciated.

The birthday of Mr. Wesley Watson, a veteran among Essex ringers, was celebrated on December 20th, when a peal of Superlative Surprise was rung at Romford. It was also a birthday compliment to Mrs. E. J. Butler, wife of the hon. secretary of the South-Western Division of the Essex Association.

A peal of Stedman Triples was rung at Bishop Ryder's Church, Birmingham, on Christmas Eve, in connection with the centenary celebrations of this church and as a compliment to Mr. James George, who reached his 85th birthday on November 27th.

Mr. George is Ringing Master at Bishop Ryder's, but being, unfortunately, still in hospital, was unable to take part in the peal, which was conducted by Mr. W. B. Cartwright, of King's Norton, from the tenor. Mr. Cartwright has now called a peal of Stedman Triples from each bell in an octave.

After a band had met short for a peal of Bob Royal at Wigan, Lancs, on Boxing Day, a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung on the back eight.

Mr. Lewis Tyldesley has put in 53 years as a ringer at Christ Church, Southport, Lancashire, and to celebrate this long service a peal of Stedman Triples was rung on the bells on Boxing Day.

OFF TO THE FAR EAST.

Petty Officer H. T. Chandler, of Herefordshire, who has recently made his home in Devonport, is shortly leaving for service in the Far East. A farewell peal was rung for him at New Radnor, Radnorshire, on December 27th. This peal of Grandsire Doubles was his 25th peal on six bells and his 25th peal for the Hereford Diocesan Guild.

The peal was originally arranged for Boxing Day, but Mr. J. Butler, who had to cycle over 50 miles from Shrewsbury, arrived three hours late and the attempt had to be postponed to the following day. We understand, however, that it was not the distance that caused Mr. Butler's delay, but a certain wedding at a famous Shrewsbury church.

Five members of the Dobbie family rang a birthday peal for Mrs. Stanley Dobbie at their home tower, Sittingbourne, on December 27th, when Clarence Dobbie, whose peal ringing experience is very wide, rang his first peal as conductor on tower bells.

The Rev. W. N. Mayne has completed 40 years as Rector of Wistaston, Cheshire, and on December 27th a peal of Minor was rung at the Parish Church to celebrate the event. It was the 50th peal on the bells, and Mr. Albert Crawley, who called it, has the distinction of having rung in all of them. Messrs. R. T. Holding and G. H. Crawley, who took part in the 50th peal, also rang in the first peal on the bells.

(Continued on next page.)

PEAL NOTES.

(Continued from previous page.)

Mr. Ernest Stitch, of Port Talbot, Glamorgan, rang his 250th peal on December 27th at Llangibby, Monmouthshire. It was a peal of Bob Major, in which Messrs. Mogford and Tyler, of Bristol, took part; and the conductor (Donald Clift) and Mr. George Popnell rang their fortieth peal together.

On Boxing Day at Newhall, Derbyshire, Mr. J. W. Cotton, hon. secretary of the Burton District of the Midland Counties Association, rang his 100th peal, and on the following day, when the first ten-bell peal since the recasting of the bells at Duffield by Messrs. Taylor and Co. was rung, he scored his century for the association.

At Newhall, Mr. Ronald Dove, a former secretary of the Burton District and now living at Headingley, Leeds, rang his 150th peal, which, by a coincidence, was his 50th peal for the Midland Counties Association.

Saffron Walden and the name of Pitstow are synonymous in connection with ringing. In a peal of London Surprise Major rung there on December 27th, three members of the family took part.

The first peal at Sherburn-in-Elmet, Yorkshire, by a local band was rung on December 27th. The company included three ladies.

The first peal on the bells at Uplowman, Devon, since they were rehung by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. was rung on December 27th. It was 42 six-scores of Grandsire Doubles and Frederick Alderman's first peal as conductor.

Mr. C. H. Harding rang his 50th peal when he took part in seven Minor methods at Maulden, Bedfordshire, on December 27th.

The peal at Wombourne, Staffs, on Christmas Eve, was a birthday compliment to Mr. Chris. Wallater, of Willenhall.

RINGERS MOVE UPSTAIRS.

The peal of Minor rung at Ibstock on December 15th was specially arranged to celebrate the removal of the ringing chamber from the ground floor to a beautifully fitted belfry 21ft. nearer the bells. This has meant the fitting of a false floor suitably packed with sound resisting material, and although the ringing is now done immediately below the bells, there is no unnecessary noise.

The ringers wish to couple the name of Mr. J. W. Hopkins with the peal, as this grand old man, now well in his eighties, finds it impossible to climb the steps to the ringing chamber, and has, therefore, been compelled to retire after many years' faithful service. The peal was also a birthday compliment to Mr. J. W. Cotton.

On Christmas Eve, a peal of Major was to have been attempted at Hughenden, Bucks, but, meeting short, six of the band rang a peal of Bob Minor instead.

Not everybody had a holiday on Boxing Day. A good many ringers took part in two peals in the one day, but what about the three enthusiasts who rang Stedman Cinques for three hours and 38 minutes at Liverpool and also three hours and 32 minutes in a peal of combined Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Royal at Wrexham in North Wales?

A number of Kentish ringers also spent a very busy time during the two bank holidays that followed Christmas. They rang two peals on Boxing Day and two on December 27th. We admire their enthusiasm especially in such weather. Into their bag went two peals of Cambridge, and one each of Superlative and Double Norwich.

The peal at Crayford on Boxing Day was a silver wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. F. G. A. Murphy, parents of Mr. Geoffrey V. Murphy, who, on the following day, rang his 100th peal for the Kent County Association and his 50th peal with that other youthful enthusiast, Derek Sharp.

Seven ringers took part in all these four peals, and there were old heads as well as young hands among them.

The peal of Grandsire Caters at St. John's, Leicester, on Boxing Day, was rung on the tenth anniversary of the opening of the bells after having been augmented to ten, the two trebles being the gift of that old Leicester stalwart, Mr. William Willson. All who have had the pleasure of ringing at St. John's know what a perfect 'splice' the founders made.

Mr James Hunt, of Taunton, rang his 550th peal on Boxing Day, when he called a peal of Bob Major at Timberscombe, Somerset. Mr. John Pugsley, who took part, is the first resident ringer of the Dunster Deanery to ring an 'inside' bell to a peal of Major.

A peal of Stedman Triples was rung at All Saints', Daresbury, Cheshire, on Boxing Day, as a welcome to the new Vicar (the Rev. E. W. L. M. Protherowe). An earlier attempt for the peal failed through the clapper of the tenor falling out while ringing was in progress.

Mr. W. T. Beeson, who is a member of the Surrey Constabulary, rang his 50th peal of London Surprise Major on December 27th when a band, incidentally drawn from three counties, visited Pulborough, Sussex.

A GIFT BOOK for a Ringing Friend

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NOTICES.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—The annual meeting will take place on Saturday, January 7th, at the Tamworth Arms, Moor Street, Birmingham, at 6 p.m. prompt. The bells at St. Martin's Church will be available from 4.30 p.m.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham, 11.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Selby on Saturday, January 7th. The Abbey Church bells (10) available from 2. Service in the Abbey at 4.30. Tea (1/3 each) in Hawdon Institute at 5 p.m. Please inform Mr. E. Storr, 65, Green Lane, Selby.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Ebor Street, Selby.

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—North-East Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Tiverton on Saturday, January 7th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—R. Harris, Park, Silverton, near Exeter.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—The next practice meeting will be held at the Church of St. Mary Magdalene, Broughton-in-Furness, on Saturday, January 7th. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m.—N. M. Newby, Sec.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the West Norfolk Branch will be held at Swaffham on Saturday, January 7th.—W. J. Eldred, Hon. Branch Sec., 4, Wellington Street, King's Lynn.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Next meeting will be held at Whitworth on Saturday, January 7th. Start the new year well by attending this meeting and giving a hand with the learners. Subscriptions due.—Ivan Kay, Branch Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Weston-super-Mare on Saturday, January 7th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting at Brown's Cafe, 5.15.—J. T. Dyke, Chilcompton, Bath.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—A meeting of the above district will be held at Blaydon on Saturday, January 7th. The bells (6) will be available at 3 p.m. Will those who require tea please advise Mr. R. W. Leighton, 15, Burnley Street, Blaydon, Co. Durham? A good attendance is requested, and all ringers are welcome.—J. A. Brown, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Finchdale Terrace, Chester-le-Street, Co. Durham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Upholland on Saturday, January 7th. Bells available from 2.30. For tea, for which a small charge will be made, please notify the undersigned.—S. Forshaw, 55, Poolstock, Wigan.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Eynesbury on Saturday, January 7th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock. Bells just recently rehung.—H. J. Parker, Dis. Sec., Great Staughton, St. Neots.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Winchester District.—The annual meeting will be held at the Abbey House, Winchester, on Saturday, January 7th, by kind permission of Gen. F. H. Griffiths, Mayor of Winchester. Business meeting at 3.15, followed by tea at 4 p.m. Members attend service in the Cathedral at 5.15 p.m. The address will be given by the Rev. J. H. K. Percy, Rector of Wonston. Please

let us know if you are coming. Cathedral and St. Maurice's bells available at 1.30.—G. and Miss Noice, Hon. Dis. Secs., 6, Cathedral View, Winchester.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Creswell Church (8 bells) on Saturday, January 7th. For tea, please notify Mr. L. W. Bacon, Thanet House, Elmton Road, Creswell, near Worksop.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 13, St. Ronans Road, Sheffield 7.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Ringing for evening service at St. Bride's, Fleet Street, E.C.4, on Sunday, January 8th, at 5.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—G. H. Cross, 9, Beverley Road, Barnehurst, Kent.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for January: Southwark Cathedral, 10th; *St. Mary-le-Bow, 17th; St. Magnus', 19th; Cripplegate, 24th; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 26th; *St. Paul's Cathedral, 31st. All at 7.30 p.m., except Holborn, 8 p.m. * Business meeting afterwards.—A. B. Peck, Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wednesday Afternoon Guild.—The next meeting will be held at SS. Mary and Cuthbert's Parish Church, Chester-le-Street, on Wednesday, January 11th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Please send numbers for tea to Margaret A. P. Bertie, Hon. Sec., 17, Ridley Avenue, Chester-le-Street, Co. Durham.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Burton District.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, on Saturday, January 14th. Bells (10) available at 3. Business meeting at 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m. A good attendance is requested. North Staffs and Derby District members cordially invited. — J. W. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The seventh annual supper will be held at the Village Hall, Heston, on Saturday, January 14th, at 6 p.m. prompt. Tickets 3/6 from the undersigned or from any Tower Secretary. Heston bells available from 3 to 5.40 p.m. It is hoped that all members of this Association, whether of the South and West District or otherwise, will support this supper, and help to make it a success. Friends from other Associations also will be very welcome.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec., 16, St. Stephen's Road, West Ealing, W.13.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Bilston on January 14th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service in church at 4.45, with an address by the Rev. S. Garrett, M.A., Vicar. Tea (1s.) at 5.30. Please send word not later than Tuesday, January 10th. All are welcome.—H. Knight, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—The annual meeting of this district will take place at Bedford on Saturday, January 14th. The bells of St. Peter's Church will be available from 2.30, and tea will be provided in St. Peter's Hall at 5. Service at 4.30. Will all members make an effort to attend? Everybody welcome.—Frank C. Tysoe, 10, Grange Road, Bromham, Bedford.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—East Devon Branch.—A meeting will be held at Sidbury, near Sidmouth, on Saturday, January 14th. Bells (6) available at 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting at 5. All ringers welcome. Also Ottery St. Mary bells (8) available at 7 p.m. —John H. Godfrey, Hon. Sec., 9, Silver Street, Ottery St. Mary.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual dinner at the Lion Hotel, Guildford, on Saturday, January 14th, at 6 p.m. Bells of S. Nicolas' Church available from 4 p.m. until 5.30 p.m. Application for tickets (5s. 6d. each), with remittance, must be made to me by January 10th.—G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec., East Clandon.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The annual meeting of the district will be held at St. Mary's, Nottingham, on Saturday, January 14th. Bells (10) from 5 p.m. till 8 p.m. All welcome. Come and try this hefty lot. Will members please note that there are a lot of outstanding subscriptions for the past year? Will those in arrear please oblige?—E. C. Gobey, Dis. Sec., Trowell, Notts.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting of the Maidstone District will be held at Aylesford on Saturday, January 14th. Usual arrangements. Every ringer welcome.—A. Waddington, Hon. Dis. Sec., Egerton.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch. —The annual meeting of the Lincoln District will take place at Harmston (8 bells, available 2.30-9), on Saturday, January 14th. Tea at moderate charge to those who inform me by Wednesday, January 11th.—Kenneth W. Mayer, Dis. Sec., 31, Vine Street, Lincoln.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Frome and Midsomer Norton Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Shepton Mallet on Saturday, January 14th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5. Please notify for tea by the 12th.—E. H. Nash, The Talbot, Mells, near Frome.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The annual meeting of the district will be held at Apsley on Saturday, January 14th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Short service at 4.45, followed by tea and business meeting. Please let me know by January 12th whether you require tea or not. Let us have a bumper meeting.—W. Ayre, Leverstock Green.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Lindfield on Saturday, January 14th. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. All are welcome. Please notify by the 12th if you require tea.—B. Saunders, 18, New Road, Ridgewood, Uckfield, Sussex.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch. Newport Pagnell Deanery.—A meeting at Emberton, Saturday, January 14th. Ring up 2.30. Service 4. Tea 4.45. Business.—The Rev. J. F. Amies, Ravenstone Vicarage, Olney, Bucks.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—The annual meeting will be held at Biggleswade on Saturday, January 14th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. It is requested that all members will try and attend. All ringers welcome. Please come.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kettering Branch.—Annual branch meeting at Geddington (5 bells) on Saturday, January 14th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea subsequently, 1s. 6d., except for branch members. Tea will be provided by ticket only, and application must be made by first post January 14th.—H. Baxter, Branch Sec., 21, Charles Street, Rothwell, Northants.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Macclesfield Branch.—The general meeting of the above is arranged to take place on Saturday, January 14th, at St. Michael's, Macclesfield. Bells (12) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea, price 2s., 5 p.m. Business meeting 6 p.m. Will those requiring tea oblige by informing me not later than January 11th.—Jack Tipper, Hon. Branch Sec.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The annual general meeting will be held at Barnsley on Saturday, January 14th. Bells (8) ready 2.30 p.m. Short service at 4.30 p.m. Tea in New Rectory Room at 5 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. C. Brinsley, 177, Sheffield Road, Barnsley, not later than Wednesday, January 11th. All are welcome.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., Rock Cottages, Shafton, near Barnsley.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—Monthly meeting at Stratton St. Margaret (8 bells) on Saturday, January 14th. Usual arrangements.—W. B. Kynaston, 3, Dumbarton Terrace, Victoria Road, Swindon, Wilts.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The district annual meeting will be held at Earl Shilton on Saturday, January 14th. Usual times. Postcards for tea (9d.) to Mr. G. Newton, 138, High Street, Earl Shilton, near Leicester, not later than Friday, January 13th, please. Start the New Year well. Come early. You will be welcome.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec., Fosseway, Croft, near Leicester.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting Shrewsbury on January 14th. Ringing, St. Chad's, 3 p.m.-4.30 and 6.30-8.30 p.m. Service at St. Chad's 4.30. Tea and meeting Church Room. Numbers for tea to W. A. Farmer, 70, Oakfield Road, Shrewsbury.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual meeting of Southampton District at Southampton on Saturday, January 14th. Bells available: St. Mary's, 2.30-4.15 and after tea; Holy Rood, 2.30-4.25; St. Michael's after tea. Service at Holy Rood 4.30. Tea, St. Michael's Hall, 5 p.m. Names for tea by January 11th.—G. Pullinger, 17, Stoke Park Road, Bishopstoke, Hants.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guilsborough Branch.—The branch annual meeting will be held at Guilsborough (6 bells) on Saturday, January 14th. Usual arrangements. Please notify me for tea by Tuesday previous.—Geo. A. Hollick, Branch Sec., West Street, Welford, Rugby.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Banbury and District Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Adderbury on Saturday, January 21st. Bells (8) available from 2.30. Service 4 p.m., followed by tea and short business meeting. For tea please notify E. Pearson, Adderbury West, Banbury.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Preston Parish Church (10 bells) on Saturday, January 21st. Come and make this a successful meeting. All welcome.—A. Blogg, Branch Sec.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—The annual meeting of the above district will be held on Saturday, January 21st. Owing to Chertsey bells undergoing repair, other arrangements have had to be made at the last minute. Further details next week.—F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Dis. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—Annual meeting at Wokingham on Saturday, January 21st. Service in St. Paul's Church 4 p.m.; preacher, Rev. J. J. E. O'Malley, O.B.E., M.A., late chaplain to the Forces. Tea in Parish Room 4.45. Tickets, 1s., must be applied for by January 17th. Ringing at All Saints' 2.30 to 3.30, St. Paul's 3.15 to 4. Both towers after the meeting.—W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Merrel, California, Wokingham.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Godstone on Saturday, January 21st. Tower open 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting at the Clayton Arms Hotel. Please send numbers for tea to me not later than Wednesday, January 18th. All very welcome.—R. A. Tuffin, Hon. Dis. Sec., 65, Blackborough Road, Reigate, Surrey.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—The annual general meeting will be held at St. Luke's, Chelsea, on Saturday, January 21st. Names for tea (1s. per head) to N. H. Manning, Dis. Sec., 21, Burlington Gardens, Chiswick, W.4.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wymondham calling all members of the North Norfolk Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch will take place at Wymondham on Saturday, January 21st. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. All are welcome, but don't forget that postcard with names or numbers for tea by Wednesday, January 18th.—H. Tooke, Branch Sec., The Lizard, Wymondham, Norfolk.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Southern Division will be held in Brighton on Wednesday, January 25th. Service at the Good Shepherd, Dyke Road, 6 p.m. Tea in the Church Hall 5 p.m. Ringing 6.30 to 9. Afternoon ringing yet to be arranged.—S. E. Armstrong, Hon. Div. Sec., 70, Hollingbury Park Avenue, Brighton 6.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preliminary Notice.—The annual general meeting of the association will be held in Leeds on Saturday, January 28th. Members are requested to note the date. Full particulars later.—L. W. G. Morris, Hon. Gen. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Liverpool and Wigan Branches.—The joint meeting of these branches will be held at St. Nicholas', Liverpool, on Saturday, January 28th. Further particulars later.—S. Forshaw and G. R. Newton, Branch Secs.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—The committee is desirous of keeping up to date the list of non-resident members, together with the number of peals rung by them. Will those members kindly send a postcard furnishing such information to H. Parker, 3, London Road, Davenham, Cheshire?

DEATH.

SWINFIELD.—Mary Ann, beloved wife of John Henry Swinfield, of Burton-on-Trent, suddenly on December 31st, aged 74.

LATE NOTICES.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Special practice for Wednesday, January 11th, 7.30 p.m., on twelve bells at St. Giles', Cripplegate. Also note date of annual general meeting, February 11th next.—T. W. Taffender, Hon. Sec.

PEAK DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The annual general meeting will be held at Bakewell on Saturday, Jan. 14th. Will all members please make it convenient to attend? Bells available from 3 p.m. A card to the Secretary by Wed., Jan. 11th, will ensure tea arrangements.—H. L. Warburton, 72, Causeway Head Road, Dore, nr. Sheffield.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Wotton-under-Edge on Jan. 14th. Bells (8) available from 3. Tea and meeting at Falcon Hotel at 4.30. Evensong at 6 p.m.—W. J. Smith, 130, Station Road, Yate, Bristol.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Loughborough District.—The annual meeting will be held at the Bell Foundry, Loughborough, on January 14th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Business: election of local officers for 1939. Visitors welcome.—H. O. Over, District Sec., Hugglescote.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 1,451. Vol. XXXIV. FRIDAY, JANUARY 13th, 1939. [Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.] Price 3d.

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Founders
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WHEN THE PUBLIC COMPLAINS.

Not infrequently a member of the public finds church bells a source of annoyance, and ventilates some of his wrath by 'writing to the papers' about it. A Shrewsbury gentleman, the other day, found an outlet for his grievance in a London newspaper, which invites readers' views on any subject under the sun, and gives replies to their letters. These replies are usually packed with sound common sense, and the answer given to the correspondent on this occasion, which we print in another column, reflects very accurately the position with regard to the ringing of church bells. The complaint from Shrewsbury is that the writer is awakened at '6 a.m. every Sunday by the hideous din of church bells ringing.' People who grumble at the ringing of church bells are, as a rule, prone to exaggeration. Generally speaking, there are no 6 a.m. services in our churches, except upon the great festivals, and it is quite possible that '6 a.m. every Sunday' in this case was the isolated instance of Christmas morning. While the gentleman concerned may have resented having his slumbers disturbed even upon such an occasion when, above all others, the public like to hear church bells, he can probably be counted with those who make mountains out of molehills, like the artist who recently complained that a chime in Regent Street kept him awake all night, when actually the chime is silent from 10 p.m. to 6 a.m.

However, allowing for the feelings of those who do not love church bells, most of whom have no love for the Church either, there is something to be said in favour of curtailing the long chiming of a single bell before an early service. It is seldom the service ringing of a peal of bells that creates annoyance or remonstrance; it is the tedious repetition of a dissonant clang that causes trouble. But when this is the case, bells in general come in for the scourging dealt out in newspaper correspondence. The rubric requires a bell to be rung before service, but the long unbroken spell of a single bell is irritating to the nerves, and every effort ought to be made to reduce this kind of thing to a minimum in populous areas.

But, after all, we live in a peaceful country, despite our early service bells. On New Year's Day listeners heard the type of 'ringing' which prevails in some other lands, a noisy discordant jangle, which can be heard frequently in the early morning in many continental cities and towns. Compared with this, the bells of England are musical and even soothing to the ear with their rhythmic pealing, and a single bell is but a gentle tinkle. Those who complain that their rest is disturbed in this quiet land of ours are fortunate that they do not live within earshot of some of the noisy clangour set up by the bells in such countries as France or Italy.

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THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 19¾ cwt.

AIDAN J. N. BOYACK	...*Treble*	GEORGE A. PARSONS	6
CHARLES T. COLES	2	ERNEST W. FURBANK	7
GEORGE R. PYE	3	ERNEST E. HOLMAN	8
JAMES BENNETT	4	FRED C. MAYNARD	9
ROBERT J. MAYNARD	5	FREDERICK C. TAYLOR	...*Tenor*

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by C. T. COLES.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BROMLEY COMMON, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 19, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

ALLISON PURDOM	...*Treble*	JACK DAFTERS	5
WILLIAM GRACE	2	EDMOND MOUNTER	6
FREDERICK E. PITMAN	3	HAROLD E. BLACKETT	7
JIM HURRELL	4	JOHN E. LIDDIARD	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by J. E. LIDDIARD.

First peal of Major as conductor.

LISCARD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, December 27, 1938, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF ALBION TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb. in F.

WILLIAM E. FLETCHER	...*Treble*	GEORGE R. NEWTON	5
LESTER L. GRAY	2	PERCY SWINDLEY	6
ROBERT SPERRING	3	RALPH G. EDWARDS	7
FRANK VARTY	4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by J. C. E. SIMPSON.

First peal in the method on the bells and by all the band except R. Sperring.

BURTON-ON-STATHER, LINCS.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Thursday, December 29, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 12 cwt. 28 lb.

ERNEST BRITTAIN	...*Treble*	BERNARD GILLATT, JUN.	5
MRS. J. BRAY	2	GEORGE HOBBINS	6
JACK BRAY	3	FRED JEFFERY	7
*ARTHUR TOMLINSON	4	PHILIP BARNES	...*Tenor*

Conducted by JACK BRAY.

* First peal of Triples. First peal of Triples on the bells. The conductor's 300th peal.

CHESTER, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-WITHIN-THE-WALLS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

*FRANK SHELLY	...*Treble*	ARTHUR PRINCE	5
ROBERT SPERRING	2	GEORGE R. JONES	6
ERNEST WARING	3	RONALD G. JONES	7
*CLIFFORD BROWN	4	GEORGE F. SPERRING	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ROBERT SPERRING.

* First peal. Rung with bells half-muffled for the passing of the old year and in deepest sympathy for the death of Douglas Barnet, aged 16, a young ringer at this tower.

CRAYFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 12¾ cwt.

ERNEST H. OXENHAM	*Treble*	DEREK M. SHARP	5
PHILIP A. CORBY	2	EDWIN A. BARNETT	6
*DENNIS G. BROWN	3	HARRY PARKES	7
HERBERT A. HOLDEN	4	EDWIN BARNETT	*Tenor*

Composed by E. BARNETT, SEN. Conducted by EDWIN BARNETT.
* First peal in the method. The conductor's 450th peal.

TAUNTON, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE, WILTON,
A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 8½ cwt.

*WILLIAM S. CLARKE	*Treble*	*SIDNEY A. WYATT	5
*DUDLEY F. SHELDON	2	*RONALD W. HAYWARD	6
ARTHUR H. REED	3	ALFRED J. WYATT	7
ARTHUR H. HAYWARD	4	S. GEORGE COLES	*Tenor*

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by ALFRED J. WYATT.
* First peal in the method.

OVER, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt.

CHARLES SHAW	*Treble*	REGINALD W. WORRALL	5
ALBERT H. BOOTH	2	ALBERT CRAWLEY	6
DAVID SMITH	3	HARRY W. HOWARD	7
RICHARD T. HOLDING	4	HARRY PARKER	*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by H. PARKER.
First peal on the bells since they were rehung.

DODDERHILL, DROITWICH, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(WESTERN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. AUGUSTINE,
A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
J. J. PARKER'S SIX-PART, No. 13. Tenor 18¼ cwt.

ARTHUR G. THOMAS	*Treble*	RALPH W. SAYERS	5
CHARLES R. SMITH	2	WALTER H. RAXTER	6
GEORGE E. LARGE	3	REGINALD WOODYATT	7
JOHN H. COLLEY	4	FREDERICK G. YATES	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE.

EDGBASTON, BIRMINGHAM.
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 10 cwt. 14 lb. in A flat.

SIDNEY O'C. HOLLOWAY	*Treble*	RICHARD C. INGRAM	5
*RONALD SHEPHERD	2	MORRIS J. MORRIS	6
DANIEL T. MATKIN	3	THEODORE RUSSELL	7
NORMAN G. GOODMAN	4	JOHN S. MASON	*Tenor*

Composed by E. MORRIS. Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.
* First peal of Major.

THE RINGERS' HANDBOOK
by E. S. and M. POWELL.
Containing full and complete instruction from the first handling of a bell to the ringing and conducting of peals of Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob.
Large selection of Compositions included.
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Obtainable only post free from Rev. E. S. POWELL, Staverton Vicarage, near Daventry.

ASHFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
AND ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HALEY'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 23 cwt.

THOMAS TABRETT	*Treble*	WILLIAM A. OLDFIELD	5
HENRY C. CASTLE	2	ERNEST W. POWELL	6
ARCHIBALD C. KAY	3	CHARLES W. EVERETT	7
PERCY PAGE	4	*WILLIAM H. E. SINCLAIR	*Tenor*

Conducted by C. W. EVERETT.
* First peal and first attempt. Rung with the bells half-muffled to bid farewell to the old year.

ENVILLE, STAFFS.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;
Tenor 17 cwt. (approx.).

JOHN LLOYD	*Treble*	*BERNARD LAWTON	5
JOHN BASS	2	BERNARD ASHFORD	6
CLIFFORD SKIDMORE	3	ROBERT MATTHEWS	7
JOHN PAGETT	4	PERCY RICHARDS	*Tenor*

Composed by G. HUGHES. Conducted by C. SKIDMORE.
* First peal of Major 'inside.' First peal on the bells since they were rehung and the tenor recast.

FROME, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Three Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;
Tenor 31 cwt. in C sharp.

EDGAR HUMPHREY	*Treble*	REV. ALFRED G. THURLOW	5
J. E. LEWIS COCKEY	2	NOLAN GOLDEN	6
MISS MARIE R. CROSS	3	REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG	7
ARTHUR S. RICHARDS	4	A. PATRICK CANNON	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.
The first peal of Major on the bells. Rung for the festival of the Holy Nativity and as a welcome to the new Vicar, the Rev. W. J. Torrance, M.A.

EARL SHILTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. SIMON AND JUDE,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
WASHBROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 12 cwt.

ERNEST E. PICKERING	*Treble*	GEORGE A. NEWTON	5
ALFRED BALLARD	2	*WILLIAM NEWTON	6
RICHARD F. ROE	3	FRANK K. MEASURES	7
*REUBEN WIGHTMAN	4	ERNEST V. CHESTERTON	*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK K. MEASURES.
* First peal in the method.

CHESTER.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-WITHOUT-THE-WALLS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 20 cwt.

PERCY SWINDLEY	*Treble*	JOHN BEST	5
JOHN HAYES	2	WILLIAM E. FLETCHER	6
GEORGE LEE	3	HARRY PYE	7
HARRY LEWIS	4	EDWARD PRICE	*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN HAYES.
Rung with the bells half-muffled for the departure of the old year.

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HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 12½ cwt.

*STANLEY BEDWELL	...Treble	EDWARD TIMPSON	5
ROLAND BIGGS	2	FREDERICK G. BIGGS	6
ARTHUR HEYWOOD	3	PERCY NEWTON	7
JAMES W. WILKINS	4	VICTOR EVANS	...Tenor

Conducted by PERCY NEWTON.
* First attempt for a peal.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Three Hours & Twenty-Eight Minutes
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb. in D.

FREDERICK OLDROYD	...Treble	RAYMOND PHILPOTT	5
CHARLES HAZELDEN	2	GEORGE W. STEERE	6
HENRY HUTTON	3	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE	7
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON	4	ALFRED H. PULLING	...Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by A. H. PULLING.
Rung with the bells half-muffled for the passing of the old year.

OVERSEALE, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 10 cwt.

WILLIAM F. WOODWARD	...Treble	WILLIAM JOHN DUMOLO	5
ALBERT G. RICHARDS	2	JOSEPH W. COTTON	6
*CYRIL TABERNER	3	HOWARD HOWELL	7
BARNABAS G. KEY	4	HAROLD CURSON	...Tenor

Conducted by B. G. KEY.
* First peal of Triples 'inside.'

DARLEY DALE, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
(PEAK DISTRICT SOCIETY.)
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,
A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
A. B. CARPENTER'S SIX-PART (No. 24 C.C.C.). Tenor 17 cwt.

*DENIS SCOTT	...Treble	VICTOR E. TAYLOR	5
ROBERT ALLSOP	2	RONALD ALLSOP	6
BERNARD ALLSOP	3	GEORGE H. PAULSON	7
HERBERT E. TAYLOR	4	HUGH W. GREGORY	...Tenor

Conducted by G. H. PAULSON.
* First peal.

SIX BELL PEALS.

MARKET DEEPING, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, December 10, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GUTHLAC,
A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Consisting of 14 methods, viz.: (1) Beverley and Surfleet; (2) London and Wells; (3) Cambridge, Norfolk, Ipswich, Primrose, Hull and Bourne; (4) Wearmouth and Lightfoot; (5) Durham; (6) York; (7) Cambridge. Tenor 16 cwt.

HORACE M. DAY	...Treble	WILLIAM OLDMAN	4
CHARLES WOOD	2	HARRY GIBBARD	5
WILLIAM H. WALDRON	3	THOMAS L. BAINBRIDGE	...Tenor

Conducted by H. M. DAY.

SILKSTONE, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION
AND THE BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.
On Monday, December 26, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Ipswich, Surfleet, Beverley, York, Durham, Bourne and Cambridge. Tenor 12 cwt.

ROLAND HILL	...Treble	ERNEST BROOKES	4
JOHN THOMAS WHITE	2	HAROLD CHANT	5
CLIFFORD ROBINSON	3	DANIEL SMITH	...Tenor

Conducted by DANIEL SMITH.
First Surprise peal on the bells.

MALINSLEE, SHROPSHIRE.
THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, December 26, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 10 cwt.

WILLIAM SAUNDERS	...Treble	JOSEPH L. STAINIER	4
*E. DENNIS POOLE	2	WALTER LAGO	5
ALFRED S. BAILEY	3	*JOHN W. HUMPHRIES	...Tenor

Conducted by J. W. HUMPHRIES.
* First peal of Minor. First peal as conductor.

WELLAND, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(WESTERN BRANCH.)
On Tuesday, December 27, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 12 six-scores of Plain Bob and 30 of Grandsire. Tenor 12 cwt.

*STANLEY MAUND	...Treble	JOSEPH LAWRENCE	4
FRANK LAWRENCE	2	CHARLES CAMM	5
EDWARD MAUND	3	HENRY BISHOP	...Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES CAMM.
* First peal.

BARNBY-IN-THE-WILLOWS, NOTTS.
THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION AND
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tuesday, December 27, 1938, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one extent each of Oxford Treble Bob, Double Court, Court Bob, Plain Bob, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob and St. Clement's. Tenor 6¼ cwt.

GEORGE S. VESSEY	...Treble	PERCY HOLMES	4
KENNETH W. MAYER	2	MISS DOROTHY VESSEY	5
JACK C. VESSEY	3	JACK L. MILLHOUSE	...Tenor

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

WELLINGORE, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH, LINCOLN DISTRICT.)
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being an extent each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Single Court, and two extents each of Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 11¼ cwt.

*MRS. L. L. NEAL	...Treble	JOHN F. PEARSON	4
FREDERICK W. STOKES	2	MOSES BILLINGS	5
†AMOS INGALL	3	WALTER TOMLINSON	...Tenor

Conducted by WALTER TOMLINSON.
* First peal. † First peal on an 'inside' bell. First peal as conductor.

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BISHAMPTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
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 10½ cwt.

SIDNEY T. HOLT	...*Treble*	GEOFFREY J. LEWIS	4
*ALLEN MORGAN	2	THOMAS W. LEWIS	5
WILLIAM RANFORD	3	CHARLES CAMM*	...*Tenor*

Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.
* First peal in seven methods.

NEATH, GLAMORGAN.
THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 8 cwt.

RAYMOND GRANT	...*Treble*	*ROLAND KEEY	4
*LESLIE HURFORD	2	HARRY BOYCE	5
WILLIAM GEAR	3	FRED SYMONS	...*Tenor*

Conducted by HARRY BOYCE.
* First peal. Rung half-muffled for the passing of the old year and as a compliment to the ringer of the 4th on his 17th birthday.

BOURNE, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Cambridge, Norfolk, Primrose, Bourne, Durham, York and Ipswich. Tenor 15 cwt. 4 lb.

JOHN POLLARD	...*Treble*	JAMES OSBORN	4
JOHN W. LAKE	2	FREDERICK W. FRENCH	5
*R. WILLIAM FAYERS	3	THOMAS L. BAINBRIDGE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN W. LAKE.
* First peal.

GREAT BROMLEY, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Consisting of one extent of St. Clement's and two extents each of Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 15 cwt. in E.

MRS. L. WRIGHT	...*Treble*	MISS VIOLET A. FROST	4
LESLIE WRIGHT	2	HARRY J. MILLATT	5
MISS ELEANOR REEVE	3	ALAN R. ANDREWS	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.

BUXTON, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two extents each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three extents of Plain Bob, each called differently.
Tenor 12¼ cwt.

ROBERT G. CATCHPOLE	...*Treble*	ALFRED W. KING	4
WALTER C. MEDLER	2	WILLIAM R. CATCHPOLE	5
GEORGE T. BELL	3	WILLIAM C. DUFFIELD	...*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM C. DUFFIELD.

WENDENS AMBO, ESSEX.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 8 cwt. 1 qr.

REGINALD C. SHARPE	...*Treble*	ALBERT E. AUSTIN	4
FRANK E. HAYNES	2	EDWARD H. FINCH	5
*CECIL N. AUSTIN	3	†WALTER AYRE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.
* First peal of London Surprise. † First peal of London Surprise Minor.

RANWORTH, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 12 cwt. in F.

MISS BRENDA BAYLES	...*Treble*	‡GEORGE H. ALLEN	4
*MRS. R. W. BARBER	2	DENIS A. BAYLES	5
†MISS JOAN GREENHAM	3	R. WILLIAM BARBER	...*Tenor*

Conducted by D. A. BAYLES.
* First peal of Minor 'inside.' † First peal of Minor. ‡ First peal and first attempt. First peal of Plain Bob Minor by all the band and on the bells.

WILLESBOROUGH, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Consisting of one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Double Court, St. Clement's and Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.

ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD	...*Treble*	CHARLES L. SMITH	4
RAYMOND G. CARLTON	2	WILLIAM J. LANCEFIELD	5
KENNETH J. CARLTON	3	EDWARD S. RUCK	...*Tenor*

Conducted by EDWARD S. RUCK.
First peal in seven methods by all the band and by the Ashford District of the association.

KENILWORTH, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven extents. Tenor 15 cwt.

*JOHN W. H. SMITH	...*Treble*	DOUGLAS F. ELLENDER	4
*GEORGE F. CANTRILL	2	WILLIAM T. COX	5
FRANK BRASSINGTON	3	FRANK E. PERVIN	...*Tenor*

Conducted by F. E. PERVIN.
* First peal. First peal on the bells.

HILMARTON, WILTSHIRE.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.
(CALNE BRANCH.)
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings. Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

*J. HILLIER	...*Treble*	R. SAYE	4
*W. HACKER	2	A. O. WRINTMORE	5
L. A. WILSON	3	*E. SLADE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by A. O. WRINTMORE.
* First peal. First peal on the bells.

HANDBELL PEALS.

WOODDITTON, CAMBS.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, December 28, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT SUNNY VIEW,
A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor, size 16½ in B flat.

SIDNEY BROWN	1-2	WALTER AYRE	5-6
ALBERT E. AUSTIN	3-4	CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	7-8
REGINALD C. SHARPE	9-10		

Composed by H. J. TUCKER. Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

SAFFRON WALDEN, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, December 30, 1938, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT 21, DEBDEN ROAD,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor, size 15 in C.

LEONARD E. PITSTOW	1-2	WALTER AYRE	5-6
ALBERT E. AUSTIN	3-4	ALFRED SIMMONDS	7-8

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

EAST CHESHIRE PEALS.

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, December 26, 1938, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

C. KENNETH LEWIS ...	...*Treble*	ALBERT FORD	6
*ARNOLD WORTH	2	JOHN WORTH	7
FRANK REYNOLDS	3	ALLEN S. GORDON	8
JACK TIPPER	4	LIONEL CLOUGH	9
*JOSEPH WHITTAKER	5	JAMES A. MILNER... ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by W. WALMSLEY. Conducted by C. KENNETH LEWIS.

* First peal of Grandsire Caters. First peal of Caters as conductor.

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, December 26, 1938, in Three Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAXIMUS, 5016 CHANGES;

Tenor 26¾ cwt.

*C. KENNETH LEWIS ...	...*Treble*	†LIONEL CLOUGH...	7
*WILLIAM FERNLEY	2	*ALBERT FORD	8
*JAMES A. MILNER	3	*JOSEPH WHITTAKER	9
WILFRED MATTHEWS ...	4	‡DAVID VINCENT	10
†ALAN D. STEELE	5	†GEORGE W. BIDDULPH ...	11
†FRANK REYNOLDS	6	JOHN WORTH	...*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN REEVES. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

* First peal in the method on twelve bells. † First peal on twelve bells. ‡ First peal of Maximus.

GAWSWORTH, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, December 27, 1938, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 12¼ cwt.

*ERNEST BAYLEY ...	...*Treble*	JACK TIPPER	5
ARNOLD WORTH	2	JOHN WORTH	6
*WILLIAM H. HEAP	3	†ERNEST HAIGH	7
†GERALD FARRER	4	†JOSEPH WHITTAKER ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN REEVES. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

* First peal. † First peal in the method.

BOSLEY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, December 27, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents. Tenor 5 cwt. 2 qr. 22 lb.

GEORGE W. BARNARD	...*Treble*	STANLEY NOBLE	4
*ARNOLD WORTH...	2	JOHN W. L. SLACK	5
THOMAS TAYLOR...	3	JOSEPH WHITTAKER ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by JOSEPH WHITTAKER.

* First peal of Minor. First peal of Bob Minor as conductor.

MARPLE, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, December 27, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, four callings. Tenor 13 cwt. (approx.).

*IVAN B. GARDINER ...	...*Treble*	SAMUEL GRAHAM	3
*JOCELYN B. GARDINER ...	2	WILFRED WILDE	4

C. KENNETH LEWIS ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. KENNETH LEWIS.

* First peal on tower bells.

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, December 27, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT ASH MOUNT, PETER STREET,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor, size 12 in F.

*HARRY FARRER	1-2	JOHN WORTH...	5-6
JOSEPH WHITTAKER	3-4	GERALD FARRER	7-8

Composed by C. K. LEWIS. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

* First peal of Major. First peal 'in hand' for all except the conductor.

DEATH OF MR. J. W. GOLDING.

MEMBER OF CELEBRATED WESTMINSTER BAND.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. John W. Golding, which took place last Friday in the Sussex County Hospital, Brighton. Mr. Golding had suffered badly from asthma for some years and it was this distressing complaint that led him to remove from London to the Sussex Coast, and eventually debarred him from any active participation in ringing.

Mr. Golding was one of the brilliant band of College Youths who, at the end of last and in the early years of this century, rang at St. Stephen's, Westminster. They rose to great fame by their achievements, the peak of which was probably the silent peal of London Surprise Major rung at St. Stephen's on January 5th, 1901. In the previous year they rang the first peal of St. Stephen's Surprise Major.

Among other interesting performances in which Mr. Golding took part were the first 'name' peals of London Surprise and Stedman Cinques. The 'John' peal of London was rung at St. Stephen's in 1904 and the Stedman Cinques (the only peal on twelve bells rung by a band of the same Christian name) at St. Giles', Cripplegate, in 1912. In 1913 Mr. Golding rang in the first silent peal on twelve tower bells, a peal of Stedman Cinques by the College Youths at St. Michael's, Cornhill.

Mr. Golding served for a year as Master of the Ancient Society, being elected in 1902. He was able, with considerable effort, to attend the society's tercentenary gathering in 1937.

The funeral took place at Portslade Cemetery, Sussex, on Wednesday, after a service at Aldrington Church.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

EASTERN DISTRICT FAVOURS BELFRY REPAIRS FUND.

The quarterly meeting of the Eastern District of the Yorkshire Association was held at Selby on Saturday, when there was an attendance of 30 ringers. Although rather lower than usual, this number was considered very satisfactory considering the wretched weather conditions that prevailed.

Choral evensong in the Abbey, at which the Vicar (Canon Solloway) gave the address, was attended by members.

Tea, in the Hawdon Institute, was followed by the business meeting, over which the Vicar presided, supported by the vice-president (Mr. F. Cryer) and other officials.

Five new members were elected: Messrs. M. Grundy and G. Varley, of Selby, J. Bradley and H. Bradley, of Sherburn-in-Elmet, and R. A. Reed, of Eastleigh, Hants.

Goole was decided on as the place for the annual district meeting in March.

A discussion took place on the suggested Bell Repairs Fund, and after Mr. F. W. Dale, who made the suggestion, had explained his scheme and others had spoken, Miss K. L. Bowling proposed and Mr. J. W. Kneeshaw seconded that the meeting agree in principle to the scheme, and this was carried by a large majority.

Mr. Fox moved and Miss Bowling seconded a vote of thanks to the Vicar, choir and organist, and, in his reply, Canon Solloway gave the association a very hearty welcome to Selby, and said he was always very pleased to be with the Yorkshire Association at their gatherings.

A collection on behalf of an appeal for funds for the bell restoration at Brontley Parish Church, Breconshire, realised 15s.

The towers represented at the meeting were Arksey, Far Headingley, Goole, Hemingbrough, Hessle, Howden, Hull, Kirk Ella, Market Weighton, Pontefract, Sherburn-in-Elmet, Sutton-on-Hull, York Minster, Beverley Minster and the local company. The methods rung were Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Caters, Plain Bob and Treble Bob Major and Royal, and Double Norwich Major.

MARPLE, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, December 30, 1938, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY OF THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores. Tenor, size 14 in D.

JOCELYN B. GARDINER... ...	1-2	C. KENNETH LEWIS	3-4

IVAN B. GARDINER 5-6

Conducted by C. KENNETH LEWIS.

First peal of Grandsire Doubles by all.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST THOMAS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb.

JOSEPH WHITTAKER ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM FERNLEY	5
C. KENNETH LEWIS	2	JAMES A. MILNER	6
*ALBERT FORD	3	LIONEL CLOUGH	7
JAMES FERNLEY	4	JOHN WORTH...	...*Tenor*

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by C. KENNETH LEWIS.

* First peal in the method.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

VALUE OF A GOOD SERVICE TOUCH.

A quarterly meeting of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association was held at Weston-super-Mare on Saturday, when members from Bath, Taunton, Nailsea, Churchill, Frome, Long Ashton, Congresbury, Wrington, Binegar, Badgworth, Drayton, Wedmore, Uphill and Chilcompton were present. The eight bells were raised at 3 p.m., and were kept going until 4.30, the touch before the service, according to custom in this association, being rung by the best band available. This consisted of three courses of Stedman Triples, which were so good that even the secretary did not grumble about them. It was the late Master of the Guild who originally asked that this should be done, and the idea has been faithfully carried out ever since. It serves two purposes. It reminds the members of a beloved priest, and because it is rung when all the people who attend the meeting have nothing to do but listen, it cannot fail to set a standard of striking which is worthy of emulation.

Service was conducted by the Rev. Preb. Porcher, who welcomed the ringers present. After the service he accompanied them to tea at Brown's Cafe, where the subsequent business meeting was held.

The Master (the Rev. W. M. K. Warren) presided. Belfry elections were confirmed, and Mr. and Mrs. Rupert Richardson as life members, and Messrs. R. Mathews, J. Bass and G. Ashford as non-resident ringing members, were accepted by the meeting.

An omnibus vote of thanks to the Vicar, to Mr. Minific, the local branch secretary, who arranged all the details incident to the meeting, and to Mr. W. Popham, steeplekeeper, was proposed by Mr. J. Hunt and carried with acclamation.

The two first named replied briefly, and the members then adjourned to the tower, where practice from rounds to Surprise Major took place. The absence from the meeting of Mr. D. G. Taylor, hon. auditor, was commented upon, and the meeting heard with regret that he was confined to bed with a cold. Hopes were expressed that soon he would be fit again. No ringer attends meetings more assiduously, and always his car is full of ringers who otherwise would be unable to attend.

SEVEN DOUBLES METHODS IN QUARTER-PEAL.

At Warkton, Northants, on New Year's Day, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Doubles (1,260 changes), consisting of 120 changes each of Stedman's Slow Course, New Doubles, St. Simon's, Canterbury, Chase and Plain Bob and 540 of Grandsire: E. J. Sargeant 1, R. W. Lawrence 2, L. G. Toseland 3, A. S. Toseland 4, B. P. Morris (conductor) 5.

On Christmas Day, for morning service at the same church, 720 Bob Doubles: A. S. Toseland 1, E. J. Sargeant 2, D. Bussey (first 720 'inside') 3, R. W. Lawrence 4, L. G. Toseland (conductor) 5.

ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.

REMARKABLE ACTIVITY DURING 1938 AT IPSWICH.

The annual meeting of St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich, was held on January 3rd, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Master, Miss S. R. E. Bowyer, who is the second lady to hold office in the society; Deputy Master, Mr. Charles J. Sedgley. All the other officers were re-elected en bloc as before.

The secretary (Mr. G. E. Symonds), in his report, stated that during the year no less than 161,222 changes, not including failures in peals and touches, had been rung on St. Mary-le-Tower bells for services, practices and twelve peals, viz., 3 Cambridge Maximus, 2 Superlative Maximus, 1 New Cambridge Maximus, 1 Rochester Surprise Maximus, 1 Yorkshire Surprise Maximus, 1 Pudsey Surprise Maximus, 1 Double Norwich Court Bob Maximus, 1 Cambridge Surprise Royal, 1 Yorkshire Surprise Royal, accounting for 62,520 changes. The touches included 50 courses of Cambridge Surprise Maximus, 22 courses of Superlative Surprise Maximus, 9 courses of Yorkshire Surprise Maximus, 5 courses of Pudsey Surprise Maximus, 8,160 changes of Rochester Surprise Maximus. Other methods of Maximus included Double Norwich 5,112, Stedman and Grandsire Cinques 8,569, Royal (seven methods) 21,660, Caters 1,965, Major 6,256, Triples 1,572.

Both the grand total of 161,222 changes and the 12 peals are records for the society. This is an average of 3,100 per week. In addition, the society rang 10 peals outside Ipswich. The total for 1937 was 144,696 changes.

BRISTOL UNITED GUILDS' ANNUAL DINNER.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR VISITORS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Visitors attending the annual dinner of Bristol United Ringing Guilds on Saturday, January 21st, will meet at St. Thomas' Church Room, Victoria Street, Bristol, at 2.45 p.m. A reserved motor bus will take them to the Zoological Gardens for a conducted tour (Tea may be had in the grounds.) At 4.30 p.m. the motor bus will leave the Zoo and take visitors to Clifton Parish Church, where the eight bells will be available until 5.30 p.m. The bus will then bring the party back to the city near the Grand Hotel. The trip and conducted tour is at the invitation of the committee and no charge will be made. These arrangements have been made by request.

Full details of other arrangements for ringing, etc., will be announced in the next issue of 'The Ringing World' or may be obtained at St. Thomas' Church.

EDGAR GUISE, Hon. Sec.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Messrs. John Taylor and Co. have in hand the rehanging of the rings of six at Cheadle Parish Church, Staffs, and St. Giles' Catholic Church, Cheadle, Staffs. Both peals are to be rehung in new frames and the Catholic Church hope to add two more bells to make eight. It is very seldom that two peals in the same town are restored simultaneously.

It was not Miss Sylvia Bowyer, after all, who headed the list of peal ringers in 1938, but 'Teddy' Barnett, of Crayford, who scored 64. It does not, however, detract from the merit of Miss Bowyer's performance of 62 peals.

We mentioned in our article last week the activities of some of the younger generation at Crayford, and we learn that Derek Sharp was a close third in the list; his total was 61. We are much obliged to Mr. P. A. Corby for this information. The reason we did not have it last week is due, we fear, to an insufficiently addressed inquiry sent to Crayford.

Mr. John Jaggar, of Warley, Birmingham, whose connection with bells goes back something like 70 years, to the time when he was a choirboy at an Oxford church, was 78 years old on January 3rd, and duly celebrated the event with his friends of St. Martin's Guild. Mr. Jaggar was one of the Burton-on-Trent band that made Surprise ringing history in the 'eighties of last century.

On Christmas Day he and some colleagues played handbell tunes to the patients in West Bromwich District Hospital. They have done it every Christmas Day since 1906—never once in that 32 years have they failed to contribute this entertainment. We hope they will be able to continue it for many years to come.

As Chertsey bells are undergoing repair, the annual meeting of the Chertsey District of the Guildford Guild on January 21st is to be held at Hersham.

The ringing visitors who signed their names in the visitors' book at St. John's Church, Blackpool, in 1938, numbered exactly 100. The number of changes rung in touches for Sunday services was 38,887, a reduction on 1937 of over 1,000 changes. The methods were Double Norwich, Kent Treble Bob Major, Bob Major, Little Bob Major, Stedman Triples, Grandsire Triples, Bob Minor, Kent Treble Bob Minor, Oxford Treble Bob Minor, Stedman Doubles and Grandsire Doubles.

Mr. J. H. Swinfield and family wish to sincerely thank all those who have written to express their sympathy with them in their recent bereavement. Owing to the number of letters received, it was not possible to reply individually.

The most recent reports upon two well-known invalids, Mr. T. Maude, of Pudsey, and Mr. W. H. Fussell, of Slough, are that both are 'about the same.'

THE EARLY MORNING BELL.

In a recent issue of the 'Daily Mirror,' the following letter appeared under 'Live Letter Box' from Mr. F. V. Parry, of Shrewsbury:—

'Every Sunday I am awakened at 6 a.m. by the hideous din of church bells ringing.

'Now, if I went out into the street at this unearthly hour ringing a whopping great bell, I'd probably get six months.

'Sunday is supposed to be the day of rest, but how the heck can a fellow rest while this infernal shindy is going on?

'Don't you think you wise old guys could get together and do something about it?'

The 'Daily Mirror's' answer was:—

'Nossir! This is YOUR pigeon. Legally, the ordinary ringing of bells for morning and evening service is not a nuisance.

'But injunctions have been granted in some cases to stop long practice ringing at odd times, though the plaintiff doesn't get a lot of sympathy for attempting to stop bellringing at service times.

'Our own opinion is that the prolonged jangle of bells is pretty unnecessary in a town.

'In the country, where people have to be called across hills and dales, it's another matter.'

'FRAMSDEN' IS 'LOUGHBOROUGH.'

ONE METHOD: TWO NAMES.

Even when a method has been published and named there is, apparently, a risk of it coming from another source and being unsuspectingly rung under a different name. A case in point has just arisen. Mr. A. G. Driver, of Belvedere, writes:—

'The method rung recently as Framsden Surprise and published in your issue of Dec. 23rd is not new. It was rung about 18 months ago and named Loughborough, the figures appearing under that name in "The Ringing World" of Aug. 20th, 1937. This is, however, the first peal in the method, as it was previously one of seven methods rung in a spliced peal.'

The spliced peal referred to by Mr. Driver was rung at Wigston Magna, Leicestershire, on May 12th, 1937. All the courses were rung with a lead each of Wigston, Leicestershire, Loughborough, Crayford, Huntingdon, Bognor and Buckingham in that order. Loughborough and Bognor were methods by Mr. J. S. Carter, of Wigston.

We have to thank Mr. K. A. Roe, of Wigston, and Mr. E. W. Tipler, of Lutterworth, for similar information.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—53.

PERCY SWINDLEY.

Cheshire has often had among its leading ringers men of real enterprise, who strike away from the beaten track, and the record of Mr. Percy Swindley, of Chester, shows that he is among those who are still keeping alive this commendable spirit in that corner of England. He has conducted peals in various spliced plain Major methods and is one of the little band that has just completed the ringing of an extent of every Minor method in the Central Council Collection.

Mr. Swindley was born at Handbridge, Chester, on July 31st, 1899. His father is towerkeeper both at St. Mary's, Handbridge, and Chester Cathedral, and Mr. Percy Swindley is one of the regular ringers at both places. He was taught to ring during the war, but, owing to the shortage of hands, made very little progress. Then, in 1917, he joined the Machine Gun Corps, and it was not until February 4th, 1921, that he had his first opportunity to ring the treble to a peal of Grandsire Triples, at the Church of St. Mary-Within-the-Walls, Chester.



MR. PERCY SWINDLEY.

It was not, however, until 1928 that he took seriously to ringing. His first peal of Major was Plain Bob, but his second was London Surprise on a bob bell. His first peal as conductor was one of Bob Major at St. Mary's, Handbridge, on August 2nd, 1930. Since then he has conducted the only peals rung by the Chester Diocesan Guild of Spliced Double Norwich, Double Oxford, Plain and Little Bob Major; Spliced Double Norwich and Plain Bob; Spliced Plain and Little Bob; peals of Little Oxford, Bob Major and Hereward Bob Major; as well as the only peals in Wales of Little Albion Treble Bob Major and Hereward Bob Major. He also took part in the only peal in Wales rung by fathers and sons, and in the only peal of Spliced Grandam and Grandsire Triples, an arrangement by the late Mr. Harry Wilde, Grandam being Grandsire rung backwards.

Although Mr. Swindley has conducted a fair proportion of Surprise methods, he much prefers ringing plain methods. His peals, which number 170, of which he has conducted 54, have been rung on six to twelve bells in 42 towers in six counties.

FOR WATCHNIGHT SERVICE.

Five ringers rang their first quarter-peal of Bristol Surprise Major on New Year's Eve for the watchnight service at St. Mary's, Willesden. It was rung with the bells half-muffled by E. H. Kilby 1, A. Cutler 2, E. B. Hartley 3, Mrs. J. H. Botham 4, C. C. Mayne 5, J. H. Botham 6, H. Kilby 7, E. C. S. Turner (conductor) 8. First quarter-peal in the method by ringers of 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6.

LADY'S FIRST QUARTER-PEAL.

Miss Doreen Lister, of Shipley, Yorkshire, rang her first quarter-peal at the Parish Church for morning service on Christmas Day. It was a quarter-peal of Bob Minor, rung by Miss Doreen Lister 1, W. Fox 2, T. B. Kendall 3, Miss Mary White 4, K. Simpson 5, H. Simpson (conductor) 6.

(Continued from next column.)

many years in advance of 'The Ringing World,' it is sufficient to ask if it is not strange that every other territorial association in the country has, for more than 60 years, been labouring under the same fallacy? Would it not be truer to say that if the London County Association imposed an annual subscription it would lose a great part of its members?

Finally, whether such articles will increase the circulation of this paper or not, is beside the point. Admittedly 'The Ringing World' needs the support of ringers, but it has never yet hesitated, for fear of losing support, to express honest convictions on any subject which it considers of interest to the Exercise; and while the present Editor is responsible it is not likely to do so.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION

SECRETARY'S REPLY TO 'THE RINGING WORLD' ARTICLE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It is rather astounding that 'The Ringing World' should have to resort to interference with an association's internal affairs for its front page news, the contents of which show how easily the Editor is led, and with the assistance of another writer whose defeat at interference this year can be seen in this.

As for making one's own question by endeavouring to cause disruption, and then not liking the reply, to wit, 'obvious side-stepping' in connection with towers belonging to any association, and to suggest that this does not mean the structure, is childish talk.

Our position is in no way curious, nor does it require the attention of 'The Ringing World' in this respect. Its position in London is well defined, see a copy of 'The History and Rules of London County Association.'

This association has in no way ever ignored its title, and now points the finger of scorn to the Editor and the Diocesan Association of which he was the instigator encroaching on the areas already covered by other associations.

Another point, of which we have seen the fallacy many years ago, and which the Editor still pretends to be blind to, is that of annual subscriptions. Our experience puts us many years in advance of 'The Ringing World.'

Finally we cannot see that such articles will increase the circulation of the paper, which we have been told so much requires attention, when our suggestions for its improvement are so ignored.

T. W. TAFFENDER, Hon. Sec.

P.S.—With the publication of this concludes our correspondence.

THE EDITOR'S COMMENTS.

The above reply to the leading article, which appeared in our issue of December 23rd, reminds us of the old principle which some members of the legal profession were said to employ, 'If you have a bad case, abuse the opposing attorney,' and that is what Mr. Taffender has sought to do in his letter.

It may be as well to repeat what has been so many times said, that the object of the leading articles in 'The Ringing World' is to direct attention to matters of interest and to encourage others to think. The position of the London County Association is a matter of interest to many outside the association itself, and its actions are of more than purely internal concern, when it encroaches upon the areas of other organisations, by going beyond the boundaries which it was originally intended to serve.

In view of certain of the statements made by Mr. Taffender, we feel it necessary to give a categorical reply. First, the Editor had no assistance from any other writer in connection with this article, neither was it prompted by anything except by what transpired at the London County Association's own meeting at Kennington. Up to the present the Editor has been entirely capable of forming his own opinions and writing his own articles. Incidentally, he is a member of the London County Association.

It is interesting to notice that the London County Association 'now points the finger of scorn to the Editor and the Diocesan Association of which he was the instigator, encroaching on the areas already covered by other associations.' This innuendo is an indication of a bitterness which is unworthy, both of the association and its secretary; but most editors are used to being shot at and they are fairly well able to judge the quality of the ammunition used against them. Therefore, as far as we are concerned, we propose to ignore it. But its application to a Guild with which the Editor has been closely associated is something which cannot pass entirely unnoticed.

The Guildford Diocesan Guild, which is obviously referred to, is in no way concerned with the controversy which has now been raised or with the Editor in his conduct of this paper. The reference to it, therefore, is not only out of place and uncalled for, but is in the worst possible taste. Indeed, we imagine the members of the London County Association will resent this opprobrious expression, to another friendly organisation, being used by their secretary in their name and without their authority.

It may, however, under the circumstances, be as well to give the facts of the formation of the Guildford Diocesan Guild for the benefit of Mr. Taffender, particularly as the Editor of 'The Ringing World' seems, in his opinion, to be the villain of the piece.

Although the Editor of 'The Ringing World' became the first secretary of the Guild, he actually opposed its formation at the time it was first mooted, so it cannot be said he was the instigator of it. But the Guildford Guild, founded after the severance of the Guildford Diocese from the Winchester Diocese, started upon its career, not as a pirate, or even as a poacher, but with the utmost goodwill of the parent association. It has never attempted to extend its area of operations beyond the strict limits of the diocesan boundary, and does not muscle in upon the towers of other established societies beyond its borders. Although this has nothing to do with the point at issue, it must be said in justice to the Guildford Diocesan Guild.

As to the question of annual subscriptions, to the fallacy of which Mr. Taffender says the Editor still pretends to be blind and upon which subject the experience of the London County Association is

(Continued in previous column.)

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.

HEALTHY FINANCIAL POSITION.

Proposal for New Committee Defeated.

The annual meeting of St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham was held at headquarters, the Tamworth Arms, Moor Street, Birmingham, on Saturday last. The bells of St. Martin's Church were available from 4.30 p.m. and were made good use of in various methods until 6 o'clock, when an adjournment was made to the club room at the Tamworth Arms, where so many annual meetings of the Guild have taken place. Owing to the inclement weather and his advanced age, the Master, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, M.A., was unable to be present, and Vice-President Councillor A. Paddon Smith was, therefore, voted to the chair.

Arising out of the minutes of the previous meeting, Mr. M. J. Morris moved a resolution 'That a committee representing the towers affiliated to the Guild be appointed in addition to the usual officials to conduct the ordinary business and affairs of the Guild.' He thought this was necessary, as, in his opinion, the Guild was going back, losing members and losing towers. After Mr. Fred Dickens had formally seconded it, a very interesting discussion took place.

The secretary, Mr. T. H. Reeves, pointed out that there was already a rule appointing such a committee as was now suggested, and the reason the committee had not been called together was that the officers had not thought it necessary to do so.

Mr. Dickens stated he had been down to the Bull Ring several times on a Tuesday night when there had been no practice. That did not obtain in the old days, and he thought something should be done to keep the weekly practices going.

The Ringing Master, Mr. F. E. Haynes, said he attended most Tuesday nights. Conditions had altered somewhat in recent years, members were living further out from the city; in addition there were now regular ringing practices taking place at the Cathedral and Aston Parish Church. He did not think he ought to be expected to send out circulars to members in order to get them to come in.

Mr. A. Walker did not agree with the resolution. In his opinion, the Guild was progressing and the present officers were doing their work satisfactorily and would continue to do so if supported by the members.

The resolution, on being put to the meeting, was lost by a big majority.

It was unanimously decided that the next quarterly meeting be held at the Parish Church, Aston, on Saturday, April 1st, and that the bi-quarterly meeting be held at the Parish Church, Coleshill.

The hon. treasurer, in presenting the balance sheet, stated that the Guild's finances were in a very healthy condition. When he heard members saying that the Guild was going back he failed to see any evidence of it. The membership was greater than ever it had been, and members' subscriptions during the past year were £6 more than in the previous year, while the balance in hand was nearly £8 more than at this time last year. The Guild's finances were in a very healthy condition and he had much pleasure in presenting the accounts. —The auditors, Messrs. J. Preston and F. Price, having given their report, the balance sheet was accepted and passed unanimously.

MASTER'S RESIGNATION REFUSED.

Mr. Frank Perrens proposed the re-election of all the officers for the current year. The secretary, however, reported the receipt of a letter from Alderman Pritchett, in which he stated that on account of his health and advanced years (he was 84 on the 8th inst.), he felt the time had come for him to resign the office of Master with which the Guild had honoured him for so long. He much regretted having to take this course, but he had had a long innings and time and tide wait for no man.

The Chairman (Councillor Paddon Smith) said they all regretted the absence of the Master and they must realise that owing to his advanced age he would not be able to attend their meetings in the future as in the past, but he thought he was expressing the wishes of all the members when he said they could not accept the Master's resignation. Although physically he was not so active, yet mentally he was as keen as ever and still had the well-being of the Guild at heart. He was an ornament to the Guild, and whilst he had breath in his body should continue to be their Master.

The resolution was seconded by Mr. Fred Dickens and supported by Mr. Albert Walker. On being put to the meeting it was carried unanimously.

The secretary was instructed to write Alderman Pritchett acquainting him of his re-election and tendering to him hearty congratulations and best wishes on having reached the 84th anniversary of his birthday.

The hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. T. H. Reeves, thought the time had arrived when they should appoint a successor. He had now completed ten years as their secretary, and although he knew his predecessor had served 20 years, he would point out that Mr. Smith started much younger than he did, and so he placed his resignation in the hands of the members.

Mr. Albert Walker proposed the re-election of Mr. Reeves. He had given entire satisfaction to 99.9 per cent. of the members and he had their support.

This was seconded by Vice-President J. H. Shepherd.

The Chairman remarked that not only had he been secretary for 20 years, but his two previous predecessors had held the position for 20 years each, so they certainly could not let Mr. Reeves resign until he also had completed his term of 20 years.

The resolution, on being put to the meeting, was carried unanimously.

Mr. Reeves, in acknowledging his re-election, said he would accept it for another year, but could not accept the chairman's sentence to another ten years.

Mr. Perrens' resolution that the remaining officers be re-elected was seconded by Mr. W. C. Dowding and carried unanimously.

HENRY JOHNSON COMMEMORATION DINNER.

As previously arranged, the Henry Johnson Commemoration dinner is to take place on Saturday, February 25th, at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, and the chair will be taken by the Rev. Canon Stuart Blofeld, Vicar of Edgbaston. All further arrangements were left in the hands of the officers.

Under the item 'Any other business,' Mr. G. F. Swann, librarian, suggested that the Master should have a badge or chain of office to wear at the dinner and at meetings. He did not suggest anything very expensive; in fact, he had a recollection that many years ago Mr. Galimore, of Lichfield, presented a locket, which contained a lock of Henry Johnson's hair, to the Guild for the Master to wear. Did any member know what had become of it?

Mr. Walker and Mr. Dickens had some recollection of such a locket, but neither had any idea where it now was. It was suggested that possibly Alderman Pritchett might know its whereabouts, and the secretary was instructed to write him on the matter.

The remainder of the evening was given up to friendly intercourse and ringing on the handbells. Many were the recollections recalled. The very room itself had shades of past worthy ringers of St. Martin's, such as Tom Reynolds, Harry Bastable, John Day, Sam Reeves, Rock Small, W. H. Godden, Tom Russam and John Carter. There were several notable absentees from the meeting, among them Tom Miller, James George and Harry Withers. It was recalled that it was the 50th anniversary of the amalgamation of the St. Martin's Youths and the Holt Society of Aston. Among the reminiscences retold were the visits of the Guild to Exeter many years ago and to the attempt for the peal of Bob Royal at the Cathedral. Tom Miller, who was sitting in the tower, was called to relieve Arthur Peglar on the tenor, who was then up behind. Some minutes afterwards the peal collapsed, and in the words of Tom Miller 'he freewheeled the tenor down to lead, but could not get the perisher back again.' Another recollection was the first peal of Major on Erdington Parish Church bells, when the striking was so good that a local resident went to the verger and asked him if he had forgotten to turn the engine off, thinking that such good ringing must be mechanical. Nor would he believe it when the verger tried to assure him that there were men at the ends of the ropes. And so the evening went on until the cry of 'Time' brought another successful annual meeting to a close.

FIRST PEAL OF MAJOR AT FROME.

INTERESTING LINK WITH 18th CENTURY BELL FOUNDER.

Mr. J. E. Lewis Cockey, formerly of Sheffield and now residing at Harrow, has had the distinction of ringing to a peal a bell cast by one of his ancestors more than 200 years ago. This was at Frome, Somerset, on December 31st, when a peal of Double Norwich Major was rung on this heavy eight—the first peal of Major on the bells. Mr. Cockey can claim descent from William Cockey, bell founder, of Frome, who cast the treble and second in 1724 and the sixth in 1746.

Frome has a fine peal of bells hung in two tiers and of mixed dates, the most recent bell dating from 1792 and the oldest from 1524. The tenor, measuring 55 inches, was cast in 1662 by John Lott, of Warminster, Wilts. The bells have recently been rehung in ball bearings by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, and this was only the third peal on the bells with the tenor rung single-handed, the first having been Stedman Triples in 1908, with Mr. J. H. Shepherd ringing the tenor, and the second in the early 1920's, with Mr. S. J. Hector on the tenor.

Previous to the peal on New Year's Eve the Vicar (the Rev. W. J. Torrance) recited suitable prayers in the belfry, others present beside the peal band including Mr. J. O. Lewis, Miss D. E. Cockey (cousin of Mr. J. E. Lewis Cockey), Mrs. Rees ('Pandora' of the 'Sunday Times'), Messrs. W. Bishop (captain), W. Flower and E. H. Nash, of the local company. It was particularly kind of the Vicar to give special permission to ring through the 6 p.m. evensong, owing to a later start than had been intended. But for this, completion of the peal would have been impossible, as it did not come round until 6.20 p.m.

The band would like to thank the Vicar for kindly giving permission for the peal attempt, Mr. J. O. Lewis for his assistance with the arrangements, and Mr. W. Bishop for his help with the ropes and opening the tower.

The ringers, who travelled from Reading in two cars, also rang at Calne, Wilts, and Beckington, Somerset, the latter through the kindness of Mr. E. H. Nash, district secretary, who also eagerly took names (and subscriptions) of the seven ringers elected members of the Bath and Wells Association before starting the peal.

On the way home, Messrs. N. Golden, A. S. Richards and A. P. Cannon had the pleasure of ringing the old year out at Beenham, Berks, where the local band gave them a pleasant welcome. Incidentally this was the 163rd tower in which Mr. A. P. Cannon rang during 1938, and the eleventh county in which he rang a peal.

PEAL NOTES.

OLD-YEAR PEALS.

A number of peals were rung on New Year's Eve and finished just before midnight. At Buxton, Norfolk, after a peal of Minor, the hour was tolled and the customary 'firing' welcomed 1939.

Some of the peals were rung half-muffled to bid farewell to the old year. Where it is done, it is just a local custom, but we can see no sentimental reason for it. For instance, 1938 can have given us very little reason to mourn its departure.

We referred last week to Mr. Robert J. Maynard's long association with ringing in Walthamstow; how for 67 years he has rung for the Christmas festival and on 65 occasions (two were cut out in the war years) has rung the old year out and new year in. Last New Year's Eve he took part in a peal of Stedman Caters at St. Mary's Church. He is over 80 years of age and puts in much of his time in these days in tilling his well-kept allotment.

It was fitting that the names of three generations of the family should have been associated with Mr. Edwin Barnett's 450th peal, rung at Crayford, Kent, on December 31st. He conducted a peal of Double Norwich composed by his father and in it his son took part. It was Mr. Phil. Corby's 50th peal in 1938.

A peal of Bob Major at Enville, Staffs, on December 31st, was the first peal on the bells since they were rehung on ball bearings and the tenor was recast.

Another first peal since the rehanging of the bells was rung on New Year's Eve at Over, Cheshire. Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. carried out the restoration.

RESTRICTIONS LIFTED ON NEW YEAR'S EVE.

Dodderhill, adjoining Droitwich, Worcestershire, possesses an excellent octave (installed 1932), on which, however, there are severe peal restrictions. On the last day of the old year these restrictions were lifted, and four of the local band, with four others from Claines, rang a peal of Oxford Bob Triples there. It is said that one of the local band sat up half the previous night 'swotting up' Darlaston, only to be disappointed when he arrived at the tower to find the method had been turned into the Western Branch formula—Oxford Bob! It was a quick peal (2 hours 50 minutes on a ring with an 18¼ cwt. tenor), the 'back-enders' apparently being of one mind in getting a 'last kick' from the dying year.

A peal of Grandsire Triples at Hughenden, Bucks, was rung for the passing of the old year and to usher in the new, the bells coming round at 12.5 a.m. Stanley Bedwell, who rang the treble, started to learn ringing on June 14th, 1938, and he rang well in this, his first peal. All the band are regular Sunday service ringers at Hughenden, except J. W. Wilkins, and they are grateful to him for standing in. Mr. Wilkins is nearly 76 years old and had about four miles to walk home in the early hours of the morning.

Denis Scott, of Darley Dale, Derbyshire, who is only 14 years of age, scored his first peal on New Year's Eve, when he rang the treble to a peal of Oxford Bob Triples and handled his bell most creditably. With the exception of Mr. V. E. Taylor, of Matlock, all the ringers belong to Darley Dale.

A peal of Grandsire Triples at Overseale, Derbyshire, on the last day of the year was a birthday compliment to Mr. Harry Boswell, of Blakenhall, Wolverhampton.

The band that rang the half-muffled peal of Superlative Surprise Major at Guildford Cathedral for the passing of the old year consisted of past and present members of Holy Trinity Sunday band.

The half-muffling of the bells for a peal of Grandsire Triples at the Church of St. Mary-within-the-Walls, Chester, on December 31st, was for a double purpose. It marked the passing of the old year and was an expression of deepest sympathy on the death of Douglas Barnet, one of the learners at this tower, who died on Christmas Day at the age of 16 years.

The first peal on the bells at Hilmarton, Wiltshire, was also rung on the last day of the old year. It consisted of 42 extents of Grandsire Doubles.

Kenneth Mayer rang his 50th peal on December 27th, when he took part in seven Minor methods at Barnby-in-the-Willows, Notts.

The peal of Bob Minor at Malinslee, Shropshire, on Boxing Day, was a birthday compliment to Mr. Dennis Woodvine, son of Mr. H. Woodvine, captain of the Malinslee band, and also of Mr. John Stainer, son of Mr. J. L. Stainer, who took part in the peal.

Mr. Jack Bray rang his 300th peal on December 29th when he called the first peal of Triples (Grandsire) on the bells at Burton-on-Stather Parish Church, which were augmented to eight about a year ago.

The handbell peal of Minor rung at Leverstock Green on December 4th was for the Hertford County Association and not the Hereford Diocesan Guild as printed.

The peal of Bob Major at Bromley Common, Kent, on December 19th, was specially arranged as a birthday compliment to Messrs. William Grace, Edmund Mounter and John E. Liddiard, it being the last-named's first peal of Major as conductor.

Fourteen methods were rung in a peal of Surprise Minor at Market Deeping on December 10th. In one 720 six methods were spliced, in three others two methods were spliced, and in each of the other three the extent was rung in a single method. The peal was a birthday compliment to Mr. Harry Gibbard's daughter.

(Continued on page 31.)

NOTICES.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual dinner at the Lion Hotel, Guildford, on Saturday, January 14th, at 6 p.m. Bells of S. Nicolas' Church available from 4 p.m. until 5.30 p.m.—G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec., East Clandon.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The seventh annual supper will be held at the Village Hall, Heston, on Saturday, January 14th, at 6 p.m. prompt. Tickets 3/6 from the undersigned or from any Tower Secretary. Heston bells available from 3 to 5.40 p.m. It is hoped that all members of this Association, whether of the South and West District or otherwise, will support this supper, and help to make it a success. Friends from other Associations also will be very welcome.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec., 16, St. Stephen's Road, West Ealing, W.13.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Bilston on January 14th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service in church at 4.45, with an address by the Rev. S. Garrett, M.A., Vicar. Tea (1s.) at 5.30. All are welcome.—H. Knight, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—The annual meeting of this district will take place at Bedford on Saturday, January 14th. The bells of St. Peter's Church will be available from 2.30, and tea will be provided in St. Peter's Hall at 5. Service at 4.30. Will all members make an effort to attend? Everybody welcome.—Frank C. Tysoe, 10, Grange Road, Bromham, Bedford.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—East Devon Branch.—A meeting will be held at Sidbury, near Sidmouth, on Saturday, January 14th. Bells (6) available at 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting at 5. All ringers welcome. Also Ottery St. Mary bells (8) available at 7 p.m. —John H. Godfrey, Hon. Sec., 9, Silver Street, Ottery St. Mary.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The annual meeting of the district will be held at St. Mary's, Nottingham, on Saturday, January 14th. Bells (10) from 5 p.m. till 8 p.m. All ringers welcome. Come and try this hefty lot. Will members please note that there are a lot of outstanding subscriptions for the past year? Will those in arrear please oblige?—E. C. Gobey, Dis. Sec., Trowell, Notts.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Loughborough District.—The annual meeting will be held at the Bell Foundry, Loughborough, on January 14th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Business: election of local officers for 1939. Visitors welcome.—H. O. Over, District Sec., Hugglescote.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Macclesfield Branch.—The general meeting of the above is arranged to take place on Saturday, January 14th, at St. Michael's, Macclesfield. Bells (12) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea, price 2s., 5 p.m. Business meeting 6 p.m.—Jack Tipper, Hon. Branch Sec.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The annual meeting of the district will be held at Apsley on Saturday, January 14th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Short service at 4.45, followed by tea and business meeting. Let us have a bumper meeting.—W. Ayre, Leverstock Green.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Frome and Midsomer Norton Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Shepton Mallet on Saturday, January 14th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5.—E. H. Nash, The Talbot, Mells, near Frome.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting of the Maidstone District will be held at Aylesford on Saturday, January 14th. Usual arrangements. Every ringer welcome.—A. Waddington, Hon. Dis. Sec., Egerton.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Lindfield on Saturday, January 14th. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. All are welcome.—B. Saunders, 18, New Road, Ridgewood, Uckfield, Sussex.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—The annual meeting will be held at Biggleswade on Saturday, January 14th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. It is requested that all members will try and attend. All ringers welcome. Please come.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kettering Branch.—Annual branch meeting at Geddington (5 bells) on Saturday, January 14th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea subsequently, 1s. 6d., except for branch members. Tea will be provided by ticket only, and application must be made by first post January 14th.—H. Baxter, Branch Sec., 21, Charles Street, Rothwell, Northants.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The annual general meeting will be held at Barnsley on Saturday, January 14th. Bells (8) ready 2.30 p.m. Short service at 4.30 p.m. Tea in New Rectory Room at 5 p.m. All are welcome.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., Rock Cottages, Shafton, near Barnsley.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The district annual meeting will be held at Earl Shilton on Saturday, January 14th. Usual times. Postcards for tea (9d.) to Mr. G. Newton, 138, High Street, Earl Shilton, near Leicester, not later than Friday, January 13th, please. Start the New Year well. Come early. You will be welcome.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec., Fosseway, Croft, near Leicester.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual meeting of Southampton District at Southampton on Saturday, January 14th. Bells available: St. Mary's, 2.30-4.15 and after tea; Holy Rood, 2.30-4.25; St. Michael's after tea. Service at Holy Rood 4.30. Tea, St. Michael's Hall, 5 p.m.—G. Pullinger, 17, Stoke Park Road, Bishopstoke, Hants.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting Shrewsbury on January 14th. Note alteration: Ringing, St. Mary's (10), 3-4.15 p.m.; St. Chad's (12), 6.30-8.30 p.m. Service at St. Chad's 4.30. Tea and meeting Church Room.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting is at West Retford (6 bells) to-morrow, Saturday, January 14th. Cafes in the town. Please do your best to be present.—R. Towler, Hon. Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—The annual meeting of the Lincoln District will take place at Harmston (8 bells, available 2.30-9), on Saturday, January 14th. Tea at moderate charge.—Kenneth W. Mayer, Dis. Sec., 31, Vine Street, Lincoln.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for January: *St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, 17th; St. Magnus', London Bridge, 19th; Cripplegate, 24th; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 26th; *St. Paul's Cathedral, 31st. All at 7.30 p.m., except Holborn, 8 p.m. * Business meeting afterwards.—A. B. Peck, Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Banbury and District Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Adderbury on Saturday, January 21st. Bells (8) available from 2.30. Service 4 p.m., followed by tea and short business meeting. For tea please notify E. Pearson, Adderbury West, Banbury.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Preston Parish Church (10 bells) on Saturday, January 21st. Come and make this a successful meeting. All welcome.—A. Blogg, Branch Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—Annual meeting at Wokingham on Saturday, January 21st. Service in St. Paul's Church 4 p.m.; preacher, Rev. J. J. E. O'Malley, O.B.E., M.A., late chaplain to the Forces. Tea in Parish Room 4.45. Tickets, 1s., must be applied for by January 17th. Ringing at All Saints' 2.30 to 3.30, St. Paul's 3.15 to 4. Both towers after the meeting.—W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Merrel, California, Wokingham.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Godstone on Saturday, January 21st. Tower open 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting at the Clayton Arms Hotel. Please send numbers for tea to me not later than Wednesday, January 18th. All very welcome.—R. A. Tuffin, Hon. Dis. Sec., 65, Blackborough Road, Reigate, Surrey.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wymondham calling all members of the North Norfolk Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch will take place at Wymondham on Saturday, January 21st. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. All are welcome, but don't forget that postcard with names or numbers for tea by Wednesday, January 18th.—H. Tooke, Branch Sec., The Lizard, Wymondham, Norfolk.

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL BRISTOL UNITED RINGING GUILDS' DINNER will be held at the Grand Hotel, Broad Street, Bristol, on Saturday, January 21st, commencing at 6 p.m. Tickets, price 4s. 6d., may be obtained from Messrs. A. Walker (Birmingham), J. Hawkins (London), W. B. Kynaston (Swindon), J. Austin (Gloucester), J. T. Dyke (Bath), H. Knight (Wrington), W. Yeend (Cheltenham), S. T. Price (Stonehouse), W. J. Smith (Yate) and officers and stewards, or direct from Edgar Guise, Hon. Sec., 46a, Tankard's Close, Bristol 2.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Appledore on Saturday, January 21st. Ringing from 2.30 and after meeting. Service 4.30. Tea (free) 5.15.—P. Page, Hon. Sec., 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Daventry (8 bells) on Saturday, January 21st. Usual arrangement.—W. C. Moore, Braunston Road, Daventry, Northants.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—The annual meeting will be held at Hersham, the bells of Chertsey being out of order, on Saturday, January 21st. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea in Church Room 5 p.m. Tea can only be provided for those who let me know by Tuesday, the 17th. All ringers and friends welcome.—F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Dis. Sec., 39, Queen's Road, Thames Ditton.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch, Gainsborough District.—The annual meeting of the above district will be held at Gainsborough on Saturday, January 21st. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., at the Tudor Cafe, business meeting to follow. Will those requiring tea please notify me, the undersigned, by the Wednesday previous?—E. J. P. Davies, Hon. Dis. Sec., Blyton Vicarage, Gainsborough.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Jurisdiction of Glaston Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Wells, St. Cuthbert's, on Saturday, January 21st. Bells (8) at 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow.—W. H. Marsh, 4, Dove Cots, Street, Somerset.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wellingborough Branch.—The branch annual meeting will be held (D.V.) at Finedon on Saturday, January 21st. Service at 4.30. Nice peal of eight. Please send cards for tea to A. Bigley, Hon. Branch Sec., 30, Allen Road, Irthlingborough, Wellingborough.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Portsmouth, on Saturday, January 21st. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. in the Parish Institute. Business meeting follows. All requiring tea please notify me by Wednesday, January 18th. All ringers welcome.—A. T. Greenwood, 6, Sheffield Road, Portsmouth.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Middlesbrough on Saturday, January 21st. Bells (8) available for ringing. Service in St. Hilda's Church at 4.30 p.m. Tea will be provided in the Church Room at 5 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify me not later than Thursday, January 19th. All ringers and friends welcome.—J. Reed, Hon. Sec., 67, Hedley Street, Guisborough.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Taunton Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. James', Taunton, on Sat., Jan. 21st. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting at gas showrooms, Bridge Street.—R. W. Hayward, 24, Fairwater Cottages, Taunton.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—A meeting will be held at Cowfold (6 bells) on Saturday, January 21st. Bells at 3. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. All welcome. Please let me have your cards by Wednesday prior to meeting.—O. Sippetts, 10, Three Bridges Road, Crawley.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—The annual general meeting will be held on Saturday, January 21st, at St. Luke's, Sydney Street, Chelsea, S.W.3 (10 bells). 49 bus from Clapham Junction or South Kensington (D.R.) passes the church. Ringing 2.45 p.m. to 5 p.m. and after business meeting till 8 p.m. Names for tea to district secretary, N. H. Manning, 21, Burlington Gardens, Chiswick, W.4.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—The annual general meeting will be held on Saturday, January 21st. Ringing at St. Lawrence Jewry 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., followed by business meeting in choir vestry. Ringing at St. Dunstan-in-the-East 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tea can be obtained in the vicinity of either church.—James G. A. Prior, Hon. Sec., 81, Denbigh Street, S.W.1.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Marlborough Branch.—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, January 21st. St. Mary's bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Service 4 o'clock. Tea in Parish Hall 4.30. Cards for tea by January 18th.—T. A. Palmer, Baydon Hill, Aldbourne, Marlborough, Wilts.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—By special request, a meeting will be held at Fenham (SS. James and Basil's) on Saturday, January 21st at 3 p.m. Trolley bus No. 6 stops at church. Tea will be served in the Church Hall at 1s. per head.—Jack Roach, Hon. Dis. Sec.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Northampton on Saturday, January 21st. St. Giles' (10) available from 2 p.m. Names for tea to me by January 18th.—J. C. Dean, 16, St. Peter's Street, Northampton.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Pudsey on Saturday, January 21st. Bells available from 3 p.m. Other arrangements as usual.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Leeds 12.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—The annual meeting will be held at Belgrave on Saturday, January 21st. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. till 8 p.m. Will those requiring tea please notify me by January 19th? Particulars of tea next week.—Herbert W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The annual meeting will be held at Arksey on Saturday, January 21st. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Committee meeting at 4 p.m. Service at 4.30, to be followed by tea and the general meeting. Will those who will require tea please notify Mr. G. Clark, 10, Dawood Villas, Bentley, Doncaster, not later than Wednesday, the 18th? It is hoped that all members will make an effort to attend this meeting.—Ernest Cooper, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Bolton Parish Church on Saturday, January 21st. Bells available 2.30. Service 5. Tea 5.30. Business meeting after tea. Small charge per head. Names for tea to Miss Albinson, 28, Cope Bank, Bolton.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—The annual meeting of the Crewe Branch will be held at Christ Church, Crewe, on January 21st. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Preacher, Rev. Charles Parry-Williams (Vicar of Acton). Tea, at the kind invitation of the Vicar and wardens, at 5 o'clock. Meeting to follow. It is necessary that all those who intend to be present for tea should send a card not later than January 18th to Richard D. Langford, Hon. Branch Sec., 118, Ruskin Road, Crewe.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting of the Wirral Branch will be held at St. Peter's, Rock Ferry, on Saturday, January 21st. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting 5.30 p.m. Monthly meetings arranged at this meeting and officers elected.—Harry S. Brocklebank, Hon. Sec.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Rutland Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch will be held Uppingham (bells (8) available 3 p.m.) on Saturday, January 21st.—S. H. Towell, Hon. Sec., 17, King's Road, Oakham.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The first quarterly meeting of the year will be held at Nuneaton on Saturday, January 21st. Ringing from three o'clock. Committee meeting at four o'clock. Service in church at 4.15, followed by tea in the Parish Hall. Business meeting afterwards. Suggestions for the improvement of the report will be welcomed at this meeting.—D. E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Chesterfield District.—The annual meeting for the election of officers will be held at Eckington on Saturday, January 21st. Bells 3 p.m. Will all members attend who can to give the new Rector a welcome?—J. P. Tarlton, Hon. Sec., Greenfield Villas, Stonetroom, Alfreton.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Southern Division will be held in Brighton on Wednesday, January 25th. Service at the Good Shepherd, Dyke Road, 6 p.m. Tea (price 1s.) in the Church Hall, 5 p.m. Ringing 6.30 to 9. Names for tea by January 21st. Usual allowances to members.—S. E. Armstrong, Hon. Div. Sec., 70, Hollingbury Park Avenue, Brighton 6.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting of the Sleaford District of the Northern Branch will be held at Ruskington, near Sleaford, on Sat., Jan. 28th. The bells of All Saints' Church (6) will be available from 2.30. Service at 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. Tea provided at 6d. per head. Will those who would like tea kindly inform the undersigned by Wednesday, January 25th?—H. S. Hinkins, Elmside, 41, The Drove, Sleaford, Lincs.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—The annual meeting for the election of officers, etc., will take place on January 28th at St. Martin-in-the-Fields. Ringing from 4 to 5.30, and at St. Olave's, Hart Street (nearest stations, Fenchurch Street and Mark Lane), 3 to 4 p.m. Tea in St. Martin's Crypt to all who send names by the 14th. Business meeting in Vestry Hall 6.30. Further ringing until 9 p.m. on St. Martin's bells. N.B.—The dinner will be held at the Bell, Holborn, on March 18th. Book the date!—N. Summerhayes, Hon. Sec., 28, Barn Road, Bexleyheath.

NATIONAL GUILD OF POLICE RINGERS.—The annual meeting of this Guild will take place in London on Saturday, January 28th. Members please note the date. Further details next week.—Norman S. Bagworth.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Quarterly meeting at Gillingham on Saturday, January 28th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at 5 o'clock, followed by tea and business meeting in the Memorial Room (adjoining Vicarage). Tea is very kindly being provided for those advising me not later than first post on Wednesday, January 25th.—G. H. Spice, Hon. Dis. Sec., 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Annual meeting at Farnham on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business at Darracott's, West Street. Notifications for tea by 25th.—C. W. Denyer, Dis. Sec., 120, Ash Road, Aldershot.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Leeds on Saturday, January 28th. The bells of the Parish Church (12) will be available from 2 to 4.15 p.m. and 7.30 to 9 p.m.; St. Michael's, Headingley (8), and St. Chad's, Far Headingley (8), will also be available from 2 to 3.45 p.m. and 7.30 to 9 p.m. A service will be held in the Parish Church at 4.30 p.m. Tea (1s. 6d.) will be served in St. Peter's Hall at 5.30 p.m., and, as accommodation is limited, all requiring same must notify Mr. V. C. Buck, 11, Church Row, Leeds 2, by the first post on Thursday, January 26th. The general meeting will take place immediately afterwards in the day schools. Subscriptions are now due, and reports will be available.—L. W. G. Morris, Gen. Sec., 65, Lilycroft Road, Heaton, Bradford.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—General quarterly meeting, Saturday, January 28th, at Hugglescote. Bells (8) available all afternoon. Full details later. —Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District. —The annual district meeting will be held at St. Peter's, South Croydon, on Saturday, January 28th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service 5 o'clock. Tea at 5.30 p.m., followed by business meeting. Ringing again in the evening. Numbers for tea to be sent to Mr. M. W. Simmons, 33, Crossways, Addington, Croydon, not later than Wednesday, January 25th. All ringers welcome.—F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Sec., 28, Strathearn Road, Sutton, Surrey.

LADIES' GUILD.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Diss, Norfolk, on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., conducted by the Rector. Tea at the Waveney Hotel, price 1s. per head, at 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow. Gentlemen are cordially invited to attend. Names for tea should be sent to me by Monday, January 23rd.—Sylvia R. E. Bowyer, Hon. Sec., 32, Gatacre Road, Ipswich.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Dorchester Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Dorchester, on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (8) from 4 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Charminster, Fordington and Upwey bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Kindly notify early for tea.—C. H. Jennings, 3, Sunnyside Road, Wyke Regis, Weymouth.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Basingstoke District.—The annual meeting will be held at Basingstoke on Saturday, January 28th. Bells available from 2.30. Service in St. Michael's Church at 4. Tea at 5, followed by the meeting. In view of the large attendance expected, orders for tea must be sent by January 25th to Mr. C. W. Munday, 21, Southend Road, Basingstoke.—J. G. Stilwell, Hon. Dis. Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The annual meeting will be held at All Saints' Church, Edmonton, on Saturday, January 28th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Short service at 4.45 p.m. Tea in the Church Hall at 5.15 p.m., for which 1s. will be charged. All requiring tea must advise Mrs. G. W. Fletcher, 45, Walsingham Road, Enfield (phone, Enfield 2025), by Thursday, January 26th. Business meeting after tea, at which district officers and representatives on Central Committee for 1939 will be elected. All members and friends welcomed.—C. T. Coles, for Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the Cathedral, Manchester, on Saturday, January 28th. Tower open for ringing at 6 o'clock. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—Joseph H. Ridyard, Branch Sec., 35, The Crescent, Worsley.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at Bispham on Saturday, January 28th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Business meeting and tea 5.30.—C. Sharples, Fylde Branch Sec.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hereford District.—The annual meeting will be held at Hereford on Saturday, February 4th. Bells available as follows: Hereford Cathedral (10), 2.30 to 4 p.m.; St. Nicholas' Church (6), 2.30 to 8.30 p.m.; All Saints' Church (8), 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. Service at St. Nicholas' Church at 4.15 p.m. Tea (6d. to those notifying me not later than Tuesday, January 31st), followed by the annual meeting, at the Kerry Arms Hotel, Commercial Square, Hereford.—R. H. Stickley, Dis. Sec., The Hollies, Lugwardine, Hereford.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—The committee is desirous of keeping up to date the list of non-resident members, together with the number of peals rung by them. Will those members kindly send a postcard furnishing such information to H. Parker, 3, London Road, Davenham, Cheshire?

PEAL NOTES.

(Continued from page 271.)

EAST CHESHIRE ON HOLIDAY.

A batch of eight peals was rung in East Cheshire during Christmas week, six of them on Monday and Tuesday. The organisers must have got quite busy, for no fewer than 28 ringers took part, some of them ringing their first peal and many their first on some fresh number of bells. Seven of them rang a peal of Grandsire Caters and a peal of Bob Maximus on Boxing Day, and on the following day Mr. Joseph Whittaker rang a peal of Bob Major and one of Bob Minor on tower bells and one of Bob Major on handbells.

'East Cheshire on holiday'; thus were the peals headed when sent to us, and nothing could better describe it. The way in which the bands were mixed up and the success which attended them not only indicates the progress that is being made, but the splendid spirit that exists among the ringers in the area. Men who have rung peals in more than 80 Spliced Minor methods stepped down to help others ring such things as Plain Bob Minor and Grandsire and Bob Doubles.

During this 'holiday,' Mr. John Worth rang his 250th peal, and completed peals of Plain Bob as conductor from Minor to Maximus; Mr. Joseph Whittaker rang his 50th peal for the Chester Diocesan Guild, and Mr. C. Kenneth Lewis completed calling Grandsire from Doubles to Cinques. Messrs. Lewis, J. A. Milner and G. W. Biddulph have rung peals of Plain Bob from Minor to Maximus, and three ringers rang their first peal on handbells.

At Marple, where only five ringers turned up, a peal of Bob Doubles instead of Minor was rung, and all the band except Mr. C. K. Lewis were local men. It was not only a successful holiday, but will doubtless prove a great incentive to further efforts in East Cheshire.

The 'bag' consisted of Grandsire Caters, Bob Maximus, Bob Major, Bob Minor, Bob Doubles and Double Norwich Major on tower bells, and Bob Major and Grandsire Doubles on handbells.

Here is the composition (rung for the first time) of the peal of Bob Major on handbells. It is a 5,150 by Mr. C. Kenneth Lewis.

23456	W	M	H	65234	W	M	H
42635	—	—		25463	S	—	
64523	—	—		65423	S		
34526		S		26453	—		
54623		—		56423	S		
34625		S		45362	—	—	
63542	—	—		65342	S		
23546		S		46352	—		
53642		—		56342	S		
23645		S		35264	—	—	
62534	—	—		24356	—	S	—
42536		S		32456			—
65234		—	—	Repeated			

The ringer of the 5th in the peal at Newhall, Derbyshire, was Tom J. Marriott, and it was his first peal of Treble Bob Minor, as it was by the treble ringer.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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SUCCESS OF THE IPSWICH SOCIETY

There are few local societies in the Exercise that have had the long unbroken success which has attended the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich, and there certainly is no local company that has to its credit anything like the variety of twelve-bell performances that this Suffolk tower can claim. Year in, year out, almost as long as living memory goes back, a band, not only efficient but enterprising, has been keeping up a record of service and peal ringing in this tower that has been unexcelled, and last year's performance of successful touches and peals, running to 161,222 changes, of which nearly one hundred thousand have been rung in touches for practice and service alone, is almost amazing. Peals in half a dozen different Surprise Maximus methods, as well as Double Norwich Maximus, were rung in the tower, and nowhere else in the world has Maximus ringing reached such a high standard. Older ringers will recall the foundations so well and truly laid by such men as James Motts and William Catchpole, who in the eighties of last century laboured so splendidly to build up the company, and set an example which successive ringers at St. Mary-le-Tower have ably and consistently followed. The first peal in every one of the Surprise Maximus methods has been rung at Ipswich, beginning with Cambridge in 1908, and the methods which are constantly rung, both for practice and service, show that these peals are not merely a flash in the pan but constitute a part of the company's regular 'repertory.'

One of the things, in these days of ups and downs among ringing companies, not least remarkable is that throughout all these years Ipswich has been able to maintain such an efficient, indeed an increasingly efficient, company. In many places where twelve bells are installed they become almost a white elephant; seldom, if ever, rung as a peal of twelve, unless by visiting bands. Indeed, it is doubtful if, in more than a dozen of the fifty odd twelve-bell towers in the country, a twelve-bell company is regularly maintained, and yet Ipswich, which is no better, even if no worse placed, than other cities and towns, has not only kept a full company for sixty years or more, but has gone from strength to strength, and with young blood in the ranks has every promise of still going on.

There must be reasons for this success, and one for certain can be stated—the society has never sat down and waited for recruits to turn up. It is true that good ringers will gravitate to a tower where they can get good ringing, but at Ipswich they have made ringers as well as having others come to them. They have never let their

(Continued on page 34.)

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numbers be depleted. That is the first reason for their present strong position. Then they have had sufficient keenness and enterprise to get out of the rut. They have not been content to stick at a single method so that interest wanes. And beyond this, and probably quite as important, is the fact that they have never had to rely upon just a single conductor. They have encouraged their members to take an interest in conducting and given them opportunities to call peals, and they, therefore, have in the tower a number of ringers capable of conducting any of the methods they ring. Thus the maintenance of change ringing and success in peals or touches do not rest upon the shoulders of one man only, as it does in so many places. Ipswich is the most brilliant example we have of how a twelve-bell company can be maintained.

TEN BELL PEALS.

LEYLAND, LANCS.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 2, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 23¼ cwt.

BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS	...*Treble*	WILLIAM SHARPLES	6
ADAM BLOGG	2	*EDWARD PICKLES	7
WILLIAM E. FLETCHER ...	3	ALFRED BLOGG	8
HARRY FRANCE	4	†LAWRENCE WALMSLEY ...	9
GEORGE R. NEWTON	5	FRANK VARTY	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by B. A. KNIGHTS.

* First peal on ten bells. † First peal.

HASLEMERE, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 7, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5103 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 6 lb.

JOHN S. GOLDSMITH ...	...*Treble*	JOHN H. B. HESSE	6
ALFRED H. PULLING	2	*ERNEST J. MUNDAY	7
ERNEST J. AYLIFFE	3	RAYMOND PHILPOTT	8
*DOUGLAS R. HAYES	4	CHARLES HAZELDEN	9
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON ...	5	COLIN A. HOPPER ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

* First peal of Stedman Caters.

WALTHAM ABBEY, ESSEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE AND THE HOLY CROSS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5091 CHANGES;

Tenor 38 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb. in C.

JACK M. CRIPPS	...*Treble*	FRANK E. DARBY	6
HORACE BELCHER	2	RAYMOND G. COUSINS	7
R. CONGREVE PRIDGEON ...	3	HENRY G. MILES...	8
HERBERT E. THOMPSON ...	4	JACK A. WADGE	9
LEONARD J. FOX...	5	ALFRED B. PECK	...*Tenor*

Composed by E. BENNETT. Conducted by FRANK E. DARBY.

RICKMANSWORTH, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

HENRY HODGETTS	...*Treble*	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW	6
GEORGE R. PYE	2	*EDWIN JENNINGS	7
GILBERT E. DEBENHAM ...	3	FRANCIS KIRK	8
CHARLES T. COLES	4	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT ...	9
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	5	HAROLD G. CASHMORE	...*Tenor*

Composed by REV. H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE

* First peal in the method 'inside.' First peal of Royal as conductor. First peal of Royal on the bells.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

HUNSLET, LEEDS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 20 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in F.

*ALFRED SMITH ... ...*Treble*	MRS. E. BRADLEY 5
RONALD H. DOVE 2	FRANK RAYMENT 6
†ARNOLD COLE 3	LEONARD DRAKE 7
WILLIAM HAWLEY 4	EDWARD BRADLEY ... ...*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by EDWARD BRADLEY.
* First peal. † First peal of Bob Major.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, January 1, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 13¾ cwt.

C. ERNEST SMITH ... ...*Treble*	ALBERT E. LAKER 5
MISS FLORRIE WYMAN ... 2	JACK M. CRIPPS 6
WILLIAM T. BEESON 3	CECIL NICE 7
KENNETH SNELLING 4	OLIVER SIPPETTS ... ...*Tenor*

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by O. SIPPETTS.

LOUGHBOROUGH.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, January 2, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 6½ cwt.

*PAUL LEA TAYLOR ... ...*Treble*	CHARLES ALLSOP 5
LESLIE STEVENS 2	G. RONALD EDWARDS ... 6
JOHN SADDINGTON 3	*HENRY HAYNES 7
JOHN GRUNDY 4	COLIN HARRISON ... ...*Tenor*

Composed by G. LEWIS. Conducted by COLIN HARRISON.
* First peal of Major.

BROMLEY COMMON, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, January 2, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,
A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb.

*WILLIAM G. GRACE ... ...*Treble*	JOHN E. LYDDIARD 5
ARTHUR S. RICHARDS ... 2	EDWIN A. BARNETT 6
*FREDERICK E. PITMAN ... 3	JAMES BENNETT 7
HARRY HOSKINS 4	*JACK DAFTERS ... ...*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 24). Conducted by J. BENNETT.
* First peal in the method. First peal of Oxford on the bells.

NORTH MIMMS, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(NORTH MIMMS SOCIETY)
On Monday, January 2, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 13 cwt.

*FREDERICK NASH ... ...*Treble*	ALBERT W. COLES 5
†FREDERICK CORRELL 2	*CHARLES NASH 6
THOMAS J. LOCK 3	WILLIAM NASH 7
GEORGE A. SPENCER 4	*WILLIAM TYLER ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM NASH.
* First peal of Stedman. † First peal. First peal of Stedman by an entirely local band at this church.

HAGLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, January 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 9 cwt.

WILLIAM SHORT ... ...*Treble*	BARNABAS G. KEY 5
DANIEL T. MATKIN 2	NORMAN J. GOODMAN 6
HOWARD HOWELL 3	SIDNEY O'C HOLLOWAY ... 7
CHARLES H. WOODBERRY ... 4	JAMES H. SHEPHERD ... ...*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.
Arranged and rung as a compliment to Mr. John Jaggar, who celebrated his 78th birthday on the previous day.

BRIDGEND, GLAMORGANSHIRE.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, January 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ILLTYD,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

*A. HOWELL LOVELUCK ...*Treble*	CHARLES H. PERRY 5
D. REES JAMES 2	ALFRED W. WRIGHT 6
ALFRED W. HEATH 3	ERNEST STITCH 7
EDWARD T. BAILEY 4	BERT WEAVER ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES H. PERRY.
* First peal and first attempt.

SUTTON-ON-TRENT, NOTTS.
THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, January 5, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAYLOR'S. Tenor 12 cwt.

MISS GRACE BURCHNALL *Treble*	*CLIFFORD A. VESSEY 5
MISS KATHARINE BURCHNALL 2	†ERNEST A. MIDWINTER ... 6
*RICHARD WILSON 3	†RICHARD M. HARVEY ... 7
HAROLD DENMAN 4	‡EUSTACE W. VESSEY ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by CLIFFORD A. VESSEY.
* First peal of Grandsire 'inside.' † First peal of Grandsire. ‡ First peal. First peal of Grandsire on the bells.

ENDERBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, January 5, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 15 lb.

LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD ...*Treble*	W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON ... 5
CHARLES MARSHALL 2	WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... 6
RONALD W. SWANN 3	EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD ... 7
JOHN E. CLARKE 4	WILLIAM BOTTRILL ... ...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.
The 100th peal rung together by the brothers Walter and Leonard Whitehead.

BROADCLYST, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
On Thursday, January 5, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLLIS' IRREGULAR FIVE-PART, No. 1. Tenor 19 cwt. in E flat.

BRYAN PIDGEON ... ...*Treble*	CHARLES R. LILLEY 5
JOHN L. GLANVILLE 2	JOHN DEEM 6
JOSEPH BREALY 3	WILLIAM H. HOWE 7
THOMAS J. BARTLETT 4	CHARLES SANDFORD ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.
First peal of Grandsire Triples on the bells.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, January 5, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
Tenor 24 cwt.

*ARTHUR JAMES ... ...*Treble*	FRED GRUNDY 5
*FRANK BARRACLOUGH ... 2	PERCY H. DERBYSHIRE ... 6
CHARLES RIDYARD 3	JOSEPH H. RIDYARD 7
JOHN BENJAMIN BUDD ... 4	RICHARD BENSON ... ...*Tenor*

Composed by E. TIMBRELL. Conducted by J. H. RIDYARD.
* First peal in the method.

WOODFORD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 7, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 11 cwt.

*AIDAN J. BOYACK ... ...*Treble*	ERNEST W. PYE 5
†MRS. JOHN H. CRAMPION 2	ERNEST E. HOLMAN 6
JOHN G. NASH 3	ERNEST W. FORBANK 7
ERIC J. COE 4	JOHN H. CRAMPION ... ...*Tenor*

Composed by A. P. KNIGHTS. Conducted by JOHN H. CRAMPION.
* First peal of Major. † First peal in the method 'inside.'

BOCKING, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 7, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt. in E.

FREDERICK RIDGWELL	*Treble*	FRANK CLAYDON	5
EDWIN A. BARNETT	2	*PHILIP A. CORBY	6
RONALD SUCKLING	3	LEWIS W. WIFFEN	7
HILDA G. SNOWDEN	4	H. WALTER SMITH	*Tenor*

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by L. W. WIFFEN.

* First peal of London.

UPTON ST. LEONARDS, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 7, 1939, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 12 cwt.

MELVILLE JORDAN	*Treble*	THOMAS WORRALL	5
FRANK COLE	2	ERNEST MATTHEWS	6
WILLIAM STAITE	3	LESLIE BARRY	7
THOMAS BALDWIN	4	CHARLES HODGES	*Tenor*

Conducted by LESLIE BARRY.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Thomas Clissold, for 45 years ringer and captain at this tower.

WOKING, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 7, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 17¼ cwt.

*RONALD G. COLE	*Treble*	GEORGE L. GROVER	5
†JAMES BRACKLEY	2	SIDNEY ELTON	6
THOMAS E. DENYER	3	C. ERNEST SMITH	7
†WILLIAM F. J. COPE	4	SIDNEY BREEZE	*Tenor*

Conducted by C. ERNEST SMITH.

* First peal at the first attempt. † First peal on eight bells.

BRISTOL.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 7, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

*DONALD J. MARSH	*Treble*	*WALTER J. SMITH	5
ALFRED E. REEVES	2	†WILLIAM H. PARKER	6
DONALD G. CLIFT	3	ANDREW J. CORRIGAN	7
RICHARD CLARK	4	WILLIAM A. CAVE	*Tenor*

Composed by JAMES HUNT. Conducted by WILLIAM A. CAVE.

* First peal of Major. † First peal in the method. A birthday compliment to the conductor.

WOODBRIDGE, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, January 7, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. 26 lb. in D.

WILLIAM A. WOODS	*Treble*	GEORGE A. FLEMING	5
HERBERT S. SHEMMING	2	FRANK L. FISHER	6
A. STANLEY WOODARD	3	*PHILIP C. BICKNELL	7
SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER	4	CECIL W. PIPE	*Tenor*

Composed by F. BENNETT. Conducted by FRANK L. FISHER.

* First peal 'inside.' A birthday compliment to Miss Phyllis Tillett and Mr. W. J. G. Brown, of Ipswich.

MARSHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 7, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 7½ cwt. in A flat.

MISS MABEL ROBERTSON	*Treble*	R. WILLIAM BARBER	5
ALBERT G. WARNES	2	RUSSELL W. CURSON	6
GEORGE MAYERS	3	WILLIAM CLOVER	7
*STANLEY GALL	4	HENRY TOOKE	*Tenor*

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by HENRY TOOKE.

* First peal in the method. A birthday compliment to Messrs. Curson and Tooke.

BATLEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 7, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 6144 CHANGES;

Tenor 10½ cwt.

WILLIAM AMBLER	*Treble*	WILLIAM BARTON	5
GEORGE W. STEEL	2	GEORGE AMBLER	6
WILLIAM H. SENIOR	3	JOHN AMBLER	7
THOMAS W. STRANGWAY	4	PERCY J. JOHNSON	*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 39). Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON

The longest length of Surprise Major by the association and by all the band.

HANDSWORTH, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Wednesday, January 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. in F sharp.

MRS. L. HAYWOOD	*Treble*	TOM BROTHWELL	5
FRED WATKINSON	2	LESLIE HAYWOOD	6
*JOHN E. TURLEY	3	FREDERICK CARDWELL	7
NORMAN CHADDOCK	4	JOHN J. L. GILBERT	*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by J. J. L. GILBERT.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor

RAINHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, January 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 18½ cwt.

*KATHLEEN L. CHEAL	*Treble*	VICTOR A. JARRETT	5
JOHN E SPICE	2	WILLIAM J. WALKER	6
ARTHUR S. BOAR	3	GEORGE A. NAYLOR	7
FRANK BELSEY	4	CHARLES A. WEBB	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE A. NAYLOR.

* First peal of Triples. A birthday compliment to Mr. Charles Belsey, captain of the local band.

MAYFIELD, SUSSEX.

THE EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Wednesday, January 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTAN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 21½ cwt.

E. JOHN RELFE	*Treble*	ERNEST H. EVEREST	5
WILLIAM F. MOON	2	STANLEY T. A. RUSSELL	6
ALBERT RELFE	3	WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE	7
*BERT STANDEN	4	FRANK H. HICKS	*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by ALBERT RELFE.

* First peal of Triples. Rung on the fourteenth anniversary of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Kitchenside.

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LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, January 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FIVE-PART. Tenor 6½ cwt.

JOHN E. CLARKE	*Treble*	W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON ...	5
WILLIAM BOTTRILL	2	ERNEST MORRIS	6
LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD	3	WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ...	7
*RONALD W. SWANN	4	EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD	*Tenor*

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.
* First peal in the method.

CAERLEON, MONMOUTHSHIRE.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. CADOC,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 7¼ cwt.

ERNEST STITCH	*Treble*	REV. IVOR J. RICHARDS ...	5
*ROBERT SMITH	2	†JOHN W. JONES	6
TREVOR M. RODERICK ...	3	JOHN PHILLIPS	7
ALBERT J. PITMAN	4	GEORGE POPNELL ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN PHILLIPS.
* First peal of Stedman Triples. † 500th peal.

SURFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(ELLOE DEANERIES BRANCH.)
On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 12 cwt. 9 lb.

*ENID M. RICHARDSON	*Treble*	CHARLES C. RAWDING ...	5
MRS. R. RICHARDSON ...	2	WILLIAM A. RICHARDSON ...	6
NEVILLE HOLLINGWORTH...	3	JOHN W. CARTER...	7
RALPH G. LEY	4	RUPERT RICHARDSON ...	*Tenor*

Composed by J. S. GOLDSMITH. Conducted by RUPERT RICHARDSON
* First peal and first attempt; aged 14 years.

WARFIELD, BERKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL-THE-ARCHANGEL,
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 27 lb.

WILLIAM HENLEY ...	*Treble*	LEONARD STILWELL	5
*REV. R. F. R. ROUTH ...	2	CECIL C. MAYNE	6
WILLIAM WELLING	3	GEORGE MARTIN	7
*F. DONALD BOREHAM ...	4	HARRY WINGROVE ...	*Tenor*

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by GEORGE MARTIN.
* First peal in the method.

MANCHESTER, LANCASHIRE.
THE NATIONAL POLICE GUILD
AND THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN, MILES PLATTING,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
DAY'S SIX-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt.

EX-P.C. JOHN MULLINER	*Treble*	P.C. FRANK YATES	5
P.C. WILLIAM ROBINSON ...	2	P.C. ALBERT FORD	6
P.C. RICHARD BENSON ...	3	EX-P.S. PETER CROOK ...	7
P.C. WILLIAM PYE	4	EX-P.C. GEORGE PYE ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by P.C. ALBERT FORD.
First peal as conductor and first attempt. Rung to celebrate the retirement from the Manchester City Police of the treble and tenor ringers.

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SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

WARKTON, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
(KETTERING BRANCH.)
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 different six-scores. Tenor 8 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lb.

GEORGE W. CLARKE ...	*Treble*	BURLEY P. MORRIS	3
MATTHIAS HOBBS...	2	GEOFFREY WATSON	4
LEONARD G. TOSELAND	*Tenor*		

Conducted by MATTHIAS HOBBS.

ACTON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different extents. Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

HERBERT SUTTON ...	*Treble*	*RICHARD D. LANGFORD ...	4
GEORGE A. PACKER	2	HARRY OVERTON	5
EDWARD J. BOFFEY	3	HARRY THELWELL ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by HARRY THELWELL.
* First peal of Minor. First peal as conductor.

KELVEDON, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, December 31, 1938, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being three 720's of Kent and four 720's of Oxford, called differently.
Tenor 21 cwt.

JOSEPH PAPWORTH ...	*Treble*	*JOSEPH E. ELLIOTT	4
CHARLES W. BURTON	2	REGINALD W. PYE	5
JOSEPH ELLIOTT	3	CHARLES BUTTON ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by J. ELLIOTT.
* First peal. Rung for the watchnight service.

SAWLEY, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, January 2, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob, two of Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob.

FREDERICK EDWIN SIMPSON	*Treble*	GIRLING RIGBY	4
WILLIAM DAWSON	2	W. RICHARDSON DRAGE ...	5
CHARLES HUTCHINSON ...	3	EDMUND C. CHASTY ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by E.C. CHASTY.

IGHTHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 7, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven 720's, called differently. Tenor 9 cwt.

*RONALD E. KEMP ...	*Treble*	HARRY GOODWIN	4
FREDERICK WOOLWAY ...	2	FREDERICK PAIGE	5
ARTHUR WENBAN	3	†ROBERT G. RAYFIELD	*Tenor*

Conducted by R. G. RAYFIELD.
* First peal. † First peal of Minor.

DISLEY, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, January 7, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF SPLICED TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven extents in 20 methods: (1) Newdigate, Old Oxford, College Bob IV., Willesden and Marple Delight; (2) Charlwood, Neasden and Braintree Delight; (3) St. Albans and Wragby Delight; (4) Ockley, Duke of Norfolk and Morning Star Treble Bob; (5) College Exercise and Norbury Treble Bob; (6) London Scholars' Pleasure and Kingston Treble Bob; (7) Capel, Sandal and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 8¾ cwt.

*HARRY FARRER	*Treble*	JOHN WORTH...	4
ALBERT T. BANCROFT ...	2	C. KENNETH LEWIS	5
THOMAS TAYLOR	3	JAMES A. MILNER... ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.
* First peal in more than one method. There were 70 changes of method.

RETTENDON, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 7, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720's of Kent Treble Bob and four of Plain Bob, called differently.

WILLIAM PERRY ... ...*Treble*		FRANK W. SHYNN 4	
JOHN SHEPHERD 2		ALBERT E. NORTH 5	
WILLIAM S. MAY... 3		FRANK B. LUFKIN ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by F. B. LUFKIN.

BREDWARDINE, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 7, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 20 six-scores, six 240's of Morris' and five of Pitman's arrangements. Tenor 7½ cwt.

JOSEPH T. MORRIS ... ...*Treble*		JAMES T. RANDLE 4	
JAMES P. HYETT 2		ARTHUR INSEAL 5	
LESLIE EVANS 3		FRANK THOMAS ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by J. P. HYETT.

BARNBY-IN-THE-WILLOWS, NOTTS.
THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents in ten methods: (1) Oxford Treble Bob; (2) Kent Treble Bob; (3) Double Court and Court Bob: (4) Plain Bob; (5) Oxford Bob; (6) Double Oxford and Thelwall; (7) St. Clement's and Childwall. Tenor 6¼ cwt.

*ERIC WILLCOCK... ... ...*Treble*		R. THOMAS VESSEY 4	
†FREDERICK G. HOOPER ... 2		MISS DOROTHY VESSEY ... 5	
†GEORGE S. VESSEY 3		JACK L. MILLHOUSE ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal in ten methods. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Miss C. Walton, sister of the Vicar.

HANDBELL PEALS.

SAFFRON WALDEN, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 2, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

AT 20, WEST ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor, size 15 in C.

LEONARD E. PITSTOW 1-2		WALTER AYRE 5-6	
ALBERT E. AUSTIN 3-4		*JOHN A. ACRES 7-8	

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

* First peal.

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, January 12, 1939, in One Hour and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT 20, ABERDEEN CRESCENT,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor, size 12 in F.

HAROLD JACKSON 1-2		HARRY ASHTON 5-6	
ALLEN F. BAILEY... 3-4		ALFRED BARNES 7-8	

Composed by C. CHARGE. Conducted by A. F. BAILEY.

Witness—Mrs. A. F. Bailey.

(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over).

THE RINGERS' HANDBOOK

by E. S. and M. POWELL.

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PEAL NOTES.

A YORKSHIRE RECORD.

The longest length of Surprise Major by the Yorkshire Association and by all the band was rung at Batley on January 7th, when Mr. William Barton called Arthur Knights' 6,144 of Superlative (No. 39), which contains the 30 course ends. The composition had not been previously rung.

Peals in the four standard methods have been rung at Broadclyst, Devon, since they were rehung, the first peal of Grandsire Triples on the bells, on January 5th, completing the quartet. The peal was arranged by Mr. A. Lovering, and the band, while thanking him for his action, regret that he did not take part. He arranged for a spare man to be present and then unselfishly stood out himself. The ringers came from seven different towers: East Budleigh, Exmouth, Honiton Clyst, Exeter (St. Sidwell's), Highweek, Littleham, St. Sidwell's and Broadclyst respectively.

After meeting short for a peal of Caters at Worsley, Lancs, on January 5th, a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was substituted.

A peal of Bob Major at Woodbridge, Suffolk, on January 7th, was a birthday compliment to Miss Phyllis Tillett (the first of the two young ladies who have been elected Master of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich) and Mr. W. J. G. Brown. The present Master, Miss Sylvia Bowyer, rang her 100th peal for the Suffolk Guild.

A peal of Double Norwich at Marsham, Norfolk, on January 7th, was a compliment to Messrs. R. W. Curson and Henry Tooke, whose birthdays fall on the 7th and 8th respectively. It was not only a joint celebration, but, rather appropriately, their 50th peal together.

The birthday of Mr. Charles Belsey, captain of the ringers at Rainham, Kent, was celebrated by a peal of Grandsire Triples on January 11th.

Mr. Thomas Clissold, captain, and for 45 years a ringer at Upton St. Leonards, Gloucestershire, has recently passed away, and a half-muffled peal of Grandsire Triples in his memory was rung on January 7th. It was conducted by Mr. Leslie Barry and was his 100th peal.

FATHER AND MOTHER IN DAUGHTER'S FIRST PEAL.

Miss Enid Richardson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rupert Richardson, of Surfleet, rang her first peal on Saturday, and, at the age of 14, is one of the youngest girls to ring a tower-bell peal. She also joins a very select few among the ladies who have rung a peal with both father and mother.

Indeed, the peal was something of a family affair, for two of Mr. Richardson's nephews, Neville Hollingworth and William A. Richardson, also took part, and the composition rung was one by the 'Deputy-Father' whom Enid adopted during the visit to Australia.

It was Enid's first attempt for a peal and naturally she was delighted with her success. She admitted that she had got a blister, but that is an honourable decoration for a first pealer. Was she tired? Not a bit of it. Typical of the younger generation, she went almost straight from the tower to a dance.

Twenty methods were rung in a peal of Spliced Treble Bob Minor at Disley, Cheshire, on January 7th, when Mr. John Worth rang his 175th peal as conductor.

In three of the extents of Minor rung in a peal at Barnby-in-the-Willows, Notts, on January 10th, 'splicing' was employed and altogether there were 33 changes of method. The peal was rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to a highly esteemed parishioner, the late Miss C. Walton, sister of the Vicar.

The first peal of Royal on the bells at Rickmansworth, Herts, was rung on Saturday. It was Cambridge Surprise and Mr. Harold Cashmore's first peal of Royal as conductor.

Messrs. Harold Jackson and Alfred Barnes rang their 100th peal together on January 12th, when they took part in a handbell peal of Bob Major at Stockport. It was knocked off in less than two hours.

Peals on the rather tuneless octave at Hunslet, Leeds, are not frequent, and prior to the one recorded elsewhere, only two have been rung on these bells since 1910, the previous one being in 1922. Despite adverse condition and the fact that since their installation over 70 years ago little or nothing appears to have been done to the bells, they run surprisingly well, apart from a tendency to 'drop' occasionally, for the design and construction of the bell frame and method of hanging violates every conceivable modern theory and practice.

The band wish to associate with the peal congratulations to the Western District secretary of the Yorkshire Association, Mr. Frank Rayment (who rang in the peal), on the birth of a daughter.

Mr. Harry Overton rang his 100th peal on the last day of the old year. This was the peal of Kent Treble Bob Minor at Acton, Cheshire.

After less than a year's ringing experience, Mr. John A. Acres, of Newmarket, Cambs, has scored his first peal by ringing the tenors to a handbell peal of Bob Major. The peal was rung at Saffron Walden on January 2nd.

It is often lamented that local bands suffer by the departure of members to other districts. North Mimms, a rapidly growing Hertfordshire district, has, however, nothing to complain of in this respect. The advent of ringers like Messrs. A. W. Coles (Master of the Middlesex Association) and T. J. Lock has helped to strengthen the company, and some of the evidence of this is to be found in the ringing of the first peal of Stedman at St. Mary's Church by a local band on January 2nd.

(Continued on next page.)

MR. J. W. JONES' 500th PEAL.

(Continued from previous page.)

The peal rung at Caerleon on Saturday was specially arranged and rung as a jubilee peal. On January 12th, 1889, the first peal was rung on these bells, Taylor's Six-part, Grandsire Triples, and was the first peal for all the band. Of that company there are now only three survivors. One of these, Mr. J. W. Jones, the present hon. secretary of the association, rang the 6th bell in 1889 and again on Saturday, and by a coincidence the time taken was exactly the same on both occasions. The 1889 peal was Mr. Jones' first, and the peal on Saturday his 500th. This was the first peal of Stedman on the bells rung by resident association members.

Mr. Jones has been hon. secretary of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association since 1903, and his friends throughout the country will congratulate him upon the happy double event of the golden jubilee and his 500th peal.

Mr. John Jaggar's 78th birthday on January 3rd was celebrated on the following day when a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung in his honour at Hagley.

BLIND RINGER'S PEAL.

Mr. John Shepheard-Walwyn, who is blind, rang his second peal on January 7th, when he took part in three 720's of Kent Treble Bob and four of Plain Bob at Rettendon, Essex. It is amazing how he has overcome his handicap; his striking was remarkably good.

The first peal on the bells at Ightham, Kent, since the tenor was recast by Messrs. Taylor and Co. in March, 1937 (the old bell was sometimes called 'a frying pan'), was rung on January 7th, when Mr. R. G. Rayfield conducted his first peal of Minor. The peal would not have been possible on this date if that veteran ringer, Mr. H. Goodwin, of Plaxtol, had not kindly stepped into a breach at a minute's notice. It was his first peal for several years.

Crawley, Sussex, is one of the few places where Sunday peals are a matter of custom. They started the year well with a peal of Cambridge Surprise on the first day.

Members of the National Police Guild on Saturday rang a peal of Grandsire Triples at Miles Platting to honour two of their members upon their retirement from Manchester City Police Force—P.C.'s John Mulliner and George Pye.

Ex-P.S. Peter Crook, of Bolton Borough Force, who was one of the band, rang his 200th peal. Of these he has conducted 79 and rung one 'silent.' Other interesting details in Mr. Crook's record are that the peals were rung in 58 towers in 11 counties, with 395 ringers, 54 of whom were first pealers. One peal was rung with a band consisting of four fathers and four daughters, and one comprising five fathers and five daughters. The peals were also rung in eleven methods and on all numbers from Doubles to Maximus.

A peal of Stedman Caters at Waltham Abbey on Saturday by the College Youths was rung after meeting short for Cinques, Mr. C. W. Roberts kindly standing out. It was Mr. Frank E. Darby's 150th peal and he was the conductor.

It is never too late to begin ringing, even peal ringing. Mr. Eustace Vessey, of Sutton-on-Trent, has just rung his first peal. He is 65 years of age. This should be a great encouragement to those who think they are too old at 40 to start peal ringing.

It was after a much delayed start owing to the snowy conditions that the peal of Double Norwich Major was attempted at Enderby on the evening of Thursday, January 5th, and to the amazement of his fellow-ringers Mr. 'Ted' Whitehead, who incidentally was last man, complained of the stuffy conditions inside the belfry and forthwith put the electric fan into action. This was soon overruled and the peal was successfully brought round just in time for the last bus home. Congratulations are extended to the brothers Walter and Leonard Whitehead upon scoring their 100th peal together.

This peal was a 'first' birthday compliment to the baby son of Mr. W. P. Whitehead, and it is the hope of many that the junior will follow father's footsteps in learning the art of change ringing. He will certainly have a good tutor.

MR. A. J. HUGHES' THANKS.

Mr. A. J. Hughes, of Windy Way, Wyke, Bradford, who has been ill since last Whitsuntide, but who is now progressing satisfactorily, writes: 'I should like to express my thanks and good wishes to those many old ringing friends who have written to me both at hospital and at home. This also includes the one who told me he was in a hurry for post and what I couldn't read I had to whistle. I also wish a speedy recovery to those of our ringing friends who are still hors-de-combat temporarily.

'The whistling instruction reminds me of a tale Tom Miller used to tell, after the 40 thieves had rung a peal of Bob Major at Harbourne. When the ringers came out they found old 'Boxer' asleep on one of the gravestones, and Tom said he was snoring at hand and whistling at back stroke.'

MEMORIAL TOUCH.

At Hugglescote on January 8th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung as a token of respect to the late Mrs. Woolerton, senior church councillor, of Hugglescote: T. Aldread 1, A. E. Rowley 2, G. Hadfield 3, G. Walker 4, E. J. Tovell (first quarter-peal as conductor) 5, J. Cadle 6, H. Moult 7, H. O. Over 8.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Thirty-six meetings of associations in all parts of the country are advertised in our notice columns to take place on Saturday, January 28th. You just pay your money and take your choice.

The National Guild of Police Ringers hold their annual meeting this year in London, on January 28th. There is to be ringing at St. George's-in-the-Borough (the Metropolitan Police Guild's headquarters) in the morning, followed by a tour of the Houses of Parliament at noon, luncheon and business meeting at the Euston Tavern, then further ringing and a social.

The members of the National Police Guild and his many friends elsewhere will regret to learn that Inspector Harold Poole, of Leicester, hon. secretary of the Guild, is on the sick list.

The bells of Basingstoke Parish Church, which were recently restored by Messrs. John Taylor and Co. and rededicated at an informal meeting of the ringers and church officials, will be available for visiting ringers on January 28th, when the annual meeting of the Basingstoke District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild is to be held.

Ringers proposing to attend the meeting of the Guildford Diocesan Guild at Hersham to-morrow are asked to note the altered times of the arrangements given in our notice columns.

LOUGHBOROUGH SURPRISE.

To the Editor.

Sir,—The method which we rang and named Framsden escaped our observation when it was published as Loughborough, but as it has been rung in that name we are quite willing that it should go into the records as Loughborough. Who was the first author of the method is open to question, as no doubt it is several years since Mr. G. Lindoff produced it. Perhaps the Analysis Committee of the Central Council will kindly alter the name to Loughborough so as to avoid any confusion in recording it.

T. W. LAST.

Helmingham.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

EAST DEVON MEMBERS FAVOUR RESCINDING RULE.

A well-attended meeting of the East Devon Branch of the Devonshire Guild was held at Sidbury, near Sidmouth, on Saturday, when about 50 members and friends were present in spite of a wet afternoon.

The fine toned ring of six bells, in the spire-capped church tower, in good going order, were fully employed in ringing various methods before the service and after the meeting.

The Rev. J. A. Prendergast (Vicar) and the Rev. W. S. Airy conducted a service in St. Giles' Church with choir and organ. In his address the Vicar gave an imaginary word picture of what happened in A.D. 550 during the Roman occupation, when a Christian missionary first came to Sidbury, built a rude hut with an altar, and men offered to help by clanging two pieces of metal together to call others to worship. Thus was a bellringer the priest's first helper.

In the Village Hall, after tea, the Rev. E. V. Cox, deputising for the Rev. A. A. F. de Salis, who was unable to be present, presided over the business meeting. At the outset, it was resolved to send a message of sympathy to Mr. J. H. Godfrey, the branch secretary, who was kept away by illness. Mr. C. Turner read the minutes of a previous meeting at Harpford, which were confirmed.

Introduced by Mr. W. G. Burrow, nine members of the newly-formed Awliscombe band were elected Guild members, as were also one each from Buckerell and Harpford. A certificate was presented to Mr. E. W. Channing, of Sidbury. A motion of thanks to the local clergy, choir and lady helpers was carried with acclamation.

The Chairman read his letter to the meeting giving notice of motion to rescind the Guild rule that no member shall take part in any competitive ringing. Questions were asked and answered, and a show of hands revealed that a majority of members present were in favour of the motion.

DEATH OF A SUSSEX RINGER.

MR. ALBERT FIEST, OF BILLINGSHURST.

It is with regret we announce the death of Mr. Albert Fiest, of Billingshurst, Sussex, which occurred on January 4th after a short illness, at the age of 63.

Deceased had been an active member of the Western Branch for 43 years, always willing to help in every way, and his experience was of great value in helping to develop the present young band at Billingshurst into the ringing of the higher methods.

The interment took place on Monday, January 9th, when the bells were rung half-muffled as the funeral cortege wended its way to the church and as the mourners returned. Handbells were also rung at the graveside by H. Wood 1-2, R. Wood, jun. 3-4, R. Wood, sen. 5-6, W. Charman 7-8. Among the floral tributes was one from his fellow-ringers.

Mr. Fiest, who will be sadly missed in the belfry, had rung about 50 peals.

FIRST 1939 DATE TOUCH.

At St. Wilfrid's Church, Calverley, Yorks, for evening service on Sunday, January 1st, a date touch of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,939 changes) was rung in honour of Mr. Charles Pratt, who has been a change ringer at this church for 63 years: Charles Pratt 1, W. Popplewell (conductor) 2, W. Stanhope 3, S. Keighley 4, S. Wheatley 5, F. Waller 6, G. Thompson 7, W. Lee 8.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—54.

JOHN A. FREEMAN.

Lincolnshire is, in these days, one of the foremost counties in the Exercise; it is blessed with ringers of ability and enterprise, and its peal ringing is by no means limited to a few enthusiasts. They are spread over many towers in this large county, and it is not the least gratifying feature of this happy state of affairs that in the heart of the diocese, at the Cathedral itself, there should be a band which worthily sets a high standard, both in ability and enthusiasm. In no small measure this is due to the able Master of the Cathedral Company, a company which in lineal descent is one of the oldest in the kingdom. It has not always been conspicuous for its change ringing standards, but it took on a new lease when the bells were increased to twelve, and after Mr. John A. Freeman was elected Master in 1929, he called the first peal at the Cathedral ever rung by a Cathedral band. Since that time, under his guidance, they have established themselves as one of the most accomplished local companies to be found anywhere.



MR. JOHN A. FREEMAN.

Mr. Freeman was born at Market Deeping, Lincs, on November 21st, 1884, and there he learned to ring a bell. At the age of 15 he went to Ewerby, where a new peal of ten bells had then recently been installed, but, alas, the local band could only ring a plain lead of Grandsire Triples and the same of Grandsire Caters. After being for four years at Ewerby, he went to Grantham for one year, but did no ringing. Then he went to Lincoln and in 1907 joined the band at St. Peter-at-Arches Church (which has since been pulled down), where they rang Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob Major and Grandsire Triples. On October 14th, 1908, he rang his first peal, Kent Treble Bob Major, conducted by the late Rev. H. Law James. After ringing several other peals in the same method, conducted by Mr. H. W. Kirton, Mr. Freeman rang his first peal as conductor, Stedman Triples, on October 18th, 1911, being his own and several of the band's first peal in the method, and the first peal of Stedman Triples in Lincoln by a local band. In the same year he was elected Ringing Master of the St. Peter-at-Arches Company. He joined the Lincoln Cathedral band, who could then only ring Grandsire Triples, in April, 1914.

Besides calling his first peal of Stedman Triples, he also called his first peal of London Surprise Major, the first peal in the method by all the band and for the Guild; his first peal of Bristol Surprise Major, the first peal in the method for the Guild by a resident band; and his first peals of Cambridge and Superlative Surprise Major. He has also called for the Lincoln Diocesan Guild the first peals of Spliced Surprise Major in four and six methods, Stedman and Grandsire Cinques, and Stedman Triples 'in hand,' this last being the first peal in the method 'in hand' by a resident band. All these first peals for the Guild were the first in the methods by all the band.

Mr. Freeman also took part in the first peals of Cambridge Surprise Maximus and Superlative Surprise Royal by the Guild, the latter being the first peal of Superlative Royal for 100 years. He has also called Cambridge Surprise from Minor to Maximus. Altogether he has rung 128 peals and conducted 77. He has been Ringing Master of the Northern Branch of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild since 1922 and is a member of the Guild Committee.

HUDDERSFIELD AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

Huddersfield and District Association held a meeting at Northowram on January 7th. There was a meagre attendance for tea, but more members arrived in the evening, and what was lacking in numbers was made up by the quality of the ringing. The bells have been recently overhauled and run splendidly, and various touches of Kent, Oxford, Plain Bob, Grandsire, Double Norwich and Stedman were brought round in fine style.

Members attended from Elland, Brighouse, Halifax Parish Church, All Souls', Halifax, Lindley, Ripponden, Lightcliffe, Bramley, Queensbury and Northowram.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION'S RECORD

FIVE THOUSAND PEALS.

Mr. Nolan Golden, general secretary of the Norwich Diocesan Association, writes that the five thousandth peal recorded by the Norwich Diocesan Association was rung on December 17th last. It would be of interest to learn how many associations have exceeded this total, and for such information he would be grateful.

Without having exact particulars, it is impossible to say precisely where the other associations stand, but we think we are correct in saying that the Norwich Diocesan Association, which was established in 1877, is the first to reach this fine total.

Some of the other great associations are hard upon the heels of Norwich, but we do not think they have quite touched the number.

The Midland Counties Association appears to be the nearest, with a total somewhere round 4,950 to the end of 1938, followed by the Kent County Association with approximately 4,850 peals. Yorkshire's aggregate is also among those over 4,000, and Lancashire very nearly that total, with Oxford coming along well into the last hundreds of the fourth thousand.

THE LATE MR. J. W. GOLDING.

BRILLIANT RINGING CAREER IN YOUTH.

The funeral of the late Mr. John W. Golding, who, as recorded in our last issue, died at Brighton on January 6th, took place on Wednesday week, the first part of the service being held in Aldrington Parish Church and attended by numerous relatives and friends from London, Reigate and Brighton. Among the ringers present were Messrs. A. B. Peck (hon. secretary) and W. H. Pasmore, representing the Ancient Society of College Youths, of which Mr. Golding was a past Master, and Messrs Keith Hart and Fred Page, of the Sussex County Association. The interment took place at Portslade Cemetery, where Grandsire Doubles were rung round the grave by three of the deceased's brother Freemasons, and was an impressive farewell to an old friend.

The late Mr. Golding was 58 years of age, his birthday being on Boxing Day. On the Sunday after his death the ringers at St. Paul's Cathedral stood for a few moments in silence at their ropes as a tribute of respect to an old colleague, for Mr. Golding had done a good deal of service ringing at St. Paul's and had taken part in four peals there, including the Cambridge Surprise Maximus in 1925.

He began his ringing career early; in fact, soon after he left school, when he used to go to the home of the brothers Pasmore to learn handbell ringing. Between them a close and lasting friendship sprung up, only broken by the death of Harry Pasmore.

John Golding rang his first peal a few days before his 17th birthday and associated with the band at St. Stephen's, Rochester Row, Westminster, then rising to brilliance, he had before he was 21 taken part in, amongst other things, three Surprise peals (London, Cambridge and Superlative) in a day, rung by the same band in three different counties, had rung in non-conducted peals of London and Cambridge Surprise, and in two peals of Superlative Surprise on handbells, one of them the very first Surprise peal 'in hand.' All these were in the year 1901. John Golding was a fine heavy bell ringer, and took part in the peals of Superlative on the back eight of St. Michael's, Cornhill, and St. Saviour's, Southwark, and in London Surprise on the back eight at Bow, Cheapside. In 1905 he rang in three peals of London Surprise by the same band in one day in the three counties of Bucks, Berks and Middlesex, and in 1907 was one of those who rang the first peal of London Surprise Royal at Stepney. John W. Golding was one of the great ringers of his day and London was robbed of the services of a valued and accomplished member of the Exercise when ill-health kept him from the belfry.

In all, Mr. Golding rang 165 peals; on tower bells, Grandsire Triples 3, Grandsire Caters 5, Stedman Triples 13 (conducted 1), Stedman Caters 6, Stedman Cinques 10 (including one non-conducted), Bob Major 3, Kent Treble Bob Major 4, Royal 5, Maximus 4, Oxford Treble Bob Maximus 1, Double Norwich Major 4, Royal 5, Superlative Surprise Major 16, Cambridge Surprise Major 11 (including one non-conducted), Royal 2, Maximus 4, New Cambridge Surprise Major 1, London Surprise Major 42 (conducted 7 and 1 non-conducted), London Surprise Royal 1, Westminster Surprise Major 2, St. Stephen's Surprise Major 1, total 143. On handbells: Grandsire Triples 2, Caters 1, Stedman Triples 2, Caters 1, Cinques 7, Bob Major 3, Royal 1, Kent Treble Bob Major 2, Maximus 1, Superlative Surprise Major 2, total 22.

102 EXTENTS IN 54 METHODS.

YOUTH HELPS IN ROCK FERRY RECORD.

The year 1938 was a record for the band at St. Peter's, Rock Ferry, Cheshire. During the twelve months extents in 54 methods, including the 46 Surprise methods, have been rung by bands consisting entirely of Sunday service ringers.

Surprise methods Nos. 42, 43, 44, 45 and 46 were rung for the first time in the Wirral Branch and by all the band.

It is believed that this is the first time the 46 Surprise methods have been rung by an entirely local band.

Of the 102 extents rung during the year 96 have been rung for Sunday service.

There is a company of 12 ringers and the average age of seven of them is only 17. There are two others who are learning.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD'S POSITION

STRAIGHT WORDS TO LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

'Do Not Corrupt the Allegiance of Our Members.'

The controversy between Mr. T. W. Taffender, hon. secretary of the London County Association, and 'The Ringing World' was the principal theme at the annual dinner of the Guildford Diocesan Guild at the Lion Hotel, Guildford, on Saturday. Mr. J. S. Goldsmith (vice-president) presided over one of the largest gatherings in the annals of the Guild, and the company included Mr. F. E. Dawe, Central Council representative of the London County Association.

Mr. G. L. Grover, hon. secretary of the Guildford Guild, in proposing the toast of 'The Visitors,' said those who had read this week's 'Ringing World' would appreciate that Mr. T. W. Taffender, hon. secretary of the London County Association, had confused the identity of Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, former secretary and vice-president of the Guildford Diocesan Guild, with Mr. J. S. Goldsmith as editor and proprietor of 'The Ringing World.' Mr. Taffender, in his letter to 'The Ringing World,' charges the Guildford Diocesan Guild with encroaching on other people's territory. He would like to give Mr. Dawe a message to take back to the officers of his association that this Guild did not desire to enter into a wordy warfare with the officers of the London County Association. They also requested Mr. Dawe to take back a message of appeasement and goodwill to the members of the London County Association and say that the Guildford Diocesan Guild wishes to live in peace and charity with its neighbours.

'I feel I must add,' continued Mr. Grover, 'that the Guildford Diocesan Guild is part of a diocesan organisation and is ever ready to take in every tower in that diocese, but it has never poached outside that area. In spite of that fact we do not challenge the right of any other association. There is plenty of room for every association, such as our friends the Surrey Association, to work in our towers so long as they do not usurp the authority of the Guildford Diocesan Guild in its area or attempt to corrupt the allegiance of members to our Guild.'

Supporting Mr. J. S. Goldsmith were the Archdeacon of Dorking (the Ven. E. J. Newill), the Rev. F. A. Woodard, Mr. W. Harrison (vice-president), Major J. H. B. Hesse (Master), Mr. J. Corbett (hon. treasurer), Mrs. Corbett, Mr. G. L. Grover (hon. secretary), Mrs. Grover, Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Hughes, Mrs. H. C. Renshaw and Miss Q. M. White.

The toast of 'The President, Vice-Presidents and Hon. Members' was submitted by Mr. J. Corbett, who regretted that their president, the Bishop of Guildford, was not able to be present on account of being engaged on Church work overseas in India. He mentioned the interest taken in the Guild by the vice-presidents—the Archdeacon of Dorking, Mr. W. Harrison and Mr. J. S. Goldsmith—and spoke of the Guild's indebtedness to hon. members, who helped them not only to pay their way, but to assist in such things as bell restorations.

The Ven. E. J. Newill, in reply, said Archdeacons sometimes had very anxious moments in inducting a clergyman to his new living. When they had gone to the end of the church and the new incumbent had locked the representatives of the laity out of the church he had to go and ring the bell. He had anxious moments at Ranmore recently when he had to go to the rescue of the incumbent as the bell was swinging and nothing happened.

The Rev. G. Aylwin Woodard, Vicar of Horsell, also replied.

THE NEWEST HON. MEMBER.

At the suggestion of Mr. Harrison the company drank to the newest honorary member, the little baby boy who arrived at Horsell Vicarage the previous day.

The Chairman, in proposing 'Long and continued success and prosperity to the Guildford Diocesan Guild,' congratulated the company on the excellent attendance. It was a great encouragement to the officers to see such a gathering, as it showed the spirit behind the Guild was manifest in a large number of towers in the diocese. This was a Guildford Diocesan Guild, and he wanted them to realise that it was not an empty title. They tried to take the diocesan spirit into the Guild and encourage ringers not to confine their ringing to the four walls of their own tower.

There were many ways they sought to help the members and the towers. One was by establishing combined practices, but in some cases these had fallen a little flat. He was wondering if there was something else they could try, and that was that individual towers should invite their neighbours to put in an evening's ringing and afterwards spend a social hour together (hear, hear). He was convinced the more ringers mix together in and out of the tower the better it was for ringing (hear, hear).

THE PRACTICAL MAN.

Coupling the name of Major Hesse with the toast, the Chairman said he had served them from the day the Guild was founded. He was the practical man at the head of their organisation, but he did a great deal behind the scenes, which many of them did not know. He acted in an advisory capacity to those who sought information about the condition of their bells, and that to the diocese was a very valuable work. The long-promised seat he was to have had on the Diocesan Advisory Committee had not come, although it was promised before the Guild was founded. It did not matter, however, whether he got that official place so long as he was called in and recognised by the authorities. He wished the Diocesan Committee would recognise him and let him sit on that committee rather as an assessor than to appear before them as an advocate against architects and antiquaries or sometimes the two combined (hear, hear).

The Chairman concluded with an expression of deep appreciation of the services rendered by Mr. Grover.

Major J. H. B. Hesse congratulated the chairman on his birthday, which was the previous day. Referring to the activities of the Guild, the Master said that 20 peals were rung last year, the conductors being Messrs. A. H. Pulling (6), C. E. Smith (2), J. S. Goldsmith (2), C. W. Denyer (1), A. E. Harman (3), A. Pink (2), A. H. Winch (2), J. A. Trollope (1). There was a peal rung last Saturday at Old Woking, when two of the local men accomplished their first peal. Among the peals rung was Yorkshire Royal at Haslemere, conducted by Mr. Smith, which was the first in the method for the Guild. There was also a peal of Bristol Surprise Major rung at Hersham, conducted by Mr. Winch, and Messrs. Adams, Hobden and Cheeseman rang their first in the method.

IMPORTANCE OF PEAL RINGING.

'I am told that I am a peal ringing maniac,' added Major Hesse, 'but I maintain that ringing never gets to its true pitch for service ringing unless those ringers ring peals.'

Shortly, said the Major, another peal not far from there would be put in order, and he hoped that it would be the means of starting another band. He felt that they were progressing. The Benevolent Fund stood at £50, and the Cathedral Bell Fund at about £18. He looked forward to the time when the Cathedral bells were ringing and they had a good peal there.

The Chairman extended the congratulations of the company to the Leatherhead men upon having rung the first peal ever accomplished of Painswick Surprise Royal, which Mr. Harman conducted.

The toast of 'The Visitors' was submitted by Mr. G. L. Grover, who mentioned that the attendance had only once been exceeded—on that memorable occasion when their prodigal secretary returned from his adventures in the Southern Sea (laughter). Since then the helmsman and experienced quartermaster who launched the ship on the high seas had given way to an inexperienced amateur. It was a comfort to that amateur that his predecessor in office had been elevated to the bridge and paced up and down with his weather eye open, always ready to help. Mr. Grover extended a welcome to Canon Coleridge, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild; Mr. A. A. Hughes, representative of the Ancient Society of College Youths; Mr. Gordon Cross (Greenwich); and Mr. F. E. Dawe, representative on the Central Council of the London County Association.

Canon Coleridge, in reply, expressed the hope that before long they would see the tower of Guildford's new Cathedral, and that the bells would be ringable. 'I have had some experience of architects who have no experience of the comfort of ringers,' he said. 'I was asked by an architect and Vicar what a new tower should be like. I wrote:—

'(1) That the entrance of the tower should be broad enough to let an ordinary person out.

'(2) That in the spiral staircase there must be room for a person to get up.

'(3) That the ringers must be a certain distance from the bells if they are to hear the bells strike properly.

'(4) That all sound should come out from the top and no openings from the sides.'

The architect wrote thanking him most warmly for his invaluable advice. 'I went to the opening of this peal,' added the Canon. 'It was with the greatest difficulty I got into the doorway; it was equally difficult to get up to the belfry, and when I got there I found the bells were just overhead. At the same time the architect had put in four sets of the most enormous louvres on each side. In fact, everything was spoilt. I hope it will not happen in the new Cathedral.'

Mr. F. E. Dawe submitted the concluding toast, that of 'The Chairman.'

During the evening a musical programme was contributed to by Mrs. Hughes (handbell solos), Mr. H. Platt (songs) and the Misses S. and G. Harman (instrumental music). A touch of Stedman Triples was rung on handbells by C. Hazeldene 1-2, A. H. Pulling 3-4, R. Philpott 5-6, and A. A. Hughes 7-8. The artistes were thanked by the chairman.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BEDFORD DISTRICT TO HOLD FEWER MEETINGS.

The annual meeting of the Bedford District of the Bedfordshire Association took place at Bedford on Saturday and was very well attended. The bells of St. Peter's Church were available. Mr. W. Stapleton saw to it that all had a pull to their liking and the bells were kept very busy. A short service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. F. M. Squibb), after which an excellent tea was very kindly prepared by Miss E. Steel in St. Peter's Hall.

The business meeting followed, presided over by the Rector. The balance sheet was presented and passed; the Belfry Repair Fund, too, was found to be in a very healthy condition.

The election of officers resulted in Mr. Frank Tysoe being re-elected hon. district secretary, and Messrs. P. Inskip, R. West, J. Hilson and W. Stapleton to serve on the committee.

A discussion took place on the advisability of the district reverting to the old method of holding quarterly meetings, and it was finally decided to hold a meeting every two months.

Votes of thanks were tendered to all who had helped in any way to make the meeting a success.

STEDMAN'S BELLS.

ELY ASSOCIATION'S MEETING AT CAMBRIDGE.

The annual meeting of the Ely Branch of the Ely Diocesan Association was held in Cambridge on Saturday week. Good use was made of St. Bene't's bells from 3 p.m. until service time, the service touch being 120 Stedman Doubles.

The new Vicar of St. Bene't's, the Rev. A. M. Ramsay, instituted by the Bishop of Ely on the previous day, took the service, and in his address of welcome expressed the wish to be great friends with the ringers, and hoped that he would often see them.

Mr. T. R. Dennis took the chair at the annual business meeting, which followed tea at the King's Parade Restaurant.

Mr. E. G. Hibbens was elected District Ringing Master, thus relieving the district secretary of some of his duties at the meetings.

The District Committee was re-elected for the ensuing year.

Votes of thanks to the Vicars of St. Bene't's and Great St. Mary's were passed on the proposition of the chairman.

Most of the ringers had the opportunity of a pull at Great St. Mary's in the evening, while further ringing was carried on at St. Bene't's until about 8.15 p.m.

The younger generation was well represented at the meeting, and their keenness is a great encouragement to the district officers and augurs well for the future of the association.

St. Bene't's, where the meeting was held, is the church with which Fabian Stedman was associated and where in 1931 the bells were restored to commemorate the tercentenary of his birth. The work done on that occasion, at the expense of the ringers of Great Britain, Ireland and overseas, was the preservation of the Saxon tower and the complete rehanging of the bells at a lower level. Cracks in the walls threatened the safety of the tower. These were grouted with cement and the structure banded together with a concrete corbel course, on which the bell frame now rests, 12ft. below its former position. The frame, except for strengthening and the replacement of one or two decayed members, remains much as it did in Stedman's time.

It is not certain whether there were six bells in the tower before Stedman's day, because the present treble bears the date of 1663. The second is dated 1588. The fourth was recast in 1825, and the other three bear the following inscriptions, that on the tenor being particularly quaint:—

3rd: Of al the bels in Bennet I am the best and yet for my casting the parish paide lest 1607. TW WB GB TB NC NS TW RS MC TH.

5th: Non nomen fero ficti sed nomen Benedicti 1610. RS.

Tenor: John Draper made me in 1618 as plainly doth apeare. This bell was broake and cast againe wich tyme chvrch wardenes were Edwarde Dixson for the one whoe stode close to his tacklin and he that was his partner then was Alexander Iacklyn.

There is a reference to bells at St. Benedict's Church among the archives of more than 660 years ago. In 1273 a composition was made between the Rector and the Chancellor of the University for the use of the church bell, and for this the University paid the sum of 6s. 8d. annually until 1663.

DEATH OF MRS. ATKINS.

VICE-PRESIDENT OF LADIES' GUILD.

The death occurred on Saturday, in her 75th year, of Mrs. Atkins, wife of the Rector of Isham, Northants, and mother of Mr. E. Maurice Atkins.

Mrs. Atkins was a vice-president of the Ladies' Guild and will be remembered for her hospitality at meetings held in Isham of both the Ladies' Guild and the Peterborough Diocesan Guild, as well as to many individual ringers and especially members of the Cambridge University Guild during two ringing weeks, when Isham Rectory was the headquarters.

This was the fiftieth year of the Rev. and Mrs. Atkins' marriage and much sympathy is felt with the Rector.

THE PEAL OF MAJOR AT FROME.

TRIBUTE TO THE RINGING.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Having heard that an attempt for a peal of Major was to be made at Frome on December 31st last, I was most interested, as it was here I learnt to ring Grandsire Triples and conducted my first peal in that method. I rang in the two peals mentioned in 'The Ringing World' when the tenor was rung single-handed.

I decided, if it were possible, to hear some if not all of the Double Norwich attempt. I succeeded in hearing one hour and three-quarters of it. I was delighted, as I have only heard them rung to short touches of Major, in which I have taken part.

Knowing the bells as I do, I can say they are not a model peal on which to ring Major. I heartily congratulate the band on their splendid performance, especially Mr. P. Cannon for the masterly way in which he turned the tenor. He rang it with a beautiful beat. I heard one or two slight trips, or miss-blows, which is not to be wondered at, one or two leads not quite to my liking, which might lead to altering the pace and rhythm, but not so with Mr. Cannon. He kept up that beautiful timing; the rest of the band heard it and treated it with the greatest respect.

I was pleased to hear they finished the peal.

Third Avenue, Bath. W. J. PRESCOTT.

NOTICES.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Preston Parish Church (10 bells) on Saturday, January 21st. Come and make this a successful meeting. All welcome.—A. Blogg, Branch Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—Annual meeting at Wokingham on Saturday, January 21st. Service in St. Paul's Church 4 p.m.; preacher, Rev. J. J. E. O'Malley, O.B.E., M.A., late chaplain to the Forces. Tea in Parish Room 4.45. Ringing at All Saints' 2.30 to 3.30, St. Paul's 3.15 to 4. Both towers after the meeting.—W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Merrel, California, Wokingham.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Godstone on Saturday, January 21st. Tower open 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting at the Clayton Arms Hotel. All very welcome.—R. A. Tuffin, Hon. Dis. Sec., 65, Blackborough Road, Reigate, Surrey.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Appledore on Saturday, January 21st. Ringing from 2.30 and after meeting. Service 4.30. Tea (free) 5.15.—P. Page, Hon. Sec., 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—The annual meeting will be held at Hersham, the bells of Chertsey being out of order, on Saturday, January 21st. Bells (8) available 3 to 5 and 6 to 6.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Service 6.30, followed by meeting in schools and further ringing. All ringers and friends welcome.—F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Dis. Sec., 39, Queen's Road, Thames Ditton.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch, Gainsborough District.—The annual meeting of the above district will be held at Gainsborough on Saturday, January 21st. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., at the Tudor Cafe, business meeting to follow.—E. J. P. Davies, Hon. Dis. Sec., Blyton Vicarage, Gainsborough.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Jurisdiction of Glaston Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Wells, St. Cuthbert's, on Saturday, January 21st. Bells (8) at 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow.—W. H. Marsh, 4, Dove Cots, Street, Somerset.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—A meeting will be held at Cowfold (6 bells) on Saturday, January 21st. Bells at 3. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. All welcome.—O. Sippetts, 10, Three Bridges Road, Crawley.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Portsmouth, on Saturday, January 21st. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. in the Parish Institute. Business meeting follows. All ringers welcome.—A. T. Greenwood, 6, Sheffield Road, Portsmouth.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Middlesbrough on Saturday, January 21st. Bells (8) available for ringing. Service in St. Hilda's Church at 4.30 p.m. Tea will be provided in the Church Room at 5 p.m. All ringers and friends welcome.—J. Reed, Hon. Sec., 67, Hedley Street, Guisborough.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wellingborough Branch.—The branch annual meeting will be held (D.V.) at Finedon on Saturday, January 21st. Service at 4.30. Nice peal of eight. Please send cards for tea to A. Bigley, Hon. Branch Sec., 30, Allen Road, Irthlingborough, Wellingborough.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Taunton Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. James', Taunton, on Sat., Jan. 21st. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting at gas showrooms, Bridge Street.—R. W. Hayward, 24, Fairwater Cottages, Taunton.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—The annual general meeting will be held on Saturday, January 21st, at St. Luke's, Sydney Street, Chelsea, S.W.3 (10 bells). 49 bus from Clapham Junction or South Kensington (D.R.) passes the church. Ringing 2.45 p.m. to 5 p.m. and after business meeting till 8 p.m. Names for tea to district secretary, N. H. Manning, 21, Burlington Gardens, Chiswick, W.4.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—The annual general meeting will be held on Saturday, January 21st. Ringing at St. Lawrence Jewry 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., followed by business meeting in choir vestry. Ringing at St. Dunstan-in-the-East 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tea can be obtained in the vicinity of either church.—James G. A. Prior, Hon. Sec., 81, Denbigh Street, S.W.1.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—By special request, a meeting will be held at Fenham (SS. James and Basil's) on Saturday, January 21st at 3 p.m. Trolley bus No. 6 stops at church. Tea will be served in the Church Hall at 1s. per head.—Jack Roach, Hon. Dis. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—The annual meeting will be held at Belgrave on Saturday, January 21st. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. till 8 p.m.—Herbert W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The annual meeting will be held at Arksey on Saturday, January 21st. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Committee meeting at 4 p.m. Service at 4.30, to be followed by tea and the general meeting. It is hoped that all members will make an effort to attend this meeting.—E. Cooper, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Bolton Parish Church on Saturday, January 21st. Bells available 2.30. Service 5. Tea 5.30. Business meeting after tea. Small charge per head. Names for tea to Miss Albinson, 28, Cope Bank, Bolton.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—The annual meeting of the Crewe Branch will be held at Christ Church, Crewe, on January 21st. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Preacher, Rev. Charles Parry-Williams (Vicar of Acton). Tea, at the kind invitation of the Vicar and wardens, at 5 o'clock. Meeting to follow.—Richard D. Langford, Hon. Branch Sec., 118, Ruskin Road, Crewe.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Chesterfield District.—The annual meeting for the election of officers will be held at Eckington on Saturday, January 21st. Bells 3 p.m. Will all members attend who can to give the new Rector a welcome?—J. P. Tarlton, Hon. Sec., Greenfield Villas, Stonetroom, Alfreton.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The first quarterly meeting of the year will be held at Nuneaton on Saturday, January 21st. Ringing from three o'clock. Committee meeting at four o'clock. Service in church at 4.15, followed by tea in the Parish Hall. Business meeting afterwards. Suggestions for the improvement of the report will be welcomed at this meeting.—D. E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

BRISTOL UNITED RINGING GUILDS.—18th annual dinner, Grand Hotel, Broad Street, Bristol, Saturday, January 21st. Commence 6 p.m. Afternoon arrangements: Bells available: Temple (the leaning tower), Victoria Street (8 bells), 2.30; St. Mary Redcliffe (12 bells), 2.30; St. Nicholas' (10 bells), 3; Christ Church (10 bells), 4.30; St. Stephen's (10 bells), 4.30; Clifton Parish Church (8 bells), 4.45. A cup of tea and bun at St. Thomas' Parish Room at 4 p.m. Visitors to Zoo will meet at St. Thomas' for motor coach at 2.45 p.m.—Edgar Guise, Hon. Sec., B.U.R.G.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for January: St. Giles', Cripplegate, 24th; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 26th; *St. Paul's Cathedral, 31st. All at 7.30 p.m., except Holborn, 8 p.m. * Business meeting afterwards.—A. B. Peck, Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting of the Sleaford District of the Northern Branch will be held at Ruskington, near Sleaford, on Sat., Jan. 28th. The bells of All Saints' Church (6) will be available from 2.30. Service at 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. Tea provided at 6d. per head. Will those who would like tea kindly inform the undersigned by Wednesday, January 25th?—H. S. Hinkins, Elmside, 41, The Drove, Sleaford, Lincs.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Quarterly meeting at Gillingham on Saturday, January 28th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at 5 o'clock, followed by tea and business meeting in the Memorial Room (adjoining Vicarage). Tea is very kindly being provided for those advising me not later than first post on Wednesday, January 25th.—G. H. Spice, Hon. Dis. Sec., 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Dorchester Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Dorchester, on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (8) from 4 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Charminster, Fordington and Upwey bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Kindly notify early for tea.—C. H. Jennings, 3, Sunnyside Road, Wyke Regis, Weymouth.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Leeds on Saturday, January 28th. The bells of the Parish Church (12) will be available from 2 to 4.15 p.m. and 7.30 to 9 p.m.; St. Michael's, Headingley (8), and St. Chad's, Far Headingley (8), will also be available from 2 to 3.45 p.m. and 7.30 to 9 p.m. A service will be held in the Parish Church at 4.30 p.m. Tea (1s. 6d.) will be served in St. Peter's Hall at 5.30 p.m., and, as accommodation is limited, all requiring same must notify Mr. V. C. Buck, 11, Church Row, Leeds 2, by the first post on Thursday, January 26th. The general meeting will take place immediately afterwards in the day schools. Subscriptions are now due, and reports will be available.—L. W. G. Morris, Gen. Sec., 65, Lilycroft Road, Heaton, Bradford.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Annual meeting at Farnham on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business at Darracott's, West Street. Notifications for tea by 25th.—C. W. Denyer, Dis. Sec., 120, Ash Road, Aldershot.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District.—The annual district meeting will be held at St. Peter's, South Croydon, on Saturday, January 28th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service 5 o'clock. Tea at 5.30 p.m., followed by business meeting. Ringing again in the evening. Numbers for tea to be sent to Mr. M. W. Simmons, 33, Crossways, Addington, Croydon, not later than Wednesday, January 25th. All ringers welcome.—F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Sec., 28, Strathearn Road, Sutton, Surrey.

LADIES' GUILD.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Diss, Norfolk, on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., conducted by the Rector. Tea at the Waveney Hotel, price 1s. per head, at 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow. Gentlemen are cordially invited to attend. Names for tea should be sent to me by Monday, January 23rd.—Sylvia R. E. Bowyer, Hon. Sec., 32, Gatacre Road, Ipswich.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Basingstoke District.—The annual meeting will be held at Basingstoke on Saturday, January 28th. Bells available from 2.30. Service in St. Michael's Church at 4. Tea at 5, followed by the meeting. In view of the large attendance expected, orders for tea must be sent by January 25th to Mr. C. W. Munday, 21, Southend Road, Basingstoke.—J. G. Stilwell, Hon. Dis. Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The annual meeting will be held at All Saints' Church, Edmonton, on Saturday, January 28th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Short service at 4.45 p.m. Tea in the Church Hall at 5.15 p.m., for which 1s. will be charged. All requiring tea must advise Mrs. G. W. Fletcher, 45, Walsingham Road, Enfield (phone, Enfield 2025), by Thursday, January 26th. Business meeting after tea, at which district officers and representatives on Central Committee for 1939 will be elected. All members and friends welcomed.—C. T. Coles, for Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the Cathedral, Manchester, on Saturday, January 28th. Tower open for ringing at 6 o'clock. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—Joseph H. Ridyard, Branch Sec., 35, The Crescent, Worsley.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at Bispham on Saturday, January 28th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Business meeting and tea 5.30.—C. Sharples, Fylde Branch Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The annual committee meeting will be held at Hitcham (Old School) on Saturday, Jan. 28th, at 3.30 p.m. Bells (6) available to all at 6 p.m. Subscriptions for 1939 now due.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Thrapston Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Lowick on Saturday, January 28th. Bells at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5. Please make an effort to attend.—W. J. Whitmore, Raunds, Northants.

NATIONAL GUILD OF POLICE RINGERS.—The annual meeting will be held in London on Saturday, January 28th. Ringing, St. George's, Southwark, 10.30 to 11.30 a.m. Tour of Houses of Parliament, 12 noon to 1 p.m. (Members and friends to meet at Norman Porch Door, Victoria Tower, Old Palace Yard, S.W.1, at 12 noon prompt). Lunch, 2s. 6d., Euston Tavern, Euston Road, W.C. (opposite St. Pancras Station), at 1.15 p.m. Meeting to follow. Ringing: St. Lawrence Jewry, 4 to 5 p.m.; St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, 5.15 to 6.30 p.m. Social, Euston Tavern at 7.15 p.m. Names for lunch by first post, Thursday, January 26th, to Norman S. Bagworth, 21, Stokenchurch Street, Fulham, S.W.6.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—The annual meeting for the election of officers, etc., will take place on January 28th at St. Martin-in-the-Fields. Ringing at St. Olave's, Hart Street 3-4 p.m. (nearest stations, Fenchurch Street and Mark Lane (Underground) and at St. Martin's 4-5.30 p.m. Tea in St. Martin's Crypt to all who send names by the 24th. Business meeting in Vestry Hall at 6.30 p.m. Further ringing until 9 p.m., St. Martin's bells.—Norman Summerhayes, 28, Bean Road, Bexleyheath.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bristol Rural Branch.—The January meeting will be held at Pucklechurch and Abson at Sat., Jan. 28th. Abson bells open 3. Service 4.30 at Pucklechurch. Tea and meeting to follow.—R. C. Gifford, Hon. Sec.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bromyard District.—The annual meeting will be held at Bromyard on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (6) available 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea at 5.15 only to those who let me know by Thursday, January 26th.—A. S. Tomkins, Post Office, Bredenbury, Hereford.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch.—Newport Pagnell Deanery.—A meeting at Olney (8 bells), Saturday, Jan. 28th. Times as usual.—Rev. J. F. Amies, Ravenstone Vicarage, Olney, Bucks.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kingston District.—The annual meeting for the district will be held at Lyonshall on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (6) available 4 p.m. Service 5. Tea 5.30. Business meeting to follow. Those requiring tea please notify me by Tuesday, January 24th.—H. Preece, Dis. Sec., Lea Lodge, Staunton-on-Arrow, Leominster.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Dunster Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Dunster on Saturday, January 28th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea at the Village Hall at 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow.—G. Stacey, Hon. Local Sec., 6, Park Street, Minehead.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—General quarterly meeting, Saturday, January 28th, at Hugglescote. Bells (8) open all afternoon. Committee meet 4 p.m. Meat tea (1s. 9d. per head) 5 p.m., both at the Castle Hotel, followed by general meeting. Those requiring tea must acquaint Mr. H. O. Over, 130, Ashburton Road, Hugglescote, Leicester, not later than the 26th inst.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bridgwater Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Bridgwater on Saturday, January 28th. Notifications for tea not later than Tuesday. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Service 4. Tea 5. Come in good numbers and create interest.—C. Evans, Hon. Sec., 17, Wellington Road, Bridgwater.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. George's, Stockport, on Saturday, January 28th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. For tea, please advise Mr. G. L. Burgess, 107, Rostrevor Road, Adswood, Stockport.—C. K. Lewis, Hon. Sec.

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Brede (6 bells) on Saturday, January 28th. Will those requiring tea (1s.) please notify me by Wednesday, 25th?—Tower open 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—J. G. Powell, Hon. Sec., 1, Woodbury Road, Hawkhurst, Kent.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Bridgnorth Branch.—The annual general meeting will be held at Bridgnorth on Saturday, January 28th. Ringing 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m., followed by meeting, at Swan Hotel. Those requiring tea, please notify H. G. Thomas, Hildon, Victoria Road, Bridgnorth.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Oundle Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Oundle on Saturday, January 28th, at 3 p.m.—A. P. Symes, Warmington Vicarage, Peterborough.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch,—The annual meeting will be held at Congresbury on Sat., Jan. 28th. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m. Divine service 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. All ringers welcome.—H. Minifie, Branch Sec., Royston, Uphill, Weston-super-Mare.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A joint meeting of the Liverpool and Wigan Branches will be held at St. Nicholas', Liverpool, on Saturday, January 28th. The tower will be open at 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., to be followed by tea and the meeting in the Church Institute. All ringers are cordially invited to this meeting. Tea will be provided for all, but it would help materially if word were sent by those who intend to be present.—S. Forshaw and G. R. Newton, Branch Secs.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch. The annual meeting of the Grimsby District will be held at St. Andrew's, Grimsby, on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 to 4.15, and after meeting till 9 o'clock. Service 4.15, address by the Vicar, the Rev. A. H. Howard, late of Ashby-de-la-Launde. A meat tea will be provided at a moderate charge, in the Church Hall at 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow. Outstanding subscriptions can be paid at this meeting. Please make this a reunion. All ringers and old friends welcome. Lincoln District please take note. Important: Will those who require tea please notify the undersigned by Wednesday, January 25th?—H. Mingay, Hon. Dis. Sec., 394, Wellington Street, Grimsby.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—The monthly practice at Chelmsford Cathedral will be resumed on Saturday, January 28th, at 7.30 p.m. The special method for practice is Cambridge up to Royal, and it is hoped that these practices will be well supported.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—A meeting will be held at Harpenden on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Short service 5 p.m. Tea at West's 5.30 p.m. Special methods for practice: Double Norwich and Cambridge. Any other methods will be rung as desired.—Harold V. Frost, Dis. Sec., 4, Kimberley Road, St. Albans.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—Meeting at Jarrow on Saturday, January 28th. Christ Church and St. Peter's bells available. Please meet Christ Church at 2.30 p.m. Tea in Co-operative Cafe for those who send postcard to Mr. H. Hall, 90, Shakespeare Avenue, Hebburn-on-Tyne. A good attendance requested. All are welcome.—F. Robson, Hon. Dis. Sec., 13, Grainger St., West Hartlepool.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—A practice meeting will be held at Winford on Saturday, January 28th. Bells available from 5 o'oclock onwards.—Percy G. Yeo, Long Ashton.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bath Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Bathwick, on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.25. Tea and meeting to follow.—Theo Grant, Swainswick, Bath.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Calne Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Wootton Bassett on January 28th. Bells (8) from 3 o'clock. Tea and meeting in the National School.—L. A. Wilson, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Church Kirk on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Everybody welcome.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hereford District.—The annual meeting will be held at Hereford on Saturday, February 4th. Bells available as follows: Hereford Cathedral (10), 2.30 to 4 p.m.; St. Nicholas' Church (6), 2.30 to 8.30 p.m.; All Saints' Church (8), 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. Service at St. Nicholas' Church at 4.15 p.m. Tea (6d. to those notifying me not later than Tuesday, January 31st), followed by the annual meeting, at the Kerry Arms Hotel, Commercial Square, Hereford.—R. H. Stickley, Dis. Sec., The Hollies, Lugwardine, Hereford.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—A meeting will be held at Royston, Hertfordshire, not Yorkshire, on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30, followed by tea, at the kind invitation of the Rev. F. F. Greig. Numbers for tea to me by Wednesday, February 1st. No postcard, no tea. All welcome.—R. Thos. Newman, Lafayette, Salisbury Road, Baldock, Hon. Dis. Sec.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Book the date, February 4th. Longton bells (8) will ring any method. One minute bus service and main line trains Crewe to Derby (L.M.S.) all stop on the doorstep. All ringers welcome. Rounds to Cambridge.—A. Thompson, Hon. Sec.

G. & F. COPE & CO., NOTTINGHAM
TOWER CLOCK MANUFACTURERS.
ESTIMATES SUBMITTED FOR NEW CLOCKS, CHIME ADDITIONS, REPAIRS OR REPAINTING OF DIALS.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Walthamstow (St. Mary's) on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (10) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea to follow. Will those intending to be present kindly advise me not later than Wednesday, February 1st? Subscriptions for 1939 are now due.—J. H. Crampion, Dis. Sec., 7, Cedar Avenue, Chadwell Heath, Essex.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The annual meeting will be held at Isleworth on Saturday, February 4th, at the Church of All Saints (10 bells, tenor 16 cwt.). Ringing 3 to 4.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting in the Church Hall 5 p.m. Ringing after. Tea, 1s., guaranteed only to those who notify the undersigned by Feb. 1st. Business: Financial statement, annual report, election of officers, etc. A good attendance is requested. Subscriptions for 1939 are now due.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec., 16, St. Stephen's Road, West Ealing, W.13.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. Nicholas', Chislehurst, on Saturday, February 4th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at 5, address by the Rector, Rev. Canon J. A. Lumb. Tea at Tiger's Head at 1s. 3d. per head. Names for tea to be sent to Mr. T. Groombridge, 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst, not later than Tuesday, January 1st. Subscriptions for 1939 are now due, and should be paid at this meeting. Important business requires that every tower should be adequately represented on this occasion.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere, Kent.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—Annual meeting at Guildford on Saturday, February 4th. Cathedral bells (8) available 3 to 4 p.m. S. Nicolas' (10) from 3 p.m. Service at S. Nicolas' 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting at Ayers' Hall (next church). Numbers for tea by February 1st, please.—W. F. J. Cope, Hon. Sec., 26, Curling Vale, Onslow Village, Guildford.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—The next meeting will be held at Danbury on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Please let me know numbers for tea by Wednesday, February 1st.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Upper Arbour Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD. — Aylesbeare Deanery Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Whimple on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea, 1s. 6d., in the Hall at 4.45 p.m., meeting to follow. Those requiring tea, please notify me not later than Monday, January 30th.—R. Brook, Hon. Sec., 3, Greatwood Terrace, Topsham.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—Sevenoaks (not Speldhurst, as previously arranged) is the place, and Saturday, February 4th the date of the first meeting of year. Please come and start the district on another successful year. Also keep your New Year's resolution of notifying me for tea in good time, Wednesday, February 1st, being the latest date. Tower open at 2.45 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea and short business meeting to follow. Will those interested please look up Erin Triples and Duffield Major? Subscriptions for 1939 are now due.—Alec E. Richardson, Laurel Cottage, Victoria Road, Southborough.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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NORWICH ASSOCIATION'S ACHIEVEMENT

Some striking statistics have been worked out by a correspondent, Mr. A. J. Corrigan, prompted by the announcement made in our last issue that the Norwich Diocesan Association had recently rung its five thousandth peal. The association has always stood high in its peal ringing activities, and its peals, rung during the sixty years of its existence, give an average of over eighty per annum. Actually, of course, the number rung in the early years was comparatively small, about twenty or so being the yearly total. This only goes to prove how consistently, as time has progressed, the Norwich Diocesan Association has upheld its position, a position, indeed, worthy of the association which includes in its area the tower where the first recorded peal was rung.

The analysis which Mr. Corrigan has made shows how high is the average of peals rung in the Norwich diocese per head of the ringing population compared with some other centres, and his comment on the number of peal conductors and the variety of methods is alike enlightening and well worthy of attention. The fact that the association has rung over a hundred peals a year in the last year or two shows an ever increasing enthusiasm, and this, as those who know Norfolk are aware, is coupled with a loyal attention to Sunday service ringing at a very high percentage of the affiliated towers. It must not be overlooked, either, that when the Suffolk Guild was formed, after the severance of the diocese of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich from Norwich, the association lost many of its peal-ringing bands, so that the recovery which has been made is all the more gratifying to those who have the welfare of the association at heart.

The letter from our correspondent directs attention once more to another question about which some people, we think, occasionally exhibit unnecessary concern. Mr. Corrigan shows that the ringers of Norfolk keep their own bells fully occupied, and suggests, in associations where there are folk who object to peal ringing by 'unattached' ringers, that they should go and do likewise. There is a good deal in the view that ringers who do not care, or are not able, to ring peals themselves should not stand in the way of those who wish to do so, even if, for some reason, they may not be attached to any particular tower. Every ringer should, if possible, associate himself with a tower, so that he may do his share of service ringing and at least repay the debt he owes to the church as a whole for his opportunities of indulging in peal ringing, but that is not to say that a ringer who is attached to no particular tower should be excluded for that reason alone. There is, of course, not much excuse for people

(Continued on page 50.)

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who ring peals to satisfy their own ambitions and do not raise a finger to help in promoting the art in other directions; who, as it were, take all there is to be got and give nothing in return; but these are not the only folk to be blamed. There is just as much selfishness on the other side of the account, where ringers act in the spirit of dog in the manger, and, while they do not care about peals themselves, put every possible obstacle in the way of others enjoying the use of the bells in their towers. The Norwich Association seems, happily, to suffer little from either cause, and the result of this excellent state of affairs is manifest in the success which follows their efforts. Associations will lift their hats to Norwich upon being the first to reach the great total of five thousand peals.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, January 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 31 cwt.

FRED HAYES	...*Treble*	WILLIAM HENLEY	7
J. E. LEWIS COCKEY	2	*EDGAR HANCOX	8
LEONARD STILWELL	3	RALPH COLES	9
*EDWARD S. T. FARR	4	FRANK COKER	10
F. DONALD BOREHAM ...	5	HARRY WINGROVE	11
WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM ...	6	WILLIAM PLUMRIDGE	...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by FRED HAYES.

* First peal on twelve bells.

WALSALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Thursday, January 19, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

JAMES S. EASTWOOD ...	...*Treble*	WALTER R. HUGHES	7
AUBREY M. PICKERING ...	2	ARTHUR T. DUTTON	8
EDGAR T. SMITH	3	GEORGE W. HUGHES	9
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER ...	4	GILBERT HARDING	10
BARNABAS G. KEY	5	THOMAS J. ELTON	11
HAROLD SMITH	6	HOWARD HOWELL ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by G. W. HUGHES.

Rung as a compliment to the Rev. H. J. Carpenter, M.A., Vicar of Walsall, on his appointment to a Prebendal stall in Lichfield Cathedral. First peal as conductor.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

(ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Four Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

GEORGE A. FLEMING...	...*Treble*	SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER ...	7
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY... ...	2	ALAN R. ANDREWS	8
WILLIAM P. GARRETT ...	3	JOHN H. CRAMPION	9
HOBART E. SMITH	4	CECIL W. PIPE	10
*ERNEST W. PYE...	5	GEORGE E. SYMONDS	11
WILLIAM J. G. BROWN ...	6	FREDERICK J. SMITH ...	...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by CHARLES J. SEDGLEY.

* First peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus.

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TEN BELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CLEMENT DANES, STRAND,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

CHARLES A. HUGHES ...	...*Treble*	*CHARLES W. OTTLEY ...	6
MISS BERTHA M. MILLS ...	2	JOHN G. NASH	7
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ...	3	ERNEST W. FURBANK ...	8
ERNEST J. KING	4	EDWARD D. SMITH	9
MISS OLIVE L. ASHBROOK ...	5	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. R. FARDON. Conducted by ERNEST J. KING.

* First peal in the method.

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, January 17, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 26 lb.

*JOHN R. FAITHFULL ...	...*Treble*	†PERCY WHITFORD	6
REGINALD A. REED	2	†ARTHUR V. DAVIS	7
†LESLIE TREMEER	3	REV. E. BANKES JAMES ...	8
FREDERICK J. BAYLEY ...	4	GEORGE WILLIAMS	9
*ROBERT H. ROBINSON ...	5	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE	...*Tenor*

Composed by H. HUBBARD. Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

* First peal on ten bells. † First peal of Grandsire Caters.

STAFFORD.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt. 11 lb.

*JOHN WARRILOW ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM CARNWELL... ...	6
HOWARD HOWELL	2	*RICHARD J. WARRILOW ...	7
*J. DENNIS HOLDEN	3	BARNABAS G. KEY	8
BERT HORTON	4	†ARTHUR W. HALL	9
HAROLD SMITH	5	THOMAS J. ELTON ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by THOMAS J. ELTON.

* First peal of Royal. † First peal on ten. A birthday compliment to R. J. Warrilow.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 30½ cwt.

FREDERICK W. DEXTER	...*Treble*	WILLIAM SMITH	6
HARRY WAYNE	2	JOHN GRUNDY	7
CHARLES ALLSOP	3	JOSEPH A. FENTON	8
ERNEST RAWSON	4	HARRY BROUGHTON	9
COLIN HARRISON	5	JOHN GRANT	...*Tenor*

Composed by F. H. DEXTER. Conducted by COLIN HARRISON.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, PRITTLEWELL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES;

JOHN W. CORNFORD ...	...*Treble*	FRANK B. LUFKIN	6
*ALBERT E. NORTH	2	†DENNIS T. BROCK	7
MRS. F. W. HOUSDEN ...	3	ERNEST W. FURBANK ...	8
ERIC B. HARTLEY	4	REGINALD W. DARVILL ...	9
FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN ...	5	HORACE J. MANSFIELD	...*Tenor*

Composed by LOUIS HEAD. Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN.

* First peal of Stedman Caters. † First peal on ten bells and in the method. First peal of Stedman Caters as conductor.

LUTON, BEDS.—At the Parish Church on December 24th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: H. Walker 1, A. King 2, B. Wilson 3, A. J. Smith 4, F. Hunt 5, A. E. Rushton 6, L. A. Goodenough (conductor) 7, E. Shane 8.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, January 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, LAMBETH,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 16¼ cwt.

ARTHUR S. RICHARDS ...	...*Treble*	FRANCIS D. BISHOP	5
MISS OLIVE L. ASHBROOK ...	2	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ...	6
THOMAS H. FRANCIS	3	NORMAN H. MANNING... ...	7
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ...	4	THOMAS W. TAFFENDER	...*Tenor*

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by THOS. W. TAFFENDER

TARPORLEY.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF ST. CLEMENT'S BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt. 10 lb.

GEORGE SPERRING ...	...*Treble*	FRED HARTMAN	5
ROBERT SPERRING	2	HARRY PYE	6
WILLIAM E. FLETCHER ...	3	RALPH G. EDWARDS	7
FRANK VARTY	4	PERCY SWINDLEY	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. MORGAN. Conducted by PERCY SWINDLEY.

First peal in the method for all except R. Sperring.

WOOLWICH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

*ERNEST H. OXENHAM	...*Treble*	*CYRIL BRETT-SMITH	5
*FRANCIS C. SHORTER ...	2	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ...	6
ARTHUR S. RICHARDS ...	3	JOHN O. WELLER	7
DEREK M. SHARP	4	A. PATRICK CANNON ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by G. V. MURPHY.

* First peal in the method. First peal of Treble Bob as conductor.

RISHTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 13 lb.

HARRY HARGREAVES ...	...*Treble*	FRED READ	5
THOMAS HILLMAN	2	HERBERT C. RAWCLIFFE ...	6
WILLIAM E. MILLER	3	WILLIAM PROCTOR	7
WALTER BRIGGS	4	RICHARD BALDERSTONE	...*Tenor*

Composed by T. LOCKWOOD. Conducted by FRED READ.

NEWHEY, LANCS.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART. Tenor 10¼ cwt.

*SELWYN HOLT DEARDEN ...	...*Treble*	IVAN KAY	5
STEPHEN LLOYD PARRY ...	2	JOHN MEADOWCROFT, JUN. ...	6
†HARRY KERSHAW	3	HAROLD HAMER	7
*HARRY BYROM	4	ALBERT BUCKLEY ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. MEADOWCROFT, JUN.

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

BARROW-IN-FURNESS, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 15¼ cwt.

*RONALD A. WILTON ...	...*Treble*	ARTHUR STEDMAN	5
NICHOLAS M. NEWBY ...	2	FREDERICK H. CRAWLEY ...	6
JOHN BAGNALL	3	ALBERT CRAWLEY	7
JAMES E. BURLES	4	MICHAEL G. WHEAT ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALBERT CRAWLEY.

* First peal.

BICESTER, OXFORDSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDBURG,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt. 7 lb.

*BERNARD S. NICHOLS	...Treble	ALBERT E. LOCK	5
MRS. A. E. LOCK	2	FRANCIS E. TAYLOR	6
†WILLIAM C. PORTER... ...	3	REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG ...	7
MISS MARIE R. CROSS ...	4	WALTER F. JUDGE ...	...Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by W. F. JUDGE.
* First peal of Major. † First peal of Surprise.

HANDSWORTH, BIRMINGHAM.
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 12 cwt.

RICHARD INGRAM ...	...Treble	*WILLIAM PETTIGREW ...	5
*RONALD I. SHEPHERD ...	2	FREDERICK W. RISHWORTH	6
*ARTHUR H. S. RAINEY ...	3	†PERCY N. G. RAINEY ...	7
MORRIS J. MORRIS	4	‡ALBERT PETTIGREW ...	...Tenor

Conducted by PERCY N. G. RAINEY.
* First peal of Grandsire Triples. † First peal of Triples and first as conductor on eight. ‡ First peal.

DRAYTON, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CATHERINE.
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
CARTER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 19¾ cwt.

*RICHARD DABINETT ...	...Treble	SYDNEY DABINETT	5
PERCY H. LOCK	2	‡JACK STEVENS	6
J. THOMAS LOCKE	3	‡EDMUND DABINETT	7
†EDWARD STEVENS	4	*ALBERT SANDFORD ...	...Tenor

Conducted by J. THOMAS LOCKE.
* First peal. † First peal with bob bell. ‡ First peal on eight bells. First peal on eight as conductor. All belong to the local band.

BRISTOL.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;
Tenor 28 cwt.

ALBERT M. TYLER ...	...Treble	WILLIAM H. PARKER	5
ALFRED PEARCE	2	DONALD G. CLIFT	6
GILBERT PEARCE	3	ARTHUR PRINCE	7
ANDREW J. CORRIGAN	4	FRANCIS C. MOGFORD ...	...Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by DONALD G. CLIFT.
Rung to commemorate Mr. F. T. Jewell's 55 years' service as steeple-keeper at this church.

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)
On Tuesday, January 17, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 14½ cwt. in F.

PERCY RICHARDS	...Treble	BERNARD LAWTON	5
CLIFFORD SKIDMORE	2	*WILLIAM SMITH	6
WILLIAM POTTER...	3	WALTER E. MASTERS ...	7
BERNARD ASHFORD	4	JOHN LLOYD	...Tenor

Composed by H. HOWLETT. Conducted by C. SKIDMORE.
* First peal in the method. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute to the late George Allport, for many years sexton at this church.

NORTHMOOR BAND'S FIRST QUARTER-PEAL.

The first true quarter-peal on the bells by a local service ringing band at Northmoor, Oxfordshire, was rung on New Year's Eve, 1,260 of Grandsire Doubles with ten callings: F. Trinder 1, C. Bowsher 2, P. Trinder 3, V. Clifton 4, H. Farmer (conductor) 5, J. Pimm 6.

BUSHEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, January 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF QUEENSBURY SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES:
Tenor 13 cwt.

JOHN E. ROOTES	...Treble	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT ...	5
HENRY HODGETTS	2	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW ...	6
EDWIN JENNINGS	3	CECIL C. MAYNE	7
FRANCIS KIRK	4	HAROLD G. CASHMORE	...Tenor

Composed and Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.
The first peal in the method. A birthday peal for Mr. F. Kirk.

REDENHALL, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

ROBERT D. GUNTON ...	...Treble	ERNEST WHITING	5
WILLIAM J. FLATT	2	FREDERICK W. MUNNINGS ...	6
FREDERICK C. GUNTON ...	3	RUSSELL RICHES	7
STANLEY W. COPLING ...	4	CHARLES W. LOOME ...	...Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by ERNEST WHITING.

COLESHILL, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (2nd observation). Tenor 13½ cwt.

GEORGE F. GARRISON...	...Treble	WILLIAM C. RHODES	5
RONALD I. SHEPHERD ...	2	JOHN FIFIELD	6
RICHARD C. INGRAM	3	WILLIAM DAVIES...	7
FREDERICK W. RISHWORTH	4	FRED PRICE	...Tenor

Conducted by RONALD I. SHEPHERD.
First peal as conductor.

GRAVESEND, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 18¼ cwt. in E.

ERNEST H. OXENHAM ...	...Treble	JAMES E. BAILEY...	5
NORMAN SOMMERHAYES ...	2	DEREK M. SHARP...	6
JOHN WHEADON	3	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY... ...	7
GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ...	4	GEORGE J. BOTCHER ...	...Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by GEO. J. BOTCHER.

SIX BELL PEALS.

NOTTINGHAM.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, January 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Consisting of two 720's of Kent, one of Oxford Treble Bob and four of Plain Bob.

*HAROLD PARREMENT	...Treble	J. ALFRED BARRATT	4
FRANK BRADLEY	2	RALPH NARBOROUGH	5
*WALTER NICHOLS	3	FREDERICK A. SALTER...	...Tenor

Conducted by F. A. SALTER.
* First peal of Minor. A compliment to Mr. Thomas Jennison on his 65th birthday.

WICKHAM SKEITH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Thursday, January 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW.
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two extents of Kent Treble Bob, two of Oxford Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

LESLIE FOSTER	...Treble	LEONARD H. LOCK	4
BERT CHILVERS	2	RUSSELL WARD	5
SIDNEY W. ARBON	3	W. ARCHIE LOCK, JUN....	...Tenor

Conducted by W. A. LOCK, JUN.
First attempt to conduct a peal.

LLANELLY, CARMARTHENSHIRE.
THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ELLI,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different 720's.

*D. LLEWELYN ... ...*Treble*		*D. G. FRANCIS 4	
*MISS R. O. ROBERTS... ... 2		*G. E. PARMENTER 5	
J. WILLIAMS 3		C. H. HAWKINS ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by C. H. HAWKINS.
* First peal of Minor.

PITMINSTER, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND ANDREW,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven 720's called differently. Tenor 16 cwt.

ALEC A. WALKER... ... ...*Treble*		JACK ROY 4	
ALFRED J. WYATT 2		HENRY CHURCHILL 5	
JAMES HUNT... 3		WILLIAM G. GIGG ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by W. G. GIGG.
First peal of Minor on the bells. A birthday compliment to Mr. W. Oakes, of Trull.

PURLEIGH, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Woodbine, Cambridge Surprise and Oxford Treble Bob, and two 720's each of Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 12 cwt.

GEORGE A. WIGHTMAN ...*Treble*		HORACE J. MANSFIELD ... 4	
GERALD FROST 2		FRED CHALK 5	
FRANK C. MAY 3		FRANK B. LUFKIN... ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by F. B. LUFKIN.

RIPPINGALE, LINCS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Double Oxford, Double Court, Court Bob, Oxford Bob, Plain Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob.
Tenor 12½ cwt.

*BERNARD H. DALTON ...*Treble*		CHARLES WILKINSON 4	
ALBERT E. SCOTT 2		CUTHBERT T. H. BRADLEY... 5	
†LEONARD P. WILSON ... 3		THOMAS L. BAINBRIDGE ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by C. T. H. BRADLEY.
* First peal. † First peal in seven methods on an 'inside' bell.

LYTCHETT MATRAVERS, DORSET.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven differently called extents. Tenor 8 cwt.

WILLIAM M. LIGHT ... ...*Treble*		HAROLD E. WHITE 4	
*MISS VIOLET M. MARSH ... 2		WILLIAM C. SHUTE 5	
†DONALD R. HARVEY... ... 3		PHILIP H. TOCOCK ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by W. C. SHUTE.
* First peal 'inside.' † First peal of Minor.

FRANT, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
AND THE EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.
On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Double Bob, Double Oxford, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt.

CHARLES A. BASSETT ... ...*Treble*		ARTHUR F. LEWRY 4	
WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE ... 2		ALBERT RELFE 5	
LESLIE W. JARVIS 3		FRANK H. HICKS ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by ALBERT RELFE.
First peal in seven methods by all except the conductor.

STAPLEFORD, NOTTS.
On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST HELEN,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being three extents of Plain Bob and two each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob.
Tenor 7½ cwt.

W. R. DRAGE ... ...*Treble*		G. RIGBY 4	
*P. L. PARROTT 2		H. TURNER 5	
W. VARNAM 3		W. THORNLEY, JUN. ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by W. THORNLEY, JUN.
* First peal. First peal as conductor.

WORMINGFORD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, January 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 8 cwt. in A.

*EDWARD LEGGETT ... ...*Treble*		RALPH BIRD 4	
†JAMES H. EDWARDS 2		ALEC M. GENERY 5	
VICTOR MORLEY... 3		ALBERT L. DIXEY... ... ...*Tenor*	

Composed by REV. E. BANKES JAMES. Conducted by R. BIRD.
* First Surprise peal. † First peal of Surprise 'inside.'

MAULDEN, BEDS.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION
On Monday, January 16, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST MARY.
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven extents in 12 methods: (1) Sandal, Kingston, London Scholars' Pleasure and Oxford Treble Bob; (2) College Exercise and Duke of Norfolk; (3) Norwich Surprise; (4) Cambridge Surprise; (5) Kent Treble Bob; (6) St. Clement's and Plain Bob; (7) Oxford Bob.
Tenor 10⅔ cwt. in F sharp.

SAMUEL DANIELS... ... ...*Treble*		RONALD J. SHARP 4	
ANDREW C. SINFIELD 2		REGINALD J. HOUGHTON ... 5	
C. HENRY HARDING 3		C. EDWARD JEFFRIES ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by C. E. JEFFRIES.
The first peal in twelve methods by all and the first time that twelve methods have been rung in seven extents by the association.

DEEPING ST. NICHOLAS, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tuesday, January 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Double Court, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, St. Clement's, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 6½ cwt.

FRED BRIGHTMAN ... ...*Treble*		*CHARLES PERKINS 4	
*WILLIAM DUFFY 2		*EDWARD BROWN... 5	
CHARLES E. BLACK 3		FRANK TAYLOR ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by FRANK TAYLOR.
* First peal in seven methods. The conductor's first peal on an 'inside' bell in seven methods.

HANDBELL PEALS.

PUDSEY, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, January 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Two Minutes,
AT 9, PEMBROKE ROAD,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

PERCY J. JOHNSON... 1-2		WILLIAM BARTON... 5-6	
MRS. J. COTTERELL 3-4		JOHN AMBLER 7-8	

Composed by GEORGE LEWIS. Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON.

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thursday, January 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT 20, ABERDEEN CRESCENT,
A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor size 20 in E.

ALFRED BARNES 1-2		ALLEN F. BAILEY 5-6	
HAROLD JACKSON 3-4		PETER LAFLIN 7-8	

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by A. F. BAILEY.
Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. A. F. Bailey.

(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over).

PEAL NOTES.

INTERESTING DETAILS ABOUT PERFORMANCES.

The peal of Bob Major rung on handbells at Pudsey, Yorkshire, on January 17th, was a composition by Mr. George Lewis with the full combination of 4, 5 and 6 in 5-6 in the minimum number of courses (36) and changes (5,008). It was rung for the first time and is believed to be the first ever produced with these qualities.

Not many peals are rung nowadays at Handsworth, Birmingham, which was once upon a time a happy hunting ground for members of St. Martin's Guild. On January 14th, however, a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung there, with three of the band scoring their first in the method. The conductor, Mr. P. G. Rainey, rang his first peal of Triples and completed peals of Grandsire from Doubles to Cinques.

Mr. Albert Crawley, of Crewe, rang his 90th peal when he took part in Grandsire Triples at Barrow-in-Furness on January 14th.

Five out of the band rang their first peal in seven methods when a peal of Minor was rung at Frant, Sussex, on January 14th.

The Rev. E. Bankes James' arrangement of 5,040 Cambridge Minor was rung for evening service at Wormingford, Essex, on Sunday, January 15th.

A half-muffled peal of Bob Major was rung at Brierley Hill, Staffs, on January 17th, in memory of the late Mr. George Allport, at one time a ringer and for many years sexton at the Parish Church.

A peal in seven Minor methods at Rippingale, Lincs, was a birthday compliment to the conductor, Mr. Cuthbert T. H. Bradley, of Folkingham. The peal was rung on January 14th.

The first time that twelve Minor methods have been rung in a peal of seven extents by the Bedfordshire Association was at Maulden on January 16th. There were five methods in the first 720.

Mr. W. Thornley, jun., scored his first peal as conductor, when, at Stapleford, Notts, on January 14th, he rang his 25th peal. It was in three methods of Minor.

The long service of Mr. F. T. Jewell, who has been for 55 years steeplekeeper at St. James' Church, Bristol, was celebrated on January 18th, when a peal of Bob Major (which was substituted for Royal when the band met short) was rung in his honour.

AN ANNIVERSARY PEAL.

The peal of Grandsire Caters at North Stoneham on January 17th was, in effect, the celebration of the Rev. E. B. James' first peal, rung 50 years ago last month. A peal had been arranged on the actual anniversary, but the weather conditions of snow and ice made it impossible for the band to meet.

Last week's peal was rung on the 55th anniversary of the first peal by the Winchester Guild in Hampshire (one had previously been rung in Surrey), in which Mr. George Williams took part. Now, at 81, he has called this peal of Grandsire Caters.

John R. Faithfull, of Southampton, who rang the treble, is only just 14 years of age. He deserves the highest commendation upon the way in which he rang. His only other peal has been the treble to Cambridge Surprise Major.

Mr. Maurice Hibbert, who took part in the first peal of Queensbury Surprise Major, which was rung at Bushey on January 19th, has now rung 50 different Surprise methods or extensions on 6, 8, 10 or 12 bells, and is, we believe, the first to do so.

This list is made up of peals of Major in 39 methods, Spliced Surprise in two to six methods, seven Surprise Minor methods, London Minor, Cambridge Minor, Royal and Maximus and Yorkshire Royal.

A local band at Drayton, Somerset, rang a peal of Grandsire Triples on January 14th—the first peal on eight bells rung by a band residing in Ilchester Deanery.

The peal of Treble Ten at St. Mary's, Stafford, on Saturday, January 21st, was arranged to give Mr. J. Warrilow, the respected steeplekeeper at this tower, and his son, Mr. R. J. Warrilow, the opportunity of ringing their first peal of Royal.

The Vicar of St. Matthew's, Walsall (the Rev. H. J. Carpenter), has been appointed to a Prebendal stall in Lichfield Cathedral, and on Thursday of last week, ringers of the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang a peal of Stedman Cinques at Walsall in honour of the preferment. Mr. George W. Hughes rang his first peal as conductor, and he is the fourth member of the local band to call a peal of Stedman Cinques in the tower.

Mr. Stanley Copling, of Loddon, Norfolk, rang his 100th peal when he took part in a peal of Superlative Surprise Major at Redenhall on Saturday, January 21st.

A peal of Minor in seven methods was rung by the local band at Deeping St. Nicholas, Lincs, on January 17th. It was a birthday compliment to Mr. C. Perkins, and was the first peal on an 'inside' bell in seven methods by the conductor, Mr. Frank Taylor.

It is interesting to note that Mr. Ronald Shepherd has rung his first peal as conductor. This was Grandsire Triples at Coleshill, Warwickshire. He has been ringing only about two years and is a most promising member of the Aston band. We look forward to a great ringing future for this young enthusiast.

Archie Lock, jun., made his first attempt to call a peal on January 12th at Wickham Skeith and was successful in conducting seven 720's in three methods.

Another new conductor is Mr. J. Meadowcroft, jun., of Newhey, Lancs, who on Saturday called a peal of Grandsire Triples in his home tower.

(Continued in next column.)

DEATH OF MR. CHARLES SLINGSBY.

BRITAIN'S OLDEST BELLRINGER.

The death occurred on January 19th at his home at Aldington, Kent, of Mr. Charles Slingsby. He was 101 years of age.

He was born on May 26th, 1837, and was Britain's oldest bellringer. Indeed, he was actively engaged in ringing until he was 90. He started at the age of ten years, and had been connected with the Church all his life. He was a foundation member of the Kent County Association, which was established sixty years ago, and rang in the association's second peal.



MR. CHARLES SLINGSBY.

When, on the occasion of his one hundredth birthday in 1937, there was a large gathering of ringers at Aldington to celebrate the auspicious event, and Mr. Slingsby received a present consisting of a wallet containing Treasury notes, the association's peal book recording this peal was produced by Mr. F. M. Mitchell, and the page was signed by Mr. Slingsby without the aid of glasses.

On this occasion, too, Mr. Slingsby was able to mix with the party and thoroughly enjoy the proceedings.

He was one of the ringers who founded the Romney Marsh and District Guild, and he took the keenest interest in ringing affairs right up to the end. He was not a man of great physique, but he had a tough constitution which enabled him to enjoy good health throughout his long life.

TRIBUTE TO DECEASED RINGER.

On Friday, January 13th, the bells of St. Helen's, Willingham, near Gainsborough, were rung half-muffled as a token of respect to Mr. H. Plowright, who died at his home in Springthorpe and was buried at Willingham earlier in the day.

A 720 of Grandsire Doubles was rung by W. Roberts 1, H. Bingham 2, George L. A. Lunn 3, F. Grimshaw 4, N. B. Thurlby 5, C. Hooton 6. The conducting was shared by N. B. Thurlby and George L. A. Lunn.

Mr Plowright was one of the original members of the band who rang at Willingham when the bells were increased from three to five and subsequently to six in 1905.

STOP PRESS NOTICES.

Notices of the following meetings reached us too late for insertion in the proper column:—

Ely Diocesan Association, at Old Chesterton, February 4th.

Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild, Andover District, at Amport, on February 4th.

Lancashire Association, Wigan Branch, at Wigan Parish Church, on February 4th.

Lancashire Association, Furness and Lake District Branch, at Ulverston, on February 4th.

(Continued from previous column.)

Mr. J. Williams, of Morriston, earned the thanks of a Swansea and Brecon Guild band by making up the company for a peal of Minor at Llanelly, Carmarthenshire, on Saturday, when all the other ringers, except the conductor, scored their first peal of Minor.

What is believed to be the quickest peal rung at St. Mary's, Woolwich, was brought round on Saturday in 2 hours 52 minutes. The tenor is 13 cwt. The peal of Oxford was Mr. Geoffrey Murphy's first peal of Treble Bob as conductor.

To celebrate the birthday of Mr. W. Oakes, the 'grand old man' of Trull, Somerset, who has reached the age of 76 years, the first peal of Minor on the bells at Pitminster was rung on Saturday. It was in this tower that Mr. Oakes learned to ring.

Another birthday peal was that at St. Peter's, Nottingham, where a peal of Minor in three methods on the front six of this ring of ten celebrated Mr. Thomas Jennison's 65th anniversary.

Seven out of the eight ringers who scored a peal of St. Clement's Bob Major at Tarporley, Cheshire, on Saturday, rang their first peal in the method. The exception was Mr. Robert Sperring, who was one of the band that some years ago first exploited some of these departures from the commonplace.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

SOUTHAMPTON SECRETARY'S APPEAL TO DEFICIENT BANDS.

The annual meeting of the Southampton District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild was held at Southampton on January 14th. Over 70 members and visitors were present from most of the towers in the district and from places as far away as Ryde, Portsmouth, Salisbury and Bournemouth, and included Messrs. G. Williams, F. W. Rogers, W. Andrews, W. T. Tucker, F. Romaine, etc.

The service was held at Holy Rood Church, the Rev. G. H. Goodall officiating, and the ringers had tea in St. Michael's Hall.

At the business meeting, the Rev. G. H. Goodall presided.

The secretary (Mr. G. Pullinger) presented the accounts, which showed a very satisfactory state of affairs. Although the total membership was four below that of last year, being 116 against 120, increased balances were paid to the general treasurer and also carried forward. Several towers in the district, the secretary said, were below strength, St. Mary's, Southampton, being one.

In every case where there was a shortage of ringers Sunday service ringing suffered, the services of the church suffered and the reputation of the Guild suffered. Every effort would have to be made to remedy this by bringing in new ringers who would treat their ringing as a contribution to the work of the church. Irregularity and unpunctuality on the part of some ringers, which made Sunday service ringing but a half-hearted affair or ruined a practice, was often the cause of bands falling away. He appealed to all concerned to remedy this. At Romsey monthly practices had been arranged and this effort was making steady progress. At Upham a course of instruction was being given. Most promising of all, however, was the number of keen young ringers, both men and women, who were coming along in various parts of the district.

No restoration work had been carried out in the district during the year, and, generally speaking, the bells were in good order.

The Rev. R. A. R. Spread (Vicar of St. Michael's) thanked the ringers for their work and paid a tribute to Mr. Pullinger.

The district officers were elected as follows: Chairman, the Rev. G. T. Tritton; Ringing Master, Mr. G. Williams; hon. treasurer and secretary, Mr. G. Pullinger; auditor, Mr. C. Fray; representatives on Executive Committee, Mr. R. Brown (Southampton) and Mr. W. Viney (Romsey).

District meetings were arranged as follows: Bishopstoke, February 18th; Fawley, May 20th; Sherfield English, July 22nd; Upham, October 28th; annual (Southampton), January 13th.

During the afternoon and evening ringing took place upon the bells of St. Mary's, Holy Rood, and St. Michael's Churches, and ranged from rounds and call changes to Surprise Royal.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

'FAMILY' GATHERING AT PUDSEY.

The society's first meeting of 1939 was held at Pudsey. The bells were rung up soon after 3 p.m., when a happy couple, who had just been married, had the sound of the bells to add to the festive occasion.

Tea was served at the Park Hotel, where the generous spirit that always prevails when Pudsey is visited was again in evidence. Ample justice was done to the provisions, and while the later arrivals were having tea, the secretary was busy writing out the notes of a new ballad, in which all voices joined in the opening words of 'How much do I owe?'

The business meeting was presided over by the Rev. J. H. B. Andrews, and members were present from Armley, Batley, Birstall, Bradford Cathedral, Calverley, Drighlington, Elland, Headingley (St. Chad's and St. Michael's), Idle, Liversedge, Leeds Parish Church, Pontefract, Rothwell, Selby, Sherburn, Shipley and the local company.

At the outset the President asked the members to stand for a few moments in silence in memory of the late Mr. Harry Lockwood, for 60 years ringer at Leeds Parish Church and one time president and trustee of our society.

Four new members were elected, viz., Messrs. E. Baldwin and H. Hodgson, of Liversedge, C. Brown, of Pontefract, and G. Varley, of Selby.

A comprehensive vote of thanks to the Vicar, churchwardens and the local company was proposed by Mr. Johnson, who, in thanking the ringers for their continued generosity at this meeting, wondered whether they should not call it a family gathering. Many ringers made a special effort to be present at Pudsey, and if the association did not visit Pudsey, there would be many faces they would not see. The whole gathering was warmed by the friendliest feeling and camaraderie, and, judging by the numbers present, the efforts of the local company were appreciated. He hoped their efforts would continue for another 99 years.—Mr. W. Barton, replying for the Pudsey ringers, said he would see what they could do with regard to the time mentioned by Mr. Johnson, and he hoped Mr. Johnson would be present at them all (laughter).

The next meeting is to be held at Liversedge on February 25th.

The secretary gave a detailed statement with regard to the society's jubilee meeting, to be held at Leeds Parish Church on March 25th. The bells would be open prior to a service, which would be followed by a hot-pot supper and entertainment (1s. 9d. per head) at Sherwin's Restaurant, Lands Lane.

Good use was made of the handbells, with further visits to the tower until 9 p.m. Afterwards handbell ringing at the hotel brought another wonderful meeting to a close.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Bristol United Guilds contemplate issuing another edition of their valuable 'Ringers' Directory' this year.

We understand, also, that they will organise another of their 'ringing' weeks in August. Those held in the past have been highly successful. These excursions are not peal ringing expeditions.

The ringers at Doncaster Parish Church are very eager to get their bells restored. The Vicar called a meeting of the ringers, to discuss ways and means, on a recent Sunday at 7.45 p.m., after the evening service. One of the ringers was so keen that he arrived at the church for the meeting at 7.45 *a.m.*

Last Saturday, Mr. James Hunt was elected Ringing Master of the Taunton Deanery for the twenty-first time.

The gentleman (we presume it was a gentleman and not a lady) who left his pipe on the table after the Bristol dinner on Saturday can have it by applying to Mr. Edgar Guise.

Certain London ringers who visited Bristol on Saturday and went to Long Ashton on Sunday morning to get their shoes 'soled and heeled' came away disappointed. An arm of the law was standing by to see that the Shop Hours Act was observed.

Mr. Ben Gough, who has been staying in the Beeches Nursing Home in Wolverhampton for a considerable time, sends his greetings to all old ringing friends, and would be pleased to see anyone who can make it convenient to pay him a visit.

The members of Newcastle Cathedral Guild were delighted on Sunday to welcome back to the tower after his recent illness Mr. W. H. Barber, whose many friends throughout the country will be glad to know he has recovered sufficiently to climb again the belfry steps.

DEATH OF AN EDENBRIDGE RINGER.

Many ringers who have been associated with the Kent County Association, and especially with the Edenbridge tower, will be sorry to hear of the passing of Mr. 'Jimmy' Heasman.

He was a member of the Edenbridge stoney band which joined the Kent Association in 1896, and started to learn change ringing.

For over 50 years he was a regular service ringer at Edenbridge, for many years held the post of captain, and spent endless hours in teaching youngsters. He rang at least 39 peals in his own tower and many others elsewhere.

He composed several peals, and many touches of his are still rung for service in the district. He took part in the ringing when the bells of Edenbridge were broadcast a few years ago, although nearly blind.

He died at Chingford, Essex, on January 15th, and was buried at the cemetery at Edenbridge on the 19th. Four of his brother ringers, Messrs. G. Malyan, E. Leigh, W. Leigh and E. C. Leigh, acted as bearers. The floral tributes included a wreath from the Tonbridge District of the Kent County Association.

The bells he loved so well were rung half-muffled during the evening.

A. E. R.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

LADY ELECTED RINGING MASTER OF GAINSBOROUGH DISTRICT.

The annual meeting of the Gainsborough District of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild was held at All Saints', Gainsborough, on Saturday, January 21st. After a belated start, due to the late arrival of some of the members, the fine peal of eight were set going to various methods.

Service was conducted by the Vicar, Canon E. A. G. Whitworth, and tea was served at the Tudor Cafe.

At the business meeting the district secretary took everybody by complete surprise when he announced that he felt he could no longer hold office. Much to the regret of all, his resignation had to be accepted after two years of excellent work.

Considerable discussion followed on the difficulties of secretaries, and after much persuasion the Ringing Master agreed to resign that office and take over the duty of secretary. In acknowledging his election, he said it was not the work entailed that he was thinking of, but he felt he was taking over a 'sinking ship.' 'If,' he said, 'the district would make a supreme effort to improve the practices and ringing generally, he would do his part.'

Mrs. E. Gray, a popular lady ringer of Gainsborough, was unanimously elected Ringing Master.

A discussion then followed on the pros and cons of starting a Belfry Repair Fund to assist towers in the district where schemes for restoring or augmenting their bells were started. It was suggested that a collection should be taken at each meeting. Eventually this was agreed to and the first collection made. In view of this it was impossible to help the restoration fund of Bronlly, for which an appeal had been received.

Votes of thanks were passed and a return made to the tower. Unfortunately, owing to an important function in a neighbouring chapel, ringing had to cease at 7.30.

Methods rung during the day ranged from Grandsire Triples to Cambridge Surprise Major, a course of London coming to grief two leads from home.

The towers represented included Blyton, Lea, Upton, Willingham, Gainsborough, Retford, Lincoln, Surfleet, Bolsover, Treeton and Folkingham.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—55.

FRANK W. PERRENS.

A ringers' 'strike' was the cause of Mr. Frank Perrens' entry into ringing and giving the art one of its most able exponents. While he was living at Willenhall, Staffs, in 1910, the ringers there went on strike, because the church authorities would not provide them with new ropes. The Vicar appealed to members of the Young Men's Club, connected with the church, for recruits to learn to ring. Mr. Perrens happened to be one who was persuaded to volunteer. It was a circumstance that has had gratifying results. It was not long, indeed only November 5th in the same year, before he rang his first peal, which was one of Grandsire Triples at St. Paul's, Wood Green, Staffs, where, incidentally, he also rang his first Surprise peal (Cambridge) nearly five years later. His first peal as conductor was also Grandsire Triples at St. Giles', Willenhall, on October 30th, 1911, in which there were four other 'firsts.' It was also the first peal on the bells by a local band, although the bells were increased to eight in 1873.

Mr. Perrens' connection with Willenhall lasted until 1915, but out of this period he spent his college days in London, where he had many happy meetings with ringers and he has pleasant recollections of the kindness extended to him. From 1915 to 1921, interrupted by war service with the R.A.F., Mr. Perrens rang at Sutton Coldfield and naturally took an early opportunity of visiting St. Martin's, Birmingham, where handbell ringing was then 'going strong.' He became greatly interested in this phase of ringing and took it up with enthusiasm. His first handbell peal was Stedman Cinques, the first handbell peal on twelve bells in the city of Birmingham and for St. Martin's Guild. Out of the 45 peals which Mr. Perrens rang in this period, 26 of them were on handbells.



MR. FRANK W. PERRENS.

Since 1921 Mr. Perrens has been connected with All Saints', Allesley, Coventry, a six-bell tower, and it was not until some time after going there that his career as a conductor really started. In 1923 he called his first peal of Major (Cambridge Surprise), and although his peal ringing since then has been a little more rapid, he has only on two occasions rung more than 20 peals in a year; but they have gone to make up an interesting record.

For instance, Mr. Perrens conducted the first peals ever rung of Lincolnshire, Warwickshire, York, Wigston and Stratford Surprise Major, and called the first peals for the Warwickshire Guild of seven Surprise Minor methods, New Cambridge, Ipswich, Yorkshire, Staffordshire, Pudsey and Ashtead Surprise Major, New Cambridge Royal and Duffield Major, and the first handbell peals of Stedman Caters and Cinques. Most of the Surprise peals were the first in the method by all the band, and, with one exception, were rung at the first attempt without any previous practice. In addition, Mr. Perrens conducted the first peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus for the Oxford Diocesan Guild and has rung in the first peals of Cambridge Maximus in several counties, including the great performance at Exeter Cathedral on October 15th, 1932. He has taken part in the only two peals rung at Buckfast Abbey, the first being rung from the narrow gallery round the central tower. Other of his interesting peals have been the first peal of Erin Cinques on handbells, a silent peal of Stedman Triples, and a silent peal of Stedman Cinques on handbells, in which the position of the ringers of the first five pairs of bells was drawn out of a hat.

Mr. Perrens has rung 322 peals, of which 89 have been on handbells, and he has conducted 121, of which 25 have been 'in hand.' Practically all the peals that he has conducted have been called from working bells, a policy which he holds should be instilled into budding conductors. His peals have been rung in 82 different towers, including 21 twelve-bell towers, in 20 counties and for 18 different societies and guilds. They include well over one hundred peals of Surprise and over a hundred on twelve bells, as well as a good number of peals of Minor up to seven Surprise methods.

THE NORWICH ASSOCIATION'S RECORD

SOME SIGNIFICANT FACTS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am sure that the Exercise as a whole will wish to congratulate Norwich very heartily on its magnificent performance, the completion of a 'peal of peals.'

There are some striking features about this achievement that Mr. Golden with characteristic modesty does not comment upon. First and foremost must be the part that he himself and the present generation of Norfolk ringers have played in producing the grand total, for the men of Norfolk are not riding on the shoulders of past giants: they have for the last two years at least rung over a century of peals in the twelve months on their own account.

Next is the extraordinary average put up by the Norfolk men of to-day in the matter of peal ringing. Their membership is small—325 performing members in the 1937 report, who yet rang 108 peals involving 812 ringers, which works out at participation in 2.3 peals per head of the ringing population within the compass of a single year. This is surely not alone a contemporary record, but it must be something like an all-time record as well. How high the figure is may be judged by the following comparative figures, representing the 'peal index' for 1937 unless otherwise stated for the guilds named: Winchester and Portsmouth, 0.42; Bristol, 0.38; Bath and Wells, 0.26; Guildford (1936), 0.36; Devon (1935), 0.031. Even the energetic Southampton district (which includes North Stoneham, a peal ringing tower of no mean order) could only score 1.25 for the Coronation year. All figures are based on resident membership alone.

There is much still to be said about Norfolk. There were in the 1937 report 31 peal conductors, an average over the whole membership of one peal conductor to every eleven members approximately, so that the honours of the big figures must be spread very widely indeed over the county The variety of the methods rung is well known and needs no comment, but the most significant fact of all remains to be stated. It is that all the 1937 peals (and I think all the 1938 as well) were rung by resident members alone, with a few very trifling exceptions. No visiting bands helped to swell the total—Norfolk did it all unaided.

I have called this last the most significant fact of all, since it has so great a bearing upon the sporadic controversy that occupies your columns from time to time. Unattached ringers ring no peals in Norfolk, not because they are deliberately opposed by anybody concerned, but simply because the ringers of Norfolk keep their own bells fully occupied. Those who object to 'unattached' peals should go and do likewise. If they do not use their own bells they must not be surprised when other people do it instead, and they should put the blame where it belongs—upon their own incompetence or indolence—or both.

May the ringers of Norfolk long continue to show us how it is done.

Bitton, Bristol. A. J. CORRIGAN.

NO RINGING AT PRESTBURY FOR VISITORS.

CHESTER GUILD ASKED TO CONSIDER VICAR'S REFUSAL.

The Macclesfield Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild held its general meeting on Saturday, January 14th, and despite torrents of rain in the evening was very successful. Promptly at 3 o'clock the early arrivals commenced to ring up the tenor of the magnificent peal of twelve bells at the Parish Church, and it was not long before the Ringing Master had all his work cut out to provide for all tastes, both highbrow and lowbrow.

The special Guild service was conducted by the Vicar of Macclesfield (the Rev. N. A. Vesey), who is also the chairman of the branch, and a very interesting address was given by the curate (the Rev. K. Lee), which touched on the words of the special hymn for ringers, particularly the last verse, 'Our lives, like bells, while changing, an ordered course pursue.'

Tea was served in the Alexandra Cafe, when 31 members assembled. The business meeting followed, and apologies for absence were read from the Vicars of Chelford and Christ Church and the Rector of Gawsworth. The Vicar of Bosley and the Rector of Alderley had intended to be present, but were prevented at the last minute from attending.

The secretary was congratulated upon an excellent report, which revealed that there had been an increase in membership over 1937 of three honorary and 13 ringing members. Ringing meetings have been very well attended, the average being 27 per meeting. Twenty-one members took part in 44 peals for the Guild, ten members rang their first peal, nine at the first attempt, two their first on eight bells and two their first on ten. The officers for 1938 were re-elected en bloc for 1939.

The secretary pointed out that the ringing meeting proposed for July at Prestbury would have to be cancelled owing to the fact that the Vicar would not allow the bells to be used at any time by visiting ringers.

After some discussion it was decided to place the matter in the hands of the Guild secretary as an item affecting Guild principles.

Three further ringing members were elected, and the meeting concluded with votes of thanks to the chairman, secretary and treasurer, also to the organist for presiding at the organ for the service.

Further use of the bells was then made, and before finishing time several more stragglers found their way into the ringing chamber to complete the happy gathering.

BRISTOL UNITED GUILDS.

LARGE GATHERING AT ANNUAL DINNER.

Need for Recruitment in Belfries.

The annual gathering organised by Bristol United Ringing Guilds continues to grow in popularity and interest. Last Saturday ringers were attracted to Bristol not only from the immediate counties of Gloucestershire, Somerset and Wiltshire, but from places far distant, among them London, Sheffield, Manchester, Birmingham, Hereford, Newport, Swansea, Port Talbot, Plymouth and Southampton. The gathering has become more than the formal dinner with which it began 18 years ago. It has developed into a 'week-end,' and visitors find the warmest hospitality extended to them. On Saturday afternoon, in addition to the usual ringing at a number of the city churches, an excursion to Bristol Zoological Gardens had been arranged, and there was also afternoon tea for all who desired it at St. Thomas' Parish Room.

The trip to the Zoo was thoroughly interesting, and over 30 visitors, who were taken by motor-coach, availed themselves of the opportunity to inspect the specimens. Of course, there was not lacking the wit who said that the animals also enjoyed the entertainment provided for them. Clifton Zoo has been in existence more than a hundred years, and the visitors had the advantage of being conducted round the gardens by Mr. Ralph Guise (brother of the hon. secretary of Bristol United Guilds), who is one of the Zoo officials, but who, for some six months, has been incapacitated from work through one of his arms being badly mangled by a gorilla. Happily Mr. Guise is now recovering from his severe injuries. The two things which probably most interested the ringing visitors were the opportunity of fondling a lion cub only five weeks old, and inspecting a giant gorilla, weighing 28 stones—which they had no desire to fondle. This gentleman, however, was apparently more interested in his afternoon meal of bananas and raw onions than in the public.

After the tour of the gardens the visitors were entertained by the United Ringing Guilds to 'tea and bun' in the Pavilion and went on to ring at Clifton Parish Church.

BIG DINNER PARTY.

Dinner was served in the Ball Room at the Grand Hotel and over 260 sat down. During the meal they were entertained with light music, provided by an orchestral quintette. The chair was taken by Mr. E. J. Brown (St. Philip's), who was accompanied by Mrs. Brown, and he was supported by the Ven. Archdeacon of Bristol and Mrs. Alford, the Rev. Canon E. S. Swann (Vicar of St. Mary Redcliffe), Canon E. J. Phillips, the Rev. M. Paterson (Vicar of St. Thomas'), the Rev. Noel Hope (Vicar of Chedworth and Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association), Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Wood, Mr. A. A. Hughes (London), Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Smallwood (Bath), Mr. and Mrs. T. E. King (Bath), Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Ford, Mr. and Mrs. C. Read, Mr. and Mrs. W. Emery, etc.

Mr. W. Abraham (St. Thomas') was vice-chairman, and among the visitors were Mr. J. T. Dyke (hon. secretary of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association), Mr. J. W. Jones (hon. secretary, Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association), Mr. W. H. Shuker (hon. secretary, Lancashire Association) and Mrs. Shuker, Mr. S. F. Palmer (hon. treasurer, Yorkshire Association), Mr. M. Wilson (hon. secretary, Sheffield District Society) and Mrs. Wilson, etc. Apologies for absence were received from, among others, Mr. and Mrs. A. Walker (Birmingham), Mr. J. P. Fidler (Loughborough), Mr. and Mrs. S. Romans (Gloucester) and Mr. Charles Thomas (of the Ancient Society of St. Stephen's Ringers). After an enjoyable meal, the Master submitted the loyal toast.

APPEAL TO RINGERS WHO HAVE DRIFTED.

The Chairman, in proposing the toast of 'The Church,' said, as ringers, they owed a great deal to the Church and particularly to the clergy. They had cause to be grateful to the clergy in many ways, especially for the courtesy they showed when ringers visited churches other than their own for the purpose of ringing peals, special practices, or ringers' outings, largely for their own gratification, but nevertheless enabling them to practise their art in a far broader sense than otherwise they could do. Ringers were aware, too, of the kindly willingness of the clergy to co-operate with ringing associations when those associations held their periodical meetings. The Chairman proceeded to appeal for a closer bond between clergy and ringers, and said he thought it could be strengthened if the clergy showed a little more interest and went to the belfry sometimes and got to know their ringers better. He knew there were some who took a real interest in that branch of church work, but in many towers an occasional visit from the Vicar, with perhaps a word of encouragement now and again, would not only go far to make ringers feel less out of things, but would have a definite effect for good, particularly among young ringers in the learner stage. He also appealed to those ringers who had for some reason or other drifted from the belfry and no longer took a rope on Sunday. Their absence constituted a serious loss to the Church and to the Exercise, particularly in these days of depicted bands. He appealed to those ringers, difficult though it might appear at first sight, to try and sink any differences they might have and return to the belfry and rejoin their brothers in what, after all, was their duty and service to the Church; keeping uppermost in their minds that service to the Church was a service to God (applause).

The Archdeacon of Bristol, who responded, referring to the chairman's description of the clergy as 'the stalwarts of the Church,' said he disagreed with him in that. He always felt that the stalwarts of the Church were the laity and the people who backed up the clergy in every possible way. What the incumbents would do without the help they got from the laity, men and women, he shuddered to think. It was just because they had round them such bands of willing helpers as the ringers and other lay workers that they were able to carry on. Continuing, the Archdeacon referred to the anxious times in which we are now living, and said he hoped the bells, in the words of the poet, would ring out the old bad things in the world and that the ringers would translate into their sounds the message of peace. Ringers could do something as evangelists; they could tell the world that some of the old ideas are wrong; they could tell the world they did not want to talk of war, but wanted to talk of peace. They needed to ring the bells of peace throughout the world. He thought the Church should take a far greater lead than she did in talking of peace and of the things that would bring about peace. They prayed for peace when there was an emergency, as there was last September, and then went on telling people to become A.R.P. workers, as if they did not believe God had brought them peace in answer to their prayers. He was not a pacifist—he had been for 17 years a chaplain in the Forces—but something was wrong with what the Church taught. Every one of them, however small a part they played in the work of the Church, should try above all things at this time to preach peace. He wondered whether they could take away a message that night, and in future, through the bells, lift up their voices for peace. In that way in city and country the 250 who were there that night might go out and be a power for good. It had got to start from somewhere; it might well be that it could start there—the gospel of peace, because they were ringing the bells of peace (applause).

RELATIONS OF CLERGY AND RINGERS.

The Rev. M. Paterson, who proposed the toast of 'The Ringing World,' said the ringers of Bristol were, he knew, grateful for what they at St. Thomas' were able in a small way to do for them, but he sometimes wondered whether they gave gratitude where it ought to be given. They often thanked him, but their gratitude should really go to the churchwardens. Last year, he continued, he was allowed by the courtesy of the Dinner Committee to speak to them on the relationships that existed between the clergy and the ringers. He hinted, they would remember, that although there might be faults on the side of the clergy, there also might be some faults on the side of those immaculate people, the ringers (laughter). If the clergy and ringers were to come closer together there must be advances not only by the clergy, but also by the ringers. Many years ago when he was a young curate he went to a church where there were bells, and ringers who rang Sunday morning and evening and on one evening in the week for practice, but, so far as he could see, so long as the tower and bells were preserved, they would not have troubled if the whole church was burned down. They were entirely aloof from all parochial activities. It might have been his fault, and probably it was, because he was not so old or so wise then as he was now, and he ought to have made the first advance, but if those ringers had shown any interest, even a small interest in what interested him, if they had made some advance to the young curate who came amongst them, he would have been a ringer to-day.

Continuing, Mr. Paterson said that was the sixteenth dinner of the Bristol United Guilds that he had attended, and he was beginning to wonder whether there would be, for him, a seventeenth or an eighteenth. He had met with extreme courtesy from their committee; of later years they had placed his speech in a prominent place in their programme, but he felt that now he had said to them all he had got to say. Moreover, he had to confess that, with his advancing years, more and more did he value the quiet Saturday evening. He did most earnestly hope that they would be able to get some younger clergyman into the towers of Bristol and that he would be able to speak to them with more power and influence than he (Mr. Paterson) had been able to do. If that happened he could assure them that he would read that speech in 'The Ringing World.' Mr. Goldsmith knew perfectly well that he esteemed him, but the ringers of Bristol knew far better than he (the speaker) did the work Mr. Goldsmith did for ringers and the value of the paper (applause).

Mr. Goldsmith, in replying to the toast, said he sincerely hoped Mr. Paterson did not intend that speech to be his 'swan song.' They always appreciated Mr. Paterson's wit and wisdom, and hoped he would long be spared to join them at that gathering and enlighten and cheer them with his words (applause). Of the value of Mr. Paterson's speeches on those occasions they had proof last year, when as the outcome of what he said on the relations between ringers and clergy, the Archdeacon made reference to the matter in his charge (applause).

MORE RECRUITING NECESSARY.

Mr. F. J. Smallwood submitted the toast of 'The Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association and the Bristol United Ringing Guilds.' He said they had to thank the Bristol United Ringing Guilds for the work they were doing in creating unity among the ringers of the west country. They were proud of the work that was being done, and those gatherings were a great testimony to the efficiency with which it had been done. They had that day provided entertainment for their visitors as usual, but there was a subtle humour about the proceedings. He was very puzzled about the Zoo business. He understood that they were accompanied by one of the members of the Guild's Committee, and it was only with the greatest difficulty the authorities could be persuaded to let him come away (laughter). A

resolution had been moved that afternoon at the Zoo in the following terms: 'We, the animals housed at Clifton Zoo, desire to place on record our appreciation of the action of the Bristol Dinner Committee in arranging for their visitors to be brought to our Zoo to-day. We think they were a most interesting selection of the human species, and we should like to see more of them. (Signed) U. B. Chimpans' (laughter).

Continuing, Mr. Smallwood said he asked the secretary for the number of performing members in the association at the present time, and he got a slight shock when he found it was less than it was in 1928. He thought that called for a good deal of inward reflection by them all. They ought to consider this question of recruitment of ringers more seriously. He threw out the hint to those people who had any influence with the authorities how useful it would be to get into the towers the choirboys after their voices had broken. They ought to rope them in and they might also recruit from the boy scouts. He thought there would be a useful field for recruitment there. They must not overlook the fact that they must recruit or their art would become a dying one. Meteoric performances were interesting to old timers, but the great thing they had to work for was the continuance of this wonderful art, and they could only secure it by continually recruiting young blood into their ranks (applause).

HIGHER STANDARD SHOULD BE AIMED AT.

The Rev. N. E. Hope replied to the toast and said when he shouldered the office of Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Association he felt it was a great responsibility, but he had come to find that it was a nice responsibility, for much of it was taken from him by their excellent secretary (applause). Then he had absolutely no financial worries, because he had Mr. Williams, the treasurer, behind him. He rather trembled when he looked at the list of former Masters and saw among them so many great ringers such as he could not hope to follow in that respect. The association was formed 60 years ago, and he was born in a Gloucestershire village shortly afterwards. There was a six-bell tower there, and in it he was taught the intricacies of Grandsire Doubles. He was sorry to say that ringing at that tower had not advanced. They were still ringing Grandsire and Bob Doubles (laughter). They could not do without those methods, but surely by this time there ought to be some advance. He would ask them all, whatever their standard, to try and go one better than they were at present in all their towers. There was, he thought, no art in the world that required so much concentration—they could not stop in the middle of a peal, for instance, to have a cigarette (laughter)—and they must do all they possibly could to keep up that art. Referring to the objects of the association, which were the reform of the belfry and the cultivation of change ringing, the speaker said these things went very much hand in hand. They could often tell the quality of the ringing at a tower by the state of the belfry. No good change ringing band would tolerate an untidy belfry. Recruiting was a frequent subject at ringers' dinners. There were two sides to the question. The old ones blamed the youth of the day with regard to bellringing because they would not stick to it, but if they had an enthusiastic trainer he would spread enthusiasm, and that was where there must be give and take on the part of the older men and the younger men. They had seen what had happened at Ipswich. The success there had been due to the fact that they never allowed the band to get under strength; they were always trying to learn something new and to train and give a chance to the young conductors, so that it was never a one man job. Those were three points which could always well be borne in mind.

BEST FIRMS SHOULD BE EMPLOYED FOR RESTORATIONS.

Another matter to which he would like to refer was that the association was always prepared to give expert advice where bell restoration was concerned. He would ask the members, if they were having anything done to their bells, to ensure that it was done by an expert firm. He knew of cases where money had been spent, but the best people had not been employed and the result was that the bells did not go well. It was one thing that was important to the clergy, and if they were having anything done to their bells they should get the Vicar to see that the best firms were employed. If they could not do that, they should write either to the secretary or to him. Mr. Hope added that he hoped ringers would not forget that the bells belonged to the Vicar or Rector, as the case might be, and they should, therefore, make friends with the incumbent. They wanted co-operation between incumbents and ringers, and the ringers should also see that they had one of their number on the Church Council (applause).

The Vice-Chairman proposed 'Kindred Societies and Visitors,' and referred to the fact that such an occasion as that afforded a valuable opportunity for ringers to make contact with members of other societies. As secretary of one of the Bristol towers he had often had to make arrangements for ringing in towers covered by other associations and had always been treated with kindness and consideration. He welcomed the members of other associations at that gathering and hoped for even closer contact in the future (applause).

Mr. A. A. Hughes, in acknowledging the toast, said the Bristol gatherings got better and better every year, and that day the visitors had been given a wonderful entertainment. The social side of ringing was very important and without it he thought ringing would not go very far. He knew of two towers in his own experience where the ringing consisted of going into the tower and ringing on practice nights and Sundays, and the men saw nothing else of each other all

(Continued on page 63.)

NOTICES.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Quarterly meeting at Gillingham on Saturday, January 28th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at 5 o'clock, followed by tea and business meeting in the Memorial Room (adjoining Vicarage).—G. H. Spice, Hon. Dis. Sec., 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Leeds on Saturday, January 28th. The bells of the Parish Church (12) will be available from 2 to 4.15 p.m. and 7.30 to 9 p.m.; St. Michael's, Headingley (8), and St. Chad's, Far Headingley (8), will also be available from 2 to 3.45 p.m. and 7.30 to 9 p.m. A service will be held in the Parish Church at 4.30 p.m. Tea (1s. 6d.) will be served in St. Peter's Hall at 5.30 p.m. The general meeting will take place immediately afterwards in the day schools. Subscriptions are now due, and reports will be available.—L. W. G. Morris, Gen. Sec., 65, Lilycroft Road, Heaton, Bradford.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Annual meeting at Farnham on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business at Darracott's, West Street.—C. W. Denyer, Dis. Sec., 120, Ash Road, Aldershot.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District.—The annual district meeting will be held at St. Peter's, South Croydon, on Saturday, January 28th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service 5 o'clock. Tea at 5.30 p.m., followed by business meeting. Ringing again in the evening. All ringers welcome.—F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Sec., 28, Strathearn Road, Sutton, Surrey.

LADIES' GUILD.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Diss, Norfolk, on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., conducted by the Rector. Tea at the Waveney Hotel, price 1s. per head, at 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow. Gentlemen are cordially invited to attend. Palgrave bells (8) also available.—Sylvia R. E. Bowyer, Hon. Sec., 32, Gatacre Road, Ipswich.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bromyard District.—The annual meeting will be held at Bromyard on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (6) available 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea at 5.15.—A. S. Tomkins, Post Office, Bredenbury, Hereford.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The annual meeting will be held at All Saints' Church, Edmonton, on Saturday, January 28th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Short service at 4.45 p.m. Tea in the Church Hall at 5.15 p.m., for which 1s. will be charged. Business meeting after tea, at which district officers and representatives on Central Committee for 1939 will be elected. All members and friends welcomed.—C. T. Coles, for Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at Bispham on Saturday, January 28th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Business meeting and tea 5.30.—C. Sharples, Fylde Branch Sec.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Basingstoke District.—The annual meeting will be held at Basingstoke on Saturday, January 28th. Bells available from 2.30. Service in St. Michael's Church at 4. Tea at 5, followed by the meeting.—J. G. Stilwell, Hon. Dis. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bath Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Bathwick, on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.25. Tea and meeting to follow.—Theo Grant, Swainswick, Bath.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The annual committee meeting will be held at Hitcham (Old School) on Saturday, Jan. 28th, at 3.30 p.m. Bells (6) available to all at 6 p.m. Subscriptions for 1939 now due.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

NATIONAL GUILD OF POLICE RINGERS.—The annual meeting will be held in London on Saturday, January 28th. Ringing, St. George's, Southwark, 10.30 to 11.30 a.m. Tour of Houses of Parliament, 12 noon to 1 p.m. (Members and friends to meet at Norman Porch Door, Victoria Tower, Old Palace Yard, S.W.1, at 12 noon prompt). Lunch, 2s. 6d., Euston Tavern, Euston Road, W.C. (opposite St. Pancras Station), at 1.15 p.m. Meeting to follow. Ringing: St. Lawrence Jewry, 4 to 5 p.m.; St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, 5.15 to 6.30 p.m. Social, Euston Tavern at 7.15 p.m.—Norman S. Bagworth, 21, Stokenchurch Street, Fulham, S.W.6.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—The annual meeting for the election of officers, etc., will take place on January 28th at St. Martin-in-the-Fields. Ringing at St. Olave's, Hart Street 3-4 p.m. (nearest stations, Fenchurch Street and Mark Lane (Underground) and at St. Martin's 4-5.30 p.m. Tea in St. Martin's Crypt. Business meeting in Vestry Hall at 6.30 p.m. Further ringing until 9 p.m. St. Martin's bells.—Norman Summerhayes, 28, Bean Road, Bexleyheath.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Kington District.—The annual meeting for the district will be held at Lyonshall on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (6) available 4 p.m. Service 5. Tea 5.30. Business meeting to follow.—H. Preece, Dis. Sec., Lea Lodge, Staunton-on-Arrow, Leominster.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch. The annual meeting of the Grimsby District will be held at St. Andrew's, Grimsby, on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 to 4.15, and after meeting till 9 o'clock. Service 4.15, address by the Vicar, the Rev. A. H. Howard, late of Ashby-de-la-Launde. A meat tea will be provided at a moderate charge, in the Church Hall at 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow. Outstanding subscriptions can be paid at this meeting. Please make this a reunion. All ringers and old friends welcome. Lincoln District please take note.—H. Mingay, Hon. Dis. Sec., 394, Wellington Street, Grimsby.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—A meeting will be held at Harpenden on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Short service 5 p.m. Tea at West's 5.30 p.m. Special methods for practice: Double Norwich and Cambridge. Any other methods will be rung as desired.—Harold V. Frost, Dis. Sec., 4, Kimberley Road, St. Albans.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the Cathedral, Manchester, on Saturday, January 28th. Tower open for ringing at 6 o'clock. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—Joseph H. Ridyard, Branch Sec., 35, The Crescent, Worsley.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Dunster Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Dunster on Saturday, January 28th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea at the Village Hall at 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow.—G. Stacey, Hon. Local Sec., 6, Park Street, Minehead.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—General quarterly meeting, Saturday, January 28th, at Hugglescote. Bells (8) open all afternoon. Committee meet 4 p.m. Meat tea (1s. 9d. per head) 5 p.m., both at the Castle Hotel, followed by general meeting.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A joint meeting of the Liverpool and Wigan Branches will be held at St. Nicholas', Liverpool, on Saturday, January 28th. The tower will be open at 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., to be followed by tea and the meeting in the Church Institute. All ringers are cordially invited to this meeting. Tea will be provided for all, but it would help materially if word were sent by those who intend to be present.—S. Forshaw and G. R. Newton, Branch Secs.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. George's, Stockport, on Saturday, January 28th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. For tea, please advise Mr. G. L. Burgess, 107, Rostrevor Road, Adswood, Stockport.—C. K. Lewis, Hon. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch,—The annual meeting will be held at Congresbury on Sat., Jan. 28th. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m. Divine service 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. All ringers welcome.—H. Minifie, Branch Sec., Royston, Uphill, Weston-super-Mare.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—The monthly practice at Chelmsford Cathedral will be resumed on Saturday, January 28th, at 7.30 p.m. The special method for practice is Cambridge up to Royal, and it is hoped that these practices will be well supported.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cary Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Castle Cary on Saturday, January, 28th. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Other bells available. Please notify for tea.—W. A. Osborn, Galhampton, Yeovil. Phone, North Cadbury 230.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Edenham on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (8) available from 2 to 9 p.m. Service 6 p.m. Tea, followed by business meeting, will be held at Five Bells Inn at 5 p.m. All welcome!—C. T. H. Bradley, Hon. Sec., Folkingham, Lincs.

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SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Calne Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Wootton Bassett on January 28th. Bells (8) from 3 o'clock. Tea and meeting in the National School.—L. A. Wilson, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Church Kirk on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Everybody welcome.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chester Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at the Cathedral on Saturday, January 28th. The bells will be available from 3 until the service at 4.30, and again in the evening.—J. W. Clarke, Mollington, Chester.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637). — Meetings: *St. Paul's Cathedral, January 31st, at 7.30 p.m. February: St. Magnus-the-Martyr, 2nd and 16th; Southwark Cathedral, 7th; St. Clement Danes, 9th; *St. Mary-le-Bow, 14th; St. Giles', Cripplegate, 21st; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 23rd; *St. Paul's Cathedral, 28th. * Business meeting afterwards. All at 7.30, except St. Andrews', 8 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

BRANDON, SUFFOLK.—The ring of 6 bells, tuned and rehung in new oak framework by John Taylor & Co., Loughborough, will be rededicated on Sunday next, 29th inst., at 3 p.m.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hereford District.—The annual meeting will be held at Hereford on Saturday, February 4th. Bells available as follows: Hereford Cathedral (10), 2.30 to 4 p.m.; St. Nicholas' Church (6), 2.30 to 8.30 p.m.; All Saints' Church (8), 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. Service at St. Nicholas' Church at 4.15 p.m. Tea (6d. to those notifying me not later than Tuesday, January 31st), followed by the annual meeting, at the Kerry Arms Hotel, Commercial Square, Hereford.—R. H. Stickley, Dis. Sec., The Hollies, Lugwardine, Hereford.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—A meeting will be held at Royston, Hertfordshire, not Yorkshire, on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30, followed by tea, at the kind invitation of the Rev. F. F. Greig. Numbers for tea to me by Wednesday, February 1st. No postcard, no tea. All welcome.—R. Thos. Newman, Lafayette, Salisbury Road, Baldock, Hon. Dis. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—The next meeting will be held at Danbury on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Please let me know numbers for tea by Wednesday, February 1st.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Upper Arbour Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The annual meeting will be held at Isleworth on Saturday, February 4th, at the Church of All Saints (10 bells, tenor 16 cwt.). Ringing 3 to 4.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting in the Church Hall 5 p.m. Ringing after. Tea, 1s., guaranteed only to those who notify the undersigned by Feb. 1st. Business: Financial statement, annual report, election of officers, etc. A good attendance is requested. Subscriptions for 1939 are now due.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec., 16, St. Stephen's Road, West Ealing, W.13.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Walthamstow (St. Mary's) on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (10) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea to follow. Will those intending to be present kindly advise me not later than Wednesday, February 1st? Subscriptions for 1939 are now due.—J. H. Crampion, Dis. Sec., 7, Cedar Avenue, Chadwell Heath, Essex.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. Nicholas', Chislehurst, on Saturday, February 4th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at 5, address by the Rector, Rev. Canon J. A. Lumb. Tea at Tiger's Head at 1s. 3d. per head. Names for tea to be sent to Mr. T. Groombridge, 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst, not later than Tuesday, January 1st. Subscriptions for 1939 are now due, and should be paid at this meeting. Important business requires that every tower should be adequately represented on this occasion.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere, Kent.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—Annual meeting at Guildford on Saturday, February 4th. Cathedral bells (8) available 3 to 4 p.m. S. Nicolas' (10) from 3 p.m. Service at S. Nicolas' 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting at Ayers' Hall (next church). Numbers for tea by February 1st, please.—W. F. J. Cope, Hon. Sec., 26, Curling Vale, Onslow Village, Guildford.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD. — Aylesbeare Deanery Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Whimple on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea, 1s. 0d., in the Hall at 4.45 p.m., meeting to follow. Those requiring tea, please notify me not later than Monday, January 30th.—R. Brook, Hon. Sec., 3, Greatwood Terrace, Topsham.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—Sevenoaks (not Speldhurst, as previously arranged) is the place, and Saturday, February 4th the date of the first meeting of year. Please come and start the district on another successful year. Also keep your New Year's resolution of notifying me for tea in good time, Wednesday, February 1st, being the latest date. Tower open at 2.45 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea and short business meeting to follow. Will those interested please look up Erin Triples and Duffield Major? Subscriptions for 1939 are now due.—Alec E. Richardson, Laurel Cottage, Victoria Road, Southborough.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — A meeting will be held at Longton, on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Chester Guild and Midland Counties heartily invited. Will those requiring tea kindly notify Mr. E. Steele, Hawthorne, Caverswall Wood, Meir, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, before February 1st?—Andrew Thompson.

LADIES' GUILD.—North Midland Branch.—A meeting will be held at Sutton-on-Trent on Saturday, February 4th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Business meeting afterwards. Will those intending to be present kindly let me know by Wednesday, February 1st?—(Mrs.) A. Richardson, Hon. Sec., Glyn Garth, Surfleet, Spalding.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Next meeting will be held at St. Mary's Church, Balderstone, on Saturday, February 4th. All ringers and friends welcome.—Ivan Kay, Branch Sec.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Holt on Saturday, February 4th. Ringing 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5. Meeting to follow. Please advise me early how many will attend the tea.—W. C. West, Branch Hon. Sec., 584, Semington Road, Melksham.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Alton and Petersfield District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Petersfield on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (8) available from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting in St. Peter's Hall 5.15. Please attend, and kindly let me know numbers for tea by Wednesday, February 1st.—C. E. Bassett, Hon. Dis. Sec., 32, Charles Street, Petersfield.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Peterborough Branch.—The annual meeting of the above branch will be held at Glinton on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (6) will be available from 2.30 p.m. Usual arrangements.—W. H. Waldron, Hon. Sec., 137, Scotney Street, Peterborough.

COLESHILL, NEAR FARINGDON, BERKS.—The re-dedication of the bells, rehung and augmented to six by R. White, of Appleton, will take place on Saturday, February 4th, at 3.30. Bells available in evening. Please notify for teas by Wednesday, February 1st, to Mr. V. Jones, Coleshill, Swindon, Wilts.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next monthly meeting of the district will be held at Daybrook on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (8) ready from 5 p.m. till 8 p.m. All ringers welcome. Please come and try your methods.—E. C. Gobey, Dis. Sec., Trowell, Notts.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Oldbury, near Birmingham, on Saturday, February 4th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service in church 4.15, followed by tea and business meeting. Tea, price 1s., will be provided for all who notify me by Wednesday, February 1st. Note: Subscriptions should be paid at this meeting.—Norman J. Goodman, Hon. Branch Secretary, 52, Lottie Road, Selly Oak, Birmingham 29.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Redbourn on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Usual arrangements. Tea only arranged for those who notify me by Feb. 2nd.—W. Ayre, Leverstock Green, Hemel Hempstead.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch will be held at Wisbech on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (10) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District, Sapcote.—Social evening, Red Lion Inn, on Saturday, February 4th. Bells available 5.30 to 6.30. Will those intending to be present please notify Mr. C. Brown, Moss Cottage, Sapcote, Leics.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bradfield Deanery Branch.—Annual meeting will be held at Theale, Berks, on Saturday, February 4th. Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea (9d.) 5 p.m. Please notify me three days before meeting number for tea.—T. W. Palmer, Hon. Sec. and Treas., 128, Halls Road, Tilehurst.

NORWICH ASSOCIATION.—South Norfolk Branch.—The annual general meeting will be held at Saxlingham on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (8) afternoon and evening. Service 4.15 p.m., followed by tea (free) at the kind invitation of the branch chairman, Mr. W. L. Duffield, in the Church Hall. Meeting follows. Special business: Election of officers for 1939. Special method, 'Checkenham Major.' Send numbers for tea to me by January 31, please. All ringers welcomed. Please don't forget to be present, and also at the ladies' meeting at Diss to-morrow.—A. G. Harrison, Hon. Sec., 90, Denmark Street, Diss, Norfolk.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The Gloucester Branch meeting will be held on Saturday, February 4th, at St. Mary-de-Crypt Church, Gloucester. Bells (8) open 3.15 p.m. Tea 5.15. St. Michael's bells (10) available 6.30 to 7.30. Usual procedure. Card for tea not later than February 1st to W. H. Harris, Hon. Branch Sec., 4, G.W.R. Terrace, Lydney Dock, Lydney, Glos.

LANCS ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Bury, on Saturday, February 4th. Bells available from 3 p.m. A short service will be held in church at 5.30. Will those requiring tea, please let me know by Wednesday, February 1st, and I will do my best to find accommodation at a moderate figure.—J. Porter, 11, Chesham Bank, Huntley Mount Road, Bury.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Guilsborough Branch.—A special meeting will be held at East Haddon (6 bells) on Saturday, February 4th. Usual arrangements. Please notify hon. secretary not later than Tuesday, January 31st, of those requiring tea.—H. H. Shrives, Hon. Branch Sec., The Mill, Long Buckby, Rugby.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Special practice at Cripplegate (12 bells) on Wednesday, February 8th, from 7.30 to 9 p.m. All members and friends welcomed.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts Branch.—A meeting will be held at Brampton on Saturday, February 11th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock.—H. J. Parker, Dis. Sec., Great Staughton, St. Neots.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Leatherhead District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Leatherhead on Saturday, February 11th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service at 5, tea and business meeting following at the Duke's Head. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. A. Dean, 24, Church Walk, Leatherhead, as early as possible and not later than February 9th.—A. H. Smith, Hon. Sec.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Ebbw Vale on Saturday, February 11th. Bells (8) available at 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow.—J. W. Jones, Hon. Sec., Cartref, 94, Alteryn View, Newport, Mon.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Storrington on Saturday, February 11th. Tower open 2.45 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. at the Old Forge Tea Rooms, 1s. Half rail fares (maximum 1s. 6d.) to members.—F. H. Meeten, Hon. Div. Sec., 22, North Street, Worthing.

LADIES' GUILD.—London District.—Meeting at Leyton Parish Church, Saturday, February 11th. (Leyton station, L.N.E.R., from Liverpool Street.) Nice light peal of eight in a beautiful and historic church. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. Tea, by kind invitation of the Vicar (Rev. R. Bren), for all those who notify Mr. C. A. Hughes, 92, Stanley Road, E.18, without fail by Saturday, February 4th.—I. R. Housden, Hon. Sec.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual meeting February 11th. Ringing: St. James', Clerkenwell, 2.30 to 3.30 p.m.; St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, 2.30 to 3.30 p.m.; St. Clement Danes, Strand, 3 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 7 p.m. Service, St. Clement Danes, 4.15 (new service books). Tea, Perdy's Restaurant, 5 p.m. Business meeting, Parish Room, 7.30 p.m., followed by handbell competition. Names for this and tea as soon as possible, please, to hon. secretary, T. W. Taffender, 26, Southway, Raynes Park, S.W.20.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—The spring meeting will be held at Walmer on Saturday, February 11th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m., tea following (1s. per head). Please send your names for tea to Mr. F. A. Rye, 6, Castle Road, Walmer, near Deal, not later than Thursday, February 9th. Subscriptions for 1939 are now due, and may be paid to me at this meeting.—B. J. Luck, Hon. Dis. Sec., 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—The Rev. John Pelloe wishes to inform his ringing friends that from February 1st his permanent address will be: St. Cuthbert's Clergy House, Philbeach Gardens, London, S.W.5. Telephone No.: FRObisher 3263.

(Continued from page 59.)

the week. By virtue of a little influence they were got together socially, their enthusiasm for ringing increased and with it the quality of their ringing. They must, said Mr. Hughes, always strive to keep the social side of ringing going, and such reunions as they had that evening did a wonderful lot of good (applause).

The toast of 'The Artistes' was proposed by Mr. Brian Huddleston (pro-vice-chairman), who thanked them for their services, and this was replied to by Mr. George Spikes.

A feature of the proceedings at this gathering is the entertainment which follows the dinner, and once more a programme of great variety was offered. There were songs by Miss G. E. Sadler and Mr. George Spikes, Billie Fields and his partner provided some extremely amusing dialogues, Mr. Harold Leaker, a son of one of the United Guilds' officials, mystified the audience with clever conjuring tricks, and a company under Miss Edie Ryan provided cabaret turns. St. Thomas' Guild of Handbell Ringers again greatly delighted the large company with their selections of tunes. The committee of the United Guilds, and particularly the energetic hon. secretary, Mr. Edgar Guise, deserve hearty congratulations upon the success of their great efforts.

On Sunday many of the visitors enjoyed ringing at churches in and around Bristol, and they said farewell after a lunch-time reunion at the Radnor Hotel.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 1,454. Vol. XXXIV. FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 3rd, 1939. [Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.] Price 3d.

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PLAY THE GAME.

The report of the committee of the North-Western District of the Surrey Association reveals facts which are, we are afraid, common to many of the associations throughout the country. An analysis of the attendances at the district meetings for the past year indicates that their success has chiefly depended upon the consistent support given by a limited number of members. This is no new factor in the affairs of an association, and at least one secretary in an adjoining guild has in the past severely admonished his lukewarm members upon their failings in this direction. When, as in these two instances, a record of attendances is kept, there is no colouring of the truth, and it really is lamentable that so many ringers fail to do their part in supporting their associations by personal effort. They think they have done all that is necessary when they have paid their annual subscription; whereas that is only the first thing that is due from them. It ought to be equally a matter of honour to give personal support to the association by attending the meetings arranged for their benefit and in their interest. Only this week, among our notices, is an intimation that, failing better attendances, consideration will have to be given to the dissolution of one of the branches of the Ely Diocesan Association. Moreover, there is another strong reason why ringers should feel it a duty and a privilege to attend the meetings. They expect their officers to work for nothing; the officers in turn, are entitled to encouragement by having the support of the members; while it is an act of discourtesy to the clergy at the churches visited, to put them to the trouble of arranging a service unless the response is worthy.

Some secretaries also have cause for complaint, not only from the indifference with regard to the meetings themselves, but in the attitude of some members who, while being ready to criticise, do very little, if anything, by rendering help. The District Secretary is often handicapped by lack of local assistance when it is needed, and then, if things go wrong, has to shoulder the blame. One of the things which some ringers seem to forget is the voluntary nature of the secretary's services. It is due from every member that he should contribute his share to the work of his association in any capacity in which it can be given; and not overburden the willing horse, who doesn't even get his keep out of the job. We are quite well aware that there are plenty of district secretaries whose work is appreciated by their members, but the appreciation would be more practical if it were manifested in deeds. Secretaries work very hard and it is not too much to ask of the rank and file that they should ' play

(Continued on page 66.)

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the game ' by supporting the meetings arranged for them and by giving their practical help in every direction where it is needed. It shows an extraordinary lack of interest when men do not attend a single district meeting from one year's end to another, and in every association there can be found many such. Yet, as a rule, it is these very people who complain that they get nothing out of their association. In any case they don't deserve to do so, but how can they expect to? As has so often been said before, unless you put something into your ringing you cannot hope to get anything out of it. It cannot be all taking and no giving.

TEN BELL PEALS.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 28, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt.

JOHN H. B. HESSE ...	...*Treble*	ERNEST J. AVLIFFE	6
ALFRED H. PULLING	2	STANLEY E. ARMSTRONG ...	7
MRS. FRANK I. HAIRS	3	JOHN DEARLOVE	8
ALFRED W. GROVES	4	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE... ...	9
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON ...	5	FRANK I. HAIRS	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

NORTH SHIELDS.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 28, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes.

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb. in E flat.

THOMAS H. REEVES ...	...*Treble*	*KENNETH W. CHEESEMAN	6
JOHN ANDERSON	2	ADAM DEAS...	7
CHRIS. HETHERINGTON ...	3	ERNEST WALLACE	8
JOSEPH E. R. KEEN	4	HAROLD WALKER	9
WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON ...	5	JOHN HEALEY	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by W. J. DAVIDSON.

* First peal of Caters and in the method.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 18½ cwt. in E flat.

MRS. CHARLES H. KIPPIN	*Treble*	FRANK E. MITCHELL	5
WILLIAM RAWLINGS	2	CHARLES S. POTHECARY ...	6
*MISS GWENDOLINE KIPPIN	3	CHARLES H. KIPPIN	7
*GEORGE H. HUMPHRIES ...	4	FREDERICK E. COLLINS	...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES H. KIPPIN.

* First peal of Stedman Triples.

MARKET HARBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, January 19, 1939, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. DIONYSIUS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt.

LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD	...*Treble*	W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON ...	5
JOHN E. CLARKE	2	WILLIAM BOTTRILL	6
RONALD W. SWANN	3	ERNEST MORRIS	7
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ...	4	EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD	...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

Rung in honour of the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Marshall, of South Wigston.

OSPRINGE, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 17¼ cwt.

MISS JOAN NAYLOR	...Treble	ERNEST J. DOBBIE	5
GEORGE A. NAYLOR	2	WALTER H. DOBBIE	6
WILLIAM J. WOOD	3	STANLEY B. DOBBIE	7
MISS DORIS G. DOBBIE	4	GEORGE WOOD	...Tenor

Composed by J. J. PARKER. Conducted by GEORGE A. NAYLOR.
First peal of Oxford Bob Triples by all the band.

FORDINGBRIDGE, HANTS.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 14½ cwt.

HERBERT OSBORNE	...Treble	EDWARD T. GRIFFIN	5
WILLIAM STORY	2	FRANCIS S. BEAUMONT	6
F. FRANKLAND RIGBY	3	ARTHUR V. DAVIS	7
*FREDERICK EATON	4	HARRY J. GILLARD	...Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by F. FRANKLAND RIGBY.
* First peal. Rung as a compliment to William Story, J.P., of Newcastle Cathedral, who celebrated his 79th birthday on Jan. 15th.

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
THE HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.
On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

REGINALD E. LAMBERT	...Treble	JAMES G. POWELL	5
WILLIAM HAIGH	2	H. RICHARD FRENCH	6
FREDERICK J. LAMBERT	3	ALBERT RELFE	7
WILLIAM GORRINGE	4	ROBERT T. LAMBERT	...Tenor

Composed by T. B WORSLEY. Conducted by ALBERT RELFE.
A birthday peal for Mr. J. G. Powell and Miss V. Lambert.

CLENT, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 11 cwt.

WILLIAM SHORT	...Treble	ROBERT MATTHEWS	5
CLIFFORD SKIDMORE	2	BERNARD LAWTON	6
JOHN BASS	3	PERCY RICHARDS	7
*JOHN WALTON	4	BERNARD ASHFORD	...Tenor

Composed by J. PIGOTT. Conducted by C. SKIDMORE.
* First peal of Major.

QUEENSBURY, BRADFORD.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 14½ cwt.

ROLAND KENDALL	...Treble	RONALD SQUIRES	5
*PAUL BIRKETT	2	ALBERT PICKLES	6
EDGAR WHITELEY	3	WILLIAM AMBLER	7
*VERNON BOTTOMLEY	4	SAM LONGBOTTOM	...Tenor

Composed by E. BARNETT. Conducted by SAM LONGBOTTOM.
* First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor.

HONITON CLYST, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLLIS' IRREGULAR FIVE-PART. Tenor 19 cwt.

*GEOFFREY J. DYER	...Treble	JOHN L. GLANVILLE	5
ERNEST RETTER	2	JOHN DEEM	6
CHARLES R. LILLEY	3	ARTHUR J. HOLWAY	7
JOSEPH BEALEY	4	CHARLES SANDFORD	...Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.
* First peal of Triples and first attempt.

GORTON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, January 24, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE UNITARIAN CHURCH,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 13¾ cwt.

CHARLES OLLIER	...Treble	FRANK REYNOLDS	5
ALFRED BARNES	2	JOHN HASSELL	6
WILLIAM BRAMMER	3	ALAN J. BROWN	7
HERBERT A. MCKINNELL	4	DAVID VINCENT	...Tenor

Composed by C. K. LEWIS. Conducted by A. J. BROWN.

BROMLEY, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, January 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb.

*REGINALD A. WILLIAMS	...Treble	FREDERICK E. PITMAN	5
†BASIL GLAYSHER	2	ISAAC EMERY	6
WILLIAM G. GRACE	3	PERCY J. SPICE	7
EDMUND MOUNTER	4	GEORGE HUXLEY	...Tenor

Conducted by ISAAC EMERY.
* First peal. † First peal with a working bell. All are members of the local society, the Bromley Youths.

SURFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(ELLOE DEANERIES BRANCH.)
On Wednesday, January 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;
Tenor 12 cwt. 9 lb.

FRANK DOBNEY	...Treble	CHARLES C. RAWDING	5
MRS. R. RICHARDSON	2	CYRIL DOBNEY	6
RUPERT RICHARDSON	3	NORMAN T. KING	7
JOHN W. CARTER	4	ERNEST T. KING	...Tenor

Composed by C. H. MARTIN. Conducted by ERNEST T. KING.

BALCOMBE, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, January 26, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 9 cwt. 10 lb.

*STANLEY H. WOOD	...Treble	ALBERT E. LAKER	5
ALBERT C. V. GASSON	2	ALBERT J. STEELE	6
*ALBERT E. T. GASSON	3	NELSON ELLIOTT	7
FRANK BENNETT	4	OLIVER SIPPETTS	...Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.
* First peal of Major. This was the first peal on the bells since the trebles were added in 1936.

CRAYFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, January 27, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 12¾ cwt.

ERNEST H. OXENHAM	...Treble	HERBERT E. ADDELEY	5
ARTHUR S. RICHARDS	2	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY	6
DEREK M. SHARP	3	HARRY HOVERD	7
EDWIN A. BARNETT	4	THOMAS G. BANNISTER	...Tenor

Composed by H. JOHNSON. Conducted by T. G. BANNISTER.
First peal in the method as conductor.

NORTHFLEET, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 28, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5072 CHANGES;
Tenor 18½ cwt.

GEORGE W. FOGDEN	...Treble	HARRY HOSKINS	5
MRS. FREDK. W. HOUSDEN	2	FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN	6
EDWIN A. BARNETT	3	PHILIP A. CORBY	7
ARTHUR S. RICHARDS	4	HARRY PARKES	...Tenor

Arranged by E. A. BARNETT. Conducted by P. A. CORBY.

PINNER, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, January 28, 1939, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF PINNER SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 18½ cwt.

HENRY HODGETTS ...	...*Treble*	FRANCIS KIRK	5
ERNEST C. S. TURNER ...	2	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW ...	6
EDWIN JENNINGS	3	HAROLD G. CASHMORE ...	7
CECIL C. MAYNE	4	MAURICE F. R. HISBERT ...	*Tenor*

Composed by J. PLATT. Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.
The first peal in the method.

TONBRIDGE, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 28, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 21 cwt.

ALFRED J. BATTIN ...	...*Treble*	BERNARD V. COLLISON ...	5
*ALFRED H. JANES	2	ALEC E. RICHARDSON	6
†LEONARD P. TURLEY... ...	3	ERNEST J. LADD	7
DORIS E. COLGATE	4	JOHN MEDHURST	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ERNEST J. LADD.
* First peal on an 'inside' bell. † First peal.

BRADNINCH, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
(EXETER BRANCH.)
On Saturday, January 28, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 23 cwt.

CHARLES R. LILLEY ...	...*Treble*	EDWIN W. BIFFIN	5
*ERNEST ROWE	2	HORACE W. BUTT	6
REGINALD TRUMAN	3	WILLIAM H. HOWE	7
TOM G. BARTLETT	4	*MONTAGUE T. BUTT ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.
* First peal of Triples.

THAME, OXFORDSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, January 28, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt. 13 lb. in F.

WILLIAM C. PORTER...	...*Treble*	FRANCIS E. TAYLOR	5
*WALTER HUNT	2	WALTER F. JUDGE	6
REV. R. F. R. ROOTH ...	3	REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG ...	7
HARRY W. BADGER	4	ALAN R. PINK	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. H. CROSS. Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.
* First peal. Rung as a thanksgiving for the restoration of the church.

SAXLINGHAM NETHERGATE, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 28, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5216 CHANGES;
Tenor 8 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. in G.

THOMAS SIMMONS ...	...*Treble*	GEORGE SAYER	5
NOLAN GOLDEN	2	CEDRIC CURSON	6
MISS G. E. M. TONNADINE...	3	GEORGE POYNTZ	7
GEORGE MAYERS	4	BERTIE J. HOWCHIN ...	...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

BOLSOVER, DERBYSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION
AND SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.
On Saturday, January 28, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH.
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOHN FLINT...	...*Treble*	JOHN H. BROTHWELL	5
F. BERNARD DITCHER ...	2	TOM BROTHWELL	6
JOSEPH SAXTON	3	BENJAMIN A. COOPER	7
*WALTER MOULT...	4	JESSE J. MOSS	...*Tenor*

Composed by AMBURN WILLSON. Conducted by JOHN FLINT.
* First peal.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

RUSHALL, STAFFS.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Monday, January 16, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven 720's called differently. Tenor 7 cwt.

*JOHN LOCK	...*Treble*	‡HAROLD SMITH	4
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER...	2	‡HOWARD HOWELL	5
†THOMAS J. ELTON	3	‡BARNABAS G. KEY ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by BARNABAS G. KEY.
* First peal of Minor and first attempt. † First peal of Cambridge Minor. ‡ First Surprise peal. Rung as a golden wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Reed.

WHIMPLE, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
On Wednesday, January 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Consisting of 12 six-scores of Stedman Doubles, with 12 callings, and 30 six-scores of Grandsire Doubles, with 10 callings.
Tenor 13 cwt. in F.

CHARLES R. LILLEY ...	...*Treble*	JOHN SALWAY	4
CECIL BREALY	2	JOSEPH BREALY	5
ERNEST RETTER	3	EVAN MORGAN	...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.
The first peal rung on the bells.

COLATON RALEIGH, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
On Thursday, January 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Ten different callings. Tenor 12 cwt.

*G. WEST	...*Treble*	C. SAVAGE	4
L. G. BOLT	2	J. DREW	5
B. PIDGEON...	3	*S. ELLIOTT	...*Tenor*

Conducted by B. PIDGEON.
* First peal. First peal on the bells. First peal as conductor.

SEALE, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being three 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and one 720 of Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt.

*JOHN W. CARTER ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM DENYER	4
ERNEST GARDNER	2	CHARLES W. DENYER ...	5
†RONALD KENWARD	3	*THOMAS E. DENYER ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by T. E. DENYER.
* First peal in more than one method. † First peal of Minor. First peal of Minor as conductor.

MAISEY HAMPTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being four six-scores of Plain Bob, eight of Old Doubles, eight of Canterbury, eight of Grandsire, six of Antelope and eight of St. Dunstan's, each called differently. Tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr. 17 lb.

EDWARD H. PEARE ...	...*Treble*	LESLIE W. CUSS	4
WILLIAM A. GODWIN	2	JOHN E. GODWIN	5
WILLIAM C. CUSS	3	NORMAN G. PEARE ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM C. CUSS.
First peal by all except the conductor. Rung to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the induction of the Vicar (the Rev. Herbert Peach, M.A.).

BELL ROPES
MADE FROM ITALIAN HEMP, OR ITALIAN FLAX.
SOFT AND PLIABLE IN HAND. ALL ROPES SENT CARRIAGE PAID AND ON APPROVAL.
Cheap Quotations. Established 150 years. 'Phone 203.
DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

TROWELL, NOTTINGHAM.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one 720 of Cambridge Surprise and two 720's each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 9¾ cwt.

EDWARD C. GOBEY ...	...*Treble*	*FRANK BRADLEY...	4
EDWARD F. GOBEY	2	JACK BAILEY	5
*WILLIAM LANCASTER ...	3	*FREDERICK A. SALTER	...*Tenor*

Conducted by E. C. GOBEY.
* First peal in five methods. Rung on the 22nd anniversary of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Salter, Nottingham.

NORTON CANON, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Morning Star, Plain Bob and Canterbury Pleasure, and 2,880 of Grandsire (Morris', Lindoff's and Pitman's arrangements). Tenor 8½ cwt.

THOMAS R. PAYNE ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM J. PREECE	3
JAMES P. HYETT	2	G. JAMES R. PRICE	4
LESLIE EVANS	...*Tenor*		

Conducted by J. P. HYETT.
First peal in four methods on the bells.

STANFORD-IN-THE-VALE, BERKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DENYS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Double Court, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Oxford Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 18 cwt. in E.

GEORGE GILBERT... ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM ...	4
CYRIL A. BURGESS	2	WILLIAM HENLEY	5
WILLIAM WELLING	3	TONY PRICE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by TONY PRICE.
First peal on the bells.

ACLE, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven 720's, viz.: (1) Kent and Oxford Treble Bob; (2) Double Oxford; (3) Childwall; (4) Double Court; (5) Oxford Bob; (6) St. Clement's; (7) Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 19 lb. in G.

*MISS BRENDA BAYLES	...*Treble*	GODFREY G. WALPOLE ...	4
*JOHN R. WILKERSON	2	*STANLEY W. GALL	5
R. WILLIAM BARBER... ...	3	*DENIS A. BAYLES ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by D. A. BAYLES.
* First peal in eight methods and first attempt. Rung for the 17th birthday of the conductor.

COLNE ENGAINE, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
(ST. ANDREW'S GUILD, EARLS COLNE.)
On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being an extent each of Double Oxford, College Single, St. Clement's, Double Court, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Oxford Treble Bob.
Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

ALBERT L. DIXEY ...	...*Treble*	ALEC M. GENERY	4
HARRY CARTER	2	*ROBERT C. LYON	5
RALPH BIRD	3	VICTOR MORLEY	...*Tenor*

Conducted by RALPH BIRD.
* First peal in seven methods 'inside.'

LEADENHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SWITHUN,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one extent each of Reverse Bob, College Bob, Double Bob, Plain Bob, Oxford Bob, Double Court and Court Bob.
Tenor 13 cwt. 9 lb. in F sharp.

MISS DOROTHY VESSEY	...*Treble*	JOHN C. VESSEY	4
KENNETH W. MAYER	2	FREDERICK G. HOOPER ...	5
JOHN F. PEARSON...	3	JACK L. MILLHOUSE ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

SUTTON, MACCLESFIELD.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF SPLICED TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven extents in 29 methods, viz.: (1) Crowland, Combermere, Vale Royal, St. Werburgh, Abbeyville and Canterbury Delight; (2) Newdigate, Old Oxford, College Bob IV., Willesden, Marple and Taxel; (3) Braintree, Humber and Wragby Delight; (4) Charlwood, Neasden and St. Albans; (5) Ockley, Morning Star Treble Bob and Disley Delight; (6) Norbury, Duke of Norfolk and College Exercise Treble Bob; (7) Capel, Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt.

*HARRY FARRER	...*Treble*	THOMAS TAYLOR	4
JAMES FERNLEY	2	JAMES A. MILNER	5
JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER ...	3	JOHN WORTH...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.
* First peal in 29 methods. There were 76 changes of method.

NORTON, EVESHAM.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. ECGWIN,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 of Oxford Treble Bob and two each of Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 14 cwt.

WILFRED NEWMAN ...	...*Treble*	*CHARLES EDWIN	4
JOSEPH E. NEWMAN	2	RALPH HARRIS	5
JAMES HEMMING	3	GEOFFREY J. HEMMING	...*Tenor*

Conducted by RALPH HARRIS.
* First peal of Minor. First peal of Minor as conductor.

BROUGHTON ASTLEY, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of the following methods: (1) Stedman; (2) St. Simon's; (3) April Day; (4) Old; (5) Reverse Canterbury; (6) Bob; (7) Grandsire. Tenor 18 cwt. 12 lb.

HENRY BIRD	...*Treble*	WILLIAM A. WOOD	3
ALFRED BALLARD...	2	CECIL CARR	4
FRANK K. MEASURES .	...*Tenor*		

Conducted by FRANK K. MEASURES.
First peal in seven methods of Doubles by all the band.

HANDBELL PEALS.

DARLINGTON, DURHAM.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, January 20, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,
IN THE BELFRY OF THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one extent each of Surfleet, Beverley, Cambridge, York, Durham, London and Wells Surprise. Tenor size 14 in D.

ROLAND PARK	1-2	W. NORMAN PARK...	3-4
GEORGE W. PARK	5-6		

Conducted by ROLAND PARK.
First handbell peal by all and in Darlington.

KELHAM, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, January 22, 1939, in One Hour and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID, KELHAM THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven 720's called differently.

*NORMAN TORRINGTON ...	1-2	PHILIP J. BODLSOVER	3-4
ALBERT F. SARGENT	5-6		

Conducted by A. F. SARGENT.
* First peal.
(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over).

A FALSE PEAL.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I very much regret to say that the peal of Grandsire Caters rung at St. John's, Leicester, on December 26th, 1938, was false. I offer my sincere apologies to those who rang in the peal.

W. P. WHITEHEAD.

Leicester.

PEAL NOTES.

ALL THE SUSSEX EIGHTS AND TENS.

Mr. Frank Bennett called a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at Balcombe on January 26th. It was the first peal on the bells since the trebles were added in 1936, and completed for the conductor a peal on all the rings of eight and ten bells in Sussex. The county has three peals of ten bells and over fifty of eight, including a ring of steel bells at Hastings.

Mr. Rupert Richardson is reaping the fruits of patient work in building up a local band in the little village of Surfleet, and these young men are calling as well as ringing peals now. A peal of Bob Major rung there last week was conducted by one of the pupils.

It is not often that any really original composition of Double Norwich Major is rung nowadays, but the peal composed and called by Mr. Nolan Golden last Saturday at Saxlingham Nethergate has distinctly novel features. In 5,216 changes it has the course end extent of 4-5-6 in 5-6 with the 6th the extent at home in the minimum number of courses, and is the first to be rung in the method with these qualities in less than 48 full courses.

TWO HUNDRED YEARS WITHOUT A PEAL.

The bells at Stanford-in-the-Vale, Berks, have been in the tower for 200 years, but it was not until January 21st in the present year of grace that a peal was rung on them. The bells are in the original frame, though with somewhat later headstocks. Originally they were a grand six, but the second and fourth are now cracked and the attentions of a bellfounder would definitely improve things.

We record also this week the first peal on the bells at Colaton Raleigh, Devon.

Mr. Alan Pink, who lately left Middlesex for Oxford, called a peal of Superlative on Saturday at Thame. It was the 100th tower in which he has rung a peal. Walter Hunt at the second scored his first peal in any method and rang very well. A fine performance.

The Tonbridge District of the Kent County Association lately decided to inaugurate a quarterly peal for the district, and the first (one of Grandsire Triples) was rung last Saturday at Tonbridge. On the same day and in the same method, a quarterly peal was rung for the Exeter Branch of the Devonshire Guild at Bradninch.

The peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at Gorton on January 24th was arranged as a compliment to Mr. William Brammer, the ringer of the third, on his 70th birthday, and by a happy coincidence it was his 100th peal. It was Mr. Frank Reynolds' 25th peal and Mr. D. Vincent's 75th peal. It was also a birthday compliment to Anne Brown, the four-year-old daughter of the conductor.

Last Armistice Day a peal was rung at King's Norton, Leicestershire, and touches at Gaulby on very hard going bells. This prompted Mr. Frank K. Measures to say that he could ring Broughton Astley tenor to a peal, and on January 21st he did so, to the great satisfaction of his companions. It was the first peal in seven methods of Doubles by all the band and the 25th peal that Messrs. William A. Wood and Frank K. Measures have rung together.

THE BROMLEY YOUTHS.

The Bromley Youths who rang a peal of Grandsire Triples on January 25th are an old and famous society dating from the 18th century. Their first peal, rung in 1773, was a 'half-quarter peal of Bob Major which is 5,000 and 40.' For many years William Chapman was their leader, and when he died in 1817 the first muffled five thousand on record was rung in his memory.

The peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor at Rushall, Staffs, on January 16th, was rung in celebration of the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Reed. Called in at short notice to complete the band, John Luck rang the treble very creditably, for he had never before rung any Treble Bob, and it was his first attempt for a peal of Minor.

The report of another new Surprise Major method appears this week. It was rung by Mr. Cashmore and his friends, but for the Middlesex Association, as it was at Pinner within that county, on Jan. 28th. Last Christmas time the band met at Pinner for Pinner Surprise, but met short, and as the method then chosen was afterwards rung as Queensbury Surprise, Mr. Cashmore had to work out another method, which, incidentally, contains some rather unusual and awkward false course ends.

The Leicester Thursday band of peal 'snatchers' visited Market Harborough on January 19th to attempt a peal of Double Norwich in honour of the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. Charles Marshall, of South Wigston. The seven members of the band who went by charabanc were treated to a nice surprise. Upon reaching the church they found Mr. 'Ted' Whitehead had defied the weather and cycled over an hour earlier to have everything in readiness. With the above named on the tenor, a hot pace was set at the commencement and another good peal was brought 'home' on this fine ring of eight in good time for refreshment afterwards.

The charabanc party, however, then got another surprise and not such a pleasant one. Upon reaching their conveyance it was discovered that some kind person had absolutely 'jammed' the gears, which necessitated seeking a skilled mechanic, who was occupied for an hour in putting matters right.

To the ringer with the 'big' wife waiting for him the remainder of the party tendered their sympathies and also offered to escort him to his doorstep, but no further, although they were willing, if he opened the door and threw in his hat, to wait and see if it was thrown out again.

The peal of Doubles at Whimple, Devon, on January 18th, was the first on the bells and the first in two methods by all the band except the conductor, Mr. C. R. Lilley, of Plymouth. The others belong to the Honiton Clyst band.

Denis Bayles celebrated his 17th birthday by calling a peal of Minor at Acle on Jan. 21st, the first in eight methods on the bells and by four of the band. Kent and Oxford Treble Bob were rung in the first 720. Another method was Childwall, the first extent of it by all the ringers. The peal, rung in 2 hours 36 minutes, was the quickest on the bells.

The peal of Minor at Seale, Surrey, on Jan. 21st, was rung in honour of the birth of a daughter (on the previous Wednesday) to Mrs. E. J. Bragg, wife of Sergt. E. J. Bragg (Grenadier Guards), stationed at Wellington Barracks, London. Sergt. Bragg is a member of the Aldershot company and his wife is elder daughter of Mr. W. Denyer and sister to Messrs. C. W. and T. E. Denyer, all of whom took part in the peal.

Another student at Kelham Theological College has scored his first peal. On Sunday week, Mr. Norman Torrington rang 1-2 to a handbell peal of Bob Minor. It was rung in St. Wilfrid's Church, which lies within the grounds of the college, about 80 yards from the House of the Sacred Mission.

The 22nd anniversary of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Salter, of Nottingham, was celebrated by a peal of Minor rung at Trowell on January 21st. Mr. Salter took part in the peal.

OLD WOOLWICH PEAL RECALLED.

Apparently the claim that the peal at St. Mary's, Woolwich, rung on January 14th in 2 hours 52 minutes, was the quickest peal on the bells, cannot be sustained. On January 19th, 1936, a peal of Bob Major was rung there in 2 hours 51 minutes, conducted by Mr. B. W. Aldridge, captain of the local band, who rang the tenor.

But an even quicker peal than this has been rung on the bells—a peal of Grandsire Triples in 2 hours 50 minutes in 1887.

Two of those who took part in this peal were Mr. R. T. Woodley (now of Lowestoft, but formerly secretary of the College Youths) and Mr. W. W. Gifford, of Salisbury.

The peal had an amusing sequel. The band enjoyed the hospitality of Mr. Gifford, and then he and Mr. Woodley walked to the Dockyard Station in time to see the last train departing. They had to walk back all the way to Pimlico, a distance of some 13 miles.

Mr. Leslie Wightman, of Helmingham, was the first to ring 50 different Surprise Major methods and extensions. He was two in front of Mr. Maurice Hibbert when the latter reached the half-century post. Mr. Hibbert added another method last Saturday at Tonbridge, so the race is on.

All, except the conductor, who took part in the peal of Doubles at Maisey Hampton, Gloucestershire, on Jan. 21st, scored their first peal and gave added merit to it by ringing it in six methods. Edward Peare, who rang the treble, is only 15½ years of age, and he and Norman Peare, who rang the tenor, had not attempted a peal before.

The recording of a peal as a birthday compliment is often an afterthought, but seldom is it mentioned as such. With perfect frankness, however, the record of the peal of Doubles in four methods at Norton Canon, Herefordshire, on January 21st, has been sent us with the note, 'After the peal it was agreed to record it as a birthday compliment to the conductor.' Most birthday peals are merely coincidences, but it is often made to appear as if the birthday celebration was the purpose of the peal, whereas it is not until afterwards that the fact comes out.

In this case the conductor was Mr. J. P. Hyett, and it was the 150th peal he had called.

At Fordingbridge on Saturday week, Mr. William Storey, J.P., of Newcastle Cathedral Guild, took part in a peal of Grandsire Triples—to celebrate his 79th birthday. Mr. Storey usually winters in Bournemouth, and while there takes an active part in local ringing.

Mr. J. W. Whittaker has now rung each bell at Sutton, Macclesfield, to a peal. He completed this on Saturday, January 21st, when a peal of Treble Bob Minor in 29 methods was rung.

Three Darlington ringers put up a specially fine performance on Jan. 20th, when, for their first peal on handbells, they rang seven Surprise Minor methods. It was the first handbell peal in Darlington and is believed to be the first peal of Surprise Minor on handbells by the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.

ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.

The annual meeting of Romney Marsh and District Guild was held at Appledore on Saturday, January 21st. The attendance was much below the average. Ringing took place during the afternoon and evening, and service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. A. S. Mayne. The Vicar also presided over the business meeting, at which the secretary's report and balance sheet were adopted.

The officers elected were: The Rev. A. S. Mayne, president; Mr. C. W. Everett, Master; Mr. P. Page, hon. secretary and treasurer.

Votes of thanks were accorded the Vicar for presiding and to the officers for their work during the past year.

Previous to the business a moment's silence was observed to the memory of Mr. Charles Slingsby, one of the originators of the Guild, who, as recorded in our last issue, has passed away at the age of 101 years.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

PORTSMOUTH DISTRICT.

The annual meeting of the Portsmouth District was held at St. Mary's, Portsmouth, on Saturday, January 21st, members attending from Alverstoke, Bishopstoke, Bishop's Waltham, Curdridge, Fareham, Hambledon, North Stoneham, Portsmouth (Cathedral and St. Mary's), Ryde, Southampton, Soberton and Swanmore. The Guild service was held in the Lady Chapel, at which the Vicar of Portsea officiated. An excellent tea was served, after which the business meeting was held, the Vicar (Canon H. C. Robins) being voted to the chair.

The secretary (Mr. A. T. Greenwood) read the district report for the year and also the accounts, which showed a very successful year. Membership had increased from 113 to 127. The balance to the general treasurer amounted to £9 4s., while the balance in hand for the district was £13 15s. 8d. Restoration work had been carried out at Soberton, for which a grant of £5 5s. had been given from the district funds.

The district officers were elected as follows: Chairman, Mr. W. Linter; hon. secretary, Mr. A. T. Greenwood; auditor, Mr. T. R. Taylor, representatives on Central Committee, Messrs. F. S. Bayley and R. J. Stone.

It was resolved that the annual meeting be held in Portsmouth every year, at alternate towers. The next annual meeting will be at the Cathedral on January 20th, 1940. Votes of thanks were accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells and officiating at the service and presiding at the business meeting, to the organist and to the caterers for the splendid tea.

Members then returned to the tower for further ringing, which ranged from rounds to Surprise Major.

ST. GEORGE'S-IN-THE-EAST.

The first quarter-peal on the bells of St. George-in-the-East, London, since they were rehung was rung for evening service on Sunday, January 29th, as a farewell to the curate, the Rev. S. T. Andrews, who is leaving shortly for Portuguese East Africa.

The method was Bob Major, and the ringers were R. G. Cousins 1, H. Mackinder 2, A. J. W. Hughes 3, A. S. Richards 4, P. A. Corby (conductor) 5, G. W. Fogden 6, A. P. Cannon 7, J. G. A. Prior 8.

The 'go' of the bells is now excellent, although it is fortunate that the conductor has the natural endowment of a powerful voice, as there is a great deal of noise in the tower.

Good progress is being made in the training of the local band under the leadership of Mr. J. G. A. Prior.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

WELLINGBOROUGH BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the Wellingborough Branch of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild was held at Finedon on Saturday, January 21st. Towers represented were Wellingborough, Higham Ferrers, Irchester, Mears Ashby, Ecton, Earls Barton, Irthlingborough, Stanwick, Easton Maudit, Warkton, Geddington, Barton Seagrave, Burton Latimer, Cranford, Addington, Raunds, Great Staughton, together with a good muster of local ringers.

The Guild service was held during the afternoon and was conducted by the Vicar, who gave a very interesting and challenging address. Fifty-five sat down to the tea, provided in the Star Hall by the wives and friends of the local band. Amongst those present were Mr. R. G. Black (general secretary), Mr. W. Whitmore (secretary, Thrapston Branch) and Miss S. Thursfield (secretary, South Midlands Branch of the Ladies' Guild).

At the business meeting the branch president, the Rev. A. G. Bagshawe, presided. The report and balance sheet for 1938 were received. There are now on the register four hon. life members, 15 hon. members and 144 ringing members. Excess of revenue over expenses was £3 2s. 9d., whilst the collections for the Belfry Repair Fund amounted to £2 2s. 7d.

The officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: President, the Rev. A. G. Bagshaw; Branch Ringing Master, Mr. J. R. Main; secretary and treasurer, Mr. A. Bigley, Irthlingborough; Central Committee, Messrs. A. Plowman and G. Basford; Branch Committee, Messrs. A. Y. Tyler, A. Boddington, C. Payne and A. H. Martin; auditor, Mr. E. H. Johnson (Earls Barton).

Dr. J. H. McGibbon, of Irthlingborough, was elected an honorary member, and six new ringing members, Messrs. J. Le Marquand (Irthlingborough), F. Bond, J. Smith, S. Earl and S. Lawrence (Irchester) and J. Houghton (Earls Barton), were accepted.

Great Doddington was chosen for the April meeting. During the proceedings the gathering was asked to stand a moment in silence to express their sympathy upon the death of Mrs. Atkins, wife of the Vicar of Isham.

The usual vote of thanks was given to all concerned with the success of the meeting, and a letter of good wishes was read from Mr. F. Barber, former secretary.

At the conclusion a retiring collection was taken towards the restoration of the bells of Brenlly, a village in Brecknockshire, which amounted to 14s. 6d. Good use was made of the privilege to ring Finedon bells during the afternoon and evening, the range being from rounds to London Surprise.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Mr. J. H. Hunnisett, for many years leader at St. Mary's, Ealing, has retired from business and is going back to Eastbourne, where he was many years ago a member of the Christ Church band. He takes with him the good wishes of his Middlesex friends.

Last Wednesday was the anniversary of the death of Benjamin Annable, who died on February 1st, 1756.

One hundred and sixty-one years ago to-day the College Youths rang 5,040 changes of Double Bob Royal at St. Dionis Backchurch. The bells were afterwards removed to All Hallows', Lombard Street, and are now awaiting a new home.

A year later on the same date the Sherwood Youths rang their first peal, Grandsire Triples at St. Mary's, Nottingham.

It is almost 50 years ago that Mr. James George, of Birmingham, rang his first peal. On February 16th, 1889, he rang the tenor to a peal of Grandsire Triples, with members of St. James' Society, at St. George's, Camberwell. It was called by Dick French, and Mr. George is now the only survivor of that band.

It is unfortunate that Mr. George's health will prevent him organising or taking part in a commemorative peal, but some of his friends will probably like to make suitable recognition of the jubilee on or near the date.

Mr. George, who is now 85, was first taught to handle a bell by his father at Pinner, when he was only eight years of age, but it was not until he was 35 that Mr. George took up ringing seriously. In this last 50 years he has rung 1,277 peals in 399 different towers in the British Isles. We hope he will soon be back at the rope end again.

Councillor Arthur E. Sharman, of Dunstable, hon. secretary of the Bedfordshire Association and a member of the Central Council, has been elevated to the aldermanic bench.

Mrs. Elsie Ingram, wife of Mr. Dick Ingram, of Perry Barr, Birmingham, has sustained serious head injuries through being knocked down by a Corporation bus and is now in hospital. Both Mr. and Mrs. Ingram are ringers and much sympathy is felt for them.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT NUNEATON.

A quarterly meeting of the Warwickshire Guild was held at Nuneaton on Saturday, January 21st, and was well attended by members and friends from Allesley, Arley, Barwell, Birmingham (St. Martin's and St. Chad's), Chilvers Coton, Church Lawford, Keresley, Rugby, Stoke-in-Coventry and Wolvey, together with the local band.

A service was conducted by the Rev. Purves (curate), the Guild's form being used, and the hymns, 'Lead us, Heavenly Father' and 'Ye servants of God,' sung. Tea followed in the Parish Hall. Among those who attended were Mr. James George, recently out of hospital, and Mr. Albert Walker. They received a hearty welcome.

The Rev. W. H. Trickett (Rector of Church Lawford and a ringing member of the Guild) presided at the business meeting.

The following meeting places were fixed: Exhall for February and Brinklow for March; Coventry for the annual meeting in April (under Rule 7). The election of the following new members was confirmed: Messrs. W. H. Fussell (Slough), T. Belton (Barwell) and W. E. Box (Birmingham) as non-resident ringing members, and J. Lloyd, Chilvers Coton, a resident member.

A discussion arose regarding the reports to be prepared for the years 1937-38.

It was finally decided to retain the form of the previous report with the exception of the non-resident members' list. In the forthcoming report only the names of those joining and of those ringing peals during the period covered by the report are to be included. It was also decided to include the figures of new compositions.

The meeting closed with votes of thanks to the incumbent, the curate, the organist and the ladies who arranged the tea.

Handbell ringing followed, those taking part being Messrs. F. W. Ferrens, F. E. Pervin, W. H. Hooton, A. Walker, J. George and D. H. Argyle, Kent Treble Bob Major and Royal and Stedman Caters being rung.

A return was then made to the tower, where ringing in various methods, also rounds, concluded a happy and successful gathering.

A WEIRD SIGHT.

STORM EFFECTS AT PARISH CHURCH.

On Wednesday evening, January 25th, eight ringers assembled at St. Martin's Church, Cheriton, to attempt a half-muffled peal in memory of Kent's oldest bellringer, Mr. Charles Slingsby, who, as already recorded has died at the age of 101 years.

The tower was found to be in such a lamentable condition that all thoughts of a peal had to be abandoned. The gale had evidently seriously damaged the roof. Snow and rain were driving in, water was pouring down the walls inside and through two of the bellrope guides. The electric light showed signs of failure and candles had to be brought into use. The bells, however, were rung for a short while as a parting tribute, some having to ring with hats and coats on. A most weird sight, but one that will remain in memory. The following ringers took part: Messrs. F. Slingsby (Cheriton) 1, R. Birch (Hythe) 2, W. Kitchen (Folkestone) 3, F. Crooks (Folkestone) 4, T. Anderson (Folkestone) 5, W. J. Bidnell (Hythe) 6, C. Turner (Dover) (conductor) 7, C. Swan (Hythe) 8.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—56.

JAMES HUNT.

One of the best known ringers, not only of the West, but of all England, is James Hunt. Indeed, the Central Council meetings would hardly be themselves without his presence and his speeches. Not that everybody always agrees with all he says, but everybody recognises the sincerity of his opinions and the fact that they are based on real experience and knowledge. For Mr. Hunt has had a wide experience of ringing in many parts of the country, and is not only a first-class ringer himself, but has associated with some of the leading men of the last 40 years and more.

His outstanding performance was the record handbell peal of Stedman Caters rung at Guildford in 1912. There was at the time in that town a band who rang peals of Stedman Triples and Caters almost on every evening in the week, and it was only natural that they should think of ringing the record peal in hand. This they did by ringing 14,031 changes, but, not satisfied with that, they proposed to beat all records on handbells or in the tower, and started for a length of 22,220 changes. But they began rather late, and so when 11 o'clock came and they had passed all previous lengths, they not unnaturally thought they had done enough and let the bells come round at 19,738 changes. Mr. Hunt rang 7-8 to this peal, which, we imagine, will not be beaten for many years. It was his greatest performance, but he has taken part in many other good peals. They total 552, of which 158 have been on handbells and of which he has conducted 94. At one period he rang 61 handbell peals in succession without a tower bell peal intervening.



MR. JAMES HUNT.

Mr. Hunt is a Devon man, born at Tiverton on May 29th, 1871. For many years he was one of the leading ringers in the Guildford district. He then removed to London, where he was employed by John Warner and Sons, the bell founders, who had among their staff a complete band of ringers. For the last 20 years Mr. Hunt has been associated with St. James' Church, Taunton.

Among the many interesting peals in which he has taken part are a 'grandfather's' peal of Stedman Caters by members of the Royal Cumberland Youths, the first peal of Stedman Caters by a resident band for the old Winchester Diocesan Guild which he called, the first peals of Double Norwich Major and seven Surprise Minor methods for the Bath and Wells Association, the first peal of Cambridge Major by a resident band west of Bristol, and the first peal of Bristol Surprise Major by a band resident in Somerset.

He is a member of the Advisory Committee of the Bath and Wells Diocese, his subject being, of course, bells, and he is also a member of the Towers and Belfries Committee of the Central Council. He has represented the Bath and Wells Association on the Council since 1920 and has been Ringing Master of the Taunton Deanery for 20 years.

Mr. James Hunt is one of those men on whose exertions and work the very existence of the Exercise depends. Besides being a peal ringer and a conductor, he has done a great deal of teaching, has always made a point of ringing twice on a Sunday whenever possible, and has been a sidesman and a member of the Parochial Church Council for many years.

PEAL BOARD UNVEILED AT EALING.

On Sunday, January 29th, a peal board was erected in the church porch at St. Stephen's, Ealing, to record the ringing of four peals, one each of Superlative, Cambridge, Treble Bob and Plain Bob. The Vicar, who dedicated the board, said that when he first came to Ealing he inquired if there were any bells at his new church and was sorry to hear that there were. However, the ringers had agreeably disappointed his expectations. Owing to the church being in a residential neighbourhood, the Parochial Church Council had decided that there should be restricted Sunday ringing and no peals, and it was only the excuse of the annual summer fete which enabled these peals to be rung. The church paid for the writing on the board, which was supplied by the subscriptions of the ringers.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.

MORE INTEREST DESIRED.

The North-Western District of the Surrey Association held their annual meeting at St. Peter's, Croydon, on Saturday last, when 50 members attended from Banstead, Beddington, Benhilton, Croydon (both churches), Epsom (Christ Church), Kingston-on-Thames, Leatherhead, London, Merton and Mitcham, with visitors from Balcombe, Sussex and Beckenham, Kent.

Ringing during the afternoon was followed by short evensong, conducted by the curate (the Rev. C. J. Hawksworth), who welcomed the association to St. Peter's on behalf of the Vicar.

The business meeting was presided over by Mr. D. K. C. Birt (Master), supported by Mr. D. Cooper (District Master). Before the official business commenced the meeting stood in silence for a moment as a last tribute of respect to the memory of Mr. Jesse Beams, of Ewell, who passed away on January 15th. He had been a member of the association for nearly 40 years.

The following new members were elected: Mrs. Pagden (Croydon), Miss Harrington (Ewell) and Messrs. G. Howard (Christ Church, Mitcham), J. B. Hessey (Chertsey), G. W. Massey (Christ Church, Epsom), M. E. H. Pitstow (Banstead), G. Reed (Benhilton), and the elections of three new compounding members, made in Beckenham belfry on Boxing Day, were confirmed.

The District Committee's report was adopted.

COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The committee stated that although they could not record any outstanding or spectacular performances in the district during the past year, some very good work has been put in by members in the securing of recruits, the instruction of beginners, and the building up and the maintenance of local bands. The results of this steady work could now be seen in most of the towers in the district, where attendances on practice nights and for Sunday service ringing had, generally speaking, been very good indeed. The custom which had grown up in the district of ringers visiting each others' towers on practice nights had not only helped to maintain a high standard of striking, but had also produced beneficial results in what might be termed the social side of ringing. By way of contrast there were towers where very little progress, if any, could be recorded. At these towers the committee found a general slackness and lack of interest amongst local members, who did not turn up regularly for practices, and failed to 'play the game' as members of a team. This kind of thing nullified the efforts made by keener men to build up a band, and inevitably led to stagnation. The committee hoped that, wherever such conditions existed, efforts would be made to improve matters during 1939.

Five district meetings, two combined meetings with three or more neighbouring associations and six joint meetings (five with the Ladies' Guild and one with the Leatherhead District of the Guildford Guild) had been held with average attendances of: District meetings 43, combined meetings 70, joint meetings 34.

A perusal of the signature book of members who had attended district meetings during 1938 disclosed some interesting facts. The same names as representing the same towers constantly recurred, whilst some towers were seldom represented at all, and when they were represented, then by only one or, perhaps, two members. Roughly, the ringers who attended district meetings regularly might be divided into two classes, i.e., the expert or peal ringers and the novices anxious to make progress. The committee would like to see more interest taken in the work of the association by members generally. After making all due allowance for the evils of overlapping, an average attendance at meetings of 43, in a district of over 200 resident members, could not be regarded as entirely satisfactory.

Eighteen peals were rung during the year, as against 17 recorded for 1937.

MEMBERSHIP.

The year 1938 began with a district membership of 185. During the year five honorary members and 22 ringing members were elected. On the other hand, they had lost one member by death, seven members had allowed their subscriptions to lapse, and the names of three members were being transferred to the compounding list, leaving a total district membership of 201, made up of: Honorary members 9, ringing members (representing 18 towers) 163, ringing members (unattached) 29, total 201, being a net increase of 16 members.

The treasurer's statement of accounts, showing a balance in hand of £12 6s 4d. (an increase of 18s. 8d. on the balance in hand at the beginning of the year), was approved.

The following places for meetings for 1939 were chosen: Easter Monday, Ewell, Epsom and Ashtead (whole day); Saturday, June 3rd, East Molesey; July 29th, Ranmore; September 30th, Clapham Park or Kennington or Lambeth; November 25th, Benhilton; January 27th, Beddington or Streatham.

The district officers were elected as follows: Master, Mr. D. Cooper; treasurer, Mr. H. W. Simmons; secretary, Mr. F. G. Woodiss; auditor, Mr R. A. Simmons; representatives on committee, Mrs. C. H. Kippin, Messrs. Charles Pothecary and H. V. Young.

All the retiring general officers with the exception of the assistant general secretary, were nominated for re-election at the annual general meeting of the association. Mr. A. E. Cook, of Merton, was nominated to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Mr. John Hobden from the office of assistant general secretary.

(Continued on next page.)

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

OLD MEMBERS' POSITION.

Wokingham, as usual, was the venue of the annual meeting of the Sonning Deanery Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, held on January 21st. There was a large attendance, and ringing took place at both churches, St. Paul's and All Saints'. Service was held at St. Paul's, the Rector (the Rev. P. J. H. Scott) officiating, the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow reading the lesson. The address was given by the Rev. J. J. O'Malley, the Rector of Sandhurst, whose subject was 'Our prayers.'

Tea was served in the Parish Room, having been prepared by members of the congregation, who were afterwards thanked for their kindness. A vote of thanks was also passed to the Rector of the Wokingham churches, the preacher and the organist of St. Paul's.

Canon G. F. Coleridge, chairman of the branch, presided at the annual meeting, and the secretary welcomed visitors from Bagshot, Oxford, Padworth, Reading, Chieveley, Tilehurst and Stoke Poges.

The hon secretary and treasurer (Mr. W. J. Paice) presented the report and balance sheet, the latter showing a balance in hand of £7 0s. 9d. The branch restoration fund now stood at £14 8s. 2d., including the collection of £1 11s. that afternoon.

There were 29 honorary members and 150 ringing members, making a total of 179 in the branch.

He referred to the loss to the branch by the death of the Rev. L. R. Majendie, Miss Wedderburn and Mr. H. W. Boyles.

The secretary also reported that 13 meetings had been held, attended by 309 ringers in all, 238 from the branch and 71 visitors.

The report was adopted with hearty thanks to all those who had rendered assistance.

Canon Coleridge was enthusiastically re-elected chairman and Mr. W. J. Paice hon. secretary and treasurer. The following branch representatives on the Guild Committee were also re-elected: Messrs. F. Dentry, J. Moth, J. Rance and J. White. The chairman and officials were thanked for their past services.

On the recommendation of the Branch Committee, it was decided for one year to hold bi-monthly meetings and combined practices in the intervening months.

The position of old members who by force of circumstances were unable to continue their subscriptions was sympathetically discussed with a view to making them honorary members, and finally the secretary was instructed to bring the matter before the forthcoming meeting of the Guild.

Mr. R. T. Hibbert (Guild secretary) and Mr. A. D. Barker (Guild treasurer) both addressed the meeting and expressed sympathy with the suggestion that old members should be relieved of their financial responsibilities to the Guild.

The Chairman expressed congratulations on the admirable way in which the meeting had been carried out.

PROGRESS AT LICHFIELD COLLEGE.

STUDENTS' FIRST QUARTER-PEAL.

The first step towards a handbell peal at Lichfield Theological College was accomplished on Sunday, when three students rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles with five callings: Richard A. C. Brodribb 1-2, Malcolm C. C. Melville 3-4, Michael M. K. Warren 5. This was the first quarter-peal for Messrs. Brodribb and Warren, and Malcolm Melville's first quarter-peal as conductor on a pair of working bells. It was also their first attempt for a quarter-peal and was rung only nine days after ringing their first 120 double-handed. Richard Brodribb had not rung handbells until he came up to the college last August; Michael Warren is the present ringing master at the college.

There are about 15 members learning or who have learnt to handle a bell, but tower bell ringing is very restricted and the members have progressed no further than good rounds.

They have an excellent library of books about ringing, presented by readers of 'The Ringing World' through the energies of Mr. S. H. Wood and Mr. E. H. Lewis, and the handbells were the generous gift of the Rev. W. C. Pearson, of Henley, Ipswich.

'It is practical help such as this that is so encouraging to us,' writes Mr. Melville (who before going to college was hon. secretary of the Warwickshire Guild), 'and urges us to become as proficient as we can during our short stay at the college; so that, when we go out into our parishes, we may know at least something of a very important aid to our work, namely, the voice of the Church to the world at large.'

SURREY ASSOCIATION—Continued from previous page.

Mr. H. V. Young called attention to the very low state to which ringing had dropped in the Southern District, as evidenced by the last meeting held in that district. He suggested that, while present conditions continued to exist, they should omit the printing of useless matter in the yearly reports, and spend the money thus saved on the training of bands in the Southern District.

After some discussion, the matter was referred to the General Committee for decision.

The meeting concluded with the usual votes of thanks to the Vicar of St. Peter's for the use of the bells; to the Rev. C. J. Hawksworth for conducting the service and giving the address; to Mr. H. W. Simmons for making arrangements for the meeting; also to Mr. H. Wills for having everything in readiness for the comfort of the members and for the conduct of the ringing during the afternoon.

ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD ASSOCIATION.

FIRST MEETING AT BILSTON FOR 51 YEARS.

A quarterly meeting of the Stafford Archdeaconry Society was held at St. Leonard's Church, Bilston, on Saturday, January 14th. Affiliated towers of the society were well represented. It was just 51 years since a meeting was held there, the reason given in answer to inquiries being that local tradespeople objected to Saturday ringing. However, this objection seems to have been removed, for the Vicar, the Rev. S. Garrett, M.A., not only gave the members a warm welcome but said he hoped they would pay another visit in the near future. He also said he was pleased to say that his son had taken part in the ringing during the afternoon, and that his father had been a ringer before him, he (the Vicar) having broken the chain. The foregoing remarks prefaced a very interesting address. 'Perfection' was the theme which the Vicar stressed—in ringing as well as in daily life. He mentioned that he had purchased a copy of 'Bells Through the Ages' to take his discourse from, and paid a compliment to the author of the book.

The Rev. C. H. Barker, L.Th., clerical secretary and treasurer, read the lesson, and Mrs. Garrett kindly presided at the organ.

On arriving at the Parish Room, members found a substantial tea in readiness, and it was much appreciated by the company of 40. An apology for absence was received from Mr. Tom Hughes, of Wednesbury, in which he expressed his thanks to the members for their kindly help in making it possible to erect a tablet in Wednesbury tower to the memory of his father, the late Mr. George Hughes.

Moved by the Rev. C. H. Barker, a vote of thanks to the Vicar for his address, the use of the bells, etc., to Mrs. Garrett for presiding at the organ, and to all who helped to make a such a happy gathering, was received with applause.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

CHANGE IN HON. MEMBERS' SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The annual general meeting of Barnsley and District Society was held at Barnsley on Saturday, January 14th, when members were present from Cawthorne, Darton, Doncaster, Eastwood, Felkirk, Hoylandswaine, Bolsterstone, Sandal, Shelley, Wath and the local company.

A short service was held in church, conducted by the hon. president and Rector (Canon W. E. Wilkinson), whose interesting and inspiring address was much appreciated.

Tea was served in the Rectory Rooms, 21 being present. The president (Mr. C. D. Potter) presided at the business meeting. The auditors' report on the accounts showed that 1938 had been a very successful year, and a good profit had been made on the year's working. The balance sheet for the annual shield contest was also read and both were passed as very pleasing and satisfactory.

The officials for 1939 were re-elected en bloc, on the motion of Mr. Gill, seconded by Mr. Carbutt, viz.: President, Mr. C. D. Potter; treasurer, Mr. H. Chant; secretary, Mr. D. Smith; auditors, Mr. E. Brookes and Mr. J. T. White.

Four new members were elected, Messrs. R. Bailey and R. Broadhead, of Darton, P. Carbutt, of Barnsley, and W. Lloyd, of Doncaster.

An alteration to the rule regarding honorary members' subscriptions was passed. It was decided that they be elected on payment of 5s., instead of 2s. 6d. and 2s. 6d. per annum under the old rule.

After the usual vote of thanks for the use of the bells and to those who had assisted at the tea, etc., a vote of thanks was passed to the president (who is in his 81st year) for presiding at the meeting. Further ringing followed, some touches of Minor and Triples on handbells and a variety of Minor methods and Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Treble Bob and Double Norwich Major on the tower bells being enjoyed.

DEATH OF A LIVERSEDGE RINGER.

MR. WILLIE THOMAS' PART IN CONTESTS.

The death occurred, in sudden circumstances, on January 13th, of Mr. Willie Thomas, at the age of 57. Mr. Thomas was for many years attached to the belfry at Liversedge Parish Church. He had not enjoyed the best of health for a few years, but had not been confined to his house. He had been out during the evening, and when he arrived about 10.30 p.m. he went to bed as usual and died almost immediately.

The funeral took place at Heckmondwike Cemetery on Tuesday, January 17th, the chief mourners being the widow and only son, with other relatives and friends. Ringers were present from Earlsheaton, Birstall and Liversedge.

Mr. Thomas never aspired to peal ringing and his total was only eight, but he was always interested in contest ringing and had taken part in a great number of competitions. About 1922 ringers were scarce at Liversedge, and Mr. Thomas rallied together six youths to teach them the art of change ringing. Three nights a week were put in for practice, and how Mr. Thomas made those six learners stand in a ring with a handbell each, ringing Plain Bob, only those who were taking part can realise.

As time and ability progressed and the handbells were discarded for the tower bells, Mr. Thomas saw to it that those learners were taught the art of listening to the bells and striking them. He was respected by all who knew him. Although Mr. Thomas had not taken part in ringing for some years, he still maintained interest in the bells, and it is hard to realise that never again shall we meet to discuss this subject of ringing which was ever in his mind. F. H.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

SUCCESS OF SALISBURY BRANCH.

Practice Meetings to be Organised.

Ringers from the city churches of St. Thomas, St. Martin and St. Paul, and from the neighbouring parishes of Britford, Wilton, Wylye, Berwick St. John, Fovant, Dinton, Coombe Bissett, Martin, Damerham, etc., attended the annual general meeting of the Salisbury Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild, held at St. Thomas' Church, Salisbury.

Ringing took place during the afternoon at St. Thomas' and St. Paul's, and the bells at St. Martin's were also available during the evening.

The Guild service was conducted by the Rev. P. J. Hayes (Vicar), who gave a brief address, the lesson being read by the Rev. N. E. W. Bradyll-Johnson, Rural Dean of Wilton and Vicar of St. Paul's. Other diocesan clergy in the congregation included the Rev. F. Llewellyn Edwards (general secretary), the Rev. H. W. Moule (Damerham) and the Rev. T. W. Page Phillips (Coombe Bissett).

Tea followed at Osmond's Cafe, and the branch chairman (Mr. E. G. Caple) presided over the subsequent business meeting, supported by the district secretary (Mr. F. W. Romaine), the general secretary, the Rev. N. E. W. Bradyll-Johnson and Mrs. Hibberd.

The Rev Bradyll-Johnson assured the members of his sincere sympathy with ringers. He felt they were not getting the recognition they deserved, and there should be more social and spiritual fellowship and mutual support among the various phases of church life.

The balance sheet was presented by Mr. Romaine and showed an income of £14 8s. 6d., an expenditure of £11 6s. 9d. and a balance in hand of £3 1s. 9d., as against £2 0s. 6d. for the previous year.—The accounts were adopted on the proposition of Mr. Figgures, seconded by Mr. Chalk.

There were two nominations for the branch chairmanship, Mr. F. Wright proposing the re-election of Mr. E. G. Caple. This was seconded by Mr. M. J. Thompson, and Mr. R. Jewel proposed Mr. Figgures. Mr. Figgures, however, declined to stand, and Mr. Caple was unanimously re-elected.

ONCE DEAD, NOW MUCH ALIVE.

Mr. F. W. Romaine was re-elected branch secretary and treasurer, and, in thanking the members for re-electing him, mentioned that he had held office since 1923. At that time the branch was completely dead, no meetings having been held for many years. The branch was very much alive to-day, and with the active support of the members would continue so.

Two of the three retiring Ringing Masters, Messrs. L. Harris and W. Roberts, were re-elected. Mr. F. C. Smith did not seek re-election, and Mr J. Figgures was selected in his place.

The committee as now constituted comprises Messrs. Norton, Figgures, F. Wright and the Rev. R. S. Smith and Mrs. Hibberd.

The Rev. T. W. Page-Phillips was elected an hon. life member, and Mr. B. Churchill (shortly leaving for Egypt) a life ringing member. Mr. John J. Bailey was elected a performing member, attached to Damerham tower.

Quarterly meetings for 1939 will be at St. Martin's, Donhead and Hindon, on dates to be arranged by the secretary. St. Martin's meeting is to be held when the treble bell, shortly to be provided, has been installed, and Mrs. Hibberd very kindly announced that she would invite the branch to tea for that meeting.

There was considerable discussion on the subject of practice meetings, Mr. J. Figgures remarking that the quarterly meetings afforded little opportunity for young learners to receive instruction. He, therefore, suggested that monthly practice meetings be held throughout the branch, each tower being taken in turn, provided the ringers required assistance in learning change ringing.

Eventually a resolution was carried that the secretary should write the correspondents of the various towers, stating that practice meetings would be held on Saturday afternoons and evenings and that those bands requiring assistance and instruction should inform the secretary and the towers would be visited in rotation.

The Rev. H. W. Moule (Damerham) stated that the secretary need not trouble to write to him, as he promptly accepted there and then, and his ringers would welcome instruction at any time.

Mr. F. Wright (Dinton) said his ringers also would be pleased to have instruction, provided they could be given a date in the winter, as practice was difficult to arrange during the summer months, owing to agricultural activities.

'THE PEACE BELL.'

The general secretary (the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards) expressed his great pleasure at seeing so much young blood among the members, and congratulated the branch on its healthy position, its energetic secretary and the 50 per cent. increase in the balance in hand. He wished the general funds of the Guild could boast of a similar increase. He went on to say, 'In the course of his address, the Vicar of St. Thomas' referred to the observance, warmly commended by the Bishop of this diocese, of the ringing of the "Peace Bell" at noon each day, as a daily call to prayer for peace in these troubled and anxious times I may say this custom has been observed in my parish since the days of the Great War; I realise, of course, that this duty would fall upon few of you ringers, unless you happen to be sexton in your parish, but I feel the ringing of a bell at noon each day to be a valuable witness as a call to prayer for peace and as a reminder to all who hear it to stand still for a moment and pray for the peace of the

(Continued in next column.)

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH AND WEST DISTRICT'S SUCCESSFUL SOCIAL.

The annual supper of the South and West District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild was held at the Village Hall, Heston, on Saturday, January 14th, and was, as usual, entirely successful. About 70 members and friends, including a large proportion of ladies, were present.

The supper was preceded by ringing at Heston Parish Church, the methods rung including Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Treble Bob, Double Norwich and Cambridge Surprise Major.

The supper, excellently arranged by the local caterer, was presided over by the Vicar of Heston (the Rev. G. Craggs), supported by the Rev. Preb. Cole Sheane, M.A., B.D. (Vicar of Twickenham and president of the association), Mr. J. A. Trollope (vice-president), the Rev. A. W. Slade (curate at Heston), and the officers of the association.

Following the toast of 'The King,' Preb. Cole Sheane proposed 'The Middlesex Association,' which he described as a model to all associations, and stressed its advantages to ringers, having its headquarters in London, the ringing centre of the world.

Mr. F. W. Goodfellow, in replying for the association, emphasised that its strength lay not so much in itself as in the strength of the local bands, and he made several suggestions as to keeping this strength up, based upon his experience. He mentioned how at Hillingdon they had, at one time, inserted a notice in the local paper stating that they were giving an exhibition of change ringing and inviting the public to attend. Some did attend, and this resulted in nine or ten recruits, for whom they arranged a special practice night, and in the end obtained about three ringers from these, which he supposed was about the average. Mr. Goodfellow also stressed the advantages of annual outings in keeping a band together, and appealed for better support of the association meetings by individual members.

Mr. J. Herbert proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Supper Committee, which was carried by acclamation, and to this Mr. H. C. Chandler, of Heston, replied.

At the social which followed, Messrs. F. W. Goodfellow and W. H. Coles proved energetic and enterprising M.C.'s. The programme opened to the tunes of the 'Lambeth Walk' and 'Chestnut Tree,' by gramophone and amplifier, kindly provided by Mr. Norman. The first item was a 'surprise' and turned out to be a performance by Toni and his dogs, whose clever acting brought great applause. Party games were much enjoyed, and these were interspersed with dancing. A darts competition was won by Mr. H. Cooper (Heston) for the gentleman with a score of 92, and by Mrs. F. E. Hawthorne (Thames Ditton) for the ladies, with a score of 77.

The handball competition between Ealing and Hillingdon was won by the latter, who were presented with the 'cup' by the Vicar. They have now won it three times in succession. The blindfold dressing competition was won by Miss E. Bedford, and an item, 'Selling the gee-gee,' with a touching commentary by Mr. W. H. Coles, caused much entertainment. A tongue twister bee, on the lines of the recent B.B.C. effort, was very successful and entertaining, the Misses Bedford and Lidbetter scoring 11 points each, Mr. E. C. S. Turner acted as 'announcer,' and Messrs. J. A. Trollope and J. E. L. Cockey as judges. A tombola resulted in a large basket of fruit being won by one of the lady helpers and a large cake by Mr. R. W. Darvill.

Tea and coffee were served during the evening, and at 11.15 the proceedings closed with the singing of 'Auld Lang Syne.' The association is greatly indebted to Mr. H. C. Chandler, the Heston company, and the M.C.'s for their untiring efforts to make the gathering the success it was.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Continued from previous column.)

world I may add, some years ago there was a resolution by the Guild that this practice should be encouraged throughout the diocese; in our parish we raise and fall a bell, and then ring the Angelus. I remember some years ago when I was in Egypt, as I was standing on the quay at Port Said, the bell of the Franciscan Church there rang for the Angelus, and I could not help feeling impressed with this witness to the Christian religion in a country of Arabs and Moslems.'

The Rev. Ll. Edwards also referred to the passing away of the first Master of the Salisbury Guild, the Rev. A. Du B. Hill. The Guild was formed in 1884 and the Rev. Hill lived until a few weeks ago, when he passed away, at the age of 87. To within three years of his death he was still teaching change ringing in Hertfordshire; his was a grand record. 'And we have here to-day,' said the Rev. Ll. Edwards, 'another link with the past in the person of Mr. W. Foot, the oldest performing member of the Salisbury Guild. Mr. Foot was present at that first meeting on September 14th, 1882, when the Guild was formed, and was still a ringing member at Berwick St. John. A quarter-peal was rung on October 8th last, Mr. Foot's 80th birthday, and he himself took part in that quarter-peal—truly another grand record.' Finally, Mr. Edwards proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. Hayes for conducting the Guild service that day and for the use of St. Thomas' bells, and to the lady who so kindly presided at the organ and to the caterers.—This was seconded by the Rev. Page-Phillips and unanimously carried.

Before the meeting commenced, at the invitation of the chairman, the members stood in silence for a few moments as a tribute to the memory of two ringers who have died recently, Mr. W. Wright, of St. Thomas', and Mr. S. Kite, of St. Paul's.

NOTICES.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—The next meeting will be held at Danbury on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Upper Arbour Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The annual meeting will be held at Isleworth on Saturday, February 4th, at the Church of All Saints (10 bells, tenor 16 cwt.). Ringing 3 to 4.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting in the Church Hall 5 p.m. Ringing after. Business: Financial statement, annual report, election of officers, etc. A good attendance is requested. Subscriptions for 1939 are now due. — J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec., 16, St. Stephen's Road, West Ealing, W.13.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Walthamstow (St. Mary's) on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (10) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea to follow. Subscriptions for 1939 are now due.—J. H. Crampion, Dis. Sec., 7, Cedar Avenue, Chadwell Heath, Essex.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. Nicholas', Chislehurst, on Saturday, February 4th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at 5, address by the Rector, Rev. Canon J. A. Lumb. Tea at Tiger's Head at 1s. 3d. per head. Subscriptions for 1939 are now due, and should be paid at this meeting. Important business requires that every tower should be adequately represented on this occasion.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere, Kent.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—Annual meeting at Guildford on Saturday, February 4th. Cathedral bells (8) available 3 to 4 p.m. S. Nicolas' (10) from 3 p.m. Service at S. Nicolas' 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting at Ayers' Hall (next church).—W. F. J. Cope, Hon. Sec., 26, Curling Vale, Onslow Village, Guildford.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—Sevenoaks (not Speldhurst, as previously arranged) is the place, and Saturday, February 4th the date of the first meeting of year. Please come and start the district on another successful year. Tower open at 2.45 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea and short business meeting to follow. Will those interested please look up Erin Triples and Duffield Major? Subscriptions for 1939 are now due.—Alec E. Richardson, Laurel Cottage, Victoria Road, Southborough,

LADIES' GUILD.—North Midland Branch.—A meeting will be held at Sutton-on-Trent on Saturday, February 4th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Business meeting afterwards.—(Mrs.) A. Richardson, Hon. Sec., Glyn Garth, Surfleet, Spalding.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Next meeting will be held at St. Mary's Church, Balderstone, on Saturday, February 4th. All ringers and friends welcome.—Ivan Kay, Branch Sec.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Alton and Petersfield District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Petersfield on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (8) available from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting in St. Peter's Hall 5.15.—C. E. Bassett, Hon. Dis. Sec., 32, Charles Street, Petersfield.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Peterborough Branch.—The annual meeting of the above branch will be held at Glinton on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (6) will be available from 2.30 p.m. Usual arrangements.—W. H. Waldron, Hon. Sec., 137, Scotney Street, Peterborough.

COLESHILL, NEAR FARINGDON, BERKS.—The re-dedication of the bells, rehung and augmented to six by R. White, of Appleton, will take place on Saturday, Feb. 4th, at 3.30.—V. Jones, Coleshill, Swindon, Wilts.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next monthly meeting of the district will be held at Daybrook on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (8) ready from 5 p.m. till 8 p.m. All ringers welcome. Please come and try your methods.—E. C. Gobey, Dis. Sec., Trowell, Notts.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Oldbury, near Birmingham, on Saturday, February 4th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service in church 4.15, followed by tea and business meeting. Tea, price 1s. Note: Subscriptions should be paid at this meeting.—Norman J. Goodman, Hon. Branch Secretary, 52, Lottie Road, Selly Oak, Birmingham 29.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Redbourn on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Usual arrangements. — W. Ayre, Leverstock Green, Hempstead.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch will be held at Wisbech on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (10) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Andover District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Amport on Saturday, Feb. 4th. Bells available from 2.30. Service in Parish Church at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. in Church Room. Business meeting follows. All requiring tea please notify Mr. A. R. Wiltshire, The Lodge, Amport.—F. S. H. Marle, Hon. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bradfield Deanery Branch.—Annual meeting will be held at Theale, Berks, on Saturday, February 4th. Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea (9d.) 5 p.m.—T. W. Palmer, Hon. Sec. and Treas., 128, Halls Road, Tilehurst.

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LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—The next practice meeting will be held at St. Mary's Parish Church, Ulverston, on Saturday, Feb. 4th. Bells (6) available at 2.30 p.m. Tea will be provided in the Parish Hall at 4.30 p.m.—N. M. Newby, Hon. Sec.

NORWICH ASSOCIATION.—South Norfolk Branch.—The annual general meeting will be held at Saxlingham on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (8) afternoon and evening. Service 4.15 p.m., followed by tea (free) at the kind invitation of the branch chairman, Mr. W. L. Duffield, in the Church Hall. Meeting follows. Special business: Election of officers for 1939. Special method, 'Checkenham Major.'—A. G. Harrison, Hon. Sec., 90, Denmark Street, Diss, Norfolk.

LANCS ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Bury, on Saturday, February 4th. Bells available from 3 p.m. A short service will be held in church at 5.30.—J. Porter, 11, Chesham Bank, Huntley Mount Road, Bury.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — The next meeting will be held at Penistone Church (bells 8) on Saturday, Feb. 4th. All welcome.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 13, St. Ronans Road, Sheffield 7.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Wigan Parish Church on Saturday, Feb. 4th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea (1s. each) at a local cafè, for which please notify. — S. Forshaw, 55, Poolstock, Wigan.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—First meeting of year (Feb. 4th). Royston. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and meeting. All members and friends welcome. — R. T. Newman, Hon. Dis. Sec., Lafayette, Salisbury Road, Baldock.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Service ringing, Feb. 5th, St. Clement Danes', Strand, 10 a.m. Practices, St. Clement Danes, Feb. 13th and 27th, at 7.30 p.m., and St. Mary, Lambeth, Feb. 28th, at 8 p.m.—T. W. Taffender, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637). — Meetings'—February: Southwark Cathedral, 7th; St. Clement Danes, 9th; *St. Mary-le-Bow, 14th; St. Magnus', 16th; St. Giles', Cripplegate, 21st; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 23rd; *St. Paul's Cathedral, 28th. *Business meeting afterwards. All at 7.30, except St. Andrew's, 8 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Special practice at Cripplegate (12 bells) on Wednesday, February 8th, from 7.30 to 9 p.m. All members and friends welcomed.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Leatherhead District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Leatherhead on Saturday, February 11th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service at 5, tea and business meeting following at the Duke's Head. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. A. Dean, 24, Church Walk, Leatherhead, as early as possible and not later than February 9th.—A. H. Smith, Hon. Sec.

LADIES' GUILD.—London District.—Meeting at Leyton Parish Church, Saturday, February 11th. (Leyton station, L.N.E.R., from Liverpool Street.) Nice light peal of eight in a beautiful and historic church. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. Tea, by kind invitation of the Vicar (Rev. R. Bren), for all those who notify Mr. C. A. Hughes, 92, Stanley Road, E.18, without fail by Saturday, February 4th.—I. R. Housden, Hon. Sec.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts Branch.—A meeting will be held at Brampton on Saturday, February 11th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock.—H. J. Parker, Dis. Sec., Great Staughton, St. Neots.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Ebbw Vale on Saturday, February 11th. Bells (8) available at 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow.—J. W. Jones, Hon. Sec., Cartref, 94, Alteryn View, Newport, Mon.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at East Grinstead (8) on Saturday, Feb. 11th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea, 5.15 p.m., by kind invitation of the President of the Guild (the Rev. Dr. G. Golding-Bird). Business meeting to follow. All are very welcome, but please notify not later than first post Wednesday, Feb. 8th, if tea is required.—B. Saunders, 18, New Road, Ridgewood, Uckfield, Sussex.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Central Branch.—The annual meeting will be held (D.V.) at Chatteris on Saturday, Feb. 11th. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m., and please advise Mr. A. J. Abrams if you ARE coming. Bells available 2.30 p.m., methods up to London Minor. If attendance at this meeting is not better than of late the amalgamation with Wisbech and Ely branches will be advised. Suggestions, advice, members all welcomed.—F. Warrington, Dis. Sec.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Felkirk on Saturday, Feb. 11th. Bells (6) ready 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Those requiring teas please notify me by Wednesday, Feb. 8th. Buses: Barnsley to Fitzwilliam (Pioneer) 10 minutes past even hour direct. Barnsley to Ryhill via *White House* 10 minutes' walk from the church. A hearty welcome to all. — D. Smith, Hon. Sec., Rock Cottages, Shafton, near Barnsley.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—Bi-quarterly meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Coleshill, on Saturday, February 11th. Bells (8) available from 3.30. Tea will be arranged.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham, 11.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Botolph's, Boston, on Saturday, Feb. 11th. Bells available from 2.15. Service 4.15. Tea in the Memorial Hall at 5 p.m. Business meeting afterwards. Will all intending to be present please let me know by Tuesday, Feb. 7th?—W. E. Clarke, Hon. Sec., Park House, 99, Norfolk Street, Boston, Lincs.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The Burton District will hold its first meeting of the year at Newhall on Saturday, Feb. 11th. Tea and meeting in Church Room at 4.45 p.m. Any visitors will be welcomed, and it is hoped all members will make a special effort to be present. Please notify me re tea by Wednesday, Feb. 8th.—J. W. Cotton, Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A ringing meeting will be held at Tibshelf on Saturday, Feb. 11th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Tea in Church Hall at 5 o'clock. Please send number requiring tea to me by Wednesday, Feb. 8th.—J. W. England, 49, The Common, South Normanton.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northwich Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held at Davenham on Saturday, Feb. 11th. All ringers are welcome. Will those requiring tea, kindly provided by the Rector, please notify me on or before Feb. 9th?—H. Parker, 3, London Road, Davenham, Cheshire.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Harworth (6), near Bawtry, on Feb. 11th. Rounds to Surprise. All ringers welcome. Please send me a card for tea. — R. Towler, 69, Ordsall Road, Retford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The monthly meeting of this branch will be held at St. Francis Xavier's, on Saturday, Feb. 11th. The tower will be open at 2.30 p.m. Service at 4. Tea and meeting to follow. There will be further ringing in the evening. A hearty invitation is extended to all ringers.—G. R. Newton, Branch Sec., 57, Ampthill Road, Liverpool 17.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—The spring meeting will be held at Walmer on Saturday, February 11th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m., tea following (1s. per head). Please send your names for tea to Mr. F. A. Rye, 6, Castle Road, Walmer, near Deal, not later than Thursday, February 9th. Subscriptions for 1939 are now due, and may be paid to me at this meeting.—B. J. Luck, Hon. Dis. Sec., 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual general meeting Feb. 11th. Ringing, St. James', Clerkenwell, 2.30 to 3.30; St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, 2.30 to 3.30; St. Clement Danes, Strand, 3 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 7 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. (New Service Book). Tea, Perdy's Restaurant, 5 p.m. Business meeting, Parish Room, 7.30 p.m., followed by handbell competition. Names for this and tea as soon as possible to T. W. Taffender, Hon. Sec., 26, Southway, Raynes Park, S.W. 20.

LADIES' GUILD.—South Midland District.—A meeting will be held at Staverton (6 bells) on Saturday, Feb. 11th. Service 4.15. Names for tea should be sent to Mrs. Powell, Staverton Vicarage, Daventry, by previous Wednesday.—S. Thursfield, Hon. Sec., Cranford Rectory, Kettering.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The adjourned annual meeting of the West Norfolk Branch will be held at Swaffham on Saturday, Feb. 11th, not on Feb. 4th, as first arranged. Service at 4.30. Tea, 1s. each, at Messrs. Lane's Café at 5 o'clock.—W. J. Eldred, Branch Sec., 4, Wellington Street, King's Lynn.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Higher Walton (8 bells) on Saturday, February 11th. Tower open 3 o'clock. A good attendance will be much appreciated.—A. Blogg, Branch Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch.—Newport Pagnell Deanery. — A meeting at Stoke Goldington, Saturday, Feb. 11th. Ring up 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 4.45.—Rev. J. F. Amies, Ravenstone Vicarage, Olney,

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—Monthly meeting at Blunsdon on Saturday, Feb. 11th. Light six. Usual arrangements. — W. B. Kynaston, 3, Dumbarton Terrace, Victoria Road, Swindon, Wilts.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Derby District.—The annual meeting will be held at Derby on Saturday, Feb. 11th. By kind permission of the Provost, the bells of the Cathedral (10) will be available from 4.30 p.m. till 8.30 p.m. Business meeting, for the election of officers for the ensuing year and other business, will be held in the belfry at 4 o'clock, and for the convenience of those who care to attend earlier, handbells will be provided. All ringers welcome. — George Freebrey, Local Hon. Sec., 81, Roe Street, Derby.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ilchester Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Martock on Saturday, Feb. 11th. Bells available all the afternoon. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. Please notify for tea.—F. Farrant, Martock.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch.—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, Feb. 11th. Service, 5 p.m., at St. Mary's Church. Tea, 1s. per head, at St. Mary's Church House, Chain Street, followed by meeting. Ringing at St. Peter's, Caversham, St. Mary's and St. Laurence's during afternoon, 3.30 p.m. to 5 p.m. Please let me know by Wednesday, Feb. 8th, how many for tea.—E. G. Foster, Hon. Sec., 401, London Road, Reading.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Southill on Saturday, Feb. 11th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All will be welcome. Please come and let us have a good company.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wotton Branch.—Meeting at Stinchcombe, near Dursley, Feb. 11th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—W. J. Smith, 130, Station Road, Yate, Bristol.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Maidstone District will be held at All Saints', Maidstone, on Saturday, Feb. 11th. The peal of 10 bells will be available from 3 till 5, and after tea. A special business meeting will take place following the tea at the Old Palace. Members who do not send their notifications to me by Wednesday, Feb. 15th, must be prepared to make their own arrangements for tea.—A. Waddington, Hon. Dis. Sec., Malthouse Farm, Egerton.

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SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Storrington on Saturday, February 11th. Tower open 2.45 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. at the Old Forge Tea Rooms, 1s. Half rail fares (maximum 1s. 6d.) to members.—F. H. Meeten, Hon. Div. Sec., 22, North Street, Worthing.

LADIES' GUILD AND SURREY ASSOCIATION.—A joint mid-week meeting will be held at Benhilton on Wednesday, Feb. 15th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Tea, 5.30, at the Rendezvous Café, Sutton Green. Ringing again in the evening. Numbers for tea to be sent to Mr. F. H. Randall, 7 Bushey Road, Sutton, by Monday, Feb. 13th.—I. R. Housden and F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Secs.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Ledbury District.—Annual meeting of this district will be held at Colwall on Saturday, Feb. 18th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service in St. Crispen's Chapel 4.45 p.m. Tea in Parish Room 5.15 p.m., to be followed by annual business meeting. All ringers welcome. Will all those requiring tea please let me know by Wednesday, 15th?—A. Jones, jun., The Reddings, Colwall, near Malvern.

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—Exeter Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Exminster on Feb. 18th. Service 4.30. Tea at 5, 1s. each. Visiting Kenton after tea. Motor coach leaves Paul St. Park, Exeter, at 2.45. Seats 1s. 6d. each. Bands and visitors kindly notify me by Feb. 11th.—W. H. Howe, Hon. Sec., 8, Courtenay Road, Exeter.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Great Bentley (bells 8) on Saturday, Feb. 18th. Service in Church at 4.30, followed by the meeting at 5 p.m. Will all those intending to be present please notify me as soon as possible? — J. R. Sparling, Dis. Sec., Station Hotel, Wivenhoe.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—South Forest Branch.—Next meeting will be held at Ruardean on Saturday, Feb. 18th. Bells (8) open 3.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting at 5 p.m. in Church Room. Ringers who require tea must let me know by Wednesday, Feb. 15th. — Oliver Thomas, Branch Hon. Sec., 11, Victoria Road, Lydney, Glos.

SIGN OF APPROACHING SPRING, meeting at Bushey, Saturday, Feb. 18th. Tower open from 3.30 till 8.30. Herts Association.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, on Saturday, Feb. 18th. Ringing at 6 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—Joseph H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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'SYNTHETIC' BELLS.

Bells reproduced from gramophone records and broadcast through amplifiers from church towers are heard in these days in many places. Such imitations are deplored for many reasons, but we have not heard that there has yet been any application for an installation of this kind which has been challenged before a Consistory Court. The apparatus cannot be set up without a faculty, but there are now a number of churches where it is used. It was not until the installation of 'synthetic' bells was made at St. John's, Weymouth, about a year ago that ringing organisations took any serious steps to raise the question with diocesan authorities, and then the Dorchester District of the Salisbury Guild sent its protest to the Bishop. From recent information it appears that the question has received serious attention in the diocese. The Bishop investigated the subject with his Archdeacons and arrived at a decision which is, perhaps, a fair compromise as far as it goes. In future the Advisory Committee, we understand, will not advise a faculty for 'synthetic' bells if a bell or peal is already available in the church.

That, at any rate, is so much gained, but there are other dangers, the chief of which is that, in the design of future churches, architects, with an eye on cost, will content themselves with a shell of a tower, knowing that if the structure will not carry a ring of bells the gramophone substitute may be employed. There is nothing, we believe, to stop this being done, because (we write subject to correction) until a church is consecrated the Advisory Committee have no official voice in its building, and the Chancellor has no veto upon such an installation. New churches usually go up in districts where there is no traditional interest in bells and no one to take any action in arousing interest. The only course open in regard to new churches is to endeavour to obtain the moral support of Bishops and Archdeacons, so that they may use their influence in securing, where a tower is part of the design of the church, that it shall be a structure sufficiently strong to take a ringing peal of bells, even if, for the time being, such a peal cannot be provided. In these days of economy, churches are too often designed without any tower at all, but where a tower is included it ought not to be too much to ask that it shall be built sufficiently strong to fulfil the original purpose of all church towers. Shams and imitations should not be encouraged in anything to do with the Church, least of all in the buildings in which worship is to be carried on, perhaps, for centuries. Real towers and real bells ought not to be replaced with brick shells and gramophone records. It savours of shoddy and make-believe.

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TWELVE BELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 4, 1939, in Four Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR, SOUTHWARK,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 50 cwt. in B.

HORACE BELCHER ...	*Treble*	RAYMOND G. COUSINS	7
HERBERT LANGDON	2	DANIEL D. COOPER	8
HENRY G. MILES...	3	ALFRED B. PECK	9
R. CONGRAVE PRIDGEON ...	4	JACK A. WAUGH	10
WILLIAM H. PASMORE ...	5	RICHARD F. DEAL	11
JACK M. CRIPPS	6	FRANK E. DARBY	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by FRANK E. DARBY.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 4, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5018 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. 12 lb.

*GEOFFREY HARRISON	*Treble*	HARRY BROUGHTON	7
W. ERNEST RAWSON... ...	2	FREDERICK H. DEXTER ...	8
JOSEPH S. CARTER	3	ARNOLD BRUNTON	9
J. FREDERICK MILNER ...	4	JOSEPH A. FENTON	10
HARRY G. WAYNE	5	C. FERGUSON HOWITT ...	11
*RICHARD F. ROE	6	*ARTHUR DEBENHAM ...	*Tenor*

Composed by F. H. DEXTER. Conducted by A. BRUNTON.

* First peal on twelve bells. First peal as conductor on twelve bells.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, February 4, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5018 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

HOWARD HOWELL	*Treble*	GEORGE W. HUGHES ...	7
HERBERT KNIGHT	2	PERCY N. G. RAINEY ...	8
BARNABAS G. KEY	3	*NORMAN G. LEECH	9
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER ...	4	GILBERT HARDING	10
WILLIAM FISHER	5	THOMAS J. ELTON	11
HAROLD SMITH	6	CHARLES H. WOODBERRY...	*Tenor*

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by H. HOWELL.

* First peal on twelve bells.

TEN BELL PEALS.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 28, 1939, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5031 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

THOMAS W. TAFFENDER	*Treble*	FRANCIS D. BISHOP	6
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ...	2	E. RALPH MACKRILL	7
MISS OLIVE L. ASHBROOK ...	3	HARRY WINGROVE	8
ERNEST J. KING	4	F. DONALD BOREHAM	9
CHARLES W. OTTLEY	5	NORMAN H. MANNING...	*Tenor*

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by THOMAS H. TAFFENDER.

NORWICH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 31, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER MANCROFT,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 37 cwt. 3 qr. 15 lb. in C.

*MISS G. E. M. TUNNADINE	*Treble*	NOLAN GOLDEN	6
†MISS DOROTHY L. DITCHAM	2	ALBERT G. WARNES	7
CLIFFORD BIRD	3	†GEORGE SAYER	8
GEORGE MAYERS	4	BERTIE J. HOWCHIN	9
*CEDRIC CURSON	5	WILLIAM G. MAYER	*Tenor*

Composed by JAMES GEORGE. Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal on ten bells. † First peal of Bob Royal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

APPLETON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 28, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 14¾ cwt.

*FRANK WHITE	*Treble*	FREDERICK MESSENGER ...	5
†FRANCIS A. WHITE	2	GEORGE HOLIFIELD	6
FREDERICK C. WHITE ...	3	RICHARD WHITE	7
ARTHUR H. WHITE	4	ERNEST CADEL	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE HOLIFIELD.

* First peal. † First peal on an 'inside' bell.

RUARDEAN, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(SOUTH FOREST BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 28, 1939, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' ONE-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

JOSEPH HARPER	*Treble*	J. WEBB...	5
JOHN AUSTIN...	2	J. W. DAVIS	6
JOHN CLARK	3	WILLIAM BISHOP	7
GEORGE WILES	4	HAROLD MEEK	*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to Howard Reid, a much respected member of the Ruardean company.

NORTH ELMHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 30, 1939, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

JOHN A. GODFREY	*Treble*	ROBERT MARSH	5
LESLIE W. PAGE	2	WILLIAM R. WEST	6
CHARLES E. COPEMAN... ...	3	WALTER C. MEDLER	7
ERIC DURRANT	4	ERNEST V. BLAKE ...	*Tenor*

Composed by F. N. GOLDEN. Conducted by E. V. BLAKE.

DARTFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 30, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 18¾ cwt. in E flat.

HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ...	*Treble*	GEOFFREY V. MORPHY ...	5
HARRY HOSKINS	2	*JAMES E. BAILEY	6
DEREK M. SHARP	3	GEORGE H. CROSS	7
*JOHN WHEADON...	4	PHILIP A. CORBY ...	*Tenor*

Composed by A. CRAVEN. Conducted by H. E. AUDSLEY.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells. A birthday compliment to the conductor and to Mr. J. M. Bailey, of Leiston, Suffolk.

SAWLEY, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 2, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 9¾ cwt.

W. RICHARDSON DRAGE	*Treble*	GIRLING RIGBY	5
WILLIAM DAWSON	2	ERNEST MORRIS	6
CHARLES HUTCHINSON ...	3	CHARLES GEARY	7
WILLIAM H. T. KING	4	EDMUND C. CHASTY ...	*Tenor*

Composed by CANON G. H. RIDOUT. Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS

NOTTINGHAM.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 2, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

*HAROLD BROWN... ...	*Treble*	FRANK BRADLEY	5
WALTER NICHOLS	2	J. ALFRED BARRATT	6
JOHN E. HOBBS	3	RALPH NARBOROUGH	7
FRANK W. BROWN	4	FREDERICK A. SALTER...	*Tenor*

Composed by G. F. WILLIAMS. Conducted by FREDERICK A. SALTER

* First peal of Major and first attempt.

ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, February 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARNABAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

*ALBERT L. PETTIGREW ...	*Treble*	†ALFRED J. ALLEN	5
GEORGE F. SWANN	2	FREDERICK W. RISBWORTH	6
RONALD I. SHEPHERD ...	3	FRED PRICE...	7
WILLIAM PETTIGREW ...	4	ALLEN SHORT	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE F. SWANN.

* First peal away from the tenor. † First peal. Arranged and rung as a compliment to the Rev. Canon Swindell, 49 years Vicar of Erdington, on his 84th birthday.

PRESTWICH, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 4, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

NORMAN BERRY	*Treble*	WILLIAM BRAMMER	5
HERBERT A. MCKINNELL...	2	STANLEY N. HARRISON ...	6
*GEORGE A. BELL	3	JOHN HASSELL	7
FRANK REYNOLDS	4	CECIL RADDON	*Tenor*

Composed by W. BERRY. Conducted by F. REYNOLDS.

* First peal of Bob Major. First peal as conductor.

BOURNEMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 4, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 20¼ cwt. in E

FRANCIS S. BEAUMONT	*Treble*	ARTHUR V. DAVIS	5
F. FRANKLAND RIGBY... ...	2	WILLIAM E. CHEATER ...	6
GEORGE WILLIAMS	3	REGINALD A. REED	7
WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT ...	4	FREDERICK W. ROGERS	*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by FREDERICK W. ROGERS.

First peal of Major on the bells since recasting by Messrs. Taylor and Co., and first peal of Surprise rung in the tower.

DUNMOW, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 4, 1939, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 21½ cwt.

*RICHARD PORTWAY ...	*Treble*	HILDA G. SNOWDEN	5
RONALD SUCKLING	2	GEORGE SAUNDERS	6
*DONALD N. JENNINGS ...	3	LEWIS W. WIFFEN	7
*GEORGE SCHLUETER	4	H. WALTER SMITH ...	*Tenor*

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by LEWIS W. WIFFEN.

* First peal in the method.

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BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF ZETLAND SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

JOHN E. ROOTES	...*Treble*	CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	5
HENRY HODGETTS	2	EDWIN JENNINGS	6
MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT ...	3	FRANCIS KIRK	7
FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW ...	4	HAROLD G. CASHMORE	...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

The first peal in the method.

ESCRICK, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 4, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 11 lb. in F.

*STEDMAN H. STEEL ...	...*Treble*	FRED TERRY	5
*WALTER LEACH	2	RONALD H. DOVE	6
HORACE S. MORLEY	3	*WILLIAM HAWLEY	7
*MRS. E. BRADLEY	4	EDWARD BRADLEY ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by T. LOCKWOOD. Conducted by E. BRADLEY.

* First peal in the method.

HEADCORN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 4, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

PHILIP HODGKIN	...*Treble*	WILLIAM A. OLDFIELD ...	5
CHARLES H. SONE	2	THOMAS E. SONE	6
PERCY PAGE	3	ROBERT T. LAMBERT	7
WILLIAM WENBAN	4	LUTHER J. HONESS ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 408). Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE

GORLESTON-ON-SEA.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

ARTHUR W. BIRD ...	...*Treble*	ARTHUR G. KING	5
R. WILLIAM BARBER... ...	2	ALFRED J. MOY	6
*STANLEY W. GALL	3	†JOHN DENTON	7
CLAYTON PARNELL	4	†DENIS A. BAYLES ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by B. ANNABLE. Conducted by DENIS A. BAYLES.

* First peal of Bob Major. † First peal of Major. First peal of Bob Major on the bells.

WORTLEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, February 4, 1939, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 17 lb. in G.

WILLIAM A. WOOLER ...	...*Treble*	JOHN R. BREARLEY	5
ARTHUR PANTHER	2	JAMES H. CHARLESWORTH ...	6
WILLIE GREEN	3	ARTHUR GILL	7
ERNEST BROOKES...	4	DANIEL SMITH	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. LEWIS. Conducted by DANIEL SMITH.

THE RINGERS' HANDBOOK

by E. S. and M. POWELL.

Containing full and complete instruction from the first handling of a bell to the ringing and conducting of peals of Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob.

Large selection of Compositions included.

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SIX BELL PEALS.

STISTED, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, January 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 St. Clement's, two 720's Kent Treble Bob, 1,440 Oxford Treble Bob and two 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt. in A.

RALPH BIRD	...*Treble*	REGINALD G. SIMMONDS ...	4
ALBERT L. DIXEY	2	RONALD SUCKLING	5
*GEOFFREY EVERETT	3	VICTOR MORLEY	...*Tenor*

Conducted by RALPH BIRD.

* First peal in more than one method.

CLIFFORD, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, January 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being six 120's of Canterbury Pleasure and 36 of Grandsire, 14 callings. Tenor 12½ cwt.

BERNARD H. DAVIES ...	...*Treble*	FREDERICK J. WATKINS ...	4
DAVID H. BENNETT	2	ALBERT E. JONES...	5
JAMES P. HYETT	3	RICHARD J. GWATKIN ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by D. H. BENNETT.

TENDRING, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 23, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND.

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's. Tenor 7½ cwt.

GEORGE E. JENNINGS	...*Treble*	MISS VIOLET A. FROST ...	4
*ALBERT HALES	2	†HARRY LAITT	5
†CHARLES MARVERN	3	URBAN W. WILDNEY ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by URBAN W. WILDNEY.

* First peal 'inside.' † First peal.

DARRINGTON, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 24, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being four 720's of Oxford Treble Bob Minor and three of Kent Treble Bob Minor. Tenor 13 cwt.

MRS. EDWARD BRADLEY	...*Treble*	WILLIAM HAWLEY	4
HARRY C. WALTERS	2	CHARLES BROWN	5
EDWARD BRADLEY	3	ALBERT T. STRANGWARD	...*Tenor*

Conducted by HARRY C. WALTERS.

TRYSULL, STAFFS.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Wednesday, January 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, 12 callings. Tenor 11 cwt. 17 lb.

*J. DENIS HOLDEN ...	...*Treble*	HAROLD SMITH	4
BARNABAS G. KEY	2	HOWARD HOWELL	5
†ROGER HAWKSWORTH ...	3	†JAMES DAVIES	...*Tenor*

Conducted by HOWARD HOWELL.

* First peal of Doubles. † First peal of Stedman. First peal of Doubles as conductor. Rung half-muffled as a last token of respect to Mr. Martin Burke, a ringer at this church for over 40 years.

SHIRLEY, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Wednesday, January 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES-THE-GREAT,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different 720's. Tenor 6½ cwt.

DANIEL T. MATKIN ...	...*Treble*	SIDNEY O'C. HOLLOWAY ...	4
*GEORGE H. WILLIAMS ...	2	†ARTHUR MORRIS...	5
*RONALD I. SHEPHERD ...	3	*NORMAN J. GOODMAN...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal of Minor away from the treble. First peal of Minor on tower bells and as conductor.

NOTTINGHAM.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, January 26, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
Seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lb.

*HAROLD BROWN ... ...*Treble*		FRANK BRADLEY 4	
FREDERICK A. SALTER ... 2		WALTER NICHOLS 5	
†HAROLD PARFREMENT ... 3		RALPH NARBOROUGH ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by RALPH NARBOROUGH.

* First peal on tower bells and first peal of Minor. † First peal of Minor away from the treble.

DARLINGTON.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, January 27, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven extents, viz.: (1) Carlisle; (2) Canterbury and Newcastle; (3) London and Wells; (4) York and Durham; (5) Chester and Munden; (6) Surfleet and Beverley; (7) Cambridge. Tenor 7½ cwt.

ROBERT JEFF... ... ...*Treble*		GEORGE W. PARK 4	
WILLIAM OLIVER... 2		W. NORMAN PARK 5	
RICHARD BUSBY 3		ROLAND PARK ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by ROLAND PARK.

Rung to celebrate the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. W. Norman Park.

BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 28, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one 720 of Cambridge Surprise and two 720's each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.

HARRY STEBBINGS ... ...*Treble*		FRANK C. MAY 4	
WILLIAM G. GRIDLEY 2		ALBERT E. NORTH 5	
WILLIAM S. MAY... 3		FRANK B. LUFKIN... ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN.

HELLINGLY, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 28, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven 720's called differently. Tenor 12 cwt.

FRANK H. HICKS ... ...*Treble*		LESLIE W. JARVIS 4	
ARTHUR T. LEWRY 2		GEORGE BERNBY 5	
CHARLES A. BASSETT 3		WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE.

DRAYCOTT, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 28, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different callings. Tenor 14 cwt.

CLIFFORD DOWNING ... ...*Treble*		HARRY HALL 4	
EDWARD STEELE 2		JOHN G. CARTLEDGE 5	
WILLIAM PERKINS 3		ANDREW THOMPSON ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by ANDREW THOMPSON.

BARNBY-IN-THE-WILLOWS, NOTTS.
THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION AND
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, January 28, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven extents in 14 methods: (1) Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob; (2) College and Wavertree; (3) Double Bob and Fulbeck; (4) Double Oxford and Thelwall; (5) St. Clement's and Childwall; (6) Oxford Bob and Plain Bob; (7) Double Court and Court Bob. Tenor 6¼ cwt.

*ERIC WILCOCK ... ...*Treble*		*JOHN C. VESSEY... 4	
MISS DOROTHY VESSEY ... 2		*KENNETH W. MAYER ... 5	
*JOHN F. PEARSON 3		JACK L. MILLHOUSE ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

* First peal in 14 methods. First peal in 14 methods as conductor. There were 103 changes of method.

LITTLE COMBERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, January 28, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being four six-scores of Plain Bob and 38 of Grandsire, with ten callings. Tenor 14 cwt.

SAM MOORE ... ...*Treble*		CHARLES EDWIN 4	
JOSEPH E. NEWMAN 2		EDWARD MOORE 5	
RALPH HARRIS 3		ARTHUR RICHARDSON ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by RALPH HARRIS.

MEARS ASHBY, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, January 28, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different extents. Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qr. 2 lb.

*ARTHUR READER ... ...*Treble*		GEOFFREY E. WATSON ... 4	
BERNARD J. SADDINGTON ... 2		CHRISTOPHER G. HENDRY ... 5	
*WILLIAM G. CALLIS 3		SIDNEY G. MUNTON ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by SIDNEY G. MUNTON.

* First peal.

OLD LEAKE, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, January 28, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven extents in 14 methods: (1) Duke of Norfolk, College Exercise, Norbury and Ockley; (2) Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston, Capel and Oxford; (3) Old Oxford; (4) College Bob IV.; (5) Wilesden; (6) Newdigate; (7) Cambridge Surprise. Tenor 12 cwt. (approx.).

*DONALD FLATTERS .. ...*Treble*		ALBERT E. FLATTERS 4	
WILLIAM WILKINSON ... 2		CYRIL WANDER 5	
ARTHUR YOUNG 3		JOHN R. KEMP ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by A. YOUNG.

* First peal of Minor. First peal in 14 methods by all except conductor. First peal as conductor.

EXHALL, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.
On Saturday, January 28, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven 720's. Tenor 6½ cwt.

*CHARLES GARDENER ... ...*Treble*		FRANK W. PERRENS 4	
ERNEST STONE 2		JOHN W. TAYLOR... 5	
†JOHN TAYLOR 3		GEORGE GARDENER ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by JOHN W. TAYLOR.

* First peal. † First peal of Minor on an 'inside' bell. First peal as conductor.

CLIFFORD, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tuesday, January 31, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Morning Star, Clifford, Percy's Pleasure, Canterbury Pleasure, Reverse Canterbury, London Doubles and Grandsire. Tenor 12¼ cwt.

*EDWARD J. HILL ... ...*Treble*		DAVID H. BENNETT 4	
*FREDERICK J. WATKINS ... 2		JAMES P. HYETT 5	
*ALBERT E. JONES 3		*RICHARD J. GWATKIN... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by J. P. HYETT.

* First peal in seven methods. Rung as a farewell to R. J. Gwatkin.

SUTTON, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thursday, February 2, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings. Tenor 11 cwt.

*LEONARD ATTWOOD ... ...*Treble*		AUSTIN T. WINGATE 4	
ERNEST WILLIAMS 2		ERNEST F. SALMONS 5	
GEORGE T. COUSINS 3		WILLIAM E. HINSEY ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by AUSTIN T. WINGATE.

* First peal.

CAPENHURST, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 4, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 7200 CHANGES;
Comprising one extent each of Canterbury, Carlisle, Chester, Beverley, Surfleet, York, Durham, London, Wells and Cambridge.
Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qr. 15 lb. in G.

WILLIAM E. FLETCHER	...*Treble*	RALPH G. EDWARDS	4
LESTER L. GRAY	2	GEORGE LEDSHAM	5
FRANK VARTY	3	THOMAS ROGERS	...*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK VARTY.
First peal in ten methods and longest length for all the band.

FULMER, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
being 720 each of Beverley, Surfleet, Norwich and Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 7¼ cwt.

T. JOHN FOWLER	...*Treble*	GEORGE MARTIN	4
KATHLEEN E. FLETCHER ...	2	GEORGE GUTTERIDGE	5
DOROTHY R. FLETCHER ...	3	HARRY WINGROVE ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by HARRY WINGROVE.

KIRKBY MALLORY, LEICESTER.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
(HINCKLEY DISTRICT.)
On Saturday, February 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of April Day, Canterbury and Plain Bob, and 1,440 each of St. Simon's and Grandsire. Tenor 9 cwt.

*MICHAEL E. RAZEY ...	...*Treble*	FRANCIS R. DEACON	4
MALCOLM E. BACON	2	NORMAN STATHAM	5
E. AUBREY BURCH	3	JAMES PRESTON	...*Tenor*

Conducted by F. R. DEACON.
* First peal. First peal on the bells since augmentation to six. Rung as a farewell to M. Razey.

WYCHBOLD, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(WESTERN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, February 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-DE-WYCHE,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 11½ cwt.

*WALTER H. RAXTER...	...*Treble*	GEORGE E. LARGE	4
ALLEN MORGAN...	2	REGINALD WOODYATT ...	5
WILLIAM RANFORD	3	THOMAS W. LEWIS ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE.
* First seven-method peal.

HOPE VILLAGE, NORTH WALES.
THE NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 10 cwt.

*FRED HOMAN	...*Treble*	JACK L. EVANS	4
†JACK DEAN	2	HORACE L. WAIT	5
†JOE GRIFFITHS	3	†JAMES W. FULLER ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. H. FULLER.
* First peal. † First peal of Minor and first attempt.

BRIGHTWELL, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. AGATHA,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven differently called 720's. Tenor 11 cwt.

*J. RAYMOND PEASE ...	...*Treble*	†FRANK CASTELL	4
*JOHN CASTELL	2	WALTER V. WEBB	5
EDWARD V. NAISH	3	OLIVER G. BARNARD ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by OLIVER G. BARNARD.
* First peal of Minor. † First peal. First peal of Minor on the bells. Rung on the eve of the patronal festival.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BELGRAVE, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, January 26, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,
AT THE BULL'S HEAD INN,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
WASHBROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor, size 17½ in A flat.

WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ...	1-2	ERNEST MORRIS	5-6
EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD ...	3-4	*WILLIAM BOTTRILL	7-8

Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.
* First peal 'in hand' and first attempt.

KELHAM, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, February 5, 1939, in One Hour and Thirty-Nine Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID, KELHAM THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven 720's called differently.

JAMES TRAINER	1-2	*T. BARLOW BROWN	3-4
ALBERT F. SARGENT	5-6		

Conducted by ALBERT F. SARGENT.
* First peal on 3-4.

KELHAM, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, February 5, 1939, in One Hour and Forty-Five Minutes.
AT THE HOUSE OF THE SACRED MISSION,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven 720's called differently.

*MICHAEL A. WIGGINS ...	1-2	PHILIP J. BODLSOVER	3-4
ALBERT F. SARGENT	5-6		

Conducted by A. F. SARGENT.
* First peal.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

KINGTON DISTRICT'S ACTIVITIES.

The Kington District Branch of the Hereford Diocesan Guild held their annual meeting at Lyonshall on Saturday, January 28th. Ringing took place in the afternoon, and the Guild's form of service was conducted by the Vicar of Titley (the Rev. A. S. Hutchinson), in the absence of the Rev. Ellison (Vicar of Lyonshall) through illness. The local captain of the ringers (Mr. Brown), who is also organist and Vicar's warden, presided at the organ. Tea, prepared at the Vicarage, was kindly given by the Vicar.

The business meeting was attended by 16 members.

Reference was made to the death of Mrs. Edwards, wife of the Guild Ringing Master, and the chairman asked the members to stand in silence to her memory.

The district secretary reported that in the past year three meetings and five combined practices had been held. Four methods of Doubles and four of Minor had been rung at the meetings and practices. Eight peals of Doubles and two of Minor had been rung at six towers, two other peal attempts had been made, and members had rung in peals outside the district. The District Ringing Master conducted five peals and two other members one each, one his first on his 16th birthday. Five members rang their first peal, three their first of Minor and three their first of Triples. Three members had qualified for the certificates of membership, six new members had been admitted to the Guild, including four girls of 13 and under from one tower, and one honorary member.

The district officers were re-elected and a new district committee formed.

The next meeting was arranged to be held at Weobley in May, if convenient, and combined practices at Eardisland and Staunton-on-Arrow.

Votes of thanks were passed to all who had helped in any way to make the meeting a success.

The tower was then again visited and ringing took place in various methods of Doubles and Minor. Owing to the wintry weather, the attendance was smaller than usual. There are six towers of six bells and one five-bell tower in the district in union with the Hereford Guild.

BELL ROPES
MADE FROM ITALIAN HEMP, OR ITALIAN FLAX.
SOFT AND PLIABLE IN HAND. ALL ROPES SENT CARRIAGE PAID AND ON APPROVAL.
Cheap Quotations. Established 150 years. 'Phone 203.
DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

PEAL NOTES.

TWO HANDBELL PEALS AT KELHAM.

Another student at Kelham Theological College has scored his first peal, Michael Wiggins having rung 1-2 to a handbell peal of Bob Minor on Sunday. It was the second handbell peal rung at the college the same day.

The veteran Vicar of Erdington (Canon Swindell) celebrated his 84th birthday on Saturday, and a peal of Stedman Triples was rung at St. Barnabas' Church in his honour. He has been Vicar of Erdington for 49 years.

Albert L. Pettigrew, whose first peal this was, and Alfred J. Allen, who rang his first peal away from the tenor, are young members of the Aston band, still in their 'teens. They both rang well and show good promise for the future. Aston is developing the right sort of material.

The peal at Prestwich, Lancashire, on Saturday, was a birthday compliment to Mr. G. A. Bell, who rang his first peal of Bob Major.

The peal of Bob Minor at Hope Village, North Wales, on February 4th, was arranged and rung as a birthday peal for the conductor's son, who was five that day, also to celebrate the christening of J. L. Evans' first grandchild. The peal was to have been rung by the Rhyl ringers, but one was prevented from taking part in it, and Mr. H. L. Wait, of Watford, who is working in the district, kindly stood in and was elected a member of the association before starting. The ringers were kindly entertained to tea after the peal by Mr. and Mrs. Fuller, sen.

The company at Ruardean, Gloucestershire, has lost a much respected member by the death of Mr. Howard Reid. A half-muffled peal of Grandsire Triples as a last token of respect was rung on Saturday, January 28th.

The first peal of Minor on the bells at Brightwell, Berks, was rung on Saturday on the eve of the patronal festival. The church is dedicated to St. Agatha.

The peal of Superlative rung at St. Peter's, Bournemouth, on Saturday, besides being the first peal of Surprise ever rung in the tower, was also the first in the method by Messrs. F. S. Beaumont and A. V. Davis, both members of the local company. The bells were recast a year or so ago by Messrs. Taylor and Co.

A peal of Grandsire Triples, composed by Canon G. H. Ridout, of Johannesburg, South Africa, was rung at Sawley, Derbyshire, on February 2nd.

A peal in seven Doubles methods at Clifford, Herefordshire, on January 31st, was a farewell to Mr. R. J. Gwatkin, who was leaving the district. Previous to the peal the Vicar presented Mr. Gwatkin with a shaving outfit, in case, in appreciation of his services as a parish clerk and ringer, the subscribers being the Vicar, churchwardens and ringers.

PEALS IN 14 MINOR METHODS.

With 103 changes of method, 14 methods were rung in seven extents at Barnby-in-the-Willows, Notts, on January 28th. Four of the band rang their first peal in 14 methods, and Mr. Jack Millhouse called his first in 14 methods.

Another peal in 14 Minor methods was rung on the same day at Old Leake, Lincolnshire. These were all Treble Bob methods, but splicing was employed only in the two first extents. It was the first peal in 14 methods by all except Mr. Arthur Young, and it was his first peal as conductor.

After the peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major at Dartford, Kent, on January 30th, rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor (Mr. H. E. Audsley) and Mr. J. M. Bailey, of Leiston, Suffolk, Mr. John Wheadon was deservedly congratulated upon breaking fresh ground at an age when quite a lot of ringers are thinking of resting on their laurels. It was Mr. Wheadon's first peal of Yorkshire.

Another member of the family of White, of Appleton, has begun his peal ringing career. On January 28th Frank White rang the treble to a peal of Grandsire Triples and thus follows in the long tradition in this village, where Whites have been identified with the bells for over a hundred years.

A peal of Bob Minor on January 28th at Mears Ashby, Northants, was rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. R. Coleman, of Kettering, whose infant son, Graham Alfred, was baptised at All Saints', Pytchley, on the previous Sunday.

The peal of Bob Major at St. Peter's, Nottingham, on Feb. 2nd, was Mr. F. Bradley's 100th. He is a very greatly respected Sunday service member of St. Peter's, always ready to assist young ringers and to give every encouragement to less capable members in the tower, and the band heartily congratulated him on his achievement.

It is interesting to record that his first peal, rung in January, 1924, was Bob Major, also conducted by his friend, Mr. F. A. Salter, and they have now rung 78 peals together, Mr. Salter having conducted 33 of them.

The treble ringer, Mr. Harold Brown, rang his first tower-bell peal the previous Thursday, a peal of Bob Minor at St. Mary's, Nottingham, and the band also wish to express their appreciation of the capable manner in which he performed his part.

Few young ringers score a peal of Stedman Cinques to celebrate their 15th birthday, but Geoffrey Harrison, of Loughborough, has had this distinction. He took part in a peal of Stedman Cinques at Leicester Cathedral on Saturday, and it was a welcome return to ringing after his recent accident, when he broke an arm.

TEN EXTENTS OF SURPRISE MINOR.

At Capenhurst, Cheshire, on Saturday, ten extents in as many different Surprise Minor methods were rung, making, of course, 7,200 changes. It was the first peal in ten methods and the longest peal by all the band. It occupied two minutes under four hours. Mr. G. Ledsham rang his 25th peal, 24 of which have been rung with the conductor, Mr. F. Varty.

The secretary of the Leicester Thursday band of P.G.'s being engaged, on January 26th, four of the company met at the Bull's Head, Belgrave, Leicester (where Mr. W. Bottrill, late of the Metropolitan Police, is 'mine host'), and rang a peal of Stedman Triples 'in hand.'

Members of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford swooped down upon St. Mary's Church, Kidderminster, Worcestershire, on February 4th, and carried off a peal of Stedman Cinques. It was a birthday compliment to Norman G. Leech, who rang his first peal on twelve bells.

Mr Michael E. Razey, of Kirkby Mallory, Leicestershire, has just joined the Royal Navy. Last Saturday, February 4th, prior to his departure, a farewell peal of Doubles was rung, and he will take away with him the pleasant memory of having scored his first peal. It was also the first peal on the bells since their augmentation to six.

Zetland Surprise has now been rung by the Watford band, who scored the first peal in the method at Bushey on Saturday. It was Mr. Maurice Hibbert's 150th Surprise peal.

Messrs. W. A. Wooler and J. E. Brearley rang their 50th peal together when they took part in a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at Wortley, Yorkshire, on February 4th. The composition, rung for the first time, was one by Mr. George Lewis, which contains the 4, 5 and 6 their extent in 5-6, without the 2nd in 6th's.

THE KIDS.

The church at Wychbold, Worcestershire, where a peal in seven Minor methods was rung on February 4th, adjoins Droitwich transmitting station, whose giant masts make the church tower seem puny in comparison.

The peal was rung by the 'Kids'—so called because they will go peal snatching and tower grabbing when the 'men' of the branch are away. The chief 'kid' is young Bill Ranford, alias 'Father,' who has now rung 449 peals and is in his 70th year. Tom Lewis, another of the 'gang,' is nearing the two hundred mark, while the others, although a long way behind, have fairly respectable totals.

Mr. T. E. Sone, of Paddock Wood, Kent, rang his 200th peal as conductor, including 75 of Kent Treble Bob Major, when at Headcorn on February 4th he called another peal in this method by Arthur Knights, which was rung for the first time. The composition was a 6,336 reduced to 5,024.

Messrs. Frank H. Hicks and Arthur P. Lewry rang their 50th peal together on January 28th at Hellingly.

A half-muffled peal of Stedman Doubles was rung at Trysull, Staffordshire, in memory of the late Mr. Martin Burke, a ringer at the Parish Church for over 40 years. The peal was rung on Jan. 25th.

Mr. Victor Morley rang the tenor at Stisted, Essex, to seven 720's of Minor on Sunday, January 22nd, and thus completed a peal on all the bells in the tower.

The peal of Bob Minor at Tendring rung on January 23rd had several interesting features. Mr. George Jennings, who rang the treble, has been a ringer at the church for 45 years. Mr. Marvern, who rang the third, has been parish clerk and bellringer for 35 years. This was his first peal and first attempt, and also the first by Mr. Laitt, who, too, has been a ringer at Tendring for 35 years. The ringer of the second, Albert Hales, scored his first peal 'inside.' The conductor was the only one who did not belong to the local band. The village of Tendring, it is interesting to remember, gave its name to a family which produced one of the earliest of composers, John Tendring, Master of the College Youths in 1659.

The peal of Bob Minor at Draycott on Jan. 28th was the first in the method as conductor by Mr. Andrew Thompson, and was rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Harry Hall, the ringer of the fourth.

SUSSEX RINGER'S DEATH.

The tower of St. Mary Magdalene, Bolney, has sustained a great loss through the death on January 28th of its towerkeeper, Mr. William Wheeler, after a very brief illness.

A member of the Sussex County Association, deceased was one of a band formed at Bolney by the late Mr. George Walder 37 years ago, and was most regular and punctual at both Sunday service and practice ringing. He was at one period verger and sexton at Bolney Church and was also a member of the choir. He had taken part in a number of peals rung for the Sussex County Association.

The funeral took place on February 1st and was attended by several of his brother ringers, and among the floral tributes was a wreath from the ringers. In the evening touches of Grandsire Triples were rung with the bells deeply muffled.

AGE AND YOUTH.

The conductor of a quarter-peal at Mitcham, Surrey, on Jan. 22nd, was six times as old as the ringer of the second, who rang his first quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. Mr. Dave Wright is 78, J. R. Davison is 13. The ringers were D. Wright 1, J. R. Davison 2, W. H. Joiner 3, C. W. R. Grimwood 4, G. A. West 5, C. Pothecary 6, W. S. Smith 7, W. Sparkes 8.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

OLD MEMBERS HONOURED.

A quarterly meeting of the Midland Counties Association was held on Saturday, January 28th, at Hugglescote. In spite of the severe cold and snowy weather, quite a good company assembled and the eight bells were kept going during the afternoon and evening to various methods. The committee met in the afternoon and decided to have the annual report printed as before, local secretaries being asked to include therein a short account of their district's activities during 1938.

Two long-standing members were placed on the honorary life members' list: J. E. Clarke (South Wigston) and W. E. White (Cotgrave, Notts). A special tribute was paid to the latter, who, during his long connection with the association, had so enthusiastically and conscientiously filled many offices—local secretary, chairman of the Notts District, Central Council representative, general hon. secretary and now hon. treasurer.

Tea was served at the Castle Inn, and members and friends from Burton, Derby, Loughborough, Leicester, Hinckley and Nottingham Districts assembled.

At the general meeting which followed, in the absence of Mr. J. Oldham (vice-president), Mr. William E. White was voted to the chair, and said how pleased they were to meet the Vicar of Hugglescote at the meeting.—The Vicar suitably replied, giving the members a hearty greeting and welcome.

The secretary (Mr. Ernest Morris) presented a long list of new members who had been proposed since the last meeting. No less than 38 ringing, seven rejoining, five life and six honorary members were thus duly elected, which speaks well for the association's continued activities.

Two auditors were chosen to check the accounts for 1938, viz., Mr. Paul L. Taylor and Mr. Colin Harrison.

It was reported that on the subject of special badges for Midland Counties Association members, a small committee would meet on Easter Monday before the usual committee meeting to decide exactly what should be done and choose a suitable design.

Hearty votes of thanks to the Vicar for use of the bells and the local committee for the arrangements made concluded the meeting. Handbell ringing on the association's handbells and further tower-bell ringing terminated a successful afternoon's work.

LADIES' GUILD.

EASTERN DISTRICT MEETING SPOILED BY FLOODS.

A meeting of the newly-formed Eastern District of the Ladies' Guild was held at Diss, Norfolk, on Saturday, January 28th. It was a very successful meeting, although only nine ladies attended; but their enthusiasm made up for their small numbers. Many, including the vice-president, Miss Hilda G. Snowden, were prevented from attending by the widespread floods and bad weather conditions. Those present were Miss Sylvia R. E. Bowyer (Ipswich) (hon. secretary of the branch), Miss D. F. Woolston (Ipswich), Miss Vera Gooderham (Stoke Ash), Mrs. L. Wright (Dedham), Miss E. Reeve (Ipswich), the Misses D. M. and E. G. Reeve (Hockwold), Miss M. Robertson (Norwich) and Miss A. F. Hillen (Stoke Ash).

In response to the cordial invitation extended to them, men attended in large numbers from Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex and one, in the person of Mr. A. Patrick Cannon, from as far afield as London.

The meeting began with ringing on the fine peal of eight (tenor 24 cwt. approximately). For the first time in history, a band of ladies rang Diss bells, although it was only to rounds and call changes.

A short service, conducted by the Rector, the Rev. L. Holt-Wilson, was held in the church, followed by tea at the Waveney Hotel, when a party of 37, including the Rector, was present.

At the conclusion of tea the secretary read a letter from the Bromlys Bell Fund, and a collection was made.

Following this the secretary accorded hearty thanks to the Rector, Mr. Charles Cowell (organist), Mr. A. G. Harrison (hon. secretary of the South Norfolk area) and to all who had helped to make the meeting a success.—In reply, the Rector said how pleased he was to see such a gathering, and hoped that Diss might before long produce a band of lady ringers.

A Ladies' Guild business meeting followed, Miss D. F. Woolston being elected to the chair in the absence of the vice-president. Four ringing members, the Misses D. M. and E. G. Reeve (Hockwold), Miss M. Grimsey (Ipswich) and Miss M. Jarvis (Hadleigh) were elected and one honorary member, Miss M. Bucke (Ipswich). It was decided to hold the next meeting at Colchester, if the bells were available, failing that at Braintree.

The ladies then returned to the belfry for more ringing. During the evening some of the ringers visited Palgrave, where there is a light peal of eight.

The ringing during the meeting included rounds, call changes, Plain Bob, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob and Cambridge and Superlative Surprise.

MUFFLED BELLS.

A quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung half-muffled at St. Stephen's, Hampstead, on Wednesday, January 25th, as a last tribute to Mr. Francis: R. Harman (first quarter-peal) 1, T. Bevan 2, W. Norton (conductor) 3, T. Francis 4, E. Pryor 5, E. Barnett, jun. 6, T. Bannister 7, D. Harman 8.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

STOCKPORT BRANCH PEAL RECORD.

The annual meeting of the Stockport Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild was held on Saturday, January 28th, at St. George's Church, Stockport. The fine peal of ten bells was set going soon after three o'clock and touches in various methods were rung prior to the service, at which the usual Guild form was used. It was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. A. du T. Pownall), who also gave a very fine address, taking as his text a few words from the Gospel for the following day, 'Why are ye so fearful?'

Considerable time was spent after the service in examining the magnificent organ, which was installed about two years ago at considerable expense and which is considered to be one of the finest organs in the North of England. It is a most interesting instrument both from a musical and mechanical point of view, all the stops being electrically controlled, and it has a superb tone.

Tea was served in the adjoining Parish Hall under the supervision of the local ringers' wives and a very enjoyable meal was speedily disposed of. The business meeting followed under the chairmanship of the Rev. Frank Bonner (vice-chairman of the branch), the Vicar being unable to stay to the meeting owing to parochial activities.

The Chairman said he had been assured by the Vicar of a warm welcome to St. George's, and he was sure the ringers appreciated the opportunity of visiting this beautiful church. He referred to the presence during the afternoon and at tea of Mr. A. E. Pegler, of Bangor, and Mr. H. Parker, secretary of the Northwich Branch.

The annual report and statement of accounts were presented and showed a good state of affairs. Membership had increased by one. The number of peals rung in the branch was a record, 41, ranging from Stedman Caters and Bob Royal to Bob Doubles, and including the first peal of Rochester Surprise Major for the Guild and in the county, as well as the 84 Minor methods peal. An encouraging feature was the increase of conductors, these numbering eight, while eight members rang their first peal. The financial side of the branch was also very sound.—The report and statement of accounts were adopted and the secretary thanked for the trouble expended in preparing them.

THE BEESTON LIBRARY.

The Beeston Library report was presented, and an appeal was made for greater use to be made of this valuable collection of books given to the Guild by the late Rev. A. T. Beeston. The librarian, Mr. Laflin, was thanked for the very efficient way he is carrying on the work started by Mr. Beeston of keeping a record of all the new methods rung

The election of officers for the year followed, and in view of his inability to be present at meetings, on the advice of his doctor, Mr. Wolstencroft did not wish to offer himself for election as chairman of the branch, and it was unanimously decided to elect the Rev. Frank Bonner, with Mr. T. Wilde as vice-chairman.

The secretary was instructed to write to Mr. Wolstencroft expressing their regret at the cause of his resignation and their best wishes for his speedy return to health. The remaining officers were re-elected.

Attention was drawn to the notice in 'The Ringing World' regarding non-resident members of the Guild, and members were asked to point this out to any non-resident member they might come into contact with.

Four new members were elected, Messrs. W. Barlow, H. Higginbottom (St. Mary's, Stockport), and S. Wyatt and S. Goulden, of New Mills.

It was decided to send a letter to Mr. Hough and Mr. Marshall, both of whom have served the branch in office and in other ways, expressing regret at their absence and hoping that they would soon be restored to health.

The secretary welcomed Mr. C. Edwards, Master of the Hereford Guild, who has come to live at Bowdon, and hoped that he would be very happy amongst them.—Mr. Edwards, in his reply, said he would do all in his power to help the Guild, and only requested that they should not ask too much of him.

Votes of thanks were accorded the retiring officers, the Vicar and wardens, the local ringers, the ladies who prepared tea, the organist and all who had in any way contributed to the success of the meeting.

Further ringing was enjoyed on tower bells and on handbells. The presence of many members of the Macclesfield Branch, amongst them the Ringing Master (Mr. J. Worth), was very much appreciated.

CHANGES IN CREWE BRANCH'S OFFICERS.

The annual meeting of the Crewe Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild was held at Christ Church, Crewe, on January 21st. There was an excellent attendance, 64 members being present, representing Acton, Alsager, Barthomley, Wistaston, Nantwich, Crewe, Church Lawton, Kidsgrove, Newcastle, Norton-in-Hales, Draycott, Market Drayton, Marbury, Lower Bebington, Bowden, Cheadle, Longton and Northwich.

In the unavoidable absence of the Vicar, the Rev. Sydney T. Stevens, the service was conducted by the Vicar of Marbury (the Rev. G. C. Dickson), and a most inspiring address on 'Unity' was given by the Vicar of Acton, the Rev. Charles Parry-Williams.

Tea was afterwards served in the Schoolroom, kindly given by the Vicar and wardens.

The Rev. G. C. Dickson presided at the business meeting. He explained that he was taking the place of the Rev. S. T. Stevens,

chairman of the Crewe Branch, who had suffered a great blow in the loss of both his mother and father in the same week. He knew that the whole of the branch sympathised with their chairman, and the secretary was asked to send a letter of condolence from all of them.

The Rev. S. T. Stevens was re-elected chairman, Mr. R. D. Langford hon. secretary, and Mr. W. T. Holding hon. treasurer.

The resignation of Mr. Albert Crawley from the position of instructor to the Crewe Branch was accepted with much regret, and Mr. R. D. Langford was elected in his place.

Mention was made of the fact that Mr. Crawley had only missed two annual meetings since he was made a member, in the year 1902, when he was away at the South African war, and this year; truly a wonderful record.

Mr. George Biddulph resigned from the position of Ringing Master, and Mr. J. Brough was elected to the office.

Ringing again took place after the business meeting, and touches of Grandsire Caters, Stedman Caters, Bob Major, Cambridge Major, Superlative and London Surprise Major were all enjoyed.

WIRRAL BRANCH CONGRATULATES ROCK FERRY BAND.

The annual meeting of the Wirral Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild was held at Rock Ferry (St. Peter's) on Saturday, January 21st. In spite of the miserably inclement weather, there was a fairly representative number of members present and also a good sprinkling of ringing friends from Liverpool, to whom a hearty welcome to Chester Guild meetings is always extended. Ringing in various Minor methods took place in the afternoon, and service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. J. D. Pearson), who gave a very interesting and thought-provoking address based on the meaning of the word 'sincere.' Tea followed immediately after the service, when between forty and fifty sat down to a splendid repast kindly prepared by Mrs. Cooke and her daughter, and which was much enjoyed.

During the course of the subsequent meeting hearty congratulations were extended to Mr. J. Cooke and his band of ringers at Rock Ferry on their meritorious record for the past twelve months, details of which were published in 'The Ringing World' of January 20th. Two points worthy of more than passing interest in this record are that out of the 102 Minor extents rung during the year, 96 were rung as service touches, and that the average age of seven of the band of twelve is only 17! It was also stated at the meeting by the choirmaster of St. Peter's that all the younger element of the band were either choirboys or ex-choirboys—a truly splendid record!

After the election of officers and other routine business had been disposed of, further ringing took place, all tastes and capabilities from rounds to Surprise methods being amply catered for and a very enjoyable gathering brought to a close.

DEATH OF MR. JESSE BEAMS.

ONE OF SURREY ASSOCIATION'S OLDEST MEMBERS.

By the death of Mr. Jesse Beams, of Ewell, the Surrey Association has lost one of its oldest members and the Guildford Diocesan Guild one of its foundation members.

Deceased, who was 62 years of age, was pensioned from the Post Office only two years ago.

Mr. Beams had been a regular Sunday service ringer since 1893 until last July. Although he was suffering before that time he did not give in, but early in September he was admitted to St. Thomas' Hospital, London, and three weeks later was sent home again, his complaint being found to be too serious for operation.

Mr. Beams had rung 14 peals. He was laid to rest in Ewell Churchyard on January 19th, about 40 postmen lining each side of the pathway to the church, while four postmen acted as bearers. Many beautiful flowers were sent, and the Guildford Diocesan Guild and Surrey Association were represented at the funeral. The church bells were rung half-muffled on the following Sunday for both services, and on the practice night a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung with half-muffled bells by Miss Harrington (first quarter-peal) 1, F. G. Woodiss 2, J. E. Beams 3, J. Beams (conductor) 4, A. Hadley 5, H. E. Good 6, E. Grove 7, W. Poplett 8.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ENCOURAGING MEETING AT JARROW.

The Eastern District of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association held a meeting at Jarrow on Saturday, January 28th, ringers being present from Feuham, Blaydon, Newcastle, Gateshead, Chester-le-Street, South Shields and West Hartlepool, and were well supported by the local ringers. Christ Church bells were kept going during the afternoon and St. Peter's after tea.

A short meeting was held, with Mr. R. L. Patterson (vice-president) in the chair.

After submitting the loyal toast, he said he was pleased there was such a good number present, and congratulated the local ringers in supporting the meeting so well. He went on to say these district meetings were a valuable help to all ringers, be they learners or experts.

Mr. W. Robson moved a vote of thanks to both clergy for use of the bells, which was carried unanimously.

The next meeting will be a joint gathering with the Western District at Chester-le-Street on March 18th.

Methods rung during the day were Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major and Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor and Cambridge Surprise.

John Taylor & Co.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Despite an enlarged edition this week, we regret we are compelled to hold over a number of contributions.

Middlesex County Council have granted the use of the Middlesex Guildhall Council Chamber for the Central Council meeting in London on Whitsun Tuesday.

The meeting of the Kent County Association at Maidstone is to be held on Saturday, February 18th, and not on the 11th as advertised last week.

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Birmingham have promised to attend the Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner, which is to be held at the Imperial Hotel, Birmingham, on February 25th. Early application should be made for tickets.

Two centuries ago, on February 19th, 1739, a notable peal was rung at St. Saviour's, Southwark, when 'the first true and Compleat Peal of Five Thousand and forty Bob Major Royal otherwise Ten In ever performed on these bells was compleated in 4h. 10m.' It was rung by the Society of Union Scholars and called by John Denmead.

The tenor, which weighed 51 cwt. 2 qr. 9 lb., was turned in single-handed (for the first time) by Philemon Mainwaring, one of the greatest heavy bell ringers of all time. The bells had been cast in 1735 and two peals had previously been rung on them, one a six thousand of Caters, the other an eight thousand of Cinques. In both these three men had been put to the tenor.

THE DIOCESE OF DERBY.

SUGGESTED NEW GUILD.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I should very much like to bring to the notice of all bellringers in the Diocese of Derby the question of forming a Diocesan Guild, to embrace all towers in the diocese.

It has been suggested several times lately by more than one well-known ringer that a meeting might be held at some suitable tower where ringing could take place in the afternoon and the whole question discussed after tea.

Ringing at the moment is at a very low ebb, and it is the feeling of many ringers that the time is now opportune for such a step to be taken.

I myself attended what should have been a meeting at a local tower recently and was one of only three visitors, the only other ringer being one of the local band; consequently, the meeting did not mature. This occurred at a church where the new Rector personally attended to extend his welcome to the ringers, and I feel an apology is due to him for such a poor attendance.

This has been the case at several meetings in the last few years, and it is surely up to every individual ringer to do his utmost to improve this condition.

A very hearty welcome would be extended to all incumbents of parishes in the diocese who would be interested in such a move and whose help would be greatly appreciated.

I shall be extremely obliged if you will have this letter published in your valuable paper in order that it may be brought to the notice of all ringers in the diocese.

If those interested will communicate with me, suggesting date and place of meeting—this to be held as early as possible in the year—I will do all I can to make arrangements. SAM SCATTERGOOD.

797, Sheffield Road, Sheepbridge, Chesterfield.

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In your issue of November 18th, 1938, you were good enough to publish a letter of mine, which raised some doubt as to whether or not Lord Grimthorpe did actually order a peal of twelve with a three ton tenor in *D flat*, as stated by Mr. F. E. Dawe.

I have now been able to get a sight of the eighth edition of 'Clocks, Watches and Bells' (1903), from which, in your issue of December 2nd, 1938, Mr. Dawe quotes as follows: 'All the five largest bells are only on the 14 scale of thickness, and they would have been better on the 13 scale, but the tenor inconveniently heavy to ring.'

Turning to the table of diameters and weights on page 346, I read that a three ton bell on the 13 scale of thickness would be in B with a diameter of 5ft. 7½in. On the 12 *scale* a bell having the same diameter would be in D flat and would weigh 66 cwt. On the same page I read: 'Single bells and especially small ones should always be on the 12 scale, or very near it; *but the tenors of peals on the 13 scale.*' Lord Grimthorpe was of the opinion that the 13 scale agreed more nearly in weight than any other simple proportion with that used by the old bellfounders in the large bells of peals.

Discussing sizes of peals, Lord Grimthorpe, on page 340, 1874 edition, page 354, 1903 edition, says: 'If you will have 12 bells the tenor should not be higher than C. . . . A 'B' bell would probably be the best for such a peal'; and on page 354, 1903 edition: 'The tenors of Exeter and St. Paul's are B flat; but both would have been on a better scale of thickness if they had been B with the same weight, or more like the B bell at Manchester.'

This B bell at Manchester Town Hall was 5ft. 10in. in diameter and weighed 71 cwt.

Considering these facts, there can be no doubt that Lord Grimthorpe *intended* that St. Paul's tenor should be a B bell and not D flat as stated by Mr. Dawe. H. WALKER.

Monkseaton.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—57.

ALBERT RELFE.

A good deal of quiet, unobtrusive work in raising the standard of change ringing in the Kent and Sussex border towers has been done by Mr. Albert Relfe, of Lamberhurst, Kent. It is not an easy task, in what is mainly a rural area, but much of the interest which has been maintained in recent years in that neighbourhood has been due to Mr. Relfe's efforts and the enthusiasm he has been able to encourage in others.

Mr. Relfe is a native of Lamberhurst, where he was born on November 27th, 1889. He started his ringing career in 1909, in the six-bell tower of his village, and after the bells were rehung in a new frame in 1925, became leader of the local band.

His first peal was Bob Minor, rung at Lamberhurst on November 26th, 1911, while his first as conductor was rung in the same tower less than a year later. This was a peal in seven Minor methods on October 26th, 1912, the first by the local band. Since getting restarted after the war they have done some notable things.



MR. ALBERT RELFE.

Mr. Relfe was the first to conduct a peal in 32 Surprise Minor methods, but he had previously called the first peal in 14 methods and the first in 14, 21 and 26 Surprise methods and the first peal of Alliance and Little Minor for the Kent County Association; indeed, he was a pioneer of Spliced Surprise Minor ringing in Kent. He also took part in the first peals of St. Clement's Bob Major, Double Bob Major, Erin Caters and Canterbury Pleasure Royal rung by the Kent County Association.

He has rung in two peals of Grandsire Triples non-conducted, and in one peal of seven methods of Minor, in which each ringer called one 720 and one part of the last 720, which was Plain Bob.

Not the least meritorious feature of the peals of Minor specially mentioned above is that they were all rung at Lamberhurst by the service ringers at that church.

Mr. Relfe's peals total 223, of which he has conducted 112, and they range from Doubles to Royal. They have been rung in 62 towers in Kent and Sussex.

BROADCAST RINGING.

To the Editor.

Sir,—When I heard the excellent ringing from Croydon Parish Church, which was broadcast on Sunday morning, I wondered if it would be possible to arrange that the names of those taking part in this and similar ringing to be published in your paper. Many ringers know roughly who the ringers are, but it would be interesting to see if these broadcasts are by the same ringers on each occasion or if different ringers get opportunities to take part from time to time. If they do it shows the confidence which the more proficient place in the progress of others, as, very naturally, the best is required on such occasions.

But there is another side. We see so many names of those who ring peals or touches, but we do not hear the ringing. Having heard broadcast ringing, it would be nice to see the names of those who took part and the bells which they rang. Some bands might then ask the help of others to make their efforts more perfect when they send their ringing over the air.

A. S. ROBERTS.

Palmers Green, N.13.

PEAL BOARD UNVEILED AT BISHOP AUCKLAND.

At the invitation of the Vicar (the Rev. Canon A. B. Parry-Evans) eight ringers who took part in a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at Bishop Auckland on October 15th, 1938, visited the tower on Saturday, January 28th, on the occasion of the unveiling of a peal board commemorating the peal. The peal was rung in honour of the wedding of the Rev. C. J. Parry-Evans, son of the Vicar, to Miss C. S. Kingdom, organist and a former ringer at St. Andrew's Church.

After the unveiling ceremony, Canon Parry-Evans and his son thanked the ringers for ringing the peal, and they were supported by Mr. Jackson Pallister (churchwarden), who has been a member of the Durham and Newcastle Association for 54 years.

Mr. W. N. Park responded on behalf of the ringers.

The company were entertained to tea by the Vicar, and, after ringing several touches on handbells, the ringers returned to the tower and rang a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. Those taking part were S. Bryant 1, G. W. Park 2, G. W. Peverell 3, J. T. Titt 4, R. B. Robinson 5, W. N. Park 6, R. Park (conductor) 7, R. Busby 8. This was the first quarter-peal of Stedman for the ringers of treble, 3rd and 4th.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

NORTHERN DISTRICT MASTER RESIGNS.

General Secretary Asked for Explanation of Letter.

The annual meeting of the Northern District of the London County Association was held on Saturday, January 21st, in the City. Ringing took place at St. Lawrence Jewry in the afternoon, and the business meeting followed in the choir vestry.

After the cash statement for the year had been presented and accepted, the District Master (Mr. J. A. Waugh) gave his report for the year. He strongly criticised the central body of the association for the antagonistic attitude they were adopting towards other societies. Mr. Waugh said that it was quite useless to try to run the society on a territorial basis, with its present constitution. There was, he added, probably some justification for the extension of the old St. James' Society into the London County Association, but the fruits of the extension were far from being apparent. Short of a return to the St. James' Society status, nothing but a complete alteration of the type, scope and attitude of the society could preserve it from degenerating into a museum specimen.

After some debate the report was accepted.

A lengthy discussion then took place regarding the general secretary's recent letter to 'The Ringing World' in reply to the leading article of December 23rd about the association.

The District Secretary (Mr. J. G. Prior) said that, in his opinion, Mr. Taffender's letter could have no other effect than to cause bad feeling against the society. The thinly veiled allusion to the Guildford Diocesan Guild and its late secretary was particularly regrettable. He had written a letter, which he proposed, with the consent of the members, to send to 'The Ringing World,' to the effect that the members of the Northern District wished to dissociate themselves from Mr. Taffender's letter.

In the debate that followed, it was found that none of the members were in agreement with Mr. Taffender's letter, but on a vote being taken as to whether the secretary's proposed letter should be sent, there was only a majority of one in favour. Those who were against the motion felt that to send the letter would cause unnecessary controversy.

It was decided that the district secretary should write to Mr. Taffender to ask him for an explanation of his letter, that the matter should be discussed further at the annual meeting of the association (which is to be held on Saturday), and to hold over the proposed letter to 'The Ringing World.'

The election of officers then took place. Mr. J. A. Waugh, who had been an officer of the district for ten years, two as secretary and eight as Master, declined to accept re-election, and Mr. C. A. Hughes was elected Master in his place. Mr. J. G. A. Prior (hon. secretary), Mr. R. G. Cousins (treasurer) and Mr. E. E. Holman (steward) were all re-elected. Mr. G. W. Cecil and Mr. L. J. Fox were elected to the committee.

It was announced that a monthly practice was to be held on the third Wednesday in each month at St. Dunstan's-in-the-East, beginning on February 15th.

Leytonstone was chosen for the April meeting, with Holloway as the alternative tower.

Votes of thanks to the incumbents and to the steeplekeepers brought the unusually lengthy meeting to a close.

Ringing in the evening took place at St. Dunstan's-in-the-East in methods up to London Surprise Major.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT.

The annual meeting of the Southern District of the London County Association, held at St. Luke's, Chelsea, on Saturday, January 21st, was not well attended, there being only some 35 members and friends present during the afternoon and evening. This was not altogether surprising, as there was a counter-attraction in the same village in the shape of a football cup-tie, which accounted for 70,000 of the surrounding population, but it was extremely disappointing to the officers of the association, who take great pains to organise the meetings. There was, however, one consolation at tea time, when the 28 people who sat down found 50 substantial teas at their disposal. That the task was too much for them was not their fault, but what would have been said if there had been only four teas for the people who had sent postcards?

Ringing commenced at 2.45 p.m. and continued until 8 p.m., with a break for service, tea and business meeting, touches up to and including Cambridge Royal being rung with mixed success. In the absence of the Rector, a short service was conducted by the Precentor, the Rev. W. H. Wilson, who was afterwards a welcome guest at tea.

The business meeting resulted in the re-election of all the officers and the acceptance of the balance sheet.

The hon. secretary, Mr. N. H. Manning, in his annual report, commented favourably on the increase in the number of new members and attendances at the district meetings, but stated there was still room for improvement.

It was decided to apply for St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, for the next meeting on March 18th, and to leave the committee to prepare a rota of towers for the subsequent meetings. The secretary stated that this procedure, which was adopted last year, had proved very satisfactory, and as a result of early application for towers he had been able to obtain the necessary permission without any difficulty.

(Continued on next page.)

NATIONAL POLICE GUILD.

SURREY SUPERINTENDENT ELECTED PRESIDENT.

The annual meeting of the National Guild of Police Ringers was held in London on January 28th. Forty-five members and friends made the journey from Manchester and district, and they were joined by a further 17 members at Leicester. An interesting item was the presentation of a wrist watch to P.C. G. Pye, of Manchester, by his fellow police ringers on his retirement. The presentation was made by Supt. F. E. Williams with the best wishes of all for a happy and lengthy period of retirement.

On reaching London many of the party enjoyed the privilege of a conducted tour through the Houses of Parliament. This was kindly arranged by P.C. N. Bagworth, of London.

Lunch was then taken at the Euston Tavern, at which Capt. R. H. D. Bolton, superintendent of the 'E' Division, presided, and to which 84 members, friends and visitors sat down. A telegram was received from the Editor of 'The Ringing World' regretting that influenza deprived him of the pleasure of attending.

Capt. Bolton expressed his pleasure in attending and in a very happy speech welcomed the visitors to London and exhorted them to behave and enjoy themselves and to visit Bow Street if they wished, but not to occupy the accommodation, which was usually limited on Saturday nights. In reference to the bells, he expressed the hope that they would never have to ring again in any war atmosphere, but always in permanent peace.

He was heartily thanked by the Guild president (Supt. Williams, of Manchester) for presiding.

The business meeting followed, with Supt. Williams in the chair. He referred in sympathetic terms to the absence of the very efficient and worthy secretary of the Guild, Inspector Harold Poole, through indisposition. If the goodwill expressed on all hands can be of any help to him, then he is assured of a speedy recovery.

In his temporary absence, Sgt. Jenney undertook to keep the flag flying, but with serious doubt of maintaining the degree of efficiency displayed by the 'Man of the Guild.'

SUPT. WILLIAMS RETIRES FROM PRESIDENCY.

Mr. Williams came with his hardy annual in regard to honours going round, and so intimidated some of his ardent supporters on the journey up that he had his way without the difficulties of previous years, and Supt. C. Hilton, of Surrey, was unanimously elected president for the forthcoming year.

Mr. Williams, ex-Supt. and D.C.C. A. Wiggins and ex-Chief Inspector Bottrill were unanimously elected vice-presidents.

Mr. Williams assured the members that his interest in the Guild (for which he has done great things) would be fully maintained. He congratulated Sergt. Smith, of High Wycombe, on his promotion to Inspector, and P.C. Ford, of Manchester, on conducting his first peal. Good wishes on his recent retirement were also expressed to Mr. Wiggins.

Supt. Hilton thanked the members for the honour of being elected president, and said he would be glad to be of any service possible to further the interests of the Guild.

A discussion as to the venue of the next meeting brought suggestions that the annual meetings would be more successful in the summer, and it was eventually resolved that the next meeting be held at Banbury on May 25th, 1940.

During the meeting some of the party of weighty proportions made a determined effort to reduce by hiking from the Tavern to the heart of the West End and back. No tests were made as to the results, but in at least one case the effects were not too good the next day.

Ringing in the various towers, including the famous 'Bow Bells,' was carried on during the day with many distinguished ringers assisting.

A return to the Tavern was made in the evening for social entertainment, and the new president ably presided. Especially welcome during the day was the presence of Mr. and Mrs. Rupert Richardson, an old friend from Wales, Mr. J. W. Jones, hon. secretary of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Guild, Mr. Albert Walker (Birmingham) Mr. F. Pervin (Coventry), Mr. F. Dexter (Leicester) and other ringers from far and near whose help and encouragement were much appreciated.

The Manchester contingent arrived home about 5.40 a.m. on Sunday. There's enthusiasm for you, every member from that district being present. Will other members catch a little of this spirit before Banbury comes round? Mr. Norman Bagworth must be thanked for the work he put in in making the arrangements for a very enjoyable day.

H. C. J.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(Continued from previous page.)

Thanks were expressed to all who had so willingly helped with the arrangements for the meeting.

Efforts are made at these meetings to have as much ringing as possible and to reduce unnecessary 'frills' to a minimum. The practice of advanced methods is encouraged as well as facilities for the less experienced being provided, and it is hoped that the support which was given to most of the 1938 meetings will be renewed this year.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

BISHOP AND 'SYNTHETIC' BELLS.

Reply to Dorchester Branch Resolution.

The official attitude of the authorities in the Diocese of Salisbury towards 'synthetic' bells was revealed at the annual meeting of the Dorchester Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild on Saturday, January 28th. This indicated that 'synthetic' substitutes would not be accepted in a church where bells were hanging in the tower. The meeting took place at Dorchester, and at the service at St. Peter's Church the Rector (the Rev. A. W. Markby) officiated and gave the address.

At the subsequent meeting, as chairman of the branch, he presided, supported by Canon D. F. Slemeck, and Mr. C. H. Jennings (hon. secretary).

About 30 ringers were present and the following towers were represented: Abbotsbury, Bere Regis, Bradford Peverell, Charminster, Dorchester, Fordington, Frampton, Sydling, Stratton, Maiden Newton, Upwey, West Lulworth, Wool, Wyke Regis, Bovington, Iwerne Minster, Iwerne Courtney and Uckfield, Sussex.

Among the apologies for absence was one from the Rev. R. P. Farrow, of East Lulworth, owing to the illness of his wife, and a message of sympathy is to be sent to him with best wishes for Mrs. Farrow's recovery.

The Chairman made feeling reference to the death of Mr. R. N. Dawes, a keen supporter of the branch and chairman for many years, and read a letter from Mrs. Dawes thanking the members for the beautiful floral bell sent on the day of the funeral and for the special muffled peal that was rung.

VIEWS ON 'SYNTHETIC' BELLS.

The Hon. Secretary recalled the resolution passed by the branch in regard to synthetic bells, and said that not only was it reported in the London papers, but in others that had come from America and South China. He read a letter from the Bishop's chaplain, Canon W. J. Barton, stating that the question of synthetic bells came before the Bishop and his Archdeacons at a meeting held at the instance of the Advisory Committee. 'The general outline of the policy approved (wrote the Canon) was that synthetic bells should never be accepted in a church where bells were hanging in the tower. In the particular case under consideration it was stated that there was no peal of bells and that the tower of the church could not take a peal.'

The hon. secretary also read a letter from Mr. Josiah Oldfield, M.A., D.C.L., Oxford, senior physician to the Lady Margaret Fruitarian Hospital, Doddington, Kent, arising out of the protest made by the branch against synthetic bells. In his letter he wrote: 'At all costs mechanical prayer or praise should be left to the primitive savages. It is they who idealise and venerate praying machines and it will be a sad day for our ideals of the worship of God when we replace devotional praise, devotional singing and devotional summoning to worship by mechanical methods which enable us to sit and do nothing ourselves.'

INCREASED MEMBERSHIP.

In his annual report the hon. secretary said the branch had accomplished a year of good work, and was marked by a large attendance of members and friends at the meetings. He regretted that there was no restoration to report, particularly in regard to the tower of Wyke Regis, where the beautiful peal of eight—the only octave in the Weymouth deanery—had to remain silent until the necessary funds were forthcoming. The membership of the branch showed an increase of 20.

The golden wedding on March 21st last of Mr. and Mrs. R. N. Dawes was recalled in the report. In a personal tribute to the late Mr. Dawes, the hon. secretary mentioned that he was branch chairman for 20 years, and his efficiency, good humour and great interest in the Guild endeared him to the members.

On the financial side the receipts for the past year totalled £31 6s. 10d. and the expenditure £17 18s. 8d., leaving a balance of £13 8s. 2d., as compared with £9 2s. 6d. at the beginning of the year.

The quarterly meetings were fixed to be held at Maiden Newton, Upwey, Preston and Bere Regis, and the annual meeting at Dorchester.

Besides the four quarterly meetings and the annual meeting, the hon. secretary said he hoped to arrange some practice meetings during the summer months, and it was asked if it was possible to hold a meeting at Milton Abbey.—The hon. secretary promised to do his best to obtain permission.

Officers were elected as follows: Chairman, the Rev. A. W. Markby; vice-chairman, the Rev. R. P. Farrow; Ringing Master, Mr. C. Smart (Upwey); deputy, Mr. P. Tocock (Bovington); hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. C. H. Jennings. Special thanks were accorded to Mr. Jennings, who said that he had now completed 25 years of actual service as hon. secretary.

The following new members were elected: Messrs. P. Johnson, L. V. Davis, W. Bird, Major and Brown (Dorchester St. Peter's); J. Brown and F. Amour (Frampton); Maxwell Mearns (Maiden Newton); Maurice Caines, aged 13 (Wool). Honorary members: Mrs. J. Sheridan, Mrs. R. Wyatt, Mrs. Heath (Frampton). Associate members: Mrs. Ivor Chalker, Mrs. Chaney, Miss J. Chaney (Upwey), Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Tett (Weymouth).

The hon. secretary welcomed a keen ringer and churchman, Mr. George Osmond, of Upwey, who had been ill for a long time.

The usual votes of thanks were accorded to all who had helped in the arrangements and for the hospitality enjoyed.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

COST OF CENTRAL COUNCIL VISIT.

Support for New Surprise Methods Book.

The annual general meeting of the Yorkshire Association was held at Leeds on Saturday, January 28th, but, largely on account of the prevalent inclement weather, the attendance was not as large as had been hoped for. By kind permission of the respective clergy, the fine rings at Leeds Parish Church, St. Michael's, Headingley, and St. Chad's, Far Headingley, were available and made good use of during the afternoon and evening.

Most of the members attended the service in the Leeds Parish Church, which was much appreciated, especially the fine rendering by the choir of the ringers' anthem, 'Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say Rejoice.' The preacher was Canon C. C. Marshall, M.A., president of the association, who gave a most helpful address.

Afterwards tea was served in the St. Peter's Hall, following which an adjournment was made to the Day Schools, where the annual general meeting took place, presided over by Canon C. C. Marshall, supported by the general secretary (Mr. L. W. G. Morris), the hon. treasurer (Mr. S. F. Palmer) and the hon. peal secretary (Mr. W. Barton).

Before proceeding with the business, the President announced that they had lost by death during the previous week one of their oldest members in the person of Mr. Harry Lockwood. He had been a member of the association since 1878, and by his death the last link with the famous Lockwood family of composers was now lost.—As a tribute of respect, the members stood in silence.

A hearty vote of thanks to the respective clergy for the use of their bells was accorded on the motion of Mr. E. Hudson, seconded by Mr. S. F. Palmer.—Mr. J. A. Teale, replying, said that it had been a pleasure for them to have done what they could to entertain the association.

The President announced that they had an invitation from their Barnsley friends to hold the next meeting there.—Mr. P. J. Johnson said that considerable time had elapsed since they had held a meeting there, and the bells had in the meantime been restored. He was glad to move that the next meeting be held at Barnsley.—This was seconded by Mr. G. Lewis and carried, it being also decided to try and arrange it on May 20th.

FACTS ABOUT MEMBERSHIP.

In presenting the association's 63rd annual report, the President drew attention to the fact that the membership now stood at 1,287. This was a net decrease of six against last year's total. He wished to point out, however, that 75 new ringing members had been elected during the year, while 15 had lapsed and 13 had died. Careful revision had also been made of the list of out-county members, which had resulted in striking off a good many names.

In presenting the peal secretary's report, the President drew attention to the debt of gratitude the association owed to Mr. Barton. It was a skilled work which called for close attention to detail, and Mr. Barton had now completed 18 years' tenure of office. He felt he could not continue indefinitely, and asked for the members to consider appointing a successor. He was willing to continue in office until a successor could be found. Statistics from the report showed that 93 peals had been rung during the year at 52 different churches and one handbell centre. Twenty-three members had rung their first peal and four had scored their first peal as conductor.

The adoption of the report was moved by Mr. W. E. Lloyd, seconded by Mr. G. Horner and carried.

In presenting the balance sheet, the treasurer reported that there had been a net loss on the year's working of £39 13s. 6d., which was accounted for by the cost to the association of the Central Council meeting in Leeds. The total cost of the meeting was £50 13s. 9d., otherwise there would have been a gain during the year of £11 0s. 3d.

The balance sheet was adopted and the auditors thanked for their work and report.

After considerable discussion, an amendment to Rule 9 was carried in the following terms, on the motion of Mr. W. Barton, seconded by Mr. P. J. Johnson: 'Any proposition dealing with the disposal of the funds or with the constitution of the association can only be put to the vote at a general meeting after a notice of the intention to move such a resolution has been given at the previous general meeting, unless such a proposition has been considered and recommended for approval by the General Committee, in which case it may be put to the vote at the next general meeting following the committee meeting at which it has been considered.'

A £5 GUARANTEE.

A discussion then took place on the Central Council's contemplated book on Surprise methods. The General Secretary explained that it was the intention of the Council to publish a comprehensive book, but that the cost would be more than the Council could guarantee without the knowledge that they could readily dispose of a minimum number of copies. It had been suggested, therefore, that the various associations be approached with a view to undertaking to purchase a number of copies.

Mr. J. F. Harvey said he felt it was a work which was needed, and had pleasure in moving that the association guarantee to purchase a consignment to the value of £5.—This was seconded by the General

(Continued in next column.)

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

BASINGSTOKE DISTRICT'S SUBSTANTIAL GIFT TO BELL RESTORATION.

The annual general meeting of the Basingstoke District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild was held at Basingstoke on January 28th and drew a record attendance of ringers who were anxious to try the ring of eight at St. Michael's Church, which have recently been restored. The service was conducted by the Vicar of Basingstoke, and an address was given by the Rev. D. L. Board, Rector of Wolverton and a former secretary of the district. The church was the scene of a disastrous fire last autumn, when the roof, which was being repaired, caught fire and caused the destruction of the organ. The church was still in scaffolding, and temporary lighting and a miniature organ were in use.

There were 106 ringers present at the meeting, which was conducted by the district chairman, the Rev. G. H. Jeudwine.

The secretary (Major J. G. Stilwell), in his report, said that there had been a slight decline in membership during the year, but if there had been a decline in quantity there had been a corresponding increase in quality. The district had at last returned to the peal-ringing arena. Four peals had been rung by Basingstoke (mainly men from St. Michael's), and one, the first peal of Stedman in the district, by Yateley. The record of the St. Michael's men was interesting, for they had no tower of their own at the time, yet they could ring peals on tower bells and even provide a brass band (of handbells) to head a procession at a quarterly meeting. There seemed to be a moral to be drawn—to leave the ropes alone sometimes and study on the handbells.

A brief account followed of the steps leading to the decision to recast the treble, 3rd and 4th bells in addition to the 2nd and tenor, and how the district decided to adopt the 3rd in memory of Mr. Henry White and Mr. Frederick Wilson at the cost of £19 10s.

A collection was then taken towards the cost of the 4th bell and amounted to £2 2s. 6d. It is hoped that the Guild will make a contribution for the same purpose, as it is the Guild's jubilee year and its nursery was Basingstoke.

Quarterly meetings had been well maintained, with an average attendance of 38, and two combined practices with the Andover District had been held.

Quarterly meetings were arranged for April 22nd, July 8th and September 23rd at Yateley, Silchester and Overton respectively. The annual meeting will be held at Basingstoke on January 27th, 1940.

All the officers were re-elected and a number of new members were elected.

After the meeting further ringing took place at St. Michael's and All Saints' towers, and methods rung ranged from Grandsire Triples to a course of London Surprise Major, which, unfortunately, came to grief one lead from home. Nearly all the towers in the Basingstoke District were represented and there were many visiting ringers, including Mr. George Williams, the Master of the Guild. Those present expressed pleasure and satisfaction at the improved tone and 'go' of the bells at St. Michael's since the restoration, which was carried out by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough.

(Continued from previous column.)

Secretary, who said that the number of towers in the county where Surprise ringing was being taken up was steadily on the increase, and he felt sure that the book, when published, would find a ready sale in Yorkshire.—The proposition was carried.

On the motion of Mr. J. F. Harvey, seconded by Mr. W. O. Talbot, the following were elected representatives on the Central Council: The president (Canon C. C. Marshall), the general secretary (Mr. L. W. G. Morris), the treasurer (Mr. S. F. Palmer) and Mr. P. J. Johnson.

In moving that Canon Marshall be re-elected president of the association, Mr. P. J. Johnson paid warm tribute to the services that Canon Marshall had rendered to the association for over 20 years. This was a long time, and their thanks were due to Canon Marshall for the able manner in which he had steered them safely through the vicissitudes of so long a period.—The motion was seconded by Mr. G. Lewis and carried with applause.

The election of the peal secretary followed, and as was pointed out in the report, Mr. W. Barton found he had not the time to spare he formerly had, but as no successor had been found, he was willing to carry on for another year. His re-election was carried enthusiastically, several members voicing their appreciation of the work which Mr. Barton had so efficiently carried out for the past 18 years.

Miss M. Fisher, of St. Michael's, Headingley, Miss K. Marsh, of Bramley, Miss Elsie Brothwell, of Rotherham, and Mr. P. Woodhead, of Felkirk, were elected members of the association.

Mr. F. G. Sherwood, representing the sub-committee that had been set up to deal with the presidential chain of office, reported that a meeting had taken place and that the matter was proceeding.

A hearty vote of thanks to the president for presiding at this busy meeting was moved by Mr. H. N. Imeson, seconded by Mr. E. Hudson and carried unanimously.

Further ringing followed, bringing to a close a successful and enjoyable meeting.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CHANGES IN NORTH AND EAST DISTRICT OFFICERS.

The annual meeting of the North and East District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild was held at All Saints', Edmonton, on Saturday, January 28th, and although other important meetings took place in and near London the same day, the attendance reached the satisfactory figure of fifty.

Service was conducted by the Rev. J. G. Stevens, in the regretted absence of the Vicar (the Rev. R. C. Evill) through illness. The Rev. A. S. Roberts read the lesson. During his address the Rev. J. G. Stevens welcomed the association to Edmonton on behalf of the Vicar and referred to the excellent work done by the ringers at that church and elsewhere.

An excellent tea was prepared by Mrs. G. W. Fletcher and friends.

Prior to the commencement of the business meeting, Mr. G. W. Fletcher (vice-president) thanked the Rev. J. G. Stevens for taking the service and for his interesting address, and requested him to convey to the Vicar their regrets at his absence and their best wishes for his speedy and complete recovery.

Mr. Fletcher also expressed thanks to Messrs. Barrett and Edmunds (churchwardens), Mr. Grove (organist) for passing on many choirboys as recruits for the belfry, and to Mr. Streeter (verger) for keeping the belfry tidy. Thanks were also accorded to the Rev. A. S. Roberts for assisting at the service, and a special vote of thanks was given to Mrs. G. W. Fletcher and her friends for the excellent tea provided.

Mr. Stevens replied for the Vicar, whilst Mr. Edmunds spoke of their appreciation of the work done by the bellringers.

The more formal business of the meeting was then proceeded with. An exceptionally large number of new members was admitted. The total of 35 included two provisionally elected prior to a handbell peal in December; also nine from Enfield, eight from Upper Clapton, five from Edmonton, and four from Stepney, the latter being described by Mr. A. A. Hughes, who proposed their election, as well-known College Youths, and by Mr. C. T. Coles as members of a band which had already made a name for itself in London. It was stated that the number of members admitted was, if not a record, the highest at one meeting for very many years.

The statement of accounts was submitted by Mr. W. H. Oram. It showed an income from all sources of £28 15s. 6d. and a total balance of £60 4s. 6d., which, under the new rules, was now transferred to the Central Fund. A note was appended stating that the £73 13s. 8d. of 3½ per cent. War Loan Stock had also been transferred to the Central Fund. Amongst the items on the credit side was an amount of £2 2s. voted by the district to the St. George-in-the-East Bell Fund.

The accounts were adopted.

NEW DISTRICT SECRETARY.

Consequent upon the resignation of Mr. G. R. Goodship (district secretary) during the autumn, some changes in officers took place. Mr. T. J. Lock, who had been District Master for three years, was proposed for the office of secretary by the chairman, and was unanimously elected amid applause.

Mr. G. A. Parsons was elected assistant hon. secretary. Mr. Alick Cutler, of Willesden, the only nominee for the Mastership, was unanimously voted to that position.

Messrs. E. M. Atkins and H. Kilby and the Rev. A. S. Roberts were elected as representatives on the Central Committee, after Mr. G. B. Lucas had expressed a wish to retire in favour of a younger man.—Mr. G. W. Fletcher was appointed auditor.

A vote of thanks to the retiring members of committee, Messrs. G. B. Lucas and R. E. Geare, was carried with acclamation. It was pointed out that Mr. Lucas had been on the committee in one capacity or another since the association was formed.

Reference to the attendances at meetings was made by Mr. C. T. Coles (general secretary). He said that there had been a considerable improvement during the year, the average being 43, against 33 in 1937, but they had not reached the high average (48) of 1936. He suggested that further effort was needed.

To test the feeling of the meeting, the chairman proposed that the selection of a special method for practice at meetings should be discontinued. This was seconded by Mr. E. B. Hartley. An amendment that they be continued was proposed by Mr. T. J. Lock, seconded by Mr. A. W. Coles, and, after being supported by Messrs. Atkins and Holman, it was carried by a large majority.

St. Mary's Church, Finchley, was chosen for the next meeting, to be held on March 18th. Double Court Minor was chosen as the special method for this meeting.

St. Giles-in-the-Fields was selected for the next annual meeting of the district in January, 1940.

The chairman gave a hearty welcome to the treasurer of the Ancient Society of College Youths, Mr. A. A. Hughes, whom they were all pleased to see. This was loudly applauded.

Mr. Hughes, rather taken aback at the welcome, reminded Mr. Fletcher that he had long been a member of the association, and stated that he was very glad to be able to come that day. He thanked them for their welcome.

A vote of thanks was unanimously accorded to Mr. C. T. Coles for acting as hon. secretary since the retirement of Mr. Goodship.

It was announced that a combined meeting of the association would take place at Acton on March 4th at the invitation of the Rector (the Rev. W. P. Gough); whilst the annual meeting would be held at Bishopsgate on April 22nd.

ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

A NEW SECRETARY.

Society's Successful Year.

The annual meeting of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths was held at St. Martin-in-the-Fields on Saturday, January 28th. In the absence of the Vicar (the Rev. Pat McCormick), the ringers were welcomed to the church by the senior curate (the Rev. G. L. Davey), who also joined the party at tea, which was served in the Crypt. He was, however, unable to preside at the business meeting, which followed in St. Martin's Parish Room, and the Master (Mr. G. H. Cross) took the chair.

Before business commenced Mr. Cross informed the meeting of the unavoidable absence of the Vicar through ill-health, and it was resolved to send a letter expressing the society's deep regret and to wish him a speedy recovery.

Greetings were received by radiogram from Mr. L. H. Baybut, now resident in India. A letter of apology for absence was received from Mr. J. Parker.

The hon. secretary (Mr. N. H. Summerhayes) presented a report in which he referred to the satisfactory year the society had enjoyed. Twenty-five new members had been elected and 14 peals rung, the most prolific conductor being, as usual, Mr. G. Gilbert, who had called six of that total.

Reference was made to the death of Mr. Frank Smith, a trustee of the society, and the company stood in silence as a tribute to his memory and other members who had passed over during the year.

A word of congratulation was expressed on the celebration of two golden weddings by members of the society—Mr. and Mrs. James Parker, of Enfield, and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Neale, both gentlemen having done yeoman service for the society over a great number of years.

The report of the treasurer showed that the balance had increased by nearly £6 on the previous report.

The following new members were elected: Mr. T. Taylor, Miss K. Butcher, Mr. B. Weaver and Mr. W. Peck.

TREASURER ELECTED SECRETARY.

Mr. Norman Summerhayes resigned from the secretaryship, on account of business ties, and names proposed to succeed him were Messrs. F. G. Symonds, R. Heazell and G. W. Steere, the last named being elected as the result of a ballot.

The post of treasurer thus becoming vacant, it was, after discussion, decided to run the two posts by one person, in order to facilitate the working of the society. The newly-elected secretary told the meeting he would only accept the dual responsibility on the understanding that it would be for one year, in order to see the result of the experiment.

The other officers were elected or re-elected as follows: Master, Mr. G. H. Cross; trustees, Mr. A. Hardy and Mr. C. J. Matthews; auditors, Mr. A. J. W. Hughes and Mr. F. G. Symonds; stewards, senior Mr. T. Bevan, junior Mr. R. Heazell; representatives on Central Council, Messrs. J. Parker, G. H. Cross, G. Gilbert and G. W. Steere.

The Master, in reviewing the past year, spoke highly of the achievements of Mr. Ralph Bird in calling a peal of Spliced Minor in 14 methods, with 270 changes of method, and Mr. Cyril Burgess in conducting his first peal, one of Minor, in several methods.

An announcement was made that the society's annual dinner would be held at the Old Bell, Holborn, on March 18th at 6.30 p.m. The price would be 6s. per head, and particulars of towers open for ringing on that date would be published in 'The Ringing World' shortly, together with the names of those from whom tickets will be obtainable. To ensure the continued success of the function, it was hoped members would support it as readily as they had in previous years.

Mr. Alfred Pye proposed a hearty vote of thanks to all the officers for their good work during the past year, and said he hoped they would long be spared to continue their efforts for the benefit of ringing in general and the Society of Cumberland Youths in particular.

On the motion of Mr. G. Radley, it was decided to send letters of appreciation to the authorities of St. Martin-in-the-Fields and St. Olave's, Hart Street, for the use of their bells during the afternoon.

Among the many friends from afar who visited either the towers or the business meeting were Mr. and Mrs. Rupert Richardson (Surfleet), Messrs. A. Walker (Birmingham), F. Pervin (Coventry), W. Boffrill and F. Dexter, of Leicester, and many others.

After the meeting the bells of St. Martin's were kept going as long as time permitted, when those with further time at their disposal made their way to a hostelry in the neighbourhood of King's Cross, where the members of the National Guild of Police Ringers were putting the finishing touches to a perfect day.

LATE NOTICE

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Grappenhall Branch. — The next branch meeting will be held at Daresbury on Saturday, February 18th, commencing at 3 p.m. Please advise me not later than 15th if requiring tea.—J. E. Ashcroft, Post Office, Grappenhall.

THE BELLS OF NEWCASTLE-UNDER-LYME.

MAYOR'S GIFT OF ALE TO THE RINGERS.

Mutton, Turnips and Apple Dumpling.

Under wintry conditions a meeting of the North Staffordshire Association was held at Newcastle-under-Lyme on Saturday, January 7th. Thirty members were present from Burslem, Crewe, Draycott, Cheadle, Fenton, Hanley, Longton, Leek, Newcastle, Stone, Stafford, Stoke-on-Trent and Wolstanton. After tea had been partaken of, the Rector of Newcastle (the Rev. C. J. Watkins) extended a hearty welcome to all present. The usual vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. A. W. Hall, supported by Mr. T. Hurd, and Mr. E. Steele thanked the ladies for their help in preparing tea. The Rev. Father McDonald, of Cheadle R.C. Church, was elected an honorary member.

The New Castle to which the borough of Newcastle-under-Lyme in the county of Stafford owes its name, and probably its existence, was built by Ranulph Gernons, Earl of Chester, in Stephen's troubled reign. The obvious security which the castle afforded against the prevalent rapine and disorder induced several families of traders to make their homes by its walls, and between the feasts of Michaelmas 1172 and 1173 they were given a charter by Henry II. At this time they numbered about 160, and it was these people who, in this reign, built themselves a new church on the neighbouring hill, and dedicated it to St. Giles, the patron saint of the woodland. Of this their church only the tower survives to-day, and it is to this, the finest specimen of mediæval architecture in the district, that I would turn your attention in this mono-graph.



THE RINGERS' JUG.

The tower was built, together with its church, and probably replacing a small Normau building on this site, in the 13th century, and in the style known as Early English. It still survives after nearly 700 years as the base of the present tower. In the 14th century the tower was raised, perhaps when the new church in the 'Decorated' style of architecture was built. The middle courses of the tower now standing are made up very largely of 14th century masonry. It is in this church that we first hear of bells, the actual date being 1503. It is recorded that the ropes for the bells were supplied by craftsmen as part payment for acquiring the freedom of the borough. At the Reformation the inventory of the church goods was made, and under the date 'the Vth of May Anno Septimo Edwardi Sexti' is to be found:—

'NEWCASTELL.

'Fyrste iiij belles in the Stepull and a Sanctus bell,' and

'iiij bells in the Stepull and a Saunce bell safely to be kepte untill the Kinges Majesties pleasure be therin furder knowen.'

I, as a ringer, was particularly gratified to find that the Commissioners had introduced their reference to the bells with the word 'Fyrste.' The church clock was mentioned in 1589, and in 1664 there were chimes in the tower. The bells were increased to five in 1665. It is remarkable that no alterations were made to the tower when in 1721 a building in the style typical of that decadent period was erected, and perhaps it is even more remarkable that it is to this period of spiritual stupor that we owe the recasting of the old five bells into a fine peal of eight, which now form the heaviest eight of the present peal.

The ring was cast in 1732 by Abraham Rudhall, one of the famous Rudhalls of Gloucester. The bells were brought from Gloucester to Bridgnorth by the River Severn and from Bridgnorth to Newcastle by road—a difficult task in the days when roads were mere tracks. In 1873-6 Sir Gilbert Scott built the present church, the fifth one to be erected on the present site, one corresponding in style and character to the tower, and formed the edifice which we now see. In 1894 Sir Francis Stainer completely recased the tower, and Mr. Turner rehung the bells. In 1928 the bells were overhauled and retuned and two new trebles were added by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, of Croydon.

The dimensions of the plan of the tower are considerable. It measures 32ft. by 32ft. 8in. externally at the base, exclusive of buttresses, is five storeys high, and measures 110ft. from the level of the ground at the western entrance to the parapet.

In the well-kept ringing chamber are a set of handbells, 54 in number, and a set of 'RULES to be observed by RINGERS in this steeple':—

'If that to Ring you do come here,
You must Ring well with hand and ear,
And if a Bell you overthrow,
Four pence is due before you go,
And if you ring in Spur or Hat,
Sixpence you pay, take care of that.
But if you either swear or curse,
Twelve pence is due, pull out your purse,
And for a pledge to make it sure,
Your Hat shall be the forfeiture.
Our Laws are old they are not new,
Therefore the Clerk must have his due.'

The belfry belongs to the early 15th century, the great belfry building era, and the bell framing is of old timber and, together with a small steel frame, holds the ten bells.

The older bells have the following inscriptions:—

Treble.—Peace and Good Neighbourhood.

2nd.—We were cast at Gloster by A. Rudhall.

3rd.—John Ridgway and Edward Vernon, Churchwardens.

4th.—John and Thomas Ridgway, Baliffs.

5th.—Thomas Fenton, Esq., Steward.

6th.—Rev. Robert Fenton, Cvrate.

7th.—John Fenton and Ralph Avdley, Justices of the Peace, Gentm.

Tenor.—James Taylor, Esq., Mayor, Gentm.

And two bells cast in 1928:—

Treble.—Two trebles added by Churchfolk and townspeople, December, 1928. R. Beresford, Mayor. L. J. Baggott, Rector. G. Eccleston, C. H. Bayley, Wardens.

2nd.—We two were cast at Croydon, 1928, Gillett and Johnston, Croydon.

But perhaps the most singular thing about Newcastle-under-Lyme from a ringer's point of view is the extraordinary relationship which existed between the borough and the Parish Church ringers. From very early times the Mayor and Corporation had almost complete management of the church, and so of the bells. It was the Mayor and Corporation who, in 1732, had the 'back' eight cast; and it was from the tower that the tenor tolled what was called 'Rump's Passing Peal'—the signal to begin the demolition of the Nonconformist meeting house in 1715, a riot aided and abetted by the Mayor, town clerk and many of the burgesses.

There are several references to the bells and the bellringers in the town records. Of these I give the most interesting:—

1628 June 10th. Also it is agreed that Thomas Harrison the Church Clarke shall not suffer any Peal to be rung upon the pain of twelve pence without the consent of Mr. Mayor or his Deputy for the time except to Prayers and Burials and that sparingly.

1657 November 7th. Isak Harrison at this Assembly was chosen Clerke for this Borough by the consent of the Company and Mr. Hall and he is to pay Widow Silleto 40/s and enter at Christmas next and that the Bell Ropes shall be found and provided for by the Town and 33/s 4d deducted out of the Clerke wages for provision thereof yearly.

1725 November 1st. Agreed that Thomas Collier have the night bell at Christmas next and that in consideration of his taking care of the Boys in the Galleries whipping the Dogs out of the Church and attend to walk the Fairs that he have 20/s quarterly paid to him by the Receiver.

1732 November 1st. Ordered and agreed that the Articles made with Mr. Rudhall of Gloucester for new Casting the Bells be sealed with the Common Seal.

1733 February 20th. Ordered that John Sneyd the Bell Hanger be paid his Bill for repairing the Floore where the 8 new bells are to be hung being £7 and that Ralph Boulton and Thomas Lounds be paid their Bill of £11.15.0 for work done at the Roofe under the new Leads on the top of the Steeple and that both be paid by the Receiver.

1737 July 22nd. Ordered and agreed that for the future the Ringers Fees shall be as hereinafter follows that is to say For ringing the Passing Bell 6d. The Bell to the House 6d. and 4d, an Hour for every hour they have orders to toll and if any person will have chiming in the morning and before the Corpse are to be interred to pay 2/6 to the Churchwardens towards the repair of the Ropes and 2/6 to the Ringers.

In common with other Newcastle ringers I long for those days not much more than a hundred years ago (i.e. prior to 1825) when our predecessors received from the Mayor, the Sunday after he was elected, 48 quarts of ale, a leg of mutton, turnips and apple dumpling. On the Monday they received about a quart of ale each, and when the Mayor went out of office on the Sunday the ringers had 48 quarts of ale, followed by 24 quarts next day. They also received 12 quarts of ale on November 5th. The photograph shows the 'Mayor's jug' which held the ale.

To-day Newcastle-under-Lyme is wholly modern in appearance, its streets broad and busy, and all that remains of its 'new castle' is a grassy mound: yet in the midst of her changing life is still to be seen a reminder of the age when men, with but little thought for change or hurry, built such glorious houses for the worship of God. QUAM DILECTA!

KENNETH THACKER.

NORWICH ASSOCIATION'S RECORD.

SOME SIGNIFICANT FACTS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Mr. Corrigan's letter makes interesting reading, but I am afraid he has drawn largely on his imagination in leading your readers to believe that the area covered by this association is a ringers' paradise. The Norwich Association is in as bad a plight or worse than most others, a good deal of the trouble being, as elsewhere, lack of recruits.

The huge peal total of this association can be definitely attributed to its heyday, when a large part of Suffolk (including Ipswich) was within its area.

I find affiliated to the association are 39 towers, viz., 2 twelves, 2 tens, 14 eights, 15 sixes and 6 fives. There are a very large number of towers with no ringers and consequently unaffiliated. The two twelves are seldom heard, the two tens are moribund, and I can call to mind ten eight-bell towers in ringing order without ringers. These bells are occasionally used by the comparatively small number of peal enthusiasts.

The membership attached to the 39 towers is 291; there are 51 unattached resident members and 10 unattached non-resident members. These members, together with 25 life members non-resident, rang 108 peals, roughly .3 of a peal per member.

The peal ringing is confined mainly to a comparatively few attached members of the North and South Branches; in the North Branch there were 52 peal ringers who rang an average of 5.77 peals each; East Branch 28 peal ringers, who rang an average of 2.78 peals each; South Branch 23 peal ringers with an average of 10 peals each; and West Branch 24 peal ringers with an average of 2.45 peals each, a total of 127 ringers who took part in peals, which represents only 36 per cent. of the resident membership. Seventeen resident unattached members rang an average of four peals each, four unattached non-resident members averaged five peals each, and 25 life members averaged 1.8 peals each.

Mr. Corrigan's statement that unattached ringers ring no peals in Norfolk is obviously incorrect, also the statement that Norfolk ringers keep their own bells fully occupied is very far from the fact.

There is no disguising the truth that ringing in Norfolk is not in a stronger position than other parts of the country, but is much worse than in many.

Get to it, Norfolk, and show how it can be done!

'NORFOLK DUMPLING.'

THE 5,000th PEAL.

The annual meeting of the North Norfolk Branch of the Norwich Diocesan Association was held at the Abbey Church, Wymondham, on Saturday, January 21st. Various methods from Grandsire Triples to Cambridge and Superlative Surprise Major were rung during the day, and the association service was conducted by the curate (the Rev. — Holmes). Tea was served in the Vicarage Room.

At the business meeting which followed, the Rev. — Jarvis (Vicar of Wymondham) was voted to the chair.

The Rev. E. W. Blyth, Rector of Northrepps, was elected branch chairman, Mr. H. Tooke was re-elected branch secretary, and Messrs. G. Bailey, W. Clover, W. C. Duffield, G. Mayers and W. R. West were elected to the Branch Committee. Messrs. G. Bailey and W. C. Duffield were appointed to the Standing Committee of the association.

Mr. Albert Barber, of Gressenhall, was re-elected a performing member.

Mr. F. Nolan Golden (general secretary and treasurer) gave a detailed account of the association's work during the past year, and referred to the 5,000th peal rung by the association. He announced that that peal was rung at Winterton on December 17th and was conducted by the association's youngest conductor, Mr. Denis Baylis, of Acle.

Mr. Golden, on behalf of the members, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar of Wymondham for allowing the members to visit Wymondham once again for their annual branch meeting, also for the use of the bells.—In replying, Mr. Jarvis referred to the excellent support the church received from the Wymondham ringers. The ringers not only rang the bells when they wanted to do so, but were always willing to ring when the church wanted the bells rung.

Members attended from Attleborough, Buxton, Banham, Burgh Apton, Diss, Gressenhall, Garboldisham, Hethersett, Norwich, Shelfanger, Winfarthing, Great Yarmouth and the local company, and Suffolk friends from Yaxley. Members of the North Norfolk Branch wish to convey their deepest sympathy to Mr. and Mrs. W. Clover and family, of Wymondham, in their recent bereavement.

The next meeting of the branch will take place at Northrepps on Saturday, April 29th.

FORTY YEARS MEMBER OF LECKHAMPTON SOCIETY.

The St. Peter's Society of Leckhampton and the Cheltenham Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association have lost by death one of their most respected members in the person of Mr. Arthur Caudle. He had been a member of Leckhampton Society for 40 years and had taken part in 14 peals of Grandsire Doubles, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Treble Bob and Double Norwich Major.

The bells of St. Peter's Church were rung half-muffled on January 25th for the funeral as a last mark of respect, also on the following Sunday evening for divine service.

NOTICES.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Leatherhead District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Leatherhead on Saturday, February 11th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service at 5, tea and business meeting following at the Duke's Head.—A. H. Smith, Hon. Sec.

LADIES' GUILD.—London District.—Meeting at Leyton Parish Church, Saturday, February 11th. (Leyton station, L.N.E.R., from Liverpool Street.) Nice light peal of eight in a beautiful and historic church. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting.—J. R. Housden, Hon. Sec.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at East Grinstead (8) on Saturday, Feb. 11th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea, 5.15 p.m., by kind invitation of the President of the Guild (the Rev. Dr. G. Golding-Bird). Business meeting to follow.—B. Saunders, 18, New Road, Ridgewood, Uckfield, Sussex.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Central Branch.—The annual meeting will be held (D.V.) at Chatteris on Saturday, Feb. 11th. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m., and please advise Mr. A. J. Abrams if you ARE coming. Bells available 2.30 p.m., methods up to London Minor. If attendance at this meeting is not better than of late the amalgamation with Wisbech and Ely branches will be advised. Suggestions, advice, members all welcomed.—F. Warrington, Dis. Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Botolph's, Boston, on Saturday, Feb. 11th. Bells available from 2.15. Service 4.15. Tea in the Memorial Hall at 5 p.m. Business meeting afterwards.—W. E. Clarke, Hon. Sec., Park House, 90, Norfolk Street, Boston, Lincs.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The Burton District will hold its first meeting of the year at Newhall on Saturday, Feb. 11th. Tea and meeting in Church Room at 4.45 p.m. Any visitors will be welcomed, and it is hoped all members will make a special effort to be present.—J. W. Cotton, Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Harworth (6), near Bawtry, on Feb. 11th. Rounds to Surprise. All ringers welcome. Please send me a card for tea. — R. Towler, 69, Ordsall Road, Retford.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual general meeting Feb. 11th. Ringing, St. James', Clerkenwell, 2.30 to 3.30; St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, 2.30 to 3.30; St. Clement Danes, Strand, 3 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 7 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. (New Service Book). Tea, Perdy's Restaurant, 5 p.m. Business meeting, Parish Room, 7.30 p.m., followed by handbell competition. Names for this and tea as soon as possible to T. W. Taffender, Hon. Sec., 26, Southway, Raynes Park, S.W. 20.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Derby District.—The annual meeting will be held at Derby on Saturday, Feb. 11th. By kind permission of the Provost, the bells of the Cathedral (10) will be available from 4.30 p.m. till 8.30 p.m. Business meeting, for the election of officers for the ensuing year and other business, will be held in the belfry at 4 o'clock, and for the convenience of those who care to attend earlier, handbells will be provided. All ringers welcome. — George Freebrey, Local Hon. Sec., 81, Roe Street, Derby.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The monthly meeting of this branch will be held at St. Francis Xavier's, on Saturday, Feb. 11th. The tower will be open at 2.30 p.m. Service at 4. Tea and meeting to follow. There will be further ringing in the evening. A hearty invitation is extended to all ringers.—G. R. Newton, Branch Sec., 57, Ampthill Road, Liverpool 17.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—The spring meeting will be held at Walmer on Saturday, February 11th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m., tea following (1s. per head). Subscriptions for 1939 are now due, and may be paid to me at this meeting.—B. J. Luck, Hon. Dis. Sec., 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The adjourned annual meeting of the West Norfolk Branch will be held at Swaffham on Saturday, Feb. 11th, not on Feb. 4th, as first arranged. Service at 4.30. Tea, 1s. each, at Messrs. Lane's Café at 5 o'clock.—W. J. Eldred, Branch Sec., 4, Wellington Street, King's Lynn.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Higher Walton (8 bells) on Saturday, February 11th. Tower open 3 o'clock. A good attendance will be much appreciated.—A. Blogg, Branch Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ilchester Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Martock on Saturday, Feb. 11th. Bells available all the afternoon. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. Please notify for tea.—F. Farrant, Martock.

TO-MORROW, February 11th, Hinckley District of the Midland Counties Association is holding a ringing meeting at Desford. Usual time. There is just time for the usual postcard for tea addressed to Mr. G. Dale, Church Lane, Desford, near Leicester.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Southill on Saturday, Feb. 11th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All will be welcome. Please come and let us have a good company.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

SUFFOLK GUILD. — A meeting will be held at Bury St. Edmunds on Saturday, February 11th. Bells available at St. Mary's, 2 to 3.30; St. James' 3.30 to 5. Tea 5.30 p.m., at Sharpe's, Brentgovel St.—H. G. Herbert, Hon. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol City Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at St. Nicholas' (City) on Saturday, Feb. 11th. Bells (10) from 3.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow at Princes Cafe, 5 p.m.—A. M. Tyler, Branch Sec., 5, Addison Road, Bristol, 3.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch.—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, Feb. 11th. Service, 5 p.m., at St. Mary's Church. Tea, 1s. per head, at St. Mary's Church House, Chain Street, followed by meeting. Ringing at St. Peter's, Caversham, St. Mary's and St. Laurence's during afternoon, 3.30 p.m. to 5 p.m.—E. G. Foster, Hon. Sec., 401, London Road, Reading.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—There will be ringing for evensong at St. Olave's, Hart Street, E.C.3, on February 12th, at 5.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—G. W. Steere, Hon. Sec., 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings, February: *St. Mary-le-Bow, 14th; St. Magnus', 16th; St. Giles', Cripplegate, 21st; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 23rd; *St. Paul's Cathedral, 28th. *Business meeting afterwards. All at 7.30, except St. Andrew's, 8 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Sec., Brankssome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

LADIES' GUILD AND SURREY ASSOCIATION.—A joint mid-week meeting will be held at Benhilton on Wednesday, Feb. 15th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Tea, 5.30, at the Rendezvous Café, Sutton Green. Ringing again in the evening. Numbers for tea to be sent to Mr. F. H. Randall, 7 Bushey Road, Sutton, by Monday, Feb. 13th.—I. R. Housden and F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Secs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, on Saturday, Feb. 18th. Ringing at 6 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—Joseph H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The pre-Lent meeting will be held as a joint meeting with the Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association at West Hartlepool on Saturday, February 18th, when the bells of St. Oswald's (10) and St. Aidan's (8) will be available. Committee meeting in St. Oswald's Vestry at 4 p.m. Tea will be provided at a reasonable charge in St. Oswald's Church Hall at 5 p.m., and requirements should reach Mr. F. Robson, 13, Grainger Street, West Hartlepool, by Thursday, February 16th, at latest.—Roland Park, Hon. Sec., 23, Oaklands Terrace, Darlington.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Maidstone District will be held at All Saints', Maidstone, on Saturday, Feb. 18th. The peal of 10 bells will be available from 3 till 5, and after tea. A special business meeting will take place following the tea at the Old Palace. Members who do not send their notifications to me by Wednesday, Feb. 15th, must be prepared to make their own arrangements for tea.—A. Waddington, Hon. Dis. Sec., Malthouse Farm, Egerton.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Great Bentley (bells 8) on Saturday, Feb. 18th. Service in Church at 4.30, followed by the meeting at 5 p.m. Will all those intending to be present please notify me as soon as possible? — J. R. Sparling, Dis. Sec., Station Hotel, Wivenhoe.

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OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—V.W.H. Branch.—The spring meeting will be held at Uffington on Saturday, February 18th. Bells (5) available at 2.30. Service at 4.30. Please notify for teas not later than Thursday, February 16th.—R. Gilling, Hon. Sec., Fernham, Faringdon, Berks.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Meeting of Southampton District at Bishopstoke on Saturday, February 18th. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Tea 5. Names by February 16th, please.—G. Pullinger, 17, Stoke Park Road, Bishopstoke, Hants.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Shaw-cum-Donnington on Saturday, February 18th. Bells (6) available at 3 o'clock. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea, 5 p.m., at 6d. each. All ringers welcome. Please let me know by February 15th how many for tea.—T. J. Fisher, Hon. Sec., Arniston, Manor Lane, Newbury.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Audlem (8 bells) on Saturday, February 18th. Ringing from 3.30 p.m. Will all those who intend to be present kindly let me know by the 16th inst.?—Richard D. Langford, Hon. Branch Sec., 118, Ruskin Road, Crewe.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A mid-quarterly meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Knighton, Leicester (5 bells), on February 18th. Ringing at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea in the Church Rooms, Knighton Road at 5 p.m., for those who notify me not later than February 16th.—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec., 53, Landseer Road, Leicester.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next meeting is to take place on Saturday, February 18th, at Arley (6 bells), instead of Exhall as arranged. Bells available during afternoon and evening. Tea provided.—D. E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District and Romney Marsh Guild.—A combined meeting will be held at Tenterden on Saturday, February 18th. Bells ready 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—P. Page, Hon. Dis. Sec., 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.

BUSHEY.—Saturday, February 18th. Bells open 3.30 till 8.15. Tea at 5.15. Please notify for tea by February 15th, so that adequate arrangements may be made.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey (City 4270). Herts Association.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—West Dorset Branch.—The Langford-Beams memorial meeting will be held at Beaminster on Saturday, February 18th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow.—C. H. Lathey, Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Crewkerne Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Ilminster on Saturday, February 18th. Bells at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Service 6.30 p.m. Please notify early for tea.—D. G. Taylor, Braeside, Ilminster.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—A meeting will be held at Hathern on Saturday, February 18th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30, followed by tea and meeting at 5 p.m. Good bus services from Loughborough, Coalville, etc. Please make an effort to attend, and don't forget a postcard to Mr. C. Durby, Hathern, near Loughborough, Leicester, if you want your tea. Subscriptions for 1939 are now due.—A. E. Rowley, Hon. Sec., Hyom, Penistone Street, Ibstock, Leicester.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Spalding on Saturday, February 18th. 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 February 14th?—Geo. Ladd, Hon. Sec., Pinchbeck, Spalding.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch will be held at Brecon on Saturday, February 18th. St. Mary's bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea in the Church House at the kind invitation of the Vicar. Please notify not later than February 13th to J. P. Hyett, Dis. Sec., Dulas Terrace, Hay.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—Newport Pagnell Deanery.—A meeting at North Crawley, on Saturday, February 25th. Ring up 2.30. Tea 4.45.—Rev. J. F. Amies, Ravenstone Vicarage, Olney, Bucks.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—East Norfolk Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Margaret's Church, Lowestoft, on Saturday, February 25th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service at 4.15 p.m. Tea at St. Nicholas' House at 5 p.m. Business meeting after tea. All ringers welcome. But 'Mr. Harwood wants to know' the names or numbers for tea, so just send a postcard, chums. Address to J. G. W. Harwood, 4, Cobden Terrace, Northgate Street, Great Yarmouth.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—A meeting will be held at Coggeshall on Saturday, February 25th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. Will all those intending to be present please notify Mr. V. Morley, 10, St. Peter's Road, Coggeshall, Essex, not later than first post, Wednesday, February 22nd? Subscriptions for 1939 are now due.—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Dis. Sec., 3, Belle Vue, Hedingham Road, Halstead.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—The 51st annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, February 25th, at 6 p.m. prompt, Rev. Canon Stuart Blofeld, B.A., Vicar of Edgbaston, in the chair. The following towers will be open: St. Martin's, Bull Ring (12) and Aston Parish Church (12), 3.30 to 5 p.m.; Cathedral Church of St. Philip (10), 4 to 5.30 p.m.; St. Chad's R.C. Cathedral (8), 3 to 4 p.m. Tickets will be issued to fully-paid-up ringing members at 2s. each; to other members and friends at 6s. 6d. each. Early application is requested, but latest date is 23rd inst.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham, 11.

LEICESTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETIES.—The annual dinner will be held at the George Hotel, Leicester, near Clock Tower, on Saturday, February 25th, at 6.30 p.m. prompt. Ringing at Leicester Cathedral 4.30 p.m. till 6 p.m. Another tower next week. Tickets, 3s. to be obtained from me not later than Wednesday, February 22nd.—H. W. Perkins, 53, Landseer Road, Leicester.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Southwark Cathedral on March 4th. Bells (12) available from 3 p.m. Evensong at 5 p.m. Tea (1s. per head) at The Chapter House, St. Thomas' Street, S.E.1, followed by meeting. Please send notifications for tea to me by 28th inst.—E. G. Talbot, Hon Sec., 53, Birchwood Avenue, Wallington, Surrey.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—The annual dinner will take place on Saturday, March 18th, at 6.30 p.m., at the Old Bell Restaurant, Holborn, E.C. Tickets, price 6s. each, may be obtained from either of the following: Messrs. T. Bevan, J. Carnford, G. H. Cross, T. H. Francis, G. Gilbert, R. Heazell, J. Parker, G. Radley, A. H. Pulling, N. Summerhayes or the secretary. Arrangements for ringing will be announced later.—G. W. Steere, Sec., 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

NATIONAL GUILD OF POLICE RINGERS.—Will those members of the National Guild of Police Ringers who were unable to attend the annual meeting in London kindly forward their subscription to Sergt. H. G. Jenney, Acting Sec., City Police Headquarters, Leicester?

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THE RINGING WORLD

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A VINDICATION.

The London County Association, at its Annual Meeting on Saturday, took the only reasonable and honourable line open to it in regard to the unwarranted aspersion it had thrown upon the Guildford Diocesan Guild in a letter sent, on the Association's behalf, to the 'Ringing World' a month ago, wherein the finger of scorn was pointed at the Guild for encroaching upon the areas of other associations. It would have been an unfortunate departure from good manners to introduce such an expression into a matter in which the Guild had no concern, even if the allegation of encroachment had been true, but when the accusation had no shadow of foundation, or when, as must have been the case, no attempt was made to verify the facts, it was not only grossly unfair but lacked even the elements of decency in public letter writing. However, amends have now been made and the honour of the Guildford Diocesan Guild vindicated. It was, nevertheless, only done after a stiff fight to evade the issue on a point of order. Had this attempt succeeded it would have been a great pity, but the Master, in whose hands the matter lay, wisely permitted the motion (proposing that the offending paragraph be withdrawn) to be discussed, and afterwards showed his appreciation of the untenable situation into which the Association had been led by the letter, by accepting the facts as presented by the mover of the resolution and counselling a retreat.

The discussion that took place was not at all times edifying, but neither was the letter that was written to the 'Ringing World.' When personal feeling enters the door good sense sometimes flies out of the window—if we may adapt an old adage. There is a moral to all this, and we hope it may be taken to heart in those quarters—and there are many—where personalities are inclined to enter into a controversy. Abuse gets nowhere in an argument; it only leads to bad tempers and retorts that go deeper to wound than there is any need for. Particularly does courtesy demand that Associations dealing with other like bodies should be scrupulous in the statements they make. It is often fatal to jump to conclusions, and things written in haste are often repented at leisure. There can be hard hitting without personalities, and a controversy conducted without animosity can be enlightening as well as entertaining. It is always a mistake to assume that you have landed a knock-out blow when you have said something nasty about an opponent. This type of argument has an unpleasant habit of recoiling. It is good, sometimes, that the fresh air of criticism should be let in upon the methods and actions of organisations—even ringing organisations—and any discussion which

(Continued on page 102.)

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may ensue, if carried on in the right spirit, can only be conducive of good. But there are some golden rules which should be observed when one is tempted to take up the cudgels, especially in print. Make certain that you have a good case; be sure of your facts put up reasoned arguments and not abuse; and above all, if you have not got a good case, say nothing.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

CROYDON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Four Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 36 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb. in C sharp.

HORACE BELCHER ...	...*Treble*	FREDERICK E. COLLINS ...	7
GEORGE R. PYE	2	DANIEL D. COOPER	8
WILLIAM H. HEWETT... ...	3	GEORGE W. STEERE	9
FRANK E. DARBY	4	CHARLES H. KIPPIN	10
CHARLES T. COLES	5	EDWARD P. DUFFIELD ...	11
JAMES BENNETT	6	REUBEN SANDERS... ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by W. H. HEWETT.

First Surprise Maximus on the bells.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

(ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,

A PEAL OF YORK SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE	...*Treble*	WILLIAM P. GARRETT... ...	7
SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER ...	2	GEORGE A. FLEMING	8
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY	3	WILLIAM J. G. BROWN ...	9
HOBART E. SMITH	4	FREDERICK J. TILLETT ...	10
HARRY R. ROPER...	5	GEORGE E. SYMONDS	11
FREDERICK J. SMITH	6	CECIL W. PIPE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES J. SEDGLEY.

This is the first peal of York Surprise Maximus to be rung.

TEN BELL PEALS.

BRISTOL.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 4, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN-THE-MARTYR,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

*ALBERT TYLER	...*Treble*	GILBERT PEARCE	6
ALFRED REEVES...	2	WILLIAM THOMAS	7
MRS. WILKINS	3	WILLIAM PARKER...	8
ALFRED PEARCE...	4	ARTHUR PRINCE	9
J. FRANK SMALLWOOD ...	5	CECIL MOGFORD	...*Tenor*

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by ALBERT TYLER.

First peal as conductor. A birthday compliment to Mrs. Wilkins and the conductor.

WEDNESBURY, STAFFS.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Thursday, February 9, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

*ALBERT J. HUBBLE ...	...*Treble*	†AUBREY PICKERING	6
ALBERT D. COLLINS	2	RICHARD J. WARRILOW ...	7
†MAURICE G. TURNER... ...	3	NORMAN G. LEECH	8
‡GEORGE W. HUGHES ...	4	HOWARD HOWELL	9
BARNABAS G. KEY	5	KENNETH KNOWLES ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by B. G. KEY.

* First peal on ten away from 'tenor behind.' † First peal on ten bells. ‡ First peal in the method. First peal of Grandsire Caters and first peal on ten bells as conductor.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 11, 1939 in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN, PRITTLEWELL,

A PEAL OF ERITH LITTLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

EDWIN A. BARNETT	...Treble	ARTHUR S. RICHARDS	6
ALBERT E. NORTH	2	HENRY S. WILSON	7
EDWIN BARNETT	3	REGINALD W. DARVILL	8
HARRY HOSKINS	4	ERNEST W. FURBANK	9
FRANK B. LUFKIN	5	PHILIP A. COREY	...Tenor

Composed by G. H. CROSS. Conducted by E. A. BARNETT.

First peal of Royal in the method by all the band, by the association, and the first rung on tower bells.

SHEFFIELD.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(SHEFFIELD & DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 40 cwt. 10 lb. in B.

*TOM BROTHERELL	...Treble	†JOHN J. L. GILBERT	6
JOHN THORPE	2	†ERNEST THORPE	7
SIDNEY F. PALMER	3	†C. ALLEN HEWITT	8
HAYDN THORPE	4	†NORMAN CHADDOCK	9
†HAROLD CHANT	5	†REGINALD PAYNE	...Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HERBERT. Conducted by J. J. L. GILBERT

* First peal in the method. † First peal of Stedman Caters.

CREWE, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
(CHESTER AND CREWE BRANCHES.)

On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF ERIN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;

ROBERT SPERRING	...Treble	HARRY OVERTON	6
GEORGE A. PACKER	2	SAMUEL JONES, JUN.	7
RICHARD D. LANGFORD	3	HARRY PYE	8
HARRY T. HOLDING	4	JAMES H. RIDING	9
JAMES SWINDLEY	5	HARRY THELWELL	...Tenor

Composed by JOSEPH W. PARKER. Conducted by SAMUEL JONES.

First peal in the method on the bells; first for the Chester Diocesan Guild in the county by a resident band.

WRINGTON, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 37 cwt.

GEORGE POPNELL	...Treble	*FREDERICK A. TARGETT	6
DONALD G. CLIFT	2	*FRANK SKIDMORE	7
ALFRED E. REEVES	3	ALBERT A. HUGHES	8
JOHN H. B. HESSE	4	*RONALD G. BECK	9
HERBERT W. KNIGHT	5	JOSEPH T. DYKE	...Tenor

Composed by G. H. CROSS. Conducted by J. T. DYKE.

* First peal of Bob Royal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

CHILVERS COTON, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, February 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

THOMAS W. CHAPMAN	...Treble	PERCY STONE	5
FRANK W. PERRENS	2	*HARVEY J. DAKIN	6
CHARLES H. WEBB	3	ERNEST STONE	7
JOHN W. TAYLOR	4	JOHN E. S. MORETON	...Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by FRANK W. PERRENS.

* First peal.

HERSHAM, SURREY.
THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 8½ cwt.

*HAROLD W. ROGERS	...Treble	JOHN B. HESSEY	5
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER	2	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE	6
MISS OLIVE L. ASHBROOK	3	†FREDERICK W. ALLEWAY	7
ERNEST J. KING	4	THOMAS W. TAFFENDER	...Tenor

Composed by T. DAY. Conducted by THOMAS H. TAFFENDER.

* First peal on more than five bells. † First peal in the method.

BRENTWOOD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 7, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST THOMAS-THE-MARTYR,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 19¾ cwt.

ROBERT C. HEAZEL	...Treble	HARRY TURNER	5
ALBERT NORTH	2	JOHN SITCH	6
ERNEST J. RUNTER	3	FRANK B. LUFKIN	7
HENRY W. SHADRACK	4	ERNEST W. FURBANK	...Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by H. TURNER.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, February 8, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb. in D.

FREDERICK OLDROYD	...Treble	*DOUGLAS R. HAYES	5
RICHARD HAYES	2	JOHN H. B. HESSE	6
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON	3	GEORGE E. CLODE	7
ERNEST J. AYLIFFE	4	ALFRED H. PULLING	...Tenor

Conducted by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

* First peal in the method.

BUSHEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 9, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF BEDFORD SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

JOHN E. ROOTES	...Treble	CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	5
MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT	2	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW	6
FRANCIS KIRK	3	EDWIN JENNINGS	7
CECIL C. MAYNE	4	HAROLD G. CASHMORE	...Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Composed by H. G. CASHMORE.

The first peal in the method.

SURFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(ELLOE DEANERIES BRANCH.)

On Thursday, February 9, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 9 lb.

THOMAS E. WHITE	...Treble	CHARLES C. RAWDING	5
MISS ELSIE LAKIN	2	MRS. R. RICHARDSON	6
RUPERT RICHARDSON	3	NORMAN T. KING	7
CYRIL DOBNEY	4	JOHN W. CARTER	...Tenor

Composed by F. BENNETT. Conducted by JOHN W. CARTER.

GRIMSBY, LINCS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Friday, February 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation).

Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qr. 25 lb.

HERBERT I. MINGAY	...Treble	*WILLIAM MUMBY	5
MRS. J. BRAY	2	JACK BRAY	6
STEPHEN BROMFIELD	3	GEORGE E. FEIRN	7
CHARLES W. TAYLOR	4	FRANK LORD	...Tenor

Conducted by JACK BRAY.

* First peal and first attempt.

METHERINGHAM, LINCS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, Febuary 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,

A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, RUTLAND, CAMBRIDGE, SUPERLATIVE, LINCOLNSHIRE, PUDSEY, YORKSHIRE, BRISTOL, NORFOLK, & NEW GLOUCESTER SURPRISE MAJOR, 8120 CHANGES;

Tenor 7¾ cwt.

GEORGE FLINTHAM ...	...*Treble*	JOHN FREEMAN	5
JACK L. MILLHOUSE	2	JOHN WALDEN	6
CHARLES MCGUINESS... ...	3	WALTER TOMLINSON	7
FREDERICK W. STOKES ...	4	JOHN A. FREEMAN ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by JOHN A. FREEMAN.

First peal of Spliced Surprise Major in ten methods by all the band, in the county and by the Guild. This peal contains 1,440 London, 1,184 Rutland, 416 Cambridge, 384 Superlative, 320 Lincolnshire, 320 Pudsey, 160 Yorkshire, 320 Bristol, 288 Norfolk and 288 New Gloucester. Rung at the first attempt.

UPTON-ON-SEVERN, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S SIX-PART, No. 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

EDWARD MAUND	...*Treble*	WILLIAM RANFORD	5
FRANK LAWRENCE	2	*ERNEST F. CUBBERLEY ...	6
THOMAS W. LEWIS	3	CHARLES CAMM	7
REGINALD WOODYATT... ...	4	HENRY BISHOP	...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES CAMM.

* First peal in the method. The quarterly peal for the branch.

WICKEN, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-EVANGELIST,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.

HARRY G. RIDGWAY ...	...*Treble*	ERNEST C. LAMBERT	5
JOHN A. GREEN	2	JOSEPH MARKS	6
*REGINALD H. HOWSON ...	3	THOMAS E. ROBERTS	7
A. NUNNELEY WOOD... ...	4	ALBERT J. GREEN... ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by A. J. GREEN.

* First peal in a Surprise method.

HILLINGDON WEST, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

WILLIAM H. JOINER ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM HENLEY	5
PERCY E. JONES	2	*WILFRED S. CHILDS	6
EDGAR HANCOX	3	FRANK CORKE	7
WILLIAM WELLING	4	ARTHUR BRAY	...*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK CORKE.

* First peal of Stedman 'inside.'

NORTHOWRAM, HALIFAX.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 15¾ cwt. in F.

WILLIAM WOODHEAD ...	...*Treble*	KENNETH SIMPSON	5
HARRY DAVISON	2	GEORGE ROBINSON	6
MISS MARY WHITE	3	ERNEST H. SIMPSON	7
JAMES F. HARVEY	4	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS	...*Tenor*

Composed by E. TIMBRELL. Conducted by LESLIE W. G. MORRIS.

First peal of Surprise on the bells.

ERIN TRIPLES IN SCOTLAND.

The first quarter-peal of Erin Triples in Scotland and by all the band was rung at St. Cuthbert's Church, Edinburgh, on Sunday, January 29th, for service: Miss A. Whitsun 1, Miss M. Holland 2, D. Holland 3, Mrs. N. Ross 4, Miss F. Hogg 5, W. C. Heathcote 6, J. Marshall (conductor) 7, E. Rose 8.

LEOMINSTER, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE PRIORY CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 23 cwt.

*THOMAS R. PAYNE	...*Treble*	GEORGE R. HANKS	5
JOHN BOURNE	2	LESLIE EVANS	6
WILLIAM H. SYMONDS ...	3	ERNEST F. SALMONS	7
RICHARD J. RAWLINGS ...	4	*ERNEST WILLIAMS ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ERNEST F. SALMONS.

* First peal on eight bells.

NORTHCHURCH, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF NORTHCHURCH SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 15½ cwt.

JOHN E. ROOTES	...*Treble*	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	5
HENRY HODGETTS	2	EDWIN JENNINGS	6
CECIL C. MAYNE...	3	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT ...	7
FRANCIS KIRK	4	HAROLD G. CASHMORE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

The first peal in the method.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

JOSEPH H. RIDYARD ...	...*Treble*	PETER CROOK, JUN.	5
CECIL RADDON	2	RICHARD BENSON...	6
*FRANK BARRACLOUGH ...	3	PETER CROOK, SEN.	7
PERCY H. DERBYSHIRE ...	4	ARTHUR JAMES	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by P. CROOK, SEN.

* First peal in the method.

MILNROW, LANCS.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

*ALWYN TAYLOR	...*Treble*	STEPHEN L. PARRY	5
*JOHN MEADOWCROFT, JUN.	2	*JOHN BUTTERWORTH	6
*SELWYN HOLT DEARDEN ...	3	HAROLD HAMER	7
*HARRY BYROM	4	IVAN KAY	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. CRAVEN. Conducted by H. HAMER.

* First peal in the method.

STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

SHELFORD SPARROW ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM E. WATHEN	5
KEITH W. WHITTLE	2	ARTHUR GRIMWOOD	6
GEORGE W. ABLITT	3	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL ...	7
HARRY D. LISTER	4	ARTHUR R. WOODARD ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. H. CROSS. Conducted by HARRY D. LISTER.

PULHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

FREDERICK ROOPE ...	...*Treble*	NOLAN GOLDEN	5
CHARLES W. LOOME	2	FREDERICK C. ROPER	6
ALBERT G. HARRISON... ...	3	RUSSELL W. CURSON	7
FREDERICK C. GUNTON ...	4	ERNEST WHITING... ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by ERNEST WHITING.

SIX BELL PEALS.

WOODHOUSE EAVES, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
(LOUGHBOROUGH BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, three 720's of Oxford Bob and two 720's of Plain Bob.

*JOHN V. E. HUNT	...Treble	†E. ROLAND STOCKWELL	4
ALAN JACQUES	2	HENRY HAYNES	5
*ERNEST JACQUES	3	G. RONALD EDWARDS	...Tenor

Conducted by G. R. EDWARDS.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.' First peal in four methods by all except conductor.

BASSINGHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Sunday, February 5, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents in nine methods: (1) Oxford and Kent Treble Bob; (2) Cambridge Surprise; (3) Plain Bob; (4) Double Oxford; (5) Oxford Bob; (6) St. Clement's; (7) Double Court and Court Bob. Tenor 10½ cwt.

ERIC WILLCOCK	...Treble	JOHN C. VESSEY	4
S. GEORGE VESSEY	2	JACK L. MILLHOUSE	5
MISS DOROTHY VESSEY	3	KENNETH W. MAYER	...Tenor

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

APSLEY END, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 6, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 14¾ cwt.

*ALBERT HARRIS	...Treble	†WILLIAM FEAREY	4
†BRIAN MCKAY	2	WILLIAM J. PUDDIFOOT	5
REGINALD S. COOK	3	WILLIAM J. RANDALL	...Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. RANDALL.

* First peal of Minor and first attempt. † First peal 'inside.' A birthday compliment to Mr. A. V. Good.

ROCKWELL GREEN, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Four 720's of Oxford and three of Kent, each called differently. Tenor 12 cwt.

*JAMES HUNT	...Treble	RONALD W. HAYWARD	4
*ALEC A. WALKER	2	WILLIAM G. GIGG	5
*HERBERT H. WALKER	3	HENRY CHURCHILL	...Tenor

Conducted by JAMES HUNT.

* First peal of Treble Bob. Rung in memory of Mr. S. Wyatt, who was laid to rest on February 9th.

HOLLOWAY.—At St. Mary Magdalene on Sunday, January 22nd, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: R. Charge 1, H. Franks 2, *F. Barker 3, R. Newman (first quarter-peal of Stedman 'inside') 4, G. Charge 5, E. Holman 6, A. Turner (conductor) 7, *A. Johnson 8. * First quarter-peal of Stedman.

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by E. S. and M. POWELL.

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DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

MEETING AT BRIDGERULE.

Bridgerule, where a meeting of the North-West Branch of the Devon Guild was recently held, is a combined parish which, till the Rectification of Boundaries Act in 1844, was one half in Cornwall and the other half in Devon. The Tamar divides West Bridgerule from East Bridgerule, and, even to-day, there are separate ratings and councils for the divisions. In ancient times a court was held on the bridge, where the jurors or magistrates met. In case of a dispute between the two areas, six men were chosen from either side and then stood facing each other across the middle of the bridge. The side which pushed the other across the bridge won the case. Hence may be ascribed the word Bridgerule.

The chairman of the branch (the Rev. W. H. Ravenhill) was supported by the Rev. E. V. Cox, president of the Devon Guild, with members from Holsworthy, Bradworthy, Marland, Petrockstowe, Poundstock, Plymouth and the local band.

A service in the ancient church was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. J. H. Kingdon), assisted by the Rev. W. H. Ravenhill, who read the lesson.

Tea, prepared by lady friends of the local band, was served in the Parish Hall.

At the business meeting which followed, the Rev. W. H. Ravenhill (chairman), Mr. J. W. Sangwin (hon. secretary), Mr. W. J. Shears (treasurer), Mr. F. Sangwin (Ringing Master) and the Rev. W. H. Smale, Mr. A. J. Metters, with Mr. F. Sangwin, were all thanked for their services and re-elected for the ensuing year.

The president made a statement regarding his proposed deletion of Rule 12, 'That no member shall take part in any competitive ringing.'—After some discussion it was decided that the branch should support the motion.

Petrockstowe was fixed for the annual meeting of the branch on October 7th.

Votes of thanks were accorded the Rector for his service and the use of the bells, the organist and the ladies who assisted.

BRANCH MEETING AT TOTNES.

The ancient borough of Totnes, with its very fine church and peal of bells, was the venue of the annual meeting of the Mid-Devon Branch of the Devon Guild of Ringers on February 11th, when an enjoyable time was spent. Ringers attended from Exeter, Brampford Speke, Petrockstowe, Dawlish, Newton Abbot, Buckfastleigh, Torquay, Paignton, Collaton St. Mary and Torquay.

After ringing in the afternoon, a service was conducted by the Rev. Preb. J. Heywood Waddington (Vicar), assisted by the Rev. O. L. Willmott (curate). The Rev. Willmott, who is a member of the branch, gave a very able address.

Following tea at the Commercial Hotel, the business meeting was presided over by the Rev. E. V. Cox (president of the Guild) in the unavoidable absence of the branch chairman.

The secretary reported that the collection, which was to be devoted to the fund for the provision of a peal of bells at St. Andrew's Church, Northampton, amounted to 7s. 6d.

The secretary's report, which was adopted, showed that at three meetings held during the past year the attendances had not been quite so satisfactory. Four peals had been rung in the branch, whilst a number of new members had been elected and a number withdrawn.

The treasurer's report showed that although there was still a satisfactory balance in hand there was a decrease of 6s. 10d. on the year's working.

The following officers were unanimously elected: Chairman, the Rev. W. R. D. Mills; secretary, treasurer and Ringing Master, Mr. A. L. Bennett; auditor, Mr. C. R. Walker; three representatives on the General Committee, Messrs. C. R. Walker, H. C. Collyer and R. Whiting.

On the proposition of the chairman, a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Bennett for his past work in the branch.

It was resolved to hold the next meeting at St. Saviour's, Dartmouth, on June 10th, subject to the necessary permission being obtained.

Mr. E. J. Taylor, of Torquay, was transferred to the list of honorary members.

Mr. Bennett proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar of Totnes for the use of his bells and for conducting the service, to the Rev. O. L. Willmott for his address, to the organist for her help, and to the local steeplekeeper for having everything in readiness.—The Vicar, in a humorous speech, very suitably replied, and welcomed the visitors to Totnes.

At this juncture the president had to leave the meeting to fulfil another engagement, and the chair was occupied by Mr. C. R. Walker for the remainder of the evening.

A letter was read from the president stating that at the next committee meeting he would move that Rule 2, which debars members from taking part in competitive ringing, be deleted from the Guild rules, and after a general discussion it was decided to inform the president that no objection would be offered by the branch.

The members then returned to the tower for further ringing. The methods rung during the afternoon and evening were Grandsire Triples and Stedman Doubles and Triples.

PEAL NOTES.

SPLICED SURPRISE IN TEN MAJOR METHODS.

The Lincoln ringers have achieved another very fine performance, by ringing a peal of Spliced Surprise Major in ten methods at the first attempt. This is the more meritorious in that they had never had the opportunity of practising all the methods in one touch. The practices at the Cathedral are always so well attended that there is no opportunity of ringing anything of ten method length.

The peal was rung at Metheringham, where the bells, a rather poor old lot, are rung from the ground floor, with a long draught of rope and no guides.

The greatest number of Surprise methods spliced into one peal of Major up to the present is 12, rung by the Middlesex Association under the conductorship of the late Mr. William Pye.

Two more new Surprise Major methods this week by the Hertfordshire band. Bedford Surprise, a method published in 'The Ringing World' on April 7th, 1911, was rung for the first time on Thursday week at Bushey; two days later Northchurch, named after the village in which it was rung.

The peal of Bedford was rung to a Treble Bob composition by Arthur Knights, and the Northchurch to a composition which has been used many times and belongs to no one in particular.

The peal at Northchurch was Mr. Francis Kirk's 150th peal and Mr. Edwin Jennings' 25th Surprise Major method.

By the way, it was said in these notes last week that the peal of Zetland was rung by the Watford band. It is a mistake to call this company a Watford band, for, although most of them live not far from Watford, they are none of them attached to Watford tower. Zetland was rung by five members of Bushey tower, one each from Oxhey and St. Albans, and one unattached.

IPSWICH SOCIETY'S NEW ACHIEVEMENT.

Meanwhile St. Mary-le-Tower Society have added to their laurels by ringing yet another method of Surprise Maximus, which is the seventh in which the society has been first to score a peal. This was York Surprise, a method by Mr. Gabriel Lindoff, and was rung on Saturday. Mr. W. P. Garrett has taken part in all seven of the first peals, the first of which was Cambridge in 1908. The first plain course of York was rung as recently as January 25th, and only five courses have been rung in all, while no bob in the Maximus had been called previous to starting for the peal.

The method can be highly recommended for its regular extension from Minor upwards, and it is more musical than Cambridge. Care must be exercised in peals of Major, as in this there are five false course-ends. Royal and Maximus, however, have a clean proof scale. By the peal on Saturday Mr. Charles A. Catchpole brought his total to 300, and Mr. Harry R. Roper completed 100 peals for the Suffolk Guild.

Members of the Chester and Crewe branches of the Chester Diocesan Guild rang a peal of Erin Caters at Christ Church, Crewe, on Saturday. It was the first peal in the method for the Guild by a resident band, and the ringers wish to thank Mr. W. Edge, the towerkeeper for having everything in readiness for the peal attempt.

The composition, a 5,007 by Mr. Joseph W. Parker, of Sunderland, is a musical and interesting one:—

1234567e9	
534612978	1 2 3 5 9 10 12
134652	4S.
625413	4 6 7
431562	4 6 7
513462	5 6
423561	6 7
532461	5 6
613254	4 5 7

These last five courses 17 times repeated, except in 3rd and 12th repetitions when the last course is called S.4 only, and in the 8th repetition when the last course is called S2.4.5.9.11.12 to produce the handstroke position (614253879). The bells come round at the third change of the last course.

Six members of the band rang their first peal of Stedman Caters and one his first peal in the method at Sheffield Cathedral on Saturday. It was Mr. John Thorpe's 50th peal on the bells.

His friends in Herefordshire are looking forward to Mr. William Symonds' 100th peal. He rang his 99th on Saturday at Leominster.

A peal of Stedman Triples at Worsley, Lancashire, on Saturday, rung after meeting short for Caters, was a birthday compliment to Mr. Fred Grundy, of the local company, Mr. Arthur James, who rang the tenor to the peal, and Mr. Dick Newton, of Boston, U.S.A., formerly a well-known Lancashire ringer.

A PROMISING YOUTH.

Albert Tyler, who called a peal of Stedman Caters at Bristol on Saturday, and thus rang his first peal as conductor, is a son of the late Mr. Jesse Tyler and a nephew of Mr. John Thomas. Still in his 'teens, he is one of the most promising youngsters in the West of England.

Mr. H. F. Dakin, of Tamworth, who, at Chilvers Coton, Warwickshire, on February 4th, rang his first peal, has been ringing for the past 25 years, and has made nearly, if not quite, 40 previous attempts. This surely is a case of perseverance rewarded, although tardily.

A copy of the composition of the peal of Bob Royal, rung at Wrington on Saturday, blew in through our office window on Monday. It is a very good composition with the sixth at home for the last 24 courses. On the bottom of the slip which reached us is a string of names from Annable to Dyke and the inquiry 'Whose *is* it?'

23456	W	M	H
42635	—	—	3
62534		—	
*24536		—	2
32546	—		3
43526	—		3
52436	—		—
32456	S		3

Repeat from * calling W instead of M. Well, whose *is* it?

Since we asked this question we have learned that the original composer was Mr. G. H. Cross. So there is really no need for the inquiry, but we will let it go.

The peal was rung as a birthday compliment to Miss R. E. A. Knight, whose father took part in the peal.

The composition of the peal of Superlative—a one-part by J. W. Washbrook—rung at Wicken on February 11th, was first rung as a 6,048 at Drayton, Berkshire, on July 30th, 1887, and was published in 'The Bell News' September 10th that year. It was the first composed with the 4th and 6th their extent in 5-6 and the 4th, 5th and 6th only in sixth's place at the course-ends.

The quarterly peal of the Western Branch of the Worcestershire Association was rung at Upton-on-Severn on Saturday, February 11th. Mr. Ernest F. Cubberley, a member of the Kempsey (six-bell) band, rang his first peal of Oxford Bob Triples.

Charles Camm, Branch Ringing Master and conductor of the peal, is in charge at Upton. He encourages the six-bell ringers to visit his tower on Fridays for eight-bell practice, with the result that several who would otherwise still be six-bell ringers can now ring several Triples methods.

As Charlie keeps 'open house' at Upton, it is open to members of the many six-bell towers in the vicinity to prove that they wish to progress. Incidentally, it may be remarked that 'Hercules' ' hark is 99 times worse than his bite.

The first peal of Erith Little Bob Royal on tower bells was rung at Southend on Saturday.

Mr. R. Hayes, of Haslemere, Surrey, and his son Douglas rang their first peal together on February 8th, when they took part in a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at Guildford Cathedral. Mr. Dick Hayes has been peal ringing for many years, and his son has taken part in several, but they had not before this been in the same peal band.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT WALTHAMSTOW.

A meeting of the South-Western Division of the Essex Association was held at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, on Saturday, February 4th, attended by some 35 members and friends from Leytonstone, Leyton, Wanstead, Woodford, Romford, Brentwood, South Weald, Bentley, Colchester, Maldon, Southgate, Bishopsgate, Wimbledon and the local band.

After a good spell of ringing in the afternoon, a short service was conducted by the Rev. Watts, at which he gave the association a hearty welcome to St. Mary's, and expressed the Vicar's disappointment of his inability to be with them, as he was just recovering from a severe cold.

Tea, kindly arranged by the local band, was then partaken of, followed by the business meeting, presided over by Mr. J. Chalk, Master. In his opening words, the Master referred to the proposed Benevolent Fund, saying he was frankly disappointed with the way in which his proposition had been received by some members of the Central Committee, and, therefore, intended writing to every tower affiliated to the association, enclosing copy of suggested rules, asking each one to give their own opinion, and he hoped to have something further to report at the next district meeting.

Eight new members were elected, and North Weald was selected as the place for the next meeting, to be held on Saturday, April 29th.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for allowing use of tower and bells, to Mr. Watts for conducting the service, to the organist for accompanying the hymns, to Mr. F. C. Maynard and the St. Mary's band for making all the necessary arrangements, and to the ladies for serving the tea, was carried with acclamation.

Mr. F. C. Maynard replied and expressed his pleasure at seeing such a good number. He hoped the Essex Association would not leave it so long next time before they paid a visit to St. Mary's.

After some handbell ringing, the members returned to the tower, where touches in various methods from Grandsire to Cambridge, including a well-struck course of Yorkshire, were brought round.

WELCOME TO NEW RECTOR.

On Tuesday, January 17th, at St. Lawrence's Parish Church, Chorley, Lancashire, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor was rung as a welcome to the new Rector, the Rev. Canon A. Boddington, who was recently inducted. *H. Fisher 1, *H. Southworth 2, *T. Lucas 3, J. H. Gartside 4, *H. Kearsley 5, F. Rigby (conductor) 6. * Longest length of Minor.

DEATH OF A TAUNTON RINGER.

It is with great regret that we have to record the death of Mr. Sydney Wyatt, of Taunton, who passed away on February 6th at the age of 63 years.

Mr. Wyatt had been a ringer and member of the Diocesan Association for 45 years. An excellent striker and safe ringer, deceased rang about 40 peals, conducting one. He had been in business about 45 years as a nurseryman.

He was laid to rest in Wilton Churchyard on the 9th inst. amid many manifestations of regret and respect. After the funeral representatives of the three churches in Taunton rang half-muffled touches of Stedman Triples on Wilton bells. Amongst the numerous floral tributes was one in shape of a bell from his brother ringers of Wilton and one from St. Mary's band, to which he was attached for a number of years.

Deceased leaves a widow, a son and two daughters, also his father, to mourn their loss.

RINGER'S TRIBUTE TO FRIEND

OLD CHORISTER'S DEATH AT SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.

On Tuesday, January 31st, Mr. Harry Oscroft, a pillar of the church and a chorister for more than 50 years at Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts, was laid to rest. All who knew Mr. Oscroft were drawn to him by his unique personality. Here was one of nature's gentlemen, a man to whom everyone looked with respect.

A hosiery worker, he had a heart attack about a week before his death and died, lamented by all who attended St. Mary's and a large circle of other friends. His death leaves a gap in the parish which will not easily be filled, and the ringers, who rang a half-muffled quarter-peal in his memory, wish to tender their sincere sympathy to the bereaved widow and family.

Although Mr. Oscroft was not intimately connected with ringing, he always had a kind word for the ringers and their 'applied mathematics' as he so often termed them.

The quarter-peal was of Bob Minor, and was the first by all the band. It was rung by Wilfred Stocks 1, Colin Evans 2, Clifford Beeby (conductor) 3, John Beeby 4, Frank Bradley 5, Cyril Heathcote 6.

NEARLY ALL UNCLES AND NEPHEWS.

What had been intended as an uncles and nephews' performance at Waltham St. Lawrence on January 19th did not quite materialise. One of the nephews was unable to keep the appointment at the last minute and his place was filled by Mr. T. Tilley. The following rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor: S. Darvill (first of Plain Bob) 1, W. Pearson (first 'inside') 2, A. Pearson (first 'inside') 3, R. Darvill (conductor) 4, V. Darvill 5, T. Tilley 6.

MR. NOLAN GOLDEN'S PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Mr. Nolan Golden has an unfortunate habit of making for his compositions claims which he would have great difficulty in substantiating; his latest are as well rather difficult to understand.

If he means that his 5,216 of Double Norwich is the first to be rung in less than 48 seven lead courses, in which all the course-ends with 4-5-6 in 5-6 and those with the 6th at home appear, may I say that I called a 5,184 with similar qualities, and with no other changes used, on December 2nd, 1936. Having doubts of its originality, I put it down as 'arranged and conducted,' and subsequently Mr. C. W. Roberts informed me that it had been published by Edgar Wightman in 1901. Whether it had been rung in the intervening period I do not know.

E. A. BARNETT.

Crayford.

QUALITIES DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN.

Dear Sir,—I was interested to read in 'Peal Notes' your description of Mr. Nolan Golden's 5,216 of Double Norwich Court Bob Major.

Although the wording describing the qualities of the peal is rather vague, I imagine that the composition contains the full combination of 4-5-6 in 5-6, with the 6th the extent at home, and that only 48 course-ends are introduced. If this is so, Mr. Golden is to be congratulated on his production, but I should like to point out that the late Edgar Wightman composed a 5,184 with these qualities, which is the shortest peal yet obtained on these lines. Possibly Mr. Golden's peal contains some additional qualities not present in the 5,184, and this would place it in a class by itself, as peals in 48 courses only, with these course-end qualities, are extremely difficult to obtain. I am sure that this peal will be welcomed by conductors who appreciate musical compositions.

CHARLES W. ROBERTS.

SOMERSET AND LONDON.

An attempt was made to ring a quarter-peal in Somerset for morning service and in London for evening service on the day after the Bristol United Guild's dinner by two of the London contingent. They succeeded in the morning at Barrow Gurney, but the evening effort at St. Andrew's, Holborn, was not so successful.

At Barrow Gurney, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung by J. S. Hawkins (London) (conductor) 1, W. Townsend 2, P. E. Clark (London) 3, W. Tend 4, C. W. Martin 5, W. C. Rose 6, R. G. Gilbert 7, T. Boreham 8.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

We regret to say that Mr. Arthur Knights, the famous composer, is ill at his home at Chesterfield. We learn that he is suffering from cardiac debility and bronchitis and that his condition is very weak.

His friends throughout the Exercise, and they are legion, will extend their sympathy and good wishes to Mr. Knights in his illness.

There is good news of Mr. W. H. Fussell, of Slough. He was able to leave Windsor Hospital on Tuesday after having been a patient there for more than six weeks. The operation on him has been successful.

He thanks the many friends who wrote to him for their sympathy. Their letters have been very helpful to him and reminded him of many a happy day in distant belfries. He regrets that he has been unable to answer them individually, but he is grateful to those who wrote him.

The interment of the late Mr. C. S. Burden, at Nunhead Cemetery on Monday, is a reminder that another great London ringer of an earlier generation lies buried there. John Cox, who died on January 29th, 1885, was interred at Nunhead on February 7th.

One of the longest lengths of Bob Major on record was rung 150 years ago yesterday. On February 16th, 1789, St. Martin's Youths rang a peal of 14,224 at Aston in 8 hours 45 minutes.

Fifty years ago to-morrow the first peal of College Single Major was rung at Warnham, Sussex, and there is still in harness at that tower one who rang in the peal, Mr. Walter Charman.

On Sunday, another interesting anniversary occurs. Henry Haley, one of the most celebrated of a past generation of London ringers, was born at Bethnal Green on February 19th, 1819. Henry Haley rang 182 peals, of which he conducted 155 and composed 105.

He conducted at Philadelphia in 1850 the first peal rung in America, where he went with a handbell concert party. He was first a member of the Cumberland Youths, but joined the College Youths in 1854 and took part in many historic performances.

We regret we are compelled to hold over several letters to the Editor.

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—After the publication of my letter in your issue of December 2nd last, I was astonished to see a further communication on the 13th inst., still arguing the point, and can only in reply again refer your correspondent to my previous letter. I am also surprised to find that anyone pins their faith entirely on the book mentioned (I have a copy of it), seeing that, at the time, it was merely regarded as an overlooked printer's error! Anyhow, I have abundant evidence as to the accuracy of my previous statements, as the order was definitely given for 'a ring of 12 bells having a 3 ton tenor speaking the note D flat.'

Your correspondent is *entirely* wrong when he says that I have quoted words from the book in question. I have never done anything of the kind! My remarks are word for word from a much more reliable letter I received on the subject from the only gentlemen who know anything at all of the matter!

The late Mr. J. W. Taylor, sen., once told me 'they let Sir Edmund have his own way as regards the rings of eight at Burton, Ossett and Doncaster, but could not under any circumstances do so in such an important ring of bells as that of St. Paul's!'

Woking. F. E. DAWE.

WHAT LORD GRIMTHORPE SAID IN 1874.

Dear Sir,—I have a copy of Lord Grimthorpe's work, 1874 edition, in which, on page 340, he says: 'There is a project for a large peal of ten or twelve bells for St. Paul's Cathedral, and I have recommended a B tenor of 3 tons for it. . . .'

This seems to settle the question.

Sedbergh. G. F. WOODHOUSE.

DEATH OF MR C. S. BURDEN.

MEMBER OF ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL COMPANY.

We much regret to announce the death, which occurred on Wednesday of last week, of Mr. Charles S. Burden, for many years one of the ringers at St. Paul's Cathedral. For some time past Mr. Burden had been in failing health and unable to take part in ringing, but he will be much missed by his colleagues.

He did not aspire to fanciful heights in the art of method ringing, but what he did was done to perfection, and it can be said without exaggeration that he was a fine ringer. Never was there a kindlier or more unassuming man, and all who met him realised that in him was one of nature's gentlemen.

Mr. Burden was a native of Wiltshire and learned to ring at Potterne well over 50 years ago. He had, however, lived in London for a long period and was a very old member of the College Youths, in which society he was held in high esteem. He served as Master for a year, being elected to that office in 1909.

Mr. Burden had lived in Bermondsey, and the first part of the funeral service on Monday was held in St. James' Church, where once he used to ring. The interment took place at Nunhead Cemetery and many of his Masonic and ringing friends were at the graveside. After the committal, four of his brother ringers of St. Paul's rang a course of Stedman Triples at the graveside: Messrs. H. Langdon, A. B. Peck, P. H. Taffender and E. G. Fenn. Other ringers present were Messrs. C. F. Winney, F. M. Butler, H. Hoskins, J. E. Davis, F. E. Darby, G. W. Debenham, etc.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—58.

JACK BRAY.

Among the many enthusiastic ringers to be found in the Lincoln Diocesan Guild is Mr. Jack Bray, of Burton-on-Stather, who has for a number of years done a great deal in many directions for ringing in North Lincolnshire. In his own village, for instance, he has for a number of years been the mainstay of the ringing company and was largely responsible for getting the bells augmented to eight about a year ago. But his interest in the Church has extended beyond the belfry, and for 14 years he has been a member of the Church Council and for nine years he has been a representative on the Ruri-decanal Conference.

Mr. Bray has lived all his life in Burton-on-Stather, where he was born on June 30th, 1900. He rang his first peal on March 26th, 1924, a peal of Bob Minor at Barton-on-Humber. Less than two months later he rang his first peal as conductor; it consisted of Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles, at Burton-on-Stather. It was rung by the regular service ringers and was the first by all except the conductor.



MR. JACK BRAY.

Largely by Mr. Bray's efforts the quality and variety of peal ringing in North Lincolnshire has been greatly extended, and he has given great impetus to handbell ringing. Of the three hundred peals he has rung, exactly one hundred have been on handbells, and of the total he has conducted 152. His peals have been rung in 52 towers with 190 ringers, and they range from Grandsire Doubles to Cambridge Surprise Maximus. He has taken part in peals of Minor up to 53 methods and in a number of Major methods which have been firsts for Lincoln Diocesan Guild, including Gainsborough Little Bob, St. Clement's, Loughborough, Winchester, Wymondham and Original, and conducted the Gainsborough and Winchester. He was also in the first peal of Bristol Surprise Major by a resident Lincolnshire band.

Among his handbell peals have been peals of Minor up to 19 methods and he conducted the first peal rung in six Major methods 'in hand.' This was a great achievement, for there were no fewer than 378 changes of method to be called, as well as the 145 bobs and four singles. Mr. Bray's handbell peals also include peals on all numbers from Doubles to Maximus, and he conducted the Lincoln Guild's first handbell peals of Cinques and Maximus. It is, of course, extremely interesting to note that in many of the peals Mrs. Bray has also taken part.

Mr. Bray has served the Lincoln Guild in various capacities. He has been Grimsby District Ringing Master since 1929, Northern Branch hon. secretary since 1937, and a representative on the Central Council since 1936.

BERKSHIRE RING AUGMENTED

The bells of Coleshill, Berkshire, after being silent for many years, were reopened on Saturday, February 4th, after being rehung and augmented to six by the addition of a new treble, installed by the village and friends to the memory of the late Hon. Mrs. D. Pleydell-Bouverie. The work has been very satisfactorily carried out by Mr. R. White, of Appleton.

The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. W. S. Porter), and the address was given by the Rev. C. E. Wigg, Deputy Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

Tea was kindly given by Miss M. Pleydell-Bouverie in the reading room and was greatly appreciated by 60 ringing friends from Reading, Twyford, Appleton, Swindon (Christ Church), Cirencester, Fairford, Faringdon, Chillingford, Shrivenham, Uffington, Abingdon, Buckland, Stratton St. Margaret, Blundon, Maiseyhampton, Aldershot, Lechlade, Nether Winchandon, Northmoor, etc. Good use was made of the bells after tea.

AT SHAKESPEARE'S CHURCH

At Holy Trinity Church, Stratford-on-Avon, on Tuesday evening, January 24th, a quarter-peal of Court Bob Triples was rung for practice A. J. Print 1, F. Lyne 2, the Rev. H. Benson 3, W. Rawlings 4, H. Price 5, H. Brookes 6, V. B. Hunt (conductor) 7, R. Chapman 8.

PLAYING THE GAME.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Your leading article in 'The Ringing World' of February 3rd must make a great number of ringers think of the neglect which is evident in many guilds. During the period when I was 'just another' at meetings I noticed these same faces always there to do the right thing; and now, in the role of Ringing Master, I see for myself those same faces holding the meetings together.

Most meetings are held at eight-bell towers, and the thing which strikes me most is the good work done by six-bell ringers. I know several of such who have refused the chance to stand in ten-bell peals, but have been 'playing the game' at ten-bell meetings.

The use of a register can do a lot in giving facts of attendances, but it is not a method which I am inclined to support.

If there are to be any bouquets in association work, hand them to those who *do* play the game; by this I mean the learner who takes notice of the more experienced ringer, and the latter who is ready to impart knowledge to the 'timid fellow.'

In a recent report on attendances, several names came up for full marks; there were also medals for the 'runners-up.' Certainly, the majority were worthy of the praise, but two things struck me as very unfair. Several of the regular attendants had not rung anything at meetings to warrant their names being mentioned, and in one case a ringer had not rung 1,500 changes throughout the year's 12 meetings.

In the second instance no less than six names were forgotten, because they had missed more than two meetings, yet they, in their own association, are among those who make their presence felt in the tower.

I do not think that your article will be forgotten in a hurry by a great number of our fraternity, but until ringers realise the importance and privilege which is before them by their presence in the church, association work will be held up to ridicule by a few and used by others to satisfy their own selfish desires.

'BOB TRIPLES.'

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

FIRST MEETING AT EBBW VALE.

Ebbw Vale extended a hearty welcome to the members of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association on Saturday last on the occasion of the first ringers' meeting ever held there. Early in the afternoon members arrived by bus, car and railway. To those who had not previously been to the tower it was a joy to find such a spacious and well-kept ringing chamber and a magnificent ring of bells, with a tenor of 25 cwt., installed by Taylor and Co. 17 months ago.

The local leader, Mr. R. Alsop, cordially welcomed everyone. Various methods were rung until 4.30. Service was then conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. Oliver Davies), who also gave the ringers a welcome to Ebbw Vale and delivered an inspiring address.

Tea followed in the adjoining Schoolroom. This had been most kindly provided by ladies of the parish, the Vicar championing these ladies as 'the very best of all.'

The business meeting followed, the Vicar taking the chair. Instructors' reports, restorations and augmentations were reported upon and several new members were elected.

A proposition put forward by Mr. E. Stitch was unanimously carried that a record be made in the minutes of what recently appeared in 'The Ringing World' with regard to the hon. secretary ringing his first and his 500th peal on the same bell in Caerleon tower with a span of 50 years.

The best thanks were accorded the Vicar and his wardens for the magnificent effort they made in procuring such a grand new octave of bells, thus giving the members of the association another ring of eight for their activities.—The Vicar, in reply, gave the history of how he originated the idea.

After the usual votes of thanks to all concerned, the meeting closed and the bells were afterwards rung in methods ranging from Grandsire to Cambridge. The meeting proved a huge success.

NORTH STAFFS ASSOCIATION

EIGHT-BELL RINGING MASTER TO RETIRE.

A meeting of the North Staffordshire Association was held at Longton on Saturday, February 4th, when 44 members attended from Burslem, Crewe, Cheadle, Derby, Draycott, Fenton, Hanley, Kidsgrove, Kingsley, Lawton, Longton, Leek, Newcastle, Repton, Stoke-on-Trent, Stone, Stafford, Wistaston and Wolstanton.

A short service was held, at which the Rev. T. H. Brookes (Rector of Longton) officiated. He extended a hearty welcome to Longton, and paid tributes to the former leader and leader of Longton tower.

After tea at the Dorothy Cafe, the Rector, in welcoming the representative gathering, said a meeting like that must be of great value to ringers. He added that he missed meeting his friend, Mr. J. H. Swinfield, of Burton-on-Trent.

Mr. Alan D. Steel thanked the Rector and ringers for the way the meeting was prepared and the very inspiring address given by the Rector. He also referred to the advancement of Longton ringers during the past three years.

This was supported by Mr. Arthur W. Hall, and Mr. Edward Steele, leader of Longton, expressed his gratitude in having five more members present than last year.

The Ringing Master for eight-bell towers (Mr. Alan D. Steel) intimated that he wished to resign this position after the March meeting.

AN UNFOUNDED ACCUSATION.

CHALLENGE TO THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

Offending Paragraph to be Withdrawn.

There was a sequel on Saturday, at the annual meeting of the London County Association, to the letter, which appeared in 'The Ringing World' on January 13th, signed by the secretary of the association, and written in reply to a leading article which appeared in our issue of December 23rd. Notice of motion had been given in the following terms: 'That this association desires emphatically to dissociate itself from the insinuation of its secretary, Mr. T. W. Taffender, made against the Guildford Diocesan Guild, in his letter to "The Ringing World," published on January 13th last, and calls upon him to withdraw, through the same channel, the expression used in the name of this association.'

The meeting was held in St. Clement Danes' Parish Hall, and was attended by some 60 or 70 members. The Master (Mr. T. H. Taffender) presided, supported by the principal officers of the association.

In the minutes of the quarterly meeting, held on January 2nd, which were read and confirmed, it was stated that the leading article in 'The Ringing World' relating to the association was considered and a letter in reply was put before the meeting. Objection was taken to some of the contents of the letter and an amendment moved that these should be deleted. The amendment was lost and a resolution carried that the letter, as drafted, should be sent for publication.

A POINT OF ORDER.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith proposed the motion, of which he had given notice, and at once Mr. A. H. Keighley raised a point of order that the motion could not be submitted, as the association had taken action at a quarterly meeting and its decision could not be altered.

Several members immediately rose to protest, and Mr. F. E. Hawthorne said there were many instances in which a minute made at one meeting was altered at a later meeting. There was nothing in the rules and there were no standing orders that prevented any subject dealt with at a quarterly meeting being brought up again at the annual meeting.

Mr. N. H. Manning (assistant secretary) said this was not a question of the correctness of a minute, but the reopening of a matter that had already been settled.

Mr. Goldsmith appealed to the meeting not to let the subject be sidetracked on a subterfuge. An injustice had been done to a friendly neighbouring Guild, and they ought to have courage enough to admit the mistake if it was proved that a mistake had been made. They came to a conclusion at the quarterly meeting without knowing the facts.

A member said that the Guildford Guild had sent them from their annual meeting, through Mr. Dawe, a message of goodwill, and he thought they should leave it at that.

Mr. Goldsmith said it did not come from the annual meeting, but was expressed in an after dinner speech. Members of the Guildford Guild, with whom he had spoken, felt strongly about this matter.

Miss E. Bedford said although the Guildford Guild had sent their good wishes, the London County Association had not sent their good wishes back.

The Master said the association would be only too pleased to do so; they wished to remain in friendly relations with all societies. It was no good digging up the hatchet again.

Mr. Worboys said it was not a question of digging up the hatchet. The letter, he contended, was not a fair representation of the views of the association. Who were they to point the finger of scorn at anybody? It was up to them to withdraw it and to apologise. He asked who was responsible for the letter.

The Master said the letter was approved, after discussion, and the whole general body of members was responsible.

Mr. Worboys: May I then suggest that as a body they also make an apology?

A SLUR ON THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

After further discussion, Mr. Keighley, who said that although he was present at the quarterly meeting and did not agree with all that the letter contained, suggested that the chairman should exercise his prerogative and rule the motion out of order, even though it might be unpopular, or take a vote upon whether it should be proceeded with. The letter might not have represented the views of a majority of the association, but it was passed by a majority present at the quarterly meeting. If the other members were not satisfied with what was done at quarterly meetings, they should attend them all.

Eventually the Master ruled that Mr. Goldsmith should be allowed to state his case.

Mr. Goldsmith said when he heard the minutes of the quarterly meeting read he was amazed to learn that a body of men could have been induced to assent to such a letter as was written in their name; they could not have realised its true import or all its imputations. He regretted that it should be necessary to bring this motion, but he had felt compelled to do so for two reasons. First, the paragraph of which he complained cast an unwarrantable slur upon the Guildford Diocesan Guild, and it cast an equal slur upon the conduct of the London County Association that the statement should be allowed to stand in its name without a full and complete justification. He pointed out that all he was concerned with on that occasion was with the reflection upon the Guildford Guild. This was what this offensive paragraph said:—

> 'This association (the London County Association) has in no way ever ignored its title and now points the finger of scorn to the Editor and the Diocesan Association of which he was the instigator encroaching on the areas already covered by other associations.'

It passed his comprehension, he said, why the association should have gone out of its way to insult the Guildford Guild, which was neither concerned nor interested, as a guild, in the affairs of the London County Association or the subject which led to the letter. But whatever the reason the motion would give the association the opportunity either of justifying or withdrawing the reference to the Guildford Guild. He proposed to give them some facts to assist them.

First of all there was the accusation that the Editor of 'The Ringing World' was the instigator of the Guildford Guild. Nothing was further from the fact. When, in 1926, it was proposed to split up the diocese of Winchester, a meeting of the Guildford District of the Winchester Diocesan Guild discussed the formation of a separate ringing Guild for the new diocese. He (Mr. Goldsmith) opposed it at that stage, but a proposition that the Guild be formed was carried. But as it was the decision of the majority that a separate Guild be formed, he did not sulk in a corner because he did not get his own way. Realising that the Guild, if it were to be a success, must have everyone's support, he, like many others, pulled his weight to achieve this end. There was nothing dishonourable in that and certainly nothing that justified pointing the finger of scorn (applause).

ATTITUDE OF THE WINCHESTER GUILD.

Then with regard to the encroachment upon the areas of other associations. That accusation was equally untrue in the sense in which it was intended in the letter. The Guildford Guild took over from the Winchester Guild only that territory which had been severed from the diocese of Winchester to form the diocese of Guildford. They took over not an inch more, nor had the Guild made any attempt since to do so, and there was no intention of extending its boundaries. As a matter of fact, the change was one more of organisation than of territory, and it was prompted by reasons similar to those which led to the division of the diocese itself.

What was the attitude of the Winchester Diocesan Guild to it? The Winchester Guild at its annual meeting in 1927 passed several resolutions on the subject. One was: 'That, as meetings of both Guildford and Yorktown Districts of this Guild have passed resolutions in favour of forming a separate organisation for the diocese of Guildford, as from January 1st, 1928, subject to the approval of the Bishop of Guildford, a separate Guild be formed for the diocese of Guildford and that part of Surrey as may be found convenient, and that the remainder of the Guild be formed into one or more diocesan organisations as the resident members may desire.'

It would be noted, Mr. Goldsmith continued, that an even further division of the Winchester Guild was contemplated at that time. At the same meeting another resolution was passed providing for a reciprocal arangement, by which members of one Guild could become compounding members of the other upon the nominal payment of one shilling, and, what was more, it was resolved to divide the funds of the Winchester Guild proportionately with the new Guild; while a further resolution was passed specifically stating that these arrangements were made from a general desire that when the old Winchester Diocesan Guild ceased to function it should be in the most friendly and fair way possible.

'Does that,' asked Mr. Goldsmith, 'look as if the Guildford Diocesan Guild did anything which deserves the finger of scorn being pointed at it?'

RELATIONS WITH SURREY ASSOCIATION.

He then dealt with the relations with the Surrey Association. He pointed out that the Winchester Guild was founded in June, 1879, but that the Surrey Association did not come on the scene until October, 1880. In so far as there was any encroachment, therefore, it was on the part of the Surrey Association, but he did not blame them for that. In those days the number of interested ringers was small, that part of Surrey was a long way from the centre of the diocese and no doubt the Surrey men thought they would get more advantages from their own county association than from the Diocesan Guild. But when the Guildford Guild was contemplated there were only six towers in that corner of the diocese which were really concerned in the overlapping, and in those six towers in 1927 the Surrey Association had 32 members. When the scheme for the Guildford Guild was put before the Surrey members it was made plain that there was no desire that they should give up their allegiance to the Surrey Association, and he quoted the following from the official statement laid before a meeting at Leatherhead in October, 1927: 'The Organising Committee desire to make it as plain as they possibly can that in coming into that district they did so with no designs whatever upon the Surrey Association. They recognised the loyalty which many towers in that area had given to the County Association, but as they were organising a diocesan Guild and that area was within the diocese, they would be failing in their duty, and they would be unable to claim to be a truly diocesan body, unless they set up their organisation in that district as in the other parts of the diocese. Whatever might be the outcome of future negotiations, the earnest desire of the Guildford Committee was that the two associations, which had common interests, should work amicably side by side.'

'Again I ask you,' said Mr. Goldsmith, 'is there anything in that action which merits the pointing of the finger of scorn?' He added that the very happiest relations had always existed between the Surrey

Association and the Guildford Guild. They held joint meetings and rang peals together; in fact, there were in the area in 1927, thirty-three members (out of 39 in Guildford Guild and 36 in the Surrey Association) who were members of both.

On these facts he asked the meeting to judge whether there was any ground for the unkind remarks made in the letter with regard to the Guildford Guild, and said that the least they could honourably do was to withdraw them and to express regret (applause).

Mr. Keighley said Mr. Goldsmith had put up a convincing case that there had never been any encroachment by the Guildford Guild, but when the letter was sent to him as Editor of 'The Ringing World," knowing the facts, he thought he should have returned it to the secretary, pointed out the error and asked for its withdrawal. Instead, he now come there in his personal capacity and asked the association to apologise. He thought it was inconsistent and that Mr. Goldsmith was equally to blame for allowing it to appear.

Mr. Goldsmith said the letter was a reply to an article in 'The Ringing World' and it was not for him to interfere with it. If he had done so he would probably have been accused of acting unfairly.

Mr. J. G. A. Prior (Northern District secretary) seconded the motion and asked what the association would have said if Mr. Goldsmith had refused to publish the letter. He asked the meeting to take into account the opinion of the Northern District meeting. Not one of the members present at that meeting was in favour of the secretary's letter and he held they should withdraw it.

MASTER COUNSELS WITHDRAWAL.

The Master said he was sure they would be satisfied with Mr. Goldsmith's statement—personally he was satisfied and he thought they would agree that that portion of the letter should be withdrawn (hear, hear).

Mr. Worboys asked at whose dictation the phrase 'points the finger of scorn' was put into the letter.

The Master said he did not think any useful purpose would be served by pursuing that point.

Mr. Worboys: It is a reasonable question and I should like an answer.

The Master said the letter was approved by the quarterly meeting, and those who voted for it agreed to it.

Mr. Worboys pressed for an answer.

Mr. Manning said the question had been answered.

A Voice. We are not in Germany or Russia (laughter).

The Master: I am in favour of that portion of the letter being withdrawn. It must be understood it was not intended against any association. We wish to work with everybody in a friendly spirit.

Mr. Worboys: If it was not directed against any association, who was it directed against? There must have been somebody in mind. The Editor we know, but who was the Diocesan Association to which we pointed 'the finger of scorn? You cannot get away from it, if it was pointed at anyone it was pointed at the Guildford Guild. Mr. Master, may I have an answer to my question?

The Master said he saw no useful purpose in going on with the discussion. To continue it would only cause bad feeling.

Mr. Worboys: As a member of this association the writing of that letter puts part of the responsibility on me. Who were we pointing the finger of scorn at; I think I ought to have an answer?

No answer was forthcoming.

Mr. Heazell said if the association had made a mistake and had done something with which the majority of members disagreed, would it not be well to apologise? He proposed that that portion of the letter be withdrawn and an apology sent.

PRACTICALLY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

After further discussion, Mr. Goldsmith agreed, with the consent of his seconder, to withdraw his motion, on condition that the association, through 'The Ringing World,' withdrew the offending paragraph and expressed regret to the Guildford Guild for its publication.

On this being agreed to by a practically unanimous vote, the secretary was understood to say that he declined to send the withdrawal.

Mr. Worboys said it was the secretary's business to do as he was instructed. He was instructed by the quarterly meeting to send the letter which caused the trouble, and he did so, and now that it was the instruction of that meeting that the paragraph should be withdrawn it was the secretary's job to do it. He should either get on or get out (hear, hear).

The Master said this form of discussion did not help the association. The matter was settled.

Mr. Worboys: The secretary has refused to write the letter—I think that is what he says. That shows personal animosity.

The Master: We have other secretaries who can do it.

Mr. Worboys: The person who wrote the first letter should send this one, or withdraw from his office.

The Secretary: You are quite welcome to it.

The Master said they must realise he disagreed with the Editor on his article relating to the association, but he agreed with him in a thousand and one of his other leading articles. Only the previous week there was one relating to the work put upon secretaries. They did not realise the work their secretary put in. He put in five nights in the previous week. It was voluntary work. Were they going to keep caning those people who tried to do all they could for the association?

Mr. Worboys continued to press for an answer to his question as to whether the secretary would send the withdrawal, and eventually the Master replied in the affirmative and this closed the debate.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BENEVOLENT FUND'S HELP FOR AGED MEMBERS.

The quarterly meeting of the Lewisham District was held at St. Nicholas', Chislehurst, on Saturday, February 4th, and was attended by members from Beckenham, Bexley, Bromley, Bromley Common, Chislehurst (The Annunciation), Crayford, Dartford, Deptford, Eltham, Erith, Lee, Lewisham, Penge, Woolwich and the local band, together with several unattached members. A welcome visitor was the general secretary, Mr. F. M. Mitchell.

Ringing during the afternoon was followed by the association service, read by the Rector (the Rev. Canon J. R. Lumb), who incorporated an interesting address.

Fifty-seven members partook of tea, served in the Tiger's Head, the Rector occupying the head of the table. At the conclusion of the meal, the handbells were in demand. A course of Grandsire Caters, rung by G. V. Murphy, D. Sharp, G. H. Cross, F. Groombridge and T. Groombridge, jun., and a course of Double Norwich by G. V. Murphy, D. Snarp, E. A. Barnett and E. Barnett (four members of the Crayford band), received well-merited applause.

The business meeting was held in the belfry. In the unavoidable absence of the Rector, Mr. F. M. Mitchell was elected to the chair.

Ten ringers were elected to membership of the association, and the elections of two members previous to peals were confirmed.

Messrs. F. J. Cullum and E. Barnett presented a report of proceedings at the committee meeting held at Maidstone in November last.—This report was adopted, with a vote of thanks to the authors for its preparation.

Commenting upon statemen.s contained in the report, Mr. F. M. Mitchell thought it a matter of congratulation that the association's Benevolent Fund had been able to assist aged members to the amount of £38 3s. during the year, especially bearing in mind that this expenditure had been met out of income except for the odd shillings.

Also arising from the report a resolution was carried to place on the agenda of the annual general meeting a motion to amend the rules by the addition of the following: 'Any member whose conduct is, in the opinion of his or her district, prejudicial to the well-being of the association shall be reported to the committee. A member so reported to be given the opportunity of attending when the complaint is investigated. If it is found that the charge is justified, the committee shall have power to erase the member's name from the books.'

St. Alphege, Greenwich, was selected as the place of the next meeting.

Arising from the explanation by the district secretary as to why the present meeting was being held at Chislehurst instead of at the place nominated, it was decided to ask the bands tendering subscriptions to define their relations with the association before publishing the tower as being 'in union' in the annual report.

A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector of Chislehurst for the use of the bells, for the service and address and for his presence at tea, to the organist, to Mr. T. Groombridge, sen., and Mr. W. R. Rawlings for their kindness in arranging for their towers to be at the disposal of the members, and to Mr. F. M. Mitchell for presiding at the business meeting.

Further use of the tower bells followed and terminated a successful meeting. Ringing on this occasion ranged from rounds for novices to Bristol Surprise for the initiated.

ACTIVITY IN TONBRIDGE DISTRICT.

The first quarterly meeting of the Tonbridge District of the Kent County Association was held at Sevenoaks on Saturday, February 4th. About 50 ringers attended, the following towers in the district being represented: Brasted, Edenbridge, Leigh, East Peckham, Penshurst, Seal Chart, Sevenoaks, Tonbridge, Tunbridge Wells and Westerham. Visitors were also present from Beddington, Leytonstone, Croydon (St. John's), Stepney and Hayes (Kent).

The bells were put to good use during the afternoon and evening, under the leadership of the Master (Mr. E. J. Ladd), and service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. F. W. Argyle).

The business meeting, which followed, was presided over by Mr. E. H. Lewis, the president of the Central Council and vice-president of the association. He was supported by Miss D. Colgate (the local secretary), Mr. T. Saunders (district representative), Mr. E. J. Ladd (Master), Mr. H. J. Ford (captain of the Sevenoaks band) and the district secretary, Mr. A. E. Richardson.

Nine new members were elected, including three lady ringers.

A short appreciation of the late Mr. J. Heasman, of Edenbridge, was given by the secretary, and the members stood for a few moments in silence as a mark of respect.

A report from the local secretary of the Sevenoaks band to the district secretary showed that during the last year 48,229 changes were rung by them in eight different methods, nine of the members taking part in the conducting. A similar report from Brasted showed that in 1938, 46 complete 720's in 17 different methods was rung there.

Mr. T. Saunders gave a brief report of the Central Committee meeting held at Maidstone in November last. Mr. Ladd also reported on the district's first quarterly peal attempt, which was successfully brought round at Tonbridge, resulting in one member ringing his first peal and one his first on a working bell. The next attempt, the Master intimated, would be for Stedman Triples, and asked for names from which a band could be picked.

A vote of thanks to the Rev. F. W. Argyle, for his warm welcome, and to the members of the local band concluded the meeting.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM DISTRICT'S POSITION.

Encouragement For Beginners.

There was a large attendance at the annual meeting of the Farnham District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild, held at Farnham on January 28th. Over 60 ringers and friends were present, and ringing both in the afternoon and evening was carried out under the direction of the District Ringing Master (Mr. R. Hasted). Service was conducted by the Rector (Canon E. M. Girling), and an interesting address was given by the curate (the Rev. P. W. Wheeldon).

The annual meeting followed tea, the Rector presiding, supported by the Rev. P. W. Wheeldon, Mr. C. W. Denyer (hon. secretary and treasurer), Mr. R. Hasted (Ringing Master), Mr. G. L. Grover (general secretary), Mr. J. Corbett (general treasurer), Capt. H. J. Cann (Brookwood), Mr. W. A. Dollimore (Aldershot) and Mrs. D. Meadows, Messrs. A. E. Smith, A. J. Stedman, H. Penrose and Mrs. C. Edwards (honorary members, of Farnham), Mr. W. J. Cope (Guildford district secretary), and Mrs. Cope.

Towers represented were: Seale, Farnham, Aldershot, Bagshot, Guildford (S. Nicolas'), Ash, Bentley, Yorktown, Hawley, Portsea, Cranleigh and Clandon.

The Rector welcomed the Guild to Farnham, and the following officers were then re-elected: Ringing Master, Mr. R. Hasted; hon. secretary, Mr. C. W. Denyer; hon. auditor, Mr. P. Eldridge.

As a result of a ballot, Mr. W. Dollimore (Aldershot) was elected a representative of the Executive Committee for three years, Mr. T. Upshall (Farnham) for two years, and Mr. F. Nye (Bagshot) for a year.

The accounts, which were adopted, showed a credit balance of £13 7s. 8d. Receipts amounted to £32 8s. 11d. (including balance brought forward £15 12s. 8d. and subscriptions £16 6s. 6d.), and expenditure to £19 1s. 3d. (including expenses of meetings £2 18s. 6d. and donation to the Cathedral bells fund £2 2s.).

TOWER DIFFICULTIES.

In his report, the secretary said the district officers looked back over the year 1938 with mixed feelings. The activities were fully maintained, and in some directions extended, but against this has to be set the difficulty experienced in some towers of obtaining the full support of all its ringers.

The ringing membership had increased by nine and honorary membership by five, the total now being 159 (127 ringing and 32 honorary), as compared with 145 in 1937. This sounded very satisfactory, he said, but unfortunately success could not be entirely proved by the number of members who pay their subscriptions. If membership were counted on the regular attendance of ringers at service ringing, practices and Guild meetings, the number would be considerably reduced. However, they still hoped for improvement in this direction, and looked forward to the time when a ringing membership of 127 would mean 127 keen, enthusiastic ringers, each doing his or her utmost to help in the affairs of the Guild.

Financially they were still in a sound position. The balance in hand, although down on the previous year, was substantial, and the increased expenditure was partly accounted for by the donation of two guineas to the Cathedral Bells Fund. The Benevolent Fund boxes had yielded only £3 0s. 2d. and this amount came from six towers. It might be suggested that several towers were not pulling their weight in this matter. If one member in each tower were to be responsible for bringing the collecting box forward at practices and meetings, and if each ringer would put one halfpenny or one penny in each week, the result would be very helpful in swelling this worthy fund. The Cathedral Bells Fund had also received varying sums from their towers.

The average attendance at the six district meetings was 31. As usual, the district contributed their share in attendances at Guild functions, and this they must keep up. It would be much more encouraging to Guild officials if more fresh faces were seen at these meetings. At a district committee meeting held at Aldershot towards the end of 1938, nine towers sent representatives. These committee meetings appeared very popular, and the suggestions and criticisms put forward were extremely helpful.

Organised combined practices are not held, but in the future it was thought that considerable assistance would be given if each tower were visited once or twice on its regular practice night. They were asked not to leave it to one or two members to visit these belfries. It was everybody's duty to support these efforts.

Peal ringing was not one of their strong features. Four attempts were made, but only one was successful.

WEDNESDAY MEETINGS.

This was the first year they had held Wednesday gatherings. That at Crondall in May was a remarkable success, but the Aldershot mid-week meeting was not so well attended. If mid-week meetings were to be continued, those members able to attend on Wednesday afternoons must give wholehearted support. It was not intended to arrange Wednesday meetings if success must depend on the Saturday supporters, who could only show up in the last hour in the evening.

The report concluded with words of encouragement to the less experienced ringers, who were urged not to get disheartened because they did not appear to make much headway and not to be oversensitive when mistakes were corrected. 'Only by continually grind-

(Continued in next column.)

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING AND HANDBELL COMPETITION.

The annual meeting of the London County Association was held on Saturday when members had the opportunity of ringing at several of the city churches as well as at headquarters, St. Clement Danes, where service was held, conducted by the Rector (the Rev. W. Pennington Bickford). The address was given by the Rev. J. N. Taylor, who based his interesting remarks upon 'Our ministry.'

The business meeting was held in the evening at St. Clement's Parish Hall, under the chairmanship of the Master (Mr. T. H. Taffender).

Mr. H. J. Hazell, of St. Albans, and Mr. R. A. Johnson, of Durham, were elected members of the society.

The report, presented by the Master, referred to the loss by death of ten members, and those present stood in silence as a mark of respect.

Twenty-four peals had been rung during the year, an increase of three over 1937. In these 65 members took part. Practices had been well maintained, the number of members attending having largely increased, while an advance in the methods rung had taken place. The bells at St. George's-in-the-East had been restored and a local band formed, and at St. Mary's, Battersea, where there had also been a restoration, the local company were making progress in change ringing. At St. John-the-Divine, Kennington, where nothing had been done for many years, the Senior Steward had formed a new band, while at Isleworth Miss Ashbrook had formed a new company, which was making excellent progress.

The statement of accounts showed that the balance in hand had increased by £4 5s. 6d., the receipts including £2 7s. from new members.

It was decided to transfer £5 from the funds in the hands of the treasurer to the P.O. Savings Bank.

There was a long discussion and some criticism on some of the details in the balance sheet, which was eventually adopted.

The officers nominated at the previous meeting were elected, including the Master (Mr. T. H. Taffender), the hon. secretary (Mr. T. W. Taffender), who were re-elected, but some changes were made in the other appointments.

The discussion on the association's recent letter to 'The Ringing World' is reported under a separate heading.

The business closed with votes of thanks to those who had made the arrangements for the meeting, to the Rector of St. Clement's and the Rev. J. N. Taylor, also to the officers and to the Master.

Afterwards the annual handbell competition for the F. E. Dawe cup took place, but it was regretted there were only two entries, these being two young bands from Isleworth, who each rang a course of Grandsire Triples. The judges' award went to No. 2 team.

Afterwards other handbell ringing took place.

(Continued from previous column.)

ing away at the less interesting methods and round ringing is it possible to attain the position of a sound, reliable ringer.'

The report was adopted with congratulations to the hon. secretary.

It was agreed to visit the following towers in 1939: Hawley (8 bells), Seale (6), Bentley (6), Bagshot (8) and Frensham (6) on Saturdays, and Ash (6) on a Wednesday.

All the retiring Guild officers were renominated, with the addition of Mr. W. H. Viggers (Aldershot) a representative on the Central Council.

A proposition by the District Committee that a Guild bronze badge be given to new members on ringing their first quarter-peal, the cost to be paid out of the district funds, was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. J. Gardner (Bentley) and Mr. E. Kavanagh (Yorktown) were elected members of the Guild, and a letter of congratulation and good wishes was sent to Mr. E. Clapshaw, the oldest member of the Farnham band, on celebrating on the previous Thursday his 94th birthday.

At the close Mr. J. Corbett proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector, the Rev. P. W. Wheeldon, Mr. R. Hasted, the verger, organist, the local ringers and the caterers.

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NOTICES.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, on Saturday, Feb. 18th. Ringing at 6 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—Joseph H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The pre-Lent meeting will be held as a joint meeting with the Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association at West Hartlepool on Saturday, February 18th, when the bells of St. Oswald's (10) and St. Aidan's (8) will be available. Committee meeting in St. Oswald's Vestry at 4 p.m. Tea will be provided at a reasonable charge in St. Oswald's Church Hall at 5 p.m.—Roland Park, Hon. Sec., 23, Oaklands Terrace, Darlington.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Maidstone District will be held at All Saints', Maidstone, on Saturday, Feb. 18th. The peal of 10 bells will be available from 3 till 5, and after tea. A special business meeting will take place following the tea at the Old Palace.—A. Waddington, Hon. Dis. Sec., Malthouse Farm, Egerton.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next meeting is to take place on Saturday, February 18th, at Arley (6 bells), instead of Exhall as arranged. Bells available during afternoon and evening. Tea provided.—D. E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District and Romney Marsh Guild.—A combined meeting will be held at Tenterden on Saturday, February 18th. Bells ready 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—P. Page, Hon. Dis. Sec., 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—V.W.H. Branch.—The spring meeting will be held at Uffington on Saturday, February 18th. Bells (5) available at 2.30. Service at 4.30.—R. Gilling, Hon. Sec., Fernham, Faringdon, Berks.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Meeting of Southampton District at Bishopstoke on Saturday, February 18th. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Tea 5.—G. Pullinger, 17, Stoke Park Road, Bishopstoke, Hants.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Shaw-cum-Donnington on Saturday, February 18th. Bells (6) available at 3 o'clock. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea, 5 p.m., at 6d. each. All ringers welcome.—T. J. Fisher, Hon. Sec., Arniston, Manor Lane, Newbury.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—A meeting will be held at Hathern on Saturday, February 18th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30, followed by tea and meeting at 5 p.m. Good bus services from Loughborough, Coalville, etc. Please make an effort to attend, and don't forget a postcard to Mr. C. Durby, Hathern, near Loughborough, Leicester, if you want your tea. Subscriptions for 1939 are now due.—A. E. Rowley, Hon. Sec., Hyom, Penistone Street, Ibstock, Leicester.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A mid-quarterly meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Knighton, Leicester (5 bells), on February 18th. Ringing at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30.—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec., 53, Landseer Road, Leicester.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Great Bentley (bells 8) on Saturday, Feb. 18th. Service in Church at 4.30, followed by the meeting at 5 p.m. Will all those intending to be present please notify me as soon as possible? — J. R. Sparling, Dis. Sec., Station Hotel, Wivenhoe.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Crewkerne Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Ilminster on Saturday, February 18th. Bells at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Service 6.30 p.m. Please notify early for tea.—D. G. Taylor, Braeside, Ilminster.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Spalding on Saturday, February 18th. Bells available from 2 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.15 p.m. Business meeting afterwards.—Geo. Ladd, Hon. Dis. Sec., Pinchbeck, Spalding.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—West Dorset Branch.—The Langford-Beams memorial meeting will be held at Beaminster on Saturday, February 18th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow.—C. H. Lathey, Sec.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Christchurch District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Milford-on-Sea on Saturday, February 18th. Bells available at Lymington at 3 p.m., Milford at 5.30.—G. Preston, 42, Waterloo Place, Christchurch.

BUSHEY.—Saturday, February 18th. Bells (8) available from 3.30 p.m. Tea at Busbey Cafe 5.30. Business meeting after. Tower open till 8.30. Excellent rail and bus service.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey. City 4270.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings, Feb.: St. Giles', Cripplegate, 21st; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 23rd; *St. Paul's Cathedral, 28th. *Business meeting afterwards. All at 7.30, except St. Andrew's, 8 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Sec., Brank-some, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—The monthly practice will be resumed at St. Leonard's Church, Shoreditch, commencing on February 23rd, at 6.30. All ringers heartily welcomed.—G. W. Steere, Hon. Sec., 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — East Norfolk Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Margaret's Church, Lowestoft, on Saturday, February 25th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service at 4.15 p.m. Tea at St. Nicholas' House at 5 p.m. Business meeting after tea. All ringers welcome. But 'Mr. Harwood wants to know' the names or numbers for tea, so just send a postcard, chums. Address to J. G. W. Harwood, 4, Cobden Terrace, Northgate Street, Great Yarmouth.

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ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—The 51st annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, February 25th, at 6 p.m. prompt, Rev. Canon Stuart Blofeld, B.A., Vicar of Edgbaston, in the chair. The following towers will be open: St. Martin's, Bull Ring (12) and Aston Parish Church (12), 3.30 to 5 p.m.; Cathedral Church of St. Philip (10), 4 to 5.30 p.m.; St. Chad's R.C. Cathedral (8), 3 to 4 p.m. Tickets will be issued to fully-paid-up ringing members at 2s. each; to other members and friends at 6s. 6d. each. Early application is requested, but latest date is 23rd inst.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham, 11.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—The next monthly practice at Chelmsford Cathedral will be held on Saturday, February 25th, at 7.30 p.m. The special method is Cambridge, up to Royal.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Upper Arbour Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — Northern Division.—A meeting will be held at Coggeshall on Saturday, February 25th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. Will all those intending to be present please notify Mr. V. Morley, 10, St. Peter's Road, Coggeshall, Essex, not later than first post, Wednesday, February 22nd? Subscriptions for 1939 are now due.—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Dis. Sec., 3, Belle Vue, Hedingham Road, Halstead.

PEAK DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Six-bell meeting at Eyam on Saturday, February 25th. Bells available 2.30 to 7.30 p.m. Those expecting to be present please write me not later than Tuesday, Feb. 21st.—H. L. Warburton, Hon. Sec., 72, Causeway Head Road, Dore, nr. Sheffield.

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Hawkhurst on Saturday, February 25th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. Tea free to members who notify me Wednesday previous to meeting. A good attendance hoped for.—J. G. Powell, Hon. Sec., 1, Woodbury Road, Hawkhurst, Kent.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Adwick-le-Street on Saturday, February 25th. Bells (6) ready at 3 p.m. Will all those who require tea please notify me not later than Wednesday, 22nd? A good attendance is expected, so please turn up in your dozens and look up your methods.—E. Cooper, 6, Grosvenor Crescent, Arksey, Doncaster.

LEICESTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETIES.—The annual dinner will be held at the George Hotel, Leicester, near Clock Tower, on Saturday, February 25th, at 6.30 p.m. prompt. Ringing at Leicester Cathedral 4.30 p.m. till 6 p.m. St. Margaret's (12) and Belgrave (8) 3 p.m. till 4.30 p.m. Tickets, 3s. to be obtained from me not later than Wednesday, February 22nd.—H. W. Perkins, 53, Landseer Road, Leicester.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.— A meeting of the Wirral Branch will be held at Lower Bebington on Saturday, February 25th, Tower open at 3 o'clock. Service at 5.30 p.m. Tea and meeting afterwards. A good attendance is requested.—Harry S. Brocklebank, Hon. Sec. and Treas., 30, South Hill Road, Birkenhead.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—North Forest Branch.—Next meeting will be held at Huntley on Saturday, February 25th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. (1s. each). Those requiring tea please notify me by Tuesday, February 21st. —A. J. Gibson, Hon. Sec., Westbury Court Cottage, Westbury-on-Severn, Glos.

SEMPRINGHAM ABBEY CHURCH.—The dedication of the two new bells, making a peal of six (work done by Mr. Alfred Bowell, Ipswich) will take place on Saturday, February 25th, at 3 o'clock. Tea will be provided in the school. Will captains of teams who wish to have tea communicate with the Vicar, Rev. L. G. Pilkington, the Vicarage, Sempringham, or Mr. J. T. Rolt, Pointon, Sleaford, not later than February 22nd? All ringers welcome.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Liversedge on Saturday, February, 25th, Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea will be arranged for all who notify Mr. F. Hodgson, 566, Halifax Road, Hightown, Liversedge, by February 22nd. Business meeting in the tower. H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Coalpit Heath on Saturday, February 25th. Bells (6) open from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Please advise for tea.—R. C. Gifford, Hon. Sec., Gifford House, Frampton Cotterell, near Bristol.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — St. Albans District.—A six-bell meeting will be held at St. Albans on Saturday, February 25th. St. Michael's bells, tenor 13 cwt., from 3 p.m. to 5.30. Tea and meeting at 'Nell Gwynn's', St. Michael's Street, to be followed by ringing at St. Stephen's, tenor 15 cwt. Both are very fine peals—come and enjoy a ring on them.—Harold V. Frost, Hon. Dis. Sec., 4, Kimberley Road, St. Albans.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Halliwell, on Saturday, February 25th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5, at small charge per head. Special invitation to friends in Wigan Branch. Names for tea to J. F. Wood, 51, Melrose Avenue, Bolton.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Braughing (8 bells) on Saturday, February 25th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service and tea as usual. Meeting to follow. Ringing for *all*.—A. Lawrence, Dis. Sec., Hatfield Park, Herts.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Sonning Deanery Branch.—Practice at Binfield, near Bracknell, Saturday, February 25th, 6 till 9 p.m. All welcome. — W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec.

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OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next practice has been arranged at Old Windsor (8 bells) on Saturday, February 25th, at 6 p.m. Subscriptions now due.—A. D. Barker, Branch Sec. and Treas., Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—A general meeting will be held at Acton on Saturday, March 4th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Tea at 4.45. Service, with address by the Rector, at 5.30. The Rector, Rev. P. Gough, invites members of the association to tea, and to the meeting; will all accepting advise me by Tuesday, February 28th? All information and alterations for Annual Report should be sent to me without delay.—C. T. Coles, Gen. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4. Tel. Larkswood 1959.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—First meeting of the year will be held at Hallow (4 miles north of Worcester) on Sat., March 4th. Bells (8, tenor 21½ cwt.) recently rehung, from 3 p.m. Short service 4.15. Tea in the Parish Hall 5 (gratis to those who notify me not later than Tuesday, Feb. 28th). Business meeting afterwards, at which the problem of a new secretary *must* be solved.—G. E. Large, Branch Sec., 1, Windmill Cottages, Lower Town, Claines, Worcester.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Sketty on Saturday, March 4th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Numbers for tea by Tuesday, February 28th, certain.—E. Stitch, Hon. Dis. Sec., 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glam.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. The next meeting will be held at Rishton on Saturday, March 4th. As there is a committee meeting the same day, there will not be any business done by the branch.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Southwark Cathedral on March 4th. Bells (12) available from 3 p.m. Evensong at 5 p.m. Tea (1s. per head) at The Chapter House, St. Thomas' Street, S.E.1, followed by meeting. Please send notifications for tea to me by 28th inst.—E. G. Talbot, Hon Sec., 53, Birchwood Avenue, Wallington, Surrey.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.—The tenth annual dinner of the Gloucester Branch will be held on Saturday, March 18th, at the Spread Eagle Hotel, Market Parade, at 6 p.m. Full details later. Tickets 3s, now obtainable from W. Harris, Branch Sec., 4, G.W.R. Terrace, Lydney Dock, Lydney, Glos.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—The annual dinner will take place on Saturday, March 18th, at 6.30 p.m., at the Old Bell Restaurant, Holborn, E.C. Tickets, price 6s. each, may be obtained from either of the following: Messrs. T. Bevan, J. Cornford, G. H. Cross, T. H. Francis, G. Gilbert, R. Heazell, J. Parker, G. Radley, A. H. Pulling, N. Summerhayes or the secretary. Arrangements for ringing will be announced later.—G. W. Steere, Sec., 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

Mr. T. J. LOCK, 57, Holloway's Lane, North Mimms, is now Hon. Sec. of the North and East District of the Middlesex Association. All correspondence relating to that district should be made to him.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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THE NEED FOR YOUTH.

The question of recruitment for the Exercise is an ever present problem and a correspondent again brings the matter to notice in this issue in amplification of a speech made at the annual dinner of the Bristol United Ringing Guilds. There is constant need for bringing in new material to make up inevitable wastage, as well as removals by death, and this state of affairs has existed probably from the beginnings of ringing. With the passage of time prosperous areas—prosperous, that is, in the ringing sense—fall upon evil days, while others get out of the slough of despond, and by their energies and success make up what is lost elsewhere. But on balance it does appear that there is now danger of a set-back in numbers, unless a serious and concerted effort is made, in the near future. From time to time associations report net losses on membership, not wholly accounted for by the deaths of members. Numbers lapse through unpaid subscriptions, usually the result of lack of interest, which goes to indicate that there is a weak link somewhere in the organisation of the Exercise. There are, indeed, many factors which show that the majority of ringers are only lukewarm in their love of the art. Association officials know only too well that it is the 'faithful few' who keep the ball rolling at their meetings; that half the towers are undermanned for service ringing, and that, in the majority of belfries, there is little effort made to keep up the strength of the personnel by consistent recruiting.

That determined action, as suggested by our correspondent, is necessary, to safeguard the future, no one will deny; the real difficulty is to prepare an effective plan. One of the obstacles is that, among many ringers, there is a rooted objection to outside interference and suggestions from associations are, if not resented, at least not acted upon. Any improvement that may be effected has to come from inside rather than from without. It would be extremely interesting, as well as enlightening, if associations could arrange to take a census of all towers in their areas, irrespective of their own membership, to ascertain what is the real strength of bands in relation to the number of bells. It is possible that a tactfully worded letter to incumbents would elicit the information, which would be invaluable as the basis of a drive to get depleted bands filled up. The difficulty always is to reach the worst cases, because it is these cases which are the most indifferent, and any effort to make an impression is usually wasted. But this does not mean that a great effort to improve the general position, as suggested by our correspondent, is not worth

(Continued on page 118.)

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while, and the Central Council might well discuss the matter to see what action can be taken. What are needed are practical suggestions for getting a new interest into those places where, for one reason or another, there are complacency and indifference which are leading or have led to decay. The future of everything in our social organisation depends upon the constant stream of youth, and we know of no activity that needs this source of strength and invigoration more than the art and science of ringing.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, February 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAXIMUS, 5016 CHANGES;

Tenor 31 cwt.

WILLIAM J. NUDDS	...*Treble*	GEORGE W. STEERE	7
FRED HAYES	2	*WILLIAM HENLEY	8
*CHARLES T. COLES	3	*CECIL MATTHEWS	9
*GEORGE R. PYE	4	*HARRY WINGROVE	10
*JOHN S. GOLDSMITH	5	F. DONALD BOREHAM	11
RALPH COLES	6	*JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES T. COLES.

* First peal of Bob Maximus.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR, SOUTHWARK,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 50 cwt.

WILLIAM J. NUDDS	...*Treble*	*MAXWELL F. OAKSHETT	7
GEORGE R. PYE	2	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS	8
WILLIAM H. HEWETT	3	JAMES BENNETT	9
CHARLES T. COLES	4	GEORGE W. STEERE	10
THOMAS J. LOCK	5	JAMES H. RIDING	11
ERNEST C. S. TURNER	6	REUBEN SANDERS	...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by L. W. G. MORRIS.

* First peal on twelve bells.

TEN BELL PEALS.

NORWICH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 14, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER MANCROFT,

A PEAL OF ERITH LITTLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 37 cwt. 3 qr. 15 lb. in C.

NOLAN GOLDEN	...*Treble*	ALBERT G. WARNES	6
MISS G. E. M. TUNNADINE	2	GEORGE SAYER	7
GEORGE MAYERS	3	REV. A. G. G. THURLOW	8
CEDRIC CURSON	4	HENRY TOOKE	9
BERTIE J. HOWCHIN	5	WILLIAM CLOVER	...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

First peal by all in the method except by conductor. First peal in the method in the diocese on ten bells.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

PERCY H. DERBYSHIRE	...*Treble*	JOHN BENJAMIN BUDD	6
MISS G. ANNIE CROOK	2	PETER CROOK, SEN.	7
*ARTHUR JAMES	3	RICHARD BENSON	8
FRANK BARRACLOUGH	4	JOSEPH H. RIDYARD	9
CHARLES RIDYARD	5	RICHARD W. MOSLEY	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 161). Conducted by J. H. RIDYARD

* First peal of Caters.

MANCHESTER.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes.
AT THE CATHEDRAL,
A PEAL OF ERIN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;

RALPH EDWARDS	...*Treble*	RICHARD T. HOLDING... ...	6
THOS. B. WORSLEY	2	SAMUEL JONES, JUN.	7
JOHN GRIFFITHS	3	FRANK VARTY	8
THOS. R. BUTLER...	4	JOHN WORTH	9
JAMES SWINDLEY	5	PERCIVAL W. CAVE ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by SAMUEL JONES, JUN.
First peal in the method on the bells and by the Lancashire Association.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 22 cwt. in E flat.

*VERNON FORSHAW	...*Treble*	MICHAEL G. WHEAT	6
†WILLIAM F. FORSHAW ...	2	*ALAN CAPSTICK	7
*THOMAS TURNER	3	NICHOLAS M. NEWBY ...	8
*FRANK FORSHAW	4	WILLIAM LANGBORN... ...	9
*JOHN ASKEW	5	THOMAS METCALFE ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by E. JENKINS. Conducted by THOMAS METCALFE.
* First peal. † First peal of Bob Royal. First peal as conductor. Rung as a welcome to the new Vicar, the Rev. Michael Roy Linker, who was inducted the previous evening.

LONDON.
THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MAGNUS-THE-MARTYR, CITY,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5025 CHANGES;
Tenor 20 cwt.

ERNEST J. KING	...*Treble*	JOHN G. NASH	6
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ...	2	*THOMAS H. FRANCIS	7
MISS OLIVE L. ASHBROOK ...	3	HARRY WINGROVE	8
CHARLES A. HUGHES	4	F. DONALD BOREHAM ...	9
NORMAN H. MANNING... ...	5	FREDERICK W. WICKS	...*Tenor*

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by THOMAS H. TAFFENDER.
* First peal on ten bells. Rung to commemorate the first peal rung by Mr. James George on February 16th, 1889, at St. George's, Camberwell, with this association.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

SELLY OAK, BIRMINGHAM.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation).
Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 17 lb.

*VICTOR W. FONES	...*Treble*	C. HOWARD STANLEY	5
JAMES L. BOYLIN	2	NORMAN J. GOODMAN	6
EDWARD LARGE	3	WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT ...	7
EDWARD HOLT	4	EDWARD W. BLAKE ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT.
* First peal.

CLAYBROOK, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.
On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
DEXTER'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

JOSEPH B. FENTON	...*Treble*	HENRY W. F. FRANKLIN ...	5
C. HENRY WEBB	2	WILFRID H. J. HOOTON ...	6
ERNEST W. TIPLER	3	JOSEPH A. FENTON	7
LESLIE G. WATKINS	4	*KENNETH W. GINGER	...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. A. FENTON.
* First peal.

SANDBACH, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 16 cwt. (approx.).

JOSEPH WHITTAKER	...*Treble*	JAMES FERNLEY	5
ERNEST BENNETT	2	C. KENNETH LEWIS	6
REV. FRANK BONNER	3	JAMES A. MILNER...	7
WILLIAM FERNLEY	4	JOHN WORTH...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. S. WILDE. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

GREAT HOLLAND, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt. 10 lb. in F sharp.

URBAN W. WILDNEY ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM J. NEVARD	5
GEORGE M. RASHBROOK ...	2	GEORGE WATERMAN	6
MRS. W. A. ROUSE	3	HORACE A. WRIGHT	7
DAVID ELLIOTT	4	EDWARD E. DAVEY ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by E. E. DAVEY.
Arranged by Mr. W. J. Nevard in celebration of his 83rd birthday.

DORCHESTER, OXFORDSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Monday, February 13, 1939, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 17 cwt.

ALBERT E. LOCK... ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM C. PORTER	5
MRS. A. E. LOCK...	2	FRANCIS E. TAYLOR	6
MARIE R. CROSS	3	REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG ...	7
*BERNARD S. NICHOLS ...	4	ALAN R. PINK	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. H. CROSS. Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.
* First peal in the method. Rung in connection with the establishment at Dorchester of a See for Bishops Suffragan.

WYMONDHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, February 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND THOMAS-OF-CANTERBURY,
A PEAL OF PERSHORE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

WALTER R. FARROW ...	...*Treble*	NOLAN GOLDEN	5
GEORGE MAYERS	2	THOMAS E. SPIGHT	6
PHILIP W. J. FRYER	3	HENRY TOOKE	7
REV. A. G. G. THURLOW ...	4	WILLIAM CLOVER... ...	...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.
First peal in the method by all, on the bells and for the association.

WATH-ON-DEARNE, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt.

WILLIE GREEN	...*Treble*	DANIEL SMITH	5
SIDNEY F. PALMER	2	T. COLIN RYDER	6
HAROLD CHANT	3	ARTHUR GILL	7
ARTHUR PANTHER	4	ALBERT NASH	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GABRIEL LINDOFF Conducted by A. NASH.
First peal in the method on the bells. A birthday compliment to Mrs. A. Nash.

MORPETH, NORTHUMBERLAND.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE WATCH TOWER,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 12 cwt. (approx.) in F sharp.

CHARLES E. LAWSON...	...*Treble*	KENNETH ARTHUR	5
JOHN ANDERSON...	2	*ERNEST WALLACE	6
WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON ...	3	ADAM DEAS...	7
*CHRISTOPHER HETHERINGTON	4	*JOHN HEDLEY	...*Tenor*

Conducted by W. J. DAVIDSON.
* First peal of Triples.

EWELL, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

JOHN BEAMS ... ...*Treble*	GEORGE MARRINER 5
ALFRED H. WINCH 2	ALBERT CHEESEMAN 6
*FREDERICK G. WOODISS ... 3	WILLIAM G. NEWBERRY ... 7
ALBERT J. ADAMS 4	ALBERT HARMAN ... ...*Tenor*

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by ALBERT HARMAN.

* First peal in the method.

FOBBING, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

*DONALD COOMBES ... ...*Treble*	FRANK C. MAY 5
ARTHUR REEVE 2	FRANK B. LUFKIN 6
WILLIAM S. MAY 3	GERALD FROST 7
WILLIAM PERRY... 4	ALBERT E. NORTH ... ...*Tenor*

Composed by J. E. BURTON. Conducted by F. B. LUFKIN.

* First peal.

WHITWORTH, LANCS.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

HAROLD HAMER ... ...*Treble*	SELWYN HOLT DEARDEN ... 5
STEPHEN LLOYD PARRY ... 2	JOHN MEADOWCROFT, JUN. ... 6
DENNIS HOLLOS 3	IVAN KAY 7
HARRY BYROM 4	ALBERT BUCKLEY... ... ...*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by IVAN KAY.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

REGINALD CHANCE ... ...*Treble*	*HAROLD SHECK 5
*THOMAS TOWNSEND 2	CLIFFORD SKIDMORE 6
*BERNARD LAWTON 3	THOMAS HEMMING 7
HARRY HUBBLE 4	JOHN LLOYD... ... ...*Tenor*

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by C. SKIDMORE.

* First peal of Treble Bob. First peal in the method as conductor.

LUTTERWORTH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(HINCKLEY DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE WYCLIFFE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DEXTER'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 14¾ cwt.

GEORGE A. NEWTON ... ...*Treble*	ALFRED BALLARD... 5
ERNEST W. TIPLER 2	WILLIAM A. WOOD 6
A. JOHN TIMSON 3	FRANK K. MEASURES 7
CECIL E. CARR 4	FRED PERRY ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK K. MEASURES.

First peal in the method by members of the Hinckley District. Rung as a welcome to the Rev. A. W. Wallace, who was instituted Rector of Lutterworth in November last.

MORTIMER, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART. Tenor 11¾ cwt.

*LESLIE F. BUSHNELL ...*Treble*	RICHARD T. HIBBERT 5
ARTHUR WIGGINS 2	PERCY J. DYKE 6
ALBERT HAM 3	WILLIAM HIBBERT 7
JAMES F. SMITH 4	WILLIAM FORD ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by R. T. HIBBERT.

* First attempt for a peal. Rung as a welcome to the Rev. L. Whitmill, who was inducted to the living on the previous Sunday.

OLD HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation).

BENJAMIN GRICE ... ...*Treble*	NORMAN G. LEECH 5
FREDERICK V. NICHOLLS ... 2	HARRY WOOD 6
*ERIC FLETCHER 3	JOHN GOODMAN 7
WALTER FARLEY 4	GEORGE FLETCHER ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN GOODMAN.

* First peal 'inside.' A birthday peal for W. Farley.

NEWPORT PAGNELL, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. 2 qr. 16 lb. in D.

CHARLES W. CLARKE ... ...*Treble*	JOHN A. GREEN 5
A. NUNNELEY WOOD 2	REGINALD H. HOWSON ... 6
HERBERT C. EDWARDS ... 3	THOMAS E. ROBERTS 7
ERNEST C. LAMBERT 4	ALBERT J. GREEN ... ...*Tenor*

Composed by J. A. GREEN. Conducted by A. J. GREEN.

TWERTON-ON-AVON, BATH.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 13½ cwt.

MRS. A. EVANS ... ...*Treble*	JESSE HALLETT 5
THOMAS F. KING 2	WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT ... 6
HORACE D. TAYLOR 3	*SEALY S. WOODBURN ... 7
GEORGE BAATZ 4	ALBERT E. BAVERSTOCK ...*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT.

* First peal of Stedman Triples. A birthday compliment to Mr. Theo Grant.

BASINGSTOKE, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb. in F.

HARRY E. BALAAM ... ...*Treble*	*F. GORDON COOPER 5
JOHN CHESTERMAN 2	*DONALD W. NASH 6
ERNEST P. AUSTIN 3	*CHARLES W. MUNDAY ... 7
*RONALD F. KINGHAM ... 4	†FREDERICK A. MUNDAY ...*Tenor*

Composed by H. HUBBARD. Conducted by CHARLES W. MUNDAY.

* First peal of Major. † First peal of Bob Major. First peal on the bells since their restoration by Messrs. John Taylor and Co.

HAILSHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Half a Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 10¼ cwt.

ALFRED C. LEVETT ... ...*Treble*	FRANK BENNETT 5
WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE 2	FREDERICK H. DALLAWAY ... 6
FRANK A. HICKS... 3	JAMES H. SHEPHERD 7
*GEORGE BEBNEY 4	WILFRED BOOTH ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

* First peal of Stedman.

ROTHWELL, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

G. DENNIS DEIGHTON ...*Treble*	WALTER PERKINS 5
MATTHIAS HOBBS... 2	*GEOFFREY E. WATSON ... 6
GEORGE ETHE 3	BERNARD J. SADDINGTON ... 7
CHRISTOPHER G. HENDRY ... 4	BURLEY P. MORRIS ... ...*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by BURLEY P. MORRIS.

* First peal on eight bells. First peal of Major as conductor.

BIRMINGHAM.
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF BISHOP RYDER,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 13 cwt.

THOMAS H. REEVES ...	...*Treble*	FRANK E. HAYNES	5
ERNEST T. ALLAWAY	2	HENRY H. FEARN...	6
FRANK E. PERVIN...	3	GEORGE E. FEARN	7
SIDNEY O'C. HOLLOWAY ...	4	JOHN S. MASON	...*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK E. HAYNES.
Specially arranged and rung to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of Mr. James George's first peal.

SIX BELL PEALS.

ELSHAM, LINCS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two extents each of St. Clement's, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and one of Plain Bob. Tenor 7½ cwt.

GEORGE BLANCHARD ...	...*Treble*	MARTIN WALKER	4
RONALD BOWNESS	2	GEORGE L. HALL	5
GEORGE E. FEIRN	3	GEORGE DOBBS	...*Tenor*

Conducted by G. E. FEIRN.
Rung half-muffled as a token of respect to Sir Francis Astley-Corbett, former Squire of this village.

WEEKLEY, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Monday, February 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN.
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different extents. Tenor 8 cwt. 10 lb.

GEORGE W. CLARKE...	...*Treble*	GEOFFREY E. WATSON ...	4
MATTHIAS HOBBS	2	BURLEY P. MORRIS	5
*LEONARD G. TOSELAND ...	3	BERNARD J. SADDINGTON	...*Tenor*

Conducted by B. J. SADDINGTON.
* First peal of Minor 'inside.'

HINTLESHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Monday, February 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS.
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 9 cwt. in A flat.

*DOROTHY F. WOOLSTON	*Treble*	SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER ...	4
†ARTHUR V. PEARSON	2	‡CHARLES J. SEDGLEY ...	5
WILLIAM J. G. BROWN ...	3	‡CECIL W. PIPE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES J. SEDGLEY.
* First attempt for a peal. † First peal of Minor. ‡ First peal of Bob Minor. First peal of Minor as conductor.

EAST BUDLEIGH, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
On Tuesday, February 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven 720's called differently. Tenor 9 cwt.

*JOHN DEEM	...*Treble*	*EDWARD SPRAGUE	4
*BRIAN PIDGEON	2	*ALFRED LOVERING	5
*JOHN L. GLANVILL	3	REV. E. V. COX	...*Tenor*

Conducted by REV. E. V. COX.
* First peal of Minor.

LOUGHBOROUGH.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, February 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-One Minutes
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different extents. Tenor 6½ cwt.

*MISS IRENE C. DURNFORD	*Treble*	LESLIE W. STEVENS	4
JOHN GRUNDY	2	G. RONALD EDWARDS	5
CHARLES ALLSOP	3	COLIN HARRISON	...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES ALLSOP.
* First peal.

WONSTON, HANTS.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Friday, February 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 8½ cwt.

*MISS NESTA SMITH ...	...*Treble*	RICHARD SMITH	4
WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ...	2	WILLIAM MARES	5
REGINALD A. REED	3	LESLIE A. TREMEER ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by LESLIE A. TREMEER.
* First peal. First peal of Minor as conductor.

WENDOVER, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven differently called 720's. Tenor 14¼ cwt.

RONALD WOOLMER ...	...*Treble*	PERCY NEWTON	4
JAMES W. WILKINS	2	WALTER LEE	5
HARRY C. JONES	3	ROLAND BIGGS	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ROLAND BIGGS.
Rung as a farewell to the Vicar, who is leaving the parish.

BUCKLAND, SURREY.
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Two Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different extents. Tenor 6 cwt.

FREDERICK W. BUDGEN	...*Treble*	DEREK M. SHARP	4
ARTHUR S. RICHARDS	2	JOHN O. WELLER...	5
GEORGE W. FOGDEN	3	A. PATRICK CANNON ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.

FRISTON, LINCS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(EASTERN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven extents in 21 methods: (1) Cambridge, Norfolk, Ipswich, Hull, Primrose, Bourne; (2) Sandal, Capel, Kingston, Oxford Treble Bob, London Scholars' Pleasure; (3) Old Oxford, Willesden, College Bob IV., Newdigate; (4) London and Wells; (5) Kent Treble Bob; (6) Double and Single Court; (7) Plain Bob. Tenor 14½ cwt.

ALBERT H. FIRTH ...	...*Treble*	ALBERT E. FLATTERS	4
WILLIAM WILKINSON	2	JOHN R. KEEP	5
ARTHUR YOUNG	3	JOHN R. YOUNG	...*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN R. YOUNG.
First peal in 21 methods by all except ringer of the 3rd. First peal as conductor in more than seven methods. There were 71 changes of method.

HANDBELL PEALS.

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thursday, February 16, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,
AT 20, ABERDEEN CRESCENT,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;
Tenor size 17 in B flat.

ALFRED BARNES	1-2	ALLEN F. BAILEY...	5-6
HAROLD JACKSON	3-4	PETER LAFLIN	7-8
HARRY ASHTON	9-10		

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by A. F. BAILEY.
Witness—MRS. A. F. Bailey.

LICHFIELD, STAFFORDSHIRE.
On Sunday, February 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE.
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings.

RICHARD A. C. BRODRIBB ...	1-2	MALCOLM C. C. MELVILLE	3-4
		*MICHAEL M. K. WARREN...	5

Conducted by MALCOLM C. C. MELVILLE.
* First attempt for a peal. First peal as conductor and on handbells.
(Many other peal reports are unavoidably held over.)

PEAL NOTES.

QUICKEST PEAL ON CHURCH BELLS.

The quickest peal on church bells was rung on Saturday on the light ring of six at Buckland, Surrey. The seven 720's of Bob Minor occupied only 2 hours 1 minute. The only place where a quicker peal on tower bells has been rung is Loughborough Bell Foundry. There the tenor is 6¼ cwt. and at Buckland the tenor is given as 6 cwt.

The peal at Buckland was rung for the Ancient Society of College Youths, whose records now include the quickest and the longest peals on church bells: 2 hours 1 minute at Buckland; 12 hours 25 minutes at Appleton in 1922.

Nesta Smith, who rang her first peal (at the fourth attempt) at Wonston, Hants, on Friday, is only 14 years of age. She must be one of the youngest, if not the youngest, girls to ring a peal for the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild.

There must be a good deal of enthusiasm for ringing at Wonston. Lionel Marks, another young beginner, and son of Mr. W. Marks, who rang in the peal, sat in the tower all through the performance. Perhaps he was there to keep dad right?

Three peals to welcome new incumbents are recorded this week. The Rev. A. W. Wallace, formerly of West Ham, was instituted Rector of Lutterworth, Leicestershire, last November, and a peal of Stedman Triples was rung at the Wycliffe Church of St. Mary on Saturday, the first occasion upon which a band could be obtained.

To welcome the new incumbent of Mortimer, Berks (the Rev. L. Whitmill), a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at the Parish Church on Saturday. It was Mr. Percy J. Dyke's 50th peal.

The new Vicar of Dalton-in-Furness, Lancs, was also welcomed with a peal on Saturday, after induction on the previous day. The peal of Bob Royal was the first peal by five of the ringers. Eight of the band belong to Dalton. They were supplemented by Mr. N. M. Newby, hon. secretary of the Furness and Lake District Branch, and Mr. A. Capstick, of Ambleside.

Mr. Walter Farley's birthday was celebrated with a peal of Grandsire Triples at Old Hill, Staffordshire, on Saturday. It was also the quarterly peal for the Dudley and District Guild.

The peal of Grandsire Triples at Selly Oak on Saturday week was rung by the Sunday service ringers at St. Mary's Church, except Mr. E. W. Blake, who kindly filled a gap at the last moment and rang the tenor.

ESSEX VETERAN'S BIRTHDAY.

The Essex veteran, Mr. W. J. Nevard, of Great Bentley, has recently celebrated his 83rd birthday, and in honour of the event he arranged a peal at Great Holland on February 11th, choosing a band representative of eight parishes.

They were U. W. Wildney, Kirby-le-Soken; G. M. Rashbrook, Colchester; Mrs. W. A. Rouse, Great Holland; D. Elliott, Sudbury; W. J. Nevard, Great Bentley; G. Waterman, Harwich; H. A. Wright, Clacton-on-Sea; and E. E. Davey, Little Clacton. Messrs. Rashbrook, Elliott and Wright first rang with Mr. Nevard 50 years, 48 years and 40 years ago respectively.

Tea was kindly provided by Mr. Nevard after the peal, which was also a farewell to the Rector of Great Holland (the Rev. G. A. Barsley), who is leaving for Cromer.

It was rather strange that while the first peal of Erith Little Bob Royal on tower bells should have been rung at Prittlewell on Saturday, February 11th, another peal in the same method should have been rung at Norwich only three days later. This second peal was composed and conducted by Mr. Nolan Golden and contains the 72 course-ends with the extent of 4, 5 and 6 in 6th's.

On the following day Mr. Golden conducted the first peal of Pershore Bob Major for the Norwich Association and the first by all the band. This was rung at Wymondham.

Seven 'stars' were awarded in a peal of Bob Maximus, rung at High Wycombe, Bucks, on Wednesday week, among those so decorated being at least two men, each of whose peals of Surprise Maximus number over eighty.

It was Mr. J. C. E. Simpson's 300th peal and was a birthday compliment to Mr. James Bennett, of London, who, unfortunately, was unable to take part.

A peal of Grandsire Caters (No. 161) by Mr. Arthur Knights was rung for the first time on February 14th at Worsley, Lancs. It has all the 5-6's and 6-5's in the tittums and handstroke positions.

Mr. Burley P. Morris, of Warkton, rang his 75th peal when he took part in a 5,040 of Bob Minor at Weekley, Northants, on February 13th.

A half-muffled peal of Minor, as a token of respect to Sir Francis Astley-Corbett, former squire of the village, was rung at Elsham, Lincs, on February 11th. The third bell, which bears Sir Francis' name, was given by him when the bells were increased from three to six in 1924.

A peal of Bristol Surprise Major at Sandbach, Cheshire, on February 11th, was rung on the eleventh anniversary of Mr. Ernest Bennett's first peal.

Minor ringing of the more advanced type is going ahead by leaps and bounds in Lincolnshire. A band in the Eastern Branch has now rung a peal in 21 methods. Splicing was used in only five of the extents, but there were 71 changes of method. Only one member of the band had previously rung a peal in 21 methods. He is Mr. Arthur Young, and this was his 60th peal. The peal was rung at Freiston on February 18th.

PEAL AT MORPETH WATCH TOWER.

Morpeth, in Northumberland, possesses one of the few 'secular' rings of bells in the country, and it is not often a peal is rung on them. Last Saturday, however, a peal of Stedman Triples was brought round there. In the ringing chamber is a slab bearing the following quaint couplet:—

Have you heard the Morpeth Wonder?
Church and steeple a mile asunder.

Other places in England where there are peals of bells not attached to a church are Manchester Town Hall and Quex Park, Kent, where there are rings of twelve; the Imperial Institute, London, and the Bell Foundry, Loughborough, with rings of ten; the Curfew tower, Windsor Castle, with a ring of eight, and the Carfax tower, Oxford, with six bells.

The first peal of Erin Caters by the Lancashire Association has followed close upon the heels of the first for the Chester Guild. It was rung on Saturday at Manchester Cathedral. The band wish to thank Mr. W. C. Bridgford, of the Cathedral company, for making arrangements for the attempt, and they also wish to couple with the peal the names of Messrs. G. R. Newton, of Liverpool, and R. Sperring, of Chester, who were prevented from taking part in the peal through illness. They wish them a speedy recovery.

A peal of Stedman Triples was rung at Twerton-on-Avon, Bath, on Saturday, as a birthday compliment to Mr. Theo Grant, the esteemed local secretary of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.

The first peal on the bells at St. Michael and All Angels' Church, Basingstoke, since the recent restoration by Messrs. Taylor and Co. was rung on Saturday. Four of the band rang their first peal of Major.

Three twelve-bell peals in eight days is not bad going. Messrs. G. R. Pye, C. T. Coles and G. W. Steere, having scored a peal of Cambridge Maximus, as recorded last week, at Croydon on February 11th, and rung in the peal of Bob Maximus at High Wycombe on the 15th, completed the week with a peal of Stedman Cinques at Southwark Cathedral on Saturday. Mr. Leslie Morris came from Leeds to call this peal, and Mr. Jim Riding came from Crewe to take part.

A NEW SUFFRAGAN SEE.

An Order in Council creating the Suffragan See of Dorchester in the Diocese of Oxford revives one of the oldest episcopal titles in England after nearly 900 years' disuse. The Rt. Rev. Gerald Burton Allen, Archdeacon of Oxford and Assistant Bishop, has been appointed to the office. He has interested himself in the work of the Oxford Diocesan Guild since he returned to live in Oxford in 1936.

In honour of the establishment of the Suffragan See, a peal of Bob Major was rung at Dorchester Abbey Church on February 13th.

None of the ringers except the conductor in the peal at East Budleigh, Devon, on February 14th, had ever before rung a 720 of Bob Minor. Despite this fact, the striking was good throughout. The ringer of the treble belongs to Littleham (Exmouth), the second to East Budleigh, the third, fourth and fifth to Withycombe Raleigh, and the tenor to Brampford Speke.

To celebrate the jubilee of Mr. James George's first peal, rung at St. George's, Camberwell, on February 16th, 1889, a peal of Stedman Triples was rung on Saturday at Bishop Ryder's Church, Birmingham, where, at the age of 86, he is still Ringing Master.

The peal of 50 years ago was Grandsire Triples, and Mr. George, whose peal total is now 1,277, is the only survivor of the band.

After the peal at Bishop Ryder's, Mr. George entertained the ringers to tea. The Vicar (the Rev. C. A. Williams) was also present and expressed appreciation of Mr. George's services, while all the band wished him a speedy return to health, hoping that he may shortly be once more ringing in a peal, instead of listening, as on Saturday.

Members of the London County Association also commemorated the jubilee of Mr. George's first peal, with a peal of Stedman Caters at St. Magnus', London Bridge, on Saturday. It was with the old St. James' Society, out of which the London County Association sprang, that Mr. George rang his first peal.

Three students of Lichfield Theological College rang a peal of Grandsire Doubles on handbells on Sunday. It was a memorable performance, because it marks a new stage in the efforts to get these future clergy interested in the art of ringing.

The peal was conducted by Mr. Malcolm Melville, formerly hon. secretary of the Warwickshire Guild, and was his 25th peal, but the other two ringers were making their first attempt.

Mr. Melville's peals, which range from Doubles to Maximus, and include one in four Spliced Surprise Major methods, have been rung in 19 towers, in seven counties, for nine guilds and associations and with 116 different ringers.

Mr. C. J. Sedgley, of Ipswich, who is among the leading conductors of Surprise Maximus methods, called his first peal of Bob Minor on February 13th at Hintlesham, Suffolk.

Woodhouse Eaves is in Leicestershire, not Worcestershire as printed in a peal report last week. Our eyesight must be getting a little weak.

STEPNEY SCHOLARS.

The progress of the Stepney Scholars is again marked by the first quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters rung by the Guild. The average age of the band is only 23: H. Groves 1, L. Fox (conductor) 2, A. Strachey 3, H. Thompson 4, T. Fox 5, T. Burns 6, J. Boomsma 7, H. Pinchbeck 8, A. Jarvis 9, C. Audus 10. It was rung for evening service on January 15th.

ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Mr. Dawe in your issue of the 17th inst. now tells us that he is 'surprised to find that anyone pins their faith entirely on the book mentioned . . . . seeing that, at the time, it was merely regarded as an overlooked printer's error'! This is truly amazing news. I have never yet heard of a whole book being regarded as a printer's error. Still, it is astonishing what information can be gained if a point is argued. However, if Mr. Dawe means (although he does not say so) that the 'B,' in the reference to a B tenor for a peal of twelve bells, is a printer's error, then my only comment is that there must be an uncommonly large number of printer's errors in the book.

I note Mr. Dawe denies having quoted words from the book in question ('Clocks, Watches and Bells'). The quotation appears on page 780 of your issue of December 2nd last in what purports to be the substance of a letter from Mr. Dawe.

I do not intend to bore you further on the subject.

H. WALKER.

Monkseaton.

DEATH OF YOUNG NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE RINGER.

LOSS TO BURTON-ON-STATHER.

Ringers in the northern part of Lincolnshire were shocked to learn of the death on Monday, February 13th, of Mr. Bernard Gillatt, jun., at his home at Burton-on-Stather, at the early age of 27. He succumbed, after only a few days' illness, to pneumonia which developed from a chill. His family have a long connection with church life in the parish, and it was natural that young Bernard, as he was affectionately known, should join his father as a ringer at St. Andrew's Church. He was also in the choir and was a member of the Church Council. A keen cricketer, he kept wicket several times for his county.

He rang his first peal on June 13th, 1929, and went on to ring 68 peals, all for the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, in a variety of methods. He rang in several 'firsts' for the Guild, including Gainsborough Little Bob and Loughborough Bob on tower bells, Spliced Major, Spliced Royal and the first of Maximus rung on handbells.

Under the shadow of the old church tower he was laid to rest on Wednesday week, four ringers acting as bearers. A number of ringing friends from Burton-on-Stather and Scunthorpe, also Mr. and Mrs. C. McGuiness, of Lincoln, were among the mourners. Afterwards a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung with the bells half-muffled by J. Bray (conductor) 1, Frank Lord 2, Ernest Brittain 3, A. Tomlinson 4, H. Judd 5, G. Hobbins 6, P. Barnes 7, F. Jeffery 8.

DEATH OF MRS. E. M. TAYLOR.

YOUNG FAMILY BEREAVED.

We regret to record the death, at the early age of 39 years, of Mrs. Evelyn M. Taylor, of Maidenhead, a warm supporter of St. Peter's Society, Burnham, and a member of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, the Ladies' Guild and the Royal Cumberland Youths.

Tragedy lies behind this announcement. Only three years ago her husband, Mr. William E. Taylor (then foreman ringer at All Saints', Boyne Hill) died, leaving Mrs. Taylor with a family of three children. Since then she had had a hard struggle to bring up her family. On February 3rd she was admitted to Maidenhead Hospital, suffering from pneumonia and in a serious condition. She passed away only two and a quarter hours later. The home has had to be broken up and the children scattered.

Mrs. Taylor was a regular service ringer at St. Peter's, Burnham, and had rung one peal at this church, a peal of Grandsire Triples. Her smiling face, which covered a load of sorrow (she had never properly got over the loss of her husband), will be sadly missed on Sundays in the belfry.

Of the three children who are left, the eldest is a ringer at Burnham, and Hilda (aged 8) is a member both of the Royal Cumberland Youths and the Ladies' Guild The youngest child is Cecil, aged three. The two latter have been taken for the present under the guardianship of Mrs. Taylor's brother, Mr. J. Cox, of 60, Royal Road, Ramsgate, Kent, who, although he has a family of his own, has taken the orphans under his roof.

The funeral took place at Maidenhead Cemetery on Tuesday, February 7th, when Mrs. Taylor was laid to rest with her husband in the presence of relatives and ringing friends, among them Mrs. A. Smith, of Thatcham, members of the St. Peter's Society, Mr. Thomas J. Fowler, Ringing Master, East Berks and South Bucks Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, etc.

A request was made that no flowers should be sent, but, owing to the straitened circumstances in which the orphans were left, it was asked that the money be forwarded to the guardian of the two younger children to aid in their support.

The sad circumstances in which these children have been left should appeal to the hearts of ringers, who are always generous in cases of distress, and this is an instance in which help is really needed. Mrs. Taylor's ringing friends can have any information they may require from Mr George Gilbert, c/o Roberts' Stores, 40, St. Luke's Road (North), Maidenhead. We are asked to say that should any ringers write to Hilda they are requested to remember that she does not yet know of her mother's death. The news will be broken to her later on.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The latest news of the condition of Mr. Arthur Knights, of Chesterfield, is that his condition is about the same.

A notice of particular interest to ladies, and especially ladies in the London area, appears in our notice columns.

John Briant, the Hertford bell founder, who was born in 1747, died on February 27th, 1829.

Henry Johnson, whose memory is to be honoured at Birmingham to-morrow, was born on February 28th, 1809—one hundred and thirty years ago. He died on January 7th, 1890, at the age of 80 years.

Fifty years ago, namely, on March 1st, 1889, the record length of 13,440 Canterbury Pleasure Major was rung at Warnham, Sussex, in 7 hours 45 minutes.

Last Friday was the anniversary of a Yorkshire Association record. On February 17th, 1906, at Wortley, near Sheffield, W. Eversfield's 11,232 Treble Bob Major was rung, conducted by Mr. George Lewis. This is still the record for tower bells for the association in the county, and six of the band are still alive, viz., A. Nash, J. Thorpe, S. F. Palmer, W. Allwood, C. Glenn and G. Lewis. The correspondent who reminds us of this performance would like to send greetings to Mr. C. Glenn and to inform him that he is still in the thoughts of the 'mad band.'

There was an error in our report last week of the handbell competition at the London County Association meeting. Two teams from Isleworth were entered, but only one took part. The second competing team was from St. Stephen's, Westminster.

PEALS IN 1938.

AN INCREASE OVER PREVIOUS YEAR.

There was a substantial increase in the number of peals rung in 1938 over those of the previous year, when 1,902 were rung. The total reached 2,036, made up as follows:—

On church bells, Maximus 24, Cinques 44, Royal 69, Caters 81, Major 741, Triples 314, Minor 491, Doubles 181; on handbells, 91.

GRANDSIRE CATERS.

INFORMATION WANTED

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—During the past two years I have been collecting and arranging material for a treatise on Grandsire Caters, with the object of providing a comprehensive survey of the method in all its aspects. In attempting to relate the history of the method I find that the subject matter is vague and diffused, especially in the early years, and I shall be grateful if, through your columns, I may ask those in touch with early records for special information on certain points where information seems to be lacking or where discrepancies appear.

To be as brief as possible, I will tabulate.

1. The first peal of Grandsire Caters was rung by the London Scholars in 1725. The length was 5,058. The composition was presumably not in the Tittums, the invention of which is attributed to Annable at a later date. Is there any hint of what this composition was and is there any clue to the band?

2. In 1736 a long peal was rung at Norwich. Snowdon gives the length as 12,603, the peal board gives 12,603, Morris gives 12,603 and 12,600; 12,600 is divisible by 18 and so can be rung in 700 leads, but 12,603 cannot be rung without some juggling. Can any of our Norwich friends give information or provide the composition?

3. Bringing the bells round at hand is said to have been invented by Francis Roberts, and 'New Campanalogia' states that the first peal rung on this plan was at Fulham in 1770. Morris quotes a 5,057 rung by the College Youths at Cambridge in 1765. Whose composition was this?

4. Trollope gives Annable's first peal as conductor at St. Magnus' in 1725. Are the details of the band and the composition available?

5. In the early compositions brought round at hand the composers seem to have been content to turn the bells in the last course. I very much wish to trace the growth of popularity of the plan of using blocks of changes in the handstroke home position, and so should be glad to have copies of *early* peals in this form.

6. Can anyone send me particulars of the bands that rang the handbell peals of Grandsire Caters in 1883 and 1912?

7. In the 'Bell News' of December 10th, 1898, Mr. Hewitt, of Gosport, advertised a composition of 362,880 Grandsire Caters. Can anyone send me a copy of this?

I am afraid I have no means of consulting many of the early books on change ringing, and, living in the Midlands, I have little chance of doing research work in London. I shall be extremely grateful, therefore, if Mr. Trollope, and anyone else with information that throws light on the early practice of Grandsire Caters, will communicate with me direct.

There are other points of great interest, such as the first use of the Inverted Tittums, early notions of Proof, queer turning courses and freak performances. Concerning such things there may be an abundance of material lying idle, and I shall be glad to collect it.

E. C. SHEPHERD.

Hollebeke, Witley Avenue, Solihull, Birmingham.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—59.

ALAN R. PINK.

A conductor of initiative and enthusiasm, Alan R. Pink, who has recently gone to live in Oxford, has had a considerable share in the ringing of new Surprise methods. He has called the first peals in 13 of them and has enabled a number of associations to record their first peals in many more. New methods and fresh compositions have been his hobby, but, despite this, he is a ringer who does not mind how humble the method, as long as someone benefits.

Mr. Pink, who was born at Ripley, Surrey, on December 5th, 1905, is a member of the staff of the Westminster Bank, which he joined at Pulborough. It was while living in this Sussex country town that he learned to handle a bell, and rang his first peal (Grandsire Triples) in December, 1926. His first peal as conductor was one of Bob Minor at Perranarworthal, in 1929, while on a holiday in Cornwall.

When he was transferred to Dorking, Surrey, he rang a good deal with the Leatherhead District, and it was there that he really laid the foundations of what was to follow. Incidentally he became hon. secretary of the Leatherhead District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild and did some excellent work in the early days of that organisation. When, later, he moved to Windsor he found an eager and capable band in the district, and, backed by the genius of Mr. A. G. Driver, they had a long series of successes. Among other things they rang peals in 25 Surprise Major methods, and Mr. Pink conducted at least one of each, including the 13 which were the 'first ever.' It is noteworthy that very nearly all these peals were rung at the first attempt, without any previous practice.



MR. ALAN R. PINK.

The first peals in the method which Mr. Pink has called have been Painswick, Windsor, Chiltern, Berkshire, Truro, Runnymede, Boveney, Belvedere, Melbourne, Sandringham, Lutterworth, Cranbourne and Pyrford Surprise, Spliced Painswick, Yorkshire, Superlative and Cambridge Surprise, and Ashbourne College Bob.

He rang in the first peals by the Guildford Diocesan Guild of Bob Major, Stedman Triples, Canterbury Pleasure Major, New Cambridge, Kent, Ipswich, Ashtead, Chiltern, Pyrford and Boveney Surprise, and conducted the last three. He also called the first peals of Kent, Ipswich and Ashtead Surprise for the Surrey Association and took part in their first peal of Yorkshire Surprise.

For the Kent Association he called their first peal of Painswick Surprise, and for the Middlesex Association their first peals of Ashtead, Painswick, Truro, Belvedere and Cranbourne Surprise, as well as Spliced Plain Bob and Double Norwich and Ashbourne College Bob, this last being the only peal yet rung in the method.

His contribution to Oxford Guild records has been to call their first peals in twelve Surprise methods, including eight rung for the first time; their first of Spliced Cambridge and Superlative, and the first ever rung with Painswick, Yorkshire, Superlative and Cambridge spliced into one peal. He also called their first peal in which Double Oxford, Double Norwich and Plain Bob were spliced together.

Among other interesting performances have been a 'colour' peal of Superlative at Erith in 1931, which he conducted and in which the names of the ringers were all different colours; and the first peal by members of the Banking profession, a peal of Bob Major at St. Olave's, Hart Street, London. On May 6th, 1935, Mr. Pink rang the tenor to a peal of Bob Major in the Curfew tower at Windsor Castle in honour of the Silver Jubilee of King George V. This was the first peal of Major on the bells and only the fourth peal rung on them.

Altogether Mr. Pink has rung 228 peals in 100 towers for ten associations, and has conducted 115 of them.

BROADCAST RINGERS.

In answer to many inquiries as to the names of the ringers who took part in the broadcast ringing at St. Leonard's, Streatham, on January 22nd last, here they are: C. A. Button 1, H. Mance 2, E. L. Miles 3, C. Pothecary 4, T. W. Welbourne 5, L. G. Franks 6, J. W. Chapman (conductor) 7, H. Tourle 8. The touch was 252 Stedman Triples taken from the 'Ringers' Directory,' third edition. The full five minutes was allowed on the air.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In accordance with the instruction of the annual meeting of this association held on Saturday last, February 11th, it is their wish now to withdraw from the letter of January 2nd last to the Editor of 'The Ringing World,' and to express regret for its inclusion, the following sentence: 'and now points the finger of scorn to the Editor and the Diocesan Association of which he was the instigator encroaching on the areas already covered by other associations.'

T. W. TAFFENDER, Hon. Secretary.

February 13th, 1939.

'AN UNSATISFACTORY POSITION.'

Dear Sir,—I read the report of the last annual meeting of the London County Association, as published in your issue of the 17th inst., with intense disappointment and disgust. It appears that resentment, truculence and personal animosity followed each other in rapid succession; the net result of the meeting being that an apology, entirely devoid of repentance or any real regret, is to be sent to the Guildford Diocesan Guild in vindication of honour. That was all. Apparently nothing was done with regard to the more important question of overlapping, and no assurance given by the officers as to the conduct of the activities of the association in the future. A most unsatisfactory position, which gives rise to certain misgivings in the mind of the ordinary Sunday service ringer.

It seems that we are now left with only one remedy for this kind of thing, and that is the removal of all temptation to trespass or muscle-in at any tower by any association, guild, society or clique. This could be achieved by the formation, under the auspices of the Central Council, of a National Association possessing wide executive powers for the parcelling out of the country into regions and districts; the regions electing representatives to the Central Council, on the basis of membership, as at present. It would not then be possible for some ringers to be represented two or three times over, and ringers from one region or district should not be permitted to interfere in the management of another. Such are a few reflections of

F. G. WOODISS.

Sutton, Surrey.

P.S.—I want to make it quite clear that these are my personal views and have nothing to do with the Surrey Association, of which I am one of the district secretaries.

'STANDARD' METHODS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—There is still in use among ringers the term 'Standard' methods, applied to the methods which once were almost exclusively rung and even now are extensively practised, because they are the foundations upon which ringers generally build. But the term does not always mean quite the same group of methods. One reads from time to time of 'the four Standard methods,' meaning Grandsire, Stedman, Plain and Treble Bob, but many ringers also include Double Norwich as a 'Standard' method. Can anyone inform your readers whence came the term 'Standard' in this connection? Was it introduced by Snowdon, when he published 'Standard Methods,' because in that case it is by no means limited to the methods mentioned? His work, as everyone knows, covers a much wider field and included, in addition to many Minor methods, three Surprise Major methods. It would be interesting to know how and when this expression came into use, and what purpose, except as the title of Snowdon's useful book, it now serves.

'INQUIRER.'

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CANTERBURY DISTRICT.

The Canterbury District of the Kent County Association held its first meeting of the year at Walmer on Saturday, February 11th. This meeting is more usually called 'the spring meeting,' and, though a trifle early for spring, it was in warm sunshine that members gathered during the afternoon for ringing upon the peal of eight bells at this church. Service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. Canon C. F. Tonks), who also gave an address. Presiding at the organ, as is usual, was Mr. W. E. Pitman, Mus.Bac.

Tea was held in the 'Upper Room' of the Parish Hall, and, more members turning up than was anticipated, things were a trifle warm towards the close of tea. Therefore, for greater comfort, the meeting was held in the hall itself.

Mr. H. Whitehead occupied the chair and presented a report of the association's central committee meeting, held in November.

Six new members were elected, and for the next by-meeting three towers were proposd, viz., Teyham, Elham and Chilham, the latter tower being selected.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, for conducting the service and for his address, and the members then returned to the tower for further ringing.

An attendance of 44 was recorded, representing 14 towers in the district.

RINGING IN NORFOLK.

THE HELP OF UNATTACHED MEMBERS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It looks as if your correspondent, 'Norfolk Dumpling,' and I are rather at cross purposes. He has gone to a great deal of trouble to say over again what I have said, since, when he states that every member of the Norfolk Association rang .3 of a peal—that is, formed about one-third of a peal band—it is the same thing as saying that the members took part on the average in 2.3 peals each during the year, except that it is stated in a somewhat different way. His figures and mine agree, as they were bound to do, being calculated from the same original—the 1937 report, so that I feel justified in taking exception to his statement that I have drawn upon my imagination.

The point of his analysis of the peals into districts is very elusive. If he wishes to draw attention to the fact that some districts rang no peals it is all the more credit to the members who, in spite of that slackness elsewhere, contrived to amass their splendid total. That two-thirds of the members did not help seems to a plain, unimaginative person like myself to emphasise the energy of the other one-third. In no way whatever can it be considered to derogate from the performance of the latter.

Moreover, I am sorry that in his anxiety to remove the impression my letter is supposed to have conveyed—the term 'ringer's paradise' was his, however, not mine—your correspondent should so pointedly deny to the present generation of ringers any credit for the 5,000. It cannot possibly be true that the 'peal of peals' was rung in the heyday of the association, when Norfolk and Suffolk were one, so long as the ringers of 1937 and 1938 were able on their own account to score more than 100 peals a year.

May I remind your correspondent (1) that I was writing to you upon one specific matter—the 5,000 peals, and (2) that I am not a Norfolk ringer, though I was one for five very pleasant months at Norwich and Yarmouth. It was not for me to enter into a general discussion upon the position of Norfolk ringing to-day (though 'Norfolk Dumpling' may be qualified to do so), and it would have been an ill-return for the spontaneous welcome I met with everywhere in East Anglia if I turned to criticise my hosts.

Nevertheless, as he has brought up the subject, I can only agree with your correspondent about the derelict areas of his home county, not alone from the ringing standpoint, but from the agricultural standpoint as well—the connection between the two is intimate. When all the young people go off the land they leave the village towers. I was also saddened by the thought of those moribund rings to which 'Norfolk Dumpling' refers—every day of the five months I saw the fine tower of St. Andrew's in the very heart of the city, and thought of that ten rotting on its frame; and it is only one silent ring in the city of Norwich. It is to be remembered that, chiefly owing to the agricultural depression, Norfolk is one of the poorest associations in money, however wealthy she may be in other ways, and restoration work suffers in consequence. But it must be confessed that there is not much point in restoring rings that cannot be manned, and there are few enough to go round as it is with the present available towers.

The chief item of offence in my letter appears to have been my statement about unattached ringers. Here I have to admit that I did not make my point clear; I should have been more careful to say that I referred to unattached peals—peals by bands of ringers attached to no towers anywhere who go round snatching peals where they can. I have no particular feeling on this question, but many other ringers have, and, as I said, they write about it from time to time. Unattached ringers, however, are or may be in quite a different category. There are many reasons why a man remains unattached, though that need not and often does not mean that he does no ringing. Of this class there are many in Norwich, and during my stay there I never on a single occasion rang anywhere, for service or practice, when there were not some of these technically unattached ringers in the band. Some of them attend twice every Sunday and every Tuesday night at St. Peter Mancroft; one of them in addition runs another tower in the city and keeps the bells going there; others attend as often as business permits. Any association that had a hundred or two of such unattached members would be very fortunate indeed.

With these facts in my mind I feel that on this matter 'Norfolk Dumpling' has not been quite fair to his fellow countymen. He must know as well as I do that practically all the unattached ringers to whom he refers in his letter as taking part in a number of the peals rung during 1937 were of this class. They are technically unattached certainly, but much more assiduous in their service ringing and attendance at practice than many of the attached. As a matter of fact, they take so active a part in the ringing life of the association that when I was looking over the report before writing my previous letter I did not realise they were unattached. It is only now, in seeking to identify the unattached ringers mentioned by your correspondent, that I find they are the people with whom I rang regularly week by week.

There is one other thing that must be said, and it is suggested by the fact that for no apparent reason 'Norfolk Dumpling' chooses to write under a nom-de-plume. The inevitable conclusion would be, of course, that your correspondent is not quite sure that his own services to his county association are assiduous or regular enough to justify him in criticising others. I hope that is not the case, for

(Continued in next column.)

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH NORFOLK BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the South Norfolk Branch was held on Saturday, February 4th, at Saxlingham Nethergate. The eight bells of the Parish Church were rung during the afternoon and evening to various methods, from Bob Major to London Surprise Major, and the special method, Checkendon Major, was also practised. Service was held in St. Mary's Church, conducted by the Rev. A. St. J. Heard (Rector of Bergh Apton), who also gave an eloquent address based on the words 'Come, for all things are ready.'

Forty-five members and friends sat down to tea in the Church Room, and at the business meeting which followed Mr. W. L. Duffield (Saxlingham) was in the chair, supported by the Rev. A. St. J. Heard (an hon. member), Mr. Nolan Golden (general secretary and treasurer), Mr. A. G. Harrison (branch secretary), Messrs. E. G. Bennett and E. Whiting (members of committee), and ringers from Attleborough, Alburgh, Barsham, Buxton, Bergh Apton, Beccles, Caston, Diss, Gressenhall, Garboldisham, Mulbarton, Norton Subcourse, Norwich, Pulham, Shelfanger, Saxlingham, Stoke Ash, Winfarthing, Wymondham and Yaxley.

The chairman and branch secretary were re-elected, Messrs. E. G. Bennett, E. Whiting, C. Loome, C. E. G. Banham and R. H. Drane were elected on the District Committee, and the Rev. A. St. J. Heard and E. G. Bennett on the Central Committee.

Five new members, Messrs. B. Barber, G. H. Woolmer, H. G. Lake, H. Nichols and F. Pearson were elected.

It was decided to visit Buuwell on Saturday, May 6th, for the next meeting.

Mr. Nolan Golden laid great stress on the value of 'The Ringing World' and appealed for more members to support it.

Votes of thanks were accorded to the Rector (the Rev. — Deuchar) for use of the bells, to the Rev. A. St. J. Heard for conducting the service, to Mr. W. L. Duffield for providing the tea, and to the organist and blower.

DEATH OF CIRENCESTER RINGER.

FIFTY YEARS AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

The death took place, on January 30th, after a very brief illness, of Mr. F. W. Bond. Deceased had been a ringer at Cirencester Parish Church for about 50 years. He had rung peals of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Grandsire Caters, and was very proficient on the treble in rising and falling in peal.

The ringers sent a wreath, and several attended the funeral service on February 2nd, but a very old friend, Mr. John Austin, was unable to be present owing to illness.

In the evening, as a last tribute to the memory of Mr. Bond, members of the band rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples with the bells half-muffled: A. W. Baldwin 1, F. J. Lewis, sen. (conductor) 2, F. J. Lewis, jun. 3, H. S. Parsons 4, H. L. Cooke 5, H. Lewis 6, W. H. Hayward 7, F. F. Bloxham 8. Incidentally Mr. Bond introduced the conductor to ringing.

CELEBRATIONS IN TASMANIA.

HOBART RINGERS KEEP UP ANNIVERSARIES.

Each year the anniversary of the visit of the English ringers to Tasmania in 1934 is celebrated at Hobart, and an enjoyable evening was spent by the members of Holy Trinity Association when they met for the purpose on an evening last November. Interest was added to the proceedings by an exhibition of lantern pictures concerning bells and ringing, which had been kindly sent by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston and Messrs. Taylor and Co.

The second anniversary of the dedication of the tower and bells at St. David's Cathedral, Hobart, has also been duly celebrated. On December 6th the Precentor entertained the Cathedral and Holy Trinity ringers and ringing was done on the Cathedral bells. Mr. and Mrs. H. Wilson, who recently gave a clock to the Cathedral belfry, were present as honoured guests. Mr. Wilson is brother of Mr. Ray Wilson, the enthusiastic hon. secretary of Holy Trinity Association.

A recent visitor to Holy Trinity has been Mr. W. G. Hall, secretary of St. Paul's Cathedral Society, Melbourne, who took part in ringing Grandsire Doubles with the local men. Afterwards Mr. and Mrs. Hall were entertained to supper.

A photograph of the English members of the Holy Trinity Association, taken on the occasion of the Australian tourists' reunion at Surfleet last October, now occupies an honoured place in Holy Trinity belfry.

(Continued from previous column.)

those who do nothing themselves have no right to express any opinion about the activities of others—a very sound principle that so many of our self-appointed critics forget. But I am quite sure that I am wronging 'Norfolk Dumpling' in this respect, though I should have preferred to know whom I was addressing.

But I commend to the Exercise his remark about lack of recruits. There is no question more important than this. The bands and associations all over the country are simply wasting slowly away, yet we never seem to care. That is, however, far too big a question to be dragged in at the end of a letter that is already too long.

Bristol. A. J. CORRIGAN.

RECRUITMENT AND INSTRUCTION.

SKILL AND KNOWLEDGE SHOULD BE POOLED.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It is becoming increasingly evident that the number of those coming forward to learn the art of ringing is diminishing. Action on the part of the Central Council and the diocesan guilds seems to be needed to stimulate recruiting. The day has gone by when all that was necessary was to let youngsters wander into our belfries, impelled by curiosity or some other reason. We must now go out after recruits. Direct co-operation between associations and incumbents, to rope in youths who have served as choirboys or boy scouts, should yield a goodly number of suitable subjects for instruction.

It is very sad to note that a large number of those who have been recruited are lost through various reasons, some of which, I believe, could be removed. One hears of many cases where youngsters get so far as to be able to handle a bell and then give it all up. This is wasted effort for both learner and teacher.

I wish to make a suggestion that the Central Council appoint a small panel of qualified ringers, and request them to get out a small book of *instructions for instructors*, whereby those who have to teach learners might be helped to success. Clear cut instructions, in present-day language, pointing out not only how to teach the technical part of ringing, but also dealing with the various known reactions of different types of learners, might help the instructor to keep the pupil's interest.

I am not suggesting that we have not already got a large number of proved and skilled instructors up and down the country—I know many such, and I am quite sure that the type of instructor I am thinking of would welcome any hints from any reliable quarter whereby his work could be made easier. What I have in mind is that we should pool the skill and knowledge which we already possess in our ranks and use it to greater advantage. Unless we get right down to this problem of making the period of instruction more positive and attractive, our numbers will so diminish that the position will become very serious.

The question may be asked—who will pay for the production of the book? Well, so far as I am able to observe, there is no marked shortage of funds—either in the Council or in the Guilds. We should do well to get rid of this 'savings societies' idea, and, instead of hoarding up money in investments, spend it now, and so make an effort to ensure the continuance and strengthening of our art.

38, Penn Lea Road, Bath. J. FRANK SMALLWOOD.

NORTHERN ASSOCIATIONS MEET.

A PRE-LENT GATHERING AT WEST HARTLEPOOL.

The pre-Lent meeting of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association was held as a joint meeting with the Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association at West Hartlepool on Saturday. The ring of ten bells of St. Oswald's Church, with a 21¼ cwt. tenor, by Warner, and the ring of eight of St. Aidan's, with a 15 cwt. tenor, by Taylor, were placed at the ringers' disposal, and during the afternoon and evening touches of Grandsire and Stedman Caters, Treble Bob Royal, Double Norwich, Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major were rung.

Tea was partaken of in St. Oswald's Parish Hall, where upwards of 40 persons sat down. The president of the Durham and Newcastle Association (Mr. M. D. Oubridge, of Gosforth) welcomed the members of the Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association, but said he would have liked to have seen more of their members present.

Responding, Mr. J. E. Pollard, president of the Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association, said he believed that all the Cleveland men present were also life members of the Durham and Newcastle Association, which placed them in a rather invidious position, but, nevertheless, they were pleased to be present.

Mr. C. L. Routledge thanked the church authorities for the use of the bells.

The Rev. Rowlandson, curate at St. Aidan's, replied. He said that the clergy appreciated the work of the ringers, and they were pleased to grant the use of the bells.

Mr. J. T. Titt proposed a vote of thanks to the ladies who had ministered to the needs of the 'inner man.'

Mr. Oubridge appealed to the ringers to endeavour to improve their striking, a comment which did not appear to be too popular in some quarters, but it is to be hoped that the appeal may not have been wasted.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Western Division of the Sussex Association was held at Storrington on Saturday, February 11th, when ten towers were represented by 28 members. Ringing during the afternoon and evening ranged from rounds to Cambridge Minor.

The service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. A. R. H. Faithfull), the address being given by the Rev. W. Bramwell (Rector of Wiginholt).

After tea the members stood in silence as a mark of respect to the late Mr. A. Feist, of Billingshurst.

At the business meeting two new members were elected, viz., Messrs. F. Short, of Goring, and H. Bentinck, of Lyminster.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector of Storrington for the use of the bells and for presiding at the business meeting.

CAMBRIDGESHIRE VILLAGE WANTS MORE BELLS.

RAMPTON HOPES TO HAVE SIX.

The village of Rampton, Cambridgeshire, has just completed some important work of restoration to the church. The tower, belfry, porch and south-west wall have been restored and the bells increased to four, as the preliminary, it is hoped, to raising them to a ring of six, a frame for this number having been provided. The new treble has been given by the Rev. C. H. Evelyn White, who was Rector of the parish from 1894 to 1928, and a new third bell has also been added. The present second was cast by Thomas Newman in 1713, and the fourth, a pre-Reformation bell, weighing 4 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb., bears the inscription, 'Sancte Oswalde Ora Pro Nobis.' The four bells have been hung with new fittings in a new teak wood frame, the work having been carried out by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston.

The dedication of the work took place on February 2nd, the Bishop of Ely (Dr. B. O. F. Heywood) performing the ceremony. The service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. T. L. Havers), and Bishop Price read the lesson.

The Bishop, in his address, congratulated all who had been concerned in the enterprise, and in the course of his address upon Christian worship said the question, 'Why do people go to church?' was a more useful subject for discussion than the question, 'Why don't certain people go to church?'

Although the work of restoration, which has cost about £700, has been completed, some £330 has still to be raised, and donations will be gladly welcomed by the Rector.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH AND WEST DISTRICT WANTS MORE RECRUITS.

The annual meeting of the South and West District of the Middlesex County Association and Loudon Diocesan Guild was held at Isleworth on Saturday, February 4th. Ringers were present from Brentford, Camberwell (St. Giles'), Ealing (Christ Church, St. Mary's and St. Stephen's), Heston, Hillingdon (St. Andrew's and St. John's), Isleworth, Kingston-on-Thames, Leighton Buzzard, Norwood Green, Ruislip, Twickenham and Westminster (St. Margaret's). Ringing included touches of Triples and Caters.

A short service was conducted by the Rev. Canon Wright, the lesson being read by the vice-president, Mr. J. A. Trollope.

Tea in the Church Hall was followed by the business meeting, with Mr. J. A. Trollope in the chair.

The annual report was presented by the secretary, in the course of which it was stated there had been an average attendance of 42 at the six district meetings. It was better than in the previous year, but it was still capable of improvement. Tower secretaries were urged to try and arrange for at least two or three of their bands to attend each meeting, especially any learners, who would receive every help and encouragement. Three joint meetings with other associations were held, and they were indebted to these associations for arranging these successful gatherings. He thought further such meetings should be arranged. Gratitude was expressed to the Heston band for their efficient and successful efforts in arranging the annual supper. Eighteen peals had been rung in 12 towers and 35 quarter-peals. Service ringing had been kept at about the same level as last year, but it was regrettable that there were few bands who could muster their full strength regularly for Sunday ringing. The position with regard to recruits was unsatisfactory, only five ringing and one honorary life member and two life ringing members having been elected in 1938. He made a strong appeal to towers and to individual members to find recruits.

The financial position was better than last year owing to the more prompt payment of subscriptions, but he could not see this improvement continuing unless the membership increased. They started the year under the reorganisation scheme, and with their very efficient general secretary, Mr. C. T. Coles, in general charge of the association, it was up to every member to give him support and help to make the association second to none. In conclusion, the report thanked the various district officers for their ready help.

The financial statement by Mr. T. Collins (treasurer), which was also adopted, showed a rather better position than the previous year.

Mr. H. C. Chandler presented the report of the Supper Committee, who were thanked for all that they had done, and the committee was reconstituted as before.

Mr. W. H. Coles (Hillingdon) was elected Ringing Master and Mr. G. M. Kilby (Ruislip) deputy.

It was regretted that Mr. W. H. Ellingham (Heston), last year's deputy, was too ill to accept office, and it was decided to send him a letter of sympathy.

Mr. J. E. Lewis Cockey (Ealing) was re-elected hon. secretary, and Mr. W. G. Wilson (Ealing) assistant secretary. Messrs. T. Collins (Ruislip) and C. H. Chandler and C. S. Bird (Heston) were elected to the Central Committee; and Messrs. E. C. S. Turner (Ealing) and C. S. Bird (Heston) were appointed auditors.

Two new members, Messrs. M. W. Norman (Heston) and W. Wigginton (Twickenham) were elected.

It was decided to hold the next annual meeting at Twickenham, and the usual joint meetings during the year with nearby societies.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar of Isleworth, to Canon Wright, to the lady helpers at the tea and to the local company closed the proceedings.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

GUILDFORD DISTRICT'S POSITION.

There was an attendance of over 60 ringers at the annual meeting of the Guildford District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild on February 4th at Guildford. Ringing took place both at the Cathedral and S. Nicolas' Church, and a service, conducted by the Rev. W. A. Hepher, at S. Nicolas'.

At the subsequent meeting, which followed tea, Major J. H. B. Hesse (Master of the Guild) presided, and was supported by Mr. W. F. J. Cope (hon. district secretary) and Mr. C. E. Smith (Ringing Master of the district). Among others present were the Rev. L. Starey (Rector of Merrow), Mr. J. S. Goldsmith (vice-president), Mr. G. L. Grover (general secretary) and Mr. J. Corbett (Guild hon. treasurer).

The following officers were elected: Hon. secretary, Mr. W. F. J. Cope; Ringing Master, Mr. C. E. Smith; hon. auditor, Mr. C. Hazelden; members of the Executive Committee, Messrs. E. J. Ayliffe, F. Cherryman and R. Whittington.

The balance sheet showed a credit balance of £25 8s. 3d., an increase of £3 9s. 3d. Subscriptions from ringing members realised £15 11s., honorary members paid £1, and £2 2s. was subscribed by life members. Expenditure totalled £15 10s. 9d., and included £10 14s. 6d., which was remitted to the Guild treasurer.

The secretary suggested that they should donate £5 to the New Cathedral Bells Fund. It was possible that two towers in the district, Merrow and Bramley, might have their bells seen to, and they should also subscribe to such restorations as were forthcoming.

The Chairman thought they should give money to places like Bramley and Merrow rather than to the Cathedral Bells Fund.

Mr. T. W. White supported the secretary's proposition that £5 be given to the Cathedral Bells Fund.

Mr. A. H. Pulling thought that the money should be given to the building rather than to the bells.

It was eventually decided to obtain sanction from the Guild annual meeting to donate £5 to the new Cathedral bells, and that money should be subscribed to the restorations when they occur.

PAST AND FUTURE.

Mr. C. E. Smith (Ringing Master) stated that 1938 was not an eventful year for the district. He had paid a number of visits to towers, and in most instances progress in service and practice ringing had been maintained. He had long advocated the idea of towers in proximity to each other amalgamating for practices, and stated that Godalming and Witley and Haslemere and Chiddingfold regularly exchanged visits. He appealed to members to maintain practices, which was the only way to keep up the standard of Sunday service ringing. Steady progress had been made at Bramley, who had rejoined the Guild, and the Witley band had been revived owing to the endeavours of Sergt. Hagley. In July, Ewhurst bells were augmented from six to eight, and Major Hesse had played a prominent part in that work. He would like to see more local ringers attending meetings at their tower. Eleven peals were rung in the district during the year, which was eight less than the previous year.

In presenting his first report, the secretary (Mr. W. F. J. Cope) thanked all those who had supported him, especially the general secretary, Mr. G. L. Grover. He was sorry that there was not the hoped-for increase in 'new faces.' The average attendance at the five district meetings was 37. Although that might be considered satisfactory, the average attendance of Guildford district members was only 21. When it was considered that there were 157 ringing members in the district there was room for improvement. The fact that the district meetings were fairly well attended was due to the support given by the Farnham district ringers. He appealed to the tower secretaries to see that their towers were represented at meetings.

The district membership was 157 ringing and eight honorary members, compared with 153 and 10 in the previous year.

They welcomed back Bramley into the Guild, and the newly-formed band there was taking an active interest in district and Guild affairs. Their secretary, Mr. Martin, had recruited six honorary members. The drive for honorary members had been fairly successful, two life and eight new honorary members being secured.

The accounts, said the secretary, showed a balance in hand of £25 8s. 3d., and he thought they might with advantage consider spending a little of the surplus during the year. The New Cathedral Bells Fund should receive attention.

Although the general outlook appeared bright there remained a lot to be done before they could feel properly satisfied. The serious decline in the number of ringing members had for the present been arrested. On the other hand, they were not represented at Grayshott, Hascombe, Merrow, Ockham, Puttenham and Shere. If during 1939 they could bring at least one of these towers back into the fold, a step in the right direction would have been made.

It was decided to hold district meetings this year at Worplesdon, Puttenham, Ewhurst and Hasiemere.

New members elected were: Life member, the Provost (the Very Rev. Eric Southam); hon. members, Mrs. T. Treffry Cockill, Miss H. M. Wright, Mrs. M. Broome, Capt. L. C. W. Phillips, and Messrs. I. Roe, H. P. Lawson and E. H. Robinson; junior ringing members, Messrs. L. H. Hazeldene (Holy Trinity, Guildford) and E. Mackett (Wonersh); ringing members, the Rev. L. Starey (Rector of Merrow), Messrs. J. Heather and R. Jackson (Bramley), A. J. Mitchell (Dunsfold), L. Wallis (Clandon) and L. Hill (Old Woking).

Mr. J. Mackman urged the practice of handbell ringing in connection with district meetings where possible. In these days, when the art was up against so much outside attraction, the practice of double-handed ringing would help considerably to keep bands together and interest keen.

The secretary approved Mr. Mackman's suggestion, remarking that such an arrangement would relieve congestion at the tower.—At Mr. C. E. Smith's suggestion, the matter was left to him and the secretary to arrange.

Mr. C. Hazelden proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector of S. Nicolas' for the use of the bells and the church, and the Rev. W. A. Hepher for addressing them. He thought they should send congratulations to the Ven. E. de G. Lucas on his appointment to the Archdeaconry of Durham, as he had been a good friend to ringers, and this was agreed to.

A BOOM IN HONORARY MEMBERS.

One of the results of the drive for honorary members in the Guildford Diocesan Guild was revealed at the annual meeting of the Leatherhead District held at Leatherhead on Saturday, February 11th, when 31 were elected. Ringing commenced soon after 3 o'clock with Grandsire Doubles. Later the Vicar (the Rev. G. H. B. Coleridge), supported by the organist and choirboys, conducted the Guild's form of service, and gave a pointed address on the challenging message of the bells.

Tea was served in the club room of the Duke's Head, but although 29 notifications had been sent in, only 25 sat down to the meal, so the secretary has been wondering if others besides the Guild's treasurer had been struck down with 'flu.' The Vicar presided over the business meeting. The first act was to observe a silence upon the recent death of Mr. Jesse Beams, of Ewell.

The district's reply to the appeal for more honorary members made in last year's report brought 24 honorary and seven life members, Mr. James, of Cobham, being responsible for securing 29 of these. Four ringing members were also elected.

The balance sheet showed an increased balance of 10s., it now being £5 19s. 6d., and the report marked a steady progress in ringing and in attendances at meetings. Seven peals had been rung in six methods, including the first ever of Painswick Surprise Royal, which made a total of 25 firsts in a new method. The report concluded with an appeal to members to maintain the increased attendances at meetings, reminding them of the wide range of methods the meetings offered them, and also of the fact that the officers also had to leave jobs in homes and gardens to attend the meetings.—Both balance sheet and report were accepted without comment.

The retiring district officers were re-elected, viz., Messrs. A. Harman, Ringing Master; A. H. Smith, hon. secretary; and W. J. Whiting, hon. auditor. The Rev. Coleridge, Mr. G. Marriner and Mr. A. J. Adams were elected representatives on the General Executive Committee, no other nominations having been made, and with their consent a draw resulted in their serving A. J. Adams one year, the Rev. G. H. B. Coleridge two years, and G. Marriner three years.

All the retiring general officers were renominated, Mr. R. Whittington being added to the list nominated for Central Council representatives.

Places selected for meetings during the year were Newdigate, Ranmore, Cobham, Epsom and Dorking, with Leatherhead for the next annual meeting.

Mr. Grover reminded the meeting of the waning interest in the Benevolent Fund boxes, the lack of subscriptions towards the New Cathedral Bells Fund and the towers' affiliation fees.

The meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the organist and choirboys, and to the Vicar for his continued interest and his varied services that day.

Ringing was then resumed until 9 o'clock, methods ranging from the aforementioned Grandsire Doubles to Triples, Major, Caters, Plain Bob, Treble Bob and Surprise Royal. Members were present from Ashtead, Banstead, Cobham, Ewell and Leatherhead, with visitors, including the general secretary, from Guildford, Bagshot, Hounslow and Kingston, and an old member of the district in the person of Miss I. L. Hastie.

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NOTICES.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—The 51st annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, February 25th, at 6 p.m. prompt, Rev. Canon Stuart Blofeld, B.A., Vicar of Edgbaston, in the chair. The following towers will be open: St. Martin's, Bull Ring (12) and Aston Parish Church (12), 3.30 to 5 p.m.; Cathedral Church of St. Philip (10), 4 to 5.30 p.m.; St. Chad's R.C. Cathedral (8), 3 to 4 p.m.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Rd., Sparkhill, Birmingham, 11

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — East Norfolk Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Margaret's Church, Lowestoft, on Saturday, February 25th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service at 4.15 p.m. Tea at St. Nicholas' House at 5 p.m. Business meeting after tea. All ringers welcome. But 'Mr. Harwood wants to know' the names or numbers for tea, so just send a postcard, chums. Address to J. G. W. Harwood, 4, Cobden Terrace, Northgate Street, Great Yarmouth.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—The next monthly practice at Chelmsford Cathedral will be held on Saturday, February 25th, at 7.30 p.m. The special method is Cambridge, up to Royal.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Upper Arbour Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — Northern Division.—A meeting will be held at Coggeshall on Saturday, February 25th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. Subscriptions for 1939 are now due.—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Dis. Sec., 3, Belle Vue, Hedingham Road, Halstead.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Adwick-le-Street on Saturday, February 25th. Bells (6) ready at 3 p.m. A good attendance is expected, so please turn up in your dozens and look up your methods.—E. Cooper, 6, Grosvenor Crescent, Arksey, Doncaster.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—North Forest Branch.—Next meeting will be held at Huntley on Saturday, February 25th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. (1s. each).—A. J. Gibson, Hon. Sec., Westbury Court Cottage, Westbury-on-Severn, Glos.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — St. Albans District.—A six-bell meeting will be held at St. Albans on Saturday, February 25th. St. Michael's bells, tenor 13 cwt., from 3 p.m. to 5.30. Tea and meeting at 'Nell Gwynn's', St. Michael's Street, to be followed by ringing at St. Stephen's, tenor 15 cwt. Both are very fine peals—come and enjoy a ring on them.—Harold V. Frost, Hon. Dis. Sec., 4, Kimberley Road, St. Albans.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Halliwell, on Saturday, February 25th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5, at small charge per head. Special invitation to friends in Wigan Branch. Names for tea to J. F. Wood, 51, Melrose Avenue, Bolton.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Braughing (8 bells) on Saturday, February 25th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service and tea as usual. Meeting to follow. Ringing for *all*.—A. Lawrence, Dis. Sec., Hatfield Park, Herts.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next practice has been arranged at Old Windsor (8 bells) on Saturday, February 25th, at 6 p.m. Subscriptions now due.—A. D. Barker, Branch Sec. and Treas., Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings: *St. Paul's Cathedral, Feb. 28th; St. Magnus the Martyr, March 2nd. *Business meeting afterwards. At 7.30. — A. B. Peck, Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

LADIES' GUILD.—London District.—Practices will be held at St. George-the-Martyr, S.E.1, on the first Wednesday in every month, commencing on Wednesday, March 1st, at 7.30. All ringers welcome, but, ladies, this is mainly addressed to you, so please turn up in good numbers. Also, kindly book the dates for future practices, as this notice will not appear again. Rounds to Spliced Surprise (we hope!), so tell your friends.—I. R. Housden, Hon. Sec.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — St. Albans District.—A combined practice will be held at Hatfield (10 bells) on Wednesday, March 1st, at 8 p.m. —Harold V. Frost, Hon. Dis. Sec.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY. — The annual lunch of the society will be held on Thursday, March 2nd, at the Randolph Hotel, Oxford, at 1.15 p.m. All those intending to be present must notify Mr. M. G. Hayter, Christ Church, Oxford, not later than Feb. 27th. Tickets, 3s. 6d., exclusive of wines.—R. D. St. John Smith, Master.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—A general meeting will be held at Acton on Sat., March 4th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service, with address by the Rector 4.45. Tea 5.30. Rector, Rev. P. Gough, invites members of the association to tea, and to the meeting, will all accepting advise me by Tues., Feb. 28th. All information and alterations for Annual Report should be sent to me without delay.—C. T. Coles, Gen. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4. Tel. Larkswood 1959.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—First meeting of the year will be held at Hallow (4 miles north of Worcester) on Sat., March 4th. Bells (8, tenor 21½ cwt.) recently rehung, from 3 p.m. Short service 4.15. Tea in the Parish Hall 5 (gratis to those who notify me not later than Tuesday, Feb. 28th). Business meeting afterwards, at which the problem of a new secretary *must* be solved.—G. E. Large, Branch Sec., 1, Windmill Cottages, Lower Town, Claines, Worcester.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Sketty on Saturday, March 4th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Numbers for tea by Tuesday, February 28th, certain.—E. Stitch, Hon. Dis. Sec., 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glam.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. The next meeting will be held at Rishton on Saturday, March 4th. As there is a committee meeting the same day, there will not be any business done by the branch.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Guilsborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Lilbourne (5 bells) on Saturday, March 4th. Usual arrangements.—H. H. Shrives, Hon. Branch Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Newport Pagnell on Saturday, March 4th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Those requiring tea please send names in good time. A good attendance desired. All ringers welcome.—Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD. — The annual meeting will be held at Dudley on Saturday, March 4th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service in Church at 4.30. Tea will be provided for those who notify me not later than Tuesday, Feb. 28th. Business meeting afterwards. All arrears of subscriptions should be paid at this meeting. Old and new members cordially invited.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 17, Grange Road, Dudley.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Southwark Cathedral on March 4th. Bells (12) available from 3 p.m. Evensong at 5 p.m. Tea (1s. per head) at The Chapter House, St. Thomas' Street, S.E.1, followed by meeting. Please send notifications for tea to me by 28th inst.—E. G. Talbot, Hon Sec., 53, Birchwood Avenue, Wallington, Surrey.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Bedford District.—A meeting of this district will be held at Bromham on Saturday, March 4th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Tea at 5. You will be very welcome. All members please attend. Important business. — Frank C. Tysoe, Dis. Sec., 10, Grange Road, Bromham, Bedford.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—Annual meeting will be held at Dunstable on Saturday, March 4th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea and business at 5 p.m. All welcome.—F. J. Plummer, Dis. Sec., Leighton Buzzard.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Potterne on Saturday, March 4th. Usual arrangements. A card for tea would oblige.—W. C. West, Hon. Sec., 584, Semington Road, Melksham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Poolstock on Saturday, March 4th. Bells available from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea, which will be free, in School at 5 p.m., for which please notify Mr. A. Parker, 89, Barnsley Street, Wigan.—F. Forshaw, 55, Poolstock, Wigan.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kettering Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Cranford (6 bells) on Saturday, March 4th. Usual arrangements. Please notify me by Tuesday, Feb. 28th, if you require tea.—H. Baxter, 21, Charles Street, Rothwell, Kettering.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — A meeting will be held at Fenton on Saturday, March 4th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Will those requiring tea kindly notify Mr. S. Dutton, Gramerci, Grove Road, Fenton, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs., not later than March 1st? Tea at 5 p.m. Committee meeting after tea. — Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec., 37, Broad Street, Newcastle, Staffs.

APPLETON, BERKS. — The 121st anniversary of these bells will be celebrated on Saturday, March 4th. Bells available all day. Dinner at 4.30 p.m. Please notify R. White, Appleton, Berks.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at St Helens Parish Church (10 bells) on Saturday, March 4th. The tower will be open at 2.30 p.m. Service at 5 o'clock, followed by tea and meeting. A hearty invitation is extended to all ringers. Please send word for tea to Mr. A. Wallace, 6, Brookside Avenue, Eccleston, St. Helens.—G. R. Newton, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. John's Church, Blackpool, on March 11th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Business meeting 5.30. All ringers welcomed.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec., Fylde.

LADIES' GUILD.—Northern District. — A meeting will be held at Norbury Parish Church, Hazel Grove, near Stockport, on Saturday, March 11th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names to Mrs. Fearnley, 7, Vernon Street, Hazel Grove, Cheshire. All ringers welcome. — E. Dorice Kelly, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch will be held at Penewortham on Saturday, March 11th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Bells (8). A good attendance is requested.—A. Blogg, Branch Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A joint meeting of the Western Division and Huddersfield District Association will be held at St. Mary's, Elland, on Saturday, March 11th. Bells (8) available from 2 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea (1s.) 5.15 p.m., followed by business meeting — election of officers, etc. Names for tea to Mr. F. Linfoot, 2, Turnpike Street, Elland, by Thursday, March 9th. All welcome.—Frank Rayment, Dis. Sec., Bramley.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—The annual dinner will take place on Saturday, March 18th, at 6.30 p.m., at the Old Bell Restaurant, Holborn, E.C. Tickets, price 6s. each, may be obtained from either of the following: Messrs. T. Bevan, J. Cornford, G. H. Cross, T. H. Francis, G. Gilbert, R. Heazell, J. Parker, G. Radley, A. H. Pulling, N. Summerhayes or the secretary. Arrangements for ringing will be announced later.—G. W. Steere, Sec., 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual general committee meeting will be held at Reading on Saturday, March 18th, at 3.15 p.m., in St. Lawrence's Hall, Abbey Street.—Richard T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

DEATH.

TAYLOR, Evelyn M. (Mrs.).—On February 3rd, from pneumonia, in Maidenhead Hospital. R.I.P.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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AN INTERESTING QUEST.

The letter which appeared in our last issue, asking for information with regard to past performances of Grandsire Caters, is a reminder that, although a great deal has been done to recover and collate the peals of distant years, there is still much that might be done to enlarge our knowledge. The history of methods is not made up entirely of the records of ringing performances; there is a good deal that might be learned about the development of the art if it were possible to discover the compositions that were rung, showing the advances that have been made in peal construction. This has been possible at any rate in regard to such methods as Grandsire and Stedman Triples, in which the researches of Jasper Snowden brought to light a great deal of most interesting material; and there can be little left in this direction that is not now well known. Treble Bob Major, too, has been investigated. The Surprise methods are for the most part too modern a development to provide much field for research. Nearly all is known about them that can be known, and already Mr. J. A. Trollope has written a fairly exhaustive history of early Surprise ringing, that is waiting publication with the book on Surprise methods which the Council hopes eventually to print. But because the text books on ringing which have been published deal little with methods on more than eight bells, there still seems to be scope for investigation into the development of ten and twelve bell ringing, such as that which Mr. Edgar Shepherd is conducting into Grandsire Caters.

What little we know of the past we owe mostly to the peal boards that have been preserved in the towers up and down the country and to the records of the old societies, where they have been preserved. But while these have saved for us some account of peals that were rung, and the names of the men who rang them, there are very few instances where, except perhaps in the case of Holt's peals of Grandsire Triples, there is any record of what was rung. There are a few examples to be found where the course-ends of the peals are painted on the boards, and thus preserved to us; but, generally speaking, there is nothing to tell us what compositions were used when those old peals were rung.

Our forefathers did not set the store upon these details that we do to-day, when many societies go to the expense of printing compositions in their annual reports, and there is little hope that much can now be found to help us. But it is worth while making an effort to get together such material as is available and building up into a more or less cohesive whole what fragments have been spared to us. Mr. Shepherd has embarked upon the

(Continued on page 134.)

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interesting quest in connection with Grandsire Caters, and, despite all that has been done in various directions, there are other similar fields which could occupy the attention of the studious and interested ringer. Too much of the history of ringing is buried in the limbo of the forgotten past, and such morsels as can be salvaged for the benefit of the present and future generations will be well worth the labour of collecting. No one, we believe, has yet written a comprehensive history of the Plain Bob method. It may not be so interesting a task as some of the rest, but it is all part of the history of ringing, and something that needs doing. If it is done well it will be much more than a mere collection of records of early peals.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL, CORNHILL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 41 cwt.

ERNEST G. FENN... ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM H. PASSMORE ...	7
WILLIAM HIBBERT	2	HENRY G. MILES...	8
HENRY R. NEWTON	3	RAYMOND G. COUSINS... ...	9
HERBERT LANGDON	4	JACK A. WADGH	10
RICHARD T. HIBBERT	5	ALFRED B. PECK	11
R. CONGREVE PRIDGEON ...	6	RICHARD F. DEAL ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by HERBERT LANGDON.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Messrs. S. E. Andrews, R. T. Hibbert, H. R. Newton and A. B. Peck.

TEN BELL PEALS.

WEST HAM, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt.

ERNEST W. PYE... ...	...*Treble*	ALFRED PRIOR	6
ERNEST E. HOLMAN	2	GEORGE DAWSON	7
*MRS. J. H. CRAMPION ...	3	EDWARD D. SMITH	8
*AIDAN J. BOYACE	4	ERNEST W. FORBANK	9
FRANK C. NEWMAN	5	JOHN H. CRAMPION ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. H. CROSS. Conducted by JOHN H. CRAMPION.

* First peal of Royal.

NEWPORT, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE PRO-CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. WOOLOS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5151 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. 2 qr. 20 lb. in D.

ALBERT M. TYLER ...	...*Treble*	GEORGE POPNELL	6
MISS N. G. WILLIAMS ...	2	CHARLES GREEDY	7
JOHN W. JONES	3	FRANK SKIDMORE...	8
WILLIAM A. CAVE	4	JOSEPH T. DYKE	9
DONALD C. CLIFT	5	FRANCIS C. MOGFORD ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by J. T. DYKE.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTS.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

*DENNIS T. BROCK ...	...*Treble*	†ERIC B. HARTLEY	6
HORACE J. MANSFIELD ...	2	FRED CHALK	7
MRS. F. W. HOUSDEN ...	3	†REGINALD W. DARVILL ...	8
FRANK B. LUFKIN	4	FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN ...	9
WILLIAM CHALK	5	ALBERT E. NORTH ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by REV. H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN

* First peal of Royal. † First peal of Bob Royal. Rung to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the consecration of the first Bishop of Chelmsford at St. Paul's Cathedral on February 24th, 1914.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

KIBWORTH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes.
At the Church of St. Wilfrid.
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

William A. Bolton	Treble	Alfred Ballard	5
Albert Martin	2	Frank K. Measures	6
J. Edward Clough	3	Nigel W. Bolton	7
Stanley Bolton	4	Fred Staniforth	Tenor

Composed by Ernest Morris. Conducted by F. Staniforth.

HARLOW COMMON, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, February 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 12 cwt.

William Aley	Treble	Edward Rochester	5
Fred Whitby	2	Lewis Cordell	6
Ben Coppin	3	Stanley Clark	7
Edwin Larter	4	William Wheeler	Tenor

Composed by F. Dench. Conducted by W. Wheeler.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. George Dent (Master of the band) and to Mr. F. Clark, churchwarden of the above church.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Heywood's Transposition of Thurstans' Four-part.
Tenor 18¼ cwt. in E flat.

*John S. Pink	Treble	Miss Gwendoline Kippin	5
Herbert J. Skelt	2	Frank E. Mitchell	6
Charles Pothecary	3	Charles H. Kippin	7
George H. Humphries	4	Edward G. Talbot	Tenor

Conducted by Charles H. Kippin.

* First peal.

COLLINGHAM, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
At the Church of St. Oswald,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 8½ cwt.

Ronald H. Dove	Treble	Mrs. E. Bradley	5
Ernest Lindley	2	Robert Lancaster	6
Charles Parker	3	William Hawley	7
Leonard Drake	4	Edward Bradley	Tenor

Composed by Yorke Green. Conducted by Edward Bradley.

HERNHILL, KENT.
CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL COMPANY
AND KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
∞*On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,*
At the Church of St. Michael.
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 10 cwt. in A flat.

Reginald H. Walton	Treble	Bertram J. Luce	5
Frederick G. Brett	2	John W. Unwin	6
Jabez Walter	3	*Peter J. Small	7
Edward E. Trendell	4	Frederick R. Weller	Tenor

Composed and Conducted by Frederick R. Weller.

* First peal of Major. First peal as conductor.

WOODFORD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, February 20, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 11 cwt.

Mrs. J. H. Crampion	Treble	†Alfred G. Bass	5
*John C. Petty	2	‡Charles R. Morss	6
Francis W. Corney	3	Raymond G. Cousins	7
Stanley Webb	4	John H. Crampion	Tenor

Composed by F. Dench. Conducted by J. H. Crampion.

* First peal in the method. † First peal of Major.

DISS, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(St. Mary-the-Virgin Society.)
On Tuesday, February 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
At the Parish Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 23 cwt. 2 qr. 26 lb. in D.

David Whiting	Treble	*W. Archie Lock	5
Clement J. More	2	Albert G. Harrison	6
George Archer	3	Frederick C. Roper	7
*Leonard H. Lock	4	William Steggall	Tenor

Composed by C. Charge. Conducted by C. J. More.

* First peal in the method. Rung for the wedding of Miss Elizabeth Gaze, of Diss, and Mr. Philip E. Rackham, of Stanfield Hall, Wymondham.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, February 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
At the Cathedral Church of St. Nicholas,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Thurstans' Four-part. Tenor 17 cwt. 16 lb. in G flat.

Roland Park	Treble	Christopher Hetherington	5
W. Norman Park	2	Kenneth W. Cheeseman	6
William J. Davidson	3	Harold Walker	7
John Anderson	4	Ernest Wallace	Tenor

Conducted by W. J. Davidson.

Rung in celebration of the visit of their Majesties the King and Queen to the city.

BUSHEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, February 23, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
At the Church of St. James.
A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, BRISTOL, SUPERLATIVE & CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt.

William G. Whitehead	Treble	Francis Kirk	5
Henry Hodgetts	2	Frederick W. Brinelow	6
*Edwin Jennings	3	Maurice F. R. Hibbert	7
Cecil C. Mayne	4	Harold G. Cashmore	Tenor

Composed by A. J. Pitman. Conducted by H. G. Cashmore.

* 200th peal. The peal consisted of 2,496 London, 960 Bristol, 800 Superlative and 768 Cambridge, with 98 changes of method.

EYNSFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, February 23, 1939, in Three Hours,
At the Church of St. Martin,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 12 cwt.

Dennis G. Brown	Treble	Geoffrey V. Murphy	5
Douglas G. Brown	2	Philip A. Corby	6
Derek M. Sharp	3	George W. Fogden	7
*Albert G. Gravett	4	Arthur S. Richards	Tenor

Composed by J. R. Pritchard. Conducted by George W. Fogden

* First attempt for a peal. First attempt for a peal as conductor.

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NOTTINGHAM.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, February 23, 1939, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES;
Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

RALPH NARBOROUGH ...	...*Treble*	E. FREDERICK GOBEY ...	5
JACK BAILEY	2	J. ALFRED BARRATT	6
WILLIAM LANCASTER	3	*WALTER NICHOLS	7
ALEX HUTCHESON	4	FREDERICK A. SALTER	...*Tenor*

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by F. A. SALTER.
* First peal in the method and first attempt.

CLAINES, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(WESTERN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
PRITCHARD'S FOUR-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

*HORACE HOUGH... ...	...*Treble*	ALLEN MORGAN	5
WALTER H. RAXTER	2	WILLIAM LEWIS	6
GEORGE E. LARGE	3	THOMAS W. LEWIS	7
WILLIAM RANFORD	4	REGINALD WOODYATT...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by REGINALD WOODYATT.
* First peal. First peal of Major as conductor.

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 21½ cwt.

KATHLEEN E. FLETCHER'...*Treble*		REV. R. F. R. ROUTH ...	5
*RICHARD A. SMITH	2	JESSE W. HARRISON	6
†ALBERT C. BRIDGES	3	HARRY WINGROVE	7
DOROTHY R. FLETCHER ...	4	*FREDERICK J. SMITH ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by H. WINGROVE.
* First peal of Stedman Triples. † First peal.

LONDON.
THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTAN-IN-THE-EAST, E.C.,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 24 cwt.

DOUGLAS G. BROWN ...	...*Treble*	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE ...	5
*LEONARD J. FOX	2	GEORGE J. BUTCHER	6
EDWIN A. BARNETT	3	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY... ...	7
*GEORGE W. CECIL	4	PHILIP A. COREY	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 195). Conducted by P. A. COREY.
* First attempt for a peal in the method.

THATCHAM, BERKSHIRE.
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
On Saturday, Febuary 25, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 13 cwt. 22 lbs.

ALBERT SMITH	...*Treble*	HARRY W. SMITH	5
EDGAR HUMFREY	2	FREDERICK A. MONDAY ...	6
ALBAN R. POYNTZ	3	CHARLES W. MUNDAY ...	7
*DONALD W. NASH	4	†ARTHUR H. BROWN ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES W. MUNDAY.
* First peal of Grandsire on an 'inside' bell. † First attempt for a peal.

BUNGAY, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor 16½ cwt.

ROBERT D. GUNTON ...	...*Treble*	FREDERICK C. GUNTON ...	5
GEORGE W. HOWLETT ...	2	ERNEST WHITING	6
ROBERT W. BARBER, JUN. ...	3	RUSSELL RICHES	7
STANLEY W. COPLING ...	4	CHARLES W. LOOME ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by E. WIGHTMAN. Conducted by ERNEST WHITING.
Rung on the eve of the Wingfield memorial service.

NANTWICH, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 14½ cwt.

*JOSEPH BOYER	...*Treble*	*JOHN E. BROUGH	5
HARRY F. HOLDING	2	RICHARD D. LANGFORD ...	6
*EDWARD J. BOFFEY	3	J. WILLIAM EDGE	7
*R. THOMAS HOLDING ...	4	GEORGE A. PACKER ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by GEORGE A. PACKER.
* First peal of Major. First peal of Major as conductor.

CHURCH, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 14½ cwt.

ANTHONY CHADWICK	...*Treble*	LESTER L. WILLIAMS ...	5
SYDNEY BROWN	2	†CHARLES BLAKEY	6
JAMES PARR...	3	LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS ...	7
*FRED PLACE	4	JACK CLEGG...	...*Tenor*

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by J. CLEGG.
* First peal. † First peal of Major. First peal as conductor.

THORNE, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb. in F.

EDWARD BRADLEY ...	...*Treble*	FRED TERRY	5
HORACE S. MORLEY	2	RONALD H. DOVE...	6
MRS. EDWARD BRADLEY ...	3	ARTHUR GILL	7
WILLIAM HAWLEY	4	DANIEL SMITH	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. LEWIS. Conducted by D. SMITH.
First peal in the method on the bells.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,
A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb.

JOSEPH WHITTAKER ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM FERNLEY	5
C. KENNETH LEWIS	2	JAMES A. MILNER	6
JAMES FERNLEY	3	TOM WILDE	7
REV. FRANK BONNER	4	JOHN WORTH...	...*Tenor*

Composed by FRANK BENNETT. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

LONDON.
THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE, WOOLWICH,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt.

THOMAS H. CULVER ...	...*Treble*	THOMAS H. FRANCIS	5
NORMAN H. MANNING ...	2	BERTIE W. ALDRIDGE	6
FRANCIS D. BISHOP	3	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ...	7
*ALFRED E. BARKER	4	DEREK M. SHARP	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by NORMAN H. MANNING
* First peal of Major. First peal as conductor.

NORTH STONEHAM, HANTS.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES;
Tenor 9 cwt. 26 lb.

*ALICE M. SCOTT... ...	...*Treble*	ANNE M. GUY	5
GEORGE WILLIAMS	2	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ...	6
CHARLES J. FRAY	3	REGINALD A. REED	7
LEONARD KNOTT	4	LESLIE A. TREMEER ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by H. JOHNSON. Conducted by REGINALD A. REED.
* First peal, at first attempt.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

MARPLE, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three extents of Kent Treble Bob, three of Oxford Treble Bob and one of Plain Bob. Tenor 17 cwt. (approx.).

*FRANK WALTERS ...	...*Treble*	WILFRED WILDE ...	... 4
ALBERT T. BANCROFT ...	2	*EDMUND WALTERS ...	... 5
C. KENNETH LEWIS	3	JAMES A. MILNER ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. KENNETH LEWIS.

* First peal, and first attempt at Kent.

COTGRAVE, NOTTS.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of Oxford Bob and two 720's each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 17 cwt.

GEOFFREY HARRISON ...	...*Treble*	ARTHUR J. CHAMBERLAIN ...	4
COLIN HARRISON	2	EDWARD C. GOBEY ...	... 5
WALTER WHITE	3	J. FREDERICK MILNER...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. F. MILNER.

Specially rung as a compliment to Mrs. W. E. White (wife of the hon. treasurer of the Midland Counties Association) on attaining the age of 70 years.

STISTED, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, February 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF ANNABLE'S LONDON SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 9½ cwt. in A.

KENNETH G. SMITH ...	...*Treble*	ALEC M. GENERY ...	... 4
VICTOR MORLEY... ...	... 2	*RALPH BIRD ...	... 5
*REGINALD G. SIMMONDS ...	3	RONALD SUCKLING ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by RALPH BIRD.

* 50th peal. Thirty-fifth peal as conductor. First peal in the method by all, in the county and for the association.

BURLESCOMBE, DEVON.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, February 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 17 cwt. (approx.).

*WILLIAM C. NEWBERRY	...*Treble*	WALTER STEVENS ...	... 4
GEORGE ALDERMAN	2	CLAUDE W. J. TARR ...	... 5
FREDERICK ALDERMAN ...	3	†D. CHARLES ENTICOTT	...*Tenor*

Conducted by FREDERICK ALDERMAN.

* First peal away from tenor. † First peal. First peal on the bells.

BARNBY-IN-THE-WILLOWS, NOTTS.
THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, February 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, St. Clement's, Double Oxford, Plain Bob, Oxford Bob and Court Bob. Tenor 8 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lb. in C.

*KENNETH M. WILLCOCK	...*Treble*	FREDERICK G. HOOPER ...	4
†ERIC WILLCOCK	... 2	JACK L. MILLHOUSE ...	... 5
R. THOMAS VESSEY	3	JOHN C. VESSEY	...*Tenor*

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal 'inside' and first attempt.

BELL ROPES

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SOFT AND PLIABLE IN HAND. ALL ROPES SENT CARRIAGE PAID AND ON APPROVAL.
Cheap Quotations. Established 150 years. 'Phone 203.

DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

MILTON REGIS, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, February 22, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, ten different callings. Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 13 lb.

*THOMAS W. BAKER, JUN.	...*Treble*	MISS DORIS G. DOBBIE ...	4
MISS JOAN NAYLOR	2	GEORGE A. NAYLOR	5
ARTHUR S. BOAR	3	LESLIE D. DOBBIE ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE A. NAYLOR.

* First peal and first attempt. A 21st birthday compliment to Thomas W. Baker, jun.

MURSLEY, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two extents, ten callings. Tenor 9½ cwt.

*N. GOODE	...*Treble*	*F. WARD	... 4
†C. DICKINS...	2	*C. KNIGHT	... 5
W. SAYERS	3	*E. FLETCHER	...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. KNIGHT.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal 'inside.' Rung as a welcome to the new Rector (the Rev. G. E. Oliver).

EAST BEDFONT, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Double Court, St. Clement's, Double Oxford, Plain Bob, Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 7 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE	...*Treble*	ERNEST C. S. TURNER ...	4
WILFRID G. WILSON	2	HARRY KILBY	5
GEORGE M. KILBY	3	CECIL C. MAYNE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

KERESLEY, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores with different callings. Tenor 6½ cwt.

*WALTER ENSER	...*Treble*	C. HENRY WEBB	3
SIDNEY J. OUGHTON	2	†ALBERT BRISCOE...	4
JACK OUGHTON	...*Tenor*		

Conducted by JACK OUGHTON.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.' First peal as conductor.

WILLESBOROUGH, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different one-part extents, with 5-6 the right way.

PERCY PAGE	...*Treble*	FREDERICK WANSTALL ...	4
ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD ...	2	WILLIAM J. LANCEFIELD ...	5
CHARLES L. SMITH	3	EDWARD S. RUCK	...*Tenor*

Conducted by EDWARD S. RUCK.

First peal of Kent Minor by all the band and the first peal of Kent Minor by the Ashford District.

HANDBELL PEAL.

OXHEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, February 24, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT 28, FIELD ROAD.
A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

HENRY HODGETTS	1-2	HAROLD G. CASHMORE ...	5-6
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	3-4	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW ...	7-8

Composed by W. HARRISON. Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

Umpire—Edwin Jennings.

(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over).

PEAL NOTES.

COLLEGE YOUTHS HONOURED.

Four old members of the College Youths were honoured on Saturday when, to celebrate their respective birthdays, a peal of Stedman Cinques was rung at Cornhill. They were Messrs. S. E. Andrews, R. T. Hibbert, H. R. Newton and A. B. Peck (the hon. secretary of the society). The three last named, who rang in the peal, have passed through the chair, Mr. Newton for the first time as long ago as 1898. The Acting Master (Mr. E. G. Fenn) and another past Master (Mr. W. H. Pasmore) also took part in the peal.

Mr. Ernest Whiting rang his 70th peal of Superlative Surprise on Saturday, when he called a composition by Edgar Wightman at Bungay, Suffolk.

Mr. Sydney Brown 'completed the circle' of the tower at Church, Lancashire, when he rang the second to a peal of Bob Major on Saturday.

As a birthday compliment to Mr. George Dent, the esteemed Master of the company at Harlow Common, Essex, and also to Mr. F. Clark, churchwarden, a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung at this church on February 13th.

In honour of the visit of H.M. the King and Queen to Newcastle, a peal of Stedman Triples was rung on the Dixon eight at the Cathedral on February 21st. The extra bell provides an octave with a tenor of 17 cwt. in G flat.

The 25th anniversary of the consecration of the first Bishop of Chelmsford was marked by a peal of Bob Royal at Bishop's Stortford on Saturday.

The first peal by a local band on the bells at Mursley, Bucks, was rung on Saturday. It consisted of 42 extents of Grandsire Doubles and was the first attempt for a peal by four of the band. It was rung as a welcome to the new Rector (the Rev. G. E. Oliver).

Another place where, on Saturday, the first peal by a local band was rung was Keresley, Warwickshire. This, too, was Grandsire Doubles.

Thomas W. Baker, jun., rang his first peal at the first attempt for his 21st birthday on February 22nd at Milton Regis, Kent.

The Bishop of Winchester last week returned from a tour in India, and on Sunday consecrated an extension of North Stoneham burial ground. In honour of these events a peal of Bob Major was rung on Saturday.

Miss Alice Scott, who rang the treble, made her first attempt for a peal. She is one of the 'Guides' who have recently been enlisted into the band at St. Mary's, Southampton, and has been ringing for six months only.

Another composition of Treble Bob Major by Mr. George Lewis was rung on Saturday at Thorne, near Doncaster, for the first time. It contains the 6th its extent in 5th's and the 4, 5 and 6 their extent in 6th's. It was the first peal of Kent rung on the bells.

The peal of Grandsire Caters at Worsley on February 14th took 3 hours 33 minutes, not 2 hours 33 minutes as printed.

BRISTOL SURPRISE 'IN HAND.'

After Spliced Surprise peals double-handed, a peal of Bristol Surprise on handbells may not sound extravagant, but it is a notable performance all the same. The Hertfordshire celebrities rang a peal of it 'in hand' last Friday.

On the previous day the tower-bell party had rung a peal in four Surprise Major methods, and Mr. Edwin Jennings scored his 200th peal.

The peal of Grandsire Triples rung by members of the College Youths at Thatcham, Berks, on Saturday, was a birthday compliment to Mr. Arthur H. Brown, who made his first attempt for a peal and afterwards kindly entertained the band to tea.

The first peal of Kent Treble Bob Minor by members of the Ashford District of the Kent County Association was rung on Saturday at Willesborough. It consisted of seven one-part extents with 5-6 the right way throughout and it was the first peal of Kent Minor by all the band.

Mr. Horace Hough, late of Melbourne, Derbyshire, and now residing in Worcester, rang his first peal last Saturday at Claines. It is not so very long since he returned from Canada, where he worked for several years. He was able to do a little change ringing before he went out to the Dominion, and has made rapid strides since his return. Reg. Woodyatt, who is a member of the Claines band, called his first peal of Major and at the same time completed the circle in his own tower.

Sunday service ringers at Beaconsfield, including their Rector (the Rev. R. F. R. Routh), rang a peal of Stedman Triples on Saturday, the first in the method at this church by a local band.

AN OLD SURPRISE MINOR METHOD.

A peal of seven 720's of Annable's London Surprise Minor was rung at Stisted, Essex, on February 19th, the first peal in the method by all, in the county and for the Essex Association. This method, one of the earliest Surprise Minor methods (if its name goes for anything) has seldom, if ever before, been rung exclusively in a peal.

This was the 50th peal for two of the band, Messrs. R. G. Simmonds and Ralph Bird, and it was the latter's 35th as conductor. Comparatively few ringers can have called so large a proportion of their first half-century of peals.

(Continued in next column.)

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE BELLS OF ST. ANDREW'S, GRIMSBY.

The annual meeting of the Grimsby District of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild was held at St. Andrew's Church, Grimsby. After very nearly six years of silence, the bells did not go badly, especially in view of the fact that they have been in the tower 51 years without being rehung. Members attended the meeting from Bigby, Barton-on-Humber, Scunthorpe, Burton-on-Stather, Barrow-on-Humber, Ulceby, Killingholme, Mablethorpe, Louth, Waltham, Old Clee, and Mr. and Mrs. Bramwell, of Goxhill, and some of the local members were also present. The bells were rung to various methods during the afternoon and evening, and service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. A. H. Howard), who gave an interesting address. Mr. L. Mingay presided at the organ.

Forty members had tea in the Church Hall. The president (Archdeacon Parry) presided, supported by Canon Marsden (Vicar of St. James') and the Rev. A. H. Howard (Vicar of St. Andrew's).

The reports of the secretary and Ringing Master were read, and both were thanked for the reports and their services.

All the officers were re-elected. Mr. N. Dale, of Old Clee, was re-elected a ringing member, and Mr. F. Cook, of Mablethorpe, and Mr. S. Neave, of Goxhill, were also elected.

The collection for the bell fund of the district amounted to 12s., and it was decided to give it to St. Andrew's to start a bell restoration fund.

The District Bell Fund accounts were presented and accepted.

Future meetings were arranged as follows: May 13th, Mablethorpe; June 10th, Bigby; June 22nd, Elsham; September 16th, Ulceby; October 28th, Scunthorpe; and combined practices as follows: February 25th, Thornton Curtis; March 18th, St. James', Grimsby; April 1st, Barton-on-Humber.

It was with deep regret the secretary reported the death of Mr. Fred Overton, affectionately known amongst his fellow-ringers as 'Little Fred.' He was taken suddenly ill on January 12th and passed away in the Grimsby and District Hospital on January 16th, at the age of 56 years. He was an old member of St. Andrew's company and for the last six years a member of St. James'. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

The secretary also referred to the passing of Mrs. Rushby, wife of Mr. Harold Rushby, the district organist, after years of suffering.—To show their deepest respect, members stood in silence.

A vote of thanks was accorded from the chair to the Vicar for conducting the service and for his excellent address. Archdeacon Parry hoped that when possible the ringers would rally round him and get the bells going again. The Chairman then thanked Canon Marsden for his presence at the meeting, also Mrs. H. Mingay for giving them a splendid tea at such small cost. He also thanked the organist.

The Vicar, in reply, said how glad he was to welcome the Guild at St. Andrew's. Now that he had settled down he hoped that they would soon get a band together again. He thanked the secretary and Mrs. Bromfield, who had done so much to get the bells and belfry in order again.

After a vote of thanks to the president for presiding, members returned to the tower for further ringing.

(Continued from previous column.)

The first peal on the bells at Burlescombe, Devon, was rung on February 19th. The bells are now a ring of six with a tenor of about 17 cwt.

St. Dunstan's College, at Catford, S.E., owes its origin to the historic City Church of St. Dunstan-in-the-East. Mr. Douglas Brown, who rang the treble to the peal of Double Norwich at St. Dunstan's on Saturday, is an old boy of the college and is almost certainly the only old boy of the school to ring a peal at the church.

At Barnby-in-the-Willows, Notts, on February 21st, Messrs. Jack L. Millhouse and John C. Vessey rang their 25th peal together, and F. G. Hooper rang his 25th peal. It consisted of seven different Minor methods, but what makes the performance more noteworthy is that the brothers Kenneth and Eric Willcock scored their first peal and their first peal 'inside' respectively at the first attempt.

Until a short time ago they were members of a stoney band at the five-bell tower at Balderton, near Barnby. They are to be congratulated upon their rapid progress in change ringing. Prior to this peal Eric had never previously struck a blow in either Oxford Bob or St. Clement's.

Mr. J. H. Crampion, who had the gratification of calling his wife's first peal of Royal on February 18th at West Ham, conducted a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at Woodford on February 20th to celebrate his own birthday.

Mr. E. E. Trendell has been elected president of the Canterbury Cathedral company, and as a compliment to him a peal of Bob Major was rung by members, at Hernhill, Kent, on Saturday. It was the Cathedral company's first peal since 1933. It was also a birthday compliment to Mr. F. G. Brett.

The 70th birthday of Mrs. W. E. White, wife of the popular hon. treasurer of the Midland Counties Association, was celebrated by a peal of Minor rung at Cotgrave, Notts, on Saturday, and afterwards Mr. and Mrs. White entertained the ringers.

DOUBLES AND MINOR METHODS.

NEW EDITION OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL'S COLLECTION.

A new edition of that invaluable book published by the Central Council, the 'Collection of Doubles and Minor Methods,' which has done so much to encourage the development of six-bell ringing, has been completed and is on sale this week. The work has been thoroughly revised, and, although it covers the whole field of Doubles and Minor in a thoroughly efficient way, the elimination of unnecessary material, the rearrangement of the methods and compositions and the inclusion of a selection only of Alliance methods, has reduced the size and, consequently, the price of the book, which is now issued at 2s. Moreover, the economising of space in these directions has made it possible to include a much expanded section on spliced extents, with numerous compositions, which will be welcomed by that rapidly growing section of six-bell ringers who find a new interest in multi-method ringing. There are also a larger number of other compositions, and compressed into the ninety or so pages ringers will find a most comprehensive work, the outcome of long experience and painstaking and patient labour. The Methods Committee have carried out their task well, and ringers, whether they possess the previous editions or not, will find this new book essential to them if they are interested in any degree in five or six-bell ringing. Even those who seldom concern themselves with Doubles or Minor should add it to their library, for it is just one of those books that may be unexpectedly needed at some odd moment.

A DISCLAIMER.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I understand that recently an application was made in my name for permission to use the bells of St. Peter's Church, Belgrave, Leicester, for a peal attempt, the application being made by telephone on Sunday for the following Thursday.

As I had no knowledge of this at all, I most strongly deprecate such liberties being taken, and as it is possible that similar applications may be made elsewhere in the future, I wish to state that any bona-fide application from me will be made either personally or by letter on the printed notepaper of the association.

Any incumbent or towerkeeper receiving an application by 'phone purporting to come from me is respectfully asked to withhold the necessary permission.

HERBERT W. PERKINS,
Hon. Sec., Leicester District, M.C.A.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR JUBILEE CELEBRATION.

The February meeting of the Leeds and District Society was held at Liversedge on Saturday. To a visitor who does not know the district very well, this church is awkward to find, and a few members had difficulty in discovering the road to the church, but all's well that ends well and the meeting was worth a little trouble in arriving. The bells were rung up at 3 p.m. and ringing continued until 5 o'clock when those present did 'ample justice' to a splendid tea provided by the local company. Ringing was then further indulged in and later the business meeting was held in the tower.

The president (the Rev. J. H. B. Andrews) took the chair, and members were present from Armley, Batley, Birstall, Bradford Cathedral, Burley, Calverley, Drighlington, Headingley (St. Chad's), Huddersfield, Idle, Leeds Parish Church, Pudsey, Rothwell, Shipley and the local company.

Two new members, Messrs. H. Bradley and J. Bradley, of Sherburn, were elected.

A comprehensive vote of thanks to the Vicar, churchwardens and the local company was proposed by the president (the Rev. J. Andrews), who thanked all concerned and especially the local company for arranging the tea.—This was seconded by the Rev. C. C. Marshall, who said that he was pleased that he had been able to ring at Liversedge once again. When he visited Liversedge he was reminded of the time when (as a curate at a nearby church) he was learning to ring and often was able to practise at Liversedge. Mr. Fernie (now Vicar of Liversedge) was the curate who succeeded him when he left the district.

Mr. F. Hodgson acknowledged the vote and promised to pass on the thanks to all concerned.

The next meeting will be the society's jubilee gathering. Tickets (1s. 9d. each) are now ready and can be obtained from the secretary or at various towers.

It was decided to dispense with the business meeting on that occasion, and members are asked to note that nominations and election of officers for the year 1939-40 will take place at the April meeting.

The arrangements for the jubilee gathering are ringing from 2.30 p.m., service 4.45 p.m., hot pot supper and entertainment 6 p.m.

A LANCASHIRE VETERAN.

At Penwortham, Lancs, after a Confirmation service, on February 25th, and also as a 79th birthday compliment to Mr. J. R. Taylor, of the local band, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung after meeting short for Bob Major: K. Martin 1, H. Hall 2, E. R. Martin 3, J. R. Taylor 4, W. Loxham 5, K. Hall 6, J. Gornall 7.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Members of the Lancashire Association are asked to note that the meeting of the Liverpool District at St. Helens is to be held on March 11th and not March 4th as advertised last week.

Mr. A. Waddington has resigned the post of Maidstone District secretary of the Kent Association, and Mr. R. G. Rayfield, Downs View, 25, Spring Lane, Ightham, has been elected to the vacancy. All district subscriptions and communications should be sent to him.

A hundred and sixty years ago: 'On Shrove Tuesday a complete peal of 10,260 Grandsire Caters was rung upon the deep melodious peal of ten bells at St. Mary's Church in Nottingham, being the first and only attempt made for the same. The above performance continued 7 hours and 20 minutes and was performed by eleven of the Nottingham Society. The tenor, as customary with bells of that weight, was rung by two men and the other nine single-handed. St. Mary's bells are the heaviest peal of ten bells within 100 miles of the place, York Minster excepted.' Thus the 'Cambridge Chronicle' of March 7th. 1778.

Shrove Tuesday in that year was on March 3rd and the peal was called by W. D. Crofts.

The two peals of Erith Little Bob Royal four days apart bring to mind a similar coincidence 47 years ago this month, in which the grandfather of the conductor of the Prittlewell peal was concerned. On the Tuesday the late Mr. E. Barnett, sen., called the first peal of Double Norwich for the Kent County Association and on the following Thursday Mr. Lindoff called a peal of it at Gillingham. Neither conductor knew of the other's intention.

'Tis a small world, after all. When the English ringers were in Australia in 1934 they visited St. Augustine's Church, at Unley, Adelaide, a new and imposing building, and were presented with souvenir buttons bearing a miniature picture of the church.

The Vicar of St. Augustine's at that time is now Vicar of Liversedge, Yorkshire, where a meeting of the Leeds and District Society was held on Saturday. Mr. Joe Hardcastle produced his souvenir button, to the amazement of the Vicar—and then tongues wagged. At St. Augustine's the Vicar raised £16,000 for the new church, and although he saw the building finished, he left before they got a hoped-for peal of bells.

DEATH OF MR. ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

We deeply regret to record the death on Wednesday morning of Mr. Arthur Knights, the well-known ringer and composer, of Chesterfield. He was 79 years of age.

GOOD FRIDAY RINGING.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I never can understand why so few of our bells are rung on Good Friday. It seems to me to be the special occasion when good muffled ringing would have a direct appeal.

Many ringers, I imagine, have not heard the solemn effect of double muffled ringing, with the tenor open at back-stroke.

I venture to recommend this method. WILLIAM STORY.

QUICKEST PEAL ON CHURCH BELLS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I note with interest in 'Peal Notes' the peal of Minor rung at Buckland, Surrey, in 2 hours 1 minute, and reference made to a quicker peal having been rung at the Bell Foundry, Loughborough. If my memory serves me aright, the Loughborough peal was rung on the front six of the ten. It is interesting to note on the same page in 'The Ringing World' as the Buckland peal a peal of Minor rung on the back six at the Bell Foundry, Loughborough, tenor 6¼ cwt., in 2 hours 21 minutes. The Buckland peal would have looked much better with another 720 tacked on to it. C. H. WEBB.

NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL RINGER'S DEATH.

Newcastle Cathedral Guild have lost one of their original members by the death of Mr. John Foreman, who passed away on February 13th. He had been steeplekeeper for many years, during which time he carried out his duties most efficiently and always had everything in perfect order for ringing on all occasions.

As a Sunday service ringer he was one of the keenest, and many will also remember him ringing peals, which totalled 55. Most of them were rung for the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association, which he joined in 1901. Unfortunately, indifferent health kept him out of peal ringing recently. At the graveside after the funeral service the handbells were rung as a last token of respect by C. L. Routledge (Ringing Master, Newcastle Cathedral Guild) 1-2, Murray Oubridge (president, Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association) 3-4, W. J. Davidson 5-6, Adam Deas 7-8.

A DUBLIN QUARTER-PEAL.

A quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes), ten different callings, was rung at St. Patrick's National Cathedral, Dublin, by D. McGregor 1, G. Lindoff 2, F. E. Dukes (conductor) 3, O. H. Jones 4, H. W. Jones 5, M. Doolan 6. It was the first quarter-peal by all (except 2nd ringer) in the method. F. E. Duke's first quarter-peal as conductor. Ringers of 2, 4 and 5 members of St. Patrick's, remainder from St. George's, Dublin.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—60.

WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

Leicester has produced many very able ringers, but few of them have begun their ringing career at so early an age as Mr. Walter P. Whitehead. Born on December 20th, 1907, in the parish of All Saints', Leicester, the youngest of the three brothers, he was taught to handle a bell by his eldest brother, Edward, at the age of 13.

With the aid of push bikes, Walter (who later was to be nicknamed by the Leicester leading lights, Messrs. W. Willson, F. H. Dexter and E. Morris, as 'Tich,' being only 4ft. 2in. in height) and his brother Edward would tour the villages round the district for experience.



MR. WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

After twelve months of practice, 'Tich' scored his first peal on the treble to Stedman Triples at All Saints', Thurcaston. This was on February 24th, 1922, having turned 14 years only two months previously. In the same year he accomplished peals of Superlative, Cambridge and London Surprise Major on an 'inside' bell.

Full of enthusiasm and anxious to go ahead, Tich began conducting under the tuition of Mr. William Willson, and while still a mere lad of 15 called at the first attempt Holt's Original and was the youngest to call the one-part.

Six months later he composed and conducted peals of Bob Major and Superlative Surprise.

One peal which 'Tich' specially cherishes is a peal of Stedman Caters 'in hand' on 1-2, three months after his 15th birthday. This was the first peal 'in hand' by all and the first of Stedman Caters as conductor.

Altogether Mr. Whitehead has rung 266 peals and conducted 161. Of these 21 have been rung on handbells, 15 of which he has conducted. Amongst the total are 104 peals of Stedman Triples, 81 of which he has conducted (six 'in hand'), rung in 53 towers for three associations with 286 ringers.

Mr. Whitehead is a member of St. Saviour's, Leicester, where his brothers, L. H. and E. R. Whitehead (towerkeeper) are also ringers.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the North Forest Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association was held at Huntley on Saturday. Six towers of the branch were represented and there were visitors from Gloucester, Cheltenham and Coventry. The service was conducted by the Rector of Huntley (the Rev. Thackwell).

After tea the members stood in silence as a mark of respect to the late Mr. G. Grosvenor, captain of Longhope tower, who had always taken a great interest in the branch and was always to be found at the branch meetings.

At the business meeting it was decided to hold the next meeting at Corse.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector of Huntley for the use of the bells and for taking the service.

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD.

NORTHERN DISTRICT AT BRECON.

The annual meeting of the Northern District of the Swansea and Brecon Diocesan Guild took place at Brecon on Saturday, February 18th. The bells were made good use of until service time, when the Bishop's Messenger conducted the Guild's special form, also presided at the organ and gave the address, the Vicar (Canon Roberts) being in the congregation. Tea was partaken of at the Church House, 31 sitting down as the guests of the Vicar. Visitors attended from Ebbw Vale and Tredegar, and the Guild Ringing Master (Mr. J. Hoare) and the general secretary (Mr. D. J. Williams) were also present.

The Vicar presided over the business meeting, at which the officers were all re-elected with the exception of the district auditor, who will be leaving during the summer. The Rev. J. C. Hill was elected in his place.

The usual votes of thanks concluded the meeting and the ringers returned to the tower.

RECRUITMENT.

AN ANNUAL CAMPAIGN SUGGESTED.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Your leading article and the letter of your correspondent in last week's issue of 'The Ringing World' on 'Recruitment' are timely, for I think that unless something energetic is done to fill the depleted bands of ringers all over the country, the Exercise will be faced with a most serious prospect of decadence in the near future!

The instruction of beginners is a most difficult and disappointing task, and even skilled ringing instructors admit that the percentage of successes is low. However, this would be of small import if recruits came forward in large enough numbers. In this respect I feel that *every* ringer could help a lot more than he does, and should not just leave the matter to the captain of his band.

It seems to me that it cannot be beyond any ringer's capacity to introduce at least one new person to the belfry each year, and to secure his interest sufficiently for him to commence learning. If every ringer were to do this each year and even if only 10 per cent. of the recruits so obtained became successful ringers, in nine years our numbers would be doubled, rings of bells now silent would be pealing, and, amongst other things, the circulation of 'The Ringing World' would increase!

May I suggest that an annual campaign should be launched through the medium of your valuable paper in any agreed month, reminding ringers that it is time they brought their recruit to the tower. This campaign could be followed by a series of articles giving instructions to instructors at the various stages of the learner's progress.

Haywards Heath, Sussex. RAYMOND OVERY.

AN OPPORTUNITY AND A BONUS.

At Clent, Worcestershire, the seeking after recruits is helped by the Vicar. In last month's issue of the Parish Magazine was the following paragraph:—

'The unique opportunity—which cannot be extended indefinitely—is for lads who have time on their hands and need a hobby. The chance of being taught to ring now by our old friend William Short, who knows everything about it and much more than many ringers do; the reward—a small bonus when proficient, offered by the Vicar. More ringers are needed—Learn now while Mr. Short is still able to teach you.'

They also interest the parishioners of Clent in the bells by various activities. For the past few years a bellringers' social has annually raised funds for a variety of belfry improvements.

DEARTH OF RINGERS AT ADWICK.

RECTOR'S REGRET AT SILENCE OF BELLS.

A meeting of the Doncaster and District Society was held at Adwick-le-Street on Saturday, February 25th, and the peal of six bells was rung to a large variety of methods during the afternoon and evening. Seventeen members and friends sat down to tea in the Old School.

The business meeting which followed was presided over by the Rector of Adwick, the Rev. S. A. Taylor.

The Rector welcomed the society 'from selfish motives.' Adwick bells, he said, had been silent for a long time, and he thought perhaps when the bells were once more heard ringing out, sufficient interest might be aroused among the people of Adwick to keep them going and the present state of affairs brought to an end. It was no fault of his own ringers that this had come about. They had brought learners in, taught them and then for one reason or another they had dropped out, and the band had been gradually depleted till it had finished altogether. For the first time since they were installed the bells failed to ring out the old year and welcome the new year. A number of the residents, he said, were continually asking the reason the bells were not rung, and he assured the meeting that, despite the criticism they got sometimes, the bells were sadly missed when they were silent.

Mr. Lloyd said it was a peculiar fact that while Adwick had the bells and no ringers, Doncaster had the ringers and no bells. In addition to a first-class company, they had a band of learners coming on very well, who were being taught on handbells till the tower bells should be put in order. Among these were a number of young ladies, and Mr. Lloyd pointed out to the Rector that if he could not get young men he must get young women.

Mr. Clark endorsed Mr. Lloyd's remarks. He said in many places they had an old-fashioned prejudice against girls and women in the belfry, but in his experience he found that they were treated with extreme courtesy. He mentioned the fact that there was such a thing as a Ladies' Guild with a large membership, and that Doncaster district towers had quite a number of lady ringers. He advised the Rector to try this remedy. He went on to say that since he first came to the district he knew there had been a struggle to keep things going at Adwick. Then for a short time they had a first rate band capable of ringing, and striking, a large number of methods, and now they had none. He hoped that this position would soon be altered.

Tickhill was decided upon as the venue of the next meeting, to be held on Saturday, March 25th.

Votes of thanks to the Rector and wardens for the use of the bells and to the ladies for providing tea brought the meeting to a close, and the handbells and tower bells were set going once more.

JOHNSON COMMEMORATION DINNER.

REPRESENTATIVE GATHERING AT BIRMINGHAM.

Lord Mayor's Appeal for Cathedral Worthy of the City.

The memory of Henry Johnson, most famous of all Birmingham ringers, who was born 130 years ago and died nearly 50 years ago, was honoured again last Saturday, when the annual gathering took place in his native city, under the auspices of St. Martin's Guild.

Those who knew or rang with Henry Johnson are a fast dwindling band, but there were seven among last Saturday's company who had met him in life.

The dinner, which is the chief event in the commemorative proceedings, was attended by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Birmingham, and apart from the fact that the Lord Mayor sprang a surprise by revealing that he was the son of a former well-known Bromsgrove ringer, Mr. Elijah Crump, and had himself learned to pull a bell, he made a notable speech urging the building in Birmingham of a cathedral worthy of so great a city.

Ringing took place at St. Martin's, the Cathedral and Aston in the afternoon, and a company of nearly 140 gathered at the Imperial Hotel in the evening under the genial chairmanship of Canon S. Blofeld, Vicar of Edgbaston. He was accompanied by Mrs. Blofeld and was supported by the Lord Mayor (Alderman James Crump) and the Lady Mayoress, Councillor A. Paddon Smith (vice-president of the Guild), Mr. T. H. Reeves (hon. secretary), Mr. F. E. Haynes (Ringing Master), the Provost of Birmingham (the Very Rev. J. H. Richards), the Archdeacon of Aston and Mrs. McGowan, the Rev. W. S. Power (Vicar of Erdington), Col. J. W. Danielsen (churchwarden of Erdington), Messrs. F. W. Stevens and E. B. Tomlinson (churchwardens of Edgbaston), Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Yates (King's Norton), Messrs. J. George, J. H. Shepherd, A. Walker (vice-president) and Mrs. Walker. The visitors included Mr. W. Short (Ringing Master of the Worcestershire Association), Mr. F. W. Rogers (hon. secretary, Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild) and Mr. R. Philpot (Portsmouth), Mr. R. Richardson (Master of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild), Mrs. and Miss Richardson, Mr. H. Knight (hon. secretary, Archdeaconry of Stafford Society), Mr. E. Guise (hon. secretary Bristol United Guilds) and Mrs. Guise, Mrs. Wilkins, Mr. Williams and others from Bristol, Mr. J. F. Smallwood and Mr. T. F. King (Bath), Mr. C. F. Johnston (Croydon), Mr. J. Austin (Gloucester), Mr. J. Williams (Newent), Mr. W. Saunders (Coalbrookdale), Mr. J. P. Fidler (Loughborough), Mr. F. W. Perrens and Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Pervin (Coventry), Mr. and Miss Griffin (Walsall), Mr. E. Nash (Mells, Somerset), Mr. S. Holt (Worcester), Mr. Bishop (Ruardean, Glos.), Mr. W. Viggers and Miss E. Pascoe (Aldershot), etc. There was also a representative company from nearly all the towers in the diocese.

After an excellent repast, the toast of 'The King' was given by the chairman.

BIRMINGHAM'S CONTRIBUTION TO HISTORY.

Mr. F. E. Haynes proposed the combined toast of 'Church and State' and 'The City of Birmingham.' He said opinion had been growing in recent years that the terms Church and State should have a universal application. When they talked of the State they meant the World State; and when they talked of the Church they meant a Church that would embrace the whole world, but for himself he found that wide application of the words was very unsatisfying and difficult to understand. When he spoke of Church and State he thought, and he believed most of those present also thought, of the Church as it more strictly concerned themselves and of the State as more strictly concerning the British Isles. He thought it would be a pity if they allowed their ideas of Church and State to become less definite, because much of the progress of the world that had been made in every aspect had been due to the rivalry between nations and the feeling of each one of them was that their own State and their own Church was the best. If they took that as their idea of Church and State, they must admit that they owed a debt both to the Church and to the State, but whereas they were compelled to perform in some degree their duty to the State, the Church made no such compulsion upon them. If, therefore, the Church and State were to exist side by side, and prosper as they would wish them to, it was obvious that they depended upon them as individuals to make them successful. It was in that connection that they welcomed the addition of the words 'City of Birmingham' to the toast that night. It was added in appreciation of the great honour they felt had been bestowed upon them by the visit of the Lord Mayor (applause). When they looked back through the history of the country the City of Birmingham had played no mean part, both in regard to the State and the Church. Many men connected with Birmingham were among the famous churchmen, statesmen, inventors, artists and so on of the past, and at no time had the City of Birmingham ever deserved better of the State than at the present moment. They were all proud to think that it was a citizen of Birmingham who was now piloting the Ship of State (applause).

The Lord Mayor, who first responded, thanked Mr. Haynes for his references to the City of Birmingham and expressed his great pleasure at being present at the dinner as the guest of the Guild. Birmingham was a city that had helped to make the country famous throughout the world, and that week they were holding in Birmingham part of the British Industries Fair. There was no prouder man than he was on Tuesday morning when he was presented to Queen Mary, on her visit to the fair, and she said to him, 'I want to congratulate you on the Birmingham exhibits at the fair this year. I am pleased to see that they have got such a fine exhibition.' That, said the Lord Mayor, was a great compliment, and he was delighted to pass it on to the people of Birmingham (applause).

LORD MAYOR SPRINGS SURPRISE.

Proceeding, the Lord Mayor surprised the company by informing them that he was once associated with their calling. 'When my secretary said to me that I had an invitation to the bellringers dinner and added, "You cannot do it. You are booked at the British Industries Fair for lunch, again for tea at 4.30 and another one at 5," I told him,' said the Lord Mayor, 'that I was going to the bellringers' dinner and that if they wanted me at the B.I.F. they must bring their time table forward (laughter and applause). They did that,' said the Lord Mayor, 'and candidly if they hadn't I should have missed those teas, because I wanted to be here' (applause).

'I go back,' he continued, 'a long number of years, 55 or more, when I used to go regularly with my dear old dad to St. John's Church, Bromsgrove, where he was a ringer. I have been with him here in Birmingham to meetings at St. Martin's Church, and accompanied him to many other churches in the Midlands where there are bells. I think I can say I took an interested part in ringing, because my father was treasurer of the society; but he was treasurer in name only, because I did the book-keeping (laughter). I still have in my possession an interesting emblem which commemorates a record in bellringing. This is what it says, "The Worcester Diocesan Association of Change Ringers. On Saturday, February 2nd, 1884, was rung in the tower of St. John's Church, Bromsgrove, a true and complete peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5,040 changes in three hours seven minutes, conducted by Elijah Crump." One of the ringers was James Hinton, who was stone deaf, and Mr. Allnutt stood by the side of him and gave him two taps when a bob was called and one for a single (laughter). I did that many times myself,' said the Lord Mayor, 'but that was for ordinary ringing and not for a peal. Now I can't tap them even once for a bob (loud laughter). That peal was unique and it states on the bottom of the card that it was a record for ringing at that time (applause). At a later date they tried for a peal at Hanbury with Mr. Hinton, who was deaf, and Mr. Hughes, who had only one arm, but near the end the conductor forgot to call a bob and what would have been a further record was lost. Once,' continued the Lord Mayor, 'I had to walk to Stoke Prior, where they had just got a new bell, and I remember going to the schoolroom to have tea. Afterwards my father used to go to Stoke Prior to teach the young men how to ring, and I had to accompany him, hail, rain or snow (laughter). I was not much of a ringer myself,' said the Lord Mayor, 'but I used occasionally to help ring the people into church and tell them it was church time (applause). We used to keep the handbells at our house and they were hung on a broomstick across a wooden bedstead so that we could tap them (laughter).

A WORTHY CATHEDRAL WANTED.

'It is this far off connection with your bellringing,' said the Lord Mayor, 'that made me tell my secretary that I was going along to your dinner (laughter). Both the Lady Mayoress and myself are delighted to be here with you, and we shall watch your progress with interest and, I hope, listen to many peals. My only regret is that we do not possess a cathedral worthy of our great city. There is plenty of money in the country and they could do it if only they would get down to it (applause). Birmingham is worthy of it. While we admire St. Philip's, it is not dignified enough for a great city like Birmingham to say, "That is our Cathedral" (applause). Why cannot we do as other places have done, make a bold bid to build a cathedral? If there is anything I can do to help in that direction I shall be only too delighted to do it (loud applause). I don't profess to be a good man, because I should be a hypocrite if I did, for I've been a lad in my time (loud laughter), but I am quite serious when I say that anyone who has lived any length of time in Birmingham must agree that we ought to have a cathedral worthy of our great city' (applause).

The Chairman, who also replied, said he hoped the order of the toast would always be preserved. It should be the toast of 'Church and State,' for that was how best they could mark the value that the Church could be to the State. He was grateful to the Lord Mayor for what he said about the Cathedral (applause). He was not going to dwell upon it, but it must be at the heart of lots of people in Birmingham that they should have a cathedral worthy of their great city.

The Chairman went on to say how proud they were in Edgbaston to have such a fine peal of bells, the finest in Birmingham, he added, and such a devoted leader and team of bellringers. He spoke of the co-operation necessary in ringing; it was necessary for each one to do his bit and to face the correction of mistakes. The message of the bells, of harmony and not discord, was a message for the whole of life. He referred to the introduction of machinery in nearly every department of life, but he hoped it would be long before the human element was removed from bellringing and the sound of the bells reproduced by machinery (applause). They could not put the clock back and machinery was necessary where a lot of hands were not available, but in the case of bells he hoped the human element would ever

remain, because bellringers were fellow-workers with God. They were not in the belfry simply doing a job; they were sharing in the kind of work that many of them were called upon to do, work for God and His purpose. He concluded by remarking that he valued the privilege of being in the chair on that occasion, and he hoped the Guild would go on always with that end in front of it, which was God's harmony.

HENRY JOHNSON'S LETTERS.

Mr. F. E. Dawe, who was one of the seven in the room who knew Henry Johnson in the flesh, proposed the toast to the memory of the famous old Birmingham ringer. He said he had been present at nearly all these dinners, which had been held during more than 50 years, and attended the first one on Henry Johnson's 80th birthday. Twenty-seven years ago he had the honour of being chairman. He would never forget, on the occasion of the first dinner, the touch of five courses of Stedman Cinques rung on handbells. It was the most perfect handbell ringing he had heard, but to-day there was only one of those six ringers left, and that was their old friend Tom Miller, who was with them that night (applause). Mr. Dawe went on to say that he knew Henry Johnson personally for about 11 years. Although there was so much difference in their age, they were real chums and no one ever knew the reason except that he had a marvellous respect for such a wonderful old man, who even in his later years was clear in intellect, very versatile, with a fund of anecdote and as sharp as a needle. He was a wonderful personality. He went to work before he was nine years of age, so he got no college education, but he had great natural gifts and was a born mathematician. The problems which came before him he could solve in his own peculiar way. At one of those early dinners Professor Thompson produced an instrument which was called a decadahedron, by which he could prove any peal of Treble Bob Major up to 8,000 odd. On this occasion he spent several minutes proving a peal, which was known to be false, and showing where it was wrong. Henry Johnson looked at it and told them in 30 seconds where it was false.

Continuing, Mr. Dawe said that for some years he had had it in mind to hand over to ringers of the present day some of the letters he had received from famous men of the past. He had brought with him that day some twenty or so of Johnson's letters written to him, and some of various other individuals, who were shining lights of those distant days, together with several of Johnson's original compositions. He wanted to hand them over to the esteemed secretary of St. Martin's Guild for preservation in the society's records (applause). He regretted that he had been unable to find for the moment a packet of letters that he had received many years ago from their secretary's father, Mr. Sam Reeves, who was a friend of his 60 years ago and was Master of the College Youths when he was elected a member of that society. He also now regretted that many years ago he made three gifts from among his letters. Some, containing some of Johnson's proof scales, he passed on to Jasper Snowdon and others he gave to Sir Arthur Heywood, but there were included among the letters he had brought a peal of Grandsire Caters which Johnson composed in 1886 on a somewhat new plan and which he (Mr. Dawe) called at St. Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, in August of the same year—the first ten-bell peal ever rung in Scotland. Another letter was one inviting him to call the last peal on the famous bells at St. Michael's, Coventry. Unfortunately he was unable to leave London on the date selected and the peal was called by Harry Bastable. Among the letters were two or three from Henry Johnson's son, one dated January 8th, 1890, telling him of his father's death on the previous day. He (Mr. Dawe) was the first ringer in London who had the news, and he arranged a muffled peal of Double Norwich Major, which was rung in memory of this grand old patriarch of ringing. He was perfectly certain Johnson never had an enemy and he often felt his motto must have been 'A soft answer turneth away wrath.' Men like Henry Johnson, concluded Mr. Dawe, were the backbone of the Exercise in their day, and it was only fitting they should do honour to their memory.

The toast was drunk in silence, and afterwards a course of Stedman Cinques was rung on handbells by members of the Guild.

THE GUILD'S LONG HISTORY.

Mr. Albert Walker proposed the toast of 'Continued Prosperity to St. Martin's Guild.' They all regretted, he said, the absence of the beloved Master. Alderman Pritchett, who for many years had proposed that toast, in the course of which he had given them a resumé of the activities of the Guild. For the benefit of the non-ringing friends who were present, Mr. Walker pointed out that the Guild was formed as long ago as 1755, when the society was called St. Martin's Youths, and rang their first peal at St. Philip's Church. From that time the society had been prominent in ringing circles, not only in Birmingham and district, but further afield. In 1814, for instance, they opened the new peal of bells at St. Nicholas' Church, Liverpool, and were awarded a silver cup for ringing 3,000 Grandsire Cinques. In the years which followed they had among them many celebrated ringers, including such men as Thurstans and Cooper, and, later, Henry Johnson. The name of the society was, some time during that period, changed to St. Martin's Society and later St. Martin's Guild was formed, its functions having chiefly to do with the ringing at St. Martin's, St. Philip's and Aston. Then, after the formation of the Diocese of Birmingham, the society became the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham. The society had existed since 1755, with all its old traditions and history, and when it came to the formation of a diocesan guild, they could not leave out St. Martin's, which they at that time and still thought was the proper title. St. Martin's Society existed as long ago as 1755, whereas the diocese of Birmingham was not formed until 1905.

The Guild, he continued, had been fortunate in finding very capable men to carry on its affairs. In the early days they were national heroes; to-day they had some very efficient men who deserved every help and support that could be given them. During the past year the Guild rang 31 peals and 80 ringers took part in them. A most gratifying thing was the youth that was now in their ranks, and in this they were particularly fortunate at Aston, which now had a very capable band, including a number of young ringers. They had rung a twelve-bell peal with their own band, and their outstanding performances had been peals of Stedman Triples and Caters 'in hand' (applause). Among the tower-bell peals by the Guild had been one rung at Manchester Town Hall. It had been a feature of the Guild that they had in the past been able to go to many parts of the British Isles and ring peals. Another notable peal was a peal of Spliced Surprise rung by a mixed company of that Guild and Worcestershire members. They were fortunate in having round them territorial associations like the Worcestershire, the Warwickshire and the Archdeaconry of Stafford, with all of whom they lived in perfect harmony and friendly rivalry (applause). In this connection Mr. Walker referred to a letter which appeared in 'The Ringing World' on the previous day suggesting a National Association. He thought in such an association individuality would be lost; and it was much better that they should have separate diocesan or territorial associations and live in harmony with one another (hear, hear). In conclusion, Mr. Walker referred to the work of the secretary, Mr. Reeves. They greatly appreciated his work, he said, and hoped he would live for many years to be their secretary (applause).

HIGH STANDARD OF STRIKING.

Mr. T. H. Reeves, who replied, first thanked Mr. Dawe for the gift of Henry Johnson's letters to the Guild. They would value them very much; they would read them with interest and they would be taken great care of in the archives of the Guild. He personally would also be very happy to have the letters written by his father. Having next thanked the artistes for their contribution to the programme, Mr. Reeves went on to say that he would like to see more members at their quarterly meetings, and Mr. Haynes would be very glad to see more members at the bi-quarterly meetings, which were held for the improvement of the art of change ringing. In spite of that, however, their good old Guild was going on; it was making progress and was held in higher esteem to-day than ever before (applause). They could go about the country ringing in various towers and were respected. Other people expected something good from them and he thought he could truthfully say they gave it. It was one of the traditions of the Guild that they did give good striking (hear, hear). In spite of what they sometimes heard about the good old men who used to ring at St. Martin's, he believed they were still getting equally good striking in the Bull Ring on Sunday mornings (applause). He believed that the spirit which permeated the Guild would maintain the standard of ringing expected of it. They had a happy band of officers and the members generally gave them wholehearted support. While he sometimes felt that the work of secretary was becoming a little bit irksome, yet he did get a lot of pleasure in carrying on the duties, and he appreciated the honour of being the secretary of such a Guild (hear, hear).

Mr. A. Paddon Smith submitted 'The Visitors' and welcomed on behalf of the Guild the first citizen and chief magistrate of the second largest city in England and the sixth largest in the British Empire. They were very pleased that the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress had been able to find time, among their many activities, to grace those proceedings, and when in future in the Council Chamber he looked at the Lord Mayor, where he sat in majesty in the seats of the mighty, he would remember that he was a very human man (applause) and that he had associations with bellringers, which doubtless explained what a mellow man he was (laughter and applause). Mr. Smith extended a welcome to the many other visitors, whom he mentioned by name, saying they included their old friend Mr. John Austin, of Gloucester, who, at 76 years of age, had been able to make the journey because Sergt. Joseph Williams, aged 86, had promised to come to take care of him (laughter and applause).

BIRMINGHAM'S ATTRACTION FOR RINGERS.

Responding to the toast, Mr. C. F. Johnston expressed the visitors' thanks for the cordiality of their welcome, and said they were delighted to come to Birmingham because of its famous ringers, its first-class ringing and good bells. Those of them who had also been able to visit the British Industries Fair had seen what an astonishing exposition that was and what British engineers could do. Altogether he thought Birmingham must be a good place to live in, for on his way from Aston he had noticed a great placard which said, 'We don't cut prices, we murder them' (laughter).

Mr. J. F. Smallwood also replied, but said he did not feel that he was a visitor, for he was bred and born in Birmingham and learned his ringing there. Unfortunately he had been exiled for many years, but he was always very pleased to come back year after year to that gathering.

Mr G. E. Fearn, in proposing the toast of 'The Ringing World,' spoke of its indispensability to the Exercise. Without it, he said, it would be almost impossible to arrange successfully such a gathering

(Continued on next page.)

LADIES' GUILD.

LONDON DISTRICT TO HOLD MONTHLY PRACTICES.

A very successful meeting of the London District of the Ladies' Guild was held at Leyton Parish Church on February 11th, when 35 ringers were present, of whom 16 were members of the Guild. The handy ring of eight, just perfect in weight and 'go' for a ladies' meeting, were rung to a variety of methods, including Yorkshire Surprise Major.

The short service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. Robert Bren), who extended a warm welcome to the Guild. The lesson was read by the general secretary (Mrs. G. W. Fletcher).

At the conclusion of the service the Vicar invited everybody present to look round the ancient church, which possesses a number of unusual treasures, amongst them a very wonderful old hour-glass, an even finer example than the one in the Victoria and Albert Museum. The illuminated monument of a former Vicar, reposing under a glass cover at the foot of the chancel, was also revealed to the visitors.

Tea, by kind invitation of the Vicar, was held in the Old Vicarage, now used as a Church Hall, but actually the residence of the Vicars of Leyton in former days. In a short speech, the vice-president (Mrs. R. F. Deal) thanked the Vicar and Mrs. Bren, Mr. C. A. Hughes, the organist and everybody else who had helped to make the meeting a success.

At the business meeting which followed three new members were elected: Miss L. G. Grayling, of Edmonton, and the Misses E. Bridge and C. Chinnery, of Orsett, Essex.

Beaconsfield was chosen as the place of the next meeting, to be held on May 6th. It will be remembered that this tower was to have been visited last October, but the meeting was cancelled at the Rector's request owing to the crisis.

The annual meeting of the district is to be held at St. George's-in-the-Borough on Saturday, July 1st.

A suggestion was made that the Guild should hold a monthly practice at St. George's (which is the headquarters of the Ladies' Guild) on the first Wednesday in every month.

The proposition having been enthusiastically received, Wednesday, March 1st, was chosen for the first practice, commencing at 7.30 p.m.

The members were asked to bear in mind that the annual general meeting of the Guild would be held at Ipswich on Saturday, July 8th.

Further ringing took place after the meeting, an outstanding item being an excellent course of Cambridge Major rung entirely by ladies.

WEDDING BELLS.

On January 28th, at the Parish Church, Whitbourne, Herefordshire, the wedding took place of Mr. E. C. Davis and Miss Eleanor Jones. Mr. Davis is a member of the local band, and a quarter-peal of Doubles in three methods, Plain Bob, Canterbury and Grandsire, was rung in 44 minutes by J. H. Griffiths 1, Fred Davis 2, E. Jones 3, G. Jones 4, R. J. Caswell 5, W. Morris 6. The conductor was G. Soley, who was unable to take a rope. Afterwards the ringers were entertained by the bridal pair.

THE JOHNSON DINNER.

(Continued from previous page.)

as that. They were, he said, sometimes inclined to forget some of the services rendered week by week by various men in the Exercise, for the very reason that they went on so regularly that they got used to them. The success of a newspaper depended entirely upon its editor, and in that respect they were fortunate in having a man such as Mr. Goldsmith as Editor of 'The Ringing World.' He had been carrying on for nearly 28 years, and during that time he had written between 1,400 and 1,500 leading articles. They must realise that it was a colossal task to find something fresh to talk about every week concerning one subject over so long a period. They hoped Mr. Goldsmith would continue as editor for at least another 28 years (laughter and applause).

Mr. Goldsmith acknowledged the kind reception given to the toast, and Mr. W. C. Dowding then submitted 'The Chairman' in a felicitous speech. He spoke of the pleasure it gave them all to see Canon Blofeld in the chair on that occasion; it was not only a compliment to him, but it was a compliment to the Guild to have him in that position. As their chairman he had upheld the traditions of many distinguished predecessors (applause). Mr. Dowding spoke of the hospitality which the Guild always received when they visited Edgbaston and of the homely addresses which they received on those occasions from Canon Blofeld. He hoped he would be spared for many years to carry on his good work at Edgbaston Parish Church and to join them at that annual dinner (applause).

The toast was drunk with musical honours, and the Chairman having briefly replied, the proceedings terminated with the National Anthem.

The musical items of the evening were provided by the Cathedral Quartet, whose singing was greatly enjoyed and warmly applauded.

Many of the visitors who stayed the night took part in ringing at various churches on Sunday, and there was at mid-day a 'gathering of the clans' at the headquarters, the Tamworth Arms, where St. Martin's Guild were the hosts. Altogether the week-end furnished another of the happy reunions characteristic of this annual commemoration.

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 4s. per quarter.

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—A general meeting will be held at Acton on Sat., March 4th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service, with address by the Rector 4.45. Tea 5.30. All information and alterations for Annual Report should be sent to me without delay.—C. T. Coles, Gen. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4. Tel. Larkswood 1959.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. The next meeting will be held at Rishton on Saturday, March 4th. As there is a committee meeting the same day, there will not be any business done by the branch.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Newport Pagnell on Saturday, March 4th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Those requiring tea please send names in good time. A good attendance desired. All ringers welcome.—Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Southwark Cathedral on March 4th. Bells (12) available from 3 p.m. Evensong at 5 p.m. Tea (1s. per head) at The Chapter House, St. Thomas' Street, S.E.1, followed by meeting.—E. G. Talbot, Hon. Sec., 53, Birchwood Avenue, Wallington, Surrey.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Bedford District.—A meeting of this district will be held at Bromham on Saturday, March 4th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Tea at 5. You will be very welcome. All members please attend. Important business. — Frank C. Tysoe, Dis. Sec., 10, Grange Road, Bromham, Bedford.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—Annual meeting will be held at Dunstable on Saturday, March 4th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea and business at 5 p.m. All welcome.—F. J. Plummer, Dis. Sec., Leighton Buzzard.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Poolstock on Saturday, March 4th. Bells available from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea, which will be free, in School at 5 p.m., for which please notify Mr. A. Parker, 89, Barnsley Street, Wigan.—S. Forshaw, 55, Poolstock, Wigan.

REWE CHURCH, NEAR EXETER.—Ring of five, tenor 9¼ cwt. Bells rehung with new gudgeons and ball bearings and framework strengthened by Gillett and Johnston, Ltd. Re-dedication by the Lord Bishop of Crediton, Saturday, March 4th, at 3 p.m.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Service ringing, St. Clement Danes, Strand, March 5th, 10 a.m. Practices: St. Clement Danes, March 13th and 27th, at 7.30 p.m., and St. Mary's, Lambeth, March 28th, at 8 p.m.—T. W. Taffender, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for March: Southwark Cathedral, 7th; St. Clement Danes, 9th; *St. Mary-le-Bow, 14th; St. Magnus-the-Martyr, 16th and 30th; St. Giles', Cripplegate, 21st; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 23rd; *St. Paul's Cathedral, 28th. * Business meeting afterwards. All at 7.30, except St. Andrew's, 8.—A. B. Peck, Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at St Helens Parish Church (10 bells) on Saturday, Mar. 11th. The tower will be open at 2.30 p.m. Service at 5 o'clock, followed by tea and meeting. A hearty invitation is extended to all ringers. Please send word for tea to Mr. A. Wallace, 6, Brookside Avenue, Eccleston, St. Helens.—G. R. Newton, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. John's Church, Blackpool, on March 11th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Business meeting 5.30. All ringers welcomed.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec., Fylde.

LADIES' GUILD.—Northern District. — A meeting will be held at Norbury Parish Church, Hazel Grove, near Stockport, on Saturday, March 11th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names to Mrs. Fearnley, 7, Vernon Street, Hazel Grove, Cheshire. All ringers welcome. — E. Dorice Kelly, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch will be held at Peneortham on Saturday, March 11th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Bells (8). A good attendance is requested.—A. Blogg, Branch Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A joint meeting of the Western Division and Huddersfield District Association will be held at St. Mary's, Elland, on Saturday, March 11th. Bells (8) available from 2 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea (1s.) 5.15 p.m., followed by business meeting — election of officers, etc. Names for tea to Mr. F. Linfoot, 2, Turnpike Street, Elland, by Thursday, March 9th. All welcome.—Frank Rayment, Dis. Sec., Bramley.

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bitton on Saturday, March 11th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Will those requiring tea please let me know by March 8th?—N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Weston, Bath.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—A ringing meeting will be held at South Normanton on Saturday, March 11th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock. Committee meeting at 5.45. Please send numbers requiring tea to me by Thursday, March 9th.—J. W. England, 49, The Common, South Normanton.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch, Newport Pagnell Deanery.—A meeting at Lathbury (5 bells) on Saturday, March 11th. Ring up 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 4.45.—Rev. J. F. Amies, Ravenstone Vicarage, Olney, Bucks.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Ardingly (6 bells) on Saturday, March 11th. Tower open 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Everybody welcome. Please notify by the Wednesday previous if tea is required.—B. Saunders, 18, New Road, Ridgewood, Uckfield, Sussex.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Rodbourne Cheney on Saturday, March 11th. Light six. Usual arrangements.—W. B. Kynaston, 3, Dumbarton Terrace, Victoria Road, Swindon, Wilts.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch. — The branch will meet at Watlington on Saturday, March 11th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

'TATER PIE AND BELLRINGING for all those who like it at Christ Church, Bacup, on Saturday, March 11th. Bells at 3 p.m. Meeting during the evening. Send your names by Thursday, March 9th, to Mr. A. Mills, 1, Stanley Mount, Lane Head, Bacup. A good turn-up requested.—J. Porter, Hon. Branch Sec., Lancs. Association.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting is at Barnby-in-the-Willows, near Newark (6 bells, tenor 6½ cwt.), on Saturday, March 11th. Look up your methods and then come and ring them, but send a postcard for tea before March 9th to R. Towler, 69, Ordsall Road, Retford.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting of the Southern District will be held at Heighington on Saturday, March 11th. Bells (6) available 2.30 p.m. Ringers requiring tea please notify me by 9th inst. Note, catering limited.—J. T. Titt, Hon. Dis. Sec., 54, Newlands Road, Darlington.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Kirkthorpe, near Wakefield, on Saturday, March 11th. Bells (6) ready 2.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. W. Riley, 12, Woodland Avenue, Kirkthorpe, not later than Wednesday, March 8th. Buses, Wakefield to Normanton, pass the church. All are welcome.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., Rock Cottages, Shafton, nr. Barnsley.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The annual general meeting will be held at St. Marie's Church, Norfolk Row, Sheffield, on Saturday, March 11th. Bells (8) ready 2.30 p.m. Committee meeting 4 p.m. Business meeting 5 p.m. Tea can be had at the numerous cafes close by the church. All welcome.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 13, St. Ronans Road, Sheffield 7.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION—Hinckley District.—The next ringing meeting will be held at Barwell on Saturday, March 11th. Usual times for ringing. Service at 4.30, followed by tea at 5. Names for tea should be sent to Mr. R. Belton, Westgate, Hinckley Road, Barwell, not later than Friday, March 10th. Subscriptions for 1939 are due.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

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GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wotton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Chipping Sodbury on March 11th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5 p.m.—W. J. Smith, 130, Station Road, Yate, Bristol.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Thrapston Branch.—A practice meeting will be held at Titchmarsh (8 bells) on Saturday, March 11th, at 6 p.m. All welcome.—W. R. Butcher, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Kendal, on Saturday, March 11th. Bells (10) available at 2.30 p.m. Mr. Woodhouse, of Sedbergh, will demonstrate his change-ringing machine in the Parish Hall from 3 to 4.30 p.m. Please notify Mr. L. Towney, 3, Charles Street, Kendal, for tea by Wednesday, March 8th. Meeting in the Parish Hall after tea. All visitors welcome.—N. M. Newby, Hon. Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Northill, on Saturday, March 11th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers will be welcome. Please come. A good company is requested.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—A meeting will be held at Berkhampstead on Saturday, March 11th. Bells available 3 p.m.; service 5 p.m., followed by tea. Notifications for tea must reach me not later than Thursday next, 9th inst.—Walter Ayre, Hon. Sec., Leverstock Green.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Central Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Quainton (5 bells) on Saturday, March 11th. Usual arrangements.—F. Gibbard, Hon. Sec., Winslow, Bucks.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Braunston (6) on Saturday, March 11th. Usual arrangements.—W. C. Moore, Braunston Road, Daventry, Northants.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Dorset Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Shillingstone, Sat., March 11th. Visitors welcome. Service 4.30 p.m. Bells available at Childe Okeford and Okeford Fitzpaine.—W. Uphill, Hon. Sec., Stour Provost Rectory.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Next meeting will be held at Oldham Parish Church on March 11th. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Short service 4.15 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. All ringers and friends welcome.—Ivan Kay, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. James', Rusholme, Manchester, on Saturday afternoon, March 18th. Tower open for ringing at 6 o'clock. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—Joseph H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at St. Andrew's, Clevedon, on Saturday, March 18th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Divine Service, 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock, with business meeting to follow.—Percy G. Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual general committee meeting will be held at Reading on Saturday, March 18th, at 3.15 p.m., in St. Lawrence's Hall, Abbey Street.—Richard T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Stephen's, Eastwood, near Rotherham, on Saturday, March 18th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Short service at 4.30 p.m. Tea in the Church Hall at 5 p.m. at 1s. per head, followed by business meeting. Those requiring tea, please notify Mr. S. Briggs, Clinton, Gerard Road, Rotherham. Please make an effort to attend this, the most important meeting of the year, and so make it a success. A hearty welcome is extended to all.—J. J. L. Gilbert, Hon. Dis. Sec.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—The annual dinner will take place on Saturday, March 18th, at 6.30 p.m., at the Old Bell Restaurant, Holborn, E.C. Tickets, price 6s. each, may be obtained from either of the following: Messrs. T. Bevan, J. Cornford, G. H. Cross, T. H. Francis, G. Gilbert, R. Heazell, J. Parker, G. Radley, A. H. Pulling, N. Summerhayes or the secretary. Arrangements for ringing will be announced later.—G. W. Steere, Sec., 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. Mary's Church, Finchley, on Saturday, March 18th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea to follow, for which please notify me by March 13th. The method for special attention is Double Court Minor; other methods will be rung as required. Subscriptions for 1939 are now due.—T. J. Lock, Hon. Dis. Sec., 57, Holloways Lane, North Mimms, Herts.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Goole on Saturday, March 18th. Bells (8) available from 2 o'clock. Service in church 4.15 p.m. Tea, 1s. 6d. per head, in Hockforth's Cafe. Names, please, to Mr. T. J. Twivey Wild, 38, Hilda Street, Goole, by previous Thursday. Business meeting for election of officers, etc., after tea. All welcome.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Ebor Street, Selby.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A meeting will be held at Worplesdon on Saturday, March 18th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service, tea and meeting as usual. Please do not fail to send numbers for tea to Mr. S. Petter, The Laurels, Fox Corner, Worplesdon, Surrey.—W. F. J. Cope, Hon. Sec.

STANFORD-LE-HOPE, ESSEX.—The new ring of eight bells, installed by John Taylor and Co., will be dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Chelmsford on Saturday, March 18th, at 3 p.m. All ringers heartily welcome. Tea provided at 4.30 for those notifying Mr. A. D. Howell, 6, Copland Terrace, Stanford-le-Hope, not later than March 14th. Bells available until 7.30 p.m.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — The annual general meeting will be held at Erith on Easter Monday next. Service in the Parish Church of St. John at noon, followed by luncheon (free to practising members, 2s. others). Business meeting follows for the election of officers and Central Council representatives (4). Nominations must reach me by March 27th. New rule to be submitted. Further particulars later.—Fred M. Mitchell, Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

EGHAM, SURREY.—On Sunday, February 26th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: A. Clark 1, J. B. Hessey 2, E. Armstrong 3, L. E. Scammell 4, E. Morey (first quarter-peal of Grandsire as conductor) 5, H. G. Andrews 6, W. Peck 7, J. Greenough 8.

COLCHESTER BELLS RESTORED.

The Bishop of Chelmsford (the Rt. Rev. H. A. Wilson) performed the rededication ceremony of the bells of St. Peter's, Colchester, after restoration, on Tuesday evening, February 21st. The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. R. B. Bertin), assisted by the Rev. J. H. Hickinbotham.

After the dedication, the bells were rung, previous to the address, by the Bishop, who congratulated the parish in having raised the necessary £275 for the renovation. Thanks were, he said, also due to another member of the congregation for having the belfry and approach cleaned up and painted.

The bells have been entirely refitted with iron stocks and hung on ball bearings. After the ceremony, touches of Bob Major, Double Norwich, Cambridge and Superlative were rung by the local company: Messrs. F. L. Bumpstead, G. Boyden, G. Birch, R. Cadamy, W. Chalk, E. P. Duffield, V. Kerridge, H. T. Pye and G. Rashbrook, assisted by the following visitors: W. J. Nevard, E. E. Johnson, C. Snowden and Miss Hilda Snowden (secretary of the Northern Division of the Essex Association). Messrs. Bumpstead, Birch, Chalk, Pye and Nevard were present 25 years ago when the new bells were installed.

CAPTAIN AND STEEPLEKEEPER FOR FORTY YEARS.

DEATH OF MR. JOHN SUMPTER, OF BARNET.

Yet another veteran has passed on in the person of Mr. John Sumpter, captain and steeplekeeper at Barnet Parish Church for 40 years, and a member of the Parish Church Guild for over 50 years. Prior to this he was a member of the Hadley Church band.

Mr. Sumpter was one of the original members of the old North-East Middlesex Society, which afterwards formed part of the Middlesex County Association. He was also a member of the Hertford County Association and Royal Cumberland Youths.

Of a very genial disposition, he was well known to many of the older generation of ringers.

The funeral, which took place at Barnet on Monday, February 6th, was attended by many ringing friends, including Mr. G. Lucas, who is also one of the original Middlesex members, and past and present members of the Hadley and Barnet bands, also Mr. and Mrs. Norman Tomlinson, of Southgate.

On Sunday, February 5th, a quarter-peal was rung with the bells half-muffled by the Barnet band as a last tribute of affection and respect.

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SB

THE RINGING WORLD

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EDUCATE THE CLERGY.

Speaking at the annual meeting of the Surrey Association, at which he presided on Saturday, the Master (Mr. D. K. C. Birt) put in a word for the parsons, about whom ringers so frequently complain that they seldom visit the belfry. Mr. Birt has had a recent opportunity of addressing a Ruri-decanal Chapter with a view to enlisting the clergy of the district in the work of the ringers, and one result has been that the parsons, in their turn, had the chance of putting their side of the case. There was no lack among them of sympathetic interest for the ringers, but when they went into the belfry they feel themselves, as it were, strangers in a strange land. Mr. Birt made an appeal to ringers to add to the welcome given to the clergy a spice of enlightenment, so that they may know at least a little about what they see and hear in the belfry.

That is a reasonable request. It is difficult to become interested in something one does not understand, and if ringers want the clergy to do more than come among them and tell them what jolly good fellows they are, then it is certainly necessary that their visitors should be given some idea, not only of the ringers' difficulties about which they do not hesitate to unburden themselves when opportunity occurs, but of the rudiments of the art, and the many things which go to make up its attractiveness for those who share in it. A little helpful explanation of what is going on while ringing is in progress, given by the ringer best qualified for the purpose, might be the means of implanting a deeper interest in at least some of the clergy. Where, for propaganda purposes, members of the public have at some places been invited to the belfry to see the bells and the ringers in action, interest thus created has led to useful results in obtaining recruits. A proportion, at least, of the clergy who are similarly brought to the belfry might be expected eventually to take a practical part in the ringing. That would indeed be a valuable gain, but if it only leads to a greater sympathy with the ringers' activities and ambitions it would be something worth doing. Without some personal acquaintance with all that the art and the practice of ringing involves, however, no complete understanding is possible. As one simple illustration of the ignorance that exists among non-ringing parsons about the technical side of ringing, it can be asserted with some assurance, we think, that not one in ten has actually seen a bell while it is being rung, and the rest possibly have little more idea than the lay public of the mechanical side of bells in movement.

In these days we need not only to draw youth into the belfry but also to educate the parsons. The lack of co-

(Continued on page 150.)

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operation between the east end and the west end of the church, which we so often hear of, is not always all the fault of one side. There is a great deal in the point made by Mr. Birt, and when the clergy come into the belfry for anything longer than a 'flying' visit, every effort should be made to interest and instruct them if their knowledge of ringing, as so many of them often confess, is nil. Indeed, would it not be a good plan for the ringers at every church to invite their clergy to spend a practice night with them—a carefully planned practice night, when perhaps the whole gamut of a ringer's education could be explained and demonstrated? Such an evening, we are sure, would be well spent both by the ringers and the parson.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

(ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, March 4, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER	...*Treble*	ARTHUR V. PEARSON	7
JOHN W. WARD	2	GEORGE A. FLEMING	8
WILLIAM P. GARRETT... ...	3	WILLIAM J. G. BROWN ...	9
HOBART E. SMITH	4	FREDERICK J. SMITH	10
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY	5	GEORGE E. SYMONDS	11
CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE ...	6	CECIL W. PIPE	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

TEN BELL PEALS.

HASLEMERE, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 4, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 6 lb. in F sharp.

ARTHUR J. BARTLETT	...*Treble*	WILLIAM J. ROBINSON ...	6
ALFRED H. PULLING	2	REV. JOHN P. PELLOE... ...	7
*FREDERICK BOWDEN	3	MAURICE SMITHER	8
DOUGLAS R. HAYES	4	JOHN H. B. HESSE	9
ERNEST J. AYLIFFE	5	HARRY MULLARD	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

* First peal of Stedman Caters.

QUEX PARK, BIRCHINGTON, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 4, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE WATERLOO TOWER,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

ALBERT E. JARMAN ...	...*Treble*	FREDERICK R. WELLER ...	6
JOSEPH WAGHORN	2	STANLEY J. GEE	7
JABEZ WALTER	3	HORACE WHITEHEAD	8
LESLIE A. PORRITT	4	WALTER H. DOBBIE	9
THOMAS CULLINGWORTH ...	5	BERTRAM J. LUCK... ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by W. H. BARBER. Conducted by JOSEPH WAGHORN.

First peal of Bob Royal by all the band except W. H. Dobbie. First peal of Royal as conductor.

APPLETON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

FREDERICK S. WHITE	...*Treble*	ARTHUR H. WHITE	6
*FRANCIS A. WHITE	2	CUTHBERT G. WHITE	7
FREDERICK C. WHITE ...	3	GEORGE HOLIFIELD	8
HENRY C. WHITE	4	RICHARD WHITE	9
JAMES W. WILKINS	5	FRED WHITE...	...*Tenor*

Composed by the late G. HOLIFIELD. Conducted by G. HOLIFIELD

* First peal of Caters 'inside.' Rung on the 121st anniversary of the opening of the bells.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BROADSTAIRS, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER, THANET.
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt.

ERNEST S. BRISTOW	...*Treble*	EDWARD F. SPICKETT	5
LESLIE A. PORRITT	2	WILLIAM J. FAIRBEARD	6
STANLEY J. GEE	3	ALBERT E. JARMAN	7
JOSEPH WAGHORN	4	THOMAS CULLINGWORTH	*Tenor*

Composed by GEORGE LEWIS. Conducted by T. CULLINGWORTH.

First peal of Kent Treble Bob Major by all except the ringer of the 4th. First peal of Treble Bob as conductor.

NOTTINGHAM.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 37 cwt.

RALPH NARBOROUGH	...*Treble*	FREDERICK A. SALTER	5
*MISS DOROTHY VESSEY	2	J. ALFRED BARRATT	6
†KENNETH W. MAYER	3	JACK L. MILLHOUSE	7
JOHN E. HOBBS	4	WALTER NICKOLS	*Tenor*

Conducted by J. A. BARRATT.

* First peal in the method. † First peal in the method 'inside.'

WHISTON, YORKSHIRE.
THE SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 14½ cwt.

MRS. J. E. TURLEY	...*Treble*	JOHN H. BROTHWELL	5
HAROLD CHANT	2	TOM BROTHWELL	6
*MISS ELSIE BROTHWELL	3	JOHN E. TURLEY	7
JACK BROTHWELL	4	NORMAN CHADDOCK	*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by NORMAN CHADDOCK.

* First peal.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tuesday, February 28, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PITSTOW'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 10 cwt.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE	...*Treble*	THOMAS COLLINS	5
ERNEST C. S. TURNER	2	†JOHN H. BOTHAM	6
ERIC B. HARTLEY	3	JAMES BENNETT	7
*MRS. J. H. BOTHAM	4	HARRY KILBY	*Tenor*

Conducted by J. BENNETT.

* First peal of Stedman Triples. † First peal in the method.

NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.
On Thursday, March 2, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
WASHBROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTAN'S FOUR-PART.
Tenor 14½ cwt. in E.

RONALD W. SWANN	...*Treble*	JAMES DRAYCOTT	5
BENJAMIN BEBBE	2	ALFRED BALLARD	6
THOMAS W. CHAPMAN	3	FRANK K. MEASURES	7
W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON	4	EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD	*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK K. MEASURES.

GAWSWORTH, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
(MACCLESFIELD BRANCH.)
On Thursday, March 2, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 12½ cwt.

WILLIAM GAVES	...*Treble*	JACK TIPPER	5
JOSEPH WHITTAKER	2	*T. BRADSHAW KNIGHT	6
*HARRY FARRER	3	JOHN WORTH	7
*ERNEST HAGUE	4	JACK WADMSLEY	*Tenor*

Composed by J. REEVES. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

* First peal in the method at first attempt.

BUSHEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, March 2, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt.

HENRY HODGETTS	...*Treble*	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW	5
*MRS. JOHN THOMAS	2	EDWIN JENNINGS	6
JOHN THOMAS	3	HAROLD G. CASHMORE	7
FRANCIS KIRK	4	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT	*Tenor*

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

* First peal in the method.

MARKET DRAYTON, SHROPSHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, March 4, 1939, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 17½ cwt.

WILLIAM J. CHESTER	...*Treble*	GEORGE A. PACKER	5
FREDERICK PRICE	2	RICHARD D. LANGFORD	6
THOMAS PRICE	3	EDWARD V. RODENHURST	7
HARRY F. HOLDING	4	ARTHUR PRITCHARD	*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.

An 'In memoriam' peal for the composer.

SUTTON-ON-TRENT, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF ERIN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 12½ cwt. (approx.).

MISS KATH BURCHNALL	...*Treble*	EDWARD FOSTER	5
MISS GRACE BURCHNALL	2	RALPH NARBOROUGH	6
GEORGE E. FOSTER	3	J. FREDERICK MILNER	7
ARTHUR J. CHAMBERLAIN	4	HAROLD DENMAN	*Tenor*

Composed by JOSEPH W. PARKER. Conducted by J. F. MILNER.

First peal in the method by all, and first in the county, and first in the method for the association.

BINGLEY, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.)
On Saturday, March 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lb. in F.

WILLIAM WOODHEAD	...*Treble*	KENNETH SIMPSON	5
MISS MARY WHITE	2	GEORGE ROBINSON	6
HERBERT DAVENPORT	3	FREDERICK SEAGER	7
HARRY DAVISON	4	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS	*Tenor*

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by LESLIE W. G. MORRIS.

Rung to commemorate the golden jubilee of the Leeds and District Society. First peal in the method on the bells.

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BURLEY, LEEDS, YORKSHIRE.
THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.
On Saturday, March 4, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5168 CHANGES;
Tenor 7¾ cwt.

SIDNEY BARRON, Vice-President	...Treble
PERCY J. JOHNSON, Ex-President	2
THOMAS W. STRANGEWAY, Vice-President	3
WILLIAM H. SENIOR, Vice-President and Ex-President	4
WILLIAM BARTON, Ex-Secretary	5
REV. J. H. B. ANDREWS, President	6
HARRY LOFTHOUSE, Secretary	7
LEONARD DRAKE, Ringing Master	...Tenor

Composed by TOM LOCKWOOD (first President of the Association).
Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON.

Specially arranged and rung by past and present officers to celebrate the jubilee of the Leeds and District Society, which was founded in March, 1889. This peal was also rung under the auspices of the Yorkshire Association.

BROADCLYST, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
On Saturday, March 4, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 21 cwt.

AUBREY L. BENNETT ...Treble	ERNEST J. TAYLOR ... 5
EDWARD W. BIFFEN ... 2	ALFRED G. BETTS ... 6
HENRY C. COLLYER ... 3	CHRISTOPHER R. WALKER ... 7
THOMAS G. MYERS ... 4	ALFRED W. MYERS ...Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS G. MYERS.

CRAYFORD, KENT.
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
On Saturday, March 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 12¾ cwt.

*KENNETH B. JONES ...Treble	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ... 5
THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. 2	ERNEST H. OXENHAM ... 6
FREDERICK M. MITCHELL 3	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. 7
HARRY HOSKINS... ... 4	DEREK M. SHARP... ...Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.
* First attempt for a peal.

WIDFORD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF CAM TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

WILLIAM PERRY ...Treble	FRANK C. MAY ... 5
FRANK B. LUFKIN... 2	ALBERT D. NORTH ... 6
WILLIAM S. MAY... 3	ARTHUR HUBBLE ... 7
GERALD FROST ... 4	HORACE J. MANSFIELD ...Tenor

Composed by H. HUBBARD. Conducted by F. B. LUFKIN.

SIX BELL PEALS.

BIDDENHAM, BEDS.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

REGINALD WEST ...Treble	HENRY TYSOE ... 4
REGINALD BROCKET ... 2	HENRY W. GAYTON ... 5
MISS EVELYN STEEL ... 3	PEARL INSKIP... ...Tenor

Conducted by PEARL INSKIP.

BELL ROPES
MADE FROM ITALIAN HEMP, OR ITALIAN FLAX.
SOFT AND PLIABLE IN HAND. ALL ROPES SENT CARRIAGE PAID AND ON APPROVAL.
Cheap Quotations. Established 150 years. 'Phone 203.
DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

ROCESTER, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being three 720's of Plain Bob and two each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, each called differently. Tenor 13½ cwt.

EDWARD STEELE ...Treble	ARTHUR W. HALL ... 4
ALAN D. STEEL ... 2	CHARLES H. PAGE ... 5
JOHN G. CARTLIDGE ... 3	WILLIAM CARNWELL ... 6
WILLIAM PERKINS ...Tenor	

Conducted by WILLIAM CARNWELL.

STANTON, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one extent of Cambridge Surprise, one of Double Bob, two of Plain Bob, one of Oxford and two of Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 11¼ cwt.

*A. SHEPPARD ...Treble	†G. RIGBY ... 4
†P. L. PARROTT ... 2	W. R. DRAGE ... 5
†W. VARNHAM ... 3	‡H. TURNER ...Tenor

Conducted by H. TURNER.

* First peal, at first attempt. † First peal in five methods. ‡ First peal as conductor.

BONVILSTON, GLAM.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven 720's called differently. Tenor 12 cwt.

*EDWARD THOMAS ...Treble	ERNEST STITCH ... 4
*ALFRED HANNINGTON ... 2	*ROBERT T. COLES ... 5
TREVOR M. RODERICK ... 3	JOHN PHILLIPS ...Tenor

Conducted by JOHN PHILLIPS.

* First peal of Bob Minor.

CHIDDINGLY, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH.
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 12 six-scores of Plain Bob (four callings) and 30 of Grandsire (ten callings). Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

CHARLES A. BASSETT ...Treble	FRANK A. HICKS... ... 4
*GEORGE BEENEY ... 2	WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE 5
ARTHUR F. LOWRY ... 3	†ERNEST A. BAKER ...Tenor

Conducted by W. A. KITCHENSIDE.

* First peal in two methods. † First peal.

ASHBRITTLE, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 40 six-scores and one Pitman's 240 (11 callings). Tenor 9 cwt.

CYRIL J. STEVENS ...Treble	STANLEY N. BRISTOW ... 4
WALTER STEVENS ... 2	CLAUDE W. J. TARR ... 5
FREDERICK ALDERMAN ... 3	GEORGE ALDERMAN ...Tenor

Conducted by F. ALDERMAN.

KINGSTON-ON-SOAR, NOTTS.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
(LOUGHBOROUGH DISTRICT.)
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WINIFRED,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two extents of Oxford Treble Bob, two of Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

*SIDNEY ADAMS ...Treble	†WILLIAM T. GOADBY ... 4
FELIX J. SUTTON ... 2	*CHARLES TOWERS ... 5
JOHN W. BOOTH... ... 3	ARTHUR E. ROWLEY ...Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR E. ROWLEY.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal, including Treble Bob methods. First peal of Minor on the bells. Arranged as a birthday compliment to Mr. J. W. Booth.

COLESHILL, BERKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 6 cwt. (approx.).

C. J. GARDINER ... ...*Treble*		*J. V. JONES 4	
F. WHEELER... 2		H. A. EDWARDS 5	
H. E. TAYLOR 3		W. W. T. DANIELLS ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by C. J. GARDINER.

* First peal on an 'inside' bell. First known peal on the bells. Rung in memory of the late Hon. Mrs. Pleydell Bouverie.

CHALGROVE, OXON.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Double Court, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Single Oxford, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 16¼ cwt. in F.

H. WILLIAM BARRETT ...*Treble*		WILLIAM HENLEY 4	
BRYAN O'NEILL 2		GEORGE GILBERT... 5	
WILLIAM WELLING 3		TONY PRICE ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by TONY PRICE.

First peal on the bells.

TEMPSFORD, BEDS.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, March 1, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 9¾ cwt.

*JOHN REAM .. ..*Treble*		ANDREW C. SINFIELD 4	
HUGH E. HARDING 2		C. HENRY HARDING 5	
REGINALD J. HOUGHTON ... 3		BRYAN F. SIMS ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by C. H. HARDING.

* First peal. Rung on St. David's Day as a compliment to the new Rector, the Rev. A. Jones Phillips.

BARTON STACEY, HANTS.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thursday, March 2, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different extents. Tenor 9 cwt.

*GEORGE BROWN... ... ...*Treble*		*JOHN HOLLOWAY 4	
CHARLES BALL 2		JAMES HOLLOWAY 5	
*FRANK TONGE 3		LESLIE TRICKEY ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by LESLIE TRICKEY.

* First peal in the method. First attempt as conductor. Rung as a fifth anniversary for the restoration of the bells.

HILLFARRENCE, TAUNTON, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 10 cwt.

*RICHARD J. BISHOP ... ...*Treble*		CYRIL J. STEVENS 4	
STANLEY BRISTOW 2		†WILLIAM C. NEWBERRY ... 5	
CLAUDE W. J. TARR 3		ERNEST LOCK ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by C. W. J. TARR.

* First peal. † First peal on an 'inside' bell.

BOSLEY, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, March 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 5 cwt. 2 qr. 22 lb.

JOHN W. L. SLACK ... ...*Treble*		ERNEST HAGUE 4	
*ARTHUR CHEERS... 2		JOHN WORTH 5	
†REV. FRANK BONNER ... 3		JOSEPH J. WHITTAKER... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

* First peal in the method away from treble. † First peal in the method.

HORBURY, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
AND THE BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.
On Saturday, March 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND LEONARD,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Capel, London Scholars' Pleasure, College Exercise, Kingston, Sandal, Oxford and Kent.
Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb. in F sharp.

ROLAND HILL ... ...*Treble*		ERNEST BROOKES 4	
HAROLD CHANT 2		ARTHUR GILL 5	
J. WILLIAM MOXON 3		DANIEL SMITH ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by D. SMITH.

BELCHAMP ST. PAUL'S, ESSEX.
THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
(ST. ANDREW'S GUILD, EARLS COLNE.)
On Sunday, March 5, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF SPLICED MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven extents in 30 methods: (1) Cumberland, Ennerdale, Horsmonden and Killarney; (2) Windermere and Frodsham; (3) London Bob, Lytham Pleasure, Thelwall, Double Oxford, College Single, Wavertree, Childwall and St. Clement's; (4) Plain Bob, Fulbeck, Double Bob, Reverse Bob and Canterbury Pleasure; (5) Court Bob, Oxford Bob, Hereward and Double Court; (6) Capel, Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston and Oxford Treble Bob; (7) Cambridge and Primrose Surprise. Tenor 12 cwt.

*RONALD SUCKLING ... ...*Treble*		ALBERT L. DIXEY... 4	
VICTOR MORLEY... 2		ALEC M. GENERY... 5	
REGINALD G. SIMMONDS ... 3		RALPH BIRD ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by RALPH BIRD.

* First peal in 30 methods. Rung half-muffled as a mark of respect to five parishioners who have died recently.

HANDBELL PEAL.

BUSHEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, March 3, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE ROYAL MASONIC JUNIOR SCHOOL,
A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor, size 18 in G.

HENRY HODGETTS 1-2		HAROLD G. CASHMORE ... 5-6	
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY 3-4		FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW ... 7-8	

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.
Umpire—Edwin Jennings.

NORTH STAFFS ASSOCIATION.
DINNER TO BE HELD.

A meeting of the North Staffordshire Association was held at Fenton on Saturday, March 4th, when a company of 35 were present from Burslem, Cheadle, Draycott, Kingsley, Longton, Leek, Fenton, Newcastle, Stoke-on-Trent, Stone, Stafford and Wolstanton. The ringers were welcomed to Fenton by the Rev. N. Turner (curate) on behalf of the Vicar (the Rev. J. Howse), who attended later.

Mr. A. W. Hall proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar and ringers of Fenton for their welcome and hospitality. This was supported by Mr. A. D. Steel and accorded unanimously.

A letter of apology was received from Mr. E. A. Sherratt (leader of Fenton ringers), who is ill in the North Staffordshire Royal Infirmary. He stated that May 4th would be the 40th anniversary of the opening of the bells at Fenton, and this was the first time he had missed a meeting there.

It was decided to write to Mr. Sherratt wishing him a speedy recovery.

The meeting that should have taken place at Wolstanton on April 15th has been cancelled.

A committee meeting was held after tea, with Mr. A. W. Hall in the chair, supported by Mr. Andrew Thompson (hon. secretary).

A report of the Dinner Committee was read by the secretary and unanimously adopted. As a result the dinner will be held at the George Hotel on Saturday, April 15th, at 6.30.

It was decided that a grant be made to the restoration fund at Cheadle R.C. Church, where the bells are being rehung and two more being added. The sum of three guineas was voted.

COLLEGE STUDENTS' FIRST QUARTER-PEAL.

At St. Thomas' Church, Exeter, on Sunday, February 12th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: Arthur E. Hall 1, John Hosgood 2, Stuart Telford 3, Clifford A. Vessey 4, Arthur L. Truman 5, Reginald Truman 6, Edward W. Biffin (conductor) 7, Frank Wills 8. First quarter-peal for ringers of 1 and 3, who, together with Mr. Vessey, are from St. Luke's College.

CORNWALL'S HEAVIEST SIX INCREASED TO EIGHT.

PROBUS BELLS RESTORED.

A complete restoration scheme has been carried out in the tower of Probus Parish Church. For many years this fine tower, the highest in Cornwall (apart from the Cathedral spires) and the most magnificent, could boast of possessing the heaviest ring of six in the county. The tenor weighed 20 cwt. 3 qr. 10 lb., but also for many years the ringing conditions were bad. Things got gradually worse, and eventually it became dangerous to ring at least one of the bells. Seven years ago, in 1932, a meeting of the Truro Branch of the Diocesan Guild was held at Probus, and the Vicar (the Rev. T. G. Hammond) promised then that something would eventually be done to the bells, but with other things needed in the church it was a big undertaking to set out to raise nearly £800. But this promise has now been kept and within seven months £780 has been raised and only about £30 is still needed. The Vicar himself has given a generous lead, for the new treble has been given by him and the two churchwardens, and the new second in memory of Mr. F. Burnard-Lewman, a late headmaster of Probus School, by old boys of the school, to increase the peal to eight. Unfortunately the old fifth was found to be cracked and had to be re-cast, but the whole of the work has been carried out by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, in their usual efficient manner. They have hung the bells in a complete new metal frame with entirely new fittings.



THE FINE TOWER AT PROBUS.

The work was dedicated to the glory of God on Saturday, February 25th, by the Bishop of Truro (the Rt. Rev. J. W. Hunkin), who, in his sermon, pointed out that bells were a part of the equipment of God's house. In Probus, he said, they had a great heritage in their parish church, and every church of this greatness should have a very fine peal of bells.

The particulars of the bells are as follows:—

Treble.—Taylor, 1938, 5 cwt. Ad majorem Dei gloriam. T. G. Hammond. Vicar, and W. Mitchell and H. Tresawna, Churchwardens.

2nd.—Taylor, 1938, 7 cwt. In memoriam F. Burnard-Lewman. At quondam alumnis scholae Probi.

3rd.—Rudhall, 1721, 8 cwt. Mr. Wm. Smith, Vicar, 1721.

4th.—Rudhall, 1721, 9 cwt. Peace and good neighbourhood.

5th.—Rudhall, 1721, 11 cwt. Abr. Rudhall, of Gloucester, cast us all.

6th.—Pennington, 1783, 12 cwt. Samuel Seccombe, Vicar, Joseph Seccombe, William Kessell, C.W., I.P., C.P., 1783.

7th.—Rudhall, 1721, 16 cwt. God save the Church and King. Recast by John Taylor and Co., 1938.

Tenor.—Rudhall, 1721, 21 cwt. Mr. Stephen Harris, Mr. Edward Kemp, Churchwardens.

It is interesting to note that Probus Church is dedicated to SS. Probus and Grace, and the ninth bell at Truro Cathedral, only about four miles distant, is also dedicated and inscribed to these two saints. May Probus bells ring long, far and wide, and may God's blessing rest upon the parish. A noble work has been completed. A. S. R.

PROGRESS FROM CO-OPERATION.

The first quarter-peal of Triples on the bells at Ewhurst, Surrey, was rung on March 1st. The ring was augmented to eight about a year ago, and this quarter-peal of Grandsire was rung as the result of the co-operation between the Ewhurst and Cranleigh bands, who practise together, four members of each taking part: Miss Dorothy Denyer 1, T. W. Denyer 2, W. Beeson, sen. 3, H. Tidy 4, L. Warner 5, R. Whittington 6, H. Charman (conductor) 7, H. Hatherhall 8. It was the first quarter-peal by Miss Denyer and H. Hatherhall. The members of the Ewhurst band rang the treble, 2nd, 5th and tenor.

PEAL NOTES.

A BUSY BAND.

With less than nine weeks of this year of grace gone by, five peals have been rung in Bushey tower. They include the first peals of Queensbury, Zetland and Bedford Surprise, a peal in four Spliced Surprise methods and now a peal of Bristol. That's good going.

This is not all that members of this Hertfordshire band have done this year either. They have rung the first peal of Pinner Surprise at Pinner, and four of them have just rung a couple of handbell peals of Bristol Surprise within a week.

A peal of Bob Royal was rung at Quex Park, Kent, on Saturday. It is the first time a peal has been rung on these bells for a considerable period. There has been a ring of twelve bells in this tower, the private property of the owner of Quex Park, for over 100 years.

Mr. B. J. Luck, hon. secretary of the Canterbury District, who took part in the peal, has now rung peals of Plain Bob from Minor to Maximus. Eight others of the band also rang their first peal of Bob Royal.

The six ringers in the peal of Grandsire Doubles at Hillfarrence, Somerset, on Saturday, belong to six different parishes, and four of the band, the ringers of treble, 2nd, 5th and tenor, are captains in their respective towers.

St. David's Day was celebrated by a peal of Minor at Tempsford, Bedfordshire, as a compliment to the new Rector, the Rev. A. Jones Phillips, who is a native of Wales. With the exception of Mr. A. C. Sinfield, who belongs to Maulden, all the band are Sunday service ringers at Tempsford. It was Mr. Sinfield's 25th peal.

FIRST PEAL IN 210 YEARS.

The six bells at Chalgrove, Oxon, have hung in the tower for 210 years, and it was not until February 25th that a peal was rung on them. They were made into six by Rudhall in 1729.

The first peal of Minor on the bells at Kingston-on-Soar, Notts, which were augmented to six in commemoration of the Coronation of H.M. King George VI. and Queen Elizabeth, was rung on February 25th as a birthday compliment to Mr. J. W. Booth.

Another peal was rung on Saturday at Broadclyst, Devon, where the bells were recast and rehung just over twelve months ago. Two of the band were drawn from the Exeter District and the remainder were from South Devon, and they were congratulated on their excellent striking by various people after the peal was finished.

It was unfortunate that at the last minute Mr. Walter P. Whitehead was prevented through business reasons from taking part in the peal of Stedman Triples at Nuneaton on Mar. 2nd. However, thanks to Mr. Ronald Swann for filling the gap, a good peal was brought into rounds just in time for the Leicester party to catch their last train home. It was at Nuneaton that the conductor, Mr. Frank K. Measures, rang his first peal of Stedman.

At Barton Stacey, Hants, on March 2nd, four members of the band of Longparish rang their first peal of Minor. Their previous achievements have been limited to Doubles.

One of these ringers, Mr. F. Tonge, deserves an extra sized 'star.' Leaving work at 6 p.m., he cycled seven miles to the tower and rang in the peal minus his tea! Some of the pampered ones might take a lesson from this.

The bells at Barton Stacey were restored and a treble added on March 3rd, 1934, and this peal was rung to celebrate the fifth anniversary.

March the fourth is Appleton's great day, and on Saturday before the dinner, which always marks the occasion, a peal of Grandsire Caters was rung in which no fewer than eight members of the White family took part. It was the anniversary of the opening of the bells, which took place 121 years ago, and there have been Whites among the ringers ever since.

LEEDS SOCIETY'S JUBILEE.

The Leeds and District Society is this month celebrating its golden jubilee, and on Saturday two peals were rung in honour of the event. A peal of Bob Major at Burley was rung by past and present officers of the society, and Mr. William Barton, a former secretary, called a peal composed by the first president of the society, the late Mr. Tom Lockwood.

The second peal was rung at Bingley, Yorkshire, where the secretary of the Yorkshire Association called a peal of 5,024 Superlative (a musical composition by Mr. A. J. Pitman), which contains 216 7-8's at backstroke, the greatest number yet obtained in a peal of this length.

The composition has only once before been rung and that was in 1924 when Mr. Ernest Morris called it at Loughborough Bell Foundry.

Bingley, where the peal has now been repeated, was the first Yorkshire tower in which Mr. Leslie Morris rang, and this was his 50th peal as conductor for the Yorkshire Association and the first peal of Superlative on the bells.

The first peal of Erin Triples in Nottinghamshire and by the Midland Counties Association, as well as by all the band, was rung at Sutton-on-Trent on Saturday. Composed by Mr. Joseph W. Parker, of Sunderland, it contained 300 bobs and 170 singles and was rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Chamberlain, of Ashleigh, Maidstone, whose birthdays occur on March 2nd and 4th respectively.

The Rev. John P. Pelloe, who has recently come to London from Sunderland, took part on Saturday in a peal at Haslemere, Surrey, and all the band were very delighted to meet him for the first time since he took Holy Orders. Mr. Pelloe's father was formerly Rector of the neighbouring parish of Chiddingfold.

A peal in 30 Minor methods was rung at Belchamp St. Paul's, Essex, on Sunday. It was rung with the bells half-muffled as a last mark of respect to five parishioners who have recently died. Messrs. V. Morley and R. G. Simmonds rang their 25th peal together.

Mr. H. Rowley, a ringer at Horbury, Yorkshire, for nearly 50 years, has been chairman of the local Urban District Council for the last twelve months, and a peal of Treble Bob Minor was rung in his honour on Saturday and also as a compliment to Mr. R. Thickett, who has also been a ringer at Horbury for nearly half a century. The peal was D. Smith's and R. Hill's 25th together.

The peal of Bob Major at St. Mary's, Woolwich, on February 25th, was rung in 2 hours 57 minutes, not 2 hours 47 minutes as published.

The peal at Broadstairs, Kent, on February 25th, was a compliment to Mr. William J. Fairbeard on his retirement from the police, and to Mr. E. F. Spickett upon his joining the Force.

After having met short for a peal of Stedman Caters at Nottingham on Saturday week, eight of the party rang a peal of Grandsire Triples.

Another band that assembled for a peal of Treble Bob Major at Rocester, Staffordshire, on the same day, also found themselves short-handed and rang a peal of Minor in three methods instead. It was Mr. A. W. Hall's 50th peal.

The Sunday service band at the neighbouring church at Sandiacre rang a peal of Minor in five methods at Stanton, Derbyshire, on Saturday week.

Mr. John Brothwell on Feb. 25th rang his first peal with his two sons. This was at Whiston, Yorkshire. By a coincidence Miss Elsie Brothwell made her first attempt for a peal on this occasion, but she is no relation to her namesakes. She has been ringing only six months and is a pupil of the conductor, Mr. Norman Chaddock, and Mr. John Brothwell.

A peal of Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles was rung at Chiddingly (called by Sussex people Chiddin'lye) on Saturday week. It was the first peal on the bells for 19 years and a local man rang the tenor and his first peal. The dedication of the church is unknown.

The first known peal on the bells at Coleshill, Berks, is recorded this week. It was rung on Feb. 25th in memory of the late Hon. Mrs. Pleydell Bouverie. The bells were augmented to six by Mr. R. White, of Appleton.

The quickest peal on the bells at Ashbrittle, Somerset, was rung on Feb. 25th when 5,040 of Grandsire Doubles was brought round in 2 hours 39 minutes. The tenor is 9 cwt.

A VILLAGE RINGING FESTIVAL.

THE 'FOURTH OF MARCH' AT APPLETON.

The picturesque old village of Appleton, Berks, was a lively place on Saturday, March 4th, when the 121st anniversary of the bells was celebrated. A good peal of Grandsire Caters was rung in the morning by nine of the local band, only one visitor, Mr. J. W. Wilkins, of High Wycombe, being there in time to take a rope. The tower was, as usual, open all day, or, at least, until 4.30 p.m., when dinner was served in the Thatched Tavern. A company of forty-four sat down to an enjoyable meal, after which, the tables having been cleared, handbell ringing and harmony prevailed. The tune ringing by the seven brothers White was, as usual, much appreciated by the visitors, and it would be a difficult thing to say whether these items are enjoyed most by the old 'stagers' or by the people who visit Appleton for the first time. The great difference probably lies in the fact that the 'old 'uns' know they will be pleased and the newcomers are more or less filled with amazement that the source of such an entertainment can be kept alive in such a small place. Then some of the old Berkshire folk songs, never heard anywhere else, are not easily forgotten.

The Deputy Master of the Oxford Guild (the Rev. C. Elliot Wigg) proved a great success as chairman, helping the evening, as his predecessor, the late Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, used to do, by singing his song and telling some nice little yarns.

The usual loyal and patriotic toasts were drunk, and 'The Appleton Society' was, as usual, a popular toast, and ably responded to by Mr. Richard White, who said he was pleased to say things were going on the right way, as three of a younger generation had scored their first peals of Grandsire Triples and Caters within the last few weeks. They now had a band in the village who were beginning to ring Stedman Caters again, and it was hoped that it would be only a short time before peals of Stedman Caters were rung at Appleton again by the village ringers of the same quality as the Grandsire Caters of that morning.

On Sunday morning, just to show that all the ringing is not done on March 4th, a quarter peal of Grandsire Caters was called by the veteran, J. W. Wilkins, and for evensong another quarter-peal was called by G. Holifield, and a comment on the bells by one of the visitors was, 'Well, the more I hear them the better I like them.' One great pleasure to the writer was to ring two quarter-peals with Mr. S. F. White, who took part in his (the writer's) first peal of Stedman Caters 51 years ago, and who is now a young man of 79, and also to include in the band two of the coming members of the family aged 19 years. May the Whites and Holifields never fade!

John Taylor & Co.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Ringers who have enjoyed the tours organised in past years by the Bristol United Ringing Guilds will welcome the announcement in our notice columns, that another week is being arranged for August 14th to 19th next.

It was stated in our report of the Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner that Mr. William Short was Master of the Worcestershire Association. Mr. Short relinquished office at the last annual meeting of the association, and Mr. Sidney T. Holt is now Master and was present at the dinner in Birmingham.

Will all those who wish to attend the dinner of the Royal Cumberland Youths on March 18th, and who have not yet taken their tickets, kindly do so at the earliest opportunity? It should be noted that after March 13th all applications for tickets should be made only to the secretary, Mr. G. W. Steere, 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

GOOD FRIDAY RINGING.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I was very interested in the letter of your correspondent, Mr. Story, on the subject of ringing on Good Friday. I would like to say that his letter shows a deplorable lack of knowledge of the liturgical traditions of the Church.

If he will turn to any of the mediæval service books—the Sarum, Hereford or York Missals, etc.—he will find the following rubric after the 'Gloria in Excelsis' at the Mass of Maundy Thursday: 'During the Gloria, the bells are rung, and that being done they are silent until Holy Saturday, as is there noted,' while a similar rubric at the Holy Saturday Mass gives instructions for the bells to be rung again. (I quote from my copy of the Sarum Missal).

From the foregoing, it will be seen that any attempt to introduce Good Friday ringing would be to break one of the few remaining ancient traditions of the Anglican Church, and in my humble opinion the sound of bells on such a sacred day would completely mar its solemnity.

In the case of my own tower—St. Chad's (R.C.) Cathedral, Birmingham—the bells are completely silent after ringing for Vespers (evening service) on Palm Sunday until the morning of Easter Day.

While on the subject of bells in the ancient liturgies, a further note from the above quoted Sarum Missal may be of interest. At the Mass of Easter Day the rubric runs: 'Before the Mass, let all the bells be rung together in a clash, then shall the choir begin the Christ being raised, etc.' These three places are, I believe, the only ones where bells are specifically mentioned in the Church's Liturgy.

WILFRED E. BOX.

Harborne, Birmingham.

AFTER MANY YEARS.

MEMORIAL TABLET UNVEILED AT LEICESTER.

Prior to the usual practice on Friday evening, February 24th, at St. Margaret's, Leicester, a memorial peal tablet was dedicated by the Vicar (the Rev. E. N. Ducker, M.A.). This records the first peal of Maximus on the bells, first by all the band, in the diocese and by the Midland Counties Association. Although the peal was rung so long ago as 1922, and was a memorial to the late T. Henry Hardy, a chorister and ringer of this church, the tablet is a worthy record. It was unveiled by Ronald Hardy, the deceased's son, and nine of the original band were present. Afterwards touches of Stedman and Grandsire Cinques were rung, called by the conductor of the peal, Ernest Morris.

The tablet, supplied by Messrs. Caspar and Co., is a handsome addition to the ringing room. Beautifully executed in opalite, it bears the following record: 'The Midland Counties Association of Change Ringers. On Saturday, April 22nd, 1922, in 4 hours 6 minutes, a peal of 5,088 changes, Kent Treble Bob Maximus. H. Edward Norman treble, Harold J. Poole 2, John Oldham 3, Shirley Burton 4, Ernest Morris 5, Pryce Taylor 6, Arthur Cattell 7, A. James Harris 8, Harry Broughton 9, Josiah Morris 10, William Willson 11, Frederick H. Dexter tenor. Composed by Samuel Wood. Conducted by Ernest Morris. First peal of Maximus on these bells, by all the ringers, in this diocese, and by this association. Rung muffled to the memory of T. Henry Hardy, chorister and ringer of this church.'

Beneath the title of the association, which curves across the top of the tablet, are three bells suspended from the scroll, and the Christian symbol of the Cross.

MISINFORMED.

To the Editor

Dear Sir,—In reply to the letter that was published in last week's issue, may I take this opportunity of informing Mr. Perkins that the application to use the bells at St. Peter's, Belgrave, was made by me to the Rev. Llewellyn himself and in my name.

Had Mr. Perkins communicated with any one of the band that stood in the peal, instead of listening to people who were annoyed because they were not asked to ring in the peal, he would have received more truthful information.

The telephone call was made on the Friday previous, and not on the Sunday; in addition, one cannot understand why the name of the district secretary was ever mentioned in the matter.

From my end the subject is now closed.

W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—61.

JAMES C. E. SIMPSON.

Born at Wallasey, Cheshire, on August 14th, 1908, Mr. James C. E. Simpson began his ringing career at an early age and rang his first peal when he was only 17 years old. The promise which he then showed has been more than borne out by subsequent achievements, and, despite the exacting requirements of, at first, his university studies and his present appointment at the University of London, together with two years' absence in America, Mr. Simpson has now rung 300 peals, from Minor to Maximus, and has conducted 117 of them.



MR. JAMES C. E. SIMPSON.

His first peal was one of Grandsire Triples, rung at Bebington, Cheshire, on Feb. 30th, 1926, and his first as conductor a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at Liscard, Cheshire, on July 30th, 1927. He took part in the first peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus in the North of England (at Liverpool in 1928), in the first peal of London rung in Liverpool, and in the first peal of Cambridge Maximus rung in Ireland. He called the first peal of Spliced Surprise Major rung in Lancashire for the Lancashire Association and also the first peal rung of Loughborough Bob Major. He shared in the first peals rung of Isleworth Bob Royal, St. Clement's Bob Royal and Northchurch Surprise Major, and has been in numerous first peals by associations.

Mr. Simpson is a fine heavy bell ringer, and called a peal of Cambridge Major from the tenor (39 cwt.) at St. Nicholas', Liverpool, which still stands as the heaviest eight rung to Surprise Major in the North of England. He has also rung Durham Cathedral tenor to Cambridge Major, and Ambleside tenor to Double Norwich. His peals, for 20 associations and guilds, have been rung in 174 towers, and among the bells he has rung have been 104 different tenors.

In 1929 Mr. Simpson was elected hon. secretary of the Chester Diocesan Guild, but he had to give up the office owing to his work at Liverpool University.

HUDDERSFIELD AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The annual general meeting of the Huddersfield and District Association was held at Longwood. There was a good attendance, also some good ringing, and some not so good, and the meeting was much enjoyed. A short service was held before tea, at which the Vicar of Longwood gave an address.

After tea the Rev. A. L. Minns proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar, the ringers, the organist and the ladies for making the meeting such a success, to which the Vicar and Mr. A. Rothery, of the local ringers, replied.

The business meeting followed, and there was a slight change in the officers of the association, viz.: President, the Rev. H. W. Hodgson, Vicar of Cross Stones; vice-presidents, the Rev. A. L. Minns (Birkby) and the Rev. T. Mathieson (Elland). The secretary (Mr. F. Linfoot), the treasurer (Mr. W. Spencer), the Ringing Master (Mr. F. Rhodes) and Assistant Ringing Master were all re-elected.

FRIEND OF KINGSTON RINGERS.

SAW BELL RESTORATION CARRIED THROUGH

Mr. R. T. Hesketh, for the past 13 years an earnest worker and churchwarden at All Saints' Parish Church, Kingston-on-Thames, died at his home, 47, Durlston Road, Kingston, on February 28th, after a comparatively brief illness. He was an hon. member of the Surrey Association.

He was particularly interested in the restoration of the ring of ten bells at Kingston, and was enabled to see the work carried through to completion and the heavy outlay discharged.

Mr. Hesketh has been a very great friend of the Kingston ringers, and he will be missed. In spite of the fact that he was nearly 80 years of age, he very often climbed up to the ringing chamber to see them and give them those few words of encouragement which go a long way to help make things move amicably.

The funeral service was held on Saturday, and at noon the bells were rung half-muffled by eight members of the company as a last token of remembrance and respect.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The protest of Mr. J. S. Goldsmith against a paragraph in a letter published in your paper on January 13th was, in my opinion, well justified, and he has my sincere congratulations on having obtained a withdrawal of an attack which was an outrage on all sense of decency.

The letter referred to, however, calls for further comment. There is a reference to a person, unnamed, who is stated to have led the Editor into his so-called interference with the internal affairs of the London County Association. As the Editor gave a categorical denial of having received any such assistance, or any such prompting, this unfounded charge should also be withdrawn.

The letter also states: 'This association has in no way ever ignored its title, etc.' In 'The Ringing World' of April 1st last a letter appeared, signed by an official of the association, stating that the operation and influence of the association embraces the whole of the administrative county of London within a radius of ten miles from St. Clement Danes, Strand. The letter went on to state that the Northern District comprises the N.W., N., E.C. and E. postal districts, and the Southern District the S.E., S.W., W. and W.C. postal districts. In view of this claim, how can any member of that association make the absurd statement that 'this association has in no way ever ignored its title'? Most of the postal districts referred to extend far beyond the administrative county of London (the London County) into the geographical and administrative counties of Essex, Kent, Middlesex and Surrey.

I will not at this stage trouble you with any further illustrations of how this association consistently ignores its title, but will end with the expression of a hope that the whole of the letter published on January 13th will be withdrawn.

C. T. COLES.

P.S.—Following the example set by Mr. F. G. Woodiss, I will add that the views expressed above are entirely my own, and not necessarily those of any other member of the association of which I am secretary.

RECRUITMENT.

SUCCESSFUL PLAN IN DUBLIN.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I was particularly interested in your 'Leader' in 'The Ringing World,' No. 1,457, on 'Recruitment.' We in St. George's Parish, Dublin, experienced similar troubles ten years ago.

With only a faithful few left nine years ago, we sought the permission of the then conductor to teach some of our friends to ring the bells. Having obtained the permission, we proceeded to collect some young ladies and young men, taught them to ring until, about six months later, we had the eight bells ringing regularly for Sunday service, and in the years 1931, 1932, and 1933 we had 100 per cent. of eight's. We started a hiking club, a cycling club and a concert party in 1931. These were supported by our non-ringing friends, and the total number of members during these years averaged 22 ringers and 14 friends. I had to go to Cork on business in 1934, 1935 and 1936. Some members died; some married, and others changed residence, with the result that there was again only a few left. I returned late in 1936 and set the whole thing going again. This time we formed, in addition to the above clubs, a swimming club and a Christmas carol party. These were again well supported by our non-ringing friends, and at the present time our ringing members total 26 and active friends 22.

The Christmas Carol Party were out for ten nights at Christmastide, and collected £9 10s. 6d. in fairly poor quarters. The Concert Party made £25 (clear) in three concerts, and also entertained patients in one of the largest city hospitals. The ringers also took a practical part in the parish missionary sale of work, at which over £250 was made.

In St. George's parish, Dublin, there are sixteen organisations. You can assume that it should be hard to collect a team of ringers for practice on a suitable week-night, yet, in spite of all these calls and so much amusement in the city (there is a cinema seat for every one in ten of the population) we have an average of twelve ringers for our eight bells each practice night.

I attribute the flourishing state of St. George's to the other interests of our society, and I strongly recommend towers that are in a bad way to experiment on the same lines. I have no doubt as to the probable results.

FRED E. DUKES,
Hon. Conductor, St. George's, Dublin.

GIRL GUIDES TAKE UP RINGING.

When Southampton Girl Guides attended St. Mary's Church, Southampton, recently, for the annual 'Thinking Day' service, which is held to celebrate the joint birthdays of the Chief Guide and the Chief Scout, five of them were among the bellringers who rang before the service. It is hoped, in the near future, to have a complete team of Guide ringers. An appeal is being made by the Divisional Commissioner, Miss Willis Fleming, for more Guides to take part, and volunteers are asked to apply to the Guide Shop in Cranbury Terrace.

Assisted by members of the St. Mary's team, the leader of whom is training the Guides, the five enterprising beginners made a remarkably good job of their bellringing.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.

CLOSER RELATIONS WITH GUILDFORD GUILD PROPOSED.

The Question of Young Ringers.

As an earnest of the good relations existing between the Surrey Association and the Guildford Diocesan Guild, in the area where they overlap, it was suggested at the annual meeting of the Surrey Association on Saturday at Southwark that each society should elect a representative to the general committee of the other, and the proposal is to be considered by the respective executives.

The meeting was attended by about 60 members, who were present from Ashtead, Battersea, Balham, Banstead, Beddington, Benhilton, Buckland, Camberwell, Croydon (St. John's and St. Peter's), Epsom, Ewell, Godalming, Leatherhead, Reigate, etc., and there were other ringers from Edgware, Hampstead, Hillingdon, Isleworth, London, Lewisham, Leytonstone, Maidstone, etc.

A large part of Surrey is in the diocese of Southwark, and on this occasion the association returned to the mother church of the diocese. Ringing was enjoyed upon the glorious peal of twelve at St. Saviour's Cathedral, where the members attended the evensong, and were welcomed, on behalf of the Provost and Chapter, by the Vice-Provost, Canon N. C. Christopherson.

The Master, Mr. D. K. C. Birt, presided at the business meeting, held in the Chapter House, and was supported by the hon. secretary (Mr. E. G. Talbot) and other officers.

At the outset a letter was read from Mr. W. Massey, announcing the death of Mr. R. T. Hesketh, people's churchwarden of Kingston-on-Thames and an hon. member of the association. Mr. Hesketh had been instrumental in having the bells at Kingston rehung, was a great friend of the ringers and his loss would be deeply felt. The funeral was taking place that afternoon, and the local company were ringing the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect.

The Master expressed the association's regret at the death of Mr. Hesketh and the members stood in silence for a short time.

The hon. secretary presented the balance sheet, which showed receipts for the year amounting to £25 9s. 4d., including £16 19s. 4d. from the North-Western District, £6 1s. 6d. from the Southern District, £2 10s. from compounding members and 8s. 6d. interest. The expenditure was £33 14s., leaving a balance in hand of £23 4s. 3d., compared with £30 18s. 11d. at the beginning of the year, but the reduction, the secretary explained, was due to certain non-recurring expenditure.—The accounts were adopted.

POSITION NOT ENTIRELY SATISFACTORY.

The committee, in their annual report, said that the past year could not be said to have produced any outstanding features, but a perusal of the records showed that the membership of the association was on the increase and the standard of ringing in the towers was being fairly maintained. In making this statement, however, the committee did not regard the position as entirely satisfactory, as, whilst progress had been made in some cases, it could not be denied that in some instances lack of interest had been displayed. It was hoped, therefore, that those members who had the responsibility of furthering the interests of the association would make special efforts in the present year, where necessary, to arouse the enthusiasm of the members to take a more active part in the affairs of the association. The committee strongly recommended that members who did not do so should visit neighbouring towers, on their respective practice nights, and, wherever possible, quarter-peals should be attempted at frequent intervals by local bands. If these were attempted on Sundays, especially in the evenings, it was unlikely that exception would be taken either by the incumbent or by the parishioners. This practice would be found to be of great help in keeping a band together and for maintaining interest among ringers. A further benefit accrued if the conducting was shared. In those cases where a local band was not strong enough to attempt a quarter-peal on its own account it was suggested that on occasion ringers from a neighbouring tower be allowed to complete the necessary number. In other words, the stronger tower, when opportunity permitted, should assist the weaker.

Thirteen meetings were held in the North-Western District and five in the Southern District, and in this connection the committee would like to see greater support given by the members, as it was by this means that interest in the art and in the association was strengthened. Twenty-four peals were rung for the association during the year, an increase of one over those of the previous year, and, whilst the number was not high, it had to be remembered there was not the particular incentive as in the year of the Coronation.

An analysis of the peals showed that eight had been rung at Beddington, and special mention was made of the peal of Bob Minor rung at Limpsfield Chart, wherein the average age of the ringers of the front five was 17 years and the peal was their first rung at the first attempt. The association extended congratulations to these ringers and to their conductor, Mr. L. A. Tidy.

Referring to the annual dinner held last October, at which the hon. secretary was presented with an oak wall clock, to mark the occasion of his marriage, the report said that although the international situation which immediately preceded the event was not conducive to a successful function, it had to be admitted that the support was rather disappointing. Of the 56 tickets sold, only 15 were disposed of outside the Croydon area. There was a small deficit of 7s. 9d., and it would appear that the function was one which did not appeal to the majority of the members. The membership of the association showed a fair increase, and the number of annual subscribing members now stood at 297, as against 277 in 1937. The committee, in conclusion, extended their very warm thanks to the many members who had given their support during the past year.

MASTER'S TALK WITH CLERGY.

Commenting on the report, the Master said one of the things that ringing was apt to suffer from was senility. They were apt to get too old and to go on in their towers with very excellent people ringing for many years and not getting young members. Then something happened and the ringing went nop in the tower. The moral of that was, surely, that what they wanted was youth and they wanted to encourage the young ringers in every way they could. Young ringers were encouraged at the district meetings, and, provided they came, they got just the things they wanted, and the ringing masters made a point of trying to find out what suited each ringer. He hoped the older members would also try to bring forward young conductors. That was another important point upon which ringing was apt to stick. He welcomed the recommendation in the report about the ringing of quarter-peals; he thought they would help promising young ringers who did not get much chance of ringing peals.

During the year, continued the Master, he had been in touch with the parsons of the Rural Deanery of Reigate. He was asked by the Southern District to speak to them at their Ruri-decanal Chapter about what they could do to help ringing, and it was a very interesting meeting that they had. What he found himself up against was that the parsons themselves were apt to feel strangers in their own belfries. They came into the belfry with the best intentions in the world, but they knew nothing about ringing, and, when they sat down to watch the proceedings, they wondered what it was all about. The art of ringing was a closed book to so many people among them the parsons. If they could find a way to help them out of that and get them to understand a little bit of what was going on it would be a great help. They had all heard of parsons not taking an interest in ringing, but when the poor men went into their own belfries there was nobody to explain in untechnical language which they could understand what was going on and they went out of the belfry saying, 'Yes, that is all right, but it is not for me.' Then the ringers complained that their parson did not take any interest in their ringing. He appealed particularly to captains of towers to try to help the parsons to understand what was going on when the bells were being rung, because there were occasions when the parsons could be of immense help to the ringers. He assured them that the parsons at that Ruri-decanal Chapter went away intending to do what they could (applause).

Mr. A. A. Hughes, referring to the recruiting of young ringers, quoted from his own experience at St. Lawrence Jewry, where he started a band a few years ago from members of the choir with most successful results. It was, perhaps, not always possible to do this, he said, but there were many choirs where they could interest the boys in ringing when they lost their voices. If they could attract them to the tower and interest them in ringing it was an advantage, not only to the belfry, but to the church as well, by keeping their interest in church work.

The Hon. Secretary said one useful suggestion for recruiting was contained in a letter from Mr. Overy in 'The Ringing World' on the preceding day. It was suggested that every ringer should obtain one new member every year. Even if they did not all continue their interest, he was sure it would bring in more members than the haphazard way in which most towers were recruited at present.

The report was adopted.

Mr. B. F. Baker, of Maidstone, was elected a non-resident member of the association, and Croydon was chosen for the next annual meeting, the other places suggested being Leatherhead and St. Martin's, Epsom.

SUGGESTED 'LIAISON' WITH GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

The general officers of the association were elected as follows, there being no other nominations: President, the Bishop of Southwark; Master, Mr. D. K. C. Birt; hon. treasurer, Mr. H. F. Wallis; hon. secretary, Mr. A. G. Talbot; assistant secretary, Mr. A. J. Cook; auditor, Mr. G. W. Steere.

The Master thanked the members and said the officers and committee would do their best to make the association useful in accordance with its objects to foster ringing in each district. They would continue to do that and also to cultivate the most friendly relations with all the other ringing associations and guilds in their neighbourhood (hear, hear). They were, he added, sorry to lose the services, as assistant secretary, of Mr. Holden, but they welcomed Mr. Cook in his place.

The Bishop of Croydon and Mr. Arthur Dean, of Leatherhead, were elected vice-presidents, the latter in recognition of his long services to the association. He is now incapacitated from ringing and is just one short of a total of 200 peals rung for the association.

Messrs. D. Cooper, W. Claydon and C. H. Kippin were re-elected representatives of the association on the Central Council.

Mr. Kippin said in view of the good feeling existing between the association and the Guildford Diocesan Guild, which he trusted would ever continue, he would suggest that the committee consider the possibility of asking the Guildford Guild whether they would agree to a mutual arrangement by which the Guild should elect a member

(Continued on page 163.)

DEATH OF MR. ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

A GREAT COMPOSER.

One of the best known men for something like two generations is lost to the Exercise by the death of Mr. Arthur Knights, of Chesterfield, who, as briefly recorded last week, passed away on March 1st at the advanced age of 79 years. Mr. Knights, not merely as an enthusiastic ringer throughout his long life, but as one of the most talented composers of our time, has earned a lasting place in ringing history, for his contribution to the science in the realm of figures has been a colossal one. He was widely known in the Midlands and Yorkshire and held in the highest esteem among ringers, not only for his gifts, but for his kindly and genial disposition. His death leaves a gap which will be difficult to fill.

Arthur Knights was a great composer and few men can claim the authorship of more peals than he has produced. He composed peals in many methods, but Treble Bob was his particular interest. He first produced peals in this method nearly 60 years ago, but, strange as it may seem, it is only within the last two or three years that some of his early compositions have been rung. In the meantime he composed literally hundreds of peals, and his work has been among the most popular of any ringer's and in great demand among the conductors. He composed about 430 original peals of Treble Bob Major and over 300 of Treble Bob Royal. But he had a great many peals of both Grandsire and Stedman Caters and Cinques, and in other methods, too. Indeed, there have been nearly 1,200 of his peal compositions rung, including some of the reverse variations of peals of Treble Bob.



THE LATE
MR. ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Mr. Knights had a lifelong interest in bells, for he was not yet nine years old when he learned to chime the bells at the church of his native village of Brome, near Eye, in Suffolk, where he was born on December 17th, 1859. As he grew up it was only natural that change ringing should attract him, and he rang his first peal on May 19th, 1879. It was at Diss, Norfolk, and was the first peal of Kent Treble Bob Major by the Norwich Diocesan Association.

Soon after this he removed to Chesterfield, where he had lived ever since. From the first he was associated with ringing at the Parish Church, with its famous crooked spire, and for many years was leader of the band there, until the condition of the tower and bells caused ringing to be stopped. He made great efforts to secure a restoration, but for years, to his great disappointment, the bells have remained silent.

It was in this tower that Mr. Knights rang his first peal as conductor on July 15th, 1882, when he called one of his own compositions of Kent Treble Bob Major. Mr. Knights had rung well over 600 peals and had conducted considerably more than 200. Of this total some 380 have been peals which he composed, nearly all of which were rung for the first time. With the exception of Holt's Original and Davis' ten-part peals of Grandsire Triples, Mr. Knights never called the same peal twice, and very rarely has he even rung the same composition more than once.

His peals included Grandsire Triples, Caters and Cinques, Plain Bob, Little Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major, Royal and Maximus, Double Norwich Major, Caters and Royal, Cambridge and Yorkshire Major and Royal, Superlative, London and other Surprise Major methods.

Although living in Derbyshire and being a member of the Midland Counties Association since 1890, Mr. Knights rang a large number of peals for the Yorkshire Association, which he joined in 1880. He had rung over 300 peals for each of these associations. He rang in the first peals for the Yorkshire Association of New Cambridge, Bristol, Peterborough and Norfolk Surprise Major, Double Norwich Caters and Royal, Little Bob and Cambridge Surprise Royal, and the first and only peal of Oxford Treble Bob Maximus on tower bells in Yorkshire. His longest peal, which he also conducted, was 8,288 Kent Treble Bob Major, rung on May 19th, 1900, to celebrate the relief of Ladysmith.

(Continued in next column.)

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

EAST NORFOLK BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the East Norfolk Branch of the Norwich Diocesan Association was held on Saturday, February 25th, at St. Margaret's Church, Lowestoft. Ringing in the afternoon was followed by a service, conducted by the Rector (Canon R. L. Whytehead). The lesson was read by the Rev. A. St. J. Heard (Rector of Bergh Apton). Tea was served at St. Nicholas' House, 49 members sitting down (seven more than sent postcards).

The business meeting followed, and, at the invitation of Mr. W. J. Lee (branch chairman), Canon R. L. Whytehead presided, supported by Mr. W. J. Lee (branch chairman), Mr. J. G. W. Harwood (branch secretary), Mr. Nolan Golden (general secretary), Mr. W. S. Duffield (chairman of South Norfolk Branch) and Mr. H. Tooke (secretary to North Norfolk Branch).

Mr. W. J. Lee was re-elected chairman and Mr. J. G. W. Harwood secretary. Messrs. R. Woodley, C. Parnell, S. Gall, R. W. Barber and A. May were appointed on the Branch Committee, and Messrs. A. King and R. W. Barber elected representatives to the Association Standing Committee.

Seven new members were elected, viz., the Rev. Canon R. L. Whytehead, Messrs. A. E. Crow (Gorleston), Allen White (Lowestoft), Kenneth Haynes (Lowestoft), Pearl E. Grapes, Timothy G. Bugden (Ranworth) and George T. Bussey (Haddiscoe).

The date of the next meeting was fixed for May 20th at Acle, if the tower is available.

The general secretary thanked the officers and committee of the branch for their assistance to him during the past year. Thanks were also accorded to the acting matron of the home for the excellent tea that was served, and to the Rector for the use of the bells and his assistance in making the meeting a success.

Ringers attended from Norwich, London (St. Martin-in-the-Fields), Yarmouth, Lowestoft, Beccles, Gorleston, Wymondham, Reedham, Acle, Barsham, Kessingland, Saxlingham, Ranworth, Mulbarton, Haddiscoe, Chediston, Bergh Apton and Norton. Ringing was renewed in the evening, and methods rung during the day ranged from Bob Minor to London Surprise.

STEDMAN'S PRINCIPLE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Having studied Fabian Stedman's Principle on and off for some years, and being desirous of furthering my investigations, I would be greatly obliged if any of your readers can inform me if Stedman's System has ever been applied to 'even-bell' ringing other than Duffield by the late Sir A. P. Heywood and Shipway's Principle, both of which I understand are based on Stedman's Principle.

F. E. PITMAN.

Bromley, Kent.

RINGERS' TRIBUTE TO MR. ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

(Continued from previous column.)

Some time ago Mr. and Mrs. Knights celebrated their golden wedding, and his wife survives him. His two talented sons, Mr. Ben Knights, of Preston, and Mr. A. Percival Knights, of Sheffield, are left to carry on the family connection with the Exercise.

A composition of 5,184 Kent Treble Bob Major by the late Mr. Knights was rung at Market Drayton, Shropshire, as an 'In memoriam' peal.

At Handsworth, Sheffield, on Saturday, a half-muffled peal of Little Bob Major was unfortunately lost only six courses from home after 2¾ hours' ringing. Those who took part were J. H. Brothwell 1, J. H. Haywood 2, Jack Brothwell 3, G. Gordon Graham 4, J. J. L. Gilbert (conductor) 5, N. Chaddock 6, J. E. Turley 7, T. Brothwell 8.

THE FUNERAL.

The funeral took place at Spital Cemetery, Chesterfield, on Saturday, and was attended by a representative gathering of ringers, in addition to the family mourners and a number of friends. Among those present were Messrs. G. Lewis (vice-president of the Yorkshire Association), C. Haynes (president of the Sheffield District Society), H. Warburton (secretary of Peak District Society), A. H. Ward and J. Pagett (Derby) and J. H. Swinfield (Burton-on-Trent), representing Midland Counties Association, W. Biggin (Norton), W. T. Palmer S. Scattergood, W. Allwood, W. J. Thyng and T. Gore (Chesterfield), P. J. Jervis (Eckington), J. J. Moss (Bolsover), H. Stenton (South Anston), F. Knott (Staveley), T. E. Lee (Sheffield), G. M. Thorpe (Dore), etc. After the committal prayers a course of Grandsire Triples was rung over the open grave by Messrs. J. Pagett, G. Lewis, A. H. Ward and W. Allwood.

Mrs. Knights and family desire to express their gratitude for the many kind expressions of sympathy which were received from friends far and near during Mr. Knights' illness, and for the condolences extended to them in their bereavement.

A VALUED FRIENDSHIP.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The passing of Mr. Arthur Knights, of Chesterfield, must have been received with profound regret throughout the Exercise. He leaves behind the memory of a most valued friendship and the work of a very great composer.

T. E. SONE.

Paddock Wood, Kent.

BEDFORD SURPRISE.

To the Editor.

Sir,—My method of Bedford Surprise rung by the talented band at Bushey and published in your issue of February 18th is one of a few methods with a perfect extension to Royal and Maximus. There is only one false course-end for Major, viz., 24365, therefore all peals of Treble Bob on all numbers can be used, with bob made in 4th. If the bob is made on the three back bells, peals with the 6th its extent can be had.

It may now be noted why the method was called 'Bedford.' While I was a member of St. Stephen's Society, Rochester Row, Westminster, Mr. A. B. Peck, the present secretary of the Ancient Society of College Youths, was also a member. A few years before he had come to London from Bedford. The method now appears to have been dedicated to the secretary of the College Youths.

Saffron Walden. F. DENCH.

12345678	1234567890	1234567890ET
21436587	2143658709	2143658709TE
12463857	1246385079	124638507T9E
21648375	2164830597	21648305T7E9
26143857	2614385079	261438507T9E
62413875	6241380597	62413805T7E9
26148357	2614835079	261483507T3E
62418375	6241830597	62418305T7E9
26481735	2648103957	2648103T5E79
62847153	6284019575	628401T3E597
68241735	6824103957	6824103T5E79
86427153	8642019375	864201T3E597
68472513	6840291735	68402T1E3957
86745231	8604927153	8604T2E19375
87654213	8069421735	806T421E3957
78562431	0896247153	08T624E19375
87652341	8069274513	806T2E491735
78563214	0896725431	08T6E2947153
75836241	0967824513	0T8E62491735
57382614	9078265431	T0E826947153
75328164	0987256341	0T8E29674513
57231846	.....	T0E892765431
52738164	1243658709	TE0982674513
25371846		ET9028765431
52317486	1426385079	TE0927856341
25137468		.....
52314786		1243658709TE
25134768		
21537486		142638507T9E
12354768		
21345678		
12436587		
14263857		

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

FELKIRK VICAR'S WELCOME.

Barnsley and District Society held their February meeting at Felkirk (the Church in the fields). The fine weather was no doubt a great help in making the meeting highly successful. 37 members being present from Arksey, Barnsley, Badsworth, Bolsterstone, Burghwallis, Cawthorne, Conisbrough, Doncaster, Horbury, Penistone, Rotherham, Sandal, Shelley, South Kirkby and the local company.

Previous to tea those present assembled in front of the Old Schoolroom within the churchyard for a photograph to be taken at the special request of the Vicar, Bishop Dickinson. Tea was served in the Old Schoolroom.

At the business meeting the Vicar, who presided, expressed his pleasure in meeting the ringers. It was, he said, the first time he had had the opportunity of meeting ringers, having been working overseas previous to being appointed Vicar of Felkirk. He had always hoped that the first church he got in England would possess a peal of bells, and he was pleased his wish was fulfilled.

The President (Mr. C. D. Potter), in his usual jocular and homely manner, thanked the Vicar for all he had done and the ladies for the teas and all who had helped to make the meeting a success.

The Vicar was elected a ringing member, and Kirkthorpe was chosen as the next place of meeting, to be held on Saturday, March 11th.

Ringing, which had been enjoyed in the afternoon, was continued in the evening in a good variety of methods.

LICHFIELD BROADCAST.

The ringers who took part in the broadcast from Lichfield Cathedral on Sunday, March 5th, were: S. Cope 1, A. Sedgwick 2, A. Bowler 3, F. Hayes 4, A. Bowler, sen., 5, F. Cope (conductor) 6, W. J. Cope 7, F. Winter 8, A. Cartmale 9, A. Smith 10. A touch of 168 Grandsire Triples was rung with 9.8.10 covering

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 4s. per quarter.

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

MEETING CANCELLED.—The half-yearly meeting of the Furness and Lake District Branch of the Lancashire Association, which was to have been held at Kendal tomorrow (Saturday), has been cancelled.—N. M. Newby, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at St Helens Parish Church (10 bells) on Saturday, Mar. 11th. The tower will be open at 2.30 p.m. Service at 5 o'clock, followed by tea and meeting. A hearty invitation is extended to all ringers. Please send word for tea to Mr. A. Wallace, 6, Brookside Avenue, Eccleston, St. Helens.—G. R. Newton, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. John's Church, Blackpool, on March 11th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Business meeting 5.30. All ringers welcomed.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec., Fylde.

LADIES' GUILD.—Northern District. — A meeting will be held at Norbury Parish Church, Hazel Grove, near Stockport, on Saturday, March 11th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names to Mrs. Fearnley, 7, Vernon Street, Hazel Grove, Cheshire. All ringers welcome. — E. Dorice Kelly, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch will be held at Penewortham on Saturday, March 11th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Bells (8). A good attendance is requested.—A. Blogg, Branch Sec.

'TATER PIE AND BELLRINGING for all those who like it at Christ Church, Bacup, on Saturday, March 11th. Bells at 3 p.m. Meeting during the evening. A good turn-up requested.—J. Porter, Hon. Branch Sec., Lancs Association.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting is at Barnby-in-the-Willows, near Newark (6 bells, tenor 6½ cwt.), on Saturday, March 11th. Look up your methods and then come and ring them.—R. Towler, 69, Ordsall Road, Retford.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch. — The branch will meet at Watlington on Saturday, March 11th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Ardingly (6 bells) on Saturday, March 11th. Tower open 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Everybody welcome.—B. Saunders, 18, New Road, Ridgewood, Uckfield, Sussex.

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bitton on Saturday, March 11th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow.—N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Weston, Bath.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Northill, on Saturday, March 11th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers will be welcome. Please come. A good company is requested.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The annual general meeting will be held at St. Marie's Church, Norfolk Row, Sheffield, on Saturday, March 11th. Bells (8) ready 2.30 p.m. Committee meeting 4 p.m. Business meeting 5 p.m. Tea can be had at the numerous cafes close by the church. All welcome.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 13, St. Ronans Road, Sheffield 7.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division. —A joint meeting of the Western Division and Huddersfield District Association will be held at St. Mary's, Elland, on Saturday, March 11th. Bells (8) available from 2 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea (1s.) 5.15 p.m., followed by business meeting — election of officers, etc. All welcome.—Frank Rayment, Dis. Sec., Bramley.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION—Hinckley District.—The next ringing meeting will be held at Barwell on Saturday, March 11th. Usual times for ringing. Service at 4.30, followed by tea at 5. Subscriptions for 1939 are due.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—A meeting will be held at Berkhampstead on Saturday, March 11th. Bells available 3 p.m.; service 5 p.m., followed by tea.—Walter Ayre, Hon. Sec., Leverstock Green.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch. —Next meeting will be held at Oldham Parish Church on March 11th. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Short service 4.15 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. All ringers and friends welcome.—Ivan Kay, Branch Sec.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS. —There will be ringing for evensong at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, at 5.30 p.m. on Sunday, March 12th.—G. W. Steere, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for March: *St. Mary-le-Bow, 14th; St. Magnus-the-Martyr, 16th and 30th; St. Giles', Cripplegate, 21st; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 23rd; *St. Paul's Cathedral, 28th. * Business meeting afterwards. All at 7.30, except St. Andrew's, 8.—A. B. Peck, Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

STANFORD-LE-HOPE, ESSEX.—The new ring of eight bells, installed by John Taylor and Co., will be dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Chelmsford on Saturday, March 18th, at 3 p.m. All ringers heartily welcome. Tea provided at 4.30 for those notifying Mr. A. D. Howell, 6, Copland Terrace, Stanford-le-Hope, not later than March 14th. Bells available until 7.30 p.m.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. —Chew Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at St. Andrew's, Clevedon, on Saturday, March 18th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Divine Service, 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock, with business meeting to follow.—Percy G. Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A meeting will be held at Worplesdon on Saturday, March 18th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service, tea and meeting as usual. Please do not fail to send numbers for tea to Mr. S. Petter, The Laurels, Fox Corner, Worplesdon, Surrey.—W. F. J. Cope, Hon. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual general committee meeting will be held at Reading on Saturday, March 18th, at 3.15 p.m., in St. Lawrence's Hall, Abbey Street.—Richard T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.— The annual meeting will be held at St. Stephen's, Eastwood, near Rotherham, on Saturday, March 18th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Short service at 4.30 p.m. Tea in the Church Hall at 5 p.m. at 1s. per head, followed by business meeting. Those requiring tea, please notify Mr. S. Briggs, Clinton, Gerard Road, Rotherham. Please make an effort to attend this, the most important meeting of the year, and so make it a success. A hearty welcome is extended to all.—J. J. L. Gilbert, Hon. Dis. Sec.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS. —The annual dinner will take place on Saturday, March 18th, at 6.30 p.m., at the Old Bell Restaurant, Holborn, E.C. Tickets, price 6s. each, may be obtained from either of the following: Messrs. T. Bevan, J. Cornford, G. H. Cross, T. H. Francis, G. Gilbert, R. Heazell, J. Parker, G. Radley, A. H. Pulling, N. Summerhayes or the secretary. The following towers will be open for ringing: St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, 4 to 5.30 p.m.; St. Clement Danes, 3.30 to 5 p.m.; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 4.30 to 6 p.m.—G. W. Steere, Sec., 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.— A meeting will be held at St. Mary's Church, Finchley, on Saturday, March 18th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea to follow, for which please notify me by March 13th. The method for special attention is Double Court Minor; other methods will be rung as required. Subscriptions for 1939 are now due.—T. J. Lock, Hon. Dis. Sec., 57, Holloways Lane, North Mimms, Herts.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.— The annual district meeting will be held at Goole on Saturday, March 18th. Bells (8) available from 2 o'clock. Service in church 4.15 p.m. Tea, 1s. 6d. per head, in Hockforth's Cafe. Names, please, to Mr. T. J. Twivey Wild, 38, Hilda Street, Goole, by previous Thursday. Business meeting for election of officers, etc., after tea. All welcome.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Ebor Street, Selby.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch. —The next meeting will be held at St. James', Rusholme, Manchester, on Saturday afternoon, March 18th. Tower open for ringing at 6 o'clock. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—Joseph H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Eye District.—A meeting of this district will be held at Yaxley on Saturday, March 18th. Bells (6) available at 2.30 p.m. Also Thornham (6) and Stoke Ash (5) and Brome (5). Service 4.30, conducted by the Rev. MacGee, followed by tea and meeting at 5 p.m. in the Village Hall. All requiring tea please inform me by 15th. All are welcome.—R. J. D. Nelthorpe, Dis. Sec., Pitts Farm, Wattisfield, near Diss.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Central Branch. —A meeting will be held at Wilburton on Saturday, March 18th. Bells (6) available 2.30 p.m. Tea at Royal Oak, 5 p.m. Service if arranged.—F. Warrington, Station Road, Swavesey, Cambs. (Please note new address.)

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The tenth annual dinner of the Gloucester Branch will be held on Saturday, March 18th, at the Spread Eagle Hotel, Market Parade, Gloucester, at 6 p.m. The Rev. N. E. Hope, Master of the association, will preside, supported by other gentlemen. The following towers will be open: Cathedral (8), 2 to 3 p.m.; St. Mary de Lode (6), 3 to 4; St. Mary de Crypt (8), 3.45 to 4.45; St. Michael's (10), 4.45 to 5.45. Dinner tickets 3s., obtainable from W. H. Harris, Branch Sec., Lydney Dock, Lydney, Glos.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Eastbourne (St. Mary's) on Saturday, March 18th. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock (1s. 3d. per head). St. Saviour's from 7.15 p.m. Will all those intending to be present kindly let me know Wednesday previous to meeting?—A. C. Pankhurst, Div. Hon. Sec., 13, Bradford Street, Eastbourne.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—The next meeting of the Crewe Branch will be held at Church Lawton (8 bells) on Saturday, March 18th. Ringing from 3 o'clock. Will all those who intend to be present kindly let me have a card on or before the 15th inst?—Richard D. Langford, Hon. Branch Sec., 118, Ruskin Road, Crewe.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next meeting will take place at Brinklow, near Rugby, on Saturday, March 18th. Bells (6) available during afternoon and evening. Tea provided at 1s. a head.—D. E. Beamish, Hon. Gen. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—A meeting will be held at Quorn on Saturday, March 18th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at Hurst Cafe (1s. each) at 5 p.m. Please send me word by Wednesday, March 15th, if you intend to be present. All ringers and friends cordially invited.—A. E. Rowley, Hon. Sec., Hyom, Penistone Street, Ibstock, Leicester.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, March 18th, at St. George-the-Martyr, Borough High Street (opposite Borough Underground Station). Ringing from 3 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. Short service 5 p.m. All ringers welcome.—N. H. Manning, Dis. Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—A meeting of the Wirral Branch will be held at West Kirby (8 bells) on Saturday, March 18th. Tower open at 3 o'clock. Service at 5 p.m. Tea and meeting afterwards. We hope to have a good attendance to induce the local ringers to rejoin the Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers.—Harry S. Brocklebank, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Eastern and Western Districts.—A joint meeting will be held at Chester-le-Street on Sat., March 18th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Ringers who require tea please notify Mr. J. A. Brown, 7, Finchdale Terrace, Chester-le-Street. Will ringers please rally round? All are welcome.—J. A. Brown, and F. Robson, Hon. Dis. Secs.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—The next meeting will be held at Chobham on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (8) available 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. at the White Hart. The Vicar is anxious to meet the diocesan ringers, so a hearty welcome is extended to the neighbouring districts and others. A postcard to me, stating number, by Wednesday, the 22nd, will ensure a good tea.—F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Sec., 39, Queen's Road, Thames Ditton.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The golden jubilee will be celebrated on Saturday, March 25th. Ringing at Leeds Parish Church from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.45 p.m. Hot pot supper and entertainment in Sherwin's Restaurant 6 p.m. Tickets 1s. 9d. each. Please book your ticket before March 20th.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Leeds 12.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—Book this date, March 25th, for Parish Church, Ashby-de-la-Zouch. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. The above district will hold its next meeting there, and a hearty invitation awaits all ringers. Excellent bus service from all parts. Usual tea arrangements for those who notify me by Wednesday, March 25th.—J. W. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Overseale, Burton-on-Trent.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Wye on Saturday, March 25th. Bells ready 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—P. Page, Hon. Dis. Sec., 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION—Canterbury District.—The next meeting will be held at Elham (Chilham unavailable) on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (8) from 2.30. Service 4.30, followed by tea, 1s. per head. Please send your names in to Mr. F. Verney, Briar Bank, Elham, near Canterbury, not later than Thursday, March 23rd. Usual methods, but special attention to Double Norwich, please.—B. J. Luck, Hon. Dis. Sec., 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — The annual general meeting will be held at Erith on Easter Monday next. Service in the Parish Church of St. John at noon, followed by luncheon (free to practising members, 2s. 6d. others). Business meeting follows for the election of officers and Central Council representatives (4). Nominations must reach me by March 27th. New rule to be submitted. Further particulars later.—Fred M. Mitchell, Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Stroud, Glos, on Easter Monday, April 10th. Full details in these columns later. Notice of motions concerning rules, etc., should be handed in on or before March 13th.—Edgar Guise, Gen. Hon. Sec., 46a, Tankards Close, Bristol 2.

BRISTOL UNITED RINGING GUILD'S week's ringing tour, August 14th to 19th inclusive. For full details apply to Edgar Guise, Hon. Sec., B.U.R.G., 46a, Tankards Close, Bristol 2.

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SURREY ASSOCIATION.

(Continued from page 158.)

to the Executive Committee of the Surrey Association and the Surrey Association should elect a member of the Executive Committee of the Guildford Guild, with the object of keeping the two bodies in close touch. The two associations were so bound together that it would always be useful for one association to know what the other was doing.

The Master said the relations between the two societies had been and he hoped always would be close and cordial, and any arrangement which would draw them closer would be welcome. Whether it could be done in the form suggested by Mr. Kippin he did not know, but the committee would be glad to consider it.

Mr. C. E. Smith (Ringing Master of the Guildford District of the Guildford Guild) said, personally, he welcomed the suggestion. A meeting of the Guildford Guild Committee was to be held on the following Wednesday and he would raise the matter there. He thought Mr. Kippin's suggestion was a good one.

Mr. W. Hewett: It seems to me that in the future we shall have a Surrey Association with a Guildford Diocesan branch and a Southwark Diocesan branch.

In reply to Mrs. Kippin, the Master said the committee would consider the question of holding another association dinner.

It was resolved to authorise the committee to make a contribution to the expenses of entertaining members of the Central Council when they meet in London at Whitsun.

The Master proposed a comprehensive vote of thanks to all concerned in the arrangements, and particularly to Vice-Provost Christopherson for his welcome in the Cathedral.

A vote of thanks to the retiring officers concluded the business and further ringing took place at the Cathedral.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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YORKSHIRE AND THE DISTRICT SOCIETIES

The vast area of Yorkshire presents its special difficulties to the County Association, difficulties which, in some ways, have not been entirely overcome. There are at least two hundred and fifty rings of bells in Yorkshire, the majority, of course, in the crowded industrial areas of the south and west; but no insignificant number, also, in the widely scattered districts north and east. They have their own differing problems. In the first instance no one organisation can hold meetings at all the churches in either of the populous districts with that degree of frequency which, in ordinary circumstances, keeps a tower in close touch with its association. In the case of the scattered towers there are all the handicaps of isolation and distance, magnified in Yorkshire beyond most areas. In this territory, another association exists, but few of the sixty or so towers show anything like a full membership of either.

This apart, the Yorkshire Association retains among its members an enthusiasm unexcelled anywhere in the country, and it occupies a position both in numbers and finance that is a hallmark of successful administration. Part of this success, we think, has been due to the smaller societies which have long been working within the area and which, while attempting in no way to sap the allegiance of members of the Yorkshire Association, have in fact proved a recruiting ground and have kept local interest alive when the task might have been beyond the power of the county organisation. If at any time this overlapping has produced friction, it has been only trivial and personal. Officially the relations between the smaller societies, like the Leeds, the Sheffield and the Barnsley District Societies and the big brother have been cordial and helpful.

Recently a new society has come into the field in the Huddersfield area, and it is gratifying to read of the cordiality that was evinced at a joint meeting with the Yorkshire Association on Saturday. Indeed, a vice-president of the Halifax Society spoke of his organisation as a 'nursery' for the larger association, and if this spirit prevails the existence of the one within the other can have no result but good. The local societies can help the cause of ringing not only by expending their energies in their own particular areas, but by encouraging loyalty to the county association which brings them all together in one larger brotherhood. There are many ringers who are inclined to take too narrow an outlook. They cannot see beyond their own tower, or their own district, or their own association. This restricted vision hampers their own activities, and is a drag upon the

(Continued on page 166.)

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wheels of progress throughout the whole Exercise. In Yorkshire, however, the smaller societies do not look upon themselves as rivals to the county association. They act almost as self-contained branches which, in the long run, bring support to the parent organisation. That the new Huddersfield District Society will follow this line seems assured after last Saturday's meeting, and will, we hope, prove a source of strength rather than of disintegration, as some may have feared.

TEN BELL PEALS.

BRISTOL.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, March 4, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS WITH ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 36 cwt.

EDWIN J. BROWN ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM H. PARKER... ...	6
*MISS BERTHA JORDAN ...	2	ALBERT L. GALE	7
RICHARD CLARK...	3	*LEONARD DERRICK	8
GILBERT PEARCE	4	JOHN A. BURFORD	9
ALFRED PEARCE	5	GEORGE H. BURCHER...	...*Tenor*

Composed by H. W. HALEY. Conducted by EDWIN J. BROWN.

* First peal on ten bells. Rung as a compliment to the Vicar of St. Nicholas', the Rev. J. M. D. Staucomb, and his bride, Miss Mabel Margaret Wicks, on the occasion of their marriage, which took place at St. Nicholas' Church.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5091 CHANGES;

Tenor 30½ cwt.

JOHN H. B. HESSE ...	...*Treble*	FREDERICK H. DEXTER ...	6
GEOFFREY HARRISON	2	COLIN HARRISON	7
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON... ...	3	LESLIE STEVENS	8
ERNEST J. AYLIFFE	4	ALFRED H. PULLING	9
JOHN GRUNDY	5	HARRY BROUGHTON ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by EDGAR BENNETT. Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

HUGH REYNOLDS	...*Treble*	STANLEY HARRISON	6
ARTHUR JAMES	2	PERCY H. DERBYSHIRE ...	7
FRANK REYNOLDS	3	RICHARD BENSON...	8
HARRY PARKER	4	JOSEPH H. RIDYARD	9
*NORMAN BERRY	5	CYRIL RADDON	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 154). Conducted by J. H. RIDYARD

* First peal of Caters.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

NORWICH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 2, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL-AT-COSLANY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt. in F sharp.

BERTIE J. HOWCHIN ...	...*Treble*	GEORGE SAYER	5
NOLAN GOLDEN	2	ALBERT E. BRACEY	6
MISS G. E. M. TUNNADINE	3	GEORGE BAILEY	7
FREDERICK J. HOWCHIN ...	4	CECIL V. EBBERSON ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by D. PRENTICE. Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

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LYDNEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, March 2, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAYLOR'S SIX-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

C. GOULDING ... ...*Treble*		J. W. DAVIS 5	
O. THOMAS 2		A. H. CARTER 6	
N. REES... 3		J. HILL... 7	
W. H. HARRIS 4		*A. WOODWARD ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by A. H. CARTER.
* First peal.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 4, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt.

DONALD M. SWINDLEY ...*Treble*		KENNETH SNELLING 5	
ALBERT W. STEELE 2		ALBERT E. LAKER 6	
BERNARD V. COLLISON ... 3		JOHN O. WELLER... 7	
ERNEST J. LADD 4		OLIVER SIPPETTS ... ...*Tenor*	

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by O. SIPPETTS.

EAST DEREHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 4, 1939, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
AT THE CAMPANILE OF THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF CHECKENDON MAJOR, 5020 CHANGES;
Tenor 23 cwt. 2 qr. 17 lb. in E flat.

JOHN A. GODFREY ... ...*Treble*		NOLAN GOLDEN 5	
MISS G. E. M. TUNNADINE 2		GEORGE SAYER 6	
GEORGE MAYERS 3		BERTIE J. HOWCHIN 7	
HENRY TOOKE 4		WILLIAM CLOVER... ... ...*Tenor*	

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.
Presumably the first peal in the method.

GRIMSBY, LINCS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, March 4, 1939, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 18¾ cwt.

WILLIAM MUMBY ... ...*Treble*		ERNEST BRITTAIN 5	
*GEORGE SNELL 2		JOHN E. KENNINGTON... ... 6	
JACK BRAY 3		GEORGE E. FEIRN 7	
CHARLES W. TAYLOR ... 4		HERBERT J. MINGAY ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by J. BRAY.
* First peal 'inside.' Rung to celebrate the jubilee of the first peal of Triples on the bells, rung on Saturday, March 4th, 1889.

DEPTFORD, LONDON.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, March 6, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 20½ cwt.

DEREK M. SHARP ... ...*Treble*		GEORGE W. FOGDEN 5	
*WALTER HUNT 2		PHILIP A. CORBY 6	
DENNIS G. BROWN 3		JACK DAFTERS 7	
ARTHUR S. RICHARDS... ... 4		A. PATRICK CANNON ... ...*Tenor*	

Composed by F. HOPGOOD. Conducted by P. A. CORBY.
* First peal in the method.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, March 6, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 8½ cwt.

FRANK BENNETT ... ...*Treble*		†RONALD PANKHURST 5	
HAROLD G. F. REYNOLDS... 2		EDWARD BRAY 6	
*MISS BETTY RAYFIELD ... 3		FREDERICK H. DALLAWAY 7	
HAROLD S. HOBDEN 4		LOUIS FAULKNER ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.
* First peal. † First peal of Stedman Triples.

ERITH, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, March 7, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF ASHTEAD SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt.

HERBERT A. HOLDEN ... ...*Treble*		DEREK M. SHARP... 5	
HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... 2		ARTHUR S. RICHARDS 6	
HARRY HOVERD 3		GEORGE J. BUTCHER 7	
FREDERICK J. CULLUM ... 4		PHILIP A. CORBY ... ...*Tenor*	

Composed by A. G. DRIVER. Conducted by P. A. CORBY.
First peal in the method by all the band, on the bells and for the association.

SOUTHPORT, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, March 7, 1939, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 10 cwt.

JAMES MARSH ... ...*Treble*		JOHN BROWN 5	
THOMAS S. HORRIDGE 2		JAMES W. GROUNDS 6	
GEORGE R. NEWTON 3		ERNEST F. BENNETT 7	
JOHN BOOTH 4		JOSEPH RIDYARD ... ...*Tenor*	

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by GEORGE R. NEWTON.
Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Mr. Arthur Knights. First peal in a Surprise method on the bells.

NORTH LOPHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, March 9, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF ASHTEAD SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 10¾ cwt. in F sharp.

WALTER ELSEY ... ...*Treble*		CECIL V. EBBERSON 5	
BERTIE J. HOWCHIN 2		FREDERICK C. ROPER 6	
ERIC G. BENNETT 3		ALBERT G. HARRISON 7	
NOLAN GOLDEN 4		WILLIAM CLOVER... ... ...*Tenor*	

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.
First peal in the method by all, in the diocese and for the association.

ENDERBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, March 9, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ...*Treble*		W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON ... 5	
LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD... 2		ARTHUR CATTELL 6	
CECIL E. CARR 3		EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD ... 7	
*RONALD W. SWANN 4		ARTHUR DEBENHAM ... ...*Tenor*	

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD
* First peal in the method.

LEYTON, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 8½ cwt.

ERIC J. COE ... ...*Treble*		JAMES E. DAVIS 5	
ERNEST W. FORBANE 2		MRS. F. W. HOUSDEN 6	
ERNEST W. PYE 3		FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN ... 7	
CHARLES A. HUGHES 4		JOHN H. CRAMPION ... ...*Tenor*	

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by J. H. CRAMPION.
Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. John H. Crampion, wife of the conductor.

BARKING, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
Tenor 22½ cwt.

ARTHUR S. RICHARDS ...*Treble*		GEORGE W. FOGDEN 5	
*WALTER BEARD... 2		*SIDNEY J. HOLGATE 6	
HERBERT A. HOLDEN ... 3		ERNEST G. COTTIS 7	
HARRY HOSKINS... 4		PHILIP A. CORBY ... ...*Tenor*	

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 322). Conducted by P. A. CORBY.
* First peal of Treble Bob.

MARSHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF NORTHREPPS MAJOR, 5060 CHANGES;
Tenor 7 cwt. 3 qr. 5 lb. in A flat.

JOHN A. GODFREY	...Treble	NOLAN GOLDEN	5
MISS G. E. M. TUNNADINE	2	GEORGE SAYER	6
GEORGE MAYERS...	3	ROBERT W. BARBER	7
HENRY TOOKE	4	WILLIAM CLOVER... ...	...Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

Presumably the first peal in the method and rung without previous practice.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 10 cwt.

MRS. J. H. BOTHAM ...	...Treble	ALICK CUTLER	5
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE... ...	2	JOHN H. BOTHAM...	6
ERIC B. HAFTLEY	3	HARRY KILBY	7
GEORGE R. PYE	4	JAMES BENNETT	...Tenor

Composed by EDGAR WIGHTMAN. Conducted by J. BENNETT.

BOCKING, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE DEANERY CHURCH,
A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, BRISTOL, CAMBRIDGE & SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 18¾ cwt. in E.

CLAUDE SNOWDEN ...	...Treble	RONALD SUCKLING	5
FRANK CLAYDON	2	BASIL REDGWELL...	6
REGINALD MARTIN	3	LEWIS W. WIFFEN	7
HILDA G. SNOWDEN	4	ALBERT WIFFEN	...Tenor

Composed by J. TOPP. Conducted by LEWIS W. WIFFEN.

First peal of Spliced Surprise Major by all the band. The peal consisted of 2,560 London, 1,216 Bristol, 768 Cambridge and 512 Superlative, with 120 changes of method.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
BROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTAN'S FOUR-PART,
Tenor 21½ cwt. in E flat.

CECIL W. PIPE	...Treble	FREDERICK J. SMITH	5
SYLVIA R. E BOWYER ...	2	CHARLES J. SEDGLEY	6
ARTHUR V. PEARSON	3	GEORGE A. FLEMING	7
HOBART E. SMITH	4	WILLIAM LAET	...Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES J. SEDGLEY.

CRAYFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
CARTER'S ODD BOB. Tenor 12¾ cwt.

EDWIN BARNETT	...Treble	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ...	5
EDWARD LANKESTER	2	ERNEST C. S. TURNER ...	6
HARRY HOVERD	3	DEREK M. SHARP...	7
HERBERT E. AUDSLEY... ...	4	ERNEST H. OXENHAM ...	...Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

SPRINGFIELD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, March 7, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

JOHN MYBILL	...Treble	*WILLIAM BARRATT	4
MISS ANNIE WHITE	2	ERNEST J. RONTER	5
EDWARD A. KEMP	3	HENRY W. SHADRACK	...Tenor

Conducted by H. W. SHADRACK.

* First peal of Minor. First peal as conductor.

FELKIRK, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION
AND THE BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.
On Thursday, March 9, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.
A PEAL OF SPLICED TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven extents as follows: (1) Oxford and Kent; (2) St. Albans and Charlwood Delight; (3) Neasden and Wragby Delight; (4) College Exercise and Ockley; (5) Duke of Norfolk and Norbury; (6) London Scholars' Pleasure and Capel; (7) Sandal and Kingston. Tenor 10 cwt.

*PETER WOODWARD ...	...Treble	CLIFFORD ROBINSON	4
†J. THOMAS WHITE	2	HAROLD CHANT	5
ROLAND HILL	3	DANIEL SMITH	...Tenor

Conducted by H. CHANT.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal in 14 methods. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the memory of Arthur Knights, the well-known ringer and composer.

SUNNINGWELL, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thursday, March 9, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Comprising two extents of Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob, and three extents of Plain Bob, each called differently. Tenor 8½ cwt.

*BERNARD S. NICHOLS	...Treble	*GEORGE AYRES	4
JONATHAN HONEY	2	*WILLIAM C. PORTER	5
MARIE R. CROSS	3	ALAN R. PINK	...Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* First peal of Minor and in three methods. First peal of Minor on the bells.

HEATHFIELD, TAUNTON, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 10 cwt.

HARRY PURCHASE ...	...Treble	WILLIAM G. GIGG	3
*CYRIL J. STEVENS	2	CLAUDE W. J. TARR	4
		*HARRY CHURCHILL ...	...Tenor

Conducted by HARRY CHURCHILL.

* First peal of Stedman Doubles.

LONGBRIDGE DEVERILL, WILTS.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 14 cwt.

*W. MADDOCK	...Treble	*A. WOODS	4
R. GAULD	2	W. A. AVERY	5
P. MERRETT	3	H. TROLLOPE	...Tenor

Conducted by W. A. AVERY.

* First peal and first attempt.

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SANDIACRE, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Double Bob, Double Court, Plain Bob and Oxford Treble Bob, and two extents of Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 16¼ cwt.

*A. SHEPPARD	*Treble*	*G. RIGBY	4
*P. L. PARROTT	2	W. R. DRAGE	5
*W. VARNHAM	3	H. TURNER	*Tenor*

Conducted by H. TURNER.
* First peal in six methods.

PEMBRIDGE, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE DETACHED TOWER OF THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being four 120's of Plain Bob, eight of Canterbury Pleasure, ten 240's of Pitman's and five of Morris' arrangements of Grandsire. Tenor 16 cwt.

*GRAHAM EVANS	*Treble*	JAMES P. HYETT	3
WILLIAM J. PREECE	2	A. BRYAN ELSMORE	4
LESLIE EVANS	*Tenor*		

Conducted by J. P. HYETT.
* First peal in three methods.

AYMESTREY, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sunday, March 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST AND ALKMUND,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being four 120's each of London, Plain Bob, Canterbury Pleasure and Reverse Canterbury, three 240's of Pitman's and five each of Lindoff's and Morris' arrangement of Grandsire. Tenor 10 cwt.

*GRAHAM EVANS	*Treble*	WILLIAM J. PREECE	4
*A. BRYAN ELSMORE	2	JAMES P. HYETT	5
LESLIE EVANS	3	*THOMAS R. PAYNE	*Tenor*

Conducted by J. P. HYETT.
* First peal in five methods. Also the first in five methods on the bells.

HANDBELL PEALS.

CRAYFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, March 3, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,
IN THE BELFRY OF THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

FREDERICK W. BUDGEN ...	1-2	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ...	5-6
DEREK M. SHARP	3-4	†JOHN O. WELLER	7-8

Composed by C. H. MARTIN. Conducted by D. M. SHARP.
* First peal of Major 'in hand.'

DARTFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, March 5, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,
AT 20, SWAISLAND ROAD,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

*HARRY HOVERD	1-2	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ...	5-6
DEREK M. SHARP	3-4	†JAMES E. BAILEY	7-8

Composed by J. E. BURTON. Conducted by D. M. SHARP.
Witnesses—Mrs. James E. Bailey and John Wheadon.
* First peal 'in hand' away from the tenors. † First peal 'in hand.'

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wednesday, March 8, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,
AT ASH MOUNT, PETER STREET,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor, size 12 in F.

HARRY FARRER	1-2	JOHN WORTH	5-6
JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER ..	3-4	GERALD FARRER	7-8

Composed by C. K. LEWIS. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thursday, March 9, 1939, in Two Hours and Nineteen Minutes,
AT 20, ABERDEEN CRESCENT,
A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;
Tenor, size 12 in F.

ALFRED BARNES	1-2	ALLEN F. BAILEY	5-6
HAROLD JACKSON	3-4	PETER LAFLIN	7-8
HARRY ASHTON	9-10		

Composed by G. R. NEWTON. Conducted by A. F. BAILEY.
Witness—Mrs. A. F. Bailey.
Rung as a 72nd birthday compliment to Mr. Hiram Meakin, Master of St. George's company, Stockport.

BEXLEY, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, March 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT WHICHFORD, HURST ROAD,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 12 extents of Plain Bob (four callings) and 30 extents of Grandsire (ten callings).

*KENNETH B. JONES	1-2	DEREK M. SHARP...	3-4
†GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ...	5-6		

Conducted by DEREK M. SHARP.
Witness: Mrs. K. B. Jones. * First attempt for a peal 'in hand.' † First peal of Doubles 'in hand.' First peal of Doubles 'in hand' in two methods as conductor.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

ANNUAL MEETING AT DUDLEY.

The annual meeting of the Dudley and District Guild was held at Dudley on Saturday, March 4th, and, in spite of the inclement weather, was well attended. The bells were kept merrily going in various methods prior to the service, which was conducted by the Ven. A. P. Shepherd, D.D., Archdeacon and Vicar of Dudley and president of the Guild. The Rev. W. H. Waring (curate) gave a very interesting address.

A substantial tea, provided out of funds collected by the secretary (Mr. Herbert Sheppard) from prominent members of St. Thomas' congregation and other friends, was served in the School Hall. It was prepared and served by ringers' wives, daughters and other friends. Upwards of 90 members sat down.

At the business meeting which followed, the Archdeacon presided, supported by Mr. W. R. Edwards (people's warden), the Rev. W. H. Waring, Messrs. Herbert Sheppard (secretary), John Goodman (treasurer) and W. E. Barry (ex-warden).

The President gave the members a hearty welcome to Dudley and said how pleased he was to be with them again.

The hon. treasurer presented the balance sheet, which showed total receipts of £19 0s. 7d., which included the balance of £13 11s. 1d. from last year. The expenses had been £6 9s. 9d., leaving a balance of £12 10s. 10d. in the treasurer's hands, which was considered very satisfactory.

The following were again elected vice-presidents: The Rev. E. L. Warren (Vicar of Netherton), the Rev. Prebendary H. W. Jones (Vicar of Wednesbury), the Rev. L. Wilson (Vicar of Old Hill), Dr. P. S. Blaker, Messrs. J. W. Nayler, C. E. Lloyd, A. E. Meredith. Arthur Spittle, A. Winbow, W. E. Barry, J. McDougal Tait and W. R. Edwards.

Mr. Walter Farley, of Stourbridge, was unanimously elected Ringing Master and Mr. Herbert Sheppard secretary. Mr. John Goodman was re-elected treasurer, and Messrs. G. T. Guest and T. H. Justice auditors and thanked for their services. Mr. T. Colclough was re-elected representative on the Central Council.

Several new members were added to the roll and it was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Clent, subject to the usual permission being obtained. It was proposed to attempt the annual peal at Dudley, the arrangements being left with the Ringing Master.

After some discussion it was decided to continue the monthly practices at Dudley Parish Church (ten bells) on the first Monday in each month at 7.30 p.m.

Mr. Sheppard proposed that the best thanks of the meeting be given to the Archdeacon, to the Rev. W. H. Waring, to the organist, to the donors of the tea fund, to the ladies who presided at the tables and prepared and served the tea, and to all who had in any way assisted in making the meeting a happy and successful one.—The Archdeacon briefly replied on behalf of all concerned and then closed the proceedings with prayer.

Further ringing took place in the evening and brought an enjoyable meeting to a close.

QUICKEST PEAL AT ASHBRITTLE.

To the Editor.

Sir,—The last paragraph of 'Peal Notes' in your last issue states that the quickest peal on Ashbrittle bells was rung in 2 hours 39 minutes on February 25th. This is incorrect, as a peal was rung on the same bells in 2 hours 32 minutes on April 18th, 1920.

Milverton, Somerset. A. TOUT.

PEAL NOTES.

METHODS ON A NEW PLAN.

A band under the conductorship of Mr. Nolan Golden, the indefatigable hon. secretary of the Norwich Diocesan Association, has just scored the first peal in two new Major methods, which are a combination of Little and Alliance. The treble is a dodging bell in 1-2 and 3-4 and a plain hunt bell in 5-6. When it reaches 6th's it turns round and goes down, so that it is never in 7-8. The length of a course is 140 changes and both methods have a 6th's place bob.

The first of the two methods was Checkendon, a peal of which was rung at East Dereham on March 4th, and the second Northrepps, rung at Marsham last Saturday. Both peals were composed and conducted by Mr. Golden, and are another interesting departure from the beaten track which seems to offer extensive variety.

Here is half a lead of each method:—

Checkendon.	Northrepps
12345678	12345678
21435687	21436587
12346578	12346578
21436587	21435687
24163857	24136578
42613875	42315687
24168357	24135678
42618375	42316587
46281735	24361857
64827153	42638175
68472135	46283157
17583624	16847253
15738264	18674523
Bob 15738642	Bob 18674235

Another band has broken into Spliced Surprise Major ringing. Ringers from Earls Colne, Halstead and Braintree have been practising together, and last Saturday at the third attempt a peal in four methods was accomplished, under the conductorship of Mr. Lewis Wiffen, at Bocking.

The successful band wish to associate with the peal the names of Mr. H. Felton, of Braintree, who stood in a previous attempt, Miss E. Pettit and Mr. W. Arnold, who have attended the practices. The first attempt for a peal was lost after 2 hours 30 minutes, and in the second the ringing lasted two hours.

The peal on Saturday was the fiftieth which Miss Hilda Snowden and her brother, Claude, have rung together.

The peal of Stedman Triples rung at Christ Church, Eastbourne, on March 6th, was a 16th birthday compliment to Miss Betty Rayfield, who scored her first peal. It was afterwards discovered to be a birthday compliment to the ringers of the 5th and tenor (Messrs. Pankhurst and Faulkner), whose birthdays are March 7th and 8th respectively, there being exactly half a century between the ages of Miss Rayfield and Mr. Faulkner. The peal was also rung almost on the 50th anniversary of Mr. Frank Bennett's first peal—Grandsire Triples at S. Nicolas', Guildford, on March 2nd, 1889.

TWO BANDS RING THEIR FIRST PEAL OF ASHTEAD.

All the band who took part at Erith, Kent, on March 7th, rang their first peal of Ashtead Surprise without previous practice. It was the first peal in the method on the bells and for the Kent County Association. The composition by Mr. A. G. Driver was also rung for the first time, and has the 4, 5 and 6 their extent in 5-6 at course ends.

Another band last week also rang their first peal of Ashtead Surprise at the first attempt without having rung the method before. This was at North Lopham, Norfolk, on March 9th, and was the first in the method in the diocese and for the Norwich Diocesan Association.

At North Lopham the tenor is 10½ cwt., but the peal did take 3 hours 28 minutes (as recorded in our peal columns) and it did contain only 5,088 changes. Ringing on the ground floor makes it difficult to hear the bells—a very fine-toned ring by Mears and Stainbank, which 'tell a fine tale' when rung slowly—without opening the trap door—and nobody thought of that on this occasion. However, the record time for the slowest 5,088 in this tower was when the redoubtable John Souter called a 5,088 of Oxford Treble Bob Major and rang the tenor for 3 hours 34 minutes thirteen years ago. Incidentally, the conductor of the peal last Thursday week rang the tenor to seven extents of Minor in 2 hours 22 minutes on October 25th, 1930.

The peal at St. Nicholas', Deptford, on March 6th, was a birthday compliment to Mr. J. Dafters, of Lewisham, the ringer of the 7th. It was a compliment well earned and the reward of much perseverance. The 'go' of the bells is not good and the 7th is about the worst. Mr. Dafters' attempts for a peal at 'St. Nick's' have been spread over 16 years, and this is his first success.

In the same peal, Mr. Walter Hunt, who recently rang Superlative as his first peal, rang the 2nd, an oddstruck and awkward-going bell, very well to score his first peal of Bob Major.

Some of the young men in the Crayford district are filling up their odd moments with handbell ringing, and we record this week three peals conducted by Derek Sharp. One of them, rung on March 3rd, was his 150th peal.

Four members of the Guildford Diocesan Guild (Messrs. A. H. Pulling and W. J. Robinson, from Guildford, and Messrs. J. H. B. Hesse and E. J. Ayliffe, from Haslemere) made the long journey to Loughborough and back on Saturday and enjoyed a peal of Stedman Caters on the glorious bells of the Parish Church. Messrs. Fred Dexter and Harry Broughton, of Leicester, who also took part, both finished the 'circle' of the tower.

The peal at Barking, Essex, on Saturday, was the first there for six years. The excellent 'go' of the bells testifies to the care and attention they receive at the hands of Mr. Caleb Fenn. The ringers of 2, 6 and 7 are of the local company and two of them rang their first peal of Treble Bob. The rest of the band were from North Kent. The composition, by the late Mr. Arthur Knights, was rung for the first time.

Barking is the 50th tower in which Mr. Arthur Richards, of West Wickham, Kent, has rung a peal. The fact that it was his 99th peal shows that he has gone in search of ringing rather than allow himself to stagnate in one district.

A JUBILEE PEAL.

The first peal of Triples at St. James' Church, Grimsby, was rung on Saturday, March 4th, 1889, and among those who took part was Mr. A. B. Sheppard, who rang his first peal. Mr. Sheppard is still a member of the local band, and the Grimsby District ringers offer their best wishes to those still living who were in that peal of 50 years ago. On Saturday, March 4th, 1939, a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung to celebrate the jubilee.

There are some people—and some quite good ringers, too—who do not like Stedman, but on occasion they have to come to it, if they want to ring. Last Saturday a band went to Debenham for a peal of Major (in the best East Anglian tradition), but, meeting one short, they found a tenorman in Mr. William Last and rang a peal of Stedman Triples. 'Stedman Cinques last week and Stedman Triples this week—I don't know what we are coming to,' writes one of these 'Stedmanophobes.'

As a compliment to Mr. Hiram Meakin, Master of St. George's company, Stockport, for his 72nd birthday, a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal was rung on handbells by Stockport company on March 9th.

The five ringers who took part in the peal of Stedman Doubles at Heathfield, Som., were from five different towers. Saturday's peal was rung as a welcome to the new Rector (the Rev. J. H. Davies), who has recently been inducted to the living of Halse with Heathfield.

As a last tribute to the memory of the late Mr. Arthur Knights, a peal of Cambridge Surprise Major was rung with the bells half-muffled at Southport, Lancashire, on March 7th.

Enderby was the spot chosen by the Leicester 'Thursday-ites' on March 9th, and in their 'lucky' tower were happy to record another success when they rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major under the conductorship of Mr. Walter P. Whitehead.

St. Mary's Church, Pembridge, Herefordshire, has a detached tower. The quickest peal on the bells, which have a 16 cwt. tenor, was rung on March 11th, 5,040 of Doubles in three methods being brought round in 2 hours 47 minutes.

Two of the local ringers at Aymestrey, Herefordshire, James Owen and William Marsh, were so interested in seeing how a peal was rung that they sat in the tower for nearly three hours on Sunday while members of the Diocesan Guild rang a peal of Doubles in five methods. We hope next time a peal is rung at Aymestrey their interest will have carried them far enough to enable them to take part in it instead of being merely spectators. This peal was Mr. J. P. Hyett's 150th as conductor for the Hereford Guild.

A peal of Minor rung at Springfield, Essex, on March 7th, was a birthday compliment to Rosamond Laura, youngest daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. R. C. Collwyn Hargreaves, and to Mr. R. Turner, a member of the local company.

The first half-muffled peal on the bells at Felkirk, Yorks, was rung on March 9th in memory of Mr. Arthur Knights. It consisted of seven spliced extents of Treble Bob Minor in 14 methods.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

MEMBERS MEET AT LUNCH.

The annual lunch of the Oxford University Society was held at the Randolph Hotel, Oxford, on March 2nd. The president, the Rev. C. E. Wigg (Keble), presided and 21 members were present. The guests of the society were Alderman C. H. Brown (president, Oxford Society), Mr. V. Bennett (secretary, Oxford Society) and the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow (Cambridge University Guild).

After the loyal toast had been proposed by the president, Alderman Brown proposed the toast of 'The Oxford University Society.' The treasurer of the society, Mr. M. C. G. Hayter (Christ Church) responded.

'The Visitors and Kindred Societies' was proposed by the Master, Mr. R. D. St. J. Smith (Jesus), and to which the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow responded.

After lunch, members of the society, accompanied by Mr. Bennett, went on to New College, where, by kind permission of the Warden, the bells were rung during the afternoon. Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Plain Bob Major were rung, in addition to rounds on the ten bells.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

NORTHERN DIVISION DISCUSSES PROPOSED BENEVOLENT FUND.

A meeting of the Northern Division of the Essex Association took place at Coggeshall on February 25th, when 40 ringers attended from 18 parishes, including the local company.

A short service was conducted by the Rev. F. N. Brown (Vicar), who, in the course of his address, gave the ringers a hearty welcome.

Tea was afterwards served in the Co-operative Hall, having been nicely prepared by lady churchworkers.

At the business meeting which followed, with the District Master (Mr. F. Ridgwell) in the chair, four new ringing members were elected, and it was decided to hold the next meeting at Stisted on April 1st.

The District Master reported the proceedings of the recent Central Committee meeting, and much discussion ensued on the question of the proposed Benevolent Fund.

Mr. Ridgwell briefly explained the suggested rules that Mr. Chalk had undertaken to send out for consideration.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar, the organist and the ladies for preparing the tea was proposed by the Master, and, in reply, the Vicar said he hoped the ringers would visit Coggeshall many more times during his ministry there. The ringers then returned to the tower for further ringing.

THE BELGRAVE INCIDENT.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—With reference to the letter under the heading 'Misinformed' in your last issue, how very convenient for Mr. Riddington to consider the matter closed after making an accusation which was unfounded. Who the disappointed ringers are I have not the faintest idea or even interest in.

The information that I had applied for the bells for the peal referred to came from the Vicar himself, who very definitely was under the impression that the particular application was from myself as secretary of the Leicester Branch, otherwise permission would not have been given at such short notice. This transpired during a conversation in which I was making arrangements for a ringing meeting at Belgrave. Of course, having made no such application, I informed the Vicar accordingly and apologised to him for someone having taken such liberties without my knowledge. The Vicar has since informed me that the application was made on Sunday evening, as stated in my previous letter.

HERBERT W. PERKINS.

LADIES' GUILD.

NORTHERN DISTRICT'S GOOD MEETING IN CHESHIRE.

In spite of poor weather, there was a very good attendance at the quarterly meeting of the Ladies' Guild (Northern District) at Norbury, near Stockport, on March 11th. There was a satisfactory number of members, representing towers as far apart as Ashton, Manchester, Hazel Grove, Todmorden, Leeds (St. Chad's and Armley), Sherburn-in-Elmet, Macclesfield and Stoke-on-Trent.

Ringing in the afternoon was followed by a short service, conducted by the Vicar of Norbury (the Rev. A. J. Humphreys), assisted by the Rev. Frank Bonner. After the splendid tea which was served in the schools, a very hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for his words of welcome and his very interesting address, to the ladies who so kindly prepared tea, and others who helped to make such a successful meeting.

In his reply, Mr. Humphreys admitted that he had only recently learned of the existence of the Ladies' Guild, but hoped that it would not be long before another such meeting was held at Norbury.

At the short business meeting which followed there were many expressions of regret at the illness of Mrs. Kelly and of hope that she will soon be well enough again to ring.

Two new members were elected, and everyone was asked to make a note of the annual meeting of the district, to be held on June 10th at St. Chad's, Far Headingley, Leeds.

Mrs. Wolstencroft proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for his kindness, to Mrs. Fernley and other ladies who had done so much in providing tea, and to Mr. Fernley for his help as organist at the service.—This was carried unanimously and Mrs. Fernley replied.

Further ringing, both on handbells and in the tower, concluded a most enjoyable meeting.

DEATH OF A YORK MINSTER RINGER.

For 27 years a member of York Minster company, Mr. Charles William Fountain has passed away at the age of 67 years, to the deep regret of all his colleagues, among whom his conscientious discharge of his duties made him highly valued.

Two years ago Mr. Fountain, who was a brass finisher at the Carriage and Wagon Works, York, retired from the service of the L. and N.E. Railway.

He began his ringing at St. Mary's Church, Bishophill Senior, and joined the Yorkshire Association in 1906.

The Minster bells were rung muffled after the funeral.

The deceased leaves a widow, two sons and two daughters in bereavement.

APPRECIATION

"

The Sanctuary,
Probus,
Cornwall.
8th March, 1939.

MESSRS. J. TAYLOR & CO.

Dear Sirs,

The dedication of the bells took place on February 25th. About 20 towers were present, and we had ringing for about 7 hours. All expressed extreme pleasure both at the tone and quality of our restored peal and at the ease in ringing, and were loud in praise of the work you had done and the way in which it was carried out. I should like to add my own appreciation, which is quite unqualified. We are all extremely grateful to you for enabling us to have what must be one of the finest peals in the country.

Yours most gratefully,
(Signed) T. G. HAMMOND. "

Probus peal has been tuned and augmented from 6 to 8 bells and hung in a new frame by John Taylor & Co., 1939. Weight of tenor 20 cwts. 0 qr. 11 lbs.

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BELL ROPES, MUFFLES, &c.

BELFRY GOSSIP.

One of the longest continuous bell broadcasts was that made from the Cathedral of the Holy Rosary, Vancouver, on New Year's night, when the bells were on the air for 27 minutes 17 seconds. In this time well-struck short touches of Grandsire Triples were rung, conducted by Mr. George Roberts, who formerly lived in Bristol and who saw the bells, now in the tower at the Cathedral, before they left the Bristol foundry of Llewellin and James.

After several years of valuable work as joint hon. secretaries of the Winchester District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild, Mr. George Noice and Miss Noice have retired and their place is being taken by Mr. W. G. Goodchild, of 139, Stanmore Lane, Winchester.

The annual meeting of the Guildford Diocesan Guild has been fixed for April 29th and will be held, as usual, in Guildford.

Mr. George Horner, the popular secretary of York Minster Society, who recently underwent a serious operation, is, we are pleased to say, making a good recovery and is now at home convalescing.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank B. Yates, of King's Norton, are being entertained to dinner by some of their Birmingham ringing friends on Saturday at the Crown Hotel, Corporation Street.

To-day that old London worthy, Challis F. Winney, a member of St. Paul's Cathedral Society, celebrates his 81st birthday. His friends everywhere will extend their hearty congratulations to him.

Yesterday one of Mr. Winney's oldest ringing friends, Mr. Francis E. Dawe, celebrated his 77th birthday and attempted a peal at his birthplace, West Meon, Hants. We hope he was successful. Mr. Dawe is the only man who has been five times Master of the College Youths. He was first elected in 1888.

'RINGING UP.'

INEXPERIENCED BAND SEEKS ADVICE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—We ring up badly in our tower, and are not likely to make much improvement, because we cannot agree among ourselves as to what is the cause.

The peal is a recently rehung six, tenor 17 cwt. My own feeling is that the treble does not get ahead fast enough at the start, after the first dozen pulls, so that the back bells have to pull down again from their normal swing. I base this contention on the reversed position when ringing down, for in this case when the back bells are almost down to chiming position the front bells are still well up in comparison. The other important point I consider to be that the bells should be really close together in the early stages.

Another point bearing on this is that one member says the tenor does not start chiming and ringing up soon enough. I, who usually ring it up, have always been taught that the bells should chime round by degrees, first the treble and 2nd, then 1, 2 and 3, with the other bells being added at approximately each whole pull. This allows the front bells to get up a little before the tenor starts, which, in my opinion, is the correct position for a good 'up,' so long as the trebles keep up.

As none of us in the tower is an expert, and each backs his own opinion, could we have some guidance—not necessarily from an expert change ringer, but from someone who knows what is wrong and can help us put it right.

'YOKEL.'

CLERGY IN THE TOWER.

A YORKSHIRE VICAR'S VIEWS.

The March meeting of the Barnsley and District Society was held at Kirkthorpe, near Wakefield, on Saturday. The attendance was very poor, as only about a dozen members were present, representing Barnsley, Felkirk, Sandal and the local company. No doubt the wet weather was to blame.

The bells were rung in the afternoon until 5 p.m., when those present adjourned to the Parish Room for an excellent tea.

The business meeting took place, with the Vicar (the Rev. J. Willoughby) in the chair.

The president of the association (Mr. C. D. Potter) opened a discussion on the editorial article in 'The Ringing World' of March 10th on the subject of educating the clergy, and it was the general feeling of the meeting that the ringers in the various towers should invite the clergy to join them on practice nights and do all in their power to make them understand what the art really is, and enable them to feel at home.

The Vicar said while he agreed with the principle of the suggestions, he thought a Vicar was too busy to take part in actual ringing on Sunday. Even if he could, he thought it was not possible for him to come out of the belfry after some mistake had been made or something had upset the mind, and to conduct the service with the same reverence. He fully agreed with co-operation of ringers and clergy, and pointed out that although the bells were the freehold property of the Vicar, he thought where there was harmony it was best not to interfere.

Horbury was chosen for the next meeting, to be held on Saturday, April 8th.

The Vicar offered the bells of Kirkthorpe for the society's annual shield contest, to be held in July, and this was accepted with thanks.

After the usual vote of thanks, further ringing followed.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—62.

ALBERT NASH.

It is not always the number of peals that a man has rung and called that puts him in the forefront among ringers, but his ability in the tower as a leader and his skill as a conductor. Measured by totals, the record of Mr. Albert Nash, Ringing Master at Rotherham Parish Church, is a modest one compared with some, but his capacity and versatility as a conductor have placed him in a position with few equals in the County of Broad Acres, where, during the more than 60 years of the Yorkshire Association's existence, there has been a wider tendency than in most areas to share the calling of peals. Although the association peal records now reach a total well over four thousand, the present resident members who have called over a hundred peals could, we believe, be numbered upon the fingers of one hand. Mr. Nash's total of 84 peals conducted, most of which have been rung for the Yorkshire Association, show him, therefore, to be among the most active of the conductors in the county.



MR. ALBERT NASH.

He was born at Wath-on-Dearne on April 27th, 1885, and in 1904 conducted the first peal he rang—a peal in seven Treble Bob Minor methods. He also conducted his first peal of Major; Treble Bob rung in 1905. Although his peals range from Minor to Cinques, he has always had a keen interest in six-bell ringing, and has rung at one time or another every Minor method in the Central Council's collection, and scores besides, which are now looked upon as unorthodox.

Mr. Nash's peals total 188, of which 36 have been on handbells, and of these he has conducted four. He took part in 1906 in the 11,232 Kent Treble Bob Major, rung at Wortley, the longest peal rung in Yorkshire. He conducted a peal in ten Surprise Minor extents at Crofton in 1930, and at All Saints', Rotherham, in January of the next year, conducted another Yorkshire record of 10,800 of Surprise Minor, made up of 15 extents in different methods. But Mr. Nash's activities as a conductor have by no means been limited to Minor, and he has called peals of, among other methods, Bristol, London, Pudsey, Rutland, and Superlative Surprise Major and Cambridge Major and Royal.

His record would doubtless have been a longer one had it not been that business kept him out of ringing from 1912 to 1916, and then he was blown up and seriously incapacitated for a further seven years, in the first four years of which he underwent many operations. Indeed, the marvel is that he was ever able to return to ringing and achieve such a measure of fresh success.

THE POPE'S CORONATION.

In honour of the Coronation of His Holiness Pope Pius XII., the following ringing was done at the Church of St. Francis Xavier, Liverpool, on Sunday, March 12th, before evening service: 656 Bob Major: T. W. Hammond 1, G. R. Newton (conductor) 2, T. Egan 3, C. S. Benwell 4, J. W. Meldrum 5, T. W. Gilmour 6, E. Caunce 7, P. W. Cave 8. After evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: P. W. Cave 1, G. R. Newton 2, C. S. Benwell 3, E. Caunce 4, J. W. Meldrum 5, T. W. Gilmour 6, T. W. Hammond (conductor) 7, H. Roberts 8.

After morning service at St. Marie's Church, Norfolk Row, Sheffield, to mark the occasion of the crowning of His Holiness the Pope, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by George Holmes (conductor) 1, J. Osguthorpe 2, F. Brightmore 3, M. E. Wilson 4, H. Chaddock 5, R. Harrison 6, E. Thorpe 7, P. Lowe (first quarter-peal) 8. By a coincidence, it was also the 60th anniversary of the conductor's membership of the Ancient Society of College Youths and of his first peal.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It was with regret that I read the letter in your issue of March 10th from the pen of Mr. C. T. Coles re the London County Association.

I should have thought that any thinking person would realise the bitterness and ill-feeling which will be caused if this matter is allowed to go any further.

I could say much, if I expressed my own personal feelings, but I do feel that the interests of both guilds concerned and of the Exercise generally will be better served if the matter is speedily forgotten.

W. SIMMONDS,
Member of Guildford Diocesan Guild and London County Association.

GOOD FRIDAY RINGING.

To the Editor.

Sir,—With reference to Mr. Box's letter on the above subject, I, in common with probably 99 per cent. of your readers, plead guilty to his charge of ignorance of the liturgical traditions of the Church.

Whether adherence to these traditions is applicable or advisable under present conditions is a matter of opinion. It may be possible that they have become obsolete, like many other ancient usages, owing to the change and progress of human thought and ideals.

My suggestion as to ringing on Good Friday is, I think, in definite accord with the Archbishop's appeal for a national 'Recall to Religion.' The only order with regard to calling the people to the services of the Church I can find in the Book of Common Prayer is in the Preface, as follows: 'The curate . . . . shall cause a bell to be tolled thereunto a convenient time before he begin that the people may come to hear God's Word and to pray with him.'

The mode of ringing on certain special occasions is, I presume, under the direction of the Vicar of the parish, where I am content to leave it.

WILLIAM STORY.

Bournemouth.

MISSALS DO NOT PROHIBIT MUFFLED RINGING.

Sir,—The letter from Mr. Box on the subject of Good Friday is most interesting, but the rubrics of the ancient Missals cannot be regarded as prohibiting muffled ringing. The 'silence' enjoined obviously refers only to open ringing, as muffled ringing was then unknown

For my own part, I strongly advocate a muffled peal on Good Friday, to mark the solemnity of the day. One of the most impressive effects that I have ever heard was that of eight bells at Bath Abbey rung muffled at a late hour on Good Friday and again on Easter Eve.

It is interesting to find that St. Chad's, Birmingham, has adopted the modern Anglican custom of refraining from open ringing all through Holy Week, as well as on the two days named in Mr. Box's letter.

The 24 bells of Seville Cathedral are still rung at the Gloria on Easter Even.

F. LL. EDWARDS.

Kington Magna.

TRADITIONS MUST SOMETIMES BE BROKEN.

Dear Sir,—How prone we are to try to convince the 'other' fellow that he knows little or nothing or that he 'shows deplorable lack of knowledge' should he make a suggestion. That word *tradition* too, how often is it misused as a big gun to blow a constructive scheme to atoms. It usually means, 'We've never done it before,' or 'We always used to do——'

Mr. William Story is at present in Bournemouth and we enjoy his assistance at the Parish Church tower, but curiously enough he was not aware that we had adopted his suggested practice of full muffled ringing on Good Friday several years ago.

The 'traditional' method at St. Peter's was to toll the tenor 33 times at the close of the three hours' devotion. The muffled ringing was adopted to remind the general public in this holiday resort of the solemnity of Good Friday. From the appreciative comments we have heard concerning the practice I think we can say it has gained its objective.

To move with the times, ancient traditions and customs must sometimes be broken, and no institution has found this to be so more than the Church. That is why Mr. Box is forced to refer to the '*few* remaining ancient traditions.' A few years ago Bournemouth was mainly a residential town, to-day it is a very popular holiday resort, demanding a very different administration from its citizens.

ARTHUR V. DAVIS.

Bournemouth.

A CHURCH OCCASION FOR MUFFLED RINGING.

Dear Sir,—I agree with Mr. Story that Good Friday is the special occasion for muffled ringing, and, indeed, the only day in the Church's year. The muffles are used for national and personal occasions, but never, I believe, for a church occasion.

In some churches, to emphasise Easter, the bells are only chimed during Lent, but if they were rung fully muffled on Good Friday this would have the same (if not greater) effect and may save the ringers the monotony, etc., of chiming. As Mr. Box, in your issue last week, does not mention muffled ringing, I conclude he is referring to open ringing, which, I think, would be out of place on Good Friday.

St. Mary Bourne. J. HOLLOWAY.

MUFFLED BELLS ADD SOLEMNITY.

Sir,—May I remind Mr. Wilfred E. Box that this is the reign of George VI.—not George I. In the days when the books he refers to were written, muffled ringing was something unheard of; but to-day few things stir the feeling of solemnity among the people more than do muffled bells, particularly fully muffled. From the day I took up ringing 18 years ago to the present time I have only heard bells rung fully muffled once, on the day of the death of H.M. King George V., and on that occasion I heard more outside comments of appreciation of bells than ever before or ever since. The King's passing was a memorable event in itself, but there was something about hearing the bells rung fully muffled which added to the

(Continued on next page.)

DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS IN YORKSHIRE.

HELPFUL TO COUNTY ORGANISATION.

Smaller Societies' Useful Work.

Another page in the history of the Yorkshire Association was commenced when the Western District held a joint meeting with the newly-formed Huddersfield and District Association at the Church of St. Mary, Elland, on Saturday, March 11th. In spite of the very unsuitable weather, for it was bitterly cold and rained incessantly throughout the afternoon and evening, there was a very good attendance and a representative gathering of between 50 and 60 was present.

The bells, a fine peal of eight with a tenor 15½ cwt., are really in remarkable condition when it is remembered that they are considerably over 100 years old and comparatively little has been spent on them for a number of years. They are reputed to be one of the last peals cast by Dobson, of Downham Market. The bells were raised in peal about 2.30, and during the day a large variety of methods was rung, ranging from Plain Bob to Cambridge and Superlative Surprise. At times the capacity of the tower was taxed to its utmost, but good feeling prevailed and touches were kept as short as possible.

A short service was held, conducted by the Rev. T. Mathieson and the Rev. A. L. Minns, both vice-presidents of the Huddersfield and District Association, and this was greatly appreciated by the large gathering present. Afterwards a splendid tea was served in the Parochial Hall, about 60 members sitting down.

A rather lengthy but important business meeting of the Western District was held in the Church Schools, at which the vice-president, Mr. P. J. Johnson, occupied the chair, supported by the association president, Canon C. C. Marshall, M.A. One new member, the Rev. A. L. Minns, of St. John's, Birkby, was elected.

As this was the annual meeting of the district, various officers were due for re-election. On the motion of Mr. H. Lofthouse, seconded by Mr. F. G. Sherwood, the vice-president, Mr. P. J. Johnson, was unanimously re-elected for a further period of three years, and tribute to his untiring efforts and efficiency in conducting the meetings were endorsed.

In answering a question regarding the attendances of the retiring members of the committee, the secretary pointed out that he was not justified in putting one member's name forward for re-election, as only 25 per cent. of the meetings had been attended. It was pointed out that when officers were elected, it was expected that the fullest support would be given in attending the meetings.

Mr. W. H. Senior and Mr. H. Armitage were accordingly re-elected for a further period, and Mr. L. Drake, of Burley was elected to fill the remaining vacancy. Mr. Armitage was also re-elected to serve on the General Committee.

Owing to pressure of other business, it was intimated that Mr. R. Bottomley, of Keighley, had been compelled to resign his office, and Mr. John Cooper, of Silsden, was thereupon elected to fill the vacancy and complete the period of office.

BELL RESTORATION FUND APPROVED.

The Chairman brought forward the question of a Bell Repairs Fund, a proposal which had been made by a member from another district. At the previous meeting no definite decision was made, and the matter had been left open for further consideration until the present meeting. He explained that the committee had given this careful thought, and had put forward a proposal that the scheme be accepted in principle, but that the collections be confined to the annual district meetings and the general meetings only.

Considerable discussion arose. Mr. Barton thought the collections should be taken at all meetings, for, as with no other hobby, bells costing anything between £500 and £1,200 were provided free of charge for their enjoyment. He asked the members to be honest with themselves and ask if they really ring the bells solely because of their love for the Church? Whatever hobby one took up, the fees and costs were greatly in excess of that of ringers.

The President said that, in his opinion, the scheme was sound in principle, and he hoped it would be adopted. They were perhaps preparing something for the next generation, as it would undoubtedly take several years before the fund could be used, but he was sure that when once it was started, they would find other ways and means of extending it if necessary.

Various other views were ventilated, but, on a vote being taken, the recommendation of the committee was passed by an overwhelming majority.

The Chairman, in putting this to the meeting, emphasised the fact that although the matter was now agreed in principle, the whole question would be reviewed together with the reports from the other districts, and the General Committee would no doubt report more fully at a later general meeting.

As no invitation had been received for the June meeting, it was proposed that the meeting be taken to Gargrave if possible, and be held on the last Saturday in June, so as not to clash with other meetings which were being arranged.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Rector and wardens for kindly granting the use of the bells, and also to the local company for their splendid arrangements, and to the organist who kindly gave his services during the service, was proposed by Canon Marshall, who spoke appreciatively of the hearty welcome they had all received.—This was seconded by Mr. W. H. Senior and carried.

The Rev. T. Mathieson, in replying, said how very pleased they were to welcome the association, and expressed his regret that the Rector was unable to be with them, owing to another engagement which had clashed. He was extremely sorry that the weather was not very kind, and kindly offered the use of the Institute in the Parochial Hall for those who were unable to find room in the tower. He hoped that everyone would thoroughly enjoy themselves and that they would come again at some future time.

NEW DISTRICT ASSOCIATION WELCOMED.

The Chairman expressed his pleasure at the arrangements for the joint meeting with the Huddersfield and District Association, and pointed out that such meetings were all to the good of change ringing. He was particularly pleased with the attendance from the surrounding district and also with the fact that the two vice-presidents were present. He thought that any differences of opinion there were between the two associations were more imaginary than real, and hoped that the members would come along to the other meetings more frequently, so that they could all understand one another better. He thought the Church was passing through a difficult period owing to shortages of ringers, but when one remembered that during the war a whole generation of ringers was swept away, it was easily understood. He congratulated the two vice-presidents for the interest they were taking in looking after the young ringers, and was sure that success would attend their efforts.

Canon Marshall also spoke of the very amicable relations which existed between the Yorkshire Association and the many district societies, and was pleased to extend a welcome to the newly-formed Huddersfield and District Association. Their county was very large, and it was sometimes very difficult to give the attention needed to all the areas. This was where the smaller societies could do the most useful work, and he promised them every support. Their existence was really necessary to maintain the progress required by ringers, and he hoped they would continue to be a help to the larger county association. As their president he wished the association every success and hoped that this first joint meeting would be the first of many.

The Rev. A. L. Minns, in replying, said he felt this to be a great day, when their County Association had come with such great pleasure to give their blessing to the newly-formed association. Although they were an infant society, they were growing, and he felt that their numbers now were really encouraging. He hoped the Yorkshire Association would look upon them as a nursery, preparing the young ringers for the larger County Association. By their meetings, which were arranged frequently, they were trying to give that encouragement and opportunity to the younger ringers. He thanked the president for his words of welcome and encouragement, and assured him of their unswerving loyalty.

Mr. Barton mentioned the great regret which they all felt at the passing of Mr. Arthur Knights, who, although not a Yorkshireman, had done so very much for the association. His heart and soul were in the work of the association, and when it was remembered that some 460 different compositions of his had been rung in the county, they would realise what benefit this must have been to them.—The members then stood in silence as a last token of respect.

This concluded the business of the meeting, and after handbells had been enjoyed, the tower was again visited and further ringing took place until about 9 o'clock. A pleasing feature was the presence of so many young ringers, and this augurs well for the continuance and progress of the newly-formed association.

The following towers were represented during the day: Addingham, Armley, Batley, Bradford Cathedral, Bramley, Brighouse, Burley, Elland, Halifax, Headingley (St. Chad's and St. Michael's), Huddersfield, Idle, Kirkburton, Leeds, Lindley, Liversedge, Longwood, Mytholmroyd, Northowram, Meltham, Pudsey, Queensbury, Rippondon, Rothwell, Silsden and Sowerby.

GOOD FRIDAY RINGING.

(Continued from previous page.)

solemnity of the day. I venture to say the effect would be the same on that day when the Church annually commemorates the death of the King of Kings.

Until I heard fully muffled bells I must confess I had no idea that fully muffled ringing could have such a soothing and beautiful effect, more so, to my mind, than half-muffled (though I like to hear bells rung in that way); and far more so than fully muffled with tenor open at back stroke, which Mr. Story advocates. The latter, I contend, sounds neither one thing nor the other. If we are going to have single bells tolled, let us have them as such, not mix the two things and spoil good music by one bell banging out above all the others. Fully muffled ringing is generally considered a symbol of extra sorrowfulness, and open ringing a symbol of rejoicing. What, then, can be more in keeping with the two great days than to hear the former on Good Friday and the latter on Easter Sunday?

Northampton. P. AMOS.

WEDDING BELLS.

In honour of the wedding of Mr. Stanley Stapleton, of the local company, and Miss Elizabeth Whitmore, on March 4th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung at the Church of Our Lady, Keysoe, Beds: A. Stapleton 1, E. Asque 2, G. Seth 3, H. Swepston 4, D. Cockings (conductor) 5.

A VANCOUVER VETERAN.

DEATH OF MR. EDWIN CASHMORE.

Helped to Build Carter's First Ringing Machine.

There has recently passed away in Vancouver, B.C., an old ringer, who was an interesting link with ringing in the Birmingham district more than 70 years ago. Edwin James Cashmore, who, with his wife and young family, emigrated to Canada about 50 years ago, has died at the advanced age of 87. He was the eldest son of Paul Cashmore, of West Bromwich, a gunsmith, and leader of the ringers at West Bromwich Parish Church.

Edwin Cashmore, who at the age of eight became a chorister at West Bromwich, and afterwards developed a fine tenor voice, went first to Toronto and about 30 years ago went further west to Vancouver, where he established a successful sports business. In his youth in England it was, of course, only natural that, as soon as he was able, he should learn to ring, and his tutors were his father and his uncles, Edwin Cashmore, Samuel Marsh and Samson Marsh. In Toronto there was no church bell ringing to be had and he turned his attention to handbells, and he and a party which he taught became celebrated for their tune ringing skill with over 50 bells.

In Vancouver he became an active member of the band at the Cathedral of the Holy Rosary, and continued until age and rheumatism prevented further participation, but only a few months ago, when visited by four of his former ringing colleagues, he was able to ring 1-2-3-4 to a course of Grandsire Triples, a thing which very few ringers, even in constant practice, are able to do.

Edwin James Cashmore, however, had another interesting association with ringing. When he worked in his father's gun and pistol factory, there were, among the employes, two other youths, one of them named John Carter, and John Carter, like the rest of the people who worked for Paul Cashmore, learned to ring. He also, being a born mechanical genius, turned his attention to constructing a ringing machine, and it was in Paul Cashmore's workshop that the invention born in John Carter's mind first took practical shape. Paul Cashmore was interested in it and encouraged Carter; and Edwin James Cashmore and Sidney Smith, the other of the two youths mentioned above, helped him in the work, which was often done, with full approval, in their master's time as well as in their own. The machine which they built, however, is not the one now housed in the South Kensington Museum. Carter scrapped the original, after gaining from it much knowledge and experience, which he incorporated in the later model.

Edwin Cashmore emigrated to Canada; Sidney Smith married his master's daughter, and one of their sons is Mr. A. Paddon Smith, who was hon. secretary of St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham, for 20 years and is now one of the vice-presidents.

Paul Cashmore, who died in 1894, and is buried in the 'Cashmore Corner' where generations of the family lie in the beautiful churchyard attached to West Bromwich Parish Church, was, of course, contemporary with Henry Johnson, and many letters written by the latter to Paul are still in possession of a member of the family.

At the time when John Carter was working for Paul Cashmore, about 60 years ago, the latter employed in his West Bromwich factory, amongst others, a band sufficient to man the ropes at the Old Church, and, when the 'old man' felt like it, he would call the band together during working hours and adjourn to the belfry, which was only a few minutes away, for the purpose of ringing some favourite touch or other. The Vicar at that time had no objection to the bells being so rung, provided no services or funerals were taking place, and there were very few houses with the exception of the vicarage itself and one or two old cottages in the immediate vicinity of the church. One of the nearest houses was the house of refreshment known then, as now, as the Ring o' Bells, where it is still humorously claimed they sell beer by the pound. This is, of course, quite true as one of the old-fashioned 'pounds' (an enclosure for straying horses or cattle) still stands in front of the house.

Mr. Edwin Cashmore last visited England in the summer of 1928 and had a pull at West Bromwich, although the bells there now are not those he knew in his youth, for they were recast about 20 years ago. He was an excellent striker in such methods as he could ring.

Wherever he settled Edwin Cashmore became a chorister, for he was an ardent as well as an excellent vocalist, and in Vancouver was a member of the choir at St. Saviour's Anglican Church, in connection with which he was also a lay reader. He was an active Freemason, past master of his lodge in Toronto, a Royal Arch Mason, past illustrious master of the Cryptic Rite and a member of other lodges.

Mr. Cashmore and his wife, who predeceased him, celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary in 1936, and surviving him are four daughters and three sons.

BIRTH.

GOODFELLOW. — At Colwyn Nursing Home, Hayes, on March 13th, to Grace, wife of F. W. Goodfellow, of Seaford, Slough Road, Iver Heath, a son—Peter Herbert.

TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

COUNTY TOUR TO ENCOURAGE PEAL RINGING.

It was suggested at the annual meeting of the Truro Diocesan Guild, held at Truro, that a peal ringing tour in Cornwall, to last a week or ten days in June, should be organised among the members of the Guild. Although the past year had been, in some respects, a disappointing one, there is still a great deal of enthusiasm for ringing in Cornwall, in the view of Dr. J. Symons, president of the Guild, who welcomed the members.

The hon secretary, the Rev. W. H. R. Trewhella, Truro, reported that Landewednack and Wendron both joined the Guild during the year.

The Ringing Master, Mr. W. H. Southeard, Truro, said they had had a disappointing year at Penzance, but he felt sure that the branch would again come back to full strength. Five ringers had been awarded the M class medal, and four the B class medal. A ringing tour in the county proved very successful. 15 peals out of 17 being rung. Some of the visitors had rung peals in Cornwall before, and several local ringers were invited to stand in. He would like to see more ringers brought into touch with visiting parties. This year he was going to try to arrange a tour in Cornwall amongst themselves, to last a week or ten days in June. There would be ringing to suit all ringers, and it would give them a chance to learn something from each other.

DEPLETED FUNDS.

The hon. treasurer, Mr. H. Dunstan, St. Ives, reported a balance of 8s. 9d., as against £4 12s. 9d. last year. They were not, he said, receiving the full amount in fees from the branches, one branch not having paid anything for two years.

Mr. Cyril E. Lanxon, Truro, peals secretary, reported an increase in the number of peals, but it was not due, he said, to the work of the Guild. Fifteen peals were rung by visitors. Since the formation of the Guild 125 peals had been rung.

Lt.-Col. C. F. Jerram said they were indebted to the visitors for allowing local ringers to take part in their peals because it gave them an opportunity of doing something different.

The reports were adopted.

There was a discussion as to the provision of medals for ringers. It was stated that owing to the depleted funds of the Guild the cost of providing medals ought not to fall upon the Guild, but should be borne by the recipients.

It was decided that a suggestion be made to branches that in future the cost of medals should be met by the towers of which the recipients of medals are members.

It was decided to hold the annual festival at Helston, and an invitation by the Rev. F. F. Gilbert to hold the next annual meeting at St. Stephen-in-Brannel was accepted.

The officers elected were: Patron, the Bishop of Truro; president, Dr. J. Symons, Penzance; Col. Jerram was added to the vice-presidents Ringing Master, Mr. W. H. Southeard, Truro; Assistant Ringing Master, Mr. W. J. Garland, Lezant; hon. secretary, the Rev. W. H. R. Trewhella, Truro; hon. treasurer, Mr. H. Dunstan, St. Ives; peals secretary, Mr. C. E. Lanxon, Truro; representative to the Central Council, Mr. Lanxon; committee, the Rev. J. H. Moysey, the Rev. J. S. Jenkin, the Rev. W. A. Kneebone, Miss Angwin, and Messrs. Taylor and W. J. Sanders.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

ALTON AND PETERSFIELD DISTRICT.

The annual meeting of the Alton and Petersfield District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild was held at Petersfield. Those present included Rev. E. C. A. Kent (Vicar of Petersfield), Rev. F. G. Eyres (district chairman), and ringing members from Alton, Blackmoor, Hawkley, Liss, New Alresford, Petersfield, Portsea, Ryde and Steep. The bells were rung in the afternoon and evening to the standard methods. The Guild's service was conducted by the Rev. E. C. A. Kent, who offered a warm welcome and gave a short and encouraging address. Tea in St. Peter's Hall was followed by the business meeting, presided over by the district chairman. The hon. secretary read his report and also the balance sheet, which showed a balance in hand of £11 14s.

Mr. George Hall, jun., and Mr. Reginald Thorrett, both of Blackmoor, were elected ringing members. Mr. A. H. Fisher, late of Petersfield, was elected a compounding member. The meeting learned with regret that the Rev. F. G. Eyres (district chairman) was resigning his office, and also that the vice-chairman (the Rev. C. Minton-Senhouse) was resigning as he had left the district. Votes of thanks were accorded in each case.

The officers were then elected as follows: District chairman, the Rev. E. C. A. Kent; hon. secretary, Mr. C. E. Bassett; hon. auditor, the Rev. T. N. Rathbone-Griffin; district representatives on committee, Mr. W. Read and Mr. A. Hardiman. The next annual meeting at Alton was fixed for January 27th, 1940, and the next quarterly meeting on April 15th, 1939, at Blackmoor.

The usual votes of thanks were accorded at the close of the meeting.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WESTERN BRANCH SECRETARIAL PROBLEM SOLVED.

To everyone's satisfaction, a solution was found to a problem that had become acute, namely, that of finding a successor to the retiring secretary (Mr. G. E. Large), when the Western Branch of the Worcestershire and Districts Association held its first meeting of the year at Hallow on Saturday week.

The parish of Hallow lies on the west bank of the River Severn, some three miles from Worcester, and the Church of SS. Philip and James possesses a fine octave (tenor 21½ cwt.) installed by Taylors in 1900 and rehung in 1937 by Mears and Stainbank. Eighteen of the 26 towers affiliated were represented, and there were visitors from the Northern and Southern Branches, as well as from the neighbouring county of Herefordshire.

Ringing during the afternoon was followed by a well-attended service. The Vicar (the Rev. C. M. Stickings), in his address, welcomed the members, and said in all his 35 years in the ministry, at home and abroad, he had never addressed a gathering of ringers before. He admired their constancy to each Sunday's duties, and asked them not to be discouraged if their efforts failed to bring an increase in the attendance at church. He felt sure those who heard the bells were reminded of their duty to come and worship, and could not ignore the message entirely.

An excellent tea, served in the Parish Hall, had been generously provided and served by a band of ladies, which included the Vicar's, churchwardens' and local ringers' wives. Some 71 members and friends sat down to the repast, but even this number failed to put away all that was provided. The Vicar presided and was supported by his churchwarden (Mr. C. H. Lock), who is an hon. member, Mr. L. Clay (leader of the local band) and the branch officers.

Mr. T. G. Green was proposed as the conductor of the quarterly peal to be rung at Hallow. Mr. Green is a talented member of the local band, but unfortunately his work prevents him from taking an active part in ringing apart from his own tower.

NEW SECRETARY ELECTED.

Mr. G. E. Large (retiring secretary) proposed the election of Mr. Ernest F. Cubberley, of Kempsey, as secretary and treasurer of the branch.—This was seconded by Mr. E. Wilson, whereupon Mr. R. G. Knowles sprang a surprise by proposing Mr. Edgar C. Barber, of Malvern Link, but as the latter found no seconder the first named was elected.

Mr. Cubberley acknowledged his election and said he would do his best to serve the branch.

Mr. S. T. Holt (Master) said they could not let the occasion pass without thanking Mr. Large for his services during his term of office. It was, he said, almost entirely due to him that the branch had now a membership never before obtained. Not only that, but Mr. Large had given valuable help in tutoring bands at several towers and they were sorry he had to give up.

At a later stage Messrs. R. G. Knowles (vice-president) and H. F. Martin also spoke in eulogistic terms of the retiring secretary.

In his reply, Mr. Large said he was thankful his services had been acceptable, and acknowledged the support he had received from members. He hoped they would give the new secretary that same support and more; and at the end of three, five or twenty years, if Mr. Cubberley wished to resign, he trusted he would not have the same difficulty over a successor as he himself had had.

Seven new performing members were elected—four from Ombersley, two from Shelsley Beauchamp and one unattached.

The chairman was proposed as an hon. member by Mr. Clay, and this was carried with applause.

In view of the recent affiliation of the Shelsley Beauchamp band, who now muster eleven members, it was not surprising that the summer meeting was proposed to be held there—a popular and unanimous vote.

A recommendation from the Central Committee regarding a new minute relating to the Belfry Repairs Fund was debated. Mr. J. D. Johnson (general secretary) explained that now the Southern Branch had come into line with the other two branches it was thought desirable to have the same minute on the three branch books. The new minute stated: 'That collections be taken at the quarterly meetings at the discretion of the incumbent and branch officers, and that such be given to the Belfry Repairs Fund.'

Mr. Holt said he wondered how that would affect them if they at some time desired to have a collection for a member afflicted by illness. Would it allow them to have a second collection?

This point was discussed further by Mr. Johnson, Miss Boyle and the retiring secretary, after which Mr. Holt proposed an amendment that instead of 'That collections be taken . . . .' the motion read, 'That a collection,' etc.—This was seconded by Miss Boyle and carried.

'Any other business,' as usual, brought a host of questions. Mr. H. F. Martin (Bromsgrove) extended a hearty welcome to the members when his branch (Northern) held their summer meeting at Hartlebury in June. The Hartlebury ringers, he said, had received tuition and assistance from Western Branch members, and he thought it would be nice if the latter joined in.—Mr. T. Hemming (Brierley Hill) supported this and extended a welcome to Southern Branch members, too.

After comprehensive votes of thanks, further ringing took place at both the churches at Hallow and Grimley (a nearby village).

NOTICES.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—The annual dinner will take place on Saturday, March 18th, at 6.30 p.m., at the Old Bell Restaurant, Holborn. Tickets, 6s. each. The following towers will be open for ringing: St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, 4 to 5.30 p.m.; St. Clement Danes, 3.30 to 5 p.m.; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 4.30 to 6 p.m.—G. W. Steere, Sec., 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

STANFORD-LE-HOPE, ESSEX.—The new ring of eight bells, installed by John Taylor and Co., will be dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Chelmsford on Saturday, March 18th, at 3 p.m. All ringers heartily welcome. Tea 4.30. Bells available until 7.30 p.m.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A meeting will be held at Worplesdon on Saturday, March 18th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service, tea and meeting as usual. Please do not fail to send numbers for tea to Mr. S. Petter, The Laurels, Fox Corner, Worplesdon, Surrey.—W. F. J. Cope, Hon. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual general committee meeting will be held at Reading on Saturday, March 18th, at 3.15 p.m., in St. Lawrence's Hall, Abbey Street.—Richard T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Stephen's, Eastwood, near Rotherham, on Saturday, March 18th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Short service at 4.30 p.m. Tea in the Church Hall at 5 p.m. at 1s. per head, followed by business meeting. Those requiring tea, please notify Mr. S. Briggs, Clinton, Gerard Road, Rotherham. Please make an effort to attend this, the most important meeting of the year, and so make it a success. A hearty welcome is extended to all.—J. J. L. Gilbert, Hon. Dis. Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. Mary's Church, Finchley, on Saturday, March 18th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea to follow. The method for special attention is Double Court Minor; other methods will be rung as required. Subscriptions for 1939 are now due.—T. J. Lock, Hon. Dis. Sec., 57, Holloways Lane, North Mimms, Herts.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Goole on Saturday, March 18th. Bells (8) available from 2 o'clock. Service in church 4.15 p.m. Tea, 1s. 6d. per head, in Hockforth's Cafe. Business meeting for election of officers, etc., after tea. All welcome.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Ebor Street, Selby.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. James', Rusholme, Manchester, on Saturday afternoon, March 18th. Tower open for ringing at 6 o'clock. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—Joseph H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Eye District.—A meeting of this district will be held at Yaxley on Saturday, March 18th. Bells (6) available at 2.30 p.m. Also Thornham (6) and Stoke Ash (5) and Brome (5). Service 4.30, conducted by the Rev. MacGee, followed by tea and meeting at 5 p.m. in the Village Hall. All are welcome.—R. J. D. Nelthorpe, Dis. Sec., Pitts Farm, Wattisfield, near Diss.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Central Branch.—A meeting will be held at Wilburton on Saturday, March 18th. Bells (6) available 2.30 p.m. Tea at Royal Oak, 5 p.m. Service if arranged.—F. Warrington, Station Road, Swavesey, Cambs. (Please note new address.)

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The tenth annual dinner of the Gloucester Branch will be held on Saturday, March 18th, at the Spread Eagle Hotel, Market Parade, Gloucester, at 6 p.m. The Rev. N. E. Hope, Master of the association, will preside, supported by other gentlemen. The following towers will be open: Cathedral (8), 2 to 3 p.m.; St. Mary de Lode (6), 3 to 4; St. Mary de Crypt (8), 3.45 to 4.45; St. Michael's (10), 4.45 to 5.45. Dinner tickets 3s., obtainable from W. H. Harris, Branch Sec., Lydney Dock, Lydney, Glos.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Eastbourne (St. Mary's) on Saturday, March 18th. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock (1s. 3d. per head). St. Saviour's from 7.15 p.m.—A. C. Pankhurst, Div. Hon. Sec., 13, Bradford Street, Eastbourne.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next meeting will take place at Brinklow, near Rugby, on Saturday, March 18th. Bells (6) available during afternoon and evening. Tea provided at 1s. a head.—D. E. Beamish, Hon. Gen. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—A meeting will be held at Quorn on Saturday, March 18th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at Hurst Cafe (1s. each) at 5 p.m. All ringers and friends cordially invited.—A. E. Rowley, Hon. Sec., Hyom, Penistone Street, Ibstock, Leicester.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, March 18th, at St. George-the-Martyr, Borough High Street (opposite Borough Underground Station). Ringing from 3 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. Short service 5 p.m. All ringers welcome.—N. H. Manning, Dis. Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—A meeting of the Wirral Branch will be held at West Kirby (8 bells) on Saturday, March 18th. Tower open at 3 o'clock. Service at 5 p.m. Tea and meeting afterwards. We hope to have a good attendance to induce the local ringers to rejoin the Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers.—Harry S. Brocklebank, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts Branch.—A meeting will be held at Hemingford Grey on Saturday, March 18th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock.—H. J. Parker, Dis. Sec., Great Staughton, St. Neots.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for March: St. Giles', Cripplegate, 21st; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 23rd; *St. Paul's Cathedral, 28th; St. Magnus-the-Martyr, 30th. *Business meeting afterwards. All at 7.30, except St. Andrew's, 8.—A. B. Peck, Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The golden jubilee will be celebrated on Saturday, March 25th. Ringing at Leeds Parish Church from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Hot pot supper and entertainment in Sherwin's Restaurant 6 p.m. Tickets 1s. 9d. each. Please book your ticket before March 20th.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Leeds 12.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—Book this date, March 25th, for Parish Church, Ashby-de-la-Zouch. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. The above district will hold its next meeting there, and a hearty invitation awaits all ringers. Excellent bus service from all parts. Usual tea arrangements for those who notify me by Wednesday, March 25th.—J. W. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Overseale, Burton-on-Trent.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION—Canterbury District.—The next meeting will be held at Elham (Chilham unavailable) on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (8) from 2.30. Service 4.30, followed by tea, 1s. per head. Please send your names in to Mr. F. Verney, Briar Bank, Elham, near Canterbury, not later than Thursday, March 23rd. Usual methods, but special attention to Double Norwich, please.—B. J. Luck, Hon. Dis. Sec., 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — The next meeting will be held at Tickhill on Saturday, March 25th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Will all those who will require tea please send a card by Wednesday, the 22nd? Let us have a good meeting to welcome the new vicar. Send your card to Ernest Cooper, 6, Grosvenor Crescent, Arksey, Doncaster, Yorks.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Derby District.—A meeting will be held at St. Luke's Church, Derby, on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (8, tenor 30 cwt.) available 3 p.m. All ringers cordially invited to try this splendid peal. Subscriptions now due. — Wm. Lancaster, Hon. Sec., 83, Albert Road, Chaddesden, Derby.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks & S. Bucks Branch.—The next meeting has been arranged at Fulmer (6 bells) on Saturday, March 25th, at 6 p.m. Subscriptions now due. Annual reports ready shortly. Note date of annual meeting, April 22nd, at Beaconsfield. — A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — St. Albans District.—A meeting will be held at Hatfield on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Short service 5. Tea at the Temperance Hotel (1s.) 5.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—Harold V. Frost, Dis. Sec., 4, Kimberley Road, St. Albans.

PEAK DISTRICT SOCIETY. — Next meeting at Darleydale on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. All welcome. Those hoping to be present please write W. H. Taylor, The Hillside, Darleydale, not later than Wednesday, March 22nd.—H. L. Warburton, Hon. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Cirencester Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Northleach on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (8) open 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Service 6 p.m. Please send card for tea to W. H. Hayward, Hon. Sec., 1, Bowling Green Road, Cirencester.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District. — The next monthly practice at Chelmsford Cathedral will be held on Saturday, March 25th, at 7.30 p.m. The special method is 'Cambridge,' up to Royal.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Wye on Saturday, March 25th. Bells ready 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. —P. Page, Hon. Dis. Sec., 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—The next meeting will be held at Chobham on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (8) available 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. at the White Hart. The Vicar is anxious to meet the diocesan ringers, so a hearty welcome is extended to the neighbouring districts and others. A postcard to me, stating number, by Wednesday, the 22nd, will ensure a good tea.—F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Sec., 39, Queen's Road, Thames Ditton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Colne on Saturday, March 25th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members cordially invited.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District. — The next meeting is at St. Ippollyt's on March 25th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea, by kind invitation of the Vicar. Numbers for tea by Wednesday, March 22nd, or no tea, to L. T. Newman, Hon. Dis. Sec., 36, Salisbury Road, Baldock.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Sonning Deanery Branch.—Meeting at Warfield (8 bells), Saturday, March 25th. Ringing from 4 p.m. Tea at small charge by notifying W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec., Merrel, California, Wokingham, Berks.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Malins Lee, Wellington, on Saturday, March 25th. Usual arrangements. Visitors welcome, but please notify numbers for tea. — W. A. Farmer, 70, Oakfield Road, Shrewsbury.

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—A meeting will be held at Heathfield on Saturday, March 25th. The light ring of eight available after 3 p.m. Come and try them.—J. G. Powell, Hon. Sec., 1, Woodbury Road, Hawkhurst, Kent.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch. — Newport Pagnell Deanery. — A meeting at Weston Underwood, Saturday, March 25th. 2.30, ring up. 4.15, service. 4.45, tea.—Rev. J. F. Amies, Ravenstone Vicarage, Olney, Bucks.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. — The next meeting will be held at All Souls, Bolton, on Saturday, March 25th. Bells available 3 p.m. Business meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

HORDLE, NR. LYMINGTON, HANTS.—The ring of five bells (one old and four new) will be dedicated by the Bishop of Southampton on Sunday, March 26th, at the 11 o'clock service. The work has been carried out by John Taylor and Co.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting will be held at Aston Parish Church, Birmingham, on Saturday, April 1st. Bells (12) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m., to be followed by business meeting. Please notify Mr. W. Davies, 99, Rosary Road, Erdington, Birmingham, regarding tea not later than Thursday, 30th inst.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Thrapston Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Twywell on Saturday, April 1st, to dedicate a tablet to the late Mr. W. Wainwright. Ringing at 3 p.m. Service at 4.15. Tea to follow, at the kind invitation of Mrs. Wainwright. It is necessary that all those wishing to attend should send p.c. not later than March 28th to W. R. Butcher, Woodview, Brigstock, near Kettering.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division. — A meeting of this division will be held at Stisted on Saturday, April 1st. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Will all those requiring tea please notify Mr. R. Suckling, 334, Church Street, Bocking, Essex, not later than Wednesday, March 29th. All ringers welcome.—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Dis. Sec., 3, Belle Vue, Hedingham Road, Halstead, Essex.

MORECAMBE, LANCS.—The new ring of eight bells installed by John Taylor and Co. will be dedicated by the Bishop of Blackburn on Sunday, April 2nd, at the 10.30 service.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, Easter Monday, at Burton-on-Trent. Bells open: St. Paul's (10) from 10 a.m; Rolleston-on-Dove (8), 11.30 to 12.30, 1.30 to 3.30; Winshill (6), 11 to 12 a.m., 1.30 to 4 p.m. Subject to weddings and funerals. Committee meet 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.45 prompt, followed by general meeting in St. Paul's Institute. Tickets for tea, members 1s. 9d., visitors 2s., to be obtained not later than Apr. 5th from J. W. Cotton, Coronation Street, Overseale, Burton-on-Trent. Owing to catering difficulties, please note, those without tickets must fend for themselves.—Ernest Morris, General Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The 59th annual general meeting will be held at Erith on Easter Monday, April 10th. Committee meeting in St. John's Hall at 11.15 a.m. Service in the Church of St. John the Baptist at noon. Address by the Vicar of Erith (Rev. R. W. Thornhill, M.A.). Luncheon in St. John's Hall at 1 p.m. (free to practising members, 2s. 6d. others). His Worship the Mayor of Erith (Rev. J. W. Wilkinson) will preside. Business meeting follows for the election of officers and Central Council representatives (4). Nominations must reach me by March 27th. A new rule to be submitted. The tower of St. John's will be open for ringing from 10 a.m. and after the meeting. Other towers in the vicinity available will be announced later. All applications for luncheon tickets must reach me by Tuesday, April 4th, otherwise too late.—Fred M. Mitchell, Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The second annual dinner will be held at the George Hotel, Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, on Saturday, April 15th, at 6.30 p.m. Tickets, 3s. 6d. each, can be obtained from Andrew Thompson, 37, Broad Street, Newcastle, Staffs, not later than April 1st.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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LONDON RINGING SOCIETIES.

It was not surprising that, at the dinner of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, on Saturday, some reference should be made to the relationship between London ringing societies. Every expression of opinion that was heard was a plea for the extension of the spirit of good will and of the desire that energies should be devoted to furthering the cause of ringing instead of to petty quarrels. This view was particularly emphasised by Mr. E. H. Lewis, and will be echoed by all who have really at heart the cause of ringing in general and of London in particular. We have constantly urged, in this column, that the time is long past when the old feuds and jealousies should be allowed to govern the policy of those responsible for ringing, which should no longer be the subject of rivalries, as it was in the days when it was purely a secular pastime and bands of ringers were out to get the better of their competitors, not only in the peals they could ring, but in the towers they could monopolise.

In London that spirit took a long time to die, even if it can be said to be entirely dead to-day. But the extinction of this spirit is not in itself sufficient. What is wanted is a new outlook, demanded by the change in the attitude which the vast majority of ringers have towards their craft. No longer is bell ringing to be treated as a purely secular occupation, although it still suffers in many places from the fact that service ringing is done by paid ringers, whose jealous eye on the tiny loaves and fishes is often a stumbling block to progress. The reformation which has come about in the last half century has changed that view. Most ringers treat their services as a contribution to be made to the Church and in that respect rivalries which give rise to jealousies should have no place. Yet they will come to the surface from time to time. But the more ringers mix and rub shoulders the quicker will their differences disappear. Joint meetings between societies operating in the London area have begun to break down barriers in the metropolis, where the old feeling has persisted longest. There is a good way further to go yet before the ideal situation is reached, and we look forward to seeing brought about in the near future the joint meeting between the College Youths and the Cumberlands, suggested once again on Saturday. It would be another step in the right direction towards that goal which we believe to be obtainable if unlimited good will prevailed, not only officially, but in the backwaters of London ringing, a goal which would bring about not only a better understanding, but a genuine collaboration that could result in some, at any rate of London's dilapidated and neglected peals of bells being brought into action again.

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TWELVE BELL PEALS.

MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE TOWN HALL.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 42 cwt. 2 qr. 25 lb.

C. KENNETH LEWIS ...	...*Treble*	†LIONEL CLOUGH...	7
JAMES FERNLEY	2	ALBERT FORD	8
*WILLIAM ROBINSON	3	FREDERICK R. WILLIAMS ...	9
JAMES A. MILNER	4	CHARLES H. PAGE	10
WILLIAM FERNLEY	5	*RICHARD BENSON	11
*ANDREW THOMPSON	6	JOHN WORTH	...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

* First peal of Maximus. † First peal in the method on twelve bells. First peal of Maximus on the bells.

GREAT YARMOUTH, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAXIMUS, 5016 CHANGES;

Tenor 30 cwt.

C. FREDERICK SAYER	...*Treble*	CLAYTON PARNELL	7
*R. WILLIAM BARBER ...	2	*STANLEY W. GALL	8
EDWIN R. GOATE	3	ARTHUR G. KING	9
J. G. WILLIAM HARWOOD...	4	*ALFRED J. MOY	10
†DENNIS A. BAYLES	5	*HENRY TOOKE	11
GEORGE MAYERS	6	WILLIAM CLOVER ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. REEVES. Conducted by E. R. GOATE.

* First peal of Plain Maximus. † First peal of Maximus.

TEN BELL PEAL.

KING'S NORTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 17¼ cwt.

*EDWARD HOLT	...*Treble*	REGINALD WOODYATT ...	6
SIDNEY T. HOLT	2	THOMAS W. LEWIS	7
GEORGE E. LARGE	3	‡NORMAN G. GOODMAN ...	8
†EDWARD W. BLAKE	4	CHARLES CAMM	9
ALLEN MORGAN	5	WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT...	*Tenor*

Composed by FRED G. MAY. Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

* First peal on ten bells. † First peal away from the tenor. ‡ First peal of Grandsire Caters.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

HARWICH, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 28, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

RONALD G. BUGG ...	...*Treble*	GEORGE THOMPSON	5
WALTER SOUTHGATE... ...	2	WALTER R. FELGATE	6
URBAN W. WILDNEY ...	3	FREDERICK C. RAMPLIN ...	7
*SIDNEY R. JENNINGS	4	GEORGE WATERMAN ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by U. W. WILDNEY.

* First peal.

GREAT HOLLAND, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 10 lb. in F sharp.

EDWARD B. SMITH ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM A. ROUSE	5
WALTER SOUTHGATE... ...	2	GEORGE THOMPSON	6
MRS. W. A. ROUSE	3	GEORGE WATERMAN	7
*FREDERICK ORRIS	4	URBAN W. WILDNEY ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by H. HUBBARD. Conducted by URBAN W. WILDNEY.

* First peal.

DARLEY DALE, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
(Peak District Society.)

On Wednesday, March 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Helen,

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt.

*Dennis Scott	...*Treble*	Hugh W. Gregory	5
Robert Allsop	2	Herbert E. Taylor	6
Bernard Allsop	3	Ronald Allsop	7
Victor E. Taylor	4	George A. Paulson ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by E. Francis. Conducted by G. H. Paulson.

* First peal of Major. First peal in the method by all the band.

BUSHEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 16, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

*Henry Southall ...	...*Treble*	John E. Rootes	5
*Leonard Lock	2	Cecil C. Mayne	6
Frederick W. Brinklow	3	Edwin Jennings	7
Maurice F. R. Hibbert ...	4	Francis Kirk	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. Hunt. Conducted by E. Jennings.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor.

LONDON.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 16, 1939, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

At the Church of St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

By members of the Civil Service.

Stanley J. T. Sellock (Admiralty)	*Treble*
Edwin A. Barnett (Air Ministry)	2
*Walter Hunt (Tithe Redemption Commission)	3
Albert W. Coles (Post Office Engineering Department) ...	4
George H. Cross (Inland Revenue—Taxes)	5
Frederick W. Housden (Inland Revenue—Taxes)	6
George W. Steere (Customs and Excise)	7
Charles H. Kippin (Inland Revenue—Collection)	*Tenor*

Composed by G. Lindoff. Conducted by Charles H. Kippin.

* First peal of London.

WEST MEON, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, March 16, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. John-the-Evangelist,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr. 27 lb. in F.

Harry Hoskins	...*Treble*	T. Wilfred Taffender ...	5
Thomas H Taffender ...	2	George Williams	6
Henry G. Miles	3	Francis E. Dawe	7
John S. Goldsmith	4	Herbert E. Audsley...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by Francis Edward Dawe.

Rung on the 77th birthday of the conductor, in the village where he was born.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 16, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,

At the Bell Foundry,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Washbrook's Variation of Thurstans' Four-Part.

Tenor 8¼ cwt.

Leslie Stevens	...*Treble*	Charles Marshall	5
Walter P. Whitehead ...	2	*William Bottrill	6
Edward R. Whitehead ...	3	Arthur Cattell	7
W. Arthur Riddington ...	4	Ronald W. Swann ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by William Bottrill.

First peal of Stedman as conductor.

DESBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
(Kettering Branch.)

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Giles,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 10½ cwt.

Bernard J. Saddington...*Treble*		†Denis A. H. Yeomans ...	5
*Arthur H. Idle	2	Geoffrey E. Watson ...	6
†Raymond H. Idle	3	Christopher G. Hendry	7
‡Lewis W. Kilbourn ...	4	Burley P. Morris ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. A. Trollope. Conducted by Burley P. Morris.

* First peal on eight bells. † First peal, aged 14. ‡ First peal of Major. A 21st birthday compliment to A. H. Idle.

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

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Giles,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Parker's Twelve-part (7th observation). Tenor 16½ cwt.

William Saunders ...	...*Treble*	Herbert Sheppard	5
Bert Horton	2	Walter Lago	6
Samuel Baker	3	Christopher Wallater ...	7
John Warrilow	4	Arthur E. Reed	...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. Wallater.

First peal of Grandsire on the bells since they were recast. All the above ringers are grandfathers.

MILNROW, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(Rochdale Branch.)

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

Stephen L. Parry ...	...*Treble*	*Harry Byrom	5
*Selwyn H. Dearden ...	2	Ivan Kay	6
*Dennis Hollos...	3	Harold Hamer	7
John Meadowcroft, jun.	4	Albert Buckley ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by T. B. Worsley. Conducted by H. Hamer.

* First peal in the method. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Mr. Harry Byrom.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Margaret,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 15¼ cwt.

William P. Garrett...	...*Treble*	Frank L. Fisher	5
Albert E. Whiting	2	Harry D. Lister...	6
Leslie G. Brett...	3	George More	7
Keith W. Whittell	4	Alderman Ling	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. Middleton. Conducted by H. D. Lister.

A birthday compliment to the conductor.

RUNCORN, CHESHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Parker's Twelve-part (7th observation). Tenor 15¾ cwt.

Thomas S. Horridge ...	...*Treble*	George R. Newton	5
*William O. Farrimond ...	2	Walter Allman	6
Robert B. P. Hulse ...	3	Ernest F. Bennett	7
Stanley N. Harrison ...	4	Cecil Raddon	...*Tenor*

Conducted by George R. Newton.

* First peal on a 'working' bell.

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THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.
(CALNE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 19¼ cwt. in E.

*THOMAS FREEGARD ...	...*Treble*	†REGINALD BARRY ...	... 5
LOUIS A. WILSON ...	... 2	†H. BURRY	... 6
†WILLIAM HACKER ...	... 3	A. OWEN WRINTMORE	... 7
†RONALD SAYE	... 4	†WILLIAM HAINES	...*Tenor*

Conducted by A. O. WRINTMORE.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal of Triples. First peal of Triples as conductor.

GILMORTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DEXTER'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 12 cwt.

CECIL E. CARR	...*Treble*	WILLIAM J. ROOT...	 5
*THOMAS C. BELTON ...	... 2	ERNEST W. TIPLER	 6
ALFRED BALLARD ...	... 3	FRANK K. MEASURES	 7
WILLIAM A. WOOD ...	... 4	PERCY W. BENNETT	... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK K. MEASURES.

* First peal in the method.

CODDENHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

MISS SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER	*Treble*	MISS HILDA G. SNOWDEN ...	5
HOBART E. SMITH ...	... 2	CECIL W. PIPE ...	 6
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY ...	... 3	LEWIS W. WIFFEN ...	... 7
CLAUDE SNOWDEN ...	... 4	A. PATRICK CANNON ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by LEWIS W. WIFFEN.

STAPLEHURST, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 21¾ cwt.

*RALPH E. W. WENBAN	...*Treble*	THOMAS E. SONE ...	 5
CHARLES H. SONE ...	... 2	LUTHER J. HONESS	 6
TOM SAUNDERS ...	 3	WILLIAM WENBAN	 7
HARRY BAKER ...	 4	JAMES W. SPILLETT	...*Tenor*

Conducted by W. WENBAN.

* First peal.

LONGTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

*WILLIAM PERKINS ...	...*Treble*	JOHN G. CARTLIDGE ...	... 5
*GEORGE HULME... ...	... 2	RICHARD J. WARRILOW	... 6
†HARRY HALL	... 3	WILLIAM CARNWELL ...	... 7
†EDWARD STEELE ...	... 4	ARTHUR W. HALL ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by H. HUBBARD. Conducted by WILLIAM CARNWELL.

* First peal of Major. † First peal in the method 'inside.' First peal of Major as conductor.

LITTLEPORT, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5216 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. 2 qr. 5 lb. in E.

WALLACE W. COUSINS	...*Treble*	JOHN A. GODFREY ...	... 5
*LEWIS BUSH	... 2	NOLAN GOLDEN ...	 6
WILLIAM BUCKENHAM	... 3	CECIL V. EBBERSON ...	... 7
ARTHUR G. BASON ...	... 4	CLAUDE COUSINS ...	... ...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal in the method.

SIX BELL PEALS.

STONE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of London, Beverley, Surfleet, Netherseale, Norwich, Ipswich and Cambridge. Tenor 13 cwt.

WALTER HUNT	...*Treble*	FRANCIS E. TAYLOR ...	... 4
MARIE R. CROSS	... 2	REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG	... 5
R. GORDON CROSS ...	... 3	ALAN R. PINK	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

First peal of Surprise Minor on the bells and by all the band except the conductor.

COMPTON DANDO, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, March 3, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two six-scores of Plain Bob and 40 six-scores of Grandsire with 12 different callings. Tenor 16 cwt.

CHARLES HARVEY ...	...*Treble*	FRANCIS C. MOGFORD...	... 4
LESLIE B. COLES ...	... 2	WILLIAM J. ROSEWELL	... 5
*RONALD R. TREASURE	... 3	WALTER S. BATES	...*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM J. ROSEWELL.

* First peal on an 'inside' bell.

LITTLE MUNDEN, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 7, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, New London Pleasure, Woodbine, Oxford Delight, Oxford Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS ...	...*Treble*	ARTHUR PHILLIPS...	 4
BARNARD PAYMORE ...	... 2	ERNEST OVERALL...	 5
ALBERT LAWRENCE ...	... 3	SIDNEY CARTER ...	... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by SIDNEY CARTER.

EXTON, RUTLAND.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
(RUTLAND BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents of Oxford Bob and Plain Bob, rung alternately. Tenor 12¾ cwt.

J. R. NICHOLS	...*Treble*	R. RUSSELL	 5
J. G. GEARY	... 2	R. H. KNIGHT ...	 4
P. D. BALDOCK	... 3	J. H. BLUFF	...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. H. BLUFF.

DAVENHAM, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, March 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRED,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents called differently. Tenor 15 cwt.

HARRY W. HOWARD ...	...*Treble*	JOHN HASSELL ...	 4
HERBERT A. MCKINNELL ...	2	C. KENNETH LEWIS	 5
HARRY PARKER	... 3	DAVID VINCENT ...	... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. K. LEWIS.

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DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

SCOTTOW, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, March 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Comprising two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob, two 720's of Kent Treble Bob and three 720's of Plain Bob, the extents being called differently.
Tenor 10½ cwt.

MISS OLIVE LOWE ...	...*Treble*	DOUGLAS E. ROST	4
WALTER C. MEDLER	2	ERIC DURRANT	5
JOHN N. A. PUMPHREY ...	3	E. V. BLAKE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by E. V. BLAKE.

CALVERLEIGH, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
On Tuesday, March 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 5½ cwt.

MISS M. MACAULEY ...	...*Treble*	MISS H. RODD	4
MISS G. TOLLEMACHE... ...	2	P. MAYNE	5
C. FLEW	3	J. HILL	...*Tenor*

Conducted by P. MAYNE.
First peal by all the band.

WARBLETON, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
THE EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.
On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 10½ cwt.

ALBERT RELFE	...*Treble*	*CHARLES A. BASSETT ...	4
ARTHUR F. LEWRY	2	*STANLEY T. A. RUSSELL ...	5
WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE...	3	FRANK H. HICKS... ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALBERT RELFE.
* First peal of Cambridge.

THORPE-LE-SOKEN, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Kent Treble Bob and St. Clement's, two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob and three 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

ERNEST J. DURRANT ...	...*Treble*	MRS. W. A. ROUSE	4
RONALD G. BUGG...	2	URBAN W. WILDNEY	5
LEONARD E. SHARPE	3	WALTER F. DOWNS ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by URBAN W. WILDNEY.
First peal in four methods by all except the conductor and first in four methods on the bells.

HANDBELL PEALS.

ROTHERHAM, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, March 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Eleven Minutes,
AT BIRKBY, DONCASTER ROAD,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

MRS. T. C. RYDER	1-2	HAROLD CHANT	5-6
ALBERT NASH	3-4	T. COLIN RYDER	7-8

Composed by GEO. LEWIS. Conducted by A. NASH.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tuesday, March 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT 45, WALSINGHAM ROAD.
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

*GEORGE W. FLETCHER ...	1-2	HAROLD G. CASHMORE ...	5-6
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	3-4	*EDITH K. FLETCHER	7-8

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.
Umpire—RONALD H. BULLEN.
* First peal of Surprise on handbells.
(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over).

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING AT ARKLOW.

Ladies in Winning Competition Team.

The annual meeting of the Irish Association was held in Arklow on St. Patrick's Day, March 17th. The weather was summerlike and 104 ringers were present from Arklow, Bray, Dublin (Christ Church Cathedral, SS. Augustine and John, St. George's and St. Patrick's Cathedral), Kilkenny and Waterford.

The Murphy Cup competition for the best striking commenced at 11.30 a.m., when the following six towers met in a very keen competition: St. Patrick's Cathedral (holders), Christ Church Cathedral, St. George's, Bray, Arklow and Waterford.

St. George's, Dublin, won the cup for the first time, with only nine faults; they were thus the first team including lady ringers to win the trophy. St. Patrick's Cathedral were second with 13 faults.

Lunch was very kindly provided by the local company in the Marlborough Hall. The business meeting followed, with the president, Mr. J. C. Cherry, F.R.C.S.I., in the chair.

POINTS FROM THE REPORT.

The annual report was read by the assistant hon. secretary (Mr. F. E. Dukes) and included a new feature, viz., reports from local companies for the interest of other societies. The following are some points from the report: The annual subscription was increased by 3d. to 1s. 3d. per member, in order to pay for the printing of the annual report. This is the first year of the increase, and the committee decided that, as the report for the present year (1939) is not due until 1940, not to print a report this year, but instead to go ahead with the printing of Mr. Lindoff's pamphlet of 'Instructions on Change Ringing, etc., for Beginners.'

Only one peal was rung during the past year—that at Limerick on August 1st.

Waterford Cathedral bells are at present being rehung by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, Croydon.

Mr. Thomas Boyd, for 50 years connected with St. Canice's, Kilkenny, passed away during the year. His loss is keenly felt.

Bray and St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, both broadcast from Radio Eireann in the series 'Bells Around Ireland' last September. The former rang a touch of Plain Bob Triples and the latter Grandsire Triples.

The total membership at present is 323. The general fund shows a credit balance of 17s. 5d. and the bell restoration fund a balance of £63 10s. 3d.

The association were invited to St. George's, Dublin, for luncheon and their annual meeting in 1940 by Mr. F. E. Dukes on behalf of that society.

Mr. J. B. Tough (Bray) was elected president for the coming year. All other officers were re-elected as follows: Hon. Treasurer, Mr. D. Gibson; hon. secretary, Mr. Gabriel Lindoff; assistant hon. secretary, Mr. F. E. Dukes, Grad.I.E.E., M.I.E.T.; Ringing Master, Mr. R. S. F. Murphy, P.C.; representatives on the Central Council, Messrs. Murphy and Lindoff.

Mr. Tough thanked the association for the high honour they had conferred on him, and put forward the following resolution: 'That the resolution of 1906 be altered to read, "that the business year of the Irish Association end on the 31st December," instead of on the 25th March as at present.' This was carried unanimously.

JUDGES' REPORT.

Mr. J. C. Cherry (president) presented the Murphy Cup to the winners, St. George's, Dublin, handing it to their conductor, Mr. F. Dukes. He also presented the same tower with the challenge shield for Sunday service ringing. They won it for 1938 with 99.87 per cent. Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, were runners-up with 99.75 per cent.

The judges of the competition, Messrs. G. S. Gibb and B. M. Wolfe, of Kilkenny, in their report, said they had a hard task, as the standard of ringing was so high. The common fault was open leads, too close leading, gaps in the changes, clashing and failing to set bells. The winners, they said, had perfect leading and the ringing was most uniform. The winning team was F. Dukes 1, Miss A. Dukes 2, Miss I. Evre 3, A. Worrell 4, G. McGregor 5, W. McGregor 6, D. McGregor 7, W. Hall 8.

The President made an appeal to the meeting to support 'The Ringing World,' which was the bellringers' newspaper. His remarks were supported by Mr. Dukes, who said that some towers had never seen the paper and it only cost 3d. a week, duty free.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Rev. W. Carroll, Rector, the ringers and ladies who so kindly lent the bells and the hall and provided the lunch and tea.—The Rector suitably replied.

Thanks were also passed to the outgoing president and to the judges of the Striking Competition.

The bells of St. Saviour's were put to plenty of use, after the meeting had concluded, until a late hour, when touches of Grandsire Doubles and Triples, Plain Bob and Stedman Triples were rung for the benefit of the less proficient in the art.

MR. C. F. WINNEY'S BIRTHDAY.

As a birthday compliment to Mr. Challis F. Winney, who attained his 81st birthday on March 17th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at St. Andrew's, Holborn, on Sunday evening, by H. C. Alford 1, J. S. Hawkins 2, E. Brett 3, U. W. Wildney 4, W. J. Norton 5, A. C. Darnell (conductor) 6, T. Bannister 7, C. H. Vitler 8.

PEAL NOTES.

CIVIL SERVANTS' PEAL.

A number of peals have been rung in the past by men all engaged in the same profession or craft. We recall peals by bankers, gardeners, railwaymen, to say nothing of Masons, Foresters, Oddfellows, Association Secretaries and others. The Civil Servants have now achieved success in this direction.

The idea of such a peal arose many years ago, but until now it was impossible to get a band for the purpose. On March 16th, however, an excellent peal of London Surprise Major was rung at St. George's, Southwark.

Mr. William Bottrill, now living in Leicestershire, who was formerly a chief inspector in the Metropolitan Police, and, while a member of the Force, took a leading part in the formation of the Metropolitan Guild of Police Ringers and also the National Police Guild, of which he is a vice-president, rang his first peal of Stedman as conductor on March 16th at Loughborough Bell Foundry. In view of the considerable number of peals on from six to twelve bells which Mr. Bottrill has rung, this will probably come as a surprise to many, but there are quite a lot of capable ringers who, for one reason or another, 'hide their light under a bushel.'

A band at Darley Dale, Derbyshire, all, with one exception, members of the local company, rang their first peal of Little Bob Major on March 15th. Little Bob is an interesting step between Plain Bob and Treble Bob and more musical than the latter. It is rather surprising, therefore, that it is not practised by more bands up and down the country. The composition rung at Darley Dale was a ten part by Edward Francis, although, when the peal was composed, Little Bob had never been thought of.

Mr. David Vincent, of Hale, Cheshire, who rang the tenor to a peal of Bob Minor at Davenham on March 13th, has now rung peals of Plain Bob from Minor to Maximus. It was a birthday compliment to Mr. Harry W. Howard, who rang the treble, and to K. Parker, son of Mr. Harry Parker, who rang the third.

LADY'S PEAL OF LONDON 'IN HAND.'

A peal of London Surprise Major has been rung on handbells at Enfield, in which Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Fletcher took part. This is an achievement of more than passing noteworthiness, for Mrs. Fletcher is the first lady ever to ring a peal of London 'in hand.' The peal was rung on March 14th.

Actually this was the fifth attempt which the band had made for the peal, but three of them were made some months ago. It was only about a fortnight before their successful attempt that they renewed their efforts.

Apart from Mrs. Fletcher, Mrs. Frank Hairs is the only lady to have rung a Surprise Major peal on handbells. She rang 1-2 to a peal of Superlative.

At Calverleigh, Devon, on March 14th, a peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung. It was the first peal by all the band, which included three young ladies who are still pupils at Ingleside School. Congratulations are well deserved for this performance. It was the first peal on the bells since they were rehung.

Messrs. J. G. Geary and J. H. Bluff rang their 25th peal together on March 11th at Exton, Rutland, where the latter called a peal of Oxford Bob and Plain Bob Minor.

The name of the ringer of the treble in the peal of Cambridge Surprise at Tunbridge Wells on March 4th was Donald M. Findlay, not Swindley as printed.

The peal of Stedman Triples at Gilmorton, Leicestershire, on Saturday, was a birthday compliment to the ringer of the tenor (Mr. P. W. Bennett), who stood in at a moment's notice, after the rest of the band, who met for a peal of Major, had waited in vain for an hour for the absentee. It was Mr. Ernest Tipler's 70th peal.

Mr. W. B. Cartwright has now rung a peal on each bell in the Worcestershire tower of King's Norton. He 'completed the circle' on Saturday, when a peal of Grandsire Caters was rung.

A GRANDFATHERS' PEAL.

Eight grandfathers rang a peal of Grandsire Triples at Willenhall, Staffs, on Saturday. It is not the first grandfathers' peal that has been rung, but it is, nevertheless, an interesting performance.

The tenorman, Mr. Arthur E. Reed, is a great-grandfather and the peal was arranged in honour of his golden wedding at the first opportunity that occurred at his own tower since the auspicious event was celebrated on January 8th last. It was also a birthday compliment to Master John Ravenscroft, grandson of the conductor, Mr. Chris. Wallater, and was the first peal of Grandsire on Willenhall bells since they were recast.

Four members of the Desborough, Northants, band took part in a peal of Bob Major on Saturday, two of them, Raymond Idle and Denis Yeomans, are only 14 years of age. Lewis Kilbourn rang his first peal of Major, and Arthur Idle his first peal on eight bells. It had been arranged in honour of the latter's 21st birthday and had been attempted on the previous Saturday, but lost owing to a 'shift.' After the attempt the two boys rang a good course of Cambridge Surprise Major without having previously struck a blow in the method.

Desborough shows every promise of turning out a good band of ringers, in spite of a rather poor peal of bells. Incidentally it may be remarked that the peal on Saturday was Mr. B. J. Saddington's 50th.

Another 'coming of age' celebration on Saturday was the peal at Milnrow, Lancashire, the compliment being extended to Mr. Harry Byrom, and he and two others of the band rang their first peal of Bob Major. The peal was also rung on the anniversary of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Kay.

The first peal of Triples ever rung by members of the Calne Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild was accomplished on Saturday at Wootton Bassett, Wilts. The trebleman rang his first peal, the tenorman and four others rang their first peal of Triples, and the conductor had not called a peal of Triples before. An excellent performance.

It was rung as a compliment to Mr. L. A. Wilson, the branch secretary, who was the only one of the band not to achieve something new by the peal.

A TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS COMPOSITION.

The first peal of Maximus at the Town Hall, Manchester, was rung on Saturday. Mr. John Worth, of Macclesfield, who called a composition of Treble Bob Maximus of his own, rung for the first time, turned in the 42¾ cwt. tenor in 3 hours 40 minutes. Here is the composition :—

23456	M	W	H
62534	2	1	2
36245	2	2	2
32465		1	2
64235		2	2
35426	1	2	2
45236		2	1
23456		1	1

Messrs. C. F. Sayer and R. W. Barber, who took part in a peal of Bob Maximus on Saturday at St. Nicholas', Great Yarmouth, have now rung every bell in the tower to a peal.

At another tower, Warbleton in Sussex, where there are six bells, two of the band that rang a peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor on Saturday also 'completed the circle.' They were Messrs. W. A. Kitchenside and F. H. Hicks.

Last Saturday a peal of Double Norwich Major was rung at Littleport, Cambridgeshire, and the eight ringers travelled an average of 55 miles each to take part. The newly-inducted Rector (the Rev. Mr. Payne) welcomed the ringers and expressed his and the Diocesan Bishop's pleasure at the ringing.

Three new arrivals were celebrated by a peal of Minor at Thorpe-le-Soken, Essex, on Saturday. A son has been born to Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Durrant, a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Sharp and a son to Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Downs. The three proud fathers, who are local ringers, all took part in the peal.

The birthday of Mr. H. Bloor, a ringer at Longton, Staffs, was celebrated by a peal of Kent Treble Bob at his parish church on Saturday. He did not, however, take part in it.

In the peal of Grandsire Triples at Staplehurst, Kent, on March 18th, Ralph Wenban, who is only 17 years of age, rang his first peal at the first attempt. He is the son of the conductor, Mr. William Wenban, and is to be congratulated upon the way in which he struck his bell throughout the peal.

In our notes on March 10th we referred to a peal of Superlative Surprise by Mr. A. J. Pitman, and said that, apart from it having been conducted by Mr. Leslie Morris on the previous Saturday, it had only once before been rung, when it was called by Mr. Ernest Morris. We are now informed that the composition was called from an 'inside' bell by Mr. Harold Cashmore on August Bank Holiday.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Southern District of the Yorkshire Association was held at St. Stephen's, Eastwood, on Saturday, March 18th. About 40 members attended from Sheffield (Cathedral and St. Marie's), Doncaster, Arksey, Wath, Rawmarsh, Felkirk, Handsworth, Ranmoor and the local company. Ringing in various plain and Surprise methods took place during the afternoon and evening on the light and easy-going peal of eight bells.

A short service was held in the afternoon, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. P. W. R. Kennedy, who gave a very interesting address on 'Friendship,' especially of the close friendship that existed between ringers.

An excellent tea was prepared in the Church Hall by local ladies. It was pleasing to hear that the number of people who had sent their names for tea was nearly as many as the number who sat down. Well-struck courses of Grandsire Caters and Bob Major were rung on handbells after tea.

At the general meeting the Vicar was voted to the chair, and an apology was read out from the Ringing Master (Mr. S. F. Palmer), who was ill and could not attend.

Three of the four retiring officers were re-elected. The other, Mr. W. A. Wooler, wished to resign, as he intends leaving the district. Mr. S. Briggs was elected in his place.

Three new members, Messrs. F. Nichols, D. Burling and P. Low, were elected.

It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Wath on Saturday, June 17th.

Reference was made to the death of Mr. Arthur Knights. Mr. Lewis said that, although an out-county member, Mr. Knights had always been in close contact with the association and was held in high esteem by all its members.—As a token of respect, the meeting stood in silence.

Ringing until nine o'clock brought a very successful meeting to a close.

A NEW ESSEX PEAL.

DEDICATION AT STANFORD-LE-HOPE.

One Bell Given By Methodists.

Last Saturday was a great day in the parochial life of the little town of Stanford-le-Hope, Essex, a new peal of bells being dedicated in the Parish Church by the Lord Bishop of Chelmsford.

Previously the tower had contained an almost unique peal of six, installed by Moore, Holmes and Mackenzie, of Redenhall, in 1886. This firm is reputed to have only one or two other rings to their credit. The frame was of great interest, being amongst the earliest wrought iron frames installed in the Eastern Counties, and was of most unusual design. It consisted of a single cross lattice arrangement, with the bells in two rows on the tips of these members. The strain on the tower, with all the bells thus swinging one way, was very great, and this was one of the chief reasons why a restoration became necessary. The tone of the old bells also left much to be desired, and it was wisely decided to make a clean sweep.

The final result has been a new peal of eight with a tenor of 11 cwt. 2 qr. 5 lb., hung in a modern steel frame by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, who are to be congratulated upon a really fine peal. The position of the frame in the tower has been lowered some feet below the louvres, and the circle of ropes in the ringing chamber is exceptionally good.

At the dedication service the church was packed with parishioners and ringers, and many, who were unable to obtain admittance, heard the service relayed by loud-speaker van outside.

The service was conducted by the assistant curate of the parish, the Rev. L. S. Bewers, who had been chiefly responsible for the carrying through of the augmentation. The dedication ceremony was carried out at the bottom of the tower by the Lord Bishop of Chelmsford, after which a course of Grandsire Triples was rung by a band from St. Mary's, Prittlewell. During this the congregation remained standing, listening for the first time to the complete peal.

In the course of his address the Bishop said he was very pleased to be present on such an occasion, and he congratulated the parish upon what it had done. Several of the bells had been given in memory of past churchworkers, which was a very nice action, but the one that impressed him most was the 7th, which bears the following inscription: 'To the Glory of God and an expression of the Unity in devotion to our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ, from the Methodist Church in this Parish.'

The Bishop thanked most heartily the authorities concerned, and said he wished there could be many more such actions to break down differences and help them all to realise their common purpose, holy worship. He went on to comment on the large congregation, and asked why it was not always so, for, he said, he was under no delusions about the normal attendances. Slackness, he was convinced, was due to indifference and not to disbelief in a call which alone could save the world in the present troubled times.

After the service the tower was open to visiting ringers, and good use was made of the bells until 4.45 p.m., when about 70 ringers sat down to tea in the Parish Hall. Afterwards the Rev. L. S. Bewers said how pleased he was to welcome so many members of the Essex and neighbouring associations, and said that he hoped the association would do all in its power to help his ringers.

Mr. J. Chalk, Ringing Master of the South-West District of the Essex Association, congratulated the parish on what it had done, and thanked all who had taken part in the service and the ladies who had provided the fine tea. He was pleased to see so many ringers there, and hoped for great things from the Stanford ringers, now that they had such a fine peal.

Mr. Howell replied on behalf of the Stanford ringers and thanked Mr. Chalk. He looked forward to as much assistance as the association could give. They had 16 ringers of their own, but they did not yet do method ringing.

The tower was revisited at 6 o'clock and ringing continued until 7.30, many methods being rung.

The opinion of those who should know was that an ideal job had been made of the founding and hanging. It is the hope of South-East Essex ringers that this is the first of many needful restorations in the area.

SUFFOLK GUILD.

EYE BRANCH WELCOMES YOUNGSTERS.

A successful meeting of the Eye Branch of the Suffolk Guild was held at Yaxley on Saturday. Owing to a misunderstanding, the service was abandoned and the bells at Yaxley were not available, but good use was made of the rings at Brome, Oakley, Thornham and Stoke Ash. One ringer was heard to remark that it was his sixth fresh tower, in six counties, this year.

Ringers attended from Suffolk, Norfolk, Essex and Cambridgeshire and a party of about 30 sat down to tea, under the chairmanship of the Rev. H. Drake, of Ufford.

Nine new members were elected, the Chairman welcoming so many youngsters. He also asked the members to stand in silence as a mark of respect to the late Mr. Arthur Knights, of Chesterfield, who was born in the village of Brome.

A few words of welcome to those living beyond the Suffolk borders, and an expression of thanks to the incumbents for granting permission to ring their bells, brought a very pleasant meeting to a close.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The Hertford County Association will hold their annual meeting this year at Hertford, instead of St. Albans. It is 49 years since the annual meeting of the association was held in the county town.

There is some prospect of a new ringing society being formed. When the Civil Servants met for their first peal the other day, they discussed the matter, but it was adjourned for settlement on a future occasion, as they could not agree whether to call themselves the 'National Society of Dodgers,' or 'The Lead Swingers' Association.'

The meeting of the Bolton Branch of the Lancashire Association, at All Souls', Bolton, on Saturday, has been cancelled.

Members of the Ladies' Guild thoroughly enjoyed themselves at the dinner of the Royal Cumberland Youths on Saturday. Their general secretary thought it desirable to move her seat so that she could be among them to sober their hilarity, but her immediate presence was without any substantial effect. Indeed, we are not sure that she, too, did not become a victim of the infectious spirit of jollity that prevailed in that particular quarter.

Mr. George Henry Coombes, of 25, Swanmore Road, Ryde, Isle of Wight, the oldest ringer in the country, will celebrate his 96th birthday next Tuesday. All ringers will extend to him heartiest greetings and good wishes.

FUTURE OF RINGING AT LICHFIELD COLLEGE.

RAPID PROGRESS.

Mr. Malcolm Melville, formerly hon. secretary of the Warwickshire Guild, who has been active in creating an interest in ringing among students at Lichfield Theological College during his residence there, is leaving in June. Fortunately the future of ringing at the college is assured, at least for a time. A few days ago one of his pupils, R. A. C. Brodribb, called a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles on handbells. Six different 120's were used and it was his first quarter-peal as conductor: R. A. C. Brodribb 1-2, M. C. C. Melville 3-4, M. M. A. Warren 5. Michael Warren is a son of the Rev. W. M. K. Warren, president of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.

Following upon the quarter-peal conducted by Richard Brodribb, another quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles on handbells was rung on Thursday, March 16th, conducted by Michael Warren.

Progress during the term just ended has been both rapid and interesting. At the beginning of the term the members had not even rung their first 120 of Doubles, double-handed, but within a fortnight they had rung their first quarter-peal and repeated the performance four days later. Three weeks afterwards they rang a peal with ten callings, and since then have rung two other quarter-peals, conducted by the two ringers mentioned above. Thus in nine weeks they have rung four quarter-peals and one peal, not to mention several spliced 240's and many 'silent' touches.

A BIRTHDAY PEAL.

MR. F. E. DAWE RETURNS TO HIS BIRTHPLACE.

Mr. F. E. Dawe, of Woking, fittingly celebrated his 77th birthday on Thursday of last week by calling a peal of Stedman Triples at West Meon, his birthplace. The picturesque thatched house, in which he first saw the light, still stands at the junction of the main road and that leading to the church in this little Hampshire village. It is interesting to recall that on the Sunday morning when Mr. Dawe was born, the bells were ringing to call the folk to service, and Mr. Dawe's eldest brother was one of the ringers. Whether it was this coincidence or not that led Mr. Dawe to take up ringing when he grew up we do not know, but the ringing of the bells at the auspicious moment certainly heralded the advent of one who, later on, was to take a prominent part in ringing. Not only was Mr. Dawe Master of the College Youths on five occasions, but he was for a short time secretary of the Central Council, and he has to his credit many memorable peals, particularly those rung at a large number of cathedrals, some of them the first on the bells.

From time to time Mr. Dawe has gone back to West Meon, which he first left at an early age, to celebrate his natal day. He did so when he was 50; again when he was 60 and 70, and also on his 75th birthday, and on each occasion he scored a peal. On Thursday week he once more collected a band of friends and added yet another successful visit. On this occasion he rang the seventh, and has now called a peal from all six of the bells that were ringing when he came into the world so near at hand.

After the peal the bells were 'fired,' further to celebrate the occasion, and then Mr. Dawe very kindly entertained the ringers to dinner at the Red Lion, where they were joined by the Rector (the Rev. Ernest Castle) and the leader of the local ringers, Mr. Trodd.

Mr. George Williams, the doyen of the company, proposed Mr. Dawe's health, and, on behalf of the party, wished him still 'many happy returns of the day' and thanked him for his hospitality.

Mr. Dawe, in replying, thanked the Rector for the use of the bells and Mr. Trodd for what he had done to ensure the success of the visit.

The Rector, who has only recently come to the parish, expressed his pleasure at the visit of the ringers and invited them to come again on some future occasion.

It is not uninteresting to note that of those who took part in this peal, Messrs. G. Williams and J. S. Goldsmith were in the first peal on the bells, nearly 41 years ago.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—63.

CHARLES R. LILLEY.

Few ringers have been able to spread their ringing activities about the country as Mr. Charles R. Lilley, now of Highweek, Devon, has done. His occupation has taken him to many centres, and wherever he has settled he has found an outlet for his energies. This has brought him into close contact with a large number of ringers, especially with the older members of the Exercise, and the experience he thus gained has made him not only a capable ringer but an excellent instructor. Many young ringers owe to him their opportunities for their first peals.

Mr. Lilley was born on April 8th, 1874, at Candlesby, Lincolnshire, where his father was for many years a churchwarden. He inherited his love of ringing, however, from his great-grandfather, William Fant, of Freiston, and still possesses his ancestor's ringing books. Mr. Lilley learnt to ring in Lincolnshire and his first peal was in 12 methods of Doubles at Wrangle in 1894. He rang his first peal as conductor on August 7th, 1897, at Bennington, Lincs, where he called seven 720's of Bob Minor. In 1897 he moved to Bedford, where he was associated with Mr. Charles Clarke, who, as Mr. Lilley describes it, put the finishing touches on him. About this time the bells at St. Paul's, Bedford, were made into ten, and he took part in some of the first peals on this augmented ring, including the first peals of Kent Treble Bob Royal and Bob Royal, as well as Superlative Major for the Beds Association. Afterwards Mr. Lilley moved to various places, including Oxfordshire, where he took of Double Norwich Major, part in the famous 17,024 rung at Kidlington in 11 hours 12 minutes on May 22nd, 1899, conducted by James Washbrook.



MR. CHARLES R. LILLEY.

He went to Shrewsbury in 1913, where he conducted the first peal of Stedman Triples in the town at St. Alkmund's and was afterwards appointed Ringing Master and Towerkeeper at St. Chad's. The bells there were then in bad order, and Mr. Lilley urged their restoration, which was eventually carried out by Messrs. Taylor and Co., who recast the bells into what Mr. Lilley considers the finest twelve in England. He conducted a number of first peals on these bells, including Grandsire and Stedman Cinques and Plain and Treble Bob Maximus, and was possibly the first ringer to conduct peals in the four standard methods on twelve bells in his own tower. In this tower he brought along a young band until they could ring Cambridge, and he also served for some years as a sidesman in the church. On one occasion at Wem in Shropshire he conducted a peal of Grandsire Triples, ringing the fifth in the first half and the seventh to the second half. The seventh was going badly and the change over was made to relieve the man who had started on her.

Since he has been in Devon Mr. Lilley has devoted much time to teaching, and among other performances has called the first peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major in the West, the first peal of Triples at Truro Cathedral and the first peal of Double Norwich Major by resident Devonshire ringers.

Altogether Mr. Lilley has rung 710 peals, of which he has conducted 463. They have been rung in 360 towers, including ten cathedrals, in 32 counties, and among them have been 34 handbell peals, of which he has conducted 33.

He represented the Shropshire Association on the Central Council from 1924 to 1926 and has been chairman of the Exeter Branch of the Devon Guild.

YOUNG BAND'S PROGRESS AT ASTON.

The steady progress of the young band at Aston was further marked on Sunday week, when seven of them rang their first quarter-peal of Stedman Cinques (1,311 changes) before morning service at the Parish Church. All the ringers were members of the local company: *G. Mitchieson 1, A. Short 2, *R. Shepherd 3, *A. Allen 4, F. Price (conductor) 5, A. Rainey 6, *W. Pettigrew 7, *W. Best 8, *F. W. Rishworth 9, P. Rainey 10, W. Davies 11, *A. Pettigrew 12. * First quarter-peal of Stedman Cinques.

GOOD FRIDAY BELLS.

MR. BOX THANKED.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Will you please allow a word of thanks to Mr. W. E. Box for his letter, particularly for his reference to the ancient service books, which, to many of us, are indeed a closed book, because we have no access to them.

There is no doubt that, both as regards liturgy and tradition, Mr. Box is right, although at one place many years ago we used to ring the bells half-muffled on Good Friday. At another Parish Church it became a custom to toll the tenor bell 33 strokes at the end of the three hours' devotion. This custom, I believe, was continued for about 20 years. In both cases, however, the ringing is now discontinued, and I believe that the ruling, no bells from Palm Sunday to Easter Day, including also the Sacring and the Angelus, is more generally observed.

Your correspondent's reference to the Sarum Missal is very interesting. It confirms to some extent what I have long suspected, that the use of bells in peal, to which we are accustomed in England, must have its origin in some use connected with the Liturgy, while other uses of bells, mostly of single bells, have to do with important heavenly visitations For instance, the Holy Presence at the time of the Sacring bell, and the Angel of the Salutation at the hours of the Angelus. So, reasoning from the known to the unknown, it is reasonable to suggest that the use of bells in number together may have begun in a commemoration of the visit of angels in great numbers; 'a multitude of the heavenly host,' singing together their Gloria in Excelsis.

Mr. Box's reference, however, strips this idea of some of its glamour, because he seems to transfer it from Christmas, where one might expect to find it, to Easter, which feast, although it does, indeed, celebrate a visit of angels, has no mention of a great multitude, nor does the traditional Easter Day story say that the angels sang their tremendous news. Could you, sir, persuade Mr. Box to kindly look up for us the Rubrics in the Sarum and other Missals for the Christmas festival?

A. C. HAZELDEN.

Guildford.

ANCIENT CHURCH ORDERS BELLS TO BE SILENT.

Sir,—May I take this opportunity of thanking those of your readers who have replied to my letter on the above, but, as I feel that my ideas have been misunderstood, I propose encroaching upon your columns again.

Allow me to begin by stating that I am not the sanctimonious, self-righteous individual some of your correspondents apparently think me, but I do, honestly, feel that Good Friday ringing would be an unfortunate break with ancient Church tradition, which view I have already set forth in your columns and endeavoured to support by quotations from the beautiful ancient 'Uses,' which were the only forms of prayer and services known and used in this land of ours before the Reformation.

Surely enough of these old 'forms and ceremonies,' so dear to our forefathers in the 'Ages of Faith,' were lost during the iconoclastic times of the Reformation, without the few remaining being shattered to-day, especially when the Anglican Church is endeavouring to get back to the 'godly ancient usage,' as the Prayer Book says, of former days.

To put a broader view on the matter, I am quite aware that 'these are the times of George VI., not George I.,' as Mr. Amos rather artlessly puts it, but we ringers have 52 Sundays in the year on which to make ourselves heard without ringing on its most sacred day, on which, as I have tried to show, the ancient Church expressly orders the bells to be silent.

Let us get our bells rung well and regularly for Sunday services before we begin ringing on Good Friday. The question of the appropriateness of muffled ringing, an 18th century innovation, is, of course, beside the point, but the old rubrics seem to enjoin complete silence.

With regard to the custom of silence during Holy Week at the R.C. Cathedral Church of St. Chad, Birmingham, it is neither 'modern' nor 'Anglican,' but simply good manners and respect for that solemn season; furthermore, as the office of Tenebrae is said each evening during the week it would be quite impossible for us to ring.

In conclusion, may I say that this is my last word on the matter, but we shall be very glad to welcome any of your correspondents to ring at St. Chad's, whether they show 'deplorable lack of knowledge of liturgical tradition' or not.

WILFRED E. BOX.

Harborne.

MUFFLED BELLS.

On Monday, March 13th, at All Saints' Church, Newport, Mon., a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the people's churchwarden, Mr. H. G. Matthews, who died on the previous day: T. Ford 1, L. Olson 2, T. Webb 3, H. Forbes 4, E. Bainham 5, J. W. Jones 6, L. Bainham (conductor) 7, G. Webb 8. This was the first quarter-peal of Stedman for the ringers of the 2nd, 3rd and 8th. All the band are Sunday service ringers and learned their ringing in this tower, excepting the ringer of the 6th.

ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

THE ANNUAL DINNER.

Plea for Co-operation Among Ringing Societies.

A merry party, including a number of ladies, gathered at the Old Bell Restaurant, Holborn, on Saturday, for the annual dinner of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths. There were nearly a hundred present, and the Master (Mr. George H. Cross), who presided, was supported by Mrs. Cross, the Rev. Henry Cecil (Vicar of St. Leonard's, Shoreditch), Mr. E. H. Lewis (president of the Central Council) and Mr. E. G. Fenn (Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths). The officers present included Mr. G. W. Steere (hon. secretary), Mr. T. Bevan (senior steward), Mr. R. Heazel (junior steward), Messrs. A. Hardy and C. J. Matthews (trustees). Among the veterans were two octogenarians, Mr. G. Williams (Southampton) and Mr. W. J. Nevard (Great Bentley), and there were others present whose membership goes back half a century or more. The attendance included Mr. A. A. Hughes (hon. treasurer of the College Youths), Mr. G. W. Fletcher (hon. secretary of the Central Council), Mrs. Fletcher (hon. secretary of the Ladies' Guild), Mr. and Mrs. James Parker (Edmonton), Mrs. J. D. Matthews (widow of the late Master), the Rev. J. Pelloe, Mr. R. Narborough (Nottingham), Mr. G. Pullinger (Bishopstoke), Mr. R. Philpott (Southsea), Messrs. A. H. Pulling and W. J. Robinson (Guildford), Mr. G. Gilbert (Burnham) and members from towers around London, as well as quite a number of members of the College Youths. An excellent dinner was enjoyed, after which the toast of 'The King' was honoured.

RINGERS' DUTY TO THE CHURCH.

Mrs. E. K. Fletcher, in proposing the toast of 'The Church,' said they, as ringers, were included in the toast because they were part of the Church and were doing a work for the Church. She asked, however, whether they were doing that work as they should do it. Sometimes it came to them, she thought, that perhaps they were not doing it as well as they might. At a meeting of the Ladies' Guild a few weeks ago the Vicar of the church they were attending said that what amazed him was that if he wanted ringers to ring for a wedding in the mid-week they could always raise a full team, but on Sundays they could not find enough men to ring all the bells for the services. That state of affairs, said Mrs. Fletcher, was wrong. Sometimes they complained that the clergy did not come up into the tower to meet them. She thought the reason often was that the clergy were afraid to come. If they did go into the tower they heard all sorts of mysterious orders given, which they did not understand and which no one attempted to explain to them. They might even think the ringers were mad and when they went downstairs they decided they had had a marvellous escape and would not go up again (laughter). 'We do not meet them half way,' said Mrs. Fletcher. 'We expect them to come the whole way and we do not interest them in our work. On an occasion like this,' she continued, 'we should think of all we owe to the clergy. A lot of our ringing, and especially our peal ringing, is done for pleasure. It helps us to improve our striking, but it is primarily done for pleasure, and if the clergy withdrew their permission to us to ring the bells a lot of our pleasure would be lost. We should think, therefore, of what we owe them, for their interest and the kindliness they show us in many ways, particularly in allowing us to hold meetings and in taking the services for us. But the greatest thing of all for us to remember is our primary duty to the church as bellringers. Our duty is to ring the bells for the Sunday services, and it is up to us, in the Church, to pull our weight and to do our utmost above all to keep the bells going on Sundays. The ringing which we do for pleasure we shall enjoy very much more if we feel we are not failing in our duty to the Church on Sunday' (applause).

SHOREDITCH WANTS A REGULAR BAND.

The Rev. Ernest Cecil, who replied, said he felt himself rather remiss in not climbing the stairs to the belfry at Shoreditch as often as he should have done, but he did know some of the ringers who came occasionally to ring the bells and he wanted to say how much those services were appreciated and they would like them to come more often. Recently the bells had been silent for many months on account of the restoration of the tower and steeple, but now this work had been completed he hoped very much that the ringers would come and help them more. They had the first ringing, since the tower was restored, on the preceding Sunday, and while perhaps they did not have any more people at church they certainly came earlier through hearing the bells instead of coming in at the last moment, and the atmosphere of worship was thereby enhanced. Many people had said how nice it was to hear the bells again. It seemed to him a great pity they had not got a regular band of young men at Shoreditch who could settle down to learn the art of ringing (hear, hear). He knew it was difficult, for those who at present came to ring, to come more often than they did, but they would be glad to see them, and he and the church officers and Church Council were tremendously grateful to them for what they did (applause). The Rector went on to explain the work that had been done to the church and tower and mentioned that while it was in progress they found serious cracks in the cupola on the top of the tower which might have resulted in it coming crashing to the ground in a violent storm. That cost them an additional £700 to put right, and altogether they had spent £2,500 on the restoration scheme. He was glad to say the work had been very well done and the ringers could come there and ring their longest peal in perfect safety (applause).

THE CALL TO YOUTH.

Mr. Walter Ayre proposed the toast of 'The Society of Royal Cumberland Youths.' It had been his privilege, he said, to be a member for the last 20 years, and he had always met with the greatest kindness and courtesy from the society ever since he first came to London as a real country bumpkin. Continuing, he said the point was being much stressed of the need for youth and it had always been a very strong point with him, but it came as a great surprise to him that night to see so many young people in that gathering, both young men and young ladies (applause). It was rather difficult in these days to find new members in London itself, and he felt it was the duty of the provincial members to do what they could to recruit the ranks of the society. He suggested they should make it their business in the country to rope in some new members so that they could continue to add new life in the society. He was sure they did not make enough of their society, of which they should be proud (hear, hear). They should pride themselves on being Cumberlands and should 'boost' their society more; they should get more new members and make it stronger. It would not be long before they celebrated their bicentenary—they were founded as the Royal Cumberland Youths in 1745—and he thought that in the next six years they ought to be able to increase their membership considerably. The old members could not carry on indefinitely; they must have support and it was only youth that could give them that support (applause). It was, he knew, difficult to carry on in London, but he thought it would be a very fine idea if the Cumberlands would take on more towers for regular ringing. There was, for instance, Shoreditch, with a fine peal of bells, that needed a regular Sunday service band, and there were one or two other towers where the bells were very seldom rung, which the society might make an effort to man, so that they might get more people who were on the spot to ring the bells of the churches for the purpose for which they were placed in the towers, namely, calling people to worship (applause). He realised, from his own experience in his own association, that it was becoming more and more difficult, except in a few centres, to get youth to come in to fill up the ranks as the stalwarts dropped out, and he knew many places where the ranks were not being filled, but he felt that an effort in this direction should be made and would be found worth while (applause). If in the area of greater London and outside they could get more members for their society, some were bound to gravitate to London, and if they were already members of the society they would naturally come to headquarters to take part in its activities and thus eventually be able to help ring the bells that were at present silent (hear, hear). Mr. Ayre concluded by telling the company that they had among them that evening the first lady to ring a peal of London Surprise double-handed. She was a member of their society, and in their name he heartily congratulated her upon her performance (applause).

MEMBERSHIP ON UP GRADE.

The Master, who replied to the toast, first thanked the hon. secretary (Mr. G. W. Steere) and the late hon. secretary (Mr. N. Summerhayes) for the excellent arrangements they had made for the dinner and went on to mention the receipt of apologies from, among others, the Rev. W. Pennington Bickford (St. Clement Danes), the Rev. G. L. Davey (St. Martin's-in-the-Fields), Mr. W. H. Fussell (Slough), Mr. A. F. Martin Stewart (Wimborne), etc. The Master continued that he had recently been looking back over the membership of the society and he found that between 1933 and 1938 the membership had increased by 50 per cent., so that instead of there having been a decline they were well on the up grade (applause). He mentioned the recent fine performance of a peal in 30 Minor methods rung by Essex members of the society, conducted by Mr. Ralph Bird, and congratulated them upon the achievement. With regard to Sunday ringing, he said, they maintained the ringing at St. Martin's on Sunday mornings and for the broadcast services, and they also rang at Shoreditch, when the bells were available, once a month and sometimes twice, and they had also rung at St. Bride's and St. Olave's, Hart Street. It had been suggested to him by Mr. Ayre, he added, that they might try to arrange a joint meeting with the College Youths, and the officers would certainly see what could be done in that direction (applause). Perhaps, too, Mr. Fenn would bring the matter to the notice of his society. In conclusion, the Master said he had received a letter from an old member, Mr. W. Keeble, who, as most of them knew, had been for a long time in hospital at Severalls, Colchester. Mr. Keeble would welcome a visit from any ringers who could call and see him. The Master added that he thought it would be a kindly gesture if, from that meeting, they could send a practical mark of their sympathy to Mr. Keeble.

Subsequently a collection was made, which realised £2 12s. for Mr. Keeble.

Mr. J. W. Cornford submitted 'The Visitors' and said he was pleased to see so large a number present that night. The dinner in that room, he said, took him back 20 years, when, in the same place, the annual dinner of the society was inaugurated and he saw faces now present who were with them on the first occasion (applause). There were members of many kindred societies present, societies who, with their own, were once looked upon as antagonistic. But those days he was glad to say were past: the social side of ringing had brought them together as one big family (applause). They had ringers present from many distant places, including some from Nottingham and some from Southampton. They particularly welcomed Mr. E. H. Lewis, the president of the Central Council and past Master of the College Youths (applause). Some were present, no doubt, to greet old friends

and to talk of the peals they rang together years ago, perhaps in the 'gay nineties' (laughter). Then there were some of the strong men with them with their eyes fixed on Liverpool tenor. He wished them luck (laughter and applause). But for whatever reason they were there, there was, behind all, the love of ringing, of meeting old friends and of doing honour to that grand old society (applause).

MISPLACED ENERGY.

Mr. E. H Lewis, in responding, mentioned that he had spent some hours that afternoon on the river bank watching the 'Head of the River' races, and he went on to draw analogies between the team work required in rowing and in ringing. The coach of the crew, he said, could say exactly what he liked to the men and what he thought about them, and no member of the crew dared to reply or even to look surly; if he did he would be chucked out of the boat. He thought it would be for the good of ringing if they could have a little more of that spirit in the tower. He did not mean to say they should use the same kind of language inside a sacred building that was used on the towpath (laughter), but the idea should be that whoever was conducting should be in complete charge and should say what he thought about the striking, without the person spoken to feeling any ill-will at all. That was the spirit they wanted to get into the tower (applause).

There were many problems to which one might refer on that occasion, continued Mr. Lewis, but it had been quite clear in the past year or two that in some societies there had been a great deal of energy that had been misplaced. They cried out for recruits, and no society could be successful unless there was a continuous flow of young ringers, but what had struck him was that in some quarters a lot of energy had been spent, in quarrelling about overlapping, which might have been more usefully turned into another direction, that of teaching young ringers (hear, hear). In his own county association, a number of whose members were present that night, if the energy spent in quarrelling over the rules had been put into teaching young ringers, the association would have been a great deal better off (applause). In Kent there were only just over 50 per cent. of the towers in union with the association, and in many of those towers the striking, to say the least of it, was very far from perfect. For that reason he thought a lot of the misplaced energy should have been turned into the right direction, for they should not be satisfied until they had every tower in the county in union with the association and the striking everywhere fit to be broadcast (hear, hear). That could only be done by getting young ringers, teaching them carefully from the start and paying attention to every little detail, from the proper way to hold the rope, onward. It was details such as the holding of the rope and the handling of the bell which did so much towards accurate striking at a later date. It was upon such things as this that they should spend their time and energy instead of quarrelling about the definition of districts or the exact meaning of rules. The best societies were those which were worked on a basis of friendship and rules should not be required at all (applause). In conclusion, Mr. Lewis on behalf of the visitors, and the ringers of England, which, as president of the Central Council, he could claim to represent, wished the Royal Cumberland Youths continued prosperity.

SUGGESTED JOINT MEETING OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND CUMBERLANDS.

Mr. N. Summerhayes proposed 'Kindred Societies.' He said London was unique in this respect that it was covered by four or five or more societies, and he supposed it was inevitable that small questions and disagreements—small compared with the ideas behind ringing—should crop up, but violent controversy and acrimonious argument could do nothing at all to improve the position. Everything could be settled in a friendly manner; if it was not it would only bring discredit on the Exercise and breed bad feeling among ringers (hear, hear). They often heard that so and so would not ring with someone else, and you could not have this man in a peal if you had that man. That was most deplorable. The ideal behind a ringing society was effectively to organise ringing and particularly Sunday service ringing. Their object should be to work together in a friendly way. During 1938 the Cumberland Youths held two joint meetings. One was with the Middlesex and Essex Associations at Shoreditch, Bethnal Green and Hart Street. It was a terrific success, and 80, at least, attended although it was on the Saturday that followed the critical week in September. They also held a joint meeting with the London County Association, which was also a success. At the meeting at Shoreditch one or two mentioned the idea of a joint meeting with the Ancient Society of College Youths. He thought if it could be done it would create a tremendous impression, and he was sure it would be as successful as either of the other meetings. He would like to reiterate the desire of his society to co-operate with the other societies in the London areas; they were always delighted to welcome members of any other society at their meetings and practices. He coupled with the toast the name of Mr. E. G. Fenn, Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

Mr. Fenn, who was cordially received, said there was one thing he had noticed about the kindred societies in the provinces, and that was the brotherhood and good fellowship that existed between them. It was gatherings such as they were holding that evening that kept this brotherhood going, and he doubted if there was any other art in the world which could produce the brotherhood and good spirit that was to be found in ringing to-day (applause). The Ancient Society of College Youths was pleased to welcome any ringers, to whatever society they belonged, whether they were Cumberlands, or the Ladies' Guild, or what not. Mr. Fenn went on humorously to remark that as the men could not join the Ladies' Guild, perhaps the next best thing was to marry a lady ringer, although that might have its drawbacks—their wives might know too much sometimes (laughter). On one occasion after a peal, he said, he went home early. He arrived at eight o'clock and his wife exclaimed, 'What's the matter, aren't you well?' (laughter). The next time he did not get home until half-past ten, and when asked for an explanation he said they had had ten more changes to ring (laughter). 'But,' said Mr. Fenn, 'you couldn't tell that tale to your wife if she was a ringer' (laughter). Proceeding Mr. Fenn said the College Youths once played the Cumberlands at cricket; he now understood there was a team wanting to play the Cumberlands at darts (laughter and applause). With regard to the joint meeting of the two societies which had been mentioned he would certainly bring the matter up at their next meeting. It rested, of course, with the members to say if they were in agreement with the suggestion. For himself he was in favour of it, as such meetings did create good fellowship between ringers (applause).

LADIES' CHALLENGE.

Later the Master read a note, that had been handed up to him, that the Ladies' Guild would challenge the winners of the match between the College Youths and the Cumberlands in a darts competition (laughter and applause).

Mr. C. J. Matthews proposed 'The Press,' and, speaking from his own experience in connection with newspaper production, said he was sure very few ringers understood the great amount of work Mr. Goldsmith put into 'The Ringing World' for their benefit every week. 'The Ringing World' was indispensable to the Exercise, but Mr. Goldsmith was indispensable to 'The Ringing World.' He wished success to 'The Ringing World' and hoped Mr. Goldsmith would long be able to carry on.

Mr. Goldsmith, whose name had been received with musical honours, responded, and, in thanking Mr. Matthews for his kindly remarks, said whether or not he was indispensable, the time must inevitably come when he would no longer be here to carry on, and his great desire was to see sufficient support given to the paper to ensure its continuation in the interests of ringing. Mr. Goldsmith referred to the position of ringing in London, where within five miles of Charing Cross, he said, there were something like 80 towers, while regular service ringing was carried on in probably less than 20 of them. There was plenty of scope for improving this position, he added, if only the various societies would get together in a friendly spirit of collaboration (applause).

During the evening the company were entertained with songs by Miss M. Dawson and Mr. Walter Ayre; Mr. George de Sell mystified the audience with some extraordinarily clever tricks; and there was also handbell ringing, which included courses of Stedman Caters and Double Norwich Major, the enjoyable evening concluding with community singing.

A photograph was taken of the dinner party, and details as to the price of copies, etc., can be had from the hon. secretary of the society, Mr. G. W. Steere.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The Exercise will, I think, agree with Mr. Simmond's letter in your last issue as to the undesirability of causing bitterness and ill-feeling between the Guildford Diocesan Guild and the London County Association by a continuance of the correspondence relating particularly to those two associations.

But a re-reading of Mr. C. T. Coles' letter in 'The Ringing World' of March 10th will show that, apart from a reference in his opening paragraph, Mr. Coles does not refer to this matter at all. The withdrawal of the remarks relating to the Guildford Diocesan Guild has, it is hoped, ended this question.

Mr. Coles' letter relates solely to two other points contained in Mr. Taffender's first letter—(a) 'the assistance of another writer' in leading the Editor, and (b) 'this association (the L.C.A.) has in no way ever ignored its title.'

With regard to (a), you, sir, have denied any such assistance, and I agree with Mr. Coles that, if the charge cannot be substantiated, it should be withdrawn. On the question of the L.C.A. not ignoring its title and yet laying claim to the postal districts of London, I am irresistibly reminded of the leader of the Third Reich, who has 'no more territorial ambitions' until he springs his next surprise on the world. As Mr. Woodiss said in his letter published on February 24th, nothing has been done 'with regard to the more important question of overlapping' and 'as to the conduct of the activities of the association in the future.' It is interesting to note that a former district master of the L.C.A. (Mr. Waugh) has said that it is 'quite useless to try to run the society on a territorial basis, with its present constitution' ('Ringing World,' February 10th, 1939). Presumably he speaks from experience.

Everyone who knows Mr. Coles knows that he has spent the whole of his ringing career in trying to promote the welfare of the Exercise and good feeling among the associations and their members, and for Mr. Simmonds to imply anything else is quite unjustifiable. The two points in Mr. Coles' letter were quite clearly nothing to do with the relations between the Guildford Diocesan Guild and the London County Association.

WILFRID G. WILSON

'RINGING UP.'

RINGERS OFFER SOME USEFUL HINTS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In answer to 'Yokel's' letter as to 'ringing up,' I should like to offer the band some advice on this subject. Your correspondent says his band cannot agree on what is the cause of their failure, but some light on the culprit is thrown by your correspondent when he says the back bells have to pull down from their normal swing, which is obviously wrong and plainly points out that the treble is not raising his bell. This checking on the back bells is a guide to the leader that he is at fault.

In the next paragraph I am with the tenorman in his opinion on raising his own bell.

My advice to this band is to get to some tower where the bells are raised as they should be; if not, get some expert ringer to coach the band, for I am sure in our great fraternity someone would be only too pleased to assist.

Here is some advice to the band on raising:—

1. The leader should always be raising, but only gradually.
2. The front bells keep as close as possible at the commencement of the rise.
3. No. 2, you are setting the rhythm, see to it that you keep it.
4. Do not try to follow a bell that is not in its place, but keep your ears open and see that your bell is speaking at its proper time.
5. Gradually open out when nearly up. The treble and second here play an important part.

This peal, with a tenor of 17 cwt., should take at the least five minutes to raise; a little longer would add to the beautiful effect of a good rise.

In conclusion, I consider these bells an ideal six to raise in peal, for, having been recently rehung and with a tenor of that weight, they should go well and have some tone in them. J. E. HOBBS.

Watnall, Notts.

ANOTHER 'TIP.'

Dear Sir,—'Yokel' has hit one nail on the head when he says 'the bells should be really close together in the early stages.' That gives the back strokes an opportunity of falling into place without clashing.

The other point I have found invaluable in my experience is this: The trebleman should keep an eye on the tenor, and as soon as possible touch 'sally' and 'end' in opposition to his rope. Then, if the others are keeping their proper places, the result should be entirely satisfactory. HENRY MARTIN.

Dawlish, Devon.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT BARNBY-IN-THE-WILLOWS.

A very enjoyable meeting of the North Notts Association was held on Saturday, March 11th, at Barnby-in-the-Willows, near Newark. The light six, with a tenor of 6½ cwt., went well, and after a late start the bells were kept going by the 24 ringers present. The towers represented were Sutton-on-Trent, Ordsall, Southwell, Lincoln Cathedral, St. Giles', Lincoln, and the home tower. The members were also pleased to welcome a Warwickshire ringer from a tower near Coventry.

The ringing included the usual Doubles, and Plain, Treble Bob and Surprise Minor methods, and the striking was quite good. One or two touches were rung rather quickly, and a little of the joy of ringing and beauty of tone seemed to be lost at the greater speed.

Tea in the Schoolroom was, as usual at Barnby, an excellent meal. At the meeting afterwards the Rev. H. Walton took the chair and welcomed the association very heartily to his church.

Mr. J. Pearson, of Branston, was elected a non-resident life member.

The secretary suggested that the annual meeting be held at Retford on either April 15th or 22nd, and the meeting was asked to state which date was preferable. April 15th was put forward as a recommendation to the committee meeting, which will be held on April 1st.

The Rev. R. F. Wilkinson said it had been suggested that the annual meeting be held at Retford and Newark alternately. In the case of Newark, the date would have to be Easter Monday. This will be borne in mind in future years.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells and to the ladies for preparing tea.—The Rev. Walton replied in humorous vein to both these votes.

Further ringing took place afterwards.

BELLS AND BROADCAST SERVICES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I had the pleasure of ringing at St. Margaret's, Lee, recently, and I was very surprised when I heard that the bells will not be broadcast on Palm Sunday. This church has had quite a number of services broadcast, but not once have we heard the bells. I am sure there are other churches, as well as that named, which never are broadcast and yet ring previous to the broadcast service. I hope we shall try to get these peals broadcast if possible. I am sure that Churchyard Bob would sound better over the air than some of the 'firing' we hear.

S. HOPGOOD.

Wimbledon, S.W.

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 4s. per quarter.

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

To Secretaries of Affiliated Associations. Subscriptions for 1938/39 became due in January.

To all Members.

All resolutions to be proposed at the next meeting, and all nominations for the offices of President, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Librarian should be sent to me before March 30th.

GEORGE W. FLETCHER,
Hon. Secretary.

45, Walsingham Road,
Enfield, Middlesex.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—Book this date, March 25th, for Parish Church, Ashby-de-la-Zouch. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. The above district will hold its next meeting there, and a hearty invitation awaits all ringers. Excellent bus service from all parts.—J. W. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Overseale, Burton-on-Trent.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION—Canterbury District.—The next meeting will be held at Elham (Chilham unavailable) on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (8) from 2.30. Service 4.30, followed by tea, 1s. per head. Usual methods, but special attention to Double Norwich, please.—B. J. Luck, Hon. Dis. Sec., 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — The next meeting will be held at Tickhill on Saturday, March 25th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Let us have a good meeting to welcome the new vicar. Send your card to Ernest Cooper, 6, Grosvenor Crescent, Arksey, Doncaster, Yorks.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Derby District.—A meeting will be held at St. Luke's Church, Derby, on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (8, tenor 30 cwt.) available 3 p.m. All ringers cordially invited to try this splendid peal. Subscriptions now due. — Wm. Lancaster, Hon. Sec., 83, Albert Road, Chaddesden, Derby.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks & S. Bucks Branch.—The next meeting has been arranged at Fulmer (6 bells) on Saturday, March 25th, at 6 p.m. Subscriptions now due. Annual reports ready shortly. Note date of annual meeting, April 22nd, at Beaconsfield. — A. D. Barker, Cumbridge, Wexham, Slough.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — St. Albans District.—A meeting will be held at Hatfield on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Short service 5. Tea at the Temperance Hotel (1s.) 5.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—Harold V. Frost, Dis. Sec., 4, Kimberley Road, St. Albans.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. — The meeting arranged at All Souls, Bolton, for Saturday, March 25th, has been cancelled. — Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District. — The next monthly practice at Chelmsford Cathedral will be held on Saturday, March 25th, at 7.30 p.m. The special method is 'Cambridge,' up to Royal.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District. —A quarterly meeting will be held at Wye on Saturday, March 25th. Bells ready 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. —P. Page, Hon. Dis. Sec., 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—The next meeting will be held at Chobham on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (8) available 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. at the White Hart. The Vicar is anxious to meet the diocesan ringers, so a hearty welcome is extended to the neighbouring districts and others. — F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Sec., 39, Queen's Road, Thames Ditton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Colne on Saturday, March 25th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members cordially invited. —F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District. — The next meeting is at St. Ippollyt's on March 25th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea, by kind invitation of the Vicar.—L. T. Newman, Hon. Dis. Sec., 36, Salisbury Road, Baldock.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Malins Lee, Wellington, on Saturday, March 25th. Usual arrangements. Visitors welcome, but please notify numbers for tea. — W. A. Farmer, 70, Oakfield Road, Shrewsbury.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Almondsbury on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (6) open from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Please advise for tea.—R. C. Gifford, Hon. Sec., Gifford House, Frampton Cotterell.

HORDLE, NR. LYMINGTON, HANTS.—The ring of five bells (one old and four new) will be dedicated by the Bishop of Southampton on Sunday, March 26th, at the 11 o'clock service. The work has been carried out by John Taylor and Co.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637). — Meetings for March: *St. Paul's Cathedral, 28th; St. Magnus-the-Martyr, 30th. *Business meeting afterwards. Both at 7.30.—A. B. Peck, Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS. —A practice will be held at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, on Thursday, March 30th, at 6.30 p.m.—G. W. Steere, 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting will be held at Aston Parish Church, Birmingham, on Saturday, April 1st. Bells (12) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m., to be followed by business meeting. Please notify Mr. W. Davies, 99, Rosary Road, Erdington, Birmingham, regarding tea not later than Thursday, 30th inst.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division. — A meeting of this division will be held at Stisted on Saturday, April 1st. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Will all those requiring tea please notify Mr. R. Suckling, 334, Church Street, Bocking, Essex, not later than Wednesday, March 29th. All ringers welcome.—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Dis. Sec., 3, Belle Vue, Hedingham Road, Halstead, Essex.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch. —The monthly meeting will be held at Steeple Ashton on Saturday, April 1st. Ringing 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5. Meeting to follow.—W. C. West, Branch Hon. Sec., 584, Semington Road, Melksham.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Archdeaconry of Ely Branch.—A meeting will be held at Ickleton on Saturday, April 1st. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Visitors heartily welcomed. Please send card for tea to Mr. P. Webb, Ickleton, Saffron Walden, Essex.—C. W. Cook, Newton, Cambridge.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—A meeting will be held at Benwell (bells 6) on Saturday, April 1st, at 3 p.m. These bells have just been rehung, so please give the Benwell chaps a good restart.—Jack Roach, Hon. Sec.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — The next meeting will be held at South Anston Church (bells 8) on Saturday, April 1st. For tea please notify Mr. H. Stenton, 32, Sheffield Road, South Anston, near Sheffield. All welcome.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 13, St. Ronans Road, Sheffield 7.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Winchester District.—Quarterly meeting at Alresford on Saturday, April 1st, next. Bells (8) available from 2.30. Service at 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. Will those requiring tea kindly notify Mr. H. Newnham, West View, Rosebery Avenue, Alresford, by Thursday, March 30th? — W. G. Goodchild, Hon. Dis. Sec., 139, Stanmore Lane, Winchester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Cophull, on Saturday, April 1st. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea, 9d. each, for which please notify Mr. J. Blackburn, 38, Park Road, Cophull, near Chorley. Special invitation to friends from Preston Branch. — S. Forshaw, 55, Poolstock, Wigan.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Enderby on April 1st. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m., followed by the business meeting. Will all those requiring tea notify me on or before March 29th?—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — A meeting will be held at Brown Edge on Saturday, April 1st. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Will those requiring tea kindly notify Mr. G. Hall, Brown Edge, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, not later than March 29th? Tickets are available from the secretary for the second annual dinner at the George Hotel, Burslem, on Saturday, April 15th, 3s. 6d. each. — Andrew Thompson, 37, Broad Street, Newcastle, Staffs.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Guilsborough Branch. — A special meeting will be held at West Haddon (5 bells) on Saturday, April 1st. Usual arrangements. Please notify honorary secre-

tary not later than Tuesday, March 28th, of those requiring tea.—H. H. Shrives, Hon. Branch Sec., The Mill, Long Buckby, Rugby.

MORECAMBE, LANCS.—The new ring of eight bells installed by John Taylor and Co. will be dedicated by the Bishop of Blackburn on Sunday, April 2nd, at the 10.30 service.

BRONLLYS, TALGARTH, BRECONS.—Reopening of the bells on Saturday, April 8th, at 3 p.m. Preacher, the Lord Bishop of Swansea and Brecon. Notification to the Vicar for tea, which will be supplied at a nominal charge. The five bells restored and a new treble added to make six by John Taylor and Co.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, Easter Monday, at Burton-on-Trent. Bells open: St. Paul's (10) from 10 a.m; Rolleston-on-Dove (8), 11.30 to 12.30, 1.30 to 3.30; Winshill (6), 11 to 12 a.m., 1.30 to 4 p.m. Subject to weddings and funerals. Committee meet 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.45 prompt, followed by general meeting in St. Paul's Institute. Tickets for tea, members 1s. 9d., visitors 2s., to be obtained not later than Apr. 5th from J. W. Cotton, Coronation Street, Overseale, Burton-on-Trent. Owing to catering difficulties, please note, those without tickets must fend for themselves.—Ernest Morris, General Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The 59th annual general meeting will be held at Erith on Easter Monday, April 10th. Committee meeting in St. John's Hall at 11.15 a.m. Service in the Church of St. John the Baptist at noon. Address by the Vicar of Erith (Rev. R. W. Thornhill, M.A.). Luncheon in St. John's Hall at 1 p.m. (free to practising members, 2s. 6d. others). His Worship the Mayor of Erith (Rev. J. W. Wilkinson) will preside. Business meeting follows for the election of officers and Central Council representatives (4). Nominations must reach me by March 27th. A new rule to be submitted. The tower of St. John's will be open for ringing from 10 a.m. and after the meeting. Other towers in the vicinity available will be announced later. All applications for luncheon tickets must reach me by Tuesday, April 4th, otherwise too late.—Fred M. Mitchell, Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — The ANNUAL MEETING will be held at HERTFORD, on EASTER MONDAY. Ringing from 2 p.m. at All Saints (10 bells), St. Andrew's (8), Bengeo (8). Hertingfordbury (5) 1.30 to 3 p.m. Service in St. Andrew's Church 4.30 p.m. Tea in St. Nicholas Hall, St. Andrew's, 5 p.m., price 2s., followed by business meeting. Ringing at the three Hertford churches up to 9 p.m. It will help the caterer if your intentions can be sent to the secretary not later than April 6th. Thank you.—G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec., Duffield, St. Albans.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — The annual general meeting will take place at Norwich on Easter Monday, April 10th. The bells of St. Peter Mancroft, St. Giles, St. Michael at Coslany and All Saints available from 10.30 a.m. Service at St. Peter Mancroft at 12.30 p.m. Address by the Rev. E. William Blyth, Rector of Northrepps. Luncheon (2s. 6d.) at The Castle Hotel at 1.30 p.m. Kindly notify attendance at luncheon. —F. Nolan Golden, Gen. Sec. and Treasurer, Winton, 26, Brabazon Road, Norwich.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Worcester on Easter Monday, April 10th. General business meeting in the College Hall at 2.45 p.m. prompt. Chairman: The Very Rev. Arthur Davies, D.Litt., Dean of Worcester. Service in the Cathedral at 4.15 p.m. Special preacher: The Rev. J. R. Bamber, Vicar of Wollaston. Tea (non-members 1s. each) will be provided at 5.30 p.m., for all those who notify me on or before Wednesday, April 5th. Bells available: Cathedral (12), 1-2 p.m.; All Saints (10), St. John-in-Bedwardine (8), and St. Nicholas (6). St. Swithun (6, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. only). Central Committee meeting in St. Albans at 11.30 a.m. Subscriptions should be paid and reports obtained in St. Albans' Church Room, Fish Street, between 12 noon and 1 p.m. Members are particularly asked to note that St. Helen's Church House will not be available as in previous years.—J. D. Johnson, Gen. Hon. Sec., Aubyns, Cheltenham Road, Sedgeberrow, Evesham.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Cardiff on Easter Monday next. Bells (10) available from 2 o'clock. Service at 4.15. Tea and business meeting to follow.—J. W. Jones, Hon. Sec., Cartref, 94, Alteryn View, Newport, Mon.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—East Devon Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Awliscombe, near Honiton, on Easter Monday, April 10th. Bells (6) available 2.30; also Ottery St. Mary (8). Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting, Parish Room, 5.15 p.m. All are welcome. —John H. Godfrey, Hon. Sec., 9, Silver Street, Ottery St. Mary.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District. — The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, Epsom, on Easter Monday, April 10th. Bells available: St. Mary's, Ewell, 11 a.m. to 12.30; St. Martin's, Epsom, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.; Christ Church, Epsom, 3.30 to 4.55, and again in the evening. Service at Christ Church 5 p.m., followed by tea at Christ Church Hall at 1s. per head. Business meeting afterwards. Numbers for tea to be sent to Mr. J. Crawford, 2, Woodcote Side, Epsom, not later than Wednesday, April 5th. All ringers and friends heartily welcome.—F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Sec., 28, Strathearn Road, Sutton, Surrey.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, on Saturday, April 22nd. Full particulars later.—C. T. Coles, Gen. Sec.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.—The annual dinner will be held in LIVERPOOL on Saturday, October 21st. Book the date NOW. Details later, but BOOK THE DATE.—Claude I. Davies, Hon. Treasurer, 68, Dunbabin Road, Liverpool 16.

SITUATION WANTED.

RINGER, seeks situation as sexton, caretaker, or any work connected with the church. References. — Write, Box R., 'The Ringing World,' Lower Pyrford Road, Woking, Surrey.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Mr. T. J. Cox, of 60, Royal Road, Ramsgate, acknowledges with many thanks the following donations for the orphaned children of the late Mrs. E. Taylor: Anonymous, 4s. 6d.; Ranmoor Company, Sheffield, 10s.; St. Michael's, Bray, 5s.; A. J. Wells, Swindon, 5s.

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Although only 13 years of age, another member of the Symonds family has made his debut in ringing and has rung a quarter-peal of Doubles in three methods on handbells. He is E. A. Symonds, of Hitchin, and has not as yet begpn ringing on tower bells. The quarter-peal, rung on February 26th, consisted of 480 Stedman Doubles, 540 Grandsire Doubles and 240 Old Doubles. It was the first quarter-peal on handbells by all three of the ringers: W. E. Symonds 1-2, A. E. Symonds (conductor) 3-4, E. A. Symonds 5-6.

A first performance on handbells by other ringers has been accomplished at Walford, where 720 Bob Minor was rung by W. G. Paul (conductor) 1-2, W. G. Porter (first 720) 3, D. Laud (first 720) 4, R. G. Bell (first 720 'in hand') 5-6.

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in England.

FIELDS STILL TO CONQUER.

Within the next few weeks many of the leading ringing associations will hold their annual meeting, and, in addition to the yearly election of officers, will be called upon to make the triennial appointment of representatives to the Central Council; while only two months ahead is the meeting of the Council itself. It will be a time of general stocktaking, and, perhaps, from the statistics, which it is proposed to gather in connection with new elections to the Council, it may be possible soon to get some clue to the real strength of the Exercise. From time to time there is somewhat disquieting news that, in this or that district, ringing is a dying art for want of new blood. On the other hand, there are many places where an optimistic view prevails, for one finds a good sprinkling of young ringers at meetings and reads of the election of useful numbers of new members, such, to quote one instance, as the twenty-two fresh names added to the Sussex County Association at a district meeting a fortnight ago. Judged merely on expressions of opinion, the optimists seem to cancel out the pessimists, but now that the Council has a plan for obtaining reliable statistics it should be possible to gauge much more accurately where the Exercise, as a whole, stands. It is, however, the duty of the individual associations, in their own interests, to examine closely the position in their respective areas.

There are very few parts of England, now, where ringing organisations, to promote the interests of the art and draw together individual companies in a common purpose, have not been in active operation for fifty years or more. Despite all their labours through half a century, however, there remain a vast number of towers unconnected with the associations, either because there are no ringers, or because such ringers as there are have no interests outside their own belfry, if, indeed, they have more than a casual interest inside it. One of the most successful territorial organisations in the country is the Kent County Association, yet the vice-president (Mr. E. H. Lewis) admitted the other day that only half the towers in the county are affiliated. And that, we imagine, is not an unusual state of affairs. The same conditions obtain in many parts of England, and, even if the figures which will presently be available through the Central Council should show that there is no falling off in the aggregate membership of the affiliated societies, it will be no reason for complacency. After fifty years of work, the associations still have fields to conquer, and those societies which are now about to meet to discuss their domestic affairs, might well devote some of their attention to formulating schemes, not only for raising recruits, but for bringing

(Continued on page 198.)

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into their organisation the towers which remain outside and which, between them, must have a very considerable number of ringers of sorts. Success will not be achieved by waiting for these people to come in of their own accord. It is necessary to go after them; to create interest, to use persuasion and, if possible, get it backed by the influence of the clergy. Why should not a start be made now in every territorial society to take a census in its area of the ringers inside and outside its organisation? It would provide some most useful material as the starting-point of what could be a general campaign, which should supplement the drive for young ringers.

'THE RINGING WORLD' NEXT WEEK.

Owing to Good Friday, next week's issue of 'The Ringing World' will be published on Thursday.

All notices and reports intended for insertion must reach 'The Ringing World' Office, Lower Pyrford Road, Woking, Surrey, not later than MONDAY next.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR, SOUTHWARK,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5002 CHANGES;

Tenor 50 cwt.

ERNEST J. KING	...*Treble*	HARRY WINGROVE	7
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ...	2	†NORMAN H. MANNING ...	8
HENRY G. MILES	3	EDWARD D. SMITH	9
THOMAS W. TAFFENDER ...	4	JOHN W. WARD	10
*CHARLES W. OTTLEY ...	5	FRANK E. DARBY	11
RICHARD A. POST	6	F. DONALD BOREHAM ...	*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by T. W. TAFFENDER.

* First peal on 12 bells. † First peal of Stedman Cinques.

TEN BELL PEALS.

CROYDON.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 30¼ cwt. in D.

*MISS MARY RAWLINGS ...	*Treble*	†ROYDON DAVIES...	6
HARRY E. WILLS	2	†FRANK E. MITCHELL... ...	7
MISS GWENDOLINE KIPPIN	3	†CHARLES POTHECARY ...	8
†MRS. CHARLES H. KIPPIN	4	FRANK E. DARBY	9
†ARTHUR W. JONES	5	CHARLES H. KIPPIN ...	*Tenor*

Composed by H. J. TUCKER. Conducted by C. H. KIPPIN.

* First peal. † First peal of Bob Royal. Arranged as a birthday compliment to Mr. H. E. Wills.

BRISTOL.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN-THE-MARTYR,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

MRS. R. J. WILKINS ...	...*Treble*	GEORGE POPNELL	6
EDGAR GUISE	2	GILBERT PEARCE	7
ALBERT M. TYLER	3	JOHN A. BURFORD	8
JOHN W. JONES	4	JOHN PHILLIPS	9
DONALD G. CLIFT	5	FRANCIS C. MOGFORD ...	*Tenor*

Composed by SIR A. P. HERVEY. Conducted by JOHN PHILLIPS.

A birthday compliment to Nurse Marion Smith, of Usk, Monmouthshire.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BEXLEY, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, March 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 7⅞ cwt. in A.

*Kenneth Medhurst	*Treble*	Ernest H. Oxenham	5
*Allan Hall	2	Harry Hoverd	6
Herbert A. Holden	3	Herbert E. Addeley	7
*Alfred Williams	4	Frank H. Mitchell	*Tenor*

Conducted by Harry Hoverd.
* First peal. First peal in the method on the bells.

WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
At the Church of St. Paul,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 18¾ cwt.

John Potter	*Treble*	John Wise	5
Robert Wallwork	2	Herbert Davenport	6
Thomas B. Worsley	3	Wilfred Halliwell	7
Thomas Wallwork	4	Laurence J. Williams	*Tenor*

Composed by C. Middleton. Conducted by T. B. Worsley.

DOWNHAM MARKET, NORFOLK.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, March 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
At the Church of St. Edmund,
A PEAL OF SPLICED PLAIN BOB AND LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5000 CHANGES;
Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

William Buckenham	*Treble*	Nolan Golden	5
Wallace W. Cousins	2	Claude Cousins	6
Lewis Bush	3	Arthur G. Bason	7
John A. Godfrey	4	Cecil V. Ebberson	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by Nolan Golden.
First spliced peal by all except conductor and tenor ringer. There were 250 changes of method.

WILBY, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Sunday, March 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt. in F.

Lewis W. Wiffen	*Treble*	Miss Hilda Snowden	5
Charles J. Sedgley	2	Cecil W. Pye	6
Claude Snowden	3	Ernest W. Pye	7
Miss Sylvia R. E. Bowyer	4	A. Patrick Cannon	*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. Moorhouse. Conducted by A. P. Cannon.
First peal in the method as conductor.

HARTLEBURY, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, March 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
At the Church of St. James,
A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
J. J. Parker's Six-part, No. 13. Tenor 20 cwt.

*Walter Farley	*Treble*	Arthur E. Wheatmore	5
Ralph W. Sayers	2	Allen Morgan	6
George E. Large	3	*Frederick G. Handley	7
*John W. Smith	4	Frederick G. Yates	*Tenor*

Conducted by George E. Large.
* First peal in the method.

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THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Monday, March 20, 1939, in Two Hours and Twelve Minutes,
At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 24 cwt.

Herbert J. Eldred	*Treble*	Francis Kirk	5
George R. Pye	2	John Armstrong	6
Charles T. Coles	3	George W. Steere	7
Frederick W. Housden	4	James C. E. Simpson	*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. Washbrook. Conducted by C. T. Coles.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, March 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
At the Church of St. Edward,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt.

Henry J. Ranzetta	*Treble*	Robert C. Hazel	5
*Eric J. Coe	2	Ernest J. Butler	6
George R. Pye	3	Ernest W. Forbank	7
Frederick W. Housden	4	John H. Crampion	*Tenor*

Composed by C. Middleton. Conducted by J. H. Crampion.
* First peal in the method 'inside.'

DUNMOW, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,
A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 21½ cwt. in E.

H. Walter Smith	*Treble*	Basil Redgwell	5
Albert Wiffen	2	*Philip A. Corby	6
Frank Claydon	3	Lewis W. Wiffen	7
Reginald Martin	4	Hilda G. Snowden	*Tenor*

Composed by G. Lindoff. Conducted by Lewis W. Wiffen.
* First peal in the method.

BITTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
At the Parish Church,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 11 lb.

William A. Cave	*Treble*	Frank Skidmore	5
Miss Norah G. Williams	2	Harry J. Sanger	6
Andrew J. Corrigan	3	Ronald G. Beck	7
Herbert W. Knight	4	Joseph T. Dyke	*Tenor*

Composed by C. Middleton. Conducted by Joseph T. Dyke.
First peal in the method on the bells.

POOLE, DORSET.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, March 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
At the Parish Chuch of St. James,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 19½ cwt.

Mrs. F. J. Marshallsay	*Treble*	Percy W. Witham	5
William Story	2	Roy Hurst	6
Edward T. Griffin	3	Francis S. Beaumont	7
*Charles Forfitt	4	Arthur V. Davis	*Tenor*

Composed by Geo. Lewis. Conducted by Arthur V. Davis.
* First peal of Major. First peal in the method as conductor.

TUNSTALL, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
Tenor 9½ cwt.

*William A. J. Knight	*Treble*	Victor A. Jarrett	5
George Kenward	2	George A. Naylor	6
William Spice	3	Frank Besley	7
*John E. Spice	4	John W. Unwin	*Tenor*

Conducted by William A. J. Knight.
* First peal of Kent Treble Bob. A birthday compliment to Mr. G. H. Spice, hon. secretary of the Rochester District of the association.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt. 3 qr. 14 lb. in C.

*C. RAYMOND HILL ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM E. CLARKE	5
SIDNEY HARRISON	2	ARTHUR CATTELL...	6
GEO. STEDMAN MORRIS ...	3	ERNEST MORRIS	7
JOSIAH MORRIS	4	ARTHUR DEBENHAM ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by E. MORRIS. Conducted by GEO. STEDMAN MORRIS.

* First peal of Major. Specially arranged as a wedding peal for Miss Lucy L. Hunt (captain of Girl Guides) and Mr. John W. Dayman (server) of this church, and on the latter's birthday.

KIRTLINGTON, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 16½ cwt.

FREDERICK SHARPE ...	...*Treble*	WALTER F. JUDGE	5
ERNEST PEARSON... ...	2	REV. C. E. WIGG	6
FRANK E. TAYLOR	3	RICHARD T. HIBBERT ...	7
WILLIAM E. COLLETT... ...	4	*CHARLES E. STOCKLEY	...*Tenor*

Conducted by R. T. HIBBERT.

* First attempt for peal.

WRITTLE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

ERIC J. COE	...*Treble*	JOHN G. NASH	5
GEORGE GREEN	2	ERNEST W. PYE...	6
ERNEST W. FURBANK	3	*ARTHUR H. EVERETT ...	7
WILLIAM CHALK	4	JOHN H. CRAMPION ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by J. H. CRAMPION.

* First peal of Superlative.

RATBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PHILIP AND JAMES,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

*HERRICK B. BOWLBY	...*Treble*	ALFRED BALLARD...	5
ARNOLD BRUNTON	2	HARRY BROUGHTON	6
W. ERNEST RAWSON	3	COLIN HARRISON	7
†FRANK K. MEASURES ...	4	FREDERICK H. DEXTER	...*Tenor*

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by ARNOLD BRUNTON.

* First peal of Surprise. † First peal of London Surprise. First peal of London Surprise as conductor. First Surprise peal on the bells.

GRESFORD, DENBIGHSHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DEXTER'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

ROBERT SPERRING ...	...*Treble*	JAMES SWINDLEY	5
THOMAS BUTLER, SEN. ...	2	*HARRY PYE	6
THOMAS R. BUTLER	3	PERCIVAL W. CAVE	7
GEORGE R. NEWTON	4	PERCY SWINDLEY ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by THOMAS R. BUTLER.

* First peal in the method and first attempt. A birthday compliment to the conductor and also to Mr. Arthur Allen, a ringer, of Ellesmere, Shropshire.

HEXHAM, NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,

AT THE PRIORY CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. in E flat.

MICHAEL ANDERSON ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON ...	5
*KENNETH ANDERSON... ...	2	†JACK ROACH	6
JOHN ANDERSON	3	KENNETH ARTHUR	7
THOMAS W. CROWE	4	ADAM DEAS	...*Tenor*

Composed by H. MOORE. Conducted by KENNETH ARTHUR.

* First peal of Grandsire. † First peal of Triples.

SANDBACH, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 16¼ cwt.

HARRY PARKER	...*Treble*	WALTER LONGMAN	5
*GEORGE H. CRAWLEY ...	2	ALAN D. STEEL	6
THOMAS HURD	3	ALBERT CRAWLEY	7
RICHARD T. HOLDING ...	4	CHARLES H. PAGE ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. THORP. Conducted by CHARLES H. PAGE.

* First peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major.

ALSAGER, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

HARRY OVERTON ...	...*Treble*	GEORGE A. PACKER	5
THOMAS PRICE	2	*HARRY THELWELL	6
HARRY F. HOLDING	3	RICHARD D. LANGFORD ...	7
WILLIAM J. CHESTER	4	JAMES H. RIDING ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by SAMUEL WOOD. Conducted by J. H. RIDING.

* First peal of Major. A birthday peal for the towerkeeper, Mr. G. Whalley.

SILVERDALE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DAY'S SIX-PART. Tenor 9½ cwt.

LEN DAVIES	...*Treble*	WILLIAM PYE	5
FREDERICK A. FORSTER ...	2	ALBERT FORD	6
MRS. B. MILES	3	RICHARD BENSON...	7
ANDREW THOMPSON	4	SAMUEL MORLEY	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALBERT FORD.

Rung to commemorate the 50th anniversary in the ministry of the Rev. William Chambre Vaughan, Vicar of Loppington, Shrewsbury, a former Vicar of Silverdale.

BURNLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, March 26, 1939, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 11¼ cwt.

WILLIAM MCCLEAVE	...*Treble*	WILLIAM H. HUNTER	5
WALTER MOUNCEY	2	HARRY ENTWISTLE	6
*JOHN TOMLINSON	3	RENNIE HARTLEY	7
*ALSTON GREENWOOD... ...	4	FRED BENTLEY	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. PLATT. Conducted by HARRY ENTWISTLE.

* First peal on eight bells. Rung to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the bells.

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SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

NOTTINGHAM.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, March 16, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Consisting of two 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 7 lb. in B flat.

RALPH NARBOROUGH ...	...*Treble*	WALTER NICHOLLS	4
J. ALFRED BARRATT	2	FRANK BRADLEY	5
*FRANK W. BROWN	3	FREDERICK A. SALTER	...*Tenor*

Conducted by F. A. SALTER.

* First peal of Minor. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. Barratt, mother of the ringer of the 2nd, on her 78th birthday.

HINTON WALDRIST, BERKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 7 cwt.

HAROLD A. EDWARDS	...*Treble*	*REGINALD G. PARTRIDGE...	4
*EDWARD C. AUGER	2	†WILLIAM H. SEABROOK ...	5
*LANCELOT J. MACE	3	WILLIAM EDNEY... ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by H. A. EDWARDS.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal of Doubles.

BURRY PORT, CARMARTHENSHIRE.
THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Forty-two six-scores (ten callings).

E. PARMENTER	...*Treble*	G. FRANCIS	3
J. WILLIAMS	2	H. REES...	4
		C. H. HAWKINS	...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. H. HAWKINS.

Believed to be the first peal on the bells.

STISTED, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, March 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF BOURNE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 9½ cwt. in A.

KENNETH G. SMITH ...	...*Treble*	RALPH BIRD	4
VICTOR MORLEY	2	ALEC M. GENERY	5
ALBERT L. DIXEY	3	RONALD SUCKLING ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by RALPH BIRD.

First peal in the method by all, in the county and for the association. Rung in honour of Mothering Sunday.

ALDRIDGE, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Monday, March 20, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different extents. Tenor 8 cwt.

HOWARD HOWELL ...	...*Treble*	*JOHN LUCK	4
*CYRIL TABERNER	2	‡MAURICE G. TURNER... ...	5
†P. GEORGE GOLDER	3	BARNABAS G. KEY ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by M. G. TURNER.

* First peal in the method. † First peal in the method away from treble. ‡ First peal in the method and of Minor.

APSLEY END, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, March 20, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
One extent each of York, Durham, Beverley, Surfleet, London, Wells and Cambridge. Tenor 14½ cwt.

BRIAN MCKAY	...*Treble*	AUGUSTINE V. GOOD	4
WALTER AYRE	2	WILLIAM J. PUDDIFOOT ...	5
*HAROLD J. HAZELL	3	WILLIAM J. RANDALL ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

* First peal in seven Surprise methods. Specially rung in honour of the birth of a daughter to the Vicar and Mrs. Agg-Large.

RISHTON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, March 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt. 13 lb.

RICHARD BALDERSTONE ...	...*Treble*	RICHARD ATHERTON	4
THOMAS HILLMAN	2	ALBERT YATES	5
*JACK APPLETON	3	FRED READ	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALBERT YATES.

* First peal. First peal as conductor.

SPONDON, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, March 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WERBURGH,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven 720's called differently. Tenor 10 cwt.

*FRED SIENSON	...*Treble*	WILLIAM LANCASTER ...	4
JAMES PAGET	2	*REGINALD J. WALLIS ...	5
CYRIL J. JENNINGS	3	JACK BAILEY	...*Tenor*

Conducted by JACK BAILEY.

* First peal. Rung as a welcome to the Rev. T. E. M. Barber, who was inducted on the previous Friday.

WESTBURY-ON-TRYM, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, March 22, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 23½ cwt.

*VICTOR J. WILLIAMS	...*Treble*	CYRIL J. GOULD...	4
*BRYAN HUDDLESTON... ...	2	ALAN A. HILLIAR	5
THOMAS HARRIS...	3	*FREDERICK W. BROWN	...*Tenor*

Conducted by T. HARRIS.

* First peal and first attempt. First peal as conductor.

FELKIRK, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.
On Thursday, March 23, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF SPLICED TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven complete extents in 20 methods as follows: (1) Willesden and Marple; (2) Newdigate, Old Oxford and College Bob IV.; (3) Wragby and Braintree; (4) Charlwood, Neasden and St. Albans Delight; (5) College Exercise and Morning Star; (6) Ockley, Duke of Norfolk and Norbury; (7) Capel, Oxford, Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure and Kingston. Tenor 10 cwt.

ROLAND HILL	...*Treble*	HAROLD CHANT	4
*CYRIL COOK	2	†THOMAS CULLINGWORTH ...	5
J. THOMAS WHITE	3	DANIEL SMITH	...*Tenor*

Conducted by DANIEL SMITH.

* First peal in 20 methods and first attempt. † First peal of Spliced Minor and first attempt.

RINGWOULD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, March 24, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 12 six-scores of Plain Bob, and 30 six-scores of Grandsire (14 different callings). Tenor 5 cwt. 3 qr. 7 lb.

FREDERICK A. RYE ...	...*Treble*	E. THOMAS ELLENDER ...	3
CHARLES TURNER...	2	*WILLIAM TERRY...	4
		*DOUGLAS G. BROWN ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by DOUGLAS G. BROWN.

* First peal of Doubles. First peal on the bells. First peal as conductor.

BIRTHDAYS HONOURED.

In honour of the 72nd birthday of the conductor (Mr. H. Meakin) and the 80th birthday of Mrs. S. Jackson, mother of Messrs. H. and A. E. Jackson, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,259 changes) was rung before evening service at St. George's Church, Stockport, on March 12th: T. Simpson 1, H. Jackson 2, P. Laflin 3, A. E. Jackson 4, G. L. Burgess 5, F. Twigg 6, H. Meakin (conductor) 7, A. F. Bailey 8, H. Ashton 9, C. Bell 10.

WENDOVER, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, March 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven different extents. Tenor 14¼ cwt.

HARRY C. JONES	*Treble*	PERCY NEWTON	4
ROLAND BIGGS	2	*WALTER A. LEE...	5
WILLIAM J. RANDALL... ...	3	WALTER AYRE	*Tenor*

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

* First peal of Cambridge Minor.

DANBURY, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Woodbine, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, and two 720's of Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.

ALBERT E. NORTH	*Treble*	GERALD FROST	4
ERNEST J. RUNTER	2	FRANK C. MAY	5
WILLIAM S. MAY	3	FRANK B. LUFKIN ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN.

DEANE, HANTS.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, March 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Comprising one extent of Cambridge Surprise and two extents each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

*REV. FREDK. S. H. MARLE	*Treble*	RONALD F. KINGHAM	4
*DAVID H. ANSTEY	2	CHARLES W. MUNDAY... ...	5
DONALD W. NASH	3	FREDERICK A. MUNDAY	*Tenor*

Conducted by DONALD W. NASH.

* First peal in more than one method. First peal in four methods by the rest of the band.

SOUTHILL, BEDS.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven extents called differently. Tenor 13 cwt.

HERBERT SHERMAN	*Treble*	EDMUND WAGSTAFF	4
STANLEY WALLIS	2	*ARTHUR HUNT	5
GEOFFREY MAYES	3	PERCY TOMPKINS... ..	*Tenor*

Conducted by P. TOMPKINS.

* First peal and first attempt.

NEWHEY, LANCS.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(ROCHDALE BRANCH.)
On Saturday, March 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Consisting of 720 of Kent and Oxford, two 720's of Oxford, two of Kent and two 720's of Plain Bob.

*SELWYN HOLT DEARDEN ...	*Treble*	HAROLD HAMER...	4
*JOHN MEADOWCROFT, JUN.	2	*HARRY BYROM	5
RICHARD BYROM	3	*IVAN KAY	*Tenor*

Conducted by H. BYROM.

* First peal of Minor. Rung for the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. R. Byrom.

POYNTON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, March 25, 1939, in TwoHours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven extents called differently. Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 17 lb. in F. sharp.

*IVAN B. GARDINER ...	*Treble*	†HARRY FARRER	4
*JOCELYN B. GARDINER ...	2	C. KENNETH LEWIS	5
ARNOLD WORTH	3	JOSEPH WHITTAKER ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by C. K. LEWIS.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal of Bob Minor away from treble.

DARLINGTON.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Rev. E. Bankes James' Arrangement. Tenor 7¼ cwt.

GEORGE PARR	*Treble*	*WILLIAM H. THOMAS ...	4
*WILLIAM OLIVER	2	ROLAND PARR	5
*SAMUEL BRYANT...	3	W. NORMAN PARR ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by ROLAND PARR.

* First peal of Cambridge Minor. Rung on the occasion of the consecration of Dr. A. T. P. Williams as Bishop of Durham, which ceremony took place in York Minster the same day.

PERLETHORPE, NOTTS.
THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being three 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and one 720 of Plain Bob. Tenor 6¼ cwt.

JOHN NORRIS...	*Treble*	*COLIN EVANS	4
JOE READER	2	RICHARD REECE...	5
FREDERICK FLINT	3	HERBERT T. ROOKE ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by H. T. ROOKE.

* First peal 'inside.' Rung to welcome Fred Flint back to the district.

HANDBELL PEALS.

WESTERHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, March 19, 1939, in Two Hours,
AT 7, WESTWAYS,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven extents each called differently. Tenor, size 15 in C.

*JOHN O. WELLER	1-2	DEREK M. SHARP	3-4
		*GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ...	5-6

Conducted by DEREK M. SHARP.

* First peal of Minor 'in hand.' First peal of Minor as conductor 'in hand.'

ROTHERHAM, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, March 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT BIRKBY, DONCASTER ROAD,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

MRS. T. C. RYDER	1-2	HAROLD CHANT	5-6
ALBERT NASH	3-4	T. COLIN RYDER	7-8

Composed by G. LEWIS. Conducted by ALBERT NASH.

CRAYFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, March 23, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,
IN THE OLD PARISH ROOM.
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

CYRIL BRETT-SMITH	1-2	FREDERICK G. GROOMBRIDGE	5-6
DEREK M. SHARP...	3-4	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY... ...	7-8

Composed by W. H. L. BUCKINGHAM. Conducted by D. M. SHARP.

COLCHESTER RINGER 84 NOT OUT.

At St. Peter's, Colchester, on Mothering Sunday, March 19th, a touch of 1,024 Superlative Surprise Major was rung before evening service by G. Boyden 1, H. T. Pye 2, G. M. Rashbrook 3, F. L. Bumpstead 4, R. Cadamy 5, W. Chalk 6, V. Kerridge 7, E. P. Duffield (conductor) 8. This was a birthday compliment to Messrs. F. L. Bumpstead, G. M. Rashbrook and V. Kerridge.

Mr. Bumpstead is the esteemed steeplekeeper at St. Peter's and has just celebrated his 84th birthday. He has been connected with St. Peter's for 47 years and has held the office of steeplekeeper for 43 years. He is a life member of the Essex Association, and has been a College Youth for 55 years, and a member of the Manchester Unity of Oddfellows for 60 years. Mr. Bumpstead's life has been a triumph over handicap. At the age of twelve he unfortunately lost one of his legs, but he still enjoys good health and takes part regularly in the service ringing.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS.

A very enjoyable joint meeting of the Eastern and Western Districts of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association was held at Chester-le-Street on Saturday, March 18th. Ringers were present from Newcastle, Gateshead, Sunderland, Benfieldside, Consett, Houghton-le-Spring, Darlington and the local tower.

After tea, a short meeting was presided over by Mr. R. L. Patterson, at which a birthday greetings telegram was despatched from the ringers to Mr. J. W. Parker, of Sunderland.

Mr. R. L. Routledge proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and Mr. J. Anderson thanked the ladies for arranging the tea.—The Rev. E. O. C. Halahan, curate of Chester-le-Street, replied on behalf of the Rector, and Miss Douglas on behalf of the ladies.

The methods rung during the day were Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob, Duffield, Plain Bob, Double Norwich, Stedman and Grandsire Triples.

The following district meetings are arranged: Northern District, April 1st, at Benwell, Newcastle-on-Tyne; Southern District, April 29th, at Shildon; Eastern District, May 6th, at Houghton-le-Spring.

GOLDEN WEDDING CELEBRATION AT LEATHERHEAD.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Dean, of Leatherhead, celebrated their golden wedding on Saturday, having been married at Langrish, Hants, on March 25th, 1889. Mr. Dean has given long service to ringing at Leatherhead and was prominently identified with the Surrey Association, of which he was elected a vice-president at the annual meeting a few weeks ago. For the past two or three years Mr. Dean has been incapacitated from ringing, but his interest is as keen as ever and, being unable to climb the belfry stairs, he sits at home and listens to the ringing. It is unfortunate he is unable to take any further active part in ringing, as he needs only one more peal to complete his double century for the Surrey Association.

An attempt was made for a peal to celebrate the golden wedding, but unfortunately it was lost after 2 hours 25 minutes' ringing. Two quarter-peals have, however, been rung, as follows: A quarter-peal of Double Norwich Major (1,280 changes): A. C. Otway 1, A. H. Winch 2, W. J. Whiting 3, G. Marriner 4, A. H. Smith 5, C. Smart 6, A. Harman 7, W. G. Newberry (longest length in the method as conductor) 8. A quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,259 changes): W. G. Newberry 1, A. H. Winch (conductor) 2, E. W. Bugden 3, G. Marriner 4, A. Harman 5, A. C. Otway 6, J. Hoyle 7, W. J. Whiting 8, A. H. Smith 9, H. V. Young 10.

STAFFORD RINGER'S DEATH.

It is with much regret that we record the death of Mr. William Harold Jones, deputy head ringer of St. Mary's Church, Stafford, who passed away at his residence, 17, Marsh Street, on March 21st. The funeral took place on Saturday, when six of his fellow-ringers bore him to the grave.

Mr. Jones, with the exception of his service in the Great War, was a regular member of the Sunday band at St. Mary's for some 25 years and did much to help forward the art of ringing in the district.

His fellow-ringers, as a last tribute of respect to a very loyal comrade, rang with the bells half-muffled touches of Stedman Triples, Grandsire Triples and Plain Bob before both morning and evening services on Sunday. The Rector, at evening service, referred to the work of Mr. Jones as a ringer, and at the close of the service the organist (Mr. G. P. Matthews) played Chopin's 'Funeral March.'

JOINING THE R.A.F.

Mr. G. Thomas, of the band at St. Catherine's, Gorseinon, is entering the R.A.F., and as a farewell to him a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung on Sunday, March 26th, for evening service: R. Dobbins (first quarter-peal) 1, H. Dobbins 2, R. C. Dobbins 3, G. Thomas 4, J. Hanson 5, W. Dobbins 6, A. W. Dobbins (conductor) 7, A. Tew 8. It was also as a birthday compliment to A. W. Dobbins.

SIXTY-ONE YEARS AT CALVERLEIGH.

Mr. J. T. Woodley, of Calverleigh, Devon, has been a ringer at the Parish Church for 61 years and, as a compliment to him, on his 71st birthday on Sunday a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, which he conducted, was rung for evening service: F. Green (first quarter-peal) 1, J. Hill (first quarter-peal 'inside') 2, C. Flew 3, P. Mayne 4, J. T. Woodley 5, E. Greenslade 6.

APPRECIATION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—May I be allowed space in your valuable columns to say how much I deeply appreciate the kindness and generosity of members of the Royal Cumberland Youths and friends assembled at the annual dinner of the society recently held? I would also like to thank the Master for his kind thought and the hon. secretary for his kind and welcome letter.

I would also like to thank those who have visited me and expressed their sympathy in tangible form on more than one occasion, including that ever versatile 'young' gentleman from Great Bentley.

W. KEEBLE.

John Taylor & Co.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The Bristol United Guilds' week of tours by motor-coach, from August 14th to 19th, promises to be of unusual interest. Gloucestershire, Somerset and Dorset will provide the happy hunting ground, and, as at present planned, the tours will cover approximately 800 miles, with ringing at some 35 or 40 towers, and all for a fare of two guineas.

Forty years ago next Monday, on April 3rd, 1899, members of the Kent County Association rang a peal of 15,072 Double Norwich at Erith in 9 hours 24 minutes, under the conductorship of the late William Pye. At the time it was the record length in the method, but it was only six weeks later that the Kidlington peal of 17,024 was rung, conducted by J. W. Washbrook.

To-morrow is the anniversary of one of the earliest 'long peals' on record. On April 1st, 1727, a 10,080 Oxford Treble Bob Major was rung at St. Michael Coslany, Norwich.

The Earl Shilton 'Handbell Quartet,' who recently broadcast in an 'Industry Entertains' programme, will be 'on the air' again in the Children's Hour programme, Midland Regional, on Saturday, April 8th. All the quartet are members of the Midland Counties Association.

There will be no practice of the Ancient Society of College Youths until Tuesday, April 11th, when there will be ringing at St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, with the usual business meeting at headquarters afterwards.

GOOD FRIDAY RINGING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I was pleased to read Mr. Story's letter urging muffled ringing on Good Friday. What is the purpose of church bell ringing? Is it not to call people to church and worship, to remind those who go astray and to bring them back, to witness for Jesus Christ to the outside world? If this is correct, I consider Good Friday is one of the most important days of the year when the bells should be rung (muffled or half-muffled), especially at the present time, when the pleasure caterers' voices are often heard above the church and the meaning of Good Friday forgotten. Ringers, do your bit!

North Shields. JAMES E. SCOTT.

SURPRISE RINGING ON HANDBELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I should like to offer my congratulations to the talented band who recently rang the peal of London 'in hand,' and particularly Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Fletcher, with whom I have had the pleasure of ringing on a few occasions. W. KEEBLE.

[Mr. Keeble was one of the band, the others being the brothers Pye, who, in 1904, rang the first peal of London Surprise on handbells.—EDITOR, 'Ringing World.']

FIRST CIVIL SERVANTS' PEAL.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The peal of London Surprise Major published in 'The Ringing World' of March 24th cannot be claimed to be the first for the Civil Service.

A peal of Kent Treble Major, conducted by Mr. T. H. Taffender, was rung at St. Mary's, Lambeth, on January 30th, 1937.

The ringers were all of one branch of the Civil Service—the Post Office.

A peal board has been placed in the tower recording this fact.

Canterbury. JOHN W. UNWIN.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT MEETING.

A meeting of the Southern District of the London County Association was held at St. George the Martyr, Southwark, on Saturday, March 18th, and was attended by some 30 members and friends.

Ringing commenced at 3 p.m. and continued till 5 p.m., when the Rector (the Rev. E. C. Cook) conducted a short service. He welcomed the association and stated that in spite of complaints from the nearby residents he was always very pleased to have ringers use the bells on a Saturday afternoon.

The District Master (Mr. P. A. Corby) presided at the business meeting, held in the vestry, and stated that arrangements had been made for a combined practice with the local band at St. Luke's, Chelsea (ten bells), on Tuesday, April 18th, at 7.15 p.m. The next district meeting would be held at Streatham on Saturday, May 20th, with ringing at St. Leonard's in the afternoon and at Immanuel in the evening. He urged all members to support both these meetings.

The proceedings ended with a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector, and ringing was resumed until 8.30 p.m., methods up to Cambridge and Superlative being rung.

BISHOP'S VISIT.

At St. Mary's, Chatham, on March 5th, in honour of a visit of the Bishop of Rochester to this church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung for evening service: C. E. J. Norris 1, R. Norris 2, F. Padwick 3, V. Jarrett 4, W. Walker 5, H. Springate 6, W. A. J. Knight (conductor) 7, D. Harfield (first quarter-peal) 8.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—64.

ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

Among the most brilliant of the younger generation of conductors must be placed Mr. Ernest C. S. Turner, of Ealing, for, although still in the 'twenties,' he has to his credit a number of notable achievements, not least among them the peals of Spliced Surprise Major, reaching up to nine methods, several of which he has composed as well as conducted.

Mr. Turner was born on May 23rd, 1910, and while still at school was introduced to ringing by his friend, Wilfred Wilson, who was then one of a band receiving instruction from Mr. J. A. Trollope. The two youths lost no opportunity of ringing in neighbouring towers, and on most evenings cycled to churches in West Middlesex for practice. Although he only began to ring in March, 1927, Mr. Turner rang his first peal in the following October, this being seven extents of Bob Minor on handbells at Ealing. His first tower-bell peal was Bob Major on December 20th, 1927, at Willesden, where the encouragement Mr. Turner's enthusiasm has received from the Willesden band, under the leadership of Mr. H. Kilby, has enabled him to take part in and frequently conduct a large portion of his peals, especially those in the more advanced methods.



MR. ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

Six weeks before Mr. Turner rang his first tower-bell peal, however, he conducted a handbell peal of Bob Major. Mr. Turner is one of those gifted conductors who can call anything from any bell, and all the most difficult things he has done have been called from a working bell, including the ten Spliced Surprise Major peals in 4, 5, 6, 7 and 9 methods. Among some of his other interesting performances he conducted the first and, at present, only peal of Isleworth Bob Royal, and what was probably the first peal of Double Court Triples. He called an 'Ernest' peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at Galleywood, Essex, in 1934, and rang in the first peals of Ealing and Pinner Surprise Major. He also took part in a peal of Minor at Deeping St. James, Lincolnshire, in which 28 Surprise methods were spliced into seven extents.

Mr. Turner has rung 213 peals altogether, 189 on tower bells and 24 on handbells. Of these he has conducted 75 on tower bells and 12 'in hand,' while the church bell peals have been rung in 79 towers in 20 counties of England, Wales and Ireland. One hundred and forty-five of the peals have been rung for the Middlesex County Association, in which he was Ringing Master of the South and West District from 1933 to 1937. Mr. Turner's mathematical and professional training has given him a great command of figures, and it is only natural that, intimately associated with Mr. J. A. Trollope, he should have developed an extensive knowledge of composition. In this field he has already rendered great service as a member of the Methods Committee of the Central Council, having been elected as an honorary member of this body in 1934.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CENTRAL BRANCH MEMBERSHIP INCREASED.

A very successful meeting of the Central Branch of Ely Diocesan Association was held at Wilburton on Saturday week, when members were present from Cambridge, Chatteris, Exning, Fulbourn, Sawston, Swavesey, Trumpington, Haddenham and the local tower. Mr. S. Shipp welcomed the visitors to the church on behalf of the Wilburton ringers. The ringing was of high standard, some very good London, Cambridge and Norwich Surprise being rung, as well as methods down to Plain Bob and Stedman Doubles. Twenty-one sat down to tea at the Royal Oak, after which the business meeting was presided over by the Vicar (the Rev. H. C. S. Vale).

Over was selected for the next meeting, and Cottenham for the ensuing quarterly meeting.

The new Vicar of Wilburton was made an honorary member of the association, and it is pleasing to note the branch membership is larger than last year.

Votes of thanks were accorded the Vicar, who suitably replied, and to Mr. H. Sharpe for having the bells in readiness.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CHOBHAM'S ANCIENT BELLS.

The Pride of the Parishioners.

A very successful meeting of the Chertsey District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild was held at Chobham on Saturday, at the invitation of the Vicar (the Rev. F. T. Robinson). A few months ago the bells at the Parish Church of St. Lawrence were rehung and placed on ball bearings by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank and a great improvement was thus effected, but of the bells themselves the less said the better, except that they are of venerable age and the pride of the parishioners, who readily subscribed to their restoration. No fewer than five of the eight are scheduled for preservation on account of their antiquity, and even if the Chobham people themselves desired to improve the bells, which they do not, it would be impossible without providing at least five new bells.

The sixth is a pre-Reformation bell, cast by William Culverden, brazier, of London, who died in 1522, and is dedicated to St. Margaret. The fifth and seventh are bells dated 1597, cast by Richard Eldridge, and the tenor came from the same foundry at Wokingham in 1610. The fourth is dated 1684. Chobham has thus good reason to be proud of the antiquity of its bells.

Last Saturday's meeting was attended by nearly 40 ringers, but most of the touches rung were of the 'educational' variety, although the methods included Cambridge, and in this way much good work was done. What was equally gratifying was the fact that the majority of the Chobham ringers joined the Diocesan Guild for the first time and they were given a specially warm welcome by guild officials. The Vicar was also elected an honorary member.

Prior to the tea and meeting, service was held in the Parish Church, conducted by the curate. The Vicar presided at the organ and gave an address, in which he welcomed the Guild to Chobham. Going on to speak of the place which bells took in the life of the parish, he said that in Chobham the bells were rung muffled on Good Friday, and he added that the bells were very dear to the hearts of the people in the village. When it was necessary to restore them there was a wonderful response and he had never known money come in easier for any church scheme. Moreover, it came in largely from people who could give only small amounts, and while the bells were silent they were greatly missed in the life of the place.

Proceeding, the Vicar spoke of the qualities demanded by bell-ringing. There was, he said, no better illustration of team work than that done by a band of ringers, and the work was one of self-effacement in which the individual had to subordinate himself to the interests of all. He spoke of ringing as a valuable piece of regular church work and referred with gratitude to the conscientious work of his own band. They wanted the traditions of their church towers maintained, he added, for deep down in their hearts men knew that the bells stood for the union between God and man.

At the close of the meeting Mr. R. Whittington inquired the nature of the ringing at Chobham on Good Fridays, and was informed that it was now half-muffled before the services. Formerly it was full muffled, with the tenor open at backstroke. It was a very old custom, and the Vicar said there was no question that it added to the solemnity of the day and at least made people think. That was important when there was a growing tendency to convert the most solemn day in all the Christian year into a public holiday.

MORE HONORARY MEMBERS ELECTED.

A successful meeting of the Guildford District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild was held at Worplesdon on Saturday, March 18th, when over 40 members and visitors attended. The gathering included the general secretary of the Guild (Mr. G. Grover) and Mr. C. W. Denyer (Farnham district secretary). An apology for absence was received from the Guild Master (Major J. H. B. Hesse).

The local band had had the belfry renovated for the occasion, and its spick and span appearance was the subject of many favourable comments.

The Rector (the Rev. G. J. Chitty) conducted the service, and at the commencement of his interesting and topical address said he had been given a friendly warning not to preach about bellringing. In any case, he did not believe that it was always policy to 'enlarge on the occasion.'

At the business meeting, which followed tea in the Church Hall, the Rector presided, and, amid applause, was elected a life member of the Guild. Mr. H. Rance, of Worplesdon, also received a special cheer for having recruited four honorary members.

The following were the new members elected: Honorary members, Messrs. W. V. Moore and S. J. E. Davy (Bramley), the Misses E. and W. A. Thompson, Mr. H. G. Rance and Sir L. E. Halsey, K.B.E. (Worplesdon); ringing members, Messrs. F. Priddle, H. Steer, C. Steele and G. Whittle (Godalming).

The announcement that through the efforts of the general secretary the Guild would shortly have a strong representation at Shere was greeted with enthusiasm. It was decided to hold a meeting at that tower during the summer.

The general secretary proposed the usual votes of thanks, and said that although these formal expressions of gratitude tended to become stereotyped, they were none the less sincere.

Mr. C. E. Smith, the District Ringing Master, had a busy afternoon and evening catering for learner and expert.

Thanks to the kindness of Mr. J. R. Mackman, handbell ringing, under his direction, was enjoyed by a number of members.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THE FUTURE OF CHANGE RINGING.

A very successful meeting of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild was held at Acton and was attended by over 60 ringers, together with most of the association's principal officers.

The special service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. P. Gough), and the lesson was read by Vice-President J. A. Trollope. During the service a course of Grandsire Triples was rung in the chancel by Messrs. E. C. S. Turner, G. W. Fletcher, J. Herbert and J. Thomas.

The Rector, welcoming the change ringers as old friends, to whom he had spoken in his garden during the summer, assured them of his high appreciation of the service they gave, not only to his church, but to churches throughout Middlesex. The nation had a silent service guarding its coasts, but the bellringers were the unseen service of the Church. They represented one of the remaining crafts that used to be so largely associated with the social life of the world and of the Church.

The Rector went on to refer to the deadening effect of the decline, especially in an age of machinery, in the aids to religious feeling that used to abound on all sides in symbolism and other forms of appeal to our spiritual nature. Unless people went into a church they hardly ever now came into contact with the outward and visible signs of religion. Change ringers were the guardians and stewards of an important form of symbolism, that of appealing sound, one of the very few forms of symbolism left to remind the passer-by of the things of God, life and death, and the great hereafter.

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN RINGERS AND CHURCH AUTHORITIES.

At tea, served in the Parish Hall by women parochial workers, Preb. W. P. Cole-Sheane, of Twickenham (president of the association), was in the chair, and moved a vote of thanks to the Rector for his much appreciated church service, kindness and good fellowship.

Mr. J. A. Trollope (vice-president), supporting the vote of thanks, said that church bellringers inherited two great traditions. According to an old Latin writer, they sounded the trumpets of the Heavenly King, and they were also churchworkers. Change ringing was one of the finest sports ever invented. They could not make any gift worthy of the service of the Church unless they loved it for its own sake.

The future of change ringing depended upon how far they could keep in touch with the Church authorities and co-operate with them, and how far those authorities could co-operate with the ringers. The Church authorities formerly did not trouble so much as they ought to have done about the bellringers, who were not always recruited from the right people.

During his 50 years' experience, the improvement in the status of ringers and in the co-operation with the Church had enormously increased, and that was due to associations like theirs. Let them cultivate co-operation between themselves as ringers and co-operation with the Church authorities (applause).

Mr. C. T. Coles (general secretary) said that as the facilities for ringing were not so great as they used to be, co-operation was all the more essential.

Mr. J. E. L. Cockey (secretary for the South-West District) said they were always sure of a warm welcome in Acton.

The vote of thanks to the Rector was carried with acclamation, and the Rector, in turn, called for a hearty round of applause for the lady helpers at the tea.

Stedman Caters were rung on handbells by Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Fletcher and Messrs. J. Thomas, E. C. S. Turner and J. A. Trollope.

Further ringing on the tower bells took place afterwards.

'OLD BRIGADE' AND YOUNG MEMBERS AT FINCHLEY.

An enjoyable meeting of the North and East District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild was held at St. Mary's Church, Finchley, on Saturday, March 18th. Ringing, which commenced directly after 3 p.m., included rounds for the beginners and methods ranging up to Surprise Minor. The method chosen for particular attention, Double Court Bob Minor, was rung by several of the company, some ringing a course for the first time.

A short service was held, at which the Rev. Gawne officiated, the theme of his address being that ringers and other churchworkers should always remember the high calling of their duties.

Tea was served to a party numbering nearly 40, and including the Rev. Gawne, who appreciated his first experience of being amongst a company of ringers.

At the business meeting which followed, the Rev. A. S. Roberts was elected to the chair, in the rare absence of the vice-president, Mr. G. W. Fletcher. A reference was made to the death of a foundation member, Mr. J. Sumpter, of Barnet, those present standing in silence for a few moments.

Two elections were confirmed and three new members were elected.

Harrow Weald was chosen for the place of the next meeting, on Saturday, May 20th.

Regret was expressed at the absence of the Rector of St. Mary's (the Rev. S. F. L. Bernays), who was indisposed.

Further ringing took place, and a gratifying feature of the meeting was the attendance of the 'old brigade,' supported by several young members, which gave encouragement to the newly-elected Ringing Master and secretary, Messrs. A. Cutler and T. J. Lock respectively.

ANOTHER NEW MAJOR PLAN.

EXTENDED STEDMAN.

To the Editor

Dear Sir,—I was very interested in the two methods on a new plan in your issue of March 17th, Checkendon and Northrepps Major, and I congratulate Mr. Nolan Golden and his colleagues upon their achievement.

As I have a new plan for producing Stedman extended to eight bells, it may interest your readers to give a lead here:—

12345678	Bob
21354687	15382764
23156478	
	15837246
32516748	
23561784	Single
25367148	15382764
52376184	
53271648	15387246
35217684	
53127864	
51328746	
15382764	
13587246	

It will be seen that the method is a combination of Plain and Stedman Principles. The treble in a plain hunt from lead to 6th's place and back to lead, the other seven working bells doing Stedman, alternately quick and slow, with 7-8 up and down double dodge between, plus 2 intermediate sixes between last 3rd's and 7-8 up, and also between 7-8 down and firsts 3rd's (in slow). By this extra work it will be found that all changes are *triple* changes, with not more than two blows in any one place. The work of the seven inside bells is divided into sixes, as in Stedman, but the method treated as a plain method for all other purposes. There are 12 changes to a (treble) lead, 84 to a course, and the method can be extended to Royal and Maximus.

F. E. PITMAN.

Bromley.

ENGLISH RINGER'S VISIT TO AUSTRALIA.

TOUCHES RUNG AT MELBOURNE CATHEDRAL.

Mr. C. H. Walker, tower secretary at St. Mary's, Lewisham, has just returned from a visit to Australia and New Zealand, where he spent a most enjoyable time and took part in ringing both in Sydney and Melbourne. In the latter city particularly he was able to spend some time with the ringers, for he delayed his departure a fortnight and was thus able to ring at St. Paul's Cathedral on two Sundays and on the practice night.

He received a great welcome from the ringers and brought back with him warm greetings to the members of the English party who toured the Commonwealth in 1934. Unfortunately, Mr. A. A. Savage, who formerly as secretary of St. Paul's Society did so much towards the success of the English tour, is at present doing no ringing, but in Sydney Mr. Walker found Mr. R. H. MacDonald, 'father' of the band at the R.C. Basilica and now approaching, if not already past, the age of 80, 'very much alive.' Mr. Walker's visit to Sydney was brief and in the short time available he was only able to ring Doubles at St. Mark's, Darling Point.

In Melbourne, however, he was able to take part in Grandsire Triples and Caters at the Cathedral on three occasions, and it is interesting to learn that a 504 of Triples rung on practice night was called by Mr. James Murray, who conducted the first peal ever rung in Australia, a peal of Grandsire at St. Philip's, Sydney, in 1890. This touch of 504 was rung by A. Reeder 1, W. Waghorn 2, J. Murray 3, J. Spencer 4, H. Ross 5, C. H. Walker 6, F. Boughton 7, T. Trotter 8.

For morning service on Sunday, January 22nd, 270 Grandsire Caters was rung after a quarter-peal had been lost near the end.

In the evening a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was successfully rung, called by John Spencer: A. Reeder 1, W. Preston 2, J. Murray 3, F. Boughton 4, H. Ross 5, C. H. Walker 6, J. Spencer 7, T. Trotter 8.

On the following Sunday morning 504 Grandsire Caters was brought round by A. Reeder 1, G. Wheeler 2, W. H. Waghorn 3, W. Preston 4, J. Murray 5, J. Spencer (conductor) 6, H. Ross 7, C. H. Walker 8, T. Trotter 9, E. Knott 10.

Of the above ringers, Messrs. Murray, Spencer, Boughton and Knott took part in the peal of Grandsire Cinques, with the English ringers on Armistice Day, 1934.

PEAL NOTES.

(Continued from page 207.)

Forty-two six-scores of Grandsire Doubles rung on the five bells at Burry Port, Carmarthenshire, on March 18th, are believed to be the first peal rung in the tower.

Mr. Pat Cannon rang his 60th peal as conductor when he called a peal of Double Norwich at Wilby, Suffolk, on Sunday week. He has now 'turned in' 80 different tenors to peals.

He made as sure as possible of the Wilby job (and we don't blame him). All the rest of the band were Surprise Maximus ringers.

After this peal the band went on to the neighbouring tower of Stradbroke and rang a course of Superlative for evensong. These bells, it was found, go very badly. The last peal on them was rung in 1903. We hope there will not be another one until they have been restored. The tenor is 24 cwt.

PEAL NOTES.

LADY'S FINE PERFORMANCE.

Miss Hilda Snowden, of Halstead, Essex, has more than once shown her ability at the 'heavy end,' but nothing she has done in this way has, we think, equalled her performance on Saturday, when she rang the 21½ cwt. tenor at Dunmow to a peal of Bristol Surprise Major.

When it is remembered that there is a draught of 70 feet of rope at this tower and that Miss Snowden had never previously even struck the bell in rounds, the feat is all the more noteworthy. The peal was an excellent one, and we are not surprised to learn that Miss Snowden received the hearty congratulations of the other members of the band upon her performance.



MISS HILDA SNOWDEN.

It was a fitting celebration of her birthday, for which the peal was arranged, and associated with it also is a compliment to Miss Sylvia Bowyer, of Ipswich, whose birthday was on Monday.

On her birthday last year Miss Snowden rang the 18½ cwt. tenor at Bocking to a peal of Double Norwich Major.

To celebrate the birthday of Mr. G. H. Spice, hon. secretary of the Rochester District of the Kent County Association, a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung at Tunstall, Kent, on Saturday. Although Mr. Spice did not himself take part in the peal, the family was well represented by his father and his son.

The composition of the peal was from 'The Clavis,' by an unknown author, although it is now thought to have been the work of Robert Baldwin, the author of Union Triples. It was the first peal of Major rung, the Union Scholars ringing it at St. Dunstan's-in-the-East on December 27th, 1718.

One of the most remarkable things about this composition is that, although it was not until 50 years later that the necessity of proving the interior rows of the leads in Treble Bob was discovered, the peal is true. The calling is 4B, 2W, 2R, four times repeated.

The peal of Stedman Triples at Kirtlington, Oxon, on Saturday, was arranged to enable the eight officers of the Oxford Guild (who opened the bells after rehanging by John Taylor and Co.) to ring the first peal on them since the restoration. The treble and 7th were recast, the former by the efforts of Mr. F. Sharp, by the Oxford Diocesan Guild, and an inscription on the new bell records the fact.

At the conclusion of a good peal the Vicar (the Rev. R. W. Bennett) and several local ringers congratulated the band, and the Vicar said it was a most auspicious day for the peal. Not only was it Lady Day, but a sale of work in the village had resulted in getting quite enough money to pay off all liabilities incurred by the restoration of the bells.

The ministerial golden jubilee of the Rev. W. C. Vaughan, Vicar of Loppington, Shrewsbury, was celebrated at Silverdale, Staffordshire, where he was formerly Vicar, by a peal of Grandsire Triples on Saturday.

CHESTER GUILD'S GOOD DAY.

Mr. Richard T. Holding, of Crewe, rang his 200th peal and Mr. G. H. Crawley his 100th for the Chester Guild when they took part in a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major at Sandbach, Cheshire, on Saturday.

Another peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major was rung for the Chester Guild on the same day at Alsager, and another Crewe ringer, Mr. H. F. Holding, scored his 150th peal. It was a birthday peal for the Alsager towerkeeper, Mr. G. Whalley, who kindly had the bells ready for the visitors.

Actually the Cheshire Guild did well on Saturday, with two peals of Oxford Treble Bob Major, a peal of Stedman Triples at Gresford and a peal of Bob Minor at Poynton.

Meeting short for Kent Treble Bob Royal at St. Margaret's, Leicester, on Saturday, 'hard hearted' Arthur wanted to turn it into a practice for Cambridge Major, but 'kind-hearted' Arthur suggested a peal of Plain Major—'something we can ring *well*, better than scratching about on something we can't.' Besides being a wedding peal for two prominent churchworkers and a birthday compliment to the bridegroom (Mr. J. W. Dayman), it also coincided with the birthday of Mrs. A. Cattell (our Edie), so naturally there were plenty of compliments flying about. It was the first peal of Major on St. Margaret's heavy eight.

Messrs. J. W. Jones, of Newport, and Donald G. Clift, of Bristol, rang their thirtieth peal together when they took part in a peal of Stedman Caters at St. Stephen's, Bristol, on Saturday. It is interesting to note, in this connection, that Mr. Jones taught Mr. Clift's father change ringing practically 40 years ago.

Mr. Barnabas G. Key rang his 100th peal on March 20th, when he took part in a peal of Minor at Aldridge, Staffordshire.

A peal of Minor, which included one 720 in which Oxford and Kent Treble Bob were combined, was rung at Newhey, Lancashire, on Saturday, for the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. R. Byrom.

Mr. Frank H. Mitchell rang the tenor to a peal of Grandsire Triples at Bexley, Kent, on March 10th. It was his first peal for 30 years, his last having been at Appledore, Kent. We congratulate him and hope it will not be as long before he rings his next peal. The three ringers who scored their first peal are also to be congratulated on the way they rang both their bells and the method. They learned to handle a bell only ten months ago, and Mr. H. A. Holden deserves great credit on the building of a fine young band.

The Vicar of Deane, Hants (the Rev. F. S. H. Marle) took part in a peal of Minor on the bells of his own church on Saturday and scored his first peal in four methods, as did all the rest of the band. Indeed, the Vicar had not previously rung a peal in more than one method.

FIRST PEAL OF MAJOR AT 76.

Mr. William Story, J.P., of Newcastle, took part in a peal of Bob Major at Poole, Dorset, on Saturday. He celebrated his 79th birthday a few weeks ago. Another veteran who rang in the peal was Mr. Charles Forfitt, of St. Peter's, Bournemouth, who is in his 77th year. Although Mr. Forfitt has rung many peals, this was his first of Major. The band wish to express their thanks to Mr. Townsend for preparing the bells and Mr. J. I. Davis for assisting and turning up as 'ninth' man.

The first peal on the light ring of five at Ringwould, Kent—the tenor is less than six cwt.—was rung on March 24th. It was attended by more than usual good fortune, for the rope on the third broke as the bell was being lowered after the peal.

Seven 720's of Bourne Surprise Minor were rung in a peal at Stisted, Essex, on March 19th, in honour of Mothering Sunday. It is the first time a peal had been rung exclusively in this method in the county and for the Essex Association, as well as by all the band.

All those who rang a peal of Bob Minor at Rishton, Lancs, on March 21st, are service ringers at the Parish Church. It was Mr. Richard Balderstone's 75th peal and Mr. Albert Yates' first peal as conductor.

A peal of Minor was rung on the front six bells at St. Peter's, Nottingham, on March 16th, as a birthday compliment to Mrs. Barratt, mother of one of the ringers, on her 78th birthday. It was Mr. Frank Bradley's 100th peal for the Midland Counties Association.

250 CHANGES OF METHOD.

The peal of Spliced Plain Bob and Little Bob Major at Downham Market on Sunday week contained the 120 course ends with the tenors together, in exactly 5,000 changes. It was composed and conducted by Mr. Nolan Golden, and, with 250 changes of method, the peal contained 400 calls.

The peal at Hartlebury, Worcestershire, on March 19th, was arranged for Messrs. Farley, Whatmore, Smith and Handley, of Stourbridge and Wollaston. It was to have been Stedman Triples, but, alas! it was not a Stedman day. After two abortive attempts, Oxford Bob was substituted, and a composition (Parker's No. 13) was taken from stock and dusted. Messrs. Farley, Smith and Handley rang their first peal in the method, while Mr. Whatmore resumed acquaintance with a method he had not rung for very many years. By a happy coincidence this peal attempt was rung on Mothering Sunday.

To ring a peal in 20 Treble Bob methods in the first attempt for a 'spliced' peal is no mean achievement, and Mr. Tom Cullingworth, of the Barnsley Society, will be congratulated upon his success. The peal was rung at Felkirk on March 23rd.

The golden jubilee of the bells at Holy Trinity Church, Burnley, Lancs, was celebrated on Sunday with a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major.

The peal of Minor at Perlethorpe, Notts, on Saturday, was rung to welcome back to the district Mr. Fred Flint, who had been away and out of ringing for two years.

In connection with the peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor at Darlington rung in honour of the consecration of the new Bishop of Durham, it is interesting to note that Mr. G. W. Park has now rung the treble in this tower to a peal for the first time, despite the fact that he has rung here upwards of 48 years and has taken part in every peal rung on the bells, which number over forty. Mr. W. H. Thomas, of Bristol, and Mr. S. Bryant, of Shildon, took part in the peal, which was rung on Saturday.

By taking part in a peal of Bob Minor on handbells at Westerham on Sunday week, John Weller and Geoffrey Murphy have now rung and Derek Sharp has conducted peals of Plain Bob from Minor to Maximus 'in hand.' John Weller began with Maximus and worked downwards, thus reversing the usual process.

(Continued on page 206.)

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

EASTERN DIVISION ELECTS 22 NEW MEMBERS.

The annual meeting of the Eastern Division of the Sussex County Association was held at St. Mary's, Eastbourne, on Saturday, March 18th, when members attended from Battle, Hastings (Blacklands, St. Clement's and All Saints'), Brighton (St. Nicholas'), Heathfield, Rotherfield, Hailsham, Waldron, Eastbourne (St. Saviour's, Christ Church and St. Mary's). Mr. Piper (Eastbourne) was also present.

The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. Canon F. P. Hughes), who gave an interesting address and remarked how pleased he was to welcome the ringers to Eastbourne.

The Master of the association (Mr. H. R. Butcher) presided at the tea and business meeting which followed. The whole of the outgoing officers were re-elected, and 22 new members were elected from St. Mary's, Eastbourne, Heathfield, Blacklands, Hastings and Waldron.

It was with great pleasure that the secretary announced that Waldron tower wished to be affiliated.

A hearty vote of thanks was proposed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, to the Master for presiding at the tea, and to Mr. Piper for bearing part of the cost of the tea.

The ringers afterwards went to St. Saviour's for further ringing.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEW BRISTOL RURAL BRANCH CHAIRMAN.

A quarterly meeting of the Bristol Rural Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association was held at Almondsbury on Saturday. About 50 ringers attended from Henbury, Mangotsfield, Stapleton, St. Ambrose, Coalpit Heath, Westerleigh and Westbury-on-Trym. The bells at Almondsbury are a very nice ring of eight and were well employed during the afternoon and evening.

A short service was conducted by the Vicar (Canon Mayall), who gave the visitors a brief outline of the interesting history of the church.

At the meeting, held after tea at the Monmouth Cafe, Mr. Gould, of Henbury, temporarily presided.

Mr. C. Harding, of Henbury, was then unanimously elected chairman of the branch for the ensuing nine months, and, on taking the chair, thanked the members for electing him. He said it would be his aim to see that all the ringers who attended the meetings had a fair share of the ringing; to create interest and comradeship and in this way to promote the art of change ringing.

A resolution was carried that a peal be attempted for the branch each quarter, those members wishing to take part to send their names, and the method they wish to ring, to the chairman, who will make arrangements as to time, place etc. It was thought this would create interest amongst the younger members.

Thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, also to Mr. G. Capewell for having everything in readiness, were passed.

The tower was again visited and touches of Grandsire, Stedman and Plain Bob were brought round before the successful and pleasant meeting came to an end.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S 80th BIRTHDAY.

The annual meeting of the Eastern District of the Yorkshire Association was held at Goole on Saturday, March 18th, and was attended by about 30 ringers from Beverley Minster, Far Headingley, Burley (Leeds), Hemingbrough, Hessle, Howden, Hull, Kirk Ella, Market Weighton, Pontefract, Selby Abbey, Sherburn-in-Elmet and the local company. The Vicar of Goole (the Rev. Canon Knightall) conducted the service, and the preacher was the Rev. E. Castledine, Vicar of Thorne. After tea, in Hackforth's Cafe near the church, the Vicar presided over the business meeting, and the retiring officers, Messrs. F. Cryer (vice-president) and A. Walker, C. Hill and A. E. Sellers (committeemen), were all re-elected for a period of three years.

The secretary was asked to write to Mr. Cryer, the vice-president, congratulating him on his reaching his 80th birthday on March 13th, and expressing the hope that he would soon be restored to his usual good health. Mr. Cryer was absent from the meeting owing to an attack of 'flu.'

Mr. Hill proposed, and Mr. Meadley seconded, that a suggestion be brought before the General Committee that a Deputy Ringing Master be appointed to each district.

In replying to a vote of thanks, the Vicar welcomed the association to Goole, and said he would be pleased to see the members at Goole at any time. On the motion of Mr. R. Owen, seconded by Mr. A. H. Fox, a vote of thanks was accorded to the local company, and Mr. C. Hill replied welcoming the members.

The members learned with deep regret, through 'The Ringing World,' of the death of Mr. W. Fountain, of York Minster, and after the company had stood in silence to his memory, the secretary was asked to write a letter of sympathy to the relatives.

The hope was expressed that Mr. G. Horner, of York Minster, would soon be fully recovered from his illness.

Eastrington was selected as the next place of meeting in June.

The methods rung during the day included Grandsire, Stedman, Plain and Treble Bob, Double Norwich, St. Clement's, Double Oxford and a touch of Cambridge Surprise Minor.

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 4s. per quarter.

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting will be held at Aston Parish Church, Birmingham, on Saturday, April 1st. Bells (12) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m., to be followed by business meeting.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division. — A meeting of this division will be held at Stisted on Saturday, April 1st. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. All ringers welcome.—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Dis. Sec., 3, Belle Vue, Hedingham Road, Halstead, Essex.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Archdeaconry of Ely Branch.—A meeting will be held at Ickleton on Saturday, April 1st. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Visitors heartily welcomed. Please send card for tea to Mr. P. Webb, Ickleton, Saffron Walden, Essex.—C. W. Cook, Newton, Cambridge.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—A meeting will be held at Benwell (bells 6) on Saturday, April 1st, at 3 p.m. These bells have just been rehung, so please give the Benwell chaps a good restart.—Jack Roach, Hon. Sec.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — The next meeting will be held at South Anston Church (bells 8) on Saturday, April 1st. For tea please notify Mr. H. Stenton, 32, Sheffield Road, South Anston, near Sheffield. All welcome.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 13, St. Ronans Road, Sheffield 7.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Winchester District.—Quarterly meeting at Alresford on Saturday, April 1st next. Bells (8) available from 2.30. Service at 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting.—W. G. Goodchild, Hon. Dis. Sec., 139, Stanmore Lane, Winchester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Cophull, on Saturday, April 1st. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea, 9d. each, for which please notify Mr. J. Blackburn, 38, Park Road, Cophull, near Chorley. Special invitation to friends from Preston Branch. — S. Forshaw, 55, Poolstock, Wigan.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Enderby on April 1st. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m., followed by the business meeting.—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—The next practice meeting will be held at St. Mary's Church, Ambleside, to-morrow, Saturday, April 1st. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m.—N. M. Newby, Sec., Furness and Lake District.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Next meeting will be held at St. James' Church, Milnrow, to-morrow, Saturday, April 1st. Bells available 3 p.m. Business meeting 6.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—I. Kay, Sec.

MORECAMBE, LANCS.—The new ring of eight bells installed by John Taylor and Co. will be dedicated by the Bishop of Blackburn on Sunday, April 2nd, at the 10.30 service.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Service ringing, St. Clement Danes, Strand, April 2nd, 10 a.m. Practice, St. Clement Danes, April 24th, at 6.45, followed by quarterly meeting at 8.15 p.m., and St. Mary Lambeth, May 2nd, at 8 p.m.—T. W. Taffender, Hon. Sec.

WILLINGDON, EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.—Dedication of new treble, completing ring of six, by the Vicar at morning service on Sunday, April 2nd. The work has been done by Gillett and Johnston.

BRONLLYS, TALGARTH, BRECONS.—Reopening of the bells on Saturday, April 8th, at 3 p.m. Preacher, the Lord Bishop of Swansea and Brecon. Notification to the Vicar for tea, which will be supplied at a nominal charge. The five bells restored and a new treble added to make six by John Taylor and Co.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Horbury, near Wakefield, on Saturday, April 8th. Bells (8) ready 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. H. Pickles, 9, Co-operative Street, Horbury, by Wednesday, April 5th. This is specially arranged to honour two of the local company, who have been regular service ringers at this tower for 50 years. A good attendance is hoped for, and all will be welcome.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., Rock Cottages, Shafton, near Barnsley.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLANDS.—Ringing arrangements for Easter Sunday: St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, morning 10 o'clock; St. Martin-in-the-Fields at 5 p.m. Visitors will be welcomed.—G. W. Steere, 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — The annual general meeting will take place at Norwich on Easter Monday, April 10th. The bells of St. Peter Mancroft, St. Giles, St. Michael at Coslany and All Saints available from 10.30 a.m. Service at St. Peter Mancroft at 12.30 p.m. Address by the Rev. E. William Blyth, Rector of Northrepps. Luncheon (2s. 6d.) at The Castle Hotel at 1.30 p.m. Kindly notify attendance at luncheon. —F. Nolan Golden, Gen. Sec. and Treasurer, Winton, 26, Brabazon Road, Norwich.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—East Devon Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Awliscombe, near Honiton, on Easter Monday, April 10th. Bells (6) available 2.30; also Ottery St. Mary (8). Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting, Parish Room, 5.15 p.m. All are welcome. —John H. Godfrey, Hon. Sec., 9, Silver Street, Ottery St. Mary.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The 59th annual general meeting will be held at Erith on Easter Monday, April 10th. Committee meeting in St. John's Hall at 11.15 a.m. Service in the Church of St. John the Baptist at noon. Address by the Vicar of Erith (Rev. R. W. Thornhill, M.A.). Luncheon in St. John's Hall at 1 p.m. (free to practising members, 2s. 6d. others). His Worship the Mayor of Erith (Rev. J. W. Wilkinson) will preside. Business meeting follows for the election of officers and Central Council representatives (4). A new rule to be submitted. All applications for luncheon tickets, accompanied by stamped addressed envelope, must reach me by Tuesday, April 4th, otherwise too late.—Fred M. Mitchell, Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The following towers will be open for ringing on the occasion of the annual general meeting at Erith on Easter Monday: Bexley (8), 9.30 to 11.30 a.m.; Crayford (8), 10 to 11.15 a.m.; Dartford (8), 10 to 11.15 a.m.; Erith (St. John's) (8), 10 a.m. to 12 noon; Erith (Christ Church) (8), 10 to 11.45 a.m.; Sidcup (6), 10 to 11.15 a.m. These towers will also be open after the meeting for further ringing. —F. M. Mitchell, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, Easter Monday, at Burton-on-Trent. Bells open: St. Paul's (10) from 10 a.m; Rolleston-on-Dove (8), 11.30 to 12.30, 1.30 to 3.30; Winshill (6), 11 to 12 a.m., 1.30 to 4 p.m. Subject to weddings and funerals. Committee meet 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.45 prompt, followed by general meeting in St. Paul's Institute. Tickets for tea, members 1s. 9d., visitors 2s., to be obtained not later than Apr. 5th from J. W. Cotton, Coronation Street, Overseale, Burton-on-Trent. Owing to catering difficulties, please note, those without tickets must fend for themselves.—Ernest Morris, General Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — The ANNUAL MEETING will be held at HERTFORD, on EASTER MONDAY. Ringing from 2 p.m. at All Saints (10 bells), St. Andrew's (8), Bengeo (8). Hertingfordbury (5) 1.30 to 3 p.m. Service in St. Andrew's Church 4.30 p.m. Tea in St. Nicholas Hall, St. Andrew's, 5 p.m., price 2s., followed by business meeting. Ringing at the three Hertford churches up to 9 p.m. It will help the caterer if your intentions can be sent to the secretary not later than April 6th. Thank you.—G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec., Duffield, St. Albans.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting at Cambridge on Easter Monday, April 10th. Service at St. Mary-the-Great, 3.30 p.m., followed by business meeting. Tea at King's Parade Cafe. Bells available: St. Mary's (12), 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., 2 to 3.30, and in the evening; St. Benet's (6), 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., 2 to 3.30 p.m., and at 7 p.m.; Roman Catholic (8), 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; St. Andrew's, Old Chesterton (6), 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Ringing at Trumpington on application to me.—Kitty Willers, Sweetbriars, Trumpington, Cambridge.

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WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Worcester on Easter Monday, April 10th. General business meeting in the College Hall at 2.45 p.m. prompt. Chairman: The Very Rev. Arthur Davies, D.Litt., Dean of Worcester. Service in the Cathedral at 4.15 p.m. Special preacher: The Rev. J. R. Bamber, Vicar of Wollaston. Tea (non-members 1s. each) will be provided at 5.30 p.m., for all those who notify me on or before Wednesday, April 5th. Bells available: Cathedral (12), 1-2 p.m.; All Saints (10), St. John-in-Bedwardine (8), and St. Nicholas (6). St. Swithun (6, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. only). Central Committee meeting in St. Albans at 11.30 a.m. Subscriptions should be paid and reports obtained in St. Albans' Church Room, Fish Street, between 12 noon and 1 p.m. Members are particularly asked to note that St. Helen's Church House will not be available as in previous years.—J. D. Johnson, Gen. Hon. Sec., Aubyns, Cheltenham Road, Sedgeberrow, Evesham.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Cardiff on Easter Monday next. Bells (10) available from 2 o'clock. Service at 4.15. Tea and business meeting to follow.—J. W. Jones, Hon. Sec., Cartref, 94, Alteryn View, Newport, Mon.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Ripley on Easter Monday, April 10th. Bells available at 2 p.m. Service in Parish Church at 4 p.m. Tea at 4.45 at the Co-operative Cafe, followed by annual meeting. Will those requiring tea please notify Mr. F. F. Hill, 5, Argyll Road, Ripley, by Wednesday, April 5th, certain? —J. W. England, Hon. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, Stroud, Glos, on Easter Monday, April 10th. Arrangements: Stroud bells (10) available from 1 p.m. Service 2.30 p.m. Meeting in Church Institute 3.15 p.m. Tea at Premier Cafe, King Street (1s. per person), 5.15 p.m. (approximately). Painswick bells (12) available from 6.45 p.m., Stonehouse bells (6) 6.30 p.m. Half-hourly service of buses from Stonehouse to Stroud. Please notify me with regard to tea by April 6th.—Edgar Guise, Hon. Secretary, 46a, Tankard's Close, Bristol 2.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District. — The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, Epsom, on Easter Monday, April 10th. Bells available: St. Mary's, Ewell, 11 a.m. to 12.30; St. Martin's, Epsom, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.; Christ Church, Epsom, 3.30 to 4.55, and again in the evening. Service at Christ Church 5 p.m., followed by tea at Christ Church Hall at 1s. per head. Business meeting afterwards. Numbers for tea to be sent to Mr. J. Crawford, 2, Woodcote Side, Epsom, not later than Wednesday, April 5th. All ringers and friends heartily welcome.—F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Sec., 28, Strathearn Road, Sutton, Surrey.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch. —A quarterly meeting of the Sleaford District will be held at North Rauceby, near Sleaford, on Saturday, April 15th. Bells (5) open from 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea at 5, followed by business meeting. Tea will be provided free of charge by the Vicar to all who notify him at The Vicarage, Rauceby, near Sleaford, by Thursday previous. —H. S. Hinkins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at Ipswich on April 15th. Committee meeting at 4 p.m. and service 4.30, both at St. Mary-le-Tower. Address by Rev. Basil Eden, of Bredfield. Tea at 5.15 in Co-operative Hall, followed by meeting. The following bells will be available for ringing: St. Mary-le-Tower (12), St. Margaret (8), St. Clement's (6), St. Matthew's (6), Rushmere (6), Sproughton (6), Bramford (6), St. Lawrence (5).—H. G. Herbert, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.— The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's Church (R.C.), Chorley (8 bells), on Saturday, April 15th. Tower open for ringing 2.30. All ringers welcome.—A. Blogg, Branch Sec.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The second annual dinner will be held at the George Hotel, Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, on Saturday, April 15th, at 6.30 p.m. Tickets, 3s. 6d each, can be obtained from Andrew Thompson, 37, Broad Street, Newcastle, Staffs. Hanley Tower (10 bells) will be available from 3.30 p.m.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Witney and Woodstock Branch.—The annual meeting of this branch will be held at Tackley on Saturday, April 15th next. Ringing 2.30 p.m. Service 3 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. All those requiring tea please inform me on Wednesday, April 12th, first post.—W. Evetts, Sec., Hampton, Tackley, Oxford.

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—North-East Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Washfield on Saturday, April 15th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Will those intending to be present for tea please notify me by Monday, April 10th?—R. Harris, Hon. Sec., Park, Silverton, near Exeter.

SOMERLEYTON, NEAR LOWESTOFT.—The ring of six bells, rehung by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., will be re-dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Norwich on Sunday, April 16th, at 3 p.m.

ST. GILES - IN - THE - WOOD, TORRINGTON, DEVON.—The ring of six bells, restored by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., will be re-dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Crediton on Wednesday, April 19th, at 7 p.m.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, on Saturday, April 22nd. Full particulars later.—C. T. Coles, Gen. Sec.

BUSHEY HEATH, HERTS (8 bells), Saturday, April 29th.

LADIES' GUILD.—London District.—No ringing at the Borough during Holy Week, so the next practice will be on Wednesday, May 3rd, at 7.30. We want a bumper attendance on that date.—I. R. Housden, Hon. Sec

SITUATION WANTED.

RINGER, seeks situation as sexton, caretaker, or any work connected with the church. References. — Write, Box R., 'The Ringing World,' Lower Pyrford Road, Woking, Surrey.

BIRTH.

FIELD.—March 21st, to Joan Philippa Sidney (nee Davidson), the wife of Edward Theodore Paul Field, Ridouts, Stoke Wake, Blandford, the gift of a daughter (Margaret Elizabeth Jean).

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

A very successful meeting of the Derby District of the Midland Counties Association was held at St. Luke's Church on Saturday. Visitors attended from Heanor, Sawley, Nottingham, Ticknall, Melbourne and Breaston. The local towers were well represented in a company of about thirty. Methods rung were Bob Major, Grandsire, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Stedman and Double Norwich. Six new members were elected and it was decided to hold the next meeting at West Hallam on April 29th. A well-struck touch of Stedman Doubles on the back six brought the meeting to a close.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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FIRST PEALS.

For the second time since 1913—the last occasion was in 1932—and for only the third time in history more than two thousand peals were rung last year. The increase of 133 over 1937 came, too, without any incentive of a national occasion for bell ringing. These 2,035 peals are a prodigious total and the vast variety of methods included among the number leaves no doubt as to the strides which the art continues to make. A study of the tables prepared by the Analysis Committee of the Central Council and the further statistics contained in the report will be found of great interest, and there will be some readers, doubtless, who will ask themselves, whither is this development of peal ringing leading us? Is it doing anything to further the Exercise in its relationship to its primary duty to the Church, or is it merely satisfying the ambitions of those who take part in the peals?

It will not, we think, be seriously disputed that peal ringing does improve the standard of striking. Taken by and large the peal ringers set a higher value on striking than the non-peal ringers. Peal ringing requires a more sustained effort in the command of one's bell; it demands more concentrated attention upon the method than shorter lengths, and these two things in combination lead, at any rate in the long run, to better ringing on all occasions. That is one and perhaps the chief of the many things to be gained from peal ringing. A poor ringer has got to improve his striking if he desires to ring peals, otherwise he soon finds he is not wanted; a good ringer keeps himself keyed up by his peal ringing activities. Another important thing to go to the credit of peal ringing is the fact that it is one of the means of creating and keeping interest in the art. It is a goal to which young ringers are, or should be, encouraged to look, and the proportion of beginners who drop out after reaching this stage is much less than those who are lost before they have rung a peal.

What is being done to encourage young ringers in this direction? The committee's report tells us that in the course of the year 552 ringers rang their first peal. That means that there was, on an average, a 'first' in 27.1 per cent. of the peals rung. Looking back over the last five years we find that this is below the average. Stimulated by the high percentage of 34.5 in 1935, the percentage over the period has been 29.7, and it appears as if we are slipping back a little. It happens that the highest number of peals rung in any one year was in 1913—exactly a quarter of a century ago. In a total of 2,359 peals, there were 710 ringers who rang their first

(Continued on page 214.)

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peal, which works out at one 'first' in 31 per cent. of the peals. The falling off is, therefore, not a very heavy one, but it is, we feel, a decline that ought not to be allowed to continue. The 'first pealers' of to-day are the ringers upon whom this side of the art has to depend in the future. What proportion they form of the total number of peal ringers it is impossible to say, but it would be interesting if the associations would get out their individual statistics on this point, so that they might be collated. Spread over a period of years this information might prove exceedingly useful. At any rate, the figures we have quoted indicate that more opportunity generally should be given to young ringers to ring their first peal.

TEN BELL PEALS.

MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES;

LESTER L. GRAY	...*Treble*	JAMES W. GROUNDS	6
WILLIAM E. FLETCHER ...	2	RICHARD DEAL	7
BENJAMIN KNIGHTS	3	JOSEPH H. RIDYARD	8
JOHN BOOTH	4	FRANK VARTY	9
NORMAN HEAPS	5	RALPH EDWARDS	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (26). Conducted by J. H. RIDYARD.

A birthday compliment to the wife of N. Heaps.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 1, 1939, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

FRANK E. DARBY	...*Treble*	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH	6
*MISS GWENDOLINE KIPPIN	2	CHARLES H. KIPPIN	7
MRS. C. H. KIPPIN	3	DANIEL D. COOPER	8
WILLIAM H. HEWETT ...	4	REUBEN SANDERS	9
FREDERICK G. WOODISS ...	5	FREDERICK E. COLLINS	...*Tenor*

Composed by W. PYE. Conducted by FREDERICK E. COLLINS.

* First peal of Cambridge Royal. First peal of Cambridge Royal as conductor.

BLACKBURN, LANCS.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BLACKBURN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, April 1, 1939, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

FRED HINDLE	...*Treble*	†SIDNEY BROWN	6
*LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS ...	2	THOMAS WILSON	7
†JOSEPH WOODS	3	WILLIAM E. WILSON... ...	8
†FRED READ...	4	†HERBERT HOLDEN	9
†LESLIE L. WILLIAMS ...	5	†JACK CLEGG...	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. W. DEBENHAM. Conducted by L. J. WILLIAMS.

* First peal in the method. † First peal on ten bells. First peal as conductor on ten bells.

SOUTHOVER, LEWES.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 1, 1939, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.

WILFRED BOOTH	...*Treble*	ALBERT RELFE	6
*ARTHUR F. LEWRY	2	FREDERICK H. DALLAWAY	7
LESLIE W. JARVIS	3	*WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE	8
*FRANK H. HICKS	4	FREDERICK PAGE	9
FRANK BENNETT...	5	LOUIS FAULKNER ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN ROGERS. Conducted by FREDERICK PAGE.

* First peal on ten bells.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, March 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5086 CHANGES;
Tenor 18 cwt.

WILLIAM FERNLEY ...	...*Treble*	TOM WILDE	5
JAMES FERNLEY	2	LIONEL CLOUGH	6
REV. FRANK BONNER	3	JAMES A. MILNER	7
JOHN WORTH	4	ERNEST BENNETT... ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by ERNEST BENNETT
First peal in the method as conductor. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. T. Wilde.

MARSHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, March 26, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 7¾ cwt.

JOHN N. A. POMPHREY	...*Treble*	WILLIAM R. WEST	5
WILLIAM C. MEDLER	2	HERBERT LASKEY	6
JOHN A. GODFREY	3	WALTER J. FORD...	7
ERIC DURRANT	4	ERNEST V. BLAKE... ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by F. N. GOLDEN. Conducted by E. V. BLAKE.
Rung as a farewell peal to the Rev. H. S. Sharpe, of Marsham.

SAWLEY, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, March 30, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH.
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

*WILLIAM DAWSON ...	...*Treble*	*GIRLING RIGBY	5
*CHARLES HUTCHINSON ...	2	W. RICHARDSON DRAGE ...	6
WILLIAM VARNAM	3	ERNEST MORRIS...	7
*PHILIP L. PARROTT	4	EDMUND C. CHASTY ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by N. PITSTOW. Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.
* First peal of Major.

CRAYFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, March 31, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 12¾ cwt.

ERNEST H. OXENHAM	...*Treble*	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ...	5
HERBERT E. ADDELEY ...	2	HERBERT A. HOLDEN	6
DEREK M. SHARP	3	HARRY HOVERD	7
*JOHN O. WELLER	4	PHILIP A. CORBY... ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by D. M. SHARP.
* First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor.

BUSHEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 1, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF NAPSBURY SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt.

JOHN E. ROOTES	...*Treble*	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW ...	5
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	2	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	6
EDWIN JENNINGS	3	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT ...	7
FRANCIS KIRK	4	HAROLD G. CASHMORE	...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.
The first peal in the method. Rung to celebrate All Fools' Day.

WROTHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 1, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE.
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 20 cwt.

ROBERT G. RAYFIELD...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM A. OLDFIELD ...	5
CHARLES H. SONE	2	FREDERICK S. MACEY	6
THOMAS E. SONE	3	PERCY PAGE	7
TOM SAUNDERS	4	LUTHER J. HONESS ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 379). Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE

HASTINGS, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 1, 1939, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF ST. CLEMENT'S BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 13 cwt.

IVAN R. POLLARD ...	...*Treble*	NORMAN H. PALMER	5
WILLIAM GORRINGE	2	WILLIAM WENBAN	6
JAMES G. POWELL	3	C. ALFRED LEVETT	7
SYDNEY J. LEVETT	4	WILLIAM LEVETT... ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. A. LEVETT.
The first peal of St. Clement's by the hand, on the bells and for the association.

PRIVETT, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, April 1, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 12¼ cwt.

HENRY JENNINGS ...	...*Treble*	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY ...	5
RAYMOND PHILPOTT	2	JACK M. CRIPPS	6
*ERNEST J. AYLIFFE	3	C. ERNEST SMITH	7
WILLIAM T. BREESON... ...	4	FREDERICK W. ROGERS	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by FREDERICK W. ROGERS
* First Surprise peal on an 'inside' bell.

STAINES, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, April 1, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 18½ cwt.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE	...*Treble*	WILLIAM WELLING	5
*NORMAN H. MANNING ...	2	HARRY KILBY	6
*FRANCIS D. BISHOP	3	ERNEST C. S. TURNER ...	7
GEORGE M. KILBY	4	JAMES E. DAVIS	...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. DAVIS.
* First peal of Double Norwich.

SHOREHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 1, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes;
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL.
A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 10½ cwt.

*ROBERT COLLINS ...	...*Treble*	†GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ...	5
DEREK M. SHARP	2	*ERNEST J. LADD...	6
*RICHARD WILSON	3	†ERNEST H. OXENHAM ...	7
*DORIS E. COLGATE	4	*JOHN O. WELLER ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by H. HUBBARD. Conducted by D. M. SHARP.
* First peal of Bob Triples. † First peal of Bob Triples away from the treble. First peal of Bob Triples as conductor. First peal of Bob Triples on the bells.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 1, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH, PRITTLEWELL,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

*CYRIL E. SMITH... ...	...*Treble*	‡ARTHUR HUBBLE	5
DENNIS T. BROCK	2	FRANK B. LUFKIN	6
REGINALD W. DARVILL ...	3	HORACE J. MANSFIELD ...	7
†FRANK W. SHYNN	4	ALBERT E. NORTH ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE. Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN.
* First peal at first attempt. † First peal of Major. ‡ First peal of Bob Major.

OSPRINGE, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 1, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 17¼ cwt.

GEORGE W. FOGDEN ...	...*Treble*	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE... ...	5
DORIS G. DOBBIE...	2	HARRY HOVERD	6
DENNIS G. BROWN	3	ARTHUR S. RICHARDS	7
HERBERT A. HOLDEN	4	PHILIP A. CORBY	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. BARRETT. Conducted by P. A. CORBY.

SIX BELL PEALS.

HASKETON, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Sunday, March 26, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of 720 of Cambridge Surprise and two 720's each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 9¾ cwt.

LEWIS J. LAST	...*Treble*	ERNEST W. PYE	4
FRANK L. FISHER...	2	SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER ...	5
JAMES W. JENNINGS	3	CECIL W. PIPE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER.

Specially arranged as a birthday compliment to Hilda G. Snowden, Lewis J. Last and Sylvia R. E. Bowyer.

BURGH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Monday, March 27, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. ANDREW AND BOTOLPH,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of Cambridge Surprise and two 720's each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt.

LEWIS LAST	...*Treble*	SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER ...	4
DAISY M. ANDREWS	2	GEORGE WATERMAN	5
CECIL W. PIPE	3	URBAN W. WILDNEY ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by URBAN W. WILDNEY.

A birthday peal for Miss Bowyer.

HARPFORD, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
On Monday, March 27, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GREGORY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Ten different callings. Tenor 7 cwt. 4 lb. in A.

CHARLES R. LILLEY...	...*Treble*	*LESLIE BAKER	4
*GEORGE WEST	2	BRIAN PIDGEON	5
†THOMAS HOLLAND	3	*CLEMENT PONSFORD ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

* First peal away from treble. † First peal. First peal on the bells.

MILTON REGIS, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, March 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's called differently. Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 13 lb.

WILLIAM A. WOOD ...	...*Treble*	WALTER H. DOBBIE	4
MISS DORIS G. DOBBIE ...	2	ARTHUR S. BOAR	5
STANLEY B. DOBBIE	3	GEORGE A. NAYLOR ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE A. NAYLOR.

First peal of Cambridge Minor by all except the 5th ringer.

CORBY, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, April 1, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 12 six-scores of Plain Bob and 30 six-scores of Grandsire (14 different callings). Tenor 7 cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb.

REV. A. BROOKE WESTCOTT*Treble*		J. GEOFFREY GEARY	4
*HERBERT SHELTON	2	RONALD RUSSELL	5
*JOHN HUNT...	3	ERIC CHAMBERS	...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. GEOFFREY GEARY.

* First peal of Doubles. Rung to celebrate the attaining of urban status, on that day, of the town of Corby.

MEOPHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 1, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores (ten variations of calling). Tenor 12½ cwt.

*GEORGE T. VANDERPEER ...*Treble*		‡JOSEPH H. WICES	4
†GEORGE J. BUTCHER... ...	2	‡HORACE H. BARDEN	5
*GEORGE TURNER	3	*ERIC H. BUTLER ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE J. BUTCHER.

* First peal. † First peal of Doubles on tower bells. ‡ First peal of Doubles.

HANDBELL PEALS.

SURFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, March 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,
AT GLYN GARTH,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;
Tenor, size 17 in A.

*NORMAN TORRINGTON ...	1-2	ALBERT F. SARGENT	5-6
RUPERT RICHARDSON... ...	3-4	*MICHAEL WIGGINS	7-8

Composed by F. BENNETT. Conducted by RUPERT RICHARDSON.

* First peal of Major.

MERE, WILTS.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Monday, March 27, 1939, in Two Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE CLOSE.
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being five six-scores of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, three of Plain Bob, four of Antelope and 30 of Grandsire.

*H. J. RALPH	1-2	*E. G. L. COWARD	3-4
†MRS. E. COWARD	5-6		

Conducted by E. G. L. COWARD.

* First peal 'in hand.' † First peal.

WEST BRIDGFORD, NOTTINGHAM.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, March 28, 1939, in One Hour and Thirty-Four Minutes,
AT 9, PATRICK ROAD,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 20 six-scores of Grandsire and 22 of Plain Bob.

HAROLD BROWN	1-2	RALPH NARBOROUGH	3-4
HAROLD PARFREMENT... ...	5-6		

Conducted by RALPH NARBOROUGH.

First peal on handbells in two methods by all.

ROTHERHAM, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, March 28, 1939, in Two Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT BIRKBY, DONCASTER ROAD,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

MRS. T. C. RYDER	1-2	HAROLD CHANT	5-6
ALBERT NASH	3-4	T. COLIN RYDER	7-8

Composed by GEO. LEWIS. Conducted by A. NASH.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tuesday, March 28, 1939, in Two Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT 45, WALSINGHAM ROAD,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor, size 12 in F.

EDITH K. FLETCHER	1-2	*THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.	5-6
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	3-4	*EDWIN A. BARNETT	7-8

Composed by T. HAIGH. Conducted by C. W. WOOLLEY.

* First peal in the method on handbells.

BUSHEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, March 31, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE ROYAL MASONIC JUNIOR SCHOOL,
A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

HENRY HODGETTS	1-2	HAROLD G. CASHMORE ...	5-6
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	3-4	*FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW...	7-8

Composed by H. G. CASHMORE. Conducted by F. W. BRINKLOW.
Umpire—Edwin Jennings.

* First peal of Bristol Surprise as conductor on handbells.

(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over).

BELL ROPES
MADE FROM ITALIAN HEMP, OR ITALIAN FLAX. SOFT AND PLIABLE IN HAND. ALL ROPES SENT CARRIAGE PAID AND ON APPROVAL.
Cheap Quotations. Established 150 years. 'Phone 203.
DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING THE YEAR 1938.

Compiled by the Committee appointed by the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

Number Corresponding with Last Column	ASSOCIATION	Number of Conductors	MAXIMUS	CINQUES		ROYAL		CATERS		MAJOR														TRIPLES					TOTAL	Number Corresponding with First Column
			Various	Various	Surprise	Treble Bob	Plain Methods	Stedman	Grandsire	Spliced Surprise	London ,,	Cambridge ,,	Superlative ,,	Bristol ,,	Yorkshire ,,	New Surprise	Miscellaneous Surp.	Kent Treble Bob	Oxford ,, ,,	Other ,, ,,	Spliced Plain	Plain Bob	Double Norwich	Other Plain	Little Bob	Stedman	Grandsire	Other Methods	MINOR	DOUBLES	HANDBELLS		
1	Anc. Soc. Coll. Youths...	12	—	4	—	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	15	1
2	Bath and Wells	27	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	2	—	—	4	9	—	6	21	2	53	2
3	Bedfordshire	12	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	1	—	29	6	—	38	3
4	Cambridge U. Guild ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	5	4
5	Chester Diocesan	37	a1	—	—	a2	1	1	1	—	6	5	3	4	—	—	e3	11	4	a2	a1	12	6	—	—	3	10	—	40	5	5	125	5
6	Devonshire	6	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	2	7	—	2	5	—	24	6
7	Dudley and District ...	3	—	—	—	1	—	—	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	10	7
8	Durham and Newcastle	8	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	b1	—	4	1	—	—	3	—	—	9	—	1	23	8
9	East Derby & Notts.....	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	9
10	Ely Diocesan	19	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	3	2	—	—	—	—	—	21	2	4	38	10
11	Essex Association	60	—	—	1	b3	a3	—	—	—	11	5	5	2	1	—	—	14	4	b1	—	8	8	a4	—	2	1	—	44	5	2	124	11
12	Gloucester & Bristol ...	18	—	1	—	—	—	3	1	2	2	2	1	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	3	—	3	10	—	37	12
13	Guildford Diocesan	9	—	—	a2	1	2	1	1	—	1	—	2	1	2	—	f1	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	20	13
14	Hereford Diocesan	15	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	6	—	14	36	1	64	14
15	Hertford County	14	a1	a1	1	—	—	1	2	4	2	—	2	2	—	a12	g2	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	3	3	—	9	2	3	53	15
16	Irish Association	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	16
17	Kent County	51	—	b1	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	25	10	1	2	—	h4	9	1	—	—	15	12	b1	1	19	15	a1	21	5	5	151	17
18	Ladies' Guild	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	18
19	Lancashire Assoc.	42	b1	c4	—	1	1	5	4	—	1	2	2	—	—	—	—	6	3	—	—	9	4	—	1	10	13	—	11	—	6	84	19
20	Lincoln Diocesan.....	33	—	4	1	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	2	—	—	—	—	4	—	b1	—	7	6	c1	1	5	4	—	33	8	22	98	20
21	Llandaff & Monmouth	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	5	12	—	11	5	—	27	21
22	London County	7	b1	—	1	3	—	4	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	24	22
23	Middlesex County.....	17	c1	3	—	—	b1	5	—	2	1	3	3	—	—	b1	—	1	—	—	—	5	1	d1	—	4	7	—	7	—	4	50	23
24	Midland Counties.....	44	d3	2	1	c1	2	6	1	—	2	10	2	2	—	—	i1	5	2	b4	—	12	4	—	—	13	9	b2	27	7	19	137	24
25	North Notts.....	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	15	—	—	16	25
26	North Staffs.....	8	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	3	—	5	3	—	22	26
27	North Wales	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	4	27
28	Norwich Diocesan	26	b3	—	1	2	b3	1	2	—	—	4	6	—	3	—	k7	10	3	—	b1	2	11	e2	—	—	—	—	39	7	—	101	28
29	Oxford Diocesan	38	—	5	1	—	1	1	1	—	—	5	3	—	2	—	m5	1	—	—	—	6	4	f1	—	9	14	—	11	7	—	77	29
30	Peterboro' Diocesan ...	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	4	1	—	9	5	—	22	30
31	St. Martin's Gld., B'ham.	10	—	7	—	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	1	—	—	8	1	—	—	—	4	31	31
32	Salisbury Guild	16	f2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	4	—	7	9	—	28	32
33	Shropshire Association	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1	—	8	—	—	35	33
34	Stafford Archdeaconry	15	—	5	1	—	—	4	—	—	—	2	2	1	1	—	n1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	5	—	7	4	—	38	34
35	Soc. Royal Cumberlands	8	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	14	35
36	Scottish Association ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	36
37	Suffolk Guild	42	g10	—	b2	d4	—	—	—	—	3	10	8	1	4	c4	—	5	1	—	—	4	7	—	—	1	4	—	40	7	—	115	37
38	Surrey Association	13	b1	2	c2	—	1	5	1	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	11	1	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	3	—	—	2	—	—	24	38
39	Sussex Association.....	21	—	—	d4	—	—	1	—	1	5	2	2	1	2	—	—	4	—	—	—	5	2	—	1	3	2	1	15	3	2	56	39
40	Swansea and Brecon ..	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	7	—	11	40
41	Truro Diocesan Guild...	8	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	3	3	2	2	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	16	41
42	Warwickshire Guild ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	d1	f1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	6	42
43	Win. & Portsm'th Dio.	21	—	2	1	1	1	1	1	4	4	4	1	1	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	6	2	—	—	6	2	—	10	7	—	57	43
44	Worcester & Districts	17	—	—	—	—	d1	1	1	3	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	3	—	—	6	6	c2	8	5	—	48	44
45	Yorkshire Assn.....	42	—	1	—	2	a4	2	—	—	—	2	5	—	2	—	o2	16	3	—	—	15	8	g1	2	3	6	—	26	1	6	107	45
46	Unaffiliated Societies ...	11	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	2	—	2	1	—	6	46
47	Non-Association	5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	47
	TOTAL		24	44	19	25	24	53	28	20	48	100	63	22	25	18	27	111	24	9	2	160	95	11	6	138	163	13	490	181	91	2035	

MAXIMUS

a—Plain Bob b—Kent Treble Bob
c—Cambridge d—Cambridge (2) & Plain Bob
e—Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob
f—Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob
g—Superlative (2). Cambridge (3). Yorkshire, New Cambridge, Rochester and Pudsey Surprise and Double Norwich

CINQUES

All Stedman except
a—Erin b—Grandsire c—One Grandsire

ROYAL—SURPRISE

All Cambridge except
a—Painswick and Yorkshire b—One Yorkshire
c—London (2) d—One London

TREBLE BOB

All Kent except
a—One Kent & Oxford b—One Cam
c—Oxford d—One Oxford

PLAIN METHODS

All Plain Bob except
a—One Little Bob b—Isleworth Bob
c—Double Norwich (3) d—Double Bob

MAJOR—NEW SURPRISE AND MISCELLANEOUS SURPRISE

a—Ickleton, Apsley, Kendal, Hitchin, Southall, Sedbergh, Baunds, Woodstow, Delrow, Verulam, Tilehurst and Newbury
b—Cranbourne
c—Clacton, Lavenham, Loughborough and Gyppeswick
d—Stratford e—Rochester (2)
f—Ashtead g—Minsmere and Deben.
h—New Cambridge (2). Staffordshire & Painswick
i—New Cambridge
k—Pudsey, New Cambridge, Real Double Superlative, Belgrave (2) and Painswick
m—Beaconsfield, New Cambridge (2), Lincolnshire and Cranbourne
n—Norfolk o—New Cambridge and Norfolk

OTHER TREBLE BOB

a—Albion and Kent and Oxford
b—Kent and Oxford

SPLICED PLAIN METHODS

a—Double Norwich and Plain Bob
b—Plain Bob, Double Bob, Hereward Bob and Double Oxford Bob

OTHER PLAIN METHODS

a—St. Clement's College (3) and Crayford College
b—Double Bob c—Original
d—Ashbourne College Bob
e—Wymondham and Double Oxford
f—St. Clement's Bob g—College Single

TRIPLES—OTHER METHODS

a—Oxford Bob b—Oxford Bob & Plain Bob
c—Oxford Bob (7) Darlaston & St. Clement's

The tables relating to Minor and Doubles and to handbell peals will be found on the next page.

TOWER BELL PEALS OF MINOR & DOUBLES, 1938.

Association.	MINOR Number of Methods. 8 to 8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	Total.	DOUBLES Number of Methods. 5-21	5	4	3	2	1	Total.	Grand Total of Peals
Anc. Soc. Col. Y.	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Bath and Wells	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	6	—	—	—	1	5	15	21	27
Bedfordshire	a1	22	1	1	—	—	—	4	29	—	—	—	—	5	—	5	34
Chester Diocesan	b3	10	—	1	1	7	3	10	40	—	—	—	—	—	5	5	45
Devonshire Guild	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	—	—	—	—	—	5	5	7
Dur. and Newc'le	c2	6	—	—	—	—	1	—	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9
E. Derbys. & N'ts.	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Ely Diocesan	d2	5	1	2	1	1	—	9	21	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	23
Essex Association	e6	8	1	2	7	4	5	11	44	—	—	—	—	—	5	5	49
Glos. & Bristol	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	3	—	—	—	—	8	2	10	13
Hereford Dio.	—	1	—	—	—	2	—	11	14	a3	2	8	4	1	23	36	50
Hertford County	f3	5	—	—	—	—	—	1	9	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	11
Kent County	—	2	3	1	2	3	1	9	21	—	1	1	—	—	3	5	26
Ladies' Guild	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Lancashire	—	2	1	—	2	2	—	4	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11
Lincoln Diocesan	g12	13	1	1	1	—	—	5	33	—	—	1	1	1	—	3	36
Llandaff & Mon.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	4	5	6
Middlesex County	—	2	—	—	1	1	—	3	7	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7
Midland Counties	h2	1	1	2	5	9	1	6	27	—	1	1	—	2	3	7	34
North Notts.	i1	8	1	1	—	3	—	1	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15
North Staffs.	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	5	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	8
North Wales	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Norwich Diocesan	k4	4	4	3	3	8	—	7	33	b1	—	—	1	2	3	7	40
Oxford Diocesan	—	8	—	—	1	—	—	2	11	b1	—	1	1	—	4	7	18
Peterborough Dio.	m1	3	—	2	1	—	2	—	9	b2	—	—	1	—	2	5	14
Salisbury Dio.	n1	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	7	c2	—	2	—	—	5	9	16
Shropshire Assoc.	o3	2	1	—	1	—	—	1	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8
Stafford Arch.	—	1	—	—	2	—	1	3	7	—	1	—	—	—	3	4	11
Soc. Roy. Cum. Y.	p1	4	—	1	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6
Suffolk Guild	—	9	—	6	8	6	2	9	40	—	—	1	2	2	2	7	47
Surrey Assoc.	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Sussex Assoc.	—	—	1	3	1	1	—	9	15	—	—	—	—	1	2	3	18
Swansea & Brecon	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	7	7	9
Warwickshire Gd.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	3
Winc'r. & P'm'th	—	—	—	—	1	4	—	5	10	—	1	—	1	1	4	7	17
Worcester & Dis.	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	4	8	—	—	—	—	1	4	5	13
Yorkshire Assoc.	q8	15	—	—	—	6	—	2	26	b1	—	—	—	—	—	1	27
Unaffiliated	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	3
Non-Association	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3
TOTAL	50	133	16	28	40	62	18	138	490	10	6	10	13	31	111	181	671

MINOR: a—in 10 methods. b—in 17, 19, 20, 25 (2), 35, 39 and 84 methods. c—8 and 9 methods. d—6 and 14 methods. e—14 (2), 18, 21, 25 and 30 methods. f—16, 24 and 25 methods. g—in 8, 9, 12, 14 (3), 28, 32, 34, 43, 49 and 53 methods. h—in 12 and 14 methods. i—in 8 methods. k—in 8, 12, 15 and 18 methods. m—in 32 methods. n—in 8 methods. o—in 8, 10 and 11 methods. p—in 14 methods. q—in 10, 14 and 25 methods.
DOUBLES: a—in 6 and 7 (2) methods. b—in 7 methods. c—in 7 and 21 methods.

HANDBELL PEALS, 1938.

	Association.	MAXIMUS	CINQUES	ROYAL			CATERS			MAJOR							TRIPLES			MINOR		DOUBLES	TOTAL
				Plain Bob	Stedman	Treble Bob	Plain Bob	Stedman	Grandsire	Bristol Surprise	Or. & Kent Tr. Bob	Oxford Treble Bob	Spliced P'n Methods	Double Bob	Plain Bob	Stedman	Grandsire	Spliced	Three Methods	One Method		
1	Bath & Wells	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—		2
2	Cam. Univ. Gld.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—		1
3	Chester Dio.	—	—	—	a2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	5
4	Durham & New'tle	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		1
5	Ely Diocesan	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—		4
6	Essex County	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—		2
7	Hereford Diocesan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
8	Hertford Co.	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—		3
9	Kent County	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	1		5
10	Lancashire Assoc.	—	—	b2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—		6
11	Lincoln Dio.	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	1	—	c2	1	7	3	—	d2	—	2	—			22
12	Middlesex Assoc.	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		4
13	Midland Counties	—	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	9	e5		19
14	St. Martin's, Birm.	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—		4
15	Sussex Associat'n	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		2
16	Yorkshire Assoc.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		6
17	Unaffiliated Socs.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	—	—	—	—		4
		1	3	4	5	3	4	1	1	2	2	1	29	5	4	2	4	12	8	91		

a—Two Oxford. b—Two Kent. c—One 6 methods: Original, Reverse, Double, Gainsborough, Little and Plain Bob. One 2 methods: St. Clement's and Crayford College. d—One in 19 methods. One in 14 methods. e—Including one in 4 and one in 3 methods.

REPORT OF THE PEAL ANALYSIS AND RECORDS COMMITTEE.

The following report of the Analysis and Records Committee upon peals rung in 1938 will be submitted to the Central Council at their meeting on Whitsun Tuesday:—

The year 1938 shows an increase in the number of peals rung as compared with 1937.

The following summary shows comparative figures:—

	1937 Tower	1937 Handbells	1938 Tower	1938 Handbells
Maximus	16	1	24	1
Cinques	53	1	44	3
Royal	72	8	69	9
Caters	66	8	81	7
Major	689	25	741	36
Triples	312	13	314	11
Minor	464	5	490	17
Doubles	169	—	181	7
...	1,841	61	1,944	91

TOWER BELLS.

Peals of Maximus have increased by 8, this being shown in Surprise methods. Cinques have decreased by 9, Stedman by 3 and Grandsire by 6.

Royal have decreased by 3; Surprise have decreased by 12, Treble Bob by 4, and plain methods have increased by 13. Caters have increased by 15, Stedman by 4 and Grandsire by 1.

Major methods show an increase of 52. Surprise methods have increased 37; Spliced by 10; London by 11; Superlative by 11; Yorkshire by 7; new Surprise methods by 5; sundry Surprise methods by 10. Cambridge have decreased by 8 and Bristol by 9. Kent Treble Bob have decreased by 27; Oxford have increased by 1 and other Treble Bob methods by 1. Double Norwich have increased by 14; Plain Bob by 34 and other plain methods have decreased by 6.

Triples remain practically the same. There is one peal less of Stedman, one more of Grandsire and two more of other methods.

Minor have increased this year by 26, after having shown a decrease for some time. In one method peals have increased by 21; in two methods by 1; in five methods by 4; in six by 5; in methods over eight by 13. Peals in three methods have decreased by 5; in four methods by 4 and in seven methods by 9.

In Doubles there is an increase of 12. In one method peals have increased by 5; in three methods by 2; in four methods by 4 and in six methods and over by 1.

HANDBELLS.

There is a very gratifying increase in peals this year. Thirty more have been rung. There are two more peals of Stedman Cinques, one more of Royal, one less of Caters, eleven more of Major, two less of Triples, twelve more of Minor and seven more of Doubles.

ASSOCIATIONS.

The Kent County Association, with an increase of 9, still head the list with 151 peals. The Midland Counties come next with 137, an increase of 29 over their last year's total. The Chester Guild follow with 125, an increase of 24; the Essex with 124, an increase of 33; the Suffolk with 115, an increase of 9; the Yorkshire with 107, an increase of 23; the Norwich with 101, a decrease of 7. No other association reached 100 peals. Twenty-four associations show an increase and 20 a decrease.

NEW METHODS.

5,024 Ickleton Surprise Major, by the Hertford County Association, February 5th.
5,024 Clacton Surprise Major, by the Suffolk Guild, February 16th.
5,088 Spliced London, Bristol, Cambridge, Superlative, Ealing and Rutland Surprise Major, by the Hertford County Association, March 31st.
5,056 Spliced Bristol, Cambridge, Ealing, London, Rutland, Superlative, Watford, Wembley and Yorkshire Surprise Major, by the Middlesex County Association, April 5th.
5,120 Spliced London, Cambridge, Superlative, Bristol and Watford Surprise Major, by the Hertford County Association, April 5th.
5,024 Lavenham Surprise Major, by the Suffolk Guild, April 22nd.
5,056 Stratford Surprise Major, by the Warwickshire Guild, April 28th.
5,280 Apsley Surprise Major, by the Hertford County Association, April 30th.
5,184 Kendal Surprise Major, by the Hertford County Association, May 21st.
5,056 Hitchin Surprise Major, by the Hertford County Association, May 24th.
5,024 Cranbourne Surprise Major, by the Middlesex County Association, June 16th.
5,024 Southall Surprise Major, by the Hertford County Association, June 18th.
5,056 Ashbourne College Bob Major, by the Middlesex County Association, July 6th.

5,024 Sedbergh Surprise Major, by the Hertford County Association, August 27th.
5,056 Raunds Surprise Major, by the Hertford County Association, September 15th.
5,024 Woodston Surprise Major, by the Hertford County Association, October 8th.
5,088 Gippeswyck Surprise Major, by the Suffolk Guild, October 17th.
5,024 Delrow Surprise Major, by the Hertford County Association, October 22nd.
5,040 Painswick Surprise Royal, by the Guildford Diocesan Guild, October 29th.
5,040 Isleworth Bob Royal, by the Middlesex County Association, November 12th.
5,056 Verulam Surprise Major, by the Hertford County Association, November 5th.
5,024 Tilehurst Surprise Major, by the Hertford County Association, November 12th.
5,152 Loughborough Surprise Major, by the Suffolk Guild, December 5th.
5,088 Newbury Surprise Major, by the Hertford County Association, December 15th.
5,088 Spliced Plain, Double, Hereward and Double Oxford Bob Major, by the Norwich Diocesan Association, December 11th.

HANDBELLS.

5,040 Spliced Original, Reverse, Double, Gainsborough Little and Plain Bob Major, by the Lincoln Guild, April 6th.

Three of the peals of Spliced Surprise Major, being the first peals in their respective combination of methods, are noted above under New Methods. Apart from these, the only Spliced Surprise Major peals rung in other than the four methods London, Cambridge, Bristol and Superlative were as follows: Lincoln Guild and Worcester and Districts Association each one in the following six methods: London, Cambridge, Bristol, Superlative, Rutland and Pudsey. The last-named association also records two peals in five methods, namely: London, Bristol, Cambridge, Superlative and Lincolnshire. Winchester and Portsmouth Guild, one in two methods, namely: Cambridge and Superlative.

GENERAL.

Noteworthy performances of the year were a peal of Minor in 84 methods by the Chester Diocesan Guild, and two peals of Minor on handbells—1 in 14 methods and 1 in 19 methods by the Lincoln Diocesan Guild.

The following are the number of peals rung during each month in 1937:—

	1938	1939		1938	1939
January ...	165	116	July ...	138	118
February ...	189	137	August ...	164	148
March ...	140	110	September ...	162	150
April ...	188	144	October ...	166	181
May ...	158	315	November ...	173	162
June ...	158	134	December ...	234	187

FOOTNOTES.

The number of ringers who have scored their first peal is 552—three less than in 1937. On eight bells and over, 67 rang the treble, 109 inside and 34 the tenor; on 5 and 6 bells 121 rang the treble, 156 inside and 58 the tenor. The number who rang their first peal in a different method or method on a different number of bells is 1,324, an increase of 84. Ringers of their first peal inside number 62; away from the tenor 13; Maximus 31; Cinques 8; Royal 41; Caters 9; Major 78; Triples 36; Minor 102; Doubles 64; on twelve bells 46; ten 46; eight 72; six 10; five 7; Surprise 24; in hand 18; in method in hand 19. New conductors number 67, a decrease of 5; conductors in new methods number 127.

Other footnotes show that 57 were the first on the bells; 195 the first in the method on the bells and 20 the first since restoration or augmentation. Five peals were rung for royal birthdays; 31 for church festivals and dedications; 69 for weddings (including silver and golden); welcome and farewell 61; muffled and half-muffled 63; Empire Day 3; thanksgiving for peace 8; Armistice Day 8.

We give below the number of peals rung in each of representative years since 1891, the total for the whole period being 72,643:—

1891	156	1921	1,632
1898	1,002	1932	2,199
1905	1,519	1934	1,784
1913	2,359	1935	1,863
1917 (war year) ...	130	1937	1,902
1919	1,048	1938	2,035

(Signed) G. L. GROVER.
GEORGE R. PYE.
CHARLES DEAN.
WALTER AYRE.
EDITH K. FLETCHER.

'RINGING UP.'

To the Editor.

Sir,—May I thank your two correspondents for their letters, but express my regret that, in view of the importance of this subject, no more letters were forthcoming?

Possibly a sense of modesty prevails, or can it be that our band is not, after all, so very different from the majority? 'YOKEL.'

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The prayers of all ringers are earnestly desired for the recovery of Mrs. Paul Field, of Ridouts, Stoke Wake, Blandford, who is seriously ill.

The suggestion that the College Youths and the Cumberlands should hold a joint meeting is to be adopted. Last week the College Youths, at their meeting, decided to accept the invitation, and the probability is the gathering will be held at Croydon, where there is within easy reach a peal of twelve and two rings of ten.

There has been some rearrangement of the times that bells will be available in connection with the Herts Association's annual meeting at Hertford. Owing to weddings, Bengeo bells will not be available until 3.30 p.m., but Hatfield bells can be used from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in addition to the other times advertised.

In connection with the invitation to tea extended to members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association by Mr. C. Heber Percy, of Cowley Manor, when they meet at Cowley on April 15th, it is interesting to recall that Henry Bret, Lord of the Manor of Cowley, was Master of the College Youths in 1701.

One of the sequels to the handbell ringing done by members of St. Mary's Cathedral Society at the Empire Exhibition at Glasgow last year was a request of the loan of a set of handbells for a Scout 'Gang Show,' which later ran for a week at Glasgow Theatre Royal. After some tuition they turned out 'The Musical Morgans,' who gave a very creditable exhibition of tune ringing, although they had never previously seen handbells.

GOVERNOR OF BRITISH COLUMBIA VISITS BELFRY.

INSPECTS VICTORIA CATHEDRAL BELLS.

The Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia and Mrs. Hamber visited Christ Church Cathedral, Victoria, on March 10th, for the purpose of inspecting the bells. They were welcomed at the Cathedral steps by the Rt. Rev. H. E. Sexton, Bishop of Columbia, and the Very Rev. S. H. Elliot, Dean of the Cathedral.

The bells were rung to welcome the visitors and were ringing as they arrived at the Cathedral and as they climbed the spiral staircase to the ringing chamber. As the Lieutenant Governor entered the ringing chamber the ringers 'fired' the bells in his honour, and then set them.

After being introduced to the ringers and having the method of change ringing explained to him, His Honour climbed up into the belfry and inspected the bells. He expressed particular interest in the tenor and 7th bells, which were named by gracious permission of Her Majesty Queen Mary. The tenor is named 'King George V.' and inscribed:—

'God save the King,'
Christ Heaven's King be pleased with this ring.

The 7th bell is named 'Queen Mary':—

God bless Queen Mary,
I hail the Festal Day.

While His Honour was in the belfry, a short touch of 42 changes of Grandsire Triples was rung so that he might see the movement of the bells, and on his return to the ringing chamber the ringers rang a touch of 350 changes. His Honour was then conducted round the Cathedral by Bishop Sexton and Dean Elliot, when he inspected the chancel rails, which are of special interest, being a gift from Westminster Abbey, and are those in front of which their Majesties King George VI. and Queen Elizabeth knelt during their marriage service.

Those taking part in the ringing were E. W. Izard, Miss Margaret Izard, A. C. Melhuish, R. Lane, W. Sampson, A. King, A. Lomas, T. Guest, J. Hutchings, E. J. Merrett and D. Boniface.

On Tuesday, February 28th, a well-struck quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by E. W. Izard, Margaret Izard, A. C. Melhuish, R. Lane, W. Sampson, A. King, A. C. Lomas and J. Hutchings. This was the first quarter-peal by Miss Izard, R. Lane and J. Hutchings.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD'S LOSS.

BRANCH PRESIDENT'S DEATH.

The Wellingborough Branch of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild have sustained a great loss by the death of their president, the Rev. A. G. Bagshaw, Rural Dean and Vicar of Finedon, who died very suddenly on Tuesday, March 28th.

For the past four years the deceased gentleman had been president and attended most of the branch meetings, making them bright and cheery by the most efficient way he had of presiding.

The bells were chimed before the funeral service, held in Finedon Parish Church, and again as the large procession made its way to the cemetery.

About 50 clergy took their places among the mourners.

Mr. R. G. Black, general secretary, and Mr. A. Bigley, branch secretary, were present to represent the Guild, and several ringers from Irthlingborough, Mr. D. Deighton, Rushden, and Mr. C. Payne, of Irchester, together with the local ringers, were also present. A wreath in the shape of a bell, from the branch, and one from the local band were among the great number of floral tributes. The branch wreath was inscribed: 'With deep sympathy and great respect to our esteemed president. His valued work among us and his kindly way will be remembered by all.'

Finedon and Irchester bells were rung, half-muffled, later in the evening, as a last mark of respect.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—65.

WILLIAM H. HEWETT.

One of the best known and most versatile of London ringers is Mr. William H. Hewett, who has been towerkeeper at St. Margaret's, Westminster, since 1916 and has rung at that famous church, which stands in the shadow of Westminster Abbey, for over 800 weddings, two coronations, every opening of Parliament during the time he has been attached to the tower, the election and re-election of every Speaker of the House of Commons and many other State occasions. In addition he has helped to make gramophone records of St. Margaret's bells, some of pure change ringing and some with choir and organ; he conducted the last item on the programme of the old British Broadcasting Company and the first of the new British Broadcasting Corporation, when he called a touch of Stedman Triples with the bells muffled on old year's night at Bishopsgate, and then, after Big Ben had struck the hour, another touch with the bells open.



MR. WILLIAM H. HEWETT.

He rang at Westminster Abbey on Armistice Day, 1918, the last time the old six bells were rung, and was among those instrumental in the renovation of the Abbey bells, for, after this occasion, his advice was sought by Sir Edward Knapp-Fisher and finally the bells were rehung and made into a peal of eight. That record alone makes Mr. Hewett's ringing career one of more than ordinary interest. Beyond this, also, he must be given the credit of being the first to suggest the holding of joint meetings between associations.

Mr. Hewett was born at Camberwell on June 4th, 1886, and was taught to ring a bell at St. George's Church, Camberwell, in 1901. He remained a 'stoney' ringer at St. George's and St. Giles', Camberwell, and St. Peter's, Walworth, until 1906, when, a band having met one short, he rang the tenor at St. George's to a peal of Stedman Triples with William Pye. His interest kindled, he lost no time taking up change ringing, and in the following year, so apt a pupil was he, that he rang ten peals, which included Grandsire, Treble Bob, Stedman Caters, Double Norwich and Superlative, and became a member at St. Margaret's, Westminster, and St. John's, Waterloo Road.

He did not, however, ring his first peal as conductor until 1920, when he called a peal of Double Norwich Major at Beeding, Sussex. He has now rung 465 peals (39 on handbells) and conducted 91. These include the 7,392 Cambridge Surprise Maximus at St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, and the 10,440 Cambridge Surprise Royal record at Walthamstow. An unusually large proportion of Mr. Hewett's peals have been rung on ten and twelve bells. There have been 80 on twelve bells, including 35 of Surprise Maximus (Cambridge, Superlative and Yorkshire), and 155 on ten bells, including 70 of Surprise Royal (Cambridge, Yorkshire, Middlesex, London and Pudsey). He has taken part in five 'William' peals, and rang in the only peal (Doubles) on the pre-Reformation ring at St. Bartholomew-the-Great, Smithfield, for the 800th anniversary of St. Barts.

Among the interesting peals which Mr. Hewett has conducted have been the only peal of Pudsey Surprise Royal, the first peal of Double Norwich Royal in London rung with the bells in the tittums position; Cambridge Royal on, at the time, the heaviest and lightest rings on which it had been rung, Southwark Cathedral and Cudham, Kent. He called the first peal of Yorkshire Royal in the South of England, at Beddington, in 1928, and the only peal of Cambridge Royal rung at All Hallows', Lombard Street. Indeed, Mr. Hewett's record includes the first peals of Cambridge Royal in many churches in and around London. He conducted a peal of Stedman Cinques at Shoreditch rung by six Cumberlands and six College Youths, and he also called the first peals of Stedman Cinques and Cambridge Maximus for the Surrey Association.

A FIRST 720 OF LONDON MINOR.

On Friday, March 24th, at St. Mary's Church, Norton Subcourse, Norfolk, 720 London Surprise Minor was rung by A. Walpole 1, B. Barber 2, R. Warman 3, S. Fenn 4, G. Walpole (conductor) 5, E. Long 6. This is believed to be the first extent in the method on the bells, and is first extent by all the band, who are all local ringers.

SILENT BELLS IN HOLY WEEK.

To the Editor.

Sir,—In his letter published in your issue of March 24th, Mr. Box controverts a previous statement of mine by asserting that the suppression of ringing *throughout* Holy Week is neither 'modern' nor 'Anglican.' As a matter of historical fact, there is strong reason to believe that his statement is incorrect, and that on two grounds. First, the pre-Reformation rubrics, to the best of my knowledge, gave no direction to that effect, but only as regards Thursday and Friday. Secondly, in other countries, where mediæval usages have continued without a break, one still hears bells rung up to Wednesday in Holy Week. I have in mind such strongholds of ancient Catholicism as Seville and Malaga. The custom of silencing bells—except for chiming—during *five* days appears to have been introduced in England alone—and first in the Established Church—during the 19th century.

F. Ll. EDWARDS.

Kington Magna.

A WEEK APART.

Dear Sir,—Mr. Scott seems to forget that Holy Week is the most sacred of all weeks in the year, and surely ringers can forego their ringing for a week. I quite agree that bells are to call the people to worship, but not in this one week in the year. This is kept apart from all others. There are some churches that do not allow ringing in Lent, mostly in the Roman Catholic churches. And, may I add, I think ringers do their bit all through the year without wanting to ring in Holy Week.

FRANK HOPGOOD.

Wimbledon.

DEATH OF MR. A. B. BENNETT.

FORMERLY SUSSEX ASSOCIATION SECRETARY.

A former hon. secretary of the Sussex County Association, Mr. A. B. Bennett, died in London on March 30th, at the age of 75 years.

Born at Felpham, near Bognor, Mr. Bennett was later in business as a miller at Midhurst, where he learned to ring in 1889. He rang his first peal at Hursley, Hants, on Boxing Day, 1890, and afterwards scored about 50 more, mostly of Minor, of which he was a proficient conductor, in the towers on the Sussex and Hampshire border.

He was hon. secretary of the Sussex Association from 1900 to 1907, and from 1903 to 1905 represented the association on the Central Council. In 1907 he retired from business and went to reside in London, where he joined St. Mary Abbot's Guild, Kensington, of which he later became treasurer, and had remained a member ever since.

Mr. Bennett was a bachelor, and had made his home for many years in a Kensington hotel.

The funeral service took place at St. Mary Abbot's on Monday morning.

LONGEST LENGTH AT GREAT BEDWYN, WILTS,

BROKEN CLAPPER ENDS PEAL ATTEMPT.

On Saturday, April 1st, during an attempt for a peal of Minor at Great Bedwyn, Wilts, three 720's were rung, viz., Double Court, St. Clement's and Oxford Bob. In the fourth 720 (Cambridge) the clapper of the 5th broke, with a noise like a small bomb!" The ringers were Comdr. Poynz, R.N. 1, W. Hunt 2, Miss M. R. Cross 3, R. Gordon Cross (conductor) 4, Rev. C. E. Wigg 5, A. P. Cannon 6. The tenor is 26 cwt. in D, and the time for the three 720's was 1 hour 30 minutes.

This is the longest length on the bells, the 'go' of which is considered rather bad, but there seems little hope of getting them rehung. The bells are a fine-toned peal, but the noise in the ringing chamber is excessive. The bells are so close overhead that the sallies go round the wheel at backstroke. There are no windows in the belfry, so artificial lighting has to be employed during the day time.

Another attempt is to be made at a later date, when, providing no clappers or ropes break, the band are confident they can score the first peal on the bells.

THE LATE MR. ARTHUR KNIGHTS' COMPOSITIONS.

Dear Sir,—One of the last wishes of the late Mr. Arthur Knights, of Chesterfield, was that we should book up all his peal 'compositions' which are rung for the first time, as he had done. Will conductors please include the number of the peal they call in their report to 'The Ringing World,' or, if they care to, correspond with us so that Mr. Knights' wishes may be carried out?

B. A. KNIGHTS.
A. P. KNIGHTS.

21, Northcote Road, Preston, Lancs.

RINGER'S SUDDEN DEATH.

At St. Giles' Church, Desborough, on Friday, March 31st, a half-muffled quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung as a token of respect to Mr. Arthur Manning, of Desborough, who died suddenly on the previous day. He had been a regular ringer and the tower keeper for many years: A. Idle 1, S. Burditt 2, R. Idle 3, R. Law 4, D. Yeomans 5, F. Kilborn 6, L. Brown 7, L. Kilborn (conductor) 8. First quarter-peal of Kent Major by all.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

GOLDEN JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS.

Presentation to the Hon. Secretary.

The golden jubilee of the Leeds and District Amalgamated Society was celebrated on March 25th. The inauguration meeting was held on March 24th, 1889, within sixty yards of Leeds Parish Church, where, with a visit to the tower, the jubilee celebrations commenced. The day's proceedings were not only very enjoyable, but marked with much enthusiasm.

Ringing took place from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m. in a variety of methods from Major to Cinques. Service was then held, to which all ringers were invited. The lessons were read by the president (the Rev. J. H. B. Andrews). A special anthem, composed from the Gloucester Cathedral Bell Chimes by Mr. Lee Williams and set to the words, 'O God, our help in ages past,' was finely rendered by the choir.

Before the Vicar (Canon Askwith) began the sermon, he gave a hearty welcome to the society and congratulations upon attaining the golden jubilee. He also wondered how many of the original members were still alive, and how many were still able to ring. He himself was not a ringer, he said. He was not sure why, but he thought it was either the weakness of his mathematics or the weakness of his arm or back which made him give up the art. The text of the sermon was taken from I. Corinthians xii. 28. While reading through the verse he came to the word 'helps,' and he thought that this exactly fitted the bellringers, who by their regular meetings made themselves efficient helps in forming a band of workers who were not often seen, but were contributing a valuable and important work to God and His Kingdom.

HOT-POT SUPPER.

The next part of the programme was a 'hot-pot' supper and entertainment, held in Sherwin's Restaurant, which was enjoyed by 111 members, their wives and friends.

The President afterwards gave the loyal toast, and apologies for absence were then announced from the Vicars of Bramley (who attended the service), Burley, Headingley (St. Michael's), Hunslet, Holbeck and East Ardsley, also from the Editor of 'The Ringing World,' the president of the Barnsley Association and Mr. C. E. Lawson.

The toast to 'The Clergy' was ably given by Mr. J. F. Harvey.—The Vicar of Leeds replied in a humorous vein, and after this second hearing in a short time in entirely different atmospheres, one must appreciate what an acquisition Canon Askwith is, as head of the Church in Leeds.

Mr. P. J. Johnson gave the chief toast of the evening, 'The Continued Prosperity of the Leeds and District Society.' He said he had during his ringing career rung with every secretary of the society from the first to the present holder of that office. He spoke of the time when ringing contests were advertised as open to all England, and said that in one such contest held at St. Chad's, Headingley, the ringing continued through the night and finished on Sunday morning. Continuing, he said he thought the Leeds Society were the pioneers of monthly practice meetings. Referring to the primary object of bellringing, he said the societies were made for helping service ringers to be more efficient, and he did not like to see the number of people, who were unattached to any tower, going round the country ringing peals and not doing any service ringing. He hoped the day was far distant when chimes were heard from towers instead of change ringing, but he would stress the point that learners should be thoroughly taught before being allowed to ring and often spoil peals and in some cases make themselves a public nuisance. As an ex-president of nearer 30 than 20 years ago, he would remind the younger ringers that they were having passed on to them 50 years of work, and he was pleased to say he could look round with confidence on the people who were to hold office in the future (applause). He coupled with the toast the name of the Rev. J. H. B. Andrews.

Mr. Andrews, in thanking Mr. Johnson, said the reply would be given by the secretary, but before that was done he would call on Mr. Charles Pratt, of Calverley, who is the earliest ex-officer living (having been vice-president in 1892 and 1894, president in 1895, also secretary in 1902) to make a presentation to the secretary and his wife (Mr. and Mrs. Lofthouse).

SECRETARY'S GOOD WORK.

Mr. Pratt, with well-chosen words and a delivery of speech which is envied by much younger men, spoke of the secretaries he had known and the amount of work put in by them, and said he was pleased that the committee had thought fit to mark the golden jubilee by a presentation to Mr. Lofthouse. Having known him for a number of years, he was able to testify to the good work put in and duty well done, and in the name of the Leeds Society he had great pleasure in presenting to Mrs. Lofthouse a cut-glass vase, and to Mr. Lofthouse a gold watch suitably inscribed.

The gifts were handed to the recipients amid applause, and Mrs. Lofthouse thanked the members for their kindness.

Mr. Lofthouse said his first words must be to say 'Thank you' for the generous gifts they had received. Ever since the first whisper that this presentation was to be made he wondered what he had done to deserve it. He, as secretary, had not built up the society on his own, because the members made or broke a society. He felt very much like a navigator who, having set a course, was dependent on other people for carrying out the work. He also felt that he could not let an occasion like that pass without acknowledging with grateful thanks the support and advice he had received from Mr. Strangeway, Mr. W. H. Senior, Mr. L. Drake and, earlier on, Mr. J. W. Baxendale and Mr. C. E. Lawson, for with such people constantly attending, the running of a society was easy.

Replying to the toast, Mr. Lofthouse gave a list of officials who had kept the flag flying during the past 50 years and also a few details of interest, comparing the present gathering of 111 with the dinner held in 1894, when the attendance of 29 was described as anything but satisfactory. Pudsey had been making the society welcome with their wonderful hospitality since January, 1902, and the members were deeply grateful for this continued kindness. At the society's 21st annual meeting, the secretary had reported that some meetings were not a success owing to the pleasure-seeking fever of the members. 'I wonder,' said Mr. Lofthouse, 'what his report would have been to-day, when we do not see some members from one year's end to the other. I give a kindly welcome to those whose attendances are rare and invite them to come more often to the meetings' (applause).

Mr. Andrews, interposing, said, in spite of what the secretary had said he had not done, the members knew that the flourishing state of the society was due to his efforts (applause).

A CHURCHWARDEN'S RECORD.

The toast to 'The Visitors' was proposed by Mr. W. Barton, who, as an ex-secretary, welcomed the visitors and said it was difficult indeed to name all, because some, who might be described as visitors, were really members of their society. The names of a few who needed no introduction were Canon Marshall (president of the Yorkshire Association), Miss Bowling (vice-president of the Ladies' Guild) and Mrs. Cotterill, Mr. Dan Smith (secretary of the Barnsley Association), Mr. F. Hodgson (secretary of the Halifax and District Society), Mr. Mr. W. A. Wooler (Sheffield District Society), Mr. Davenport, who lived so near the boundary that one wondered whether to call him Yorkshire or Lancashire, also the Revs. A. L. Minn and T. H. Mathieson (the two vice-presidents of the Huddersfield Society). Mr. Minn was a ringer, but Mr. Mathieson had not yet reached that higher plane which comprised the ringing-clergy. Another notable visitor was Mr. H. Bacon-Smith, churchwarden of Leeds Parish Church. Mr. Barton said he was sorry the Vicar of Leeds had had to leave early, because he desired him to know that they were grateful for the manner in which the Parish Church authorities had always met the society whenever they wished to ring or hold a meeting there. Passing on to two very old friends, Mr. Pratt Cordingley and Mr. Tom Maude (who were unable to be present owing to indisposition), Mr. Barton said these two had been supporters of the society over a large number of years, and even now, though not able to visit them, were still interested in their welfare.

Mr. Bacon-Smith, in acknowledging the toast, said that although he was not a ringer, he was interested in bells and bellringing, and he thought he could claim a record that not many ringers could, and that was that he had been up every cathedral tower in England, Scotland and Wales. In conclusion, he said that he hoped the younger ringers would see to it that change ringing never ceased to be practised.

The toast to 'The Yorkshire Association' was proposed by the president (the Rev. J. H. B. Andrews), and acknowledged by Canon Marshall (president of the Yorkshire Association).

During the evening artistes who provided entertainment included tenor and baritone vocalists, conjuror, ventriloquist, comedian, lightning artist and piano-accordion.

NOTICE.

RINGING VISITORS TO BOURNEMOUTH will be welcomed at St. Peter's Tower. — Sunday ringing takes place at 9.30 a.m., 10.50 a.m. (approximate) and at 5.45 p.m. Practice night is Thursdays at 7.30 p.m.—Arthur V. Davis.

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PEAL NOTES.

BROTHERS' ONE HUNDREDTH PEAL TOGETHER.

The brothers William and James Fernley, of Norbury, Cheshire, rang their 100th peal together on March 25th, when they took part in a peal of London Surprise Major at Hyde. It was a birthday compliment to Mr. Tom Wilde.

The Chester Diocesan Guild thus had an even better day for peals on Saturday, March 25th, than our reports last week indicated, for in addition to the four peals recorded, this peal of London also goes to the Guild's credit.

A handbell peal of Grandsire Doubles at Mere, Wilts, on March 27th, was the first peal rung 'in hand' for the Salisbury Diocesan Guild for 25 years. In this peal two ringers rang their first peal on handbells, and a lady, Mrs. E. Coward, rang her first peal.

A composition of Stedman Caters (No. 26) by the late Mr. Arthur Knights was rung for the first time on March 25th at Manchester Cathedral. It contains the 6th its extent in 5th's place in the tittums and inverted tittums positions. It was Mr. John Booth's 150th peal and was a birthday compliment to Mrs. N. Heaps, wife of the conductor.

Mr. Thomas E. Sone conducted another of the late Mr. Arthur Knights' compositions of Treble Bob (No. 379) on Saturday at Wrotham, Kent. It was rung for the first time and was the 150th different composition which Mr. Sone has called. Mr. W. A. Oldfield rang his 25th peal.

Miss Sylvia Bowyer's birthday on March 27th was celebrated with a peal of Minor in four methods rung at Burgh, Suffolk.

On the preceding day there had been a joint celebration at Hasketon, when Miss Bowyer called a peal of Minor in four methods, specially arranged as a birthday honour for Miss Hilda Snowden, Mr. Lewis Last and herself. The three birthdays fall on successive days, March 25th, 26th and 27th.

A handbell peal of Bob Major at Rotherham on March 28th was Mr. Harold Chant's 100th peal for the Yorkshire Association.

Mr. Fred Brinklow, one of the Hertfordshire band who have made so much handbell peal history in recent years, rang his 300th peal on Friday, when he called a peal of Bristol Surprise 'in hand' at Bushey. It was a birthday compliment to his wife.

Mr. Brinklow has now called a peal in each of the four most popular Surprise methods—London, Cambridge, Superlative and Bristol—both on tower and handbells. Certainly a notable performance. Incidentally this peal was also the 150th which Mr. Chris. Woolley had rung on handbells.

ALL FOOLS' DAY.

The first peal of Napsbury Surprise Major was rung on Saturday, also at Bushey. But—— The footnote says it was to celebrate All Fools' Day! We cannot find 'All Fools' in the Church calendar. And Napsbury is not on our map, neither can we find it in that comprehensive gazetteer, the Post Office Guide. However, perhaps that doesn't matter; there is no penalty attached to using a name not printed in our reference books. But, maybe, the joke is in the footnote and not in the peal. We hope so, for the sake of our reputation

Two lads of 14 rang the treble and tenor at Meopham, Kent, to a peal of Grandsire Doubles on Saturday, and are to be congratulated upon the way they acquitted themselves, for the go of the bells leaves a lot to be desired, and, we are told, the band had to do some 'bell hanging' before they started to ring.

These two young ringers scored their first peal, the trebleman at the first attempt, the tenorman at his second, the latter having previously lost a peal on the tenor at Northfleet, through no fault of his own, after ringing for two and a quarter hours.

The peal was arranged for Mr. George Turner, who, at 45 years of age, has only just taken up ringing, and was able to ring his first peal. The other five ringers belong to Northfleet.

Two ringers reached their first peal century on Saturday. Mr. H. J. Mansfield rang his 100th peal when he took part in the quickest peal of Major (2 hours 55 minutes) yet rung at Prittlewell, Essex; and Mr. A. S. Richards scored his 100th with a peal of Double Norwich at Ospringe, Kent.

The peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor at Milton Regis, Kent, on March 29th, was a birthday compliment to Walter H. Dobbie. Five of the six ringers who made up the band rang their first peal of Cambridge Minor.

The first peal on the bells at Harpford, Devon, rehung about three years ago, was rung on March 27th. It was an event of some importance in the parish, and two of the local ringers (Messrs. T. Holland and L. Baker) took part and scored their first peal. The Vicar (the Rev. Greenslade) and several parishioners looked in to watch the progress of the ringing and afterwards to congratulate the ringers. Later the Vicar kindly provided refreshments and said how pleased he was that some of his own ringers had taken part. Three of the other ringers belong to East Budleigh, and the conductor (Mr. C. R. Lilley) to Highweek.

Last Friday, by ringing his first peal of Superlative Surprise as conductor, Derek Sharp reached his 50th peal at Crayford, Kent. He has rung them in the short space of two and a half years. You can't hold the lads in these days. A generation ago 50 peals in one tower in a lifetime would have been considered good going.

(Continued in next column.)

SPLICED MINOR.

USE OF 'OPPOSITE' GROUPS.

To the Editor

Dear Sir,—I have perused with interest the new edition of the Central Council's 'Collection of Doubles and Minor Methods,' and would like to congratulate the compilers on their excellent work, particularly in regard to the space allocated to 'spliced' compositions.

Nevertheless, I have been unable to find in the latter any allusion to the infusion, into one true and complete 720, members of the opposite groups, the so-called Oxford group, viz., Capel, Kingston, London Scholars and Sandal, and the opposite group, Skipton, Chepstow, Balmoral and Fotheringay.

Two or three years ago (when I spent more time on such matters) I compiled two 720's practically on the same plan, except one had 2nd's and the other 6th's at the lead end (or head) containing these eight methods together with one or two more.

As I think they may be of use to the Exercise, I am forwarding them to you for publication. I may add that I hope to gather together a team to ring them (and many others) before long.

HAROLD CHANT.

23456	Capel T.B. 26	23456	Ockley T.B. 25
56342	Pevensey 3 D. 33	64523	Conisborough 3 D. 24
42635	Skipton 3 D. 30	—	23564
35264	Woodcocks V. T.B. 11	45623	Knutsford 3 D. 31
—	64235	36245	Dunedin 3 D. 34
35426	Kingston T.B. 18	—	45236
—	26435	62345	Brit. Scholars P. T.B. 12
35642	Chepstow 3 D. 28	—	45362
42563	Richborough 3 D. 23	23645	Knutsford
—	63542	56423	Duke of Norfolk T.B. 3
42356	Pevensey	34256	Dunedin
56234	Woodcocks V.	62534	Conisborough
34625	Chepstow	—	34562
25463	Sandal T.B. 2	25634	Rostherne 3 D. 29
—	63425	46325	British S.P.
25346	Pevensey	—	25346
—	46325	63425	Norbury T.B. 19
25634	Balmoral 3 D. 36	—	25463
34562	Richborough	34625	Rostherne
—	62534	56234	Dunedin
34256	Woodcocks V.	42356	British S.P.
56423	London Scholars T.B. 7	63542	Conisborough
23645	Balmoral	—	42563
45362	Pevensey	35642	Wilmslow 3 D. 39
—	62345	26435	Duke of Norfolk
45236	Woodcocks V.	—	35426 College Exercise T.B. 8
—	36245	64235	Dunedin
45623	Fotheringay 3 D. 41	—	35264
23564	Richborough	42635	Bogedone 3 D. 40
—	64523	56342	British S.P.
23456		23456	

FIRST QUARTER-PEALS.

At St. Nicholas', Brighton, on Sunday, March 26th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: *Miss M. Butcher 1, W. Franks 2, B. Saunders 3, J. Whitehead 4, G. Ades 5, F. Bennett (conductor) 6, H. Stalham 7, *G. Gilbert 8. *First attempt for a quarter-peal.

On Sunday, March 26th, for evening service at St. Giles', Camberwell, London, 1,277 Grandsire Caters: B. Wayman 1, Miss B. M. Mills 2, B. R. Harris 3, R. A. Johnson (first quarter-peal) 4, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 5, H. G. Andrews (first quarter-peal on ten bells) 6, E. J. King 7, J. Gransbury 8, T. W. Taffender 9, H. H. Peters 10.

On Sunday, April 2nd, at St. Mary's Church, Lydney, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: G. Charles 1, C. Thomas 2, N. Rees 3, C. Goulding 4, W. H. Harris (first quarter-peal as conductor) 5, J. W. Davis 6, Inspector Carter 7, James Hill 8.

PEAL NOTES.

(Continued from previous column.)

Then, having called his first peal of Superlative on Friday, he rang his first of Bob Triples as conductor on Saturday! That was at Shoreham, Kent, and everybody in the peal got a 'decoration' of some kind.

A band was to have met at Privett, Hants, on Saturday, for a peal in six Spliced Surprise methods, but the conductor had to disappoint them on account of a 'groggy' wrist. So, filling up the company with another enthusiast, who was able to ring his first Surprise peal 'inside,' they rang a peal of Cambridge. Not altogether inappropriate, after what had happened on the Thames earlier in the day.

The first peal of St. Clement's Bob Triples rung for the Sussex Association was accomplished on Saturday at All Saints', Hastings. It was the first peal in the method by all the band, and Mr. W. Wenban, of Staplehurst, had never struck a blow in the method before. There were two other visitors in the peal, Messrs. W. Gorringe and J. G. Powell, of Hawkhurst.

NOTICES.

BRONLLYS, TALGARTH, BRECONS.—Reopening of the bells on Saturday, April 8th, at 3 p.m. Preacher, the Lord Bishop of Swansea and Brecon. Notification to the Vicar for tea, which will be supplied at a nominal charge. The five bells restored and a new treble added to make six by John Taylor and Co.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLANDS.—Ringing arrangements for Easter Sunday: St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, morning 10 o'clock; St. Martin-in-the-Fields at 5 p.m. Visitors will be welcomed.—G. W. Steere, 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The 59th annual general meeting will be held at Erith on Easter Monday, April 10th. Committee meeting in St. John's Hall at 11.15 a.m. Service in the Church of St. John the Baptist at noon. Address by the Vicar of Erith (Rev. R. W. Thornhill, M.A.). Luncheon in St. John's Hall at 1 p.m. (free to practising members, 2s. 6d. others). His Worship the Mayor of Erith (Rev. J. W. Wilkinson) will preside. Business meeting follows for the election of officers and Central Council representatives (4). A new rule to be submitted.—Fred M. Mitchell, Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The following towers will be open for ringing on the occasion of the annual general meeting at Erith on Easter Monday: Bexley (8), 9.30 to 11.30 a.m.; Crayford (8), 10 to 11.15 a.m.; Dartford (8), 10 to 11.15 a.m.; Erith (St. John's) (8), 10 a.m. to 12 noon; Erith (Christ Church) (8), 10 to 11.45 a.m.; Sidcup (6), 10 to 11.15 a.m. These towers will also be open after the meeting for further ringing. —F. M. Mitchell, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, Easter Monday, at Burton-on-Trent. Bells open: St. Paul's (10) from 10 a.m; Rolleston-on-Dove (8), 11.30 to 12.30, 1.30 to 3.30; Winshill (6), 11 to 12 a.m., 1.30 to 4 p.m. Subject to weddings and funerals. Committee meet 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.45 prompt, followed by general meeting in St. Paul's Institute. —Ernest Morris, General Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting will be held at Bedford on Easter Monday. The bells of St. Paul's (10) will be available from 10.30. St. Peter's from noon. Tea in St. Peter's Hall at 4.30, to be followed by the annual meeting. The hon. secretary will not be up for re-election, so it is hoped as many members will be present to take part in the meeting.—Arthur E. Sharman, Hon. Sec., 199, High Street N., Dunstable.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District. — The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, Epsom, on Easter Monday, April 10th. Bells available: St. Mary's, Ewell, 11 a.m. to 12.30; St. Martin's, Epsom, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.; Christ Church, Epsom, 3.30 to 4.55, and again in the evening. Service at Christ Church 5 p.m., followed by tea at Christ Church Hall at 1s. per head. Business meeting afterwards. All ringers and friends heartily welcome.—F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Sec., 28, Strathearn Road, Sutton, Surrey.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Worcester on Easter Monday, April 10th. General business meeting in the College Hall at 2.45 p.m. prompt. Chairman: The Very Rev. Arthur Davies, D.Litt., Dean of Worcester. Service in the Cathedral at 4.15 p.m. Special preacher: The Rev. J. R. Bamber, Vicar of Wollaston. Tea 5.30 p.m. Bells available: Cathedral (12), 1-2 p.m.; All Saints (10), St. John-in-Bedwardine (8), and St. Nicholas (6). St. Swithun (6, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. only). Central Committee meeting in St. Albans at 11.30 a.m. Subscriptions should be paid and reports obtained in St. Albans' Church Room, Fish Street, between 12 noon and 1 p.m. Members are particularly asked to note that St. Helen's Church House will not be available as in previous years.—J. D. Johnson, Gen. Hon. Sec., Aubyns, Cheltenham Road, Sedgeberrow, Evesham.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — The annual general meeting will take place at Norwich on Easter Monday, April 10th. The bells of St. Peter Mancroft, St. Giles, St. Michael at Coslany and All Saints available from 10.30 a.m. Service at St. Peter Mancroft at 12.30 p.m. Address by the Rev. E. William Blyth, Rector of Northrepps. Luncheon (2s. 6d.) at The Castle Hotel at 1.30 p.m. Kindly notify attendance at luncheon. —F. Nolan Golden, Gen. Sec. and Treasurer, Winton, 26, Brabazon Road, Norwich.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — The ANNUAL MEETING will be held at HERTFORD, on EASTER MONDAY. Ringing 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2 p.m. at All Saints (10 bells) and St. Andrew's (8). Bengeo (8) from 3.30 p.m. Hertingbury (5) 1.30 to 3 p.m. Service in St. Andrew's Church 4.30 p.m. Tea in St. Nicholas Hall, St. Andrew's, 5 p.m., price 2s., followed by business meeting. Ringing at the three Hertford churches up to 9 p.m.—G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec., Duffield, St. Albans.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting at Cambridge on Easter Monday, April 10th. Service at St. Mary-the-Great, 3.30 p.m., followed by business meeting. Tea at King's Parade Cafe. Bells available: St. Mary's (12), 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., 2 to 3.30, and in the evening; St. Benet's (6), 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., 2 to 3.30 p.m., and at 7 p.m.; Roman Catholic (8), 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.; St. Andrew's, Old Chesterton (6), 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Ringing at Trumpington on application to me.—Kitty Willers, Sweetbriars, Trumpington, Cambridge.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, Stroud, Glos, on Easter Monday, April 10th. Arrangements: Stroud bells (10) available from 1 p.m. Service 2.30 p.m. Meeting in Church Institute 3.15 p.m. Tea at Premier Cafe, King Street (1s. per person), 5.15 p.m. (approximately). Painswick bells (12) available from 6.45 p.m., Stonehouse bells (6) 6.30 p.m. Half-hourly service of buses from Stonehouse to Stroud.—Edgar Guise, Hon. Sec., 46a, Tankard's Close, Bristol 2.

EASTER MONDAY.—' HOSS ' SHOW and FAIR at Woodbridge, Suffolk. Ringing all day from 10 a.m. (8 bells, 25 cwt.). Everybody welcome.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Ripley on Easter Monday, April 10th. Bells available at 2 p.m. Service in Parish Church at 4 p.m. Tea at 4.45 at the Co-operative Cafe, followed by annual meeting.—J. W. England, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. — Practices for April: *St. Mary-le-Bow, 11th; St. Magnus, 13th and 27th; St. Giles', Cripplegate, 18th; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 20th; *St. Paul's Cathedral, 25th. All at 7.30 p.m., except St. Andrew's, 8 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards. — A. B. Peck, Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Sonning Deanery Branch.—A combined practice will be held at Finchampstead, Berks (6 bells) on Wednesday, April 12th, 6.30 p.m. All welcome.—W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—A combined meeting will be held at Rotherfield (8 bells) on Saturday, April 15th. Tower open 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. A. Lewry, Rosemary, Old Lane, Crowborough, not later than Wednesday, April 12th. All welcome.—O. Sippetts and B. Saunders, Hon. Secs.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch. —A quarterly meeting of the Sleaford District will be held at North Rauceby, near Sleaford, on Saturday, April 15th. Bells (5) open from 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea at 5, followed by business meeting. Tea will be provided free of charge by the Vicar to all who notify him at The Vicarage, Rauceby, near Sleaford, by Thursday previous. —H. S. Hinkins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at Ipswich on April 15th. Committee meeting at 4 p.m. and service 4.30, both at St. Mary-le-Tower. Address by Rev. Basil Eden, of Bredfield. Tea at 5.15 in Co-operative Hall, followed by meeting. The following bells will be available for ringing: St. Mary-le-Tower (12), St. Margaret (8), St. Clement's (6), St. Matthew's (6), Rushmere (6), Sproughton (6), Bramford (6), St. Lawrence (5).—H. G. Herbert, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's Church (R.C.), Chorley (8 bells), on Saturday, April 15th. Tower open for ringing 2.30. All ringers welcome.—A. Blogg, Branch Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Witney and Woodstock Branch.—The annual meeting of this branch will be held at Tackley on Saturday, April 15th next. Ringing 2.30 p.m. Service 3 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. All those requiring tea please inform me on Wednesday, April 12th, first post.—W. Evetts, Sec., Hampton, Tackley, Oxford.

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—North-East Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Washfield on Saturday, April 15th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Will those intending to be present for tea please notify me by Monday, April 10th?—R. Harris, Hon. Sec., Park, Silverton, near Exeter.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. —Bath Branch. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Bathampton on Saturday, April 15th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting 5.15 p.m.—Theo Grant, Hon. Sec., Swainswick, Bath, Som.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Cheltenham Branch.—A meeting will be held at Cowley, near Cheltenham on Saturday, April 15th. Bells available 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea, 5.30, by the invitation of C. Heber Percy, Esq., M.F.H., Cowley Manor. Should appreciate a note from those intending being present. — Walter Yeend, Branch Hon. Sec., Millfield, Tewkesbury Road, Cheltenham.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. — Elloe Deaneries Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Moulton on Saturday, April 15th. 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 April 11th?—Geo. Ladd, Hon. Sec., Pinchbeck, Spalding.

SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting at St. Paul's Cathedral, Dundee, Saturday, April 15th. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting.—Charles R. Raine, Hon. Sec., 21, Grosvenor Crescent, Edinburgh.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch. — The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Market Drayton (8 bells) on Saturday, April 15th. Ringing from 3 o'clock. Will all those who intend to be present kindly let me have a card on, or before, April 12th?—Richard D. Langford, Hon. Branch Sec., 118, Ruskin Road, Crewe.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Central Branch. —A meeting will be held at Over, Cambs., on Saturday, April 15th. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Please drop a card to say you are coming. — F. Warrington, Dis. Sec., Swavesey, Cambs.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL GUILD.—Chippenham Branch.—Quarterly meeting at St. Paul's (8) Saturday, April 15th, at 3 p.m. St. Andrew's (8) also open. Service 4.45. Tea follows. A card for tea will oblige.—F. W. Merrett, Branch Hon. Sec., 38, Downing Street, Chippenham, Wilts.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch. — Newport Pagnell Deanery. — A meeting at Sherington, Saturday, April 15th. 2.30, ring up. 4.15, service. 4.45, tea. — Rev. J. F. Amies, Ravenstone Vicarage, Olney, Bucks.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION. — Swindon Branch.—Monthly meeting at Brinkworth on Saturday, April 15th. Six bells. Tea by invitation of Bishop of Malmesbury.—W. B. Kynaston, 3, Dumbarton Terrace, Victoria Road, Swindon, Wilts.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Northern District.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, April 15th, at St. John's, Leytonstone. Bells available 3 p.m. Service at 4.45 p.m., followed by tea and meeting and further ringing till 8.30 p.m.—J. G. A. Prior, Hon. Sec., 81, Denbigh Street, Westminster, S.W.1.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—A meeting of the Lincoln District will take place at Scothern (bells 6) on Saturday, April 15th. Service 4 p.m. Tea at 4.45 p.m., at 1s. per head to those who inform Mr. C. V. Cade, Brooklyn, Scothern, Lincs., by Thursday, April 13th.—Kenneth W. Mayer, Hon. Dis. Sec.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kettering Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Thorpe Malsor (bells 6) on Saturday, April 15th. Usual arrangements. Please notify me if you require tea.—H. Baxter, 21, Charles Street, Rothwell, Northants.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—Next ringing meeting at Sapcote on Saturday, April 15th. Usual times. Send a card to Mr. C. Brown, Sharnford Road, Sapcote, near Leicester, if you want tea. At the last meeting one card only was received by the caterers. Play the game, please.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Welton (5), Saturday, April 15th. Usual arrangements. — W. C. Moore, Baunston Road, Daventry, Northants.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wotton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Dursley on April 15th. Bells (8) open at 3 p.m. Tea and meeting 4.45. Evensong 6 p.m.—W. J. Smith, 130, Station Road, Yate.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—South Forest Branch.—Next meeting will be held at Staunton on Saturday, April 15th. Bells (6) open at 3.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting 5 p.m. in Schoolroom. All ringers who require tea must let me know by Wednesday, April 12th. — Oliver Thomas, Branch Hon. Sec., 11, Victoria Road, Lydney.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Rutland Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Preston on Saturday, April 15th. Bells (5) available at 3 p.m. For tea please notify S. H. Towell, 27, West Road, Oakham.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. —A quarterly general meeting will be held at Mells on Saturday, April 15th. Bells (8) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. —J. T. Dyke, Hon. Sec., Chilcompton, Bath.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Newington-next-Folkestone on Saturday, April 15th. Ringing from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15.—P. Page, Hon. Sec.

SOMERLEYTON, NEAR LOWESTOFT.—The ring of six bells, rehung by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., will be re-dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Norwich on Sunday, April 16th, at 3 p.m.

ST. GILES - IN - THE - WOOD, TORRINGTON, DEVON.—The ring of six bells, restored by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., will be re-dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Crediton on Wednesday, April 19th, at 7 p.m.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Wednesday Afternoon Guild. — The next meeting will be held at Sunderland (two towers), on Wednesday, April 19th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. at St. Michael's. Tea at 5 p.m. Bells (8) available at 6 p.m. at St. Ignatius'. All are welcome.—Margaret A. P. Bertie, Hon. Sec., 17, Ridley Avenue, Chester-le-Street.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at St. Botolph's Church, Bishopsgate, on Saturday, April 22nd. Service at 4.45 p.m. Preacher, Rev. P. D. Ellis. High tea at the Express Dairy, Wormwood Street, at 5.30 p.m., at 1s. 3d. each. Business meeting after tea. Ringing arrangements as follows:—St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate (8) from 2.30 to 4.45 and after the meeting; St. Giles', Cripplegate (12) from 2.30 to 4.15 p.m.; St. Lawrence Jewry (8) from about 7.30 to 8.30 (one hour only); St. Olave's, Hart Street (8) from about 7.30 to 9 p.m. Please advise me, not later than Wednesday, April 19th, if you will require tea.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Gen. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4. Larkswood 1959.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting has been arranged at Beaconsfield on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (8) available from 2.45 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea, at 1s. per head, for those who notify me not later than April 17th. —A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Cannock on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells at 3 o'clock. Service in Church at 4.45, with address by the Rev. J. F. Foster, A.K.C., Vicar. Tea (1s.) at 5.30. Please send word by Tuesday, 18th inst. — H. Knight, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Burnley Parish Church on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members cordially invited. Please make this a bumper meeting. — F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—Quarterly meeting at All Saints', Hollingbourne (6 bells) on Saturday, April 22nd. Tower open 3 p.m. Service 5, followed by tea and business meeting in Parish Room. Tea has been arranged for 40 at 6d. per head, but members attending must notify me by Wednesday, April 19th. Frequent buses pass on main London-Folkestone road (10 minutes from village).—R. G. Rayfield, Hon. Dis. Sec., Downsview, Spring Lane, Ightham.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting of the Western Division will be held at Heene (Worthing) on Saturday, April 22nd. Tower open 2.45 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea, price 1s., 5.15., at the Church Rooms. Half rail fares, maximum 1s. 6d., allowed to members.—F. H. Meeten, Hon. Div. Sec., 22, North Street, Worthing.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District. — Quarterly meeting at Gravesend on Saturday, April 22nd. Fuller particulars next week.—G. H. Spice, Hon. Dis. Sec., 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Basingstoke District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Yateley on April 22nd. Bells available from 2.30. Service at 4. Tea and business meeting follows at Yateley Hall by the kind invitation of Miss de Winton Corry. Will all requiring tea please inform me by April 19th without fail?—J. G. Stilwell, Lea Cottage, Yateley, Camberley.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The meeting of the Farnham District, arranged for Hawley on April 22nd, has been postponed owing to repairs to the steeple of the church.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wellingborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held (D.V.) at Great Doddington (5 bells) on Saturday, April 22nd. Service at 4.30, followed by tea and usual proceedings. Will all those intending to go, please let me know early?—A. Bigley, Hon. Branch Sec., 30, Allen Road, Irthlingborough, Wellingborough.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Miles-Platting, Manchester, on Saturday, April 22nd. Tower open for ringing at 6 o'clock.—J. H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Burton District.—The next meeting will be held at Netherseale on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m. It is hoped that there will be a good attendance to try this handy peal. Splendid tea arrangements will be made for those who notify me by Thursday, April 20th. Visitors cordially invited.—J. W. Cotton, Overseal.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—The next meeting will be at All Saints', Maldon, on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting after. The bells at St. Mary's (6) will be available after tea. Please let me have numbers for tea not later than Wednesday, April 19th.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Upper Arbour Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD. — A mid-week meeting will be held at Hartfield (6) on Wednesday, April 26th. Tower open 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea should be sent to Mr. K. Garwood, 28, Brooklands Way, East Grinstead, Sussex—who is now organiser of the Guild's mid-week meetings—not later than April 24th. All are welcome. The usual monthly will be a joint meeting with the Sussex County Association (Northern Division) at Rotherfield, on Saturday, April 15th.—B. Saunders, Hon. Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — The annual general meeting will be held at Brighton on Saturday, April 29th. Service at St. Peter's, with address by the Vicar of Brighton, 4.30. Tea at the Pavilion Grill Room 5.15, price 2s. 6d. (1s. to members). Half rail fare, maximum 2s. 6d., allowed to resident members. Names for tea by April 24th essential. Notices of motions affecting rules must be received by April 15th.—S. E. Armstrong, Hon. Gen. Sec., 70, Hollingbury Park Avenue, Brighton 6.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at Guildford on Saturday, April 29th. Full details later. — G. L. Grover, Hon. Secretary.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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REFLECTIONS ON THE ANALYSIS.

The vagaries of peal ringing show themselves every year in the Peals Analysis and few definite conclusions can be drawn from a detailed comparison between one year and the next. It is only when taken over a series of years that it is possible to form any worthwhile judgment upon the advance that is being made. In any one year the activities of a single band may influence the tables unduly in some particular direction, and may lead to a false idea of individual relationships such, for instance, as the growth or loss of popularity of any method or group of methods. In this way, too, it is easy to be misled by such statistics as those relating to the number of people who have rung a peal in (for them) a fresh method or on a different number of bells. In this category in 1937, 1,240 were included, a decrease of 194 compared with the previous year. In 1938 the number rose by 84 to 1,324. This, in itself, however, is little guide to the progress of the Exercise as a whole, when, for example, one band rang fourteen Major methods for the first time, and in these peals alone added 112 to this particular total. It is a tribute to these ringers' skill and capacity, but it does not necessarily indicate that the Exercise in general is advancing. Again, these figures may include such things as a first peal of Minor by a band who have rung dozens of peals in the same method on eight, ten or even twelve bells. There was a time, perhaps, when these particular statistics did indicate a measure of general progress, but to-day they are largely the result of individual ambitions achieved, down, as well as up, the scale. That does not make them uninteresting, but goes to prove our point that, taken from one year to another, too much weight should not be attached to details of this description.

There is one direction, however, in which the tables show us that ringing has improved little in recent years and that is in the number of peals of Doubles rung in one method. Even allowing for the restricted field on five bells, it is surely a sign of lack of enterprise when in each of the last three years, and perhaps longer, the peals of Doubles have included over sixty per cent. rung in only one method, and the bulk of these, also, rung in towers where there are six bells. It seems a reflection on those who ring these peals that so many of them seldom get beyond a peal in one method and do not do more peal ringing, when the opportunity occurs, in Minor methods. It cannot be said that the limitations are imposed by the desire to enable ringers to score their first peal, because examination of the individual performances shows that a great many of these peals have no claim

(Continued on page 230.)

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to include a 'first peal.' A peal of Doubles in one method may be a useful first step, but it would seem that there are too many ringers content to stay on this first rung of the ladder instead of using it as a starting point to reach higher things. There is a striking lack of initiative and enthusiasm in the men who are content to stick at one method of Doubles when they have six bells at their disposal.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

LONDON.
THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
On Saturday, April 1, 1939, in Three Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD, SHOREDITCH,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;
Tenor 28¾ cwt.

HARRY SEAR...	...*Treble*	THOMAS BEVAN	7
JOHN W. CORNFORD	2	ARTHUR J. W. HUGHES ...	8
MRS. C. J. MATTHEWS ...	3	*THOMAS H. FRANCIS	9
ARTHUR RADLEY	4	WALTER SEAR	10
GEORGE H. CROSS	5	GEORGE W. STEERE... ...	11
GEORGE RADLEY	6	CECIL J. MATTHEWS ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS.
* First peal of Stedman Cinques.

SAFFRON WALDEN, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;
Tenor 24 cwt.

ALFRED E. PITSTOW ...	...*Treble*	LEONARD E. PITSTOW... ...	7
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY ...	2	WILLIAM J. BROWN	8
GEORGE R. PYE	3	FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN ...	9
HOBART E. SMITH	4	JOHN W. WARD	10
GEORGE A. FLEMING	5	WALTER AYRE	11
HAROLD N. PITSTOW	6	EDWARD P. DUFFIELD ...	...*Tenor*

§ Composed by G. E. SYMONDS. Conducted by CHAS. J. SEDGLEY.
First peal of Maximus on the bells.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(EAST BERKS AND SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)
On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 31 cwt.

FRED HAYES	...*Treble*	*WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM ...	7
WILLIAM HENLEY	2	†REV. R. F. R. ROUTH ...	8
RALPH COLES	3	†PERCY NEWTON	9
*WILLIAM WELLING	4	HARRY WINGROVE	10
GEORGE MARTIN	5	J. HOWARD FREEBORN ...	11
JOSEPH S. HAWKINS	6	F. DONALD BORHAM...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. REEVES. Conducted by FRED HAYES.
* First peal of Maximus. † First peal on twelve. First peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus as conductor.

TEN BELL PEALS.

LONDON.
THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, April 8, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MAGNUS-THE-MARTYR, E.C.,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;
Tenor 20 cwt.

RONALD H. DOVE... ...	...*Treble*	ERNEST W. FURBANK	6
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ...	2	ARTHUR B. WIFFEN	7
PHILIP A. CORBY...	3	EDWARD D. SMITH	8
MISS OLIVE L. ASHBROOK...	4	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY... ...	9
ERNEST J. KING	5	FRANK E. DARBY	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. R. NEWTON. Conducted by P. A. CORBY.
First ten-bell peal as conductor.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;
Tenor 23 cwt.

*WILLIAM F. J. COPE...	...*Treble*	‡FREDERICK OLDROYD...	... 6
CHARLES HAZELDEN	... 2	§SIDNEY BREEZE ...	 7
RAYMOND PHILPOTT ...	... 3	C. ERNEST SMITH	 8
SIDNEY ELTON	... 4	REGINALD A. REED ...	... 9
†THOMAS E. DENYER ...	... 5	FREDERICK W. ROGERS	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. H. CROSS. Conducted by C. ERNEST SMITH.

* First peal of Treble Bob and of Royal. † First peal of Treble Bob Royal. ‡ First peal on ten bells. § First peal of Royal. First peal of Treble Ten as conductor.

PRESTON, LANCS.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;
Tenor 24½ cwt. in D.

KENNETH HALL	...*Treble*	JOHN BOOTH	... 6
JOHN JACKSON	... 2	HAROLD DAVIES	... 7
E. ROGER MARTIN ...	... 3	GEORGE F. BRADLEY ...	... 8
FRED RIGBY	... 4	JAMES W. GROUNDS ...	... 9
ALFRED BLOGG	... 5	CHARLES SHARPLES ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (154). Conducted by E. R. MARTIN.

First peal of Grandsire Caters for all except ringers of 6, 9 and tenor. First peal of Grandsire Caters on the bells.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

WEST DIDSBURY, MANCHESTER.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 1, 1939, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5188 CHANGES;
Tenor 17⅞ cwt.

JAMES FERNLEY	...*Treble*	*JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER	... 5
REV. FRANK BONNER ...	... 2	JAMES A. MILNER	 6
ERNEST BENNETT ...	... 3	ALBERT FORD ...	 7
ALFRED W. FROST ...	... 4	HAROLD JONES ...	... ...*Tenor*

Composed by HENRY DAINS. Conducted by ERNEST BENNETT.

* First peal in the method 'inside.' Rung as a welcome to the new Rector, the Rev. W. H. Bishop, M.A.

FINCHINGFIELD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 1, 1939, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 18 cwt.

MRS. J. H. CRAMPION...	...*Treble*	PERCY GREEN	 5
ERNEST W. FORBANK...	... 2	JOHN G. NASH	 6
ERIC J. COE	... 3	ARTHUR H. EVERETT ...	... 7
ERNEST W. PYE	... 4	JOHN H. CRAMPION	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by J. H. CRAMPION.

KING'S NORTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, April 2, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 21 cwt.

WALTER P. WHITEHEAD	...*Treble*	WILLIAM A. WOOD	 5
ALFRED BALLARD... ...	... 2	CHARLES MARSHALL ...	... 6
CECIL E. CARR	... 3	EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD	... 7
W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON ...	4	ARTHUR DEBENHAM	...*Tenor*

Composed by E. C. GOBEY. Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD

The first peal of Treble Bob on the bells. Specially arranged as a 79th birthday compliment to Mrs. Debenham, mother of the tenor ringer. Also a birthday compliment to Mrs. W. A. Wood and Mr. C. W. Ballard.

LONDON.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Monday, April 3, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE,
A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 20 cwt.

HORACE BELCHER ...	...*Treble*	†ERNEST W. PYE...	 5
HARRY HOSKINS... ...	... 2	JAMES E. DAVIS ...	 6
JOSEPH MARES	... 3	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON...	... 7
*THOMAS H. FRANCIS...	... 4	PHILIP A. CORBY	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 154). Conducted by P. A. CORBY.

* First Surprise peal away from the treble. † First peal in the method.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, April 8, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb.

*GEORGE A. PACKER ...	...*Treble*	JAMES A. MILNER	 5
†HARRY F. HOLDING ...	... 2	WILLIAM FERNLEY	 6
*RICHARD D. LANGFORD	... 3	JAMES H. RIDING	 7
JAMES FERNLEY	... 4	JOHN WORTH... ...	... ...*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

* First peal in the method. † First peal in the method away from treble.

BURNHAM, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 16 cwt.

*WILFRED GOWING ...	...*Treble*	JOHN E. TAYLOR ...	 5
BRYAN O'NEILL	2	CYRIL A. BURGESS	 6
PETER A. BLAMEY, R.A.F.	3	THOMAS J. FOWLER	 7
MARTIN A. BLAMEY, R.A.F.	4	GEORGE GILBERT	... ...*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by CYRIL A. BURGESS.

* First peal of Major. First peal on eight as conductor.

SIX BELL PEALS.

HIGHAM-ON-THE-HILL, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 1, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Double Oxford, Single Court, Double Court, Oxford Bob, Plain Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob.
Tenor 10½ cwt.

*CYRIL TABERNER ...	...*Treble*	BARNABAS G. KEY	 4
HOWARD HOWELL ...	... 2	†JOSEPH W. COTTON ...	... 5
*WILLIAM H. CURSON	... 3	ARTHUR E. ROWLEY	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ARTHUR E. ROWLEY.

* First peal in seven methods. † First peal 'inside' of seven methods.

MILTON REGIS, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, April 2, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two different extents each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and one of Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 13 lb.

GEORGE A. NAYLOR ...	...*Treble*	*WALTER H. DOBBIE ...	... 4
ARTHUR S. BOAR ...	... 2	*STANLEY B. DOBBIE ...	... 5
*JOHN E. SPICE	... 3	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE A. NAYLOR.

* First peal in four methods. First peal in four methods on the bells. First peal in four methods as conductor.

AN ANNUAL CELEBRATION AT ST. MAGNUS'.

In connection with a special Palm Sunday parade held annually at St. Magnus-the-Martyr, London Bridge, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung on Sunday morning: Miss G. E. Alleway 1, E. W. Furbank 2, D. G. Brown 3, C. A. Hughes 4, R. A. Johnson (first quarter on eight) 5, P. A. Corby (conductor) 6, F. W. Alleway 7, F. W. Wicks 8.

MARPLE, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 8, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two extents of Kent Treble Bob, two extents of Oxford Treble Bob and three extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 17 cwt. (approx.).

*IVAN B. GARDINER ...	...*Treble*	REV. FRANK BONNER	4
*JOCELYN B. GARDINER ...	2	C. KENNETH LEWIS	5
THOMAS TAYLOR	3	JOSEPH WHITTAKER ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. K. LEWIS.

* First peal in more than one method and first attempt for Treble Bob. Rung on the occasion of the retirement of Mr. J. B. Wood, of the local band, after 55 years of devoted service.

ASHBRITTLE, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, April 9, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 9 cwt.

STANLEY N. BRISTOW	...*Treble*	GEORGE W. ALDERMAN ...	4
*DOUGLAS B. PARSONS ...	2	*JACK H. MANNING	5
FREDERICK ALDERMAN ...	3	HAROLD BRISTOW ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by FREDERICK ALDERMAN.

* First peal and first attempt. Rung to commemorate the 24th anniversary in the ministry of the Rev. T. L. Bullock at the Parish Church.

LYONSHALL, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, April 9, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of two six-scores of Reverse Canterbury, 10 of Bob Doubles, and 26 six-scores and two 240's of Morris' arrangement of Grandsire. Tenor 12 cwt.

*F. READ, R.M.	*Treble*	†J. BUTLER	4
L. EVANS	2	T. JONES	5
W. PREECE	3	T. BEAVER	...*Tenor*

Conducted by T. JONES.

* First peal. † First peal in three methods. First peal in three methods as conductor. Rung for the Easter festival.

WISTASTON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of Single Court and Oxford Bob and three 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 6 cwt. 6 lb.

KENNETH THOMASSON	...*Treble*	FREDERICK H. CRAWLEY ...	4
*FRANK BARNARD	2	RICHARD T. HOLDING ...	5
GEORGE H. CRAWLEY ...	3	ALBERT CRAWLEY ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by A. CRAWLEY.

* First peal of Minor. Rung for the christening of Brian Frederick, son of F. H. Crawley and grandson of the conductor.

THORINGTON, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of one extent each of London, Stamford, Rossendale, Durham, York, Norwich and Cambridge. Tenor 9 cwt. 22 lb. in G.

ALBERT HALES	...*Treble*	VIOLET A. FROST	4
CHARLES A. ANDREWS ...	2	HARRY J. MILLATT	5
ALAN R. ANDREWS	3	GEORGE A. ANDREWS ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.

First peal in seven Surprise methods by all and the first peal in seven Surprise methods in the North-Eastern Division of the Association.

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PEAL NOTES.

POINTS ABOUT PERFORMANCES.

Mr. J. W. Cornford 'completed the circle' on the twelve bells at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, on April 1st, when he took part in a peal of Stedman Cinques. The tower at Shoreditch has been recently restored at very considerable expense.

By calling a peal of Minor at Milton Regis, Kent, on April 2nd, Mr. G. A. Naylor brought his total up to 50. It was his first peal in four methods as conductor and the first in four methods on the bells, as well as by three of the band.

The custom of attempting a peal at the Church of St. Magnus the Martyr, London Bridge, on Easter Eve, has been kept up for a good many years, and last Saturday a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal was rung there. It was much regretted that Mr. W. H. Fussell, who has frequently made one of the band for this occasion, had not sufficiently recovered from his recent illness to stand in this year's peal. The peal was made a birthday compliment to Joan Darby, the six-year-old daughter of Mr. F. E. Darby, who rang the tenor to the peal.

An early Easter Day peal was rung at Ashbrittle, Somerset, to commemorate the 24th anniversary in the ministry of the Rev. T. L. Bullock at the Parish Church. The peal was rung before morning service and all the ringers are members of the Sunday service band.

The first peal of Maximus at Saffron Walden was rung on Monday. It is 25 years since the bells were made into a ring of twelve. It was a source of regret that Mr. Fred Dench was unable to take part in the peal. He is only just recovering from a serious illness, which has laid him aside for the past two months. He was out on Sunday for the first time.

The first peal of Grandsire Caters on the bells at the Parish Church, Preston, Lancs, was rung on Monday and seven of the band also scored their first peal of Grandsire Caters, although the tenorman (Mr. Charles Sharples) had previously rung an inside bell to Grandsire Cinques, in far off Melbourne.

A peal in seven Surprise Minor methods was rung on Monday at Thorington, Essex. It was notable for the fact that it was the first peal of this kind by all the band, and in the North-Eastern Division of the Essex Association, in which all the ringers reside.

For the christening of Brian Frederick, infant son of Mr. F. H. Crawley and grandson of Mr. Albert Crawley, a peal of Minor was rung at Wistaston, Cheshire, on Monday. Three members of the family took part in the peal, including the proud father, who called it.

Mr. J. B. Wood, of Marple, Cheshire, has just retired from ringing after 55 years of devoted service with the local band. A peal of Minor in three methods was rung in his honour on Saturday. Two extents each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob were included. Previously Mr. I. B. Gardiner, who rang the treble, had never struck a blow in a Treble Bob method, and Mr. J. B. Gardiner, who rang the second, had never touched Oxford.

Seven Burnham Cumberland Youths and the Oxford Guild Branch Ringing Master (a 'Collegian') rang a peal of Bob Major at Burnham on Monday. It was arranged for the brothers Peter and Martin Blamey, now of the R.A.F., who were home on leave from Cranwell R.A.F. Depot.

Another peal in seven methods was rung at Higham-on-the-Hill on April 1st, when Mr. A. E. Rowley got together a band and revisited his native place. The last peal was rung two years ago as a farewell to Mr. Rowley when he left to take up residence at Ibstock.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

PROMISING YOUNG RINGERS.

The Shropshire Association visited Malins Lee on Saturday week, when a company of 30 enjoyed the welcome and hospitality extended by the Malins Lee band and the Rev. T. N. Crowther Green.

Members of the recently-formed Dawley band were present and received some instruction in Grandsire Doubles. Three are still of school age and should learn quickly. Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob and Oxford Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob were rung, members being present from Shrewsbury (St. Chad's), Coalbrookdale, Wellington, Stockton, Moreton Corbet, Madeley and Wolverhampton.

The Rev. T. N. Crowther Green, who is treasurer of the association, conducted the service, and, in welcoming the visitors, spoke of the excellent services rendered to his church by the local band. He appealed to ringers to consider it part of their duty to attend service after ringing an invitation to others.

Tea had been prepared by a ladies' committee, and afterwards a short business meeting was held, at which Sidney Douglas, Peter Nelson and Margaret Nelson (Dawley) and James Ellis (Malins Lee) were elected members.

Correspondence from the Bridgnorth Branch of the Hereford Diocesan Guild was read, in which regrets at their inability to be present was expressed. It was also stated that their next meeting clashed with the Wellington date, but, on hearing that April 29th was the only possible date for Wellington, it was decided to adhere to this arrangement and to arrange a joint meeting later in the year, at Coalbrookdale if possible.

Further ringing in the tower afterwards took place.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

PROPOSED MEMORIAL TO THE REV. F. J. O. HELMORE.

Annual Meeting Rejects Suggested New Rule.

The Kent County Association, one of the most active and successful of all the ringing organisations, held its annual meeting at Erith on Monday, and members attended in large numbers from all districts. Erith, a newly-constituted borough on the banks of the Thames, has become a busy industrial town and forms part of an area which is fortunate in being well equipped with bells. There was, therefore, no lack of ringing facilities for visitors on Monday, and ringing took place at a number of towers in the morning, as well as in the afternoon and evening after the business meeting.

At noon a service was held in the ancient parish church, with its squat tower, surmounted by a shingled spire. The Vicar (the Rev. R. Thornhill) officiated, the lesson was read by the Mayor of Erith (the Rev. J. W. Wilkinson), and the Archdeacon of Rochester pronounced the Blessing.

The address was given by the Vicar, who began by saying it was a great privilege to welcome the association to the church. He spoke of the team work necessary in religion and to the part which ringers played in it. They were, he said, an essential part of the team in church work. The parson in the church could only appeal to those who were present at the service; the ringers could compel a far larger multitude to listen. The belfry was a kind of 'wayside pulpit' from which they proclaimed their message.

As ringers, continued the Vicar, they supplied the one link with the great traditions and the great legacy left them in the past. In these days of strident mechanical noises, the church bells were the one thing that publicly linked them with the past. He hoped those who heard them ring would often, in this changing world, be compelled to put up the old prayer, 'O Thou who changest not, abide with me.' Ringers, the preacher proceeded, were privileged to have the opportunity of consecrating to God a service which was one of their main interests in life. Ringing was an all-absorbing interest, a science and an art, which was a vocation and a ministry. The object of their service that day was to help them to get their motives right, to get their spirit right, and he hoped they would all be helped by it in their ministry to serve God more faithfully; to work in closer harmony with one another in their united act of witness for God.

Over two hundred sat down to lunch in St. John's Hall, the Mayor presiding, supported by the Archdeacon of Rochester, Canon Ryley (Rochester), the Vicars of St. John's and Christ Church, Erith, Mr. F. M. Mitchell (hon. secretary of the association), etc.

After the loyal toast, Mr. E. A. G. Allen gave 'The Archbishop and the Clergy of Kent.' It was due to the clergy, he said, that they were able to run their association, and they were indebted to the clergy for the welcome they were offered and the facilities given them for ringing.

AN ERITH LEGEND.

The Archdeacon of Rochester (who was formerly Vicar of Erith) replied to the toast and spoke of the legend of a bell which was supposed to ring with the rising and falling of the tide in 'Church Hole,' a spot in the Thames near Erith Church. The bell, the legend said, was stolen and dropped into the river. If they wanted to prove the story they could go to Church Hole with grappling irons and fish for the bell (laughter). But if they found it he warned them it would be claimed by the Vicar of Erith Parish Church (laughter). Bell-ringers, continued the Archdeacon, were one great brotherhood and sisterhood; indeed, they were more; they were a family. In Erith they were very proud of the fact that their towerkeeper, Fred Cullum, was the third generation in succession in his family to hold that office: and now his daughter was a ringer (applause). He supposed she held the promise of being towerkeeper in succession to her father (laughter and applause). The Archdeacon concluded by hoping that those gatherings of the association, which had now gone on for more than 50 years, might continue in the future and that they might keep the bells through these critical days ringing out always their message of peace and goodwill (applause).

The hon. secretary proposed the toast of 'The Borough of Erith,' and said they were honoured in having the Mayor with them. They were grateful to him also for having read the lesson at their service. It was many years since such a thing as that had happened.

The Mayor, in reply, welcomed the association to Erith. It was not, he said, the first occasion he had joined them, or their predecessors, at their annual meeting, for he remembered attending such a function in the early 'twenties,' when he was a curate at St. Nicholas', Deptford. The Mayor referred to his own experiences as a 'ringer,' when he pulled a bell at Cliffe at Hooe which lifted him considerably off his feet, and at Christ Church, Deptford, where he often had to chime the single bell. He went on to remind the company of the record peal of 15,072 changes rung at Erith on April 3rd, 1899, in 9 hours 24 minutes, and said he was filled with astonishment that men could keep it up for that length of time. He noticed that the names of the Vicar and churchwardens were on the record, but he did not know what they had to do with it, unless it was that they helped to supply the refreshments (laughter).

The Mayor went on to say he wondered whether the number of ringers was increasing in this present wave of economy, when fewer church towers were going up, and some churches were being only half or even quarter finished, so that towers and steeples and bells seemed not to be arriving in the profuseness of the days of our grandfathers. He hoped the present generation would remember that when they erected churches they should build steeples and put up bells.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S ADVICE.

The business meeting then proceeded, with the Mayor presiding. Among the apologies for absence was one from Mr. E. H. Lewis, vice-president, who wrote: 'Will you please make my apologies for non-attendance at the annual meeting on Monday. I am intending to spend Easter with my family in Scotland this year, as I see less and less of them as time goes on.

'I should have liked to be with you in order to state my views on the proposal to change the rules, which is forecast in "The Ringing World" of February 17th. I sincerely hope that no change will be made. It seems to me that the proposal arises from a single incident in one district, and that it should be possible to settle any differences in that district by other means. If all the energy spent in quarrelling were spent in teaching beginners, the association would go ahead quickly towards the ideal of full service ringing in every tower in the county. All best wishes to the association for an amicable and fruitful meeting.'

Apologies were also received from Messrs. F. White (Cranbrook) and Stafford Green (Southborough).

PROPOSED MEMORIAL TO CANON HELMORE.

The annual report opened with a reference to the death of the late hon. secretary, the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore. The position the association holds to-day, it said, both from its place in the ringing world and its financial stability, is undoubtedly due to the untiring energy and devotion which Canon Helmore showed during the 38 years he held office as hon. secretary. The Belfry Repairs and Benevolent Funds were instituted during his period of office, and have both grown to be in a sound financial position. 'By his cheery disposition, his kindly interest in all, and his devotion to duty he earned the love and respect of all members,' continued the report, 'and we trust the example of his life and work will be an incentive to those who have been deputed to carry on the work and build on the foundation he so firmly set.'

It is proposed to raise a memorial fund to perpetuate the memory of Canon Helmore.

Within a few weeks of our late secretary's passing, another foundation member was called to rest, Mr. Charles Slingsby, who had attained the wonderful age of 101 years. Another link with the past gone—but leaving an example for all to emulate.

With the passing of the older ringers, one is apt to hear at times that the ideals of the association are not upheld by the generations that follow. It can safely be said that the objects of the association are carried out more strongly than ever by the vast majority of its members. The first of our objects is Sunday service ringing and we know that is uppermost in the minds of all ringers. 'Duty to God' surely comes first. Peal ringing is only an effort to perfect ourselves to give of our best to God when we ring the bells for His service.

Let us put aside the personal feelings in such trivial matters that appear to be existing in some quarters and ask ourselves, 'Are we giving our best to God's service?' Let us set a good example to those who are coming along to help us in our work and do all in our power to foster a brotherly spirit and righteously uphold the cause we should have at heart. What better example can we have than by trying to follow in the footsteps of our late dear friend, Canon Helmore?

The report added that there were 121 towers in union, Bexley having joined, but Deptford (S. Nicholas'), Dover (St. James'), Sandhurst and Stouting lapsed for various reasons. The life members totalled 28; honorary members 70. Of practising members exactly 1,000 paid their subscriptions as follows: Adults 933 and juniors 67. Fifteen non-resident life members joined during the year.

Thirty-one quarterly and by-meetings were held during the year, and to the incumbents who conducted the services and made it possible for these meetings to be held grateful thanks were tendered as well as to those who extended hospitality on these occasions.

Owing to the lamented death of Mr. W. Smith, a vacancy in the Lewisham District representation occurred and Mr. E. Barnett was elected to again represent the district. The resignations of Mr. A. Waddington, Maidstone District secretary, and Mr. W. Wenban as representative were received with regret, and Mr. R. G. Rayfield, of Ightham, had been elected secretary, and Mr. W. T. Grice as representative. Best thanks were offered to the retiring officers, especially to Mr. Waddington for his gallant efforts in the district during the past four years.

STRONG FINANCIAL POSITION.

One hundred and fifty-one peals were recorded for the association during the past year—nine more than 1937—146 on tower bells and five 'in hand.' The peals were as follows: On 12 bells, 2 (1 'in hand'); on 10 bells, 3 (1 'in hand'); on 8 bells, 119 (2 'in hand'); on 6 bells, 25 (1 'in hand'); on 5 bells, 2. They were rung in 66 towers in Kent and one in London. Handbells, 3 at Brasted and 2

(Continued on next page.)

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(Continued from previous page.)

BENEVOLENT FUND'S PROGRESS.

at Crayford. Twenty-four members rang their first peal and 136 rang their first in a method. The conducting was shared by 51 members; 3 conducted their first peal and 15 the first in the method. One new method has been added to the list of first performances, viz., Painswick Surprise Major.

'It is pleasing to note the progress the youth of the county are making,' added the report, 'not only in the methods rung, but also in conducting. Mr. P. A. Corby, who heads the list of conductors, is a striking example in this direction. Many more young ringers are coming to the fore as conductors than in past years, and this is an encouraging sign, as we shall not have the fears that existed in the past, when the conducting was in the hands of a comparative few.'

The balance sheet of the general fund revealed an excess expenditure over income of nearly £10. This was no cause for alarm, as the extra expense was occasioned by annual and district commitments. It was a clear indication that members were taking a keener interest in the association's affairs by attending the meetings in larger numbers than heretofore. The balance in hand is £61 17s. 6d.

From the Belfry Repairs Fund £5 was paid to Bexley, and the balance in the fund had increased to £144 13s. 6d.

The Benevolent Fund had justified its existence during the year as £38 3s. was distributed to six aged members and two widows. Four of these members could claim between them over 180 years' service for the association, and it was only fitting that in their declining years they should be enabled to obtain a little extra nourishment from a fund which every member must be proud to know the association possesses. So stable had this fund become that it was pleasing to record that nearly the whole of the amount granted was paid out of income during the year, which was again assisted by collections at meetings to the extent of £11 14s. 10d. The balance in this fund is £296 4s. 8d., and the total worth of the association, as shown by the balance sheet, is £983 17s. 7d.

The report and balance sheets were adopted, and the president, vice-presidents and committee re-elected.

On a vote for two trustees, Messrs. F. White and W. J. Jefferies were elected. Mr. E. Barnett being unsuccessful. Mr. G. H. Cross was re-elected auditor and Mr. F. M. Mitchell hon. secretary and treasurer. Appreciation of Mr. Mitchell's work was expressed by Mr. G. A. Ambrose, who proposed his re-election, and by Mr. J. W. Steddy, who seconded.

A ballot took place for four representatives on the Central Council, and at the end of the meeting the Mayor announced that the voting had been as follows: Mr. F. M. Mitchell 130, Mr. G. H. Spice 105, Mr. F. J. Cullum 97, Mr. T. E. Sone 91, Mr. T. Groombridge, sen., 75, and he declared the first four elected.

BENEVOLENT FUND AS MEMORIAL.

The hon. secretary submitted a recommendation from the committee that a memorial to the late Rev. F. J. O. Helmore should be provided. He said they all knew what a lot Mr. Helmore did for the association, and the committee thought it was fitting they should institute a memorial fund. They recommended that a fund should be inaugurated, to be known as the 'Helmore Memorial Fund,' and that the whole of the amount raised by subscription should be invested and the interest accruing be paid into the Benevolent Fund of the association, and that the amount, together with any sum necessary, be paid annually from that fund, and be known as the 'Helmore grant,' to an old and deserving member of the association, whose name had been on the books for not less than 25 years, the recipient to be determined by the Benevolent Committee.

Canon Ryley asked to be allowed to second the recommendation, because, he said, there was no one in that hall who knew Mr. Helmore as long as he did. He first made his acquaintance as a small boy in the year 1881. He could see him now in that study at Canterbury, and again later in life with the huge desk with the silver bell in the centre that was presented to him by that association. That was the proudest piece of furniture that Mr. Helmore possessed. His heart was in the Cathedral and few knew what he meant to the Cathedral, but, outside that, the first place with him was held by the association of bellringers. He (Canon Ryley) saw him only just before he died and he talked then, as always, about the ringers of Kent.

The motion was carried unanimously.

TROUBLE IN LEWISHAM DISTRICT.

The Lewisham District submitted the following for inclusion in the rules of the association:—

'A member whose conduct is, in the opinion of his or her district, prejudicial to the well-being of the association shall be reported to the committee.

'A member so reported is to be given the opportunity of attending when the report is investigated by the committee and of explaining his or her conduct.

'If it is found out the report is justified, the committee shall have power to remove the member's name from the books.'

Mr. E. Barnett, in proposing the motion, said they would no doubt realise that there were occasions when such a rule was desirable. He did not intend to enlarge upon it, for the motion spoke for itself. It was submitted from the Lewisham District, and, as one of the district representatives on the committee, he was deputed to introduce it.

Mr. F. J. Cullum, as another representative of the district, seconded and emphasised the fact that the motion came from the district and not from any individual.

Mr. W. J. Jefferies said he would like Mr. Barnett to preface the motion, as he prefaced it at St. Nicholas', Chislehurst, by giving the reason for it. Everybody there should know it.

Mr. H. Hoskins said a member of the association was brought before the General Committee and censured for his conduct. He was asked to resign from the association, but it was pointed out there was no rule which permitted them to ask a man to resign. The member, knowing the vote of censure had been passed on him, retained his membership; hence the need for this rule.

Mr. G. H. Spice (secretary of the Rochester District) strongly opposed the motion. He was grieved that it should be thought the association needed a rule to turn out one of the members of the 'family' which had been referred to that day. The motion was born in the Lewisham District, where there had been trouble for a number of years, a trouble that, had it been nipped in the bud and the people concerned had met each other fifty-fifty over the job, could have been eliminated so that the present position need never have arisen. Mr. Lewis, who was unfortunately not able to be present that day, had been trying to mediate in the matter. It would, he thought, be a disgrace in the absence of Mr. Lewis to put up a rule that would besmirch the rules of the association (applause). He suggested the motion should be withdrawn, or, at any rate, postponed until Mr. Lewis had the opportunity to pour oil on the troubled waters. Their present rules served them well and they did not want to quibble over them, but instead to get on with their work as churchworkers. He appealed to those present to defeat the motion if it was put. 'It is wrong,' he added, amid applause.

DISTRICT BEING 'STRANGLED.'

Mr. W J. Rawlings said they must not lose sight of the difficulty which they had had for five years in the Lewisham District. They had endeavoured without success to settle the matter amicably by persuasion but they had now come to a serious position. They had at the head of one of their towers a man who removed from his tower one of his ringing members for no apparent reason except that that member disagreed with his captain at a district meeting. He felt sure they would agree that captains of towers should not have that right. That was a serious problem for the future if it was allowed to grow. The passing of this proposed new rule was the only hope they would have in the Lewisham District, where they were being strangled by the efforts of one man. The Lewisham District asked for support in this trouble. If a member was censured for his conduct, did that not call for some district action? The rule was definitely required for the welfare of the association, otherwise the trouble was going to grow.

Mr. Battin said they did not want the rule. The association had lived for 59 years without it and had never wanted it. Even if they passed the motion and got rid of the member, they could not make him keep a man in his tower. They would only make the position worse. He could not understand why they were trying to pass the rule at that meeting. There were five districts who knew nothing about it until they came there that day. Why had it not been brought up at the annual district meetings?

AN ASSOCIATION OR A DICTATOR?

Mr T. Groombridge, sen., said each district sent two representatives to the General Committee, and if they had reported to the districts what had transpired at the committee meeting the districts would have known about the proposal. It was not the fault of the Lewisham District if the members did not know. He was afraid a great many of them did not know what had happened in that district. They in the Lewisham District wanted to know whether they were to run it as an association or by one man as a dictator? Mr. Groombridge went on to state that a wish of the district to hold a meeting at St. John's, Deptford, was frustrated by the influence of this member with the Vicar and alleged that the member complained that the district wanted to interfere with his tower. 'We do not want to interfere with any tower in the association,' said Mr. Groombridge. 'The towers are in union with the association, and we do not interfere with the internal working of any tower. But because this member could not have his own way he called some of the clergy together and discussed the association's business with them without any representative of the association being present. What right has he, as an individual, to call a meeting with the clergy of the district and discuss our business without any officer of the association being present? The result is he is going to keep five or six towers closed against the association for good. Are we to be ruled by the members of the district or by a dictator?'

Mr. A. Richardson (secretary of the Tonbridge District), opposing the motion, said the question of using the towers rested with the incumbent and churchwardens. It did not rest with the ringers or the association.

Mr. G. E. Rawlings said he was the member who was called upon to leave the tower, where he had long been a regular service ringer, because he disagreed with Mr. Jefferies outside the tower. He had a right to his own opinions, and because he did not agree with Mr. Jefferies at a meeting he was practically compelled to leave. That was not the sort of thing the association wanted to foster.

MOTION DEFEATED.

The Hon. Secretary said the discussion was very distasteful to him, after what he had said in his report appealing to them all to show a brotherly feeling. In view of something which he knew, but which the members did not know, he asked them for the time being either definitely to reject the motion or hold it in abeyance. He hoped by mediation they would get over the trouble. They all had their faults and he thought by a little tact matters might be smoothed out. Mr. Lewis and he were working on the matter and he hoped before the next annual meeting the trouble might be amicably settled. He moved that the motion be now put.

This having been seconded and carried, the motion was submitted to the vote and defeated.

Afterwards Mr. Mitchell thanked the members for again re-electing him as hon. secretary. As he had told them before, he would try to do his best, but he had a very difficult task sometimes. He had been their secretary for ten years and thought he ought to give a little account of his stewardship. The number of practising members was still about the same. When he was elected their total funds were £354 18s. 4d. The balances now amounted to £983 17s. 7d. The thing he was most proud of was their Benevolent Fund. He had put in a good deal of time for that and they should be proud of the fact that they had been able to pay out £38 in one year almost out of revenue (applause). He thought that was a wonderful thing to have done. He thanked the members who had subscribed to the fund at the meetings.

Mr. Mitchell went on to thank Mr. Lewis, the vice-president, Mr. Green, who analysed the peals, and all the district secretaries for all the work they put in (applause). He also thanked the Vicar of Erith for the service and for his splendid address, and the other incumbents who had placed their bells at the disposal of the members. He concluded by thanking the Mayor for presiding.

Mr. E. Barnett seconded, and, the motion having been carried, the Mayor replied and the meeting terminated.

RINGERS' ENGAGEMENT CELEBRATED.

On Friday evening, March 17th, a quarter-peal of Little Bob Major was rung at Whiston by members of the Yorkshire Association and Sheffield District Society to celebrate the engagement of Mr. Norman Chaddock and Miss Elsie Brothwell: Tom Brothwell 1, Reginald Payne 2, Miss Elsie Brothwell 3, Jack Brothwell 4, John H. Brothwell 5, Gordon Graham 6, John J. L. Gilbert 7, Norman Chaddock (conductor) 8. Mr. Norman Chaddock is well known in peal ringing circles in the North and is Ringing Master of the Sheffield District Society. Miss Brothwell rang her first peal a few weeks ago, after being a ringer for only six months.

FIRST QUARTER-PEALS.

At St. Stephen's, Hackington, Canterbury, on Friday, March 31st, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes): Mrs. E. H. Spice 1, P. J. Small 2, *F. Youlden 3, *A. Elphick 4, B. J. Luck 5, G. Swaffer 6, *R. Port 7, F. R. Weller (composer and conductor) 8. *First quarter-peal.

At Minchinhampton, Gloucestershire, on March 28th, a quarter-peal of Surprise Minor (1,272 changes), made up of a touch each of York, Beverley, Carlisle, Chester, London, Wells and Cambridge: H. Newman 1, P. Ponting 2, E. Jefferies 3, J. Hammond 4, F. Simmonds 5, F. Ponting (conductor) 6. First quarter-peal in these methods by all.

On Palm Sunday, at St. Stephen's, Ealing, before morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: Miss D. E. Lidbetter (first in the method as conductor) 1, J. A. Trollope 2, H. G. Andrews (first in the method) 3, H. Belcher 4, P. E. Clark 5, E. C. S. Turner 6, W. G. Wilson 7, H. W. Lidbetter 8.

At the Parish Church, Watford, Herts, on Sunday, March 26th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: A. W. Dix 1, D. Laud (first quarter-peal 'inside') 2, W. G. Paul (conductor) 3, F. Bullock 4, R. G. Bell 5, S. H. Hoare 6, H. L. Long 7, D. S. Pearson 8.

At St. Augustine's, Kilburn, on March 19th, before evensong, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. Waldron 1, Miss B. Hart 2, A. Tozer 3, C. D. Nichols (conductor) 4, R. Gilbert 5, A. Bone 6, E. M. Atkins 7, H. Corney 8. First quarter-peal for ringers of treble and third, and first quarter-peal as conductor.

On March 17th, at St. Andrew's Parish Church, Bebington, Cheshire, for a Confirmation service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: W. J. Battle 1, E. Breeze 2, R. Barnes 3, H. S. Brocklebank 4, H. Martin 5, T. R. Storer (conductor) 6, J. Goddard 7, J. Hough 8. The local ringers would like to express their thanks to the friends from Oxton and Bromborough who helped to complete the band and make the quarter-peal possible.

On the occasion of a local wedding, a quarter-peal (1,332 changes) of Grandsire Caters was rung at the Parish Church, Cheltenham, on Saturday, March 11th: George Smith 1, A. Humphries 2, L. Williams 3, W. Townsend 4, W. Thomas 5, W. Dyer (conductor) 6, C. Martin 7, T. Boreham 8, J. Ballinger 9, C. Collier 10. It was the first quarter-peal of Caters and first attempt by George Smith and the first 'inside' by L. Williams. George, who is still a young schoolboy, is so enthusiastic that he will cycle anywhere between Bristol and Birmingham and the Forest of Dean and Swindon for a pull and is likely to bob up at any meeting on a Saturday afternoon. He has made many friends by his persistency. There is no vacant rope if George is anywhere about.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Attention is called to the notices of the annual meetings of the Warwickshire Guild and the North Notts Association, which are to be held to-morrow. These notices arrived too late for our issue last week, when we went to press a day earlier than usual.

Mr. Nolan Golden, hon. secretary of the Norwich Diocesan Association, writes that the peal total of Norwich Association for 1938 was 103, and not 101 as printed in the Central Council's Analysis. The association should have been credited with 11 peals of Kent Treble Bob Major (instead of 10) and a peal of Grandsire Triples.

Mr. Tom Groombridge, sen., who was defeated in the ballot on Monday in the election of representatives of the Kent County Association, lost his seat on the Central Council after serving continuously for 30 years. He was first elected to represent the association in 1909.

The Ladies' Guild made a gallant attempt on Monday for a peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal at Beckenham, Kent. They rang for over an hour—but it was good practice for the next time, when, everyone will hope, they will be successful.

The meeting of the Bath Branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association, which was to have been held at Bathampton to-morrow, has been cancelled.

THE PEAL AT BUSHEY.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I believe many members of the Exercise will be with me in the desire to register a protest against the use of the bells of a parish church for ringing a peal 'to celebrate All Fools' Day.' If it were intended as a joke it sounds very puerile, and is certainly not edifying as 'an occasion' worthy of an attempt for a peal while the Church is keeping Passiontide.

One would like to know whether *every* member of the talented band who rang in this particular peal was in sympathy with the footnote. But, in any case, are not the times too serious for emphasising such fantasies?

C. CAREW COX.

The Vicarage, Lyme Regis.

A SCOTTISH BELL BROADCAST.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Having noted a request in 'The Ringing World' for the names of broadcast ringers to be published, the following band rang a touch of Stedman Caters for the broadcast service from St. Mary's Cathedral, Glasgow, on Passion Sunday, March 26th, viz.: W. H. Pickett (conductor) 1, J. Ewing 2, N. Leiper 3, F. Wilson 4, H. Sargent 5, E. Boumphrey 6, S. Lewis 7, E. Stafford 8, T. Winderam 9, J. Carmichael 10. All are members of the local band and regular service ringers.

We were, at first, informed that the bells would not be broadcast owing to traffic interference, but, on taking the matter up with the B.B.C. direct, they carried out a test on the preceding Thursday and decided *at once* to put them 'on the air.' It was then too late, of course, to print the announcement in the 'Radio Times.' Time allowed, 3½ minutes.

The reports we have received state that reception was excellent, as also the tone of the bells. I should like to know for future reference how they were received in other districts. The bells were broadcast only once previously, on March 26th, 1933. So, it seems to me, that the remedy for more bell broadcasts is for tower secretaries to get into touch direct with the B.B.C., and in the proper spirit, of course. The responsible party is the Director of Outside Broadcasts.

ERNEST A. STAFFORD, Hon. Secretary.

28, Seamore Street, Glasgow, N.W.

THE BROADCAST FROM ST. ALBANS CATHEDRAL.

The band who rang for the broadcast service from St. Albans Cathedral on February 26th were all members of the Cathedral Society and regular Sunday service ringers: J. G. Blow 1, F. L. Whiteman 2, L. Hansell 3, R. Tysoe 4, W. J. Arnold 5, A. Howkins 6, H. E. C. Goodenough (conductor) 7, C. Jeffs 8, F. Beeson 9, J. Dryden 10. The touch was 274 Stedman Caters.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

The monthly meeting of Doncaster and District Society was held at Tickhill on March 25th, when members were present from Arksey, Burgwallis, Doncaster, Rotherham and the local company.

Good ringing was enjoyed and some of those who attended were able to ring fresh methods.

Mr. W. E. Lloyd (vice-president) acted as secretary, as the secretary was indisposed, and Mr. Harold Walker was voted to the chair.

Thanks were accorded to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and to Mr. Walker for presiding over the meeting.

Mr. Walker, in reply, expressed his desire to be with the society more often in the future. He always watched their movements with interest through 'The Ringing World.'

Mr. Walker was the founder secretary of the society and still helps to further it, although he lives far away at Whitley Bay, in Northumberland.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—66.

ALBERT HARMAN.

While it is peal ringing principally that brings conductors into the limelight, there are many among them who, while turning their ability to good account in this direction, make their most valuable contribution to the advancement of the ringing by the work they do quietly in their own and neighbouring belfries, keeping the Sunday service ringing going, assisting struggling bands, organising practices for advanced methods and helping lame dogs over stiles. These ringers, and happily there are many of them, are the greatest asset which the Exercise holds. Among them is Mr. Albert Harman, Ringing Master of the Leatherhead District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild, who has devoted a great deal of his leisure to fostering change ringing in many towers in his district and to whose efforts, in no small measure, a company has been raised to the 'Spliced Surprise' level in the Leatherhead area.



MR. ALBERT HARMAN.

Mr. Harman was born on September 9th, 1888, at Burstow, Surrey. And it was there, in his youth, that he learned to ring. At one time Burstow was frequently 'in the news' for six-bell performances that took place there, and Mr. Harman's first peal and his first as conductor were both rung there, although by that time Grandsire Doubles was the best that could be done. His first peal was on April 6th, 1908, and that as conductor two years later.

Most of Mr. Harman's early peals were rung in Sussex with the Crawley and Brighton bands, and he has rung 78 peals with the Sussex Association. After the war Mr. Harman settled in Leatherhead, and for the Surrey Association, for which he has rung 146 peals, conducting 54, and later also with the Guildford Diocesan Guild, has put in some excellent work. Among the peals which he has conducted have been the first of Ashtead and Leatherhead Surprise Major and Painswick Surprise Royal. These were rung for the Guildford Guild, for which society Mr. Harman has already rung 82 peals and conducted 53. Altogether his peals total 312, of which he has conducted 111.

In addition to having been Ringing Master of the Leatherhead District ever since the formation of the Guildford Guild, he has represented the Guild on the Central Council during the last three years.

GUILD OF CLERICAL RINGERS.

RINGING WEEK IN DEVON.

The clerical ringing week, which usually takes place immediately after Easter, begins next Monday, the visit this year being paid to Devon, with headquarters at Bovey Tracey.

The party will meet at Brampford Speke, where the Rev. E. V. Cox, hon. secretary of the Guild of Clerical Ringers and organiser of the tour, is Vicar. After tea at the Vicarage, a visit will be paid to Chudleigh before going on to Bovey Tracey. On each of the succeeding four days there will be a peal attempt in the morning and ringing at various other towers. The peal attempts are at Bovey Tracey, Buckfastleigh, Highweek and Moretonhampstead. The annual business meeting of the Guild will be held on Thursday evening.

The following are expected to join the party for the week, or some part of it: The Revs. J. H. B. Andrews (Leeds), E. G. Benson (Burghill, Hereford), H. Benson (Quinton, Glos.), Canon G. F. Coleridge (Crowthorne, Berks), C. Carew Cox (Lyme Regis), E. V. Cox (Brampford Speke, Devon), F. Ll. Edwards (Kington Magna, Dorset), R. D. St. G. Edwards (Checkendon, Oxon), E. Bankes James (Fareham, Hants), A. Rhys James (Bow, Devon), F. S. H. Marle (Deane, Hants), R. H. Palmer (Preston Capes, Rugby), E. S. Powell (Staverton, Daventry), I. J. Richards (Caerleon, Mon.), B. F. Sheppard (Somersham, Hunts), W. H. R. Trewhella (Truro), W. M. K. Warren (Binegar, Bath), C. Elliot Wigg (Chearsley, Bucks), R. F. Wilkinson (Ordsall, Notts), W. P. Wright (Eyam, Derbys), with, of course, the Rev. E. V. Cox. Mrs. Palmer, Mrs. Powell and Mrs. Richards will accompany the party.

'RINGING UP.'

GOOD COMPASS NECESSARY.

To the Editor.

Sir,—In 'raising' or 'falling' a peal of bells, the great consideration is that all the bells should be kept together in a proper 'compass' or 'beat,' as in all ringing.

At the commencement of a 'rise' the bells should be struck very close together—in a small compass—and as they get higher should be gradually opened out until they get into the ordinary 'compass' of rounds. The treble-man should very gradually let his rope coils out *as he finds the bells rising*, and not let out several inches of rope at a time.

On some heavy peals of bells a good treble-man finds it necessary to come down a trifle when the bells are 'beam-high'—half-way up—to improve the clappering of the back bells, and then proceed gradually up. Care should be taken to very gradually bring the bells to the hand-stroke lead when fully up. There will not be a good 'rise' unless every ringer strikes his bell at the proper distance—neither too wide nor too close—all the way up. Mistakes in this direction must be corrected. In the case of heavy peals the back bells should be brought into the rise after the front bells have had several pulls. A good 'rise,' therefore, depends on all the bells being kept together in a correct 'compass' and the treble-man, whilst listening carefully to the bells, gradually leading them up *as a whole*.

The first essential for a good 'fall' is to get the bells into perfect rounds. It must be thoroughly understood that there cannot be a good 'fall' unless the bells are kept together in good rounds—or a good compass—before attempting to lower the peal. A good leader will, therefore, insist on good rounds as a preliminary, the same as a good conductor will insist on good rounds before attempting changes.

Having got good rounds, the back bells should be gradually closed in, and as all the bells get into a smaller 'compass,' the treble-man should *follow* them down, not attempt to lead them down. Actually the treble-man should correct any bell not keeping the proper distance in the 'compass' and let the treble strike after the tenor. When the bells are nearly down and the back bells get into the chiming position, the treble-man should very gradually bring his bell and all the rest into chiming.

It should be remembered that the bells will lower themselves if allowed to do so. Only guidance and sufficient pull to ensure that every bell is kept in its proper position in the 'compass,' with taut ropes, is therefore necessary, and not the tremendous lugging and checking that we see in some towers.

The chief drawback to successful raising and falling is the totally unnecessary lugging at the sallies by some ringers. Practically all the pulling in the lower stages should be done on the end of the rope, and only a steadying hand given to the sally, except when the bells are nearly up.

To sum up: Every ringer striking his bell correctly in the compass all the way up or down, and a treble-man who has sufficient 'ear' to grasp the compass of the bells at all stages, and move accordingly, are the requisites for good raising or falling in peal. Such a treble-man is not found on every street corner.

Moral: If you have a good treble-man, keep him, but let him teach others as a reserve.

I hope this will be of some service to 'Yokel,' as from one yokel to another.

W. POSTON.

Bridstow, Herefordshire.

IMPORTANCE OF GOOD TREBLE-MAN.

Sir,—I, too, regretted that only two correspondents had replied to this very interesting subject, because it has to be performed in some way or other every Sunday in the year by most of the bands in the churches where there are peals of bells.

However, I have often given the matter some thought and have noticed how sometimes we get fair 'rings up' and many times we get poor ones. I have also noticed that when, say, 'Fred' leads up on the treble it is invariably a better 'ring up' than when 'Tom' is on, or any of the others. The reason for this is, I think, that Fred has that knack of keeping a constant speed of rise all the time. He doesn't put that almost imperceptible check to his bell, half-way up, which is so amplified down at the heavy end and so prompts the remark which we hear occasionally, 'They are coming down again.'

Also, when they are nearly up and everybody is beginning to feel that they have done a good one, there isn't that jumble with 'Fred' during the transition stage of just *short* of being on the balance and full control when they are *on* the balance. Many of our 'rises' are spoiled that way.

I certainly think that from my bell, 6 or 7, the slightest change in speed of the treble is very noticeable.

I daresay some will say it is the tenor which controls the speed of ringing up. Well, in our case the captain always rings the tenor up. He is an elderly man and, I am afraid, thinks he is the only man who can do it. He also always keeps the conducting to himself. No one else must presume to that, the most interesting part of ringing. He rings the tenor up at a steady beat, but if the pace alters he does not do his best to pull in or put a little extra weight on to meet it. Oh, no, if he is up first or if the rest are up before him that is no concern of his. They should ring to the tenor, that is his standpoint.

(Continued on next page.)

THE LIBERTY BELL OF AMERICA.

PHILADELPHIA'S CHERISHED POSSESSION.

Among the famous bells of the world not one has been associated with events of so great importance as the Liberty bell of America, which was rung before the first reading of the Declaration of Independence, in 1776.

In 1751 the bell was ordered through the Colonial Agent of the Province of Pennsylvania in London, Mr. Robert Charles. The letter conveying the commission to him was as follows:—

'Respected Friend, Robert Charles,

'The Assembly having ordered us to procure a bell from England to be purchased for their use, we take the liberty to apply ourselves to thee to get us a good bell, of about two thousend pounds weight, the cost of which we presume may amount to one hundred pounds sterling, or perhaps with the charges something more.

'We hope and rely on thy care and assistance in this affair, and that thou wilt procure and forward it by the first good opportunity, as our workmen inform us it will be much less trouble to hang the bell before their scaffolds are struck from the building where we intend to place it, which will not be done 'til the end of next summer or beginning of the fall.

'Let the bell be cast by the best workmen and examined carefully before it is shipped, with the following words, well shaped in large letter round it, viz.:—

"By order of the Assembly of the Province of Pennsylvania for the State House in the City of Philadelphia, 1752."

And underneath:—

"Proclaim Liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof.—Lev. xxv. 10."

'As we have experienced thy readiness to serve this province on all occasions, we desire it may be our excuse for this additional trouble, from thy assured friends, Isaac Norris.
Thomas Leech.
Edward Warner.

'Let the package for transportation be examined with particular care and the full value insured thereon.'

This bell was cast by Thomas Lester, and arrived at Philadelphia in 1752, and was hung up on trusses to try out its sound and it became cracked. It was recast by Pass and Stow, 'two ingenious workmen of Philadelphia.'

In recasting, the English bell was broken up and the same metal was used with the addition of an ounce and one-half of American copper to the pound of the old bell metal to make the bell less brittle. The same form and lettering were preserved with substitution of the names of the founders, the place and year of recasting.

The Liberty Bell was recast by Pass and Stow twice, the second time being satisfactory, and is the bell we know to-day. It was hung in the steeple of the State House, where it remained until 1781, when it was lowered to the brick tower and the steeple was taken down. It remained in this place until 1846, when it was placed on exhibition in Independence Hall.

On July 8th, 1776, the bell was rung to call together the people for the first public reading of the declaration of Independence, as it was rung for all public affairs. On September 18th, 1777, when the British Army was about to occupy Philadelphia, it was removed to Allentown Pa, and on June 27th, 1778, it was returned to the tower. On July 8th, 1835, it was being rung for the funeral of John Marshall, then Chief Justice of the United States, when it cracked again.

The bell is now preserved in Independence Hall, where it remains as a silent symbol not only of 'Liberty throughout all the land,' but throughout the world.

The particulars of the bell are as follows: Circumference around the lip, 12ft.; circumference around the crown, 7ft. 6in.; lip to the crown, 3ft.; height over the crown, 2ft. 3in.; thickness at lip, 3in.; thickness at crown, 1¼in.; weight, 2,080 lb.; length of clapper, 3ft. 2in.; cost, £60 14s. 5d.

The inscriptions, in capitals, on the bell are:—

'Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof. Lev. xxv. 10.' and

'By order of the Assembly of the Province of Pennsylvania for the State House in Philada. Pass and Stow, Philada. MDCCLIII.'

F. J. RUMENS.

Chicago.

'RINGING UP.'

(Continued from previous page.)

I don't think that is right. It is the team effort which counts, and so my rules for ringing up can be expressed thus:—

Treble: Keep a steady pace, have an eye on the rest as you go up. Never check your bell.

Light bells up to the 6th: Pack in close to the one in front at the start. Keep a steady pace, checks get worse as they are transmitted downwards. Open out gradually. No gaps, leaving a gap is as bad as striking on.

Seventh and tenor Get in close at the start until there is a swing on and then rise up to suit best those in front.

These are my ideas, suitable to a ring of eight with a 14 cwt. tenor.

When I see a tenor-man tugging away regardless of what the others are doing it reminds me of the squad of soldiers who were all out of step bar 'our Patrick.'

COCKNEY-LANC.

LEICESTERSHIRE'S KING'S NORTON.

FIRST PEAL OF TREBLE BOB IN 200 YEARS.

On November 6th, 1938, a band was successful with the first peal of Major on the bells of St. John the Baptist's Church, King's Norton, Leicestershire, and ever since that momentous day Arthur with the 'Big Heart' (Debo) has been taking strengthening medicine to enable him to turn the tenor in to a peal of Treble Bob.

His perseverance in getting a band together brought its reward on April 2nd, when an attempt for a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was specially arranged as a birthday compliment to his mother. The personnel of the band, with the exception of the ringer of the 7th, was exactly the same as on November 6th last. Each one rang in the same position.

The day had been carefully planned, and, keeping to the programme, the party arrived first at Gaulby, which is parted from Norton by two or three fields, in good time for breakfast! New ropes had been brought along for three of the bells, and the 'gang' was soon in the bell chamber exchanging ropes and also quenching the thirst of the bearings with a long overdue dose of oil. The attempt for Minor, however, was short lived, the tenor rope breaking and coming down on 'Our Arthur.' This happened after the attempt had been in progress for about half an hour, and even during the first 720 one of the ringers suggested the bearings had been given 'glue' where oil would have done the job in half the time. However, this was unfortunate, as time was too short in which to make a further attempt.

Lunch was again very kindly provided at the Rectory by Mr. and Mrs. Davis and everyone fully appreciated such hospitality. Mr. Davis, who came to King's Norton and Gaulby in November last, had previously resided in Canada for 25 years. He is, however, a native of Leicestershire, having been born at Hinckley.

After lunch the party hiked their way to King's Norton and were soon again very busy in the bell chamber, and this time 'oil' was used.

From the commencement of the peal a good beat was found, and the way in which 'Ted' and 'Deb' turned in the tenors was a real tonic for any one of the band on the lighter end who was feeling nervy at the amount of rumbling caused by the bell frame up above.

It was not until 6 o'clock that the hand finished their 'labours,' and a real country fall was soon to be heard.

Mr. Ted Nourish very kindly invited the ringers to tea, for which further thanks were heartily accorded.

Conductor 'Walter' had remembered to bring handbells, and ringing was again in evidence after tea, and touches of Grandsire Triples, Caters and Stedman Triples were much appreciated by Mr. Nourish and friends.

Such days quickly pass and it was getting late when this plucky eight decided it was time to make tracks for home, happy in that they had achieved their object with the first peal of Treble Bob on bells nearly two centuries old. 'Here's to the next time,' and, according to 'Our Arthur,' arrangements are already well in hand for a further visit for new records.

A TEN-PART PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

BY D. J. FERGUSON.

	234567		563742		Part Ends
S	572634	1	425376	2	246375
	465372	1	634725	1	267453
	234765	1	*426357	3	275634
S	752634	1	654273	3	253746
	347265	2	476532	3	235476
	523647	1	324657	2	257364
	475362	2	763524	1	276543
	234675	1	247356	2	264735
	342675	4	632547	1	243657
	563742	1	*246375	3	234567

Repeated 9 times with a Holt's Bob Single instead of the last bob half-way and at the end.

An alternative calling, with the 7th as observation bell, can be obtained by beginning with the second column, the first call being the bob at 2. The Holt's Bob Single can be called at either (but not both) of the places marked * instead of a bob in the 5th and 10th parts in this variation. The first part end is 456237.

SOMERSET BEGINNERS' RAPID PROGRESS.

Shipham bellringers on March 30th passed their test for change ringing to enable them to become full members of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association, by ringing 360 Grandsire, called by the Ringing Master, Mr. E. Avery. Great credit must be given to this band, as they only began learning in May, 1938. Their rapid progress is largely due to the practice and capable instruction given by Mr. G. Gilling, of Churchill, to whom the band gives its warmest thanks.

RESTORATION OF HAWARDEN BELLS.

INTERESTING HISTORY OF A CHESHIRE RING.

BY J. W. C.

The bells of Hawarden, the picturesque village famous as the home of W. E. Gladstone, have a history of more than passing interest. Moreover, it is a history which can be read with comparative ease because of the meticulous care with which the vestry and wardens' records have been kept, for, at more than one period, business concerning the bells occupies more space in the accounts than anything else.

The 14th century church has a central tower, and an inventory of 1563 records a peal of five bells and a 'little bell,' suggesting that the church was even in those days considered of some importance. With the restoration of the Monarchy in 1660, the bells were among the first of many items of church fabric to be set in order. The bells were evidently, in the opinion of the wardens at any rate, in such a state that recasting was desirable, and the accounts record £4 14s. 1d. as

'paid for our charges and assistance in goeing to Wiggon.'

The result of that journey was that Scott, of Wigan, was commissioned to recast the bells, and the work was immediately commenced. Whether Scott was pressed to return the bells as early as possible and so forwarded the first five available, or whether pressure of work caused some confusion in the foundry, it is hardly possible to ascertain, but certain it is that all Hawarden bells were not recast. Some years ago, two of them—as proved by their inscriptions—were discovered in the tower of the little moorland church of Ledsham in Yorkshire! Doubtless Scott wisely kept his own counsel in that matter!

However, five bells arrived at Hawarden in due course and were hung in the tower, the workmen being liberally treated.

Meate and drink and horse Meate	01	18	06
Paid to John Bradey for beere to ye ringers	00	01	00
Paid for drinke for them that helped with ye little bell	00	01	00

The weight of the tenor was 1,658 lbs.

It would appear from subsequent entries that the hanging was never very satisfactory, for each year brought a host of payments for repairs, and ropes seem to have been worn out at such a rate that finally an economist endeavoured to put a check to this constant drain on parish funds.

In 1712 it became necessary to recast the tenor. The Wigan foundry was now in the hands of Ralph Ashton, who had reopened it in 1703, two years after the death of William Scott. The wardens, however, decided on a change and consulted Gabriel Smith, of Congleton. There were several meetings between founder and wardens, and it was not until 1714 that agreement was finally reached, Smith contracting to recast the bell for £12, and the wardens made the journey to Congleton to see the casting carried out.

In 1735 the bells were rehung in a new frame. The name of the firm responsible for the job is not recorded, but the bellhanger's name is given as Wrigby, while Alderman Comberbach, of Chester, supplied the timber, and Mr. Cheswiss, a smith, made the new iron work necessary. The total cost was £48.

Five years later an event which brought great rejoicing to Hawarden brought disaster to the bells. Willet's 'Memoirs of Hawarden' (1822) gives an account of the affair. 'In the year 1740, on the birth of a son and heir to Sir John Glynne, Bart., the ringers, in their expression of joy, cracked some of the bells, the recasting of which cost £150. To defray the expense, the parishioners borrowed so much school money, for which they pay the master interest to this day.' Actually the money was borrowed from the Trustees of the Grammar School, and some £500 was paid in interest before the debt was discharged!

The work was done by Abel Rudhall, who recast the whole ring and added a treble. The transaction throws some light on costs of those days. Rudhall's price was £365 19s. 6d., but he agreed to allow one shilling per pound weight for the old metal, by which £262 was recovered.

The parishioners must have been delighted with the new ring of six, for Rudhall provided a fine example of his craft with a tenor of 13 cwt.

The church was badly damaged by fire in 1857, but the tower and bells miraculously escaped. Two years later, Mears and Stainbank rehung the bells in a new oak frame, and further repairs were executed in 1879. Since that date nothing save minor repairs has been done until recently, when considerable restoration work on tower and spire, as well as other parts of the church fabric, became necessary. The oak of the bell frame was found to be in perfectly sound condition and has been re-erected, quarter turned from its original position, in order to bring the tenors to the strongest side of the tower. New supporting beams of Australian brushbox have been provided and the frame strengthened by tie-bolts. The bells have been tuned, quarter turned and cleaned and hung with cannon-retaining headstocks on ball bearings. The tenor turns the scale at 12 cwt. 3 qr. 6 lb.

On the advice of the founders, the louvres have been completely blocked up and new openings constructed at the base of the rebuilt spire by which the sound of the bells has been considerably enhanced. Messrs. Mears and Stainbank are deserving of congratulations on the

(Continued in next column.)

NORTH STAFFS ASSOCIATION.

DEATH OF LAST ORIGINAL MEMBER OF COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the North Staffordshire Association was held at Brown Edge on Saturday, April 1st, when 37 members attended from Burslem, Brown Edge, Cheadle, Draycott, Kidsgrove, Leek, Longton, Norton, Newcastle, Sutton, Stoke-on-Trent and Wolstanton.

The association was welcomed to Brown Edge by the Rev. T. D. Lawton, Vicar of Brown Edge, and Mr. T. Hurd thanked the Vicar and ringers for the way the meeting was prepared.

This was supported by Mr. E. Steele, while Mr. J. E. Wheeldon thanked the ladies for serving tea so well. He also congratulated the Brown Edge ringers upon the alterations they had carried out in the ringing chamber.

The company then stood in silence for a minute as a last mark of respect to Mr. G. W. Walker, of Norton, who was the last member of the committee who attended the inaugural meeting of the association in 1882.

The association was represented at the funeral by Messrs. Andrew Thompson (hon. secretary), John E. Wheeldon (Ringing Master), Henry Carnwell (Kingsley), William Carter (Biddulph) and James Walley and William Corfield (Norton).

A 1742 RING.

(Continued from previous column.)

excellent way in which the work has been carried out. The opening 720, one of Bob Minor, was rung by Messrs. W. Thomas treble, R. Sperring 2, J. Hughes 3, C. Dryland 4, J. Morgan 5, J. W. Clarke tenor.

The writer wishes to acknowledge his indebtedness to Mr. W. Bell Jones, F.S.A., churchwarden of Hawarden, who kindly supplied details from the wardens' accounts, from which material this account has been built up.

Details of bells:—

Treble.—Peace and good neighbourhood. 6 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lb. Note D.
2nd.—Prosperity to all our benefactors. 6 cwt. 1 qr. 25 lb. C.
3rd.—Prosperity to this parish. 6 cwt. 3 qr. 22 lb. B flat.
4th.—I to the church the living Call and to the grave do summon all. 8 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb. A.
5th.—George Hope, Churchwarden; Thos. Fox, Sidesman. 8 cwt. 2 qr. 5 lb. G.
Tenor.—Abel Rudhall, of Gloucester, Cast us all. 12 cwt. 3 qr. 6 lb. F.

Founder's initials and date, 1742, are on each bell.

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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 4s. per quarter.

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD. — The annual meeting will be held at Stoke-in-Coventry to-morrow (Saturday), April 15th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service in Church at 4.15. Tea provided, followed by business meeting.—D. E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Retford to-morrow (Saturday), April 15th. Towers open: E. Retford (10), W. Retford (6), Ordsall (6), 2.30-4.15 and 6-9 p.m. Service in E. Retford Church 4.30. Tea 5. Meeting 5.30. All members are asked to endeavour to be present, but non-members will also be welcome. Please let me know if you will require tea. — R. Towler, 69, Ordsall Road, Retford.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—A combined meeting will be held at Rotherfield (8 bells) on Saturday, April 15th. Tower open 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. A. Lewry, Rosemary, Old Lane, Crowborough. All welcome.—O. Sippetts and B. Saunders, Hon. Secs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's Church (R.C.), Chorley (8 bells), on Saturday, April 15th. Tower open for ringing 2.30. All ringers welcome.—A. Blogg, Branch Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Witney and Woodstock Branch.—The annual meeting of this branch will be held at Tackley on Saturday, April 15th next. Ringing 2.30 p.m. Service 3 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m.—W. Evetts, Sec., Hampton, Tackley, Oxford.

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—North-East Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Washfield on Saturday, April 15th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—R. Harris, Hon. Sec., Park, Silverton, near Exeter.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Cheltenham Branch.—A meeting will be held at Cowley, near Cheltenham on Saturday, April 15th. Bells available 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea, 5.30, by the invitation of C. Heber Percy, Esq., M.F.H., Cowley Manor. Should appreciate a note from those intending being present. — Walter Yeend, Branch Hon. Sec., Millfield, Tewkesbury Road, Cheltenham.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. — Elloe Deaneries Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Moulton on Saturday, April 15th. Bells available from 2 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.15 p.m. Business meeting afterwards.—Geo. Ladd, Hon. Sec., Pinchbeck, Spalding.

SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting at St. Paul's Cathedral, Dundee, Saturday, April 15th. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting.—Charles R. Raine, Hon. Sec., 21, Grosvenor Crescent, Edinburgh.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch. — The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Market Drayton (8 bells) on Saturday, April 15th. Ringing from 3 o'clock.—Richard D. Langford, Hon. Branch Sec., 118, Ruskin Road, Crewe.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Central Branch.—A meeting will be held at Over, Cambs., on Saturday, April 15th. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Please drop a card to say you are coming. — F. Warrington, Dis. Sec., Swavesey, Cambs.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—A meeting of the Lincoln District will take place at Scothern (bells 6) on Saturday, April 15th. Service 4 p.m. Tea at 4.45 p.m. —Kenneth W. Mayer, Hon. Dis. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—Next ringing meeting at Sapcote on Saturday, April 15th. Usual times. Send a card to Mr. C. Brown, Sharnford Road, Sapcote, near Leicester, if you want tea. At the last meeting one card only was received by the caterers. Play the game, please.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Rossendale Branch.—A meeting will be held on Saturday, April 15th, at Haslingden. Bells from 3 p.m. Anybody who cares to attend will be very welcome.—J. Porter, Hon. Sec.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Northern District.—The next meeting will be held to-morrow, April 15th, at St. John's, Leytonstone, E.11. Ringing 3 p.m.-4 p.m., followed by service, tea and meeting. Bells available till 8.30 p.m.—J. G. A. Prior, Hon. Sec., 81, Denbigh Street, Westminster, S.W.1.

SOMERLEYTON, NEAR LOWESTOFT.—The ring of six bells, rehung by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., will be re-dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Norwich on Sunday, April 16th, at 3 p.m.

ST. GILES-IN-THE-WOOD, TORRINGTON, DEVON.—The ring of six bells, restored by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., will be re-dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Crediton on Wednesday, April 19th, at 7 p.m.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. — Practices for April: St. Giles', Cripplegate, 18th; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 20th; St. Magnus', 27th; *St. Paul's Cathedral, 25th. All at 7.30 p.m., except St. Andrew's, 8 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—A. B. Peck, Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

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DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Wednesday Afternoon Guild. — The next meeting will be held at Sunderland (two towers), on Wednesday, April 19th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. at St. Michael's. Tea at 5 p.m. Bells (8) available at 6 p.m. at St. Ignatius'. All are welcome.—Margaret A. P. Bertie, Hon. Sec., 17, Ridley Avenue, Chester-le-Street.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at St. Botolph's Church, Bishopsgate, on Saturday, April 22nd. Service at 4.45 p.m. Preacher, Rev. P. D. Ellis. High tea at the Express Dairy, Wormwood Street, at 5.30 p.m., at 1s. 3d. each. Business meeting after tea. Ringing arrangements as follows:—St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate (8) from 2.30 to 4.45 and after the meeting; St. Giles', Cripplegate (12) from 2.30 to 4.15 p.m.; St. Lawrence Jewry (8) from about 7.30 to 8.30 (one hour only); St. Olave's, Hart Street (8) from about 7.30 to 9 p.m. Please advise me, not later than Wednesday, April 19th, if you will require tea.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Gen. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4. Larkswood 1959.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting has been arranged at Beaconsfield on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (8) available from 2.45 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea, at 1s. per head, for those who notify me not later than April 17th. —A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Cannock on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells at 3 o'clock. Service in Church at 4.45, with address by the Rev. J. F. Foster, A.K.C., Vicar. Tea (1s.) at 5.30. Please send word by Tuesday, 18th inst. — H. Knight, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Burnley Parish Church on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members cordially invited. Please make this a bumper meeting. — F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—Quarterly meeting at All Saints', Hollingbourne (6 bells) on Saturday, April 22nd. Tower open 3 p.m. Service 5, followed by tea and business meeting in Parish Room. Tea has been arranged for 40 at 6d. per head, but members attending must notify me by Wednesday, April 19th. Frequent buses pass on main London-Folkestone road (10 minutes from village).—R. G. Rayfield, Hon. Dis. Sec., Downsview, Spring Lane, Ightham.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting of the Western Division will be held at Heene (Worthing) on Saturday, April 22nd. Tower open 2.45 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea, price 1s., 5.15., at the Church Rooms. Half rail fares, maximum 1s. 6d., allowed to members.—F. H. Meeten, Hon. Div. Sec., 22, North Street, Worthing.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wellingborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held (D.V.) at Great Doddington (5 bells) on Saturday, April 22nd. Service at 4.30, followed by tea and usual proceedings. Will all those intending to go, please let me know early?—A. Bigley, Hon. Branch Sec., 30, Allen Road, Irthlingborough, Wellingborough.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Basingstoke District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Yateley on April 22nd. Bells available from 2.30. Service at 4. Tea and business meeting follows at Yateley Hall by the kind invitation of Miss de Winton Corry. Will all requiring tea please inform me by April 19th without fail?—J. G. Stilwell, Lea Cottage, Yateley, Camberley.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Miles-Platting, Manchester, on Saturday, April 22nd. Tower open for ringing at 6 o'clock.—J. H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Burton District.—The next meeting will be held at Netherseale on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m. It is hoped that there will be a good attendance to try this handy peal. Splendid tea arrangements will be made for those who notify me by Thursday, April 20th. Visitors cordially invited.—J. W. Cotton, Overseal.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—The next meeting will be at All Saints', Maldon, on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting after. The bells at St. Mary's (6) will be available after tea. Please let me have numbers for tea not later than Wednesday, April 19th.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Upper Arbour Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Wisbech Branch.—A meeting will be held at Denver on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. —Frome & Midsomer Norton Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at High Littleton on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5 p.m.—E. H. Nash, Hon. Sec., The Talbot, Mells.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch. —The next quarterly meeting will be held at Barkstone on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (6) available during afternoon and evening. Service at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting at 5.15 p.m. Will those requiring tea please notify by Wednesday previous, the Rev. Thorold Eller, The Vicarage, Barkstone, Grantham? — C. T. H. Bradley, Hon. Sec., Folkingham, Lincs.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch. —A meeting of the Gainsborough District will be held at Willingham-by-Stow (excellent ring of 6, tenor 12¾ cwt.) on Saturday, April 22nd. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., at a small charge. A special invitation is extended to visitors. Please notify Mr. C. Hooton, Stedman House, Willingham, Gainsborough, for tea by previous Tuesday.—Geo. L. A. Lunn, Hon. Sec.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Dorchester Branch.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Maiden Newton on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30, followed by tea and short business meeting. Cattistock bells (8) also available.—C. H. Jennings, Hon. Sec., 3, Sunnyside Road, Wyke Regis, Weymouth.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Grappenhall Branch. — The next branch meeting will be held at Frodsham on Saturday, April 22nd. Please advise me if requiring tea not later than the 20th.—John E. Ashcroft, Post Office, Grappenhall.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Carlton-in-Cleveland on Saturday, April 22nd. Tea will be provided at the Fox and Hounds Inn for those who notify me not later than Thursday, April 20th. All ringers are welcome.—J. Reed, Hon. Sec., 67, Hedley Street, Guisborough.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at the two six-bell towers in Lytham on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Business meeting at 5.30.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Lancaster Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Morecambe on April 22nd, where the new ring of eight bells will be available from 3 p.m. All members and friends are warmly welcomed to come and try out the bells for themselves.—E. Swain, Branch Sec.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Portsmouth District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Curdridge on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., at the Reading Room. Business meeting follows. All requiring tea please let me know by Wednesday, April 19th. All ringers welcome. — A. T. Greenwood, Hon. Sec., 6, Sheffield Road, Portsmouth.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Harlow Town on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. All ringers welcome.—W. Wheeler, Hon. Dis. Sec., Mill Street, Harlow Common, Essex.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts Branch.—A meeting will be held at Hemmingford Grey on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Apologies to those who travelled to Hemmingford Grey on Saturday, March 18th. Meeting had to be cancelled at the last minute.—W. J. Parker, Dis. Sec., Great Staughton, St. Neots.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Potton on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers will be welcome. Please come. I mean *you*.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD (Alton and Petersfield District) AND LADIES' GUILD (Southern District).—A meeting will be held at Blackmoor on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells available 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Business meeting follows. Kindly let me know numbers for tea by Wednesday, April 19th.—C. E. Bassett, 32, Charles Street, Petersfield.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Loughborough District.—The next meeting is at Ibstock on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea arranged for those who notify me by Wednesday next. Reports are now to hand. Come and get yours. Buses every few minutes from Coalville (Marlborough Square).—A. E. Rowley, Hon. Sec., Hyom, Penistone Street, Ibstock, Leicester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Southport on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells, at Christ Church, available from 2.30. Emmanuel, after tea. Tea will be free, for which please notify Mr. J. Ridyard, 16, Vaughan Road, Birkdale, Southport.—S. Forshaw, 55, Poolstock, Wigan.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — The quarterly meeting of the West Norfolk Branch will be held at North Creake on Saturday, April 22nd. Service at 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock. Please try and let me know if you are coming, as it is not so easy to cater in a small village as in a town.—W. J. Eldred, Hon. Branch Sec., 4, Wellington Street, King's Lynn.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—The next meeting will be held at New Mills on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. For tea please advise Mr. S. Hammond, 9, Meadowside, Newtown, New Mills.—C. K. Lewis, Hon. Sec.

SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS. — The annual meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Nottingham, on Saturday, April 22nd. Tower open 3 p.m. All ringers welcome.—I. B. Thompson, 52, Lace Street, Nottingham.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—The spring meeting will be held at Great Shefford on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea, 5 p.m., at 6d. each. All ringers welcome. Visitors please notify W. Alder, Church Road, Great Shefford, Berks, by Wednesday, April 19th, for tea.—T. J. Fisher, Hon. Sec., Arniston, Manor Lane, Newbury.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Northern Division.—Annual meeting at Slaugham on Saturday, April 22nd. Tower open 3 p.m. Service and meeting to follow. Names for tea by April 19th.—O. Sippetts, 10, Three Bridges Road, Crawley.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District. — Quarterly meeting at Gravesend on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells available at St. George's 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30. Tea will be taken at Co-operative Cafe (five minutes from church) at 5 p.m., followed by business meeting. Those requiring tea please advise me by not later than Wednesday, April 19th.—G. H. Spice, Hon. Dis. Sec., 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD. — A mid-week meeting will be held at Hartfield (6) on Wednesday, April 26th. Tower open 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea should be sent to Mr. K. Garwood, 28, Brooklands Way, East Grinstead, Sussex—who is now organiser of the Guild's mid-week meetings—not later than April 24th. All are welcome. The usual monthly will be a joint meeting with the Sussex County Association (Northern Division) at Rotherfield, on Saturday, April 15th.—B. Saunders, Hon. Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — The annual general meeting will be held at Brighton on Saturday, April 29th. Service at St. Peter's, with address by the Vicar of Brighton, 4.30. Tea at the Pavilion Grill Room

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5.15, price 2s. 6d. (1s. to members). Half rail fare, maximum 2s. 6d., allowed to resident members. Names for tea by April 24th essential. Notices of motions affecting rules must be received by April 15th.—S. E. Armstrong, Hon. Gen. Sec., 70, Hollingbury Park Avenue, Brighton 6.

SATURDAY, APRIL 29th. BUSHEY HEATH (8 bells). Bells open from 3.30. Tea, Parish Hall, 5.30. Ringing after business meeting. Nearest station, Bushey. Bus service from all parts stops at church.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey. City 4270. (Herts Association.)

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. Alphege, Greenwich, on Saturday, April 29th. Further particulars next week.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere, Kent.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—The next meeting will be held at North Weald on Saturday, April 29th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea to follow. Please let me have numbers for tea by Wednesday, April 26th.—J. H. Crampion, Dis. Sec., 7, Cedar Avenue, Chadwell Heath.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — North Norfolk Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Northrepps on Saturday, April 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. in Church Room, but don't forget that postcard with names or numbers for tea by Tuesday, April 25th, to Henry Tooke, Branch Sec., The Lizard, Wymondham, Norfolk.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — The annual general meeting will be held at Guildford on Saturday, April 29th. The bells of the Cathedral (8) will be available from 3 p.m. to 4.30 p.m., S. Nicolas' (10) from 3 p.m. to 4.15 p.m. and S. Nicolas' and Shalford (8) after the meeting. Service will be held in the Cathedral Church at 4.30 p.m. Tea (1s. each) in Holy Trinity Parish Hall at 5.15 p.m. Those who require tea *must* let me know by Tuesday, April 25th. Business meeting in Holy Trinity Parish Hall immediately after tea.—G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec., East Clandon, Guildford.

WORCESTER AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—The spring meeting will be held at Evesham on Saturday, April 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting in the Walker Hall. Numbers for tea by Tuesday previous to J. E. Newman, Hinton, Evesham.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual meeting at Lincoln on Saturday, April 29th. Service in the Morning Chapel of the Cathedral at 3.15 p.m. Tea at 4.30 at the Co-operative Hall, Silver Street, at 1s. 6d. per head, followed by business meeting. Ringing at the Cathedral, St. Peter-at-Gowt's and St. Botolph's from 2 p.m., and in the evening. Also at St. Giles' (8) from 6 to 8 p.m. Those requiring tea please send their names without fail to Mr. G. Chester, 16, Carline Road, Lincoln, not later than Wed., April 26th.—F. W. Stokes, Hon. Sec.

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A History of the Society
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THE RINGING WORLD

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Founders
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SUCCESSFUL ASSOCIATIONS.

Three, at least, of the principal associations that met for their annual meetings on Easter Monday were able to show increased membership during last year. They were the Kent, Worcestershire and Norwich Associations, and it is a satisfactory indication that, despite the 'slump' under which some associations seem to be suffering, there are others that have every reason to be satisfied with the numerical progress they are making. It was revealed at the Worcestershire meeting that the present membership is the highest on record. The gratification at this result must be the reward of those whose efforts have made it possible, but those responsible deserve congratulations. There will always be ups and downs in the progress of associations, but the case of Worcestershire goes to prove that consistent endeavour will, in the end, compensate for the disappointing periods which, from time to time, must necessarily be faced. Wisely, however, the Worcestershire Association emphasises that the effort to maintain membership must not be slackened, even at this high tide level. It is easier to slip back than to go forward, and not only must endeavours continue to be made to bring in those ringers who still remain outside the association, but individual towers must be unremitting in their endeavour to maintain their ranks. And this applies, of course, not alone in Worcestershire, but everywhere.

In addition to its increased membership the Kent County Association is also very happily placed in regard to its financial position. Its monetary affairs have been extremely well managed in the past and in its various funds the association, which, be it remembered, contributes liberally to the expenses of members attending meetings, has accumulated nearly a thousand pounds. If, at the moment, the association in one respect is not so happy as it might be, its steady progress shows that at the core it is sound. The members at their annual meeting faced a delicate problem, and it is to be hoped that the negotiations at which the honorary secretary hinted will culminate satisfactorily. It would be a thousand pities if a 'canker' developed in the very district which is richer in the promise of youth than almost any other district in any association in England and were to lead to decay. But the Men of Kent and the Kentish Men have in the nearly sixty years of the association's history shown themselves capable administrators and are not likely, we imagine, to let personal feelings disintegrate such a splendid structure as that which they have built up with so much care and labour. In the meantime the association has the numerical and financial scope to

(Continued on page 246.)

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carry it a long way to that ideal which the Vice-President (Mr. E. H. Lewis) has urged—the affiliation of every tower in the county and the raising of the standard of striking everywhere to the highest level. A sinking of differences and a loyal and united effort are all that are needed.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR, SOUTHWARK,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES, 5037 CHANGES;

Tenor 50¼ cwt.

THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN.	*Treble*	GEORGE J. BUTCHER	7
HARRY HOSKINS	2	HENRY G. MILES...	8
EDWIN H. LEWIS...	3	FREDERICK J. CULLUM... ...	9
DEREK M. SHARP...	4	HARRY HOVERD	10
THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.	5	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY... ...	11
GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ...	6	RICHARD F. DEAL... ...	*Tenor*

Composed by J. ROGERS. Conducted by T. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.

First peal of Grandsire Cinques by all except T. Groombridge, sen., and H. E. Audsley. First attempt on twelve tower bells by G. V. Murphy.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-BOW, CHEAPSIDE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 54 cwt. 12 lb.

HORACE BELCHER ...	*Treble*	JAMES BENNETT	7
GEORGE R. PYE	2	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS ...	8
CHARLES T. COLES	3	GEORGE W. STEERE	9
WILLIAM H. HEWETT ...	4	FRANK E. DARBY...	10
*THOMAS G. FOX	5	REUBEN SANDERS...	11
*HERBERT E. THOMPSON ...	6	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT	*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by W. H. HEWETT.

* First peal on twelve bells.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5005 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

SIDNEY CHENEY... ...	*Treble*	FREDERICK H. DEXTER ...	7
GEORGE S. MORRIS	2	SHIRLEY BURTON	8
*ALFRED BALLARD	3	†WILLIAM J. ROOT	9
HERBERT W. PERKINS ...	4	HARRY BRODGHTON	10
†KENNETH A. ROE	5	ARNOLD BRUNTON	11
HARRY WAYNE	6	†RALPH HUBBARD... ...	*Tenor*

Composed by F. H. DEXTER. Conducted by SHIRLEY BURTON.

* First peal of Cinques on tower bells. † First peal of Cinques. First peal of Cinques as conductor.

TEN BELL PEALS.

YEOVIL, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES;

Tenor 40 cwt. in C.

*EDMUND B. BARRINGTON	*Treble*	WILLIAM C. DOWDING ...	6
SIDNEY A. RICKETTS	2	EDWARD G. L. COWARD ...	7
*GEORGE H. HURST	3	THOMAS J. SETTER	8
†ALBERT C. JEANES	4	*PERCY N. G. RAINEY ...	9
*TREVOR E. MARES	5	HERBERT C. VOWLES	*Tenor*

Composed by M. J. MORRIS. Conducted by W. C. DOWDING.

* First peal of Grandsire Caters. † First peal on ten bells and first attempt. First peal on ten bells as conductor.

BERKELEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, April 14, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5008 CHANGES;
Tenor 24 cwt.

ANDREW J. CORRIGAN	*Treble*	GILBERT PEARCE	6
MISS NORAH G. WILLIAMS	2	R. GORDON CROSS	7
F. NOLAN GOLDEN	3	JOSEPH T. DYKE	8
GABRIEL LINDOFF	4	REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG	9
ALFRED PEARCE	5	A. PATRICK CANNON	*Tenor*

Composed by JAMES GEORGE. Conducted by F. NOLAN GOLDEN.
First peal of Royal on the bells.

MAIDSTONE, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;
Tenor 31 cwt. in C.

FREDK. J. LAMBERT, SEN.	*Treble*	WILLIAM GORRINGE	6
H. RICHARD FRENCH	2	ROBERT T. LAMBERT	7
JOHN O. WELLER	3	WILLIAM WENBAN	8
*WILLIAM A. OLDFIELD	4	FREDERICK WHITE	9
THOMAS E. SONE	5	LUTHER J. HONESS	*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.
Composition No. 21. * First attempt for Caters.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

PULFORD, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, April 8, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes;
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 9¾ cwt. in A.

WILLIAM E. FLETCHER	*Treble*	FRANK VARTY	5
FRED HARTMAN	2	LESTER L. GRAY	6
GEORGE R. NEWTON	3	EDWIN JENNINGS	7
PERCY SWINDLEY	4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	*Tenor*

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by J. C. E. SIMPSON.

TAWSTOCK, DEVON.
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
On Sunday, April 9, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 16¾ cwt.

ERNEST J. TAYLOR	*Treble*	CHRISTOPHER R. WALKER	5
RICHARD T. HIBBERT	2	THOMAS G. MYERS	6
FREDERICK A. TARGETT	3	RONALD G. BECK	7
A. WILLIAM MYERS	4	WILLIAM HIBBERT	*Tenor*

Conducted by THOMAS G. MYERS.
All the ringers are members of the Devonshire Guild. First peal on the bells since they were rehung and augmented to eight by Messrs. John Taylor and Co.

SHERBURN-IN-ELMET, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt. in F sharp.

HORACE S. WORSLEY	*Treble*	MRS. E. BRADLEY	5
MRS. J. READER	2	FRED TERRY	6
WILLIAM HAWLEY	3	CHARLES BROWN	7
MISS D. M. HAWLEY	4	EDWARD BRADLEY	*Tenor*

Composed by C. H. MARTIN. Conducted by E. BRADLEY.

SOUTH MOLTON, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 24¾ cwt.

AUBREY L. BENNETT	*Treble*	ERNEST J. TAYLOR	5
EDWIN H. NASH	2	THOMAS G. MYERS	6
FREDERICK A. TARGETT	3	RICHARD T. HIBBERT	7
CHRISTOPHER R. WALKER	4	WILLIAM HIBBERT	*Tenor*

Conducted by RICHARD T. HIBBERT.
All the ringers are members of the Ancient Society of College Youths. First peal on the bells since restoration by Messrs. John Taylor and Co.

AMBLESIDE, WESTMORLAND.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 32 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb. in D flat.

THOMAS B. WORSLEY	*Treble*	*RALPH G. EDWARDS	5
GEORGE R. NEWTON	2	FRANK VARTY	6
C. KENNETH LEWIS	3	JOHN WORTH	7
EDWIN JENNINGS	4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	*Tenor*

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by J. C. E. SIMPSON.
* First peal of London. First peal of London in Westmorland.

ALMONDBURY, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL HALLOWS,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;
Tenor 18 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb. in E.

WILLIAM WOODHEAD	*Treble*	KENNETH SIMPSON	5
MISS MARY WHITE	2	GEORGE ROBINSON	6
ARTHUR ARMITAGE	3	CHARLES E. LAWSON	7
HARRY DAVISON	4	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS	*Tenor*

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by LESLIE W. G. MORRIS.
First peal of Surprise on the bells.

SHIFNAL, SHROPSHIRE.
THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 19 cwt. in E flat.

*E. DENNIS POOLE	*Treble*	WILLIAM J. CHESTER	5
WILLIAM SAUNDERS	2	EDWARD V. RODENHURST	6
THOMAS PRICE	3	WALTER LAGO	7
FREDERICK PRICE	4	ARTHUR PRITCHARD	*Tenor*

Composed by J. THORP. Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.
* First peal of Treble Bob.

NORTON-IN-HALES, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
Tenor 13⅞ cwt.

JAMES A. MILNER	*Treble*	ARTHUR W. HALL	5
BARNABAS G. KEY	2	ALBERT FORD	6
JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER	3	RICHARD BENSON	7
ANDREW THOMPSON	4	HARRY PARKER	*Tenor*

Composed by H. HUBBARD. Conducted by HARRY PARKER.
First peal of Major on the bells.

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ELVEDEN, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes.

AT THE MEMORIAL TOWER OF SS. PATRICK AND ANDREW,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt.

CLEMENT W. CRACKNELL	*Treble*	ARTHUR GRIMWOOD	5
EDWIN A. CRACKNELL	2	SHELFORD SPARROW	6
HARRY D. LISTER	3	GEORGE W. ABLITT	7
KEITH W. WHITTLE	4	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL	*Tenor*

Composed by F. ROBINSON. Conducted by GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL

MILDENHALL, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qr. 23 lb.

CLEMENT W. CRACKNELL	*Treble*	GEORGE W. ABLITT	5
SHELFORD SPARROW	2	HARRY D. LISTER	6
EDWIN A. CRACKNELL	3	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL	7
KEITH W. WHITTLE	4	ARTHUR GRIMWOOD	*Tenor*

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by HARRY D. LISTER

HEREFORD.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

WILLIAM H. SYMONDS	*Treble*	ALFRED T. POULTON	5
GEORGE T. COUSINS	2	JOHN J. WEBB	6
AUSTIN T. WINGATE	3	WILLIAM POSTON	7
WILLIAM T. POSTON	4	ERNEST F. SALMONS	*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by E. F. SALMONS.

Especially arranged and rung in honour of the Easter festival.

MILVERTON, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, April 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 18 cwt.

HERBERT H. WALKER	*Treble*	CLAUDE TARR	5
*HENRY PURCHASE	2	ARTHUR H. REED	6
†CYRIL J. STEVENS	3	WILLIAM H. LLOYD	7
WALTER J. POOLE	4	‡RICHARD J. BISHOP	*Tenor*

Conducted by W. H. LLOYD.

* First peal of Grandsire Triples 'inside.' † First peal of Grandsire Triples. ‡ First peal on eight bells.

DITCHLING, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, April 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 8 cwt.

JOHN DEARLOVE	*Treble*	*GEORGE APPS	5
H. STALHAM	2	†GEORGE LUCAS	6
FREDERICK PAGE	3	FRANK I. HAIRS	7
*E. J. DAVEY	4	RAYMOND OVERY	*Tenor*

Composed by SAM THOMAS. Conducted by RAYMOND OVERY.

* First peal of Treble Bob. † First peal of Major. First peal in the method as conductor.

SALFORD, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, April 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED TRINITY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 11⅛ cwt.

GEORGE PYE	*Treble*	WILLIAM BRAMMER	5
HAROLD HOLLINGWORTH	2	BURLEY WALSHAW	6
FRANK REYNOLDS	3	WILLIAM A. SHUKER	7
GEORGE A. BELL	4	C. KENNETH LEWIS	*Tenor*

Composed by J. E. BURTON. Conducted by F. REYNOLDS.

First peal on the bells since rehanging.

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

On Tuesday, April 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 14 cwt.

ERNEST WILSON	*Treble*	RALPH W. SAYERS	5
GEORGE E. LARGE	2	REGINALD WOODYATT	6
*HORACE HOUGH	3	JOHN J. JEFFERIES	7
SIDNEY T. HOLT	4	FREDERICK G. YATES	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE.

* First peal of Triples. Rung half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Mrs. E. Thomas, mother of the donor of these restored and augmented bells, who passed over in her 90th year.

BUSHEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, April 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, CAMBRIDGE, SUPERLATIVE & BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

JOHN E. ROOTES	*Treble*	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW	5
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	2	EDWIN JENNINGS	6
MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT	3	FRANCIS KIRK	7
CECIL C. MAYNE	4	HAROLD G. CASHMORE	*Tenor*

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

The peal consisted of 2,240 London, 1,664 Bristol and 576 each of Superlative and Cambridge, with 115 changes of method.

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

On Thursday, April 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt. in F

ALAN R. PINK	*Treble*	WILLIAM C. PORTER	5
GEORGE AYERS	2	WALTER F. JUDGE	6
HERBERT H. ALEXANDER	3	VICTOR J. F. BENNETT	7
FRANCIS E. TAYLOR	4	*LESLIE F. PULLEN	*Tenor*

Conducted by WALTER F. JUDGE.

* First peal on eight bells. Rung to mark the occasion of the enthronement of Dr. A. T. P. Williams, lately Dean of Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, as Bishop of Durham.

CLEVEDON, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, April 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

GABRIEL GEORGE LINDOFF	*Treble*	GABRIEL LINDOFF	5
MISS MARIE R. CROSS	2	R. GORDON CROSS	6
F. NOLAN GOLDEN	3	A. PATRICK CANNON	7
ANDREW J. CORRIGAN	4	JOSEPH T. DYKE	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by F. NOLAN GOLDEN.

BITTON, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb. in E.

JAMES H. SHEPHERD	*Treble*	F. NOLAN GOLDEN	
ANDREW J. CORRIGAN	2	R. GORDON CROSS	6
J. FRANK SMALLWOOD	3	REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG	7
STEPHEN H. WOOD	4	A. PATRICK CANNON	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by F. NOLAN GOLDEN.

First peal in the method on the bells.

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DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

SIX BELL PEALS.

SILSDEN, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 8, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being four 720's of Plain Bob, two of Kent Treble Bob and one of Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.

*MISS DOREEN LISTER	...*Treble*	MISS MARY WHITE	4
ARTHUR BAIRSTOW	2	KENNETH SIMPSON	5
VERNEY BAIRSTOW	3	ERNEST H. SIMPSON ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ERNEST H. SIMPSON.

* First peal.

PUBLOW, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, April 9, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being four six-scores of Plain Bob and 38 of Grandsire (13 different callings). Tenor 21¼ cwt.

*LESLIE W. BALL	*Treble*	FRANCIS C. MOGFORD ...	4
*LEONARD S. COLES	2	LESLIE B. COLES	5
RONALD W. TREASURE ...	3	*EDWARD GILL	...*Tenor*

Conducted by F. C. MOGFORD.

* First peal in two methods.

WELWYN, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being an extent each of College Exercise, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, St. Clement's, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

LAURIE WILTON	...*Treble*	JOHN CHURCH	4
LEWIS H. BYWATERS	2	FRANCIS S. BEAUMONT ...	5
RONALD J. SHARP	3	C. EDWARD JEFFRIES ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. E. JEFFRIES.

The first peal on the bells.

MARBURY, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 8¾ cwt.

HAROLD W. CLUTTON	...*Treble*	†WILFRED H. CLUTTON ...	4
FREDERICK W. CHAPMAN ...	2	ALBERT J. BIGGS	5
*THOMAS P. BARLOW	3	†CHARLES W. ALLMAN	...*Tenor*

Conducted by A. J. BIGGS.

* First peal 'inside.' † First peal and first attempt. First peal as conductor.

PYTCHLEY, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
(KETTERING BRANCH.)
On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two different callings. Tenor 8 cwt.

*BERNARD BROWN	*Treble*	CECIL BROWN	3
GEORGE BROWN...	2	RICHARD ABRAMS...	4
SIDNEY MUNTON	...*Tenor*		

Conducted by SIDNEY MUNTON.

* First peal.

ASH PRIORS, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 10½ cwt.

EDGAR QUICKE	...*Treble*	FRED ALDERMAN	4
CYRIL J. STEVENS	2	CLAUDE W. J. TARR	5
WILLIAM E. NEWBERRY ...	3	ERNEST LOCK	...*Tenor*

Conducted by EDGAR QUICKE.

SEFTON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Plain Bob, Oxford Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and two 720's of Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

SYDNEY FLINT	...*Treble*	GEORGE SHELLAND	4
THOMAS G. HORRIDGE ...	2	*WILLIAM H. DEACON ...	5
*JACK HALE	3	ROBERT GUY	...*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM H. DEACON.

* First peal.

HARROLD, BEDS.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER AND ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Twenty-one extents each of Plain Bob and Grandsire.
Tenor 13 cwt. 6 lb. in F sharp.

DONALD L. COCKINGS	...*Treble*	J. HAROLD SWEPSTON ...	4
OWEN G. WARREN	2	PERCY AMOS	5
*JOHN HILSON	3	†JEFFREY SUSANS... ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by D. L. COCKINGS.

* First peal 'inside' in two methods. † First peal.

FRAMPTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(EASTERN BRANCH.)
On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

JOHN R. KEMP	...*Treble*	ARTHUR R. YOUNG	4
WILLIAM WILKINSON	2	*ALBERT FIRTH	5
JOHN R. YOUNG	3	ALBERT E. FLATTERS	...*Tenor*

Composed by REV. E. BANKES JAMES. Conducted by J. R. YOUNG.

* First peal of Minor away from the treble.

ISHAM, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Double Court, Double Oxford, Oxford and Plain Bob.
Tenor 9½ cwt.

MISS MARY GARLEY ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM SHELFORD	4
MISS MARY BROWN	2	E. MAURICE ATKINS	5
ARTHUR GARLEY	3	THOMAS GARLEY	...*Tenor*

Conducted by THOMAS GARLEY.

An Easter Joy peal, specially rung to celebrate the jubilee of the Rector's ordination.

LEICESTER.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
(ST. JOHN'S SOCIETY.)
On Tuesday, April 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-DIVINE,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, 10 different callings. Tenor 7 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb.

*REGINALD V. HUBBARD	...*Treble*	SIDNEY HARRISON	4
WILLIAM H. CLARKE... ...	2	†JOHN H. HILL	5
*JOHN HURST	3	*STANLEY R. HAYNES...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. HILL and J HURST.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal away from tenor. First peal of Doubles on the bells.

SHARESHILL, STAFFS.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Wednesday, April 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST MARY,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, 12 callings. Tenor 11¼ cwt.

BARNABAS G. KEY ...	...*Treble*	J. DENNIS HOLDEN	4
*RICHARD J. WARRILOW ...	2	HOWARD HOWELL	5
ROGER L. HAWKSWORTH ...	3	HOWARD BUTLER... ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by HOWARD HOWELL.

* First peal of Stedman Doubles.

ROCK FERRY, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
(WIRRAL BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, April 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF SPLICED SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven spliced extents, viz.: (1) Northumberland and Carlisle; (2) Ipswich and Cambridge; (3) Alnwick and Newcastle; (4) London and Wells; (5) York and Durham; (6) Chester and Munden; (7) Beverley and Surfleet. Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

JOHN COOKE ... ...*Treble*	JOSEPH LESLIE 4
*JAMES H. COOKE 2	FRANK T. PARRY 5
*ALEC J. MARTIN... 3	WILLIAM DEAN ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN COOKE.

* First peal and first attempt. First peal of Spliced Surprise Minor on the bells. There were 52 changes of method.

WONSTON, HANTS.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, April 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's. Tenor 8¼ cwt.

*NESTA SMITH ... ...*Treble*	†LESLIE A. TREMEER... ... 4
*RICHARD SMITH 2	†REGINALD A. REED 5
†WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ... 3	†LEONARD KNOTT... ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by REGINALD A. REED.

* First peal of Treble Bob. † First peal of Treble Bob Minor. First peal in the method on the bells. First peal of Treble Bob and of Minor as conductor. A birthday compliment to W. R. Melville and L. A. Tremeer.

(Many other peal reports are unavoidably held over.)

SUDDEN DEATH OF MR. N. SPINDLOW.

RINGER AT DUCKLINGTON FOR FIFTY YEARS.

The death occurred suddenly on Thursday, April 6th, of Mr. Nobel Spindlow, of Ducklington, Oxon, a very well-known and highly respected member of the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

Mr. Spindlow was foreman of the tower band at Ducklington, near Witney, and had been a ringer at the church for upwards of 50 years. He was also sexton there for over 30 years.

Deceased was a man of great personality and patience, and was always willing to help a band of youngsters and teach them the art of change ringing.

The funeral took place at Ducklington on Monday, April 10th. The body was borne to the church by Ducklington ringers, while the bells were rung fully muffled with the tenor open at back-stroke only. After the interment, a well-struck quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (with ten callings) was rung with the bells half-muffled by W. T. Bond 1, C. Bowsher 2, P. Trinder 3, L. Olliffe 4, H. Farmer (conductor) 5, G. Harris 6.

SUSSEX RINGER'S DEATH.

The funeral of Mr. Alfred Cripps took place on Saturday last at St. Andrew's Church, Steyning, Sussex. Formerly an old Shipley, Sussex, ringer, Mr. Cripps was obliged to give up ringing some 20 years ago, owing to deafness, but remained at work until nine months ago, when an internal complaint caused him to take to his bed and he passed away on Wednesday of last week at the age of 64 years.

Family mourners at the funeral included the deceased's widow and daughter. His brother, Mr. F. W. Cripps, was unable to be present owing to illness. Ringers who attended were Mr. J. M. Cripps (nephew) and Mr. Keith Hart, of Brighton.

In his early days, Mr. Alfred Cripps conducted the first peal in seven Surprise Minor methods for the Sussex County Association and rang peals in the popular methods of that time on six, eight and ten bells. For some years he was leader of the Shipley band and a regular Sunday service ringer.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

A sucessful meeting of the Winchester District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild was held at Alresford on April 1st. About 40 members were present, and at the business meeting the district chairman (the Rev. N. C. Woods) thanked Canon Robertson (Rector) and took the opportunity of introducing the new district secretary, Mr. W. G. Goodchild.

PEAL NOTES

(Continued from next column.)

Mr. Nolan Golden, of Norwich, with some other visitors, paid a successful visit to the Bristol district last week-end and scored a peal a day for three days. The Double Norwich on Saturday was composed over lunch. It proved to be a very musical composition, with S at 1, S at 3, S at 5 and S at 8 in every part. It also proved the Norwich Association's secretary to be an adept with figures.

PEAL NOTES.

YOUNG RINGERS' SUCCESS.

To ring seven extents of Spliced Surprise Minor in 14 methods as one's first attempt for a peal is a notable achievement, to say the least of it. Two young ringers at Rock Ferry, Cheshire, did this on April 11th, when what is believed to be the first peal of Spliced Surprise Minor for the Chester Guild by a Sunday service band was rung. Of the two young ringers, James Cooke is only 15 and Alec Martin 18.

Some other youthful ringers, three of them scoring their first peal, took part in a peal of Grandsire Doubles on the front six at St. John the Divine's Church, Leicester, on the same day. These three, R. V. Hubbard (aged 18), J. Hurst (16) and S. R. Haynes (19), are all ex-choirboys, while John Hill, who had previously rung a peal on the tenor, is only 15 and still a member of the choir. They have been under the tuition of Messrs. W. H. Clarke and S. Harrison, who completed the band. John Hill and John Hurst shared the conducting.

It was the first peal of Doubles on the bells. The original eight were installed in 1902 and the peal augmented to ten in 1928 by the generosity of Mr. William Willson.

A North Staffordshire band is indebted to the Rector of Norton-in-Hales for permitting them to attempt a peal at a minute's notice on Easter Monday. It had been intended to go for a peal of 10,080 Treble Bob at Broughton, but illness at the Hall nearby necessitated its abandonment. The Rector of Norton at once gave consent to the use of his bells for a peal, and 5,120 of Kent was rung. It was the first peal at Norton by the North Staffordshire Association.

The first peal on the bells at Salford, Lancashire, since they were rehung, was rung on April 13th. The peal celebrated the birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. G. A. Bell, brother-in-law and sister to the conductor, Mr. F. Reynolds.

A peal of Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles was rung at Publow, Somerset, by the local band on Easter Day, in honour of the festival. It was the first time that a peal in two methods had been rung on the bells.

Bernard Brown, of Pytchley, Northants, celebrated his 14th birthday by ringing his first peal at the first attempt. He rang the treble to a peal of Grandsire Doubles on Easter Monday and rang well.

It is estimated that the band who rang the peal of London Surprise at Ambleside on Easter Monday travelled not less than 1,800 miles for the job (including the return journey). Some of the band are prepared, for a nominal fee, to give tuition in the technique to be used with ticket collectors when travelling by ordinary trains with special excursion tickets. For reasons of modesty they prefer to remain clothed in anonymity.

RINGERS WEDDED.

Mr. George Burrell, one of the Lincolnshire record Minor band, was married on Easter Monday, at Frampton, to Miss Lois Neal, who for the past five years has been a regular service ringer at this tower. A peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor was rung after the wedding in honour of the event.

Mr. J. R. Kemp has now rung a peal on all the bells in Frampton tower.

Mr. W. H. Deacon, of Maghull, Lancashire, rang his first peal at the first attempt on Easter Monday at Sefton, and also conducted it. This was an excellent performance, for it was a peal in six Minor methods.

The first peal on the bells at Welwyn, Herts, was rung on Easter Monday. It consisted of seven different Minor methods.

The peal at Yeovil on Easter Monday included four visitors, Messrs. E. G. L. Coward, of Mere, H. C. Vowles, of Yetminster, and two from Birmingham, P. N. G. Rainey and W. C. Dowding. The latter, incidentally, rang his 150th peal and first as conductor on ten bells. He had never previously made a call in Grandsire Caters.

Six of the Claines band, with the assistance of the Association Master (Mr. S. T. Holt) and Mr. J. J. Jefferies (who formerly had connections with the tower), paid tribute to the late Mrs. E. Thomas by ringing a half-muffled peal of Grandsire Triples following upon the interment in Claines Churchyard on April 11th.

Her son, Mr. E. P. Thomas, is a vice-president of the association, and in 1927 was responsible for having the treble of the old five recast and three new bells added to make the octave, as a memorial to his father (some time Mayor of Worcester).

Mrs. Thomas lived to the ripe age of 89 and took a great interest in the ringing at Claines on Sundays—ringing which she was able to hear if the wind was in the right quarter. Her son, though not a ringer himself, is keenly interested in bells, and has done much towards various restorations in Worcestershire, while ringers in and around Worcester, as well as the Birmingham ringers, have at several times enjoyed his hospitality.

A Suffolk Guild band pulled off a couple of peals on Easter Monday, Kent Treble Bob Major at Elveden, and Double Norwich Major at Mildenhall.

The peal of Bob Major at All Saints', Hereford, on Easter Monday, was Mr. W. H. Symonds' 100th peal.

Another early composition by the late Mr. Arthur Knights has just been rung A peal of Grandsire Caters (No. 21), which he composed in 1885, was called on Saturday at Maidstone by Mr. T. E. Sone, who has now called 75 different compositions by Mr. Knights, the first time they have been rung.

(Continued in previous column.)

EAST DERBYSHIRE & NOTTS ASSOCIATION

CHANGE OF PRESIDENT.

The annual meeting of the East Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Association was held at Ripley on Easter Monday. Ringing was curtailed in the afternoon owing to several weddings taking place, but advantage was taken of every interval, and the 'go' of the bells leaves nothing to be desired. Tea was served in the Co-operative Cafe and was followed by the business meeting. About 45 were present.

Mr. John Hobbs presided, supported by all the officers of the association, but the Vicar of Ripley (the Rev. H. P. Hargreaves) was unavoidably absent. The balance sheet was accepted as very satisfactory, as was the auditor's report, presented by Mr. H. Doughty.

The president (Mr. Wilson Dobb) having intimated his desire to be relieved from the cares of office, the meeting unanimously appointed Mr. John Hobbs, who expressed his appreciation of the honour and assured the meeting of his intention to do all in his power to further the interests of the association.

Mr. Wilson Dobb became vice-president, and the Ringing Master and Central Council representative (Mr. Tom Clarke), the treasurer (Mr. C. M. Heathcote) and secretary (Mr. J. W. England) were re-elected. Messrs. J. Machin and H. Doughty were elected auditors and the following appointed on the Executive Committee: Messrs. E. A. Ashman, A. Elliott, T. Jennings and J. Bleby.

A resolution was carried placing on record the appreciation of the services rendered to the association by the retiring president, Mr. W. Dobb, during the period of nine years in which he has held this office.

Mr. Dobb and Mr. J. Swain were elected honorary life members of the association.

The Jubilee Shield, which is awarded annually to the most progressive tower, was handed to Mr. J. Bleby, captain of the Sutton-in-Ashfield ringers.

The secretary reported an increase in membership, and it was decided to institute a bell repair fund.

The annual dinner held in November last year was considered very successful, and it was agreed to continue this function, voting resulting in Alfreton again being selected.

One honorary member and 13 ringing members were elected.

Meetings were arranged for 1939 as follows: Quarterly meetings at Ashover, Swanwick and Heanor, and the next annual meeting at Sutton-in-Ashfield on Easter Monday, 1940. A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar of Ripley for the use of the bells and his interesting address, to the organist and local band was accorded on the motion of Mr. R. D. St. John Smith, seconded by Mr. T. Clarke.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

RETIREMENT OF THE HON. SECRETARY.

After 18 years of valued service to the Bedfordshire Association as hon. secretary, Mr. A. E. Sharman, of Dunstable, retired from the office at the annual meeting on Easter Monday, much to the regret of the members. The meeting was held at Bedford, where the bells of St. Paul's and St. Peter's Churches were available during the day. Ringers from all parts of the county arrived during the afternoon, and by tea time 50 members and friends made their way to St. Peter's Hall, where Miss Steele and Mrs. Tysoe had prepared a splendid meal.

The business meeting followed and was presided over by the president, the Rev. Canon A. Rust.

Canon A. Rust was re-elected president, and the vice-presidents, hon. auditor and representatives to the Central Council were all re-elected en bloc.

Mr. A. E. Sharman, the general secretary, announced that owing to business reasons he was unable to carry on the work and thought that the office should be filled by a younger man who would be able to devote the necessary time to the association. He went on to say how much he regretted having to relinquish the secretaryship, but that he was very pleased to propose that the present Luton District secretary, Mr. F. J. Plummer, be elected general secretary.

The Chairman spoke of the very efficient way in which Mr. Sharman had run the association during his 18 years in office and said how sorry they all were that he saw fit to resign. He would like to take the opportunity of thanking him on behalf of the association for the work he had so well done (applause).

The nomination of Mr. Plummer was seconded and carried without opposition.

Mr. Sharman then explained the Central Council's attitude about the publication of a book on Surprise Major methods, and said that each association was approached with the idea of guaranteeing the finance of the venture. Miss Steele and himself, who attended the last Council meeting, voted against the proposal, and Mr. Sharman went on to say that they were still of the same opinion. He then explained the reasons, firstly that there would be no demand for the book in Bedfordshire, as the county was chiefly a five and six-bell county; secondly, that the Council should not draw on the reserves of the associations to finance their publications, and, thirdly, that the book would probably be only the first of a series requiring financial assistance.

The business meeting then closed with a vote of thanks to the Vicars of St. Paul's and St. Peter's for the use of the bells, and many of the ringers returned to the towers for further ringing.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The friends of Mr. Isaac Emery (leader of the ringers at SS. Peter and Paul's, Bromley, Kent) will be sorry to hear of an unfortunate accident which befel him on Wednesday of last week. While cycling he was involved in a collision with a motor-van and sustained a fracture of the left collarbone, laceration of the right arm and head bruises. He was taken to Bromley and District Hospital and detained.

After the wedding of Miss Doris White at Moorlynch Church, near Bridgwater, recently, the bells were rung by her father, Mr. John White, of Fursland Farm, and her seven brothers, Messrs. Jack, Eric, Jim, Tom, Reg, Sam and Charlie White.

Mr. Fred Pearmain, of St. Mary's, Wimbledon, was 69 on Sunday last, and until three years ago had not touched a rope for 40 years. His fellow-ringers will wish him many more happy ringing years. He started his ringing at Dunmow, Essex, when there were only six bells, and the band were all the same name, Pearmain.

The Hertford County Association visited Hertford for the annual meeting this year for the first time since April 7th, 1890. Among those present on Easter Monday who were also at the meeting 49 years ago were the hon. secretary (Mr. G. W. Cartmel) and Mr. G. B. Lucas, of Walthamstow.

The explanation of the absence of two peals in the Norwich Diocesan Association's record in the Analysis tables is that these two peals were sent in for publication in 'The Ringing World' without the name of the association. This is one of the points upon which conductors should be particularly careful in forwarding reports.

But, having given the committee's explanation, perhaps we ought also to print the censure passed upon us. One of the committee responsible for this portion of the Analysis 'tells us off' thus: 'If any subsequent alteration was published none of us noticed it, but that, of course, is not unlikely, for, as we all complain, you insert the amendments in such unexpectedly odd corners!'

We shall have to see what can be done about it in future, but we always thought the members of the Analysis Committee, above all people, read 'The Ringing World' from end to end.

The tenor of the ring of five at Earl Stonham, Suffolk, is badly cracked, and the ringers now welcome the congregation to church by ringing handbells round the font.

Bronllys, in Brecknockshire, now has a ring of six bells, the old five having been restored and a treble added by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. Bronllys Church has the only detached tower with six bells in Wales. Many ringers were present at the dedication of the bells on April 8th.

We regret that owing to pressure on our space many reports have had unavoidably to be held over.

SPLENDID WORK BY GIRLS.

HANDBELL RINGING AT MALVERN WELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Possibly some of your readers who remember the late Rev. H. S. T. Richardson, of Hereford, will be glad to hear of the excellent work being done by his daughters at the Abbey School, Malvern Wells. They have, without any help, taught a band of their fellow-pupils, all under 15 years of age, to ring handbells—double-handed, of course—with good striking. During the spring term 14 differently called extents of Plain Bob Minor have been rung by nine ringers, all under 15 years of age. One 720 of Double Bob Minor was rung and two courses of Plain Bob Major. One of the Plain Bob extents was rung in 7 minutes 15 seconds. The ringers taking part in these touches were Dorothy Richardson, Margaret Eastwood, Hazel Weall, Patsy Price, Jill Budden, Aphra Roberts, Joyce Tarry, Rosemary Taylor and Anne Harper. Brenda and Monica Richardson are a little older and deserve congratulation on this splendid young band.

B. M. BOYLE.

Combe Martin, N. Devon.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

There was a splendid attendance at the annual meeting held at Cardiff on Easter Monday. The bells were made good use of during the afternoon and again in the evening after the business meeting had concluded. Service was conducted by the Vicar, Canon Lewis. Tea, very kindly provided by the church authorities, was taken in the Church Schoolroom, the Vicar presiding.

The usual routine business was afterwards transacted, including presentation of restoration and instruction reports.

Mr. G. Popnell was elected Master for the year, the Rev. Ivor J. Richards treasurer and Mr. J. W. Jones hon. secretary.

Mr. J. W. Jones and Mr. E. Stitch were elected the representatives on the Central Council.

It was decided to subscribe to the printing of the Collection of Surprise Major Methods as set out in the circular letter issued by the Central Council.

The next annual meeting will be held at All Saints', Newport, the next Glamorgan quarterly meeting at St. Athan, and the next Monmouth quarterly meeting at Caldicot.

A number of new members were elected, Rumney tower rejoining. A very pleasant and enjoyable afternoon and evening were spent and the meeting proved a huge success.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—67.

THOMAS B. WORSLEY.

One of the stalwarts of the Lancashire Association is Mr. Thomas B. Worsley, of Bolton. He has served the association in various official capacities for many years, and in addition to his peal ringing activities he is known throughout the Exercise for his work as a composer. His compositions are of outstanding merit, for he has aimed at quality rather than quantity.

Mr. Worsley was born in the parish of Deane, near Bolton, on September 30th, 1886, and, while now attached to St. Mary's, Deane, began his ringing career in 1909 at the six-bell tower of St. Bartholomew's Church, Bolton. His first peal, however, was rung at Deane; Grandsire Triples on February 20th, 1911, and his first as conductor was also rung there, when he called a peal of Grandsire Triples on April 18th, 1913.



MR. THOMAS B. WORSLEY.

He has taken part in some memorable performances, including the 11,232 Superlative Surprise Major at St. Peter's, Bolton, and the 17,824 Oxford Treble Bob Major at Heptonstall, rung in 10 hours 51 minutes. Both these were conducted by Edward Jenkins. Then, too, he took part in that other great record of 15,312 Cambridge Surprise Maximus, rung in 11 hours 33 minutes, at Ashton-under-Lyne and conducted by William Pye. He rang in the first Spliced Surprise peal by the Lancashire Association, Superlative and Cambridge, at Radcliffe in 1932, and later in the same year was the first Lancashire ringer to ring a peal of Spliced Surprise in four methods. He did this under William Pye's conductorship at Romford, Essex.

Mr. Worsley's conducting has been done rather by force of circumstances than from inclination, but he has been greatly assisted by that other well-known Lancashire ringer, Titus Barlow, with whom he has rung over 180 peals, and Edward Jenkins. Of the 315 peals which Mr Worsley has rung, 282 have been for the Lancashire Association, and he has conducted 88. His peals have been rung in 60 towers in eight counties.

Mr. Worsley has been a member of the Lancashire Association Committee almost continuously since 1915, was vice-president from 1933 to 1935 and has been one of the association's representatives on the Central Council since 1936.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

EAST DEVON BRANCH GROWING.

The East Devon Branch of the Devon Guild held their annual meeting at Awliscombe on Easter Monday. There was an attendance of 70, including 30 visitors, two of whom were from Notts and Essex.

The bells at Awliscombe were recently increased from five to six by the addition of a treble, and the rehanging of the old ring took place last year, and a substantial raised oak floor, for the convenience of the ringers, has been installed.

Full use was made of the bells during the afternoon and evening in various methods, with Mr. W. G. Burrow in charge.

A short service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. E. G. Mannington), who extended a hearty welcome to the ringers.

Tea in the Parish Room, arranged by Mrs. Bishop and helpers, was followed by the business meeting, over which the Rev. A. A. Falis De Salis (Honiton) presided, supported by the Rev. E. V. Cox (Bramptford Speke), president of the Guild.

Mr. J. H. Godfrey (Ottery, hon. secretary and treasurer, who was cordially greeted on recovery from illness) presented an encouraging report and anticipated that before long the membership would be 100.

The following officers were elected: Chairman, the Rev. A. A. Falis De Salis; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. J. H. Godfrey; representatives on the General Committee, Messrs. P. Davis, W. E. Dickens and C. Turner; Ringing Master, Mr. W. G. Burrow.

A balance in hand of £18 16s. 5d. was reported.

Ottery St. Mary was chosen for next year's annual meeting, and Luppitt for a gathering on August 26th.

Two new members were elected, the Rev. W. L. Airey (Lidford) and the Rev. E. G. Mannington (Awliscombe). Eight certificates were presented, six recipients being members of the Broadhembury band (Messrs. W. P. Ploese, W. Churchill, E. Squires, R. Matthews, W. Jewell, C. Eveleigh), and the others Messrs. F. Warren (Honiton) and Nelson Owen (Ottery St. Mary).

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A YEAR OF PROGRESS.

Too Many Ringers Still Outside.

The 62nd annual meeting of the Norwich Diocesan Association brought almost a hundred ringers to Norwich on Easter Monday, when the bells of St. Peter Mancroft, St. Giles-on-the-Hill, St. Michael at Coslany and All Saints' were available from 10.30 a.m. A large variety of methods was rung, including Cambridge Surprise Royal, Duffield Royal, London, Superlative and Cambridge Surprise Major.

The service in St. Peter Mancroft was conducted by the Vicar and president of the association (the Rev. Hugh McMullan). The Rev. E. William Blyth (Rector of Northrepps and an enthusiastic ringing member of the association) gave the address from Isaiah lii., 2. He spoke of the message broadcast by the bells as worthy of all the skill the ringers could put into their ringing.

Luncheon was served at the Castle Hotel, when 83 members and friends sat down.

At the business meeting which followed, the president was supported by the Revs. E. W. Blyth (Northrepps), A. St. John Heard (Bergh Apton), J. M. La F. McAnally (Hethersett), J. E. H. Williams (Acle), Mr. Arthur L. Coleman (vice-president), Mr. F. Nolan Golden (general secretary and treasurer), Messrs. W. L. Duffield, J. A. Godfrey and W. J. Lee (branch chairmen), J. G. W. Harwood, A. G. Harrison and H. Tooke (branch secretaries), and diocesan members from Acle, Alburgh, Attleborough, Bergh Apton, Buxton, Cromer, Dickleburgh, Diss, Fakenham, Gressenhall, Halvergate, Hethersett, Loddon, Lowestoft, North Elmham, Northrepps, Norwich, Pakefield, Pulham, Reedham, Redenhall, Rockland All Saints, Shelfanger, Snettisham, Thetford, Yarmouth, Winfarthing, Wiveton, Wroxham and Wymondham. Messrs. A. E. Austin (Newmarket), A. H. Holliday (Bristol), E. F. Poppy (Stoke Ash), W. C. Porter (Oxford) and J. Mayes (Thornham) were very welcome visitors.

The President referred to the great loss the association, in company with the diocese in general, had suffered by the death of Canon G. M. MacDermott, their late president. He was a man universally beloved and to the ringers was a very sincere friend, known and loved by each one of them individually. Canon MacDermott was always out to do his best for ringing generally in the diocese.

Mr. R. T. Woodley also referred to the loss the ringers had sustained by the death of Canon H. J. Enraght, of Lowestoft.

The members rose and stood for a moment as a mark of respect to the memory of these gentlemen.

RECORDS BROKEN.

The annual report commented upon the very satisfactory attendances at the district meetings, in comparison with the support given during former years. In every branch records in this direction had been broken, while a greater variety of methods had been rung, which was another healthy sign. Membership totals showed an increase of 24 over the previous year, and the annual subscribers now exceeded 400. During the year 68 members were elected—10 honorary, 8 non-resident life members, and 50 members 'of the genus labelled "performing" so delightfully in the rules'—but losses by death and the non-payment of subscriptions gave a net gain of only 24. The balance sheet showed a balance of only £1 18s. 5d., but the end of the financial crisis appeared in sight.

The association was the first to reach the extraordinary total of 5,000 peals. In the past year 103 peals were rung, a decrease of five on the record set up in 1937, but the quality of the peals had improved. Cambridge Surprise Royal and Double Norwich Court Bob Royal appeared in the list after a regrettable absence of many years, and Pudsey Surprise Major, Belgrave Surprise Major, Real Double Superlative Surprise Major, Painswick Surprise Major, a peal of Spliced Plain Bob, Double Bob, Hereward Bob and Double Oxford Bob Major, and peals of Minor in 15 methods in seven extents had been rung by the association for the first time. One hundred and eighty-four ringers and twenty-seven conductors took part in the peals.

The report concluded with thanks to the branch secretaries for their successful labours, and added that 'in spite of record attendances at the several meetings, there are large numbers of ringers who do not put enough into the association and who could profit much by regular attendance. In too many instances the success of a meeting has depended on the support of a few enthusiasts whose sphere of activity is not confined to any one branch. The welfare of the association is every member's concern, and his act of membership is not concluded by a simple payment of two or five shillings. We need his support at meetings, his suggestions and constructive criticism for improving our activities in the ringing world. In particular, we want to help him, if it is in our power, to improve his striking, and thus the efficiency of his service as a churchworker. Again, though our membership is rising, many ringers in the diocese are outside our ranks—and we and they are the poorer for it. Let us not, then, get together and congratulate ourselves too enthusiastically on our past achievements, but get to work to improve still further our standard of ringing and to augment the number of our associates.'

The President, moving the adoption of the report, congratulated the association on one of its best reports of recent years. He said it was very gratifying to him, as president, to see they were on the upward grade in the matter of members. Speaking for the diocese

(Continued on page 255, column 2.)

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

NEW MEMBERSHIP RECORD.

Decline in Peal Ringing.

A record membership was reported at the annual meeting of the Worcestershire Association at Worcester on Easter Monday. The total has now grown to 530. There were nearly one hundred members present at the meeting in the College Hall, the president (Dean Davies) being in the chair. He surprised the members with a kindly gift. 'Since we met last year,' the Dean said, 'I have spent some four months away, two of them in India. While I was there my thoughts did go back to this association, because I remembered the last annual meeting and hoped to be able to attend this one. I want to ask the association to accept a small present I got while in India—which indeed reminded me of you. It is an elephant's bell. This is an orderly gathering, so that I do not suppose a bell is needed. This is the kind of bell slung over the shoulders of the elephants, one bell—bigger than this one—hanging on each side.'

The Dean presented it to the secretary (Mr. J. D. Johnson) on behalf of the association, and suggested, amid laughter, that it be recorded on the minutes that if this elephant bell should become a 'white elephant' it might be sold without hurting his feelings, and anything obtained from the sale might be given to the tower fund.

The members expressed their hearty appreciation of the gift.

The annual report presented by the secretary, after referring to the activities of the year, said the outstanding feature of the year had been the election of the remarkable number of 106 new performing members The report added :—

'Despite this number, and making allowance for lapses, removals and losses through death, our paid-up membership for 1938 does not reach the high level which seemed possible earlier in the year. For the fourth time in succession, the Western Branch records an increase —this year of 26; the Southern Branch shows an increase of 11, but the Northern Branch a decrease of 22. There are, however, in the two latter branches several bands whose subscriptions for 1938 are outstanding, but we feel confident these will be forthcoming early in 1939. The net result is a total of 510, 15 more than last year, and 14 above our previous highest number for any one year. The association records reveal the peculiar fact that each peak year has been immediately followed by a slump. May we express the hope that everyone will work together in an effort to avoid history repeating itself in 1939.

'The General Fund shows a credit balance on the year's work of £5 10s. 3d., and no calls having been made on the Belfry Repairs Fund, its value has been increased by £11 4s. The total worth of our funds is now £94 8s. 2d.'

The committee reported that grants of £5 each had been approved towards the restoration of the bells at Hanbury and Wollaston, and that it had been decided to advance the cost of twelve copies of the Central Council's publication, 'The Collection of Surprise Major Methods.'

FALLING OFF IN PEALS.

The peals analysis and points table, compiled by Mr. J. Pigott, described 1938 as rather disappointing so far as the number of peals was concerned, only 48 being rung and being one of the leanest of recent years. This compared very unfavourably with a year or two ago when they nearly topped the century, and they could not but feel that it in some measure reacted on their efficiency. They would like to see all towers in union making an effort to secure at least one peal during the year, and thought this could be done in most instances, even if it necessitated calling in a little neighbourly assistance.

The number of members taking part in peals was 132, of which nine rang their first peal and 70 accomplished something they had not previously done. The conductors numbered 16, among whom there was only one new one, while it was regretted that no handbell peal was recorded over the year.

The peals, which were made up with 13 on six bells, 32 on eight and three on 10, were distributed as follows: Northern 16, Western 15, South 7, and Mixed 10, and the order of merit was as under: Claines, 1,167 points; Brierley Hill, 1,072; Upton-on-Severn, 739; Wollaston, 613; Selly Oak, 593; Hinton, 574; Worcester Cathedral, 556; Clent, 415; Kidderminster, 413; Crowle, 336; Hartlebury, 330; King's Norton, 222; Suckley, 203; independents, 1,174. Twenty-two towers scored less than 200 points, their total being 1,812, and making the grand total 7,407 points, this showing over last year a drop of nearly half, which was not too encouraging.

The balance sheet for the year showed receipts £73 15s., which included £8 12s. brought forward, and a credit balance of £9 2s. 3d., with £5 deposited in the savings bank at the end of the year.

Receipts on the Belfry Repairs Fund account totalled £50 17s. 4d., and there remained a credit balance of £8 4s. 6d. (compared with a debit balance of 8s. 9d.).

The report and balance sheet were approved.

The Secretary pointed out that the feature of the report related to the membership. Since it was drafted there had been 20 back subscriptions paid, so that now the membership read 530, which was 34 more than they ever had before (applause).

Mr. J. R. Newman, Severn Stoke, voiced the pleasure it gave him as former secretary to note the progress the association was making. He felt it remarkable that a county like Worcestershire, which was by no means big, should have such a membership. It showed great keenness, and a lot of work put in by the officials, to whom congratulations were due.

It was decided to hold the association's dinner annually on the last Saturday in September, with a sub-committee of two from each branch to make the arrangements.

The members stood in silence as a mark of respect for members who had passed away during the year, and a vote of sympathy was similarly expressed with the Rev. J. F. Hastings, of Martley (a vice-president and former clerical secretary), on the loss of his wife, and to Mr. E. P. Thomas, of Claines (vice-president), on the death of his mother. Both Mrs. Thomas and her son have been the generous donors of new bells to several towers in the diocese.

OFFICERS RE-ELECTED.

All the officers were re-elected, including the Dean as president; Mr. S. T. Holt (Crowle), Master; the Rev. G. W. Webb (Longdon), clerical secretary; Mr. J. D. Johnson (Evesham), lay secretary; Mr. W. H. Johnson (Timberdine), hon. treasurer; Messrs. E. E. Barber and J. R. Newman, auditors. The following were also elected to the Central Committee: The Rev. J. F. Hastings, Messrs. E. P. Thomas, W. B. Cartwright (hon. members), S. T. Holt, J. D. Johnson, C. H. Woodberry (Central Council representatives), J. Pigott (peals analyst), C. W. Cooper (librarian), R. G. Knowles and W. Short.

The arranging of the annual peal was left in the hands of the Master, Mr. W. Short, Clent, suggesting that it be rung for an eminent Worcestershire man, the Bishop of London, Dr. Winnington-Ingram. Mr. Short mentioned that he understood the Bishop was resigning on September 1st. His father was a Rector in the Worcester diocese for 54 years.

This was unanimously agreed, and the Master asked the Dean if the Dean and Chapter would allow the peal to be rung on the Cathedral bells for such an occasion.

The Dean intimated that he would bring the matter before the Chapter.

The meeting discussed the venue for the next annual meeting. The view was put forward by some members that a change would be good for the association, and Mr. C. H. Woodberry, stating that he had noted the small attendance at this meeting, moved that next year it be held at Stourbridge.

It was pointed out that, if the meeting was held in the north one year, in justice it should go south the following year, and after further discussion a resolution was carried that Worcester again be the venue next year, the voting being—for Stourbridge 15, for Worcester 29.

Thanks were accorded the Dean for presiding, to the incumbents of city churches who had that day put church bells at the disposal of the association, and to the officers.

A STRIKING ADDRESS.

The members attended choral evensong in the Cathedral, at which the preacher was the Rev. J. R. Bamber, Vicar of Wollaston. In the course of his address he said he very much appreciated the honour of being invited to preach at that service, but he had no special qualifications to do so, other than his love of bells and gratitude to the men who rang for service and spent their leisure hours in practice. On such an occasion a non-ringer could do one of two things; he could preach a general sermon with a passing reference to bells, or he could take his courage in both hands and from his slight knowledge of ringing draw a few simple lessons applicable to everyday life, and this he proposed to do. Taking his text from Psalm 150, 'Praise Him upon the well tuned cymbals; praise Him upon the loud cymbals,' the preacher said this was the nearest reference he could find to bells in the Bible. From the cymbals of the Bible, two crude plates clashed together by hand, they had progressed to the carefully cast, carefully tuned and carefully hung bells demanded by modern change ringing. And in the ringing chamber was a band of ringers working together in a carefully arranged plan. Not every one of the band knew the whole of the plan, but depended on the calls made by the leader. There would be pandemonium if no one took any notice and each decided to please himself. If there was one place on earth where co-operation was required, and where the leader should expect obedience, that place was in a ringing chamber. Was that not the parable of the world at large? The change from the cymbals was similar to the change in mode of life. There was need for more co-operation between man and man; need of a great leader to guide them in their dodging, place-making and hunting to the end of the peal. Men and women everywhere were seeking a leader; they had that leader in Christ, but how many of them obeyed and followed the calls He made?

As they knew, a well-tuned bell had different notes, all in harmony one with the other. It had its strike note, and its hum note, which registered an exact octave below its strike note. All Christians would do well to ask themselves if their hum note was in harmony with their strike note. Or did they sound one note in the presence of God and another elsewhere? Was their Christian strike note on Sundays in harmony with the hum note of their weekday life?

Jesus Christ was the only Leader for the world, but before He could lead we must allow Him to take us into His foundry and to tune us until our hum notes were in harmony and sympathy with our strike notes.

Ringing took place during the day at the Cathedral, All Saints', St. John-in-Bedwardine, St. Nicholas' and St. Swithun's

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HON. SECRETARY'S FIFTIETH YEAR OF OFFICE.

The annual meeting was held at Hertford on Easter Monday. As the last meeting was held at Hertford on April 7th, 1890, speculation was rife as to the measure of success it would meet with. Gladdened by a glorious spring day, members came from every division of the county, and the committee have reason to be satisfied with the results, with one exception, the cheery welcome and speeches from the Dean of St. Albans and other clerical supporters were missed. The Rector of Bengeo was the only cleric present, for a brief stay, and Mr. A. Purkiss Ginn, of Hertford, a member of the College Youths. Between 70 and 80 sat down to tea in St. Nicholas' Hall, kindly lent by the authorities of St. Andrew's Church, before which they gathered in church for a short service, conducted by the Rector (the Rev. N. T. Gardner). He preached from the text, 'Go ye, therefore, and tell my disciples,' and said that was the commission the ringers carried with them as they climbed the steps of their belfries and rang the bells for divine service. He also feelingly referred to the death of Mr. George Gray, of Hertford, who, he said, had done an immensely valuable work for bellringing in Hertford.

The business meeting was presided over by the retiring president, Mr. A. E. Cooke, of King's Langley, who recorded his pleasure derived from his presidency for the past year, and expressed the hope that the meeting would have far-reaching success.

Mr. G. E. Debenham presented the accounts, which showed a credit balance which had increased during the year from £1 0s. 2d. to £2 19s. 10d., but he explained that, as he had had to draw £3 from reserves, a loss on the year of £1 0s. 4d. had really been incurred. Although receipts from subscriptions had risen by £4 19s. 6d., this was largely accounted for by the payment of subscriptions in arrears. The Benevolent Fund showed a credit balance of £25 18s. 3d., but £2 of this was paid out during the previous week to a necessitous member. The sum of £8 13s. 5d. stood to the credit of the Voluntary Bell Fund, and it was agreed to grant three guineas from this to the cost of the restoration of the bells of St. Mary's, Hitchin. The treasurer expressed the hope that next year the accounts would be very easy, for with the increased subscription and a good set of officers this was possible.

The statement was received on the motion of the treasurer, seconded by Mr. D. Mears.

The secretary presented his annual report, which was adopted upon the motion of Mr. G. E. Debenham, duly seconded, with thanks.

HON. SECRETARY'S REPORT.

In his annual report the hon. secretary said that of the 50 peals rung on tower bells, 28 had been Surprise methods, 14 having been rung for the first time, which was an advance on anything hitherto recorded. Three peals had been rung upon handbells. The first peals of Erin Cinques and Bob Maximus rung at St. Albans Cathedral constituted another record. He also drew attention to the great advance made at the Apsley tower, where peals in 25 and 24 methods had been rung. There had been 14 conductors, and seven members had rung their first peal, which was very small. Nearly all the peals have been rung in the western side of the county, but he trusted ere long they would hear of advance being made in the Eastern and Northern Divisions.

District meetings, continued the hon. secretary, have been numerous, some of which have been joint with neighbouring associations, and very useful work has been done both by this and combined practices. One also welcomes the continuance of the short service which the clergy so readily arrange for the meetings. These simple services, with the homely address, are an inspiration to the ringers, and form an abiding link with the clergy.

Our membership keeps normal, which is not satisfactory. We need some forward movement amongst the younger members of our churches to fill up gaps. It may need some sacrifice of time, but this always brings compensation if undertaken in the right spirit. May I commend this thought to every tower leader?

At the last Easter meeting, owing to financial restrictions, a resolution was passed raising the subscription by 6d. a year. For 54 years the subscription has remained at the low level of one shilling; but with increased charges all round, the committee had no other option. As the increase is only ½d. per month, I feel sure you will shoulder this small increase in the interests of the association, and support the demands of your district secretaries at the beginning of each year, when they become due.

May I commend to your notice our Benevolent and Voluntary Bell Funds. Both are most useful adjuncts to our society, and deserve our best support. Also, if you are keen, buy 'The Ringing World' and see what others are doing, for we represent a great brotherhood. Don't lose sight of this fact. It is vital for success of any ringing society.

After referring to the various bell restorations that had taken place during the year and the loss of members by death, the hon. secretary went on to refer to the excellent work of the district secretaries and expressed great regret that failing health had caused the retirement of Mr. W. H. Lawrence (Eastern Division).

The report gave extracts from the report of the district secretaries and contained reference to the articles, under 'Leading Conductors,' which have appeared in 'The Ringing World,' in relation to three members of the association. It concluded: 'Our thanks are given to all who have furthered the interests of the association, not only during the past year, but for many years. The Cathedral authorities, the incumbents of our village and town churches, our honorary members, our district secretaries, not forgetting the many who keep the bells in ringing trim. I trust that this meeting will send you forth with the inspiration to carry on your church work as bellringers with a greater enthusiasm and success. That you will all endeavour to see the best only in each other, and not the worst side (for we all possess both), and if dissensions do arise, as sometimes they do, get together and put matters straight, ever remembering your calling, "Workers together with Him."'

Mr. H. Symons, of Hitchin, was elected a member, and confirmation of provisional election of Mrs. F. W. Housden and Mrs. P. Humphreys was also agreed to.

Mr. W. Ayre moved that the association be responsible for 12 copies of the 'Collection of Surprise Major Methods.' He pointed out that the sale of the 12 copies would give the association a profit of 3s. and that the book would not be advertised for general sale until the associations had the fullest opportunity of disposing of their copies.—Mr. G. E. Debenham seconded, and this was agreed to.

THE NEW PRESIDENT.

Mr. G. E. Debenham proposed that Mr. A. Day, of Harpenden, be president for the year, and in doing so emphasised the capabilities of Mr. Day as a ringer, together with his great interest in the association.—This was seconded by the secretary and carried unanimously.

Mr. Day, having been invested with the badge of office, said the day was the greatest moment in his ringing career. His endeavour would be to carry out his duties to the satisfaction of all, and he would strive to give his support to the district secretaries by attending as many meetings as possible.

Mr. G. E. Debenham was elected treasurer and proposed Mr. G. W. Cartmel as secretary, pointing out that he was elected assistant secretary to his father at the meeting at Hertford in 1890, and four years later was appointed secretary on the resignation of Mr. E. P. Debenham. Mr. Cartmel was now entering his fiftieth year of office, and he expressed his thanks for his long service.

On the motion of Mr. G. Radley, seconded by Mr. Cooke, the following were elected members of the Central Council: Messrs. W. Ayre, Harold Cashmore, C. Woolley and H. E. C. Goodenough.

Mr. Frost was appointed librarian, and, in reply to a question, mentioned that no requests for books had been made during the year.

Mr. G. Radley, in a few appropriate words, thanked the secretary for his long services, and Mr. Don Mears thanked the members for the subscription towards the Hitchin restoration. Mr. F. Kirk also congratulated Mr. G. E. Debenham upon being elected an honorary member of the Central Council.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(Continued from page 253.)

and his fellow-incumbents, he thanked them warmly for the work they had put in during the year on behalf of their parish churches. 'Yours is a very real spiritual contribution to the spiritual life,' said the President, 'and I am sure where ringers come together in the right spirit, realising they are taking part in a corporate act of worship, the ringing of bells does enhance that atmosphere in which we all seek to worship God.' They must, he added, keep in mind that it was a spiritual undertaking and that bells were not rung for their devotion, but for the glory of God as an integral part of His worship.

Mr. A. L. Coleman seconded the motion, which was carried.

Mr. Coleman then moved the re-election of the Rev. Hugh McMullan as president and spoke of the great services Mr. MacMullan had rendered in that capacity. Mr. J. G. W. Harwood seconded the proposition, which was carried with enthusiasm.—The President, in reply, said he was glad he was not sacked, because he really had become attached to the diocesan ringers and looked forward to the Easter Monday meetings especially. He appreciated the work of the Executive Committee and the members

The vice-presidents were re-elected, Canon Ralph L. Whytehead being added in place of the late Canon Enraght.

Mr. Nolan Golden was re-elected general secretary and treasurer. Mr. Golden spoke of the fine work done by the branch secretaries and their committees.

Mr. George P. Burton was re-elected hon. auditor for the 31st time.

Three new members—Messrs. A. Durrant (Reedham), J. Green (Wroxham) and W. D. Richmond (Garveston)—were elected.

Messrs. A. L. Coleman, F. N. Golden and L. W. Houghton were elected to represent the association on the Central Council.

Certain minor changes in the association rules were agreed to, and standing orders were suspended to bring the revised rules into force.

The Secretary spoke of the Central Council's forthcoming book on Surprise Major methods, and it was agreed that the association should take up 30 copies of the book.

Mr. W. C. Duffield thanked the incumbents of the city churches for permission to have the use of their bells throughout the day, and the Rev. E. W. Blyth for his part in the service.

Mr. C. H. Moore thanked the association for its donation to the Hethersett Bells Restoration Fund.

NOTICES.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at St. Botolph's Church, Bishopsgate, on Saturday, April 22nd. Service at 4.45 p.m. Preacher, Rev. P. D. Ellis. High tea at the Express Dairy, Wormwood Street, at 5.30 p.m., at 1s. 3d. each. Business meeting after tea. Ringing arrangements as follows:—St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate (8) from 2.30 to 4.45 and after the meeting; St. Giles', Cripplegate (12) from 2.30 to 4.15 p.m.; St. Lawrence Jewry (8) from about 7.30 to 8.30 (one hour only); St. Olave's, Hart Street (8) from about 7.30 to 9 p.m.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Gen. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4. Larkswood 1959.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—The annual meeting has been arranged at Beaconsfield on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (8) available from 2.45 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea, at 1s. per head.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Burnley Parish Church on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members cordially invited. Please make this a bumper meeting. — F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—Quarterly meeting at All Saints', Hollingbourne (6 bells) on Saturday, April 22nd. Tower open 3 p.m. Service 5, followed by tea and business meeting in Parish Room. Frequent buses pass on main London-Folkestone road (10 minutes from village).—R. G. Rayfield, Hon. Dis. Sec., Downsview, Spring Lane, Ightham.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Basingstoke District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Yateley on April 22nd. Bells available from 2.30. Service at 4. Tea and business meeting follows at Yateley Hall by the kind invitation of Miss de Winton Corry.—J. G. Stilwell, Lea Cottage, Yateley, Camberley.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—A meeting of the Gainsborough District will be held at Willingham-by-Stow (excellent ring of 6, tenor 12¾ cwt.) on Saturday, April 22nd. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., at a small charge. A special invitation is extended to visitors.—Geo. L. A. Lunn, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Burton District.—The next meeting will be held at Netherseale on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m. It is hoped that there will be a good attendance to try this handy peal. Visitors cordially invited. — J. W. Cotton, Overseal.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—The next meeting will be at All Saints', Maldon, on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting after. The bells at St. Mary's (6) will be available after tea.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Upper Arbour Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Portsmouth District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Curdridge on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., at the Reading Room. Business meeting follows. All ringers welcome.—A. T. Greenwood, Hon. Sec., 6, Sheffield Road, Portsmouth.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Wisbech Branch.—A meeting will be held at Denver on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Frome & Midsomer Norton Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at High Littleton on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5 p.m.—E. H. Nash, Hon. Sec., The Talbot, Mells.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Barkstone on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (6) available during afternoon and evening. Service at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting at 5.15 p.m.—C. T. H. Bradley, Hon. Sec., Folkingham, Lincs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Miles Platting, Manchester, on Saturday, April 22nd. Tower open for ringing at 6 o'clock.—J. H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Carlton-in-Cleveland on Saturday, April 22nd. Tea will be provided at the Fox and Hounds Inn. All ringers are welcome.—J. Reed, Hon. Sec., 67, Hedley Street, Guilsborough.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at the two six-bell towers in Lytham on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Business meeting at 5.30.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Lancaster Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Morecambe on April 22nd, where the new ring of eight bells will be available from 3 p.m. All members and friends are warmly welcomed to come and try out the bells for themselves.—E. Swain, Branch Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Harlow Town on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. All ringers welcome.—W. Wheeler, Hon. Dis. Sec., Mill Street, Harlow Common, Essex.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts Branch.—A meeting will be held at Hemmingford Grey on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—W. J. Parker, Dis. Sec., Great Staughton, St. Neots.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Potton on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers will be welcome. Please come. I mean *you*.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD (Alton and Petersfield District) AND LADIES' GUILD (Southern District).—A meeting will be held at Blackmoor on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells available 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Business meeting follows.—C. E. Bassett, 32, Charles Street, Petersfield.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—The next meeting will be held at New Mills on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. For tea please advise Mr. S. Hammond, 9, Meadowside, Newtown, New Mills.—C. K. Lewis, Hon. Sec.

SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS. — The annual meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Nottingham, on Saturday, April 22nd. Tower open 3 p.m. All ringers welcome.—I. B. Thompson, 52, Lace Street, Nottingham.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Loughborough District.—The next meeting is at Ibstock on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells available 3 p.m. Reports are now to hand. Come and get yours. Buses every few minutes from Coalville (Marlborough Square).—A. E. Rowley, Hon. Sec., Hyom, Penistone Street, Ibstock, Leicester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Southport on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells, at Christ Church, available from 2.30. Emmanuel, after tea. Tea will be free, for which please notify Mr. J. Ridyard, 16, Vaughan Road, Birkdale, Southport.—S. Forshaw, 55, Poolstock, Wigan.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — The quarterly meeting of the West Norfolk Branch will be held at North Creake on Saturday, April 22nd. Service at 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock. Please try and let me know if you are coming, as it is not so easy to cater in a small village as in a town.—W. J. Eldred, Hon. Branch Sec., 4, Wellington Street, King's Lynn.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—The spring meeting will be held at Great Shefford on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea, 5 p.m., at 6d. each. All ringers welcome.—T. J. Fisher, Hon. Sec., Arniston, Manor Lane, Newbury.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Northern Division.—Annual meeting at Slaugham on Saturday, April 22nd. Tower open 3 p.m. Service and meeting to follow.—O. Sippetts, 10, Three Bridges Road, Crawley.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District. — Quarterly meeting at Gravesend on Saturday, April 22nd. Bells available at St. George's 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30. Tea will be taken at Co-operative Cafe (five minutes from church) at 5 p.m., followed by business meeting.—G. H. Spice, Hon. Dis. Sec., 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — St. Albans District.—A combined practice will be held at St. Peter's, St. Albans, on Monday, April 24th. Bells (10) from 8-9.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—H. V. Frost, Dis. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. — Practices for April: *St. Paul's Cathedral, 25th; St. Magnus', 27th. All at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards. — A. B. Peck, Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD. — A mid-week meeting will be held at Hartfield (6) on Wednesday, April 26th. Tower open 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea should be sent to Mr. K. Garwood, 28, Brooklands Way, East Grinstead, Sussex—who is now organiser of the Guild's mid-week meetings—not later than April 24th. All are welcome.—B. Saunders, Hon. Sec.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—The monthly practice will be held at St. Leonard's Church, Shoreditch, on Thursday, April 27th, at 6.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—G. W. Steere, 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — The annual general meeting will be held at Guildford on Saturday, April 29th. The bells of the Cathedral (8) will be available from 3 p.m. to 4.30 p.m., S. Nicolas' (10) from 3 p.m. to 4.15 p.m. and S. Nicolas' and Shalford (8) after the meeting. Service will be held in the Cathedral Church at 4.30 p.m. Tea (1s. each) in Holy Trinity Parish Hall at 5.15 p.m. Those who require tea *must* let me know by Tuesday, April 25th. Business meeting in Holy Trinity Parish Hall immediately after tea.—G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec., East Clandon, Guildford.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual meeting at Lincoln on Saturday, April 29th. Service in the Morning Chapel of the Cathedral at 3.15 p.m. Tea at 4.30 at the Co-operative Hall, Silver Street, at 1s. 6d. per head, followed by business meeting. Ringing at the Cathedral, St. Peter-at-Gowt's and St. Botolph's from 2 p.m., and in the evening. Also at St. Giles' (8) from 6 to 8 p.m. Those requiring tea please send their names without fail to Mr. G. Chester, 16, Carline Road, Lincoln, not later than Wed., April 26th.—F. W. Stokes, Hon. Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — The annual general meeting will be held at Brighton on Saturday, April 29th. St. Peter's and St. Nicholas' open for ringing 2.30 to 4.15 and in the evening. The Good Shepherd, Dyke Road, 7.30 to 9. Service at St. Peter's 4.30, tea, price 2s. 6d. (1s. to members) at the Pavilion Grill Room, 5.15. Half rail fare, maximum 2s. 6d., allowed to resident members. Names for tea by April 24th.—S. E. Armstrong, Hon. Gen. Sec., 70, Hollingbury Park Avenue, Brighton 6.

WORCESTER AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—The spring meeting will be held at Evesham on Saturday, April 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting in the Walker Hall. Numbers for tea by Tuesday previous to J. E. Newman, Hinton, Evesham.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—The next meeting will be held at North Weald on Saturday, April 29th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea to follow. Please let me have numbers for tea by Wednesday, April 26th.—J. H. Crampion, Dis. Sec., 7, Cedar Avenue, Chadwell Heath.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — North Norfolk Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Northrepps on Saturday, April 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. in Church Room, but don't forget that postcard with names or numbers for tea by Tuesday, April 25th, to Henry Tooke, Branch Sec., The Lizard, Wymondham, Norfolk.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, April 29th, at the Church of St. John the Baptist, Tuebrook, Liverpool. The tower will be open at 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea will be provided. It is many years since a meeting was held at this tower. Please help to make this one successful and send word to me if you are coming for tea not later than Wednesday, April 26th.—G. R. Newton, Branch Sec., 57, Ampthill Road, Liverpool 17.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hereford District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Kingstone on Saturday, April 29th. Bells (6) available from 3 to 8.30. Service 4.45 p.m. Tea, 5.15 p.m., 6d. each, to those notifying me not later than Tuesday, April 25th.—R. H. Stickley, Dis. Sec., The Hollies, Lugwardine, Hereford.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — The annual general meeting will be held at Bramley on Saturday, April 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea can be obtained near the church. Business meeting and election of officers 7 p.m.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Leeds 12.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chester Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Dodleston on Saturday, April 29th. Ringing from 3. Service 4.30. Tea provided for those who notify me not later than the previous Tuesday.—J. W. Clarke, Mollington, Chester.

BUSHEY HEATH.—Saturday, April 29th. Tower open from 3.30. Tea 5.30, Parish Hall. Nearest rail station Bushey. Coach and bus services stop at church. Excellent service. Arrangements having to be made for tea, names MUST be in by April 26th.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey. City 4270.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Leigh Parish Church on Saturday, April 29th. Bells available 3 p.m. Business meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch. — The quarterly meeting will be held at Westbury (8 bells) on Saturday, April 29th. Ringing commences 3 p.m.; service at 4.30; tea at 5; meeting to follow.—W. C. West, Branch Hon. Sec., 584, Semington Road, Melksham.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—The next meeting will be held at West Hallam on April 29th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Tea will be arranged for all who notify me by Wednesday, April 26th. Reports to hand. Subscriptions now due.—Wm. Lancaster, Hon. Sec., 83, Albert Road, Chaddesden, Derby.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bridgwater Branch.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Bridgwater on Saturday, April 29th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. Please notify early for tea. All ringers welcome. — C. Evans, Local Sec., 17, Wellington Road, Bridgwater.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Bridgnorth Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Chetton on April 29th. Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m., followed by meeting. Those requiring tea please inform H. G. Thomas, Hildon, Victoria Road, Bridgnorth.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION (Luton District) & HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION (St. Albans District).—A joint meeting will be held at St. Mary's Parish Church, Luton, on Saturday, April 29th. The bells (8) will be available from 3 p.m. Tea and discussions at the Red Lion Hotel at 5 p.m. All ringers will be very welcome. Methods: Plain, Surprise and Spliced. —F. J. Plummer and H. V. Frost, Dis. Secs.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. Alphege, Greenwich, on Saturday, April 29th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea, by kind invitation of the Vicar and churchwardens, to those who notify me not later than Tuesday, April 25th.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere, Kent.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting of the Southern District will be held at Shildon on Saturday, April 29th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Those requiring tea, please inform me not later than Thursday, 27th inst.—J. T. Titt, Hon. Dis. Sec., 54, Newlands Road, Darlington.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch.—A meeting will be held at Henley on Saturday, April 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Evensong 5 p.m. Tea in the Chantry House 5.40 p.m., 9d. each. Please let me know by Wednesday, 26th, how many for tea.—E. G. Foster, Hon. Sec., 401, London Road, Reading.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ilchester Deanery Branch.—A meeting will be held at Drayton on Saturday, April 29th. Service at 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Please notify for tea.—F. Farrant, Martock.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Next meeting at Wellington, Saturday, April 29th. Ringing 3-4.30 and 6.30-8.30 p.m. Please notify me for tea. — W. A. Farmer, Hon. Sec., 70, Oakfield Road, Shrewsbury.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY. — The annual meeting will be held at the Parish Church of St. Michael's, Ashton-under-Lyne, on April 29th. Bells available from 6 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—Carus Wilson, Sec.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Ross District.—The quarterly district meeting will be held at Weston-under-Penyard on Saturday, April 29th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Numbers for tea to Mr. W. Poston, Bridstow, Ross, Herefordshire.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — The next meeting will be held at Barnby Don on Saturday, April 29th. Bells (6) ready at 3 p.m. Will those who require tea please let me know not later than Wednesday, 26th? All are welcome, so let us have a bumper meeting.—E. Cooper, Hon. Sec., 6, Grosvenor Crescent, Arksey, Doncaster, Yorks.

PEAK DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Next meeting, Tideswell, Saturday, April 29th. Bells (8) available 3.15 p.m. Will all members who possibly can turn up to make this a good meeting. Please write to the Secretary not later than Wednesday, April 26th?—H. L. Warburton, 72, Causeway Head Road, Dore.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern District.—The next meeting will be held on Sat., April 29th, at Llandefaelog. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., tea and business meeting to follow.—J. P. Hyett, Dis. Sec., Dulas Terrace, Hay.

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Goudhurst on Saturday, May 6th, *not April 29th*, as proposed. I shall be grateful if members and others will notify me if they require tea.—J. G. Powell, Hon. Sec., 1, Woodbury Road, Hawkhurst, Kent.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Next meeting will be held at St. Peter's Church, Walsden, on Saturday, May 6th. Tea in the Schoolroom at 1s. each to those who notify Mr. J. Dugdale, 38, Ramsden Wood Road, Walsden, by Wednesday, May 3rd.—Ivan Kay, Hon. Sec.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Andover District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Highclere on Saturday, May 6th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Business meeting follows. All requiring tea please notify by May 3rd to the undersigned.—F. S. H. Marle, Hon. Sec., Deane Rectory.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—St. Michael's, East Peckham (6 bells) is beautifully situated in the heart of the fruit growing district. Come and see for yourself on Saturday, May 6th, the occasion of the Spring meeting. Half fares will be paid to members attending. Look out for further details next week. Please notify me for tea not later than Tuesday, May 2nd.—Alec E. Richardson, Laurel Cottage, Victoria Road, Southborough.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — The half-yearly meeting will be held at Morecambe on Saturday, May 6th. The new bells at Holy Trinity will be available from 2.30 p.m. Tea in Memorial Hall or Miss Wood's Café at 5.15. Names or numbers to Mr. E. Swain, 23, Thornton Road, Morecambe, by Wednesday, May 3rd. —W. H. Shuker and T. Wilson, Hon. Secs.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A meeting will be held at Puttenham on Saturday, May 6th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Will all those requiring tea please notify me by Wednesday, May 3rd? —W. F. J. Cope, Hon. Sec., 26, Curling Vale, Onslow Village, Guildford.

NEW ADDRESSES.

The address of Mr. Jack L. Millhouse is now 32, Ruskin Avenue, St. Giles, Lincoln.

The address of Mr. Frank Bennett is now 37, Port Hall Road, Brighton 5.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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'SYNTHETIC' BELLS FOR CHESTERFIELD?

It is not surprising that members of the Midland Counties Association, at their annual meeting, heard with some alarm that a proposal is on foot to use 'synthetic' bells at the Parish Church of Chesterfield. It seems almost incredible that a church with a ring of ten bells should toy with the idea of installing a gramophone and amplifiers in their place. Chesterfield is famed for its crooked spire, and it was once the centre of great ringing activity, when the late Arthur Knights had charge of the belfry. Then came doubts about the stability of the structure; the bells were stopped on the architect's advice, and, as far as ringing is concerned, have been silent for a number of years. A large sum was spent in the restoration of the tower, but still, apparently, consent to ring the bells is withheld. If, now, a gramophone is to be substituted, well may the people and friends of Chesterfield ask, 'Was it for this that we restored our tower?' It can hardly be imagined that when the structure was repaired it was not made safe for ringing, and why the bells are still silent seems to us something of a mystery when there are so many ringers in the district who are anxious to get them going again.

When the matter was discussed at the Midland Counties Association's meeting, the president expressed the opinion that the proposal was only a suggestion, in view of the known sympathy which the Vicar of Chesterfield has with ringers. We hope that this is all there is in it, and that it will not be for a moment entertained. The installation of the gramophone apparatus would probably be the end of all hopes of any early restarting of the celebrated peal, which have been the pride of Chesterfield. If there are still doubts in the mind of any of the responsible people about the stability of the tower, would it not be a wise plan to call in further advice before the bells are condemned to eternal silence and a 'tinned' substitute employed?

If there is a case for the use of a gramophone and amplifiers at churches which have no bells, there seems to us not the slightest excuse for installing the apparatus where a fine peal of bells already exists; and if the scheme is seriously put forward, it is to be hoped that it will be successfully opposed. It would be far better that Chesterfield's own bells should be merely chimed for the services than that alien bells, recorded on discs, should be broadcast from the church where the celebrated peal hangs mute. When the views of the Midland Counties ringers are put before the Vicar of Chesterfield, we trust they will prevail. What would be interesting to know is exactly why, now that the tower is restored, the bells

(Continued on page 262.)

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cannot be rung. Is it that the restoration has not been sufficiently extensive to make it safe to use the bells? Or is it for some other reason? In any case, it would be an extremely unfortunate happening if the suggestion to instal the gramophone, to replace Chesterfield's own bells, were allowed to materialise without the most determined opposition.

TEN BELL PEAL.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 22, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;
Tenor 21½ cwt.

*THOMAS TURNER ...	...Treble	*JOHN BAGNALL	6
*JOHN ASKEW	2	*FRANK FORSBAW	7
GEORGE M. WHEAT	3	NICHOLAS M. NEWBY ...	8
*JAMES E. BURLES	4	FRED H. CRAWLEY	9
*ALAN CAPSTICK	5	THOMAS METCALFE ...	...Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by J. E. BURLES.
* First peal in the method. Rung in honour of St. George's Day.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BOREHAM, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF ST. CLEMENT'S COLLEGE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt. 19 lb.

ARTHUR H. EVERETT	...Treble	*WALTER DORKING	5
HERBERT DEVONISH ...	2	†LLEWELLYN P. JOSLIN ...	6
GEORGE GREEN	3	NORMAN F. GRINHAM ...	7
*CHRISTOPHER JAGGARD ...	4	PERCY GREEN	...Tenor

Composed by G. H. CROSS. Conducted by A. H. EVERETT.
* First peal in the method. † First peal 'inside.' First peal in the method as conductor.

BLAKENHALL, STAFFS.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Tuesday, April 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 16 lb.

*ARTHUR H. HINGLEY	...Treble	†DAVID HINGLEY...	5
†ALBERT D. COLLINS	2	CHRISTOPHER WALLATER...	6
†ERIC A. SPEAKE	3	THOMAS J. ELTON	7
HAROLD SMITH	4	BARNABAS G. KEY ...	...Tenor

Composed by REV. H. EARLE BOLWER. Conducted by B. G. KEY.
* First peal of Treble Bob Major. † First peal in the method.

WOLSTANTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, April 14, 1939, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
REEVES' VARIATION OF HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt.

WILLIAM A. FITCHFORD	...Treble	*WILLIAM A. EDGE	5
DOUGLAS R. WHALLEY ...	2	R. S. ANDERSON	6
MRS. V. MILES	3	*T. LESLIE WALLEY	7
GEORGE E. KETTLE	4	*GEO. WALLEY	...Tenor

Conducted by DOUGLAS R. WHALLEY.
* First peal.

HOLME-LACY, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, April 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CUTHBERT,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 18 cwt.

WILLIAM H. SYMONDS	...Treble	AUSTIN T. WINGATE	5
*WILFRED MORETON	2	GEORGE T. COUSINS	6
†WILLIAM HOWELLS	3	ERNEST F SALMONS	7
JOHN D. WORSEY	4	ERNEST WILLIAMS ...	...Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST F. SALMONS.
* First peal. † First peal of Grandsire Triples 'inside.'

BOCKING, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE DEANERY CHURCH,
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 18½ cwt. in E.

SAMUEL WARNE	*Treble*	RONALD SUCKLING	5
HILDA G. SNOWDEN	2	JOHN G. NASH	6
FREDERICK RIDGWELL... ...	3	LEWIS W. WIFFEN	7
FRANK CLAYDON	4	JOHN H. CRAMPION ...	*Tenor*

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by L. W. WIFFEN.
Rung for the Easter festival.

BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTH BUCKS BRANCH.)
On Saturday, April 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 15½ cwt.

*RONALD H. PEARSON ...	*Treble*	JOSEPH MARKS	5
*LEONARD F. STONTON ...	2	*DONALD J. MEAGER	6
FREDERICK J. STONTON ...	3	HARRY SEAR	7
WALTER SEAR	4	*HENRY PEARSON... ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by HARRY SEAR.
* First peal and first attempt.

BRADPOLE, DORSET.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.
(WEST DORSET BRANCH.)
On Saturday, April 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 13 cwt. 9 lb.

*HAROLD C. R. VINE...	*Treble*	CUTHBERT W. H. POWELL...	5
*HUBERT SMITH	2	HENRY G. KEELEY	6
JOHN E. PHILBRICK	3	H. DENNIS W. BISHOP ...	7
*ARTHUR G. CHUBB	4	CHARLES H. LATBEY ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by H. D. W. BISHOP.
* First peal of Triples. First peal as conductor other than of Doubles.

SOUTHGATE, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
(CHRIST CHURCH SOCIETY, SOUTHGATE.)
On Saturday, April 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 25 cwt.

DAVID WRIGHT	*Treble*	NORMAN A. TOMLINSON ...	5
SIDNEY WADE	2	HARRY MILLER	6
WALTER J. BOWDEN	3	JOHN E. MILLER	7
EDWARD H. KING...	4	JOHN ARMSTRONG... ...	*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by JOHN ARMSTRONG.

GRAYSHOTT, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, April 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor 8 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lb.

JOHN S. GOLDSMITH	*Treble*	GEORGE WILLIAMS	5
FREDERICK S. BAYLEY ...	2	C. ERNEST SMITH	6
CHARLES E. BASSETT	3	REGINALD A. REED	7
RAYMOND PHILPOTT	4	FREDERICK W. ROGERS ...	*Tenor*

Composed by J. COX. Conducted by FREDERICK W. ROGERS.
The first peal on the bells.

LEATHERHEAD, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, April 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS MARY AND NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

ARTHUR C. OTWAY	*Treble*	ARTHUR J. SMITH...	5
ALFRED H. WINCH	2	WILLIAM J. WEITING	6
*ERNEST W. BUGDEN	3	WILLIAM G. NEWBERRY ...	7
GEORGE MARRINER	4	ALBERT HARMAN	*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by A. HARMAN.
* First Surprise peal. Rung in honour of the wedding of the Rev. P. W. Isdell-Carpenter, curate of Leatherhead, and Miss Monier-Williams, which took place at Leatherhead the same day.

STOKE-MANDEVILLE, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, April 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 9½ cwt.

ROLAND BIGGS	*Treble*	FREDERICK G. BIGGS... ...	5
GEORGE MARTIN	2	JESSE HARRISON...	6
REV. R. F. R. ROUTH ...	3	*F. DONALD BOREHAM ...	7
WILFRED EDWARDS	4	HARRY WINGROVE	*Tenor*

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by H. WINGROVE.
* First peal in the method.

GREAT BEDWORTH, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, April 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 23 cwt.

ROBERT SPERRING	*Treble*	EDWIN C. BIRKETT	5
LESTER L. GRAY	2	GEORGE R. NEWTON	6
THOMAS R. BUTLER	3	FRANK VARTY	7
WILLIAM E. FLETCHER ...	4	RALPH G. EDWARDS	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE R. NEWTON.
First peal of Stedman on the bells. Rung in honour of the completion of 53 years as a service ringer at this church by the tower-keeper, Mr. Harry Dickens.

MANCHESTER.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN, MILES PLATTING,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 12 cwt.

ALFRED FROST	*Treble*	RICHARD BENSON...	5
HAROLD JONES	2	FRED. E. MURGATROYD ...	6
WILLIAM BRAMMER	3	PETER CROOK, SEN.	7
*JOCELYN B. GARDINER ...	4	ALBERT FORD	*Tenor*

Composed by B. ANNABLE. Conducted by ALBERT FORD.
* First peal of Major. The conductor's first peal of Bob Major.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, April 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 16½ cwt.

*MISS DORIS E. LIDBETTER	*Treble*	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE... ...	5
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE ...	2	WILLIAM H. COLES	6
ARTHUR B. WIFFEN	3	ERNEST C. S. TURNER ...	7
HERBERT W. LIDBETTER...	4	HARRY BROOKS	*Tenor*

Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.
* First peal of Triples. Rung as a farewell peal to H. W. Lidbetter and in honour of the birth of a son and heir to Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Lock.

TOWER CLOCKS J. B. JOYCE & CO. LTD.
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LEICESTER.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
On the light eight. Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 7 lb.

*REGINALD M. HILL ...	...*Treble*	JOSEPH W. COTTON	5
SIDNEY HARRISON	2	ERNEST MORRIS	6
ARTHUR CATTELL	3	ARTHUR DEBENHAM	7
†C. RAYMOND HILL	4	*JOHN H. HILL	...*Tenor*

Composed by T. THURSTANS. Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.
* First peal on eight bells. † First peal of Triples.

BAMPTON, OXON.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, April 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH.
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 26 cwt.

FRANCIS A. WHITE ...	...*Treble*	FREDERICK C. WHITE... ...	5
HENRY C. WHITE	2	GEORGE HOLIFIELD	6
FREDERICK MESSENGER ...	3	RICHARD WHITE	7
ARTHUR H. WHITE	4	CUTHBERT G. WHITE ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by G. HOLIFIELD.

WOMBOURNE, STAFFS.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Monday, April 17, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BENEDICT,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 10 cwt.

*VICTOR GUEST	...*Treble*	†ARCHIBALD CLARKE	5
MAURICE G. TURNER ...	2	ROGER HAWESWORTH ...	6
BARNABAS G. KEY	3	CYRIL TABERNER	7
*WALTER CADDICK	4	‡KENNETH A. HANDLEY	...*Tenor*

Conducted by B. G. KEY.
* First peal. † First peal of Triples 'inside.' ‡ First peal on eight bells.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, April 17, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 24 cwt.

*ARTHUR JAMES	...*Treble*	PETER CROOK, SEN.	5
*FRANK BARROWCLOUGH ...	2	PERCY H. DERBYSHIRE ...	6
*CHARLES RIDYARD	3	JOSEPH H. RIDYARD	7
JOHN BENJAMIN BUDD ...	4	*RICHARD BENSON ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by H. JOHNSON. Conducted by J. H. RIDYARD.
* First peal in the method. Rung to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the first peal of Double Norwich rung in Lancashire.

WOODFORD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, April 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 11 cwt.

*JAMES DRIVER	...*Treble*	JAMES CHALK	5
ALBERT G. PETTY	2	JOHN C. PETTY	6
JOHN H. CRAMPION	3	FRANCIS W. CORNEY	7
STANLEY F. WEBB	4	WILLIAM MORLEY ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by H. HUBBARD. Conducted by J. H. CRAMPION.
* First peal. First peal of Bob Triples by all the band. Arranged as a birthday compliment to Mr. William Morley.

WALLINGFORD, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wednesday, April 19, 1939, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

*CLARENCE WORLEY ...	...*Treble*	OLIVER G. BARNARD... ...	5
*ROBERT H. BLOND	2	ALFRED H. WEBB	6
BERNARD S. NICHOLS ...	3	†WILLIAM LAMBELL	7
†ALBAN R. POYNTZ	4	ALAN R. PINK	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. H. MARTIN. Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.
* First peal. † First peal of Major.

BROMLEY, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, April 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PITSTOW'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb.

PHILIP A. CORBY... ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM G. GRACE	5
HARRY HOSKINS	2	GEORGE H. DAYNES	6
PERCY J. SPICE	3	JAMES BENNETT	7
FREDERICK E. PITMAN ...	4	EDMUND MOUNTER ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. BENNETT.
Rung as a 74th birthday compliment to Mr. George Huxley, senior member of the Bromley Youths.

WOLBOROUGH, DEVON.
THE GUILD OF CLERICAL RINGERS.
On Wednesday, April 19, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 16 cwt.

REV. A. RHYS JAMES ...	...*Treble*	REV. J. H. B. ANDREWS ...	5
REV. HUGH BENSON	2	REV. W. P. WRIGHT	6
REV. E. S. POWELL	3	REV. C. CAREW COX	7
REV. B. F. SHEPPARD	4	REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. S. BURTON. Conducted by REV. E. S. POWELL.

QUORN, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, April 20, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
WASHBROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 14 cwt.

WALTER P. WHITEHEAD	...*Treble*	ARTHUR DEBENHAM	5
CHARLES MARSHALL	2	WILLIAM BOTTRILL	6
RONALD W. SWANN	3	RALPH NARBOROUGH	7
W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON ...	4	EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD	...*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM BOTTRILL.

BUSHEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, April 20, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt.

HENRY F. SOUTHALL ...	...*Treble*	GEORGE W. DEBENHAM ...	5
FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW ...	2	FRANCIS KIRK	6
CECIL C. MAYNE	3	EDWIN JENNINGS	7
ERIC B. HARTLEY	4	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT	...*Tenor*

Composed by E. MORRIS. Conducted by MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT.

EYNSFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, April 20, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 12 cwt.

PHILIP A. CORBY ...	...*Treble*	GEORGE W. FOGDEN	5
THOMAS H. FRANCIS	2	ARTHUR S. RICHARDS	6
DENNIS G. BROWN	3	JOHN O WELLER...	7
*ROBERT W. HAZELL... ...	4	DEREK M. SHARP... ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by F. E. W. MEADOWS. Conducted by DENNIS G. BROWN
* First attempt for a peal. First peal as conductor.

BISHOP AUCKLAND, CO. DURHAM.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, April 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 12 cwt.

SAMUEL BRYANT	...*Treble*	RICHARD BUSBY	5
GEORGE W. PARK	2	JAMES T. TITT	6
ROBERT B. ROBINSON	3	ROLAND PARK	7
GEORGE W. PEVERELL ...	4	W. NORMAN PARK... ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by W. NORMAN PARK.
Rung as a welcome to the Rt. Rev. Dr. A. T. P. Williams, the newly-consecrated Bishop of Durham.

HARMSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, April 22, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 12 cwt.

*MRS L. L. NEAL ... ...*Treble*		*JOHN F. PEARSON 5	
FREDERICK W. STOKES ... 2		JOHN FREEMAN 6	
WALTER TOMLINSON... ... 3		JOHN A. FREEMAN 7	
JOHN WALDEN 4		GEORGE FLINTHAM ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by JOHN A. FREEMAN.

* First peal in the method and first on eight bells.

HINTON-ON-THE-GREEN, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 22, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE OXFORD BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 10½ cwt.

*JOHN HALL ... ...*Treble*		WILLIAM RANFORD 5	
*JOHN THOMAS 2		WILLIAM LEWIS... 6	
SIDNEY T. HOLT 3		*JOSEPH D. JOHNSON 7	
*RALPH HARRIS 4		CHARLES CAMM ... ...*Tenor*	

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by JOSEPH D. JOHNSON.

* First peal in the method. First peal of Double Oxford on the bells. Rung on the occasion of the marriage of two members of the association, Miss F. A. Johnson, of Hinton, and Mr. T. W. Lewis, of St. John's and the Cathedral, Worcester, which took place at this church earlier in the day.

WORCESTER.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(WESTERN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, April 22, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 15¼ cwt.

*RALPH W. SAYERS ... ...*Treble*		ALLEN MORGAN 5	
ROBERT G. KNOWLES ... 2		‡ERNEST F. CUBBERLEY ... 6	
GEORGE E. LARGE 3		JOHN J. JEFFERIES 7	
†HORACE HODGE... 4		REGINALD WOODYATT ...*Tenor*	

Composed by GEO. WILLIAMS. Conducted by GEO. E. LARGE.

* First peal of Bob Major. † First peal of Major 'inside.' ‡ First peal of Major. Rung as a wedding compliment to Mr. T. W. Lewis (a member of this tower and of Worcester Cathedral) and Miss F. A. Johnson (a member of the Hinton, Evesham, band), who were married at Hinton the same day.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

CUCKNEY, NOTTS.
THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, April 9, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one 720 of Double Bob and two 720's each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 10½ cwt.

JOHN NORRIS ... ...*Treble*		FREDERICK FLINT 4	
JOE READER 2		RICHARD REECE 5	
*WILLIAM DICKINSON... ... 3		HERBERT T. ROOKE ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by H. T. ROOKE.

* First peal of Minor in more than one method. Rung for the 25th anniversary of the installation of the bells.

SOUTH KIRKBY, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)
On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven extents, in seven different callings.
Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb.

*PETER WOODWARD ... ...*Treble*		*ROLAND HILL 4	
†ALBERT E. HARRISON ... 2		‡ARTHUR GILL 5	
HOWARD SCOTT 3		DANIEL SMITH ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by DANIEL SMITH.

* First peal in the method. † First peal attempt. ‡ First peal in the method on six bells. First peal in the method as a conductor and first in the method on the bells.

DEEPING ST. JAMES, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Norfolk, London, York, Cambridge, Ipswich, Primrose and Durham. Tenor 19½ cwt.

CUTHBERT T. H. BRADLEY *Treble*		WILLIAM OLDMAN 4	
CHARLES WOOD 2		ALBERT E. SCOTT... 5	
JOSEPH O. LANDON 3		HORACE M. DAY ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by H. M. DAY.

Rung for the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. William Clarke.

UPPER ARLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Tuesday, April 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
Being 12 six-scores of Stedman, 14 of Grandsire, eight of Plain Bob and eight of Reverse Canterbury. Tenor 9½ cwt.

*CYRIL TABERNER ... ...*Treble*		‡ALBERT G. RICHARDS ... 4	
NORMAN G. LEECH 2		BARNABAS G. KEY 5	
†MAURICE G. TURNER ... 3		*FREDERICK BENNETT... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by B. G. KEY.

* First peal in four methods. † First peal of Doubles and in more than one method. ‡ First peal of Doubles 'inside.'

CULLOMPTON, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
With 4-6-8 covering, 42 six-scores (10 callings). Tenor 19 cwt. 2 qr. 4 lb.

WILLIAM H. BOND ... ...*Treble*		E. JAMES JORDAN 5	
LEONARD WHEELER 2		ROBERT MORRISH... 6	
JOSEPH B. BREALY 3		EDWARD W. BIFFEN 7	
JAMES UPTON 4		JAMES SNELL ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by EDWARD W. BIFFEN.

First peal by all except the conductor.

STISTED, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
(ST. ANDREW'S GUILD, EARLS COLNE.)
On Saturday, April 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF SPLICED MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven extents in 34 methods, viz.: (1) Willesden, Old Oxford, Newdigate and College Bob IV. Treble Bob; (2) Cumberland, Ennerdale, Killarney and Horsmonden; (3) Frodsham and Windermere; (4) Lytham, London Bob, Double Oxford, Thelwall, Wavertree, College Single, St. Clement's, Childwall, Reverse Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, Double Bob, Plain Bob and Fulbeck; (5) Court Bob, Oxford Bob, Hereward and Double Court; (6) Capel, Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston and Oxford Treble Bob; (7) Cambridge and Primrose Surprise.

HARRY CARTER ... ...*Treble*		ALBERT L. DIXEY 4	
VICTOR MORLEY 2		ALEC M. GENERY... 5	
REGINALD G. SIMMONDS ... 3		RALPH BIRD ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by R. BIRD.

The highest number of methods yet rung to a peal for the association. One hundred and forty-two changes of method.

TAXAL, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, April 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF SPLICED TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven extents in 29 methods: (1) Crowland, Combermere, Vale Royal, St. Werburgh, Abbeyville and Canterbury Delight; (2) Newdigate, Old Oxford, College Bob IV., Willesden, Marple and Taxal Delight; (3) Wragby, Braintree and Humber Delight; (4) Charlwood, Neasden and St. Albans Delight; (5) Ockley, Morning Star Treble Bob and Disley Delight; (6) Duke of Norfolk, College Exercise and Norbury Treble Bob; (7) Capel, Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 11¾ cwt.

ALBERT T. BANCROFT ... ...*Treble*		C. KENNETH LEWIS 4	
JOHN WORTH 2		JOSEPH WHITTAKER 5	
THOMAS TAYLOR 3		JAMES A. MILNER... ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by C. KENNETH LEWIS.

There were 64 changes of method.

APSLEY END, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different extents. Tenor 14¼ cwt.

BRIAN MCKAY	...*Treble*	WALTER AYRE	... 4
*HAROLD J. HAZELL ...	.. 2	AUGUSTINE V. GOOD ...	... 5
WILLIAM J. PUDDIFOOT ...	3	WILLIAM J. RANDALL ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM J. RANDALL.

First peal of London on the bells and by all the band except the ringer of the 4th.

HARSTON, CAMBS.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb.

JACK GREEN	...*Treble*	RONALD H. LAWRANCE	... 4
CYRIL G. HURST	... 2	CHARLES W. COOK	 5
BERT DEAN	... 3	ALBERT HURST ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. W. COOK.

First peal of Treble Bob by all except the conductor. Rung for the Easter festival.

BINFIELD, BERKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, April 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Double Court, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Oxford Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

GEORGE GILBERT... ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM WELLING ...	... 4
ALFRED J. RANCE ...	... 2	WILLIAM HENLEY ...	... 5
BRYAN O'NEILL	... 3	TONY PRICE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by TONY PRICE.

Specially arranged for the wedding of Miss Joan A. Blackman, of Wokingham, and Mr. Arthur J. N. Rance (son of the ringer of the 2nd), of Binfield, both well-known ringers in the district, who were married at All Saints', Wokingham.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALKMUND,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven 720's called differently. Tenor 17 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb. in E.

*WILLIAM BYARD... ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM LANCASTER...	... 4
FRED W. STONE... ...	... 2	WILLIAM A. PARSONS	... 5
WILLIAM BAKER... ...	... 3	†GEORGE TANDY	... 6

*WILLIAM R. WEBSTER ...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE TANDY.

* First peal. † First peal of Minor. Rung half-muffled as a last token of respect to the late Mr. Fred Hickling.

LYMPSTONE, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
On Saturday, April 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Comprising 42 six-scores, with 10 different callings. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

CHARLES R. LILLEY...	...*Treble*	ERNEST E. RETTER ...	... 4
*SIDNEY H. SEAGER ...	... 2	*FRANK N. BASTIN ...	... 5
GEORGE WEST	... 3	*WILLIAM E. PIDSLEY	...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

* First peal and local men.

ADDINGHAM, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two extents of Plain Bob, two of Oxford Treble Bob and three of Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

ERNEST H. SIMPSON ...	...*Treble*	HERBERT HELIWELL ...	... 4
MISS MARY WHITE ...	... 2	KENNETH SIMPSON ...	... 5
RONALD H. DOVE... ...	... 3	ARTHUR BAIRSTOW ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ARTHUR BAIRSTOW.

KEMPSEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 15, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 19¾ cwt.

*ERNEST F. CUBBERLEY	...*Treble*	WILLIAM RANFORD ...	... 4
ALLEN MORGAN	... 2	WILLIAM LEWIS	... 5
GEORGE E. LARGE	3	REGINALD WOODYATT...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE.

* First seven-method peal.

DUNSFOLD, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wednesday, April 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Seven different 720's. Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb.

*WILLIAM F. J. COPE...	...*Treble*	*ERNEST J. AYLIFFE ...	... 4
*JOHN S. GOLDSMITH ..	... 2	OLIVER SIPPETTS ...	... 5
WILLIAM T. BERSON...	... 3	*C. ERNEST SMITH ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. ERNEST SMITH.

* First peal of Cambridge Minor. First peal of Minor as conductor. First Surprise peal on the bells.

HANDBELL PEALS.

CRAYFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, April 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes
IN THE BELFRY OF THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,
A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

GEOFFREY V. MURPHY... ...	1-2	CYRIL BRETT-SMITH ...	... 5-6
DEREK M. SHARP	3-4	EDWIN A. BARNETT ...	... 7-8

EDWIN BARNETT... 9-10

Composed by H. J. TUCKER. Conducted by DEREK M. SHARP.

Arranged as a compliment to Mr. E. Barnett on his birthday.

BRAINTREE, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, April 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,
IN THE BELFRY OF THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

BASIL REDGWELL...	1-2	LEWIS W. WIFFEN ...	... 5-6
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	3-4	ALBERT WIFFEN	... 7-8

Composed by REV. E. B. JAMES. Conducted by C. W. WOOLLEY.

VETERAN'S BIRTHDAY COMPLIMENT.

At the Parish Church, Blackmoor, Hants, on Easter Sunday morning, before service, a quarter-peal was rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. James Norris on attaining the age of 84 years. He has been a ringer at Blackmoor for 56 years and has several sons and grandsons also ringers there. The touch was also a birthday compliment to Mr. G. E. Norris, his son. Those taking part were F. Windibank (first attempt) 1, V. Shadbolt 2, C. Pay 3, G. E. Norris 4, W. Read (conductor) 5, G. Hall (first quarter-peal on tenor) 6.

AN 80th BIRTHDAY COMPLIMENT

For the 80th birthday of Mrs. A. M. Wayet, widow of the late Vicar, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes) was rung at Pinchbeck, Lincs, on April 5th: A. Patrick 1, G. Ladd 2, J. Pepper 3, N. Hollingworth 4, G. Tewell 5, A. J. Farr 6, W. Alan Richardson 7, J. G. Ames (conductor) 8. First quarter-peal and first attempt by ringers of 1 and 3.

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NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

A DIOCESAN GUILD FOR NOTTINGHAMSHIRE?

The 53rd annual meeting of the North Notts Association was held at Retford on Saturday, April 15th, when the bells of the three Retford towers were at the ringers' disposal during the afternoon and evening. Ringing commenced at 3 p.m. on the ten at the Parish Church and on the six at Ordsall, but West Retford was not visited until after tea. The striking was weak at first, but with the advent of more talent it improved and the variety of methods with it. There were about 35 members present and several visitors, including the Masters of three societies and the treasurer of one of the three.

A short service was held in East Retford Church, which the Vicar (the Rev. D. Jones) conducted, while the Rev. R. F. Wilkinson, of Ordsall, gave a short address. He chose the words, 'Be not weary in well doing,' for his text and mentioned the distractions and substitutions which are constantly being met with. He called for personal service for the church, particularly in the tower where young men should be trained to ring and ring well. Not every tower flourished at any one time, each having its ups and downs; it was the association's duty to maintain the balance as evenly as possible.

Tea followed the service, in the Ebsworth Hall, which the Parish Church authorities kindly lent. At the meeting the Rev. D. James expressed his regret at not being able to stay and preside. The Rev. R. F. Wilkinson thereupon proposed a vote of thanks to him and took over the duties of chairman.

The balance sheet and report were passed. The secretary explained certain items on the balance sheet and pointed out that the number of ringing members who had paid their subscription for 1938 had risen by seven to 136, and all expenses except for printing were down.

WORK SLOWED DOWN.

In his report, the secretary said the association's work appeared to have slowed down somewhat during 1938. He had three reasons for making this statement, firstly the attendance at meetings had dropped, secondly the cup contest failed to materialise, owing to lack of support, and, lastly, fewer towers were having a regular practice night. He appreciated that everyone seemed to lead a busier life nowadays, particularly since the National Service schemes had come into operation, but it was regrettable that the art all over the country was on the wane. There were, in their own association, certain points to offset this, among others several towers had gained recruits, and ringers had visited other towers to assist learners. However, to those who had not already done so, he recommended that (1) the interest, active if possible, of the clergy be obtained: (2) choirboys, when their services are no longer required as such (and only then), be recruited as learners; (3) every ringer obtains a copy of 'Standard Methods' and learns how to read it; and (4) a regular practice be held and new methods attempted. The number of peals, the report added, was down to 16, of which 15 were of Minor and one of Triples. There were five conductors; the number of first peals was seven; and 21 members rang other 'firsts.' The secretary urged a larger attendance at meetings, expressed the hope of a good cup contest this year (it is to take place at Cuckney on June 10th), and concluded by thanking all who had helped him in the past year.

All the officers were re-elected en bloc for the year 1939-40, and ten new members were elected, eight from Worksop Priory, one from Warsop and one from Sutton.

The Chairman referred to the question of a Diocesan Guild for the whole of Nottinghamshire. If such a guild were formed, the North Notts Association would form an excellent Northern District. However, no resolution was made as to the furtherance of the idea, and the position so far as the association is concerned remains as before.

The Chairman also referred to the sad loss Sutton-on-Trent has sustained in the passing of their popular Vicar, the Rev. W. C. Bates. The association's sympathy went out to the parishioners and ringers of that village.

After the meeting ringing continued until 8.30 p.m. Minor and Doubles pealed out (almost as regularly as clockwork on occasions) from West Retford and Ordsall, while at East Retford Minor (on the back six) to Royal methods, such as Kent, Stedman, Grandsire, Cambridge, Double Norwich, Duffield, Little Bob and Plain Bob were rung. Only one touch failed to come into rounds at this tower during the afternoon and evening; two false starts were due to a misunderstanding, and, on the whole, the day's ringing was thoroughly enjoyable.

SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting was held at St. Paul's Cathedral, Dundee, on Saturday, April 15th. The ring of eight at St. Paul's has recently been rehung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. The great improvement in the 'go' of the bells was commented on by all present.

The meeting did not attract so many members as usual mainly owing to the long journey, but 30 were present. Touches of Grandsire, Stedman and Erin Triples and Kent Treble Bob were brought round.

The Provost of the Cathedral, the Very Rev. Sutherland-Graeme, welcomed the ringers and conducted the service.

At the business meeting which followed the ringers from England, Miss Kirton and Mr. E. W. Yates, formerly of Worsley, were elected members. After tea there was more ringing at the old steeple.

Mr. Stenhouse, of Liverpool, and Mr. Leach, of York, were visitors.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The meeting of the Bridgwater Branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association to-morrow is not at Bridgwater as advertised last week, but at Greinton.

Continuing the experiment of mid-week meetings, the Farnham District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild is to hold a meeting at Ash on Wednesday, May 3rd. These meetings are primarily for the benefit of those who are unable to attend meetings on Saturdays, and it is hoped they will take advantage of the opportunity.

Miss Sylvia Bowyer, of Ipswich, who at the annual meeting of the Suffolk Guild last Saturday was elected to the committee, is the first lady to serve the Guild in any official capacity.

A recent report in the 'Daily Herald' that Betty Rayfield, of Eastbourne, was believed to be the only girl bellringer in England, prompted one of the youthful members of the Erith company to write to the paper and point out that in his band are three girl bellringers, aged 14, 13 and 12 years, and five boys, aged 13 (including himself), who ring regularly each Sunday.

There are, in fact, quite a number of young girls now taking their place in the belfries, and only last Saturday yet another rang her first peal. She was Gladys Willars, and the peal was rung at South Wigston, Leicestershire.

After the annual meeting of the Midland Counties Association at Burton-on-Trent, six very conscientious Leicester members would not deign to wait for the last train home—No! This would be breaking faith, as they had promised to be home *early*. Unfortunately, however, the train they boarded took the wrong turning and they arrived at Birmingham, non-stop! After an enforced wait there of over an hour and a half, a slow train got them to Leicester *early*—but it was early next morning!

Congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Lock, of North Mimms, Herts, upon the birth of a son and heir. Both the parents are well-known ringers. Mr. Lock is hon. secretary, having previously been Ringing Master, of the North and East District of the Middlesex Association, and his wife (formerly Miss Kathleen Bradford) is one of the most accomplished of the lady ringers. Just before her marriage she took part in a peal in nine spliced Surprise Major methods at Willesden.

Mr. W. A. Stote, of Coventry, one of the N.U.T.S., has now rung in over one thousand towers. 'Collecting' new towers is his hobby, and, as Mr. Stote is only 31 years of age, he has been quite busy. If you don't believe it, ring in 500 towers and then see what it means to add every hundred afterwards.

After the meeting of the Middlesex Association in London on Saturday, an informal meeting of the Ladies' Guild was found in progress in another place. Under the circumstances, no official communique was issued, or expected, when the conference broke up, but it is not unlikely they discussed the failings of the men.

The continued pressure on our space, owing to the large number of meetings recently held, makes it again necessary to hold over a number of reports.

ST MARTIN'S GUILD.

INNOVATION AT ASTON MEETING.

A very enjoyable quarterly meeting of St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham was held at Aston Parish Church on Saturday, April 1st. About 60 members and friends attended and enjoyed ringing on the peal of twelve bells in various methods during the afternoon and again in the evening. At 5 o'clock an adjournment was made to the Parish Room, where an excellent meat tea was partaken of.

The Guild's form of service in church was dispensed with, and instead the assembled company was addressed by the Vicar, the Rev. H. McGowan, immediately after tea. He first welcomed them to Aston and then proceeded to give a short homily on the season of Holy Week, which commenced the next day, and what Christ's attitude would be to many of the world's troubles to-day.

In the absence of the Master (Alderman J. S. Pritchett), the Vicar presided at the business meeting which followed. Messrs. J. W. Smith and C. W. Cooper, both of St. Thomas' tower, Stourbridge, were elected life members, and Messrs. J. Fifield, of Coleshill, and J. D. Pratt, of Perry Barr, as country members.

It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting on Saturday, July 1st, at Sutton Coldfield, and the bi-quarterly on May 13th at Knowle.

The hon. secretary (Mr. T. H. Reeves) proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Aston ringers, who had very kindly defrayed the cost of the tea; to Mr. W. Davies for the excellent arrangements made; and to the ladies, ringers' wives and friends who had so ably arranged and served it.

Owing to the absence of Mr. Davies, who was in bed with an attack of influenza, Mrs. Davies suitably responded.

Mr. A. Paddon Smith, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and his address, referred to the innovation of doing without the service in church. He often thought it unreasonable to ask the clergy to arrange a service for a mere handful of ringers. On this occasion there was quite a good number present, but, even so, the change was a good one. He thanked the Vicar for his interesting and helpful address.

This concluded the meeting, but before returning to the tower for further ringing, several good touches were rung on the handbells, including one of Stedman Cinques.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—68.

GEORGE E. FEIRN.

Some conductors are born and not made, and one such is surely Mr. George E. Feirn, now of Grasby, Lincoln, who, still only 25 years of age, has shown an aptitude that few can claim. He rang his first peal only a little over six years ago, but he has conducted peals of Minor with up to 53 methods in seven extents, in the tower, and up to 19 methods in hand, and also a peal in six spliced plain methods on handbells. These are performances which speak for themselves. He is another of the men who are putting Lincolnshire in the very forefront and one of those for whom the most difficult of ringing tasks seem to be child's play. For example, the first peal of Original Major ever rung with fourth's place bobs he composed and called on handbells from an inside pair. And there were 720 bobs! Men who can do such things are rare.



MR. GEORGE E. FEIRN.

Mr. Feirn was born at Bigby on April 10th, 1914, and took up ringing at Bigby tower towards the end of 1931. He rang his first peal on December 10th, 1932. This was four extents of Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob.

His first peal as conductor was one of Bob Minor on handbells, rung on June 22nd, 1933, and his first in the tower was two days later at Bigby, when he called a peal in three methods. Now his peals, which range from Bob Minor to Stedman Cinques, number 143, of which 29 have been on handbells. He has conducted 62, of which 15 have been 'in hand,' but, as will have been gathered from what has been mentioned above, many of them have been outstanding performances.

Mr. Feirn rang in the first peal of Winchester Bob Major for the Lincoln Guild and conducted the first peal of Wymondham Bob for the Guild, as well as the Original Major. He conducted the first peal of London Surprise Minor in the Northern Branch, and rang in the first peal of Little Bob Royal on handbells for the Guild, and the 'first ever' of St. Clement's Major on handbells. His first peals of Cambridge and London Surprise Major were rung on the same day, and the peal of Minor in 19 methods which he conducted is still the record number 'in hand.'

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(Continued from next column.)

Association. Chesterfield was a famous tower not only for its unique crooked spire, but also for the record number of peals rung on the bells therein, especially during the time of the late Mr. Arthur Knights and his energetic band. The bells were silenced some years ago owing to the tower being deemed unsafe, but now that this defect had been remedied, surely some means could be brought about for the bells to be rung in a proper manner, and not to have this mechanical contrivance installed, which was abhorrent to all real lovers of bells.

Mr. Sidney Palmer spoke at length on the matter, and said that as soon as he saw the article mentioned he had passed it on to the president of the Central Council and requested him to do all in his power to avert such a catastrophe. He urged all present to add all their weight in as strong a protest as possible, and he would do all in his power to prevent this suggested scheme being put into action.

Mr. Hutchinson, of Sawley, also spoke in condemnation of such a scheme.

Mr. W. E. White explained that a few years ago a committee of the M.C.A. had met the Archdeacon of Chesterfield and the churchwardens. Mr. E. H. Lewis had also taken up the matter with regard to having the bells restored, but as the then architect had deemed the spire unsafe for a swinging peal, nothing further had been done.

The President said he also saw the article mentioned, but put quite a different construction on the matter to that of the previous speakers. He promised to have a word personally with the Archdeacon about it, because he knew him to be quite sympathetic with the bellringers and their side of the question, and that he was most anxious to have the bells rung. This not being, at the moment, deemed possible, he had simply *suggested* this scheme of gramophone records.

This concluded the meeting. The association handbells were then used to advantage, while further tower-bell ringing and a convivial afterwards terminated a very successful day's outing.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

ELECTION OF NEW PRESIDENT.

Chesterfield Tower Threatened With Gramophone.

The annual meeting of the Midland Counties Association was held, following the usual rota, at Burton-on-Trent on Easter Monday. Taking advantage of the glorious weather, a large number of members and friends arrived at an early hour and kept the bells of St. Paul's (10), Rolleston-on-Dove (8) and Winshill (6) going throughout the day. A variety of methods were rung to suit all comers, and, generally speaking, the striking was not too bad. The committee met in the Vicar's Room of St. Paul's Institute, and, in the absence of Mr. J. Oldham (vice-president), the chair was taken by Miss I. B. Thompson, supported by 20 committeemen.

The usual routine duties were carried through and it was pointed out that the sub-committee had approved of a suitable design for special association badges. The matter now rests in the hands of the secretary to get the design redrawn and estimates for badges in silver and bronze.

The annual report had been printed and was now in circulation. Four places were chosen to lay before the general meeting to decide on three for quarterly meetings, and it was proposed that a by-meeting be held at Staveley in May to revive interest in, and appoint new local officers for, the Chesterfield district.

It was also decided to support the Central Council's appeal in the matter of the publication of Surprise Major methods.

Tea followed in St. Paul's Institute, when about 100 members and friends sat down to an excellent repast. At the subsequent meeting apologies for absence were read from the vice-president (Mr. J. Oldham, of Loughborough) and members of the Kelham Theological College band. All districts of the association were represented, viz., Burton, Chesterfield, Derby, Hinckley, Leicester, Loughborough and Nottingham. Many non-resident members and friends were welcomed, including Mr. S. F. Palmer (hon. treasurer of Yorkshire Association), Mr. J. Brothwell and Miss Brothwell, with Mr. N. Chaddock, of the Sheffield District Society, and friends from Birmingham, Wolverhampton, Kettering, Burton Latimer and elsewhere. The members were also delighted to have with them the Rev. Canon H. E. Fitzherbert, of Derby, the Rev. W. R. Lloyd Jones, of West Hallam, and the Rev. A. W. Fothergill, of Sharnford, Hinckley.

The Rev. Canon H. E. Fitzherbert, of Derby, was unanimously elected president and was received with acclamation. He said that Mr. Ferguson, of Repton School, would have been more fitted for the position, being a practical ringer, but his duties made it difficult for him to attend meetings, and so he had to withdraw his nomination. Although he (Canon Fitzherbert) had not the practical gift of being a ringer, he had, since his ordination, been fortunate enough to have been connected with churches where there were keen bands of ringers, and he particularly recalled happy memories of both Netherseale and Overseale and the great enthusiasm of his ringers there. He would do all he could to further the art and for the association's welfare.

MR. COLIN HARRISON ELECTED VICE-PRESIDENT.

For the post of vice-president, Mr. Colin Harrison, of Loughborough, was unanimously elected, while the hon. treasurer, Mr. William E. White, of Cotgrave, Notts, and general hon. secretary, Mr. Ernest Morris, of Leicester, were re-elected. Each of the three last named thanked the members for their confidence and support, and promised to do all in their power for the association's welfare and prosperity.

Voting for four representatives on the Central Council had meanwhile been taken by ballot, there having been six nominations. It resulted in the following being elected: Mr. A. J. Harris (Leicester), Mr. J. H. Swinfield (Burton), Mr. Paul L. Taylor (Loughborough) and Mr. W. E. White (Cotgrave).

Once again a good list of new members was presented, and 21 ringing, four rejoins, two honorary and two life were duly elected.

The annual report and balance sheet were passed on the proposition of Mr. C. Harrison, seconded by Mr. P. L. Taylor (auditors). The general hon. secretary apologised for the lateness of its issue to members, this being entirely due to the printer's delay and no fault of the local or general secretaries.

The President stated that they were delighted to have with them two of the original members of the association, who joined at its inception in 1882—57 years ago. He congratulated them and trusted they would continue to be with them for many years yet to come.

Mr. J. Griffin and Mr. J. Jaggar, the 'youngsters' named, both briefly replied, and some merriment was caused when Mr. Jaggar got up, turned to his old friend and asked, 'What shall I tell them, Joe?'

Places for next quarterly meetings were decided upon as follows: Bakewell, June; Newark, September; Earl Shilton, January, 1940.

A DISTURBING REPORT.

Mr. A. J. Harris raised an interesting and, at the same time, very disturbing matter that had been brought to his notice. It was an article in the 'Sheffield Daily Telegraph' relative to the suggested installation of amplified gramophone records of bells in the tower of Chesterfield Parish Church. It was with deep concern he had received this news, and he stressed most strongly the need that this matter be taken up by the Central Council and members of the Midland Counties

(Continued in previous column.)

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING IN THE CITY.

The City of London was the scene of the annual meeting of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild on Saturday, and the focal point was St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate. About a hundred members attended and there was no lack of ringing in the afternoon and evening. In addition to Bishopsgate bells, the twelve at St. Giles', Cripplegate, and the eights at St. Lawrence Jewry and St. Olave's, Hart Street, were made full use of.

Service at St. Botolph's was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. P. D. Ellis), who gave a striking address based upon the symbolism of the spire and the tower. The president (Prebendary W. P. Cole Sheane) also took part in the service.

Later he presided at the business meeting, which followed tea, and was supported by the Rector of St. Botolph's, Mr. J. A. Trollope and Mr. G. W. Fletcher (vice-presidents), Mr. C. T. Coles (hon. secretary), Mr. W. H. Oram (hon. treasurer) and other officers of the association.

The president first thanked the Rector of St. Botolph's, who had to leave early, for the service and his address, and also for the use of the bells.

MEMBERSHIP DECREASE.

The annual report noted with satisfaction a considerable improvement in the attendances at meetings in both districts, and, referring to the joint meeting at Shoreditch in October with the Royal Cumberland Youths and the Essex Association, when some 80 ringers attended, said it was the first occasion on which the association had co-operated in this way with one of the two oldest of the London societies, and the success of the meeting gave much hope for the future. But while the increased support given to meetings caused some satisfaction, there was still considerable room for improvement. 'Too often,' said the report, 'it is only the "regulars" who attend, and it is quite apparent that some members never take that trouble. We repeat what we said last year, "If every member made a point of attending at least one meeting per year, what a difference it would make—especially to their own ringing."'

The report proceeded: 'Our membership again shows a decrease. We regret that three members have been lost by death, whilst again a large number have had to be deleted from the books through non-payment of subscriptions. Most of these occur in the South and West District, but as the balance sheet of that district actually shows an increase in income, it is to be hoped that we have reached the stage when no further deletions need be made. Only by a great effort, however, on the part of all members, can this district again attain its former prosperity. The number of new members elected during the year was two honorary and 58 ringing members, and the total on the books at the end of the year was 856.

'We are glad to report some progress at St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, where an entirely new band has been formed, which is receiving instruction from Mr. G. A. Parsons. There has also been a considerable acquisition of members at Edmonton and Enfield (St. Mary's). Several members of the St. Dunstan's, Stepney, band have joined us, and we give these talented ringers a sincere and hearty welcome to the association.

'During 1938 exactly 50 peals were rung, an increase of 15 on the previous year. Of these, four were rung on handbells, and 46 on tower bells in 28 different towers. Eight members rang their first peals; four their first handbell peals; 68 their first peals in a new method or on a different number of bells; whilst 142 members in all took part in the peals. There were 17 conductors. There was a slight increase in the quarter-peals rung, but further improvement is still possible. The Southgate band again headed the list, both in numbers and in variety of methods, all these quarter-peals being rung for Sunday services. The Heston band, too, had done very well with twelve quarter-peals.'

The report went on to express regret of the association at losing the valuable services of Mr. G. R. Goodship, who has left the county for business reasons. After a period of nine years as assistant hon. secretary, he became hon. secretary of the North and East District last year. He also did very good work at Harrow Weald, where he formed and taught a new band with much success. It was mainly through his efforts that the peal at that church was augmented to eight a few years ago. 'We desire,' said the report, 'to place on record our sincere appreciation of his services to the association, and wish him success in his new career.'

CHANGES IN OFFICERS.

The report went on to refer to the various changes which had taken place among the officers, both in the districts and by the reorganisation of the association, and expressed thanks to those who had rendered valuable service in the past, including Mr. T. Collins and Mr. W. H. Oram, the district treasurers, whose offices have now lapsed. The report concluded: We have again to express our indebtedness to Mr. C. T. Coles for his services as honorary secretary. Mr. Coles' long term of office must, in the nature of things, be drawing to its close, but we hope to keep him for some time yet. The success of the association has depended very much on the work he has done for us, and its continuance depends largely on our finding a successor who will carry on the work in the same spirit.'

The report was adopted on the motion of the hon. secretary, who emphasised the utmost importance of the prompt payment of members' subscriptions.

Under the reorganisation scheme the Central Fund received the whole of the balances from the two districts, and the hon. treasurer (Mr. W. H. Oram) presented the statement, which showed receipts amounting to £97 16s. 2d., made up of £24 11s. 7d. brought forward, £60 4s. 6d. received from the North and East District and £13 0s. 1d. from the South and West District. The expenses amounted to £28 1s. 10d., leaving a balance in hand of £69 14s. 4d. In addition to this amount, the balance sheet showed other assets of £73 13s. 8d. 3½ per cent. War Loan Stock and £16 7s. 10d. in the Bell Restoration Fund transferred from the South and West District.

The accounts were adopted.

Prebendary W. P. Cole Sheane was re-elected president, amid applause, and the active vice-presidents, Mr. G. W. Fletcher and Mr. J. Armiger Trollope, were also re-elected.

Mr. Fletcher expressed regret at the resignation of Mr. A. W. Coles from the Mastership of the association. Mr. Coles, he said, had intimated that, as his work had taken him out of London, it was very difficult for him to attend to the affairs of the association. The Central Committee, therefore, felt with regret that they must accept the resignation, as it would not be fair to ask Mr. Coles to carry on under the circumstances. He had served the association as Master since 1935 and served them very well indeed. Before that he was District Master in the North and East District, and the members of that district knew full well the excellent work he did, including teaching bands at St. Giles-in-the-Fields and St. James', Clerkenwell. They were all grateful to Mr. Coles for the work he had done through so many years. They felt they could not let the opportunity go by without showing him they appreciated what he had done, and he (Mr. Fletcher) proposed that Mr. Coles be elected an honorary life member of the association (applause). That was the least they could do and it was the only thing they were permitted to do under the rules (applause).

NEW MASTER.

The motion having been carried, Mr. Fletcher then proposed the election of Mr. Harry Kilby, of Willesden, as Master. Mr. Kilby had all the attributes for the office. He had been a member of the association for 30 years, and although he had not hitherto held office he thought that was only because the association had not called upon him.

Mr. E. C. S. Turner seconded and said he had known Mr. Kilby ever since he (Mr. Turner) started ringing, and he felt sure he would make a very good Master.—The motion was carried with applause, and Mr. Kilby, acknowledging his election, said he would endeavour to do his best.

Mr. W. H. Oram was elected hon. treasurer, and Mr. C. T. Coles, acknowledging his re-election as hon. secretary, said that was his 29th year of office and would be his last ('No'). He did intimate to the committee that he would like to resign this year, but there had been several alterations in the officers, especially in the districts, and he consented to go on for another year. He definitely intended to retire next year. With that in prospect the committee considered it would be advisable to appoint an assistant secretary with a view to carrying on. He thought the committee's choice was a good one and had much pleasure in proposing Mr. E. C. S. Turner as assistant hon. secretary (applause). Mr. Kilby seconded and the motion was carried.

Mr. G. W. Fletcher was appointed auditor, Messrs. Oram, C. T. Coles and Turner trustees, and Messrs. C. T. Coles, G. W. Fletcher, J. E. Lewis Cockey and W. G. Wilson representatives on the Central Council.

In recognition of their past services to the association, Mr. F. W. Goodfellow (who had filled offices since 1929) and Mr. G. B. Lucas (who has served on the Central Committee since 1897 and was for many years Master of the North and East District) were elected honorary life members.

The new members elected were Messrs. F. C. Shorter and G. W. Fogden (St. Lawrence Jewry), A. J. W. Hughes (Streatham), P. Bond (Brasted), A. Jarvis and G. W. Cecil (St. Dunstan's, Stepney).

On the motion of the hon. secretary, it was decided to expend a sum not exceeding £2 in the purchase of copies of the Central Council's proposed new book on Surprise methods, which is to be published at 3s.

It was decided to hold the next annual meeting at St. Mary's, Acton.

ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS.

Under 'other business' Mr. Fletcher said, looking at the report, he was struck by the number of members they had, but looking at the attendances at district meetings he was very struck with the lack of enthusiasm shown by some members. He felt that every member should attend at least one meeting a year—that was the minimum—and at the next meeting of the North and East District he should propose that they keep a register of attendances, so that they might be able to see who attended and who did not.

Mr. G. L. Joyce said, if they kept the register, and found out who did not attend, what was the district going to do about it? He thought they should offer some inducement to members to attend the meetings. It would be interesting to hear what could be done to make the meetings more interesting.

Mr. T. J. Lock thought they could get some valuable information from a register. It would be a guide as to where interest in the association lay and enable them to endeavour to create interest where it did not exist.

Mr. J. E. L. Cockey said an attendance book was already kept in the South and West District, and the information had been used in

(Continued on next page.)

A DOUBLE JUBILEE.

PRESENTATION TO TWO HORBURY RINGERS.

Barnsley and District Society held the April meeting at Horbury, the following towers being represented: Armley, Cawthorne, Eastwood, Earlsheaton, Felkirk, Gorton, Headingley (St. Chad's), Ossett, Sandal, Shelley, Wath and a good number of the local company.

The bells were rung during the afternoon, and after tea, served in the band room, the business meeting was presided over by Mr. Widdop, of Horbury.

Hoylandswaine was chosen as next place of meeting, to be held on May 6th.

After other business had been disposed of, a very interesting ceremony took place, to pay tribute to two of the local company, Messrs. H. Rowley and R. Thickett, on having completed 50 years' service as ringers at Horbury, which is without a doubt a performance worthy of praise. After two or three present had expressed appreciation of the great service that had been done by these two ringers for the Church and for change ringing in general, a presentation was made to them on behalf of the ringers and church officials of Horbury and friends.

The presentation took the form of an enlarged photograph of the church tower, with a photo of the ringers inset. The presentation was made by the youngest member of the local company, who is only 13 years of age, a ceremony which he managed very well. He also presented a copy to the local secretary to hang in the tower.

Mr. Rowley thanked the ringers for what had been done and recalled some of the interesting things which had taken place during the half-century he had been a ringer at Horbury. He added that although 50 years was a big slice of one's life, it had not seemed long to him and he did not ever once remember that he regretted becoming a ringer.

Mr. Thickett supported all Mr. Rowley had said and added that although they had had their ups and downs, he had always enjoyed what he had done.

Mr. H. Pickles, the local secretary, who had organised the presentation, spoke of those who had been ringers during the 50 years and had passed on, and while the members stood in silence a course of Bob Major was rung on handbells in an adjoining room. This came as a surprise and the effect was impressive. Mr. Pickles then went on to thank all those who had attended and who had helped in any way to make the gathering a success.

Mr. F. Rayment, of Armley, said how pleased he was to be present and added that another ringer was present who had done over 50 years' ringing, Mr. J. Thackray, of Armley. He thanked the Barnsley and District Society for the hearty welcome given to them.

Mr. Moxon, Sandal, expressed thanks for all the arrangements that had been made and also thanked the ladies for the splendid tea they had provided.

Mr. H. Chant, Felkirk, supported and assured the Leeds District ringers that it was more than pleasing to have them present.

Further ringing followed, touches of Major and Caters on handbells and a variety of Minor and Major and Stedman Triples on the tower bells being rung.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(Continued from previous page.)

drawing up the report. Personally, he would be prepared to go into it further.

Mr. C. W. Roberts urged that learners should be encouraged to do more in the way of studying methods at home and getting practice before they came to district meetings. The district meetings would then be of greater advantage to them.

After further discussion, in which Mr. E. Holman suggested instructional courses for beginners, Mr. Fletcher suggested that further consideration should be referred to district meetings, and this course was adopted.

Reference was made to the recent death of Mr. Arthur Knights, of Chesterfield, who was a member of the association. Mr. J. A. Trollope said most of the younger people only knew Arthur Knights by reputation. He was a man who, for 50 years or more, had held a position as one of the leading composers. He was well on in years when he died and was held in honour. 'We sometimes,' said Mr. Trollope, 'do not altogether realise the debt we, as an Exercise, owe to the men who have worked with a singleness of mind for the good of ringing and without very much expectation of credit or reward. They investigate some of those things which are not fully understood and give the Exercise the advantage of what they have done in the highest parts of composition. It is too often thought these things just come, somehow, but Arthur Knights must have spent an enormous amount of time and trouble in investigation, and he is one of those men we, as ringers, are entitled to be proud of.'

The members stood in silence for a few moments as a mark of respect.

The President proposed a vote of thanks to the incumbents of the churches where bells had been placed at the disposal of the members, and to the respective steeplekeepers, especially Mr. J. E. Davis at St. Botolph's.

The meeting then terminated with thanks to the Editor of 'The Ringing World' for his presence, and to the chairman for presiding and his many kindnesses throughout the year.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The first session of the seventeenth Council (47th annual meeting) will be held in the Council Chamber of the Guildhall, Westminster, on Whitsun Tuesday, May 30th, 1939, at 11 a.m. precisely.

The morning session will be adjourned at 1.30 p.m., and the afternoon session will commence at 2.30 p.m., or as may be decided.

AGENDA.

Report of the hon. secretary as to representation of societies and as to unpaid subscriptions.

Apologies for absence.

Presentation of new members to the president (Rule 11).

1. Election of president for 1939-1942.
   Mr. E. H. Lewis retires and is eligible for re-election.
2. Election of hon. secretary and treasurer for 1939-1942.
   Mr. G. W. Fletcher retires and is eligible for re-election.
3. Election of hon. librarian for 1939-1942.
   Mr. W. H. J. Hooton retires and is eligible for re-election.
4. Election of hon. auditors (two) for 1939-1942.
   Mr. C. T. Coles and Mr. A. A. Hughes retire and are eligible for re-election.
5. Election of honorary members.
   The following retire and are eligible for re-election: The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, Major J. H. B. Hesse, Messrs. C. Dean, J. S. Goldsmith, C. F. Johnston, C. W. Roberts, J. A. Trollope and E. Alex. Young.
6. Loss of members through death.
7. Minutes of the last meeting.
8. Report of the hon. librarian.
9. Report of the committee appointed to revise 'Model Rules for a Local Company.'
   Committee: Rev. F. Ll. Edwards, Messrs. W. H. J. Hooton and S. H. Wood.
10. Statement of accounts.
11. Report of the Trustees of the Carter Ringing Machine.
    Trustees: Messrs. E. Alex. Young and A. A. Hughes.
12. To receive, discuss and, if thought fit, adopt the reports of the following committees.

    To pass such resolutions as may be necessary on matters arising out of the reports.

    To reappoint or alter the constitution of the committees as may be considered desirable, and to appoint conveners of such committees.

    (a) Standing Committee.
    The following retire and are eligible for reappointment: Ven. Archdeacon H. T. Parry, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, Major J. H. B. Hesse, Messrs. W. A. Cave, J. T. Dyke, C. F. Johnston, R. Richardson, E. Denison Taylor, A. Paddon Smith, A. Walker and S. H. Wood.
    A vacancy occurs through the death of Mr. W. T. Cockerill.
    Note.—The ex-officio members are: The President, Hon. Librarian, Hon. Secretary, Hon. Auditors, Conveners of Committees and past officers (if still members of the Council).

    (b) Peal Collection.
    Members eligible for reappointment:—
    Rev. E. S. Powell, Messrs. G. Lindoff, G. R. Newton, G. R. Pye, C. W. Roberts, J. A. Trollope and T. B. Worsley.

    (c) Methods.
    Members eligible for reappointment: Messrs. J. A. Trollope, E. C. S. Turner and S. H. Wood.

    (d) Peal Analysis and Records.
    Members eligible for reappointment:—
    Mrs. E. K. Fletcher, Messrs. W. Ayre, C. Dean, G. L. Grover and G. R. Pye.

    (e) Towers and Belfries.
    Members eligible for reappointment:—
    Mr. E. H. Lewis, Major J. H. B. Hesse, Messrs. J. Hunt and E. Alex. Young.

    (f) Literature, Press and Broadcasting.
    Members eligible for reappointment:—
    Rev. F. Ll. Edwards, Messrs. J. S. Goldsmith, A. Paddon Smith and A. Walker.

    (g) Peal Boards.
    Members eligible for reappointment:—
    Rev. C. E. Wigg, Messrs. W. Ayre and W. G. Wilson.

    (h) Biographies.
    Members eligible for reappointment: Mrs. E. K. Fletcher, Messrs. W. A. Cave and J. S. Goldsmith.

    (i) As to the circulation of 'The Ringing World.'

    (j) As to the muffling of bells.
13. To fix the place of the next meeting.
14. Other business, if any.

GEORGE W. FLETCHER, Hon. Secretary.

45, Walsingham Road, Enfield, Middlesex.

PEAL NOTES.

HAVE THEY RUNG A PEAL?

Five Cullompton (Devon) ringers and one from Tiverton rang their 'first peal' on April 10th, when a peal of Doubles was brought round on the back eight of Cullompton's fine ring of ten, with 4-6-8 covering.

We do not want in the least to detract from the performance of any of these ringers or to damp the encouragement which this peal may have given them, but as a matter of principle it would be interesting to know if it can be said that two ringers who strike over one bell 5,040 times can strictly be said to have 'rung a peal.' This is no reflection upon what the Cullompton men have done, because others have done it before them, but it does raise again the doubt which exists in some people's minds.

Three local men at Lympstone, Devon, also rang their first peal, on April 15th, when they took part in 42 six-scores of Grandsire Doubles.

Mr. H. W. Lidbetter a ringer at Isleworth, Middlesex, is moving to Acle, Norfolk. A peal of Stedman Triples was rung in his old tower on April 15th as a farewell.

Mr. Arthur Everett called a peal of St. Clement's College Bob Major from the treble at Boreham, Essex, on Easter Monday, and thus 'completed the circle' at this tower.

The silver jubilee of the installation of the bells at Cuckney, Notts, was celebrated on April 9th by a peal of Minor, which was also a compliment to Mr. Upex, on completing 16 years as verger and tower-keeper.

Until April 15th a peal had not been rung at Addingham, Yorkshire, for 27 years. A peal in three Minor methods broke the spell, and the band wish to thank all those who made this peal possible, and particularly Mrs. Mitchell, of Croft House, for entertaining them to tea after the peal.

To enable three brothers, Reginald Hill, of Shotley, Ipswich, Raymond Hill, of St. Margaret's, Leicester, and John Hill, of St. John's, Leicester, to ring a peal together, a peal of Grandsire Triples was arranged at St. Margaret's and rung on the light eight on April 15th. The long and the short of it were to be seen side by side in this peal 'Big-hearted Arthur,' over 6ft. of brawn and muscle, on the seventh, and diminutive 15-year-old John Hill on the tenor. Two of the brothers rang their first peal on eight bells and the other his first peal of Triples.

A JUBILEE.

An interesting anniversary was celebrated at Worsley, Lancashire, on April 17th, when a peal of Double Norwich Major was rung in honour of the jubilee of the first peal in the method rung in Lancashire on April 8th, 1889. That early performance was achieved by the Worsley company, and in the commemoration peal were two sons and a grandson of members of the original company, and the same composition was rung.

When a band met short for a peal of Spliced Treble Bob at South Kirkby, Yorks, on Easter Monday, one of the local ringers, Mr. A. E. Harrison, was pressed into service at a minute's notice and rang his first peal at the first attempt. A peal of Bob Minor was substituted for the Spliced Treble Bob, and although he had not called a peal of Bob Minor before, the conductor, Mr. Daniel Smith, was not at a loss. He called seven different extents, which, between them, contained 49 bobs and 144 singles, one 720 containing 42 singles.

Owing to the late arrival of one of the band for a peal at Quorn, Leicestershire, on Thursday, April 20th, it was unfortunate that the anticipated Major method had to be cut out. However, with what time was left at their disposal the band quickly rang a peal of Stedman Triples (2 hours 40 minutes). Mr. William Bottrill very nobly undertook the calling. He had only called his first peal of Stedman a few weeks ago.

The peal of London Surprise Minor at Apsley End, Herts, on April 10th, when five of the band rang their first peal in the method, was specially arranged as a birthday compliment to the conductor (Mr. W. J. Randall), as a wedding anniversary peal for Mr. and Mrs. W. Ayre and Mr. and Mrs. A. V. Good, and to celebrate the jubilee of the diocese of Chelmsford, which formerly belonged to the diocese of St. Albans.

Mr. and Mrs. William Clarke, of Deeping St. James, Lincolnshire, have just celebrated their silver wedding, and a peal of Surprise Minor in honour of the event was rung on April 10th. Mr. Clarke is a regular service ringer at St. James'.

Mr. Fred Stokes, the popular hon. secretary of Lincoln Diocesan Guild, rang his 200th peal on Saturday, when he took part in a peal of Stedman Triples at Harmston, Lincs.

The newly-appointed secretary of the Western Branch of the Worcestershire Association (Mr. E. F. Cubberley) achieved his first peal of Minor by ringing the treble to a seven-method peal at his own tower at Kempsey on Saturday week. Afterwards he entertained the band to tea, which was much appreciated.

Having rung their first 720 of Kent Treble Bob for early celebration on Easter Day, and the first in the method on the bells, five local ringers at Harston, with Mr. C. W. Cook as conductor, rang their first peal in the method on Saturday week.

The quarterly peal of the Hereford District of the Hereford Diocesan Guild was rung on April 15th at Holme-Lacy. It was Grandsire Triples and one ringer rang his first peal at the first attempt and another his first of Grandsire Triples on an 'inside' bell.

ESSEX SPLICED MINOR RECORD.

St. Andrew's Guild, Earls Colne, has put up the Spliced Minor record of the Essex Association to 34 methods, which were rung in seven extents at Stisted on Saturday week. There were 13 methods in one 720 and 142 changes of method in the peal.

Another peal of Spliced Minor on the same day was that at Taxal, Cheshire, where 29 Treble Bob methods were rung.

Mr. J. G. Nash was another to ring his 100th Surprise peal on Saturday week. This he did at Bocking, Essex, when a peal of London was rung, which was Messrs. Fred Ridgewell and Frank Claydon's 100th peal together.

Messrs. Mears and Stainbank installed the ring of eight at Grayshott in 1931, but it was not until Saturday week that any attempt was made for a peal there. The village of Grayshott is in Surrey, but the church is in Hampshire, the centre of the road which passes the church being the county boundary. The parish is in the diocese of Guildford, but for good and sufficient reasons the peal of Superlative was rung for the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild.

After the peal the Vicar (the Rev. E. G. Ireland) came to the ringing chamber, congratulated the ringers and generously offered to provide a board recording the performance. For this kindness and for the use of the bells he was cordially thanked.

At Bletchley, Bucks, on April 15th, a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by the Sunday service ringers at the Parish Church.

After an interval of nearly nine years, another peal has been rung on the fine ring of eight at Southgate, Middlesex. There have been difficulties in getting permission, but we hope it will not be as long before the next is rung.

It is gratifying to note that the ice has been broken by the local band, for they were all Sunday service ringers who took part in the peal of Cambridge on April 15th. Some of them, however, seem to be getting a wee bit towards 'the sere and yellow leaf,' for the average age of the band is 60. But perhaps it is not really as bad as it looks, for one of them, Mr. David Wright, formerly of Croydon, who joined the Southgate Society twelve months ago, is 78 years young. It was Mr. John Armstrong's 250th peal and his 100th Surprise peal.

Three Evershot (Dorset) ringers rang their first peal of Triples on April 15th, when with their conductor, Mr. Dennis Bishop, who called his first peal other than Doubles, they took part in a peal of Grandsire at Bradpole.

LONG SERVICE.

Mr. Harry Dickens has completed 53 years as a service ringer at the Parish Church at Great Bedworth, Cheshire, where he is now towerkeeper. In his honour the first peal of Stedman on the bells was rung on Saturday week.

Another ringer with over half a century of service at one church is Mr. W. A. Fitchford, captain of the tower at Wolstanton, Staffordshire, where he has been a ringer for 53 years. He is one of the foremost instructors in Staffordshire. On Friday week a peal of Grandsire Triples, to which he rang the treble, was rung in his honour and as a birthday compliment to Mr. W. Wybern, churchwarden, on his 70th birthday. Except for Mrs. V. Miles and Mr. G. E. Kettle, who belong to Newcastle, Staffs, the band who rang the peal are service ringers at Wolstanton.

Mr. Fred Hickling, an original member of Sir Arthur Heywood's celebrated band at Duffield, has recently died, and a half-muffled peal of Grandsire Triples had been arranged as a last token of respect. The band, however, met short, and a peal of Bob Minor, with the tenor covering, was substituted, on April 15th.

The first Surprise peal by the local band at Leatherhead was rung on April 15th, when Cambridge Surprise was rung in honour of the wedding earlier in the day of the Rev. P. W. Isdell-Carpenter, for 2½ years curate of Leatherhead, and Miss Manier-Williams. By a coincidence it was Mr. George Marriner's 250th peal and Mr. A. H. Winch's 250th peal in Surrey as well as his 50th peal on the bells.

The notes to the peals rung in the Bristol district and recorded last week need correction. The composition of the Double Norwich should have been given as containing in each part a course with S1 S3 S5 B8 and not with four singles as printed. The peal at Berkeley was a 5,040, not a 5,003. The time of the peal at Clevedon was 2 hours 56 minutes. In justice to the conductor (Mr. Nolan Golden), we should say that he was not responsible for sending in the reports and the errors were not his.

The ringer of the treble in the peal at Sherburn-in-Elmet on April 10th was Horace S. Morley, not Worsley as printed.

In the report of a peal of Kent Treble Bob published last week, Norton-in-Hales was given as in Staffordshire. 'A Salopian in Exile' informs us that it is in Shropshire, the river Tern, flowing near by, forming the county boundary.

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NOTICES.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — The annual general meeting will be held at Guildford on Saturday, April 29th. The bells of the Cathedral (8) will be available from 3 p.m. to 4.30 p.m., S. Nicolas' (10) from 3 p.m. to 4.15 p.m. and S. Nicolas' and Shalford (8) after the meeting. Service will be held in the Cathedral Church at 4.30 p.m. Tea (1s. each) in Holy Trinity Parish Hall at 5.15 p.m. Business meeting in Holy Trinity Parish Hall immediately after tea.—G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec., East Clandon, Guildford.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual meeting at Lincoln on Saturday, April 29th. Service in the Morning Chapel of the Cathedral at 3.15 p.m. Tea at 4.30 at the Co-operative Hall, Silver Street, at 1s. 6d. per head, followed by business meeting. Ringing at the Cathedral, St. Peter-at-Gowt's and St. Botolph's from 2 p.m., and in the evening. Also at St. Giles' (8) from 6 to 8 p.m.—F. W. Stokes, Hon. Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — The annual general meeting will be held at Brighton on Saturday, April 29th. St. Peter's and St. Nicholas' open for ringing 2.30 to 4.15 and in the evening. The Good Shepherd, Dyke Road, 7.30 to 9. Service at St. Peter's 4.30, tea, price 2s. 6d. (1s. to members) at the Pavilion Grill Room, 5.15. Half rail fare, maximum 2s. 6d., allowed to resident members.—S. E. Armstrong, Hon. Gen. Sec., 70, Hollingbury Park Avenue, Brighton 6.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division. —The next meeting will be held at North Weald on Saturday, April 29th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea to follow.—J. H. Crampion, Dis. Sec., 7, Cedar Avenue, Chadwell Heath.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch. —The next meeting will be held on Saturday, April 29th, at the Church of St. John the Baptist, Tuebrook, Liverpool. The tower will be open at 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea will be provided. It is many years since a meeting was held at this tower.—G. R. Newton, Branch Sec., 57, Ampthill Road, Liverpool 17.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hereford District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Kingstone on Saturday, April 29th. Bells (6) available from 3 to 8.30. Service 4.45 p.m. Tea, 5.15 p.m., 6d. each. —R. H. Stickley, Dis. Sec., The Hollies, Lugwardine, Hereford.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chester Branch.— The quarterly meeting will be held at Dodleston on Saturday, April 29th. Ringing from 3. Service 4.30. — J. W. Clarke, Mollington, Chester.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. Alphege, Greenwich, on Saturday, April 29th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea, by kind invitation of the Vicar and churchwardens.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere, Kent.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch.— A meeting will be held at Henley on Saturday, April 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Evensong 5 p.m. Tea in the Chantry House 5.40 p.m., 9d. each.—E. G. Foster, Hon. Sec., 401, London Road, Reading.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Leigh Parish Church on Saturday, April 29th. Bells available 3 p.m. Business meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION (Luton District) & HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION (St. Albans District).—A joint meeting will be held at St. Mary's Parish Church, Luton, on Saturday, April 29th. The bells (8) will be available from 3 p.m. Tea and discussions at the Red Lion Hotel at 5 p.m. All ringers will be very welcome. Methods: Plain, Surprise and Spliced. —F. J. Plummer and H. V. Frost, Dis. Secs.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—The next meeting will be held at West Hallam on April 29th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Reports to hand. Subscriptions now due.—Wm. Lancaster, Hon. Sec., 83, Albert Road, Chaddesden, Derby.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. —Ilchester Deanery Branch.—A meeting will be held at Drayton on Saturday, April 29th. Service at 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Please notify for tea.—F. Farrant, Martock.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Next meeting at Wellington, Saturday, April 29th. Ringing 3-4.30 and 6.30-8.30 p.m. Please notify me for tea. — W. A. Farmer, Hon. Sec., 70, Oakfield Road, Shrewsbury.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY. — The annual meeting will be held at the Parish Church of St. Michael's, Ashton-under-Lyne, on April 29th. Bells available from 6 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—Carus Wilson, Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.— Bridgwater Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Greinton to-morrow, Saturday. Bells available 2.30. Service 4. Tea 5.—C. Evans, Hon. Sec., 17, Wellington Road, Bridgwater.

BUSHEY HEATH, HERTS (8 bells), to-morrow, April 29th. Tower open 3.30. Tea, Parish Hall, 5.30. Usual business meeting after. Ringing till 8. Excellent travelling facilities, bus or train. Cycles can be placed in grounds (Vicarage).—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey (City 4270).

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Warmley on Saturday, April 29th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Please advise for tea.—R. C. Gifford, Gifford House, Frampton Cotterell, near Bristol.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—West Dorset Branch.—A meeting will be held at Hawkchurch on Saturday, April 29th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Chardstock (6 bells) also available from 3 to 4 p.m.—C. H. Lathey, Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.— Owing to Chelmsford Cathedral bells not being available on Saturday next, April 29th, the monthly practice will be held instead at Writtle at 7.30 p.m. The methods will be Double Norwich and Cambridge.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.— Meetings for May: Southwark Cathedral, 2nd and 30th; St. Clement Danes, 4th; *St. Mary-le-Bow, 9th; St. Magnus', 11th and 25th; St. Giles', Cripplegate, 16th; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 18th; *St. Paul's Cathedral, 23rd. All at 7.30 p.m. * Business meeting afterwards.— A. B. Peck, Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

MID-WEEK MEETING.—A meeting of the Farnham District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild will be held at Ash on Wednesday, May 3rd. Bells (6) from 3 p.m.

Tea 5 p.m. in the Parish Room. Evensong at 6 p.m. All welcome! A postcard (if you require tea) to C. W. Denyer, 120, Ash Road, Aldershot.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Next meeting will be held at St. Peter's Church, Walsden, on Saturday, May 6th. Tea in the Schoolroom at 1s. each to those who notify Mr. J. Dugdale, 38, Ramsden Wood Road, Walsden, by Wednesday, May 3rd.—Ivan Kay, Hon. Sec.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Andover District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Highclere on Saturday, May 6th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Business meeting follows. All requiring tea please notify by May 3rd to the undersigned.—F. S. H. Marle, Hon. Sec., Deane Rectory.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—St. Michael's, East Peckham (6 bells) is beautifully situated in the heart of the fruit growing district. Come and see for yourself on Saturday, May 6th, the occasion of the Spring meeting. Half fares will be paid to members attending. Tower open 2.45. Service 4.30. Tea by kind invitation of the Vicar (Rev. F. W. Bennitt). Notify Mr. T. Saunders, Peckham Bush, Paddock Wood, by Wednesday, May 3rd Book on bus to Forge Gate, on the Tonbridge-Maidstone Road.—Alec E. Richardson, Laurel Cottage, Victoria Road, Southborough.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — The half-yearly meeting will be held at Morecambe on Saturday, May 6th. The new bells at Holy Trinity will be available from 2.30 p.m. Tea in Memorial Hall or Miss Wood's Café at 5.15. Names or numbers to Mr. E. Swain, 23, Thornton Road, Morecambe, by Wednesday, May 3rd.—W. H. Shuker and T. Wilson, Hon. Secs.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A meeting will be held at Puttenham on Saturday, May 6th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Will all those requiring tea please notify me by Wednesday, May 3rd?—W. F. J. Cope, Hon. Sec., 26, Curling Vale, Onslow Village, Guildford.

PETERBOROUGH, ST. MARY'S CHURCH.—The ring of six bells, rehung by John Taylor and Co., will be re-dedicated by Bishop Lang on Saturday, May 6th, at 3.30 p.m.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Thrapston Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Sudborough on Saturday, May 6th. Bells (5) available from 3 p.m. All ringers welcome. Please notify hon. secretary not later than Tuesday previous of those requiring tea.—W. R. Butcher, Hon. Sec., Woodview, Brigstock, near Kettering.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cary Deanery Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Wincanton on Saturday, May 6th. Other towers available. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting following at the Schoolroom.—W. A. Osborn, Galhampton, Yeovil.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Hoylandswaine, near Penistone, on Saturday, May 6th. Bells (6) ready 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Those requiring tea, please notify me by Wednesday, May 3rd. A good attendance is hoped for, and a hearty welcome will be extended to all.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., Rock Cottages, Shafton, near Barnsley.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Houghton-le-Spring on Saturday, May 6th. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. at Magee's Cafe, for those who send postcard to Mr. J. H. Masters, 25, Bawlby Street, Houghton-le-Spring. All ringers welcome, and a good attendance requested.—F. Robson, Hon. Dis. Sec., 13, Grainger Street, West Hartlepool.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bicester Branch.—The annual meeting will be held (D.V.) at Ambrosden (8 bells) on Saturday, May 6th. Tower open 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m., followed by tea and short business meeting. Bicester bells (8) available in the evening. Those requiring tea, please notify F. Sharpe, Derwen, Launton, Bicester, Oxon.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting will be held at Harrold on Saturday, May 6th. Bells (6) ready from 3 p.m. Tea at 5. Nice little peal. You will be very welcome.—Frank C. Tysoe, Dis. Sec., 10, Grange Road, Bromham, Bedford.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wotton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Yate on May 6th. Bells open 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. at the White Lion.—W. J. Smith, 130, Station Road, Yate, Bristol.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Ranmoor Church, Sheffield (10 bells), on Saturday, May 6th. For tea, please notify Mr. C. Haynes, 441a, Sandygate Road, Sheffield. Buses from Leopold Street, near Town Hall, fare 1½d. All welcome.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 13, St. Ronan's Road Sheffield 7.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — A meeting will be held at Leek (10 bells) on Saturday, May 6th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Will those requiring tea kindly notify Mr. E. A. Ridgway, 11, Shirley Street, Leek, Staffs, not later than May 3rd? All ringers welcome.—Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—A combined practice will be held at Sonning, near Reading, on Saturday, May 6th, from 6 till 9 p.m.—W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec., Merrel, California, Wokingham.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — South Norfolk Branch.—The spring meeting will be held at Bunwell on Saturday, May 6th. Bells afternoon and evening. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Meeting follows. Special method, Kingston Treble Bob Minor. As this is a difficult place to arrange tea, do let me know by May 2nd, please. All ringers welcome to this fresh tower.—A. G. Harrison, Branch Sec., 90, Denmark Street, Diss, Norfolk.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Guilsborough Branch.—A special deanery meeting will be held at Ravensthorpe (5 bells) on Saturday, May 6th. The Rev. Couchman, Vicar of Kingsthorpe, will give the address. The bells of Guilsborough and East Haddon will also be available. Names for tea by Tuesday, May 2nd, please.—H. H. Shrives, Hon. Sec., The Mill, Long Buckby, Rugby.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—A ringing meeting will be held at Hanslope (6 bells) on Saturday, May 6th, from 4.30 p.m. All ringers will be welcome. A good attendance is desired.—Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Uphill (Weston-super-Mare) on May 6th. Bells (6) open at 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting at Howe's Cafe 5 p.m. All ringers welcomed.—H. Minifie, Branch Sec., Royston, Uphill, Weston-super-Mare.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—The next meeting will be held at Horsell on Saturday, May 13th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Tea in the Institute 4.45 p.m., followed by business meeting. Service 6.30 p.m. This is a country village, and a postcard with numbers for tea must reach me by Wednesday, the 10th. All ringers and friends welcome.—F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Sec., 39, Queen's Road, Thames Ditton.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Tewkesbury Branch.—A meeting will be held at Hasfield on Saturday, May 13th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea by invitation of the Rector. Please notify me for tea by Tuesday, May 9th.—A. G. Pulley, Branch Hon. Sec., Dumbleton, Evesham.

LADIES' GUILD.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Braintree, Essex, on May 13th. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m. Service in the church conducted by the Vicar at 4.30 p.m. Tea, price 1s., in the Church Hall at 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow. Bocking bells (8) also available after tea. All names for tea should be sent to Mr. W. G. Felton, 42, Panfield Lane, Braintree, Essex, not later than Wednesday, May 10th.—Sylvia R. E. Bowyer, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Eccleston (6 bells) on Saturday, May 13th. Tower open from 2.30 p.m. Particulars later by circular. Subscriptions are now due. All ringers welcome.—A. Blogg, Branch Sec.

LADIES' GUILD.—London District.—Meeting at Stoke Poges on Saturday, May 13th. Visit the charming church of Gray's 'Elegy,' and ring on the handy peal of eight. Bells available 3 o'clock. Tea at the Red Lion, Stoke Green, at 5, followed by business meeting. Notifications must be sent to Mrs. A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, near Slough, by Wednesday, May 10th, without fail. Trains, 2.18 and 2.35, Paddington to Slough.—I. R. Housden, Hon. Dis. Sec.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD. — Aylesbeare Deanery Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Colaton Raleigh on Saturday, May 13th. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. Those requiring tea, please notify me not later than Monday, May 8th.—R. Brook, Hon. Sec., 3, Greatwood Terrace, Topsham.

HANBURY, NEAR BROMSGROVE, WORCS.—The bells will be re-dedicated on Sunday, May 14th, at 3 p.m., by the Archdeacon of Dudley. A ring of eight recast by John Taylor and Co.

HEDDINGTON, NEAR CALNE, WILTS.—The Lord Bishop of Salisbury will re-dedicate the bells on Thursday, May 18th, at 7.30 p.m. A ring of five bells restored by John Taylor & Co.

DAGENHAM PARISH CHURCH.—Practice night every Saturday, 5.30-7 p.m. All welcome. Eight bells.—J. Bullock, Sec.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—The residence of Mr. W. Halliwell is now 17, Ings Road, Almondbury, Huddersfield, Yorkshire.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 1,467. Vol. XXXIV. FRIDAY, MAY 5th, 1939. [Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.] Price 3d.

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THE CENTRAL COUNCIL'S WORK.

The business before the Central Council at the meeting, to be held in the Guildhall, Westminster, on Whitsun Tuesday, judged by the agenda published in our last issue, will consist largely of elections and reports, but that is not to say the meeting will not be an interesting one. It is, of course, unusual to find not a single notice of motion entered for discussion; it has seldom happened before, but it would seem that the position that has now been reached is that the art of ringing, so far as it needs guidance or ruling, has practically settled down to a level which, if it does not please everyone, at least meets with very wide acceptance, and complies generally with the requirements which modern advances demand. There are, at the moment, no outstanding questions upon which opinion is sharply divided, as it was on some subjects a few years ago. Indeed, there must come a time when, on the technical side of ringing, at any rate, there is little to discuss. Probably that position has now been reached.

On the other hand, however, there are matters of general interest which are of no little importance to the future of the art, and there is no place where they can be better ventilated, in the hope of obtaining representative views, than at a meeting of the Council. The range of subjects in this respect has by no means been exhausted, and, although the Council is only an advisory body, it can speak with collective wisdom and authority. But as far as the London meeting is concerned nothing is on the agenda for discussion.

The meeting, however, has much business to transact. It is on this occasion that the triennial elections of officers and committees take place, and there is a very considerable list of committees' reports for consideration. These things alone may well produce a full session of business, although it is almost impossible to forecast how much discussion these reports will produce. What is well to remember, however, is that the most important part of the work of the Council is embodied in these reports. The Council meets for a few hours once a year; the committees are active throughout the year, and some of them almost week by week. The reports themselves seldom reveal the time and labour which individual members of the committees put into their task which, be it not forgotten, is not merely in the interests of the Council, but for the ultimate benefit of the Exercise at large. This is a fact that is often overlooked by many ringers. The work of the committees is never spectacular, but the labours of those who have served on them have, through the years, raised the standard of ringing to a degree not

(Continued on page 278.)

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TWELVE BELL PEALS.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

(ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, April 29, 1939, in Four Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,

A PEAL OF NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

WILLIAM P. GARRETT	...*Treble*	WILLIAM J. G. BROWN	... 7
SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER	... 2	*ALAN R. ANDREWS	 8
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY	... 3	J. FRANK SMALLWOOD	... 9
HOBART E. SMITH	 4	CECIL W. PIPE	 10
*ALBERT WALKER	 5	GEORGE E. SYMONDS	... 11
GEORGE A. FLEMING	 6	FREDERICK J. SMITH	...*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

* First peal of New Cambridge Maximus.

LONDON.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 29, 1939, in Three Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-BOW, CHEAPSIDE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5014 CHANGES;

Tenor 54 cwt.

WILLIAM J. NUDDS	...*Treble*	NORMAN H. MANNING	... 7
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER	... 2	HENRY T. WILSON	 8
ERNEST J. KING	 3	F. DONALD BOREHAM	 9
THOMAS W. TAFFENDER	... 4	JOHN D. WARD	 10
RICHARD A. POST	 5	FRANK E. DARBY	 11
HARRY WINGROVE	 6	CHARLES H. KIPPIN TONY PRICE	... ...*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by T. W. TAFFENDER.

TEN BELL PEALS.

SOUTHAMPTON, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, April 26, 1939, in Three Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES;

Tenor 22 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lb.

GEORGE WILLIAMS	...*Treble*	ERNEST J. AYLIFFE	 6
*JOHN W. FAITHFULL	... 2	JOHN H. B. HESSE	 7
ALFRED H. POLLING	... 3	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH	 8
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON	... 4	REGINALD A. REED	 9
GEORGE POLLINGER	... 5	HAROLD P. REED	... ...*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by ALFRED H. POLLING.

* First peal of Stedman Caters. Rung in honour of the visit to Southampton of H.R.H. the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester.

PONTEFRACT, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, April 27, 1939, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

JOHN H. LENTON	...*Treble*	EDWARD BRADLEY	 6
FRED NEWTON	 2	HARRY NEWTON	 7
MRS. E. BRADLEY	 3	THOMAS HOLDER	 8
HARRY C. WALTERS	 4	CHARLES BROWN	 9
ARTHUR WALKER	 5	ALBERT T. STRANGWARD	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. LEWIS. Conducted by HARRY C. WALTERS.

First peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal by all the band, on the bells and at the first attempt.

NEW ALRESFORD.—At the Parish Church for evening service on April 16th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: W. Wearing 1, J. Allan 2, E. Lane 3, H. Newnham (conductor) 4, A. Tremeer 5, J. Boniface 6, L. Tremeer 7, G. Allen 8. First quarter-peal of Triples for all excepting the conductor.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 23, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH, PRITTLEWELL,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

*DENNIS T. BROCK	...Treble	FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN	6
MRS. F. W. HOUSDEN	2	*REGINALD W. DARVILL	7
†ERIC B. HARTLEY	3	FRANK B. LUFKIN	8
ERNEST W. FURBANK	4	‡ALBERT E. NORTH	9
ROBERT HEAZEL	5	ERNEST W. PYE	...Tenor

Composed by WILLIAM PYE. Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN.

* First Surprise peal. † First Surprise Royal peal. ‡ First Surprise Royal peal 'inside.' First Surprise Royal as conductor.

DUDLEY.
THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.
On Saturday, April 29, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;
Tenor 20¼ cwt.

TOM D. WHORTON	...Treble	HARRY GOODMAN	6
HENRY HUSBALL	2	CHRISTOPHER WALLATER	7
WALTER FARLEY	3	RONALD GOODMAN	8
HERBERT SHEPPARD	4	NORMAN G. LEACH	9
JOHN GOODMAN	5	GILBERT T. GUEST	...Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by JOHN GOODMAN.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. G. Guest, also to Mrs. J. Goodman, wife of the conductor.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

CRAYFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, April 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,
A PEAL OF PAINSWICK SURPRISE MAJOR, 5086 CHANGES;
Tenor 12¾ cwt.

DEREK M. SHARP	...Treble	*HERBERT E. AUDSLEY	5
EDWIN A. BARNETT	2	HARRY HOVERD	6
*JAMES BENNETT	3	*ARTHUR S. RICHARDS	7
*HARRY HOSKINS	4	*PHILIP A. CORBY	...Tenor

Composed by E. TIMBRELL. Conducted by E. A. BARNETT.

* First peal in the method.

WYMONDHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 22, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND THOMAS-OF-CANTERBURY,
A PEAL OF ASHTEAD SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

WALTER ELSEY	...Treble	ERIC G. BENNETT	5
*GEORGE MAYERS	2	*THOMAS G. BENNETT	6
*HENRY TOOKE	3	WILLIAM CLOVER	7
FREDERICK C. ROPER	4	NOLAN GOLDEN	...Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

GALLEYWOOD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

*DONALD COOMBES	...Treble	WILLIAM S. MAY	5
*DENNIS T. BROCK	2	FRANK B. LUFKIN	6
GEORGE A. WIGHTMAN	3	GERALD FROST	7
FRANK C. MAY	4	ALBERT E. NORTH	...Tenor

Composed by W. HARRISON. Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN.

* First peal of Kent Treble Bob. Rung in honour of the 25th anniversary of the enthronement of the first Bishop of Chelmsford.

NORTHOWRAM, HALIFAX.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.)
On Saturday, April 22, 1939, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,
A PEAL OF PAINSWICK SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 16 lb. in E.

WILLIAM WOODHEAD	...Treble	HERBERT DAVENPORT	5
MISS MARY WHITE	2	GEORGE ROBINSON	6
KENNETH SIMPSON	3	FREDERICK SEAGER	7
HARRY DAVISON	4	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS	...Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by LESLIE W. G. MORRIS.

First peal in the method by all the band, in the county and by the association.

SEVENOAKS, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 22, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 21¼ cwt.

ARTHUR S. RICHARDS	...Treble	HARRY HOVERD	5
*DORIS E. COLGATE	2	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE	6
EDWIN A. BARNETT	3	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY	7
PHILIP A. CORBY	4	HARRY PARKES	...Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by P. A. CORBY.

* First attempt for a Surprise peal.

SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 19 lb. in F.

*MISS GLADYS WILLARS	...Treble	ERNEST MORRIS	5
JOHN E. CLARKE	2	J. LESLIE WILLARS	6
CHARLES MARSHALL	3	†WILLIAM J. ROOT	7
SIDNEY COX	4	GEORGE E. SPENCER	...Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

* First peal. † First peal in the method. Rung on the eve of St. George's Day and the opening of the great Leicester Church Campaign.

BURLEY, LEEDS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHIAS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
J. J. PARKER'S SIX-PART. Tenor 7¾ cwt.

MRS. E. BRADLEY	...Treble	†CHARLES PARKER	5
JOHN W. SCHOLEFIELD	2	FRANK SCHOLEFIELD	6
*HAROLD DRAKE	3	LEONARD DRAKE	7
EDWARD BRADLEY	4	FRANK GIBBARD	...Tenor

Conducted by LEONARD DRAKE.

* First peal. † First peal of Triples. Rung as a compliment to Frank Scholefield on his 21st birthday.

KIRBY-LE-SOKEN, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 7 lb.

WALTER SOUTHGATE	...Treble	URBAN W. WILDNEY	5
VICTOR MORLEY	2	*GEORGE WATERMAN	6
*MRS. W. A. ROUSE	3	WILLIAM CHALK	7
ALAN R. ANDREWS	4	EDWARD E. DAVEY	...Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by E. E. DAVEY.

* First peal in the method.

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CHIDDINGFOLD, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 22, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Holt's Original. Tenor 12¾ cwt.

John H. B. Hesse ...	...*Treble*	Maurice Smither	5
Arthur J. Bartlett ...	2	William J. Robinson ...	6
Richard T. Carpenter ...	3	Alfred H. Pulling	7
*Alan E. Brown...	4	Henry Mullard... ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by Alfred H. Pulling.

* First peal and first attempt. Rung in honour of the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. E. Carpenter, parents of the ringer of the 3rd.

EPSOM, SURREY
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 22, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
At Christ Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Davies' Five-part, No. 1. Tenor 11¾ cwt. in F. sharp.

*Mrs. W. Massey ...	...*Treble*	†Wilkins Massey	5
John Beams	2	Harry J. Smerdon	6
Arthur A. Hadley	3	Frank H. Randall	7
Harry E. Good...	4	*Harry Scotcher ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. Beams.

* First peal. † First peal in the method. Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a token of respect to the late Canon Hunter, for many years Vicar of this parish.

HINCKLEY, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
(Hinckley District.)

On Saturday, April 22, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Dexter's Variation of Thurstans' Four-part. Tenor 22½ cwt.

Alfred Ballard ...	...*Treble*	William A. Wood	5
Ernest W. Tipler	2	*Bert Ridgway	6
Cyril H. Ison	3	Frank K. Measures ...	7
George Thompson	4	Alfred Jordan	...*Tenor*

Conducted by Frank K. Measures.

* First peal in the method. Specially arranged to celebrate Mr. G. Thompson's 50th year as a ringer at St. Mary's Church. It was also a birthday compliment to Mrs. W. Measures, mother of the conductor.

CAMPSALL, NEAR DONCASTER, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(Barnsley and District Society.)

On Saturday, April 22, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 11¼ cwt. in G.

*Roland Hill	...*Treble*	Arthur Gill	5
Harold Chant	2	Foord P. Newton	6
Howard Scott	3	‡Ronald H. Dove	7
†William Fay	4	Daniel Smith	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. Lewis. Conducted by D. Smith.

* First peal of Major and first attempt. † First peal in the method. ‡ First peal in the method on eight bells.

SWANAGE, DORSET.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 22, 1939, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 22½ cwt.

Louis J. Lockyer ...	...*Treble*	Percy W. Witham	5
Mrs. F. J. Marshallsay ...	2	William C. Shoyr	6
F. Franeland Rigby	3	Francis S. Beaumont ...	7
Edward T. Griffin	4	Arthur V. Davis... ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. Knights. Conducted by Arthur V. Davis.

First peal in the method as conductor.

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DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

OXFORD.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, April 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,
At the Church of St. Ebbe,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

*Richard T. Sargent ...	...*Treble*	William H. B. Wilkins ...	5
Charles Coles...	2	William G. E. Collett ...	6
†George Ayres	3	Francis E. Taylor	7
George Horwood	4	Francis E. May	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. Pritchard. Conducted by F. E. Taylor.

* First peal on eight bells. † First peal of Major.

CHURCH, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, April 26, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,
At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14¼ cwt.

James Parr	...*Treble*	Jack Clegg...	5
Herbert Holden	2	*Robert Hargreaves ...	6
James Barnes	3	Laurence J. Williams ...	7
*Fred Place	4	Leslie L. Williams...	...*Tenor*

Composed by H. Hubbard. Conducted by Leslie L. Williams.

* First peal of Treble Bob. First peal as conductor.

MARKET DRAYTON, SHROPSHIRE.
THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, April 27, 1939, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 17¼ cwt.

*Philip Price	...*Treble*	Alan M. Hickman	5
Thomas Price	2	William J. Chester... ...	6
Frederick Price	3	Edward V. Rodenhurst ...	7
William Weatherby ...	4	Arthur Pritchard ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by H. Hubbard. Conducted by Arthur Pritchard.

* First peal. Rung for the wedding of Miss D. Parker-Bowles and Capt. Algernon Heber-Percy.

BUSHEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, April 27, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF COUDHURST SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

John E. Rootes	...*Treble*	Frederick W. Brinklow ...	5
Henry Hodgetts	2	Edwin Jennings	6
Cecil C. Mayne...	3	Maurice F. R. Hibbert ...	7
Francis Kire	4	Harold G. Cashmore	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. Knights. Conducted by H. G. Cashmore.

The first peal in the method.

BECKENHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, April 27, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
At the Church of St. George,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14¼ cwt.

George W. Fogden...	...*Treble*	Jack M. Cripps	5
Thomas Groombridge, sen.	2	Geoffrey V. Murphy ...	6
*Dennis G. Brown	3	Derek M. Sharp...	7
Harry Hoskins	4	Philip A. Corby	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. Knights (No. 48). Conducted by P. A. Corby.

* First attempt for a peal in the method. Rung in honour of St. George's Day.

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 29, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, RUTLAND, BRISTOL, PUDSEY, YORKSHIRE, LINCOLNSHIRE, CAMBRIDGE AND SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 14¼ cwt.

John Bass	...*Treble*	Sidney T. Holt	5
William B. Cartwright ...	2	C. Howard Stanley	6
Clifford Skidmore	3	Robert Matthews	7
Thomas Hemming	4	Charles Camm	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. J. Pitman. Conducted by Sidney T. Holt.

First peal of Spliced Surprise in eight methods by all the band, on the bells and for the association. This peal contains 1,280 London, 1,600 Rutland, 640 Bristol and 320 each of Pudsey, Yorkshire, Lincolnshire, Cambridge and Superlative, with 110 changes of method.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

MELDRETH, CAMBS.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, March 9, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 six-scores. Tenor 12 cwt. in F sharp.

*JOHN GIPSON ... ...*Treble*		*WILFRED BUTLER 3	
*JAMES TURNER 2		REGINALD L. G. LATHBURY 4	
JOHN W. WARD ... ...*Tenor*			

Conducted by REGINALD L. G. LATHBURY.

* First peal and first attempt.

BARTON-UPON-HUMBER, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two extents of Kent Treble Bob and five of Plain Bob.

SAMUEL WOOD ... ...*Treble*		*SEPTIMUS NEAVE 4	
JAMES GODDARD 2		JAMES CHAPMAN... 5	
WALTER GODDARD 3		ARTHUR W. HOODLESS ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by A. W. HOODLESS.

* First peal. Rung for the 28th anniversary of the induction of Canon W. E. Varah as Vicar of Barton.

DAVENHAM, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Monday, April 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BENEDICT,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different extents. Tenor 15 cwt.

*CECIL TOMKINSON ... ...*Treble*		DAVID SMITH 4	
ALBERT H. BOOTH 2		HARRY THELWELL 5	
†GEORGE A. PACKER 3		HARRY W. HOWARD ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by H. W. HOWARD.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal of Bob Minor.

MILTON REGIS, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, April 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two extents each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Plain Bob and one of Cambridge Surprise. Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 13 lb.

ERNEST J. DOBBIE ... ...*Treble*		ARTHUR S. BOAR 4	
*DORIS G. DOBBIE 2		STANLEY B. DOBBIE 5	
WALTER H. DOBBIE 3		GEORGE A. NAYLOR ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by GEORGE A. NAYLOR.

* First peal in four methods. A farewell peal to the Rev. E. C. Pitman (assistant priest), who is leaving for Eaton, Norwich.

MELDRETH, CAMBS.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, April 20, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 six-scores. Tenor 12 cwt. in F sharp.

*GEORGE NEWELL ... ...*Treble*		*ARCHIBALD TUCK 3	
JAMES TURNER 2		REGINALD L. G. LATHBURY 4	
JOHN W. WARD ... ...*Tenor*			

Conducted by REGINALD L. G. LATHBURY.

* First peal and first attempt.

NASSINGTON, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, April 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr. 16 lb.

CHARLES COOPER ... ...*Treble*		*BERTIE EDWARDS 3	
*HARRY STRANGWARD... ... 2		W. REGINALD BUTCHER ... 4	
ROBERT G. BLACK ... ...*Tenor*			

Conducted by ROBERT G. BLACK.

* First peal and first attempt and local ringers. The first peal on the bells.

MORRISTON, GLAM.
THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, April 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Consisting of 240's by Lindoff, Pitman and Morris, and 30 six-scores.
Tenor 9½ cwt.

RONALD DOBBINS... ... ...*Treble*		JOHN L. BLOXHAM 4	
JOHN T. WILLIAMS 2		GWYN I. LEWIS 5	
WALLACE DOBBINS 3		DAVID G. WILLIAMS ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by GWYN I. LEWIS.

PECKLETON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being six six-scores each of St. Simon's, Plain Bob, April Day, Canterbury, London, Antelope and Grandsire. Tenor 9 cwt.

FREDERICK WATSON ... ...*Treble*		FRANK BAILESS 4	
JOHN H. BAILESS... 2		LEONARD P. WARD 5	
FRANK T. LONG 3		EDWIN A. HALL ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by JOHN H. BAILESS.

First peal in seven Doubles methods by all. A compliment to the tenor ringer, who is retiring after 24 years' service as sexton at this church.

SUTTON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, April 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different 720's. Tenor 13 cwt.

*S. RONALD FETHERS... ...*Treble*		MISS E. MILLICENT FETHERS 4	
ARNOLD WORTH 2		JOHN WORTH 5	
CHARLES W. LAWTON ... 3		JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

* First peal at first attempt. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Miss N. Jones.

TICKNALL, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, April 23, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one extent each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Court Bob and two extents each of Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 11¾ cwt.

*WALTER SOAR ... ...*Treble*		WILLIAM LANCASTER ... 4	
*FRANK HULSE 2		*JOSEPH HULSE 5	
JOSEPH W. COTTON 3		ARTHUR E. ROWLEY ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by ARTHUR E. ROWLEY.

* First peal in five methods. Rung for the patronal festival.

BIGBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)
On Friday, April 28, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF SPLICED MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven extents in 60 methods:—

1. Charlwood, Neasden, St. Albans, Wragby, Braintree and Humber Delight.
2. Newdigate, Old Oxford, College Bob IV., Willesden, Marple and Taxal Delight.
3. Clarence and Elston Delight.
4. Capel, Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston, Ockley, Duke of Norfolk, College Exercise, Norbury, Oxford Treble Bob, Carisbrooke, Wath, Donottar and Pontefract Delight.
5. Bicker, Gedney, Gunby, Spilsby, Wainfleet, Surfleet, Spalding, Pinchbeck and Gosberton Alliance and Kent Little Court.
6. Chalfont, Cromer, Steventon, Tibenham, Fulmer, Walsingham, Lammas and Olney Alliance, Crayford Little Court and Little Bob.
7. Lytham, Thelwall, London Bob, Double Oxford, Wavertree, College, Childwall, St. Clement's, Canterbury Pleasure, Fulbeck, Reverse Bob, Double Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 6 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb.

FRANK LORD... ... ...*Treble*		JACK BRAY 4	
MRS. J. BRAY 2		JACK L. MILLHOUSE 5	
CHARLES MCGUINESS... ... 3		GEORGE E. FEIRN ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by GEORGE E. FEIRN.

There were 166 changes of method. First peal in 60 methods by all.

(Many other peal reports are unavoidably held over.)

PEAL NOTES.

A TWELVE-BELL RECORD.

Recent 'searching of records' has revealed the fact that Mr. William P. Garrett, of Ipswich, has the highest total of peals of Maximus to his credit, and he added another on Saturday, which brought the number to 101. But what makes this record more conspicuous is that the total is made up of no fewer than 14 methods, and that Mr. Garrett has taken part in the first peal of every Surprise Maximus method that has been rung.

Saturday's peal of New Cambridge was called by Mr. Albert Walker, of Birmingham, who rang his first peal in the method on twelve bells. Mr. Frank Smallwood, of Bath, returned to Ipswich for the occasion to see that the job was properly done.

A ringer from the four-bell tower of Goxhill, Lincs, Mr. Septimus Neave, rang his first peal on Easter Monday when he took part in seven Minor extents in two methods at Barton-on-Humber—a peal rung for the 28th anniversary of the induction of the Vicar, Canon W. E. Varah.

WORCESTERSHIRE BAND'S FINE PERFORMANCE.

The Worcestershire band, with Mr. Sid Holt as conductor, has achieved another success in Surprise ringing by scoring their first peal in eight spliced Major methods. It was rung at Brierley Hill on Saturday, after an attempt, made without any previous practice a fortnight ago, which failed after 2 hours 10 minutes' ringing.

The band had previously rung peals in four, five and six methods. Their chief difficulty lies in the fact that they are an extremely scattered party and cannot meet for practice. The conductor lives in Worcester, Messrs. Matthews and Bass in Stourbridge, Cartwright and Stanley in Birmingham, Skidmore and Hemming in Brierley Hill, and Camm at Upton-on-Severn.

Members of the Kent County Association rang a peal of Superlative Surprise at Beckenham on April 27th in honour of St. George's Day. They wish to associate Mr. W. J. Rawlings with the peal. After getting everything in readiness, he could not take part, owing to pressure of business, and his place was taken by Dennis Brown, who scored his first peal in the method at the first attempt.

The peal of Bob Minor at Davenham on April 10th was Mr. Harry Howard's 50th peal for the Chester Diocesan Guild.

The peal of Stedman Triples reported last week as rung at Great Bedworth, Cheshire, was rung at Great Budworth.

T.R.H. the Duke and Duchess of Gloucester visited Southampton on April 26th to open the Art Gallery, which completes the magnificent new Civic Centre. A peal of Stedman Caters was rung at St. Mary's Church in honour of the event, and the band included five visitors from the diocese of Guildford. What was more notable was the fact that two of the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild half of the band included two one-armed ringers, J. W. Faithfull and G. Pullinger. The treble was rung by the oldest member of the party, George Williams, who will be 82 on Sunday, and the tenor by the youngest member, Harold Reed, who is 17½. There are few finer tens in England than St. Mary's, Southampton, and the peal was worthy of the bells

To celebrate the completion of 50 years' service as a ringer at St. Mary's, Hinckley, Leicestershire, by Mr. George Thompson, a peal of Stedman Triples was rung there on April 22nd. It was also a birthday compliment to Mrs. W. Measures, whose son, Mr. Frank Measures, called the peal.

A composition by Mr. G. Lewis, of Oxford Treble Bob Major, was rung for the first time on April 22nd, when it was called at Campsall, Yorks, by Mr. D. Smith.

Mr. E. A. Hall is retiring from the office of sexton at Peckleton, Leicestershire, after 24 years' service. On April 22nd he rang the tenor to a peal in seven methods of Doubles, arranged as a compliment to him, and afterwards he and Mrs. Hall kindly entertained the ringers

Mr. Frankland Rigby rang his 50th peal and Mr. F. S. Beaumont his 25th peal when they took part in a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at Swanage, Dorset, on April 22nd.

ANOTHER FINE PERFORMANCE.

The North Lincolnshire band, who have recently been pushing ahead with Spliced Minor, have improved upon their previous 53 methods performance by ringing, last Friday, at Bigby, seven extents in 60 methods. The honour of Lincolnshire seems to have devolved on worthy shoulders.

The present record of 84 methods goes to Cheshire. It was rung at Disley in July last year. The South Lincolnshire band, which seems now to have dissolved, through removals, had previously carried the total to 80.

Sixty methods in a peal was rung for the first time in Lincolnshire in August, 1936. Since then the record has gone up as follows: 61 (Lincs), 66 and 68 (Cheshire), 70 (Lincs), 73 (Cheshire), 80 (Lincs), 84 (Cheshire).

The first peal of Goudhurst Surprise Major was rung at Bushey, Herts, on April 27th. It was Mr. Edwin Jennings' 50th Surprise peal.

The funeral of Canon Hunter, for many years Vicar of Christ Church, Epsom, took place on April 20th, and two days later a muffled peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at the church he served with so much devotion.

There is a team of young ringers at Meldreth, Cambridgeshire, who learned to ring the five bells there when their average age was 14, the youngest being 12 and the oldest 16. That was two years ago. They have now all rung their first peal, three of them on March 9th and the other two on April 20th. On each occasion they were assisted by Messrs. R. L. Lathbury and J. W. Ward. These youngsters are to be congratulated upon their perseverance in learning to ring and upon their excellent striking. They are George Newell, aged 14, Wilfred Butler and John Gibson, each aged 15, and Archie Tuck and James Turner, each aged 18.

A band of service ringers at Church, Lancashire, rang a peal of Treble Bob on the bells of St. James' Church on April 26th, when Mr. Leslie Williams scored his first peal as conductor.

The peal of Minor at Apsley End, Herts, reported last week, was rung on April 17th, not the 10th as printed.

The ringer of the treble to the peal of Grandsire Doubles at St. John's, Leicester, was Raymond V. Hubbard, not Reginald as printed in our issue of April 21st.

Nesta and Richard Smith rang their first peal at the first attempt on Friday, when they took part in a peal of Kent Treble Bob Minor at Wonston, Hants. All the rest of the band rang their first peal of Treble Bob Minor. It was the third peal attempt made by Leslie Tremeer and Leonard Knott within a week. They had lost a peal of London after an hour and a quarter on the previous Saturday and a peal of Stedman after 2 hours 10 minutes on Easter Monday.

Another peal in honour of the 25th anniversary of the enthronement of the first Bishop of Chelmsford, which took place on April 23rd, 1914, was rung on Saturday week at Galleywood.

There is a growing tendency to break away from the rut in Surprise Major ringing, apart from the activities of the bands who are out to ring a new Surprise method every time they meet. On Friday week a peal of Painswick was rung at Crayford, Kent, and the first peal in the method in Yorkshire was rung at Northowram the next day. On the same day a peal of Ashtead was rung at Wymondham, Norfolk. All evidence of the progress that is spreading in method ringing.

In addition to being the first in the county and by the Yorkshire Association, the Painswick at Northowram on April 22nd was the first by all the band and was rung at the first attempt.

Miss Gladys Willars, a schoolgirl of 14 years of age, rang her first peal on the eve of St. George's Day at South Wigston, Leicestershire. She struck her bell perfectly throughout. The peal marked the opening of the great Leicester Church campaign.

The peal of Doubles at Nassington, Northants, on April 22nd, was arranged to enable the conductor (Mr. R. G. Black) to ring a peal on the bells of his native village, which he left in 1889, and where three previous generations of his family have been connected with the belfry. Messrs. Strangwood and Edwards rang splendidly and scored their first peal. They are the first members of the Oundle Branch to ring a peal. It must also have been almost like a first peal for Mr. Charles Cooper, for he had not rung one since 1914. Further, it was the first peal on the bells.

MORECAMBE BELLS RECAST.

CORPORATION'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE COST.

The Bishop of Blackburn, on Palm Sunday, dedicated the restored and augmented bells of the Parish Church of Morecambe, Lancashire. The tower was built in 1841 and the original six bells have now been recast and two more added. The restoration has cost over £600, towards which the Corporation have contributed £100.

The dedication service was attended by the Mayor and Corporation as well as by representatives of the various religious denominations of the town. The first lesson was read by the president of the Morecambe Free Church Council, and the Mayor's chaplain (Canon Royds) read the second lesson. After the dedicatory prayers, the Mayor unveiled a tablet commemorating the occasion.

The Bishop, in his address, compared the harmony of the bells of England with the discord in international affairs. After the service the bells were rung by J. P. Fidler 1, G. Bosworth 2, E. Swain 3, R. Grisdale 4, J. Swain 5, S. Clifford 6, T. B. Worsley 7, H. Palmer 8. The work has been carried out by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., and everyone was loud in their praise of the tone of the bells and their 'go.'

Only a small amount remains to be raised to defray the complete cost of the scheme.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

INCREASE IN MEMBERS.

The annual general meeting of the Oxford University Society was held on April 25th in St. Peter's Hall, Oxford. Considerable progress was noted as having been made in the past year under the able Mastership of Mr. St. J. Smith (Jesus College), and there had been a welcome increase in the number of ringing members.

Mr. P. J. M. Bryan (St. Peter's) was elected Master for the ensuing year, with Mr. M. A. C. Frewer (Merton) and Mr. J. Wrigley (Merton) as secretary and treasurer respectively.

It is to be noted that the retiring Master (Mr. St. J. Smith) has now served both as Master of the Cambridge University Guild (1935-7) and Master of the Oxford University Society (1938-9). Such a career is unprecedented in the history of either society, and Mr. Smith's many friends will wish him success in his campanological and professional careers.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

STRUGGLING BANDS' NEED.

The annual meeting of the Warwickshire Guild was held at Coventry on Saturday, April 15th. The bells of Stoke Church were available during the afternoon and evening and were kept going in rounds and various methods. Service was conducted by the curate (the Rev. E. Lucock), the Guild's form being used. Tea was partaken of at the Biggin Hall Hotel, when 35 members sat down.

The business meeting followed, Mr. F. W. Perrens being voted to the chair. Apologies were received from Messrs. T. W. Chapman and D. H. Argyle.

The hon. secretary reported that for 1938 the membership stood at 364, being made up of 17 honorary members, 189 ringing members and 158 non-resident members, an increase of 43 over 1937 and of 71 over 1936. Peals rung during the year numbered six, the lowest total for any year since 1929. Ten rang their first peal in the method and seven their first peal. The conducting was shared by F. W. Perrens (3), P. Stone (2) and F. E. Pervin (1). The low total is compensated by the fact that Stratford Surprise Major, rung at Nuneaton on April 28th, was the first peal ever rung in the method, and the peal of Ashtead Surprise Major was the first in the method for the Guild.

The balance sheet, showing a balance in hand of £25 19s. 8d., was adopted on the proposition of Mr. A. H. Beamish, seconded by Mr. L. J. Hinde.

The election of officers resulted as follows: President, the Ven. the Archdeacon of Coventry; vice-presidents, the Ven. the Archdeacon of Warwick, the Rev. Canon J. L. White, M.A., the Rev. O. M. Jones, M.A., the Rev. J. H. Dingley; Master, Mr. J. H. White; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mrs. D. E. Beamish; hon. auditor, Mr. A. H. Beamish; Central Council representatives, Mr. F. W. Perrens and Mrs. D. E. Beamish.

The result of the vote for the meeting places for the next three months was: May, Newbold-on-Avon; June, Kineton; July, Solihull. New members elected were Miss O. Moreton (Chilvers Coton), S. Howell (Church Lawford), A. E. Barlow (Rugby), Mrs. Vann (Bilton), W. Sturley (Southam), G. N. Knight (Stoke), H. Lewis, O. Walker and G. Edmunds (Brinklow), T. Warner (Solihull) and Miss C. E. Pocock (Arley).

Mr. N. Maskell asked if assistance could be forthcoming for struggling bands. An occasional Guild meeting, he said, could not possibly meet the need.

Mr. E. Stone suggested that districts be re-formed and the committee of each district make arrangements which would most benefit the bands in that district.

The question was left with the Guild Committee to discuss and report at the next quarterly meeting.

The hon. secretary mentioned the letter received from the secretary of the Central Council regarding the 'Collection of Surprise Major Methods,' in which the Guild was asked to advance 16s. 6d. for six copies. The letter was well received, and ten members signified their intention of purchasing a copy when available.

Mr. E. Stone proposed and Mr. L. J. Hinde seconded that the secretary write to Mr. M. Melville, secretary of the Guild from 1935-38, to wish him Godspeed in his new sphere after his ordination by the Bishop of Winchester.

The reports for 1937-38 having been distributed, Mr. E. Stone proposed a vote of thanks to the hon. secretary for preparing them for publication.—The hon. secretary thanked Mr. F. W. Perrens and Mr. A. H. Beamish for the help they had given.

On the motion of Mr. J. H. W. White, a vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector, the curate and organist of Stoke, and to Mr. W. Cox, of the local band, who had kindly arranged the tea.

At the close of the meeting a return was made to the tower for further ringing, and a social evening followed at the Biggin Hall Hotel, thus bringing to a close one of the most successful meetings held in Coventry.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

AN ANNUAL DINNER SUGGESTED.

The spring meeting of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford was held at Cannock on Saturday, April 22nd. A variety of methods was rung before the service, which was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. J. F. Foster, A.K.C.), who also delivered a helpful address. Tea, which followed at Stanton's Restaurant, was kindly provided by the Vicar.

The Rev. C. H. Barker, clerical secretary and treasurer, moved a vote of thanks to the Vicar for his generosity and for his address, and to the organist and others who helped to make the meeting a success. This was received with applause.

Mr. B. G. Key, Ringing Master, suggested that an annual dinner should be arranged in the autumn, and the project was supported by Mr. C. Wallater. It was eventually agreed that the matter should stand over till the annual meeting.

It was decided that the society should guarantee its quota for the forthcoming publication by the Central Council of 'Surprise Major Methods.'

The annual meeting is arranged to take place at Lichfield on June 17th.

Handbells were brought into use for tunes and change ringing, after which the members returned to the tower.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

At the Kent County Association's meeting at Greenwich on Saturday, Mr. W. Berry, now aged 84, put in an appearance and took part in several touches. It was, indeed, a pleasure to the members to see and ring with him again in the tower in which he spent so many hours in days gone by.

The number of members of the Midland Counties Association, according to the annual report just issued, is 835 ringing members and 158 honorary members. In addition, there are some hundreds of non-resident life members.

The subscriptions to the association during 1938 amounted to £93 11s. 6d., and there was a balance on the year's working of £8 12s. 9d. The association has £300 in reserve funds, £47 4s. 4d. balance on appropriation account, and £13 6s. 1d. in the Bell Repair Fund.

Who was the crack Derby ringer who spoiled his life's record by breaking the treble stay at the M.C.A. meeting at West Hallam last Saturday?

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

RELATIONS IN OVERLAPPING AREAS.

A meeting of the Northern District of the London County Association was held at St. John's, Leytonstone, on April 15th. It is at this church that the national memorial to that truly great ringer, the late Mr. William Pye, is situated. Two trebles were added to the old six, and the fact is recorded on a tablet in the porch underneath the tower.

Ringing took place from 3 p.m. till 4.30 p.m., and then a short service was conducted by the Rector (Canon W. T. Brown), who gave a short but delightful and much appreciated address.

Tea was served at a nearby restaurant, and Canon Brown extended a cordial welcome to the members. He assured them that he was always very pleased to have visits at his church from ringing societies.

The business meeting was held in the ringing room. Apart from the routine business, there was only one item of importance, that of a proposed joint meeting with the North and East District of the Middlesex Association.

The district secretary (Mr. J. G. Prior) said that, in his opinion, in consequence of certain recent correspondence in 'The Ringing World,' the impression had been given that the London County Association had no wish to co-operate with the other London societies and had no respect for the legitimate claims of these societies. As far as the Northern District was concerned, this was emphatically not so. Relations with the societies whose areas overlapped that of the district had, in recent years at least, been quite good. Speaking particularly of the North and East District of the Middlesex County Association, who were most concerned with the overlapping, he said that as the result of exchange of correspondence between the district secretaries, only once during the last nine years had there been a clash of meetings, and that an unavoidable one. He thought that a joint meeting with the Middlesex Association would have a very good effect, and he, therefore, proposed that they be invited to join the district in such a meeting at the Churches of St. Dunstan's, Stepney, and St. George-in-the-East towards the end of the year, probably in November.—The proposition was unanimously adopted.

Votes of thanks to the Rector and to Messrs. G. Dawson and E. D. Smith, of the local band, for making the arrangements, concluded the business, and further ringing then took place.

It was a highly enjoyable and successful meeting, both socially and technically. Methods rung during the day ranged up to Spliced Surprise Major in four methods, an unusual feature at London County meetings.

WORCESTERSHIRE RINGERS' WEDDING.

MR. T. W. LEWIS AND MISS FLORENCE JOHNSON.

The wedding of two well-known Worcestershire ringers was solemnised at St. Peter's, Hinton-on-the-Green, on Saturday, when Miss Florence A. Johnson, fifth daughter of the late Mr. F. J. Johnson and of Mrs. Johnson, was married to Mr. Thomas W. Lewis, eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. W. Lewis of Worcester. The whole of the bride's family have been service ringers at Hinton, her brother (Mr. J. D. Johnson) being hon. secretary of the Worcestershire Association, whilst her mother is an honorary member of the association. The bridegroom's father is towerkeeper at St. John's, Worcester, and both father and son are members of the St. John's and Cathedral Guilds.

Fully choral and conducted by the Rector (the Rev. G. C. Binyon), the service was attended by many ringers. The bride's dress was of heavy white satin trimmed with lace, and she was attended by three small nieces dressed in frilled net in Victorian style, who carried dolls dressed as replicas of themselves; and a nephew of the groom, Master Tommy Martin, dressed in white satin and velvet.

Mr. S. T. Holt was best man, and the bride was given away by her elder brother, Mr. J. D. Johnson.

A reception was later held in the schools, where, among others, a greetings telegram was received from the ringers assembled at the groom's home tower, St. John's, for a peal.

The happy couple's future home will be in Worcester, and, as already recorded, a celebration peal of Double Oxford Major was rung at Hinton and a peal of Bob Major at Worcester.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—69.

C. KENNETH LEWIS.

For many years the Chester Diocesan Guild has had the good fortune to include in its ranks bands of enterprising ringers, particularly in the sphere of Minor ringing. Although in the early days of method splicing the plan was experimented with in various parts of the country, it was in Cheshire that it was first developed on the lines that have led up to the present advanced standards, and it is Cheshire that, at the moment, holds the record for the highest number of methods included in seven extents. There has been in the diocese a steady succession of ringers expert in this branch of the art, and there is happily still no lack of them. Some have come to the front very rapidly, and among these is Mr. C. Kenneth Lewis, of Marple, who, although he rang his first peal only five years ago—by a coincidence, exactly five years ago to-day—and did not call a peal until November, 1935 (this was in nine methods at Taxal), has already to his credit the honour of conducting a peal in 73 Treble Bob methods (the greatest number of Treble Bob methods which is believed possible of incorporation in seven extents), and the peal in 84 methods, which stands as the greatest number yet rung in seven 720's.



MR. C. KENNETH LEWIS.

Mr. Lewis first became interested in ringing towards the end of 1931, but, owing to the fact that the band which was gathered together at Marple was practically all raw material in change ringing, very little progress was made. Early in July, 1933, Mr. Lewis began to visit Disley, three miles away, and as a result of the instruction received there he was, by the end of the year, taking an interest in Spliced Minor. His first peal was not rung until May in the following year, at Knutsford (it consisted of Kent, Oxford and Plain Bob), but he had made several fruitless attempts before that. His second peal, two months later, was in 18 methods, and his third, in September, was in 21 methods. He became a member of the band which, under the conductorship of Mr. J. Worth, was carrying on the work started at Norbury in 1923. To reach the record number of methods the band, of course, have had gradually to build up the total, and the later stages have included peals in 40, 42, 46, 52, 66, 68, 73 and 84 methods.

But while Mr. Lewis has devoted so much attention to the higher flights of Minor ringing, he has by no means confined his attention to this, and among other things he has rung almost 50 Surprise Major peals in six methods, peals of Grandsire from Doubles to Cinques, and of Plain Bob from Minor to Maximus. He rang in the first peal of Rochester Surprise Major for the Chester Guild and in the only peal of Carisbrooke Delight Major, as well as calling the first peal of Staffordshire Surprise Major to be rung by the North Staffs Association in its own territory. Among the performances which he greatly values is the first peal (Doubles in two methods) rung at Marple for the Coronation by an entirely local band. Altogether Mr. Lewis has rung 140 peals, of which he has conducted 43.

Born at Marple on August 23rd, 1913, Mr. Lewis is now secretary and treasurer of the Stockport, Mottram and Bowdon Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild and an ex-officio member of the Guild Committee.

KENT RINGER'S DEATH.

Mr. F. G. Burden, of Rolvenden, Kent, died in his sleep on Friday, April 14th. Deceased was 67 years of age and had been a ringer for over 50 years and verger for 25 years. He had rung several peals of Stedman and Grandsire Triples and of Major.

When Mr. Burden celebrated his jubilee as a ringer he broadcast in the B.B.C. feature, 'In Town To-night.' He was a good sportsman, kindly and cheerful, and much liked by all the villagers.

The local ringers acted as bearers at the funeral on Monday, April 17th. On Saturday last a band of the Kent County Association rang a half-muffled peal of Grandsire Triples.

CHESTERFIELD BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—At a quarterly meeting of the Oxford Society held on Saturday evening your leading article re Chesterfield bells was discussed with great interest. It was unanimously agreed that the following resolution be sent to you for publication:—

'That this society views with regret the proposed suggestion to instal an apparatus for "synthetic" bells in Chesterfield spire.'

V. BENNETT, Hon. Sec., O.S.C.R.

SHAMS OR SYNTHETICS.

Dear Sir,—Is there any real reason why we should play into the hands of the opposition, by using the word synthetics, when there is nothing like synthesis? The combination of the recording of the sounds of bells, with a loud speaker, produces a simple reproduction, which may be called a substitute, a sham or a pretence, but can never be a synthesis. Moreover, actual synthetic bells are a possibility, so we had better keep our wrath for them till they appear.

Now to some people the word 'synthetic' appeals, and produces in their mind the idea of a stunt which they wish to attach to their churches. So let us avoid the misleading term.

Again there are occasions (such as weddings) when some people like shams or pretences. I see no reason why they should not have them, as long as they keep the sound to the room, or other place of entertainment. But let us keep shams of all kinds away from our churches.

A further point is the law about these things. Churches have a common law or customary right to use the sound of bells. Places of worship not belonging to the Church of England have no such right. But as no one is likely ever again to contest this matter, one may take it that the C.E. Common Law right covers them also. But reproductions are quite a different matter. It cannot be claimed that these are customary: and very disagreeable legal proceedings are sure to follow these installations unless they be confined to indoors.

HERBERT DRAKE.

RESTORATION OF BRONLLYS BELLS.

NEW TREBLE ADDED.

The restored and augmented bells of St. Mary's, Bronllys, Brecknockshire, were dedicated by the Bishop of Swansea and Brecon on Easter Eve. Messrs. Taylor and Co. have tuned, quarter turned and rehung the old five and added a new treble. The restoration was made possible by a generous donation by the Barron Bell Trust and by various bellringing friends. Before the service the Bishop ascended the tower and inspected the work and congratulated the Vicar upon the way in which it had been carried out.

The Vicar (the Rev. W. J. Davies) intoned the service and the lesson was read by the Rural Dean (the Rev. R. W. Lockyer, Glasbury-on-Wye). After the formal dedication the Bishop gave an address on the words, 'We love the place, O God.'

The opening ringing was not done until the conclusion of the service, when it was carried out by D. H. Bennett, T. P. Curtis, P. J. Davies, D. A. Williams, E. D. Davies, J. Owens and W. Drew.

Ringers were present from Brecon (St. David's), Cefn Coed, Cadoxton, Clifford, Eardisland, Ebbw Vale, Glasbury, Kington, Talgarth, Staunton-on-Arrow, Lyonshall, Ross-on-Wye, Morriston, Newport and the local band, and included Messrs. D. G. Williams (guild secretary), J. P. Hyett (district secretary), A. Hunt (District Master), J. W. Jones (hon. secretary, Llandaff and Monmouth), the Rev. Ivor Richards (Llanhennech) and Mr. J. H. Shepherd (Swindon).

All present expressed their pleasure at the excellent 'go' and tone of the bells, and Messrs. Taylor and Co. are to be congratulated on the work of restoration.

All the visitors were entertained to tea at the school, and Canon Hilary W. Lewis proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar and parishioners for their hospitality.

An interesting point about Bronllys Church is that the tower is the only detached tower in Wales with six bells. The tenor is 7 cwt. 8 lb. Visiting ringers will always be welcome to ring on the bells, if they will write to the Vicar.

DEATH OF MR. W. ALLIN.

FORMER VICE-PRESIDENT OF EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

It is with regret we have to record the passing of Mr. Wilson Allin, of Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts, who died on April 12th at the age of 68 years.

Mr. Allin was a member of the East Derbyshire and Nottingham Association and Midland Counties Association. He was for some time vice-president of East Derbyshire Association and always looked forward to the quarterly meetings. He was also instrumental in having three new bells added as part of the church war memorial and was hoping to see the six made into an octave. This wish, however, has not been granted, for he passed away while the necessary funds were being collected. Mr. Allin was a ringer at Sutton-in-Ashfield for 48 years, being captain and towerkeeper during part of that time. His last peal was rung on December 13th, just before his illness.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

GIFT TO THE NEW CATHEDRAL.

Increase in Membership.

At their annual meeting at Guildford on Saturday, the members of the Guildford Diocesan Guild undertook to provide the bell that will be necessary for the portion of the new Cathedral which it is hoped to complete in two years' time. This gift will be entirely apart from the scheme, which has been in operation for some few years, to accumulate a fund towards the provision of a ringing peal of bells when the tower is added some time in the future. The bell which is now offered will be temporarily housed, but eventually will be placed, as a 'sanctus' bell, in a turret over the Lady Chapel.

The meeting at which this decision was taken was held in Holy Trinity Parish Hall, and was attended by over a hundred members and visitors from many places outside the diocese. Mr. Walter Harrison (vice-president) presided, supported by the Master (Major J. H. B. Hesse), the hon. treasurer (Mr. J. Corbett), the hon. secretary (Mr. G. L. Grover), the Rev. L. Starey (Merrow), who had conducted the Guild's service in the Cathedral, and Mr. J. S. Goldsmith (vice-president).

MEMBERSHIP.

The committee, in their annual report, said the decline in membership in the two previous years had abated, and in 1938 there was a welcome influx of new members, a net gain of 30 having brought the total to 78 honorary and 405 annual subscribing ringing members. Special thanks were extended to Mr. W. James, of Cobham, for the introduction of seven new life members last year, and a substantial increase of honorary members in the Leatherhead District, which will be apparent in next year's balance sheet. The report continued:

'In spite of the increase in membership, however, the position as regards ringing members is a long way from being satisfactory. One of our districts only, namely, Farnham, is in the happy position of having members from every tower in its area. In the remaining districts there are several towers either with no members at all or with less members than they have bells. As the bells of most of the towers which stand aloof are rung regularly there must be many ringers in the diocese who have yet to be convinced that this Guild is not just the plaything of the officers and a few experts, but is really run with the object of promoting ringing generally throughout the diocese and for the benefit of every individual ringer.

'The Benevolent Fund, now with a balance of £58 16s. 8d., continues to grow, and, in connection with the New Cathedral Bells Fund, which stands at £21 7s. 7d., the committee reminds all members that they are part of a diocesan organisation actively engaged in a branch of diocesan life, and as members of such an organisation it should be their pleasure, and it is certainly their duty, to contribute as generously as possible to this fund. Perhaps never before have diocesan ringers had such an opportunity of leaving for future generations a more obvious witness of their enthusiasm and service as is now presented to members of this Guild. The Cathedral will be built and the tower eventually completed. Other diocesan organisations are already taking steps to provide the furnishing of various parts of the new building, and it is not out of reason to ask that on you, as members of the ringing organisation of the diocese, should rest some at least of the responsibility of ensuring that the tower is equipped with a ringing peal.'

RELATIONS WITH OTHER ASSOCIATIONS.

Having referred to the district and joint meetings held during the year, the report said these meetings emphasised the very friendly relations which exist between the Guild and neighbouring societies generally. 'With thoughts of further joint meetings in mind,' added the report, 'all members will feel relieved that the attempt to promote antagonism between the London County Association and this Guild has been frustrated. The Guild was accused in "The Ringing World" of poaching on the preserves of other societies. Happily, our vice-president, Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, as a member of the London County Association, was able, without involving this Guild in a dispute, to convince the annual meeting of that body of the gross unfairness of the charge, and it has now been withdrawn in such a manner as will, we hope, leave no suspicion of animosity between the London County Association and ourselves. The Guild was launched and is continued with the approval of the diocesan authorities as part and parcel of the diocesan organisation. There can be no question as to the right of the Guild to embrace every tower and claim the support of every ringer in the diocese. Association with Church life in the diocese should entail loyalty to that part of the diocesan scheme which is charged with the care of ringing. This does not mean that the Guild challenges the right of any other ringing organisation to pursue its legitimate activities within our borders, but it does imply that the allegiance of every ringer resident within the diocese of Guildford is due first and foremost to the Guild.'

PEAL RINGING ACTIVITIES.

The twenty peals rung during the year was the lowest total ever recorded by the Guild, but the peals included the first peal of Painswick Surprise Royal ever rung and the first peal of Yorkshire Surprise Royal by the Guild. There were only three 'first peals' against 15 in the previous year.

'The committee,' continued the report, 'feels that there is room in the field of peal ringing for greater activity by the Guild. Not merely activity for the primary purpose of increasing the numbers of peals rung, but activity designed to stimulate the life of the Guild by introducing to the peal ringing branch of the art a greater proportion of our members and to encourage younger members to aspire to the laurels of conductorship. If such an effort is to be made, however, more towers must be made available. So much has been said on this subject in previous reports, both district and annual, that the committee feels that there is little that can now be usefully added, but the committee members do think that if local ringers were just a little more helpful to the officers many towers at which there is never any peal ringing would be available for peal attempts occasionally. Local objectors who can remain adamant in refusing requests of comparative strangers are often to be mollified by the efforts of local ringers in personal touch. The committee suggests, too, that no peal organiser should be unmindful of the fact that local ringers are often inclined to be a little more amenable if some members of their tower are asked to join with visitors in peal attempts.

'Since the formation of the Guild eleven years ago only ten members can claim to have rung their first peal as conductor, and of these ten only three or four remain on the list of active peal ringers. For a Guild which has always had in the neighbourhood of 400 ringing members these figures give rise to some misgivings as to the future, and the committee appeals to all members to assist any efforts to effect a remedy.'

The report concluded with thanks to the incumbents, the district officers and all who had worked in the interests of the Guild.

The Chairman, in moving the adoption of the report, congratulated the Guild on the state of the Benvolent Fund, which, he said, was entirely due to Major Hesse, who fathered the scheme. There was still plenty of room for further encouragement, however. He also expressed gratification at Mr. Grover's succession to Mr. Goldsmith as general secretary.

Mr. J. Corbett (hon. treasurer) moved the adoption of the accounts and thanked the Parochial Church Councils, the general secretary and the district secretaries for their support.

The following new members were elected: Messrs. G. Hall (Shere), C. Parks (Croydon), G. Clode (Cathedral Church), E. W. Izard (Canada), A. R. Reed (Eastleigh), R. J. Balchus, J. and D. Lickford (Chiddingfold), P. Viney (Bramley) and G. W. Massey (attached to Epsom), Capt. D. C. Standem, Miss M. White (Pyrford) and Mrs. B. M. Martin.

Officers were re-elected as follows: President, the Bishop of Guildford; vice-presidents, Bishop C. H. Golding-Bird, the Ven. E. J. Newill and Messrs. W. Harrison and J. S. Goldsmith; Master, Major J. H. B. Hesse; hon. treasurer, Mr. J. Corbett; hon. secretary, Mr. G. L. Grover; hon. auditor, Mr. R. Hasted; Central Council representatives, Messrs. A. H. Pulling, A. C. Hazelden, G. L. Grover and A. Harman; committee, the officers and the Revs. F. A. Woodard and G. H. B. Coleridge, Messrs. W. Massey, E. W. Morey, W. A. Dollimore, F. Nye, T. Upshall, R. Whittington, F. Cherryman, E. J. Ayliffe, A. J. Adams and G. Marriner; member of Diocesan Advisory Committee, Major J. H. B. Hesse.

It was decided to hold the summer festival at Haslemere on July 8th.

ENCOURAGING YOUNG MEMBERS.

Mr. C. W. Denyer (Farnham) moved that 'any district may provide out of funds one bronze Guild badge for any Guild member (other than a member whose subscriptions are compounded) who after the 1st day of May, 1939, shall ring his or her first quarter-peal.' He said it would encourage members to progress and use the badge.—The motion was carried.

On the proposition of Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, it was decided to guarantee £1 13s. to the Central Council in connection with the publication of 'Surprise Major Methods.' He considered it was a book that should be made available to members, as it contained a history of Surprise ringing and an extensive collection of compositions. In return for the guarantee the Council would provide twelve copies, which could be sold for 3s. each.

Sanction was granted to the Leatherhead District to expend not more than £2 10s. on Davis silencers, and to the Guildford District to contribute £5 to the New Cathedral Bells Fund.

PROVISION OF BELL FOR CATHEDRAL.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith asked that the Guild should provide a sanctus bell for the first part of the new Cathedral as its donation to the appeal. The bell would be used for services until such time as the tower was built, and he could see no finer gesture than to give it. They had some two years to raise the money, and a bell of 3 cwt. would cost, with all fittings, about £40. There were over 450 members in the Guild, and if each one gave a shilling a year for two years they would have more than enough to pay for the bell. He was going to make a real drive to get the money, and would like, if possible, to get half the amount before Christmas and the other half before June next year. It was hoped to dedicate the first portion of the Cathedral at Whitsun, 1941, but there would be no ringing peal in the Cathedral for perhaps 20 years.

He did not propose touching the Cathedral Bells Fund, and it was an opportunity for them to show the clergy that they were not merely out for what they could get, but that they were prepared to give something. Provision had been made for a turret over the Lady Chapel to take a sanctus bell of about 3 cwt., and that was the bell he suggested they should give.—The Chairman thought they should

(Continued on next page.)

NORTH STAFFS ASSOCIATION.

SUCCESSFUL GATHERING AT BURSLEM.

There was a successful gathering when the members of the North Staffordshire Association held their second annual dinner on Saturday, April 15th, a company of 69 spending a most enjoyable evening at the George Hotel, Burslem. During the afternoon Hanley tower was open for ringing, and the bells were fully employed.

Supporting the president (the Ven. Archdeacon Hartill, of Stoke-on-Trent) were Mr. Andrew Thompson (hon. secretary), Miss Ada Bourne, the Rev. S. F. Linsley (clerical secretary), Mr. Arthur W. Hall (vice-chairman), Mrs. A. W. Hall, Mr. Kenneth Thacker (assistant hon. secretary), Miss D. Bull, Mr. W. H. Shuker (hon. secretary, Lancashire Association) and Mrs. Shuker, and ringers and friends from Brown Edge, Stone, Longton, Kingsley, Norton, Draycott, Leek, Stoke-on-Trent, Hanley and Tunstall.

After the toast of 'The King,' Mr. E. A. Ridgway proposed 'The Church,' which, he said, was concerned with every important phase of their lives. He reminded the ringers that their appointment was a divine call. Within a radius of twelve miles of where he stood there must be, he said, a population of at least three hundred thousand souls, and, roughly, 300 ringers; only one-tenth of one per cent. Why was it they were content to be shut off from the world, out of sight, out of mind, yet eager to send forth God's message on the loud cymbals? The answer was they had got the 'urge' which impelled them to do so, an 'urge' which was given them by the Creator. Let them give, then, the best that lay within them both in study and in service. It rested on them to teach and to encourage those who would follow after and impart any knowledge they possessed so that the good work might advance through the ages.

The President, who replied, said it was becoming clearer every day that the only hope of civilisation for the world was by looking up to the Church. It was only by a rallying of people to the Church and by the rallying of the Church to its principles that there was any way out of the political unrest that was present in the world to-day. The activities of the Church, he continued, were the highest and best activities of human life. Bellringing was definitely linked up with the life of the Church; the best and highest quality of music had always been linked up to the life of the Church. Unfortunately during the last two or three centuries very many of the activities of human life had somehow or other got separated from the life of the Christian world, but there was still one activity which remained linked up with the life of the Church, and that was the art of bellringing. It was an art which was used to call the people to church, and when it was done earnestly it was an art at its highest and best.

Mr. E. Steele, who submitted the toast of 'The Visitors,' referred with pleasure to the presence of the secretary of the Lancashire Association and welcomed many new friends.

Mr. C. S. Bowers, who responded, declared himself a friend not only of the ringers at his own church, but of all the members of that association. He went on to say that bells were like everything else, they never missed them until they had not got them. They had an experience of that when the bells of his church were being rehung. A series of complaints reached him, one of them being that when the bells were silent the good ladies who lived near the church didn't know what time to put the potatoes on to boil (laughter).

The Rev. S. F. Linsley proposed the toast of the North Staffordshire Association, and referred to the valuable work that was being done week after week by the ringers.

The Hon. Secretary, who responded, first referred to the passing of their old friend, Mr. George Walker, who, had he been with them, would assuredly have replied to the toast. Mr. Thompson went on to say it was true of the whole association that they took a keen interest in their work. During the past three years they had increased their membership by 60, but they still had a few towers which were left unattended. These could be helped by other members of the association, apart from those who undertook other duties. Referring to peal ringing activities in the association, Mr. Thompson said they were, of course, ringing more peals to-day than they had done for the last 20 years, although their total now only stood at 432. It seemed to take them a long time to reach their 500, probably longer than it took some of the associations to reach 5,000. Nevertheless, they had the unity and their Sunday ringing, which was of just as much service to their Church as the associations who had reached the total of peals in the thousands.

The committee, he continued, were very satisfied with the dinner proceedings. When they remembered the conditions they had had to weather and the difficulties that the committee had had in obtaining permission to hold the dinner in the George Hotel, he thought the results were very gratifying. He hoped all the members of the association would look up to the work that had been done by the committee. Mr. Thompson added that he had received apologies for absence from Mr. J. Bourne and Mr. E. A. Sherratt. The latter was ill in the North Staffordshire Infirmary and wrote wishing the dinner every success. The secretary thanked the Leek ringers and also the ladies from Leek for entertaining them so well. He felt sure the committee would be lost without the help of the Leek ringers, the president and the new clerical secretary (the Rev. S. F. Linsley).

The toast of 'The Press' was proposed by Mr. A. W. Hall, who first referred to the services rendered to the Exercise by 'The Ringing World,' and appealed for wider support for the paper. He also expressed the indebtedness of the association to 'The Evening Sentinel' and 'The City Times' newspapers for the publication of reports.

Selections were given on handbells by the Leek ringers, and songs were sung by Mr. G. E. Plant, pianoforte duets were rendered by Mrs. E. Thonger and Miss H. Bamford, while community singing, led by the Rev. S. F. Linsley and the Archdeacon, was very much enjoyed. A very happy evening was brought to a close with 'Auld Lang Syne.'

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Continued from previous page.)

endorse Mr. Goldsmith's scheme with all their zeal and fervour and the proposal met with unanimous approval.

Mr. C. E. Smith brought forward a suggestion, made at the annual meeting of the Surrey Association, that the Guildford Guild should appoint a member to act on the Surrey committee as the two societies overlapped but worked in harmony. The Surrey Association had approved the idea of one of their members serving on the Guildford Guild Committee.—The meeting approved the idea in principle.

Mr. T. W. White wondered if it was an appeasement policy or encirclement (laughter).

Mrs. Jessie Kippin: We are not dictators in the Surrey Association.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith announced that Mr. J. Armiger Trollope had presented the Guild with a manuscript history of London ringing from 1718-56, entitled 'Annable and his times.' On Mr. Goldsmith's proposition, a vote of thanks was moved to the donor.

Thanks to the Rev. L. Starey for preaching, the Provost for the use of the Cathedral Church and the chairman were proposed by Major J. H. B. Hesse.

The bells of the Cathedral Church and S. Nicolas' Church were rung before the meeting, while further use was made of S. Nicolas' and Shalford bells in the evening.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

THE MEMORIAL TO THE REV. B. H. TYRWHITT-DRAKE.

The annual meeting of the Ely Diocesan Association was held at Cambridge on Easter Monday. Good use was made of the bells at Great St. Mary's, St. Bene't's, St. Andrew's, Chesterton, and Our Lady and the English Martyrs. Permission to ring at Great St. Andrew's had not been granted.

The Vicar of Great St. Mary's, the Rev. E. C. Essex, was prevented by a long standing engagement from being present, but sent apologies for absence and good wishes for a happy meeting. Service was conducted by the Rev. S. Senior.

At the business meeting, held in the Consistory Court, the chair was kindly taken by the Rev. S. Senior.

The report and balance sheet were adopted and the officers and committee elected as follows: General secretary and treasurer, Miss K. Willers; auditor, Mr. T. R. Dennis; representatives on the Central Council, Mr. C. W. Cook and Mr. F. Warrington; committee, Messrs. A. J. Abrams, A. T. Chenery, C. Cousins, R. W. Crofts, H. Fields, E. G. Hibbins, F. W. Lack and W. Seekings.

Wisbech was agreed upon for next year's general meeting, and the summer festival this year will be held at St. Neots.

In connection with the proposed memorial to the late Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt-Drake, it was decided to accept Mr. Mansfield's estimate of £10 10s. for erecting a tablet of Hopton Wood stone in Watlington Church. A faculty will be needed, making a total cost of £12 12s. Money already in hand and promises amount to £10 7s. 6d. The memorial is approved by the Rev. F. W. Fulford, Rector of Watlington.

A hearty vote of thanks was passed to all those who had helped to make the meeting a success.

PILGRIMAGE TO EAST GARSTON.

On Wednesday evening, April 19th, a few members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild met in the churchyard of the beautiful old village of East Garston, Berks, to pay their annual visit to the grave of the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, for many years their good Master and friend. The bells were raised in peal and a 720 of Bob Minor rung by Mrs. E. J. Hibbert 1, S. C. Davis (conductor) 2, W. Hibbert 3, R. T. Hibbert 4, C. J. Hibbert 5, W. Hibbert, jun. 6. Grandsire Doubles were then rung, Messrs. G. Woodley and R. Powell, of the local band, taking part, the latter ringing a good 120, although he had not tried to hunt the treble before. The ringing was of the character the dear old Master loved and would have enjoyed taking part in. Then home across the Berkshire Downs to Basingstoke, Reading and East Ilsley, all full of the memories of happy times spent with the 'Reverend' when he was with us.

R. T. H.

FIFTY YEARS A RINGER.

At Hanley, Staffs, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung on Easter Sunday before evening service to celebrate the Easter festival, also as a birthday compliment to the treble ringer, who has been ringing for 50 years: H. Allcock 1, H. Sargeant 2, A. Millward 3, G. Jones 4, *J. A. J. Jack 5, J. W. Millward 6, N. Sargeant (first as conductor) 7, *H. Jones 8. * First quarter-peal.

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.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Next meeting will be held at St. Peter's Church, Walsden, on Saturday, May 6th. Tea in the Schoolroom at 1s. each.—Ivan Kay, Hon. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—St. Michael's, East Peckham (6 bells) is beautifully situated in the heart of the fruit growing district. Come and see for yourself on Saturday, May 6th, the occasion of the Spring meeting. Half fares will be paid to members attending. Tower open 2.45. Service 4.30. Book on bus to Forge Gate, on the Tonbridge-Maidstone Road.—Alec E. Richardson, Laurel Cottage, Victoria Road, Southborough.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — The half-yearly meeting will be held at Morecambe on Saturday, May 6th. The new bells at Holy Trinity will be available from 2.30 p.m. Tea in Memorial Hall or Miss Wood's Café at 5.15.—W. H. Shuker and T. Wilson, Hon. Secs.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A meeting will be held at Puttenham on Saturday, May 6th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting.—W. F. J. Cope, Hon. Sec., 26, Curling Vale, Onslow Village, Guildford.

PETERBOROUGH, ST. MARY'S CHURCH.—The ring of six bells, rehung by John Taylor and Co., will be re-dedicated by Bishop Lang on Saturday, May 6th, at 3.30 p.m.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bicester Branch.—The annual meeting will be held (D.V.) at Ambrosden (8 bells) on Saturday, May 6th. Tower open 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m., followed by tea and short business meeting. Bicester bells (8) available in the evening. Those requiring tea, please notify F. Sharpe, Derwen, Launton, Bicester, Oxon.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting will be held at Harrold on Saturday, May 6th. Bells (6) ready from 3 p.m. Tea at 5. Nice little peal. You will be very welcome.—Frank C. Tysoe, Dis. Sec., 10, Grange Road, Bromham, Bedford.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Ranmoor Church, Sheffield (10 bells), on Saturday, May 6th. For tea, please notify Mr. C. Haynes, 441a, Sandygate Road, Sheffield. Buses from Leopold Street, near Town Hall, fare 1½d. All welcome.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 13, St. Ranon's Road, Sheffield 7.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — South Norfolk Branch.—The spring meeting will be held at Bunwell on Saturday, May 6th. Bells afternoon and evening. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Meeting follows. Special method, Kingston Treble Bob Minor. All ringers welcome to this fresh tower.—A. G. Harrison, Branch Sec., 90, Denmark Street, Diss, Norfolk.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—A ringing meeting will be held at Hanslope (6 bells) on Saturday, May 6th, from 4.30 p.m. All ringers will be welcome. A good attendance is desired.—Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cary Deanery Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Wincanton on Saturday, May 6th. Other towers available. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting following at the Schoolroom.—W. A. Osborn, Galhampton, Yeovil.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Uphill (Weston-super-Mare) on May 6th. Bells (6) open at 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting at Howe's Cafe 5 p.m. All ringers welcomed.—H. Minifie, Branch Sec., Royston, Uphill, Weston-super-Mare.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Service ringing, May 7th, at St. Clement Danes, Strand, 10 a.m. Practices, St. Clement Danes, May 8th and 22nd, at 7.30 p.m.; also St. Mary, Lambeth, May 30th, at 8 p.m.—T. W. Taffender, Hon. Sec.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—A combined practice will be held at Harpenden (bells 8), on Tuesday, May 9th, at 7.45 p.m. Please support!—Harold V. Frost, Dis. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meetings for May: *St. Mary-le-Bow, 9th; St. Magnus', 11th and 25th; St. Giles', Cripplegate, 16th; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 18th; *St. Paul's Cathedral, 23rd; Southwark Cathedral, 30th. All at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—A. B. Peck, Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—The next meeting will be held at Horsell on Saturday, May 13th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Tea in the Institute 4.45 p.m., followed by business meeting. Service 6.30 p.m. This is a country village, and a postcard with numbers for tea must reach me by Wednesday, the 10th. All ringers and friends welcome.—F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Sec., 39, Queen's Road, Thames Ditton.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Tewkesbury Branch.—A meeting will be held at Hasfield on Saturday, May 13th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea by invitation of the Rector. Please notify me for tea by Tuesday, May 9th.—A. G. Pulley, Branch Hon. Sec., Dumbleton, Evesham.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—Bi-quarterly meeting will be held at Knowle, Warwickshire, on Saturday, May 13th. Bells available at 3.30 p.m.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec.

LADIES' GUILD.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Braintree, Essex, on May 13th. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m. Service in the church conducted by the Vicar at 4.30 p.m. Tea, price 1s., in the Church Hall at 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow. Bocking bells (8) also available after tea. All names for tea should be sent to Mr. W. G. Felton, 42, Panfield Lane, Braintree, Essex, not later than Wednesday, May 10th.—Sylvia R. E. Bowyer, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting is at Burbage on Saturday, May 13th. Ringing from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tea and short meeting at 5 p.m. You will get a better tea if all who intend coming send a card to Mr. G. Dudley, 47, Sketchley Road, Burbage, as early as possible. I have a few reports left. Have you had yours yet?—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Eccleston (6 bells) on Saturday, May 13th. Tower open from 2.30 p.m. Particulars later by circular. Subscriptions are now due. All ringers welcome.—A. Blogg, Branch Sec.

LADIES' GUILD.—London District.—Meeting at Stoke Poges on Saturday, May 13th. Visit the charming church of Gray's 'Elegy,' and ring on the handy peal of eight. Bells available 3 o'clock. Tea at the Red Lion, Stoke Green, at 5, followed by business meeting. Notifications must be sent to Mrs. A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, near Slough, by Wednesday, May 10th, without fail. Trains, 2.18 and 2.35, Paddington to Slough.—I. R. Housden, Hon. Dis. Sec.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD. — Aylesbeare Deanery Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Colaton Raleigh on Saturday, May 13th. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. Those requiring tea, please notify me not later than Monday, May 8th.—R. Brook, Hon. Sec., 3, Greatwood Terrace, Topsham.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Kings Langley, on Saturday, May 13th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Usual service, followed by tea. If you need tea, *it is necessary* to let Mr. R. S. Cook, High Street, Kings Langley, know by *Thursday, May 11th*. All ringers welcome.—W. Ayre, Dis. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch. — Newport Pagnell Deanery. — A meeting at Chicheley, Saturday, May 13th. 2.30, ring up; 4.15, service; 4.45, tea. — Rev. J. F. Amies, Ravenstone Vicarage, Olney, Bucks.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Worth (bells 6) on Saturday, May 13th. Tower open 3 p.m. Tea 5 (please notify). Everybody welcome. — B. Saunders, 18, New Road, Ridgewood, Uckfield, Sussex.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—A meeting will be held at Lower Peover on Saturday, May 13th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Tea has been arranged at 1s. 6d. per head. A hearty invitation is extended to the Northwich and Bowdon and Stockport Branches. Will those who intend to be present please notify me before Thursday, May 11th?—H. Parker, 3, London Road, Davenham.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—A meeting of the Grimsby District will be held at Mablethorpe on Saturday, May 13th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. and after meeting. Service 4.15. Address by the Rector, the Rev. J. W. Sutton, R.D. Tea, 5 p.m., at the Café Regent, at 1s. 6d. per head. Business meeting to follow. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. F. Barber, Tennyson House, Quebec Road, Mablethorpe, not later than Thursday, May 11th. Come and try the seaside air.—H. Mingay, Hon. Dis. Sec., 394, Wellington Street, Grimsby.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chipping Norton Deanery Branch. — The Spring meeting will be held at Burford on Saturday, May 13th. — J. Keyte, Hon. Sec., Charlbury, Oxon.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—The next practice meeting will be held at Cartmel Priory (bells 6) on Saturday, May 13th. Bells available at 2.30 p.m.—N. M. Newby, Sec., Furness and Lake Dis.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION. — Swindon Branch.—Monthly meeting at Castle Eaton (6 bells) on Saturday, May 13th. Usual arrangements. Cars from Swindon G.P.O. 2.30 p.m. Names by May 8th.—W. B. Kynaston, 3, Dumbarton Terrace, Victoria Road, Swindon, Wilts.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Joint meeting, Wigan and Liverpool Branches.—This meeting will be held at Aughton on Saturday, May 13th. Bells available from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea will be provided, free, at 5 p.m., for which please notify Mr. J. Marsh, 27, Knowsley Road, Ormskirk.—S. Forshaw and G. R. Newton, Branch Secs.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A mid-quarterly meeting will be held at Thurmaston on May 13th. Ringing (6 bells) will commence at 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea, at 5 p.m., for those who notify me by May 10th. Please note change of tower, as Humberstone bells are not available.—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec., 53, Landseer Road, Leicester.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—The Guild Festival will be held at Calne on Saturday, May 13th. Guild service in the Parish Church at 12.30 p.m. Preacher, the Ven. Archdeacon Coulter. Collection for new issue of Guild office. Luncheon in the Town Hall at 1.30 p.m. 1s. 6d. each member. Annual business meeting to follow. Towers available: From 10 a.m. to 12 and 3.30 p.m. to 9, 8 bells, Calne, Wootton Bassett; 6 bells, Bremhill, Broad Hinton, Hilmarton. Also Chippenham, two towers (8 bells), 4 to 9 p.m. Ringers intending to be present should signify their intention to the secretary by Monday, May 8th, at the latest.—F. Ll. Edwards, Hon. Sec., Kington Magna Rectory, Gillingham, Dorset.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Old Leake on Saturday, May 13th. Bells (6) available from 2 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea at White Hart Inn at 5 p.m. Business meeting afterwards. Will all intending to be present for tea please let me know by Tuesday, May 9th?—W. E. Clarke, Hon. Sec., Park House, 99, Norfolk Street, Boston.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Barkway, Saturday, May 13th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.45 p.m., followed by tea at the Wheatsheaf Inn. Tea arranged for those who notify me by Wednesday, May 10th; no postcard no tea. Annual subscriptions due. Two practices have also been arranged: Baldock, May 10th; Graveley, May 18th; both at 7.30.—R. T. Newman, Dis. Sec., Salisbury Road, Baldock.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Taunton Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Pilminster on May 13th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. — R. W. Hayward, 24, Fairwater Cottages, Taunton.

NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting is at East Markham (8) on May 13th. Please look up your Minor and Major methods; then come and ring them. Cards for tea must be sent early to me. — R. Towler, Hon. Sec., 69, Ordsall Road, Retford.

LADIES GUILD.—South Midland District.—A meeting will be held at St. Ives, Huntingdonshire, on Saturday, May 13th. Service 4.15. Important: Numbers for tea should be sent to Mrs. F. Boulton, Isham, Kettering, by previous Tuesday.—S. Thursfield, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION (North Western Division) and HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Eastern District). — A joint meeting will be held at Bishops Stortford on Saturday, May 13th. Bells (10) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 Tea at the Chequers 5.15 p.m. Please notify number for tea.—W. Wheeler, Mill Street, Harlow Common; A. Lawrence, Hatfield Park, Herts, District Secretaries.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol City Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at St. Andrew's, Clifton, on Sat., May 13th. Bells (8) from 3.15. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow.—A. M. Tyler, Branch Hon. Sec.

HANBURY, NEAR BROMSGROVE, WORCS.—The bells will be re-dedicated on Sunday, May 14th, at 3 p.m., by the Archdeacon of Dudley. A ring of eight recast by John Taylor and Co.

LADIES' GUILD AND SURREY ASSOCIATION.—A joint mid-week meeting will be held at St. Stephen's, Clapham Park, on Wednesday, May 17th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m., and again in the evening. Tea at 5.30 p.m. at Williamson's Restaurant, 55, High Road, Balham, S.W.12. Numbers for tea to be sent to Mr. A. T. Smalley, 29, Kirkstall Gardens, S.W.2, not later than Monday, May 15th. All ringers welcome. — I. R. Housden and F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Secs.

HEDDINGTON, NEAR CALNE, WILTS.— The Lord Bishop of Salisbury will re-dedicate the bells on Thursday, May 18th, at 7.30 p.m. A ring of five bells restored by John Taylor & Co.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at Kirkham on Saturday, May 20th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Business meeting at 5.30. A good attendance requested. — C. S. Sharples, Branch Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Mayfield on Saturday, May 20th. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock (1s. per head). Will all those intending to be present kindly let me know by Wednesday previous to meeting?—A. C. Pankhurst, Hon. Dis. Sec., 13, Bradford Street, Eastbourne.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held at Feltham on Saturday, May 20th. Church of St. Catherine (bells 8, tenor 11¼ cwt.). Ringing from 3 p.m. and in the evening. Further particulars later. Reports available. Subscriptions due.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The next meeting will be held at Harrow Weald on Saturday, May 20th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea to follow. The method for special attention is Double Norwich Court Bob Major; other methods will be rung as required.—T. J. Lock, Hon. Dis. Sec., 57, Holloways Lane, North Mimms, Herts.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—A special meeting will be held at Staveley on Saturday, May 20th. Bells (8) available 2.30 onwards. Tea (1s. head) at 5 p.m., in Church Hall, only to those who notify Mr. A. E. Parsons, 42, Circular Road, Staveley, Chesterfield, not later than May 18th. Special invitation is given to Chesterfield district ringers and others interested, as by this means we hope to re-form the district and appoint new local officers.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — East Norfolk Branch will hold a meeting at Acle on Saturday, May 20th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea in Church Room at 5.15, and please all send postcards of names or numbers for tea by Wednesday, May 17th, to J. Harwood, Sec., 4, Cobden Terrace, Northgate Street, Great Yarmouth.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Great Tey on May 20th. Bells (8) available at 2.30. Service 4.30. Will all those intending to be present please let me know as soon as possible? — J. R. Sparling, Hon. Sec., Station Hotel, Wivenhoe.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A general meeting of the association will be held at Barnsley on Saturday, May 20th, when the bells of St. Mary's will be available from 2.30. General Committee meet in St. Mary's Vestry at 3.45 p.m. prompt. Service at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea at 5 p.m. Details as to price and place of same will be published next week; also place where general meeting will take place immediately following.—L. W. G. Morris, Gen. Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting of the Southern Division will be held at Burgess Hill on Saturday, May 20th. Tower open 2.45. Service 4.30. Tea, in Parish Room, 5, price 1s. Half rail fare (maximum 1s. 6d.) allowed to members. Names for tea by May 17th.—S. E. Armstrong, Hon. Div. Sec., 70. Hollingbury Park Avenue, Brighton 6.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Willoughby (6), Saturday, May 20th, not the 13th, as previously arranged. — W. C. Moore, Braunston Road, Daventry, Northants.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — The annual meeting will be held at Peterborough on Whit-Monday, May 29th. Central Committee meet at 10.45 a.m. in St. Mary's Reading Room. Service in the Cathedral at 12 noon, with address by the Very Rev. the Dean, President of the Guild. Luncheon at the Angel Hotel at 1 p.m., followed by business meeting; 1s. 6d. will be allowed towards cost to all those resident and subscribing honorary and ringing members who make application for ticket, with remittance of 1s. to the general secretary by Thursday, May 18th. Non-members and non-resident members 2s. 6d. each. All tickets to be applied for by Monday, May 22nd. Bells avail-

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able: St. John's (8), St. Mary's (6), Woodston (6) from 10 a.m. throughout the day and after the meeting. Stanground (5) and, it is hoped, the Whittlesey towers will be also available. — Robert G. Black, Gen. Sec., Stamford Road, Geddington, Kettering.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—The 60th annual meeting will be held at Chelmsford on Whit-Monday, May 29th. Lunch will be provided free to all members who apply for tickets not later than Wednesday, May 17th. Ringing members, please apply to district secretaries, non-resident members to general secretary. Non-members can obtain tickets from the general secretary on payment of 2s. 6d.—L. J. Clark, Gen. Sec., 36, Lynmouth Avenue, Chelmsford, Essex.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—South Forest Branch are holding the annual salmon supper on Saturday, July 8th, at the Angel Hotel, Ruardean. Particulars will be issued later in 'The Ringing World.' Please note date.—O. Thomas, W. Scott, R. Pownall, Joint Secs.

BIRTH.

SANGER.—On April 26th, to Dorothy Violet, the wife of Henry James Sanger, Rockyville, Evercreech, the gift of a son (Anthony James).

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Contains full instructions for ringing and conducting the method on 5 to 11 bells, with touches and peals, and proof and composition.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 1,468. Vol. XXXIV. FRIDAY, MAY 12th, 1939. [Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.] Price 3d.

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MORE ATTRACTIVE MEETINGS.

There was never a time when so many meetings of ringers were held as there are in these days. Everywhere the associations lay themselves out to provide opportunities for their members to meet and to enjoy ringing. Frequently, however, there is comment upon the unsatisfactory attendances, and it is a well-established fact that the success which usually attends such gatherings is made possible by the faithful few who turn up regularly in their district wherever a meeting may be held, whether the tower is convenient to reach or otherwise. It can safely be said that only a minority of members in any association take any permanent interest in district meetings, and there is no dispute that officials often have legitimate cause to grumble at the support that is given to them.

The other side of the question is raised in a letter, published elsewhere in this issue, by a correspondent who believes that more could be done to make meetings attractive. It is undoubtedly true that many meetings proceed on hum drum lines. Methods are put on haphazard; the official in charge does his best to suit the capacity of all who want to ring, but often a ringer goes away with his special desire unsatisfied. Speaking generally, we agree that ringing at meetings could be better organised, and in some quarters efforts are being made to encourage progress by giving special attention to the practice of some particular method announced beforehand. But these things cannot, at present at any rate, be run to a syllabus, and it is not always the best attended meeting that produces the best results from the ringing point of view. The bigger the crowd, the less practice can the individual get. Ringing Masters, however, may find some useful suggestions in our correspondent's letter, and his appeal to the experts may well be taken to heart, if there be any who fail in the direction he indicates. Usually the experts are ever willing to help when they are present, but we would put in a word, suggesting that more of them should ring in the touches of the simpler methods, and even in the ' rounds ' which are sometimes put on. Elementary methods are too often left almost entirely to the indifferent ringers or those with little knowledge, with the result that those who take part get little or no benefit from their experience. More real progress would be made if fewer beginners were included at one time and more touches in the simpler methods rung with the aid of a larger number of competent ringers. In this and in other respects there are numerous occasions when more practical use might be made of meetings, but it can only be done by a Ringing Master

(Continued on page 294.)

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if the ringers will give him sufficient authority to 'command' in the tower.

There are, however, other things which might make meetings more attractive, and our correspondent suggests, among them, 'talks' on various subjects of interest to ringers. There are many societies connected with other pursuits, which hold periodical meetings, and have no difficulty in providing talks and discussions upon matters relating to their particular interests, and there are in connection with ringing a great many things which ringers would find instructive if they could be introduced by speakers competent to deal with them. This is a thing which has not been very extensively tried among ringers, and a well-thought-out scheme, carried through by one or other of the associations, might prove a useful experiment.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

WALTHAM ABBEY, ESSEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 6, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE AND THE HOLY CROSS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 39¾ cwt.

WILLIAM H. HEWETT...	*Treble*	*ERIC B. HARTLEY ...	7
CHARLES T. COLES ...	2	ERNEST W. PYE... ...	8
ARTHUR RADLEY	3	GEORGE RADLEY ...	9
ERNEST C. S. TURNER ...	4	FRANK E. DARBY ...	10
JAMES BENNETT	5	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON ...	11
THOMAS J. LOCK	6	ALFRED J. HOUSE ...	*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by E. C. S. TURNER.

* First peal on twelve bells. First peal on twelve bells as conductor.

TEN BELL PEALS.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, April 29, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb.

JOHN WOODBERRY ...	*Treble*	ERNEST HALL	6
CHARLES H. WOODBERRY...	2	JOHN SMITH...	7
*JOHN H. PAGETT	3	*BERNARD C. ASHFORD ...	8
†WILFRED E. DAVIES... ...	4	ALBERT J. WRIGHT	9
FREDERICK G. HANDLEY ...	5	*PERCY RICHARDS ...	*Tenor*

Composed by M. J. MORRIS (No. 13). Conducted by C. H. WOODBERRY

* First peal of Caters. † First peal and first attempt.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, May 3, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 27½ cwt. in C sharp.

*WILKINS MASSEY ...	*Treble*	*GEOFFREY C. GOODMAN ...	6
MISS GWENDOLINE KIPPIN	2	WALTER CLAYDON	7
CHARLES H. KIPPIN	3	*H. WILLIAM BARRETT ...	8
MRS. CHARLES H. KIPPIN	4	JOHN F. GALYER	9
FRANK E. HAWTHORNE ...	5	FREDERICK E. COLLINS ...	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by CHAS. H. KIPPIN.

* First peal of Caters. First peal on the ten bells since their restoration by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank in 1937.

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On Saturday, May 6, 1939, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 9 cwt. 26 lb. in G.

GEORGE WILLIAMS	*Treble*	TOWER R. TAYLOR	6
JOHN W. FAITHFULL	2	ALAN R. PINK	7
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH	3	*A. PATRICK CANNON	8
*WILLIAM E. CHEATER	4	REGINALD A. REED	9
FREDERICK S. BAYLEY	5	ALFRED T. GREENWOOD	*Tenor*

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.
* First peal of Cambridge Royal. Rung as a compliment to the conductor on the eve of his 82nd birthday.

WISBECH, CAMBS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 6, 1939, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL.
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;
Tenor 21 cwt.

FREDERICK W. STOKES	*Treble*	JOHN A. FREEMAN	6
*JOHN FREEMAN	2	HORACE M. DAY	7
CHARLES MCGUINESS	3	JACK L. MILLHOUSE	8
JOHN WALDEN	4	†WALTER H. FREEMAN	9
†FRED WIGMORE	5	†LEWIS BUSH	*Tenor*

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by JOHN A. FREEMAN
* First peal of Caters. † First peal in the method. The first peal of Caters on the bells.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.
THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 6, 1939, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 18 cwt.

MISS OLIVE L. ASHBROOK	*Treble*	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE	6
THOMAS W. TAFFENDER	2	*ROLAND BIGGS	7
ERNEST J. KING	3	HARRY WINGROVE	8
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER	4	F. DONALD BOREHAM	9
*CHARLES W. OTTLEY	5	EDWARD D. SMITH	*Tenor*

Composed by W. PYE. Conducted by EDWARD D. SMITH.
* First attempt for a peal of Surprise Royal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

HINDLEY, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, April 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
DAY'S SIX-PART. Tenor 14¼ cwt.

ARTHUR ROTHWELL	*Treble*	SIDNEY FORSHAW	5
EDWARD B. WEBSTER	2	GEORGE T. JENKS	6
*LAWRENCE WOOD	3	PETER CROOK, SEN.	7
*HARRY S. COOPER	4	WILLIAM O. FARRIMOND	*Tenor*

Conducted by PETER CROOK, SEN.
* First peal and first attempt. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Vicar, the Rev. W. A. Sargent.

HANLEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 22, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 18½ cwt.

NORMAN SARGEANT	*Treble*	ALBERN J. A. JACK	5
HARRY SARGEANT	2	JAMES W. MILLWARD	6
CHARLES H. PAGE	3	GEORGE JONES	7
ALBERT MILLWARD	4	WILLIAM H. DEGG	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE JONES.
Rung as a memorial peal to the late Preb. H. A. Tamplin. First peal of Stedman on the bells and by all the band except the ringer of the 3rd.

BENENDEN, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.)
On Sunday, April 23, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
VICARS'. Tenor 20 cwt.

*ARTHUR RELF	*Treble*	JAMES AVERY	5
ARCHIBALD STEVENSON	2	†ALBERT H. KEMP	6
GEORGE MASKELL	3	JAMES G. POWELL	7
GEORGE SIMS	4	*A. J. AUSTIN	*Tenor*

Conducted by JAMES G. POWELL.
* First peal. † First peal on eight. Rung in honour of St. George's Day.

LITTLEHAM, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
On Monday, April 24, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 7⅞ cwt. in A.

*JOHN DEEM	*Treble*	*EDWARD SPRAGUE	5
CHARLES R. LILLEY	2	CHARLES S. BIRD	6
*BRYAN PIDGEON	3	CHARLES J. TURNER	7
*JOHN L. GLANVILLE	4	JAMES E. LILLEY	*Tenor*

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.
* First peal of Bob Major. First peal of Bob Major on the bells.

SURFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(ELLOE DEANERIES BRANCH.)
On Tuesday, April 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 12 cwt. 9 lb.

MRS. R. RICHARDSON	*Treble*	CHARLES C. RAWDING	5
ERNEST T. KING	2	JOHN CURRY	6
JOHN W. CARTER	3	NORMAN T. KING	7
CYRIL DOBNEY	4	RUPERT RICHARDSON	*Tenor*

Composed by F. BENNETT. Conducted by RUPERT RICHARDSON.
Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to Mr. Joseph W. Flowers, for 41 years a ringer at this church, who was laid to rest in the churchyard on the above date.

RISHTON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(BLACKBURN BRANCH.)
On Tuesday, April 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt.

RICHARD ATHERTON	*Treble*	JACK CLEGG	5
*TOM HILLMAN	2	*WILLIAM MILLER	6
TOM WILSON	3	*WILLIAM PROCTOR	7
ALBERT YATES	4	FRED READ	*Tenor*

Composed by J. THORPE. Conducted by F. READ.
* First peal in the method. Rung on the anniversary of Gallipoli Day as a tribute to all who fell there.

KIBWORTH BEAUCHAMP, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, April 27, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;
Tenor 14¼ cwt.

EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD	*Treble*	*WILLIAM A. WOOD	5
CHARLES MARSHALL	2	W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON	6
*NIGEL W. BOLTON	3	WILLIAM BOTTRILL	7
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD	4	*ARTHUR DEBENHAM	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.
* First peal in the method.

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ESCRICK, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 29, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 11 lb. in F.

STEDMAN STEELE	...*Treble*	FRED TERRY	5
MRS. E. BRADLEY	2	HORACE S. MORLEY	6
WILLIAM HAWLEY	3	CHARLES BROWN	7
RONALD H. DOVE	4	EDWARD BRADLEY ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. WILSON. Conducted by E. BRADLEY.
A birthday compliment to Miss D. M. Hawley.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, April 29, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' Tenor 19¾ cwt.

CHARLES T. COLES ...	...*Treble*	*THOMAS G. FOX	5
GEORGE R. PYE	2	*HERBERT E. THOMPSON ...	6
*LEONARD J. FOX	3	FRED C. MAYNARD	7
†JOSEPH H. BOOMSMA	4	‡FREDERICK C. TAYLOR	...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES T. COLES.
* First peal of Stedman Triples. † First peal. ‡ First peal of Triples.

UFFORD, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Saturday, April 29, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb.

*KEITH H. C. LILLEY	...*Treble*	A. STANLEY WOODARD ...	5
JAMES M. BAILEY	2	ERNEST S. BAILEY	6
ALDERMAN LING	3	PHILIP C. BICKNELL	7
FRANK L. FISHER	4	JAMES G. RUMSEY ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by FRANK L. FISHER.
* First peal.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Saturday, April 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

FREDERICK C. NICHOLS	...*Treble*	*WILFRED JARVIS	5
JAMES ROSE	2	FREDERICK S. MORTLOCK ...	6
WILLIAM HINSEY	3	GEORGE MORE	7
CHARLES SHEMMING	4	CHARLES E. FISHER ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by JAMES ROSE.
* First peal in the method.

ACTON, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, April 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 13 cwt.

*FREDERICK W. GARNER	...*Treble*	†HERBERT G. ANDREWS ...	5
J. EDWARD CHURCHILL ...	2	WILFRED G. WILSON ...	6
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE ...	3	ERNEST C. S. TURNER ...	7
PERCY E. CLARK	4	FRANK MILLER	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.
* First peal. † First peal on eight bells. A birthday compliment to Mr. P. E. Clark.

LAWTON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, April 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 8¼ cwt.

JAMES H. RIDING	...*Treble*	HARRY OVERTON	5
WALTER LONGMAN	2	*HARRY THELWELL	6
HARRY F. HOLDING	3	J. WILLIAM EDGE	7
RICHARD D. LANGFORD ...	4	GEORGE A. PACKER ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by S. WOOD. Conducted by GEORGE A. PACKER.
* First peal of Kent Major. First peal in the method as conductor.

ROOESTER, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 29, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
Tenor 13½ cwt.

EDWARD STEELE	...*Treble*	CHARLES H. PAGE	5
WILLIAM CARNWELL	2	ANDREW THOMPSON	6
RICHARD J. WARRILOW ...	3	JOHN G. CARTLIDGE	7
THOMAS HURD	4	ARTHUR W. HALL ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by H. HUBBARD. Conducted by J. G. CARTLIDGE.
A birthday compliment to Miss Ada Bourne, of Newcastle-under-Lyme. First eight-bell peal as conductor.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tuesday, May 2, 1939, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 22½ cwt.

*EDWARD W. IZARD	...*Treble*	ANTHONY E. F. TROTMAN ...	5
JOHN H. B. HESSE	2	REV. JOHN P. PELLOE	6
HENRY HUTTON	3	ALFRED H. POLLING	7
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH	4	ERNEST J. AYLIFFE ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALFRED H. POLLING.
* First peal and comes from Victoria, British Columbia.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, May 2, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PITSTOW'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 15 cwt.

MRS. F. W. HOUSDEN	...*Treble*	*FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN ...	5
HENRY J. RANZETTA	2	ERNEST J. BUTLER	6
GEORGE R. PYE	3	JAMES BENNETT	7
ERNEST W. FURBANK	4	ROBERT HEAZEL	...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. BENNETT.
* First peal of Stedman Triples.

SOBERTON, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wednesday, May 3, 1939, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lb.

ALAN R. PINK	...*Treble*	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY ...	5
MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY ...	2	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ...	6
EDWARD T. GRIFFEN	3	GEORGE WILLIAMS	7
ERNEST J. MUNDAY	4	A. PATRICK CANNON ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

BRIDGEND, GLAMORGANSHIRE.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION
On Wednesday, May 3, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ILLTYD,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 16 cwt.

*PERCY J. BURGOYNE ...	...*Treble*	CHARLES H. PERRY	5
FRANK ROWSELL	2	ALFRED W. WRIGHT	6
WILLIAM H. BLOOR, R.A.F.	3	ERNEST STITCH	7
TREVOR M. RODERICK ...	4	ALBERT E. BACON ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by REV. E. B. JAMES. Conducted by CHARLES H. PERRY
* First peal and first attempt. Rung half-muffled to the memory of the Rt. Rev. Timothy Rees, Bishop of Llandaff.

SUNDERLAND, DURHAM.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, May 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. IGNATIUS-THE-MARTYR,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

*GEORGE HARVEY	...*Treble*	HAROLD B. DITCHBURN ...	5
†WILLIAM ARMOUR	2	FRANK AINSLEY	6
GEORGE S. TAYLOR	3	THOMAS H. REEVES	7
JOSEPH W. PARKER	4	ROBERT L. PATTERSON	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by R. L. PATTERSON.
* First peal on a Treble Bob bell. † First peal of Cambridge Major.

EGHAM, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thursday, May 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
J. J. PARKER'S SIX-PART. Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qr. 26 lb.

*WALTER PECK ... ...*Treble*		GEORGE GILBERT 5	
LEONARD STILLWELL ... 2		WILLIAM WELLING 6	
*JAMES A. GLASS 3		WILLIAM HENLEY 7	
*NORMAN V. HARDING ... 4		*JOHN E. GREENOUGH .. ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by L. STILLWELL.

* First peal in the method. First peal of Oxford Bob Triples on the bells and for the Guild.

CRAYFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, May 5, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 12¾ cwt.

HERBERT E. AUDSLEY... ...*Treble*		DEREK M. SHARP... 5	
HARRY HOVERD 2		GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ... 6	
HERBERT A. HOLDEN 3		FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN ... 7	
EDWIN A. BARNETT 4		THOMAS G. BANNISTER ...*Tenor*	

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by T. G. BANNISTER.

First peal of Surprise as conductor.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

WILBURTON, CAMBS.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, April 26, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Consisting of 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and 720 of Plain Bob (26 singles). Tenor 9½ cwt. (approx.).

LAURIE NORFOLK ... ...*Treble*		A. RUSSELL PAUL 4	
*FRANK JARROW 2		STANLEY G. SHIPP 5	
HENRY SHARP 3		FRANK WARRINGTON ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by F. WARRINGTON.

* First attempt for a peal.

WALCOT, NORFOLK.
THT NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, April 26, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Twenty-one extents each of Plain Bob and Grandsire.

EDWARD HOWES ... ...*Treble*		HENRY E. WOODHOUSE ... 3	
ERIC DURRANT 2		WILLIAM H. FRENCH 4	
WALTER C. MEDLER ... ...*Tenor*			

Conducted by WALTER C. MEDLER.

First peal on the bells. First peal of Doubles by all except the conductor.

CLYST ST. GEORGE, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
On Thursday, April 27, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven 720's called differently. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

JOHN DEEM ... ...*Treble*		CHARLES S. BIRD 4	
HENRY G. LEWIS... 2		*EDWARD MARKS... 5	
CHARLES R. LILLEY 3		BRYAN PIDGEON ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

* First peal of Minor. First peal of Minor on the bells.

GREAT MONGEHAM, KENT.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, April 27, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes;
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Forty-two extents, ten callings. Tenor 8 cwt. 2 lb.

*ERNEST A. NEWING ... ...*Treble*		E. THOMAS ELLENDER ... 4	
*PERCY G. WOOD 2		FREDERICK A. RYE 5	
CHARLES TURNER 3		*HENRY E. AXON ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by CHARLES TURNER.

* First peal.

STEVENTON, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thursday, April 27, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one 720 of Cambridge Surprise, and two 720's each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob, each called differently.
Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb.

*JOHN NOBES ... ...*Treble*		*BERNARD S. NICHOLS ... 4	
*ALBERT E. LOCK 2		*WILLIAM C. PORTER... ... 5	
*GEORGE AYRES 3		ALAN R. PINK ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* First peal in four methods. First peal of Minor in more than one method on the bells.

WHICKHAM, CO. DURHAM.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, April 27, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, St. Clement's, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 8 cwt. in B.

WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON ...*Treble*		*ERNEST WALLACE 4	
JOHN ANDERSON... 2		STEPHEN THOMPSON 5	
*CHRISTOPHER HETHERINGTON3		KENNETH W. CHEESEMAN,.*Tenor*	

Conducted by E. WALLACE.

* First peal of Minor. First peal as conductor.

GREAT BROMLEY, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, April 28, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Consisting of one extent each of Norwich Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Double Court, Court Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 15 cwt. in E.

ALAN R. ANDREWS ... ...*Treble*		VIOLET A. FROST... 4	
*ALBERT HALES 2		HARRY J. MILLATT 5	
CHARLES A. ANDREWS ... 3		GEORGE A. ANDREWS ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.

* First peal in seven methods 'inside.' Arranged as a birthday compliment to Miss Frost.

FINCHAMPSTEAD, BERKS.
THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
On Saturday, April 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of St. Clement's Bob, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Oxford Treble Bob, Reverse College, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt. (approx.) in A.

WILLIAM J. PAICE ... ...*Treble*		CYRIL A. BURGESS 4	
*MISS S. M. S. FLEMING ... 2		GEORGE H. LIMMER 5	
BRYAN O'NEILL 3		GEORGE GILBERT... ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by GEO. GILBERT.

* First peal.

IGHTHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different 720's. Tenor 9 cwt.

ROBERT G. RAYFIELD... ...*Treble*		FREDERICK WOOLWAY ... 4	
ROBERT COLLINS... 2		JAMES O. WELLER 5	
ARTHUR WENBAN... 3		FREDERICK PAIGE... ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by ROBERT COLLINS.

SUNDERLAND.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. IGNATIUS-THE-MARTYR,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two extents of Double Oxford Bob and one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob spliced, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 13 cwt. in G.

*WILLIAM ARMOUR ... ...*Treble*		WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON ... 4	
CHRISTOPHER HETHERINGTON2		HAROLD WALKER... 5	
ERNEST WALLACE 3		ROBERT L. PATTERSON ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by W. J. DAVIDSON.

* First peal of Minor.

RETTENDON, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

In the following methods: 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob, and two 720's each of Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 10 cwt.

FRANK C. MAY	*Treble*	*ROY WHESTON	4
HARRY JAY	2	CHARLES JAY	5
FRANK W. SHYNN	3	*FRANK S. JAY	*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK C. MAY.

* First peal. First peal as conductor. Rung as a farewell to the Rev. W. A. Norman, for 19 years Rector of the parish.

DISLEY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents called differently. Tenor 8¼ cwt.

JOCELYN B. GARDINER	*Treble*	†JOHN ANTHONY BEAUMONT	4
*IVAN B. GARDINER	2	‡ALBERT T. BANCROFT ...	5
C. KENNETH LEWIS	3	JAMES A. MILNER ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by C. KENNETH LEWIS.

* First peal away from treble. † First peal. ‡ First peal of Bob Minor. Rung as a welcome to the Rev. Frank Bonner, who has just commenced duties as curate at Disley; also as a birthday compliment to J. A. Milner.

DRAYCOTT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, April 30, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

*WILLIAM J. CARTER	*Treble*	*HENRY CARTER	4
EDWARD STEELE	2	ALAN D. STEEL	5
WILLIAM PERKINS	3	HARRY HALL	*Tenor*

Conducted by H. HALL.

* First peal of Minor. First peal as conductor. Rung to celebrate the wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Steel.

HANDBELL PEALS.

GOSFORTH, NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL GUILD.)

On Thursday, April 27, 1939, in Two Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT 3, SALTER'S ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

JOHN ANDERSON	1-2	*CHRIS. HETHERINGTON ...	5-6
WILLIAM H. BARBER	3-4	*ERNEST WALLACE	7-8

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by WM. H. BARBER.

* First handbell peal.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, April 28, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY OF THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

*NORMAN H. MANNING ...	1-2	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ...	5-6
DEREK M. SHARP	3-4	*DENNIS G. BROWN	7-8

Composed by F. BENNETT. Conducted by D. M. SHARP.

* First attempt for a peal 'in hand.'

DUNCHURCH, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Tuesday, May 2, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT NORTH LODGE, BILTON GRANGE,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor size 16 in A sharp.

*FRANK W. PERRENS... ...	1-2	WILFRID H. J. HOOTON ...	5-6
*FRANK E. PERVIN	3-4	D. HAROLD ARGYLE	7-8

Composed by W. HARRISON. Conducted by W. H. J. HOOTON.

* First peal of Treble Bob 'in hand.'

(Many other peal reports are unavoidably held over.)

PEAL NOTES.

THE THURSDAY-ITES.

The Leicester Thursday-ites were again successful on April 27th, when at Kibworth Beauchamp they were happy to record a peal of Double Norwich Major.

Thanks are accorded to Mr. Nigel Bolton, who is a member of the local band, for standing in the attempt at the last minute. Mr. Bolton previously had had little practice in the method, and the way in which he rang his bell fully deserved the compliments that were extended to him. The peal was specially arranged for 'our Arthur,' who scored his first peal of Norwich, as did Mr. W. A. Wood. Further compliments were paid to 'Ted Y. Ted,' who scored his 200th peal.

The band were delighted, upon their arrival, to find that Canon H. J. T. Eacott had very kindly got the bells up, and had left everything in readiness for the attempt. Previous to the start he sincerely hoped the party would be successful—he certainly heard some good ringing, and at the finish was soon in the belfry congratulating one and all upon their performance.

The party desire to thank Canon Eacott for the personal trouble he took in raising the bells, furthermore they would have been delighted to have him ring in the peal—but age will tell.

The first peal in seven methods on the five bells at Great Bromley, Essex, since April 13th, 1907, was rung on April 28th.

Miss Sylvia Fleming, a member of the tower at Burnham, Bucks, thoroughly earned her first peal 'star,' when she took part in seven methods at Finchampstead on April 29th. After ringing 1,100 changes, the attempt came 'unstuck' (through no fault of hers) and another start was made, which happily came to a successful conclusion.

All the ringers belong to St. Peter's Society, Burnham, except Mr. W. J. Paice, the local captain, and the peal was rung as a birthday compliment to his wife. The ringers were indebted to Mr. and Mrs. Paice for their hospitality after the peal.

The Rev. Frank Bonner, one of the most active of the present ringing clergy, has just taken up a curacy at Disley, where some of the Cheshire Guild's Spliced Minor records have been set up. A peal of Bob Minor was rung there on April 29th to welcome Mr. Bonner. It was also a birthday compliment to Mr. J. A. Milner, who took part in the peal.

Mr. Bonner did not ring his first peal until March, 1937, but before the end of that year he had rung, among other things, peals of Cambridge, Bristol and London Surprise Major.

On 'Gallipoli Day,' April 25th, in memory of all who fell there, a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung at Rishton, Lancashire.

A NOTEWORTHY PERFORMANCE.

Mr. George Williams, Master of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild, received hearty congratulations and good wishes for his 82nd birthday, at the conclusion of a peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal at North Stoneham, Hants, on Saturday. It is a tribute to his continued amazing keenness and freshness of mind that at this advanced stage of 'youth' Mr. Williams not only called the peal, but 'conducted' it in the real sense of the term. George Williams has forgotten more than many of us know, but to conduct Cambridge Royal at 82 is, nevertheless, a noteworthy performance.

Everyone who had the privilege of ringing in the peal was delighted at the opportunity of honouring the veteran, but none more so than one of his pupils, whose first peal of Major Mr. Williams called 48 years ago.

North Stoneham has the lightest ring of ten bells in a church tower, the tenor being only 9 cwt. 26 lb. The trebles were given by Mr. and the late Mrs. Williams in celebration of their golden wedding some years ago. The very handsome oak screen, which divides the church from the tower and thus forms an enclosed ringing chamber, was given by Mr. Williams in memory of his wife.

Three days before the North Stoneham peal, Mr. Williams conducted a peal of Cambridge Major at the village of Soberton. This was the first peal on the bells since they were retuned and rehung in a new frame six months ago by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. It was at Soberton that Mr. Williams rang his first peal in 1883. The band that rang the peal on Wednesday week come from eight different places

A birthday peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung at Rocester, Staffs, on April 29th, as a compliment to Miss Ada Bourne, of Newcastle-under-Lyme. The method was rung after meeting short for Cambridge.

In honour of St. George's Day, a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at St. George's Church, Benenden, Kent, on April 23rd. Arthur Relf, who is only 14 years of age, rang the treble. It was his first peal and he rang excellently.

It is rather astonishing how a series of successes or failures can run in peal ringing. Mr. Frank Warrington, of Over, Cambridgeshire, called a peal of Minor at Wilburton on April 26th; his first peal since November 29th, after a string of 18 losers.

The first peal on the five bells at Walcot, Norfolk, was rung on April 26th.

The first peal on the bells at Rettendon, Essex, by an entirely local band was rung on April 29th as a farewell to the Rev. W. A. Norman, who is leaving after 19 years as Rector of the parish.

FIRST PEAL, FOUR HOURS.

The peal of Grandsire Caters at Kidderminster on April 29th was arranged to enable Wilfred E. Davies to attempt his first peal before being transferred to Warrington. It is not often a beginner is called upon to ring upwards of four hours at his first attempt, but after ringing for 37 minutes a fresh start was made and the peal rung in 3¼ hours. It was also the first attempt for Caters by Messrs. J. Pagett, B. Ashford and Percy Richards.

The first peal of Bob Major on the bells at Littleham, Devon, was rung in honour of St. George's Day and four ringers scored their first of Plain Bob on eight bells. They were Messrs. J. Deem (Littleham), B. Pidgeon (East Budleigh), J. L. Glanville and E. Sprague (Withycombe).

After the peal the ringers were met by the Rev. H. B. Beckwith, former secretary of the Salop Guild, of which the conductor of the peal, Mr. C. R. Lilley, was at one time Ringing Master.

After meeting short for a peal of Major at St. Ignatius' Church, Sunderland, on April 29th, a peal of Minor was substituted. Five methods were rung, including 720 of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob spliced.

On May 4th, however, a full band met and rang a peal of Cambridge Surprise Major. They were all local ringers, except Mr. T. H. Reeves, hon. secretary of St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.

The late Bishop of Llandaff, the Rt. Rev. Timothy Rees, was buried in his Cathedral on May 3rd, and on the same day a half-muffled peal in his memory was rung at St. Illtyd's Church, Bridgend.

By the death of the Rev. W. A. Sargent, Vicar of St. Peter's, Hindley, Lancashire, ringers in that district have lost a good friend. He was a great lover of bells. He was buried at Kirkdale on April 17th, and on April 21st a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at Hindley with the bells half-muffled as a tribute to his memory.

RINGER'S GOLDEN WEDDING.

The golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. E. Carpenter, of Chiddingfold, Surrey, was celebrated on Saturday, April 22nd, and a peal of Grandsire Triples, in which their youngest son took part, was rung at the Parish Church in honour of the event.

Mr. Carpenter has been a ringer at Chiddingfold since he first came to the village about 25 years ago, and, except for illness, has never been known to miss ringing for a Sunday service.

After the peal the ringers were entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter at Pitt Cottage. Major Hesse proposed the toast of 'Bride and Bridegroom' and wished them many more years of health and happiness. The toast was drunk with enthusiasm, and Mr. Carpenter suitably replied.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the Leeds and District Society was held at Bramley on Saturday, April 29th. The members were slow in turning up and various reasons were suggested, such as a change in the bus terminus owing to a Defence Services Civic Week parade through the main streets of the town, which caused much congestion. The broadcast of the cup final was also blamed, but the truth of the matter probably was that there were far too many peal attempts fixed for the meeting date.

The attendance was much improved after tea, when members were present from Armley, Batley, Burley, Guiseley, Eliand, Headingley (St. Chad's and St. Michael's), Idle, Leeds Parish Church, Pudsey, Ripon, Rothwell and the local company. Mr. Edward (Ned) Redshaw, of the local company, who has now reached the age of 84, was present during the afternoon and evening. Congratulations were offered him on the splendid way he rang in various touches.

The business meeting was held in the tower, the president (the Rev. J. H. B. Andrews) being in the chair. In addition to the minutes of the previous meeting, the record entered in the minute book of the jubilee gathering was read, which, together with the report from 'The Ringing World' and local Press cuttings, will make a lasting record of this very interesting and pleasant gathering.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar, churchwardens and the local company was proposed by Mr. W. H. Senior, seconded by Mr. L. Drake and acknowledged by Mr. S. Helliwell.

The election of officers for the year 1939-1940 resulted as follows: President, the Rev. J. H. B. Andrews; vice-presidents, Messrs. W. H. Senior, T. W. Strangeway and S. Barron; Ringing Master, Mr. L. Drake; secretary and treasurer, Mr. H. Lofthouse.

The balance sheet and the jubilee accounts, audited by Messrs. S. Helliwell and A. Armitage, were submitted and adopted.

The secretary's report was read. It showed that the membership was 233, that 20 peals were rung by the members during the year. Only ten meetings were held, but were well attended. The jubilee gathering filled the other meeting date. Methods rung at the meetings had been varied and some members were able to report progress as a result of attendance at the meetings. The financial side continued to improve, although, owing to jubilee expenses, the balances carried forward were slightly down.

The next meeting is to be held at Batley, and the suggested date is May 27th.

A special vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. W. H. Senior and seconded by Mr. A. Armitage to Mr. F. Rayment for his work in connection with the presentation made at the golden jubilee celebration to the secretary.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Four new members were elected at the monthly meeting of the Doncaster and District Association at Barnby Don on Saturday week. The next meeting will be held at Campsell.

The many friends of Mr. A. Stoneley, of Doncaster, will be pleased to hear he is home again and making good progress after his operation in Doncaster Royal Infirmary.

Mr. John W. Faithfull, of Southampton, who took part on Saturday in a peal of Cambridge Royal at North Stoneham, Hants, has only rung two touches of Cambridge on ten bells—and both were peals. Mr. Faithfull is one of three peal ringing members of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild who surmount the handicap of having only one arm.

The daughter born last week to Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Bailey, of Dartford, is the fifth generation living on her mother's side. Her great-great-grandmother is an active old lady of over ninety, and her great-great-uncle is still a regular reader of 'The Ringing World.'

Both the young lady's parents are active ringers, Mr. J. E. Bailey being son of one of the famous brothers who made ringing history at Leiston some years ago. There are three ringers, also, on Mrs. Bailey's side of the family, so great things—if heredity goes for anything — may be expected in due course from the new arrival. Already several ringers have offered to call her first peal.

Mrs. Paul Field, of Stoke Wake, Blandford, is now improving, and it is hoped that she will soon be out of hospital.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

AN INVITATION FROM THE PRESIDENT AND MRS. LEWIS.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Lewis would be pleased to see members of the Council and their friends at Moorcocks, Brasted, on the afternoon of Whit Sunday from 3 to 6 p.m. It would be a convenience if those hoping to come would send a postcard stating numbers by the morning of Saturday, the 27th, to Moorcocks, Brasted, Sevenoaks. A train leaves Charing Cross at 2.4 p.m. for Brasted Station, changing at Dunton Green.

COMPOSED 40 YEARS AGO.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am sorry to say that the ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples published in your issue of April 21st has previously been published and rung, but with ordinary singles connecting the two halves.

I called it at St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, in 1923, having composed it some 25 years before that.

It is not permissible to use both ordinary and Holt's singles in the same peal.

G. LINDOFF.

Dublin.

LINCOLN GUILD'S BEST PERFORMANCE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Although rather late, I would like to congratulate our Lincoln friends on ringing the peal in ten Surprise Major methods, which, in my opinion, is the best ringing performance for this county up to date on any number of bells. The fact that Messrs. E. C. S. Turner and John Freeman, jun., have visited our tower, have just looked at half a dozen Surprise Minor methods and then rung them quite as well as Minor ringers is enough to make me realise that there is more in the above peal than a 30 Surprise Minor peal.

H. M. DAY.

DUDLEY GUILD FOUNDER.

PEAL BOARD UNVEILED.

On Monday evening, May 1st, a peal board was unveiled in the belfry of Dudley Parish Church in memory of the late Mr. John Goodman, sen., who was known as the 'father' of St. Thomas' band of ringers. Mr. Goodman commenced his ringing career about 1871 at Sedgley, and after a few years identified himself with St. Thomas' Church, where, for upwards of 50 years, he was a regular Sunday service ringer. He rang his first peal in 1872 and had rung altogether 130 peals.

He was one of the pioneers in the formation of the Dudley and District Guild in 1899 and remained a member until his death two years ago. His one aim was always that the ringing of the bells and the striking should be nothing short of the best.

It was decided a few months ago that St. Thomas' company should perpetuate his memory by placing a board in the belfry recording the memorial peal rung on April 23rd, 1938. It was unveiled by the Ven. Dr. A. P. Shepherd (Archdeacon of Dudley), who is also president of the Guild. Amongst the ringers assembled in the belfry were several old friends of the late Mr. Goodman, and the company also included Mr. J. McDougal Tait and Mr. W. R. Edwards (churchwardens).

After the dedication Mr. Herbert Sheppard, on behalf of the Dudley band, presented the board to the Vicar and wardens to be kept by them in perpetuity, and the Vicar, who gratefully accepted the board, handed it over to the care of the churchwardens.

Mr. Sheppard then expressed the ringers' thanks to the Vicar for so kindly coming to perform the dedication service, and to the churchwardens for their presence. The board bears the particulars of the peal of Grandsire Caters, which 'was rung with the bells half-muffled to the memory of the late John Goodman, sen., on the first anniversary of his death.'

LEADING CONDUCTORS—70.

JOSEPH D. JOHNSON.

The hon. secretary of the Worcestershire Association, Mr. Joseph D. Johnson, of Evesham, is a member of a family of ringers and created a record by ringing and calling on handbells his first peal at the age of 13 years. This was a peal of Grandsire Doubles rung at his home at Hinton, Worcestershire, with his father and eldest sister, on August 5th, 1912, the youthful conductor ringing 5-6. He then taught his second sister to ring, and in December of the same year Joseph and the two girls created a record, which still stands, as the youngest band to ring a peal. Their ages were 12, 13 and 10 respectively, and the peal, which was also Grandsire Doubles, was independently witnessed. It was a remarkable achievement for three children.

Mr. Johnson was born at Hinton-on-the-Green, on March 19th, 1899, and he is still a ringer at the church in that village. It was only natural that the early interest he developed in ringing should lead him to greater things, and he has now rung peals on tower bells from Grandsire Doubles to Cambridge Maximus, and on handbells from Doubles to Treble Twelve. We believe he is the only conductor who has called peals 'in hand' on all numbers from five to twelve and all from working pairs. His peals now number 194, of which he has conducted 111, those on handbells numbering 51, of which he has conducted 39. Out of his total Mr. Johnson has rung 185 peals for the Worcestershire Association.



MR. JOSEPH D. JOHNSON.

When he was only 16 years of age he paid a visit to Birmingham and started on 7-8 for a peal of Stedman Caters without having previously struck a blow in it. The peal failed after about an hour, but it was rung three days later. Mr. Johnson conducted the opening peal of Stedman Cinques on the recast twelve at Worcester Cathedral in 1928 and called the first peals ever rung of Pershore Bob Major and Hinton Surprise Major. He also conducted the first peals by the Worcestershire Association of Spliced Treble Bob Minor in 14 methods, Erin Caters, Combined Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Royal, Bob Maximus and Spliced Bob and Little Bob Maximus, on tower bells; and Doubles and Minor, Grandsire Caters and Cinques, Bob Royal, Kent Treble Bob Royal and Maximus and Erin Caters on handbells.

Mr. Johnson, in addition to his peal ringing activities, has served the Worcestershire Association in a number of offices. He was Southern Branch Ringing Master from 1922 to 1925, and Master of the association from 1926 to 1928. He became general secretary in 1935 and is still in office, while he has been one of the representatives of the association on the Central Council since 1931.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

TO BECOME INDEPENDENT ORGANISATION.

The annual business meeting of Oxford University Society was held at St. Peter's Hall on Tuesday, April 25th. In the absence of the president, the Rev. C. E. Wigg (Keble), the Master, Mr. R. D. St. J. Smith (Jesus) presided.

The main business was the election of officers. The Master and the treasurer, Mr. M. C. G. Hayter (Christ Church), both handed in their resignations, as they would shortly be leaving Oxford. The secretary, Mr. P. J. M. Bryan (St. Peter's Hall), was elected Master, and Mr. M. A. C Fremer (Merton) to succeed him in the secretaryship. Mr. J. Wrigly (Merton) was elected treasurer. Mr. R. Tydeman (St. John's) was re-elected on the committee, and two vacant places were filled by the election of Messrs. Palmer (New College) and Stott (Balliol).

A resolution, which had been passed at the previous meeting, that the society should cease from being affiliated to the Diocesan Guild, was ratified. It was emphasised that this was not due to any disagreement or strained relations with the Diocesan Guild; but it was felt that the time had come for the society to become an entirely independent organisation.

Ringing arrangements for the term were explained.

A good deal of discussion took place on the question of the possibility of a summer tour, but no definite decision was reached.

ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS.

HOW TO ENCOURAGE LARGER NUMBERS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—When, under 'other business' at the annual meeting of the Middlesex County Association, Mr. G. W. Fletcher spoke of the lack of enthusiasm shown by some members in this respect, I rose to say that I suspected that there were some 'ten minutes to spare.' I would dwell upon this thought. I cannot remember a time when there has been found opportunity to discuss a matter of general interest at a meeting of this kind. The agenda is generally too long to allow of it, or the time is too short; or, perhaps, matter is not forthcoming. More likely, I happen to have been absent when such has been the case.

I reminded the meeting that something of the sort had been discussed when the association visited Clerkenwell, and that I had then asked whether the officers were entirely free from blame. There was no question of attacking the Master. I consider that Mr. A. W. Coles is the finest Master that ever stepped into a belfry—the most courteous and helpful ringer who ever endeavoured to pilot me through a strange method. I offered certain suggestions, which Mr. Coles afterwards said were unworkable—and he explained why.

The first thing that occurs to me is the necessity for loyalty, to the Master, by a sufficient number of experts who would be willing to 'stand behind' or take a rope *during the whole of the ringing time* —only to take a rope where it cannot be filled by others. Each would be responsible for the success of the man ringing 'his' rope. The Master would encourage members to ask for something they wanted—something they could not get at home; something they, in all probability, *had come hoping to get*; but which they seldom did get, and of which the experts already (by reason of their ability) had probably sickened elsewhere. I believe these able men could be found—who does not expand to flattery? Mr. C. W. Roberts, who urged that learners should practise at home, is the very type I would choose to 'stand behind' me!

Can it be doubted that ringers, of all sorts and sizes, fair, indifferent and bad, would flock to meetings where there was an outside chance of trying something they had 'looked up'? I had 'looked up' Something-Triples, for Clerkenwell, and was done out of it! I came away a tiny bit disappointed—of course I did, and I expect this happens time and again to hundreds of ringers up and down the country.

And I would ask Masters to carry along touches *in the same method* until those who specially wanted that method had been satisfied, instead of coming back to the method later on. I once longed for a course of Bristol, and asked for it. It was put on *at intervals*, and more than one ringer got in two or three of the courses—I was unlucky; unable to 'grab,' I suppose. Had those courses followed, nobody would have had the cheek to stand in a second one running, unless specifically asked to do so. In this connection I would ask the Master to be strong, and tactfully to point out to the greedy (but very often thoughtless) ringer that he was getting too much.

So much for the man who goes mainly to ring. There are, however, many who attend meetings for the sociability of the tea and meeting. To meet old friends, to meet new faces; to chat over things of mutual interest—peals, compositions, ideas and what not? And there are many who *would* attend, if something could be put over in the way of a 'talk' on some matter, after the meeting—as witness the popularity of the radio 'talks.' I should like to listen to some tips on conducting Stedman—given in a simple manner on the lines of the articles recently printed in this paper; or to a criticism on common mistakes of handling, and their effect on striking. And what about an exposition on the 'Proof of Treble Bob,' sung in harmony by Messrs. Baker, Joyce, Trollope and Turner!

GEORGE L. JOYCE.

Hornchurch.

PRESENTATION TO A SECRETARY.

APPRECIATION OF MR. T. GRANT'S WORK IN BATH DISTRICT.

A quarterly meeting of the Bath Branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association was held at Bathampton on May 6th. The Vicar very generously provided a splendid tea in the Village Hall, which was greatly appreciated.

The meeting was made the occasion of presenting Mr. T. Grant, the esteemed local secretary, with a birthday gift, which consisted of a wallet of notes and a framed illuminated address. Preb. Ross (the chairman) presented the wallet to Mr. Grant. He spoke very highly of the good work he has done and is still doing for the association, and said how much all the members and himself rejoiced in his help and good work.

The Ringing Master (Mr. W. J. Prescott) then handed Mr. Grant the address, which he himself had kindly framed, and read the names of the different towers and friends who had contributed so generously. He also proposed a hearty vote of thanks to those who had worked to help forward the presentation.

It should be added that Mr. Prescott's name should be associated with the others, as he had put in so much work himself.

Mr. Grant suitably responded and expressed hearty thanks for the gift, adding that he was surprised he had so many friends.

The meeting concluded by singing 'For he's a jolly good fellow' and the giving of three hearty cheers for Mr. Grant.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

PROPOSAL FOR DIVISIONAL RINGING MASTERS

Future Annual Meetings to be in Brighton.

The annual general meeting of the Sussex County Association was held in Brighton on Saturday, April 29th. An attendance of over 30, which is a record for some years past, was representative of 30 affiliated towers and included visitors from the neighbouring counties.

During the afternoon and evening the two ten-bell towers of St. Nicholas' and St. Peter's attracted large numbers of ringers from the opening time of 2.30 until their closure at 9 p.m. The Good Shepherd, eight bells, was available in the evening, but partly owing to the bad weather and the recent changes in the town's transport, not a large number was present. Ringing at the towers was generally of a high standard and the bells were kept fully occupied.

The service took place in St. Peter's, and the address was given by the recently appointed Vicar of Brighton, Canon G. H. Warde, M.A. In the course of his address the Vicar disclosed the fact that, although not himself a ringer, both his father and grandfather had been members of the band at Little Horsted. Previous to his appointment at Brighton, the Vicar had met ringers at similar gatherings at Grantham.

The text was taken from the Gospel for the second Sunday after Easter, 'I am the Good Shepherd,' and the difference was pointed out between the British idea of a shepherd and that common in the East. There it was a truly manly occupation with many risks to run and dangers to overcome. There the shepherd never drives his flock, but goes in front to protect it from the encounters with wild beasts. In the 20th century man required more than ever before a leader, a guide, a shepherd towards the ideals of harmony and peace. The clergy were the representatives of the Shepherd, and the ringers' art was a great and important addition to the power of the priest to keep God in the minds of the people. For this reason the ringers should be prominent in the councils of the Church, so that God was not only represented by the parish priest, but also by the ringers as shepherds. With this ideal carried out, the churches should be full to consecrate prayer to peace.

STRONG FINANCIAL POSITION.

At the business meeting, which followed tea, the Master (Mr. H. R. Butcher), who presided, was supported by the hon. treasurer (Mr. A. D. Stone), the hon. general secretary (Mr. S. E. Armstrong) and the divisional secretaries. The meeting welcomed Mr. J. T. Rickman, a past Master, and Mr. G. Williams, the Master of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild.

The Rev H. E. Collins was elected an honorary life member.

Despite heavy expenses by benefits to members for rail fares and teas, the general account revealed an increased balance of £5 9s. 7d. The receipts included £76 2s. from subscriptions. The balance in hand at the end of the year was £131 5s. 9d. In addition there is a balance of £50 in the reserve fund, £88 7s. 5d. in the Benevolent Fund and £4 8s 7d. in the certificate account.

The annual report, signed by the Master and hon. secretary said: 'The constant cry that the number of ringers is rapidly falling has caused us to examine the membership lists in the past reports, taking as a basis only those ringers who are definitely attached to towers. The present membership is 681, with 65 towers in affiliation, as compared with 694 and 66 towers in 1934. There has been a decline of only 13 during five years. An even more significant fact emerges when the number per tower is examined. The 1937 list showed that there were 10.4 ringers to every peal, or more than enough to man the bells fully on every occasion they are likely to be required. The town towers seem to have experienced a decrease in membership, while those in the country have practically made up the losses. Nevertheless, we are forced to one conclusion: that the main fault lies with the ringers themselves. It should be possible among a body of men united in the practice of such an art as ringing, which demands the utmost of concentration and co-operation, to avoid petty irritations caused by unpunctuality and absence, which are almost always the first steps to disruption.

'We are also of the opinion that much more could be done towards the well-being of ringers by the clergy and church officials. The Vicar and churchwardens are often elected as presidents or vice-presidents of a local band, but there the interest ends. The ringers are generally out of sight, not very accessible, and the sound of the bells is too often rather casually regarded as a familiar and sometimes objectionable noise in the background of religion.

IMPORTANCE OF SUITABLE LEADER.

'Apart from the question of recruitment, in which church officials could be a very real help, there still remains the difficulty of keeping a band together once it has been formed,' proceeded the report. 'On this point we can offer no suggestions. It is purely a matter of selecting a suitable leader who has the requisite tact and personality to carry the band through the difficulties which are certain to arise. It is very often the leader on whose shoulders the burden of making outside contacts falls, and this is a point to be considered on his election.'

The report concluded with thanks to the clergy for help given at meetings, the organists who had assisted with the musical arrangements, and to the divisional secretaries.

(Continued in next column.)

WATERFORD CATHEDRAL BELLS.

RESTORED RING REOPENED.

A Peal That Influenced Ringing in Ireland.

The fine ring of eight bells at Waterford Cathedral, Ireland, have been completely restored and were reopened on Easter Day, the dedication being performed by the Dean (the Very Rev. C. Stevenson), who, in the course of his address, spoke of the joy with which they heard the bells ringing again, after several months of silence. He added: 'I believe this work has been thoroughly well done, and now the fittings of the bells and the arrangements for the ringers have been modernised and put in good order, so that for many years to come we shall have no anxiety with regard to our bells. I am thankful—we all are thankful—to have this work completed so satisfactorily.'

The bells were cast by Mears in 1870 and have a tenor of 20 cwt. The first peal in Ireland was rung on them by the College Youths at the opening—Grandsire Triples, conducted by J. Pettitt. This was followed the next year by the first peal by an Irish Society, Grandsire Triples rung by the local society, conducted by C. Lee, who had been left behind by the College Youths as instructor.

In this peal the second was rung by R. R. Cherry, who later became Lord Chief Justice of Ireland. It was through his influence that the fine ring of ten were erected in St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, by the late Lord Iveagh, and afterwards Lord Chief Justice Cherry himself presented two trebles to make twelve. He was also the founder of the Irish Association and its first president, so that Waterford Cathedral and its bells have extended their influence to the whole of Ireland.

After about 70 years of continuous work, it was found that the frame had become very loose in its joints and most of the fittings worn out. The present restoration was therefore decided upon. The old frame was found to be in sound condition, and has been retained. It has been strengthened with angle brackets and vertical tie rods, and refixed on a heavy steel grillage 9ft. lower in the tower than previously. The two tenors have been fitted with new steel headstocks and, with the remainder of the bells, placed on ball bearings

The work has been carried out by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, of Croydon, in a most satisfactory manner, both in regard to the 'go' of the bells and the sound in the immediate neighbourhood, which is now modulated, where previously it had been very noisy.

QUARTER CENTURY AS CHURCHWARDEN.

Before evening service, on Sunday, May 8th, at Calverley Parish Church, Yorks, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung in honour of Dr. Hughes, who has completed 25 years' service as Vicar's churchwarden. The ringers were S. Wheatley 1, W. Popplewell (conductor) 2, W. Stanhope 3, S. Keighley 4, G. Thompson 5, W. Scrimshaw 6, C. Scott 7, W. Lee 8.

DISTRICTS REARRANGED.

(Continued from previous column.)

The peal secretary reported a fall in the number of peals rung during the year, and Mr. Oliver Sippetts was congratulated on being the 'champion conductor' for the year, passing Mr. Relfe's total by one almost in the last days of the year.

The president, vice-presidents, Master, hon. treasurer, hon. general secretary and hon. peals secretary were re-elected without opposition. The hon. auditors and trustees were again placed in office.

For the better working of the divisions it was decided to transfer Rotherfield to the Eastern Division, and Steyning and Upper Beeding to the Western. The members at Rotherfield felt that it was not very convenient, under the existing transport facilities, to reach the Northern Division meetings, while a meeting recently held there had been very poorly attended. The transfer of Steyning and Upper Beeding was intended to increase the number of eight-bell towers in the Western Division.

On the motion affecting the place of the next general meeting, an amendment to the original proposition was carried by a large majority, fixing future meetings in Brighton. It was strongly argued that a long narrow county such as Sussex made it difficult for members to move with facility from one end to the other without great loss of time and expense. The instances of the meetings held in Chichester and Hastings were quoted, and the difficulties encountered in transport.

A brisk discussion took place on the motion to appoint ringing masters for divisional meetings, some representatives strongly supporting their necessity, others being as strongly in disagreement. Finally it was decided to alter the rules so that such ringing masters could be appointed if the annual meeting of the division concerned so desired. The general secretary pointed out that that was one of the things in which he would wish the divisions to decide by their own government, and not for a general meeting to force, either one way or the other.

The final item on the agenda was the consideration of a letter from the Central Council with reference to a subsidy for the printing of the Surprise Major book. The association was asked to guarantee the purchase of twelve copies, and it was noted that no indication was given as to what form the book would take, or when it would be likely to be in distribution. Nevertheless, promises were received for the taking up of 26 copies.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the clergy of the various churches for their assistance in the arranging of the meeting, and to others who had helped.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BY-MEETINGS OPPOSED.

The Maidstone District held a quarterly meeting at Hollingbourne on April 22nd, when 25 members attended from West Malling, Maidstone, Staplehurst, Charing, Linton and Ightham, together with the local band. This heavy ring of six were put to good use, both before and after service, in methods ranging from Doubles to Treble Bob. The association service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. E. A. Newman), Miss Thomas being at the organ.

Tea was served in the Parish Room, kindly arranged by Mr. Coleman, of the local band, Mrs. Coleman and others.

At the business meeting, with the Vicar in the chair, eight new members were elected, two from Wrotham and six from Aylesford. The next quarterly meeting will be held at West Malling on July 8th.

A discussion followed upon by-meetings, Mr. Leeson and Mr. Grice wishing to wipe them out, pointing out that members should make every effort to attend the quarterly meetings. It was said that if the district held meetings with a disputable quality of ringing, the Anti-Noise League would have something to say in the matter.

Mr. Wenban moved an amendment that there was a need for by-meetings. He pointed out that by-meetings were held for the good of the younger ringers so that they could improve their efforts to carry on change ringing.

On a vote being taken, the amendment was carried by 14 votes to two, and it was decided that Hunton be visited for a by-meeting on Saturday, June 3rd.

Mr. Leeson proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, for taking the service and presiding at the meeting; also to Miss Thomas for her services at the organ, and to Mr. and Mrs. Coleman for arranging such a splendid tea.

The Vicar, in reply, gave the members a very hearty welcome to his church and tower.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

DERBY DISTRICT AT WEST HALLAM.

A very successful meeting of the Derby District of the Midland Counties Association was held at West Hallam on April 29th. The Rector (the Rev. Lloyd Jones) assisted in raising the bells and rang the treble to the first touch of Grandsire Doubles. Stedman, Grandsire, Treble Bob and Bob Major were rung during the afternoon and tea followed at the Punch Bowl.

At the business meeting the Rector was voted to the chair.

Members were urged to attend the meeting at Staveley on Saturday, May 20th, when it is hoped to re-form the Chesterfield District. All ringers were invited, but especially members of the Derby and Nottingham Districts.

It was decided to hold the next monthly meeting at Melbourne on Saturday, June 3rd. Three members were elected.

Mr. J. Pagett, of the Cathedral company, moved a very hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for the use of the bells and for the welcome extended to ringers at West Hallam.

The Rector, in humorous reply, said he had been told that, before one could be considered a ringer, he had to break a stay. Well, he had broken one, but he could hardly consider he was a ringer yet, though he loved to hear the bells and was always pleased when ringers came to visit him.

On returning to the tower, fresh arrivals were met from Derby, Melbourne, Ticknall, Sawley, Nottingham, Kimberley and Duffield. Learners were well catered for in the simpler methods, and the experts rang some well-struck touches in Stedman, Little Bob, Double Norwich and Duffield.

VICTORIA RINGER'S VISIT.

PEAL SUCCESS FOLLOWS UNFORTUNATE FAILURE.

On Tuesday of last week, Mr. Edward W. Izard, of Victoria, British Columbia, who, with Mrs. Izard, is visiting the homeland after 25 years in Canada, took part in a peal of Grandsire Triples at Guildford Cathedral It had been arranged to enable him to ring his first peal before returning to Victoria at the end of this month. Mr. Izard, who is an engineer by profession, holds an important position in a shipyard at Victoria, and he was responsible for hanging the new ring of eight bells at the Cathedral. The bells, it will be remembered, were cast at Whitechapel Foundry about three years ago, and, before being shipped, were blessed by the Bishop of London at an impressive service held in the foundry.

Mr. Izard, who is a native of Slindon, Sussex, rang in Glasgow before he went to British Columbia, and has taken up the art again seriously now that there are bells in his own city. He has got round him a band of 20 ringers—some from the old country and others who have been taught there, and they ring Grandsire extremely well. They broadcast before the service every Sunday evening.

An attempt for the peal had previously been made three weeks earlier, but had unfortunately to be abandoned after only twenty minutes' ringing because an insecurely fastened shutter in the clock case fell out, owing to the oscillation of the tower, and interfered with the seventh rope. Afterwards a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung, in which Mr. Anthony Trotman, now of Belfast, but who was in Victoria when the bells were installed and the band formed, took part. The ringers were E. W. Izard 1, F. Bowden 2, J. S. Goldsmith 3, W. J. Robinson 4, A. E. Trotman 5, Rev. J. P. Pelloe 6, A. H. Pulling (conductor) 7, E. J. Ayliffe 8.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

SUPPORT FOR BENEVOLENT FUND SCHEME.

A meeting of the North-Western Division was held at Harlow on Saturday, April 22nd, when ringers from Stansted, Broxbourne, Hertford, Cambridge, Wansted, Harlow Common, Sawston, Woodford, Epping, Sawbridgeworth, Newmarket, Roydon and the local company enjoyed touches of Cambridge and Superlative Surprise, Double Norwich, Kent Treble Bob, Grandsire and Stedman on the bells at the Parish Church.

A hearty welcome was extended to the curate (the Rev. D. W. Breakey), who conducted the service in the absence of the Vicar. Tea, arranged by Mr. C. H. Tucker, was enjoyed in the Church Hall close by.

An interesting meeting followed, the Rev. D. W. Breakey taking the chair.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Littlebury and Elmdon.

The secretary (Mr. W. Wheeler) reported that a joint meeting of the Essex and Herts Associations would be held at Bishop's Stortford on Saturday, May 13th, and that arrangements were being made to hold a meeting at Epping early in September.

Mr. J. Chalk (Master of the S.W. Division) was asked to speak on the suggested Benevolent Fund for Essex ringers. He mentioned the coming 60th anniversary of the Essex Association and hoped that it would see the inauguration of a Benevolent Fund. He thought that an association with a membership of over 700 ringing members should embrace some sort of benevolence. Up to now Essex ringers had had little opportunity to assist a faithful member when in trouble. A considerable number of ringers were eager to see a fund established. A whip round by a local band or even a collection at a district meeting could not do justice to a deserving case, but a well-organised central fund, backed up by all towers, could do effective work. Reference was made to the great work the Kent Association had done in assisting many of its old ringers. Was Essex, proud of its members and their ringing accomplishments, going to ignore the 'human touch' that characterises practical benevolence?

After hearing the details of the suggested scheme, a proposition to support it was carried unanimously.

The meeting concluded with a hearty vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. L. Cordell (Master of the division), to the Vicar for the use of the bells, to the curate for conducting the service and afterwards for taking the chair, to the organist, to the ladies for serving tea, and to Mr. C. H. Tucker for all he had done to make the meeting a success.

SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION'S APPROVAL.

A meeting of the South-Western Division of the Essex Association was held at North Weald on Saturday, April 29th, and, despite unfavourable weather conditions, was well supported by 40 members and friends from Leyton, Leytonstone, Wanstead, Woodford, Romford, Hornchurch, Bentley, Harlow Common, Springfield, Little Waltham and the local band. A short service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. O. Gerney), who gave a hearty welcome to all and expressed his delight at seeing such a large gathering. Tea, kindly provided by the local ringers, and much appreciated by all present, was partaken of in the schoolroom.

The District Master (Mr. J. Chalk) presided at the business meeting and referred to the enthusiasm and loyalty of the North Weald band both to the church and the association. He thanked the Vicar for his very warm welcome.

Seven new members were elected, including three from the North Weald band, and Rayleigh was selected as the place for the next meeting, to be held on July 8th.

A lengthy discussion then took place with regard to the proposed Benevolent Fund. Mr. Chalk stated he had been in touch with all towers in the association, and from what he had heard he felt there was a definite desire for a fund of this nature, and that the inauguration of such a fund this year would be a most fitting mark of the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the association. This was greeted with applause, whereupon Mr. Chalk stated that he hoped the district would give him every support at the annual general meeting to be held at Chelmsford on Whit Monday.

The meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the tower and bells and for conducting the service, to the organist, to Mr. King and the local ringers for providing the tea and making all arrangements, and to the ladies for serving at the tables. This was carried with applause and responded to by Mr. King on behalf of the local band.

The tower was then revisited, where touches in various six-bell methods were brought round.

FAMOUS PEAL TO BE RESTORED.

ST. MARGARET'S, WESTMINSTER, BELLS TO BE REHUNG.

Messrs. Gillett and Johnston have just received from Canon Storr the order to restore the famous peal of bells at St. Margaret's Church, Westminster. The work will consist of rehanging with entirely new fittings of the latest type, including ball bearings and metal headstocks. The bells also are to be carefully tuned. The existing oak framework, which is in very sound condition, will be retained.

In addition, the belfry windows are to be specially treated so as to modulate the sound of the bells outside the tower, especially on the side adjacent to Westminster Abbey.

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 4s. per quarter.

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—The next meeting will be held at Horsell on Saturday, May 13th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Tea in the Institute 4.45 p.m., followed by business meeting. Service 6.30 p.m. All ringers and friends welcome.—F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Sec., 39, Queen's Road, Thames Ditton.

LADIES' GUILD.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Braintree, Essex, on May 13th. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m. Service in the church conducted by the Vicar at 4.30 p.m. Tea, price 1s., in the Church Hall at 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow. Bocking bells (8) also available after tea.—Sylvia R. E. Bowyer, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting is at Burbage on Saturday, May 13th. Ringing from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tea and short meeting at 5 p.m. You will get a better tea if all who intend coming send a card to Mr. G. Dudley, 47, Sketchley Road, Burbage, as early as possible. I have a few reports left. Have you had yours yet?—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Eccleston (6 bells) on Saturday, May 13th. Tower open from 2.30 p.m. Subscriptions are now due. All ringers welcome.—A. Blogg, Branch Sec.

LADIES' GUILD.—London District.—Meeting at Stoke Poges on Saturday, May 13th. Visit the charming church of Gray's 'Elegy,' and ring on the handy peal of eight. Bells available 3 o'clock. Tea at the Red Lion, Stoke Green, at 5, followed by business meeting. Trains, 2.18 and 2.35, Paddington to Slough.—I. R. Housden, Hon. Dis. Sec.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Kings Langley, on Saturday, May 13th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Usual service, followed by tea. All ringers welcome.—W. Ayre, Dis. Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—A meeting will be held at Lower Peover on Saturday, May 13th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Tea has been arranged at 1s. 6d. per head. A hearty invitation is extended to the Northwich and Bowdon and Stockport Branches.—H. Parker, 3, London Road, Davenham.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Worth (bells 6) on Saturday, May 13th. Tower open 3 p.m. Tea 5 (please notify). Everybody welcome. — B. Saunders, 18, New Road, Ridgewood, Uckfield, Sussex.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—The next practice meeting will be held at Cartmel Priory (6 bells) on Saturday, May 13th. Bells available at 2.30 p.m.—N. M. Newby, Sec., Furness and Lake Dis.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—A meeting of the Grimsby District will be held at Mablethorpe on Saturday, May 13th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. and after meeting. Service 4.15. Address by the Rector, the Rev. J. W. Sutton, R.D. Tea, 5 p.m., at the Café Regent, at 1s. 6d. per head. Business meeting to follow. Come and try the seaside air.—H. Mingay, Hon. Dis. Sec., 394, Wellington Street, Grimsby.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chipping Norton Deanery Branch. — The Spring meeting will be held at Burford on Saturday, May 13th. — J. Keyte, Hon. Sec., Char bury, Oxon.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Joint meeting, Wigan and Liverpool Branches.—This meeting will be held at Aughton on Saturday, May 13th. Bells available from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea will be provided, free, at 5 p.m., for which please notify Mr. J. Marsh, 27, Knowsley Road, Ormskirk.—S. Forshaw and G. R. Newton, Branch Secs.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A mid-quarterly meeting will be held at Thurmaston on May 13th. Ringing (6 bells) will commence at 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea, at 5 p.m. Please note change of tower, as Humberstone bells are not available.—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec., 53, Landseer Road, Leicester.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—The Guild Festival will be held at Calne on Saturday, May 13th. Guild service in the Parish Church at 12.30 p.m. Preacher, the Ven. Archdeacon Coulter. Collection for new issue of Guild office. Luncheon in the Town Hall at 1.30 p.m. 1s. 6d. each member. Annual business meeting to follow. Towers available: From 10 a.m. to 12 and 3.30 p.m. to 9, 8 bells, Calne, Wootton Bassett; 6 bells, Bremhill, Broad Hinton, Hilmarton. Also Chippenham, two towers (8 bells), 4 to 9 p.m.—F. Ll. Edwards, Hon. Sec., Kington Magna Rectory, Gillingham, Dorset.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Old Leake on Saturday, May 13th. Bells (6) available from 2 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea at White Hart Inn at 5 p.m. Business meeting afterwards.—W. E. Clarke, Hon. Sec., Park House, 99, Norfolk Street, Boston.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Barkway, Saturday, May 13th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.45 p.m., followed by tea at the Wheatsheaf Inn. Tea arranged for those who notify me by Wednesday, May 10th; no postcard no tea. Annual subscriptions due.—R. T. Newman, Dis. Sec., Salisbury Road, Baldock.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION (North Western Division) and HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Eastern District). — A joint meeting will be held at Bishops Stortford on Saturday, May 13th. Bells (10) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 Tea at the Chequers 5.15 p.m. Please notify number for tea.—W. Wheeler, Mill Street, Harlow Common; A. Lawrence, Hatfield Park, Herts, District Secretaries.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol City Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at St. Andrew's, Clifton, on Sat., May 13th. Bells (8) from 3.15. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow.—A. M. Tyler, Branch Hon. Sec.

HANBURY, NEAR BROMSGROVE, WORCS.—The bells will be re-dedicated on Sunday, May 14th, at 3 p.m., by the Archdeacon of Dudley. A ring of eight recast by John Taylor and Co.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—There will be ringing for service at St. Leonard's Church, Shoreditch, on Sunday evening, May 14th, at 5.30 p.m.—G. W. Steere, Hon. Sec., 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

BRENTWOOD, ESSEX.—A peal board will be unveiled at the evening service at St. Thomas' Church on Sunday, May 14th. Ringing from 5 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. and after the service. All ringers welcome.—Robert C. Heazel, Master.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meetings for May: St. Giles', Cripplegate, 16th; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 18th; *St. Paul's Cathedral, 23rd; St. Magnus', 25th; Southwark Cathedral, 30th. All at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—A. B. Peck, Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

LADIES' GUILD AND SURREY ASSOCIATION.—A joint mid-week meeting will be held at St. Stephen's, Clapham Park, on Wednesday, May 17th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m., and again in the evening. Tea at 5.30 p.m. at Williamson's Restaurant, 55, High Road, Balham, S.W.12. Numbers for tea to be sent to Mr. A. T. Smalley, 29, Kirkstall Gardens, S.W.2, not later than Monday, May 15th. All ringers welcome. — I. R. Housden and F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Secs.

HEDDINGTON, NEAR CALNE, WILTS.—The Lord Bishop of Salisbury will re-dedicate the bells on Thursday, May 18th, at 7.30 p.m. A ring of five bells restored by John Taylor & Co.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at Kirkham on Saturday, May 20th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Business meeting at 5.30. A good attendance requested. — C. S. Sharples, Branch Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Mayfield on Saturday, May 20th. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock (1s. per head). Will all those intending to be present kindly let me know by Wednesday previous to meeting?—A. C. Pankhurst, Hon. Dis. Sec., 13, Bradford Street, Eastbourne.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held at Feltham on Saturday, May 20th. Church of St. Catherine (bells 8, tenor 11½ cwt.). Ringing from 3 p.m. and in the evening. Reports available. Subscriptions due.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The next meeting will be held at Harrow Weald on Saturday, May 20th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea to follow. The method for special attention is Double Norwich Court Bob Major; other methods will be rung as required.—T. J. Lock, Hon. Dis. Sec., 57, Holloways Lane, North Mimms, Herts.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—A special meeting will be held at Staveley on Saturday, May 20th. Bells (8) available 2.30 onwards. Tea (1s. head) at 5 p.m., in Church Hall, only to those who notify Mr. A. E. Parsons, 42, Circular Road, Staveley, Chesterfield, not later than May 18th. Special invitation is given to Chesterfield district ringers and others interested, as by this means we hope to re-form the district and appoint new local officers.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — East Norfolk Branch will hold a meeting at Acle on Saturday, May 20th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea in Church Room at 5.15, and please all send postcards of names or numbers for tea by Wednesday, May 17th, to J. Harwood, Sec., 4, Cobden Terrace, Northgate Street, Great Yarmouth.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Great Tey on May 20th. Bells (8) available at 2.30. Service 4.30. Will all those intending to be present please let me know as soon as possible? — J. R. Sparling, Hon. Sec., Station Hotel, Wivenhoe.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting of the Southern Division will be held at Burgess Hill on Saturday, May 20th. Tower open 2.45. Service 4.30. Tea, in Parish Room, 5, price 1s. Half rail fare (maximum 1s. 6d.) allowed to members. Names for tea by May 17th.—S. E. Armstrong, Hon. Div. Sec., 70, Hollingbury Park Avenue, Brighton 6.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Sleaford on Saturday, May 20th. The bells of the Parish Church will be available during afternoon and evening. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 4.45 p.m., free to members; non-members 1s. 6d. Usual business meeting following tea. Will those requiring tea please inform Mr. H. Hinkins, Elmside, 41, The Drove, Sleaford, by the Wednesday previous?—J. Bray, Hon. Sec.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Meeting of Southampton District at Fawley on Saturday, May 20th. Bells from 2.30. Tea at 5 p.m. Names by May 17th. Dibden bells after tea.—G. Pullinger, 17, Stoke Park Road, Bishopstoke, Hants.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Aldington on Saturday, May 20th. Ringing from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m.—P. Page, Hon. Sec.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—A meeting will be held at Essendon on Saturday, May 20th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Tea near church at 5 p.m. Bus services: St. Albans-Hertford or Barnet-Hertford.—Harold V. Frost, Hon. Dis. Sec., 4, Kimberley Road, St. Albans.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—The next meeting will be held at Streatham, S.W.16, on Saturday, May 20th. Ringing at St. Leonard's (8 bells), 2.45 to 5.15 p.m., and at Immanuel (8 bells) from 7 to 8.30 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m., followed by business meeting 6.15 p.m. All visitors welcome.—N. H. Manning, Dis. Sec., 21, Burlington Gardens, W.4.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—A meeting of the Wirral Branch will be held at St. Saviour's, Oxton (8 bells) on Saturday, May 20th. The tower will be open at 3.30 p.m. until 8.30 p.m. Service in St. Thomas' Chapel 5.30 p.m. Tea and meeting afterwards. Will visitors please let me know not later than 17th inst. if they will require tea?—Harry S. Brocklebank, Hon. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Banbury and District Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Somerton on Saturday, May 20th. Bells (6) available from 2.30. Service 4 o'clock, followed by tea and short business meeting. Lower Heyford (6) and Rousham (6) open in the evening.—E. Pearson, Branch Sec., Adderbury West, Banbury.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Berks Branch.—Annual meeting will be held at East Hagbourne on Saturday, May 20th. Service 3.30. Tea 4.30, meeting to follow. Please notify for tea by the 16th.—Albert E. Lock, 35, East St. Helen Street, Abingdon, Berks.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The pre-Whitsun meeting will be held in Hexham on Saturday, May 20th, when the Abbey bells will be available. Tea will be served at the Abbey Hotel at 5 p.m., preceded by committee meeting in the tea room at 4 p.m. Requirements for tea to reach me by Wednesday, 17th inst.—Roland Park, Hon. Sec., 23, Oaklands Terrace, Darlington.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next meeting will be at Newbold-on-Avon, near Rugby, on Saturday, May 20th. Bells (6) available during afternoon and evening. Tea provided at a moderate charge.—D. E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—A meeting will be held at Newdigate on Saturday, May 20th. Service 5 o'clock, with tea and business meeting to follow. Please send notifications for teas to Mr. E. Vine, The Village Club, Newdigate, by May 17th. —A. H. Smith, Hon. Sec.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Central Branch. —A meeting will be held at Cottenham on Saturday, May 20th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 in Schoolroom, followed by meeting.—F. Warrington and A. R. Paul, Dis. Secs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch. —The next meeting will be held at St. Matthew's, Stretford, on Saturday, May 20th. Tower open for ringing at 6 o'clock. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—J. H. Ridyard, Branch Sec., 35, The Crescent, Worsley.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. —Chew Deanery Branch.—A meeting for practice will be held at Tickenham on Saturday, May 20th. Bells available from 5 o'clock. All ringers welcome.—Percy G. Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. —Crewkerne Deanery Branch.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Fivehead on Saturday, May 20th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Please notify early for tea.—D. G. Taylor, Hon. Sec., Braeside, Ilminster.

PETERBOROUGH GUILD.—Towcester Branch.— The annual festival will be held at Cosgrove on Saturday, May 20th. Luncheon 1.30. Service 3.30. Names, etc., for lunch by Tuesday, 16th, to Rev. E. V. Fenn, Lois Weedon, Towcester.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—The next meeting is to be held at Oaks-in-Charnwood on Saturday, May 20th, at the usual times. What about a Saturday afternoon in the heart of the picturessque Charnwood Forest? Hikers, bikers, or motorists will all be welcome. But as catering is rather uncertain, and appetites will be keen in the open country, you will be well advised to let me know that you are coming. Send postcard by Wednesday.—A. E. Rowley, Hon. Sec., Hyom, Penistone Street, Ibstock, Leicester.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A general meeting of the association will be held at Barnsley on Saturday, May 20th, when the bells of St. Mary's will be available from 2.30 p.m. General Committee meet in St. Mary's Vestry at 3.45 p.m. prompt. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea (1s. 3d.) will follow at 5 p.m. in the British Co-operative Cafe, Market Street, and all requiring same *must* notify Mr. C. Brinsley, 177, Sheffield Road, Barnsley, not later than the first post on Thursday, May 18th. The general meeting will follow immediately afterwards on the same premises.—L. W. G. Morris, Gen. Sec., 65, Lilycroft Road, Heaton, Bradford.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Henlow on Saturday, May 20th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. All ringers will be welcome. Please come. A good company is requested. — C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

ALPHINGTON, EXETER, DEVON.—The bells will be re-dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Exeter on Saturday, May 27th, at 2.15 p.m. Garden fete in the Rectory grounds during the afternoon. A ring of eight restored by John Taylor and Co.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch. —The next meeting will be held at St. Saviour's Church, Bacup, on Saturday, May 27th. Bells from 3 p.m. A short service will be held in church, followed by tea and a short meeting. Names for tea must be sent not later than Wednesday, May 24th, to Mr. F. Kendall, 30, Lee Road, Lee Wood, Bacup.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—The next meeting is at Ticknall on Saturday, May 27th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Please note: The Ringing Master will arrange methods as required, and members should make every effort to start the holiday well. Your presence will be appreciated and tea arranged for you if notification is sent to the undersigned by Thursday, May 25th.—J. W. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — The annual meeting will be held at Peterborough on Whit-Monday, May 29th. Central Committee meet at 10.45 a.m. in St. Mary's Reading Room. Service in the Cathedral at 12 noon, with address by the Very Rev. the Dean, President of the Guild. Luncheon at the Angel Hotel at 1 p.m., followed by business meeting. (1s. 6d. will be allowed towards cost to all those resident and subscribing honorary and ringing members who make application for ticket, with remittance of 1s. to the general secretary by Thursday, May 18th. Non-members and non-resident members 2s. 6d. each. All tickets to be applied for by Monday, May 22nd.) Bells available: St. John's (8), St. Mary's (6), Woodston (6) from 10 a.m. throughout the day and after the meeting. Stanground (5) and the Whittlesey towers (8) will be also available.—Robert G. Black, Gen. Sec., Stamford Road, Geddington, Kettering.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held on Whit Monday, May 29th, at Bridgnorth, Salop. 3.30 p.m., service at St. Leonard's Church, with address by Rev. Preb. J. S. Jobling. 4.15 p.m., tea at Swan Hotel, followed by annual general meeting. Following bells will be available: St. Leonard's (8) from 12 noon, also Chetton (6), Quatt (6) and Chelmarsh (6) for parties making own arrangements. Tea (2s.), 1s. to members, if application for tickets (without sending money) be made before May 24th to Rev. E. G. Benson, Burghill Vicarage, Hereford. Several districts hope to arrange buses; for these apply to district secretaries.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — The 60th annual meeting will be held at Chelmsford on Whit Monday, May 29th. Service in the Cathedral at 11.30 a.m., with address by the Venerable E. N. Gowing, Archdeacon of Southend. Lunch in the Corn Exchange 12.30 p.m., followed by the meeting. Lunch tickets must be obtained, members free, non-members 2s. 6d. Please apply not later than May 17th—ringing members to district secretaries, non-resident members and non-members to general secretary. Towers open for ringing during the day: Cathedral (12), Great Baddow (8), Galleywood (8), Great Waltham (8), Writtle (8), Widford (8), Boreham (8), Broomfield (6), Danbury (6), Springfield (6), Little Waltham (6). A good attendance is requested.—L. J. Clark, Gen. Sec., 36, Lynmouth Avenue, Chelmsford.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX.—Prittlewell's 10 bells will be open for ringing on Wednesday, May 31st, 3-5 p.m. and 6-8 p.m., when all ringers will be welcome, including Ladies' Guild. Service at 8 p.m. for dedication of three peal boards.—F. B. Lufkin, Tower Master.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The annual shield (six-bell) contest will be held at Kirkthorpe on Saturday, July 8th. Open to all members. Entrance fee 6s. per band. Tower open for practice until June 24th. All entrance fees and voluntary subscriptions for prizes fund must reach me not later than June 24th. Those wishing to practise please notify Mr. W. Riley, 12, Woodland Avenue, Kirkthorpe.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., Rock Cottages, Shafton, near Barnsley.

BIRTH.

BAILEY.—On Thursday, May 4th, at the County Hospital, Dartford, to Jean Margaret (nee Thompson), wife of James Edgar Bailey, 20, Swaisland Road, Dartford, the gift of a daughter (Janet Margaret).

APARTMENTS.

LLANDUDNO, NORTH WALES.—Superior board-residence or bed and breakfast; 2 minutes sea; tennis courts, bowling green and park.—Mrs. Brown, Avonholm, 24, Queen's Road. Telephone 6965.

SITUATION VACANT.

TURNER REQUIRED for General Engineers in West Midlands town for jobbing and maintenance work. Permanency for suitable man used to the trade wishing to settle down.—Nayler and Co., Ltd., Hereford.

ST. GEORGE'S DAY.

A quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at St. Ambrose's Church, Bristol, on April 24th, in honour of St. George's Day: Betty Worsdell 1, A. Knight 2, Mrs. F. Skidmore 3, E. J. Ridler 4, F. Skidmore (conductor) 5, R. Adams 6, G. S. Wiltshire 7, A. T. Maggs 8. The ringer of the treble is the daughter of the late Mr. B. C. Worsdell, who was a ringer at this church and who passed away last year. This was her second quarter-peal. Both Mrs. B. C. Worsdell and her daughter are regular ringers at St. Ambrose's Church, and are members of the Ladies' Guild.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 1,469. Vol. XXXIV. FRIDAY, MAY 19th, 1939. [Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.] Price 3d.

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BEGINNERS AND TECHNICAL TERMS

In a letter in another column, the Rev. W. W. Lucas returns to the question of the use of technical terms in the teaching of beginners. He holds to the view that technical terms are used a great deal more than is necessary or desirable, and goes on to suggest that there should be a school of teachers formed from men who could teach change ringing by the use of the ordinary English language. It would be interesting if our correspondent would give in greater detail what technical terms should be abolished in the teaching of beginners, and what language equally concise could be substituted for them. We realise that when a beginner first hears the terms used in ringing they may sound a strange jargon; but every pursuit has its technical words, and, if in ringing these are at first less understandable than in most others, it is, we think, not because they are really less intelligible, but because the public are not brought into such close contact with the terms of ringing as they are with those of sport. From early youth the common language of cricket, football and the like, although technical, becomes part of every boy's verbal equipment, as his knowledge of the various games grows. The public read them constantly in books and newspapers, and they become almost part of the general vocabulary. It would be difficult, nevertheless, to get on in these pursuits without the use of technical terms. The need for them in ringing instruction is just as necessary; but they sound strange to the beginner because they have not previously been part of his everyday training, as it were. We cannot believe, however, that the few terms used in connection with the elementary stages of ringing can offer a real obstacle to a beginner of average intelligence, if the instructor will take the trouble at the outset to explain them. It may be that, having been steeped in these terms for years, we cannot see that what they are intended to convey can be more concisely substituted by ordinary words, and we would like to learn how they can be improved upon, bearing in mind that, while ringing is in progress, instructions have to be given in the briefest possible time. In any case, there must come a stage in the beginner's career when he will have to master them.

Nevertheless, we feel there is still much to be desired in the way many beginners are taught. The misfortune is that beginners not infrequently get into the hands of men who, however well intentioned, are themselves inefficient; that is to say, their own standard is not such as to make them competent instructors, and it is difficult to see how this state of affairs is to be overcome. There are two sides to the teaching of ringing; one is the prac-

(Continued on page 310.)

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tical and the other the theoretical, and if a beginner is to make real progress both these things must proceed side by side. The instructor in one may not be equally competent in the other, and it would be a good thing, although we cannot see how it is to be made easily attainable, if there could be a course of instruction given in the areas of the various associations which would improve the qualifications of those who wish to instruct beginners. These ringers could then be made available for giving lessons in other towers, but we are afraid such a desirable state of affairs is scarcely realisable, and that beginners in many places will continue to be taught by ringers, enthusiastic men without question, but of doubtful qualifications for the task, who will pass on to their pupils their own faults and failings!

TEN BELL PEALS.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(East Berks and South Bucks Branch.)

On Wednesday, May 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

At the Parish Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt. in C sharp.

Fred Hayes	...*Treble*	*William H. Plumridge ..	6
George F. Hinton	2	Harry Wingrove	7
Ralph Coles	3	†Percy Newton	8
William Henley	4	Edward R. Coles	9
Leonard Stilwell	5	F. Donald Borrham	...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by Fred Hayes.

* First peal away from the tenor. † First peal of Stedman Caters.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, May 13, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. in E flat.

Horace Belcher ...	...*Treble*	Daniel D. Cooper	6
William H. Hewett... ...	2	Henry G. Miles...	7
Charles H. Kippin	3	Jack M. Cripps	8
William H. Pasmore ...	4	Alfred B. Peck	9
Frank E. Darby	5	Herbert Langdon ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by Rev. H. L. James. Conducted by Frank E. Darby.

Rung on the 71st birthday of Mr. F. Darby, father of the conductor.

HASLEMERE, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 13, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Bartholomew,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 8 lb. in F sharp.

William J. Robinson	...*Treble*	Ernest J. Ayliffe	6
Alfred H. Pulling... ...	2	*Ernest J. Munday	7
*Douglas R. Hayes	3	John Hoyle	8
George Marriner	4	John H. B. Hesse	9
†Albert J. Adams	5	Albert Harman ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by F. A. Holden. Conducted by A. H. Pulling.

* First peal of Treble Ten. † First peal of Royal.

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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

FAKENHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, April 30, 1939, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 19½ cwt. in E flat.

*ROBERT W. COOKE	...*Treble*	CECIL V. EBBERSON	5
WALLACE W. COUSINS	2	*GEORGE A. COOKE	6
NOLAN GOLDEN	3	HENRY TOOKE	7
JOHN A. GODFREY	4	CLAUDE COUSINS	...*Tenor*

Composed by E. WIGHTMAN. Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal in the method. Rung to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Mr. C. V. Ebberson's first peal.

SAXLINGHAM NETHERGATE, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, May 3, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 8 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. in G.

SYDNEY FLINT	...*Treble*	*JOHN ALDIS, JUN.	5
NOLAN GOLDEN	2	GEORGE POYNTZ	6
JOHN ALDIS, SEN.	3	R. WILLIAM BARBER	7
*THOMAS SIMMONS	4	THOMAS H. FRANCIS	...*Tenor*

Composed by E. TIMBRELL. Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal in the method.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, May 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Fourteen Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
M. J. MORRIS'S VARIATION OF J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.
Tenor 6½ cwt.

ERNEST MORRIS	...*Treble*	CHARLES MARSHALL	5
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD	2	WILLIAM BOTTRILL	6
J. FREDERICK MILNER	3	RALPH NARBOROUGH	7
W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON	4	LESLIE STEVENS	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

CLIFFE-AT-HOO, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 6, 1939, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,
A PEAL OF PUDSEY SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt.

HERBERT A. HOLDEN	...*Treble*	GEORGE J. BUTCHER	5
*ARTHUR S. RICHARDS	2	HARRY HOVERD	6
EDWIN A. BARNETT	3	*HARRY PARKES	7
HERBERT E. AUDSLEY	4	*PHILIP A. CORBY	...*Tenor*

Composed by E. A. BARNETT. Conducted by P. A. CORBY.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

OLDBURY, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, May 6, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

ROBERT MATTHEWS	...*Treble*	FREDERICK HANDLEY	5
CLIFFORD SKIDMORE	2	JOHN LLOYD	6
THOMAS HEMMING	3	HAROLD SHUCK	7
BERNARD LAWTON	4	BERNARD ASHFORD	...*Tenor*

Conducted by HAROLD SHUCK.

First peal of Stedman as conductor.

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FAIRWARP, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 6, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 15½ cwt.

WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE	...*Treble*	FREDERICK H. DALLAWAY	5
FRANK BENNETT	2	ARTHUR F. LEWRY	6
LESLIE W. JARVIS	3	ALBERT RELFE	7
GEORGE BEENEY	4	FRANK H. HICKS	...*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

First peal of Triples on the bells.

WEM, SHROPSHIRE.
THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 6, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt.

E. DENNIS POOLE	...*Treble*	HARRY THELWELL	5
THOMAS PRICE	2	WILLIAM J. CHESTER	6
HARRY OVERTON	3	EDWARD V. RODENHURST	7
RICHARD J. WARRILOW	4	ARTHUR PRITCHARD	...*Tenor*

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.

PINCHBECK, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 6, 1939, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 18 cwt. 9 lb.

GEORGE LADD	...*Treble*	*FRANK TAYLOR	5
JOHN CURRY	2	NEVIL HOLLINGWORTH	6
GEORGE SEWELL	3	CYRIL R. BURRELL	7
HAROLD BARSLEY	4	JOHN G. AMES	...*Tenor*

Composed by W. HUDSON. Conducted by JOHN G. AMES.

* First peal in the method. Rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. William A. Richardson, ringer at the above church, and Miss Edna Mattock, of Pinchbeck.

HILGAY, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 6, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 17 cwt.

*THOMAS R. BUSH	...*Treble*	WALLACE COUSINS	5
ALFRED BACON	2	JOHN GODFREY	6
JOHN BUCKENHAM	3	WILLIAM BUCKENHAM	7
CLAUDE COUSINS	4	ARTHUR G. BASON	...*Tenor*

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by A. G. BASON.

* First peal of Major.

MILNROW, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 6, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 18½ cwt.

*ALAN WITHNELL	...*Treble*	JOHN H. C. MASSEY	5
GEORGE STAFF	2	STEPHEN LL. PARRY	6
DENNIS HOLLOS	3	HAROLD HAMER	7
SELWYN H. DEARDEN	4	ALBERT BUCKLEY	...*Tenor*

Composed by WM. SHIPWAY. Conducted by GEORGE STAFF.

* First peal. Rung to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the church.

EDMONTON, MIDDLESEX.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 6, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;
Tenor 17¼ cwt.

GEORGE W. FLETCHER	...*Treble*	GILBERT E. DEBENHAM	5
MRS. FREDK. W. HOUSDEN	2	WALTER AYRE	6
MRS. JOHN THOMAS	3	FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN	7
MRS. GEORGE W. FLETCHER	4	GEORGE W. DEBENHAM	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by G. W. DEBENHAM.

The first peal in the method by all the band except by the ringers of treble and 6th.

ROTHWELL, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.)
On Saturday, May 6, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt.

*GEORGE WARD	...Treble	THOS. W. STRANGEWAY	5
ARTHUR G. WOOD	2	ALBERT WORMALD	6
GEORGE WM. STEEL	3	PERCY MASSAM	7
†GEORGE COPLEY	4	HARRY HOMER	...Tenor

Composed by A. CRAVEN. Conducted by T. W. STRANGEWAY.
* First peal in the method. † First peal in the method away from the treble.

STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Saturday, May 6, 1939, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND MARY,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;
Tenor 24 cwt.

SHELFORD SPARROW	...Treble	HORACE J. MANSFIELD	5
EDWIN A. CRACKNELL	2	HARRY D. LISTER	6
KEITH W. WHITTELL	3	ARTHUR GRIMWOOD	7
GEORGE W. ABLITT	4	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL	...Tenor

Composed by GEORGE H. CROSS. Conducted by HARRY D. LISTER.

NORWICH.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, May 9, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER MANCROFT,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 37 cwt. 3 qr. 15 lb. in C.

*ERNEST G. SHORTING	...Treble	WILLIAM G. MAYERS	5
NOLAN GOLDEN	2	WILLIAM CLOVER	6
HENRY TOOKE	3	GEORGE BAILEY	7
GEORGE MAYERS	4	FREDERICK SEAGER	...Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by N. GOLDEN.
* First peal of Surprise.

RIPLEY, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, May 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 17 cwt.

*G. ARTHUR BOWMER	...Treble	FRANK F. HILL	5
FRED. W. HILL	2	FRANK BRADLEY	6
*JOHN E. HOBBS	3	ALEX. HUTCHISON	7
FRED. A. SALTER	4	J. FREDERICK MILNER	...Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by J. FREDERICK MILNER
* First peal of Cambridge.

SOUTHAMPTON, HANTS.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wednesday, May 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY ROOD,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

*MISS MABEL SCOTT	...Treble	R. GORDON CROSS	5
ERNEST J. MUNDAY	2	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE	6
HAROLD P. REED	3	REGINALD A. REED	7
GEORGE WILLIAMS	4	A. PATRICK CANNON	...Tenor

Composed by JAMES HUNT. Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.
* First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.
On Thursday, May 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 14½ cwt. in E.

*BENJAMIN BEEBE	...Treble	ALFRED BALLARD	5
*CHARLES MARSHALL	2	†FRANK K. MEASURES	6
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD	3	WILLIAM BOTTRILL	7
W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON	4	EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD	...Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by W. P. WHITEHEAD.
* First peal of Surprise. † First peal in the method.

PULHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, May 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,
A PEAL OF PAINSWICK SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb. in F.

*CHARLES BAKER	...Treble	*CECIL V. EBBERSON	5
ERNEST WHITING	2	NOLAN GOLDEN	6
CHARLES W. LOOME	3	†FREDERICK ROOPE	7
FREDERICK C. GUNTON	4	FREDERICK SEAGER	...Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.
* First peal of Painswick. † First peal 'inside.' First peal as conductor in the method.

TWICKENHAM, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 13, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE OOSLANY COURT MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 18½ cwt.

EDWARD LANKESTER	...Treble	ERNEST C. S. TURNER	5
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE	2	WILFRID G. WILSON	6
GEORGE M. KILBY	3	HARRY KILBY	7
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH	4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	...Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.
The first peal in the method.

PALGRAVE, SUFFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 7 cwt. 3 qr. 6 lb.

ERNEST WHITING	...Treble	WALTER ELSEY	5
FREDERICK C. GUNTON	2	*W. ARCHIE LOCK	6
FREDERICK C. ROPER	3	CLEMENT J. MORE	7
*LEONARD H. LOCK	4	CHARLES W. LOOME	...Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by E. WHITING.
* First attempt for a peal in the method.

LONDON.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 13, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW, BETHNAL GREEN,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 14½ cwt.

*A. J. HOWELL	...Treble	H. E. THOMPSON	5
E. MAURICE ATKINS	2	G. W. CECIL	6
G. A. PARSONS	3	E. W. PYE	7
J. E. LEWIS COCKRY	4	†W. F. WRIGHT	...Tenor

Conducted by E. MAURICE ATKINS.
* First peal away from tenor. † First peal. Rung as a farewell to the Rev. S. L. Sarel, M.A., who is shortly resigning after 22 years' service as Rector of Bethnal Green.

ALVERSTOKE, HAMPSHIRE
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 13, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 13½ cwt.

ROBERT H. ROBINSON	...Treble	WILLIAM T. BERSON	5
GEORGE WILLIAMS	2	REGINALD A. REED	6
FREDERICK S. BAYLEY	3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS	7
TOWER R. TAYLOR	4	C. ERNEST SMITH	...Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by FREDERICK W. ROGERS
First peal of Bristol on the bells.

PEAL CORRECTION.

The peal at Great Mongeham, Kent, on April 27th, was rung for the Kent County Association, and not the Sussex Association as printed in the report.

HURST, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(SONNING DEANERY BRANCH.)
On Saturday, May 13, 1939, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 16 lb.

EDGAR HUMFREY ...	...*Treble*	†WALTER HUNT	5
WILLIAM J. PAICE	2	*CHARLES W. MORTIMER ...	6
*NORMAN H. MAKINS... ...	3	BERNARD C. CASTLE	7
ERNEST MITCHELL	4	WILLIAM H. J. PARKER ...	*Tenor*

Composed by REV. E. B. JAMES. Conducted by WILLIAM J. PAICE
* First peal. † First peal of Grandsire. Rung to welcome the Rev. N. J. Raper to the benefice.

SIX BELL PEALS.

BRAMHAM, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)
On Wednesday, April 26, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one 720 each of Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Oxford Treble Bob and two 720's each of Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 13 cwt. in G.

RONALD H. DOVE ...	...*Treble*	EDWARD BRADLEY	4
MISS D. M. HAWLEY	2	MRS. E. BRADLEY	5
WILLIAM HAWLEY	3	LEONARD DRAKE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by LEONARD DRAKE.
First peal of Minor as conductor. Arranged as a farewell peal to the retiring Vicar, the Rev. F. W. Hicks.

IDEN, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt.

*MISS E. M. ORLEBAR	...*Treble*	EDWARD BISHOP, R.A.F. ...	4
LESLIE W. JARVIS	2	FRANK H. HICKS	5
ALBERT RELFE	3	WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALBERT RELFE.
* First peal of Minor.

CLIFFORD, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sunday, April 30, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being five 120's each of Canterbury Pleasure and London Doubles, five 240's of Pitman's, five of Lindoff's and six of Morris' arrangement of Grandsire. Tenor 12¼ cwt.

*HORACE D. WRIGHT...	...*Treble*	FREDERICK J. WATKINS ...	4
JAMES P. HYETT...	2	ALBERT E. JONES	5
†TRACEY H. YOUNG	3	ARTHUR INSEAL	...*Tenor*

Conducted by A. E. JONES.
* First peal away from the tenor. † First peal in three methods.

APSLEY END, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, May 1, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
In 14 methods: (1) Beverley, Berwick, Hexham and Surfleet; (2) Norwich; (3) Lightfoot and Wearmouth; (4) York and Durham; (5) London and Wells; (6) Cambridge and Primrose; (7) Netherseale.
Tenor 14¾ cwt.

WILLIAM FEASEY... ...	...*Treble*	*HAROLD J. HAZELL	4
WILLIAM J. PUDDIFOOT ...	2	WILLIAM J. RANDALL ...	5
AUGUSTIN V. GOOD	3	WALTER AYRE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.
* First 'spliced' peal. There were 67 changes of method. First peal in 14 Surprise methods by all the band and in the county.

WANSTEAD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, May 2, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two extents of Cambridge Surprise, two of Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt.

MRS. JOHN H. CRAMPION	...*Treble*	JOHN C. PETTY	4
ERIC J. COX	2	JAMES CHALK	5
ALBERT G. PETTY	3	JOHN H. CRAMPION ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN H. CRAMPION.
Rung in honour of the wedding of the Rev. Basil T. Guy, curate at Wanstead, to Miss M. L. J. Ritson, only daughter of the Rev. C. J. and Mrs. Ritson, of Beckenham.

MAULDEN, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION
On Wednesday, May 3, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being an extent each of Double Oxford, Norwich Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 10½ cwt.

SAMUEL DANIELS... ...	...*Treble*	RONALD J. SHARP	4
ANDREW C. SINFIELD	2	REGINALD J. HOUGHTON ...	5
C. HENRY HARDING	3	C. EDWARD JEFFRIES ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. E. JEFFRIES.
Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to Mrs. C. Sharpe, wife of the former sexton of this church, and a member of the choir.

BRISTOL.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, May 3, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WERBURGH,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being three 720's of Plain Bob, two of Kent Treble Bob and two of Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.

CLIFFORD H. BRIMBLE	...*Treble*	ROYSTON G. BRYANT	4
WILLIAM S. BRIMBLE... ...	2	LESLIE E. H. FRENCH ...	5
ERIC M. BEDDOE...	3	SIDNEY G. RICHES ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by SIDNEY G. RICHES.
First peal for all except the conductor. Rung to celebrate the birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Payne.

FELKIRK, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)
On Thursday, May 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.
A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Hull, Cambridge, Bourne, Annable's London, Netherseale, Westminster and Allendale. Tenor 10 cwt.

*RONALD H. DOVE ...	...*Treble*	*ROLAND HILL	4
J. THOMAS WHITE	2	*CYRIL COOK	5
HAROLD CHANT	3	DANIEL SMITH	...*Tenor*

Conducted by DANIEL SMITH.
* First peal of Surprise Minor.

NEWTON, PORTHCAWL, GLAM.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION
On Saturday, May 6, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven different 720's. Tenor 8¾ cwt.

*JOHN L. BLOXHAM ...	...*Treble*	BENJAMIN WILLIAMS	4
TREVOR M. RODERICK ...	2	HARRY BOYCE	5
ERNEST STITCH	3	GWYN I. LEWIS	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GWYN I. LEWIS.
* First peal of Treble Bob Minor. First peal of Treble Bob Minor on the bells. Rung half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the memory of the late Bishop of the diocese, the Right Rev. Timothy Rees.

WEDDING BELLS.

On Saturday, May 13th, for the wedding of Mr. Ernest Cousins and Miss Ada S. Kenworthy at Moorside Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Odd Bob): Frank Lawton 1, *Harold Armstead 2, Joe Ogden 3, Isaac Gartside 4, John W. Truelove 5, Fred Pollitt 6, Ivan Kay (conductor) 7, *James Brooks 8. * First quarter-peal.

BRONLLYS, BRECKNOCKSHIRE.
THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 6, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 40 six-scores (10 callings) and one 240 of Morris' arrangement.
Tenor 7 cwt. 8 lb.

*DAVID J. GRIFFITHS ... ...*Treble*	BERNARD H. DAVIES 4
JAMES P. HYETT 2	DAVID H. BENNETT 5
LESLIE EVANS 3	SELWYN L. SPEAKE ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by D. H. BENNETT.

* First peal. Rung in honour of the installation of Canon E. A. T. Roberts, branch chairman, as Dean of Brecon Cathedral; also in honour of their Majesties' visit to the Dominion of Canada and the U.S.A. First peal on the bells.

DONINGTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 6, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one extent each of Court Bob, Double Court, Double Oxford and Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise. Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lb.

*GERALD SHORT ... ...*Treble*	†ALBERT H. FIRTH 4
ALBERT E. FLATTERS ... 2	*ALBERT H. BENNETT ... 5
ARTHUR YOUNG 3	CYRIL WANDER ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. WANDER.

* First peal in seven methods. † First peal in seven methods 'inside.' First peal as conductor.

MADLEY, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 6, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 17¾ cwt.

ERNEST WILLIAMS ... ...*Treble*	†TRACEY H. YOUNG 4
*WILLIAM HOWELLS 2	GEORGE T. COUSINS 5
WILLIAM H. SYMONDS ... 3	ERNEST F. SALMONS ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by E. F. SALMONS.

* First peal of Minor 'inside.' † First peal of Minor.

SAXMUNDHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Saturday, May 6, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one 720 of Cambridge Surprise and two 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 8¾ cwt. in A flat.

*PHILIP C. BICKNELL ... ...*Treble*	JAMES W. JENNINGS 4
FRANK L. FISHER 2	SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER ... 5
GEORGE A. FLEMING... ... 3	CECIL W. PIPE ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER.

* First peal of Minor.

KINGSTON-ON-SOAR, NOTTS.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 6, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WINIFRED,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob, two of Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

SIDNEY ADAMS ... ...*Treble*	JOHN BOOTH 4
MISS IDA THOMPSON 2	R. ALAN HICKTON 5
CHARLES HUTCHINSON ... 3	EDMUND C. CHASTY ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by E. C. CHASTY.

HALSALL, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 6, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CUTHBERT,
A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of London, Chester, Cambridge, Beverley, York, Surfleet and Durham. Tenor 10 cwt.

*WILFRED C. GORE ... ...*Treble*	*JAMES W. MELDRUM... ... 4
LESTER L. GRAY 2	GEORGE R. NEWTON... ... 5
*THOMAS S. HORRIDGE ... 3	*ERNEST F. BENNETT ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE R. NEWTON.

* First peal in seven Surprise Minor methods.

KIRDFORD, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 6, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt.

*MISS B. HALL ... ...*Treble*	P. F. G. DUNCTON 4
G. KILLNER... 2	P. DUNCTON 5
G. SOPP 3	M. SOPP ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by P. DUNCTON.

* First peal. Rung as a compliment to Miss Hall, who was 15 years old on the following day. It was also a birthday compliment to the ringers of 2nd, 4th and 5th.

SPRINGFIELD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 6, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Woodbine, Cambridge Surprise, Plain Bob, and two 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob.

HARRY JOYCE ... ...*Treble*	ALBERT E. NORTH 4
GERALD FROST 2	FRANK C. MAY 5
WILLIAM S. MAY 3	FRANK B. LUFKIN ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN.

WIVETON, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, May 9, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two 720's of Kent Treble Bob, two of Oxford Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt.

L. V. PAGE ... ...*Treble*	W. R. WEST... 4
J. H. A. POMPHERY 2	W. C. MEDLER 5
C. E. COPEMAN 3	ERIC DURRANT ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by ERIC DURRANT.

First peal as conductor.

WESTONING, BEDS.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, May 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of London, Norwich and Cambridge Surprise, College Exercise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 12 cwt. in F sharp.

JOHN CHURCH ... ...*Treble*	RONALD J. SHARP... 4
REGINALD J. HOUGHTON ... 2	C. EDWARD JEFFRIES 5
ANDREW C. SINFIELD... ... 3	LEWIS H. BYWATERS ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by L. H. BYWATERS.

TACKLEY, OXFORDSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thursday, May 11, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Comprising an extent each of St. Clement's Bob, Oxford Bob, Double Oxford Bob, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 17 cwt.

ERNEST PEARSON ... ...*Treble*	HERBERT H. ALEXANDER ... 4
*GEORGE AYRES 2	REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG ... 5
MARIE R. CROSS 3	ALAN R. PINK ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* First peal in seven methods. First peal in more than one method on the bells.

BREDWARDINE, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Morning Star, Canterbury Pleasure, Reverse Canterbury, Clifford Pleasure, Percy's Pleasure, London Doubles and Grandsire. Tenor 7½ cwt.

*JOSEPH T. MORRIS ... ...*Treble*	ALBERT E. JONES 4
*LESLIE EVANS 2	JAMES P. HYETT... 5
G. JAMES R. PRICE 3	*ARTHUR INSEAL ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. P. HYETT.

* First peal in seven methods.

HANDBELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD, AND ST. MARY ABBOT'S GUILD.

On Friday, May 5, 1939, in Two Hours and Ten Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY OF THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY ABBOT, KENSINGTON.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor, size 18.

CLARENCE H. DOBBIE	1-2	ERNEST C. S. TURNER... ...	5-6
WILLIAM E. JUDD	3-4	ARTHUR J. W. HUGHES ...	7-8

Composed by J. PLATT. Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

First handbell peal in the method by all and by St. Mary Abbot's Guild

LICHFIELD, STAFFORDSHIRE.

On Sunday, May 7, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,

AT THE THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, with ten different callings. Tenor size 14 in D.

RICHARD A. C. BRODRIBB ...	1-2	MALCOLM C. C. MELVILLE...	3-4
MICHAEL M. K. WARREN ...	5-6		

Conducted by RICHARD A. C. BRODRIBB.

First attempt for a peal as conductor.

ROTHERHAM, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, May 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT 19, MIDDLE LANE SOUTH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

T. COLIN RYDER	1-2	HAROLD CHANT	5-6
ALBERT NASH	3-4	SIDNEY F. PALMER	7-8

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by A. NASH.

OXHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, May 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT 28, FIELD ROAD,

A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, BRISTOL, CAMBRIDGE & SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

HENRY HODGETTS	1-2	HAROLD G. CASHMORE ...	5-6
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	3-4	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW ...	7-8

Composed by A. J. PITMAN Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

The peal consisted of 2,240 London, 1,728 Bristol, 608 Superlative and 544 Cambridge, with 116 changes of method.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD, AND ST. MARY ABBOT'S GUILD.

On Friday, May 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Nine Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY OF THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY ABBOT, KENSINGTON.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S ODD-BOB. Tenor size 18.

CLARENCE H. DOBBIE	1-2	ERNEST C. S. TURNER... ...	5-6
WILLIAM E. JUDD...	3-4	ARTHUR J. W. HUGHES ...	7-8

Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over).

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

TONBRIDGE DISTRICT AT EAST PECKHAM.

The spring meeting of the Tonbridge District was held at East Peckham on May 6th, and proved a great success.

The bells were put to good use during the afternoon and evening in the standard Minor methods, under the leadership of the Master, Mr. E. J. Ladd, although some difficulty was experienced in getting the members into the belfry, as the urge to enjoy the sunshine and magnificent view was great.

Service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. F. W. Bennitt).

Tea was partaken of on the lawn at the Vicarage by 50 members. It was kindly provided by Mr. R. M. Cook, of Roydon Hall.

The business meeting was presided over by Mr. E. H. Lewis, supported by Mr. T. Saunders, the local secretary, Mr. E. J. Ladd, and the district secretary. Among those present were Mrs. E. H. Lewis, Mr. A. A. Hughes, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Cross and Mr. T. Groombridge.

Five new members were elected.

A report of the last quarterly peal attempt revealed that it had been a failure, someone having blundered, after ringing Stedman Triples at Edenbridge for 2 hours and 25 minutes.

Mr. Ladd intimated that the next attempt would be for Minor, and asked for names from which to pick a band.

The Chairman thanked the Vicar for his kind welcome, for conducting the service and his interesting address.

A vote of thanks to Mr. T. Saunders for all he had done to help make the meeting such a success concluded the meeting.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

DORCHESTER BRANCH TO VISIT MILTON ABBEY.

A very successful meeting of the Dorchester Branch of the Salisbury Guild was held at Maiden Newton. It was the first meeting held there for about seven years and welcomed the return of this tower to the Guild.

The Guild Office was conducted by the Rector (Canon D. F. Slemeck), assisted by the chairman of the branch (the Rev. A. W. Markby). The Rector gave the address, and after the service the members and friends, to the number of about 70, adjourned to the Parish Hall, where a sumptuous tea awaited them.

At the business meeting which followed, the Rev. A. W. Markby presided, supported by the Master of the Guild (the Rev. R. H. Gundry), Canon Slemeck, the Rev. A. F. Godley (Stratton), the Rev. A. S. Bryant (Upwey) and the Rev. R. P. Farrow (East Lulworth), vice-chairman of the branch. Several hon. members were present and the following towers were represented: Bere Regis, Bradford Peverell, Charminster, East Lulworth, Dorchester, Stratton, Sydling, Shroton, Maiden Newton, Upwey, Wool and Wyke Regis. Welcome visitors were Messrs. C. S. Bird (Heston), R. Bird (Isleworth), and L. Rumsay (Teddington, Middlesex).

The hon. secretary reminded members of the annual festival of the Guild, to be held at Caine on Saturday, May 13th. He also reported he had been successful in obtaining permission for a ringers' gathering at Milton Abbey, probably on Saturday, June 17th. It was five years since they visited this glorious spot.

The announcement was received with applause.

The quarterly meeting will now be held in July at Upwey.

The hon. secretary was asked to send a letter of congratulation to Mr. H. H. House, correspondent for Frampton tower, as the meeting coincided with his wedding day.

The Master said he would let them into a secret. A noted ringer, whom they all knew well, was to be married next month, and he hoped they would ring their bells for the occasion.

One new honorary member and one ringing member were elected.

The Chairman gave a hearty welcome to the visitors, and the usual votes of thanks were passed with acclamation, especially that to the Rector, and the local band and their wives who provided such an excellent tea. A welcome was given to the local band on their return to the fold.

The Rev. R. P. Farrow, as a change ringing parson, said a few words of encouragement to the members, and urged them to study the higher methods of change ringing.

The Hon. Secretary said he regretted the money had not been forthcoming for the repair of Wyke Regis bells, which were still silent, and kept them all from an eight-bell practice tower.

The members afterwards returned to the tower, where this fine light peal of six were kept going for practice for the learners until nearly 9 o'clock. Some went on to the neighbouring tower of Cattistock and had a short touch, and listened to the carillon of 35 bells.

SURFLEET RINGER'S DEATH.

It is with much regret that we record the death of Mr. Joseph W. Flowers, of Surfleet, Lincolnshire, who passed away at the Johnson Hospital, Spalding, on April 21st. after an operation.

The funeral took place at Surfleet on the following Tuesday.

Mr. Flowers had been a ringer at St. Laurence's for 41 years, being one of the first to join up in response to an appeal for ringers by the late Rev. H. Law James, when he first went to Surfleet in 1898.

During his life Mr. Flowers served as sexton for a number of years and also filled the office of sidesman.

Although he was not a great peal ringer—he rang about 15 peals—he was regular in his attendance for service ringing until about a year ago, when failing health compelled him to give it up.

It is interesting to note that his grandfather, Mr. Henry Robinson, was a ringer at St. Laurence's Church for 60 years, so that between them they gave over 100 years' service.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Western Division of the Sussex County Association was held at Heene (Worthing) on Saturday, April 22nd, when members were present from Angmering, Arundel, Billingshurst, Brighton Chichester, Heene, Shoreham and Storrington. Service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. E. A. Haviland), who gave the ringers a cordial welcome.

Tea and business meeting followed, presided over by the Rector.

The whole of the outgoing officers were re-elected, and a vote of thanks was proposed to the Rector for the use of the bells, also for providing the excellent tea.

In the evening both Heene and Tarring belfries were visited by the members for further ringing.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL RINGER'S DEATH.

The death occurred on Easter Monday of Mr. Charles William Brett, who was for many years a member of the band at Canterbury Cathedral. He was 53 years of age.

At the Cathedral on April 13th a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters was rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect: J. Walter 1, G. G. Jenkins 2, F. A. Fairbeard 3, P. J. Small 4, E. E. Trendell 5, F. G. Brett (composer and conductor) 6, R. Baldock 7, F. R. Weller 8, B. J. Luck 9, G. Simpson 10.

PEAL NOTES.

METHOD WITHOUT A DODGE.

Double Coslany Court Major, the first peal of which was rung on Saturday at Twickenham, is a method off the beaten track. It is a plain method by designation, but by no means plain to ring. There is not a dodge in the whole of the plain course, and, looking at the diagram, it seems as if the bells hop hither and thither indiscriminately, to settle for a lead in front or at the back to practice Stedman 'whole-turns.' Actually the method is of the Bristol type, and one of the ringers, mathematically trained, not inaptly described it as 'Bristol Surprise Square-rooted.'

But if you would like to know more of the method, turn up the Central Council's 'Collection of Plain Major Methods,' where Double Coslany will be found, as well as a great many other methods well worth ringing.

The peal on Saturday was rung with fourth's place bobs, which brings up repeating work for the bells above. It was, in fact, a Bristol Surprise composition doubled by the use of singles, and when a single is called all the seven working bells are affected. The method can be rung with a sixth's place bob if desired.

The first attempt for a peal in the method was made about 13 years ago at Willesden, but it was lost not very far from the end, and a further attempt at that time was prevented by the general strike (not of ringers) which occurred. Three or four of the band who were in the attempt in 1926 rang on Saturday.

It is not often that Carter's Odd-Bob peal of Stedman Triples is rung, and only on very few occasions has it been rung on handbells, but Mr. Ernest Turner called it from an inside pair on May 12th at St. Mary Abbot's, Kensington.

The first peal on the bells at Ripley, Derbyshire, since they were rehung, was rung on May 10th. The method was Cambridge Surprise.

Mr. W. A. Richardson, a nephew of Mr. Rupert Richardson, Master of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, was married to Miss Edna Mattock, of Pinchbeck, on May 6th, and a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major in honour of the event was rung.

THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE STUDENTS' PROGRESS.

The progress that is being made in ringing by students at Lichfield Theological College is further marked by another handbell peal of Grandsire Doubles, rung on May 7th. It was their second peal, and both were rung at the first attempt.

It was called by Richard Brodribb, who, with Michael Warren, who rang 5-6, began double-handed ringing less than four months ago, and neither has done any ringing on tower bells.

A peal of Superlative at St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, on May 9th, and of Painswick Surprise at Pulham on May 11th, were arranged for Mr. Fred Seager, of Keighley, Yorkshire, who was formerly a ringer at Tibenham, Norfolk.

The quickest peal of Major on the bells at Wem, Shropshire, was rung on May 6th, when 5,088 of Kent Treble Bob Major was brought round in 2 hours 56 minutes. The tenor is 13 cwt.

Mr. Harold Shuck, of Cradley, rang his first peal of Stedman as conductor when he called Thurstans' four-part at Christ Church, Oldbury, Worcestershire, on May 6th. It was his first attempt to call a peal of Stedman and was the quarterly peal of the Northern Branch of the Worcestershire Association.

A peal in seven Surprise Minor methods, the first by three of the band, was rung at Falkirk, Yorkshire, on May 4th. With the exception of Mr. R. H. Dove, all the band are regular service ringers at the church.

A peal of Double Norwich at Fakenham, Norfolk, on April 30th, was rung to celebrate the 25th anniversary of Mr. C. W. Ebberson's first peal, which was rung on the same bell. Mr. R. W. Cooke was also in both peals.

The first peal of Double Norwich on the bells at Holy Rood, Southampton, on May 10th, was only the second peal there since 1892. The bells were rehung not long since, and a peal of Bob Major was rung on them in 1935.

Mr. H. D. Lister rang his 150th peal when he called a peal of Double Norwich Major at Stowmarket on May 6th.

The footnote to the peal on April 27th at Clyst St. George is not correct. A peal in two methods was rung there on May 19th, 1928.

A QUICK PEAL.

At the Bell Foundry, Loughborough, on Thursday, May 4th, members of the Midland Counties Association attempted a peal of Stedman Caters, and it was most unfortunate that it was lost after 30 minutes' ringing. With the short time left at their disposal, eight of the party quickly tapped off a peal of Grandsire Triples, Mr. John E. Clarke and Mr. Ted Whitehead, who were in the attempt for Caters, very kindly consenting to stand out. The time was 2 hours 14 minutes.

After ringing a peal in seven different Doubles methods at Bredwardine, Herefordshire, on May 13th, two of the band, making their way to Hay, had the pleasure of hearing the nightingale singing in the stillness of the night. They stopped to listen to the enchanting notes.

Of course we don't know, but the incident may have explained their very late arrival home. We heard the nightingale a fortnight ago, but it was at two o'clock in the morning, and we were not on our way home from a peal either.

Miss B. Hall, of Kirdford, Sussex, scored her first peal at the first attempt on the day before her fifteenth birthday. She rang the treble to a peal of Grandsire Doubles, which had been arranged as a birthday compliment to her and three others of the band, Messrs. G. Killner, P. F. G. Duncton and P. Duncton. The peal was rung on May 6th.

A peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at the famous Church of St. Matthew, Bethnal Green, on May 13th, as a farewell to the Rector, the Rev. S. L. Sarel, who is resigning after 22 years as incumbent.

The peal of Stedman Caters at High Wycombe on May 10th was arranged for Mr. W. H. Plumridge, who rang his first peal away from the tenor.

A peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at Hurst, Berkshire, on May 13th, to welcome the new Vicar, the Rev. N. J. Raper, who was inducted on the previous Wednesday. He was formerly curate at St. Laurence's, Reading, and among the band who rang the peal, and which was drawn from seven parishes, was Mr. Edgar Humfrey, of St. Laurence's band. The other towers represented were Finchampstead, Sonning, All Saints', Wokingham, Twyford, Hurst and Sandhurst.

After making nearly 30 unsuccessful attempts for a peal of Cambridge, Mr. Frank Measures actually pulled one off when at Nuneaton on May 11th he took part in the peal by members of the Warwickshire Guild. While his previous efforts for a peal of Cambridge have been fruitless, it is a noteworthy fact that he has rung in peals of Superlative, Bristol and London Surprise Major.

A peal of Bob Minor, rung at Iden, Sussex, on April 29th, was arranged for a member of the R.A.F., Mr. Edward Bishop, who was home on leave.

The first peal in 14 Surprise Minor methods in Hertfordshire was rung at Apsley End on May 1st, conducted by Mr. Walter Ayre. It was also the first peal of this kind by all the band.

A peal that had been 'on the boards' since Boxing Day was eventually rung at Clifford, Herefordshire, on April 30th, after having been arranged and cancelled five times through illness and other causes. It was a peal in three methods of Doubles and was arranged to oblige Messrs. H. D. Wright and T. H. Young.

AN INTERESTING COMPOSITION.

Here is an interesting new composition of 5,184 Pudsey Surprise Major by E. A. Barnett. It was rung on May 6th at Cliffe-at-Hoo. It will be noticed that 4, 5 and 6 are in combination in 5-6 at fifteen out of the possible 18 course-ends, and it is believed to be the first rung containing more than nine of these. Incidentally, the composition will not run true to Yorkshire, Superlative, Painswick, etc.

B.	M.	W.	H.	23456
—				35264
—				56342
	—	—	3	43265
	—	—	3	62534
—				23645

Twice repeated

Canon E. A. T. Roberts, branch chairman of the Swansea and Brecon Diocesan Guild, has been installed Dean of Brecon Cathedral, and in his honour the first peal on the newly-augmented ring at Bronllys Church was rung on Saturday. It was also rung to celebrate the departure of their Majesties the King and Queen upon their visit to Canada and the U.S.A.

The peal at Egham, Surrey, recorded last week, was not the first of Oxford Bob Triples rung for the Guildford Diocesan Guild. The first was rung at Ewell for the Coronation in 1937.

Service ringers at St. James', Milnrow, Lancs, rang a peal of Bob Major on May 6th to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the church.

Another local company who scored a peal on May 6th were the ringers at Rothwell, Yorkshire, who rang Double Norwich Major.

A peal in three Minor methods at St. Werburgh's, Bristol, on May 3rd, was the first peal by all except the conductor, Mr. S. G. Riches. It was rung to celebrate the birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Payne. Mr. Payne has been steeplekeeper at St. Werburgh's for eleven years, but was unable to take part in the peal owing to night work.

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LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

SUPPORT FOR CENTRAL COUNCIL'S SURPRISE MAJOR BOOK.

The annual meeting of Lincoln Diocesan Guild was held on April 29th at Lincoln. There was the usual good attendance of ringers at the Cathedral to ring on the peal of twelve in the afternoon and at the tower of St. Peter-at-Gowts, where there are six bells. Unfortunately the bells of St. Botolph's are at present out of order.

The Dean of Lincoln, president of the Guild, conducted a special service in the Morning Chapel of the Cathedral, and afterwards upwards of a hundred ringers and friends gathered for tea in the Co-operative Hall.

At the meeting which followed, the officers were all re-elected, namely, the Very Rev. R. A. Mitchell, Dean of Lincoln, president; Mr. Rupert Richardson, Master; and Mr. F. W. Stokes, hon. secretary and treasurer. The Ven. Archdeacon H. T. Parry, Mr. Rupert Richardson, Mr. Jack Bray and Mr. George Chester were re-elected as representatives on the Central Council for the ensuing three years.

It was unanimously agreed to accept the Central Council's invitation to subscribe towards the cost of printing the 'Collection of Surprise Major Methods,' and at the close of the meeting 18 applications for copies of this book were received by the secretary.

The question of naming the methods was raised by Mr. J. Bray, one of the Central Council representatives, and although no formal resolution was moved, it was evident that the meeting was overwhelmingly in favour of the Central Council giving names to those methods which were at present unnamed, and so avoiding the confusion which followed the publication of the Minor methods.

The Master, referring to his report for 1938, congratulated the Guild on its peal record. Ninety-nine peals had been rung, against 105 in the previous year, but the quality of the performances had, he thought, been more than maintained. He mentioned the loss of the Minor record during the year, 84 methods in one peal having been rung by the Chester Diocesan Guild, whom he congratulated heartily on their achievement. He hoped, however, to see the record come back to Lincolnshire at some future time.

In his turn, the Master received the hearty congratulations of the meeting on his completing his 700th peal during the past year.

After the meeting there was more ringing at the Cathedral and St. Peter-at-Gowts, and, in addition, the fine ring of eight at the new Church of St. Giles were available during the evening. These bells were formerly at the Church of St. Peter-at-Arches, which was demolished a few years ago, and were installed in their new home after lying idle at the bell foundry for some considerable time. Many of the visitors took the opportunity of renewing their acquaintance with them.

AUGHTON'S RESTORED BELLS.

MEMORIAL TO LANCASHIRE RINGER.

On Saturday, May 13th, a joint meeting of the Liverpool and Wigan Branches of the Lancashire Association was held at Christ Church, Aughton, when the newly-tuned and rehung peal of eight was enjoyed by nearly 70 ringers. Owing to the bad 'going' of the bells for a few years meetings at this popular tower have been sadly missed, but this being the first 'turn out' since Messrs. Taylors put them in order, meant that everyone was keen to try them, and no doubt a wonderful job has been done. Immediately prior to the service the Vicar (the Rev. J. P. Hobson), assisted by the Church Army Captain Jones, dedicated a peal board commemorating the work which had been done, and at the service gave an interesting address.

No less than 80 partook of tea in the school, and afterwards Mr. Hutton, whose family had, with Mrs. T. Warlow, defrayed the cost of the repairs to the bells in memory of his father, said that he felt he could not have found a more suitable way of showing his gratitude for what his father had done for him and his family than by seeing that the tower housed a fine peal. He said his father, the late Alderman W. L. Hutton, was both ringer and warden at the church, and while alive had begun to publish a book on ringing. All the manuscripts and blocks were still available should any tower wish to accept them.

Mr. Peter Crook, of Bolton, moved a vote of thanks to all who had in any way assisted in making the meeting a success, and said he was pleased to see that a closer co-operation was being shown between the church and the ringers.

In the evening further ringing was indulged in until nearly nine o'clock, when 'one of the old brigade' had to return home minus his headgear.

The best thanks are due to Mr. Marsh and his ringers for all the arrangements.

WEDDING CELEBRATION.

Owing to the sudden illness of Canon A. Rust, it was decided not to attempt the peal of Bob Major arranged to celebrate the wedding of Mr. W. Bowler, a ringer of Husbourne Crawley, on Saturday, April 15th. At the request of Canon Rust, however, a quarter-peal of Bob Major was rung: H. H. Smith (Husbourne Crawley) 1, H. B. Whitney (Leighton Buzzard) 2, J. Newman (Totternhoe) 3, F. J. Plummer (Leighton Buzzard) 4, J. Church (Henlow) 5, R. Howson (Newport Pagnell) 6, L. H. Bywaters (conductor) (Henlow) 7, E. Belson (Leighton Buzzard) 8. The ringers were afterwards entertained by Mr. and Mrs. W. Bowler.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Ringers who intend visiting Streatham for the London County Association's meeting on Saturday are informed that St. Leonard's bells will not be available, but the bells at Immanuel Church will be open from 2.45 p.m.

The many friends of Mr. C. D. Potter, of Barnsley, will be sorry to hear that he is in the Royal Infirmary at Sheffield, where he is undergoing treatment, and wish him a speedy recovery.

Mr. George Williams, Master of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild, who was 82 on May 7th, wishes to thank the many ringing friends for their kind wishes for his birthday, and especially those who sent him greeting telegrams on the Sunday.

The meeting of the Manchester Branch of the Lancashire Association at Stretford, advertised for to-morrow, has been cancelled, and, instead, there will be a joint meeting with the Bolton Branch at Walkden on May 27th.

LINCOLN GUILD'S BEST PERFORMANCE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I was very much surprised and very sorry to read Mr. H. M. Day's letter in the last issue of 'The Ringing World.' I think it is a great pity that such a letter was ever written. I am certain there is not one member of the band who rang in the ten Surprise Major method peal who would wish it to be proclaimed from the house tops as the best performance of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild.

I am sure that every member of the band rang that peal, not with the spirit of boastfulness, but with the idea of advancing the art of change ringing in Lincolnshire, and I think it very wrong for an officer of the Guild to start drawing comparisons.

I am very pleased to say that there is a very united and friendly spirit throughout the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, and while I am Master I trust that spirit will prevail. Letters like Mr. Day's are liable to cause sparks that might turn into conflagrations and upset the whole unity of a Guild.

R. RICHARDSON,
Master of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild.

RINGING UP AND DOWN.

To the Editor.

Sir,—The letters appearing on this subject have been interesting, but they leave the practical ringer a little hazy. In the west country festivals and certificate competitions, the competing teams must 'rise' and 'fall' the bells in peal, and often the results depend finally on how this part of the work is done. As a rule both 'rise' and 'fall' are done quickly, much more so than with 'method' ringers. Their method is somewhat as follows:—

Having regard to the 'pendulum' lengths of treble and tenor, it is obvious that in any rise the treble must swing off. In six bells, for example, the bells go (a) 123456 (as close as possible); (b) 1.....123456; (c) 12....123456; (d) 123...123456; (e) 1234..123456; (f) 12345.123456; (g) 123456 123456 when all the bells are in 'double tongue.'

Therefore, the treble should be swung off sharply to give place for 'double tonguing,' so that the tenor shall not be reduced to chiming and then if pulled off sharply become 'back-clappered.' Even with a tenor a ton weight, the round ringers seldom back-clapper it. Nothing is so disconcerting to a tenor-man as to find himself *under*, after a few rounds. Hence the tenor should 'tongue' and swing off at the same time, she must be 'ridden,' and the treble-man must swing off his bell so that she may keep clear of the tenor *at* hand when the tenor double tongues. The pace at which the treble goes up must *depend entirely* on the tenor. Usually, at stock-level the treble has to close in a bit for a stroke or two; this will 'ease' up the heavier bells. With a band who can 'handle' the bells, the method indicated above almost invariably produces a satisfactory rise.

In falling, the tenor comes away at once and the pace given will guide the treble. No treble-man can come down well unless the tenor comes down 'serenely.' Each of the other bells must be 'rung' down with quite as much effort as when up and ringing changes. If the tenor fall steadily and regularly, and is 'handled' in smartly at the 'chime,' the 'fall' is generally satisfactory.

Perhaps the most important bells in a 'rise' are the third and fourth, because if they be the least bit 'wide' the ring is divided and the back bells swing off, and, at double-tonguing, the treble 'hits' the tenor. A good 'rise' depends on a snug initial 'pitch' of the bells thus 123456, as close as possible; if this be at all 'sloppy' the old round ringer would say 'it's no rise at all.' With eight bells the fifth and sixth must be in close all the way up. Whatever the pace set by the treble may be, it must be continued all the way up.

F. C. S.

A THREE-FOLD LOSS.

At St. Andrew's Church, Kingsbury, Middlesex, on Friday, May 12th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by H. Collier 1, C. E. Lankester 2, R. G. Spears 3, G. M. Kilby 4, Mrs. J. H. Botham 5, C. Symm 6, E. B. Hartley (conductor) 7, A. Kitchen 8. This was followed by 'the whole pull and stand' and was rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the memory of Reginald Pike. The loss to St. Andrew's Church by his death is three-fold, as he was an altar server, as well as a choirman and bellringer.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—71.

COLIN HARRISON.

One of the most popular ringers in the Midlands, Mr. Colin Harrison, of Loughborough, Leicestershire, who has just been elected to the important office of vice-president of the Midland Counties Association, is a Yorkshireman and comes of ringing stock, being a son of Mr. Robert Harrison, a well-known Sheffield ringer.

Born on January 17th, 1897, Mr. Colin Harrison learned to ring at the Parish Church, now the Cathedral, Sheffield, when only 10 years old. Four years in the Army put a temporary stop to his ringing activities, until demobilisation in 1919, when, on March 15th, he rang his first peal, Bob Major, at St. Mary's Church, Rawmarsh. His first peal as conductor was also Bob Major, when he turned in the tenor of the heavy ring of eight at St. Marie's, Sheffield, on December 29th, 1923. This peal was quickly followed by his conducting Holt's Original and peals of Stedman and Treble Bob. For three years he was secretary of the Sheffield District Society, and he also served on the General Committee of the Yorkshire Association.



MR. COLIN HARRISON.

In 1928 Mr. Harrison left Sheffield to take up an appointment with Messrs. John Taylor and Co., and on the famous ring of bells in the Bell Foundry Campanile 80 of his peals have been rung. He took part in the first peal of Royal by five fathers and five sons, has rung in a peal in which the band included three generations of his family, his father and his son Geoffrey. He has taken part in the quickest peals on tower bells of Minor (Cambridge, in 1 hour 50 minutes), Triples (Stedman, in 2 hours 8 minutes), and Caters (Stedman, in 2 hours 32 minutes), all rung on the bells at the Foundry Campanile.

Out of a total of 162 peals, ranging from Minor to Maximus and including Stedman Caters and Cinques on handbells, he has conducted 52.

For eight years he has been one of the auditors for the Midland Counties Association, and, as mentioned above, has now been elected vice-president of the association.

TEACHING BEGINNERS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Some weeks ago you were kind enough to insert in your paper a letter from myself, concerning the continual use of technical terms in teaching ringing. My opinion is still the same as it was then, i.e., that technical terms are used a great deal more than is necessary or desirable in the teaching of beginners.

Might I be allowed to suggest that a School of Teachers be formed of men who (1) know bellringing well, and (2) could teach it in ordinary English, and (3) could attend towers when applied for and answer questions in ordinary English. There must be many beginners who would like to ask questions and get answers in ordinary language. This would require, not only a knowledge of bellringing, but also (1) an adequate knowledge of the English language, and (2) the power to use it in a fluent and perfectly simple and natural way. This would be of little or no use to experienced ringers, but it would be very valuable for beginners, and it would also provide a response to minds who would like to begin by taking a pleasure in mastering the theory of ringing as well as in acquiring the power to ring one or many methods. It would be a good thing to develop the study of bellringing theory among beginners.

It may be asked, are there not already many good teachers of ringing? My answer would be that very many of them have acquired all the technical terms, including some which are not in the 'Glossary,' and, using them always in the tower, they go on using them, without modification, when teaching beginners. Hence the need of a new aim in teaching.

W. W. LUCAS.

Drayton Parslow Rectory.

P.S.—If there were teaching of ringing theory, there could be certificates for (1) theory and (2) for ringing, and even a ringing centre, somewhere in the country, with a hall and bells, where ringers could spend some days as part of their holiday and learn much about ringing and ringers' fellowship.

LADIES' GUILD.

DISCOURAGING ATTENDANCE AT EASTERN DISTRICT MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Eastern District of the Ladies' Guild was held at Braintree, Essex, on Saturday. The attendance was very poor, there being only five members, including one new member, present. The blame could not be laid on floods or weather conditions this time, as it was a perfect day. It is discouraging to those who attend, and it is very unsporting of members not to turn up when the meeting is in their district. No doubt other engagements or peals are much more important, but they could be put aside for just the three or four occasions in the year when meetings are held.

The members present were Miss Snowden and Miss Miller (Halstead), Miss Bareham (Castle Hedingham), Miss Le Beare (Bocking) and Miss Bowyer (Ipswich). The meeting commenced with ringing at Braintree Church, followed by a service, conducted by the curate, the Rev. — Carpenter, in the absence of the Vicar, who was ill. Tea was served afterwards in the Church Hall to a party of 25, and at the end Miss Snowden proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. Carpenter, to the organist, to Mr. Felton who had kindly made all arrangements for tea, and finally to the men for their much needed support.

At the business meeting which followed it was decided to elect new members first, so that they could vote at the ensuing election of officers. The new members were as follows: Miss Herrington (Lavenham), Mrs. Barber (Reedham), Misses A. M. and J. M. Greenham (Ranworth), Miss A. Miller (Halstead) and Miss W. Elliott (Kelveden).

The officers were re-elected, Miss Hilda Snowden being vice-president and Miss Sylvia Bowyer secretary.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Lowestoft in August, the date to be finally settled by the secretary.

During the evening most of the ringers visited Bocking, where the bells were also available.

The ringing during the day was of a high standard. It ranged from rounds through all the standard methods to London and Bristol Surprise Major.

S. R. E. B.

LONDON DISTRICT MEETING.

In glorious weather, the London District of the Ladies' Guild held a meeting on Saturday at lovely Stoke Poges, famous for its association with the poet Gray.

A merry party went by train from Paddington, and soon after 3 o'clock were welcomed at the church by Mr. and Mrs. A. D. Barker. Ringing in the afternoon, which varied from rounds to Surprise, included a well-struck course of London rung entirely by ladies. With the sun streaming through the belfry door, the birds singing outside and the peaceful quiet of the surrounding country, it was a perfect setting for a spring meeting.

At 5 o'clock friends with cars kindly volunteered to transport the ringers to tea at Stoke Green, where they were the guests of the Vicar of Stoke Poges. Over 30 people sat down to tea, at least half the number being members of the Guild. The Vicar was duly thanked for his kindness.

At the short business meeting members were reminded that the annual district meeting would be held at St. George-the-Martyr's, Southwark, on Saturday, July 1st, and the annual general meeting of the Guild at Ipswich on Saturday, July 8th. The monthly practices, which were being held at St. George's on the first Wednesday in every month, were proving very successful. The next would be on June 7th at 7.30.

Further ringing took place until 8.45, when the visitors took their leave reluctantly, after having spent a most enjoyable time. Thanks are due to Mr. and Mrs. Barker for the excellent arrangements made and the kind welcome extended.

A TENORMAN FOR OVER 50 YEARS.

DEATH OF A PINNER RINGER.

Another old ringer has passed to his rest in the person of Mr. T. Humphreys, of Pinner, Middlesex. He rang the tenor to two peals of Grandsire Triples for the Middlesex Association, when he was nearly 70 years of age, and these were his only peals, but he could be absolutely relied upon to be in his place for all church services and on practice night.

Mr. Humphreys learned to ring at St. John's, Hillingdon, in his younger days, walking from his home at Hayes in the snow for that purpose, as the Hayes ringers of that time would not be troubled with learners, and he had always been grateful to the Hillingdon men for their help. He afterwards moved to Ruislip, where he joined the St. Martin's band and rang the tenor for five years. Another move took him to Pinner, where he had been a member of the band, and had rung the tenor for over 50 years.

He was laid to his rest in the new Pinner Cemetery on Wednesday afternoon, May 10th, within sound of the tenor he loved so much. The Middlesex Association was represented at the funeral by Mr. T. Collins, and during the evening Pinner bells were rung half-muffled to his memory by a mixed band from Pinner and Ruislip, the ringers being R. Colyer 1, C. Lord 2, W. Bunce, sen. 3, C. Kirn 4, T. Collins 5, C. Johnson 6, J. Dolomore 7, H. Stratford and E. Ware, who rang the tenor alternately. The method was Grandsire Doubles, with 4-6-8 covering.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

GROWTH OF PEAL RINGING.

On the Saturday after Easter, the Suffolk Guild held its annual meeting at Ipswich. At the service at St. Mary-le-Tower, the sermon was preached by the Rev. Basil Eden, Rector of Bredfield. Taking as his text, 'A man bearing a pitcher of water,' he showed how necessary to all arrangements, even the most important, were the people who did the small unnoticed things; so ringers ought to feel how necessary they are to God's work.

Tea was at the Co-operative Hall, and those who sat down—including more lady ringers than before—made a company which seems to get larger year by year. The Bishop of Dunwich presided and said how pleased he was to be there and related some of his former attempts at ringing bells.

The statement of accounts showed how prosperous the Guild now is, as the balance has mounted up to £42. For this splendid result, the treasurer, Mr. C. E. Fisher, was suitably thanked.

In moving a vote of thanks to the Ringing Master for his report, the Rev. H. Drake said that it stated that the Guild had last year rung a record number of peals (116). He said the Norwich Diocesan Association had also for the first time since they were separated topped the hundred, and rung 103 peals. He wished to congratulate the ringers of Norfolk and to point out that each of the two societies were now topping a hundred peals a year, a result which, before they were divided, the single association always aimed at. Thus they were ringing twice as many peals, although the total number in the whole country was much the same: that is to say, the two counties were getting twice the share of all peals rung as they did before. He attributed this entirely to the fact that they were now run as diocesan institutions. He recalled the fact that Mr. Arthur Symonds, whose loss they now had to deplore, was really the originator of the Guild. Mr. Symonds wrote to the speaker and asked for his help in what they had just started in West Suffolk as the Suffolk County Association. He replied that he could only help a Diocesan Association. Mr. Symonds (whose son, Stedman, was with them, assenting to what was said) at once replied that they would change the name, and ever since they had been an integral part of the diocesan work.

All then stood in silence in memory of Mr. Arthur Symonds, and of Mr. C. J. Trotman, who had been responsible for the revival of ringing in Woodbridge.

The officers were re-elected. The Rev. H. Drake was added to the vice-presidents and Miss Sylvia Bowyer to the committee. The latter was thanked by the chairman, not only for the record of ringing 51 peals for the Guild last year, but for the excellent speech she made in thanking the meeting for the honour done her.

Mr E. F. Poppy moved that the Report be fuller in future. He said it appeared very skimpy, and left out a great deal that was in other reports. Mr. Poppy's resolution was evidently largely supported by those present, and was seconded by the Rev. H. Drake.

It was opposed by Mr. H. Herbert, the secretary, who said it was absolutely necessary to economise in this way. He pointed out that a neighbouring Guild published an even smaller Report.

Mr. C. J. Sedgley took the responsibility for the changes which had been made, and said that the difficulty was of verification, and that it was better to leave out information than to print what was out of date.

At this stage the Bishop of Dunwich proposed, and it was carried, that this matter be considered by the committee. He was quite sure that the committee would take into consideration all that had been said that day.

The meeting concluded with the usual votes of thanks.

Many different methods were rung in the towers of Ipswich. It was good to hear blended together the twelve at St. Mary-le-Tower, and the neighbouring ornamental tower of St. Lawrence, where there is the only ringable peal of five which has survived the Reformation, and goes to-day as well and sounds as beautifully as ever.

NORTH STAFFS ASSOCIATION.

LEEK PEAL COMMEMORATED.

A meeting of the North Staffordshire Association was held at Leek on May 6th. Forty-five members and friends were present from 18 towers, namely, Burton-on-Trent, Burslem, Brown Edge, Cheadle, Crewe, Cheddleton, Derby, Draycott, Hanley, Kingsley, Leek, Longton, Lawton, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Stoke-on-Trent, Sutton, Tunstall and Wistaston.

During the afternoon the Rev. K. W. Milward (Vicar of Leek) unveiled a peal board to commemorate a peal of Stedman Caters rung by members of Leek tower. He congratulated his ringers upon ringing the peal.

After tea the Vicar welcomed the association to Leek, and a vote of thanks was passed to him as well as to the local ringers for the hearty welcome they had given the visitors.

The ladies who had so kindly served tea were thanked by Mr. H. Carnwell.

Mr. E. A. Ridgway, leader of Leek ringers, said he was pleased to see many old friends, and he hoped that the young members would carry on with the good work, so that they could take the places of the older members. He also asked if someone could visit Horton tower, and try to induce them to become members of the association.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

INFLUX OF NEW MEMBERS.

In glorious spring weather, the South Norfolk Branch held a most successful meeting for the first time at Bunwell on May 6th. Ringers were present from 24 different parishes, viz., Attleborough, Bunwell, Bergh Apton, Caston, Carleton Rode, Diss, Forncett St. Peter, Garboldisham, Loddon, Mulbarton, Newmarket, Norton Subcourse, Norwich, Palgrave, Pulham Market, Reedham, Sawston (Cambridgeshire), Shelfanger, Saxlingham, Tasburgh, Winfarthing, Wymondham, Walton and Yaxley.

The Rev. I. Graham Jones (Rector) conducted the association's special service in St. Michael's Church and gave an address, prefacing it by giving the members a very hearty welcome to Bunwell. The Rev. A. St. J. Heard (Bergh Apton) read the lesson.

Fifty-three members and friends sat down to tea in the Schoolroom. Mr. W. L. Duffield presided at the business meeting, supported by the Rev. I. Graham Jones, the Rev. A. St. J. Heard (honorary member), Mr. Nolan Golden (general secretary), Mr. A. G. Harrison, Diss (branch secretary), Messrs. E. G. Bennett, E. Whiting, C. E. G. Banham and R. H. Drane (members of the committee) and Mr. H. W. Smith (churchwarden).

The Rev. I. Graham Jones was elected an honorary member, and twelve new ringing members were elected, Messrs. G. P. Chapman, J. G. Chapman, C. F. W. Phillipps, E. G. Arnold, T. C. Browne and R. Burt, all of Bunwell; L. G. Tooke, A. Long, C. Herbert, W. E. Blake, sen., W. E. Blake, jun., of Forncett St. Peter, and B. L. Lammas, of Tasburgh.

At the close of the meeting Mr. Golden proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. Jones for taking the service and his address, and use of the bells, also to the organist, and to the ladies who arranged the tea. He congratulated the branch on the large number of new members elected during the meeting.

NORTH NORFOLK BRANCH.

A meeting of the North Norfolk Branch was held at Northrepps for the first time on Saturday, April 29th. The six bells of the Parish Church were rung during the afternoon and evening to various methods from Plain Bob to Cambridge and London Surprise. The service was conducted by the Rev. E. W. Blyth (Rector and branch chairman). Twenty-eight members sat down to tea in the Church Room and there were two very welcome visitors to tea from Northrepps Hall, Mr. and Mrs. Christopher Gurney.

Supporting the chairman were Messrs. C. E. Borrett, A. L. Coleman (vice-presidents), the Rev. A. St. J. Heard (Rector of Bergh Apton), Mr. F. Nolan Golden (general secretary), Mr. H. Tooke (branch secretary), Messrs. W. Clover, G. Mayer and W. R. West (members of the committee), and ringers from Aylsham, Cromer, Bergh Apton, Norwich, Northrepps, Norton Subcourse, Mulbarton, Halvergate, Wiveton, Wymondham and London.

At the business meeting which followed, the branch secretary (Mr. H. Tooke), on behalf of the members, welcomed the Rev. E. W. Blyth to the chairmanship of the branch.

The Chairman, acknowledging the welcome, said he hoped in the near future to have an accomplished band of ringers at his own church.

Two new members, Messrs. J. Miller and F. W. Wasey, were elected ringing members.

Mr. F. Nolan Golden, on behalf of the members, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for allowing the members to visit Northrepps, for the use of the bells, for conducting the service and also for entertaining the ringers to tea. He also thanked the organist and blower and the ladies for the great assistance they had rendered.

The Chairman, in replying, referred to the help he had received from so many people in the parish. When they knew the ringers were coming to Northrepps, he said, they all wanted to do something.

The next meeting of the branch will take place at Hethersett on Saturday, June 3rd.

A TEN-PART PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I have read with great interest Mr. Lindoff's letter in 'The Ringing World' about the ten-part peal of Grandsire Triples published in your issue of April 21st, but I wish to point out that the peal, as published, cannot be connected by ordinary singles halfway and at the end.

To show that this is so, I give the first few lead ends of Part 2 and Part 6 on the assumption that an ordinary single is called half-way.

	Part 2		Part 6
	246375		324567
S	352746	S	573624
—	673452		etc.
—	246573		
S	532746		
	573624		
—	465273		

It will be seen that the plain lead end following the second single in Part 2 is the same as the first lead end of Part 6, so that the peal would be false. I would be grateful if Mr. Lindoff could tell me *how* he connected the two halves by ordinary singles.

Repton. D. F. FERGUSON.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

LEWISHAM DISTRICT AFFAIRS.

The quarterly meeting of the Lewisham District was held at St. Alphege, Greenwich, and 60 members attended from Beckenham, Bromley, Bromley Common, Chislehurst, Crayford, Dartford, Deptford (St. John's), Eltham, Erith, Lee, Penge and Woolwich, together with some half-dozen visitors from London. The bells were made good use of during the afternoon and evening. A ring of ten bells, not too easy 'going' and equipped with new ropes, afforded an opportunity for most of those present to enlarge their experience—some to 'spot' the extra ropes and some to manipulate more intractable materials than they are used to in their home towers. Many took advantage of the chance offered, and under the guidance of Mr. T. Groombridge, sen. (Ringing Master), put up by no means discreditable performances, although not every touch came round cleanly.

The association service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. T. H. Thomas), with Mr. J. Meux at the organ. The Vicar gave a short inspiriting address and welcomed the association to Greenwich. At the conclusion of the service Mr. Meux gave an appreciative audience a short recital, demonstrating the resource and scope of his particularly fine organ.

Tea was served in the Parish Hall, the Vicar and churchwardens being generous hosts and their ladyfolk kindly dispensing the good things provided.

At the business meeting, Mr. F. H. Sewell (Vicar's warden), who presided, apologised for the Vicar's unavoidable absence and extended a warm welcome from the churchwardens and congregation of St. Alphege's.

The district secretary read replies received to the questionnaire sent to the bands in the district as instructed by the last meeting, and gave a brief statistical survey of meetings held during the last 15 years. After consideration of the points raised in the letters and the relevant details as extracted from the minute book, it was decided that the district secretary should write further to those bands whose previous replies were inconclusive or open to criticism.

One honorary member and five practising members were elected, involving the welcome reaffiliation of St. John's, Sidcup, with the association. The elections of two members previous to peals were ratified.

Mr. E. Barnett read a report of proceedings of the committee meeting held at Erith on Easter Monday. This was adopted with a vote of thanks to Messrs. Barnett and Cullum for preparing it.

St. John's, Sidcup, was suggested as the place of next meeting, to be held on Saturday, July 29th.—The necessary arrangements have now been made and members are asked to book the date!

It was decided to make application to the Benevolent Fund Committee for further assistance for the widow of a late member.

Mr. G. H. Cross moved a vote of thanks to Mr. T. Groombridge, sen., for his many years' faithful service as Central Council representative and offered a welcome to his successor in this district, Mr. F. J. Cullum. This was seconded by Mr. E. Barnett and carried with applause.—Mr. Groombridge responded.

Mr. H. Hoskins moved a cordial vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, conducting the service and his address, to the Vicar and Messrs. F. H. Sewell, E. W. Lowe and H. C. Backway (churchwardens) for their generous hospitality, to the ladies for their gracious help, and to Mr. J. Meux for his services at the organ.—This was carried with acclamation.

In his reply, the Chairman stated that he had had a few minutes' chat with the Vicar during the afternoon, and had learned that St. Alphege's bells were in need of expert attention. He had made inquiries among the ringers present as to what was necessary to be done to put them in first-class order, and promised that the Vicar and his fellow-wardens would do all in their power to put a restoration scheme into early effect—he hoped in time for the Kent County Association's approval on the occasion of their next visit to Greenwich (applause).

At the instance of the district secretary, a vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. H. Hoskins for his efforts in arranging such a successful meeting.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

The half-yearly meeting of the Lancashire Association was held at Morecambe on Saturday week. The bells were kept going from 2.30 to 9 p.m. with an interval for a contest for male voices at the musical festival close by. Members and friends turned up from Barrow, Ulverston, Preston, Blackpool, Manchester, Bolton, Lancaster, Standish and the local company, and there was a welcome visitor from Bradford. Congratulations were offered to the tower secretary on the birth of a daughter.

The president voiced the members' thanks to the Rector (the Rev. Canon Nock) for the use of the bells, to Mr. E. Swain for his share in the preparation for the comfort of all. He also mentioned that the Canon Elsee Memorial will probably be dedicated on June 10th. The Rector came into the tower several times during the ringing and kindly arranged the short service in the vestry so as not to stop the ringing again.

Methods rung during the evening were Kent Major and Minor, Stedman Triples, Grandsire Triples and Bob Major, most of the touches coming round.

The new bells in the tower were a great attraction.

RINGING MASTERS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—In your leading article of May 12th, dealing with ringing meetings, you say, 'in this and other respects there are numerous occasions when more practical use might be made of meetings,' and comment, 'but it can only be done by a Ringing Master'! I entirely disagree with this latter remark. This is a position which I consider is unnecessary in any association. Ringing can quite well do without outside dictators, and I am perfectly in sympathy with anyone who will refuse to tolerate their presence in their belfry. What the world in general is suffering from of recent years is over-officialdom. In politics, religion and almost everything one can name a type of people who love the limelight and are trying to dictate to the rest of the world, hence the reason for all the chaos and unrest we find in practically every corner of the earth.

In ringing it must be borne in mind that meetings are held *only* by permission of the incumbent and church authorities. The associations are but outside bodies, and no member of any association, whether he be appointed a Master or what not, should assume that he has the right to walk into a belfry and take the place of the captain of that tower. I know here I shall be told, 'but the towers are in union with the association.' The towers are *not* in union with any association, and no such body has the right to think they control all the towers just because two or three ringers there happen to be members of the association. The jurisdiction over all church furnishings, ringers should remember, is vested in the Vicar, wardens and Church Council, and they only.

I know I shall be asked the question, 'What about the tower where there isn't a band, or where the ringers are only able to do one or two methods?' In all such cases it is the duty of the captain to officiate and to see that fairness all round is ensured, and, if not, then the one responsible for arranging the meeting can suggest certain things. In the case of the captain not turning out, and not appointing a deputy, *then* it is the job of the secretary or one of the committee to superintend the ringing, but not before.

P. AMOS.

Northampton.

A MISLEADING TWIST.

Mr. Amos has omitted, in his quotation from our article, an essential part of the sentence, and thus gives it a twist which is misleading. What we said was: There are numerous occasions when more practical use might be made of meetings, but it can only be done by a Ringing Master 'if the ringers will give him sufficient authority to "command" in the tower.' That does not mean that only a Ringing Master can make more practical use of meetings, but that the Ringing Master, where there is one, can do it only when he has the support of the ringers.

We know that, to Mr. Amos, anything like a Ringing Master is anathema and that the place of ringing associations is outside and not inside the towers, but, when an association has been given by the incumbent the right to use the bells of a church, the association is responsible, through its officers, for the ringing that takes place, and the local captain, whether or not he is a member of the association, is not entitled to assume command on such occasions. Authority has placed the tower at the disposal of the association concerned, and it rests with the association as to who shall direct the ringing.—EDITOR, 'Ringing World.'

RINGERS RAID SURREY VILLAGE.

PUTTENHAM'S CATERING PROBLEM.

Despite heavy rain showers and thunder clouds, 55 members and visitors attended the Guildford Guild meeting at the picturesque Surrey village of Puttenham on Saturday week. The light peal of six were raised at 3 p.m., and the District Ringing Master (Mr. C. E. Smith) once again had a busy time seeing that everyone was catered for. Mr. J. R. Mackman kindly brought along his handbells and did much towards relieving the congestion in the belfry.

With the welcome addition of specially chosen hymns, the Guild's form of service was conducted by the Rector of Puttenham (the Rev. H. Chapman). In the absence of an organist, Mr. R. F. Kingham, a visitor from Basingstoke, did his best on the harmonium, and, it is understood, scored his 'first in the method.'

The Rector, in his address, confessed that he knew nothing of bell-ringing, but added that his ignorance did not prevent his being fond of hearing the bells. He believed that they should be rung on as many occasions as possible. He emphasised that the services rendered by ringers were appreciated, even though that appreciation was not often expressed.

Tea proved to be somewhat of a problem, for only 30 notifications had been received. At the business meeting which followed, the difficulties of catering for an unexpectedly large number, especially in a country village, were stressed.

The Rector, who presided at the meeting, agreed, and jokingly remarked that they in Puttenham would probably have nothing left to eat the next day!

Messrs. C. Longhurst and E. Rapley, of West Grinstead, were elected compounding members.

The Guild general secretary (Mr. G. L. Grover) expressed the thanks of the meeting to the Rector and to all who had helped in any way.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE MEETING AT LEEDS

Minutes of the third session of the sixteenth Council (46th annual meeting), held in the Civil Court of the Leeds Town Hall on Whitsun Tuesday, June 7th, 1938.

The Council was welcomed to Leeds by the Deputy Mayor (Councillor Mrs. L. Hammond) on behalf of her father, the Lord Mayor. Canon C. C. Marshall conveyed a very warm welcome on behalf of the Vicar of Leeds, together with an apology for his absence.

The President responded with the Council's thanks for the welcome extended.

The President took the chair and the meeting opened with prayer.

Present:—

Ancient Society of College Youths—Mr. A. B. Peck.
Barnsley and District Guild—Mr. C. D. Potter.
Bath and Wells Diocesan Association—Mr. J. T. Dyke, Mr. J. Hunt.
Bedfordshire Association—Mr. A. King, Mr. A. E. Sharman.
Chester Diocesan Guild—Mr. A. Crawley, Mr. J. W. Milner, Mr. H. Parker.
Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association—Mr. J. C. Pollard.
Devon Guild—Mr. T. Laver.
Dudley and District Guild—Mr. F. Colclough.
Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association—Mr. W. H. Barber, Mr. W. J. Davidson.
East Derbyshire and Notts Association—Mr. T. Clarke.
Ely Diocesan Association—Mr. C. W. Cook, Mr. F. Warrington, Miss K. Willers.
Essex Association—Mr. G. R. Pye.
Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association—Mr. J. Austin, Mr. E. Guise, Mr. W. B. Kynaston.
Guildford Diocesan Guild—Mr. A. Harman, Mr. A. C. Hazelden, Mr. A. H. Pulling.
Hereford Diocesan Guild—Mr. J. P. Hyett.
Hertford County Association—Mr. W. Ayre.
Irish Association—Mr. G. Lindoff.
Kent County Association—Mr. T. Groombridge, Mr. F. M. Mitchell, Mr. T. E. Sone.
Ladies' Guild—Mrs. E. K. Fletcher, Mrs. R. Richardson, Miss E. Steel.
Lancashire Association—Mr. G. R. Newton, Mr. W. H. Shuker, Mr. L. J. Williams, Mr. T. B. Worsley.
Lincoln Diocesan Guild—Mr. J. Bray, Mr. R. Richardson.
Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association—Mr. J. W. Jones.
London County Association—Mr. F. E. Dawe.
Middlesex County Association—Mr. C. T. Coles, Mr. G. W. Fletcher, Mr F. W. Goodfellow, Mr. W. G. Wilson.
Midland Counties Association—Mr. A. J. Harris, Mr. W. H. J. Hooton, Mr. J. H. Swinfield, Mr. E. Denison Taylor.
Norwich Diocesan Association—Mr. A. L. Coleman.
North Staffordshire Association—Mr. A. Thompson.
Oxford Diocesan Guild—Mr. A. D. Barker, the Rev. Canon G. F. Coleridge, Mr. A. E. Lock, Mr. R. A. Post.
Oxford Society—Mr. W. G. Collett.
Oxford University Society—The Rev. C. E. Wigg.
Peterborough Diocesan Guild—The Rev. E. S. Powell.
Romney Marsh and District Guild—Mr. P. Page.
St. Martin's Guild—Mr. A. Paddon Smith.
Salisbury Diocesan Guild—The Rev. F. Ll. Edwards, Mr. S. H. Hillier, Mr. C. H. Jennings, Mr. F. W. Romaine.
Society of Royal Cumberland Youths—Mr. J. Parker.
Stafford Archdeaconry Society—Mr. B. Horton, Mr. H. Knight.
Suffolk Guild.—The Rev. H. Drake, Mr. C. Mee.
Surrey Association—Mr. W. Claydon, Mr. D. Cooper, Mr. C. H. Kippin.
Sussex County Association—Mr. F. H. Dallaway.
Warwickshire Guild—Mr. D. H. Argyle, Mr. F. W. Perrens.
Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild—Mr. G. Pullinger, Mr. F. W. Rogers, Mr. G. Williams.
Yorkshire Association—Mr. J. Hardcastle, Mr. P. J. Johnson, the Rev Canon C. C. Marshall, Mr. S. F. Palmer.
Honorary members—Mr. W. A. Cave, Mr. C. Dean, Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, Mr. C. F. Johnston, Mr. E. H. Lewis, Mr. J. A. Trollope, Mr. E. C. S. Turner, Mr. S. H. Wood, Mr. E. Alex. Young.

REPORT AS TO MEMBERSHIP.

The hon. secretary reported that the Council was constituted as follows:—

Associations affiliated	51
Total members to which entitled ...	140
Total members elected	134
Honorary members	15

the alterations from the previous year being:—

(a) The East Grinstead and District Guild had become affiliated.

(b) The Ladies' Guild had increased their representation by one member.

(c) Three societies had lost representatives by death and one by resignation, but only three of these had filled the vacancies.

Subscriptions reported unpaid were North Wales Association and Truro Diocesan Guild.

PRESENTATION OF NEW MEMBERS TO THE PRESIDENT.

In accordance with Rule 11, the following were presented: Mr. C. D. Potter (Barnsley and District), Mr. J. C. Pollard (Cleveland and North Yorkshire), Mr. J. P. Hyett (Hereford), Miss E. Steel (Ladies), Mr. F. W. Goodfellow (Middlesex), Mr. F. H. Dallaway (Sussex)

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Apologies for absence were reported from the following: Mr. E. M. Atkins (Cambridge University), the Rev. E. V. Cox (Devon Guild), Mr. J. W. Parker (Durham and Newcastle), Messrs. E. J. Butler, E. P. Duffield and L. W. Wiffen (Essex Association), Mr. G. L. Grover (Guildford Diocesan Guild), Messrs. A. Lawrence and C. W. Woolley (Hertford County), Mr. J. H. Cheeseman (Kent County), the Ven. Archdeacon Parry and Mr. G. Chester (Lincoln Diocesan Guild), Mr. C. H. Perry (Llandaff and Monmouth), Mr. T. H. Taffender (London County), Messrs. C. E. Borrett and F. Nolan Golden (Norwich Diocesan), Mr. K. Thacker (North Staffs), Messrs. R. G. Black and T. Tebbutt (Peterborough Diocesan), Mr. W. Saunders (Shropshire Association), Messrs. G. H. Cross, G. Gilbert and G. W. Steere (Society of Royal Cumberland Youths), Messrs. C. J. Sedgeley and S. H. Symonds (Suffolk Guild), Messrs. S. E. Armstrong and H. R. Butcher (Sussex County), Mr. G. I. Lewis (Swansea and Brecon), Mr. H. Barton (Winchester and Portsmouth Guild), Mr. J. D. Johnson (Worcester and Districts), Major J. H. B. Hesse, Mr. A. A. Hughes, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, Mr. C. W. Roberts and Mr. A. Walker (honorary members).

ELECTION OF HONORARY MEMBERS.

It was proposed by Mr. A. Paddon Smith, seconded by Mr. J. Hunt and carried, that Mr. W. A. Cave and Mr. A. Walker, the retiring members, be re-elected, and on the motion of Mr. P. J. Johnson, seconded by Mr. T. Groombridge, Mr. Gilbert E. Debenham was elected.

Alderman J. S. Pritchett's resignation was not accepted.

LOSS OF MEMBERS THROUGH DEATH.

The deaths of the following members were reported:—

The Rev. H. S. T. Richardson (1908-1937), Mr. W. H. Hollier (1924-1937), Mr. F. Smith (1915-1935), Mr. W. T. Cockerill (1893-1937), Mr. F. W. Thornton (1891-93, 1897-1902).

Mention was made of the deaths of Mrs. J. S. Goldsmith and Mr. J. J. Parker.

A silent tribute was paid by all members standing.

MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

It was proposed by Mr. T. Clarke, seconded by Mr. P. J. Johnson and carried, that the minutes as published in 'The Ringing World' on April 15th and 22nd, 1938, pages 242, 243 and 258, and also circulated to all members, be taken as read and approved

On the motion of Mr. G. W. Fletcher, seconded by Mr. W. Ayre, it was resolved to delete from the Council's records a peal of Minor referred to in the 1937 report of the Peal Analysis and Records Committee, rung for the Yorkshire Association at Felkirk on July 25th, 1936, as it did not conform to the decisions of the Council.

The hon. secretary reported that Mr. C. W. Woolley had commenced the preparation of a book on double-handed handbell ringing.

REPORTS.

The following reports, etc., were circulated to all members and associations, and have been published in full, or in abbreviated form in 'The Ringing World.' They are preserved in the Council's records and are available for inspection.

REPORT OF THE HON. LIBRARIAN.

('The Ringing World,' June 17th, 1938, page 395.)

The report was presented by the hon. librarian showing sales of 503 publications and a surplus of £3 4s.

The Standing Committee recommended that under the powers already given the prices of the Peal Collection Nos. 1, 2 and 3 be reduced to 9d. each.

On the motion of Mr. W. H. J. Hooton, seconded by Mr. W. A. Cave, the report and recommendation were adopted.

It was agreed, on the proposal of Mr. A. Paddon Smith, seconded by the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards, to revise the booklet 'Model Rules for a Local Company,' and the following committee were appointed to undertake the revision: The Rev. F. Ll. Edwards, Messrs. W. H. J. Hooton and S. H. Wood, and on the motion of Mr. R. Richardson, seconded by Mr. W. A. Cave, the Towers and Belfries Committee were asked to revise 'Preservation of Bells.'

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS.

('The Ringing World,' June 17th, 1938, page 395.)

The hon. secretary presented the accounts showing cash balance of £130 16s. 7d., and investments of a market value of £142 1s.

It was agreed to accept the signature of one of the auditors, Mr. C. T. Coles, owing to the unavoidable absence of Mr. A. A. Hughes, and on the proposal of Mr. C. T. Coles, seconded by Mr. E. A. Young, the accounts were adopted.

REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE CARTER RINGING MACHINE.

('The Ringing World,' June 17th, 1938, page 395.)

Mr E. A. Young presented the trustees' report. On the motion of Mr. E. A. Young, seconded by Mr. F. W. Rogers, the report was adopted, and it was agreed that the demonstration fees of £1 1s. and petty expenses of 1s. be paid, and that Mr. Sharman be given permission to remove part of the machine from the Museum for repairs.

REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE.

('The Ringing World,' June 17th, 1938, page 395.)

On the President's motion, the formal report presented by the hon. secretary was adopted.

REPORT OF THE PEALS COLLECTION COMMITTEE.

('The Ringing World,' June 24th, 1938, page 410.)

On the proposal of Mr. G. Lindoff, seconded by Mr. G. R. Newton, the committee's report was adopted.

REPORT OF THE METHODS COMMITTEE.

('The Ringing World,' June 24th, 1938, pages 410 and 411.)

On the motion of Mr. J. A. Trollope, seconded by Mr. S. H. Wood, the report was adopted.

It was proposed by Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, seconded by Mr. G. R. Newton, and carried, 'that with a view to publishing the book on Surprise Major methods at an early date, this Council recommends affiliated societies be invited to take up one half of the issue.'

Considerable discussion took place as to whether names should be given to those methods which had not been rung, as to substituting diagrams for letter press, and as to separating letter press from the methods, but no decisions were taken, as it was agreed that the book could not be printed before the next meeting.

REPORT OF THE PEAL ANALYSIS AND RECORDS COMMITTEE.

('The Ringing World,' May 6th, 1938, pages 297-299.)

Attention was drawn to a slight error in the committee's report, which showed that the Lancashire Association had rung 101 peals; this should read Lincoln Diocesan Guild. Subject to this alteration, the report was adopted on the proposal of Mrs. E. K. Fletcher, seconded by Mr. G. R. Pye.

On the motion of Mr. A. Paddon Smith, seconded by Mr. S. F. Palmer, it was decided to prepare a record of the peals rung for the Coronation and endeavour to obtain H.M. the King's acceptance of this record.

REPORT OF THE TOWER AND BELFRIES COMMITTEE.

('The Ringing World,' July 1st, 1938, page 426.)

The committee's report was presented by the president, who referred in detail to certain towers dealt with by the committee during the year. The president asked for further information regarding representation on Diocesan Advisory Committees.

The adoption of the report was moved by Mr. Young, who also proposed that the Council should recommend the fixing of a hand rope or handrail on belfry stairs. The report and recommendation were seconded by Mr. F. E. Dawe and adopted, it being agreed that the recommendation be included in the revised handbook on the preservation of bells.

REPORT OF THE LITERATURE, PRESS AND BROADCASTING COMMITTEE.

('The Ringing World,' July 1st, 1938, pages 426, 427, 444.)

The report was adopted on the motion of the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards, seconded by Mr. A. Paddon Smith.

Arising out of the report, it was agreed to make a collection for the benefit of Mr. Charles Slingsby, and to forward this together with a letter of congratulation on the occasion of his 101st birthday. The sum of £2 was raised.

Considerable discussion took place on a proposal brought forward by the Rev. H. Drake, seconded by Mr. C. Mee, deprecating the use of certain mechanical devices representing ringing, a practice which has been adopted in several places during the year.

On the proposal of Canon C. C. Marshall, seconded by Mr. J. Hunt, it was agreed to refer the matter to the Standing Committee with power to act.

REPORT OF THE PEAL BOARDS COMMITTEE.

('The Ringing World,' July 8th, pages 444-5.)

The report was adopted on the proposal of Mr. W. G. Wilson, seconded by the Rev. C. E. Wigg. Members were invited to assist with the work and the need for accurate particulars was stressed. Members were also reminded, when sending particulars, to include a report on the condition of the actual peal board.

REPORT OF THE BIOGRAPHIES COMMITTEE.

('The Ringing World,' July 8th, page 445.)

On the motion of Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, seconded by Mr. W. A. Cave, the report was adopted. Members were reminded that the committee were still awaiting the return of the forms that had been circulated both as regards present and past members.

REPORT AS TO CIRCULATION OF 'THE RINGING WORLD.'

('The Ringing World,' July 8th, 1938, pages 445 and 446.)

The report was adopted on the proposal of Mr. E. H. Lewis, seconded by Mr. P. J. Johnson, and on the motion of Mr. S. H. Wood, seconded by Mr. P. J. Johnson, it was agreed that a suitable letter be addressed to each Archdeacon throughout the country with the object of enlisting the influence of the clergy with their ringers.

REPORT AS TO THE MUFFLING OF BELLS.

('The Ringing World,' July 15th, page 462.)

The report was adopted on the proposal of the president, seconded by Canon C. C. Marshall, and it was agreed that after further consideration by the officers, the final report should be submitted to the Standing Committee for their approval, and then submitted to the Church authorities.

THANKS TO ALL COMMITTEES.

On the President's motion, thanks were accorded to all members of committees for their valued services.

PEALS OF DOUBLES.

It was proposed by Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, seconded by Mr. W. G. Wilson, and carried that

'This Council, desiring that peals of Doubles and Minor shall be put upon a similar basis, resolves that peals of Doubles as already defined may be lengthened at the end by one true touch of less than 120 changes.'

PLACE OF NEXT MEETING.

A formal announcement was made that the next meeting would be held in London and attention was called to the Council's rules governing representation and nomination of officers and auditors.

GRANT TO THE CANON ELSEE MEMORIAL.

It was reported that the scheme for the alteration of the tower of St. George's, Bolton, had been abandoned and that it was now proposed to erect a stained glass window. On the motion of Mr. T. Groombridge, seconded by Mr. T. Clarke, it was agreed that the sum of £3 3s voted last year be paid towards the new scheme.

AS TO A BOOK ON CONDUCTING.

The President agreed that a book on the subject would be considered on the suggestion of Mr. J. Hunt.

AS TO THE LATE MR. J. J. PARKER'S PAPERS.

On Mr. A. D. Barker's inquiry, the Council intimated that they would be very pleased to accept any books and papers, as they would form a very valuable addition to the library.

AS TO THE RESOLUTION PASSED TO THE COUNCIL BY THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

The hon. secretary reported the receipt of a resolution from this association suggesting that the Council's agenda be published and delivered one month at least before the meeting.

It was decided to take no action, as for the last six years the agenda had been published six or seven weeks before the meeting.

VOTES OF THANKS.

On the President's motion, the thanks of the Council were accorded to the Mayor and Corporation of Leeds for the use of the Civil Court, the Deputy Lord Mayor, Councillor Mrs. L. Hammond, and the Vicar of Leeds, Canon W. T. Elliott, for welcome, the Yorkshire Association for their wonderful hospitality, Canon C. C. Marshall, Mr. P. J. Johnson, Mr. Sherwood and committee for excellent arrangements, Dr. Moody (organist of Ripon Cathedral) for conducting members round Fountains Abbey, Mr. G. F. Woodhouse for demonstrating his ringing machine, and to all church authorities and towerkeepers for the use of bells.

The meeting terminated at about 5.15 with a vote of thanks to the president, hon. librarian, hon. secretary and Mrs. E. K. Fletcher, proposed by Canon G. F. Coleridge.

After the meeting the Council were the guests of the Yorkshire Association at tea, with Canon C. C. Marshall in the chair.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

WITNEY AND WOODSTOCK BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the Witney and Woodstock Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild was held at Tackley on a recent Saturday. Service was held in the Parish Church, conducted by the Rector (the Rev. E. J. Lee), while the Rev. H. Pickles, Rector of Woodstock and Rural Dean, read the lesson and gave a most interesting address.

After tea in the Village Hall, to which 33 members sat down, the business meeting was presided over by the Rev. H. Pickles, supported by the Rev. E. J. Lee, Rector of Tackley, and the branch secretary (Mr. W. Evetts). After introducing Mr. Pickles to the members of the Witney Deanery, the secretary notified those present of the great loss the branch had suffered in the very sudden death of Mr. N. Spindlow, of Ducklington. He spoke eulogistically of his capabilities. Before proceeding to the business members stood in silence.

A short report was read by the secretary on the work of the branch during the past year. The accounts showed the favourable position of the finances of the branch.

The Rev. H. Pickles was unanimously re-elected as chairman of the branch.

In proposing the re-election of the secretary and treasurer, the Chairman remarked that in the coming October Mr. Evetts would have completed 15 years in that office.—The secretary's re-election was carried with applause.

Clanfield and Aston were voted on for the place of the autumn meeting, and the latter place won by the narrow margin of two votes.

The Rev. H. Pickles intimated his wish to become a life member and the Rev. E. J. Lee an honorary member, and these elections were made amid applause.

Members on the General Committee were then elected as follows: Mr. W. Bond (re-elected), Mr. Farmer (to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Spindlow) and Mr. Floyd, of Cassington.

The Guild secretary (Mr. R. T. Hibbert) made a few remarks regarding the branch.

It was much regretted that the Deputy Master (the Rev. C. E. Wigg) was unable to be present owing to being on a ringing tour in Devonshire. The Guild treasurer (Mr. A. D. Barker) was also absent owing to having another meeting to attend.

Thanks to the Rector of Tackley, the organist and the ladies who prepared the tea brought the meeting to a close. Members then retraced their steps to the Parish Church and other towers in the vicinity for more ringing.

JOINING THE R.A.F.

Two members of the band at Preston Parish Church, Lancs, are joining the R.A.F.—W. K. Martin and D. Dinmock, a probationer. On May 7th a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,280 changes) was rung as a farewell to them, their colleagues wishing them every success: C. Crossthwaite 1, W. K. Martin 2, W. Timbrell 3, E. R. Martin 4, W. H. Hunter 5, J. Ashcroft 6, H. Davies 7, S. Bleasdale 8.

BROADCAST FROM NANTWICH.

The ringers taking part in the broadcast from Nantwich Parish Church, Cheshire, on Sunday evening, May 7th, were: W. C. Sutton (conductor) 1, M. Boyer 2, J. Boyer 3, T. Astbury 4, F. Barnard 5, F. Ollier 6, J. E. Brough 7, E. J. Boffey 8. The whole of the band are regular Sunday service ringers at Nantwich and the touch was 336 of Bob Major.

They have received many congratulatory messages on their excellent ringing.

YORKSHIRE VETERAN'S DEATH.

Mr. H. Crossland, who was a regular service ringer at Cawthorne, near Barnsley, for over 60 years, and also a ringer in the prize-winning team when he was 82 years of age, died at his home on Friday, April 21st, and was interred at Cawthorne on Monday, April 24th. He would have been 94 had he lived to July 6th.

Although he had not been able to ring for a number of years, Mr. Crossland was a keen listener whenever the bells at the village church were rung and also a critic if the striking had not suited him.

The bells were rung fully muffled by the local company for the funeral.

CLERICAL RINGER'S DEATH.

The death occurred recently of the Rev. F. W. Lane, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Bishop's Stortford. He was previously curate at St. Michael's, Tilehurst, Berks, for 15 years, and was a keen and reliable change ringer.

As a last token of respect the bells at Tilehurst were rung half-muffled at the weekly practice, the touches including 504 Grandsire Triples, while the 'whole pull and stand' was rung 56 times, denoting his age.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

MELTHAM WIN SIX-BELL CONTEST.

The quarterly meeting and six-bell contest of the Halifax and District Association was held at Sandal on Saturday, April 21st. Five teams had entered the competition, in which each had to ring 600 changes, with a plain course for practice.

The draw for the order of ringing was as follows: 1 Shelley, 2 New Mill, 3 Meltham, 4 Liversedge, 5 Friezland. Liversedge rang Kent and the other teams rang Oxford.

Tea was served in the Parish Hall, to which about 40 sat down, a notable visitor being Bishop Hone, of Wakefield, who always takes an interest in the Sandal ringers and ringing generally.

After the ringing had been completed, ringers and friends again adjourned to the Parish Hall for the meeting, the president being in the chair, supported by the Rev. Murray Smith (curate at Sandal).

After the business had been disposed of, the judge, Mr. E. Cutt, gave his decision as follows:—

	Faults	Penalties	Total
Shelley	149	0	149
New Mill ...	74	10	84
Meltham ...	58	15	73
Liversedge ...	93	0	93
Friezland ...	103	5	108

Meltham were, therefore, declared winners, and the cup was presented to the Meltham conductor (Mr. E. Whiteley) by the Rev. Murray Smith.

Further ringing on the bells brought another enjoyable day to an end.

HOLIDAY GAPS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—The question of how to get sufficient ringers to man the ropes on the occasions of the great festivals of the Church must be one which exercises the minds of most tower foremen. It is natural that ringers, in common with the rest of the public, should wish to make use of the holidays at Christmas, Easter and Whitsun, but the lamentable result is that, just at the seasons when it is most important for our ringing to be at its best, it is usually at its very worst.

It is most probable that in all large towns and villages, for every ringer who goes away from the place for his holiday, some other ringer comes there for his holiday, and surely it would not be too much to expect that all ringers when going on holiday should reciprocate by going to one of the local churches and offering to help with the ringing. If such a procedure was carried into effect, there would be but few silent or partly manned towers on these festivals.

I would suggest that much might be done by the various associations to foster this spirit of reciprocity, and a few words from tower foremen shortly before a festival might also serve as a timely reminder to the forgetful. There are few ringers who would not be willing to follow a lead in the direction which I have sketched, if it was pointed out to them.

A. R. C. POYNTZ.

Goring-on-Thames.

NOTICES.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A general meeting of the association will be held at Barnsley on Saturday, May 20th, when the bells of St. Mary's will be available from 2.30 p.m. General Committee meet in St. Mary's Vestry at 3.45 p.m. prompt. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea (1s. 3d.) will follow at 5 p.m. in the British Co-operative Cafe, Market Street. The general meeting will follow immediately afterwards on the same premises.—L. W. G. Morris, Gen. Sec., 65, Lilycroft Road, Heaton, Bradford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at Kirkham on Saturday, May 20th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Business meeting at 5.30. A good attendance requested. — C. S. Sharples, Branch Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held at Feltham on Saturday, May 20th. Church of St. Catherine (bells 8, tenor 11¼ cwt.). Ringing from 3 to 5 p.m. and after tea till about 8.30 p.m. Tea (1s. per head) and meeting at 5 p.m. at Railway Hotel, near the church. It is hoped, after tea, to arrange transport for those who wish to ring at Bedfont (6 bells), for about an hour. Reports available. Subscriptions due.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The next meeting will be held at Harrow Weald on Saturday, May 20th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea to follow. The method for special attention is Double Norwich Court Bob Major; other methods will be rung as required.—T. J. Lock, Hon. Dis. Sec., 57, Holloways Lane, North Mimms, Herts.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—A special meeting will be held at Staveley on Saturday, May 20th. Bells (8) available 2.30 onwards. Tea (1s. head) at 5 p.m., in Church Hall. Special invitation is given to Chesterfield district ringers and others interested, as by this means we hope to re-form the district and appoint new local officers.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Great Tey on May 20th. Bells (8) available at 2.30. Service 4.30. Will all those intending to be present please let me know as soon as possible? — J. R. Sparling, Hon. Sec., Station Hotel, Wivenhoe.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting of the Southern Division will be held at Burgess Hill on Saturday, May 20th. Tower open 2.45. Service 4.30. Tea, in Parish Room, 5, price 1s. Half rail fare (maximum 1s. 6d.) allowed to members.—S. E. Armstrong, Hon. Div. Sec., 70, Hollingbury Park Avenue, Brighton 6.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Meeting of Southampton District at Fawley on Saturday, May 20th. Bells from 2.30. Tea at 5 p.m. Dibden bells after tea.—G. Pullinger, 17, Stoke Park Road, Bishopstoke, Hants.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Berks Branch.—Annual meeting will be held at East Hagbourne on Saturday, May 20th. Service 3.30. Tea 4.30, meeting to follow.—Albert E. Lock, 35, East St. Helen Street, Abingdon, Berks.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Sleaford on Saturday, May 20th. The bells of the Parish Church will be available during afternoon and evening. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 4.45 p.m., free to members; non-members 1s. 6d.—Usual business meeting following tea.—J. Bray, Hon. Sec.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—A meeting will be held at Essendon on Saturday, May 20th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Tea near church at 5 p.m. Bus services: St. Albans-Hertford or Barnet-Hertford. Northaw bells also available after tea.—Harold V. Frost, Hon. Dis. Sec., 4, Kimberley Road, St. Albans.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—The next meeting will be held at Streatham, S.W.16, on Saturday, May 20th. Ringing at Immanuel 2.45 to 8.30 p.m. St. Leonard's will not be available, as previously advertised. Tea 5.30 p.m., followed by business meeting 6.15 p.m. All visitors welcome.—N. H. Manning, Dis. Sec., 21, Burlington Gardens, W.4.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Banbury and District Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Somerton on Saturday, May 20th. Bells (6) available from 2.30. Service 4 o'clock, followed by tea and short business meeting. Lower Heyford (6) and Rousham (6) open in the evening.—E. Pearson, Branch Sec., Adderbury West, Banbury.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The pre-Whitsun meeting will be held in Hexham on Saturday, May 20th, when the Abbey bells will be available. Tea will be served at the Abbey Hotel at 5 p.m., preceded by committee meeting in the tea room at 4 p.m.—Roland Park, Hon. Sec., 23, Oaklands Terrace, Darlington.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Crewkerne Deanery Branch.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Fivehead on Saturday, May 20th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Please notify early for tea.—D. G. Taylor, Hon. Sec., Braeside, Ilminster.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Central Branch.—A meeting will be held at Cottenham on Saturday, May 20th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 in Schoolroom, followed by meeting.—F. Warrington and A. R. Paul, Dis. Secs.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—The next meeting is to be held at Oaks-in-Charnwood on Saturday, May 20th, at the usual times. What about a Saturday afternoon in the heart of the picturesque Charnwood Forest? Hikers, bikers, or motorists will all be welcome. But as catering is rather uncertain, and appetites will be keen in the open country, you will be well advised to let me know that you are coming.—A. E. Rowley, Hon. Sec., Hyom, Penistone Street, Ibstock, Leicester.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next meeting will be at Newbold-on-Avon, near Rugby, on Saturday, May 20th. Bells (6) available during afternoon and evening. Tea provided at a moderate charge.—D. E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—A meeting will be held at Newdigate on Saturday, May 20th. Service 5 o'clock, with tea and business meeting to follow.—A. H. Smith, Hon. Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Henlow on Saturday, May 20th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. All ringers will be welcome. Please come. A good company is requested.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meetings for May: *St. Paul's Cathedral, 23rd; St. Magnus', 25th; Southwark Cathedral, 30th. All at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—A. B. Peck, Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

ALPHINGTON, EXETER, DEVON.—The bells will be re-dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Exeter on Saturday, May 27th, at 2.15 p.m. Garden fete in the Rectory grounds during the afternoon. A ring of eight restored by John Taylor and Co.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Saviour's Church, Bacup, on Saturday, May 27th. Bells from 3 p.m. A short service will be held in church, followed by tea and a short meeting. Names for tea must be sent not later than Wednesday, May 24th, to Mr. F. Kendall, 30, Lee Road, Lee Wood, Bacup.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—The next meeting is at Ticknall on Saturday, May 27th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Please note: The Ringing Master will arrange methods as required, and members should make every effort to start the holiday well. Your presence will be appreciated and tea arranged for you if notification is sent to the undersigned by Thursday, May 25th.—J. W. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—V.W.H. Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Faringdon on Saturday, May 27th. Bells (8) available at 2.30. Service at 4.30. Please notify for teas not later than Thursday, May 25th.—R. Gilling, Hon. Sec., Fernham, Faringdon, Berks.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Batley on Saturday, May 27th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea can be obtained near the church. Business meeting 7 p.m.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Leeds 12.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—A combined practice will be held at Arborfield, near Reading, on Saturday, May 27th, from 6 till 9 p.m. All ringers welcome. Earlier starting time can be arranged if desired.—W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec.

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OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next meeting has been arranged at Cookham (6 bells) on Saturday, May 27th, at 3.30 p.m. Tea, at 1s. per head, for those who notify me not later than May 22nd.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton and Manchester Branches.—Meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Walkden, on Saturday, May 27th. Bells available 3 p.m. —Peter Crook and J. H. Ridyard, Hon. Secs.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Campsall on Saturday, May 27th. Bells (8) ready at 3 p.m. Owing to the difficulties of catering, it will be appreciated if those who intend being present notify me not later than Wednesday, the 24th. Don't forget your cards for tea, or your methods. —E. Cooper, 6, Grosvenor Crescent, Arksey, Doncaster, Yorks.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — The annual meeting will be held at Peterborough on Whit-Monday, May 29th. Central Committee meet at 10.45 a.m. in St. Mary's Reading Room. Service in the Cathedral at 12 noon, with address by the Very Rev. the Dean, President of the Guild. Luncheon at the Angel Hotel at 1 p.m., followed by business meeting. (1s. 6d. will be allowed towards cost to all those resident and subscribing honorary and ringing members who make application for ticket, with remittance of 1s. to the general secretary by Thursday, May 18th. Non-members and non-resident members 2s. 6d. each. All tickets to be applied for by Monday, May 22nd.) Bells available: St. John's (8), St. Mary's (6), Woodston (6) from 10 a.m. throughout the day and after the meeting. Stanground (5) and the Whittlesey towers (8) will be also available.—Robert G. Black, Gen. Sec., Stamford Road, Geddington, Kettering.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Plymouth on Whit Monday, May 29th. Service in St. Andrew's Church at 12 noon. Luncheon at Goodbody's Restaurant, Bedford Street, at 1 p.m., followed by business meeting (1s. each to members applying for tickets by May 22nd, non-members 2s.). Bells available: St. Andrew's (10), Charles (10), St. George's, Stonehouse (8), and Stoke Damerel (6).—T. Laver, Gen. Sec., 21, Cross Park, Heavitree, Exeter.

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Come to Hastings on Whit-Monday, May 29th. Two fine peals available: Christ Church, Blacklands (8), 2.30 to 5 p.m.; Christ Church, St. Leonard's (8) from 6.30 p.m. All ringers very welcome.—J. G. Powell, Hon. Sec., 1, Woodbury Road, Hawkhurst.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held on Whit Monday, May 29th, at Bridgnorth, Salop. 3.30 p.m., service at St. Leonard's Church, with address by Rev. Preb. J. S. Jobling. 4.15 p.m., tea at Swan Hotel, followed by annual general meeting. Following bells will be available: St. Leonard's (8) from 12 noon, also Chetton (6), Quatt (6) and Chelmarsh (6) for parties making own arrangements. Tea (2s.), 1s. to members, if application for tickets (without sending money) be made before May 24th to Rev. E. G. Benson, Burghill Vicarage, Hereford. Several districts hope to arrange buses; for these apply o district secretaries.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—On Whit Monday, a meeting will be held at Halesworth. The bells (8) will be available all day, also the six-bell towers of Chediston, Wissett and Wenhaston. Tea and meeting 4.30 p.m., at the Church Rooms. Please advise Mr. F. C. Lambert, 54, Thorofare, Halesworth, of number for tea.—H. G. Herbert, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — The 60th annual meeting will be held at Chelmsford on Whit Monday, May 29th. Service in the Cathedral at 11.30 a.m., with address by the Venerable E. N. Gowing, Archdeacon of Southend. Lunch in the Corn Exchange 12.30 p.m., followed by the meeting. Applications for lunch tickets (members free, non-members 2s. 6d.) must be received by the general secretary by first post, Tuesday, May 23rd. Please note: No ticket, no lunch. Towers open for ringing during the day: Cathedral (12), Great Baddow (8), Galleywood (8), Great Waltham (8), Writtle (8), Widford (8), Boreham (8), Broomfield (6), Danbury (6), Springfield (6), Little Waltham (6). A good attendance is requested.—L. J. Clark, Gen. Sec., 36, Lynmouth Avenue, Chelmsford.

NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting will be held at Gresford on Whit-Monday, May 29th. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. Service 3 p.m., followed by business meeting and tea (1/-). Will those attending please notify me as soon as possible. — W. Catherall, Hon. Sec, 19, Cunliffe Walk, Garden Village, Wrexham.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX.—Prittlewell's 10 bells will be open for ringing on Wednesday, May 31st, 3-5 p.m. and 6-8 p.m., when all ringers will be welcome, including Ladies' Guild. Service at 8 p.m. for dedication of three peal boards.—F. B. Lufkin, Tower Master.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District. —The next district meeting will be held at St. Mary's, East Molesey, on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Service at 5 o'clock. Tea at the New Inn at 5.30, followed by business meeting. Ringing again in the evening. Numbers for tea to be sent to Mr. F. Brown, 4, Cul-de-Sac Road, East Molesey, not later than Thursday, June 1st. All ringers welcome.—F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Sec., 28, Strathearn Road, Sutton, Surrey.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Blackburn, on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. Everybody welcome.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

ELY ST. MARY'S, CAMBS. — The bells will be rededicated on Saturday, June 3rd. A ring of 8 bells restored by John Taylor & Co.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — The Annual Festival will be held at Runcorn on Saturday, June 3rd. Service at 3 p.m. Meeting at 4. Tea at 5, 2/- each (1/6 to members). The bells at Runcorn and Daresbury will be available from 2 to 3 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m.; and Frodsham from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and after 6 p m. Will those who intend to visit Frodsham during the morning please communicate with Mr. W. Bibby, London Road, Frodsham. There is a good bus service between Warrington, Runcorn, Chester and Frodsham. Tickets for tea are obtainable from the Branch Secretaries before June 1st. Any further information can be obtained from H. Parker, 3, London Road, Davenham, Cheshire.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Derby district.—The next meeting will be held at Melbourne on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. For tea, please notify Mr. Charles Davies, Castle Street, Melbourne. All ringers welcome. Reports to hand. Subscriptions due.—Wm. Lancaster, Hon. Sec., 83, Albert Road, Chaddesden, Derby.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—North Norfolk Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Hethersett on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells (8), rehung and recast by John Taylor and Co., available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea (1s. 3d.) in Church Room 5 p.m. Meeting follows. Special method, Double Mancroft Bob Major. All ringers welcome. Those requiring tea, please notify me not later than Wednesday, May 31st, as I shall book tea only for those members of whom I secure names or numbers. Good bus service from Norwich (Castle Meadows). Leave 1.35, 2.4, 2.34, 3.4, and 3.30.—Henry Tooke, Branch Sec., The Lizard, Wymondham, Norfolk.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — Northern Division.—A meeting of this division will be held at Belchamp St. Paul's on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. It is essential that all who intend to be present for tea should notify Mr. W. Cutmore, Olive Cottage, Belchamp St. Paul's, Sudbury, Suffolk, not later than Wednesday, May 31st. All ringers welcome.—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Dis. Sec., 3, Belle Vue, Hedingham Road, Halstead, Essex.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS. —The usual monthly practice will not be held this month. —G. W. Steere, Hon. Sec.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Mr. A. B. Wiffen has removed to the Swakeley Hotel, 174, Goldhawk Road, Shepherd's Bush, W.12.

DEATH.

BARNETT.—On May 11th, at The Elms Nursing Home, Crayford, Kent, Elizabeth, widow of Edwin Barnett, sen., aged 77 years.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 1,470. Vol. XXXIV. FRIDAY, MAY 26th, 1939. [Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.] Price 3d.

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NAMING SURPRISE METHODS.

The new Council, which meets at Westminster on Tuesday, will be confronted with a long agenda of, mostly, routine business, but it is not unlikely that out of one or more of the reports of committees may come a subject leading to debate. In the past reports have often provided unexpected discussions, and there will probably be some such debates arising from them this year. Indeed, after what transpired at Leeds last Whitsun, it will be rather surprising if the report of the Methods Committee—often a good fighting ground—does not lead to discussion, particularly on the question of whether or not names shall be given to the methods still unrung, which are to find a place in the new Surprise Major book. A decision will have to be taken as to whether the book shall be printed and issued this year; but that is a matter which rests directly upon the Council and not upon the committee.

It will be remembered that, in view of the cost which is involved, the Council approached the various affiliated associations, asking if they would be prepared to guarantee, in proportion to their representation on the Council, one-half of the cost of publication in return for an equivalent number of copies of the book. As far as we are aware, every association that has replied, except Bedfordshire, has expressed its willingness to undertake this responsibility, although, in view of the ultimate price and the likely demand, the actual liability upon the associations will be very light, if indeed there is any at all. There is little doubt, therefore, that the Council will go forward with the publication of the book, which, in its completeness, will be the most ambitious that the Council has yet undertaken.

But there is likely to be at issue the question of the method names, for, while the committee have given a name to all the methods in the book which up to now have not been rung, there are some people who still cling to the old idea that the band that rings the first peal in a method should have the right to name it. That view is all very well for methods that are rung before they are published, but there is no reason why it should prevail where methods have been printed, particularly in an official publication. Apart from any question of the right which those who produce the figures may have to name their own handiwork, there is one very serious and practical reason against leaving methods nameless in the book. After publication, an unnamed method may be rung and named by the ringers. In course of time, especially in view of the fact that a band so often ring a method once and discard it, the association of the name

(Continued on page 330.)

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with particular figures may be forgotten and someone else may ring the same method and give it yet another title. Thus the confusion which arose over the Minor methods would be repeated, and a great deal of the value of the book would be lost because, without the names as they are added it would be out of date almost as soon as published. There would still be opportunity for those who wish to name a method to do so, for the methods in the book are only a selection, and there are hundreds still outside it. Indeed, we believe, many of the methods recently rung in Hertfordshire are not included. There can, therefore, be no ground for complaint on this score, and none has ever been made about the naming of the methods in the Plain Major collection. Utility and common sense seem to dictate that the names in this new book should also be settled before publication.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 20, 1939, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR, SOUTHWARK,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5009 CHANGES;

Tenor 50¼ cwt.

THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN.	*Treble*	HENRY G. MILES	7
HARRY HOSKINS	2	*DEREK M. SHARP	8
MRS. R. F. DEAL	3	RICHARD F. DEAL	9
R. CONGREVE PRIDGEON ...	4	FRANK E. DARBY	10
HERBERT E. THOMPSON ...	5	ALFRED E. PECK	11
LEONARD J. FOX	6	JAMES RUMLEY	*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by HENRY G. MILES.

* First peal of Stedman Cinques.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

(ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, May 20, 1939, in Three Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE	*Treble*	WILLIAM P. GARRETT... ...	7
SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER ...	2	GEORGE A. FLEMING	8
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY	3	WILLIAM J. G. BROWN ...	9
HOBART E. SMITH	4	FREDERICK J. TILLETT ...	10
HARRY R. ROPER...	5	GEORGE E. SYMONDS	11
FREDERICK J. SMITH	6	CECIL W. PIPE	*Tenor*

Conducted by SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER.

TEN BELL PEALS.

COALBROOKDALE, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 13, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt. in D.

E. DENNIS POOLE ...	*Treble*	WILLIAM J. CHESTER ...	6
*WILLIAM SAUNDERS	2	RICHARD D. LANGFORD ...	7
HARRY F. HOLDING	3	EDWARD V. RODENHURST...	8
*GEORGE A. PACKER	4	*ARTHUR PRITCHARD	9
HARRY OVERTON	5	ARTHUR E. PEGLER ...	*Tenor*

Composed by E. MORRIS. Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.

* First peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal. First peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal on the bells and for the association.

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CHESTER.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 13, 1939, in Three Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL,
A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 33 cwt.

*GEORGE LEE ... ...*Treble*		*JOHN W. GRIFFITHS	6
ROBERT SPERRING	2	JAMES SWINDLEY	7
*JOHN BEST	3	RALPH G. EDWARDS	8
FRED HARTMAN	4	*HARRY PYE	9
*WILLIAM E. FLETCHER ...	5	PERCY SWINDLEY ... ...*Tenor*	

Composed by H. J. TUCKER. Conducted by PERCY SWINDLEY.
* First peal of Bob Royal. First peal of Bob Royal on the bells. First peal of Bob Royal as conductor.

STONHAM ASPALL, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Saturday, May 20, 1939, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAMBERT,
A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 24 cwt.

HARRY D. LISTER ... ...*Treble*		GEORGE W. ABLITT	6
JAMES BETTS	2	SHELFORD SPARROW	7
WILLIAM E. WATHEN... ...	3	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL ...	8
KEITH W. WHITTELL	4	HORACE J. MANSFIELD ...	9
EDWIN A. CRACKNELL	5	ARTHUR GRIMWOOD ... ...*Tenor*	

Composed by H. J. TUCKER. Conducted by H. D. LISTER.
First peal of Bob Royal by all except ringers of 2 and 9.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

ROLVENDEN, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, April 22, 1939, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

GEORGE MASKELL ... ...*Treble*		GEORGE SIMS	5
ARCHIBALD STEVENSON ...	2	TOBY WANT	6
HARRY BAKER	3	WILLIAM GORRINGE	7
ROBERT EDWARDS	4	JAMES AVERY ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by WILLIAM GORRINGE.
Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to Mr. F. G. Burden, for 50 years a ringer at this church and verger for 25 years.

AYLESFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 13, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 14½ cwt. in F

*MISS JOAN NAYLOR ... ...*Treble*		FREDERICK S. MACEY	5
WILFRID L. RAYNER... ...	2	WILLIAM J. WALKER	6
WALTER H. DOBBIE	3	STANLEY B. DOBBIE	7
GEORGE A. NAYLOR	4	HARRY PARKES ... ...*Tenor*	

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by GEORGE A. NAYLOR.
* First peal of Major.

NEWCHURCH, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 12¼ cwt.

JOSEPH LEATHERBARROW ...*Treble*		JOHN BOOTH	5
THOMAS WALLWORK	2	LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS ...	6
SYDNEY LEATHERBARROW ...	3	THOMAS B. WORSLEY	7
THOMAS W. SMITH	4	WILLIAM DICKINSON ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by T. B. WORSLEY.
Rung to commemorate the second anniversary of their Majesties' Coronation.

TWICKENHAM.—For evensong on May 21st, quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples from the 'Original': *Jack Lovell 1, G. Bradford 2, J. Herbert 3, *A. Pond 4, †W. Wigginton 5, E. C. S. Turner (conductor) 6, E. Morris 7, J. Lovell 8. * First quarter-peal. † First quarter-peal 'inside.'

LONDON.
THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 13, 1939, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, LAMBETH,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 16¾ cwt.

EDWIN L. MILES ... ...*Treble*		JOHN G. NASH	5
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ...	2	THOMAS W. TAFFENDER ...	6
*MISS OLIVE L. ASHBROOK	3	JAMES W. CHAPMAN	7
ERNEST J. KING	4	EDWARD D. SMITH ... ...*Tenor*	

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by THOMAS H. TAFFENDER
* First peal of Surprise on an 'inside' bell.

TUNSTALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
REEVES' VARIATION OF HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt.

ALAN D. STEELE... ... ...*Treble*		CHARLES H. PAGE	5
DOUGLAS R. WHALLEY ...	2	T. LESLIE WALLEY	6
EDWARD STEELE	3	ANDREW THOMPSON	7
BRIAN FERNEYHOUGH	4	*WILMOT C. CADMAN ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by DOUGLAS R. WHALLEY.
* First peal and first attempt. Rung for the centenary of the Church School.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 12¼ cwt.

PERCY NEWTON ... ...*Treble*		ROLAND BIGGS	5
GEORGE MARTIN	2	WALTER LEE	6
REV. R. F. R. ROUTH ...	3	HARRY WINGROVE	7
FREDERICK G. BIGGS	4	F. DONALD BOREHAM ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by H. WINGROVE.

GREAT TEW, OXON.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sunday, May 14, 1939, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
CARTER'S VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.
Tenor 22 cwt. 10 lb. in E.

HERBERT H. ALEXANDER...*Treble*		ALBERT E. LOCK	5
MRS. ALBERT E. LOCK ...	2	*RAYMOND P. TAPLIN... ...	6
*HERBERT H. MORLEY ...	3	WALTER F. JUDGE	7
*WILLIAM J. CROSS	4	LEONARD CLIFTON ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by WALTER F. JUDGE.
* First peal.

DISS, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, May 14, 1939, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 23 cwt. 2 qr. 26 lb. in D.

DAVID WHITING... ... ...*Treble*		ALBERT G. HARRISON ...	5
NOLAN GOLDEN	2	CECIL V. EBBERSON	6
ERIC G. BENNETT	3	*W. ARCHIE LOCK	7
*LEONARD H. LOCK	4	WILLIAM CLOVER ... ...*Tenor*	

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.
* First attempt for a peal of Superlative.

DIBDEN, HANTS.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Monday, May 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

REGINALD A. REED ... ...*Treble*		EDWARD T. GRIFFIN	5
LESLIE A. TREMEER	2	*HAROLD J. ROBERTS	6
F. FRANKLAND RIGBY	3	ARTHUR V. DAVIS	7
ERNEST J. MUNDAY	4	A. PATRICK CANNON ... ...*Tenor*	

Composed by G. WILLIAMS. Conducted by R. A. REED.
* First peal.

LEYTONSTONE, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, May 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt. in G.

GEORGE DAWSON	Treble	ALFRED PRIOR	5
JOHN H. CRAMPION	2	FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN	6
JOHN W. CORNFORD	3	PHILIP H. AVERY	7
MRS. F. W. HOUSDEN	4	EDWARD D. SMITH	Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by ALFRED PRIOR.
First peal of Yorkshire and first attempt by all except ringer of 2nd.

BEXLEY, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, May 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 7¼ cwt.

*ALAN HALL	Treble	PHILIP A. CORBY	5
HARRY HOVERD	2	†THOMAS G. BANNISTER	6
EDWIN A. BARNETT	3	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY	7
ARTHUR S. RICHARDS	4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. No. 140. Conducted by P. A. CORBY.
* First attempt for a peal of Major. † First peal in the method.

SOUTHWOLD, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Tuesday, May 16, 1939, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt.

RICHARD S. PAYNE	Treble	CHARLES F. SAYER	5
JAMES R. GARDINER	2	RICHARD W. R. COATES	6
MISS DOROTHY R. CONSTANCE	3	ALBERT E. COLEMAN	7
EDWIN R. GOATE	4	WILLIAM C. BUNN	Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by WM. C. BUNN.
First peal of Major as conductor.

BROMLEY, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, May 17, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb.

JACK DAFTERS	Treble	PHILIP A. CORBY	5
ARTHUR S. RICHARDS	2	JAMES E. DAVIS	6
EDWIN A. BARNETT	3	PERCY J. SPICE	7
HARRY HOSKINS	4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by P. A. CORBY.

CRAYFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, May 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 12¼ cwt.

THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN.	Treble	HARRY HOVERD	5
EDWIN A. BARNETT	2	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY	6
ARTHUR S. RICHARDS	3	EDWIN BARNETT	7
DEREK M. SHARP	4	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY	Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by HERBERT E. AUDSLEY
Rung as nearly as possible to the 40th anniversary (May 18th) of Mr. E. Barnett's first peal.

LLANTRISANT, GLAMORGANSHIRE.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 20, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 12 cwt.

JOHN EVANS	Treble	REGINALD WESTCOTT	5
JOHN DARCH	2	WILLIAM LAMBERT	6
FREDERICK LASBURY	3	FRANK ROWSELL	7
HERBERT DAVIES	4	ROBERT REES	Tenor

Conducted by FRANK ROWSELL

WARFIELD, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 20, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL-THE-ARCHANGEL,
A PEAL OF WARFIELD SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 27 lb.

REV. R. F. R. ROCTH	Treble	WILLIAM HENLEY	5
GEORGE MARTIN	2	GEORGE GILBERT	6
WILLIAM WELLING	3	HARRY WINGROVE	7
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH	4	LEONARD STILWELL	Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by LEONARD STILWELL.
The first peal in the method.

ALDENHAM, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 20, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF WALLASEY SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt.

JOHN E. ROOTES	Treble	CECIL C. MAYNE	5
FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW	2	EDWIN JENNINGS	6
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	3	HAROLD G. CASHMORE	7
FRANCIS KIRK	4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.
The first peal in the method.

BILLINGSHURST, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 20, 1939, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt.

ERNEST HOWELL	Treble	EDWARD J. CHARMAN	5
C. ERNEST SMITH	2	WILLIAM T. BEESON	6
REGINALD V. JOHNSON	3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS	7
KENNETH SNELLING	4	OLIVER SIPPETTS	Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by FREDK. W. ROGERS.
First peal of Bristol on the bells.

BALDOCK, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 20, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF ST. CLEMENT'S BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;
Tenor 28 cwt.

STANLEY WALLIS	Treble	STANLEY A. CARTER	5
EDWIN G. BUCK	2	PERCY TOMPKINS	6
ERIC B. HARTLEY	3	GEORGE W. DEBENHAM	7
ARTHUR DAY	4	R. THOMAS NEWMAN	Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by G. W. DEBENHAM.
The first peal in the method by the association and by all the band except by the ringer of the 7th. It was rung as a compliment to Mr. Arthur Day on his election as president of the Hertford County Association.

ERITH, KENT.
THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
On Saturday, May 20, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt.

*ALAN G. BALL	Treble	GEORGE W. STEERE	5
FREDERICK J. CULLUM	2	†THOMAS H. FRANCIS	6
JAMES E. BAILEY	3	HARRY HOVERD	7
GEORGE H. CROSS	4	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY	Tenor

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS.
* First peal. † First peal in the method. A birthday compliment to Miss Rita Cullum, also in honour of the birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. James E. Bailey, and grandson to Mr. and Mrs. Fredk. G. Symonds.

FAREWELL.

At All Saints', Gawthorne, on Tuesday, April 4th, a half-peal of Minor was rung as follows: 720 of Capel, Oxford, Sandal, Kingston, London Scholars (Spliced), 720 St. Albans, Wragby, Charlwood (Spliced), 120 Neasden, 720 Plain Bob and 240 Kent and Oxford: A. Rusby 1, H. Rusby 2, L. W. Carbutt 3, T. Cullingworth 4, D. Smith (conductor) 5, C. Robinson 6. It was a farewell to T. Cullingworth, who is serving with the Royal Air Force and was on leave prior to setting out for three years' service in India.

SIX BELL PEALS.

MAYFIELD, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, May 10, 1939, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTAN,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Forty-two six-scores, with ten callings. Tenor 21½ cwt.

BERT STANDEN ... ...*Treble*		*ERNEST H. EVEREST... ... 4	
*WILLIAM F. MOON 2		WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE 5	
*EDWARD BISHOP 3		FRANK H. HICKS... ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE.

* First peal of Grandsire Doubles.

WILLINGDON, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, May 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 24 six-scores of Grandsire (10 callings) and 18 six-scores of Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

RONALD J. RAYFIELD ... ...*Treble*		HAROLD G. F. REYNOLDS... 4	
MISS BETTY RAYFIELD ... 2		CHARLES A. SAVAGE 5	
GEORGE BEENEY 3		*JESSE WILLOUGHBY ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by CHARLES A. SAVAGE.

* First peal. First peal of Doubles for all except ringer of 3rd. First peal ever rung at the church.

BARTON STACEY, HANTS.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven 720's called differently.

REGINALD DALTON ... ...*Treble*		WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ... 4	
*MISS NESTA SMITH 2		LEONARD KNOTT 5	
RICHARD SMITH 3		LESLIE A. TREMEER ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by LESLIE A. TREMEER.

* First peal on a working bell.

WOOD GREEN, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 11 cwt.

FREDERICK CHERRETT ...*Treble*		*ALBERT TURNER... 4	
*THOMAS BEVAN 2		*GEORGE CHARGE 5	
WILLIAM J. NORTON... ... 3		FREDERICK A. BARKER ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by FREDERICK A. BARKER.

* First peal of Minor. Arranged as a wedding compliment to Miss Doris Barker, daughter of the conductor.

ABBEYDORE, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE ABBEY CHURCH.
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 9 cwt.

*ARTHUR H. OAKLEY ... ...*Treble*		*A. JAMES YOUNG... 4	
WILLIAM H. SYMONDS ... 2		GEORGE T. COUSINS 5	
TRACEY H. YOUNG 3		ERNEST F. SALMONS ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by E. F. SALMONS.

* First peal of Minor.

STRATFORD ST. MARY, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Saturday, May 13, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Consisting of an extent each of Oxford Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Double Court, Court Bob, St. Clement's and Plain Bob. Tenor 16 cwt. 2 qr.

*MRS. L. WRIGHT ... ...*Treble*		URBAN W. WILDNEY... ... 4	
HARRY J. MILLATT 2		*LESLIE WRIGHT 5	
DAISY M. ANDREWS 3		ALAN R. ANDREWS ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.

* First peal in seven methods and first attempt.

BARNBY DON, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)
On Saturday, May 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF SPLICED TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
In 17 methods, viz.: (1) Willesden and College Bob IV. Delights; (2) Old Oxford and Newdigate Delights; (3) Wragby and St. Albans Delights; (4) Neasden and Charlwood Delights; (5) College Exercise and Norbury; (6) Duke of Norfolk and Ockley; (7) London Scholars' Pleasure, Oxford, Kingston, Capel and Sandal. Tenor 10 cwt.

*GEORGE CLARK ... ...*Treble*		JOHN THOMAS WHITE ... 4	
*HOWARD SCOTT 2		ARTHUR GILL 5	
ROLAND HILL 3		DANIEL SMITH ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by DANIEL SMITH.

* First peal of Spliced Minor and first attempt. Also first spliced peal on the bells.

BUXTON, DERBYSHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER, FAIRFIELD,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven extents in nine methods, viz.: (1) Wragby Delight; (2) Charlwood, Neasden and St. Albans Delight; (3) Capel and Kingston Treble Bob; (4) London Scholars' Pleasure Treble Bob; (5) Sandal Treble Bob; (6) Kingston Treble Bob; (7) Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 12 cwt. 7 lb.

REV. FRANK BONNER ...*Treble*		ALBERT T. BANCROFT 4	
*JOCELYN B. GARDINER ... 2		C. KENNETH LEWIS 5	
ERIC ELLISON 3		JAMES A. MILNER... ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by C. K. LEWIS.

* First peal in nine methods. Rung in connection with the centenary celebrations at this church.

BEBINGTON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
(WIRRAL BRANCH.)
On Saturday, May 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Oxford Bob, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, London, York, Beverley and Cambridge Surprise. Tenor 9 cwt.

WALTER J. BATTLE ... ...*Treble*		JOSEPH LESLIE 4	
*MISS DOROTHY BATTLE ... 2		*DEREK PARRY 5	
FRANK T. PARRY 3		WILLIAM DEAN ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by WILLIAM DEAN.

* First peal and first attempt.

COLNE ENGAINE, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
(ST. ANDREW'S GUILD, EARLS COLNE.)
On Saturday, May 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
One extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Double Oxford, Double Court, St. Clement's, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

HARRY CARTER ... ...*Treble*		ALBERT L. DIXEY 4	
VICTOR MORLEY 2		ALEC M. GENERY... 5	
REGINALD G. SIMMONDS ... 3		RALPH BIRD ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by RALPH BIRD.

STISTED, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, May 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF NETHERSEALE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

KENNETH G. SMITH ... ...*Treble*		ALEC M. GENERY 4	
REGINALD G. SIMMONDS ... 2		VICTOR MORLEY 5	
RALPH BIRD 3		RONALD SUCKLING ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by RALPH BIRD.

First peal in the method by all, on the bells and for the association.

WITHINGTON.—For evening service on May 7th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (10½ different six-scores): A. E. Winter 1, W. A. Godwin (first quarter-peal as conductor and first attempt) 2, W. Peachey 3, J. E. Godwin 4, F. Blowing 5, W. C. Peachey 6.

WARBLETON, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, May 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different 720's. Tenor 10¼ cwt.

BERTRAM STANDEN ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE ...	4
FRANK H. HICKS	2	LESLIE W. JARVIS	5
ARTHUR F. LEWRY	3	WILFRED BOOTH	...*Tenor*

Conducted by WILFRED BOOTH.

AYMESTREY, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sunday, May 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST AND ALKMUND,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one 720 of Plain Bob and six 720's of Grandsire. Tenor 10 cwt.

*ARTHUR A. PRIDAY ...	...*Treble*	THOMAS R. PAYNE	4
LESLIE EVANS	2	A. BRYAN ELLSMORE... ...	5
WILLIAM J. PREECE	3	*A. JAMES OWEN	...*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM J. PREECE.
* First peal. First peal as conductor in two methods.

BRAMLEY, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wednesday, May 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different extents. Tenor 8 cwt. 27 lb.

WILLIAM T. BERSON ...	...*Treble*	†JOHN S. GOLDSMITH	4
*PETER F. DAVY	2	†WILLIAM F. J. COPE	5
*ARTHUR E. J. HYDE	3	†C. ERNEST SMITH ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. ERNEST SMITH.
* First peal. † First peal of Bob Minor.

HANDBELL PEALS.

WESTERHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 13, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT NEW ROSE VILLA,
A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

*NORMAN H. MANNING ...	1-2	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ...	5-6
DEREK M. SHARP	3-4	†ROBERT COLLINS	7-8

JOHN O. WELLER... 9-10
Composed by G. HAYWARD. Conducted by D. M. SHARP.
* First peal of Royal 'in hand.' † First peal 'in hand.'

BUSHEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, May 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Twelve Minutes;
AT THE ROYAL MASONIC JUNIOR SCHOOL,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

HENRY HODGETTS	1-2	*HAROLD G. CASHMORE ...	5-6
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	3-4	JOHN E. ROOTES...	7-8

Conducted by C. W. WOOLLEY
* First peal of Grandsire Triples.

CAMBRIDGE.
THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.
On Sunday, May 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Sixteen Minutes,
AT 18, FITZWILLIAM STREET,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor, size 13 in E.

*T. P. HEARN (Selwyn) ...	1-2	A. R. PARGETER (Pembroke)	5-6
E. M. ATKINS (St. Cath's)	3-4	*R. H. RICHENS (Selwyn) ...	7-8

Composed by E. M. ATKINS. Conducted by A. R. PARGETER.
* First peal. First peal as conductor.

WEST GRINSTEAD, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, May 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT 92, BUTCHERS' ROW,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor, size 15 in C.

CECIL H. WOOD	1-2	EDGAR R. RAPLEY	3-4
CECIL R. LONGHURST	5-6		

Conducted by E. R. RAPLEY.
First peal 'in hand' by all. First peal as conductor.

PEAL NOTES.

LADY'S PLUCKY EFFORT.

The peal of Kent Treble Bob at Southwold, Suffolk, was the first peal in that tower for the Suffolk Guild since 1924. For its success great credit must be given to Miss D. R. Constance for the way she kept her bell going. About half of the peal had been rung when her bell, the 3rd, became 'a man's job' owing to defect in the lubrication. Then after two and a half hours the bell was going so badly that Miss Constance changed ropes with Mr. E. R. Goate. The change was made perfectly and the peal completed. The peal was rung on May 16th.

The first peal of Bob Royal on the bells at Chester Cathedral was rung on May 13th and was splendidly struck without a single trip from beginning to end. Mr. James Swindley, who took part, was also in the first peal of Bob Major on the bells, which incidentally was the first peal of Major in the city of Chester, in 1896. The peal of Royal was the 50th peal by both Fred Hartman and J. W. Griffiths.

Two of the local band at Bramley, Surrey, rang their first peal at the first attempt on May 17th, when seven 720's of Bob Minor were brought round. One of them, Peter Davy, is only 16 years of age. Three others of the band rang their first peal of Bob Minor, Mr. J. S. Goldsmith after 46 years of peal ringing. It was his 450th peal.

A new keenness has grown up in the Bramley band since a recent reorganisation. The hon. secretary, Mr. C. M. Martin, sat in the tower throughout the peal to watch the ringing, and there would have been a third local man in the peal but for the unfortunate fact that he had to go into hospital.

The peal of Yorkshire Surprise at Bexley on May 15th was the first in the method on the bells, which were augmented 13 months ago. Mr. H. A. Holden, who is teaching a band of young ringers at Bexley, was unable to stand in the peal owing to indisposition, but one of his pupils, Alan Hall, deputised for him and rang the treble to his second peal in a most capable manner.

A peal of Superlative Surprise Maximus, rung by a band of Sunday service ringers at St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, on Saturday, was called by Miss Sylvia Bowyer, who is the first lady to call a peal of Maximus in this method.

TWENTY-SIX SURPRISE METHODS.

There were two new Surprise methods rung on Saturday, one by the Oxford Guild at Warfield, Berks, and the other by the Hertford Asscciation at Aldenham. The former named their method after the place where they rang it; the latter called theirs Wallasey. In each case the peal was rung without previous practice.

The Hertford County Association also scored another 'first' on Saturday, when a peal of St. Clement's Bob Major, the first by the association, was rung at Baldock as a compliment to the new president, Mr. Arthur Day. It was also the first peal in the method by all the ringers except the conductor, Mr. G. W. Debenham.

Mr Leonard Stilwell, of Windsor, rang his 250th peal when he conducted the first peal of Warfield Surprise Major, and he has now rung a peal in a different Surprise method on each bell in the tower.

It was the 26th Surprise Major method which Mr. Stilwell has rung, and, curiously enough, Mr. W. Welling, who also took part, has rung peals in the same 26 methods. Mr. Stuwell's peals include 63 of Minor in one to twelve methods, 53 of Triples in four methods, 111 of Major in 32 methods, Grandsire and Stedman Caters and Cinques, Plain Bob and Cambridge Royal and Kent Maximus.

They also include non-conducted peals of Stedman Triples, and Cambridge, Superlative and Yorkshire Surprise Major, as well as the first peals ever rung in 14 of the Surprise Major methods. The peals have been rung in 74 towers for 10 associations and with 313 ringers.

To celebrate the recent addition of the treble at Willingdon, Sussex, a village adjoining Eastbourne, which was the home of Lord Willingdon, who has been both Governor General of Canada and Viceroy of India, a peal of Doubles was rung on May 10th. Mr. Jesse Willoughby, the local captain, bravely stood in at short notice to ring the tenor. He had never previously rung for longer than half an hour or 'covered' more than a few courses of Grandsire. Despite his statement afterwards that he 'kept behind more by luck than anything else,' he put up a highly creditable performance. It was the first peal ever rung at Willingdon.

After meeting short for Grandsire Triples at Mayfield, Sussex, on May 10th, a peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung.

The Cambridge University Guild's peal of Bob Major on May 14th was the first peal rung on the Guild's handbells since their recent renovation, which was carried out with the surplus of the money subscribed by members for the erection of a memorial tablet to the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, late president of the Guild.

FORTY YEARS OF PEAL RINGING.

The peal at Crayford to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Mr. E. Barnett's 'first' would have been rung on the actual date (May 18th) but for the fact that this was Ascension Day. Mr. Barnett is by no means a 'veteran,' but only Mr. T. Groombridge, sen., of the remainder of Friday's band, was alive when the original peal was rung.

Messrs. L. H. Lock and W. A. Lock rang their first peal of Superlative at the first attempt on Sunday, May 14th, at Diss, Norfolk. On the previous day they rang their first peal of Cambridge Major at the first attempt.

Messrs William Symonds and Ernest Salmons rang their 25th peal together on May 13th, when they took part in a peal of Bob Minor at Abbeydore, Herefordshire.

A great searching of the archives has revealed that the peal of Superlative at Beckenham on April 27th was the 250th peal of Mr. Harry Hoskins, the versatile Greenwich 'youngster.'

A peal of Stedman Cinques at Southwark on Saturday was arranged for a band of College Youths. One of them, however, failed to put in an appearance, and Mrs. R. F. Deal kindly agreed to stand in, and the peal, therefore, was rung for the Kent County Association.

Mr. George H. Cross, Master of the Royal Cumberland Youths, celebrated the 29th anniversary of his first peal as conductor by calling a peal of Superlative for the society at Erith on May 20th.

The peal was also rung as a birthday compliment to Miss Rita Cullum, and in honour of the birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Bailey, and a grandson to Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Symonds. Alan Ball, who rang his first peal, is only 13 years of age.

Mr. Ralph Bird has twice 'circled' the six bells at Stisted, Essex, and has called a peal from each bell. He finished this on May 14th when he called a peal of Netherseale Surprise Minor, the first in the method by all and by the Essex Association. It was rung without previous practice.

FOURTEEN-YEAR-OLD GIRL'S ACHIEVEMENT.

Miss Dorothy Battle, of Bebington, Cheshire, who is only 14 years of age, got her first peal on May 13th, when she rang an 'inside' bell to seven Minor methods, including four Surprise. She had never previously rung a 720 of Oxford Bob, Kent Treble Bob, York or Beverley Surprise. It is a performance of which she may well be proud. Derek Parry rang his first peal at the same time, and it was the first attempt by them both. Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Battle kindly entertained the ringers to tea after the peal.

As far as we can recall, it must be many years since a handbell peal was recorded by the Sussex Association, but on May 14th a peal of Bob Minor was rung 'in hand' at West Grinstead, and it was no mean performance that Mr. Edgar Rapley rang his first peal as conductor when he called it from the middle pair.

A peal in two methods of Doubles, arranged to enable Messrs. A. A. Priday and A. J. Owen, of the local band, to ring their first peal, was scored at Aymestrey, Herefordshire, on Sunday, May 14th. Afterwards the ringers were entertained to tea by the Rev. G. R. M. and Mrs. Ellwood.

Mr. W. R. Melville, formerly of Guildford, but who now lives at King's Worthy, Hants, rang his 250th peal on May 13th at Barton Stacey, when he took part in seven 720's of Bob Minor. Before going into 'retirement,' Mr. Melville put in many years of valuable work for ringing in the Guildford area, first under the old Winchester Diocesan Guild, and, after the division of the diocese, for the new Guildford Diocesan Guild.

The peal of Ashtead Surprise rung at Wymondham on April 22nd was 5,184 changes in length (not 5,088 as printed), and the ringer of the 6th was Thomas H. Francis, of Chiswick, formerly of Paston, Norfolk.

The peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major at Leytonstone, Essex, on May 15th, was rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor (Mr. Alfred Prior) and to Messrs. Prior and Dawson on their retirement after completion of 50 years in the service of the L.N.E.R.

On May 13th, a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at Christ Church, Tunstall, Staffs, in honour of the centenary of the Parochial Schools. The old schools were opened in King Street on May 2nd, 1839, and a very important educational work has been carried on in the parish through the schools since that date. The centenary has been observed as fully as the occasion demanded and the special peal fittingly rang out the message which the schools have been commissioned to teach for the past century. The church authorities are most grateful to the ringers concerned, and the band thank Mr. W. Thompson for preparing the bells for them.

The peal was Mr. C. H. Page's 100th for the North Staffordshire Association and was also a birthday compliment to the conductor, Mr. D. R. Whalley.

A PEAL ON DOOR BELLS.

After calling a peal of Spliced London, Bristol, Cambridge and Superlative Surprise Major on handbells on May 12th, Mr. Harold Cashmore rang his first peal of Grandsire Triples two days later! And he rang it on door bells.

Not that the ringers went round the streets pulling knobs and running away like mischievous boys. The door bells had been tuned and fitted by Mr. Thomas Male, of Warwick. The band sat down in the Masonic Junior School at Bushey and rang the peal.

Until last Saturday week no peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal had been rung in Shropshire since that at St. Mary's, Shrewsbury, on February 17th, 1813. One has now been rung at Coalbrookdale for the Shropshire Association.

Three old and well-seasoned ringers of Holloway (Messrs. T. Bevan, G. Charge and A. Turner) rang their first peal of Minor on May 13th, when, in honour of the wedding of Miss Doris Barker, daughter of Mr. F. A. Barker, at Finchley on May 6th, they rang in a peal of Bob Minor at Wood Green, Middlesex. Although he lives not far away, it is 30 years since Mr. Albert Turner rang in Wood Green tower

Mr. Jocelyn Gardner rang his first peal in nine Minor methods on May 13th at Buxton, Derbyshire. Prior to starting for the peal he had not struck a blow in seven of them.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The memorial window to the late Canon Elsee, president of the Lancashire Association, is to be dedicated on June 10th.

Ringers who have short wave receiving sets will be able to listen to the bells of Christ Church Cathedral, Victoria, British Columbia, next Tuesday, May 30th. The bells will be broadcast before and perhaps after the King's speech, which is to be made at 2 p.m. Pacific Summer Time, which is 11 p.m. English Summer Time. It will be radiated on the C.B.C. and the American N.B.C. short wave.

Members of the Central Council who may like to ring on the William Pye memorial bells at Leytonstone will be welcome at the service ringing on Sunday at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Convenient trains leave Liverpool Street at 9.30 a.m. and 5 p.m. The church is close to Leytonstone Station.

Mr. E. Alex. Young, of Bromley, and formerly hon. secretary of the Central Council, who is now making his way back from South Africa by easy stages, had an alarming experience recently. With Mrs. Young and others from the ship on which he was travelling from Beira, he was returning from a visit ashore at Durban when the gangway between landing stage and ship collapsed and Mr. Young was thrown into the water. In addition to his unexpected immersion, he suffered a sprained foot, and it is fortunate the results were no worse. Mrs. Young had happily reached safety before the accident happened.

There are not many ringers who would go without bed just to ring for a Sunday morning service, but apparently Mr. Frank Hopgood, of St. Mary's, Wimbledon, doesn't mind. On Sunday he cycled 58 miles for morning ringing, and after Stedman and Bob Minor at Winslow, Bucks, cycled home the other 58 to ring at St. Mary's, Wimbledon, in a nice evening service touch. Mr. Hopgood had a disappointment the other week, when he cycled 126 miles and found no ringing.

TECHNICAL TERMS IN TEACHING.

To the Editor.

Sir,—In reply to a letter published in last week's issue, in which a correspondent suggests cutting out or moderating the use of technical terms and teaching beginners with 'ordinary English,' I would like to say it seems to me that these terms were evolved for simplicity, and when one tries to dispense with them, then one becomes lost in a maze of explanations.

Furthermore, most of the terms used in teaching beginners are, to my mind, essential and almost explain themselves; in any case, the sooner their meanings are understood the better, for the learner cannot hope to progress without them. Moreover, the local instructor should be able to provide answers to any questions that may be asked about them.

If an instructor is not available there have been, from time to time, many books published and written in excellent English that put things very clearly and can be understood by all.

Your correspondent asks also for a ringing centre, somewhere in the country, with a hall and bells to enable learners to pick up the finer points of the art and to discuss some of his or her difficulties with other more learned ringers. Surely such a centre as this is unnecessary, as practices and meetings are arranged, both in the country and the towns, for the express purpose of helping beginners and furthering the fellowship of ringing.

J. H. BOTHAM.

Kenton, Middlesex.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

THE MEMORIAL TO THE REV. A. H. F. BOUGHEY.

As prescribed by the rules, the annual general meeting of Cambridge University Guild was held towards the beginning of the present term, and the following officers for the year 1939-40 were elected: President, the Rev. A. C. Blyth (Selwyn), re-elected; Master, T. P. Hearn (Selwyn); secretary and treasurer, R. H. Richens (Selwyn). The members appointed to serve on the Central Council are E. M. Atkins (re-elected) and the Rev. B. F. Sheppard.

During the Christmas vacation a memorial to the late president of the Guild was placed in the ringing chamber of St. Mary the Great, in the form of a tablet of bell-metal with the following wording: 'In memory of Architel Harry Fletcher Boughey, born 14th August, 1849, died 22nd Sept., 1936, Fellow of Trinity College, sometime Vicar of this church, President of the Cambridge University Guild of Change Ringers from 1879 to 1936, this tablet is erected by members of the Guild to record his long and devoted service and their personal affection and gratitude.' All who have seen it are very pleased with the way in which it has been carried out.

It had been suggested, when the memorial was proposed, that if the amount subscribed by members for its erection were more than sufficient for the purpose, no more fitting use could be found for the surplus than that it should be spent on a much-needed renovation of the Guild's handbells, which the late president had rung to many peals. It has, accordingly, been found possible to have the set of 13 (tenor size 17 in A) thoroughly overhauled and retuned, with most satisfactory results. The first peal on the bells since this has been done was rung on May 14th, the composition being that old friend 'Tapatapa.'

Arrangements for the annual Guild Week, which starts on the first Monday in September, are well in hand, and, as is the five-yearly custom, it is to be held this year in Cambridge.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—72.

EDWIN A. BARNETT.

One of the most remarkable ringing records is that set up by Edwin A. Barnett, of Crayford, Kent. Ringing is a natural instinct with him, which he has inherited from his father and grandfather, but, even so, to have rung 340 peals in some 57 methods and extensions at the age of 20 and to have conducted 54 of them in 37 methods and extensions is an extraordinary performance.

Teddy III., for he is the third generation to bear the name of Edwin, was born at Bexleyheath, Kent, on October 15th, 1918, but his ringing has been associated with Crayford, where he rang his first peal when only eleven years old, on December 20th, 1929. He was only twelve when he conducted a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, and he rang peals of Cambridge, Superlative, London and Bristol Surprise Major at the age of 13. While still only 13 he called a peal of Cambridge Major from a working bell. This was the last peal in which his grandfather took part and the one of which, out of the many hundreds he rang, he was most proud.



MR. EDWIN A. BARNETT.

When Edwin A. was only 14 he called peals of Superlative and London and rang in peals in four Spliced Surprise Major methods and Cambridge Royal. At 15 he conducted peals of Yorkshire and Pudsey, and he conducted Bristol at 17. In all these he rang a working bell, while the Bristol was a composition of his own produced at the age of 14. He had already composed peals of Superlative at 13 and at 17 composed and conducted one containing seven pairs of bells reversed in 5-6 at course ends, the most obtainable and probably the first of its kind. His knowledge of composition he has gained through the kindness of Mr. A. G. Driver.

Among the peals which he has conducted have been the first peals of Painswick College and Pulford Bob, the first of Erith Little Bob Royal on tower bells and what was possibly the only peal of Canterbury Pleasure Triples in the present century. He has called the first peal he has rung in 20 different methods, and of the fifty-four peals which he has conducted, all have been different compositions except a peal of Doubles, in which repetition of calling was, of course, unavoidable, and Middleton's peal of Cambridge, which he called a second time on the spur of the moment when the appointed conductor did not turn up.

He took part in a peal of Bob Major with a band of the average age of 15, in peals of Kent Treble Bob with bands averaging 21 and 20 years, and in a peal in four Spliced Surprise Major methods with a band whose average age was but 22.

Out of his 340 peals, 21 have been on handbells and 318 on tower bells, 304 of the latter having been eight-bell peals and 137 of them at Crayford. They have included 140 peals of Surprise in 17 Major methods.

During his wonderful career Edwin A. has always received every assistance and encouragement from his ringing friends, and warmly acknowledges his indebtedness to them, but we would add that such a career as he has cut out in ringing has been largely due to his own initiative and ability.

PEAL BOARD DEDICATED AT BRENTWOOD,

CONGREGATION SEE BELLS RUNG.

On Sunday, May 14th, at the evening service, a peal board commemorating a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, rung to the memory of King George V., and also a peal of Oxford Treble Bob in honour of the Coronation of their present Majesties, was unveiled by the Vicar of Brentwood, the Rev. V. G. Ballance, B.A., in the presence of a large congregation.

The board, which is of polished mahogany written in gold leaf, is hung in the porch.

In order that the congregation should see how the bells are rung, the ropes were lengthened and ringing took place in the porch, and in spite of the length of the rope, which varied from 22 to 24 yards, some excellent touches in the standard methods were brought round.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

CHESTERFIELD DISTRICT RE-FORMED.

New Officers Elected.

A very successful meeting of the Midland Counties Association was held on Saturday at Staveley, Derbyshire. This was a by-meeting specially arranged with the object of re-forming the Chesterfield District, which for some time has been in a very apathetic condition, and, at the last annual meeting, failed to elect local officers. The bells of the Parish Church were at the disposal of the visitors and friends, and some very good striking was heard, methods being rung to accommodate all comers. Tea was served in the Parish Hall and a company of between 30 and 40 sat down.

In the absence of the president (the Rev. Canon H. E. Fitzherbert), who later sent a telegram apologising for unavoidable absence, Mr. Colin Harrison (vice-president) took the chair for the subsequent meeting. He was supported by Mr. W. E. White (treasurer) and Mr. Ernest Morris (general hon. secretary) and members from Bolsover, Burton, Chesterfield, Derby, Dore, Eckington, Handsworth, Heath, Nottingham, Old Whittington, Ripley, Spondon, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Warsop and the local company.

The Chairman first apologised for the absence of the Rector of Staveley and welcomed the presence of both churchwardens, Mr. W. J. Kittridge (an hon. member of the association for many years) and Mr. J. W. Hudson. He explained the special object of the meeting, commenting on the fact that Staveley was one of the strongholds of the district. It was appropriate, too, that the first time he was called on to take the chair since his appointment as vice-president it should be at Staveley, as he retained happy memories of the three years he was secretary of Sheffield and District Society, whose activities often brought him to that place. It was (he continued) a source of deep regret to the officers of the association that the district—which, in the past, had done so much for the advancement of the art—should have lapsed in the way it had. He recalled the many notable performances at Chesterfield under the leadership of the late Mr. A. Knights, those at Bolsover under the conductorship of Mr. J. Flint, and the enthusiasm displayed in the past in other towers around. The main object of that meeting was to try and resurrect some of that enthusiasm, and he reminded those present that the more they put into the art the more they got out of it. It was a pleasant hobby that brought with it a social intercourse far above the average, and, further, it was a work connected with the Church that they should value and uphold. He trusted the members of the district would at that meeting elect new local officers and thenceforth proceed with enthusiasm to restore the old spirit of energy and enterprise in the art. England was now being divided into smaller dioceses and new diocesan organisations were being formed. That district came in the Diocese of Derby and at present in the area of the Midland Counties Association. Therefore, it was the duty of all members to support it.

Mr. White (hon. treasurer) added his support to all Mr. Harrison had said, and promised to answer any questions on administration that might arise.

Mr. Ernest Morris (general hon. secretary) said it was one of his deepest regrets that in preparing the last annual report he had to state under Chesterfield 'no officers elected,' and he trusted that that would be remedied at that meeting, and that they would start anew on a phase of energetic activity. He stated that in the three Leicester districts they had most happy meetings and the social side reached a high standard, simply because they were fortunate enough to have local secretaries who were keen and enterprising, and members who appreciated their work and that of the association as a whole. He saw no reason why Chesterfield should not do the same and emulate not only Leicester, but other districts who were working amicably and energetically.

Mr. W. J. Kittridge (churchwarden) here added a word of welcome to Staveley, and said that in ringing as well as in any other phase of life and activity, no progress could be made without the enthusiasm and support of all members concerned. He gave the association good wishes for a prosperous future, especially in that district.

At this stage the Rector of Staveley (the Rev. H. H. Dibben) arrived and was received with acclamation. He welcomed the members in a happy speech, trusting they were having a good and prosperous meeting, and he gave permission to all present to visit the fine gardens and grounds around the historic Hall and Rectory.

After further discussion on various points, Mr. F. A. Adams proposed and Mr. A. E. Parsons seconded that the Chesterfield District be revived and the election of officers proceeded with.

This having been agreed to, Mr. W. T. Palmer was elected chairman, and, in taking office once more, said he did so on the understanding he received more support from the members than in the past.

Mr. S. Scattergood was elected local secretary and promised to do his best in that office. He urged local members to rally round and have some well-attended meetings. Mr. Gordon Graham and Mr. P. Jervis were elected committeemen, and it is now hoped Chesterfield District will once more become a strong and forceful centre of the art.

Mr. White thanked the Rector and churchwardens for their support and stated it had been a highly successful and enjoyable meeting. He also thanked the ringers' wives for providing such a nice tea.

(Continued on page 340.)

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE WHITSUN MEETING

SATURDAY, MAY 27th.

Ringing St. Lawrence Jewry (next Guildhall, City), 6.30 to 8.

Rendezvous for evening, Holborn Buffet (next Holborn Station, Holborn Viaduct).

SUNDAY, MAY 28th.

Service ringing: St. Martin-in-the-Fields (12 bells), 9.45 and 11 a.m.; St. Giles'-in-the-Fields (8 bells), 10 a.m.; St. Lawrence Jewry, 10.30 a.m., 6 p.m.; Croydon Parish Church (12 bells), 10.10 a.m., 5.40 p.m.; St. Leonard's, Shoreditch (12 bells), 5.30 p.m.; St. Giles', Cripplegate (12 bells), 5.15 p.m.; St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark (8 bells), 5.30 p.m.

Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Lewis invite members and their friends to visit them at Moorcocks, Brasted, Kent. Train leaves Charing Cross at 2.4 p.m. Please advise if you are accepting invitation.

Rendezvous for evening, Bedford Head, Maiden Lane, off Southampton Street, Strand.

WHITSUN MONDAY, MAY 29th.

Ringing: St. Martin-in-the-Fields, 11.30 to 12.30; Westminster Abbey, 12 to 1; Imperial Institute (South Kensington Station), 3.30 to 4.30.

Standing Committee meeting at 7 p.m., Coffee Pot.

Headquarters for the evening, Bedford Head.

WHITSUN TUESDAY, MAY 30th.

Council meeting in the Guildhall, Westminster, Broad Sanctuary, north side of Westminster Abbey adjacent to Westminster Hospital (Westminster Station). Standing Committee, 10 a.m.; Council, 11 a.m. Morning session will be adjourned at about 1.30. Ample restaurant accommodation in Whitehall and around Westminster and Victoria Station. Afternoon session, 2.30 approx.

Ringing: Southwark Cathedral, 7.30 to 9 p.m.; St. Magnus', London Bridge, 7 to 8.

Social at London Tavern, Fenchurch Street, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, May 31st.—Prittlewell, near Southend, Essex, bells (10) available 3 to 5 and 6 to 8.

Committee responsible for arrangements: Messrs. A. A. Hughes, E. J. Butler, G. W. Steere, F. M. Mitchell, C. T. Coles, T. W. Taffender and D. Cooper, representing London societies.

G. W. FLETCHER, Hon. Secretary.

DEATH OF OLD WINCHESTER GUILD RINGER.

RANG HIS ONLY PEAL AT 76.

The death of Mr. James Norris took place at his home in Blackmoor, Hants, on May 12th. He was 84 years of age and had only been laid up for a few weeks. He had belonged to the Winchester Guild for 56 years and was the second oldest member. He was the tenor ringer at Blackmoor, where he had lived practically all his life. He was also the organ blower for a great number of years. He rang only one peal, and this was on May 12th, 1931, exactly eight years before the day of his death. This peal was Grandsire Doubles, rung at his own tower in 2 hours and 45 minutes. He rang the cover bell faultlessly. He was then 76 years of age.

The funeral took place at Blackmoor on Tuesday, May 16th, the Guild being represented by Mr. George Williams, Ringing Master. Amongst the floral tributes were wreaths from the Alton and Petersfield District, Blackmoor ringers, the choir, and the Church Council. The service was choral and the churchwardens were present. The Vicar (the Rev. F. G. Eyres) officiated. The bells were rung after the service by members of the local band. By request they were half-muffled with the tenor fully muffled.

BARNSLEY SOCIETY.

WELCOMED AT HOYLANDSWAINE.

The meeting of the Barnsley and District Society at Hoylandswaine on May 6th attracted members from Cawthorne, Earlsheaton, Felkirk, Penistone, Rotherham, Sandal, Silkstone, Shelley and Wath. Ringing in the afternoon and tea in the Parish Room was followed by the business meeting, at which the Vicar (the Rev. H. L. Pratt) presided.

The Vicar expressed pleasure that the society had again visited Hoylandswaine and assured them of a hearty welcome at any time. He said he was sorry that they had not now got a band of change ringers at Hoylandswaine tower, but he hoped they soon would have, as he had been in the tower all the afternoon and had enjoyed it very much.

Mr. Moxon (vice-president) moved a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, for presiding and for the welcome he had given, and also to the ladies for the splendid tea they had provided.

Mrs. Pratt, in reply, said the ladies had enjoyed all they had done and only hoped that next time the ringers came they would bring their lady partners with them.

Further ringing followed in a variety of methods, ranging from Original to London and York Surprise Minor.

Kirkburton was chosen for the next meeting, to be held on Saturday, June 10th.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BELLS AND PLANES.

A very successful meeting of the South and West District of the Middlesex County Association was held at Feltham on Saturday, May 20th. A pleasant change in the weather added to the enjoyment, and those present derived additional entertainment in watching the antics of a number of planes from nearby aerodromes, who were apparently engaged in a competition to see how near they could get to the church spire without actually bringing it down—it being Empire Air Day. About 30 ringers, including a number of ladies, and the promising young learners at Feltham, were present, and some very enjoyable ringing was accomplished. Towers or districts represented were Beddington, Croydon, Ealing (Christ Church, St. Mary's and St. Stephen's), Feltham, Heston, Hillingdon (St. John's), Kingston-on-Thames, Prittlewell, Ruislip, Sunbury-on-Thames, Staines and Twickenham. The methods rung, under the supervision of Messrs. W. H. Coles and G. H. Kilby, were Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob and Double Norwich Major, and Cambridge, Superlative and London Surprise Major, with plenty of rounds for the learners, the bells being kept going from 3 to 8.30 p.m. with an interval for tea.

During the evening, owing to the kindness of Mr. Tony Price, who placed his car at visitors' disposal, a visit was paid to Bedfont, where about an hour's ringing was indulged in on the musical but very noisy peal of six; Grandsire Doubles, Plain Bob, Double Court and Cambridge being rung, with again rounds for the learners. This beautiful little church, with its Saxon and Norman work, its wooden bell-cote and very noisy but musical bells, set on the edge of a pretty village green, at the side of the busy Staines Road, seemed an ideal place for a little evening ringing, and the visit was greatly enjoyed.

Tea and a short business meeting were held at the Feltham Hotel and were enlivened by a series of shattering roars from a number of Westland Lysanders doing a bit of hedge-hopping nearby.

The next meeting was fixed for Sunbury-on-Thames on June 24th.

A hearty vote of thanks to the local authorities, and especially to Mr. Tony Price for his kindness, was carried with acclamation, it being noted with pleasure that he has succeeded in getting Feltham bells going again after a long silence, and that among the promising band he is getting together are Mrs. Price and other members of his family.

MID-WEEK MEETING TO BE HELD.

A meeting of the North and East District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild was held at Harrow Weald on Saturday, and although the attendance was much below the average, those present made good use of the bells and the ringing varied from touches of Triples to the usual Spliced Surprise Major, the band in the latter being composed of equal numbers of ladies and gentlemen.

The service was conducted by the Rev. C. S. Durham, Vicar, who, in a short address, dealt with the meaning of the Ascension.

At the business meeting, which followed an excellent tea, the provisional election of three members previous to peal attempts was ratified and three new members were elected. It was announced that the association had recently lost two members by death, Mr. R. P. Pike, Kingsbury, and Mr. T. Humphrey, Pinner, both regular Sunday service ringers, and the meeting stood for a few moments in silent tribute.

A mid-week meeting will be held at St. Mary Magdalene's Church, Enfield, on Wednesday, June 7th, the bells being available from 5 p.m.

St. Ann's Church, Stamford Hill, was chosen as the venue for the next district meeting, if possible on June 24th.

Votes of thanks were accorded to the Vicar, who, in reply, welcomed the association to Harrow Weald, to the organist, and to Miss E. K. Fulton and lady helpers for the adequate catering arrangements.

QUARTER-PEALS.

For Ascension Eve service on May 17th at All Saints' Church, Boyne Hill, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: G. K. Lister (first quarter-peal) 1, T. S. Goodchild 2, E. W. Eldridge 3, W. H. Walker 4, J. Eldridge 5, E. Pugh 6, G. Gilbert (conductor) 7, H. A. Baldwin 8. All except the conductor are of the Boyne Hill band.

Members of the young band at St. Mary's, Battersea, took part on May 17th in a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: L. Timms 1, R. Ireland 2, W. Essery 3, L. Brown 4, E. Dodds 5, G. Ashford 6, A. Williams (conductor) 7, S. Hart 8.

As a birthday compliment to Mrs. G. H. Gutteridge, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung at St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, on May 16th: F. Corke 1, W. S. Childs 2, T. Collins 3, Miss F. M. Gutteridge 4, R. Henson 5, E. Hancox (conductor) 6, P. E. Jones 7, C. Nicholls 8.

For Mass at the Church of Our Lady and the English Martyrs, Cambridge, on May 7th, 1,280 Superlative Surprise Major: V. E. Shorter 1, D. L. G. Lathbury 2, A. E. Austin 3, R. Knights 4, S. Goodwin (first quarter-peal of Superlative) 5, F. G. Gleaves 6, F. Warrington 7, J. W. Ward (conductor) 8.

At St. Mary's, Maisey Hampton, Glos., on Sunday, May 7th, for morning service, 1,260 Bob Minor: E. H. Peare 1, W. A. Godwin 2, L. W. Cuss 3, N. G. Peare 4, W. C. Cuss (conductor) 5, J. E. Godwin 6. First quarter-peal of Minor by all except the conductor, and first on the bells by a local Sunday service band.

On Sunday, May 7th, for evening service at Holy Trinity Church, Watermoor, Cirencester, 1,264 Bob Major: F. J. Lewis, sen. 1, L. W. Cuss (first quarter-peal of Major) 2, W. C. Cuss (first as conductor) 3, H. L. Cooke 4, A. W. Baldwin 5, H. S. Parsons 6, F. J. Lewis, jun. 7, W. H. Hayward 8.

CLERICAL RINGERS' HOLIDAY.

SUCCESSES AND FAILURES OF A DEVON TOUR.

The clerical ringing week took place this year in Devonshire, from Monday, April 17th, to Friday, the 21st, headquarters being at a hotel near Bovey Tracey. The party was larger than ever before, the weather perfect, the country astonishingly beautiful, and the whole week thoroughly enjoyable. That the call-change ringers of Devonshire were always impressed by the ringing they heard is more than we can claim, but some at least of them became interested in change ringing, and there was, during the week, some excellent ringing. We greatly missed the Revs. E. V. Cox and A. G. G. Thurlow—and not only in the belfry. It was a particular disappointment to all that 'E. V.' was prevented at the last moment by illness from piloting us round his own territory and himself enjoying the tour for which he had made such admirable arrangements.

Thorverton was the first tower visited, ringing being impossible at Brampford Speke owing to illness near the tower. Here the first seven of the party gathered, and with the help of Mr. Ridler, of the local band, the eight (tenor 14 cwt.) were raised and rung to Grandsire Triples and Bob Minor. This was the only change ringing tower of the whole tour. Mrs. Cox then very kindly entertained the company to tea at Brampford Speke, where we found more of the party gathered. Passing through Exeter, we stopped next at Chudleigh. The church is dedicated to SS. Martin and Mary. The lower part of the ancient screen survives, with paintings of saints on the panels. We rang Grandsire Triples badly, but Stedman and Kent Treble Bob Major went well. Mr. C. R. Lilley kindly came up into the belfry to wish us a successful week.

From Chudleigh we moved on to Bovey Tracey, the Devonshire countryside looking in the evening light even more like Paradise than ever, and so to our headquarters. At dinner we all drank water, the hotel management having a higher opinion of us than subsequent experience justified. Afterwards handbells were set going to Grandsire Caters and Bob Royal, and we soon had the lounge to ourselves. And so to bed. The thin walls dividing our rooms were powerless to muffle the snores of some of the party. In the morning we were roused by the glorious song of innumerable birds haunting the woods nearby. They were remarkably early risers.

A NOTICE THAT PROVED UNTRUE.

Tuesday morning's programme included a peal attempt at Bovey Tracey (tenor 14 cwt.), and ringing at Ilsington. Tradition associates the building of Bovey Church with the Sir William de Tracey, one of Thomas a Becket's murderers, who was made to build three churches as part of his penance, and the church bears a triple dedication to SS. Peter and Paul and St. Thomas of Canterbury, but the present church is considerably later, owing much to the great Lady Margaret Beaufort, mother of King Henry VII., who owned the manor from 1487-1509. A beautiful painted screen dates from her time. In the porch we found a notice to say that the Clerical Guild would ring a peal at 9.30. It proved to be untrue. A peal of Kent began at 10.20, but came to grief after 40 minutes, and the band consoled themselves with a well-struck quarter-peal of Stedman Triples. Meanwhile the rest of the party were making their way to Ilsington, a place approached only by hilly, tortuous lanes. The parish is said to be the second largest in Devonshire. The church, a fine cruciform building with north and south aisles, has an unmusical ring of six (tenor 14 cwt.). The four standard methods were rung, but except for Kent the local company would not have been favourably impressed. We hope they blamed these eccentric parsons and not the method. A short, steep pull brought us up to Haytor Rocks (1,491ft.), the most popular picnic place on Dartmoor, for lunch. The huge rocks kept off the wind, and the sun seemed as hot as June.

Tin-mining at one time made the little village of Widecombe prosperous, the enormous church tower being built, so it is said, by the miners as an expression of gratitude. Nowadays the mythical Uncle Tom Cobleigh brings wealth more easily got, for most visitors (and there are many of them) take away some memento of him, often one of those musical jugs which seem incessantly to play the familiar tune. The Church of St. Pancras has lost the loft of its ancient screen, but retains the lower pictured panels. In the guide books it is chiefly notable for the great thunderstorm of 1638, when one of the massive pinnacles crashed through the roof, killing four men, and a great fiery ball passed through the church, burning many, a visitation ascribed, of course, to Satan himself. No such fate befel us, and the newly-hung six responded well to Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob and Cambridge, but seemed unaccustomed to London. A pleasant drive brought us to Chagford, where there is a ring of eight hung by a former local bellhanger. Visitors need to learn the vagaries of each bell before they can strike them, and although we made progress we never wholly succeeded, well fortified though we were by an ample tea with the famous cream which we had come to expect at every meal.

AT BUCKFAST ABBEY.

Wednesday morning started with a peal attempt at Wolborough (Buckfastleigh being unpealable owing to great new ropes with sallies of prodigious size). The ancient screen has the most remarkable series of painted panels in the county, and by it is preserved the 2nd of the mediæval three bells cast by Bird in 1390. A peal of Bob Major was successfully brought round in three hours and ten minutes. The peal was rather a curate's egg—'parts excellent, my Lord'—but the worst came first and the greater part would have satisfied most critics. A local ringer seemed very favourably impressed. Meanwhile the rest of the party were ringing the six bells at Dean Prior, a church of which the poet Herrick was once vicar. They claim to have rung an unconducted touch of Bob Minor. A picnic lunch was eaten, without asking permission, in the grounds of a deserted cafe at Dartbridge, after which we moved on to Buckfast Abbey, where we were very glad to find Mr. A. L. Bennett, who had been largely responsible for getting the use of the bells, waiting for us. The front eight of the twelve (tenor 41 cwt.) were rung up in peal, and the back four very nearly so. A touch of Grandsire Caters came round very nicely, but Stedman Caters came to grief, and we prudently refrained from Cinques. Kent on the back eight filled in the allotted time. We much appreciated our visit to this wonderful tower and the charming welcome of the monks. What fascinated some of us most was to watch the great bourdon bell, Osanna, being swung and to see the clapper coming slowly up to strike the bell. There is a strict rule that ladies are not admitted to the belfry, but Mrs. Palmer and Mrs. Powell were encouraged by an old friend among the monks to honour the rule in the breach rather than in the observance, and are no doubt the first ladies to have rung on the present twelve. After tea handbells were rung to a small but delighted audience. On the way home we stopped at Ashburton, where there is a newly-hung ring of eight (tenor 21¼ cwt.) in the massive but graceful tower. The intended rise in peal sounded like an attempt to ring up in Queen's, and the local ringers present looked duly astonished. Stedman, Grandsire, Double Norwich and Cambridge were rung on these fine-toned bells.

TWO FAILURES IN ONE MORNING.

On Thursday morning the party divided into three bands. One at Highweek (tenor 11¼ cwt.) attempted a peal of Stedman Triples. Highweek Church faces Wolborough across an intervening valley, and we had hoped that, having heard a peal from its rival on the previous day, it would refuse to be outdone. But it was not to be. After getting beyond half-way in very quick time, and when ringing seemed perfect, it suddenly went the way of so many promising Stedman attempts. Mr. C. R. Lilley came in to condole, and joined us in a touch of Double Norwich and a course of Cambridge. Another band had attempted a peal of Bob Minor on the splendid six at Christow (tenor 14 cwt.). They modestly attributed their failure to inability to ring the method and moved on to Bickington, where the rest of the party had preceded them. Here Mrs. Palmer for the first time rang the treble to Grandsire, and two of the local band were initiated into the art of change ringing.

We all met at Highweek and went hungrily along the Totnes road looking for a shady place for lunch, forgetting that since the leaves were not yet out no shade was to be had. Finally we stopped at Shadrack, where the sun provided a very fair substitute for a burning fiery furnace, in a field in which a bull had just been turned loose. Two of the party preferred to eat and drink by the roadside, to the admiration of passers by.

Totnes has a magnificent stone screen built in 1459, and in its fine red sandstone tower a ring of eight (tenor 28 cwt.), cast by Rudhall in 1732, the earliest eight in Devonshire outside the Cathedral. Curfew has been rung continuously since the Norman Conquest, and the fire alarm is still given by jangling the two trebles. After short touches of Grandsire, Stedman and Plain Bob, we moved on to two six-bell towers, Staverton and Broadhempston. Both have had the upper parts of their ancient screens recently restored. At both we were reminded how much the bellhanger's art has progressed, for the 'go' left much to be desired. It was at Staverton (tenor 21 cwt.) that a local ringer told us how splendid the bells sound 'when they are properly rung.' Here, after tea at the Vicarage, by kind invitation of the Rev. and Mrs. E. D. Drake-Brockman, a course of Grandsire Caters was rung on the lawn, the local ringer being much impressed and observing that 'that was how the tower bells ought to have been rung.' At Staverton we rang spliced Grandsire Doubles and Bob Minor, at Broadhempston more orthodox methods.

LOCAL RINGERS COME TO SEE WHAT'S WRONG.

The last peal attempt was on the Friday morning at Moreton-Hampstead (tenor 15 cwt.). As we started just after 10.15 on a peal timed for 9.15, we reflected that our programme had been drawn up before summer time began and that we were therefore tolerably punctual. After 40 minutes of Kent we stopped, much to the surprise of those listening below, fearing that two bells had shifted, only to discover that all was well. With one change in the band we started again, but things never went quite as well, and after 45 minutes the second attempt came to grief. The rest of the party had gone on first to Drewsteignton, where the Rev. A. R. W. Peck kindly provided them with refreshment, both liquid and solid, and then to Throwleigh, an out of the way little church notable for a remarkably fine priest's door and now possessing a delightful ring of six (tenor 8¾ cwt.).

Lunch was eaten shortly after 2 o'clock on the lawn at Okehampton, by the Vicar's kind permission, and none of the party showed any disposition to hurry over it. Okehampton has a tuneful eight (tenor 16 cwt.), with one of the most strangely clappered tenors ever hung. After repeated experiments, we succeeded in ringing Bob Major tolerably well. And so on to Bridestowe, the last tower of the tour. Here our efforts brought in some of the local band to see what was wrong, but one of them, a former change ringer from up-country, joined us in Grandsire Doubles. Here was rung the only completed course of London of the tour. After a final short touch of Bob Minor, we adjourned to the Rectory, where the Rev. C. S. and Mrs. Fairhurst had very kindly provided tea. To them and to all who entertained us and welcomed us to their towers we owe a big debt of gratitude.

J. H. B. A.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT MABLETHORPE.

A meeting of the Grimsby District of the Northern Branch of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild was held at Mablethorpe on Saturday, May 13th. It was a lovely day to be by the seaside, and some members spent the day there. It was a record meeting for Mablethorpe, members and friends attending from far and near, Alford, Bigby, Barton-on-Humber, Burton-on-Stather, Ulceby, Grimsby (St. James' and St. Andrew's), Old Clee, Killingholme, Waltham and the local tower being represented, while ringing friends were present from Gainsborough (including Mr. Leslie Lunn, secretary of the Gainsborough District), Billingborough, Lincoln and Surfleet (including the Guild Master, Mr. R. Richardson, and Mrs. Richardson), and, if our information is correct, a honeymoon couple from the same district.

The very handy peal of six, although a bit noisy in the ringing room, were made good use of during the afternoon and evening. Service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. J. W. Sutton), who gave an interesting address. Councillor Drury kindly presided at the organ in the absence of the official organist. At the Cafe Regent, 47 sat down to tea. In the absence of the president, the Rector presided over the business meeting which followed.

Mr. J. Parker, of St. Andrew's, Grimsby, was elected a performing member.

The collection for the district bell fund amounted to 11s. 1½d.

Mr. J. Bray referred to the sad death of Mr. Bernard Gillatt, of Burton Stather, at a very early age. Well known in North Lincolnshire, he was a very able ringer.—Members stood in silence to show their deepest respect.

Mr. Barber referred to the first ladies' peal of Minor in the country, rung at Isham 17 years ago that day, as a result of which the Guild Master excelled as a poet. Mr. Barber said he was very glad to see the Guild Master and Mrs. Richardson, and also their daughter, Enid, who was making good progress in ringing.

Mr. C. McGuiness proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for the use of the bells, for conducting the service and for his address, to the organist for ably filling the gap at short notice, also to Mr. F. Barber for all he had done in making the meeting such a success. This was replied to by Councillor Drury, the Rector and Mr F. Barber.

Nice touches on the handbells by some of the 'cream' of Lincolnshire's handbell ringers brought this part of the proceedings to a close, and the members then adjourned to the tower again for further ringing.

RAMPTON BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Through the generosity of the sons of a late Rector of Rampton, we are able to entertain the provision of the fifth bell of our little peal, but I do not think that the offer made will cover the whole cost of the 5th bell. Furthermore I should like to see the possibility of the sixth.

May I take this opportunity once more to thank all ringers who have so far answered my appeal by bell books. There must, however, be still 1,600 books out, and they are coming in slowly. Now is the time to give us a leg up and support this generous offer.

THOMAS L. HAVERS.

Rampton Rectory, Cambridge.

NORFOLK AND SUFFOLK PEALS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It must be due to my defective intellect, but I am invariably puzzled by the Rev. Herbert Drake when he 'takes the floor.' In your last issue he is reported as having spoken about peal totals in Suffolk and Norfolk, but there seems to be something wrong with his arithmetic.

The old Norwich Association in the years 1909 to 1913 inclusive scored 136, 151, 181, 265 and 291 peals. The 291 in 1913 is, of course, still the record 'bag' for any ringing organisation. Even in fateful 1914 the total was 156. These figures do not agree at all with the conclusions drawn on this particular matter by Mr. Drake in his speech at Ipswich.

'OLD RINGER.'

RINGING MASTERS.

We regret that for want of space we are compelled to hold over a letter on this subject from Mr. P. Amos.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(Continued from page 337.)

Mr. J. H. Swinfield said he trusted that the Peak Society would now be re-formed as an active branch of the association as it was when Mr. J. E. L. Cockey was secretary.

The General Hon. Secretary explained that this branch was actually arranging the next quarterly M.C.A. meeting, to be held at Bakewell on June 17th.

This concluded the business, after which a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells by J. Pagett 1-2, C. Harrison 3-4, E. Morris 5-6, W. Allwood 7-8. Further handbell and tower-bell ringing terminated a very happy and successful meeting.

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 4s. per quarter.

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

ALPHINGTON, EXETER, DEVON.—The bells will be re-dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Exeter on Saturday, May 27th, at 2.15 p.m. Garden fete in the Rectory grounds during the afternoon. A ring of eight restored by John Taylor and Co.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Saviour's Church, Bacup, on Saturday, May 27th. Bells from 3 p.m. A short service will be held in church, followed by tea and a short meeting.—Mr. F. Kendall, 30, Lee Road, Lee Wood, Bacup.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—The next meeting is at Ticknall on Saturday, May 27th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Please note: The Ringing Master will arrange methods as required, and members should make every effort to start the holiday well. Your presence will be appreciated.—J. W. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.— V.W.H. Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Faringdon on Saturday, May 27th. Bells (8) available at 2.30. Service at 4.30.—R. Gilling, Hon. Sec., Fernham, Farringdon, Berks.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next meeting has been arranged at Cookham (6 bells) on Saturday, May 27th, at 3.30 p.m. Tea, at 1s. per head.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton and Manchester Branches.—Meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Walkden, on Saturday, May 27th. Bells available 3 p.m.—Peter Crook and J. H. Ridyard, Hon. Secs.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Campsall on Saturday, May 27th. Bells (8) ready at 3 p.m.—E. Cooper, 6, Grosvenor Crescent, Arksey, Doncaster, Yorks.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Please note. Next meeting will be held at Hamer, not Healy as intended, on Saturday, May 27th. All ringers welcome.—I. Kay, Branch Sec.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—On Whit Monday, a meeting will be held at Halesworth. The bells (8) will be available all day, also the six-bell towers of Chediston, Wissett and Wenhaston. Tea and meeting 4.30 p.m., at the Church Rooms. Please advise Mr. F. C. Lambert, 54, Thorofare, Halesworth, of number for tea.—H. G. Herbert, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — The 60th annual meeting will be held at Chelmsford on Whit Monday, May 29th. Service in the Cathedral at 11.30 a.m., with address by the Venerable E. N. Gowing, Archdeacon of Southend. Lunch in the Corn Exchange 12.30 p.m., followed by the meeting. Towers open for ringing during the day: Cathedral (12), Great Baddow (8), Galleywood

(8), Great Waltham (8), Writtle (8), Widford (8), Boreham (8), Broomfield (6), Danbury (6), Springfield (6), Little Waltham (6). A good attendance is requested.—L. J. Clark, Gen. Sec., 36, Lynmouth Avenue, Chelmsford.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — The annual meeting will be held at Peterborough on Whit-Monday, May 29th. Central Committee meet at 10.45 a.m. in St. Mary's Reading Room. Service in the Cathedral at 12 noon, with address by the Very Rev. the Dean, President of the Guild. Luncheon at the Angel Hotel at 1 p.m., followed by business meeting. Bells available: St. John's (8), St. Mary's (6), Woodston (6) from 10 a.m. throughout the day and after the meeting. Stanground (5) and the Whittlesey towers (8) will be also available.—Robert G. Black, Gen. Sec., Stamford Road, Geddington, Kettering.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Plymouth on Whit Monday, May 29th. Service in St. Andrew's Church at 12 noon. Luncheon at Goodbody's Restaurant, Bedford Street, at 1 p.m., followed by business meeting. Bells available: St. Andrew's (10), Charles (10), St. George's, Stonehouse (8), and Stoke Damerel (6).—T. Laver, Gen. Sec., 21, Cross Park Park, Heavitree, Exeter.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held on Whit Monday, May 29th, at Bridgnorth, Salop. 3.30 p.m., service at St. Leonard's Church, with address by Rev. Preb. J. S. Jobling. 4.15 p.m., tea at Swan Hotel, followed by annual general meeting. Following bells will be available: St. Leonard's (8) from 12 noon, also Chetton (6), Quatt (6) and Chelmarsh (6) for parties making own arrangements. Several districts hope to arrange buses; for these apply to district secretaries. — Rev. E. G. Benson, Burghill Vicarage, Hereford.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meeting at Southwark Cathedral, May 30th, at 7.30 p.m., St. Clement Danes, June 1st. — A. B. Peck, Sec., 1 Eversfield Road, Reigate.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX.—Prittlewell's 10 bells will be open for ringing on Wednesday, May 31st, 3-5 p.m. and 6-8 p.m., when all ringers will be welcome, including Ladies' Guild. Service at 8 p.m. for dedication of three peal boards.—F. B. Lufkin, Tower Master.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — The Annual Festival will be held at Runcorn on Saturday, June 3rd. Service at 3 p.m. Meeting at 4. Tea at 5, 2/- each (1/6 to members). The bells at Runcorn and Daresbury will be available from 2 to 3 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m.; and Frodsham from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and after 6 p.m. Will those who intend to visit Frodsham during the morning please communicate with Mr. W. Bibby, London Road, Frodsham. There is a good bus service between Warrington, Runcorn, Chester and Frodsham. Tickets for tea are obtainable from the Branch Secretaries before June 1st. Any further information can be obtained from H. Parker, 3, London Road, Davenham, Cheshire.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District.—The next district meeting will be held at St. Mary's, East Molesey, on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Service at 5 o'clock. Tea at the New Inn at 5.30, followed by business meeting. Ringing again in the evening. Numbers for tea to be sent to Mr. F. Brown, 4, Cul-de-Sac Road, East Molesey, not later than Thursday, June 1st. All ringers welcome.—F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Sec., 28, Strathearn Road, Sutton, Surrey.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Blackburn, on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. Everybody welcome.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

ELY ST. MARY'S, CAMBS. — The bells will be rededicated on Saturday, June 3rd. A ring of 8 bells restored by John Taylor & Co.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Derby district.—The next meeting will be held at Melbourne on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. For tea, please notify Mr. Charles Davies, Castle Street, Melbourne. All ringers welcome. Reports to hand. Subscriptions due.—Wm. Lancaster, Hon. Sec., 83, Albert Road, Chaddesden, Derby.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—North Norfolk Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Hethersett on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells (8), rehung and recast by John Taylor and Co., available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea (1s. 3d.) in Church Room 5 p.m. Meeting follows. Special method, Double Mancroft Bob Major. All ringers welcome. Those requiring tea, please notify me not later than Wednesday, May 31st, as I shall book tea only for those members of whom I secure names or numbers. Good bus service from Norwich (Castle Meadows). Leave 1.35, 2.4, 2.34, 3.4, and 3.30.—Henry Tooke, Branch Sec., The Lizard, Wymondham, Norfolk.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — Northern Division.—A meeting of this division will be held at Belchamp St. Paul's on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. It is essential that all who intend to be present for tea should notify Mr. W. Cutmore, Olive Cottage, Belchamp St. Paul's, Sudbury, Suffolk, not later than Wednesday, May 31st. All ringers welcome.—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Dis. Sec., 3, Belle Vue, Hedingham Road, Halstead, Essex.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Ashover on Saturday June 3rd. Bells available 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock. Will those who require tea please inform me by Wednesday, May 31st?—J. W. England, 49, The Common, South Normanton.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Kingsley on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Will those requiring tea Kindly notify Mr. H. Carnwell, Sunnyside, Kingsley, near Cheadle, Staffs, not later than May 31st.—Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol City Branch.—A combined ringing meeting will be held with the Bristol 'Rural and Wotton Branches on Saturday, June 3rd, at St. James' (10) and St. John's (6). Bells open from 3.30 p.m. Please advise for tea to 5, Addison Road, Bristol 3.—A. M. Tyler, Branch Hon. Sec.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Archdeaconry of Ely Branch.—A meeting will be held at Horningsea on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells from 3 p.m. Short service at 4.30. Tea at 5. Please support this meeting at a fresh town with bells lately rehung.—C. W. Cook, Dis. Sec., Newton, Cambridge.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Guilsborough Branch.—Special meeting will be held at Clipston (5 bells) on Saturday, June 3rd. Usual arrangements.—H. H. Shrives, Hon. Branch Sec., The Mill, Long Buckby, Rugby.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—The next meeting will take place at St. George's, Jesmond, at 3.15, on June 3rd. The Osborne Road trolley bus from the town stops at the church.—Jack Roach, Hon. Dis. Sec.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — CHANGE OF DATE.—Meeting at Cound (6 bells) on June 3rd. Visitors will be very welcome at this delightful village, if notice for tea is sent to W. A. Tanner, 70, Oakfield Road, Shrewsbury.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION (Northern District) AND CLEVELAND ASSOCIATION.—By the courtesy of the Dean and Chapter, a joint meeting of the above associations will be held at Ripon Cathedral on Saturday, June 3rd. The fine peal of ten bells will be available for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Tea will be served at the Black Bull Hotel at 5 p.m. at a charge of 1s. 3d. per head. Names for tea to Mr. E. Hudson, 4, Keldale Terrace, Sharow, Ripon, before June 1st. A short business meeting will be held after tea. Please try to be present.—E. Hudson and J. Reed, Hon. Secs.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Christchurch District.—A combined meeting with the Wimborne Branch of the Salisbury Guild will be held at St. Peter's, Bournemouth, on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m. Bells of St. John's, Surrey Road, at 6.30 p.m.—G. Preston, Dis. Sec., 42, Waterloo Place, Christchurch.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—By-meeting will be held at Hunton (six bells) on Saturday, June 3rd. Usual arrangements. Learners especially welcomed, also visitors. Kindly advise me for tea not later than June 1st.—R. G. Rayfield, Hon. Dis. Sec., Downsview, Spring Lane, Ightham.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—The annual festival will be held at Shenley on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Everybody welcome. Secretary to be elected. Numbers for tea in good time.—Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—The branch will meet at Marham on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5. A welcome for all.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Shireoaks Church (6 bells), near Worksop, on Saturday, June 3rd. For tea, please notify Mr. H. Hall, Meersham House, Shireoaks, Worksop.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 13, St. Ronans Road, Sheffield 7.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—Next practice meeting will be held at Langdale, Holy Trinity (6 bells), on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells available at 3 p.m.—N. M. Newby, Sec., Furness and Lake District.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Central Branch.—The ring of eight bells, St. Mary's, Ely, restored by Taylors, will be re-dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Ely on Saturday, June 3rd, at 3 p.m. Tea free to those who notify Mr. H. Cole, 84, West Fen Road, Ely, Cambs, by June 1st. Will all association members and friends make special effort to attend?—F. Warrington and A. R. Paul, Dis. Secs.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—A meeting of the Lincoln District will be held at Brant-Broughton (6 bells, tenor 24 cwt.) on Saturday, June 3rd, available at 2.30 until 9 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Tea at moderate charge to those who inform me by Wednesday, May 31st. Beckingham bells (6, tenor 13 cwt.) will be available after tea.—Kenneth W. Mayer, Dis. Sec., 31, Vine Street, Lincoln.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Rowde (6 bells) on Saturday, June 3rd. Ringing commences 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. Please advise me early how many will attend the tea and oblige.—W. C. West, Branch Hon. Sec., 584, Semington Road, Melksham.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Bennington on June 3rd at 3 p.m. Tea and business meeting as usual. Please come and see the noted tower, and have a ring on the Bennington bells.—A. Lawrence, Dis. Sec.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—A combined practice of Andover and Basingstoke Districts will be held at Whitchurch on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells from 2.30 Tea at 4.30 p.m. in Church Room. Names for tea to Rev. F. S. H. Marle, Deane Rectory, Basingstoke.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Halsall, on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Tea will be free, for which please notify Mr. A. Maudsley, Post Office, Halsall, nr. Ormskirk, by Wed., May 31st.—S. Forshaw, 55, Poolstock, Wigan.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A mid-week meeting will be held at St. Mary Magdalene, Enfield, on Wednesday, June 7th. Bells available from 5 p.m. All welcome.—T. J. Lock, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The memorial window to the late Canon Elsee, at St. George's, Bolton, will be dedicated on Saturday, June 10th, by the Rev. Arthur Scott, M.A. (President). Service at 3.30 p.m., conducted by the Rev. Bertram Jones, M.A. (Vicar). Tea, at a nominal charge, in Schools, at 5 p.m. Please inform Mr. E. Ford, 384, Chorley Old Road, Bolton, how many will require tea before June 8th.—W. H. Shuker and T. Wilson, Hon. Secs.

CHEADLE PARISH CHURCH, STAFFS. — The bells will be rededicated by the Bishop of Lichfield on Saturday, June 10th, at 2.30 p.m. A ring of six restored by John Taylor and Co.

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KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—The summer meeting will be held at Selling on Saturday, June 10th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Tea 1s. per head. Fares allowed to members attending this meeting (maximum 2s.). Numbers for tea should reach me not later than Wednesday, June 7th.—B. J. Ruck, 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Clent, near Stourbridge, on Saturday, June 10th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service in church at 4.30. Tea will be provided at a small charge of 6d. each. It is essential that all who require tea will let me know not later than THURSDAY, JUNE 1st, as the caterer cannot provide for any whose names are sent after that date.—Herbert Sheppard, 17, Grange Road, Dudley.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 1,471. Vol. XXXIV. FRIDAY, JUNE 2nd, 1939. [Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.] Price 3d.

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A DERBYSHIRE TASK.

Ringers living in the northern part of Derbyshire must welcome the effort which the Midland Counties Association has just made to revive its work in the Chesterfield district. Without the backing of an active organisation, ringing has a tendency to wilt, and ringers seem to lose interest. This has happened in the area where a new start was made on Saturday week, and it is to be hoped that there will be a rallying of forces to the assistance of the newly-appointed officers in what will probably be an uphill struggle. It is not easy to pull a district out of lethargy when it has been allowed to drift, and how sadly this had happened in the Chesterfield District may be judged from the fact that at the last annual meeting there were not even any officers appointed. When the local organisation comes so near to extinction as this, it will not be an easy task to bring it back to full life, and it should be the concern of every ringer in the area to give support to the men who have undertaken the work.

What the real cause of the final decline in interest was, we do not know, but it is not difficult to realise that it began with the closing down of the bells of Chesterfield church, itself a centre of great activity in ringing throughout a long period of years. With the silencing of the bells there was bound to be a slackening of interest, with all the doleful results which it inevitably brings about, and it is impossible to sustain animation in an organisation from without, if there is no life within. The nerve centre of the Midland Counties Association is now, at any rate, situated in Leicester, and is somewhat distant from North Derbyshire. This in itself must have made it all the harder to keep things going, and it rather indicates the desirability of further consideration of the whole position. The association spreads into a number of counties and more or less covers four dioceses, and there seems to be something to be said for those who contend that the time has arrived when there should be a decentralisation into separate diocesan organisations. When Sir Arthur Heywood founded the association, some sixty years ago, there was good reason for one large embracing organisation instead of setting up a number of small ones, but the growth of the number of bells in the area, the increase in membership, the spread of change ringing and, above all, the tendency in these days to link up the activities of ringing on diocesan lines, does suggest, not that the Midland Counties Association has in any sense outlived its usefulness, but that some further step towards diocesan management and interest might be well worth consideration. Only a few months ago a Derby

(Continued on page 346.)

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Diocesan Association was suggested; it may be that such an organisation under the ægis of the Midland Counties Association might help to stimulate interest both among ringers and clergy.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Tuesday, May 23, 1939, in Three Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES, 5037 CHANGES;

Tenor 37 cwt.

DANIEL T. MATKIN ...	...*Treble*	MORRIS J. MORRIS	7
ALBERT WALKER	2	*HOWARD HOWELL	8
*SIDNEY O'C. HOLLOWAY ...	3	*RONALD H. DOVE	9
†RONALD I. SHEPHERD ...	4	*JOHN S. MASON	10
‡ALFRED ALLEN	5	FRANK E. HAYNES	11
WILLIAM C. DOWDING ...	6	SIDNEY J. JESSOP ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by M. J. MORRIS (No. 1). Conducted by D. T. MATKIN

* First peal of Grandsire Cinques. † First peal on 12 bells. ‡ First peal on 12 bells and in the method.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Wednesday, May 24, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt. in C sharp.

FRED HAYES	...*Treble*	EDWARD R. COLES	7
*MRS. F. W. HOUSDEN ...	2	THOMAS H. FRANCIS	8
ALFRED H. PULLING... ...	3	GEORGE W. STEERE	9
CHARLES T. COLES	4	LEONARD STILWELL	10
RALPH COLES	5	JAMES BENNETT	11
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH	6	GEORGE H. CROSS ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS.

* First peal of Cinques. Rung in celebration of Empire Day.

CROYDON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 27, 1939, in Three Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 36 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb. in C.

GEORGE WILLIAMS ...	...*Treble*	WALTER AYRE	7
WILLIAM H. BARBER	2	SIDNEY F. PALMER	8
HERBERT KNIGHT	3	RUPERT RICHARDSON	9
ALBERT WALKER	4	GEORGE W. FLETCHER ...	10
WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON ...	5	FREDERICK W. ROGERS ...	11
GABRIEL LINDOFF	6	ALBERT A. HUGHES ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

All the above are members of the Central Council.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT, FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF ENGLAND.

On Saturday, May 27, 1939, in Three Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-BOW, CHEAPSIDE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES, 5038 CHANGES;

Tenor 53 cwt.

BRO. HENRY HODGETTS, M.M., Wilson Isles, No. 2054 ...	...*Treble*
BRO. EDWIN BARNETT, M.M., Gavelkind, No. 4266	2
BRO. HORACE GOODENOUGH, M.M., Semper Fidelis, No. 4393...	3
BRO. REGINALD C. H. CONNOLY, M.M., Sir Bevis, No. 5072 ...	4
BRO. GEORGE R. NEWTON, M.M., Temperance, No. 2714 ...	5
BRO. GEORGE W. STEERE, M.M., Sowest, No. 3797	6
BRO. JOHN H. B. HESSE, M.M., Cama, No. 2015	7
BRO. ARTHUR D. BARKER, M.M., St. Clement Danes, No. 1351	8
BRO. STAFFORD H. GREEN, M.M., Whitgift, No. 3617	9
WOR. BRO. FREDERICK WHITE, P.M., Holmesdale, No. 874 ...	10
BRO. ALFRED B. PECK, S.W., Lux in Tenebris, No. 3457 ...	11
WOR. BRO. J. H. FREEBORN, P.M., Chorley Wood, No. 3247	...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by BRO. G. R. NEWTON.

The first peal of Grandsire Cinques rung by a band of Freemasons.

LONDON.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Monday, May 29, 1939, in Three Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD, SHOREDITCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt. in D flat.

ERNEST C. TURNER	*Treble*	CHARLES H. KIPPEN	7
WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON	2	SIDNEY F. PALMER	8
HERBERT KNIGHT	3	RUPERT RICHARDSON	9
SIDNEY O'C. HOLLOWAY	4	LESLIE H. G. MORRIS	10
ALBERT WALKER	5	WILLIAM BARBER	11
GABRIEL LINDOFF	6	JAMES H. SHEPHERD	*Tenor*

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Monday, May 29, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES, CRIPPLEGATE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 36 cwt.

FREDERICK G. SYMONDS	*Treble*	STANLEY J. T. SHELLOCK	7
JOSEPH D. JOHNSON	2	THOMAS H. FRANCIS	8
GEORGE H. CROSS	3	FREDERICK J. CULLUM	9
MRS. C. J. MATTHEWS	4	HARRY HOVERD	10
*EDWARD T. GRIFFIN	5	GEORGE W. STEERE	11
H. RICHARD FRENCH	6	JAMES BENNETT	*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS.

* First peal of Stedman Cinques. Rung in honour of the birth of a grandson to Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Symonds.

TEN BELL PEAL.

CREWE, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 27, 1939, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5183 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

JAMES H. RIDING	*Treble*	HARRY OVERTON	6
GEORGE A. PACKER	2	RICHARD D. LANGFORD	7
ROBERT SPERRING	3	ARTHUR PRITCHARD	8
HARRY F. HOLDING	4	PERCY SWINDLEY	9
WILLIAM J. CHESTER	5	HARRY THELWELL	*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by R. D. LANGFORD.

First peal of Stedman as conductor. Rung as a birthday compliment to H.M. Queen Mary.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BOREHAM, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 20, 1939, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 19 lb.

PERCY GREEN	*Treble*	*NORMAN F. GRINHAM	5
GEORGE GREEN	2	GEORGE SAUNDERS	6
*WALTER DORKING	3	*CHRISTOPHER JAGGARD	7
ARTHUR H. EVERETT	4	JOSEPH C. JENNINGS	*Tenor*

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by PERCY GREEN.

* First peal of Treble Bob. Arranged as a birthday compliment to Mr. George Green.

THRAPSTON, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 20, 1939, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 7 lb.

ARTHUR K. HARRISON	*Treble*	LEWIS W. KILBORN	5
BERNARD J. SADDINGTON	2	CHRISTOPHER G. HENDRY	6
GEOFFREY E. WATSON	3	BURLEY P. MORRIS	7
*RAYMOND F. LAW	4	WILLIAM J. WHITMORE	*Tenor*

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by W. J. WHITMORE.

* First peal.

RUARDEAN, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(SOUTH FOREST BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 20, 1939, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S ONE-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

JOSEPH HARPER	*Treble*	JOHN J. WEBB	5
JOHN AUSTIN	2	GEORGE WILKS	6
JOHN CLARK	3	WILLIAM BISHOP	7
SYDNEY E. ROMANS	4	HOWARD MEEK	*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

Rung half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Mrs. Alice Horlick, a generous benefactor to the church and parish.

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, May 20, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 19¾ cwt.

JAMES BENNETT	*Treble*	GEORGE BENNETT	5
JOHN H. ARBON	2	GEORGE WIGHTMAN	6
GEORGE WHITING	3	T. WILLIAM LAST	7
*FRANK STERRY	4	JAMES BENNETT, JUN.	*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. MIDDLETON. Conducted by T. W. LAST.

* First peal of Major.

SILVERDALE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 20, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

VICARS' SIX-PART. Tenor 9½ cwt.

CLAUDE TEMPLETON	*Treble*	ALAN D. STEEL	5
*WILLIAM CARNWELL	2	JOHN G. CARTLIDGE	6
WILLIS BUCKLEY	3	ANDREW THOMPSON	7
EDWARD STEELE	4	LEN DAVIES	*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN G. CARTLIDGE.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor. A compliment to Mr. W. Edwards and Miss M. Hill upon their marriage.

LODDON, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, May 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt.

I. N. PUMPHREY	*Treble*	R. DRAINE	5
G. G. WALPOLE	2	ERIC DURRANT	6
R. WARMAN	3	W. C. MEDLER	7
L. LISTER	4	E. V. BLAKE	*Tenor*

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by E. V. BLAKE.

CHILVERS COTON, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Monday, May 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

JOHNSON'S VARIATION OF MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 13¾ cwt.

JAMES DRAYCOTT	*Treble*	FRANK W. PERRENS	5
*JOHN E. S. MORETON	2	FREDERICK H. DEXTER	6
JOSEPH H. W. WHITE	3	†JOHN GIBBONS	7
MRS. D. E. BEAMISH	4	ARTHUR H. BEAMISH	*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK W. PERRENS.

* First peal in the method 'inside.' † First Surprise peal.

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BRAINTREE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, BRISTOL, CAMBRIDGE & SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 11½ cwt. in G.

SAMUEL WARNE	...*Treble*	RONALD SOCKLING	5
HILDA G. SNOWDEN	2	*HARRY G. FELTON	6
FRANK CLAYDON	3	LEWIS W. WIFFEN	7
ALBERT WIFFEN	4	*WALTER ARNOLD ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by E. C. S. TURNER. Conducted by LEWIS W. WIFFEN

* First peal in spliced methods. The peal consisted of 2,944 London, 640 Bristol, 640 Superlative and 832 Cambridge, with 112 changes of method.

SHERFIELD ENGLISH, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, May 24, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr. 1 lb.

ALICE M. SCOTT ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ...	5
GEORGE WILLIAMS	2	ERNEST J. MUNDAY	6
LESLIE A. TREMEER	3	REGINALD A. REED	7
*ANNE M. GUY	4	A. PATRICK CANNON ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by R. A. REED.

* First peal of Double Norwich, at first attempt. First peal of Double Norwich as conductor. Rung to celebrate Empire Day.

UFFORD, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Wednesday, May 24, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb.

FREDERICK C. NICHOLS ...*Treble*	GEORGE R. FINCH	5
GEORGE BERRY	2	FRANK L. FISHER	6
CHARLES E. FISHER	3	†PHILIP C. BICKNELL	7
*JOE PREASTNER	4	JAMES M. BAILEY ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by FRANK L. FISHER.

* First peal on eight bells. † First peal of Treble Bob. First peal of Treble Bob as conductor and first attempt. A birthday compliment to Frederick J. Smith, of Ipswich.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, May 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

*JOHN O. LANCASHIRE	...*Treble*	*HARRY BROUGHTON	5
*ARNOLD BRUNTON	2	*WM. J. ROOT	6
*SHIRLEY BURTON	3	COLIN HARRISON	7
*SIDNEY O. CHENEY	4	FREDERICK H. DEXTER	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. CRAVEN. Conducted by ARNOLD BRUNTON.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method in Leicester. Rung on the 'Stelfox' eight.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Thursday, May 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 13 cwt.

CLIFFORD SKIDMORE ...	...*Treble*	BERNARD LAWTON	5
ALFRED DAVIES	2	*JOHN WILLIAM SMITH ...	6
THOMAS TOWNSEND	3	WILLIAM DAVIES	7
HAROLD SHUCK	4	HENRY HUBBALL ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALFRED DAVIES.

* First peal of Stedman.

SOWERBY, YORKS.—At St. Peter's for memorial service for the late Capt Bethune, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by the following on Sunday, May 28th, with bells half-muffled: H. Robinson 1, H. Smith (conductor) 2, E. Williams 3, A. Riley 4, H. Lumb 5, G. Briggs 6, W. Smith 7, E. Lumb 8.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(OXFORD SOCIETY.)

On Thursday, May 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EBBE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

FRANCIS E. TAYLOR ...	...*Treble*	BERNARD S. NICHOLLS ...	5
GEORGE AYRES	2	WILLIAM C. PORTER	6
CHARLES COLES	3	WILLIAM H. B. WILKINS ...	7
*EDWARD J. B. MORTON ...	4	RICHARD T. SARGENT ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by F. E. TAYLOR.

* First peal of Stedman.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, May 27, 1939, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE-THE-MARTYR, SOUTHWARK,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

MRS. F. W. HOUSDEN...	...*Treble*	MISS E. STERL	5
MRS. P. HUMPHREY	2	MRS. J. E. DAVIS...	6
MRS. P. BAGWORTH	3	MRS. J. BOTHAM	7
MRS. C. MATTHEWS	4	MRS. G. W. FLETCHER	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by MRS. G. W. FLETCHER

Rung in honour of the birthday of H.M. Queen Mary.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 27, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES-IN-THE-FIELDS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

MRS. R. RICHARDSON ...	...*Treble*	*GEORGE A. PARSONS	5
AUBREY L. BENNETT	2	CHARLES T. COLES	6
GEORGE R. PYE	3	WILLIAM J. NUDDS	7
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH	4	JAMES BENNETT	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. HUNT. Conducted by JAMES BENNETT.

* First peal in the method.

CLIFFORD, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 27, 1939, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 12½ cwt.

WILLIAM H. SYMONDS	...*Treble*	AUSTIN T. WINGATE	5
JAMES P. HYETT	2	LESLIE EVANS	6
GEORGE T. COUSINS	3	ERNEST F. SALMONS	7
WILFRED MORETON	4	ERNEST H. WILLIAMS...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by E. F. SALMONS.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

SIDBURY, DEVON.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Tuesday, May 16, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, with 10 callings. Tenor 19 cwt. in E.

*WILLIAM T. PINN ...	...*Treble*	*KENNETH T. CLARKE ...	4
CHARLES R. LILLEY	2	BRYAN PIDGEON...	5
*MICHAEL E. DENNER ...	3	*REGINALD J. BUTT ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

* First peal. First peal on the bells.

LLANFRECHFA, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, May 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents with five different callings. Tenor 8 cwt.

JOHN W. JONES	...*Treble*	WILLIAM POWELL	4
REV. IVOR J. RICHARDS ...	2	LESLIE BAINHAM	5
SHIRLEY BURTON...	3	ROBERT SMITH	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ROBERT SMITH.

First peal of Cambridge Minor for all and for the association. Rung for the festival of the Ascension.

STOKE ASH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Wednesday, May 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents each of Stedman Slow Course, St. Simon's and Canterbury Pleasure, 10 of Grandsire and 11 of Plain Bob.
Tenor 6½ cwt.

*ARCHIE E. LOCK	...*Treble*	LEONARD H. LOCK	3
VERA E. GOODENHAM ...	2	FREDERICK G. POPPY	4
		WILLIAM A. LOCK ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by L. H. LOCK

* First peal. First peal as conductor. Rung on the second anniversary of the augmentation of the bells and to commemorate the completion by the Rector (the Rev. F. R. H. Perkins) of 50 years in the ministry.

CROFT, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, May 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's called differently. Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 6 lb. in B.

*FREDERICK WATSON	...*Treble*	GEORGE CHARLTON	4
JOHN H. BAYLISS	2	ERNEST MORRIS	5
*FRANK LONG	3	WILLIAM A. WOOD ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

* First peal in the method at the first attempt. Rung on the eve of Ascension Day for the 11th anniversary of the dedication of the bells.

FELKIRK, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)
On Thursday, May 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three extents of Oxford, two each of Kent and Plain Bob, each called differently. Tenor 10 cwt.

PETER WOODWARD	...*Treble*	OLIVER GREATHEAD	4
J. THOMAS WHITE	2	RONALD H. DOVE...	5
EDGAR C. STACEY	3	DANIEL SMITH	...*Tenor*

Conducted by DANIEL SMITH.

Rung in honour of Ascension Day. Also to celebrate the birth of the first grandson of the ringer of the fourth.

WILLESBOROUGH, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 20, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being an extent each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob spliced, Cambridge, Double Court, Double Oxford, Double Bob, St. Clement's and and Oxford and three 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 19½ cwt. in D.

ERNEST POWELL	...*Treble*	CHARLES L. SMITH	4
RAYMOND J. CARLTON... ...	2	WILLIAM J. LANCEFIELD ...	5
ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD ...	3	EDWARD S. RUCK	...*Tenor*

Conducted by EDWARD S. RUCK.

First peal in eight methods by all the band. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. F. Brisley, a chorister at this church for 54 years.

BUXTON, DERBYSHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 20, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER, FAIRFIELD,
A PEAL OF SPLICED TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents in 17 methods: (1) Ockley and Norbury Treble Bob; (2) Duke of Norfolk and College Exercise Treble Bob; (3) Newdigate and Willesden Delight; (4) Old Oxford and College Bob IV. Delight; (5) Charlwood and Wragby Delight; (6) Neasden and St. Albans Delight; (7) Capel, Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 12 cwt. 7 lb.

ALBERT T. BANCROFT ...	...*Treble*	ERIC ELLISON	4
REV. FRANK BONNER	2	C. KENNETH LEWIS	5
THOMAS TAYLOR	3	JAMES A. MILNER ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. K. LEWIS.

Rung in connection with the centenary celebrations at this church. There were 49 changes of method.

HAVERING-ATTE-BOWER, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 20, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-EVANGELIST,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

E. Bankes James' Arrangement. Tenor 16 cwt.

MRS. JOHN H. CRAMPION ...	*Treble*	ERNEST J. BOILER	4
ERIC J. COE	2	JOHN G. NASH	5
ALFRED PRIOR	3	JOHN H. CRAMPION ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN H. CRAMPION.

First peal on the bells.

STOKE-ON-TERN, SHROPSHIRE.
THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 20, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob and two of Plain Bob.
Tenor 8 cwt.

WALTER LYCETT ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM J. CHESTER	4
*THOMAS LEECH	2	EDWARD V. RODENHURST ...	5
THOMAS PRICE	3	ARTHUR PRITCHARD ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.

* First peal in six methods. A birthday compliment to Mr. W. Saunders, of Coalbrookdale.

HORSMONDEN, KENT.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 20, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 19½ cwt. in D.

REGINALD E. LAMBERT ...	...*Treble*	FRANK H. HICKS	4
FREDERICK J. LAMBERT, SEN.	2	ROBERT T. LAMBERT	5
LESLIE W. JARVIS	3	ALBERT RELFE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALBERT RELFE.

THURLBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, May 20, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. FIRMIN,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising 12 six-scores of Plain Bob and 30 of Grandsire.
Tenor 12 cwt. (approx.).

*J. T. POLLARD	...*Treble*	W. NEAL	3
*W. H. OLDMAN	2	*F. W. FRENCH	4
H. GIBBARD	...*Tenor*		

Conducted by H. GIBBARD.

* First peal of Doubles. Rung as a welcome to the Vicar (the Rev. W. G. Summers).

KINGSTONE, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 20, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings. Tenor 10 cwt.

A. COLCOMBE	...*Treble*	*A. J. YOUNG	4
T. H. YOUNG	2	E. F. SALMONS	5
A. OAKLEY	3	H. D. WRIGHT	.. *Tenor*

Conducted by T. H. YOUNG.

* First peal of Doubles 'inside.' First peal as conductor.

BOZEAT, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
(WELLINGBOROUGH BRANCH.)
On Sunday, May 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Twelve extents of Plain Bob and 30 of Grandsire. Tenor 18½ cwt. in E.

RESWIN BAYES	...*Treble*	MAX LAUGHTON	3
EDWARD SMART	2	DONALD L. COCKINGS	4
THOMAS FLEMING ...	...*Tenor*		

Conducted by D. L. COCKINGS.

First peal by all except conductor. Rung in honour of the election of the Vicar as president of the Wellingborough Branch.

SHELFANGER, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, May 23, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 21 six-scores each of St. Simon's and Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt.

HERBERT WOODROW ...	...*Treble*	GEOFFREY KEMP	3
W. ARCHIE LOCK	2	LEONARD H. LOCK	4
FREDERICK C. ROPER ...	...*Tenor*		

Conducted by W. ARCHIE LOCK.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute to the late Mr. Ellis, churchwarden, who was interred the same day.

HITCHAM, BUCKS.
THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
On Wednesday, May 24, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Reverse College, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Oxford Treble Bob, Single Oxford and St. Clement's Bob. Tenor 6 cwt. 11 lb. in A.

*WILFRED GOWING ...	...*Treble*	BRYAN O'NEILL	4
†JAMES D. TAYLOR	2	WILLIAM HENLEY	5
CYRIL A. BURGESS	3	GEORGE GILBERT	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEO. GILBERT.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal in seven methods. Rung for Empire Day.

INTWOOD, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, May 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Comprising four extents each of Reading, New Bob, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and Stedman, six of St. Simon's, eight of Plain Bob and twelve of Grandsire. Tenor 8 cwt. in A flat.

CEDRIC CURSON	...*Treble*	GEORGE MAYERS	3
ERNEST G. SHORTING	2	NOLAN GOLDEN	4
CECIL V. EBBERSON ...	...*Tenor*		

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

First peal in seven Doubles methods by all except the conductor.

HANDBELL PEALS.

ROTHERHAM, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, May 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
AT 19, MIDDLE LANE SOUTH,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

T. COLIN RYDER	1-2	HAROLD CHANT	5-6
ALBERT NASH	3-4	SIDNEY F. PALMER	7-8

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by ALBERT NASH.

BURBAGE, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, May 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,
AT STEDMAN, SKETCHLEY ROAD,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
WASHBROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor size 15 in C.

*ALFRED BALLARD	1-2	WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ...	5-6
EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD ...	3-4	FRANK MEASURES...	7-8

Conducted by FRANK MEASURES.

* First peal of Triples 'in hand.' The conductor's first peal on more than six handbells.

LONDON.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, May 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Nineteen Minutes,
AT 30, LAUREL GROVE, PENGE, S.E.,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (6th observation).

*GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ...	1-2	†FRANCIS C. SHORTER... ...	5-6
DEREK M. SHARP	3-4	†GEORGE W. FOGDEN	7-8

Conducted by DEREK M. SHARP.

* First peal of Grandsire Triples 'in hand.' † First peal 'in hand.' First peal of Grandsire Triples 'in hand' as conductor.

PEAL NOTES.

The Royal Cumberland Youths celebrated Empire Day by ringing a peal of Stedman Cinques at High Wycombe, conducted by the Master, Mr. George Cross. It was not the first peal the society had rung in this Buckinghamshire tower, where, nearly 200 years ago, John Holt called a peal of 'Bob Trebles.' The Cumberlands rang a muffled peal of Stedman Cinques at High Wycombe in 1916 'in faithful memory of Buckinghamshire men who had fallen in the Great War.' Three of that band, Messrs. F. Hayes, R. Coles and E. R. Coles, were in the peal on Wednesday week.

Incidentally the Empire Day peal rounded off what, we think, must be a rather unusual achievement. Without having in any way planned to do it, Mr. J. S. Goldsmith has rung peals in methods all the way up from Minor to Maximus since the beginning of this year. He is now accused of having joined the P.G.U.

In honour of Ascension Day, a peal of Minor was rung at Felkirk, Yorks, on May 18th. The peal also celebrated the birth, on May 10th, of Mr. Oliver Greathead's first grandson.

A peal of Grandsire Triples at Silverdale, Staffordshire, on May 20th, was a wedding compliment to Mr. W. Edwards and Miss M. Hill. Mr. W. Carnwell scored his 50th peal, which was, incidentally, his first peal of Grandsire.

Mr. James Bennett, of London, rang the treble to a peal of Cambridge Surprise Major at Helmingham, Suffolk, on May 20th, and thus completed the circle of the tower. Mr. F. Sterry, of Earl Stonham, achieved a distinction that few can claim. To ring an inside bell to a Surprise method as one's first peal of Major, having previously rung only one peal, and that Doubles, was a highly creditable performance upon which he is to be congratulated.

Mr. R. E. Lambert, of Horsmonden, rang his 200th peal on May 20th when he took part in a peal of Minor at his home tower.

The peal of Doubles rung at Thurlby, Lincs, on May 20th, to welcome the new Vicar (the Rev. W. G. Summers), also welcomed into the world the baby son of Mr. R. Daff, one of the Thurlby ringers.

MR. W. J. NUDDS' RECORD.

The peal of Double Norwich Major at St. Giles'-in-the-Fields, London, on Saturday, was the first on the bells since they were rehung last autumn by Messrs. Taylor and Co. It was very nearly a birthday celebration for Mr. W. J. Nudds. He was 71 last Monday.

It is just 50 years ago that he rang his first peal. This was at Diss, Norfolk, and his father took part in it—the last peal that he rang.

Since that time Mr. Nudds has taken part in some remarkable performances, among them the 18,027 Stedman Caters at Loughborough in 1909, the first time that one set of men ever rang the clock round, the 10,440 of Cambridge Surprise Royal at Walthamstow in 1923, and the 7,392 of Cambridge Maximus at Bow in 1925.

On Monday a peal of Stedman Cinques at Cripplegate was earmarked as a birthday compliment to him.

The peal in four Spliced Surprise Major methods at Braintree, Essex, on May 22nd, was rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Harry Felton. Mr. Albert Wiffin has now twice 'completed the circle' at St. Michael's, Braintree.

Mr. James Hyett, of Hay, rang his 250th peal for the Hereford Diocesan Guild on Saturday, when he took part in a peal of Grandsire Triples at Clifford. Wilfred Moreton, who is only 14 years of age, rang the fourth and rang it perfectly.

A five-bell peal in seven methods was rung at Intwood, Norfolk, on May 25th. It was the first in seven Doubles methods by all except the conductor (Mr. N. Golden), and the first in more than four methods on the bells.

A peal of Bob Minor rung at Croft, Leicestershire, on May 17th, for the eleventh anniversary of the dedication of the bells, also marked the 21st anniversary of the wedding of Mr. W. A. Wood, who has now 'circled' the tower. There were four local men in the peal and one ex-local. It is the custom at Croft to ring an anniversary peal each year, with, as far as possible, a local band, and an unqualified measure of success has attended it. This was the eleventh successive peal.

'IF AT FIRST YOU DON'T SUCCEED.'

The handbell peal of Grandsire Triples at Penge on May 21st was rung at the eighteenth attempt. Spread over a period of 18 months, the attempts for Parker's Twelve-Part have been lost in the 8th, 9th and 10th parts several times, and once the band rang into the last part and lost it with only another 252 changes left to ring. But the band stuck to it and met each time as keen as ever, and, much to the satisfaction of everybody, they have now been successful.

Most of the attempts have been made at Penge, and Mr. and Mrs. Fogden, parents of the tenor ringer, have been unfailing in their generosity and hospitality after each attempt. Whether this has had anything to do with the failures as an excuse to meet again is not known, but the ringers wish to thank them very much for their repeated kindness.

Empire Day was celebrated on May 24th at Sherfield English, Hants, with a peal of Double Norwich, in which two young ladies took part and Mr. Reg. Reed, one of the most promising of the younger generation of ringers in the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild, called a peal of Double Norwich for the first time.

Two seventeen-year-old members of the band at Aston, Birmingham, Ronald Shepherd and Alfred Allen, took part in a peal of Grandsire Cinques at St. Martin's on May 23rd and thus rang their first peal on twelve bells. It is interesting to note, too, the name of Mr. Sidney Jessop in a peal once more. Some years ago Mr. Jessop was a very active member of St. Martin's Guild, but business kept him out of peal ringing for a long period.

Mr E. F. Poppy's band at Stoke Ash, who only learned to ring two years ago when the bells were augmented to five, rang a peal in five methods of Doubles on May 17th to commemorate the second anniversary of the bells and the completion of 50 years in the ministry by the Rector, the Rev. F. R. H. Perkins.

The peal of Cambridge Minor at Llanfrechfa on May 17th was rung after meeting short for Stedman Triples. Mr. S. Burton, who belongs to Leicester, was elected a member of the Llandaff and Monmouth Association before starting and has now rung peals of Cambridge from Minor to Maximus. This peal was the first of Cambridge Minor rung in the county of Monmouth.

A place where enthusiasm is growing in ringing is Sidbury, Devon. Four members of the local band rang their first peal — Grandsire Doubles—on May 16th. It was the first peal on the bells and it is hoped that this is but an encouraging step to further methods. In this case, too, one of the other local ringers sat in the belfry to watch the progress of the peal.

As a birthday compliment to Mr. F. Brisby, a chorister at Willesborough, Kent, for 54 years, a peal of Minor, the first in eight methods by all the band, was rung on May 20th.

Another youngster to score his first peal is fifteen-year-old Raymond Law, who on May 20th took part in a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at Thrapston, Northants.

With Mr James D. Taylor taking part in a peal of Minor at Hitcham, Bucks, on Empire Day, every member of the St. Peter's Society, Burnham, has now rung a peal in seven Minor methods.

Mr. Albert Prestidge, who for many years was leader of the Netherton, Worcestershire, band, had a compliment paid him by local ringers on May 25th when a peal was rung in honour of the anniversary of his wedding. The day also coincided with the birthday of he and his wife. After the peal Mr. and Mrs. Prestidge entertained the ringers.

The peal of the Royal Cumberland Youths on Whit Monday at St. Giles', Cripplegate, was the 300th rung by Mr. F. J. Cullum. The occasion was also in honour of the birth of a grandson to Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Symonds.

Twelve members of the Central Council accepted an invitation for a peal of Stedman Cinques at Croydon on Saturday. The band was made up entirely of visitors. None of them had rung a peal there before, and the kindness of the Croydon ringers, shown in this friendly gesture, was much appreciated.

The Freemasons added to the list of Craft peals on Saturday by ringing a peal of Grandsire Cinques on Bow bells. It was a good performance for a mixed band on this heavy ring.

On Monday two twelve-bell peals were rung in London. St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham, who have scored peals in many parts of England, rang a peal of Stedman Cinques at Shoreditch, but their band was in no sense a Birmingham one. It could almost be described as international.

The ladies on Saturday showed their loyalty and their broadmindedness when, in honour of the birthday of H.M. Queen Mary, they rang a peal of Bob Major at St. George's, Southwark, for the Royal Cumberland Youths.

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD.

CADOXTON WIN COMPETITION.

The annual competition of the Swansea and Brecon Diocesan Guild took place at St. David's, Brecon, on May 20th, when seven bands competed for the shield. Mr. A. J. Pitman, of Aberavon, was the adjudicator and stated afterwards that there had been a very high standard of ringing.

The result was Cadoxton 1, Llanelly 2, and Cefn Coed 3.

Lunch and tea were provided for the ringers by Canon J. Simon, B.A., and the parishioners of St. David's.

After tea Miss Simon presented the shield to the winners and certificates to the runners-up.

The Lord Bishop of the Diocese made a presentation of a Westminster chime clock to Mr. C. Powell as a token for his faithful service to the Guild as treasurer since the commencement of the Guild and also to mark his retirement. Mr. Powell leaves the district early next month for North Wales. The best wishes of all the members of the Guild for a long and happy retired life were expressed on their behalf by the Bishop.

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION AT MAYFIELD.

A successful meeting of the Eastern Division of the Sussex Association was held at Mayfield on May 20th, when members attended from Hastings (All Saints' and Blacklands), Hailsham, Waldron, Northiam, Heathfield, Rotherfield, Eastbourne (St. Saviour's, St. Mary's and Christ Church) and members of the local band. The Vicar conducted the service and presided at the tea.

Mr. A. R. Miles presided at the business meeting in the tower. Two new members—Mr. A. W. Kitchenside, son of the local secretary, and Mr. W. White, of All Saints', Hastings—were elected. The secretary (Mr. A. C. Pankhurst) proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and to Mr. Kitchenside for making arrangements for the meeting. The next meeting will be at Salehurst on July 1st. The bells were kept going until after 8 o'clock.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

A preliminary to the Central Council meeting in London was a number of peal attempts on Saturday in and around the Metropolis. Among these members of the Council rang a peal of Stedman Cinques at Croydon; a company of Freemasons scored a peal of Grandsire Cinques at Bow, Cheapside; a band entirely of ladies credited the Royal Cumberland Youths with a peal of Bob Major at St. George's, Southwark; and a peal of Double Norwich was rung at St. Giles'-in-the-Fields, but a peal of Spliced Surprise Major at Bishopsgate was lost about half way.

The Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow, of Cambridge University Guild, and curate of All Saints', Wokingham, Berks, has been appointed Minor Canon and Precentor at Norwich Cathedral.

The marriage is to take place on July 1st of the Rev. A. S. Roberts, who is now at Palmers Green, London, and Miss Jessie Angwyn, of Truro. Before he went into Holy Orders Mr. Roberts was a member of the band at Truro Cathedral, where Miss Angwyn still rings.

Another London ringer who will shortly be married is Mr. James Prior, hon. secretary of the Northern Division of the London County Association, and a member of the Metropolitan Police Guild.

It has been found necessary to change the place of the annual festival of the North Bucks Branch of the Oxford Guild to-morrow. It will be held at Newport Pagnell, instead of Shenley.

The Rev. E. V. Cox, president of the Devon Guild, has left Bramford Speke and taken up the living of Tedburn St. Mary, near Exeter.

A well-known Newcastle gentleman, who came to London for the Central Council meeting, wrote to a hotel not far from Euston for accommodation. His application was politely refused because there were 'a lot of bellringers coming to stay there'!

Will any ringer who may be on holiday in Cornwall during the period August 13th to August 26th, and who might care to stand in one or two peal attempts, kindly communicate with Mr. A. R. Pink, of Tregoney, 23 The Avenue, Kennington, Oxford.

Mr. Herbert E. Audsley, of Crayford, entered St. Bartholomew's Hospital on Sunday for an operation, fortunately not a serious one.

RINGING IN EAST ANGLIA.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—While thanking 'Old Ringer' for his correction, I must apologise for my memory having so far misled me. Evidently we have a long way to go before both the Suffolk Guild and the Norwich Diocesan Association both equal the record set up of 291 peals in 1913.

It would have been better to have said that last year the two societies for the first time each entered the small circle of those societies which reach the figure of 100 peals a year. This is a result we can each be proud of and each congratulate the other.

HERBERT DRAKE.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

DAVIS SILENCERS TO BE USED IN NOISY TOWERS

Good weather attracted quite a crowd to Newdigate on Saturday, May 20th, for a meeting of the Leatherhead District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild. The merry little ring of six bells was raised in peal soon after 3 o'clock, and kept going until 5 o'clock. The Guild service was then conducted by the Rector (the Rev. A. Stone), supported by choir and organist, and his address on 'God loveth a cheerful giver' of service, as well as money, was well worth hearing.

Tea was served in the Six Bells, 35 sitting down, presided over by the Rector, who, while regretting he was unable to stay for the business meeting, gave the district a hearty welcome to Newdigate and repeated his hope that the ringers would go on doing their job with cheerfulness.

Mr. A. Harman (Ringing Master) took the chair for the business meeting, the members first standing in silence to mark their sympathy on the death of Mr. A. Rice, who had belonged to the Newdigate band.

Three new members were elected, Mrs. A. H. Winch, of Leatherhead, an honorary member, Mr. R. Brett an unattached ringing member, and Mr. W. Claydon, of Reigate, a compounding member.

The secretary then asked for permission to proceed with the purchase of a set of Davis silencers for use by the district in towers where complaints about the noise were persistent. He said he knew that suitable shuttering of the louvres made the best job, but some church councils took a lot of convincing, for, as a rule, it was only the parson who received the complaints, and he thought it behoved the Guilds to minimise the cause for complaints and so promote good fellowship with the people concerned. He thought the Davis silencers were the most suitable appliance in the circumstances, and he had already obtained the necessary sanction from the annual meeting of the Guild to spend the money on them.

Mr. G. Marriner proposed the purchase and Mr. A. H. Winch seconded it and it was carried unanimously.

Mr. Harman reminded the members of the summer festival, to be held at Haslemere, saying that he hoped to get up a coach load as in former years.

The meeting closed with hearty votes of thanks to the Rector, the organist and choir, and to Mr. E. Vine, but before returning to the tower the meeting was entertained by handbell selections by the Cobham band.

Ringing was kept up until nearly 9 o'clock, when a grand 'lower' finished off a good day for the tower bells, although someone wondered how long after came the final 'that's all' for the handbells.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—73.

WILLIAM FISHER.

Among Staffordshire conductors who have done a good deal of valuable spade work over a number of years is Mr. William Fisher, of Coseley, where he has been a ringer for over 40 years. Born at Short Heath, Staffs, on December 16th, 1878, he has lived all his life except for the first few months in Coseley, and he began his ringing career in 1897, when the Parish Church had a band of call-change ringers. After a time there came an alteration in the state of affairs and method ringing was introduced. Mr. Fisher rang his first peal (Grandsire Triples) at St. Martin's, Tipton, on March 30th, 1901, and his first as conductor in the following year, on June 2nd. This latter was to celebrate the conclusion of the South African War, and the peal was rung by the Sunday service band. Mr. Fisher calling Holt's Ten-Part from the seventh.



MR. WILLIAM FISHER.

Since that time he has conducted peals of Grandsire Triples, Oxford Bob Triples, Darlaston Bob Triples, Stedman Triples, Caters and Cinques, Bob Triples, Major and Maximus, Canterbury Pleasure Major, Double Norwich Major, Staffordshire and Cambridge Surprise Major. He has conducted 92 out of the 366 peals which he has rung. He took part at Wednesbury in 1909 in the first peal of Double Oxford Bob Royal ever rung, and he rang in the first peal of Stedman Cinques on the old bells at Worcester Cathedral. At St. Luke's, Wolverhampton, he was one of the band in a peal in which the conductor, the late Mr. J. E. Groves, rang the 3rd and 4th, and he also took part in a peal of Stedman Triples which Mr. Herbert Knight called blindfolded. Altogether Mr. Fisher has rung peals in 53 towers, in six counties, for eight associations.

He was Ringing Master of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford from 1914 to 1921, and a representative of the society on the Central Council from 1915 to 1923, in addition to serving on the committee for a number of years.

AFTER MANY DAYS.

After an absence from the peal columns for a period of 28 years, Mr. J. O. Lancashire has made a welcome and long overdue return. He rang the treble to Yorkshire Surprise Major at Leicester Cathedral on May 25th. His last peal before his long rest was Stedman Caters on the old ten in the same tower on Coronation Day, 1911. It is hoped that so long a period will not elapse before he scores his next peal.

Mr. Lancashire will be remembered by the older generation of ringers as one of the famous band who, early in the century, made history by ringing 'silent' peals of Stedman Triples, Caters and Cinques 'in hand.'

(Continued from next column.)

As to the remarks of Clergymen Nos. 1, 2 and 3, they would bear more weight if Mr. Amos had given us their names. But may we ask Clergyman No. 1 if, when he goes to a church to conduct a service, he would be content to be directed in his conduct of the service by the local verger? An association which has asked and been given permission to hold a meeting at a tower is in a different position to the casual visitor, or even a ringer invited (like Clergyman No. 1) to give his aid on some specific occasion. The association seeks permission in order to carry out its own business in its own way. If the incumbent does not agree to this it is open to him to refuse the application. Then, may we ask Clergyman No. 2 what Church law has got to do with the matter at all? It is not a question of law, but of courtesy. And may we say with all due deference to Clergyman No. 3 that we don't think he knows very much about the facts behind the subject under discussion.

To Mr. Amos we give the assurance that we are always ready to print views with which we do not agree, if they are reasonably expressed, but may we, after many years' experience of Mr. Amos' correspondence, suggest, in the friendliest possible spirit, that he will best serve the interests of ringing (assuming he wishes to serve it) if he will get rid of some of the bees that infest his bonnet.—EDITOR, 'Ringing World.'

RINGING MASTERS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I notice in 'The Ringing World' of May 19th you speak of my letter as 'a misleading twist.' But rather is the boot on the other foot, for, having read your footnote, I find this contains nothing else but misleading and contradictory twists. What you speak of as 'an essential part' of the sentence quoted, namely, 'if ringers will give him sufficient authority to command in the tower,' is merely an addition to the nucleus of the sentence upon which your viewpoint is framed. Your contention about ringing meetings is based on those words, 'but it can *only* be done by a Ringing Master,' yet underneath that you say, 'that does not mean that *only* a Ringing Master can make more practical use of meetings,' and so on.

This reminds me of an expression I heard in a municipal chamber a few days ago. Speaking of a certain thing, one of the members rose to say, 'I would hardly like to go so far as to say it is useless, but in my opinion it serves no useful purpose.' Such phrases a lawyer would love to play with, but whether he would make sense out of them is another matter.

Another misleading statement in your footnote reads, 'We know, to Mr. Amos, the place of the associations is outside and not inside the towers.' This is certainly a twist, for Mr. Amos never said anything of the kind. Many would take this, as you print it, to mean that I don't hold with ringing guilds having meetings at all, which is a very different thing to saying that as far as jurisdiction is concerned they are simply outside bodies. They have no legal veto in the control of any tower or bells. Words quoted in my former letter are sufficient to bear that out.

What you state about 'an association, after being given permission to use the bells of a church, being responsible through its officers for the ringing which takes place, and the local captain not being entitled to command in the tower,' is another misleading twist as I am later going to point out by the words uttered to me by a certain clergyman. This, we know, is exactly how yourself and the dictators in ringing (which few associations have a complete absence of) would like it to be—and for what purpose? Not for advancing the art, as they would have everyone believe, but at rock bottom it is purely and simply for their own aggrandisement! They are, as a rule, the ones who at a meeting like to claim the monopoly of speech and ringing. They are so used to walking in and out of every belfry just as they please that they begin to regard the bells as their own property. However, whether they think their position at meetings is as you state it to be or not, the fact remains that it is *not* so!

Since that letter and your appended note have been published, I have made it my business to show it to three clergymen with whom I am acquainted, and the following replies may interest you. Clergyman No. 1, asked what he thought of the sentence, 'And it rests with the associations as to who shall direct the ringing,' commented, 'Oh, yes, I know, give some people an inch and they'll take a mile,' and he added: According to the theory of this Editor, then, if I am asked to take the service at another church (which I often am), I may as well say it rests with me to decide who shall take the plates round, who shall act as the churchwardens and so on; and according to him it would be perfectly legal for me to denounce the recognised wardens and sidesmen, and to substitute friends from outside in their places. The meanest intellect knows I couldn't do that. When I am authorised to take the service in another church, I go simply as a visiting clergyman; and when ringers go to a church other than their own to ring (whether it be under the auspices of an association, or as a private band) they go simply as *visiting ringers*—they don't go with any authority as far as the internal working of the tower is concerned and the Editor of that paper ought to have known better than to have made such an absurd statement, least of all to put it into print.

Clergyman No. 2 said: Ask this Editor to quote you where in the Church law it says what he states here.

Clergyman No. 3: I have given associations permission to hold meetings many a time, but I don't know that coupled with that has ever been permission to override my own captain in the tower and place someone from outside in authority. In fact, I should think twice about letting anyone from another church come here again if I knew that kind of thing took place. I am glad you have brought it to my notice. Certainly it is not right, and, like yourself, I fail to see any need for these branch ringing masters. I think you will find that most clergy when they say, 'Yes, you can have the use of the bells,' conclude with that.

Now I can quite imagine, Mr. Editor, that you will give full publicity to any who write agreeing with your own views. But what of those who disagree? Will they be treated with the same fairness?

Northampton. P. AMOS.

A WORD TO MR. AMOS.

Mr. Amos can put what construction he chooses upon what we have said, but it does not change the intention of the sentence. Mr. Amos is just beating the air in reiterating the fact that ringing associations have no legal veto in the control of any tower or bells. Everyone knows that and no association has ever claimed it.

It is true that Mr. Amos did not say in his letter that in his opinion the place of associations is outside and not inside the towers. But we know his opinion about it all the same. Have we not had dozens of letters from him in the past—not all of which have got into print?

(Continued in previous column.)

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

TUESDAY'S MEETING IN LONDON.

Record Attendance.

The forty-seventh annual meeting of the Central Council was held in London on Tuesday. It was the first session of the seventeenth Council, and the proceedings brought together a record attendance.

Members assembled from all parts of the country during the holiday, and among the arrangements made for their entertainment were a garden party at Brasted, Kent, the home of the president (Mr. E H. Lewis), on Sunday afternoon, ringing at many of the city churches both on Sunday and Monday, not least among the attractions being the opportunity to ring at both Westminster Abbey and the Imperial Institute on Monday, when, in the evening, there was an informal social at the Bedford Head Hotel.

The Council were occupied with their business meeting at Middlesex Guildhall, where they had the use of the fine oak panelled Council Chamber, from 11 a.m. until 4.45 p.m., with a break for lunch, and in the evening, after further ringing, a largely attended social at the London Tavern was enjoyed by members and friends, including a considerable number of London ringers.

The programme was contributed to by Mrs. A. A. Hughes, whose handbell solos were again a source of great delight; Mr. Johnson, who sang several songs, and the Bushey 'wizards' (as they were described by the president), who rang two touches of Spliced Surprise Major on handbells. The first was faultless, but the enthusiastic audience were even more impressed with the second, in which two slight trips occurred and were corrected. It was a marvellous exhibition of skill, amid the tension of such surroundings.

The meeting of the Council was held in the Council Chamber of Middlesex Guildhall, Westminster, and there was a record attendance of 117 members, the associations being represented as follows:—

Ancient Society of College Youths.—Mr. E. G. Fenn, Mr. A. B. Peck.

Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.—Mr. J. T. Dyke, Mr. J. Hunt, Miss N. Williams.

Bedfordshire Association.—Mr. A. King, Mr. A. E. Sharman.

Cambridge University Guild.—Mr. E. M. Atkins, Rev. B. F. Sheppard.

Chester Diocesan Guild.—Mr. J. Cooke, Mr. J. Swindley.

Devon Guild.—Mr. T. Laver, Mr. F. C. Smale.

Dudley and District Guild.—Mr. F. Colclough.

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association.—Mr. W. H. Barber, Mr. W. J. Davidson.

East Derbyshire and Notts Association.—Mr. T. Clarke.

East Grinstead and District Guild.—Mr. A. Relfe.

Ely Diocesan Association.—Mr. C. W. Cook, Mr. F. Warrington.

Essex Association.—Mr. E. J. Butler, Mr. G. R. Pye, Mr. H. Edwards.

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.—Mr. J. Austin, Mr. E. Guise, Mr. W. B. Kynaston.

Guildford Diocesan Guild.—Mr. G. L. Grover, Mr. A. C. Hazelden, Mr. A. Harman, Mr. A. H. Pulling.

Hertford County Association.—Mr. W. Ayre, Mr. H. G. Cashmore, Mr. H. E. C. Goodenough.

Irish Association.—Mr. G. Lindoff.

Kent County Association.—Mr. F. J. Cullum, Mr. F. M. Mitchell, Mr. T. E. Sone, Mr. G. H. Spice.

Ladies' Guild.—Mrs. G. W. Fletcher, Mrs. R. Richardson, Miss E. Steel.

Lancashire Association.—Mr. P. Crook, Mr. G. R. Newton, Mr. W. H. Shuker, Mr. T. B. Worsley.

Lincoln Diocesan Guild.—Mr. J. Bray, Mr. R. Richardson.

Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association.—Mr. J. W. Jones, Mr. E. Stitch.

London County Association.—Mr. T. H. Taffender, Mr. T. W. Taffender

Middlesex County Association.—Mr. J. E. L. Cockey, Mr. C. T. Coles, Mr. G. W Fletcher, Mr. W. G. Wilson.

Midland Counties Association.—Mr. A. J. Harris, Mr. J. H. Swinfield, Mr. P. L. Taylor, Mr. W. E. White.

Norwich Diocesan Association.—Mr. A. L. Coleman, Mr. F. Nolan Golden, Mr. L. W. Houghton.

North Staffordshire Association.—Mr. A. Thompson.

Oxford Diocesan Guild.—Mr. A. D. Barker, Rev. Canon G. F. Coleridge, Mr. A. E. Lock, Mr. R. A. Post.

Oxford Society.—Mr. W. Collett.

Oxford University Society.—Rev. C. E. Wigg.

Peterborough Diocesan Guild.—Mr. H. Chambers, Rev. E. S. Powell.

Romney Marsh and District Guild.—Mr. P. Page.

St. Martin's Guild.—Mr. A. Paddon Smith.

Salisbury Diocesan Guild.—Rev. F. Ll. Edwards, Mr. S. H. Hillier, Mr. C. Jennings, Mr. F. W. Romaine.

Society of Royal Cumberland Youths.—Mr. G. H. Cross, Mr. G. Gilbert, Mr. G. W. Steere.

Stafford Archdeaconry Society.—Mr. B. Horton, Mr. H. Knight.

Suffolk Guild.—Rev. H. Drake, Mr. C. Mee, Mr. C. J. Sedgeley.

Surrey Association.—Mr. W. Claydon, Mr. D. D. Cooper, Mr. C. H. Kippin.

Sussex County Association.—Mr. F. H. Dallaway, Mr. A. W. Groves, Mr. F. I. Hairs, Mr. O. Sippetts.

Swansea and Brecon Diocesan Guild.—Mr. D. H. Bennett.

Warwickshire Guild.—Mrs. D. E. Beamish, Mr. F. W. Perrens.

Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild.—Mr. G. Pullinger, Mr. F. W. Rogers, Mr. G. Williams.

Worcester and Districts Association.—Mr. S. T. Holt, Mr. J. D. Johnson, Mr. C. H. Woodberry.

Yorkshire Association.—Mr. P. J. Johnson, Mr. L. W. G. Morris, Mr. S. F. Palmer.

Honorary members.—Mr. W. A. Cave, Mr. C. Dean, Mr. G. E. Debenham, Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, Major J. H. B. Hesse, Mr. A. A. Hughes, Mr. E. H. Lewis, Mr. J. A. Trollope, Mr. E. C. S. Turner, Mr. A. Walker, Mr. S. H. Wood, Mr. T. Groombridge, Mr. W. H. J. Hooton.

Mr. E. H. Lewis (president) occupied the chair and the Council received a welcome from Canon Jocelyn Perkins, of Westminster Abbey.

At the outset of the business the hon. secretary (Mr. G. W. Fletcher) reported that, as far as he had received particulars, the new Council was made up of 49 societies, entitled to 139 representatives. The number elected had been 132, and there were 16 honorary members, making a total of 148.

Among the apologies was one from Mr. James Parker, who was absent through illness. Mr. Parker was first elected to the Council in 1894, and it was resolved to send him a letter expressing sympathy and the hope for his speedy recovery.

Mr. E. H. Lewis was re-elected president, Mr. G. W. Fletcher hon. secretary and treasurer, and Messrs. C. T. Coles and A. A. Hughes hon. auditors.

The hon members re-elected were the Rt. Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury, Ald. J. S. Pritchett, Major J. H. B. Hesse, Messrs. C. Dean, J. S. Goldsmith, C. F. Johnston, J. A. Trollope and E. Alex. Young.

Mr. W. H. J. Hooton, Mr. T. Groombridge, Mr. J. F. Smallwood and Mr. F. Sharpe were added, and Mr. Hooton was then re-elected hon. librarian.

The president reported that during the year three past members of the Council had died, Mr. W. T. Fates, the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore and Mr. A. B. Bennett. The members of the Council stood for a few moments in silence as a mark of respect.

THE LIBRARY.

Among the gifts acknowledged in the hon. librarian's report are a large number of Association Reports of some 30 societies, which cover a period from 1881 to the present day. Though not complete, said the report, these will form a valuable basis for a collection should the Council ever consider making one. The new 'Minor and Doubles Methods' book was in great demand and accounted for £20 of the receipts.

The total sales were £28 3s., and the balance on this account, after payment of advertising and postage, was £14 12s. 4d.

The Council referred to the Standing Committee consideration of the question of reprinting the 'Glossary of Technical Terms.'

MODEL RULES.

The committee (the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards and Messrs. S. H. Wood and W. H. J. Hooton), appointed to revise the model rules for a company, reported that they had made a thorough revision largely with a view to simplicity and brevity. Two complete sets of rules had been compiled, one recommended as the ideal, where local conditions permitted of its adoption, the other suitable for more general use, especially in county parishes.

There was a long discussion on the draft of the rules, which were amended in some details and ordered to be printed.

FINANCE.

The statement of accounts showed a balance in hand at Whitsun, 1938, of £130 16s. 7d., and receipts as follows: Affiliation fees, 1937-38 (arrears) £1 15s., 1938-39 £32 10s.; hon. members' subscriptions. £1 10s.; interest on £71 3½ per cent. Conversion Stock £2 9s. 8d., on £63 4 per cent. Consols £2 10s. 4d.; subscription to 'Surprise' book, £4 2s. 6d.; balance on sale of publications, £14 12s. 4d.—Total £190 6s. 5d.

The expenses were: Publications, new edition of 'Minor and Doubles' £55 15s., Cambridge Surprise method sheets £1 16s.; amounts voted at last meeting, Canon Elsee Memorial £3 3s., fees, Carter Ringing Machine, £1 2s.; insurance of library and publications, 17s. 6d.; repairs to library books, 15s.; expenses of removal of library, 10s.; advertisements, £1 10s.; stationary and printing, £5 18s. 8d.; postages, etc., £2 7s. 7d.; gratuities, £1; leaving a balance at Whitsun of £115 11s. 8d. The market value of the investments was £133 2s. 6d.

The accounts were adopted.

THE CARTER RINGING MACHINE.

The report of Mr. A. A. Hughes, Trustee of the Carter Ringing Machine, stated that it had not been possible to demonstrate the machine this year, as Mr. Sharman, the demonstrator, was now engaged in making a new dial and studs.

A NEW COLLECTION OF PEALS.

The Peal Collection Committee presented the collection of compositions in various methods which they have made, and the Council approved of giving powers to the officers to print the collection if the cost was not excessive.

The committee was reappointed with the following members: Mr. G. Lindoff (convener), the Rev. E. S. Powell, Messrs. G. R. Newton, G. R. Pye and T. B. Worsley.

THE SURPRISE MAJOR BOOK.

The report of the Methods Committee, signed by Messrs. J. A. Trollope and E. C. S. Turner, was chiefly devoted to the forthcoming Surprise Major book. In order to bring the book up to the minute

of publication, conductors and secretaries of associations were asked to forward the figures and particulars of any new Surprise method rung immediately after performance. They also asked any persons who have methods which they hope to ring and name in the future to send in the figures. If the methods are included in the book, the names selected by those people will be used, unless they are obviously unsuitable, and the committee undertake to treat as confidential and to destroy all papers sent in relating to methods not included in the book. The report set out the reasons for giving names to the methods included in the book before its publication. They were: The wish to avoid confusion that arose over printing unnamed Minor methods, the fact that the naming of the Plain Major methods was a complete success and brought no adverse criticism; an unnamed collection would cease, after a short time, to have any value; it would be bad business and unfair to purchasers to publish it in a form that would speedily make it out of date; there were many thousands of methods and any band which wished to ring and name new methods would still have practically unlimited opportunities to indulge their fancy.

'Generally speaking,' concluded the report, 'the success of the book and the interests of the Exercise demand that the methods should be named, and our considered opinion is that unless the methods are named it will be useless to proceed further with the book.'

In a 'minority' report, Mr. S. H. Wood expressed agreement with the desirability of attaching names to the methods, in order that the book should be complete and a standard work of reference for many years to come. He did not, however, wish to associate himself with certain other arguments and statements in the majority report, as he was not in agreement with their substance nor with the implications which they contain.

The report of the committee was adopted, and the hon. secretary stated that the result of the scheme for financing publication of the book had been very satisfactory. An issue of 750 was provided for and the associations had undertaken to guarantee to take up 462 copies.

It was decided that claims to names for methods should be made within one month.

The committee, consisting of Messrs. J. A. Trollope (convener), E. C. S. Turner and S. H. Wood, were reappointed.

OTHER COMMITTEES.

The report of the Peals Analysis and Records Committee (which has already appeared in our columns) was adopted and the committee reappointed as follows: Mrs. E. K. Fletcher (convener), Messrs. C. Dean, G. L. Grover, G. R. Pye and W. Ayre.

The Towers and Belfries Committee reported that they had given advice in 14 cases during the year.

The president gave an interesting review of some of the cases dealt with by the committee during the year and the report was adopted.

The re-election of the committee was agreed to as follows: Messrs. E. H. Lewis (convener), Major J. H. B. Hesse, Messrs. E. A. Young and J. Hunt.

The report of the Literature, Press and Broadcasting Committee reviewed some of the chief events which had brought bells into prominence in the newspapers and also to the broadcast of bells, some of which, said the report, had been entirely good, a few definitely bad, others at best, indifferent. It also referred to the protests made to the B.B.C. about the curtailment of the period of ringing before services, which, said the report, had produced one or two amazing statements in reply, but the result had been a considerable abatement of the nuisance.

The report was adopted and the committee reappointed: Rev. F. Ll. Edwards (convener), Messrs. J. S. Goldsmith, A. Paddon Smith and A. Walker.

OLD PEAL BOARDS.

The committee which is collecting particulars of old peal boards, recording performances up to 1825, reported that they estimated the total was unlikely to exceed 500. They had received details of 177 boards recording 208 performances in 83 towers. There were still 15 counties from which no details had been received. The committee suggested they should be allowed to appoint representatives (not necessarily members of the Council) to be associated with their work so far as particular areas are concerned.

It was stated that since the report was drafted further information had been received, bringing the total up to 294 performances in 114 towers.

The committee's suggestion for seeking assistance was adopted, and the committee, consisting of Mr. W. G. Wilson (convener), the Rev. C. E. Wigg and Mr. W. Ayre, were re-elected.

The Biographies Committee reported that their work was proceeding, but, owing to the fact that details of many past members were not obtainable through the form sent out, it was necessary to search the files of the ringing papers for information. They recommended the appointment of Mr. A. C. Hazelden (librarian of the Guildford Guild) to this committee to assist in this work.

The report was adopted and the other members of committee re-elected, viz., Mr. J. S. Goldsmith (convener), Mrs. E. K. Fletcher and Mr. W. A. Cave.

The twelve elective members of the Standing Committee were appointed as follows: Ven. Archdeacon Parry, Ald. J. S. Pritchett, Major J. H. B. Hesse, Messrs. W. A. Cave, J. T. Dyke, C. F. Johnston, R. Richardson, A. Paddon Smith, A. Walker and S. H. Wood, with E. C. S. Turner and G. E. Debenham to fill vacancies, and authority was given to them to act.

A report was received from the officers upon the circulation of 'The Ringing World.'

A final report by the officers on the muffling of bells was presented to the Council for information, and it will now be forwarded to the Church authorities in accordance with the previous decision of the Council.

The Council is to hold the next meeting at Cardiff. It will be the first meeting of the Council held in Wales.

SUBSTITUTES FOR BELLS.

The Standing Committee reported that they had considered the question of mechanical ringing and they had come to the following conclusions:—

(1) While there may be exceptional cases in which the use of gramophone records of church bells is justified, any general adoption of such a practice is emphatically to be deprecated, not only on the grounds that a substitute for the real thing is unworthy of the Church of God, but also because it eliminates the living service of hand, and heart, and mind, which is of the very essence of bellringing and is of true spiritual value as contributory to an act of worship.

(2) The installation of such a mechanical device should be severely prohibited in any tower containing or capable of containing a peal of bells, except as a temporary expedient, as, for example, when tower or bells are under repair.

(3) In the case of building new churches it is obvious that the erection of a tower and bells must often be left to a future generation, or even omitted altogether, but it is a vital point of principle that no sanction should ever be given to the building or designing of a tower inadequate to its legitimate purpose, with a view to the installation of a gramophone record instead of real bells. The one practical object served by a church tower is to make provision for bells and to erect a tower to hold a gramophone record cannot be regarded otherwise than an architectural fraud, entirely unworthy of a building designed for sacred purposes.

This was approved by the Council and ordered to be sent to all Diocesan Advisory Committees.

CHESTERFIELD BELLS.

A report was made on the silence of Chesterfield bells, and it was resolved to write to the Archdeacon of Chesterfield expressing the hope that the proposal that he should meet representatives of Chesterfield ringers would result in the resumption of ringing.

Mr. A. D. Barker raised the question of the validity of peals rung on bells fitted with silencers which caused the clapper to strike only on one side of the bell.

The matter was referred to the Standing Committee.

The secretary reported that 117 members were present at the meeting, which was a record. There were 104 members representing 43 associations and 13 honorary members present. Only six associations were entirely unrepresented.

The customary votes of thanks concluded the business.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON AT BRASTED.

On Sunday afternoon several of the members of the Central Council enjoyed the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis at their home at Brasted. Although it is an hour's journey from London by slow train, it lies in one of the most beautiful parts of the country, now at its very best. The visitors enjoyed themselves very much, though, so far as is known, they did not solve the great mystery which belongs to that part of Kent.

You never knew there was a mystery? Surely you don't say that. Well, I must tell you about it. In the year eleven hundred and something, there or thereabouts, Saint Thomas of Canterbury was having a bit of a row with the King, Henry II., and one of the King's men, Randolph de Broc, or some such name, just for fun and to show his views of the matter, cut off the tail of the saint's sumpter mule. (You don't know what a sumpter mule was, and I am not sure that I can tell you, but that is neither here nor there.) This thing annoyed the saint, who was rather short tempered, so he up and cursed de Broc and all the men round about as far as he could reach, since when all the men of that part of Kent have been born with tails. That much is certain, but what no one has been able to discover (this is the mystery) is what they do with their tails when they have grown up, because to hush up the matter they all wear trousers. That is the reason.

During the afternoon at Brasted there was some handbell ringing: Bob Major on an ordinary set of bells, and Grandsire Triples on a set of cup bells, the sort that the ringers of the 18th century used. Such a set Benjamin Annable and his party took with them to France, 200 years ago, when they rang Grandsire Cinques on the sands at Calais.

In the evening before service there was ringing at Brasted, during which the Vicar came into the belfry and welcomed the visitors. Some of the ringing was spliced, but that was done for the most part by the local band, the visitors not being able to do anything more advanced than Cambridge. Afterwards some went on to the neighbouring tower of Sundridge and then back to town.

TECHNICAL TERMS IN RINGING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Both sides in this correspondence are right. Many people use too many technical terms, and by puzzling beginners, defeat their own purpose. On the other hand, some technical terms are necessary and helpful. I hope later on to write more fully on this.

HERBERT DRAKE.

NOTICES.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch.—Important. Owing to unforeseen difficulties, the annual festival, which should have been held at Shenley, will now be held at Newport Pagnell on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells (8) available 3.30 p.m. Service 3.45. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Numbers for tea in good time, please.—Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — The Annual Festival will be held at Runcorn on Saturday, June 3rd. Service at 3 p.m. Meeting at 4. Tea at 5, 2/- each (1/6 to members). The bells at Runcorn and Daresbury will be available from 2 to 3 p.m. and 6 to 8 p.m.; and Frodsham from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and after 6 p.m. Will those who intend to visit Frodsham during the morning please communicate with Mr. W. Bibby, London Road, Frodsham. There is a good bus service between Warrington, Runcorn, Chester and Frodsham. Any further information can be obtained from H. Parker, 3, London Road, Davenham, Cheshire.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District. —The next district meeting will be held at St. Mary's, East Molesey, on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Service at 5 o'clock. Tea at the New Inn at 5.30, followed by business meeting. Ringing again in the evening. All ringers welcome.—F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Sec., 28, Strathearn Road, Sutton, Surrey.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Blackburn, on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. Everybody welcome.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

ELY ST. MARY'S, CAMBS. — The bells will be rededicated on Saturday, June 3rd. A ring of 8 bells restored by John Taylor & Co.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — Northern Division.—A meeting of this division will be held at Belchamp St. Paul's on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. All ringers welcome.—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Dis. Sec., 3, Belle Vue, Hedingham Road, Halstead, Essex.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Ashover on Saturday June 3rd. Bells available 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30 p.m Tea at 5 o'clock.—J. W. England, 49, The Common, South Normanton.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—The next meeting will take place at St. George's, Jesmond, at 3.15, on June 3rd. The Osborne Road trolley bus from the town stops at the church.—Jack Roach, Hon. Dis. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION (Northern District) AND CLEVELAND ASSOCIATION.—By the courtesy of the Dean and Chapter, a joint meeting of the above associations will be held at Ripon Cathedral on Saturday, June 3rd. The fine peal of ten bells will be available for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Tea will be served at the Black Bull Hotel at 5 p.m. at a charge of 1s. 3d. per head. Names for tea to Mr. E. Hudson, 4, Keldale Terrace, Sharow, Ripon. A short business meeting will be held after tea. Please try to be present.—E. Hudson and J. Reed, Hon. Secs.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol City Branch.—A combined ringing meeting will be held with the Bristol Rural and Wotton Branches on Saturday, June 3rd, at St. James' (10) and St. John's (6). Bells open from 3.30 p.m. Please advise for tea to 5, Addison Road, Bristol 3.—A. M. Tyler, Branch Hon. Sec.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — CHANGE OF DATE.—Meeting at Cound (6 bells) on June 3rd. Visitors will be very welcome at this delightful village, if notice for tea is sent to W. A. Tanner, 70, Oakfield Road, Shrewsbury.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Christchurch District.—A combined meeting with the Wimborne Branch of the Salisbury Guild will be held at St. Peter's, Bournemouth, on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m. Bells of St. John's, Surrey Road, at 6.30 p.m.—G. Preston, Dis. Sec., 42, Waterloo Place, Christchurch.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—By-meeting will be held at Hunton (six bells) on Saturday, June 3rd. Usual arrangements. Learners especially welcomed, also visitors. Kindly advise me for tea.—R. G. Rayfield, Hon. Dis. Sec., Downsview, Spring Lane, Ightham.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch. —The branch will meet at Marham on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5. A welcome for all.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Shireoaks Church (6 bells), near Worksop, on Saturday, June 3rd. For tea, please notify Mr. H. Hall, Meersham House, Shireoaks, Worksop.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 13, St. Ronan's Road, Sheffield 7.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—Next practice meeting will be held at Langdale, Holy Trinity (6 bells), on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells available at 3 p.m.—N. M. Newby, Sec., Furness and Lake District.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Central Branch. —The ring of eight bells, St. Mary's, Ely, restored by Taylors, will be re-dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Ely on Saturday, June 3rd, at 3 p.m. Will all association members and friends make special effort to attend?—F. Warrington and A. R. Paul, Dis. Secs.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—A meeting of the Lincoln District will be held at Brant-Broughton (6 bells, tenor 24 cwt.) on Saturday, June 3rd, available at 2.30 until 9 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Beckingham bells (6, tenor 13 cwt.) will be available after tea.—Kenneth W. Mayor, Dis. Sec., 31, Vine Street, Lincoln.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Bennington on June 3rd at 3 p.m. Tea and business meeting as usual. Please come and see the noted tower, and have a ring on the Bennington bells.—A. Lawrence, Dis. Sec.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—A combined practice of Andover and Basingstoke Districts will be held at Whitchurch on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells from 2.30 Tea at 4.30 p.m. in Church Room. Names for tea to Rev. F. S. H. Marle, Deane Rectory, Basingstoke.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Halsall, on Saturday, June 3rd. Bells available from 2.30 p.m.—S. Forshaw, 55, Poolstock, Wigan.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Huntingdon Branch.—A meeting will be held at Great Paxton on June 3rd, and not Huntingdon St. Mary's, as bells are found to be unsafe for ringing.—H. J. Parker, Dis. Sec., Great Staughton, St. Neots.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol City Branch.—A combined meeting with the Bristol Rural and Wotton Branches will be held on Saturday, June 3rd, at St. John's (6) and St. James' (10). Bells open from 3.30. Tea 5, at the Princes' Cafe. Further ringing from 6.—A. M. Tyler, Branch Hon. Sec.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—North Southwark Diocesan Guild.—Service ringing, St. Clement Danes, Strand, June 4th, at 10 a.m. Practices: St. Clement Danes, June 5th and 19th, at 7.30 p.m.; St. Mary's, Lambeth, 27th, at 8 p.m.; and St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, 14th, at 7.30 p.m.—T. W. Taffender, Hon. Sec.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next monthly practice will be held at the Parish Church of St. Thomas, Dudley, on Monday next, June 5th, when we hope to have a good attendance at 7.45 p.m.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 17, Grange Road, Dudley.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meetings for June: *St. Mary-le-Bow, 6th; St. Magnus', 8th and 22nd; St. Giles', Cripplegate, 13th; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 15th; *St. Paul's Cathedral, 20th; Southwark Cathedral, 27th; St. Clement Danes, 29th. All at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A mid-week meeting will be held at St. Mary Magdalene, Enfield, on Wednesday, June 7th. Bells available from 5 p.m. All welcome.—T. J. Lock, Hon. Dis. Sec.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Archdeaconry of Ely Branch.—A meeting will be held at Horningsea on Saturday, June 10th. Bells from 3 p.m. Short service at 4.30. Tea at 5. Please support this meeting at a fresh tower with bells lately rehung.—C. W. Cook, Dis. Sec., Newton, Cambridge.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The memorial window to the late Canon Elsee, at St. George's, Bolton, will be dedicated on Saturday, June 10th, by the Rev. Arthur Scott, M.A. (President). Service at 3.30 p.m., conducted by the Rev. Bertram Jones, M.A. (Vicar). Tea, at a nominal charge, in Schools, at 5 p.m. Please inform Mr. E. Ford, 384, Chorley Old Road, Bolton, how many will require tea before June 8th.—W. H. Shuker and T. Wilson, Hon. Secs.

CHEADLE PARISH CHURCH, STAFFS. — The bells will be rededicated by the Bishop of Lichfield on Saturday, June 10th, at 2.30 p.m. A ring of six restored by John Taylor and Co.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—The summer meeting will be held at Selling on Saturday, June 10th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Tea 1s. per head. Half fares allowed to members attending this meeting (maximum 2s.). Numbers for tea should reach me not later than Wednesday, June 7th.—B. J. Luck, 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Clent, near Stourbridge, on Saturday, June 10th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service in church at 4.30. Tea will be provided at a small charge of 6d. each. It is essential that all who require tea will let me know not later than THURSDAY, JUNE 1st, as the caterer cannot provide for any whose names are sent after that date.—Herbert Sheppard, 17, Grange Road, Dudley.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—A meeting will be held at Blackhill on Saturday, June 10th. The bells of St. Aidan's (8) will be available at 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. in St. Aidan's Church Hut, 1s. per head. Will those ringers who require some, please advise Mr. W. F. Macfeggan, 22, Cort Street, Blackhill, as soon as possible. A good attendance is requested.—J. A. Brown, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Finchdale Terrace, Chester-le-Street, Co. Durham.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—A meeting will be held at Aspley Guise on Saturday, June 10th. Bells (6) available from 3.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. All ringers very welcome.—F. J. Plummer, Dis. Sec., Plantation Road, Leighton Buzzard.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Speldhurst on Saturday, June 10th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. All are welcome. Please notify if tea is required.—B. Saunders, 18, New Road, Ridgewood, Uckfield, Sussex.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—Half-yearly meeting at Bishopstone on Saturday, June 10th. Eight bells. Usual arrangements. On bus route.—W. B. Kynaston, 3, Dumbarton Terrace, Victoria Road, Swindon, Wilts.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Meeting of North Dorset Branch at Zeals, Wilts, on June 10th. Service 4.30. Neighbouring bells available. Glad to welcome visitors.—Wm. Uphill, Hon. Sec.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—A meeting at Bentley on Saturday, June 10th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. All welcome.—C. W. Denyer, 120, Ash Road, Aldershot.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—A meeting of the Grimsby District will be held at Bigby on Saturday, June 10th. Bells (6) ready 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m., at a moderate charge, for those who notify by Wednesday, June 7th, without fail, Ven. Archdeacon Parry, Bigby Rectory, Barnetby. Business meeting to follow.—H. Mingay, Hon. Dis. Sec., 394, Wellington Street, Grimsby.

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SHERWOOD YOUTHS.—A meeting will be held at East Bridgford on June 10th. Bells available 3 p.m. Buses leave Nottingham bus station, platform 4, at 2.37, 4.7 and 4.52. Everybody welcome, but please send me postcard by Wednesday, if requiring tea.—I. B. Thompson, 52, Lace Street, Dunkirk, Nottingham.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ilchester Deanery Branch.—A meeting will be held at Somerton on Saturday, June 10th. Service at 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Please notify for tea.—F. Farrant, Martock, Somerset.

LADIES GUILD (Northern District) AND THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—A joint meeting of the above societies will be held at St. Chad's, Headingley, Leeds, on Saturday, June 10th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea in the Schools. No charge for tea for those who send their names not later than Wednesday, June 7th, to Miss Bowling, 27, Ancaster Road, Leeds 6.—Mrs. E. D. Kelly and H. Lofthouse, Hon. Secs., 8, Wortley Road, Upper Armley, Leeds 12.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—A meeting has been arranged to take place at Hartlip on Saturday, at 4.30, followed by tea at the Rose and Crown. Those requiring tea, please advise the undersigned by Wednesday, June 7th. It is hoped that as a result of this meeting Hartlip will rejoin the association, so please turn up in good numbers.—G. H. Spice, Hon. Dis. Sec., 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Ledbury District.—A meeting will be held at Eastnor on Saturday, June 10th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Tea 5.30, at Somers Arms. Kindly advise me about tea by Wednesday, 7th inst.—A. Jones, jun., The Reddings, Colwall, near Malvern.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Kirkburton, near Huddersfield, on Saturday, June 10th. Bells (8) ready 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Those requiring tea must notify Mr. H. Roberts, The Hallas, Kirkburton, not later than Wednesday, June 7th. All are welcome.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., Rock Cottages, Shafton, near Barnsley.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next ringing meeting will be held at Peckleton on Saturday, June 10th. Ringing from 3.30 p.m. A short service, taken by the Rector, will be held at 4.30 p.m. Tea will be at the Rectory at 5 p.m., 1s. each. Please notify Mr. E. A. Hall, Main Street, Peckleton, near Leicester. The Rector is retiring this month. He would like to see a really good meeting. All ringers welcome.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual contest for the Crawford Cup will take place at Cuckney (6 bells) on Saturday, June 10th. Ringing open to all after tea. Please send a postcard for tea (1s. 6d.) not later than Thursday.—R. Towler, 69, Ordsall Road, Retford.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Western Division will be held at Wisborough Green on Saturday, June 10th. Tower open 3 p.m. Tea at the Three Crowns 4.30., price 1s. Service 5.45. Half rail fares (maximum 1s. 6d.) allowed to members.—F. H. Meeten, Hon. Div. Sec., 22, North Street, Worthing.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at St. Luke's, Great Crosby, on Saturday, June 10th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Tea will be provided for those who send word before Wednesday, June 7th, to Rev. A. P. Miller, St. Luke's Vicarage, Great Crosby, Liverpool 23.—G. R. Newton, Branch Sec., 57, Ampthill Road, Liverpool 17.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Central Bucks Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held at Steeple Claydon on Saturday, June 10th. Bells (6) available from 2.45 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. Please send a card if you require tea. All ringers welcome.—F. Gibbard, Hon Sec., 30, Horn Street, Winslow, Bucks.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting of the Southern District will be held at Bishop Auckland on Saturday, June 10th. Bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. Members requiring tea please notify me by Thursday, 8th inst.—J. T. Titt, Hon. Dis. Sec., 54, Newlands Road, Darlington.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—The annual meeting will be held at Lichfield on Saturday, June 17th. Bells: St. Mary's (8), St. Michael's (6), from 3 p.m.; Cathedral from 3 to 3.15 and 6 to 7. Sunday School Teachers' Festival Service in Cathedral at 3.15. Tea and general meeting in St. Mary's Parish Room, Wade Street, 4.30. Tea, 9d. to fully-paid members, to others 1s. 3d. Please send word by Tuesday, June 13th.—H. Knight, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

PEAK SOCIETY.—A combined meeting with the Midland Counties Association will be held at Bakewell on Saturday, June 17th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. All Peak members are asked to turn up at this meeting, which is intended to solve outstanding difficulties. Those hoping to be present please write, not later than June 13th, to Mr. W J. Alexander, 15, Stanton View, Yeld Road, Bakewell.—H. L. Warburton, Hon. Sec.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Dorchester Branch.—A meeting will be held at Milton Abbey on Saturday, June 17th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea. Ringers going will enter by the main gates entrance Milborne Road. Permission has been given to ringers going to this meeting to ring at Hilton, Bere Regis and Puddletown. Kindly advise early for tea.—C. H. Jennings, Hon. Sec., 3, Sunnyside Rd., Wyke Regis, Weymouth.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Wath-on-Dearne on Saturday, June 17th. Bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. Short service at 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., followed by

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business meeting. Those requiring tea, please notify Mr. A. Panther, 29, Avenue Road, Wath-on-Dearne, by Wednesday, June 14th. A hearty welcome is extended to all.—J. J. L. Gilbert, Dis. Sec., 25a, St. Joseph's Road, Sheffield 9.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Biddenden, on Saturday, June 17th. Ringing from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and business to follow. The usual travelling allowance will be paid at this meeting.—P. Page, Hon. Dis. Sec., 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch, Gainsborough District.—A meeting will be held at Haxey, Isle of Axholme, near Doncaster, on Saturday, June 17th. Bells (6, tenor 18¼ cwt.) available during afternoon and evening. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5, at the Duke William for those who notify me by Wednesday previous. This church is known as the 'Cathedral of the Isle,' and it is well worth a visit.—Geo. L. A. Lunn, Hon. Sec., 243, Lea Road, Gainsborough.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—A summer meeting will be held at Chislehurst on Saturday, July 8th. Both towers will be available for ringing from 3 p.m. Names for tea to be sent to Mr. T. Groombridge, 35, Albany Road, by July 4th.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Summer festival at St. Neots on Saturday, July 22nd.—K. Willers, Gen. Sec.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—The address of Mr. N. S. Bagworth is now 44, Cliveden Road, Wimbledon, S.W.19.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 1,472. Vol. XXXIV. FRIDAY, JUNE 9th, 1939. [Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.] Price 8d.

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COUNCIL TOPICS.

Despite a somewhat routine-looking and unpromising agenda, the Central Council last week found a fairly full day's work when the members, in record numbers, met in London for the first meeting of the seventeenth Council. There were many representatives new to the Council, and correspondingly a number of familiar faces were missing, some that had been associated with the Council for a long period. Apart, however, from the changes in representation which are compelled by the eflux of time, the introduction of new and young blood is a gain to the Council, both, we hope, in energy and ideas. While the Council will probably always keep a substantial leavening of age and experience, the future of ringing lies with youth, and anything that will encourage the enthusiasm and widen the outlook of the younger members of the Exercise is to be welcomed.

Out of the variety of subjects brought before the Council, mostly arising from the reports of committees, the one which occupied most attention was the draft sets of rules for a company of ringers. The Council some years ago published a 'model' set of rules, of which incumbents and others forming or reorganising their local bands availed themselves. A committee of the Council has now revised this pamphlet and presented alternative sets, one which could be considered the ideal and the other a less strict code. Many differences of opinion on certain points were expressed in the Council, but the criticism offered was all of a friendly nature and, after spending a lot of time in a careful revision of the draft, two sets of rules were adopted which should form a satisfactory basis for the guidance of any company. What must not be lost sight of, although even in the discussion some members seemed to overlook the point, is the fact that these are only a recommendation upon which a company can frame its own rules to suit its own requirements. There neither is, nor can be, anything binding in them as far as the Council is concerned.

The surprise of the day was, perhaps, the way in which the meeting accepted, almost without challenge, the recommendation that when the new Surprise methods book is printed the names shall be added. After the discussion on this point last year, it was expected there might be considerable opposition, but little was said about it. It was a wise decision to make, and there is now nothing to prevent the work proceeding to publication. The Methods Committee are open to adopt any suitable names which ringers, contemplating ringing any of the methods, have selected, even though a peal has not yet been rung, but the putting of a limit to the time when these names can

(Continued on page 362.)

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be submitted was essential, and a month from the date of the meeting was fixed. Any band practising a new Surprise method to which they wish to give a name, should submit it at once to the committee, and, if the method is included in the book, the name will be adopted. It would be unfair to delay this privilege any longer because it is not merely a question of altering a name over a column of figures; it affects references and indexing as well, and there should be nothing done now to delay its issue, especially in view of the extremely gratifying response of the associations in guaranteeing to take up more than half of the edition.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

LINCOLN.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, June 3, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

T. HENRY REEVES	...Treble	FRED PRICE	7
F. ERIC HAYNES	2	E. GEORGE A. WALKER	8
E. THOMAS ALLAWAY	3	J. STANLEY MASON	9
S. O'CONNOR HOLLOWAY	4	A. EDWARD NORMAN	10
W. CHARLES DOWDING	5	A. PADDON SMITH	11
H. HORTON FEARN	6	G. ERNEST FEARN	...Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by F. E. HAYNES.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 3, 1939, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 24½ cwt.

WILLIAM SHORT	...Treble	REGINALD WOODYATT	7
GEORGE E. LARGE	2	JOHN SMITH	8
SIDNEY T. HOLT	3	*WILLIAM LEWIS	9
GEOFFREY J. LEWIS	4	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS	10
DENIS R. MORRIS	5	CHARLES CAMM	11
ROBERT MATTHEWS	6	THOMAS W. LEWIS	...Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

* First peal of Stedman Cinques.

TEN BELL PEALS.

BEDFORD.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 29, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt. 3 qr. 6 lb.

CHARLES W. CLARKE	...Treble	ALBERT J. GREEN	6
ALFRED H. PULLING	2	WALTER H. DOBBIE	7
REV. JOHN P. PELLOE	3	ARTHUR E. SHARMAN	8
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON	4	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE	9
ERNEST C. LAMBERT	5	*SIDNEY FOSKETT	...Tenor

Composed by LOUIS HEAD. Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.

* First peal on ten bells.

BECKENHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 29, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

MISS MARY RAWLINGS	...Treble	‡HERBERT E. THOMPSON	6
*DEREK M. SHARP	2	‡THOMAS G. FOX	7
†MRS. A. N. RAWLINGS	3	‡LEONARD J. FOX	8
HARRY HOSKINS	4	PERCY J. SPICE	9
GEOFFREY V. MURPHY	5	*JOHN O. WELLER	...Tenor

Composed by EDWARD FRANCIS. Conducted by D. M. SHARP.

* First peal of Bob Royal on tower bells. † First peal. ‡ First peal in the method.

NEWBURY, BERKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Monday, May 29, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 21½ cwt. in D.

*KATHLEEN E. FLETCHER	*Treble*	*WILLIAM H. GOTTERIDGE	6
MARIE R. CROSS	2	*JESSE HARRISON	7
LEONARD STILWELL	3	WILLIAM HENLEY	8
*ALBERT BRIDGES	4	REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG	9
REV. R. F. R. ROUTH	5	HARRY WINGROVE	*Tenor*

Composed by E. FRANCIS. Conducted by H. WINGROVE.
* First peal of Royal. First peal of Royal as conductor.

LEICESTER.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, May 30, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-DIVINE,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;
Tenor 21 cwt.

*G. HAROLD NORMAN	*Treble*	†W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON	6
ERNEST MORRIS	2	J. LESLIE WILLARS	7
SIDNEY HARRISON	3	‡KENNETH A. ROE	8
†ARTHUR WILLIAMS	4	ARTHUR CATTELL	9
†CHARLES MARSHALL	5	†C. RAYMOND HILL	*Tenor*

Composed by E. C. SHEPHERD. Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.
* First peal. † First peal of Grandsire Caters. ‡ First peal in this method. Rung half-muffled to the respected memory of Mrs. Williams, wife of the Rev. Evan Williams, minister of Charles Street Baptist Church, who was interred during the peal.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 3, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,
A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 24 cwt.

HERBERT LUDKIN	*Treble*	*FRANK REYNOLDS	6
*HAROLD HOLLINGWORTH	2	*JOHN HASSELL	7
*ALFRED W. FROST	3	*ALAN J. BROWN	8
†HERBERT A. MCKINNELL	4	JOSEPH H. RIDYARD	9
†SELWYN H. DEARDEN	5	STAFFORD H. GREEN	*Tenor*

Arranged and Conducted by F. REYNOLDS.
* First peal of Royal. † First peal on ten bells.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

NOTTINGHAM.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, May 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
WASHBROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 36 cwt. in C.

WALTER P. WHITEHEAD	*Treble*	FRANK BRADLEY	5
JOHN E. CLARKE	2	WILLIAM BOTTRILL	6
W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON	3	FREDERICK A. SALTER	7
RALPH NARBOROUGH	4	WALTER NICHOLS	*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM BOTTRILL.
Rung in honour of the birthday of Her Majesty Queen Mary.

EDGBASTON, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Saturday, May 27, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 10 cwt.

*CYRIL TABERNER	*Treble*	MALCOLM MELVILLE	5
*ALBERT G. RICHARDS	2	*MAURICE G. TURNER	6
NORMAN G. LEECH	3	HOWARD HOWELL	7
RICHARD J. WARRILOW	4	BARNABAS G. KEY	*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by B. G. KEY.
* First peal of Major.

BOURN, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 27, 1939, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND HELENA,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 14½ cwt. in F.

HARRY J. PARKER	*Treble*	FRANK W. LACK	5
*WILLIAM CHAMBERLAIN	2	STANLEY H. GOODWIN	6
†VICTOR CHAPMAN	3	HERBERT FIELDS	7
GEORGE E. CRISP	4	F. WARRINGTON	*Tenor*

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by F. WARRINGTON.
* First peal of Major. † First peal of Major 'inside.'

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 27, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH, PRITTLEWELL,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

*FRANK W. SHYNN	*Treble*	FRANK C. MAY	5
ARTHUR HUBBLE	2	FRANK B. LUFKIN	6
GERALD FROST	3	JOHN FOWLER	7
GEORGE A. WIGHTMAN	4	ALBERT E. NORTH	*Tenor*

Composed by J. FLEMMING. Conducted by F. B. LUFKIN.
* First peal of Treble Bob Major.

LONDON.
THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 27, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, LEYTON,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 8½ cwt.

NORMAN H. MANNING	*Treble*	HENRY T. WILSON	5
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER	2	GEORGE DAWSON	6
ROBERT HEAZEL	3	EDWARD D. SMITH	7
MISS OLIVE L. ASHBROOK	4	CHARLES A. HUGHES	*Tenor*

Conducted by EDWARD D. SMITH.

CARISBROOKE, ISLE OF WIGHT.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 27, 1939, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes;
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 20½ cwt.

WALTER SCOTT	*Treble*	ALBERT ASH	5
FRANK TAYLOR	2	WALTER SCOTT, JUN.	6
*MAY MOODY	3	ARTHUR BRADING	7
HENRY JENNINGS	4	SIDNEY MOODY	*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK TAYLOR.
* First attempt for a peal. Rung in honour of H.M. Queen Mary's 72nd birthday.

SWANSCOMBE, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 27, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 18 cwt.

CYRIL W. HAMMOND	*Treble*	GEORGE J. BUTCHER	5
*ARTHUR J. W. HUGHES	2	DEREK M. SHARP	6
DENNIS G. BROWN	3	HARRY PARKES	7
GEOFFREY V. MURPHY	4	PHILIP A. COREY	*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by GEORGE J. BUTCHER
* First peal on eight tower bells.

BOCKING, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 27, 1939, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE DEANERY CHURCH,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 18½ cwt. in E.

FREDERICK RIDGWELL	*Treble*	RONALD SUCKLING	5
*NORMAN F. GRINHAM	2	ALAN R. ANDREWS	6
†JOHN M. GAYFORD	3	LEWIS W. WIFFEN	7
CLAUDE SNOWDEN	4	ARTHUR H. EVERETT	*Tenor*

Conducted by LEWIS W. WIFFEN.
* First peal in the method 'inside.' † First peal in the method.

STOURBRIDGE, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(Northern Branch.)
On Saturday, May 27, 1939, in Three Hours,
At the Church of St. Thomas,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Heywood's Transposition of Thurstans' Four-part.
Tenor 19 cwt.

Clifford Skidmore ...	...*Treble*	John Lloyd	5
John Goodman	2	Walter Farley	6
Bernard Lawton	3	Frederick Handley ...	7
John Wm. Smith... ...	4	Alfred Reynolds ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. Skidmore.

HATFIELD, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 27, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Lawrence.
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 18 cwt. 2 qr. 18 lb. in E.

Edward Bradley ...	...*Treble*	Willie Green	5
Thomas R. Flint	2	*John R. Mattock ...	6
Mrs. Edward Bradley ...	3	Arthur Gill	7
Ronald H. Dove	4	Daniel Smith	...*Tenor*

Composed by Geo. Lewis. Conducted by D. Smith.
* First peal of Major, first attempt. Rung in honour of Queen Mary's birthday and also a 21st birthday peal to Miss Flint.

SALEHURST, SUSSEX.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, May 29, 1939, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 16 cwt. 2 qr. 16 lb. in E.

Arthur J. W. Hughes	...*Treble*	Cecil C. Mayne	5
Edwin A. Barnett	2	Frederick White	6
Dennis G. Brown	3	Stafford H. Green	7
Philip A. Corby	4	James C. E. Simpson ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. Middleton. Conducted by J. C. E. Simpson.

HARWICH, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, May 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Nicholas,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5168 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt.

Miss Daisy M. Andrews	...*Treble*	George Thompson	5
Sydney R. Jennings	2	Frederick C. Ramplin ...	6
Keith W. Whittell	3	Harry D. Lister	7
Frederick Orris...	4	Urban W. Wildney ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. Knights. Conducted by H. D. Lister.

NEWPORT, SHROPSHIRE.
THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, May 29, 1939, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
At the Church of St. Nicholas,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt.

Arthur Peitchard ...	...*Treble*	William J. Chester	5
Thomas Price	2	Barnabas G. Key	6
Eric E. Speake	3	William A. Farmer	7
Harry Thelwell	4	Edward V. Rodenhurst	...*Tenor*

Composed by E. Timbrell. Conducted by Arthur Pritchard.
Rung for the 76th birthday of the conductor's father.

IPSWICH.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Monday, May 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
At the Church of St. Margaret,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 15½ cwt.

Charles A. Catchpole	...*Treble*	William Wightman	5
James Rose	2	George Wightman	6
William Kinsey...	3	George More	7
William Groom	4	Edward E. Grimes ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by N. J. Pitstow. Conducted by James Rose.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wednesday, May 31, 1939, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
At the Cathedral Church of the Holy Trinity,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Pitstow's Transposition of Thurstans' Four-part.
Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb. in D.

Alfred H. Pulling ...	...*Treble*	John H. B. Hesse	5
*Douglas R. Hayes	2	Ernest J. Ayliffe	6
Norman V. Harding ...	3	Thomas J. Elton	7
William J. Robinson ...	4	George E. Clode ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by A. H. Pulling.
* First peal of Stedman Triples.

EWELL, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, May 31, 1939, in Three Hours,
At the Parish Church of St. Mary,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt.

*Mrs. C. H. Kippin ...	...*Treble*	Charles H. Kippin	5
John Beams	2	Amos W. Clark	6
†Mrs. F. E. Collins	3	Frederick E. Collins ...	7
Herbert J. Seelt	4	Charles Pothecary ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by Frederick E. Collins.
* First peal of Grandsire Triples. † First peal on an 'inside' bell.

BUSHEY, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thursday, June 1, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
At the Church of St. James,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES;
Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 23 lb. in F sharp.

Henry F. Southall ...	...*Treble*	Cecil C. Mayne	5
Maurice F. R. Hibbert ...	2	Francis Kirk	6
William H. Shuker	3	Edwin Jennings	7
William R. Madgwick ...	4	James C. E. Simpson ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by E. Morris. Conducted by J. C. E. Simpson.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, June 1, 1939, in Three Hours,
At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist.
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 13¾ cwt.

James T. Laker ...	...*Treble*	Albert J. Steele	5
*Gilbert C. H. Charlton	2	Kenneth Snelling	6
Walter Charman	3	Albert E. Laker	7
Oliver Sippetts	4	Cecil Nice	...*Tenor*

Composed by H. J. Tucker. Conducted by O. Sippetts.
* First peal.

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, June 3, 1939, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary and All Saints,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 21¼ cwt.

Dorothy R. Fletcher	...*Treble*	Harry Wingrove	5
Kathleen E. Fletcher ...	2	Jesse Harrison	6
George Martin	3	William Henley	7
Rev. R. F. R. Routh... ...	4	F. Donald Boreham ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. Middleton. Conducted by H. Wingrove.

BARNWOOD, GLOUCESTER.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 3, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Lawrence.
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 10½ cwt.

Sydney Romans	born 1868	*Treble*	William Ranford	„ 1869	5
John W. Jones	„ 1865	2	Robert Knowles	„ 1866	6
John Austin	„ 1863	3	John Clark	„ 1863	7
Ex-Sgt. Williams	„ 1852	4	John W. Davis	„ 1869	*Tenor*

Composed by G. Williams (82). Conducted by John Austin.
Rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. J. Newman, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Newman, of Barnwood.

SIX BELL PEALS.

STAPLEFORD, CAMBS.
SOCIETY OF CAMBRIDGE YOUTHS.
On Tuesday, May 23, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different extents. Tenor 7¼ cwt.

*DENNIS E. WARD ...	...*Treble*	†JOHN V. CROSS	... 4
†JAMES W. R. QUINNEY ...	2	*ALFRED RAYNER ...	... 5
VICTOR CHAPMAN	3	FRANK WARRINGTON ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.

* First peal. † First peal of Minor.

HISTON, CAMBS.
SOCIETY OF CAMBRIDGE YOUTHS.
On Thursday, May 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different extents. Tenor 7¼ cwt.

*STUART BROWN	...*Treble*	VICTOR CHAPMAN ...	... 4
ARTHUR TEALE	2	JOHN V. CROSS	... 5
ALFRED RAYNER	3	JAMES W. R. QUINNEY	...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. W. R. QUINNEY.

* First peal. First peal as conductor.

CUMNOR, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Friday, May 26, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising a 720 each of St. Clement's Bob, Single Oxford Bob, Double Oxford Bob, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 16 cwt.

*WILLIAM C. PORTER ...	...*Treble*	HERBERT H. ALEXANDER ...	4
MARIE R. CROSS	2	FRANCIS E. TAYLOR	5
*JONATHAN HONEY	3	ALAN R. PINE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALAN R. PINE.

* First peal in seven methods. First peal of Minor on the bells. Rung as a welcome to the Rev. Graham Buston, who was recently inducted to the living.

CHATTERIS, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, May 26, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Ipswich, Norwich and Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford Bob and Double Court. Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lb.

PERCY SMITH	...*Treble*	ARTHUR ABRAMS	... 4
RUSSELL PAUL	2	DUDLEY PAUL	... 5
WILFRED YOUNG	3	WILLIAM SEEKINGS ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM SEEKINGS.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. R. Paul on his coming of age.

NEWTON-IN-THE-ISLE, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 27, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Double Court, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Oxford Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt. 11 lb. in F sharp.

THOMAS BUSH	...*Treble*	LEWIS BUSH	... 4
EDWARD BARKER	2	CLAUDE COUSINS	... 5
WALLACE COUSINS	3	TONY PRICE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by TONY PRICE.

WISTASTON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 27, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents called differently. Tenor 6 cwt. 6 lb.

*KENNETH THOMASSON	...*Treble*	*FRANK BARNARD	4
ALBERT CRAWLY	2	ALBERT THOMAS	5
HARRY PARKER	3	HAROLD G. SMITH ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by H. PARKER.

* First peal of Bob Minor. Rung with the bells half-muffled for the interment of Mr. Jesse Bayly.

DUNHOLME, LINCS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)
On Friday, May 26, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents in 70 methods:—

1. Ennerdale, Cumberland, Killarney and Horsmonden.
2. Windermere and Frodsham.
3. Charlwood, Neasden, St. Albans, Wragby, Newdigate, Old Oxford, College Bob IV., Willesden, Braintree, Humber, Marple, Taxal, Clarence, Elston Delight and Morning Star Treble Bob.
4. Bicker, Gedney, Gunby, Spilsby, Wainfleet, Surfleet, Spalding, Pinchbeck, Sibsey, Gosberton Alliance and Kent Little Court.
5. Chalfont, Cromer, Steventon, Tibenham, Fulmer, Walsingham, Lammas, Olney, Northam, Penshurst Alliance, Crayford Little Court and Little Bob.
6. Capel, Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston, Ockley, Duke of Norfolk, College Exercise, Norbury, Oxford Treble Bob, Carisbrooke, Wath, Donottar and Pontefract Delight.
7. Lytham, Thelwall, London Bob, Double Oxford, Wavertree, Childwall, College, St. Clement's, Canterbury Pleasure, Fulbeck, Reverse Bob, Double Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 10 cwt.

FRANK LORD	...*Treble*	JACK BRAY	... 4
MRS. J. BRAY	2	JACK L. MILLHOUSE ...	... 5
CHARLES MCGUINESS ...	3	GEORGE E. FEIRN ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE E. FEIRN.

There were 181 changes of method. First peal in 70 methods by all. Rung in honour of Queen Mary's birthday.

FRAMPTON, LINCS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(EASTERN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, May 27, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF SPLICED TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents in 30 methods: (1) Neasden, Wragby, Charlwood, St. Albans and Braintree; (2) Duke of Norfolk, Norbury, College Exercise, Ockley and Morning Star; (3) Old Oxford, College Bob IV., Willesden, Newdigate and Marple; (4) Sandal, Kingston, Capel, London Scholars' Pleasure and Oxford Treble Bob; (5) Cambridge, Ipswich, Norfolk, Primrose, Hull and Bourne Surprise; (6) Wath and Carisbrooke Delight; (7) Pontefract and Donottar Delight. Tenor 13½ cwt.

*JOHN R. KEMP	...*Treble*	*ALBERT E. FLATTERS ...	4
VERNON TAYLOR	2	CYRIL R. BURRELL	5
ARTHUR YOUNG	3	HAROLD BARSLEY ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by H. BARSLEY.

* First peal in 30 methods. First peal in 30 methods as conductor. There were 131 changes of method.

LAMBERHURST, KENT.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
THE EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.
On Saturday, May 27, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of (1) St. Clement's Bob and Double Oxford; (2) Double and Single Bob; (3) Double Court; (4) Cambridge Surprise; (5) Oxford Treble Bob; (6) Kent Treble Bob; (7) Oxford Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

CHARLES A. BASSETT ...	...*Treble*	ARTHUR F. LEWRY	4
WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE ...	2	ALBERT RELFE	5
LESLIE W. JARVIS	3	FRANK H. HICKS	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALBERT RELFE.

First peal in nine methods by all the band.

COSGROVE, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
(TOWCESTER BRANCH.)
On Saturday, May 27, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's. Tenor 10½ cwt.

*HARRY CUMMINGS ...	...*Treble*	REGINALD G. HOWSON ...	4
JOHN HIGGINS	2	*EDWIN R. LAMBERT ...	... 5
†ERNEST J. LAMBERT	3	ERNEST C. LAMBERT ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by E. C. LAMBERT.

* First peal, first attempt. † First peal 'inside.' Rung in honour of Queen Mary's birthday, also the Rector's 86th birthday.

CORRECTION.

The peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at Hilgay, Norfolk, on May 19th, was rung for the Ely Diocesan Association and not the Norwich Diocesan Association as recorded.

HANDBELL PEALS.

MARPLE, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 27, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY OF THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents. Tenor size 15 in C.

JOCELYN B. GARDINER ... 1-2 | C. KENNETH LEWIS 3-4
IVAN B. GARDINER 5-6

Conducted by C. K. LEWIS.

First peal of Minor 'in hand' by all the band.

DARTFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, May 28, 1939, in Two Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT 20, SWAISLAND ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

JAMES M. BAILEY... ... ... 1-2 | GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ... 5-6
DEREK M. SHARP ... ... 3-4 | JAMES E. BAILEY 7-8

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by D. M. SHARP.

Witness—Mrs. J. E. Bailey.

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, June 1, 1939, in Two Hours and Five Minutes,

AT 20, ABERDEEN CRESCENT,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor size 17 in B flat.

ALFRED BARNES ... ... 1-2 | ALLEN F. BAILEY 5-6
HAROLD JACKSON ... ... 3-4 | HARRY ASHTON 7-8

Composed by C. K. LEWIS. Conducted by A. F. BAILEY.

DEVON BELLS.

ANOTHER PEAL RESTORED.

The bells of Alphington, Devon, have been restored by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., who have rehung the octave in a metal frame, and greatly improved the tone of the bells by retuning. The ring dates from 1749, when they were cast, from the original five, with additional metal, by Thomas Bilby, of Collompton.

The work was dedicated on Whit Saturday by the Bishop of Exeter amid parochial rejoicings. When the appeal for funds for the restoration was made there was a magnificent response. On one day during November the Rector (Prebendary B. C. Bennett) sat in church the whole day to receive contributions, and altogether on that occasion he received £264 in amounts ranging from 2d. to £25.

In the course of his address, after the formal dedication of the bells, the Bishop of Exeter said he was always glad when the opportunity occurred—and it occurred very frequently in Devon—to be present at the dedication of bells.

'I have discovered how deeply Devon folk love their bells,' he went on, 'and I believe it is no exaggeration to say that we have more bells—and, I should like to think, more beautiful bells—than any other diocese in this country. We have well over 3,000 bells, or, at any rate, 3,000 ringers—a wonderful army of churchworkers.

'I have discovered with what wonderful generosity the whole of the county, even the most remote of rural villages, will give to preserve their bells. I congratulate you upon the effort that you have made in this parish.'

Afterwards the bells were rung to call changes by members of the Alphington band, comprising Messrs. H. J. Brewer, W. J. Dayment, A. G. Moxey, F. G. Lake, A. J. Pike, F. G. Coles, N. G. Osborne and J. Rogers. Mr. J. J. Brewer (captain) was responsible for the ringing arrangements. Among the visitors were members of bands in Exeter and the immediate district, as well as from farther afield.

Messrs. John Taylor, of Loughborough, were entrusted with the work, and the result, according to the verdict of those who handled the bells during Saturday afternoon and evening, was that a much-needed improvement had been effected.

Following the service a fete, arranged by the Friends of Alphington Association, was held to raise the balance of about £40 on the restoration fund, and so successful was it that the gross takings amounted to £52.

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PEAL NOTES.

A SEVENTY METHOD PEAL.

The North Lincolnshire Minor 'splicers' are still adding to their laurels, and are not now far behind the record, which stands at 84 methods. They rang a peal in 70 methods at Dunholme, Lincs, on May 26th and included one extent, by A. G. Driver, which had not been rung before in a peal:—

23456	Crayford L.C.	Continued		Continued
56342		26345	Walsingham	25463 Crayford L.C.
42635		45632		25463
35264		—53264	Penshurst	63542
64523		64325	Lammas	42356
—23564		25436		56234
64352		36542		—34256 Little Bob
52436		42653	Olney	62534
36245		—25364		—34562
45623	Little Bob	64532		25634
S 32645	Chalfont	—43256	Northaw	46325
24356		35462	Cromer	53246
45263		56324		62453
56432	Cromer	62543	Steventon	—53462
63524	Northaw	24635		24653
—32456	Fulmer	—43562	Northaw	36524
56243		36425	Steventon	45236
43625	Penshurst	62354	Tibenham	62345
—32564	Fulmer	25643		—45362
64253	Walsingham	54236	Olney	23645
53426	Penshurst	S 34625	Crayford L.C.	56423
				—23456

Mr. James Quinney, hon. secretary of Cambridge Youths, is teaching eight beginners at Great St. Mary's and St. Bene't's Churches. All are choirboys and have reached the stage when they can ring Bob Minor. Two of them, both aged 13, have just rung their first peal, one on the treble at Stapleford and the other on the treble at Histon.

A composition of Grandsire Caters, which we are informed is on a new plan, was rung for the first time at Leicester on Whitsun Tuesday. The composition is by Edgar Shepherd, but we have not yet seen it. Not that that makes any difference, but ringers will be interested to know what it is like.

A day before her 14th birthday, May Moody rang her first peal on May 27th at Carisbrooke, Isle of Wight. She began ringing about a year ago and is believed to be the youngest member of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild to ring a peal. She rang the third and it was her first attempt for a peal.

The peal of Bob Major at Swanscombe on May 27th was rung, with the best wishes of all the band, as a birthday compliment to Mr. T. Groombridge, jun., of Crayford, who was responsible for calling the first peal of at least two of Saturday's company. The peal was made possible by the kindness of Mr. C. W. Hammond, of Northfleet, who abandoned his garden at a moment's notice to come along and ring the treble.

A DISAPPOINTING DAY.

Whit Monday was a disappointing day to a party of ringers who went down to Sussex in the hope of ringing peals in two new plain Major methods. The first was attempted at Salehurst, and the bells, in spite of much coaxing, evinced their determination not to ring the method, which was ultimately abandoned in favour of the inevitable Middleton's, and thus Salehurst became the 50th tower in which Mr. P. A. Corby had rung a peal.

After a belated lunch, the party adjourned to Brightling, only to find that illness near the church precluded the possibility of ringing. Much disappointed, the ringers made their way to Battle, where permission was obtained for a short spell of ringing on the heavy-going eight and touches in both the new methods were brought round in fine style. The disappointment of Mr. J. C. E. Simpson in having learned two methods and two compositions in vain must have been intense. Indeed, there were several long faces, sore hands and heavy hearts as the train bearing the London contingent neared its destination.

To honour Her Majesty Queen Mary's 72nd birthday, the Leicester Thursdayites, or at least a few of the 'smaller fry,' journeyed to Nottingham on May 25th for Stedman Triples on the fine heavy ring at St. Mary-the-Virgin. Full compliments are due to Mr. Walter Nichols, who kept a perfect beat with the tenor. Mr. William Bottrill, by the way, seems to be uncovering his light from that 'bushel' in these days.

Mr. F. E. Collins, of Croydon, who called his wife's first peal, has now had the pleasure of conducting her first peal on an 'inside' bell. They rang together in a peal of Grandsire Triples at Ewell, Surrey, on May 31st.

The composition of the peal of Double Norwich rung at Bushey, Herts, on June 1st, is unusual. Composed by Mr. E. Morris, it contains 178 calls, with 768 and 678 at alternate course-ends throughout the peal. There are, however, no 87's at back stroke. The previous peal of Double Norwich at Bushey, rung on April 20th, contained all the 468's and 678's.

THE OLDEST PEAL RINGER?

Who is the oldest man to ring a peal? Ex-P.S. Joseph Williams, of Newent, Glos., was born in 1852 and he rang last Saturday a peal of Bob Major at Barnwood with a band, the youngest of whom was 70, and the average age over 74 years.

The conductor was no chicken either. John Austin was born in 1853 and he called a peal composed by George Williams, born in 1857. The peal was rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. J. Newman, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. Newman, of Barnwood, where Mr. H. Newman is towerkeeper and sidesman.

Seven years ago Mr. Thomas R. Flint rang his last peal, the occasion being the 14th birthday of his daughter. Her coming-of-age was honoured by a peal at St. Lawrence's Church, Hatfield, near Doncaster, on May 27th, when father rang the second to a peal of Kent Treble Bob. Bracketed with the honour was the birthday of Queen Mary.

The peal of Bob Royal at Worsley, Lancs, on Saturday, enabled Mr. Frank Reynolds to complete peals of Plain Bob from Minor to Maximus.

BIRMINGHAM MEN AT LINCOLN.

The peal at Lincoln Cathedral rung on Saturday for St. Martin's Guild was rung, not by an 'international' band as at Shoreditch, but by a complete Birmingham band, who made the journey to Lincoln by road. They were welcomed at the Cathedral by Mr. John A. Freeman, who had very kindly made all the preliminary arrangements for the peal and also had the bells up in readiness, and also by Mr. Rupert Richardson, Master of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, and Mrs. Richardson.

Peals at Lincoln are usually attempted in the evening, after evensong, but on this occasion permission had been given to start at midday, with the proviso that ringing should cease before the commencement of the 4 p.m. service. With the bells going into changes at five past twelve, no anxiety was felt on that score, but, to the surprise of most of the band, the end of an excellent peal did not arrive until only a very few minutes remained!

Several new (?) names are to be observed in the report! In case our readers do not recognise them, may we say that the band were Tom Reeves, Frank Haynes, Ernest Allaway, Sidney O'C. Holloway, Bill Dowding, Harry Fearn, Fred Price (our correspondent couldn't very well 'monkey' with that), Albert Walker, John Mason, Albert Norman, Paddon Smith and George Fearn.

The peal at Cumnor, Berks, on May 26th, was rung as a welcome to the Rev. Graham Buston, who was recently inducted to the living. The ringers received a very cordial welcome from the new Vicar, who was formerly at St. Mary's, Battersea. He is learning to ring, and after the peal he and the churchwardens kindly provided the ringers with refreshments.

Congratulations to the band who rang their first peal in nine methods at Lamberhurst, Kent, on Saturday, May 27th. The occasion was a birthday peal for Mrs. Jarvis and Mr. A. Kitchenside.

There was only one extent, and not three 720's, of Plain Bob in the peal of Minor at Willesborough, Kent, on May 20th. And the weight of the tenor at this tower is 12 cwt.

Mr. J. M. Bailey, the well-known Suffolk ringer, has rung well over 80 peals 'in hand,' but until this Whitsuntide had never rung one outside Leiston, Suffolk, and had never rung one which had not been called by his brother, Mr. C. F. Bailey. A visit to Dartford on May 28th, when he rang one conducted by Mr. D. M. Sharp, broke the sequence.

DEATH OF MR. J. C. TRUSS.

We regret to record the death of Mr. John C. Truss, of Marlow, who passed away on Thursday of last week.

He came of a ringing family, and until illness overtook him a few years ago he was prominently identified with ringing, not only in the Oxford Guild area, but also in London, where he took part in many peals, including the 'John' peals of London Surprise in 1904 and the Stedman Cinques in 1912.

QUARTER-PEALS.

At St. George's, Beckenham, Kent, for evening service on Trinity Sunday, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: *Miss M. Rawlings 1, A. S. Richards 2, *Mrs. W. J. Rawlings 3, W. J. Rawlings 4, G. E. Rawlings 5, A. J. W. Hughes 6, P. A. Corby (conductor) 7, A. F. Bennington 8. *First quarter-peal of Stedman.

On Whit Sunday at Market Harborough, Leicestershire, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: F. Randall 1, W. Wallington 2, W. Heggs 3, F. Wallington 4, W. Hector 5, R. March 6, A. Manning (conductor) 7, W. Kilsby 8. First quarter-peal by the ringers of treble and 3rd.

At Burnham, Bucks, for matins on Whit Sunday, a quarter-peal of Little Bob Major (1,288 changes) by the local band: M. A. Blamey 1, G. W. Limmer 2, P. A. Blamey 3, Miss S. M. S. Fleming 4, J. D. Taylor 5, C. A. Burgess 6, B. O'Neil 7, G. Gilbert (conductor) 8. First quarter-peal in the method by all except conductor.

On Whit Sunday for morning service at St. Lawrence's Church, Upwey, Dorset, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles: E. G. Carpenter 1, S. Foot 2, Miss B. Baker (first quarter-peal) 3, Miss G. Notley (first quarter-peal) 4, C. Smart (conductor) 5, H. Chalker 6. Also on May 30th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, ten callings: C. F. Guy 1, C. Smart 2, S. Foot 3, Mrs. C. F. Guy 4, F. Virgin 5, H. Chalker 6.

John Taylor & Co.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

There were three ringers present at the Central Council meeting last week who attended the first meeting in 1891. Canon Coleridge has been a member without a break since that time and is the only one who has attended every meeting of the Council.

Mr. George Williams has also been a member from the outset, having represented the old Winchester Guild and the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild from 1891 to 1896 and from 1919 to 1939; the Sussex Association from 1897 to 1905. From 1906 to 1918 he was an honorary member.

The other original member, whom everyone was delighted to see, was Mr. Joseph Griffin, of Burton-on-Trent, who represented the Midland Counties Association from 1891 until 1923, was elected an hon. member the following year and served until 1936. He came to London last week specially to meet his old friends. Like Canon Coleridge and Mr. Williams, he is well into the 'eighties.'

The ring of six bells of Over Stowey Church, near Bridgwater, Somerset, is to be tuned and rehung in a new frame and a new treble added to make six. The work is being entrusted to Messrs. John Taylor and Co.

A correspondent informs us that there is a suggestion afoot for a peal attempt by a band of bald heads. 'A rapid survey of the Ringers' Directory,' he says, 'prompts me to suggest the following for a peal of Turned-In Bob Maximus: W. Ayre 1, W. H. Barber (conductor) 2, A. Cutmore 3, F. I. Hairs 4, A. J. Hindes 5, A. E. Lock 6, C. C. Mayne 7, R. C. Parton 8, J. E. Rootes 9, H. J. Trim 10, Rev. C. E. Wigg 11, C. W. Woolley 12.

Mr. Edwin Shepherd, of Exeter, on June 6th, completed 60 years as a member of the Devonshire Guild of Ringers, having been elected on June 6th, 1879. He has been a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths for 59 years and a member of the St. Sidwell's Society, Exeter, for 61 years. He was a sidesman at St. Sidwell's Church from 1890 to 1904, and churchwarden from 1904 to 1911, from 1918 to 1922, and again from 1935 to 1939. A truly great record of work for the Church.

Owing to an error in our last issue, the date of the Kent County Association meeting at Hartlip was omitted. The meeting will be held to-morrow (Saturday) and the bells will be available from 3 p.m.

A cycle ride of 130 miles and three more towers 'in the bag' was Mr. F. Hopgood's Whitsun diversion. His expedition took him from Wimbledon to Hastings and back.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

BOWDON AND STOCKPORT BRANCH.

On a recent Saturday a meeting of the above branch was held at New Mills and 32 members and friends were present. The bells were set going early in the afternoon and touches in various methods rung. The usual Guild form of service was conducted by the Vicar, who also gave an inspiring address. Tea was served in the nearby Parish Hall by the local ringers' wives and a very enjoyable meal was speedily disposed of. The business meeting followed under the chairmanship of a very old friend, Mr. J. H. Jackson, of Disley, who has reached the age of 88. The way in which he dealt with the business would have done credit to a much younger man and shows he still retains his old vigour for presiding at meetings.

The business was all of a routine nature. One new member was elected, John Anthony Beaumont, of Disley, and members were reminded of the annual festival of the Guild at Runcorn.

The meeting concluded with hearty votes of thanks to the Vicar for his assistance, to the chairman, the local ringers and the ladies who prepared tea, and to the organist.

The meeting learned with regret that the Vicar was very shortly leaving the parish for another post in Scotland on account of his health, and expressed a wish that in that 'foreign' clime he would regain it.

Further ringing was enjoyed on the bells until a late hour, particular attention being given to the learners.

RINGING IN BOURNEMOUTH.

A WORD TO INTENDING VISITORS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—On Whit Monday last a party of ringers sought and, after much persistency, obtained last-minute permission to ring our bells. Two other outing parties had already used the peal, having obtained permission in the proper way some weeks ago.

The Vicar said to me later in the week, 'I gave way against my better judgment, rather than spoil their day's outing, but it must not occur again.' So in future will organisers of outings who would like to use our bells kindly address their application to me, at least a fortnight before the date, so that I can place same before the Vicar at a convenient moment? Written permission will be sent and this should be produced at the tower on the day of the visit.

As before explained, our bells are situated badly and we do get some complaints if they are rung too frequently. Permission can and will be granted at reasonable intervals, and the Exercise enjoys the support and interest of the present Vicar, so I hope ringers will not spoil this happy state of affairs by thoughtless action.

ARTHUR V. DAVIS, Tower Captain, St. Peter's, Bournemouth
116, Alma Road, Bournemouth.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—74.

JOHN PHILLIPS.

One of the leading conductors in South Wales in recent years has been Mr. John Phillips, of Cardiff, who has rendered valuable service to the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association. He comes of Devonshire ringing stock and learnt to ring in the Barnstaple district, where, although it was only call changes, the ability to strike well, as Devonshire call change ringers can strike, was early acquired, and has proved a valuable asset all through his subsequent ringing career.



MR. JOHN PHILLIPS.

Mr. Phillips was born at West Down, North Devon, on April 22nd, 1904, but was taken at the age of five to live at Tawstock, where he began learning to ring when only twelve years old on the six bells at the Parish Church. He removed to Cardiff in 1921, but up to then had done nothing but call changes; indeed, it was not until 1926, when he joined the band at St. John's, Cardiff, and the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association, that he became interested in the art.

From that time, however, his enthusiasm grew, and he rang his first peal at Marshfield on May 7th, 1927, and called a peal of Grandsire Triples at Peterstone on October 13th, 1928. Mr. Phillips is one of those with a natural gift for conducting, and any band, with him as pilot, can start a peal with the utmost confidence. The scope for conducting peals in South Wales is to some extent limited, but Mr. Phillips has called peals of Grandsire Triples and Caters, Stedman Triples and Caters, and of Minor and Major, and can call a peal of either at a moment's notice. Last year he conducted the only Past Masters' peal rung for his association. It was a peal of Stedman Triples at Cardiff. He has conducted 45 out of the 118 peals he has rung.

Mr. Phillips was Master of the Llandaff and Monmouth Association for the year 1931, and represented the association on the Central Council from 1930 to 1932.

This series will now be suspended for a short time. We hope to resume it in the near future with short sketches of the careers and photographs of some of the men who were leading conductors in the past, but who now, while still, happily, with us, are not so active in this department, and leave most of the conducting to younger aspirants.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A NORTHERN DIVISION DISAPPOINTMENT.

A very poor attendance marred the success of a meeting of the Northern Division of the Essex Association, held at Belchamp St. Paul's on Saturday, June 3rd. Only 17 ringers attended, probably the lowest ever recorded in this division. It was, however, very encouraging to note that the 17 ringers represented eleven towers as follows: Wickham St. Paul's, Bocking, Stisted, Sible Hedingham, Sudbury, Clare, Greenstead Green, Earls Colne, Halstead, Great Tey and the local company.

A short service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. F. R. Flynn), who gave the ringers a cordial welcome. This was followed by tea, the Rev. and Mrs. Flynn being present.

At the business meeting which followed, with the District Master (Mr. F. Ridgwell) in the chair, Great Yeldham was selected for the next meeting, the date being fixed for September 2nd. It was also decided that the secretary try and get the use of Sible and Castle Hedingham bells also on this date.

The District Master moved a very hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar, to the organist and to Mr. W. Cutmore for so ably arranging such a splendid tea. It was a pity, he said, that so few had turned up to partake of such an excellent repast. The Master went on to say that the members certainly could not blame the weather for their absence; a ride in the country was just the thing on such a glorious afternoon.

The Vicar briefly replied, and gave an interesting talk on the history of Belchamp.

The members then returned to the tower. The methods rung during the afternoon ranged from Bob Minor to London Surprise. Several other visiting ringers turned up after tea to ring on this delightful peal of six.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

BAR ON COMPETITIVE RINGING REMOVED.

The 65th annual general meeting of the Devonshire Guild was held at Plymouth on Whit Monday. The usual Guild service in St. Andrew's Church, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. C. A. Martin), included an address of welcome and reference to the similitude of the bells and pomegranates on Aaron's robe to the fruit expected from the work of the ringers.

Dinner was served for 170 in Goodbody's Restaurant, followed by the business meeting, with the Rev. E. V. Cox, president, in the chair. The annual report, as circulated, was adopted, and a vote of thanks was carried to the Vicar of St. Andrew's and Mr. H. Toope, the organist, for their kind assistance.

The president, general treasurer, general secretary and auditor were all re-elected, and the Bishop of Plymouth and the Rev. W. H. Smale elected additional vice-presidents.

A question as to the validity of a peal rung last year was referred to the committee to deal with.

The president's motion for deletion of Rule 12, forbidding certain competitive ringing was carried after much discussion by a majority of 71.

The President, in proposing his motion, said the existing rule cast a stigma on members of the sister organisation, the Devonshire Association. When the rule was made it was most essential that no member of the Guild should enter competitions, as they were associated with things the Church could not sanction or approve. Everything, however, had changed nowadays.

The Rev. E. J. Pizey, Vicar of Walkhampton, opposed the resolution. He said in his experience, and in the experience of many other clergymen in the country, competitive ringing had a tendency to cut down the interest of bellringing in the parish itself.

'A band of ringers is formed,' he said, 'and in some parishes they are apt to discourage anyone else from taking part in ringing. Sometimes six or eight ringers form themselves into an exclusive band, and if only five turn up for ringing they won't ring in respect for those who have not turned up.

'When I first went to my parish,' he continued, 'I was told by the ringers I had no jurisdiction over the bells at all, and if I did it would probably only be over the tenor bell. My predecessor had the same trouble, and had to have the ropes cut off the bells, and they had no bells for ten years.'

A motion by Mr. T. G. Myers (Plymouth), seconded by Mr. E. J. Ryall, of Exeter, 'That one of the objects of the Guild is not to encourage competitive ringing,' was defeated by 28 votes to 17.

The President thought the finest thing for the striking of the Guild would be to have some sort of competitive ringing, and Mr. C. R. Lilley supported the view that competitive ringing would be a good thing for the improvement of striking. 'Why should we be ashamed of having competitive ringing?' he asked.

Automatically the alteration of a branch rule was approved.

Holsworthy was selected for the annual meeting, to be held on Whit Monday in 1940.

WISTASTON RINGER'S DEATH.

'He was one of nature's gentlemen; he had not an enemy in the world.' This is the tribute paid to the memory of Mr. Jesse Bayly, a ringer at Wistaston, Cheshire, who died suddenly on May 23rd, aged 46. When a local band was formed at Wistaston 14½ years ago he came forward. A regular attendant and reliable ringer, Mr. Bayly had nine peals to his credit. For 38 years he had been a member of the local choir.

At the funeral the bells were rung half-muffled by various ringers from Crewe, Wybunbury, Nantwich, Wenbury, Marbury, Davenham and the local band. Messrs. R. B. Langford, H. Overton, H. F. Holding and G. Packer, of Crewe, rang a course of Grandsire Triples over the grave. A peal to his memory was also rung on Saturday, May 27th.

A STAFFORDSHIRE RESTORATION.

REOPENING OF CHEADLE (R.C.) CHURCH BELLS.

The bells of Cheadle Roman Catholic Church were rung again on Sunday, May 28th, after being silent for a long time. The six bells had not gone very well for some time, and it was decided to have them rehung and to add two new trebles, thus making them into a peal of eight with a tenor of 15 cwt. The work was entrusted to Messrs. John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, and the workmanship as well as tone and go of the bells is a credit to the firm, who have made them one of the best peals in North Staffordshire.

The visitors who attended and rang for the evening service were Messrs. J. E. Wheeldon (Norton), E. Steele (Longton), C. H. Page (Stoke), W. Perkins (Draycott), R. Warrilow and F. Healey (Stafford), B. Keys (Tettenhall), and C. Tabbinor (Wombourne). The towers of Kinsley and Cheadle were also well represented. The methods rung were Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Grandsire and Stedman Triples.

After the ringing the visitors were entertained to tea by the leader of St. Giles' ringers, Mr. A. W. Hall, and Mrs. Hall, and their kindness was very much appreciated. A vote of thanks was proposed to them for their generosity, and, in reply, Mr. and Mrs. Hall thanked the ringers for helping to make the opening of the bells such a success.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

A WELCOME TO WESTMINSTER.

Association Representation.

When the meeting of the Central Council opened on Whitsun Tuesday, at the Middlesex Guildhall, Westminster, with a record attendance, the chair was taken by the president, Mr. E. H. Lewis, who announced that they had with them the Rev. Canon Jocelyn Perkins, of Westminster Abbey, to welcome them on behalf of the Church.

Canon Perkins said he ought to begin with a kind of apology, for the right person to welcome the Council was not a humble individual like himself, but that great potentate of the Church, the Very Rev. the Dean of Westminster. He was a greater potentate than any mere Bishop (laughter), and he (Canon Perkins) was sorry the Dean was busy with other people, otherwise he would have liked very much indeed to welcome the Council, but he had to be at St. Margaret's to preach to the Americans at their annual service in London. Canon Perkins, proceeding, said he could not claim to be a ringer. He had often intended to put himself in the hands of one of his ringing friends for instruction, but in the end he had come to the conclusion not to add one more to the accomplishments at which he was not proficient (laughter). He spoke of his earliest recollections of church bells and went on to say that when, in the 1880's, he was an enthusiastic choirboy at St. Paul's, Bedford, there was a carillon in the tower which had the barbarous custom of playing tunes every three hours, and the lives of the inhabitants of Bedford were made wretched day and night by hearing the bells playing such tunes as 'Barbara Allen' and 'There's no luck about the house' (laughter). Then the carillon got out of order and about the year 1892 his young brother had the impudence to write to the local paper about it. He said it was a disgrace to the town, and that letter, from a small boy, led to the bells at St. Paul's being recast and brought up to date (applause). Canon Perkins went on to pay his tribute to his friends the ringers at the Abbey. When in 1919 the Abbey bells were rehung and improved and the octave completed—it ought to have been done years before—their beloved Dean Ryle, he said, was good enough to make him superintendent of the belfry. That meant that he was responsible for the morals of Mr. Hughes, Mr. Oxborrow, Mr. Macdonald and others (laughter). What success he had had in that direction remained to be seen (laughter), but he had had a great deal of pleasure out of his association with the ringers. They had come to be some of his dearest friends (applause), and for absolute efficiency he was perfectly convinced there was no set of ringers in the country to excel them (applause). They never broke stays or anything of that sort (laughter). Canon Perkins concluded by wishing the members a successful and enjoyable meeting, and said when 1942 came round and they again met in London he hoped the members of the Council would be found in the belfry of Westminster discoursing their sweet music. He prayed God's blessing on their deliberations, for no one was more convinced than he was of the tremendous value of church bells and ringing to the cause which they as churchmen had at heart—the spreading of Christ's gospel throughout the world (applause).

The President, in thanking Canon Perkins for his welcome, said he would like to make an apology to him and anyone else concerned at the Abbey, because he understood that on the previous day the tenor stay was broken. If they got permission to ring there again in three years' time they would make it quite clear that the ringing was only for members of the Central Council and that they did not wish to have any 'gate crashers,' because it was a 'gate crasher' who caused the calamity to the tenor stay.

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE NEW COUNCIL.

After the departure of Canon Perkins, the President said that was a new Council and there were many new faces among the members. He assured them the Council were very pleased to see them, and he hoped they would be able to do useful work for the Council.

The Hon. Secretary, in his report as to membership and representation, said it was with regret he had to report the failure of certain associations to forward the names and addresses of their representatives as provided for in the rules. The rules provided that these representatives should be elected at least four weeks before the commencement of each triennial session, and the names and addresses of those elected should forthwith be forwarded to the secretary. He had made two applications for the information, but so far had not received any replies in the following cases: Chester Diocesan Guild had forwarded £1 subscription, but no information as to membership and representatives, although through the kindness of a past member he had the names and addresses of two of the representatives. From the Hereford Diocesan Guild he had received £1 subscription, but no information as to representatives. No subscription and no information had been received from North Notts Association and North Wales Association, so these had been deleted from the list of associations affiliated. The Scottish Association had forwarded 5s. subscription, but no information as to representative. With regard to the Barnsley and District Association and Dudley and District Guild, these two associations had supplied figures showing that they were entitled to elect a further representative. The collection of the balance of subscriptions would be dealt with. Suffolk Guild had elected four representatives and had paid for them, but from the particulars of membership it would seem that they were only entitled to three representatives The particulars showed the startling reduction in annual subscribing members of nearly 200, and he thought there must be some mistake. So far as was known, the Council was now made up of 49 societies entitled to 139 representatives; number of representatives elected 132. The honorary members numbered 16. Many familiar names did not appear on the new Council's roll. Among these were Mr. C. F. Winney, College Youths; Mr. H. W. Brown, Bath and Wells; Miss K. Willers, Ely; Mr. J. H. Cheesman and Mr. T. Groombridge, Kent; Mr. F. E. Dawe, London County; Mr. E. Denison Taylor, Midland Counties; Mr. C. E. Borrett, Norwich; and Mr. R. G. Black, Peterborough.

The list of members present was given in our last issue. A number of apologies for absence were received, among them one from Mr. James Parker, who was ill.

Mr G. W. Steere said Mr. Parker had been a member for a great many years, having been first elected in 1894 for the Sussex Association. In 1897 he was elected as a representative of the Royal Cumberland Youths and again in 1906, since when he had been continuously a member and had made 30 attendances. He was only precluded by illness from being present that day. He moved that the regret of the Council be sent to Mr. Parker with good wishes for his speedy recovery.—This was at once agreed to.

Twenty-two new members were presented to the president.

OFFICERS AND HON. MEMBERS.

The election of officers for the next triennial period then took place. Mr. A. Paddon Smith proposed the re-election of Mr. E. H. Lewis as president. He could not, he said, conceive any man better fitted to hold the position than Mr. Lewis. He had extensive engineering experience, and his vast knowledge of the strains and stresses on towers caused by the swinging of bells had been of incalculable value to the Exercise and to Church authorities who had called upon him to advise on these matters. The Council were everlastingly indebted to him for his courtesy, urbanity and tact, and for the skilful manner in which in the conduct of the business of the Council he brought them back on to the lines—for sometimes they did get off the lines—without stifling discussion, and thus got them through their proceedings in a reasonable time (applause).

Canon Coleridge seconded the motion, which was carried with applause.

The President thanked the members for their renewed confidence. He said he felt sometimes that he did not do all he ought to do for the Council, particularly between meetings, and that had been specially the case during the last twelve months, during which things had not been very easy in the business world, and he had not had very much time for ringing matters, particularly outside his own tower. He would be pleased to do what he could for another term and hoped the Council would bear with the shortcomings which he knew he had and the many omissions of which he felt guilty during the intervals between meetings. Mr. Smith had put the matter so nicely and the Council had voted so unanimously in favour that he felt he could do nothing else than accept. He had had a warning to go rather more slowly, and it was only by the special dispensation of the doctor that he was there that day.

The President then went on to propose the re-election of Mr. G. W. Fletcher as hon. secretary and treasurer of the Council, a position he had held so successfully for the last three complete sessions of the Council. Mr. Fletcher got through an enormous amount of work—how he did it he (Mr. Lewis) could not conceive. There must be a great shortage of candles in the house at Enfield, for Mr. Fletcher was burning them at both ends (laughter and applause).

The motion was carried by acclamation, and, in acknowledging his election, Mr. Fletcher said he hoped in the next three years the associations would render it unnecessary for him to start the meeting with a grumble, as he had started that one, and others in the past. His report was the first item on the agenda and it made a rather bad start. He hoped in the next three years they would have a more happy note to start on (hear, hear).

The President said there was one possible explanation of how Mr. Fletcher got through so much work, and that was the fact that he had such an excellent assistant in his wife (applause).

On the motion of Mr. A. Walker, seconded by Mr. J. T. Dyke, the following honorary members were re-elected and Mr. W. H. J. Hooton added to the list: The Rt. Hon. the Earl of Shaftesbury, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, Major J. H. B. Hesse, Messrs. C. Dean, J. S. Goldsmith, C. F. Johnston, J. A. Trollope and E. Alex. Young.

Mr. A. A. Hughes proposed the addition of Mr. T. Groombridge, sen., who had, he said, been a member of the Council for a great many years and had done good work, not only for the Council, but also in his own county of Kent.

Mr. T. B. Worsley proposed the name of Mr. J. Frank Smallwood, of Bath, and the Rev. C. Elliot Wigg proposed Mr. F. Sharpe, of Oxfordshire. All these were duly elected and one vacancy was left for emergencies.

The name of Mr. E. Denison Taylor, of Loughborough, who had retired from the representation of the Midland Counties Association, was also mentioned, but it was pointed out that Mr. Taylor, owing to advancing years, was retiring at his own request from participation in the Council.

Mr. W. H. J. Hooton was then re-elected hon. librarian, and, in accepting office again, said he would like a little more assistance from secretaries of associations and others who still had books on sale or return, of which he had no account. He would like to see more people

who would take the Council's books on these terms, because he was convinced the best way to sell them was to take them to meetings and offer them.

The auditors, Messrs. C. T. Coles and A. A. Hughes, were re-elected on the motion of Mr. W. A. Cave, seconded by Mr. G. R. Newton.

DEATH OF PAST MEMBERS.

The President said, as far as they knew, three old members of the Council had been lost by death. Mr. W. T. Pates, of Cheltenham, was an honorary member from 1891 to 1894 and attended one meeting. There were not many present that day who would remember Mr. Pates as a member of the Council. The Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, of the Kent County Association, was, up to ten years ago, a member of the Council from 1894. During that 35 years he attended 22 meetings and took a great interest in the work of the Council. As they knew, he was largely responsible for the present successful position of the Kent County Association, of which he was hon. secretary for a great number of years. Mr. A. B. Bennett represented the Sussex Association from 1903 to 1905, and during that time attended all the meetings.

The Council marked their sympathy by standing in silence for a few moments.

The minutes of the meeting held last year at Leeds were adopted as printed.

THE COUNCIL'S LIBRARY.

The report of the hon. librarian was as follows: The thanks of the Council are due to Mr. W. H. Fussell for a gift of a large number of association reports of some 30 societies which cover a period from 1831 to the present day. Though not complete, these will form a valuable basis for a collection should the Council ever consider making one. In this event binding would be advisable. Two books, an 1885 copy of 'Church Bells' by Mears and Stainbank, and 'Church Bells and Ringing,' by W. T. Maunsell, M.A., 1861, formerly the property of Mr. Joseph Willshire, of Reading, have been given by Mr. C. E. Pearce, churchwarden of St. Andrew's, Rugby. A collection of letters between W. H. Thompson and others, and Dr. Seccombe has been presented by Mr. J. Kenyon, of Great Yarmouth. Thanks should be given again to Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Fletcher for a gift of volumes of 'The Ringing World' for 1937 and 1938.

One or two library books have been lent for research purposes. With the consent of the president and secretary, orders have been given for the repair of several of the early books. Some of these are in extremely bad condition, and will not exist in 10 years' time unless properly repaired. The book in worst condition, a copy of 'Campanalogia Improved,' is being re-bound by Messrs. Gray, of Cambridge, who are expert in this kind of work. All parts of the book, including inscribed end papers and binding, where possible, will be preserved, and the cost of this particular work will be 7s. 6d. Messrs. Over, of Rugby, can cope with some of the simpler cases of re-backing and re-sewing.

Five hundred Cambridge Sheets have been printed; 'Hints to Instructors' is being reprinted, and 'Model Rules' and 'Law Affecting Church Bells' should be available before long. The 'Minor and Doubles Methods' book is in great demand, and accounts for £20 of the receipts.

The librarian's accounts showed the sale of 505 publications amounting to £26 9s. 2d., and £1 13s. 10d. received from books sold by agents. The balance carried to the general account was £14 12s. 4d. The stock in hand was valued at £154 6s 1d

Mr. Hooton said some of the books had already been satisfactorily repaired. They were presentation copies for the most part, which had been much used by old ringers; they could not be called collectors' copies, but it was advisable to have them repaired if they were to last at all.

The report was adopted and the librarian's action confirmed. It was also agreed that, as recommended by the Standing Committee, the librarian be given general powers for the maintenance of the books in the library.

SUGGESTED REVISED 'GLOSSARY'

The Rev. H. Drake asked what was being done with regard to the 'Glossary.' They had got rid of all the copies of the old book and now there was no 'Glossary' belonging to the Council. He thought there should be one, and he would like to know what was being done. He proposed they should discuss whether they should complete a new 'Glossary' or not. He certainly thought it ought to be a much smaller thing than the last, but he thought one was needed. There had recently been discussions in 'The Ringing World' about technical terms, and they ought to know what were the recognised technical terms which should be used. They ought to publish a small 'Glossary,' which should be sufficient to last for a certain number of years and be revised periodically.

Mr. P. J. Johnson seconded. In the old 'Glossary,' he said there was very much that was absolutely unnecessary, but there was very much that was valuable. They could not very well discuss it in a Council of that size. It did not necessarily follow that in a multitude of councillors they got a multitude of intelligence (laughter), but the matter could be considered by the proper committee, with a view to issuing a smaller edition.

Mr. J. A. Trollope said, as one who had had some experience in these things, his opinion was that, however good their intentions, no 'Glossary' fulfilled the object for which it was drawn up. The genesis of the first 'Glossary' was a statement by Sir Arthur Heywood that, as a writer, he found extraordinary difficulty in making

(Continued in next column.)

PRACTICAL QUESTIONS DISCUSSED.

DERBY DISTRICT RINGERS AND LEARNERS.

A very successful meeting of the members of the Derby District of the Midland Counties Association was held at Melbourne on Saturday, June 3rd. Visiting ringers found difficulty at first in handling the ropes owing to the long draught from the guides to the floor, but this did not prevent touches of Grandsire, Plain Bob, Treble Bob, Little Bob, Stedman and Double Norwich from being rung. Visitors attended from Gainsborough, Coventry, Ibstock, Repton, Burton, Ticknall, Ripley, Sawley, West Hallam, Spondon and Derby (the Cathedral, St. Luke's, St. Peter's and St. Andrew's). After tea the Vicar, the Rev. R. John Morris, D.S.O., kindly placed the Church House at the disposal of the ringers for the business meeting.

One new member, Mr. Ronald Foster, of St. Peter's, Derby, was elected, having rung his first peal on Whit Monday afternoon.

It was decided to hold the next monthly meeting at Ripley on July 1st, special methods for practice being Treble Bob and Double Norwich.

An interesting discussion took place on conducting. It was pointed out that in many towers this was confined to one man only, but that this was decidedly a mistake, and the suggestion was made that the ideal to be aimed at was that each ringer should take it in turn to call a touch of some sort, as the more ringers there were capable of conducting, the greater the interest and improvement in ringing.

There was also a discussion on teaching learners. According to reports at various times in 'The Ringing World,' this is a vexed question in many districts, and the suggestion was made that when a ringer introduced a learner in a tower he ought to make himself personally responsible for his tuition, and not leave it to anybody to tell the learner what he thinks best, as this only led to the confusion and bewilderment of the learner. It was a well-known fact that anybody's job soon became nobody's.

Further discussion followed as to the merits or otherwise of practising a special method at a meeting. The opinion was expressed that it might have a tendency to scare away the learners, but one learner suggested, why not a method for the learners and another for the more experienced ringers? As the suggestion was well supported, it was decided at the next meeting to give learners a special practice at Treble Bob, as the place-making seemed to occasion no little difficulty, and to ask the more experienced ringers to look up Double Norwich.

The result will be eagerly awaited.

Votes of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and for his hearty welcome and the use of the Church House, and to Mr. Charles Davies for making all arrangements brought the meeting to a close.

On returning to the tower more ringers were met, who had been picnicking round the famous Melbourne Pool, and further ringing was enjoyed until 8.30, when the bells were lowered in peal.

Just previous to 'closing down' the Vicar once more visited the ringers and expressed the hope that all had enjoyed their visit to Melbourne, and that it would not be long before they visited him again.

A CORNISH TOUR.

Arrangements are being made by the branch secretaries of the Truro Diocesan Guild for a touring party to hold combined practices at a number of towers in Cornwall from June 9th to 18th. All ringers will be welcomed and will be given an opportunity of ringing something different to what is usually rung in their own tower. The ringing will consist of rising and falling in peal, call changes, Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Plain Bob.

The towers to be visited are: 9th, Gulval; 10th, Lezant (3 to 5 p.m.), Landulph: 12th, St. Stephen's; 13th, Probus; 14th, Lanivet; 15th, Kenwyn; 16th, Helston; 17th, Werrington (3 to 5), St. Stephen's (6.30 to 8.30). Except where mentioned, the times are 7 to 9 p.m. On Sunday, the 11th, there will be a quarter-peal after service at Redruth, and on Sunday, the 18th, special ringing at Truro Cathedral, 5.15 to 6.15.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from previous column.)

his views known to his readers, because he could never be quite certain that the meaning he attached to a word was the meaning the reader attached to it. Sir Arthur Heywood contended that it was the business of anybody who wrote to make sure he used his words in such a way that people understood. But people seemed to think, said Mr. Trollope, that dictionary definition could be given to ringing terms. That was not, in practice, possible. Words had different shades of meaning and it was the business of anyone who wrote to convey the meaning he intended. If they had a 'Glossary' definition they would not necessarily have exactly the meaning a writer intended. A number of technical terms in ringing were ordinary English words, which had been adopted and had grown up through their associations with ringing to mean what they wished them to mean. The ordinary word 'bob,' for instance, caused no confusion when used in the tower, but directly they sat down to put a glossary definition on it they found they could not do it so that a person would understand. He believed, therefore, that any 'Glossary,' however well intentioned, would be a failure in practice.

A suggestion that the matter be referred to the Standing Committee was adopted, it being understood that they would report upon it next year.

Mr. J. Hunt: And that will be the end of the 'Glossary,' Mr. Drake (laughter).

(To be continued.)

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

HEALTHY ACTIVITY IN THE BRANCHES.

The annual festival of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild took place at Calne, Wilts, on Saturday, May 13th, in perfect weather. The Guild service, held in the grand old church, was preceded and followed by touches of Stedman Triples. A fine volume of sound rose from 150 male voices in the psalm and hymns. The Rev. F. Ll. Edwards (hon. secretary of the Guild) and the Rev. H. V. White officiated, and a characteristic sermon was preached by that stalwart champion of ringers, the Ven. Archdeacon Coulter, who gave utterance to some very straight speaking on the subject of clergy neglecting their belfries.

A company of 153 subsequently sat down to an admirably served luncheon in the Town Hall. The Rev. R. H. Gundry, Master of the Guild, presided, and, after the loyal toast had been honoured, expressed the gratification of the members at the presence of the Mayor of Calne. His Worship made an eloquent and deeply impressive reply.

At the ensuing business meeting the Rev. R. H. Gundry was re-elected Master, the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards general secretary and treasurer, Mr. F. Green assistant secretary, the Rev. R. E. G. Newman and Mr. W. Hinks auditors, Canon Gorringe and Mr. E. Coward members of the committee, the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards and Messrs. S. Hollier, C. H. Jennings and F. W. Romaine Central Council representatives.

The hon. secretary's report made reference to the passing, at the age of 88 years, of the Rev. A. Du Boulay Hill, who was first Master of the Guild and held office for 14 years. The reports from the various branches, the secretary proceeded, indicated a healthy state of activity. The Marlborough Branch under the direction of its new officers had not only recovered from a state of suspended animation, but was now one of the most active branches in the diocese. Ringers had found good supporters among the clergy in that district. In the Dorchester Branch Mr. C. H. Jennings had completed 25 years of untiring work as secretary. The resolution adopted by that branch last year on the subject of 'synthetic bell music' in church towers had produced a strong and satisfactory statement from the Diocesan Advisory Board. It was greatly to be regretted that the sum required to put Wyke Regis bells in repair was not yet forthcoming. The great performance recorded at Evershot was proof of the progress made in West Dorset, where both the chairman and the Ringing Master had been active in conducting peals. The Calne Branch was to be congratulated on a splendid supply of ringers, most of the towers having 14 or more. One less satisfactory feature of the branch reports was the entry in several cases of 'No returns.' In some instances this meant that the tower had failed to keep in touch with the Guild without any notification of its withdrawal, and the Guild still continued hopefully to include the correspondent's name in the report. In other cases it was due to the failure of the correspondent to make the returns at the proper time.

The peal record contained three or four features of outstanding interest. The peal of Kent Maximus at Trowbridge was the first of Treble Twelve for the Guild and in the county of Wilts. It was conducted by the veteran Master of the Winchester Guild, whose honoured name had for well over half a century been frequently associated with peals rung in the Diocese of Salisbury. The first day of the year witnessed a similar record for the Guild and county in the eight Minor methods rung at Semley, while the peal of Doubles in 21 methods conducted by Mr. Bishop at Evershot in honour of Mr. W. Ruttley's 50 years of service in that tower might claim to have set up a world's record. The officers' peal at Salisbury a fortnight later was of personal interest to the writer of these notes, while it was also the conductor's 100th peal. The first peal on the massive bells of Gillingham was also a notable event. The report concluded with cordial thanks to the officers of the Guild for their splendid work and to the vice-presidents and honorary members for their valued support.

The Master, in his report, said it was a surprise to many at the previous annual meeting to learn how many of the members of the Guild had a record of 50 years' service. It would be interesting to compile a record of all members who had completed 50 years and over of ringing, and he asked those who had done so to send him a post-card, giving their name and the number of years they had been ringers, so that he might compile a correct list. He specially congratulated the hon. secretary on having completed his 50th year of ringing, but he (the Master) had to confess that it was 59 years ago that he started. He congratulated the Rev. C. C. Cox and Mr. W. C. West upon having attained their hundredth peal and the Evershot band on ringing a peal in 21 methods. Referring to the increased interest taken in change ringing in the diocese, the Master said it was due a great deal to the excellent work of the instructors, who had spared neither time nor distance in carrying out their job.

The hon. secretary's balance sheet showed receipts from the branches amounting to £40 16s., from hon. members and associates £16 6s., life members £2 7s. 6d., sale of medals and certificates £3 5s., a total of £62 14s. 6d. The expenditure, which includes three grants of two guineas each to bell funds, amounted to £65 15s. 10d., thus reducing the balance in hand by £3 1s. 4d. to £61 6s.

The bells of Calne and other churches for some miles round were kept in active use during the day.

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.

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LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The memorial window to the late Canon Elsee, at St. George's, Bolton, will be dedicated on Saturday, June 10th, by the Rev. Arthur Scott, M.A. (President). Service at 3.30 p.m., conducted by the Rev. Bertram Jones, M.A. (Vicar). Tea, at a nominal charge, in Schools, at 5 p.m.—W. H. Shuker and T. Wilson, Hon. Secs.

CHEADLE PARISH CHURCH, STAFFS. — The bells will be rededicated by the Bishop of Lichfield on Saturday, June 10th, at 2.30 p.m. A ring of six restored by John Taylor and Co.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—The summer meeting will be held at Selling on Saturday, June 10th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Tea 1s. per head. Half fares allowed to members attending this meeting (maximum 2s.).—B. J. Luck, 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—A meeting will be held at Blackhill on Saturday, June 10th. The bells of St. Aidan's (8) will be available at 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. in St. Aidan's Church Hut, 1s. per head. Will those ringers who require some, please advise Mr. W. F. Macfeggan, 22, Cort Street, Blackhill, as soon as possible. A good attendance is requested.—J. A. Brown, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Finchdale Terrace, Chester-le-Street, Co. Durham.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—A meeting will be held at Aspley Guise on Saturday, June 10th. Bells (6) available from 3.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. All ringers very welcome.—F. J. Plummer, Dis. Sec., Plantation Road, Leighton Buzzard.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Speldhurst on Saturday, June 10th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. All are welcome. Please notify if tea is required.—B. Saunders, 18, New Road, Ridgewood, Uckfield, Sussex.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—A meeting at Bentley on Saturday, June 10th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. All welcome.—C. W. Denyer, 120, Ash Road, Aldershot.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—A meeting of the Grimsby District will be held at Bigby on Saturday, June 10th. Bells (6) ready 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow.—H. Mingay, Hon. Dis. Sec., 394, Wellington Street, Grimsby.

SHERWOOD YOUTHS.—A meeting will be held at East Bridgford on June 10th. Bells available 3 p.m. Buses leave Nottingham bus station, platform 4, at 2.37, 4.7 and 4.52. Everybody welcome.—I. B. Thompson, 52, Lace Street, Dunkirk, Nottingham.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ilchester Deanery Branch.—A meeting will be held at Somerton on Saturday, June 10th. Service at 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Please notify for tea.—F. Farrant, Martock, Somerset.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—A meeting has been arranged to take place at Hartlip on Saturday, June 10th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea at the Rose and Crown. It is hoped that as a result of this meeting Hartlip will rejoin the association, so please turn up in good numbers.—G. H. Spice, Hon. Dis. Sec., 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next ringing meeting will be held at Peckleton on Saturday, June 10th. Ringing from 3.30 p.m. A short service, taken by the Rector, will be held at 4.30 p.m. Tea will be at the Rectory at 5 p.m., 1s. each. Please notify Mr. E. A. Hall, Main Street, Peckleton, near Leicester. The Rector is retiring this month. He would like to see a really good meeting. All ringers welcome.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Western Division will be held at Wisborough Green on Saturday, June 10th. Tower open 3 p.m. Tea at the Three Crowns 4.30., price 1s. Service 5.45. Half rail fares (maximum 1s. 6d.) allowed to members.—F. H. Meeten, Hon. Div. Sec., 22, North Street, Worthing.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at St. Luke's, Great Crosby, on Saturday, June 10th. Tower open at 3 p.m.—G. R. Newton, Branch Sec., 57, Ampthill Road, Liverpool 17.

LADIES' GUILD (Northern District) AND THE LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—A joint meeting of the above societies will be held at St. Chad's, Headingley, Leeds, on Saturday, June 10th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and the business meetings in the schools.—Mrs. E. D. Kelly and H. Lofthouse, Hon. Secs.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—There will be ringing for evensong at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, on Sunday, June 11th, at 5.30 p.m.—G. W. Steere, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meetings for June: St. Giles', Cripplegate, 13th; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 15th; *St. Paul's Cathedral, 20th; St. Magnus', 22nd; Southwark Cathedral, 27th; St. Clement Danes, 29th. All at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

DISS, NORFOLK.—The Royal Norfolk Agricultural Show will be held at Diss on Wednesday and Thursday, June 14th and 15th. The bells of the Parish Church will be available each evening for visiting ringers. All welcome.—Albert G. Harrison, 90, Denmark Street, Diss.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Dorchester Branch.—A meeting will be held at Milton Abbey on Saturday, June 17th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea. Ringers going will enter by the main gates entrance Milborne Road. Permission has been given to ringers going to this meeting to ring at Hilton, Bere Regis and Puddletown. Kindly advise early for tea.—C. H. Jennings, Hon. Sec., 3, Sunnyside Rd., Wyke Regis, Weymouth.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—The annual meeting will be held at Lichfield on Saturday, June 17th. Bells: St. Mary's (8), St. Michael's (6), from 3 p.m.; Cathedral from 3 to 3.15 and 6 to 7. Sunday School Teachers' Festival Service in Cathedral at 3.15. Tea and general meeting in St. Mary's Parish Room, Wade Street, 4.30. Tea, 9d. to fully-paid members, to others 1s. 3d. Please send word by Tuesday, June 13th.—H. Knight, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Wath-on-Dearne on Saturday, June 17th. Bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. Short service at 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., followed by business meeting. Those requiring tea, please notify Mr. A. Panther, 29, Avenue Road, Wath-on-Dearne, by Wednesday, June 14th. A hearty welcome is extended to all.—J. J. L. Gilbert, Dis. Sec., 25a, St. Joseph's Road, Sheffield 9.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Biddenden, on Saturday, June 17th. Ringing from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and business to follow. The usual travelling allowance will be paid at this meeting.—P. Page, Hon. Dis. Sec., 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch, Gainsborough District.—A meeting will be held at Haxey, Isle of Axholme, near Doncaster, on Saturday, June 17th. Bells (6, tenor 18¼ cwt.) available during afternoon and evening. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5, at the Duke William for those who notify me by Wednesday previous. This church is known as the 'Cathedral of the Isle,' and it is well worth a visit.—Geo. L. A. Lunn, Hon. Sec., 248, Lea Road, Gainsborough.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Quarterly meeting, Saturday, June 17th, at Bakewell. Committee meeting 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., at Wheatsheaf Hotel, followed by general meeting. Special invitation is issued to this joint meeting with fellow-members and friends of Peak Society. Come along, but don't forget to send your name for tea to Mr. W. J. Alexander, 15, Stanton View, Yeld Road, Bakewell, to avoid disappoint ment. — Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Kineton, on Saturday, June 17th. Bells (6) available during afternoon and evening. Tea provided at a moderate charge.—D. E. Beamish, 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Portishead on Saturday, June 17th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Divine service 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock, with business meeting to follow.—Percy G. Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—The next meeting of the Crewe Branch will be held at Wistaston (6 bells) on June 17th. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. Will all those who intend to be present kindly send me word by the 14th inst?—Richard D. Langford, Hon. Branch Sec., 118, Ruskin Road, Crewe.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Thurcaston on June 17th. The bells (8) will be available at 3 p.m. Tea followed by meeting at 5 p.m. Please notify me by the 15th.—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Surfleet on Saturday, June 17th. Bells available from 2 p.m. Service 4 p.m Tea 4.30 p.m. Business meeting afterwards. Will those intending to be present kindly let me know by June 13th?—Geo. Ladd, Hon. Sec., Pinchbeck, Spalding.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Cuthbert's, Lytham (8 bells) on Saturday, June 17th. Bells ready 3 p.m. All ringers welcome.—C. Sharples, Fylde Branch Sec.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD (Alton and Petersfield District) AND LADIES' GUILD (Southern District).—A combined meeting will be held on Saturday, June 17th, at Bramshott. Bells (6) available 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea in Parish Room 5. Business meetings follow. Kindly let me know numbers for tea by Wednesday, June 14th.—C. E. Bassett, Hon. Dis. Sec., 32, Charles Street, Petersfield.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bromyard District.—A meeting will be held at Bromyard on Saturday, June 17th. Bells (6) available from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock. Please let me know number for tea by Thursday morning, June 15th.—A. S. Tomkins, Post Office, Bredenbury, Hereford.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Eaton Socon on Saturday, June 17th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. A good company is requested. All ringers will be welcome. Please come.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kington District.—A meeting will be held at Weobley, on Saturday, June 17th. Bells (6) available 4 p.m. Service 5. Tea 5.30, 6d. each. Business meeting to follow. Please advise me by Tuesday, June 13th, the number to expect for tea.—Jh. Preece, Dis. Sec., Lea Lodge, Staunton-on-Arrow, Leominster.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Blackrod on Saturday, June 17th. Bells available 3 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting of this branch will be held at Hartlebury on Saturday, June 17th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service in church 4.15, followed by tea and business meeting. For tea please notify Mr. A. W. Glazzard, 2, Bungalow, Titton Sands, Stourport-on-Severn, Hartlebury, before Wednesday, June 4th.—N. J. Goodman, Hon. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Oxford City Branch.—The half-yearly meeting of the Oxford City and District Branch will take place at Dorchester Abbey on Saturday, June 24th. Service 3 p.m., followed by tea, meeting and ringing. All ringers from all parts cordially invited. For tea, please notify early to Mr. E. J. B. Morton, 11, Water Eaton Road, Summertown, Oxford.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—The next meeting will be held at Thames Ditton on Saturday, June 24th. Bells (6) from 4 p.m. Tea 4.45 p.m., at the Ferry Tea Rooms. Service 6 p.m. All ringers very welcome. Will those who require tea please let me know by Wednesday, 21st? Subscriptions for 1939 now due.—F. E. Hawthorne, 39, Queen's Road, Thames Ditton.

DAVENTRY, NORTHANTS.—The ring of eight bells, rehung by John Taylor and Co., will be reopened on Saturday, June 24th. Service 3 o'clock; preacher, the Archdeacon of Northampton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mark's, Worsley, on Saturday, June 24th. Tower open for ringing at six o'clock. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—Joseph H. Ridyard, Branch Sec., 35, The Crescent, Worsley.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The Burton District will hold its next meeting at Measham on Saturday, June 24th, and extends a cordial invitation to all ringers, especially friends from Birmingham and Nuneaton Districts. Tea 4.45, followed by meeting, and the peal (8 musical bells) available at 2.45. Lastly, don't forget your postcard by Wednesday or Thursday for tea.—J. W. Cotton, Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The next meeting will be held at St. Ann's Church, Stamford Hill, on Saturday, June 24th. Bells available 3 p.m. Short service and tea. Methods for special attention are Double Oxford Bob Minor and London Surprise Minor. Other methods will be rung as required. Church within sight of St. Ann's Road Station, Seven Sisters Road.—T. J. Lock, Hon. Dis. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The summer meeting of the Western Division will be held at the Church of Holy Trinity, Skipton, on Saturday, June 24th. Bells (8) available from 2 o'clock. Tea (1s. 6d.) at Castle Cafe (opposite church) at 4.30. Business meeting in vestry 5.30 approximately. Names for tea to Mr. H. Stanforth, 13, Brookside, Skipton, by Thursday, June 22nd. All welcome.—F. Rayment, Dis. Sec., Bramley.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—A meeting will be held at Great Baddow, Essex, on June 24th. Bells available from 3.30. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. George Green, 3, Bell Street, Great Baddow, near Chelmsford, by June 22nd.—G. W. Steere, Hon. Sec., 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

SAFFRON WALDEN SOCIETY (Established 1623).—The 316th anniversary of Great Ringing Day will be held on Saturday, June 24th. Bells (12) available from 2 p.m. Tea, 1s. 6d. each, for all who notify me by June 21st.—Leonard E. Pitstow, Hon. Sec., 21, Debden Road.

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LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.—The 128th ringing anniversary will be held on Saturday, June 24th. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. Old and new friends, make this a good rally!—S. H. Symonds, towerkeeper.

LADIES' GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at Ipswich on Saturday, July 8th. Fuller particulars later. Any members or friends in London wishing to join the party travelling by cheap ticket to Ipswich are asked to communicate with me as soon as possible. —Edith K. Fletcher, Hon. Sec., 45, Walsingham Road, Enfield.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—A summer meeting will be held at Chislehurst on Saturday, July 8th. Both towers will be available for ringing from 3 p.m. Names for tea to be sent to Mr. T. Groombridge, 35, Albany Road, by July 4th.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Summer festival at St. Neots on Saturday, July 22nd.—K. Willers, Gen. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—South Forest Annual Salmon Supper will be held at the Angel Hotel, Ruardean, on Saturday, July 8th, at 6 p.m. sharp. Tickets 4s., and will not be obtainable after June 17th. Please don't forget the date. Tickets may be had from Oliver Thomas, 11, Victoria Rd., Lydney, Glos., or W. Scott, The Lawn, Ruardean, Glos.

BRISTOL UNITED RINGING GUILDS.—Motor-coach week's tours, August 14th to 19th.—The committee approves list of tours and request that definite bookings be now made. Limit number of 30. About 800 miles through several counties, with ringing at about 40 towers Tours every day (six days) in super-luxury Bristol Tramway coach. Two guineas for the week. Accommodation found for all who desire. Mid-day meals will also be arranged for those who wish to have substantial meal. Application should be made on or before June 17th to Edgar Guise, Hon. Sec., 46a, Tankard's Close, Bristol 2.

ST. MARGARET'S, WESTMINSTER.—Ringing at this church will be discontinued until further notice.—W. H. Hewett.

APARTMENTS.

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THE FINANCES OF THE COUNCIL.

One of the things connected with the Central Council about which little is heard is its financial affairs. Every year a balance sheet is presented and adopted, but there is seldom any comment upon it in the Council. Outside, it is the matter in which ringers generally take the smallest, if any, interest. How the Council pays its way is, they imagine, no concern of theirs, and yet the interests of the Exercise have been promoted in no small measure by the manner in which the funds have been spent. Apart from the position which it occupies as a co-ordinating body, the exercise of a 'watching brief' over such exterior matters as might interfere with the practice and, perhaps, the existence of the art of ringing, and the useful services which it can render in connection with towers and belfries, the Council's greatest contribution to the cause of ringing and the one which, in the course of years, has had a vast influence on the progress of the art, has been the issue of the publications which it has sponsored. The Council has taken up the preparation of technical books from the point where private enterprise could not venture without risk of loss, and the work which has thus been done has not only led to a general expansion of knowledge but carried the practice of change ringing into fields which, a couple of generations ago, were undreamt of.

The Council has been able to draw upon some of the best brains in the Exercise to further this side of its work, and time and ability have been devoted to it ungrudgingly, gratuitously and almost without limit. But even so, the Council has had to back the publication of the various works financially. Practically every one of them has been issued at a loss; indeed, it was not until quite recently that even a small percentage was added to the net cost to help cover the various incidental expenses that must be met in the issue of any publication. It is in this cause that most of the funds of the Council are expended, and as time has progressed the books that have been issued have grown in their pretensions, and, consequently, in cost.

Where does the Council get the money from? Each year it receives about £35 in affiliation fees and subscriptions; its investments bring in £5, and it gets the balance from the sale of publications, which in some years may be as much as £20; occasionally the Council has actually had to meet a loss. The publication of a new book which proves popular gives the receipts a temporary expansion, such, for instance, as the sale of two hundred copies of the new 'Doubles and Minor' book last year. This, however, is exceptional, and, generally, the Council's

(Continued on page 378.)

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total income does not amount to more than about £50 a year. But it carries on its work successfully at a minimum of expense, and saves its balances for new publications. Those who give the matter a thought will realise that, apart from the value of the Council from other points of view, the Exercise owes it a great deal for what it is thus able to do, but ringers generally, perhaps, do not fully appreciate how much more they are indebted to those individuals who make this possible, the executive officials of the Council and those who do this technical work without fee or reward of any kind. It is they who pay the Council's way by their gratuitous labours, and it is the Exercise that benefits.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
(ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, June 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

FREDERICK J. SMITH	...Treble	WILLIAM P. GARRETT	7
SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER	2	GEORGE A. FLEMING	8
JOHN HOLMAN	3	CECIL W. PIPE	9
HOBART E. SMITH	4	FREDERICK J. TILLETT	10
HARRY R. ROPER	5	GEORGE E. SYMONDS	11
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY	6	JOHN W. WARD	...Tenor

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

Rung in honour of the wedding of Miss Hilda Catchpole, daughter of Charles A. Catchpole.

TEN BELL PEALS.

NOTTINGHAM.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, June 8, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5108 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

FREDERICK A. SALTER	...Treble	W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON	6
*JOHN E. CLARKE	2	WILLIAM BOTTRILL	7
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD	3	J. ALFRED BARRATT	8
FRANK BRADLEY	4	RALPH NARBOROUGH	9
ALEX. E. HUTCHINSON	5	WALTER NICHOLS	...Tenor

Composed by W. P. WHITEHEAD. Conducted by WILLIAM BOTTRILL.

* First peal of Stedman Caters. A birthday compliment to Mrs. W. P. Whitehead.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.
THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, June 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;

CHARLES A. HUGHES	...Treble	FRANCIS D. BISHOP	6
ERNEST J. KING	2	STANLEY B. DOBBIE	7
THOMAS W. TAFFENDER	3	*ARTHUR J. W. HUGHES	8
MISS OLIVE L. ASHBROOK	4	NORMAN H. MANNING	9
WALTER H. DOBBIE	5	FRANK MILLER	...Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by THOMAS W. TAFFENDER.

* First peal on ten tower bells.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

HARLOW COMMON, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, May 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

ERIC J. COX	...Treble	ARTHUR H. EVERETT	5
FREDERICK WHITBY	2	STANLEY CLARK	6
LEWIS CORDELL	3	EDWARD ROCHESTER	7
*WILLIAM ALBY	4	JOHN H. CRAMPION	...Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by J. H. CRAMPION.

* First peal in the method.

AYLESFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 3, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF ST. CLEMENT'S COLLEGE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 14½ cwt.

ERNEST H. OXENHAM	*Treble*	*ARTHUR J. W. HUGHES	5
*PHILIP A. CORBY	2	*GEORGE J. BOTCHER	6
*DENNIS G. BROWN	3	*BENJAMIN F. BAKER	7
DEREK M. SHARP	4	*HARRY PARKES	*Tenor*

Composed by E. BARNETT, SEN. Conducted by P. A. CORBY.
* First peal in the method.

ROTHERFIELD, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 3, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DENYS,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 23 cwt. 23 lb.

CHARLES BRAZIER	*Treble*	LESLIE W. JARVIS	5
GEORGE BEENEY	2	ARTHUR F. LEWRY	6
FRANK BENNETT	3	FRANK H. HICKS	7
ALBERT RELFE	4	WILLIAM KITCHENSIDE	*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

NORTH MIMMS, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 3, 1939, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

JAMES BENNETT	*Treble*	GEORGE A. PARSONS	5
JOHN THOMAS	2	ALBERT W. COLES	6
MRS. J. THOMAS	3	JOHN T. KENTISH	7
THOMAS J. LOCK	4	WALTER AYRE	*Tenor*

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by JOHN THOMAS.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, June 3, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb.

WALTER CHARMAN	*Treble*	*ERNEST J. MUNDAY	5
*THOMAS E. DENYER	2	GEORGE E. CLODE	6
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON	3	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE	7
ERNEST J. AYLIFFE	4	ALFRED H. PULLING	*Tenor*

Composed by G. H. CROSS. Conducted by A. H. PULLING.
* First peal in the method.

BRADFORD-ON-AVON, WILTS.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, June 3, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 12½ cwt.

*MRS. F. A. PENN	*Treble*	WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT	5
FRANK A. PENN	2	JESSE HALLETT	6
HORACE D. TAYLOR	3	SAMUEL J. HECTOR	7
THOMAS F. KING	4	GILBERT H. HARDING	*Tenor*

Composed by C. CHARGE. Conducted by GILBERT H. HARDING.
* First peal on eight bells. Rung as a silver wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Thomas F. King.

BIGGLESWADE, BEDS.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 3, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 13¾ cwt.

EDMUND W. WAGSTAFF	*Treble*	HERBERT W. ELSE	5
*MISS FLORENCE K. HARTLE	2	GEORGE W. DEBENHAM	6
*STANLEY WALLIS	3	PERCY W. TOMPKINS	7
†HERBERT SHERMAN	4	‡GEORGE THOMPSON	*Tenor*

Conducted by P. W. TOMPKINS.
* First peal of Grandsire 'inside.' † First peal of Triples. ‡ First peal.

LONDON.
THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, June 3, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, WOOLWICH,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 13¾ cwt.

*ROBERT A. JOHNSON	*Treble*	THOMAS H. TAFFENDER	5
THOMAS W. TAFFENDER	2	ROY K. MOWFORTH	6
OLIVE L. ASHBROOK	3	†CHARLES W. ATILEY	7
BERTIE ALDRIDGE	4	‡A. J. BRIAN WAYMAN	*Tenor*

Conducted by THOMAS W. TAFFENDER.
* First peal of Stedman Triples, first attempt for a peal. † First attempt for peal of Stedman Triples. ‡ First attempt for a peal.

RAINHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 3, 1939, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
J. J. PARKER'S SIX-PART (No. 13 C.C.C.). Tenor 18½ cwt.

*HUGH MORRIS	*Treble*	GEORGE A. NAYLOR	5
†MISS KATHLEEN L. CHEAL	2	†WILFRED L. RAYNER	6
‡MISS JOAN NAYLOR	3	†WILLIAM J. WALKER	7
†FRANCIS J. CHEAL	4	*ROBERT G. EDWARDS	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE A. NAYLOR.
* First peal. † First peal in the method. ‡ First peal in the method 'inside.' First peal in the method on the bells. Rung by an entirely local band. A farewell to the Vicar (the Rev. A. D. Hodgson, M.A.).

ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Saturday, June 3, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARNABAS,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 15¾ cwt.

JONATHAN PRESTON	*Treble*	MORRIS J. MORRIS	5
GEORGE F. SWANN	2	FREDERICK W. RISHWORTH	6
DANIEL T. MATKIN	3	WILLIAM DAVIES	7
JAMES F. HARVEY	4	PERCY N. G. RAINEY	*Tenor*

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN
Arranged and rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. M. G. Power, wife of the Vicar of Erdington.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, June 3, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JAMES W. WILKINS	*Treble*	HARRY C. JONES	5
WALTER LEE	2	ROLAND BIGGS	6
ARTHUR G. JAMES	3	PERCY NEWTON	7
FREDERICK G. BIGGS	4	VICTOR EVANS	*Tenor*

Conducted by ROLAND BIGGS.
Rung for the 50th anniversary of Mr. Frederick Biggs' first peal of Stedman.

ARKSEY, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)
On Saturday, June 3, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 9¾ cwt. in F sharp.

HOWARD SCOTT	*Treble*	*FRANK VALLANCE	5
GEORGE CLARK	2	†DANIEL SMITH	6
ERNEST COOPER	3	FOORD NEWTON	7
WILLIAM FAY	4	ARTHUR GILL	*Tenor*

Composed by E. C. GOBEY. Conducted by H. SCOTT.
* First peal of Bob Major 'inside.' † First peal of Bob Major. First peal as conductor. Rung as a birthday compliment to Miss I. Clark.

WOODFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, June 5, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt.

FRANCIS W. CORNEY...	...*Treble*	ERNEST J. BUTLER	5
*ERIC J. COE...	2	JAMES BENNETT	6
GEORGE R. PYE	3	JOHN H. CRAMPION	7
MRS. F. W. HOUSDEN ...	4	FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by J. H. CRAMPION.

* First peal in the method 'inside.' First peal of Superlative on the bells.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, June 5, 1939, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 20 cwt.

HARRY HOSKINS... ...	...*Treble*	ERNEST C. S. TURNER ...	5
*MRS. C. J. MATTHEWS ...	2	WILLIAM MADGWICK	6
*THOMAS H. FRANCIS	3	GEORGE H. CROSS	7
ERNEST W. PYE	4	PHILIP A. CORBY	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS.

* First peal of Cambridge. Arranged and rung as a birthday compliment to Michael Cross on his first birthday.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, June 6, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

ROBERT C. HEAZEL ...	...*Treble*	ERNEST J. BUTLER	5
GEORGE R. PYE	2	ERNEST W. FURBANK	6
JOHN H. CRAMPION	3	FRANK B. LUFKIN	7
JAMES E. DAVIS	4	PHILIP A. CORBY	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by P. A. CORBY.

Rung in honour of the silver jubilee of the Diocese of Chelmsford.

TROWBRIDGE, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, June 7, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

JOHNSON'S VARIATION OF MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 24 cwt.

*JESSE FRANCIS	...*Treble*	REGINALD H. NEWTON ...	5
SAMUEL J. HECTOR	2	*ERNEST PARKER	6
*PERCIVAL W. HARDING ...	3	GILBERT H. HARDING ...	7
*FRANK A. PENN	4	CHARLES F. ANDREWS	...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES F. ANDREWS.

* First peal of Surprise.

BORDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, June 7, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 22 cwt. in E flat.

WALTER H. DOBBIE ...	...*Treble*	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ...	
DORIS G. DOBBIE	2	ARTHUR S. BOAR	6
GEORGE A. NAYLOR	3	STANLEY B. DOBBIE ...	7
DEREK M. SHARP...	4	HARRY PARKES	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by DEREK M. SHARP.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, June 7, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

HAROLD S. HOBDEN ...	...*Treble*	FREDERICK H. DALLAWAY ...	5
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ...	2	HAROLD G. F. REYNOLDS ...	6
MISS BETTY RAYFIELD ...	3	EDWARD W. BRAY	7
FRANK BENNETT	4	LOUIS W. FAULKNER ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by HAROLD S. HOBDEN.

First peal in the method as conductor and first attempt.

MEASHAM, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, June 7, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

M. SWINFIELD'S TWENTY-PART, No. 6. Tenor 10 cwt.

MAURICE SWINFIELD ...	...*Treble*	W. RICHARDSON DRAGE ...	5
JOHN H. SWINFIELD	2	JOHN CURTIS...	6
ERNEST W. BEADSMORE ...	3	JAMES GEORGE	7
SIDNEY F. PALMER	4	GEORGE L. RODEN ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by M. SWINFIELD.

Rung as a thanksgiving to Almighty God for the complete recovery of Mr. James George, after a long and distressing illness. The composition was rung for the first time.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, June 8, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, BRISTOL, CAMBRIDGE & SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

JAMES E. DAVIS	...*Treble*	FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN ...	5
*MRS. JAMES E. DAVIS ...	2	EDWIN JENNINGS	6
MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT ...	3	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	7
CECIL C. MAYNE	4	HAROLD G. CASHMORE	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

* First peal of Spliced Surprise. The peal consisted of 2,240 London, 1,664 Bristol and 576 each of Cambridge and Superlative, with 115 changes of method.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, June 9, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE OXFORD BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 12¼ cwt.

ERNEST H. OXENHAM	...*Treble*	EDWIN A. BARNETT	5
EDWIN BARNETT	2	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ...	6
*DEREK M. SHARP	3	HARRY HOVERD	7
*ARTHUR S. RICHARDS ...	4	*PHILIP A. CORBY ...	...*Tenor*

Arranged and Conducted by E. A. BARNETT.

* First peal in the method. 100th peal together by Messrs. E. and E. A. Barnett.

GALLEYWOOD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, June 9, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

*ALFRED T. HOARE ...	...*Treble*	HENRY S. WILSON	5
REGINALD W. DARVILL ...	2	FRANK B. LUFKIN...	6
HORACE J. MANSFIELD ...	3	ARTHUR HUBBLE	7
†WILLIAM J. BARRETT ...	4	ALBERT E. NORTH ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. T. KING. Conducted by F. B. LUFKIN.

* First peal of Major. † First peal. A birthday compliment to the Rector of Galleywood.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

COTTON, SUFFOLK.

On Wednesday, May 24, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob, two of Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob.

Tenor 13 cwt.

L. FOSTER	...*Treble*	S. ARBON	4
B. CHILVERS...	2	R. WARD	5
A. LOCKWOOD	3	V. LOCKWOOD	...*Tenor*

Conducted by B. CHILVERS.

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DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

WENDOVER, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 27, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different 720's. Tenor 14¾ cwt.

HARRY C. JONES ... ...*Treble*	ROLAND BIGGS 4
GEORGE MARTIN 2	WALTER LEE 5
*REV. R. F. R. ROUTH ... 3	HARRY WINGROVE ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by HARRY WINGROVE.

* First peal of Cambridge Minor. Rung as a welcome to the new Vicar (the Rev. J. Lister), also a silver wedding compliment to H. C. Jones.

CROSBY, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 27, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Plain Bob, Reverse Canterbury, and two of Oxford Single.
Tenor 9½ cwt.

*MISS V. LUKE ... ...*Treble*	GEORGE SHELLAND 4
JOHN HALE 2	ROBERT GUY 5
THOMAS S. HORRIDGE ... 3	WILLIAM H. DEACON ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by W. H. DEACON.

* First peal and first attempt.

BRATTON, WILTSHIRE.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 27, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES-THE-GREAT,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different extents. Tenor 12 cwt. in F sharp.

LESLIE P. TINNAMS ... ...*Treble*	HAROLD SMITH 4
HARRY PROUT 2	REGINALD H. NEWTON ... 5
WILLIAM C. WEST 3	A. OWEN WRINTMORE ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by A. O. WRINTMORE.

Arranged as a wedding compliment to Miss Elsie Lawrence, for many years 'correspondent' of the above tower.

FORNCETT ST. PETER, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 27, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being ten 120's of New Bob, St. Simon's and Plain Bob, with four callings, and ten 120's of Grandsire called differently and one 240 of Morris' arrangement of Grandsire. Tenor 13 cwt. 12 lb.

*LEONARD G. TOOKE ... ...*Treble*	†R. WILLIAM BARBER ... 3
†MRS. R. WILLIAM BARBER 2	‡WILLIAM CLOVER 4
†HENRY TOOKE ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by HENRY TOOKE

* First peal at first attempt. † First peal in four methods of Doubles. ‡ First peal of Doubles.

SANDIACRE, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 27, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one extent each of Wells Surprise, London Surprise, Netherseale Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Double Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 16½ cwt.

*GEORGE CLIFT ... ...*Treble*	*GIRLING RIGBY 4
*PHILIP L. PARROTT 2	W. RICHARDSON DRAGE ... 5
*WILLIAM VARNAM 3	HERBERT TURNER ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by HERBERT TURNER.

* First peal in seven methods.

KELSTON, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, May 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Consisting of four six-scores of Plain Bob and 38 of Grandsire (14 callings). Tenor 12 cwt.

WILLIAM J. ROSEWELL ...*Treble*	LESLIE B. COLES 4
F. CECIL MOGFORD 2	GEORGE F. PRESCOTT 5
RONALD H. TREASURE ... 3	WILLIAM PRESCOTT ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM J. ROSEWELL.

EYNESBURY, HUNTS.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, May 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven 720's called differently, 69 bobs, 58 singles. Tenor 14 cwt.

*THOMAS PAYNE ... ...*Treble*	BRIAN F. SIMS 4
HERBERT FIELDS 2	*ARTHUR WALTON 5
WILLIAM A. R. CHAMBERLAIN 3	FRANK WARRINGTON ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by F. WARRINGTON.

* First peal.

COMBE, OXFORDSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Monday, May 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Eight callings. Tenor 12 cwt.

FRANK BOGGINS ... ...*Treble*	ALBERT HOARE 4
HORACE MORRIS 2	FREDERICK APPLETON 5
JAMES BUGGINS 3	THOMAS PORTLOCK ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by F. APPLETON.

HENLOW, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, May 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being an extent each of College Exercise, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, St. Clement's, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 14½ cwt.

*HENRY LAWRENCE ... ...*Treble*	LEWIS H. BYWATERS 4
JOHN CHURCH 2	FRANCIS BEAUMONT 5
EDMUND WAGSTAFFE ... 3	C. EDWARD JEFFRIES ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. E. JEFFRIES.

* First peal of Minor.

DERBY.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, May 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two 720's each of Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob and three 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb.

*RONALD FOSTER ... ...*Treble*	FRANK BRADLEY 4
FREDERICK A. SALTER ... 2	†REGINALD J. WALLIS ... 5
WM. LANCASTER 3	JACK BAILEY 6
ARTHUR SHERWOOD ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by JACK BAILEY.

* First peal. † First peal in three methods.

SAMPFORD ARUNDEL, WELLINGTON, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, May 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings. Tenor 8½ cwt.

WILLIAM C. NEWBERRY ...*Treble*	EDGAR QUICKE 3
CYRIL J. STEVENS 2	WALTER STEVENS 4
CLAUDE W. J. TARR ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by C. W. J. TARR.

First peal on the bells and a farewell peal for the Rev. D. Evans.

LITTLE MISSENDEN, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Friday, June 2, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Consisting of two extents each of Chearaley Slow Course, Union and New Bob, three each of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Bob, Plain Bob and St. Simon's Bob, four each of Winchendon Place Bob, St. Nicholas' Bob and April Day, and five extents each of Reading, Grandsire and Stedman; 41 changes of method. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

EDGAR HUMFREY ... ...*Treble*	R. GORDON CROSS 3
MISS MARIE R. CROSS ... 2	NOLAN GOLDEN 4
REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

First peal on the bells and first peal of Doubles in twelve methods by all and for the Guild.

BURLESCOMBE, DEVON.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, May 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings. Tenor 18 cwt.

EDGAR QUICKE	...*Treble*	STANLEY N. BRISTOW... ...	4
CYRIL J. STEVENS	2	WILLIAM C. NEWBERRY ...	5
WALTER STEVENS	3	CLAUDE W. J. TARR ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by E. QUICKE.

BURGH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
(ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)
On Saturday, June 3, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. ANDREW AND BOTOLPH,
A PEAL OF YORK SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 9 cwt.

FREDERICK J. SMITH ...	...*Treble*	GEORGE A. FLEMING	4
HOBART E. SMITH	2	SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER... ...	5
WILLIAM J. G. BROWN ...	3	CECIL W. PIPE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER.

First peal of York Surprise Minor by all, on the bells and for the Suffolk Guild.

PRESTON, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Saturday, June 3, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one extent of Cambridge Surprise, and two each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.

STEDMAN H. SYMONDS	...*Treble*	MAURICE T. SYMONDS... ...	4
EDWIN D. CRACKNELL ...	2	FREDERICK DAY	5
RONALD C. DAKIN	3	HARRY HOLLOCKS... ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by S. H. SYMONDS.

BIRKENHEAD, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
(WIRRAL BRANCH.)
On Wednesday, June 7, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST MARY,
A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Canterbury, Carlisle, Chester, London, York, Beverley and Chester. Tenor 11 cwt. 9 lb.

*WALLACE K. C. TOWNLEY...*Treble*	JOSEPH LESLIE	4
WILLIAM DEAN	2	JAMES BLAIR...	5
JOHN COOKE	3	FRANK T. PARRY	...*Tenor*

Conducted by F. T. PARRY.

* First peal and first attempt. First peal as conductor. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute to the men who lost their lives in H.M. Submarine 'Thetis.'

(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over).

SILVER WEDDING PEAL.

Mr. and Mrs. T. F. King, of Bath, have just celebrated their silver wedding, and in honour of the event a peal of Bob Major was rung at Christ Church, Bradford-on-Avon.

After the peal, the band enjoyed the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. King, at the Castle Hotel, where supper had been prepared. At the conclusion, Mr. Sam Hector proposed the health of Mr. and Mrs. King, and spoke of their liberal treatment of visiting and local ringers, and wished them many more years of health and happiness. This was endorsed by Mr. W. J. Prescott, and acclaimed by all.

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PEAL NOTES.

A NEW RECORD.

The ringing of a peal of Double Oxford Bob Major at Crayford last Friday was the occasion of a new record. Mr. Edwin Barnett and his son, Edwin A., rang their 100th peal together and the former thus becomes the first to score a century with both his father and his son. Mr. Barnett rang 235 peals with his late father, who was known to all the ringing fraternity as Edwin Barnett, sen.

The quickest peal of Caters on the bells at St. Peter's, Nottingham, was rung on Thursday, June 8th, and it is with pleasure that in this we can record the first peal of Stedman Caters rung by Mr. John E. Clarke. Mr. Clarke has always been the 'colt' of the Leicester Thursday band, and although so 'young' he doesn't care how far he travels providing he has the opportunity of taking part in some really good ringing. The peal at Nottingham was arranged by Mr. Fred Salter, who very kindly had the bells up in readiness for the attempt.

Celebrations are taking place in Essex in connection with the silver jubilee of the Diocese of Chelmsford. The ringers are taking their part, too, and on June 6th a peal of Cambridge Surprise Major was rung at Romford, and on the following day a peal of Minor was recorded at Rettendon.

The first birthday of Michael Cross, son of the Master of the Royal Cumberland Youths, was celebrated with a peal of Cambridge Surprise Major at Bishopsgate on June 5th. Michael has not yet begun ringing, but with father and mother both enthusiasts, we may expect an early start. The peal was called by Mr. G. H. Cross, who would like to thank Mr. J. E. Davis for obtaining permission to ring the peal, and Miss Oakshett and Mr. Belcher, who kindly came along to see that the band did not meet short.

A golden jubilee peal was rung at Hughenden, Bucks, on June 3rd. It celebrated the 50th anniversary of the first peal of Stedman by Mr. Frederick Biggs, which was rung at Hughenden on May 31st, 1889, by J. C. Truss, J. W. Washbrook (conductor), John Evans, S. Goodchild, F. G. Biggs, R. H. Biggs, H. Stratford and Joseph Evans. This was the first peal of Stedman by all the band except the conductor. The jubilee peal was Roland Biggs' 200th and Harry C. Jones' 25th.

The peal of Cambridge Surprise Major, rung at Trowbridge on June 7th, was, it is believed, the first peal of Surprise Major rung by an entirely resident band in the Salisbury Guild. Four of the ringers rang their first Surprise peal, and one of them, Mr. P. W. Harding, scored his first peal of Major and at the first attempt.

Two peals of Grandsire Doubles were rung by a Bath and Wells Diocesan Association band on Whit Monday, one at Sampford Arundel, Somerset, and the other at Burlescombe, Devon. The former was the first peal on the bells and a farewell to the Rev. D. Evans.

The peal of Double Norwich at Erdington, Birmingham, on June 3rd, was arranged as a birthday compliment to Mrs. M. G. Power, wife of the Vicar of Erdington, who very kindly entertained the band to tea after the peal. Mr. J. F. Harvey, of Bradford, Yorks, who took part, was on a visit to Birmingham.

MR. JAMES GEORGE'S RECOVERY.

His many friends will be glad to learn that Mr. James George has recovered from his long and distressing illness and is now able to return to peal ringing. He made his 'come back' on Wednesday week, at the age of 85½, by faultlessly ringing the 7th at Measham to a peal of Stedman Triples. He showed no trace of his illness and finished perfectly fit.

The peal was specially arranged, by kind permission of the Vicar (the Rev. J. R. King), as a thanksgiving for Mr. George's restoration to health, and the Vicar offered prayers in the belfry both before and after the peal.

The disaster to the submarine 'Thetis' is, of course, specially felt in Birkenhead, where she was built and many of whose men went to death in her. On June 7th, the day on which memorial services were held, a half-muffled peal of Surprise Minor was rung at St. Mary's Church. This is the old Parish Church of Birkenhead and is within 100 yards of where the ill-fated submarine was built. Two of the ringers in the peal, Messrs. Joseph Leslie and Frank Perry (the conductor), are employed at the shipyard, the former having actually worked on the 'Thetis' during construction.

Twenty-one years ago Mr. Harry Prout taught Owen Wrintmore to ring a bell. It was not until Whit Saturday that they rang a peal together. Then Mr. Wrintmore called a peal of Bob Minor at Bratton, Wilts, as a wedding compliment to Miss Elsie Lawrence, who for many years has been correspondent at this tower and a staunch supporter of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild.

Mr. T. J. Lock, hon. secretary of the North and East District of the Middlesex Association, rang his 100th peal on Saturday week at North Mimms, Herts, where, at the same time, Mr. James Bennett rang the treble and 'completed the circle.' Mr. Tom Lock's first century includes peals up to Spliced Surprise Major in nine methods.

Mr. John Holman, of Sheffield, travelled specially to Ipswich last Saturday to take part in the peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus. The composition, by Mr. G. E. Symonds, has a bob at all the Home positions without the 2nd in 5-6.

Last week we said in these notes that Mr. J. M. Bailey, although he had rung over 80 peals 'in hand,' had never rung one outside Leiston until May 28th, when he visited Dartford. Apparently his own son had forgotten the fact that Mr. Bailey rang 7-8 to a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal at Blackheath, Friston, in 1920. But perhaps he was too young to remember it.

FRESH DOUBLES METHODS.

A peal of Double Norwich Major was rung at Warnham, Sussex, on Saturday week. The Guildford portion of the band appreciated the kindness of Mr. Harry Hutton in driving them to Warnham and then standing out of the peal to allow the extra man to ring. But Saturday was a glorious day, and Mr. Hutton was compensated by enjoying the cricket match in the park and listening to the bells in the distance.

A peal of Doubles at Little Missenden, Bucks, on June 2nd, was rung in twelve methods, one of them, Chearsley Slow Course, rung, it is believed, for the first time. The extent of Chearsley is produced by two plain leads, followed by a bob lead, three times repeated, and here are the figures of a lead.

12345
21354
23145
32415
23451
23541
32514
23154
21345
12354
12534
Bob
13245

In addition, the peal included extents of St. Nicholas' Bob and Winchendon Place Bob. St. Nicholas is St. Simon's rung with Canterbury places in 3-4, and Winchendon Place Bob is St. Nicholas' with place-making in 1-2 instead of the dodge. Actually the names were used to distinguish the methods, but the band would like to know what the original names of the methods are, assuming they have been used before, for obviously they are of the same antiquity. No doubt the historians will be ready to help in this matter.

A local band at Rainham rang a peal of Oxford Bob Triples on Saturday week as a farewell to the Vicar (Rev. A. D. Hodgson), who is leaving to take up the living of St. John's, Bromley. It was also a birthday compliment to Miss Joan Naylor.

Messrs. William Clover and Henry Tooke have now rung peals together from Doubles up to Maximus. A peal of Doubles in four methods at Forncett St. Peter, Norfolk, on May 27th, enabled them to complete this partnership. It was the first peal on the bells by the Norwich Diocesan Association.

There were 69 bobs and 58 singles in the peal of seven different extents of Bob Minor rung at Eynesbury, Hunts, on Whit Monday. Mr. Frank Warrington was the conductor.

The first peal in the borough of Crosby, Lancs—and a very creditable one—took place on May 27th. These bells were restored as a memorial to the late King George V. Only one previous peal has been rung on the bells, in about 1910. The peal was a compliment to Mr. Ben Hale on the completion of 51 years' service ringing at the church. The ringers were very kindly entertained to tea by Mr. and Mrs. Hale. The Vicar and curate were also present.

Mrs. J. E. Davis is to be congratulated upon ringing her first peal of Spliced Surprise Major, which she did at Bushey on June 8th. Up to the present very few ladies seem to have taken up 'spliced' ringing.

After meeting short for Stedman Triples at St. Peter's, Derby, on May 29th, a peal of Minor in three methods was rung with a covering bell.

A REMARKABLE TRANSFORMATION.

ST. MARY'S, ELY, BELLS RESTORED.

For many years the eight bells at St. Mary's Church, Ely, have had an unenviable reputation, but now there has been a remarkable transformation The old bell frame was found to be in a very shaky condition necessitating its removal from the tower, and it has been replaced by a new massive oak frame. Whilst this work was in hand the opportunity was taken of having the bells tuned and the old plain bearings replaced with ball bearings. The work has been carried out by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, and the work has been done with characteristic efficiency.

On Saturday, June 3rd, the completed work was dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Ely in the presence of a large congregation. A number of visiting ringers were present.

Immediately after the funeral dedication the bells were rung by the Ely ringers: H. Martin 1, H. Cole 2, A. C. Rick 3, D. Norman 4, E. G. Pipe 5, W. T. Godfrey 6, G. Vail 7, A. Barnard 8.

The Bishop, in his address, expressed his great pleasure at hearing from the Vicar that that very morning the grand total to foot the bill had been reached. It was a great achievement to have opened the bells free from debt.

Service over, the first touch (Bob Major) on the rededicated bells was rung by the Rev. H. M. Knowles with six ringers from St. Margaret's, King's Lynn (the church from which the Rev Knowles came to Ely), and Mr. N. J. Abrams, president of the Central Branch, Ely Diocesan Association. Tea was partaken of in St. Mary's Parish Room, 61 ringing friends, several members of the Bell Restoration Committee, the Vicar, his two curates and churchwardens being present.

After tea the Vicar gave a warm welcome to all gathered and thanked those responsible for making the arrangements. In the unavoidable absence of the district secretary (Mr. F. Warrington), Miss K. Willers replied.

Mr. H R. Prudhome, warden, expressed his thanks to Mr. J. P. Fidler (representing Messrs. Taylor and Co.) for the way in which the work had been carried out.—Mr. Fidler replied.

Ringing from rounds to London Surprise was obtained in the evening, ringers being present from Cambridge, Coventry, Chatteris, Wilburton, King's Lynn, Huntingdon, Willingham, Sawston, Ickleton, Trumpington, Fordham, Ramsey, Dersingham, Somersham and Exning.

Those who were conversant with the bells in former days were loud in their praise of the vastly improved 'go' of the peal, which was cast by Edward Arnold, of St. Neots, in 1781. The tenor turns the scale at 12¼ cwt.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

In connection with the celebration of the silver jubilee of the Diocese of Chelmsford now in progress, special services are being held in the Cathedral every evening for a fortnight, each being allocated to one of the deaneries. The Cathedral bells are being rung for these services by the ringers from the deanery concerned.

The annual festival of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild, which is to be held at Ryde on July 1st, will be the diamond jubilee celebration of the foundation of the old Winchester Guild.

The Bishop of Portsmouth, who takes a keen interest in the Guild, is to be the preacher, and in calling attention to the service he says he hopes on that occasion to come into contact with 'a number of those mechanically and mathematically scientific persons who rejoice in Grandsire Triples and Bob Majors.' He adds: 'They preach a sermon, melodious to the ear and comforting to the mind.'

YOUNG PEAL RINGERS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—While congratulating Miss May Moody on her first peal and in no way wishing to detract from the performance, may I point out that Harold P. Reed also rang the 3rd to Holt's Ten-Part on the day before his 14th birthday. This was, however, his second peal—the first being rung nearly two months earlier. On the eve of his 15th birthday this same ringer called his first peal, and in this peal Roy Faithfull (aged 13) rang his first peal (vide 'Ringing World,' vol. 31, page 560). Hence both these ringers were younger than Miss Moody when they rang their first peal. Neither of the ringers mentioned claimed to be the youngest to ring a peal for the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild. It would be interesting to know who *was* the youngest ringer to do so?

Perhaps it may be some consolation to Miss Moody if she is the youngest *lady* to ring a peal for this Guild, and I rather fancy she is!

R. C. H. CONNOLLY.

'THANKS TO AN ESSEX MINORITY.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I would like, through 'The Ringing World,' to take an early opportunity of thanking all those who at district meetings and at the jubilee meeting at Chelmsford on Whit Monday supported the proposition 'That a Benevolent Fund of the Essex Association of Change Ringers be inaugurated.' Although the proposition was lost, it is comforting to know, when disappointment is felt, that there is a considerable number of Essex ringers who desire such a fund and who would ungrudgingly support it. I don't think Whit Monday's decision will stand the test of time, for I regard the ringing fraternity as a body which can find its 'soul' both inside and outside the ringing chamber.

Christianity, which we ringers uphold, puts charity to the forefront. It must, however, be practical. Whitsun is a Church festival, which reminds us of the power of the Holy Spirit. That spirit must be found in true fellowship. This was felt by William Thackeray when he wrote, 'I like to think that there is no man but has had kindly feelings for some other and he for his neighbour until we bind together the whole family of Adam.' It is this family spirit which I claim should permeate the ringing fraternity. That spirit dominated the successful social function arranged by the Central Council's Entertainment Committee, and held on Whit Tuesday at the London Tavern.

Peal achievements, however outstanding, should not be 'the end and be all' of ringing. The 'human touch' should be ever present, and that should operate not only in the local band, but in the whole County Association. Long and faithful service should not be forgotten when a ringer is stricken with sickness in old age, or perhaps mid-life, or when bad times have brought him low. We cannot expect the State to do everything. The attitude of the priest and the Levite was deplored by Christ, it was the great-hearted yet despised Samaritan who readily stretched forth the helping hand and paid the bill. 'Write me as one that loves his fellow-men' (Leigh Hunt), I commend to your readers.

To my opponents I bear no malice. Freedom of thought is still a priceless heritage. Arguments should always be welcomed. I tried hard to follow those that were advanced against the formation of a Benevolent Fund and could not see that any were sound enough to defeat a project that would vitalise the fellowship that ringers desire. This defeat has its blessings. I shall always treasure the kind assistance of Mr. Fred Mitchell, of the Kent Association. He revealed to me the grand work that the ringers of Kent had done in building up and operating a Benevolent Fund for their own ringers. The startling facts and figures I presented as often as possible. I cannot think that Essex will be satisfied with a 'stand-still' attitude.

I shall be ready to 'fight' again, knowing from past history that any worthy movement had its early setbacks only to triumph in the end. I ask my fellow-ringers of Essex to think again!

JAMES CHALK.

Woodford

A FIRST 720.

A first 720 of Cambridge Surprise Minor was rung for evensong on Sunday, May 7th, by the following members of the band at St. Paul's Church, Woodhouse Eaves, Leicestershire: C. Allen 1, R. Stockwell 2, J. Hunt 3, E. Jacques 4, A. Jacques 5, H. Haynes (conductor) 6.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from page 371.)

MODEL RULES FOR A COMPANY.

Discussion on 'Communicant' Qualification.

The committee in their report said they had made a thorough revision of the Model Rules, largely with a view to simplicity and brevity. The principle previously adopted of issuing a twofold version had been carried a stage further by compiling two complete sets of rules; one recommended as the ideal, where local conditions permit of its adoption, the other suitable for more general use, especially in country parishes. Care had been taken to provide in general terms for the regular use of church bells on proper occasions, while allowing ample elasticity in points of detail. The committee trusted that the result of their labours would prove to be of practical service.

The two sets of rules were appended to the report, and, in moving their adoption, the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards said all the members of the committee had had practical experience in drawing up rules required for a tower, and there were in existence the original rules drawn up by the Council. Personally, he made a careful digest of the rules he had drawn up himself and those drawn up by Mr. Stephen Wood, and what they had now incorporated appeared to be the most valuable and the most practicable of them. The old rules drawn up by the Council were somewhat prolix and cumbrous, and something a little briefer and simpler seemed to be required. Anyone who wished for assistance from the Council in drawing up a set of rules could receive a copy of each of the separate sets which had been prepared and make their choice between the two, as to which would suit their own conditions the better.

Mr S. H. Wood seconded the adoption of the report, and the Council then proceeded to discuss the rules in detail.

In various places in the rules the word 'Vicar' appeared, with a side note indicating that where applicable the word 'Rector' should be substituted.

It was suggested that the word 'Rector' should be inserted and 'Vicar' put into the side note, and it was also suggested that in each case the word 'incumbent' should be substituted.

The Rev. F. Ll. Edwards said logically the word 'Rector' should appear, but he inserted 'Vicar' because he thought that in the majority of parishes, where there were bells, the incumbent was a Vicar. In opposing the use of the word 'incumbent,' he said he thought that, in country parishes, 90 per cent. of the people had not the slightest idea what an 'incumbent' was.

Mr. C. H. Kippin said he thought Mr. Edwards had a poor opinion of the intelligence of country ringers.

Mr. W. H. Shuker pointed out that in the case of Roman Catholic churches they were 'rectors' and at Unitarian churches—there were bells at some Unitarian churches in Lancashire—they were 'ministers.'

Eventually it was decided to use the word 'Rector' in the rules and 'Vicar' in the marginal note.

SACRAMENTAL TEST?

Rule 4 in the 'model' set read as follows:—

'No person shall be eligible for membership or probationary membership of the society unless he (or she) is a communicant member of the Church, or, in the case of younger members, intends shortly to be confirmed.

'Any person so qualified may be admitted as a probationer, and may be elected a full member of the society at such time as he (or she) shall have become a competent change ringer.'

Mr. J. A. Trollope moved the omission of this rule. To impose a sacramental test of this sort was, he thought, definitely a bad thing. It was not a question whether ringers should be communicants or not, but whether that Council should go to rectors and say that they should make a rule that bellringers must be communicants. It had been done several times, but he was certain nobody could point to any case where the rule had been any good whatever. It was perfectly true that they, as ringers, were connected with the Church and that they were churchworkers; that idea was increasing and should increase, but they would not improve it by making any such rule that ringers must be communicants. If the Rector took enough interest in the matter to have a band of ringers who were communicants, it was his duty to see that there were enough recruits brought into the tower who were already communicants, but if he was going to say to anyone who came to a tower to learn change ringing that he could only come if he attended Mass so many times in a year, then he (Mr. Trollope) thought it was definitely wrong from the point of view of ringing and from the point of view of the Church.

Mr. Hunt seconded and Mr. G. R. Newton supported Mr. Trollope's views

The Rev. F. Ll. Edwards suggested that the words 'duly qualified' member of the Church might be substituted, leaving it to the authorities of the individual churches to decide what 'duly qualified' was.

Mr. J. D. Johnson said in the Worcestershire Association they used the term 'practising' member of the Church. It was put in to solve a similar difficulty and done entirely with the knowledge and permission of the Rector.

Mr. G. L. Grover thought it would be much simpler to say that no person shall become a ringer unless approved by the rector, vicar, incumbent or priest-in-charge.

'LOYAL MEMBERS OF THE CHURCH.'

Mr. W. Ayre suggested the substitution of Rule 4, of the alternative rules (B), which read as follows: 'Every ringer shall be a loyal member of the Church and, as such, faithful in his discharge of the duty of public worship, and shall at all times comport himself in the belfry with the reverence due to the House of God.'

Mr. F. M. Mitchell said, at the church where he began ringing, one bell was given by Nonconformists; were they going to debar Nonconformists from helping to ring the bells? If they got one or two Nonconformists to take up ringing it was a matter for the incumbent to see that they became members of the Church of England. He was a Nonconformist when he took up ringing and was ringing for twelve months before he was confirmed into the Church of England. Had the proposed rule been in force in his tower he would not now have been a member of the Church and would have been lost to the Exercise; and there were four of them in the same case as he was. It was his Vicar's proudest moment when he baptised four men into the Church through ringing.

Mr. Dyke said what they were trying to do was not to make ringers religious, but to make ringers of their religious men and women.

Mr. C. T. Coles said the inclusion of the rule proposed by the committee would, he felt, encourage parsons of a certain mind to adopt it. He formally proposed that Rule 4 in set B be used in both sets of rules.—Mr. Cross seconded.

Mr. Trollope and Mr. Hunt accepted this proposal, which, on being put to the meeting, was carried with one dissentient.

The Rev. E. S. Powell said he did not think the Council had actually decided whether they wanted the rule at all. He thought the previous rule (3) met the whole case. This said, 'The Rector of the Parish shall be ex-officio President, and the election of members, use of the bells and all other matters concerning the Society shall be subject to his approval.' He himself had two Nonconformist ringers who started ringing in his village and who, he hoped, might eventually join the Church.

The President said they could not go back on the vote they had just taken.

Rule 6 provided (inter alia) for the appointment of the steeplekeeper by the Vicar. Mr. Hunt objected to this matter being in the hands of the incumbent, because so many of them knew nothing about the duties of a steeplekeeper or whether a man was qualified to discharge the duties or not.

Major J. H. B. Hesse said the ringers should appoint the steeplekeeper.

The omission of the words 'by the Vicar' was agreed to.

Mr. Hunt also raised objection to Rule 7, which gave a list of the occasions on which bells should be rung, and added 'on such occasions of public rejoicing or religious observance as may be appointed.' He said this would impose a good deal upon ringers beyond their ordinary duties, for occasions for which they would not be entitled to any remuneration.

After further discussion the Rev. H. Drake pointed out that these model rules were framed so that anyone wishing to form a company could take from them what they liked, and the reason for this rule was to remind people that ringing could be done upon these occasions. They were not compelled to do so if they did not want to.

Eventually the rule was adopted, with the omission of the words '14th December,' which was given as the date of the King's birthday.

PAYMENT FOR SPECIAL RINGING.

Rule 13, as drafted, read as follows: 'No payment shall be made for any ringing at . . . church except on special occasions, such as weddings, funerals and civic celebrations. The normal charge for such special ringing shall be . . . out of which any member who sustains a financial loss by attending shall be entitled to compensation, and the remainder shall be paid to the funds of the society.'

Mr. P. J. Johnson said there would be a difficulty in putting the latter part of this rule into force. Whatever ringers got for ringing he did not regard as a payment; it was simply an acknowledgment of their attendance. What they should do in the rules was simply to put the suggestion to the authorities that they should pay the men. He did not think they should discuss the question of a man's financial loss by ringing on such occasions. He proposed the omission of the last clause.

Mr A Harris seconded.

Mr. S. H. Wood said he felt strongly that the money paid for ringing on these special occasions should go into the funds of the society and not be divided so much per head among the ringers. He had known many occasions, and those present must have known many others, when there had been ten or twelve bells and only eight ringers, so that the eight got, say, 7s. 6d. each, when if there had been twelve, they would have got only 5s. 7½d. (laughter). That was a thing he had known happen and he was dead against it, and the rule was drawn up to meet that objection.

Mr. Hughes suggested they could meet Mr. Wood's objection by making the payment so much per rope.

Mr. Johnson said these matters rested with the companies concerned, and it would be most unfortunate if the Council involved themselves in hair-splittings in these codes of rules.

The Rev. F. Ll. Edwards said the rules were intended for a belfry where the ringers undertook to ring purely voluntarily for the glory

(Continued on next page.)

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from previous page.)

of God, the advancement of the art and the service of the Church. He thought the rule was applicable under those circumstances.

It was decided to delete the words at the end of the rule 'out of which any member who sustains financial loss by attending shall be entitled to compensation, and the remainder shall be paid into the funds of the society.'

RINGING ON GOOD FRIDAY.

In a note at the end of the rules it was stated, 'It is an ancient and laudable custom to ring on Saturdays and the eves of feast days at any suitable hour after twelve noon. It is appropriate to ring on Good Friday with the bells muffled; no open ringing should take place from Monday before Easter till after midday on Easter Eve. Church festivals and other special occasions may properly be marked by ringing before 8 a.m. and at the close of divine service.'

The Rev. H. Drake urged that they should delete the reference to muffled ringing on Good Friday. This was supported by Mr. A. C. Hazelden.

The Rev. F. Ll. Edwards said he regarded ringing muffled on Good Friday as very valuable. It impressed the public with the sacred character of the day. There was never a time when Good Friday was so desecrated and given over to amusement as in these days, but muffled ringing helped to maintain the sacred atmosphere of the day.

Mr. Harris asked what was the practice at places like St. Paul's and Westminster Abbey.

Mr Hughes: There is no ringing at all.

Mr. W. E. White said at his church it was the custom to ring muffled on Good Friday, and they thought it was the right and proper thing to do.

Mr. Grover said if they left it in, it might be taken as an expression of opinion that muffled ringing should take place.

Mr. E. M. Atkins asked if the Council was competent to express an opinion on this point? It was, he said, really a matter for the incumbent to determine. He thought it would be dangerous for the Council to send out a recommendation of that sort.

After several members had stated what the practice was in their own towers, a vote was taken and it was decided to omit the reference to Good Friday.

The 'model' rules, as amended, were then adopted, as were the alternative rules, with the corresponding alterations where applicable.

EARLIER PAYMENT DESIRED.

The general accounts of the Council, details of which were given in 'The Ringing World' on June 2nd, were adopted on the motion of the hon secretary, seconded by Mr. A. A. Hughes. The secretary thanked Mr. Mitchell for supplying the Council with duplicating paper at a very much lower cost than it could be obtained otherwise. He also requested secretaries of associations to send in their subscriptions earlier in the year. Some of them left it to the last minute, which made it very difficult to get the accounts completed.

THE CARTER RINGING MACHINE.

The report of the Carter Ringing Machine was made by Mr. A. A. Hughes (his co-trustee, Mr. E. A. Young, being absent from the country). This stated: 'Unfortunately, we have been unable to demonstrate the machine this year, but we hope a trial will be possible in the course of the next few weeks. It will be remembered that last year the Council gave sanction to Mr. Sharman (the demonstrator) for the removal of the stud dial and arm for repair or renewal. I understand he is making a completely new dial and studs. Mr. Sharman is engaged on Government work and has been at high pressure for months past, in consequence of which he has been unable to complete the new part in time for the Whit week-end demonstration. A further report will be submitted through the columns of "The Ringing World" after the trial has been made.'

Mr. Taffender asked whether, when the next demonstration of the machine was arranged, any ringers who wished could attend it? He thought it was desirable it should be advertised in 'The Ringing World.'

Mr. Hughes said the reason there could be no demonstration during the visit of the Council to London on this occasion was that the machine was under repair and Mr. Sharman had been too busy on Government work to complete it. It was hoped that it would now be finished in a few weeks' time and that a demonstration would then be possible.

Mr. W. E. White asked why it had become necessary to repair a standing machine.

The Hon. Secretary said this was the first time he had ever known repairs to become necessary, and what was being done now was the making of adjustments to keep it in going order.

Mr. White: Why does it get out of adjustment if it is not touched?

Major Hesse: How many times a year is the machine used?

Mr Hughes said the machine was tested every year, before the Council meeting, so that the trustees could report, and he supposed it ran for about half an hour on each occasion. The present repair was long overdue. The timing dial and the studs had had a great deal of work before the Council took over the machine and the studs wanted renewing. While that was being done the adjustments would be made to improve the timing.

(Continued in next column.)

SURREY ASSOCIATION.

THE OVERLAPPING OF BOUNDARIES.

Excellent weather favoured those who attended the meeting of the North-Western District of the Surrey Association, held at East Molesey on Saturday, June 3rd. Ringing commenced at 3.30 and, with a short break for tea and business meeting, the bells were kept going to a variety of methods till 8.30 p.m. The doors of the ringing chamber at East Molesey open directly on to the churchyard, and those not actually engaged in the belfry could sit in the shade of the trees and listen to the ringing. In this way a very pleasant afternoon and evening were spent.

Thirty-two sat down to tea at the New Inn, including the Master (Mr. D. K. C. Birt), the District Master (Mr. D. Cooper) and Central Council representative (Mr. C. H. Kippin), also Mr. G. Grover (general secretary of the Guildford Diocesan Guild), Mr. A. H. Smith (Leatherhead District secretary), Mr. F. Hawthorne (Chertsey District secretary of the Guildford Diocesan Guild), and visitors from West Grinstead, Sussex, Hounslow and Isleworth, Middlesex.

The business meeting was presided over by Mr. D. Cooper, Messrs. F. Brown and G. Matravers (East Molesey) and Mr. W. Simmonds (Hersham) were elected members, and the following belfry elections made prior to peals or peal attempts were confirmed: Messrs. H. Scotcher, E. Stitch, W. H. Barber, H. Knight, A. Walker, W. J. Davidson, G. Lindoff, W. Ayre, S. F. Palmer and R. Richardson.

Under the heading of 'Any other business,' many topics of interest to the district were discussed.—Overlapping and the demarcation of boundaries; the desirability of district officers working *only* amongst the towers of their own district; and the duties to be carried out by the committeemen to be interchanged between the Surrey Association and the Guildford Diocesan Guild, were a few of the subjects debated.

INTERCHANGE OF AMBASSADORS.

With regard to this last point, Mr. Kippin, the instigator of this arrangement, said that in view of the overlapping that was always bound to exist in certain parts of the county, it seemed to him desirable to have a kind of 'ambassador' appointed by each organisation to the committee of the other, and so avoid some of the evils which might arise through unilateral action.

Mr. W. H. Hewett said that, in his view, the best and probably the only ultimate solution of the problem lay in the establishment of one county organisation with two branches, one for the Guildford Diocese and one for the Southwark Diocese.

The arrangements made this year for the convenience and entertainment of members of the Central Council were criticised by one member, who thought that London gave a poor showing in this respect when compared with the hospitality extended by some provincial towns.

In reply, one of the association's representatives explained that this deficiency on the part of London was chiefly due to the fact that, this year, the Council had no proper advertised 'headquarters' which members could use as a rendezvous at any time throughout the week-end. No doubt this omission would be remedied when the Council next visited London.

The passing of the usual votes of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and to Mr. F. Brown for arranging the tea concluded the meeting.

(Continued from previous column.)

The President said if the members made a request, the trustees would be willing to arrange a demonstration at some convenient time.

The report was adopted.

A formal report was presented by the Standing Committee and adopted. It was stated that their various recommendations would come up under the respective items of business as they were reached on the agenda.

COLLECTION OF COMPOSITIONS COMPLETED.

The President said the Peals Collection Committee presented no formal report, but had handed in the collection of compositions which they had been requested to compile. The Standing Committee recommended that powers be given to the officers to have this collection printed if the cost was not excessive.

Replying to a question, the President said the collection included compositions of Bob Major, Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, Double Norwich, Treble Bob Major, Bristol Surprise, Superlative Surprise, Rutland Surprise, Yorkshire Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, New Cambridge Surprise and London Surprise Major and Spliced Surprise Major.

The Standing Committee's recommendation was adopted.

On the question of the reappointment of the committee, Mr. Ayre proposed that Mr. H. G. Cashmore be added to it.

Mr. Trollope asked if it was fair at that point to add anyone to the committee, as he could not assume any responsibility for the new book.

The President said that while the committee was asked to do this particular job, and had now made the collection of compositions, it did not mean that there was no more work to be done. The Treble Bob Collection had never been completed; there were still some hundreds of peals to prove.

The following members were reappointed to the committee: Mr. G. Lindoff (convener), the Rev. E. S. Powell, Messrs. G. R. Newton, G. R. Pye and T. B. Worsley, and Mr. Cashmore's name was added.

(To be continued.)

LADIES' GUILD AND LEEDS SOCIETY.

JOINT MEETING AT HEADINGLEY.

The Ladies' Guild (Northern District) and the Leeds and District Society held a joint meeting at St. Chad's, Headingley, Leeds, on Saturday. Ringing commenced at 3 p.m. and continued until 4.30 p.m. when a short service was held. The lesson (from Philippians iv.) was read by Miss L. K. Bowling (vice-president, Ladies' Guild), and the Rev. Canon C. O. Marshall (president, Yorkshire Association) gave the address, in which he welcomed the societies to his church and mentioned the Ladies' Guild's difficulty of meetings when their members were scattered over such a wide area. To the Leeds Society he gave words of praise for work regularly done and thanks for their loyalty to the Yorkshire Association. Continuing, Canon Marshall spoke of St. Barnabas, the Saint of Consolation and Help. He thought that St. Barnabas ought to be the patron saint of all ringers. A lone ringer was not often found, because it was only by the help given and taken from other ringers that progress was made.

Tea, graciously provided by Miss L. K. Bowling, was enjoyed by about 60 ringers and friends in the St. Chad's Schoolrooms.

The business meetings were held in separate rooms. The Leeds Society's meeting was presided over by the Rev. J. H. B. Andrews, and members were present from Armley, Batley, Burley, Bradford, Bramley, Calverley, Drighlington, Elland, Headingley (St. Michael's), Idle, Leeds, Ossett, Pudsey, Rothwell, Sherburn, Shipley, Hemingbrough and the local company.

A comprehensive vote of thanks was proposed by the Rev. J. H. B. Andrews and seconded by Mr. W. Barton, to the Vicar and churchwardens for the service and use of the bells, to the organist and choirboys for attending, and to the local company for other arrangements and especially to Miss Bowling for providing such a splendid tea.

The Rev. Canon Marshall acknowledged the thanks.

The next meeting is due to be held at Drighlington on July 29th.

Further ringing on hand and tower bells then continued until 9 p.m.

EFFECT OF DISTRICT REVISION ON NORTHERN MEMBERSHIP.

Members of the Ladies' Guild were present from Sherburn, Saltaire, Sheffield and Leeds.

At the annual business meeting of the Northern District two new members were elected from Rotherham.

Reference was made in the report to the improved quality of the ringing, and to continue this a suggestion was made by the secretary to arrange a method to be specially practised at each meeting.

The vice-president (Miss Bowling) and hon. secretary (Mrs. E. D. Kelly) were re-elected. The other officers are as follows: Mrs. Cotterell and Mrs. Kelly, on the General Committee; Mrs. Fernley, Mrs. Wolstencroft, Mrs. Bradley and Mrs. Cotterell, on the District Committee.

The following meetings were arranged: September, Norton, near Pickering; November, Handsworth, Sheffield; March, Shipley; and the annual meeting at Todmorden.

When the question was asked if all members were supporters of 'The Ringing World,' it was found that only a very few were not and these are giving the matter their consideration.

A heavy decrease in membership has taken place owing to the re-adjustment of the district, but there continues to be a steady influx of new members which will soon make up for this. The present membership is 37.

The statement of accounts showed an income over expenditure for the year of £1 0s. 2d.

The usual vote of thanks was passed to those responsible for the arrangements, and Miss Bowling, the vice-president, was specially thanked for providing such a splendid tea.

Returning to the belfry, the ladies rang a good touch of Stedman and later took part in Grandsire, Double Norwich, London and rounds for the beginners.

COLLEGE YOUTHS AT BRASTED.

On a glorious June afternoon, the College Youths paid their annual visit to Brasted as the guests of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Lewis. Some travelled down by car, others took advantage of the special coach provided by Mr. Lewis. The first call was at Sundridge, where touches in several methods were rung, before going on to Moorcocks, where tea was enjoyed under the trees by about 50 visitors. After a rest and a chat, ringing took place at Brasted Church and then back to the lawns and gardens, where the rest of the evening went all too quickly. Refreshments and handbell ringing brought a delightful day to a close, the Master (Mr. E. G. Fenn) thanking Mr. and Mrs. Lewis and their daughters for their great kindness.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ROCHESTER DISTRICT MEMBERS IN SPORTING MOOD.

A very successful by-meeting of the Rochester District was held at Hartlip (a six-bell tower) on Saturday, June 10th. A really warm summer's day marked the occasion and resulted in well over 50 members and friends finding their way to this pretty little Kent village to enjoy the happy environment of the countryside and the sociability of brother members of the association.

The bells went well to various methods, ranging from Grandsire Doubles to Cambridge Minor. Service in the church was attended by at least fifty of the members. The Rev. Trench, who later in the day became an honorary member of the association, conducted the service and gave an address fitting to the occasion. As a result of the church collection the sum of 10s. 2d. will be added to the K.C.A. Benevolent Fund.

Tea was taken on the lawn at the Rose and Crown, and rumour has it that some of the sporting element of the Rochester District were rather more engrossed in picking sides for the cricket match at Tunstall on July 29th (the date fixed for the quarterly summer meeting) than they were in getting on with their tea. Speaking of this cricket match, which seems to be regarded as part and parcel of meetings held at Tunstall, it appears that there is likely to be a very keen match, as both sides are bent on, and in fact are quite sure of, winning. Well, we must wait and see, but both sides must be warned that they will, jointly and severally, have to pay up if they knock the splices out of the bats or the cover off the ball!

Reverting to the meeting at Hartlip: following tea an informal meeting was held for the purpose of electing new members, disposing of annual reports, etc. Another matter was to fix the date of the Tunstall meeting. Some of the members wanted the date to be July 22nd, while others hoped it would be on July 29th. Upon being put to the vote, July 29th was decided upon.

Before dispersing, the Rector expressed his great pleasure at seeing such a fine gathering of bellringers and friends at Hartlip. He said it was a real joy to have them there ringing Hartlip bells, and he sincerely hoped that, in addition to the three members of the Hartlip band who had rejoined the association that afternoon, others of the younger ringers at Hartlip would be joining in the very near future.

The bells were kept going to suit all tastes until 9 o'clock, and without doubt everyone thoroughly enjoyed the Hartlip meeting, including the ringing-dartsmen, who showed decided skill in a very keen contest at the Rose and Crown (the proprietor of which is a ringer) prior to having their last ring on the church bells.

AFTERNOON IN HOPS AND FRUIT COUNTRY.

The summer meeting of the Canterbury District of the Kent County Association was held at Selling on Saturday, June 10th, in glorious summer weather. Thirty-eight members attended and made good use of the peal of eight bells during the afternoon and evening.

Service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. H. G. Houseman), who gave the members a welcome, an invitation to use the Vicarage gardens and a little advice.

Tea was held in the open air, 'shirt sleeves' in some cases being the order of the day.

The Vicar presided over the usual business meeting, when one new member was elected and Littlebourne selected as the venue of the next meeting, an invitation having been sent by the Vicar.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for granting the use of the bells and for conducting the service.

Handbells were brought into use, Grandsire Triples being rung on a tiny set, and tunes by 'Dover boys' on a larger peal. The tunes, as usual, were appreciated by all, including a few of the village folk in a nearby garden.

Some of the party then returned to the tower, some walked round the Vicarage gardens and others sat and 'jawed' in the churchyard. The methods rung during the day were Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Kent and Oxford, Double Norwich and Cambridge Surprise. The bells were lowered at 8.45, and a happy afternoon 'mid hops and fruit' came to an end.

THE LIGHT WENT OUT.

Through the light being switched off at Broadclyst Church, a peal was lost on June 7th. Afterwards a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung: L. Wilson 1, J. H. Godfrey, jun. 2, B. Pidgeon (longest length in the method) 3, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 4, A. Lovering 5, E. Marks 6, J. Aubury 7, C. Sandford 8. Touches of Oxford Bob Triples and Grandsire Triples were afterwards rung.

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GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PRESENTATION TO SWINDON BRANCH HON. SECRETARY.

The half-yearly meeting of the Swindon Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association was held at Bishopstone on Saturday, June 10th, in ideal weather. There was a rather poor attendance from the branch, but a goodly number of visitors brought the attendance up to the average. The ringers were met by the Vicar of Bishopstone (the Rev. E. W. Smith), who later joined them at tea, which was served in a nearby garden.

A short business meeting followed, Mr. W. Trueman being in the chair. During the meeting the chairman spoke of the forthcoming marriage of the hon. secretary (Mr. W. B. Kynaston), and referred to the work Mr. Kynaston had done during the seven years he had been branch secretary. He hoped Mr. Kynaston would continue the good work.

Good wishes for the future happiness of the happy couple were also expressed by the Rev. E. W. Smith, who, on behalf of the ringers of Brinkworth, Blunsdon, Faringdon, Lydiard Millicent, Purton, Rodbourne Cheney, St. Mark's, Swindon, Stratton and Shrivenham, presented Mr. Kynaston with a set of carvers and other cutlery.

Mr. Kynaston suitably replied, as did also his fiancee (Miss M. Bratt), who is being tutored in the art of bellringing by her future husband.

On returning to the tower good use was made of the bells until 7.30, a good fall in peal ending the ringing. Methods rung during the meeting ranged from Grandsire Triples to Double Norwich Major, with rounds for the learners.

'GATE CRASHERS.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—So the president of the Central Council would have 'gate crashers' excluded from the Abbey, and all because a visitor broke a stay, worth probably a few shillings.

I cannot find the term 'gate crasher' in my 'Glossary,' neither is there room for such a word nor the spirit which prompts its use in ringing.

It is the so-called 'gate crasher' whose votes put Mr. Lewis and others in office and whose subscriptions pay for the entertainment and hospitality lavished on the Council every Whitsuntide, and it is churlish, to say the least, to retaliate by endeavouring to curtail the already strictly limited opportunities which any visitor has of getting a 'pull' at the Abbey.

It is to be regretted that the president did not pay a little more heed to the concluding remarks of Canon Perkins.

Headingley, Leeds. R. H. DOVE.

BOLTON RINGER'S WEDDING.

On Saturday week, Mr. Peter Crook, jun., of Bolton, Lancs, was married to Miss Gladys A. Rigby, of Horwich, at the Parish Church of Horwich. The bridegroom is the son of Mr. Peter Crook, secretary of the Bolton Branch of the Lancashire Association and member of the Central Council.

The ringing of the bells was in charge of Mr. John Potter, of Walkden, and many towers were represented, one ringer coming from as far away as Southport. The bridal couple were 'rung' into church and 'fired' out, followed by short touches, a special feature of which was a 336 of Grandsire Triples when a boy of 10 years took part. He is Master William Walmsley and he is a pupil at Holy Trinity Church, Bolton.

At the reception, the bridegroom, his sister, Miss G. Annie Crook, who was chief bridesmaid, and his father, assisted by Mr. E. Webster, rang a course of Grandsire Triples on handbells.

The newly-married couple are spending their honeymoon in Ilfracombe

SITUATION VACANT.

BOOK-KEEPER, with good knowledge of builders' accounts and quantities required; small country builder within 25 miles of London; must be a good ringer (8 bells). Application by letter, stating experience, etc.—Box W, 'The Ringing World' Office, Lower Pyrford Road, Woking.

APARTMENTS.

LLANDUDNO, NORTH WALES.—Superior board-residence or bed and breakfast; 2 minutes sea; tennis courts, bowling green and park.—Mrs. Brown, Avonholm, 24, Queen's Road. Telephone 6965.

BOGNOR REGIS, SUSSEX.—Board Residence, facing sea, 15 bedrooms, dining room, separate tables, moderate charges, near Chichester (8), Arundel (8), Lyminster (6), Felpham (6); two rings of 8 and one of 12 handbells at home. — W. G. Bull, Rotherly, West Esplanade (late Royal Cumberlands, etc., etc.). Phone 340.

NOTICES.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—The annual meeting will be held at Lichfield on Saturday, June 17th. Bells: St. Mary's (8), St. Michael's (6), from 3 p.m.; Cathedral from 3 to 3.15 and 6 to 7. Sunday School Teachers' Festival Service in Cathedral at 3.15. Tea and general meeting in St. Mary's Parish Room, Wade Street, 4.30. Tea, 9d. to fully-paid members, to others 1s. 3d.—H. Knight, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Wath-on-Dearne on Saturday, June 17th. Bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. Short service at 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., followed by business meeting. A hearty welcome is extended to all.—J. J. L. Gilbert, Dis. Sec., 25a, St. Joseph's Road, Sheffield 9.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Biddenden, on Saturday, June 17th. Ringing from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and business to follow. The usual travelling allowance will be paid at this meeting.—P. Page, Hon. Dis. Sec., 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Quarterly meeting, Saturday, June 17th, at Bakewell. Committee meeting 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., at Wheatsheaf Hotel, followed by general meeting. Special invitation is issued to this joint meeting with fellow-members and friends of Peak Society. Come along, but don't forget to send your name for tea to Mr. W. J. Alexander, 15, Stanton View, Yeld Road, Bakewell, to avoid disappointment. — Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Kineton, on Saturday, June 17th. Bells (6) available during afternoon and evening. Tea provided at a moderate charge.—D. E. Beamish, 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Portishead on Saturday, June 17th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Divine service 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock, with business meeting to follow.—Percy G. Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—The next meeting of the Crewe Branch will be held at Wistaston (6 bells) on June 17th. Ringing from 2.30 p.m.—Richard D. Langford, Hon. Branch Sec., 118, Ruskin Road, Crewe.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Thurcaston on June 17th. The bells (8) will be available at 3 p.m. Tea followed by meeting at 5 p.m.—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Surfleet on Saturday, June 17th. Bells available from 2 p.m. Service 4 p.m Tea 4.30 p.m. Business meeting afterwards.—Geo. Ladd, Hon. Sec., Pinchbeck, Spalding.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD (Alton and Petersfield District) AND LADIES' GUILD (Southern District).—A combined meeting will be held on Saturday, June 17th, at Bramshott. Bells (6) available 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea in Parish Room 5. Business meetings follow.—C. E. Bassett, Hon. Dis. Sec., 32, Charles Street, Petersfield.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Cuthbert's, Lytham (8 bells) on Saturday, June 17th. Bells ready 3 p.m. All ringers welcome.—C. Sharples, Fylde Branch Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Eaton Socon on Saturday, June 17th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. A good company is requested. All ringers will be welcome. Please come.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kington District.—A meeting will be held at Weobley, on Saturday, June 17th. Bells (6) available 4 p.m. Service 5. Tea 5.30, 6d. each. Business meeting to follow.—Jb. Preece, Dis. Sec., Lea Lodge, Staunton-on-Arrow, Leominster.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Blackrod on Saturday, June 17th. Bells available 3 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting of this branch will be held at Hartlebury on Saturday, June 17th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service in church 4.15, followed by tea and business meeting. —N. J. Goodman, Hon. Sec.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Flamstead on Saturday, June 17th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Usual arrangements.—W. Ayre, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meetings for June: *St Paul's Cathedral, 20th; St. Magnus', 22nd; Southwark Cathedral, 27th; St. Clement Danes, 29th. All at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Oxford City Branch. —The half-yearly meeting of the Oxford City and District Branch will take place at Dorchester Abbey on Saturday, June 24th. Service 3 p.m., followed by tea, meeting and ringing. All ringers from all parts cordially invited. For tea, please notify early to Mr. E. J. B. Morton, 11, Water Eaton Road, Summertown, Oxford.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—The next meeting will be held at Thames Ditton on Saturday, June 24th. Bells (6) from 4 p.m. Tea 4.45 p.m., at the Ferry Tea Rooms. Service 6 p.m. All ringers very welcome. Will those who require tea please let me know by Wednesday, 21st? Subscriptions for 1939 now due.—F. E. Hawthorne, 39, Queen's Road, Thames Ditton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The Burton District will hold its next meeting at Measham on Saturday, June 24th, and extends a cordial invitation to all ringers, especially friends from Birmingham and Nuneaton Districts. Tea 4.45, followed by meeting, and the peal (8 musical bells) available at 2.45. Lastly, don't forget your postcard by Wednesday or Thursday for tea. —J. W. Cotton, Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

DAVENTRY, NORTHANTS.—The ring of eight bells, rehung by John Taylor and Co., will be reopened on Saturday, June 24th. Service 3 o'clock; preacher, the Archdeacon of Northampton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch. —The next meeting will be held at St. Mark's, Worsley, on Saturday, June 24th. Tower open for ringing at six o'clock. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—Joseph H. Ridyard, Branch Sec., 35, The Crescent, Worsley.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—A meeting will be held at Easthampstead, near Bracknell (6 bells), on Saturday, June 24th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service 5. Tea 5.30. All welcome. Please notify for tea by June 21st.—W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec., Merrel, California, Wokingham.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The next meeting will be held at St. Ann's Church, Stamford Hill, on Saturday, June 24th. Bells available 3 p.m. Short service and tea. Methods for special attention are Double Oxford Bob Minor and London Surprise Minor. Other methods will be rung as required. Church within sight of St. Ann's Road Station, Seven Sisters Road.—T. J. Lock, Hon. Dis. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The summer meeting of the Western Division will be held at the Church of Holy Trinity, Skipton, on Saturday, June 24th. Bells (8) available from 2 o'clock. Tea (1s. 6d.) at Castle Cafe (opposite church) at 4.30. Business meeting in vestry 5.30 approximately. Names for tea to Mr. H. Stanforth, 13, Brookside, Skipton, by Thursday, June 22nd. All welcome.—F. Rayment, Dis. Sec., Bramley.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS. —A meeting will be held at Great Baddow, Essex, on June 24th. Bells available from 3.30. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. George Green, 3, Bell Street, Great Baddow, near Chelmsford, by June 22nd.—G. W. Steere, Hon. Sec., 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

SAFFRON WALDEN SOCIETY (Established 1623). —The 316th anniversary of Great Ringing Day will be held on Saturday, June 24th. Bells (12) available from 2 p.m. Tea, 1s. 6d. each, for all who notify me by June 21st.—Leonard E. Pitstow, Hon. Sec., 21, Debden Road.

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—The annual meeting will be held at Nailsea on Saturday, June 24th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Bus 24B leaves centre 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.; stops at church. Will all requiring tea kindly notify me by June 21st?—N. C. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Weston, Bath.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Grappenhall Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Warburton on Saturday, June 24th, at 3 p.m. Please advise me by the 21st if requiring tea.— J. E. Ashcroft, Post Office, Grappenhall.

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LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, June 24th, at St. Mary Magdalene, Holloway Road. Bells available 3 p.m. — James G. A. Prior, Hon. Sec., 2, Thorncliffe Road, Clapham Park, S.W.2.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.—The 128th ringing anniversary will be held on Saturday, June 24th. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. Old and new friends, make this a good rally!—S. H. Symonds, towerkeeper.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kettering Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Desborough (8 bells) on Saturday, June 24th. Usual arrangements. Please notify me if you require tea.—H. Baxter, 21, Charles Street, Kettering.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held at Sunbury-on-Thames on Saturday, June 24th. Church of St. Mary (8 bells, tenor 14½ cwt.) available from 3.30 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., followed by tea in the Parish Hall. Please send names to Mr. Dennis Brock, 16, Green Street, Sunbury, not later than June 22nd. Reports available. Subscriptions due.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch. — Quarterly meeting at Stapleton on Saturday, June 24th. Bells (6) open 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Please advise for tea.—R. C. Gifford, Gifford House, Frampton Cotterell, nr. Bristol.

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD. — The next meeting will be held at Cranbrook on Saturday, June 24th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Notification for tea would oblige.—J. G. Powell, Hon. Sec., 1, Woodbury Road, Hawkhurst, Kent.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—The next meeting will be held at Kimpton on Saturday, June 24th. Bells (6) open at 3 p.m. and after tea. The fine ring of six at Wheathampstead will be available at 7 p.m. All ringers and friends welcome.—Harold V. Frost, Dis. Sec., 4, Kimberley Road, St. Albans.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next meeting has been arranged at Wraysbury (8 bells) on Saturday, June 24th, at 3 p.m. Tea for those who notify me not later than June 19th.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Whitby on Saturday, June 24th. Bells (10, tenor 18 cwt.) available for ringing. Tea will be provided for those who notify me not later than Thursday, June 22nd, at a charge of 1s. 6d. All ringers and friends are welcome.—J. Reed, 67, Hedley Street, Guisborough, Yorks.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—The next monthly practice will be held at Chelmsford Cathedral on Saturday, June 24th, at 7.30 p.m. The special method is Cambridge, up to Royal. All ringers will be welcome.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—The summer meeting of the above branch will be held at Bucklebury on Saturday, June 24th. Bells (8) available at 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. at 6d. per head. All ringers welcome. Please notify W. Mathews, Wavern, Bucklebury, Reading, for tea not later than the 21st inst.—T. J. Fisher, Hon. Sec., Arniston, Manor Lane, Newbury.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Winchester District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Stockbridge on Saturday, June 24th next. Bells (6) available from 2.30. Service at 4.30, to be followed by tea and business meeting at the Vine Hotel. Will those requiring tea please notify Mr. S. B. Carey, Hermit Cottage, Stockbridge, by Thursday, June 22nd?—W. G. Goodchild, Hon. Dis. Sec., 139, Stanmore Lane, Winchester.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at Ryde, Isle of Wight, on Saturday, July 1st. Fuller particulars next week.—F. W. Rogers, Hon. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Yeovil on July 1st. Details next week.—J. T. Dyke, Hon. Sec., Chilcompton.

MEDBOURNE, MARKET HARBOROUGH, LEICS.—The ring of five bells, which has been restored by John Taylor and Co., will be re-dedicated on Saturday, July 1st, at 2.30 p.m. Garden fete after service.

LADIES' GUILD (Southern District, Annual Meeting) AND GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A joint meeting will be held at Shere on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meetings. All members and visitors welcome.—Miss H. F. Mills and W. F. J. Cope, Hon. Secs.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Western Branch.—Summer meeting will be held at Shelsley Beauchamp on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Short service 4.15. Tea 5 o'clock, followed by the business meeting. Private bus will leave All Saints', Worcester, 2.30 p.m. Please notify me numbers for bus, and how many to expect for tea, not later than Tuesday, June 27th.—E. F. Cubberley, Branch Sec., Park Cottages, Kempsey, Worcester.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—North-East Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bradninch on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. A large attendance is hoped for. Will those intending to be present for tea please notify me by Monday, June 26th?—R. Harris, Hon. Sec., Park, Silverton, near Exeter.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Durham on Saturday, July 1st. The Cathedral bells and St. Oswald's will be available from 2 p.m. Tea at Dunelm Cafe, Old Elvet, at 5 p.m., and it will help arrangements if ringers who require tea will send postcard to Major F. A. Yorke, 27, North Bailey, Durham, by July 29th. It is hoped that ringers will rally round at this meeting. They and their friends are all welcome.—F. Robson, Hon Dis. Sec., 13, Grainger Street, West Hartlepool.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Salehurst on Saturday, July 1st. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock (1s. 3d. per head). Will all those intending to be present please notify me not later than Wednesday previous to meeting?—A. C. Pankhurst, Hon. Div. Sec., 13, Bradford Street, Eastbourne.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held at Whalley on Saturday, July 1st. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members cordially invited.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Sutton Coldfield, on Saturday, July 1st. Bells available at 3.30 p.m. Tea at 5.15 p.m., to be followed by business meeting. Please notify regarding tea not later than Thursday, 29th.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham 11.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual summer festival will be held on Saturday, July 1st, at Turvey. The bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Short service at 4 p.m. Tea at 4.30 p.m. All ringers and friends requiring tea please let me know by June 28th, or inform Mr. Wadsworth, Turvey.—F. J. Plummer, Gen. Sec., Plantation Road, Leighton Buzzard.

LADIES' GUILD.—London District.—The annual district meeting will be held at St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, on Saturday, July 1st. Bells from 3.30. Service 5.30. Tea (1s. per head) at 6 o'clock in the historic old coaching house, The George, Borough High Street, the only galleried inn now left in London. Business meeting to follow. Names for tea to be sent to me without fail by Wednesday, June 28th.—I. R. Housden, 20, Fairwood Court, Fairlop Road, E.11. Tel. LEYtonstone 3850.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—A meeting will be held at Clare on July 1st. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. Meeting and tea at Half Moon Hotel 5 p.m.—H. G. Herbert, 61, Acton Lane, Sudbury.

LADIES' GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at Ipswich on Saturday, July 8th. Fuller particulars later. Any members or friends in London wishing to join the party travelling by cheap ticket to Ipswich are asked to communicate with me as soon as possible. —Edith K. Fletcher, Hon. Sec., 45, Walsingham Road, Enfield.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—A summer meeting will be held at Chislehurst on Saturday, July 8th. Both towers will be available for ringing from 3 p.m. Names for tea to be sent to Mr. T. Groombridge, 35, Albany Road, by July 4th.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Summer Festival meeting at Haslemere, on Saturday, July 8th. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea (1s. each) in the Schools at 5.15 p.m. Further ringing until 9 p.m. It is essential that numbers for tea should be sent to Mr. E. J. Ayliffe, Woolmer Croft, Critchmere Hill, Haslemere, by July 4th.—G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec., East Clandon, near Guildford.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The annual shield six-bell contest, open to all members, will be held at Kirkthorpe, near Wakefield, on Saturday, July 8th. Entrance fee 6s. per band. All entrance fees and any subscriptions to prize fund must reach me not later than June 24th.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., Rock Cottages, Shafton, near Barnsley.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Summer festival at St. Neots on Saturday, July 22nd.—K. Willers, Gen. Sec.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Ringing Tour, August 5th. A half-day's outing, starting Shrewsbury, Wellington and Ironbridge, is proposed, to towers in Worcestershire and/or Herefordshire. Will any ringers wishing to take part communicate with me? Ladies invited. Approximate cost 5s. — W. A. Farmer, 70, Oakfield Road, Shrewsbury.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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NO BENEVOLENT FUND FOR ESSEX.

After a long discussion, the Essex Association, at their annual meeting, rejected a proposal to establish a benevolent fund. It had been hoped by the advocates of the scheme that it would have been inaugurated to mark the diamond jubilee of the association, which has been celebrated this year, and certainly the occasion would have been an auspicious one, but the weight of opinion in a large and representative meeting was against the setting up of a fund of this kind. Unfortunately, the report of that meeting which has been supplied to us is a very scanty one upon this discussion, and it would have been interesting to have learned something more of the views expressed. One objection to the proposal seems to have been a doubt as to the practicability of administering such a scheme, but the experience of other associations which have tried the experiment has shown that a fund of limited scope can be worked smoothly and without difficulty. The essence of a scheme of this sort is the spirit of brotherly help and goodwill.

There is, of course, the larger issue whether, in these days, there is the need for voluntary effort of this kind in such a body as a bellringers' organisation. It is true that there are State Insurance and Friendly Society aids for those who make provision against the 'rainy day,' and, in the ordinary way, men can meet adversity from these sources. But there are cases—we have all met them—where a friend may come upon bad times; it may be from the effects of a long illness or from a cause which would give him no claim upon funds to which he has been contributing, and he finds himself and those dear to him in a state of adversity which he has no means of meeting. In such circumstances a friendly fund from which a grant can be given, as a welcome temporary help, is of great value. No one, of course, imagines that a benevolent fund organised by a ringing association can make grants on a scale which could entirely rehabilitate a man, but it is that little bit of help at the moment of sorest need that is so valuable, and some ringing associations, notably Kent and Sussex, have been able to offer this in quite a number of cases with much success and with no drain upon either the individual members or the resources of the associations.

Ringers usually prove themselves to be generous givers when the need arises. The existence of a benevolent fund enables them to give their help much more quickly than can otherwise be the case. The grants are made only in really hard cases, so that there is no fear of being unable to finance the fund if it is maintained with wholehearted support. That a fund can function successfully, one has

(Continued on page 394.)

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only to turn to what has been done by the associations mentioned above. We cannot believe that the men of Essex are any less charitable in spirit than some of their neighbours; neither can we believe that they prefer to give their money to the mending of decrepit bell frames rather than to helping to restore the broken fortunes of their brothers. It may be that when the question is again under discussion other counsels will prevail.

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WILLIAM J. NUDDS	...Treble	THOMAS H. FRANCIS	7
JOHN THOMAS	2	JAMES BENNETT	8
GEORGE R. PYE	3	CECIL J. MATTHEWS	9
CHARLES T. COLES	4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	10
HERBERT E. THOMPSON	5	REUBEN SANDERS	11
THOMAS G. FOX	6	FRANK E. DARBY	...Tenor

Composed by F. E. DARBY. Conducted by CHARLES T. COLES.

ASTON, BIRMINGHAM.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, June 17, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

*GEORGE T. MITCHISON	...Treble	ARTHUR H. RAINEY	7
ALLAN SHORT	2	*WILLIAM PETTIGREW	8
*RONALD I. SHEPHERD	3	*FREDERICK W. RISHWORTH	9
*ALFRED J. ALLEN	4	PERCY N. G. RAINEY	10
FRED PRICE	5	WILLIAM DAVIES	11
*WILLIAM L. WHISTON	6	*ALBERT PETTIGREW	...Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by FRED PRICE.

* First peal of Stedman Cinques. First peal of Stedman Cinques as conductor. All the band are regular service ringers at this church.

TEN BELL PEALS.

NOTTINGHAM.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF ERIN CATERS, 5027 CHANGES;

Tenor 36 cwt. in C.

FREDERICK A. SALTER	...Treble	J. FREDERICK MILNER	6
LESLIE STEVENS	2	FRANK BRADLEY	7
GEO. EDWARD FOSTER	3	J. ALFRED BARRATT	8
COLIN HARRISON	4	RALPH NARBOROUGH	9
ALEX HUTCHISON	5	WALTER NICHOLS	...Tenor

Composed by GEORGE ASTBURY. Conducted by J. F. MILNER.

Rung to celebrate the golden wedding anniversary of the Duke and Duchess of Portland, which event occurred on the 11th instant. First peal of Erin Caters by all the band, first in the City or County of Nottingham, and the first for the association.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 17, 1939, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, PRITTLEWELL,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5088 CHANGES;

JOHN FOWLER	...Treble	ERIC B. HARTLEY	6
FRANK B. LUFKIN	2	DENNIS T. BROCK	7
ERIC J. COE	3	JOHN G. NASH	8
HARRY HOSKINS	4	HORACE J. MANSFIELD	9
ALBERT E. NORTH	5	JOHN H. CRAMPION	...Tenor

Composed by F. E. DARBY. Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN.

First peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal by the whole band except the 4th ringer. Rung in honour of the silver jubilee of the diocese of Chelmsford.

LIVERPOOL.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 17, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;
Tenor 39 cwt. 3 qr. 10 lb. in C.

THOMAS W. HAMMOND	*Treble*	JAMES W. MELDRUM	6
EDWIN BREEZE	2	LESTER L. GRAY	7
GEORGE R. NEWTON	3	ERNEST F. BENNETT	8
*SELWYN H. DEARDEN	4	PERCIVAL W. CAVE	9
†WILLIAM R. BURCHALL	5	RALPH G. EDWARDS	*Tenor*

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by P. W. CAVE.
* First peal of Stedman Caters. † First peal on ten bells. Specially arranged to mark the sailing of the Cunard-White Star liner 'Mauretania' from Liverpool landing stage on her maiden voyage.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

STAPLEHURST, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
AND ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.
On Wednesday, June 7, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 21¾ cwt.

HARRY BAKER	*Treble*	WILLIAM A. OLDFIELD	5
TOM SAUNDERS	2	THOMAS E. SONE	6
*RALPH E. W. WENBAN	3	WILLIAM WENBAN	7
PERCY PAGE	4	JAMES W. SPILLETT	*Tenor*

Conducted by T. E. SONE.
* First peal away from the treble.

WHITCHURCH, SHROPSHIRE.
THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALKMUND,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 20 cwt.

WALTER LICETT	*Treble*	WILLIAM J. CHESTER	5
WILLIAM SAUNDERS	2	EDWARD V. RODENHURST	6
THOMAS PRICE	3	*HARRY VICKERS	7
*HARRY THELWELL	4	ARTHUR PRITCHARD	*Tenor*

Composed by J. E. BURTON. Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.
* First peal of Bob Major. A birthday compliment to Mr. Fred Price, of Market Drayton.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, June 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,
A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb.

*JOCELYN B. GARDINER	*Treble*	WILLIAM FERNLEY	5
†JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER	2	†PETER LAFLIN	6
JAMES FERNLEY	3	†JAMES A. MILNER	7
†C. KENNETH LEWIS	4	JOHN WORTH	*Tenor*

Composed by C. K. LEWIS Conducted by JOHN WORTH.
* First peal of Major with a Treble Bob bell. † First peal in the method.

PINNER, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, June 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 19 cwt. in E.

*MISS AUDREY M. LOOK	*Treble*	GEORGE M. KILBY	5
GEORGE R. PYE	2	JAMES BENNETT	6
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE	3	†THOMAS COLLINS	7
MRS. JOHN H. BOTHAM	4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	*Tenor*

Composed by J. PIGOTT. Conducted by J. C. E. SIMPSON.
* First peal of Major. † First peal in the method on an 'inside' bell. Rung to honour the memory and long service of Thomas Humphreys, for 50 years a ringer at this church, who died last month.

ST. NEOTS, HUNTS.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 30 cwt.

MISS PHYLLIS HINE	*Treble*	*BRIAN F. SIMS	5
C. HENRY HARDING	2	FRANK W. LACK	6
WM. A. R. CHAMBERLAIN	3	HERBERT FIELDS	7
HARRY J. PARKER	4	FRANK WARRINGTON	*Tenor*

Arranged from SHIPWAY. Conducted by F. WARRINGTON.
* First peal of Major.

WRITTLE, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 18¼ cwt.

THOMAS LINCOLN	*Treble*	HILDA G. SNOWDEN	5
CLAUDE SNOWDEN	2	RONALD SUCKLING	6
*HENRY W. SHADRACK	3	LEWIS W. WIFFEN	7
ERNEST J. RUNTER	4	ALBERT WIFFEN	*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by LEWIS W. WIFFEN.
* First peal in the method. Rung to celebrate the silver jubilee of the formation of the Chelmsford Diocese.

ELVEDEN, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Saturday, June 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,
AT THE MEMORIAL CAMPANILE OF SS. ANDREW AND PETER,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 17 cwt. in F

*WILLIAM J. LEE	*Treble*	WILLIAM E. BASON	5
EDWIN R. GOATE	2	HENRY TOOKE	6
J. G. WILLIAM HARWOOD	3	WILLIAM CLOVER	7
JOHN A. GODFREY	4	C. FREDERICK SAYER	*Tenor*

Composed by WM. E. BASON. Conducted by E. R. GOATE.
* First peal in the method.

SWINESHEAD, LINCS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(EASTERN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, June 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 18 cwt.

*ALBERT E. STEVENSON	*Treble*	CYRIL WANDER	5
ARTHUR YOUNG	2	ALBERT H. FIRTH	6
WILLIAM WILKINSON	3	†ALBERT H. BENNETT	7
HAROLD BARSLEY	4	ALBERT E. FLUTTERS	*Tenor*

Composed by B. ANNABLE. Conducted by A. E. FLUTTERS.
* First peal and first attempt. † First peal on eight bells.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, June 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, BRISTOL, SUPERLATIVE & CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 13⅝ cwt.

KENNETH SNELLING	*Treble*	FRANK I. HAIRS	5
NELSON ELLIOTT	2	WILLIAM T. BERSON	6
FREDERICK W. ROGERS	3	CECIL NICE	7
C. ERNEST SMITH	4	OLIVER SIPPETTS	*Tenor*

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by O. SIPPETTS.
This peal contains 1,440 changes of Cambridge and Superlative, 2,880 changes of London and 736 changes of Bristol.

BELL ROPES
MADE FROM ITALIAN HEMP, OR ITALIAN FLAX.
SOFT AND PLIABLE IN HAND. ALL ROPES SENT CARRIAGE PAID AND ON APPROVAL.
Cheap Quotations. Established 150 years. 'Phone 203.
DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

SALFORD, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, June 13, 1939, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED TRINITY
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 11½ cwt.

*HAROLD HOLLINGWORTH	*Treble*	*HERBERT A. MCKINNELL	5
DAVID VINCENT	2	JOSEPH H. RIDYARD	6
JOHN HASSELL	3	ALAN J. BROWN	7
FRANK REYNOLDS	4	C. KENNETH LEWIS	*Tenor*

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by A. J BROWN.
* First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tuesday, June 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST MARY.
A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 10 cwt.

*ERIC B. HARTLEY	*Treble*	†REV. ARTHUR S. ROBERTS	5
*ALICK COTLER	2	*MRS. J. H. BOTHAM	6
GEORGE M. KILBY	3	JOHN H. BOTHAM	7
*MISS JESSIE ANGWIN	4	ERNEST C. S. TURNER	*Tenor*

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.
* First peal in the method. † First peal in the method away from the treble. First peal in the method as conductor.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, June 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,
A PEAL OF MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;
Comprising Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 6½ cwt.

RONALD W. SWANN	*Treble*	WILLIAM BOTTRILL	5
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD	2	ERNEST MORRIS	6
W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON	3	RALPH NARBOROUGH	7
G. RONALD EDWARDS	4	ARTHUR DEBENHAM	*Tenor*

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.
First peal in more than two Major methods by all except ringers of 2nd and 6th.

LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, June 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 13⅝ cwt.

RICHARD W. R. COATES	*Treble*	ALBERT E. COLEMAN	5
ROBERT A. WARMAN	2	*ERNEST F. NEWSON	6
MISS KATHLEEN LEWIS	3	WILLIAM E. BASON	7
EDWIN R. GOATE	4	C. FREDERICK SAYER	*Tenor*

Composed by W. H. INGLESANT. Conducted by E. R. GOATE.
* First peal, at first attempt.

BRENTWOOD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, June 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS-THE-MARTYR,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 19¾ cwt.

*EDWARD T. SITCH	*Treble*	HENRY T. WILSON	5
ERNEST W. FURBANK	2	HARRY TURNER	6
ALBERT E. PRYKE	3	JOHN H. SITCH	7
ALBERT E. NORTH	4	PHILIP A. CORBY	*Tenor*

Composed by J. HUNT. Conducted by H. TURNER.
* First peal of Double Norwich. Rung in honour of the silver jubilee of the Diocese of Chelmsford.

CRAYFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, June 16, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,
A PEAL OF CHELTENHAM BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 12¾ cwt.

CYRIL BRETT-SMITH	*Treble*	EDWIN A. BARNETT	5
HARRY HOVERD	2	GEOFFREY V. MORPHY	6
DEREK M. SHARP	3	PHILIP A. CORBY	7
FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN	4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	*Tenor*

Arranged and Conducted by J. C. E. SIMPSON.
The first peal in the method.

OXFORD.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(OXFORD SOCIETY.)
On Friday, June 16, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EBBE,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 4¾ cwt.

FRANCIS E. MAY	*Treble*	REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG	5
*GEORGE AYRES	2	WILLIAM C. PORTER	6
*GEORGE T. ROGERS	3	R. THOMAS NEWMAN	7
FRANCIS E. TAYLOR	4	RICHARD A. POST	*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by R. A. POST.
* First peal in the method.

WESTBOURNE, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, BRISTOL, CAMBRIDGE AND SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 12 lb.

TOWER R. TAYLOR	*Treble*	C. ERNEST SMITH	5
FREDERICK W. ROGERS	2	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY	6
JAMES TOPP	3	WILLIAM T. BERSON	7
EDWIN F. PIKE	4	WILFRED WILLIAMS	*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by WILFRED WILLIAMS.
First peal of Spliced Surprise on the bells. This peal contains 2,688 London, 1,056 Bristol and 672 each of Cambridge and Superlative, with 132 changes of method.

LEEDS, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 17, 1939, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 20 cwt.

EDWIN BARNETT	*Treble*	PHILIP A. CORBY	5
EDWIN A. BARNETT	2	STAFFORD H. GREEN	6
THOMAS E. SONE	3	FREDERICK WHITE	7
ERNEST C. S. TURNER	4	HARRY PARKES	*Tenor*

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by P. A. CORBY.

HADDENHAM, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, June 17, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 21¼ cwt.

ROLAND BIGGS	*Treble*	JESSE HARRISON	5
FREDERICK G. BIGGS	2	PERCY NEWTON	6
GEORGE MARTIN	3	HARRY WINGROVE	7
KATHLEEN E. FLETCHER	4	F. DONALD BOREHAM	*Tenor*

Composed by J. HUNT. Conducted by GEORGE MARTIN.
Rung as a birthday compliment to Susan, granddaughter of Mr. J. Harrison, and as a compliment to Mr. R. A. Post, who was married at Oxford that day.

TOWER CLOCKS J. B. JOYCE & CO. LTD.
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SIX BELL PEALS.

HARPFORD, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
On Thursday, June 1, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GREGORY,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of seven 720's called differently. Tenor 9 cwt. in A.

*JOSEPH BREALY ... ...*Treble*	JOHN L. GLANVILL 4
CHARLES R. LILLEY 2	EDWARD MARKS 5
BRIAN PIDGEON 3	LOUIS A. WILSON... ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

* First peal of Bob Minor.

STISTED, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, June 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents.

*GEOFFREY FRENCH ... ...*Treble*	GEOFFREY EVERARD 4
*LILIAN LE BEAU 2	RONALD SUCKLING 5
RALPH BIRD 3	VICTOR MORLEY ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by R. SUCKLING.

* First peal.

RETTENDON, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, June 7, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's called differently.

ALFRED T. HOARE ... ...*Treble*	GERALD FROST 4
FRANK W. SHYNN 2	FRANK B. LUFKIN 5
HARRY JAY 3	FRANK C. MAY ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by F. B. LUFKIN.

Rung in honour of the 25th anniversary of the diocese of Chelmsford.

BIDDENHAM, BEDS.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, June 8, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

HERBERT L. HARLOW... ...*Treble*	HARRY TYSOE 4
CHARLES W. CLARKE 2	HERBERT FROSSELL 5
MISS EVELYN STEEL 3	REGINALD WEST ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by R. WEST.

Rung for Miss E. Steel's 60th birthday.

TEMPSFORD, BEDS.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, June 9, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of three six-scores each of Stedman and Union, and 12 each of St. Simon's, Grandsire and Plain Bob.

HUGH E. HARDING ... ...*Treble*	C. H. HARDING 4
REGINALD J. HOUGHTON ... 2	BRIAN F. SIMS 5
WILLIAM CHAMBERLAIN ... 3	HECTOR RAWLINS ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. H. HARDING.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. E. Ladds on reaching their golden wedding.

ASHBRITTLE, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Ten different callings. Tenor 9 cwt.

EDGAR QUICKE ... ...*Treble*	JOHN SUMMERHAYES 4
STANLEY BRISTOW 2	CLAUDE TARR 5
ALBERT TURNER 3	SYDNEY SMITH ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by E. QUICKE.

Rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. Harry Purchase and Miss Kathleen Smith, of Chipstable.

COLNE ENGAINE, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
(ST. ANDREW'S GUILD, EARLS COLNE.)
On Saturday, June 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents in 32 methods: (1) Willesden, Old Oxford, Newdigate and College Bob IV. D. Treble Bob; (2) Cumberland, Ennerdale, Killarney and Horsmonden; (3) Frodsham and Windermere; (4) Lytham, London Bob, Childwall, St. Clement's, Wavertree, College Single, Thelwall and Double Oxford; (5) Double Bob, Fulbeck, Plain Bob, Reverse Bob and Canterbury Pleasure; (6) Court Bob, Oxford Bob, Double Court and Hereward; (7) Capel, Sandal, Kingston, London Scholars' Pleasure and Oxford Treble Bob.

ROBERT C. LYON ... ...*Treble*	ALBERT L. DIXEY... 4
VICTOR MORLEY 2	ALEC M. GENERY 5
REGINALD G. SIMMONDS ... 3	RALPH BIRD ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by R. BIRD.

GREAT EASTON, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's called differently. Tenor 11½ cwt.

J. C. JENNINGS ... ...*Treble*	R. PORTWAY 4
*MISS MAY MILLER 2	D. C. JENNINGS 5
D. N. JENNINGS 3	G. SAUNDERS ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. C. JENNINGS.

* First peal and first attempt.

OLD RADNOR, RADNORSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(KINGTON DISTRICT.)
On Saturday, June 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of one 240 of Morris' and two 240's of Pitman's arrangements and 36 six-scores. Tenor 16 cwt.

WALTER EVANS ... ...*Treble*	LESLIE EVANS 4
TREVOR JONES 2	ERNEST WILLIAMS 5
BRIAN ELSMORE 3	ERNEST SALMONS... ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by TREVOR JONES.

MORETON-ON-LUGG, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, June 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings. Tenor 7 cwt.

*NORMAN J. PARRY ... ...*Treble*	A. JAMES YOUNG 4
HARRY JOHNSON... 2	GEORGE T. COUSINS 5
TRACEY H. YOUNG 3	GEORGE H. BROWN ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE T. COUSINS.

* First peal and first attempt. First peal as conductor.

HEATHFIELD, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, June 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's called differently. Tenor 11 cwt. 8 lb. in F sharp.

BERT STANDEN ... ...*Treble*	LESLIE W. JARVIS 4
*RICHARD C. MITCHELL ... 2	FRANK H. HICKS 5
WILFRED BOOTH 3	WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE ...*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE.

* First peal and first attempt.

WALLASEY, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wednesday, June 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising one extent each of London, York, Canterbury, Carlisle, Chester, Beverley and Cambridge. Tenor 16¼ cwt.

GEORGE LEDSHAM ... ...*Treble*	FRANK VARTY 4
LESTER L. GRAY 2	HARRY ROGERS 5
*JOHN LEDSHAM 3	THOMAS ROGERS ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by THOMAS ROGERS.

* First peal.

HANDBELL PEALS.

KELHAM, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, June 11, 1939, in One Hour and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven 720's called differently.

NORMAN TORRINGTON ... ... 1-2 | *JOHN LORD 3-4
ALBERT F. SARGENT 5-6
Conducted by A. F. SARGENT.

* First peal.

OXHEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, June 9, 1939, in Two Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
AT 28, FIELD ROAD,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

HENRY HODGETTS ... ... 1-2 | HAROLD G. CASHMORE ... 5-6
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY 3-4 | EDWIN JENNINGS 7-8
Composed by B. ANNABLE. Conducted by C. W. WOOLLEY.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. C. W. Taylor.
(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over.)

PARISH PROVIDES PEAL BOARD.

RECORD OF FIRST PEAL AT GRAYSHOTT.

The first peal on the bells at Grayshott, Hants, has been commemorated by a peal board erected in the porch near the entrance to the stairs leading up to the belfry. The peal of Superlative was rung on April 5th by members of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild, and the board has been provided by local generosity. It is of polished oak with black lettering.

There was a considerable gathering of ringers for the dedication of the board on June 3rd, the proceedings beginning with an attempt for a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, with local men on the treble and tenor. This, however, was lost after about 800 changes. There were about 40 present at the service, including, in addition to most of the peal band, ringers from Blackmoor, Liss, Petersfield, Portsmouth and elsewhere.

Tea was served by members of the Mothers' Union in the Village Hall, and a welcome was extended to the visitors by the Vicar and the local captain (Mr. Appleby). This was acknowledged by Mr. G. Williams (Master of the Guild) and Mr. F. W. Rogers (hon. secretary), who, in return, thanked those who had provided such a worthy record of the peal, and the ladies who had provided tea.

Ringing during the evening ranged from Grandsire to Spliced Surprise, and there was also ringing on the six bells at Milland.

PEAL NOTES.

(Continued from next column.)

A peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major, composed by Mr. C. K. Lewis, was rung for the first time on June 10th at Norbury, Cheshire. It has the 4th and 6th the extent in 5-6 and is as follows:—

23456	M	W	H
42356			—
53624	—	—	3
62534		—	—
52436	—		3
25634	2		2
32654		—	3
54326	2	—	3
25546		—	3
23456		—	2

Mr. W. E. Bason rang his 50th peal of Double Norwich on Saturday week at Elveden, Suffolk.

Great credit is due to the Aston company on ringing (at the second attempt) their first peal of Stedman Cinques, on Saturday, and the band regret that Mr. William Best, who was in the first attempt, was unable to stand in the peal.

It is approximately four years ago that the bells, after being silent for years, were recast and augmented to twelve, and in that time a new band, chiefly of young men, has been taught how to handle and strike a bell. To-day they ring Stedman Cinques morning and evening for Sunday service, and great credit is due to Messrs. F. Price and W. Davies for their part in training this young band, not only on tower bells, but on handbells also. Visitors are heartily welcomed at Aston, not only on Sundays, but on Friday nights, when good ringing in various methods can be had on tower and handbells.

In the report of the peal of Surprise Minor rung at St. Mary's, Birkenhead, on June 7th, the last method should read Cambridge and not Chester as printed.

In the peal of Cambridge Surprise at Writtle, on June 10th, rung in celebration of the diocesan jubilee, the ringers came from Bocking, Halstead, Springfield and Writtle.

PEAL NOTES.

'GOD SPEED' TO 'MAURETANIA.'

The tower of St. Nicholas' Church, Liverpool, overlooks the Mersey and has stood a silent sentinel at the departure of many a gallant ship. Last Saturday, however, the bells gave a 'God speed' to the new 'Mauretania' as she set out on her maiden voyage from Liverpool Landing Stage. A peal of Stedman Caters was specially arranged for the occasion and was concluded a few minutes after the great vessel's departure.

The peal of Double Norwich at Brentwood on June 15th was one of a series arranged by Mr. F. B. Lufkin, of Prittlewell, to commemorate the silver jubilee of the Diocese of Chelmsford. Unfortunately Mr. Lufkin, who was to have called the peal, was indisposed, and Mr. H. T. Wilson took his place at short notice, the peal being called by Mr. Harry Turner, of Brentwood.

The ringers who went to Leeds, Kent, on Saturday, met short for a peal of Royal, which was to have been conducted by Mr. E. A. Barnett. Mr. T. Groombridge, sen., kindly stood out and the others decided to ring Pitstow's Superlative as a relief from 'the inevitable.'

Mr. J. C. E. Simpson, who will shortly be leaving London to take up an appointment in Durham, called the first peal of Cheltenham Bob Major on June 16th at Crayford. It is one of the previously unrung methods in the Central Council's Collection.

The peal of Grandsire Triples rung at Staplehurst on June 7th was especially arranged to enable Ralph Wenban (age 17) to ring his first away from the treble. After the peal he was congratulated by all the band and many outside the tower. An attempt was made for this peal on May 27th at Staplehurst, but after 1 hour 50 minutes' excellent ringing the conductor called the bells round owing to a shift course. Mr. C. H. Sone took part in this attempt.

The peal of Doubles at Tempsford, Beds, on June 9th, was rung in honour of the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. E. Ladds. Mr. Ladds has been parish clerk and a ringer at this church for over 55 years. The conductor of the peal, Mr. C. H. Harding, has now 'completed the circle' at Tempsford.

A BACHELORS' PEAL.

The peal of Cambridge Surprise Major at St. Ebbe's, Oxford, last Friday, was rung by a band of bachelors. It was the conductor's last chance to ring a peal in the single state, since his marriage took place on the following day. It is not a very common occurrence for the bridegroom, the best man and the officiating clergyman to score a peal together on the eve of the wedding, as was the case on this occasion.

In our report of a peal of Minor at Horsmonden on May 20th, 720 of Oxford Bob was omitted from the methods rung.

At Loughborough Bell Foundry on June 15th a peal of Major was rung in which Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob were used. It was a composition by Mr. A. J. Pitman.

The first peal of Erin Caters for the Midland Counties Association was achieved on June 10th at St. Mary's, Nottingham, where it was rung to celebrate the golden wedding of the Duke and Duchess of Portland, which occurred on the following day.

Ringing the seventh to Kent Treble Bob Major at Lowestoft on June 15th, Mr. W. E. Bason has now rung every bell in St. Margaret's tower to a peal.

Messrs. George Ledsham and Frank Varty rang their 25th peal together on June 14th, when they took part in seven Surprise extents at Wallasey.

After many attempts a band of Hereford Guild ringers scored a peal at Old Radnor on June 10th. A peal here had, for many years, been an ambition of Mr. Trevor Jones and his friend, P.O. Chandler. The latter, however, was absent from the peal, as he is now on service in the East Indies.

Old Radnor Church is set on a hill and a beautiful view is obtained from it. The church is famous for its organ, the case of which is the oldest in Wales, also for its magnificent screen. The bells also happen to be one of the finest toned rings of six in the Hereford Diocese and, perhaps, one of the worst going peals. They need a bellhanger badly and, unlike some, would be worth doing. One man rushed down from Shrewsbury to ring in this peal, but owing to his late arrival a deputy was found. The conductor tenders apologies for this. Some of the previous attempts were abandoned after ringing about half a peal owing to the bad go of the bells, at other times a rope has broken and so forth to put an end to the attempt.

To celebrate the wedding of Mr. Harry Purchase and Miss Kathleen Smith, both of Chipstable, who were married at Ashbrittle, Somerset, on May 22nd, a peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung at the latter church on June 10th.

The memory of Mr. Thomas Humphreys, who died last month, after serving as a ringer for 50 years at St. John the Baptist's Church, Pinner, was honoured on Saturday week by a peal of Double Norwich Major at this Middlesex church.

Another student at Kelham Theological College has scored his first peal. On June 11th, Mr. John Lord rang 3-4 to a peal of Bob Minor.

Some of the Sunday afternoon band at St. Neots, Hunts, who ring for the 3 p.m. service, scored a peal of Bob Major on June 10th, Messrs. G. D. Coleman and E. Clarke giving up their ropes to C. H. Harding and B. E. Sims. Mr. F. Warrington, who called the peal, used an arrangement, by himself, of Shipway's composition. Mr. and Mrs. H. Fields kindly entertained the band to tea after the peal.

(Continued in previous column.)

THE LATE MR. J. C. TRUSS.

As briefly reported in our issue of June 9th, Mr. John Clark Truss passed away peacefully at his home at Marlow on Friday, June 2nd.

'Jack' Truss was not only a great ringer himself, but it was always his aim to try and make other great ringers.

At Marlow, where he had been foreman since the retirement of the late Mr. Harry Collins in 1925, he always gave every help and encouragement to everyone.

In August, 1928, he had a 'stroke,' from which he never fully recovered, but notwithstanding the fact that he had practically lost the sight of one eye and had difficulty in walking, he was always present in the belfry twice on Sundays and 'on time,' the latter point being a splendid example to the younger ringers of to-day.

Moreover, 'Jack' was always willing to ring with his pupils for their first course or touch in a method, even when it was obvious that he was ringing under a severe handicap, and he was in the belfry only a fortnight before he died.

It was fortunate that Mr. Truss was able to see the restoration of the bells in June, 1934, and the first peal on the bells for over 30 years, which was rung for the Coronation in May, 1937.

He was laid to rest almost under the shadow of the belfry, where his presence will be so greatly missed.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

FIRST VISIT TO KIRKBURTON.

The June meeting of the Barnsley and District Society was held at Kirkburton on Saturday, June 10th, when nearly 30 members were present from Almondbury, Cawthorne, Eastwood, Felkirk, Meltham, New Mill, Penistone, Ripponden, Sandal, Shelley, Liversedge, Wath and the local company.

The bells were rung in the afternoon until 5 p.m., when tea was served in the Church Schools.

At the business meeting which followed, the Vicar (the Rev. A. Sephton) presided. Mr. Rhodes, of Rippendon, was elected a ringing member and the chairman as an honorary member.

The meeting stood in silence as a mark of respect upon the death of two members, Mr. R. Thickett, of Horbury, and Mr. H. Biltcliffe, of New Mill.

The Vicar offered a very hearty welcome to the society upon their first visit to Kirkburton, and hoped to have further meetings there. Mr. Moxon moved the best thanks of the meeting to the Vicar for all he had done and said, and for the use of the bells.—Mr. Panther supported the vote, which was carried with acclamation.

The bells were then made further good use of in a variety of Minor methods, ranging from Plain Bob to York Surprise, Stedman Triples and Plain Bob, Treble Bob and Double Norwich Major.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL CUP COMPETITION.

The contest for the Crawford Silver Cup was held at Cuckney on Saturday, June 10th. Four teams entered and this, apart from anything else, was most gratifying.

The draw for order of ringing was made by the committee at 2.45 p.m., and at the same time Southwell was elected an affiliated tower. It was regretted that this band was prevented from entering at the last moment.

The bells having been raised by non-participants, the test ringing began at 3.15. The result was as follows:—

	Faults	Penalties	Total
Shireoaks	255	10	265
Barlborough ...	378	10	388
Ordsall	441	10	451
Warsop	216	40	256

The ropes were rather springy, and this, together with the fine set of the treble, did not help those who had not recently rung on the peal. However, the test was a good one and showed the merits (or demerits!) of the teams that entered.

Tea was served at 5.15, and afterwards the Rev. R. F. Wilkinson, in the absence of the Vicar of Cuckney (the Rev. W. E. A. Lound), took the chair at the meeting held afterwards.

The secretary (Mr. R. Towler) announced that the next meeting would be held at Tuxford on July 8th.

The Chairman announced the result of the contest as above, and presented the cup to Mr. H. T. Rooke, the captain of the winning team, remarking that it was pleasing to see the cup go to a different tower, Warsop having now won it for the first time.

One of the judges, Mr. J. Flint, of Bolsover, who had had the assistance of Mr. J. Moss, of the same tower, said the ringing had been fairly good. When he arrived the ropes were too long and had consequently to be shortened.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells and the ladies who prepared tea, and not least to the judges for their services. Mr. Flint had not been well recently and the association was glad he had been able to come.

The members then returned to the tower, not without four of them trying two courses of Grandsire Triples and one of Bob Minor on handbells. Back at the church the usual methods were rung and the striking was quite good in places.

The peal of six, with a tenor of 10½ cwt., are hung close together in a tower big enough, as far as rope space goes, for a peal of ten; the tone is quite good, and when once the correct handling of the bells has been obtained, ringing is very enjoyable, as most will agree who tried the peal that afternoon.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The North Lincolnshire Minor band (Messrs. G. E. Feirn, F. Lord, C. McGuiness, J. L. Millhouse and Mr. and Mrs. J. Bray) have broken all records in Spliced Minor ringing by scoring a peal in 100 methods in seven extents. It was rung at Bassingham on Friday.

The Parochial Church Council of St. George's, Doncaster, have now decided not to have the bells recast, but to have them rehung with new fittings. The work has been entrusted to Messrs. Taylor and Co.

Mr. and Mrs. E. Alex. Young have reached home again after their visit to South Africa, their absence from England having extended over about five months. Mr. Young's leg, injured when a gangway, over which he was passing, collapsed, is well on the way to recovery.

On the way home Mr. Young gave the ship's passengers an interesting talk on St. Paul's Cathedral, illustrating it with blackboard sketches.

The bells of St. Mary-within-the-Walls, Chester, on which so many peals have been rung, are to be rehung and the tenor recast. The work is to be carried out by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co.

Mr H. A. Heywood, cousin of the late Sir A. Heywood and brother of the Bishop of Ely, celebrated his 80th birthday on Monday. Although not a ringer, he has always been keenly interested in the welfare of the Chester Guild and has regularly attended its meetings for half a century.

He was present at the inaugural meeting in the Cathedral in November, 1887, and became a life honorary member. Until his resignation three years ago he had held the office of vice-chairman of the Chester Branch for many years. Mr. Heywood still serves the Guild as one of its trustees and a member of the committee. His host of ringing friends will be anxious to congratulate him and wish him many happy returns.

There is no end to some people's enthusiasm. Mr. Francis Corney, of Woodford, Essex, cycled to Halesworth, Suffolk, and back on Whit Monday in order to attend the meeting of the Suffolk Guild. This was a 190 miles' ride, and to do it Mr. Corney started at 3 a.m.

'GATE CRASHERS.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I was most disappointed to read of the action of the president of the Central Council in apologising for the presence of 'gate crashers' at the Abbey. Are we to assume from the text of the apology that members of the Council only are capable of ringing the Abbey bells? One wonders what will be said if a member of the Council is so careless as to break a stay there on a future occasion.

It must be very galling for those London ringers who go out of their way to give the Council a welcome to be excluded from one of their own towers, particularly one which is not often available.

I consider that the president has set us a most unfortunate example of the friendly spirit which should exist amongst ringers.

ALAN R. PINK.

'UNWORTHY.'

Dear Sir,—I was surprised to read in last week's issue of 'The Ringing World' the letter re above from Mr. R. Dove. The letter, especially the third paragraph, is unworthy of the writer.

Birmingham. ALBERT WALKER.

MEMBER OF AN OLD RINGING FAMILY.

DEATH OF MR. WALTER TUCKER.

The death has occurred at Bishop's Stortford, of Mr. Walter William Tucker, who, had he lived until August 25th, would have been 70 years of age. Born at Bishop's Stortford, Mr. Tucker came of an old ringing family as shown by a tablet in St. Michael's Church, dated 1827. His father was Mr. William Henry Tucker, and his brother is Mr. Henry J. Tucker, who now lives at Chichester and whose name is well known from some popular compositions of which he is the author.

The late Mr. Walter Tucker began ringing at Bishop's Stortford about 1882. Removing to London, he joined St. Luke's Society, Chelsea. He returned to his native town in 1892 and in the following year rang his first peal, Oxford Bob Triples, at St. Michael's, the first peal ever rung by ringers who were also all members of the Ancient Order of Foresters Friendly Society.

Mr. Tucker never became a great peal ringer, but he was devoted to his duty as a Sunday service ringer. He could always be relied upon on Sundays and practice nights. His peals only numbered 15, viz., Grandsire Triples 4, Grandsire Caters 4, Darlaston Bob Triples 2, Oxford Bob Triples 5. He was a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Hertford County Association. At St. Michael's, Bishop's Stortford, he was greatly missed during the three years of his last illness.

The funeral took place on June 10th, and in the evening a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples was rung with the bells half-muffled Mrs. T. Ward 1, W. Prior 2, H. J. Tucker 3, F. Bird (conductor) 4, W. T. Prior 5, H. J. White 6, E. Ansell 7, W. Wilkinson 8.

A MEMORIAL WINDOW.

At St. Martin's, Gospel Oak, Middlesex, on a recent Sunday, a window was dedicated to the memory of the late Rev. T. H. Russell, for over 40 years Vicar. For the service, members of the Royal Cumberland Youths rang 720 of Bob Minor: E. Bonfield 1, F. Bonfield 2, J. Payton 3, R. Newman 4, T. Bevan 5, A. Warren (conductor) 6. Mr. E. Bonfield has been a ringer for 52 years.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from page 386.)

THE NEW SURPRISE BOOK.

The book on Surprise Major Methods led to two reports being presented to the Council. The Methods Committee majority report (signed by Messrs. J. A. Trollope and E. C. S. Turner) was as follows:—

During the last year the third edition of 'Collection of Doubles and Minor Methods' has been issued. It should be pointed out that this is not merely a reprint of the second edition. It is a new book with a considerable amount of new matter in it, and so should be purchased even by those who already possess the second edition.

The question of the publication of the new book on Surprise Major Methods will come before the Council. In connection with that we ask that conductors and secretaries of associations should forward to us the figures and particulars of any new Surprise Major methods as soon after performance as possible in order that the book may be corrected up to the minute before printing. As the book is fully indexed and cross-indexed this will mean the exercise of some amount of care and trouble, and we hope ringers will assist us in the matter.

We also ask any persons who have methods which they hope to ring and name in the future to send in the figures. If the methods are among those included in the book we will see that they have the names selected by those people, unless they are obviously unsuitable. If they are not in the book we will see that the selected names are not used for any methods in the book.

By obviously unsuitable names we mean those which are already applied to some Surprise method, those which contravene the general custom of the Exercise or some decision of the Council, names which are ridiculous, and the like.

There is, we believe, a reluctance among some ringers to part with their figures in the fear that if they do so they may be forestalled in the ringing. To meet this feeling we will promise that any information sent to us will be treated as confidential and that all papers sent will be destroyed as soon as they are compared with the manuscript of the new book, without being shown to any outsiders or any copies made.

At the Council meeting at Leeds in 1938 it was suggested that those methods in the book in which peals have not yet been rung should be numbered only and printed without names. To this we are unalterably opposed and for the following reasons:—

1. We tried the plan of issuing an unnamed collection when we first published 'Minor Methods,' and it proved a complete failure. Older members of the Council will not need to be reminded of the confusion which resulted. Ultimately the Council had to decide that the methods still unnamed should receive names without waiting until they had been rung.

2. We issued the 'Major Methods' named and the plan was a complete success. No single word of adverse criticism of our action has ever reached us from anyone.

3. We have learned from experience that an unnamed collection ceases after a short time to have any value. If the Surprise Major methods are published unnamed, in a few years' time the book will be out of date and of little value. The book has been prepared to be the standard work on the subject for many years to come, and we do not wish that the very large amount of work and care that has been expended on it should be thrown away so soon. Besides we consider that it would be bad business and unfair to purchasers to publish it in a form that we have every reason to believe will make it speedily out of date.

4. There is no force or point whatever in the argument that if the methods are named the exclusive rights of the bands who ring the first peals will be infringed. For one thing, the Exercise has never recognised any such exclusive rights, and such a thing would be contrary to the interests of ringers generally. For another thing, there are many thousands of methods not included in this collection, and any band which wishes to ring and name new methods will still have practically unlimited opportunities to indulge their fancy.

It should be recognised that names are only a convenient means of identification. It is quite as necessary for ringers to be able readily to identify a method before a peal of it is rung as afterwards, and in some cases more so. It has been suggested that numbering the methods will supply the necessary means of identification, but all experience shows that it is not so. Numbers are only useful when, as in the case of convicts, it is desirable to conceal the real identity.

Generally speaking, the success of the book and the interests of the Exercise demand that the methods should be named, and our considered opinion is that unless the methods are named it will be useless to proceed further with the book.

MR. S. H. WOOD'S MINORITY REPORT.

The third member of the committee, Mr. Stephen H. Wood, did not sign the above, but presented the following minority report:—

I am in agreement with the majority of the above report: in particular, after further considering the question of the naming of methods which was raised last year at the Leeds meeting, and discussing it with the other members of the committee, I share their opinion that all the methods published in the Surprise Major Collection should be named. My main reason for reaching this conclusion is the desirability of making the book complete and a standard work of reference for many years to come, as set out in reason 3 of the majority report; and I would further emphasise that in view of the initial cost of printing the book it is imperative that sales should be maintained over a long period of years.

I do not, however, wish to associate myself with certain of the other arguments and statements included in the majority report, as I am not in agreement with their substance nor with the implications which they contain.

Mr. J. A. Trollope, in proposing the adoption of the report, prefaced his remarks by stating that that was the fortieth anniversary of his appointment to the Methods Committee. There were only two other members of the present Council who were members at that time, but there was another gentleman present that day, Mr. Joseph Griffin, who 40 years ago was already a 'veteran.' When the committee was appointed it was given the job to decide what methods should be rung and then to publish selections. He did not think anybody then recognised that, after 40 years, its work would still be incomplete, but he did not think anyone could say that the time had been wasted. If they did nothing else they published the Six-bell book, and that book had revolutionised Minor ringing and had a great influence on ringing in the six-bell towers. The last edition of that book had just been published. Everything that was new in that book was the work of Mr. Ernest Turner and he was entitled to the credit for it. He (Mr. Trollope) only rearranged the old matter in it.

Mr. S. H. Wood, who seconded the adoption of the report, said he had very little to add to the remarks that appeared over his signature. He disagreed with some of the reasons given by his colleagues in their report and in the manner of presenting them to the Council, but he was entirely in agreement with them on the main conclusion that the methods to be printed in the Surprise Major book should be named.

THE QUESTION OF NAMES.

The President said he was asked specially to direct attention to the third paragraph of the report that ringers who have methods which they hoped to ring and name in the future should send in the figures and the names.

Replying to questions, Mr. Trollope said it was up to anybody who had any method that really had a name to it to submit that name, and if there was no reason why the name should not be given to the method, if it appeared in the book, the name would go in. But it was necessary that that option should only last for a limited period, say a month, because once the book was in the Press they could not go on altering it. In the book were 150 methods given in full: of that 150 about 60 had been rung and had a name. Of other methods that had been rung but not included most ran in certain groups and those groups were already well represented in the book. Other groups which had not been rung were already there and under a name. There would be no hardship as some people anticipated.

Replying to Mr. Groombridge, who raised the question of priority in claims to methods, Mr. Trollope said they had a complete chronological list of all the methods that had been rung.

The Rev. H. Drake said there seemed to be a sort of idea that every band that rang the first peal in a method had a right to name it, simply because they had rung it first. He would like to have some evidence of that. It had been a rule only since the Minor methods were brought up. He (Mr. Drake) was at the meeting when Mr. Law James brought the matter up and was most emphatic about it being a new thing. Instead of the person who composed the method giving the name to it, they published the methods without names in order, as a new departure, that whoever rang a method first should have the chance to name it. But that only applied to the methods published in the Minor Methods books; it did not apply anywhere else. That the persons who rang a new eight-bell method should name it was a matter of convenience, and there was no reason why they should not do so, but he did not think they ought to feel they had the right to do so under all circumstances.

Replying to a question, Mr. Trollope said if a band had rung a quarter-peal of a method or were practising for a peal and had a suitable name for the method, the committee were perfectly prepared to give it that name, if the method were in the book and if the name were received in time. It did not matter about them ringing a peal of it before they gave it a name.

The President said the name must be received within a month.

Mr. Cullum contended that the band that rang the first peal in a method should have the privilege of naming it. He did not see why the Methods Committee should dictate to the ringers what they should call it.

Mr. Hunt reminded the members of the position they got into over the six-bell methods. If they had exercised their authority and put the names in that book, they would have saved a great deal of trouble. 'I bought one of these books,' said Mr. Hunt, 'and where was I? A method was rung and it was reported in "The Ringing World." The next week someone else wrote in and said some other name had already been given to the method. My book got muddled up with names and I put it on the fire (laughter). You may laugh, but don't act so foolishly to-day. Let the Methods Committee name the methods and finish their work.'

Mr. S. H. Wood said for once, and perhaps for the first time, he found himself in entire agreement with Mr. Hunt (laughter). It was exactly the reason Mr. Hunt had given that led him (the speaker) to the conclusion that the methods should be named by the committee, where they had not already been given names. The committee—he thought he could speak for them all—had no particular desire to

(Continued on next page.)

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from previous page.)

choose the names themselves: their point was they thought it was in the interests of the Council and the Exercise that, when the book was published, the methods must be given names.

Mr. Hunt: I have in my time given Mr. Wood some good advice and I congratulate myself that I have at last been able to teach him something (laughter).

Mr. Walter Ayre formally moved that the names be printed in the book when published, and this, on being put, was carried with only one dissentient.

ASSOCIATION'S RESPONSE.

The hon. secretary then reported upon the result of the invitation extended to the various affiliated societies to take up one half of the first issue of the book. The cost per copy of the book would be approximately, for 500 copies 3s. 6d., 750 2s. 6d., 1,000 2s. Basing the cost on 750 copies and to arrive at a selling price, 6d. per copy was added, to be divided equally between the Council and the associations; thus the cost to the associations would be 2s. 9d. and they would sell at 3s. Twenty-eight associations had undertaken to purchase their quota, which was three copies per representative on the Council. That accounted for 237 copies. Nine societies had offered to take more than their quota: Yorkshire (quota 12) had offered to take 36, Norwich (9) 30, Sussex (12) 30, Midland Counties (12) 24, Oxford (12) 24, St. Martin's Guild (3) 6, Warwick (6) 12, Lincoln (12) 18, Middlesex (12) 14, accounting for another 194 copies. Three societies would take less than their quota, accounting for 19, making a guarantee of 450 copies in all. Two societies were waiting for meetings before replying; Cambridge University Guild were in sympathy, but their resident members were not sufficiently advanced enough to be able to use the books, while the non-resident members would probably obtain their copies through other associations. Two societies, the East Grinstead and the Bedfordshire, had decided not to co-operate.

The Rev. E. S. Powell said that at the meeting on the previous day the Peterborough Guild had decided to take their quota of twelve copies.

The hon. secretary read a letter from Mr. J. W. Parker, apologising for his absence from the meeting, and, referring to the Collection of the Surprise methods, said some years ago he went into the question of extending the Surprise Minor methods and found that only two of them, apart from those already practised, would extend. These were Hexham and Surfleet, and he thought the collection would not be complete if these were not included.

The reappointment of the committee, Messrs. J. A. Trollope (convener), E. C. S. Turner and S. H. Wood, was agreed to amid applause, on the motion of Mr. W. A. Cave, seconded by Mr. J. Hunt, the latter referring to the vast amount of time which they must have devoted to the preparation of this book.

ACCURACY IN PEAL REPORTS.

In presenting the report of the Peals Analysis and Records Committee, printed in 'The Ringing World' on April 7th, Mrs. Fletcher said a peal of Grandsire Triples, included under 'other societies,' should have been credited to the East Grinstead Guild. When the tables were prepared the committee did not know that the East Grinstead Guild had become affiliated to the Council.

The President, referring to the analysis generally, pointed out that the committee could not give correct information if the correct information was not sent in. The Editor of 'The Ringing World' had complained of a great number of peal reports being sent to him, more than there used to be, with incomplete information. It was essential that conductors should see that the information they sent for publication was complete.

Mr. T. Groombridge proposed a vote of thanks to the committee for the work they did and that they be re-elected. This was seconded by Mr. F. W. Perrens and carried. The committee consists of Mrs. G. W. Fletcher (convener), Messrs. W. Ayre, C. Dean, G. L. Grover and G. R. Pye.

TOWERS AND BELLS.

The Towers and Belfries Committee reported that the members of the committee had given advice in 14 cases during the year. These covered rehanging, addition of bells to existing rings, safety of a tower, sound modification and the hanging of an old bell for chiming with a special arrangement of the clapper. Advice was also given in connection with a proposed reinforced concrete tower. The Davis silencers have been loaned during the year with satisfactory results.

In moving the adoption of the report, the President said Mr. Hunt gave advice on a five-bell tower and a six-bell tower and on a case of increasing the bells from six to eight. Major Hesse had given advice in six cases, on questions of rehanging and the addition of bells. He (Mr. Lewis) had dealt with five or six cases, and had had correspondence on one or two more. Last year he mentioned the case of the sound control at Harrow Weald. That had been carried out and was said to be very satisfactory. It was proposed to have a demonstration there before long and he was hoping to get a member of the Anti-Noise Committee to go with him to hear the demonstration, so that he might judge of the effects in different parts of the neighbourhood round the church. 'If,' said Mr. Lewis, 'we can get that committee over to our side it will be a great thing for the future.'

The President said there was one interesting case which he would like to mention, although it was not a case of ringing. It was a question of chiming, which was brought to their notice by the Rev. H. Drake. There was an ancient bell which was to be hung dead for chiming, not by the use of an Ellacombe hammer, but by pulling the clapper against the bell by a rope attached to a lever half-way down the clapper. Mr. Drake wanted advice as to whether it would be a good thing. He (Mr. Lewis) went into the whole question rather carefully, and the result would probably interest the Council. First, in the old form of clocking, he found that a pull equal to one-third of the weight of the clapper would hold the clapper definitely against the bell. In plain language it was very easy to hold the clapper dead against the bell. In the Ellacombe arrangement it took a pull on the rope approximately equal to the weight of the clapper to hold the hammer against the bell, but if the hammer were so adjusted as to be close to the bell, then only a slight pull was needed to hold it against the bell. Unless, therefore, the hammers were adjusted with a fair amount of slack, they were just as dangerous to the bell as the old form of clocking, theoretically. But in the case of the lever projecting from the clapper about half way down the shank, with a rope attached and carried down over the pulley wheel, provided the lever attached to the clapper was of the right length, it was absolutely impossible to hold the clapper against the bell and the bell was quite as safe as if it were chimed on the swing.

CORROSION OF STEEL GIRDERS.

Mr. Lewis went on to say that although they had lost by death their old friend Mr. Powys, the secretary of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, he was glad to say that he had been consulted in one case by the new secretary. Mr. Lewis also referred to a new type of silencer which is being developed in the Oxford district. Mr. Wigg, he believed, had got one which members could inspect in the hall outside the Council chamber. He (Mr. Lewis) had not had the opportunity of testing it, but from what he had heard he believed these silencers were quite satisfactory. Proceeding, Mr. Lewis recalled a case which he mentioned last year of an unpainted iron frame on steel girders which had got into a very bad condition. He handed round photographs of this, showing that after 30 years the steel girders were largely eaten away with rust. Their condition, he said, went a long way to justify those architects who insisted on the installation of wooden frames, which would do without painting, whereas steel frames required constant attention. An architect came to him not long ago, said Mr. Lewis, and asked him whether he approved of a suggestion for a tower entirely constructed of reinforced concrete. His advice was that, providing it was designed by a firm of reinforced concrete engineers and they were given the forces which the tower had to resist, the thing should be entirely satisfactory. It was a perfectly common practice to put moving machinery fairly high up in reinforced concrete buildings and it was perfectly sound.

Mr. Hunt said a bell ought not to be hung dead for chiming. If it was hung so that it could move there would be no fear of cracking it.

Major Hesse also supported the view that a bell to be chimed should be hung on gudgeons.

The Rev. H. Drake said that that was the very point arising in this matter. With the rope attached to a lever on the clapper it was argued on one side that it did not matter whether the bell hung dead or not; others said that it did.

Replying to a question, the President said there were now one or two more diocesan advisory committees on which ringers were represented. They had not had definite reports from some of the associations and they would be glad to get such reports.

In the course of discussion on the rusting of metal in bell frames, instances were quoted where cast iron had stood for years and had shown no sign of perishing.

The committee's report was adopted and the committee reappointed, viz.: Mr. E. H. Lewis (convener), Major J. H. B. Hesse, Mr. J. Hunt and Mr. E. Alex. Young.

(To be continued.)

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

A meeting of the Elloe Deaneries Branch of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, held at Surfleet on June 17th, was attended by between thirty and forty members representing belfries at Spalding, Pinchbeck, Long Sutton, Bourne, Lincoln, Donington, etc.

The service was conducted by the Rev. E. C. Gee, Vicar of Pinchbeck, who in the course of a thoughtful address stressed the connection between the use of bells in the service of the Church and the idea of holiness, especially as exemplified in the bells on the high priest's robe in the Ancient Jewish Church and the sacring and sanctus bells used in some churches to-day in the service of Holy Communion.

A most excellent meat tea was provided by Mrs. Rupert Richardson and served by her and other ladies, after which a short business meeting was held, presided over by Mr. Gee, during which Mr. J. Dobney, the churchwarden of Surfleet, was elected an honorary member

The light ring of twelve bells in the church steeple was in use throughout the afternoon and evening, a variety of methods being practised from Cambridge Minor to Treble Bob Maximus.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION'S DIAMOND JUBILEE

CELEBRATION AT CHELMSFORD.

Proposal for Benevolent Fund Defeated.

The sixtieth anniversary of the founding of the Essex Association was celebrated on Whit Monday at Chelmsford, when nearly two hundred members assembled for the annual meeting, and there were visitors from many parts of the country, including London, Liverpool, Bristol and Portsmouth.

A service at the Cathedral was conducted by the Provost, the Very Rev. W. E. R. Morrow. The Master (Dr. P. T. Spencer-Phillips) read the lesson, and the preacher was the Venerable E. N. Gowing, Archdeacon of Southend, and a vice-president of the association. Special prayers were offered for the 'blessing of bellringing.'

Archdeacon Gowing expressed his pleasure at taking part in that diamond jubilee. 'It is a proud record that you have,' he declared. 'For 60 years you have been an association, and you have good reason to be proud. Although your association is only 60 years old, ringing associations are really older than that. I believe that the first real association was that of the Guild of Westminster, in 1255, and in 1637 there was formed the Ancient Society of College Youths. But in Essex you go back further than 1637, for one of the oldest of the associations is that of Saffron Walden, born in 1623. One of the earliest peals in Essex was rung from that tower. Then, 60 years ago, there were formed these local associations. This was indeed an epic.'

The preacher continued that among the aspects of ringing was that of recreation—less important, perhaps, than the other aspects. Actually, however, the old associations were formed as a kind of National Fitness Campaign—to keep youth fit and occupy their idle moments. To-day, they heard so much about National Fitness. Surely then, ringing had a great and important message. It was a steady, regular exercise, and, therefore, must be good for the fitness of man. To be a ringer, one must concentrate, and to do that was to develop the physical and the mental life. Again, it meant 'sticking to it.' It was physical, mental and, what was most important of all, spiritual recreation. Ringing was an act of service. It was of a two-fold nature—social and spiritual. When the bells rang out they reminded people that there is a God—mindful, anxious, loving—and that without His guidance conditions would be absolute chaos.

'I suggest,' the Archdeacon continued, 'that bellringers ring out a message to a world that in these days is inclined to forget and ignore God.' He urged the ringers in those places where bellringing was popular and flourishing to go out and stir up enthusiasm in the less enthusiastic parishes. 'From the point of view of service to the Church it is essential that no peal should be silent. Especially so is it in these days when people must more, perhaps, than ever before, be reminded of God. I congratulate your association, your Master, your secretary and the officials. God be with you in your work, realising that you are doing something which is of real value to the life of our country and the world. You are carrying the torch in our lives. Spread the good work. Strive to bring in the youth so that there may be others to carry on this splendid work in the service of God and your fellow-man.'

A COMPARISON.

Luncheon was partaken of at the Corn Exchange, the Ven. E. N. Gowing presiding.

The Master, Dr. P. T. Spencer Phillips, in the 60th annual report, said: 'The first thing that strikes me is that our membership now stands at 1,101, made up as follows: Honorary 75, ringing 754 and non-resident 275, whereas in the report for 1929 the membership was 1,140, so that we have lost 39 members in the last ten years. This is rather serious, especially as there are now 103 towers affiliated, against 101 in 1929, and it probably means that there are fewer bells being rung for church services. Let us celebrate the diamond jubilee by a great effort to obtain more members; this can be done if every member does his best. Progress has, however, been made in peal ringing. The total of 124 compares well with 89 in 1929, and the 110 their first in the method with 67, but, again, the 26 who rang their first peal is not so good as 31 in 1929, but the number of conductors, 40, is better than the 30 in 1929. This all points to the lack of new members, but shows that the old ones are making good progress.'

The average attendance at district meetings was 37. The following restorations and augmentations had been completed: Great Bentley rehung. Dagenham 6 rehung and two added. Stanford-le-Hope 6 recast and rehung and two added. It is hoped that Stisted may be increased to eight in the near future.

The Master regretted to record the deaths of two honorary members, the Rev. F. A. Thurlow, of Widford, and the Rev. J. W. Eisdell, of Hornchurch, and five ringing members, Messrs. G. Wyatt, of Bentley, E. Hawkins, of Hornchurch, G. Carter, of Loughton, F. W. Haslam, of Ravleigh, and W. Dudley, of Prittlewell. Mr. E. J. Butler had retired from the post of secretary of the South-West District, Mr. J. Chalk had been elected Master and Mr. J. H. Crampion secretary. In the North-West District Mr. W. Wheeler had succeeded Mr. H. A. Wacey, retired. The accounts were very satisfactory, thanks to the careful work of the district secretaries, and also to the general secretary, and best thanks were offered to all the officers who had worked so well during the year.

(Continued in next column.)

DEATH OF MR. WILLIE ROUGHTON.

[CONTRIBUTED.]

Ringing friends will regret to learn of the death of Willie Roughton, who passed away on June 14th. Although not an ardent peal ringer, he was a most excellent and accomplished striker, and what greater compliment can be paid to the memory of a ringer? This, coupled with his having been for some time associated with the St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, company, was no doubt due to the fact that as well as being a ringer he had a musical training, and was that rare combination of a ringer who could sing! Years ago, when living in Wales, he sang all the bass solos in Abergavenny Church choir for some two and a half years, and on coming to London he was received with open arms by the St. Paul's Cathedral band, where he acted as a deputy in the Sunday service ringing until his health gave way.



THE LATE MR. W. ROUGHTON.

During his ringing career he rang peals of Stedman Triples and Caters on handbells on inside pairs of bells. But he will be chiefly remembered by his many friends and by visitors to London for his charm of manner and good fellowship, and his infectious laugh, so beloved by Charles Dickens. As a chess player up to county championship form he represented the county of Middlesex on several occasions.

He will be remembered by the ringing Exercise throughout the country as speaking over the wireless on ringing matters, being the first person to give talks on this subject.

He was badly gassed in the Great War, and this was the ultimate cause of his death, for he was retired from the Army permanently unfit after being passed in as A.1.

And those of us who knew and loved him, and who came to him with all our joys and sorrows, are sad and sorrowful at the loss of a dear friend, and call to mind the words of Omar Khayyam:—

'Lo, some we loved, the loveliest and the best,
That time and tide of all their vintage prest,
Have drunk their cup a round or two before,
And one by one crept silently to rest.'

The cremation service took place at Marylebone Crematorium on Saturday, June 17th, and was attended by relatives and friends, Messrs. A. A. Hughes and G. N. Price representing the Ancient Society of College Youths.

G. N. P.

WESTBURY-ON-TRYM PEAL BOARD.

A tablet was unveiled in the tower at Westbury-on-Trym, after morning service on June 4th, recording a peal rung there recently. The simple dedication was carried out by the Rev. A. J. Wyne, in the absence of the Vicar, and the tablet was unveiled by one of the choir ladies and sister of one of the ringers. The little ceremony ended with the ringing of a well-struck course of Grandsire Doubles.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

(Continued from previous column.)

The statement of accounts showed a credit balance on December 31st last of £54 5s. 11d., against £45 18s. 8d. at the end of 1937. The Bell Restoration Fund, after donations of £5 5s. each to Dagenham and Stanford-le-Hope bells, showed a balance of £68 10s. 1½d.

Upon the appointment of Master, there were two nominations—that of the retiring Master, Dr. P. T. Spencer-Phillips, and that of Mr. E. J. Butler. Dr. Spencer Phillips was reappointed by 71 votes to 35. Messrs. F. J. Pitstow (Saffron Walden), George Thompson (Harwich), William Keeble (Colchester) and J. Moule (Leytonstone) were elected life members. Mr. L. J. Clark (Chelmsford) was re-elected hon. secretary and treasurer, and Mr. L. W. Wiffen peal secretary. Mr. E. J. Butler was elected to the General Committee to fill a vacancy caused by the retirement of Mr. Keeble. There was a similar vacancy in the Peal Committee, and Mr. Percy Green was appointed to it. Messrs. E. J. Butler, G. R. Pye, J. W. Cornford and Hirzel Edwards were appointed representatives upon the Central Council of Church Bellringers. Mr. Edwards and Mr. R. Heazel were appointed auditors.

Mr. J. Chalk proposed, and Mr. L. Cordell seconded, that a Benevolent Fund for the Essex Association of Change Ringers be inaugurated. After a long discussion, in which the practicability of the scheme was questioned by several speakers, the motion was lost.

During the day the bells of the following churches were rung: Cathedral (12), Boreham (8), Great Baddow (8), Galleywood (8), Great Waltham (8), Widford (8), Writtle (8), Broomfield (6), Danbury (6), Springfield (6), Little Waltham (6) and Sandon (5).

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 4s. per quarter.

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF ' THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Oxford City Branch.—The half-yearly meeting of the Oxford City and District Branch will take place at Dorchester Abbey on Saturday, June 24th. Service 3 p.m., followed by tea, meeting and ringing. All ringers from all parts cordially invited. For tea, please notify early to Mr. E. J. B. Morton, 11, Water Eaton Road, Summertown, Oxford.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—The next meeting will be held at Thames Ditton on Saturday, June 24th. Bells (6) from 4 p.m. Tea 4.45 p.m., at the Ferry Tea Rooms. Service 6 p.m. All ringers very welcome. Subscriptions for 1939 now due.—F. E. Hawthorne, 39, Queen's Road, Thames Ditton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The Burton District will hold its next meeting at Measham on Saturday, June 24th, and extends a cordial invitation to all ringers, especially friends from Birmingham and Nuneaton Districts. Tea 4.45, followed by meeting, and the peal (8 musical bells) available at 2.45.—J. W. Cotton, Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

DAVENTRY, NORTHANTS.—The ring of eight bells, rehung by John Taylor and Co., will be reopened on Saturday, June 24th. Service 3 o'clock; preacher, the Archdeacon of Northampton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mark's, Worsley, on Saturday, June 24th. Tower open for ringing at six o'clock. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—Joseph H. Ridyard, Branch Sec., 35, The Crescent, Worsley.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The next meeting will be held at St. Ann's Church, Stamford Hill, on Saturday, June 24th. Bells available 3 p.m. Short service and tea. Methods for special attention are Double Oxford Bob Minor and London Surprise Minor. Other methods will be rung as required. Church within sight of St. Ann's Road Station, Seven Sisters Road.—T. J. Lock, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—The annual meeting will be held at Nailsea on Saturday, June 24th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Bus 24B leaves centre 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.; stops at church.—N. C. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Weston, Bath.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held at Sunbury-on-Thames on Saturday, June 24th. Church of St. Mary (8 bells, tenor 14¾ cwt.) available from 3.30 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., followed by tea in the Parish Hall. Reports available. Subscriptions due.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—A meeting will be held at Great Baddow, Essex, on June 24th. Bells available from 3.30. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m.—G. W. Steere, Hon. Sec., 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

SAFFRON WALDEN SOCIETY (Established 1623).—The 316th anniversary of Great Ringing Day will be held on Saturday, June 24th. Bells (12) available from 2 p.m.—Leonard E. Pitstow, Hon. Sec., 21, Debden Road

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The summer meeting of the Western Division will be held at the Church of Holy Trinity, Skipton, on Saturday, June 24th. Bells (8) available from 2 o'clock. Tea (1s. 6d.) at Castle Cafe (opposite church) at 4.30. Business meeting in vestry 5.30 approximately. All welcome.—F. Rayment, Dis. Sec., Bramley.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—The next meeting will be held at Kimpton on Saturday, June 24th. Bells (6) open at 3 p.m. and after tea. The fine ring of six at Wheathampstead will be available at 7 p.m. All ringers and friends welcome.—Harold V. Frost, Dis. Sec., 4, Kimberley Road, St. Albans.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next meeting has been arranged at Wraysbury (8 bells) on Saturday, June 24th, at 3 p.m.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Whitby on Saturday, June 24th. Bells (10, tenor 18 cwt.) available for ringing. All ringers and friends are welcome.—J. Reed, 67, Hedley Street, Guisborough, Yorks.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—The next monthly practice will be held at Chelmsford Cathedral on Saturday, June 24th, at 7.30 p.m. The special method is Cambridge, up to Royal. All ringers will be welcome.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—The summer meeting of the above branch will be held at Bucklebury on Saturday, June 24th. Bells (8) available at 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. at 6d. per head. All ringers welcome.—T. J. Fisher, Hon. Sec., Arniston, Manor Lane, Newbury.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Winchester District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Stockbridge on Saturday, June 24th next. Bells (6) available from 2.30. Service at 4.30, to be followed by tea and business meeting at the Vine Hotel.—W. G. Goodchild, Hon. Dis. Sec., 139, Stanmore Lane, Winchester.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, June 24th, at St. Mary Magdalene, Holloway Road (near Highbury Corner). Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea can be obtained nearby.—James G. A. Prior, Hon. Sec., 2, Thorncliffe Road, Clapham Park, S.W.2.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meetings for June: Southwark Cathedral, 27th; St. Clement Danes, 29th. Both at 7.30 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—There will be a practice at St. Leonard's Church, Shoreditch, on Thursday, June 29th, at 6.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—G. W. Steere, Hon. Sec.

MEDBOURNE, MARKET HARBOROUGH, LEICS.—The ring of five bells, which has been restored by John Taylor and Co., will be re-dedicated on Saturday, July 1st, at 2.30 p.m. Garden fete after service.

LADIES' GUILD (Southern District, Annual Meeting) AND GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A joint meeting will be held at Shere on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meetings. All members and visitors welcome.—Miss H. F. Mills and W. F. J. Cope, Hon. Secs.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Western Branch.—Summer meeting will be held at Shelsley Beauchamp on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Short service 4.15. Tea 5 o'clock, followed by the business meeting. Private bus will leave All Saints', Worcester, 2.30 p.m. Please notify me numbers for bus, and how many to expect for tea, not later than Tuesday, June 27th.—E. F. Cubberley, Branch Sec., Park Cottages, Kempsey, Worcester.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—North-East Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bradninch on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. A large attendance is hoped for. Will those intending to be present for tea please notify me by Monday, June 26th?—R. Harris, Hon. Sec., Park, Silverton, near Exeter.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Salehurst on Saturday, July 1st. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock (1s. 3d. per head). Will all those intending to be present please notify me not later than Wednesday previous to meeting?—A. C. Pankhurst, Hon. Div. Sec., 13, Bradford Street, Eastbourne.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held at Whalley on Saturday, July 1st. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members cordially invited.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Sutton Coldfield, on Saturday, July 1st. Bells available at 3.30 p.m. Tea at 5.15 p.m., to be followed by business meeting. Please notify regarding tea not later than Thursday, 29th.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham 11.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual summer festival will be held on Saturday, July 1st, at Turvey. The bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Short service at 4 p.m. Tea at 4.30 p.m. All ringers and friends requiring tea please let me know by June 28th, or inform Mr. Wadsworth, Turvey.—F. J. Plummer, Gen. Sec., Plantation Road, Leighton Buzzard.

LADIES' GUILD.—London District.—The annual district meeting will be held at St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, on Saturday, July 1st. Bells from 3.30. Service 5.30. Tea (1s. per head) at 6 o'clock in the historic old coaching house, The George, Borough High Street, the only galleried inn now left in London. Business meeting to follow. Names for tea to be sent to me without fail by Wednesday, June 28th.—I. R. Housden, 20, Fairwood Court, Fairlop Road, E.11. Tel. LEYtonstone 3850.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—A meeting will be held at Clare on July 1st. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. Meeting and tea at Half Moon Hotel 5 p.m.—H. G. Herbert, 61, Acton Lane, Sudbury.

LADIES' GUILD.—North Midland Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Andrew's, Derby, on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Anyone requiring tea must apply to Mr. A. H. Ward, 168, Normanton Road, Derby, not later than Wednesday, June 28th. Gentlemen cordially invited.—A. Richardson, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Derby District.—The next meeting will be held at Ripley on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Methods for special attention, Treble Bob and Double Norwich. A cordial invitation extended to all ringers to try this splendid peal.—Wm. Lancaster, 83, Albert Road, Chaddesden, Derby.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Stone on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Will those requiring tea kindly notify Mr. A. Rowley, 120a, Church Street, Stone, Staffs, not later than June 28th?—Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec.

SURREY ASSOCIATION (Southern District) AND EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—A joint meeting of the above will be held at Horley (8 bells) on Saturday, July 1st. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m. All ringers are welcome. Those requiring tea should notify Mr. A. Bull, Jesmond, Queen's Road, Horley, Surrey, not later than June 28th.—H. Hancock and B. Saunders, Hon. Secs.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wotton Branch.—The next meeting has been arranged at Coaley, near Dursley, for July 1st. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and meeting.—W. J. Smith, 130, Station Road, Yate.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Daventry (8 bells, recently rehung by John Taylor and Co.) on Saturday, July 1st. Usual arrangements.—W. C. Moore, 5, William's Terrace, Daventry, Northants.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Yeovil on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. The special business meeting in connection with the proposed alterations to rules will next take place, and will be followed by the general meeting. The towers at East Coker (8), West Coker (8), Preston (6) and Hardington Mandeville (6) will be open to members after the meeting.—J. T. Dyke, Chilcompton, Bath.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—The 60th annual meeting will be held at Ryde, Isle of Wight, on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (8) available from 1.30 to 3.45, also Brading (8) from 1.30 to 3.30 p.m. Service in All Saints', Ryde, at 4 p.m., with address by the Lord Bishop of Portsmouth. Tea, by invitation of the Guild, at 5 p.m., in the Oddfellows' Hall, High Street, only to those who inform me not later than Wednesday, June 28th. Business meeting afterwards. Both towers open for further ringing in the evening. A good attendance is requested, and all ringers will be welcome.—F. W. Rogers, Hon. Gen. Sec., 52, Samuel Road, Portsmouth.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chester Branch.—summer meeting will be held at Christleton on Saturday, July 1st. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Those intending to be present for tea should notify me not later than Thursday, June 29th.—J. W. Clarke, Mollington, Chester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Next meeting will be held at St. Luke's Church, Heywood, on July 1st. Bells available from 2.45 to 9 p.m. All welcome. Your presence will be appreciated.—I. Kay, Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—The branch annual meeting will be held at St. James' Church, Barrow-in-Furness, on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m., meeting after. Subscriptions due. Would those requiring tea, please notify Mr. J. E. Burles, 2, Rand Villas, North Scale, Walney?—N. M. Newby, Sec.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—A meeting will be held at Hilgay on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (8) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. Please try to be present.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Trowbridge (12 bells) on Saturday, July 1st. Ringing 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5. Meeting to follow. Advise me early how many will attend the tea.—W. C. West, Branch Hon. Sec., 584, Semington Road, Melksham.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Southern Division will be held at Twineham on Saturday, July 1st. Tower open 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea, by kind invitation, 5 p.m. Names for tea by June 28th. Half rail fare (maximum 1s. 6d.) allowed to members.—S. E. Armstrong, Hon. Div. Sec., 70, Hollingbury Park Avenue, Brighton 6.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division).—A meeting will be held at Lower Beeding on Saturday, July 1st. Tower open 3 p.m., service and meeting to follow. Names for tea by Wednesday prior to meeting, and owing to accommodation only those sending in names can be provided for. Come and try these Belgian bells.—O. Sippetts, Sec., 10, Three Bridges Road, Crawley.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District).—Please note that the next meeting is at Lockington on Saturday, July 1st (not June 24th as arranged). Bells available 3 p.m. Tea and meeting at 5 p.m. All members and friends cordially invited.—A. E. Rowley, Hon Sec., Penistone Street, Ibstock.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Northenden on Saturday, July 1st. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. For tea, please advise Mr. F. Brickill, 25, Wythenshawe Road, Northenden. All welcome.—C. K. Lewis, Hon. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cirencester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Coln St. Aldwyn, on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Service 6 p.m. Please notify for tea by June 27th to Mr. G. Jones, Coln St. Aldwyn, Fairford, Glos.—W. H. Haywood, 1, Bowling Green Road, Cirencester, Hon. Sec.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wednesday Afternoon Guild.—The next meeting will be held at SS. James' and Basil's, Fenham, Newcastle. Bells available at 3 p.m. until 5 p.m., and those at St. John's, Grainger Street (8), at 6 p.m. until 7.30 p.m., on Wednesday, July 5th. All are welcome.—Margaret A. P. Bertie, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—A summer meeting will be held at Chislehurst on Saturday, July 8th. Both towers will be available for ringing from 3 p.m. Names for tea to be sent to Mr. T. Groombridge, 35, Albany Road, by July 4th.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Summer Festival meeting at Haslemere, on Saturday, July 8th. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea (1s. each) in the Schools at 5.15 p.m. Further ringing until 9 p.m. It is essential that numbers for tea should be sent to Mr. E. J. Ayliffe, Woolmer Croft, Critchmere Hill, Haslemere, by July 4th.—G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec., East Clandon, near Guildford.

LADIES' GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at Ipswich on Saturday, July 8th. The following towers will be open from 2.30: St. Mary-le-Tower (12), St. Margaret's (8), St. Matthew's (6), St. Clement's (6), and St. Lawrence (5). Service in St. Mary-le-Tower Church at 4.30 p.m. Tea at the Oriental Cafe, Westgate Street, at 5.15 p.m. (1s. per head), followed by business meeting. It is particularly requested that all members and friends requiring tea should send their names to Miss Sylvia Bowyer, 32, Gatacre Road, Ipswich, by Saturday, July 1st.—E. K. Fletcher, Hon. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Eastrington on Saturday, July 8th Bells (6) will be available from two o'clock. Short service at 4.30 p.m. Tea, 1s. per head, in Parochial Hall, followed by business meeting. Those requiring tea, please advise Mr. W. N. Hains, Bennett Lodge, Eastrington, near Howden, East Yorkshire, by Wednesday, July 5th. All welcome.—H. S. Morley, Dis. Sec., 5, Ebor Street, Selby.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Caldicot on Saturday, July 8th. Bells (8) available from 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow.—J. W. Jones, Hon. Sec., 94, Alteryn View, Newport, Mon.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Rayleigh on Saturday, July 8th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. The presentation to the late district secretary will be made at this meeting, and it is hoped that every tower in the district will be represented. Will those intending to be present please advise me by Wednesday, July 5th?—J. H. Crampion, Dis. Sec., 7, Cedar Avenue, Chadwell Heath.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—Half-yearly meeting at West Malling, Saturday, July 8th. Details next week.—R. G. Rayfield, Dis. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Banbury District.—Annual meeting at Banbury on Saturday, July 8th. Bells (10) from 2.30. Service 4 o'clock. Tea and business meeting at White Horse Hotel. Other towers open if required during the evening. Please notify for tea.—E. Pearson, Hon. Dis Sec., Adderbury West, Banbury.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual festival will be held at Oxford on Saturday, July 15th. Service in Cathedral at 11.15 a.m. Preacher, Rev. J. K. E. O'Malley (Rector of Sandhurst, Berks). Business meeting in Chapter House immediately after service. Dinner in Christ Church Hall at 1.30 p.m. Tickets 2s. each to members, 3s. each to non-members. All applications for

tickets, accompanied by remittance, must reach general secretary not later than Wednesday, July 12th, after which date the business will be in the hands of the caterers. A collection will be taken at the service for the Guild Restoration Fund.—R. T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Ringing Tour, August 5th. A half-day's outing, starting Shrewsbury, Wellington and Ironbridge, is proposed, to towers in Worcestershire and/or Herefordshire. Will any ringers wishing to take part communicate with me? Ladies invited. Approximate cost 5s. — W. A. Farmer, 70, Oakfield Road, Shrewsbury.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.

TAYLOR, Hilda M., born July 7th, 1930, and Cecil William, born November 5th, 1935, orphans of the late Mrs. E. M. Taylor, of Maidenhead, are no longer at 60, Royal Road, Ramsgate. Will all ringing friends, when sending any little gifts to the children, please address them: c/o Sister Maud Mary, St. Deny's Orphanage, Warminster, Wilts?—Geo. Gilbert, c/o Roberts' Stores, St. Luke's Road North, Maidenhead.

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Two good peals of twelve, 15 size tenors.—T. Miller, 21a, Smith Street, Hockley, Birmingham, 19.

THE 'THETIS' DISASTER

On Sunday, June 11th, a 720 of Bob Minor was rung at St. Andrew's Parish Church, Bebington, Cheshire: — Williams 1, E. Lloyd 2, Miss D. Battle 3, E. Breeze 4, R. Barnes 5, T. R. Storer (conductor) 6.

This 720 was rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute to the memory of those who perished in the disaster to the submarine 'Thetis,' several of whom resided in St. Andrew's parish.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 1,475. Vol. XXXIV. FRIDAY, JUNE 30th, 1939. [Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.] Price 3d.

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Founders
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GREATEST OF ALL MINOR PEALS.

Something approaching the limit of possibility in a peal of spliced Minor must have been reached in North Lincolnshire on Saturday, when one hundred and two methods were included in seven extents. This has followed closely upon a peal in one hundred methods, the details of which appear in this issue. These are astonishing performances, upon which every ringer, and more particularly those who have had experience of spliced ringing, will congratulate the band most heartily. For the past three years or so there has been a friendly rivalry between the Lincoln and the Chester Guilds in this particular phase of ringing, and we are sure that none will be warmer in their praise of the achievement than the Cheshire ringers, who had held the lead since July last year. These peals must rank as the greatest of all peals of Minor.

It is sometimes argued that, as there are only slight constructional differences between the members of certain groups of Minor methods, splicing of this description is not as difficult as some people would have us believe. Within a limited scope there may be some truth in this, but it must be admitted that to memorise a hundred methods and be prepared and able to strike off into one or other of them at a second's notice requires a grasp of the subject and a training that is far beyond that demanded in the average spliced peal. Not only must all these methods, and their names, be at the finger ends of the ringers, but every one of the band must be keyed up to the highest pitch throughout the peal, while the conductor's share in the success is, of course, a gigantic one and his task stupendous. It is, apart from the actual ringing of so many methods, an extraordinary feat of memory and a terrific tax upon one's mental energy to call a peal of this sort. Mr. George Feirn has completed an achievement of outstanding merit, and he might now very well rest upon his laurels. In any case, there can be very little further mathematical scope in Minor splicing. There are constructional limitations to the number of methods that can be crowded into seven true extents, and these limits must have well nigh been reached.

These latest performances seem a far cry from 1911, when the late Rev. H. Law James first showed, in a practical manner, the possibility of splicing by ringing a peal in fourteen methods. At that time, even he could not have foreseen the lengths to which his new ideas would be carried. It would not be an unfitting climax, therefore, if the ultimate record rested with the Guild for which he rang that first peal. As long as the limit, imposed by the laws of our science, remains unreached, how-

(Continued on page 410.)

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ever, there will probably be bands ready to strive for the laurels, but whatever achievements remain for the future, nothing can detract from the greatness of the performances of the company that, at Bassingham on June 16th, were the first to ring one hundred methods in a peal, and have since even excelled this performance.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

HAROLD G. JENNEY ...	...*Treble*	FREDERICK H. DEXTER ...	7
SIDNEY O. CHENEY	2	WILLIAM J. ROOT...	8
*CHARLES H. WEBB	3	HARRY BROUGHTON	9
ERNEST W. ROWSON	4	COLIN HARRISON	10
HARRY WAYNE	5	ARNOLD BRUNTON	11
SHIRLEY BURTON	6	JOHN GRANT	...*Tenor*

Composed by F. H. DEXTER. Conducted by ARNOLD BRUNTON.

* First peal on twelve bells.

TEN BELL PEALS.

WIGAN, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 29 cwt.

JOHN BOOTH	...*Treble*	‡STANLEY MAJOR...	6
*JOHN MAJOR	2	GEORGE T. JENKS	7
ALBERT PARKER	3	JAMES W. GROUNDS	8
†WILLIAM H. SETTLE... ...	4	PETER CROOK, SEN.	9
SYDNEY FORSHAW	5	CHARLES SHARPLES ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. COX. Conducted by PETER CROOK, SEN.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.' ‡ First peal of Caters. Rung as a welcome to their Majesties the King and Queen on their return from overseas.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt.

STANLEY E. ARMSTRONG	...*Treble*	*RAYMOND WOOD, JUN. ...	6
KENNETH SNELLING	2	FRANK I. HAIRS	7
MRS. F. I. HAIRS...	3	C. ERNEST SMITH	8
ALFRED W. GROVES	4	OLIVER SIPPETTS	9
WILLIAM T. BEESON	5	FREDERICK W. ROGERS	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by FREDK. W. ROGERS.

* First peal of Surprise Royal.

WRINGTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5025 CHANGES;

Tenor 37 cwt.

HERBERT W. KNIGHT ...	...*Treble*	ALFRED E. REEVES	6
JOHN H. B. HESSE	2	J. FRANK SMALLWOOD... ...	7
MRS. J. THOMAS	3	RONALD G. BECK	8
JOHN THOMAS	4	JOSEPH T. DYKE	9
DONALD G. CLIFT	5	HENRY VOWELS	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by JOHN THOMAS.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Knight on the occasion of their silver wedding.

WELCOME HOME.

As a welcome home to the King and Queen from the royal tour, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor (1,260 changes) was rung at Cosgrave, Northants, on June 22nd: E. R. Lambert 1, R. G. Abrahams 2, E. C. Lambert (conductor) 3, F. Tustian 4, J. Higgins 5, R. Howson 6.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

ROLVENDEN, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.)
On Saturday, June 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 16 cwt.

F. CHAPMAN	*Treble*	ALBERT H. KEMP	5
A. STEVENSON	2	H. J. POPE	6
G. MASKELL	3	J. G. POWELL	7
JAMES AVERY	4	ALFRED BLACKBURN	*Tenor*

Conducted by J. G. POWELL.
A birthday compliment to the ringers of the 2nd and 4th.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, June 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, BRISTOL, SUPERLATIVE & CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
Tenor 10¼ cwt.

GILBERT E. DEBENHAM	*Treble*	FRANCIS KIRK	5
HENRY HODGETTS	2	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW	6
EDWIN JENNINGS	3	CECIL C. MAYNE	7
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	4	HAROLD G. CASHMORE	*Tenor*

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.
The peal consisted of 2,240 London, 1,728 Bristol and 576 each of Superlative and Cambridge, with 116 changes of method. The first peal of Spliced Surprise on the bells and by the Guild.

SHILDON, DURHAM.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 17, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 16¼ cwt.

*D. G. COATES	*Treble*	S. BRYANT	5
J. TAYLOR	2	J. PENTLAND	6
J. WEST	3	G. W. HUTCHINSON	7
†J. L. BROWN	4	R. B. ROBINSON	*Tenor*

Composed by B. ANNABLE. Conducted by R. B. ROBINSON.
* First peal. † First peal on eight bells.

HOLLESLEY, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Saturday, June 17, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

CLAUDE SNOWDEN	*Treble*	FRANK CLAYDON	5
*SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER	2	HILDA G. SNOWDEN	6
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY	3	LEWIS W. WIFFEN	7
LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN	4	CECIL W. PIPE	*Tenor*

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by L. W. WIFFEN.
* First peal in the method. First peal of Bristol on the bells.

SHIFNAL, SHROPSHIRE.
THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 17, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 19 cwt. in E flat.

*JOHN F. BUTLER	*Treble*	G. LEONARD HEWITT	5
WILLIAM A. FARMER	2	WILLIAM J. CHESTER	6
†ROBERT EVANS	3	EDWARD V. RODENHURST	7
THOMAS PRICE	4	ARTHUR PRITCHARD	*Tenor*

Composed by G. R. NEWTON. Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.
* First peal on eight bells. † First peal of Major.

WEST BROMWICH, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Wednesday, June 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;
Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 15 lb.

DANIEL T. MATKIN	*Treble*	MAURICE G. TURNER	5
RONALD I. SHEPHERD	2	HOWARD HOWELL	6
SIDNEY O'C. HOLLOWAY	3	JOHN S. MASON	7
GEORGE H. WILLIAMS	4	JAMES H. SHEPHERD	*Tenor*

Composed by GEO. HUGHES. Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.
First peal in the method on the bells.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wednesday, June 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb. in D.

FREDERICK OLDROYD	*Treble*	JOHN HOYLE	5
GEORGE MARRINER	2	ALFRED H. PULLING	6
ALFRED H. WINCH	3	GEORGE E. CLODE	7
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON	4	ALBERT HARMAN	*Tenor*

Composed by G. H. CROSS. Conducted by ALBERT HARMAN.
Arranged and rung on the occasion of the 'youth rally' at the new Cathedral.

HARWELL, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wednesday, June 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 26 lb. in E.

ALBERT E. LOCK	*Treble*	WILLIAM C. PORTER	5
MARIE R. CROSS	2	*REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG	6
JONATHAN HONEY	3	†ALFRED H. WEBB	7
JOHN NOBES	4	ALAN R. PINK	*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.
* First peal of Major in the method. † First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL GUILD.)
On Friday, June 23, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor 11 cwt. 5 lb. in A flat.

ADAM DEAS	*Treble*	CHARLES E. LAWSON	5
JOHN ANDERSON	2	*ERNEST WALLACE	6
JOSEPH E. R. KEEN	3	WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON	7
WILLIAM STORY	4	WILLIAM H. BARBER	*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by W. J. DAVIDSON.
* First peal in the method.

EAST DEREHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,
AT THE CAMPANILE OF THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF FULBECK BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor 23 cwt. 2 qr. 17 lb. in E flat.

JOHN A. GODFREY	*Treble*	WILLIAM E. BASON	5
MISS G. E. M. TUNNADINE	2	GEORGE SAYER	6
GEORGE MAYERS	3	BERTIE J. HOWCBIN	7
NORMAN V. HARDING	4	NOLAN GOLDEN	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.
First peal in the method by all, on the bells and for the association. Mr. W. E. Bason's 200th peal for the association.

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LONGTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, June 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

*WILLIAM J. CARTER ...	...*Treble*	EDWARD STEELE	5
NEVILLE R. HOLLAND ...	2	ANDREW THOMPSON	6
*HENRY CARTER	3	ALAN D. STEELE	7
†WILLIAM PERKINS	4	HENRY HALL...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by HENRY HALL.

* First peal of Major. † First peal of Major 'inside.' First peal of Major as conductor. Rung to celebrate the homecoming of their Majesties from the Dominion of Canada and the U.S.

MONKS KIRBY, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, June 22, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. EDITH,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 24 cwt.

*CECIL E. CARR	...*Treble*	WILLIAM A. WOOD	5
WILLIAM BOTTRILL	2	ALFRED BALLARD	6
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ...	3	*FRANK K. MEASURES... ...	7
W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON ...	4	ARTHUR DEERNHAM ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by WILLIAM BOTTRILL

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

WESTHAM, SUSSEX.
THE HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.
On Monday, May 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different extents. Tenor 10 cwt.

*ARTHUR RELF	...*Treble*	ALBERT H. KEMP...	4
GEORGE MASKELL	2	C. A. LEVETT	5
ARCHIBALD STEVENSON ...	3	J. G. POWELL	...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. G. POWELL.

* First peal of Minor. Rung in honour of the wedding of Miss E. V. Stevenson (daughter of the ringer of the 3rd) to Mr. A. Ballard.

ST. MARY BOURNE, HANTS.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, June 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Ten different callings. Tenor 12 cwt.

*HENRY PHILLIPS ...	...*Treble*	*ALFRED KIMPTON	4
*RONALD PHILLIPS	2	JAMES HOLLOWAY	5
LESLIE TRICKEY...	3	*FREDERICK PAYNE ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by JAMES HOLLOWAY.

* First peal. First peal as conductor. First peal on the bells. Rung in honour of His Majesty the King's birthday.

WROXHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

ERNEST BENTON	...*Treble*	GEORGE BAILEY	4
W. C. MEDLER	2	ERIC DURRANT	5
J. N. A. PUMPHREY	3	ERNEST V. BLAKE ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by E. V. BLAKE.

OLD CHESTERTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(SOCIETY OF CAMBRIDGE YOUTHS.)
On Tuesday, June 13, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven different extents. Tenor 16½ cwt.

*FREDERICK C. NEWMAN ...	...*Treble*	VICTOR CHAPMAN	4
ERNEST G. HIBBENS ...	2	ALFRED RAYNER	5
JOHN V. CROSS	3	JAMES W. R. QUINNEY...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by JAMES W. R. QUINNEY.

* First peal.

BROCKENHURST, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wednesday, June 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being three 720's of Kent Treble Bob and four 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 4 cwt. 1 qr. 12 lb. in B flat.

*FREDERICK EATON ...	...*Treble*	EDWARD T. GRIFFIN	4
STANLEY E. ANDREWS ...	2	MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY ...	5
F. FRANKLIN RIGBY	3	A. PATRICK CANNON ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.

* First peal of Minor. First peal in two methods on the bells.

BASSINGHAM, LINCS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)
On Friday, June 16, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven extents in 100 methods:—

1. Blaxhall, Mitcham, Stanhoe, Stratton, Stonehouse, Ringstead, Hayes, Sharnbrook, Finchley, Ellacombe, Buxton, Wordsley, Lamberhurst, Harmondsworth, Bramfield Alliance, Crayford Little Court, and Little Bob.
2. Windermere, Frodsham, Killarney, Horsmonden, Ennerdale, Cumberland, Lytham, Thelwall, London Bob, Double Oxford, Wavertree, Childwall, College, St. Clement's, Canterbury Pleasure, Fulbeck, Reverse Bob, Double Bob and Plain Bob.
3. Langton, Candlesby, Alford, Tattershall, Benington, Freiston, Frampton, Butterwick, Poynton, Chelford, Denton, Sutton, Leake, Wrangle Alliance, and Bastow Little Court.
4. Bicker, Gedney, Gunby, Spilsby, Wainfleet, Surfleet, Spalding, Pinchbeck, Sibsey, Gosberton Alliance, and Kent Little Court.
5. Chalfont, Cromer, Steventon, Tibenham, Fulmer, Walsingham, Lammas, Olney, Northaw, Penshurst Alliance, Crayford Little Court, and Little Bob.
6. Charlwood, Neasden, St. Albans, Wragby, Newdigate, Old Oxford, College Bob IV., Willesden, Humber, Braintree, Taxal, Marple, Clarence, Elston Delight, and Morning Star Treble Bob.
7. Capel, Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston, Ockley, Duke of Norfolk, College Exercise, Norbury, Oxford Treble Bob, Carlisbrooke, Wath, Donottar, and Pontefract Delight.

Tenor 13 cwt.

FRANK LORD...	...*Treble*	JACK BRAY	4
MRS. J. BRAY	2	JACK L. MILLHOUSE	5
CHARLES MCGUINESS	3	GEORGE E. FEIRN ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE E. FEIRN.

There were 189 changes of method. The greatest number of methods yet rung in seven true and complete extents.

MARPLE, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, June 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF SPLICED TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven extents in 39 methods, viz.:—

1. Dover, Fotheringay, Skipton, Balmoral and Chepstow Delight.
2. Ely, Bogedone, Knutsford, Wilmslow and Rostherne Delight.
3. Canterbury, Abbeyville, Crowland, Combermere, Vale Royal and St. Werburgh Delight.
4. Taxal, Marple, Newdigate, Old Oxford, College Bob IV. and Willesden Delight.
5. Humber, Braintree, Charlwood, Neasden, St. Albans and Wragby Delight.
6. Disley Delight, Morning Star, Ockley, Duke of Norfolk, College Exercise and Norbury Treble Bob.
7. Oxford, Capel, Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure and Kingston Treble Bob.

Tenor 17 cwt. (approx.).

*JOCELYN B. GARDINER ...	...*Treble*	JOHN WORTH	4
*REV. FRANK BONNER... ...	2	JOSEPH WHITTAKER	5
C. KENNETH LEWIS	3	JAMES A. MILNER... ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. K. LEWIS.

* First peal in 39 methods. Sixty-five changes of method. Rung in honour of the birth of a daughter to the Rev. F. S. Spackman, Vicar of this parish, and Mrs. Spackman.

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DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

OFFLEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different 720's. Tenor 16 cwt.

EDWIN G. BUCK ... ...*Treble*	HERBERT W. ELSE 4
*MISS FLORENCE K. HARTLE 2	STANLEY WALLIS... 5
†HENRY LAWRENCE 3	PERCY W. TOMPKINS ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by P. W. TOMPKINS.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal 'inside.'

THORNHAM MAGNA, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Saturday, June 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Consisting of three extents of Plain Bob and two each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob.

LESLIE W. FOSTER ... ...*Treble*	RUSSELL W. WARD 4
LEONARD H. LOCK 2	*BERTIE ALDRIDGE 5
FREDERICK G. POPPY 3	ARCHIE W. LOCK... ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by A. W. LOCK.

* First peal on six bells. Rung half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. Isaac Moss.

WATTON, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHDRCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one 720 each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and St. Clement's and four 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt.

JOHN CLARKE ... ...*Treble*	LESLIE HODGETON 4
ALFRED BACON 2	JOHN BOCKENHAM 5
*CHARLES BANHAM 3	WILLIAM BOCKENHAM... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM BOCKENHAM.

* First peal in four methods.

FRANT, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
THE EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.
On Saturday, June 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of: (1) Oxford Bob and Single Court; (2) St. Clement's Bob and Double Oxford; (3) Double and Single Bob; (4) Double Court; (5) Cambridge Surprise; (6) Oxford Treble Bob; (7) Kent Treble Bob.

CHARLES A. BASSETT ... ...*Treble*	FRANK H. HICKS 4
ARTHUR F. LEWRY 2	LESLIE W. JARVIS 5
WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE ... 3	ALBERT RELFE ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALBERT RELFE.

First peal in ten methods by all.

TYBERTON, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sunday, June 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings. Tenor 6½ cwt.

HORACE D. WRIGHT ... ...*Treble*	A. JAMES YOUNG 3
TRACEY H. YOUNG 2	ARTHUR H. OAKLEY 4
ALLAN CALCOMBE ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by TRACEY H. YOUNG.

WORTH, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, June 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being an extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, St. Clement's, Canterbury Pleasure, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 8½ cwt.

*JAMES LAKER ... ...*Treble*	KENNETH SNELLING 4
*FREDERICK ROBERTS... ... 2	ALBERT E. LAKER 5
OLIVER SIPPETTS 3	*ALBERT J. STEELE ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALBERT J. STEELE

* First peal in seven methods. First peal as conductor.

SILKSTONE, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)
On Monday, June 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Braintree, Wragby, Charlwood, Neasden Delights, Burton, Rochester and Kent. Tenor 12 cwt.

ROLAND HILL ... ...*Treble*	ERNEST BROOKES 4
ARTHUR PANTHER 2	ARTHUR GILL 5
CLIFFORD ROBINSON 3	DANIEL SMITH ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by DANIEL SMITH.

Rung to welcome Mr. A. Panther back after a severe illness.

SANDHURST, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wednesday, June 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being an extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Bob, Double Oxford, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob. St. Clement's and Plain Bob. Tenor 6½ cwt. (approx.).

BERNARD C. CASTLE ... ...*Treble*	WILLIAM H. J. PARKER ... 4
WILLIAM J. PAICE 2	ARTHUR A. ARLOTT 5
MISS FREDA N. ARLOTT ... 3	GEOFFREY E. FOWLER... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEOFFREY E. FOWLER

First peal on the bells since rehanging.

NETHERSEALE, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, June 23, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings. Tenor 11 cwt.

GEOFFREY WM. HAIR ... ...*Treble*	CECIL GEO. SMITH 4
OLIVER HINES 2	JOSEPH WM. COTTON 5
FRANK SHARPE 3	SIDNEY S. SCATTERGOOD ...*Tenor*

Conducted by JOSEPH WM. COTTON.

Rung as a wedding compliment to Mr. Arthur Yates, a member of the local company.

DISLEY, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF SPLICED MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven extents in 46 methods:—

1. Plain Bob, Double Bob, Reverse Bob, Fulbeck Bob and Canterbury Pleasure Bob.
2. Dover, Fotheringay, Skipton, Balmoral and Chepstow Delight.
3. Ely, Bogedone, Knutsford, Wilmslow and Rostherne Delight.
4. Abbeyville, Canterbury, Crowland, Combermere, Vale Royal and St. Werburgh Delight.
5. Marple, Taxal, Newdigate, Old Oxford, College Bob IV. and Willesden Delight.
6. Braintree, Humber, Charlwood, Neasden, St. Albans and Wragby Delight.
7. Oxford, Capel, Ockley, Sandal, Duke of Norfolk, London Scholars' Pleasure, College Exercise, Kingston, Norbury Treble Bob, Carisbrooke, Donottar, Wath and Pontefract Delight.

Tenor 8½ cwt.

*ALBERT T. BANCROFT... ...*Treble*	JOHN WORTH 4
JAMES FERNLEY... 2	*JOSEPH WHITTAKER 5
C. KENNETH LEWIS 3	JAMES A. MILNER ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. K. LEWIS.

* First peal in 46 methods. Eighty-nine changes of method. Rung on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. A. Rowbotham, a member of the local band, to Miss K. Marsh.

HANDBELL PEAL.

BUSHEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, June 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Fourteen Minutes,
AT THE ROYAL MASONIC JUNIOR SCHOOL,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
DAVIES' VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

HENRY HODGETTS 1-2	†HAROLD G. CASHMORE ... 5-6
*CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY 3-4	†JOHN E. ROOTES... 7-8

Conducted by C. W. WOOLLEY.

* First peal of Stedman Triples on an 'inside' pair and as conductor 'in hand.' † First peal of Stedman Triples 'in hand.' Rung as a compliment to Mr. G. W. Fletcher.

(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over.)

PEAL NOTES.

SIXTY YEARS ON.

Mr. William Story took part in a peal of Double Norwich Major at St. John the Baptist's Church, Newcastle, on Friday, the eve of St. John the Baptist's Day. It is 60 years since he began his ringing career at this church. The peal was the 100th which Messrs. W. H. Barber and J. Anderson have rung together.

The first peal of Fulbeck Bob Major by the Norwich Diocesan Association was rung at East Dereham on Saturday. It was also the first in the method by all the band and was arranged for Mr. Norman Harding, of Wraysbury, Middlesex, who was spending a holiday in the district. It was Mr. W. E. Bason's 200th peal for the association.

The composition, by Mr. Nolan Golden, the conductor, was in 50 courses, containing the course-end extent with the 6th at home and all the combinations of 4-5-6 in 5-6. It is, presumably, rung for the first time.

At Netherseale, Derbyshire, on Friday, a peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung to celebrate the wedding of Mr. A. Yates, a local ringer, to Miss B. Statham, whose wedding took place at this church on the previous Friday. It had been arranged as a peal by all local ringers, but owing to the illness of Mr. W. F. Woodward, the local captain, Mr. J. W. Cotton kindly assisted at the last moment and called the peal.

A peal of Stedman Cinques at St. Martin's Cathedral, Leicester, on Saturday, enabled Mr. C. H. Webb, of Rugby, to complete the series in the method from Doubles to Cinques.

The Spliced Surprise Major at Irthlingborough on June 17th was Mr. O. W. Woolley's 300th peal, and on Wednesday of last week at Bushey he conducted his first peal of Stedman Triples 'in hand,' and Messrs. H. G. Cashmore and J. E. Rootes rang their first peal of Stedman on handbells.

We had heard it said, although we never believed there was any justification in such rumour, that when some of these Spliced Surprise experts tackled Stedman Triples 'in hand' their knees knocked together and their teeth chattered, so scared were they of the method. But this latest peal gives the lie to it, or shows they have beaten down their nervousness.

Major J. H. B. Hesse, who lives at Haslemere, Surrey, has now rung every bell at Wrington, Somerset, to a peal, and Haslemere and Wrington are over a hundred miles apart! But Major Hesse has a personal interest in Wrington, and Wrington has a glorious ring of ten bells. The peal on Saturday was a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Knight, on the occasion of their silver wedding.

Reference is made elsewhere to the peal of Minor in one hundred methods rung at Bassingham, but another notable performance in Spliced Minor ringing is also recorded this week. The Chester Guild rang a peal in 46 methods at Disley on Saturday. In one of the 720's there were 13 methods.

Mr. Arthur Panther, who was formerly hon. secretary of the Barnsley and District Society, was welcomed back to ringing on June 19th after a severe illness, which had threatened to put an end to his peal ringing. Happily these prognostications were not fulfilled, and Mr. Panther was able to share in the peal of seven Treble Bob Minor methods at Silkstone.

Edward and Alan Steel rang their 25th peal together at Longton, Staffs, on June 22nd, when they took part in a peal of Bob Major rung to celebrate the homecoming of their Majesties from the royal tour.

The lovely church of St. Edith, Monks Kirby, is set on a hill, the magnificent tower overlooking the few houses that form the village. A tower of such a size must be difficult to find in such a small parish elsewhere. That, at any rate, was the impression of the 'Thursdayites,' when, on June 22nd, they arrived in 'good fettle' to attempt Double Norwich. The heavy ring of eight were up in readiness, thanks to Mr. Tom Pittam, one of the local band, and some good ringing was soon to be heard over the countryside.

Throughout the peal 'Our Arthur' was in his element, turning in the 'big 'un.' Mr. W. Bottrill was again responsible for the calling, and it is with profound regret that within the next few weeks the 'Thursdayites' will be losing such a ringer, who is moving into Bedfordshire and is to reside at Luton.

The talented trio of brothers, George, Harry and Jesse Moss, who began their ringing career at Thornham Magna, Suffolk, have suffered bereavement by the death of their father, Mr. Isaac Moss, an old inhabitant of the village. A peal of Minor rung there on Saturday, which had been arranged to enable Mr. B. Aldridge, of Woolwich, to ring a peal in his native district, was therefore rung half-muffled.

By ringing a peal in which ten methods were included in seven extents, Mr. Albert Relfe, of Lamberhurst, has now scored peals of Minor in from one to fourteen methods. The peal at Frant on June 17th was the first in ten methods by all the band.

The band who rang the peal of Minor at Watton, Norfolk, desire to thank Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Houghton for providing refreshments after the peal. They also thank Mr. C. Banham for standing in at short notice. The peal was rung on June 17th.

Mr. Pat Cannon has now rung a peal on the lightest as well as the heaviest six in the country. The former is at Brockenhurst, Hants, where the tenor is only 4 cwt. 1 qr. 12 lb. It is ten years since a peal was rung on them. Mr. Cannon has now rung 125 peals and they have been spread over 119 towers. The Brockenhurst peal was rung on June 14th.

PEALS IN ONE HUNDRED METHODS.

A GREAT MINOR RECORD.

Lincolnshire Ringers' Achievement.

Having, as we briefly recorded in our last issue, rung for the first time a peal in 100 Minor methods in seven extents at Bassingham on June 17th, the talented North Lincolnshire six-bell band went on to ring a peal in 102 methods last Saturday at Leadenham, and they have thus set up a great record, the previous highest number of methods in a peal having been 84. Comment on these performances is made in our leading article.

The peal at Bassingham, of which we give details elsewhere, included a new extent by Mr. A. G. Driver. It was rung at the first 720 and is made up of fifteen Alliance and two Little methods. Three other of the 720's were composed by Mr. Driver, and the rest were arranged by Mr. C. K. Lewis from Mr. Driver's tables.



MR. G. E. FEIRN, the Conductor.

It is interesting to note that at least one plain lead of every method was employed in the course of the peal.

The peal is a signal triumph for this talented Minor band, which includes a lady, Mrs. J. Bray. They are the second Lincolnshire company to take a hand in the friendly rivalry with the Chester Guild for Minor method honours. A South Lincolnshire band, practising at Algarkirk, were the first to challenge the Chester Guild's records, and since these men became dispersed, the company in the north of the county have taken up the challenge.

In these peals the heaviest task falls upon the conductor. Mr. George Feirn, who called the peal at Bassingham, is 25 years of age, began ringing eight years ago and rang his first peal in December, 1932.

The following list shows how the number of methods has grown in peals of Spliced Minor. Those in Lincolnshire have been rung for the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, and those in Cheshire and Derbyshire for the Chester Diocesan Guild.

Date	Place	No. of methods	Changes of method
Feb. 15, 1911	Edenham, Lincs.	14	
Dec. 4, 1923	Norbury, Cheshire	35	
Dec. 29, 1934	Chapel-en-le-Frith, Derbys.	39	
Jan. 19, 1935	Sutton, Cheshire	40	
Feb. 9, 1935	Disley, Cheshire	42	
May 23, 1935	Marple, Cheshire	51	172
June 13, 1936	Algarkirk, Lincs.	57	196
Aug. 3, 1936	Whaplode, Lincs.	60	199
Aug. 8, 1936	Freiston, Lincs.	61	196
Aug. 22, 1936	Marple, Cheshire	66	138
Sept. 5, 1936	Disley, Cheshire	68	138
Dec. 5, 1936	Algarkirk, Lincs.	70	173
June 12, 1937	Buxton, Derbyshire	73	142
Dec. 4, 1937	Algarkirk, Lincs.	80	176
July 16, 1938	Disley, Cheshire.	84	178

The North Lincolnshire band's progress is shown in the following list of peals:—

Feb. 12, 1938	Dunholm, Lincs.	34	130
Aug. 17, 1938	Elsham, Lincs.	43	128
Nov. 26, 1938	Elsham, Lincs.	49	132
Dec. 17, 1938	Bassingham, Lincs.	53	138
April 28, 1939	Bigby, Lincs.	60	166
May 26, 1939	Dunholm, Lincs.	70	181
June 16, 1939	Bassingham, Lincs.	100	189

BISHOP WELCOMED.

To welcome the Bishop of Guildford, who visited Bramley (Surrey) on June 6th in connection with the special appeal that is being made throughout the diocese for the New Cathedral Building Fund, the local band with the district secretary (Mr. W. F. J. Cope), rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles. Peter Davy, the conductor, is only 16 years old, and Ronald Jackson, who rang the treble, is only 14. The latter and the tenorman, Mr. C. M. Martin, rang their first quarter-peal at the first attempt: R. Jackson 1, A. E. J. Hyde 2, W. E. Enticknap 3, W. F. J. Cope 4, P. F. Davy (conductor) 5, C. M. Martin 6.

ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

DISAPPOINTING ATTENDANCE AT COUNTRY MEETING.

The quarterly meeting of the Royal Cumberland Youths was held at Great Baddow on Saturday, June 24th, but was very poorly supported. No doubt other meetings in Essex were partly responsible, but, even so, 18 was a very disappointing attendance. Of this number five came from the south side of the Thames, which meant upwards of 80 miles' travelling for each of them.

The rest of the company included Mr. George Green and his son, of the local band, and that 82-year-old veteran, Mr. William Nevard, who is one of the society's oldest and staunchest supporters.

The Vicar (the Rev. R. H. Holmes) conducted the service, and Mr. Hussel, a lay reader and very accomplished speaker, gave a most interesting address.

At the business meeting the Vicar presided, and the election of seven new members in various towers was duly ratified.

The secretary stated that joint meetings with the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Middlesex and Essex Associations were being arranged. Dates had not yet been finally settled, but it was expected that with the College Youths would be held at Croydon on October 14th and that with the other associations within a fortnight either side of that date.

The Master (Mr. G. H. Cross) proposed that the annual dinner be held on March 16th next year.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar, Mr. Hussel, Mr. G. Green and the organist was proposed by Mr. A. Hardy and carried with acclamation. Handbells were then brought into use, before a return was made to the tower, where ringing was again carried on.

DEATH OF A LANCASHIRE RINGER.

The last survivor of the first peal of Double Norwich Major rung in Lancashire has passed away in the person of Mr. J. T. Baguley. The peal was rung 50 years ago on April 8th at Worsley, where Mr. Baguley was, at the time, one of the band. Later he lived in Eccles and rang at the Parish Church there, and when he retired and went to live at Davyhulme, he joined the Flixton Parish Church company. His death occurred, after a brief illness, at the age of 76. The deceased leaves a widow and family in bereavement.

The funeral took place on Monday, June 19th, the first part of the service being held in Flixton Parish Church and the interment taking place at Urmston Cemetery. Before and after the service half-muffled touches of Grandsire Triples were rung at Flixton, and in the evening an attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Triples. This, however, came to grief after an hour and ten minutes. The band represented Worsley, Bowden, Manchester and the local company.

A WORCESTERSHIRE RESTORATION.

The culmination of a long worked for restoration scheme at Alderminster, Worcestershire, was reached on June 7th, when the former five bells were rededicated and a treble bell was dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Coventry at a special service. Of the old peal, the treble and 4th were cast by Abraham Rudhall in 1714 and 1716 respectively, the other three being by Harry Bagley, of Chacombe. The old timber bell frame was becoming rickety and the ringing of the bells was not an easy matter. This frame work has been preserved, and the results of the work of the bell hangers, Messrs. John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, speak for themselves. As the frame was designed to carry six bells, a new treble bell has been added to complete the ring of six. By paying special attention to the tuning of the old bells, Messrs. Taylor have effected a very good splice.

The weight of the tenor is 12¼ cwt. and the ease with which it was possible to ring the bells astounded the local men, which is not surprising, considering the hard and difficult task they had to face before the rehanging. Quite a number of neighbouring ringers took the opportunity of trying the newly-hung bells. Mr. J. P. Fidler, of Loughborough, was amongst those present.

SUFFOLK GUILD.

HALESWORTH COMPANY'S ANCIENT FOUNDATION.

On Whit Monday, the Suffolk Guild held a meeting at Halesworth, when members and friends from 26 towers rang touches at St. Mary's throughout the day. One enthusiast, Mr. Frank Corney, cycled from Wanstead, a distance of 95 miles each way.

At the meeting, the chair was taken by the Rev. T. H. Caren, who extended a hearty welcome to all present and commended the evident goodwill and fellowship prevailing among the ringers. He said that what struck him about the ringing that day was the expert skill with which, though coming from various towers, they were able to produce harmonious results straight away.

Twelve new members were elected, and an invitation from the Rev. B. T. Pitts to the Guild to meet at Fressingfield was accepted.

Mr. C. E. Fisher, hon. treasurer, spoke on the financial position of the Guild, saying that this was better than at any time during its 17 years' existence.

Mr. H. G. Herbert, hon. secretary, expressed the thanks of all to the Rector, and, in replying, Mr. Caren invited the ringers to walk round the Rectory grounds.

Mr. F. C. Lambert, the local captain, reminded the meeting that the Halesworth company was this year celebrating its 400th anniversary, having been established in 1539. He had also a book showing written changes of ringing bearing date of 1621.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Mr. C. D. Potter, of Barnsley, is still in Sheffield Royal Hospital, where he has undergone two operations. We are pleased to state, however, that he is progressing favourably.

The naming of Surprise methods is not altogether an easy thing, when you do a lot of it. That, at any rate, seems to be the experience of the Hertfordshire band, who for the last year or two have had to find new names almost every week.

They have almost exhausted the county directory, have filled in the birthplaces of all the band, and now are wiping off the rest of the alphabet.

We imagined a place-name beginning with X might be a difficulty, but we believe they have found one—but not in Hertfordshire.

And writing of method names, we would direct the special attention of those ringers, who have a method to which they desire to give a name of their own selection, to the letter of the Methods Committee, fixing the end of July as the latest date for claiming to name any of the methods which are to appear in the new Surprise book.

The 'outing' season is now reaching its peak, and many reports of these enjoyable excursions have reached us. They will be published as soon and as far as space permits.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION AND BENEVOLENT FUND.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In answer to Mr. Chalk's letter in 'The Ringing World,' June 16th, and your leading article last week, with reference to a benevolent fund for the Essex Association, I would like to point out that the subject has been before the association for nearly two years, and although the proposer has used every means at his disposal to get it accepted, it has been rejected, not because our members are more lacking in the spirit of brotherhood and friendliness than people who live elsewhere, but because they definitely believe that the scheme is impracticable, notwithstanding what has been said in its favour.

In Mr. Chalk's letter he has a sly dig at peal ringing. I submit that peal ringing is probably the most important feature which stimulates our ringing journal, without which our Exercise would sink to a very low ebb.

The Essex Association has a Bell Restoration Fund, from which comparatively small grants are made, in the great majority of cases, where new frames have been installed and bells recast, etc.; certainly not for mending decrepit bell frames.

LEWIS W. WIFFEN.

THE COLLECTION OF SURPRISE MAJOR METHODS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In the report of the Methods Committee printed in 'The Ringing World' on June 23rd, persons who hope to ring and name Surprise Major methods in the future were asked to send in the figures with the proposed names. If any of these methods are in the Collection of Surprise Major Methods the committee will accept the names suggested, unless they are obviously unsuitable. Any names suggested for methods not in the collection will not be used for any other methods in the book.

It was agreed at the Central Council meeting in London to keep this offer open for one month, as after the book has been sent to the printers no such alterations can be made. Methods should be sent to the undersigned not later than July 31st, 1939, which is the latest date on which the committee can guarantee to alter any names in the book.

ERNEST. C. S. TURNER.

65, Kingsley Avenue, West Ealing, London, W.13.

VISITOR'S 'FRIGID' RECEPTION.

To the Editor.

Sir,—One of the general assumptions among bellringers is that they extend hospitality towards outside ringers visiting their towers.

We would like, through the medium of your paper, to express our deep feeling of indignation when, on visiting Bridport tower on Sunday, the 18th inst., we were accorded a frigid reception and totally ignored. Following this the ringers continued to ring Grandsire Doubles on the front six, with 7, 6, 8 behind, for the next 20 minutes, by which time the bells had to be lowered for evensong. We were, therefore, not even offered the opportunity to ring.

Although it may be their practice to ring 120's of Grandsire consecutively, surely on such an occasion it is usual to waive such custom.

H. G. BLANCHARD.
N. G. KNEE.

Warminster.

HANDBELLS IN CHURCH.

On Sunday, June 11th, five members of the Kelham handbell band went to St. George's Church, Nottingham. The occasion was the dedication festival of the church and the end of their jubilee year.

The handbells were rung outside the church before, and inside the church after, evensong.

Ringing consisted of courses of Grandsire Caters, Bob Royal, Bob Major and Rounds and Queen's on twelve bells (four in hand).

The time allowed was about 20 minutes at either end of evensong. The congregation seemed to appreciate the students' efforts—at least there were no complaints about 'noise'!

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from page 402.)

LITERATURE, PRESS AND BROADCASTING COMMITTEE.

The report of the Literature, Press and Broadcasting Committee was as follows: Those who were present at the meeting of the Council in 1938 will remember that on the presentation of this committee's report it was agreed to send a message of congratulation with a gift to Mr. Charles Slingsby, on the attainment of his 101st birthday. The Press has since recorded his death, and all concerned will be glad that the opportunity was thus taken of paying a tribute to the oldest member of the Exercise in the last year of his life.

One event reported in the Press during 1938 is of supreme interest: The royal visit to St. Paul's Church, Walden, when the King and Queen watched the ringers at work in the belfry, and, conducted by a ringer, ascended to the bell chamber and saw the new bell being rung. It would be interesting to know whether this was actually the first time that such a thing had ever been done by a reigning Sovereign. The former Queen Elizabeth, of blessed memory, is reputed to have been partial to the music of bells, but there is good reason to believe that the fashion in court dress favoured by that right royal lady would have proved a decisive impediment to the ascent of the tower steps.

Bellringing is apparently regarded as 'good copy' by journalists and news editors of the present day. References to the subject, often with illustrations, have frequently appeared in the popular Press. These are largely of personal interest: Notices of veteran and, more often, of young ringers, while lady ringers never fail to attract attention. Miss Bowyer's wonderful record in peal ringing made front page news under the apt title of 'A Pealing Belle'—and we are here reminded of the full accounts given in Yorkshire journals of the Central Council meeting at Leeds, when a much respected lady member was 'starred' for a performance having only an indirect connection with change ringing. Family combinations in ringing also find their way into the news. Two instances of this character are of special interest—one family named White and another Brown, each capable of raising a complete band, in one case a band of eight, to ring at the wedding of another member of the family. In a daily paper last June the main part of a page was devoted to an admirably written article on 'The Ancient Mystery of Bellringing.'

In most cases statements made on the subject have been accurate and well informed. Naturally, errors are found here and there. For example, one of the fair sex was recently described as 'one of the few women bellringers in the country'—a statement fairly eclipsed by a reference to a girl as 'believed to be the only girl ringer!' 'Bow Bells may have to close down' was a recent scare headline to an article on the lack of support accorded to Bow Church. It was an easily comprehensible mistake that led a Northern newspaper to speak of the method 'Double Knowledge.'

Sad to say, one source of copy for the public Press is the substitution of gramophone records for real bells. One regrettable instance is at Thetford, where the church possesses eight bells. On this point we may quote with approval a paragraph from the 'Salisbury Diocesan Gazette': 'Fearing the harm that these synthetic bells might possibly do to church bells and their ringing, if such a "switch on" system became general, the committee recommended . . . . that possibly some form of qualified faculty might be granted in the Weymouth case without prejudice to any subsequent case . . . . and that in future the committee should not advise a faculty, if a bell or peal were already available in the church.'

BROADCASTING.

Broadcasts of bells have been quite frequent. Some have been entirely good, a few definitely bad, others at best indifferent. The average has been fair, but there is decided room for improvement. At the same time there has been noticeable a strange silence of bells in several cases of services broadcast from churches with good peals, such as Leicester, Nottingham, Aston and others. Change ringing of the first order continues to be heard from Croydon on Sunday mornings, while Lichfield Cathedral has shown welcome improvement, which we hope will be maintained and enhanced.

A renewed outbreak has occurred of interference with the short period of ringing on Sunday evenings—this time in the form of historical notes on the churches concerned. In this way what would have been two of the most perfect broadcasts of the year, from St. Olave's and Portsea, were cut down to the last few changes. Strong letters of protest to the B.B.C. produced one or two amazing statements in reply, but the result has been a considerable abatement of the nuisance. It may be added that the historical notes are in themselves admirable, but the obvious time to introduce them is during that awkward pause between 7.50 p.m. and 7.55, which is apt to set one speculating whether there is any defect—one of those 'technical hitches'—either in transmission or reception.

In one respect a commendable improvement may be recorded with satisfaction; on Easter Day there were broadcasts of bells both in the morning and evening.

In proposing the adoption of the report, the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards called attention to the increasing notice which the Press was now giving to bellringing and the doings of bellringers, and said that for the most part the newspapers were getting quite respectably accurate on the subject. On the subject of broadcasting he said it was obvious the committee could not go much into detail on the various broadcasts of bells that took place; that could only be done if there were one or more members of the committee in a position to listen to every broadcast throughout the year and take notes at the time. He had heard a few examples of beautiful ringing, but the two towers named in the report were mentioned because they had a regular Sunday broadcast.

Mr. A. Paddon Smith seconded, and it was suggested that when the 'Model Rules' were printed a note might be added recommending that wherever a broadcast of the bells was to take place the leader of the tower should be responsible for raising a competent band for the occasion.

The report was adopted, and the committee, consisting of the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards (convener) and Messrs. A. Paddon Smith, A. Walker and J. S. Goldsmith, was reappointed.

OLD PEAL BOARDS.

The Peal Boards Committee reported as follows: In our last annual report we stated that we hoped to submit to the Council this year a comprehensive report on our work. Unlike some of the other committees of the Council, our task is one which it should be possible to complete within a limited period. The length of the period, however, depends upon the co-operation we receive from members of the Exercise.

It is difficult to form any estimate of the number of peal boards which now exist recording performances up to and including 1825, but we think that the total number is unlikely to exceed 500. We are advised that there are none in Ireland; it is improbable that there are any in Scotland and we have no knowledge of any in Wales.

So far we have received details of 177 boards, recording 208 performances in 83 towers. Of these, details of 132 boards recording 144 performances in 62 towers have been indexed, and typed copies have been placed in alphabetical and date order files. The remaining details have been indexed and it is hoped to copy them shortly. In addition we have been fortunate in obtaining access to a detailed collection of peal boards in the London area and we anticipate being able to add these to our collection during the coming year. Apart from this, however, we have received very few details in the past twelve months, and we have considered whether we shall modify our methods in the hope of expediting our work.

It is obviously impossible for us to visit each tower in the country and we have relied upon appeals to members of the Exercise to forward us details from towers in their own localities. Members of this Council, representing as they do the whole of the country, could have set a good example in this connection and, indeed, it might have been expected that a large proportion of the material could have been collected by now with their help. But we have in many cases only received details from one or two towers in a county, while there are 15 counties from which we have received no details at all, though we would not be justified in assuming that there are no old boards in those counties.

It would be desirable that in each county there should be somebody with a direct interest in the work of the committee, who would obtain details from the towers in his own area. We do not suggest that such persons should be ordinary members of the committee as that would mean that they would have to be members of the Council. Neither do we suggest the appointment by the Council of co-opted members of the committee, as that would make the committee too large. We feel, however, that there are many members of the Exercise, not necessarily members of this Council, who would be glad to be associated with the work of the Council, and we submit a recommendation that we should be authorised to appoint representatives to be associated with our work so far as particular areas are concerned. We shall be glad if any member of the Council or of the Exercise who is willing to act as a district representative for us will let us know without waiting to be asked. As the work would be confined to the representative's own locality it should not prove onerous. We will report annually the names of the people we appoint.

It has been suggested that many people do not send us details of particular boards as they think we probably have them already. We shall be glad to inform anybody whether we already have details or not, but we would point out that if details are received from two separate sources they form a very useful check as to accuracy and will be acknowledged gratefully.

We thank all those who have helped us and we repeat our wish for assistance to enable us to complete our work as soon as possible. Any member of the Council prepared to represent the committee in his locality should let us know; if you know of any old peal boards, please tell us what is on them and their condition.

The committee made the following recommendation: 'That the Peal Boards Committee be authorised to appoint district representatives to be associated with the committee in order to obtain details of old peal boards in particular localities.'

Mr. W. G. Wilson, who proposed the adoption of the report, said since it was prepared details had been received concerning the old boards in 30 further towers and covering 80 performances. It would seem, therefore, that they were getting somewhere near half-way in the collection. Referring to the recommendation of the committee to appoint assistants to enable them to complete the work, Mr. Wilson said this did not mean that the committee was not grateful to those who had already helped them so far; the committee hoped they would continue to help, but it seemed there was need for further assistance if the task was to be completed. They did not intend to limit their choice of representatives to people who were well known in the

(Continued on next page.)

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from previous page.)

Exercise. Anyone who was willing and able to help, they would be only too glad to appoint as agents in a locality. Moreover, he thought such appointments might well promote interest in the Council and its work among younger ringers, who were possible future members of the Council. The appointment of these helpers would not make the work of the committee any lighter, because for the time being there would be extra work to do, in appointing representatives and corresponding with them. The committee hoped the scheme would help their work and enable them to present their final report a few years earlier than would otherwise be the case; but if it was not a success they would be no worse off.

The Rev. C. E. Wigg seconded and the report and recommendation were adopted. The committee was then reappointed as follows: Mr. W. G. Wilson (convener), the Rev. C. E. Wigg and Mr. W. Ayre.

BIOGRAPHIES.

In their report the Biographies Committee said the work was proceeding. Considerable labour was involved in 'sub-editing' and preparing the material before the final draft could be typed, and this could not hurriedly be completed. There were still a considerable number of forms outstanding, and the committee would be glad to receive them as soon as possible. Especially they hoped to receive photographs from those members and ex-members who had not yet supplied them, for the photographs would be not the least interesting part of the biographical collection.

It now seemed obvious that details concerning many of the early members of the Council would not be received through the forms issued and a search of back volumes of the ringing papers would be necessary to help make the work of the committee complete. The committee were pleased to say that Mr. A. C. Hazelden, Guildford Diocesan Guild's librarian and a member of the Council, was prepared to undertake some of this research work, and they suggested, therefore, that he be added to the committee.

On the motion of Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, seconded by Mr. F. I. Hairs, the report and recommendation were adopted. The committee, consisting of Mr. J. S. Goldsmith (convener), Mrs. Fletcher and Mr. W. A. Cave, were reappointed with the addition of Mr. A. C. Hazelden.

THE STANDING COMMITTEE.

The appointment of the Standing Committee then took place. On the motion of Mr. T. Groombridge, seconded by Mr. J. Hunt, retiring members were re-elected as follows: Ven. Archdeacon H. T. Parry, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, Major J. H. B. Hesse, Messrs. W. A. Cave, J. T. Dyke, C. F. Johnston, R. Richardson, A. Paddon Smith, A. Walker and S. H. Wood.

Vacancies were filled by the election of Mr. E. C. S. Turner and Mr. Gilbert Debenham.

In addition to the above the following are ex-officio members of the committee: The president, hon. librarian, hon. secretary, hon. auditors, conveners of committees and past officers (if still members of the Council).

The President proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to the members of the committees for the work they had done during the last three years. He did not know whether they had heard the definition of gratitude, that it was an 'anticipation of favours to come' (laughter). While they thanked the committees for the valuable work they had done, the Council hoped they would go on doing this good work (applause).

The motion was carried by acclamation.

'THE RINGING WORLD.'

On the question of the circulation of 'The Ringing World,' which had been before the Central Council in previous years, and in connection with which action had been referred to the officers, the Hon. Secretary said they had already had lengthy discussions and they felt that all there was to be said had already been said and anything further could only be a repetition. The officers did not present a report this year, because they felt that everything that could be discussed had been discussed and generally the views of all members were known. If, as they believed, the Council were anxious to see the future of 'The Ringing World' safeguarded by an increase of circulation, then action must take the place of words and for that reason the officers asked that the matter be left in their hands with full powers to act, it being understood that the Standing Committee would be consulted as necessary.

Mr. A. Walker seconded the proposal, which was carried.

MUFFLING OF BELLS.

On the question of the muffling of bells, which had also been referred to the officers, the President said he had hoped during the year to receive some information about interesting old customs, but he had heard nothing from members, so he suggested they should wait no longer, but go ahead with their final report, which would be sent to the proper authorities.

This course was agreed to.

CARDIFF FOR THE NEXT MEETING.

It was announced that the Standing Committee recommended that the next meeting should be held at Cardiff, the President pointing out that, in accordance with custom, it was the turn of west and east in the present triennial period.

Mr. Trollope proposed and Mr. Cave seconded Cardiff.

(Continued in next column.)

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

POSITION IN THE PEAK DISTRICT.

Present Arrangements Not to be Disturbed.

A most successful meeting was held at Bakewell on Saturday, June 17th, in conjunction with the Peak Society. The village was enlivened by a carnival, and bands and processions with the Bakewell 'Beauty Queen' turned out to welcome the visitors!

The bells of the Parish Church (8) were kept going all the afternoon and evening to various methods to suit all visitors. Owing to the carnival, catering was difficult, but a substantial tea was served at the Wheatsheaf Hotel, some 40 or more members and friends sitting down. The committee met in the afternoon and carried out their routine business.

The general meeting was held in the spacious belfry after tea, the chair being taken by the president (the Rev. Canon H. E. Fitzherbert), supported by the vice-president (Mr. Colin Harrison), the hon. secretary (Mr. Ernest Morris) and the Rev. W. P. Wright, of Eyam. An apology for absence was received from the hon. treasurer, Mr. W. E. White. Members were present from each of the association's centres: Burton, Chesterfield, Derby, Hinckley, Leicester, Loughborough and Nottingham, as well as friends from Bolsover, Ashover, Dore, Darley Dale, Matlock, Staveley and other places.

The President, in opening the meeting, said how pleased he was to see such a good and representative gathering, covering so wide an area. He brought forward the question of forming a branch of the M.C.A. in the Peak District and invited members' views on the subject.

Mr. H. Warburton, of Dore, said that as secretary of the Peak Society for the last four years or so, he could see no real object in the proposal. They were quite happy in their present arrangements. They had well-attended meetings seven or eight times a year in various towers of the area. Those present had a good time both in ringing and social intercourse and collected among themselves to cover any incidental expenses, thereby costing the M.C.A. nothing. So far as he knew, the majority of those taking part were loyal members of the M.C.A.

Mr. A. H. Bowler, of Ashover, supported this view and said members of the Peak Society were not lax in their support of the M.C.A., and the secretary (Mr. Ernest Morris) had written them to the effect that he wished other districts were so prompt in paying subscriptions and supporting the association generally. He, therefore, could see no object in upsetting present arrangements, which were working admirably.

The Rev. W. P. Wright said there would be no practical good beyond changing the name. They had meetings every six weeks or so over a scattered area, where transport was difficult, and it was to the credit of those members who supported the meetings, for it meant not only giving up time, but involved certain expense in travelling.

Mr. Deane, of Norton, Stoke-on-Trent, said that as a member of the Peak District of the old days and a regular attendant at meetings of the present Peak Society, there was nothing to be gained by breaking up present arrangements and the happy meetings they now enjoyed.

It was thereupon decided to leave matters as they are and the towers as at present shown under Chesterfield District.

Mr. A. J. Harris and Mr. J. H. Swinfield gave brief reviews of the Central Council meeting on Whit Tuesday.

New members proposed since Easter, viz., 15 ringing, 5 rejoining and 4 honorary, were duly elected.

The hon. secretary reported that the new badges were now in circulation and could be had either from him or from local secretaries, bronze 1s. 6d., silver 2s. each.

On behalf of all present, the President voiced hearty thanks to the Vicar of Bakewell for the use of bells, to Mr. Alexander and the local company for arrangements made for such an enjoyable meeting.

Mr Bowler, on behalf of the Peak Society, said how pleased they were to welcome the association and trusted it would not be so long before they came again.

It was announced that the next meeting of the society would be at Ashover on July 15th, to which Chesterfield District and any other friends would be welcomed. The next M.C.A. quarterly meeting will be at Newark in September.

Further tower-bell ringing and a 'convivial' terminated a most successful and enjoyable meeting.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from previous column.)

Mr. A. King proposed Dublin. On being put to the vote, Cardiff was agreed to by a big majority.

Mr. J. W. Jones, hon. secretary of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association, in whose area Cardiff is situated, said they would do their best to make the visit of the Council a success, but they could not hope to do what their friends in Yorkshire did last year. He had been a member of the Council for a great many years, and he felt that in return for what had been done for him and his fellow-representatives from South Wales, they should try and do something for the Council when it visited Cardiff. Everything they could do to make the visit a success the Council could rely upon them doing (applause).

(To be continued.)

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

PROPOSED BELLS REPAIR FUND.

'Unofficial' Ringing Masters.

A successful general meeting of the Yorkshire Association was held at Barnsley, by kind invitation of the Rector, Canon W. E. Wilkinson, and the local company. The eight bells at St. Mary's Church were made good use of during the afternoon and evening. A brief service took place prior to a sumptuous tea, which was served in the Barnsley British Co-operative Cafe.

The business meeting followed, presided over by Canon C. C. Marshall, M.A., president of the association, and at the outset the president announced that since the last meeting they had lost one of their oldest and most esteemed members in the person of Mr. Arthur Knights, of Chesterfield.

Mr. P. J. Johnson said that Mr. Knights had been a member of the association since 1880, and, apart from the great services he had rendered to the Exercise in the sphere of composition, his kindly and unassuming manner had endeared him to all with whom he came in contact. He was one of the most talented men the Exercise had produced, and was always ready to assist. The number of younger composers who owed their beginning to him was, indeed, difficult to tell. He moved that a letter of condolence be sent to his relatives.—This was seconded by Mr. G. Lewis, following which the meeting stood in silence as a tribute of respect.

The President then proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector and churchwardens of Barnsley for kindly inviting them to hold their meeting there. He assured them that the association appreciated their invitation and also the warm welcome that had been accorded to the association. He coupled with this vote of thanks the name of their old and esteemed colleague, Mr. C. D. Potter, who had hoped to be with them at that meeting, but unfortunately had been taken ill and at that moment was in hospital. He moved that a letter be sent to Mr. Potter expressing their sympathy and conveying their best wishes for a speedy recovery.—This was seconded by Mr. P. J. Johnson and carried.

The Rector, in reply, said how pleased they were to welcome the association to Barnsley, and hoped it would not be long before the association paid them another visit. Like their president, he was sorry indeed that Mr. Potter was prevented by illness from being with them that night, but he felt and knew that Mr. Potter would look forward to hearing a report of their proceedings.

A vote of thanks to the local company for their kind arrangements was moved by Mr. A. Nash, seconded by Mr. W. Moxon and carried.

The President announced that no invitations had been received for the next meeting, and the committee had discussed the matter. The next meeting was due to be held in the Northern District, and they felt that Ripon would be suitable, if necessary arrangements could be made.

Ripon and Middleham were proposed, and, on a vote being taken, 10 were in favour of Middleham and 15 in favour of Ripon.

The President, in announcing the verdict, suggested that Middleham be approached in the event of it not being possible to make arrangements at Ripon.

The next business was a report in connection with the proposed bell repairs fund. The President stated that opinion from the districts was in favour of such a scheme, but as yet the sub-committee had not met and the matter had been referred back. He hoped to report further at the next meeting.

A suggestion from the Eastern District that deputy ringing masters should be appointed had been discussed by the committee, and the President reported that it was felt to be undesirable to alter the constitution of the association to accommodate the proposal. He pointed out, however, that if a district wished to appoint such an officer in an unofficial capacity, they could do so. It must be understood that no official status attached to any such appointment, as far as the association was concerned.

An application was received from the Doncaster ringers asking for a grant to assist in the work of restoring the Doncaster Parish Church bells. The President announced that the committee had also had this matter under discussion, and felt that as no fund existed specifically for this purpose, they could not accede to the request on the grounds that a precedent would thereby be created. He pointed out that they had had to give a similar reply to an application received some time ago in another case.

The General Secretary (Mr. L. Morris) said that in the latter case referred to by the president they decided to do what they could unofficially to assist and a collection was taken. He would like to move that a collection be taken in the present case. This was agreed to and a sum of 22s. was realised.

The following new members were elected: Messrs. A. E. Harrison, South Kirkby; Donald Barrett, Pontefract; J. R. Stanger, J. S. Robson and E. Kettell, of Rotherham.

The President then reminded the members that the Snowdon Dinner was due to be held at York in October, pointing out that an endeavour would be made to arrange it on October 14th.

After the meeting, further ringing took place, but most of those present availed themselves of the opportunity of spending a social hour at the Royal Hotel, where Mr. C. D. Potter had engaged a room, and, in the absence of his father, who was still in hospital, Mr. Potter, jun., was present to welcome them. A delightful evening was spent and handbells were brought into use. Mr. Potter, jun., in his welcome, said how his father would have enjoyed being with them that night. He was glad to say that he was progressing as well as could be expected, and he would give him a full report of the proceedings at Barnsley.

Several members voiced their appreciation of the kindness extended to them by Mr. Potter over a long period, and asked Mr. Potter, jun., to convey to his father their thanks for his very kind thought on this occasion.

(Continued in next column.)

WINCHESTER GUILD'S DIAMOND JUBILEE

THE FOUNDER OF THE SOCIETY.

To-morrow, when the annual meeting is held at Ryde, Isle of Wight, the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild will celebrate the diamond jubilee of its foundation.

In the late 'seventies,' when 'belfry reform' was being much discussed and guilds and associations were being formed in various parts of the country to promote change ringing, a greater recognition of the belfry as a part of the church and the services rendered by the ringers as a contribution to church work, the Rev. Arthur Du Boulay Hill, then a master at Winchester College, took up the cause in the diocese of Winchester and, with Canon Madge, began to enlist interest in the movement. The diocese of Winchester was a vast one in those days. It covered Hampshire, the Isle of Wight and a considerable portion of Surrey, but change ringers were few and far between.



THE LATE REV. A. DU B. HILL.

On June 26th, 1879, the Winchester Diocesan Guild was founded at a meeting held at Basingstoke, and the Rev. A. Du Boulay Hill became the first hon. secretary. He filled this office for two years, and those who have since served the Guild in this capacity have been the Rev. H. A. Spyers 1881-1890, the Rev. R. C. M. Harvey 1890-1896, the Rev. C. E. Matthews 1896-1902, the Rev. E. W. Carpenter 1902-1906, the Rev. C. W. Scott 1906-1908, the Rev. W. E. Colchester 1908-1912, Mr. G. Williams 1912-1919, the Rev. Sir John Herschel 1919-1921, the Rev. C. N. Wood 1921-1923, Mr. G. Pullinger 1923-1930, and Mr. F. W. Rogers hon. secretary since 1930.

The first peal by the Guild was not rung until December 27th, 1881. This was Grandsire Triples at S. Nicolas', Guildford, and it was more than two years later before the next was scored. This was at Soberton, on January 17th, 1884, and was the first peal by the present Master, Mr. George Williams, who is, we believe, the oldest surviving member of the Guild. He was elected on February 25th, 1880.

The founder of the Guild, the Rev. A. Du Boulay Hill, passed away only last October at the venerable age of 88 years, having lived in retirement at Dudswell. He was the eldest son of the Rev. G. Hill, who was for 25 years Vicar of St. Winnow, Cornwall. Educated at Winchester, and Magdalen College, Oxford, the Rev. A. du B. Hill was assistant master at Winchester College, and afterwards Vicar of Downton, Salisbury, from 1882 to 1898, and Rector of East Bridgford, Notts, from 1898 to 1927.

He was a man of great scholarly attainments and an historian. His keen interest in bells and ringing was maintained throughout his long life Wherever he went he taught bands of young ringers, while his interest in antiquarian matters led him to investigate the bells of Winchester and Hampshire, and he has left an interesting note-book on the bells of the county, in which he has copied inscriptions and sketched the ancient stamps and lettering used by the old founders This book, it is noted on the fly leaf, was begun in 1877. This note-book and another on bells and bellringing generally have been handed by his sister to the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(Continued from previous column.)

SECRETARIAL CONTINUITY.

VALUE OF THE PERSONAL TOUCH.

The sudden change of the tower for the annual meeting of the North Bucks Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild did not appear to deprive the ringers of the delight which has now been seen in these gatherings for more than 20 years. Clearly someone was at fault, and the writer of this report regrets that no sorrow was expressed. The secretary, however, has actively held his position for 24 years; being in touch personally with the clergy and the leaders for so many years he carried the responsibility for the sudden change by himself and was successful.

At the business meeting after tea the Rev. J. P. Taylor, Vicar of Hanslope, took the chair. He was re-elected; knowing of the quick work of the secretary, Mr. W. Sear, in keeping this annual meeting on the date appointed, June 3rd, and of the regular attention to detail which has been building up this branch for 24 years under Mr. W. Sear, the Chairman urged everyone to appoint him for another year in spite of his reiteration that he would resign. Mr. Sear at last gave way, and Mr. R. Howson, the leader of Newport Pagnell belfry, was appointed assistant secretary.

For the last few years it has been known to several ringers that Mr. Sear, owing to pressure of responsible work, installing electric signals on the L.M.S. on a long stretch of railway line, has wished that someone would take his place as the secretary. But it was one of his own fellow-ringers at Bletchley who asked the ringers to remember that it was only one year more to complete the '25 years.'

Perhaps it was only to save the time of the ringers from the belfry that no one spoke of the advisability of a successor working as an assistant under a secretary of a ringers' guild or association before taking the full responsibility, especially after a secretariat of 24 years. Without the personal contact, during a change of officials, the success of whose work depends on the relations of a secretary with leaders of various sorts of belfries, there is something lost. A new secretary has a different character, and his way of working must be different, however hard he may try to do the same as his predecessor; if he can work under him for awhile, he can learn the way of approaching the leaders and how to inquire of their methods. And during the conversation aside at the meetings a secretary can inform his successor of the methods by which he has been trying to revive the interest where it has been diminishing and to get a belfry opened for new young ringers to learn with a company of old ringers who are used to one another and do not wish to be used to any more.

The secretary reported that there were 213 ringing members, 15 honorary members and 27 towers in North Bucks in union with the Guild. The financial position is good, the branch having a balance of £13 14s. 3d. in hand and £10 invested.

A grant of one guinea was voted for the Guild Restoration Fund.

The meetings in Newport Pagnell Deanery were considered satisfactory, and the branch agreed to continue to bear the cost of postage and notices.

Fifty ringers attended from the towers at Bletchley, Bradwell, Hanslope, Milton Keynes, Newport Pagnell, Olney, Sympson, Stoke Goldington, Stony Stratford, Weston Underwood, among whom a few were visitors from the North Berkshire Branch of the Guild and from the Bedfordshire Association.

ACTIVITIES IN HOBART.

The members of the Holy Trinity Association, Hobart, Tasmania, recently celebrated the 82nd birthday anniversary of the Very Rev. A. R. Rivers, who has been Dean of Hobart for 19 years. The bells of St. David's Cathedral were rung at noon, Holy Trinity ringers being assisted by Mr. J. Roper, of St. Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne.

Afterwards the Dean entertained the party to refreshments at the Deanery.

After the usual practice of the association on May 2nd the members were entertained to a supper party, at the invitation of Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Pedder, at their home, Sherbourne, New Town. The members, old and new, were introduced to the host and hostess by the hon. secretary (Mr. R. Wilson).

During the evening 120 changes of Doubles were rung on handbells in honour of Mr. and Mrs. Pedder and family, and after supper appropriate speeches were made by the president (the Ven. Archdeacon Blackwood), the Master Ringer and others.

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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.

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

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

MEDBOURNE, MARKET HARBOROUGH, LEICS.—The ring of five bells, which has been restored by John Taylor and Co., will be re-dedicated on Saturday, July 1st, at 2.30 p.m. Garden fete after service.

LADIES' GUILD (Southern District, Annual Meeting) AND GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A joint meeting will be held at Shere on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meetings. All members and visitors welcome.—Miss H. F. Mills and W. F. J. Cope, Hon. Secs.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—North-East Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bradninch on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. A large attendance is hoped for.—R. Harris, Hon. Sec., Park, Silverton, near Exeter.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held at Whalley on Saturday, July 1st. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members cordially invited.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Sutton Coldfield, on Saturday, July 1st. Bells available at 3.30 p.m. Tea at 5.15 p.m., to be followed by business meeting.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham 11.

LADIES' GUILD.—London District.—The annual district meeting will be held at St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, on Saturday, July 1st. Bells from 3.30. Service 5.30. Tea (1s. per head) at 6 o'clock in the historic old coaching house, The George, Borough High Street, the only galleried inn now left in London. Business meeting to follow.—I. R. Housden, 20, Fairwood Court, Fairlop Road, E.11. Tel. LEYtonstone 3850.

LADIES' GUILD.—North Midland Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Andrew's, Derby, on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Gentlemen cordially invited.—A. Richardson, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—The next meeting will be held at Ripley on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Methods for special attention, Treble Bob and Double Norwich. A cordial invitation extended to all ringers to try this splendid peal.—Wm. Lancaster, 83, Albert Road, Chaddesden, Derby.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Next meeting will be held at St. Luke's Church, Heywood, on July 1st. Bells available from 2.45 to 9 p.m. All welcome. Your presence will be appreciated.—I. Kay, Sec.

SURREY ASSOCIATION (Southern District) AND EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—A joint meeting of the above will be held at Horley (8 bells) on Saturday, July 1st. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m. All ringers are welcome.—H. Hancock and B. Saunders, Hon. Secs.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Yeovil on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. The special business meeting in connection with the proposed alterations to rules will next take place, and will be followed by the general meeting. The towers at East Coker (8), West Coker (8), Preston (6) and Hardington Mandeville (6) will be open to members after the meeting.—J. T. Dyke, Chilcompton, Bath.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—The 60th annual meeting will be held at Ryde, Isle of Wight, on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (8) available from 1.30 to 3.45, also Brading (8) from 1.30 to 3.30 p.m. Service in All Saints', Ryde, at 4 p.m., with address by the Lord Bishop of Portsmouth. Business meeting after tea. Both towers open for further ringing in the evening. A good attendance is requested, and all ringers will be welcome.—F. W. Rogers, Hon. Gen. Sec., 52, Samuel Road, Portsmouth.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chester Branch.—summer meeting will be held at Christleton on Saturday, July 1st. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30.—J. W. Clarke, Mollington, Chester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—The branch annual meeting will be held at St. James' Church, Barrow-in-Furness, on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m., meeting after. Subscriptions due. Would those requiring tea, please notify Mr. J. E. Burles, 2, Rand Villas, North Scale, Walney?—N. M. Newby, Sec.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—A meeting will be held at Hilgay on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (8) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. Please try to be present.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Southern Division will be held at Twineham on Saturday, July 1st. Tower open 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea, by kind invitation, 5 p.m. Half rail fare (maximum 1s. 6d.) allowed to members.—S. E. Armstrong, Hon. Div. Sec., 70, Hollingbury Park Avenue, Brighton 6.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division).—A meeting will be held at Lower Beeding on Saturday, July 1st. Tower open 3 p.m., service and meeting to follow. Come and try these Belgian bells.—O. Sippetts, 10, Three Bridges Road, Crawley.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District).—Please note that the next meeting is at Lockington on Saturday, July 1st (not June 24th as arranged). Bells available 3 p.m. Tea and meeting at 5 p.m. All members and friends cordially invited.—A. E. Rowley, Hon Sec., Penistone Street, Ibstock.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Northenden on Saturday, July 1st. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. For tea, please advise Mr. F. Brickill, 25, Wythenshawe Road, Northenden. All welcome.—C. K. Lewis, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Parbold, on Saturday, July 1st. Bells available from 3 p.m.—S. Forshaw, 55, Poolstock, Wigan.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Service ringing, St. Clement Danes, Strand, July 2nd, 10 a.m. Practices, St. Clement Danes, July 3rd, 6.45 p.m., followed by quarterly meeting at 8.15 p.m., and 17th and 31st at 7.30 p.m.; St. Mary's, Lambeth, August 1st, 8 p.m.—T. W. Taffender, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Practices for July: *St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, 4th; St. Magnus-the-Martyr, 6th and 20th; St. Giles', Cripplegate, 11th; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 13th; *St. Paul's Cathedral, 18th; Southwark Cathedral, 25th; St. Clement Danes, 27th; all at 7.30 p.m. * Business meeting afterwards.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wednesday Afternoon Guild.—The next meeting will be held at SS. James' and Basil's, Fenham, Newcastle. Bells available at 3 p.m. until 5 p.m., and those at St. John's, Grainger Street (8), at 6 p.m. until 7.30 p.m., on Wednesday, July 5th. All are welcome.—Margaret A. P. Bertie, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—A summer meeting will be held at Chislehurst on Saturday, July 8th. Both towers will be available for ringing from 3 p.m. Names for tea to be sent to Mr. T. Groombridge, 35, Albany Road, by July 4th.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Summer Festival meeting at Haslemere, on Saturday, July 8th. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea (1s. each) in the Schools at 5.15 p.m. Further ringing until 9 p.m. It is essential that numbers for tea should be sent to Mr. E. J. Ayliffe, Woolmer Croft, Critchmere Hill, Haslemere, by July 4th.—G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec., East Clandon, near Guildford.

LADIES' GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at Ipswich on Saturday, July 8th. The following towers will be open from 2.30: St. Mary-le-Tower (12), St. Margaret's (8), St. Matthew's (6), St. Clement's (6), and St. Lawrence (5). Service in St. Mary-le-Tower Church at 4.30 p.m. Tea at the Oriental Cafe, Westgate Street, at 5.15 p.m. (1s. per head), followed by business meeting. It is particularly requested that all members and friends requiring tea should send their names to Miss Sylvia Bowyer, 32, Gatacre Road, Ipswich, by Saturday, July 1st.—E. K. Fletcher, Hon. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Eastrington on Saturday, July 8th Bells (6) will be available from two o'clock. Short service at 4.30 p.m. Tea, 1s. per head, in Parochial Hall, followed by business meeting. Those requiring tea, please advise Mr. W. N. Hains, Bennett Lodge, Eastrington, near Howden, East Yorkshire, by Wednesday, July 5th. All welcome.—H. S. Morley, Dis. Sec., 5, Ebor Street, Selby.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Caldicot on Saturday, July 8th. Bells (8) available from 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow.—J. W. Jones, Hon. Sec., 94, Alteryn View, Newport, Mon.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Macclesfield Branch.—A ringing meeting will be held at Congleton, St. Peter's, on July 8th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. If tea is required, kindly advise Mr. A. Slater, 10, Lower Park Street, Congleton, by Wednesday, July 5th.—Jack Tipper, Hon. Branch Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Rayleigh on Saturday, July 8th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. The presentation to the late district secretary will be made at this meeting, and it is hoped that every tower in the district will be represented. Will those intending to be present please advise me by Wednesday, July 5th?—J. H. Crampion, Dis. Sec., 7, Cedar Avenue, Chadwell Heath.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Banbury District.—Annual meeting at Banbury on Saturday, July 8th. Bells (10) from 2.30. Service 4 o'clock. Tea and business meeting at White Horse Hotel. Other towers open if required during the evening. Please notify for tea.—E. Pearson, Hon. Dis Sec., Adderbury West, Banbury.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—Half-yearly meeting at West Malling, on Saturday, July 8th. Tower open at 3. Service 5, followed by tea and business meeting. Half travelling expenses up to 2s. will be paid to members at this meeting. Members wishing to be present at tea please notify me by not later than July 5th.—R. G. Rayfield, Hon. Dis., Sec., Downsview, Spring Lane, Ightham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, Didsbury, on Saturday, July 8th. Tower open 6 o'clock. Meeting in the belfry at 7.30. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—J. H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Frome and Midsomer Norton Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Paulton on Saturday, July 8th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5 p.m.—E. H. Nash, Hon. Sec., Mells.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Central Branch.—A meeting will be held at Fordham, near Ely, Cambs, on Saturday, July 8th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Service if arranged. Please advise Mr. J. W. Pickett, School House, Fordham, Cambs, number for tea. A good company is hoped for.—F. Warrington and A. R. Paul, Dis. Secs.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The summer meeting will be held in Morpeth on Saturday, July 8th, when the bells of the Watch Tower will be available during the afternoon and evening. Tea will be available at Oliver's Cafe, Bridge Street, at 1s. 3d. per head, at 5 p.m., and requirements should reach me by Wednesday, July 5th, at latest.—Roland Park, Hon. Sec., 23, Oaklands Terrace, Darlington.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Sempringham Abbey, on Saturday, July 8th. Bells recently augmented to six, will be available from 2 to 9 p.m. Service 4.15, followed by tea and business meeting at the School, Pointon. Tea will be provided for those who notify, by Wednesday previous, Mr. J. T. Rolt, Pointon, Sleaford.—C. T. H. Bradley, Hon. Sec., Folkingham, Lincs.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Offley, July 8th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.45, followed by tea and business meeting. Subscriptions are due. Look up Double Oxford and London Surprise Minor. Please notify me for tea by July 5th.—R. T. Newman, 36, Salisbury Road, Baldock.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Halewood on Saturday, July 8th. Tower will be open from 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea will be provided for a nominal charge. All those intending to be present are requested to inform Mr. J. Robinson, 3, Rock Hill Road, Woolton, Liverpool, not later than Thursday, July 6th.—G. R. Newton, Branch Sec.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The annual shield contest will be held at Kirkthorpe, near Wakefield, on Saturday, July 8th. Draw 2.45 p.m. Ringing to commence 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Those requiring tea, please notify Mr. W. Riley, 12, Woodland Avenue, Kirkthorpe, near Wakefield, by Wednesday, July 5th.—D. Smith, Rock Cottages, Shafton, near Barnsley.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Guilsborough Branch.—Special meeting will be held at Theddingworth (5 bells) on Saturday, July 8th. Usual arrangements.—H. H. Shrives, Hon. Branch Sec., The Mill, Long Buckby, Rugby.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Helmshore on Saturday, July 8th. Bells ready at 3.30. A good attendance is requested. Everybody welcome. You can't go wrong here. The local lads can ring 'Owt.'—J. Porter, Hon. Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting of this district will be held at Bletsoe on Saturday, July 8th. Bells (8) ready from 3 p.m. Tea at 5. Milton bells not available. You will be very welcome.—Frank C. Tysoe, Dis. Sec., 10, Grange Road, Bromham, Bedford.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Note: The next meeting will be held at Norton Church (8 bells) on Saturday, July 8th. For tea, please notify Mr. Wm. Biggin, Mangerhay, Norton, near Sheffield.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 13, St. Ronans Road, Sheffield 7.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—The next meeting will be held at Little Waltham on Saturday, July 15th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting after. Will those requiring tea please let me know by Wednesday, July 12th?—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Upper Arbour Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford.

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OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual festival will be held at Oxford on Saturday, July 15th. Service in Cathedral at 11.15 a.m. Preacher, Rev. J. K. E. O'Malley (Rector of Sandhurst, Berks). Business meeting in Chapter House immediately after service. Dinner in Christ Church Hall at 1.30 p.m. Tickets 2s. each to members, 3s. each to non-members. All applications for tickets, accompanied by remittance, must reach general secretary not later than Wednesday, July 12th, after which date the business will be in the hands of the caterers. A collection will be taken at the service for the Guild Restoration Fund.—R. T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Basingstoke District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Silchester on Saturday, July 15th (not 8th). Bells available 2.30. Service 4. Tea and business meeting follow. All requiring tea, please notify by July 12th, to Mr. W. Cottrell, Chitty Farm, Mortimer West, Reading.—J. G. Stilwell, Hon. Dis. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—A great gathering is expected at Penshurst on Saturday, July 15th. The beautiful gardens of Penshurst Place, and the Rectory, will be open to ringers, by kind permission of Lord de Isle and Dudley, and the Rev. P. H. Turnbull. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea in the Village Hall at 1s. 3d. a head, followed by a short business meeting. Special attention paid to learners at all meetings. Please notify me of intention to attend by Tuesday, July 11th.—Alec. E. Richardson, Laurel Cottage, Victoria Road, Southborough.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A ringers' garden party will be held at Acton on July 15th, by kind invitation of the Rector. Bells available from 3 p.m. and in the evening. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea in the Rectory gardens, at the invitation of the Rector, followed by games for those who prefer this to ringing. Church of St. Mary (8 bells, tenor 14 cwt.). A large attendance is hoped for. Visitors and friends from other districts will be welcomed. Names to the undersigned not later than July 13th. Reports available. Subscriptions due.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec.

ABBOTS LANGLEY (HERTS).—Six bells. Meeting, Saturday, July 22nd. Arrangements in next issue.—C. H. Horton, Herts Association.

APARTMENTS.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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Founders
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THE COST OF THE COUNCIL.

It would be interesting to know exactly what it costs to hold a meeting of the Central Council. We do not mean by that how much comes out of the coffers of the Council itself—that is a very modest sum—but what the associations and individuals pay in the aggregate by way of expenses, and pay cheerfully, knowing that the Council is the central link which binds the Exercise together. As far as it is possible the Council meetings are spread about the country, but while, in turn, some each year have a meeting near at hand, a large proportion of associations must of necessity send their representatives a long distance. Not infrequently an absence from home of at least two and sometimes three days is involved. This year 117 members attended the meeting and if the individual railway fares averaged only ten shillings, which we think is a low estimate, there is nearly £60. Then there are hotel expenses, which, when the meeting is in London with a considerable number of members within the day's reach of their homes, cannot be much less a total, while it may well be a good deal more when the meeting is held in one or other of the extreme provincial centres. Fortunate is the association whose representatives are able and good enough to pay their own expenses upon these distant visits, although in principle it would, perhaps, be well if all the representative members charged their expenses to their respective societies. The honorary members, most of whom hold their seats for the work they do for the Council, have the privilege of paying their own expenses—they have no one but themselves to whom to send the account—but, like the associations who collectively pay the outgoings of their representatives, they cheerfully foot the bill.

The Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild discussed the question of their representatives' expenses at the annual meeting last Saturday, and the attitude of the members was typical of that which from time to time shows itself in other associations. They were prepared to make reasonable provision for these expenses and not a word was said against this annual charge upon the funds, for the value of the work which is done by the Council in many directions is now well recognised by those who give the matter serious thought. The Council has brought about a co-ordination of ideas; has welded the associations together and encouraged progress in the art in a way which would otherwise have been impossible. Without some such body as the Council the associations would be just so many units, each working for its own ends; and there would have been no body of sufficient influence or standing to enlist the services of those

(Continued on page 426.)

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enthusiastic men who have been and still are working in the name of the Council to maintain the status to which ringers have been lifted, to keep a watchful eye for any attempt to interfere with the legitimate use of bells, and to foster the advance of the art by pooling their knowledge and making it available for all who are interested. Reckoned in pounds, shillings and pence the cost of a Council meeting may, in the aggregate, seem high, but the results spread over the years have justified it and this is being more and more realised by the people who, in the long run, have to pay the piper.

TEN BELL PEALS.

NORWICH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, June 28, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER MANCROFT,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 37 cwt. 3 qr. 15 lb. in C.

MISS G. E. M. TUNNADINE *Treble*		GEORGE SAYER	6
GEORGE MAYERS	2	BERTIE J. HOWCBIN	7
ALBERT G. WARNES	3	GEORGE BAILEY	8
*NORMAN V. HARDING ...	4	WILLIAM G. MEYERS	9
WALTER C. MEDLER	5	NOLAN GOLDEN	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal of Bob Royal.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Friday, June 30, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CLEMENT DANES, STRAND,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

ERNEST G. FENN	*Treble*	R. CONGREVE PRIDGEON ...	6
HARRY HOSKINS	2	HENRY G. MILES	7
HORACE BELCHER	3	ALFRED B. PECK	8
HERBERT LANGDON	4	GEORGE W. DEBENHAM ..	9
GEORGE W. CECIL	5	FRANK E. DARBY	*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by HERBERT LANGDON.

Rung with the bells half-muffled in affectionate memory of Willie Roughton and Archibald F. Harris, both members, for many years, of the society.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

HANBURY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation).

Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 15 lb. in G.

ERNEST WILSON	*Treble*	WILLIAM RANFORD	5
ALLEN MORGAN	2	REGINALD WOODYATT	6
GEORGE E. LARGE	3	THOMAS W. LEWIS	7
JAMES WOODYATT	4	JAMES F. NASH	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE.

The first peal on the recast bells.

ALDERSHOT, HAMPSHIRE.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL-THE-ARCHANGEL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 8¼ cwt.

*WILLIAM G. CHALLEN	*Treble*	CHARLES W. DENYER ...	5
THOMAS E. DENYER	2	*E. JACK AMOS	6
*MISS EDNA C. SOUTHEY ...	3	PERCIVAL L. ELDRIDGE ...	7
*RONALD H. KENWARD ...	4	WILLIAM H. VIGGERS	*Tenor*

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by WILLIAM H. VIGGERS.

* First peal in the method. First peal as conductor. Rung in honour of the laying of the foundation stone of the new Aldershot Church Senior School by the Right Hon. Viscount Wolmer, P.C., M.P.

GRAVESEND, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,
A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 18½ cwt.

GEORGE J. BUTCHER ...	...*Treble*	PHILLIP A. CORBY	5
EDWIN A. BARNETT	2	ERNEST MORRIS	6
FREDERICK J. CULLUM ...	3	HARRY PARKES	7
HARRY HOSKINS	4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No 146). Conducted by P. A. CORBY.
A wedding anniversary peal for Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Morris.

LONDON.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST MARY MAGDALENE, WOOLWICH,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt.

FRANCIS D. BISHOP ...	...*Treble*	ERNEST H. OXENHAM	5
ALFRED E. BARKER	2	THOMAS H. FRANCIS	6
DEREK M. SHARP	3	HARRY HOVERD	7
NORMAN H. MANNING ...	4	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. F. WILLIAMS. Conducted by D. M SHARP.
Arranged and rung as a birthday compliment to Alfred E. Barker, Harry Hoverd and Derek M. Sharp.

PULHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr 22 lb.

GEORGE W. HOWLETT	...*Treble*	FREDERICK C GUNTON ...	5
STANLEY W. COPLING	2	CHARLES W. LOOME	6
CHARLES BAKER	3	RUSSELL RICHES	7
FREDERICK ROOPE	4	ERNEST WHITING	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by ERNEST WHITING.

BROUGHTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sunday, June 25, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb.

*THOMAS PRICE	...*Treble*	JOHN WORTH	5
*FREDERICK PRICE	2	EDWARD V. RODENHURST	6
C. KENNETH LEWIS	3	ALBERT FORD	7
WILLIAM J. CHESTER ..	4	†ARTHUR PRITCHARD ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. H. CROSS. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.
* First peal in the method. † First peal in the method away from the treble. First peal in the method on the bells.

HALLOW, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(WESTERN BRANCH.)
On Sunday, June 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PHILIP AND JAMES,
A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
J. J. PARKER'S SIX-PART (No. 13 C.C.C.). Tenor 21½ cwt.

SIDNEY T. HOLT ...	...*Treble*	*LEONARD C. CLAY	5
ALLEN MORGAN	2	*THOMAS G. GREEN	6
GEORGE E. LARGE	3	THOMAS W. LEWIS	7
*HORACE HOUGH	4	*CHRIS. F. BLISSETT ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE.
* First peal in the method. The quarterly peal for the Western Branch.

PENKRIDGE, STAFFS.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Monday, June 26, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 16 cwt.

*EDWARD VAUGHAN	...*Treble*	ALBERT G. RICHARDS ...	5
RICHARD J. WARRILOW ...	2	HOWARD HOWELL	6
MAURICE G. TURNER ...	3	BARNABAS G. KEY	7
ROGER HAWKSWORTH ...	4	*R. G. W. BROUGHTON	...*Tenor*

Conducted by B. G. KEY.
* First peal.

BRECON, BRECKNOCKSHIRE.
THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sunday, June 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 18 cwt.

*JOHN L. BLOXHAM ...	...*Treble*	DAVID H. BENNETT	5
GEORGE POPNELL	2	ERNEST STITCH	6
JOHN T. WILLIAMS	3	LESLIE EVANS	7
TREVOR M. RODERICK ...	4	JAMES P. HYETT	...*Tenor*

Conducted by E. STITCH.
* First peal of Triples and first attempt. Rung as a farewell to Mr. Charles Powell, a ringer at St. Mary's and treasurer of the Guild; also in honour of the preferment to the Right Rev. Dr. John Morgan, Bishop of the diocese and president of the Guild, to the See of Llandaff.

BRADFORD-ON-AVON, WILTS.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Monday, June 26, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt.

ALFRED BOYCE	...*Treble*	ERNEST PARKER	5
SAMUEL J. HECTOR	2	FRANK A. PENN	6
REGINALD H. NEWTON ...	3	WILLIAM R. BAXTER	7
GILBERT H. HARDING	4	SIDNEY PRESCOTT ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GILBERT H. HARDING.
A 'welcome home' peal to their Majesties the King and Queen after their recent tour.

BOREHAM, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, June 27, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt. 19 lb.

*KENNETH G. LAST ...	...*Treble*	DENNIS F. GRINHAM	5
†SIDNEY G. DORKING	2	†LEWELLYN P. JOSLIN ...	6
ARTHUR H. EVERETT ...	3	WALTER G. DORKING ...	7
NORMAN F. GRINHAM ...	4	CHRISTOPHER JAGGARD	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by A. H. EVERETT.
* First peal. † First peal 'inside' in the method.

SLAUGHAM, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, June 28, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.

JOHN S. GOLDSMITH ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM T. BEESON	5
RAYMOND OVERY	2	NELSON ELLIOTT	6
KENNETH SNELLING	3	C. ERNEST SMITH	7
*ERNEST J. AYLIFFE	4	OLIVER SIPPETTS	...*Tenor*

Composed by REV. H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by O. SIPPETTS.
* First peal in the method. The conductor's 100th peal of London Surprise.

NOTTINGHAM.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, June 29, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

*HAROLD PARFREMENT	...*Treble*	TOM CLARKE	5
ROGER D. ST. JOHN SMITH	2	J. ALFRED BARRETT	6
FRANK BRADLEY	3	WALTER NICHOLS	7
ALEX HUTCHISON	4	FREDERICK A. SALTER ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by W. E. BASON. Conducted by FREDERICK A. SALTER.
* First peal of Major at first attempt. Rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. Frank Brown, a member and Sunday service ringer of the above church, and of Mr. Bason's 200 peals for the Norwich Association.

BELL ROPES
MADE FROM ITALIAN HEMP, OR ITALIAN FLAX.
SOFT AND PLIABLE IN HAND. ALL ROPES SENT CARRIAGE PAID AND ON APPROVAL.
Cheap Quotations. Established 150 years. 'Phone 203.
DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

PROBUS, CORNWALL.
THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wednesday, June 28, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF SS. PROBUS AND GRACE,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 20 cwt. 11 lb.

MISS E. JESSIE C. ANGWIN	*Treble*	SIDNEY O'SHAUGHNESSY ...	5
H. FREDERICK MYERS... ...	2	G. HARRY MYERS...	6
THOMAS G. MYERS	3	A. WILLIAM MYERS	7
REV. ARTHUR S. ROBERTS...	4	R. GORDON CROSS ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by THOMAS G. MYERS.

The first peal on the bells.

EYNSFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, June 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
WASHBROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 12 cwt.

GEORGE W. FOGDEN...	*Treble*	ARTHUR S. RICHARDS	5
NORMAN H. MANNING ...	2	JOHN O. WELLER...	6
DEREK M. SHARP	3	PHILIP A. CORBY	7
*MRS. ADA M. RAWLINGS ...	4	EDMUND MOUNTER ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by P. A. CORBY.

* First peal on eight bells and in the method. First peal in the method as conductor.

CRAYFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, June 30, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,
A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 12¾ cwt.

ERNEST H. OXENHAM ...	*Treble*	*NORMAN H. MANNING ...	5
HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ...	2	*JOHN O. WELLER	6
DEREK M. SHARP...	3	PHILIP A. CORBY	7
EDWIN A. BARNETT	4	HARRY HOVERD	*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by D. M. SHARP.

* First attempt for a peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor.

STAINES, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, July 1, 1939, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, BRISTOL, CAMBRIDGE AND SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

EDWARD LANKESTER ...	*Treble*	*PHILIP A. CORBY	5
GEORGE M. KILBY	2	ERNEST C. S. TURNER ...	6
*MISS EDNA F. BEDFORD ...	3	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE ...	7
CECIL C. PAYNE	4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	*Tenor*

Composed by REV. H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by J. C. E. SIMPSON

* First peal of Spliced Surprise. First peal of Spliced Surprise in four methods as conductor. The peal contained 2,944 London, 608 Bristol and 1,472 mixed Cambridge and Superlative, with 111 changes of method. Rung in honour of the wedding of the Rev. A. S. Roberts and Miss E. J. C. Angwin, which took place at Truro Cathedral the same day.

NORWICH.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 1, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL-AT-COSLANY,
A PEAL OF SPLICED PLAIN BOB, FULBECK BOB, DOUBLE BOB AND DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;
Tenor 14½ cwt. in F

MISS G. E. M. TENNADINE	*Treble*	*WILLIAM E. BASON	5
NOLAN GOLDEN	2	HENRY TOOKE	6
GEORGE MAYERS	3	GEORGE SAYER	7
*NORMAN V. HARDING ...	4	†BERTIE J. HOWCHIN ...	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal of Spliced Major. † First peal of Spliced Major in four methods. First spliced peal on the bells and first of these four methods by the association.

SIX BELL PEALS.

LEADENHAM, LINCS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SWITHIN,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven extents in 102 methods, viz.:—

1. Skipton, Chepstow, Fotheringay, Balmoral, Knutsford, Rostherne, Bogedone, Wilmslow, Ely Delight, Nelson Treble Bob, Hull and Bourne Surprise.
2. Blaxhall, Mitcham, Stanhoe, Stratton, Stonehouse, Ringstead, Hayes, Sharnbrook, Finchley, Ellacombe, Buxton, Wordsley, Lamberhurst, Harmondsworth, Bramfield Alliance, Crayford Little Court and Little Bob.
3. Langton, Candlesby, Alford, Tattershall, Benington, Freiston, Frampton, Butterwick, Poynton, Chelford; Denton, Sutton, Leake, Wrangle Alliance, and Bastow Little Court.
4. Bicker, Gedney, Gumby, Spilsby, Wainfleet, Surfleet, Spalding, Pinchbeck, Sibsey, Gosberton Alliance, and Kent Little Court.
5. Charlwood, Neasden, St. Albans, Wragby, Newdigate, Old Oxford, College Bob IV., Willesden, Braintree, Humber, Marple, Taxal, Clarence, Elston Delight and Morning Star Treble Bob.
6. Capel, Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston, Ockley, Duke of Norfolk, College Exercise, Norbury, Oxford Treble Bob, Carisbrooke, Wath, Donottar, and Pontefract Delight.
7. Windermere, Frodsham, Killarney, Horsmonden, Ennerdale, Cumberland, Lytham, Thelwall, London Bob, Double Oxford, Wavertree, Childwall, College, St. Clement's, Canterbury Pleasure, Fulbeck, Reverse Bob, Double Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 13 cwt. 9 lb.

FRANK LORD	*Treble*	JACK BRAY	4
MRS. J. BRAY	2	JACK L. MILLHOUSE	5
CHARLES MCGUINESS	3	GEORGE E. FEIRN ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE E. FEIRN.

One hundred and ninety changes of method. The greatest number of methods yet rung in seven true and complete extents.

IBSTOCK, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
(LOUGHBOROUGH DISTRICT.)
On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DENYS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two extents of Court Bob, two of Oxford Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt. (approx.).

*MISS E. IRIS ROWLEY	*Treble*	WILLIAM T. GOADBY	4
CECIL VERREY	2	A. RAYMOND TONKS	5
†HORACE O. OVER	3	ARTHUR E. ROWLEY ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by A. E. ROWLEY.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal of Minor. The ringer of the treble is only 13 years of age. The peal was arranged as a compliment to Mr. J. W. Hopkins on the occasion of his 86th birthday.

KEDINGTON, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Consisting of an extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Double Court, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

MRS. L. WRIGHT	*Treble*	*SAMUEL J. TWITCHETT ...	4
VICTOR MORLEY	2	LESLIE WRIGHT...	5
RALPH BIRD	3	ALAN R. ANDREWS ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.

* First peal in seven methods. First peal in seven methods on the bells.

MALINSLEE, SHROPSHIRE.
THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven different extents. Tenor 10 cwt.

*MISS P. FLETCHER ...	*Treble*	JOHN W. HUMPHRIES	4
E. DENNIS POOLE	2	ALBERT WOODVINE	5
WILLIAM SAUNDERS	3	ARTHUR PRITCHARD ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.

* First peal. Rung to celebrate the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. E. Griffiths, of Little Dawley.

WATH-ON-DEARNE, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)
On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of College Exercise, Kingston, London Scholars' Pleasure, Sandal, Snowdrop, Oxford and Kent. Tenor 13 cwt.

ARTHUR PANTHER ...	...*Treble*	GEORGE LORD	4
*FREDERICK NICHOLLS ...	2	ARTHUR GILL	5
WILLIE GREEN	3	DANIEL SMITH	...*Tenor*

Conducted by DANIEL SMITH.
* First peal and first attempt, and aged 14 years.

HORTON, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two 720's each of Surfleet, Beverley and Cambridge Surprise and one of Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 14 cwt.

KATHLEEN E. FLETCHER ...	*Treble*	GEORGE MARTIN	4
DOROTHY R. FLETCHER ...	2	*WALTER LEE	5
*REV. R. F. R. ROUTH ...	3	HARRY WINGROVE ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by H. WINGROVE.
* First peal of Minor in four methods.

SOMERLEYTON, SUFFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Double Oxford, Double Court, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, St. Clement's and Plain Bob Tenor 9½ cwt.

R. WILLIAM BARBER ..	...*Treble*	STANLEY W. GALL	4
*ERNEST BROWN	2	GODFREY G. WALPOLE ...	5
ROBERT A. WARMAN	3	DENIS A. BAYLES... ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by D. A. BAYLES.
* First peal.

KIRKBY-IN-FURNESS, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CUTHBERT,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, three 720's of Kent and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

ARTHUR STEDMAN ...	...*Treble*	FREDERICK H. CRAWLEY ...	4
*THOMAS TURNER	2	JOHN BAGNALL	5
JAMES E. BURLES	3	NICHOLAS M. NEWBY ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by N. M. NEWBY.
* First peal of Minor. First peal in three methods as conductor. Rung as a wedding compliment to the Rev. J. Arthur Briggs, curate of Norris Green, Liverpool, and of Avondale House, Kirkby-in-Furness, and Miss Winifred Nicholson, of Fazakerly, Liverpool.

HAPPISBURGH, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two extents of Kent Treble Bob, two of Oxford Treble Bob, and one each of Double Court, Double Oxford and Plain Bob.

EDWARD HOWES ...	...*Treble*	WALTER C. MEDLER... ...	4
*CHARLES A. FARROW ...	2	ERIC DURRANT	5
*JACK N. A. POMFREY ...	3	†FREDERICK W. LAWSON	...*Tenor*

Conducted by EDWARD HOWES.
* First peal in five methods. † First peal 'inside.'

J. A. TROLLOPE'S **'COLLEGE YOUTHS'**
A History of the Society
5/6 (post free) from
'THE RINGING WORLD' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

MATCHING, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 of Cambridge Surprise and two 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

EDWARD ROCHESTER ...	...*Treble*	LEWIS CORDELL	4
MRS. JOHN H. CRAMPION ...	2	WILLIAM WHEELER	5
STANLEY CLARK	3	JOHN H. CRAMPION ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN H. CRAMPION.

EATON BISHOP, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 six-scores, with 10 callings. Tenor 12 cwt.

NORMAN J. PERRY ...	...*Treble*	HARRY JOHNSON	4
TRACEY H. YOUNG	2	ALLAN COLCOMBE	5
A. JAMES YOUNG	3	HORACE D. WRIGHT ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by TRACEY H. YOUNG.

WORMINGFORD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, June 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF YORK SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven extents with different callings.

KENNETH G. SMITH ...	...*Treble*	ALEC M. GENERY	4
RONALD SUCKLING	2	ALBERT L. DIXEY	5
REGINALD G. SIMMONDS ...	3	RALPH BIRD	...*Tenor*

Conducted by RALPH BIRD.
First peal in the method by all. Arranged as a birthday compliment to R. Bird, R. Simmonds and Mr. V. Morley.

HOLME HALE, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, June 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Consisting of seven extents: (1) Fulbeck Bob; (2) Hereward Bob and Double Oxford; (3) Oxford Bob and St. Clement's; (4) Double and Single Court; (5) Plain and Double Bob; (6) Kent and Oxford Treble Bob; (7) Cambridge Surprise. Tenor 14 cwt. in E.

*LESLIE W. HOUGHTON	...*Treble*	WALLACE W. COUSINS ...	4
*NORMAN V. HARDING ...	2	CECIL V. EBBERSON	5
NOLAN GOLDEN	3	CLAUDE COUSINS	...*Tenor*

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.
* First peal in twelve Minor methods.

WROXHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 1, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Consisting of 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Double Court, Double Oxford, St. Clement's and Plain Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

C. FREDERICK SAYER ...	...*Treble*	GODFREY G. WALPOLE ...	4
R. WILLIAM BARBER	2	H. W. BARRETT	5
ROBERT A. WARMAN	3	G. BAILEY	...*Tenor*

Conducted by G. BAILEY.

HANDBELL PEAL.

ROTHERHAM, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, June 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
AT BIRKBY, DONCASTER ROAD,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

COLIN T. RYDER	1-2	HAROLD CHANT	5-6
ALBERT NASH	3-4	SYDNEY F. PALMER	7-8

Composed by C. CHARGE. Conducted by HAROLD CHANT.
First peal as a conductor 'in hand' and first peal in the method as conductor.
(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over.)

THE SPLICED MINOR RECORD.

NEARING THE LIMIT.



RINGERS OF THE RECORD PEAL.

Left to right (standing): C. McGuiness, J. L. Millhouse and F. Lord. (Seated): J. Bray, Mrs. J. Bray and G. E. Fairn (the conductor).

The details of the peal of Minor in 102 methods rung by the North Lincolnshire band at Leadenham on Saturday week are recorded elsewhere. Reference to this truly great performance was made in our leading article last week.

It was only a week or so earlier that the same band had rung a peal in 100 methods at Bassingham, but the addition to the record was not merely a question of adding two methods to what had been rung before.

The band had to learn twelve more methods to enable them to put up this performance and to drop one of the extents which had previously been rung, so that their task in carrying the total only two methods further was no easy one. The new 720 included nine Delight, one Treble Bob and two Surprise methods.

Last week we said that the limits of possibility in this direction had nearly been reached. The greatest number of methods that has yet been incorporated in seven true extents is 104, and, need we say, everyone will hope that this talented band will at no distant date complete their triumphs by ringing this peal.

The growth of the number of methods spliced into seven extents of Minor was shown in the list of peals published in our last issue, and to this has now to be added the 102 methods at Leadenham with 190 changes of method.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The report of the Lincolnshire band's great Minor peal certainly makes one sit up and notice, and it is a pity that the old stalwarts who struggled hard in the early days of splicing are not with us to see the result of their efforts.

I know that my former brother ringers at Norbury will be the first to give every credit to this performance, and, even though it appears that the record Spliced Minor peal must remain in Lincolnshire, neither I nor they will begrudge them the honour. I shall not be the only one to congratulate this band, and can only hope that many other Minor ringers will follow their example.

JOHN P. FIDLER,
Author of 'Method Splicing.'

The Bell Foundry, Loughborough.

THE ROYAL VISIT TO CANADA.

KING AND QUEEN'S APPRECIATION OF VICTORIA CATHEDRAL BELLS.

'Their Majesties had been informed before they left London that you had a very fine peal of bells in the Cathedral, and were particularly struck by the beauty of the bellringing while they were in Victoria. Will you please let the ringers know how much the King and Queen appreciated their efforts?'

This message was conveyed to the Dean of Victoria by the King's assistant private secretary, when their Majesties, having reached the farthest point of their great Canadian tour, began their homeward journey.

Their Majesties arrived at Victoria about 2 p.m. on Monday, May 29th, and as their vessel entered the harbour they heard the Cathedral bells. On Tuesday, May 30th, the bells were rung all day, and broadcast by the C.B.C. all over Canada and the N.B.C. over America just before and after the King's speech at 2 p.m. Their Majesties left on the following morning.

The bells 'filled the air with their welcoming peals during the whole time of the visit of the King and Queen and more than did their part in making the royal visit such a success,' said one writer (Col. H. T. Goodland), who added. 'These ringers should receive the greatest thanks of the citizens of Victoria, expressed in no measured terms.'

From Winnipeg Mr. Frederick Spence wrote to the Dean: 'I thought I would like to write to you to say how very much my wife and I enjoyed the broadcast from Victoria on the occasion of the visit of our King and Queen, and more particularly to hear your peal of bells. It reminded me of my old ringing days in Grappenhall Church—I believe you know that part of the country. Please convey my appreciation to the ringers for the part they took in the celebrations at Victoria. I do not know any of them, but hope to see them next year when I hope to come that way for holidays.'

Another correspondent from Ottawa wrote: 'Of course, the main outstanding particular thrill of the Victoria broadcast was the Cathedral bells. Believe me that touch of the old world was completely and utterly Victorian and no other city thought of welcoming with the bells in the old historic manner, and what bellringing! Mr. Izard should be most heartily congratulated for making possible the unique Victoria contribution to the royal welcome of all Canada!'

Mr. E. W. Izard, who was responsible for the erection of the bells and training most of the band at Victoria, was on his way back, with Mrs. Izard, from a visit to England, when the King and Queen were in the Far West, and was thus unable to take a personal part in the ringing, but his daughter was among those who rang. While in this country Mr. Izard rang his first peal, at Guildford Cathedral.

When Mr. and Mrs. Izard reached home on June 10th they, too, were welcomed by the ringing of Christ Church Cathedral bells.

A record of the bells of Christ Church Cathedral was heard in London recently at a meeting held in connection with the British Columbia and Yukon Church Aid Society, at which the retiring president (the Bishop of London) received £700 for the completion of the Winnington Ingram tower of the Cathedral.

ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD SOCIETY.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

Decision to Hold a Dinner.

The annual meeting of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford was held at Lichfield on Saturday, June 17th. The bells of St. Mary s and St. Michael's Churches were available during the afternoon and those of the Cathedral from 3 till 3.15, previous to the annual festival of Sunday School teachers, and again from 6 till 7 p.m. For some considerable period it has been the custom to have the use of the Cathedral bells in alternate years. This year it was not the 'turn,' but through having 'friends at court' a concession was made which was greatly appreciated by all. Great hopes are entertained that the ban has at last been lifted.

Tea was served at St. Mary's Parochial Hall, in Wade Street, by Mrs. Cresswell and her lady helpers, and 85 members and their friends enjoyed the meal.

At the general meeting which followed, the Ven. Archdeacon Hodson presided, supported by the Rev. — Cresswell, Vicar of St. Mary's, the Rev. O. H. Barker, L.Th., and Mr. H. Knight (hon. secretaries), Mr. B. G. Key (Ringing Master), etc.

The report and accounts were passed, the latter showing a deficit of £1 on the year's working, and were ordered to be printed.

The committee, in their report, said the attendances at the meetings held during the year were fairly good, viz., Lichfield 84, Shenstone 35, Bilston 40 and Cannock 42. At the latter place the members were kindly entertained to tea by the Rev. J. F. Foster, A.K.C. (Vicar). It was 51 years since the society held a meeting at Bilston, and hopes were entertained that good might come from the recent visit there, in the form of enrolling new members. During the year 24 new ringing members and 16 life members have been added to the list—an encouraging number of new recruits.

The number of peals rung during the year was 35 (an increase of five over the previous year's total), conducting having been shared by 14 members—the Ringing Master (Mr. B. G. Key) heading the list with eleven.

The peals of Yorkshire Surprise Major and Cambridge Surprise Royal—the first for the society—and six other peals, were rung by a band of visitors from various parts of England and from Dublin.

The committee congratulated Mr. Maurice G. Turner, of All Saints', West Bromwich, on his achievement of calling Holt's Original for his first peal on his 21st birthday. Another notable peal was one rung by grandfathers, one of the number being a great-grandfather.

The committee recorded their appreciation of the services of the hon. auditor, Mr. W. H. Evans, and concluded with their expression of regret at the loss, through death, of the following members: Mr. W. H. Jones, of Stafford; Mr. W. Russell, of Claverley; Mr. James H. Rowe, of Tettenhall.

On a motion by Mr. R. P. Brindley, the officers were re-elected and the places for the forthcoming meetings were selected as follows: September, at Brewood; January, All Saints', West Bromwich; April, Rugeley; and June, the annual, at Lichfield.

Messrs. B. Horton and H. Knight gave a brief summary of the business transacted at the Central Council meeting in London.

Mr. B. Key moved that a dinner should be arranged to take place in the late autumn or early winter. He pointed out that other associations had an annual dinner, and he could not see why one should not be tried for that society.

Other speakers supported the project, and the president gave his approval and hinted that he would like to be present, provided he was given sufficient notice so that it should not interfere with his many duties. On the motion being put to the meeting, it was unanimously agreed to.

A committee of four was formed to make the necessary arrangements, viz., Messrs. B. G. Key, A. Hingley, B. Horton and C. Wallater.

Several new members were enrolled, including Miss Cresswell (daughter of the Vicar of St. Mary's), she being the first lady ringer to join the Cathedral band.

A vote of thanks to Mrs. Cresswell for arranging and serving tea, and to the chairman for presiding, was moved by the Rev. C. H. Barker and carried with acclamation. This terminated an interesting and pleasant meeting.

A NEW TREBLE BELL.

On the evening of Wednesday, June 28th, a large congregation witnessed the dedication by the Bishop of Croydon of a treble bell recently installed by John Taylor and Co. to complete the ring of six bells at the Church of St. John the Baptist, West Wickham, Kent.

A splendid addition to the 17th century ring of five, the new bell is a gift of the Barron Bell Trust, while the cost of structural alterations in the tower and decorations in the ringing room was borne by the local band.

Visiting ringers, who attended from Beckenham, Penge, Hayes, Bromley and Bromley Common, were rewarded with a very fine address from the Bishop, and after the service rang various methods with the local band on the new six.

The West Wickham band are 'at home' each Wednesday at 8 p.m. to any ringer who would like to pay a visit.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE

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BELL ROPES MUFFLES, &c.

BELFRY GOSSIP.

An interesting figure at the diamond jubilee festival of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild at Ryde on Saturday was Mr. George H. Coombs, who is still hale and hearty at 96.

He began ringing over 50 years ago and kept it up until last year, when he retired because the belfry steps became too much for him. It was not the going up that troubled him, but the danger in coming down.

Mr. Coombs still looks after his own garden, and it is one of the best kept in Ryde. He works in it many hours a day, but, he confided to us, he has now to sit down a good bit in between whiles. Except for slight deafness, Mr. Coombs has all his faculties and is still an enthusiastic follower of football, but he admits he has had to give up playing.

Writing to the Rev. D. Railton, Rector of St. Nicholas', Liverpool, Miss Monica Heywood, of Claremont, Salford, sister of the late Sir Arthur Heywood, said: 'The account of my brother's peal being rung at St. Nicholas' Church as a "God speed" to the "Mauretania" was read to a birthday gathering of 35 of the Heywood family on Monday (June 19th), and we should like the ringers to be congratulated on their splendid achievement in ringing the 5,007 changes in 3½ hours.'

The practice night at St. Mary's, Banbury, has been changed from Wednesday to Thursday.

The marriage of the Rev. A. S. Roberts, now of Palmers Green, London, and Miss Jessie Angwin, of Truro, took place on Saturday in the Cornish city. In honour of the event a peal of Spliced Surprise Major was rung at Staines. Rather appropriate—if we may be permitted the flippancy. Another peal attempt at Edmonton was unfortunately lost.

The 'whole pull and stand' was rung at Southwark Cathedral on Tuesday of last week to the memory of the late Mr. Willie Roughton and the late Mr. Archibald F. Harris by the members of the Ancient Society of College Youths. Touches of Stedman Cinques were afterwards rung.

Her ringing friends will be pleased to learn that Mrs. Paul Field, of Stoke Wake, Blandford, returned home on Sunday, July 2nd, after exactly three months in hospital. Although she has made a miraculous recovery, it will be some time before she will be able to resume her normal routine.

The Vicar of Aldbourne, Wilts (the Rev. J. S. Elliott), thanks the anonymous sender of the photograph depicting one of Wells' old bells.

After the meeting of the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild at Ryde on Saturday, a pair of gentleman's kid gloves was found. The owner can have them by writing to Mr. B. J. Snow, 23, Daniel Street, Ryde.

'VISITORS' FRIGID RECEPTION.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The letter in the last issue of 'The Ringing World' from Messrs. H. G. Blanchard and N. G. Knee is rather puzzling to me, as quite recently I, too, called at Bridport on a Sunday evening, and my experience was exactly opposite to that described by your two correspondents. I met the ringers at the foot of the tower and received a very cordial welcome. On entering the belfry I was at once invited to ring, and even conduct, which I did. As I had never been into the tower on any previous occasion, it cannot be suggested that I received preferential treatment. After the ringing, Mr. Northover, whom I assume is the leader in the tower, made himself known to me and invited me to his home for refreshment. He also offered me the bells for a peal attempt, and promised that if I took a band to Bridport for this he would entertain us afterwards. This is the kind of 'frigid' treatment that I would like to see more of.

I feel it is only fair to the Bridport men that I should write this letter, and I feel sure that the visitors were themselves at fault in some way, or they would have had a similar experience to mine.

J. FRANK SMALLWOOD.

BRIDPORT SECRETARY'S EXPLANATION.

Dear Sir,—In reply to Messrs. H. G. Blanchard and N. G. Knee ('Ringers' Frigid Reception'), I have been a member of St. Mary's band for 45 years, 32 of which as hon. secretary. This is the first time in that period a charge of discourtesy has been levelled against us. The facts are as follows: The custom of the tower is to ring from 5.45 to 6 and from 6.3 to 6.23 for evensong.

Messrs. Blanchard and Knee came into the tower after the bells were going about 6.8. Two visitors who had come in *before* 6 were ringing, one of whom at his request was calling two extents of Morris' 240. Had Messrs. Blanchard and Knee been in the tower at 6 two of the regular band would have gladly given up their ropes for them. For their further information I would add that Grandsire Doubles were being rung on 12357, with 4.6.8 covering, not on the front six with 7.6.8 covering as stated. Thanking you for allowing me space to correct a wrong impression.

WALTER J. B. NORTHOVER,
Hon. Secretary, St. Mary's Band.

AN IRISH BROADCAST.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It has never been my lot to listen to more indescribably disgraceful ringing than that broadcast from Londonderry Cathedral at 6.25 last Sunday night. It is a pity steps cannot be taken to prevent the possibility of such a fiasco.

'ARISTIDES.'

A DIAMOND JUBILEE.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD'S CELEBRATION.

Bishop Presides at Annual Meeting.

The Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild celebrated its diamond jubilee on Saturday, when the annual festival was held at Ryde, Isle of Wight. There was a large attendance of members from all parts of the two dioceses, and although some of those who came from the mainland found crossing not a very comfortable process in the peak of holiday traffic, and some had to stand by and watch crowded boats go out before they were able to get aboard, the success of the meeting more than made up for any inconvenience suffered. The festival was notable for the fact that not only was the Guild privileged to have the Bishop of Portsmouth as preacher at the festival service, but his lordship also presided over the business meeting, the first time, so far as can be remembered, that the Guild has had a Bishop in the chair during the transaction of its business.

The service in All Saints' Church was conducted by the Rector of Ryde and the singing was led by a full choir.

The Bishop, in his address, referred to the ministry of the bells and to the important part which church bells played in the life of the nation and the parish. He said he could not conceive what England would be like if the bells were stopped and could not be heard over the countryside, or across the hills and valleys calling to evensong. There would be a great emptiness in our lives, he said, if that happened. It gave those whose business it was to lead in Church affairs much pleasure and much happiness to think that so many Christian men and women gave up their time and effort to this real bit of Christian work, bringing happiness and joy and comfort into the hearts and minds of endless people up and down England. He hoped, when they stood in their towers, they would think not only of the scientific succession of changes upon which they were intent, but sometimes also of the great and good God in whose honour they were ringing, for the comfort and happiness of humble souls in dark and dreary streets, in the cottages in the countryside, in the mansions of the rich and in the palaces of kings. Let that be their incentive and their inspiration, too.

CHANGED CONDITIONS.

The Bishop reminded the ringers of the changed conditions in the towers and said in these days ringers recognised that in the belfries there should be reverence and devotion, and that their calling should be exemplified in their lives. He was, he said, still reminded sometimes that ringers who rang for a service walked away from the church when the ringing was finished. That was an unfortunate thing. It was also an unfortunate thing that there were clergy who never went into the ringing room. He had usually made a practice himself of going to the tower, and in that way had been brought into contact with men whom he would otherwise have known nothing about. He thought it was a good thing that as many clergy as possible should learn change ringing, so that they might join their brothers as ringers in calling people to church. The Bishop closed by exhorting his hearers to live up to their vocation so that the names of the ringers should rank high in the parish and their conduct be an example to those who heard them ring.

A party, numbering 130, sat down to tea at the invitation of the Guild.

The Bishop of Portsmouth presided at the subsequent meeting, and was supported by the Archdeacon of Newport, the vice-president and Master of the Guild (Mr. G. Williams), the hon. secretary (Mr. F. W. Rogers), the Vicars of Newport and Carisbrooke, etc. At the outset the Master welcomed the distinguished visitors, and specially mentioned the presence of Mr. Charman, of the Sussex County Association, Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, of 'The Ringing World,' and Mr. G. Coombs, who, at the age of 96, was the oldest ringing member of the Guild.

The Bishop, in reply to the welcome, expressed his pleasure at meeting the members of the Guild and said he and the other clergy present appreciated the Guild's invitation to be present on the occasion of their diamond jubilee. Referring to the presence of the 'young fellow' of 96, he recalled the quotation, 'Kind words can never die,' and said he thought they ought to read, 'Kind ringers can never die' (laughter). When he looked round on those old gentlemen and ladies of 12 and 14 years who were present he thought some day in the future one of his successors might have to welcome somebody well past the century. It might, perhaps, be his friend on his right (Mr. Williams) (applause).

The Bishop went on to say how much he and his brother clergy appreciated the friendly relationship which existed between them and the ringers. One of the astonishing things of modern churchmanship was the way in which church men and women had found out that it was not only the parson's duty to work on behalf of the church and religion, but that it was the privilege of the laity to work also. The ringing of church bells was a very important part of church work and he need not remind them of the rubric, which said that a bell must be rung immediately before a service. Recently in connection with a new housing estate there had been some little trouble about the use of a church bell, because some people did not like bells and thought they were a nuisance. There, they had to come to a compromise, but it was very doubtful indeed whether anyone could object successfully to the ringing of bells before morning and evening service. It was a rubric and a rubric was a law of the land. 'We are parsons and ringers,' said the Bishop; 'they cannot do without us and we won't go' (laughter). He concluded with good wishes to the Guild for the future and congratulated the diocese upon having such an active and efficient body of ringers.

THE MEETING.

Among the apologies received was one from the hon. treasurer (Mr. H. Barton), one from the Southampton district secretary (Mr. G. Pullinger) on account of the illness of his wife, and another from Mr. Jennings, who was in hospital. At the suggestion of the chairman, it was decided to send letters of sympathy and good wishes, for speedy convalescence, to the sick.

A letter from the hon. secretary of the Sussex County Association conveyed the good wishes of that association to the Guild upon its sixtieth anniversary, and similar congratulations came from Mr. T. Trollope, of Oxford, who mentioned that he was present at a meeting of the Winchester Guild held at Ryde in 1889, when he was a member of the band at Twyford, near Winchester.

The accounts, which had been printed and circulated, were adopted. They showed that the balances in hand were £244, against £236 2s. 8d. in the previous year. The receipts amounted to £129 3s. 7d., including £45 11s. 7d. from 175 hon. members and £68 16s. paid by 699 ringing members. Among the items of expenditure was £15 6s. 6d. in grants to bell restorations.

A joint report by the Guild's representatives on the Central Council was presented, in which they reviewed the business transacted at the Whitsuntide meeting, and reminded the members that the Council was always grateful for books and documents which could be added to its library. At the meeting the Council acknowledged the gift of a large number of association reports of some 30 societies, covering a period from 1881, which it was hoped would form a valuable basis for a collection, should the Council ever decide upon making one. The representatives of the Winchester Guild suggested the Guild might consider it a privilege, if it were possible, to make a gift to the Council of a complete set of their own reports towards this object. With regard to the publication of the Surprise Major book, the Guild, in accordance with its decision at the last annual meeting, had been able to inform the Council that they would take the full quota of twelve copies, at a cost of 33s. The report emphasised what had been said in the Council meeting that conductors of peals should take every care that reports sent for publication in 'The Ringing World' should be accurate and complete. With regard to collection of details concerning old peal boards, the report asked members of the Guild who knew of the existence of peal boards relating to peals rung up to the year 1825, and who had not informed the secretary of the particulars, to let him have the details at once. The report also set out the conclusions of the Standing Committee on the use of mechanical substitutes for bells, which are to be sent to every Diocesan Advisory Committee in the country.

The Hon. Secretary said with regard to the suggestion that the Guild should present copies of its annual reports to the Council Library the difficulty was that they had not got a complete set. It was, however, possible that between them they could get one together. If they could do this the copies could be bound and given to the Council. He proposed that this should be done.—Mr. Upton seconded.

The Bishop emphasised that by carrying out this suggestion the members would be doing a valuable public service. He did not like giving up old things and he thought many other members of the Council were the same, but they would be doing a public service by relinquishing these reports if they had them. It would be better far to give them now than to hang on to them and let them be destroyed after they were gone by someone who did not value the reports. If they were presented to the Council they would be kept for good.

The proposal to endeavour to make up a complete collection of the reports and present them, bound, to the Council was agreed to, and the representatives were thanked for their report.

All the officers were re-elected en bloc, viz.: Master, Mr. George Williams; hon. secretary, Mr. F. W. Rogers; hon. treasurer, Mr. H. Barton; recorder of peals, Mr. R. A. Reed; auditor, Mr. G. Smith.

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES' EXPENSES.

A motion stood on the agenda in the name of Mr. G. Pullinger to alter the rule with regard to the allowance for out-of-pocket expenses to the representatives attending Central Council meetings. It was proposed to substitute for the words 'necessary out-of-pocket expenses' the words 'third class monthly return fare and ten shillings.' In the absence of Mr. Pullinger this was moved by Mr. Stone and seconded by Mr. W. Andrews.

Considerable discussion ensued, in the course of which it was pointed out that a sum of 10s. sustenance allowance was totally inadequate when the meeting was held in some place which necessitated absence from home for two or, perhaps, three days. Eventually the motion was amended to read 'third class monthly return fare and not more than 10s. per day for a maximum of three days.' This was carried with one dissentient.

A member suggested that provision ought to be made to refund to any representative any loss he sustained by loss of time at work.

The Chairman, in the absence of a definite proposition, ruled this out of order, but said he had every sympathy with the idea. When a working man had a claim to represent the Guild on the Council he

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BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.

A SATISFACTORY MEMBERSHIP.

Alteration of Rules.

About 70 members and friends attended the annual meeting of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association on Saturday at Yeovil. The proceedings started with ringing on the noble ten at the Parish Church, and three excellent courses of Stedman Caters were rung for service, at which the senior curate (the Rev. L. E. Walsh) officiated and gave an appropriate address.

Tea and the business meeting in the Church Hall followed, and at the latter the Master (the Rev. W. M. K. Warren) presided.

The ordinary business was preceded by a special meeting called to consider the committee's recommendations in regard to alterations to rules. The recommendations chiefly concerned the date of the annual meetings in future, and the abolition of the necessity of calling a special meeting to alter rules, as is necessary at present.

There was some discussion, initiated by Mr. J. F. Smallwood, on the matter of going through the existing rules. It was felt, however, that the towers had had nine months to consider the proposed alterations, that the committee had carefully considered the business, and that no good purpose would be served by going through the rules once more.

On the proposition of Mr. J. Hunt, seconded by Mr. Farrant, the alterations were approved.

The annual meeting in the association's jubilee year, 1940, will be held on Easter Monday at Taunton.

The routine business followed. In his report the Master said: The association continues to grow. Nearly 1,400 members paid their fees last year, and 170 towers belong to the association. This can be regarded as satisfactory, especially at a time when many associations have to complain of falling membership. Efforts must not be relaxed, and interest in the art of ringing must be kept up. Those branches which run regular practice meetings have noted that these meetings have proved a stimulus to their numbers, and that the introduction at these meetings of higher methods has done much to sustain and increase interest. There is nothing so likely to stifle progress as a method rut in which it is easy to remain.

The excellent work of the branches continues. The Axbridge and Frome branches have recovered under their present secretaries, and return to the head of the list in point of membership. Axbridge and Cary branches show good lists of honorary members. This close co-operation with the clergy and with the people of standing in the diocese is all to the good. The happy relations of the Dunster Branch with its clergy are well known. One or two branches show a complete return of affiliation fees. These nominal sums are intended to show the appreciation of the Church authorities towards the work the association is doing. One local secretary made a new record in lateness with his accounts, and that is the reason the report is so late. The local secretaries should send in their accounts by January 31st. If the towers are tardy in their payments, the local secretaries must either break the rule or send in their accounts incomplete, and neither of these things is desirable. If, at the annual meeting at Yeovil, it is decided to hold future annual meetings on Easter Mondays, any delay in sending in accounts will make it impossible to issue the report before the meeting.

The general secretary would like to thank those officers of the association and one or two friends who helped in the distribution of the reports.

The financial position of the association is satisfactory. £15 has been transferred from the deposit account, where it gained little interest, to the Bell Repair Fund, where it will do good and enhance the prestige of our organisation.

I have not much to add to the secretary's notes. It is very satisfactory to know that so many members belong to our association, and to this fact no one has contributed more than the secretary himself, both by his constant visiting of towers and his insistence on good striking. But we must not be satisfied with what has been done in holding our own; we must be determined on further extension.

This can be done in two ways. (1) By extending our vision beyond our own towers. (2) By enlisting the interest of the clergy. It is not sufficient to welcome an occasional visit to the belfry, but an attempt should be made to introduce him to the bells themselves and show him how they are rung and how they work and all about them. He is more likely to repeat his visit, if his interest could be engaged. Many of the difficulties of finding recruits would consequently be solved. A little more co-operation between clergy and ringers, as workers together for God, is bound to result in better fellowship, more ringers and better ringing.

The officers of the association were re-elected, the accounts adopted, and Mr. Hunt gave his usual clear and entertaining account of the proceedings at the Central Council meeting.

Other routine business was transacted, and votes of thanks were accorded to the Rev. Preb. A. Chisholm, the Vicar of Yeovil, to the Rev. L. E. Walsh, to Mr. J. Baker, captain of the local ringers, and to the ladies who provided so bountiful a tea. Further ringing afterwards took place.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from page 435.)

The President suggested that Mr. Barker should bring up a resolution at the next meeting, when the matter could be discussed after the members had, perhaps, had an opportunity of getting some experience of the silencers.

A RECORD ATTENDANCE.

The Secretary, in a report upon the attendance at the meeting, said they had had a record Council that day. There had been 117 members present, 104 being representatives of affiliated societies and 13 honorary members. Twenty-four associations were fully represented with 60 members, 19 were partly represented with 44 members, and only six associations were unrepresented.

The President then moved a vote of thanks to all who had helped to make the arrangements for the meeting. He thanked the Middlesex County Council for the use of the Council Chamber of Westminster Guildhall, which, he thought, was the finest room, at any rate in regard to sound, in which they had met since he had been president. He also thanked those who had made it possible to use a room at the Coffee Pot on the previous evening for the accommodation of the Standing Committee, and he expressed grateful thanks to the Church authorities, the ringers and the steeplekeepers at the various churches, including St. Paul's Cathedral and Westminster Abbey, where they had been allowed to ring. He thanked, too, the Office of Works for permission to ring at the Imperial Institute. He also included in the vote of thanks an expression of gratitude to the London societies—the College Youths, the Royal Cumberlands, the Essex, Kent, London County, Middlesex and Surrey Associations—for their hospitality, and especially the committee who had carried out the arrangements on their behalf. The President went on to express his gratitude to the hon. secretary for the work he had done. This year particularly he (the president) had rather left the hon. secretary in the lurch except for the last three weeks, and he very much appreciated all that Mr. Fletcher and his assistant (Mrs. Fletcher) had done.

The votes of thanks were carried with acclamation.

Canon Coleridge then proposed a vote of thanks to the president for the manner in which he had conducted the meeting, and, the president having replied, the meeting terminated.

FIRST QUARTER-PEALS.

At Almondsbury, Glos., on Sunday, June 25th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: J. Williams 1, C. Harding 2, R. Harding 3, C. Gould 4, B. Huddleston 5, A. Hilliar 6, T. Harris (conductor) 7, C. Russell 8.

At St. Augustine's Church, Kilburn, London, on June 18th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor (1,260 changes): Miss M. Davies (first quarter-peal) 1, E. M. Atkins (conductor) 2, Miss B. Hart 3, A. R. Pargeter (first quarter-peal on tower bells) 4, A. Tozer 5, C. J. Nichols 6.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Continued from page 433.)

should not be debarred from lack of means, but he thought that, as they had settled the matter so far, it would be better if the proposer put down a resolution for the next annual general meeting.

On the recommendation of the Executive Committee, it was decided to hold the next annual meeting at Bournemouth on the first Saturday in July, 1940.

The Hon. Secretary said last year a sub-committee was appointed to go into the question of the restoration of the Rayner tomb at Arreton, Isle of Wight. There was some difficulty about the matter, as the tomb contained a long inscription, much of which did not relate to Henry Rayner, but to members of his family, and it was suggested that the matter be adjourned for another year, so that the officers of the Guild might consult further with the sub-committee.—This course was agreed to.

The Executive Committee reported that an application had been received from St. Michael's, Basingstoke, for a grant from the Special Purposes Fund to wipe off the balance of the cost of the restoration of the bells at St. Michael's, Basingstoke, and the committee recommended that the balance of £12 5s. be paid.

Major Stilwell (district secretary) supported the proposal, and it was pointed out that it was at this church 60 years ago that the Guild was formed.

The recommendation was agreed to.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, on behalf of the Guildford Diocesan Guild, extended the congratulations and good wishes of the daughter Guild to its parent upon its diamond jubilee.

The Rev. N. C. Woods referred to the serious illness of Mr. J. W. Elkins, senior Dean's verger at Winchester Cathedral and an hon. member of the Guild. He had suddenly broken down and there was little hope of his life being prolonged for many days.

The Bishop asked the members to remember Mr. Elkins in their prayers.

The Master was about to propose a vote of thanks to the Bishop at the close of the business, when the chairman interrupted to remark that Bishops were not allowed to be thanked for presiding at meetings.

Ringing took place during the afternoon and evening on the fine peal at All Saints' Church, the variety extending from rounds to spliced Surprise Major.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from page 418.)

MECHANICAL RINGING.

The President said at the last meeting they had a motion by the Rev. H. Drake on the question of mechanical ringing, which was referred to the Standing Committee to consider. The committee had considered the position and had come to some conclusions.

The Rev. F. Ll. Edwards presented the report, which the Standing Committee suggested should be adopted and sent to all the Diocesan Advisory Committees of the United Kingdom. It was as follows:—

(1) While there may be exceptional cases in which the use of gramophone records of church bells is justified, any general adoption of such a practice is emphatically to be deprecated, not only on the grounds that a substitute for the real thing is unworthy of the Church of God, but also because it eliminates the living service of hand, and heart, and mind, which is of the very essence of bellringing and is of true spiritual value as contributory to an act of worship.

(2) The installation of such a mechanical device should be severely prohibited in any tower containing or capable of containing a peal of bells except as a temporary expedient, as, for example, when tower or bells are under repair.

(3) In the case of building new churches it is obvious that the erection of a tower and bells must often be left to a future generation, or even omitted altogether, but it is a vital point of principle that no sanction should ever be given to the building or designing of a tower inadequate to its legitimate purpose, with a view to the installation of a gramophone record instead of real bells. The one practical object served by a church tower is to make provision for bells and to erect a tower to hold a gramophone record cannot be regarded otherwise than an architectural fraud, entirely unworthy of a building designed for sacred purposes.

The report was approved, as also was the suggestion that it be sent to all Diocesan Advisory Committees.

CHESTERFIELD BELLS.

The President said the question of Chesterfield bells came before the Council three or four years ago. The tower was then said to be unsafe for ringing and the famous peal of ten bells was silent. The Towers and Belfries Committee was approached and they corresponded with the Vicar, but did not get very far, because it was difficult for them to butt in. In the second place he (the president) did not succeed in getting from the Vicar the name of the architect. He believed he was a London architect and he had hoped to meet him and have a talk with him. Now the committee understood the position was that the bells were still silent, although the tower was said to have been repaired and quite all right for ringing the bells. The matter had rather come to a head because, according to a report which appeared in the 'Sheffield Telegraph' about two months ago, the Archdeacon had threatened, if he could not get ringers, to think of installing some form of 'canned' bells and gramophone records. The President asked if there was any further information on the matter.

Mr. J. Harris said he was afraid no further information was available, but he did not think the Archdeacon was quite right when he said he could not get any ringers. There were ringers to be got, but when a tower had been closed for years they could not expect to get things done in a day or two. Had the Archdeacon given any ringers the opportunity to go to the tower? He thought it was the duty of the Council to try and find out what was holding things up. Within recent days the Chesterfield District of the Midland Counties Association had been revived and there was also the Peak Society, so there was no lack of enthusiasm in that part of Derbyshire. Perhaps one of the reasons why Chesterfield fell into neglect was that they had no member on the Diocesan Advisory Board. He would like to see a member appointed to every Board in the country. It was because of the absence of such a representative in the Derby Diocese that he asked the Council to do something in connection with Chesterfield.

Mr. W. E. White (Midland Counties) said he had had a letter from the president of their association on this matter, and he thought they need have no fear about there being any substitute for Chesterfield bells.

Mr. S. F. Palmer said at the annual meeting of the Midland Counties Association he met one of the old Chesterfield ringers and went into the matter fully with him. That ringer had been in communication with the Archdeacon and had offered to provide ten ringers—he had got the promise of the services of ten ex-ringers—and he asked for an interview with the Archdeacon. The Archdeacon replied by letter that he would grant him an interview in a few weeks' time, as he was then very busy. That was in the early part of the year. Up to the week before the Council meeting the ringer in question had heard nothing further. He was afraid the Archdeacon was very indifferent with regard to the bells, and had no interest in ringing.

Mr. T. Clarke (East Derbyshire and Notts) said, knowing the bells were now ringable, he wrote to the Archdeacon suggesting that he might be allowed to take some ringers there for a combined practice, but the Archdeacon had not even replied to his letter.

The President thought in view of what had been said it did not seem that the Council could take any useful action. It was a question of someone getting round or behind the Archdeacon.

The Rev. F. Ll. Edwards thought the secretary might write to the Archdeacon and say that the Council was very glad to hear that the Archdeacon had promised to interview one of the ex-ringers on the subject of restarting Chesterfield bells, with a view to raising a band, and trusting they would soon hear of the successful result of that interview.

Mr. W. G. Wilson seconded the suggestion, which was adopted.

A BOOK ON HANDBELL RINGING.

The President said that last year it was proposed to get out a book on handbell ringing, and they asked Mr. Chris. Woolley to see what he could do about it. Mr. Woolley had prepared a draft and had sent it out to one or two people for criticism. He (the president) had gone through it pretty carefully and thought it was excellent. The only addition he would suggest was something on Stedman.

The Hon. Secretary said he thought perhaps the reason why they found so little about Stedman in the draft was that, when he had seen Chris Woolley ringing Stedman on handbells, he sat on the edge of a chair and his knees knocked together (laughter). Mr. Woolley had prepared the book and had submitted it to a number of prominent handbell ringers for their criticism, and it seemed a pity if they were to have to wait another year and bring it again before the Council for approval before they could print it. He suggested that it would be better if, after it had been passed round for criticism and adjustment, it should be put into the hands of the Standing Committee to deal with and print it as soon as possible.

This course was agreed to.

'SILENCERS.'

Mr. A. D. Barker said in the past the Council, he believed, had expressed a definite opinion with regard to peals when the bells had not been struck. After a peal, in which Seage's apparatus had been used on the bells, he believed the Council declined to recognise it. There was now among the public a lot of antagonism with regard to noise, and bells were being rung with the use of various forms of sound reducing apparatus. There was one peal rung last year in which an apparatus was used, as a result of which the clapper struck only on one side of the bell throughout the peal. He would like to know what was the attitude of the Council to a peal rung like that?

Mr. Pulling said he understood, when the silencer in question was used, they got a double blow of the clapper when the bell turned in one direction, and one blow when it turned the opposite way. That, in fact, in a whole pull the clapper struck the bell three times instead of twice.

The Rev. C. E. Wigg said, as one who took part in the peal which Mr. Barker had mentioned, he could say, with regard to the clapper striking a double note, that was not so, unless it was due to the unskilful handling of the bell, resulting in it bumping against the stay. That might shake the clapper so that they got the appearance of two blows, but if the bell was rung properly there was not the slightest risk of the sound bow being struck more than once. The apparatus was a simple one. A loop of rope or leather or wire was put round the flight of the clapper and the ball was pulled up to any desired distance from the sound bow, according to the volume of sound required. The other end was then made fast to some convenient nut on the stock. The clapper struck the bell exactly at the same time as if the clapper had been swinging free.

Mr. Gilbert asked if they lashed the clapper to the side of the bell so that it did not strike the other side at all, could they call that a peal? They could hear the bells when standing under them, but they could not hear them 50 yards away.

Mr. Collett said the amount of sound depended entirely on the length of the strap that was used. It was a matter of adjustment.

Mr. P. J. Johnson: Do you mean that you have a peal in which the clapper strikes only on one side of the bell?

The Rev. C. E. Wigg: Yes.

Mr. Johnson: I should strongly oppose recognising that.

Mr. A. E. Lock said he had had experience of these silencers, and they could be adjusted so that the bells were loud or quiet as required. If they had indifferent ringers they got what appeared to be a double blow of the clapper, but this did not occur if they had good ringers who knew how to handle a bell.

The President said he found it difficult to accept the statement that the clapper controlled by this apparatus sounded at exactly the same moment as if it were free. He could understand it might in rounds, but he found it difficult to believe that it did so in changes.

Mr. Lock: I assure you it does.

The President: I should like proof of it.

The Rev. C. E. Wigg suggested that the Council should defer any judgment on the question of peals rung with this apparatus attached to the bells, until they had had the opportunity of testing it, and perhaps at the next meeting at Cardiff he could bring a set of the silencers and arrange to have them fitted to a peal of bells, so that members of the Council could have the opportunity of testing the device for themselves. He could assure the president that the bell did strike at the identical moment as if the clapper were free.

The President said the only real test before they could form a judgment would be for the same ringers to ring a touch of reasonable length with and without the silencers.

The Rev. C. E. Wigg said that had actually been done at Sherborne Abbey. He rang the tenor both times and he found the bell a little easier to strike with the silencers on.

Mr. Barker said his point was whether a peal, rung with this apparatus on the bells, could be recognised by the Council.

(Continued on page 434.)

PEAL NOTES.

NORWICH PEALS.

The composition of 5,000 of Bob Royal by Mr. Nolan Golden, rung at St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, on June 28th, is a two-part peal containing 13 courses with 8-7 reversed, five of the 6-5's and all the 5-6's.

Six of the band that rang in this peal took part on Saturday in a peal in four spliced plain Major methods at St. Michael-at-Coslany, Norwich the first spliced peal on the bells. The peal contained 1,344 changes of Plain Bob, 384 of Fulbeck Bob, 528 of Double Bob and 2,752 of Double Norwich, with 34 changes of method. The composition of 5,008 by Mr. Nolan Golden had 52 course ends, with 4, 5 and 6 only in 6th's place, the 4th and 6th their extent there, and the 2nd never in 5-6.

The first peal on the bells at Probus, Cornwall, was rung on June 28th. The excellent striking which was maintained throughout the peal so impressed the Vicar (the Rev. — Hammond) that he went up into the belfry afterwards to congratulate the band. He considered it a remarkable performance and intends to have a record of it placed in the belfry.

A peal of Bob Major at St. Mary's, Woolwich, was a triple birthday celebration, having been specially arranged as a compliment to Messrs. A. E. Barker, H. Hoverd and D. M. Sharp (the conductor). After the peal the ringers were kindly entertained to tea by Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Barker, and, at the celebrations which followed, each birthday was 'drowned' in turn. The peal was rung on June 24th.

A peal of Bob Major rung at St. Peter's, Nottingham, on June 29th, in honour of the wedding of Mr. Frank Brown, one of the Sunday service ringers at that church, was also a compliment to Mr. W. E. Bason, of Norwich, upon his having rung 200 peals for the Norwich Diocesan Association. The composition was one by Mr. Bason with 178 singles, with only the 4th, 5th and 6th in sixth's place and all the combinations of 4-5-6 in 5-6.

Mr. E. C. S. Turner rang his 200th peal on tower bells when he took part in four spliced Surprise Major methods at St. Mary's, Staines, on Saturday, as a wedding compliment to the Rev. A. S. Roberts and Miss Jessie Augwin, which took place at Truro. It was also a birthday peal for Miss Edna Bedford, who rang her first Spliced Surprise peal.

A peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at Brecon on June 25th as a farewell to Mr. Charles Powell, a ringer at St. Mary's, Brecon, and hon. treasurer of the Swansea and Brecon Diocesan Guild, who is leaving Brecon to reside at Rhyl in retirement. The peal was also in honour of the preferment of the Right Rev. the Bishop of Swansea and Brecon to the See of Llandaff. The Bishop is president of the Swansea and Brecon Guild. After the peal the band, with Mr. Powell, enjoyed the hospitality of the Brecon ringers.

The peal of Bob Major at Boreham, Essex, on June 27th, was rung by the regular Sunday service band and is the first by such for a good many years at this tower. For a long time things at Boreham were in a very bad state, and it is due to Mr. Stanley Edwards that the present band started. Though Mr. Edwards moved away from the parish just as the first of the band started to handle a bell, it was not too much trouble for him to cycle six miles each way in all weather to give of his help to his pupils, and to him the conductor and band extend their grateful thanks.

The peal of Minor in three methods rung at Ibstock on Saturday, June 24th, was specially arranged as a compliment to Mr. J. W. Hopkins (who was for 65 years a devoted member of the local company) on the occasion of his 86th birthday. Unfortunately, Mr. Hopkins is not now able to take an active part in the ringing owing to being unable to climb the belfry steps.

The ringer of the treble (who is the only child of the conductor, Mr. A. E. Rowley) will not be 14 years of age until July 6th, and it is believed that she is the youngest girl ever to ring a peal for the Midland Counties Association.

On June 24th, 1922, two days after his wedding, Mr. Ernest Morris, of Leicester, hon. general secretary of the Midland Counties Association, rang, as his wedding peal, a peal of Stedman Triples at St. Dunstan's, Stepney. On the 17th anniversary of that occasion a peal of Yorkshire Surprise was rung at Gravesend, Kent, in which Mr. Morris, who was on holiday in London, rang the 6th. In the same peal, which was rung two days after the birthday of the conductor (Mr. P. J. Corby), Mr. F. J. Cullum, of Erith, 'completed the circle' by ringing the 3rd.

Frederick Nicholls, although only 14 years of age, has rung an 'inside' bell to seven different Minor methods for his first peal; and he rang it at the first attempt, too. This is an extraordinarily good performance, and he well deserved the congratulations of the rest of the band on the way he rang throughout the peal at Wath-on-Dearne, Yorks, on June 24th.

The bells at Hanbury, near Bromsgrove, Worcestershire, have recently been recast and rehung with all modern fittings by Messrs. John Taylor and Co. The first peal was rung on them on Saturday, June 24th, by members of the Western Branch of the Worcestershire Association.

The Church Council can be congratulated on their bold efforts in having a complete restoration done instead of a patched up affair, for, although a country parish and rather scattered, Hanbury has already raised two-thirds of the cost.

NOTICES.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Summer Festival meeting at Haslemere, on Saturday, July 8th. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea (1s. each) in the Schools at 5.15 p.m. Further ringing until 9 p.m.—G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec., East Clandon, near Guildford.

LADIES' GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at Ipswich on Saturday, July 8th. The following towers will be open from 2.30: St. Mary-le-Tower (12), St. Margaret's (8), St. Matthew's (6), St. Clement's (6), and St. Lawrence (5). Service in St. Mary-le-Tower Church at 4.30 p.m. Tea at the Oriental Cafe, Westgate Street, at 5.15 p.m. (1s. per head), followed by business meeting.—E. K. Fletcher, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—A summer meeting will be held at Chislehurst on Saturday, July 8th. Both towers will be available for ringing from 3 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Eastrington on Saturday, July 8th Bells (6) will be available from two o'clock. Short service at 4.30 p.m. Tea, 1s. per head, in Parochial Hall, followed by business meeting. All welcome.—H. S. Morley, Dis. Sec., 5, Ebor Street, Selby.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Rayleigh on Saturday, July 8th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. The presentation to the late district secretary will be made at this meeting, and it is hoped that every tower in the district will be represented.—J. H. Crampion, Dis. Sec., 7, Cedar Avenue, Chadwell Heath.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—Half-yearly meeting at West Malling, on Saturday, July 8th. Tower open at 3. Service 5, followed by tea and business meeting. Half travelling expenses up to 2s. will be paid to members at this meeting.—R. G. Rayfield, Hon. Dis. Sec., Downsview, Spring Lane, Ightham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, Didsbury, on Saturday, July 8th. Tower open 6 o'clock. Meeting in the belfry at 7.30. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—J. H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Frome and Midsomer Norton Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Paulton on Saturday, July 8th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5 p.m.—E. H. Nash, Hon. Sec., Mells.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Central Branch.—A meeting will be held at Fordham, near Ely, Cambs, on Saturday, July 8th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Service if arranged. Please advise Mr. J. W. Pickett, School House, Fordham, Cambs, number for tea. A good company is hoped for.—F. Warrington and A. R. Paul, Dis. Secs.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Offley, July 8th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.45, followed by tea and business meeting. Subscriptions are due. Look up Double Oxford and London Surprise Minor.—R. T. Newman, 36, Salisbury Road, Baldock.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The summer meeting will be held in Morpeth on Saturday, July 8th, when the bells of the Watch Tower will be available during the afternoon and evening. Tea will be available at Oliver's Cafe, Bridge Street, at 1s. 3d. per head, at 5 p.m.—Roland Park, Hon. Sec., 23, Oaklands Terrace, Darlington.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Sempringham Abbey, on Saturday, July 8th. Bells recently augmented to six, will be available from 2 to 9 p.m. Service 4.15, followed by tea and business meeting at the School, Pointon.—C. T. H. Bradley, Hon. Sec., Folkingham, Lincs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Halewood on Saturday, July 8th. Tower will be open from 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea will be provided for a nominal charge.—G. R. Newton, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Helmshore on Saturday, July 8th. Bells ready at 3.30. A good attendance is requested. Everybody welcome. You can't go wrong here. The local lads can ring 'Owt.'—J. Porter, Hon. Sec

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting of this district will be held at Bletsoe on Saturday, July 8th. Bells (8) ready from 3 p.m. Tea at 5. Milton bells not available. You will be very welcome.—Frank C. Tysoe, Dis. Sec., 10, Grange Road, Bromham, Bedford.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Note: The next meeting will be held at Norton Church (8 bells) on Saturday, July 8th. For tea, please notify Mr. Wm. Biggin, Mangerhay, Norton, near Sheffield.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 13, St. Ronans Road, Sheffield 7.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Tuxford to-morrow, July 8th.—R. Towler, Hon. Sec.

BRIDGNORTH, ST. MARY MAGDALENE, SHROPSHIRE.—The ring of six bells, tuned, rehung in new framework and two trebles added to make eight by John Taylor and Co., will be re-opened on Sunday, July 9th; services 11 a.m. and 6.30 p.m. Ringing during the afternoon.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—There will be ringing for evensong at St. Leonard's Church, Shoreditch, on Sunday, July 9th, at 5.30 p.m.—G. W. Steere, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Practices for July: St. Giles', Cripplegate, 11th; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 13th; *St. Paul's Cathedral, 18th; St. Magnus-the-Martyr, 20th; Southwark Cathedral, 25th; St. Clement Danes, 27th; all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — St. Albans District.—A combined practice will be held at Harpenden on Tuesday, July 11th. The ring of eight bells (tenor 15 cwt.) will be available at 7.45 p.m. A good attendance is requested.—H. V. Frost, Dis. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Sonning Deanery Branch.—A combined practice will be held at Twyford, Berks, on Wednesday, July 12th, from 6.30 p.m. till 9 p.m. All welcome.—W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec., Merrel, California, Wokingham.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—The next meeting will be held at Little Waltham on Saturday, July 15th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting after. Will those requiring tea please let me know by Wednesday, July 12th?—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Upper Arbour Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual festival will be held at Oxford on Saturday, July 15th. Service in Cathedral at 11.15 a.m. Preacher, Rev. J. K. E. O'Malley (Rector of Sandhurst, Berks). Business meeting in Chapter House immediately after service. Dinner in Christ Church Hall at 1.30 p.m. Tickets 2s. each to members, 3s. each to non-members. All applications for tickets, accompanied by remittance, must reach general secretary not later than Wednesday, July 12th, after which date the business will be in the hands of the caterers. A collection will be taken at the service for the Guild Restoration Fund.—R. T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Basingstoke District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Silchester on Saturday, July 15th (not 8th). Bells available 2.30. Service 4. Tea and business meeting follow. All requiring tea, please notify by July 12th, to Mr. W. Cottrell, Chitty Farm, Mortimer West, Reading.—J. G. Stilwell, Hon. Dis. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—A great gathering is expected at Penshurst on Saturday, July 15th. The beautiful gardens of Penshurst Place, and the Rectory, will be open to ringers, by kind permission of Lord de Isle and Dudley, and the Rev. P. H. Turnbull. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea in the Village Hall at 1s. 3d. a head, followed by a short business meeting. Special attention paid to learners at all meetings. Please notify me of intention to attend by Tuesday, July 11th.—Alec. E. Richardson, Laurel Cottage, Victoria Road, Southborough.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch. — The next meeting of the Crewe Branch will be held at Marbury (6 bells) on July 15th. Ringing from 3 o'clock. Will all those who intend to be present kindly let me have a postcard by July 12th?—Rich. D. Langford, Hon. Branch Sec., 118, Ruskin Road, Crewe.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Southern District.—The next meeting will be held on July 15th at St. Mary Magdalene, Richmond, Surrey. Ringing from 2.45 to 7.30 p.m. An ideal spot for a summer meeting and a peal of bells not often available. All visitors welcome.—N. H. Manning, Dis. Sec.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD. — Quarterly meeting to be held at Solihull on Saturday, July 15th. Bells (10) available during afternoon and evening. Tea at the café of Messrs. J. Welch, High Street, 1s. per head, at 5 o'clock. Business meeting to follow. — Dorothy E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Buriton on Saturday, July 15th. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. at the Five Bells Inn. All requiring tea please inform me by Wednesday, July 12th. All ringers welcome.—A. T. Greenwood, Hon. Sec., 6, Sheffield Road, Portsmouth.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A ringers' garden party will be held at Acton on July 15th, by kind invitation of the Rector. Bells available from 3 p.m. and in the evening. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea in the Rectory gardens, at the invitation of the Rector, followed by games for those who prefer this to ringing. Church of St. Mary (8 bells, tenor 14 cwt.). A large attendance is hoped for. Visitors and friends from other districts will be welcomed. Names to the undersigned not later than July 13th. Reports available. Subscriptions due.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting is at Market Bosworth on Saturday, July 15th. It is hoped that members will support this meeting, the first for many years at this tower. Ringing friends cordially invited. Ringing from 3.30. Tea at 5. Because of catering difficulties, please notify Mr. Wm. Henson, Station Road, Market Bosworth, near Nuneaton, as early as possible. Usual charge. Midland Red buses run from Leicester, Coalville and Nuneaton. Come and try some 'New' Doubles.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — The quarterly meeting of the West Norfolk Branch will be held at Scarning on Saturday, July 15th. Gressenhall bells will be available after tea.—W. J. Eldred, Branch Sec., 4, Wellington Street, King's Lynn.

PEAK SOCIETY. — Next meeting at Ashover on Saturday, July 15th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Those intending to be present please write Mr. A. H. Bowler, Eastwood View, Ashover, nr. Chesterfield, not later than Wednesday, July 12th, so that adequate tea arrangements can be made.—H. L. Warburton, Hon. Sec.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The six-bell ringing contest for the Society's Silver Cup will take take at Dronfield Church on Saturday, July 15th; commence 2.30 p.m. Please notify Mr. R. Parker, Green Dragon, Church Street, Dronfield, for tea, 1s. each. Tower open after contest.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 13, St. Ronan's Road, Sheffield 7.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Dorchester Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Upwey on Saturday, July 15th. Bells (6) from 2.30 p.m. Service at 3.30. Tea at 4.15. Short business meeting at 5. Abbotsbury bells (6) available after the meeting.—C. H. Jennings, Hon. Sec., 3, Sunnyside Road, Wyke Regis, Weymouth.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Tempsford on Saturday, July 15th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome. Please come. Let us have another good meeting.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Lydd on Saturday, July 15th. Bells ready 3 o'clock. Tea 5 p.m.—P. Page, Hon. Sec., 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent,

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.—A ringing meeting will be held at Clay Cross on Saturday, July 15th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m. Please send numbers requiring tea to me by Wednesday, July 12th.—J. W. England, 49, The Common, South Normanton.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wellingborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held, D.V., at Yardley-Hastings (6 bells), on Saturday, July 15th. Guild certificates ready for six members. Service at 4.30. Come if you can.—A. Bigley, 30, Allen Road, Irthlingborough.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chippenham Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Grittleton (6 bells) on Saturday, July 15th, at 3 o'clock. Usual business. Sir Audley Neeld has very kindly opened his beautiful gardens to ringers and friends. Visitors welcome and a card re tea by the 13th will oblige.—F. W. Merrett, Branch Hon. Sec., 38, Downing Street, Chippenham, Wilts.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Crewkerne Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Kingstone, near Ilminster, on Saturday, July 15th. Bells at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Please notify early for tea, important.—D. G. Taylor, Braeside, Ilminster.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Thrapston Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Wadenhoe on Saturday, July 15th. Bells (6). Usual arrangements. All welcome. Those requiring tea please notify not later than Tuesday, July 11th.—W. R. Butcher, Hon. Sec., Brigstock.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Marlborough Branch.—July meeting to be held on Saturday, July 15th, at Preshute (6 bells). Cards re tea will oblige by Wednesday, the 12th inst.—T. A. Palmer, Baydon Hill, Aldbourne, near Marlborough.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wirral Branch.—A meeting will be held at Upton (5 bells) on Saturday, July 15th. Tower open at 3 o'clock. Service at 5.30. Tea and meeting afterwards. We hope to have a good attendance. — Harry S. Brocklebank, Hon. Sec., 30, South Hill Road, Birkenhead.

WILLOUGHBY, NOTTS.—The ring of 5 bells restored by John Taylor and Co. will be re-dedicated on Sunday, July 16th, at 6.30 p.m. Preacher, the Archdeacon of Newark.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD (North and East District) AND HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION (St. Albans District).—A joint meeting will be held at St. John the Baptist's, Barnet, on Saturday, July 22nd. Ringing also at St. Mary the Virgin's, Monken Hadley. Bells available 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea to follow, for which please notify Mr. H. J. Eldred, 98, Fitzjohn Avenue, Barnet, Herts.—T. J. Lock and H. V. Frost, Hon. Dis. Secs.

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SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — West Dorset Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Whitechurch Canonicorum on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Everybody welcome. Please notify for tea by Tuesday, July 18th.—C. H. Lathey, Hon. Sec., Malmaison, Bradpole, Bridport.

ABBOTS LANGLEY, HERTS (bells 6). Meeting July 22nd. Bells open 3.30. Tea at 5.30.—C. H. Horton, Bushey. City 4270. Herts Association.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—A meeting will be held at Littlebourne on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (6) available from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea, by kind invitation of Rev. C. A. Manley (Vicar). Names for tea, please, to Mr. P. W. Smith, Fair View, Jubilee Road, Littlebourne, near Canterbury, to reach him not later than Thursday, July 20th.—B. J. Luck, Hon. Dis. Sec., 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD (Leatherhead District) AND SURREY ASSOCIATION (N.W. District). —The joint meeting will be held at Ranmore on Saturday, July 29th. Details next week.—A. H. Smith, Hon. Sec.

NEW ADDRESS. — The address of Mr. W. B. Kynaston, hon. secretary of the Swindon Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, is now 37, Vicarage Road, Swindon, Wilts.

MARRIAGE

ROBERTS—ANGWIN.—In the choir of Truro Cathedral on Saturday, July 1st, by the Ven. the Archdeacon of Cornwall (Canon G. W. Hockley), assisted by Rev. H. M. Boswell. Celebrant at Nuptial Mass the Rev. Sub. Dean (Canon H. W. Sedgwick). Arthur Stansfield, younger son of the late Mr. W. H. and of Mrs. Roberts, to Elizabeth Jessie Corin, third daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Angwin.

APARTMENTS.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 1,477. Vol. XXXIV. FRIDAY, JULY 14th, 1939. [Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.] Price 3d.

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LADIES AND RINGING.

When the Ladies' Guild was reorganised last year into defined districts, designed to cover the whole country, it was done as an experiment, but the plan has been found to work as successfully as could be expected, and at the annual meeting at Ipswich, last Saturday, it was resolved that it should be continued. The ringing membership of the Guild is now 350, and it is felt that the scheme, as now in operation, is the best that can be devised for linking up the widely scattered members and maintaining interest in the organisation. The ladies, and particularly the officials, deserve the utmost praise for the determination with which they carry on the work, which, in its disappointments and discouragements, is at times sufficient to daunt the enthusiasm of the keenest spirits. The task which faces the ladies in and around London and in certain other smaller areas is not a difficult one; the problem is to organise their forces in such a way that the members who are widely dispersed in other regions can be given a sufficient interest to support the Guild. It is, of course, perfectly well recognised that, in holding meetings, the ladies have to rely for a considerable measure of their success upon the presence of gentlemen, which is always readily and gallantly forthcoming, but, even so, there are times when the ladies, for whose special benefit the gatherings are arranged, might be expected to show a greater interest, and be prepared to make a little more sacrifice. But when all is said and done, a total of three hundred and fifty members spread over the whole country does not give the Guild much opportunity to make a show of strength at any one point.

Nevertheless the Guild, despite its drawbacks, is doing a very useful work, which must not be measured by the attendances at meetings. Directly and indirectly it is bringing more ladies into the Exercise, and it cannot be denied that, in the belfry, their influence is for good. As in other things which require the exercise of physical strength, there are few ladies fitted for anything more than the lighter tasks in bellringing. Not all the ladies, either, can be classed as good ringers, but, then, neither can all the men. The ladies came into ringing at a critical time, and present conditions make their services equally valuable. In the past they have filled gaps when men have been unobtainable, and now that a certain proportion of young ringers will be withdrawn for a time from the towers to serve in the Forces of the Crown, the ladies may once more prove themselves a real asset to the Exercise. It is an encouraging sign to read of eleven pupils at a Malvern school joining the Worcestershire Association the other day. They will not, of course, re-

(Continued on page 442.)

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main there indefinitely as a band, but the interest which they are now displaying will be carried, when they leave, to various parts of the country there, we hope, to take root and flourish to the advantage of the art. There is a place for ladies in the belfries; there is a place for the Ladies' Guild in the Exercise. If the Guild does nothing else, it gives the ladies a standing which they might not otherwise have, and it gives the members a fuller sense of their responsibilities as ringers. Its handicaps and difficulties of organisation are met with determination, and all the while this spirit prevails the Ladies' Guild will, we are convinced, hold its own.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

MANCHESTER.

THE NATIONAL POLICE GUILD AND THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 1, 1939, in Three Hours and Forty-One Minutes,

AT THE TOWN HALL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES, 5015 CHANGES;

Tenor 42 cwt. 2 qr. 25 lb.

EX-P.C. JOHN MULLINER	*Treble*	P.C. JOHN CARTER	7
P.C. DONALD BROWN	2	EX-P.C. FREDERICK PAGE ...	8
P.C. WILLIAM ROBINSON ...	3	P.C. FRANK YATES	9
P.C. ALBERT FORD	4	EX-SUPT. FRED. R. WILLIAMS	10
EX-P.C. JOSEPH WILSON ...	5	P.C. RICHARD BENSON ...	11
P.C. WILLIAM PYE	6	EX-P.C. JAMES TURNER & EX-P.C. GEORGE PYE	*Tenor*

Composed by S. WOOD. Conducted by EX-P.C. FREDK. PAGE.

Rung in honour of the retirement of Supt. F. R. Williams. All the ringers are retired or serving members of the Manchester City Police Force.

WALSALL, STAFFS.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Thursday, July 6, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 26½ cwt.

HOWARD HOWELL ...	*Treble*	GEORGE W. HUGHES	7
HERBERT KNIGHT	2	ARTHUR T. DUXTON	8
BARNABAS G. KEY	3	WALTER R. HUGHES	9
EDGAR T. SMITH	4	GILBERT HARDING	10
CHRIS. WALLATER	5	JAMES S. EASTWOOD	11
ALFRED ADAMS	6	WILLIAM A. WALKER ...	*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by HOWARD HOWELL.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to Mr. Thomas J. Elton, for 38 years a ringer and chorister at this church.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BOSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EASTERN BRANCH.)

On Thursday, June 29, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb.

SYDNEY APPLEBY ...	*Treble*	*ARTHUR FREESTON	5
*ROBERT A. RICHARDSON ...	2	†DONOVAN R. WHITE	6
ARTHUR YOUNG	3	JACK PETCH	7
*GEORGE H. SCOTT	4	WILLIAM E. CLARKE ...	*Tenor*

Composed by B. ANNABLE. Conducted by W. E. CLARKE.

* First peal. † First peal of Major. Rung as a birthday compliment to B. Jackson, also to E. P. Clarke, son of the conductor.

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WARFIELD, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, July 1, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL-THE-ARCHANGEL,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
DAVIES' VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 27 lb.

*MISS FREDA N. ARLOTT	*Treble*	GEOFFREY E. FOWLER	5
EDGAR HUMPHREY	2	REGINALD W. REX	6
*BERNARD C. CASTLE	3	WILLIAM J. PAICE	7
ARTHUR HEYWOOD	4	*CHARLES COLLYER	*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM J. PAICE.

* First peal of Stedman. Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Heywood on the anniversary of their wedding and as a farewell to the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow, on his preferment to Norwich Cathedral.

GREAT HOLLAND, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 1, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt.

MRS. J. H. CRAMPION	*Treble*	MISS HILDA G. SNOWDEN	5
LEWIS W. WIFFEN	2	ALBERT WIFFEN	6
*ERIC J. COE	3	JOHN G. NASH	7
CLAUDE SNOWDEN	4	JOHN H. CRAMPION	*Tenor*

Composed by C. K. LEWIS. Conducted by J. H. CRAMPION.

* First peal in the method.

ELLESMERE, SHROPSHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD
AND THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 1, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
DEXTER'S VARIATION. Tenor 21 cwt. (approx.) in E.

ROBERT SPERRING	*Treble*	ARTHUR PRITCHARD	5
THOMAS BUTLER, SEN.	2	FRANK VARTY	6
THOMAS R. BUTLER	3	PERCIVAL W. CAVE	7
WILLIAM SAUNDERS	4	EDWARD V. RODENHURST	*Tenor*

Conducted by THOMAS R. BUTLER.

The quickest peal on the bells.

TWICKENHAM, MIDDLESEX.
THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, July 1, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 18¼ cwt.

JOHN GRANSBURY	*Treble*	CHARLES W. OTTLEY	5
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER	2	THOMAS W. TAFFENDER	6
NORMAN H. MANNING	3	ERNEST J. KING	7
MISS OLIVE L. ASHBROOK	4	EDWARD D. SMITH	*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by EDWARD D. SMITH.

STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Saturday, July 1, 1939, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes;
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 24 cwt.

HARRY D. LISTER	*Treble*	WILLIAM E. WATHEN	5
GEORGE W. ABLITT	2	SHELFORD SPARROW	6
ARTHUR GRIMWOOD	3	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL	7
KEITH W. WHITTELL	4	EDWIN A. CRACKNELL	*Tenor*

Conducted by HARRY D. LISTER.

A birthday compliment to Mrs. Sparrow, wife of the secretary of the local band.

HEANOR, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, July 4, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 15½ cwt.

JACK A. STIRLAND	*Treble*	TOM CLARKE	5
ROGER D. ST. JOHN SMITH	2	FRANK BRADLEY	6
*RALPH NARBOROUGH	3	FREDERICK A. SALTER	7
ALEX HUTCHISON	4	WILLIAM P. STIRLAND	*Tenor*

Composed by H. HOWLETT. Conducted by R. D. ST. JOHN SMITH.

* 100th peal for the M.C.A. Rung in honour of the wedding of Miss B. J. Smith, daughter of the Rev. D. G. Smith, R.D., Vicar of Heanor, and sister of the conductor, and Mr. E. W. Frost, of Langley Mill.

GILLINGHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, July 4, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 11½ cwt.

GEORGE H. SPICE	*Treble*	JAMES BENNETT	5
MISS DORIS G. DOBBIE	2	STANLEY S. T. SHELLOCK	6
CHARLES E. J. NORRIS	3	WILLIAM J. WALKER	7
JOHN E. SPICE	4	WALTER H. DOBBIE	*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 27). Conducted by J. BENNETT.

LYE, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Wednesday, July 5, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 3½ cwt. in F.

DANIEL T. MATHIN	*Treble*	SIDNEY O'C. HOLLOWAY	5
JOHN S. MASON	2	GEORGE H. WILLIAMS	6
HOWARD HOWELL	3	JAMES H. SHEPHERD	7
FRANK E. HAYNES	4	ERNEST G. FLETCHER	*Tenor*

Conducted by DANIEL T. MATHIN.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. Tom Miller, on his 81st birthday.

LOUGHBOROUGH.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, July 5, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 6½ cwt.

JOHN GRUNDY	*Treble*	KENNETH I. ROE	5
COLIN HARRISON	2	SIDNEY O. CHEENEY	6
ERNEST MORRIS	3	GEOFFREY HARRISON	7
WILLIAM J. ROOT	4	FREDERICK H. DEXTER	*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by COLIN HARRISON.

SOBERTON, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, July 8, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.
A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, BRISTOL, CAMBRIDGE AND SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 24 lb.

REGINALD A. REED	*Treble*	TOWER R. TAYLOR	5
GEORGE WILLIAMS	2	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY	6
KENNETH SNELLING	3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS	7
WILLIAM T. BEESON	4	OLIVER SIPPETTS	*Tenor*

Composed by E. C. S. TURNER. Conducted by FREDK. W. ROGERS

First peal of Spliced Surprise on the bells. This peal contains 2,944 London, 640 Bristol and 736 each of Cambridge and Superlative, with 112 changes of method.

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LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 8, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES-IN-THE-FIELDS, BLOOMSBURY,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

GEORGE A. PARSONS	*Treble*	FRANCIS KIRK	5
*ERNEST W. PYE	2	EDWIN JENNINGS	6
STAFFORD H. GREEN	3	HAROLD G. CASHMORE	7
CECIL C. MAYNE	4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	*Tenor*

Composed by J. PIGOTT. Conducted by J. C. E. SIMPSON.

* First peal of Bristol and first attempt.

KIBWORTH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 8, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,

A PEAL OF CANTERBURY PLEASURE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOSIAH MORRIS	*Treble*	ERNEST MORRIS	5
ARTHUR CATTELL	2	FRED STANIFORTH	6
FRANK K. MEASURES	3	GEO. STEDMAN MORRIS	7
WILLIAM A. WOOD	4	C. RAYMOND HILL	*Tenor*

Composed by H. BURSTOW. Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

First peal of Triples in the method by all, on these bells and in this diocese. A wedding peal for Mr. and Mrs. Ernest F. Staniforth, who were recently married at Fleckney.

STANDISH, LANCS.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 8, 1939, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

JAMES MARSH	*Treble*	JAMES L. WRIGHT	5
JOHN BOOTH	2	JOSEPH RHYARD	6
*CHARLES SHARPLES	3	E. ROGER MARTIN	7
*CYRIL CROSSTHWAITE	4	JAMES W. GROUNDS	*Tenor*

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by E. R. MARTIN.

* First peal in the method.

BRAMLEY, LEEDS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 8, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 15 lb. in F.

JOSEPH THACKRAY	*Treble*	*FRED DAVISON	5
*REGGIE GREAVES	2	FRANK RAYMENT	6
SAM HELLIWELL	3	RONALD H. DOVE	7
*JOHN W. SCHOLEFIELD	4	LEONARD DRAKE	*Tenor*

Composed by J. REEVES. Conducted by LEONARD DRAKE.

* First peal of Kent Major. First peal of Kent Major as conductor. Rung to mark the 76th anniversary of the consecration of the church (July 9th), also the patronal festival (June 29th).

LONGTON, STAFFS.

THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 8, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

ALAN D. STEEL	*Treble*	THOMAS HURD	5
HENRY HALL	2	JOHN G. CARTLIDGE	6
HENRY CARNWELL	3	CHARLES H. PAGE	7
EDWARD STEELE	4	ARTHUR W. HALL	*Tenor*

Composed by H. HUBBARD. Conducted by ARTHUR W. HALL.

J. A. TROLLOPE'S **'COLLEGE YOUTHS'**

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SIX BELL PEALS.

ELMORE, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 10 six-scores of Grandsire, two each of Pitman's and Morris arrangements, and 24 of St. Dunstan's, each called differently.

Tenor 12 cwt.

RONALD WRIGHT	*Treble*	ERNEST MATTHEWS	4
MELVILLE JORDAN	2	THOMAS WORRALL	5
LESLIE BARRY	3	*LIONEL JORDAN	*Tenor*

Conducted by LESLIE BARRY.

* First peal and first attempt, aged 14½ years.

STOKESAY, SHROPSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, June 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, with 10 callings. Tenor 9 cwt. (approx.).

LEONARD E. A. DAVIES	*Treble*	HUBERT JONES	4
JAMES HUGHES	2	ARTHUR C. MASON	5
GEORGE RANDLE	3	GEORGE ALLEN	*Tenor*

Conducted by WM. J. BENIAMS.

Rung as a welcome to the Rev. and Mrs. S. N. H. Frost.

IGHTHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 1, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different 720's.

ROBERT COLLINS	*Treble*	FREDERICK E. BUDGEN	4
ROBERT G. RAYFIELD	2	FREDERICK WOOLWAY	5
ARTHUR WENBAN	3	FREDERICK PAIGE	*Tenor*

Conducted by ROBERT COLLINS.

HARTFORD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 1, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

One extent of Plain Bob and three extents each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.

REGINALD W. WORRALL	*Treble*	RICHARD T. HOLDING	4
DAVID SMITH	2	WALTER ALLMAN	5
ALBERT CRAWLEY	3	HARRY W. HOWARD	*Tenor*

Conducted by H. W. HOWARD.

OLD BRADWELL, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 1, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of London, Norwich and Cambridge Surprise, Double Court, Double Oxford, St. Clement's and Plain Bob.

Tenor 7½ cwt. in A.

HERBERT C. BEARD	*Treble*	WILLIAM HENLEY	4
GEORGE GILBERT	2	HARRY WINGROVE	5
WILLIAM WELLING	3	TONY PRICE	*Tenor*

Conducted by TONY PRICE.

A birthday compliment to Mrs. H. C. Beard.

GLASBURY-ON-WYE, BRECONSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, July 2, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Clifford Pleasure, Percy's Pleasure, Reverse Canterbury and 720 each of Lindoff's and Morris' and two 720's of Pitman's arrangements of Grandsire. Tenor 15 cwt.

THOMAS VAUGHAN	*Treble*	FREDERICK J. WATKINS	4
DAVID H. BENNETT	2	JAMES P. HYETT	5
ALBERT E. JONES	3	*ALBERT F. RALPHS	*Tenor*

Conducted by J. P. HYETT.

* First peal. Rung for the patronal festival service, also in honour of the installation of the Vicar (the Rev. R. W. Lockyer) as Canon of Brecon Cathedral.

HINXWORTH, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 1, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's. Tenor 9½ cwt.

*H. W. SMITH ... ...*Treble*	H. SHERMAN 4
P. W. TOMPKINS... 2	E. BUCK 5
E. WAGSTAFF 3	S. WALLIS ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by S. WALLIS.

* First peal at first attempt, aged 14.

GLOUCESTER.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, July 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-DE-LODE,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 10 six-scores of Grandsire and 32 of St. Dunstan's, each called differently.

RONALD WRIGHT ... ...*Treble*	ERNEST MATTHEWS 4
THOMAS BALDWIN 2	LESLIE BARRY 5
*GEORGE SMITH 3	CHARLES HODGES... ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by LESLIE BARRY.

* First peal and first attempt, aged 14 years. Rung on the occasion of a visit of H.R.H. the Duchess of Gloucester.

STAVERTON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thursday, July 6, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Double Oxford, Double Court, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 11 cwt.

MRS. E. S. POWELL ... ...*Treble*	REV. E. S. POWELL 4
WALTER PERKINS... 2	CHARLES W. CLARKE 5
MISS EVELYN STEEL 3	REV. C. E. WIGG ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

First peal in seven methods on the bells. A birthday compliment to W. Perkins.

STANTON-ON-HINE-HEATH, SHROPSHIRE.
THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 8, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being an extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt. 3 lb.

WALTER LYCETT ... ...*Treble*	WILLIAM J. CHESTER 4
*THOMAS LEECH 2	EDWARD V. RODENHURST ... 5
THOMAS PRICE 3	ARTHUR PRITCHARD ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.

* First peal in seven methods.

MARPLE, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, July 8, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores with 10 callings. Tenor 17 cwt. (approx.).

ERIC WIGLEY ... ...*Treble*	†WILFRED WILDE 4
*EDWARD F. M. SAMSON ... 2	C. KENNETH LEWIS 5
†ALBERT T. BANCROFT ... 3	†JAMES A. MILNER ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. K. LEWIS.

* First peal and rung at first attempt. † First peal of Grandsire Doubles.

HOAR CROSS, STAFFS.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Saturday, July 8, 1939, in Three Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY ANGELS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's of Kent Treble Bob, two of Oxford Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 29 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb.

NORMAN G. LEECH ... ...*Treble*	ERIC E. SPEAKE 4
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER ... 2	HOWARD HOWELL 5
JOSEPH W. COTTON 3	BARNABAS G. KEY ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by B. G. KEY.

HANDBELL PEALS.

LINCOLN.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)
On Sunday, July 2, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,
AT 95, SINCIL BANK,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor, size 16 in B.

P. MICHAEL FREEMAN ... 1-2	JOHN FREEMAN 5-6
*RAYMOND F. SMITH 3-4	†KENNETH S. B. CROFT ... 7-8

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by JOHN FREEMAN.

* First peal 'in hand' and first in the method. † First peal and first attempt. All the above are under 20 years of age, the average age being 17 years 7 months.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tuesday, July 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT 45, WALSINGHAM ROAD,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

GEORGE W. FLETCHER ... 1-2	EDITH K. FLETCHER 5-6
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY 3-4	*EDWIN A. BARNETT 7-8

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by C. W. WOOLLEY.

* First peal in the method 'in hand.'

BURTON-ON-STATHER, LINCS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)
On Wednesday, July 5, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,
AT TRENTWOOD,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor, size 14½ in C sharp.

MRS. J. BRAY 1-2	JACK BRAY 5-6
*FRED JEFFREY 3-4	*PHILIP BARNES 7-8

Composed by FRANK BENNETT. Conducted by JACK BRAY.

* First peal 'in hand.'

DARTFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, July 5, 1939, in One Hour and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT 20, SWAISLAND ROAD,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents called differently. Tenor size 15 in C.

*JAMES E. BAILEY 1-2	DEREK M. SHARP 3-4
GEOFFREY V. MURPHY... ... 5-6	

Conducted by D. M. SHARP.

Witness—Mrs. J. E. Bailey.

* First peal of Minor on handbells.

ROTHERHAM, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, July 6, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,
AT 19, MIDDLE LANE SOUTH,
A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

T. COLIN RYDER... 1-2	ALBERT NASH 5-6
*HAROLD CHANT 3-4	JOHN THORPE 7-8
SIDNEY F. PALMER 9-10	

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE. Conducted by A. NASH.

* First peal of Royal on handbells.

PEAL NOTES.

(Continued from page 446.)

Another youthful peal ringer has scored a peal. At Hinxworth, Hertfordshire, on July 1st, H. W. Smith, who is only 14 years of age, rang his first peal at the first attempt.

Two other youths of 14 years have scored their first peal at the first attempt. At Elmore, Glouc., on June 10th, Lionel Gordon rang the 12 cwt. tenor to a peal of Doubles, and at St. Mary de Lode, Gloucester, George Smith rang the third to a peal of Grandsire and St. Dunstan's Doubles. The latter peal, on July 4th, was rung in honour of a visit of the Duchess of Gloucester.

PEAL NOTES.

NEARING 1,500.

Mr. George Williams got a 'star' last Saturday. He rang his first peal of Spliced Surprise Major, and rang it almost faultlessly. There is no limit to the enthusiasm and ambition of some of these young men. Mr. Williams is only 82.

Incidentally it was his 1,499th peal. In some respects it was a pity this notable performance did not make the round 1,500, for it was at the same church, Soberton, Hants, that in 1883 he rang his first peal.

Messrs. James Bennett and C. E. J. Norris have now rung every bell in the tower of St. Mary Magdalene's Church, Gillingham, Kent, to a peal. They completed this together on July 4th. Mr. Bennett began 'collecting' peals in this tower in the days when he was C.S.M., R.M. (We hope we have got these initials right.)

A peal of Bob Major was rung on June 29th at Boston 'Stump,' that tall and famous pile that overlooks the Wash. The peal was a birthday compliment to Mr. B. Jackson, one of the local ringers, and E. P. Clarke, son of Mr. W. E. Clarke, the conductor.

The tower of St. Botolph's is 272ft. high and now contains ten bells. Its restoration was carried out in 1932 with the help of the Bostonians of America, and it was then that the bells were increased from eight.

Members and ex-members of Manchester City Police Force rang a peal of Grandsire Cinques at Manchester Town Hall on July 1st, as a compliment to Supt. F. R. Williams, upon his retirement. Supt. Williams has long been connected with the ringing at the Town Hall and has been president of the National Guild of Police Ringers, of which he is now one of the vice-presidents.

It is desired to point out that although two men rang the tenor to the peal, this does not in any way reflect on the 'go' of the bell. It was so arranged to enable all the ringing members to take part in this tribute to the retiring Superintendent.

The 81st birthday of Mr. Tom Miller, of Birmingham, was celebrated on July 5th with a peal of Grandsire Triples at Lye, on the lightest ring of eight in the country. The two treble are approximately 60lb. each, and, as those who have tried them realise, all the bells require skilful handling. The small bells have to be rung with the clappers on the wrong side and the slightest error of judgment puts the clapper back, with fatal results to the ringing.

Mr. James Shepherd, who took part, has now rung peals on the heaviest and lightest rings in the country.

Messrs. Albert Nash, of Rotherham, and John Thorpe, of Sheffield, rang a handbell peal together on July 6th at Rotherham. Their previous handbell peal together was in June, 1909.

The peal of Canterbury Pleasure Triples at Kibworth on Saturday was specially arranged as a wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Ernest P. Staniforth, who were recently married at the nearby village of Fleckney, which has no ring of bells. The bridegroom is a namesake of the conductor, Mr. Ernest Morris, who 29 years ago acted as 'best man' at his father's wedding. The latter, Mr. Fred Staniforth, was in the same class at St. Margaret's School, Leicester, with the conductor 40 years ago, and here they are, still ringing side by side! It was also a 72nd birthday compliment to Mr. Josiah Morris, father of the conductor, who completed 250 peals for the Midland Counties Association.

With a peal of Stedman Triples at Ellesmere, on Saturday week, Mr. William Saunders, of Coalbrookdale, has now rung a peal upon every available and ringable 'eight' in the county. The band, who travelled an average distance of 30 miles each, wish to thank the Vicar (the Rev. M. J. Rush) for his permission to ring the peal, and Mr. A. Haynes, the local captain, for having everything in readiness.

The first peal in seven Minor methods on the bells at Staverton, Northants, was rung on July 6th. The Vicar and his wife (the Rev. E. S. and Mrs. Powell) took part, it was called by a Bedfordshire veteran, Mr. C. W. Clarke, and was a birthday compliment to a veteran of the Peterborough Guild, Mr. Walter Perkins. Miss Evelyn Steel and Mr. Walter Perkins rang their fiftieth peal together, and afterwards the Rev. E. S. and Mrs. Powell kindly entertained the ringers to supper.

The half-muffled peal at St. Clement Danes, the report of which was published last week, was rung on Thursday, June 29th, not Friday, the 30th. The explanation of the error is that our correspondent gave the date Friday, June 29th. We imagined that he knew the day of the week when it was rung, but mistook the day of the month, as many of us easily do. But we guessed wrong.

The church at Hoar Cross, Staffs, is one of the most beautiful in the country, but peals on the heavy ring are few and far between. A peal of Minor was, however, rung there on July 8th, and a member of the local band was so impressed by change ringing that he sat patiently in the belfry for four hours while the bells were pulled up and the peal rung.

The length of the peal of Cheltenham Bob Major rung at Crayford on June 16th was 5,024 and not 5,056 changes as published. The Editor, and the conductor, Mr. J. C. E. Simpson, are both innocent of this crime. The ringer who sent in the report did not know the length of the composition, but thought he could remember the number of 'Befores.' It is perhaps fortunate that he does not rely entirely on his memory for his living.

(Continued on page 445.)

RINGERS' OUTINGS.

EASTBOURNE RINGERS TRY DOUBLE COSLANY.

In perfect weather, the Christ Church, Eastbourne, ringers, with wives and lady friends, had their annual outing on Whit Monday and made a trip into Surrey, with Guildford its farthest point. En route they rang at Turner's Hill, but owing to Bank Holiday traffic conditions, coupled with the fact that the coach lacked 'horses' in climbing the numerous hills, the party arrived at Guildford three-quarters of an hour late. This was regretted by all, as it meant that ringing at S. Nicolas' Church, where they were met by Mr. E. G. Heath, had to be cut down to a bare half-hour.

After dinner, places of interest were visited and the journey resumed to Horsham for an hour's ringing at St. Mary's. On the homeward journey Slaugham was visited. This little village is rather off the map, but it has a lovely little peal of eight that go like tops. For an hour and a half the visitors rang from rounds to Surprise, the striking being mainly good.

During the afternoon some of the party had been studying some hastily drawn diagrams of Double Coslany Court Major, and at Slaugham decided to try for a course. At the third attempt, with the help of a friend from Southgate, they managed to 'Wade' through. The method proved to be more tricky than some had expected, but was voted 'a top hole' method by all. The journey to Eastbourne was enlivened by the choral efforts of the occupants of the back seat, but this was not appreciated by the four members who were trying to ring Plain Bob on handbells at the same time.

SURPRISING THE NATIVES.

Lowestoft, known as the 'land of the Rising Sun,' belied its name on June 22nd, when the members of the St. Margaret's Society held their annual outing, Thursday being early closing day. It was fine, but the 'north easter' was still bobbing around. Nineteen members and friends started off at 2 o'clock for a good run, Diss (Norfolk) being their first call. They were met by two of the local ringers, and touches of Bob Major and Kent Treble Bob were brought round. Some of the natives were surprised to hear their bells pealing out in the afternoon, and evidently thought that it was a celebration of the return on that day of the King and Queen. Eye (Suffolk) was the next call and upon arriving there the party enjoyed a sumptuous high tea at the White Lion Hotel, which had been arranged for by their octogenarian member. Visiting the Parish Church, touches of Bob Major and Kent Treble Bob were rung. Wilby (Suffolk) was their next venue, but while pulling up the bells they were informed that owing to illness near the church no ringing could take place. Nothing daunted, they doubled back to Fressingfield, dug out the obliging steeplekeeper and rang touches of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Bob Major. Home via Harleston, where, at the Magpie Hotel, they had an impromptu supper. They arrived back in the land of the 'missing' sun at 11.20 p.m., well satisfied that, notwithstanding King Sol's absence, it had been a very enjoyable outing. The ringers wish to thank all the incumbents for the privilege granted for using their towers, and their thanks are also extended to the ladies and gentlemen of the parish of St. Margaret's for their support.

A TWO-DAY AFFAIR.

The 41st annual outing of St. John the Baptist Society, Leytonstone, was, as usual, spread over two days, June 17th and 18th, a good time being spent in the Romney Marsh district of Kent, with headquarters at Tenterden. The party left London on Friday night and were joined by Mr. W. J. Nevard, who was looking well despite his 83 years. All were very sorry, however, at the absence of Mr. W. H. Theobald, who was prevented from going through indisposition.

Mr. R. Edwards acted as pilot for the two days spent in visiting the Kent towers, the travelling being done in a comfortable coach. At Staplehurst the party were met by Mr. Wenban, while at Frittenden they were welcomed by Mr. F. White. In the afternoon Appledore was first visited, after which the visitors rang at the historic old tower of New Romney, where the Vicar congratulated them on the good striking of Stedman and Double Norwich. A splendid drive followed along the sea front to Lydd, and then on to Rye for tea, which had been arranged by Mr. Hobson. Before reaching headquarters for the night a call was made at Stone-in-Oxney, where the local men met the party and they rang short touches of Surprise Minor on the peal of six.

A stroll in the country before breakfast is a thing that Leytonstone ringers seldom enjoy, but some of them were out before 7 a.m. on Sunday. After breakfast they visited Benenden to ring for morning service. On Sunday afternoon a visit was paid to Biddenden and Bethersden. At the former church is a handy ring of eight, but at the latter is a ring of six which would be better with the help of a competent bell hanger. The last pull of the tour was reserved for Tenterden's grand ring of eight, with a tenor of 30 cwt. Stedman, Superlative and Cambridge were rung, and some of the 'boys,' including Mr. Nevard, did well on the heavy peal.

The methods rung during the two days were Stedman, Double Norwich, Cambridge, Superlative, Yorkshire and London Surprise. The time spent in Kent made a great impression on those who were fortunate to take part, and the members wish to thank the clergy who so readily granted them permission, and Mr. Ballard, Mr. F. White and all the local ringers who met and welcomed them they are extremely grateful.

SURREY RINGERS AMONG HERTFORDSHIRE TOWERS.

Buckland, Charlwood and Merstham joined forces for their annual outing on June 10th and made a tour of six Hertfordshire towers. The tour had been arranged by members of the Merstham band, who this year decided on breaking new ground, and the perfect June weather which favoured the outing, combined with the interest of the churches visited, made the day one to be remembered.

The first contingent joined the coach at Charlwood as early as 6.20 a.m., the company being augmented at Brockham Green, Buckland, Reigate, Redhill and Merstham. With a full load they left the latter place at 7.40 and proceeded across London and thence via Barnet to Northaw, where the fine tower containing six bells marked their first call. The church is comparatively modern, having been restored about the middle of last century, when the earlier building had been destroyed by fire. It is a fine edifice in a setting so rural that it is difficult to believe London is well under 20 miles away.

A few miles further on the party came to Essendon, whose ancient church stands in an even lovelier setting. There is much that could be recorded of St. Mary the Virgin's Church, whose chief points of interest were kindly pointed out to the visitors by Mr. Giles, the parish clerk. The building was considerably damaged by a bomb dropped from a Zeppelin in the early hours of a September morning in 1916, and, though restored, the building contains many evidences of that tragic event.

The fine Church of St. Etheldreda at Hatfield was the next call, and there was enough of interest to detain the party far beyond their scheduled stay. The history of the church for many years is closely associated with that of the Marquises of Salisbury, and many monuments and tablets testify to the greatness of that illustrious house. The church has a fine tower containing ten bells, whose beauty of tone was heard to full advantage in Grandsire Triples and Bob Major. At the conclusion of the ringing here there was just time for a peep at the exterior of the great pile of Hatfield House and a tour of the Old Palace. The latter dates back to the fifteenth century and its restoration some years ago has brought to light many of the striking features of its interior. Here Queen Elizabeth gained much of her early education and not long after in the same building she was imprisoned by her half-sister, Mary Tudor. The gardens outside are reputed to be in the same formation and lay-out as when Elizabeth walked in them nigh on four centuries ago. The items of interest here were kindly shown to us by ex-Sergt. A. Lawrence.

The company enjoyed an excellent lunch at the Red Lion Hotel, Hatfield, where they were very pleased to welcome Mr. D. K. C. Birt, Master of the Surrey Association, who accompanied them for the rest of the tour.

The village of Sandridge, a few miles distant, was the next place of call, where they made the none-too-easy ascent of the tower of St. Leonard's, containing six bells. The church is extremely ancient, having been founded by Herbert Losinga, founder of Norwich Cathedral, not later than 1119. There is here a wonderful stone arch dividing the chancel from the nave, which, though altered from its original design, has remained unchanged for 400 years. In common with many other churches, there are signs of rough usage in the stormy days of Cromwell.

A church in the fields was next visited, that of SS. Peter and Paul, Kimpton, whose tower, again, contains six bells. The church has a very long nave and possesses many interesting memorials. It is of great age and comprises a mixture of the Norman and Early English styles.

Tea was taken at the Old Cock Inn at Harpenden, herd by the Church of S. Nicholas, the last tower on the programme. This fine tower has eight bells, and here, after tea, the longest spell of ringing was indulged in. The church itself is a spacious building with much history and full of interest. The people of Harpenden were given an hour of melody and local ringers joined the company in some of the touches.

The sun was getting low by the time the last of these died away and it was necessary to think of the long trip southwards again. Although so much ground had been covered, the day had seemed all too short. The thanks of all are due to those who made the arrangements.

At each of the towers visited rounds were rung for the beginners and during the day the ringing at the six-bell towers included Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain and Oxford Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise. At the other towers Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob and Kent Treble Bob Major.

DAGENHAM RINGERS' OUTING.

Dagenham ringers and friends, mustering 20, had a charabanc tour embracing Essex and Hertfordshire, and visited Harlow Common, Hunsdon, Little Hadham, Braughing and Broxbourne—four peals of eight and one of five. Various methods were rung throughout the day. Lunch was disposed of at the Turkey Cock at Hunsdon, where the 'go' of the bells made refreshment rather necessary. Tea at Braughing was 'a sight for the gods,' and parties visiting Braughing would be well advised to visit the Golden Fleece. The Dagenham men take this opportunity to thank incumbents for their permission to ring, and the local ringers for having everything ready for them.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

'Mr. Green' seems to be up to his tricks again and going round to ringers in the South, endeavouring to impose upon their generosity. He visited a ringer at Hastings and asked for money to get to Eastbourne. He was given 2s. Two or three days later he called on Mr. A. C. Pankhurst, in Eastbourne, and asked for money to enable him to get to Hampshire. He gave the name of 'Mr. Green.' His quest was not successful. Ringers should be on their guard against this gentleman.

A party of members and friends of the Ladies' Guild travelled together to Ipswich for the annual meeting. Owing to the fact that one or two of them belonged to the 'Tower Snatchers' Union,' or some similar organisation, the return train was only caught because it was running late.

There is, however, no truth in the rumour that three well-known members of the Guild intend to issue a challenge to the present holder of the 'Mile Championship.'

The death took place on July 5th, at an advanced age, of Mr. J. W. Elkins, senior dean's verger at Winchester Cathedral. A long life in the service of the Church has thus closed. Mr. Elkins was keenly interested in the Cathedral bells, and he knew and loved every stone of the fabric, with which he had been so long and so intimately associated.

Ringers at a loose end on August Bank Holiday will be catered for at Leatherhead, Surrey, where an 'open' meeting is to be held.

Mr. Cornelius Charge, of Auckland, New Zealand, arrived in England on June 28th by the N.Z. liner 'Remuera,' from Wellington, via Panama. His address for the present will be 30, Carmarthen Road, Slough.

The first touch at 'home' after 17 years' absence was rung at St. Mary's, Slough, on Thursday, July 6th, when a good company met at the tower and welcomed the wanderer.

Mr. William Nevard, of Great Bentley, was present after spending the day at the Royal Agricultural Show at Windsor, recalling his first attendance at the show in 1875, held at Taunton. The Wrington Society of Ringers also joined up for touches, a party of 33, who had been to the Whitechapel Foundry to see the new bells for Liverpool Cathedral and the ringing tenor of four tons.

METAL FRAMES.

A SIMPLE PROTECTION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I see that there was a discussion on steel girders at the Central Council meeting and that photographs handed to members showed an instance of steel girders largely eaten away with rust.

We have such girders and frame here, which were put in by Taylors in 1913. Up to now they have never had a coat of paint, and I do not think anyone could find a spot of rust on either girders or frame.

When cleaning up the lubricant which escapes from the plain bearings I finished off with cotton waste, and I rubbed the girders and frame with this waste occasionally. It was only just sufficient to give a thin coating to the work, and there always seemed enough lubricant collected in the cotton waste to do this without adding any more to it. The work, besides being protected from rust, always looked fresh and clean. I did this for 25 years, while I was steeplekeeper, and when I gave up everything appeared to be in as good a condition as when first put in.

C. TYLER.

Henfield, Sussex.

BELLS FOR CHIMING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I note in your issue of June 23rd under the Towers and Belfries Committee report that a bell hung for chiming only should be on gudgeons so that it is free to move. I take it that this refers to a bell fitted with a chiming hammer, not a rope attached to the clapper. Personally, I should think it would be more likely to damage the bell under these conditions than if it could not move, for several reasons, and I have had experience in one case of this happening.

D. A. OSBORN.

Galhampton, Yeovil.

YORKSHIRE SURPRISE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major which appeared in 'Peal Notes' in your last issue, credited to Mr. C. K. Lewis, was composed by Mr. George Lewis, of Eccleshield, many years ago.

This composition, starting at the ninth course, was rung by members of the Yorkshire Association at Rawmarsh on November 20th, 1937, to Pudsey Surprise, and appears in our records as No. 4,071 of the association's performances.

W. BARTON,
Peal Secretary, Yorkshire Association.

NEW BISHOP WELCOMED.

On Sunday, June 25th, at St. Thomas' Church, Neath, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung as a welcome to the diocese of the newly-elected Bishop of Llandaff (the Right Rev. John Morgan): Raymond Grant 1, Glyn Jones 2, Henry Boyce 3, Roland Keey 4, William Gear (conductor) 5, Frederick Symons 6.

THE LADIES' GUILD.

MEMBERSHIP NEARLY 400.

The annual general meeting of the Ladies' Guild was held at Ipswich on Saturday and was attended by 28 members. Five peals of bells were available, ranging from five to twelve, and all the towers were visited by some of the members.

A short service was held at St. Mary-le-Tower Church, conducted by the Rev. R. J. Brady, Rector of St. Lawrence with St. Stephen, who gave an address. In the absence of an organist, Miss Snowden played the piano for the hymns.

Tea was enjoyed by 57 members and friends, after which the business meeting was held, with the president, Miss E. Steel, in the chair.

The accounts showed a very gratifying state of affairs. Excess of income over expenditure for the year was £6 2s. 3½d., and the total cash balances were £33 3s. 11d., with a stock of badges valued at £1 17s. The treasurer paid tribute to the work of the district secretaries for their untiring efforts in collecting the elusive subscriptions, and looked forward to the time when she could report that all subscriptions were up to date. Matters were undoubtedly improving.

Miss Evelyn Steel was unanimously elected president and Mrs. G. W. Fletcher hon. secretary and treasurer.

The secretary reported that the membership had now reached 350 ringing members and about 40 honorary members, which brought the total nearly to the 400 mark. One peal of Minor had been rung during the year by members of the newly-formed Eastern District. Miss Thursfield had been reluctantly obliged to resign from the secretaryship of the South Midland District, and her place had been taken by Miss F. Hart.

The President spoke of the loss through death of Mrs. Taylor, of Maidenhead, and Mrs. Atkins, of Isham, and a silent tribute was paid to their memory.

At the meeting in 1938, when the Guild was divided into new districts, it was decided to try the experiment for one year. Reports were received from secretaries who could not be present at the meeting, and district secretaries present reported individually. On the whole the new scheme had worked satisfactorily, and it was resolved to continue the present working. It was also decided to publish reports at an early date.

Mrs. Richardson reported briefly on the Central Council meeting held in London on Whitsun Tuesday.

Three places were proposed for the next annual general meeting, viz., Winchester, Brighton and Leicester. Brighton received no seconder, and, on being put to the vote, Winchester was chosen.

The President congratulated Mrs. J. Bray on taking part in the record peal of Spliced Minor, and also spoke of the pleasure it gave her to read of the many excellent performances of the members in various parts of the country.

Votes of thanks were passed to Miss Sylvia Bowyer and all who had helped in the arrangements for the meeting, which was undoubtedly one of the most successful ever held by the Guild.

LONDON DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the London District of the Ladies' Guild was held at St. George-the-Martyr's, Southwark, on Saturday, July 1st. During the afternoon the bells were rung to Grandsire, Stedman, Bob Major, Double Norwich, Cambridge and London.

The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. E. Cook), who welcomed the Guild to St. George's.

Tea was at the George Inn, Borough High Street, where 35 sat down, 20 being members of the Guild. The Vicar, who joined the company at tea, was amazed to find that many of the ladies (whom he had been secretly thinking must be still at school) were nonchalantly referring to their 'husbands'!

The business meeting was held at the church, where Mrs. R. F. Deal, the vice-president, was in the chair.

The election of officers resulted in the vice-president and the district secretary (Mrs. F. W. Housden) being re-elected. The committee now consists of the vice-president, Mrs. C. H. Kippin, Mrs. F. Mitchell and Mrs. J. E. Davis.

Three new members were elected: Mrs. F. I. Hairs, Miss Brenda Richardson and Miss May Davies.

As the district has members as far down as Eastbourne, it was thought that a tower somewhere between London and the coast for the next meeting might result in bringing in some of these outlying members, and Crawley, with its ideal ladies' peal, was suggested as a good rendezvous.

This met with the approval of the company, and Milton-next-Gravesend was selected as an alternative, should Crawley tower not be available.

However, as has since been ascertained, Crawley tower *is* available for the required date, September 23rd, and Mr. Oliver Sippetts has kindly consented to the meeting being held.

Further ringing took place in the evening. Two 'solo pieces' by the ladies were Stedman Triples and Cambridge Major, conducted by Mrs. G. W. Fletcher. Nevertheless, the Guild would like to mention here that they are always extremely grateful to the menfolk who support the meetings and assist in the ringing, thereby contributing in no small measure to their success.

Thanks are due to Mr. Norman Begworth for having the tower in readiness for the Guild.

DEATH OF MR. THOMAS J. ELTON.

CAPTAIN OF ST. MATTHEW'S, WALSALL.

We deeply regret to announce the death of Mr. Thomas J. Elton, of Walsall, who passed away on Saturday, July 1st, at the Wolverhampton Eye Infirmary after only a comparatively short illness. He stayed with his son in Guildford during Whitsun week and took part in a peal of Stedman Triples at the Cathedral.

The funeral took place on Wednesday, July 5th, the service being held at Blakenall Heath Parish Church, Walsall, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. R. W. Wardle, and the address given by the Vicar of Walsall. The interment took place at Bloxwich Cemetery.

The late Mr. Tom Elton was 65 years of age, having been born on November 29th, 1873. He had been a ringer for 48 years. He first learned to ring at Blakenall Heath (a peal of five bells) in 1891, and then went to Bloxwich to instruct a band. In 1901 he joined the company at St. Matthew's, Walsall, where there was then a peal of ten, and he remained a regular ringer there for 38 years and had been towerkeeper. He was also a chorister for over 30 years and served on the Church Council.

Tom Elton rang his first peal (Grandsire Triples) at Bloxwich on November 5th, 1892. His first peal as conductor was at the same tower on November 24th, 1894. This was also Grandsire Triples.

He has been a member of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford for 47 years and served on the Central Council from 1924 to 1938. Under his influence the ten bells at St. Matthew's were recast and augmented to a fine peal of 12 bells in 1928.

The total number of peals in which he had taken part was 270 and he had conducted 85. His conducting was somewhat unique, as all the compositions he had called were different. He had rung peals of Grandsire and Stedman from Doubles to Cinques, and Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob from Minor to Maximus. In 1899 he took part in a peal of 11,563 changes of Grandsire Caters at Wolverhampton, rung in 7 hours and 10 minutes, conducted by J. E. Groves, and another noteworthy peal was at Wednesbury in 1913, when he conducted a peal of Stedman Caters on St. Thomas' Day with all the ringers named Thomas.

He will be sadly missed by numerous ringing colleagues throughout the country and particularly by the local band at Walsall.

On Thursday, July 6th, members of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang a peal of Stedman Cinques (recorded elsewhere) with the bells half-muffled as a memorial peal. Prior to the peal, with all the ringers at their ropes, the Vicar of Walsall (the Rev. H. J. Carpenter) conducted a brief service in memory of Thomas J. Elton.

BARNSLEY SOCIETY'S CONTEST.

GOOD RINGING IN BAD WEATHER.

The fourteenth annual shield contest of the Barnsley and District Society was held at Kirkthorpe, near Wakefield, on Saturday, when nine bands competed. The test piece was 600 changes in any method. Mr. A. Hoyle, of Shelley, and Mr. H. Chant, of Felkirk, acted as judges, and Mr. T. W. Strangeways, of Rothwell, was marker. The order of the ringing and the result was as follows:—

		Faults	Penalties	Total
1.	Wath	131	0	131
2.	Shelley	113	0	113
3.	Meltham ...	89	10	79
4.	Felkirk	108	0	108
5.	New Mill ...	36	10	Rung out
6.	Liversedge ...	98	0	98
7.	Friezland ...	61	0	61
8.	Sandal	70	0	70
9.	Horbury ...	160	0	160

All the bands rang Oxford Treble Bob. Friezland were the winners and received the shield and six cases of knives and forks. Sandal were second and received six oak biscuit barrels. Meltham were third and were awarded six cases of pastry forks.

The Vicar (the Rev. W. Willoughby) spoke a few words of welcome to all. He said he felt honoured very much in having such an event at Kirkthorpe, and he had enjoyed hearing their bells rung well.

Darfield was chosen as the next place of meeting, on August 12th.

The usual vote of thanks followed, to the Vicar for inviting the society to hold the contest at Kirkthorpe, to the ladies for the splendid tea they had provided, to the local company for the arrangements made and to the judges. Thus ended a good contest on a very wet day.

THE IBSTOCK PEAL.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—May I congratulate Miss Rowley on her performance of ringing a peal within twelve days of her 14th birthday? At the same time, the claim to have been the youngest lady to do so in the 'M.C.A.' fails by nearly a month. On October 12th, 1912, two of my daughters rang in Holt's Original, the younger—then Miss Hilda Willson—being then 13, and 26 days short of her 14th birthday.

On the following Boxing Day both again rang in a peal of Double Norwich. During August Bank Holiday Hilda rang four peals—Superlative, Cambridge, Stedman Caters and Double Norwich, the last two being rung in one day (see M.C.A. report, 1912-13).

WILLIAM WILLSON.

Leicester.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

BIRMINGHAM RINGERS' SUMMER MEETING.

The summer quarterly meeting of St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham was held on Saturday, July 1st. It is customary to hold this gathering at one of the country parish churches within the diocese, and so on this occasion a return visit was paid to the ancient and royal borough of Sutton Coldfield, which is situated in lovely country about eight miles north-east of the city. The Parish Church of the Holy Trinity was built at the end of the 13th century and the first incumbent appointed in 1305. Extensive alterations and additions were made in the 16th, 18th and 19th centuries, and the whole of the fabric was restored in 1926, together with extensive interior decorations and improvements.

Until two years ago the church was quite hidden by cottage property; since then much of it has been demolished and the space laid out as a memorial garden in memory of Bishop Vesey, who was Rector of Sutton Coldfield in 1535, and afterwards became Bishop of Exeter. He later returned to Sutton Coldfield and built the Moor Hall, where he spent the latter part of his life in hospitality and splendour and died in his 103rd year. So great was his affection for his native place that he spared no pains to improve it and make it flourish. He was buried in the church and his tomb is in the Vesey Chapel in the north aisle. Some years ago this chapel was enclosed by a fine oak screen erected in memory of Canon C. W. Barnard, who was Rector from 1909 to 1925.

The massive tower contains a peal of eight bells, and these were made good use of during the afternoon and evening in various methods ranging from Grandsire to Cambridge Surprise, also Spliced Grandsire, Stedman and Erin Triples.

The usual Guild service was dispensed with, but the Rector (the Rev. G. L. Harvey) addressed the company prior to tea, giving them a hearty welcome to Sutton Coldfield. An excellent tea had been arranged at the British Legion Club, and this was thoroughly enjoyed by 30 members present.

In the absence of the Master, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, M.A., who had sent an apology stating he was too unwell to attend, the vice-president, Councillor A. Paddon Smith, presided at the business meeting. The secretary reported that he had on behalf of the Guild undertaken to dispose of six copies of the new publication of Surprise Major Methods, being double the quantity allotted by the Central Council. The action of the secretary was confirmed on the proposition of Mr. A. Walker, who stated there would be no difficulty of disposing of even more copies.

There were no new members to be proposed, but the following tower elections were duly ratified: Messrs. James F. Harvey, of Bradford, C. H. Kippin, of Croydon, E. C. S. Turner, of West Ealing, M. G. Turner, of West Bromwich, and John Walton, of Hagley, Stourbridge, all as life members.

The Chairman, the Guild's representative on the Central Council, gave a very short report of the last Council meeting, stating that he took it all members of the Guild were regular subscribers to 'The Ringing World,' and were, therefore, quite conversant with all the proceedings as published in recent issues. In his opinion the Council meeting had been well worth while and some excellent work accomplished.

This opinion was fully endorsed by Mr. Albert Walker, an honorary member of the Council.

On the proposition of the Ringing Master (Mr. F. E. Haynes), it was agreed to hold the next quarterly meeting at King's Norton.

The Chairman said they were pleased to see Mr. James George amongst them again, looking quite his old self, and congratulated him on his recovery and his wonderful performance in ringing the 7th recently at Measham in a peal of Stedman Triples.

The Secretary also referred to the recent peal of Stedman Cinques rung at Aston Parish Church by a purely local band. Considering that the peal of twelve had only been in about four years and that most of the band were quite young ringers, they were to be highly congratulated on their success and the spirit that animated them.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for the use of the bells, to the British Legion for the use of their club room and the excellent tea so well served, and to Mr. W. G. Anker, the local towerkeeper, for making such excellent arrangements, proposed by the chairman, ended the meeting. This, however, by no means ended the proceedings. Several good touches were rung on the handbells, and, whilst some returned to the tower for further ringing, the attractions of the billiard tables engaged the attention of others, whilst some patronised another part of the club, where they were joined by others, including a party of ringers from Ruardean, Glos. And so terminated a very pleasant meeting.

FAREWELLS.

For evening service at St. Mary's Church, Peckleton, Leicestershire, on June 18th, two 720's of Plain Bob Minor were rung by F. Mears 1, L. Ward 2, A. Pegg 3, W. A. Wood 4, F. Deacon 5, G. Newton (conductor) 6, to mark the last service conducted by the retiring Rector (the Rev. S. R. Pocock), after completing 53 years in Holy Orders. At the same time, the sexton (Mr. E. A. Hall), who had held office at Peckleton for 24 years, retired from his duties.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

A PEAL OF TWELVE FOR SOUTH WALES?

A quarterly meeting of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association was held at Caldicot on Saturday, July 8th, and, considering what a very wet day it was, was fairly well attended. Ringing took place prior to service, which was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. R. C. Garrod, who also gave a very interesting address. Following tea in the Schoolroom, the Vicar presided over the business meeting. A proposal to restore St. Bride's Major tower, which is in a bad state, and to restore the bells, was explained by the hon. secretary (Mr. J. W. Jones), who read the Vicar's letter and the appeal. It was unanimously decided that a recommendation be made to the annual meeting that £3 be voted from the funds. Mention was made that two bells are to be added shortly to the ten at St. Woolos', Newport, so as to make a ring of twelve. There was no one present from St. Woolos' to endorse this.

Instructors' reports were received, and a report of the Central Council meeting was submitted by Mr. E. Stitch. A number of new members were elected, including the ringers from a new tower, Penrhos, where it was stated Mr. R. Smith, of Llanfrechfa, had given instruction.

It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting for Monmouthshire at Abergavenney.

The Chairman made a proposal that, when the enthronement of the new Bishop took place at Llandaff, all the bells in the diocese should be rung.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar, the ladies and all who contributed to make the meeting such a success and also for the hospitality in providing tea. Afterwards the bells were rung in various methods for the rest of the evening.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

'PROGRESS ONLY SLOW.'

The 40th annual meeting of the Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association was held at Whitby on Saturday, June 24th. In spite of the wintry nature of the weather, quite a good number visited the old-world seaside town. Tea was held at Breckon's Cafe, Sandgate, and, being a ringer, the proprietor very capably supplied the requirements of all appetites. The annual business meeting, which was afterwards held, was presided over by the president (Mr. J. C. Pollard).

In his annual report the secretary stated that the past year had not shown the improvement that he had hoped for, and, whilst nothing had declined, progress had only been slow. He wished to thank all those who had assisted him in any way during the year.

The financial position was found to be very satisfactory, a credit balance of £28 3s. 11d. being reported. As the association had a good balance in hand, it was decided that during the next year the association should contribute 6d. towards the cost of each member's tea when attending meetings. All the officers were re-elected and a vote of thanks for their services during the year was unanimously carried.

Meetings were arranged to be held during the year as follow: September, at Middleham; January, 1940, Thirsk; April, Richmond; and the annual meeting in June at Middlesbrough.

The question of printing a report instead of duplicating it as had been done for some time past was discussed, and, after a long discussion, it was decided to have the report printed.

Mr. H Simpson, of Middlesbrough, was elected a member. A vote of thanks was accorded to the churchwardens for the use of the bells and to the local company for their part in arranging the meeting. The secretary was instructed to send a letter of condolence to Mr. J. Stott, one of the vice-presidents of the association, in his bereavement by the death of his wife.

A return was made to the tower for further ringing until eight o'clock, but it was interesting to note that only the older ringers found sufficient energy to climb the 199 steps which lead to the church for a second time. Once up the steps during the afternoon proved to be sufficient for the younger generation.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

NORTH AND EAST DISTRICT REVISIT STAMFORD HILL.

After a lapse of a few years, a meeting of the North and East District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild was held at St. Ann's Church, Stamford Hill, on Saturday, June 24th, where the association received a friendly welcome.

Mr. W. J. Frost, the local captain, had everything in readiness, and the bells were made good use of throughout the afternoon and evening. Methods rung included Double Court Bob Minor and London Surprise Minor, specially selected for the meeting, and rounds were rung for those not up to change ringing standard, some young people making a very welcome appearance.

A short service was conducted by the Rev. A. T. Morgan. An excellent tea followed, after which the Vicar was thanked for the use of the bells and the hospitality extended to the association. In reply, he said he was very pleased to have the bells rung again every Sunday by a local team and thanked Mr. C. T. Coles (secretary of the association), who is teaching the newly-formed band there, for his efforts in this respect.

At the business meeting the election of five members was agreed to.

A joint meeting with the Hertford County Association is being arranged to take place at Barnet and Monken Hadley on Saturday, July 22nd, and Hendon was chosen as the tower to visit in August.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A DEPUTY RINGING MASTER APPOINTED.

The summer quarterly meeting of the Eastern District of the Yorkshire Association was held at Eastrington on Saturday, and was attended by over 30 ringers from Goole, Hemingbrough, Hessle, Howden, Hull, Kirk Ella, Market Weighton, Nunburnholme, Pontefract (St. Giles' and All Saints'), Selby Abbey, Sherburn-in-Elmet, Thorne and the local company.

The Vicar (the Rev. H. Firby), who since coming to Eastrington some two years ago has taken up ringing, conducted a short service in church and gave a most interesting address and also presided at the business meeting.

A letter was received from Mr. H. C. Walters expressing his wish to resign from the position of Ringing Master, but it was decided, after a discussion, to ask him to remain in office, and Mr. E. Bradley, of Sherburn-in-Elmet, was elected as Deputy Ringing Master.

An invitation to hold the September meeting at Pocklington was received from the Vicar of Pocklington, who is also Rector of Nunburnholme, and both these rings of bells will be at the disposal of the association.—This was unanimously accepted.

Mr. Cryer, the vice-president, thanked the meeting for the letter of congratulation sent to him on his 80th birthday, and expressed the hope he would be with them for a long time to come. He was pleased to say he was once again in his usual good health.

Those present learned with regret of the deaths of Mr. A. Hatfield, of Hemingbrough, after a long illness, and of Mr. W. Middleton, of Beverley, a former Ringing Master of the Eastern District, and a ringer at Beverley Minster for a number of years. The members stood in silence to their memory, and the secretary undertook to write to the relatives.

Votes of thanks to the Vicar, organist, local company and the ladies who served tea were passed, and in his reply the Vicar welcomed the association to Eastrington, while Mr. W. N. Hains, the local secretary, said how pleased they were at having such a good company present on such a wet day.

WESTERN DIVISION AND THE 'OVERCROWDING' PROBLEM.

The members of the Western Division of the Yorkshire Association had a very enjoyable outing on Saturday, June 24th, when they held their summer meeting at the Church of Holy Trinity, Skipton. Upwards of 50 members were present during the day and a pleasing feature was that most of the towers from the surrounding district were represented.

The bells, which are a fine peal of eight with a lovely tone, were raised about 2 o'clock, and, excepting for a brief interval for the tea and meeting, were rung in a variety of methods until finally lowered about 8.40 p.m.

Tea was served in the Castle Cafe, opposite the church, so that no time was lost in attending to this most essential part of the proceedings, and the 36 who sat down were amply repaid for their afternoon's efforts in catching those elusive 'Sallies.'

The business meeting was held in the church vestry and was exceptionally well attended, Mr. P. J. Johnson occupying the chair, supported by the association's president (Canon C. C. Marshall). One new member, Mr. Donald Fowler, of Silsden, was elected.

As no invitations had been received for the September meeting, it was hoped that arrangements could be made to hold this in the Bradford district, as it was a considerable time since the association had been there. Mr. Barton thereupon proposed and Mr. Lofthouse seconded that arrangements be made with a view to taking the meeting to Shipley if at all possible. It was further hoped to make this a joint meeting with the Leeds and District Society, as September is a month when almost every Saturday is taken up with meetings, and this would, to a certain extent, assist the overcrowding problem.

In moving a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector and wardens for so kindly granting the use of the bells, and to the local company for making such splendid arrangements for the meeting, Canon Marshall spoke of their very great pleasure in being allowed to have the meeting there. He was sure everyone had thoroughly enjoyed themselves and they really appreciated all that had been done for their comfort. He expressed his regret at the absence of the Rector, who, he was sorry to hear, was about to enter the Leeds Infirmary, and was sure everyone present would wish him a speedy recovery. He suggested that a message of good wishes be sent to him from the meeting.—Mr. J. F. Harvey seconded this proposition, which was cordially carried.

Mr. H. Stanforth replied for the local company, and said how pleased they were to see so many present and hoped that everyone would thoroughly enjoy themselves. They would be only too pleased to do the same again whenever the association could visit them.

The chairman was pleased to announce that another record had been made in the division—instead of failing to send in the names for tea, which was a usual ringers' habit—that day 37 had sent in for tea and 36 had sat down. He could see that his words at previous meetings had borne fruit, and he hoped it would be maintained.

This concluded the business and the handbells appeared and were greatly enjoyed.

The towers represented during the day were as follows: Addingham, Armley, Bradford Cathedral, Burley, Denholme, Guiseley, Headingley (St. Chad's and St. Michael's), Huddersfield, Idle, Kildwick, Ilkley, Keighley, Leeds Parish Church, Pudsey, Queensbury, Rothwell, Skipton, Silsden, Ripon and the local company.

THE ROUNDABOUT.

AN ORDER AND WHAT CAME OF IT.

A few days ago a ringer, or ringers, in Derbyshire, required a copy of two method sheets and the 'Collection of Minor Methods,' published by the Central Council. The order was placed with the local Co-operative Society, who passed it on to Messrs. W. H. Smith and Son, who sent it to 'The Ringing World,' who forwarded it to the Council's librarian. The librarian sent the publications to the Co-operative Society, who handed them to the customer. The librarian had also to send an account to Messrs. Smith and Son, who sent an account to the Co-operative Society, who, in turn, charged the customer. The customer paid the Co-operative Society, the Co-operative Society sent a remittance to Messrs. Smith and Son, less discount; Messrs. Smith and Son sent a remittance to the librarian, less a larger discount. The librarian sent a receipt to Messrs. Smith and Son, and Messrs. Smith and Son sent a receipt to the Co-operative Society. Happily 'The Ringing World' kept itself out of all these subsequent transactions, but it might well have been included in the circumlocution. By the time postages and discounts had been taken out of the cost of the purchase, the transaction was not a very profitable one.

We mention all this in the hope that ringers, when they require any of the Council's publications, will forward their order and remittance direct to the librarian, whose address is given in the advertisement in our columns, from which the customer in this case must have taken particulars. It was, perhaps, thoughtlessness which led to this particular order being placed in this way, and the customer could hardly have realised the amount of clerical work involved, for, in addition to sending to and fro, there has been book-keeping to do at every stage. And the gross amount of the order was about 2s. 6d.! Verb sap.

RETIREMENT OF SUPERINTENDENT WILLIAMS.

A MANCHESTER PEAL AND PRESENTATION.

Following the ringing of the peal of Grandsire Cinques at the Town Hall, Manchester, on July 1st, in honour of the retirement of Supt. F. L. Williams (who is a vice-president of the National Police Guild), the band, with many of his ringing friends in the district, were entertained to tea by Mr. Williams. Altogether 32 sat down, but it should be mentioned that cups and saucers were not used on this special occasion.

During the evening P.C. W. Pye called upon Mr. F. Page (a past member of the Force) to make a presentation to Mr. Williams. This took the form of a solid silver inkstand, in the shape of a bell, and a fountain pen.

Mr. Williams thanked the police ringers for their present and said he was prepared during his leisure time to give what assistance he could to the Police Guild and the Lancashire Association.

A very enjoyable social evening was spent and some excellent touches of various methods on handbells were much appreciated.

Mr. Walter Wolstencroft, in thanking Mr. Williams on behalf of the visitors, said how delighted they were that the peal had been successful. Many of them had heard different parts of the ringing that afternoon and all agreed that a good peal had been rung and they looked upon it as a definite advancement by the Town Hall band.

On Sunday, visits were made to Christ Church, Didsbury, and St. George's, Heaviley, Stockport, enabling Mr. Fred Page to again meet some of his old acquaintances prior to his return to Lancing, Sussex.

WEDDING OF TWO CORNISH RINGERS

REV. A. S. ROBERTS AND MISS JESSIE ANGWIN.

The wedding of two well-known Cornish ringers took place on Saturday, July 1st, when Miss E. Jessie C. Angwin was married to the Rev. A. S. Roberts, now curate at St. Aldhelm, Upper Edmonton. The marriage took place at Truro Cathedral, and the ceremony was performed by the Venerable the Archdeacon of Cornwall (Canon G. W. Hockley), assisted by the Rev. H. M. Boswell (Vicar of St. Aldhelm's, Edmonton). A Nuptial Mass followed, the celebrant being the Sub-Dean of the Cathedral (Canon H. W. Sedgwick).

The bride was attended by two page boys, two bridesmaids, the Misses Sylvia Jenkin and Mary Grix, and two matrons of honour, Mrs. N. E. Penrose and Mrs. S. Balls, her sisters. Mr. F. M. Roberts, brother of the bridegroom, acted as best man, and Messrs. Cyril E. Lanxon and B. Beckerley were ushers. Mr. Guillaume Ormond, the Cathedral organist, was at the organ. After the ceremony the Cathedral bells were rung by members of the Cathedral company.

On the previous Tuesday evening, after the usual Cathedral practice, the Rev. W. H. R. Trewhella presented the bride and bridegroom with a fireside chair on behalf of the company. The bride has been a member of the company for many years, and the bridegroom, before leaving Cornwall, was for many years secretary and for a while Master of the company, as well as being district secretary of the Truro Branch of the Truro Diocesan Guild for ten years, and during that time both were actively interested in bells and ringing throughout the county of Cornwall.

The honeymoon is being spent at Hereford, Liverpool, the Isle of Man and Chester, and the future address of Mr. and Mrs. Roberts will be 40, Haselbury Road, Edmonton, London, N.18.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

VISIT TO MILTON ABBEY.

A meeting of the Dorchester Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild was held at Milton Abbey on Saturday, June 17th, and the large number who attended from far and wide was evidence of the continued popularity which this beautiful place holds; many companies making the meeting the occasion of their summer outing. The writer travelled down with the Weymouth party, and on the way a halt was made to enable them to ring on the six bells at Puddletown.

Milton Abbey and the Abbey House are beautifully situated in a valley, and the parks and woods of the estate extend to over 5,000 acres. The Abbey itself stands on the site of an earlier abbey, which was founded in 938, and was struck by lightning and burnt down in 1309. Close by stands the Abbey House, built about 1771, where the Rev. John Maillard is now carrying out his wonderful work of spiritual healing.

The service in the Abbey was attended by over eighty ringers, friends and visitors, and was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. C. J. Collis, who also gave the address. The Rev. A. W. Markby, chairman of the branch, assisted at the service and read the lesson.

In the course of his address, Mr. Collis spoke of the privilege which ringers had in transmitting the joyfulness of Christianity to the world through the joyful pealing of the bells from the church towers of England. He had heard many fine bells on the Continent, but the method of ringing them could not be compared with the beautiful and peculiarly English method. He loved the sound of the bells himself and could never understand how it was that up and down the country there were bells which remain unrung because their ringers were dilatory in turning up themselves to ring for Sunday services. There was a tower, he said, not 100 miles from Milton, where the ringers practised every week, but could only ring once a month for Sunday service.

Tea was taken in the gardens of a nearby cafe and 76 sat down. The towers represented included Bere Regis, Bradford Peverell, Dorchester (St. Peter's), Milton Abbey, Stratton, Maiden Newton, Sydling (St. Nicholas'), Upwey and Wyke Regis from the Dorchester Branch; Lytchett Matravers and Poole from the Wimborne Branch; and Gillingham, Mere and Zeals from the North Dorset Branch. Visitors attended from Portsmouth, Wincanton, Devizes, Coventry and a party of students from the training college at Exeter.

Immediately after tea votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar of Milton Abbas for the use of the Abbey and for conducting the service, to the organist and to Mr. North, the captain of the local band. The Vicar suitably replied and invited those who wished to view St. Catherine's Chapel, and many availed themselves of this opportunity. The chapel, which stands by the woods at the top of a hill, was built by King Athelstan, who also founded the Abbey.

The Weymouth party started on its homeward journey soon afterwards, and returned to the bus laden with samples of wild flowers and wild strawberries. A stop was made at Hilton, where there is an excellent ring of six. Four handbell enthusiasts made good use of a peal they found there, and touches and courses of Grandsire, Stedman and Plain Bob were rung. The hour spent at this beautiful village was all too short, but time was slipping by, and so the party once more reluctantly went on its way. M. C. C. M.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

PROPOSAL TO APPOINT A RINGING MASTER.

Only a small number came to Tuxford on July 8th for the meeting of the North Notts Association and to ring the fine peal of six at this tower. The bells are rather noisy outside, as the louvres are not shuttered, but from the ringing chamber, which is on the ground floor, the peal has a mellow and much more subdued tone, while the 'go' of the bells is very good. During the afternoon and evening the usual range of methods was rung, and, in addition, London Surprise, Oswald, spliced Oxford Bob, Single Court and Bob Minor, Original, Harlington Alliance, Crayford Little Court and a method, believed to have been rung for the first time, called by its composer, Double Little Bob.

At the business meeting it was proposed that the method of advertising meetings be altered, and the secretary was instructed to circularise all towers with details; it was also proposed that a Ringing Master should be elected. This office has never existed in the association, as an old rule that the committee representative of the tower visited be in charge of ringing has not been rescinded. The proposal will go before the next annual meeting.

Ringing continued after tea until 7.30, when the lowering of the bells brought an enjoyable day's ringing to an end.

APARTMENTS.

LLANDUDNO, NORTH WALES.—Superior board-residence or bed and breakfast; 2 minutes sea; tennis courts, bowling green and park.—Mrs. Brown, Avonholm, 24, Queen's Road. Telephone 6965.

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 4s. per quarter.

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—The next meeting will be held at Little Waltham on Saturday, July 15th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting after.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Upper Arbour Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual festival will be held at Oxford on Saturday, July 15th. Service in Cathedral at 11.15 a.m. Preacher, Rev. J. K. E. O'Malley (Rector of Sandhurst, Berks). Business meeting in Chapter House immediately after service. Dinner in Christ Church Hall at 1.30 p.m. A collection will be taken at the service for the Guild Restoration Fund.—R. T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Basingstoke District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Silchester on Saturday, July 15th (not 8th). Bells available 2.30. Service 4. Tea and business meeting follow.—J. G. Stilwell, Hon. Dis. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—A great gathering is expected at Penshurst on Saturday, July 15th. The beautiful gardens of Penshurst Place, and the Rectory, will be open to ringers, by kind permission of Lord de Isle and Dudley, and the Rev. P. H. Turnbull. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea in the Village Hall at 1s. 3d. a head, followed by a short business meeting. Special attention paid to learners at all meetings.—Alec. E. Richardson, Laurel Cottage, Victoria Road, Southborough.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Southern District.—The next meeting will be held on July 15th at St. Mary Magdalene, Richmond, Surrey. Ringing from 2.45 to 7.30 p.m. An ideal spot for a summer meeting and a peal of bells not often available. All visitors welcome.—N. H. Manning, Dis. Sec.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD. — Quarterly meeting to be held at Solihull on Saturday, July 15th. Bells (10) available during afternoon and evening. Tea at the café of Messrs. J. Welch, High Street, 1s. per head, at 5 o'clock. Business meeting to follow. — Dorothy E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Buriton on Saturday, July 15th. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. at the Five Bells Inn. All ringers welcome.—A. T. Greenwood, Hon. Sec., 6 Sheffield Road, Portsmouth.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wellingborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held, D.V., at Yardley-Hastings (6 bells), on Saturday, July 15th. Guild certificates ready for six members. Service at 4.30. Come if you can.—A. Bigley, 30, Allen Road, Irthlingborough.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A ringers' garden party will be held at Acton on July 15th, by kind invitation of the Rector. Bells available from 3 p.m. and in the evening. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea in the Rectory gardens, at the invitation of the Rector, followed by games for those who prefer this to ringing. Church of St. Mary (8 bells, tenor 14 cwt.). A large attendance is hoped for. Visitors and friends from other districts will be welcomed. Reports available. Subscriptions due.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting is at Market Bosworth on Saturday, July 15th. It is hoped that members will support this meeting, the first for many years at this tower. Ringing friends cordially invited. Ringing from 3.30. Tea at 5. Because of catering difficulties, please notify Mr. Wm. Henson, Station Road, Market Bosworth, near Nuneaton, as early as possible. Usual charge. Midland Red buses run from Leicester, Coalville and Nuneaton. Come and try some 'New' Doubles.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — The quarterly meeting of the West Norfolk Branch will be held at Scarning on Saturday, July 15th. Gressenhall bells will be available after tea.—W. J. Eldred, Branch Sec., 4, Wellington Street, King's Lynn.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The six-bell ringing contest for the Society's Silver Cup will take take at Dronfield Church on Saturday, July 15th; commence 2.30 p.m. Please notify Mr. R. Parker, Green Dragon, Church Street, Dronfield, for tea, 1s. each. Tower open after contest.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 13, St. Ronan's Road, Sheffield 7.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Tempsford on Saturday, July 15th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome. Please come. Let us have another good meeting.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Crewkerne Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Kingstone, near Ilminster, on Saturday, July 15th. Bells at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Please notify early for tea, important.—D. G. Taylor, Braeside, Ilminster.

WILLOUGHBY, NOTTS.—The ring of 5 bells restored by John Taylor and Co. will be re-dedicated on Sunday, July 16th, at 6.30 p.m. Preacher, the Archdeacon of Newark.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Practices for July: *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 18th; St. Magnus-the-Martyr, 20th; Southwark Cathedral, 25th; St. Clement Danes, 27th; all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Meeting at Seale, on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (6) from 3.30. Service 5. Tea and business 5.15 in Jubilee Room. All welcome.—C. W. Denyer, 120, Ash Road, Aldershot.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Derby District.—The next meeting will be held at Duffield on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (10) available 3 p.m. Tea arranged for all who notify Mr. Fred Stone, Derby Road, Duffield. All ringers welcome.—Wm. Lancaster, Hon. Sec., 83, Albert Road, Chaddesden.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD (North and East District) AND HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION (St. Albans District).—A joint meeting will be held at St. John the Baptist's, Barnet, on Saturday, July 22nd. Ringing also at St. Mary the Virgin's, Monken Hadley. Bells available 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea to follow, for which please notify Mr. H. J. Eldred, 98, Fitzjohn Avenue, Barnet, Herts.—T. J. Lock and H. V. Frost, Hon. Dis. Secs.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — West Dorset Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Whitechurch Canonicorum on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Everybody welcome. Please notify for tea by Tuesday, July 18th.—C. H. Lathey, Hon. Sec., Malmaison, Bradpole, Bridport.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—A meeting will be held at Littlebourne on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (6) available from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea, by kind invitation of Rev. C. A. Manley (Vicar). Names for tea, please, to Mr. P. W. Smith, Fair View, Jubilee Road, Littlebourne, near Canterbury, to reach him not later than Thursday, July 20th.—B. J. Luck, Hon. Dis. Sec., 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—Grimsby District.—Please note that the meeting fixed to be held at Elsham, on Saturday, July 22nd, is cancelled.—H. Mingay, Hon. Dis. Sec., 394, Wellington Street, Grimsby.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Leyland Parish Church on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (10) available from 2.30 to 7.45 p.m. The committee of the Lancashire Association will meet the same date. Tea provided for all who notify Mr. L. Walmsley, 5, School Lane, Leyland, not later than July 19th. No card, no tea, so please send word if you are coming.—A. Blogg and W. H. Shuker, Secs.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District.—A meeting will be held at Littlebury and Elmdon on July 22nd. Bells (two rings of six Littlebury from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m. Tea at Elmdon, followed by business meeting and further ringing. Will those requiring tea please let me know by Wednesday, July 19th?—W. Wheeler, Hon. Dis. Sec., Mill Street, Harlow Common, Harlow, Essex.

NORTH STAFFORD ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Cheddleton on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Service at 5.15, and tea at 5.45, 1s. 3d. Will those requiring tea kindly notify Mrs. Lawton, The Runde, Ostlers Lane, Cheddleton, Leek, Staffs, not later than Wednesday?—Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bath Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Bathford on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5.15.—Theo Grant, Swainswick, Bath.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Burnham-on-Sea on July 22nd. Bells (8) open at 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting 5 p.m. All ringers welcomed.—H. Minifie, Royston, Uphill, Weston-super-Mare.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Bitton on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (8) open 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Please advise for tea.—R. C. Gifford, Hon. Sec.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Aspenden on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting at the Fox public-house after, also a combined practice at Hunsdon on Thursday, July 20th. Bells (8) open at 6.30 p.m.—A. Lawrence, Dis. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—A combined meeting of the Suffolk Guild and the Essex Association will be held at Wormingford and Bures on July 22nd. Service will be at Wormingford Church, and tea in Village Hall. Will all those intending to be present please let me know by July 19th, so that the necessary arrangements can be made for tea?—J. R. Sparling, Hon. Sec., Station Hotel, Wivenhoe, Essex.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Meeting of Southampton District at Sherfield English on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells from 2.30. Tea at 5.15. Names for tea by July 19th.—G. Pullinger, 17, Stoke Park Road, Bishopstoke, Hants.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting of the Southern District will be held at Hurworth on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Ringers requiring tea please notify me by morning of 20th inst.—James T. Titt, Hon. Dis. Sec., 54, Newlands Road, Darlington.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Annual summer festival at St. Neots, on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at Falcon Hotel at 5 o'clock. Ringing at Eynesbury (6).—Kitty Willers, Gen. Sec., Sweetbriars, Trumpington, Cambridge.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next meeting has been arranged at Penn (6 bells) on Saturday, July 22nd, at 3.30 p.m. Tea at 1s. per head, for those who notify me not later than July 17th.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wotton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Tortworth on July 22nd (not Berkeley as suggested). Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and meeting.—W. J. Smith, 130, Station Road, Yate, Bristol.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Ross District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Much Marcle on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting following.—W. Poston, Bridstow, Ross, Herefordshire.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A mid-quarterly meeting will be held at Great Glenn (6 bells) on July 22nd. Ringing will commence at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. in the local cafe.—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bradfield Deanery Branch.—Summer meeting will be held at South Stoke, Oxon, on Saturday, July 22nd. Ringing 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea (9d.) at 5 p.m. Goring bells available after tea. Please notify me three days before meeting number for coach and tea.—T. W. Palmer, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Cranbourne, Cranbourne Avenue, Calcot, Reading.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—The next meeting will be held at Shepshed on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea and meeting at 5 p.m. Please send names to me by Wednesday previous at the latest.—A. E. Rowley, Hon. Sec., Penistone Street, Ibstock, Leicester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Winwick, on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells available from 3 p.m. After tea a call will be made at St. Peter's, Newton-le-Willows.—S. Forshaw, 55, Poolstock, Wigan.

GREAT YARMOUTH.—On and after Thursday, July 27th, practice night will be changed from Tuesday to THURSDAY, 7.30 p.m., till end of September. Sunday ringing 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. All ringers visiting Great Yarmouth and Gorleston are welcome.—J. Harwood, Sec. to St. Nicholas' ringers.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—The next meeting is at Tutbury on Saturday, July 29th, and the district extends a hearty invitation to North Staffs friends. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Short service at 4.20. Tea at 4.45. All ringers welcome, and a card re tea by the 26th will oblige.—J. W. Cotton, Hon. Dis. Sec., Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Sutton St. Nicholas' on Saturday, July 29th. Bells (6) available from 3 to 8.30. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—R. H. Stickley, Dis. Sec., Dodmarsh, Withington, Hereford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at Singleton Parish Church (6 bells) on Saturday, July 29th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Meeting 5.30. Bus leaves Talbot Mews at 2.20. All visiting ringers welcome.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. John's, Sidcup, on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Further particulars next week. Half-fares up to 2s. will be paid to members attending this meeting.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere, Kent.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — East Norfolk Branch will hold a meeting at Somerleyton on Saturday, July 29th. Bells recently rehung (6) at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea 5.15. It is very particular for the names or numbers for tea to be sent to me not later than Wednesday, July 26th. All ringers welcome.—J. Harwood, Hon. Sec., 4, Cobden Terrace, Northgate Street, Great Yarmouth.

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WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Isle of Wight District.—Quarterly meeting at Brading on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5, business meeting after. All requiring tea please notify H. P. James, Dis. Sec., 11, Portland Street, Newport, Isle of Wight.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY. — The next quarterly meeting of the Ashton-under-Lyne Society will be held at St. George's Church, Hyde, on July 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—Carus Wilson, Sec.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD (Leatherhead District) AND SURREY ASSOCIATION (North-West District).—The joint meeting will be held at Ranmore on Saturday, July 29th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service at 5, followed by tea at the old Post Office. Please send numbers for tea to A. H. Smith, Drakelowe, Howard Road, Great Bookham, as early as possible.—A. H. Smith and F. G. Woodiss, Dis. Secs.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Tunstall on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service at 4.45, followed by tea in the Memorial Hall (which will be provided by the Rector and churchwardens) and meeting. Members intending to be present please advise the undersigned not later than Wednesday, July 26th.—G. H. Spice, Hon. Dis, Sec., 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne.

SPECHUL HEXTER.—Minor crisis averted. Alteration of date, Abbots Langley meeting, to Saturday, July 29th. All the usual arrangements, good practice, excellent tea, social company. Your strong support is requested. Charming old church and country.—C. H. Horton, Bushey, City 4270. Herts Association.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — South Norfolk Branch.—The summer meeting will be held at Brockdish on Saturday, July 29th (not 22nd as arranged). Bells afternoon and evening. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 'neath' the fir tree (if fine), Rectory Hut if wet. Meeting follows. Special methods, 'Westminster Surprise' and 'Bala Bob.' I have diagrams. Names for tea by 25th, please. Suffolk ringers specially invited; we are on the border.—A. G. Harrison, Branch Sec., 90, Denmark Street, Diss.

HITCHIN, HERTS.—The ring of eight bells, restored by John Taylor and Co., will be re-dedicated on Sunday, July 30th, at the 11 o'clock service. Preacher, the Archdeacon of Bedford. Ringing during the afternoon 3 to 4.30 p.m.

DEATH.

MARSH.—On July 3rd, at Grandison, Moreton Avenue, Crownhill, Plymouth, Hilda, the loved wife of Ernest W. Marsh.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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OXFORD GUILD'S FESTIVAL.

The Oxford Diocesan Guild is one of the few ringing associations which now devotes a whole day to its annual festival. At one time a number of the larger associations used to make the occasion of their annual gathering a full day's holiday, but times have changed and with them the practice of the ringing organisations, which now mostly content themselves with a half day event, when they meet to transact their annual business. It is, therefore, all the more interesting to find the Oxford Guild maintaining its custom of devoting the day to its festival. The gathering last Saturday was by no means a record for the Guild and, indeed, out of a membership of over two thousand ringing and honorary members, could not be said to be a large one, but there is something about these festivals in Oxford which is seldom to be found elsewhere, and which the Oxford Guild itself would probably lose if it met at some other centre, more modern and industrial, in the widespread diocese. Every year an effort is made to induce the Guild to break its well-established custom, and to set a precedent by which each of the three counties included in the diocese might be visited in turn; but every time the motion is brought forward it is rejected by a substantial majority. In a big area such as this is—an area, too, in which the means of communication between one side and the other are not altogether good, there is a great deal to be said for the argument of those who claim that the festival should be moved. There is a feeling that a certain proportion of members are perpetually debarred by distance from taking part in the annual meeting and thus are unable to have any share in the ultimate government of the Guild, and, in this way, lose some of the interest in it which they might otherwise have. This handicap would be a substantial one under different circumstances, but in the Oxford Guild the real management of affairs is carried out through the Districts. That the Guild itself does not suffer seems to be borne out by the fact that it maintains its numerical strength at such a high level. At any rate, it has not suffered yet through meeting annually in its cathedral city, and if there were any really serious feeling on this point it would doubtless have shown itself in the District meetings or through the very representative General Committee of some sixty members which guides its affairs.

In the facilities which are offered to the members for their festival, the Guild is probably unique. Apart from the numerous peals of bells which are available for their use—and few cities have so many as Oxford in comparison with its size—the Guild's service is held in the Cathedral, and its luncheon in one of the finest and most fam-

(Continued on page 458.)

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ous dining halls in the country. These are no mean privileges and the most surprising thing to us is that the members do not take advantage of the festival in larger numbers. With the easy means of road transport which is now so readily obtainable the wonder is that the ringers of the diocese do not organise a great pilgrimage to the mother city every year for this occasion. There are probably hundreds of members who have never been to Oxford and those who come into this category have missed one of the experiences of a life time, an experience which thousands of visitors from other lands do not fail to include, whatever else they miss, when they come to this country. The fault, if fault there be, in keeping the Oxford Guild festival in Oxford is not that the Guild does not go to other centres, but that the members do not go to Oxford in larger numbers. It is they who are the losers.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

SAFFRON WALDEN, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, July 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;
Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

GEORGE R. PYE	*...Treble*	GEORGE H. SPARROW	7
LEONARD E. PITSTOW	2	LEWIS W. WIFFEN	8
CHARLES T. COLES	3	WALTER AYRE	9
MRS. FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN	4	JOHN W. WARD	10
FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN ...	5	EDWARD P. DUFFIELD ...	11
ERNEST W. PYE	6	WALTER T. PARISH ...	*...Tenor*

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by CHARLES T. COLES.
Rung as a wedding compliment to Mr. Frederick J. Pitstow and Miss Marjorie Parker.

TEN BELL PEALS.

SOUTHOVER, LEWES, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, July 12, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;
Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.

JOHN S. GOLDSMITH ...	*...Treble*	JOHN H. B. HESSE	6
ALBERT WALKER	2	ERNEST J. AYLIFFE	7
ALBERT H. WARD	3	NELSON ELLIOTT	8
FRANK BENNETT	4	ALFRED H. POLLING	9
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON ...	5	WILLIAM T. BERSON ...	*...Tenor*

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by JOHN S. GOLDSMITH.
Rung in celebration of the birth of John Edward, the conductor's first grandson.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 24 cwt.

JAMES L. WRIGHT ...	*...Treble*	STANLEY HARRISON	6
*ARTHUR JAMES	2	*FRED GRUNDY	7
*JOHN BENJAMIN BODD ...	3	JAMES GROUNDS	8
CYRIL RADDON	4	*PERCY H. DERBYSHIRE ...	9
*HUGH REYNOLDS	5	JOSEPH H. RIDYARD ...	*...Tenor*

Composed by J. REEVES. Conducted by J. H. RIDYARD.
* First peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal. First peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal as conductor.

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CUDHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 9½ cwt.

*MISS MARY I. RAWLINGS	*Treble*	*JAMES E. BAILEY	6
†RICHARD WILSON	2	†DENNIS G. BROWN	7
‡GEOFFREY V. MURPHY	3	HERBERT A. HOLDEN	8
*ROBERT COLLINS	4	JOHN O. WELLER	9
‡DEREK M. SHARP	5	ERNEST H. OXENHAM	*Tenor*

Composed by H. JOHNSON. Conducted by D. M. SHARP.

* First peal of Caters. † First peal on ten bells. ‡ First peal of Caters in the method. First peal of Caters as conductor. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Richard Wilson.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

EALING, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, July 8, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt.

EDWARD LANKESTER	*Treble*	CHARLES T. COLES	5
GEORGE R. PYE	2	ERNEST C. S. TURNER	6
J. E. LEWIS COCKEY	3	WILFRID G. WILSON	7
GEORGE M. KILBY	4	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE	*Tenor*

Composed by S. H. WOOD. Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

First peal in the method on the bells.

HIGHCLERE, HANTS.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, July 8, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 11 cwt. 26 lb.

*NORMAN R. RANDALL	*Treble*	REGINALD W. REX	5
GEOFFREY E. FOWLER	2	*JAMES HOLLAWAY	6
MISS FREDA N. ARLOTT	3	†LESLIE A. TREMEER	7
*ALLAN D. TREMEER	4	WILLIAM L. BUCKLAND	*Tenor*

Conducted by LESLIE A. TREMEER.

* First peal on eight bells. † First peal of Grandsire Triples. First peal of Grandsire on the bells.

BOLSOVER, DERBYSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 8, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor 14½ cwt.

JESSE J. MOSS	*Treble*	JOHN H. BROTHWELL	5
STANLEY SLANEY	2	WALTER ALLWOOD	6
REGINALD PAYNE	3	*JOSEPH SAXTON	7
A. BENJAMIN COOPER	4	JOHN J. L. GILBERT	*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by J. J. L. GILBERT.

* First peal in the method. Rung to celebrate the golden wedding of the Duke of Portland.

EDGBASTON, BIRMINGHAM.
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Saturday, July 8, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 10 cwt.

JAMES H. SHEPHERD	*Treble*	FRANK E. PERVIN	5
PERCY N. G. RAINEY	2	WILLIAM C. DOWDING	6
DANIEL T. MATKIN	3	JOHN S. MASON	7
HENRY H. FEARN	4	FRANK E. HAYNES	*Tenor*

Composed by W. WILLSON. Conducted by FRANK E. HAYNES.

An 81st birthday compliment to Mr. T. Miller.

MARKET HARBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.—At St. Dionysius' Church, on Sunday, July 9th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: Miss M. Barrow 1, R. March 2, W. Hector 3, F. Wallington 4, J. C. Chester 5, W. Wallington 6, G. Hollick (conductor) 7, W. Kilsby 8.

HAZELBEECH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, July 9, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt. 12 lb.

*ERNEST W. TIPLER	*Treble*	WILLIAM A. WOOD	5
*ARTHUR WILLIAMS	2	FRANK K. MEASDRES	6
W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON	3	ARTHUR DEBENHAM	7
ALFRED BALLARD	4	WALTER P. WHITEHEAD	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

* First peal in the method. A birthday compliment to Mr. A. Ballard, sen., father of the ringer of the 4th.

WHITTLE-LE-WOODS, LANCS.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(PRESTON BRANCH.)
On Sunday, July 9, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 21 cwt. 1 qr. 23 lb.

THOMAS BARKER	*Treble*	ADAM BLOGG	5
BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS	2	*LAWRENCE WALMSLEY	6
FRED BLACKLEDGE	3	FREDERICK G. BRADLEY	7
JOHN JACKSON	4	ALFRED BLOGG	*Tenor*

Composed by W. H. INGLESANT. Conducted by ALFRED BLOGG.

* First peal on eight bells. Rung as a welcome to the Rev. M. Garner, M.A., who was inducted to the living of the above church on July 5th.

OTTERY ST. MARY, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD
AND THE INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODDFELLOWS, M.U.
On Monday, July 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 20 cwt. in E flat.

CHARLES R. LILLEY, P.G.M., Hearts of Oak Lodge	*Treble*
BRIAN PIDGEON, Sir Walter Raleigh Lodge	2
THOMAS J. BARTLETT, P.G.M., Rougemont Lodge	3
JOHN ANBURY, P.G.M., Loyal St. Mary Lodge	4
JAMES E. LILLEY, Earl of Mount Edgcombe Lodge	5
EDWARD MARKS, Loyal St. Mary Lodge	6
CHARLES J. TURNER, P.G.M., Loyal St. Mary Lodge	7
JOHN DEEM, Marpool Lodge	*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY, P.G.M.

REDRUTH, CORNWALL.
THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Monday, July 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EUNY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAYLOR'S SIX-PART. Tenor 13 cwt.

EDWARD SANDERS	*Treble*	WILLIAM H. SOUTHEARD	5
*W. JOHN REED	2	FREDERIC H. HARRIS	6
VIVIAN E. WILLIAMS	3	PETER CROOK, SEN.	7
STEPHEN WOOD	4	PERCY R. C. WILLIAMS	*Tenor*

Conducted by FREDERIC H. HARRIS.

* First peal 'inside' on eight bells.

BURTON-ON-STATHER, LINCS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)
On Monday, July 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 12 cwt. 28 lb.

FRED LACEY	*Treble*	HAROLD JUDD	5
FRED JEFFERY	2	*GEORGE HOBBINS	6
*ARTHUR TOMLINSON	3	PHILIP BARNES	7
ERNEST BRITTAIN	4	JACK BRAY	*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by J. BRAY.

* First peal of Treble Bob Major. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to G. Hobbins.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, July 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb.

WALTER CHARMAN ...	...*Treble*	KENNETH SNELLING	5
MISS F. WYMAN	2	FREDERICK ROBERTS	6
HAROLD WOOD	3	JOHN COOK	7
CECIL WOOD...	4	OLIVER SIPPETTS	...*Tenor*

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by O. SIPPETTS.

BUSHEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, July 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt.

HENRY HODGETTS ...	...*Treble*	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	5
MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT ...	2	FREDERICK W. BRINELOW ...	6
*MRS. F. W. HOUSDEN ...	3	EDWIN JENNINGS	7
FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN ...	4	HAROLD G. CASHMORE	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.
* First peal in the method.

TRING, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF TRING SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 24 cwt.

LEONARD LUCK	...*Treble*	EDWIN JENNINGS	5
HENRY HODGETTS	2	FREDERICK W. BRINELOW ...	6
FRANCIS KIRK	3	CECIL C. MAYNE	7
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	4	HAROLD G. CASHMORE	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.
The first peal in the method.

BURNHAM, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
PRITCHARD'S FOUR-PART. Tenor 16 cwt

WILLIAM HENLEY ...	...*Treble*	JAMES D. TAYLOR	5
GORDON W. LIMMER	2	BRYAN O'NEILL	6
WILLIAM WELLING	3	JOHN E. TAYLOR	7
CYRIL A. BURGESS	4	GEORGE GILBERT	...*Tenor*

Conducted by BRYAN O'NEILL.
Rung for St. Swithin's Day. First peal as conductor.

LODDON, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 11 cwt.

C. FREDERICK SAYER	...*Treble*	ERNEST E. LONG	5
*DENNIS A. BAYLES	2	RICHARD R. W. COATES ...	6
MISS D. CONSTANCE	3	STANLEY FENN	7
ROBERT WARMAN	4	GODFREY G. WALPOLE...	...*Tenor*

Composed by W. GARRARD. Conducted by C. F. SAYER.
* First peal of Kent Treble Bob Major.

BRIGHOUSE, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 14¾ cwt. in F sharp.

*HARRY DAVISON...	...*Treble*	KENNETH SIMPSON	5
ALFRED SMITH	2	GEORGE ROBINSON	6
MISS MARY WHITE	3	FRANK VARTY	7
JAMES F. HARVEY	4	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS...	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by LESLIE W. G. MORRIS.
* First peal of Surprise. First peal of Surprise on the bells.

GOUDHURST, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF ST. CLEMENT'S BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 25 cwt. 5 lb. in D.

EDWIN BARNETT ...	...*Treble*	*ERNEST W. PYE	5
EDWIN A. BARNETT	2	*FREDERICK WHITE	6
*STAFFORD H. GREEN... ...	3	HARRY PARKES	7
*HARRY HOSKINS...	4	*JAMES C. E. SIMPSON...	...*Tenor*

Arranged and Conducted by J. C. E. SIMPSON.
* First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

LISS, HAMPSHIRE.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PITSTOW'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 12 cwt. 44 lb. in F sharp.

JOHN H. B. HESSE ...	...*Treble*	MAURICE SMITHER	5
THOMAS DENYER	2	ARTHUR J. BARTLETT	6
ERNEST J. AYLIFFE	3	ALFRED H. PULLING	7
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON... ...	4	HARRY MULLARD	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.
First peal on the bells.

SIX BELL PEALS.

LYTCHETT MATRAVERS, DORSET.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sunday, June 11, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being eight six-scores each of London, Reverse Canterbury, St. Dunstan's and Plain Bob and 10 of Grandsire. Tenor 7¾ cwt.

*MISS GLADYS L. CORBIN ...*Treble*		HAROLD E. WHITE	4
MISS PEGGY V. MARSH ...	2	WILLIAM C. SHUTE	5
†MISS VIOLET M. MARSH ...	3	*EDWIN J. GILES	...*Tenor*

Conducted by W. C. SHUTE.
* First attempt for a peal. † First peal of Doubles.

COLATON RALEIGH, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
On Friday, July 7, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 six-scores (10 callings). Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

CHARLES R. LILLEY ...	...*Treble*	GEORGE WEST	4
THOMAS HOLLAND	2	BRIAN PIDGEON	5
LEONARD G. BELT	3	SAMUEL ELLIOT	...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

EXMINSTER, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
On Saturday, July 8, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 six-scores, 10 different callings. Tenor 22 cwt. in E flat.

CHARLES R. LILLEY ...	...*Treble*	JOSEPH BREALEY	4
*ALBERT COLLEY...	2	ERNEST RETTER	5
REGINALD TRUMAN	3	EVAN MORGAN	...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.
* First peal away from treble.

DALLINGTON, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION
AND THE EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.
On Saturday, July 8, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 of Cambridge Surprise, 720 of Oxford Bob, two 720's each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and one of Plain Bob, called differently. Tenor 12 cwt.

LESLIE W. JARVIS ...	...*Treble*	†STANLEY T. A. RUSSELL ...	4
*GEORGE BEENY	2	FRANK H. HICKS	5
ALBERT RELFE	3	WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE...	*Tenor*

Conducted by W. A. KITCHENSIDE.
* First peal in five methods 'inside.' † First peal in five methods. First peal in five methods as conductor. Rung as a welcome back to the Rector (the Rev. P. A. Kingsford) after a long and serious illness.

NEW RADNOR, RADNORSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, July 8, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven 720's called differently. Tenor 7½ cwt.

ERNEST WILLIAMS ...	...*Treble*	TREVOR JONES	4
JAMES P. HYETT	2	*JOHN F. BUTLER...	5
LESLIE EVANS	3	ERNEST F. SALMONS ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by E. F. SALMONS.

* First peal of Minor. First peal of Minor on the bells. A birthday compliment to Mr. E. F. Salmons.

SPROUGHTON, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Sunday, July 9, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Consisting of one extent of St. Clement's and two each of Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

FREDERICK J. SMITH ...	...*Treble*	GEORGE A. FLEMING	4
SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER... ...	2	HARRY J. MILLATT	5
ALAN R. ANDREWS	3	RONALD W. STEWARD...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.

SHOTWICK, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD
On Monday, July 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being three extents of Kent Treble Bob, two of Oxford Treble Bob and two of Plain Bob. Tenor 8¼ cwt. in F sharp.

ROBERT SPERRING ...	...*Treble*	CHARLES DRYLAND	4
MRS. A. S. ROBERTS	2	REV. A. S. ROBERTS	5
GEORGE JONES	3	J. WILLIAM CLARKE ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ROBERT SPERRING.

A wedding compliment to the Rev. and Mrs. A. S. Roberts.

SCOTHORNE, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)
On Wednesday, July 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GERMAINS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being six 240's of Morris' and five 240's of Pitman's arrangements and 20 six-scores (10 callings). Tenor 13¼ cwt.

*FRANK METHAM...	...*Treble*	*SIDNEY A. CHAMBERS ...	4
*NOEL E. CHAMBERS	2	†JACK L. MILLHOOSE	5
†HAROLD MARCON	3	*JACK H. CHAMBERS ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal of Grandsire Doubles. Rung on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. R. L. Rawlings to Miss M. E. Ward.

WOODLESFORD, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)
On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of London Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Killamarsh, Norbury, Kingston, London Scholars' Pleasure and College Exercise. Tenor 9 cwt.

JOSEPH THACKRAY ...	...*Treble*	THOMAS WM. STRANGEWAY	4
ARTHUR G. WOOD	2	PERCY MESSAM	5
WILLIAM H. SENIOR	3	GEORGE WM. STEEL ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by T. W. STRANGEWAY.

EWYAS HAROLD, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 7¼ cwt.

*W. HENRY YOUNG ...	...*Treble*	*FRED W. OAKLEY	4
TRACEY H. YOUNG	2	A. JAMES YOUNG	5
HARRY JOHNSON...	3	HORACE D. WRIGHT ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by TRACEY H. YOUNG.

* First peal.

BUCKLAND, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different extents.

*F. A. STOVELL	...*Treble*	W. CLAYDON	4
W. R. HUMPHREY	2	†W. BATCHELOR	5
F. J. SANDERS	3	H. R. THORPE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by H. R. THORPE.

* First peal. † First peal of Minor.

WEEKLEY, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
(KETTERING DISTRICT.)
On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two extents of Oxford Treble Bob, two of Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob, each called differently. Tenor 8 cwt. 10 lb.

MATHIAS HOBBS...	...*Treble*	*LEWIS W. KILBORN	4
*GEOFFREY E. WATSON ...	2	BERNARD J. SADDINGTON ...	5
†RAYMOND IDLE	3	BURLEY P. MORRIS ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by B. J. SADDINGTON.

* First peal in three methods. † First peal of Minor.

ALBRIGHTON, SHROPSHIRE.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 six-scores, with 10 callings. Tenor 12 cwt. (approx.).

*J. NORMAN HADLEY ...	...*Treble*	BARNABAS G. KEY	4
†ERIC E. SPEAKE	2	†MAURICE G. TURNER ...	5
‡WILLIAM A. PARTRIDGE ...	3	†ARTHUR V. PEARSON ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by M. G. TURNER.

* First peal at first attempt. † First peal of Grandsire Doubles. ‡ First peal of Doubles. First peal of Doubles as conductor.

HANDBELL PEALS.

SURFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sunday, July 9, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,
AT GLYN GARTH,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5072 CHANGES;
Tenor, size 13 in E.

MRS. JACK BRAY	1-2	JACK BRAY	5-6
RUPERT RICHARDSON	3-4	J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE... ...	7-8

Composed and Conducted by J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

OXHEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, July 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT 28, FIELD ROAD,
A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

HENRY HOUGHTS	1-2	HAROLD G. CASHMORE ...	5-6
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	3-4	FREDERICK W. BRINELOW ...	7-8

Composed by A. CRAVEN. Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

Umpire—Edwin Jennings.

THE RINGERS' HANDBOOK

by E. S. and M. POWELL.

Containing full and complete instruction from the first handling of a bell to the ringing and conducting of peals of Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob.

Large selection of Compositions included.

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PEAL NOTES.

THE FIFTH GENERATION.

A peal of some local interest was rung at Southover, Lewes, Sussex, on July 12th. It celebrated the birth (in Sheffield) of the first grandson of Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, whose family has been connected with the parish for more than 200 years.

Some well-known ringers took part in this peal of Stedman Caters, which was called by the baby's grandfather, and it is interesting to note that in the same tower 70 years ago the child's great-grandfather and great-great-grandfather rang together in a peal of Grandsire Triples.

After the peal last week the ringers and a few friends were entertained by Mr. J. S. Goldsmith at the King's Head, scene of many happy ringers' gatherings, and the baby's health was duly 'toasted.' Mr. Goldsmith also thanked his friends for having helped in the celebration. They came from Birmingham, Derby, Brighton, Guildford, Haslemere and Crawley.

The composition of the peal, one by Mr. J. W. Parker, is an unusual one. It has the bells turned every four courses and no fixed 2nd's place bell.

Mr. Frank Bennett scored his 1,499th peal on this occasion—less than a week after his old friend, Mr. George Williams, had reached a similar total—and by a coincidence it was 20 years to the very day since Mr. W. J. Robinson rang his first and only previous peal in the tower.

The name of Pitstow has long been a familiar and honoured one in the Exercise, and on July 11th a mixed band, largely consisting of well-known ringers, rang a peal of Stedman Cinques at Saffron Walden in celebration of the wedding of Mr. Frederick J. Pitstow, who for 25 years has been the treasurer of the local society and was formerly hon. secretary of the Essex Association. The ceremony took place at New Southgate on July 8th, and the bride was Miss Marjorie Parker. Mr. C. T. Coles, who called the peal, served with Mr. Pitstow at Salonica during the Great War.

The members of the new band at St. Giles' Church, Lincoln (which contains the ring which for so long hung in the tower of St. Peter-at-Arches in the city), rang at Scothorne, on July 12th, 5,040 of Grandsire Doubles to celebrate the wedding of Mr. R. L. Rawlings to Miss M. E. Ward. It was the first peal attempt by four of the band and the first peal of Grandsire Doubles by the other two, though incidentally one of them had taken part in the spliced peal of 102 methods—which probably was good practice for this peal. It was also a birthday compliment to Mr. S. A. Chambers, who rang the fourth.

One of the new Militiamen, Mr. George Hobbins, took part in a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at Burton-on-Stather, Lincolnshire, on July 10th, before joining up at Birkenhead. It was rung to celebrate his 21st birthday.

The first Surprise peal at Brighouse, Yorkshire, rung on Saturday, brought great credit to Mr. Alfred Smith, who rang the second. His only previous peal had been one of Bob Major, to which he rang the treble, and the Superlative was rung at the first attempt. The peal was arranged for Mr. Frank Varty, of Wallasey, Cheshire.

The peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at Whittle-le-Woods, Lancashire, on July 9th, was rung as a welcome to the new Vicar, the Rev. M. Garner, who had been inducted to the living four days previously. On the conclusion of the peal Mr. Garner came up into the belfry and congratulated the band.

Nine men turned up for the attempt and the band appreciated the kindly action of Mr. E. Ramsbotham, one of the local company, who stood down to enable Mr. Walmsley, of Dayland, to ring his first peal on eight bells. It was also a birthday compliment to Mr. W. Clarkson, of Goosnargh.

The delightful spot of Hazelbeech in Northamptonshire was visited by members from Leicester and Hinckley districts of the Midland Counties Association on Sunday, July 9th.

Although no method had been decided upon, a really good beat was soon evident in the attempt for Double Norwich and which finally proved to be the commencement of a really good peal. Congratulations to Mr. Williams, who previously had not rung even a short touch of Double Norwich.

The two tenor men in the peal, one of which was 'our conductor,' had apparently over-exerted themselves in turning in their bells, and it was not until both had partaken of 'cups of tea' that their energy was restored. The peal was specially arranged to enable Mr. Frank K. Measures to score his 50th peal and was also a birthday compliment to Mr. A. Ballard, sen.

Some of the Hertfordshire enthusiasts had a good end-of-the-week last week. Thursday, a peal of Bristol Surprise at Bushey; Friday, a peal of Bristol Surprise on handbells at Oxhey; Saturday, a peal of Tring Surprise, a new method, at Tring. And they take it all in their stride.

The peal of Bristol Surprise at Bushey on July 13th was the 300th peal by Maurice F. R. Hibbert. The peals have been rung in 77 different methods or extensions of methods, which is believed to be a greater number, rung as separate peals, than by any other ringer.

The peals have been rung in 66 towers, with 358 different ringers and on 215 dates of the year. No fewer than 125 of these peals have been rung at Bushey, and Mr. Hibbert has 'completed the circle' there at least nine times, including at least three times in different Surprise Major methods. The peals at Bushey have included 38 different methods of Triples and Major, and 65 peals have been on 7th or tenor.

The fourteen-year-olds seem to be coming to the fore. More peals are recorded this week in which youths of this age have taken part. On Saturday, at Albrighton, Salop, Norman Hadley rang his first peal at the first attempt, and at Weekley, Northants, Raymond Idle rang his first peal of Minor. He rang an 'inside' bell to a three-method peal.

The young St. Peter's Society at Burnham, Bucks, are gradually maturing. Bryan O'Neill, who has only just passed his 18th birthday, is the second member of the society to conduct a peal of Major this year, when on Saturday he rang in a peal at Burnham. Except for Messrs. Henley and Welling, all the ringers are members of St. Peter's Society.

In connection with the dedication festival of St. Stephen's, Ealing, and the annual garden fete, the first peal of Double Norwich Major on the bells of St. Stephen's was rung on Saturday week.

What is believed to be the first Oddfellows' peal in the West of England was rung on July 10th at Ottery St. Mary by a band of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers. The method was Grandsire Triples and the conductor Past Grand Master Charles R. Lilley, who called Holt's Ten-part, which was once the most rung of any composition, but of late years has been largely superseded by J. J. Parker's Twelve-part.

Ronald Steward rang his 50th peal on July 9th, when he took part in four Minor methods at Sproughton, Suffolk. By a coincidence it was also his 25th peal with the conductor, Mr. A. R. Andrews.

FAREWELL TO 'KATE.'

A handbell peal of Bob Major was rung at Surfleet on July 9th as a farewell to 'Kate,' who about seven years ago set many a bachelor's heart aflutter. She had been rusticating at the Lincolnshire Ringers' Rest Home and was taking her departure on the following day. Was it more than a coincidence that one of the ringers of that leap year peal of 1932 happened also to be staying in the neighbourhood?

The first peal of Minor on the bells at New Radnor, Radnorshire, was rung on July 8th. The bells were augmented to six by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston at Easter, 1938.

Edwin A. Barnett, at 20 years of age, rang his 350th peal last Saturday, when he took part in a peal of St. Clement's Bob Major at Goudhurst, Kent.

At the same time Mr. Stafford H. Green, of Southborough, rang his 200th peal, 94 of them having been with Mr. Fred White, of Cranbrook. They have been rung in 93 towers in 20 counties, for 24 associations, and, of the total, Mr. Green has conducted 38. The 200 include a great variety of methods on from six to twelve bells, including no fewer than five methods of Maximus, but, curiously enough, not a single peal of Grandsire Triples. That is a pleasure still to come.

A birthday peal in five Doubles methods was rung on Sunday, June 11th, for Miss Peggy Marsh, who was 14 years of age two days previously. None of the band, except the conductor (Mr. W. C. Shute), had previously rung a peal in more than one method. The peal was rung at St. Mary's, Lytchett Matravers, Dorset.

Derek Sharp, of Crayford, called a peal of Grandsire Caters on the light ring of ten at Cudham, Kent, on Saturday, and thus completed peals of Grandsire from Doubles to Cinques on tower bells. The peal was a 21st birthday compliment to Richard Wilson, who rang his first peal on ten bells. It was Miss Mary Rawlings' first peal of Grandsire and Robert Collins' first peal in the method 'inside,' as well as the first peal of Caters by both of them.

Another peal as a birthday compliment to Tom Miller was rung at Edgbaston on Saturday week.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH AND WEST DISTRICT REVISIT ACTON.

An enjoyable district meeting was held at Acton on Saturday, at the invitation of the Rector, the Rev. Perceval Gough. A short service was conducted by the Rector, who gave the members a hearty welcome. He referred to the remark of a speaker at an earlier meeting at Acton that 'ringing was a sport,' and said that, at first, this had rather surprised him. But, he said, he realised that this should be true of all work for the Church. There should be happiness, joy and enthusiasm for religious work, as well as for the ordinary forms of sport, and it was wrong to regard religion only as sad and serious. Ringing for God should be a thing of joy. He ended by expressing his gratitude to those who ring the bells of the Church and hoped that their service to God would long continue.

The weather remaining fine, tea was served in the Rectory garden to a company of 37. The assistant secretary (Mr. W. G. Wilson) apologised for the unavoidable absence of the vice-president (Mr. J. A. Trollope), the general secretary (Mr. C. T. Coles) and the district secretary (Mr. J. E. L. Cockey).

Mr. W. H. Coles proposed a cordial vote of thanks to the Rector for his invitation to Acton, for conducting the service, for providing an excellent tea and for the use of his lovely garden, to Mr. Eddowes who played the organ, to Mr. Fruin (verger) and to the ladies who served tea.—The Rector replied assuring the members of a welcome to Acton at any time.

Handbell ringing on the fine bells brought by Mr. C. W. Taylor, of Watford, clock golf and darts on the lawn proved such an attraction that many members did not get back to the tower for ringing, but those who did had good practice on the handy ring of eight.

A SUCCESSFUL VILLAGE MEETING.

GUILDFORD AND LADIES' GUILDS AT SHERE.

Shere is reputed to be the prettiest village in England. No doubt this is a debatable point and will be disputed by many, but the sunny weather of a recent Saturday certainly gave the finishing touch to an ideal setting for the combined meeting of the Southern District of the Ladies' Guild and the Guildford District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild.

An attendance of 50 included the Guildford Guild Master (Major J. H. B. Hesse), the general secretary of the Guildford Guild (Mr. G. L. Grover) and the Farnham District secretary (Mr. C. W. Denyer).

The Rev. Sir Paget Bowman, the Rector of Shere, was away on holiday, but had left messages of welcome, and regret that he was unable to be present.

The curate of Shere, the Rev. J. E. Penney, kindly conducted the fully choral service, and gave an exceptionally interesting address. It was, he said, remarkable that the troubled times through which we were passing had in one respect revived one of the most ancient uses of bells. Canon Elliott and the Rev. Pat McCormick had formed a League of Prayer, and wherever possible had arranged for a sanctus bell to be rung at a certain hour of the day, calling people to spare a few moments to pray for peace.

The Rev. Penney presided at the Guildford District meeting. Messrs. R. Badcock, E. Inwood, J. Lancaster, G. Morrey, J. Newman and M. Whitty, all of Shere, were, amid applause, elected ringing members of the Guild.

The district secretary (Mr. W. F. J. Cope) expressed thanks to the general secretary for the way in which he was assisting the local band.

Mr. C. M. Martin, of Bramley, had also been busy again, and as a result of his efforts the Misses G. and M. Hunt, Mrs. C. M. Martin and W. Spreckley were elected honorary members.

The meeting closed with an expression of thanks from the Master.

A variety of methods were rung during the afternoon and evening, but the local band were not neglected and touches of Grandsire Triples gave them opportunity for advancement.

Mrs. Cope presided at the annual business meeting of the Ladies' Guild, at which the vice-president (Mrs. Bruce) was re-elected, and the hon. secretary (Miss H. F. Mills) agreed to carry on for one more year. The committee was also re-elected.

Mrs. Oldroyd was welcomed from the Northern District.

It was proposed to hold the next meeting at Ewhurst on September 30th.

The members present were very sorry to hear of the recent death of Miss Fisher, of Dorking, one of the first members of the Southern District.

UNIQUE GATHERING AT SEMPRINGHAM ABBEY.

LINCOLNSHIRE RINGERS' MEETING.

A quarterly meeting of the Southern Branch of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild was held at Sempringham Abbey. The church, which stands in the fields practically a mile from anywhere, dates back to 1128 A.D., when there was then a village of Sempringham. It is interesting to note that the first person to hold this living was 'Saint Gilbert' of Sempringham in the year 1129. It was he who established the first order in this country and also built the first Priory and school in an adjoining field to the Abbey. At the present time excavation work is proceeding in this vicinity and the remains of the foundations can be clearly seen of the ancient priory. The old Abbey Church of to-day is in wonderful preservation, the chief characteristics of its architecture being pure Norman, with some parts of the Perpendicular period. The fine tower, some 60ft. high, now has a musical peal of six bells. Originally there was a peal of three bells, the treble and 2nd bells being pre-Reformation. These have been preserved, and now form the 5th and tenor in the new peal. In 1931 Messrs. Bowell, of Ipswich, were entrusted with the work of restoration, which consisted of recasting the tenor and making the peal into four bells. These were rehung in a new iron frame and provision made for six bells at a future date. November of last year saw the crowning point by the addition of two more trebles, the tenor being 8 cwt. (approx.). This was made possible by the late Rector of Sempringham, who gave the 2nd bell, while the treble bell was provided by public subscriptions.

Despite inclement weather on Saturday, July 8th, quite a large gathering attended the meeting, and about 30 ringers were present from Lincoln, Peterborough, Southall, Bourne, Market Deeping, Glinton, Morton, Billingborough, Folkingham, Hough, Edmonthorpe, Branston and Pointon. The Rector, the Rev. G. L. Pilkington, kindly put the bells at the ringers' disposal during the afternoon and evening, and these were kept going to a variety of touches.

A short service was held, conducted by the Rector, who gave a brief outline of the history of the Abbey.

Tea was held at the school at Pointon, the adjoining village, and 22 sat down. At the business meeting which followed the Rev. G. L. Pilkington was elected an hon. member of the Southern Branch. Mr. J. T. Rolt, the tower captain, was elected a ringing member, as was also Mr. S. R. Wilson, of Billingborough.

It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Thurlby, and the business concluded with a hearty vote of thanks accorded to the Rector for the use of the bells and the service, and also for the excellent tea provided free. Thanks were also passed to Mr. E. Marriott for presiding at the organ and to Mr. J. T. Rolt.

The tower was then again visited and further ringing continued until 9 p.m.

John Taylor & Co.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Will ringers please note that the Jasper Whitfield Snowden annual commemoration dinner is fixed to take place at York on Saturday, October 14th. Full particulars in later issues of 'The Ringing World.'

The Rev. G. T. Perry, curate at St. Giles', Willenhall, who welcomed Mr. Frank Bennett's party while on their peal ringing tour last year, is to be inducted to the living of New Mills, Derbyshire, next Friday. Both the Rev. G. T. Perry and Mrs. Perry have taken up ringing since last August, but owing to many activities have so far not progressed beyond rounds. At New Mills, however, they should have further opportunities, as there are bells in this parish, with which the late Rev. A. T. Beeston was formerly associated.

One of the towers open at the Oxford meeting last Saturday was Iffley where the church is famous for its Norman architecture. In 1734 Benjamin Annable and his band of College Youths, after their unsuccessful attempt for a peal of Grandsire Caters at New College, dined 'at Weer's beyond Friar Bacon's Study and some (if not all) of them stepping over to Iffley they rang the six bells there (viz., 700 changes upon them).' On Saturday a band after ringing, more or less successfully, a course of Cambridge Royal at New College, went over to Iffley and rang upon the six bells there.

Mr. William Saunders, leader of the Coalbrookdale (Salop) band, is collecting cigarette cards for the benefit of the Hospital for Sick Children, Great Ormonde Street, London. Cards from all brands of cigarettes are included and we understand that the hospital exchanges them at the rate of 2s. 6d. per thousand. Already Mr. Saunders has sent 21,000 cards to the hospital, which is asking for more. Ringers who wish to help the scheme should forward cards to Mr. Saunders at Institution House, Coalbrookdale.

A recommendation that evening school pupils should be taught campanology is to be brought before the London County Council.

THE ACTIVITIES OF 'MR. GREEN.'

To the Editor.

Sir,—It will be of interest to your readers that this gentleman still pursues his profitable course through the country and has recently been operating in Brighton.

There is now a slight variation in the story, for he has appeared as Thomas White, giving the address, 2, Church Road, Astlee, Hants. Evidently during the course of his travels he has collected some striking sales talk and uses, quite without authority, of course, the names of Mr. George Williams and Mr. A. D. Stone.

Presumably Astlee is a corruption of Eastleigh, to which place he is supposed to be going. Particulars as to appearance are as follows: Age 60-65, height 5ft. 4in., robust build, wearing a black overcoat. Only visible teeth are two prominent eye teeth. Fresh complexion.

I have obtained a specimen of White's writing, which he gave on receipt for a 'subscription' he obtained, and this would be available if proceedings are ever taken.

S. E. ARMSTRONG, Hon. Gen. Sec.
Sussex County Association.

'DOUBLE LITTLE BOB.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I read in the North Notts Association report of the Tuxford meeting of a new method, Double Little Bob, being rung.

Since there are at present only four Little and two Very Little methods, it would be interesting to know more of this.

I wonder if the method can be spliced with an Alliance or Special Alliance method to produce an extent. If not, then can it claim to be one? VERNON TAYLOR.

Melton Mowbray.

[What is called Double Little Bob is, we believe, the same as Dartford Little Bob, which was rung some years ago in Kent. It is an unsymmetrical method and not a regular one according to the accepted standards. We doubt if it can be of any value for splicing.—EDITOR, 'Ringing World.']

'THE ROUNDABOUT.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—One read with no little disgust of the 'dividend hunters' of Derbyshire, who caused so much trouble by saving themselves the expense of the poundage on a postal order and a three-halfpenny stamp. It is to be hoped that they will spend a most enjoyable summer holiday on the dividend received from the transaction.

Leicester. H. BROUGHTON.

A ROYAL VISIT.

In honour of the visit of H.R.H. the Duchess of Gloucester to Beckenham to open the new hospital buildings on Tuesday, July 11th, the ringers of St. George's Parish Church rang touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major. Mr. Tom Groombridge (District Ringing Master) and friends assisted, and Mr. W. Martin, aged 80 years, successfully rang a 504 of Stedman. In the evening a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by John Collins (first quarter-peal) 1, D. Brown 2, Mary Rawlings (first quarter-peal 'inside') 3, E. J. Barrett 4, G. E. Rawlings 5, G. Fogden 6, W. J. Rawlings (first quarter-peal as conductor) 7, C. Austin 8. All are Sunday service ringers at Beckenham.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

ANNUAL FESTIVAL.

Free Membership for Infirm Ringers.

The festival of the Oxford Diocesan Guild drew ringers from the three counties of Oxford, Berks and Bucks to Oxford on Saturday, and, despite showery weather, an enjoyable day was spent, with a reunion of friends, a stirring service in the Cathedral, lunch in the glorious Dining Hall of Christ Church, and ringing in many of the towers for which Oxford is famous. Even the necessary business meeting was a pleasant incident in the day's proceedings, and the overwhelming defeat of the annual attempt to move the festival away from Oxford once more showed that the members look upon the city as the home of their Guild, to which they delight to return year by year.

The Master (Canon G. F. Coleridge) conducted the service, and the preacher was the Rev. J. J. E. O'Malley, Rector of Sandhurst. There was evidence in the hearty singing that many of the ringers present are choristers at their own churches.

About a hundred members attended the business meeting, held in the Chapter House. The Master presided, supported by the Rev. J. J. E. O'Malley, the Deputy Master (the Rev. C. E. Wigg), the hon. treasurer (Mr. A. D. Barker) and the general secretary (Mr. R. T. Hibbert). Letters of apology were received from Bishop Allen, Canon E. J. and Miss Norris, and Mr. J. W. Wilkins (High Wycombe). The last named wrote that he still shared the opinion that the other two counties (Berks and Bucks) should alternately be chosen for the annual festival. It would make the reunion more real, and probably give many more members the opportunity to attend who could not visit Oxford.

SATISFACTORY POSITION OF THE GUILD.

In the course of his report the Master said he had good reason to believe the Guild was holding its own in all ways. He could only wish that the services of qualified instructors were more generally sought, especially in the case of those bands who, having learnt a little, made little or no further effort to advance in the art.

The Deputy Master reported that steady and conscientious work was being maintained in most of the towers. One part of the Guild's activities which was usually overlooked in the officers' reports, he said, was the number of unsuccessful peal attempts. These often indicated more real progress than the peals which were completed and published, since they were commonly in new or difficult methods. For example, peals of Spliced Surprise Major by a resident band had been very few in the history of the Guild, but the fact that quite a number of attempts to ring such a peal had been made during the past year was an indication of the progress which was being made in advanced methods of ringing amongst the members. In conclusion, he offered a word of congratulation to all the members of the Guild, and they made up quite a large number, who had rung their first peal or their first in a new method during the year 1938.

The general secretary, in his report, referred to the keenness and good feeling which prevailed in all the branches, and said in most branches progress was being made. The membership of the Guild remained approximately the same. The number was 2,377 ringing members (including 454 non-resident) and 205 honorary members. There were 235 towers in union. Seventy-six peals were rung during the year, amongst them being several Surprise methods and two or three 'non-conducted.' Several young members scored their first peal, which, to him, was always very pleasing. He had given advice at Cholsey as to work necessary and had examined and passed finished work at Aston Tirrold, Stoke Poges, Kirtlington, Stanton Harcourt, Witney, Farnham Royal, Wroxton, Hanwell and Wantage. He expressed the thanks of the Guild to the branch secretaries for the excellent work put in. These officers had in many cases difficult districts to work, but kept on doing all that was possible for men to do to make a success of things.

The treasurer's statement of accounts showed that £94 17s. 3d. was received from the branches and new non-resident members, and £1 10s. 8d. from the sale of annual reports. The balance of £96 1s. 11d. increased during the year to £98 12s. 10d. In the reserve fund was £75 3s. 8d. The balance in the restoration fund, after expending £45 3s. in grants, was £90 11s. 5d.

The Hon. Treasurer, in his report, said that if assistance from the restoration fund was to be continued on the same large scale as last year some new form of income would have to be found. The annual report continued to be a heavy drain on the funds, and members should give their immediate consideration to this matter.

The reports, which had been printed, were received.

CANON COLERIDGE RE-ELECTED MASTER.

On the election of officers, Canon Coleridge said he thought they had better appoint someone else as Master. He was getting old, infirm and decrepit, and his parochial work made it nearly always impossible to attend meetings on Saturdays.

The Deputy Master said the question before them was, who did they want for Master of that Guild? Did they want Canon Coleridge?

The meeting said 'Yes' in unanimous chorus, and Mr. Wigg, amid applause, declared Canon Coleridge re-elected.

Canon Coleridge thanked the members for their renewed confidence. He had the work of the Guild at heart, he said, although he could not get to the branch meetings as he would like to. Another difficulty was that although he could get up into a tower, he was always afraid that, in attempting to come down, they might have to pick up a dead body (laughter).

The other officers were unanimously re-elected.

A trustee had to be appointed to fill the place of the late Dr. Joyce. The Master said he could not possibly express their feelings not only at the loss they had sustained as a Guild, but at what the people of Reading had lost. In addition to his medical services, Dr. Joyce was churchwarden at St. Mary's; he took the lead in the tower and paid for the whole of the restoration of the bells himself. His death brought a very great loss to the Guild.

The Rev. B. Girling, of Brightwell (chairman of the North Berkshire Branch) was appointed to the vacancy, and to fill the vacancy on the committee caused by the death of Mr. G. Holifield, sen., Mr. R. A. Post was elected, the Secretary pointing out, in connection with this appointment, that Mr. Post ought to be on the committee, as he was one of the Guild's representatives on the Central Council. 'It is unfair,' said Mr. Hibbert, 'to send a man to the Central Council if he doesn't know what the committee would like to do or propose to do. If he is on the committee he will be able to go to the Council knowing how much we grumble about the Council' (laughter).

All the retiring members of the committee were re-elected.

The Executive Committee recommended that the festival should be held next year at Oxford, and this was proposed by Mr. W. Hibbert, jun., and seconded by Miss V. Robinson.

Mr W. Birmingham (Slough) proposed and the hon. treasurer seconded that the meeting should be held at Reading. On being put to the vote, Oxford was chosen by 47 votes to 16.

The committee recommended that a grant of £5 5s. be given to the Coleshill bells restoration, the Vale of White Horse Branch having already voted £2 2s.—The Hon. Secretary said the bells were a fine little peal of six that had been restored. There was a young band of ringers making some progress, and he thought the grant would be a great help.

Mr T. Trollope suggested that, as there were no other grants to be made this year, the sum should be increased to £6 6s., and this was agreed to.

An application from Cholsey, which had just been received, was deferred, with the intimation that the Guild would help as far as it could.

RETAINING OLD MEMBERS.

Mr. W. J. Paice moved a recommendation of the General Committee in the following terms: 'Any member, who because of advancing age or infirmity, has to discontinue his or her active ringing shall (on the recommendation of the tower foreman, and confirmation at the branch annual meeting) continue his or her membership of the Guild without being called upon to pay any further subscription.'

He said in the parish in which he rang they had two old members who had been connected with the church for over 50 years. They could not ring now, because they were old and more often ill than well. They had taught he did not know how many ringers to ring, and, when they could, they now sat in their gardens and listened to the bells and they told him how much they enjoyed it. In the Sonning Deanery Branch, of which he was secretary, he knew there were many similar cases. He received a letter only that week from an old ringer, who lived in an almshouse, saying, 'I enclose P.O. for 1s. 6d. to pay my annual subscription to the Guild, which was due last January. I want to carry on as long as I can, as I have been in it so long. My membership dates from 1881, but I am out of ringing now for good; my sciatica prevents me from getting up and down stairs.' That, said Mr. Paice, was an instance in his branch; there must be many cases in the Guild similar to that which were known to members. He only wished that many of the young ringers of to-day would show the same loyalty and devotion to their tower and bells that these old ringers had done in the past. They had kept the bells going for Sunday services and had taught large numbers to ring, but themselves were now unable to ring because they were infirm and many of them had a struggle to pay the subscriptions, which they could ill afford. Some of them ceased entirely to pay because they were unable to do so. The Guild would lose nothing by passing the resolution, which simply meant that instead of these old ringers ceasing to be members, they would keep them by printing their names in the annual report. If an old member had the means and preferred to continue to pay his subscription, there was nothing to prevent him from doing so.

Mr. H. Farmer, who seconded, said a man had little left out of an old age pension with which to pay such things as subscriptions. By passing the resolution the Guild would not only keep their names on the books, but would keep the ringers as members of their organisation, and he added, 'they will still be one of us.'

Mr. T. J. Fowler thought the resolution was too restricted. He thought it should extend to old members who were still able to do a little ringing as well as to those who were debarred by old age and infirmity.

Mr. R. A. Post proposed that any member who reached the age of 65 should become a life member of the Guild. This was a course which they followed in the Oxford Society.

(Continued on next page.)

CHESTERFIELD PARISH CHURCH BELLS

ARCHDEACON EXPLAINS POSITION.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I see that several speakers at the Central Council meeting (as reported in your issue of July 7th, which has just been sent to me) are misinformed as to the matter of the Chesterfield bells.

It has been my desire to have the bells reinstated for the last four years, but costly improvements continuously carried out in the interior restoration and furnishing of this great church have delayed matters, and it has been necessary, also, to break down the opposition to the idea of restoring the bells. The late architect, Mr. Leslie Temple Moore, expressed the view, after several tests, that it was unsafe for the bells to be rung, though it is true that he said that, when the work of the restoration of the spire had been completed, this judgment might be reconsidered. It is natural that, after the expenditure of several thousand pounds on a work that had so little to show for it, some influential people opposed the idea.

I never threatened that, 'if I could not get ringers,' I would institute gramophone records. What I did say to the Church Council and to the parochial meeting was that it was very wrong for there to be a peal of ten bells unused year after year at a central church like this (except for the feeble chiming apparatus), and that either the bells should be put in order, or, if the tower were proved to be unsuitable for ringing, that they should be given away to churches which *could* use them. I added that a 'synthetic' peal would be better than our present arrangement, but I have never seriously considered that.

There are no ropes to the bells; the frames are, after seven or eight years of complete disuse, probably in need of repair, the bells themselves are out of tune, and need either turning or recasting, and a set of ringers needs training. All these things I hope, if spared, to have attended to in the near future. We have very considerable obligations at the Parish Church, and I have been trying to work according to plan with regard to the continuous improvement of the interior. My predecessor accomplished the very costly work of external renovation. I have got so far as to obtain the goodwill of the Church Council to obtain the best opinion as to the stability of the tower, and have been in touch with different authorities about this. Your critics must kindly exercise a little patience, and realise that it is not a simple case of climbing the belfry stairs and ringing a peal of Bob Royal.

T. DILWORTH-HARRISON,
Archdeacon of Chesterfield.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

(Continued from previous page.)

A lengthy discussion followed, in which the scheme put forward by Mr. Paice met with general approval, and eventually, after various alterations to enlarge its scope had been put forward, it was carried in its original form.

Messrs. H. A. Edwards and C. J. Gardiner were added to the list of qualified instructors in the Guild, and, on the recommendation of the committee, it was resolved that the travelling expenses of the Deputy Master and hon. treasurer, in attending meetings, be paid.

A DRAIN ON THE FUNDS.

The hon. treasurer called attention to the lack of sales of the annual report. It cost £28 8s. 9d. to print last year, he said, and they only got back £1 10s. 8d. from sales. It was thus a great drain on the funds. He had no definite proposition to put before the Guild at present, but he had been considering whether they should charge a small booking fee for peals. He did not know, however, if that would work. He hoped the members would try and help the Guild out of the difficulty.

The meeting confirmed the election last year of 149 new members.

Mr. T. Trollope asked what happened to all these members.

The Secretary replied that the new members got on with the job, while the old ones wasted their time thinking about getting buried (laughter).

The Master proposed a vote of thanks to the authorities of Christ Church for the use of the Cathedral, the Chapter House and the Dining Hall, and also to the preacher for his most acceptable sermon, and to the organist.—This was seconded by the hon. treasurer and carried with applause.

At the suggestion of Mr. W. J. Paice, it was agreed to send the good wishes of the Guild to the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow, of Wokingham, on his appointment as Precentor of Norwich Cathedral.

The meeting having concluded, the members adjourned to the Dining Hall, where lunch was served. Afterwards a brief toast list was gone through. 'The King and Church' was proposed by the Master; Mr. J. S. Goldsmith submitted 'The Oxford Diocesan Guild,' and Mr. R. T. Hibbert gave 'The Master and Deputy Master,' to which Canon Coleridge responded, recalling that Bishop White, whose portrait occupied a place of honour in the hall, was once one of his ringing pupils. Canon Coleridge added a plea for more young men to take up ringing.

After lunch the various towers in the city were visited and a great deal of ringing was done until the early evening.

DEATH OF TRURO RINGER.

PASSING OF MR. W. H. SLEEMAN.

The death took place on July 6th at Truro, after a short illness, of Mr. William H. Sleeman, who was known to everybody as just 'Billy.' Mr. Sleeman was born at Advent in North Cornwall in 1874 and learned to ring one of the four bells there in his very early 'teens, so that his early career was begun in true Cornish style. He came to Truro more than 40 years ago and joined the band at Kenwyn. The ring of eight there was rehung in 1905, about the time of the formation of the Truro Diocesan Guild, and the band, with a knowledge of Grandsire, went on to ring several peals, three of which are recorded on a board in the tower. 'Billy' took part in most of these.

When the bells at Truro Cathedral were opened in 1910 he was one of the official Cornish band to ring on June 21st of that year. He remained at Kenwyn, and taught many to ring there, until 1928 when he joined the Cathedral band, and, during the years following, was always willing to stand in a peal, and he took part in several of Grandsire Caters, Triples and Doubles, and Bob Major and Minor. He was Master of the Cathedral band for about two years.

Recently he had rejoined the Kenwyn band, and it was at Truro Cemetery that he was buried on Sunday, July 9th.

The Vicar of Kenwyn, Canon F. Thomas, officiated at the funeral, and the bearers were past and present members of the Kenwyn band. Ringers from Kenwyn and Kea attended the funeral. Wreaths were sent by the Kenwyn and Cathedral bands.

'Billy' will long be remembered in Truro and district and by many friends who have visited Truro. A. S. R.

DEATH OF MR. J. W. ELKINS.

DEAN'S VERGER AT WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL.

One of the most respected and esteemed citizens of Winchester recently passed away in the person of Mr. James William Elkins, who had been for more than 50 years a verger at the Cathedral and was for long a member of the band of ringers. The deceased gentleman was born in 1854, and from his twelfth year had lived in the shadow of the Cathedral, which he served as verger and afterwards as Sub-Sacrist and Sub-Librarian, in the discharge of which duties he endeared himself to all who came in contact with him. To him the Cathedral was not so much a building of historic interest as a spiritual friend, which he had learned to love by long association and contact, and this was the impression which he was able to convey to many of those whom he conducted over the great church.

His life at the Cathedral brought him in contact with many famous and important persons, including the late King and Queen Mary and the present King and Queen. He was a member of the Winchester Diocesan Guild and at one time served as district secretary and treasurer.

The funeral service was held in the Cathedral and was attended by a large number of people, testifying to the extraordinary regard in which Mr. Elkins was held. The clergy taking part included the Bishop, the Dean, Canon Lloyd and the Precentor. All the Cathedral clergy were present, with four of the honorary canons and the full choir. The Dean preached an eloquent sermon, and immediately afterwards the whole pull and stand was rung with the bells half-muffled, followed by a touch of Grandsire Caters, conducted by Mr. Wilfrid Andrews, captain of the Cathedral band.

GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting of Bristol Rural Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association was held at Stapleton on Saturday, June 24th. The weather was very wet, but 30 ringers attended from Henbury, Warmley, Mangotsfield, Coalpit Heath, Westerleigh, Bristol, Wickwar, Abson, St. Ambrose, Bitton, and the local tower. The bells are a very nice ring of six. Service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. J. E. Staley), assisted by the curate, and the former gave a very interesting address. Tea was partaken of at the Memorial Hall, by kind invitation of the Rev. and Mrs. Staley, and the Vicar afterwards presided at the meeting.

Bitton was chosen for the next quarterly meeting on July 22nd.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells and for taking the service, to the curate and the organist, also to the Vicar and Mrs. Staley for providing the splendid tea.

After the meeting the tower was again visited, and some good practice obtained in various methods.

FIRST QUARTER-PEALS.

ST. ALBANS.—At St. Peter's Church on Sunday, July 9th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major (1,280 changes): *H. G. Mason 1, E. G. Coward 2, G. W. Debenham 3, *J. L. Watson 4, F. Kirk 5, *F. J. Spicer 6, G. E. Debenham 7, *H. V. Frost (conductor) 8. *First quarter-peal in the method. This quarter-peal was arranged for the ringer of the 2nd, who hails from Mere, Wilts.

BRIGHTWELL, BERKS.—On Sunday, July 9th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Doubles (1,320 changes), being 240 each of St. Simon's, April Day, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and Grandsire, and 360 of Plain Bob: F. Brooker 1, C. J. Castell 2, J. R. Pease 3, F. C. Castell 4, O. G. Barnard (conductor) 5, G. Sadler 6. First quarter-peal in five methods by all.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It is not my usual practice to make use of the columns of 'The Ringing World' for correspondence purposes, but on this occasion I ask your indulgence in order that certain matters may be brought to the notice of members of the Essex Association.

On Saturday last I attended a meeting of the South-Western District of the association at Rayleigh and to my astonishment and disgust became the centre of what, to my mind, was a mean and most unfair attack on the management of the association.

It was stated that, after the last annual meeting held at Chelmsford on Whit Monday, complaints were voiced by a large number of those attending as to the manner in which the meeting was conducted by the chairman and that a considerable amount of time was wasted in carrying out the election of officers. It was also said that the conduct of the meeting was disgusting.

Another speaker alleged that the Annual Report was a disgrace and the information contained therein quite out of date, although subsequently admitting that it ranked about fourth in order of merit out of ten different association reports which he had in his possession.

It appears to me that, not having been successful in getting two proposals emanating from this district carried by the annual meeting, certain members took advantage of my presence to work off steam in a manner which was far from friendly, although taking care to say that no offence was intended.

To make such statements in the absence of the Master of the association was most disgraceful, particularly in the presence of the Vicar of Rayleigh, who appeared to be astounded, and, had it been done in any other part of the county or at a general meeting, I have not the slightest doubt that considerable protest would have been made.

With regard to complaints being made after the annual meeting, the only one which I heard, apart from the bad acoustics of the hall, was that Mr. Chalk had taken up far too much time with his Benevolent Fund proposal, and I would assure him that in unduly labouring the subject with his verbose meanderings, not only on Whit Monday, but at various district meetings at which he had been allowed to speak upon the subject, he had reduced the great majority of his hearers to a state of boredom and had done far more harm than good to his cause. This is not merely my personal opinion, but has been expressed in my hearing on numerous occasions.

As to the election of the Master, a most ridiculous statement reached my ears, that things were not done fairly down this way (apparently meaning at Chelmsford). Any reasonably minded person present at the meeting knows that such a statement is utter nonsense.

If our Annual Report is not up to date in its information, a point upon which I, as general secretary, entirely disagree, it is the fault of those members who appear to have far greater knowledge as to this than myself for not passing on information. However, it appears that nothing short of an 'Encyclopædia Britannica' devoted entirely to ringing matters in Essex would be entirely satisfactory.

There are many other matters I could mention, but have no wish to take up more space that I can avoid, and in closing would point out that if those who have for the past two years talked so much of benevolent funds, and from whom we should expect benevolence to exude in profusion, would bear in mind that true benevolence is not the mere giving of grants from a fund, but the desire to do good and to show a charitable feeling in word and deed towards their fellows, which can do far more good than the giving of an occasional copper to a collection, in the carrying on of the work of our association and, indeed, in whatever walk of life we may be.

L. J. CLARK.

Chelmsford. July 14th.

COMMITTEE TO BE ASKED TO DISCUSS VITAL POINTS.

The criticism of the management of the association referred to in the letter from the hon. secretary was raised under the item of 'any other business.'

Mr. Lufkin opened by saying he was frankly disappointed with the Association Report for 1939. Far too much space was wasted, when such things as new compositions, list of peals rung for the association since its formation, and quarter-peals rung during the year, could be inserted.

Mr. G. L. Joyce attacked the General Committee, saying that if the annual meeting at Chelmsford on Whit Monday was a specimen of the way things were being conducted in general, he was very sorry for the future of their association, and it was up to all members to see that what was wrong was put right, and as quickly as possible. He further stated that what he had just said was only what nearly everyone else was thinking, and he moved that a letter be sent to the General Committee asking for a committee meeting to be held as soon as possible to discuss vital points in connection with the association.

After further discussion this was carried.

PRESENTATION TO LATE DISTRICT SECRETARY.

MR. E. J. BUTLER'S LONG SERVICE.

At a meeting of the South-Western Division of the Essex Association held at Rayleigh on Saturday, July 8th, and attended by 50 members, almost every tower in the division being represented, a presentation was made to Mr. E. J. Butler, who recently relinquished the office of district secretary after a quarter of a century of service.

A short service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. A. C. Sowter), who gave a very warm welcome to all. Tea, arranged by Mr. C. Steward, was enjoyed in the Church Hall, followed by the business meeting presided over by the Rev. A. C. Sowter. Six new members were elected, including five from Stanford-le-Hope and Langdon Hills, both these towers joining the association.

Orsett was selected as place for the next meeting, to be held on September 21st.

The presentation took the form of a silver tea set suitably engraved. Several members paid tribute to Mr. Butler's loyalty and service to the district during his 25 years in office.

Mr. Chalk, District Master, remarked that the keynote of Mr. Butler's work had always been efficiency, and he spoke of the very valuable advice he was ever ready to give to incumbents whenever their bells needed attention.

In making the presentation, Mr. Prior said that he had known Mr. Butler since before the war, when they were all trying to help one another in the art of change ringing, and from that time he had seen the South-Western Division grow from a few scattered towers to the united body it was to-day, due in no small measure to Mr. Butler's enthusiasm in his work. Mr. Prior also paid a warm tribute to Mrs. Butler for the part she had played behind the scenes in the success of the district.

Mr. Butler, in reply, said that no words could express his appreciation for the kindness shown to Mrs. Butler and himself in presenting them with such a beautiful gift. All that he had done, he added, for the district had been a labour of love, and although he did not now hold any official capacity, they could always rely on his support. He spoke of the help he had received from the tower secretaries in the district and also paid tribute to the clergy of Essex for the kindness they had always shown to him wherever he went. He wished the district continued success and hoped they would all rally round their new secretary and support him in every way.

The Master referred to the fact that the Rev. Canon Brown, of Leytonstone, had just completed 50 years in the ministry of the Church, and proposed that a letter of congratulation be sent to him from the district.—This was unanimously agreed to.

The meeting concluded with a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for allowing use of tower and bells, for conducting the service and taking the chair, to Mrs. Sowter for so kindly deputising as organist, and to Mr. C. Steward for making all the arrangements.—This was carried with applause and responded to by the Rector.

The tower was then revisited and touches in methods ranging from Grandsire to London Surprise were brought round.

HOBART RINGERS ENTERTAIN LORD MAYOR.

NOTABLE VISITORS TO TASMANIAN BELFRY.

To celebrate the patronal festival and 106th anniversary of the parish, the bellringers of Holy Trinity, Hobart, were 'at home' on Tuesday evening, June 6th.

The staircase leading to the tower was decorated with flowers. The belfry also was adorned with pot plants. Being winter time, the belfry was heated by electric fires. The guests were the Lord Mayor (Mr. J. T. Soundy, Member House of Assembly) and the Lady Mayoress, the Hon. H. S. Baker (leader of the Opposition of the Tasmanian Parliament) and Mrs. Baker, Mr. F. W. Medhurst (who since the visit of the English ringers has presented the belfry with a telephone), Mr. R. J. Wallace (senior churchwarden), Mr. A. Hiddlestone, a past bellringer, and many others. Apologies were received from the Deputy Lord Mayor (Mr. S. Crisp), Mr. E. J. Rogers, Mr. F. Usher (Editor of the 'Mercury') and Mrs. Usher.

After the guests had been received by the president (the Ven. Archdeacon Blackwood), the ringers rang a 'peal' of Doubles: L. Lucas 1, S. Smith 2, J. Williams 3, B. McElwee 4, J. Quarnby 5, A. R. Wilson 6. Afterwards call changes were rung on the eight bells. The handbells were also used.

Supper was served, consisting of coffee, sandwiches and cakes.

The Ven. Archdeacon Blackwood said how pleased he was to welcome the guests. It was the first visit of the Lord Mayor; although he (Mr. Soundy) was not a ringer, he congratulated the ringers on ringing true Sunday by Sunday.

The Lord Mayor thanked the ringers for their hospitality. He was delighted to be amongst them. He trusted that it would not be long before they had another visit from the English bellringers, as he wanted to give them a civic welcome during his term of office.

Afterwards the Lord Mayor and the Hon. H. S. Baker went up the tower, and, returning, thanked all present for the enjoyable evening which went all too quickly.

The hon. secretary (Mr. A. R. Wilson) desires to place on record the names of Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Pedder (who were present) for their many donations towards the association's funds. It will be remembered that Mr. George Martin, of Maidenhead, was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Pedder in 1934.

The English albums of cathedrals and churches, presented by the ringers of the British Isles, were on view and much admired.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WESTERN BRANCH ELECTS ELEVEN SCHOOL PUPILS.

The summer meeting of the Western Branch of the Worcestershire Association was held at Shelsley Beauchamp on Saturday, July 1st. The church possesses a ring of six bells (tenor 11 cwt.), and the meeting was attended by 40 members, wives and friends, including visitors from the Northern Branch. A short service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. W. H. Davies), who, in his address, said he was much impressed by the good fellowship among ringers, and remarked that if there was more of this spirit in the world to-day it would cure most of the ills that existed.

An excellent tea was served in the Schoolroom by lady helpers, and was generously supplied by the Rector.

After tea a course of Grandsire Triples and several tunes were rung on the handbells.

At the business meeting, the Rev. W. H. Davies, who presided, extended a hearty welcome to all present.

It was decided that the arrangements for the next quarterly peal should be left in the hands of Mr. A. Morgan, of Grimley.

The Rector was elected an hon. member, Mr. F. Varty, of Wallasey, Cheshire, was elected as a life member, and the following 11 pupils from the Abbey School, Malvern, were accepted as unattached members: The Misses M. Richardson, D. Richardson, H. Weall, J. Weall, M. Eastwood, Jill Budden, Joan Budden, Anne Harper, R. Taylor, P. Peel and J. Tarry.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Kempsey.

Mr. S. Holt reminded members that the association library containing books on bells and bellringing is open to anyone. He also reported that the general secretary rarely had any application for association certificates.

Mr. W. Short suggested that the branch secretaries should carry one with them to show members, and Mr. R. Matthews said they should be given to new members.

Mr. S. Holt replied that the latter suggestion would have to be introduced at the committee meeting in January or at the next annual meeting

Hearty votes of thanks to the Rector, the organist and the ladies concluded the meeting.

PORTSHEAD LADY RINGER MARRIED.

The marriage took place very quietly at 9.30 a.m. on Sunday, July 16th, in St. Peter's Church, Portishead, of Miss Blanche L. Stadden and Mr. John Kelly. The ceremony was performed by Preb. H. W. Jukes.

The bride, who is a member of the Ladies' Guild and the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association, has given valued help in Portishead belfry for the past 14 years. Despite every effort for secrecy, four ringers turned up very early for Sunday morning ringing, and with the help of Mrs. Simmons (sister), Miss Brown (aunt) and two brothers, the bells were raised in peal, and a touch of Grandsire Triples voiced the good wishes of the band as the bride and bridegroom left the church.

For evening service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung: R. G. Williams 1, Mrs. W. Edwards 2, Mrs. L. Simmons 3, Miss V. Hyman 4, A. Lane (first quarter-peal as conductor) 5, Ronald Gale (first quarter-peal) 6, E. J. Goldstone 7, J. Thomas 8.

VISIT TO ST. ALBANS.

The members of S. Nicolas' Society, Guildford, with wives and friends, had their annual outing on June 24th and visited St. Albans. The coach ride, which took them through Windsor Great Park, was much enjoyed, but unavoidable delays caused them to arrive late at the Abbey, where they were welcomed by Mr. H. E. Goodenough and had the opportunity of ringing on the Abbey twelve. The visitors will not soon forget the long climb to the tower nor the views they obtained as the result of their labours. One or two of the party rang on twelve for the first time in rounds, but the other ringing was confined to Grandsire and Stedman Caters. Then they went on to St. Peter's Church, and, in this commodious and well-equipped belfry, rang Grandsire and Stedman Caters, Treble Ten and Double Norwich. They were received here by Mr. G. E. Debenham, Mr. F. Kirke and others, and the welcome in both towers was much appreciated. After tea some of the places of interest in the ancient city were visited. Some found the oldest licensed premises in England and decided that it was well worth while to inspect the interior. Others, under the guidance of Mr. J. R. Mackman, paid a hasty visit to the Roman remains of Verulanium. Mr. E. G. Heath, the hon. secretary, was heartily thanked for the successful arrangements he had made, and thanks were also accorded for the facilities given for ringing at the Abbey and St. Peter's.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

STOCKPORT BRANCH CONGRATULATIONS TO LINCOLNSHIRE RINGERS.

A meeting of Stockport Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild was held at Northenden on Saturday, July 1st, when some 28 members and friends journeyed to this old church, situated about half an hour's bus ride from the centre of Manchester and yet still retaining a sense of the peace and quiet of the countryside. The bells, a peal of six by Rudhall, were set going early in the afternoon, and, in spite of the fact that they proved a little difficult to handle, several good touches were brought round before service in church at 4.30. The usual Guild form of service was used and was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. Ronald Allen, who also gave a very inspiring address. He told the ringers that there had been a church at Northenden from the 12th century onwards and quite possibly even earlier. In the early days it was served from the Abbey of Chester, and this would suggest the origin of the name, it being the northern church of the diocese. The family of the present leader of the belfry had been ringers at Northenden for about 200 years, and he thought that it was good to remember the past in these days when they lived so much in the present with its crises from day to day. As he looked on the tower of the church during the crisis last autumn he was led to think of all the changes that this old church has seen and the wars through which it has passed, and went on to say that just as that old tower has survived, so must the Church as a whole survive all the changes. Wars may come and go, but still the Church will go on, and, although at times its light may appear to burn very dimly and even though the bells be silenced, he was certain that the will to serve and worship God would always be retained. He believed that in spite of all the criticisms and complaints, the Church was to-day stronger than ever before. He had recently had a young Chinese staying with him, and, on asking him what struck him most about this country, received the reply, 'The friendliness and freedom of the people,' and these were the natural fruits of Christianity. The preacher went on to point out how ringers could serve to illustrate the fundamental Christian truths and made special mention of the team spirit required in the belfry. He said that if men would only learn that it was just as essential to have this team spirit in national and international affairs, the individual striving for the good of the whole, then the troubles of the world would be greatly lessened. He also pointed out that ringing might be considered a very public job, as all the mistakes were heard by all the surrounding neighbourhood, and he made the point that just as in ringing all their actions were broadcast, so in their daily lives they must exercise care that their actions were always in accordance with the teachings of Jesus Christ. The Rector concluded his address by reading the fine poem by Tennyson, 'Ring out, wild bells.'

After the service tea was partaken of in a nearby cafe and all enjoyed an excellent repast. The usual business meeting was held under the chairmanship of the branch chairman, the Rev. F. Bonner, who voiced the members' delight at being present at Northenden.

The business was of a routine nature.

The secretary (Mr. C. K. Lewis) presented a report on the proceedings at the annual festival, for the benefit of those unable to attend, and it was resolved to send a letter of congratulation to the Lincolnshire spliced Minor band on their recent fine performance.

The meeting concluded with a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for his services, the wardens, the local ringers, the organist and to all who had contributed to the success of the meeting. Further ringing then took place until a late hour, the methods ranging from rounds to Cambridge Minor.

A LANCASHIRE FESTIVAL.

A numerous company of ringers gathered at St. Michael's, Flixton, Lancashire, on Sunday, July 9th, on the occasion of the church anniversary, and some very fine ringing took place. Before the service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung, those taking part being Lewis Taylor 1, Harry Shuker 2, Ethel Collier 3, Samuel Rickard 4, Donald Brown 5, Herbert Collier 6, Albert Ford (conductor) 7, Robert Thomas 8.

After the service the company was joined by Messrs. Robert Davies, H. Edwards, David Vincent and H. McKinnel, and touches of Stedman and Grandsire were rung and some call changes for other members of the company.

Mr. Herbert Collier expressed his delight at the wonderful way the neighbouring ringers had responded to the occasion, and Mr. Harry Shuker sprang a surprise when he said that in the touch of Stedman rung, the counties represented were Suffolk, Surrey, Middlesex, Montgomeryshire, Staffordshire, Shropshire and Lancashire, and each representative had served his county well.

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NOTICES.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Aspenden on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting at the Fox public-house after. — A. Lawrence, Dis. Sec.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Meeting at Seale, on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (6) from 3.30. Service 5. Tea and business 5.15 in Jubilee Room. All welcome.—C. W. Denyer, 120, Ash Road, Aldershot.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Derby District.—The next meeting will be held at Duffield on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (10) available 3 p.m. Tea arranged for all who notify Mr. Fred Stone, Derby Road, Duffield. All ringers welcome.—Wm. Lancaster, Hon. Sec., 83, Albert Road, Chaddesden.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD (North and East District) AND HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION (St. Albans District).—A joint meeting will be held at St. John the Baptist's, Barnet, on Saturday, July 22nd. Ringing also at St. Mary the Virgin's, Monken Hadley. Bells available 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea to follow, for which please notify Mr. H. J. Eldred, 98, Fitzjohn Avenue, Barnet, Herts.—T. J. Lock and H. V. Frost, Hon. Dis. Secs.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — West Dorset Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Whitechurch Canonicorum on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Everybody welcome.—C. H. Lathey, Hon. Sec., Malmaison, Bradpole, Bridport.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—A meeting will be held at Littlebourne on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (6) available from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea, by kind invitation of Rev. C. A. Manley (Vicar).—B. J. Lark, Hon. Dis. Sec., 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Meeting of Southampton District at Sherfield English on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells from 2.30. Tea at 5.15.—G. Pullinger, 17, Stoke Park Road, Bishopstoke, Hants.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District. —A meeting will be held at Littlebury and Elmdon on July 22nd. Bells (two rings of six Littlebury from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m. Tea at Elmdon, followed by business meeting and further ringing.—W. Wheeler, Hon. Dis. Sec., Mill Street, Harlow Common, Harlow, Essex.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. —Bath Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Bathford on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5.15.—Theo Grant, Swainswick, Bath.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. —Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Burnham-on-Sea on July 22nd. Bells (8) open at 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting 5 p.m. All ringers welcomed.—H. Minifie, Royston, Uphill, Weston-super-Mare.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next meeting has been arranged at Penn (6 bells) on Saturday, July 22nd, at 3.30 p.m.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.— The next meeting will be held at Leyland Parish Church on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (10) available from 2.30 to 7.45 p.m. The committee of the Lancashire Association will meet the same date. — A. Blogg and W. H. Shuker, Secs.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.— A combined meeting of the Suffolk Guild and the Essex Association will be held at Wormingford and Bures on July 22nd. Service will be at Wormingford Church, and tea in Village Hall.—J. R. Sparling, Hon. Sec., Station Hotel, Wivenhoe, Essex.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Annual summer festival at St. Neots, on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at Falcon Hotel at 5 o'clock. Ringing at Eynesbury (6).—Kitty Willers, Gen. Sec., Sweetbriars, Trumpington, Cambridge.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A mid-quarterly meeting will be held at Great Glenn (6 bells) on July 22nd. Ringing will commence at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. in the local cafe.—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bradfield Deanery Branch.—Summer meeting will be held at South Stoke, Oxon, on Saturday, July 22nd. Ringing 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea (9d.) at 5 p.m. Goring bells available after tea.—T. W. Palmer, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Cranbourne, Cranbourne Avenue, Calcot.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—The next meeting will be held at Shepshed on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea and meeting at 5 p.m.—A. E. Rowley, Hon. Sec., Penistone Street, Ibstock, Leicester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Wigan Branch.— The next meeting will be held at Winwick, on Saturday, July 22nd. Bells available from 3 p.m. After tea a call will be made at St. Peter's, Newton-le-Willows.—S. Forshaw, 55, Poolstock, Wigan.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.— Practices for July: Southwark Cathedral, 25th; St. Clement Danes, 27th; all at 7.30 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD. — A mid-week meeting will be held at Buxted (St. Margaret's, in Buxted Park) on Wednesday, July 26th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. All welcome. Names for tea by Monday next, please, Miss K. M. Shepherd, 34, Cantelupe Road, East Grinstead, Sussex.—B. Saunders, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—The next meeting is at Tutbury on Saturday, July 29th, and the district extends a hearty invitation to North Staffs friends. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Short service at 4.20. Tea at 4.45. All ringers welcome, and a card re tea by the 26th will oblige.—J. W. Cotton, Hon. Dis. Sec., Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Sutton St. Nicholas' on Saturday, July 29th. Bells (6) available from 3 to 8.30. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—R. H. Stickley, Dis. Sec., Dodmarsh, Withington, Hereford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch. —The annual meeting will be held at Rochdale Parish Church on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m.—I. Kay, Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at Singleton Parish Church (6 bells) on Saturday, July 29th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Meeting 5.30. Bus leaves Talbot Mews at 2.20. All visiting ringers welcome.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — East Norfolk Branch will hold a meeting at Somerleyton on Saturday, July 29th. Bells recently rehung (6) at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea 5.15. It is very particular for the names or numbers for tea to be sent to me not later than Wednesday, July 26th. All ringers welcome.—J. Harwood, Hon. Sec., 4, Cobden Terrace, Northgate Street, Great Yarmouth.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Isle of Wight District.—Quarterly meeting at Brading on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5, business meeting after. All requiring tea please notify H. P. James, Dis. Sec., 11, Portland Street, Newport, Isle of Wight.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY. — The next quarterly meeting of the Ashton-under-Lyne Society will be held at St. George's Church, Hyde, on July 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—Carus Wilson, Sec.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD (Leatherhead District) AND SURREY ASSOCIATION (North-West District).—The joint meeting will be held at Ranmore on Saturday, July 29th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service at 5, followed by tea at the old Post Office. Please send numbers for tea to A. H. Smith, Drakelowe, Howard Road, Great Bookham, as early as possible.—A. H. Smith and F. G. Woodiss, Dis. Secs.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Tunstall on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service at 4.45, followed by tea in the Memorial Hall (which will be provided by the Rector and churchwardens) and meeting. Members intending to be present please advise the undersigned not later than Wednesday, July 26th.—G. H. Spice, Hon. Dis. Sec., 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — South Norfolk Branch.—The summer meeting will be held at Brockdish on Saturday, July 29th (not 22nd as arranged). Bells afternoon and evening. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 'neath' the fir tree (if fine), Rectory Hut if wet. Meeting follows. Special methods, 'Westminster Surprise' and 'Bala Bob.' I have diagrams. Names for tea by 25th, please. Suffolk ringers specially invited; we are on the border.—A. G. Harrison, Branch Sec., 90, Denmark Street, Diss.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch.—A ringing meeting will be held at Old Bladwell (bells 6), on Saturday, July 29th, when it is hoped for a good attendance. All visitors will be welcome. Bells from 5 p.m.—Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Lewisham District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. John's, Sidcup, on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea and business meeting to follow. Tea, by kind invitation of the local ringers, will be reserved only for those notifying me not later than Monday, July 24th. Half fares (up to 2s.) will be paid to members attending this meeting.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere, Kent.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cary Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Babcary on Saturday, July 29th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting following. Barton St. David also available. Please advise for tea. — W. A. Osborn, Galhampton, Yeovil.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Taunton Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at North Curry on Saturday, July 29th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow.—R. W. Hayward, 24, Fairwater Cottages, Taunton.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Peterborough Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Whittlesea, on Saturday, July 29th. Usual arrangements. Will those requiring tea please notify me by Tuesday, July 25th?—W. H. Waldron, Hon. Sec., 137, Scotney Street, Peterborough.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND LUDLOW AND CHURCH STRETTON BRANCH OF HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Joint meeting at Church Stretton on July 29th. Eight nice bells in beautiful surroundings. Good attendance is requested. Names for tea to either W. A. Farmer, 70, Oakfield Road, Shrewsbury, or W. J. Beniams, Ben All, Henley Road, Ludlow.

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Bexhill, on Saturday, July 29th. Bells (8) available 3.30. Tea at 5. Everybody welcome, but a card re tea will oblige.—J. G. Powell, Hon. Sec., 1, Woodbury Road, Hawkhurst, Kent.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. — The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Deane, on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available 3 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m. Business: Nominations of officers.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Drighlington on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea will be arranged for those who notify Mr. S. Barron, 40, West Street, Drighlington, by Thursday, July 27th. Business meeting in the tower 7 p.m.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts Branch. —A meeting will be held at Great Gransden on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—H. J. Parker, Dis. Sec., Great Staughton, St. Neots.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — The next meeting will be held on Saturday, July 29th, at Snaith, near Goole. Bells (6) ready at 3 p.m. Tea can be obtained at the Crown and Bell Hotel. There are several hundreds of six-bell methods. Just look a few up and come along and practice them.—E. Cooper, Hon. Sec., 6, Grosvenor Crescent, Arksey, Doncaster.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—A meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Whitley Bay, on Saturday, July 29th. Bells (8) available at 3 o'clock. Tea will be served to those who notify me by Wednesday, 26th. All are welcome.—Jack Roach, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Nuns Moor Road, Newcastle.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch.—The summer meeting will be held at Mapledurham on Saturday, July 29th. Bells (6) available from 3-9 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea at Mapledurham Lock 5.45 p.m. (1s. each). Bicycles can use the Warren Road. Motorcycles and cars must take the Woodcote Road. Please let me know by July 26th how many for tea. — E. G. Foster, 401, London Road, Reading.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bridgwater Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Huntspill on Saturday, July 29th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—G. Evans, 17, Wellington Road, Bridgwater.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Bridgnorth Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Claverley on Saturday, July 29th. Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5, followed by meeting. Those requiring tea please notify me not later than July 27th.—H. G. Thomas, Hildon, Victoria Road, Bridgnorth.

HERTS ASSOCIATION.—You are invited to attend the meeting at Abbots Langley on Saturday, July 29th. Bells open from 3.30. Tea at 5.30, Village Hall. Nearest station Kings Langley (1 mile). Buses from all parts to church. As arrangements have to be made for tea please let me know by 26th.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey. City 4270.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. Jurisdiction of Glaston Branch.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Dinder on Saturday, July 29th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow.—W. H. Marsh. 4, Dove Cots, Street, Somerset.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Whitton (6), Saturday, July 29th. Kindly notify me for tea by Wednesday, July 26th. — W. C. Moore, 5, William's Terrace, Daventry, Northants.

HITCHIN, HERTS.—The ring of eight bells, restored by John Taylor and Co., will be re-dedicated on Sunday, July 30th, at the 11 o'clock service. Preacher, the Archdeacon of Bedford. Ringing during the afternoon 3 to 4.30.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Clitheroe Parish Church on Saturday, Aug. 5th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members cordially invited.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

LEATHERHEAD, SURREY. — August Bank Holiday.—Ringers' rally and convivial gathering, OPEN TO ALL RINGERS and their friends. Ideal spot for a Bank Holiday meeting. Frequent trains and buses; good going ring of 10 bells; park and gardens adjoining church. Bells available from 3 o'clock to 9 p.m. Service at 5 o'clock. Tea will be provided at The Duke's Head at 5.30 p.m. (1s. per head) for all those who notify Mr. Arthur Dean, 24, Church Walk, Leatherhead, by Friday, Aug. 4th.—F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Sec., Surrey Association, 28, Strathearn Road, Sutton.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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GREAT ACHIEVEMENTS.

We record some great achievements this week. Two of them are in the field of Minor ringing; two are personal records. The Lincolnshire band, of which Mr. George Feirn is conductor, have rung a peal in one hundred and four methods in seven extents. No one can say exactly what is the limit of splicing in this direction, but the peal rung at Bigby comprises the greatest number of methods that it has yet been found possible to put into seven true 720's, and is, therefore, at the moment an unbeatable record. Look at it how you will this is the finest achievement in Minor ringing of all time, and the congratulations which this band earned when recently they rang peals in 100 and 102 methods will be renewed to-day on this greater performance, got, not merely by adding two more to the methods they had already rung, but by substituting a new extent, containing thirteen other methods, for one they had previously included.

It was this Lincolnshire band that took the record out of the hands of the Chester Guild, and were it not for this great achievement, a peal by the Cheshire men last Saturday would have been all the more noteworthy. Nevertheless, the peal in fifty-seven methods of Plain and Treble Bob is an outstanding performance, and in the praise that will be bestowed upon their Lincolnshire rivals, their lesser success ought not to be overlooked. It does not equal some of their own records, but it is a performance which merits more than passing attention.

The individual records to which we refer are those of Messrs. George Williams and Frank Bennett, who, by a stroke of good fortune, were able to take part in a peal which was the fifteen hundredth for both of them. They first rang a peal together fifty years ago, and now they have reached a memorable point in ringing history together. No two names are better known in the ringing Exercise than theirs; and no two men are held in higher respect. Moreover, great as have been their peal achievements, their services to ringing are not to be judged only by those high standards; through long years they have given their best wholeheartedly to advancing the art, and everyone will hope they will long continue to enjoy the pleasures of peal ringing and carry on their important but less conspicuous work in their own towers.

There are morals to be drawn from the achievements here referred to. George Williams and Frank Bennett began their ringing when every peal was a hard earned triumph and they were few and far between. But their devotion, their zeal and their enthusiasm have brought them to a notable pinnacle, not sought in any desire for fame,

(Continued on page 474.)

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but gained by a steady adherence to a pursuit into which they had put their whole heart purely for the love of it. And then there are those two Minor achievements. They, too, have only been possible by the steady and persistent efforts of those concerned, a devotion to an object which is an example to those many ringers who are all too easily disheartened by failures or who expect to find the way made easy for them, instead of trying to make it easy for themselves. It is only by perseverance and constant practice that the Lincolnshire and Cheshire men have reached their present pre-eminence; it is only by steady plodding and making the most of their opportunities that Messrs. Williams and Bennett have gained the distinction they have now achieved.

TEN BELL PEALS.

MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. DENYS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 27 cwt. 3 qr. 6 lb.

WILLIAM FERNLEY ...	...*Treble*	DAVID VINCENT	6
JAMES FERNLEY	2	JAMES A. MILNER	7
HERBERT DAVENPORT... ...	3	*PERCY SWINDLEY	8
THOMAS B. WORSLEY	4	JAMES H. RIDING	9
C. KENNETH LEWIS	5	JOHN WORTH	...*Tenor*

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

* First peal in the method. Rung to celebrate the birth of a son and heir to Mr. G. W. Biddulph, of Lawton, Cheshire, until recently Ringing Master of the Crewe Branch of the Chester Guild.

SOUTHAMPTON.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, July 19, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5080 CHANGES;

Tenor 22 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lb. in E flat.

MRS. C. H. KIPPIN ...	...*Treble*	ERNEST J. AYLIFFE	6
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH	2	GEORGE WILLIAMS	7
JOHN W. FAITHFULL	3	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ...	8
ERNEST J. MUNDAY	4	REGINALD A. REED	9
FRANK BENNETT	5	CHARLES H. KIPPIN ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by YORK GREEN. Conducted by CHARLES H. KIPPIN.

A 'welcome home' peal to the Rector, Canon R. B. Jolly, after a visit to Canada and U.S.A. The 1,500th peal by both Frank Bennett and George Williams.

INVERARAY, ARGYLLSHIRE.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, July 22, 1939, in Three Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5087 CHANGES;

Tenor 42 cwt. in C.

ERNEST G. FENN... ...	...*Treble*	JOHN H. B. HESSE	6
EDWIN H. LEWIS	2	GILBERT E. DEBENHAM ...	7
WILLIAM H. PASMORE ...	3	EDWARD P. DUFFIELD... ...	8
HENRY G. MILES...	4	ALFRED B. PECK	9
HARRY HOSKINS	5	ALBERT A. HUGHES ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by H. G. MILES.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

HARLOW COMMON, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, July 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5068 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

STANLEY F. WEBB ...	...*Treble*	STANLEY CLARK	5
ALFRED PRIOR	2	ERNEST J. BUTLER	6
RICHARD J. WARRILOW ...	3	JOHN H. CRAMPION	7
LEWIS A. CORDELL	4	WILLIAM WHEELER ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by J. H. CRAMPION.

A birthday compliment to Mr. E. J. Butler.

WILLENHALL, STAFFS.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Thursday, July 13, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 1 lb.

ALBERT G. RICHARDS ...	...*Treble*	MAURICE G. TURNER ...	5
ALBERT D. COLLINS	2	CHRISTOPHER WALLATER ...	6
BARNABAS G. KEY	3	*HARRY GRIFFITHS	7
JAMES S. EASTWOOD	4	†ERIC E. SPEAKE	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by B. G. KEY.

* First peal of Major and first in the method. † First peal in the method. Rung as a farewell to the Rev. and Mrs. Perry.

BARTON-ON-HUMBER, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 10½ cwt.

ARTHUR W. HOODLESS	...*Treble*	CHARLES W. TAYLOR	5
MARTIN WALKER...	2	H. JAMES CHAPMAN	6
GEORGE L. HALL...	3	JOSEPH ATKINSON...	7
GEORGE DOBBS	4	WALTER GODDARD ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. NICHOLS. Conducted by W GODDARD.

First peal of Treble Bob as conductor. Rung in connection with the golden wedding celebrations of Dr. Charles Moor, a former Vicar of Barton, and Mrs. Moor.

WIGAN, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES, POOLSTOCK,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 25½ cwt.

A. PARKER	...*Treble*	A. FORSHAW	5
R. FORSHAW	2	*S. CLOUGH	6
*J. HORROCKS	3	S. FORSHAW...	7
J. ERRINGTON	4	W. FARRIMOND	...*Tenor*

Conducted by A. PARKER.

* First peal.

STROUD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 15, 1939, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

ERNEST MATTHEWS ...	...*Treble*	THOMAS PRICE	5
TREVOR PRITCHARD	2	THOMAS WITTS	6
BASIL LATHAM	3	LESLIE BARRY	7
THOMAS BALDWIN	4	GEORGE LATHAM	...*Tenor*

Conducted by LESLIE BARRY.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, July 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in B.

GEOFFREY HARRISON ...	...*Treble*	W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON ...	5
JOHN H. GRUNDY...	2	COLIN HARRISON	6
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ...	3	G. RONALD EDWARDS	7
JOHN P. FIDLER	4	ERNEST MORRIS	...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

Quickest peal of Major yet rung on tower bells. The conductor's 100th peal on these bells.

HANDSWORTH, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Tuesday, July 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5112 CHANGES

Tenor 12 cwt. in F sharp.

JOHN HOLMAN	...*Treble*	JOHN H. BROTHWELL	5
JOHN J. L. GILBERT	2	ERNEST THORPE	6
*JACK BROTHWELL	3	REGINALD PAYNE...	7
TOM BROTHWELL	4	NORMAN CHADDOCK ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. LEWIS. Conducted by J. J. L. GILBERT.

* First peal in the method. Rung to celebrate the birthdays of the conductor, Mr. R. Payne and Mrs. B. Camm.

BRIDGEND, GLAMORGANSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, July 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ILLTYD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

ERNEST STITCH	...*Treble*	EDWARD T. BAILEY	5
ALFRED W. HEATH	2	D. REES JAMES	6
CHARLES H. PERRY	3	ALBERT J. PITMAN	7
JOHN W. JONES	4	ALFRED W. WRIGHT ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. E. BAMES. Conducted by C. H. PERRY.

Rung for the 35th anniversary of the bells, on which 102 peals have been rung.

MARKET DRAYTON, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, July 20, 1939, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 17¼ cwt.

KENNETH HILL	...*Treble*	EDWARD V. RODENHURST ...	5
THOMAS PRICE	2	THOMAS TUDOR	6
WILLIAM WEATHERBY ...	3	WILLIAM J. CHESTER	7
ALAN M. HICKMAN	4	ARTHUR PRITCHARD ..	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by W. J. CHESTER.

First peal on eight bells as conductor.

HURSLEY, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, July 20, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. in F sharp.

*MISS NESTA SMITH ..	...*Treble*	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ...	5
MRS. C. H. KIPPIN	2	WILFRED ANDREWS	6
LESLIE A. TREMBER	3	HAROLD P. REED...	7
*RICHARD SMITH	4	CHARLES H. KIPPIN ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by C. H. KIPPIN.

* First peal of Major.

NORTHAMPTON.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHAMPTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, July 22, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

*G. FREEMAN	...*Treble*	J. C. DEAN	5
TOM LAW	2	G. VALENTINE	6
*G. PARKER	3	W. R. PARKER	7
W. H. AUSTIN	4	TOM TEBBUTT	...*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by TOM TEBBUTT.

* First peal of Major. Rung to commemorate the 200th anniversary of a peal of Plain Bob Major on these bells, conducted by B. Annable, June 15th, 1739.

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PETERSFIELD, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, July 22, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, BRISTOL, SUPERLATIVE AND CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
Tenor 16 cwt.

C. ERNEST SMITH	...Treble	TOWER R. TAYLOR	5
CHARLES E. BASSETT	2	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY	6
FREDERICK W. ROGERS	3	WILLIAM T. BEESON	7
KENNETH SNELLING	4	OLIVER SIPPETTS	...Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by OLIVER SIPPETTS.

This peal consisted of 2,240 London, 1,728 Bristol and 576 each of Superlative and Cambridge, with 116 changes of method.

BADSEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

THOMAS W. LEWIS	...Treble	SIDNEY T. HOLT	5
WILLIAM SHORT	2	ROBERT MATTHEWS	6
JOHN BASS	3	CHARLES CAMM	7
JOSEPH D. JOHNSON	4	BERNARD ASHFORD	...Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

BURGHILL, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, July 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 10¾ cwt.

WILFRED F. MORETON	...Treble	AUSTIN T. WINGATE	5
WILLIAM H. SYMONDS	2	REV. E. GEOFFREY BENSON	6
GEORGE T. COUSINS	3	ERNEST F. SALMONS	7
JOHN D. WORSEY	4	ERNEST H. WILLIAMS	...Tenor

Conducted by WILFRED F. MORETON.

First peal as conductor. Quarterly peal for the Hereford District.

GULVAL, CORNWALL.
THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, July 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GULVAL,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 12¾ cwt.

*MISS BETTY CORNISH	...Treble	PHILIP J. HITCHENS	5
MISS EILEEN SYMONS	2	WILLIAM H. SOUTHEARD	6
EDWARD SANDERS	3	CYRIL E. LANXON	7
CHARLES T. COLES	4	WILLIAM WOOD	...Tenor

Conducted by CYRIL E. LANXON.

* First peal and first attempt. First peal on the bells since their rehanging.

HONITON CLYST, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD
On Saturday, July 22, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 19 cwt. in E flat.

*EDWARD MITCHELL	...Treble	JOSEPH BREALY	5
ERNEST RETTER	2	REGINALD TRUMAN	6
JOHN SALWAY	3	ARTHUR TRUMAN	7
CHARLES R. LILLEY	4	EVAN MORGAN	...Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

* First peal.

UPTON ST. LEONARD'S, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART.

GEORGE LATHAM	...Treble	TREVOR PRITCHARD	5
*THOMAS BALDWIN	2	ERNEST MATTHEWS	6
FRANK COLE	3	LESLIE BARRY	7
THOMAS WITTS	4	CHARLES HODGES	...Tenor

Conducted by LESLIE BARRY.

* 300th peal.

GILMORTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 22, 1939, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb.

*FRANK T. LONG	...Treble	WILLIAM A. WOOD	5
FRANK K. MEASURES	2	CECIL E. CARR	6
J. EDWARD CLOUGH	3	NIGEL W. BOLTON	7
†A. JOHN TIMSON	4	ERNEST W. TIPLER	...Tenor

Composed by E. W. TIPLER. Conducted by FRANK K. MEASURES.

* First peal on eight bells. † First peal of Major. First peal in the method as conductor.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
(ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)
On Saturday, July 22, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST MARY MAGDALENE,
A PEAL OF YORK SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
Tenor 21½ cwt. in E flat.

CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE	...Treble	GEORGE A. FLEMING	5
SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER	2	ALAN R. ANDREWS	6
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY	3	CECIL W. PIPE	7
HOBART E. SMITH	4	FREDERICK J. SMITH	...Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by CHARLES J. SEDGLEY.

First peal of York Surprise Major by all and first attempt. First peal of York Surprise Major for the Suffolk Guild. A wedding compliment to Miss Alma Symonds, younger daughter of Mr. G. E. Symonds, secretary of the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

BUCKNALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, July 14, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Milton, Cambridge, Bursiem, Bucknall, Castleton, Oxford and Kent. Tenor 10½ cwt.

*FRANK RUSHTON	...Treble	CHARLES BOWEN	4
JOHN WHEELDON	2	WILLIAM FRADLEY	5
REGINALD O. PRESTON	3	GEORGE H. BILLINGS	...Tenor

Conducted by JOHN WHEELDON.

* First peal. Rung in honour of the leader of this tower (Mr. William Wheeldon), who has completed 50 years as a ringer. First peal as conductor.

CULHAM, OXFORDSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Friday, July 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent of Cambridge Surprise and two each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 7 cwt. (approx.).

MARIE R. CROSS	...Treble	ALBERT E. LOCK	4
*MRS. A. E. LOCK	2	†JOHN NOBES	5
JONATHAN HONEY	3	ALAN R. PINK	...Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* First peal in four methods. † First peal 'inside' in four methods. First peal on the bells.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, July 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JAMES, BENWELL,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Double Oxford Bob, St. Clement's Bob, Single Oxford Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 16¼ cwt.

JOHN H. CLIFTON	...Treble	CHRISTOPHER HETHERINGTON	4
THOMAS W. CROWE	2	ERNEST WALLACE	5
JOHN ANDERSON	3	WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON	...Tenor

Conducted by W. J. DAVIDSON.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Miss Selby Josephine Smith, granddaughter of Mr. C. L. Routledge, Ringing Master of the Newcastle Cathedral Guild, and also as a birthday compliment to the treble ringer.

FRENSHAM, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sunday, July 16, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 30 six-scores of Grandsire and 12 of Plain Bob. Tenor 11 cwt.

CHARLES W. DENYER	...*Treble*	*DOUGLAS W. DADSON	... 4
EDWARD J. BRAGG	 2	†ALFRED J. CHUTER	 5
*EDWARD J. HEATH	 3	†ERIC A. CASE	... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by E. J. BRAGG.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal in two methods. Rung to celebrate the 700th anniversary of the earliest record of the church.

DUNHOLME, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)
On Monday, July 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 30 six-scores, with ten callings, (three 240's of Morris' and three 240's of Pitman's arrangements). Tenor 10 cwt.

*RAYMOND STALLIBRASS	...*Treble*	NOEL E. CHAMBERS	 4
HAROLD MARCON	 2	JACK L. MILLHOUSE	 5
*BERNARD G. HOOSEMAN	... 3	*H. WILLIAM HUMPHREYS	...*Tenor*

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

* First peal and first attempt. Twenty-fifth peal as conductor.

POYNTON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD
On Saturday, July 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,
A PEAL OF SPLICED MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven extents in 57 methods:—

1. Double Oxford, London Bob, Thelwall Bob, Lytham Bob, St. Clement's Bob, College, Childwall Bob and Wavertree College.
2. Plain Bob, Double Bob, Reverse Bob, Fulbeck Bob and Canterbury Pleasure Bob.
3. Dover, Chepstow, Balmoral, Skipton and Fotheringay Delight.
4. Ely, Rostherne, Wilmslow, Knutsford and Bogedone Delight.
5. Canterbury, Abbeyville, Crowland, Combermere, Vale Royal and St. Werburgh Delight.
6. Taxal, Humber, Marple, Braintree, Newdigate, Charlwood, Old Oxford, Neasden, College Bob IV., St. Albans, Willesden, Wragby, Elston, Clarence Delight and Morning Star Treble Bob.
7. Oxford, Ockley, Capel, Duke of Norfolk, Sandal, College Exercise, London Scholars' Pleasure, Norbury, Kingston Treble Bob, Donottar, Carisbrooke, Pontefract and Wath Delight.

Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 17 lb. in F sharp.

*JOCELYN B. GARDINER	...*Treble*	JOHN WORTH	 4
JAMES FERNLEY	 2	*JOSEPH WHITTAKER	 5
C. KENNETH LEWIS	 3	†JAMES A. MILNER	... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. K. LEWIS.

* First peal in 57 methods. † First peal in 57 methods away from the treble. One hundred and thirty-six changes of method.

ELSTON, NOTTS.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two extents of Oxford Treble Bob, two of Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt.

GEORGE E. FOSTER	...*Treble*	*ARTHUR E. CHILTON	 4
MISS KATHERINE BURCHNALL	2	EDWARD FOSTER	 5
MISS GRACE BURCHNALL	... 3	FREDERICK G. HOOPER	...*Tenor*

Conducted by F. G. HOOPER.

* First peal 'inside.' First peal as conductor and first attempt.

OCKHAM, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, July 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Forty-two different extents. Tenor 8 cwt.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE	...*Treble*	ERNEST J. AYLIFFE	 3
*JOHN S. GOLDSMITH	 2	*CHARLES HAZELDEN	... 4
ERNEST C. S. TURNER	...*Tenor*		

Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

* First peal of Doubles. First peal on the bells. In this peal the whole hunt was changed in every extent, each bell being used in turn as the treble.

THE SPLICED MINOR RECORD.

BIGBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)
On Wednesday, July 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven extents in 104 methods:—

1. Beeston, Melandra, Leasowe, Peveril, Chelsea, Kentish, Berkeley, Edinburgh, Pembroke, Oswald, Barham Delight, Waterford and Berwyn Treble Bob.
2. Skipton, Chepstow, Fotheringay, Balmoral, Knutsford, Rostherne, Bogedone, Wilmslow, Ely Delight, Nelson Treble Bob, Hull and Bourne Surprise.
3. Blaxhall, Mitcham, Stanhoe, Stratton, Stonehouse, Ringstead, Hayes, Shambrook, Finchley, Ellacombe, Buxton, Wordsley, Lamberhurst, Harmondsworth, Bramfield Alliance, Crayford Little Court and Little Bob.
4. Langton, Candlesby, Alford, Tattershall, Benington, Freiston, Frampton, Butterwick, Poynton, Chelford, Denton, Sutton, Leake, Wrangle Alliance and Bastow Little Court.
5. Charlwood, Neasden, St. Albans, Wragby, Newdigate, Old Oxford, College Bob IV., Willesden, Humber, Braintree, Taxal, Marple, Clarence, Elston Delight and Morning Star Treble Bob.
6. Capel, Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston, Ockley, Duke of Norfolk, College Exercise, Norbury, Oxford Treble Bob, Carisbrooke, Wath, Donottar and Pontefract Delight.
7. Windermere, Frodsham, Killarney, Horsmonden, Ennerdale, Cumberland, Lytham, Thelwall, London Bob, Double Oxford, Wavertree, Childwall, College, St. Clement's, Canterbury Pleasure, Fulbeck, Reverse Bob, Double Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 6 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb.

FRANK LORD	...*Treble*	JACK BRAY	 4
MRS. J. BRAY	 2	JACK L. MILLHOUSE	 5
CHARLES MCGUINESS	... 3	GEORGE E. FEIRN	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE E. FEIRN.

196 changes of method. The greatest number of methods that have been incorporated into seven true and complete extents.

WATH-ON-DEARNE, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston, Sandal, College Exercise, Oxford and Kent. Tenor 13 cwt.

*EDWARD BRADLEY	...*Treble*	GEORGE LORD	 4
ROLAND HILL	 2	ARTHUR GILL	 5
*MRS. EDWARD BRADLEY	... 3	DANIEL SMITH	... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by DANIEL SMITH.

* First peal in seven methods.

HANDBELL PEALS.

ASTON, BIRMINGHAM.
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Tuesday, July 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT 273, ALBERT ROAD,
A PEAL OF ERIN CATERS, 5059 CHANGES;
Tenor size 17 in A.

DANIEL T. MATKIN	 1-2	FRED PRICE	 5-6
ALLAN SHORT	 3-4	GEORGE F. SWANN	 7-8
MORRIS J. MORRIS	 9-10		

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by G. F. SWANN.

Witness—Mrs. Shepherd.

First peal of Erin Caters by all the band and by the Guild.

OXHEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, July 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT 28, FIELD ROAD,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

HENRY HODGETTS	 1-2	CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	5-6
HAROLD G. CASHMORE	... 3-4	EDWIN JENNINGS	 7-8

Composed by J. E. BURTON. Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

A birthday compliment to Mr. William Crampton.

(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over.)

PEAL NOTES.

COLLEGE YOUTHS IN SCOTLAND.

A band of College Youths visited Scotland last week and on Saturday rang a peal of Stedman Caters at Inveraray, Argyllshire. They were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Lewis, at Dun A'Bhuilg, Achnamara, during the week-end. The beautiful scenery and the varied forms of enjoyment provided both on land and water were thoroughly appreciated by all, and have left an unforgettable impression.

In the old days, when the College Youths had an outing and travelled on 'shanks' pony,' they once made Northampton the object of their journey and rang at several places en route. At St. Peter's Church, Northampton, they scored a peal of Bob Major, which Annable called. This was on June 15th, 1739, and to celebrate the bi-centenary another peal of Bob Major was rung in the same tower last Saturday (July 22nd).

The regular service ringers at Bucknall, Staffs, rang a peal of Minor in seven methods on July 14th in honour of their leader, Mr. William Wheeldon, who has completed 50 years' service at this church. The treble ringer left to begin his military training the next morning.

Not for more than 25 years had a peal been rung on the bells of St. James', Benwell, Newcastle-on-Tyne, until last Monday week, when a peal in seven Minor methods was brought round as a birthday compliment to Miss Selby Josephine Smith, granddaughter of Mr. C. L. Routledge, Ringing Master of the Cathedral Guild, and to Mr. J. H. Clifton, who rang the treble to the peal.

Mr. Thomas Baldwin, of Gloucester, rang his 300th peal last Saturday, when he took part in a peal of Grandsire Triples at Upton St. Leonard's, Gloucestershire. Mr. Baldwin has taken part in a number of long peals and attempts, and rang the treble at Painswick to the then record length of Cinques (13,001) in 1920.

Edward Mitchell, of Heavitree, who is only 15 years of age, rang his first peal at the first attempt on Saturday at Honiton Clyst, Devon.

The peal of Little Bob Major at Handsworth, Sheffield, on July 18th, was rung to celebrate the birthdays of the conductor (who attained to 21 years on that date) and of Mr. Reginald Payne, whose anniversary fell on the previous day. It was also a birthday compliment to Mrs. B. Camm.

The first peal on the bells of St. James' Church, Poolstock, Wigan, since the rehanging by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, was rung on July 15th as a compliment to the Rev. L. J. F. Welton, the curate, on his ordination to the priesthood.

A HUNDRED PEALS AT LOUGHBOROUGH FOUNDRY.

Mr. Ernest Morris, of Leicester, is the first to ring a hundred peals on the bells at Loughborough Foundry. He completed the century on July 17th, with a peal of Double Norwich Major, the fastest ever rung on tower bells. It was round in two hours and eight minutes. The composition has the 2nd its extent in 2-3 alternately, and is in alternate short and long courses. It was rung for the first time.

Mr. Morris' 100 peals on the bells, of which he has conducted 38, include Doubles, Minor, Triples, Major, Caters and Royal, and among them are the quickest and longest on the bells, both of which he conducted He also called on them the longest peal of Little Bob yet rung (6,720) and the record of Ilkeston Treble Bob (9,120). In addition his peals in the campanile include the quickest tower-bell peal ever, 5,040 Cambridge Surprise Minor in 1 hour 50 minutes, and the quickest of Major, 2 hours 8 minutes. The peals of Bob Major include calling 7,008, 9,760 (400 Singles) and the extent of tenors together, 13,440.

The peal of Erin Caters rung at Aston on July 18th is believed to be only the second peal of Caters in the method 'in hand.' It was rung after about six attempts of varying lengths, the longest being on the previous Tuesday, when, with F. E. Haynes as referee, it was lost through a change course 14 courses from home after 2 hours 20 minutes' ringing. The band much appreciate Mrs. Shepherd's kindness in placing her lounge at their disposal. She is the mother of R. I. Shepherd, of the Aston band, and is herself learning to ring.

To celebrate the 700th anniversary of the church, a peal of Doubles was rung at Frensham, Surrey, on Sunday, July 16th. The peal was called by Sergt. Bragg, of the Grenadier Guards, and four of the band were local ringers, two ringing their first peal at the first attempt and two their first peal in two methods.

The 100th peal of Bob Major by the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford was rung at Willenhall on July 13th. It was a farewell to the Rev. and Mrs. Perry and was the first peal of Major on the bells since they were recast.

Three more members of the new St. Giles' Society, Lincoln, have rung their first peal, making seven from this tower in a week. Ray Stallibrass, who rang the treble to the peal of Doubles at Dunholme, on July 17th, has only just turned 15 years. It was Mr. Jack Millhouse's 25th peal as conductor.

PEALS AT BRIDGEND.

The peal rung at Bridgend on July 19th was the 102nd peal on the bells This is believed to be only the second tower in South Wales, if not in the whole of Wales, where more than 100 peals have been rung. The other tower is St. John's, Cardiff. The band which took part have rung quite a number of peals at Bridgend, viz.: E. Stitch 66, A. W. Heath 18, C. H. Perry 81, J. W. Jones 63, E. T. Bailey 24, D. R. James 51, A. J. Pitman 46, A. W. Wright 49. Mr. E. Stitch has 'completed the circle' in the tower, with the last peal.

Apart from the new record in Minor Splicing set up at Bigby, another really fine performance in Minor ringing recorded this week is the 57-method peal by members of the Chester Diocesan Guild at Poynton, Cheshire, on Saturday, conducted by Mr. C. K. Lewis. Thirteen of the methods were plain and the rest Treble Bob and Delight.

At Debenham, on Saturday, a peal of York Surprise Major, the first in the method by all the band and by the Suffolk Guild, was rung as a wedding compliment to Miss Alma Symonds, younger daughter of Mr. G. E. Symonds, the popular secretary of St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich.

A peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal at Manchester Cathedral on Saturday week was Mr. C. K. Lewis' 150th peal and was rung to celebrate the birth of a son and heir to Mr. G. W. Biddulph, until recently Ringing Master of the Crewe Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild.

Mr. Thomas Tudor rang a peal of Bob Major at Market Drayton, Shropshire, on July 20th. His last previous peal was rung no less than five years ago.

The peal of Cambridge Surprise Major at Harlow Common, Essex, on July 13th, which was rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. E. J. Butler, was specially arranged for Mr. R. J. Warrilow, of Stafford.

Mr. William Short, who rang in a peal of Stedman Triples at Badsey on Saturday, has now rung a peal on each of the existing rungs of eight in Worcestershire.

SOMETHING DIFFERENT IN GRANDSIRE DOUBLES.

It was only a peal of Grandsire Doubles, but it was worth ringing—at any rate, just once. That was the opinion of the five members of the Guildford Diocesan Guild, who rang 42 six-scores at Ockham, Surrey, on Saturday.

But it wasn't quite an ordinary peal of Grandsire Doubles. The treble was not always the treble. All the bells, in turn, were used as the whole hunt—as the work of the treble in a plain method was described in the earliest days of change ringing.

Only one peal had ever previously been rung on these lines, we believe, but to add further variety at Ockham two six-scores were included, in which one half was rung with one bell as the whole hunt and the other half with a different bell. The turn over was done with a special single, and six-scores are not only worth ringing on these lines, but really add to the fun. Here is an example of how this single is made, assuming the treble to be the whole hunt at the start:

	43521
	45312
	54132
Single	54123
	45213
	42531
	24513

At the single the 4th becomes the whole hunt, and the two bells are turned over again 60 changes later in a similar manner. In between, bobs at alternate leads have to be called.

Four of the band at Ockham rang their first peal on five bells, and Mr. J. A. Trollope's only previous peal on this number was rung 46 years ago. Mr. J. S. Goldsmith has now completed the series of peals on all numbers from Doubles to Maximus since January.

The peal at Gulval, Cornwall, on Saturday, was arranged to enable Mr. C. T. Coles (Middlesex Association hon. secretary) to ring a peal whilst on holiday in the county and so get one nearer his 1,000th peal, which is not very far distant. Miss Cornish, a member of the local band, received the hearty congratulations of the ringers after the peal on the excellent way she rang throughout. Her previous longest touch lasted only 20 minutes.

It is about 100 years ago that the Rev. W. W. Wingfield was inducted as Vicar of Gulval. He was Vicar of the parish until he died in 1912, and the two treble bells and the clock were given by the parishioners as a memorial to him.

Rung after meeting short for Major, a peal in seven Treble Bob Minor methods was rung at Wath-on-Dearne, Yorks, for the birthday of Mr. Edward Bradley on Saturday.

His wife took part in the peal. She had not struck a blow before in three of the methods (London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston and Sandal) and had cycled 24 miles before the peal. She is to be congratulated, therefore, upon the successful way in which she rang, when called upon unexpectedly to ring three strange methods. Both she and her husband scored their first peal in seven methods.

It was at Wath on February 27th, 1816 that a peal of twenty-one 720's of Minor was rung, making 15,120 changes.

The peal of Minor at Stanton-on-Hine-Heath on July 8th was rung in 2 hours 57 minutes and not 3 hours 57 minutes as printed.

The peal at Burton-on-Stather on July 10th was a 21st birthday compliment to H. Judd, who has since begun his military training in the neighbourhood of Birkenhead.

SUNDERLAND CHURCH'S JUBILEE.

For festal evensong on Sunday, July 9th, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the dedication of St. Ignatius' Church, Sunderland, and a visit from the Bishop of Newcastle, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung: G. Harvey 1, G. S. Taylor 2, T. Stephenson 3, M. F. Harrison 4, H. B. Ditchburn 5, J. W. Parker 6, F. Ainsley (conductor) 7, R. L. Patterson 8.

NORTH STAFFS ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the North Staffordshire Association was held at Cheddleton on Saturday, when a company of 25 attended from Burslem, Brown Edge, Cheddleton, Draycott, Kingsley, Leek, Longton, Norton, Newcastle, Cheadle and Stoke-on-Trent. A short service was conducted by the Vicar of Cheddleton (the Rev. W. G. Burgis).

Tea was held in the Churnet Hall, where the Vicar said he was glad to welcome the ringers to Cheddleton, as his ringers had found a benefit in joining the organisation. Mr. J. H. Martin supported the views of the Vicar, and Mr. A. W. Hall, in thanking the Vicar and ringers, remarked that the Vicar of Cheddleton had never refused the use of the bells for a peal.

Mr. E. Steele, in seconding, invited the ringers of Cheddleton to come to the meetings more often, as they offered the opportunity to pick up more change ringing.—Mr. J. E. Wheeldon thanked the ladies for serving tea so well.

The Vicar remarked that it was Mr. J. E. Wheeldon's 71st birthday, and he was wished 'many happy returns,' with musical honours.

One new member, Mr. F. Triner, of Norton, was elected.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

An enjoyable and successful meeting of the Canterbury District of the Kent County Association was held at Littlebourne on Saturday, July 22nd, when 41 members and friends were present, representing 14 towers of the district, together with two visiting ringers.

Good use was made of the six bells. The association's service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. C. A. Manley), an honorary member of the association. He gave the members a sincere welcome to Littlebourne, both in the belfry and in the church.

Mr. Pitman was at the organ and the lesson was read by Mr. J. W. Hover (Dover).

At the kind invitation of the Vicar, the members were entertained to a splendid tea at the Vicarage, at the conclusion of which he was, on the motion of Mr. H. Whitehead, heartily thanked for his hospitality.

After tea chairs were taken on to the lawn and two sets of handbells were brought into use. Courses of Triples were rung, and the 'Dover Twins' entertained the company with some excellent tune ringing. In passing it might be mentioned that this tune ringing is fast becoming more than a popular part of these gatherings, and is looked for at each meeting.

A return was later made to the tower, and further ringing was enjoyed until 8.30, when the bells were lowered in peal. The methods rung during the day ranged from Grandsire Doubles to Cambridge Surprise.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.

The annual meeting of the Swansea and Brecon Diocesan Guild was held at Swansea on July 15th. At the service at St. James' Church prior to the meeting the Rev. W. Cynwyd Williams gave a very instructive address to the members. Mr. Williams was a ringer at Morriston for a number of years before he was ordained and licensed to the parish of Clydach. He will be leaving the country early next year to take up duty amongst the Welsh colony at Cherbut, South America.

Tea was provided by the kind generosity of the Vicar of Swansea.

The Lord Bishop took the chair at the meeting, when the following officers were re-elected: President, the Lord Bishop; Ringing Master, Mr. A. J. Hoare; secretary, Mr. D. G. Williams; auditor, Mr. Rowlands. Mr. C. Morgan (Brecon) was elected treasurer in the place of Mr. C. Powell, who has left the district. A telegram was received during the meeting from Mr. Powell conveying his best wishes.

The president is leaving the diocese in the near future, having been recently appointed to the See of Llandaff a few weeks ago, and Mr. E. Stitch referred to the work which the Bishop had done for the Guild during his short stay in the diocese.

The members returned to the tower, and the bells were in constant use until 9 o'clock.

WEDDING BELLS AT HEANOR.

An interesting wedding took place at Heanor Parish Church, Derbyshire, on Tuesday, July 4th, when Miss Brenda J. Smith, daughter of the Rev. D. G. Smith, R.D., Vicar of Heanor, and Mrs. Smith, was married to Mr. E. W. Frost, B.Com., youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Frost, of Langley Mill. The service, which was choral, was conducted by the Ven. the Archdeacon of Derby, assisted by Canon A. R. Lee, R.D., Vicar of Holy Trinity and Rural Dean of the City of York, and the Rev. Harry Price, Vicar of Cotmanhay. Mr. Eric Lacey officiated at the organ.

After the ceremony a representative band of ringers from Heanor, Ripley, Nottingham and East Kirkby rang the usual Queen's and fired the bells, and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples followed.

In the evening a peal of Bob Major was rung, conducted by the bride's brother.

In the interval between the afternoon and evening ringing the ringers were entertained to tea at the Central Cafe as the guests of the Vicar.

The bride's father is an hon. member of the Midland Counties Association, and her brother, Mr. R. D. St. J. Smith, was until recently Master of the Oxford University Society.

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LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The Central Council's librarian will be grateful if no orders are sent to him for publications between July 30th and September 15th, as he will be away from home.

Will the captain of the Happisburgh, Norfolk, ringers please get in touch with W. Ayre, Leverstock Green, Hemel Hempstead, Herts?

Many of the visitors to the Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner are familiar with the ring of eight bells at St. Chad's Catholic Cathedral, Birmingham, and will no doubt be interested to know that the peal is to be recast and rehung in a new framework by John Taylor and Co.

This will be the fourth major job carried out in Birmingham in recent years, the recasting of the twelve at the Parish Church of St. Martin, the new ten at St. Philip's Cathedral, and the new twelve at Aston Parish Church being the others.

'JAMES GREEN.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In view of a renewal of the activities of 'James Green,' and of Mr Armstrong's hint of possible proceedings, Worcestershire ringers feel it should be generally known that a person using this name has already been through the hands of the police for this offence. In 1932 he imposed upon the good nature of ringers in the county to such an extent that proceedings were taken at Evesham Police Court and he received a sentence of twelve months' hard labour. On that occasion he was in possession of the Worcestershire Association's report containing the names and addresses of all tower representatives, and very few of them escaped his undesirable attentions. This man's correct name is Michael Mackay, but his aliases are innumerable, and in this district varied from 'Jimmy Green' to 'a relative of W. Short,' and one, at which I do not feel flattered, when he unsuccessfully introduced himself at a tower as 'the brother of Amy Johnson.'

If required, full particulars, photograph, etc., would, of course, be obtainable from Evesham Police Station.

J. D. JOHNSON, Hon. Secretary,
Worcestershire Association.

RIPON CATHEDRAL VETERANS.

SUNDAY SERVICE RINGING AWARD.

Ripon Cathedral bellringers have been awarded the First Certificate under the Sunday service ringing scheme of the Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association of Ringers. The certificate has been held for two years by Tadcaster, and now comes into the possession of Ripon. Ripon gained 641 points, Tadcaster 626, Middlesbrough 436, and Whitby 324.

The Dean of Ripon (Dr. C. M. Owen) entertained the ringers to supper at the Black Bull Hotel on Monday, and visited them for a short time, and offered his congratulations. The Precentor of the Cathedral (the Rev. H. R. Williams) attended, and also Mr. A. Graham (the Dean's verger), and Mr. F. Tingle (president of the local Association of Ringers).

Several touches were rung on the handbells after supper.

There are some veterans amongst the Cathedral ringers, and in a group of ten who were present at the supper it was found their combined service covered a total of 375 years, while four of them together made 202 years. Mr. J. Metcalfe has been a ringer for 52 years. He commenced to ring at the age of 14.

Others with long service records present were Mr. J. Rumbold (50), Mr. T. Ingleby (50), Mr. G. Langshaw (50), Mr. C. Howroyd (40), Mr. F. Tingle (37), Mr. W. Dixon (35), Mr. R. Duffield (25), Mr. Pearson (14) and Mr. E. Hudson (14).

A HALESWORTH CELEBRATION.

'BRED AND DRYNKE' FOR THE RINGERS

Last week the Halesworth (Suffolk) Society celebrated its 400th anniversary. The first reference to ringers in the parish is to be found in the bequest, on July 19th, 1539, of a certain sum of money, by one William Walpole, to the priest, clerk and ringers 'to provide for their bred and drynke.'

On the eve of the 400th anniversary members of the society and visitors rang various touches under the direction of Mr. Fred Lambert (verger and steeplekeeper), the eight members at the ropes totalling 449 years in age (an average of 56), four of them being septuagenarians.

The company, numbering 20 members (performing and honorary), are the proud possessors of the first written changes known, these being contained in a manuscript book dated 1621, which is now in the custody of the Rector and churchwardens.

Some of the bells in the Halesworth tower are the original ones cast and hung about 1440, and others are dated 1611, 1624, 1627, 1759 and 1770.

After the ringing in the four standard methods by ringers from Blythburgh, Bungay, Chediston, Darsham, Huntingfield, Redenhall, Nottingham, Southwold and the local company, the party proceeded to the British Legion Club and partook of the 'bred and drynke' above mentioned.

A GREAT DOUBLE EVENT.

GEORGE WILLIAMS AND FRANK BENNETT REACH 1,500 PEALS TOGETHER.

A unique double event marked the peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, rung at St. Mary's Church, Southampton, on Wednesday of last week. It was the 1,500th peal by both Mr. George Williams, the Master of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild, and Mr. Frank Bennett, of Brighton. It was not specially arranged for the purpose, but it coincided, because on the preceding Saturday, after both had reached 1,499, Mr. Bennett lost a peal elsewhere.

Only two men, the late Mr. William Pye, and Mr. G. R. Pye, had ever previously reached this great total, and it was a remarkable coincidence that two such old friends as Mr. Williams and Mr. Bennett should have been able to achieve this total in the same peal. It is all the more interesting from the fact that Mr. Williams himself called Mr. Bennett's first peal 50 years ago in Guildford. Later, they were both associated with St. Peter's Society, Brighton, and rang a great number of peals together. Then came a parting of the ways, with only occasional meetings, and sometimes a tour together. Now after half a century they have made a new historical landmark. In the course of this 50 years they have rung 338 peals together, among them having been the first peal of London Surprise in the City of London and the first peals of Oxford, Norfolk, Westminster and Bristol Surprise ever rung.



MR. FRANK BENNETT.



MR. GEORGE WILLIAMS.

Mr. Bennett, who was born in 1869, learned to ring at Basingstoke. His first peal was rung on March 2nd, 1889, at S. Nicolas' Church, Guildford, while his first as conductor was a peal of Grandsire Triples at Weybridge, Surrey, in the same year.

In 1895 Mr. Bennett went to live in Brighton, where St. Peter's Society was, at that time, one of the leading companies in the country. During the twelve years that followed he rang over 400 peals, and then, in 1907, he removed to New Cross. In London he helped to build up a very excellent band, which put some notable performances to their credit. While in London Mr. Bennett was hon. secretary of the Royal Cumberland Youths for seven years. Then he returned to Brighton, where he has continued his activities.

At 82 years of age Mr. George Williams is one of the marvels of the Exercise. He not only rings and conducts peals, but drives a motor-car, cycles, climbs the stairs at North Stoneham to keep the bells and ropes in order, and generally does things which many men, twenty years his junior, cannot do as efficiently.

Mr. Williams has been ringing for nearly sixty years, and rang his first peal at the little village of Soberton, which was the first peal in Hampshire for the former Winchester Diocesan Guild. The paucity of change ringers at that time may be judged from the fact that this was only the second peal for the Guild, which had been formed four years before, and ringers had to be collected from Surrey as well as Hampshire to make up a Grandsire band. It was not until a year later that Mr. Williams rang another peal, and this he called.

Following his trade as a miller, he moved to various places, always teaching and helping ringers wherever he went, and then he settled in Brighton. It was to his genius and leadership that St. Peter's Society largely owed its success, and when, after a number of years, Mr. Williams returned to his native Hampshire, it was a sad blow for Sussex ringing and the fortunes of St. Peter's Society in particular.

While at Brighton Mr. Williams was, for many years, hon. secretary of the Central Division of the Sussex Association, and after returning to Hampshire he became hon. secretary of the Winchester Diocesan Guild, of which he is now a vice-president, as well as Master. He and Canon Coleridge are the only two ringers who have been members of the Central Council since its formation. A list of the peals rung by Messrs. Bennett and Williams will be found on page 485.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

QUARTERLY MEETING AT SOLIHULL.

The July meeting was marred by heavy rainstorms, but those who braved the elements to visit Solihull were rewarded by ringing on this beautiful peal of bells, while the spacious and well-appointed ringing chamber evoked much admiration. Although the ringing was not up to the usual standard, useful practice was obtained by many who seldom have an opportunity to ring Caters or Royal, whilst several youngsters had their first pull on ten bells. A welcome visitor was Mr. Joseph W. Cotton (hon. secretary, Burton District, Midland Counties Association) of Overseal.

After tea at a local cafe, the business meeting was held in the tower. In the unavoidable absence of the Master (Mr. J. H. White), Mr. G. F. Swann was voted to the chair. Apologies were received from Messrs. White, Perrens and Webb.

Arising out of the minutes a letter was read from the Rev. M. C. C. Melville (formerly hon. secretary of the Guild), thanking the members for their good wishes, expressed at a previous meeting, on his ordination into the ministry.

The meeting places voted for the next three months were Monks Kirby (August) and Berkswell (September), and for the next quarterly Rugby (October).

Harold Williams, of Stoke, Coventry, was elected a ringing member, and the election of four life members ratified, Arthur Riddington (Blaby), Ronald Swann (Birstall), William Bottrill (Leicester) and Charles Marshall (Blaby).

A vote of thanks was proposed by E. Stone to the Vicar for the use of the bells, also to the local ringers for their arrangements.

Further ringing terminated quite a good meeting, despite the weather.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The summer festival of the Ely Diocesan Association was held at St. Neots on Saturday. Members and friends were present from Bromham, Burton Latimer, Cambridge, Chatteris, Eynesbury, Godmanchester, Great Staughton, Hartford, Henlow, Hitchin, Melbourn, Meppershall, Peterborough, Ramsey, Raunds, St. Neots, Southhill, Swavesey, Tempsford, Terrington St. John, Hitchmarsh, Trumpington, Turvey and Wilburton.

Service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. W. Knights), who afterwards presided at the business meeting.

It was decided to visit Ely for the 1940 summer festival.

The sum of £2 2s. was voted towards the sixth bell at Rampton.

Mr. Goakes, of Peterborough, was elected a non-resident life member, and the meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. Knights, to the organist, also to the Rev. Canon A. R. South Phillips, Rector of Eynesbury, for allowing ringing at his church.

MR. CORNELIUS CHARGE'S RETURN.

Mr. Cornelius Charge, who was formerly a member of the Metropolitan Police and a well-known ringer in London, has recently returned to this country from New Zealand after an absence of 20 years. At Portsmouth on Sunday, July 23rd, for evensong, at St. Mary's, Portsea, he took part in a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, his first quarter-peal since he left England: J. D. Harris 1, C. Charge 2, F. W. Rogers 3, J. Topp 4, F. S. Bayley 5, T. R. Taylor 6, C. Guy (first quarter-peal as conductor) 7, L. P. Cook 8.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

MR. CHALK'S REPLY.

Dear Sir,—I feel that I must through 'The Ringing World' object to Mr. L. J. Clark's unfriendly observations on my efforts to inaugurate a Benevolent Fund for Essex ringers and to some of his statements.

It is not always possible to gauge the reception of one's verbal efforts when advocating something new, but prior to the Whit Monday meeting the projected benevolent scheme had been well received at places as wide apart as Walthamstow, Stanford-le-Hope, Harlow, North Weald and Great Tey. I spoke to many at these meetings on the Benevolent Fund for the first time. Some, like Mr. Clark, might have been present at more than one of these meetings and so suffered 'boredom,' but to make a statement that the majority of my listeners were bored is not a fair criticism.

At the Whit Monday meeting I may have tried the patience of some present, but surely the mover of a proposition, the only one down on the agenda that day, should be expected to put his cards on the table and before the taking of the vote have the right to reply. It was, indeed, an effort to put anything over in such a bad-sounding hall, but *whatever I had said on that day*, prepared or unprepared, and I can claim to have given much thought on the matter beforehand, the result of the voting would have been 'Against.' In some parts of the county the opposition was adamant, and I doubt if anyone's effort, *clear cut to the last degree*, would have broken it down. I had the consolation, when it was all over, that I had spent time and money to try and benefit 'hard-hit' humanity, in this case my unfortunate fellow-ringers.

Mr. Clark's last paragraph is most uncalled for and offensive. The ringers in question from the South-West District do think and practise benevolence, and they do desire to dwell together in unity. Need I mention that two outstanding presentations to old servants have been made in the last two years—collective efforts that reflect a benevolent spirit!

The reference to the Rector of Rayleigh, who presided at the district meeting, as 'being astounded' at the criticism is not true. He himself commented at the close of the meeting on the value of constructive criticism. I can assure Mr. Clark that had he been absent from the district meeting the same matters would have been discussed, not because of the 'two defeats' mentioned in his letter, but because there are matters bearing closely on the welfare of the Essex Association which must receive urgent attention. Mr. G. L. Joyce's request for a committee meeting was very sound, for it would go far to clear up the cloudy atmosphere which prevails at present. My sincere wish is that Mr. Clark will not make observations and statements in the Press which one is forced to challenge.

J. CHALK.

South Woodford.

NO ATTACK ON COMMITTEE.

Dear Sir,—I am the unfortunate victim of the circumstance that a very brief précis of what I said at Rayleigh should appear, side by side, with Mr. L. J. Clark's letter of protest. It would appear, from these, that I am the villain of the piece. Facts are these: Following Mr. Lufkin's attack on the report. I actually *supported* the committee (of which, incidentally, I am a member) by moving an amendment to Mr. Lufkin's resolution, stating that the committee already had under consideration matters which covered the question of the report.

I did not attack the committee or any officer, but I did (and do) strongly criticise the loose handling of the annual general meeting. I thoroughly agree with Mr. Clark in that I was never so bored in my life, but I cannot allow any suggestion of the Master's absence to bear any weight whatsoever. Nor can I pass that which suggests that no protest was made at a general meeting. To stifle criticism at a meeting of my own district until the Master was present would, to quote his own words at Chelmsford, stifle it perhaps for a long, long time—perhaps for ever. And if Mr. Clark cannot remember my gentle reminder, at Chelmsford, that I 'had a home to go to,' and that I objected to the counsel-cross-examination of Mr. Chalk, where all matter should pass through the chair, there is no doubt that it did not pass Dr. Spencer Phillips by. His gentle rebuke, after the meeting to me, that all must be allowed their say, and my reply that 'you were too kind,' leave no doubt in my mind that the Master is man-of-the-world enough to realise that most criticism when severe is impersonal.

I say again, as I said at Rayleigh, that I hold no feeling against any, but that there are many things which require urgent attention. And it is the job of the committee to do it. I knew nothing of the undercurrents mentioned by Mr. Clark, until after the Rayleigh meeting, but I do know how dangerous it is for any district to meet with opposition which appears to be organised, and in this respect I shall hope to have my say in its proper place.

But I can say here, for all Essex to read, that the first thing in the report which requires attention is the rules. I find, therein, that I am committed to belfry reform; that a member must ring a five-bell peal; that I cannot elect a member prior to a peal of Minor, while I may for a peal of Triples; that a probationer must pay and not vote; that one vice-president (of two) appears to have been elected by mistake; and other things. All of which were 'revised in 1935.'

(Continued in next column.)

LINCOLNSHIRE RINGERS REACH THE TOP.

PEAL IN 104 MINOR METHODS.

It has not taken the North Lincolnshire ringers long, since their last success, to reach the summit of achievement in Minor ringing. On Wednesday in last week at Bigby they rang a peal in 104 methods, the greatest number that the skill of composers has yet been able to put into seven true extents.

This peal had not quite the same extents as the 100 and 102 method peals. The additional methods could not just be introduced into one of other of the 720's previously used. To ring the 102 methods they had to discard one of the extents used in the peal of 100 methods and learn 13 new methods. To go on to 104 methods they had to drop yet another of the earlier 720's and introduce one with 13 further methods. It makes the early beating of their own record all the more remarkable. The new extent introduced on this occasion included eleven Delight and two Treble Bob methods.

Altogether there were in the peal three Little, 19 Plain, 28 Alliance, 13 treble Bob, 39 Delight and two Surprise methods, and of the extents as they were rung, Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 5 were composed by Mr. A. G. Driver, and Nos. 4, 6 and 7 arranged by Mr. C. K. Lewis from Mr. Driver's tables.

It was fitting that this peal should have been rung at Bigby, for not only is it the parish where Archdeacon Parry, president of the Northern Branch of the Lincoln Guild, is Rector, but it was in this tower that the band's first step in their achievements was taken. Here it was that in February, 1935, that a peal in 14 methods was rung in which four of the present band took part, it being their first spliced peal.

The road to the record which this band has traversed since the beginning of last year is as follows:—

Date	Place	No. of Methods	Changes of Method
Feb. 12th, 1938	Dunholm, Lincs.	34	130
Aug. 17th, 1938	Elsham, Lincs.	43	128
Nov. 26th, 1938	Elsham, Lincs.	49	132
Dec. 17th, 1938	Bassingham, Lincs.	53	138
April 28th, 1939	Bigby, Lincs.	60	166
May 26th, 1939	Dunholm, Lincs.	70	181
June 16th, 1939	Bassingham, Lincs.	100	189
June 24th, 1939	Leadenham, Lincs.	102	190
July 19th, 1939	Bigby, Lincs.	104	196

Honours in the ringing of most methods in seven extents had previously gone to the Chester Guild and the South Lincolnshire band. On September 5th, 1936, at Disley, Cheshire, 68 methods: December 5th, 1938, Algarkirk, Lincs, 70 methods; June 12th, 1937, Buxton, Derbyshire, 73 methods: December 4th, 1937, Algarkirk, Lincs, 80 methods; June 16th, 1938, Disley, Cheshire, 84 methods.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

(Continued from previous column.)

I hope that members of the association, to whom Mr. Clark is appealing, will realise one fact. We are an association as a whole, and not a collection of districts one against another. And, yes, just one other thing. That it is better to have the 'guts' openly to criticise than to whisper it in the belfry.

Hornchurch, Essex. GEORGE L. JOYCE.

THE ANNUAL REPORT.

Dear Sir,—With reference to Mr. L. J. Clark's letter, I should like to make a correction. He writes that a speaker, which was I, said that the Essex Association's Annual Report was a disgrace, although subsequently admitting that it ranked fourth in order of merit out of ten different annual reports held by me.

I think Mr. Clark must have misunderstood what was said at the meeting at Rayleigh. What I said was that I held 14 different annual reports, that nine were far better, and that the other four were no worse than our Essex Association report. This criticism of mine was going to be made whoever was present at the meeting, as I was unable to be present at the annual general meeting. Other criticism from various members seemed to me to be fair, and from what I gathered very necessary, and not working off steam on personalities as suggested by Mr. Clark. FRANK B. LUFKIN.

Prittlewell.

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RINGER'S OUTINGS.

A ROUND OF GLOUCESTERSHIRE 'TWELVES.'

On Saturday, July 15th, Leicester Cathedral ringers had their annual 'busman's holiday.' The party consisted of 32 ringers, 'spares and encumbrances.' A start was made at 8.30 a.m., the object in view being the twelve-bell towers of Gloucestershire. At the Cotswold village of Painswick, the party was met by a local ringer and Mr. J. Austin, of Gloucester, who for the next hour or two was to be guide, philosopher and friend. Incidentally, in the two latter categories Jack is all right, but his services as guide are certainly not to be recommended! The beautiful church in a glorious setting was much admired and the fine old ring of bells were soon heard over the countryside. The stay at Painswick was all too short, and a move was made to Cheltenham, where lunch was waiting. The restaurant was successfully located, in spite of Jack Austin's endeavours to lose the party. After lunch a visit was paid to the Parish Church, where the visitors were met by Mr. William Dyer and numerous other ringers. Touches of Cinques were brought home, but a course of Cambridge Maximus came 'unstuck' in the last lead. After tea the party moved on to the beautiful Abbey at Tewkesbury, where Mr. H. Devereux was waiting. The massive tower was ascended with many evidences of 'bellows to mend,' and the bells were set going to Stedman Cinques, followed by Cambridge Maximus. The more energetic members of the party went to the top of the tower and found that the views to be obtained were something to marvel at. Afterwards a pleasant hour was spent at a local hostelry, where all too soon came the words, 'Time, gentlemen, please.' Final farewells were said and a start made for home. Leicester was reached at the somewhat disgraceful hour of 1.30 a.m. The outing was voted the most successful and enjoyable that the society has ever held, and the best thanks of all are due to the kind friends who made such admirable arrangements at the various places of call.

BEDFORDSHIRE EXCURSION.

Ickleton ringers had a very enjoyable tour into Bedfordshire on June 17th. At Eaton Socon they were met by the captain of the local band, who made them welcome. After ringing they went on to Bromham and again the local captain gave them a welcome. Another visiting team were busy on the church bells, and the Ickleton men enjoyed hearing some good ringing. After having a pull themselves a move was made to Bedford for lunch before going on to Husborne Crawley. When they arrived there a wedding was taking place, so they were just in time to give the bridal couple a wedding peal. The Vicar (the Rev. A. Rust) came into the belfry and gave the visitors a hearty welcome. Going on to Woburn they were met by Mr. Herbert, who had arranged tea for them at the Magpie Hotel. Afterwards some of the local ringers made the visitors welcome at the church and all had a ring on the grand peal of bells. The ride through the park on the Duke of Bedford's estate on the way to Biggleswade was enjoyed. The party were accompanied by their Vicar (the Rev. A. E. Penney) and a few friends, who wish to thank all the clergy for granting permission to ring and to all friends for their hearty welcome.

A HALF-DAY IN THE COTSWOLDS.

A party of South Staffs ringers had a ringing outing in the Cotswolds on June 24th, but it was an unfortunate choice, as it rained intermittently almost the whole of the afternoon and evening. However, a start was made from Wolverhampton at 1.35 p.m., arriving at Chipping Campden, situated in a hollow of the Cotswolds, at 3.15. Here they rang Grandsire, Stedman and Plain Bob on the mellow ring of eight (tenor 24½ cwt.). From Campden they went to Loughborough, where the church and village are tucked away in the hills, and after ringing, a run of 2½ miles brought them to the fine market place of Stow-on-the-Wold, where there is a magnificent peal of eight (tenor 30 cwt.). The heavy bells bothered most of the visitors, and the best ringing there was a really good fall in peal.

After tea a short journey to Lower Slaughter, a pretty village situated on the banks of a stream which flows into the River Windrush The six bells are in two tiers so that the trebles can scarcely be heard, the ringing chamber, moreover, is illuminated by means of a rather inadequate oil lamp. In spite of this an excellent 240 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor was brought round, as well as Kent Treble Bob and Grandsire Doubles. The final objective was Bourton-on-the-Water, where the Windrush flows through the centre of the village. At St. Lawrence's Church the ringing included Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major and Kent Major.

The principal items of interest during the day were the magnificent Perpendicular style tower of Campden Church, the peculiar notes of the bells at Longborough, which sound like a peal cast in minor key, the peal board in Lower Slaughter Church recording the peal of 5,040 Grandsire Doubles, 15 callings, in 1928, the fine peal of bells at Stow, and, lastly, the almost incredible amount of pork pie and tomatoes consumed by certain members of the party at the Fish Inn on the way home, which was reached at about 12 midnight to 12.30 a.m.

Thanks are due to the various incumbents for permission to ring, to the ringers who so kindly met them at some of the towers (in one case causing some inconvenience), to Mr. Fred Bennett, who made all arrangements for the tour, and to his two friends and himself for placing their cars at their disposal.

A LONG RUN.

All Saints', Maldon, ESsex, ringers had a trip into Suffolk and Norfolk for their annual outing on June 24th. They were accompanied by their wives and friends, including Mr. Shepneard-Walwyn, the blind ringer. At Debenham they were met by Mr. W. Rumsey and soon had the bells going in Bob Major, Double Norwich, Kent and Stedman, and all enjoyed the ring on that beautiful peal. At Diss, in Norfolk, they were received by one of the local band, and, after ringing, had lunch at the King's Head. In the afternoon they visited Mildenhall, where the annual Suffolk Choir Festival was being held. After a rehearsal the Vicar kindly gave the ringers permission to ring before the evening festival service. The last tower was Haverhill, and the journey home was made via Yeldham, Bocking and Witham. Home was reached at 11 o'clock after a journey of about 160 miles. The ringers thank the incumbents for granting the use of the bells and also the towerkeepers for meeting them and helping to make the outing an enjoyable one.

IPSWICH RINGERS IN LONDON.

London was the rendezvous of St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich, on the occasion of their annual outing on June 24th, the party of 23 leaving Ipswich at 6 a.m. and arriving back at 1 a.m. on Sunday. The ringing began at 10 a.m. at St. Dunstan's, Stepney, where Mr. H. E. Thompson met the party. Cambridge Royal and Stedman Caters were rung. Next at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, some Superlative and Cambridge Maximus, also two courses of Forward Maximus were brought round. At St. Michael's, Cornhill, Mr. Tom Longdon had everything ready for more Cambridge Maximus. St. James', Clerkenwell, provided Double Norwich and Superlative Major. Dinner at Talbot's, London Wall, was followed by visits to St. Lawrence Jewry for London, Superlative, Cambridge and Plain Bob Major, and St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, for Cambridge Maximus and Stedman Cinques. As an extra turn St. Magnus', London Bridge, was visited, and a good course of York Surprise and Double Norwich Royal, believed to be the first course of York Surprise to be rung in London, were brought round. An hour's handbell ringing at the Coffee Pot with Ancient Society of College Youths friends and social intercourse followed. Through the kindness of Mr. A. A. Hughes, the party were shown the bells already cast for the new peal to be put into Liverpool Cathedral. Thanks are due to incumbents, steeplekeepers and others for their help in making the outing a huge success.

A SCOTTISH OUTING.

The annual outing of the St. Mary's Cathedral Society, Glasgow, took place on Saturday, June 24th, in the form of a motor-coach tour of the Scott country. Travelling by coach via Biggar and Peebles, they reached Melrose in time for lunch, and afterwards visits were paid to Melrose Abbey and Dryburgh Abbey. As this was festival day in Melrose and Peebles, both towns were gaily beflagged, and the carnival processions, etc., added interest to the tour.

On the return journey a visit was paid to Edinburgh Castle, in which is situated the Shrine—the Scottish national war memorial. At St. Mary's Cathedral half an hour's ringing, consisting of Stedman and Grandsire Caters, was enjoyed after tea, and Glasgow was reached at 10 p.m. after an enjoyable day. Thanks are due to Mr. Charles Raine, who arranged the visit and had the bells ready to 'pull off,' and to the Right Rev. Bishop Logie-Danson, Provost of the Cathedral, for the use of the bells. Also to Mr. Thomas Winderam, who brought his accordion and kept the party in lively mood on the way, assisted by other members of the band, with a variety of tuneful (?) instruments.

DEATH OF MR. S. O. FERRY.

ORIGINATOR OF 'FERRY'S LIST.'

There has passed away recently one who, a generation ago, was a tower of strength to the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association in the person of Mr. Samuel Octavius Ferry. He retired from his position as manager of the Steel Works at Elswick (Sir W. G. Armstrong, Whitworth and Co.), Newcastle-upon-Tyne, to live in the New Forest, at Atholl Lodge, near Ringwood, shortly after the war and practically gave up his connection with ringing.

While at Elswick it was through his influence that Mr. W. H. Barber came to the works and has remained there ever since, and his coming was a great incentive to ringing in the North.

Mr. Ferry rang in over 20 peals for the association, ranging from Triples to Royal in the standard methods, with a sprinkling of Surprise peals, and was very useful at the heavy end.

He was perhaps better known as the originator of 'Ferry's List,' details of which appear in every annual report of the association. Under this scheme the value of Sunday ringing is tabulated for each tower, and at the end of the twelve months a first and second certificate is awarded to the towers having premier points in two divisions, one for five and six-bell towers, and the other for eight, ten and twelve bells. This has promoted much healthy and friendly rivalry amongst the competing towers and has encouraged regular Sunday ringing to a wonderful extent. The scheme, or a modified form of it, has been adopted by other associations.

Mr. Ferry was nearly 80 years of age and was an elder brother of Mr. E. E. Ferry, a past secretary and president of the association, and who also did yeoman work in the North.

Mr. Ferry leaves a widow and one daughter to mourn their loss. He was interred at Ringwood Parish Churchyard.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

WYKE REGIS' SILENT BELLS.

The quarterly meeting of the Dorchester Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild was held at Upwey on St. Swithin's Day. The drenching rain in the morning gave over to brilliant sunshine in the afternoon, and the bells of the Parish Church were pealing early in the afternoon prior to the service. In every way it was a happy gathering.

The Rector (the Rev. A. S. Bryant) officiated at the service, and the address was given by the Rev. T. R. Teague, Vicar of Preston (Weymouth), who spoke from the prophecy of Isaiah vi.: 'Whom shall I send? Who will go for us? Then said I, here am I, send me.' Mr. Teague said he came with a message of goodwill from Preston and Sutton Poyntz, where they had four bells, two of which were dated 1629. He revisualised his first experience in South Africa as a missionary and the impression created by the beauty of rhythm of the Zulus' language and the click of a thousand tongues in worship which was so different from worship as they experienced it in this country. He went on to say how rich was this country in bells, in history and in tradition, which in themselves were an acknowledgment of the sovereignty of God on Sunday, of duty, of adoration and of worship.

Following the service the members were invited to tea by the Upwey band in the Reading Room, and the hospitality accorded was in the best tradition of the Guild. About 50 members and friends were present.

Subsequently the usual quarterly meeting was held, and in the absence on holiday of the chairman, Canon Slemeck (Rector of Maiden Newton) deputised at the unanimous request of the members present. He was supported by the Rector of Upwey, the Rev. A. F. Godley (Rector of Bradford Peverell) and the secretary (Mr. C. H. Jennings).

Reports were made of recent meetings at Calne, Maiden Newton and Milton Abbey.

The secretary stated that the next meeting would be held at Bere Regis—if suitable to the Vicar—early in September, and a ringing practice at Abbotsbury and Maiden Newton.

Canon Slemeck proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector and the preacher for his inspiring address and welcomed all visiting ringers. He also thanked the organist and blower.

A special vote of thanks was accorded to the Upwey band for their invitation and hospitality, and, on their behalf, the Rector said how glad they were to welcome their friends.

An urgent plea was made by the secretary for the restoration of the silent peal of eight at Wyke Regis, and suggestions were made for the further support of the funds in hand for this purpose.

The meeting terminated after a hearty vote of thanks had been passed to the chairman.

The following towers were represented: Bere Regis, Dorchester, Maiden Newton, Preston, Stratton, Upwey, Bovington and Wyke Regis, and there were visitors from North Cadbury. Many members visited the famous Wishing Well quite near the church.

An excellent practice was continued for the learners until late in the evening.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

MACCLESFIELD BRANCH.

The Macclesfield Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild journeyed almost to the limit of their area on Saturday week, when a ringing meeting was held at Congleton, the first to be held at this place for a great many years. There was a minimum attendance, due no doubt to the poor weather conditions prevailing. However, shortly after 3 p.m. ringing commenced on the melodious peal of the eight bells of St. Peter's Church, and later the Guild service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. W. R. Johnson).

The Vicar, who extended a very warm welcome to the ringers, gave a very interesting address and spoke of the duties of the ringers to the Church and the very necessary office the ringer holds in the life of the Church.

At a short business meeting, which followed tea, the Vicar was elected an honorary member of the Guild.

Further discussion on the proposed trip of the branch to Loughborough Bell Foundry took place, and the arrangements now appear to be taking shape.

A resolution was moved that the secretary should send, on behalf of the branch, a letter of congratulation to the Lincolnshire ringers who recently rang the peal of Minor in 102 methods: a truly great performance. The previous best, in 84 methods, had been rung by members of the Chester Diocesan Guild. It was felt, however, that the Cheshire men would not let a mere 19 methods stand between them and the record, and no doubt an attempt will be made in the near future to emulate the Lincolnshire band's excellent performance.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar and wardens for allowing the use of the bells, to the Vicar for so very kindly conducting the service and acting as chairman at the meeting, also to Mr. Slater, of the local company, for having everything in readiness for the meeting, was proposed by Mr. J. Bradbury, seconded by Mr. J. W. L. Slack, and received with acclamation.

The Vicar suitably responded and afterwards further use was made of the bells. The methods rung during the afternoon consisted of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Cambridge Surprise Minor, Plain Bob Major, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major and Double Norwich Court Bob Major on the tower bells, whilst courses of Grandsire Triples and Plain Bob Major were rung on handbells.

UNOFFICIAL RINGING MASTERS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—So it appears you have failed to convince at least one large society on this question of branch ringing masters—which goes to prove that Mr. Amos is not alone in his contention on this matter. Despite what you say about 'it can *only* be done by an association branch master,' I notice in 'The Ringing World' of June 30th that the Yorkshire Association has taken the opposite view, and has very wisely and rightly decided that a branch may have such a person, but on the distinct understanding that no official status attached to such an appointment as far as the association is concerned, and I am told by two of its principals that this recommendation was placed before its members and endorsed nem. con.

Though my views on this matter may be stronger than some people's, I consider the Yorkshire Association has given a lead which others will do well to follow. It is a pity they did not go even further and include the general ringing master in the definition as well, for commonsense policy is, I should think, sufficient to tell anyone that we should not think it right to ever dream of calling a person 'the official warden' or 'the official verger' who was not definitely attached to the church in question—neither can it be right to recognise ringing masters as such. After all, if the associations have no legal veto in the control of any tower or bells (which even you, Mr. Editor, do not dispute they have), they must be unofficial and therefore an outside body!

In this diocese there has recently been formed a Vergers' Guild, which periodically holds gatherings like ringers. Imagine this body appointing one of its members to act at all its services as 'the official verger'! Or picture a person being asked to accept a Vicar's wardenship on the understanding that he would be warden sometimes, and when anything special was to be held he would be expected to renounce his authority in favour of someone from another church, and when all was over he could have his wardenship back again. What person would take a position on that 'hop'?—this is what, in fact, you seem to expect captains of belfries to do! The whole idea of such a principle is too ridiculous for words.

You seem to place considerable importance on the position of a captain if the incumbent agrees to this policy. Nine out of ten don't know that the associations expect such a thing, or they might take a very different attitude.

The Yorkshire Association, I am told, have always agreed to the local captain officiating, and it seems that this body is anxious not to disturb a practice which, I understand, they have proved, after many years of experience, has worked exceedingly well. They surely deserve the respect of all, despite the cheap gibe they received from the Editor of 'The Ringing World.'

P. AMOS.

Northampton.

P.S.—At the foot of one of my former letters, Mr. Editor, you stated, 'We are always willing (and give the assurance to Mr. Amos) to print views with which we do not agree.' Mr. Amos now awaits the publication of this letter for proof of good faith of that statement.

MR. AMOS 'IN THE SOUP.'

Poor Mr. Amos has gone lamentably 'into the soup' again. If he had read and understood the report of the Yorkshire Association's meeting he would have known that what the meeting discussed was the appointment of 'Deputy Ringing Masters in the Districts,' and he would have realised that the use of the word 'unofficial' was intended to mean that the appointment, if made, would not carry official status in the constitution of the association, because there is no provision for it in the rules.

But that is a minor catastrophe for Mr. Amos. He apparently does not know or else he has wilfully ignored the fact that the Yorkshire Association has an officially appointed Ringing Master in each District. The regulations for the management of districts provide for the election of Ringing Masters, give the Ringing Master a seat (ex-officio) on the District Committee and puts him into office, on election, for three years. The four present District Ringing Masters are in office until 1940. Thus the Yorkshire Association do not take an opposite view to the Editor of 'The Ringing World,' but endorse it by their rules. Of course, there are none so blind as those who won't see and none so perverse as those who deliberately distort facts.

Mr. Amos challenges us in his postscript to publish his letter on the strength of an assurance given in a previous footnote. But he deliberately omits the essential proviso that was laid down at the same time, and that was that views must be reasonably expressed. Unfortunately, Mr. Amos, in his anxiety to score over those who do not agree with him, often allows his pen to run away with his discretion.

We have allowed Mr. Amos to have his say and we must now ask him to carry on his further efforts at reform in this direction by other means than the correspondence columns of 'The Ringing World.'

PEAK SOCIETY.

The Ashover meeting of the Peak Society, held on Saturday, July 15th, was well attended, more than 20 members and friends being present from the following towers: Ashover, Bolsover, Chesterfield, Darley Dale, Dore, Matlock, Ripley, Treeton, Stoke-on-Trent, Staveley and Duffield. Some good practice was put in in the standard methods, whilst a course each of Cambridge and London Surprise were brought round, a course of Superlative only failing in the last lead.

MR. GEORGE WILLIAMS' PEALS.

	Rung	Conducted
On six bells (Plain Bob to 7 Surprise)	33	26
Bob Triples	6	4
Bob Major	94	68
Bob Royal	8	5
Grandsire Triples	129	94
Grandsire Triples on handbells	4	4
Grandsire Major	1	1
Grandsire Caters	16	11
Grandsire Cinques	1	
Union Triples	1	1
Stedman Triples	312	226
Stedman Caters	57	34
Stedman Cinques	15	2
Oxford Treble Bob Major	3	2
Kent Treble Bob Major	110	92
Kent Treble Bob Royal	31	18
Kent Treble Bob Maximus	3	1
Double Norwich Court Bob Major	202	161
Double Norwich Court Bob Royal	1	
College Exercise Major	1	
Champion Major	1	
Norfolk Surprise Major	3	1
Westminster Surprise Major	3	1
Gloucester Surprise Major	3	1
Oxford Surprise Major	3	2
New Cumberland Surprise Major	6	6
Bristol Surprise Major	15	3
London Surprise Major	87	64
Cambridge Surprise Major	131	81
Superlative Surprise Major	199	123
Yorkshire Surprise Major	3	
New Cambridge Surprise Major	1	
Spliced Surprise Major (4 methods)	1	
Cambridge Surprise Royal	14	3
Cambridge Surprise Maximus	2	
Total	1,500	1,035

MR. FRANK BENNETT'S LIST

The following is the detailed list of Mr. F. Bennett's peals, which have been rung in 547 towers, in every county of England and in seven counties in Wales and six in Ireland.

	On Tower Bells		On Handbells	
	Rung	Conducted	Rung	Conducted
In 7 Minor methods	4			
Cambridge Surprise Minor	1	1		
Union Triples	1	1		
Oxford Bob Triples	1	1		
Canterbury Pleasure Major	1	1		
Grandsire Triples	65	43	3	1
Grandsire Caters	34	25	4	1
Grandsire Cinques	1			
Bob Triples	6	3		
Bob Major	80	56	10	7
Bob Royal	10	7	5	3
Bob Maximus	1		1	1
Kent Treble Bob Major	84	57	1	
Kent Treble Bob Royal	30	13	1	
Kent Treble Bob Maximus	6	1		
Oxford Treble Bob Major	2	1		
Oxford Treble Bob Royal	1	1		
Stedman Triples	269	179	1	1
Stedman Caters	106	66	1	
Stedman Cinques	19	5		
Double Oxford Bob Major	2	1		
Waterloo Reverse Bob Major	1	1		
Double Norwich Court Bob Major	204	126		
Double Norwich Court Bob Royal	3	2		
Forward Royal	3	3		
Duffield Royal	1	1		
Westminster Surprise Major	3			
Oxford Surprise Major	3			
Gloucester Surprise Major	3			
Brighton Surprise Major	1	1		
New Cumberland Surprise Major	11	6		
Lincolnshire Surprise Major	1			
Norfolk Surprise Major	17	13		
Yorkshire Surprise Major	17	12		
Superlative Surprise Major	200	104		
New Cambridge Surprise Major	9	6		
Cambridge Surprise Major	161	93		
Cambridge Surprise Royal	27	9		
Cambridge Surprise Maximus	1			
Bristol Surprise Major	27	12		
London Surprise Major	55	5		
London Surprise Royal	1			
	1,473	856	27	14

Total rung 1,500. Total conducted 870.

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 4s. per quarter.

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—The next meeting is at Tutbury on Saturday, July 29th, and the district extends a hearty invitation to North Staffs friends. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Short service at 4.20. Tea at 4.45. All ringers welcome, —J. W. Cotton, Hon. Dis. Sec., Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Sutton St. Nicholas' on Saturday, July 29th. Bells (6) available from 3 to 8.30. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—R. H. Stickley, Dis. Sec., Dodmarsh, Withington, Hereford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch. —The annual meeting will be held at Rochdale Parish Church on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m.—I. Kay, Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at Singleton Parish Church (6 bells) on Saturday, July 29th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Meeting 5.30. Bus leaves Talbot Mews at 2.20. All visiting ringers welcome.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — East Norfolk Branch will hold a meeting at Somerleyton on Saturday, July 29th. Bells recently rehung (6) at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea 5.15. All ringers welcome.—J. Harwood, Hon. Sec., 4, Cobden Terrace, Northgate Street, Great Yarmouth.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD (Leatherhead District) AND SURREY ASSOCIATION (North-West District).—The joint meeting will be held at Ranmore on Saturday, July 29th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service at 5, followed by tea at the old Post Office. Please send numbers for tea to A. H. Smith, Drakelowe, Howard Road, Great Bookham, as early as possible.—A. H. Smith and F. G. Woodiss, Dis. Secs.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Tunstall on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service at 4.45, followed by tea in the Memorial Hall (which will be provided by the Rector and churchwardens) and meeting.—G. H. Spice, Hon. Dis. Sec., 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch.—A ringing meeting will be held at Old Bladwell (bells 6), on Saturday, July 29th, when it is hoped for a good attendance. All visitors will be welcome. Bells from 5 p.m.—Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—A meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Whitley Bay, on Saturday, July 29th. Bells (8) available at 3 o'clock. All are welcome. — Jack Roach, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Nuns Moor Road, Newcastle.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cary Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Babcary on Saturday, July 29th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting following. Barton St. David also available. Please advise for tea. — W. A. Osborn, Galhampton, Yeovil.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — South Norfolk Branch.—The summer meeting will be held at Brockdish on Saturday, July 29th (not 22nd as arranged). Bells afternoon and evening. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 'neath' the fir tree (if fine), Rectory Hut if wet. Meeting follows. Special methods, 'Westminster Surprise' and 'Bala Bob.' I have diagrams. Suffolk ringers specially invited; we are on the border.—A. G. Harrison, Branch Sec., 90, Denmark Street, Diss.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Lewisham District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. John's, Sidcup, on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea and business meeting to follow. Half fares (up to 2s.) will be paid to members attending this meeting.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere, Kent.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND LUDLOW AND CHURCH STRETTON BRANCH OF HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Joint meeting at Church Stretton on July 29th. Eight nice bells in beautiful surroundings. Good attendance is requested. Names for tea to either W. A. Farmer, 70, Oakfield Road, Shrewsbury, or W. J. Beniams, Ben All, Henley Road, Ludlow.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. — The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Deane, on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available 3 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m. Business: Nominations of officers.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Drighlington on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Business meeting in the tower 7 p.m.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts Branch. —A meeting will be held at Great Gransden on Saturday, July 29th. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—H. J. Parker, Dis. Sec., Great Staughton, St. Neots.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — The next meeting will be held on Saturday, July 29th, at Snaith, near Goole. Bells (6) ready at 3 p.m. Tea can be obtained at the Crown and Bell Hotel. There are several hundreds of six-bell methods. Just look a few up and come along and practice them.—E. Cooper, Hon. Sec., 6, Grosvenor Crescent, Arksey, Doncaster.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. Jurisdiction of Glaston Branch.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Dinder on Saturday, July 29th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow.—W. H. Marsh. 4, Dove Cots, Street, Somerset.

IT'S UP TO *YOU* TO COME ON Saturday, July 29th. Abbots Langley (6 bells). Tower open 3.30. Tea (Village Hall) 5.30. Railway: Kings Langley (1 mile). Excellent bus service from all parts to church.—C. H. Horton, Bushey. City 4270.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Whilton (6), Saturday, July 29th.—W. C. Moore, 5, William's Terrace, Daventry, Northants.

HENLOW, BEDS.—A fete in aid of Church Funds is being held to-morrow (Saturday), July 29th. Ringing in the evening at 6.30. All ringers welcome.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Central Branch. —A joint meeting will be held at Whittlesey, with the Peterborough Diocesan Guild, on Saturday, July 29th.—F. Warrington, Dis. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch.—The summer meeting will be held at Mapledurham on Saturday, July 29th. Bells (6) available from 3-9 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea at Mapledurham Lock 5.45 p.m. (1s. each). Bicycles can use the Warren Road. Motorcycles and cars must take the Woodcote Road.—E. G. Foster, 401, London Road, Reading.

HITCHIN, HERTS.—The ring of eight bells, restored by John Taylor and Co., will be re-dedicated on Sunday, July 30th, at the 11 o'clock service. Preacher, the Archdeacon of Bedford. Ringing during the afternoon 3 to 4.30.

LLANBEDR, near CRICKHOWELL, South Wales. —The ring of 5 bells restored by John Taylor & Co. will be rededicated by the Bishop of Swansea and Brecon at the afternoon service on Sunday, 30th inst.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637). — Meetings for practice during August: St. Giles', Cripplegate, 1st; St. Magnus the Martyr, 3rd, 17th and 21st; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 10th; St. Paul's Cathedral, 15th; Southwark Cathedral, 22nd; St. Clement Danes, 24th; St. Mary-le-Bow, 29th. *Business meeting afterwards. — A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Clitheroe Parish Church on Saturday, Aug. 5th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members cordially invited.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Devizes Branch).—The monthly meeting will be held at Upavon (6 bells) on Saturday, Aug. 5th. Ringing commences 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5. Meeting to follow. Urchfont bells also available for ringing during evening. Advise me early how many will attend the tea.—W. C. West, Branch Hon. Sec., 584, Semington Road, Melksham.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Northwich Branch.—A meeting will be held at Gt. Budworth on Sat., Aug. 5th. The bells will be available at 3 p.m —H. Parker, Hon. Sec.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Wisbech Branch.—The branch will meet at Terrington St. Clement on Saturday, Aug. 5th. Bells (8) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. Please *try* to be present.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

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LEATHERHEAD, SURREY. — August Bank Holiday.—Ringers' rally and convivial gathering, OPEN TO ALL RINGERS and their friends. Ideal spot for a Bank Holiday meeting. Frequent trains and buses; good going ring of 10 bells; park and gardens adjoining church. Bells available from 3 o'clock to 9 p.m. Service at 5 o'clock. Tea will be provided at The Duke's Head at 5.30 p.m. (1s. per head) for all those who notify Mr. Arthur Dean, 24, Church Walk, Leatherhead, by Friday, Aug. 4th.—F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Sec., Surrey Association, 28, Strathearn Road, Sutton.

RETFORD.—Bank Holiday Monday, Aug. 7th. Joint meeting of the North Notts Association and Sheffield and District Society. Towers open for ringing: East Retford, 10 bells; West Retford, 6 bells; Ordsall, 6 bells; at 2.30 p.m. For tea please notify Mr. O. Streets, Cobwell Road, Retford, by Wednesday, Aug. 2nd.—R. Towler and M. E. Wilson, Hon. Secs.

ST. COLUMB MINOR, NEWQUAY, CORNWALL. —The ring of 6 bells rehung and augmented to eight by John Taylor and Co. will be dedicated by the Archdeacon of Cornwall on Saturday, Aug. 12th, at 3 p.m.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—The summer meeting of this branch will be held as arranged on Saturday, Aug. 12th, at Bidford-on-Avon. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Numbers for tea by Wednesday previous. —J. E. Newman, Hinton Cross, Evesham.

ST. BOTOLPH'S, BISHOPSGATE.—Ringing suspended until Monday, Sept. 11th.—James E. Davis, 118, Sarsfeld Road, Balham, S.W.12.

APARTMENTS.

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APPRECIATION.

To the Editor.

Sir,—May I, through these columns, tender my thanks and deep appreciation to Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. and their staff for so many kindnesses given to myself and fellow-ringers in allowing us to use the grand little ring of bells in their Foundry Campanile? As will be seen, I have completed 100 peals in this tower from 5,000 to 13,440 changes (not to mention many failures), and on every occasion I have been received very courteously, for which I now tender sincere thanks.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 1,480. Vol. XXXIV. FRIDAY, AUGUST 4th, 1939. [Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.] Price 3d.

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OLD MEMBERS OF ASSOCIATIONS.

The gesture made by the Oxford Diocesan Guild, at their annual meeting, to old and infirm members, by resolving to retain them without subscriptions, is one which naturally met with sympathetic and very general approval, the principal division of opinion being on the point that the proposal did not go far enough. Men who have long served their association deserve well at the hands of the members, and when old age and disability overtakes them it should be deemed a privilege, if they are in straitened circumstances, to retain them on the roll without calling upon them for further contributions. These men cherish their attachment to the association which perhaps they have supported throughout a long ringing career, and it would be something of a slur on the association if they were lost because they were unable to meet their annual subscription—and, unfortunately, there are cases where even pence count. The concern of many of the members of the Oxford Guild was whether the proposal should not extend to old but necessitous members who are still able to ring, as well as to those who are debarred by infirmity. Someday, perhaps, these may be included.

Some associations extend free membership to all the ringers who have been subscribers for a certain number of years. This ' freedom ' of an association after long years of loyal support is a thing which is valued by the recipients, not because they are relieved of the small annual subscription, but because of the recognition of their services which is implied. Some societies, of course, cannot afford, owing to their restricted financial position, to offer this honour of free life membership, but there are few who would not readily do it if they could.

There is an argument which we have heard put forward that it should be the duty of the church to which the old ringer has been attached, to continue to pay his contributions after infirmity has laid him aside, but that, we think, is rather an impracticable and uncertain kind of scheme. True, it would be a recognition of long service, ended by disability, but church authorities, often unable to make ends meet, are seldom ready to pay their ringers' affiliation fees, and are not more likely to find the subscriptions of those who have ceased, even through no fault of their own, to render service to the church. The happiest solution is for the associations to honour their old members, and, after all, financially, they will be no worse off than if they lose the subscriptions because the members are unable to pay. On the other hand, by making them ' freemen,' the associations can demonstrate that the ' brotherhood ' of the Exercise, so often talked about, is no empty phrase.

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TEN BELL PEAL.

BIRCHINGTON, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, July 30, 1939, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE WATERLOO TOWER, QUEX PARK,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 15¾ cwt.

ALFRED H. PULLING	*Treble*	C. ERNEST SMITH	6
ERNEST J. DOBBIE	2	†ARTHUR S. BOAR	7
DORIS G. DOBBIE	3	WALTER H. DOBBIE	8
*JOHN E. SPICK	4	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE	9
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON	5	STANLEY B. DOBBIE	*Tenor*

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.

* First peal on ten bells. † First peal of Treble Bob Royal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, July 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

ALEC CARTER	*Treble*	*FRANK B. LUPKIN	5
JOHN H. BOTHAM	2	HARRY KILBY	6
ERIC B. HARTLEY	3	ERNEST C. S. TURNER	7
MRS. J. H. BOTHAM	4	CECIL C. MAYNE	*Tenor*

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER

* First peal in the method.

CLAYBROOKE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, July 20, 1939, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qr. 7 lb. in E flat.

*ERNEST W. TIPLER	*Treble*	WILLIAM A. WOOD	5
W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON	2	ALFRED BALLARD	6
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD	3	WILLIAM BOTTRILL	7
EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD	4	FRANK K. MEASURES	*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by FRANK K. MEASURES.

* First peal in the method. Specially arranged as a 'farewell peal' to Mr. Bottrill, who is leaving Leicester to reside at Luton.

MITCHAM, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

WILLIAM S. SMITH	*Treble*	†GEORGE A. WEST	5
*JOHN R. DAVISON	2	EDWIN L. MILES	6
DAVID WRIGHT	3	FREDERICK E. COLLINS	7
ALBERT J. ADAMS	4	CHARLES POTHECARY	*Tenor*

Conducted by FREDERICK E. COLLINS.

* First peal. † First peal in the method with a bob bell. A birthday compliment to Messrs. D. Wright and J. S. Hawkins.

CHORLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(PRESTON BRANCH.)

On Monday, July 24, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE R.C. CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

THOMAS BARKER	*Treble*	FRANCIS MCCARTHY	5
JOHN JACKSON	2	FREDERICK G. BRADLEY	6
BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS	3	WILLIAM SHARPLES	7
ADAM BLOGG	4	ALFRED BLOGG	*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No 4) Conducted by W. SHARPLES.

Rung as a compliment to the Right Rev. Thomas Edward Flynn, P.L.D., M.A., on the occasion of his consecration as Bishop of Lancaster.

EGHAM, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, July 24, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S ONE-PART. Tenor 17 cwt.

*EDWARD ARMSTRONG	*Treble*	†ERNEST W. MOREY	5
LEONARD SCAMMELL	2	WALTER PECK	6
WILKINS MASSEY	3	WILLIAM WELLING	7
JOHN B. HESSEY	4	JOHN GREENOUGH	*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM WELLING.

* First peal. † First peal of Grandsire Triples. Arranged as a birthday compliment to the Vicar, the Rev. A. C. Tranter.

SOBERTON, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, July 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt, 1 qr. 24 lb.

FREDERICK W. ROGERS	*Treble*	ERNEST J. MUNDAY	5
MRS. C. L. GUY	2	CECIL L. GUY	6
ERNEST BRETT	3	WILLIAM LINTER, JUN.	7
CORNELIUS CHARGE	4	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY	*Tenor*

Composed by B. ANNABLE. Conducted by WM. LINTER, JUN.

First peal as conductor.

WICKEN, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 29, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-EVANGELIST,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.

HARRY G. RIDGWAY	*Treble*	HERBERT C. EDWARDS	5
HARRY SEAR	2	ERNEST C. LAMBERT	6
A. NUNNELEY WOOD	3	THOMAS E. ROBERTS	7
WILLIAM G. WHITEHEAD	4	ALBERT J. GREEN	*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by A. J. GREEN.

HUGHENDON, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EAST BERKS AND SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Saturday, July 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*HARRY C. JONES	*Treble*	GEORGE MARTIN	5
ROLAND BIGGS	2	*WALTER LEE	6
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL	3	PERCY NEWTON	7
FREDERICK G. BIGGS	4	HARRY WINGROVE	*Tenor*

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by GEORGE MARTIN.

* First peal of Surprise Major.

RINGMER, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 29, 1939, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

VICARS'. Tenor 14½ cwt.

GEORGE WIGGINS	*Treble*	CHARLES PAINTER	5
LESLIE W. JARVIS	2	ALBERT RELFE	6
ARTHUR F. LEWRY	3	WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE	7
FRED MILES	4	FRANK H. HICKS	*Tenor*

Conducted by ALBERT RELFE.

A birthday peal for Mrs. and Miss Kitchenside.

COGGESHALL, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 29, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER-AD-VINCULA,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

JOHNSON'S VARIATION OF MIDDLETON'S.

*GERALD FROST	*Treble*	LEWIS W. WIFFEN	5
FRANK CLAYDON	2	GEORGE A. WIGHTMAN	6
CLAUDE SNOWDEN	3	FRANK B. LUFKIN	7
*FRANK C. MAY	4	ALBERT WIFFEN	*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN.

* First peal of Surprise Major.

WEST MEON, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD

On Saturday, July 29, 1939, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-EVANGELIST,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 12¾ cwt.

FREDERICK W. ROGERS	*Treble*	*HAROLD P. REED	5
CHARLES E. BASSETT	2	GEORGE WILLIAMS	6
TOWER R. TAYLOR	3	WILLIAM T. BERESON	7
FREDERICK S. BAYLEY	4	C. ERNEST SMITH	*Tenor*

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by C. ERNEST SMITH.

* First peal of London. First peal of London on the bells.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Rung on the light eight. Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 7 lb.

ERNEST MORRIS	*Treble*	FRANK K. MEASURES	5
*GEORGE HUMPHREYS	2	WILLIAM ROOT	6
ALFRED BALLARD	3	ARTHUR CATTELL	7
*EDWIN CATTELL	4	†GEO. STEDMAN MORRIS	*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by GEO. STEDMAN MORRIS

* First peal in the method. † First peal in the method as conductor. Rung as a 50th birthday compliment to the treble ringer, verger and clerk of this church.

KIRBY-LE-SOKEN, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 7 lb. in G.

*ALBERT HALES	*Treble*	EDWARD B. SMITH	5
URBAN W. WILDNEY	2	†MISS VIOLET FROST	6
GEORGE E. JENNINGS	3	GEORGE WATERMAN	7
WILLIAM J. NEVARD	4	EDWARD E. DAVEY	*Tenor*

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by EDWARD E. DAVEY.

* First peal on eight bells. † First peal in the method.

EALING, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 29, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 19¾ cwt.

*PETER ROWE	*Treble*	GEORGE M. KILBY	5
J. EDWARD CHURCHILL	2	ERNEST C. S. TURNER	6
HERBERT G. ANDREWS	3	ARTHUR HARDING	7
J. E. LEWIS COCKEY	4	FRANK MILLER	*Tenor*

Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

* First peal. Rung to celebrate the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Miller.

GREAT WALTHAM, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 29, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt.

*OWEN J. J. ROGERS	*Treble*	HARRY BRADLEY	5
GEORGE GREEN	2	LEONARD G. DAY	6
†MISS ANNIE WHITE	3	ARTHUR H. EVERETT	7
CHRISTOPHER F. JAGGARD	4	HORACE J. MANSFIELD	*Tenor*

Composed by SIR A. P. HERYWOOD. Conducted by A. H. EVERETT.

* First peal. † First peal in the method.

BELL ROPES

MADE FROM ITALIAN HEMP. OR ITALIAN FLAX.
SOFT AND PLIABLE IN HAND. ALL ROPES SENT CARRIAGE PAID AND ON APPROVAL.
Cheap Quotations. Established 150 years. 'Phone 203.

DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

FARNDON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD
On Saturday, July 29, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
JOHNSON'S VARIATION OF MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 12 cwt. 22 lb.

WILLIAM E. FLETCHER	*Treble*	JAMES SWINDLEY	5
FRED HARTMAN	2	JOHN W. GRIFFITHS	6
JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	3	HARRY PYE	7
FRANK VARTY	4	PERCY SWINDLEY	*Tenor*

Conducted by PERCY SWINDLEY.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, July 30, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 8¾ cwt.

GEORGE BEENEY	*Treble*	LESLIE W. JARVIS	5
HAROLD S. HOBDEN	2	*RONALD W. PANKHURST	6
*MISS BETTY RAYFIELD	3	FRANK H. HICKS	7
*HAROLD G. F. REYNOLDS	4	WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE	*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by H. S. HOBDEN.

* First peal of Major and first attempt. First peal of Major as conductor. Rung prior to evensong on the 80th anniversary of the dedication of the church.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

RANWORTH, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two extents of Kent Treble Bob and five of Plain Bob, called differently. Tenor 12½ cwt. in F.

*TIMOTHY G. BUDGEN	*Treble*	†BERTIE C. GRAPES	4
*MISS PEARL GRAPES	2	R. WILLIAM BARBER	5
†MRS. R. W. BARBER	3	DENIS A. BAYLES	*Tenor*

Conducted by D. A. BAYLES.

* First peal. † First peal in two Minor Methods. ‡ First peal of Minor, also first 'inside.'

ARELEY KINGS, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven differently called extents. Tenor 8½ cwt.

*EGBERT J. COLEY	*Treble*	FREDERICK FLUCK	4
†HORACE HOUGH	2	ALLEN MORGAN	5
GEORGE E. LARGE	3	ALFRED W. GLAZZARD	*Tenor*

Conducted by A. W. GLAZZARD.

* First attempt for a peal. † First peal of Minor. First peal of Minor as conductor.

STAGSDEN, BEDS.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Kingston, London Scholars' Pleasure, College Exercise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent.

JOHN CHURCH	*Treble*	PEARL INSKIP	4
HERBERT L. HARLOW	2	REGINALD WEST	5
HENRY W. GAYTON	3	LEWIS H. BYWATERS	*Tenor*

Conducted by L. H. BYWATERS.

J. A. TROLLOPE'S **'COLLEGE YOUTHS'**
A History of the Society
5/6 (post free) from
'THE RINGING WORLD' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

TARVIN, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, July 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Comprising one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob, St. Clement's and Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt. in A.

WILLIAM E. FLETCHER	*Treble*	PERCY SWINDLEY	4
FRED HARTMAN	2	HARRY PYE	5
RALPH G. EDWARDS	3	FRANK VARTY	*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK VARTY.

First peal in seven methods on the bells.

CADBURY, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
On Sunday, July 23, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 six-scores, with 12 different callings. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

CHARLES R. LILLEY	*Treble*	*JOSEPH BREALEY	4
*JOHN SALWAY	2	*BRIAN PIDGEON	5
*ERNEST REITER	3	*CHARLES SANDFORD	*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

* First peal of Stedman. First peal on the bells.

ASTON CLINTON, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Monday, July 24, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one extent each of St. Clement's Bob and Double Court, two of Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

*LESLIE J. GREGORY	*Treble*	†HARRY C. JONES	4
†MRS. E. S. POWELL	2	WALTER LEE	5
REV. E. S. POWELL	3	REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG	*Tenor*

Conducted by REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG.

* First peal. † First peal in four methods.

CWMCARVAN, MONMOUTHSHIRE.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 10 six-scores of Stedman and 32 of Grandsire (10 callings). Tenor 8 cwt.

JOHN W. JONES	*Treble*	REV. IVOR J. RICHARDS	4
WILLIAM POWELL	2	ROBERT SMITH	5
ARTHUR HAWKINS	3	*IVOR WILLIAMS	*Tenor*

Conducted by ROBERT SMITH.

* First peal. First peal of Doubles on the bells.

OAKLEY, BEDS.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Consisting of 12 extents of St. Simon's and 15 each of Grandsire and Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

JOHN E. HILSON	*Treble*	HERBERT L. HARLOW	3
MISS EVELYN SIBEL	2	DONALD L. COCKINGS	4
		REGINALD WEST	*Tenor*

Conducted by D. L. COCKINGS.

BIRKENHEAD, CHESHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Beverley and Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and two 720's of Plain Bob.

SYDNEY FLINT	*Treble*	THOS. S. HORRIDGE	4
*SELWYN H. DEARDEN	2	JAMES W. MELDRUM	5
WILLIAM H. DEACON	3	JOHN BROWN	*Tenor*

Conducted by J. BROWN.

* First peal of Minor 'inside.' Rung as a compliment to the daughter of Mr. F. Woodward upon her marriage.

ANOTHER MINOR RECORD.

BIGBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, July 26, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 6480 CHANGES;

Nine extents in 125 methods:—

1. Beeston, Melandra, Leasowe, Peveril, Chelsea, Kentish, Berkeley, Edinburgh, Pembroke, Oswald, Barham Delight, Waterford and Berwyn Treble Bob.
2. Skipton, Chepstow, Fotheringay, Balmoral, Knutsford, Rostherne, Bogedone, Wilmslow, Ely Delight, Nelson Treble Bob, Hull and Bourne Surprise.
3. Blaxhall, Mitcham, Stanhoe, Stratton, Stonehouse, Ringstead, Hayes Shambrook, Finchley, Ellacombe, Buxton, Wordsley, Lamberhurst, Harmondsworth, Bramfield Alliance, Crayford Little Court and Little Bob.
4. Chalfont, Cromer, Steventon, Tibenham, Fulmer, Walsingham, Lammas, Olney, Northaw, Penshurst Alliance, Crayford Little Court and Little Bob.
5. Bicker, Gedney, Gunby, Spilsby, Wainfleet, Surfleet, Spalding, Pirchbeck, Sibsey, Gosberton Alliance and Kent Little Court.
6. Langton, Candlesby, Alford, Tattershall, Benington, Freiston, Frampton, Butterwick, Poynton, Chelford, Denton, Sutton, Leake, Wrangle Alliance and Bastow Little Court.
7. Charlwood, Neasden, St. Albans, Wragby, Newdigate, Old Oxford, College Bob IV., Willesden, Humber, Braintree, Taxal, Marple, Clarence, Elston Delight and Morning Star Treble Bob.
8. Capel, Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston, Ockley, Duke of Norfolk, College Exercise, Norbury, Oxford Treble Bob, Carisbrooke, Wath, Donottar and Pontefract Delight.
9. Windermere, Frodsham, Killarney, Horsmonden, Ennerdale, Cumberland, Lytham, Thelwall, London Bob, Double Oxford, Wavertree, Childwall, College, St. Clement's, Canterbury Pleasure, Fulbeck, Reverse Bob, Double Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 6 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb.

FRANK LORD	...*Treble*	JACK BRAY	4
MRS. J. BRAY	2	JACK L. MILLHOUSE	5
CHARLES MCGUINESS	3	GEORGE E. FEIRN ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE E. FEIRN.

There were 243 changes of method. The greatest number of methods yet rung in a peal. The longest length by all the band.

TOLLESHUNT D'ARCY, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Double Oxford, College Single and Double Court, and two each of St. Clement's and Plain Bob. Tenor 5½ cwt.

DOUGLAS BARKAWAY	...*Treble*	*JOHN M. GAYFORD	4
RONALD SECKLING	2	*NORMAN F. GRINHAM ...	5
HERBERT DEVENISH	3	RALPH BIRD...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by RALPH BIRD.

* First peal of Minor.

IXWORTH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, July 29, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of an extent of Double Court, two extents of Kent Treble Bob, two of Oxford Treble Bob and two of Plain Bob. Tenor 18 cwt.

MRS. L. WRIGHT... ...	...*Treble*	HARRY J. MILLATT	4
GEORGE W. ABLITT	2	HORACE W. FOULGER... ...	5
LESLIE WRIGHT	3	ALAN R. ANDREWS ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.

WEDDING BELLS AT PUTNEY.

On Saturday, July 29th, a marriage was solemnised at St. Mary's, Putney, between Mr. A. C. Williams and Miss L. Machin. Mr. 'Alf' Williams has been a member of the Putney local band for some 15 years and also of the London County Association. The wedding was a simple but pretty ceremony. The best man was a business colleague, whilst the bride, attired in white with a sheaf of red roses, was attended by two bridesmaids in smoke blue. A reception was held at the home of the bride (who is a member of St. Mary's Fellowship Guild), where the ringers 'toasted' the happy couple, after ringing 'Merrie Peales' at the Parish Church. The 'newlyweds' left for Southsea for the honeymoon, and will reside at Southfields, Wandsworth.

THE PEAL AT INVERARAY.

A HAPPY ADVENTURE.

College Youths' Visit to Scotland.

It very rarely happens that a peal is rung under such happy conditions as that at Inveraray, Argyllshire, on July 22nd, by ten members of the Ancient Society of College Youths—excitement and anticipation in the various departures from home, followed by realisation wonderful in more ways than one.

The members were the guests of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Lewis at their Scottish home—'Dun o'Bhuilg' (pronounced 'Voolig'), Kilmory Knap, Argyllshire. It is situated at the end of Loch Sween, opposite the Isle of Jura. E. P. D. and wife (on holiday tour in Scotland) were the first arrivals, followed on Friday by J. H. B. H. and the hon. treasurer's party, which included Mrs. H. (pilot), the Master and the conductor. Their route was via Great North Road to Scotch Corner, Carlisle, crossing the border at Gretna Green, Erskine Ferry, Loch Lomond, the head of Loch Long and up Rest and be Thankful to Loch Fyne, over the Crinnan Canal and thence down Loch Sween. The train party (made up of the hon. secretary, W. H. P., G. E. D. and Mr. H.) left Euston at 9.15 p.m. on Friday, one member being literally chucked in just as the guard's whistle was blowing, to the great relief of the other three. Following arrival at Glasgow they travelled by steamer via Firth of Clyde and the Kyles of Bute to Ardishaig. Here they were met by their host, and a run of 27 miles along the shore of Loch Fyne brought them to Inveraray. The following is a brief itinerary of the activities:—

Friday evening: Check up on the lobster pots, and much strenuous rowing by one of the crew, unaided by the bow oar.

Saturday: Departure for Inveraray (45 miles). Welcome by Mr. Anderson Campbell. Adjustment of ropes, raising bells and sound-deadening the traps and doors by means of sails and sacks lent by the host. Picnic lunch at foot of tower and arrival of train party. The peal, followed by restoratives and the journey back to Knap for supper. Great satisfaction all round. Good bells, good 'go,' good ringing. And so to bed.

Sunday morning: Cheery breakfast party. Many happy returns to Mrs. Lewis. At midday, sailing in the Sound of Jura. Good breeze and choppy sea. Nobody actually sea-sick. At 3.30 p.m. sad departure of train party to Lochgilphead and thence by bus to Glasgow. Others walk to Loch Caolisport (Killesport), and, after supper, a visit to Castle Sween. Ruins of an ancient fortress on the banks of the Loch. Many disagreements happened here centuries ago.

Monday morning: Formed labour corps for jobs of work in garden. Sailing. Lunch. Sail to Eileen Mhor, an uninhabited island, containing the ruins of a twelfth century chapel and St. Cormac's cell (eighth century). A very impressive spot. After supper, fishing until 11.30. Glorious moonlight night, but not dark, and a wonderful scene. Great fishermen all, and a fair catch. Hosts' daughters a great crew and fine sailors. Anti-exposure treatment, followed by bed.

Tuesday morning: Sad departures.

It must be remembered that Kilmory is ten miles from the nearest Post Office and Kirk, 15½ miles from the nearest inn, and about 65 from the nearest rail station, so the expedition was really quite an adventure, with unforgettable memories for all, not least among them the wonderful hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Lewis and the help of their daughters, and the awe-inspiring scenery—the great peaks (the Paps of Jura) straight across the sound from Dun a'Bhuilg, the mists, the wonderful view of the mountains looking up Loch Sween and the Sound, and the gorgeous colouring, make an everlasting impression on one's mind. It is a mystic country and one unconsciously becomes lost in the past.

The peal attempt was the outcome of an invitation made by the Duke of Argyll to Mr. Lewis on the occasion of the society's tercentenary dinner, and all are most grateful to His Grace and those concerned in the welcome extended to the visitors.

DEATH OF MR. W. F. ELLINGHAM.

ACTIVE MIDDLESEX RINGER.

We regret to have to record the death of Mr. W. F. Ellingham, of Heston, Middlesex, one of the ringers at St. Leonard's Church.

The funeral took place on Thursday, July 27th, the service being conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. H. Craggs). The bells were rung muffled with tenor open one stroke before the service. The deceased was buried at Isleworth Cemetery, close by some other noted West Middlesex ringers, and in sight of Isleworth Church, where they did most of their ringing. In the evening a fully muffled quarter-peal of Bob Major was rung to his memory by C. J. Tricker, G. W. Morris, M. W. Norman, A. C. Langford, H. H. Chandler, F. J. Cattermoul, C. S. Bird (conductor) and J. Herbert.

Mr. William Francis Ellingham was born 51 years ago and had lived all his life in Heston and the surrounding neighbourhood. He had been a most regular member of the local band for a number of years. Not a prolific peal ringer, he had, nevertheless, rung a number of peals in plain methods, and was able to conduct. Always most willing to participate in any ringing when called upon, he will be sadly missed in his local tower and the district. He was a member of the College Youths, the London County Association and the Middlesex Association amongst others. He leaves a widow and son to mourn their loss.

PEAL NOTES.

AN EXHIBITION RING.

It is interesting to notice the name of Mr. Charles Painter appearing in a peal of Grandsire Triples, rung last Saturday at Ringmer, Sussex. Mr. Painter has been a ringer at this church for something like 50 years, having learnt there at the time the late Rev. C. D. P. Davies was curate.

Mr. Painter did no peal ringing for many years, but he was in the first peal of Stedman Triples on the bells in 1894 and also rang the 7th in the same year to the quickest peal on the bells—2 hours 32 minutes, tenor 14½ cwt.—which everyone thought was pretty good going. Last Saturday's peal took 3 hours 14 minutes.

The bells at Ringmer are an 'exhibition' peal. They were cast by Mears and Stainbank and were exhibited at the Great Exhibition in Hyde Park in, we believe, 1883. In those days they were reputed to be one of the finest rings at their weight in the kingdom.

Mr. W. H. Fussell, of Slough, has returned to peal ringing, after an absence of seven months, enforced by his serious operation last January. He took part in a peal of Superlative Surprise at Hughenden, Bucks, on Saturday, and, not only was he no worse for the experience, but declared next day that he felt better and 'as light as a fairy.' He was given a cordial welcome by his team mates.

Five Buckinghamshire towers were represented in the peal, and two of the band, Harry Jones, of Ellesborough, and Walter Lee, of Wendover, rang their first peal of Surprise Major.

Verger and clerk of St. Margaret's, Leicester, Mr. Ernest Morris, hon. secretary of the Midland Counties Association, celebrated his 50th birthday by a peal of Cambridge Surprise Major on Saturday on the light eight at his parish church. It was called by his brother.

Meeting one short at Cwmcarvan, Mon., a local ringer (Mr. Ivor Williams) readily agreed to ring the tenor for a peal of Doubles and was made a member of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association before starting. Cwmcarvan has always been noted for the hospitality of its churchwarden, Mr. Ballinger, of the Bourne Farm, from the time of the late Mr. Edwin Barnett's residence at Monmouth. He entertained everyone to tea at the Bourne after the peal on Saturday. Mr. Ballinger is a ringer, and, although nearing four score years, can still ring a six-score of Doubles.

Mr. W. J. Nevard, of Great Bentley, Essex, now well on in the eighties, has just 'completed the circle' at Kirby-le-Soken. Last Saturday he rang the fourth there to a peal of Double Norwich Major.

FIRST FOR 20 YEARS.

Mr. Cornelius Charge has scored his first peal since his return from New Zealand. He rang it at Soberton, Hants, on July 25th, with another ex-member of the Metropolitan Police Force, Mr. Ernest Brett. After 20 years absence it must have been a happy experience for Mr. Charge.

The consecration of the new Roman Catholic Bishop of Lancaster (the Rt. Rev. Thomas Edward Flynn, P.L.D., M.A.) on July 24th was celebrated at Chorley, Lancs, by a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at the R.C. Church of St. Mary. Before going to Lancaster the Bishop was Rector of St. Mary's.

After the peal the ringers were kindly entertained to refreshments by the clergy of St. Mary's.

The composition was the late Mr. Arthur Knights' No. 4, which was rung for the first time.

A peal in four Minor methods was rung at Aston Clinton, Bucks, on July 24th, the first time that a peal in more than one method had been rung on the bells.

Mr. William Bottrill left Leicester on July 27th to reside at Luton, Beds. He is one of the vice-presidents of the National Police Guild and has been a regular member of the Leicester Thursday band of P.G.'s (these initials do not stand for 'Police Guild,' the members of which grab only wrong-doers).

As an official 'farewell,' the Thursdayites arranged a peal attempt at Claybrook and a really fine peal of Cambridge resulted.

The Thursdayites are, indeed, sorry to lose 'Bill,' as he is familiarly known to his friends, and although this was a farewell peal, they sincerely hope he will often drop over to Leicester and, of course, that it will be on a Thursday.

FATHER AND SON'S 100th PEAL TOGETHER.

Mr. James Swindley and his son, Mr. Percy Swindley, of Chester, rang their one hundredth peal together when the latter called a peal of Cambridge Surprise at Farndon on Saturday. They are, it is believed, the first father and son in the Chester Guild to have rung this number together.

A band of bachelors on Saturday rang a peal of Minor at Tolleshunt D'Arcy, Essex—the first peal on the bells since 1913.

There are not many peals rung nowadays at the Waterloo Tower, Quex Park, but on Sunday a band of Kent and Surrey ringers rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal there to enable Mr. A. S. Boar to complete the sequence of peals of Kent Treble Bob from Minor to Maximus.

Five members of the Dobbie family took part, and it was Ernest J.'s 175th peal.

Mr. E. Stitch 'completed the circle' of Bridgend tower, not for the first, but for the sixth time, when he took part in the peal there on July 19th

(Continued in next column.)

ANOTHER LINCOLNSHIRE RECORD.

ONE HUNDRED & TWENTY-FIVE METHODS.

Nine Spliced 720's in One Peal.

Before the report of their remarkable peal in 104 methods appeared in print last week, the North Lincolnshire band had made yet another record. Having in their previous success spliced as many methods as it is at present possible to include in seven true extents, they went on, on Wednesday week, to ring nine extents (6,480 changes), which included 125 methods. The two additional extents were those dropped from the 102 and 104 method peals in order to extend the number.

Have they any more worlds left to conquer in this particular phase of ringing? This peal is a great and culminating triumph, and once again Mrs. Jack Bray, Frank Lord, Charles McGuiness, Jack Bray, Jack Millhouse and George Feirn will earn the whole-hearted congratulations of the Exercise. There is nothing we can say to add to the admiration which will be felt for the ringers upon this performance, but the band's own appreciation of their conductor is well but simply expressed in the words of one of them, 'George is truly great.'

In the peal they rang last week there were 243 changes of method, and of the nine extents, six were composed by Mr. A. G. Driver and three arranged by Mr. C. K. Lewis.

THE FIRST PEAL OF SPLICED SURPRISE MINOR.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I feel that I should like a word or two in which to congratulate the Lincolnshire band, and not forgetting the Cheshire band, on their fine performances. We say 'Well done.' But I wonder if ringers to-day ever realise or give one thought to that band, among the pioneers of spliced Minor ringing, who in the village of Tibenham for the Norwich Diocesan Association rang the first peal of spliced Surprise Minor. Sad to say there are only two of that company living to-day—Mr. John Snelling, still of Tibenham, and the writer. The peal comprised 14 Surprise methods in seven extents and was rung on Thursday, January 23rd, 1913.

F. SEAGER.

Beechcliffe, Keighley, Yorks.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

The Derby District of the Midland Counties Association held a very successful meeting at Duffield on Saturday week. Despite very inclement weather, 30 ringers attended from Beeston, Stapleford, Repton, Burton, Ripley, Bolsover, Heanor, Sandiacre, Nottingham, Draycott and Derby, with members of the local company. The methods rung included Grandsire and Stedman Caters, Kent Treble Bob Royal, Duffield, Forward and Little Bob Major, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Double Norwich, Cambridge, Bristol and Superlative, while a course of London was unfortunately lost in the last two leads.

At the business meeting held in the belfry it was decided to hold the next monthly meeting at Belper on Saturday, September 2nd.

The ringers very much appreciated the welcome extended to them by the Rev. Dr. W. M. Irwin. A vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and to the local ringers for having all in readiness was proposed by Mr. James Pagett, of Derby Cathedral company, and carried unanimously, after which ringing was continued until 8.30 p.m.

PEAL NOTES.

(Continued from previous column.)

By an error, in our issue of July 21st, a 'star' became attached to the name of Mr. W. Henry Young, in the Ewyas Harold peal of Doubles, indicating that it was his first peal. Actually Mr. Young has been ringing peals for many years. He used to be an instructor in the Hereford District.

Youth and age were associated in a peal of Grandsire Triples at Mitcham, Surrey, on Saturday week, when John Davison, aged 13, rang his first peal, and Mr. David Wright celebrated his 79th birthday. It was also a birthday compliment to Mr. J. S. Hawkins, hon. secretary of St. Andrew's, Holborn, Society.

The first peal on the six bells at Cadbury, Devon, was rung on Sunday week. All the band except Mr. C. R. Lilley, the conductor, rang their first peal of Stedman. The ringers wish to thank Mr. Churchwarden Langworthy for kindly providing refreshments after the peal, and Mr. M. L. Coles, the local captain, for making arrangements and getting the bells ready.

Three of the Sunday service ringers at Ranworth, Norfolk, took part in a peal of Minor on July 22nd, Timothy Budgen and Miss Pearl Grapes ringing their first peal at the first attempt and Bertie Grapes his first peal 'inside.'

Plain and simple Bob Minor, but some useful work was accomplished by ringing a peal in this method at Areley Kings, Worcestershire, on July 22nd. The treble man, who is a member of the local band, scored his first peal at first attempt; while H. Hough, of the Claines band, rang his first peal of Minor. The leader of the Hartlebury ringers (A. W. Glazzard), the conductor, has now called his first peal other than Doubles, and revealed his capacity by utilising seven different callings. Incidentally this was the first peal on the bells since their tuning and rehanging by Taylors over a year ago.

RINGERS' WEDDINGS.

SUFFOLK LADY MARRIED.

On Saturday, July 15th, the bells of St. Mary's Church, Bungay, Suffolk, rang out merrily in touches of Bob Major, firing, etc., to celebrate the wedding of Mr. W. E. Chase, eldest son of Mrs. and the late Mr. W. Chase, of Bungay, and Miss Ivy M. Barrell, youngest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. E. Barrell, of Bungay.

The bride is a member of the local company of ringers, and her father is clerk and verger and captain of the local band at St. Mary's Church. Those taking part in the ringing were Messrs. A. H. Took, F. C. Lambert (conductor), G. Howlett, C. Loome, A. Baldry, H. Fairhead, A. Williams, S. Hood and K. Garrod. The following towers were represented: Bungay, Redenhall, Halesworth, Alburgh, Ditchingham and Ellingham.

Afterwards the ringers joined the wedding party and a very pleasant hour was spent, the happy pair taking their departure on their honeymoon, with the very best wishes of all present, for their future happiness.

HANDBELLS AT WEDDING.

The marriage of Miss Phyllis Day and Mr. Edward Dalingwater took place at Doncaster Parish Church. Mr. Dalingwater is a member of St. George's, Doncaster, tower, and as the happy couple left the church handbells were rung by fellow-ringers as a fitting greeting, the tower bells being unringable. The presents included a set of carvers and a coffee pot from Doncaster ringers, and a tea service from Gainsborough ringers, with whom Mr. Dalingwater was formerly associated.

DISTRICT SECRETARY MARRIED.

The bells of St. Mary's rang out truly for the wedding of Mr. W. B. Kynaston and Miss Marion Bratt at Rodbourne Cheney Church, Swindon, on Saturday, June 24th. Mr. W. B. Kynaston is the popular hon. secretary of the Swindon Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association and is well known in Swindon and district.

The Rev. S. F. Allison officiated at the ceremony and the bride was attended by the Misses B. Bratt (sister), R. Wise, S. Manning and D. Williams. She was given in marriage by her uncle, Mr. A. Haytor. The best man was Mr. Reg. Kynaston, brother of the bridegroom.

Rodbourne Cheney Girl Guides formed a guard of honour, and the ringers formed an archway of handbells, under which the happy couple passed as they left the church.

QUARTER-PEALS.

FARINGDON, BERKS.—For evensong on Sunday, July 30th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): L. Mace 1, W. C. Cuss 2, L. W. Cuss (Down Ampney) 3, L. A. Smith (Fairford) 4, C. I. J. Pearce (conductor) 5, F. Whipp 6, E. C. Hughes 7, J. Belcher 8.

ACTON.—On Sunday, July 2nd, for evensong, at St. Mary's, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes): F. W. Garner 1, P. Rowe 2, H. G. Andrews 3, P. E. Clark 4, J. E. Lewis Cockey (conductor) 5, A. B. Wiffen 6, W. G. Wilson 7, E. C. S. Turner 8. First quarter-peal of Bob Major by ringers of treble and second.

BELGRAVE, LEICESTER.—At St. Peter's Church, on St. Peter's Day, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes): *Jack Kesterton 1, *Oreil Castleman 2, *Horace Woolaston 3, Sidney Harrison 4, Arthur Skinner 5, Ronald Swann 6, Rowland Barrow (conductor) 7, *Harry Woolaston 8. * First quarter-peal of Stedman Triples.

WOOLWICH.—At St. Mary's for evensong on July 30th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): Miss L. Aldridge (first quarter-peal) 1, E. Gilbert (first quarter-peal in the method) 2, Douglas Brown 3, H. Mackinder 4, F. Johnson 5, A. S. Richards (conductor) 6, B. W. Aldridge 7, J. Loam (first quarter-peal) 8.

TWICKENHAM.—At St. Mary's on Sunday, July 30th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples for evensong: *E. Pond 1, H. Andrews 2, C. W. Ottley 3, J. Herbert 4, E. C. S. Turner 5, H. A. W. Hughes 6, E. Morris (conductor) 7, *Don Lothian 8. * First quarter-peal in any method

STOKE ASH, SUFFOLK.—On July 19th two of Mr. E. F. Poppy's juniors scored their first quarter-peal. This was 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: *Miss N. Gooderham 1, *Miss A. Hillen 2, Miss V. Gooderham 3, L. Lock 4, A. Lock, jun. (conductor) 5. * First quarter-peal.

EAST HAGBOURNE, BERKS.—On Sunday, June 25th, before evensong, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: H. J. Balcombe 1, R. Blond 2, W. Lambell 3, H. Bishop 4, R. G. Rice 5, B. L. J. Brown (conductor) 6, A. H. Webb 7, W. A. Goodenough 8. Rung to commemorate the christening of the conductor's son and heir.

N.U.T.S. AT BRIDPORT.

The National Union of Tower Snatchers have been on the snatch again A party of them have been touring Dorset way, and on Sunday, with the kind co-operation of the local ringers, they rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples at Bridport before evensong on Sunday: E. Beach (Wraysbury) (first quarter-peal) 1, M. Melville (Coventry) 2, Miss E. Bedford (Uxbridge) 3, H. Smith (Melksham) 4, W. Hunt (Twyford) 5, D. Brock (Sunbury-on-Thames) 6, R. Darvill (Prittlewell) (conductor) 7, E. Hartley (Willesden) 8.

APPRECIATION

"

St. Mary Magd. Rectory,
Bridgnorth,
Shropshire.
July 25th, 1939.

Messrs. John Taylor & Co.,
Loughborough.

Dear Sirs,

We are very pleased indeed with the work that you have done and consider it a fine piece of engineering. The tone of the six old bells is greatly improved and the two new ones harmonise well.

Yours sincerely,
(Signed) J. STEWART JOBLING. "

The ring of six bells, tenor 8¼ cwts., at St. Mary Magdalene, Bridgnorth, has been tuned, augmented to eight and hung in new framework.

MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry Established A.D. 1570 (12th year of reign of Elizabeth).

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BELL ROPES, MUFFLES, &c.

BELFRY GOSSIP.

The bells of Huntsham, Devon, have been restored by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. and are to be rededicated this evening at 7 p.m. by the Archdeacon of Exeter.

Huntsham was the home of the Troytes, and in 1677 C. A. W. Troyte, a Trinity Hall, Cambridge, man, and author of Troyte's 'Change Ringing,' completed a band, otherwise composed of Oxford University Society ringers, who rang at Appleton 'the first peal ever rung by members of the two universities without the assistance of any other persons.'

Some of the others who took part were the Rev. F. E. Robinson (conductor), Mr. (as he then was) C. D. P. Davies and Mr. G. H. Phillott (who together founded the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association), Mr. F. A. Milne, who became president of the Middlesex Association, and others who subsequently abandoned ringing. Before that time his brother, J. E. Troyte (undergraduate of Christ Church, Oxford), was an extremely active member of the Oxford Society.

There are two attractive ringing gatherings on August Bank Holiday. In the South, there is to be a rally at Leatherhead, Surrey, and in the North, the North Notts Association and the Sheffield and District Society are holding a joint meeting at Retford, Notts.

Foundations for a new All Hallows' Church at Twickenham are now being formed and the shape of the tower is distinguishable. The church is to be built of stone brought from All Hallows', Lombard Street, London. But will the bells go, too? Or will they find a home elsewhere?

The death occurred on Saturday of Mr. John Overton, of Bridgnorth. The funeral took place on Wednesday.

The achievement of the North Lincolnshire band in ringing a peal of nine extents of spliced Minor in 125 methods is a 'brain twister.' Many ringers would go crazy long before they could reach this stage of ringing and we are not sure that the Lincolnshire band may not have an eye on their future comfort if anything should happen to them.

We hear that one of them has already obtained a job at a Lincolnshire mental hospital repairing the pads in the padded cells.

At a meeting of ringers in the North the other day, a vote of thanks was accorded to the caterer for the fine tea supplied. 'I am pleased to hear that,' said the hostess in reply, 'it was some left o'er from last week.'

THE B.U.R.G. TOURS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Owing to illness, we have two or three empty seats in the coach for the B.U.R.G. Motor-Coach Tours (six days, August 14th to 19th inclusive). Perhaps a couple of your readers may wish to take part. The tours are £2 2s. for nearly 800 miles' run and a ring at 40 or more towers. Accommodation is £1 10s. 6d. for seven nights B. and B., and the midday meal (hot dinner six days) 10s. 3d. Part of week or days may be booked 'pro rata.' Any ringer or friends interested should apply immediately to

EDGAR GUISE, Hon. Sec., 46a, Tankards Close, Bristol, 2,
or wire Bristol 35828.

'WARFIELD' IS 'CASSIOBURY.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am informed that the method rung at and named 'Warfield' on May 20th had previously been rung at Watford in May, 1936, as 'Cassiobury.'

I am not surprised, for I wondered why such a good method, published in 1924, should remain unrung for so long a time, but I am sorry I failed to connect 'Warfield' with 'Cassiobury' as 'Berkshire without 7th.'s.'

The footnote should now read, 'First peal in the method (Cassiobury) by all the band and for the Guild.' With all due apologies.

L. STILWELL.

Windsor.

SHEFFIELD BROADCAST.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I feel I must congratulate the Sheffield Cathedral ringers on their wonderful broadcast on Sunday evening last. It was not only good to hear twelve, but it was a pleasure to hear them struck properly. I used to think that twelve bells never came through well, but I'm inclined to change my views on this matter. So 'Bravo, Sheffield.'

FRANK HOPGOOD.

Wimbledon, S.W.

WEDDING BELLS.

At Chiddingstone, Kent, on July 28th, in honour of the wedding of Mr. Ernest H. Everest, the captain of the local ringers and Tonbridge district representative on the committee of the Kent County Association, a peal of Grandsire Triples was attempted by fellow-members of the district, but was lost after 2 hours 45 minutes owing to a shift course

ILKLEY BELLS TO BE RECAST.

MEMORIES OF JASPER SNOWDON.

Ilkley in Yorkshire has more than one claim to fame. What someone has called the Yorkshireman's anthem is sung about Ilkley's moor, but to ringers its greatest interest lies in the fact that it was here, at the Vicarage, that Jasper Whitfield Snowdon was born, and it was at the Parish Church that he first acquired the interest in change ringing which eventually had such far reaching results, through his influence as a writer of technical books on the art. It is here, too, under the shadow of the tower, that he lies buried.

And now Ilkley bells, which are as intimately associated with the name of Snowdon as the name of Snowdon is with change ringing, are to be recast by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough.

Jasper Snowdon was born shortly after his father had been appointed Vicar of Ilkley, and one of the first things to which the Rev. John Snowdon turned his attention was the restoration of the bells. There were three at that time, dated respectively 1609, 1636 and 1676. The two heaviest were cracked. The outcome of the Vicar's efforts



ILKLEY PARISH CHURCH.

was a new peal of six, cast by Taylor, in 1845, and the fifth, upon which this is recorded, bears the name of the Rev. John Snowdon, as well as those of the four churchwardens of the time. The bells were opened by being chimed for service on Sunday, January 11th, 1846.

After leaving Rossall and settling down to mechanical engineering, Jasper Snowdon found his way to the belfry and became interested in ringing, but, being unable to get on with the old ringers, he dropped it for a period until 1870, when, the old hands falling out, he formed the Ilkley Amateur Society, which prospered so much under his leadership that they soon wanted more bells. Under the advice of Sir Edmund Beckett Denison (afterwards Lord Grimthorpe), who was a friend of the family, a treble and tenor were added and the old fourth recast a semi-tone lower, the whole peal being rehung in an oak frame at a cost of about £350, of which the Ilkley Amateur Society themselves contributed £50. The bells were first rung as an octave for divine service on November 23rd, 1873, and they have gone on ever since.

Jasper Snowdon died unexpectedly after a short illness on November 16th, 1885, at the age of 41, and was buried in the family grave in Ilkley Churchyard. In 1887 the change ringers of England placed a memorial stained glass window in the north aisle illustrative of the art of ringing and based upon the 150th Psalm. So Ilkley Church is full of the memories of Jasper Whitfield Snowdon, whose influence is still at work more than 50 years after his death.

BELLRINGERS WITH GRIEVANCES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I cannot understand why, among bellringers, there are a great number who are continually grumbling, falling out and backbiting. And I cannot understand why much of the brief space in 'The Ringing World' is used for the airing of trifling grievances.

Isn't bellringing part of the influential voice of the Christian Church? It is a great pity that mingling with its music there always seem to be people who prefer to be out of tune. I refer to those who cause much unpleasantness.

Surely bellringers, as Christians, should strive to bridge differences and bring about reconciliation. They seem to forget the Christian way of service. In my opinion they should reconcile, overlook wrong deeds or forgive. Our Lord's earthly life was spent in a setting of much worldly unrest—but He said, 'Be of good cheer.'

Parkstone. LESLIE COX.

DEATH OF MR. C. D. POTTER.

PRESIDENT OF BARNSLEY & DISTRICT SOCIETY.

The death occurred at his home on Tuesday, July 25th, of Mr. Charles Dalton Potter, president of the Barnsley and District Society, and Barnsley's 'Grand Old Man' of ringing. Had he lived until September 2nd he would have been 80 years of age. Mr. Potter had been ill for some time and was in a Sheffield nursing home for two months, returning to Barnsley on July 13th. He leaves a widow, three sons and three daughters in bereavement. Three sons were lost in the Great War.

Mr. Potter had been connected with ringing for over 60 years, having rung his first peal when he was 18 years of age. He took part in ringing for Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee and the Diamond Jubilee, the relief of Mafeking, the Coronations of King Edward VII. and King George V., and he also had a touch at Monk Bretton previous to a peal being rung in honour of the Coronation of King George VI. and Queen Elizabeth.

He was not a great peal ringer, but was always pleased to be in a ringing chamber and was happiest when he was helping young ringers to ring either Grandsire Doubles or Plain Bob Minor.

Mr. Potter was one of the founders of the Barnsley and District Society, which was formed in 1909 chiefly to encourage Minor ringing, and this society had been close to his heart up to his death. He had held various offices. He was secretary from 1912 until 1930, when he handed over the duties through failing health. He was then made life vice-president for his services and in 1932 elected as president, which office he held at the time of his death. He was the instigator of the annual shield contest, in which he took keen interest. This was started in 1926, and he had never missed being present at these contests until this year, when, through his illness, he unfortunately could not be present.

Mr. Potter had been a member of the Yorkshire Association since 1893. He was also a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, and had represented the Barnsley and District Society on the Central Council since 1927.

He was the founder and principal of Messrs. C. D. Potter and Sons, builders and public works contractors, of Barnsley, and was a member of various organisations connected with the building trade. He was loved by all who knew him.

The funeral took place on Friday, July 28th, the service, conducted by the Rector (Canon W. E. Wilkinson) and the Rev. A. E. Snow (Rector of Cumberworth), being held in St. Mary's Church at noon, and the interment taking place in Barnsley Cemetery. The bells of St. Mary's Church were rung fully muffled previous to the service to touches of Kent Treble Bob Major, and, after the burial, 720 of Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung. Ringers were present from the following towers: Cawthorne, Felkirk, Horbury, Hoylandswaine, Monk Bretton, Darfield, Sandal, Wath and three of the local band.

Mr. Potter was of a retiring disposition, but had a heart of gold. He was never happier than when extending hospitality to his fellow-members, and his death has caused a gap that cannot be filled. Those who knew Charles Dalton Potter best will miss him most.

DEATH OF SUSSEX RINGER.

MR. FREDERICK W. CRIPPS.

Sussex has lost one of its oldest ringers by the death of Mr. Frederick W. Cripps, of Shoreham, who passed away on Sunday, July 23rd, at the age of 69 years after a long illness. He had been a ringer for over 50 years.

Born at Roffey, near Horsham, he lived for a considerable period on his father's farm at Lower Beeding, and then, on his marriage, went into farming on his own account. Later he became licensee of an inn at Kingsfold, near Warnham, whence he took over the Marlipins Inn at Shoreham, which he held for 19 years until he retired about six years ago. At Lower Beeding, and later at Shoreham, he became leader of the ringers and served on the committee of the Sussex County Association. He was also a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths. Mr. Cripps leaves a widow, two sons (one of whom, Mr. Jack M. Cripps, is a well-known ringer) and two daughters (one of whom lives in Sydney, Australia) in bereavement.

Mr. Cripps was once an active peal ringer, but kept no record of his peals. He had, however, rung many in the better known methods on six and eight bells and a few peals of Royal. He had called Holt's Original and a few other peals in plain methods.

The funeral took place on Thursday of last week and was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. J. F. G. Glossop), the choirs of both St. Mary's and St. Nicholas' Churches attending to lead the singing of the 23rd Psalm and the hymns, 'Abide with me' and 'Jesus lives.' In addition to the family mourners many were present to pay their last tribute of respect, among them Mr. F. E. Pierce (churchwarden of St. Mary's), Mr. E. C. Steward (churchwarden of St. Nicholas'), Mr. Nixey (postmaster) and the following ringers: Messrs. Keith Hart, F. Page, T. Burtenshaw and F. Knowles. After the service, St. Mary's bells were rung half-muffled by Messrs. S. E. Armstrong (hon. secretary, Sussex Association), K. Hart (St. Peter's, Brighton), J. T. Toms (Good Shepherd, Brighton), J. Farmer and A. W. Groves (Heene), and T. Howe, T. Burtenshaw, H. Gardner, J. Gardner, O. Giles, F. Halsted and F. Page (of the local band).

BREAD AND DRINK FOR THE RINGERS.

THE ORIGIN OF THE CUSTOM.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The Halesworth ringers do well to remember their past, but the claim that they are one of the oldest ringing societies in England, with a 400th anniversary, has no real foundation, apart from any question of continuity.

No doubt it is true that on July 19th, 1539, William Walpole bequeathed a certain sum of money to provide bread and drink for the ringers, but that is no proof that there was any ringing society in the town, or even a regular band of ringers.

Walpole had no intention of benefiting the ringers or encouraging the art of ringing. Like hundreds and, indeed, thousands of other men of his time, what he was thinking of was to provide for his own obiit, that is to say for a requiem mass to be sung for the benefit of his soul on the anniversary of his death. A requiem mass of this sort involved an elaborate ritual, and the payment of many assistants had to be provided for—priest, deacon and sub-deacon, clerks to sing and the rest.

Two important features of the ritual were the burning of tapers and the ringing of bells, and in wills of this sort there is always provision made for money to provide wax and for the men who rang.

The ringing was real ringing. The bells were swung as high as the fittings of the time allowed, not merely chimed or knolled. Muffled ringing was, of course, unknown. Nothing like change ringing, either method ringing or called changes, had as yet been invented, but probably the bells were properly rung in rounds. It is unlikely that there were any special ringers and, probably, what happened was that the parish clerk picked out a few lusty young fellows from the parish and sent them up into the tower to pull the ropes. In some cases the ringing at an obiit seems to have lasted off and on all the day. It was the usual thing to send them beer and bread, which they consumed in the belfry.

In the sixteenth century there can hardly have been a single church of any importance which did not possess endowments for these obiits, but all were confiscated by the Crown by the Act of 1547 on the plea that they were superstitious uses, which in the main probably they were.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

SEVERN SALMON.

RINGERS' SUPPER AT RUARDEAN.

The social side of ringing is one of its glories, and certainly a more sociable gathering than that which sat down at the Angel Inn, Ruardean, to the annual salmon supper of the South Forest of Dean Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association can scarcely be imagined. This was the first occasion on which the branch supper had been held at Ruardean; previously it had been held at Lydney.

The president of the branch, ex-Supt. J. Shellswell, M.B.E., was supported by the Rev. G. F. Hilder and the Rev. St. J. Bradford, of St. John the Baptist's Church, Ruardean. Visitors included Mr. and Mrs. T. F. King and Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Smallwood (Bath), Messrs. J. Austin and T. Baldwin (Gloucester), ex-Sergt. J. Williams (Newent), Messrs. W. Yeend (secretary of the Cheltenham Branch), C. W. Martin and W. Townsend (Cheltenham), and Messrs. J. Clarke and J. Webb (Ross).

After a delightful supper of Severn salmon, new potatoes and green peas, trifle and biscuits, the president proposed the toast of 'The King.'

The Rev. G. F. Hilder welcomed the visitors, saying how pleased he was to see ringers from so far afield. He also remarked on the inconvenience of the present system at the Parish Church whereby ringers, choir and clergy had to use the same room. He hoped as soon as possible to build a separate vestry and asked for the support of all ringers, as such an addition would leave the tower to the ringers alone.—Mr. W. Yeend, Cheltenham, suitably replied.

Mr. Scott, of the local band, thanked the hostess, Mrs. T. Morgan, for the excellent supper she had prepared.

A first rate musical evening followed, including songs from Messrs. R. Pownall, S. Scott, J. Clarke and W. Scott, which Mr. K. Parsons accompanied, and pianoforte solos by the Rev. H. St. J. Bradford. Several touches and tunes were rung on handbells, but undoubtedly the 'high spot' was the course of Grandsire Triples by Messrs. J. Austin and J. Williams, so aptly described by the president as the 'two schoolboys.' Their ages are 77 and 87 respectively.

If this was the first annual salmon supper to be held at Ruardean, it is hoped it will not be the last, and it is hoped, too, that next year it will be bigger and better still.

OLD HAVANT RINGERS MEET.

Old members of the band at Havant met again on Sunday, July 23rd, at St. Faith's Church, and took part in a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) for evening service: W. Monk (Havant) 1, E. Brett (Holborn) 2, L. Best (Cardiff) 3, R. Robinson (Portsea) 4, F. Penn (Westbury) 5, R. J. Hasted (Hayling Island) 6, R. Hasted (Farnham, conductor) 7, S. Parsons (Havant) 8. The ringers of the 3rd, 5th, 6th and 7th were members of the Havant band together 19 years ago.

TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD FESTIVAL.

GOOD RINGING AT SEVERAL TOWERS.

The annual ringing festival of the Truro Diocesan Guild was held at Helston on Saturday. Among those present were the Ringing Master (Mr. W. H. Southeard), the treasurer (Mr. H. Dunstan), the diocesan secretary (the Rev. W. H. R. Trewhella), the Assistant Ringing Master (Mr. W. J. Garland), Mr. C. E. Lanxon, Lt.-Col. C. F. Jerram, Miss E. Symons, the Rev. F. F. Gilbert and members from the following towers: Truro Cathedral, Altarnon, Cury, Gulval, Helston, Landewednack, Manaccan, St. Stephen's in Brannel, Towednack, Wendron and the newly-affiliated tower of St. Breock. Among the visitors were Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Coles, of the Middlesex Association.

Besides the delightful light ring of eight at Helston, the sixes at Crowan, Cury, Mawgan and Wendron were available. The ringing included Grandsire, Stedman, call changes and rounds, and although a certain mixed band seemed to be attempting to fire Helston bells, the striking was quite good—much better than is often heard at these festivals.

A service was held in Helston Church, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. A. D. Moon) and the Rev. A. M. Daintree (Vicar of Cury).

Tea followed in the Parish Hall, at which the diocesan secretary, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Vicar and all who helped in organising the festival, said he had received a message from Mr. Symons, their veteran president, regretting his inability to be present and wishing the festival all success.

The Ringing Master, seconding, welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Coles and spoke of the advantages of bands mixing up sometimes with other bands, and also of ringers not always ringing the same bell.

Mr. Coles, replying, referred to the fact that in most Guilds membership was individual and not by towers as was the case in the Truro diocese. He emphasised the Ringing Master's point of bands mixing together.

The secretary, taking to heart what had been said, deserted the Cathedral band for Landewednack, and had some excellent practice with them in call changes at the six-bell tower of Mawgan.

'HOME COUNTIES' MEETING.

SURPRISES AT BARNET.

A most enjoyable joint meeting, arranged by the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild (North and East District) and the Hertford County Association (St. Albans District), was held at Barnet and Monken Hadley on Saturday week. Over 50 members and visitors had pleasure in participating in the ringing, which reached a high standard, and the non-residents of the two counties came from such a wide area that the event could be termed a Home Counties meeting. There were different kinds of Surprises. For instance, Mr. H. J. Eldred received one or two more postcards than usual, but, even so, the caterers were made unexpectedly busy by those who 'brought their postcards with them.' Then there was the ringing at Barnet Church until 5.30 p.m., because there was no service; the meeting of old friends once again; and methods without practically any limit.

Mr. G. W. Fletcher (vice-president of the Middlesex County Association) welcomed the members of the Hertford County Association, although actually on their own soil, but he referred to the fact that in 1889 a parent body of the association he represented was formed at Barnet. A word of appreciation was extended to Mr. A. Day, president of the Hertford County Association, for his attendance. The death of Mr. J. Roberts (Northaw) was referred to; he had been a loyal and trustworthy ringer and also a member of both associations, and the gathering stood for a few moments in silent tribute.

Altogether the two district secretaries saw so many happy faces that they were able to go home with contented minds in the knowledge that the giving of their services for the benefit of fellow-members was so successful.

CAPTAIN AT TILEHURST FOR 45 YEARS.

After being captain of the bellringers at Tilehurst, Berks, for 45 years, Mr. H. Goodger has retired and a presentation took place at Stow-on-the-Wold during the outing of the ringers. It was subscribed by past and present members of the belfry. Mr. Goodger received a silver bell inkstand suitably inscribed and Mrs. Goodger a silver-plated egg stand.

The presentation was made by the Rector, who spoke of Mr. Goodger's long and successful record of service.

In replying, Mr. Goodger, who was taken by surprise, thanked everyone for their kindness and hoped his successor, Mr. R. N. Runham, would have as happy a time as he had had.

The outing took place on July 22nd, when a party of 25 ringers and friends, including the Rector, the Rev. F. G. Sherwood (who is Reading Branch chairman of the Oxford Guild), Mr. Wiggins and Mr. E. G. Foster (branch secretary), had a half-day's coach tour, in the course of which they rang at Dorchester Abbey and proceeded via Witney and Burford to Stow-on-the-Wold. Ringing here was confined to the front six owing to a mishap to the clock wire. After tea at the Unicorn Hotel, Great Tew and Kirtlington were visited for ringing, the methods including Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CHERRIES AND CRICKET AT TUNSTALL.

Ideal summer weather drew a large number of ringers and friends to the summer quarterly meeting of the Rochester District, held at Tunstall on Saturday, July 29th. Ringing commenced shortly after 3 o'clock, but the cricket match arranged between Northfleet and Rainham teams of ringers, which should have started at 3 o'clock, had to be held over until after tea, as a part of the Northfleet team 'missed a whole turn' en route from Sittingbourne and found themselves very much behind time.

The ringers' service, attended by well over 70 members, was taken by the Rector of Tunstall.

A first class tea in the Memorial Hall was very kindly provided by the Rector and churchwardens, and the waiting at tea was undertaken by local ringers' wives, who did their part well. As usual Mr. Spice, sen., one of the K.C.A. veterans still going strong at Tunstall, made all preparations to secure the success of the meeting, and when there is a summer meeting at Tunstall Mr. Spice invariably ensures a good supply of cherries from the local orchards, which are much appreciated.

Routine matters were dealt with at the business meeting, including the fixing of place for the annual district meeting. It was decided to hold this at Rochester in the latter part of October.

Following the tea and meeting, ringing was resumed by those members who were not in conflict on the cricket pitch, and continued until after 9 o'clock.

Regarding the cricket match: the teams, composed mainly of the younger ringers and including a good proportion of the fairer sex, were fairly well matched—(Note, it would be difficult to state how many umpires there were in all!)—but on the showing of the score board Northfleet were slightly the better team. However, both sides, as well as onlookers, had a jolly good time, and a return match will doubtless follow in due course.

Altogether the meeting at Tunstall was a complete success in every way.

QUARTERLY PEALS IN TONBRIDGE DISTRICT.

The summer meeting of the Tonbridge District was held at Penshurst on Saturday, July 15th. About 50 members and other ringers were present, and enjoyed some good ringing, ranging from Grandsire Triples to Cambridge Surprise Major, under the leadership of the Master, Mr. E. J. Ladd. District towers represented were Brasted, Chiddingstone, Leigh, East Peckham, Sevenoaks, Tunbridge Wells and Penshurst, while ringing friends came from so far away as Kingston, Leytonstone, Beddington, Crayford and Chislehurst.

Through the kindness of Lord De Isle and Dudley and the Rev. P. H. Turnbull, Rector of Penshurst, the beautiful gardens of Penshurst Place and the Rectory were open to the visitors.

Service was conducted by the Rector, and after tea in the Village Hall the business meeting was presided over by the Rev. P. H. Turnbull. Among those present were Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Housden, Mr. and Mrs. W. Massey, Mr. and Mrs. C. Parks, Mr. T. Groombridge, sen., and Mr. T. Groombridge, jun. The chairman was supported by the district representatives, Messrs. E. Everest and T. Saunders, Mr. E. J. Ladd (Master) and the secretary (Mr. A. E. Richardson).

Messrs. R. Austen and O. Butler, of Hawkhurst, were elected as practising members. Mr. H. Lamb (churchwarden of St. Peter's, Tunbridge Wells) and Mrs. H. Lamb were elected as honorary members.

Mr. E. J. Ladd, reporting on the last quarterly peal attempt, said he was very disappointed at the lack of requests from members wishing to stand in, and suggested that if the attempts were to go on, the members would have to show more interest.

The next attempt is to be Bob Major, and although some names were put forward, it was made clear that this did not mean that members not at the meeting would not be considered if their names were sent to the Master. The attempt would probably be made at Speldhurst on August 26th.

Votes of thanks were accorded to Lord de Isle and Dudley, the Rev. P. H. Turnbull, and Mr. G. Edwards, the local secretary, for all they had done to help make the meeting a success.

Mr. F. W. Housden, on behalf of the ringers from outside the district, said he would like to thank the members of the Tonbridge District for the way in which they had put themselves out to welcome them.—Mr. W. Massey supported Mr. Housden. He said that it was the first meeting of the Kent Association he had attended, and remarked that he had been treated with no warmer welcome anywhere.

GOOD RINGING AT MAIDSTONE DISTRICT MEETING.

A meeting of Maidstone District of the Kent County Association was held at West Malling on July 8th. There was some exceptionally good ringing, but it would not have been of such a high standard had it not been for the visitors, who came from Little Chart, Rochester Cathedral, St. Lawrence Jewry (London), Beckenham, West Wickham and St. Mary's, Chatham. Local towers represented were only Ightham, Linton, Maidstone and West Malling. This was rather a disappointment, as West Malling is a tower which is not very difficult to reach, and half-fares were paid to members who attended the meeting.

(Continued in next column.)

QUARTER-PEALS IN CANADA.

VICTORIA RINGERS' ACTIVITIES.

A quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung on Christ Church Cathedral bells, Victoria, B.C., on Empire Day (May 24th) by Miss M. Izard 1, Arthur Izard 2, A. C. Melhuish 3, A. King 4, W. Sampson 5, T. Guest 6, A. B. Lomas 7, E. Lake 8.

Three days later a half-muffled quarter-peal was rung by the same band in memory of Mr. Hopkins, who died on the 25th, at the age of 86 years. Mr. Hopkins was a member of the Royal Cumberland Youths, and one of the first to come forward when the bells at the Cathedral were installed three years ago. Unfortunately, ill-health prevented him from taking any active part in the belfry, but in spite of that his keenness and interest was of considerable help to the organisation. He always 'listened in' to the broadcast of the bells on Sunday evenings.

During the visit of King George and Queen Elizabeth on May 29th and 30th the bells hardly stopped ringing. They were rung as the steamer 'Princess Marguerite' came in sight of Victoria and continued until the royal party arrived at Government House. Amplifiers were placed around the city, connected to the belfry microphone. On Tuesday morning the ringing started before their Majesties left Government House and continued at intervals all day. At 2 p.m. they were broadcast before and after the King's speech over C.B.C. and American Network. The ringing continued until 9 p.m., but in spite of so much ringing every bellringer saw the King and Queen at least once.

For the past year three of the band who formerly rang at the R.C. Cathedral of the Holy Rosary, Vancouver, have been living in Victoria, and the Vancouver band keenly felt the loss. However, they have been able to muster a full company of eight, and even more at times, but on Sunday, June 18th, when two of the former members (Mr. A. B. Lomas and Mr. W. Sampson) revisited Vancouver and brought with them Mr. J. E. Hutchings, of Victoria, a well-struck quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (from the 'Clavis') was rung by A. C. Limpus 1, W. Sampson 2, R. Pitman 3, F. Hird 4, T. Silvester 5, J. Watts 6, A. B. Lomas (conductor) 7, J. E. Hutchings 8.

TEWKESBURY ABBEY.

In connection with the festival and thanksgiving for the restoration of Tewkesbury Abbey on Thursday, July 10th, four courses of Grandsire Caters were rung before the service, the Rev. E. G. Benson, a former curate at the Abbey, taking part. After the service six courses of Grandsire Caters were rung. On Sunday, July 23rd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters by Albert Humphris 1, William Townsend 2, Sydney E. Romans 3, John Austin (conductor) 4, Thomas Baldwyn 5, Charles Martin 6, Thomas Newman 7, Thomas Boreham 8, John F. Ballinger 9, Henry Devereux 10.

The bells have recently been overhauled by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., and everything is in perfect order again.

NOT OFTEN RUNG.

Ringers from Winslow and North Marston assisted with the ringing for evening service on Sunday week at Padbury, Bucks. These bells, a peal of six, with tenor 14 cwt., are not often rung owing to the shortage of ringers. Grandsire Doubles and Bob Minor were rung on this occasion, and Mr. Frank Hopgood, of Wimbledon, who cycled 120 miles on purpose to take part, wishes to thank Mr. Gough, Mr. Gibbard and their fellow-ringers for their very warm welcome.

THREE GENERATIONS.

Grandfather, father and daughter took part in a 720 of Bob Minor rung for evening service at Burton Latimer, Northants, on Sunday, July 23rd. They were Mr. J. Saddington, Mr. B. J. Saddington and Miss M. J. Saddington (aged 13). G. E. Watson, aged 16, called his first 720. Miss M. J. Saddington 1, B. J. Saddington 2, J. D. Ball 3, J. Saddington 4, C. G. Hendry 5, G. E. Watson 6.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(Continued from previous column.)

The bells were kept going during the afternoon and evening, the methods including Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Double Norwich, Double Oxford Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Cambridge, Bristol and London Surprise Major.

Owing to the illness of the Vicar, no service could be held. Following tea at the Bear Hotel, at which 25 members were present, Mr. C. H. Sone presided over the business meeting.

The annual meeting of the district will be held at Maidstone on October 14th. After three places had been proposed for a by-meeting, East Farleigh was selected, and the meeting is to be held on August 26th.

Mr. J. Main, of Aylesford, was elected a member, and thanks were accorded to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and a message of sympathy was sent to him, with good wishes for his speedy recovery.

Thanks were also given to Mr. Slowman for the arrangements made. When the ringers returned to the tower they were met by the 'unfortunates' who had lost a peal at Wrotham in the afternoon.

RINGERS' OUTINGS.

TOUR IN THE THAMES VALLEY.

The Wanstead ringers and their friends had a very successful outing on Saturday, July 15th, when they visited some of the interesting churches in the Thames Valley. A short halt was made at Beaconsfield, where the charms of a country town were much in evidence. By 10 o'clock Marlow was reached, and the tuneful eight of All Saints' Church were rung to Kent Treble Bob and Stedman Triples from the attractive tower overlooking the Thames, near the suspension bridge. Although the church and bridge have only just passed the century in age, Marlow can trace its first incumbent to 1204 and claim to have been a Saxon market town.

Shiplake was the next objective, reached via Henley. This stretch was a real feast for the eyes. The veteran ringer, Mr. Porter, of the Plowden Arms, welcomed the ringers, and touches of Kent Treble Bob and Bob Major were rung on the pleasing bells of SS. Peter and Paul's. One wondered if these bells rang out when Lord Tennyson was married there in 1850. Ancient glass brought from St. Bertin's Abbey and St. Omer enrich the windows, whilst in the vestry is a portrait of the Rev. James Granger, Vicar 1746-1776, a worthy historian The original painting of this celebrity, by John Cornish, was presented to the National Gallery last year.

Lunch was well served at the Plowden Arms, the home-grown peas being a speciality. The journey was then continued to Reading and thence via Pangbourne to Wallingford. Mr. J. H. Norris, a long-service ringer, greeted the party at St. Mary's, where eight rich-toned bells, tenor 21 cwt., grace the spacious tower, embattled and pinnacled. Touches of Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob and Bob Major were much enjoyed.

A short run brought the party to Sutton Courtenay, where tea was taken without any delay, served by two ladies, who might in turn be classified as 'ancient and modern.' At the conclusion Messrs. J. Chalk and F. Bryant, on behalf of the ringers and visitors respectively, thanked Mr. J. Crampion for all that he had done to make the outing such a great success.

Mr. J. Crampion suitably replied and expressed his willingness to act again. Then followed the final ringing at All Saints', a very attractive edifice, in keeping with a fascinating village. Mr. Allen greeted the party, and touches of Cambridge Surprise Minor and Kent Treble Bob were rung on a melodious six.

The interior of the church has Early English work from the 12th to the 16th century. Of particular interest are the 12th century ornamented cylindrical font and the 25 volumes, the remains of a chained library. Here are found 17th century copies of Foxe's 'Martyrs' and Raleigh's 'History of the World.' Two tombs in the churchyard are worthy of mention; one a 14th century altar-tomb and the other the high tomb of Cotswold stone to the memory of Lord Oxford and Asquith.

A general survey of the picturesque village followed, the 'highlight' being the delightful river scenery close by. Reluctantly all rejoined the coach for the homeward run via Dorchester, Watlington and High Wycombe. Memories of a happy day will live on—good welcomes, good bells and good company!

HOLBORN GUILD'S EXCURSION.

St. Andrew's, Holborn, Guild had a very enjoyable day for their outing. They travelled to Slough by train and then had a delightful coach drive through Maidenhead, Marlow and High Wycombe to Haddenham, where they rang, and then went to Chipping Norton and had lunch at the White Hart Hotel, under the chairmanship of Mr. E. Brett, the Ringing Master of the Guild. After lunch the toast of 'St. Andrew's Guild' was proposed by Mr. W. C. Cook and acknowledged by the Master, and the health of Mrs. E. C. Bedford was also drunk with musical honours. Mrs. Bedford (widow of the late Rector of St. Andrew's) had kindly sent cigars and cigarettes for the party. Ringing on the Parish Church bells was afterwards enjoyed, the time passing all too quickly with touches of Stedman, Plain Bob, Double Norwich and Cambridge. Then some of the party tried the experience of going 'down the chute' on a mat. How the experiment ended or how they landed is not recorded. The journey was continued to Buckingham, where there was ringing on the delightful peal of bells, and then to Tring, where, after tea, there was further ringing. On the homeward journey through beautiful country lanes rabbits abounded, which made Percy wild, because he had left his darts in the double-one at Chipping Norton. Paddington was reached at the end of a very happy day and thanks were given to the secretary for his successful efforts in arranging such an enjoyable trip. The Guild take this opportunity of thanking the various incumbents for the use of their bells and the ringers at the respective towers who made the visitors so welcome.

CHESHIRE RINGERS VISIT WALES.

On Saturday, July 22nd, the ringers of St. Peter's, Rock Ferry, Cheshire, accompanied by a number of privileged friends, participated in the first of what, it is sincerely trusted, will be a series of annual outings. The venue chosen was Llangollen, the charmingly situated town in the Dee Valley and a favourite resort of picnic parties of all kinds Though the weather was not too promising at the start, the party turned up in full force, and a quick run through Queen's Ferry over the Llandegla Moors and round the Horseshoe Pass enabled them to see some of the loveliest scenery of this part of Wales. The Horseshoe Pass, with its hairpin bends, provided some of the ladies with a thrill, but all were unanimous in saying that the view from the pass was well worth the excitement of the run.

On arrival at the destination, a move was made towards the Parish Church, where everyone was anxious to try out the bells. Quickly they were raised, and touches of Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Cambridge Major and Grandsire Triples were brought round The bells 'go' splendidly, and it was with a great reluctance that the ringers eventually left them in order to satisfy the inner man. After a sumptuous tea at the Glyn Cafe, several of the party returned to the tower, where they were pleased to meet some of the local band, who stood in some of the touches with them. The rain having cleared away, others wandered round the town and spent the evening in various ways, a couple of the more energetic even climbing the hill locally known as 'Crow Castle'! A start for home was made about 9.30 and a delightful afternoon's outing came to an end all too quickly. By the way, the rest of the company would dearly like to know if the gentleman with the cauliflower enjoyed his Sunday dinner! The band would like to thank all those who in any way contributed to the success of the outing, particularly the Vicar of Llangollen for permitting the use of the bells, and Mr. Downham, of the local band, for his kindness in having the tower and bells ready.

Special thanks must also be extended to Mr. J. Leslie, of the Rock Ferry band, who not only made all the arrangements for the day, but was the life and soul of the journey home, keeping everybody in a really happy mood, his 'sand dance' in particular convulsing the party. On behalf of the ringers not of St. Peter's band, the writer would like to say how much they enjoyed the whole trip and appreciated the kindly thought which prompted the invitation to join in the outing.

PUTNEY MEN ON TOUR.

The members of the St. Mary's, Putney, band held their annual outing on Saturday, July 8th. They left Putney Church at 7.30 a.m. and picked up the two 'lads' and others en route for Rickmansworth, where breakfast was said to be waiting. It wasn't, but we got it and proceeded to the church and spent three-quarters of an hour ringing, part time of the good ten. Mr. W. T. Elson had arranged an itinerary which allowed of no delay, so off we had to coach to Watford, where touches were rung on this splendid eight. A crowd seemed to sense a wedding, but were disappointed, as only Mr. and Mrs. 'Twickenham' marched out together. After a dispute with a nasty motorist man, off we went for Tring. A grand ring of bells these, with Mr. Reeve to do the honours. We were rather cut down, as the roads seemed to our driver to lead everywhere but in our desired direction. Nevertheless, we had time for a 'bit' of dinner at the Old Brewery house. It was a good bit too.

Here Alf caught us up in time to have a snack after a strenuous dash from Town. A longish drive brought us to Bicester, where a light eight by Johnston are hung, and where there is the peculiar come and go of sound due to sallies sometimes being in the holes in the ceiling. Pleasing ringing though. It is a long way to Marlow from Bicester, so off we went to Oxford, until someone 'rucked.' This made us a bit late for tea, and again curtailed ringing on an awfully nice and handy ring, the praise of which I need not sing. We had yet another visit to pay to Boyne Hill, Maidenhead, and as we must have the bells down by 8.15, we were only able to ring a course of 'Grandad' and Stedman, and rather reluctantly had to leave. This concluded the day's ringing and a clear course was set for home, stopping en route to cool the engine, what time the 'lads' played a game of darts under the able tuition of the late outing secretary, who, incidentally, is not so good at darts as at swimming. Home was reached at 10.20 after a splendid day. Methods were very plain, the conducting being shared by Messrs. Elson, Miles, Cassell and Herbert. The weather was very mixed, but ardour was not damped, only one chap taking a nap. Thanks are due to the Vicars and Rectors for kind permission to ring, to the gentlemen who met us at the towers, and to Mr. Elson, who planned such a delightful excursion. J. H.

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RINGERS' OUTINGS.

NORWICH RINGERS AT SURFLEET.

St. Peter Mancroft Guild visited three towers in South Lincolnshire on the occasion of its annual outing on July 15th. They were accompanied by the Vicar and president of the Norwich Association, and 25 members and friends shared in the excursion. At Spalding Mr. A. J. Farr welcomed the visitors, and the bells were set going—it can hardly be said 'rung'—to three short courses of Superlative. Touches of Grandsire Triples and Kent Treble Bob gave everybody an opportunity to try these tuneful and easy-going bells.

Having waited for the stragglers—and a number were completely apathetic to the carefully drawn up time table, much to the annoyance of a certain member who was extremely anxious to get a close-up of some of Rupert's tomatoes—the bus set off merrily for Surfleet. Everybody enjoyed himself here, ringer and non-ringer alike, for in their own inimitable way Mr. and Mrs. Richardson and Enid combined to make the all-too-brief stay as pleasant as possible. Twenty-six enormous teas were consumed, Rupert's estate examined, and Bob Maximus, Stedman and Grandsire Caters and Cambridge Surprise Major rung at the famous leaning tower. The visitors scrawled their miserable signatures in the Book of the Mighty—everyone of note has, of course, completed his education here—and remarked upon the splendid 'splice' the founders had made in adding two trebles to the already light peal of ten. Having bid Surfleet adieu, a fine peal of bells was found at Holbeach, with a warm welcome from the local band and a long draught of elastic ropes. But the ringing was apparently not so disgraceful as some visitors before them had done, and touches of Cambridge Surprise, Stedman Triples and Bob Major gave all the satisfaction of adding the ringing of these bells to their experience.

A ROUND OF NORFOLK TOWERS.

The ringers of St. Andrew's, Rushmere, Ipswich, had a tour of Norfolk towers on Saturday, June 17th. In Ipswich they picked up friends from St. Clement's and St. Matthew's, Ipswich, and two members from Holbrook, who had cycled the six miles to join the party. The first stop, after a run of 40 miles, was at Attleborough, where a well-known brand of cider is made. Here the six bells were soon in use, after getting accustomed to the fact that the treble hangs behind the 2nd. The treble ringer is a man to be looked up to here. The next run was to the round tower at Watton, with a very good ring of six. After some good ringing a move was made to Saham Toney where is preserved one of the three old bell frames made about 500 years ago and of queer design. The bells were rehung in new teak frames in 1936 and the old one hoisted above the new one. The bells are a good ring of six with tenor 13¼ cwt. Swaffham was the next stop for ringing on the eight bells, and dinner at the Greyhound Hotel. Ringing at Necton (6) and Holme Hale, another six-bell tower, followed. The latter are a very fair peal, rehung in new frames in 1911. Next on to Ashill, where was found the only peal rung during the day from the ground floor. These are quite a nice peal to ring. A run of 16 miles was needed before tea, which was served at the home of one of the local band at Wilton. Afterwards there was ringing on the six bells, the tenor of which has just been recast after having been out of use many years. Leaving here, the last stop was over the Suffolk border at Brandon, another six and recently rehung. The return was made via Thetford, Ixworth and Stowmarket, home being reached at 10.30, after having travelled 130 miles. Methods rung were Bob Major, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Cambridge, Ipswich Surprise and Double Court.

EXCURSION INTO SURREY.

A party numbering 20, including a few friends, left Bournemouth early on Saturday morning, July 1st, by motor-coach for Guildford. A stop was made at Alresford, where touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob and Double Norwich were successfully brought round on the much improved musical peal of eight at St. John's Church.

Guildford was reached shortly after noon, but some delay was experienced in finding parking ground, which eventually proved to be under the noses of the visitors hard by the Church of S. Nicolas. Some Caters and Major were much enjoyed on this fine peal before the party adjourned for luncheon. An easy journey after lunch brought the ringers to Haslemere for some more ten-bell ringing. Full use was made of the opportunity to ring this tuneful little peal, and great disappointment was felt when a particularly well-struck touch of Stedman Caters failed to come round. Reluctance to leave these beautiful bells and surroundings led to an overstay of time which the driver cleverly made up and at the same time contrived to show the company some of the country so that the arrival at Bishop's Waltham was very little behind schedule. After tea touches in the standard methods, including Double Norwich, were successfully brought round on the recently augmented peal at St. Peter's Church in the village before starting for home about 9 p.m. The party cannot adequately express its gratitude for the kind arrangements made by the ringers at the various towers and the permissions to ring. Unfortunately, the two Guild meetings coinciding with the date prevented many friends being at the towers. This was just a little disappointing, as the visitors had looked forward to seeing them as well as ringing their beautiful bells.

A NEW PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS.

Mr. Edgar Shepherd's 5,039 of Grandsire Caters, rung at Leicester on May 30th, is a composition with some unusual features, although the author does not claim originality for the plan. The main quality aimed at is symmetry, which has certainly been achieved, in combination with an exploitation of the musical arrangements of 6, 8, 9.

After the first two courses, the peal is in six blocks of nine courses each. The first course in each block is a turning course for the big bells. The positions of the four front working bells are identical in all the blocks. It is interesting to note that the peal was composed from the end backwards.

23456789		
23654978	1	4S 5
63425	S1	4
*24537689	S1	
5243	1	2 3
2345	2	3 4
3542	2	3 4
4352	1	2 3
5432	1	2 3
4235	2	3 4
2534	2	3 4
3254	1	2 3

In the succeeding parts this course * is called 2S.4.5S, except in the 4th part, where a bob is substituted for the Single at 2. The course-ends of the first part end in 7689, 2nd part 7968, 3rd part 7896, 4th part 7869, 5th part 7986, 6th part 7698.

LOCAL BAND'S GOOD START.

The ring at St. John's Church, West Wickham, which was recently augmented to six, is being put to good use by the local company, and recently the first extent was rung at the first attempt. It was a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor and was accomplished by G. W. Jones 1, J. Page Wood 2, H. Mackinder 3, P. S. Davis 4, D. Brown 5, A. S. Richards (conductor) 6. First 720 of Minor by the ringers of the treble and fourth.

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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.

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All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

HUNTSHAM, TIVERTON, DEVON.—The ring of eight bells restored by John Taylor and Co. will be re-dedicated by the Archdeacon of Exeter to-night, Friday, August 4th, at 7 pm.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Clitheroe Parish Church on Saturday, Aug. 5th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members cordially invited.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Devizes Branch).—The monthly meeting will be held at Upavon (6 bells) on Saturday, Aug. 5th. Ringing commences 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5. Meeting to follow. Urchfont bells also available for ringing during evening. Advise me early how many will attend the tea.—W. C. West, Branch Hon. Sec., 584, Semington Road, Melksham.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Northwich Branch.—A meeting will be held at Gt. Budworth on Sat., Aug. 5th. The bells will be available at 3 p.m.—H. Parker, Hon. Sec.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Wisbech Branch.—The branch will meet at Terrington St. Clement on Saturday, Aug. 5th. Bells (8) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. Please *try* to be present.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

LEATHERHEAD, SURREY. — August Bank Holiday.—Ringers' rally and convivial gathering, OPEN TO ALL RINGERS and their friends. Ideal spot for a Bank Holiday meeting. Frequent trains and buses; good going ring of 10 bells; park and gardens adjoining church. Bells available from 3 o'clock to 9 p.m. Service at 5 o'clock. Tea will be provided at The Duke's Head at 5.30 p.m. (1s. per head) for all those who notify Mr. Arthur Dean, 24, Church Walk, Leatherhead, by Friday, Aug. 4th.—F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Sec., Surrey Association, 28, Strathearn Road, Sutton.

RETFORD.—Bank Holiday Monday, Aug. 7th. Joint meeting of the North Notts Association and Sheffield and District Society. Towers open for ringing: East Retford, 10 bells; West Retford, 6 bells; Ordsall, 6 bells; at 2.30 p.m.—R. Towler and M. E. Wilson, Hon. Secs.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637). — Meetings for practice during August: St. Andrew's, Holborn, 10th; St. Magnus the Martyr, 17th and 21st; St. Paul's Cathedral, 15th; Southwark Cathedral, 22nd; St. Clement Danes, 24th; St. Mary-le-Bow, 29th. *Business meeting afterwards. — A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

ABBOTT'S ANN, NEAR ANDOVER, HANTS. — Ring of 5. Nos. 1, 2 and 3 recast and the peal rehung with modern fittings by Gillett and Johnston. Bells will be re-dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Winchester at 7 p.m., on Aug. 11th.

ST. COLUMB MINOR, NEWQUAY, CORNWALL. —The ring of 6 bells rehung and augmented to eight by John Taylor and Co. will be dedicated by the Archdeacon of Cornwall on Saturday, Aug. 12th, at 3 p.m.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wotton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Wickwar on Saturday, Aug. 12th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Visitors welcome, but a card for tea would be appreciated.—W. J. Smith, 130, Station Road, Yate, Bristol.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan and Liverpool Branches.—Joint meeting will be held at Rainford on Saturday, August 12th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., for which please notify Mr. S. Cadwallender, 103, Church Rd., Rainford, near St. Helens. —S. Forshaw and G. R. Newton, Branch Secs.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—The summer meeting of this branch will be held as arranged on Saturday, Aug. 12th, at Bidford-on-Avon. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Numbers for tea by Wednesday previous. —J. E. Newman, Hinton Cross, Evesham.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION. — Swindon Branch.—Monthly meeting at Lydiard Millicent on Saturday, Aug. 12th. Six bells. Usual arrangements. — W. B. Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Swindon, Wilts.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Hitchin, Aug. 12th, at 3 p.m., just rehung by Messrs. Taylor and Co. Make this best meeting of year. All welcome. Tea at 5 p.m., followed by service.—R. T. Newman, Salisbury Road, Baldock.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—A practice will be held at Waltham St. Lawrence (6 bells) on Saturday, August 12th. Bells available from 4 p.m. All welcome.—W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec., Merrel, California, Wokingham.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting of the Southern District will be held at Heighington on Saturday, Aug. 12th. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Ringers requiring tea, please notify me not later than the 10th inst.—J. T. Titt, Hon. Dis. Sec., 54, Newlands Road, Darlington.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD. — A meeting will be held at Mayfield on Saturday, Aug. 12th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Please notify for tea.—C. A. Bassett, 3, Pendrill, Place, Wadhurst, Sussex.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Maulden on Saturday, Aug. 12th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. A good company is requested. All ringers welcome. Please come.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — The monthly meeting of the Gloucester Branch will be held at Sandhurst on Saturday, Aug. 12th (usual procedure). Special bus from Worcester Street at 2.45 p.m. (will members please note), and card for tea by the 8th inst. will much oblige. — W. H. Harris, Branch Hon. Sec., 4, G.W.R. Terrace, Lydney Dock, Lydney.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Darfield on Saturday, Aug. 12th. Bells (6) ready 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. in Church Schools. For teas please notify Mr. T. Hilton, Stoneleigh, Barnsley Road, Darfield, not later than Wednesday, Aug. 9th. Doncaster to Huddersfield and vice versa, Bus No. 14, passes through. All are welcome.—D. Smith, Rock Cottages, Shafton, near Barnsley.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Michael's, Flixton, on Saturday, Aug. 19th. Tower open for ringing at 5.30. Business meeting at 7 o'clock. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—J. H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Western Division will be held at Chichester on Saturday, Aug. 19th. Tower open 3 p.m. Tea, price 1s., 5.15, at the Tower Café. Half rail fares, maximum 1s. 6d., allowed to members.—F. H. Meeten, Hon. Div. Sec., 22, North Street, Worthing.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—Ideal spot. An historic village and eight beautiful bells for the summer meeting of the above district at Repton on Saturday, Aug. 19th. Bells available at 3 p.m., and usual tea arrangements, but p.c.s must be sent to me by Thursday, Aug. 17th, so that adequate arrangements can be made.— Open to all ringers and friends. — J. W. Cotton, Hon. Dis. Sec., Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Preliminary Notice.—The eighth annual dinner will be held at the Star Hotel, Foalgate Street, Worcester, on Saturday, Sept. 30th, at 6 p.m. A large room has been reserved and ample seating accommodation is available. Garage on premises. This is the first dinner of the season; book the date and so help justify the optimism of the committee. Tickets (3s. each) shortly available, and obtainable from branch officers, Dinner Committee, etc.—J. D. Johnson, Hon. Gen. Sec.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS. — The address of Mr. William Bottrill is now 127, Montrose Avenue, Luton, Beds.

BIRTH.

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LINCOLN.—At St. Giles' on Sunday, July 16th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: *R. Stallibrass 1, Mrs. L. Neal 2, B. G. Hooseman 3, S. Chambers 4, N. Chambers 5, Harold Marcon 6, J. L. Millhouse (conductor) 7, *W. Humphreys 8. * First quarter-peal.

SOBERTON, HANTS. — On July 13th, at St. Peter's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: F. W. Rogers 1, Mrs. C. L. Guy 2, T. R. Taylor 3, F. S. Bayley 4, L. P. Cook 5, C. L. Guy 6, W. Linter (first quarter-peal as conductor) 7, T. Worsfold 8.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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IMPORTANCE OF NEW CONDUCTORS

There are often complaints and regrets at the lack of ringers in many places and we hear a good deal of the difficulties of obtaining recruits. There is frequently good ground for the apprehension that, in some centres, there is a risk of the art of ringing suffering a severe set-back when the present generation of ringers is no longer able to carry on. It is one of the problems which have to be faced, although we do not believe it is any matter for despair. Bad times alternate with good in most things, and in ringing it is particularly so. Bands spring into prominence, flourish for a time, and then fade out; and their place in the forefront of the Exercise is taken by others. This has happened throughout the history of ringing, not only among the leaders in the art, but also among the lesser lights, who are not so conspicuous in what counts in peal ringing, but who zealously carry out their duties Sunday by Sunday in ringing for service. For a time they maintain their strength. Then come losses and gradually, as the band dwindles, interest decays and eventually the bells are only occasionally heard. Obviously the remedy is a constant acquisition of new blood. Too often a band is satisfied to go on without recruiting. They have men sufficient and competent for the time being, and do not bother to provide for 'the rainy day.' They are content to go on by themselves, never counting the time when inevitably their ranks will be reduced.

There is also another angle to this subject, and that is the encouragement of new conductors. There must be a leader in every band, but, unfortunately, some leaders have the idea that, while they are in command, the conducting in the tower is their monopoly. They cannot make a greater mistake. They may have all the confidence of their company, they may possess all the talents, but sooner or later the band with only one conductor is likely to strike the rocks and founder, or be saved only with the greatest difficulty. Every ringer with any aptitude should be encouraged to study and practise conducting. It makes the ringer himself more proficient, it increases the interest of the band and the leader need lose none of his prestige—he is still in the tower to command, and it rests with him to choose the conductor for any touch or occasion.

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(Continued on page 506.)

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the report of a peal which we publish this week, we learn that no fewer than five of them have called a peal, and the enthusiasm of this band is immense. That there is need for the encouragement of more conductors the figures of the Peals Analyses Committee are proof. True, peals are only one indication of what is happening in the Exercise generally, but they are symptomatic of other activities. The number of new conductors does not keep pace with the increase in the number of peals. Last year, for example, there was only one new conductor to every 30 peals rung, in 1937 there was one to every 26, and in 1935 one to every 23. The figures for 1936 were slightly worse than last year, but the improvement in 1937 was not maintained. A good deal of the future progress of ringing depends not merely upon the number of new ringers, it depends almost as much upon the new conductors. Leaders of bands should therefore feel it a duty to get as many of their ringers as possible to take up this important part of the art and encourage and help them to master it.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
(ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, August 5, 1939, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,
A PEAL OF YORK SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;
Tenor 32 cwt.

CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE	*Treble*	*FREDERICK W. ROGERS	7
SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER	2	*C. ERNEST SMITH	8
WILLIAM J. G. BROWN	3	FREDERICK J. SMITH	9
HOBART E. SMITH	4	*JOHN W. WARD	10
GEORGE A. FLEMING	5	GEORGE E. SYMONDS	11
*LEWIS W. WIFFEN	6	CECIL W. PIPE	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

* First 'touch' of York Maximus. Rung in honour of the wedding of Miss Alma D. Symonds, daughter of the conductor.

SURFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 5, 1939, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,
A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5016 CHANGES;
Tenor 12 cwt. 9 lb.

MRS. R. RICHARDSON	*Treble*	ALBERT H. WARD	7
JOHN HOLMAN	2	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH	8
ERNEST C. S. TURNER	3	CHARLES MCGUINESS	9
JOHN FREEMAN	4	GEORGE F. SWANN	10
GEORGE R. PYE	5	ALBERT WALKER	11
CHARLES T. COLES	6	RUPERT RICHARDSON	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

First peal of Little Bob Maximus by all the band. E. C. S. Turner's 100th peal as conductor.

CAMBRIDGE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 7, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-GREAT,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;
Tenor 28 cwt.

MRS. R. RICHARDSON	*Treble*	ERNEST G. HIBBINS	7
ALBERT WALKER	2	GEORGE F. SWANN	8
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH	3	ERNEST C. S. TURNER	9
GEORGE R. PYE	4	T. REGINALD DENNIS	10
CHARLES T. COLES	5	FRANK E. HAYNES	11
SIDNEY O'C HOLLOWAY	6	RUPERT RICHARDSON	*Tenor*

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

STEPNEY.—A quarter-peal of Bob Royal was rung at St. Dunstan's on July 30th for evening service: *J. Boomsma 1, T. Burns 2, T. G. Fox 3, H. E. Thompson 4, G. W. Debenham 5, *S. Foskett 6, *A. A. Jarvis 7, L. J. Fox 8, R. G. Cousins 9, *G. W. Cecil (conductor) 10. * First quarter-peal of Bob Royal. Specially arranged for S. Foskett.

GREAT YARMOUTH, NORFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
(ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)
On Monday, August 7, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;
Tenor 30¼ in C sharp.

GEORGE A. FLEMING	...*Treble*	WILLIAM J. G. BROWN	... 7
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY	... 2	LEWIS W. WIFFEN	 8
SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER	... 3	FREDERICK J. TILLETT	... 9
HOBART E. SMITH	 4	FREDERICK J. SMITH	 10
*C. ERNEST SMITH	 5	FREDERICK W. ROGERS	... 11
JOHN W. WARD	 6	CECIL W. PIPE	... ...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by CHARLES J. SEDGLEY.

* First peal of Cambridge Maximus. First peal of Surprise Maximus on the bells.

TEN BELL PEALS.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, August 5, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5019 CHANGES;
Tenor 18 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb. in E flat.

DAVID WRIGHT	... ...*Treble*	CHARLES POTHECARY	 6
CHARLES H. KIPPIN	 2	CHARLES W. R. GRIMWOOD	7
JAMES E. DAVIS	 3	AMOS W. CLARK	 8
MRS. CHAS. H. KIPPIN	... 4	FRANK E. DARBY	 9
REUBEN CHARGE	 5	DANIEL D. COOPER	... ...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by FRANK E. DARBY.

BEDFORD.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, August 7, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,
A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;
Tenor 28 cwt. 3 qr. 6 lb. in D.

*NORMAN INSKIP	... ...*Treble*	HARRY GAYTON	 6
ERNEST C. LAMBERT	... 2	*REGINALD H. HOWSON	... 7
CHARLES W. CLARKE	... 3	HERBERT L. HARLOW	... 8
GEORGE W. DEBENHAM	... 4	†SYDNEY FOSKETT	 9
*PERCY W. TOMPKINS	 5	*LEWIS H. BYWATERS	...*Tenor*

Composed by REV. H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by G. W. DEBENHAM

* First peal on ten bells. † First peal of Royal. E. C. Lambert's 200th peal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BUSHEY, HERTS
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, July 27, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
J. J. PARKER'S FIVE-PART, No. 12. Tenor 13 cwt.

FRANCIS KIRK	... ...*Treble*	FRANCIS A. SMITH	... 5
EDWARD P. ASHBY	 2	HAROLD G. CASHMORE	... 6
JOHN E. ROOTES	 3	EDWIN JENNINGS	 7
*HENRY F. SOUTHALL	... 4	CECIL C. MAYNE	... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

* First peal in the method away from the tenor.

MOORSIDE, LANCS.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION
AND OLDHAM AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.
On Monday, July 31, 1939, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

JOHN MEADOWCROFT, JN.	...*Treble*	HARRY BYROM	 5
*HAROLD ARMSTEAD	 2	ISAAC GARTSIDE	 6
*CLEMENT B. TAYLOR	... 3	IVAN KAY	 7
FRANK LAWTON	 4	JOHN W. TRUELOVE	... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by I. KAY.

* First peal. A first birthday compliment to Mary, daughter of the third ringer.

NEWCASTLE, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, July 31, 1939, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
REEVES' VARIATION OF HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 17 cwt.

FREDERICK A. FOSTER	...*Treble*	KENNETH THACKER	 5
DOUGLAS R. WHALLEY	... 2	EDWARD STEELE	 6
MRS. BERYS V. MILES	... 3	CHARLES H. PAGE	 7
GEORGE E. KETTLE	 4	SIDNEY THOMPSON	... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by DOUGLAS R. WHALLEY.

Rung in celebration of the wedding of Mr. A. Thompson, hon. secretary of the association, and Miss Ada Bourne.

HANDSWORTH, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)
On Wednesday, August 2, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 12 cwt. in F sharp.

FRED WATKINSON	... ...*Treble*	JOHN J. L. GILBERT	 5
MISS LUCY KELLY	 2	JACK BROTHWELL	 6
JOHN HOLMAN	 3	JOHN H. BROTHWELL	 7
RONALD BIRCH	 4	TOM BROTHWELL	... ...*Tenor*

Composed by C. CHARGE. Conducted by J. J. L. GILBERT.

Rung as a farewell to Dr. Leonard Hedley Burrows, who left Sheffield the same day to live in retirement after having been Bishop of Sheffield for 25 years.

CHESTER.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD
On Saturday, August 5, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, HANDBRIDGE,
A PEAL OF CONVILLE BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;
Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

WILLIAM E. FLETCHER	...*Treble*	JAMES SWINDLEY	 5
FRED HARTMAN	 2	RALPH G. EDWARDS	 6
GEORGE R. NEWTON	 3	PERCIVAL W. CAVE	 7
PERCY SWINDLEY	 4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE. Conducted by J. C. E. SIMPSON.
The first peal in the method.

NORTHOWRAM, HALIFAX.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.)
On Saturday, August 5, 1939, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,
A PEAL OF AIREDALE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 16 lb. in E.

ALFRED SMITH	... ...*Treble*	HARRY DAVISON	 5
MISS MARY WHITE	 2	HERBERT DAVENPORT	... 6
KENNETH SIMPSON	 3	GEORGE ROBINSON	 7
JAMES F. HARVEY	 4	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. LEWIS. Conducted by LESLIE W. G. MORRIS.
The first peal in the method.

ROTHERFIELD, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
THE EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.
On Saturday, August 5, 1939, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DENYS,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 23½ cwt.

*CHARLES A. BASSETT	...*Treble*	ARTHUR F. LEWRY	 5
WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE	... 2	LESLIE W. JARVIS	 6
GEORGE BERNEY	 3	ALBERT RELFE	 7
HUGH MACKINDER	 4	FRANK H. HICKS	... ...*Tenor*

Arranged and Conducted by ALBERT RELFE.

* First peal on eight bells. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to F. H. Hicks.

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NORTH MIMMS, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, August 5, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt.

ALBERT W. COLES	...Treble	JOHN T. KENTISH	5
THOMAS J. LOCK	2	WILLIAM BOTTRILL	6
HAROLD V. FROST	3	JAMES BENNETT	7
*EDWIN A. BELSON	4	ERNEST W. PYE	...Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by J. BENNETT.
* First attempt for a Surprise peal.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Saturday, August 5, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 20½ cwt. in E.

PHILIP C. BICKNELL	...Treble	*JAMES E. BAILEY	5
LEONARD P. BAILEY	2	FRANK L. FISHER	6
CHARLES E. FISHER	3	JAMES M. BAILEY	7
ERNEST S. BAILEY	4	JAMES G. RUMSEY	...Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by JAMES M. BAILEY.
* First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor. J. G. Rumsey's 300th peal.

BROUGHTON-IN-FURNESS, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(FURNESS AND LAKE DISTRICT BRANCH.)
On Saturday, August 5, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 10 cwt.

FRED WALKER	...Treble	JOHN BAGNALL	5
WILLIAM T. CLARKE	2	JAMES E. BURLES	6
FRED C. LIMB	3	*ALAN CAPSTICK	7
FRANK RAYMENT	4	NICHOLAS M. NEWBY	...Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by N. M. NEWBY.
* First peal of Major. First peal of Major as conductor. Rung as a birthday compliment to the mother of W. T. Clarke, who was 90 on July 28th.

CLAINES, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, August 5, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST.
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 14 cwt.

*FREDERICK FLUCK	...Treble	*ALFRED W. GLAZZARD	5
ERNEST WILSON	2	JOHN J. JEFFERIES	6
JAMES WOODYATT	3	ALLEN MORGAN	7
GEORGE E. LARGE	4	FREDERICK G. YATES	...Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE.
* First peal of Grandsire Triples. A wedding compliment to Mr. Ralph W. Sayers and Miss Winifred Smith.

STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Saturday, August 5, 1939, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND MARY,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 24 cwt.

ARTHUR GRIMWOOD	...Treble	HARRY D. LISTER	5
SHELFORD SPARROW	2	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL	6
KEITH W. WHITTELL	3	*EDWARD E. DAVEY	7
EDWIN A. CRACKNELL	4	URBAN W. WILDNEY	...Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by HARRY D. LISTER.
* First peal of Cambridge Surprise Major.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, August 5, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb.

WILLIAM FERNLEY	...Treble	C. KENNETH LEWIS	5
JOSEPH WHITTAKER	2	JOHN WORTH	6
JAMES FERNLEY	3	JAMES A. MILNER	7
*WALTER SHAW	4	†JACK L. MILLHOUSE	...Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by J. L. MILLHOUSE.
* First Surprise peal. † First peal of Cambridge Major.

UFFORD, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
(ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)
On Sunday, August 6, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb. in F sharp.

WILLIAM J. G. BROWN	...Treble	JOHN W. WARD	5
GEORGE A. FLEMING	2	C. ERNEST SMITH	6
SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER	3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS	7
LEWIS W. WIFFEN	4	CECIL W. PIPE	...Tenor

Composed by F. BENNETT. Conducted by FREDK. W. ROGERS.

MALVERN LINK, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(WESTERN BRANCH.)
On Monday, August 7, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHIAS,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
PRITCHARD'S FOUR-PART. Tenor 16½ cwt.

ROBERT G. KNOWLES	...Treble	ALLEN MORGAN	5
JAMES WOODYATT	2	JOHN J. JEFFERIES	6
GEORGE E. LARGE	3	WILLIAM LEWIS	7
*WILLIAM H. A. COMPTON	4	CHARLES CAMM	...Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE.
* First peal of Major.

SIX BELL PEALS.

COUND, SHROPSHIRE.
THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, July 2, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings. Tenor 12 cwt.

THOMAS ROBERTS	...Treble	HAROLD WATKINS	4
ALFRED BENBOW	2	CHARLES E. EDWARDS	5
WILLIAM MORRIS	3	*HERBERT WOODHOUSE	...Tenor

Conducted by C. E. EDWARDS.
* First peal.

LLANELLY, CARMARTHENSHIRE.
THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, July 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ELLI,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven different extents.

G. E. PARMENTER	...Treble	J. T. WILLIAMS	4
MRS. G. E. PARMENTER	2	W. J. COLE	5
D. LLEWELLYN	3	C. H. HAWKINS	...Tenor

Conducted by C. H. HAWKINS.
Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. G. E. Parmenter.

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HOLBROOK, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Sunday, July 30, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE COURT BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Consisting of seven extents. Tenor 8 cwt.

*FRANCIS SAGE	*Treble*	JAMES W. JENNINGS	4
JOHN PENNELL	2	GEORGE A. FLEMING ...	5
SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER ...	3	ALAN R. ANDREWS ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.
* First peal and first attempt. First peal in the method on the bells.

AYLESBEARE, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
On Monday, July 31, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven 720's called differently. Tenor 15 cwt. in F (approx.).

JOHN DEEM	*Treble*	BRIAN PIDGEON	4
CHARLES R. LILLEY	2	EDWARD MARKS	5
A. E. CHEESMAN	3	JOHN L. GLANVILL ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.
First peal on the bells.

APSLEY END, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, July 31, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven 720's in 14 methods: (1) Bourne and Netherseale; (2) Norfolk and Primrose; (3) Cambridge and Ipswich; (4) York and Durham; (5) London and Wells; (6) Rossendale and Stamford; (7) Lightfoot and Wearmouth. Tenor 14¾ cwt.

WILLIAM FEASEY...	*Treble*	*FRANCIS TOMPKINS	4
WILLIAM J. PUDDIFOOT ...	2	WILLIAM J. RANDALL ...	5
AUGUSTIN V. GOOD	3	WALTER AYRE	*Tenor*

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.
* First peal in 14 Surprise methods. The conductor's 500th peal.

RODMERSHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, August 2, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one extent of Cambridge Surprise, and two each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 9¼ cwt. in G.

GEORGE A. NAYLOR	*Treble*	*JAMES WEBB	4
DORIS G. DOBBIE...	2	GEORGE H. SPICE	5
JOHN E. SPICE	3	WALTER H. DOBBIE ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE A. NAYLOR.
* First peal. Rung as a farewell peal to the Vicar, the Rev. Pierce.

ROCK FERRY, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thursday, August 3, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-One Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Beverley, Chester, Cambridge, Carlisle, Canterbury, London and York. Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

*HAROLD ANDREW	*Treble*	JOSEPH LESLIE	4
JAMES H. COOKE	2	ALEXANDER J. MARTIN ...	5
*CHARLES C. HULSE	3	FRANK T. PARRY	*Tenor*

Conducted by JOSEPH LESLIE.
* First peal and first attempt. First peal as conductor. Rung as a wedding compliment to the Rev. H. P. Williams (curate at St. Peter's) on the occasion of his marriage to Miss F. M. Lythgoe.

SHENFIELD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, August 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of York, Durham, London, Wells, Ipswich, Beverley and Cambridge.

*WILLIAM T. FORRESTER ...	*Treble*	JOHN SITCH	4
EDWARD T. SITCH	2	*ROBERT C. HEAZEL	5
CHARLES HARRINGTON ...	3	*HARRY TURNER	*Tenor*

Conducted by H. TURNER.
* First peal in seven Surprise methods. Rung to mark the silver jubilee of the Diocese of Chelmsford, the diamond jubilee of the Essex Association and the 690th anniversary of the dedication of the church.

THORINGTON, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, August 5, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Consisting of an extent each of St. Clement's, Oxford Bob, Double Court, Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt. 22 lb. in G.

GEORGE E. JENNINGS ...	*Treble*	MISS VIOLET A. FROST ...	4
WILLIAM J. NEVARD	2	HARRY J. MILLATT	5
ALAN R. ANDREWS	3	GEORGE A. ANDREWS ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.
Arranged to celebrate the wedding of Mr. W. J. Nevard's grandson to Miss M. Ainger, of Brightlingsea, which took place earlier in the day.

RETTENDON, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, August 5, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 of Cambridge Surprise and two 720's each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.

*WILFRED P. OCKENDON ...	*Treble*	GERALD FROST	4
WILLIAM PERRY...	2	FRANK C. MAY	5
WILLIAM S. MAY	3	FRANK B. LUFKIN... ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN.
* First peal of Minor.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BRASTED, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, August 3, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT MOORCOCKS,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor, size 14 in D.

MISS M. J. F. RICHARDSON	1-2	MISS B. M. RICHARDSON ...	5-6
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	3-4	*MISS D. T. RICHARDSON ...	7-8

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by C. W. WOOLLEY.
* First peal.

SURFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sunday, August 6, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT GLYN GARTH,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5067 CHANGES;
Tenor, size 18 in A.

GEORGE F. SWANN	1-2	ERNEST C. S. TURNER ...	5-6
ALBERT WALKER	3-4	RUPERT RICHARDSON	7-8
CHARLES T. COLES	9-10		

Composed by J. E. GROVES. Conducted by A. WALKER.
Umpires—J. S. Goldsmith and G. R. Pye.

SURFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sunday, August 6, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,
AT GLYN GARTH,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor, size 15 in C.

JOHN S. GOLDSMITH	1-2	ERNEST C. S. TURNER... ...	5-6
RUPERT RICHARDSON	3-4	GEORGE F. SWANN	7-8

Composed by F. BENNETT. Conducted by RUPERT RICHARDSON.
Umpire—G. R. Pye.

J. A. TROLLOPE'S **'COLLEGE YOUTHS'**
A History of the Society
5/6 (post free) from
'THE RINGING WORLD' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

A WEEK-END AT SURFLEET.

NO REST AT THE REST-HOME.

Some half-dozen ringers, of various vintages, went last week-end to the Lincolnshire Home of Rest, for the purpose of recuperation, but, as events proved, they were given very little rest and no greater amount of peace. The prearranged programme had included just a couple of peals spaced out for Saturday and Monday, but they reckoned without the weather and their host. Usually these rest cures carry with them a certain amount of exercise by way of tennis and bowls, but the wet weather prevented this form of recreation and there seemed more opportunity of relaxation. But this they were not allowed.

Various oddments were collected by the host at Peterborough on Friday evening, and in the dreamland of Glyn Garth, Surfleet, they expected to laze for the better part of the next three days.

But on Saturday morning these views were brought up with a jerk. There was a newly acquired set of handbells to be tried out. These had been picked up at a metal merchant's, but, not having been trained in Stedman Triples, they refused to go the whole distance—which was perhaps fortunate for the next addition to the party, who would otherwise have had to carry his portmanteau the long mile from the railway station. As things turned out the charabanc arrived just in time to meet him.

By dinner time the dining room table had stretched in tell-tale fashion, and when the tea interval arrived there were more than a dozen round it in a happy reunion. Afterwards a peal of Little Bob Maximus, on the world's lightest ring of twelve, proved more than the joke that some of the even lighter hearted expected it would be. They found that Maximus is not the easiest thing to ring at Surfleet. However, the peal done, nothing remained but to eat, drink and be merry—and this proved a lot easier than ringing Maximus, even though it was only Little Bob.

Then, the Lincoln and Derby contingents having departed, peace fell upon the Home of Rest, and Sunday was anticipated as a day of repose But not a bit of it. The morning was devoted to service ringing and church attendance, but before the clock hands pointed to 1.30 the handbells that once visited Australia were knocking off Stedman Caters. The umpires had the best of the bargain. One heard the start and the finish, the other heard enough between times to put down the course ends. For the rest, they were in the land of nod, or very near it.

But that was not the worst of it. After an hour's ringing at the church before evening service the host commandeered three of the rest to christen the new bells, and a peal of Bob Major was the result. The only consolation they had was that their friends realised that, if successful, they would not finish while it was 'light,' and made provision accordingly.

WHAT HAPPENED AT CAMBRIDGE.

On Monday a journey had to be made to Cambridge, where, through the kindness of the Vicar and local ringers, the bells of Great St. Mary's Church were available for a peal of Stedman Cinques. Great St. Mary's, which is the University Church, has many points of interest, and its bells, too, have a history. Fabian Stedman rang on the bells that were in the tower in his day, and during his time they were augmented from six to eight. They were increased to ten in 1722 and have been a peal of twelve since 1770.

The Cambridge Youths was a society founded over two hundred years ago, for 'promoting and carrying out the art of change ringing in the tower of Great St. Mary's Church, where the books, handbells and club box shall be kept.' The peal boards, still in the ringing room, testify to the prowess of the ringers there in the latter part of the 18th century: 6,600 of Bob Maximus in 1788, 6,000 of Oxford Treble Bob Royal in 1790, and 7,002 of Grandsire Quaters in 1791.

More recent performances are still in the memory of some of those who were in the tower last Monday, for they formed part of a band that rang two peals of Stedman Cinques on the bells on August Bank Holiday, 1912, in one of which, for the first time, a Vicar and his curate (the late Rev. A. H. F. Boughey and the late Rev. H. S. T. Richardson) rang a twelve-bell peal together in their own tower; and a year later when some of the same band rang in a peal of Cambridge Maximus in the morning and of Stedman Cinques in the afternoon—four twelve-bell peals on the same bells in two visits.

The bells at Great St. Mary's run backwards, and this makes it not a little difficult to get the hang of things. It caused a bit of trouble at the start of Monday's peal, which had to be begun a second time, but this was nothing to the trouble caused by an alleged 'brass hat' just before the start. He tested the length of the rope and, as he thought, set the bell. He was contemplating the rope end, where there was a tuck in an inconvenient place, when it disappeared from his hand and vanished through the hole in the ceiling. The bell had gone over. He has lost his 'brass hat' and been degraded to the ranks as a result. Someone, of course, had got to suffer for the cracking of the stay. The conductor afterwards chose to ring the bell without the contraption, but, then, in Stedman's days they did not bother about stays or sliders, so why bother now? Had these been Stedman's days the culprit might have been mulcted in a fine of fourpence, which seems to have been the usual forfeit; the price might have been even more if they had used stays.

(Continued in next column.)

PEAL NOTES.

MR. WALTER AYRE'S 500th PEAL.

Although there are now quite a number of ringers who have rung 500 peals, it is a noteworthy achievement in a ringer's career to reach this total. Mr. Walter Ayre, a former president of the Hertford County Association and one of its district secretaries, has joined the ranks of this distinguished company. His 500th peal (which was also his 25th on the bells at Apsley End) was rung on July 31st, when he called a peal of Spliced Surprise Minor in 14 methods.



MR. WALTER AYRE,
who has just completed 500 peals.

Mr. Ayre's 'collection' of peals is of a very varied character and many of them have been notable performances, among them the first peals of Eyrie, Bushey and Aldenham Surprise Major, Double Court Royal and Shipway's Court Major.

Handbell peals, too, have formed a large proportion of his total, nearly a hundred and seventy of them, and they have included the first peals of Spliced Plain and Little Bob Maximus, Wellington Little Court, Little Oxford Bob and Richmond Bob Major, all of which he called.

Mr. Ayre rang his first peal in 1911 at Barton-on-Humber, where he was born, and his first as conductor in 1912.

He came to London after being discharged from the Army in 1917, and went to live in Hertfordshire in 1922. He has been a member of the band at Apsley End, where he rang his 500th peal, since 1932.

TWO NEW METHODS.

Peals in two new methods were rung on Saturday. One, a Surprise method, the product of Mr. George Lewis, of Sheffield, was rung at Northowram, Halifax. It was named Airedale.

The first peal of Gonville Bob Major (No. 36 in the C.C. Collection) was rung at Handbridge, Chester. It is one of the Plain methods, the value of which seems only just beginning to be generally recognised.

Leiston is not as prominent in the peal news to-day as it was some years ago, when the Bailey family had more than enough ringers to make up an eight-bell band. But there are still some of the brothers left in the Suffolk town, and last Saturday four of them took part in a peal of Bristol Surprise rung on St. Margaret's bells.

It was Mr. J. G. Rumsey's 300th peal and it was good to see him on the tenor box again. His activities at the 'back end' have been seriously curtailed since he broke a wrist three years ago. Out of these 300 peals, Mr. J. M. Bailey, the conductor on Saturday, has shared in 193.

Saturday's peal was rung in honour of the birth of a daughter to the Rev. A. H. and Mrs. Waller, of Leiston Rectory. The baby is the first child born to a Leiston Rector for 22 years.

Mr. Ernest Lambert, of Cosgrove, Northants, rang his 200th peal on Monday, when he rang in a peal of Bob Royal at St. Paul's, Bedford.

Mr. Ralph W. Sayers, a much respected member of Claines tower, and Miss Winifred Smith were married on Saturday, and as a compliment to them a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung.

In honour of the 90th birthday on July 28th of the mother of Mr. W. T. Clarke, a peal of Bob Major was rung on Saturday at Broughton-in-Furness, Lancs.

(Continued on next page.)

(Continued from previous column.)

But eventually the peal was rung and the conductor returned to complete his holiday at Surfleet, having, as he said, rung one more towards his two thousand.

In the peal at Cambridge nobody got a mark of distinction, but in the Maximus at Surfleet everyone earned a 'star.' It was their first peal of Little Bob Maximus and only two or three had rung a peal in the method before, and that was on eight bells. The peal was also notable for the fact that it was Mr. Ernest Turner's one hundredth as conductor. It seems expensive to call one's one hundredth peal.

Although the Birmingham contingent returned to Surfleet, the break up of the party came after the peal at Great St. Mary's, with warm expressions of thanks to the host and hostess (Mr. and Mrs. Rupert Richardson) for another enjoyable time and lavish hospitality showered upon their guests.

PEAL NOTES.

(Continued from previous page.)

Mr. W. J. Nevard rang in a peal of Minor at Thorington, Essex, on Saturday, specially arranged to celebrate the wedding, which took place earlier in the day, of his grandson—also W. J. Nevard—and Miss M. Ainger, of Brightlingsea. After the peal he very kindly extended hospitality to the band.

Messrs. F. W. Rogers (hon. secretary of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild) and C. E. Smith (Ringing Master of the Guildford District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild) spent an interesting and successful week-end with the Ipswich ringers, who gave them an exceedingly cordial welcome.

There was a peal of York Surprise Maximus at Ipswich on Saturday (incidentally Mr. Smith's first peal of Maximus), a peal of London Surprise Major on Sunday at Ufford and a peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus at Great Yarmouth on Monday. An excellent bag for three days. The peal at Great Yarmouth was the first of Surprise Maximus on the bells of St. Nicholas' Church, reputed to be the largest church in the country.

The peals were arranged for the visitors from the South and they desire to express their thanks for the kindness extended to them.

The peal of York Surprise Maximus at Ipswich was a remarkable performance in more ways than one. Messrs. Rogers, C. E. Smith and Wiffen had not previously struck a blow in the method, and it was also the first touch of York Maximus by Mr. Ward.

It makes the fifth method of Surprise Maximus that Mr. L. W. Wiffen has rung without any previous practice before starting for a peal, viz., Superlative, Yorkshire, Pudsey, Rochester and York.

York Surprise is one of the methods which should be taken up by all towers, specially those with 10 and 12 bells. It extends perfectly from Minor upwards and is very easy; in fact, one member stated that it was only one degree in advance of Treble Bob. It far exceeds Cambridge in musical qualities.

The peal was rung in honour of the wedding of Miss Alma D. Symonds, daughter of the conductor, Mr. G. E. Symonds.

A YOUNG BAND'S PROGRESS.

At Rock Ferry, Cheshire, there is a company of eleven who ring the six bells regularly for Sunday services. On August 3rd six of them rang a peal of Minor in seven Surprise methods on the occasion of the marriage of the Rev. H. P. Williams (curate at St. Peter's) and Miss F. M. Lythgoe, which had taken place earlier in the day.

The conductor was Joseph Leslie, who is the fifth member of the band to call a peal, and two of the ringers scored their first peal at the first attempt. Most of the band are young people, the average age of the ringers of the treble, 2nd, 3rd and 5th in the peal being 16 years 3 months. Rock Ferry is to be congratulated on the enthusiasm of its youngsters and the successful way in which the leaders have built up this competent band. It is a lesson to many other towers.

With the merry pealing of bells, the wedding of Mr. Andrew Thompson, hon. secretary of North Staffordshire Association, to Miss Ada Bourne was solemnised at St. Giles' Church, Newcastle, Staffs, on Sunday, July 30th. On the following day a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in honour of the event.

The daughters of the late Rev. H. S. T. Richardson, who was a prominent member of Cambridge University Guild and did such valued work for the Central Council and the Hereford Diocesan Guild, rang in a handbell peal of Bob Major at the home of their uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Lewis, at Brasted on August 3rd. The peal was conducted by another member of the C.U.G., Mr. C. W. Woolley.

After 25 years as Bishop of Sheffield, Dr. L. H. Burrows has retired, and on the day he left the See a peal of Bob Major was rung as a farewell at Handsworth.

A peal of Surprise Minor at Shenfield, Essex, on August 4th, was a triple celebration. It was rung to mark the silver jubilee of the Diocese of Chelmsford, the diamond jubilee of the Essex Association and the 690th anniversary of the dedication of Shenfield Parish Church.

Mr. Albert Relfe, of Lamberhurst, Kent, has now rung all the bells at Rotherfield, Sussex, to a peal. He completed the circle with a peal of Bob Major last Saturday.

Members of the local band at Cound, Shropshire, rang a peal of Grandsire Doubles on July 2nd.

A peal of Double Court Minor on July 30th at Holbrook, Suffolk, enabled G. A. Fleming, of Ipswich, to complete peals in Court methods on 6, 8, 10 and 12 bells. We believe he is the first to do this.

The first peal on the bells at Aylesbeare, Devon, was rung on July 31st. One of the band was Mr. A. E. Cheesman, of Banstead, Surrey.

Mr. Francis Kirk, of St. Albans, rang his 150th peal for the Hertford County Association on July 27th, when a peal of Stedman Triples was rung at Bushey.

LEYTON.—On the occasion of the annual battalion parade of the Boys' Brigade at St. Mary's Parish Church, on Sunday, July 16th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung by G. Dawson 1, F. W. Housden 2, Mrs. F. W. Housden 3, C. A. Hughes 4, J. Moule 5, A. Prior 6, E. D. Smith (conductor) 7, A. W. C. Ball (first quarter-peal) 8.

HOLCOMBE ROGUS, DEVON.—On July 12th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes, 10 callings): W. Wright (first quarter-peal) 1, S. N. Bristow 2, C. W. J. Tarr 3, W. Stevens 4, W. C. Newberry (first quarter-peal as conductor) 5, D. M. Bellamy (first quarter-peal) 6.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The first meeting of the recently re-formed Chesterfield District of the Midland Counties Association is to be held at Eckington on Saturday week.

There are already reminders of the 'dinner season.' The Worcestershire Association will kick-off on September 30th, the Yorkshire Association hold their gathering at York on October 14th, while the Lancashire Association dinner is fixed for October 21st at Liverpool.

Another dinner which is being arranged for this year will have special interest for Sussex ringers. It is to be held at Lewes on October 28th on the one hundredth anniversary of the opening of the bells at Southover, then a newly-cast peal of eight.

Many happy returns of the day to Mr. William Willson, of Leicester, whose birthday is to-morrow. Mr. Willson was born in 1868.

Next Tuesday is the anniversary of the first peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus, which was rung at Ipswich on August 15th, 1908.

The peal ringing tours begin next week. On Saturday, the 19th, a party will invade Lancashire, making Liverpool their headquarters. At the beginning of September another company of tourists go to Bedfordshire, while Yorkshire is to be the hunting ground of another party, who will be numerous enough to put on three peals in a day sometimes.

Many congratulations have reached the hon. secretary of the Royal Cumberland Youths (Mr. G. W. Steere) upon the birth of a son and heir. There was an error in Mr. Steere's address given in the notice in our last issue. It should have been 46, Milton (not Mitson) Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

CHESHIRE 'CENTURIES.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Messrs. J. and P. Swindley were not the first father and son among Cheshire ringers to ring a hundred peals together. A hundredth peal together, by father and son, was rung at Frodsham on September 10th, 1928. This was a peal of London Surprise Major by the local band, in which the father rang the 6th and the son rang the 4th and conducted the peal.

Even this may not have been the first of its kind. Quite a few fathers and sons have been active peal ringers in Cheshire, the Gordons, Holdings, Langfords and Fearnleys, just to mention a few.

W. BIBBY.

THE BRISTOL GUILD TOURS.

No effort is being spared to make a success of next week's tours arranged by Bristol United Guilds. Some forty or more towers will be visited, and all those taking part have been provided with a most interesting 'Preview,' compiled by 'M. J. G.,' which not only gives the routes for each of the six days, but particulars of the places and churches, so that the participants will know exactly what to look for. This Preview must have been prepared at the expense of much labour and care, but it will add immensely to the interest of the various trips which will be made each day from Bristol.

The first day (Monday) will take in the country via Gloucester, Tewkesbury, Pershore and Cirencester.

Tuesday's expedition goes to Wiltshire, including Warminster, Amesbury, Devizes and Bradford-on-Avon.

On Wednesday the route lies to Shepton Mallet, Taunton, Minehead and Bridgwater.

Wiltshire will be invaded again on Thursday, Chippenham, Swindon and Calne being included in the run.

On Friday the places included are Wells and Wookey Hole.

Saturday's itinerary takes the party to Glastonbury, Yeovil, Crewkerne, Weymouth, Dorchester and Sherborne.

RAMPTON BELLS.

RINGERS' OPPORTUNITY.

All Saints' Day, November 1st, has been fixed for the dedication of the new treble bell, or bells, at the little village of Rampton, Cambridgeshire. Whether it is one or two bells depends upon the result of efforts made before the end of this month.

At present there are four bells; the fifth is assured, and, if £50 can be raised by the end of August, the ring of six will be completed.

'There are,' writes the Rector, 'still many bell books on the mantelshelves of the misremembrerers—at least I am optimist enough to refuse to believe they are basketed or burnt; so perhaps another Rampton reminder will have a remedial ring about it.'

There are already 14 ringers at Rampton, half of them ladies, ready to come to grips with six bells, and it is now up to ringers beyond the village to help secure them.

The local ringers hope to utilise the four bells in a 'wedding peal' on the occasion of the marriage of the Rector's brother on August 12th.

Contributions to the fund should be sent to the Rev. T. L. Havers, Rampton Rectory, Cambridge.

ANOTHER RING OF TWELVE.

ST. WOOLOS' CATHEDRAL, NEWPORT.

Another addition is to be made to the rings of twelve bells. Messrs. Gillett and Johnston are to augment the present ten at St. Woolos' Cathedral, Newport, Monmouthshire, with two trebles.

Wales has no peal of twelve, but this will be the next best thing, for Newport is in the area of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association.

The present bells have a tenor of 21 cwt. 2 qr. 26 lb. in E. Originally they were a ring of six, by Bayley, of Bridgwater. They were increased to eight by Mears and Stainbank in 1894, and in 1913 all were recast and made into a peal of ten by Taylor and Co.

There are two other rings of ten in the area of the Llandaff and Monmouth Association, namely at Llandaff Cathedral, and St. John's, Cardiff, both in the county of Glamorgan.

RINGERS' RALLY.

BANK HOLIDAY AT LEATHERHEAD.

'A highly successful gathering, which only goes to show that those who contend that ringers do not want meetings arranged for a Bank Holiday may not always be right.' Such was the comment made to the writer at the conclusion of the rally at Leatherhead on Monday.

The gathering was the outcome of a resolution adopted at a previous meeting of Surrey ringers, when the proposer drew attention to the fact that for years, over a very wide area in Southern England, there had been nowhere a man could go if he wanted to do any ringing on August Bank Holiday, and suggested that the defect be remedied.

The result certainly justified the making of the experiment. In spite of the unsettled weather, between 60 and 70 ringers put in an appearance during the afternoon and evening, and there is little doubt that, had the weather been fine during the morning, the attendance would have been even greater, with catering capacity taxed to the utmost. Fifty-six sat down to tea, representing the following 30 towers: Banstead, Beddington, Bexley (Kent), Beckenham, Bishopsgate, Camberwell, Carshalton, Clandon, Chelsea, Ealing (both towers), Epsom, Ewell, Guildford (S. Nicolas'), Holborn, Hounslow, Kingston-on-Thames, Leatherhead, Mitcham, Putney, St. Neots (Hunts), St. Lawrence Jewry, Stepney, Southgate, Tempsford (Beds), Twickenham, Woodford, Wimbledon, Westerham (Kent), Yardley (Northants).

The Vicar (the Rev. G. H. B. Coleridge) conducted the service and gave a short address, in the course of which he welcomed the meeting to Leatherhead Church. Basing his remarks on the subject of the Prayer Book Lesson for August 7th, 'The Name of Jesus,' he said that there was probably never a time when superstition was more rife than it is to-day, even in the Dark Ages. People put their faith in all kinds of silly and superstitious things, such as Plans with the Planets, permutations with the number 13, etc., rather than in the sacred name of Jesus. He hoped that some people would hear and understand, even on a Bank Holiday, the message of the bells, and put their faith, not in superstitious beliefs, but in Christ's teaching.

Tea was served at the Duke's Head, at which the Vicar presided. On behalf of the ringers of Leatherhead he again extended a hearty welcome to the visitors, and after reading out the names of a few of the places whence they had come, expressed the hope that they would thoroughly enjoy their visit.

It was a matter of regret to some of the older ringers that Mr. Arthur Dean, who was always closely identified with ringing at Leatherhead in former years, was now incapacitated by illness from further ringing and quite unable to get either to the church or to the Duke's Head to meet his friends. In the circumstances, therefore, only one thing could be done. If he could not get to them, they must go to him. So at intervals during the afternoon and evening Mr. Dean held a veritable levee of old pals who called to pay their respects and talk over old times. All were pleased to find him so cheerful in spite of a painful malady.

The ringing throughout the day comprised all kinds of methods, from Grandsire to London Surprise, to suit everybody. At 9 o'clock the bells were lowered and the meeting dispersed. Then to the station by way of the Duke's Head. All seemed happy. Judging by the harmonious and vociferous sounds emitted from a compartment of a train making its way towards London about 11 p.m., a certain section of the crowd was very happy indeed. W.

MARRIAGE OF YORKSHIRE LADY RINGER.

The marriage took place very quietly on Tuesday, August 1st, at St. Michael's Church, Headingley, of Miss M. Fisher, only daughter of Mrs. and the late Mr. Alfred Fisher, and Mr. Harry Booth, son of Mr. J. R. and the late Mrs. Booth, both of Leeds. The ceremony was performed by the Vicar (the Rev. R. J. Wood).

The bride, who is a member of the Ladies' Guild and the Yorkshire Association, has given valued help to the St. Michael's band, where she learned to ring about four years ago. The remainder of the band, togethe· with two or three friends, voiced their good wishes on the bells as the bride and bridegroom left the church.

The happy couple left later in the day for Oxford, where they are to take up residence, Mr. Booth being the Professional Reader for the National Institute for the Blind.

DEATH OF MR. JOHN OVERTON.

DOYEN OF SHROPSHIRE RINGERS.

For 64 years leader of St. Leonard's, Bridgnorth, Mr. John Overton passed peacefully away at his home, 31, West Castle Street, on July 29th, at the advanced age of 88 years. Well known, honoured and greatly respected by many ringers and other friends, Mr. Overton, by his wonderful skill as a teacher of correct change ringing, proved himself to be one of the great pillars of the Exercise. His kindly manner had won for him a position in the county of Shropshire and also in the Hereford Diocese that no other ringer had ever held. He was an honorary vice-president of the Hereford Diocesan Guild and had been Ringing Master of the Bridgnorth District since its formation in 1919. He introduced change ringing to Bridgnorth and rang upwards of 100 peals in various parts of the country.

About 30 years ago Mr. Overton and his Sunday service team rang nine peals of Stedman Triples in one year, conducted by his son, Wilfred. Five of these peals were rung on five different peals of eight, St. Leonard's, Bridgnorth, Coalbrookdale, Shifnal, Ludlow and Pattingham. They also rang peals of Kent Treble Bob Major at St. Leonard's. Soon afterwards he trained his colleagues and took part in and rang within a few changes of a peal of Double Norwich Major, which would have been the first for a local band in the county of Salop or the Hereford Diocese. However, a few years ago it was a great joy to him to listen to the first peal actually rung by St. Leonard's ringers, two of his sons, Horace and Wilfred, the latter conducting, taking part. Wherever they entered the competition for the Hereford Guild Shield the Bridgnorth ringers won it. It is now in St. Leonard's Church.

In 1925, to mark his 50 years as foreman of St. Leonard's, Mr. Overton was presented with an illuminated address, and in honour of the occasion a peal of Stedman Triples was rung at Bridgnorth. Mr. Overton rang the treble, the peal was conducted by his son Wilfred and his sons, Horace and Harry, also took part. A solid bronze peal tablet was placed in St. Leonard's Church recording the peal.

Mr. Overton was very musical. In his younger days he played in a local drum and fife band and also with the Town Brass Band. He trained a very clever handbell tune ringing team, which used to be in great demand at various functions.

The last time Mr. Overton rang at St. Leonard's was in 1935, when he was 84. About that period his legs began to fail him, the result, no doubt, of so much standing during his employment at the local carpet works. He began work at 11 years of age and retired in 1928, after working 66 years. He is survived by four sons, who are all ringers, and two daughters. His wife died some years ago.

The funeral took place at St. Leonard's Church on Wednesday of last week. Six of St. Leonard's ringers acted as bearers, and visiting ringers present included Messrs. William Saunders, Coalbrookdale (Ringing Master of the Hereford Diocesan Guild); James P. Hyett, Hay, Hereford (assistant secretary and peal recorder of the Hereford Guild); Joseph Stanier, Madeley, Salop (representing the Shropshire Association); and George Oliver, Lichfield. Wreaths were sent from the Hereford Guild, 'in faithful remembrance of John Overton for his service to bellringing'; from St. Leonard's tower, 'in grateful memory'; one from the Bridgnorth district, and one from St. Mary's, Bridgnorth.

After the interment at the cemetery a well-struck 720 of Bob Minor was rung at St. Mary's on the back six bells with half-muffled clappers by W. Saunders 1, G. Oliver 2, J. P. Hyett 3, H. O. Baker 4, W. Hayward (conductor) 5, J. L. Stanier 6. St. Leonard's bells were rung half-muffled during the evening.

WEDDING OF NORTH STAFFS SECRETARY.

The wedding took place at St. Giles' Church, Newcastle, Staffs, on July 30th of Mr. Andrew Thompson and Miss Ada Bourne.

Mr. Thompson is hon. secretary of the North Staffs Association and its representative on the Central Council. He is also Tower Master at St. Giles' Church, and the bells rang a merry wedding peal after the ceremony.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, Mr. John Bourne, wore a gown of white lace, trimmed with silver, and carried a bouquet of red roses. She was attended by two bridesmaids, Miss Doris Bourne (sister) and Miss Nancy Thompson (sister of the bridegroom), with Master Andrew Roy Bevan (nephew of the bridegroom) as page. Mr. Bertram Durber was best man.

The choral service was conducted by the Rector of Newcastle (the Rev. C. J. Watkins), and the hymns, led by the choir, were 'The Voice that breathed o'er Eden' and 'O perfect love.'

On the following evening a peal of Grandsire Triples in honour of the event was rung at St. Giles' Church by members of the North Staffs Association.

A FAREWELL.

At St. George's, Stockport, Cheshire, for evening service on Sunday, June 11th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,259 changes): J. Barker (first quarter-peal) 1, A. F. Bailey 2, T. Simpson (first quarter-peal 'inside') 3, A. E. Jackson 4, H. Meakin 5, F. Twigg 6, W. Jackson 7, H. Jackson 8, H. Ashton (first quarter-peal of Caters as conductor) 9, P. Laffin 10. This was rung as a farewell to Mr. Harry Ashton on leaving Stockport for Sowerby Bridge, Yorkshire.

ANTIENT SOCIETY OF ST. STEPHEN'S

BRISTOL'S OLD GUILD AND ITS RULES.

An Analysis and a Comparison.

In our issue of December 30th last, Mr. J. Armiger Trollope wrote of Bristol's old Guild, and the myth of a Royal Charter. Here he discusses further the ancient body and its rules.

The men who did the ' pleasure ' ringing in the seventeenth century belonged to all classes of society. Some were gentlemen at the universities and Inns of Court, and some were of the lowest of the people. In the towns they were often good-class townsmen—tradesmen and members of the lesser professions—and such most likely were the members of the Society of St. Stephen's Ringers.

The earliest extant copy of the rules (or, as they are sometimes called, the ordinances, or the Charter) is dated 1693, but it purports to have been transcribed at second hand from a manuscript dated 1620, and substantially it is the same code as was agreed to when the company was founded.

There is nothing unique about these rules. They are similar to those of the other ringing societies which existed in early times. In the British Museum among the Sloane MSS. is the original manuscript with the rules of the Schollers of Cheapside, dated 1603. A copy of these rules (late 17th century) is in the library of All Souls' College at Oxford, a copy of the rules of the Society of St. Hugh, 1612, is in the muniment room at Lincoln Cathedral. The original set of rules of the Esquire Youths, 1662, is at Bloomsbury. And there are one or two similar documents in the Bodleian Library.

All these codes were strongly influenced by the tradition of the guilds, but there is nothing in them which does not belong to the early 17th century and nothing that necessarily carries their dates back to the 14th or 15th centuries.

The government of each society was entrusted to a supreme officer elected for one year and called sometimes the General and sometimes the Master. To assist him were two other officers, called Stewards or Wardens, also elected annually. Generally there was a permanent official called the Beadle and sometimes a Treasurer and a Warner.

The members were graded according to their status and standing in the company. When first elected they were apprentices; in due time they became freemen; and when they had passed the chair they were assistants of the company. The organisation was that of the trades guilds, the City Companies and the social clubs of the period.

In all there was an elaborate system of fines, graduated according to the nature of the offence. They relate to such things as refusal to take office, disobeying the Master's orders, misconduct in the belfry or club room, bad language, neglect of duty, non-attendance and such like. Since the social life was as prominent as the ringing, the rules relate as much to the club room as to the belfry.

THE ANNUAL FEAST.

The chief event in the society's life was the annual feast. It was held on the anniversary day, and every member not being let by sickness was bound to attend on pain of being fined. The St. Stephen's rules make no mention of the annual dinner, but it is quite certain that it was held and on the 17th November.

Another rule, like the last inherited from the guilds, was the obligation to attend the obsequies of a deceased member; and after the funeral it was customary ' to ring one knell peal either at the church where the burial took place, or else at the next parish church at which the company could conveniently be got together.' In pre-Reformation times it was an ordinary thing to ring at a man's obiit, or the anniversary of his death, and money was often left for that purpose. The St. Stephen's rules contain references to direct survivals of that custom.

The Bristol rules have been transcribed several times and by men who did not understand them, and it is likely that some of them have become corrupt. No. 9 subjects the Master to a fine of one shilling if he ' neglect or forget to warn the company once within every 14 days for to ring a Bissit sett peale.' The scribe evidently did not know what a Bissit sett peale was and so did not try to modernise the spelling as with the other words. Probably he thought it was a technical expression and Bissit perhaps the name of some man.

But Bissit (which should not have been spelt with a capital B) is only a variant of ' beset,' which, in turn, is an inflection of the very common English word ' set.' A Bissit sett peale only meant the properly arranged ringing which the company did once a fortnight.

Rule No. 16, as usually printed, is also obviously corrupt. It reads: ' If any of the said Company shall take a rope out of a fellow's hand when the bells do ring well, and do make a fault to fly off and come too near, he shall pay for his offence one penny to the Company.' The reading given in ' The Bristol Mirror ' of December 7th, 1822, is (except for the spelling) probably much nearer the original of 1620. It is: ' If anie one touche a rope in hisse felowes hande whenne the Belles do welle ring soe asse to make them fly offe or come toe neare he shalle forfeit a pennie.'

This rule cannot mean what at first sight it seems to say. It cannot mean that when ringing was going on no one was to walk up to one of the ringers and grab the rope out of his hand. Conduct like that would not need a rule, and would have led not to a fine but to hot words and, like as not, a blow. To understand we must realise how the bells were rung.

The general principles of bell hanging were the same as at present, but the fittings were much rougher and cruder, requiring the outlay of much more muscular strength, and there were no stays and sliders and but half wheels. The bells could not be raised and set before ringing as at present.

RULE TO SET A HIGH STANDARD.

When the ringers began the bells were hanging mouth downwards and the object was ' to raise the bells as quick as may be,' but keeping perfect time and concord. It is not, I think, known how many bells there were at St. Stephen's in 1620, but probably there were five or perhaps six. One man would be put to the treble, three or four to the tenor, and two to each of the others. At the start all the band had to exert their utmost strength, but as soon as the bells were raised high enough to clapper properly on both sides there was no need for more than one man to each rope. It was the duty, therefore, of the assistant ringer to leave the bell to ' his fellow,' for if ' he touched the rope in his hand ' now that the ' bells do well ring,' he might upset the striking.

This rule was intended to set a high standard of technical skill in the ringing and so was the one which reads as follows: ' If any of the Company shall miss to strike his bell at the second sway in the rising of a peale he shall for his offence pay one penny to the company.'

We get a full explanation of this rule in Stedman's ' Campanalogia ': ' In raising a peal of bells all the notes ought to strike round at one pull, but mistake me not; I do not mean at the first pull, for at small bells 'tis usual to sway them all round at the first pull without striking, at the second pull to strike them at the fore stroke, and at the third pull at the back stroke. In raising a peal of more weighty bells 'tis usual to strike them double at the fourth pull.'

To carry out this rule required a good deal of skill and the outlay of a very great deal of physical strength. It would be an almost impossible feat with a modern hung ring of eight where the big bells are tucked up into the stocks and the clappers of the little bells swing freely, unless the bells were very light.

For a hundred years or so the St. Stephen's Society existed as a body of men interested in bellringing and meeting at regular intervals for social intercourse. No actual account of its doings during the first 60 years survives, but the fact that it did exist tells us sufficient.

Meanwhile ringing had altogether altered in character. The invention of the Sixes about 1610 had introduced the art of change ringing, which, aided by the publication of Richard Duckworth's ' Tintinnalogia ' in 1668, and Fabian Stedman's ' Campanalogia ' in 1677, after the Restoration monopolised the attention of the more advanced ringers. Instead of the athletic fascination of raising and ceasing and round ringing there was the intellectual fascination of ringing changes.

But this development took place slowly and only in parts of the country. The new art was born among the students at the two universities and the Inns of Court and was developed by the ringers of London and Oxford and Cambridge, Nottingham and Reading and the Eastern Counties. In some districts ringers still clung to the old style which even yet lingers among the round ringers of Cornwall.

SOCIAL LIFE AN IMPORTANT FEATURE.

For all the number of its bells, Bristol took no part in the early development of change ringing, and that was probably the ultimate cause of the great alteration which at the close of the 17th century or the beginning of the 18th took place in the character of the St. Stephen's Company. It ceased to be a society of ringers and became an ordinary social club.

We must remember that in the old societies the social life was as prominent and almost as important a feature as the ringing. The ringers were naturally sociable, convivial and clubable persons, so much so that, in the opinion of many of the straiter sort of people, they were a dissolute, disorderly and drunken lot. The reign of Queen Anne was a great time for clubs. All over the country in every rank of society men were joining together, appointing officers and drawing up rules and scales of fines. The ringers had their organisation ready made, and when the interest in ringing waned among the members they could still carry on as a club and admit recruits who cared nothing for bells.

And interest in ringing did in some cases wane. Round ringing was ceasing to be a sport for gentlemen and the newer change ringing was far more difficult and technical and appealed to a smaller and more select number of devotees. Had the St. Stephen's men taken to change ringing the fascination of it might have kept the society in touch with the belfry; but that did not happen, and after a while the company ceased to be ringers in everything but name.

The alteration, of course, did not take place all at once. When the society started it consisted of men of much the same social status, but there are signs that, in time, it was found necessary to introduce men of a lower class, so as to find enough ringers to man the ropes. In the lists of names in the minute books, which date from 1682, a few members are entitled ' Esquire,' the majority are entitled ' Mr.' and the rest have no title at all. The division is not (as has been suggested) into professional and amateur ringers, for that distinction has never, at any time, been recognised in the Exercise. In olden times

class distinctions were very much more marked and insisted upon than they are now. A man was not called an esquire unless he actually was an esquire, nor entitled Mr. unless he was a man of some position and standing.

When the final link with the belfry was broken we cannot say, but throughout the greater part of the 18th century the Society of St. Stephen's Ringers was an ordinary club, whose main concern was the periodical dinners. But that it still continued to exist and, on the whole, to prosper is a tribute to its good fortune and the character of its members.

The life of any one of these societies, whether a company of ringers or a social club, was usually not a very long one, and hung on a rather slender thread. It did not take much—a quarrel, the death of some of the members, waning interest or failure to secure new members—any one could easily wreck the society.

There are signs that the Society of College Youths to some extent went through the same experience as the St. Stephen's Society, only, with them, there never was a complete break with the belfry, and at the critical time the influx of a number of young and enthusiastic new members saved the society for the Exercise.

SOCIETY BECOMES A DINING CLUB.

In the early years of the 19th century the St. Stephen's Company of Ringers was a dining club, whose annual feast was attended by a number of the principal citizens of Bristol.

This was the time when what the newspapers call 'the quaint customs of its early days' were invented; when a few vague rumours were crystallised into traditions, and the proceedings given a veneer of sham antiquity. The pageant called 'The Don' and the singing of the song about the Golden Days of Good Queen Bess date probably from about this time. During the dinner one of the members dressed up like a Spanish Grandee, with a big red nose, headed a procession carrying lighted candles, which escorted the newly-elected Master to his seat, and the old code of rules was solemnly read.

This ceremony is still, I believe, carried out under the impression that it was part of the ancient and original ritual of the company But the whole thing is evidently a fake. It may be objected that these men would not have been guilty of a deliberate fraud, but that is to look at the matter in an entirely wrong light. They were not antiquarians and they were not engaged in any serious business They were a number of worthy gentlemen, met together to eat a dinner and have a jolly time, and they played a game of let-us pretend. For the whole thing, even where it was a genuine survival was a pretence. They pretended that they were 16th century ringers that they were bound by a set of rules they did not in the least bit understand; that they derived in some mysterious way from Queen Elizabeth. It was natural, almost inevitable, that they should seek to heighten the illusion by fictitious details and the Don, with his big red nose, gave a touch of fun and burlesque which was appropriate to the occasion.

DELIBERATE FAKING.

That there was deliberate faking is shown by the account of the company, published in 'The Bristol Mirror' of December 7th, 1822, evidently by a leading member.

The writer gives the tradition about Queen Elizabeth and her promise, states that a Charter was obtained from James I. and proceeds to quote a number of the rules. In doing so he does not copy the spelling of one of the genuine manuscripts, but adopts an imitation of 15th century orthography to give the thing an extra antique flavour. It is rather clever, but altogether overdone. If genuine, it would prove that the 'Charter' was not the grant of King James, but 200 years older. But actually it does not take much study to see that the thing is not genuine, and the writer gives himself away by adding a couplet of his own:—

Maye theyo rinnge peales offe tripple bobbes grandsires
Tille the worlde ends in alle-consuming fiere.

'Tripple bobbes grandsires' is nonsense, and by the time that there were such things as Treble Bob and Grandsire English spelling had become much the same thing it is now. Also the ringers' traditional pronunciation of the word Grandsire has a silent 'd' and a very short 'i.' It rhymes with cancer, not with fire.

There was no need and no room for such things as the Don in the old St. Stephen's Company. Like other similar bodies they adopted this ritual and their rules because they wanted to hold their meetings and transact their business in proper form, not because they wanted to be 'quaint.' The rule about not striking a bell at the second sway once meant something, but we may be sure that it was not read out at the annual dinner. It was only when it had long since meant nothing that it became 'quaint' and so of value in a pageant.

It is instructive to compare the only two early 17th century ringing societies which still survive—the Society of College Youths and the Society of St. Stephen's Ringers. The first is what it always has been, a company of ringers. It has kept its original objects, its original organisation, and its original routine. It obeys, for the most part, its original rules, but those rules adapted to the changing years. There is nothing 'quaint' about the Society of College Youths, but we may be quite sure that it is far nearer to what the Society of St. Stephen's Ringers was in 1620 than that society is now.

The St. Stephen's pageantry is interesting and worth while, but it has no remote connection with a ringing society of the early 17th century.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

FIRST MEETING AT SOMERLEYTON.

East Norfolk Branch held a meeting at Somerleyton on Saturday, July 29th. It was the first meeting that the association had held at Somerleyton, and it was well appreciated by the Rector (the Rev. Gerald Halsey) and the local company, who have recently started ringing and are keen to progress. After ringing in the afternoon service was conducted by the Rector and tea was served in the Rector's room.

The Rector was supported by Mr. W. Lee (branch chairman), Mr. J. G. W. Harwood (branch secretary) and Mr. H. Tooke (North Norfolk secretary), and 26 ringers were present.

A short business meeting was held, at which it was proposed to hold the next meeting at Loddon on Saturday, October 21st, and the belfry election prior to a peal of Mr. E. R. Brown, of Somerleyton, was ratified.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Rector, who presided at the meeting, for the use of the bells and all the help he had rendered to make the meeting a success.

In reply, the Rector thanked the association for coming to Somerleyton and also for the loyal support given at the rededication of the bells after the rehanging just after Easter. He hoped there would be more meetings held there.

Ringing was resumed after tea and carried on till 9 p.m., more ringers turning up during the evening. Members attended from Norwich, Yarmouth, Gorleston, Wymondham, Reedham, Acle, Forncett, Kessingland, Sudbury, Mulbarton, Halvergate, Ranworth, Haddiscoe, Norton, Bungay and the local company. The methods rung were London, Ipswich, Cambridge, Oxford and Kent, Double Court, Plain, St. Clement's and Double Oxford Minor.

SOUTH NORFOLK BRANCH.

The summer meeting of the South Norfolk Branch of the Norwich Diocesan Association took place on Saturday, July 29th, at the beautifully situated Church of SS. Peter and Paul, Brockdish. Fifty-one members and ringers were present from 27 different parishes, viz., Attleborough, Brockdish, Bressingham, Bergh Apton, Caston, Diss, Garboldisham, Gressenhall, Pulham Market, Redenhall, Saxlingham, Shelfanger, Starston, Scole, Winfarthing, Watton and Wroxham. Suffolk ringers were present from Botesdale, Exning, Fressingfield, Ipswich, Mendlesham, Rickinghall, Wilby and Yaxley, while Mr. and Mrs. Hurry, from Sawston, Cambridge, and Mr. Tony Price, of Feltham, Middlesex, were also present.

The Rev. A. J. Nixseaman (Rector) conducted the association's special service and gave an address. The lesson was read by the Rural Dean (the Rev. T. A. Nock).

Forty-five sat down to tea in the Village Hall and Mr. William L. Duffield presided at the business meeting which followed. He was supported by the Rev. A. St. J. Heard (hon. member), the Rev. A. J. Nixseaman, the Rev. E. V. Cotton (Rector of Rickinghall), Mr. A. G. Harrison (Diss, branch secretary), Messrs. E. Whiting, E. G. Bennett and C. E. G. Banham (members of the committee).

The Rev. A. J. Nixseaman was elected an honorary member and Mr. W. Whiting a ringing member.

Mr. Duffield proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for his fine address and for the use of the bells, also to the organist and the large number of Suffolk ringers who were present.

The Rector, in reply, thanked the members for electing him an honorary member and said he hoped now to restart the Brockdish company of ringers.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Banham on Saturday, October 14th.

THE CANON ELSEE MEMORIAL.

WINDOW PLACED IN ST. GEORGE'S, BOLTON.

A committee meeting of the Lancashire Association was held at Leyland Parish Church on July 22nd. The occasion was also the monthly meeting of the Preston Branch. The ringers were welcomed by the Vicar of Leyland and entertained to tea.

The president (the Rev. A. Scott) presided at the committee meeting, when the arrangements for the annual meeting at Blackpool on Saturday, September 30th, were discussed. A service, at which it is hoped the Lord Bishop of Blackburn will preach, will be held in St. John's Church at 4 p.m., followed by tea at 5 p.m. and the meeting at 6 p.m.

The annual dinner is to be held at Liverpool on Saturday, October 21st.

Deep concern and regret were expressed that no account of the dedication of the Elsee Memorial Window had appeared in 'The Ringing World.' This window is a memorial to the memory of the late Canon H. J. Elsee, for 46 years president of the association and a member of the Central Council from its inception.

It was dedicated on June 10th by the Rev. A. Scott in the presence of a representative congregation.

The window is on the north side of St. George's Church, Bolton, where Canon Elsee was Vicar, and depicts the Abbot of Ababrothock dedicating the Inchcape Bell. Ringers from every part of the country subscribed towards the erection of this memorial.

RINGERS' OUTINGS.

SUCCESS OF BEXLEY'S FIRST OUTING.

The ringers of St. Mary's, Bexley, went through their own county of Kent for their first annual outing. They first made for Marden, via Wrotham, where three quarters of an hour was spent in ringing and looking over the church. The journey continued through ideal Kentish scenery to Tenterden, where on arrival the company were delighted to have the opportunity of hearing the tune played on the bells by the clock apparatus after striking the hour of twelve, after which this glorious peal were made good use of in various methods and the ringers were delighted to meet such old ringing friends, Messrs. C. Tribe and R. Edwards, of the local band. Mr. Frank Mitchell, of St. Mary's band, learned to ring at Tenterden under Mr. Tribe, so it was a very happy reunion after 20 years. After lunch the party went on to Appledore, where they were welcomed by the Vicar. Both learners and experts had a good time with this handy ring, while the non-ringing friends enjoyed themselves looking over the very interesting church. The next stage was to New Romney with its grand old church and splendid peal of bells. Here naturally the ringers were content to remain in the tower and get as much ringing as possible. Here they enjoyed the company of Mr. H. S. Humphrey, of the local band. There was a little guessing going on when the 'father' of the company realised that he had met this gentleman somewhere before, but where? After a little mental struggle it proved to be at Woolwich, where they had seen a good deal of each other, for Mr. Hoskins, of course, hails from Greenwich. The non-ringing section of the party in search of ozone proceeded to walk to Littlestone-on-Sea, but, alas, those Kentish miles were too much for some. Others bravely went on and enjoyed a short time by the sea. One gentleman came prepared for the possibility of a swim, which he had and enjoyed. One lady on her return journey somehow got the roads mixed up and was late for tea. However, all ended well. Getting away on time to the last tower, the party arrived at Mersham, where owing to the long draught of rope not many were very happy for a time, but nearly all had a pull. Here everyone enjoyed the company of the verger, whose intimate knowledge of the church made an inspection of the building extremely interesting, and the best thanks of the company are extended to him. The homeward journey was made via Ashford and Maidstone. Thanks are extended to the incumbents and ringers of the several churches for their help in making St. Mary's first ringers' outing an outstanding success. The methods rung during the day were Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Norwich and rounds, etc., for the beginners.

A 'MAJOR' OUTING IN ESSEX.

As might be imagined, Major methods were predominant during the day's outing on July 29th of a party of Suffolk ringers from Leiston, Ufford and Woodbridge, although, strangely enough, Stedman Caters at Saffron Walden was probably the best touch of the day.

The smooth running peal of eight at Hatfield Broad Oak (tenor 20 cwt.) went well to an assortment of methods, including Cambridge and Bristol. Stansted was the next stop, and a swarm of bees along the church path meant proceeding with caution, but without casualties. The well-furnished ringing chamber contains many records of past performances. The left-handed ring (tenor 13 cwt.) were a little difficult to get used to, but London, Bristol and Superlative were successfully brought round.

After lunch the wonderful churches at Thaxted and Saffron Walden were visited; both of these noble buildings are worth a visit apart from the ringing. At Thaxted the bells were very quiet inside, although outside the reverse was the case. The tenor of about a ton went very well, but one or two of the others were a little tricky to ring. Rounds was all that could be managed on the twelve at Saffron Walden, but Treble Bob Royal and Stedman Caters were enjoyed. A course of Bristol on the grand back octave was not so successful and a 'post-mortem' failed to reveal the cause of failure.

The last call was at St. Mary's, Radwinter, where a nice little peal of eight, with a tenor of doubtful weight, were spoilt by rumblings from above, making it difficult to hear the bells. A concluding course of London and three leads of Bristol brought the day's ringing to a close, although one or two 'bearings' had to be oiled en route for home, which was reached about midnight.

A LONG DAY.

A seventeen-hour outing was enjoyed by the ringers of St. Barnabas', Great Tey Essex, on July 29th. A party of 35 started at 7.30 a.m. and did not reach home again until 12.30 a.m. They first rang at St. Mary's, Harlow, and then went on to St. Michael's, St. Albans. They had lunch at Luton and afterwards rang for a wedding at the Parish Church. It is reported that here two of their own party nearly got married, but further details are lacking. From Luton the journey was continued to Bedford, where they rang at St. Peter's and had tea before going on to ring at Bromham, where the church is prettily situated in a park. The ringers desire to thank all who helped towards the successful day, and especially the ringers who met them at the various towers.

'YOUTHS' HALF-DAY EXCURSION.

Willesborough and District Youths set forth on their ninth annual half-day run on July 29th. At Wanborne the Rector welcomed them and good use was made of the bells for 50 minutes. Northiam was reached a bit on the late side, but Mr. Kemp had everything ready and 50 minutes' good ringing was enjoyed before setting off for Brede, where Mr. Apps received the party. These bells are another fine lot and were soon going to various methods spliced and unspliced. At Sedlescombe everything was ready for tea; so were the Youths. Then back up the hill to the church, the Rector giving a hearty welcome. With this handy little six another enjoyable hour was spent before going on to Hawkhurst, where the bells are quite all right, but there was nothing to telephone to father about with regard to the ringing. A half-hour's spin brought the party to Woodchurch, with six decent bells in need of hanger and bell rope maker. However, a few short touches were brought round. At 9.40 the party were back at the starting place, the Fox still running. Glorious weather, a 70 miles run through delightful scenery, good tea, six towers, bells all in good going order with exception of the last lot, methods ranging from rounds to Cambridge, and all in 9¼ hours, is not too bad for Youths from 16 to well nigh 80. They wish to thank the incumbents, tower-keepers and all who helped to give them such an enjoyable time.

SAFFRON WALDEN SOCIETY IN SUFFOLK.

The Saffron Walden Society's annual outing took place on Monday, July 3rd, in fine weather. At Long Melford the visitors were met by Mr. H. Richold, a very old friend of the society. On the bells were rung touches of London and Cambridge Surprise and Stedman Triples. After a look round this beautiful church the party proceeded to Lavenham, where they were met by Mr. Stedman Symonds. The bells were soon going to London Surprise, after which Cambridge, Superlative and Stedman Triples were rung. A hot lunch was served at the Swan Hotel, which possesses a peal of handbells, on which plain courses of Grandsire Triples and Caters were rung. After taking a look round some of the old houses of Lavenham of much antiquarian interest, the party moved on to Sudbury, where Mr. H. Herbert was waiting for them. The first pull was at St. Peter's, the methods being London Surprise and Stedman Triples. Then on to St. Gregory's, where London Surprise and Stedman Triples were rung. It had been intended also to ring at All Saints', but as the party were behind schedule and the eight chiming ropes would have had to be removed before they could ring, they decided to go on to Hadleigh. On this fine peal of eight London, Cambridge, Superlative and Stedman Triples were rung.

The last calling place was Ipswich, where several of the local band were waiting to meet them. Here was rung a course of Cambridge Royal, half a course of Cambridge Maximus and a touch of Stedman Cinques. Home was reached at 11.45 p.m. The society would like to thank the incumbents for the use of the bells and the local ringers who met them and thus helped to make the day such a success.

WOODFORD AND WANSTEAD RINGERS COMBINE.

The ringers of Woodford and Wanstead (Essex) had an excursion into Suffolk for their annual outing. It was a Sunday trip and they were able to ring for morning service at Hadleigh and for evening service at Radwinter. In between they rang at Hintlesham after morning service, had dinner at Hadleigh and visited Monks Eleigh.

The ringers attended service after ringing at Radwinter, and the Vicar (the Rev. C. Gore) gave an inspiring address. The sermon dealt in the main with the use of the bells, and the vital part played by the ringers in calling together the people for divine worship.

At Radwinter the company were entertained to a meat tea in the Parish Hall by the Vicar and his staff of helpers. When justice had been well and truly done to the full tea set before them, the captain, Mr. C. Morss, presented the driver of the coach with a silver cigarette case, the gift of the United Guild of Wanstead and Woodford Ringers, for the care and consideration he has always shown them.

Mr. J. Chalk, Master of the South-West District of the Essex Association, thanked the Vicar and his helpers, also Mr. Frank Corney, who ably arranged the outing. Mr. S. Webb, Mr. C. Morss and Mr. J. Crampion were also mentioned. After a few tunes on the handbells the journey homewards was made via Thaxted, Dunmow, Chelmsford and Brentwood, Woodford being reached at 11.45 p.m.

A LONG DAY IN HERTFORDSHIRE.

Hertfordshire towers were the objective of the Helmingham (Suffolk) ringers on the occasion of their annual outing, and, believing in an early start, they were on the way before 6 a.m. The first stop for ringing was at Bengeo and then they went on to Hatfield, where they were welcomed by Mr. A. Lawrence. At North Mimms they were greeted by Mr. W. Nash and rang before going on to Watford, where they were met by Mr. S. H. Hoare, and then had lunch at the King's Head Hotel. Afterwards they rang at Bushey and Watford, and with the help of Mr. Cashmore and other Bushey friends who had met them, four of the visitors had their first touch of Spliced Surprise. The homeward journey was made through Epping Forest, and Helmingham was not reached until after midnight. The ringing during the day included the four standard Surprise methods, Stedman Triples and Caters and Treble Ten. The party would like to thank all the incumbents for the use of the bells, also all who met them and had the bells ready, and last, but not least, Mr. S. H. Hoare.

A SURREY HIGH SPOT.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT RANMORE.

A meeting at Ranmore Common, one of the high spots of Surrey, always seems a bit of a gamble for the organisers, the chief attractions—a fine peal of eight, in a lovely church, amid beautiful surroundings—being offset by the long climb to get there from the railway or bus, with a steep climb to the badly lit and badly ventilated belfry, for those inclined to ringing, while this year was added a very threatening sky for those who prefer to enjoy the scenery and listen.

In spite of all this a good meeting was enjoyed on Saturday week, when the North-West District of the Surrey Association and the Leatherhead District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild held their usual joint meeting there. Among the visitors was Mr. Walter Charman from Sussex, one of the district masters, and Mr. J. Corbett, hon. treasurer of the Guildford Diocesan Guild, with others from Bagshot, and, later in the day, Mr. C. Edwards from Cheshire, a past Master of the Hereford Association and remembered in Surrey by some of the 'old 'uns' for his pre-war activities around Farnham.

Ringing commenced soon after 3.30, and Mr. A. Harman, the Ringing Master of the Leatherhead District, being on holiday, the full duties fell to Mr. Dan Cooper.

A break was made at 5 o'clock, when the Rector, the Rev. N. G. Davies, after first welcoming the visitors to Ranmore, and hoping they would enjoy their visit, conducted a short service with a short address.

Tea was provided at the Post Office, to which 39 ringers and friends did full justice. As usual on this occasion there was no business to transact, but Mr. Cooper reminded members of forthcoming meetings and proposed hearty votes of thanks to the Rector for the use of the bells and for taking the service, also to Mr. A. H. Smith (district secretary of the Guildford Guild) for making the necessary arrangements

Ringing was then resumed until about 8.30, a variety of methods from Triples to Bristol Surprise, with rounds, meeting everyone's requirements. It is hoped that all enjoyed themselves and made a resolve to come again next year.

FIRST QUARTER-PEALS.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.—At All Saints' on Sunday, July 16th, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,280 changes): E. Parker 1, E. W. Brown 2, C. C. Raynor 3, W. A. Peck 4, H. W. Barrett 5, G. C. Goodman 6, H. G. Andrews 7, F. E. Hawthorne (conductor) 8. First quarter-peal of Major for ringers of treble and 2nd. The latter was on a visit from Somerleyton, Suffolk.

NEW ALRESFORD, HANTS.—At St. John the Baptist's Church on July 9th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: S. McCutcheon (first quarter-peal) 1, H. Shaw 2, E. Lane 3, A. Tremeer 4, W. Wearring (first quarter-peal of Triples 'inside') 5, H. Newnham (conductor) 6, L. Tremeer 7, W. Smith (first quarter-peal of Triples) 8.

RINGERS' OUTINGS.

(Continued from previous page.)

IN THE PEAK DISTRICT.

St Peter's, Nottingham, ringers paid a visit to the Peak District on Saturday, July 1st, the party of ringers and friends numbering 25. The weather was glorious and the route lay through some of the loveliest countryside in England. The first stop for ringing was at Dore, which was reached via Matlock, Darley Dale, Chatsworth Park and Baslow. At Darley Dale, where a stop was made for a snack, a course of Grandsire Caters was rung on handbells. A pony in an adjoining field seemed greatly impressed by the music, for it kept pushing its head over the fence as if interested. At Dore the handy ring of eight (tenor 11½ cwt.) was raised in peal, and several touches of Grandsire, Stedman and a course of Cambridge rung. At Hathersage, the burial place of Little John, one of Robin Hood's famous band, a sumptuous lunch was served at the George Hotel. Then the drive was resumed through Glossop, Hayfield, Chapel-en-le-Frith, Buxton, Newhaven and on to Ashbourne for tea. Handbells were again brought into use and a course of Grandsire Caters were rung in the courtyard of the Green Man, much to the delight of visitors at the hotel. Later on, at Wirksworth, on another good peal of eight, the visitors rang touches of Grandsire, Stedman, Kent and a course of Double Norwich. Incidentally they rang for evensong and then after the service. Nottingham was eventually reached at 10 p.m. The Ringing Master (Mr. H. R. Cobbin) and all the ringers wish to express their sincere thanks to the incumbents of Dore and Wirksworth for granting permission to ring, and also the captains of these towers for meeting the party and having everything in readiness.

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.

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ABBOTT'S ANN, NEAR ANDOVER, HANTS. — Ring of 5. Nos. 1, 2 and 3 recast and the peal rehung with modern fittings by Gillett and Johnston. Bells will be re-dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Winchester at 7 p.m., on Aug. 11th.

ST. COLUMB MINOR, NEWQUAY, CORNWALL. —The ring of 6 bells rehung and augmented to eight by John Taylor and Co. will be dedicated by the Archdeacon of Cornwall on Saturday, Aug. 12th, at 3 p.m.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan and Liverpool Branches.—Joint meeting will be held at Rainford on Saturday, August 12th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., for which please notify Mr. S. Cadwallender, 103, Church Rd., Rainford, near St. Helens. —S. Forshaw and G. R. Newton, Branch Secs.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Hitchin, Aug. 12th, at 3 p.m., just rehung by Messrs. Taylor and Co. Make this best meeting of year. All welcome. Tea at 5 p.m., followed by service.—R. T. Newman, Salisbury Road, Baldock.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—A practice will be held at Waltham St. Lawrence (6 bells) on Saturday, August 12th. Bells available from 4 p.m. All welcome.—W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec., Merrel, California, Wokingham.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting of the Southern District will be held at Heighington on Saturday, Aug. 12th. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m.—J. T. Titt, Hon. Dis. Sec., 54, Newlands Road, Darlington.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD. — A meeting will be held at Mayfield on Saturday, Aug. 12th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Please notify for tea —C. A. Bassett, 3, Pendrill, Place, Wadhurst, Sussex.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Maulden on Saturday, Aug. 12th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. A good company is requested. All ringers welcome. Please come.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Darfield on Saturday, Aug. 12th. Bells (6) ready 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. in Church Schools. Doncaster to Huddersfield and vice versa, Bus No. 14, passes through. All are welcome. — D. Smith, Rock Cottages, Shafton, near Barnsley.

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GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — The monthly meeting of the Gloucester Branch will be held at Sandhurst on Saturday, Aug. 12th (usual procedure). Special bus from Worcester Street at 2.45 p.m. (will members please note).—W. H. Harris, Branch Hon. Sec., 4, G.W.R. Terrace, Lydney Dock, Lydney.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS. —There will be ringing for evensong at St. Leonard's Church, Shoreditch, on Sunday, Aug. 13th, at 5.30 p.m. —G. W. Steere, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637). — Meetings for practice during August: *St. Paul's Cathedral, 15th; St. Magnus the Martyr, 17th and 31st; Southwark Cathedral, 22nd; St. Clement Danes, 24th; *St. Mary-le-Bow, 29th. *Business meeting afterwards. — A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Michael's, Flixton, on Saturday, Aug. 19th. Tower open for ringing at 5.30. Business meeting at 7 o'clock. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—J. H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next meeting is to be held at Monk's Kirby on Saturday, Aug. 19th. Bells (8) available from 3 o'clock. Tea at 5 o'clock at the Denbigh Arms.—Dorothy E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—Ideal spot. An historic village and eight beautiful bells for the summer meeting of the above district at Repton on Saturday, Aug. 19th. Bells available at 3 p.m., and usual tea arrangements. Open to all ringers and friends. — J. W. Cotton, Hon. Dis. Sec., Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — The Chertsey and Leatherhead districts are holding a joint meeting at Cobham on Saturday, Aug. 19th, when everybody will be welcome. Ringing from 3 o'clock. Service at 5, with tea at 6, in the Church Room. Please notify Mr. W. James, 18, Freelands Road, Cobham, for teas by the 17th.—A. H. Smith and F. E. Hawthorne, Dis. Secs.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kettering Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Dingley (5) on Saturday, Aug. 19th. Catering difficult, so please send your names. Brampton Ash (6) after tea. — H. Baxter, 21, Charles Street, Rothwell, Kettering.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting is at Stoney Stanton on Aug. 19th. Usual times. Names to me by Friday, Aug. 18th, for tea, please. Also please note that on Aug. 23rd there will be a bye-meeting at Broughton Astley. An extra attraction will be the local Wakes. Ringing at usual times. The Rector will arrange tea on the lawn, if fine, otherwise in the Rectory. Price will be 'a bob a nob.' Come and have a crack at Mr. Bird's Doubles while the lady friend has a crack at the nuts. Badges will be on sale. Names to Mr. Bird or to W. A. Wood, Local Sec., Fosseway, Croft, Leicester.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Rutland Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Empingham on Saturday, Aug. 19th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Notify for tea.—S. Towell, 27, West Road, Oakham, Rutland.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Western Division will be held at Chichester on Saturday, Aug. 19th. Tower open 3 p.m. Tea, price 1s., 5.15, at the Tower Café. Half rail fares, maximum 1s. 6d., allowed to members.—F. H. Meeten, Hon. Div. Sec., 22, North Street, Worthing.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Chesterfield District.—The first meeting of the re-formed district will be held at Eckington on Saturday, Aug. 19th. Will all members and local friends please note and attend to show appreciation of the new Rector's cordial invitation? Bells (8) from 3 o'clock. Tea at 5 o'clock. Names, please, to Mr. P. Jervis, Stead Street, Eckington.—S. Scattergood, Hon. Dis. Sec., 797, Sheffield Road, Chesterfield.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—A meeting of the above district will be held at Tanfield on Saturday, Aug. 19th. The bells (8) will be available at 3 p.m. Tea cannot be guaranteed unless ringers notify Mr. H. Tyson, 9, Crescent, Tanfield Lea, Newcastle-on-Tyne, of their requirements as soon as possible.—J. A. Brown, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Finchdale Terrace, Chester-le-Street, Co. Durham.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — A meeting will be held at Draycott (bells 6) on Saturday, Aug. 19th, from 3 p.m. Committee meeting after tea. Will those requiring tea kindly notify Mr. W. Shelley, 'The Wentlow' Tean, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, not later than Wednesday, 16th?—Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec., 55, Whitehouse Road, Cross Heath, Newcastle, Staffs.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wirral Branch.—A meeting will be held at Eastham (bells 6) on Saturday, Aug. 26th. Tower open at 3 o'clock. Tea at 5.30 p.m. No service. Please let me know if you intend to be present.—Harry S. Brocklebank, Hon. Sec., 30, South Hill Road, Birkenhead.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District. — The next meeting will be held at Ingatestone on Saturday, Aug. 26th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Numbers for tea by Wednesday, Aug. 23rd, please. — H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Upper Arbour Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Kingswinford on Saturday, Aug. 26th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service in church at 4.30. Those requiring tea please notify me not later than Tuesday, Aug. 22nd, stating how many will require tea. Business meeting afterwards. — Herbert Sheppard, 17, Grange Road, Dudley.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston and Fylde Branches.—The joint meeting will be held at Preston Parish Church on Saturday, Aug. 26th. Tower open 3 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. Bells (10). All ringers welcome.—A. Blogg and C. Sharples, Branch Secs.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—East Devon Branch.—A meeting will be held at Luppitt, near Honiton, on Saturday, Aug. 26th. Bells (6) available at 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15, followed by meeting. All ringers welcome.—John H. Godfrey, Silver Street, Ottery St. Mary, Devon.

SATURDAY, SEPT. 2nd, at Aldenham (8 bells). Herts Association.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Preliminary Notice.—The eighth annual dinner will be held at the Star Hotel, Foalgate Street, Worcester, on Saturday, Sept. 30th, at 6 p.m. A large room has been reserved and ample seating accommodation is available. Garage on premises. This is the first dinner of the season; book the date and so help justify the optimism of the committee. Tickets (3s. each) shortly available, and obtainable from branch officers, Dinner Committee, etc.—J. D. Johnson, Hon. Gen. Sec.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—The address of Mr. Andrew Thompson, the honorary secretary and Central Council representative of the North Staffordshire Association, is now 55, Whitehouse Road, Cross Heath, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffs.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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RINGING TOURS.

With the arrival of the holiday season, ringing tours are now in active progress—not the ringing tours which form a day out for a tower company, but programmes which occupy a week or more, and which are carried out by ringers usually collected from a wide area. There are generally three or four notable peal-ringing tours in the course of the late summer, and one such begins to-day in Lancashire. Others of a similar kind are to follow in the next two months, but in these days not all tours are peal-ringing tours. A peal-ringing tour is a fairly serious undertaking, especially if the party is not overmanned, for it is usual to have at least two peal attempts a day, and, when the necessary travelling is taken into account, this form of holiday can provide a pretty strenuous time, although those who participate will tell you that, hard work though it may be, they thoroughly enjoy it.

But there are other ringing tours, not involving peals, which also make a pleasant holiday. One, organised by Bristol United Ringing Guilds, is in progress this week in the west. Those who are sharing in it are making daily coach tours and interspersing sightseeing with ringing at a number of churches. It is the kind of tour which can be taken at ease, and which would probably appeal to the majority of ringers if they could make an oportunity to join it. Another tour, with a deliberate avoidance of peals, concluded last week, when a party of youthful enthusiasts completed ten days awheel in Devon and adjoining counties. It was carried out by a section of the ringing community who have been humorously dubbed the National Union of Tower Snatchers, and to ring in 66 towers in the space of ten days certainly shows their keen interest in adding fresh rings of bells to their lists. They ' collect ' towers, in the same way that peal ringers do, but, as their call can be of the briefest character, they have the advantage of being able to add considerably to their daily ' bag ' on such excursions. Then there is the holiday which strikes a happy medium, such as that in Somerset last week, which is not entirely devoted to peals and which satisfies the desires and ambitions of the one-peal-a-day ringer.

Whatever kind of tour is indulged in, however, there is much to be said in commendation. Touring in either manner helps to increase interest in the art of ringing and give a spur to enthusiasm. Whether it be a strenuous two-peals-a-day programme, a leisurely coach tour, or a combined ringing and cycling expedition, which means, probably, the output of equally as much physical energy as the peal ringers exert, it is good to know there are men and women sufficiently keen to engage in this

(Continued on page 522.)

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AT THE PRIORY CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

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Tenor 28 cwt.

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EDWARD T. GRIFFIN ...	4	THOMAS H. FRANCIS	10
MRS. C. J. MATTHEWS ...	5	CECIL J. MATTHEWS	11
THOMAS BEVAN	6	†HARRY J. GILLARD ...	*Tenor*

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THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, August 5, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5022 CHANGES;

Tenor 24¾ cwt.

PERCIVAL RICHARDS ...	*Treble*	CHARLES WOODBURY	6
CLIFFORD SKIDMORE ...	2	FREDERICK HANDLEY	7
JOHN BASS	3	THOMAS HEMMING	8
JOHN PAGETT	4	BERNARD ASHFORD	9
*J. WILLIAM SMITH	5	ROBERT MATTHEWS ...	*Tenor*

Composed by G. HAYWARD. Conducted by THOMAS HEMMING.

* First peal of Caters. First peal on ten as conductor. Rung in honour of the Queen's birthday.

NORWICH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 7, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER MANCROFT,

A PEAL OF WINTON COURT BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 37 cwt. 3 qr. 15 lb. in C.

CECIL V. EBBERSON ...	*Treble*	RUSSELL W. CURSON	6
NOLAN GOLDEN	2	ERIC G. BENNETT...	7
GEORGE MAYERS	3	CHARLES W. LOOMS	8
MISS MARIE R. CROSS ...	4	BERTIE J. HOWCHIN	9
ERNEST WHITING...	5	REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

Presumably the first peal in the method.

RAMSGATE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 7, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE, THANET.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

DORIS G. DOBBIE ...	*Treble*	†JAMES S. WEBB	6
ALFRED H. PULLING... ...	2	ARTHUR J. W. HUGHES ...	7
ERNEST J. DOBBIE	3	HORACE WHITEHEAD ...	8
GEORGE A. NAYLOR	4	STANLEY B. DOBBIE	9
*JOHN E. SPICE	5	WALTER H. DOBBIE ...	*Tenor*

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING

* First peal in the method and first peal of Caters. † First peal in the method and first peal on ten bells.

BELL ROPES

MADE FROM ITALIAN HEMP, OR ITALIAN FLAX. SOFT AND PLIABLE IN HAND. ALL ROPES SENT CARRIAGE PAID AND ON APPROVAL.

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DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

OXFORD.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, August 7, 1939, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE TOWER OF MAGDALEN COLLEGE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5030 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

GEORGE MARTIN	...Treble	REV. REGINALD ROUTH	6
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER	2	HARRY WINGROVE	7
CLARENCE H. DOBBIE	3	EDWARD D. SMITH	8
NORMAN H. MANNING	4	F. DONALD BOREHAM	9
R. THOMAS NEWMAN	5	*FRANK HOPGOOD	...Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by THOMAS H. TAFFENDER.

* First peal on ten bells.

BRISTOL.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, August 8, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN-THE-MARTYR,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

MRS. R. J. WILKINS	...Treble	WILLIAM KNIGHT	6
ALFRED E. REEVES	2	WILLIAM H. THOMAS	7
ALBERT M. TYLER	3	GILBERT PEARCE	8
ALFRED PEARCE	4	JOHN A. BURFORD	9
RICHARD CLARK	5	ANDREW J. CORRIGAN	...Tenor

Composed and Conducted by JOHN A. BURFORD.

Rung in celebration of the wedding of Mr. Cecil Mogford and Miss S. E. Drake.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 12, 1939, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes;

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt, 1 qr. 20 lb.

HERBERT E. AUDSLEY	...Treble	EDWIN A. BARNETT	6
EDWIN BARNETT	2	THOMAS G. BANNISTER	7
HARRY HOVERD	3	FRANK E. DARBY	8
ERNEST C. S. TURNER	4	FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN	9
PHILIP A. CORBY	5	CHARLES H. KIPPIN	...Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

LUGWARDINE, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 5, 1939, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 12¼ cwt.

WILLIAM H. SYMONDS	...Treble	GEORGE T. COUSINS	5
*AUSTIN T. WINGATE	2	JOHN J. WEBB	6
WALTER TAYLOR	3	ERNEST F. SALMONS	7
REV. E. G. BENSON	4	ARTHUR PRITCHARD	...Tenor

Composed by J. THORP. Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.

* First peal of Treble Bob Major.

BARTON-ON-HUMBER, LINCS.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, August 5, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 2 lb.

MRS. J. BRAY	...Treble	GEORGE DOBBS	5
ERNEST BRITTAIN	2	*JAMES CHAPMAN	6
ARTHUR W. HOODLESS	3	†PHILIP BARNES	7
FRED JEFFERY	4	JACK BRAY	...Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by JACK BRAY.

* First peal in the method. † First peal in the method 'inside.' Rung to commemorate the 1,270th anniversary of the dedication of the old part of this church.

EASEBOURNE.—On Thursday, August 3rd, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles: W. J. Stringer 1, F. S. Wilson 2, W. J. Etherington (conductor) 3, F. A. Ashby 4, C. S. West 5, S. G. Orchard 6. This was the first quarter-peal by the local band and was specially rung in honour of the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. C. S. West.

HADLOW, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 5, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

ALAN HALL	...Treble	FRANK BENNETT	5
FREDERICK WHITE	2	THOMAS E. SONE	6
EDWIN A. BARNETT	3	PHILIP A. CORBY	7
GEOFFREY V. MURPHY	4	HARRY PARKES	...Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

First peal of Surprise on the bells.

SITTINGBOURNE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, August 6, 1939, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

ALFRED H. PULLING	...Treble	WALTER H. DOBBIE	5
DORIS G. DOBBIE	2	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE	6
*ARTHUR S. BOAR	3	STANLEY B. DOBBIE	7
FRANK BENNETT	4	HARRY PARKES	...Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

* First peal in the method.

HALEWOOD, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(LIVERPOOL BRANCH.)

On Sunday, August 6, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 11 cwt.

JOHN W. GARDNER	...Treble	WILLIAM ROBINSON	5
JAMES ROBINSON	2	JOHN ROBINSON	6
THOMAS ROBINSON	3	HERBERT LUDKIN	7
*ARTHUR MADDOCK	4	WILLIAM MADDOCK	...Tenor

Conducted by H. LUDKIN.

* First peal in the method. Rung for the centenary of the church.

CHILHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 7, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 18¾ cwt.

STAFFORD H. GREEN	...Treble	FRANK BENNETT	5
EDWIN A. BARNETT	2	FREDERICK WHITE	6
*GEOFFREY V. MURPHY	3	HARRY PARKES	7
*ARTHUR S. BOAR	4	PHILIP A. CORBY	...Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 108). Conducted by F. A. COREY.

* First peal of 'New' Cambridge. Mr. S. H. Green's 200th tower-bell peal. The conductor's 100th peal.

MALPAS, CHESHIRE.

THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 7, 1939, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OSWALD,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 6 lb.

RICHARD J. WARRILOW	...Treble	ERIC E. SPEAKE	5
ARTHUR PRITCHARD	2	BARNABAS G. KEY	6
THOMAS PRICE	3	EDWARD V. RODENHURST	7
FREDERICK PRICE	4	ARTHUR E. PEGLER	...Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.

MINEHEAD, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 7, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DEXTER'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' (2nd observation).

Tenor 22 cwt.

JAMES HUNT	...Treble	*FREDERICK J. BULLEY	5
ARTHUR H. REED	2	JOHN PUGSLEY	6
ALFRED J. WYATT	3	WALTER H. POOLE	7
*LEONARD S. MASON	4	JACK ROY	...Tenor

Conducted by A. H. REED.

* First peal of Stedman and belong to local band.

MYTHOLMROYD, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, August 7, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF AIREDALE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor 14¾ cwt. in F

JAMES F. HARVEY ...	...*Treble*	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS ...	5
GEORGE ROBINSON	2	HARRY DAVISON	6
KENNETH SIMPSON	3	†FREDERICK SEAGER	7
*ALFRED SMITH	4	HERBERT DAVENPORT	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. LEWIS. Conducted by LESLIE W. G. MORRIS.
* First peal in the method away from the treble. † First peal in the method. Mr. George Robinson's 100th peal.

HEPTONSTALL, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, August 7, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS-A-BECKET,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 18 cwt. 1 qr. 3 lb. in E.

KENNETH SIMPSON ...	...*Treble*	GEORGE ROBINSON	5
*ALFRED SMITH	2	HERBERT DAVENPORT	6
LESLIE W. G. MORRIS ...	3	HARRY DAVISON	7
*JAMES F. HARVEY	4	FREDERICK SEAGER ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by LESLIE W. G. MORRIS
* First peal in the method.

BOREHAM, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, August 7, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor 13¼ cwt.

*CHRISTOPHER F. JAGGARD	*Treble*	JOHN M. GAYFORD	5
HIRZEL EDWARDS	2	HERBERT DEVENISH	6
NORMAN F. GRINHAM ...	3	*WALTER G. DORKING ...	7
HARRY WARN	4	ARTHUR H. EVERETT...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by A. H. EVERETT.
* First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor.

CRAYFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, August 8, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,
A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 12¾ cwt.

EDWIN BARNETT	...*Treble*	CHARLES T. COLES	5
GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ...	2	EDWIN A. BARNETT	6
HARRY HOSKINS	3	JAMES BENNETT	7
HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ...	4	PHILIP A. CORBY	...*Tenor*

Composed by E. W. TIPLER. Conducted by C. T. COLES.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tuesday, August 8, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb. in D.

*LAURENCE H. HAZELDINE	*Treble*	WILLIAM H. VIGGERS... ...	5
†PETER F. DAVY	2	ERNEST J. AYLIFFE	6
ALFRED H. POLLING	3	C. ERNEST SMITH	7
CHARLES W. DENYER ...	4	FREDERICK W. ROGERS	...*Tenor*

Conducted by A. H. PULLING.
* First peal. † First peal on eight.

ROCK, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, August 8, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
J. J. PARKER'S SIX-PART (No. 13 C.C.C.).
Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 26 lb. in F.

*ERNEST HALL	...*Treble*	WILLIAM RANFORD	5
GEORGE E. LARGE	2	HARRY PRICE	6
FRANK LAWRENCE	3	CHARLES CAMM	7
*CHARLES H. WOODBERRY...	4	ALFRED W. GLAZZARD	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE.
* First peal in the method.

HILGAY, NORFOLK.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, August 8, 1939, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 17 cwt.

*THOMAS BUSH	...*Treble*	CLAUDE COUSINS	5
FRED WIGMORE	2	ARTHUR G. BASON	6
CHARLES ROBINSON	3	RONALD BULLEN	7
WALLACE W. COUSINS ...	4	FRANK WARRINGTON ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by F. WARRINGTON.
* First peal of Surprise Major. Rung in honour of the golden wedding of Archdeacon G. H. and Mrs. Ward, of Hilgay.

AUGHTON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, August 9, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 16¾ cwt.

JAMES MARSH	...*Treble*	GEORGE R. NEWTON	5
JOHN BROWN	2	†SELWYN H. DEARDON ...	6
*WILFRED CORE	3	THOMAS S. HORRIDGE ...	7
*WILLIAM H. DEACON ...	4	JOSEPH RIDYARD... ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by JOSEPH RIDYARD.
* First peal on eight bells. † First peal of Surprise. First peal in the method as conductor. First peal of Surprise on the bells.

BRIDGERULE, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
On Wednesday, August 9, 1939, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. BRIDGET,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 10½ cwt.

WILLIAM J. SHEARS ...	...*Treble*	CHARLES SANGWIN	5
RONALD HILL	2	THOMAS G. MYERS	6
FREDERICK SANGWIN	3	JOHN W. SANGWIN	7
A. WILLIAM MYERS	4	WILLIAM MARTIN... ...	..*Tenor*

Conducted by THOMAS G. MYERS.
T. G. Myer's 100th peal.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, August 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 6½ cwt.

MRS. H. J. POOLE ...	...*Treble*	ARNOLD BRUNTON	5
HAROLD J. POOLE	2	SIDNEY O. CHENEY	6
COLIN HARRISON	3	FREDERICK H. DEXTER ...	7
HAROLD G. JENNEY	4	C. FERGUSON HOWITT...	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by ARNOLD BRUNTON.

ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Saturday, August 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARNABAS,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 15¼ cwt.

ROBERT H. ROBINSON...	...*Treble*	MORRIS J. MORRIS	5
WILLIAM C. DOWDING ...	2	GEORGE F. GARRISON... ...	6
GEORGE F. SWANN	3	WILLIAM DAVIES	7
ALLAN SHORT	4	JOHN GILSON...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE F. SWANN.
Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. J. Preston on the 40th anniversary of their wedding.

J. A. TROLLOPE'S **'COLLEGE YOUTHS'**
A History of the Society
5/6 (post free) from
'THE RINGING WORLD' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

CHRISTLETON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, August 12, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF SPLICED KENT, OXFORD AND GRANTA TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5072 CHANGES;
Tenor 12 cwt.

WILLIAM E. FLETCHER	*Treble*	JAMES SWINDLEY	5
FRED HARTMAN	2	RALPH G. EDWARDS	6
JOHN BEST	3	FRANK VARTY	7
JOHN W. GRIFFITHS	4	PERCY SWINDLEY	*Tenor*

Composed by J. MORGAN. Conducted by PERCY SWINDLEY.
First peal to be rung in these three Treble Bob variations.

BEXLEY, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, August 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 7¼ cwt. in A.

HERBERT A. HOLDEN	*Treble*	FREDERICK E. PITMAN	5
ERNEST H. OXENHAM	2	HARRY HOSKINS	6
*ALFRED WILLIAMS	3	JOHN O. WELLER	7
ROBERT COLLINS	4	ALAN G. HALL	*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by ALAN G. HALL.
* First peal of Bob Major. First peal as conductor. First peal of Bob Major on the bells.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

ALLESLEY, COVENTRY.
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.
On Thursday, August 3, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 12½ cwt.

FRANK W. PERRENS	*Treble*	*JOHN TAYLOR	4
HUBERT G. SUMMERS	2	WILLIAM A. STOTE	5
JOHN W. TAYLOR	3	GEORGE GARDNER	*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK W. PERRENS.
* First Surprise peal on an 'inside' bell. Rung as a birthday compliment to George Gardner.

BARNSLEY, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)
On Saturday, August 5, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of College Exercise, Norbury, Duke of Norfolk, Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston and Kent. Tenor 14 cwt.

GEORGE LORD	*Treble*	WILLIE GREEN	4
ROLAND HILL	2	ERNEST BROOKES	5
ARTHUR PANTHER	3	DANIEL SMITH	6
ARTHUR GILL	*Tenor*		

Conducted by DANIEL SMITH.
Rung with the bells half-muffled to the memory of Mr. C. D. Potter.

DRAYTON PARSLOW, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, August 5, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Forty-two extents, ten callings. Tenor 9 cwt. (approx.).

N. GOODE	*Treble*	*J. DODDS	4
F. WARD	2	W. SAYERS	5
C. KNIGHT	3	E. FLETCHER	*Tenor*

Conducted by C. KNIGHT.
* First peal and first attempt. Rung as a last tribute to the oldest church member of Drayton Parslow, the late Mrs. Gynn.

QUARTER-PEALS.

For morning service, at All Saints', Kingston-on-Thames, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes): J. Howes 1, C. Raynor 2, H. G. Andrews 3, W. Massey 4, G. C. Goodman 5, F. G. Woodiss 6, H. W. Barrett 7, F. E. Hawthorne (conductor) 8. First quarter-peal of Major by ringers of 1, 2 and 3.

As a welcome to the new Rector of Halewood, Liverpool (the Rev. F. H. Milward), after the service of induction, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: J. W. Gardner 1, J. Robinson 2, T. Robinson 3, A. Maddock 4, H. Ludkin (conductor) 5, J. Robinson 6, W. Robinson 7, W. Maddock 8.

NYNEHEAD, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, August 5, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 14 cwt. (approx.).

EDGAR QUICKE	*Treble*	CYRIL J. STEVENS	4
JOHN SUMMERHAYES	2	CLAUDE W. J. TARR	5
WILLIAM C. NEWBERRY	3	*DOUGLAS BELLAMY	*Tenor*

Conducted by EDGAR QUICKE.
* First peal and first attempt. The first peal on the bells.

MARKET DEEPING, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, August 5, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GUTHLAC,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven 720's in eight methods: (1) London and Wells Surprise; (2) Plain Bob; (3) Combined Kent and Oxford Treble Bob; (4) Double Court; (5) Cambridge Surprise; (6) Oxford Treble Bob; (7) Court Bob. Tenor 16 cwt.

FRED BRIGHTMAN	*Treble*	WILLIAM OLDMAN	4
CHARLES WOODS	2	ARTHUR I. HOLMES	5
HORACE M. DAY	3	HARRY GIBBARD	*Tenor*

Conducted by H. M. DAY.
Rung for the wedding of Mr. Horace Stafford and Miss Adeline Yates.

RIPPINGALE, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Monday, August 7, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF SPLICED SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven 720's in 14 methods: (1) London and Wells; (2) Cambridge, Norfolk, Ipswich, Primrose, Hull and Bourn; (3) Durham, York, Surfleet and Beverley; (4) Rossendale; (5) Lightfoot; (6) York; (7) Cambridge. Tenor 12 cwt.

*FRED BRIGHTMAN	*Treble*	WILLIAM OLDMAN	4
CHARLES WOODS	2	HORACE M. DAY	5
WILLIAM H. WALDRON	3	HARRY GIBBARD	*Tenor*

Conducted by H. M. DAY.
* First Surprise peal.

WELLINGTON, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Monday, August 7, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven 720's called differently. Tenor 17 cwt.

ERNEST H. WILLIAMS	*Treble*	AUSTIN T. WINGATE	4
WILLIAM H. SYMONDS	2	GEORGE T. COUSINS	5
*WILFRED F. MORETON	3	ERNEST F. SALMONS	*Tenor*

Conducted by E. F. SALMONS.
* First peal of Minor.

WETHERDEN, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Monday, August 7, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Double Court, Double Oxford, Plain Bob, St. Clement's, Kent Treble Bob and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 11 cwt.

ARTHUR GRIMWOOD	*Treble*	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL	4
KEITH W. WHITTELL	2	URBAN W. WILDNEY	5
HARRY D. LISTER	3	EDWARD E. DAVEY	*Tenor*

Conducted by URBAN W. WILDNEY.

WOLLASTON, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tuesday, August 8, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being four extents of Canterbury Pleasure, six of April Day, 12 of Plain Bob and 20 of Grandsire. Tenor 18 cwt. in E.

*WILLIAM GRIGGS	*Treble*	EDWARD SMART	4
DONALD L. COCKINGS	2	*A. JAMES STUART	5
MAX LAUGHTON	3	RESWIN BAYES	*Tenor*

Conducted by D. L. COCKINGS
* First peal.

FORNCETT ST. PETER, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, August 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Comprising four extents each of Stedman, New Bob, St. Simon's, Canterbury Pleasure Reverse, April Day and Plain Bob and 18 of Grandsire. Tenor 13 cwt. 12 lb. in F sharp.

*SYDNEY FLINT ... ...*Treble*	†MISS EDNA BEDFORD ... 3
GEORGE MAYERS 2	*ALBERT G. WARNES 4
NOLAN GOLDEN ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.
* First peal of Doubles in seven methods. † First peal of Doubles.

KINGSTONE, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thursday, August 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings. Tenor 10 cwt.

NORMAN G. SALMONS ...*Treble*	ERNEST F. SALMONS 4
WILLIAM H. SYMONDS ... 2	ERNEST H. WILLIAMS ... 5
*WILFRED F. MORETON ... 3	AUSTIN T. WINGATE ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by E. F. SALMONS.
* First peal of Doubles.

HARPFORD, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
On Thursday, August 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GREGORY,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven 720's called differently. Tenor 9 cwt. in A.

*REGINALD A. TEED ... ...*Treble*	JOHN L. GLANVILLE 4
BRYAN PIDGEON 2	*CHARLES J. TURNER 5
CHARLES R. LILLEY 3	JOHN ARBURY ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.
* First peal of Bob Minor.

RUSHALL, STAFFS.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Thursday, August 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being three 240's (Morris' arrangement) and thirty-six 120's (10 callings).

RONALD STOCKALL ... ...*Treble*	HARRY V. PARDOW 4
JOHN H. D. RADCLIFFE ... 2	BARNABAS G. KEY 5
ARTHUR J. ALLEN 3	*FREDERICK J. KENDRICK ...*Tenor*

Conducted by B. G. KEY.
* First attempt for a peal.

OAKLEY, HANTS.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD
On Saturday, August 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being one 2,160 and four different 720's. Tenor 9 cwt.

CHARLES W. MUNDAY ...*Treble*	DONALD W. NASH 4
DAVID H. ANSTEY 2	FREDERICK A. MUNDAY ... 5
RONALD F. KINGHAM 3	ERNEST J. GOWER ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by DONALD W. NASH.
First peal of Treble Bob by all except the ringer of the tenor.

WRENBURY, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, August 12, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Consisting of four extents of Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob each called differently. Tenor 14¼ cwt.

HARRY OVERTON ... ...*Treble*	GEORGE A. PACKER 4
R. THOMAS HOLDING 2	J. WILLIAM EDGE 5
HARRY F. HOLDING 3	JAMES H. RIDING ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. H. RIDING.
Rung as a wedding compliment to Mr. Francis C. King, one of the local ringers, on the occasion of his marriage to Miss Jessie Garnett.

(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over.)

PEAL NOTES.

BIRMINGHAM RINGER REACHES 500 PEALS.

Mr. Albert Walker, of Birmingham, has discovered that he only needs fifteen hundred more peals to complete his two thousand. Since returning home from his restless 'rest cure' at Surfleet, he has found that the peal of Stedman Cinques, which he called at Great St. Mary's, Cambridge, was his five hundredth peal, of which no fewer than 326 have been on twelve bells.



MR. ALBERT WALKER.

This is a remarkable record. Over 100 of the peals on twelve have been on handbells and the rest rung in 37 towers. Mr. Walker also holds another unique distinction. He is the only ringer who has called a peal on fourteen bells. When the Birmingham band after the war were at the height of their handbell ringing fame, they rang a peal of Stedman Sextuples and Mr. Walker called it from 3-4. He has also taken part in two non-conducted peals of Stedman Cinques on handbells and a non-conducted peal of Cambridge Maximus on tower bells.

Mr. Walker began his ringing career at Taunton, where he rang his first peal in 1896. His first peal as conductor was at St. Martin's, Birmingham, in 1904, and he has now conducted 201 peals on eight to 14 bells. Of his 353 tower-bell peals, 159 have been rung at St. Martin's Church, Birmingham, while his handbell peals number 147.

Several correspondents have pointed out that the peal of Cambridge at St. Nicholas', Great Yarmouth, on Bank Holiday, was not the first peal of Surprise Maximus on the bells. As a matter of fact, the statement (it was not the conductor who sent it) was withdrawn before the report appeared, but just too late to prevent its being printed.

The late Mr. William Pye called a peal of Superlative Maximus on the bells on August Bank Holiday, 1928, so the peal last week was the first of Cambridge Maximus on the bells.

THREE TREBLE BOB MAJOR VARIATIONS IN A PEAL.

For the first time a peal in three variations of Treble Bob—Oxford, Kent and Granta—has been rung. This was at Christleton, Cheshire, last Saturday, and was conducted by Mr. Percy Swindley. The composition was by Mr. James Morgan, of Pulford.

Granta Treble Bob gets rid of the tenors from the slow work. These bells do not dodge with the treble on the front. Instead, they come from 3-4, lead a whole pull and go away to 3-4 again, the treble making 2nd's over each in turn, and leading a whole pull in between.

Not all of those who rang in the peal of York Surprise Maximus at Ipswich agree that the method is 'very easy' or 'only one degree in advance of Treble Bob.' These were not our opinions, we merely printed the comment of a correspondent. But then opinions often do differ on questions of this sort. What one man thinks simple, another looks upon as difficult or catchy. We understand York is tricky kind of stuff that catches the unwary.

The fortieth anniversary of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. J. Preston, of Erdington, Birmingham, was celebrated on Saturday by a peal of Stedman Triples at St. Barnabas' Church.

Mr. Preston is Ringing Master and secretary of Erdington tower, but he was unfortunately unable to take part in the peal, owing to indisposition. He was, however, able to join the ringers afterwards, and all were entertained to tea at the Vicarage by the Rev. W. S. and Mrs. Power. Mr. R. H. Robinson, who made up the band, belongs to Portsmouth, and was on holiday in Birmingham.

The peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal at Beddington on Saturday was rung after two or three unsuccessful starts for Double Norwich Caters. The trouble about the Caters was that too many men came with the intention of ringing the tenor.

Two young ringers shared in a peal of Grandsire Triples at the Cathedral, Guildford, on August 8th. Lawrence Hazeldine, aged only 14, rang his first peal, and Peter Davy, of Bramley, aged 16, scored his first peal on eight bells, his only previous peal having been one of Bob Minor.

A peal of Minor in eight methods, which included a 720 of Spliced London and Wells Surprise and a 720 of Combined Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, was rung at Market Deeping, Lincolnshire, on August 5th, for the wedding of Mr. Horace Stafford and Miss Adeline Yates, which took place the same afternoon.

Mr. Harry Gibbard has now rung each bell at Market Deeping Church to a peal.

Five of the six ringers who took part in this peal participated on Bank Holiday in a peal in 14 Surprise Minor methods (four of the 720's being spliced) at Rippingale.

The band who rang the peal of Bob Major at Bexley, Kent, on Saturday, wish to associate with it Mr. Percy J. Spice, who stood in an unsuccessful attempt on the previous Monday, when, after ringing 1 hour and 20 minutes, two bells changed over. The age of the conductor of the peal, Alan Hall, is 16 years 5 months, and he is one of the youngsters of the new band being taught by the leader, Mr. H. A. Holden.

Mr. Cecil Mogford, a member of the band at St. Stephen's, Bristol, was married on August 8th to Miss S. E. Drake, and his colleagues rang a peal of Stedman Caters in honour of the event.

A GOOD START.

Mr. Frank Bennett, of Brighton, made a good start on his second fifteen hundred during the holidays—Cambridge Major on Saturday, Superlative on Sunday and New Cambridge on Monday. Next week he will be busy in Lancashire.

At Hadlow, where he called the first peal in a Surprise method, the bells cannot be said to be one of the best rings of eight in Kent, as the gentleman who was responsible for the tuning of the two trebles seems to have ignored the fact that they ought to be in tune with the back six.

The golden wedding of Archdeacon and Mrs. Ward, of Hilgay, Norfolk, was celebrated on August 8th with a peal of Superlative Surprise Major at the Parish Church. It was also a birthday compliment to Mrs. Bullen.

On August Bank Holiday a band met at Christ Church Cathedral, Oxford, for a peal of Stedman Cinques, but on arrival at 11 a.m. were informed that a memorial service had been arranged for 2 o'clock, and this, with other services, prevented a peal attempt. The Master of the Oxford Society and the Master of the London County Association interviewed the authorities in residence at Magdalen College, and after conferences permission was obtained and a peal of Stedman Caters was the result, Messrs. R. A. Post and H. Spencer standing out.

The Rev. R. Routh, Rector of Beaconsfield, Bucks, took part. Since he has been a ringer it has been one of his great wishes to ring a peal at his college. After the peal he entertained the band to tea, and this opportunity came unexpectedly.

Messrs. A. J. Wyatt and James Hunt, of Taunton, rang their one hundredth peal together on Bank Holiday, at Minehead, Somerset. They have been ringing together for 20 years.

The composition of the peal of Stedman which was rung was an adaptation by Mr. Hunt of Dexter's Variation of Thurstans' Four-Part, making the second the observation bell. It is an excellent peal, which, among other advantages, brings 6-7 behind together in a four-bob set at the end of each quarter.

A peal in seven Minor methods was rung at Wetherden, Suffolk, on Bank Holiday, the first peal on the bells since 1912.

Mr. Stafford Green sought to establish a new personal record on Bank Holiday by ringing the treble to two peals in a day. All was well for the first one at Chilham, but the second—Oxford Treble Ten at Canterbury Cathedral — had to be abandoned after 2 hours 5 minutes' good ringing, owing to the obstinacy of one of the bells.

The Chilham peal was Mr. Green's 200th on tower bells, and at the same time Mr. P. A. Corby, the conductor, reached his century. It was also the first peal on the bells since they were rehung.

A half-muffled peal was rung at Barnsley, Yorks, on August 5th, to the memory of the late Mr. C. D. Potter, president of the Barnsley and District Association. It was intended to ring Major, but the band met a man short, so a peal of Minor was substituted, with the tenor covering, to enable all those present to take part. None of them had rung a peal of Minor with a covering bell before.

SUNDAY SERVICE BAND CELEBRATE CHURCH CENTENARY.

The centenary of St. Nicholas' Church, at Halewood, Lancashire, was celebrated by a peal of Stedman Triples on Sunday, August 6th. Except the conductor, Mr. Herbert Ludkin, all the band are Sunday service ringers at Halewood.

A Yorkshire band scored a couple of peals of Surprise Major on Bank Holiday. Airedale Surprise had been rung for the first time two days before at Northowram; they quickly put another one on the book at Mytholmroyd and went afterwards to Heptonstall, where they rang a peal of Cambridge. The peal at Mytholmroyd was Mr. George Robinson's 100th peal.

A band of Royal Cumberland Youths, including two ladies, visited Christchurch Priory Church on Saturday and rang a peal of Stedman Cinques. There were two first peals on twelve bells and three first peals of Stedman Cinques in the achievement.

The thanks of the company are extended to the local leader, Mr. George Preston, for making the local arrangements, and they also acknowledge the kindness of Mr. Drewitt, a College Youth, who provided refreshment of a very welcome kind for some of the thirsty ones afterwards

(Continued on page 532.)

John Taylor & Co.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

In the will, proved last week, of the Rev. Henry S. Travers, of Great Cheverell, Devizes, he directed that his funeral should be of the very simplest and inexpensive, bright and cheerful, with no mourning.

He also directed that, if he should die nearby, he should be buried in his old parish of Erlestoke and 'a peal of bells, not muffled, to be rung directly after the funeral, and the ringers to be paid £2 for the same.'

Erlestoke, according to the Salisbury Diocesan Guild's last Report, has a peal of six, with tenor of 9 cwt. in bad ringing condition.

The meeting of the Hinckley District of the Midland Counties Association at Broughton Astley is to be held on August 26th and not the 23rd as mentioned in our notice columns last week.

The Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow has taken up his appointment as Precentor of Norwich Cathedral. His address is now The Hermitage, Bishopgate Norwich.

The date of the dinner of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford has been fixed for Saturday, November 18th. It will be held at the Molineux Hotel, Wolverhampton.

PEAL RINGING TOUR IN LANCASHIRE.

SIXTEEN ATTEMPTS ARRANGED.

The peal ringing tour which starts in Lancashire to-day, by the party organised by Mr. Frank Bennett, have the following programme arranged, headquarters being at the Victoria Hotel. It will be seen there are to be 16 peal attempts in the nine days.

Friday, August 18th	Garston (8), St. Michael's, 12½ cwt.
Saturday, August 19th	Bebington (8), St. Andrew's, 9 cwt.
Saturday, August 19th	Chester Cathedral (10), 33 cwt.
Sunday, August 20th	Newchurch (8), St. Peter's, 14 cwt.
	Service ringing at St. Nicholas' (12) and St. Francis Xavier's (8).
Monday, August 21st	Halewood (8), St. Nicholas', 11 cwt.
Monday, August 21st	Liverpool (12), St. Nicholas', 39¾ cwt. Afternoon visit to new Cathedral tower.
Tuesday, August 22nd	Tarleton (8), Holy Trinity, 13 cwt.
Tuesday, August 22nd	Woolton (8), St. Peter's, 20 cwt.
Wednesday, August 23rd	Poolstock (8), St. James', 25 cwt.
Wednesday, August 23rd	Wigan (10), All Saints', 29 cwt.
Thursday, August 24th	Prescot (8), St. Mary's, 14 cwt.
Thursday, August 24th	St. Helens (10), St. Helen's, 25 cwt.
Friday, August 25th	Ormskirk (8), SS. Peter and Paul, 25 cwt.
Friday, August 25th	Aughton (8), Christ Church, 16 cwt.
Saturday, August 26th	Runcorn, All Saints', 15 cwt.
Saturday, August 26th	Liscard (8), St. Mary's, 16 cwt.

A GREAT LEICESTER CITIZEN.

DEATH OF SIR FREDERICK OLIVER.

Leicester has lost one of its most distinguished public men by the death, at the age of 71 years, of Col. Sir Frederick Oliver, High Sheriff of Leicestershire in 1934, who for more than 40 years had played an active part in nearly every phase of the city's public life. In addition to political activities, Sir Frederick had been chairman of the Leicestershire County Cricket Club, president of the Leicester Rugby Club for many years; he held the high office of Grand Master of the Leicestershire Province in Freemasonry; he was a former Commanding Officer of the 4th Battalion, the Leicestershire Regiment; a lay canon of the Leicester Cathedral Chapter; and deputy chairman of Leicester Royal Infirmary.

It was through his efforts that the tenor of the new peal of bells at Leicester Cathedral was given by the Freemasons of the city and named by royal permission. When the bells were opened on Coronation Day, Sir Frederick was the first to 'ring' this bell.

There was a great demonstration of sympathy and regret at the funeral on Friday last. The Cathedral was filled with mourners representing the civic life of the city, its commerce and industry, the defence forces and Freemasonry. Outside crowds numbering several thousands assembled to watch the cortege pass.

After the service the Cathedral ringers rang a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1,261 changes), with the bells half-muffled, in 59 minutes: F. H. Dexter 1, J. O. Lancashire 2, J. H. Swinfield 3, H. W. Perkins 4, H. G. Jenney 5, P. L. Harrison 6, C. F. Howitt 7, A. J. Harris 8, A Brunton 9, T. Taylor 10.

A GOLDEN WEDDING.

At Cawthorne, Yorks, on Monday, August 7th, a date touch of Minor was rung in honour of the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. G. Lilse, who were married at All Saints', Cawthorne, on August Bank Holiday, 1889. The 1,939 changes, rung in 1 hour 6 minutes, comprised 720 Plain Bob, 600 of Oxford, 600 of Kent and 19 of Original Minor. The ringers were L. W. Carbutt 1, R. Hill 2, H. Rusby 3, E. Brookes 4, C. Robinson 5, D. Smith (conductor) 6.

A BROKEN ROPE.

On Sunday, August 13th, members of Devon Guild paid a visit to Whitstone to attempt a peal of Bob Minor, but in the third 720 it came to an abrupt end owing to the 5th rope breaking: J. Deem 1, H. G. Lewis 2, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 3, A. Lovering 4, B. Pidgeon 5, A. Patrick Cannon 6. The attempt was arranged for Mr. A. P. Cannon, who wanted to add another tenor to his list.

ANCIENT CUSTOMS.

'BRED AND DRYNKE FOR THE PRIEST, CLERKE AND RINGERS.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In his interesting letter, Mr. Trollope gives play to his imagination, and helps us to visualise what happened in old days, but we must not take what he writes too literally. For instance, William Walpole, in 1539, leaves money or land for the payment of one clerke. Mr. Trollope speaks of several, and adds deacon and sub-deacon. Now it is most unlikely that it would be usual to have a High Mass of this character at the death of an ordinary person, and certainly not every year afterwards on his anniversary. Nor because candles and ringers are both mentioned in wills, are we to suppose that they are comparable. It is true that I am a ringer, but I should prefer not to be classed with a candle, or even with a wax taper, by permission of Mr. Trollope! Nor do I think that people in pre-Reformation times would think differently, even if they were ringers.

No parish clerk would think nowadays of 'picking out a few lusty young fellows from the parish and sending them up into the tower to pull the ropes,' and why should we imagine that bells went so much more easily of old that it was possible to do so then?

One Sunday afternoon, we were sitting on a seat in Dinard, Brittany, and across the road we saw the parish clerk open the west door of the church from the inside. We then watched him pull the tenor bell nearly up, when he left it to fall slowly by itself, while he went off to see to what had to be done. This was an easy and simple way of letting the bell sound, but it requires a considerable amount of practice to acquire sufficient skill to do this without injuring oneself or other people. It is probable that this is the way bells have always been rung from earliest times; and when several bells were added they would be jangled together in a similar manner, but one ringer for each bell.

Mr. Trollope says that 'probably the bells were properly rung in rounds.' This is so unlikely that we may even say it was impossible. To-day rounds and call changes are rung only by those who cannot ring correct changes; no doubt this was always so. That is to say they are a mere corruption of change ringing; therefore, that art must have come first. No one rang rounds or call-changes till after change ringing was attempted.

HALESWORTH BAND'S LONG EXISTENCE.

When change ringing was well established, and there were several rings of bells in a town, a company or society of ringers would be formed, and they would be responsible for the ringing in a certain number of towers. The only such societies now existing are the College Youths and the Cumberlands. It is fairly certain that no such society ever existed at Halesworth, for there was never more than the one ring of bells in the place. But there is now a band of ringers there, and it is known that there has been one there every year for over 200 years; for they have each year partaken of the 'bred and drynke' left by William Walpole in 1539.

There is not absolute proof that they have done so every year since 1539, but it is most probable that they have, the still existing tradition being that if they did not the legacy would be lost. The land left by William Walpole (or bought with his money) is now merged with other charity lands. It was, however, recognised by the Charity Commissioners in their inquiry in the forties of the last century. Their actual words can be read in their report, by anyone who has access to a good library. If they were satisfied, I think we, too, may be satisfied that the Halesworth band have made good their claim to have been in existence when William Walpole made his will in 1539. I do not suppose that any band or society can attempt to make anything like such a claim as this.

There are two matters which do not seem quite so certain as Mr. Trollope supposes. He writes, 'It was the usual thing to send them beer and bread, which they consumed in the belfry.' Now Mr. Trollope would not make such a statement unless he had what he thinks is clear proof. I should, however, much like to see it, as I cannot imagine either statement to be correct.

Again he writes, 'In some cases the ringing at an obit seems to have lasted off and on all the day.' Last June I was again in Brittany, and one day the church bell or bells seemed to be going, off and on, all morning. I was staying near the Church of St. Enogat; and at length, hearing both bells at two o'clock, I went to investigate. I was in time to see the coffin being borne up to the chancel, where the vested priest was waiting for it. The church was full of people singing the funeral music, and there were quite a number of us outside who could not get in. A few days later came the sad news of many Breton sailors drowned in the loss of a submarine. Again the church bells were going off and on all morning. But this time there was no ringing in the afterncon.

Now all this ringing was either before Requiems or at the consecration in the service. Is there any reason to suppose that the bells were rung for any other purposes, before change ringing was started? (Perhaps they would ring also for 'Placebo' in the late afternoon before, and for the Dirge that night.) But it was after the Reformation had reduced the number of services that people began to look about for other uses for the bells, and lit on the practice of changes.

Now as to the written changes at Halesworth. When these were transcribed by Mr. George Symonds, and appeared in your columns last year, they were no doubt recognised as being the same as are printed at the beginning of Stedmen's 'Tintinnalogia,' where they are called 'The Plain Changes on Four Bells.' In this, the treble is the only bell to hunt, which it does in the ordinary way through the other bells, which lie still; except when the treble is twice behind or at lead, when the farthest pair change places. As these two bells are at the extreme end, away from the treble, the book says that this change must be called an 'Extreme.'

It will be noticed that I have just written 'This Book' and not 'Stedman,' for I still cannot bring myself to believe that the same man wrote the first 42 pages (in the reprint), and also the rest of the book (the 'Seven score,' etc., on page 83, is evidently misplaced: it would seem to follow on from page 40).

At any rate, for one who has mastered the latter part of the book, the first forty pages are not only superseded and out of date, they are absolutely misleading and a hindrance.

EARLY SEVENTEENTH CENTURY CHANGES.

It is, therefore, pretty certain that anyone who took the trouble to copy out these Plain Changes cannot have heard of the changes given in the latter part of 'Tintinnalogia.' Now the book is dated 1668, and is a record of methods rung by the different companies mentioned, obviously covering a period of years. It would seem, then, that anyone who would carefully write down these Plain Changes would do so not earlier than the first quarter, shall we say, of the seventeenth century. This agrees, too, with the 'sixty years' mentioned on the first page of the book.

Now let us see what the writing itself tells us. We find it on the flyleaf of a manuscript book, about a foot high with narrow pages, written by one Thomas Fella, who was elected churchwarden in 1611. This Thomas Fella was an artist, and his handwriting is the most beautiful and the clearest that I have ever seen. Evidently he was a pious man (of sorts), for on the first page he transcribes a prayer; which ends with a violent denunciation of—tobacco. On the next page is drawn, and well drawn, a symbolical tree; then follow extracts from wills and other documents, the fourth page being filled with an ornamental drawing of an upright wreath, which occupies the centre of the page, as a panel, all the rest being filled with basketwork ornament, leaving but a narrow outside margin. He makes a good deal of having begun the book in 1611, and the last date seems to be 1627.

Over three-quarters of the book consists of blank pages, no one having dared to follow such beautiful handwriting. The only other writing is that, when you open the front cover, on the left-hand page is written in the middle near the top the date 1621. And on the right page (the fly leaf) are written out these plain changes. The date is written in a fine, somewhat elaborate clerkly hand, not a bit like the body of the book, so that it was evidently not inserted by Thomas Fella. Again the changes are well written in a third hand. The style is somewhat primitive, of a very simple kind, looking almost as though of a previous century. Perhaps by one accustomed to carve or mould figures in an antique style.

This bears out Mr. Lambert's suggestion, that they were written out by John or William Brent, of Norwich, who were recasting Halesworth bells in 1621. It will be noticed that the date is not written as if it belonged to the figures. One can only attribute it to them by saying that there seems no other reason for its being there. The regular position of the figures of the changes are such as would be written by a man who was used to careful placing, as a bell founder would be. These figures are not written by a man accustomed to writing in books. Such a man would have begun on the left-hand side of the page: but these figures begin on the right and occupy most of the right hand part of the page.

We cannot be certain that the date 1621 refers to the time when those figures were written; but we are certain that they were written within a few years of that date. Nor can we be certain that they were written by a Brent; although it is quite likely that they were. But we can be certain that they are the oldest changes pricked for ringing in existence. The scratti on the jamb of the door to the belfry stairs at Buxhall may be nearly as old, but there are only two and a half rows, not enough to identify the method or for them to be used for teaching purposes.

HERBERT DRAKE.

Ufford Rectory.

BISHOPSTOKE RINGER'S DEATH.

INSTRUMENTAL IN INCREASING PEAL TO EIGHT.

One of the most respected and esteemed residents of Bishopstoke, Hants, has passed away in the person of Mr. Charles Ayliffe, who had been a ringer at the Parish Church for 29 years.

Mr. Ayliffe commenced to ring when a ring of five bells was placed in the tower in 1910, and was the last member of the band that was formed at that time. He was chiefly instrumental in getting the bells increased to eight in 1920.

Mr. Ayliffe had taken part in several peals for the Diocesan Guild, of which he had been a member for the whole of his ringing career.

The funeral took place on Tuesday of last week. Mr. G. Williams (Master) represented the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild, and members were present from Bishopstoke and North Stoneham. A large number of people were present testifying to the regard in which Mr. Ayliffe was held.

Immediately after the funeral a touch of Grandsire Triples was rung upon the church bells, which were fully muffled, with the exception of the tenor, which was open at hand.

Mr. Avliffe leaves two daughters and two sons, one of whom, Mr Ernest J. Ayliffe, is a ringer at Haslemere, Surrey.

CHURCH BELLS IN WAR TIME.

ARTILLERYMEN'S 'LOOT' FROM CAPTURED CITIES.

By J. Armiger Trollope.

The Society of Royal Cumberland Youths have taken as their 'patron saint' William Duke of Cumberland, the younger son of King George II., and round him and his supposed connection with the society a number of legends grew up in the course of years. He was said to have been delighted with the welcome the ringers gave him on the bells of Shoreditch, when he returned to London in 1746 after the battle of Culloden, and to have personally thanked them. He was said to have been himself a ringer and to have given the two bells to St. Leonard's when the ring was increased to ten. His portrait, a presentation from himself to the society, was said to have hung in the vestibule of the church and later to have been removed to St. Martin's-in-the-Fields.

It is the fact that the society to-day honours his memory by putting his portrait on its membership certificate, and the Master wears, as his official badge, a medallion struck in his honour. But personally the Duke had no dealings with the society and probably was not even aware of its existence. The only connection between him and church bells that I have been able to discover is the following incident:—

When the Highland army under Prince Charles Edward Stuart retreated to Scotland after its unsuccessful invasion of England in 1745, a small garrison was left in Carlisle, which surrendered in December to the royal army under the command of the Duke of Cumberland. The city was treated as if it had been an enemy town, the mayor, town clerk and other prominent citizens were arrested, the Cathedral was used as a prison for confining captured rebels and a demand was made by a Major Balfour, in the Duke's name, for the bells as 'a perquisite to the train of artillery,' a demand which naturally 'was a surprise upon the members of the Chapter and very ill-relished by them.'

Some of the clergy waited on the Duke to desire his protection. They pointed out that the bells were the property of the Dean and Chapter, who all along had been loyal to King George, and that, even if the town had offended, the citizens had no rights in them.

The Duke received them coldly and refused to interfere. He told them, in effect, that he thought the claim was a good one, but, of course, the Chapter would not agree to it. Prebendary Wilson wrote to Dr. Waugh, the Chancellor of the Diocese, who was in London, asking for his advice and help. 'A moderate composition,' he wrote, 'would, I believe, pacify the claimant, but I'm firmly resolved at present and so are my two brethren not to admit to any.' And he goes on to express his opinion that 'if the major takes them down, which he still threatens, I doubt not that the Lord Chief Justice would oblige him to replace them.'

The firm stand by the Cathedral clergy had the desired effect, and in the end Major Balfour left the town without pressing the thing further.

It seems a very curious incident and a preposterous demand which no law or custom could justify. Wilson was undoubtedly right when he said that, if the bells had been taken down, the Law Courts would have ordered them to be replaced. But it was not an ordinary case of looting enemy property in a captured town.

For centuries there was a strong tradition in the English army that, whenever any town was captured, the officer who commanded the artillery had a right to all the church bells in the place as his personal perquisite.

WHEN BRISTOL FELL TO THE ROYAL TROOPS.

An almost exactly parallel incident happened during the Civil War between Charles I. and the Parliament. In 1643 Bristol was captured by the royal army under Prince Rupert, and, as at Carlisle, a demand was sent to the town authorities for the church bells. The only account we have of the incident is in the letter of protest, a copy of which was preserved by Thomas Hearne in his Diary. It runs as follows:—

'To the Rt Honbl our very good Lord the Lord Percies these present at Court

'Rt Honbl

'Upon receipt of your Lordship's letters, by which you make Claime to the Bells of this Cittie as General of his Majesties Artillery, We doe humbly conceive that yf any such Forfeiture were incur'd (as is pretended), yet by Agreament on his Majesties Parte when his Forces entred it was in Effect condiscended into that there should noe Advantage be thereof taken, but that all things should continue as formerlie without Prejudice to any Inhabitant. And the Bells of each Church being (as your Lordship well knowes) the proper Goods of the Parishioners are not at our Disposal, neither have we to doe with them. All wch we humblie submit to your Lrps better Judgement and taking our Leaves doe rest

Your Honors most humbly at Comandmt.

Bristol this xxist of Nov 1643.'

In this case, as in the other, no actual confiscation seems to have taken place, but it is quite clear that the officers of the army quite honestly believed that the claim was justified by the rules of warfare.

In the British Museum there is an ancient manuscript which throws some light on the matter. It is in a folio containing a number of manuscripts in various handwritings and of various dates from the time of Henry VIII. to Charles II. This paper is neither signed nor dated and I am not sufficiently skilled in old caligraphy to give it a precise date, but I should put it about 1600. It is headed 'These be the Authorities and Powers that the Provoste Marshall and his Lieftenant have in the Jurisdiction of the Artillerie.'

Among the items which follow is the following: 'As a towne is wonne (whether) it is by assalt, per force, subtile practice or by anie other manner given up, be it towne, castell, pyle, church, or bastile, or fortresse, the chief master of the artillerie or his lieftenant shall ordayne that the master gunners and their companie shall have the best bell within that place so wonne or the Churchwardens shall appoynt or compound with the great master of the Artillerie and his counsell. And that to be reported by the Provoste of the Artillerie and given knowledge to the Lords and Rulers of that place soe wonne with the comons of the same what that the Master of the Artillerie his counsell and mr. gunners and their companie have determined and ordeyned by a convenable and reasonable estimacion to see and knowe if the lordes and commons will hold the ordinance and appoyntment made.'

What authority there was behind this statement I do not know, but I find much the same thing in a later history of the French Army: 'Le grand maitre a encore une privilege. C'est que quand une ville ou fortresse a laisse tirer le canon, les cloches des églises,' etc.

In addition to the two instances I have mentioned, there are several cases where this rather curious claim was made. At Tong, in Shropshire, there is an entry in the parish accounts for the year 1644 during the Civil War: 'Paid to the cananeere (cannoner) for redeeming of the little bell, 6-0.'

BELLS FROM CHERBOURG.

Thirteen years after the affair at Carlisle an English army captured Cherbourg, and among the booty brought home were six bells taken from the churches of the town, five of them serviceable and one broken. They were placed in the Tower of London, and Colonel Desagulier, who commanded the artillery during the attack on Cherbourg, having made frequent application to be paid their value as his personal right, William Pitt, then Secretary of State, directed that the Board of Ordnance should enquire into the matter. The Board reported that they had never heard that the right of the commanding officer to the bells taken from enemies had ever been disputed, but whether the Colonel was ever paid is doubtful, for no record of any such payment could afterwards be found.

The bells remained in the Tower and I was rather curious as to what eventually became of them. I discovered quite by accident. When I was writing my 'Stedman,' one of my tasks was to find out what had become of the board which recorded the first peal of Stedman Caters at St. John's, Horsleydown. So I made a pilgrimage to that somewhat remote and inaccessible place. On my way I walked along Tower Wharf and my attention was attracted by two very handsome bronze guns. Stopping to examine them, I read this notice: 'This gun was made at Woolwich from ordnance taken at Cherbourg, 1758.' So that is what became of the bells. 'Ordnance taken at Cherbourg' reads better than 'Bells looted from French churches.'

When Quebec was captured from the French a Colonel Williamson took the bells down from the cathedral and sent them home to a lady named Jane Williamson, probably his wife. She offered them to some important person unnamed, possibly William Pitt, for her letter is among the Chatham papers. What became of them is unknown, but one, I think, is now in the tower of the Church of All Hallows, Tottenham.

A Colonel Paterson was said to have received £300 in lieu of the bells of Guadelope, when the island was captured from the French, but when the island was captured the second time and a Colonel Burton made a similar claim it was refused.

But the tradition still survived. In the great war with Napoleon Genoa was occupied by an English force and, after the army had returned to England, Colonel Lemoine was reminded of this supposed ancient right. He went back to Genoa, and, making enquiries, found that the town contained upwards of ninety churches, each with an average of five bells, which, according to the price given him by the man who had cast most of them, were worth two hundred and thirty thousand lire Genoese. It was a fortune worth trying for, and so, partly to uphold an established privilege, but mainly, as he admitted, on his own account, he tried to see if there was any chance of getting that amount from the Treasury. Almost needless to say his attempt was not successful.

Some bells seem to have been brought back as loot from Genoa, for on one of the bells at Liversedge in Yorkshire is the inscription, 'These eight bells were cast in 1814 and 1815 with brass ordnance taken at Genoa.' This was the last time on which this claim was officially made, but not the last time that an English army looted the church bells in an enemy country.

At Windsor Castle there is a celebrated bell taken during the Crimean War from a church at Sebastopol and presented by the army to Queen Victoria. It is tolled at the funeral of a sovereign.

Queen Elizabeth took a very different view of the propriety of looting church bells, for 'hearing that Sir John Skelton, for want of other prey, had brought a Bell from the sacking of Calles (Cadiz), she was highly offended and said "By God's death she would make him carry it back thither."'

THE TOUR OF THE N.U.T.S.

CYCLING AND RINGING IN THE WEST COUNTRY.

Sixty-Six Towers Visited.

For the third year in succession, a tour has been held for members of the N.U.T.S. (National Union of Tower Snatchers), who enjoy combining the fine exercises of ringing and cycling. In spite of the difficulty of would-be participants in getting their holidays together, ten eventually managed to do so, and a most enjoyable expedition, covering ten days, resulted. The absence of the past secretary, the Grand Mug, and others who had previously shared in the excursions, was much regretted, but it was encouraging to have fresh young blood in the party, the average age of which was 22½ years, and also to have the Ladies' Guild section augmented to three.

Castle Cary, Somerset, was chosen as the meeting place, and by noon on Saturday, July 29th, the widely scattered members, representing ten towers in six counties, had assembled and new friendships had begun. During the day the towers of Castle Cary (8), North Cadbury (6), Yeovil (10), Sherborne Abbey (8), Bradford Abbas (6), Thornford (6) and Yetminster (5) were visited, and ringing was so much enjoyed at the earlier of these that we were half an hour late leaving Sherborne, but this time was made up by the end of the day. A strong head wind and heavy rain somewhat detracted from the beauty of the ten hilly miles between Yetminster and the night's quarters at Cerne Abbas Youth Hostel, but it takes a lot to make the N.U.T.S. downhearted. After a quickly served supper, at which the teapot (sic) worked overtime, we sorted the wet from the dry and toddled off to bed. Incidentally the hostel had once been a workhouse, so we probably did not look out of place.

Sunday morning was still young when we all trooped off to an early Celebration at Cerne Abbas (where the bells unfortunately are unringable) before having breakfast and running down into Dorchester (St. Peter's, 8) to ring for Matins. An hour later, in glorious sunshine, we were having lunch at Upwey, where permission was readily granted to try the pleasant peal of six. The afternoon was spent cycling (and walking) along the beautiful coast road to Burton Bradstock, where a spare hour was occupied by a dip in a very boisterous sea before ringing on the delightful peal of six at the Parish Church. After tea a quarter-peal (already recorded) was rung for evensong at Bridport, while Symondsbury (6) was snatched by the 'overflow.' Litton Cheney (6) was the last tower of the day, and after the boat had been launched by Edna to celebrate her 400th tower, we turned in at the hostel nearby.

On Monday the weather continued to look promising, and the programme went off like clockwork. Towers visited were Bradpole (8), Beaminster (8), Whitchurch Canonicorum (8), Lyme Regis (8), Axminster (8) and Ottery St. Mary (8), all of which were well worth a visit, particularly, we thought, Whitchurch and Axminster. The bells at both these churches are in the key of D and have a glorious tone, although both require handling to ring well. The visit to Ottery St. Mary was extended long past schedule to allow plenty of time to see the magnificent cathedral-like church, and the day ended at the hostel two miles away, where once again tea and biscuits formed our supper.

Tuesday was to prove our worst day for weather, for whilst climbing the 1 in 4½ hill out of Sidmouth after ringing there, a terrific storm set in and continued for a couple of hours. However, we were only about a quarter of an hour late at Littleham, and soon the delightful little peal of eight, tenor 7½ cwt., was responding to several methods. A real N.U.T.S. touch, consisting of two leads of Treble Bob, was tried here and found to work. It consists of alternate leads of Oxford and Kent with bobs, and proved very useful subsequently when time was short. A fine lunch followed the ringing, arranged by Mrs. Gatter, wife of the foreman ringer, and when we took the road again we felt fit for anything. Happily the rain was now over, and after a ring on the good eight at Withycombe Raleigh, Woodbury (8) was visited. Here, as in other towns in the district, were found records of peals rung by the Guild of Exeter Cyclists about 40 years ago, but the go of the bells is now such that two short touches sufficed for the 1939 cyclists.

Alphington, with a beautiful ring of eight recently restored, was the next port of call, and Dunsford (6) concluded the day's ringing. Here, as at several other towers, we mystified the local ringers with our 'Scientific,' for by now we were in the area where call-change ringing holds sway. We appeared to create a good impression, and we were not, on the whole, ashamed of our performance, especially considering that as a rule in these towers the ropes have a single tail end often up to a yard too long for the normal ringer.

The general opinion held in these parts seems to be that 'Scientific' beats call-changes when it is well done, but they are reluctant to start it for fear of breaking up the bands which are so proficient at their local art, particularly in rising and falling in peal. Many change ringers would do well to hear the perfection of striking of these bands and to observe the keenness with which they strive for a high place in their competitions. Their Sunday ringing, on the whole, is also well looked after, as testified by several of the clergy we met.

Wednesday was to prove very eventful, for the peals visited throughout the day were exceptional. After a climb to over 980ft., there was a run down to Moretonhampstead, where we found a glorious peal of eight, tenor 15 cwt. The usual three-quarters of an hour was allowed here before the next climb to 1,200ft. and the subsequent drop to the

(Continued on next page.)



This picture shows the cycling N.U.T.S. on Dartmouth ferry. Left to right: K. C. Davis (Blagdon, Somerset), R. Darvill (Prittlewell, Essex), W. Hunt (Twyford, Berks), E. Beech (Wraysbury, Bucks), D. Brock (Sunbury, Middlesex), E. Hartley (Willesden, Middlesex), Miss E. Bedford (Uxbridge, Middlesex), H. Smith (Melksham, Wilts), Miss A. Look (Ditcheat, Somerset), Miss B. Look (Ditcheat). The photo was taken by Mr. M. Melville (Coventry), who was with the party during part of the week.

THE N.U.T.S. TOUR.

(Continued from previous page.)

charming village of Widecombe-in-the-Moor, now unfortunately fast becoming a peepshow. However, the grand church tower holds a lovely peal of six in excellent condition, and good use was made of them before adjourning for lunch. The feelings expressed by the local constabulary when we handed over a dog which had insistently followed us over the 8½ miles from Moretonhampstead are best left out. As if we could help it when the little chap took a particular liking to us!

Buckland-in-the-Moor, in what must be some of the most beautiful country in England, was the next tower visited, and the grand little peal of eight, tenor 7 cwt., was one of the best we had struck for anything like the weight. Ashburton (8) was next visited, then Buckfast Abbey, but unfortunately permission to ring had not been forthcoming, so after being joined by Mr. Aubrey Bennett for tea, visits were made to Buckfastleigh (8), Dartington (6) and Totnes (8). The latter in particular are a glorious peal, and we nearly got ourselves into trouble again by ringing several bells up together, which was calculated to bring out the fire brigade. Only the fact that we had started by ringing the tenor and seventh singly saved us, apparently.

Thursday, after a night at the Dartington Hostel, was to prove a busy day, and visits were in many cases cut down to half an hour. Towers visited were South Brent (6), Ugborough (8), Loddiswell (6), Aveton Gifford (8), Churchstow (6), Kingsbridge (8), West Alvington (6), Malborough (6), Galmpton (6). Most of these we found in excellent condition, but the most outstanding was Ugborough, our most westerly point, which boasted a peal in 'E flat minor,' with a tenor of 24 cwt. We found the most musical arrangement was to ring the front five and back three as two separate peals, which, as such, were good, and they were lowered in this way. To finish the day we went for a spin to Hope Cove before adjourning to Salcombe Hostel. The weather had been grand, and bed was welcome, as were the Zam Buck and 'Buck-you-up-oh' tablets, to prepare the travellers for another day of raising and falling in peal.

Next morning we commenced badly by being half-hour late in starting, and somehow the head wind, hills and occasional showers seemed determined not to let us make it up. Towers visited were East Portlemouth (6), Stokenham (6), St. Saviour's, Dartmouth (a very fine eight), Brixham (8), Churston Ferrers (6), Paignton (8) and St. Mary's Church, Torquay (8). The route covered can be well recommended, being very beautiful though somewhat hilly.

After a night spent at Sheldon we found a blank in our programme, due to a report that the tower of St. James', Teignmouth (8), was unsafe, so a visit was paid to Bishopsteignton, where permission to ring on the good peal of six was readily granted. After visits to St. Michael's, East Teignmouth (8), Kenton (6) and Exminster (6), the party was made very welcome in the Exeter area, St. Thomas' (8), Clyst Honiton (8) with a fine tea arranged for us, St. Sidwell's (10) and Heavitree (8) being the places visited. Of these, special mention should be made of Heavitree, with its truly magnificent peal in perfect going order, untouched since they were installed 40 years ago.

Our second Sunday was to prove another busy day, for after attending the 8 a.m. Celebration at Countess Weir, we rang at Broadclyst (a grand eight), Burlescombe (6), Wellington (8), Wilton (8), Drayton (8) and Butleigh (6) before adjourning to Street Hostel. Sixty-two and a half miles were covered and we arrived ahead of schedule everywhere! The day concluded with a celebration of Dennis' 500th tower over bottles of lemonade and 'pop' in the hostel common-room.

Bank Holiday, the last day of the tour, was to prove one of the best, for the weather and bells were as good as could be wished for. Visits were paid to Glastonbury St. John's (8), West Pennard (6), Evercreech (8), Ditcheat (a magnificent 8) and Bruton (6). At the last-named place at about 3.45 p.m. the party split up to find their various ways home. It was felt that the programme had gone off very well, 66 towers in 10 days with 400 miles of hilly country is not too bad, especially when it is remembered that we were expected to raise and lower in peal practically everywhere. As in previous years, a different member of the party was put in sole charge each day, and the scheme worked very well, giving all would-be conductors a chance.

We should like to take this opportunity of heartily thanking association officials, towerkeepers and incumbents, whose co-operation made this memorable tour possible. R. DARVILL.

KING EDWARD VII.'s CORONATION COMMEMORATED.

At Willesden, on August 9th, a third of a peal of Spliced London, Bristol, Cambridge and Superlative Surprise Major (1,696 changes) was rung in 57 minutes by E. Lankester 1, J. A. Trollope 2, G. M. Kilby 3, J. H. Botham 4, Mrs. Botham 5, A. Cutler 6, H. Kilby 7, E. C. S. Turner (conductor) 8. Rung on the anniversary of the Coronation of King Edward VII.

This anniversary is commemorated every year at Willesden in accordance with a bequest made before the war by an admirer of Edward VII.

APARTMENTS.

LLANDUDNO, NORTH WALES.—Superior board-residence or bed and breakfast; 2 minutes sea; tennis courts, bowling green and park.—Mrs. Brown, Avonholm, 24, Queen's Road. Telephone 6965.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY

THE LATE PRESIDENT.

Tributes to the memory of the late president of the Barnsley and District Society (Mr. C. D. Potter) were paid at a meeting held on Saturday at Darfield, and it was decided to hold a special memorial service at Barnsley on September 9th.

About 20 members were present from Arksey, Doncaster, Cawthorne, Eastwood, Earlsheaton, Felkirk, Meltham, Sandal, Wath and the local company. Tea was served in the Church Schools and was very much enjoyed by all.

The Vicar (the Rev. H. Drown) presided at the business meeting and at the outset referred to the great loss the society had suffered by the death of the president, Mr. C. D. Potter.

This was supported by Mr. G. Clark (Arksey), who said he had known the late Mr. Potter for over 30 years and knew that he spent his happiest moments among ringers. The loss to ringers in the Barnsley District, he said, was very great.

Those present then stood in silence as a token of respect.

It was decided to hold a special memorial service at Barnsley on Saturday, September 9th, and all ringers are invited to attend.

Seven new members were elected, A. L. Carter, L. Manchester, E. Whiteley, C. Byram and F. Webster (Meltham), W. Walker and T. Duffin (Ossett) and G. W. Pickles (Horbury).

Mr. Clark moved and Mr. Gill seconded a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and for presiding at the meeting, to the ladies for the splendid tea provided, and to the local company for all they had done.

The Vicar suitably replied. He said he was pleased to welcome the society once more to Darfield, and he offered the ringers a hearty welcome.

The bells were rung in the afternoon and evening, the methods being Grandsire Doubles, and Minor from Plain Bob to London Surprise.

PEAL NOTES.

(Continued from page 527.)

ANOTHER ROYAL METHOD.

Winton Court Bob Royal was rung, it is believed, for the first time on Bank Holiday, when Mr. Nolan Golden called a peal at St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich. His composition, in 34 courses, in two equal parts, contains the 24 course-ends with 6587, 5687, 6578 and 567890's, and is probably the first peal of Plain Royal to be rung with these qualities.

Mr. Thomas Myers, of Plymouth, rang his one hundredth peal on August 9th at Bridgerule, Devon, where he called a peal of Grandsire Triples. He has rung peals on all numbers from six to twelve bells and the methods include Grandsire, Plain Bob, Stedman, Double Norwich, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise. Mr. Myers has conducted 40 out of his century.

Rock, Worcestershire, is truly rural, being literally miles from anywhere, Its serenity never appears to be disturbed by motor-coach and only seldom by the motoring tourist. Rock possesses a fine church and tower, and, to crown all, a beautiful peal of eight, augmented in 1913 by Taylor's by the addition of two trebles, while at that same time three of the old six were recast.

Members of the Worcestershire Association visited the village on August 8th and rang a peal of Oxford Bob Triples, but they consider themselves lucky in accomplishing the peal, as the second rope broke while the bell was being lowered.

An amusing incident occurred just before half-way, when the ringer of the 4th, in attempting to dislodge some chewing gum from his top denture, let gum and denture fall to the floor. By a wonderful piece of timing he retrieved the denture, putting it back to where it belonged, while he had his bell in place within a whole pull. The titters of the band might have changed to something else, though, if they had 'busted' up, but doubtless the sight of a grinning denture on the floor would have been most disturbing!

Miss Edna Bedford, of Uxbridge, Middlesex, and Mr. Sydney Flint, of Sefton, Lancs, took part in a five-bell peal in seven Doubles methods at Forncett St. Peter, Norfolk, on August 10th. Norwich ringers made up the rest of the band and it was the first peal in more than four methods on the bells.

We are extremely glad to see the return to peal ringing of Mr. Harold J. Poole, who took part in a peal of Cambridge Surprise Major at Loughborough Bell Foundry, with his wife and some of his Leicester friends, on August 10th. Inspector Poole is now on the road to complete recovery, after his rather long breakdown, and the news of his return to his wonted activity will be received with great pleasure by a host of ringers.

Incidentally the peal at Loughborough was Mr. C. Ferguson Howitt's fiftieth for the Midland Counties Association.

The band who rang a peal of Grandsire Doubles at Rushall, Staffs, on August 10th, included five of the local Sunday service ringers; the other was the conductor.

NOTICES.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Michael's, Flixton, on Saturday, Aug. 19th. Tower open for ringing at 5.30. Business meeting at 7 o'clock. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—J. H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next meeting is to be held at Monk's Kirby on Saturday, Aug. 19th. Bells (8) available from 3 o'clock. Tea at 5 o'clock at the Denbigh Arms.—Dorothy E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—Ideal spot. An historic village and eight beautiful bells for the summer meeting of the above district at Repton on Saturday, Aug. 19th. Bells available at 3 p.m., and usual tea arrangements. Open to all ringers and friends. — J. W. Cotton, Hon. Dis. Sec., Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — The Chertsey and Leatherhead districts are holding a joint meeting at Cobham on Saturday, Aug. 19th, when everybody will be welcome. Ringing from 3 o'clock. Service at 5, with tea at 6, in the Church Room.—A. H. Smith and F. E. Hawthorne, Dis. Secs.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting is at Stoney Stanton on Aug. 19th. Usual times. Names to me by Friday, Aug. 18th, for tea, please. Also please note that on Aug. 26th there will be a by-meeting at Broughton Astley. An extra attraction will be the local Wakes.' Ringing at usual times. The Rector will arrange tea on the lawn, if fine, otherwise in the Rectory. Price will be ' a bob a nob.' Come and have a crack at Mr. Bird's Doubles while the lady friend has a crack at the nuts. Badges will be on sale. Names to Mr. H. Bird, Station Road, Broughton Astley, or to W. A. Wood, Local Sec., Fosseway, Croft, Leicester.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Rutland Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Empingham on Saturday, Aug. 19th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Notify for tea.—S. Towell, 27, West Road, Oakham, Rutland.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Chesterfield District.—The first meeting of the re-formed district will be held at Eckington on Saturday, Aug. 19th. Will all members and local friends please note and attend to show appreciation of the new Rector's cordial invitation? Bells (8) from 3 o'clock. Tea at 5 o'clock. Names, please, to Mr. P. Jervis, Stead Street, Eckington.—S. Scattergood, Hon. Dis. Sec., 797, Sheffield Road, Chesterfield.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—A meeting of the above district will be held at Tanfield on Saturday, Aug. 19th. The bells (8) will be available at 3 p.m. Tea cannot be guaranteed unless ringers notify Mr. H. Tyson, 9, Crescent, Tanfield Lea, Newcastle-on-Tyne, of their requirements as soon as possible.—J. A. Brown, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Finchdale Terrace, Chester-le-Street, Co. Durham.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The beautiful peal of ten bells in Wrington tower will be available for practice on Saturday, August 19th, from 5 o'clock.—Percy G. Yeo, Hon. Local Sec.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Central Branch.—A meeting will be held at Histon on Saturday, August 19th. Bells (6) available at 3.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m., followed by the meeting. A nice ring, recently rehung, tenor 7½ cwt.—F. Warrington and A. R. Paul, Dis. Secs.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637). — Meetings for practice during August: Southwark Cathedral, 22nd; St. Clement Danes, 24th; *St. Mary-le-Bow, 29th; St. Magnus', 31st. *Business meeting afterwards. — A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wirral Branch.—A meeting will be held at Eastham (bells 6) on Saturday, Aug. 26th. Tower open at 3 o'clock. Tea at 5.30 p.m. No service. Please let me know if you intend to be present.—Harry S. Brocklebank, Hon. Sec., 30, South Hill Road, Birkenhead.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District. — The next meeting will be held at Ingatestone on Saturday, Aug. 26th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Numbers for tea by Wednesday, Aug. 23rd, please. — H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Upper Arbour Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston and Fylde Branches.—The joint meeting will be held at Preston Parish Church on Saturday, Aug. 26th. Tower open 3 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. Bells (10). All ringers welcome.—A. Blogg and C. Sharples, Branch Secs.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—East Devon Branch.—A meeting will be held at Luppitt, near Honiton, on Saturday, Aug. 26th. Bells (6) available at 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15, followed by meeting. All ringers welcome.—John H. Godfrey, Silver Street, Ottery St. Mary, Devon.

A JOINT MEETING of the Guildford Diocesan Guild (Chertsey District), the Middlesex County Association (South and West District), the Oxford Diocesan Guild (East Berks and South Bucks Branch) and the Surrey Association (North-Western District) will be held at St. Mary's, Staines, on Saturday, August 26th. Service at 5.15 p.m. Preacher, the Rev. J. R. James (Vicar of Staines). Tea, followed by meeting, in the Church Rooms at 5.45 p.m., 1s. each. Names for tea to Mr. W. H. Frisby, Church Street, Staines, by August 24th. Ringing arrangements: St. Mary's, Staines, from 3 p.m.; Egham, from 3 p.m.; Wraysbury, from 3 p.m. (interval from 6.30 to 7 p.m.). St. Peter's bells will also probably be available. All ringers and friends welcome.—F. E. Hawthorne (Guildford Guild), J. E. Lewis Cockey (Middlesex County Association), A. D. Barker (Oxford Guild) and F. G. Woodiss (Surrey Association), District Hon. Secs.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Henbury on Saturday, August 26th. Bells (8) open from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Ringing continued at 6.15 p.m. Please advise for tea.—R. C. Gifford, Gifford House, Frampton Cotterell, near Bristol.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at East Ardsley on Saturday, August 26th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Business meeting in the tower 7.30 p.m.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Leeds 12.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery.—The next monthly practice meeting will be held at Uphill (6 bells) on Saturday, August 26th, at 6.30 p.m.—E. J. Avery, Practice Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Accrington on Saturday, August 26th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Tea provided free. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. W. Aaron not later than Wednesday, August 23rd.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Dorchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Bere Regis on Saturday, August 26th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Service at 4, followed by tea and short business meeting. Permission has been given for a conducted tour round the noted gardens.—C. H. Jennings, Hon. Sec., 3, Sunnyside Road, Wyke Regis, Weymouth.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's Church in North Mimms Park on Saturday, August 26th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m., to be followed by tea at the Churchyard Cottage. (Postcards will greatly help arrangements.) 238 bus from St. Albans to Welham Green stops at Park Gates.—Harold V. Frost, Dis. Sec., 4, Kimberley Road, St. Albans.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held jointly with the Hawkhurst and District Guild at Tenterden on Saturday, August 26th. Bells ready 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—P. Page, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Newchurch, near Warrington, on Saturday, August 26th. Bells available 3.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—East Farleigh and hops are well known throughout Kent. A welcome awaits all ringers there on Saturday, August 26th, the occasion being a by-meeting of Maidstone District. Usual arrangements, etc. Names for tea to be sent to me by Wednesday, August 23rd, please.—R. G. Rayfield, Hon. Dis. Sec., Downsview, Spring Lane, Ightham.

HAWKHURST & DISTRICT GUILD.—A joint meeting with the Romney Marsh and District Guild will be held at Tenterden on Saturday, August 26th. Tower open 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Everybody very welcome.—J. G. Powell, Hon. Sec., 1 Woodbury Road, Hawkhurst, Kent.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Moreton Corbet, August 26th. Usual arrangements. Visitors welcome, but tea can only be provided if notice is sent to W. A. Farmer, 70, Oakfield Road, Shrewsbury.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Harpole (5 bells), on Saturday, August 26th. Usual arrangements.—W. C. Moore, 5, Williams Terrace, Daventry, Northants.

CALLING ALL RINGERS.—What about a trip to Woodhouse Eaves on Saturday, August 26th? WHAT'S ON? Why, the monthly meeting of the Loughborough District, M.C.A. WHERE IS IT? Why, it is the well-known health resort of the Charnwood Forest. Beautiful scenery and a fine peal of six bells. Tea arranged if you drop a card to Mr. G. H. Haynes, 31, Main Street, Woodhouse Eaves, Loughborough. Other arrangements as usual.—A. E. Rowley, Hon. Sec.

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS—North-East Branch.—A by-meeting will be held at Huntsham on Saturday, August 26th, to represent an opening day for the recently rehung peal of bells (8), from 3.30. Short service 4.30. Tea will be provided. Any requiring tea or conveyance from Tiverton to Huntsham, please notify me as soon as possible.—R. Harris, Hon. Sec., Park, Silverton, near Exeter.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — The next meeting will be held on Saturday, August 26th, at Hatfield. Bells (8) ready at 3 p.m. Tea will be arranged for those who will require it. A good peal of bells—come and use them. — E. Cooper, Hon. Sec., 6, Grosvenor Crescent, Arksey, Doncaster.

LADIES' GUILD and SURREY ASSOCIATION.—A joint mid-week meeting will be held at Christ Church, Epsom, on Wednesday, August 30th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Tea at the Cricketers, Epsom Common, at 5.30. Service at 6.30. Notifications for tea to be sent to Mr. J. Crawford, 2, Woodcote Side, Epsom, not later than Monday, August 28th. All ringers welcome.—I. R. Housden and F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Secs.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch (Lincoln District) and Eastern Branch.—A joint meeting of the above will be held at Horncastle on Saturday, September 2nd. Bells (6) available from 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea at Church Hall at 5 p.m. Business meeting afterwards. Will all intending to be present for tea please let me know by Monday, August 28th?—W. E. Clarke, Hon. Sec., Eastern Branch, Park House, 99, Norfolk Street, Boston.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, Sept. 2nd, at St. Mary's Church, Rawtenstall. Bells ready 4. Meeting in tower at 6.30. Everybody welcome.—J. Porter, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-West and South-West Divisions.—A joint meeting will be held at Epping Town on Saturday, September 2nd. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea to follow.—W. Wheeler and J. H. Crampion, Hon. Dis. Secs.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Gorseinon on Saturday, September 2nd. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. Numbers for tea by Tuesday, August 29th, certain.—E. Stitch, Hon. Dis. Sec., 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glam.

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PASTON CHURCH, NORFOLK.—New treble bell, to complete ring of six, and new electric clock, by Gillett and Johnston, to be dedicated September 2nd, 4 p.m., by Rev. J. F. Williams, Rector of South Walsham. Ringers are invited. Vicar kindly providing tea, and asks prior notification of the numbers attending.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. Mary, Hendon, on Saturday, September 2nd. Bells available 3.30 p.m. Notices for tea (1s. per head) to be sent to me by Tuesday, 29th. Methods for special attention, Double Court, Bob Minor and London Surprise Minor. Other methods will be rung as required.—T. J. Lock, Hon. Dis. Sec., 57, Holloways Lane, North Mimms, Hatfield, Herts.

ALDENHAM.—Saturday, September 2nd. Changes of all description at your disposal.—Herts Association.

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—Exeter Branch.—A meeting will be held at Christow, on September 2nd. Service 4.30. Tea at 5, 1s. each. Trusham and Ashton will also be visited. Motor coach leaves Paul Street Park 2.45. Seats, 1s. 6d. to members, non-members 3s. Please notify me by Aug. 26th.—W. H. Howe, 8, Courtenay Road, Exeter.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—A meeting will be held at Ash on Saturday, September 2nd. Bells (8) available from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea following at 1/- per head. Names for tea, please, to :—Mr. W. C. Goldup, Durlock, Ash, Canterbury, not later than Thursday, August 31st.—B. J. Luck, 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—A special memorial service for ringers will be held at St. Mary's Church, Barnsley, on Saturday, September 9th, as a tribute to the late president, Mr. C. D. Potter, of Barnsley. Please reserve the date, as all ringers are cordially invited to join in. Further particulars later.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., Rock Cottages, Shafton, near Barnsley.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—The above society will hold a dinner at the Molineux Hotel, Wolverhampton, on Saturday, November 18th, at 6.30 p.m. Tickets 3s. 6d. Further announcement later.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—The address of Mr. E. W. Pye is now Little Coleman's Cottage, Stanford Rivers, Ongar, Essex.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 1,483. Vol. XXXIV. FRIDAY, AUGUST 25th, 1939. [Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.] Price 3d.

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A SIGN OF THE TIMES.

The fact that in the last three successive weeks we have been able to record that three ringers have reached an individual total of five hundred peals each is, we think, a sign of the times and one more indication of the growth of peal ringing. It is quite true that a considerable number of ringers have passed this total; perhaps nearly fifty in all, but that, within a few days, three more should top their fifth century is not a little significant. Peal ringing which reaches to these limits is no mere flash in the pan. Such a total means years of persistent effort, and if it is, by comparison, a lesser landmark in a man's ringing career than the four figure totals, it is, nevertheless, an achievement in which a ringer may justifiably take pride.

There are very few of the men who have rung five hundred peals who have given less than forty years' service to ringing, and in going over the names that come to mind one realises that they are among those who have not only filled their part as Sunday service ringers, but are among the most loyal and diligent in performing their duty to the Church. In this respect they are an example to many who, looking upon peal ringing as, often, a selfish hobby, are themselves lax and sometimes indifferent to the demands of service ringing. The enthusiasm which has prompted the long and consistent devotion to peal ringing has led to an equally consistent devotion to the other object of church bell ringing.

But these big peal totals represent something else besides the enthusiasm of the individuals. They mark the increasing facilities for the art, both in the rings of bells that can be used for the purpose and in means of access to them; they mark, too, the spread of method ringing and, we think, a greater general knowledge of the art in these days compared with a generation ago. And this is going rapidly on. There are young men to-day coming up hand over fist with their peal records and doing things in three or four years which took their grandfathers a lifetime. Some of these members of the new generation are racing towards their five hundredth peal. We hope, as they do so, they will remember that much of their success is due to those who have gone before, to the encouragement they have received and the facilities that have been made for them.

In a somewhat similar connection a few weeks ago we mentioned that a peal, in the early days of some of the older men amongst us, was a real triumph. A success was hard earned, and we rather doubt whether in the welter of peals rung to-day quite the same satisfaction is to be obtained as was the case in a peal rung forty or

(Continued on page 538.)

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fifty years ago. Numerical progress was much slower then for the individual. The prowess of the younger generation in peal ringing is, of course, a matter of congratulation; it betokens well for the future, but it is not out of place to remember the struggles of the past. Compare, for instance, the sixty or more peals rung last year by more than one of the younger generation, or the three hundred rung by a young man barely twenty, with the lifelong work of some bygone ringers. James Barham, probably the greatest peal ringer of his day, took forty-nine years to ring 111 peals; Henry Haley, one of London's leading ringers in the middle of last century, was forty-three years ringing 182 peals, while the great Henry Johnson, of Birmingham, was fifty-four years in scoring about a hundred and fifty peals. Times have changed and vastly so, but we sometimes wonder whether we give all the credit that is due to the men who, in the past, laid the foundations upon which the successes of to-day are built.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

LEICESTER.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 19, 1939, in Three Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5280 CHANGES;
Tenor 25 cwt.

ALFRED H. PULLING ...	...*Treble*	FREDERICK H. DEXTER ...	7
HAROLD J. POOLE	2	HAROLD G. JENNEY	8
MRS. H. J. POOLE	3	JOHN H. B. HESSE	9
HARRY BROUGHTON	4	C. FERGUSON HOWITT ...	10
HARRY G. WAYNE	5	ARNOLD BRUNTON	11
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON... ...	6	JOHN T. GRANT	...*Tenor*

Composed by F. H. DEXTER. Conducted by A. BRUNTON.
400th peal by Fred H. Dexter.

TEN BELL PEALS.

COALBROOKDALE, SHROPSHIRE.
THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, August 16, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;
Tenor 19 cwt. in D.

WILLIAM SAUNDERS ...	...*Treble*	ARTHUR PRITCHARD	6
JOHN PERRY	2	BARNABAS G. KEY	7
E. DENNIS POOLE	3	EDWARD V. RODENHURST...	8
NORMAN G. LEECH	4	WALTER LAGO	9
RICHARD J. WARRILOW ...	5	*EDWARD W. VAUGHAN	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. HAYWARD. Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.

* First peal on ten bells. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute to the memory of the late John Overton, of Bridgnorth, and of Edward Howell, 50 years a sidesman at Coalbrookdale Church.

DUDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, August 19, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS.
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES;

GILBERT T. GUEST ...	...*Treble*	HAROLD SHUCK	6
JOHN GOODMAN	2	HENRY HUBBALL	7
GEORGE HUGHES	3	NORMAN G. LEECH	8
HERBERT SHEPPARD	4	WALTER FARLEY	9
WILLIAM SAUNDERS	5	THOMAS H. JUSTICE ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by WM. MICKLEWRIGHT. Conducted by JOHN GOODMAN
Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Miss Betty Guest, daughter of the ringer of the treble.

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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

FRESSINGFIELD, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Saturday, August 12, 1939, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 17 cwt.

FREDERICK C. GUNTON	*Treble*	ROBERT RICHES	5
*ERNEST A. HEAD	2	FREDERICK W. MUNNINGS	6
ERNEST WHITING	3	*EDWARD L. ETHERIDGE	7
STANLEY W. COPLING	4	CHARLES W. LOOME	*Tenor*

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by C. W. LOOME.
* First peal in the method. A birthday compliment to E. A. Head.

CREDITON, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
On Saturday, August 12, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes
AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 27 cwt. in D.

WILLIAM H. HOWE	*Treble*	HORACE M. BUTT	5
JOHN ARBURY	2	CHARLES J. TURNER	6
CHARLES R. LILLEY	3	ARTHUR TRUMAN	7
JAMES E. LILLEY	4	A. PATRICK CANNON	*Tenor*

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.
The first peal of Major on the bells.

OLDHAM, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, August 12, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS, MOORSIDE,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 18 cwt.

STEPHEN L. PARRY	*Treble*	*HARRY BYROM	5
HAROLD HAMER	2	*SELWYN H. DEARDEN	6
FRANK REYNOLDS	3	ALBERT BOCKLEY	7
JOHN MEADOWCROFT, JUN.	4	IVAN KAY	*Tenor*

Composed by C. K. LEWIS. Conducted by F. REYNOLDS.
* First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor. Rung on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. Fred Pollit.

WRITTLE, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, August 12, 1939, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;
Tenor 18½ cwt.

*CHRISTOPHER JAGGARD	*Treble*	PERCY GREEN	5
*NORMAN F. GRINHAM	2	ARTHUR H. EVERETT	6
THOMAS LINCOLN	3	LEWIS W. WIFFEN	7
*JOHN M. GAYFORD	4	ALBERT WIFFEN	*Tenor*

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by L. W. WIFFEN.
* First peal in the method.

RIPPONDEN, YORKS.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, August 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 10½ cwt.

JOHN MEADOWCROFT, JUN.	*Treble*	HAROLD HAMER	5
FRANK RHODES	2	DENNIS HOLLOS	6
SELWYN H. DEARDEN	3	IVAN KAY	7
HARRY BYROM	4	*HAROLD STANLEY	*Tenor*

Conducted by IVAN KAY.
* First peal. First peal of Stedman on the bells.

J. A. TROLLOPE'S **'COLLEGE YOUTHS'**
A History of the Society
5/6 (post free) from
'THE RINGING WORLD' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

FRAMLINGHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Monday, August 14, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

JOHN HALL	*Treble*	GEORGE WATERMAN	5
ALFRED H. WATSON	2	HARRY HALL	6
DAISY M. ANDREWS	3	URBAN W. WILDNEY	7
SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER	4	CECIL W. PIPE	*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER
A birthday peal for U. W. Wildney and his 100th peal.

BROMLEY, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, August 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

JOHN E. LYDDIARD	*Treble*	PERCY J. SPICE	5
*HAROLD S. BLACKETT	2	JAMES BENNETT	6
MISS HILDA OAKSHETT	3	EDMUND MOUNTER	7
FREDERICK E. PITMAN	4	JIM HURRELL	*Tenor*

Conducted by J. BENNETT.
* First peal in the method. Quickest peal on the bells. Specially arranged as a compliment to the ringer of the 7th on the eve of the 40th anniversary of his wedding day.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, August 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt.

ERNEST J. BUTLER	*Treble*	FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN	5
MRS. F. W. HOUSDEN	2	ERNEST W. PYE	6
GEORGE R. PYE	3	ERNEST W. FURBANK	7
CHARLES T. COLES	4	JAMES BENNETT	*Tenor*

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by J. BENNETT.

OLD WINDSOR, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tuesday, August 15, 1939, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb.

WILLIAM HENLEY	*Treble*	CORNELIUS CHARGE	5
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL	2	*WALTER W. PHIPPS	6
WILLIAM WELLING	3	NORMAN V. HARDING	7
JAMES A. GLASS	4	WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM	*Tenor*

Composed by CORNELIUS CHARGE. Conducted by WM. BIRMINGHAM
* First peal of Major.

SCUNTHORPE, LINCS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tuesday, August 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-EVANGELIST,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 18½ cwt.

FRED LACEY	*Treble*	*PHILIP BARNES	5
MRS. J. BRAY	2	GEORGE W. MOODY	6
FRANK LORD	3	JACK BRAY	7
ERNEST BRITTAIN	4	WALTER AYRE	*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by WALTER AYRE.
* First peal of Surprise Major.

ROBIN HOOD'S BAY, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, August 16, 1939, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN, FYLINGSDALE,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 11¾ cwt. in G.

GEORGE F. ALEXANDER	*Treble*	GEORGE ROBINSON	5
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER	2	STANLEY B. DOBBIE	6
WALTER H. DOBBIE	3	LEONARD DRAKE	7
ARTHUR ARMITAGE	4	RONALD H. DOVE	*Tenor*

Composed by O. LANG. Conducted by THOMAS H. TAFFENDER.

BUSHEY, HERTS.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, August 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, BRISTOL, SUPERLATIVE & CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

FRANCIS A. SMITH	...Treble	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW	5
HENRY HODGETTS	2	CECIL C. MAYNE	6
STEPHEN H. HOARE	3	EDWIN JENNINGS	7
CHARLES T. COLES	4	HAROLD G. CASHMORE	...Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

The peal consisted of 2,240 London, 1,664 Bristol and 576 each of Superlative and Cambridge, with 115 changes of method.

LOWESTOFT, SUFFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, August 17, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 13¾ cwt.

*JOHN AUSTIN	...Treble	ERNEST NEWSON	5
EDWIN R. GOATE	2	†PETER KINDRED	6
MISS KATHLEEN LEWIS	3	RICHARD W. R. COATES	7
MISS DOROTHY CONSTANCE	4	C. FREDERICK SAYER	...Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by E. R. GOATE.

* First peal. † First peal of Treble Bob 'inside.'

SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, August 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14¼ cwt.

*JOHN E. CLARKE	...Treble	WALTER P. WHITEHEAD	5
CHARLES MARSHALL	2	ERNEST MORRIS	6
ALFRED BALLARD	3	WILLIAM BOTTRILL	7
W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON	4	EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD	...Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by W. P. WHITEHEAD.

* First peal in the method.

CLIFFE-AT-HOO, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 19, 1938, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

HERBERT A. HOLDEN	...Treble	EDWIN A. BARNETT	5
JAMES BENNETT	2	FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN	6
MRS. F. W. HOUSDEN	3	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY	7
HARRY HOVERD	4	PHILIP A. CORBY	...Tenor

Composed by E. A. BARNETT. Conducted by P. A. CORBY.

First peal in the method on the bells.

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

On Saturday, August 19, 1939, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S SIX-PART (No. 13 C.C.C.).

Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 15 lb. in G.

GEORGE E. LARGE	...Treble	RAYMOND C. SAYERS	5
ERNEST WILSON	2	ERNEST F. COBBERLEY	6
DENNIS R. SAYERS	3	REGINALD WOODYATT	7
HORACE HOUGH	4	FREDERICK G. YATES	...Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE

BOCKING, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 19, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE DEANERY CHURCH.

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 18¾ cwt.

H. WALTER SMITH	...Treble	FRANK CLAYDON	5
MISS HILDA G. SNOWDEN	2	RONALD SUCKLING	6
REGINALD MARTIN	3	LEWIS W. WIFFEN	7
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	4	BASIL REDGWELL	...Tenor

Composed by T. HAIGH. Conducted by C. W. WOOLLEY.

First peal in the method as conductor.

GREAT TEW, OXFORDSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 19, 1939, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation).

Tenor 22 cwt. 0 qr. 10 lb. in D.

HARRY C. JONES	...Treble	ROLAND BIGGS	5
JAMES W. WILKINS	2	*LEONARD CLIFTON	6
WILLIAM J. CROSS	3	PERCY NEWTON	7
ARTHUR G. JANES	4	WALTER LEE	...Tenor

Conducted by PERCY NEWTON.

* First peal 'inside.'

HOLLESLEY, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
(ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, August 19, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE	...Treble	CHARLES J. SEDGLEY	5
HOBART E. SMITH	2	FRANK L. FISHER	6
GEORGE A. FLEMING	3	*PHILIP C. BICKNELL	7
SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER	4	CECIL W. PIPE	...Tenor

Composed by JAMES HUNT. Conducted by CHARLES J. SEDGLEY.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

MITCHAM, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt.

DAVID WRIGHT	...Treble	CHARLES POTHECARY	5
WILLIAM H. JOINER	2	EDGAR HANCOX	6
EDWIN L. MILES	3	WILLIAM S. SMITH	7
PERCY E. JONES	4	CHARLES W. R. GRIMWOOD	...Tenor

Conducted by EDGAR HANCOCK.

Rung as a farewell peal to W. H. Joiner.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

GOSBERTON, LINCS.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, August 3, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Double Court, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Single Oxford, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 17 cwt. in E.

EDWARD BARKER	...Treble	WALLACE COUSINS	4
LEWIS BUSH	2	CLAUDE COUSINS	5
WILLIAM BUCKENHAM	3	TONY PRICE	...Tenor

Conducted by TONY PRICE.

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GREAT BROMLEY, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, August 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Consisting of one extent each of London, York, Cambridge and Norwich Surprise, Double Court, Kent Treble Bob and Oxford Treble Bob.
Tenor 15 cwt. in E.

GEORGE A. ANDREWS ...	...*Treble*	CHARLES A. ANDREWS ...	4
ALFRED PRIOR	2	HARRY J. MILLATT	5
RONALD SUCKLING	3	ALAN R. ANDREWS ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.

GLASTON, RUTLAND.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, August 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

G. KING...	...*Treble*	S. TOWELL	4
S. MILLS	2	G. PEPPERDAY	5
F. TOWELL	3	T. SCOTT	...*Tenor*

Conducted by G. PEPPERDAY.

PERLETHORPE, NOTTS.
THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, August 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-EVANGELIST,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Court Bob, Double Court, Cambridge Surprise, St. Clement's, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob.

*FRRDERICK FLINT ...	...*Treble*	*ARTHUR E. CHILTON... ...	4
*GEORGE E. FOSTER	2	CLIFFORD A. VESSEY ...	5
HAROLD DENMAN	3	HERBERT T. ROOKE ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by H. T. ROOKE.
* First peal in seven methods. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Miss Alice Chilton.

SNAITH, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, August 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being an extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Double Oxford Bob, St. Clement's Bob, Plain Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and two extents of Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 12 cwt. in F sharp.

*LESLIE WOODHEAD ...	...*Treble*	MRS. E. BRADLEY	4
ROBERT H. VIGOR	2	HORACE S. MORLEY	5
FRED TERRY	3	EDWARD BRADLEY ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by E. BRADLEY.
* First peal of Minor.

ALLENSMORE, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, August 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 11 cwt.

W. HENRY YOUNG ...	...*Treble*	TRACEY H. YOUNG	4
JAMES TAYLOR	2	A. JAMES YOUNG	5
REV. C. G. LITTLEHALES ...	3	ARTHUR J. HARRIS ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by T. H. YOUNG.
Rung half-muffled as a token of the very deepest respect to the late Alfred T. Kitson.

PUBLOW, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, August 13, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Forty-two six-scores in ten callings. Tenor 21¼ cwt.

FRANCIS C. MOGFORD...	...*Treble*	LESLIE B. COLES...	4
RONALD W. TREASURE ...	2	WILLIAM WEBB...	5
LEONARD S. COLES	3	EDWARD GILL	...*Tenor*

Conducted by F. C. MOGFORD.
Rung as a wedding peal for the conductor and Miss Susan Ellen Drake, of Aber, South Wales, who were married at this church on August 7th.

GREAT DODDINGTON, NORTHANTS.
On Thursday, August 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Ten different 120's and 16 variations of A. J. Pitman's 240's.
Tenor 6½ cwt.

*MISS EVA SCARR	...*Treble*	*CHARLES W. PARTRIDGE ...	3
ARTHUR REEDER	2	GEORGE BRAFIELD	4
WILLIAM G. CALLIS ...	...*Tenor*		

Conducted by WILLIAM G. CALLIS.
* First peal. First peal as conductor.

GREAT EASTON, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, August 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 of Cambridge Surprise, two 720's of Kent Treble Bob, three of Oxford Treble Bob and one of Plain Bob.

JOSEPH C. JENNINGS ...	...*Treble*	RICHARD PORTWAY	4
*MISS L. MAY MILLER ...	2	DOUGLAS JENNINGS	5
DONALD JENNINGS	3	GEORGE SAUNDERS ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. C. JENNINGS.
* First peal in four methods.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BURTON-ON-STATHER, LINCS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, August 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,
AT TRENTWOOD,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

MRS. J. BRAY	1-2	WALTER AYRE	5-6
JACK BRAY	3-4	PHILIP BARNES	7-8

Composed by J. REEVES (adapted). Conducted by WALTER AYRE

BURTON-ON-STATHER, LINCS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wednesday, August 16, 1939, in Two Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT TRENTWOOD,
A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

MRS. J. BRAY	1-2	GEORGE E. FEIRN	5-6
FRANK LORD	3-4	*WALTER AYRE	7-8

Composed by W. ROYLE. Conducted by WALTER AYRE.
* 100th peal 'in hand' as conductor.

BURTON-ON-STATHER, LINCS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Friday, August 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Nineteen Minutes,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation).

MRS. J. BRAY	1-2	JACK BRAY	5-6
WALTER AYRE	3-4	ERNEST BRITTAIN...	7-8

Conducted by J. BRAY.

WEDDING OF NORTHAMPTONSHIRE RINGERS.

BRIDE A MEMBER OF WALGRAVE LADIES' BAND.

Both church bellringers, Mr. Herbert John Simons, only son of Mr. and Mrs. John Simons, of Moulton, and Miss Jessie Evelyn Walden, fifth daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Walden, of Wold Road, Walgrave, were married at Walgrave Church on July 29th.

The bride is a member of the women's bellringing team at Walgrave, and the bridegroom a ringer at St. Edmund's Church, Northampton, and at Moulton Church. The bride is also a member of the choir and the Girls' Friendly Society at Walgrave.

The ceremony was conducted by the Rev. A. T. Segger (Rector).

Given away by her father, the bride wore a rose pink cloque gown with a pink tulle veil, held in place by a headdress of mother-of-pearl leaves. She carried a bouquet of pink tea roses.

Miss Nellie Walden (sister of the bride), Miss Lily Simons (sister of the bridegroom) and Miss Vera Addington (friend of the bride) were the bridesmaids. Mr. Robert Mottram acted as best man.

As the Walgrave ringers were busy, either in connection with the ceremony or in the subsequent festivities, a team from the Northampton Branch of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild came to do the honours on the bells. They were Messrs. Joe Dean, Tom Tebbutt, George Valentine, George Freeman and Tom Law.

A HOLIDAY 'BAG.'

PORTISHEAD, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 5, 1939, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

EDITH K. FLETCHER ...	...*Treble*	STEPHEN H. WOOD	5
NORAH G. WILLIAMS... ...	2	CHRISTOPHER R. WALKER ...	6
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	3	GEORGE W. FLETCHER ...	7
*ERNEST J. TAYLOR	4	JOSEPH T. DYKE	...*Tenor*

Composition C.C. Collection No. 40.

Conducted by JOSEPH T. DYKE.

* 50th peal.

SHERBORNE, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, August 7, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,

AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 46 cwt. 0 qr. 5 lb.

EDITH K. FLETCHER ...	...*Treble*	CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	5
CHRISTOPHER R. WALKER	2	STEPHEN H. WOOD	6
*HERBERT KNIGHT	3	GEORGE W. FLETCHER ...	7
ERNEST J. TAYLOR	4	ALBERT LAWRENCE ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by EDITH K. FLETCHER.

* 500th peal.

YEOVIL, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, August 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5067 CHANGES;

Tenor 40 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb.

CHRISTOPHER R. WALKER ...	*Treble*	EDMUND BARRINGTON	6
HERBERT KNIGHT	2	ALBERT LAWRENCE	7
FRANK W. PERRENS	3	SIDNEY A. RICKETTS	8
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	4	JOSEPH T. DYKE	9
TREVOR MARES	5	GEORGE W. FLETCHER	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. E. GROVES. Conducted by HERBERT KNIGHT.

HANDBELL PEAL.

YEOVIL, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, August 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE THREE CROWNS HOTEL.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

EDITH K. FLETCHER	1-2	CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	5-6
FRANK W. PERRENS	3-4	JOSEPH T. DYKE	7-8

Conducted by C. W. WOOLLEY.

Witnessed by the other members of the party.

BEAMINSTER, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, August 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

ALBERT LAWRENCE	...*Treble*	HERBERT KNIGHT	5
EDITH K. FLETCHER	2	CHRISTOPHER R. WALKER ...	6
FRANK W. PERRENS	3	GEORGE W. FLETCHER ...	7
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	4	JOSEPH T. DYKE	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. H. MIDDLETON. Conducted by JOSEPH T. DYKE

'NORTHCHURCH' IS 'LESSNESS.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am informed that the method rung as 'Northchurch Surprise' on February 11th last was, in fact, 'Lessness Surprise,' first rung at Erith on February 22nd, 1937.

The footnote should, therefore, read 'First peal in the method on the bells, by all the band and by the association.'

H. G. CASHMORE.

Watford.

PEAL NOTES.

MR. HERBERT KNIGHT REACHES FIVE HUNDRED PEALS.

Another well-known ringer has scored his five hundredth peal. By a coincidence, Mr. Herbert Knight, of Wolverhampton, hon. secretary for more than thirty years of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford reached this total on the same day as his old ringing friend, Mr. Albert Walker, of Birmingham. Mr. Knight rang his five hundredth peal at Sherborne Abbey on August Bank Holiday, when he took part in a peal of Stedman Triples rung during a holiday ringing week in Somerset and Dorset.



MR. HERBERT KNIGHT.

Mr. Knight is a Devon man, but his ringing career began in Somerset, for he was taught to pull a bell at Highbridge in 1889. He followed up the art when he removed to Wolverhampton and rang his first peal on December 1st, 1894, at St. Peter's Collegiate Church, to which he has been attached ever since and where he has been leader for more than 30 years.

Among the interesting performances included in Mr. Knight's 500 peals are 7,019 Grandsire Caters at Wolverhampton in 1897 and 11,563 Grandsire Caters in the same tower in 1899. He took part in 1909 at Wednesbury in the first peal of Double Oxford Bob Royal, and at Christ Church, West Bromwich, in 1911, in the first peal of Erin Cinques. In 1930 he rang in a strictly non-conducted peal of Stedman Triples at Brewood, Staffs.

Mr. Knight is one of the very few people to call a peal blindfolded, in fact he was the first to do so on tower bells. On October 12th, 1907, with his eyes bandaged, he conducted Thurstans' one-part peal of Stedman Triples at St. Luke's Church, Wolverhampton. Mr. Knight has conducted peals of Stedman from Doubles to Cinques, and Plain Bob from Minor to Maximus. He has also rung peals of Cambridge Surprise from Minor to Maximus.

NEARING A DOUBLE.

Another interesting 'double' may shortly materialise. Both Mr. C. T. Coles, hon. secretary of the Middlesex Association, and Mr. James Bennett are nearing one thousand peals. They are within the last two or three, with Mr. Coles about one ahead. It is not a race, but a question of fitting in the peals so that they may ring their 1,000th together. Their most recent successes are recorded in our peal columns this week.

The peal of Cambridge Surprise Major at South Wigston, Leicestershire, on August 17th, was specially arranged for Mr. William Bottrill, who was paying a flying visit to his home town.

Mr. George E. Large rang his fiftieth peal as conductor for the Worcestershire Association on Saturday at Hanbury. It was also his fiftieth peal with Mr. R. Woodyatt. Oxford Bob Triples was rung after an abortive attempt for Mr. John Carter's method, Darlaston Bob Triples, which just would not go.

The peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major at Cliffe-at-Hoo, Kent, on Saturday, the first in the method on the bells, was rung to a new composition by E. A. Barnett:—

		M	W
23456			
52436		—	
34625	A	—	—
64523		—	
25346		—	—
42356		—	
32546	A (four courses)		

Continued		M	W
43526		—	—
25634		—	—
32654		—	—
62453		—	
54326		—	—
34256	A (four courses)		
53246		—	
23456	A (four courses)		

The first peal of Double Norwich on the bells at Hollesley, Suffolk, was rung on Saturday. It was the first attempt for a peal in the method by Philip Bicknell.

Mr. William H. Joiner, after 32 years' connection with Mitcham, Surrey, is leaving the district. Last Saturday a farewell peal of Stedman Triples was rung at SS. Peter and Paul's Church, in which Mr. Joiner took part with some of his old friends.

The bells of Coalbrookdale, Salop, were rung half-muffled to a peal of Grandsire Caters on August 16th as a tribute to the memory of both Mr. John Overton, the Bridgnorth veteran, and Mr. Edward Howell, who was for 50 years a sidesman at Coalbrookdale Church.

A peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, rung at Framlingham, Suffolk, on August 14th, was arranged for the birthday of Mr. Urban Wildney, of Kirby-le-Soken, Essex, and was also his one hundredth peal. His peals have been rung in 40 towers with 114 ringers.

Miss Sylvia Bowyer, the conductor of the peal, is the first lady to call a peal at Framlingham.

A UNIQUE COMPOSITION.

Mr. Fred H. Dexter, of Leicester, rang his 400th peal on Saturday and 'dished up' something unique in the way of a composition of Stedman Cinques (called by Arnold Brunton) for the occasion.

Three Guildfordians were in the peal, and Mr. Alfred Pulling had the great pleasure of again ringing a peal with Mrs. H. J. Poole, their last together having been rung 19 years ago.

Mr. Fred Dexter's composition of 5,280 is as follows:—

2314567890x	4	5	6	7	16	17	18	19
31542768x90	—	—	—	—		—		
143526			—		—	—	—	—
432517	—	—	—	—		—		
354216			—		—	—	—	—
541237	—	—	—	—		—		
425136			—		—	—	—	—
253147	—	—	—	—		—		
512346			—		—	—	—	—
124357	—	—	—	—		—		
124356			S			S		S

Three times repeated. First course of first part only opens with Bob 1. In the last course of the peal add S10 S13 Bob 22.

Mr. Alfred T. Kitson, aptly described as one of Nature's gentlemen, who was for 50 years a ringer at Allensmore, Herefordshire, has recently passed away. A peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung half-muffled on the bells of his Parish Church on August 12th as a last tribute of deep respect to his memory.

The 5,056 of Bob Major at Old Windsor on August 15th was a peal by Mr. Cornelius Charge, which he composed in the Queen's Street, Auckland, Branch of the Bank of New Zealand in 1936. It had not been rung before and it was fitting that the composer should take part in it on his return to the mother country.

The composition is one of those four-part peals with two Befores and one Middle in each part. Mr. Charge composed one on similar lines in 1901—a long gap.

Mr. W. H. Fussell, who has made a welcome return to peal ringing after his long enforced absence, scored his 1,150th peal on this occasion.

As a coming-of-age compliment to Miss Alice Chilton, sister of one of the ringers, a peal in seven Minor methods was rung at Perlethorpe, Notts, on August 12th.

THE 'SPICE' OF FAILURES.

A peal of Cambridge Major at Scunthorpe and three peals on handbells at Burton-on-Stather were part of Mr. Walter Ayre's holiday last week in Lincolnshire. In the course of them he rang his 100th peal 'in hand' as conductor and his 175th peal for the Lincoln Diocesan Guild.

A frayed rope put 'paid' to Little Bob Major at Barton on the 10th, a shift course occurred in the same method on Sunday, and an extra bob in St. Clement's on Monday added 'spice' to the week.

A peal of Spliced Surprise in four methods at Bushey on August 17th was Messrs. H. G. Cashmore and E. Jennings' 50th peal together.

Three ringers scored their first peal, one of them, Miss Eva Scarr, at the first attempt, at Great Doddington, Northants, on August 17th. It was also Mr. W. G. Callis' first peal as conductor. Great Doddington Church has five bells, and Grandsire Doubles, in six-scores and Pitman's 240's, were rung.

The first peal of Major on the bells at Crediton, Devon, where the tenor is 27 cwt., was rung on August 12th. Change ringing at Crediton is no easy matter, the ropes are wide apart and four of them hang in a straight line. The peal was arranged for Mr. A. P. Cannon, and the band were indebted to Mr. J. E. Lilley, who, having come to hear the peal, was pressed into service owing to one of the selected band not arriving in time. Local ringers who heard the peal congratulated the band on the excellent striking.

A KENT ASSOCIATION JUBILEE.

THE FIRST PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES.

A peal of Stedman Triples was attempted at Crayford on August 17th on the 50th anniversary of the first in the method for the Kent County Association, at the same tower, but was unfortunately lost. The ringers were T. Groombridge, sen. 1, H. Gibbs 2, D. M. Sharp 3, A. S. Richards 4, H. E. Audsley 5, G. V. Murphy 6, E. Barnett 7, H. A. Holden 8.

The ringer of the second, Mr. Harry Gibbs, who now lives at Brede, Sussex, rang the tenor to the original peal, which was his first. Mr. Challis Winney is the only other survivor of the band.

The Kent Association had been established nine years before this first peal of Stedman Triples was rung for it. It was called by the late Mr. F. G. Newman.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

After being closed about two months for restoration, the tower of St. Thomas' Church, Keresley, Coventry, is open again for the usual Sunday service ringing and practice on Monday evenings. Bell founders have been invited to tender for a new treble to complete the peal of six, the ringers having already raised about £40 towards the cost.

The first time Holt's Original was ever called by one of the ringers taking part in the peal was on August 22nd, 1752, at St. Michael-at-Coslany, Norwich. Exactly two months later the same band rang it at St. Giles', Norwich, the conductor on both occasions being William Dixon

Henry Hubbard, who afterwards went to live in Leeds and who was the author of one of the ringing text books published about the middle of last century, was born at Norwich on August 25th, 1807.

Another Norwich anniversary which occurs next week is that of the first true peal of Grandsire Triples, which was rung at St. Peter Mancroft on August 26th, 1718.

Benjamin Annable called the first peal on the bells at St. George's, Southwark, a peal of Bob Major, on August 27th, 1750.

HALESWORTH BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Having been asked to correct my reference to the casting of some of these bells, may I amplify my former letter?

William Brend (not Brent) and John, his son, were casting bells at Norwich early in the seventh century. Raven's list dates from 1602 to 1640. In 1611 they cast the Halesworth seventh. This was the year in which Thomas Fella was elected churchwarden and started his book. He must have had something to do with them, and one of them may have written these changes in the book before anything else was therein inscribed: this would account for the figures being on the first page. In 1624 they cast the tenor; the date is on the bell, so that Raven, who on page 114 gives another date, cannot be correct. In 1627 they cast the fifth.

In 1621, the date written inside Fella's book, they were at work at Bramfield nearby, casting the two trebles, apparently in place of a cracked tenor. They may have come over to Halesworth and written out these figures and started the ringers, then a well-established band, in ringing them; this pioneer work leading, as it so often does, to the new orders being given to them, as I have already related.

HERBERT DRAKE.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

REVIVED CHESTERFIELD DISTRICT.

A meeting of the revived Chesterfield District of the Midland Counties Association was held at Eckington on Saturday and was most successful from every point of view, members being present from many towers, including Sheffield Cathedral, Preston, Ecclesfield, Handsworth, Clowne, Staveley, Chesterfield, Old Whittington and local company. The presence of a number of 'out-county' members was greatly appreciated and added to the success of the meeting.

A short service was held by the Rector (the Rev. A. C. Nugee), assisted by his curate (the Rev. Robinson). After an address of welcome by the Rector, the whole company adjourned to the Church Hall for a splendidly served tea, followed by a business meeting. The Rev. A. C. Nugee presided, supported by the district chairman, Mr. W. Palmer.

A very interesting discussion took place with regard to the advisability of drawing up a 'rota' of meetings at various towers throughout the year, and after Mr. George Lewis (Ecclesfield) had made several suggestions, it was decided to appoint the committee to act accordingly.

A letter published in 'The Ringing World' by the Vicar of Chesterfield a few weeks ago with regard to Chesterfield bells was discussed, and Mr. S. Palmer (Sheffield) gave his recollections of the matter as dealt with by the Central Council. Mr. Palmer stated that the likelihood of the bells being put in going order in two or three years' time was rather more favourable than had been apparent for some time.

It was agreed that, whilst the district could not at the moment make any move, the Vicar of Chesterfield could look to the district for support in any future action which might be taken.

At his own request, the Rector of Eckington was elected an hon. member, and two new ringing members were elected, viz., Messrs. D. Culling and W. Marriott, both of Old Whittington.

Votes of thanks were accorded to the Rector for the use of the bells and to the ladies for providing a splendid tea.

The next meeting was arranged to be held at Clowne on Saturday, October 21st.

After the meeting was declared closed, many members accepted the Rector's invitation to look round the garden and grounds and to try his handbells, whilst others returned to the belfry for further ringing.

The ringing during the day varied from rounds (several having their first pull on eight and enjoying it) to Cambridge via Bob Minor, Double Norwich, Bob Major, Stedman and Superlative.

The bells were lowered in peal at the end of a splendid day, which gave the newly re-formed Chesterfield District a thoroughly good send-off.

ANCIENT CUSTOMS.

MR. TROLLOPE QUOTES AUTHORITIES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am afraid I cannot accept Mr. Drake's corrections and perhaps you will allow me to say a word or two about some of the more interesting points he raises.

Mr. Drake doubts my statement that 'in some cases at an obiit the ringing seems to have lasted off and on all the day' and that 'it was the usual thing to send the ringers bread and beer, which they consumed in the belfry.' I formed my conclusions from quite a number of statements and hints in contemporary writings and church accounts. Here are one or two typical instances:—

Bishop Grandison, of Exeter, tried to stop long ringing on the grounds that it did no good to the dead, it annoyed the living and it wore out the fittings of the bells.

Martin Bucer, a learned foreigner, who lived for some years at Cambridge and died there in 1551, in a book on the Church of England, refers to the 'custom still kept up by superstitious men and foolish boys that carry the ringers beer and ale to drink,' and says that 'it is against all reason to ring all the day time and all the night too.'

In the churchwardens' accounts of St. Mary-at-Hill, London, there is a record of payment to a woman for carrying beer to the ringers.

The number of ringers' jugs, dating from the seventeenth century, which still exist shows that at that time it was usual for ringers to have refreshment in the belfry, and I know of nothing to make me believe that the custom in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries was any different, or that religious and sober-minded men either before the Reformation or after saw anything amiss in the practice.

Mr. Drake asks whether there is any reason to suppose that before change ringing was started the bells were rung for any other purposes than before requiems, at the Consecration, for Dirige and for Placebo.

The answer emphatically is 'Yes.' There was plenty of ringing for secular purposes, and even, I have good reason to believe, for 'pleasure,' i.e., as a sport. In addition the bells were rung because there was a general belief that the ringing in some way benefited the souls in purgatory. Hence all the ringing at obiits and funerals and the special bequests of money for the purpose. (It was not muffled ringing or tolling, but ordinary ringing.) Hence, too, the bells were rung all night on All Hallows' Eve 'for all crystyn solls.'

In the Liberate Rolls in the Public Record Office, under the date March 26th, 1246, is this entry: 'To Edward the king's clerk 32s. to feed the friar preachers and the friars minors of London, and 10s. 6d. for celebrating divine service and pealing the bells in the churches of London. All for the soul of the same queen' (Joan, the King's sister, formerly Queen of Scotland).

Another custom done to benefit the dead was the burning of many candles. It was a custom which lasted for many centuries, and even to-day it is quite the usual thing for people to place at night a lighted candle on the coffin of an unburied person.

Mr. Drake objects to my classing together the ringing of bells and the burning of lights at obiits, but the two customs were closely parallel. Both, I suspect, were really survivals of pagan beliefs and customs which had come down from remote antiquity and which Christianity had never really overcome nor assimilated.

The two customs were coupled together by John Wyclif writing in 1380: 'To make solempnyte with dirige & messis & wax & ringynge.' Also in the will of Bartholomew James, a London citizen, who in 1477 left property to the parish of St. Dunstan's-in-the-East on condition that an obiit or anniversary for him and his two wives should be kept 'honestly as it ought to be done, solemnly by note, by the Priests and Clerks of the said Church with wax to be had and spent about the same, ringing of Bells and all other things that belong to the same.

The number of ministers who assisted at these requiems varied, of course, according to the size of the endowment, but there was no lack of them. Quite a large number of men in priest's orders got their living entirely by assisting at these endowed masses for the dead. They were called chanting priests.

Mr. Drake's statement that no one rang rounds or call-changes till after change ringing was attempted is contrary to fact and reason. Change ringing was not introduced until the seventeenth century, but long before that bells in England were rung in a regular and orderly manner, and the promiscuous clashing, which is still done on the Continent, would not have been tolerated here. Shakespeare's well-known comparison of a disordered mind to 'sweet bells jangled' shows quite clearly that the average theatre-going Londoner knew the difference between good striking and bad.

It should not be necessary to remind Mr. Drake that what he saw in Brittany in the twentieth century is no evidence of what went on in England in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries.

It is not historically true that 'when change ringing was well established and there were several rings of bells in a town, a company or society of ringers would be formed and they would be responsible for the ringing in a certain number of towers.'

It is probably true to say that no society was ever responsible for the ringing in any tower. At least I have never found one that was, nor any indication of such a thing. The responsibility, both in pre-Reformation times and after, down to fairly recent times, rested with the parish clerk, and he employed whom he would. The ringers were never at any time part of the ordinary organisation of a parish, nor do the parish authorities (clergy and churchwardens) seem ever to have had direct relations with them. Most of the ringing societies rang for their own pleasure and amusement and did not exist for the purpose of doing any church or parochial ringing.

Of course, there were a lot of supposed rights and vested interests which grew up in the course of years, and the parish clerk was usually in touch with a particular band, of whom he himself probably was one. It is futile of Mr. Drake to speculate as to what a parish clerk would do nowadays, because nowadays there are no parish clerks and have not been for a good many years.

I do not quite see what object Mr. Drake can have in trying to make out that the 'Tintinnalogia' is something different from what it professes to be. The book was printed and published in 1668 as the work of an anonymous writer who called himself 'a Lover of that Art.' He set out to explain the whole of ringing as it was practised in his day, and he brilliantly succeeded. The writing is of a very high literary quality which is maintained throughout, and why Mr. Drake should hold that there were two writers because the first half deals with Plain Changes and the second half with Cross Peals passes the wit of man to understand.

Actually we know from contemporary sources that the book was written by Richard Duckworth, an Oxford University man.

I know no more about the Halesworth endowment than has been made public property, but I should be very much surprised indeed if anyone benefits to-day from the money left in 1539 by William Wallpole. All such bequests were sequestrated by Act of Parliament in 1547, and there is the additional question whether he actually did leave any money for the benefit of future generations. According to Mr. Frederick Lambert's book, the clause in the will reads, 'My Executors to bestow at my burial day among the priests, clerks, poor people, and the ringers, with their bred and drink to value 26/8.' To provide gifts to be distributed on the day of the funeral and to endow ringers permanently are two quite different things. It may be that some other and later bequest has been confused with this one.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

BRISTOL RINGER MARRIED

CONDUCTS HIS OWN WEDDING PEAL.

At Publow, Somerset, on August Bank Holiday, Mr. Francis Cecil Mogford, of Pensford, a member of the band of St. Stephen's, Bristol, and also of Publow, was married to Miss Susan Ellen Drake, of Aber, South Wales.

The ceremony was performed by the Rev. F. W. Thomas, of Hengrove, and the bride, who was given away by her father, wore a two-piece suit of blue French crepe and carried a bouquet of white roses. The bridesmaids (the Misses Phyllis and Edith Cann, of Bristol) were attired in blue crepe-de-chine and their bouquets were of pink sweet peas. The best man was Mr. Leslie Coles and the groomsmen Mr. Leonard Coles and Mr. Reg Mogford.

The bells rang out merrily as the happy couple left the church and later a number of ringers attended the reception at the house of the bridegroom. The many wedding presents included an eight-day striking clock from the Vicar and ringers of Publow, and a carving set from the society at St. Stephen's, Bristol.

A wedding peal of Stedman Caters was rung at St. Stephen's on the following day, and the bridegroom himself conducted another peal in celebration of the occasion at Publow on Sunday, August 13th. In this peal, which was of Grandsire Doubles, the best man and one of the groomsmen also took part. It enabled the conductor to 'complete the circle' to peals in this tower.

HOLIDAY MEETING AT RETFORD.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY AND NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION JOIN FORCES.

Bank Holiday was the occasion of the first joint meeting of the Sheffield District Society and the North Notts Association at Retford. Nearly 50 ringers were present and the bells of East Retford (10), West Retford (6) and Ordsall (6) were kept going during the afternoon and evening. The striking was of a fairly good standard and most of the touches were successfully brought round.

After tea in the hall adjoining East Retford Church, the Vicar (the Rev. D. James) welcomed the ringers to Retford. He regretted that he knew little about their art, although he explained somewhat humorously, that was being remedied. He was certain that those present who knew all about it would enjoy themselves.

Mr C. Haynes, president of the Sheffield Society, proposed votes of thanks to the various clergy for the use of the bells, to those who had arranged the meeting and to the ladies who had prepared tea.

It may be mentioned in passing that the catering arrangements stood up well to the extra pressure of numbers, which could not be anticipated.

Mr. R. Towler extended a welcome from the North Notts Association to the visiting society. He hoped that on some future occasion the visit could be returned in a joint meeting at Sheffield.

Ringing continued after tea until about 8.30, when the company broke up after a very enjoyable day.

NORWICH.

ITS BELLS AND RINGERS IN EARLY TIMES

BY J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

Although during the seventeenth century we have not a single reference to any change ringing or to any ringing society in Norwich, we cannot doubt that the city was one of the earliest places where the art was practised and where it was developed most rapidly. For, when the curtain does rise on the scene, we find a company of ringers inferior to none in the country and superior to any outside the Metropolitan area.

From early times Norwich had many bells. The city was larger than any other in England (Bristol had a larger population, but not, I believe, so great an area) except London, and when, at the close of the fifteenth century, Norfolk became the manufacturing district of England and a wave of prosperity overtook Norwich, most of its 40 parish churches were rebuilt in the then fashionable Perpendicular style. Naturally they vary considerably in size and quality. Some are small; for the sites were restricted and the parishes comparatively



ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH, NORWICH.

poor. But many are large and splendid, and St. Peter Mancroft is one of the finest parish churches in the world. So far as we can judge not one of the London parish churches equalled it and it has few superiors in other towns.

There was bell founding in the city from early times. The first known founder was a man Wilellmus de Norwyco, who cast the bell at Hellesdon towards the end of the fourteenth century, and he was followed by John Sutton, Thomas Potter, Richard Baxter and the Braziers. It was becoming the fashion to increase the number of bells in parish churches and these men were kept busy. There are still about a score of pre-Reformation bells in the city.

At the end of the sixteenth and the beginning of the seventeenth centuries the Norwich foundry was owned by the Brend family. Their bells are to be found all over East Anglia, proof of the popularity of ringing as a sport.

It was no doubt for the sake of ringing that so many of the bells in the Norwich steeples were cast or recast. At St. Mary, Coslany, in the reign of Edward VI., there were four bells. In 1640 the tenor was taken down and recast into two trebles to make a ring of five. In 1682 the process was repeated and the tenor of the five was recast into two bells to make a ring of six. I rang on those bells several times 45 years ago, but about that time the church became dilapidated and the bells were taken down from the tower. They are now, I believe, hung dead in a modern church in the suburbs.

THE ADVENTURES OF ST. ANDREW'S TENOR.

At St. Andrew's there was an early ring of five. When the neighbouring Dominican priory was dissolved and its great church sold to the citizens to be a civic hall the parishioners of St. Andrew's bought the larger of the two bells from the steeple (the other was used as the market bell in the cattle market) and hung it in their Parish Church to be the tenor of the ring there, but probably it did not accord very well with the others. It weighed about 26½ cwt., and when William Brend recast it he reduced the weight to 21 cwt., but it now proved as much too light as before it had proved too heavy. So on the 16th day of April, 1634, it was new cast again by him and made bigger, and then weighed 25 cwt. 'But then proving somewhat too bigg to accord with the rest of the bells & otherwise defective in the casting it was first skivied and then afterwards some part of the head, viz., the upper part of the mayne Connell brake of, by which skiviing & breaking off thirty six pounds of the weight of mettal was taken away and then it wayed 24c. 2qr. 3lb. unto which was added, when it was cast the third tyme 7lb. of pewter being 18 Decemb. 1635 by John Brend & now it wayes according to our own waight, being waigh in Christmas Hollidays 1635 here at our Church 23c. 1qr. 10lb. & there remayne in Mettal which was sold to John Brend 1c. 1qr. for £4-12-0.'

The six at St. Andrew's were for long the heaviest ring in Norwich. In 1704 the big bell was again broken up, the old fifth, which weighs about 16 cwt., became the tenor, and three smaller bells were added to make a ring of eight.

The octave was in 1825 further increased by two bells to make a ring of ten. They were the gift of Thomas Hurry, one of the Norwich ringers and a carpenter and bell hanger by trade. The tale goes that he ordered the bells from Whitechapel hoping to be paid by the parish, but he was disappointed in his hopes and had to make the best of a bad job.

A CURIOUS BELL FRAME.

An interesting thing about St. Andrew's tower is that all through these alterations the same frame has been retained. There is still the frame in which the original five bells hung, dating from the early sixteenth century. It is set diagonally in the bell chamber and as the ring was augmented other frames were built on the top of it, Hurry's two trebles being at the top of a sort of pyramid. One result is that the ropes fell in a very irregular circle, the order being 5, 4, 6, 9, 8, 1, 3, 2, 7, 10; and another was that the bells were very difficult to ring. I believe I was one of the band that rang the last changes in the tower. That was over 40 years ago and now there are neither ropes nor wheels on the bells.

The five at the Cathedral are tuned in the minor scale and the quarter and hour chimes on them are very effective. The bells hang in the central tower and, until the middle of the last century, could be rung. The ringing floor, however, was taken away to open out the lantern and the bells are chimed (if ever they are chimed now) from the triforium.

There never was a parish church in Norwich in the sense that St. Martin's is the parish church of Birmingham, and St. Nicholas' is the parish church of Liverpool, but St. Peter, Mancroft, stands in the market place, its parish contains the Guildhall, and in a very great measure it was looked upon as the municipal church. St. Peter's bells were the ones that were rung on official occasions, they were regarded much as if they were the property of the city and the Mayor gave orders for the ringing and paid the ringers without consulting the church authorities.

As early as the middle of the fourteenth century there were five bells in the steeple and night and morning the curfew was rung. In 1602 a treble was added and in 1672 the octave was completed. In the British Museum is an 18th century manuscript 'Account of the Parish Church of St. Peter of Mancroft in the City of Norwich.' It gives a transcript of all the monuments in the church and a copy of the inscriptions on the bells. Three of them, the fifth, sixth and seventh, dated from before the Reformation. The tenor, which weighed 23½ cwt., was cast in 1618.

Altogether the city contained in 1700 one ring of eight, five of six, twelve of five, and 14 of three bells. St. Andrew's were made eight in 1704, St. Michael's, Coslany, in 1726, and St. Giles' in 1738.

(To be continued.)

QUARTER-PEALS.

FYLINGDALES, YORKS.—On Sunday, August 6th, for evening service at St. Stephen's Church, Fylingdales, Robin Hood's Bay, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: G. W. Welburn (first quarter-peal) 1, J. Alexander 2, Miss Olive L. Ashbrook (London) 3, A. V. Coates (conductor) (Whitby) 4, G. F. Alexander 5, M. Cooper 6, E. Thompson 7, R. K. Mowforth (Bristol) 8.

BECKENHAM, KENT.—For evening service on August 6th, a quarter-peal (1,280 changes) of Cambridge Surprise Major: H. Hoskins 1, Mrs. J. E. Davis 2, Miss M. Rawlings (first attempt for a quarter of Surprise) 3, W. H. Hewett 4, J. E. Davis 5, A. J. W. Hughes (first attempt for a quarter of Surprise 'inside') 6, W. J. Rawlings (first quarter of Cambridge Major) 7, P. A. Corby (conductor) 8.

BELLS OF A HAMPSHIRE VILLAGE.

RESTORATION AT ABBOT'S ANN.

In the little village of Abbot's Ann, Hampshire, the five bells hanging in the church tower have been restored to use again. The three treble bells, one dated 1729 and the other two 1607, have been recast, the remainder tuned and the peal rehung in new fittings in a strengthened frame. The work has been carried out by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston in a very satisfactory manner, the three recast bells making a good splice with the old fourth and tenor, the latter, in F sharp, weighing 9 cwt. 3 qr. 6 lb.

The old inscriptions have been reproduced on the recast bells, with the addition of 'Recast by Gillett and Johnston, Croydon, 1939.' It is probable that the founder at the recasting of the whole ring in 1607 was John Wallis, of Salisbury, who had a considerable business between 1578 and 1624. The old inscriptions are:—

1.—Fear God honovr the King. 1729. I C Harry Cole C W
2.—Hope well I W. 1607.
3.—Love God I W. 1607.
4.—Robert Wells, Aldbourne, Fecit. 1764.
5.—Feare the Lord. 1607. I W.

THE REDEDICATION.

The restored bells were rededicated by the Lord Bishop of Winchester at a special service on Friday week. There was a crowded congregation, among those present being Mr. C. F. Johnston and the following representing the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild: Mr. G. Williams (Master), the Rev. F. S. H. Marle (hon. secretary of the Andover District), Mr. O. Smart (District Ringing Master), Mr. J. Holloway (District Representative on the Committee), Mr. W. Andrews (Winchester), Mr. W. T. Tucker (Eastleigh), etc. The service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. H. E. W. Steedman).

In his address the Bishop said Hampshire had a wonderful tradition of bellringing and he hoped it would long continue. In no other country in the world would they find bells rung in the same kind of way and with the same native skill as in England. Many, when they went overseas, carried with them the memory of English bells.

Speaking of the Abbot's Ann bells in particular, he said they had behind them a wonderful history and it was not the first time they had been rededicated. In 1607 they were recast and no one knew how old the metal in them was. More important still, bells expressed the thanksgiving and prayers of the people of the parish for many years. Bells had their influence on architecture, history and religion. Sometimes they actually made history. Still more did they play their part in worship. They were installed to call people to the worship of God. When they felt inclined to stay at home on Sunday, let them think of the call of the bells. 'Come to church, come to church.' The bells were God's voice calling to the people. Bells helped people who were ill or infirm and could not go to church.

Bells could be a healthy force in a parish, and while he rejoiced with them that their bells were to ring out, he could not help remembering that there were places in the diocese in which there were not only no bells but no churches to which people could be called, as in the districts round Southampton, where there were populations from 10,000 to 20,000 without a church.

After the service various methods were rung on the bells.

Our summary of the Bishop's address is given by the courtesy of the 'Hampshire Chronicle.'

A VISIT TO WORCESTERSHIRE.

Talgarth ringers had their ninth annual outing on August Bank Holiday and were accompanied by friends and relatives. Starting at 8 a.m., they picked up Mr. J. P. Hyett at Hay and then went on to Eardisland, one of the prettiest villages in the county of Hereford, where they were met by Messrs. L. Evans, W. Preece and B. Ellsmore, who joined the party. After ringing rounds for the learners and touches of Grandsire Doubles, Stedman Doubles and Bob Minor, the party made for the old-fashioned village of Cleobury Mortimer, with its leaning spire. The bells are a good ring of six wanting more use, but despite this they go well, with rather big and clumsy ropes. After the ringing the Vicar thanked the visitors for coming and expressed the hope that the local band would take up change ringing. The next stop was Kidderminster, where the party partook of lunch before ringing at St. Mary's Church, where they were met and welcomed by Mr. Woodberry, sen., and later joined by Messrs. C. H. Woodberry, W. Short, J. Bass and B. Ashford. Some of the visitors had the pleasure of ringing on twelve bells for the first time, while the non-ringing members of the party had the pleasure of watching two pretty weddings which took place during ringing. The journey was then continued to Ombersley, where, after hunting and dodging for about half an hour in search of the key of the tower, it was found with one of the ringers, who had mistaken the time of arrival and had gone home. During the ringing the Vicar came up the tower and gave the ringers a hearty welcome. The last tower of the tour was St. Peter's, Droitwich, and after several touches the party went for tea and sight-seeing around the Spa till 9.15 p.m. Home was reached about midnight after a most pleasant day's trip. The methods rung included rounds for those who had not passed their test, Grandsire Doubles, Stedman Doubles, Bob Minor, Grandsire Triples and Caters. The ringers wish to express their most grateful thanks to all the Vicars for the use of the bells, and to the towerkeepers for meeting them and having everything ready.

DIARY OF A WEEK'S HOLIDAY.

PEALS IN SOMERSET AND DORSET.

The Friday and Saturday before August Bank Holiday found many wending their way to Bristol for a holiday with a little ringing. Those who made the trip included Canon G. F. Coleridge, Major J. H. B. Hesse, Mr. and Mrs. C. R. Walker, Miss N. Williams, Miss L. K. Bowling, Messrs. A. A. Hughes, J. T. Dyke, E. J. Taylor, C. W. Woolley, A. Lawrence, S. H. Green and son John, H. Knight, B. White, F. W. Perrens and Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Fletcher. At Bristol the party was joined by Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Wood. Here are extracts from the diary of one of the party:—

SATURDAY.—Two peal attempts, Portishead and St. Mary Redcliffe. The first came home; the latter was unsuccessful, through a call which was something different.

SUNDAY.—Service ringing at St. Mary Redcliffe and Clifton. Departure for the Three Coughs, Yeovil, headquarters for the rest of the week. For evensong, four of the party in a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters at Yeovil Parish Church, with the 'atom' on the tenor. The remainder, known as the rabbits, to Preston Plucknett for Cambridge Minor (720), Plain Bob and Stedman Doubles. It is rumoured that the ringing was good, although the salilles were somewhat elusive.

MONDAY.—Yetminster and Thornford in the morning, with a peal of Stedman Triples at Sherborne Abbey in the afternoon. All the band were newcomers to the tower. Here, for the first time, two members of the party took the wrong turning and were lucky to be in the peal.

TUESDAY.—North Perrott and Bradpole, where the Canon was able to ring Stedman Triples after a lapse of six years. Lunch at the Greyhound, Bridport, where Mr. Northover joined the party. Peal attempt at Bridport, unsuccessful. Tea at Greyhound as guests of Mr. Northover, to whom the party tendered many thanks.

WEDNESDAY.—Early service, with Canon Coleridge celebrating. Ringing at Crewkerne and Chard, and a visit to Forde Abbey. Peal attempt at Ilminster, with Mr. J. Hunt standing in—a bad bend which kept bent, and many fell off their perches.

THURSDAY.—Hardington Mandeville and West Coker. Peal of Stedman Caters at Yeovil and handbell peal of Bob Major at headquarters.

FRIDAY.—South Perrott (where four members of the Aldershot band were found on a non-ringing cycling holiday, complete with dog) and Corscombe. Peal of Cambridge Major at Beaminster. Visit from Mayor of Yeovil in the evening.

SATURDAY.—Whitchurch Canonicorum in the morning. Peal attempt at East Coker with three members of Yeovil band standing in. Unlucky, so rang a quarter-peal of Double Norwich.

SUNDAY.—Service ringing at Sherborne by the remnants of the party together with the Sherborne band and several Yeovil ringers, some of whom cycled, so they said, but there is a doubt about it. They certainly turned up complete with bicycles.

The party tender grateful thanks to all who assisted in making the holiday enjoyable, the incumbents of the various churches for their welcome and facilities given, to all towerkeepers for their services, to the Mayor of Yeovil for his interest in the party's doings, and to the members of the Yeovil band for their many kindnesses.

NOTE.—Many items in the diary have been completely cut out by the Censor.

A THANKOFFERING.

On Sunday, August 20th, at the Church of the Holy Rood, Buckland Newton, Dorset, before evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes): G. Osmond 1, Mrs. G. Rendell 2, C. H. Smart 3, E. T. P. Field (conductor) 4, G. W. Rendell 5, W. Gosney 6. Rung as a thankoffering for the restoration to health of the conductor's wife after her severe illness and to celebrate the baptism of Margaret Elizabeth Jean, daughter of the conductor and granddaughter of the late Rev. E. S. Field, Vicar of Buckland Newton 1907-1936.

VISITORS AT DROITWICH.

A quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, rung at Dodderhill, Droitwich, Worcestershire, before evening service on August 6th, was arranged for Mr. E. Matthews, of Gloucester, who was in Droitwich for the brine treatment. The quarter-peal was rung by A. G. Thomas 1, C. R. Smith 2, D. Potter 3, A. R. Moseley 4, W. H. Raxter 5, E. Matthews (conductor) 6, T. H. Young 7, G. Evans 8. Mr. Potter, from Bromsgrove, arrived unexpectedly in the tower while seven of the band were waiting in the belfry. When the last of the local men arrived one of the others stood out to enable Mr. Potter to ring.

RAINHAM, KENT.—Arranged for P. Fisher, who is serving in the Royal Navy and belongs to Portsmouth, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes) was rung at St. Margaret's, for evensong, on August 20th: *R. Edwards 1, *Kathleen L. Cheal 2, Joan Naylor (first quarter-peal of Major 'inside') 3, P. Fisher 4, F. J. Cheal 5, W. J. Walker 6, G. A. Naylor (conductor) 7, W. L. Rayner 8. *First quarter-peal of Major.

RINGERS' OUTINGS.

A TOUR IN THE MARSHES.

Members and friends of St. Peter's Society, Tunbridge Wells, making up a party of 30, had their annual day's tour on August Bank Holiday. Leaving at 8 a.m., they called first at Staplehurst. Here a peal of eight, with a tenor of 21¾ cwt. in E flat, was put to use in Grandsire, Stedman, Double Norwich and rounds for the learners, and found to 'go' perfectly. The next stop was not actually on the programme, but with Mr. A. J. Battin 'up in front' with the driver, somehow or other the party found themselves at Tenterden, not outside the church, sad to relate, but outside a place called The Cellars. However, a little refreshment and a course or two on the handbells fitted the party for the run to the border of Romney Marsh, the great expanse of rich pastures, with its numerous churches and legends of the 'wool runners,' where the stories of Doctor Syn were unfolded. At Appledore, once a seaport sacked by the Danes, but now high and dry, there is a most interesting church, with a tower having a Norman base, provided with a handy ring of eight, tenor 12¼ cwt., rung from the ground floor. Kent Treble Bob Major, Grandsire, Stedman and rounds were ably 'knocked off.'



BROOKLAND'S QUAINT THREE-TIER TOWER.

Appledore was left on time, no one getting lost as is usual at other times of the day, because the next stop meant lunch. The Ship, New Romney, was the scene of the operation. What an operation! The party is noted for its fine trenchermen, but no one expected quite such a good show. Stanley apparently had learnt a thing or two since he went to reside at Rotherfield. However, this is not the place to give secrets away, and after everything edible had been disposed of and the manager had closed down for the day (the touch was ad lib), the beautiful Church of St. Nicholas, with its great Norman tower, 32ft. square and 100ft. high, was visited. The visitors were met by their old friend, Mr. H. S. Humphrey, the local captain. The eight bells, tenor 19½ cwt., seemed to know Stedman by heart. Unfortunately, the ringers didn't, and what appeared likely to prove a lovely touch still needs a bit on the end. The rounds went all right, so did the Double Norwich, after which the whole party also went. On a handy ring of eight at Lydd, with a tenor of 15 cwt., housed in a fine Perpendicular tower 132ft. high, they put over some very good striking.

Brookland, 'Yes, we are going to ring there,' they told their friends. So they did—120 Grandsire Doubles. The tenor wrong way up, no floor between the bells and ringers, one candle, no windows and everybody crowding round the doorway made this very simple. However, they nearly all had a ring and pronounced it worth while. The five bells hang in a structure entirely of wood, built away from the church, and looking like three giant candle snuffers one upon the other. The fifteenth century saw the building of this steeple, also

(Continued in next column.)

ASSOCIATION SECRETARIES.

GUIDE TO NAMES AND ADDRESSES.

The following are the names and addresses of the secretaries of the principal associations of ringers. The list will be useful in many ways, but its publication is chiefly in order to facilitate the scheme for keeping ringers, who remove from one area to another, in touch with ringing and bringing them into contact with the tower nearest to their new place of residence. When a ringer goes to live in the area of another association, the local secretary should forward his new address, either through his own general secretary, who will pass it on, or direct to the secretary of the association to which the member has gone, and, through him, the ringers in the town to which the member has removed will be able to hunt up the newcomer—if he needs it.

Another purpose of this list is to enable ringers to know where they may obtain information about towers in any district they propose to visit.

Any corrections to the subjoined list should be forwarded for publication:—

Ancient Society of College Youths: Mr. A. B. Peck, Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

Barnsley and District Society: Mr. D. Smith, Rock Cottages, Shafton, near Barnsley, Yorks.

Bath and Wells Diocesan Association: Mr. J. T. Dyke, Chilcompton, Bath.

Bedfordshire Association: Mr. F. J. Plummer, Plantation Road, Leighton Buzzard.

Cambridge University Guild: Mr. M. B. Shaw, Peterhouse, Cambridge.

Chester Diocesan Guild: Rev. M. H. Ridgway, Tarvin Vicarage, Chester.

Cleveland and North Yorks Association: Mr. J. Reed, 67, Hedley Street, Guisborough, Yorks.

Cumberland Association: Mr. W. T. Holmes, 4, Kirkbank, Cockermouth, Cumberland.

Devon Guild: Mr. T. Laver, 21, Cross Park, Heavitree, Exeter.

Doncaster and District Society: Mr. E. Cooper, 1, Grosvenor Crescent, Arksey, Doncaster, Yorks.

Dudley and District Guild: Mr. H. Sheppard, 17, Grange Road, Dudley.

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association: Mr. R. Park, 23, Oaklands Terrace, Darlington.

(Continued in next column.)

RINGERS' OUTINGS.

(Continued from previous column.)

the casting of one of the bells. The rest were cast in 1685. Inside the church (dedicated to St. Augustine) are many interesting features, one of the best being the early Norman font, made of lead, with remarkable ornamentation.

Rye for tea. Ladd, by name and nature, nearly outdid the other food storing champion, but not quite, and old Alec came up a good third. There must be something about the air down that way, or maybe some of the 'boys' had fasted the day before, to make sure of getting their money's worth. A 'Will Hay' act by the captain, and all were ready for the return journey, for that meant more eats, etc., later on. Rolvenden was the last stop, for ringing anyway. The dark brown, fourteenth century tower contains a fine ring of eight, which were soon made good use of to the tune of Bob Major, Grandsire, Stedman and last but not least rounds. Good rounds. Good striking had been the order of the day. Everybody knew beforehand which bell to take in the various touches at each church. This system worked perfectly and much time was saved, besides the ringers being placed in their best positions, fore and aft and in the middle, and everybody having the chance to hear the bells outside the church.

On the way home there was a 'pull up' at the Bull, at Sissinghurst, for the benefit of the body building hand, and then back to the 'Wells.' As usual the day was considered the 'best ever,' especially by Mr. and Mrs. W. Latter, who once again were able to join the party, and, as Mr. Latter has been a member of St. Peter's band for more than 40 years, he should know something about it.

EXETER RINGERS VISIT BARNSTAPLE.

St. Sidwell's, Exeter, ringers went north to Barnstaple for their annual outing, the ten members being accompanied by the Rector (the Rev. H. Lanyon Owen). Leaving Exeter about noon, they rang at the two good peals of eight at Chulmleigh and Bideford and then went on to Tawstock, where there is a beautiful church, containing ancient memorials, heralds, and a time glass on the pulpit to inform the preacher when to finish his sermon. The thanks of the party are due to the caretaker for his lucid explanation. Going on to Barnstaple, the members sat down to dinner at Bromley's Cafe. They next visited Barnstaple Parish Church, where they set the bells going for 30 minutes. The methods rung were Grandsire and Stedman. Leaving for home, the excursionists made a call at the Fortescue Hotel for Mr. Drake's supper. Here two courses of Grandsire Triples were rung on the handbells by Messrs. Drake, Howe, Shepherd and Richardson. Exeter was reached at 11 p.m. after a very enjoyable day.

ASSOCIATION SECRETARIES.

(Continued from previous column.)

East Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Association: Mr. J. W. England, Welwyn, The Common, South Normanton, Derbyshire.
East Grinstead and District Guild: Mr. B. Saunders, 18, New Road, Ridgewood, Uckfield, Sussex.
Ely Diocesan Association: Miss K. Willers, Sweetbriars, Trumpington, Cambridge.
Essex Association: Mr. L. J. Clark, 36, Lynmouth Avenue, Chelmsford.
Gloucester and Bristol Association: Mr. E. Guise, 46a, Tankard's Close, Bristol 2.
Guildford Diocesan Guild: Mr. G. L. Grover, East Clandon, Guildford, Surrey.
Halifax and District Association: Mr. F. Hodgson, 566, Halifax Road, Hightown, Liversedge, Yorks.
Hawkhurst and District Guild: Mr. J. G. Powell, 1, Woodbury Road, Hawkhurst, Kent.
Hereford Diocesan Guild: Rev. E. G. Benson, Burghill Rectory, Herefordshire.
Hertford County Association: Mr. G. W. Cartmel, Duffield, St. Albans.
Huddersfield and District Association: Mr. F. Linfoot, 2, Turnpike Street, Elland, Yorks.
Irish Association: Mr. G. Lindoff, 90, Elford Road, S.C.R., Dublin.
Kent County Association: Mr. F. M. Mitchell, 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.
Ladies' Guild: Mrs. G. W. Fletcher, 45, Walsingham Road, Enfield.
Lancashire Association: Mr. W. H. Shuker, 106, Bank Street, Clayton, Manchester.
Leeds and District Society: Mr. H. Lofthouse, 8, Wortley Road, Upper Armley, Leeds.
Lincoln Diocesan Guild: Mr. F. W. Stokes, Blankney, Lincoln.
Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association: Mr. J. W. Jones, Cartref, Alteryn View, Newport, Mon.
London County Association: Mr. T. W. Taffender, 26, Southway, Raynes Park, S.W.
Middlesex County Association: Mr. C. T. Coles, 21, Vincent Road, E.4.
Midland Counties Association: Mr. E. Morris, 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.
National Police Guild: Insp. H. J. Poole, The Wayside, Narborough Road, Leicester.
North Notts Association: Mr. R. Towler, 69, Ordsall Road, Retford, Notts.
North Staffordshire Association: Mr. A. Thompson, 55, Whitehouse Road, Cross Heath, Newcastle, Staffs.
North Wales Association: Mr. W. Catherall, 19, Cunliffe Walk, Garden Village, Wrexham, North Wales.
Norwich Diocesan Association: Mr. Nolan Golden, Winton, 26, Brabazon Road, Norwich.
Oxford Diocesan Guild: Mr. R. T. Hibbert, 69, York Road, Reading.
Oxford Society: Mr. V. Bennett, 30, Lime Walk, Headington, Oxford.
Oxford University Society: Mr. M. A. C. Frewer, Merton College, Oxford.
Peak District Society: Mr. H. L. Warburton, 72, Causeway Head Road, Dore, near Sheffield.
Peterborough Diocesan Guild: Mr. R. G. Black, Stamford Road, Geddington, Kettering.
Romney Marsh and District Guild: Mr. P. Page, 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.
St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham: Mr. T. H. Reeves, 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham.
Salisbury Diocesan Guild: Rev. F. Ll. Edwards, Kington Magna Rectory, Gillingham, Dorset.
Scottish Association: Mr. C. R. Raine, 21, Grosvenor Crescent, Edinburgh.
Sheffield District Society: Mr. M. E. Wilson, 13, St. Ronan's Road, Sheffield 7.
Shropshire Association: Mr. W. A. Farmer, 70, Oakfield Road, Shrewsbury.
Society of Royal Cumberland Youths: Mr. G. W. Steere, 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.
Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford: Mr. H. Knight, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.
Society of Sherwood Youths: Miss I. Thompson, 52, Lace Street, Dunkirk, Nottingham.
Suffolk Guild: Mr. H. G. Herbert, 61, Acton Lane, Sudbury, Suffolk.
Surrey Association: Mr. E. G. Talbot, 53, Birchwood Avenue, Wallington, Surrey.
Sussex County Association: Mr. S. E. Armstrong, 70, Hollingbury Park Avenue, Brighton.
Swansea and Brecon Guild: Mr. D. G. Williams, Floral Bank, Tan-y-Lan Road, Swansea.
Truro Diocesan Guild: Rev. W. H. R. Trewhella, St. Paul's Vicarage, Truro.
Warwickshire Guild: Mrs. D. E. Beamish, Greenways, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.
Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild: Mr. F. W. Rogers, 52, Samuel Road, Portsmouth.
Worcestershire Association: Mr. J. D. Johnson, Anbyns, Cheltenham Road, Sedgeberrow, Evesham.
Yorkshire Association: Mr. L. G. W. Morris, Heaton, 65, Lilycroft Road, Bradford.

NOTICES.

A JOINT MEETING of the Guildford Diocesan Guild (Chertsey District), the Middlesex County Association (South and West District), the Oxford Diocesan Guild (East Berks and South Bucks Branch) and the Surrey Association (North-Western District) will be held at St. Mary's, Staines, on Saturday, August 26th. Service at 5.15 p.m. Preacher, the Rev. J. R. James (Vicar of Staines). Tea in the Church Rooms at 5.45 p.m. Ringing arrangements: St. Mary's, Staines, from 3 p.m.; Egham, from 3 p.m.; Wraysbury, from 3 p.m. (interval from 6.30 to 7 p.m.). St. Peter's bells will also probably be available. All ringers and friends welcome.—F. E. Hawthorne (Guildford Guild), J. E. Lewis Cockey (Middlesex County Association), A. D. Barker (Oxford Guild) and F. G. Woodiss (Surrey Association), District Hon. Secs.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District. — The next meeting will be held at Ingatestone on Saturday, Aug. 26th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Fryerning bells available after tea.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Upper Arbour Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston and Fylde Branches.—The joint meeting will be held at Preston Parish Church on Saturday, Aug. 26th. Tower open 3 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. Bells (10). All ringers welcome.—A. Blogg and C. Sharples, Branch Secs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Accrington on Saturday, August 26th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Tea provided free. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's Church in North Mimms Park on Saturday, August 26th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m., to be followed by tea at the Churchyard Cottage. (Postcards will greatly help arrangements.) 238 bus from St. Albans to Welham Green stops at Park Gates.—Harold V. Frost, Dis. Sec., 4, Kimberley Road, St. Albans.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.— The next meeting will be held at Newchurch, near Warrington, on Saturday, August 26th. Bells available 3.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—East Farleigh and hops are well known throughout Kent. A welcome awaits all ringers there on Saturday, August 26th, the occasion being a by-meeting of Maidstone District. Usual arrangements, etc.—R. G. Rayfield, Hon. Dis. Sec., Downsview, Spring Lane, Ightham.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Moreton Corbet, August 26th. Usual arrangements. Visitors welcome, but tea can only be provided if notice is sent to W. A. Farmer, 70, Oakfield Road, Shrewsbury.

CALLING ALL RINGERS.—What about a trip to Woodhouse Eaves on Saturday, August 26th? WHAT'S ON? Why, the monthly meeting of the Loughborough District, M.C.A. WHERE IS IT? Why, it is the well-known health resort of the Charnwood Forest. Beautiful scenery and a fine peal of six bells. Tea arranged if you drop a card to Mr. G. H. Haynes, 31, Main Street, Woodhouse Eaves, Loughborough. Other arrangements as usual.—A. E. Rowley, Hon. Sec.

ST. AUGUSTINE'S CHURCH, SCISSETT. — Dedication by the Vicar on Aug. 26th at 2.45 p.m. of bass bell, for future chime of eight, on which will strike the hours. Clock to be restarted by Mr. Charles Buckley, donor. Work has been done by Gillett and Johnston.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — The next meeting will be held on Saturday, August 26th, at Hatfield. Bells (8) ready at 3 p.m. Tea will be arranged for those who will require it. A good peal of bells—come and use them. — E. Cooper, Hon. Sec., 6, Grosvenor Crescent, Arksey, Doncaster.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637). — Meetings for practice during August: *St. Mary-le-Bow, 29th; St. Magnus', 31st. *Business meeting afterwards.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

LADIES' GUILD and SURREY ASSOCIATION.—A joint mid-week meeting will be held at Christ Church, Epsom, on Wednesday, August 30th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Tea at the Cricketers, Epsom Common, at 5.30. Service at 6.30. Notifications for tea to be sent to Mr. J. Crawford, 2, Woodcote Side, Epsom, not later than Monday, August 28th. All ringers welcome.—I. R. Housden and F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Secs.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS. — There will be a practice at St. Leonard's Church, Shoreditch, on Thursday, Aug. 31st, at 6.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—G. W. Steere, Hon. Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch (Lincoln District) and Eastern Branch.—A joint meeting of the above will be held at Horncastle on Saturday, September 2nd. Bells (6) available from 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea at Church Hall at 5 p.m. Business meeting afterwards. Will all intending to be present for tea please let me know by Monday, August 28th?—W. E. Clarke, Hon. Sec., Eastern Branch, Park House, 99, Norfolk Street, Boston.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch. —The next meeting will be held on Saturday, Sept. 2nd, at St. Mary's Church, Rawtenstall. Bells ready 4. Meeting in tower at 6.30. Everybody welcome.—J. Porter, Hon. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District. — A meeting will be held at Ash on Saturday, September 2nd. Bells (8) available from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea following at 1/- per head. Names for tea, please, to :—Mr. W. C. Goldup, Durlock, Ash, Canterbury, not later than Thursday, August 31st.—B. J. Luck, 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — The monthly meeting of the Gloucester Branch will be held at Whitminster on Saturday, Sept. 2nd. Bells (6) open at 3 p.m. Usual procedure. Bus from Commercial Road at 2.45 p.m. Card for tea not later than Aug. 28th will much oblige.—W. H. Harris, Branch Sec., 4, G.W.R. Terrace, Lydney Dock, Lydney, Glos.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Gorseinon on Saturday, September 2nd. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. Numbers for tea by Tuesday, August 29th, certain.—E. Stitch, Hon. Dis. Sec., 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glam.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-West and South-West Divisions.—A joint meeting will be held at Epping Town on Saturday, September 2nd. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea to follow.—W. Wheeler and J. H. Crampion, Hon. Dis. Secs.

PASTON CHURCH, NORFOLK.—New treble bell, to complete ring of six, and new electric clock, by Gillett and Johnston, to be dedicated September 2nd, 4 p.m., by Rev. J. F. Williams, Rector of South Walsham. Ringers are invited. Vicar kindly providing tea, and asks prior notification of the numbers attending.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. Mary, Hendon, on Saturday, September 2nd. Bells available 3.30 p.m. Notices for tea (1s. per head) to be sent to me by Tuesday, 29th. Methods for special attention, Double Court, Bob Minor and London Surprise Minor. Other methods will be rung as required.—T. J. Lock, Hon. Dis. Sec., 57, Holloways Lane, North Mimms, Hatfield, Herts.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — The next meeting will be held at Bolsover Parish Church on Saturday, Sept. 2nd. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. For tea please notify Mr. J. Flint, 45, Oxcroft Lane, Bolsover, by Aug. 29th (so that provision can be made).—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 13, St. Ronans Road, Sheffield 7.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Twyford on Saturday, Sept. 2nd. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 3.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Please send in good time those requiring tea. Make it a good meeting. — Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Derby District.—The next meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Belper, on Saturday, Sept. 2nd. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. All ringers assured of a hearty welcome. Methods to suit all.—W. Lancaster, Hon. Sec., 83, Albert Road, Chaddesden, Derby.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch. — The next meeting will be held at St. Michael's Church, Aughton, on Saturday, Sept. 2nd. Bells available from 3 p.m.; after tea, at Christ Church, Aughton.—S. Forshaw, 55, Poolstock, Wigan.

'THERE'S METHOD IN OUR CALLING.' Aldenham, Herts, Saturday, Sept. 2nd. Bells open at 3.30. Tea at Social Club 5.30. Buses from Bushey and Radlett stop at church. Excellent service. Send your names for tea to C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey. City 4270.

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OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Sonning Deanery Branch.—A practice will be held at Hurst (8 bells) on Saturday, Sept. 2nd. Ringing from 6 p.m. All welcome. — W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec., Merrel, California, Wokingham.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Bishops Cannings on Saturday, Sept. 2nd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5, for which advise.—W. C. West, Hon. Sec., 584, Semington Road, Melksham.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Guilsborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Watford (6 bells) on Saturday, Sept. 2nd. Usual arrangements. Please notify hon. secretary not later than Tuesday previous of those requiring tea.—H. H. Shrives, Hon. Branch Sec., The Mill, Long Buckby, Rugby.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wednesday Afternoon Guild. — The next meeting will be held at St. Michael's, Houghton-le-Spring on Sept. 6th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m.—Margaret A. P. Bertie, 17, Ridley Avenue, Chester-le-Street.

LADIES' GUILD.—Eastern District. — A meeting will be held at St. Margaret's, Lowestoft, on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Bells available at 3 p.m.—Service at 4.30 p.m., conducted by Rev. Canon Whytehead. Tea at Waller's Restaurant at 5.15 p.m. Names for tea should be sent to me not later than Sept. 5th. Gentlemen very cordially invited.—Sylvia R. E. Bowyer, Hon. Sec., 32, Gatacre Road, Ipswich.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Burton District.—The next meeting will be held at Appleby Magna on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea 4.45, followed by meeting. Names for tea must be sent by Thursday, Sept. 7th, to me. Now for the Minor methods? All are welcome.—J. W. Cotton, Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS. — Mr. Ronald H. Bullen has removed from Edmonton to 39a, High Street, Ely, Cambs.

IN MEMORIAM.

PREWETT. — Killed in action, Aug. 31st, 1918, Bertram Prewett, of Bushey.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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IF THE WORST BEFALL.

This article is written at a moment when the international crisis is such that no one can forecast what the next few hours may bring forth. The whole situation is filled with uncertainty for the future. While everyone is hoping against hope that peace may be saved, there are few who, at heart, can feel genuinely optimistic in the present outlook. Would that it could be otherwise. If war comes, with all its tragedy, everything will go into the melting pot and all private interests will have to be sunk in the common weal. One thing, however, is certain, the whole forces of a united country will be harnessed to prosecute the struggle to a successful conclusion. Sacrifices will be demanded of everyone, and they will not be asked for in vain. Our cherished ideals, our individual mode of life, to say nothing of those lesser amenities which help to make the sum of human happiness and contentment, may all be swallowed up in the vortex, but the determination to go on to the bitter end, if need be, will remain.

Not unnaturally the thoughts of many of our readers will turn to what may happen in regard to ringing should war break out. Inevitably it must suffer badly and for a variety of reasons, but chiefly by the demand upon the man power of the country and the overriding claims upon the services of all. As in the last war, those ringers who are left will find great difficulty in carrying on, but, if the worst comes to the worst, they should make a supreme effort to keep the nucleus of a band in existence in every tower and to see that the bells are rung on every possible occasion for the Sunday services. More than ever, in times of stress, do people turn to the Church for spiritual help and consolation, and the church bells ringing for service will carry a message of greater significance than usual to all who hear them. Those who are left in the towers, therefore, should not allow the depletion of strength to discourage their ringing. They should try to bring in and train, as far as opportunity allows, new material. It is here that the services of women might well be encouraged. The ladies proved their worth in the belfry in the last war and would do so again, with the further encouragement that they already have a well established place in the Exercise.

One of the other handicaps that is almost certain to be imposed—it was necessary last time and is likely to be immensely more necessary if there is another conflict—is the complete silencing of church bells during hours of darkness. Like the lighting restrictions, the silencing of bells after dark was found a necessary precaution; it may, we think, be safely anticipated again if the emer-

(Continued on page 554.)

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gency arises. This, however, should not be a bar to training new personnel; it will make it more difficult, but practice with lashed bells can do quite a lot in the preliminary stages of training and every opportunity can be seized to make the best use of the bells at times when open ringing can be indulged in. Let everything possible be done, if the worst befall, to keep our art alive, and, although it may suffer severe shock like other of the minor pleasures of life, there will then be better prospect of revival when happier times come again.

TEN BELL PEAL.

WHITBY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 26, 1939, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5030 CHANGES;

Tenor 18¼ cwt. in E.

HORACE S. MORLEY ...	...*Treble*	ROLAND PARK	6
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ...	2	W. NORMAN PARK	7
WILLIAM J. GRICE	3	ADAM DEAS	8
CHRISTOPHER HETHERINGTON	4	WILLIAM H. BARBER	9
DAVID VINCENT	5	RONALD H. DOVE ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by THOMAS H. TAFFENDER.

First peal of Stedman Caters on the bells.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

ST. DENYS, CORNWALL.

THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, August 16, 1939, in Three Hours and Six Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DENYS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S VARIATION OF MIDDLETON'S.

Tenor 10 cwt. (approx.).

A. PATRICK CANNON ...	...*Treble*	FRANK B. LUFKIN	5
HERBERT H. ALEXANDER ...	2	THOMAS G. MYERS	6
MARIE R. CROSS	3	*A WILLIAM MYERS	7
REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG ...	4	ALAN R. PINK	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* First peal in the method. First peal on the bells, recently augmented to eight.

UFFORD, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, August 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb.

CHARLES E. FISHER ...	...*Treble*	GEORGE WATERMAN	5
URBAN W. WILDNEY	2	SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER ...	6
LEWIS H. BYWATERS	3	FRANK L. FISHER	7
GEORGE A. FLEMING	4	PHILIP C. BICKNELL ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by FRANK L. FISHER.

DUNMOW, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, August 24, 1939, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

GEORGE SAUNDERS ...	...*Treble*	FREDERICK RIDGWELL ...	5
RONALD SUCKLING	2	H. WALTER SMITH	6
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	3	LEWIS W. WIFFEN	7
LEONARD E. PITSTOW	4	JOHN W. WARD	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by L. W. WIFFEN.

ALMONDSBURY, GLOS.—On Sunday, July 16th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: R. Harding 1, C. Harding 2, R. Gale 3, G. Capewell 4, A. Hilliar 5, H. Bromfield 6, T. Harris (conductor) 7, C. Russell 8.

NETHERSEALE, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, August 24, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 12 cwt.

*FRANK SHARPE	...*Treble*	*R. WILLIAM BARBER	5
*GEOFFREY WM. HAIR ...	2	JOSEPH WILLIAM COTTON	6
CYRIL V. TABERNER	3	BARNABAS G. KEY	7
WILLIAM SANDERS	4	OLIVER HINES	...*Tenor*

Conducted by B. G. KEY.
* First peal of Grandsire Triples.

ENDERBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, August 24, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb.

EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD ...*Treble*		LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD ...	5
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ...	2	JAMES GEORGE	6
W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON ...	3	RALPH NARBORODGH	7
JOHN E. CLARKE	4	ERNEST MORRIS	...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

SUNDERLAND, DURHAM.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, August 24, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. IGNATIUS-THE-MARTYR,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THORSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 13 cwt.

GEORGE HARVEY ... ...*Treble*		THOMAS H. REEVES	5
GEORGE S. TAYLOR	2	JOSEPH W. PARKER	6
MICHAEL F. HARRISON ...	3	DAVID VINCENT	7
HAROLD B. DITCHBURN ...	4	ROBERT L. PATTERSON	...*Tenor*

Conducted by D. VINCENT.
Rung to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the dedication of this church.

WOMBOURNE, STAFFS.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Saturday, August 26, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BENEDICT,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 10 cwt. 12 lb.

*EDWARD W. VAUGHAN ...*Treble*		*ROGER HAWKSWORTH ...	5
†CYRIL V. TABERNER	2	MAURICE G. TURNER ...	6
BARNABAS G. KEY	3	ALBERT G. RICHARDS ...	7
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER	4	RICHARD J. WARRILOW	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by B. G. KEY.
* First peal of Major and first in the method. † First peal of Major on a 'bob' bell.

HARTLEBURY, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, August 26, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 20 cwt.

*C. F. BLISSETT ... ...*Treble*		BERNARD LAWTON	5
CLIFFORD SKIDMORE	2	JOHN LLOYD	6
CHARLES H. WOODBERRY	3	ALFRED W. GLAZZARD ...	7
†WILLIAM TURNER JUN. ...	4	‡EDWARD AMIES	...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. SKIDMORE
* First peal away from tenor. † First peal of Triples 'inside.' ‡ First peal on eight bells. Arranged as a farewell to Canon H. D. Noel Paterson, retiring Rector of Hartlebury.

BUSHEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, August 26, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.
A PEAL OF SPLICED STEDMAN AND ERIN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
J. W. PARKER'S No. 1. Tenor 13 cwt.

FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW ...*Treble*		GEORGE W. DEBENHAM ...	5
STEPHEN H. HOARE	2	EDWIN JENNINGS	6
FRANCIS KIRK	3	JOHN E. ROOTES	7
HAROLD G. CASHMORE ...	4	FRANCIS A. SMITH ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.
The first peal of Spliced Stedman and Erin Triples. The peal consisted of 3,960 Stedman and 1,080 Erin with 300 changes of method. Rung for the coming of age of Miss Jessie K. Rootes and Miss Lily Coles.

WOODBRIDGE, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Saturday, August 26, 1939, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes;
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 25¼ cwt.

A. STANLEY WOODARD ...*Treble*		URBAN W. WILDNEY ...	5
FRANK L. FISHER	2	GEORGE A. FLEMING ...	6
FREDERICK J. SMITH	3	PHILIP C. BICKNELL	7
CHARLES E. FISHER	4	*LEWIS H. BYWATERS	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. HUNT. Conducted by LEWIS H. BYWATERS.
* First peal in the method.

LLANGIBBY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, August 26, 1939, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CYBI.
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S SIX-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

MISS GWYNETH M. SMITH...*Treble*		ARTHUR HAWKINS	5
JOHN W. JONES	2	SIDNEY BAMFORD	6
LESLIE BAINHAM	3	ROBERT SMITH	7
WILLIAM POWELL	4	*CYRIL WILLIAMS ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ROBERT SMITH.
* First peal and first attempt.

RAUNDS, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, August 26, 1939, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 22 cwt. 8 lb. in E flat.

ERNEST E. WHITMORE ...*Treble*		WILLIAM J. WHITMORE ...	5
WILLIAM WELLING	2	BERNARD J. SADDINGTON ...	6
GEORGE MAYERS	3	HARRY WINGROVE	7
WILLIAM HENLEY	4	TONY PRICE	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by HARRY WINGROVE.
First peal in the method on the bells.

HALSTEAD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, August 26, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 14½ cwt.

CLAUDE SNOWDEN ... ...*Treble*		CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	5
RONALD SOCKLING	2	LEWIS W. WIFFEN	6
FREDERICK RIDGWELL ...	3	JOHN W. WARD	7
FRANK CLAYDON	4	H. WALTER SMITH ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by C. W. WOOLLEY.
A birthday peal for L. W. Wiffen.

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BOLLINGTON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD
On Saturday, August 26, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,
A PEAL OF SPLICED KENT AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 18 cwt.

*IVAN B. GARDINER ...	...*Treble*	JOHN WORTH	5
JOCELYN B. GARDINER ...	2	C. KENNETH LEWIS	6
THOMAS TAYLOR...	3	*CHARLES W. LAWTON ...	7
MISS EDNA M. P. FETHERS	4	JOSEPH WHITTAKER ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. S. WILDE. Conducted by C. K. LEWIS.

* First peal of Major. A 21st birthday compliment to Miss E. M. P. Fethers, and rung to celebrate the birth of a daughter to the curate, Rev. Ollier, and Mrs. Ollier. The first peal of Spliced Treble Bob Major for the Guild.

AYLESFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, August 26, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 14½ cwt.

HERBERT A. HOLDEN	...*Treble*	†HERBERT G. ANDREWS ...	5
*MARY I. RAWLINGS	2	WALTER H. DOBBIE	6
DORIS G. DOBBIE	3	BENJAMIN F. BAKER	7
ALAN G. HALL	4	PHILIP A. CORBY ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. HAWKINS. Conducted by P. A. CORBY.

* First peal on eight bells and away from the treble. † First peal of Major. A 21st birthday compliment to Miss G. M. Kippin.

EASTWOOD, ROTHERHAM.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)
On Saturday, August 26, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
Tenor 12¾ cwt.

*JOHN CLARKSON... ...	...*Treble*	HAROLD CHANT	5
†WILLIE GREEN	2	GEORGE S. LEE	6
ARTHUR GILL	3	DANIEL SMITH	7
SIDNEY BRIGGS	4	JOHN E. TURLEY	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. H. CROSS. Conducted by JOHN E. TURLEY.

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

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Saturday, August 26, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 19¾ cwt.

SHELFORD SPARROW ...	...*Treble*	KEITH W. WHITTELL	5
GEORGE WHITING	2	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL ...	6
LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN ...	3	T. WILLIAM LAST	7
ARTHUR GRIMWOOD	4	HARRY D. LISTER ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by H. D. LISTER.

A birthday compliment to K. W. Whittell.

HANDBELL PEALS.

MARPLE, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Monday, August 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF BOB DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 six-scores. Tenor size 14 in D.

*J. ANTHONY BEAUMONT ...	1-2	JOCELYN B. GARDINER ...	3-4
IVAN B. GARDINER	5-6		

Conducted by J. B. GARDINER.

* First peal 'in hand' and in the method. First peal as conductor.

SAFFRON WALDEN, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, August 23, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,
AT 20, WEST ROAD,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

LEONARD E. PITSTOW	1-2	ALBERT E. AUSTIN	5-6
ALFRED E. PITSTOW	3-4	WALTER AYRE	7-8

Composed by M. J. MORRIS. Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

SIX BELL PEALS.

ST. MEWAN, CORNWALL.
THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tuesday, August 15, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MEWAN,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being a 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford Bob, Single Oxford Bob, St. Clement's Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 7 lb.

*SYDNEY O'SHAUGHNESSY ...	...*Treble*	REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG ...	4
MARIE R. CROSS	2	A. PATRICK CANNON	5
HERBERT H. ALEXANDER...	3	ALAN R. PINK	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* First peal in seven methods. First peal on the bells and first peal in seven methods for the Guild and in the Duchy of Cornwall.

MADRESFIELD, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(WESTERN BRANCH)
On Saturday, August 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Double Bob, Double Oxford, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 14 cwt.

EDWARD MAUND	...*Treble*	SIDNEY T. HOLT	4
FRANK LAWRENCE	2	CHARLES CAMM	5
ROBERT G. KNOWLES	3	THOMAS W. LEWIS ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

NOTTINGHAM.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, August 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven 720's, each called differently Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lb.

*LESLIE HOLLAND ...	...*Treble*	HAROLD BROWN	4
HAROLD PARFREMENT ...	2	FRED BLOOD	5
WALTER NICHOLS	3	RALPH NARBOROUGH ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by RALPH NARBOROUGH.

* First peal of Minor. Rung in honour of the 60th birthday of the Vicar of St. Mary's, the Rt. Rev. Neville S. Talbot, D.D., M.C.

PATSHULL, STAFFS.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Friday, August 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven different 720's. Tenor 10 cwt. 0 qr. 18 lb.

MRS. R. WILLIAM BARBER...*Treble*		MAURICE G. TURNER... ...	4
R. WILLIAM BARBER	2	*ALBERT G. RICHARDS ...	5
ARTHUR V. PEARSON	3	BARNABAS G. KEY ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by B. G. KEY.

* First peal of Minor.

BURWASH, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
THE EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.
On Saturday, August 26, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Double Court, Double Oxford, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 12½ cwt.

ALBERT RELFE	...*Treble*	ARTHUR F. LEWRY	4
*GEORGE BEENEY	2	FRANK H. HICES	5
LESLIE W. JARVIS	3	WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALBERT RELFE.

* First peal in seven methods.

BELL ROPES
MADE FROM ITALIAN HEMP, OR ITALIAN FLAX. SOFT AND PLIABLE IN HAND. ALL ROPES SENT CARRIAGE PAID AND ON APPROVAL.
Cheap Quotations. Established 150 years. 'Phone 203.
DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

BRUTON, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, August 26, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 25¾ cwt.

THOMAS WHITE	...*Treble*	EDWARD G. COWARD ...	4
*WILFRED P. WHITE ...	2	*HAROLD G. WHITE	5
*ERNEST H. WHITE	3	WALTER J. TILEY ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by EDWARD G. COWARD.
* First peal.

WISTASTON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sunday, August 27, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being four 720's of Plain Bob and three 720's of Oxford Bob.
Tenor 6 cwt. 6 lb.

KENNETH THOMASSON	...*Treble*	WALTER ALLMAN...	4
ERIC CLARKE	2	FRANK BARNARD	5
RICHARD T. HOLDING... ...	3	ALBERT CRAWLEY... ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by A. CRAWLEY.
Rung in honour of the wedding of Miss D. Holding and Mr. R. Roscoe, which took place the previous day at St. John's, Crewe.

A PEAL RINGING WEEK.

LIVERPOOL.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, August 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL, GARSTON,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 12½ cwt.

JAMES H. SHEPHERD ...	...*Treble*	FRANK BENNETT	5
GEORGE R. PYE	2	FRANK VARTY	6
GABRIEL LINDOFF	3	FREDERICK WHITE	7
GEORGE MARTIN	4	RUPERT RICHARDSON ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. H. KIPPIN. Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

BEBINGTON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, August 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor 9 cwt.

JAMES H. SHEPHERD ...	...*Treble*	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	5
FREDERICK WHITE	2	RUPERT RICHARDSON	6
GEORGE R. NEWTON	3	GEORGE MARTIN	7
FRANK BENNETT	4	FRANK VARTY	...*Tenor*

Composed by ERNEST PYE. Conducted by GEORGE R. NEWTON.

CHESTER, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, August 19, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. WERBURGH,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 29 cwt.

JAMES H. SHEPHERD ...	...*Treble*	GEORGE R. NEWTON	6
MRS. R. RICHARDSON	2	FRANK BENNETT	7
GABRIEL LINDOFF	3	FREDERICK WHITE	8
FRANK VARTY	4	RUPERT RICHARDSON	9
GEORGE MARTIN	5	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.
First peal of Surprise Royal on the bells.

NEWCHURCH, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, August 20, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 12½ cwt.

RUPERT RICHARDSON ...	...*Treble*	FRANK BENNETT	5
JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	2	GEORGE MARTIN	6
GABRIEL LINDOFF	3	FRANK VARTY	7
GEORGE R. NEWTON	4	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

HALEWOOD, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, August 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 11 cwt.

JAMES H. SHEPHERD ...	...*Treble*	GEORGE R. NEWTON	5
GEORGE MARTIN	2	GABRIEL LINDOFF	6
FRANK BENNETT	3	RUPERT RICHARDSON	7
FRANK VARTY	4	FREDERICK WHITE ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by GEORGE R. NEWTON.
First peal of Cambridge on the bells.

LIVERPOOL.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, August 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF BOB MAXIMUS, 5016 CHANGES;
Tenor 39¾ cwt.

MRS. RICHARDSON ...	...*Treble*	*THOMAS HAMMOND	7
*GEORGE R. NEWTON... ...	2	FREDERICK WHITE	8
*GEORGE WILLIAMS	3	RUPERT RICHARDSON ...	9
*GABRIEL LINDOFF	4	*JAMES H. SHEPHERD... ...	10
*GEORGE MARTIN	5	*FRANK VARTY	11
FRANK BENNETT	6	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE. Conducted by JAMES C. E. SIMPSON.
* First peal of Bob Maximus.

WIGAN, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, August 23, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES, POOLSTOCK,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

GEORGE WILLIAMS ...	...*Treble*	FREDERICK WHITE	5
JAMES H. SHEPHERD	2	RUPERT RICHARDSON	6
GEORGE R. NEWTON	3	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	7
GEORGE MARTIN	4	FRANK VARTY	...*Tenor*

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.
First peal of Superlative on the bells.

WIGAN, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION
On Wednesday, August 23, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 29 cwt.

*MRS. R. RICHARDSON	...*Treble*	*GEORGE R. NEWTON... ...	6
GEORGE WILLIAMS	2	FRANK BENNETT	7
*GABRIEL LINDOFF	3	*FREDERICK WHITE	8
*FRANK VARTY	4	RUPERT RICHARDSON ...	9
*GEORGE MARTIN	5	*JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.
* First peal of Double Norwich Royal. First peal of Double Norwich Royal by the association and in the county, and first peal of Royal on the bells.

AUGHTON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, August 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt. 12 lb.

JAMES H. SHEPHERD ...	...*Treble*	GABRIEL LINDOFF	5
GEORGE WILLIAMS	2	GEORGE MARTIN	6
FREDERICK WHITE	3	*FRANK VARTY	7
FRANK BENNETT	4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON...	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by JAMES C. E. SIMPSON.
* 100th peal. First peal of London on the bells.

A PETERBOROUGH GUILD PEAL.

The peal of Doubles rung at Great Doddington, Northants, on August 17th, and recorded in our last issue, was rung for the Peterborough Diocesan Guild.

RUNCORN, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 26, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

GEORGE WILLIAMS ...	...*Treble*	FRANK BENNETT	5
GABRIEL LINDOFF	2	GEORGE MARTIN	6
JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	3	FREDERICK WHITE	7
GEORGE R. NEWTON	4	FRANK VARTY	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by JAMES C. E. SIMPSON.

First Surprise peal on the bells.

LISCARD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, August 26, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

FRANK VARTY	...*Treble*	FRANK BENNETT	5
FREDERICK WHITE	2	JAMES H. SHEPHERD	6
GEORGE R. NEWTON	3	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	7
GEORGE MARTIN	4	RALPH G. EDWARDS ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

First peal of Superlative on the bells.

PEALS IN CORNWALL.

AN ENJOYABLE VISIT.

Ringers visiting Cornwall last week joined in a daily peal attempt on four days. The attempts were made in the evenings, thus leaving the days for bathing, sight seeing, etc. This enjoyable form of uniting peal ringing with other holiday pleasures is to be commended. Some of the party, led by the irrepressible 'gun,' also 'grabbed' a few new towers on one of the days.

Of the four peals attempted, the first two were successful—a peal in seven Minor methods at St. Mewan—the first by the Truro Diocesan Guild and the first in Cornwall—and the first peal on the bells at St. Denys, where the ring was recently augmented to eight.

A 'scientific' peal has to be really good in Cornwall to impress the local ringers, who are, generally, not very favourable to change ringing and are keen critics.

The two peals rung last week were very favourably commented on by those outside, some of whom listened from start to finish.

An attempt for a peal of Minor at St. Winnow was abandoned about half-way through owing to the poor 'go' of two of the bells. It would be hard to find a prettier situation for a church than this. It is right on the bank of the Fowey River, which is tidal at this point, and has thick woods coming down on either side. One of the band was heard to remark that he would like to end his days there. The Vicar gave the ringers a warm welcome, and told them to come again next year and ring all day.

Double Norwich Major at Probus was lost after 2¼ hours through a shift course. Probus has a fine peal of bells in Cornwall's grandest tower.

Those who took part in the tour felt they had done a little spade work, as well as having spent a good holiday.

5,040 SPLICED STEDMAN AND ERIN TRIPLES.

J. W. PARKER'S NO. 1.

231456	3.	4	5.	6.	7.	12.	13.	These sixes are rung
								Erin.
213465				—			—	2.3.8.11.
365142	—			—			—	8.11.
542613	—			—			—	8.11.
524631				—			—	2.3.8.11.
134526	—			—	S	—		8.9.14.
346215			—		S		—	3.8.11.
245163		S	—		S		—	2.3.8.11.
254136				—			—	2.3.8.11.
436512	—			—			—	8.11.
612354	—			—			—	8.11.
621345				—			—	2.3.8.11.
145236	—			—			—	8.11.

Four times repeated.

Stedman is always started with a quick six. The composition was rung at Bushey, Herts, on August 28th.

SWANSEA.—After a peal attempt, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung by J. A. Hoare 1, J. T. Williams 2, D. G. Brown 3, G. W. Morris 4, E. J. Morris 5, E. Stitch 6, T. M. Roderick (first of Stedman as conductor) 7, A. E. Bacon 8. It was the first quarter-peal of Stedman by ringers of 2, 3 and 8. The peal had been arranged for Mr. D. G. Brown, of Penge.

PEAL NOTES.

SPLICED PEALS.

There are two spliced peals recorded this week of special interest. At Bushey, Herts, Mr. Harold Cashmore called the first peal of Spliced Stedman and Erin Triples. There were no less than 300 changes of method, and the peal contained 3,960 of Stedman and 1,080 Erin. The composition will be found elsewhere.

At Bollington, Cheshire, a peal of Spliced Kent and Oxford Treble Bob was rung. The courses were called O.O.K.K.K.K.O., and the composition consisted of 2,880 changes of Oxford and 2,304 of Kent, with 36 changes of method. It was called by Mr. C. K. Lewis.

The peals at Ufford and Woodbridge, Suffolk, last week, were arranged for Mr. Lewis H. Bywaters, of Bedfordshire, and that at Woodbridge was his first peal of Double Norwich, which he conducted.

A peal of Grandsire Triples at Netherseale, Derbyshire, on August 24th, was arranged for Messrs. Frank Sharpe and G. W. Hair, of the local Sunday service company. It was their first peal of Grandsire Triples. Mr. R. W. Barber, of Norwich, who was in the district on holiday, kindly assisted at short notice. It was his first peal of Grandsire Triples also, and completed his sequence in the method from Doubles to Cinques.

On the following day both Mr. and Mrs. Barber took part in a peal of Bob Minor at Patshull, Staffs.

A peal of Minor was rung at Wistaston, Cheshire, on Sunday, in honour of the wedding of Miss D. Holding and Mr. R. Roscoe, which took place on the preceding day at St. John's Church, Crewe. Miss Holding is the daughter of Mr. R. T. Holding, of Crewe, one of the Cheshire Guild's foremost ringers. He took part in his daughter's wedding peal.

The first peal of Stedman Caters in the north-east of Yorkshire was rung on Saturday last at the jet town of Whitby. It happened to be also the 46th anniversary of the first peal on 10 bells rung by Mr. W. H. Barber, of Newcastle-on-Tyne.

Canon H. D. Noel Paterson is retiring next month after nineteen years as Rector of Hartlebury, Worcestershire, and a farewell peal was rung at his church on Saturday. It was also made the quarterly peal of the Northern Branch of the association.

THREE SONS' FIRST PEAL.

Mr. Thomas White, of Bruton, Somerset, had the pleasure of taking part in the first peal rung by his three sons, Wilfred, Ernest and Harold, on Saturday in their home tower. It was a peal of Grandsire Doubles, conducted by Mr. E. G. Coward. It is seldom indeed that three brothers all ring their first peal together, and more rare still for their father to take part in it.

The Leicester Thursday P.G.'s were happy to include that fine old 'stalwart' from Birmingham, Mr. James George, in the band that rang a peal of Bob Major at Enderby on August 24th. As will be recalled, the Thursdayites rang a thanksgiving peal upon his recovery from illness, and as a birthday compliment when he attained the age of 86. Indeed, on Thursday he rang his bell beautifully throughout the peal, fully deserving the congratulations showered upon him at the conclusion. The remainder of the band are indebted to Mr. John E. Clarke and Mr. Len Whitehead for standing in the attempt at the last moment, and tender their sincere thanks to them.

Thanks to a local ringer who stepped into a breach and rang the tenor, the peal of Grandsire Triples at Llangibby was made possible on Saturday. Owing to the crisis, Mr. W. Heath, of Cardiff, was unable to make the journey, having been recalled from annual leave by the Chief of Police. The peal was arranged specially to honour the Rev. John P. Stephens, on his appointment to his first Rectorship. A previous attempt failed on the day of his induction to Llangibby parish on April 11th. The tenor man scored his first peal at the first attempt.

Mr. A. F. Lewry rang his 75th peal on Saturday when he took part in seven Minor methods at Burwash on Saturday.

A peal of Stedman Triples at Sunderland on August 24th was rung to celebrate the golden jubilee of the dedication of the Church of St. Ignatius-the-Martyr. There were two 'visitors' in the peal, Mr. David Vincent, of Hale, Cheshire, who was on holiday at Whitley, and took the opportunity of visiting his old friends at Sunderland, and Mr. T. H. Reeves, of St. Martin's, Birmingham.

Sunday service ringers at St. Mary's, Nottingham, rang a peal of Bob Minor on the front six at their own church on August 21st in honour of the 60th birthday of their Vicar, the Rt. Rev. Bishop Neville S. Talbot.

DEATH OF A BELL DONOR.

On Monday, August 21st, there was laid to rest in St. James' Churchyard, Devizes, Mr. Walter Rose, who worshipped at this church when his health permitted. He, with his brother, the late Mr. William Rose, were donors of the treble bell in St. James' tower in April, 1909, in memory of their father, Mr. John Glyde Rose.

In the evening, after the funeral, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes) was rung half-muffled: R. W. Bridges 1, G. Winter 2, S. Hillier 3, A. T. Weeks 4, J. S. Weeks (conductor) 5, T. Weeks 6.

The inscription on the bell given by Mr. W. and Mr. J. G. Rose is, 'Deum Timite, Regem Honorate, in Mem. John Glyde Rose, O.B., A.D. III. ID. Dec., A.D. 1900. D.D. Fil. William Rose et Walter Rose, A.D. 1909 E.W. VII. Rege. J. Taylor, Loughborough.'

THE TOUR IN LANCASHIRE AND CHESHIRE.

RESULTS OF NINE DAYS' PEAL RINGING.

The nine days' peal-ringing tour in Lancashire and Cheshire, which ended last Saturday, produced eleven successes in sixteen attempts. An excellent start was made with five peals off the reel, then came the first of the failures, when on Tuesday morning a peal of Bristol Surprise Major had to be given up at Tarleton, owing to the bad 'go' of the tenor, after fifty minutes. It proved a bad day. In the afternoon a peal of London Surprise was lost at Woolton.

Thursday, too, ended in a 'blank.' In the morning, at Prescot, a band rang right through a peal of Yorkshire Major, but had a bad trip in the last lead and a half and decided not to record it. In the afternoon at St. Helens they were just settling down to Yorkshire Royal, when the Chief Constable and the postmaster came up in the tower and asked that the bells should be stopped. The Post Office is just under the tower, and the bells interfered with hearing on the telephones.

After a third consecutive loss, on Friday morning, when London Surprise at Ormskirk 'went west' after two and a quarter hours' beautiful ringing, the rest of the programme was carried out 'according to plan.'

The result of the tour was not quite so good, in point of the number of peals rung by the party, as in some of their previous years' excursions, but on this occasion they were rather handicapped by lack of numbers.

Messrs. George Martin and Frank Varty took part in all the successes, Mr. Frank Bennett, who organised the tour, and Mr. Fred White in all but one. Five peals were conducted by Mr. Bennett, three by Mr. J. C. E. Simpson, two by Mr. G. R. Newton, and one by Mr. G. Williams. It is not uninteresting to observe that the composer was different in every peal.

Among the notable points in the tour were the first peal of Surprise Royal at Chester Cathedral, the first peal of Double Norwich Royal in Lancashire, and by the Lancashire Association, rung at Wigan, and five other 'first in the method on the bells.' Seven of the band got a 'star' for their first peal of Bob Maximus, rung at St. Nicholas', Liverpool, and six for their first peal of Double Norwich Royal. Mr. Frank Varty rang his one hundredth peal at the end of the week, and he and Mr. R. G. Edwards both 'completed the circle' at Liscard.

FOUR-PART PEALS OF BOB MAJOR.

THE FAMILY LIKENESS.

Peals of 5,056 of Bob Major in four parts are numerous, and between some of them there is great similarity. Some are composed with only the necessary two Befores in each part, some have the addition of a Middle.

The reference last week to Mr. Cornelius Charge's peal, composed in New Zealand in 1936 and rung for the first time at Old Windsor on August 15th last, has brought a letter from Mr. H. J. Tucker, reminding ringers of his well-known four-part peal, with two Befores and a Middle in each part, which he composed in 1889, and which was first rung at Bishop's Stortford in 1902, conducted by the late Mr. W. Watts. In Mr. Tucker's peal the Befores are in different courses, in Mr. Charge's they come together. Here are some of the peals with similar characteristics. First Pritchard's popular peal, without Middles, and then some others which contain Middles:—

J. R. PRITCHARD, 1887.					H. J. TUCKER, 1889.				
W.	B.	M.	H.	23456	W.	B.	M.	H.	23456
—	1		3	23564	—	1		3	23564
—	1		3	23645	—	1		3	23645
—			2	26435	—		—	2	25634
—			3	32465	—			3	32654

C. H. MARTIN, 1890.					J. E. BURTON, 1894.				
W.	B.	M.	H.	23456	W.	B.	M.	H.	23456
—			3	52436		2	—	1	23645
—			3	35426	—			3	42635
—	2	—	3	36245	—			3	34625
—			2	32465	—			2	36245
					—			2	32465

C. CHARGE, 1901.					C. CHARGE, 1936.				
W.	B.	M.	H.	23456	W.	B.	M.	H.	23456
—		—	1	64235	—			—	45236
—			2	62345	—		—		25634
—				46325	—			2	26354
—			3	24365	—			3	52364
—	2		1	24536	—	2			24536
—			3	32546	—			3	32546

All these have, of course, to be three times repeated, with a single in each half to reverse 2-3.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The annual dinner of the Ancient Society of College Youths will be held this year (D.V.) at the Cannon Street Hotel, on Nov. 4th.

The peal-ringing tour in Bedfordshire and Northants, which was to have begun to-morrow, has been abandoned, most of those who were to have taken part having had their holiday leave cancelled.

We regret to say that last Saturday Mr. Tom Groombridge, sen., of Chislehurst, met with an accident. He was knocked down by a pedal cyclist and rather badly hurt. He was taken to Farnborough (Kent) Hospital and detained. He had just left home for a peal attempt at Lewisham when the accident happened. His injuries were to the face and left eye, and the latest information is that his condition is satisfactory. Subject to the results ascertained by an X-ray examination, it is possible he may be returned home before the end of this week, as the hospital is being cleared as rapidly as possible owing to the crisis. If any of his friends wish to write to him, therefore, they should address their letters to 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst. If, by chance, he is still in hospital, the letters will be forwarded.

Mr. John J. L. Gilbert, the hon. secretary of the Southern District of the Yorkshire Association, has shortly to undergo his six months' military training as a member of the militia. During his absence, Mr. S. F. Palmer, of Sheffield, will discharge the secretarial duties.

By a typist's error, the time of the peal of Stedman Caters, at Yeovil on August 10th, was sent in for publication as 3 hours 32 minutes—precisely the same as that of the Sherborne peal of Stedman Triples. The actual time at Yeovil was 3 hours 18 minutes, which was not bad going for a ring of ten with a tenor of 40¾ cwt.

Yesterday was the anniversary of three interesting events. On August 31st, 1912, the longest peal on handbells was rung. A band started at Guildford for 22,222 of Stedman Caters, but when the hour got towards midnight, and they had been ringing nearly nine hours, the conductor decided to cut a bit off the end, and the bells were brought round at 19,738. They had been ringing 9 hours 32 minutes. The ringers were Arthur Shepherd 1-2, Alfred Pulling (conductor) 3-4, William Shepherd 5—6, James Hunt 7-8, Frank Blondell 9-10.

The first ten-bell peal in Scotland was rung on August 31st, 1886, conducted by Mr. F. E. Dawe—that was 53 years ago, and he is still with us. It was a peal of Grandsire Caters at Edinburgh Cathedral.

The other August 31st event of note was in 1923, when members of the Royal Cumberland Youths, on their way to the West of England for an outing, rang the first peal in a railway train.

A DISTINGUISHED COLLEGE YOUTH.

250th ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF SIR HENRY TULSE.

Yesterday was the 250th anniversary of the death of Sir Henry Tulse, the only member of the Ancient Society of College Youths who was Lord Mayor of London and Master of the society in the same year, viz., 1684.

One of the ways in which the College Youths celebrated their tercentenary was by restoring the tombstone of this distinguished Master, where it now rests in a little courtyard opening off Lime Street, a narrow thoroughfare between Fenchurch and Leadenhall Streets in the heart of the city.

Sir Henry Tulse was a benefactor of the parish of St. Dionis, Backchurch. When the church was rebuilt after the fire of 1668, he gave a marble font and marble steps leading to it, and when he died in 1689, he was buried inside the church in his own vault. When the building was pulled down, the font was removed to St. Dionis', Parsons Green, and the stone slab which had covered the grave was transferred to the courtyard which marks the site of the old churchyard.

The inscription on the tomb, which was re-cut in 1936, is:—

In a Vault under-neath
this Stone Lyes Buryed the Body
of Sir Henry Tvlse, who Departed
this Life the 31st day of
August, 1689.

The College Youths, at their tercentenary, added a bronze plate bearing the following:—

'Sir Henry Tulse was a Benefactor of the Church of St. Dionis, Backchurch, formerly adjoining. He was also Grocer, Alderman and Lord Mayor of this City.

'In his memory this tombstone was restored November, 1937, by the Ancient Society of College Youths (during the 300th year of the Society's foundation). He was Master of the Society during his Mayoralty in 1684.'

ASSOCIATION SECRETARIES.

There are two corrections to the list we published last week. The secretary of Cambridge University Guild is Mr. R. H. Richens, Selwyn College, Cambridge.

There was a 'transposition' in the address of Mr. Leslie Morris, secretary of the Yorkshire Association. He lives at 65, Lilycroft Road, Heaton, Bradford.

THE NORWICH SCHOLARS.

AN ANCIENT SOCIETY.

BY J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

(Continued from page 546.)

As I have said, we have no account of any ringing society in Norwich during the seventeenth century and we do not know when the Society of Norwich Scholars was founded. Its origins probably go back to the sixteenth century, but it does not seem to have been a formally organised society with master and stewards and a code of rules, as were the Society of Cheapside Schollers, the Society of College Youths and the Society of Esquire Youths. There must, of course, have been some organisation, and there was bound to have been something like a social club. The name Norwich Scholars was probably never formally adopted, but was applied to the ringers by people in the same way that ringers in all parts of the country were usually called 'scholars' or 'youths.'



THE FINE OLD CHURCH OF ST. PETER MANCROFT, NORWICH.

It was not until the year 1716 that the Norwich ringers organised themselves into a formal society, and then it was as a 'purse club' or benefit society. Although the title Norwich Scholars was already in use, it was not applied to the new society.

On December 22nd, 1716, articles were 'made and agreed unto by the Society of Ringers in the City of Norwich for the ordering of a stock or purse for the relief of such persons as shall be therein concerned and shall stand in need of the same.'

Every candidate for admission had to be capable of ringing five courses of Grandsire Triples. He paid an entrance fee of two shillings and thenceforth two shillings a quarter until he had paid ten shillings in all, and then he was entitled to be a full purser. After that his subscription was one shilling a quarter. No one over 30 years of age was admitted as a member.

The number of full pursers was not to exceed five and forty, but an unlimited number of members could be admitted who were entitled to partial benefits.

The officers were a Headman, a Purser (also called the Treasurer), two Supravisors and two Feast Makers. The Headman had power to fix the time and place of the quarterly meetings, and the Feast Makers, with the consent of the Headman, to make arrangements for the annual dinner, which was to be held on every Whitsun Monday, and for which everyone had to pay one shilling and sixpence. 'And if any person belonging to this Society doth privately and fraudulently dispose of any beer which doth properly belong to the whole Company in any of their public meetings, he shall for his first offence pay sixpence, and for the second be struck out of the book.'

If any person belonging to the purse fell ill and desired relief he had to send by a member of the society to the officers to acquaint them with his condition, and seven days after notice they were to pay him nine shillings, then seven shillings a week for two months and after that four shillings a week. On the death of any member forty shillings were granted for his burial.

The stock of money was not to be reduced below ten pounds, and so long as six members remained in the society the purse was not to be broken.

The usual fines and penalties were provided for the usual offences—refusal to take office, quarrelling, disobeying orders, cheating and the like.

The whole company was under an obligation to attend the funeral of a deceased member, timely notice having been given. Those who were absent were fined sixpence and those who were present had each to spend threepence for his own drinking.

CONTROL OF STEEPLES.

The society tried to control the whole of the ringing at all the city churches. There were at the time many ringers in Norwich, and they appear to have been organised into different 'steeple companies.' A rule was passed that 'when there be a vacancy in any Steeple Company of Ringers in this City, either by death or otherwise, the said Steeple Company shall be obliged to choose a person to supply any such vacancy who is at that time a member of the Ringers' Purse in this City and the person chosen out of one company into another doth thereby discharge himself of his former Company by accepting the same, for no man shall hold two Steeple Companies.' And another rule said that 'if any member or members of this Society shall practice with, aid, or assist any person or persons to take away any Steeple or Steeples from this purse to the detriment of the same he or they shall be expelled the purse for so doing.'

We must not, however, suppose that the society was like one of our modern territorial associations, a federation of bands belonging to and practising at separate churches. The explanation of the system will probably be found in a tradition which lasted down to my time between forty and fifty years ago. The paid ringing and the benefits accruing at the various churches (mostly from Christmas boxes) were supposed to be shared according to a recognised scheme. The twelve senior members rang at St. Peter's, Mancroft, the five junior members at St. Peter's, Permountergate, and other bands had other churches. The same band might ring at more than one church.

(Continued on next page.)

THE NORWICH SCHOLARS.

(Continued from previous page.)

Except at Mancroft the 'benefit' band did not hold any practice at a tower or ring there except during the month before Christmas. There were many more ringers and many more belfries available in 1720 than there were in 1893, and probably there was a certain amount of sectional practice ringing, but there never was a band specially belonging to St. Giles' or St. Miles', unless it were an opposition band.

There was the same exclusive spirit in Norwich that we find in London and elsewhere and the same quarrels and schisms. One of the rules reads: 'If any person or persons belonging to this society shall at any time or place aid or assist any particular company of ringers, or shall agree to make a separate company among themselves in the City of Norwich to the detriment or disdvantage of the said society or purse of ringers, he or they shall be expelled out of the said society for so doing.'

This purse club supplied the organisation of the Norwich Scholars for many years, though, as I have said, it did not use that name. In the days when there was no general insurance and no great benefit societies like the Oddfellows and the Foresters it was an excellent thing and supplied a real want. It prospered during the eighteenth century and about 1750 a rule was made that the purse should not be reduced below £100, any deficiency being made up by a levy of 1s. 6d. per quarter on the members for so long as it was necessary.

But like most similar institutions, it had its evil days as well as its good, and it would be difficult to prove a continuous unbroken existence. More than once in the nineteenth century, when the membership got small, the members succumbed to the temptation to break the purse and share out the funds.

About the year 1870 members were admitted who were not ringers and the purse club was run as a separate organisation from the St. Peter's company. Finally in the early days of the present century the connection between the Mancroft belfry and the old company of ringers was completely severed and not many years later the purse club came to a quiet and inglorious end.

PROPERTY DISPERSED.

During the course of the years a certain amount of property was acquired by the club. It consisted of a parchment roll with the rules set out in full, a number of pewter flagons and mugs, a quantity of token money, several framed records of peals, a set of handbells in a leather trunk made by William Porter, the composer of Double Norwich Court Bob and the tenor ringer to the first peal of Stedman Triples, and copies of the Clavis and Shipway's and L'Estrange's books. There was also at one time a peal book, but that was lost in the early part of the nineteenth century.

The parchment roll was alienated at about the same time, but was bought by Walter Rye, the Norfolk antiquary, as far from the city as Exeter. He afterwards gave it to the church and it is now in the sacristy there.

When the purse club was finally broken up the property was divided among the members and is now irretrievably dispersed and lost.

Another piece of property which may not have belonged to the purse club, but to the St. Peter's, Mancroft, belfry, was the ringers' jug. It holds 17 quarts and was the gift of John Dersley in 1749. Dersley was a potter and Sheriff of Norwich in 1759 and Mayor in 1764. The jug was always filled on Old Year's Night with 'hot-pot,' a concoction of old beer, and rum, and spices, which was consumed by the ringers and leading parishioners in the belfry. The custom lasted until 1880.

This jug, too, was at one time lost, but was recovered in 1846 at a sale by Robert Fitch, a well-known chemist in the city, and given back by him to the ringers. For long it was kept inside the tenor box and now is in the church sacristy.

The reputation of Norwich bells and ringers stood very high at the beginning of the eighteenth century. In 1723 a writer declared that the tower of St. Peter Mancroft contained 'eight bells as perhaps have not their fellows considering their musical notes and the persons by whom they are rung who may challenge (without vanity) any eight men in England, for ringing is practised no where else for number of changes and truth of ringing.'

The great interest taken by the citizens in the art, even when they were not themselves ringers, is shown by the frequent references to it in the pages of the 'Norwich Gazette.' Norwich men liked to know what was being done by ringers in other parts of England as well as at home.

A CURIOUS EPISODE.

I have no space to tell now the story of the early Norwich peals, which are among the most interesting in the annals of change ringing. You will find some of the tale in my book on 'Stedman.'

In 1736 the ring at St. Peter's was increased to ten and shortly afterwards a record peal of 12,600 changes of Grandsire Caters was rung on them, but twelve years before that a rather curious episode occurred.

The Norwich ringers being so good and so famous, it was natural that many people, including no doubt the ringers themselves, would wish to have the old octave augmented to ten so that the performances in London by the College Youths and the London Scholars could be equalled and surpassed. So in 1724 a scheme was set on foot to add two trebles, and on July 25th in that year the bells were actually hung in the tower. But the order was given by someone without sufficient authority and before the money to pay for them had been

(Continued in next column.)

BIRMINGHAM RINGERS ENTERTAINED.

AN EVENING AMONG THE BIRDS AND FISHES.

A party of Birmingham ringers, their wives and friends, representative of St. Martin's, the Cathedral, King's Norton and Selly Oak, with Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Pervin, of Coventry, spent a very pleasant evening on Saturday, August 19th, as the guests of Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Yates, of The Clock House, Hopwood, situated on the Redditch road, approximately ten miles from the city. The Clock House, as its name implies, is a veritable storehouse inside and outside of ancient and modern clocks, whose bells and gongs remind those staying in the house of 'the witching hour of midnight'—and other hours as well.

Mr. Yates, a member of St. Martin's Guild and a service ringer at the Cathedral, conducted the party round the beautiful gardens, with their endless variety of flowers, with water fountains and cascades charmingly set, spacious lawn, and vegetable garden, with fowl-houses, and a large aviary containing canaries, budgerigars, parrots, and, last but not least, some beautiful white tumbler pigeons who did their 'stuff' for the benefit of the thirty guests, who roamed at will, until it was time to attack a sumptuous repast kindly provided in the gardens. The host and hostess were heartily thanked by Mr. Albert Walker for their generous hospitality and their unfailing interest in bells and bellringers. The 'toast' was drunk with musical honours, and Mr. Yates replied in his own inimitable and charming way.

Apologies for absence were received and read by Mr. Yates from Messrs. A. Paddon Smith, F. E. Haynes, E. T. Allaway and T. H. Reeves. The last-named sent telegraphic greetings from Newcastle-on-Tyne.

The host then conducted the party to a large sheet of water a mile away from Clock House. Here, in the Club Room, were many fine specimens of fish caught in these waters, among them being a large pike approximately 32lb. in weight, caught by Mr. Yates himself, who evidently is no mean fisherman. On returning to Clock House, more refreshments were provided, and handbells were enjoyed on the lawn in tunes and changes. At ten o'clock the party broke up with many expressions of thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Yates for a very delightful evening.

VISIT TO WORCESTER.

On Sunday afternoon, another excursion was made by road, in which Mr. Yates joined, to Worcester Cathedral, pausing on the way to take tea at Windyridge, near Worcester, the charming residence of Mr. and Mrs. E. Percy Thomas. Here, again, the beautiful gardens and orchards were admired. Baskets were provided, and all were allowed to pick as much fruit as they wished. Needless to say, everyone took advantage of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas' kind offer.

Tea on the lawn and a 'chin wag,' in which the parrot took a conspicuous part, brought time for ringing.

Mr. Thomas, whose keen interest in bells and bellringers is so well known, accompanied the party to the Cathedral, where they were met by Messrs. S. T. Holt, G. E. Large, G. Hinton and G. Lewis, and the grand twelve were kept going until the service began at 6.30 p.m.

On the return journey to Birmingham, the party were again invited to Windyridge for further refreshment and another 'chin wag' (in which the parrot again joined).

Mr. and Mrs. Thomas were heartily thanked for their kindness and hospitality, and home was reached at 10.30 p.m. A. W.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ENJOYABLE MEETING AT MORETON CORBET.

The Shropshire Association enjoyed a visit to Moreton Corbet on Saturday last. This has been a favourite venue for many years, and the reception accorded by the new incumbent suggested that the very pleasant relations will be continued. The service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. —. Still), and tea was prepared by his household staff.

Members were late in arriving, but twenty-four were present for tea, and further arrivals swelled the total afterwards. Some excellent ringing was heard, methods up to Surprise Minor being rung.

During the evening a party went to Stanton and enjoyed ringing on the bells there.

A feature was a touch of London Minor rung at Moreton Corbet by a mixed band, the striking being of competition standard.

(Continued from previous column.)

collected. Subscriptions did not come in as was hoped, the parish authorities repudiated any liability, and on September 14th the bells were taken down again. Norwich had to wait twelve years longer before it had a ring of ten bells.

It seems a rather curious tale, but it is not so incredible as it appears. Something very similar happened a century later at St. Andrew's, as I have already mentioned. In the eighteenth century parish vestries undertook to keep the bells in repair and to replace cracked or broken ones, but the provision of new bells was generally left to men who were interested in the art of change ringing and wanted them for that purpose. The vestry sanctioned the scheme, but accepted no responsibility for it, and as a rule took a bond to cover any damage that might be done or any charges that might fall on the parish.

RAISING AND FALLING IN PEAL.

SOME HINTS ON HOW TO DO IT.

Several requests have reached us recently for some hints on raising and falling bells in peal. The advantage of this manner of starting and finishing ringing, particularly if it is done well, is, of course, fairly obvious. For one thing, the public appreciate it better than an indiscriminate jangling of bells by ones and twos, while it is also excellent practice in striking. Indeed, in the West of England, where there are many bands who do no 'scientific,' as they term change ringing, the accurate striking of the bells in raising and falling is looked upon as of as great importance as the round ringing, and it forms part of their competitions.

This practice of raising and falling in peal goes back to the days before change ringing was known. At that time stays or sliders had not been invented to hold the bells when they were up and not being rung. The consequence was that each time before ringing could take place the bells had to be raised, and had to be lowered again before the ringers could leave the ropes.

With the introduction of stays and sliders, the need for raising the bells in peal became less necessary, and the practice is an unknown art in many places now. Sometimes, after some excellent ringing, bells are let down in a jangle, thus spoiling the effect of the previous efforts. Often Sunday service ringing is spoilt by the same method of lowering the bells. Raising and falling in peal is by no means a general thing, and yet if well done it can be really effective; indeed, the accurate lowering of bells in peal makes a beautiful finish to any ringing, and ringers should not neglect to acquire proficiency in it.

But raising and falling in peal needs practice; just as any other form of ringing requires practice. The secret of lowering bells accurately in peal is keeping control over the bells all the way down. This does not mean, of course, that a bell half-way down can be 'held' as can a bell which is being rung full up; but it is possible to handle the bell in such a way that it can be 'felt' all the way down, so that a very slight check on the rope will serve to put it a little closer, or a slight pull will keep it a shade wider. There is no place for 'sloppy' ringing when the bells are running down, any more than in change ringing.

The bells, of course, begin at the usual 'rounds' pace, and then gradually close in to a quicker compass as they fall. The trebleman must keep his bell at the 'opposite stroke' to the tenor as long as his bell is 'sallying'—that is, as long as a handstroke can be distinguished from a backstroke.

The heavier the bells the slower the fall must inevitably be, but one of the most important things to remember is that the bells should keep 'coming down,' not get partly down and stay there, or start getting up again. The fall of the treble should be steady and continuous, and accommodated to the speed at which the tenor comes down. A good deal, therefore, depends upon the speed set by the tenor ringer, and every man must use his ears so that the striking is smooth and the ever-lessening intervals between the bells are as regular as, although faster than, good round ringing with the bells going full circle.

EARS ARE IMPORTANT.

The need for using one's ears is all important. A bell too fast or too slow for the others will soon turn a fall into a jangle. If a ringer finds he is breaking the compass by being too wide he must check his bell, but at the next stroke he will probably find he must give it a little 'pull,' otherwise in the following stroke he will be too low, and possibly hitting the bell in front. If he is too close he must, of course, pull his bell a trifle until he gets back to the right interval; but pulling or checking should not be done to excess. The ideal is, naturally, to keep the bell in its right place all the time.

In raising in peal, the process required is a steady pull at every stroke. In the old days a rise was not considered perfect, unless all the bells spoke at the second stroke. One seldom hears that now. The treble and then the other bells are swung so as to strike at a short interval after each other, the heavier bells gradually joining in. The treble is then swung higher and higher, while the others strike at such intervals that the whole of them sound before the next blow of the treble. The intervals are gradually widened out, until eventually the bells are up and under full command.

It is equally as important to keep the bells going higher and higher with each pull, in raising, as it is to keep them running down when falling; indeed, the ringers will find their task involves additional hard work if they do not keep the bells going up. If two bells are clashing, more weight must be put on the heavier one, if it is his fault, to 'lift' it away from the other, but it may then be necessary to check a little, otherwise at the next blow the gap may be too wide. On the other hand, if the clashing is due to a wide blow, then the bell beneath must be brought a little closer.

The trebleman must pay careful attention to his work. A great deal depends upon him, and he must endeavour to keep the 'rise' going at a regular rate of progression, otherwise he may throw the whole of the bells into a heap. Raising the treble needs practice, and the best way to get it is to lash the clappers of the treble and tenor bells; then let the tenorman gradually pull his bell up, while the trebleman keeps his bell exactly at the opposite stroke.

(Continued in next column.)

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL BELLS.

OLD RING IN MASSIVE CAMPANILE.

A meeting of the Western Division of the Sussex Association was held at Chichester on Saturday, August 19th, when twenty members and visitors attended from Arundel, Brighton, Billingshurst, Chichester, Coleman's Hatch, Heene, Hartfield, Portsea, Petersfield and Shoreham.

At the business meeting, which was held in the belfry, a vote of thanks was proposed to the Dean of Chichester for the use of the bells of the Cathedral. Methods rung during the afternoon and evening were Stedman, Bob Major, Cambridge, Double Norwich, Superlative and London.

Chichester Cathedral has a massive campanile, with a huge ringing chamber, one of the largest in the country. Its bells are a mixed lot of poor tonal quality, but some of them have an antiquarian interest. For instance, the fifth and sixth are believed to have been cast by William Purdue, who cast a number of bells in Sussex in 1665 and 1666, and may have had a temporary foundry at Chichester. The fifth is inscribed 'Deus Dei Deo omnia anno domini 1665,' and the sixth, 'Dominvs providebit anno domini 1665. W.P.'

The two oldest bells, however, are the 3rd, 'Geve thankes to God. 1583. I.W.,' and the 7th, 'Be mecke and loly to hear the word of God. I.W. 1587.' I.W. was, presumably, John Wallis, a bell founder of Salisbury at that period.

The fourth was cast at the Chertsey Foundry of William Eldridge, 'Gvilielmvs Eldridge me fecit 1674.' Richard Phelps, of London, cast the tenor, inscribed 'Soli Deo Gloria,' in 1706, and from the same foundry came the two trebles which, in 1729, completed the octave.

FIFTY YEARS A RINGER.

PRESENTATION TO MR. W. WHEELDON.

On Friday, August 25th, a very interesting function took place in the schoolroom at Bucknall, Staffs, in the shape of a presentation of a wallet to Mr. William Wheeldon in recognition of his 50 years' service as a ringer at St. Mary's Church. Amongst those present at the gathering were four ringers, all of whom had over 50 years' service to their credit. This was considered to be unique in the ringing history of North Staffordshire. Their names are Mr. S. Churton (Stoke), Mr. J. E. Wheeldon (Norton), Mr. H. Carnwell (Kingsley) and Mr. W. Wheeldon (Bucknall).

The proceedings were opened by the singing of a hymn, after which the Rector (the Rev. J. C. Gardiner) spoke of the sterling worth of Mr. Wheeldon as leader of the ringers of Bucknall, and of his hearty co-operation in other spheres of activity in the Church. He said it gave him very great pleasure to make the presentation, as the wallet represented the appreciation not only of the Church officials but also of the parishioners in general, who had subscribed to the gift.

Mr. Wheeldon feelingly thanked the Rector, those present and all who had subscribed to the presentation. He assured them that he was very proud to feel that his services to the Church were appreciated. He thanked his own ringers for their loyalty both to the Church and himself. Mr. Wheeldon also paid a warm tribute to his wife, who had so wholeheartedly supported and encouraged him in the art he loved so well.

21st BIRTHDAY QUARTER-PEAL.

On Thursday, August 24th, at St. John-the-Baptist, Leytonstone, a quarter-peal of Cambridge Surprise Major (1,280 changes) was specially arranged and rung in honour of Miss Gwendoline Kippin's 21st birthday, which occurred on that day. Miss Kippin and her sister (Mrs. F. W. Housden) both took part: E. D. Smith 1, A. Prior 2, Miss G. Kippin 3, Mrs. F. W. Housden 4, F. W. Housden 5, J. Bennett 6, G. Dawson 7, P. A. Corby (conductor) 8.

TEN-YEAR-OLD'S ACHIEVEMENT.

Not yet eleven years old, Cyril Tuffley, of Muckleton, Glos, has rung the treble to a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, conducted by his father. His performance was a great achievement, for he struck his bell well throughout. The quarter-peal was rung on Sunday, August 13th, for the dedication festival at St. Lawrence's Church: G. Tuffley (first quarter-peal) 1, G. Bubb (first quarter-peal 'inside') 2, L. Kinchin 3, F. Tuffley (conductor) 4, F. Kinchin 5, W. Brown 6.

(Continued from previous column.)

It would be far better for the public if more ringers would raise and lower their bells in peal. It would also give a far more effective beginning and end to the change ringing. If details could be gathered, we believe it would be found that raising and falling in peal is done by a greater percentage of call change ringers than by those who practise scientific change ringing. Yet it ought not to be so. Raising and falling in peal takes very little, if any, longer than pulling the bells up or letting them down singly, while the effect is infinitely better. But it requires practice, and such practice should also improve the standard of striking in the change ringing of the band which adopts it.

RINGERS' OUTINGS.

AMONG GLOUCESTERSHIRE TOWERS.

The eighth annual outing of the ringers of St. Mary's, Rodbourne Cheney, who were accompanied by a few ringing friends, took place in delightful weather on Saturday, August 19th, when a programme of visits to Gloucestershire towers was duly carried out. The excursion, however was preceded by sending one of their colleagues on his matrimonial journey by the usual rounds, Queens, and firing, finishing with a touch of Grandsire. This over, a delayed start was made, owing to the non-arrival of one of the party. South Cerney was the first objective, and a very nice toned peal of bells was met with. Rounds, Bob Minor and Kent Treble Bob were indulged in, after which Maisey Hampton was visited, and again some good striking was in evidence in touches of Stedman and Bob Minor. Bibury became the next point of interest, but, alas, for all the trouble the secretary had taken, no arrangements had been made locally for their visit. The key of the belfry could not be found. A search party was sent out to locate the Vicarage, only to find the Vicar out. Further search to find the sexton resulted in the discovery that he, too, was absent. The desired information as to where the elusive key could be found was, however, given by Mrs. 'Sexton.' This obviously shortened the allotted ringing time allowed, as provision for tea had been made at this beauty spot. The spread, prepared by Hostess Osborne, was served on the lawn sloping to the river Coln. Afterwards some had a look round this charming village, others indulged in feeding the trout, while the remainder rang several touches of Grandsire, Stedman and Bob Minor on handbells to an assembly of mystified visitors who had gathered round.

Going on to Coln St. Aldwyn, a light peal of eight was met with, and here the advanced section fraternity were able to give of their best, with touches of Cambridge, Bob Major and Stedman. Here, also, a voluntary organist was discovered, and an impromptu choir was formed which made time pass all too quickly for both ringers and singers. A local ringer preceded the party to Hatherop as a guide. This proved very fortunate, as difficulty would certainly have been experienced in locating the church, which was discovered immediately behind the castle. The light ring of six was soon going to various methods of Doubles by the smaller fry. The church itself is very interesting, and much more time than was allowed was necessary to view, with admiration, the many beautiful subjects displayed therein. The sinking sun was a reminder that another move had to be made to the last objective—Fairford. This church is too far famed to need any description. Foreman Hope was in attendance to meet the visitors, and had everything in readiness. There was some excellent ringing on this lovely peal of eight, a well-struck touch of Stedman being especially noted, together with touches of Double Norwich and Bob Major. Standing among the choir stalls to ring did not embarrass or deter the members from giving of their best. Possibly it may have been the 'beauties' of this fair place that attracted the younger element, for it was discovered, after the bells had been raised, that only the 'old 'uns,' together with a few of the local band, were left to man the ropes.

Home was reached shortly before 11 p.m., after a very enjoyable day. The party take the opportunity of thanking the incumbents of the various towers for the use of the bells and the towerkeepers and others for making arrangements which added to the success of the day.

ALFRESCO MEALS.

The ringers of Wiveliscombe, Somerset, visited Devon for their annual outing. They started at 7 a.m. and breakfasted on the roadside and then proceeded in stages to Chudleigh, Bovey Tracey, Kingsteignton and Highweek, at each of which places they rang. Lunch was also an alfresco affair, and those who enjoyed the excursion can testify to the efficiency of the commissariat department. The successful arrangements were made by Mr. Clifford Parkman, who was sincerely thanked for his efforts.

HATFIELD COLLEGE YOUTHS.

After a lapse of over ten years, a revival of the Hatfield beliringers' outing took place on Saturday, July 29th, when a dozen members embarked upon a tour, which proved a great success and full of pleasure. The clerk of the weather seemed to be favourably disposed and changed the dismal atmosphere to a bright sunny afternoon for the party's departure to Baldock, where the first stop was made for a 'pull' on a heavier peal than that of Hatfield's tower, and noisier too, but touches of Stedman and Grandsire were successfully accomplished, while the probationers had their opportunity as well. The ride to Royston was most cheerful, for the sun was doing its best to make up for its absence in the last few weeks. Royston has a very light peal, the tenor being about 12 cwt., and after Baldock's 28 cwt. was a little strange, but some very good ringing was enjoyed. The party then went on to Barkway, the home town of one of the band, and the pretty scenery on this stage looked its best in the sunshine. At tea the ringers had the pleasure of the company of the Rector (the Rev. M. P. G. Leonard) and the Revs. Thomas and Smith, who had motored from Hatfield to join the party, and their presence was greatly appreciated. The Guild secretary expressed the hope that the outing would again become an annual function and that everyone would endeavour to assist in the accomplishment of the peal the Rector wanted in 1940, to commemorate the foundation of the Parish Church.

Barkway has a very fine peal of bells and some good ringing on them was easily the best of the day, Stedman, Grandsire, Plain Bob all being rung with real enjoyment. Hertford was the next and last call, but the party did not arrive till the shades of evening and some rain had fallen, but the bells of St. Andrew's had to get into their swing again, a peal having been attempted by another band in the afternoon. The ringing was not too good at this ten-bell tower, but with the help of some local ringers the pull was enjoyable. The outing was thoroughly enjoyed and all expressed appreciation that the day had been so successfully arranged and carried out.

LONDON RINGERS' EXCURSION.

On Saturday, August 19th, through the kindness of the Rev. P. D. Ellis, acting Rector of St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, the service ringers of that church had their annual. They made a coach trip with ideal weather prevailing. Great Bardfield, Essex, was reached at 10 a.m., and touches of Grandsire, Cambridge and Spliced Surprise were rung on the bells at the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin. At Clare, Suffolk, Stedman and Double Norwich were brought round, after which they went on to Lavenham, reaching the Swan Hotel in time for a most enjoyable lunch. Afterwards, on the famous bells, Stedman, Double Norwich and Spliced Surprise were successful, the latter, the visitors were informed, being the first spliced touch on them. Then eastwards to Hadleigh, where Stedman and Superlative were rung on the grand peal at St. Mary's Church. A hasty departure had, however, to be made, in order to reach Halstead, Essex, by 5 o'clock. In St. Andrew's Hall, the very nice tea was much appreciated. In the tower, Bob Major, Yorkshire and London were rung, but the attempted spliced would not come round—the only failure of the day.

The ringers take this opportunity of tendering the Rev. P. D. Ellis their grateful and sincere thanks for providing for such a day, also the various incumbents for permission to ring, Messrs. Stedman, Symonds and Claude Snowdon for their co-operation, and, last but not least, the 'engineers,' Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Davis, for arranging an exceptionally splendid day out.

ANOTHER DEVON TOUR.

On August Bank Holiday, eighteen members of the Devon Guild spent a very enjoyable day in visiting Plymtree, Kentisbeare, Uffculme, Culmstock, Milverton and Ashbrittle, and at these churches rang touches of Bob Minor, Grandsire Doubles, Stedman Doubles, Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples and Bob Major. They were accompanied by a visitor from Sheffield (Mr. Dickens) and were pleased to meet Mr. G. H. Myers and his son from Plymouth at Milverton, where an excellent touch of Stedman Triples was tapped off. It is 27 years since Mr. C. R. Lilley, who organised the outing, conducted the first peal of Stedman Triples there. The party spent a lovely day amid fine scenery and much enjoyed the ringing. They express their best thanks to Mr. C. Tarr for arrangements at Milverton and to the incumbents of the other churches.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

SUCCESSFUL JOINT MEETING AT SIX-BELL TOWER.

It was a real 'joint' meeting at Cobham on Saturday, August 19th, when two districts of the Guildford Diocesan Guild met. The bells (a handy peal of six) were going early in the afternoon, the local band ringing them for a wedding, but visitors began to arrive soon after 3 o'clock, although later it became a bit of a job to get them to forsake their grassy seats under the shade of the yews, just outside the belfry door.

The Guild's service was conducted by the curate, the Rev. G. N. Nicklin, with choir and organist, the Rector, the Rev. J. du V. Brunton, giving a short original address.

Tea was rather late, owing to the caterers having been busy with the wedding reception, and it was therefore all the more welcome to over 40 ringers and friends who sat down, presided over by the Rector, but they failed to clear the board.

There was no business to be transacted, so, after a hearty vote of thanks to all who had helped make the meeting a success, a return was made to the tower, where ringers from West Grinstead, Sussex, on their outing, joined in the ringing and added Norwich Surprise to the list of methods rung, which ranged from Grandsire Doubles to London, by very mixed bands composed of ringers from Addlestone, Banstead, Chertsey, Cobham, South Croydon, Epsom (Christ Church), Ewell, Haslemere, Hersham, Kingston, Leatherhead, Merton, Newdigate, Putney, Stepney, Uxbridge, and Wraysbury. Mr. E. M. Atkins and Mr. Stafford Green also paid a passing visit.

J. A. TROLLOPE'S **'COLLEGE YOUTHS'**
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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.

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

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch (Lincoln District) and Eastern Branch.—A joint meeting of the above will be held at Horncastle on Saturday, September 2nd. Bells (6) available from 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea at Church Hall at 5 p.m. Business meeting afterwards.—W. E. Clarke, Hon. Sec., Eastern Branch, Park House, 99, Norfolk Street, Boston.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, Sept. 2nd, at St. Mary's Church, Rawtenstall. Bells ready 4. Meeting in tower at 6.30. Everybody welcome.—J. Porter, Hon. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.— A meeting will be held at Ash on Saturday, September 2nd. Bells (8) available from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea following at 1s. per head.—B. J. Luck, 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — The monthly meeting of the Gloucester Branch will be held at Whitminster on Saturday, Sept. 2nd. Bells (6) open at 3 p.m. Usual procedure. Bus from Commercial Road at 2.45 p.m.—W. H. Harris, Branch Sec., 4, G.W.R. Terrace, Lydney Dock, Lydney, Glos.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Gorseinon on Saturday, September 2nd. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow.—E. Stitch, Hon. Dis. Sec., 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glam.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-West and South-West Divisions.—A joint meeting will be held at Epping Town on Saturday, September 2nd. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea to follow.—W. Wheeler and J. H. Crampion, Hon. Dis. Secs.

PASTON CHURCH, NORFOLK.—New treble bell, to complete ring of six, and new electric clock, by Gillett and Johnston, to be dedicated September 2nd, 4 p.m., by Rev. J. F. Williams, Rector of South Walsham. Ringers are invited. Vicar kindly providing tea, and asks prior notification of the numbers attending.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. Mary, Hendon, on Saturday, Sept. 2nd. Bells available 3.30 p.m. Methods for special attention, Double Court, Bob Minor and London Surprise Minor. Other methods will be rung as required.—T. J. Lock, Hon. Dis. Sec., 57, Holloways Lane, North Mimms, Hatfield, Herts.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch. — The next meeting will be held at St. Michael's Church, Aughton, on Saturday, Sept. 2nd. Bells available from 3 p.m.; after tea, at Christ Church, Aughton.—S. Forshaw, 55, Poolstock, Wigan.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — The next meeting will be held at Bolsover Parish Church on Saturday, Sept. 2nd. Bells (8) available 3 p.m.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 13, St. Ronan's Road, Sheffield 7.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Twyford on Saturday, Sept. 2nd. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 3.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Please send in good time those requiring tea. Make it a good meeting. — Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Derby District.—The next meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Belper, on Saturday, Sept. 2nd. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. All ringers assured of a hearty welcome. Methods to suit all.—W. Lancaster, Hon. Sec., 83, Albert Road, Chaddesden, Derby.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Bishops Cannings on Saturday, Sept. 2nd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5, for which advise.—W. C. West, Hon. Sec., 584, Semington Road, Melksham.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Guilsborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Watford (6 bells) on Saturday, Sept. 2nd. Usual arrangements.—H. H. Shrives, Hon. Branch Sec., The Mill, Long Buckby, Rugby.

THE NEXT BEST THING, a meeting at Aldenham, Saturday, Sept. 2nd. Bells open 3.30. Tea at Social Club 5.30. Nearest stations: Bushey and Radlett. Buses stop at church, good service. Herts at her best.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey. City 4270.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Service ringing at St. Clement Danes, Strand, Sept. 3rd, at 10 a.m. Practices: St. Clement Danes, Sept. 11th and 25th, at 7.30 p.m., and St. Mary, Lambeth, Sept. 26th, at 8 p.m.—T. W. Taffender, Hon. Sec.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wednesday Afternoon Guild. — The next meeting will be held at St. Michael's, Houghton-le-Spring on Sept. 6th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m.—Margaret A. P. Bertie, 17, Ridley Avenue, Chester-le-Street.

LADIES' GUILD.—Eastern District. — A meeting will be held at St. Margaret's, Lowestoft, on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Bells available at 3 p.m.—Service at 4.30 p.m., conducted by Rev. Canon Whytehead. Tea at Waller's Restaurant at 5.15 p.m. Names for tea should be sent to me not later than Sept. 5th. Gentlemen very cordially invited.—Sylvia R. E. Bowyer, Hon. Sec., 32, Gatacre Road, Ipswich.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Burton District.—The next meeting will be held at Appleby Magna on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea 4.45, followed by meeting. Names for tea must be sent by Thursday, Sept. 7th, to me. Now for the Minor methods? All are welcome.—J. W. Cotton, Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Macclesfield Branch.—A ringing meeting has been arranged at Christ Church, Macclesfield, on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Those requiring tea to please advise me by Wednesday, Sept. 6th.—Jack Tipper, Hon. Branch Sec., 8, Arlington Drive, Macclesfield.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Leatherhead District.—A meeting will be held at Epsom on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service at 5, with tea (1s.) in the Church House. Please make a point of coming and of sending a notification for tea to Mr. P. T. Cooper, 62, Upper High Street, Epsom.—A. H. Smith.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts Branch. —A meeting will be held at Winwick on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock. — H. J. Parker, Dis. Sec., Great Staughton, St. Neots.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.— The next meeting will be held at Hoghton on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—A. Blogg, Branch Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Roxton on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All will be welcome. A good company is requested. Please come.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. —Ilchester Deanery Branch.—A meeting will be held at West Coker on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. Please notify early for tea.—F. Farrant, Martock.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Central Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at North Marston on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Bells (6) available from 2.45 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—F. Gibbard, Hon. Sec., 30, Horn Street, Winslow, Bucks.

LADIES GUILD.—Western District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Farnborough on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Tea at School 4.30. Bus 88 from Centre 2 p.m. and every 30 minutes. Will all requiring tea kindly send me a card?—N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Weston, Bath.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—The next practice meeting will be held at St. Michael's Church, Hawkshead, on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m.—N. M. Newby, Sec., Furness and Lake District.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—A combined meeting of the Wirral Branch and Liverpool Branch of the Lancashire Association will be held at Christ Church, Port Sunlight (bells 8), on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Tower open at 3 o'clock. Service at 5.30 p.m. Tea and meeting afterwards. Please let me know if you intend to be present. — Harry S. Brocklebank, Hon. Sec., Wirral Branch, 30, South Hill Road, Birkenhead.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—A special memorial service will be held at Barnsley on Saturday, Sept. 9th, in memory of the late President (Mr. C. D. Potter). Bells (8) ready at 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., followed by a social evening and ringing. Those requiring teas please notify me by Sept. 7th. All are welcome.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., Rock Cottages, Shafton, near Barnsley.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD. — Lovely Ashdown Forest and a nice modern eight (tenor 15½). Come and enjoy both at Fairwarp, Sept. 9th. Ringers, friends and p.c.'s for tea very welcome. Note, next Wednesday meeting, East Grinstead, Sept. 20th.— C. A. Bassett, Sec., 3, Pendrill Place, Wadhurst.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch. — Next meeting will be held at the Church of St. Leonard, Middleton, on Saturday, Sept. 9th. All welcome.—J. Kay, Branch Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.— Swindon Branch.—Quarterly meeting at South Marston on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Six bells. Usual arrangements. On 'Bristol' bus route.—W. B. Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Swindon Road, Swindon, Wilts.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Pleasley on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Tea at 5 o'clock. Please send numbers requiring tea to me by Wednesday, Sept. 6th.—J. W. England, 49, The Common, South Normanton.

NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting is at Blyth (bells 6), on Saturday, Sept. 9th. I hope there will be a good attendance, including 'learners.' P.c. for tea essential before Thursday, Sept. 7th. — R. Towler, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. —Tower bell practices are suspended until further notice, but meetings will be held at headquarters on Tuesdays, Sept. 12th and 26th, at 8.30 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division. — A meeting of this division will be held at Great Yeldham on Saturday, Sept. 16th. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea at the Waggon and Horses. Business meeting to follow. Sible Hedingham bells (8) and Castle Hedingham (6) will be available after tea. Names for tea should be sent to me not later than Wednesday, Sept. 13th.—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Dis. Sec., 3, Belle Vue, Hedingham Road, Halstead, Essex.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. — Annual meeting and Six Bell Contest at Thornhill on Saturday, Sept. 16th. Entrance fee 7s. 6d. and numbers for tea (1s. 6d. each) to reach me Sept. 9th. — Fred Hodgson, 566, Halifax Road, Hightown, Liversedge.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD. — Aylesbeare Deanery Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Littleham, Exmouth, on Saturday, Sept. 16th. Bells (8) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow at 5 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify me not later than Monday, Sept. 11th.—R. Brook, Hon. Sec., 3, Greatwood Terrace, Topsham.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—A meeting at Frensham on Saturday, Sept. 16th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business 5.15 at the Marindin Institute. All welcome.—C. W. Denyer, 120, Ash Road, Aldershot.

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YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Whiston on Saturday, Sept. 16th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea (1s.) in the Church Hall at 5 o'clock, followed by business meeting. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. N. Chaddock, 33, Brecklands, Rotherham, in good time. A hearty welcome is extended to all. Will members please note that in the absence of the secretary for the six months following Sept. 15th, Mr. S. F. Palmer, of 4, Quarry Road, Totley, Sheffield, will take over and all communications for the Southern District should be sent to him during that time?—John J. L. Gilbert, Dis. Sec., 25a, St. Joseph's Road, Sheffield 9.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A general meeting of the association will be held at Ripon on Saturday, Sept. 16th, when the bells of the Cathedral (10) will be available from 2 p.m. A brief service will take place at 4 p.m. Tea (1s. 3d.) will be served at the Black Bull Hotel at 5 p.m., and members requiring same MUST notify Mr. F. Tingle, 16, North Street, Ripon, not later than the first post on Thursday, Sept. 14th. The general meeting will be held on the same premises immediately afterwards.—L. W. G. Morris, Gen. Sec., 65, Lilycroft Road, Heaton, Bradford.

DAGENHAM, ESSEX. — The ring of 6 bells augmented to eight by J. Taylor and Co., will be dedicated by the Bishop of Barking on Saturday, Sept. 16th, at 3 p.m. All ringers welcome. — A. C. Chaplin, Steeple Keeper.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Chiddingly on Saturday, Sept. 16th. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock, Will all those intending to be present kindly let me know Wednesday previous to meeting.—A. C. Pankhurst, Hon. Div. Sec., 13, Bradford Street, Eastbourne.

HANDBELLS FOR SALE.

TWO PEALS of 12, 15-size tenors.—T. Miller, 21a, Smith Street, Hockley, Birmingham 19.

APARTMENTS.

LLANDUDNO, NORTH WALES.—Superior board-residence or bed and breakfast; 2 minutes sea; tennis courts, bowling green and park.—Mrs. Brown, Avonholm, 24, Queen's Road. Telephone 6965.

WEDDING BELLS.

At Bredons Norton, Worcestershire, on August 7th, a quarter-peal of Plain Bob Minor was rung on the occasion of the marriage of Lillian May, daughter of Mr. C. Attwood, head ringer of the tower: H. Cole 1, Len Nicholls 2, F. Miles 3, A. Pulley 4, F. Pugh 5, T. Newbury (conductor) 6.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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RINGING IN TWELVE-BELL TOWERS.

The decision to make the bells at St. Woolos' Cathedral, Newport, into a ring of twelve came as a surprise to many people, but it must be a source of gratification to the members of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association that they are to have a ring of this number in their area. Peals of twelve have increased very rapidly in recent years, more rapidly in fact than the twelve-bell bands. Twelve-bell ringing has not increased at the same pace as the new rings of twelve, and, as a correspondent points out in a letter printed elsewhere, there are very few places at which all the twelve bells are rung regularly and rung well. There are, of course, a great many really good twelve-bell ringers in the country, but they are not all in the twelve-bell companies. Always, of course, augmentations are followed with good intentions as to setting up a band, but there are comparatively few places where a twelve-bell company has materialised and been maintained. It is, of course, no easy matter to build up a band of this description, and in looking down the list of twelve-bell towers which we print in this issue, it will be realised that, in a large majority of them, the twelve are only rung on exceptional occasions, and that, in not a few, there is practically no ringing at all.

Without particularising in any way, it can quite honestly be said that there are a number of peals of twelve which have not justified their existence in so far as they have been a help to change ringing. An occasional peal, while providing an opportunity for a twelve-bell practice, is not the entire justification for the existence of a ring of twelve. The increase of a peal of bells to this number may be a matter of satisfaction to the ringers at the time, but unless the weight really warrants it, the extra number does not necessarily add dignity. When, in addition, they are neglected as a complete peal, then, it must be admitted, the expenditure is largely wasted.

Many churches have enthusiastically enlarged their peals to twelve only to find it a matter of extreme difficulty and sometimes an impossibility to increase their band accordingly. Twelve-bell ringing is not easy for everybody; there is a different technique in it to ringing on other numbers which some find hard to acquire and for that reason they do not readily take to it. That makes it all the harder to build up a twelve-bell company, but it is really a matter of regret that for the most part twelve-bell ringing is seldom heard regularly. It may be that some of the lack of interest in twelve-bell ringing is because ringers imagine there is little variety to be had in it. As a matter of fact, among the plain

(Continued on page 570.)

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methods there is very considerable scope, if only they were taken up. We hope in Newport, which is now to join the goodly company of twelve-bell towers, the new acquisition will be made the most of and that not only will the ringers have a ring of twelve on which occasionally to practise, but that the full peal will be regularly heard.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, August 29, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH, PRITTLEWELL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

CYRIL SMITH	...Treble	HENRY S. WILSON	5
GORDON BACON	2	FRANK B. LUPKIN	6
WILLIAM PERRY	3	ALBERT E. NORTH	7
ROY BROWN	4	REGINALD W. DARVILL	...Tenor

Composed by J. W. BARKER. Conducted by F. B. LUPKIN.

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HANDSWORTH, SHEFFIELD.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, August 30, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. in F sharp.

*JACK BROTHWELL	...Treble	SIDNEY F. PALMER	5
TOM BROTHWELL	2	JOHN J. L. GILBERT	6
*JOHN W. SYKES	3	FREDERICK CARDWELL	7
A. PERCIVAL KNIGHTS	4	GEORGE W. DEBENHAM	...Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by G. W. DEBENHAM.

* First peal in the method.

SIX BELL PEALS.

HAPPISBURGH, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, August 26, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, St. Clement's, Double Court, Double Oxford, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 14 cwt. (approx.).

HERBERT C. REED	...Treble	ARTHUR HOWES	4
*JACK N. PUMFREY	2	WALTER C. MEDLER	5
EDWARD HOWES	3	WALTER AYRE	...Tenor

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

* First peal in seven methods.

WROXHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, August 27, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, College Bob, Double Court, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Cambridge Surprise and Plain Bob. Tenor 9¼ cwt.

WALTER AYRE	...Treble	GEORGE BAILEY	4
*JACK N. PUMFREY	2	*WILLIAM H. FRENCH	5
*ERIC DURRANT	3	EDWARD HOWES	...Tenor

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

* First peal in eight methods.

OLDWICH, STAFFS.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Monday, August 28, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents, different callings. Tenor 7 cwt. 2 qr. 10 lb.

*FRANK HEELY	...Treble	BARNABAS G. KEY	4
†JOHN WARRILOW	2	†EDWARD W. VAUGHAN	5
HOWARD HOWELL	3	†RICHARD J. WARRILOW	...Tenor

Conducted by R. J. WARRILOW.

* First peal. † First peal of Minor. First peal as conductor. First peal of Minor on the bells.

PEALS OF TWELVE BELLS.

NEWPORT WILL MAKE THE 59th.

The decision to increase the bells at St. Woolos' Cathedral, Newport, to a ring of twelve, is a reminder of the rapid growth of peals of this number, particularly since the war.

Less than thirty years ago there were only 34 rings of twelve (one of them in Australia), now there are 58.

York Minster was the first tower in which a peal of twelve was installed, but York has not had this number continuously. A long period intervened when there was only a peal of ten.

St. Bride's Church, Fleet Street, London, has had a ring of twelve for the longest consecutive period, two trebles having been added to the then existing ten by Rudhall in 1719.

In the list of peals of bells given in Shipway's 'Art of Ringing' there were thirteen rings of twelve. These were in the following towers: St. Bride's; Christ Church, Spitalfields; St. Giles', Cripplegate; St. Leonard's, Shoreditch; St. Martin's-in-the-Fields; St. Michael's, Cornhill, and St. Saviour's, Southwark, London; Birmingham, Cambridge, Cirencester, Liverpool, Norwich and Shrewsbury.

Of these, Spitalfields afterwards disappeared in a fire which destroyed the tower and bells. St. Peter's, St. Albans, is another tower which once had a peal of twelve. These were subsequently reduced to the original ten.

It is not uninteresting to note that in Shipway's list of churches with peals of ten bells (1816) eighteen are now among the twelve-bell towers. They were St. Mary-le-Bow, London; Ashton-under-Lyne, Aston, Canterbury, Exeter, Halifax, Ipswich, Leeds, Leicester (St. Margaret's), Oxford, Painswick, Reading, Sheffield, Shrewsbury, Wakefield, Worcester, Yarmouth and York.

The following is the present list of rings of twelve:

	Tenor. Cwt.
LONDON.	
St. Paul's Cathedral	62
St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside	54
St. Bride's, Fleet Street	28
St. Michael's, Cornhill	41
St. Giles', Cripplegate	36
St. Saviour's Cathedral, Southwark	50
St. Martin's-in-the-Fields	30½
St. Leonard's, Shoreditch	28½
THE PROVINCES.	
Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire, St. Michael and All Angels'	25
Aston, Birmingham, SS. Peter and Paul's	25
Birchington, Kent, Waterloo Tower, Quex Park	15½
Birmingham, St. Martin's	37½
Bristol, St. Mary Redcliffe	50½
Buckfast Abbey, Devon	41¼
Cambridge, St. Mary-the-Great	28
Canterbury, Christ Church Cathedral	30
Chelmsford, Essex, St. Mary's Cathedral	34½
Cheltenham, Glos, St. Mary's	22½
Christchurch, Hants, Priory Church of Holy Trinity	30
Cirencester, Glos, St. John's	29
Croydon, Surrey, St. John-the-Baptist	37
Exeter, Devon, St. Peter's Cathedral	72
Halifax, Yorks, St. John's	25½
High Wycombe, Bucks, All Saints'	31
Ipswich, Suffolk, St. Mary-le-Tower	32
Kidderminster, Worcs, St. Mary and All Saints'	24¾
Leeds, Yorks, St. Peter's	41
Leicester Cathedral	25¼
Leicester, St. Margaret's	33
Lincoln Cathedral	24
Liverpool, St. Nicholas'	39½
Macclesfield, St. Michael and All Angels'	26¾
Manchester Town Hall	42½
Newcastle-on-Tyne, St. Nicholas' Cathedral	37½
Norwich, St. Peter Mancroft	37¼
Oldham, Lancs, St. Mary's	33
Oxford, Christ Church Cathedral	31
Painswick, Glos, St. Mary's	26½
Reading, Berks, St. Laurence's	23½
Saffron Walden, Essex, St. Mary's	24
St. Albans, Herts, St. Peter's Cathedral	23½
Sheffield, Yorks, St. Peter's Cathedral	41
Shrewsbury, Shropshire, St. Chad's	43
Surfleet, Lincs, St. Laurence's	12
Taunton, Somerset, St. Mary's	30
Tewkesbury, Glos, St. Mary-the-Virgin	23
Trowbridge, Wilts, St. James'	24
Wakefield, All Saints' Cathedral	31
Walsall, Staffs, St. Matthew's	26
Waltham Abbey, Essex, St. Laurence's	38½
West Bromwich, Staffs, Christ Church	23
Winchester, St. Swithin's Cathedral	35½
Wolverhampton, Staffs, St. Peter's	33
Worcester, St. Mary's Cathedral	49½
Yarmouth, Norfolk, St. Nicholas'	30½
York, St. Peter's Cathedral	60
IRELAND.	
Dublin, St. Patrick's Cathedral	45
AUSTRALIA.	
Melbourne, St. Paul's Cathedral	31¼

ARE RINGS OF TWELVE A MISTAKE?

To the Editor.

Sir,—I see by your issue of August 18th that another ring of bells is to be increased to twelve. No doubt it is a very nice thing to have a peal of twelve bells and I fully applaud the energy of the people who take the trouble to get these bells. But, when all is said and done, rings of twelve bells are a mistake, both from the point of music and also from the point of the art of ringing. There are, I suppose, half a dozen twelve-bell towers where there are bands which ring all the bells regularly and ring them well. But in the majority of twelve-bell towers, when all bells are rung, the striking is far inferior to what the same men would do on eight or ten bells. How many twelve-bell rings are there where one can count all the twelve when they are being rung in the usual way? How many towers are there where the twelve bells sound better to an ordinary non-ringing listener than the ten or even the eight? Even when the striking is good the rapid rate at which the bells must be struck and the long drawn out rhythm are too much for the ordinary musical ear. And, as I just now said, the striking is almost always inferior.

I have heard twelve-bell ringing by a band supposed, and with reason, to be first class. They appeared quite satisfied with the striking, but I don't think that they would have been satisfied with the same quality of striking on eight bells.

I think I remember someone saying in your paper that the back eight at York Minster are a bigger musical success than the twelve. I have never heard those bells, but I can well believe it.

Another thing, if the twelve bells are to be rung something like as they should be, you must have a band which rings them regularly week by week and sticks to one method. It is usually Stedman Cinques, which no doubt is a very good method, but I can hardly imagine anyone who wants to go through life week after week ringing Stedman Cinques and nothing else. I am told that the Ipswich men ring a fair number of methods and ring them well, but one swallow does not make a summer.

ROBERT BECK.

FOUR ASSOCIATIONS MEET.

JOINT MEETING AT STAINES.

In spite of the international situation, a successful joint meeting of the Middlesex County Association (South and West District), the Guildford Diocesan Guild (Chertsey District), the Oxford Diocesan Guild (East Berks and South Bucks Branch) and the Surrey Association (North-Western District) was held at St. Mary's, Staines, on Saturday, August 26th.

The Rev. J. R. James, Vicar of St. Mary's, conducted a short service in the afternoon, in the course of which he stressed the necessity for prayer and gave the members a cordial welcome to Staines.

Tea was served to 40 members and friends in the Church Room. The vice-president of the Middlesex Association (Mr. J. A. Trollope) expressed the meeting's appreciation of the Vicar's welcome and his attendance at tea. He hoped that war would be averted and that members would soon meet again in happier circumstances. On behalf of the Middlesex Association he welcomed members of the visiting associations.

Mr. A. D. Barker, Oxford Diocesan Guild, replied on behalf of the visitors, and on his proposition a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar for conducting the service and allowing the use of the bells, to the organist, to the incumbents of Egham, Wraysbury and St. Peter's, Staines, for the use of their bells, to the local tower-keepers and to Mr. W. H. Frisby and his helpers for serving an excellent tea.

Mr. G. L. Grover also replied on behalf of the Guildford Diocesan Guild.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. J. E. L. Cockey, district secretary, Middlesex Association, and from Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, vice-president of the Guildford Diocesan Guild, who was detained on public duties.

Mr. Trollope referred to the loss sustained by the association by the death of Mr. W. F. Ellingham, of Heston, and the members stood in silence as a tribute to his memory.

The assistant secretary (Mr. W. G. Wilson) announced the dates of forthcoming meetings—Ruislip, September 23rd; Hillingdon, October 7th; and Kingston (a joint meeting), October 28th.

Members were present from Banstead, Beddington, Chertsey, Cookham, Croydon, Ealing, Egham, Epsom, Farnham Royal, Guildford, Isleworth, Kingston, Iver, Leytonstone, Ruislip, Slough, Stepney, Stoke Poges, Twickenham and West Grinstead, and good ringing practice was obtained during the afternoon and evening at the two Staines towers and at Egham and Wraysbury.

A LONDON CONTEST.

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS AND CUMBERLANDS IN 1784.

By J. Armiger Trollope.

'The Southwark Diocesan Gazette' for last May contains an interesting and well informed article on church bells. The writer, among many other things, refers to the silent bells of South London and mentions a ringing contest which took place at St. John's, Horsleydown, when that ring of ten was opened on January 19th, 1784.

The editor of the 'Gazette,' Canon T. P. Stevens, has most kindly and generously sent me the original newspaper cutting from which the account was taken. It had evidently been cut out of a contemporary newspaper and pasted in a scrap book, a not unusual custom at the time. There is no indication of the name of the paper, but the date is written in ink—January 23rd, 1784. The account is most interesting as throwing light on the relations between the College Youths and the Cumberlands at the time, and also as giving an idea of what the opening of a new ring of bells was like in the eighteenth century.

In the year 1784 the art of change ringing was in a very flourishing condition in London. There were three leading companies, each of which was superior and more skilful than any provincial company except the Norwich Scholars. The three companies were the Society of College Youths, the ancient Society of College Youths and the Society of Cumberland Youths.

The first and last of these companies were in the middle of the historical contest for the record lengths of Treble Bob on ten and twelve bells. The College Youths, by ringing 11,080 changes at Shoreditch in 1777, held the ten-bell record. In the same year they had rung 6000 changes of Maximus at Southwark, but the twelve-bell record had passed to the Cumberlands through the peal of 6240 changes rung in 1778 by their Norwich members in that city.

Both companies were now preparing to attack the other's record, and two months after the Horsleydown bells were opened the College Youths secured the record for Maximus by ringing 7008 changes at Southwark and the Cumberlands secured the record for Royal, by ringing their famous peal of 12,000 changes at Shoreditch.

And meanwhile the keen rivalry between the two societies was shown by attempts to beat each other's performances on the heavy ring of ten at St. Giles', Cripplegate.

The third company, the ancient Society of College Youths, were enjoying the last few years of activity and brilliancy before final extinction in 1788. Their leaders were the three men whose names appear in the title page of the Clavis, William Jones, John Reeves and Thomas Blakemore; and they included several of the best ringers of the day, among them being Christopher Wells, who was the first man to discover that peals of Treble Bob can have repetitions without the falseness showing at the lead ends.

This company had just rung the first peal of Surprise Major ever accomplished, and two months after the Horsleydown opening they were in a contest with the other and younger Society of College Youths to see who could ring the first peal of 'real' Double Bob Maximus with two Bobs in a lead. The 'junior' company rang 5160 changes at St. Bride's, and two days later the ancient Society beat their record by ringing 6048 changes at Southwark.

This brief account will show how keen the competition was among ringers at the time.

In 1783 a new ring of eight was rung at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate. The opening was on February 7th, and on that day each of the three companies rang a peal. The College Youths started with 5120 changes of Oxford Treble Bob. John Povey conducted and the society's best men stood in the band. The Cumberlands then followed with a peal of Grandsire Triples, which was conducted by George Gross and was said to have been composed by him, but evidently was a transposition of Holt's Ten-Part. Nine men were needed for this peal, not because the tenor was going badly, but because the tenorman was not up to his job. The ancient Society of College Youths finished the day's ringing with 5216 changes of Treble Bob. No conductor is mentioned, but probably it was John Reeves.

We have no account of this opening, and all we know is from the peal books and the peal board which sixty years ago hung in the belfry, but has since been chopped up for fire wood. There may be some account buried in the files of contemporary newspapers, but none has yet come to light.

Whether there was any formal competition, or whether each of the three companies was invited to ring we cannot say. But we can be reasonably sure that there was no dedication service in the church, and that no money prizes were offered for competition, but the band judged to have rung the best probably were awarded gold laced hats, and the day ended with a dinner.

Just a year after this opening, the bells at Horsleydown were opened and the following is the contemporary account:

'Monday last being kept as the Anniversary of her Majesty's nativity, a grand opening of the new Peal of ten bells erected at the parish Church of St. John, Horsleydown, took place when a Society of gentlemen, who are lovers of the art of ringing, in honour of the occasion gave ten gold laced hats and a dinner to be rung for by different ringers. About ten o'clock a set of *young gentlemen* ascended the steeple, in order to gratify a number of impatient hearers (who were by that time assembled) with a specimen of their *unparalled* abilities in that art, and so proved in the end; for before they had reached 4,000 changes, all those so lately described platoons, divisions, sub-divisions, grand divisions, &c. were again repeated with large additions, and greater energy than ever, so that they were obliged to quit the steeple through private doors in order to avoid that loud reception which was prepared for them by the auditors, and which they so justly deserved! After this the Society of Cumberland Youths ascended the steeple and amidst the acclamations of upwards of 10,000 spectators rang the first peal compleat consisting of 5,399 Grandsire Cators in 3 hours and 58 minutes; but notwithstanding they had won the hats by a great majority of changes and fineness of striking the before mentioned *young gentlemen*, contrary to all order, were admitted to a second trial, with a view, as it is supposed, to retrieve their lost honour and transmit to posterity a striking testimony of their superior abilities and indefatigable perseverance, but how great was the disappointment when this second attempt proved far inferior to the first and became the object of contempt and ridicule! And although they had been worsted by a considerable odds, yet fortunately for them they had chose for their umpire a squinting oyster man who, being so much infatuated with the glory of his post as to loose his best sense, viz., that of thinking and judging right, and who it is believed was b—d for the occasion gave it in favour of the *select performers*, because they rang *College Hornbook*; and the gentlemen who gave the hats confiding in the *superiority* of his judgment, the supposed victors were, contrary to equity and good conscience, crowned with the laurels they had so egregiously lost and admitted to partake of the dinners provided for the occasion.'

From the peal books we know that the Cumberlands rang the first peal on the bells, 5399 changes of Grandsire Caters, composed and conducted by George Gross; and that the College Youths rang on the same day 5040 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Royal, conducted by John

Povey. Both bands consisted of the most skilful ringers the societies possessed.

If we can believe the writer of the newspaper report what happened was that the College Youths had the first attempt and rang under 4000 changes, but failed so badly that they had to slink out of the steeple by a private door, in order to escape the jeers of the listening crowd. Then the Cumberlands rang their peal 'amidst the acclamations of upwards of 10,000 spectators,' but instead of the prize being given to them, the College Youths were allowed a second attempt. This ringing was worse than their first attempt and 'became an object of contempt and ridicule'; nevertheless, owing to the fact that the umpire was incompetent and had been bribed the College Youths were awarded the victory and received the hats and the dinner.

It is a pretty little tale, but not convincing as it stands. The writer, whoever he was, was certainly not impartial. Either he had a strong personal bias in favour of the Cumberlands, or (as is perhaps more likely) simply wrote down what they told him. They evidently took their defeat very badly and the incident does not show that the relations between the two companies were those of 'friendly rivalry.'

It is noticeable that the details of the Cumberlands' peal (the number of changes and the time taken) are given correctly, but the reader is led to suppose that the College Youths did not ring a peal at all.

The writer affects the ironical and sarcastic style which was largely used by newspapers of the time. The College Youths are referred to as *young gentlemen* (in italics) and the quotation about transmitting 'to posterity a striking testimony of their superior abilities' is a sarcastic reference to a College Youths' peal board, possibly the one then lately erected in Shoreditch tower.

It is an old dodge and not a very sportsmanlike one to blame the judge when the match is lost and to hint that the umpire was unfair and had been bribed. We notice that the charge is not definitely made; he is said to have been 'b—d.' It was a common way of making an accusation and, at the same time, trying to avoid any unpleasant consequences, which might take the form of legal proceedings or, more likely, of a horse whip.

If the College Youths were allowed a second trial after they had failed the first time, it certainly does not seem quite fair, especially as they were awarded the prize. But I think it is quite possible that the band which rang the first time and failed was the ancient Society of College Youths and not the same band as that which rang the peal of Treble Bob. The reporter certainly drew on his imagination for some of the details. We cannot believe that even in the eighteenth century 10,000 people assembled to hear church bells rung, and if so great a crowd, or even a much lesser crowd, had assembled round the church it is difficult to see how the first band could have 'quit the steeple through private doors.' Neither can we suppose that the College Youths of that time rang so badly that they were afraid to face hostile demonstrations from the assembled spectators. And, after all, the 'Society of gentlemen,' 'the lovers of the art of ringing,' agreed with the umpire's verdict and gave the hats and the dinner to the College Youths.

We are sometimes told about preserving the old traditions of the great London societies, and we are told that the relationship between them was one of healthy and friendly rivalry. Incidents like the above throw some light on what the relationship really was.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

With reference to the statement made in our last issue that the peal at Bollington was the first peal of Spliced Treble Bob Major for the Chester Diocesan Guild, we are informed that the first actually was rung on May 8th, 1923, at St. Elisabeth's, Reddish, conducted by the late James Fernley.

Mr Stafford Green writes that all arrangements for Masonic peals are cancelled until happier times.

A ringing tour had been arranged to start to-morrow and a good selection of Yorkshire towers had been secured, including, we believe, Sheffield Cathedral, Leeds Parish Church, Bradford Parish Church and Selby Abbey. Unfortunately it has had to be cancelled.

On Saturday last a meeting of the North and West District of the Middlesex Association had been arranged at Hendon Parish Church. At the last minute the Vicar felt compelled to cancel it, but actually no more than three or four members turned up.

Sixteen years ago to-day the first twelve-bell peal in Hampshire was rung on the bells of Winchester Cathedral, which had just before been augmented by the addition of two trebles as a war memorial.

On September 10th, 1741, John Forster, who had rung in the first peal of Stedman Triples ever achieved, called a peal of Gathrine's Triples on the bells which Theodore Eccleston had lately given to the Parish Church at Coddenham in Suffolk. Gathrine's Triples is, of course, the peal of Grandsire Triples which John Garthon, of Norwich, had composed and which was rung in that city in 1718.

September 12th is the 95th anniversary of the birth of Charles Henry Hattersley, for so many years one of the best known ringers, whose name is still familiar to even the younger members of the Exercise as a composer. He died on October 15th, 1915.

IF THE WORST BEFALL.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Since you wrote your leading article war has started, but we are not yet going to think that the worst has actually befallen. We shall have to curtail our ringing without a doubt, and a good many ringers will be serving their country as they did in the last war. But we must do our best, each in our own way, to keep the Exercise alive and to make sure that when peace and victory come again, as they will come, our art will again flourish.

I would suggest that some of the meetings should not be cancelled, but should be held as social gatherings even if the church bells cannot be rung. And handbell ringing is an art that will pay to cultivate. Personally I got quite a lot of comfort and satisfaction when I was in the trenches by working out peals and methods and writing controversial letters to 'The Ringing World,' and I recommend the same thing to any ringer who may find himself somewhere in—wherever he may be.

J. A. TROLLOPE.

KENT SCHOOL'S PLAN.

HOW A SUCCESSION OF RINGERS IS SECURED.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I read with interest your article of August 11th, entitled 'Importance of New Conductors,' in which you discuss the problem of passing ringing from one generation to the next. I thought you might be interested in the unique situation which we have here touching upon that subject.

The comparatively new bells of Kent School, an American college preparatory institution, were first rung in 1932 by Kent boys, under the supervision of I. J. Attwater, a British instructor. Before Mr. Attwater returned to England in 1935, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples had been accomplished. Since 1935 a sixth form student has yearly been appointed chairman and conductor of bellringing. His duty, with the aid of the other sixth form ringers, is not only to see that there is good ringing during his year, but to see that the underformers are sufficiently skilled to carry on the following year, after he has graduated. So, you see, we meet the problem of new ringers and new conductors not every generation, but every year.

We have been rewarded with reasonable, but modest, success in this method of carrying on ringing, and our prospects look brighter each year, although for five years sixth formers have been our only instructors, and no one has inherited the ability to ring. At present our achievements are confined to the extent of Grandsire Doubles and short touches of Grandsire Triples. Our practice periods are before 'chapel' each evening from 6 to 6.15 p.m. We are the only band in the United States to ring (excepting the summer, Christmas and Easter holidays) daily.

CHARLES GRANGER, Chairman for 1940.
Kent School, Kent, Conn., U.S.A.

STUDENTS' FIRST QUARTER-PEAL.

At their first attempt students at the Theological College, Lichfield, rang a quarter-peal of Doubles in six methods on Sunday. The methods were one 120 each of Wynchendon Place Bob, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Bob, St. Simon's Bob, April Day, Plain Bob and 5½ 120's of Grandsire, and the ringers were Richard A. C. Brodribb 1-2, Malcolm C. C. Melville (conductor) 3-4, Michael M. K. Warren 5-6.

Wynchendon is St. Simon's with place making in 1-2 and 3-4. Both Wynchendon and Canterbury have a Grandsire Bob except that the bells in 4-5 lie still instead of dodging.

SERVICE RINGING IN WAR TIME.

We have received several inquiries asking whether bells should now be rung for Sunday services.

Pending an official ruling by the civil or ecclesiastical authorities we suggest that bells should continue to be rung for church services, except in populous districts, where the ringing might make it difficult to hear any air raid warning.

During the last war all ringing, even the chiming of clock bells, was stopped by authority after sunset. Up to the time of writing, no similar regulation appears to have been issued and it is likely that the particular reasons for that order do not now exist.

MEETINGS CANCELLED.

The following meetings have been cancelled owing to the state of war:—

TO-MORROW.

Ladies' Guild at Lowestoft.
Ely Diocesan Guild at Winwick.
Guildford Diocesan Guild at Epsom.
Lancashire Association at Hawkshead.

SEPTEMBER 16th.

Yorkshire Association General Meeting at Ripon.
Halifax and District Association at Thornhill.
Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild at Hursley.
Yorkshire Association at Whiston.
Sussex County Association at Chiddingly.
Essex Association at Great Yeldham.

FOUR-PART PEALS OF BOB MAJOR.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I may perhaps point out that there is another plan on which four-part peals of Bob Major can be produced. They are based on the ordinary two-part ten-course touch. In any two of these courses a bob before must be called, provided that one will produce a 6-4 or a 6-5 and the other a 6-2 or a 6-3. Then call three Homes in each of the courses and after the third Home W and M to bring the bells back to the original touch.

23456	W	R
45236	—	—
24536		—
53246	—	—
25346		—
32546		—

You will then get a four-part peal, 5,056 changes, with the sixth the extent Wrong and twenty times Right. Reverse it and you will have a peal with the sixth the extent Right and twenty times Wrong.

23456	W	B	M	R	23456	W	B	M	R
52364	—	1		—	42563		1	—	—
35264				—	54263				—
23564				—	25463				—
45236	—		—	—	34562			—	—
45362		1		—	25346	—		—	—
34562				—	32546				—
53462				—	53246				—
24536	—		—	—	53462		1		—
53246	—			—	24536	—		—	—
25346				—	52436				—
32546				—	45236				—

Another variation is to use the alternative ten-course block, which is called 2 W. R. 3 W. R. Most, if not all, of the peals produced on this plan have been published and rung at various times and as the work of various composers. I am not, of course, making any claim myself to any of them.

J. A. TROLLOPE.

SPLICED STEDMAN AND ERIN TRIPLES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am not going to challenge the right of the Bushey band to have rung a spliced peal, but, after all, mixed Erin and Stedman is only Stedman rung as the late Rev. H. Law James used to tell us it ought to be rung; that is, with the quick six acting as a bob. Only he wanted it to be rung without any ordinary bobs, in addition. It would be interesting to know if a 5,040 is possible on that plan. Perhaps some of our leading composers will enlighten us on the matter.

'INTERESTED.'

ANCIENT CUSTOMS.

THE REV. H. DRAKE'S REPLY TO MR. TROLLOPE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Unlike Mr. Trollope, I am glad to be able to accept his corrections, and hope I may do so with a good grace.

For instance, he writes that 'nowadays there are no parish clerks, and have not been for a good many years.' I am quite sure he means something by these enigmatic statements, but I fear I cannot tell what it is. At the present time every parish with which I have ever been connected has still its clerk. Furthermore, he presently refers to Mr. F. C. Lambert, who, as he must know, is the energetic and learned parish clerk of Halesworth.

So far from my 'doubting his statement' of ringing lasting on and off all day, I mentioned having heard the same thing, in Brittany, twice this June. As Mr. Trollope says, this is no evidence of what went on in England. It is, however, interesting to know of what is done with bells, where there is no change ringing.

What I do not merely doubt, but deny absolutely, is that there was round ringing, or call changes, before bells were rung with complete wheels. It could not be done, and no one wanted to do it. Nor would anyone want to have bells properly hung (as we should put it) merely to ring rounds or call changes. No one had such unmusical ears in those days. If Mr. Trollope wants us to believe that this kind of ringing is not a corruption of change ringing, he must produce some very convincing proof.

Mr. Trollope persists in coupling together ringers and candles, because as he says both are mentioned together in some wills. He also says that this ringing was 'for pleasure, i.e., as a sport.' Were candles then a pleasure or a sport?

What I refuse to believe is that the ringing mentioned in wills was either of these things. As we do not know what sort of ringing it was that Bishop Grandison or Martin Bucer were fulminating against, we cannot use their words on one side or the other; it is most unlikely that they were speaking of the same thing. In any case, very similar words are used to-day by those who dislike much ringing for services or for peals.

It would have expressed my meaning better if I had merely said that where there were several towers a society would be formed and would ring at certain towers. I should not have used the word 'responsible.'

It is true that there have been, and alas still are, drunken ringers. Once about Christmas I rang (or tried to ring) with a band, of whom all the others seemed more or less drunk. But this was at the end of the last century. Yet I have never seen beer brought inside the belfry; it is possible that on some occasions this may have been done; but I cannot believe that it was ever the custom. It is most unlikely that food was ever taken there. The ringers' jugs, which Mr. Trollope mentions, are really evidence of this. Would he ever have liked to carry up one of these, with only a small amount of liquor in it, to the ringing chamber, at the top of a narrow winding staircase? Yet he calmly suggests that 'foolish boys' did this! The folly suggested by Martin Bucer was hardly this. Moreover, he would hardly have written of 'superstitious men' if he had been thinking of ringing as either for pleasure or as a sport.

When Mr. Trollope refers to 'sweet bells jangled' he imagines Shakespeare used 'jangled' in the same way that a modern change ringer would. This, of course, is impossible. They knew then, as well as we do now, when a bell or other instrument was out of tune, and knew as little as most people know to-day how they are tuned. This (bells being out of tune) we cannot doubt is what he was referring to. The other meaning, besides being impossible, does not even answer its purpose. I have heard bad strikers called by many hard names by modern ringers, but I do not think it would occur to anyone to call them mad!

HERBERT DRAKE.

THE HALESWORTH LEGACY.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The Rev. Herbert Drake stated definitely that the Halesworth ringers have enjoyed for many years an annual dinner, provided by money left by William Walpole in 1539 and confirmed to them by the Charity Commissioners. According to Mr. Trollope, the original legacy was only for money to be given on the actual funeral day. Those of us who are interested in the history of the old ringing societies would be glad if Mr. Drake would give us further particulars, for, if he is correct, the Halesworth legacy is certainly the oldest endowment of ringing in England.

A. BLACK.

WEDDING BELLS AT ICKLETON.

At Ickleton Parish Church, Cambs, on Saturday, August 26th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by A. J. Smoothy (first quarter-peal) 1, P. Webb (conductor) 2, L. Lilley 3, A. Fleet 4, R. Clements 5, G. Lilley 6, W. Flitton 7, A. G. Lilley 8. This was rung as a wedding compliment to Miss A. M. Welch (daughter of Mrs. Welch and the late Mr. J. Welch, of Ickleton Abbey) and Mr. D. L. Nichols, of Fulbourn. The late Mr. Welch held the office of churchwarden for several years and always supported the ringers. He was the first to give £50 for the restoration of the church bells a few years ago.

A NINE DAYS' TOUR.

THE ACTIVITIES ROUND LIVERPOOL.

As recorded in our last issue, the peal ringing tour in Lancashire and Cheshire, which concluded at Liscard on Saturday week, resulted in 11 peals being rung in 16 attempts made in nine days, which was perhaps not quite up to the average of former years. Although they had some failures, however, the party had some good ringing and spent a most enjoyable week. They regretted that Mr. W. H. Fussell, their captain of previous years, could not join them, but they were all pleased to know he was enjoying good health after his serious operation a few months ago. Another setback was the absence of Mr. Harry Parkes, whose business would not allow him to break away. They not only missed him for his ability as a 'back-ender,' but also for the services of his car, which was so helpful last year at Wolverhampton.

Headquarters for the week were the Victoria Hotel at Liverpool. The majority of the party arrived on Friday evening, when the first peal of the tour was rung at Garston, which is now part of Liverpool. Cambridge was the method rung. Naturally those who set out on a peal ringing tour always like to score the first peal, and this was looked on as an augury of success for the remainder of the week.



ST. NICHOLAS, LIVERPOOL,
where the peal of Maximus was rung.

On Saturday morning they visited Bebington, where they were met by Mr. E. Breeze, who had everything ready for the party. Here a peal of Superlative was tapped off, and then, after lunch, the ringers made their way to Chester, a peal at the Cathedral being the objective They were met by several Chester ringers. Mr. J. Swindley piloted them to the tower, where, after raising the bells, a peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal was brought round. this being the first peal of Surprise Royal on the bells.

On Sunday morning some of the party joined in the service ringing at St. Nicholas', Liverpool, and afterwards they paid a visit to the Landing Stage, where interest centred in the departure of the Welsh and Manx boats.

After an early lunch they made their way to Newchurch, where they were met by Mr. J. Leatherbarrow (one of the band who rang in the 17,824 Oxford Treble Bob Major) and his colleagues, who gave the party a cordial welcome. They also had the pleasure of meeting here Mr. T. B. Worsley, the composer of the 17,824, who was accompanied by his wife and daughter. Quite a good peal of Yorkshire Surprise was rung. Tea at the Harrow Inn was afterwards much enjoyed. On the return home the ringers called at the R.C. tower of St. Francis Xavier's, where courses of several Surprise methods were rung, the method not rung being a new one named Liverpool, although a course was attempted.

On Monday the company sustained a very severe loss by the departure for home of their good friend and stalwart of many previous tours, Mr. George R. Pye. He was not at all himself in the Garston peal on Friday night and did not feel equal to standing in either of the peals on Saturday or Sunday, and to the intense regret of all concerned he felt he must return home. All sincerely hope he will make an early recovery and be able to resume his work in the belfry with the same zeal and enthusiasm as in the past.

VISIT TO THE NEW CATHEDRAL.

The peal on Monday morning was at Halewood, a light ring of eight by Taylor. After scoring Cambridge here and lunch at headquarters, the afternoon was devoted to a visit to the new Cathedral tower.

The Dean of Liverpool received the party in his vestry and showed them on paper what we were later to see in iron and stone. They had the privilege of ascending to the tower in the lift, which is in the open and ascends and descends alongside the Cathedral wall. The Dean sent the first half of the party up in charge of a not too efficient attendant, who was greatly relieved when the correct landing place was found. However, all eventually reached the top, where the Dean explained everything that he could. One could not here give a detailed account of the visit. Suffice it to say everyone was greatly interested in and impressed with what they saw, and the Dean (Dr. F. W. Dwelly) was warmly thanked for his kindness.

After tea a visit was paid to St. Nicholas' tower, where the only twelve-bell peal of the week was rung. This was Plain Bob Maximus and there were stars for one or two of the notables in the band, chief among these being the veteran Master of the Winchester Guild.

The party were on the road in good time on Tuesday morning, when a visit was paid to Tarleton. They were received by the Vicar, who expressed his wishes for their success. After a second start for Bristol, and when the bells had been going about 35 minutes, the tenor-man appealed to the conductor to stop, owing to the heavy go of the bell. An inspection of the bell's bearings proved to us that they had not been lubricated. The Vicar had forgotten to notify the towerkeeper of the visit. There was no time for a further attempt, so the party returned to Liverpool for lunch, after which they went to Woolton, which is also now part of the city. Here there is a good peal of eight by Taylor, with a tenor a ton in weight, but rather noisy in the ringing chamber. London Surprise was attempted, but after more than an hour's ringing a bad trip occurred which could not be corrected. The Rector (the Rev. F. B. Hadow) gave some of the party a cordial welcome to the tower, as also did Mr. E. L. Humphriss, the local leader.

Wednesday was a very busy day. They had to get an early start at Poolstock, as they were due at Wigan in the early afternoon. The party were cordially welcomed at Poolstock by the Rev. Dr. Welton and Mr. Sydney Forshaw. The former addressed a few words of welcome and drew attention to his inscribed handkerchief, on which every member of the band left his autograph as well as a piece of silver. This they learned was put into a fund for the upkeep of the bells. A peal of Superlative was completed on this grand ring. The veteran of 82 conducted the peal from the treble, and the tenor was rung with marked ability by a light-weight 60 years his junior. In the afternoon the tourists were met at Wigan tower by the local leader, Mr. J. Majors, and also by two of the local veterans, Messrs. Hall and Shaw, both of whom have upwards of 50 years' service as ringers at the Parish Church. At the church the visitors were successful in ringing the first peal of Double Norwich Royal in the county, as well as the first of Royal on the bells.

SOME BAD LUCK.

Thursday saw the departure of Mr. and Mrs. Richardson and their daughter Enid, and they were not only personally missed, but their car also. Without its assistance in the early part of the week the party could not have carried out the programme. The first tower of the day was Prescot, where an early start was made. They were met by Mr. A. E. Reeves, the local leader, and several of his colleagues, but the visitors had extremely hard luck, for after three hours' flawless ringing they lost a peal of Yorkshire Surprise in the last lead. All went well until the bob 'Before' in the last course had been called; one or two then lost their heads and their places, the bells struck round as stand was called by the conductor. In any other part of the peal the blemish would not have been so bad, but occurring at the end there was insufficient time to recover. Some regretted having to lose the peal, but on a vote being taken over lunch it was decided by five votes to three not to count it as a peal. The ill-luck on Thursday was not ended. The party went on to St. Helens Parish Church, and were just settling down to Yorkshire Surprise Royal when a peremptory knock at the tower door compelled them to stop ringing. They were confronted with the Chief of Police and the Postmaster, who informed the ringers of the difficulty, owing to the bells, they were having in the Post Office with their telephone and telegraph messages, which were exceptionally heavy owing to the international crisis. Although the Vicar of St. Helens had given his

(Continued in next column.)

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

KINGSWINFORD BAND ELECTED MEMBERS.

The quarterly meeting of the Dudley and District Guild was held at St. Mary's Church, Kingswinford, on Saturday, August 26th, in beautiful summer weather. This church contains a peal of eight bells, which were placed at the disposal of the members from 3 o'clock and were kept going in various methods until the usual service was held, conducted by the Rev. J. H. Thompson (Vicar), who also gave a very interesting address.

At the close of the service an adjournment was made to the Church Hall, where a substantial tea was in readiness, and it was regretted that more members were not present to partake of the good things provided. The subsequent business meeting was held, presided over by the Vicar, who gave the Guild a hearty welcome to Kingswinford and his parish. The following names were ratified as members of this Guild, having been proposed previously in the belfry before commencing for a peal: Messrs. J. W. Smith, Bernard Ashford and Fred Bennett.

The Rev. J. H. Thompson, Vicar of Kingswinford, was elected an honorary member. It was proposed by Mr. J. Goodman and seconded by Mr. H. Hill that the members of the Kingswinford band be elected as members of the Guild, and this was carried with acclamation.

The Vicar thanked the members for the honour they had conferred on him and said it was a pleasure to become a member.

It was proposed that the quarterly peal be attempted at Kingswinford, the necessary arrangements being left with the Ringing Master. It was also proposed that the next meeting of the Guild be held at Wednesbury, subject to the usual permission being obtained. Failing that the secretary was asked to try Pensnett.

Mr. Harold Shuck reported that he hoped to have all the peals entered in the peal book ready for the annual meeting.

Mr. H. Sheppard (the hon. secretary) proposed and Mr. Farley seconded a vote of thanks to the Vicar of Kingswinford for kindly giving permission to hold the meeting at his church, also for the use of the tower and bells, for conducting the service and for presiding at the meeting. Thanks were also accorded to the ladies who so kindly gave their time in preparing and serving the tea and looking after the comfort of the members; to the organist for the musical part of the service, and to Mr. Leonard Lowndes for making the necessary arrangements.

A NINE DAYS' TOUR.

(Continued from previous column.)

permission for the peal, the band felt they could do no other than to refrain from further ringing.

On Friday morning a peal of London Surprise at Ormskirk was the first on the programme. Mr. Pilkington, the local leader, met the party and everything was in order for a prompt start. Some excellent London was rung for 2 hours 10 minutes when two people insisted on doing the wrong work and 'Stand' was called shortly after. Very soon after this disaster the party were in an adjacent hotel consoling themselves as well as was possible and also drinking the jolly good health of their old friend Mr. W. H. Fussell. They all regretted very much his absence, but much appreciated his kind thought and generosity.

The Friday evening tower was Christ Church, Aughton. The bells have quite recently been retuned and rehung and an excellent job made of them. Messrs. W. Gibbons and J. Lunham gave the visitors a kindly welcome. The peal that was lost at Ormskirk was scored here, which put the ringers on much better terms with themselves.

On Saturday morning at Runcorn, which is just inside the Cheshire boundary, they were met by Mr. Allman, sen., who saw everything was in readiness. Here a peal of Yorkshire, which was the first Surprise peal on the bells, was rung, and 'Goodbye' was said to Mr. George Williams, who has such amazing energy for his years.

Returning to Liverpool for lunch, the party afterwards crossed over the Mersey to Liscard, where they had the satisfaction of ringing the first peal of Superlative in the tower where Mr. J. C. E. Simpson received his early tuition. After the peal Mr. Shepherd left in quest of yet another tower; Mr. Lindoff departed on the night train for Dublin. Mr. F. Bennett and Mr. F. White left for London on Sunday morning. Thus ended a strenuous but very enjoyable week. Those who took part would like to thank all who contributed in any way towards the success of the programme, particularly the clergy and church authorities, the towerkeepers and local ringers, whose kindness and help was much appreciated. G. R. N.

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NOTICES.

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

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—The meeting at Hawkshead, arranged for to-morrow (Sept. 9th), has been cancelled.—N. M. Newby, Sec.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Leatherhead District.—The meeting at St. Martin's, Epsom, to-morrow (Sept. 9th) will be cancelled owing to present circumstances.—A. H. Smith, Drakelowe, Howard Road, Great Bookham.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Winchester District, — Will members please note that the quarterly meeting arranged to be held at Hursley on Sept. 16th, has been cancelled?—W. G. Goodchild, Hon. Dis. Sec., 139, Stanmore Lane, Winchester.

LADIES' GUILD.—Eastern District. — The meeting at Lowestoft to-morrow (Saturday), Sept. 9th, has been cancelled.—Sylvia R. E. Bowyer, Hon. Sec., 32, Gatacre Road, Ipswich.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Burton District.—The next meeting will be held at Appleby Magna on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea 4.45, followed by meeting. Now for the Minor methods? All are welcome.—J. W. Cotton, Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Macclesfield Branch —A ringing meeting has been arranged at Christ Church, Macclesfield, on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. —Jack Tipper, Hon. Branch Sec., 8, Arlington Drive, Macclesfield.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Hoghton on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—A. Blogg, Branch Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Roxton on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All will be welcome. A good company is requested. Please come.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. —Ilchester Deanery Branch.—A meeting will be held at West Coker on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. Please notify early for tea.—F. Farrant, Martock.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch. — Next meeting will be held at the Church of St. Leonard, Middleton, on Saturday, Sept. 9th. All welcome.—J. Kay, Branch Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Central Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at North Marston on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Bells (6) available from 2.45 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—F. Gibbard, Hon. Sec., 30, Horn Street, Winslow, Bucks.

LADIES GUILD.—Western District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Farnborough on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Tea at School 4.30. Bus 88 from Centre 2 p.m. and every 30 minutes. Will all requiring tea kindly send me a card?—N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Weston, Bath.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—A combined meeting of the Wirral Branch and Liverpool Branch of the Lancashire Association will be held at Christ Church, Port Sunlight (bells 8), on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Tower open at 3 o'clock. Service at 5.30 p.m. Tea and meeting afterwards. Please let me know if you intend to be present. — Harry S. Brocklebank, Hon. Sec., Wirral Branch, 30, South Hill Road, Birkenhead.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—A special memorial service will be held at Barnsley on Saturday, Sept. 9th, in memory of the late President (Mr. C. D. Potter). Bells (8) ready at 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., followed by a social evening and ringing. All are welcome.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., Rock Cottages, Shafton, near Barnsley.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD. — Lovely Ashdown Forest and a nice modern eight (tenor 15½). Come and enjoy both at Fairwarp, Sept. 9th. Ringers, friends and p.c.'s for tea very welcome. Note, next Wednesday meeting, East Grinstead, Sept. 20th.—C. A. Bassett, Sec., 3, Pendrill Place, Wadhurst.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—Quarterly meeting at South Marston on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Six bells. Usual arrangements. On 'Bristol' bus route.—W. B. Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Swindon Road, Swindon, Wilts.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Pleasley on Saturday, Sept. 9th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Tea at 5 o'clock.—J. W. England, 49, The Common, South Normanton.

NORTH NOTTS. ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting is at Blyth (bells 6), on Saturday, Sept. 9th. I hope there will be a good attendance, including 'learners.'—R. Towler, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Tower bell practices are suspended until further notice, but meetings will be held at headquarters on Tuesdays, Sept. 12th and 26th, at 8.30 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The meeting at Chiddingly, arranged for Sept. 16th, has been cancelled.—A. C. Pankhurst, Hon. Dis. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division. — The meeting at Great Yeldham on Saturday, Sept. 16th, is cancelled.—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Dis. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The general meeting at Ripon Cathedral, arranged for Sept. 16th, is cancelled.—L. W. G. Morris, Gen. Sec.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—Contest and meeting at Thornhill on Sept. 16th is cancelled, owing to the international situation. — Fred Hodgson, 566, Halifax Road, Hightown, Liversedge.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—Owing to this country being in a state of war, the meeting, as advertised to take place at Whiston on Sept. 16th, is cancelled.—George Lewis, Vice-President; Sidney F. Palmer, Acting Sec.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD. — Aylesbeare Deanery Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Littleham, Exmouth, on Saturday, Sept. 16th. Bells (8) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow at 5 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify me not later than Monday, Sept. 11th.—R. Brook, Hon. Sec., 3, Greatwood Terrace, Topsham.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—A meeting at Frensham on Saturday, Sept. 16th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business 5.15 at the Marindin Institute. All welcome.—C. W. Denyer, 120, Ash Road, Aldershot.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Ashby Folville, on Sept. 16th. Ringing (bells 8) 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Please send names by Sept. 14th. — H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District. — Circumstances permitting, the next meeting will be held at Great Gaddesden on Saturday, Sept. 16th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Those requiring tea *must* notify me not later than Sept. 14th. Come along and make a good meeting.—W. Ayre, Leverstock Green.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Southern District.—If circumstances permit, it is hoped to hold a meeting on Saturday week, Sept. 16th, at St. John's, Penge (2.45 onwards) and St. George's, Beckenham (from 6 p.m. until dark). Intending visitors should watch the previous day's 'Ringing World.' As the district secretary has been called up, matters concerning the district should be referred to P. A. Corby, 81, Beckwith Road, Herne Hill, S.E.24.

MARCHINGTON, UTTOXETER, STAFFS. — The ring of four bells, restored and augmented to six by John Taylor and Co., will be dedicated by the Bishop of Stafford on Tuesday, Sept. 26th. Time of service later.

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MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Second quarterly meeting, Newark, Sept. 30th. Fine ring of 10 bells at grand Church open all afternoon. Committee meet 4 p.m. Tea, 1s. 6d. per head, 5 p.m., followed by general meeting; all at Eyden's Café, 25, Cartergate, Newark. Unless notice for tea is sent by Sept. 27th to E. C. Gobey, Wilnefield House, Trowell, Notts., members must cater for themselves.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—The address of Mr. Edwin Jennings is now 50, Rudolph Road, Bushey, Herts.

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QUARTER-PEALS.

BOSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.—On Sunday, August 20th, for evensong, at Boston, Lincs, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: *A. Freeston 1, *R. Richardson 2, A. Ellis 3, R. Brown 4, S. Jessop 5, J. Thompson 6, F. Dewey (conductor) 7, J. Petch 8. * First quarter of Triples. Specially arranged for the ringer of the 6th, who hails from Doncaster.

CIRENCESTER, GLOS.—On Sunday, August 6th, for evening service at Holy Trinity Church, Watermoor, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: C. W. Price 1, A. W. Baldwin 2, H. S. Parsons 3, F. J. Lewis, sen., 4, W. A. Godwin (first quarter-peal of Triples as conductor and first attempt) 5, F. J. Lewis, jun., 6, J. E. Godwin 7, F. Smith (Yeovil) 8.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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CARRY ON!

The outbreak of war has had a startling effect on church bellringing. Ringers nearly everywhere have ceased their activities, at any rate temporarily. There had previously been an undercurrent of feeling that as soon as war came there were likely to be devastating air attacks upon this country, and the widespread precautions that were taken in recent months lent justification to the idea. It was only natural, therefore, that among the safeguards against being taken unawares, there should be a cessation of church bellringing, for in populous places there may be areas where air-raid warning signals would not be heard if they were sounded when bells were ringing. Local considerations in such places thus demand that the bells shall, for the present, remain silent.

But the first days of war have not developed as was generally anticipated, whatever the future may hold. The public are taking a calmer view, and now it can be realised that the public safety will not be endangered everywhere by ringing. In what are officially regarded as 'safe' areas there seems no reason why ringing for service should not take place, and there are some towers, even, where other ringing, during the hours of daylight, might take place. This view is supported by the fact that an Order in Council, suppressing the use of various noises, specially exempts church bells. Obviously the authorities do not consider that the ringing of church bells constitutes any danger, and now that the first shock of knowing that the country is at war is passing, it may be hoped that at churches beyond the 'danger' zones the bells may again be rung on Sundays, wherever there is a team to man them.

Local conditions may, perforce, change with the development of hostilities, but, outside the vulnerable points, the further one goes westward, with a greater comparative safety from air attack, the less reason is there for the complete silence of bells. Most, if not all, ringers, will feel that the times are too serious to indulge in merely pleasure ringing, but ringing for Sunday service is on an entirely different plane. In this connection bells have their part to play; and they are much more likely to carry home their message in these times of trouble than in the happy-go-lucky days of peace. There is often evidence that bells, reminding the people of higher things, are a source of solace; if that be so in peace time, there can be no doubt that in the days of stress and strain be-

(Continued on page 582.)

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fore us, their message will touch a deeper chord, and they may at the same time serve to bring a message of cheer.

One of the essential points in a campaign is to keep the people cheerful; for that reason, the broadcast programmes contain a goodly proportion of light entertainment; for that reason, too, the authorities have authorised the opening of cinemas in all but the evacuated areas. The bells can add their quota to the general cheerfulness, and this side of the question should not be lost sight of by Church authorities when considering what should happen to the bells. The exemption accorded to church bells under the recent Order gives strength to this contention, and, therefore, not only should the bells be used, wherever there are no local obstacles, for service ringing, but also on other suitable occasions.

Ringing after dark, of course, presents a different problem. The difficulty of complying with the lighting restrictions will make it impossible almost everywhere for any ringing to take place after sunset, but, as the churches themselves have to comply with the regulations, services will have to be held at earlier hours, and service ringing will therefore still be possible.

There are thus two grounds upon which ringing in many towers can justifiably be continued. With no official ban upon the bells, their ringing before service, not only as a call to devotion, but as a reminder to the public, will give them a use and significance which the seriousness of the times demands. In addition, the cheery notes of the bells will help to keep up the spirits of those who may feel depressed. The sound of bells ringing merrily often acts as a tonic upon a weary soul. So let it not be thought that everywhere and under all conditions the bells of our churches should remain silent throughout the war. They must, of course, be used with discretion, and, obviously, there are certain areas where, for the present, it might constitute a danger to the public. No one would suggest for a moment that bells should be heard in such places, but there are scores of towns and hundreds of villages where ringing for service can with safety take place, and not only with safety, but also with justification.

A letter in another column intimates that in Loughborough, for instance, it has been decided that service ringing shall continue on the very grounds which we have here set out, and various associations have already provisionally decided, in view of the deliberate exemption of church bells from the Order suppressing noises, to continue to hold their meetings wherever possible. It was not unnatural that, in the first stage of the war, meetings should be abandoned, but there seems to be no reason why, in a modified form perhaps, meetings should not take place. The tower bellringing would have to be curtailed, so that there shall be no infringement of the lighting restrictions, but there are other things in connection with meetings besides the church bellringing. Not least is the maintenance of social contacts between ringers. Under the present conditions, too, a great deal might be done in instilling instruction by giving talks on ringing, and by practice on handbells. Meetings, despite war conditions, can be made well worth while and, even with restricted tower bell practice, can be turned to good and useful account. There is no reason why, in the greater part of England, ringing should not be resumed in a modified way, and in those areas where conditions permit, we would say, 'Carry on!'

ANCIENT CUSTOMS.

EARLY RINGING PRACTICES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am tempted not to write further on this subject, but to leave your readers to study Mr. Drake's letters and mine and to draw their own conclusions. However, I suppose I ought to say something.

Mr. Drake denies absolutely that 'there was round ringing or call changes before bells were rung with complete wheels. It could not be done and nobody wanted to do it.'

It is rather a pity that he should write so dogmatically about a matter with which he is very little acquainted. There is a good deal of evidence on the subject and it is all clean against him. Not only round ringing and Plain Changes, but also methods like Bob Doubles, Grandsire Doubles, New Doubles, and the 720 of Plain Bob Minor were practised before full wheels were fitted to bells.

Here are the dates. Up to about the first quarter of the seventeenth century bells were usually hung with half-wheels. Round about 1610 the Sixes were invented, and, after that, change ringing began to be practised. At the same time three-quarter wheels began to be fitted, so that the bells could be rung higher or at a greater compass, as the phrase was.

These alterations, of course, were spread over a number of years, happening in some places long before they did in others. But here are some typical examples from St. Edmund's, Salisbury:—

1620. Pd to Nicholas Perrie for making a wheele for ye five a clock bell and to bring the rest of the bell wheels to more compas xxxviis. Gave Kingsonn of ffisherton in erneste to p'forme the wheelage & setlinge of our bells in order ffor to be rung in compase vjd.

1630. Pd Will'm Batten joyner for a thre q'ter bell wheel vs.

1636. Pd the joyner for making a 3 q'ter wheels to the Vth bell and for other things ixs.

Bob Doubles was first rung about 1640 and Grandsire Doubles and the 720 of Plain Bob Minor about 1650; and, by the time the 'Tintinnalogia' was published in 1668, change ringing was definitely established. The author of that book, Richard Duckworth, whose practical experience of ringing was at Oxford and in country villages, gives some directions for bell hanging. The wheel he refers to is the three-quarter wheel. He does not actually say so, but what he says would be meaningless if it referred to a whole wheel. When Fabian Stedman wrote the 'Campanalogia' in 1677 he was able to mention some important improvements in bell hanging, and chief among them was the introduction of the whole wheel.

This, again, was an improvement, which was spread over a number of years and naturally occurred in places like London before it did in the country villages. The earliest date I know of is the Church of St. Christopher, Stocks, in the City of London, where the bells were hung with full wheels in 1647.

The chief result of this improvement was that it enabled changes to be rung in half pulls instead of in whole pulls as was generally the case with the three-quarter wheel.

Change ringing requires that the bells should be rung up to a 'set-pull,' but with round ringing the bells need not be swung much more than frame high and for that the old half wheel was quite efficient.

Round ringing was used in England as early as the fifteenth century. (Mr. Drake has dragged in call changes. I said nothing about call changes and I believe they were never at any time rung by round ringers. In Cornwall, for instance, to-day if they are rung at all they are a comparatively modern innovation.)

If we want a conclusive proof that English bells were rung in orderly rounds, we shall find it in the fact that they were cast and tuned in the musical scale, sometimes in the major scale, but more often in the minor scale. Unless the bells were intended to be rung in accord it would have been useless to tune them thus. I do not wish to dogmatise upon a matter on which complete information is lacking, but I believe that on the Continent bells are never tuned to a musical scale unless they are used in carillons.

Mr. Drake notwithstanding, when Shakespeare makes Ophelia compare Hamlet's disordered mind to 'sweet bells jangled' he was using the word in exactly the same sense that any one of us would use it now, and the simile is good poetry and good sense and would have been understood by any of the hearers.

I do not 'persist in coupling together ringers and candles because both are mentioned in some wills.' I said that the burning of candles and the ringing of bells were two customs observed at funerals and obiits and that the object of both was similar. It was the people of the time who coupled them together as I showed by quotations. And I did not say that this ringing was for pleasure or sport. I definitely said it was done with the idea of benefiting the dead in some way or other. Mr. Drake is probably right when he says 'we do not know what sort of ringing Bishop Grandison and Martin Bucer were fulminating against,' if by 'we' he means himself. But if he means that I and other people do not know he is wrong. And if he thinks that Bucer's objections to ringing were similar to those 'used to-day by people who dislike much ringing for services or for peals' it is pretty evident that he does not know much about Martin Bucer or the controversial theological writers of the sixteenth century.

Bucer objected to the ringing because it was superstitious as did many other people of the time. There is no suggestion that he saw

(Continued in next column.)

SIX BELL PEAL.

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* First peal of Surprise Minor. † First peal of Surprise Minor 'inside.' The first peal on the bells.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

DORCHESTER BRANCH AT BERE REGIS.

The quarterly meeting of the Dorchester Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild was held at Bere Regis on August 26th, and, despite the crisis, which made the outlook far from promising, over 50 members and friends attended. The bells were utilised from 3 p.m.

The Rector (the Rev. R. C. Herring) officiated at the service and gave an address. He offered up special prayers for peace and stressed the hope God would spare them from the horrors of war. He called attention to the fact that the treble bell of their peal was given by a church benefactor as a thanksgiving for peace only 20 years ago, at the end of the Great War. The Rector offered the Guild a very warm welcome.

Following the service the members and friends adjourned to the W.I. Institute, where they were kindly invited to tea by the Bere Regis band. Subsequently a short meeting was held, presided over by the chairman, the Rev. A. W. Markby, supported by the Master (the Rev. R. H. Gundry), the Rev. R. P. Farrow (vice-chairman), the Rev. R. C. Herring and the hon. secretary (Mr. C. H. Jennings).

Miss S. Osmond (Upwey) was elected a ringing member and Mr. E. G Burt (St. Leonard's) an associate member.

It was resolved to hold two practices at Abbotsbury in September and Maiden Newton in October, but both of these have since been cancelled.

A hearty welcome was given to the visitors, and a special vote of thanks accorded to the Bere Regis band for their invitation and the hospitality extended to the Guild during the afternoon. The Rector was also thanked for his kindness in taking the service and giving such an excellent address.

In reply, the Rev. R. C. Herring again welcomed the Guild and said besides their ringing they were going to be conducted round the gardens and cultivated watercress beds, which were the largest in England and where all the local ringers were employed.

The Chairman referred with pleasure to the fine gathering, especially as they had met with the war clouds hanging over them. The majority of the members then visited the gardens, while others returned to the tower for further practice. In lovely weather the tour of the grounds was greatly enjoyed. One item is worth mentioning. The visitors were shown specially cultivated apples of every description in one plantation which consisted of 35,000 trees. The ringing gardeners in particular were delighted. Thanks were given to Messrs. Bedford for their great kindness.

Ringing was continued until 8.10 p.m., when the bells were lowered, as it was thought, owing to the crisis, this was late enough to ring. It is hoped and prayed that it may not be long before these bells and all the peals in the country will again ring out that inspired peace message of Tennyson's:—

'Ring out the darkness of the land,
Ring in the Christ that is to be.'

The following towers were represented at the meeting: Bere Regis, Bradford Peverell, Dorchester, East Lulworth, Stratton, Sydling, Wyke Regis, Bovington, the Wimborne Branch by Hampreston, Verndown, Lytchett Matravers, and welcome visitors from North Cadbury, Somerset, and Prittlewell, Essex.

(Continued from previous column.)

anything amiss in beer and ale being carried to the ringers or in their drinking it in the belfry. His complaint was that it encouraged them to keep on with this superstitious ringing.

The fact that Mr. Drake has never seen beer brought inside a belfry proves nothing at all as to what happened in the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, especially as we have the precise statement that such was the custom made by a man who had no particular reason for telling a lie about the matter. And, if the ringers' jugs were not used for carrying beer, what does Mr. Drake suppose they were used for? Keeping flowers in? There was no reason why they should not be used for beer. I have known country towers, remote from the village, where the ringers brought their beer in a gallon jar and I fail to see that there is anything morally wrong about the act. I have myself with my own hands taken into a belfry the modern equivalent of 'bred and ale,' to wit, sandwiches and bottled beer, and would do so again if the particular circumstances which then existed were to recur.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

WITH PENCIL AND PAPER.

HOW TO BUILD UP TOUCHES.

In these days, when nobody quite knows what is going to happen, and where next we may have to be, there is a very natural tendency to do nothing, to let things slide, to wait and see. That means that most of us are put out of our usual routine, and we feel that there is only one thing which really matters to all of us, and that is to win the war as quickly as possible. Then we can think of getting back to our old habits.

It is, of course, right and proper and, up to a point, essential that we should think like this, but we shall find in a few weeks' time that it is necessary to think of other things besides the war. Otherwise we shall all go 'scatty,' as we used to say in 1914. For this reason we strongly advise ringers not to drop their ringing. So long as it is possible to keep the church bells going, we ought to ring, partly for our own sakes and partly (don't forget this) for the sake of many people to whom the church bells bring a message of hope and comfort.

But if, which must happen in many cases, the actual ringing is stopped, we can still get a lot of interest out of the many problems which the art presents, and we can study with pencil and paper a good many things which will be very useful when peace comes.

For instance, there are heaps of things which a man can learn about conducting, and perhaps it may help if we give a lead.

When the beginner first tries his hand at conducting, he usually picks a set touch, learns what his bell is doing when he should call the bobs, and calls accordingly. For instance, if his band rings Grandsire Triples, he usually, as his first attempt, rings the seventh and calls himself into the hunt and out again at the next lead. Then, for his second touch, he will call himself Before and a bob the next lead.

Each of these touches will go three times and give 168 changes. They are excellent touches and very useful, but our young conductor will want something not quite so commonplace. Of course, he can find many touches in the text books, and his older and more experienced companions will be able to tell him of others. But he can get a lot of pleasure and interest by making up his touches himself as he is ringing.

To do that he must know one or two wrinkles. Now is the time to take pencil and paper and see how they work.

The first thing to remember is that if you call any number of bobs in any positions and continue to repeat the calling, the bells are sure to come round. If no Singles are called, the bells will come round by repeating the calling once, twice, or four times. The same thing will happen if two or an even number of Singles are called in the first part of the touch. But if an odd number of Singles are called, the touch will come round with one, three or five repetitions.

Now put this to the test. Take your pencil and paper and write out a touch, imagining you are in the tower and using the bell you are ringing as the observation bell. When you have finished the calling of your first part, and your own bell has come into its home position, you will get your part-end.

On paper, you can, of course, easily see what your part-end is, and when you are ringing you will be able, with practice, to see it, too. If you have called no Singles, and all the other bells except yourself are out of their home positions, the full touch will be a five-part touch. If two bells besides yourself are in their home positions, the touch will be a three-part touch. Study your figures carefully and see why this must be.

There is another and more interesting way of making up touches. We said that the simplest are the two in which the seventh is called into the hunt and out again; and Before with a double, that is, with a bob at the following lead. Now, both these touches keep the sixth and seventh together, and when the part-end turns up they are in their home positions. In the first the fifth is also at home at the part-end. In the other, the fourth is at home.

A third touch which keeps the sixth and seventh together and brings them home at the part-ends, is the touch in which the seventh is called Before with a Single, that is, the lead in which it will make long thirds. There are two variations of this touch, one in which no other calls are made except the Singles, the other in which the seventh is called at Home, that is, in 6-7 up, as well as Before. And there is the touch in which the seventh is called Home only.

It is quite easy when you are ringing to make up touches by using combinations of courses called as above. You can mix them up as you please and, if you have anything like luck, the bells will come round somewhere about when you want them to. Here, again, experiment with pencil and paper and see what happens. You will notice that calling the seventh Before with a Single and Home, repeated once or twice, will almost always bring the fifth home. Also, that calling the seventh Before (with a bob) and a Double once or twice, will bring the fifth Home from any position unless it is coursing in front of the sixth. When you have got the fifth at home you can easily get the bells round by calling the seventh In and Out, or Home. But you must notice whether the bells are in or out of course, for if they are out of course you will need a Single.

All this may seem very crude stuff, but if the beginner will take the trouble to experiment in this way with pencil and paper, he will learn more about the art of calling short touches than he could learn by calling dozens of set touches by rote in the tower.

345267 Seventh Before S. and Home
453267 Seventh Home
523467 Seventh Before with a Double
234567 Seventh Before S. and Home

354267 Seventh Before with a Double
543267 Seventh Home
432567 Seventh Before S. and Home
234567 Seventh Home with a Single

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RESTORATION OF HUNTSHAM BELLS.

DEVON RINGERS MEET AT TROYTE'S HOME.

The ring of eight at Huntsham, Devon, has been restored by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., who have tuned the bells and rehung them in a new iron frame with the latest type of fittings. The work was re-dedicated by the Bishop of Crediton at a special service on Friday, August 4th.

A special meeting of the North-East Branch of the Devonshire Guild was held on August 26th to celebrate the restoration. About 40 members attended, while visitors from West Somerset were present, and everyone was greatly pleased with the improvement effected.

The ringers present attended service, conducted by the Rector (the Rev. C. E. Lane), who, in a short address, described what had been done to the clock and bells and promised that more would be done in time. The Rector went on to say that he thought the work of the bellringers was usually overlooked in comparison with that of the organist and choir. He added that he had been told that a campanologist was one who left the church after ringing, whereas a bellringer would stay to the service.

A tea was provided at Huntsham Court, the Rev. F. Carter, chairman of the branch, the Rector, Col. G. Acland, and Mr. Troyte, and the remainder of the members being present.

Subsequently those not actively employed in the tower, by kind permission, visited the extensive gardens attached to Huntsham Court.

The methods rung during the afternoon were Grandsire and Stedman Doubles and Triples, two lady ringers taking part.

The musical effect of the improved bells, says a visitor, is particularly noticeable on the higher ground above the church.

'FATHER' OF MODERN TERRITORIAL ORGANISATIONS.

Huntsham Court was the home of Colonel C. A. W. Troyte, who did a great deal for change ringing in the last quarter of the nineteenth century. He had been attracted by the round ringing customary in Devon for a long time and was introduced to change ringing by John Taylor, the bell founder, who cast a new treble for him to increase the ring at Huntsham from five to six bells. He got five of the old ringers to join him and he recorded afterwards with great satisfaction that after six months' hard work they were able to ring their first 'peal' of Grandsire Doubles.

His difficulty, and that of many more who were in like case with him, was that he did not know how to set about learning change ringing, and the experience he eventually gained induced him to write a handbook on the subject, which has proved of immense value to many hundreds of beginners, and to-day is still sold, several editions having been issued.

Colonel Troyte never had any opportunity of becoming an expert ringer as we should now understand the term, and the records of the 'peals' rung at Huntsham, which hang on the walls of the belfry, refer to such things as Grandsire Doubles and Plain and Treble Bob Minor. For instance, on December 16th, 1871, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob was rung, which the editor of 'Church Bells' especially commended as a mark of great progress in the art in Devon. Colonel Troyte rang the tenor and called the bobs, and his brother, J. E. Troyte, rang the fourth.

Colonel Troyte did take part in one performance which is of more than ordinary historical interest. This was a peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's Six-Part), rung at Appleton on Saturday, March 10th, 1877, by a band all of whom were university men. F. A. Milne rang the second, G. H. Phillott the fifth, F. E. Robinson (who conducted) rang the sixth and Troyte the seventh.

Troyte was a Cambridge man, his college being Trinity Hall. All the rest were Oxford men.

Colonel Troyte did another service to the Exercise by being one of the founders of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers, of which he was the first president. This was the earliest of those territorial associations, the establishment of which has done so much for the Exercise and the art of change ringing. Thus Colonel Troyte may be regarded as the 'father' of the modern ringing organisations.

CHARLES MIDDLETON.

COMPOSER'S ANNIVERSARY.

Charles Middleton, the composer of the familiar peal of Cambridge Surprise Major, died on September 14th, 1888, and was buried at Norwich Cemetery on the 20th. The obituary notice in the contempory 'Bell News' states that 'he was born at Marsham in the year 1813 and commenced ringing in April, 1834, and on December 14th, 1837, he rang at Marsham Church in a peal of seven different methods containing 720 changes in each of the following: London Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Court Bob, Double Court Bob, Stedman's Slow Course; and on January 9th, 1838, he took part in a 5,440 of Oxford Treble Bob at Aylsham. In 1839 he left Marsham and came to reside in Norwich, and in January, 1843, he was elected a member of the Norwich Scholars and took part in ringing the following peals: 5,040 Stedman Triples, 5,120 Kent Treble Bob Major, 5,600 Oxford Treble Bob Major, 7,126 Stedman Cinques, 5,120 Oxford Treble Bob Major, 5,120 Oxford Treble Bob Major, 5,040 Stedman Triples, 5,440 Oxford Treble Bob Major, and his last peal was 5,001 of Stedman Caters at St. Peter's.'

The fact that he was the composer of the peal of Cambridge, which has given him a place among the few men who will always be remembered by future generations, is not mentioned.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The marriage took place at Woodbury, Devon, on Tuesday, of Miss Kathleen Ann Hughes, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Hughes, of the Whitechapel Foundry, and Mr. Harry George Stokes, of Woodbury.

In view of the discussion on Ancient Customs in the belfry which is appearing in our columns, the following, which appeared in 'Church Bells' on November 11th, 1882, is of interest: 'We are informed that the ringers of St. Peter's, Norwich, always have a New Year's feast in the belfry in the shape of hot-pot and bread and beef, and it is subscribed to by the principal gentry of the city.'

We are officially informed that the peal ringing tour, which was arranged for this week in Yorkshire, has not been cancelled, as stated in our last issue, but has been postponed until the end of the war.

The coming of war may effectually prevent the joint meeting of College Youths and Cumberlands, which it was hoped to hold at Croydon in October, and to which many members of both societies had been looking forward with pleasurable anticipation.

It is many years since the two societies joined officially in a social function, but in the past they have had pleasant gatherings, not always entirely devoted to ringing. For instance, on Saturday, September 4th, 1886, a cricket match was played at Battersea Park.

From the contemporary record, we learn that the College Youths won the toss, but put their opponents in to bat, and the Cumberlands proceeded to knock up 225 runs. The College Youths then went in and had made 32 runs for no wicket when stumps were pulled up and the game abandoned as a draw.

All the players are, we believe, now dead, but there are still a good many survivors from another match between the two societies which took place on Mitcham Green on the Saturday afternoon before war was declared in 1914. The Cumberlands on that occasion won by two runs, the victory being mainly due to the vigorous hitting of Robert Warner, the bell founder.

SPLICED TREBLE BOB IN CHESHIRE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—With reference to your note in Belfry Gossip in the last issue of 'The Ringing World' regarding the first peal of Spliced Treble Bob Major by the Chester Diocesan Guild, I would point out that your correspondent is actually in error, as the peal in 1923 was, so far as I can ascertain, what we now term 'mixed' Kent and Oxford, i.e., the change of method occurred at midlead.

I am reinforced in this belief by the fact that I have in my possession a composition of 5,120 'Mixed' Kent and Oxford by H. W. Wilde, written in the late Mr. James Fernley's own hand, and I think this was the composition he used on that occasion. Another reason is that 'splicing' Kent and Oxford at the treble's full lead was not introduced until long after this: to be precise, the first peal was rung at Willesden on July 23rd, 1935, conducted by E. C. S. Turner, and this was the first time that this arrangement, by Mr. A. G. Driver, was rung.

I have no doubt that had Mr. James Fernley known that Kent and Oxford could be spliced at lead ends he would have rung it, as he was one of the most 'go ahead' ringers we had, and a great deal of our present progress can be attributed to the foundations which he and others so truly laid. My own knowledge of him was very short, but what little contact I was able to make with him stamped him indelibly on my mind as a really great ringer and an excellent tutor and leader.

C. KENNETH LEWIS.

Marple, Cheshire.

RINGERS WEDDED AT ALDERSHOT.

MR. W. H. VIGGERS AND MISS E. M. PASCOE.

The wedding took place at St. Michael's Old Parish Church, Aldershot, on Saturday, between Mr. William Hawson Viggers, younger son of the late Mr. W. J. Viggers and of Mrs. Viggers, Highfield, Jubilee Road, Aldershot, and Miss Eileen Maud Pascoe, only child of Mr. and Mrs. J. Pascoe, Elston Road, Aldershot. Both the bride and bridegroom are popular members of the local company, and many ringers attended the ceremony on Saturday to give the happy pair a good send-off.

The service was fully choral, Mr. Viggers being also a member of the choir. The bride, who was given away by her father, was charmingly attired in a dress of brocaded parchment satin with veil and wreath of orange blossom. She was attended by three bridesmaids, the Misses V. Viggers (sister of the bridegroom), M. Trenchard and E. Turner (friends of the bride). Mr. C. W. Denyer carried out the duties of best man. As the bridal pair left the church the bells rang out.

A reception was held in the Parish Hall, a company of 80 guests attending. Later Mr. and Mrs. W. Viggers left for a motoring honeymoon tour, the bride travelling in a powder blue dress with swagger coat and hat, gloves and shoes to tone. Unfortunately their holiday was for only a long week-end, as the bridegroom had to return for duty as an auxiliary fireman.

The bridegroom's present to his bride was a fur coat, and the bride's gift to her husband an electric razor. The local ringers presented them with a set of trays. Mr. and Mrs. Viggers are making their new home at Highfield Gardens, Aldershot.

CHURCH BELLS IN WARTIME.

THEIR USE NOT INTERFERED WITH

Among the many Orders in Council, issued since the war began is one controlling noise. It bans the sounding of sirens, hooters, whistles, rattles, bells, horns, gongs or similar instruments, unless used for the purpose of air-raid or gas warnings.

The Order, however, specially exempts church bells, and, although they are not mentioned in the Order, famous public bells, such as Big Ben, will, it is understood, come under the same category as church bells.

Neither does the Order apply to the use of the various instruments mentioned by railwaymen on duty, ships' crews, Crown servants, policemen, special constables or firemen. It also exempts the normal use of motor horns and bicycle bells.

There is no reason, therefore, why church bells should not be rung for Sunday services, except in special cases where ringing might interfere with the hearing of air-raid warning signals, or the watch kept by listening posts.

In Guildford, Surrey, for instance, both peals of bells, the eight at Holy Trinity Cathedral and the ten at S. Nicolas', have been silenced at the request of the Chief Constable, who is under the impression they might interfere with the sound of the sirens, or possibly give a false impression to some people. The ecclesiastical authorities have acceded to the Chief Constable's request.

This is the first time that church bells in Guildford have been silenced. Throughout the Great War, they summoned people to church services, but were not rung after sunset.

RINGING CAN BE RESUMED.

The ringing of church bells in London has practically ceased. This, of course, is not surprising, in view of the capital's liability to air attack. Even St. Paul's Cathedral bells are silenced—the first time, we believe, since they were put up just over sixty years ago. Even during the last war they were rung for service on Sundays.

The exemption of church bells from the Order suppressing various noises makes it clear, however, that they may be used for service ringing, and indeed, for any normal purpose. With this official sanction, there is no reason why, subject to the exigencies of local conditions, the ringing of bells, which seems to have ceased with surprising suddenness on the declaration of war, can be resumed within reasonable limits.

Service ringing, especially, can be reinstated, and wherever possible this should be done. It should also be possible to hold meetings in some places, for, although it may not be in the interest of public safety to ring bells in the vulnerable areas, there are many districts where ringing assemblies should be possible, for, even if the hours of tower bellringing are necessarily curtailed, there are other means of usefully employing the time.

The demands of war service will, of course, deplete nearly all the towers, and those who are left will be faced with the task of filling the gaps, if ringing is to be maintained. It will not be easy, but it is one of the things that ought not to be neglected.

'The Ringing World' hopes to be able to provide interesting material to help in the teaching of recruits. In the meantime, it is possible that many towers will be losing their regular conductors, and others will be called upon to step into the leader's shoes. This week we give the first of a series of articles, entitled 'With pencil and paper,' which we hope will encourage home study among young ringers.

The present conditions tend to make the publication of all newspapers more difficult. May we ask our readers to send us all the news possible, and send it at the earliest moment?

ASSOCIATION MEETINGS.

A number of associations are reviewing the possibility of continuing their meetings and already two or three have decided to go on with their arrangements. These meetings are advertised in our notice columns.

The following meetings, however, have been cancelled :—

TO-MORROW.

Lincoln Diocesan Guild, Northern Branch, at Ulceby.
Midland Counties Association, Leicester District, at Ashby Folville.

SEPTEMBER 23rd.

Lancashire Association and Chester Guild joint meeting at Bowdon.
Lancashire Association at Horwich.
Midland Counties Association, Loughborough District.
Norwich Diocesan Association at Garveston.

SEPTEMBER 30th.

Midland Counties Association at Newark.
Oxford Diocesan Guild at Aston.

OCTOBER 7th.

Bath and Wells Diocesan Association at Dunster.

DINNERS.

Worcestershire Association on Sept. 30th.
Chester Diocesan Guild, at Stockport.

LOUGHBOROUGH'S EXAMPLE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Your leading article in the issue of 'The Ringing World' dated September 1st is very timely, and it may be of interest to some of your readers to know that we intend to carry on the regular ringing of the peal at Loughborough Parish Church, especially as the Home Office approve the ringing of church bells. As suggested by our Rector, it is probable that the sound of church bells all over the country will be of greater value now than in times of peace in cheering and uplifting our people.

In case there are any bands of ringers who are in doubt as to what course to adopt, I venture to endorse your opinion that they will be serving the best interests of everyone if they could, whenever their numbers permit, carry on as usual.

COLIN HARRISON.

The Bell Foundry, Loughborough.

THE HALESWORTH LEGACY.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In reply to Mr. Black, the present position is that Mr. F. C. Lambert says that he has evidence that the Walpole feast for the ringers dates back for over two hundred years. That, moreover, certain evidence was given to the Charity Commissioners (I expect at the inquiry a hundred years ago), which they accepted, that the field (now merged with others) was Walpole's legacy. He, therefore, believes that his body of ringers has an unbroken existence since before Walpole's day.

Mr. Trollope believes that the legacy was entirely spent in one year. That the body of ringers has had a broken existence. And that some other legacy has acquired Walpole's name. These three statements are more or less likely, but cannot at present be proved. On the other hand, all may ultimately be disproved. I think we may, so far, say that Halesworth Church has a body of ringers which has undoubtedly the oldest history of any, and that this history probably proves that they were in existence in 1539.

HERBERT DRAKE.

Ufford Rectory.

CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

ST. SEPULCHRE'S, SNOW HILL.

Included in the greater work on bells and bell ringing, which Mr. J. Armiger Trollope has completed, is the history of many of the peals of bells in London. The article which follows is the first of a series which Mr. Trollope is contributing to our columns, and which we are sure will be read with great interest.

The Church of St. Sepulchre in the Bailey was built in the early part of the twelfth century, probably on the site of an earlier Saxon church, and was rebuilt in the early Perpendicular period. It had some connection with the priory of St. Bartholomew's, Smithfield, which owned the patronage, and when the priory was dissolved in 1537 its ring of six bells 'in a tune' were sold to St. Sepulchre's.

The inventory and 'accompt of —— Churchwardens of the psyche churche of Saynt Sepulchre w'out Newgate London from the ffeast of Saynt Myhill Tharchangell in the fyrst yere of the rayne of our Sovraigne lorde kynge Edward the Sixt by grace of god Kyng of England, france and Ireland Defe of the faythe & of the Church of England & also of I[reland] in yearthe the supreme head unto the ffeaste of saynte m[ichael] Tharchayngell in the third yere of the rayne . . . . Sovereyn Lord kyng Edward the Syxte," states that there were 'In the steple of the saide churche "Item one greate bell callyd Baynarde Castell that servythe the clocke and syxe other belles in one ryng and one santes bell."'

These six were a heavy ring, and it was on them that we have the first recorded ringing with the names of the performers. On the 28th of November, 1631, a band consisting of men, all of whom had held the office of General in the Society of Cheapside Schollers, rang the bells. The treble was rung single-handed, two men were put to each of the second and third, four to each of the fourth and fifth, and five to the tenor. What was rung is not stated, but almost certainly it was raising, round ringing and ceasing in peal.

St. Sepulchre's was badly damaged by the Great Fire of 1666, but was not destroyed, and the parish set about the work of restoration with commendable promptitude. Some of the bells, but not all, had been melted, and on October 30th the vestry ordered 'that Edward Webster, founder, of Whitecross Street, clear and cleanse the bell metal melted in the fire, and upon delivery of the same to Mr. Carter so cleared Mr. Carter to pay him after the rate of 14s. for every cwt. of bell metal.' Neither Webster nor Carter is known as a bell founder. Carter may have been a relative of the William Carter, who some years previously owned the Whitechapel foundry.

The order was not carried out, and in the following December it was ordered and agreed by the vestry that the churchwardens 'do forthwith cause all pieces of broken metal to be taken up and weighed with the metal cleaned out of the dust and that they deliver the same to John Hodson of Bishopsgate Street London, carpenter, he giving his Bond to cast the same into three sound and tunable bells of such weight as shall be agreed on and to carry away the bell metal and deliver the bells at his own charge before Easter day next, the bells to weigh the full weight when cast and delivered as the bell metal shall contain which is to be delivered to him. And that in consideration hereof the churchwardens pay Mr. Hodson after the rate of 20s. for every cwt. the bells shall weigh to be paid him when the bells shall be hanged up and approved of for sound tunable bells.'

In the following February the vestry took steps for the re-roofing of the steeple and for making of floors, providing of wheels, and other necessaries for the rehanging of the bells against they be brought in from the bell



THE TOWER OF ST. SEPULCHRE'S CHURCH, SNOW HILL.

founders; and on March 22nd, 1667, the churchwardens were directed 'to be very careful as to the weighing of the bells and for bringing them into the church.'

At the time not only had the parish the task of rebuilding the church on its hands, but also a great number of the parishioners had been ruined by the fire. That in those circumstances the vestry should have found the money to restore the bells, or even the time to think about them, shows how much they were valued.

Hodson's bells apparently did not agree very well with

those that had been saved from the fire, and on March 21st, 1671, it was ordered 'that the Deputy Common Council and Churchwardens or any five of them treat with Hodson the bellfounder concerning the bells that are faulty and make some agreement with him as they shall think fit.'

What was done does not appear, but shortly afterwards a Mr. Darby, a bell founder, was called in by the Vicar and apparently the ring was increased to eight. Darby was paid £67 6s., and a Mr. Allen, a bell hanger, £12 13s. 6d. About the same time a Mr. Wyse was given an order to make a clock and chymes, the new barrel to be for eight bells.

Mr. Darby, the bell founder, was evidently John Darbie, of Ipswich, who in the same year cast a ring of six for the neighbouring Church of St. Vedast, Foster Lane, and not, as is usually supposed, the rather notorious Michael Darbie.

In 1675 two trebles were added to make a ring of ten, and towards the cost the turret at the top of the tower, which apparently was in a dangerous condition, was ordered to be taken down and the materials with the lead and a bell to be sold.

This bell was the successor of the mediæval saunce bell, which, as in many other churches, had been hung in a turret, so that it could be heard all over the parish.

Darbie's bells were not satisfactory. On August 5th, 1678, the vestry ordered that he 'be paid no more money till he hath made good the first bell.' He recast one bell, and then the churchwarden was told 'to pay him what is due to him on the former account for casting the two least bells and also what metal he hath added to the bell last cast, and as for his recompense for new casting the said bell, the Vestry do suspend the same till the same bell be better approved.' In other words, the vestry did not see why they should pay him for putting right his own faulty work, especially as they were still not quite satisfied.

The ten bells at St. Sepulchre's were almost certainly the first on which Cater changes were rung. There were ten at St. Michael's, Cornhill, before the fire, but at that time Triples and Major had scarcely been thought of, let alone Caters and Royal. There were twelve at York Minster, and ringing was popular there, but there is no reason to suppose that the art of change ringing had been much developed or practised there. Lichfield Cathedral bells were recast into a ring of ten in 1671, and Christ Church bells at Oxford were made ten two years after St. Sepulchre's. The Loyal Youths at Lichfield, so far as we know, did not do very much in the way of change ringing, and though Grandsire Caters was much practised at Oxford, that was not until the next generation.

In 1680, the steeple of St. Sepulchre's was repaired, and in 1685 James Bartlett, of Whitechapel, recast one of the bells, which seems, however, not to have been satisfactory, and the churchwardens were instructed to make an agreement for a new bell.

In 1695, the tenor was cracked, and it was ordered by the vestry that 'notice be given to the noted bell casters in the City to bring in their proposals for recasting the bell.' The order was given to Thomas Covey 'upon his sealing such articles and giving such security as should be approved by the churchwardens.'

The tower was now the principal change ringing centre in London. The College Youths met there, and, no doubt, also, the London Scholars. In 1684, the former company rang what are said to have been the first touches of Grandsire Triples, and on January 7th, 1689, they are said to have rung the first peal ever accomplished. The account of this performance is contained in a statement made in writing in one of the society's peal books. It runs as follows: 'On Jan. 7th, 1689-90, the whole peal of Plain Bob Triples was rung out at St. Sepulchre's without Newgate London in 3 hours and 45 minutes (and the first trial) being the first 5,040 that ever was rung.'

In another account in one of the society's books the peal is given as having been composed with two singles and conducted by Benjamin Annable.

This latter statement is certainly inaccurate, and that, and the early date of the performance, have led most writers to reject the whole account as spurious. It was not until 1715 that the peal of Grandsire Bob Triples, which is generally recognised as the first peal, was rung at Norwich. No record of the 1689 performance was preserved by the College Youths and, when Annable and his band rang their peal of Bob Triples at Southwark, they claimed it as the first in the method. In addition, no true peal of Bob Triples had been composed at so early a date.

It is, therefore, certainly very doubtful if any such peal was rung in 1689-90. Nevertheless, it is not so unlikely as some people have thought. We have good reason for believing that one or two peals of Grandsire Triples were rung before 1700, although the composition was false, and, although there had as yet been no true peal of Bob Triples composed, there was a composition which quite well may have been the one rung.

It was called Restoration Triples, and was preserved by Annable in his note book. It is on a plan which was already obsolete when he wrote it down somewhere about 1730. The work is the same as Plain Bob Triples, but instead of the courses being put together by bobs and singles they are joined by a number of Extremes made at the course-ends only, and on the plan of the old Plain Changes.

The man who wrote the account in the College Youths' book got his information at second or third hand from a manuscript long since lost, which was written at Oxford in 1738. How far that manuscript was accurate, and how far what it said has been altered and distorted by the men who afterwards reproduced it, we cannot say. But there is at least the possibility that a peal was rung.

(To be continued.)

MR. TOM GROOMBRIDGE RECOVERING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Several ringing friends have sent very kind and welcome letters to Mr. T. Groombridge, sen., since his recent accident. I would be pleased if you could allow me on his behalf to thank those who have written and to explain to those who have had no reply that this is due to the fact that he is hardly fit for the secretarial desk yet.

He is slowly mending, but these jobs take time, even for a youngster, and I can assure those who have written him that news from the Exercise is a tonic to him in his present enforced idleness.

T. GROOMBRIDGE, Jun.

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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 4s. per quarter.

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—The meeting arranged by the Grimsby District on Saturday, Sept. 16th, at Ulceby, has had to be cancelled.—H. Mingay, Hon. Dis. Sec., 394, Wellington Street, Grimsby.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—The quarterly meeting, which was to have been held at Ashby Folville on Sept. 16th, has been cancelled owing to the present situation.—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Southern District.—To-morrow's meeting will take place as announced. Ringing at St. John's, Penge (6) (two minutes Penge E. or Penge W. Stations), from 2.45 to 4.30, and at St. George's, Beckingham (10) (one minute Beckingham Junction) 6 p.m. until dark. Please support this meeting if you possibly can and help to keep the flag flying.—P. A. Corby.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD. — Aylesbeare Deanery Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Littleham, Exmouth, on Saturday, Sept. 16th. Bells (8) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow at 5 p.m.—R. Brook, Hon. Sec., 3, Greatwood Terrace, Topsham.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—A meeting at Frensham on Saturday, Sept. 16th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business 5.15 at the Marindin Institute. All welcome.—C. W. Denyer, 120, Ash Road, Aldershot.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Loughborough District.—Will members please note that the meeting fixed for Sept. 23rd will not take place. Full notice of any future arrangements will be given.—A. E. Rowley, Hon. Sec.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — North Norfolk Branch.—Will members please note that the meeting arranged to be held at Garveston on Sept. 23rd has been cancelled? — H. Tooke, Branch Sec., The Lizard, Wymondham, Norfolk.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Bolton Branch.—The meeting arranged for Horwich on Sept. 23rd has been cancelled.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The meeting arranged to be held at Bowdon, Cheshire, on Saturday, September 23rd, is cancelled.—Joseph H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—Please note that, owing to the war, the joint meeting with the Manchester Branch of the Lancashire Association, which was to have been held at Bowdon on September 23rd, is cancelled.—C. K. Lewis, Hon. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol City Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at St. Philip's on Saturday, Sept. 23rd. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Please make an effort to attend, and a p.c. for for tea will oblige.—A. M. Tyler, 5, Addison Road, Bristol 3.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — A meeting will be held at Uttoxeter on Saturday, Sept. 23rd. Bells (8) available from 3.30 p.m. All ringers welcome, and will those requiring tea kindly notify Mr. E. Roberts, 46, Ashbourne Road, Uttoxeter, Staffs., not later than Wednesday?—Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Blackburn Cathedral on Saturday, Sept. 23rd. Bells available from 3 p.m., meeting at 5.30 p.m. Business important.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Staverton (6) on Saturday, Sept. 23rd. Usual arrangements.—W. C. Moore, 5, Williams Terrace, Daventry, Northants.

MARCHINGTON, UTTOXETER, STAFFS. — The ring of four bells, restored and augmented to six by John Taylor and Co., will be dedicated by the Bishop of Stafford on Tuesday, September 26th.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Tower bell practices are suspended until further notice. A meeting will be held at headquarters on Tuesday, September 26th, at 8.30 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION. — The annual dinner, arranged for Saturday, Sept. 30th, is cancelled. Will the committee please make their own arrangements for the return of cash for tickets already sold?—J. D. Johnson, Gen. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly meeting which was to have been held at Newark on Sept. 30th has been cancelled. — W. E. White, Hon. Treasurer.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly general meeting due to be held at Dunster on October 7th is abandoned. It is hoped to arrange a quarterly meeting at Blackwell on January 8th, and the annual meeting at Taunton on Easter Monday, April 25th. Branches are urged to carry on with their meetings if at all possible. It is suggested that meetings be held at centres which involve the least amount of travelling.—W. M. K. Warren, Master; J. T. Dyke, Hon. Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual Dinner.—This function, which was to have been held in Stockport, has been cancelled.—C. K. Lewis, Hon. Branch Sec.

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OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Witney and Woodstock Branch.—Owing to present circumstances, the autumn meeting arranged to be held at Aston, near Bampton, at the end of this month, is hereby cancelled. —W. Evetts, Sec., Tackley, Oxon.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Brewood, on Saturday, September 30th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service at 4.45, with address by the Rev. C. Broughton Thompson, Vicar. Tea (1s.) at 5.30. Reports ready. Bus leaves Queen Square, Wolverhampton, at 1 and 3. Please send word not later than Tuesday, 26th inst.—H. Knight, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—The address of Mr. Ronald H. Dove is now 70, Morris Lane, Kirkstall, Leeds, 5.

APARTMENTS.

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DEATH.

JENNINGS.—At Kendal, Westmorland, on September 6th, very suddenly, Catherine, beloved wife of Henry Jennings, of Kendal, and mother of Edwin Jennings, of Bushey.

HANDBELLS FOR SALE.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 1,487. Vol. XXXIV. FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 22nd, 1939. [Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.] Price 3d.

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SUNDAY RINGING.

There is, as might have been expected, a divergence of views as to 'carrying on' with ringing in the present conditions. In many places even service ringing has been entirely dropped, chiefly, it would seem, because there is a feeling that the sound of the bells would be out of place in days like these; although there are some cases where the silence is observed for fear of impeding air raid warnings if they happened to come. Where this latter is the reason, the abandonment of ringing is naturally the only course to take, but there is, we think, a good case to be made out for keeping the bells going on normal occasions. Peal ringing, as we pointed out last week, can hardly be permitted, except for some outstanding reason, but service ringing, at any rate in hours of daylight, ought not to be dropped wherever a band can be raised to continue it.

The Somerset County Police have definitely stated that, from the public point of view, there is no objection to the ringing of church bells, and this only follows higher authority which specially excepted bells from the operation of the Order in Council controlling noises. The lighting restrictions are going to curtail church services after nightfall, and that, in itself, will govern the use of the bells for evening services; otherwise there is every justification for using them for their normal Sunday purpose. There are, we imagine, many places where their notes would be a welcome relief in the stress of the times; their cheering sounds would come as a solace to the sadness which is clouding men's lives. We can respect the sentiment of those clergy who feel that these are no times for the ringing of church bells, but we cannot agree that because we are faced with a great upheaval, which threatens all that we hold dear, we should necessarily don a mental garb making life a drab and dreary existence.

There is a difference between idle frivolity and an effort to maintain a spirit of cheerfulness in the face of a grave national emergency. Part of the defence on the home front is the maintenance of the morale of the people, and to rob them of every form of entertainment or relief from anxiety would be one of the surest ways of undermining their spirits. While some, therefore, may think the ringing of church bells out of place, large numbers, we are convinced, will welcome their sound and, where the bells have been stopped, will regret their silence. But there is also the other side of the ques-

(Continued on page 594.)

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tion. The drift from Sunday observance has long been a source of complaint among the clergy; the stress of war conditions may lead to a return, on the part of many, to a recognition of the higher things in life, and, surely, one of the best reminders is the call of the bells to all who hear to come and join in public worship in our churches. It is in this spirit that the bells should be rung to-day and, wherever they are remaining idle for fear of offending the susceptibilities of the public, we feel that the ringers might well approach the clergy with these arguments, to get the ban removed. Neither the authorities nor the public want the ringing of bells, especially on Sundays, to be stopped.

HANDBELLS.

Ringers who are debarred by war conditions from exercising their activities in the towers can still find an outlet for their energies. Handbell ringing is not only a useful substitute for maintaining interest, but is a fascinating hobby for those who take it up, and we suggest that, wherever possible, ringers should get together and begin practice.

Except for the few outstanding performances, like those of the Bushey ringers, and those in North Lincolnshire, handbell peal ringing bands seem to have declined in recent years. When war overtook us in 1914 there were quite a number of places where handbell ringers were active, and, in consequence, there was, even under the limited opportunities of the stress of war time, a certain output of peals. A glance round the Exercise to-day reveals few companies who have been supplementing their tower bell ringing with handbell peals. This, in peace time, was a matter for regret, but present day conditions might well be used, by those ringers who are left to carry on, to find pleasure and recreation in handbell ringing. It is, of course, a fact that double-handed ringing requires a somewhat different technique to change ringing on tower bells, but a little study and persistent practice will enable the average ringer to overcome the initial difficulties and enter a new field that can be of absorbing interest.

RECORD OF NATIONAL SERVICE.

CENTRAL COUNCIL'S RECORD.

It is proposed by the Central Council to compile a record of those serving their country, both in His Majesty's Forces and civilian organisations.

Will all those serving, men and women, kindly forward the information, including name, home address and particulars of service, to the hon. secretary, Mr. G. W. Fletcher, 45, Walsingham Road, Enfield, Middlesex.

HANDBELL PEAL.

LINCOLN.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Thursday, September 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes

AT 32, RUSKIN AVENUE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor, size 15 in C.

P. MICHAEL FREEMAN ...	1-2	JOHN FREEMAN	5-6
JACK L. MILLHOUSE	3-4	KENNETH S. B. CROFT... ...	7-8

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by JOHN FREEMAN.

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WHAT COURSING ORDER MEANS.

Its Importance in Ringing.

Coursing Order is one of the most important things in change ringing and yet very few ringers ever stop and try to understand it and to see what it really is. This has been so from the beginning. It forced itself on the attention of early ringers, but they took it much as a matter of course, and it is not surprising that the definition in the 'Glossary' has just enough truth in it to be misleading. Let us spend a minute or two trying to understand the thing.

First of all write out a lead of Plain Bob Major and at the end, instead of making second's place, let the bells run round. We have now got what is called the Hunting Course, and the chief feature of it is that all the bells plain hunt and do nothing else except plain hunt. Trace the paths of the treble and the second. You will see that the one follows the other at a regular interval, turning it from the lead and from behind, so that if a line is drawn along each of the two paths those two lines will be strictly parallel.

Just as the second follows the treble so does the fourth follow the second, the sixth the fourth, the eighth the sixth, the seventh the eighth, the fifth the seventh, the third the fifth, and the treble the third.

The paths of all these bells are parallel to each other and the order in which they follow each other is 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 7, 5, 3, 1. The order, you will notice, is cyclical, that is we can start with any bell we please and we shall get all the others in their due order and come back to where we started from.

This order is Coursing Order. It is actually what it says; it is the order in which the bells follow each other when hunting. But now we must point out and insist on a fact which is generally overlooked or ignored, which is that you cannot have a Coursing Order unless all the bell are hunting. Whenever you make a Place and some bells dodge while the others hunt, your Coursing Order is broken; and when they all resume hunting, the Coursing Order will be a different one from that which you had at first.

You need not stop now to test this by pencil and paper. For the present we want to get this point clear, that Coursing Order is the order in which bells follow each other when all of them are hunting.

Now write out the full course of Bob Major. It is only 112 rows, and if it takes you a few minutes it is worth the trouble; for the more pricking you do the easier it becomes. With a little practice you will soon be able to write even the most complex methods like London Surprise as fast as you can set the figures down.

At the first lead end of Plain Bob Major the third makes second's place and the other bells dodge. Let us see what happens.

The third had been coursing in front of the treble during the previous lead. It now makes second's place, leads again, and follows the treble up behind. Trace the paths of these two bells and you will see that they have changed places in Coursing Order. Meanwhile, the other bells by making a dodge have marked time. And so when, in the second lead, the hunting is resumed the Coursing Order is the same as it was in the first lead, except that the treble has changed places with the third. The Coursing Order now is 875132468. The treble is after the fifth, instead of being after the third.

At the end of the second lead the fifth makes second's place over the treble, with the result that, instead of coursing in front of the treble, it hunts up behind it, the Coursing Order of the third lead being 871532468.

Second's place at the third lead end will put the seventh behind the treble. Second's place at the fourth lead end will put the eighth behind the treble. And the other three lead ends will put successively the sixth, fourth and second behind the treble, which brings us back to the order from which we started.

We will now write down the Coursing Orders of the successive leads, and we will do it in two different ways; the difference being merely that in one we will start each with the treble, while in the other we will keep the working bells under each other as much as possible; but don't forget that all the orders must be read cyclically and that both tables are really the same.

1st lead ...	12468753**1**	3124687531
2nd ,, ...	13246875**1**	1324687513
3rd ,, ...	15324687**1**	5324681753
4th ,, ...	17532468**1**	5324681753
5th ,, ...	18753246**1**	5324618753
6th ,, ...	16875324**1**	5324168753
7th ,, ...	14687532**1**	5321468753
1st ,, ...	12468753**1**	5312468753

Now notice that, all through, the seven working bells have not altered their Coursing Order relatively to each other, but that the treble has made a cyclical path through them from between the third and second round to the same position again.

The fact that the treble moves in this way by a connected path through the Coursing Order of the other bells has given it the name of the Hunt. The title comes down from the very beginnings of the art of change ringing and is applied to any bell which performs a similar function.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I beg to call the attention of members who are hoping to attend the annual meeting of the Lancashire Association at Blackpool on Saturday, September 30th, and have tea in St. John's School, to the necessity for sending on their names as early as possible to me, so as to make the catering as little trouble as possible now that it is under war conditions. Members may rest assured that everything will be done for the comfort of all concerned.

To facilitate returning home by train, here is the latest time table of train departures from the two stations:—

Central.—7.35 p.m., Preston, with connections to Chorley, Bolton, Manchester, Rochdale, Liverpool (Ex.), Southport, Wigan; 8.10, Accrington, with connections as above also to Lancaster, Kendal, Barrow; 10.5, Manchester, with connections to Wigan, Liverpool (Lime Street).

North Station.—7.50, Manchester, with connections to Yorkshire districts; 8.45, Manchester, connections to Wigan, Lancaster, Kendal; 10 p.m., Preston, connections to Warrington, Crewe.

35, Berwick Road, S.S., Blackpool. C. SHARPLES.

CAPTAIN OF COLLEGE YOUTHS' CRICKET TEAM.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In reading your issue of the 15th inst., I noticed that your referred in your Belfry Gossip to the social functions held in the past by the College Youths and Cumberlands, and you refer to a cricket match played between the two societies at Battersea Park on September 4th, 1886, 53 years ago, and you go on to say you believed all the players in that particular match were dead.

That is not exactly correct, seeing that I was captain of the College Youths' eleven in that match and am still kicking about.

I cannot vouch for the other 21 players, though I know several of them have long since gone to the Great Beyond.

I don't suppose I shall play in another one, seeing I passed four score years on the 29th ultimo, without ringing another birthday peal.

Lowestoft. E. T. WOODLEY.

TOURING IN THE WEST.

THE B.U.R.G. EXCURSIONS.

Events of an Interesting Week.

Due, we are told, to a variety of causes, including the crisis and the outbreak of war, the following account of the enjoyable week of excursions in four or five counties in the West has only just reached us. Nevertheless, it forms an interesting record of a very happy holiday, in which some thirty or more ringers took part.

The ringing week took place in mid-August and was the third organised by the Bristol United Ringing Guilds. It proved an even greater success than those of 1932 and 1935, if that is possible—at any rate, some of the 'old stagers' were heard referring to it as the 'best ever.' It drew together ringers from places as far distant as Whitley Bay in Northumberland and Crawley, Sussex, and from Port Talbot in Glamorganshire to Sible Hedingham in Essex, while the Midlands were well represented.

The tourists, who arrived in Bristol on Saturday, August 12th, were able to meet at St. Mary Redcliffe in the evening, and with the assistance of members of the Bristol United Guilds, enjoyed ringing upon the grand twelve, with its tenor of 52 cwt. St. Luke's, Bedminster, with a ring of six, was also visited.

The visitors had a choice of about twelve towers for service ringing on Sunday morning. In the afternoon they were invited by the committee of the B.U.R.G. to take part in a mystery tour. They assembled at the customary gathering place—St. Stephen's Church—at 3 p.m., where Mr. E. Guise met and welcomed the party, and where a happy reunion took place between those who had enjoyed the previous tours; here, too, they made new acquaintances. The 'old 'uns' were glad, too, to welcome 'Freddy'—the cheery driver on the previous tours—who was proud to display the glories of the latest new coach provided for the party's daily travels.

Climbing aboard, we soon found ourselves passing through the famous Avon Gorge, beneath the Suspension Bridge at Clifton, and then, via the new low-level road known as Portway, to Avonmouth, where we saw Bristol's docks. Severn Beach, Bristol's riverside resort, was next reached, and at Aust a halt was made for tea; after which we proceeded to Olveston. Here the Vicar met us, and we rang for evensong on the eight bells, with a tenor of 18¾ cwt. We attended evensong, and the Vicar in the course of his sermon referred to our visit and extended a hearty welcome to us. After the service an interesting run brought us back to Bristol.

IN THE COTSWOLD COUNTRY.

Monday's tour took us through some glorious Cotswold country, and Gloucestershire was looking at its best. At the commencement of the journey each member of the party was presented with a most useful and interesting 'Preview' by M. J. G., and this added much to the interest of the tourists. Travelling via Winterbourne and North Nibley, the birthplace of William Tyndale, we arrived at Stonehouse, where we rang touches on the six bells at the Church of St. Cyr. The 17 cwt. tenor here was cast by Rudhall, and the bells date from 1636. Quedgeley was next visited, and various touches of Triples and Major were rung on the handy eight with a tenor of 9½ cwt. Then came one of the thrills of the day, for permission to ring on the bells of Gloucester Cathedral had been obtained, and this privilege was greatly appreciated. After a long climb, we reached the spacious ringing chamber, and found that the bells, a good eight, tenor 21 cwt., had been supplied with a new set of ropes for our benefit! The bells were soon set going in various methods, and we appreciated the action of the Canon, who climbed the tower to welcome us. He expressed pleasure in discovering that ringing was not confined to one sex. A hasty glance inside the Cathedral had to suffice, for we were already behind with our programme, and soon we were speeding on to Norton, where some quick touches were rung on the peal of eight, tenor 12 cwt., at St. Mary Priors.

Tewkesbury, with its famous Norman Abbey and numerous historical associations, was our next stopping place, but not for ringing. Lunch had been arranged here, and, having disposed of it, we left Tewkesbury and crossed the border into Worcestershire—England's fruit garden apparently. Luscious fruit was frequently displayed for sale by the roadside, but Freddy hurried on with an unseeing eye!

PERSHORE'S DIZZY BELL CAGE.

The Malvern Hills formed a grand panorama as we journeyed on to Pershore, where we enjoyed the experience of ringing in the famous bell cage, situated at a great height in the tower, and more than one person seemed glad to climb down again. Also—whisper it—one ringer didn't even get up there! Did he lose the way, I wonder?

When all who wished to do so had rung, and the camera fiends had done their bit, a move was made to the bell tower at Evesham, where we enjoyed ringing on the fine ten—tenor 31¼ cwt. The River Avon attracted some of the party, while tea and ices claimed the attention of others. Then on to Charlton Kings, to try the peal of eight, dating from 1630. The last call of the evening was at Chedworth, a charmingly situated Cotswold village, famous for its Roman villa. The Norman Church of St. Andrew contains a chained Genevan Bible, and has a ring of six bells, tenor 11 cwt. The homeward route took us through the delightful old town of Cirencester, and, when Bristol was reached, the total distance covered was approximately 140 miles.

Tuesday found us touring chiefly through Wiltshire. The first call was at Bitton, which possesses a particularly fine perpendicular tower and a grand ring of eight, tenor 14 cwt. Some excellent touches were rung here, and we were loath to leave these fine bells, but time waits for no man, so we sped on through the great Roman city of Bath, with a glimpse of its beautiful Abbey, and reached our next objective—Beckington, an interesting church with squints in the sanctuary and south aisle, a fine Early English octagonal font, and a ring of eight bells, tenor 18 cwt. Warminster was soon reached, and ringing on the fine peal of eight, tenor 28 cwt., was much enjoyed, after which we did full justice to dinner.

The journey was then continued to Amesbury, stopping en route to view Stonehenge. After ringing on the heavy six at SS. Mary and Melorus, Amesbury, which boasts a monastic foundation, we travelled via Tidworth, with its extensive barracks and rifle ranges—said by one tourist to be known as 'Very Nearly,' because it was 'all butts'—to St. Mary's, Collingbourne Kingston, which also possesses a ring of six. A run of half an hour brought us to Pewsey, another six-bell tower, and then we set out for the last tower of the day. At one point Freddy, not quite sure of his route, leaned out and asked a youngster the way to Urchfont, but judging from his look of bewilderment, the lad had never heard of such a place. However, one of the tourists came into the 'hunt' at that point, and asked the boy if he could tell us the way to 'Urshunt'; the yokel's face lighted up with cheery intelligence as he promptly directed us on our way! At Urchfont we enjoyed several touches on the eight bells, and, after a short stay at Devizes for refreshments, reached headquarters once more after an enjoyable run of about 115 miles.

We were early on the road on Wednesday, with a long day before us, during which we enjoyed to the full the beauties of 'Smiling Somerset.' Passing through Pensford and Wells, with a passing glimpse of the west front of its glorious Cathedral, and on to Glastonbury, with its ruins, we crossed Sedgemoor and eventually reached Curry Rivel, where we found a very fine peal of eight, tenor 19¾ cwt. Some good touches were brought round on these bells, and the visitors found an interesting monument on which the large family of a deceased couple was carved, including 'quins' in bed, complete with bonnets and frills.

Going on through Taunton, with its fine towers, we arrived at Milverton, situated attractively at the western end of Vale of Taunton, with a charming background of hills. It possesses a fine church containing some beautiful bench ends and choir stalls of early 16th century work, and a Norman font. Ringing on the peal of eight was followed by dinner. A short run then brought us to Wiveliscombe and soon the excellent ring of eight were responding gaily to various methods. A backward glance as we climbed out of the valley revealed the attraction of the position of this little town, nestling, as it does, among the hills on the banks of the River Tone.

ZUMMERZET TENORS AND ZIDER.

At Bampton, our next call, we found ourselves in Devon, and rang on the six bells, cast by Bilbie. It is said that, if you come at the right time, you can buy an Exmoor pony for half-a-crown. Dulverton, on the River Barle, a short run from Bampton, is a typical moorland town, and the fine ring of eight at All Saints' Church was well used by the tourists. It was here that history was made for one lady ringer of the party, for she rang her first course of Grandsire Triples. Back on the main road, we traversed part of the charming Exe Valley and climbed up to Whaddon Cross, with the Brendon Hills on our right, and Dunkery Beacon—1,707ft., the highest point of Exmoor—on our left. Passing through Dunster, with its picturesque yarn-market, we reached Minehead, a charming little seaside resort, in time for tea. North Hill, 800ft. high, on which the old village is situated, forms one of Minehead's chief attractions, and commands fine views of the coast and moorland. Leaving Minehead, we travelled on to Bridgwater, where we found an excellent ring of eight with a tenor of 27¾ cwt., and the ringing here was much enjoyed. The beautiful carved oak pulpit and the Jacobean screen are some of the chief glories of this church. We saw the strong tide flowing up the River Parrett, which is noted for its bore twice daily. The general topics for discussion among the gentlemen during the day seemed to be the weights of the various tenors and the flavour of the 'Zummerzet Zider.' On returning to Bristol, we had travelled about 153 miles.

Thursday's journey took us into Wiltshire once more. Travelling through Maugotsfield and Pucklechurch, we found the elusive church at Dyrham, after a prolonged search, and various methods were rung on the six bells there. Passing on through Chippenham and Wootton Bassett, we came to St. Mary's Church, Purton, an interesting cruciform building, possessing a western tower and a central spire. Some good ringing was enjoyed on the handy ring of six. Leaving Crichlade and Marston Meysey behind us, we reached Fairford, a Saxon town situated on the River Coln, and important enough to be mentioned in Domesday Book. Ringing took place on the fine ring of eight in the beautiful Church of St. Mary, famed for its magnificent old stained glass windows. They are said to be the largest number and the finest specimens of sixteenth century glasswork now existing in England. The 'Doom Window' at the west end is particularly interesting. The chancel contains some finely carved miserere seats.

After doing full justice to the excellent lunch provided at the White Hart Hotel, we journeyed on through Lechlade to Highworth, where the Vicar gave us a kindly welcome, and where several touches were rung on the eight bells, tenor 17½ cwt. An interesting Norman tympanum is to be seen at this church. Our route afterwards lay

(Continued in next column.)

MEMORIAL SERVICE POSTPONED.

The special memorial service that it was proposed to hold at Barnsley on Saturday, September 9th, in memory of the late Mr. C. D. Potter, president of the Barnsley and District Society, was postponed on account of the outbreak of war, but the decision was taken too late for notice to be inserted in 'The Ringing World.' The service was postponed on the advice of the Rector of Barnsley (Canon W. E. Wilkinson), as he thought it would cause unnecessary travel when it ought to be avoided.

It is hoped to arrange the memorial service as soon as possible. It is also hoped, if circumstances allow, to hold the next meeting at Monk Bretton on Saturday, October 7th, and to arrange tower-bell ringing until dark and afterwards to hold the tea and business meeting, following which handbells will be available.

TAUNTON RINGERS VISIT BRISTOL.

The ringers at St. James', Taunton, and friends paid a visit to Bristol and adjoining district on August 26th for an outing. The towers visited were Long Ashton, Knowle, SS. Philip and Jacob's and St. James', Bristol. After first ringing at the two towers mentioned, the party sat down to an excellent meat tea. The ringing comprised rounds, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Grandsire and Stedman Caters, Plain Bob, Double Norwich and Cambridge Surprise Major. The ringing was in some cases good, in others about the average for mixed bands. Thanks are due to Mr. W. G. Gigg for the excellent arrangements made for the outing and to Mr. W. A. Cave for his assistance at the Bristol end; also to all the incumbents and those in charge at the various churches for meeting the party and their kindly help. A start was made for home about 8.30, stopping at Huntsfield for a light supper.

TOURING IN THE WEST.

(Continued from previous column.)

through Swindon, Broad Hinton and Avebury, where we saw the site of the largest Druidical remains in England. The beautiful church at Calne was next reached, and touches were enjoyed on the ring of eight. Near Calne, the Cherhill White Horse, perhaps the oldest in England, is to be seen. A short run brought us to Melksham, where, after ringing on the good octave, we endeavoured to obtain tea, and only succeeded in doing so after herculean efforts behind the scenes by Miss Thompson. Bathford was the last tower on the list for the day, and here we found a nice little ring of six after a steep climb. A pause for refreshments and a friendly chat in the twilight, and then a quick run into Bristol, with seven more towers, and 107 more miles in the 'bag.'

(To be continued.)

CENTRAL COUNCIL PUBLICATIONS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I wish to express my regret for the continued delay in executing orders for C.C. publications. I expressed a wish in your columns at the end of July for no orders before September 12th, but circumstances have made it impossible for me to get at the books before next week, when I will complete orders as soon as I can.

W. H. J. HOOTON, Hon. Librarian.

OPEN BELLS AFTER FUNERAL.

GUILDFORD GUILD LOSES LIFE MEMBER.

In accordance with her wishes, the bells of St. Michael's Church, Yorktown, Surrey, were rung open after the funeral of Miss Rose Geraldine Middleton, who died at the age of 75 years. She was the elder daughter of the late Rev. F. M. Middleton, a former Vicar of Camberley, of which parish Yorktown forms a part.

Few Camberley residents can have been more loved or respected than Miss Middleton. A great churchworker, she had devoted the many years of her long residence in the town in furthering the cause of the church, particularly in the parishes of St. Michael's and St. George's, and her generosity towards all good causes was well known. She was held in high esteem by all sections of the community.

Miss Middleton took great interest in the bells and ringers, as in every other department of church life in Camberley, where the generosity of her father had provided the tower and spire of Yorktown Church, while he also built and presented St. George's Church to the parish.

Miss Middleton was a life member of the old Winchester Diocesan Guild, and when the Guildford Diocesan Guild was formed at the end of 1927 she became one of its first life members.

The Guildford Guild and the local ringers were represented at the funeral by Mr. F. J. Ewens, and a wreath was sent in the name of the Farnham District.

PASTON'S NEW BELL DEDICATED.

On Saturday, September 2nd, the new treble bell and electric clock recently installed by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, of Croydon, at the Church of St. Margaret, Paston, Norfolk, were dedicated by the Rev. J. F. Williams, Rector of South Walsham.

The bell, which completes a ring of six, and the clock were a gift to the church by the late Dr. Noel Dean Bardswell.

Very few ringers attended the ceremony, as, owing to the crisis in the international situation, all ringing after the dedication was cancelled.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Herr Hitler is a nuisance and has caused a considerable amount of inconvenience to quite a lot of people. If it had not been for him, before this both Mr. Tom Coles and Mr. Jim Bennett would have rung their thousandth peal, and, as they hoped, together. Now Mr. Jim Bennett, altered into Sergeant-Major James Bennett, of the Royal Marines, is attending to other things.

Also with ordinary luck Mr. Ernest Turner would have completed a rather unusual feat by calling within the year a peal on all numbers of bells from five to twelve. He needed only a peal of Caters to complete the list and that should have been rung on the Yorkshire tour. Earlier in the year Mr. J. S. Goldsmith had rung a peal on all numbers in less than six months. In neither case was there any deliberate attempt made to perform the feat.

The number of men who have called a peal on all numbers must be a small one. Neither the late William Pye nor, if we recollect aright, James W. Washbrook is included. Mr. C. T. Coles has completed the series and Mr. C. E. Borrett and a few others. The fact is, of course, that the men who have the opportunity of calling peals on ten and twelve bells seldom care to start for peals on five. Ernest Turner's list contains two peals of Grandsire Doubles, one on handbells and one in the tower. In one there was not a single six-score rung. In the other there were 42 all called differently.

Mr. Malcolm C. C. Melville, formerly hon. secretary of the Warwickshire Guild, is to be ordained deacon by the Bishop of Bristol at Bristol Cathedral, on Sunday morning, to serve in the parish of St. Paul, Swindon.

Mr. Melville has been active in teaching ringing to the students at Lichfield College during his residence there. His new address will be Highcliffe, 81, County Road, Swindon.

Last Sunday (September 17th) was the tercentenary of the death of Joseph Hatch, of Ulcombe, who cast many bells in Kent during the early years of the seventeenth century. His best known bell is the Bell Harry, which hangs on the top of the central tower of Canterbury Cathedral and is used as the service bell. It is dated 1635 and in the same year he restored the ringing peal supplying three new bells. One of his earliest bells, the fifth to this ring of six, was cast in 1606. The whole ring was recast in 1727 by Samuel Knight and augmented to the full octave.

Service ringing has not been stopped at Kingston-on-Thames, and the local company will be glad to welcome any ringer at 10 a.m. on Sundays.

FALSE PEALS.

YORKSHIRE DISCOVERIES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I have recently been checking some of the old compositions rung by the Yorkshire Association and regret to say that I have found a further two that are false. I ask all those who have copies of our reports to make a note of them.

The first, a very old one, is a four-part peal of Bob Major, 5,440 changes, composed by Thomas West. This was rung at Otley on Aug. 12th, 1882 (No. 205 of the association's performances) and was conducted by the composer. Jasper Snowdon took part in this peal and, especially as he compiled all the association's reports during his presidency, it is remarkable that he overlooked the composition, as it is hopelessly false. This goes to prove, once more, how easily a false composition can pass scrutiny no matter how capable the scrutineer may be.

The other false peal is a 5,040 of Double Norwich by J. H. Blakiston and is in three parts, with an additional opening block of three courses This, also, was rung at Otley on April 14th, 1923 (No. 2,352 of the association's performances). Parts of the 2nd and 3rd courses repeat in the 13th and 14th courses of the peal. Two variations of the same composition by the same composer, one a 5,008, the other a 5,040, which have been rung by the association, are true.

As far as I can say at the moment, there have been 18 false peals, including one of Minor, rung by the Yorkshire Association out of a total of 4,252.

W. BARTON, Peal Secretary.

TWELVE-BELL RINGING.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I was very surprised to read in the September 8th issue Mr. Robert Beck's letter questioning the advisability of twelve-bell rings and comparing their music unfavourably with that of the octave.

To me the roll of a heavy or medium twelve-bell peal is inspiring and magnificent. When in London over the Sunday I always go to hear Taylor's fine set at St. Paul's on Sunday morning. The striking is nearly always very good and the music magnificent. I have heard nearly all the twelve-bell peals one time or another well and evenly struck, but perhaps I have been lucky.

Our own Parish Church of St. Martin, Birmingham, has a long and distinguished record for twelve-bell ringing, and bad striking has never been tolerated.

Change ringing on twelve bells is, of course, more difficult than on eight, and admits of no slip shod work, while the fact that most ringers aspire to the accomplishment of a peal on the larger number of bells is, I think, conclusive.

WILLIAM A. CLARK.

Moseley, Birmingham.

CHURCH BELLS IN WAR TIME.

RINGERS' DUTY.

To the Editor.

Sir,—The advice given in your columns on the question of ringing during the war is sound and well timed. The duty alike of ringers and church authorities is to carry on with concentrated energy and even increased regularity.

Whether in days of peace and plenty, or in time of war, pestilence or famine, Sunday is still the Lord's Day and maintains its claim to be honoured with the pealing of the bells. Amid the turmoil and upheaval of strife and tumult the eternal verities commemorated on the great Christian Festivals still stand unchanged, and call for due celebration with the Church's instruments of sacred music. Whatever trials our country may endure, the blessings bestowed upon our Throne and nation will give occasion for joy and thankfulness, and it is the time-honoured privilege of ringers to give public expression to those feelings with the 'voice of melody.'

Nor should ringers' practices be entirely suspended, any more than those of organist and choir: only in the use of tower bells for this purpose there is obvious reason for exercising discretion with due regard to immediate circumstances.

One of the wisest sayings uttered during the last war was that 'organised depression is not going to win the war.' Amid the unknown trials and troubles of the days now upon us it is the high and sacred privilege of all those responsible for the use of our church bells boldly to proclaim the message of Purcell's famous Bell Anthem: 'Rejoice in the Lord alway.'

F. Ll. EDWARDS.

Kington Magna Rectory.

SOMERSET POLICE SANCTION RINGING.

Dear Sir,—On behalf of the company of ringers to which I am attached, I visited the Somerset Police Headquarters, which are here in Taunton. I was informed that we could carry on as usual for Sunday service ringing. Seeing that it is dark now fairly early, they advised no practice, as some of the church bells in outlying districts had to be used as an air raid warning.

Great care has got to be taken that towers have no light showing from outside.

I have permission from an incumbent to attempt a peal, provided it is over before dark. The request for permission was made before war broke out.

J. HUNT.

Taunton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION TO HOLD ANNUAL MEETING.

The Lancashire Association will hold their annual meeting at Blackpool, as arranged, on Saturday, Sept. 30th. The various towers will be open during the afternoon for ringing, which will cease at 4 p.m. Service and tea and meeting will follow. Four names are to be submitted for the vice-presidency, and a motion is to be proposed that, in future, each branch of the association be allowed to elect one member for the Central Council in rotation.

It has been decided to abandon the Jasper Whitfield Snowdon Commemoration Dinner this year. It was to have been held at York on October 14th.

So far, no restrictions have been placed on the Sunday service ringing at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, Trafalgar Square, and the bells are being rung on Sunday mornings as usual.

We are informed that our surmise that the joint meeting of the College and Cumberland Youths at Croydon might have to be abandoned is correct. Perhaps, when the war is over, plans may again be laid for this event to take place.

At Aldershot Parish Church practices are being continued on Fridays from 7.30 to 9 p.m., and there is ringing for service on Sundays at 9.30 a.m. and 6 p.m. Any ringers on military service in the area will be welcomed.

While ringing has had to be suspended for the time being at Enfield (Middlesex) Parish Church, it is hoped to get the bells rung again soon, at least every Sunday morning.

The dedication of the bells at Marchington, Staffs, has been postponed.

CARRYING ON AT BROMLEY.

Sir,—Our leader, Mr. Emery, suggests that I write you to say that we at the Parish Church, Bromley, are doing everything possible to keep the ringing fraternity together during these times, and we ask if you will say through the columns of the 'Ringing World' how glad we shall be to welcome any ringers on Sunday mornings. We ring from 10 until 11, and shall make any visiting ringers to our district very welcome and see that they will 'have a pull.'

P. SPICE (Secretary).

ASSOCIATION MEETINGS.

The following meetings have been cancelled:—

SEPTEMBER 23rd.

Guildford Diocesan Guild, Chertsey District, at Ottershaw.

Oxford Diocesan Guild, at Wargrave.

SEPTEMBER 30th.

Guildford Diocesan Guild, Guildford District, at Ewhurst.

Ely Diocesan Association, Wisbech Branch, at Walpole St. Peter.

Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild, Alton and Petersfield District, at Froyle.

Yorkshire Association, joint meeting at Shipley.

Lincoln Diocesan Guild, at Barton-on-Humber.

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association annual meeting.

OCTOBER 7th.

Bath and Wells Diocesan Association at Dunster.

FAREWELL TO MR. L. STILWELL.

DEPARTURE FROM WINDSOR.

On Sunday evening, September 10th, Berks and Bucks 'boys' gathered in force at St. Mary's tower, Slough, and shared in the service ringing to give Mr. Leonard Stilwell, of Windsor, a 'send-off.' After 33 years' residence in a corner of the Diocese of Oxford, Mr. Stilwell is returning to his native Sussex to take up new business.

Some 18 ringers were present and joined in the touches of Grandsire, Stedman and Double Norwich, conducted by Messrs. Bateman, Stilwell and Barker respectively. Amongst those who offered good wishes over the farewell handshake were half a dozen of the old 1914 'war horses' and a team of septuagenarians. Berkshire's loss is a Sussex gain, as Mr. Stilwell is ceasing to pull the bells of the borough of Windsor, and will turn his attention to those of Pulborough.

Mr. Stilwell will be much missed in the Windsor district, where he has been a tower of strength to ringing. He was one of the enterprising band that in the last few years rang quite a number of new Surprise methods in that corner of the country where Berks, Bucks, Middlesex and Surrey meet.

W. H. F.

CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

By J. Armiger Trollope.

ST. SEPULCHRE'S, SNOW HILL.

(Continued from page 589.)

In 1699 the ninth bell at St. Sepulchre's was cracked. It is possible that the parish was slow to put the matter right, and so the College Youths, rather than go without their Grandsire Caters, decided to do it themselves. Anyhow, after consulting the churchwardens, Richard Castleman, Peter Bradshaw, and Elisha Mason appeared before the vestry and offered to take down the bell, recast it, and bring it home and set it up again in six weeks' time, all at their own charges.

Castleman and Mason were that year the stewards and Bradshaw one of the leading members of the society. The vestry accepted the offer and referred it to the churchwardens 'to see the bell taken down and delivered to the said persons weighing the same out and in; they, the said churchwardens, then taking security from the said persons for the performance of the matter proposed, and that they be obliged to return the said bell of the same weight and goodness and metal as it now is or better. If any of its weight should be wanting they should pay to the churchwardens the value thereof and take care they do no damage to the other bells.'

To-day, if a man offered to restore the bells or other church property at his own expense, it would seem a rather off-handed and discourteous thing to ask him to give security, but in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries it was the custom. The church and its fittings were the property of the parish; the churchwardens were the trustees, they could be held personally responsible for anything that might happen, and might find themselves involved in financial liability should anything go wrong. There was no pretence on the part of the College Youths that their act was to benefit the parish. They wanted the bell so that they could ring Grandsire Caters.

In 1701, Elisha Mason, again, we may suppose, acting for the College Youths, saw to the recasting of the second, but this time the parish paid £5 3s. 6d. for the job.

About this time the steeple had got into a bad state of repair, and the vintner of the Castle Tavern hard by complained that stones were falling from it and had damaged his house. In 1705 a committee was formed to raise money and have the necessary repairs completed.

In 1712 the seventh was recast and the whole ring overhauled and rehung. Whether the great bell called Baynard Castle, 'that servyth the clocke,' had escaped the fire is not clear, but it seems probable, and it or its successor was still hanging 'by itself in the loft next the ringing loft,' that is in the chamber between the belfry and the ring of ten. It was now taken down and sold, and the proceeds devoted to the repair of the bells and the church. Richard Helps cast the new seventh at a charge of £22 10s., and was also paid £30 for rehanging the ring.

Apart from the doubtful peal of 1689, only one five thousand is known to have been rung on the old bells. This was Grandsire Caters by the College Youths in 1731. It was conducted by Annable, and the peal book claims it as the first that was rung in that steeple, which may mean the first peal of Grandsire Caters or the first peal of any sort. Probably the latter is meant.

On March 10th, 1739, the vestry passed a resolution that 'all the old bells (except the old treble) being nine bells in number should be taken down out of the steeple and new cast and also that a new bell be cast to make up the said nine bells to ten bells to be rung together in peal.'



ST. SEPULCHRE'S CHURCH IN THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.
[By kind permission of the Trustees of the British Museum.

The new ring was cast by Samuel Knight and, as the inscription on the ninth tells us, was hung by Robert Catlin. The treble was recast by Thomas Mears in 1807, the sixth and seventh and tenor in 1830. The rest of Knight's bells are still in the tower. They are a very fine ring, one of the best of the old style, and, in my opinion, able to hold their own with any of the moderns.

The first peal on Knight's bells was 5,200 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Royal by the Eastern Scholars, rung on April 7th, 1741, the first ever accomplished in the method. Little more than a month later the College Youths rang 5,000 changes in the same method. Both societies erected boards to commemorate their performances, and on the College Youths' panel is the couplet:—

When merits justly due a little praise then serveth
A good peal needs no frame, a bad one none deserveth.

This led to a tradition that the other performance was false, either in the composition or in the ringing, but there seems to be no real justification for such an opinion. It was no unusual thing to put a motto on a

peal board, and the sentiment of this one is pretty trite and commonplace.

In this same year the College Youths rang the first touches of London Court Royal, but apparently they did not think enough of the method to ring a peal. That was left for James Barham and his band at Leeds in Kent.

Another interesting performance on these bells was 5,040 changes of Eastern Bob Royal by the Eastern Scholars on February 19th, 1750, the only peal ever rung in the method. Except that it is not symmetrical, the method is a good one, and belongs to the same class as Double Norwich Court Bob Royal.

The only length on the bells of over six thousand changes was 6,390 Grandsire Caters by the College Youths in 1752. This was one of the two peals conducted by John Holt when he was with that society.

Fifty years ago the board recording the Eastern Scholars' peal of Treble Bob was still in the belfry, though in a dilapidated condition. To-day the College Youths' board is the only one remaining, but in the base of the tower there is a board recording 5,111 changes of Grandsire Caters rung in 1793 by the Junior Society of Cumberland Youths, and three nineteenth-century boards hung so high on the walls that they cannot be read. Two record peals by the St. James's Society—5,055 Stedman Caters on January 25th, 1857, the first in the method on the bells, and 5,000 Kent Treble Bob Royal on November 6th, 1869—and one by the Cumberland Youths, 5,001 Stedman Caters in 1880. There is also a more recent tablet for a peal in the same method by the Middlesex Association.

RINGERS TAKING HOLY ORDERS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Many ringers will be interested in the announcement that two of their fellows are to be made deacons at Bristol Cathedral on Sunday next at 10.30 a.m. They are Kenneth Cæsar Davis, of St. Boniface College, Warminster, Wilts, and Malcolm Charles Crompton Melville, of Lichfield College, Staffs, and it is a happy coincidence that they are to be admitted to Holy Orders together.

Malcolm Melville is a popular and well-known member of the Exercise, and was for a while secretary of the Warwick Guild. His future centre is to be Swindon, Wilts, where he is to serve in St. Paul's parish.

Kenneth Davis, although perhaps less well known, is very popular with all who know him, and he has done a lot to stir up interest round his home area at Blaydon, Somerset, as well as round Warminster. His future work will be in Bristol, where he is to serve in the parish of All Hallows, Easton.

Both were participants in the ten days' tour recently organised by the National Union of Tower Snatchers, and it is confidently anticipated that they will continue their interest in ringing, although probably in a somewhat more sedate manner.

It is felt that many ringers will probably like to remember them in their prayers, when, at this time, they are setting out on their great task.

R. DARVILL.

Southend.

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GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING UNDER WAR CONDITIONS.

The meeting of the Farnham District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild, held at Frensham on Saturday, proved to be a very successful and happy one, in spite of many misgivings on the part of the organisers about the effects the international situation might have on the function. The local ringers, who are very keen and enthusiastic supporters of the Guild, had made preparations to receive the visiting ringers, and the ringing commenced soon after 3 p.m., Bob Minor, Kent Treble Bob, Cambridge Surprise, Double Oxford and Grandsire, Stedman and Bob Doubles being run.

The Vicar of Frensham (the Rev. L. G. Allen) conducted the Guild's special form of service and gave an address. Mr. John Chuter, at the organ, deputised for Mr. T. A. Stroud and accompanied the hymns, 'In town and in village our church bells to-day' and 'The sacred bells of England.' The 150th Psalm and the Nunc Dimittis were chanted.

In his address the Vicar quoted a verse of one of Browning's poems, the last line of which runs, 'God's in His Heaven—all's right with the world.' How often, he said, we meet people bowed down with sorrow, boredom or passion and the sound of music and perhaps the sound of the church bells lifts them up. The bells are a counterpart of the make-up of our lives. Young people, playing in the fields or streets, hear the bells ringing, but are quite unconscious of their music, but many years afterwards some sound stirs their memory to recall those past days of their childhood when they heard the bells ringing.

VICAR'S ADVICE TO RINGERS.

Look at the uses men were making of metal to-day, he proceeded. Guns, lorries, shells—all so very unsatisfactory, and yet the use of metal for the making of bells was so different! And the ringers themselves. Did their work become merely mechanical—as St. Paul said 'clanging brass or a tinkling cymbal'? Ringers should not let their part of the church work become merely mechanical. Let them try to find a fresh thrill in ringing and in prayers. Let them endeavour to become a complete and happy unit in Christ's Church.

Tea had been prepared in the Marindin Institute by Mrs. Chandler and helpers and a company of 30 sat down to an excellent meal.

The business meeting followed, the Vicar being in the chair, supported by Mr. A. J. Chuter (churchwarden and local ringing captain) and the district secretary (Mr. C. W. Denyer). Three ringing members from Ash, the Misses L. Allden, B. Barnaby and M. Stovold, and Mr. F. Munday, of Basingstoke (compounding member) were elected.

The hon. secretary drew attention to the next meeting, which is to be held at Farnborough on Wednesday, October 11th. It is hoped all who can will support this meeting, because if it were not well attended, Wednesday gatherings would have to cease next year.

Mr. Chuter expressed appreciation for assistance given to Frensham by the Aldershot ringers, and, replying, Mr. C. W. Denyer said it was a pleasure to help, as the ringers at Frensham were so keen to progress. It was hoped to restart the practices again shortly, when black-out arrangements had been made in the ringing chamber.

Thanks were extended to the Vicar for permitting the use of the bells and for conducting the service; to Mr. John Chuter for coming at short notice to play the organ; to the caterers and local ringers.—The Vicar, in reply, said he was delighted to welcome the Guild to Frensham.

The tower bells and handbells were again rung in the evening, but an early finish had to be made owing to lighting restrictions. Nine towers were represented, viz., Aldershot, Ash, Seale, Farnham, Frensham, Basingstoke, Pirbright, Cranleigh and Yorktown.

AN INTERESTING CHURCH.

Frensham Church recently commemorated its 700th anniversary, and during its long life it has passed through many phases. The edifice of 1239 was a humble structure without a tower, and probably possessed but one bell, which was hung in a cot above the roof. The foundation of the present tower was laid in the early part of the 14th century and the church then consisted of nave and chancel. An aisle was added in 1827 and a thorough restoration was made in 1869, which left the building substantially as it is now.

At the time of Edward VI., when inventories were made of the goods and ornaments of all the churches in England, there were three bells and a saunce bell. Ellis Knight, of Reading, recast them and made them into a ring of four or five in the year 1627. Three of the bells, the present third, fourth and tenor, are still in the steeple. The present fifth dates from 1658, the second was cast by Robert Catlin in 1745 and the treble was added in 1897. Ellis Knight was the ancester of Samuel Knight, who moved his foundry to London, where he cast several famous peals of bells, including St. Saviour's, Southwark, St. Sepulchre's, Holborn, and St. Margaret's, Westminster. Robert Catlin was his foreman and successor.

A curio standing in the church is an ancient copper cauldron 8ft. 8in. in circumference. Little about it is known for certain, but probably it was used for warming beer at the 'church ales,' which used to be held in the churchyard.

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.

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GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—The meeting at Ottershaw that had been arranged for Sept. 23rd has been cancelled. If possible, a meeting will be arranged at a later date.—F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Sec., 39, Queen's Road, Thames Ditton.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Sonning Deanery Branch.—The practice, as arranged to be held on Saturday, Sept. 23rd, at Wargrave, will not take place.—W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec., Merrel, California, Wokingham.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol City Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at St. Philip's on Saturday, Sept. 23rd. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Please make an effort to attend, and a p.c. for for tea will oblige.—A. M. Tyler, 5, Addison Road, Bristol 3.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — A meeting will be held at Uttoxeter on Saturday, Sept. 23rd. Bells (8) available from 3.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Blackburn Cathedral on Saturday, Sept. 23rd. Bells available from 3 p.m., meeting at 5.30 p.m. Business important.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec.

MARCHINGTON, NR. UTTOXETER, STAFFS. — The dedication of the ring of four bells, restored and augmented to six by John Taylor and Co., previously arranged for Tuesday next, September 26th, has been temporarily postponed.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. —Tower bell practices are suspended until further notice. A meeting will be held at headquarters on Tuesday, September 26th, at 7.30 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—The meeting arranged for Ewhurst on Sept. 30th has been cancelled. It is hoped to arrange a meeting at a more accessible tower early in October.—W. F. J. Cope, Hon. Sec.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Wisbech Branch.—Owing to war conditions, the meeting at Walpole St. Peter on Sept. 30th, is cancelled. — W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Alton and Petersfield District.—The quarterly meeting to have been held on Saturday, Sept. 30th, at Froyle, is cancelled.—C. E. Bassett, Hon. Dis. Sec., 32, Charles Street, Petersfield.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The joint meeting of the Western Division and the Leeds and District Society, arranged to be held at Shipley on Sept. 30th, has now been postponed until further notice.—F. Rayment, Dis. Sec., Bramley.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch. —The half-yearly meeting, which should have been held at Barton-on-Humber on Sept. 30th, has been postponed. —J. Bray, Hon. Sec.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting, which should be held on Sept. 30th, is postponed.—R. Park, Hon. Sec., 23, Oaklands Terrace, Darlington.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting at Blackpool, on Saturday, Sept. 30th. Arrangements:— 10 a.m. to 12 noon, Sacred Heart R.C., Talbot Road (8 bells); 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., All Hallows, Bispham (8) and St. Anne's Parish Church (8); 1.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m., Holy Trinity, South Shore (6); 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., St. John, Blackpool (8); 4 p.m., Service at St. John's; 5 p.m., tea in St. John's Schools, 1s. 6d. each. Names to be sent to Mr. C. Sharples, 35, Berwick Road, Blackpool, S.S., not later than Wednesday, Sept. 27th. 6 p.m., meeting in the same school.—W. H. Shuker and T. Wilson, Hon. Secretaries.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Piddington on Saturday, Sept. 30th. Usual arrangements. Names for tea to me, please, by Sept. 26th. This is important for catering.—J. C. Dean, Hon. Sec., 4, Court Road, Northampton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting is at Kirkby Mallory on Saturday, Sept. 30th. Ringing from 3.30 p.m. until dark. The usual short service will be held, but please note, *no tea*. It is hoped that as many towers as possible will be represented to discuss future arrangements. Sharnford bells also available on Oct. 21st until sunset. —W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec., Fosseway, Croft, Leicester.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Brewood, on Saturday, September 30th. Bells from 2 p.m. Service at 4.45, with address by the Rev. C. Broughton Thompson, Vicar. Tea (1s.) at 5.30. Reports ready. Bus leaves Queen Square, Wolverhampton, at 1 and 3. Please send word not later than Tuesday, 26th inst.— H. Knight, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

WOLLASTON, NR. STOURBRIDGE, WORCESTER.—The ring of six bells, tuned and rehung by John Taylor and Co., will be rededicated by the Bishop of Worcester on Sunday, Oct. 1st, at 6.30 p.m.

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BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly general meeting due to be held at Dunster on October 7th is abandoned. It is hoped to arrange a quarterly meeting at Blackwell on January 6th, and the annual meeting at Taunton on Easter Monday, April 25th. Branches are urged to carry on with their meetings if at all possible. It is suggested that meetings be held at centres which involve the least amount of travelling.—W. M. K. Warren, Master; J. T. Dyke, Hon. Sec.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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ON THE HOME FRONT.

If the ringing Exercise is to survive these difficult days, all who are left in the belfries must pull their weight. They should, more than ever, show their loyalty to the Church and their love of the art by making some personal sacrifice, if need be, to carry on the work. There will be plenty of opportunities for making excuses for stopping away from the belfry when the bells ought to be rung, but if the spirit of service—which should now be uppermost in men's minds and which must prevail if the country is to come successfully out of this ordeal—is applied to ringing, then ringers will be found providing reasons for keeping the bells going rather than excuses for letting them remain silent. The days before us will be a testing time in almost everything; let ringers see to it that, in keeping alive their own particular art, they do not fail in the test. To abandon ringing entirely would be to adopt a defeatist attitude. We know that national claims must be put first, but there is need, also, for carrying on, as far as is possible, the normal life of the nation. Therefore, we say again that, while official sanction for the ringing of church bells remains, there is no reason why the bells should not be rung for the Sunday services.

There are, however, other ways in which those who remain on the home front should strive to serve the art. The personnel in most towers will be sadly depleted by the withdrawal of men for the fighting forces; those who are left should make it their duty to train as many new hands as they can get. Ways and means can easily be devised for giving instruction without any breach of the lighting restrictions, and it is not unlikely that, in many places, there are those who, in the coming long evenings, will be glad of some new interest, now that other forms of entertainment are curtailed. Then, too, there will be room for interchange of visits between neighbouring towers. One of the obstacles to meetings at present is the difficulty of getting home afterwards, and another is that those who would otherwise attend at comparatively distant places, will be prevented by the restrictions on petrol consumption. Meetings for large areas are, therefore, somewhat out of the question, at any rate, during winter months, but neighbouring towers might well organise themselves on lines which would not only enable them to exchange visits, but give each other mutual help.

Then there is another and an equally important way in which the ringers, who are left behind can help to maintain the art, so that, when happier days come, it can rapidly recover and once more flourish. They can con-

(Continued on page 606.)

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tinue to support 'The Ringing World.' More than ever, in days when the art is seriously threatened as it is now, the preservation of a journal to serve its interests is a necessity. Without it the prospects of the art would be parlous indeed, and revival later on an almost impossible task. Through these days of uncertainty 'The Ringing World' is striving to 'carry on,' as it has urged ringers to do. It is admittedly difficult, for never before, not even in 1914, has such a sudden slump in ringing news been experienced, as in the past month. 'The Ringing World,' however, has continued to fill its pages with matter both interesting and instructive and, with the valued aid of our friends, we hope to continue to do so. But, while we do our part, we feel we have a right to ask ringers to do theirs; to ask for their continued support and their help to increase the sale, in order to counteract the inevitable losses in circulation, which must occur among those who are taken from the belfries to the sterner tasks of war. And there is another way in which they can help and at the same time add to the interest of this journal. They can send us promptly any little items of news concerning ringing and ringers that may come their way. In this direction they can promote the prosperity of the Exercise at a period of great difficulty, and widen the interest among our readers throughout the country.

WAR TIME RINGING.

Ringers are beginning to find ways of resuming their activities, and doubtless, as we grow more accustomed to war-time conditions, there will be a limited revival of activity in many places. Even in what are termed vulnerable areas steps are being taken to get the bells ringing again. At Northfleet, for instance, satisfactory arrangements have been made for Sunday service ringing. To guard against air raid warning risks, a man is kept posted outside the tower so that, if an alarm is given, the bells can be immediately stopped. This is an excellent means of getting over the risk of the bells drowning the notes of the sirens and might be adopted at other places.

Another idea which should commend itself is that of holding practices on Saturday afternoons. Practices are the things which, in ringing, are likely to suffer as badly as any, but where it is possible to meet for this purpose on Saturday, before darkness sets in, good use can be made of the bells. At Darley Dale in Derbyshire this plan has already been adopted.

There is no reason to imagine that the ringing of bells, in itself, is likely to cause alarm, as has been suggested in one quarter, but such a risk could easily be got over if it were made known that the bells were going to be rung on some specified day and at a certain hour. There seem to be a few country parishes where the jangling of the bells is to be the air raid warning; but actual ringing could not be confused with this and, in any case, as long as arrangements are made to give immediate notification to the ringers, the ringing could be quickly turned into a jangle. Most of us know how quickly.

We shall be glad if bands will send us a postcard to say what arrangements they are making for Sunday service ringing. In these days when so many ringers are away from their own homes and belfries they will be glad to know where they can get the chance of a pull,

(Continued in next column.)

WITH PENCIL AND PAPER.

SOMETHING MORE ABOUT COURSING ORDER.

Last week we were talking about Coursing Order. We pointed out that Coursing Order is the order in which bells follow one another when all are hunting and that there cannot be any Coursing Order unless all the bells are hunting, but we must understand what we mean by 'all.' Usually, of course, it means all the bells (treble and working) concerned in the method, but in cases it may mean all the working bells or all the working bells concerned in a particular piece of work. In these cases, especially the last, the restriction should be specified. But study the figures given alongside which are the hand and back rows of the lead ends of Bob Major. You will see that the seven bells perform a perfect hunting course and that therefore they keep (for the fourteen rows) the same Coursing Order unbroken.

12345678
13254768
13527486
15372846
15738264
17583624
17856342
18765432
18674523
16847253
16482735
14628375
14263857
12436587

We can now clear up another point about which many ringers are very hazy. A Hunt is a bell which performs a cyclical path through the Coursing Order of the other bells in the same way that the treble does in Bob Major. A Hunt is not necessarily a bell which has a regular fixed and comparatively simple work like a plain hunting or treble hunting treble, though generally bells which have unbroken plain or treble hunting are acting as Hunts.

Two bells which are next each other in Coursing Order can act together as if they were one hunt.

The commonest example of this is the plain course of Grandsire. Write out a full course of Grandsire Triples and study the effect on the Coursing Order as we did just now in the case of Bob Major. Here are the rows which form the lead heads and lead ends and again you will see that the working bells will perform a complete hunting course among themselves.

1234567
2135476
1253746
2157364
1275634
2176543
1267453
2164735
1246375
2143657
1234567

One fact must be noted. In the cyclical path of the Hunt through the Coursing Order of the other bells it can change position (in Coursing Order) only with the bell which is coursing next to it.

Before we go on to consider what Coursing Order means in the more complex methods it will be well to point out its value in practical ringing in the tower, first to the ordinary ringer and then to the conductor.

First of all, take the case of the learner who is just beginning to hunt the treble in Bob Major or Minor. It will be an immense help to him if he realises that throughout the plain course he will always meet the other bells in the definite order—2, 4, 6, 8, 7, 5, 3, and that whether he is hunting up or down this order is never varied, except that as he goes down to lead and as he goes up from the lead he strikes over the same bell.

We do not suggest that a beginner should be taught to ring by learning to strike over the other bells in this order, but if, in addition to learning by the other rules, he knows that this order exists and why it exists he will have his difficulties much lessened.

When he gets away from the treble and begins to ring a working bell it will be better for him not at first to bother about the Coursing Order of all the bells, but to take particular notice of the one which is hunting just in front of him and the one which is hunting just behind him. These two bells are called his Course Bell and his After Bell.

Turn to your full course of Bob Major and see how the second works throughout between the third and the fourth, always turning the former from the lead and from behind, and always being turned by the latter, except when the treble intervenes. Not only do two Coursing bells follow each other throughout a course, but they continue to follow each other throughout a touch until one of them makes Fourth's place at a bob.

As soon as the beginner becomes more proficient he will be able to pick up and use the Coursing Order of all the bells. In Bob Major this is not very difficult. What you must remember is that throughout the ringing, from the time one bob is called until the next, the Coursing Order is always the same, save for the varying position of the treble in each successive lead, and the order in which you meet the bells, whether you are going from front to back, or back to front, will give you the Coursing Order from the time a bob or single is called until the next bob or single is called.

Actually there are seven working bells, but the seventh is almost invariably after the tenor and as you are ringing one bell yourself you really have no more than five bells to look after. Take your pencil and paper and by pricking and experimenting with bobs and singles see for yourself how these things work out.

Now don't go and say that it is only Bob Major and that you are not interested in Bob Major—you aim at higher things. What you learn in Bob Major will be of any amount of use to you when you come to more complex methods. The reason why you should study Bob Major is that there you can see most easily why these things must and do happen.

(Continued from previous column.)

while most bands will welcome the presence of any visiting ringer. By publishing a list of arrangements 'The Ringing World' may be able to do a lot towards keeping things going.

DEATH OF HALESOWEN BELLRINGER.

The band at Halesowen has sustained a loss by the death of Mr. W. Coley, which took place suddenly on September 19th last. Mr. Coley, who was 65 years of age, had been a ringer for 49 years. At his funeral on September 23rd six of the oldest members of the band acted as bearers and afterwards a half-muffled quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung by W. Brown 1, T. Greenhall 2, V. White 3, A. Greenhall 4, A. H. Harris 5, J. H. Cox 6, W. H. Webb (conductor) 7, W. M. Lloyd 8.

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THE BRISTOL UNITED GUILDS' TOUR.

(Continued from page 597.)

CONCLUDING DAYS.

SOMERSET AGAIN.

Friday—and another tour in Somerset. Some of the enthusiasts, however, rose early to try the bells at St. Michael's Parish Church before setting out on their travels. The first stop was Nailsea, where we rang on the six bells at Holy Trinity. Here cameras got busy to secure for posterity a sublime performance by the ardent duettists on the tin whistles. It is significant that at least one camera was found to be out of action! Winscombe was reached soon after midday, and the Church of St. James, occupying a commanding position on rising ground, boasts a lofty and richly decorated tower, which contains a fine peal of eight bells, with tenor 19¾ cwt. The ringers spent so long here that they nearly forgot that such a mundane matter as dinner was waiting to be discussed in the town below, and were duly reprimanded by the C. in C. Later a run of four miles brought us to Weare, where we made good use of the nice ring of six, and appreciated the kind thoughtfulness of the local ringer who had left a good supply of apples and plums in the belfry with the chalked inscription 'Help yourselves.' Another short run brought us to Wedmore, where 'Freddy' had an argument with a bus driver as to the amount of space needed to enable the two vehicles to pass; the argument ended in our coach being 'ditched,' but so gently did it happen that very few were aware of the fact. We all escaped via the emergency exit, and Freddy having successfully arranged that this little diversion should take place outside a garage, the good old coach was soon on terra firma once more, none the worse for its adventure. But was Freddy angry?

The Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Wedmore, stands high above the surrounding houses and dominates the village. The present church belongs to the 15th and 16th centuries, but there are parts of an earlier church. Above the pulpit, which is a fine example of early Jacobean work, an ancient mural painting of St. Christopher is to be seen, the lower part of the painting consisting of ships, mermaids and fishes. A brass tablet on the wall commemorates the 1,000th anniversary of the death of King Alfred the Great, who made the famous Treaty of Wedmore with the Danes in 878 A.D. The tower contains a fine peal of eight, tenor 30 cwt., and the ringing here was enjoyed by all. Leaving Wedmore behind, we soon reached Wookey Hole, and found that the chief interest in these caves was the subterranean River Axe, which here escapes from its underground prison into an enchanting wooded valley through a cleft in the cliff walls, after flowing through three great caverns. These caves were inhabited by a tribe from Brittany from 250 B.C. to 400 A.D., and relics have been found by means of which their whole life story may be reconstructed. Relics have even been found confirming the truth of some of the legends of the Witch of Wookey, evidently a real person who lived in the time of King Arthur. We contemplated with wonder the work of the river in carving out the numerous caverns, and noted with interest the green vegetation growing where the artificial light shone upon the rocks, but the river is devoid of life in its underground state. For a few moments we stood in utter darkness, and listened to the eerie dripping of water into the river—then out into the warm sunshine once more, into the valley which is said to be one of the loveliest in England, with its densely growing trees, trails of ivy and its river banks draped with ferns.

After partaking of an enjoyable tea, we were soon on the road again, and a run through Wells and Chilcompton brought us in the evening to Norton St. Philip, where the church, containing a peal of six bells, is situated in charming surroundings. After ringing, some of the party went to inspect the George Inn, for which the village is noted; it is supposed to be England's oldest inn, as it was licensed as an ale-house in 1397. Here the Duke of Monmouth stayed the night before the Battle of Sedgemoor, and here, too, Judge Jeffreys held sway. This proved to be our last call for the day, for Twerton-on-Avon had to be abandoned, owing to the lateness of the hour, as the members of the B.U.R.G. had invited the tourists to a social evening. Incidentally we sincerely hope that the B.U.R.G. is not bankrupt after having to face the heavy bill presented the next day by those who waited in vain at Twerton for the party to arrive!

GIFT TO THE B.U.R.G.

On arriving in Bristol, the coach deposited us at the Montague Hotel, the temporary home of some of the party, and the festivities began in the presence of a crowded house. Jokes and fun flew thick and fast, interspersed with songs, recitations and humorous anecdotes by various performers. During the proceedings Mr. J. Swinfield presented to the chairman a packet containing a sum of money subscribed by the tourists as a slight appreciation of the work undertaken by the committee of the B.U.R.G. in arranging the delightful tours. This was suitably acknowledged by the chairman, and it is hoped that the money will be used to purchase something for the use of the Guild. A duet by the 'whistlers' was announced, but evidently the modest pair were overcome by shyness, for the performance did not materialise! The party dispersed about 11 p.m., as the longest journey of the week was to take place next day.

Somerset and Dorset were the happy hunting grounds on Saturday. Passing again through Wells and Glastonbury, we reached Street, where a Roman causeway was once situated. Ringing took place on the eight bells at the Parish Church, after which some 'family groups' were taken. Why, we wondered, did one distinguished member of the party disappear head-first over the wall with such startling rapidity during the preparation for the groups? Did he decide that his feet presented a more pleasing aspect than his face? Mr. and Mrs. J. Thomas met us here and spent most of the day with the party.

The journey to Yeovil was accomplished in comparative quietness; the member of the party who had previously distinguished himself for his liveliness was so noticeably quiet that one speculated whether he was feeling the after effects of the social, but it soon transpired that he had, the previous day, received a message conferring upon him the honour of 'grandfatherhood,' so we came to the conclusion that the thought of his responsibilities had somewhat sobered him!

Yeovil was reached soon after noon, and the party at once visited St. John's Church, where the fine ring of ten, tenor 40 cwt., was enjoyed to the full. This fine church is said to be one of the most impressive in Somerset, and has been given the title of 'The Lantern of the West.' Dinner was disposed of at the Cottage Cafe, and the journey was resumed via Crewkerne and Mosterton to Beaminster, set attractively amidst the 'swelling downs.' The fine tower here is decorated with carvings representing the chief events in the life of our Lord, and contains a fine peal of eight bells, tenor 26 cwt., known as Bilbie's masterpiece. This is a maiden peal, which was cast in the field adjoining the churchyard, owing to the difficulty of transport in those days. Since this was a 'maiden peal,' the ladies decided to see what they could do about it, and eight of them rang a course of Grandsire Triples. A few minutes' run brought us afterwards to Bradpole, where we found a light eight, tenor 13 cwt., and also experienced the first rain of the week, combined with a thunderstorm. The church contains a memorial of the flight of Charles II. through this village.

The next stop was Bridport, nestling in the valley among the hills, nearly two miles from the sea, yet boasting a small harbour of its own, known as West Bay. The Church of St. Mary is built in the Perpendicular style, and possesses a musical peal of eight, tenor 21¾ cwt., on which the visitors enjoyed numerous touches. Passing on through Upwey, noted for its Wishing Well, we reached Weymouth in time for tea, and enjoyed a stroll along the front in brilliant sunshine, the charming bay looking at its best. On leaving Weymouth, we traversed what must be one of the prettiest roads in England. Speeding past Dorchester with its Roman amphitheatre, and Charminster, we passed on through Cerne Abbas, and noted the famous 'Giant' carved in outline upon the hillside, and probably dating from prehistoric times, and so reached our last tower of the tour—one eagerly awaited by some of us—that of Sherborne Abbey.

THE RECORD HOLDERS.

Sherborne, a picturesque little town, standing on the northern slope of the Valley of Yeo, probably owes its chief interest to its glorious Abbey Church. The wonderful reredos, the beautiful fan tracery of the roof and the magnificent proportions of the nave were all deserving of note, and time was all too short to do full justice to them. The grand peal of eight, with its fine tenor of 46 cwt., was soon claiming the attention of the ringers in the party, and it was amusing to note the queue behind the tenor box, as the 'heavy enders' awaited their turn to try their strength. At last all were satisfied, and as the mighty bells were lowered in peal it was interesting to climb aloft into the bell chamber and watch them swinging leisurely to and fro—noisy perhaps, but then they were almost as noisy in the ringing chamber. A final raid was made on the postcard shop, and then the return journey was commenced in gathering darkness. A halt was called at Castle Cary for refreshments, and here the party made the acquaintance of the mysterious 'Skinny Lizzy,' who had been much talked of during the day. (Is she a relative of Kate, I wonder?) Cheerful changes on the handbells, thoughtfully provided by one of the Bristol members, entertained the party for awhile, and much amusement was caused when Freddy solemnly and effectively silenced some talkative onlookers, who had been attracted by the sound of the bells. Once more we climbed aboard, and after a good run reached Bristol shortly before midnight, having covered a distance of approximately 160 miles during the day and about 880 miles during the week. Some 43 towers had been rung in and numerous methods were included in the repertory during the tour, including London, Bristol and Cambridge. One or two records were also made, e.g.:—

1. Mr. Stitch held the record for being the first in the belfry at each church.

2. Mr. Shuker held the record for buying the first postcard at each stop.

3. We believe, though we are not quite sure, that Mr. Harris held the record for buying the greatest number of ice-creams during the week—but not always for his own consumption.

And so the final good-byes were said, and we parted, hoping to meet again on a similar occasion, and feeling very grateful to the B.U.R.G. for giving us the opportunity of spending such an enjoyable week, for providing such excellent weather, and for their personal interest in accompanying us on several of our journeys.

RINGING IN TWELVE-BELL TOWERS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Your recent article on ringing in twelve-bell towers has led me to look back over 'The Ringing World' and examine the peal records for the last complete year, 1938. You said that in the large majority of cases the twelve bells are rung only on exceptional occasions and that in not a few there is practically no ringing at all. As far as the peal records can hear this out, this is most certainly true.

In the Central Council's analysis of peals for 1938, sixty-eight twelve-bell peals on tower bells are tabulated. I find that these peals were rung in 28 towers, exactly half of the twelve-bell towers in England. But the more astonishing thing is that in only a very small proportion (Ipswich being the most outstanding example) have local ringers comprised one half of the bands who have taken part in the peals. Nearly always the majority of the ringers have been visitors. That, in itself, would be something to be commended, as showing a spirit of unselfishness among the local ringers, if it were evidence that there were local ringers sufficiently capable and interested to take part in the peals, but I am driven to the conclusion this is not the reason why twelve-bell peal ringing, in the main, is left to visiting enthusiasts.

It may be that the number of towers in which a twelve-bell peal was rung in 1938 was as good a proportion as those with lesser numbers of bells in which peals were rung—I have no means of checking that—but what has struck me most in examining the records is the very small percentage of local men who have taken part in these peals. It goes to emphasise your statement that twelve-bell ringing has not increased at the same pace as the new rings of twelve.

With a few exceptions, it appears that twelve-bell peal ringing is left to the comparatively few enthusiasts who make a hobby of visiting twelve-bell towers wherever they can, and those others who are able to get the use of a twelve-bell tower for occasional peals, such, for example, as Southwark or Bow, in London, although the ringers are in no sense members of the local band.

It is, of course, most desirable that these rings of bells should be kept open for peal ringing, and if there are no local men to ring them, then the visits of outsiders are a help to that end, but it is certainly strange to me that even where there are ringers at twelve-bell towers so few of them are sufficiently interested in peal ringing. It points to the fact that not only have they no interest in twelve-bell peals, but also only a very small interest in their twelve bells at all. I know of one cathedral twelve where, just before the war broke out, they had difficulty in finding enough ringers to ring eight for service

(Continued in next column.)

THE B.B.C. INTERVAL SIGNAL.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Without wishing to find fault with the efforts of the ringers who made the present record used, I should like to suggest that those same ringers or one of our 'youthful' London Societies should take in hand the making of a new record for the B.B.C. interval signal. I think I am right in saying that the record which is now used was not made specially for the purpose. And, therefore, good as it is, it might be improved on.

The new record, I would suggest, should aim at getting rid of the monotony of always having the trebles at lead, and the 'finality' (which is never final) of having the tenor behind all the time.

A well-struck plain course or short touch of Double Norwich on the back eight at Bow would, to my mind, fill all the requirements, and at the same time would be more appreciated the world over than the present call changes. In addition, one wouldn't hear so often from the uninitiated such remarks as 'Those —— bells will drive me scatty one of these days!'

What does the rest of the Exercise feel about this?

A. TROTMAN.

Longbredy, Dorset.

(Continued from previous column.)

on Sundays, and I am quite sure this has been the case in many places.

It is always a great pity when the bells at any church cannot all be rung for the services; it is a greater pity, when twelve bells are installed, that they should hang neglected—as a ring of twelve—in the tower. It is very nice for associations to have rings of twelve in their area on which members can practise, but surely they have a responsibility as well, and that is to see that the local band is encouraged to maintain itself in sufficient numbers to ring the twelve bells on Sundays.

M. C. WHITE.

John Taylor & Co.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Herr Hitler not only upset Messrs. T. Coles' and J. Bennett's 1,000th peal, but Ernest Morris' 800th, which he had hoped to ring on the same occasion. This was arranged to be at Lincoln Cathedral and Mr. Morris was hoping to get one more peal in between, having now rung 798.

Mr. Ernest Morris rang his first peal while on a visit to Grimsby in 1906 and that was for the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, and it would have been very appropriate to have rung his 800th for the same Guild—but—oh Hitler! haven't you something to answer for?

Mr. Albert F. Sargent, who has been largely responsible for the introduction of ringing among the students at Kelham Theological College, was ordained on Sunday and has taken up work at Willenhall, Staffs, where he is attached to St. Giles' Church.

Mr. Frank E. Haynes, whose scholastic duties have taken him from Birmingham to Shropshire, has consequently resigned the ringing mastership at St. Martin's, Birmingham.

Among the very few ringers who have called peals on all numbers of bells from five to twelve is Mr. Jack Bray, of Burton-on-Stather. His record is the more remarkable because he has called them from handbells

One hundred and seventy years ago to-day William Shipway was born at Bath. He learned to ring on the Abbey bells of that city, but the band not making sufficiently rapid progress to satisfy him as he tells us, he moved to London where he joined first the Junior Society of Cumberland Youths and later the Senior Society. His best claim to fame is his 'Campanalogie,' a comprehensive text book on ringing, which was published between 1816 and 1820.

On September 25th, 1845, the College Youths rang 6,701 changes of Stedman Caters at St. James', Bermondsey. It was composed and conducted by John Cox and contained the 60 tittum course ends with the treble fixed in second's place.

NATIONAL SERVICE AND AFTER.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It was with great pleasure that I read the announcement in 'The Ringing World' of September 22nd that the Central Council were proposing to compile a record of all ringers serving their country in its hour of need. I well remember the lists that appeared in the columns of 'The Ringing World' during 1914-1918 one of which included the writer's name. It is to be earnestly hoped that these loyal members of the Exercise will not be cast aside and forgotten should they need assistance.

Far too often it seems out of sight out of mind. I would also like to express my warmest thanks and deep gratitude to the many friends who have written me some very delightful letters and have also so ably assisted me personally. I can assure one and all such assistance is greatly appreciated. There are still some, however, who pass by on the other side. To these passers-by I would commend the injunction, 'Do ye unto them as ye would they should do unto you.'

Ward 1, Severalls, Colchester. W. KEEBLE.

PORTISHEAD LADY RINGER'S WEDDING.

The marriage took place on September 21st at the Parish Church, Portishead, of Miss Violet M. Hyman and Gunner Robert G. Welsh. The Rev. P. W. R. Rowlands (Rector) officiated and Mrs. Windibank (organist) was at the organ.

The bride has been a member of the Portishead band for the past twelve years and is a member of the Ladies' Guild and the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association. She has been one of the most regular service ringers, and fortunately for the band she will continue living in Portishead. The ringers who were at liberty attended the service and rang as the bride and bridegroom left the church.

The 'Western Daily Press and Bristol Mirror' described the ringing as 'a special peal,' and it surely was. Of the six who arrived in the belfry, one, a beginner, was unable to 'rise to the occasion,' so five bells were raised in peal and fired. 'Jarge,' who was picking apples in his Zummerzet orchard, quickly descended the ladder and ascended the tower steps, enabling six bells to be rung. Then one of the auxiliary firemen turned up, and eventually the eight bells were swinging.

Those present and those on war service united in good wishes and a speedy return of the bridegroom.

BIRMINGHAM RINGER MARRIED.

The marriage of a well-known Birmingham ringer, Mr. George E. Fearn, of King's Norton, Ringing Master at Birmingham Cathedral, to Miss Doris May Bowen, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. Bowen, of Small Heath, took place at St. Benedict's Church, Small Heath, on Saturday, September 23rd. The Vicar (the Rev. N. S. S. Boyle) officiated, and Mr. Henry H. Fearn was best man.

There was a goodly assembly of friends in the church and afterwards at the reception, held at Messrs. Kunszler's Restaurant in the City.

Touches in honour of the event were rung on the ten bells at the Cathedral by members of St. Martin's Guild, who take this opportunity to extend very hearty good wishes to the bride and bridegroom for their future happiness and prosperity and to thank them for their kind hospitality after the ringing.

CHURCH BELLS IN WAR TIME.

IN A VULNERABLE AREA.

NORTHFLEET'S ARRANGEMENTS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—As captain of the local band at Northfleet, Kent, I visited the local police, who said that ringing could go on as usual. On consulting the Vicar, we came to an arrangement that we should ring on Sunday morning 10.30-11.0 and Sunday afternoons 3.30-4.0. No touch was to be longer than five minutes. A ringer is always kept outside the tower, so that if the air raid warning should go the bells could be set up in about five seconds. I would suggest that other bands could do the same, as, with the bells promptly set, they would not interfere with the warning. If the ringing chamber is high up in the tower a practical member of the band could, perhaps, fix up a bell or something of the like. I would point out that Northfleet is regarded as a vulnerable area. Any ringer passing by at the times mentioned would always be welcomed.

Northfleet, Kent. G. J. BUTCHER.

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS' ANNIVERSARY.

It has reluctantly been decided not to hold the College Youths' Annual Dinner this year, but to mark the anniversary of the foundation of the Society by a luncheon to be held in the City on November 4th. Country members who are able to attend will be gladly welcomed and they should communicate with the Hon. Sec., Mr. A. B. Peck, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate. Further details will be announced later.

RECORD OF NATIONAL SERVICE.

CENTRAL COUNCIL'S RECORD.

It is proposed by the Central Council to compile a record of those serving their country, both in His Majesty's Forces and civilian organisations.

Will all those serving, men and women, kindly forward the information, including name, home address and particulars of service, to the hon. secretary, Mr. G. W. Fletcher, 45, Walsingham Road, Enfield, Middlesex.

SUNDAY RINGING IN BIRMINGHAM.

To the Editor.

Sir,—We have decided to hold the quarterly meeting of St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham, but not as originally arranged at King's Norton. By pooling our resources we are endeavouring to keep ringing going at St. Martin's and the Cathedral for Sunday services. With this object in view we are holding the quarterly meeting at St. Martin's.

THOMAS H. REEVES,
Hon. Sec.

A SATURDAY PRACTICE.

At Darley Dale, Derbyshire, weekly practices are to be held on Saturday afternoons, whenever possible. Last Saturday a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples was rung: Ernest Paulson 1, Robert Allsop 2, George H. Paulson 3, Hugh W. Gregory 4, Bernard Allsop 5, Ronald Allsop 6, Herbert E. Taylor 7, Arthur Watts 8.

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ASSOCIATION MEETINGS.

To-morrow meetings are to be held as follows:—

Lancashire Association, annual meeting at Blackpool.

Archdeaconry of Stafford Society, quarterly meeting at Brewood.

Midland Counties Association, Hinckley District meeting at Kirkby Mallory.

Peterborough Diocesan Guild, Northampton Branch meeting at Piddlington.

MEETINGS CANCELLED OR POSTPONED.

Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association annual meeting.

Lincoln Diocesan Guild, Northern Branch half-yearly meeting at Barton-on-Humber.

Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild, Alton and Petersfield District meeting at Froyle.

Doncaster and District Society meeting at Sprotborough.

Yorkshire Association and Leeds and District Society joint meeting at Shipley.

HANDBELLS.

DIFFICULTIES OF TEACHING DOUBLE-HANDED RINGING.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Following the suggestion that, as ringing on tower bells is restricted, we should keep the art going by practice on handbells, I would like to suggest that an article or series of articles on double-handed change ringing would be appreciated by a large number of ringers. I would suggest an article, suitable for men who can ring Treble Bob, Bob Major and Grandsire on tower bells, upon how to ring these methods double-handed, would be very valuable. I have asked many ringers how they ring double-handed, and each has a different complicated way, not suitable for teaching the average ringer.

I have visited many towns, and when asked to take part in a double-handed touch I have had to decline; then I have seen these men ring a splendid touch double-handed, yet when ringing the same method on tower bells they have had to be practically carried right through the touch.

I have been trying to teach double-handed ringing to our band, but I find my way of ringing double-handed does not seem to be easily grasped by them, and also when ringing 5-6 in Grandsire Triples I find it is a big job to keep another pair straight, even in a plain course. Thus an article, or series of articles like 'Instruction for Beginners,' which was so much appreciated, would, I feel sure, be very helpful to those who would like to take up double-handed handbell ringing now that practice on tower bells is restricted.

SAM JONES.

Chester.

WAR TIME HANDBELL COMPANIES SUGGESTED.

Sir,—At this time of curtailment in church bellringing, may I humbly suggest that all bellringers everywhere seriously consider a duty to the art in an activity that at present has no curtailment.

Handbells could be the means not only of keeping a favourite duty and pastime alive, but also of continuing in the most interesting way possible where so many were forced to leave off.

As has already been strongly 'leadered' by you, church bellringing must be carried on for divine services at least. But there must be many hours during the long 'black-out' evenings when one can do little else but sit and read, or just think. Why not start seriously in various centres a war-time company of handbell ringers? Scattered everywhere, some old and some, fortunately, young men have the necessary capabilities to enthuse our more ignorant brothers and sisters in this most fascinating of hobbies.

One cannot say where such a scheme might lead us as an Exercise. Certainly I do not think it would do the Exercise harm to have such an organisation. I must plead a fair amount of ignorance in this direction, but at the same time I would not, with pardonable pride, fail my teacher if it became necessary to prove my worth with two handbells in a company of similar ringers.

There are probably many obstacles to such a plan. The chief one seems to be the loss of youth, who are constantly being called to the Colours. But surely this need not daunt our older stalwarts who have the experience and the steady British mind of overcoming difficulties for something they love. Nothing good and lasting can ever be done in a hurry, experience has taught all thinking men that lesson, but let us not forget that delay only means a loss of enthusiasm which leads to neglect and disinterest. With stimulating interest in 'The Ringing World,' the art would regain, in a new sense, that which seems likely to deteriorate should a long war prevail.

RICHARD V. FULLER (R.A.S.C. Volunteer Reserve).

Reading.

CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

ST. DIONIS' BACKCHURCH AND ALL HALLOWS, LOMBARD STREET.

By J. Armiger Trollope.

The tower of All Hallows' Church, Lombard Street, which has just been pulled down, contained a ring of ten bells. What is to become of them seems at present undecided, for they are not to go to the new church of All Hallows', Twickenham, which is being built to contain the fittings from the demolished building.

This is not the first time that these bells have had to find a new home, for they hung at first in the steeple of St. Dionis' Backchurch, which was pulled down in 1878.

St. Dionis' Backchurch stood in Fenchurch Street at the corner of Lime Street and separated from the former by a row of houses whence it got its name. It was rebuilt in the reign of Henry VI. and in Stow's time (late sixteenth century) it was a 'fair church.'

The inventory taken in 'The yere of oure lorde god 1552' gives 'I owlde bell clapper. Item V belles in ye stepvel and j saunce bell and I payre of great orgens. Item, sowlde ij sanctus bells, iiijs. Item pd. for j great bell rope of 47 li to take ye beame downe.'

Burnt in the fire of 1666, the church was re-erected from the designs of Sir Christopher Wren between 1672 and 1677, the steeple being added ten years later. It would seem that, in the meanwhile, the old tower was still standing, for one of the first things done was to replace some of the bells. In 1674 £50 5s. 10d. was paid to James Bartlet, the founder, and £10 to Mr. Allen, a bell hanger. Robert Williams gave £25 for a treble bell.

In 1686 there was a ring of six bells cast by Bartlet and hung by Joseph Gadsden, the cost of which was defrayed by voluntary subscription from Sir Robert Jeffrey, some time Lord Mayor, Captain Samuel Hankey and other parishioners, the parish property in Lime Street being also mortgaged by the rector and churchwardens by order of the Vestry.

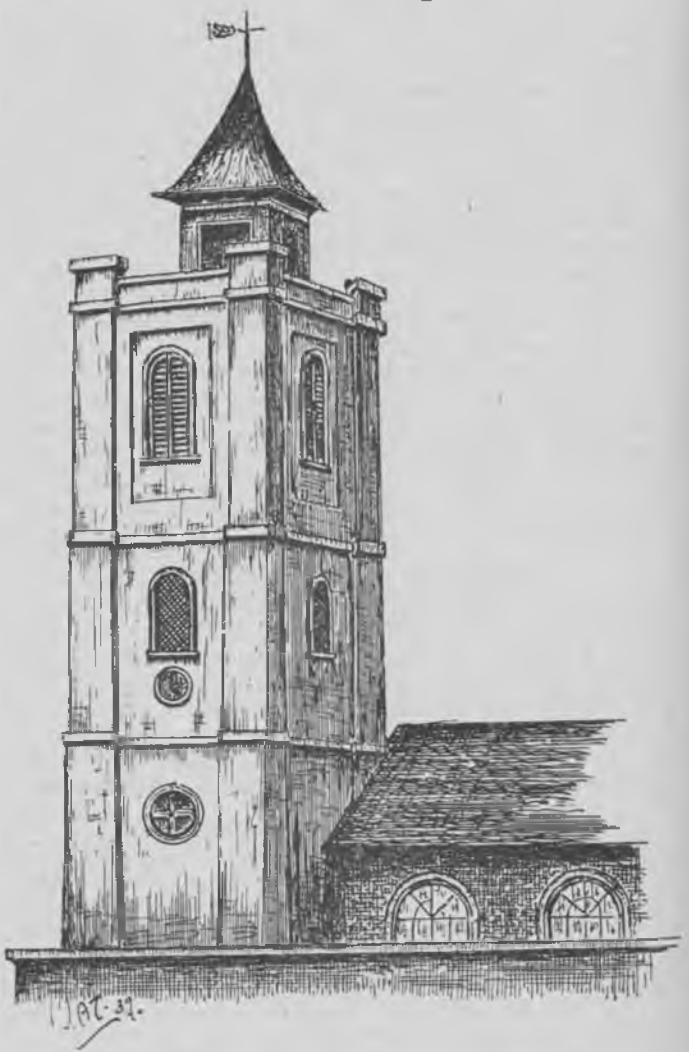
Another benefactor to the church was Sir Henry Tulse, who gave a marble font and pavement and steps leading up to it. Tulse was alderman, Lord Mayor in 1683, and Master of the College of Youths in 1684. He died in 1689 and on September 12th was buried in his own vault in the north chancel, where also four years later his widow was laid.

When the church was pulled down the stone which covered the vault was removed to the courtyard, which marks the site of the old churchyard. The inscription was recut by the Ancient Society of College Youths in 1937.

In 1726 the bells of St. Dionis' Church were found to be much out of order and at a vestry meeting, held on August 28th, it was debated whether to restore them at an estimated cost of £110, or to provide a new and tunable ring at a cost of not more than £250. The question was formally put whether the present set of six bells, with the old frame and appurtenances, should be exchanged and eight new bells with complete new frame and appurtenances be put in their room, and answered in the affirmative.

As the honour and generosity of the parish had been fully expressed in the subscriptions for the organ that had lately been erected it was thought proper to raise the required sum of £250 by kind and voluntary contributions, and the churchwarden, with such gentlemen as should be so kind as to attend him, was to wait upon the several parishioners with a subscription paper for the purpose.

At a vestry, held only a week later, on September 5th, the churchwarden reported success, and that several people thought proper to respond in a most handsome and generous manner. It was, therefore, decided to accept the estimate of Mr. R. Phelps, of Whitechapel, and to have chimes on the new ring.



THE TOWER OF THE NOW DEMOLISHED CHURCH OF ST. DIONIS BACKCHURCH.

The subscriptions totalled £479 18s. Articles of agreement were signed in the same month, between James Herbert and Charles Bell, the churchwardens, and Robert Phelps, for a new set of bells in exchange for the old; and so, in less than two months from the time the matter was brought before the vestry, the order was given for the new ring.

On November 3rd, 1727, Phelps received £359 11s. 6d. in full payment for eight bells and frame, two other bells and frame, a new floor for the clock, the chimes and all other accounts and demands whatever.

The parish records contain a certificate, signed by fifteen persons, stating that, having rung the ten new

(Continued on next page.)

ANCIENT CUSTOMS.

THE RITES OF DURHAM.

To the Editor.

Sir,—To add to the interesting notes on the ancient customs of the belfry, I venture to send the following, copied from 'the Rites of Durham, being a description of all the ancient monuments, rites and customs belonging to or being within the Monastical Church of Durham before the Suppression—written 1593,' with notes added in 1655 and 1691 [published 1903 by the Surtees Society].

These give not only interesting details of the bells but also the modes of ringing them. ERNEST MORRIS.

In the weste end of ye church in ye north allie and ovr ye galleley dour ther in a Belfray called the galleley steple did hing iiij goodly great Bells wch was nevr Rownge but at ovy p'ncipall feast or at such other tymes as ye Bushop dyd come to ye towne. Ev'y Sounday in ye yere there was a s'mo preched in ye gallely at after none from one of ye clocke till iij & at ij of ye clock ye great Bell of ye galleley was toulled ev'r Sounday iij qz'ters of an howre & roung ye forth qzter till one of ye clock, that all ye people of ye towne myght have warnyng to come & here ye worde of god preached. There was certaine officers pteynig to ye said howse wch was allwayes charged when so ev' ye said Bells was knowlede to be redy for ye Rynging of theme, viz. ij men of ye kitching was charged wth ye Ringing of ou Bell, & ye iiij men of ye church that dyd lye allwayes in ye church was charged wth ye Ringing of ye third Bell—& vj othere was alwaies charged wth ye Rynging of the great Bell, viz. ij of the back howse ij of the Brew house & ij of ye kilne. And in ye latter dayes of Kyng Henrie the eighte ye house was supprest, & after that tyme ye said Bells was nev'r Rounge. Then Deane Whittingham p'ceyving theme not to be occupied nor Rounge a great whyle before his tyme, was purposed to have taiken them downe and broken them for other vses (and make his p'fitt of them). Then Tho: Sparke the Bushopes Suffrigaine lying at Durham & kepinge howse there, at ye same tyme havinge Intellegence what ye Deanes purpose was, dyd sende into Yorkshire w'th all speade for a workeman & caused iij of ye said Bells to be taiken downe (ye iiijth Bell Remaynes ther still & was nev' Rounge synce yt was suspent) (ye other did remayne a longe season but yet after removed into ye Lantorne) & caused them iij to be hoong vpon ye newe worke called ye lantren & maide a goodly chyme to be sett, on ye said Bells, ye wch dyd coste hime in charges Thirtie or fortie pownds. wch chyme endureth to this daie, or els ye said Bells had bene spoyled & defaced.

But in ye yeare 1650: this Abbey Church was made a prison for ye Scotts and quite defaced wth in, for ther was to ye number 4500 wch most of them perished & dyed ther in a very short space & were throwen into holes by great Numbers together in a most Lamentable manner. But in ye yeare 1655 ye Clocke & Chyme was repayred againe wch was taken downe & preserved from ye ruyne.

The four Bells that hung in the Gallilee Steeple, were first, the Great or Gallilee Bell, which was given by Prior Fosser; 2, St. Bede's bell; 3, St. Oswald's bell; 4, a Long bell, which was narrow skirted but well tuned bell, and was the last Bell that was left in the Gallilee Steeple untaken down. But in Febr. 1631/2 it was taken down, the other bells being taken down ye January before.

The Galilee bell being hung in ye Steeple or Belfrey in the Lantern of the Church (which Belfrey was supposed to be built by Bp Skirlaw, who mostly built ye cloysters, and whose Coat of Armes in severall times in every of the cloysters sett & painted in the middle beams or (blank) in each of the said cloysters, tho others say that Hugh Derlington 14th Prior of Durham made the great Belfrey) it, viz, the Gallilee bell was designed to be chipt into tune, but by chipping it was made so thin that it was not thought serviceable, so that one Thomas Bartle a plummer cast that Galilee bell over again, and the said last standing bell, i.e. the long bell was broke into pieces, and the half of her among other things was put into Galilee bell to be cast over again and the other half of ye said long Bell was put into other Bells which were cast. There were 4 bells in all that were cast in the Guest Hall, one of St. Michael, and the said Gallielee Bell, St. Oswald's and St. Bede's. At Candlemasse after Thomas Bartle had cast the said Bells, he dyed, and was buryed in the Cathedrall Churchyard, and the said Gallilee Bell was rung out for him, and so the other bells. That of St. Bede hangs now in the Steeple or Lantern of the church towards the East part there, t'is called the Fifth and is circumscribed thus:—

Olim Campana Boni Bedæ Decanus et Capitulum Dunelm. refecerunt A.D. 1665.

The Galilee bell hangs there towards the West and is called The Seventh Bell:—

Olim Campana D.D. Joh. Fosser et Joh. Hemming Prior Dunelm. Vulgo Galilea quam refecerunt Decanus et Capitulum Dunelm. A.D. MDCXXXII.

The Church Coat of Armes upon it. Note that Dr. Spark Suffragan bishop to bishop Tunstall caused these bells to be carryed out of the Galilee Belfrey, which otherwise would have been broken and sold, and placed them in the Great Belfrey of the Cathedrall.

The said Galilee Bell which Bartle cast, is the great bell now hanging in the Lanterne, whose tongue was broke, ringing for William Willson, Sunday, Nov. 30th, 1690, the day his body was found and buryed.

That of St. Michael hangs to ye North, & is called the 4th Bell, it is circumscribed:—

Olim Campana Sti Michaelis A.D. MDCXXXII Decanus et capitulu refecerunt

with the Churches coat of Armes upon it.

That of St. Oswald hangs to the South it was crackt ringing the Peel at the buryall of John Harrison Clerk of the Bow church the 25th of May 1638, and after it was cast ye 25th of September 1639 by one Robert Oldfield who came out of Lancashire, and he mistook in the casting it, wanting metal enough, and so cast it over again Novb ye 3rd 1639, and then afterwards was new and badly cast in the Bow Church in Decbr 1682 and recast again in March after by the self same person, to witt John Pattison, who was a Taylor, and son of Christofer Pattison. There was another John Pattison who after he had been Mayor of Durham, became Submaster of the plain Song & Writing School under Mark Leonard the Master thereof. There was writt about St. Oswalld's bell

Olim Campana Sti Oswaldi, quam fieri fecit Robertus de Dunelm. Decanus et Capitulum refecerunt A D'm 1632, atque iterum 1639, et tertis 1682.

The churches Coat of Armes is upon it.

The Third bell i.e. ye six a clock bell hangs, it is circumscribed:—

Olim Campana Sti Benedicti, quam fieri fecerunt Decanus et capit. Dunelm Ao 1684.

The second bell hangs—has a Coat of Armes upon it, to witt quarterly 3 Lyons & 3 fl. de Lys, circumscribed thus in Saxon letters:—

Nomen Domini Sit Benedictum.

The first, to wit, the least bell hangs—and is commonly calld St. Margarettes bell.

The bells were all recast in 1693 by Christopher Hodson, of London.

From the MS. of Bishop Cosin, 1620:—

In the lanthorne called the new worke was hanginge there 3 fine bells, which bells was runge ever at midnight at 12 of the clock, for the monkes went evermore to theire mattens at that houre of the night, there was 4 men appointed to ringe the said bells at midnight, and at all such other times of the day as the monkes went to serve god. two of the sd men apperteininge to the vestrye wch allwayes kept the copes with the vestments and fine paire of silver sensors with all such goodly ornaments ptaninge to the high Altar which 2 men did lye everye night in a chamber over the West end of the sd vestrye and the other 2 men did lye everye night within the sd church in a chamber in the north allye over against the Sextons Checker: theise 2 men did alwayes sweepe and keepe the church cleanly in the morninge with cleane water before it came to be hallowed, and did lock in the church dores everye night.

CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

(Continued from previous page.)

bells, they were of the opinion that the same ten bells are musical and tunable and that the said bells, and the whole frame and all the other work belonging or relating thereto are cast, set up and completed in a workmanlike manner.

I have several times thought of trying to get a sight of this document to see who the ringers were, but up to now have not had an opportunity. It might throw some light on the Society of London Scholars.

In 1732 Phelps recast the treble, which had been broken, and in 1750 the fourth and fifth also had been cracked. A vestry meeting held in January ordered that they should be recast, and this was done by Thomas Lester.

On October 10th, 1729, the first peal on the bells was rung by the College Youths—5184 changes of Grandsire Caters, conducted by Benjamin Annable from the treble.

The next peal was seven years later, when, on November 26th, 1736, the Eastern Scholars rang 6210 changes of Grandsire Caters. It was conducted by Philemon Mainwaring and was the longest ever rung on the bells. In 1752 John Holt, during the short time he was with the College Youths, called a peal of Grandsire Caters here. The first recorded peal of Royal was 5040 Double Bob by the same society in 1760, and the first peal of Treble Bob Royal was rung by the ancient Society of College Youths on December 27th, 1785.

NOTICES.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting at Blackpool, on Saturday, Sept. 30th. Arrangements:—10 a.m. to 12 noon, Sacred Heart R.C., Talbot Road (8 bells); 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., All Hallows, Bispham (8) and St. Anne's Parish Church (8); 1.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m., Holy Trinity, South Shore (6); 2 p.m. to 4 p.m., St. John, Blackpool (8); 4 p.m., Service at St. John's; 5 p.m., tea in St. John's Schools, 1s. 6d. each. 6 p.m., meeting in the same school. — W. H. Shuker and T. Wilson, Hon. Secretaries.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Piddington on Saturday, Sept. 30th. Usual arrangements. — J. C. Dean, Hon. Sec., 4, Court Road, Northampton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting is at Kirkby Mallory on Saturday, Sept. 30th. Ringing from 3.30 p.m. until dark. The usual short service will be held, but please note, *no tea*. It is hoped that as many towers as possible will be represented to discuss future arrangements. Sharnford bells also available on Oct. 21st until sunset. —W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec., Fosseway, Croft, Leicester.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Brewood, on Saturday, September 30th. Bells from 2 p.m. Service at 4.45, with address by the Rev. C. Broughton Thompson, Vicar. Tea (1s.) at 5.30. Reports ready. Bus leaves Queen Square, Wolverhampton, at 1 and 3. —H. Knight, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

TINTAGEL, CORNWALL.—The ring of five rehung with modern fittings in a new teak wood frame by Gillett and Johnston. Rededication by the Vicar at 3.30 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 30th. Ringers invited.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Alton and Petersfield District.—The quarterly meeting to have been held on Saturday, Sept. 30th, at Froyle, is cancelled.—C. E. Bassett, Hon. Dis. Sec., 32, Charles Street, Petersfield.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — The next meeting, due to have been held at Sprotborough, on Saturday, Sept. 30th, is cancelled owing to the present situation. A committee meeting will be held in due course to decide on future arrangements. — Ernest Cooper, Hon. Sec., 6, Grosvenor Crescent, Arksey, Doncaster, Yorks.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The joint meeting of the Western Division and the Leeds and District Society, arranged to be held at Shipley on Sept. 30th, has now been postponed until further notice.—F. Rayment, Dis. Sec., Bramley.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch. —The half-yearly meeting, which should have been held at Barton-on-Humber on Sept. 30th, has been postponed. —J. Bray, Hon. Sec.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting, which should be held on Sept. 30th, is postponed.—R. Park, Hon. Sec., 23, Oaklands Terrace, Darlington.

WOLLASTON, NR. STOURBRIDGE, WORCESTER.—The ring of six bells, tuned and rehung by John Taylor and Co., will be rededicated by the Bishop of Worcester on Sunday, Oct. 1st, at 6.30 p.m.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755). — Owing to the National crisis the quarterly meeting, arranged to be held at King's Norton, will be held in St. Martin's Tower, Bull Ring, Birmingham, on Saturday, Oct. 7th. Ringing at St. Martin's from 5 to 6 p.m. Short business meeting at 6 p.m., to be followed by handbell ringing. Please make an effort to attend.—L. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham 11.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch. —Next meeting will be held at St. Thomas' Church, Moorside, on Saturday, Oct. 7th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Come along and forget your worries for an hour or so. Everybody is welcome.—J. Kay, Branch Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The meeting arranged for Hillingdon on Oct. 7th is cancelled.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The meeting arranged to be held at Pocklington on Oct. 7th is postponed until further notice.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Ebor Street, Selby.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch.—The autumn meeting will be held at Mortimer on Saturday, Oct. 7th. Ringing at St. Mary's (8), St. John's (6) from 2.30 p.m. Service at St. Mary's at 4.30 p.m. Tea at the Vicarage at 5 p.m. Please let me know by Wednesday, Oct. 4th, how many for tea.—E. G. Foster, Hon. Branch Sec., 401, London Road, Reading.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. —The next meeting will be held at Headquarters (The Coffee Pot) on Tuesday, October 10th, at 7 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec.

ST. JOHN'S, LEYTONSTONE, AND ST. MARY'S, LEYTON.—Ringing for Sunday morning service (10-11 a.m.) is being carried on at the above churches. Leytonstone—second and fourth Sundays in the month; Leyton—first and third Sundays. Visitors heartily welcome.—G. Dawson and C. A. Hughes.

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—No meetings until further notice.—J. G. Powell, Hon. Sec., 2, Woodbury Road, Hawkhurst.

BIRTH.

DISNEY. — On Tuesday, Sept. 5th, to Mary and Alban Disney, 11, Dalby Road, Anstey, Leicestershire—a daughter (Margaret).

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BARNETT—RICHARDSON.—On Sept. 19th, 1914, at St. Paulinus' Church, Crayford, by the Rev. Canon G. J. Jones, M.A., Edwin John, son of the late Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Barnett, of Crayford, to Minnie, youngest daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Richardson, of Pooley Bridge, Cumberland.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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WAR TIME MEETINGS.

Ringing associations are gradually taking stock of the conditions brought about by the war and some of them have already decided upon a line of policy. They have got to adapt themselves to the changed circumstances, to the increasing difficulties of transport, the coming of shorter hours of daylight with the consequent earlier imposition of the 'black-out.' These things must necessarily limit the possibilities of meetings, but in most places the customary Sunday ringing can be carried on without risk. In most parishes the hour of evening service has been altered and the ringers can still discharge their customary task. There is no real reason, now that the first shock of the coming of war has passed why service ringing should not take place in all those areas where the police have no objection to the church bells being rung. We need not repeat the arguments which we have already put forward in support of keeping service ringing going wherever possible, and we believe that the lead which 'The Ringing World' has given has encouraged ringers in many places, where ringing had been abruptly stopped, to resume again.

The question of continuing practices and meetings is on a somewhat different footing, but we believe the obstacles can be overcome. If ringing is to be maintained during a prolonged war those who are left in the belfries have serious work before them to train up recruits to take the place of those who are called away to sterner duties Much can, of course, be done in this training without recourse to open ringing, but there comes a time in the education of the ringer when, if the training is to be complete and the beginner fitted to take his or her place in the service ringing, some practice must be put in with unleashed clappers. How can this practice be obtained? Obviously, unless it is possible to darken the belfry windows—and there are a number of places where this should present little difficulty and involve but small cost—the ringing must be done during the hours of daylight. The winter months add a further handicap, but an enthusiastic leader and keen learners among a band anxious to keep up their numbers should easily find a way. After all, football matches have to finish before darkness sets in, and if thousands of onlookers can find their way to the football grounds in time to watch an hour and a half's play before daylight disappears, there seems little excuse why ringers should not put in a similar period in the belfry to carry out a practice.

And then the meetings of associations. It should be possible in most districts to find towers where the black-out restrictions can be complied with without much

(Continued on page 618.)

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trouble or expense. The use of materials such as are now largely employed for the purpose of temporary shutters and costing only a few pence per square foot could be employed and the ringing chamber windows fitted to satisfy the regulations. In such towers, some of which there must be in nearly every district, meetings could quite well be held and ringing continued after dark, leaving the churches, where black-out requirements cannot be satisfied, to the summer months.

Various associations are already tackling the problem, and to-day we print reports of three which are laying plans for the future. The Lancashire Association, for instance, decided at the annual meeting last Saturday to carry on with the monthly meetings as long as the law permits; the Surrey Association's Committee has decided to hold a limited number of meetings; the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild propose to renew operations in the Southampton District with a series of Saturday and Wednesday combined practices. Here are examples which we hope many other societies will find it possible to follow. The meetings may have to be more localised than formerly on account of the restricted travelling facilities, although, be it remembered, in past days, before the advent of motor-cars, our predecessors in the belfry would find their way by hook or crook to any meeting held within a very considerable radius. And country roads were as dark then as now, trains were no more frequent, and motor-cars were not thought of. If we realise what was done in those receding years, why should we now just sit at home and say ringing meetings are out of the question because of the black-out? As long as towers selected for the purpose can be fitted to comply with the restrictions, the ringers themselves should be ready, even more ready than in normal times, to do their part to make association meetings a success.

It is not merely a matter of personal interest. The art has got to be kept alive, and, despite the dangerous days ahead, despite even disasters that may overtake us, let us do our share in preserving the life of the nation and those things which we cherish in our national inheritance. If we approach our ringing in the right way and enlighten the public on the objects of our ringing on all occasions, we need make no apologies for keeping our bells going. We believe that we have a service to render, let us see to it that neither lassitude nor misplaced sentiment, prompted by the dismal pessimists, causes us to fail in our responsibilities. The bells still have an important roll to fill in calling to public worship on Sundays and reminding the heedless of higher things; and the maintenance of that service demands that new ringers should be trained and our organisations kept alive against the coming of those less troublous times which we hope are not too far distant.

ANOTHER RING OF EIGHT FOR CORNWALL.

GENEROUS GIFTS BY MR. J. C. ROBERTS AND BARRON BELL TRUST.

The 15th century tower of the Church of St. Crewena, Crowan, Cornwall, is to possess a ring of eight. Two trebles are to be added to the existing six bells. This has been made possible through the generosity of Mr. J. C. Roberts of that parish, who has given a donation of £100, while a grant of £162 has been made by the Barron Bell Trust. The work is being put in hand. It is a good sign that this augmentation is to be carried out in such troubled days.

WITH PENCIL AND PAPER.

STILL MORE ABOUT COURSING ORDER.

To the conductor who aspires to be something more than a mere bob-caller a knowledge of Coursing Order is a necessity. The old way of calling peals (a way by no means obsolete to-day), was for the conductor to learn his peal and call his bobs accordingly. In addition he would learn the position of the bells at certain course-ends, such as part-ends, and by checking those course-ends when they came up satisfy himself that the ringing was correct. That is to say that he would have an opportunity of seeing whether the bells were correct five or six times during a peal. If he were a practised conductor he probably would know more course-ends. But the man who understands how to use Coursing Order can, if he takes a little trouble, by observing the order in which he meets the bells, during one journey from front to back or back to front, be quite sure at any point in the peal whether the bells are right or wrong.

We have seen that the order in which the bells are met throughout the plain course is 2, 4, 6, 7, 5, 3, with the treble in a different position among them in each lead. If we ignore 1, 7 and 8 (as we do when we write out course-ends) and write out the others beginning with the bell next after the seventh we get 53246. That will stand for the Coursing Order of the whole of the plain course.

In a similar way we can put down the Coursing Order of any one of the other 119 possible courses with the tenors together. Thus, supposing, for instance, we have the courses whose course-ends are 65243 and 32546, we can get their Coursing Order in the same way that we got 53246 from 23456 as the Coursing Order of the plain course.

Course-ends	23456	65243	32546
Coursing Order	53246	45623	42356

But one thing must be noted. In a touch or a peal the course-ends we must deal with are not necessarily the rows which come at the end of the course, but are the rows which come at the beginning. To put it more properly, they are the 'natural' course-end, which are the rows which would come up if we ran on to the course-ends without any calls.

The adjoining touch consists of four courses, but actually only once do we ring 112 changes without a call, and that is when we run from the Wrong in the third course to the Wrong in the last course. We do ring the whole of the plain course, but one lead of it comes at the beginning and six leads at the end. The rest of the touch consists of parts of courses and each part has its natural course-end. We will write down these natural course-ends as follows:—

23456	W.	M.	R.
64235	—	—	—
52436		—	—
35426	—		
23456	—		

23456	52436	42635
64235	64235	24536
52436	35426	35426
35426	23456	23456

The first column represents the first lead of each course; that is from the Home to the Wrong. The second column represents the second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth leads; that is from the Wrong to the Middle. The third column represents the seventh lead; that is from the Middle to the Home. If from any row, in any lead, you continued to prick changes without any bobs or singles, when you came to the course-end you would get the row shown in the table.

Next transpose all these rows by 53246 as we did just now. That will give you the different Coursing Orders throughout the touch.

53246	32546	32465
34625	34625	34256
32546	25346	25346
25346	53246	53246

The man who knows these figures can tell definitely at any minute whether the bells are right or wrong, and we believe that there is no other means by which he can do so. But, you may say, there are forty-five courses in an ordinary peal and to learn a table like this for forty-five courses is a big job. Too big to be worth while. That may be true, and presently we will tell you how you can avoid most of the trouble. Meanwhile, it is not much trouble to study the matter with pencil and paper as we have explained it so far. Afterwards we can come to the short cuts.

THE B.B.C. INTERVAL SIGNAL.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I, for one, fully agree with Mr. Trotman. Rounds would have been tolerable, but monotonous. If the band that made the record were not able to strike a few changes of Grandsire or Stedman Caters decently they might have tried to produce some reasonable call changes, instead of fiddling about with 7-8-9 in that exasperating way. I suppose they thought anything was good enough for people who don't understand change ringing.

NEMO.

Sir,—Whilst agreeing with your correspondent, Mr. A. Trotman, that the record used by the B.B.C. could be improved upon, I do not agree with the alternative method suggested by him. I venture the opinion that a well-struck course of Stedman or Erin Triples is much more musical to the ear. I always think that when the tenor is 'turned in' the pleasing effect and sense of rhythm is lost, and further the magnificent note of a truly noble tenor cannot be fully appreciated unless it is rung behind.

F. C. A. BENNETT.

Wombourne.

Sir,—In answer to Mr. Trotman's letter regarding the interval signal, I must say that I agree that a change would be very welcome to our ears, especially as we hear this record sometimes for as long as eight minutes. There is a new record of the twelve, and it is a very fine recording. St. Margaret's, Westminster, has made a record of Grandsire and Stedman Caters, and a little while back I wrote to the B.B.C. asking them if they could broadcast this record, to which I had no reply. May I add that a course of Double Norwich on Bow's back eight would be fine, although the ringing would have to be very slow. I don't know if Mr. Trotman has ever rung Bow tenor—she is a lump to turn in.

FRANK HOPGOOD.

Wimbledon, S.W.

P.S.—I have the numbers of these records if any ringer would like them

BRISTOL RINGER MARRIED.

The marriage took place quietly on Saturday, September 30th, at Llanbadoc Parish Church, Usk, Mon., between Mr. Donald G. Clift and Miss Marion Smith, of Abertillery, Mon.

The bride was a former nurse at the Cefn-Lla Convalescent Home of the Pontypool and District Hospital. The bridegroom, who is a member of the St. Stephen's Guild of Ringers in Bristol, is a telecommunications officer in the Head Post Office of that city. He took up ringing at Usk in 1927, and in 1932-33 was Master of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association. He also represented that body on the Central Council from 1933 to 1935.

ANCIENT CUSTOMS.

SEVENTEENTH CENTURY REGULATIONS AT ASHBY-DE-LA-ZOUCH.

By Ernest Morris.

The church of St. Helen, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, Leicestershire, now contains eight bells, with a tenor, cast in 1849, weighing 16 cwt. 3 qrs. 23 lbs. In 6 Edward VI. (1553) there were 'fyve belles and a hande belle.' Very little is known of this early ring, but the ancient tenor bell, dated 1571, weighed 14 cwt. 3 qrs. 2 lbs.

On May 20th, 1628, an 'agreement, signed by nine inhabitants, concerning the ringing of the bells and keeping of the clock and chimes' was made. This is preserved in a narrow folio volume (unbound) of 210 written pages containing the accounts of the churchwardens of Ashby-de-la-Zouch, together with those of the Constable (Hastings MSS. Vol. 1, Historical Manuscripts Commission).

It reads: 'None shall be allowed to ring for pleasure and recreation above twice in the week, and that not above the space of one hour at a time: unless it fall out that some strangers shall desire to ring a peal extraordinary, which they shall have liberty to do provided that they first obtain the Consent of two of the churchwardens for it. None shall be allowed to ring at burials above two short peals, viz., one before the body is buried and another after. None shall be allowed to ring at weddings above three short peals, viz., one before the marriage and two after. There shall be no peal at all rung on the Sabbath days, but the least bell at 7 o'clock in the morning, and at one in the afternoon, and the second bell at 8 o'clock in the morning and 2 in the afternoon (In the margin is written "this continued till Aug. 17") and the sermon bell presently after the chime hath ended after 9 and between 2 and 3 in the afternoon. The clerk shall ring the Curfew at due times throughout the year and the four o'clock bell in winter, and he shall ring no less than by the space of one quarter of an hour at either of these times. The clerk shall look to the keeping of the clock and chime in due order from time to time. If any of these orders be broken through the default of the clerk, he shall forfeit to the town for every default 12d., which said defaults the churchwardens shall receive from the feoffee that is to pay him his wages next rent day. The churchwardens shall allow the clerk yearly towards the finding of bell ropes and maintaining them in sufficient repair 6s 8d.'

In 1741 a treble was added making six bells, and two trebles further added in 1814 completed the octave. In 1816 the Leicester change ringers rang 5,040 Grandsire Triples on April 26th, conducted by Thomas Sibson. In this peal Thomas Stringer (sexton) and Lawrence Staynes (vestry clerk) rang. These positions at St. Margaret's, Leicester, are now held by the present writer. The 7th bell was recast 1822 and the tenor in 1849, while in 1886 the whole were retuned and rehung in a new iron frame.

There is a tradition relating to Ashby which says that a former inhabitant of the place, having lost his way, was, after wandering about the whole night and become almost exhausted, enabled to find his way home again by hearing the sound of the clock of St. Helen's Church. To mark his gratitude for this deliverance, he conveyed to the trustees of the Grammar School certain property, since called the 'Day-bell houses,' upon trust, among other things, that they should cause one of the church bells to be rung for a quarter of an hour at four o'clock every morning. This direction was carried out, and the 'four o'clock bell' was heard regularly every morning until the year 1807, when, upon the authority of a Decree of the Court of Chancery, this custom, 'useless and annoying' to the inhabitants, was discontinued. Instead of this early bell, one was rung at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. for the purpose of assembling the boys in the Grammar School, for which the authorities paid the church a certain sum annually.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES

On Sunday, September 24th, for the harvest festival at Coleshill, Berks, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung in 43 minutes by the following: L. Mace 1, A. J. King 2, E. A. Edwards (conductor) 3, E. Telling 4, T. Sappington 5, V. Jones 6.

On Sunday, September 24th, at Barwell Parish Church, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: N. Lucas 1, T. Belton 2, J. Lawrence 3, A. Lucas 4, R. Belton (conductor) 5, W. Newton 6, W. White 7, H. England 8.

At St. Mary's, Lytchett Matravers, Dorset, after harvest festival evening service on September 24th, a quarter-peal of Doubles (1,260 changes), being one extent of New Doubles, Stedman Slow Course, Reading, St. Simon's, April Day, Antelope, St. Dunstan's, London Singles, Reverse Canterbury, Plain Bob and 60 of Grandsire: Miss P. V. Marsh 1, Miss V. M. Marsh 2, L. H. Pink 3, H. E. White 4, W. C. Shute (conductor) 5, M. A. Martin 6. First quarter-peal in eleven methods by all.

For harvest thanksgiving on Sunday, September 24th, at Broxbourne, 560 of Bob Major and 168 of Grandsire Triples for evening service: J. Luxom 1, Miss N. Radley 2, C. Gouldsmith 3, C. Byatt 4, F. Perrin 5, W. Newman 6, A. Radley 7, G. Radley (conductor) 8.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING AT BLACKPOOL.

The annual meeting was held at Blackpool under very adverse circumstances, members attending from Barrow, Blackburn, Blackpool, Bolton, Frodsham, Liverpool, Manchester, Preston, Southport and Whittle-le-Woods. Although five peals of bells were available for the use of visitors, there were not enough members present to ring until half-past two, when the bells at St. John's Church were set going in touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Treble Bob, Double Norwich and Cambridge Surprise Major. Service at 4 p.m. was said by the Vicar (the Rev. W. Yates, M.A.), and the address was given by the Rev. A. Scott, M.A. (president). His advice was to keep the bells going as much as possible both for services, practices and meetings.

Tea was served in the Parish Hall, arranged and served by Mrs. Sharples and Mrs. Foster. The Vicar stayed for tea, but as he had no curate he had to leave to get ready for the Sunday services. He was thanked for his assistance and words of welcome in church, to which he responded. The ladies were also thanked for their share.

The business meeting was then held, the chair being taken by the president. The committee's report stated that the total membership was 1,515, 1,085 of whom lived in the association's area; 78 new members had been made and 36 crossed off for arrears, while death claimed eight (four non-resident and four ringing). Restorations had been carried out at Aughton, Poolstock and Morecambe. The Canon Elsee Memorial Window was dedicated on June 10th, and a peal board was unveiled at Moorside, Oldham, on October 10th. The number of peals rung during the year was 90. This does not correspond with the C.C. list, as the year ended on July 31st. Mention was made of Mr. G. R. Newton's 500th peal and also of several members who had passed their first, second and third 50th during the year, also of peals of Erin Caters (the first for the association) and Little Bob Major (the first for all the band) and a large number of first peals and firsts in the method.

Regrets were expressed that the treasurer could not come or send a statement. It was proposed that the balance sheet should be audited and passed and sent on to the president in time for inclusion in the annual report.

For the election of officers, Mr. J. Ridyard, of Southport, received the highest vote for vice-president for two years. The other officers—Mr. T. Wilson, ringing secretary; Mr. C. I. Davies, treasurer; Messrs. Barnes and Wilkinson, auditors—were re-elected without opposition.

The motion as to the election of Central Council representatives was put back until next year.

The meeting closed with best thanks to the Vicars of the various churches for the use of their bells; to Dr. Wood, the organist; the choirboys; Mr. Sharples, the branch secretary, and others who helped under the trying circumstances to make a success of the meeting.

Owing to the unsettled state of things, next year's meeting was provisionally fixed for Bolton as being a good centre.

A FAMOUS NORTHAMPTON BELLFOUNDER

DESCENDANT KILLED IN CASTING CANNON.

Next Monday is the three hundred and thirty-first anniversary of the baptism of Henry Bagley, the first of a famous family of bellfounders who cast many bells which still exist in the Midland Counties. Henry Bagley was born at Chacombe in Northamptonshire, where his father Matthew, who by trade was a blacksmith, was churchwarden in the year 1636. Henry began bellfounding about 1632 and he died about 1676.

The foundry then appears to have been carried on by his sons, Henry and William, the first of whom was elected a member of the Society of College Youths in 1686.

The will of Mathew Bagley, Henry's nephew, contains the earliest reference to half-muffled ringing we have. He 'requested a dumb peal, the bells muffled on one side.' This was in 1785 when he was a very old man.

Other members of the Bagley family carried on bell founding at Ecton, and a later member of the family, Mathew Bagley, migrated to London, where he acquired the foundry of Philip Wightman.

He lost his life in a tragic manner while casting a gun for the Government. The 'Flying Post' of May 12th, 1716, gives the following account of the accident: 'Last Thursday night about nine o'clock a tragical accident happened at the Royal Foundry, near Upper Moorfields, where, when the workmen were casting a cannon, the metal that was running into the mould flew up on a sudden with great noise and violence and came down like drops of fire not only upon all the workmen, but spectators (of whom there was a great number to see the performance). Several attended from the Tower, particularly Mr. Hall, Clerk of the Ordnance, who was so sorely wounded that he dyed next morning. The Master Founder and his son with above twenty others were also very much hurt. 'Tis generally agreed that the said accident was owing to the dampness of the mould.'

The 'Weekly Journal' of May 12th, 1716, further states that 'Bagley, the Master Founder, has lost his eyes, and his son and sixteen others are desperately wounded.'

Bagley died of his wounds, for the registers of St. Giles', Cripplegate, have the following entries:—

1716.—May 22, Mathew Bagley, founder, killed.
May 26, Mathew Bagley, jun., founder, killed.

SUNDAY RINGING.

SERVICE ARRANGEMENTS.

Ringing for Sunday services is taking place at the following towers, and visiting ringers, particularly those serving with the Forces, will be welcome.

We shall be pleased to publish similar information in relation to other towers where Sunday ringing is being maintained.

Leytonstone, St. John's, 10 to 11 a.m. (second and fourth Sundays).
Leyton, St. Mary's, 10 to 11 a.m. (first and third Sundays).
Bagshot, Surrey, 10.30 to 11 a.m., 2.30 to 3 p.m.
North Stoneham, Hants, 10.30 to 11 a.m (fourth Sunday 10 to 11 a.m.), 3 to 3.30 p.m.
Penge, St. John's, 10.30 a.m. and 2.45 p.m. Practice Monday, 7.30 p.m. to 8.30 p.m.
Mere Parish Church, Wilts, 10.15 a.m. (first and third Sundays), 2.15 p.m. (second and fourth Sundays).
Ealing, St. Stephen's, 10 a.m., alternately with Christ Church 9.30 a.m. St. Mary's, 2.30 p.m.
St. Albans Cathedral, 4 p.m. Saturday afternoons in addition to service ringing on Sunday mornings. (Quarter-peals can be arranged).
Prittlewell, Southend-on-Sea, Essex, 10.20 a.m. and 4.30 p.m.
Haslemere, Sundays, 10.30 a.m. and 5 p.m.
Putney, St. Mary's, 10.15 a.m.
Leicester, St. Margaret's, 10.15 to 11 a.m. and 2.15 to 3 p.m.
Leatherhead, Sundays, 10.30 to 11 a.m.; second and fourth Sundays, 2.30 to 3 p.m. Tuesdays, practice 7.30 to 9 p.m.
Wolverhampton, St. Peter's, 10 to 11 a.m. and 3 to 3.30 p.m.
Kilburn, St. Augustine's, 10.30 a.m.
Trysull, All Saints', near Wolverhampton, 10.30 a.m. and 3 p.m.
Truro Cathedral, 9.30 to 10 a.m., 2.30 to 3 p.m. No practices are being held.
Tynemouth Parish Church, 10 to 10.30 a.m., 2.30 to 3 p.m.
Felkirk, Yorks, 10 to 11 a.m. and 2.30 to 3.30 p.m.
Worplesdon, Surrey, Sundays, 10.15 to 10.50 a.m.

RINGING AT CRAYFORD.

The band at Crayford, as most of our readers know, is one of the most active in the country, but, like so many more, is feeling the effects of these strenuous times. Mr. Edwin Barnett tells us, however, that they are doing their best to carry on, although they have lost some of their members. The Sunday ringing is much as usual, and an attempt will be made to hold practices on Saturday afternoons. If all ringers face the difficulties of the times in this spirit we do not fear that the Exercise will come through the crisis all right in the end.

POLICE SANCTION EVENING RINGING.

On Sunday, September 24th, when harvest festival services were held at St. Michael's, Ashton-under-Lyne, the bells were rung for 6 p.m. service, and, after consultation with the Chief Constable, were also rung after the service until 7.45. On each occasion a long touch of Grandsire Caters was brought round.

Ringing at Manchester Cathedral and Town Hall has been stopped, but at most of the other churches in the district where evening service is being held at 3 p.m. the bells are being rung.

A RINGER FOR SIXTY YEARS.

DEATH OF MR. J. R. BUNCH, OF YATELEY.

The funeral took place at Yateley Parish Church, Hants, on Saturday, September 23rd, of the late Mr. James Robert Bunch, who had been a ringer at Yateley for 60 years. Mr. Bunch, who was 78 years of age, had all his life been connected with the Parish Church. In the year 1888 he was one of the band who took up change ringing under the tuition of the late Mr. Henry White, of Basingstoke, and in 1892 rang in the first peal on the bells, which was conducted by Mr. Frank Bennett. He also rang in the first peal at the neighbouring tower of Yorklown, Surrey, conducted by the late Mr. Henry White.

Admitted to the Winchester Diocesan Guild on June 1st, 1889, he attended the annual meeting at Ryde in July of that year, and was also present at the meeting there on July 1st of this year.

His certificate of admittance to the Guild is to be hung in the Yateley belfry. He rang in several peals in the district and was also a member of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of many years standing. The whole of the ringing band at Yateley attended the interment, and as the earth closed the open grave rang a half-muffled touch of Grandsire Triples on the bells Mr. Bunch had long and often cared for.

WEDDING AT KINGSTON-UPON-THAMES.

The wedding took place at All Saints' Church, Kingston-upon-Thames, on Saturday, September 16th, between Mr. Eric Parker, of 100, Park Road, Kingston, and Miss Beatrice Etheridge, of Elgin Cottage, Hampton Court.

The bridegroom has been a member of the Kingston band of ringers for several years and was a regular attendant at both service and practice ringing. Fortunately the bells have not been silenced and immediately after the ceremony touches of Grandsire Caters were rung by the local band. Those taking part were H. Howes 1, G. Massey 2, H. Andrews 3, W. Massey 4, W. Nash 5, G. Peck 6, G. Goodman 7, H. Barrett 8, F. Hawthorne 9, W. Maxwell 10.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The resignation of Mr. F. E. Haynes as Ringing Master at St. Martin's, Birmingham, has been followed by the appointment of Mr. Albert Walker to the office. Mr. Walker has occupied this position twice previously.

In connection with the meeting of St. Martin's Guild, which is to be held in Birmingham to-morrow, in addition to the ringing at St. Martin's from 5 to 6 p.m., there will be special service ringing at the Cathedral from 2.30 to 3.30 p.m., when all who can attend will be welcome.

The valuable possessions of the Ancient Society of College Youths, including the peal and name books, have been removed to safety for the period of the war. They have been deposited in the vaults at St. Paul's Cathedral.

Sunday is the one hundred and ninetieth anniversary of the first peal on the bells of St. Mary's, Rotherhithe, which had lately been cast by Thomas Lester, of Whitechapel. It was rung by the Society of Eastern Scholars, the method was Bob Major and the bobs were called by Thomas Bennett. There is, or was, a board in the belfry to record the performance.

Sunday is also the anniversary of the long peal of Bob Major, 15,360 changes, rung at Aston in 1793. It was a very notable performance, beating (in number of changes) the 15,120, also of Bob Major, rung in 1737 at West Ham, and remained the record length in any method until 1868, when the College Youths rang 15,840 changes of Kent Treble Bob at Bethnal Green. A longer peal of Bob Major was not accomplished until the 18,144 at Benington in 1933.

On October 5th, 1839, Thomas Hattersley, for very many years a noted ringer, was born at Sheffield, and ten years later on October 6th his grandfather, William Booth, another and equally well-known ringer of an earlier generation, died.

On October 6th, 1788, the College Youths rang at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields the first peal of Stedman Cinques ever accomplished. The number of changes was 6,206, and Jasper Snowdon suggested that this length was chosen so as to make it more difficult for another band to beat the record. But the most likely explanation is that what was rung was the composition of a peal of Caters (probably the one in the 'Clavis'). A 5,076 of Caters applied to eleven bells gives 6,206.

Mr. Charles R. Lilley is one of the select number who have called peals on all numbers of bells. His list includes Grandsire and Stedman from Doubles to Cinques, and Plain Bob and Treble Bob on all numbers from Minor to Maximus.

PRACTICAL ACTIVITIES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Your articles on the home front and war-time ringing are very timely and I should like to add to their importance by suggesting one or two points which I think, if followed, will greatly help to keep our art alive.

At St. Mary's, Bexley, we are holding practices on Saturday afternoons from 2.30 till 4.30 p.m., and any ringers, be they learners or experts, are welcomed.

Now we have in mind a scheme which I think will help beginners a great deal. First and foremost we are carrying on with handbell practices two or three evenings per week with the additional practice on tower bells, and I can say from my own experience that this procedure is not only keeping the young ones interested, but that they are making good progress. We have 17 here and I can assure you they are keener than ever.

We are also hoping to institute a system of combined practices in this district at the towers of Erith, Crayford, Dartford and Bexley successively, one tower per week, so that there will be one practice per month per tower.

Probably the same thing could be carried out in other places where there are, say, three or four towers within easy distance of each other. I think we all realise that the better the co-operation the better the results will be, and when the times become normal again we shall be in a position to go forward.

One thing more, I should like to see the articles on 'With Pencil and Paper' carried on and if possible extended. They are a great asset to the beginner. Finally, it is up to all of us to extend the sale of 'The Ringing World' to the utmost, for without it the Exercise would be dead. Thanking you for the good work you are doing.

H. A. HOLDEN.

IN THE BARNSLEY DISTRICT.

Dear Sir,—I am pleased to say we are not restricted at our tower, Felkirk, for ringing, as we ring every Sunday 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 2.30 to 3.30 p.m., when any ringer or ringers who would like to have a pull of Minor will be welcome.

I understand that the majority of the towers in the Barnsley area, where there is a band of ringers, are ringing for Sunday services.

We are also allowed to ring a peal if we wish at Felkirk, and I should be interested to know the feeling of the Exercise as to whether we should ring peals during the war period or not.

DANIEL SMITH.

CHURCH BELLS IN WAR TIME.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION MEETINGS TO BE CONTINUED.

At the annual meeting of the Lancashire Association, held at Blackpool on Saturday, a discussion took place on the question of future meetings, and the following resolution was passed: 'That we, the Lancashire Association, in annual meeting assembled, agree that our service ringing, practices and monthly meetings shall go on as usual, except when law forbids.'

SURREY ASSOCIATION'S DECISION.

RETIRED RINGERS TO BE APPROACHED.

A meeting of the General Committee of the Surrey Association was held at Merstham on Saturday last to discuss the present situation.

It was unanimously decided that it be recommended that, as far as possible, ringing in the churches affiliated to the Association should continue and that every effort should be made by members who were able to do so, to maintain the art throughout the district.

It was further suggested that steps might be taken to re-approach ringers, who previous to the outbreak of war had given up ringing, with a view to enlisting their services and thus strengthen bands depleted by the call of National Service.

It was further decided that, whilst it was not found possible to carry out the districts' pre-arranged programme, arrangements be put in hand in respect to three meetings, one to be held at Kingston, another at Redhill and the other at Beddington. Appropriate notices relating to these meetings will appear in 'The Ringing World.'

It was learnt that at quite a number of churches in the Association's area ringing is taking place twice on Sundays and members and other ringers will be pleased to hear that ringing at the twelve-bell tower of St. John's, Croydon, recommenced as from last Sunday.

Practices are still being held at Leatherhead and Beddington, and no doubt enthusiastic ringers will make the necessary note.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

SECRETARY'S APPEAL.

The General Secretary of the Oxford Diocesan Guild (Mr. R. T. Hibbert) writes as follows to all his fellow-members:—May I, through the medium of 'The Ringing World,' ask all of you in town or village towers to do your best to keep things going as best you can until these troublous times are over? Many bands will be depleted, but service ringing should be maintained as far as possible, and practices, too, in village towers will be practicable. Some branch meetings may, and probably will be held, and wherever possible I beg the ringers to back up branch secretaries to the very best of their endeavour.

In my own tower all practice night ringing is finished, but by 'blacking out' the windows we meet some of our beginners and get a good handbell practice, which, I hope, will bear fruit in the future. I cannot hope to meet my friends all over the three counties as I have done during the last twenty years, and as far as things go, my job as General Secretary is a sinecure for a time, but anything I can do I am willing to do for one and all. My sincere wish is 'Success to you all,' and don't let the O.D.G. 'slip back' any more than it is bound to until Hitlerism is finished. With sincere good wishes to all friends in Berks, Bucks and Oxon.

RICHARD T. HIBBERT,
69, York Road, Reading. General Secretary.

SOUTHEND INVITATION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In answer to your proposal that you would like information about Sunday ringing, we at the Parish Church, Prittlewell, Southend-on-Sea, are ringing on Sunday mornings from 10.20 till 11 o'clock, and on Sunday afternoons from 4.30 till 5.30. The Sunday afternoon ringing is chiefly for our learners, who now, of course, have no other opportunity to practise. If there are any ringers who find their way towards Southend, whether privately or in H.M. forces, we should be very glad to welcome them.

A few of us are meeting at my house at 75, St. Mary's Road, on Monday evenings at 7.30 p.m. for handbell ringing, when we would be glad to see a visitor.

This handbell ringing we find difficult to teach, and agree with a letter from Sam Jones that a series of articles for the beginner would be appreciated by many ringers who have the duty of teaching.—Yours truly,

F. B. LUFKIN (Captain of local ringers).

ASSOCIATION MEETINGS.

To-morrow meetings are to be held as follows:—

St. Martin's Guild, quarterly meeting at Birmingham.
Lancashire Association, Rochdale Branch meeting at Moorside.
Oxford Diocesan Guild, Reading Branch meeting at Mortimer.
Bedfordshire Association, Biggleswade District at Sandy.

The Barnsley and District meeting at Monk Bretton arranged for to-morrow is postponed.

WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY AFTERNOON PRACTICES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Just a few lines to say how much we appreciate your leading articles as to the best ways of carrying on in war time and let you know what we are trying to do in the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild. First I may say our Sunday service ringing at North Stoneham is confined to 11 a.m. and 3.30 p.m. services, meeting at 10 a.m. the fourth Sunday in the month for an hour's ringing before the 11 a.m. service, the usual time for ringing being half an hour, unless by special arrangement; visitors receive a hearty welcome and get a rope from rounds to Surprise Major or Royal.

We are arranging for combined practices on Saturday afternoons, and hope to meet on Saturday, October 14th, say from about 3 p.m. till 5 p.m. We hope those ringers interested will make a note of this and we shall endeavour to give the enthusiast an opportunity to practice Double Norwich, Cambridge and Yorkshire Royal, in addition to the simpler standard methods for others.

We also hope with Mr. Linter's Wednesday band to arrange for meetings at Soberton, but fixtures will have to be made from one meeting to the other, as the greatest difficulty is going to be the matter of transport, owing to the short ration of petrol. I shall be glad to hear from anyone who can help us, and also from anyone who can turn up at North Stoneham on October 14th.

1, Chestnut Avenue, Eastleigh. GEORGE WILLIAMS.

RINGING AT CHATHAM.

Sir,—I am of the opinion that the curtailment of Sunday service ringing has been carried too far. I suppose this area is at the present time one of the most vulnerable places in the whole of the British Isles, yet our Rector has given permission for the bells to be rung on Sunday mornings from 10 till 11, and Sunday evenings from 4.45 till 5.30. Our bells have not been rung on Sunday mornings since 1921, owing to most of the band having to augment the company at Rochester Cathedral, where the bells are now silent. Any ringer who is with the Chatham Division will be welcomed. C. E. NORRIS.

Chatham.

CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

ST. DIONIS' AND ALL HALLOWS'.

During the eighteenth century five peals are all that are known to have been rung at St. Dionis' and it is not until November 26th, 1850, that we have any account of another. On that date the Cumberlands rang 5079 changes of Stedman Caters, and two years later, on November 22nd, 1852, the College Youths rang a similar length of the same method.

Towards the end of the nineteenth century the character of the City of London had entirely changed. From being largely residential it had become almost entirely commercial. Outside, enormous suburbs were growing up with vast populations and scanty church accommodation, while the City, with its dozens of wealthy churches, was almost entirely deserted on Sundays.

The diocesan authorities were faced by the problem raised by so great an excess of material and money where it was not needed, and so great a deficiency where vast numbers of people were living without the means of public worship. Of late years the problem has become even more acute, but as early as about 1875 an attempt was made to adjust the balance. From the point of view of the spiritual needs of the Church and people it seemed that the only right thing to do was to sell the churches that were no longer needed, and, with the money, build others in the new districts; and an Act for the union of benefices was passed by Parliament.

There is, however, another side to the question. The City churches are the property of the parishes, and there was and is a natural and right objection to desecrate ground that had been consecrated to the service of God for, perhaps, a thousand years and to pull down buildings, some of them of great artistic merit and which, as a whole, form one of the most striking architectural features of London. The process of demolition, therefore, was slow and only those of lesser value were at first threatened. St. Dionis' was one of the earliest, and a scheme to sell the church and unite the parish and benefice with the neighbouring parish of All Hallows, Grasschurch, was finally approved by the vestry on April 28th, 1876.

Among the resolutions adopted was one that the parishioners, having received intimation that the bells of St. Dionis' Backchurch could be made available, recommended that it be a part of the scheme that such bells be presented to the church of the united parishes. This was included in the Order in Council, and, when St. Dionis' was pulled down, the bells were hung in the tower of All Hallows.

That parish, although it possessed a fine tower, had taken little interest in its bells and possessed only two. And now, after hanging in their new home for nearly sixty years, mostly silent, the bells are once more homeless. All Hallows, in its turn, has been pulled down, and the future of the bells is as yet uncertain.

Out of the sum received from the sale of St. Dionis', after money had been allotted to the restoration of All Hallows and other objects, a new church of St. Dionis' was built at Parsons Green, Fulham. To it many of the fittings were removed, including the font given by Sir Henry Tulse.

ALL HALLOWS, LOMBARD STREET.

'Then by the four corners, so called, of Fenchurch Street in the east, Bridge Street on the south, Grass Street on the north and Lombard Street on the west is one fair parish church called All Hallows, Grass Church in Lombard Street; I do so read it in the evidences of record for that the grass market went down that way when that street was far broader than it now is, being straitened by encroachments.'

So wrote John Stow in the reign of Queen Elizabeth. The church had been rebuilt in the early part of the sixteenth century, the steeple being finished in 1544. The



'fair stone porch' was brought from the lately dissolved priory of St. John of Jerusalem, near Smithfield, as well as the frame in which the priory bells had hung. One Warner, a draper of the parish, bought the priory bells, intending to give them to All Hallows, but he died before the transaction could be completed, and his son and heir refused to carry out his father's intention; 'and so,' says Stow, 'that fair steeple hath but one bell, as friars are wont to use.' In the inventory made in the reign of Edward VI. the number is given as 'ij in the steple,' one of them probably being a saunce bell.

The church was much damaged in the Great Fire and was rebuilt by Wren in 1686-1694 at a cost of £8,058 15s. 6d. Two bells, a large and a small one, were placed in the tower and no effort was made by the parish to obtain a ringing peal, until St. Dionis' was pulled down, when All Hallows received the bells from that tower as the parish church of the united parishes.

(Continued on next page.)

ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD SOCIETY

PROPOSED MEMORIAL TO THE LATE MR. T. J. ELTON.

The autumn meeting of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford was held at Brewood on Saturday last. In typical autumn weather, members began to assemble soon after 2 p.m. and the bells were set going to Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob Major, while rounds and set changes were also rung for beginners. Despite the difficulties of transport, quite a good muster put in appearance One unfortunate incident happened, and that was a stay got bent and, be it noted, not by one of the aforesaid learners! However, ringing continued until service time.

The Rev. C. Broughton Thompson (Vicar) delivered an excellent address, in the course of which he said he hoped that ringing would never die out and be substituted by mechanical means, also that ringers should keep up their practices and be ready to ring for peace. He spoke of himself as being especially fond of bell music.

Mrs. Mollie Winterton (daughter of Mr. J. Perry, the esteemed captain of the local band) presided at the organ, and right ably did she manage it.

A very nice tea was provided in the Jubilee Hall—through the generosity of some kind friends. This was followed by the business meeting, presided over by the Vicar. Apologies for absence were received from the Rev. C. H. Barker, clerical secretary and treasurer; Mr. B. G. Key, Ringing Master, who is on active service; Messrs. J. Warrilow, C. Wallater, T. Benton, W. Peart and W. A. Walker.

On account of lighting restrictions, it was resolved that the next meeting, which was to have been held at All Saints', West Bromwich, in January next, should not take place. Also, for the same reason, the dinner arrangements for November should be cancelled.

A letter was received from Mr. W. A. Walker, towerkeeper at St. Matthew's, Walsall, stating that a suggestion was being made for the placing of a memorial tablet in St. Matthew's belfry to the late Mr. Thomas J. Elton, who for many years acted as captain in that tower, and who had done valuable work for the society in the cause of change ringing. Members and friends are invited to send subscriptions to Mr. W. A. Walker, 7, Birmingham Road, Walsall, which will be gratefully acknowledged by him.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar for his address and use of the bells, to the organist for her assistance, to Mrs. Dumbell and her helpers in preparing and serving tea, was received with applause.

Handbells were then brought into use to the tune of Grandsire Triples and Caters, Bob Major, Stedman Doubles and Triples. Thus ended a happy gathering in spite of the difficulties which had to be overcome.

CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON

(Continued from previous page.)

The Order in Council provided that the two bells from All Hallows should go to the new church of St. Dionis' which was being built at Parsons Green, Fulham, but the churchwardens disregarded the order and disposed of them to St. Paul's, Southwark. The authorities of St. Dionis' appealed to the Ecclesiastical Commissioners as the legal owners of the property of the demolished church of St.Dionis' Backchurch, offering to give £50 as an act of grace if they could have the bells; but the Commissioners disclaimed all responsibility in the matter, as they had belonged to All Hallows. Eventually, they gave to St. Dionis', Parsons Green, a bell that had formerly been at St. Michael's, Bassetshaw, and the vicar and wardens of the former church renounced all claims.

All Hallows stood on a site where land is as valuable as almost anywhere in the world and several efforts were made to sell it and use the money for building churches elsewhere. These efforts had always been defeated until lately, when serious structural defects occurred in the building and the east wall had to be taken down for safety. It was then decided to pull the church down and to build another in a new neighbourhood at Twickenham, to which the fittings, including the very fine carved woodwork, will be transferred.

As I have said, the bells are for the present without a home. Although the church stood in the centre of the City, it was so hemmed in by high buildings that it was almost entirely invisible. Nowhere from the street could more than one top corner of the tower be seen. It was impossible to get a photograph of it, and so I made a sketch which is shown in this article.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

HINCKLEY DISTRICT'S FIRST WAR-TIME MEETING.

The first war-time meeting of the Hinckley District of the Midland Counties Association was held at Kirkby Mallory, Leicestershire, on Saturday. The back five bells were raised in rounds and Grandsire Doubles rung before 3.30. Other members and friends having arrived, Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Double Court, Kent Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise Major were rung until service time. The attendance was only 14, many, no doubt, being prevented by their duties from attending, particularly those employed in farming. One member, engaged in dairy farming, can see no prospects of service ringing during the winter months.

The Rector (the Rev. E. Mills) conducted the usual M.C.A. form of service, which began with the ringers' hymn, 'Lifted high within the steeple.' In the course of his address, the Rector said that owing to the difficulties of catering in a small village at these times and also to the school being in use for a large number of evacuated children, in addition to their own, he was very reluctantly compelled to cancel the tea, but he hoped, on the return of happier days, to have the pleasure of again welcoming the district ringers and to be able to resume the usual teas. The Rector spoke of the work ringers could do at this time to help bring in the Kingdom of God. Bells, he said, ring out a message of invitation to everyone within hearing. There was room for everybody to work for the Kingdom, each in their own particular way. He was sure ringers would do their part by giving their services gladly.

After service a short meeting was held, Mr. A. Ballard, district chairman, presiding. The Rector was thanked for his address and for the use of the bells. Thanks were also expressed to the lady organist.

The invitation of the Rector of Sharnford to hold a ringing meeting there on October 21st was accepted. The next item—roll call of towers represented—was arranged so that the time of Sunday service ringing at each tower was stated. These were: Burbage, 10.20 a.m.; Croft, 10.20 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.; Hinckley, 10.30 a.m. and 2.45 p.m.; Kirkby Mallory, 10.30 a.m. and 2.40 p.m.; Peckleton, no ringing; Sharnford, 10.30 a.m.; Market Bosworth, 9.45 a.m.

In cases where no afternoon ringing is mentioned, the present evening services are to be shortly altered, and consequently no times could be stated, as these times are given so they may be of use to visiting ringers.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE.

A discussion followed on how to maintain meetings and interest in ringing.

It was learned that one group of four towers near Hugglescote propose to hold a Saturday afternoon practice at each tower in turn on, perhaps, the first Saturday in each month.

It was agreed that meetings should be held as frequently as possible, preferably in weeks when use could be made of moonlight, and that, whenever possible, tea should be arranged followed by a social.

It was pointed out that as ringing in the towers would be severely restricted during the winter months, it was important that the social side should receive more attention.

Groups could also be arranged to practice handbell ringing. Some literature would be most useful for many hands.

It was agreed that each tower should ascertain if their bells would be available for Saturday afternoon ringing and that reports should be made at the Sharnford meeting, when the place and date of the next practice meeting could be decided.

The secretary asked all towers to take at least one copy of 'The Ringing World' in order to inform themselves of the meeting arrangements and so help both the paper and his postages.

Further ringing was indulged in until darkness compelled members to proceed homewards. One party, who, it was alleged, had brought jugs in their gas mask cases, tarried on the way. Quantities of chips and 'cobs' were requisitioned, together with some 'pre-Budget' refreshment.

When these were preparing for the road, much hilarity was caused by the efforts of two well-known members to reduce the lighting efficiency of their new rear lamps, purchased, it was claimed, especially to attend the meeting, and which gave much better illumination than is permitted even for headlamps. Two thicknesses of notepaper was found to reduce the 'searchlight' effect. Even then, one proposed to cycle backwards. He said he could see *much* better.

DEATH OF A DOVER RINGER.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Charles R. Mellway, of Dover, who passed away on September 25th after a long illness.

The deceased gentleman, who joined the Kent County Association in 1894, was at the time leader of the band at Borden, near Sittingbourne, and did excellent work in that tower and the neighbourhood. Thirty-five years ago he moved to Dover, and from that time had been a member of the St. Mary's band. The funeral took place on September 27th and was attended by Messrs. H. Whitehead and S. A. Hill, representing the association.

EALING.—On Sunday, October 11th, at St. Mary's Church, for a civic service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 47 minutes: J. A. Trollope (conductor) 1, J. E. Churchill 2, P. E. Clark 3, P. Rowe 4, A. M. Stacey 5, E. C. S. Turner 6, A. Harding 7, F. Miller 8.

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 4s. per quarter.

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755). — Owing to the National crisis the quarterly meeting, arranged to be held at King's Norton, will be held in St. Martin's Tower, Bull Ring, Birmingham, on Saturday, Oct. 7th. Ringing at St. Martin's from 5 to 6 p.m. Short business meeting at 6 p.m., to be followed by handbell ringing. Please make an effort to attend.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham 11.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Next meeting will be held at St. Thomas' Church, Moorside, on Saturday, Oct. 7th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Come along and forget your worries for an hour or so. Everybody is welcome.—J. Kay, Branch Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch.—The autumn meeting will be held at Mortimer on Saturday, Oct. 7th. Ringing at St. Mary's (8), St. John's (6) from 2.30 p.m. Service at St. Mary's at 4.30 p.m. Tea at the Vicarage at 5 p.m. — E. G. Foster, Hon. Branch Sec., 401, London Road, Reading.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Sandy on Saturday, Oct. 7th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. Please come. All ringers welcome. To arrange for the future work of this district.—C. J. Ball, Hon. Sec., 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

BUSHEY SOCIETY.—There will be a practice meeting at Oxhey on Saturday, Oct. 7th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 to 4 p.m.—E. Jennings, Master.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—The next meeting will be held at Headquarters (The Coffee Pot) on Tuesday, October 10th, at 7 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District. — The meeting which was to have been held at Farnborough on Wednesday, Oct. 11th, has been cancelled.—C. W. Denver, Hon. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Frome Branch. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Binegar on Saturday, Oct. 14th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow.—E. H. Nash.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — A meeting will be held at Tunstall on Saturday, Oct. 14th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea arrangements will be made for all who notify Mr. W. Thompson, 29, Furlong Road, Tunstall, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, before Wednesday. Please come early and have a ring before black-out time.—Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wellingborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held (D.V.) at Bozeat on Saturday, Oct. 14th. Service 4 o'clock. Important to have names early; send post-cards to Rev. J. H. Marlow, The Vicarage, Bozeat.—A. Bigley, Hon. Branch Sec., 30, Allen Road, Irthlingborough.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Whittle-le-Woods on Saturday, Oct. 14th. Bells (8) will be available from 3 p.m. until 7 p.m. Will members please make an effort to attend this meeting, when a report will be given on what course the annual meeting adopted at Blackpool on Sept. 30th.—A. Blogg, Branch Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—A meeting of the Lincoln District will be held at St. Giles', Lincoln, on Saturday, Oct. 14th. Bells (8, tenor 18 cwt.) available from 2 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Short service 3.15 p.m. Visitors *must* bring their own food, tea (beverage) will be provided at small charge in the Parish Room, which will be available for handbell ringing during the evening.—Kenneth W. Mayer, Hon. Dis. Sec., 31, Vine Street, Lincoln.

LADIES' GUILD.—Northern District. — A meeting will be held at Handsworth, Sheffield, on Saturday, Oct. 14th. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. until black-out. Sheffield and District and all visitors welcome. No tea, but refreshment provided for lady visitors at home of Hon. Sec., E. Dorice Kelly, 164, Richmond Road, Sheffield 9.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD. — A combined practice will be held on Saturday, Oct. 14th, at St. Dunstan's-in-East, Eastcheap, E.C., from 2.30 p.m. till approximately black-out time. All ringers welcome.—T. W. Taffender, Hon. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — The joint meeting of the Western Division and Leeds and District Society, previously advertised for Sept. 30th, will now be held on Oct. 14th, at Shipley. Bells from 2 o'clock. Business meeting approximately 6.30. — F. Rayment, Dis. Sec., Bramley.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch.—Newport Pagnell Deanery. — A meeting at Weston Underwood, Saturday, Oct. 14th, 2-5.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m.—J. F. Amies, Hon. Sec.

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—North-East Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bampton on Saturday, Oct. 21st. Bells from 2 p.m. Time of service and tea to be announced at meeting. Come early. Will those wishing to have tea please notify me as early as possible?—R. Harris, Park, Silverton, near Exeter.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The meetings proposed to be held at St. Athan and Abergavenny respectively are postponed until further notice.—George Popnell, Master; Rev. Ivor J. Richards, Hon. Treasurer; John W. Jones, Hon. Sec.

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SLOUGH RINGER'S DEATH.

A LONG FAMILY CONNECTION.

There passed away at Slough on September 2nd Mr. Alfred W. Leader, aged 64 years, after a painful illness of five months' duration. He was buried at St. Mary's Church on the following Wednesday, near the tower where he learnt to ring under his father, the late William Leader, who was foreman for 40 years.

Alfred Leader was a chorister before taking to the bell rope and for many years a member of the Herschel Lodge of Oddfellows. Change of business, soon after the war of 1914, prevented his attendance for Sunday service ringing, after 20 years of regular duty.

He had rung about half a dozen peals—all Grandsire Triples—for the Royal Cumberland Youths and the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

From the time when the original ring of six were installed in 1855 there has always been a Leader in the local band, and also an employe of the Great Western Railway.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 1,490. Vol. XXXIV. FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13th, 1939. [Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.] Price 3d.

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A GESTURE OF HONOUR.

If it should happen that this war is a long war, ringing organisations are likely to find a considerable drain on their financial resources, and those which are not too well blessed with funds may eventually be hard put to it to make ends meet. The reason, of course, is not far to seek. There is going to be a heavy call upon the man power of the belfries and as ringers are called away to service elsewhere, there are certain to be some who will neglect, or be unable, to keep their subscriptions going. Even in a normal year there is always a proportion who fail to pay their dues, and if every association were to strike off the roll all who allow themselves to lapse, there would be a serious decline in the real membership of many societies. Most, however, allow a considerable latitude to defaulters, a latitude which, often, is not justified. Association finances consequently suffer. The circumstances in the days before us will accentuate this position. Among the men called away there are those who will not be able, even if they are willing, to keep their subscriptions paid, but in their case it should be the concern of the societies to see that they retain their membership. Those who are called to serve in the fighting forces must not be allowed, either through lack of means, or lack of opportunity of paying, to lose their link with their associations.

On the other hand, those who are left at home should be all the more ready to support the associations; indeed, they should welcome the opportunity of showing their absent colleagues that they are determined to keep the flag flying, not only by an extra keenness and effort in the belfry, but by a little personal sacrifice which may touch their pocket. The maintenance of ringing organisations throughout the country is a vital necessity to recovery later on, and those who are left to carry the Exercise through these disturbing days might well make some special endeavour to ensure the financial stability of the associations.

Just a few of the societies, of course, could exist for a time, without the life blood of revenue, but the large majority may find it extremely difficult to sustain any real activity, if they are faced with a much reduced income. It is easy to say 'We will see that none of our members called away to serve their country shall lapse,' but it ought to be possible for those who are left to do more than this. Cannot they undertake to pay the whole or part of the subscriptions of the absent members, if the latter are unable to pay for themselves, both for the good of the associations, and also as a gesture of honour to those who have gone out to serve their country?

(Continued on page 630.)

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After all, we get our ringing cheaply enough. We have our instruments and the appurtenances provided for us without cost. True, we make it a duty to ring for the Sunday services, but this is no hardship, because we love our art and desire to serve the Church, and the shilling or two which we pay annually to our association is but a small levy for all the pleasure which we get out of our ringing and the opportunities which are provided for us to meet and fraternise with our friends. Cannot those who are left at home make it their responsibility to pay the subscriptions of their fellows in the Services?

It may be said that these are early days to talk of doing this, but we do not think so. The experience of the last war was that the associations suffered rather seriously financially; now is the time to plan if similar difficulties are to be avoided in the future. In every belfry where a man has to leave on military service the remaining members should start a fund into which they could put their pence over a few weeks to ensure the payment of the absent ringer's contribution. And as others are drafted away those who remain might continue to provide these subscriptions. An additional penny a week would guarantee the contributions of at least two members, and there will be few towers, we imagine, where two-thirds of the ringers will be lost. As an alternative to a fund of this kind, individual ringers could undertake to pay the subscription of one colleague in addition to their own. It would be no real hardship to most, and it would be a safeguard to the associations, whose duty it will be to bend all their energies to reviving the art and setting it forth again on the path of progress, as soon as the opportunity is ripe.

SIX BELL PEALS.

SHRIVENHAM, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, September 30, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings. Tenor 14¼ cwt.

THOMAS DIKE ... ...*Treble*	EDWARD C. AUGER 4
*FREDERICK G. BAXTER ... 2	REGINALD G. PARTRIDGE... 5
HAROLD A. EDWARDS ... 3	*CHARLES E. TITCOMBE ...*Tenor*

Conducted by H. A. EDWARDS.

* First peal.

MIDDLETON, LANCASHIRE.

On Sunday, October 1, 1939, in Two Hours and Three Minutes,

AT 60, DURNFORD STREET,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5160 CHANGES;

Forty-three six-scores, three callings. Tenor 2 lb. 10 oz.

JACK BENNETT 1-2	FRANK RHODES 3-4
NORMAN BERRY 5-6	

Conducted by FRANK RHODES.

Witness—Rev. Edward Jenkins.

These bells are rung by ropes and wheels and are mounted on headstocks in a frame.

HANDBELL PEAL.

AYLSHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, October 8, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT 4, FAIRLEIGH TERRACE,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's.

*JACK N. A. PUMPHREY ... 1-2	ALBERT ROUGHT 3-4
WALTER C. MEDLER 5-6	

Conducted by WALTER C. MEDLER.

* First peal on handbells.

WITH PENCIL AND PAPER.

COURSING ORDER AND THE CONDUCTOR.

If we bear in mind the varying position of the treble, we can say that the Coursing Order of Bob Major is never at any time altered except by a bob or a single. There are three places where we can call bobs without disturbing the tenors, the Wrong, the Middle, and the Right or Home. (Presently we shall have something to say about Bobs Before.)

Now let us see what effect these bobs have on the Coursing Order.

If we call a bob at Wrong (the first lead end) the natural course end we produce is 52436. A bob at the Middle (the sixth lead end) produces 43652, and a bob at the Right. (the seventh lead end) produces 42356. Transpose each of these by 53246 to get the Coursing Orders that will be produced and set the results down as follows :—

	Natural Course-Ends.	Coursing Orders.
	23456	53246
A bob at W produces	52436	32546
do. do. M do.	43652	53462
do. do. R do.	42356	52436

When we compare the Coursing Order produced by a bob at Wrong with the previous Coursing Order we find that three bells are altered; and these three are the three which follow each other immediately after the seventh. What has happened is that the bell which before had been following the seventh now follows the other two, and the order of these three bells is altered from ABC to BCA.

When we examine the actual changes at the bob we find that the bell which previously had followed the seventh is the bell that makes the bob. So that we can say that the effect a bob at Wrong has on the Coursing Order is to put the bob making bell, which previously had been next after the seventh, two positions later in Coursing Order. The relative position of all the other bells are not altered. Instead of the bells coursing in the order 23456, they course in the order 34256.

Very little mental transposition is required to find the new Coursing Order provided that the ringer has accustomed himself to observing Coursing Order as a regular practice. For instance, if before he calls a bob Wrong the Coursing Order is 34625, he can without difficulty know that after he has called it, the Coursing Order will be 46325. Moreover, if he is observing the Coursing Order he can never be at a loss as to which of the bells should make the bob.

A bob at the Middle alters the position in Coursing Order of the three bells which are hunting, one after another, immediately in front of the tenor, and gives the order 23564 instead of 23456. Again, it is the bob making bell which is put two positions further backward in Coursing Order, the relative positions of all the other bells being unaltered.

A bob at Home alters the position in Coursing Order of the three bells furthest in Coursing Order from the tenors, and gives the order 24536 instead of 23456. Yet again it is the bob making bell which is put two positions further backward in Coursing Order, the relative positions of the other bells being unaltered.

All this will give us a simple rule for transposing to obtain new Coursing Orders produced by bobs, at either Wrong, Middle, or Home. Retain the old Coursing Order except that the bob making bell must be put two positions later, and will come after the two bells which run In and Out at the bob instead of in front of them.

But besides the Wrong, the Middle, and the Home, there are other bobs which can be called without parting the tenors, or, if they do part them, are made in series, and if the first parts them the second brings them together again. As these bobs are very often used in peals we will next consider what effect they have on the Coursing Order.

The most important of them is the bob Before, in which the tenor runs out and the seventh runs in; and which in Bob Major lengthens the course by one lead.

The natural course-end produced by a Before is 35264. All the working bells are displaced and as sometimes two, or three, or even more, Befores can be used in the same course, this makes it very difficult to transpose course-end from course-end while you are ringing.

Here are three courses taken from a peal composed and conducted by the Rev. J. H. Pilkington in 1897 on the bells of his own church, Framlingham. The calling is very similar all through and would present a stiff task to those very clever conductors who, as they are ringing, transpose the course-end by the scales given in a table of course-ends.

	W	B	M	R
23546	—	1	—	—
54236	—			—
35624	—	2	—	—
62354	—			—

These four courses contain parts of no fewer than thirteen ' natural ' courses, each with its natural course-end.

If we work by Coursing Order instead of by course-ends we shall find that the task is very much simplified and well within the limits of the average good conductor's capacity.

There are nine changes of Coursing Order caused by bobs at Wrong, Middle, or Home, and we have already seen how to deal with them.

Now study the bob Before. If you write out a course of Bob Major and make a bob when the tenor runs out and the seventh in, you will find that one other bell only is affected and that is the one which makes the bob. Now look at the Coursing Order and you will see that whereas that bell was, previous to the bob, coursing in front of the tenor, it now courses immediately after the seventh, and the Coursing Order of the other working bells is not altered. Whereas in the plain course the Coursing Order was 53246, in the natural course produced by a bob Before the Coursing Order is 65324. All we have to do is to take the last of the bells in Coursing Order and put it first.

As a piece of practice set down by transposition the Coursing Orders of the four courses given above. To do so you must have the previous course-end to start from. It is 65234.

R to W	W to B	B to M	B to R
35624	56324	45632	45326
43256	32456	32456	32456
34526	45326	(64532)	
		26453	26534
25364	53264	53264	53264

The Coursing Order given in brackets lasts for one lead only.

(Continued on next page.)

COURSING ORDER.

(Continued from previous page.)

In a similar way it is good practice to set down by pencil and paper the Coursing Orders which occur in some peal that you may be likely to call, whenever conditions permit. The familiar four-part composition by J. R. Pritchard is a good example.

Occasionally in Bob Major a peal has two bobs made in following leads, in the first of which the seventh makes the bob and in the second the tenor makes the bob. The first parts the tenors, the other brings them together again.

For our present purpose, and for many others too, it is well to treat these two bobs as one operation. The course-end they produce is 64523 and the Coursing Order (which in the plain course is 53246) is changed to 24653. That means that when you are transposing your Coursing Order you must count as the last the two bells which previously you counted first. These two bells are those which will run in and out at the bobs.

AN ANCIENT ABBEY BELL.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Talley Abbey, near Llandilo, Carmarthenshire, one of the most romantic and fascinating ruins in Carmarthenshire, county of ancient monuments, was founded in, or a short time before 1196. King John made a grant to the Abbey in 1208, another grant being made by King Edward I. in the thirteenth year of his reign, and still another by Edward III. in 1334. In 1772 it was agreed to build a new church, and in dismantling the Abbey, the great bell, weighing 72 cwts., was carted to Carmarthen by one, Griffiths Parry, who was paid 8s. 6d. for his services, and then shipped to Exeter. Is it now in Exeter Cathedral? Is this bell in the present peal? As there is considerable doubt about these bells, I should be glad if any reader could enlighten me.

EDWARD J. THOMAS.

'Elephant and Castle,'
Carmarthen.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

MAULDEN, BEDS.—At St. Mary's Church on Sunday, October 8th, for the harvest festival, a quarter-peal of Doubles (1,260 changes), being 240 each of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, St. Simon's, April Day, Old Doubles and 300 of Grandsire: Walter Forman 1, Ronald J. Sharp (conductor) 2, Samuel Daniels 3, C. Edward Jefferies 4, Andrew C. Sinfield 5, Sidney Sharp 6. First quarter-peal in five methods by all.

SEALE, SURREY.—On Monday, October 2nd, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor (1,260 changes) in 42 minutes: Miss Kathleen Gillians (first quarter-peal) 1, J. M. Denyer (first quarter-peal) 2, W. Denyer 3, E. Gardner 4, W. Thompson 5, C. W. Denyer (conductor) 6.

HOLLOWAY.—At St. Mary Magdalen's on Sunday, October 1st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples for the harvest thanksgiving service in 45 minutes: H. Brown 1, R. Charge 2, J. Kent 3, R. Newman 4, G. Charge 6, A. Turner (conductor) 7, F. Akers 8. Also rung as a farewell to Mr. C. Chambers, who is sailing for South Africa.

THE B.B.C. INTERVAL SIGNAL.

TRIPLES BEST FOR BROADCASTING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—As Mr. Trotman, in your issue of September 29th, is asking, what does the rest of the Exercise feel about the B.B.C. interval signal, I will, as one of the rest, state what I think about it. To begin with, I agree with Mr. Trotman when he states that 'it might be improved on.' Also I agree that the suggested new record should certainly get rid of the 'monotony of always having the trebles at the lead'—in other words, the new record should *not* be call changes, but I part company entirely with Mr. Trotman when he objects to 'the tenor behind all the time.' (I refer, now, only to broadcasting purposes.)

In my opinion, when ringing is being broadcast 'all in' ringing on any numbers is a mistake. We are told 'there is no beginning or end to it.' If the broadcast was to be confined to the ears of ringers—then certainly it should be of the highest campanological character, but it is broadcast to the whole public, very few of whom know anything of campanology, and I think the finality of the tenor behind is, for such an uninitiated audience, very much to be desired.

We have, of course, many bands quite capable of putting over the air a perfectly struck touch of, say, Double Norwich, as suggested by Mr. Trotman, but I submit, sir, that however well it is struck, it is not nearly as appealing to the non-ringing public as is well-struck Triples, or even Caters, *if rung slowly enough.*

The type of broadcast that has appealed to me more than any other, and I believe to many other ringers as well, has come from the belfry of St. John's, Croydon, and from their old ring of eight. They then used to give us very slow and very well struck Stedman Triples, and, to my mind, for broadcasting purposes, Triples, rung slowly, is ideal. Fast ringing, for broadcasting, I think, is wrong.

ROBERT WHITTINGTON.

Cranleigh.

PRESENT RECORD PRAISED.

Dear Sir,—In reply to Mr. Trotman, I should like to say a few words if I may. I will start at the end of his letter, but I won't speak for the rest of the Exercise, but one of the Exercise. Since we first had this record of Bow bells, I have never yet heard anyone say, 'Those —— bells, etc.' I say they are music itself and beautiful music too. We all like a course, or peal for that matter, of Double Norwich, but as we only get at the most two minutes of interval signal, where should we be if they start with rounds every time? We might hear a lead or lead and a half of the same changes. This would soon get monotonous, but a few changes of Caters with the trebles at lead and tenor behind are final, and I am sure the public or, as Mr. Trotman puts it, the world over like to hear the tenor behind. Who knows anything about Double Norwich except a few bellringers? The B.B.C. have plenty of records of change ringing, but they seem to prefer the one in question, and, after all, what right have we to interfere with the B.B.C.? If the time signal was anything else but bells we should not think of doing so.

I think, Mr. Editor, if my memory serves me right, we heard a course of Double Norwich on the back eight at Bow some years ago rung for evening service. They are the same bells we hear on this record. It was good and well struck, but would not a course of Grandsire Caters be better than eight bells? Mr. Trotman says that good as this old record is, it might be improved on. I should like to know in what way.

I venture to say that if Mr. Trotman chose the band himself he could not get better striking or find a sweeter peal of bells.

May I suggest that we get on with the jobs referred to by Sam Jones and Richard V. Fuller and the Editor's front page and leave the B.B.C. to put their own house in order? C. H. WEBB.

DEATH OF MR. HAROLD N. DAVIS.

WELL-KNOWN LONDON RINGER, COMPOSER AND CONDUCTOR.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Harold N. Davis, which took place recently after an operation in St. Giles' Hospital, Camberwell.

The deceased, whose age was 65, had dropped out of ringing for some time and probably was unknown to most of the younger generation, but 40 years ago he was one of the most active of London ringers, and took part in many peals, especially with the Waterloo Society. He was an excellent ringer, and composed and conducted several peals, especially of Grandsire Caters. He was cousin to Mr. James E. Davis.

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DEATH OF THE REV. E. J. ATKINS.

We regret to announce the death of the Rev. E. J. Atkins, which took place on September 30th. The deceased gentleman, who was for 39 years Rector of Isham, was a member of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild and of its predecessor, the Central Northants Association, and will be remembered by many members for the welcome he gave to ringers at meetings held at Isham and for his addresses to them. Sympathy will be extended to his son, Mr. E. M. Atkins, of Kilburn, who is one of the representatives of Cambridge University Guild on the Central Council, and his daughter, Mrs. F. Boultor, of Isham, who are left in bereavement.

The funeral took place at Isham on Wednesday, October 4th. The Peterborough Guild was represented by several honorary members, among those present being the Rev. R. C. Thursfield, J.P., R.D. (president of Kettering Branch), Canon C. C. Chambers (Wellingborough), the Rev. A. T. Segger (Walgrave), the Rev. J. H. N. Hill (Wellingborough), the Rev. C. T. Padbury (Mears Ashby), the Rev. H. A. Curtis (Barton Seagrave), and the Rev. H. A. J. R. Norton (Pytchley) The Isham ringers were represented by Mr. T. Garley. Members of public bodies and organisations of which Mr. Atkins had been a member were also present.

DEATH OF A MANCHESTER RINGER.

We regret to record the death of Mr. Robert H. Davies, of Manchester, who passed away on Saturday at Nell Lane Hospital. He had been ailing for about three months, but had got sufficiently well to be ready for work, but, becoming worse, he was removed to hospital on Friday.

Mr. Davies had just passed his 70th birthday and had been a member of the Lancashire Association since 1890. He had been attached to the bands at Birch-in-Rusholme, Manchester Cathedral and, in later years, at Christ Church, West Didsbury, where he was secretary. He had rung 72 peals in the standard methods, some of which he conducted. Mr. Davies was one who never sought peals, but he never refused to stand in if he could help it. His last ringing was a touch of Stedman on September 17th.

The interment took place at Southern Cemetery after a service in Christ Church, the bells being rung before and after the service.

Mr. Davies will be missed at Didsbury, where he tried to keep Sunday ringing going. There have not been many peals rung of late years at West Didsbury, owing to building development in the district.

TO-MORROW'S MEETINGS.

The following meetings have been arranged for to-morrow, Saturday, October 14th:—

Bath and Wells Diocesan Association, at Binegar.
North Staffordshire Association, at Tunstall.
Peterborough Diocesan Guild, at Bozeat.
Lincoln Diocesan Guild, at Lincoln.
Ladies' Guild, at Handsworth, Sheffield.
Yorkshire Association, at Shipley.
Oxford Diocesan Guild, at Weston Underwood.
Barnsley and District Society, at Penistone.

ROTHERHAM RINGERS MARRIED.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT RINGING MASTER.

On Saturday, September 16th, the wedding took place at St. Mary Magdalene's Church, Whiston, between Mr. Norman Chaddock and Miss Elsie Brothwell, both of Rotherham.

The bridegroom is a well-known ringer in the South Yorkshire area and is Ringing Master of the Sheffield and District Society. The bride, taking up change ringing in the last 18 months, has made rapid progress in the art.

Touches in various methods were rung before the wedding, in which the bridegroom took part, and after the service a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung by John Holman 1, G. Gordon Graham (conductor) 2, Harry Stenton 3, Jack Brothwell 4, John Brothwell 5, John E. Turley 6, Tom Brothwell 7, Reginald Payne 8.

A MINIATURE RING.

A peal of Grandsire Doubles has been rung on a unique set of bells at Middleton, Lancashire. They have been made by Mr. Norman Berry and are hung on oak headstocks, with aluminium wheels, in an oak frame, and are complete with ropes and stays. The tenor weighs only 42 ounces and has the note F.

A small semi-elliptical spring, used in conjunction with the stay, enables the bells to be held up at hand or backstroke at will.

Mr. Berry's ingenuity will be admired, as will his skill and that of the other two ringers who scored the peal on these midget bells. A photograph of them which we have received shows them upon a stand round which the ringers can presumably sit, but, even so, it appears to us a great deal of dexterity must be needed to control these miniature bells. The peal was rung at the fourth attempt.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Largely through the instrumentality of Mr. G. E. Symonds and the St. Mary-le-Tower Society, the manuscripts of the late Samuel Slater relating to the performances of the Norwich Scholars have been deposited in the Borough Library of Ipswich. It is very satisfactory to know that these records, the fruit of many years' labour by Mr. Slater, are now preserved for future generations.

Last Wednesday was the twenty-ninth anniversary of the first peal on ten bells entirely by parsons. It was 5,067 changes of Stedman Caters, rung at St. Mary's, Warwick, and composed and conducted by C. D. P. Davies. In addition to the conductor, the band contained H. S. T. Richardson, F. J. O. Helmore, H. L. James and C. W. Jenkyn, all of whom have passed away, as well as Canon Coleridge, Mr. Carew Cox and Mr. E. V. Cox, who, happily, are still with us.

On October 17th, 1726, the College Youths rang the first peal on the new bells which Rudhall had just supplied to St. Martin's-in-the-Fields. The method was Grandsire Caters and the bobs were called by Benjamin Annable. Caters was rung, we notice, not Cinques, although the intention was from the first to install twelve bells, and the order was duly given.

The natural conclusion is that when the church was consecrated (which was a day or two after the College Youths' peal), the two trebles were not ready. The founder seems to have had some trouble with these bells, and when he did hang them they did not agree properly with the others. Some years later they were taken down and replaced by new ones. They then got into the steeple of All Saints', Fulham, where one of them still is.

One hundred and eighty-four years ago yesterday George Partrick called Holt's Ten-Part peal of Grandsire Triples at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, and the Cumberlands, who made up the band, claimed it as the first time this famous composition was rung. The claim has generally been allowed, but four months previously on June 9th, 1754, the Eastern Scholars, with William Underwood as conductor, rang 'at the Parish Church of Saint George in the County of Middlesex, a Compleat Peal of 5,040 Grandsire Trebles with two Singles, being the first of the kind ever rang on them Bells.'

At the time only three peals of Grandsire with two singles had been composed and all by John Holt—the Original, the Ten-Part and the Six-Part. We may be reasonably sure that Underwood did not call the Original; he may have called the Six-Part, but it is much more likely that he called the Ten-Part. A month earlier he had called another peal of Grandsire Triples at Romford, but no indication is given as to the nature of the composition. However, it well may have been the first performance of the Ten-Part.

Thomas Tolladay, who more than anyone else made the St. James' Society one of the leading London companies, died on October 18th, 1843. The muffled peal to his memory was not rung until the following January 3rd.

As announced among the notices of meetings, the Lancashire Association have postponed the meeting at Whittle-le-Moors to October 21st owing to the regrettable death of the hon. branch secretary, Mr. Alfred Blogg.

RAMPTON BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The fund for our sixth bell is still open and stands at present at £6 12s.

The advance in bell metal has increased the cost of fittings and bells to such an extent that we are unable to install both bells at the same time, as was hoped. However, the 5th bell of our peal is safely paid for and will (D.V.) be dedicated at 3.30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 1st, the feast of All Saints.

This bell is given by their sons in memory of the Rev. C. H. and Mrs. Evelyn-White, Rector and Lady of the Rectory 1894-1928.

THOMAS L. HAVERS, Rector.

WEDDING OF TWO LOUGHBOROUGH RINGERS.

At Loughborough Parish Church on September 30th the wedding took place of two members of the local band, Mr. Leslie Wallace Stevens and Miss Irene Cecil Durnford. Mr. Stevens, who is a native of Llanbradach, South Wales, has been a valued member of the band at the Parish Church for five years and has rung about ten peals. Miss Durnford scored her first peal in February last.

The best wishes of the local ringers were extended to Mr. and Mrs. Stevens, who are the second married couple in the band, the other being Mr. and Mrs. G. R. Edwards.

WEDDING AT BARROW-ON-HUMBER.

The wedding took place quietly at Holy Trinity, Barrow-on-Humber, on Tuesday, October 3rd, of Mr. W. A. Crowder, of Barrow-on-Humber, and Miss K. M. Fell, of New Holland. The bridegroom has been a member of the Barrow Guild of Ringers for several years. Immediately after the ceremony touches of Bob Minor and Grandsire were rung by the local band and some of the bridegroom's fellow-ringers from St. Peter's, Barton-on-Humber. Those taking part were E. Fowler, J. Chapman, W. Goddard, T. Johnson, J. Barrick, J. Atkinson, E. Dannatt and H. Eastoe.

WAR TIME RINGING.

HIGH WYCOMBE AND THE BLACK-OUT.

The north aisle of the Parish Church, High Wycombe, Bucks, has been re-conditioned to meet the Lighting Restrictions Regulations to enable 6.30 evensong on Sunday to be continued. A like arrangement in the belfry ensures ringing as usual. This scheme came into operation on Sunday, Oct. 1st. At 5.45 p.m. the Vicar, the Rev. W. L. P. Float, met his ringers as usual in the belfry, a full band having assembled. The President offered prayers, and, as he retired, the bells were sent off promptly at 5.55 p.m. to the tune of Stedman Cinques. Four courses were successfully rung by 12 members of the local tower, so at least one ring of twelve does not hang derelict.

Ringing will continue as hitherto for Choral Celebration, 1st Sunday in the month at 9.20 a.m., other Sundays at 10.20 a.m., Evensong at 5.55 p.m. sharp. A quarter-peal can be attempted on any Sunday evening by arrangement. Practice is on Mondays at 7.30 p.m.

IMPROVEMENT AT SEFTON.

Service ringing at Sefton has not suffered through the present situation, rather it has improved. The bells are rung for half an hour before each service and a 720 has been rung for every service since the war commenced.

MOONLIGHT MEETINGS.

It is hoped in the Leatherhead District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild to hold a series of Saturday meetings at the periods of the full moon.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.

THE COMMITTEE DISCUSS WAR-TIME ARRANGEMENTS.

A committee meeting of the above Guild was held on Saturday, October 7th, at Hartfield to discuss the welfare of the Guild in the present circumstances.

It was agreed that the activities of the Guild should be continued as normally as possible, and that if only a nucleus could be kept alive it would help to restore things when better times came.

It was decided to arrange a meeting in November and then wait until the days began to lengthen in January. The tower bells would be rung until dusk, and then tea and social with handbells would follow. Owing to the approach of rationing it was thought that everyone should make their own arrangements for tea.

It was agreed that owing to transport difficulties the meetings should be as central as possible and that a general meeting should be held as usual next year.

INVITATION TO MEMBERS OF R.A.F.

At Henlow, Beds, service ringing is being maintained both morning and evening on Sundays and, at present, the weekly practice on Tuesday evenings is being maintained. The future of the practices under existing conditions is under consideration of the police authorities, but if there is any objection raised, it is hoped to try the experiment of a set of 'silencers.' The local ringers are anxious to keep the practices going, as they have promising young blood in the band. Any ringer joining the R.A.F. and being posted to Henlow Camp will be welcomed at the tower on Sunday, 10.15 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.; or on Tuesday evenings at 7.30.

Two 720's of Minor have recently been rung after evening service: On Sunday, September 24th, 720 of Bob Minor. K. Wilton (first 720) 1, Miss K. Hartle 2, L. Wilton 3, J. Church 4, P. Tompkins (conductor) 5, E. Wagstaff 6. On Sunday, October 1st, 720 of Kent Treble Bob: E. Pearson, R.A.F. 1, Miss K. Hartle 2, A. Dilley 3, J. Church 4, L. Bywaters (conductor) 5, P. Tompkins 6.

PEAL ATTEMPT AT WEST WYCOMBE.

On Saturday, September 23rd, a peal of Bob Major was attempted at West Wycombe by members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild to commemorate the consecration by Dr. P. H. Eliot, Bishop of Buckingham, of the first part of the new Church of St. James at Downley in the parish of West Wycombe, which took place on September 17th. The peal, unfortunately, was lost, and afterwards a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung by H. Wingrove 1, F. G. Biggs 2, P. Newton 3, R. Biggs (conductor) 4, J. Harrison 5, H. C. Jones 6, W. Lee 7, V. Evans 8.

SUNDAY RINGING.

SERVICE ARRANGEMENTS.

Ringing for Sunday services is taking place at the following towers, and visiting ringers, particularly those serving with the Forces, will be welcome:—

Great Baddow, 10 to 11 a.m. and 2 to 3 p.m. Practice, Saturday afternoon, 3 to 5 p.m.

Hersham, 10.15 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. Practice, Tuesday, tower bells, 7 to 8 p.m.; handbells, 8 to 9 p.m.

Burton-on-Trent, St. Paul's, 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.

Nottingham, St. Peter's, 10.15 to 10.45 a.m., 3 to 3.30 p.m.

Great Staughton, St. Neots, Hunts, 10.30 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.

Southport, Christ Church, Lord Street, 10.15 to 10.45 a.m. and 6 to 6.30 p.m. Practice, Thursday, 7.30 to 9.

Tunbridge Wells, St. Peter's, 10.30 to 11 a.m. and 2.30 to 3.15 p.m.

Carmarthen, St. Peter's, 10.30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

Chichester Cathedral, 10 to 10.30 a.m.

Poole, St. James', 10.20 to 11 a.m., 5.50 to 6.30 p.m. Practice, Mondays, 7.30 to 9 p.m.

Maulden Beds, 10.30 to 11 a.m. and 3 to 3.30 p.m.

Sunningwell, Berks, 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.

Holloway, St. Mary Magdalen, 10 to 11 a.m.

Heckington, Lincs, 10.15 to 11 a.m. and 2.15 to 3 p.m.

Bushey Herts, 10 to 10.45 a.m. and 4.30 to 5 p.m.

Woodbridge, Suffolk, St. Mary's, 2.30 to 3.30 p.m.

Braintree, Essex, 10 to 11 a.m.

Bramley, Surrey, 10.45 to 11.15 a.m., 3 to 3.30 p.m.

With reference to the time given in our last issue for the ringing at St. Albans Cathedral on Saturday afternoons, we are asked to state that the time of meeting is 3 p.m., not 4 p.m. as stated.

Mr. Edwin Barnett informs us that the next practice at Crayford will be held on Saturday next, October 14th, from 3 to 5 p.m.

At St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, in the City of London, a practice meeting will be held on Saturday next, October 14th, from 1.30 to 4 p.m., and if it is sufficiently well supported Mr. James E. Davis hopes to make it a weekly event.

At Willenhall ringing has been stopped since the outbreak of war, as the tenor bell is now used as a fire alarm in place of a work's siren which was previously employed for that purpose. It is hoped, however, that arrangements will shortly be made to enable the bells to be rung for Sunday service.

A TOWER-BELL PEAL.

The first war-time tower-bell peal was rung at Shrivenham, Berks, for the Oxford Diocesan Guild on September 30th. It was a 5,040 of Grandsire Doubles and two of the ringers rang their first peal.

A GOOD PRACTICE.

There was a good practice at Oxhey last Saturday. Cambridge Surprise Minor and Major, Bristol Surprise and Spliced Surprise four methods, with Stedman Triples, were rung on the tower bells. On handbells courses of Yorkshire, Cambridge and London Surprise were brought round, also three leads of Bristol, one touch of Spliced, courses of Bob Royal, Stedman Triples and Grandsire Triples.

VISITING RINGERS ENTERTAINED.

A combined practice was held at Cawthorne, Yorkshire, on Saturday, October 7th, when good use was made of the bells from 3.30 p.m. until 6.45 p.m. Many Minor methods were practised, including Plain Bob, Double Bob, Fulbeck Bob, Stedman Double Slow Course, Oxford Treble Bob, Burton and Cambridge Surprise, and plenty of encouragement and practice was given to new recruits, who were very welcome.

After the ringing those present adjourned to the Spencers Arms for a supper, which had been arranged by the local ringers, and full justice was done to a beautiful spread by twelve hearty ringers.

The visitors, who included three ringers from Felkirk and one from Penistone, were entertained as guests, and the local band's hospitality was much appreciated.

It is hoped to arrange more of these practices when possible and 'keep the home fires burning.'

HARVEST FESTIVAL RINGING.

On Sunday, October 8th, at St. Mary's, Chipping Norton, Oxon, for harvest festival, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: A. Simons 1, C. Taplin 2, H. Cook 3, W. Green 4, W. Gibbs 5, J. H. Jarvis 6, R. Jarvis (conductor) 7, A. G. Newman 8.

At Market Deeping, on Sunday, October 8th, at the Parish Church for harvest festival, a quarter-peal of Surprise Minor (1,320 changes), being 720 each of Cambridge, Ipswich, Norfolk, Hull, Primrose, Bourne and 600 of Cambridge: F. Brightman 1, C. Woods 2, W. H. Waldron 3, W. Oldman 4, J. O. Landan 5, H. M. Day (conductor) 6.

On Sunday evening, October 8th, at St. Leonard's, Eynsham, for the harvest thanksgiving service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, ten callings: C. Calcutt (conductor) 1, W. Bennett 2, T. Bond 3, W. Bond 4, C. Bennett 5, H. Caves 6.

CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

ST. MARGARET'S, WESTMINSTER.

By J. Armiger Trollope.

According to a tradition referred to in a fifteenth century manuscript now in the Abbey muniments, St. Margaret's was founded by King Edward the Confessor. Stow relates that there was formerly a parish church within the old Abbey Church, and as this was somewhat to the annoyance of the monks, for their ease and commodity, the king caused it to be builded without.

Doubt is, however, thrown on this tradition by the fact that, so far as can be ascertained, the name and fame of St. Margaret of Antioch were unknown in England before the time of the Crusades, and it was not until the twelfth century that churches were dedicated in her honour.

In the reign of Edward I. the church was entirely rebuilt by the parishioners and the merchants of the staple, except the chancel, which was rebuilt by the Abbey as rector. This church, in its turn, became ruinous and at the end of the fifteenth and the beginning of the sixteenth centuries, when so many of the London churches were rebuilt in the Perpendicular style, the present building was erected.

The old tower contained three bells and evidently stood at the west end of the church, as was usual in medieval churches. In 1516 the first stone was laid of a new tower, which was also to be a porch; and at the ceremoney Master Verton, Walter Gardiner and other worshipful and well-disposed people of the parish of their charity and good mind gave £6 4s. 7d. towards the cost.

This was the time when parishes all over England were, when they could afford it, increasing the number of their bells to five. One bell was given to St. Margaret's by Master Pomfrey, and, for the second, gifts of money and metal were collected in the parish.

The old metal collected was ' by the Commandment of the worshipful of the parish, delivered to William Smith, founder, in part payment of the new bell, two brasses, and a clapper.' Some years previous to this William Smith (or it may have been his father) was sued by the parish of St. Mary-at-Hill on account of a bell he had cast for them.

The old tower evidently was still standing and payments ' were laid out for the taking down of the bells and frame and for setting up the old frame in the new steeple, and also for the making of the new frame for five bells and for new hanging of the bells.'

In English parish churches the normal position of the porch was at the south side and of the tower at the west end. In the smaller churches of the fourteenth century it is unusual to find any door at all on the north side, and even in the large Perpendicular Churches, where there are both north and south porches, the latter is almost always the principal entrance.

Why St. Margaret's is an exception to this rule is easy to see; its position in front of the Abbey decided the matter. But it is not easy to see why the tower was built on the north side. There were other churches which had the same feature; St. Mary-le-Bow and St. Michael, Cornhill, for instance, in London, and St. Mary Redcliffe in Bristol; but in these cases the matter was decided by the restricted sites. At St. Margaret's there was plenty of room to build the tower at the west end. To-day people might object that such a tower would obstruct the view of the Abbey, but that would hardly be a consideration in the fifteenth century. It may be that the parishioners wished to use their bells without any break, and so kept the old tower standing until the new one was ready; but that does not strike one as a very likely reason.

Although I have no direct evidence on the point, I suggest that the most likely explanation may be found in the relationship of the Abbey and the parish church. St. Margaret's had originally been built by the monks as a humble dependent on the Abbey and the monks claimed and largely exercised the right of control. But, as was usual in the many similar churches throughout the country, the parishioners resented the assumption of inferiority and resisted the control. To own and to use bells was the sign of independence in a church, and there are many instances of disputes between monastic and parochial churches over the ringing of bells. Nearly always the abbey asserted that its services were being disturbed by the parish bells. If this were so at Westminster then we can see why the position of the tower was altered from the west end to the north-west corner, for that would put the whole body of the church between the bells and the Abbey choir.

The weights of the five new bells at St. Margaret's are given in the churchwardens' accounts for 1527 as follows:—the treble, 500 lbs.; the second, 621 lbs.; the third, 856 lbs.; the fourth, 1,010 lbs.; and the tenor, 1,614 lbs. There was also a saunce bell which, after the changes in the ritual of the Mass, was hung in a turret at the top of the tower, probably, as at St. Bartholomew by the Exchange, so it could be heard further, and all the people in the parish might know the times of divine service. This turret was erected in 1565, and for the making of it the parish paid John Barrowell £3 6s. 8d.

In 1511 the church possessed a ' sacring bell p'celle gilt,' which disappeared in the reign of Edward VI., when so much church property was alienated. At that time the building itself narrowly escaped destruction. The Duke of Somerset, Lord Protector of the Realm, intended to build for himself a great mansion on the site of what is now Somerset House, and to provide the ground and materials he confiscated and pulled down more than one church. ' Having cleared the place and projected the intended Fabric, the Workmen found that more Material would be wanting to go through with it than the demolished Church and the Houses would afford unto them. He therefore resolves for raking down the Parish Church of Saint Margaret at Westminster and turning the Parishioners for the celebrating of all Divine offices into some part of the nave or main body of the Abbey Church, which should be marked out for that purpose. But the workmen had no sooner advanced their Scaffolds when the Parishioners gathered together with Bows and Arrows, Staves and Clubs and other such offensive weapons which so terrified the workmen that they ran away in great amazement and never could be brought again upon that employment.'

In 1565 ' Mr. ffysher bestowed of his benevolence being churche-warden ' the recasting of the second bell, and in 1592 Valentine Trevor was employed to recast the bells or some of them; but he did the work ' falsely and deceitfully,' so that Robert Mot had to be called in to cast them again. The churchwardens ' received of

dyvers worshipful parishioners and others towards the charge of the newe Bells iiij li xijd.' The weights of the bells before they went away to be recast and after they came back again were carefully noted and recorded in the parish accounts. Four years later the fourth was broken and ' Mr. Moat ' was paid £10 for the recasting and for a new clapper.

At some time during the earlier part of the seventeenth century the ring was increased to six, and in 1670 the octave was completed. The founder was Mr. Darbie, who was paid £47 10s. for the two bells. It is usually assumed that this was the somewhat notorious Michael Darbie. Such a thing is not impossible, for Michael was a London man and was still alive, though nearing the end of his career (his will is dated 1672). The likelihood, however, is that the bells were cast by John Darbie, of Ipswich, a much better craftsman, who in the next year supplied a ring of six to St. Vedast's, Foster Lane, and (probably) some bells to St. Sepulchre's, Snow Hill. The ring of eight remained in St. Margaret's steeple until 1739, when Samuel Knight, who had already cast the grand ring of twelve at St. Saviour's, Southwark, and was then casting the ring of ten for St. Sepulchre's, Newgate, was employed to recast them. Knight died in the same year and before the job was completed. He had cast the first four, but the fifth and it may be the three largest bells were cast by his heir and successor, Robert Catlin. Catlin was a carpenter and bell hanger and a first-class workman, as his frame at Southwark shows, but as a bell founder he was not the equal of his master.

In 1761 the ring was increased to ten by Lester and Pack, who also recast the tenor. The present eight was cast by Thomas Janaway in 1773 and the present ninth by Thomas Mears in 1834.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

MEETING AT HAGBOURNE UNDER WAR-TIME CONDITIONS.

A practice meeting was held at East Hagbourne on Saturday, October 7th, when the fine peal of eight bells, tenor 21 cwt., were available from 2.30 until 6 p.m. The convening of this meeting was in the nature of an experiment, the usual tea and service being omitted in order to give the maximum amount of time to ringing. About a dozen ringers were present from Oxford, Abingdon, Radley, Steventon and East Hagbourne. This was considered fairly satisfactory, and various methods were practised with energy and success.

A general discussion followed on the best means of keeping ringing alive in North Berks, and in view of the fact that most towers have ceased to practise, it was decided to try and arrange a similar meeting once a month at different towers in the district. It is proposed to hold the next at Drayton on Saturday, October 28th, subject to the necessary permission being obtained. It is hoped that when these practices become more widely known in the district they will be better supported. All ringers will be welcome no matter how humble their achievements, and it is earnestly hoped that the district will back up its secretary and those responsible for making this effort to keep up the standard of ringing in the difficult months ahead.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

MEETING AT ACTON.

A most enjoyable meeting of the Crewe Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild was held at Acton on October 7th, where there is a very nice ring of six bells. Nineteen members were present from the following towers: Crewe, Wistaston, Acton, Nantwich and Marbury. The ringing was much enjoyed from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., and afterwards the Vicar, the Rev. Charles Parry-Williams, conducted a short service in the church.

The ringers were afterwards entertained to tea by the Parochial Church Council at the Vicarage. A hearty vote of thanks for this welcome hospitality was proposed by Mr. Richard T. Holding and seconded by Mr. Richard D. Langford.

The Vicar responded and said that he thought that the art of change ringing should be kept going even in these anxious times. He also said he hoped the meetings would be held wherever it was possible; even if it meant that later on ringers would have to bring their own food rations.

ARRANGING A WAR-TIME MEETING.

KEEPING THE ENEMY IN THE DARK.

The other day I went down to —— well, I had better not say where, in case I should be giving away any secret that might be of value to the enemy, but I went down just to see my old friend Bill—I ought not to say what his other name is, in case it should enable the enemy to identify the place, because he could easily trace that by searching the files of ' The Ringing World.'

Anyhow I found Bill in his garden. His coat was off and his shirt sleeves were rolled up—just as I have often seen him in the belfry—and he was solacing himself with a pipe and contemplating his potato patch; the fact that I mention it was a potato patch won't convey any really useful information to the enemy, because actually it wasn't the potato patch that Bill was contemplating, and Bill hadn't got his coat off or his sleeves rolled up; neither was he in the garden.

He really was smoking his pipe—but then a lot of people smoke a pipe, so that doesn't give anything away. And he really was contemplating something. Actually he was pondering whether, in view of the sudden increase in taxation of his favourite beverage, he should have his empty tankard refilled.

He looked upon my coming almost as heaven-sent. He told me he had been torn between two loyalties. Loyalty to his country, which demanded that he should pay his share of the cost of the war, by cheerfully contributing by indirect taxation, and that other loyalty which imposed economy in personal consumption. He had been asking himself whether it would be better to drink another pint and thus provide another twopence towards the suppression of Hitlerism or to deny himself in the interests of economy and run the risk of Hitler getting away with it.

But my coming saved him a headache. War or no war, the decencies of private relationships required that I should show my hospitality. It saved Bill no end of a mental struggle.

And so, over our tankards, we sat and talked of this and that, mostly of that, rather than this, I think; and we whispered it almost, because in these days walls have ears, and Bill and I are the last who would give away anything to the enemy.

I haven't explained that Bill is the captain of the belfry where he rings and I am the district secretary—the man who gets all the kicks and none of the ha'pence; who does all the work, but gets blamed for everything that goes wrong; who stands to be shot at, and sits down to be criticised, but gets re-elected every year.

Well, as I said, Bill and I talked of this and that, until it was time for me to make another indirect contribution to the cost of the war, and then our conversation veered a little more towards this rather than towards that.

What I wanted judiciously to find out was what Bill thought of holding a war-time district meeting at his tower. Bill is an A.R.P. 'fan ' (I am not sure that ' fan ' is quite the right word, but you know what I mean), and I wondered how he would take the suggestion.

At first he gave me a flat refusal. He wasn't going to give the Germans a chance of catching him unawares; while he was ringing they might come over and drop a bomb, and he wouldn't be on the spot to give the warning—not that he would be in a fit state to give the warning if he was on the spot where a bomb dropped; but that didn't occur to him.

Naturally I didn't let it go just at that. I suggested a look-out post near the church so that Bill could be called, in an emergency, without loss of time, or, alternatively, that Bill himself could be the look-out while the rest of us did the ringing.

Of course, you don't know Bill; that is you don't know which Bill I mean, because, in case the information should get to the enemy, it is necessary, as I said before, to keep his identity secret. But Bill is one of those who doesn't like being left out when there is any ringing going on in his tower.

After another contribution, paid by me, towards the extermination of Hitlerism, Bill began to wonder if, perhaps, a little ringing on a Saturday afternoon might be possible. He still had vague doubts about its practicability; but he insisted that if it came off all necessary A.R.P. precautions must be taken.

Bill said, against emergencies, the stokehole, just outside the belfry door, should be made into a bomb-proof shelter; in accordance with his A.R.P. instructions, he will have to wear his ' tin hat,' everyone must put on their gas masks while they are ringing, and the village hall must be gas proofed if we are to have our tea and meeting in it. These things, Bill thought, would be simple to carry out. What was worrying him when I left him was lest any intimation of the meeting should come to the knowledge of the enemy, who, in consequence, would deliberately plan to bomb—no, I mustn't, for the sake of Bill's peace of mind, give away the secret of where this meeting is to take place. And there's the snag. If I mustn't say where the meeting is to be held, how can we hold a meeting? That's what's giving *me* a headache at the moment.

O. P. Q.

MUFFLED BELLS

At Dover on Sunday afternoon, October 1st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) was rung with the bells half-muffled at St. Mary's Church in memory of Mr. Charles R. Millway, who passed away on Monday, September 25th: G. Eagles 1, T. W. Robins 2, J. Eagles 3, H. J. Saunders 4, D. Brown 5, H. Whitehead 6, C. Turner (conductor) 7, E. T. Ellender 8.

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 4s. per quarter.

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Frome Branch. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Binegar on Saturday, Oct. 14th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow.—E. H. Nash.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — A meeting will be held at Tunstall on Saturday, Oct. 14th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea arrangements will be made for all who notify Mr. W. Thompson, 29, Furlong Road, Tunstall, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, before Wednesday. Please come early and have a ring before black-out time.—Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wellingborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held (D.V.) at Bozeat on Saturday, Oct. 14th. Service 4 o'clock. Important to have names early; send post-cards to Rev. J. H. Marlow, The Vicarage, Bozeat.—A. Bigley, Hon. Branch Sec., 30, Allen Road, Irthlingborough.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch. —A meeting of the Lincoln District will be held at St. Giles', Lincoln, on Saturday, Oct. 14th. Bells (8, tenor 18 cwt.) available from 2 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Short service 3.15 p.m. Visitors *must* bring their own food, tea (beverage) will be provided at small charge in the Parish Room, which will be available for handbell ringing during the evening.—Kenneth W. Mayer, Hon. Dis. Sec., 31, Vine Street, Lincoln.

IBSTOCK, LEICESTERSHIRE. — A practice meeting at Ibstock to-morrow (Saturday, October 14th), commencing 3 p.m.

LADIES' GUILD.—Northern District. — A meeting will be held at Handsworth, Sheffield, on Saturday, Oct. 14th. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. until black-out. Sheffield and District and all visitors welcome. No tea, but refreshment provided for lady visitors at home of Hon. Sec., E. Dorice Kelly, 164, Richmond Road, Sheffield 9.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — The joint meeting of the Western Division and Leeds and District Society, previously advertised for Sept. 30th, will now be held on Oct. 14th, at Shipley. Bells from 2 o'clock. Business meeting approximately 6.30. — F. Rayment, Dis. Sec., Bramley.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch.—Newport Pagnell Deanery. — A meeting at Weston Underwood, Saturday, Oct. 14th, 2-5.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m.—J. F. Amies, Hon. Sec.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Penistone on Saturday, Oct. 14th. Tower bells (8) from 3 p.m. until 6 p.m., followed by tea, business meeting and handbell ringing. Buses leave Barnsley No. 7 Bus Stand on the hour every hour, and half-past the even hour. All are welcome. — D. Smith, Hon. Sec., Rock Cottages, Shafton, near Barnsley.

HESTON, MIDDLESEX. — During the winter months, commencing Oct. 14th, tower bell practices will be held every Saturday at 3 p.m. All ringers will be welcomed by the local band.—H. C. Chandler.

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—North-East Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bampton on Saturday, Oct. 21st. Bells from 2 p.m. Time of service and tea to be announced at meeting. Come early. Will those wishing to have tea please notify me as early as possible?—R. Harris, Park, Silverton, near Exeter.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Chilvers Coton (Rugby bells not available) on Saturday, Oct. 21st. Bells from 3 o'clock. Business meeting in the Vestry at 4.30. Please make own arrangements for tea.—Dorothy E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—Owing to the death of the hon. branch secretary, the meeting of the above branch at Whittle-le-Woods is postponed to Oct. 21st.—F. G. Bradley, Branch Pres.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting will be held at Sharnford on Saturday, Oct. 21st. Bells available 2.30 until dark. Tea can be obtained at the Church Institute, and names should be sent to the Rector as early as possible to allow for any delay in the post. Handbells, etc., for the rest of the evening. Please make an effort to attend. These meetings now depend on YOU.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

BUSHEY SOCIETY. — The bells (8) at Bushey, Herts, will be available on Saturday, Oct. 21st, from 3.45 to 5.15 p.m. Everybody welcomed. Most methods available. Handbell ringing afterwards. No time limit. —E. Jennings.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Portsmouth, on Saturday, Oct. 21st. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea in the Parish Hall 5.30 p.m. Business meeting follows. All requiring tea kindly let me know by Wednesday, Oct. 18th. All ringers welcome.—A. T. Greenwood, Hon. Sec., 6, Sheffield Road, Portsmouth.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District. — The next meeting will be held at Widford on Saturday, Oct. 21st. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Names for tea, please, by Wednesday, Oct. 18th. There will also be a practice on Saturday, Oct. 14th, at Broomfield, 3 p.m. till 6 p.m.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Upper Arbour Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford.

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MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Burton District.—A special meeting will be held at Netherseale on Saturday, Oct. 21st. Bells available at 2.15. Important meeting in Rectory at 5.45 p.m. All district members should attend to consider how to fix a winter programme. All ringers will be given a cordial welcome.—J. W. Cotton, Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—A meeting will be held at headquarters on Oct. 24th at 7 p.m. — A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION (South and West District), GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD (Chertsey District) and SURREY ASSOCIATION (North-Western District).—A combined meeting of members of the above will be held at Kingston-on-Thames on Saturday, Oct. 28th. Bells available from 2 to 5 p.m. Tea at 5.15 p.m. in the Parish Hall, followed by a short business meeting. Numbers for tea to be sent to Mr. F. E. Hawthorne, 39, Queen's Road, Thames Ditton, by Thursday, Oct. 26th.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, F. E. Hawthorne and F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Secs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mark's, Worsley (10 bells), on Saturday afternoon, Oct. 28th. Tower open for ringing at 3 o'clock to 6.30. All other branch members cordially invited. No ringing after 6.30 p.m.—Joseph H. Ridyard, Branch Sec., 35, The Crescent, Worsley.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The committee have decided to carry on, and look to members for their support. It has been provisionally arranged to hold a meeting at Withyham on Saturday, Nov. 4th. Further details later.—C. A. Bassett, Assistant Sec.

ST. MARY, PUTNEY.—The bells will be rung every Sunday, 10.15—11 a.m., until further notice. All ringers welcome.—W. Foster, Tower Sec.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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CREATING NEW INTERESTS

Throughout these difficult days 'The Ringing World' has urged ringers not to neglect their art and to make the most of the restricted opportunities still open to them. There is now, in many quarters, a gradual awakening of activity and, although peal ringing is bound to be curtailed almost to vanishing point, ringers are realising there are other ways in which they can maintain their interest. On our part we have endeavoured to create a new interest in subjects connected with bells and ringing which some ringers, in their enthusiasm for other phases of their pursuit, may have passed over with little attention. Fresh features have been introduced into our columns which we have every reason to believe are appreciated by our readers. For instance, Mr. J. A. Trollope's contributions on the history of the bells of London churches throw new illumination and interest on some of the ancient bells of the Metropolis and their associations with civic life. These articles are the direct result of Mr. Trollope's personal research into ancient records, and he brings to light many hitherto unpublished details, which have been collected only at the expenditure of much time and patience. Mr. Trollope has established himself as the leading authority on the history of ringing, and this series of articles, which he is kindly writing for our columns, is a valuable contribution to our knowledge of the famous rings of bells in London.

Then our new series, 'With Paper and Pencil,' will, we hope, help to educate not only those who are just taking up the art, but many others who, now denied full opportunity of indulging in the practical side of ringing, have some leisure to devote to the theoretical study of those things which, while they form the background of practice, have been given very little direct study. We hope, as this series develops, that ringers of all classes will find them of increasing interest and value. We had proof when a series of articles written primarily for the benefit of beginners appeared in our columns that others than mere beginners found them of real use; for here and there they shed a light on some point which despite considerable knowledge on the part of the reader had somewhat escaped attention. And so, perhaps, this 'Paper and Pencil' series may in a similar way prove itself helpful even to ringers who have long since passed beyond the beginner's stage.

The circumstances which have enforced the silencing of many church bells, at any rate during normal hours of practice, have made it desirable that more attention

(Continued on page 642.)

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should be given to handbell ringing, which can become a very fascinating pastime. The 'blackout' evenings provide the opportunity for ringers to take up this branch of ringing and, from the correspondence which we have received, many of them are anxious to do so, but as handbell ringing is, in a sense, a different kind of thing to tower bell ringing, they do not know how to start about it. This week we are happy to be able to give them a first insight into handbell ringing, which we hope may be followed by other hints. This article has been contributed by one of the greatest experts in handbell ringing, Mr. C. H. Woolley, who, having learnt in what was probably the finest of all handbell schools, the Cambridge University Guild, has graduated in the famous Bushey band, with whom he has been the 3-4 man in all the great performances, which have included peals in Spliced Surprise Major. There can thus be no better authority on handbell ringing than Mr. Woolley, and our readers are fortunate in getting instruction from such a tutor, who is not only highly skilled himself, but, unlike many other talented handbell ringers, has been able to set down on paper some of the elementary directions for overcoming the initial difficulties. We hope Mr. Woolley will later expand this instruction for the benefit of new enthusiasts and later, perhaps, other exponents of double-handed ringing may be induced to contribute from the store of their knowledge. At any rate, Mr. Woolley has laid a foundation, and it may be that many bands will be able to build upon it from an experience that will grow from practice. One thing, however, is vitally necessary to success in double-handed ringing, and that is constant practice. Practice, practice, and yet more practice is the key to achievement, and we hope those who attempt this form of ringing will find the urge to persevere and will not be discouraged if success does not come all at once. They may rest assured that when the first difficulties are overcome, there is nothing more fascinating in the whole art than double-handed change ringing.

TO KEEP A BAND TOGETHER.

SOME HINTS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—May I give a few words of advice to bands of ringers up and down the country as to the best way of keeping a band together and also promoting the art of change ringing? Keep the ordinary practice night going, if not by tower bells, then by handbells (but not double-handed ringing). Ring the handbells single-handed, that is, ring one bell each, in the same way as on the tower bells. Youngsters can be taught to hunt the treble, others can be taught inside work of Grandsire Doubles and Triples, Bob Minor and Major, Treble Bob Minor and Major, Stedman Doubles, etc., and by sticking to it it is possible to learn any method. It is no good meeting one week then missing two—that is a waste of time. If you wish to keep things going you must stick to it and help yourselves by helping others.

Double-handed ringing will not keep a band together. To me handbells are much the same as tower bells; only a certain percentage become efficient. No matter how you try or what anyone does, if a beginner cannot see it—well, that's that, and no one can tell anyone else why they cannot grasp it or see it.

J. HUNT.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

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REV. FRANK BONNER	4	JOHN WORTH	...Tenor

Composed by JOHN REEVES. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

* First peal of Surprise. Rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. Alan James Kendal to Miss Margaret Edith Humphreys. The bride is the daughter of the Rev. A. J. Humphreys, Vicar of Norbury and Rural Dean. The peal was also a welcome to the curate, the Rev. Selwyn Gummer.

WHITTLE-LE-WOODS, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION
(PRESTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, October 14, 1939, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-EVANGELIST,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. 1 qr. 13 lb.

THOMAS BARKER	...Treble	JOHN JACKSON	5
JOHN CHARNOCK	2	B. A. KNIGHTS	6
KENNETH HALL	3	LAWRENCE WALMSLEY	7
*EDWARD RAMSBOTHAM	4	JOHN H. GARTSIDE	...Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by B. A. KNIGHTS.

* First peal in the method 'inside.' Rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of Alfred Blogg, branch secretary, who was interred on the 11th inst. Rung on the 29th anniversary of the first peal on the bells, which was also conducted by Mr. B. A. Knights.

SIX BELL PEAL.

WEEKLEY, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different extents. Tenor 8 cwt. 10 lb.

ARTHUR S. COOPER	...Treble	W. REGINALD BUTCHER	4
BURLEY P. MORRIS	2	GEOFFREY E. WATSON	5
LEONARD G. TOSSELAND	3	BERNARD J. SADDINGTON	...Tenor

Conducted by BERNARD J. SADDINGTON.

First peal and first attempt by ringer of treble, who is a young member of the local band.

HANDBELL PEALS.

CHISLEHURST, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, October 9, 1939, in Two Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT 35, ALBANY ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

CYRIL BRETT-SMITH	1-2	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY	5-6
THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.	3-4	EDWIN BARNETT	7-8

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE. Conducted by T. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.

Umpire—T. Groombridge, sen.

Arranged and rung on the 72nd birthday of Mr. T. Groombridge, sen.

CRAYFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, October 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT 10, KING'S CLOSE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

EDWIN A. BARNETT	1-2	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.	5-6
GEOFFREY V. MURPHY	3-4	EDWIN BARNETT	7-8

Composed by C. H. MARTIN. Conducted by T. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.

Umpire—D. M. Sharp.

Arranged as a compliment to E. A. Barnett, now of the R.A.F., Stanmore, on his 21st birthday, and as a farewell to G. V. Murphy, who joined the Royal West Kents on the following day.

CHANGE RINGING ON HANDBELLS.

BY. C. R. WOOLLEY.

How To Begin.

To explain how to ring a pair of handbells in changes is, perhaps, one of the most difficult things a ringer can attempt to do. Few of those who are able to ring two bells 'in hand' can tell you exactly how to do it; and probably no two have quite the same idea upon the best way to instruct others.

But we have asked Mr. Chris. Woolley, one of the celebrated company at Bushey who have made history by ringing handbell peals of Spliced Surprise Major, to tell us how he approaches the subject. This he has kindly done, and we hope the article may be followed by others on the subject, perhaps by other talented handbell ringers, so that our readers may have the benefit of their knowledge and experience.

Handbell ringers are inclined to be evasive when asked how it is done. This is not generally through any lack of system, but rather because of the difficulty of conveying to others the ideas underlying the system. However, there are perhaps many tower bell ringers who would be unable to convey their system clearly even to other ringers, let alone explain it to a non-ringer. One knows the initial stages to counting, following course bells, or picking out the bells to follow in cyclic order—according to the way in which one was taught; but how many people can explain clearly what takes the place of these methods when practice and proficiency enable them to be dispensed with? Certainly some sort of instinct steps in at a certain stage, and the ringer finds he need no longer keep his eyes glued to his course bell, or his mind filled with a constant stream of figures.

The same applies in handbell ringing, and the same sort of initial stages of learning are necessary for complete success; so that when the already proficient tower-bell ringer finds himself called upon to go back to the beginning he must try not to pass the whole thing off as being too laborious, but rather, remembering his early struggles in the tower and recognising that there is a definite difference between the two branches of the art, realise that the learning stage must be gone through on handbells if he is really and truly to master them as well.

The average ringer will start handbell ringing with certain advantages over the non-ringer; but his knowledge is only of advantage to him provided he does appreciate that there is a difference in the system. If he attempts to ring a pair of handbells in the sole light of his experience in the tower it may eventually prove a definite handicap, and he will probably soon reach a limit of performance beyond which it is very difficult to make any progress at all.

THE MOST IMPORTANT POINT.

The first and most important point about handbell ringing is that the pair must be made to help each other, and rung in each change by a single effort of thought; in other words, one must not attempt to split the mind into two and follow the course of each bell separately. To attempt this is precisely the mistake into which the average ringer, starting on his own, is liable to fall; and because certain pairs in some methods can be rung in this way without very great trouble, he may be led to believe that he has reached his own personal limit, whereas in reality he has failed to appreciate and tackle the problem in the right way from the beginning.

Having got this fact quite clear, it remains to show its practical application. First, the question of the number of bells and the method arises. My own personal opinion is that six is quite the best number to commence

on, since Minor methods contain most of the work without much of the practical difficulties of counting and sighting involved in higher numbers. Major is also quite a good number to start on, if the band can manage the initial stages, and the fact of having an extra pair not in course, and the remarks which follow apply to eight bells with very little addition. Of methods, Plain Bob is a very obvious first choice. Odd bell methods—e.g. Grandsire—are not quite so easy for a start, and have the obvious disadvantage of giving the tenors no practice in the way of ringing both bells in the work.

Starting, then, with Bob Minor, we will imagine the learner to be on 5-6; the course should be written out, and the pair lined in (different colours may be used, but are by no means necessary). It will be seen that, at the beginning, having crossed over in 5-6, the pair course down to lead, the tenor first, with one bell in between each time, until they come together and cross over on the front and course up, the fifth now striking first, with one bell in between as before. Now to work them as a pair, the first bell in each change (i.e., the sixth coming down, and the fifth going up), which we will call the 'leading bell,' need be the only one to occupy the attention, since the other, or 'following' bell, can be placed each time from the position of the leading bell by allowing one bell to strike in between; excepting, of course, when they are at front or back together. Since the dodges are done also in course with one bell in between, these are also done by concentrating only on the leading bell.

WHEN THE PAIR IS PARTED

In the third, or parted lead, the treble comes in between the pair in the coursing order, as it does in turn between each coursing pair. This means that the normal coursing of this pair in this lead consists in striking with three bells in between, though as they separate from 2-3 at the beginning of the lead they strike for one change with two in between, as they also do before, and after coming together in 4-5, and before coming together in 2-3 at the end of the lead.

The whole of this lead must be rung by placing the leading bell correctly and counting the interval between it and the following bell. This may seem laborious; but on no account must the beginner try to ring the bells by separate parts, nor should he attempt to muddle through, as this will obviously lead nowhere. In fact the whole lead should be carefully studied beforehand so that he shall have a very clear idea of what he is to do, and know the spacing between the bells change by change.

153624
156342
513624
531264
352146
325416
234561
243651
426315
462135
641253
614523
165432
164523

The lead may be summed up thus: Fifth make seconds, tenor dodge back into 3rd's place, striking together in 2-3. Fifth leads again, two bells in between; fifth leads, three in between; three in between, three in between (sixth behind); two in between, meet and cross 4-5 under the treble; two in between, three in between, three in between (fifth now at lead); two in between; meet in 2-3 over treble, sixth makes seconds, and the fifth dodges back into fourth's bringing the pair in course.

The same applies in the parted lead of the tenors in Bob Major; only there are two extra changes both up and down with three bells in between to cover the extra places.

It will be seen that the work of a coursing pair in Bob Minor consists of four leads in course and one parted lead; the whole is known as the 5-6 position. During the parted lead the pair are said to be working round the treble.

The 3-4 position consists of three leads with three bells in between, like the parted lead of 5-6, but with the pair working round the second, and consequently crossing in 2-3 as well as in 4-5. The dodges at the lead-ends should be studied; they are known as "scissors" and consist in dodging apart (to an interval of two bells) before or after crossing in 4-5. The other two leads in the 3-4 position, those at the beginning and end of the course, are known as "opposites," since when one of the pair leads the other is behind. *These leads must also be worked out by spacing from the leading bell.*

TWO BELLS SHOULD WORK AS ONE.

We now find that we have the whole of the work of inside pairs in Bob Minor, since at all times these pairs are ringing some part of one or other of the 3-4 or 5-6 positions. A pair cannot change its position without a call; and calls at certain places in the course have only the effect of changing the pair from one part of the course to another in the same position; while at other places the pair will be changed from one position to the other. Having mastered the positions in the plain course the work at the calls may be studied with diagrams; with a certain amount of practice this work becomes evident.

It will be found in Major that there are three positions, those of 7-8 (coursing); 3-4, which contains leads similar to the parted lead of 7-8, and two others with five bells in between; and 5-6, which contains leads similar to those of the 3-4 position (with five bells in between) and leads at opposites.

The trebles start and finish in course, separating lead by lead to the position of opposites, thereafter coming together lead by lead. They thus have coursing in all positions, but not the internal work at the lead-ends.

If all the band are beginners on handbells the work may be easier by starting the course from 132456 (or 12345678 for Major) when all the pairs will be in the coursing position. This will give all a chance of becoming familiar with the easiest position before embarking on the more difficult parted positions.

The leading bell may be hunted by means of its course bell going down, and by 'following the bell which followed it' on the way up; when coursing, this will be the bell which struck in between the pair in the preceding change. Another method is by counting, laying emphasis on the places in which the leading bell is due to strike, thus:

1-2-3-4-**5**-6,
1-2-3-4-5-6,
1-2-3-4-5-6,
1-2-3-4-5-6, etc.

After some practice the ringing of the various positions should become entirely automatic and involve no more mental effort than is required in the tower for the ringing of one bell. The above recommendations, that each different type of lead should be studied in line and analysed, are made in the absolute conviction that the two bells should work together as one, and that the learner must have a very clear idea of what he has to do

(Continued in next column.)

CHANGE RINGING ON HANDBELLS.

(Continued from previous column.)

before he attempts to do it. This system requires much modification later, because when a more advanced stage is reached the work involved in learning all the leads in the different positions in quite simple methods becomes far too big a job to be practicable—besides becoming unnecessary. The system by which more intricate methods can be dealt with must be left for another article.

MR. G. E. SYMONDS' ADVICE ON RINGING IN HAND.

To the Editor.

Sir,—The letters published in your issue of September 29th were very interesting to me as one who has called peals of Grandsire, Plain Bob and Treble Bob on 8, 10 and 12 handbells double-handed.

I should like to make known what is, in my opinion, the easiest way to overcome many difficulties.

Do not try to ring two handbells by the same rule as tower bells, that is, by course method or by passing the treble, but hunt both bells in a plain hunt until you see the treble lead.

In Grandsire dodge one step backwards when it goes into 2nd's after leading, the two handbells will then be in exactly the same positions as they were when it led at handstroke and then continue the plain hunting again. It is important to have a reliable ringer on 1-2, also always to follows one's course bell after hunting all the way up.

In Plain Bob the step backwards is one blow earlier, and in Treble Bob the dodge occurs when the bell on the slow makes its second blow in second's place.

By using the above I ring and also call the bobs with less mental exertion than is required for ringing one tower bell, as mentioned by Mr Jones.

GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

Ipswich.

DEATH OF AN OLD TOTTENHAM RINGER.

On September 26th last, at Old Quarry, Nettlestead, Kent, William Pye English passed away peacefully at the age of 84.

Fifty years ago the deceased was an active member of the band at All Hallows', Tottenham, and took part in several peals at Tottenham, Southgate and other towers in North Middlesex.

He was a pioneer cyclist who was well known as a long distance and track rider, and, according to the local paper, it was principally owing to his efforts and the late Mr. Justice Scrutton's that danger boards were erected on steep hills leading to the saving of many lives.

TINTAGEL BELLS RESTORED.

NEW TEAK FRAME.

The strikingly situated Church of Tintagel, Cornwall, built on the headland overlooking the Atlantic, was the scene of considerable interest on Saturday afternoon, September 30th, when the peal of five bells, with tenor just over 7 cwt., was rededicated by the Vicar, the Rev. E. D. Arundel.

For all practical purposes the bells have been unringable for many years, and, although the question of restoration was considered from time to time, nothing came of it owing to lack of the necessary funds. Some six months ago, however, the present Vicar received an offer which enabled him to revive the scheme.

Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, of Croydon, were called in and found everything to be in a deplorable condition. Their detailed proposals for a complete restoration were submitted to the diocesan authorities and fully approved by the Advisory Committee, and an order was placed with the firm for the work to be put in hand. This has now been completed.

The restoration was made possible by the great generosity of Lady Baron and once again Tintagel possesses a handy and useful ring.

The work, which has been most admirably carried out, consists of completely rehanging the bells with new fittings of modern design, including ball bearings, in a new frame.

Owing to the exposed situation of the church near the sea and the consequent prevalence of salt spray, special precautions were taken to obviate as far as possible the effects of corrosion. The new framework is constructed entirely in seasoned teak wood and the headstocks also made of the same timber.

The bells have been carefully tuned and it is agreed by everyone that they have been considerably enriched in their tonal quality. The ringers who attended also expressed the greatest pleasure in the 'go' and timing of the peal.

Incidentally, on the suggestion of the Diocesan Advisory Committee, the framework has been designed with accommodation for a treble to make six and the Vicar hopes it may not be long before it will be possible to complete the scheme by the addition of this bell. No doubt he would be very pleased to receive contributions! The cost of the additional part of the new frame is being defrayed by some members of the Parochial Church Council.

IBSTOCK, LEICS.—At St. Denys' Church on Sunday, October 8th, for harvest festival service, a quarter-peal of Doubles (480 Bob Doubles and 780 Grandsire): Miss E. Iris Rowley 1, C. Verey 2, F. S. Fowkes 3, A. E. Rowley (conductor) 4, A. R. Tonks 5, F. Fowkes 6.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The war-time derangement of the postal services and the necessity of getting the copies of 'The Ringing World' into the hands of the publishers earlier on Thursday make it absolutely essential that all contributions to our columns, and particularly all notices, should be in our hands by Monday in each week. We cannot guarantee the insertion in the following issue of anything received later.

We hope that secretaries will send us prompt reports of their meetings, and we shall welcome any items of news relating to ringers and ringing, but they must reach us early.

BELFRY GOSSIP.

We have yet another grudge against Hitler. He is responsible for the dislocation of our postal service. Will correspondents kindly note that, unless they forward communications to reach us by the first post on Tuesday, they may be too late for the following issue of 'The Ringing World.' Moreover, the arrival on Tuesday of long distance letters is very uncertain unless posted early on Monday.

Southover Guild, Lewes, Sussex, had arranged to celebrate the centenary of the opening of the bells on Saturday, October 28th. It was feared at first that the war might prevent the arrangements being carried out, but it is now hoped that a suitable commemoration may take place. The bells will be rung in the afternoon and a dinner is to be held in the evening, all being well.

The celebration of a centenary is not quite like an ordinary annual dinner. A centenary comes only once.

To-day is the 145th anniversary of a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major rung at St. Giles', Camberwell, by the Cumberlands, and conducted by the elder George Gross. The composition was John Reeves' five-part, containing 6,720 changes, and William Shipway, who was in the band, says that this was the first time a peal of Treble Bob containing the 120 course ends was ever performed.

Shipway probably was wrong in this statement, for on March 4th, 1791, the Kensington band, with James Bartlett calling the bobs, had rung the same length, and, as William Jones, the chief author of the 'Clavis,' was in the band, almost certainly the same composition.

Five months earlier on October 21st the same men (except that Edward Rumball was in William Jones' peal) rang Reeves' 8,448 of Treble Bob. This was for many years thought to be the full extent in the method without parting the tenors. The Junior Cumberlands had already rung the composition to Kent, but this was the first time it was rung to the Oxford variation.

To-day is also the anniversary of a peal of Grandsire Cinques, rung in 1751 at St. Bridget's, otherwise St. Bride's, Fleet Street, by the Society of Union Scholars. It was composed and conducted by John Holt.

Charles Henry Hattersley, one of the foremost and best known ringers of the generation that belonged to the later years of the nineteenth century, died on October 21st, 1915.

On October 21st, 1876, the St. Martin's Society rang the only peal as yet accomplished of Stedman Royal. It was at Aston, and the number of changes was 5,184. Henry Johnson composed the peal and called it from the sixth, and the band included men like Amos Cresser, Henry Bastable and Johnson's son, Henry, who were well-known ringers in the district at that time.

Stedman on even numbers is an obvious misfit. It was rung by making each bell lie for three blows in fourth's place both going out and coming in, which gives back-stroke double dodging in 5-6, 7-8 and 9-10, but the sixes behind do not coincide with the sixes in front.

The vice-president of the Western Division of the Yorkshire Association spoke of the great difficulties in travelling some 40 years ago when attending meetings. We understand that he had the utmost difficulty in getting home from Shipley, what with black-out restrictions and disjointed bus services—and this in 1939.

Among the peals recorded in this week's issue is one rung to celebrate the 21st birthday of Mr. Edwin A. Barnett, of Crayford, now serving with the Royal Air Force. Never, we believe, in the history of the Exercise has anyone reached his majority with a peal ringing record anything like his. Our readers will join us in congratulating him, and wishing him luck for his own sake and for the sake of his grandfather and father, whose friends among ringers are countless.

Another handbell peal has also been rung for the 72nd birthday of Mr. Thomas Groombridge, sen., whose recovery from his serious accident on August 12th will give great pleasure to his many friends. We are glad to be able to report that he is now again ringing on tower bells and as well as ever.

THE B.B.C. INTERVAL SIGNAL.

MR. TROTMAN EXPANDS HIS VIEWS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—When, in my original letter to you about the B.B.C. interval signal, I said 'the record which is now used was not made specially for the purpose,' I meant to imply that an interval signal was a special item for which a special record was necessary.

If the idea of such a signal is analysed it can be looked at from the point of view of the B.B.C. or from the point of view of the man in the living room (the 'man in the street' does not apply for once!). The B.B.C. regard it as something to help a listener to tune in when there is no programme. Hence its indiscriminate use after all programmes, including news bulletins, with the result that the outbreak of war, the Russian stab-in-the-back for Poland and the sinking of ships like H.M.S. Royal Oak are greeted with a peal of bells to accord with the shouts of joy in our own hearts! In the first instance I was reminded of Walpole's remark on the outbreak of 'the war of Jenkins' ear' in 1739—'They are ringing the bells now, but they will soon be wringing their hands.'

The listener wants some sound to tune in to when no programme is available. The present signal is much pleasanter than those used by foreign stations, though, in my opinion, the ringing fraternity could produce something more suitable. The listener is not interested in the ringers or the method used. He merely desires a smooth and undulating sound which does not jar on his nerves every so often.

No existing record of bells 'foots the bill.' The main thing to remember about it is that people have to listen to it several times a day. It does not come into the category of a Sunday service touch, which has a definite beginning and a definite end (usually!). In the signal there should be 'no beginning or end to it' (thank you, Mr. Whittington, for those words). Rounds should be avoided both at the beginning and the end. As it is, one of the announcers starts the record in the middle to avoid them, and they all have to take the record off before it has finished.

On this assumption, therefore, Triples will not do. They are pleasant enough to ring and pleasant enough to listen to for a short while. But to hear them repeatedly is very tedious. They begin to sound like a small child doing four finger exercises with an irate music mistress stamping her foot to keep time! If, on a consensus of opinion, the tenor behind is preferred, let us have Cinques, when its 'blows' will be few and far between.

What is really wanted is a 'fantasia' of bells. The whimsical character of Major with its crotchets and quavers provides a much more suitable medium. Moreover, the record should be 'faded in' after the bells have gone into changes, and 'faded out' before they come back into rounds. The record should be made at some distance from the tower, as a 'blare' could never be pleasant. Given these conditions, Double Norwich on the back eight at Bow would provide slow heavy ringing, with no jars or monotonous repetitions, on the world's most famous peal.

A. TROTMAN.

Longbredy, Dorset.

P.S.—The best ringers obtainable should be procured for the job—those who are familiar with Bow bells, including perhaps some of those who made the record now used. It would be highly undesirable for C3 ringers like myself ever to turn Bow tenor in except as a warning for an air raid, earthquake or some other major catastrophe!

VARIETY OF RECORDS ADVOCATED.

Sir,—Since the war began I have turned to the pages of 'The Ringing World' to be convinced that you, sir, are carrying on. The items of interest from your many contributors convincingly appeal. Your journal has transformed itself into a magazine of interest to all lovers of bells, peals and historic customs.

The correspondence on the B.B.C. interval signal provokes one to express admiration for the ringers who produced and permanently recorded for all time the real beauty of a magnificent peal of bells. The work was done by expert ringers. When the B.B.C. operator adjusts the gramophone to the correct speed the 'harmonics' and 'hum' tones distinctly tell on the air. Hence the ringing and the bells are admired by ringers, who 'live' for striking only, and by the common folk. Seldom is a blow very faulty.

Still, we grow tired even of the very best in time, and it has occurred to me that the Regional transmitters might have regional variations. What about a course of Stedman on the minor eight with the eleventh as tenor from Exeter Cathedral for the west? Or a course of Bristol on that fine peal at Shrewsbury for the Midland Regional or some other fine peal in the North with a really musical method well struck for the North Regional? Everybody loves bells; particularly is this true in rural areas, where there is never much difficulty in getting money for the bells if it be required.

If such records were made, and, if necessary, re-made, and presented to the B.B.C. I feel convinced they would thank you for them and use them. Even a word of appreciation, to my knowledge, has been courteously replied to.

FRED C. SMALE.

Okehampton.

A number of other letters on this subject are unavoidably held over.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WESTERN DIVISION AND THE LEEDS SOCIETY MEET.

Visit to Shipley.

A very enjoyable joint meeting of the Western Division of the Yorkshire Association with the Leeds and District Society was held on Saturday at St. Paul's Church, Shipley. This was the first meeting of the two societies since the commencement of the war, and the result proved beyond doubt that, where it is possible to arrange a ringing meeting, the members from the surrounding districts give their fullest support. Some members travelled a considerable distance, using no less than four different bus routes, in order to have a few brief touches. Practices in most districts are either very much curtailed, if not stopped altogether, and the few meetings which are possible can be sure of a good attendance.

Ringing commenced about 2 o'clock and continued until almost "black-out" time. During the afternoon touches of the following methods were enjoyed: Plain Bob, Treble Bob, Stedman Triples, Double Norwich, Cambridge, Superlative and Airedale Surprise, and the standard of ringing and striking was very much above the average for meetings.

The business meeting was held in the Institute, with the vice-president, Mr. P. J. Johnson, in the chair, supported by the Rev. W. J. Perrett, Vicar of Shipley; the president of the Leeds and District Society (the Rev. J. H. B. Andrews) having had to leave early owing to another appointment.

The Chairman in very characteristic style proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar and wardens of Shipley for very kindly granting the use of the bells, and also to the local company for making such excellent preparations for the members' comfort and the other arrangements. He mentioned a humorous incident when he attended his first 'country meeting' at Shipley many years ago, when travelling facilities were rather primitive and were not helped by a thick fog which incidentally prevented him from reaching home at night. He was sure that wherever ringers went they would not find a more genial spirit than that which was found in the belfry at Shipley. There was always a hearty welcome for ringers, and the way in which the belfry was kept was a model which other places might try and emulate. Under the guidance of Mr. Simpson and Mr. Kendall, the Shipley company were keeping up the great traditions of those gone before, and he hoped they would continue to make such good progress for a very long time to come.

The Rev. W. J. Perrett, in replying, spoke of his very great pleasure in welcoming the associations to Shipley. He took the greatest interest in his ringers, and whenever he visited the belfry he was always conscious of the spirit of brotherhood amongst them. He was sure that there was a great deal more unity in the belfry than in other parts of church work. Unfortunately, they, like other towns, were having difficulty in maintaining a full band, but he hoped that when the affairs of the country were more settled they would have no trouble in obtaining a plentiful supply of young ringers to carry on this wonderful work. He had enjoyed listening to the bells all the afternoon, but he hoped that next time he would be able to listen to them under more pleasing national conditions.

Mr. Ernest Simpson, in replying for the local company, spoke of their pleasure in receiving the associations and assured everyone that there would always be a ready welcome at Shipley.

The Chairman mentioned that the next meeting was due to be held in December, but owing to the many difficulties—of travelling and rationing, to say nothing of the short time available for ringing owing to darkness which would no doubt prevail at that time—the committee were under the impression that it would be wise to cut out this and to hold the next meeting in March. He mentioned that the Leeds and District Society would endeavour to continue with their monthly meetings whenever possible within the radius of that society, and he hoped that as many as possible would take advantage of this and give their fullest support.

It was, therefore, decided on the proposition of Mr. John Ambler, seconded by Mr. Armitage, that the next meeting be at Queensbury, and unless more settled conditions prevailed in the meantime, that this be held next March.

It was announced that a meeting of the Leeds and District Society will be held in November, if at all possible, and members are asked to look for an announcement in 'The Ringing World' for further details.

A request was made that all tower secretaries in Yorkshire should keep a record of members serving in H.M. Forces, and that particulars should be sent to the district secretaries for inclusion in the annual report. It was also mentioned that a number of subscriptions were still outstanding for the year which has just closed, and that these should be paid without delay, in order to keep the membership intact.

The towers represented during the day were as follows: Addingham, Armley, Bradford Cathedral, Bramley, Drighlington, Elland, Guiseley, Headingley (St. Chad's and St. Michael's), Huddersfield, Idle, Keighley, Leeds Parish Church, Pudsey, Queensbury and Shipley.

BOZEAT, NORTHANTS.—On Oct. 15th at the Church of Our Lady for morning service, a quarter-peal of Doubles, 360 each of Canterbury and Plain Bob, 120 of April Day and 420 of Grandsire: D. Perkins (first quarter-peal) 1, E. Smart 2, M. Laughton 3, D. Cockings (conductor) 4, T. Fleming 5.

CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

INTERESTING FACTS FROM HISTORY OF ST. MARGARET'S, WESTMINSTER.

By J. Armiger Trollope.

St. Margaret's, Westminster, was not only a prominent church, with a large and important parish; it was the parish church of the royal palace and of the Houses of Parliament. There was, therefore, a lot of paid ringing in the steeple. A large part of it was on the days that the King or Queen arrived at or left Whitehall, or on royal birthdays or the Coronation Day. This last was a special ringing day and in 1626 the vestry agreed to pay the ringers £1, which was a large sum and probably means that the bells were rung on and off the whole of the day. The same amount was paid on that day in every succeeding year right down to 1648, a few months before the execution of King Charles I. It was resumed after the Restoration in 1660.

An early and interesting entry in the accounts records the receipt by the parish 'atte burying of William Caxton for iiij torches vjs. viijd Item for the belle atte same burying vjd.'

The fees for the bells in connection with deaths and burials formed a considerable item in the parish revenue at St. Margaret's as well as at most other places. They were for passing bells and for knells; and we seldom find an entry for a funeral peal rung by all the bells. Yet they were common enough. Probably the ringers were paid directly through the clerk. The parish paid for bell ringing at the funerals of King Henry VIII. and Queen Elizabeth.

In 1586, when Babbington's plot was discovered, the bells were rung, and in the next year, when the news came that Mary, Queen of Scots, had been beheaded. In 1612 her body was removed from Peterborough to the Abbey, and again the bells were rung, but this time as a mark of respect.

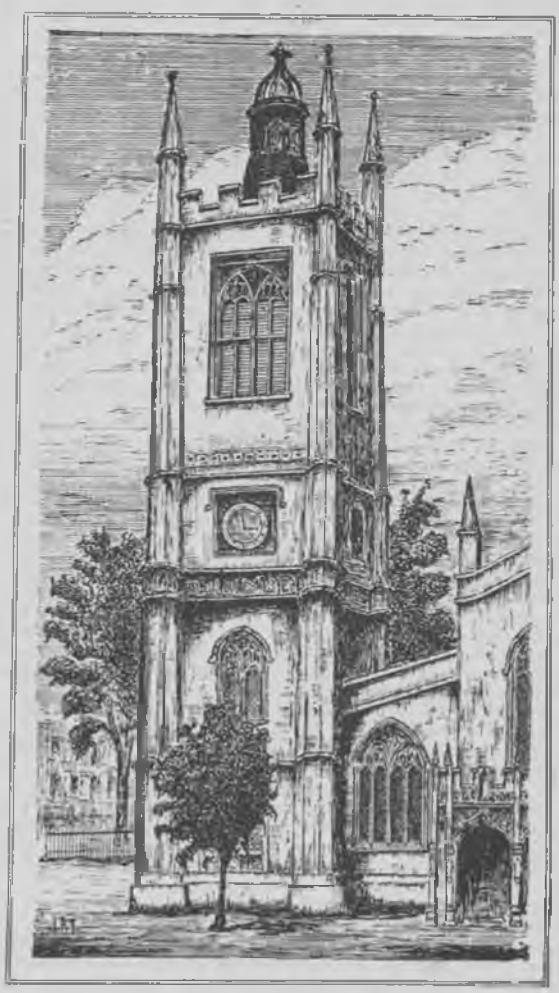
There was ringing in 1588 when Queen Elizabeth went to the camp at Tilbury, where the English army was waiting for the expected landing of the Spaniards, but there is no mention in the accounts of any when, a week or two later, the news came that the Armada had been defeated at sea. No doubt the ringers did not wait for any official orders or promise of pay. A few years earlier, when the Spaniards beat the Turks at the battle of Lepanto, all London's bells, and St. Margaret's among them, were set ringing.

St. Margaret's was more than the church of the parish in which the Houses of Parliament were situated; it was also from 1614 'as it were a National Church for the use of the House of Commons,' and this was the cause of a certain amount of ringing. In 1605, as soon as Guy Fawkes' plot was discovered, the bells were rung; in 1628 when Charles I. accepted the Petition of Right; in 1640 when the Triennial Act was passed; in 1651 when the Scots were beaten at Worcester; in 1653 when Oliver Cromwell was installed as Lord Protector; and always when a new Speaker was elected.

The tower was reconstructed, refaced, heightened, and given its present appearance in 1735; the cost being partly paid by a grant from Parliament.

The churchwardens did not deal directly with the ringers, but employed a steeplekeeper, probably the parish sexton, and he provided the ringers when they were needed. In the early seventeenth century the steeplekeeper was Michael Stockdale and his wages for attending to the bells for a year were one shilling and eightpence. Later on Edward Rogers was steeplekeeper.

In 1674 a boy of fourteen was dragged up by one of the ropes and killed. An inquiry was held and it was proved that the steeplekeeper had been very negligent in the discharge of his duties and, instead of being constantly in the belfry when a knell was being rung, he had



ST. MARGARET'S, WESTMINSTER.

left a number of boys there and absented himself 'on no occasion of the parish.' Other misdemeanours being proved against him, he was dismissed from his employment.

From ancient times the morning bell was rung at five o'clock and the curfew at eight. When the custom ceased is unknown.

Besides the paid ringing there was a lot of 'pleasure' ringing by people like the College Youths and the Esquire Youths. When the octave was completed in 1670, the vestry at the instance of the curate and some of the neighbouring parishioners, ordered that there should be no ringing in peal before seven in the morning or after eight at night.

No record survives of any five thousand rung on the first octave. The earliest known peal on Knight's bells

was 5040 changes of Double Bob Major on February 12th, 1742, by the Eastern Scholars. No claim is made in the peal book that it was the first on the bells and quite possibly one had already been scored by another company.

From that time until the present a steady succession of peals has been rung in the steeple, some of them of more than ordinary interest. In 1751 Annable called a peal of Reverse Bob Major for the College Youths. It was claimed as the first that was done in that steeple, which suggests that one had already been rung elsewhere. If so, no account of it survives.

In the same year John Holt called his original peal of Grandsire Triples for the first time. The band were members of the Society of Union Scholars, and Holt, thinking it beyond the powers of any man to call the peal and ring at the same time, sat in the tower and called it from the manuscript. A board was erected to commemorate the performance, but there is now no entry of it in the peal book. Osborn thought that it was omitted because it was considered irregular for a man to call and not ring. Snowdon thought it was omitted because Annable 'did not approve' of the composition. Neither explanation is convincing.

The company which had rung the peal and erected the peal board can hardly have had scruples about entering the record in the peal book, or would have been likely to pay much attention to the criticisms of a man belonging to another and rival society. Most likely the peal was entered in the usual way and the sheet afterwards taken out by someone when the book became dilapidated. The peals were not numbered and so the loss of a leaf cannot be traced. So far as we can tell, Annable did not object to the composition, nor hold the opinion that a peal of Grandsire Triples must be produced by bobs only.

In 1752 the Eastern Scholars rang a peal of Double Eastern Bob Major, a very interesting method of which they said it was 'unparall'l for music, though derided by Ben, who says it is lopsided.' Annable had learnt something about the symmetry of methods since the days when he had composed, and presumably rung, lopsided six-bell methods himself.

George Meakins called the first peal on the ten bells; 5040 changes of Grandsire Caters rung by the College Youths in 1761.

The longest peal on the bells during the eighteenth century was 6000 changes of Bob Major by the Union Scholars in 1747 composed and conducted by John Holt. In 1805 the Westminster Youths rang 6011 changes of Grandsire Caters, which length was beaten in 1814 by the Junior Cumberlands, who rang 6101 changes in the same method, and again in 1823 by a peal of 7002 changes.

AN ANCIENT ABBEY BELL.

REPLY TO MR. E. J. THOMAS' ENQUIRY.

To the Editor

Dear Sir,—In reply to the question by Mr. Edward J. Thomas as to what became of the large bell from Talley Abbey, Carmarthenshire, when dismantled in 1772, there is no evidence that it ever came to Exeter.

According to the 'History of the Church Bells of Devon' by the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe, 'Grandison,' the tenor bell in Exeter Cathedral, was recast by Pennington in 1629, and again by William Evans in 1729. When the Cathedral bells were restored in 1902 this bell was finally recast by Messrs. John Taylor and Co.

Great Peter, the clock bell, hanging in the north tower, is said to have been brought from Llandaff by Bishop Courtenay in 1484 in exchange for five bells from Exeter. This bell was recast by Thomas Purdue in 1676. Its reputed weight is 6¼ tons, and it is still in use.

Heavitree, Exeter. T. LAVER.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

EVENING RINGING AT ROCHDALE BRANCH MEETING.

The Rochdale Branch of the Lancashire Association met at Moorside, near Oldham, on October 7th. The bells were set going by the local ringers at the appointed time and a touch of Stedman Triples was first brought round. As more people arrived so the variety of methods rung increased, and before an adjournment was made for tea all the standard methods had been rung.

The business meeting was afterwards held in the tower, and while waiting for the Vicar, the Rev. A. Calderley, who had expressed his willingness to take the chair, the handbell enthusiasts rang well-struck courses of Plain Bob, Stedman and Grandsire.

The Secretary said how disappointed they were that at the last meeting, held at Middleton on the Saturday prior to the declaration of war, the Rector had refused permission to ring, and he hoped this would not be a common occurrence.

The question was raised as to whether people serving in His Majesty's Forces would retain their membership without the necessity of paying further subscriptions.

After a short discussion the meeting decided that the General Committee ought to give a lead in this matter.

In his closing remarks the secretary was very emphatic on the point that the monthly meetings should be kept going at all costs, and those present promised to do their best to attain this end.

Before leaving the belfry the Vicar gave his permission to use the bells until 8.30, which was appreciated by all those present.

The bells were, therefore, soon set going again to Stedman. Other methods followed in rapid succession, including a touch of London Scholars' Pleasure for the six-bell ringers.

After a long course of Oxford Treble Bob, everyone thought they had had sufficient for one day, and so with promises to attend the next meeting at Shore, near Littleborough, the ringers disappeared into the darkness.

RINGING ARRANGEMENTS.

WHAT THE TOWERS ARE DOING.

Staverton, Daventry, 6 p.m. Practice, Mondays, 7.30 p.m.
Disley, 10.15 to 10.45 a.m. and 2.30 to 3 p.m.
Marple, 10 to 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 to 3 p.m.
Macclesfield, Christ Church, 10 to 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 to 3 p.m.
Norbury, 10.15 to 10.45 a.m. and 5.30 to 6 p.m.
Cranleigh, Surrey, 10.15 a.m. and 3.15 p.m. Practice, Monday, 7.45.
Swindon, Christ Church, 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.
Swindon, St. Mark's, 10.15 a.m. and 3.15 p.m.
Rodbourne Cheney, 10.30 a.m. and 2 p.m.
Burton Latimer Parish Church, 10 a.m. and 2.15 p.m. Practice, alternate Saturdays, beginning October 21st, 2.45 p.m.
Walsall, St. Matthew's, 10.15 to 11 a.m. and 3 to 3.30 p.m.
Mistley, Essex, 10 to 11 a.m.
Hugglescote, Leicestershire, 10.15 to 10.45 a.m. and 2.30 to 3 p.m.
Tring, 10.30 a.m. to 11 a.m. and 2.30 to 3 p.m.
Llanfrechfa, Newport, Mon., 10.30 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Bournemouth, St. John's, Surrey Road, 10.15 to 11 a.m. and 2.30 to 3.15 p.m.
Bozeat, Northants, 9.15 to 10 a.m. and 5.15 to 6 p.m. Practice, Friday, 7.30 to 9 p.m.
Wellesborough, Kent, 10.15 to 10.35 a.m. and 2.15 to 2.55 p.m.
Aughton, Lancs, 10 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.

A special open practice has been arranged at Staverton, Daventry, for the first Saturday in each month, from 5.30 to 8 p.m., at which all visitors will be most welcome.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—May I, through the columns of 'The Ringing World,' ask what has happened to the Kent County Association? Have the officials got the wind up or have they abandoned the ship? Five weeks have gone and there is not a word from headquarters, local or otherwise. Now that the annual district meetings are due to be held, is there any valid reason why they should not take place? Transport in the county during the afternoon and early evening is practically normal, train services are fairly good and there is no food rationing at present. Although ringing might be limited, surely the business is sufficiently important to hold a meeting, apart from the very high value many ringers set to the social side.

Is an association such as this to be allowed to go to sleep at Hitler's orders, and, if so, will it wake up again when he gets his marching orders?

'ENQUIRER.'

BELFRY BLACKED OUT.

Weekley belfry is 'blacked out,' and Mr. B. P. Morris will be pleased to arrange practices there for any Kettering District ringers who care to communicate with him.

It is hoped to maintain ringing at Hugglescote throughout the coming winter and visitors will be heartily welcomed. There will be an 'open' practice afternoon on Saturday, November 18th.

NOTICES.

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—North-East Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bampton on Saturday, Oct. 21st. Bells from 2 p.m. Time of service and tea to be announced at meeting. Come early. Will those wishing to have tea please notify me as early as possible?—R. Harris, Park, Silverton, near Exeter.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Chilvers Coton (Rugby bells not available) on Saturday, Oct. 21st. Bells available during afternoon and evening. Business meeting in the Vestry at 4.30. Please make own arrangements for tea.—Dorothy E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting will be held at Sharnford on Saturday, Oct. 21st. Bells available 2.30 until dark. Tea can be obtained at the Church Institute, and names should be sent to the Rector as early as possible to allow for any delay in the post. Handbells, etc., for the rest of the evening. Please make an effort to attend. These meetings now depend on YOU.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

BUSHEY SOCIETY. — The bells (8) at Bushey, Herts, will be available on Saturday, Oct. 21st, from 3.45 to 5.15 p.m. Everybody welcomed. Most methods available. Handbells after. No time limit.—E. Jennings.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Portsmouth, on Saturday, Oct. 21st. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea in the Parish Hall 5.30 p.m. Business meeting follows. All ringers welcome.—A. T. Greenwood, Hon. Sec., 6, Sheffield Road, Portsmouth.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District. — The next meeting will be held at Widford on Saturday, Oct. 21st. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting.—H. W. Shadrack, Dis. Sec., 7, Upper Arbour Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Burton District.—A special meeting will be held at Netherseale on Saturday, Oct. 21st. Bells available at 2.15. Important meeting in Rectory at 5.45 p.m. All district members should attend to consider how to fix a winter programme. All ringers will be given a cordial welcome.—J. W. Cotton, Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Derby District.—Calling all ringers. The next meeting will be held at St. Alkmund's, Derby, on Oct. 21st. Ringing from 2.30 till dusk. Come and let's hear your suggestions for carrying on the good work. All ringers welcome.—W. Lancaster, Sec., 83, Albert Rd., Chaddesden.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Bedford District.—A meeting will be held at Bromham on Saturday, Oct. 21st. The bells (8) will be available from 2 p.m. till blackout. The future programme of this district will be discussed at this meeting. All ringers very welcome. The service ringing at Bromham on Sundays is carried on as usual.—Frank C. Tysoe, Dis. Sec., 10, Grange Road, Bromham, Bedford.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Chesterfield District.—The next meeting will be held at Clowne on Saturday, Oct. 21st. Bells available from 3 p.m. till dusk, followed by meeting and refreshments (1s. each). Names, please, to Mr. J. Keenan, 13, Creswell Road, Clowne. A short service will be held during the afternoon, at the most suitable time according to the number of members present. This tower asks for help and instruction. Please come along and give what you can.—Sam Scattergood, Local Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—A meeting will be held at headquarters on Oct. 24th at 7 p.m. Nomination of officers.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION (South and West District), GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD (Chertsey District) and SURREY ASSOCIATION (North-Western District).—A combined meeting of members of the above will be held at Kingston-on-Thames on Saturday, Oct. 28th. Bells available from 2 to 5 p.m. Tea at 5.15 p.m. in the Parish Hall, followed by a short business meeting. Numbers for tea to be sent to Mr. F. E. Hawthorne, 39, Queen's Road, Thames Ditton, by Thursday, Oct. 26th.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, F. E. Hawthorne and F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Secs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mark's, Worsley (10 bells), on Saturday afternoon, Oct. 28th. Tower open for ringing at 3 o'clock to 6.30. All other branch members cordially invited. No ringing after 6.30 p.m.—J. H. Ridyard, Sec., 35, The Crescent, Worsley.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION. — Swindon Branch.—Meeting at St. Mark's, Swindon, on Saturday, Oct. 28th. Eight bells. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. to 5 p.m.—W. B. Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Swindon, Wilts.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Lewisham District.—The annual district meeting will be held at St. John the Baptist, Erith, on Saturday, Oct. 28th. Bells available at 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea will be arranged at a reasonable price for all who notify Mr. F. J. Cullum, 78, West Street, Erith, not later than Tuesday, Oct. 24th. Catering is difficult, so please support the effort made on your behalf and apply early.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Luton District.—The annual meeting will be held at Leighton Buzzard on Saturday, Oct. 28th. The ten bells will be available from 2.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting at 5.30 p.m. All ringers invited.—F. J. Plummer, Dis. Sec., Plantation Road, Leighton Buzzard.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch. —By the kind permission of the Rector there will be an open practice at Halewood from 3.30 to 5.30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 28th. No tea will be provided. No business meeting. All ringers cordially invited. It is hoped that the ordinary monthly meetings will be resumed on and from Nov. 11th.—G. R. Newton, Branch Sec.

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LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—Gainsborough District.—A meeting will be held at Lea on Saturday, Oct. 28th. Bells (6) available from 1.30 to 5 p.m. Short service. Tea at 5.30 in the Women's Institute, which will be available for a social evening. Should events take a more serious turn and the meeting have to be cancelled, all those who let me know before Thursday, Oct. 26th, that they will be present will be notified. P.S.—There is still a very convenient train service to and from Lincoln.—Geo. L. A. Lunn, Hon. Sec., 248, Lea Road, Gainsborough.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A meeting will be held at Shalford on Saturday, Nov. 4th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea, business meeting and handbell ringing. It is essential that all those requiring tea should notify me not later than Monday, Oct. 30th.—W. F. J. Cope, Hon. Sec., 26, Curling Vale, Onslow Village, Guildford.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Sonning Deanery Branch.—A practice will be held at Sandhurst on Saturday, Nov. 4th (instead of Oct. 21st). Ringing from 3 till 6 p.m. All welcome. — W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec., Merrel, California, Wokingham.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—A commemoration luncheon to celebrate the 302nd anniversary of the society will be held at the London Tavern, Fenchurch Street, on Saturday, Nov. 4th, at 1.30 p.m. The price of the luncheon will be 4s. per head. The names of those intending to be present must be sent in by Tuesday, Oct. 24th.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE, E.C. — The tower of the above will be open for practices each Saturday, 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.—James E. Davis, Tower Keeper.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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MORE MEETINGS.

There is plenty of evidence that widespread efforts are being made to bring Sunday service ringing back as nearly to normal as the changed conditions of war time will allow. Ringing before morning service has been resumed at the majority of towers where it appertained before the war began, and afternoon ringing, where evening service has been fixed for daylight hours, is taking place in many towers. Where service ringing is not taking place it is, apart from the ringers' own difficulty in raising a band, due principally to the Church authorities, and only in a small proportion of cases is it caused by any action of the police. There are still a few instances where A.R.P. demands make it necessary that the bells should not be rung, but as time goes on, and defence preparations are worked out to meet the actual needs of the moment, the civic powers are ready nearly everywhere to remove their first embargo and, subject to local safeguards, to allow church bells to be rung for normal Sunday purposes. There are, however, still a number of clergy who, for one reason or another, desire their bells to remain silent. Every such instance must, of course, be judged upon its merits, but it does seem that, unless there is some special local reason, connected with the public safety, permission should be given for service ringing to be resumed everywhere where it can be done without infringing the black-out regulations.

The attitude of the police towards church bellringin during these weeks of war has been entirely sympathetic and, while the anti-noise Order specially exempts church bells rung for normal purposes and the police have no legal authority to stop them, it is a thoroughly sensible action, especially in populous areas, to consult the police on any ringing that it is proposed to do on other occasions than Sundays. The wisdom of this has been revealed more than once in these past weeks. Not only does it give official authority for the use of the bells on such occasions as meetings, but it enables a co-operation to be established that, in a sudden emergency, would be of great value in the interests of public safety. The plan of having someone on duty outside the tower to be ready, in the event of an air-raid warning, to stop the bells has proved an acceptable arrangement to the authorities, and should be employed everywhere where ringing takes place for any period beyond a few minutes. To-morrow there is to be a joint meeting of three associations at Kingston-on-Thames. This Surrey town is within the Metropolitan Police area, and the church stands by the market square. The police have been approached and, subject to having a watcher on duty to communicate with the belfry

(Continued on page 654.)

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if a warning is given, the authorities have not only consented to ringing during the afternoon, but also in the evening from seven to nine o'clock. If ringing can be permitted at a meeting under such conditions, conditions which, we imagine, are hardly likely to be more difficult anywhere, there seems no reasonable ground why meetings should not be arranged at any towers in the country. The police at Kingston must obviously be satisfied that, with the precautions agreed to, there is no danger to the public, otherwise they would not have given their consent, and what can be done at Kingston can be done elsewhere. We do not know the exact circumstances prevailing at Chilvers Coton, but it is surprising to read, in the report of last Saturday's Warwickshire Guild meeting, that the police superintendent forbade any ringing there after dark. If it was necessary, for the sake of any possible warning, to stop the bells in the evening, it must have been equally necessary to stop them in the afternoon. There are, in this war, no Zeppelins to hover over a town at night, yet this possibility seems still to be in the minds of some people in influencing their attitude towards ringing after dark. It would be interesting to know the exact reason for the police action in this case.

There is good reason why ringing meetings should be resumed more generally, but in view of transport difficulties attendances are bound to be smaller than in peace time. For that reason it should be the policy of associations to arrange a greater number of these gatherings covering a small area instead of large districts. Two meetings, each within reach of, say, half a dozen towers, will do more good than one intended for twelve towers spread over a wider radius, and, rather than curtailing meetings, it would be wise to consider doubling the number. The aim is not only to bring the members together, but to maintain interest and activity, so that in brighter days the art may quickly recover the ground it must inevitably lose during these strenuous times. Meetings beyond the range of the majority of members under present conditions will dampen, instead of encourage, the enthusiasm of those whom circumstances exclude, and it should be the endeavour of those who are responsible for meetings to develop them in a greater number of centres. The fact that attendances may be small will not be the criterion of the success attained—success will be measured by future results when we return to peace and happier days.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—If 'Enquirer' will publish his name and address in 'The Ringing World' his questions will be answered.

I refuse to enter into newspaper correspondence with anyone who is either afraid or ashamed to add his name to a letter, and I feel sure my fellow-secretaries hold this view.

F. M. MITCHELL, Hon. Sec.

114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

HALF-MUFFLED BELLS FOR CURATE.

The combined practice at North Stoneham, Hants, arranged for Saturday, October 14th, was fairly well attended. Besides members of the local band, the following were present: Messrs. A. Davis, E. T. Griffen, F. Eaton (Christchurch District), L. Tremeer and Payne (Winchester District), F. S. Bayley, W. Linter, jun., T. Worsfold and Mrs. Guy (Portsmouth District).

The methods rung were Grandsire Triples and Caters, Stedman Caters, Bob and Cambridge Royal, Superlative and London Major. The bells were rung half-muffled as a mark of deep respect to the Rev. Cyril Wood (junior curate at North Stoneham), who was interred the same day. He was only ordained a priest as recently as last Trinity Sunday. He had been at North Stoneham only just over a year and died at the age of 26.

EIGHT BELL PEAL.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 6½ cwt.

GEOFFREY HARRISON ...	...*Treble*	SHIRLEY BURTON	5
WM. J. ROOT	2	HARRY WAYNE	6
MRS. H. J. POOLE	3	COLIN HARRISON	7
ERNEST W. RAWSON	4	FREDERICK H. DEXTER	...*Tenor*

Conducted by COLIN HARRISON.

A birthday compliment to Mr. H. J. Poole.

SIX BELL PEALS.

DILWYN, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, October 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings. Tenor 12 cwt.

GRAHAM EVANS	...*Treble*	ALBERT E. JONES	4
WILLIAM J. PREECE	2	*LESLIE EVANS	5
A. BRYAN ELSMORE	3	THOMAS R. ECKLEY ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by LESLIE EVANS.

* 50th peal, rung in 28 towers. Rung in honour of the christening of George, son and heir of Mr. and Mrs. G. Bray, of Henwood, Dilwyn, which took place at the service previous to the peal.

TEMPSFORD, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, October 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being an extent each of Norwich Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, St. Clements', Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

BRIAN SIMS	...*Treble*	REGINALD J. HOUGHTON ...	4
*ANDREW C. SINFIELD ...	2	C. HENRY HARDING	5
RONALD J. SHARP	3	*C. EDWARD JEFFRIES	...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. E. JEFFRIES.

* 25th peal together. Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Ream, two highly respected villagers, on the occasion of their golden wedding.

HANDBELL PEALS.

LINCOLN.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, October 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

AT 19, MONKS ROAD,

A PEAL OF SPLICED PLAIN AND CAINSBOROUGH LITTLE BOB ROYAL, 5060 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

*P. MICHAEL FREEMAN ...	1-2	HAROLD CHANT	5-6
†JOHN FREEMAN	3-4	JACK L. MILLHOUSE	7-8
*KENNETH S. B. CROFT ...	9-10		

Arranged by JACK BRAY. Conducted by JOHN FREEMAN.

* First peal on ten bells. † First ten-bell peal 'in hand.' First peal of Spliced Royal by all the band. Each course rung P.P.G.P.P.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, October 22, 1939, in One Hour and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT 50, RUDOLPH ROAD

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different extents.

CHRIS. W. WOOLLEY	1-2	*EDWIN A. BARNETT	3-4
		*EDWIN JENNINGS	5-6

Conducted by C. W. WOOLLEY.

* First peal of Minor on handbells. E. A. Barnett has now rung Plain Bob on all even numbers from Minor to Maximus.

A WARWICKSHIRE GUILD MEETING.

EVENING RINGING FORBIDDEN BY POLICE.

The first quarterly meeting of the Warwickshire Guild was held under war-time conditions at Chilvers Coton on Saturday. A big crowd was not to be expected, but nearly 20 enthusiasts arrived and enjoyed ringing on the handy eight. Permission had been given by the Vicar (the Rev. F. W. Moyle) for ringing during the afternoon and evening, and the belfry was blacked out specially in time for the meeting. Unfortunately a message was received from the Superintendent of Police forbidding any ringing after dark, thus upsetting carefully laid plans for the comfort and convenience of the visitors. However, ringing continued until 6 o'clock, a good course of London rounding off some good ringing.

The business meeting followed immediately in the vestry, presided over by the Master (Mr. J. H. W. White). The routine business was quickly disposed of, but the changed conditions created some discussion as to the future, resulting in a determination to carry on until April with quarterly meetings and possibly monthly practices on Saturday afternoons at convenient towers.

At the close of the meeting Mr. A. H. Beamish produced a portable gramophone and a record of the talented handbell band of the Herts County Association ringing a touch of Spliced Surprise Major, which was much appreciated by the members present.

Towers represented were Allesley, Bilton, Keresley, Nuneaton and the 'locals.' A welcome was extended to Mr. O. J. Hunt, of Manchester, a former auditor of the Guild.

A move was then made to a local hotel, where the needs of the 'inner man' were duly satisfied. Tunes and changes on handbells brought to a close a happy and successful meeting.

WAR TIME RINGING ARRANGEMENTS.

WHAT THE TOWERS ARE DOING.

Glasgow Cathedral, 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m.

Fenham, Newcastle-on-Tyne, 10.15 a.m. and 5.15 p.m. Practice (handbells only), Fridays, 7.45 p.m.

Portsmouth Cathedral, 9.45 to 11 a.m.

Portsmouth, St. Mary's, 1.45 to 2.30 p.m.

Norton, Staffs, 9.45 to 10.45 a.m. and 5.30 to 6 p.m.

Stepney, St. Dunstan's, 9.45 to 10.15 a.m. and 3 to 4 p.m. Practice, Monday, 8 to 9.15 p.m.

Brierley Hill, 10.15 a.m. and 5.45 p.m. Practice, Thursday, 7.30 to 9 p.m

Finchley, St. Mary's, 10.30 to 11 a.m. and 6 to 6.30 p.m.

Thorne, Yorks, 10.15 to 10.45 a.m. and 2 to 3 p.m.

Watford, St. Mary's, 10.15 a.m. and 2.15 p.m.

Bushey, Herts, 10 to 10.45 a.m. and 2 to 3 p.m.

Charing, SS. Peter and Paul, 10.15 a.m. (except fourth Sunday in the month) and 3 p.m.

Bexley, practice Saturday next from 3 to 5 p.m.

Darley Dale, 10 to 10.30 a.m. and 2 to 3 p.m. Practice, Saturdays, 2.15 to 4.15 p.m.

Isleworth, 10.30 a.m. and 3 p.m. Practice, Saturdays, 3.30 to 5 p.m.

Lincoln, St. Giles', Sundays, 8.45 to 9 a.m., 10.30 to 11 a.m., 2.30 to 3.15 p.m.

Rotherfield, Sussex, Sundays, 10.30 to 11 a.m., 2 to 3 p.m.

Brierley Hill, Staffs, Sundays, 10.15 a.m., 5.45 p.m. Also on first Sunday in the month 2 to 3 p.m. Practice, Thursday, 7.30 to 9 p.m.

Cirencester, Glos.: Holy Trinity, Watermoor (8 bells), 9.15 to 10 a.m.; Parish Church (12 bells), 2.30 to 3.30 p.m., except first Sunday in the month, when ringing will be at Parish Church 8.45 to 9.30 a.m., and Watermoor 2.30 to 3.30 p.m., when a quarter-peal is usually attempted.

The Willesden band have arranged to hold a practice on alternate Saturday afternoons from 2.30 p.m. until dusk, beginning on November 4th

At Burbage, near Leicester, practices will be held on Saturday afternoons between 2.30 and 4 p.m. A handbell practice is also held on Wednesday evening for the beginners.

Visitors to Derby may be interested to know that ringing may be had at the following churches in Derby previous to services held at: Cathedral, 10.45 a.m. and 3 p.m. (10 bells); St. Andrew's, 10.45 a.m. and 3 p.m. (10 bells); St. Luke's, 10.45 a.m. and 3.15 p.m. (8 bells); St. Peter's, 10.45 a.m., no ringing for afternoon service (8 bells).

The bellringers of Much Hadham Parish Church, where there is a ring of six, decided at a meeting held on Sunday, October 8th, to ring every Sunday morning, commencing at 10 o'clock (except the third Sunday in the month), and, when possible, for evening service, commencing at 2.15 p.m. They also decided to hold a practice every Thursday at 7 o'clock in the tower, with handbells. The ringers extend a hearty welcome to all who would like to come, and especially to any ringer serving in H.M. Forces.

It is hoped to maintain ringing at Llanfrechfa throughout the coming winter and visitors will be heartily welcomed. There will be an open practice on Saturday afternoon, November 4th, at 3.30 p.m., when it is hoped that a number of ringers will take this opportunity of being able to have a ring. A bus leaves Corn Street, Newport, at 3.15 p.m., look for bus No. 7. There will be trains leaving Newport at 2.25 p.m., 4.8 p.m., 5.5 p.m., and book to Ponthir Station. Will ringers please take note of this date?

WITH PENCIL AND PAPER.

COURSING ORDER—PLAIN, REVERSE AND DOUBLE BOB.

Turn back to 'The Ringing World' of September 22nd and refresh your memory with what we said there. We saw that in Bob Major the bells keep the same Coursing Order throughout the plain course, except that, at the end of every lead, the treble alters its position among the other bells. The point at which this alteration takes place is the change in which second's place is made; and the result is that the bell, which in the previous lead had coursed in front of the treble, now courses behind the treble, the relative positions of the other bells being unaltered.

Any operation which alters the position of the treble in Coursing Order we will call a 'Shunt,' and, as in this case second's is made instead of eighths (which would have been made if all the bells continued plain hunting), we will call this an Extreme Shunt.

It is not a good thing, as a rule, to multiply technical terms, but sometimes it is necessary, and in this case we shall find it useful.

Next prick down Reverse Bob Major, a full course if you have time, but in any case, two or three leads. In this method all the bells plain hunt except when the treble lies its whole pull behind. Seventh's is then made by the bell coursing in front of the treble, the other bells dodging in pairs.

12345678	Coursing Order.
21436587	875312468
24163857	
42618375	
46281735	
64827153	
68472513	
86745231	
68472531	875132468
86745213	
87654123	
78561432	
75816342	
57183624	
51738264	
15372846	
13527486	

Now compare this carefully with your course of Bob Major, and you will see that all we said about the latter will apply to the former, except that the points where the treble alters its position in Coursing Order are different.

If we take a pair of scissors and cut our course of Bob Major into fourteen pieces, each piece consisting of half a lead, we can put the pieces together again in a different order and produce a course of Reverse Bob. The actual rows in both courses are the same. We have now got a second Shunt similar to the first in everything except position, and to distinguish them we will call the first an Extreme Shunt A and the second an Extreme Shunt B.

If we use both Shunts in every lead we get a plain course of Double Bob Major. Prick out a course, or at any rate two or three leads, and study the position of the treble in Coursing Order.

The treble's path in Coursing Order through the other bells is a cyclical one, and it has to occupy each position in turn. There are seven working bells and consequently seven positions between them. Therefore, as soon as seven of these Shunts are made the bells are in the necessary Coursing Order for coming round, with the treble between the third and the second. See what has happened when the seventh Shunt has been made in Double Bob. The following are the actual changes:—

87654312
78563421
——— Extreme B.
87654321
78563412

If we carry on with plain hunting the bells would run round at the lead end. Actually in Double Bob we make second place and seven more Shunts are necessary before the course is completed.

We saw just now that we can cut the plain course of Bob Major into fourteen pieces and rearrange them as Reverse Bob Major. If we rearrange them in a different order we can get Double Bob.

But any combination of Shunts A and B, provided they are seven in number, will bring the bells round. For instance, prick out B.A.A.A.B.B.A. and see what happens. Or take any other combination you may think of. Or, to put it another way, take the half leads into which we have cut the plain course of Bob Major and see in how many ways you can arrange them into a round block.

You will be sure to have some pieces left over because none of these round blocks (except the courses of Plain, Reverse and Double Bob) will consist of the full 112 changes. But the experiment is worth doing because you will not only get a good insight into the foundation of method construction, but you will understand a good deal about how the three methods Plain Bob, Reverse Bob and Double Bob can be spliced into one composition.

Method splicing is probably going to be the great development of the art in the future. Up till now it has been almost entirely in the hands of the more advanced bands, because only the most difficult methods have been spliced. But the idea can be applied to the simpler methods quite easily, and there is no reason why a band which can ring Plain Bob should not splice it with Reverse and Double when once the principle of the thing is understood. To make the alterations is not much harder than to make bobs and singles, and anyhow it is a thing excellently well adapted for handbell ringing, as the Cambridge University Guild found out several years ago.

LADIES' GUILD.

GOOD MEETING AT SHEFFIELD.

Over 20 ringers took the opportunity of having a good afternoon's ringing at the Ladies' Guild meeting held at Handsworth (Sheffield) on Saturday week. Early comers had the pleasure of seeing a pretty wedding and, at the suggestion of Mr. Lewis, the bells were 'fired' as the bride and bridegroom left the church.

Following this good start, touches were rung in various methods, including Stedman, Yorkshire, London, Plain Bob and a touch of Cambridge, which was a delight to hear and a joy to take part in.

At the business meeting the secretary (Mrs. Kelly) regretted that the attendance of ladies was poor, and read letters of apology from Miss Bowling, Mrs. Cotterell and Mrs. Haywood.

The following meetings will take place: Shipley (March), Todmorden (June), while local meetings may also be arranged between these periods.

On returning to the tower the secretary was thanked by Mr. G. Lewis and Mr. Palmer on behalf of the gentlemen for making possible such a useful meeting under present conditions. The bells, which are a war memorial, were rung down at 6.10 p.m.

AN OLD-TIME WEST COUNTRY BAND.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—There has recently been a good deal in 'The Ringing World' about rising and falling in peal, ringing a bell with a broken stay, some mention of the West Country term 'scientific' for change ringing proper, and, more important still, of change ringing in the great centres like London and Norwich a century ago.

It may interest some people to know, especially in the West, that at the village of Cheddar there were ringers who were adepts in all these matters except 'scientific,' but even in that they came pretty close, for they rang half-pull changes over 100 years ago.

I should like to say first of all that to ring at all was pretty difficult. Until 1886 the bells were rung from the ground floor, the height to the vaulted ceiling is upwards of 35ft. and there were, of course, no guides for the ropes. It is amazing how elusive and skittish the sallies could be, and it was a rare thing to find a stranger able to handle a bell at all.

In spite of difficulties, Mr. Charles Cobley (son of the Vicar, who left there in 1835) taught the ringers to ring the 'Vowr an' twenties' in half-pull changes. They learned no method, each man always rang the same bell, and he learnt the changes in a kind of sing-song, 'Up after the first, down after the third, In' after something else, etc. I do not know if up and down meant hunting up and down, or hand and backstrokes, or whether the 'In' meant stepping back at a dodge, or leading, or what it might be. Some of the men who were farmers rang in smocks, and two or three were noted for their physical strength.

I have been told that their favourite feat, for which they enjoyed some local fame, was to remove the sliders, ring the bells up in peal, which was done very slowly and perfectly, then ring the 'Vowr an' twenties,' 'Stand' by holding the bells on the balance, another ring and lower them. Some people claimed that they have even passed a cider cup from hand to hand, and took a drink with the bells held on the balance, and it was the mention of beer in Mr. Trollope's articles which brought the whole thing back to my mind.

R. ALSOP.

P.S.—Most of the foregoing (not the cider incident) I learned from the late Mr. George Hill, postmaster, whose name may be seen on the trebles of the present octave. Mr. Hill's father, a former postmaster, sometimes rang the treble before the old band broke up. Cheddar bells were, until 1884, a ring of five, three of them remain untouched, the treble (1618), the pre-Reformation second, and the 1759 Bilbie tenor in D.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

PORTSMOUTH DISTRICT.

A meeting of this district was held at St. Mary's, Portsmouth, on Saturday last, and was attended by members from Fareham, North Stoneham, Liss, Petersfield, Portsmouth (Cathedral and St. Mary's) and Titchfield. Mr. C. E. Smith (Godalming) was also present.

Ringing took place from 2.30 p.m., and evensong was attended in the church at 5 p.m., at which the Guild form of service was used, conducted by the Rev. A. Van der Byl, who gave the address. Tea was served in the Parish Hall, after which the business meeting was held In the unavoidable absence of the secretary (Mr. A. T. Greenwood), his duties were carried out by the general secretary (Mr. F. W. Rogers), supported by the Master (Mr. G. Williams).

It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Fareham on April 20th, 1940.

A talk on the future arrangements of ringing in the district took place, and Mr. W. Linter (Fareham) was thanked for his services in arranging mid-week practices for towers in the district, and it was agreed to recommend the annual district meeting to defray his expenses for postages, etc., incurred in arranging these meetings.

The Cathedral authorities would welcome their bells being used for practices on Saturday afternoons, and it was agreed to hold meetings for this purpose on November 18th and December 16th next, future practices being fixed from each quarterly meeting.

At the close of the meeting votes of thanks were accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells, and the ladies who had provided tea. Ringing during the day consisted of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Double Norwich, Cambridge, Bristol, London and Spliced Surprise Major.

WEDNESDAY BAND RING FOR ORGAN DEDICATION.

The rebuilt organ at Bishop's Waltham Church, Hants, was opened at a special service on October 4th. The address was given by the Rev. Canon L. S. Etheridge, Rector of Droxford, the service having been conducted by the Rev. N. H. Stubbs (Rector). The bells were rung for an hour before the service, and touches brought round in the four standard methods by members of the local band, assisted by members of the 'Wednesday' band, including Messrs. F. S. Bayley, W. Linter, sen., W. Linter, jun., H. Beckett, G. Williams, L. Knott and Mrs. Guy.

The newly-constructed organ was played for the first time at the Sunday service on the following Sunday, when Mr. Haydn Hull was the organist. A small balance is still wanted to wipe off the sum which has been expended, viz., between £700 and £800.

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LOUGHBOROUGH.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The war-time derangement of the postal services and the necessity of getting the copies of 'The Ringing World' into the hands of the publishers earlier on Thursday make it absolutely essential that all contributions to our columns, and particularly all notices, should be in our hands by Monday in each week. We cannot guarantee the insertion in the following issue of anything received later.

We hope that secretaries will send us prompt reports of their meetings, and we shall welcome any items of news relating to ringers and ringing, but they must reach us early.

BELFRY GOSSIP.

Ringers proposing to visit Kingston-on-Thames to-morrow for the joint meeting of the Surrey, Middlesex and Guildford Associations will be pleased to learn that, with the approval of the police authorities, the bells at the Parish Church will be available in the evening as well as in the afternoon.

One hundred years ago to-morrow a new ring of eight bells was opened at Southover Church, Lewes, Sussex. The centenary will be duly celebrated by ringing and a dinner. By request of the police, however, the ringing will be limited to about three-quarters of an hour, and consequently devoted to an attempt for a quarter-peal.

The practice at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, which Mr. Jim Davis is trying to hold on Saturday afternoons is proving, so far, a success. Last Saturday the four standard Surprise Major methods were rung, both separately and spliced.

Ninety years ago to-morrow, Henry Dains, so long and so well known as a ringer, a composer, and a member of the Central Council, was born at Tibenham, a village in Norfolk, where there is a ring of six bells. Here, before the war, was one of the first bands to take a part in the great development of Minor ringing in these last 30 years or so.

On October 26th, 1822, the Wakefield ringers, with Joseph Tebbs, of Leeds, rang the earliest peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal. After that the method was practically forgotten, and when it was rediscovered 40 years ago, the peal rung at Cheltenham was claimed as the first in the method.

On the same date in 1837 Thomas Tolladay called a peal of 7,325 Grandsire Cinques for the St. James' Society at St. Martin-in-the-Fields.

'On Wednesday evening, October 30th, 1813, was rung on a peal of eight bells at the house of Mr. William Booth, Bailey Lane, Sheffield, a complete peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major, 5,088 changes, in 2 hours and 34 minutes, by the following artists, viz.: William Hudson 1-2, William Booth 3-4, Henry Grayson 5-6, George Hudson 7-8. The conductor of the peal was Mr. George Hudson.' This was probably the first double-handed peal rung 'in hand.'

On October 15th, 1876, the bells of St. Albans Abbey, which had recently been rehung after a silence of more than 40 years, were rung by Squire Procter and his band from Benington. They rang a touch of 2,500 changes in seven methods, viz., Double Norwich Court Bob Major, Superlative Surprise Major, London Surprise Major, Kent Treble Bob Major, Oxford Treble Bob Major, Stedman Triples and Grandsire Triples. It was, of course, not 'spliced' ringing, for each method was started from rounds, but at the time it was a very fine performance.

The report of the handbell peal at Crayford on October 15th, as sent to us, was inaccurate. Mr. G. V. Murphy rang 1-2 and Mr. E. A. Barnett 3-4, not vice versa as printed.

SALEHURST RINGER'S DEATH.

OVER FIFTY YEARS' SERVICE.

On Saturday, October 14th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at Salehurst, Sussex, with bells half-muffled, as a last token of respect to the late Mr. James Goodsell, a respected member of the local band for 51 years. The ringing took place immediately after the interment at the Parish Church: E. Avery 1, F. Morgan 2, W. H. Hoad (conductor) 3, A. E. Edwards 4, L. Jarvis 5, W. Gorringe 6, E. Mills 7, A Hoad 8.

DEATH OF MRS. FREDERICK DAY.

The death has taken place at Eye, Suffolk, of Mrs. Day, widow of the late Frederick Day, who 40 years ago was well known in the Eastern Counties as a bellhanger and bellringer. The deceased lady, who was 81 years of age, was buried at Eye Cemetery.

THE B.B.C. INTERVAL SIGNAL.

THE MINOR OCTAVE AT EXETER RECOMMENDED.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In Mr. Smale's letter under the above title in this week's issue of our paper he asks, 'What about a course of Stedman Triples on the minor eight, with the eleventh as tenor, from Exeter Cathedral?'

I once had the pleasure of taking a rope in a course of Stedman Triples on this octave, and in over 40 years of ringing on practically every important peal in England I have never heard anything so beautiful.

Being in a minor key it is particularly appealing, and to me was an inspiration to higher things. We all know that for services of prayer and intercession, such as are held in Lent, many hymns and chants are written in a minor key, and in my view a record such as Mr. Smale suggests would be particularly appropriate for the use of the B.B.C. before their studio services and in times of national intercession It would, I feel sure, create the same feeling in its hearers as it did with me.

I do not suggest that this should take the place of Bow Bells, but merely, as Mr. Trotman describes, a Sunday service touch. As is well known, the eleventh at Exeter is one of the best bells in the West of England, and to my ear has most of the tonal qualities of the beautiful tenor at Lavenham. It can be imagined what a wonderful effect a bell (and peal) twice the weight of the latter would have.

S. R. ROPER.

Croydon.

NO BETTER ALTERNATIVE.

Dear Sir,—I have been surprised to read the letters from Mr. Trotman and others on the above subject. In my opinion, Caters, with the tenor covering, or call changes on similar lines, are far superior, from a musical point of view, to Major, or, indeed, even-bell changes on any number of bells, while plain courses or short touches of Grandsire or Stedman would be unsatisfactory because the interval signal is used for such short periods that they would almost invariably be faded out in the middle and so leave an impression of incompleteness.

It is not clear what 'Nemo' means by 'fiddling about with 7-8-9.' The changes are made in a methodical manner, one pair of bells at a time, until the 'Queens' position is reached, first on the back bells and finally on the whole ten. With 6-8-0 behind most of the time, not only is the musical effect good, but some sort of finish is obtained, no matter where the bells are faded out, and, taking everything into consideration, I cannot imagine any alternative which would be an improvement on the present record. G. A. PECK.

Claygate, Surrey.

TYPICALLY ENGLISH.

Dear Sir,—I have read with interest the letters that have appeared in the columns of 'The Ringing World' with regard to the B.B.C. signal To me the signal is almost perfect. The ringing is magnificent, a sample of what good striking sounds like. That signal is heard by millions of people all over the world; it is typically English, because the bells are English, the ringing is English. It starts from rounds and finishes with rounds, which is the system our forefathers taught us. Why spoil a splendid record of ringing which no other nation can produce for a mere 30,000 English ringers? Let it rest as a typical and unique English signal which none can copy.

Taunton. J. HUNT.

NO CHANGE NEEDED.

Dear Sir,—Bow bells are the most famous bells in the world, so why change them? But, then, some people are 'always never satisfied.'

JOHN JAGGAR.

Birmingham.

A FALSE PEAL OF TREBLE BOB.

In examining the compositions rung in the past by members of the Yorkshire Association, Mr. W. Barton, the honorary peals secretary, has discovered that the peal of 5,152 Treble Bob Major by J. Thorpe, rung at Drighlington on March 23rd, 1919, is false. The peal is No. 2,594 of the association's performances, and was conducted by Joseph E. Sykes. Internal falseness occurs in the fifth and last courses of the peal.

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DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.

AN INTERRUPTED MEETING AT DERBY.

On Saturday, October 21st, the Derby District of the Midland Counties Association held a meeting at St. Alkmund's, Derby. Members attended from Sawley, Ripley, Heanor and local ringers from St. Andrew's, St. Luke's and St. Peter's. Stedman Doubles was the first method rung, followed by Cambridge Minor. Double Norwich unfortunately came to grief, but a course of Cambridge Surprise Minor was successfully brought round. Then followed a touch of Stedman Doubles, and when everything was going splendidly the clapper of the fifth bell came out. As the bell chamber was locked and the caretaker had gone into town, taking the key with him, the meeting had to be abandoned so far as St. Alkmund's was concerned. Fortunately ringing for a wedding was taking place at St. Peter's, so a cyclist was quickly dispatched to tell them to carry on till the meeting was transferred, which was accomplished in about 20 minutes. Here Kent Treble Bob, Double Norwich, Stedman and Grandsire Triples were rung.

The business meeting which followed afterwards was held in the belfry, Mr. Jack Bailey presiding. It was decided to carry on with the monthly meetings, but to confine them to the immediate vicinity of Derby on account of the bus services, and also to the limited period of daylight, especially when summer time is terminated. Spondon was proposed as the next tower to be visited, and if the bells were not available, to try Alvaston as an alternative, the meeting to be held on November 18th. Votes of thanks to the Vicar of St. Alkmund's and to the caretaker, and to those friends at St. Peter's for so readily placing the bells at the disposal of the members, were proposed by Mr. Jack Bailey and carried unanimously.

HINCKLEY DISTRICT MEETING.

An attendance of 20 was recorded at the Hinckley District meeting at Sharnford on Saturday, October 21st, members and friends attending from a wide area. An early start was the order of the day, and soon Grandsire and Stedman Doubles for the youngsters were followed by Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Plain Bob, Cambridge Surprise Minor, and Double Court, including one touch of what was stated to be 'Spliced Double Court,' which, however, came round, much to the surprise of everyone, including, it must be whispered, the conductor—a ringer of some renown. Ringing continued until about 5.45, when the bells were lowered in peal. Silencers had been fitted to the bells for the benefit of the local inhabitants and also to enable the conductors to 'conduct,' the bells being somewhat noisy.

Some splendid tune ringing by Mr. C. H. Webb and his 'lads' preceded the short meeting, presided over by Mr. A. Ballard, at which the following towers were represented: Broughton Astley, Burbage, Croft, Earl Shilton, Hinckley, Sapcote and the local company. There were also present Mr. C. H. Webb and party from Keresley, Coventry and Mr. W. Johnson, of Hugglescote. Mr. E. Morris was also present earlier in the afternoon, but had, unfortunately, to leave early.

It was decided to hold a meeting at Croft on November 18th—the last day of summer time—and also one at Hinckley on December 9th, providing these dates were suitable to local conditions.

By fixing the dates of both meetings it was hoped that local towers would be able to arrange their own Saturday practices in between.

It was pointed out that the Croft date would fall on the regular meeting date of the Warwickshire Guild, but it was felt that, while normally the Warwickshire date would be avoided, under present conditions, when regard had to be given to the periods of moonlight available, the clashing of meetings was unavoidable.

It was announced that Burbage hoped to be able to arrange fortnightly Saturday practices and that Earl Shilton were trying to black-out their tower in readiness for regular mid-week practice nights.

Thanks to the Rector concluded the meeting.

The general opinion of all was that the meeting had been the best for some time and that other meetings should be on the same lines.

It is said that a previous incumbent at Sharnford was keen on cock fighting. One Sunday, after the birds had been in action, he heard Stanton bells ringing. 'Come on,' he said, 'there's time for another fight before service.'

On another occasion he warned a visiting parson that on no account was he to use the pulpit as he had a hen 'sitting' there and she must not be disturbed.

A BELL RESTORATION.

The Rev. G. S. Thorpe, Rector and hon. treasurer of Lydford Church Bells Rehanging Fund, has announced that he has received £72 13s. in cash and promises, including a grant of £7 6s. from Tavistock Ruri-decanal Bell Ringing Festival Fund towards the cost of rehanging the bells. This is sufficient to pay for the contract (£71) and small incidental expenses incurred, the cost of the faculty having been paid by the church expenses account. The rehanging of the bells is to be completed by December 1st.

PEAL IN BLACKED-OUT BELFRY.

A peal of Minor has been rung at Tempsford, Bedfordshire, as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Ream, two highly respected villagers, on their golden wedding. The belfry was blacked out for the occasion. Afterwards the ringers were entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Ream.

CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

ST. GILES-IN-THE-FIELDS.

By J. Armiger Trollope.

In olden times, London consisted of what is now the city. Round about it, outside, was open and sparsely populated country, dotted here and there with a few villages and small towns, and between them farmhouses and hamlets.

To meet the needs of these latter, a few churches were built, and when men talked or wrote about them they spoke of them as 'in the fields,' to distinguish them from the other churches with the same dedication inside the walls. Thus the tiny church that 'standeth all alone as utterly forsaken, old, and weather beaten,' beyond the village of Islington, was called St. Pancras-in-the-Fields, to distinguish it from St. Pancras, Soper Lane; the humble church by Charing Cross was called St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, to distinguish it from the important and wealthy church of St. Martin-le-Grand; and, further north, where the country lane, which ran north from St. Martin's joined the main road from London to Oxford, was another small church, called St. Giles'-in-the-Fields, to distinguish it from St. Gile's-without-Cripplegate.

To-day you have to travel very many miles from the sites on which those churches stood before you come to anything remotely resembling a field, but the names still survive, at least in the last two instances; and St. Martin's-in-the-Fields and St. Giles'-in-the-Fields are two important churches, both of which have played a very distinguished part in the history of the ringing Exercise.

The story of St. Giles' goes back to the first year of the twelfth century. In 1101 Queen Matilda, wife of Henry I., built and endowed a hospital for lepers. This hospital was suppressed in the reign of Henry VIII., and the buildings and lands passed into lay hands; but the chapel still continued to serve the surrounding population and became a parish church in 1547. According to the inventory taken in 1552, it possessed 'a payre of organs, iij bells wythe a saunce bell,' and, in their returns to the Royal Commissioners, the churchwardens included among their expenses for the year, 'Item for makying of a bell whele ijs viijd,' showing that the bells were hung for ringing.

In 1600 the district was still surrounded by open fields, but soon afterwards London began to push itself outwards in that direction, and preparations began to be made for building a new church. Four persons were appointed by the vestry in 1617 'to inspect the account of Mr. Bigg concerning the charge of building the steeple and casting the bells and also of buying some new bells,' when £125 17s. 5d. due to him for money expended thereon was ordered to be paid.

The new church, a small building, was consecrated on June 26th, 1623, and in the steeple was hung a ring of six bells by Ellis Knight, of Reading. Two of Knight's bells, the present third and fourth, are still in the tower.

In 1685 the two largest were recast by William and Philip Wightman, the tenor at the expense of the Duchess of Dudley, into whose family the old hospital lands had passed, and who had been a great benefactor to the church. These two bells also still survive.

By 1700 there were many houses in Drury Lane, and by the middle of the eighteenth century the whole of St. Giles' was covered with buildings. They were for the most part a network of mean and sordid streets, the haunts of vice and poverty, and for long afterwards the district had almost the worst reputation of any in London. The once notorious Seven Dials is in the heart of the parish and little more than a stone's throw from the church.

The church of 1630 was small and inconvenient, and a century later, after Parliament had voted money to provide new churches for London, it was decided to rebuild the structure. The design, which was by Henry Flitcroft, a pupil of James Gibbs, the architect of St. Martin's, is not without merit. The church was begun in 1730 and opened four years later, the total cost of building being £10,059 15s. 9d., of which £8,000 was supplied by the Parliamentary grant.



ST. GILES'-IN-THE-FIELDS IN THE YEAR 1800.

Richard Phelps, of Whitechapel, was employed to overhaul the bells for the new church. He recast the old third and fourth and added two trebles, thus completing the octave which is still in the steeple.

Musically, the bells are rather a poor lot, but they have played an important part in the story of change ringing, and several very interesting peals have been rung on them.

(To be continued.)

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN NEIGHBOURING TOWERS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—A practice is to be held at Ibstock on Saturday to meet any ringers who care to pay us a visit, more especially those from neighbouring towers, and we are prepared to consider visiting other local towers on different Saturday afternoons in order to keep up the interest. I personally feel that much improvement could be made if other groups of towers would do the same.

May I take this opportunity of appealing to ringers in the Loughborough District, M.C.A., not to let the present shortage of official meetings interfere with the work of the district unnecessarily?

A. E. ROWLEY.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

BIRMINGHAM RINGERS' GIFT TO MR. AND MRS. G. E. FEARN.

In spite of the 'black-out' and the curtailment of travelling facilities, the quarterly meeting of St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham held on Saturday, October 7th, proved quite a success and justified the initiative of the officers in holding it. No doubt the fact that it was held in the belfry of St. Martin's Church in the Bull Ring Birmingham, and that it was possible to have one hour's ringing helped towards its success. It was also a representative gathering, as members attended from the following towers: St. Martin's, the Cathedral, Aston, Erdington, King's Norton, Coventry, Shirley, Perry Barr and Selly Oak.

In the absence of the Master, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, the vice-president (Mr. Albert Walker) occupied the chair at the business meeting.

A letter was read from the Ringing Master, Mr. F. E. Haynes, apologising for his absence, which was unavoidable, on account of his having been evacuated with his school. As it was uncertain how long he would be away, he felt in the interests of the Guild he should place his resignation in the hands of the members.

After some discussion it was unanimously agreed that he should remain in office until the annual meeting, when it was hoped the position would be clearer.

It is usual at this meeting to make preliminary arrangements for the Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner, but in the present circumstances it was agreed to defer this until the annual meeting.

The tower election of Mr. R. H. Robinson, of Portsmouth, was duly ratified.

It was decided to hold the annual meeting at headquarters on Saturday, January 6th.

Under the heading of 'Any other business,' the secretary referred to the recent wedding of Mr G. E. Fearn, the Ringing Master at the Cathedral. His personal friends in the Guild had decided to give Mr. and Mrs. Fearn a wedding present, and although this had not yet been procured, he thought that as Mr. and Mrs. Fearn were present it would be well to take the opportunity of presenting it to them that evening. They had expressed a wish for a frameless mirror, which would be obtained and given them shortly. He had much pleasure in asking the chairman to make the presentation.

Mr. Albert Walker, in making the presentation (which took the form of touching the belfry mirror by Mr. and Mrs. Fearn), wished them both long life and happiness. Mr. Fearn, he said, was a first-class ringer, and, he felt sure, would make a first-class husband. He had no doubt, either, that Mrs. Fearn would make an excellent wife. On behalf of all the assembled company, he wished them every happiness with good fortune.

Mr. Fearn responded on behalf of his wife and himself. He thanked Mr. Walker for the good wishes he had so happily expressed, and thanked his many friends in the Guild for their kind gift, which, needless to say, he and his wife very much appreciated.

Several good touches on handbells, including Stedman and Erin Cinques, concluded the evening, and everyone present expressed the opinion that the meeting had been a success.

CHANGE RINGING ON HANDBELLS.

MR. W. KEEBLE'S ADVICE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—As one who has had some past experience in handbell ringing, I should like to make a few comments on this interesting part of the art. At the outset I must warmly thank your able contributor, Mr. C. W. Woolley, on his well thought out article in last week's issue, and I hope to see further articles from such an able pen. I should like also to thank both my friends,Mr. J. Hunt and Mr. G. Symonds, for their letters. I am in entire agreement with Mr. Hunt when he says do not try to ring two handbells. I presume he means do not start with two—that will come later. Practice makes perfect. Mr. Symonds appears to favour two bells, but in my experience it is more difficult with some ringing single-handed and others double. I should, therefore, prefer to start all single-handed. With a good handbell band, thoroughly conversant with ringing double-handed, it is quite a different matter. I should like Mr. Symonds to give us his views on this point. Which is easier for beginners—all single-handed or some single and some double? Your readers may like to know that I was recently asked for some advice on this interesting subject by a brother ringer, which I gave to the best of my ability, and it so happens that the advice I sent was that given by Mr. J. Hunt. Now, sir, I come to the P's. Pencil, paper, punctuality, practice and perseverance will, in the end, all help to produce success; but success will not come unless all the above P's are combined.

W. KEEBLE.

AT CIRENCESTER

A touch of 547 Stedman Caters was rung at Cirencester, Glos., on Sunday, October 1st, by A. Painter 1, H. L. Cooke 2, H. S. Parsons 3, F. J. Lewis, sen. (conductor) 4, W. Godwin 5, F. J. Lewis, jun. 6, S. R. Hicks 7, J. Godwin 8, W. H. Hayward 9, F. F. Bloxham 10. This was the longest length of Stedman Caters by Messrs. W. and J. Godwin. On the previous Sunday for evening service two courses of Grandsire Cinques were rung, this being E. Cooper's first attempt on twelve bells.

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS' TERCENTENARY.

AN INTERESTING MEMENTO.

The late Mr. W. Roughton was for many years one of the most ardent supporters of the Ancient Society of College Youths. Its recent tercentenary aroused his keenest interest and he largely contributed to the success of the festival connected with it.

About a year ago, Mr. Roughton's proposal that a memorial book should be made for future reference was adopted by the society and he was authorised to carry out his idea. It will be remembered that he had artistic gifts as a printer, and his arrangement of both type and format was always admired. His production of the society's booklet in 1928, giving its history and rules, is an excellent example of the revival of the art of printing. The members present, therefore, were confident that the result would be one worthy of the festival and all concerned.

The resulting memorial book was received by the society from Mr. Roughton's son on September 19th last and was much admired by the members present, for it exceeded all their expectations. It was Mr. Roughton's last work, and just as the architect Brunelleschi was wheeled to his window for one farewell look at his masterpiece—the Duomo, at Florence—so Mr. Roughton approved the final details of the work and saw its completion as he lay dying upon his sick bed. It is thus, also, his own memorial.

The volume is large folio, bound in brown morocco leather. After a simple but striking title page there come, mounted on and in the strong ivory tinted leaves, the Orders of Service at St. Paul's Cathedral and at St. Dionis Backchurch; the dinner booklet and the invitation sheet (reproduced from the society's 18th century one); photographs depicting events of the day, and, finally, several pages of news cuttings from 'The Ringing World,' 'Times,' etc., giving together a detailed account of all that was done on that eventful day. The titling and explanatory lettering are a fine accompaniment to this remarkable collection and the work is quite an acquisition. It is well worthy the place which it is sure to maintain amongst the society's other unique and valuable books.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

SUCCESS OF A FIVE-BELL MEETING.

The effects of the situation and black-out were evident at the quarterly meeting of the Wellingborough Branch of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild, which was held at Bozeat on October 14th, when 20 ringers were present, compared with a pre-war average of 46. However, the following belfries were represented: Irthlingborough, Wollaston, Mears Ashby, Wilby, Easton Maudit, Brafield, Turvey, Harrold, Bromham and Bozeat.

A short service was held, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. J. H. Marlow), who is also branch president. He gave an interesting address from the text taken from I. Chronicles, xvi., 42: 'And with them Heman and Jeduthun with trumpets and cymbals for those that should make a sound, and with musical instruments of God.'

This the preacher likened to the work of the ringer. He urged the members to do their best to carry on this work, which he considered was more than ever necessary now in these dark days, when people needed the message of hope which the church bells were meant to provide. He referred also to the various messages cast on their own Bozeat bells.

Tea was provided in the Church Hall by willing lady helpers.

The business proceedings were presided over by the Rev. J. H. Marlow, supported by the branch secretary, Mr. A. Bigley.

The gathering stood a moment in silent tribute to the memory of the late Rector of Isham, the Rev. E. J. Atkins, who was for many years an honorary member of the Guild.

The secretary mentioned that the Rev. L. Crowther Green had cancelled the proposed special meeting, which should have taken place earlier. The next meeting was fixed for Irthlingborough and will be held in January.

Evening practice meetings are still being held, and take place as follows: Wollaston, Monday night, 7.30; Bozeat, Friday night, 7.30; Turvey, Tuesday night, 7; Brafield, Thursday night, 7.15.

Five first peal certificates were presented to the following members: J. Stuart and W. Griggs, of Wollaston, Miss E. Scarr (Mears Ashby), C. W. Partridge (Wilby), and G. Brafield (Wellingborough), who, with their conductors, were congratulated on their performance.

A letter was read from the Vicar of Great Doddington, asking for assistance to teach new ringers at that village, and it was decided to seek further particulars.

Good wishes were received from Mr. F. Barber, the former secretary.

The secretary asked that the names of all members joining the Forces should be sent to him, so that they might be kept on the books.

A vote of thanks was given to the ladies for providing the tea, also to the Vicar and organist (Mr. E. Holloway, of Wollaston) for their services.

After the meeting the Vicar's handbells were brought out, and three courses of Bob Minor were rung by A. Bigley, A. Y. Tyler and D. Cockings, and the Bozeat team amused the company by lapping a course of Bob Royal. The church bells, a heavy peal of five, were rung during the afternoon and evening to various methods of Doubles.

OVERCOMING THE BLACK-OUT.

HOW A VILLAGE BAND HAS PROGRESSED.

No method ringing has been done at the little village of Wadhurst, Sussex, for over a quarter of a century, and the band attached to the church when the war started might well have been content to excuse any attempt to revive it at such a time as this. Here, however, is the record of what has been done. Mr. C. A. Bassett, assistant secretary of the East Grinstead and District Guild, writes:—

Since the outbreak of war the local band at Wadhurst have been practising on the lines described by Mr. J. Hunt in his letter in the last issue of 'The Ringing World' and it has met with considerable success.

When we started five weeks ago only three of us could ring by rope-sight, so we set to work with the other seven, who could just ring one certain bell to call changes off a blackboard. In the blacked-out vestry rope-sight was thoroughly explained, and after two practices, at least four of the seven could take any bell and ring a plain course of Original Minor.

Last Monday night two more recruits were roped in, and they picked it up so quickly that with one on the treble and one inside we attempted Bob Minor and got into the fourth lead before breaking down. We are now busy on Sunday mornings teaching these two to handle a tower bell, and we are pleased to say the others are slowly getting rope-sight on the tower bells.

We have every reason to believe that 'method' ringing will return to Wadhurst after a lapse of over 25 years. The local record is very poor. The tower has never been affiliated to the county, a local band has never rung a peal, until last year only one local (the late Sam Wallis) had ever joined a guild or rung a peal. Only one meeting has ever been held at Wadhurst, about 1901, and the Hawkhurst Guild, which had arranged one for next Saturday, October 28th, has cancelled it. So, whatever happens, we shall not let anyone down, because the tower has never been on the 'up.'

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

WARM WELCOME AT WIDFORD.

Members of the South-Eastern Division of the Essex Association were warmly welcomed to a meeting at Widford on Saturday by the Vicar (the Rev. H. Leslie Pike).

Between 3 and 5 o'clock in the afternoon various methods were rung and afterwards a service was held in the church, conducted by the Vicar, the lesson being read by the Master, Dr. Spencer Phillips.

Tea was served in the British Legion Hall by Mrs. Jennings and her helpers, but unfortunately several ringers were unable to stay owing to the 'black-out' making travelling difficult and some having to go on duty.

The business meeting was presided over by the Rector, and Mr. A. Booty, of Ingatestone, was elected a ringing member.

It was proposed to hold the annual meeting at Writtle on November 18th if permission could be obtained.

It was considered that since practice nights at present are impossible, it would be of great value if Saturday afternoon practices were held, so Great Baddow, Danbury and Boreham were decided upon for the next three weeks, ringing to commence at 2.30 p.m.

The towers represented were Great Baddow, Boreham, Chelmsford, Galleywood, Maldon, Springfield, Little Waltham, Widford, Braintree, Bocking and Newmarket.

DEATH OF A WELL-KNOWN SHROPSHIRE RINGER.

The death recently occurred at Oswestry, after a somewhat protracted illness, of Mr. Robert T. Evans, a well-known Shropshire ringer. Deceased, who was affectionately known to his friends as 'Old Bob,' was 68 years of age, and learned to ring at Oswestry, where he resided practically all his life. Although he rang only about 40 peals, he was always a keen ringer and did a lot of 'spade-work' in the North Shropshire district, no distance being too far for him to travel for a practice, meeting or peal, etc., or to assist beginners.

At one period, about 15 years ago, he used to travel the eight-mile journey to Ellesmere quite regularly in order to make up a band to practise Stedman Triples there, and he regularly attended the meetings of the Shropshire Association. His peals consisted of Grandsire Doubles and Triples (some of which he conducted), Stedman Doubles and Triples, and Bob Major. He was also a keen bandsman, and was for several years a member of the Oswestry Town Band.

At his funeral the bells were rung half-muffled and six ringers acted as bearers. His passing will be keenly regretted by all who knew him, and his loss sadly felt by all his ringing colleagues in the district.

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 MONDAY.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION (South and West District), GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD (Chertsey District) and SURREY ASSOCIATION (North-Western District).—A combined meeting of members of the above will be held at Kingston-on-Thames on Saturday, Oct. 28th. Bells available from 2 to 5 p.m. and 7 to 9. Tea at 5.15 p.m. in the Parish Hall, followed by a short business meeting.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, F. E. Hawthorne and F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Secs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mark's, Worsley (10 bells), on Saturday afternoon, Oct. 28th. Tower open for ringing at 3 o'clock to 6.30. All other branch members cordially invited. No ringing after 6.30 p.m.—J. H. Ridyard, Sec., 35, The Crescent, Worsley.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Lewisham District.—The annual district meeting will be held at St. John the Baptist, Erith, on Saturday, Oct. 28th. Bells available at 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Luton District.—The annual meeting will be held at Leighton Buzzard on Saturday, Oct. 28th. The ten bells will be available from 2.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting at 5.30 p.m. All ringers invited.—F. J. Plummer, Dis. Sec., Plantation Road, Leighton Buzzard.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—By the kind permission of the Rector there will be an open practice at Halewood from 3.30 to 5.30 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 28th. No tea will be provided. No business meeting. All ringers cordially invited. It is hoped that the ordinary monthly meetings will be resumed on and from Nov. 11th.—G. R. Newton, Branch Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—Gainsborough District.—A meeting will be held at Lea on Saturday, Oct. 28th. Bells (6) available from 1.30 to 5 p.m. Short service. Tea at 5.30 in the Women's Institute, which will be available for a social evening. Should events take a more serious turn and the meeting have to be cancelled, all those who have let me know before Thursday, Oct. 26th, that they will be present will be notified. P.S.—There is still a very convenient train service to and from Lincoln.—Geo. L. A. Lunn, Hon. Sec., 248, Lea Road, Gainsborough.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kettering Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Cranford on Saturday, October 28th. Ringing from 2 to 5.15 p.m. Short service and tea to follow, concluding with business meeting.—H. Baxter, 21, Charles Street, Rothwell.

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LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The meeting arranged for Westhoughton on October 28th has been cancelled.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—A practice will be held at Great Baddow on Saturday, October 28th, at 2.30 p.m. All ringers will be welcomed.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—Owing to many difficulties, the Grimsby District meeting at Scunthorpe, on Saturday, October 28th, is cancelled.—H. Mingay, Hon. Dis. Sec.

RAMPTON CHURCH, CAMBRIDGE.—The new treble to make five will be dedicated by the Archdeacon of Ely on Wednesday, November 1st, at 3.30 p.m. Ringers welcomed. The bell cast by Gillett and Johnston, Croydon.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A meeting will be held at Shalford on Saturday, Nov. 4th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea, business meeting and handbell ringing. It is essential that all those requiring tea should notify me not later than Monday, Oct. 30th.—W. F. J. Cope, Hon. Sec., 26, Curling Vale, Onslow Village, Guildford.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Sonning Deanery Branch.—A practice will be held at Sandhurst on Saturday, Nov. 4th (instead of Oct. 21st). Ringing from 3 till 6 p.m. All welcome. — W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec., Merrel, California, Wokingham.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—A commemoration luncheon to celebrate the 302nd anniversary of the society will be held at the London Tavern, Fenchurch Street, on Saturday, Nov. 4th, at 1.30 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Special meeting at Malins Lee on Saturday, November 4th. Refreshments only for those notifying Mr. A. Woodvine, Meadow House, Dawley, Salop. Ringing afternoon and evening.—W. A. Farmer, Hon. Sec.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Forget the war and come and enjoy Withyham's nice octave, 2.30 p.m. till dusk, on Saturday, November 4th. All make own arrangements for tea. Handbells available.—C. A. Bassett, Asst. Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Clifton on Saturday, November 4th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. until dark. Please don't expect tea. All ringers will be welcome. Please come.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—The next meeting of the Lincoln District due to take place at Caythorp on Saturday, Nov. 4th, will be held instead at Lincoln Cathedral (12 bells, tenor 24 cwt.). Bells available from 1.30 to 4 p.m. Short service and meeting to follow. No tea arrangements.—K. W. Maver, Dis. Sec.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Hanley on Saturday, November 4th. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Will those requiring tea kindly notify Mr. N. Sargeant, 58, Eastbourne Road, Hanley, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, not later than Wednesday? Annual committee meeting at 3 p.m.—Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Next meeting will be held at Shore on Saturday, November 4th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Subscriptions due. All ringers and friends welcome.—Ivan Kay, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Annes-on-Sea Parish Church on Saturday, November 4th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Business meeting 5 p.m. All ringers welcomed.—C. Sharples, Fylde Branch Sec.

HUNSLET, LEEDS.—The bells will be dedicated on Sunday, November 5th, at 3.30 p.m. The ring of eight bells tuned and rehung and four new bells installed by John Taylor and Co.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—The annual meeting of the division will be held at Bocking on Saturday, November 11th. Bells available from 2 p.m. until dusk. Short service followed by tea and business meeting. Please note: Under the present circumstances tea can be provided only for those who notify Mr. R. Suckling, 334, Church Street, Bocking, Essex, by Wednesday, November 8th. Please make a special effort to attend this meeting.—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Dis. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Annual quarterly meeting due to be held this month at Rochester postponed, Cathedral bells not being rung. Members' views for or against holding of meetings in the Rochester district during the war period would be gladly received, and should be sent without delay to G. H. Spice, Hon. Dis. Sec., 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne.

RICKMANSWORTH.—Grandsire and Stedman Caters are rung every Sunday at Rickmansworth Parish Church. Visitors welcome. 5.30 p.m. sharp.—J. H. Freeborn.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—The address of the Rev. K. C. Davis is now All Hallows' Vicarage, Bristol 5. Telephone, Bristol 56496.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 1,493. Vol. XXXIV. FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3rd, 1939. [Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.] Price 3d.

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PREPARING FOR EVENTUALITIES.

One of the troubles with which associations may be confronted in the present conditions is that of obtaining competent officers if any of the posts become vacant. There is always a dearth of men, particularly when it comes to filling secretarial jobs, and the present demands upon everyone are likely to make the task of filling vacancies even more difficult. At a meeting of the Surrey Association, on Saturday, when nominations for an important district secretaryship should have been received, not only were there no volunteers but no one could be pressed into office. After several years of valuable work, the present occupant of the post, after having given the members due notice at the last annual meeting of his intended retirement, definitely declined to continue, and the district is threatened with a position which will leave it without its chief executive officer. It is usually the idea that, when such a vacancy occurs by the resignation of a senior member, a younger man should step into the breach, but in the present uncertainty, of course, it is hardly safe to put young men into office, because of the risk that, in the emergency, they may be called away to other service. Indeed, that is a liability which all associations are now carrying, wherever men of likely military age are filling important offices, and it would be a wise plan if everywhere, where this probability exists, there should be some suitable, if older, member held in reserve to fill the gap should it occur.

Too often in the past a district and even an association has been badly let down by the hurried appointment of a secretary who has been unfitted for the post. It is not necessarily the most enthusiastic ringer who makes the most efficient secretary. Other qualifications are necessary if he is to make a success of his job, and it is a mistake to appoint anyone merely on the strength of his ringing capacity. There is no more important office in connection with ringing than that filled by a secretary, and, however well intentioned he may be, he can make or mar a district by his organising ability or the lack of it. If he has to have any standing with the people with whom he must come into contact, he must also have a certain amount of business ability, and we have seen more than one district badly let down by a secretary lacking tact and the necessary education to conduct correspondence. We emphasise this because members of associations are prone, when they are faced with a vacancy which is difficult to fill, to pitchfork into the job the first man who is willing to take it. The interests of the organisation demand that such appointments should be made only after the most careful consideration of the nominee's fitness for the ap-

(Continued on page 666.)

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pointment, and personal feeling ought not to be allowed to enter into the election. It may be contended that when choice is limited an association must take what it can get; but it should be the duty of the other responsible officials to make a survey of the possible material and, especially when they have lengthy notice of a coming vacancy, to take time by the forelock and be ready with a suitable nomination. It is all very well to put the onus on the general body of members, but they often fail to make the best selection when suddenly confronted with the task of filling a vacancy. They have probably given the matter little or no thought, and yet the question of who is going to shoulder the work may be of vital importance to the future of the association. We have been tempted to express these views in the light of present prospects. Sudden removals in national service may, at any moment, cause vacancies in association offices, and it behoves all the organisations to look ahead so that they may not be caught unawares if it should happen that the occupant of some key office is called away. Even if appointments are made only temporarily, until a man has proved himself, it is better thus than to make a permanent but unsatisfactory choice, for it is seldom that a man once in office is relieved of his duties except at his own request.

SIX BELL PEALS.

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES, HIGHER SUTTON,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of one 720 of Oxford Bob and two each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN W. L. SLACK	...*Treble*	MISS E. M. P. FETHERS	4
JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER	2	NORMAN MEAKIN	5
THOMAS TAYLOR	3	JOHN WORTH	...*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

Arranged and rung for the wedding of Mr. S. Noble (a Sunday service ringer at the above church) to Miss V. Pickford.

OAKLEY, BEDS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 28, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being eight extents of Canterbury, six of April Day, 13 of Plain Bob and 15 of Grandsire. Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

WILLIAM GRIGGS	*Treble*	DONALD L. COCKINGS	3
THOMAS FLEMING	2	A. JAMES STUART	4
BRIAN F. SIMS	...*Tenor*		

Conducted by D. L. COCKINGS.

Rung in honour of the feast of SS. Simon and Jude.

HANDBELL PEAL.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, October 23, 1939, in Two Hours and Four Minutes,

AT 50, RUDOLPH ROAD,

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5000 CHANGES;

HAROLD G. CASHMORE	1-2	EDWIN A. BARNETT	5-6
CHRIS. W. WOOLLEY	3-4	EDWIN JENNINGS	7-8

Composed by S. H. WOOD. Conducted by C. W. WOOLLEY.

First peal of Little Bob Major 'in hand' by all the band. H. G. Cashmore's 200th peal.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD.—At All Saints' Church for the harvest festival, a quarter-peal of Plain Bob Major: J. Conquest 1, Miss D. Lidbetter 2, D. Insley 3, H. B. Whitney 4, J. Nicholls 5, V. Conquest 6, E Conquest 7, E. A. Belson 8. First quarter-peal of Major by the ringers of 1, 6 and 7.

A BELL OPENING CENTENARY.

CELEBRATION AT SOUTHOVER, LEWES.

What Happened One Hundred Years Ago.

The centenary of the opening of a ring of eight bells at St. John the Baptist's Church, Southover, Lewes, was celebrated last Saturday. Throughout the intervening one hundred years the bells of Southover have held an honoured place in the appreciation of Sussex ringers, and there are few towers in the county where more peals have been rung. The church itself is of Norman origin, as its big, circular pillars and rounded arches testify. Its tower of later date is a massive pile built of rock chalk and faced with brick, supported by flint and stone buttresses. Of the early history of the bells little is known, but the tower held four bells, probably of considerable size, at the end of the seventeenth century. In 1738 it was agreed at a vestry meeting 'to send the four bells belonging to the said parish by Capt. William Headley to London in order to be new cast.' Thus they were taken, probably by water, to the foundry of Samuel Knight



ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST'S CHURCH, SOUTHOVER, LEWES.

and Robert Catlin, who recast them into six. Southover, we are told, gave £62 10s. 6d.; Lewes and the Cliffe, which were then separate parishes that are now combined to form the borough of Lewes, in which Southover is also now included, gave £97 19s. 3d.; Mr. Edward Trayton gave one bell, value £32 0s. 6d.; country gentlemen £57 14s. 6d. That is how the money was raised.

Probably these bells were not altogether satisfactory, for a hundred years later they were again recast and, with new metal added, made into eight. Their inscriptions show how the money was provided on that occasion:—

Treble.—The gift of Henry Verrall, 1839.
2 and 3.—The gift of the good people, 1839.
4.—The gift of the Verrall family.
5.—John Verrall, Gabriel Eagles, Churchwardens, 1839.
6.—The Revd. John Scobell, Rector, 1839.
7.—The gift of Wm. Verrall, Esqre. 1839.
Tenor.—The gift of William Verrall, Esqre, Lord of the Manor, 1839.

It was a great occasion for Southover when on Monday, October 28th, 1839, the bells were opened. Most of the day was devoted to the celebration, for the proceedings began with ringing in the morning, which was continued in the afternoon, and there was a public dinner in the evening, the jubilations being kept up until a late hour.

THE CENTENARY CELEBRATION.

For some time past the ringers at Southover have been contemplating the fitting celebration of the one hundredth anniversary, but the war naturally caused a modification of the plans. However, the bells were rung and a dinner was held, so the event did not go unmarked, although the peal which it was originally hoped to ring had to be abandoned.

The police gave their consent to three-quarters of an hour's ringing in the late afternoon, subject to arrangements for an immediate stoppage if necessary. As a suitable touch for the occasion one hundred leads (1,400 changes) of Grandsire Triples was rung by G. Wickins (Ringmer) 1, G. P. Elphick 2, W. J. Coppard 3, F. Bennett (Brighton) 4, J. S. Goldsmith (Woking) (conductor) 5, F. H. Dallaway (Eastbourne) 6, R. W. E. Dawe 7, A. A. Hughes (London) 8.

The dinner was served at Holloway's Restaurant and attended by about 45 ringers and friends. The Rector (the Rev. D. G. Matthews), who is president of the Southover Church Bellringers' Guild, was in the chair, and was supported by Mrs. Matthews, Mr. H. R. Butcher (Master of the Sussex County Association), Mr. E. H. Fuller and Mr. A. T. Corner (churchwardens and vice-presidents) and Mrs. Corner, Mrs. Uridge, Mr. H. S. White and Mr. G. W. Townend (vice-presidents), Mr. A. A. Hughes, Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, Mr. G. P. Elphick (hon. secretary) and Mr. R. W. E. Dawe (captain). In addition to other members of the Guild, ringers were present from Brighton (St. Nicholas'), Eastbourne (Christ Church and St. Saviour's), Rotherfield, Seaford, Ringmer, Waldron and Twineham. Apologies for absence were received from Mr. Frank Verrall (a grandson of William Verrall, one of the donors of the bells), Mr. J. Thornton Rickman (Brighton), who at the beginning of this century gave the present trebles which increased the bells to ten, and Mr. S. E. Armstrong, hon. secretary of the Sussex Association.

The Rector, having proposed the loyal toast, welcomed all the visitors and commented on the fact that they were able to hold that commemoration on the actual day of the centenary, for the bells were opened on October 28th, 1839. He gave a brief outline of the history of the bells and paid a tribute to the work of the present hon. secretary of the Guild (Mr. Elphick). It was, he said, largely due to him that they were able to keep the bells of Southover ringing, and they were also greatly indebted to him for arranging that evening's gathering (applause).

THE WORK OF THE SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.

Mr. C. J. Rugg, who proposed the toast of 'The Sussex County Association,' said he felt like the prodigal son, for, after having been associated with the Guild for several years, but having since been in the far country for two years, he had returned when the fatted calf appeared in the offing (laughter). Proceeding, he recalled the three principal objects of the association, the cultivation of change ringing, the due care and use of church bells and belfries, and the recognition of true position of ringers as church officials. The association, he said, had carried out its objects most successfully, and last year, despite the enormous counter-attractions, its membership of nearly 700 ringers had declined by only thirteen. He was very pleased to see that Mr. Elphick was a member of the Association Committee and of the Committee of Advice. The association had done wisely in selecting him for that post, and probably one of the best things he (Mr. Rugg) ever did in connection with ringing was to persuade Mr. Elphick to join the Guild (applause). In these times it was difficult to talk of the future of the association, but he hoped sincerely that it would emerge from the present state of affairs stronger than ever and would continue to flourish along with the other arts and exercises which we in this country had taken a stand to preserve (applause).

Mr. H. R. Butcher, in responding, thanked the hon. secretary for the kind invitation to be present on that unique occasion in the history of the tower. It was a great pleasure to the association to know that the ringers of Southover were keeping in such close touch with the bells and tower. These were difficult days for ringing, with the restrictions that were imposed, but he thought, as time went on, it might be possible to resume practices in most places. The committee and officials of the association would do all they could to encourage bands to resume and to continue their work. In thinking of the centenary of Southover bells they could not help casting their minds back over the hundred years and recalling the memorable occasions for which the bells had been rung. For a hundred years they had called people to the services of the church, they had rung for state occasions, for the accession of kings and the death of sovereigns; they had rung for great national events and for parochial celebrations, and those present that night must feel they had met to celebrate a wonderful occasion. He extended to the Guild the congratulations and good wishes of the association (applause).

THE STORY OF 1839.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith proposed the toast of 'Success to Southover Church Bellringers' Guild.' They had met that day, he said, to celebrate an historic anniversary in the annals of Southover Church, and they were to be congratulated that, despite the prevailing war conditions, they had decided to carry on, even in a modified way, with the commemoration of the opening of the bells one hundred years ago that day. Continuing, he referred to the formation of the Guild, in which he took a part some 45 years ago, and said he regretted that one other of the foundation members, Mr. Alfred Turner, now the oldest ringer in Lewes, was absent from that gathering. Mr. Goldsmith recalled that the formaion of the Guild, under the then Rector (the Rev. W. E. Richardson) was the first official recognition which the ringers at Southover had received from the church authorities, and he looked upon it as a very wise step in the right direction. Previous to that there had, of course, been ringers attached

(Continued on next page.)

AN OLD TIME BELL OPENING.

(Continued from previous page.)

to the church, but they had had no authorised position in the church organisation.

Mr. Goldsmith went on to describe what happened in Southover one hundred years ago that day. He had, he said, obtained from the British Museum a copy of the reports of the proceedings which appeared in the local newspapers at the time. The proceedings began at 11 o'clock in the morning, when Southover ringers raised the new bells. Ringers from Brighton then led off with a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, conducted by Mr. Tester. Thereafter various bands from Waldron, Uckfield and Chailey rang and occupied themselves with the bells throughout the afternoon. Mr. Goldsmith pointed out that at that time there was no rail communication with Lewes, so all these men must have walked many miles to take part in the proceedings, which indicated their enthusiasm. He doubted if, to-day, there were many among them who would walk such distances to take part in a bell opening.

At five o'clock the ringers adjourned to the Swan Inn, where a company of seventy or eighty, including parishioners, partook of dinner. Mr. Churchwarden Eagles was in the chair and the vice-chair was taken by Mr. John Verrall, his co-churchwarden. Mr. William Verrall, Lord of the Manor, who gave some of the bells, was present, as was Mr. Thomas Mears, the founder. There was no indication that the Rector (the Rev. John Scobell) was present, and there was no religious service held in connection with the opening, as there would have been in similar circumstances to-day. Indeed, the proceedings were entirely secular, as was almost everything connected with ringing a hundred years ago.

The surprise of the evening was furnished when a large box was delivered from the London Coach Office, and, on being opened, was found to contain a set of handbells, presented by the Bell Founder. Change ringing on the handbells by the Brighton ringers took place, and the newspaper report concluded with the remark: 'Many loyal and convivial toasts were given and songs and good humour kept the company together till a late hour. A better feeling among all classes perhaps was never witnessed than on this occasion, and all parties retired pleased and delighted with the result of the day.'

RINGERS OF A CENTURY AGO.

Mr. Goldsmith added that he had no doubt his own grandfather was one of those who took part in the events of the day, for he was Parish Clerk, and almost certainly one of the ringers, and he (the speaker) therefore felt that he had a personal link with that great occasion, when the new bells came to Southover. As to what manner of men the ringers were in that day, Mr. Goldsmith quoted from the reminiscences of a contemporary writer, who described the ringers of another little Sussex town, Hailsham, and there was no reason to suppose that the ringers of Southover were any different in type. The writer in question wrote of the ringers:—

'The master tradesmen thought it no degradation but rather an honourable distinction to be one to minister to the rites of the belfry To be a ringer was a privilege.

'Each bell had its regular hand. There was the hatter, glover, tailor, shoemaker and blacksmith in succession and a few others—odd men to take a turn as occasion required, and one, the street driver, who was always needed to fetch the beer from the tavern. They were all professionally earnest, devoted men, and to do them justice as a rule—and what rule is not more or less broken?—they were sober men.'

Mr. Goldsmith concluded by remarking that the members of the Guild had, in the bells, a goodly heritage. He hoped they would take new life and energy from this notable anniversary; that they would soon be ringing for victory and long continue to ring through years of unbroken peace in the future (applause).

Mr R W. E. Dawe responded to the toast and expressed great satisfaction that they had been successful that day in ringing one hundred leads of Grandsire Triples for the occasion. It had given him and the rest of the band great enjoyment to take part in it. At present the Guild was continuing the Sunday ringing and practices, and would go on doing so unless someone else stopped them.

UGLINESS IN THE BELFRY.

Mr G. P. Elphick gave the toast of 'The Founders.' He said he wondered what this country would have been like without the founders of bells. The founders were a small group of men whose work was of the highest order. In Sussex they had 25 examples of bells cast by London founders which had been calling men to higher things for over five hundred years. The founders of to-day had ideas which led along a different path to the founders of old. They turned their attention to better tuning, but he feared that, in so doing, they had lost something in beauty of form. Modern belfries were full of ugliness. The cold steel frame, covered with rust, was the product of the engineer and had replaced hearts of oak. They had steel cages, steel stocks, steel stays and steel sliders and he had even found steel wheels—he hoped they would never come to using steel ropes (laughter). Steel bells were, happily, now obsolete. He would plead for beauty of form in bells as well as beauty in tone, to help to counteract the ugliness in the world in which we live. They were, he added, pleased to welcome Mr. Hughes that evening. He represented the foundry from which Southover bells came a hundred years ago.

(Continued in next column.)

DEATH OF MR. ARTHUR PAYNE.

EX-PRESIDENT, DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.

An old and valued member of the Durham and Newcastle Association, Mr. Arthur Payne, passed away on October 6th at Harrogate, where he had gone to recuperate his health. He was a man of many parts. By profession he was a chemist and eventually occupied the position of managing director of Mawson and Swan, Ltd., which his father had filled before him. He was chairman of Atlas Woodworkers, Ltd., and a director of Mawson and Proctor, chemists, Newcastle. He was also well known in the photographic trade and originated the process of taking a half-tone photo direct upon the metal plate without the intervention of a negative. For his services during the Great War he was created a Member of the Order of British Empire and Honorary Serving Brother of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem. He was made a J.P. for Gateshead in 1931, and represented the South Ward on the Town Council for six years.

Mr. Payne joined the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association in 1911 as a member of the St. Paul's, Whitley Bay, branch and learnt his ringing with the celebrated Gofton family. He rang his first peal, one of Stedman Triples, in that belfry on May 23rd, 1913, and took part in many peals with the Whitley Bay company before leaving the coast to live in Gateshead. He joined the Newcastle Cathedral Guild in 1921 and was a very active member, acting for some years as secretary.

For some time he was assistant and editorial secretary of the association and eventually occupied the presidency from 1933 to 1936. During his leadership the rules of the association were revised—a laborious task, but all to the good of the smoother and more efficient working of the association.

In all, Mr. Payne rang in 36 peals on tower and handbells, in which latter he was useful and reliable on 1-2 in Major and Royal. His peals were rung in all the standard methods, and included, in addition, many of Surprise Major, Stedman Caters and Cinques.

The funeral service was held at Newcastle Cathedral, the Very Rev. the Provost, Canon G. E. Brigstocke, officiating. A large concourse of fellow-ringers, works representatives and Freemasons attended, while the Gateshead Town Council were there, headed by the Mayor (Councillor Pickring), and many of the councillors and Town Hall staff.

The members of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association were represented by the president, Mr. Murray Oubridge, the Cathedral Ringing Master and several members of the Guild. Ringers were also present from Benwell, Fenham, Whitley Bay, Gateshead and Tanfield towers. The Worshipful Master of Hotspur Lodge, 1,626, was present with several other brethren. Mr. W. J. Davidson tolled the Major, as no ringing, muffled or otherwise, is allowed at the Cathedral at present.

Afterwards a short service was held at the Crematorium, attended only by the family and very old friends, of which the writer was privileged to be one of his oldest.

Mr. Payne was of a genial, happy and generous nature and was very popular in his many activities. He leaves a widow, a son and two daughters to mourn their loss. C. L. R.

THE SOUTHOVER CENTENARY.

(Continued from previous column.)

Mr. Hughes, who replied, expressed gratitude for the toast. He said it was a privilege to attend that gathering. It was a privilege, too, to be associated with the founder who supplied the bells of Southover Church a hundred years ago, and whose foundry, next year, would be 370 years old. There was a great tradition behind it and one could not help thinking of what had been put into it in the past, in which men had put their heart and soul into producing the best that was possible. Continuing, he said he could understand Mr. Elphick's plea for more beauty in the towers. A great deal of ugliness had been introduced. There was no need for it. Fine things had been done in past days, such as was shown in the beautiful old castings. Fortunately to-day there was a check upon the ugliness, a check which had come about by the formation of the diocesan committees to give advice on these points.

Proceeding, Mr. Hughes said that in the days when Thomas Mears cast the bells for Southover the firm did very little hanging, and all they supplied to Southover was the eight bells and eight clappers. He would have liked to find out something further about the contract by the correspondence that led up to the transaction, but unfortunately sixty or seventy years ago the firm lost many of their records by fire and all he could tell them was that they supplied the bells to the parish with the eight clappers.

Mr. Hughes added that it was very nice to be there that evening among some old friends, and he counted it a great privilege to have been able to take part in the commemorative touch rung that evening. In conclusion he expressed regret that Mrs. Hughes had been unable to accept the invitation which had been extended to her as well as to himself.

During the evening the speeches were interspersed with humorous songs by Mr. Taylor, courses of Bob Major and Grandsire Triples rung on handbells, and tunes on his handbell carillon cleverly tapped by Mr. G. P. Elphick.

After 'Auld Lang Syne' had been sung, 'all parties,' in the words of the writer of a hundred years ago, 'retired pleased and delighted with the result of the day.'

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE LUTON BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the Luton District of the Bedfordshire Association was held at Leighton Buzzard on Saturday. Enough ringers were present soon after three o'clock to ring Stedman Caters, and up to tea time the bells were rung to various methods, including Cambridge and Superlative Major, Stedman and Grandsire Caters, and Plain and Little Bob Royal.

The business meeting was presided over by Mr. Ernest Herbert. The secretary's report and balance sheet showed that the district is in a satisfactory position and that all the performing members have already paid their subscriptions for 1939.

The district chairman (Mr. A. King) and the vice-chairman (Mr. E. Herbert) were re-elected, and Mr. Belson was elected district secretary.

A discussion followed on the question of future meetings, and it was eventually decided to hold a full afternoon and evening meeting at Dunstable on Saturday, November 25th. Mr. W. Bottrill, late of Leicester, was elected a performing member of the association and he will be a great help to the district. The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.

NORTHERN DISTRICT.

On Saturday, October 28th, the Northern District of the Swansea and Brecon Guild held a quarterly meeting at St. Mary's, Bronllys, Brecknockshire. Considering the transport difficulties, it was the most successful meeting which the district has held. Ringing began at half-past two and at half-past four the Guild service was held in the church, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. W. J. Davies, who gave a very inspiring address and a hearty welcome to all the visitors.

Following tea the business meeting was held, at which the Vicar presided, supported by the District Master (Mr. A. Hunt) and the district secretary (Mr. J. P. Hyett). A grant was made from the district funds towards a presentation to the Lord Bishop of Llandaff, late president of the Swansea and Brecon Guild, in recognition of his kindness in entertaining the members every year. Twelve new members were elected from the local tower and one from Talgarth.

After votes of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and for conducting the service, to the organist, the lady helpers and the local band for the arrangements made, the ringers returned to the tower and the bells were lowered at 8 p.m. Twenty-five members were present from Brecon (St. Mary's), Cefn Coed, Talgarth, Glasbury-on-Wye and the local belfry.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY

FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS.

The Barnsley District Society held their October meeting at Penistone on Saturday week, when 14 members were present from Cawthorne, Felkirk and Wath, besides the local company. Ringing began at 3 p.m., and the bells, a fine peal of eight, were made good use of until about 6.15 p.m. The ringing was mostly in Minor methods, ranging from Plain Bob to Cambridge Surprise, with plenty of opportunities for the recruits. Touches of Treble Bob Major were also rung, giving some of the members their first chance of a touch on eight bells.

The business meeting was held in the tower before the tea, the Vicar, the Rev. E. D. C. Wright, presiding.

It was decided not to hold any further meetings this year, the next to be the annual general meeting in January at Barnsley. It was also decided to hold a committee meeting at Barnsley on Saturday, December 9th, to receive notice of motions and nominations for officials and any other items of business which would come up at the annual meeting.

The Vicar was thanked for the use of the bells and for presiding, and the local company for making the arrangements.

The Vicar, in reply, said he was sorry that ringing had to be curtailed, but hoped conditions would soon change and the bells be ringing peals in celebration of peace.

The party then adjourned to a nearby cafe for a good meal, which was thoroughly enjoyed, and, after being led by the locals through the black-out to the buses for home, a good meeting under war conditions came to an end.

SATURDAY PRACTICES PLANNED FOR LINCOLN.

The Lincoln District of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild held a by-meeting at St. Giles' Church on Saturday, October 14th, when ringers were present from the Cathedral, St. Peter-at-Gowts, Blankney and the local band, together with visitors from Grantham, Burton-on-Stather, Scunthorpe, Barnby-in-the-Willows, Felkirk, near Rotherham, and Mr. J. H. Shepherd, from Swindon. Between 40 and 50 ringers enjoyed the privilege of ringing on the peal of eight bells, which have a tenor of 18 cwt., during the afternoon. At 3.15 the company attended evensong, and during the evening those who did not have to get home before lighting up time assembled in the Parish Hall for handbell ringing until 9 p.m.

It is hoped to arrange practices on Saturday afternoons in the near future alternately with the Cathedral band, that is one week at St. Giles', the next week at the Cathedral.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The war-time derangement of the postal services and the necessity of getting the copies of 'The Ringing World' into the hands of the publishers earlier on Thursday make it absolutely essential that all contributions to our columns, and particularly all notices, should be in our hands by Monday in each week. We cannot guarantee the insertion in the following issue of anything received later.

We hope that secretaries will send us prompt reports of their meetings, and we shall welcome any items of news relating to ringers and ringing, but they must reach us early.

BELFRY GOSSIP.

We much regret to record the death at Pudsey, Yorkshire, of Mr. Thomas Maude, who was 85 years of age. He passed away on October 23rd and was buried on Thursday of last week. An account of his unique connection with ringing will appear in our next issue.

To-morrow members of the Ancient Society of College Youths will celebrate its three hundred and second anniversary by a luncheon at the London Tavern, and, despite the difficulties incident to war-time conditions, a numerous company is expected.

The Rev. Ivor J. Richards, hon. treasurer of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association, is serving with the Forces as Chaplain in France.

Wednesday was the anniversary of a peal of Bob Major rung in 1747 at St. Giles'-in-the-Fields by the Union Scholars and conducted by John Holt.

On the same date, in 1746, what seems to have been the second peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major ever rung was accomplished at St. Michael's, Coslany, Norwich, and in 1831 in the same tower a later generation of the Norwich Scholars rang 6,160 changes of the same method.

November 1st is also the anniversary of the opening of the bells of St. Paul's Cathedral, which took place in 1878.

Five years ago to-day the band of ringers who were touring in Australia rang the first peal of Kent Treble Bob Major ever accomplished outside the British Isles. It was rung at Holy Trinity Church, Hobart, in Tasmania, Mr. George Martin conducting and Mr. Rupert Richardson at the tenor.

On November 5th, 1787, the Sheffield ringers rang at St. Peter's Church, now the Cathedral, 6,048 changes of Cambridge Surprise Major, and on the same date in 1821 the Huddersfield ringers rang 5,152 changes of Superlative Surprise Major. The former peal was false, but the latter, which was composed and conducted by Benjamin Thackrah, and was the first in the method, was true.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—There was no question of fear or shame in the signature of my letter, the only mistake being I omitted the 's' from the end and I can assure Mr. Mitchell it would take up far too much space to print all the names. Anyway, no 'newspaper correspondence' is needed now. The Lewisham District have answered the query in a practical way (and most surprisingly that is the district where one would expect the most difficulty), so it does appear strange that the safer areas have not made any apparent effort, and the longer the delay the shorter are the hours available.

I promise the general secretary that if and when a meeting is held in this district I will be pleased to disclose my name, but at present I'm still

'ENQUIRER.'

THE ANCIENT BELL OF TALLEY ABBEY.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I wish to thank Mr. T. Laver, Exeter, for his great kindness in replying to my query. Mr. George Eyre Evans, the secretary of the Carmarthenshire Antiquarian Society, who has broadcast on numerous occasions, and was for many years a member of the Royal Commission on Ancient Monuments for Wales, would never accept the view expressed by various authorities that the great bell of Talley Abbey went to Exeter.

Strange to say, the inhabitants of Talley firmly believe that the bell is at Exeter. I showed the correspondence in 'The Ringing World' to one of the leading residents, a member of the legal profession, and although he admitted that Mr. Laver had supplied convincing proof, still thought it may be somewhere in that city.

EDWARD J. THOMAS.

RINGING IN WAR TIME.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.

A good gathering was held at Kingston on Saturday last, when ringers from the counties of London, Middlesex and Surrey met for a combined meeting of the Surrey, Middlesex and Guildford Associations. The co-operation of the police had been sought and obtained, with the result that the bells were kept going from 2 to 5 p.m. and from 7 to 9 p.m. The stipulation was made that a listener should be on duty to inform the ringers to stop the bells in the event of an air raid warning being given.

About 60 ringers were present during the afternoon and evening, including Major J. H. B. Hesse (Master of the Guildford Diocesan Guild), Mr. D. K. C. Birt (Master of the Surrey Association) and Mr. J. A. Trollope (vice-president of the Middlesex Association). Visitors were also present from Twyford, Berks, and West Grinstead, Sussex.

The Vicar of Kingston (the Rev. T. B. Scrutton) called at the Parish Hall during tea time and welcomed the gathering to Kingston. He said he was sorry he could not remain for tea, as he had to get away to attend to various other parochial duties. He complimented the meeting on the quality of the ringing he had heard during the afternoon, which 'for novices' was very good indeed (laughter) (most of his listeners were experienced ringers). Before he left the hall a vote of thanks to him, for the use of the bells, was passed with acclamation.

After tea, Mr. Birt, on behalf of the North-Western District of the Surrey Association, welcomed their friends of the Middlesex Association and of the Guildford Guild. 'That misguided person, Mr. Adolf Hitler,' he said, 'would very much like to stop all our normal activities and prevent us from carrying out our ordinary duties. Therefore, I feel that it is up to us to do all we can to keep our ringing going. When the changes which are taking place in the world are so fast and frightening as they are to-day, and when we are fighting a dictatorship of the Right in the form of Nazism on the one hand and menaced by a dictatorship of the Left such as Bolshevism on the other, it becomes increasingly difficult to keep our minds clear and steady. Opposed to such doctrines we have the teaching of Christ and His method of carrying on; with love and service to mankind as a basis for the direction of our activities, and I feel that we should do all in our power to proclaim the Christian message by our ringing at the present time.'

Mr Ernest C. S. Turner, on behalf of the Middlesex Association, thanked Mr. Birt for his words of welcome, and conveyed to the meeting apologies for absence from Mr. Lewis Cockey and Mr. Wilson.

A short business meeting of the North-West District of the Surrey Association followed, presided over by Mr. D. Cooper (District Master). Arising out of the minutes, Mr. E. G. Talbot asked whether anything had yet been done by the Guildford Guild in the matter of the appointment of a representative to serve on the committee of the Surrey Association. He was informed that this subject was to be placed on the agenda for the next annual general meeting.

With the exception of the secretary, all the district officers were nominated for re-election for the ensuing year. Appeals were made to Mr. Woodiss to induce him to carry on with the duties of secretary during the present national emergency. In reply, Mr. Woodiss pointed out that he informed the association as long ago as November, 1938, of his wish to retire (reported in 'The Ringing World' dated December 2nd, 1938). Although there was nothing in the rules requiring an officer to give twelve months' notice of retirement, he did so in order to give members ample time in which to find a suitable successor for election in 1940. He was disappointed to find that no nomination was forthcoming and hoped the position would be rectified by January. He further expressed the opinion that it was but another instance, common to most associations unfortunately, of leaving everything to the officers.

The company then returned to the tower, where the bells were kept going to various methods from Grandsire to Spliced Surprise Major and Cambridge Royal until 9 o'clock, no air raid warning having been sounded.

RINGING ARRANGEMENTS IN BRIGHTON.

To the Editor.

Sir,—It may be of interest to your readers that the following arrangements for ringing are now in operation in Brighton, and that visitors will be cordially welcomed:—

Sundays.—St. Peter's and the Good Shepherd Churches, 10.30 to 11 a.m.; St. Nicholas', 2.30 to 3 p.m.

Combined practices on alternate Saturdays as under, first mentioned church 2 to 3 p.m., second 3.30 to 4.30 p.m.:—

November 4th: The Good Shepherd and St. Nicholas'.
November 18th: St. Nicholas' and St. Peter's.
December 2nd: St. Peter's and the Good Shepherd.
December 16th: The Good Shepherd and St. Nicholas'.

If any ringer wishes to be kept informed of any changes in the above time-table which may be necessitated by emergency regulations, will he please let me have a stamped and addressed postcard for reply as soon as possible? This will be kept filed and dispatched at once when and if the occasion arises.

S. E. ARMSTRONG,
Hon. General Secretary, Sussex County Association.
70, Hollingbury Park Avenue,
Brighton 6.

TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

SUGGESTED WAR-TIME ARRANGEMENTS.

A meeting of the officials of the Guild was held at Truro on Saturday, October 21st, 1939, to discuss the working of the Guild in war time.

It was decided that this meeting take the place of the one which would have been held in February, 1940.

All the officers were re-elected except Miss Angwin, now Mrs. Roberts, who has left the diocese.

The following resolutions were carried:—

(1) Report.—Not to issue a report till 1941, but this report to contain an account of the activities of the Guild during 1939 and 1940. In the place of the report the decisions of this meeting to be printed and three copies to be sent to each tower, one for the incumbent, one for the representative and one to be posted in the tower.

(2) Affiliation fees.—These to be paid as usual.

(3) Festivals.—The diocesan festival to be held in some place easy of access, Lostwithiel suggested. One minor festival at least to be held in each branch every year. That picnic teas be brought by those attending these festivals.

(4) Branch secretaries should find someone who would be ready to take their place in case they are called away on military or other national service.

(5) Ringing.—Every effort should be made to maintain Sunday ringing. To ensure this young ringers must be brought on continually to fill gaps, and in consequence practices must be held. If it should be impossible to obtain young ringers, and a tower finds itself short-handed, an appeal should be made to a neighbouring tower for help and ringing done in the two towers alternately. It is up to members of the Guild to see that none of its towers are silent for the duration of the war.

(6) Roll of honour.—Secretaries or captains of towers to keep a list of those serving their country with their service, ranks and honours, and this should eventually be sent to the diocesan secretary, who will forward it to the secretary of the Central Council to be preserved among its records.

RINGING IN LEEDS AREA.

The following is a list of war-time ringing arrangements for most of the towers in the Leeds and District Society's area:—

Armley: 9.45 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. only.
Batley: 9.45 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. only.
Birstall: 10.15 a.m. to 11 a.m.; 2.15 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Bradford Cathedral: No ringing until further notice.
Bramley: 9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. only.
Burley: 9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. only.
Drighlington: 9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.; 5 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Guiseley: 9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.; 2.30 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Headingley, St. Chad's: 9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.; 2.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.
Headingley, St. Michael's: 9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m. only.
Idle. 9.45 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.; 2.15 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Leeds Parish Church: No ringing until further notice.
Pudsey: 9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.; 2.30 p.m. to 3 p.m.
Shipley: 9.30 a.m. to 10.30 a.m.; 2.30 p.m. to 3.15 p.m.

The committee of the society have decided to continue with the monthly meetings, which will be advertised in 'The Ringing World.' The next meeting will be at Birstall on November 25th.

DEATH OF A BEDWELLTY RINGER.

MR. T. POPNELL DIES IN JERSEY.

Mr. T. Popnell, father of Mr. George Popnell, this year's Master of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association, passed away on Friday, October 20th. He was holidaying in Jersey with his daughter when, about three weeks ago, he had a seizure and lost consciousness. From this he never rallied.

With great difficulty (owing to passenger restrictions), his son, Mr. George Popnell, was able to cross to Jersey. For a fortnight he remained with his father and was there when the end came.

The funeral took place at the Old Parish Church, St. Helier, where he attended and where his daughter was married.

Mr. T. Popnell was an enthusiastic member of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association and rarely missed a meeting.

THORNE, YORKS.—At St. Nicholas' on Sunday, October 22nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: E. Thorley 1, T. Leask 2, A. Woods 3, T. A. Henworth 4, C. H. Thorley 5, W. Hoborn 6, C. Thorley (conductor) 7, J. Thorley 8.

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CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

ST. GILES'-IN-THE-FIELDS. ITS PLACE IN THE HISTORY OF LONDON RINGING.

By J. Armiger Trollope.

Of the many London steeples, few have taken a part in the history of ringing equal to that of St. Giles', and among the eight-bell towers it almost stands supreme.

In the old tower, the first six-bell peal of which we have any notice was rung shortly before 1730. It consisted of fourteen 360's, but the particulars of what the methods were, who called the bobs, and what the society was are lost. All we know is that Laughton says that he was one of the band and that James Newcombe, the steeplekeeper, at Westminster Abbey was another.

The first peal in the present steeple was 5,040 changes of Bob Major in 1736 by the Union Scholars, conducted by John Denmead. In the following year Annable called 5,120 changes of Oxford Treble Bob for the College Youths, and four months later the Union Scholars rang a peal of Triples, the name of which, owing to the ornamental writing of the peal book, cannot be read. Osborn thought the word was Hack Trebles, and Jasper Snowdon suggested Ham Trebles, but thought it might be Hick Triples, which was the title the Union Scholars gave to John Garthon's peal of Grandsire Triples. The writing, however, can be anything you like to make it.

The Union Scholars also rang the first peals of Bob Triples and Grandsire Triples in the tower, this latter being their last peal before the society finally broke up. It was in 1757, and was one of the earliest performances of Holt's Ten-part peal.

In 1759 the College Youths rang 5,280 changes of Morning Exercise Major, and a month later 5,040 of Double Bob. Morning Exercise Major was an extension of a six-bell method, which was widely rung. The composition, however, was false. In 1778, John Reeves called 5,264 changes of Real Double Bob Major, with two bobs in a lead, for the London Youths, and in 1780, for the same society, 5,088 changes of Cambridge Surprise Major, the first peal of any Surprise Major method ever achieved.

Up to the year 1768 it had never occurred to anyone that a peal of Treble Bob Major might be true at the lead ends, and yet have repetitions in the interior of the leads. Then Christopher Wells discovered the falseness of Oxford when the treble is in 1-2, but still the matter was not fully investigated or understood. So it was that Reeves, though one of the cleverest composers that the Exercise has produced, called a false peal.

About that time William Jones was writing the 'Clavis,' and he enlisted the services of Reeves as chief composer. Reeves went thoroughly into the proof of Treble Bob and put the matter on a sound basis so far as peals with the tenors together were concerned. He now found out that the Cambridge he had called was false, and so the same band (save for one man) who had joined the ancient Society of College Youths rang another peal in the method. Reeves had satisfied himself by what, so far as it went, was sound reasoning, that only fifteen courses were to be obtained in Cambridge with the tenors together. To make up the length required, he parted the tenors, but as he does not seem to have ever considered the effect on the truth of the method by so doing, his peal was again false.

In the same year that the Cambridge was rung, Reeves called a peal of Bob Major for the ancient Society of College Youths, which was the only peal in which all three authors of the 'Clavis' took part together.

The next interesting peal in the steeple was one of London Union Trebbles, in 1782, by the ancient Society of London Youths, 'being the first that ever was rung in that method.' It was composed and conducted by John Frazier, but the figures are lost, and we have no hint as to what the method was like.

On Sunday, October 23rd, 1791, the men from St. Mary Abbot's, Kensington, who were members of the Society of College Youths, rang a peal of Grandsire Triples. James Barlett called Holt's Original from the seventh, and the claim was made, and for a century accepted as valid, that he was the first man to call that peal and ring at the same time. The feat, however, had been performed several years before at Norwich. Holt himself, it will be remembered, called from manuscript while seated in the belfry.

In 1884, on the ninety-third anniversary of Bartlett's peal, the Original was rung at St. Giles' non-conducted for the first time.

Bartlett called the peal several times, at Battersea, Kensington, Bishopsgate, Hackney, Cambridge and Horsham, and from several bells.

On Wednesday, May 22nd, 1799, the Society of Junior Cumberlands rang at St. Giles' John Noonan's peal of Stedman Triples. It was the first seven-bell peal in the method since the two at Norwich in 1731, and is often considered as the first true peal in the method. That, however, is by no means certain, for the figures as given by Shipway are unintelligible, and some at least of the peals of Stedman composed by Noonan were false.

During the nineteenth century the peals rung at St. Giles' were of little interest, until we come to one of Cambridge Surprise by the Cumberlands in 1892. This was the first true peal in the method in London.

Of late years a good many peals have been scored in the tower, the most notable being the first of Bristol Surprise Major in London (1904) and the first ever rung in eleven Spliced Surprise Major methods (1930). The same band almost succeeded in ringing in the tower a peal in twelve Spliced Surprise Major methods, but lost it a very little way from home. A few days later, however, they were successful at St. Mary's, Ealing.

These peals and the Bristol Surprise were rung by the Middlesex County Association and were conducted by William Pye.

The bells have lately been rehung by Messrs. John Taylor and Co. at the expense of the Barron Bell Trust.

DEATH OF MRS. WILLIAMS, OF NEWENT, GLOS.

The many friends of Sergt. Joseph Williams will regret to hear of the passing of his wife at the age of 86, after a married life of 67 years. The veterans, including the Sergeant, who rang a peal last June had looked forward to joyous ringing to commemorate the Sergeant's 87th birthday on Saturday last, but it had to be cancelled.

A beautiful choral service was held in the Parish Church, conducted by the Vicar and assistant clergy. The bells were rung half-muffled before the service and also while the cortege proceeded to Newent Cemetery. Despite the bad travelling facilities, the ringers came from a long distance. They were J. Austin, H. E. Austin and S. E. Romans, of Gloucester; J. Clark, Ross, J. Davis and W. H. Harris, of Lydney; and J. W. Jones, Newport.

Mrs. Williams was a most lovable lady who lived for others and a real good churchworker. She will be sadly missed, not only by her husband and family, but by the people of Newent. The ringers, too, have lost a good friend, as she always extended the utmost hospitality.

WITH PENCIL AND PAPER.

HOW COURT BOB IS CONSTRUCTED.

Last week we were discussing Plain Reverse and Double Bob, and we saw that in those methods all the bells keep the same Coursing Order throughout the plain course, except that when either second's or seventh's place is made the treble takes one step in its cyclical path through the Coursing Order of the other bells. We called such a step a Shunt, and those particular steps we called Extreme Shunts.

These Shunts are used not only in Plain Bob, but also in thousands of other methods, and always they have exactly the same effect.

We now come to the next important Shunt, and since it produces Double Court Bob Minor we will call it the Court Shunt.

Alongside is the first lead of the plain course of a method, and to understand its construction it will be well to pick out the full course, or, at any rate, two or three leads.

It is not a method that you will ever want to ring, because it is not what is called symmetrical, but that is a point which does not for the moment concern us.

When we examine this lead we find that it consists entirely of plain hunting, in which all the bells, including the treble, keep the same coursing order, except that there are two places—third's and fourth's—which are made by the same bell.

Now observe what has happened to this bell. It was the bell which was coursing immediately in front of the treble. It stops and makes fourth's, crosses the treble's path, makes third's, and then follows the treble up behind. Before the first place was made, the Coursing Order was 875312468. After the second place is made, the Coursing Order is 875132468. The treble has changed positions in Coursing Order with the bell next in front of it, and made one step in its cyclical path through the Coursing Order of the other bells.

12345678
21436587
24135678
42316587
24361857
42638175
46283715
64827351
68472531
86745213
87654123
78561432
75816342
57183624
51738264
15372846
13527486

Turn back and compare all this with what we found out about the Extremes, and you will see that, except for the position in which they are made, the Court Shunts are exactly similar to the Extremes, and have exactly the same effect. But the two places, one on either side of the treble, and the attending dodging, must be considered as all part of one operation.

Set down in general terms, a Court Shunt consists of two places made by the bell coursing immediately in front of the treble, and made next the treble's path. In the example we have given, the places are fourth's and third's; but directly you begin to experiment with figures you will find that they are not the only places that can be made.

Prick out a lead in which sixth's and fifth's are made, and compare it with the other lead. You will find that you get exactly the same result, the only difference being the position in which the shunt is made.

42618375
46281357
64823175
46283715

Not only so, but the shunts can be made round the treble as it is hunting down, just as well as when it is hunting up, and again with the same result. Prick out the leads and test it for yourself, first with fifth's and sixth's, and then with third's and fourth's.

All the places which we have made up to now are back-stroke places, and Court Shunts so made we will call for convenience R. Court Shunts.

When we examine the length of the treble's path on the different numbers of bells, we find that in Minor there is room for one R. Court Shunt to be made as the treble passes from the front to the back. In Major there is room for two to be made, in Royal three, in Maximus four, and so, in a regularly increasing progression, on all even numbers.

As the treble passes from the back to the front the same number of positions are available.

We have now got the Extremes and the R. Court Shunts, each of which produces the same result, and consists of one step in the treble's path through the Coursing Order of the other bells. We can now experiment by using combinations of these. As soon as we have used seven of them, no matter in what order they come, the treble will have got back again between the third and the second, and the bells will run round by plain hunting; and no combination will produce rounds unless it consists of seven or a multiple of seven.

The number of round blocks we can produce by these combinations is very large. Not every one will be the plain course of a method, and not all the methods produced will be what are considered regular methods. But, since the Coursing Order of the working bells is not altered, we have got the material for making the most musical methods possible, and some of our round blocks, though not themselves the plain courses of regular methods, will turn out to be parts of two or more courses of regular methods spliced together.

SWANSCOMBE RINGER'S DEATH.

PASSING OF AN OLD K.C.A. RINGER.

At the latter end of last century there was a very enterprising six-bell band at Swanscombe, Kent, which, under the leadership of the late William Harper, scored several noteworthy peals for the Kent County Association. Mr. M. J. Digby, a member of this band, has recently passed away at his home at Stone, near Dartford, at the age of 71 years.

For many years Mr. Digby's employment prevented him from taking a very active part in peal ringing, but he was a very conscientious Sunday service ringer. Upon his retirement he looked forward to increased activity in ringing and for a short while he attended both Swanscombe and Dartford practices and Sunday ringing, in most cases making the journey of two miles to each of these towers on foot. He was, however, stricken with a cardiac weakness some three years ago and from then until the time of his death he was unable to take any part in ringing, although following the activities of others with great interest in 'The Ringing World.'

Before he was compelled to give up Mr. Digby added a few peals to his small collection, the most noteworthy being his first peal of Surprise Major at the age of 67 years.

In all he rang about 40 peals in a variety of methods, all of them being for the Kent County Association, of which he was a member for over fifty years.

ACTON RINGER'S GIFT TO THE CHURCH.

In the course of evensong last Sunday, at Acton Parish Church, the Bishop of Kensington dedicated a handsome processional cross which has been given to the church by Mr. J. W. Fruin to mark the completion of 40 years' service as verger and also of his golden wedding.

Afterwards a pleasing little ceremony was held in the Parish Hall, when the Bishop presented Mr. Fruin with gifts from the choir and congregation, and various speakers, representing the choir, congregation and the ringers, offered him their congratulations and thanks. The Vicar had already, in his sermon, expressed his opinion of Mr. Fruin and his services.

Mr. Fruin was a member of the very active band of ringers which the late Robert Holloway formed some years since at Acton, and he took part in several peals of Grandsire, Plain Bob and Stedman.

THE B.B.C. INTERVAL SIGNAL.

REASONS FOR NOT USING CHANGE RINGING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Having a particular interest in the attitude of the B.B.C. towards the Exercise, I have naturally followed the correspondence keenly during the last three weeks, and waited to see a comprehensive reply given to Mr. Trotman, and beg to congratulate Mr. C. H. Webb on being the nearest so far.

There are, however, two points which he has not touched on which I would like to bring to the notice of all.

Firstly, while the B.B.C. retains the present interval signal, we do still hear the sound of *the* Bow Bells which made the name so famous, and even if it is 'stoney' it is the old Bow tenor.

Secondly, a point which Mr. Webb started to make, but did not finish, is the matter of interrupted change ringing.

I would like to put this question to all those who are advocating the replacement of call-changes by scientific change ringing: 'In view of the agitation in the past against the one-time practice of the B.B.C. in fading out broadcast ringing for announcements, is there any consistency in now asking them to use recorded change ringing purely for a stop gap?' Personally, I have no hesitation in answering 'No,' and I venture to predict that were a record of change ringing substituted, those who should be interested would soon be fed up, while those outside the Exercise would fail to appreciate any improvement, and might even vote it as inferior, since half-pull ringing is undoubtedly more confusing to the ear of the uninitiated.

As an outcome of what might be expected with a record of change ringing, I would ask if any ringer has ever heard the present record allowed to run home, as I personally have never heard it come into rounds at the finish, even when there has been plenty of time, and who would wish to hear a well-struck touch mutilated in the last whole pull or so? Finally, I think many will agree with me that this correspondence has been greatly marred by the mud slinging epistle of the only nameless correspondent—in your issue of October 6th. One can only assume that he knows very little of ringing, either call-changes or half-pull, or that he has a grudge against the band who made the record, hence his shelter behind a nom-de-plume.

T. GROOMBRIDGE, Jun.

Crayford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

DEATH OF PRESTON BRANCH HON. SECRETARY.

By the death on October 7th of Mr. Alfred Blogg at the early age of 44, the tower at Whittle-le-Woods has lost another of its accomplished ringers, and the Preston Branch its efficient and popular secretary.

Learning to ring in 1921, his quick intelligence and eager mind rapidly brought him into the front rank of ringing in the branch, and although of a small and slight physique, he could turn in a heavy bell as well as most ringers of more weighty stature; indeed, he was never so happy as when conducting a peal of Treble Bob Major from the 21 cwt. tenor of his home tower. He early showed an aptitude for teaching recruits, and many young ringers, both male and female, owe their ability to his skill as tutor. A member of the College Youths, of which he was proud, he had rung 78 peals and conducted 16 for the Lancashire Association.

The interment took place on October 11th at Whittle-le-Woods, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. M. H. Garner, who spoke of the splendid work done by the deceased for the church and Bible class. Ringers from Preston, Penwortham, Leyland, Chorley, Brindle and the home tower rang half-muffled touches of Kent Treble Bob as the cortege approached the church and after the committal.

'Alf' Blogg leaves the memory of an eager and impulsive spirit, who has burned himself out prematurely both in the service of ringing and church and wherever his interest was kindled. He was a past officer in the Manchester Unity of Oddfellows, and took part in both Oddfellow peals rung at Whittle-le-Woods. He attended the annual meeting at Blackpool from a strong sense of duty, though obviously suffering from the illness to which he succumbed. A half-muffled peal was rung to his memory on Saturday, October 14th, which has been already recorded.

DEATH OF MR. ERNEST F. POPPY.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Ernest F. Poppy, of Stoke Ash, who for many years has been one of the best known ringers in the Eye district of Suffolk. Mr. Poppy, who was 64 years of age, went to Eye some 40 years ago. For 17 years he farmed the Moor Hall Farm near that town, and afterwards the Lime Tree Farm at Stoke Ash.

He was a keen churchman, filling the office of sidesman at Eye and churchwarden at Stoke Ash, and at the latter place he was mainly instrumental in getting the bells rehung.

Mr. Poppy was for many years a keen ringer; his peals rung with the Norwich Diocesan Association numbering 257, and with the Suffolk Guild 89 His other activities included cycling and membership of the local Rural District Council. He was twice married, and leaves one son and two daughters in bereavement.

NOTICES.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—A commemoration luncheon to celebrate the 302nd anniversary of the society will be held at the London Tavern, Fenchurch Street, on Saturday, Nov. 4th, at 1.30 p.m. —A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A meeting will be held at Shalford on Saturday, Nov. 4th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea, business meeting and handbell ringing.—W. F. J. Cope, Hon. Sec., 26, Curling Vale, Onslow Village, Guildford.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Sonning Deanery Branch.—A practice will be held at Sandhurst on Saturday, Nov. 4th (instead of Oct. 21st). Ringing from 3 till 6 p.m. All welcome. — W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec., Merrel, California, Wokingham.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Special meeting at Malins Lee on Saturday, November 4th. Refreshments only for those notifying Mr. A. Woodvine, Meadow House, Dawley, Salop. Ringing afternoon and evening. —W. A. Farmer, Hon. Sec.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Forget the war and come and enjoy Withyham's nice octave, 2.30 p.m. till dusk, on Saturday, November 4th. All make own arrangements for tea. Handbells available.—C. A. Bassett, Asst. Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Clifton on Saturday, November 4th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. until dark. Please don't expect tea. All ringers will be welcome. Please come.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch. —The next meeting of the Lincoln District due to take place at Caythorp on Saturday, Nov. 4th, will be held instead at Lincoln Cathedral (12 bells, tenor 24 cwt.). Bells available from 1.30 to 4 p.m. Short service and meeting to follow. No tea arrangements.—K. W. Mayer, Dis. Sec.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Hanley on Saturday, November 4th. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Annual committee meeting at 3 p.m.—Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch. —Next meeting will be held at Shore on Saturday, November 4th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Subscriptions due. Ringers and friends welcome —I. Kay, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Annes-on-Sea Parish Church on Saturday, November 4th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Business meeting 5 p.m. All ringers welcomed.—C. Sharples, Fylde Branch Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A ringing meeting will be held at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, on Saturday, November 4th. Bells available from 1.30 to 4.30 p.m.—T. J. Lock, Hon. Dis. Sec.

HUNSLET, LEEDS.—The bells will be dedicated on Sunday, November 5th, at 3.30 p.m. The ring of eight bells tuned and rehung and four new bells installed by John Taylor and Co.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Ringing for service at St. Clement Danes, Strand, November 5th, at 10 a.m.—T. W. Taffender, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—The next meeting of the society will be held at the Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, E.C., on Tuesday, November 7th. Election of officers.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—The annual meeting of the division will be held at Bocking on Saturday, November 11th. Bells available from 2 p.m. until dusk. Short service followed by tea and business meeting. Please note: Under the present circumstances tea can be provided only for those who notify Mr. R. Suckling, 334, Church Street, Bocking, Essex, by Wednesday, November 8th. Please make a special effort to attend this meeting.—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Woolton, on Saturday, November 11th. There will be ringing from 2.30 to 5.30 p.m. This will be followed by service and the meeting. There will be no ringing after the meeting. Tea will be provided for the nominal price of 6d. for those who send their names to Mr. T. Hesketh, 1, Mason Street, Woolton, near Liverpool, not later than Thursday, November 9th. It is of the utmost importance those requiring tea should send in their names or numbers.—G. R. Newton, Branch Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newport Pagnell Deanery.—A meeting will be held at Stoke Goldington on November 11th, from 2-5 p.m.—J. F. Amies, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Adlington St. Paul on Saturday, November 11th. Tower open for ringing at 2.30. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—F. S. Bradley, Branch Chairman.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Writtle on Saturday, November 18th. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting after. Further details later. Will those requiring tea please let me know for certain by Wednesday, November 15th? Only those who let me know will be catered for. There will also be practices on Saturday, November 4th, at Danbury, and on Saturday, November 11th, at Boreham, commencing at 2.30. All ringers are welcomed to come and join in these meetings and make them enjoyable and successful.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Upper Arbour Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—A meeting at Bagshot on Saturday, November 18th. Bells (8) available 2.15 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business 5.15 in Church Hall. Nominations for officers for 1940 at this meeting. Those intending to be present at tea must let me know by Tuesday, 14th.—C. W. Denver, Hon. Sec., 120, Ash Road, Aldershot.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hugglescote, Leicestershire, Combined practice on Saturday, November 18th. All ringers cordially invited. Bells available 3 p.m. till dark.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—The annual meeting due to be held this month at Rochester has been postponed, Cathedral bells not being rung. Members' views for or against holding of meetings in the Rochester district during the war period would be gladly received, and should be sent without delay to G. H. Spice, Hon. Dis. Sec., 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne.

HANDBELLS WANTED.

A SET of Six or Eight Large Handbells. Particulars, size or weight of tenor and price to S. Flint, Maghull, 39, Sefton Lane, near Liverpool, Lancs.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

MRS. MAUDE and family desire to thank the Whitsuntide ringing party for their floral tribute and kind sympathy in their sad bereavement.—Height House, Pudsey.

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IRON MOULDERS wanted. Government priority work.—Apply, John Taylor and Co., Loughborough.

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Dear Sirs,

Thank you for your letter and also for the attractive framed record, which reached me this morning.

I note what you say about the alignment of the ropes.

Everything went off well on Saturday, and I congratulate you on the results.

The working of the mechanical parts is perfect and the tone of the bells is greatly improved and enriched.

The ringers were most enthusiastic.

Believe me,
Yours faithfully,
(*Signed*) *EDWARD ARUNDELL.*

The five bells of Tintagel Church have been carefully tuned and rehung with modern fittings in a new teak wood frame, with special consideration for the exposed situation of the church.

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS.

It is gratifying to find the Ancient Society of College Youths defying the present handicaps and carrying out, in time honoured fashion, the commemoration of their foundation. It is true that last Saturday's proceedings had to be adapted to circumstances, and were shorn of some of their customary formality, but the luncheon held in London to celebrate the 302nd anniversary of the society was, nevertheless, a great success when measured against the prevailing conditions. It was more than a commemoration; it demonstrated the vitality of the society and proved that there is an unquenchable spirit of enthusiasm among ringers which, if directed aright, will triumph over the greatest drawbacks. The gathering was not confined solely to members living in and around London. Many of them came long distances to be present, and the younger members who attended will, in days to come, recall with special interest this war-time experience which makes the gathering notable in the society's annals. This celebration, too, was commendable, inasmuch as it has maintained the annual feast of the society which has been held without a break, as far as one can say, from its very foundation. Even in the last war, when a general gathering of members was out of the question, London members upheld the tradition and kept the feast, so that its continuity should not be broken. No one knows what troublous times may lie ahead. The war has already followed an unexpected course; its conduct may change in such a way that a gathering like that of Saturday may be impossible again in London until peaceful times come once more; but it is a significant fact that a little band of provincial College Youths, unable to join the company in the city, arranged their own celebration. If the worst comes to the worst, and London cannot provide for such a celebration, the College Youths may well transfer their festival to some centre in the country where they can maintain the time-honoured custom.

Last Saturday's proceedings were marked by a refreshing informality, and there were some who hoped that it may become eventually a feature of the society's activities to bring together at some other time of the year than November those who are able to meet. There was a period, of course, when the society's annual celebration was a summer event with a mid-day meal, and the more formal dinner, which for half a century or so has taken place in November, is a revival of an earlier practice. But it is a happy thought that through all the vicissitudes of three centuries the society has been able to maintain this side of its corporate life, although there have

(Continued on page 678.)

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been times when its ringing activities have been far less conspicuous than they are to-day. The social side of ringing is an important link in the chain that binds the members of the Exercise together and, without doubt, the College Youths' annual commemoration has done much to maintain the strength of the society and to add to its prestige.

The annual dinner has been in the past the occasion for publicly recording its activities, and last Saturday the secretary was able to give an indication of 'what might have been,' had not the war intervened to break up the programme. But for the interruption, it is probable that no fewer than one hundred ringing meetings would have been held in the twelve months, a really striking piece of evidence of the vigour of the old society, and one which many a modern ringing organisation might envy. The College Youths who meet at the city churches in these days are not just Londoners, in the sense that years ago they came from the city or the near vicinity. To-day they come from a widespread area, and within the past few years there have been several Masters who have resided at a considerable distance from the Metropolis, as was not unusual in the seventeenth century. In the same way, the members who take part in the meetings come from a much greater radius, and it is an indication not only that the society is extending the sphere of its active membership, but also, we hope, shedding some of that 'parochial' outlook that once characterised the more immediate London circles. When, once again, conditions permit, we hope the College Youths will not only quickly return to normal activity, but retain their traditional place in the Exercise by a new spirit of enterprise that will place them as leaders among the ringing organisations of this country in fact as well as in name.

DEATH OF WEST NORFOLK BRANCH CHAIRMAN.

PRESENTATION INKSTAND HANDED TO WIDOW.

The death occurred in Norwich Hospital on October 17th of Mr. H. R. Heyhoe, of Swaffham.

The late Mr. Heyhoe came of an old Swaffham family and had filled many public offices in that town. For upwards of 40 years he had been a ringer at the Parish Church, many of them as captain of the band. Although he had rung no peals and had not appeared much in the ringing news, he had, nevertheless, done a great amount of work in teaching and trying to get and keep a band together.

He had been chairman of the West Norfolk Branch of the Norwich Association for the past seven years, resigning earlier this year owing to ill-health.

At the funeral on October 20th the branch was represented by Messrs. J. Godfrey (chairman), Cooke and Tuthill, who, together with the local ringers, acted as pall bearers.

On the following Sunday 406 Bob Triples and a touch of Minor, with 6-8 covering, were rung with the bells half-muffled, the following taking part: J. Godfrey, T. White, — Banner, — Jeffries, G. Hassock, J. Buckenham, F. Matthews, J. Clarke, E. Barker, C. E. Banham, W. Cousins and L. Houghton. At the close Mr. White, the oldest ringer in Swaffham, tolled the deceased's age (68) on the tenor.

The West Norfolk Branch had arranged to present Mr. Heyhoe with an inscribed bell inkstand in appreciation of his services as their chairman. Unfortunately, he did not live to receive this, and, at a meeting held at Swaffham on Saturday week, the gift was handed to his widow. At this meeting the bells were rung during the afternoon.

GOLDEN WEDDING QUARTER-PEAL.

At Barwell Parish Church on Sunday, November 5th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): Joseph Needham 1, William White 2, Richard Belton 3, Albert Lucas 4, Tom Belton 5, Norman Statham 6, Fred Cotton (conductor) 7, Harry England 8. Rung for the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. W. Argufle, two prominent members of the Parish Church. It was also an 80th birthday compliment to Mrs. C. H. Belton, whose husband is still a regular Sunday service ringer; and whose son and grandson rang the 3rd and 5th respectively.

EIGHT BELL PEAL.

GREASLEY, NOTTS.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14¾ cwt.

FREDERICK A. SALTER	...*Treble*	ALEX HUTCHISON...	5
MISS IDA B. THOMPSON ...	2	FRANK BRADLEY	6
R. ALLEN HICKTON	3	ROGER D. ST. J. SMITH ...	7
WILLIAM H. KING	4	RALPH NARBOROUGH ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by F. HOPGOOD. Conducted by F. A. SALTER.

FIVE BELL PEAL.

STOKE ASH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, November 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 14 extents each of St. Simon's, Grandsire and Plain Bob.

Tenor 6¾ cwt.

ARCHIE G. LOCK	...*Treble*	ALBERT G. HARRISON	3
VERA E. GOODERHAM	2	THOMAS W. LOCKWOOD ...	4
W. ARCHIE LOCK	...*Tenor*		

Conducted by W. ARCHIE LOCK.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. E. F. Poppy. The ringers of 1, 2 and 5 were Mr. Poppy's pupils.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, October 31, 1939, in Two Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT 50, RODOLPH ROAD,

A PEAL OF WELLINGTON LITTLE COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor, size 15 in C.

EDWIN A. BARNETT	1-2	HAROLD G. CASHMORE ...	5-6
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	3-4	EDWIN JENNINGS	7-8

Arranged by E. A. BARNETT. Conducted by C. W. WOOLLEY.

Believed to be the first peal in the method on handbells.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, November 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT 81, BAKER STREET, SPARKHILL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5067 CHANGES;

GEORGE SWANN	1-2	ALBERT WALKER	5-6
FRANK E. PERVIN...	3-4	RUPERT RICHARDSON	7-8
MORRIS J. MORRIS	9-10		

Composed by J. E. GROVES. Conducted by F. E. PERVIN.

ST. ANDREW'S, HOLBORN, GUILD.

The annual meeting of the Guild took place on Saturday week. Tea was kindly provided by the Rector and Mrs. Howden and was much enjoyed by the 14 members present, after which the president (the Rev. R. Howden) took the chair at the business meeting.

The balance sheet was passed and the following officers were elected: Mr. J. S. Hawkins, Ringing Master and hon. secretary; Mr. W. J. Norton, hon. treasurer.

Handbell ringing was indulged in after the meeting.

Ringing has now been resumed on Sundays (mornings only), 10 to 11 a.m., when visitors will be welcomed as usual.

A 'SHUNT' IN RINGING PARLANCE.

REV. H. DRAKE TAKES EXCEPTION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—War work and illness have prevented me from writing other letters, but the articles 'With pencil and paper,' in which the word 'shunt' is used, have stirred me to get out the typewriter again.

The word 'shunt' is etymologically known as a factitive form of the word 'shun.' Therefore, it means what makes one thing 'shun' another. The most common use, and that which rises to one's mind first of all, is that which applies to railway trains. When a train is 'shunted,' it is 'made to shun' the main line, and until it has entirely done so, that line cannot be used.

Whether the word is used about trains, or in any other way, it always conveys to the mind two things:—

First, something must, for the time, be discarded. Until the train is off the main line it is not shunted.

Secondly, the train that is shunted must be motionless. If it goes off somewhere else, the train has not been shunted at all. It has merely been 'switched' on to another line.

Now, in the use made of the word in the article in question, neither of these requirements applies. As both are necessary for the truth of what is written, it follows that the word 'shunt' is here both false and misleading. False, because the so-called shunt does not do what it professes to do, and misleading because it makes the reader think of something else than what the writer of the article wants him to.

The fact that this article, like the others in the series, is so good and clear, except for this word, only makes matters worse. A beginner, who had been helped so far, would be quite choked off by what he would see to be an inexplicable error. The more experienced ringer, while he would see what you are driving at, would be wondering whether he had got your whole meaning, whether there was not something in your mind of a discard, or of a ceasing of the movement somewhere.

In conclusion, it may be pointed out that Jasper Snowdon, in his standard series of handbooks, uses the word in its correct meaning. It is now too late to contradict him by using the term wrongly or to pretend to be a better ringer or writer than he was.

HERBERT DRAKE.

Ufford Rectory.

Mr. Drake's objection is not a valid one. The Oxford English Dictionary contradicts him on almost every point. It gives three or four distinct meanings of the word 'shunt' when used as a noun. In railways a 'shunt' is a 'switch.' In electricity a 'shunt' is 'a device for directing the current from one line to another.' The great dictionary recognises the use of the word as a technical term in change ringing and describes it as the calling or omission of a bob in order to divert the track of a composition from one part to the corresponding point in another part.

Our use of the word is strictly in accordance with these definitions, except that we have exercised the right, which belongs to every writer on technical matters, of giving to a technical term, by definition and explanation, the precise and limited meaning which is necessary for our immediate purpose. No attempt is made to contradict Jasper Snowdon, because, as far as we can trace, Jasper Snowdon never used the term in connection with ringing.—EDITOR, 'Ringing World.'

RINGER'S WEDDING AT SANDHURST.

At Sandhurst Parish Church on Saturday, November 4th, a marriage was solemnised between Mr. W. J. H. Parker and Miss Winifred Foster, both of Sandhurst. The bridegroom is one of the ringers at Sandhurst and is also a member of the church choir. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. J. J. T. O'Malley (Rector), one of the bridegroom's brothers acted as best man, and the organist and full choir were present. The popularity of both bride and bridegroom was shown by the presence of a large congregation.

Advantage was taken of the occasion to hold a combined practice at the tower, and as the happy couple left the church local ringers and others stood to the ropes to set the seal to the ceremony. It must be quite a unique experience for a ringer to be able to lead his bride between the ropes as his brother ringers rang a wedding touch. Ringers were present from Hurst, Finchampstead, Bramley (Hants), Sonning, Twyford, Waltham St. Lawrence and the local belfry. The methods rung were Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Cambridge Minor. Ringing continued till dusk and the end of a happy and most profitable afternoon.

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ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATED IN LONDON.

Luncheon Takes Place of Usual Dinner.

War-time conditions necessitated the abandonment of the usual dinner held by the Ancient Society of College Youths to celebrate the anniversary of the foundation in 1637. Instead, the experiment was successfully tried of having a luncheon. It was held at the London Tavern, Fenchurch Street, and was attended by a company of between sixty and seventy, among whom were a number who, despite the difficulties connected with travelling, had come long distances. Unfortunately, the Master of the Society, Mr. E. G. Fenn, was unable through sickness to be present. The chair was, therefore, taken by the Rev. Canon G. F. Coleridge, who was supported by Major J. H. B. Hesse (Master of the Guildford Diocesan Guild), the Rev. W. Pennington Bickford (Rector of St. Clement Danes), the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards (hon. secretary of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild), Mr. E. A. Young, Mr. J. A. Trollope, Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, Mr. S. H. Green, Mr. F. E. Dawe and Mr. J. E. L. Cockey. Those present also included Messrs. A. A. Hughes (treasurer of the society), A. B. Peck (hon. secretary), J. Shand, G. Cross (Master of the Royal Cumberlands), G. W. Steere (hon. secretary of the Royal Cumberlands), W. H. Shuker (hon. secretary of the Lancashire Association), J. T. Dyke (hon. secretary, Bath and Wells Diocesan Association), J. W. Jones (hon. secretary, Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association), Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Deal, Messrs. G. F. Hoad (Reigate), A. Bashford, H. Hodgetts, G. N. Price, B. P. Morris, D. Boreham (High Wycombe), A. H. Pulling (Guildford), E. F. Pike, H. R. Crick, H. Warboys, C. W. Roberts, E. H. King, E. H. Nash (Mells, Somerset), W. A. Osborn, G. Debenham (St. Albans), W. H. Seabrook, H. R. Newton, H. R. Miles, H. Langdon, W. H. Pasmore, H. Hoskins, E. P. Duffield, R. W. Stannard, T. Groombridge, R. Fenn, J. Rumley, A. Stracey, G. Boomsma, R. Cousins, L. Fox, G. W. Cecil, H. Reynolds, E. S. Owen, W. A. Hughes, W. E. Troke, E. Murrell, F. Shorter, G. Moody, J. A. Prior, T. Fox, H. E. Thompson, F. W. Budgen, J. R. Schilg, etc.

TWO CELEBRATIONS FOR CHAIRMAN.

After lunch the Chairman proposed the toast of 'The King,' and then gave 'The Ancient Society of College Youths.' Although, he said, he had no notion, until he came into the room, that he was to take the chair, he was extremely glad to do so, despite the fact that he was a junior College Youth (laughter). He was told he was the oldest member present, although he had been a member only a little over 60 years (laughter). They all deplored the reason which caused the absence of the Master, who should have presided that day. Canon Coleridge congratulated those who had engineered the lunch, upon the success that had attended it. It had been a most delightful meeting, as far as it had gone (applause)—and he had no doubt it would end equally as well (laughter and applause). Although London had, in the past, been the meeting place of the College Youths, present circumstances had prompted a certain number of members living in Reading to have a little commemoration on their own in the evening, and they had insisted upon his being present. He had no doubt they would have a pleasant meeting. A society was certainly not altogether dead when they found a little community in the country meeting to keep the festival with a dinner of their own (hear, hear). Canon Coleridge concluded by wishing the society continued prosperity and hoped that every member would try to keep the flag flying—in other words, keep the bells ringing as far as they could. The police were quite amenable in this matter, as a rule, and he was sure the public were glad to hear the bells. There might be times of disaster ahead, but as far as possible he hoped they would keep the bells going, and he hoped the success of that luncheon would hearten them to go out and do their utmost (applause).

A CHEERY MESSAGE.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. A. B. Peck), in replying, thanked Canon Coleridge for occupying the chair in the absence of the Master (Mr. E. G. Fenn), from whom, he said, he had received both a telegram and a letter. The telegram wished them all a successful and happy gathering. In a cheerful letter the Master apologised for his enforced absence and being prevented from accepting the highest honour that any ringer could attain to, namely, to preside at the annual gathering as Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths. Owing to his illness he was unable to do so. He had tried hard to get well enough to be able to attend, but three obstacles had been placed in the way. First, his wife would not let him go, secondly the doctor had forbidden him to go out, and, thirdly, to crown all, they had hidden his trousers (laughter). But although he would not be with them in body, he would be with them in spirit and would raise his glass and drink (not in ale, worse luck!) to the good health and prosperity of the Ancient Society. Mr. Fenn concluded that, although he was feeling much better, he had a long way to go before he would be able to say he was fit again. He would be pleased to see any of his ringing friends if they cared to call.

The Hon. Secretary said a telegram of good wishes for his speedy recovery had been sent to the Master, and he asked Canon Coleridge to convey the best wishes of that gathering to the members who were meeting in the evening at Reading.

Proceeding, Mr. Peck said other apologies had been received from Mr. E. H. Lewis (president of the Central Council and past Master) and Mr. J. Waugh (senior steward). The former, writing to the Master from Glasgow, said he trusted there would be a goodly company to show that in bad times as well as good times the Ancient Society continued its good work. 'Several week-ends,' added Mr. Lewis, 'I have been able to spend at Dun-a-Bhuilg and each time I have gone through Inveraray I have thought of the happy week-end when you honoured us by your visit to Scotland.' He concluded by sending greetings to all who were present.

THE YEAR'S ACTIVITIES.

Continuing, the Hon. Secretary said that during the year the society rang 14 peals, not a long list, perhaps, but one that was partly curtailed by the war. There were four peals of Stedman Cinques, three of Stedman Caters, one of Oxford Treble Bob Maximus, one of Stedman Triples, three of Grandsire Triples, one of Cambridge Surprise Royal and one of Bob Minor. During the year they had held 80 meetings, 77 of which had been for ringing, and he thought that, had there been no war, they would this year have created a record by holding 100 ringing meetings. The meetings had been well attended and they were now endeavouring to arrange a Saturday afternoon ringing meeting once a fortnight. The Hon. Secretary said they had elected 23 new members during the year. It was not a large number, but perhaps that was due to the reaction after the large number they elected as the result of the tercentenary celebrations in 1937. He regretted that there was a rather long list of members who had passed away.

This last Mr. Peck read, while those present stood, and he added that as the name book was in safe keeping at St. Paul's, he had been unable to verify which of the deceased were members of the society. He had, therefore, included the names of all ringers of whose deaths he had any information. The hon. secretary concluded by again thanking Canon Coleridge for his kindness in presiding, and said for many years the society would have liked to elect him as Master (applause), but perhaps the nearest they would get to it was having him in the chair that day.

Canon Coleridge thanked Mr. Peck and said it was a great pleasure to him to be there.

MASTERS OF CENTURIES AGO.

Mr. E. Alex. Young said that was a unique occasion and it might very well be punctuated with something which they had not done before. They often thought of the past and he proposed to ask them to drink a toast which would carry them down the years of centuries ago. A hundred years ago they had a Master in the chair, as they had had a hundred years before that, and also had had even a hundred years earlier. With the permission of the chairman, he was going to ask them to honour the memory of those three men. He asked them to drink to the honoured memory of Edward Flower, Master of the society in 1639. He was one of the original members of the College Youths and stood beside Lord Brereton when the society was founded two years before. A hundred years later, in 1739, William Cox was Master. He (the speaker) did not know anything about William Cox, except that he must have been ingrained a good College Youth because for over twenty years he must have attended the meetings. Eventually he was rewarded by being asked to become Master. He was elected a member in 1712 and Master in 1739. He must have had an honoured memory. Lastly, in 1839 Richard Mills was Master. They knew more about Richard Mills. He gave the society that beautiful work of art, the medallion which the Masters wore as their badge of office for nearly one hundred years, and which was now worn by the immediate Past Master. That medal was struck to commemorate the society's bi-centenary. Richard Mills was elected in the year of the bi-centenary, 1837, and also in the years 1838 and 1839; so in a mysterious way he was a link with the previous centenary. These three struck a fundamental note; there was harmony between them, and he trusted it might be thought suitable to carry on the idea in future years (applause).

The toast of the memory of these three Masters was honoured in silence.

The Hon. Secretary welcomed Mr. Thomas Groombridge and said they were all very pleased to see him so far recovered after his accident.

Mr. Groombridge, in thanking the members, said he hoped soon to be at the rope-end again.

Mr. J. W. Jones, on behalf of the provincial members, expressed their pleasure at being present. They appreciated the opportunity of again meeting old friends, and he hoped by next November they would meet under much more pleasant circumstances (hear, hear).

The Hon. Secretary read a telegram received during the proceedings from Mr. Edgar Guise, conveying 'Best wishes and greetings to College Youths from Bristol United Ringing Guilds.'

The happy gathering broke up after some of the party had indulged in handbell ringing.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Last Tuesday the following officers were re-elected for the ensuing year, no other nominations having been received: Master, Mr. E. G. Fenn; senior steward, Mr. J. Waugh; junior steward, Mr. G. W. Cecil; treasurer, Mr. A. A. Hughes; hon. secretary, Mr. A. B. Peck; trustees, Messrs. C. F. Winney and H. R. Newton.

BRETFORTON, WORCS. — On Sunday, October 29th, at St. Leonard's, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles: G. Hands 1, T. Hands 2, John Perkins 3, John Hall, jun. 4, Raymond Jelp 5, Philip Hall 6. Rung in honour of the fiftieth anniversary of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. John Hall, sen.

READING COLLEGE YOUTHS.

KEEP THE FESTIVAL IN THEIR HOME TOWN.

Those members of the College Youths living in Reading who usually attend the annual dinner in London, and were unable to be present at the luncheon this year, determined to keep the festival by a dinner in their home town, and last Saturday 20 sat down to a well-cooked and well-served meal at The Belgrave.

The company were fortunate in having in the chair their old friend Canon Coleridge, who had just fulfilled a similar duty at the London luncheon. The chairman proposed the health of the King, and Mr. R. T. Hibbert that of the College Youths and kindred societies. Mr. A. Discrens, of the Society of Royal Cumberlands, responded.

Mr. Hibbert proposed 'Good health to every Sailor, Soldier and Airman serving the Empire,' and the toast was drunk with acclamation.

A fine course of Stedman Caters was rung by the young College Youths from Basingstoke: R. F. Kingham 1-2, D. W. Nash 3-4, W. Hibbert 5-6, C. W. Munday 7-8, D. H. Anstey 9-10. After a song or two, Mr. A. Discrens took a pair of bells and a course of Stedman Cinques was rung as well as a course of Grandsire Cinques, in which Mr. A. Wiggins took part.

Songs, yarns of funny experiences by some of the 'old uns,' glees and more handbell ringing, including a touch of Stedman Triples and two courses of Stedman Caters, brought the end all too soon, and everyone got home safely in the dark.

One thing should be mentioned. Mr. F. Munday, one of the Basingstoke boys and a tower of strength in their handbell band, was really the instigator of the gathering and was the only absentee, as he had joined H.M. Foot Guards a fortnight previously. The company present at the dinner wish him a happy life as a guardsman and a safe return.

A NEW VICAR FOR OLD WINDSOR.

On Saturday week, the Rev. P. H. D. Ogle, formerly of Sandown, Isle of Wight, was inducted as Vicar of Old Windsor by the Rural Dean Canon Fry, of Maidenhead. The service was choral and well attended. The call to arms having depleted the local band, an S.O.S. was responded to by Messrs. A. D. Barker, W. Henley, W. Birmingham, T. Smith and G. Barkus, who helped to ring touches of Bob Major, Grandsire and Stedman Triples both before and after the service. Their valuable services were much appreciated in view of a prearranged branch meeting which had to be attended and caused a hurried transfer to Stoke Poges in very inclement weather.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT WITHYHAM.

Last Saturday the East Grinstead and District Guild held at Withyham its first meeting under war-time conditions, and it proved a great success. Twenty-five ringers attended from Beddingham, West Grinstead, Coleman's Hatch, Croydon Parish Church, Eastbourne (Christ Church), East Grinstead, Hartfield, Lingfield, Rotherfield, Staplehurst, Tunbridge Wells, Uckfield and Wadhurst. The lovely toned octave was raised at 2.45 p.m. and was put to good use, and a good standard of striking was maintained in the following methods: Grandsire, Stedman and Oxford Bob Triples, Plain Bob, Kent, Double Norwich, Superlative, Cambridge and the usual rounds and call changes.

It was decided to hold a meeting at Coleman's Hatch on December 2nd, when the tower will be blacked out to enable ringing to be continued after dark.

The tit-bit of the day came just before 6 o'clock, when the bells were perfectly lowered in peal, Queen's coming out beautifully at the end, a fitting finale to an excellent afternoon's ringing. A general move was then made to the Dorset Arms, where all made their own arrangements for tea. When all were refreshed and the tobacco well alight, out came the handbells, the music of which all within hearing appreciated. The methods rung were Grandsire Doubles, Triples and Caters and Plain Bob Major, and all too early a most enjoyable day ended.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE RINGER WEDS.

A very pretty wedding was solemnised at St. Edmund's Church, Cheddleton, when Miss Grace Sutton was married to Mr. John Wheeldon. The bridegroom is one of the band at Bucknall, and his father and uncle are well-known ringers in North Staffordshire. The bride's brother is one of the band at Cheddleton. At the conclusion of the ceremony the bells were rung, and a reception was held at the Cheddleton Village Institute, which was attended by about fifty guests. Owing to the war the honeymoon, which had been arranged to be spent at Blackpool, had unfortunately to be cancelled.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT WORSLEY.

The Manchester Branch of the Lancashire Association held its first war-time meeting at Worsley on Saturday week. Ringers from Liverpool, Chorley, Bolton and Warrington, with the branch members, made the meeting a great success. The methods rung were Cambridge, Kent and Bob Royal and Stedman and Grandsire Caters. Ringing ceased about 6 p.m. owing to the necessary restrictions.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The war-time derangement of the postal services and the necessity of getting the copies of 'The Ringing World' into the hands of the publishers earlier on Thursday make it absolutely essential that all contributions to our columns, and particularly all notices, should be in our hands by Monday in each week. We cannot guarantee the insertion in the following issue of anything received later.

We hope that secretaries will send us prompt reports of their meetings, and we shall welcome any items of news relating to ringers and ringing, but they must reach us early.

BELFRY GOSSIP.

Our readers will join us in offering congratulations to Canon G. F. Coleridge, who was born at Cadbury Vicarage, Devonshire, 82 years ago to-day. The Canon holds a place in the esteem and affection of ringers which is quite unique. In his time he has taken part in several famous peals, including 8,800 changes of Superlative Surprise Major, 12,096 changes of Double Norwich Court Bob Major, and 13,054 and 15,041 changes of Stedman Caters. He also rang the famous old tenor at St. Mary-le-Bow to a peal.

On November 7th, 1729, the first peal ever rung on the bells of St. Michael's, Cornhill, was accomplished by the College Youths. The method was Grandsire Cinques, the number of changes was 5,126, and three men had to be put to the tenor, including the conductor, Benjamin Annable.

On November 8th, 1888, the band of St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, rang William Harrison's peal of London Surprise Major, 6,720 changes, the extent of the method with the tenors together. The conductor was Mr. Joseph Griffin, who is still alive, and who attended the meeting of the Central Council at Westminster last Whitsuntide. If we remember aright only two longer lengths have since been rung in the method.

To-morrow, Armistice Day, is the fifth anniversary of the first twelve-bell peal achieved outside the British Isles. It was 5,038 changes of Grandsire Cinques at St. Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne, and was rung partly by members of the visiting band who were then touring Australia and partly by members of the local band.

'The Nineteenth Century and After' for November contains a well-informed and well-written article on bells and ringing by Mr. John Shand. Mr. Shand, who is on the staff of 'The Manchester Guardian,' was present at the College Youths' luncheon on Saturday. This is the first time, we believe, that a magazine of the standing of 'The Nineteenth Century' has printed an article on bells since the year 1854, when a famous article appeared in 'The Quarterly.'

Members of the Midland Counties Association who intend to visit Hugglescote on Saturday week should note the revised time of meeting. The bells will be available from 2.15 p.m., but there will be a break at 3 p.m. to allow for a wedding.

Owing to a telephonic error, a meeting of the Oxford Diocesan Guild was announced in our last issue to be held at Stoke Goldington instead of at Great Linford.

A SOUTH WALES RESTORATION.

At St. Bride's Major, near Bridgend, Glamorganshire, a thorough restoration has taken place. The five old bells have been recast and a new bell added to make a ring of six. The work has been done by Messrs. Taylor and Co.

The dedication is to take place on Saturday, November 18th, at 3 p.m., by the Lord Bishop of the diocese.

HANDBELL RINGING.

APPRECIATION OF MR. WOOLLEY'S ARTICLE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Please accept my sincere thanks for getting such an able man as Mr. Woolley to write the article on double-handed ringing.

It is written and explained so well that I think all ringers interested in handbell ringing will now be able to go ahead and know that by practising on the lines set out by Mr. Woolley they will be able to progress.

Please tender my thanks to Mr. Woolley, also to Mr. Symonds. Other articles written by either of these gentlemen at a later date will be very much appreciated. SAM JONES.

RINGING IN WAR TIME.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL'S RESOLUTION IN THE YEAR 1915.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It will be opportune at this time to recall the resolution unanimously passed by the Central Council in 1915: 'That this Council recognises with emphatic approval the good judgment and consideration shown by ringers throughout the United Kingdom in their spontaneous abstinence from peal ringing since the outbreak of war; but at the same time regards it as the privilege and sacred duty of ringers, wherever circumstances permit, to continue, alike in time of war and of peace, to honour with the music of the bells the Lord's Day and other feasts of the Church, as also on royal and national anniversaries, to give expression to the thankfulness of the British people to Almighty God for the many blessings vouchsafed to this Empire and for the preservation of His Most Gracious Majesty to preside over its momentous destinies.' F. Ll. EDWARDS.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

PRACTICE MEETING AT DRAYTON.

A highly successful practice was held at Drayton, Berkshire, on Saturday week by members of the North Berks Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. The towers represented were Brightwell, Sunningwell, Abingdon, East Hagbourne, Radley, Wantage, Steventon and Blewbury, and there were visitors from Oxford, Swindon and Chearsley, in all about 30 ringers.

The bells were available from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m., and once they were pulled up little time was wasted until they were lowered again. Much good work was done, and the opportunity was seized by everyone to ring something 'different.' Even the experts discovered how quickly it is possible to get rusty in familiar Surprise methods. The methods rung included Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Norwich, Superlative, Bristol and London Surprise Major, although the latter just failed to come round. This was rather surprising, as the bells certainly know this particular method. It will be remembered that in the days when the late Rev. F. E. Robinson was Vicar of Drayton, a peal of 11,328 changes of London Surprise, composed and conducted by the late J. W. Washbrook, was rung in the tower. It was then the record length in the method.

The next practice will be held on Saturday, November 25th, from 3 p.m. until dusk, and it is hoped to arrange it at Wantage, when all the mistakes made at Drayton can be put right, and fresh ones made, in new methods, of course.

SHREWSBURY RINGERS BUSY.

The bells of St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, have been ringing throughout the war, the regular times being 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. Although the band have experienced some difficulty in raising the bells for matins, owing to a military service at 10 a.m., a short touch has always been rung. On October 15th they visited St. Mary's, by special request, for the dedication festival, and rang both at 9.30 and 12.15 a.m. These bells, however, are not rung regularly. St. Chad's ringers were presented with something of a poser on October 22nd, when a request for a touch on St. Mary's bells at the conclusion of matins was made by the Vicar and only reached them when the service was in progress.

As there was more than a doubt about the ability of some of those who were able to go to take part in raising the bells in peal, one member of the band undertook to get covered with dust and dirt in a successful attempt to lash the clappers and to raise them 'dumb.' A nice touch of Grandsire Triples was the reward and a fall in peal was accomplished.

FOUR TOWERS COMBINE.

A very pleasant afternoon and combined practice was held at Ewhurst, Surrey, on Oct. 21st. Ringers joined hands from Guildford, Bramley and Cranleigh and the local band. The bells were raised in peal at 3.30, and ringing in all the standard methods was carried on until just after 5 o'clock.

The towers of Cranleigh, Ewhurst, Bramley and Wonersh are trying to arrange these Saturday afternoon practices at one or other of the four towers. The next practice is to be arranged by Mr. Martin, of Bramley.

WAR TIME RINGING ARRANGEMENTS

Bronllys, Brecknockshire, 10.30 to 11 a.m. and 2.30 to 3 p.m. Practice, Wednesdays, 7.30 p.m.
Talgarth, Brecknockshire, 10.30 to 11 a.m. and 5.30 to 6 p.m. Practice, Thursdays, 7.30 p.m.
St. Andrew's, Holborn, 10 to 11 a.m.
Burton-on-Stather, Lincs, 10.30 to 11 a.m. and 2.15 to 3 p.m.
Mitcham, Surrey, practice Wednesdays 5.30 to 7 p.m.
Cheltenham Parish Church, 10 to 11 a.m.
Reading, St. Laurence's, 10.15 to 11 a.m. and 5.15 to 6 p.m.
Winchester Cathedral, 10.25 a.m. and 2.25 p.m.
Kilburn, St. Augustine's, 10.30 a.m. and 5.30 p.m.
Kingston, 10 to 10.45 a.m., practice 7.30 to 9 p.m.
Birmingham, St. Mary's, Selly Oak, 2.30 to 3.30 p.m.
Tickhall, near Derby, practice Saturday afternoons 2 to 4 p.m.

RAMPTON RING AUGMENTED.

PATRONAL FESTIVAL AND DEDICATION OF EVELYN-WHITE MEMORIAL BELL.

The day was mild and the weather kind on Wednesday, November 1st, when the Archdeacon of Ely, Bishop H. MacCartie E. Price, came to dedicate the second treble of the future ring of six. This bell, given by their sons in memory of the Rev. C. H. and Mrs. Evelyn-White, follows the late Rector's own gift of a bell before he died.

The same service was used as in February last, when the existing bells were restored (with the exception of one whose recasting was disallowed by the Chancellor) and a new one added.

Bishop Price, in his address, congratulated the little parish, and dwelt on his own and his sister's memories both of the friendship and keen church architectural interest of the late Rector and his wife.

It was a great pleasure to the parish to have with them the Rev. Fr. Kenneth V. Evelyn-White to read the lesson and to act as the Bishop's chaplain and to hear his father's bells with their memorial addition ringing in perfect harmony.

Visiting clergy present included the Rev. F. G. Weston, Rural Dean, and the Revs. Roland Hills, F. J. Bywaters, James A. Rees and K. V. Evelyn-White.

After the four back bells had been chimed for service, owing to the early hour preventing the attendance of the full band, the Ely Diocesan Association, represented by Mr. R. Lathbury and Miss Shorto (Cambridge), Mr. D. Adams and Mr. L. Thorpe (Over) and Mr. D. Williams and Mr. F. Warrington (Swavesey), rang several 120's on the five. The 'go' was all that could be desired.

A greetings telegram from Messrs. Gillett and Johnston was received with evident delight by the grateful little parish. There was a fairly large congregation for so early an hour.

The Bishop mentioned the fact that one more step was required towards the final completion of the scheme by the addition of the treble bell to make the ring of six, for which a fund is still open.

When this is installed, Rampton will have one of the lightest rings of six in the country.

The work has been carried out by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston in their usual satisfactory manner.

DEATH OF A FINE OLD YORKSHIREMAN.

MR. TOM MAUDE, OF PUDSEY.

With deep regret, we recorded in our last issue the passing of Mr. Thomas Maude, who died at his residence, Height House, Pudsey, Yorkshire, on Monday, October 23rd, after a long illness, at the age of 85 years.

Born in the neighbouring village of Tong, the deceased, as a boy, was a companion of the famous six-bell ringer, the late Mr. G. B. Bolland, of that village, and the two were lifelong friends.

It was the habit of Mr. Maude, for a great number of years, to attend ringing meetings in all parts of England, and he was responsible for organising a band from the towers surrounding Pudsey, who visited many places and carried the fame of Yorkshire ringing and striking far beyond the county borders. He was well known to a large number of ringers, and it may be recalled that he never appeared among them without a flower in his buttonhole. He was a great lover of his garden.

Probably it is unique to find one who was not a practical ringer taking such a minute interest in everything connected with the Exercise as did Mr. Maude. His many friends will remember with gratitude the generosity extended to all and sundry connected with ringing by the deceased and the members of his family, who entertained their visitors in royal fashion.

Increasing years made Mr. Maude's appearance more rare at ringing gatherings, but one function, the Central Council meeting at Leeds in 1938, was a crowning gratification to him. He appeared at everything in connection with that gathering, and was extremely pleased with the large number who visited Leeds on that occasion.

The funeral took place at Pudsey on Thursday, October 26th, the Rev. Canon C. C. Marshall (president of the Yorkshire Association) officiating. The first part of the service took place in Pudsey Parish Church, where, immediately after the first part of the service, a plain course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells in the nave by J. Hardcastle 1-2, P. J. Johnson 3-4, F. W. Dixon 5-6 and J. Ambler 7-8. The interment took place at Pudsey Cemetery, where a large circle of ringing friends gathered, in addition to Mrs. Maude and family, to whom the sincerest sympathy of their wide circle of friends goes out, as probably few have done more to create good fellowship among ringers than Mr. Maude, and rarely can one expect to meet his equal as a gentleman and friend. The kindness shown to members of the Exercise will long remain a pleasant memory of one who died full of years and honour. P. J. J.

DONCASTER BELLS TO BE RECAST.

Mr. W. E. Lloyd, of Doncaster, informs us that it has been decided to recast the ring at the Parish Church. The new bells will be similar in weight to the present peal, the tenor of which is 30 cwt. in C sharp.

CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

ST. LEONARD'S, SHOREDITCH.

By J. Armiger Trollope.

In the eighteenth century, most of the principal churches of London and its suburbs possessed, as they do now, very fine rings of bells, and on all of them, at one time or other, peals were rung.

But, whether it was because some were easier to ring than others; or that, at some, visitors were made more welcome than at others; or that there was less opposition to long ringing from the surrounding people; it so happened that a few of them were much more popular with peal ringers than the rest.

For instance, from the time they were rung in 1728 right down to 1838, only four peals were rung at St. Michael's, Cornhill; at St. Clement Danes, which had one of the oldest octaves in London, only three peals were rung in the eighteenth century; and at St. Lawrence Jewry, where the bells are still older, only three were rung. So with others.

On the other hand, at St. Saviour's, Southwark, St. Giles'-in-the-Fields, St. Mary Matfelon, Whitechapel, St. Margaret's, Westminster, Fulham, and several more, there was a steady succession of peals, and for roughly a century, from 1741 until 1830, no tower was more popular among peal ringers than St. Leonard's, Shoreditch.

The church in those years stood in very different surroundings to what it does to-day. Shoreditch had been a village on the high road to the north, and was now a suburb of London, beyond which lay open cornfields and meadows, with pleasant rural walks across to Hackney.

For centuries there had been a church in the place, and no record survives of the first building of St. Leonard's. According to Henry Ellis, who wrote a history of the parish in 1798, it was in Saxon times. When the eighteenth century opened there was a small building 75ft. long, with a steeple, the top of which was weather boarded and surmounted by a cupola containing a small bell, originally the saunce bell.

The inventories made in the reign of Edward VI. are missing, and we do not know how many bells there were then, but by the end of the sixteenth century there were five, for these were the bells which Queen Elizabeth is said to have admired so much.

This is a tale which has been told many times with variations, the impression generally given being that it was a quotation from a very old book. I set myself the task of trying to trace the origin of the story, and, after some search, I found it in 'A History of Music,' published in 1776 by Sir John Hawkins. He says:—

'It may not be improper to add a little anecdote which perhaps has never yet appeared in print and may serve to show either that she had, or affected to have it thought she had, a nice ear. In her time the bells of the Church of Shoreditch, a parish in the northern suburb of London, were much admired for their melody, and in her journeys from Hatfield to London, as soon as she approached the town, they constantly rang by way of congratulation. Upon these occasions she seldom failed to stop at some distance from the church, and, amid the prayers and acclamations of the people, would listen attentively and commend the music of the bells.'

Hawkins was writing two hundred years after the event; but he evidently was repeating a tradition which had been preserved somehow or other, and we may accept it as substantially correct, because there is good evidence that Elizabeth did like to hear the sound of bells, and did encourage ringing among her people.

Later on, Shoreditch bells did not, it would seem, keep their reputation, for when Laughton and the Rambling Ringers visited the place in 1734 he found them 'not extraordinary,' the second and third being bad, though the others 'pretty well told their tale.'

The Ramblers met at the Black Spread Eagle near the church, and rang Grandsire, Old Doubles, St. Simon's and New Doubles on the bells.



THE SPIRE OF ST. LEONARD'S CHURCH, SHOREDITCH.

Laughton had a good deal to write about the church, which he says was 'old and ruined very much,' and, indeed, by that time it had got into a very dilapidated condition. In 1716, during divine service, one of the corners of the tower gave way and caused great alarm among the congregation, so that they rushed in panic to the doors and injured each other in their struggle to escape.

A year later part of the steeple was carried away in a great storm, and the bells were exposed to view, after which the Bishop notified the parishioners that they must either repair the church or rebuild it.

In 1735 an Act of Parliament was obtained appointing trustees and empowering them to cause the said parish church and the steeple thereof to be pulled down and rebuilt after such model and of such dimensions, and such material, and in such a manner as by the said trustees should be agreed upon.

(Continued in second column on next page.)

WITH PENCIL AND PAPER.

METHOD CONSTRUCTION.

Alongside is a lead of method which you should compare carefully with the lead given in our issue of November 3rd. Like the other, this lead consists entirely of plain hunting, in which all the bells keep the same Coursing Order, except that two places are made in the changes marked by *.

What has happened is that the bell, which previously had been coursing immediately in front of the treble, stops and makes third's place, crosses the treble's path, makes second's place, and hunts up behind immediately after the treble.

The result is that the Coursing Order, which had been 87531246, is now 87513246; and the treble has made one step in its cyclical path through the Coursing Order of the other bells.

We have now got another Shunt, which has exactly the same effect as the Extremes and the R. Court Shunts, and is identical with the latter, except that it is made at handstroke instead of at backstroke. For convenience we will call it a P. Court Shunt.

12345678
21354768*
23145678
23416587*
24361857
42638175
46283715
64827351
68472531
86745213
87654123
78561432
75816342
57183624
51738264
15372846
13527486

We saw that there are alternative positions in which R. Court Shunts can be made, the number increasing with the number of bells. Similarly, there are alternative positions for making P. Court Shunts. On six bells they are 3rds and 2nds, and 5ths and 4ths. On eight bells they are 3rds and 2nds, 5ths and 4ths, and 7ths and 6ths. On ten bells there are four positions, on twelve five positions; and so on in a regular progression.

24163857
42613587
46231857
42638175
46283715

The corresponding places round the treble, when that bell is hunting down, can also be made. It is well to write out leads, each one with a P. Court Shunt made in one of the possible positions, and then compare them with the leads produced by the Extremes and the R. Court Shunts.

You will probably think to yourself that these leads are no good, because, not only are they lopsided, but they also contain changes in which one bell leads or lies for four blows. That is so, but we will not bother about it for the moment. What we should realise is that in the Extremes, the R. Court Shunts, and the P. Court Shunts we have three operations, each of which causes the treble to take one step in its cyclical path through the Coursing Order of the other bells, and that these are the only operations which can be used to produce a method in the plain course of which all the bells keep the same Coursing Order, except for the varying position of the treble. We shall not need, therefore, to stress the importance of these Shunts in method construction.

But before we deal with the methods which are actually suitable for practising in the belfry you should experiment by working out round blocks produced by combinations of these three kinds of shunts. And at first do not attempt to arrange them in any regular order, nor bother about how many leads the blocks will contain, nor make all the leads alike.

As with our earlier experiments, we shall find that on eight bells directly seven of these shunts are made, or any multiple of seven, the treble has got back to her original position in Coursing Order between the third and the second, and the bells will run round with plain hunting alone. When you test this by examining some of the blocks you have written out, don't forget that in the same change there may be the finish of one Court Shunt and the beginning of another.

If on eight bells we make seven of these shunts in a lead, the bells will run round at the first lead-end; but if we make any other possible number we shall have the first lead of the plain course of a method. On ten bells neither three, nor six, nor nine will give a full course, but any other possible number will.

Some of these methods, however, are not now considered suitable for ringing, and the following conditions must be observed:—

(a) No bell must lie for more than two blows in any one position. (b) The lead must be symmetrical.

The other two conditions necessary for a 'regular' method are that there should be as many leads as there are working bells, all of them exactly alike; and that the lead-ends should be the same as the lead-ends of Bob Major, though not necessarily in the same order.

The number of the Shunts we use will settle the first of these conditions; the other settles itself automatically, since no block produced by these Shunts can ever have any but Bob Major lead-ends.

How the other conditions can be complied with we will see presently.

SHOREDITCH BELLS.

(Continued from previous page.)

The foundation stone of the new church was laid on November 13th, 1736, and the first service was held on August 23rd, 1740. The work cost nearly £7,500, and to raise the sum the trustees borrowed money which was repaid by annuities secured on the rates. George Dance was the architect, and his design for the tower and spire is obviously based on Wren's masterpiece at St. Mary-le-Bow, but it is less elaborate and in many ways inferior to the older steeple. Wren's towers, in all cases, rise straight from the ground, and that gives them a unity of design which is lacking when the tower rises from above a portico.

In the estimate for the new church a ring of eight bells was allowed for. The old five were a fairly heavy lot, the tenor being 18 cwt., and these, when sold, brought in £219 1s. 3d. Fines paid by parishioners to escape services in parochial offices contributed £81 15s. 8d., and £449 8s. 1d. was raised by voluntary subscription, making a total of £800 5s.

Thomas Lester, of Whitechapel, cast the new bells. It was the first ring made by him on his own account, and he was so pleased with the honour conferred on him that he gave £10 to the poor of the parish.

In 1765, Lester and Pack added two trebles, and in 1807 Thomas Mears added two more to make a complete ring of twelve. These two bells were the gift of the Society of Cumberland Youths, and it is said that the money had to be collected twice, since the man appointed as treasurer absconded with the first amount.

In 1823 the two trebles were replaced; the tenor was recast by Mears in 1826, and again by Blews in 1875; in 1913 the four smallest bells were recast by Warner, and the whole ring rehung in a steel frame at a cost of nearly £500.

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 MONDAY.

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

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—The annual meeting of the division will be held at Bocking on Saturday, November 11th. Bells available from 2 p.m. until dusk. Short service followed by tea and business meeting. Please make a special effort to attend this meeting.—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Woolton, on Saturday, November 11th. There will be ringing from 2.30 to 5.30 p.m. This will be followed by service and the meeting. There will be no ringing after the meeting.—G. R. Newton, Branch Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Newport Pagnell Deanery, North Bucks Branch.—A meeting will be held at Great Linford (not Stoke Goldington, as printed last week) on November 11th, from 2 to 5 p.m. Service at 3.30 p.m.—J. F. Amies, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Adlington St. Paul on Saturday, November 11th. Tower open for ringing at 2.30. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—F. S. Bradley, Branch Chairman.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Meeting of Southampton District at Upham on Saturday, November 11th. Bells from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.—G. Pullinger, 17, Stoke Park Road, Bishopstoke, Hants.

ST. LAWRENCE JEWRY.—Next meeting November 11th, 2.30 to 4 p.m., and alternate Saturdays.—E. Murrell, Hon. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—Next practice meetings: Saturday, November 11th, Stoke Poges (8 bells), 3 to 5 p.m.; Saturday, November 18th, Clewer (6 bells), 3 to 5 p.m. The best we can do at present.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough. Slough 23260.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Writtle on Saturday, November 18th. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting after. Further details later. Will those requiring tea please let me know for certain by Wednesday, November 15th? Only those who let me know will be catered for. There will also be practice on Saturday, November 11th, at Boreham, at 2.30. All ringers are welcomed to come and join in these meetings and make them enjoyable and successful.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Upper Arbour Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Hugglescote, Leicestershire, Combined practice on Saturday, November 18th. All ringers cordially invited. Bells available 3 p.m. till dark.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—The meeting advertised to be held at Bagshot on Saturday, November 18th, has had to be postponed owing to the illness of a parishioner living near the church.—C. W. Denyer, Hon. Sec.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—A combined practice will be held at the Cathedral, Portsmouth, on Saturday, November 18th. Ringing from 2.30 to 5.30 p.m. No service or business meeting. All ringers welcome.—A. T. Greenwood, Hon. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—Afternoon ringing meeting at Rodbourne Cheney on Saturday, November 18th. Six bells. Open from 2.30 p.m. to 5 p.m. On Swindon Corporation bus route.—W. B. Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Swindon, Wilts.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern District meeting at Woodford on November 18th. Ringing 2.30 to 4.30 p.m. Tea, meeting and social in Church Hall. Names for tea to Mr. C. A. Hughes, 92, Stanley Road, Woodford, by 15th latest.—T. W. Taffender, Hon. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—All members are requested to attend a special meeting at Wraxall on Saturday, November 18th, to discuss programme of future meetings. The bells will be available from 2 o'clock.—Percy G. Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guilsborough Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Naseby on November 18th, when the bells will be dedicated. Dedication service at 3 o'clock. Names for tea by 14th, please.—H. H. Shrives, Hon. Branch Sec., Long Buckby, Rugby.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Towcester Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Lois Weedon on Saturday, November 18th. Service 3.30. Numbers for tea by Wednesday 15th, to Rev. E. V. Fenn, Lois Weedon, Towcester.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Derby District.—The next meeting will be held at St. Werburgh's, Spondon, on Saturday, November 18th. Bells available from 2.30 till dusk. All ringers invited. Nottingham and Burton districts please note and make an effort to attend.—Wm. Lancaster, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A meeting will be held at Aylestone (8 bells) on Saturday, November 18th. Ringing from 3 p.m. till dusk. Tea and meeting. For particulars, see next week's 'R.W.' Will all requiring tea notify me by Wednesday, 15th inst.? It is hoped everyone will make a special effort to attend.—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Wimborne Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. James', Poole, on Saturday, November 18th. Ringing from 2.30.—C. A. Phillips, Hon. Branch Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Northern District.—A meeting for practice will be held at Crawley on Saturday, November 18th. Tower open 3 p.m. till 6 p.m. No business meeting or tea.—O. Sippetts, 10, Three Bridges Road, Crawley.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol City Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Peter's on Saturday, November 18th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow (election of officers, future meetings, etc.). Handbell practice afterwards. Please advise early for tea to A. M. Tyler, 5, Addison Road, Bristol, 3.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Newbury on Saturday, November 18th. Bells (10) available from 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. only. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Visitors for tea please notify Mr. H. W. Curtis, Church Road, Shaw, Newbury, not later than Wednesday, November 15th.—T. J. Fisher, Hon. Sec., Arniston, Manor Lane, Newbury.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch will be held at Cropthorne on Saturday, November 18th. Bells available from 2.30 and after the meeting. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15, followed by business meeting. Will all members who can possibly do so, attend and make this a good meeting. Numbers for tea by Wednesday previous to Rev. Cathcart Davies, Cropthorne, Pershore.

NASEBY, NEAR RUGBY.—The ring of five bells restored by John Taylor and Co. will be re-dedicated by Bishop Willis at 3 p.m. on Saturday, November 18th.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—Meeting at Croft on Saturday, November 18th. Ringing from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m., when a short service will be held followed by tea (1s. each). Names for tea should be sent to Mr. J. Bayliss, Brookside Cottage, Croft, Leicester, as early as possible. Handbells available for the rest of the evening. Come and enjoy yourself.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Holy Trinity, Bolton, on Saturday, November 18th. Bells available 2.30 to 5 p.m. Business: Future meetings.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—A meeting of the above will be held at Sutterton on Saturday, November 18th. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. Service 4.45 p.m. Tea at 5.15 p.m. followed by business meeting. Will all who require tea please let me know by Tuesday, November 14th, certain?—W. E. Clarke, Hon. Sec., Park House, 99, Norfolk Street, Boston, Lincs.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—The next meeting of the society will be held at the Coffee Pot, on Tuesday, November 21st, at 7 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—A meeting will be held at Ospringe on Saturday, November 25th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Further details regarding tea next week. It is hoped that as many ringers as possible will attend this meeting. Note.—Full moon on November 26th, and a bright spot. Ringing after tea!—B. J. Luck, 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. James', Birch-in-Rusholme, on Saturday afternoon, November 25th. Tower open for ringing at 3 p.m.—Joseph H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION (Southern District) and THE SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—A joint practice meeting will be held at Ranmoor, Sheffield, on Saturday, November 25th. Bells (10) available from 2.30 p.m. until 'black-out.' Short business meeting will be held in the Church Hall immediately afterwards, to be followed by handbells, and also instructional advice on theory and advanced methods by Mr. George Lewis. All welcome. No tea provided, but refreshment obtainable close by. There will be a full moon on this date, therefore no transport difficulties anticipated. Rally up.—Sidney F. Palmer and Maurice E. Wilson, Hon. Secs.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—A meeting will be held at Leatherhead on Saturday, November 25th, when there is nearly a full moon to counteract the black-out. Ringing from 3 until 5. Tea and business meeting at the Duke's Head, with further ringing until 9 o'clock. Owing to caterer's difficulties, please send numbers for tea to Mr. A. Dean, 24, Church Walk, Leatherhead, as early as possible. Everybody welcome.—A. H. Smith, Hon. Sec.

CANNINGTON, NEAR BRIDGWATER, SOMERSET.—The ring of six bells rehung by John Taylor and Co. will be re-dedicated by the Bishop of Bath and Wells at 2.30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 28th.

BRISTOL UNITED RINGING GUILDS.—The annual dinner will be held on Saturday, January 20th, at 5 p.m. Tickets 4s. 6d. each. Full social programme ensured. Will all those who hope to attend please (without obligation) notify me, so that the approximate numbers may be obtained? Full details later.—Edgar Guise, Hon. Sec., 46a, Tankard's Close, Bristol, 2.

SITUATIONS VACANT.

IRON MOULDERS wanted. Government priority work.—Apply, John Taylor and Co., Loughborough.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 1,495. Vol. XXXIV. FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17th, 1939. [Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.] Price 3d.

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NO BAN ON CHURCH BELLS.

Some confusion has arisen as to the interpretation to be placed upon a new Order, under Defence of the Realm Regulations, relating to noises. The use in public places of certain 'noisy' instruments, such as bells, whistles, rattles, horns and the like, have been prohibited since immediately before the war, but among the exemptions were church bells rung 'in such manner as has been customary.' The new Order, which came into force on October 31st, and which can be taken to supersede the first one, does not specifically mention church bells, and the situation was one which might well have caused alarm to all who are concerned with maintaining the use of church bells. What seemed extraordinary was that, when provision was being made against anticipated extreme enemy action, it was thought safe to leave bells to be rung for their customary purposes, and that, when circumstances have shown that the first grave fears have not materialised, it should be thought necessary to put a ban on ringing. Such a situation would have threatened the whole position of ringing, and neither service ringing nor any other customary practice could have taken place. Indeed, even chiming and the funeral knell would have been finally barred.

Already the police in some places have banned ringing, presumably on the strength of the new Order. Before this action had come to our notice, however, 'The Ringing World' had taken steps to raise the question with the Ministry of Home Security, under whose authority the Order was issued. In another column we print the reply received from the Air-Raid Precautions Department of the Home Office, which makes it absolutely clear that the intention is that the use of church bells shall be excepted from any restrictions of the Order. What further action can be taken to clarify the position remains to be seen, but we hope, now that attention has been called to it, the Minister of Public Security will take steps to indicate that church and chapel bells are specifically excluded from the operation of the Order.

Despite the clear ruling on the intention of the Order, given by the Minister, it should, of course, be the aim of Church authorities and ringers to comply with the reasonable requests of the police, especially if the safety of the public is concerned, but there is no reason why the ringing of church bells should be entirely stopped everywhere. That there is misunderstanding under the new Order is certain, and until the matter is further elucidated it needs handling with tact, but we have no doubt that eventually the position will be made clear to all authorities throughout the country. In the meantime, unless there

(Continued on page 690.)

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is a direct order from the police to desist from ringing, and they will not accept the assurance given by the letter of the Minister of Defence published in another column, ringers should carry on with their service ringing, and secretaries should go ahead with their arrangements for meetings. An interference with the customary ringing arrangements might well be taken up with the department. Anything that adds to the cheerfulness of the country and the keeping up of the morale of the people is welcomed by authority, and there is nothing, in our opinion, which helps towards this end more than the merry sound of church bells. We have the authority of the Minister that church bells do not come under the ban on public noises, and ringers can pursue their labours, knowing that the intention of the Home Office is that bells are excepted from the prohibitions of the new Order as they were under the old.

ST. MARY'S CATHEDRAL, GLASGOW.

HOW THE BAND IS CARRYING ON.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—We have been interested in the various accounts in 'The Ringing World' as to how some of the towers have kept going. With the exception of Sunday, September 3rd, we have managed to keep our bells going as usual. We are fortunate in having an A.R.P. post opposite the belfry, so can be warned from there without having to post a man at the bottom of the stairs, which allows us to make use of every available ringer.

An interesting diversion one Sunday was a party of Jack Tars from H.M.S. (?), who had come to attend morning service. They gladly accepted our invitation to the tower, and took an intelligent interest in the ringing, although this was their first visit to a belfry. Perhaps it may not be their last.

When we held our postponed whist drive recently, more than sixty persons defied the 'black-out' and spent an enjoyable evening. The proceeds are to be devoted to sending gifts to our members who are on service. We have been requested by the church authorities to 'run' another whist drive next month in aid of the Red Cross, so the sooner we get that tune-ringing band started the better.

By the way, since tune-ringing has been suggested as one means of keeping a depleted band going, what about starting a series of articles in 'The Ringing World' giving a few hints on how to start and teach a new band, together with a list of suitable tunes and information as to where handbell music could be obtained?

A. E. STAFFORD, Hon. Secretary.

BADSEY, WORCS.—At St. James' on Sunday, November 5th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: J. Perkins 1, W. Sparrow 2, J. Hall, jun. 3, A. Taylor 4, J. Johnson (conductor) 5, F. Sadler 6, P. A. King 7, G. Morsey 8. Rung for the dedication of additions to the choir stalls as a memorial to the late J. D. Pethard, chorister and ringer at the church.

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TEN BELL PEAL.

SHOREDITCH, LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, November 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty Four Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 6029 CHANGES;

Tenor 28¾ cwt.

WILLIAM J. NUDDS ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM J. ROBINSON ...	6
MRS. J. E. DAVIS... ...	2	ARTHUR J. W. HUGHES ...	7
ALFRED H. POLLING	3	THOMAS H. FRANCIS	8
MRS. C. J. MATTHEWS... ...	4	CECIL J. MATTHEWS	9
GEORGE H. CROSS	5	THOMAS BEVAN	...*Tenor*

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS

Arranged and rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the memory of those who have laid down their lives for their country.

SIX BELL PEALS.

MAULDEN, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Rev. E. Bankes James' Arrangement.

*C. EDWARD JEFFERIES ...*Treble*		REGINALD HOUGHTON ...	4
JOHN CHURCH	2	ANDREW C. SINFIELD	5
†RONALD J. SHARP	3	LEWIS H. BYWATERS ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by L. H. BYWATERS.

* 50th peal. † First peal of Cambridge. Rung half-muffled for Armistice Day.

WICKHAM SKEITH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sunday, November 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two extents each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

ALFRED LOCKWOOD ... ...*Treble*		RUSSELL WARD	4
LESLIE FOSTER	2	VICTOR LOCKWOOD	5
GEORGE BROWN	3	SIDNEY ARBON	...*Tenor*

Conducted by S. ARBON.

First peal as conductor. Rung half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. Ernest F. Poppy.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

AT 50, RUDOLPH ROAD.

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

CHRIS. W. WOOLLEY ...	1-2	EDWIN A. BARNETT	5-6
*WILFRED WILLIAMS	3-4	EDWIN JENNINGS	7-8

Composed by S. H. WOOD. Conducted by C. W. WOOLLEY.

* First peal in the method on handbells.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, November 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE ROYAL MASONIC JUNIOR SCHOOL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

*HAROLD G. CASHMORE ...	1-2	EDWIN A. BARNETT	5-6
CHRIS. W. WOOLLEY... ...	3-4	*EDWIN BARNETT...	7-8

Composed by REV. E. B. JAMES. Conducted by C. W. WOOLLEY.

Umpire—Edwin Jennings.

* First peal in the method on handbells.

AMONG OXFORDSHIRE TOWERS.

SOME REFLECTIONS ON A SHORT CYCLE TOUR.

On Saturday, November 4th, some half-dozen enthusiasts from Oxford and district decided to visit some of the lesser known towers within easy reach of that city. Promptly at 2.30 the cyclists left All Saints' Church, the rendezvous, and some 15 minutes later were raising the five bells of St. Nicholas' Church at Marston. Here the party was augmented by the Deputy Master, the Rev. C. E. Wigg, and three ringers from Dinton. Another welcome guest was Mr. G. H. Spice, secretary of the Rochester Branch of the Kent County Association. The bells proved to be a light and good going peal, although judging by the time it took to take the knots out of the treble rope, they are only chimed at present. Half an hour's ringing, the allowance in each tower, sufficed to give everyone a pull, and Grandsire, Plain Bob, St. Simon's Doubles and rounds were rung with varying degrees of success. A hasty look round the church revealed a building in the Early English, Decorated and Perpendicular styles and possessing a Jacobean pulpit.

Leaving the car party to let down the bells, the cyclists were quickly under way for the next tower, that of the Church of the Holy Cross, Woodeaton. We were now well out into the country, and it was interesting to see, just outside the church, the village well, quite open to the elements, and the only source of water supply in the village. It has never been known to run dry, and the water is perfectly pure. The half-hour on these bells proved to be more than sufficient for most, it being quite evident that no loving care had been lavished on them for quite a while. In the palmy days of the village, when the Manor House was occupied, the estate supplied the ringers, but alas, to day the Manor House is unoccupied, and, therefore, there are no ringers. The church is mainly of the Early English and Decorated styles, and contains a fine mural painting, some old box pews, and some 14th century woodwork in the shape of a screen.

Only an intervening hill separated us from our next halt, and on reaching the summit of this a panorama of unforgettable loveliness burst on us. The bright sunshine revealed the trees in all their autumn beauty, every conceivable shade of brown and yellow being discernible, whilst below us stretched away the broad expanse of Otmoor, the home of the Bicester Hunt. A quick run down brought us into Islip, where we made for the Church of St. Nicholas with its peal of six bells, tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 12 lb. in G, cast by Mears. Rounds. Plain Bob and Hereward were practised here. The church, largely restored, has no special features. It is interesting to recall, however, that Islip was the scene of probably the first recorded ringing of the Oxford University Society (described by 'Church Bells' as 'Gentlemen of Education'). It took place in 1871 and consisted of a 720 of Grandsire Doubles.

Having used up our allotted time, we now made for the last church, that of St. Mary the Virgin, Charlton-on-Otmoor. This was, without doubt, the plum of the day, the only 'wasp on the fruit' being that the dusky interior was made still 'duskier' by clouds of thick smoke which belched from the stove. The nave of this grand church is Early English, as are also the two bottom stages of the fine tower, the two top stages being 14th century work. There is a magnificently carved rood screen, and the cross which surmounts it consists of a box tree cut to the required shape. The bells proved to be a heavy peal of five, tenor 17 cwt., and again largely uncared for. On inspection the tenor rope appeared to be nearly frayed through, but that was the least of the troubles of the unfortunate ringer of this bell. Every movement of the rope brought down a steady stream of dirt on the head of the unlucky individual. Despite this handicap and the all-permeating smoke, St. Simon's and Plain Bob were rung, together with rounds, before the bells were lowered in peal.

'Black-out' brought activities to a close, and the company departed for home, the cyclists endeavouring, not too successfully, to stick together. We conclude by saying, 'A good time was had by all.'

A. R. P.

BELLS BEHIND THE LINES

Even close behind the lines in France the church bells are being rung. The son of Mr. C. H. Jennings, of Wyke Regis, a Flight-Sergeant in the R.A.F., has written home to say that on Sunday, November 5th, the three bells in the village, where he then was, were rung for service. 'They can ring the changes,' he says. Flight-Sergt. Jennings was instructed in the rudiments of ringing by the late Sergt. Fred Holden.

SITUATIONS VACANT.

IRON MOULDERS wanted. Government priority work.—Apply, John Taylor and Co., Loughborough.

MARRIAGE.

MARTIN—PLANTE.—On November 5th, 1939, at Bromsgrove Parish Church, by the Rev. T. C. de la Hey, M.A. (Vicar), Harold Frederick, third son of Mr. and Mrs. John Martin, Pembroke House, Church Fields, Bromsgrove, to Gwendoline Olive, elder daughter of Mrs. Plante, Bromsgrove, and the late Mr. H. Plante, Birmingham.

CHANGE RINGING ON HANDBELLS.

BY C. R. WOOLLEY.

In the article which we print below, Mr. Chris. Woolley goes further into the subject of double-handed change ringing on handbells. He explains the principles upon which other than simple methods may be mastered.

The last article dealt with the elementary positions in Bob Minor, and the importance of spacing—that is, knowing the interval, or number of bells separating the pair. Before going further, we might put down a few rules which, when examined, will be seen to be very obvious truths.

To start with, two bells cannot cross over until they have first met in consecutive places. Secondly, when two bells are hunting in opposite directions the number of bells in between must be increased or decreased by two every change. If, however, one of the pair should lie still, either through leading, lying, or making an internal place, the number of bells between will alter by one. Finally, if both make places simultaneously, the interval will remain unchanged.

Before proceeding, the reader is advised to study carefully the type of dodging known as ' scissors ' referred to last time. Examples occur in the 3-4 position in Bob Minor at the second and third lead-ends. In the first of these the pair have crossed in 4-5 before the dodge, consequently do not cross again after it; in the second, the dodge occurs before crossing.

654123	614523
561432	165432
516342	164523
153624	———
156342	615432
———	651342
513624	563124

This type of dodging is very common in all methods, and often occurs at wider intervals. It illustrates rule 2 above, that the number of bells in between must alter by two.

The work of 5-6 at a bob at the first lead-end shows the interval changing by one bell, when one of the pair make a place.

132546
123564

For further practice, Kent Treble Bob is very useful, for, while the bells still ring by position, the method provides plenty of practice both in parallel and scissors dodging. The way in which coursing pairs come to lead and also the slight difference in work due to the 3-4 places should be studied on paper. The positions are the same, apart from the fact that every movement is doubled by the dodging, and the whole method resembles a continuous series of treble leads of Plain Bob.

Following Kent, there are plenty of simple Minor methods which should prove quite easy to ring; Single and Double Court and Single and Double Oxford are obvious selections. The simple place-making in these provides practice of the work encountered when internal places are made. The fourth's place, when the treble is crossing 2—3 in Single Court, is exactly the same work as the Bob in Bob Minor; and the ringer will learn to watch for the treble, which will tell him when the place occurs.

Ability to follow the treble as it moves up and down is essential, as the whole work of a method depends on the position of this bell. For a start it is, therefore, much better to choose methods in which special work occurs only when the treble is at the front (Bob Minor) or near the front (Single Court and Oxford Bob); but with practice it will be found quite easy to follow it up and down all the way.

So far it will be seen the system recommended depends on knowledge of positions; this system works well for methods in which plain or treble bob hunting is fairly continuous and only varies at certain positions when the treble is near the front and can be easily observed. In methods which contain more internal places, the regular positional work gives way to the work produced by those places, and we have dodging and place-making instead of the regular plain or treble bob hunt. Different leads in the same method then lose their similarity, and it is no longer sufficient to learn one or two types of lead.

Two ways are now open. The first is to learn every lead carefully. This is rather laborious, particularly so as it is necessary to learn the whole of the work of all pairs before ringing inside pairs to touches. For example, an inside pair in Double Norwich may be called, in quite a short touch, into any part of the 3-4, 5-6 or 7-8 positions, so that the complete work of as many as twenty-one different leads would have to be learned before touches could be attempted.

The second way, which is very much better, is to ring by the construction of the method. That is to say, to know what internal places are made as the treble moves up and down. Further, in all regular methods the second half lead is the reverse of the first half. This means that if 6th's place is made, for example, as the treble crosses 4-5 on the way up, another 6th's must be made as it crosses 5-4 on the way down. In this way the method can be rung without any special reference to what particular position the pair happen to be in; there is no need to know if they are in any particular part of the 3-4, 5-6 or 7-8 course, and the combined ' blue line ' can be dispensed with. Clearly it will only be possible to those who are thoroughly familiar with the elementary positions and have had a certain amount of practice in simple methods with internal places.

(To be continued.)

ERNEST FREDERICK POPPY.

AN APPRECIATION.

Ernest Frederick Poppy was a ringer well known in East Anglia and elsewhere and a man well beloved and held in high regard by all who knew him. His life was a record of service to his fellow-man.

His tall figure was to be seen at most ringing meetings, where his genial disposition endeared him to all with whom he came in contact. He was a veritable storehouse of East Anglian ringing lore, and this, coupled with a retentive memory, made him a very entertaining man to talk to.

He had met and rung with all the old East Anglian stalwarts, and his anecdotes of them—John Souter, Jimmy Motts and so on—were worth listening to.

As a ringer, Mr. Poppy was above all a faultless striker, and while he had great patience with learners, would not tolerate slovenly ringing. He was a very safe ringer on all numbers, and his peal record of 346 shows an unusual variety of methods.

His first peal was rung at Redenhall on February 24th, 1894, for the Norwich Association, and he took part in 257 peals credited to that society.

Mr. Poppy rang in the first peal for the Suffolk Guild at Thornham Magna on April 3rd, 1923, and his last was rung at Debenham on August 13th, 1938. He had served the Suffolk Guild on its committee since its formation, and, in addition, he had been assistant secretary to the Eye Branch since 1936.

In his own parish of Stoke Ash he had been a power for good, and he gave willingly of his time and talents to public work. A very keen and devoted churchman, he held the office of churchwarden for upwards of 20 years, and it was chiefly due to his energy that the bells were rehung and a competent band of ringers trained. Mr. Poppy represented his parish on the Hartismere Rural District Council, was a manager of the school and an honorary member of the local branch of the British Legion.

May he rest in peace.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CATERING DIFFICULTIES OVERCOME.

By a happy coincidence the meeting of the Guildford District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild, held at Shalford on November 4th, took place on the third anniversary of the rededication of the bells, after having been recast from six into eight.

A last minute breakdown in the catering arrangements upset the organiser's plans, but the very sporting gesture of the Vicar of Shalford (the Rev. M. Tobias) saved the situation. On learning that it was not possible to obtain tea locally, the Vicar and his wife volunteered to do the best they could at the Vicarage. The Vicar journeyed to Guildford in his car and returned laden with supplies. Mrs. Tobias turned the Vicar's study into an impromptu tea room, and provided an enjoyable tea.

The Vicar took the chair at the short business meeting which followed, and also invited the company to bring the handbells into use. Although nothing more than plain courses of Grandsire came home, every effort was given a round of applause. The star turn of the evening, however, was double-handed tune ringing by the brothers L. and A. Hunter. These boys literally brought the house down, and we understand that they are already booked for the next Guild dinner.

The two police officers present saw to it that the Vicarage was 'blacked out' well before scheduled time.

Mr. C. W. Denyer (Farnham district secretary) and Mr. R. Whittington (Cranleigh) expressed thanks to the Vicar and Mrs. Tobias for all they had done and for the manner in which they had come to the rescue.

The evening closed with a hearty rendering of 'For he's a jolly good fellow' and a cheer that echoed the sincere thanks of all.

The service, held prior to tea, was a real antidote to the troubled times we are passing through. A special organ voluntary, cheerful hymns, and a bright and interesting address that made no mention of war, all tended to emphasise the point that the Vicar of Shalford always stresses. It is that our religion should not be a dull and depressing creed, but something to be happy and joyful about.

Full use was made of the bells from 3 to 4.30 p.m., and the District Ringing Master (Mr. C. E. Smith) saw that everyone who appeared in the belfry had a touch of some sort.

CONFIRMATION SERVICE QUARTER-PEAL.

For a Confirmation service held by the Bishop of Chelmsford, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,280 changes) was rung at Prittlewell, Essex, on Sunday, November 5th, by William James 1, Norman Townsend 2, Jack Belcham 3, Roy Brown 4, Walter Taylor 5, Frank B. Lufkin (conductor) 6, Henry S. Wilson 7, Albert E. North 8.

THE B.B.C. INTERVAL SIGNAL.

SHOULD IT BE IMPROVED?

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Although this correspondence is getting nearer to it, no one has yet faced up to the question whether the interval signal ought to be improved or not.

The interval signal has to be something which can be switched off at any moment. Therefore, anything which contains a pleasant succession of sounds is not suitable; for every time the signal is switched off in the middle, everyone would be crying out for the conclusion; or, at any rate, would not be in the best humour for what follows. Thus the interval signal ought to be in itself an annoying one, or, at any rate, something which one is more or less glad to have switched off. At the same time, it ought not to be very annoying, or people would be always objecting to it, like they did to the former signal.

There is, therefore, a good deal to be said for the use of call changes. It is quite certain that many (probably most) ringers have no idea how distasteful call changes are to all others, or they would never ring them. The horribly monotonous repetition is, however, lessened when the number of bells is larger than eight; or when the sound is varied to imitate its volume being altered by the wind.

Therefore, if there are to be other records made (and probably we all agree that it would be better to have more variety than at present, it would seem that they should be call changes and on twelve bells.

A further point is, who would ring them? My experience is that it takes a band of ringers who can strike changes well to strike call changes well. Notice that I do not say satisfactorily, for call changes can never be that; but well enough to pass muster on a record. Can twelve men be found who would be willing and capable of doing this? I would not be one of them. If I could strike twelve bells in real changes, nothing would induce me to make a display of sham or call changes!

HERBERT DRAKE.

Ufford Rectory.

WAR TIME RINGING ARRANGEMENTS.

Liversedge, 10 to 10.30 a.m. and 5 to 6 p.m.
Rockwell, 9.45 to 10.30 a.m. and 3 to 3.30 p.m.
Blackpool, St. John's, 10 to 10.40 a.m. and 5.30 to 5.55 p.m. Practice, Thursday, 8 p.m.
St. Anne's-on-Sea, 10 to 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 to 3 p.m. Practice, Monday, 7 p.m.
Ipswich, St. Mary-le-Tower, 10 a.m.
Pentre Rhondda, St. Peter's, 10 to 11 a.m. and 5 to 6 p.m. Practice, Thursday, 6.30 p.m.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The war-time derangement of the postal services and the necessity of getting the copies of 'The Ringing World' into the hands of the publishers earlier on Thursday make it absolutely essential that all contributions to our columns, and particularly all notices, should be in our hands by Monday in each week. We cannot guarantee the insertion in the following issue of anything received later.

We hope that secretaries will send us prompt reports of their meetings, and we shall welcome any items of news relating to ringers and ringing, but they must reach us early.

BELFRY GOSSIP.

Last Sunday the bells of St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, which have been silent since the war began, were rung for morning service. The police had banned all ringing, but have now withdrawn the prohibition so far as daylight only is concerned. There is still no practice on Tuesdays.

The photograph of the spire of St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, in our last issue, was by Mr. F. E. Dawe.

To-day is the one hundred and fourth anniversary of the first peal of London Surprise Major, which was rung at St. Andrew's, Norwich. In our issue of August 25th last, we gave an account of the bells of this church.

On November 15th, 1784, the College Youths rang 5,040 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Royal at Maidstone and claimed the peal as the first on the new bells. A fortnight earlier James Barham's band from Leeds had rung 5,120 changes in the same method. The London men had no great opinion of the others' performances, and it looks as if they did not believe they had rung a true peal.

Almost a century later, on November 15th, 1873, 8,544 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major were rung at Liversedge, beating John Reeves' peal of 8,448, which for long was considered the extent with the tenors together. The 8,544 was rung as the composition of William Sottanstall, but probably was varied by him from one of John Thorp's peals.

On November 16th, 1885, Jasper Snowdon died at the early age of 41, after a comparatively short ringing career. By his writings, his work and his example he had influenced the Ringing Exercise for good to an almost greater extent than any other man.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

At the meeting held on November 7th for the purpose of electing officers of the Ancient Society of College Youths, Mr. W. H. Shuker, general secretary of the Lancashire Association, was chairman.

A good attendance augured well for the fortnightly war-time meetings.

As previously reported, last year's officers were re-elected en bloc. The secretary read the list of attendances for the past year. Mr. L. Fox headed the list with 79 out of a possible 80, and, in addition, he rang 150 times for Sunday services and about 120 times for practices at St. Dunstan's and other towers.

Four other members of the Stepney band rang almost as many times as he did.

A. E. BAMES' PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.
A LETTER FROM AUSTRALIA.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In your issue of July 28th last this peal is reported to have been rung at Bridgend, Glamorganshire, which is the first occasion I have seen it rung for many years. It was the first peal rung on the back eight of the bells at St. Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne, conducted by the composer. It was highly thought of by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, and on his recommendation the block of 350 changes was deferred until end of the peal. Thus it runs to 4,690 changes by bobs only, when the first Holt single is introduced. Then follow the five calls at 5, the last of which produces rounds (at the second Holt single). It is a beautiful and symmetrical peal, with five uniform parts—to 4,690 changes, and from this point of view is unsurpassed. It is not difficult to call, and without, I hope, detracting from the merit of such compositions as Holt's Ten-Part or J. J. Parker's Twelve-Part, I consider it a superior composition to either. It needs no words of commendation from one in this far off land.

ERNEST F. BEHAN.

Melbourne, Victoria.

CHURCH BELLS AND NEW NOISE ORDER.

EXCEPTED FROM RESTRICTIONS.

Home Office Intention.

Under the Control of Noise (Defence) Order, which came into force on September 1st, severe restrictions were placed upon the use of certain instruments in public places, but church and chapel bells used for their 'customary purposes' were included among the exceptions.

This exemption enabled church bells to be freely rung, and on the strength of it Church authorities and ringers were urged, through our columns, to continue, as far as possible, the service and other ringing to which they were accustomed.

On October 31st, however, another Order, entitled Control of Noise (Defence) (No. 2) Order, was issued, and from its drafting there appeared to be considerable doubt as to whether church bells were in future to be exempted. In view of the importance of the question, the following letter was addressed to the Secretary of the Ministry of Home Security (A.R.P. Department) by the Editor of 'The Ringing World':—

'The Ringing World' Office,
Lower Pyrford Road,
Woking,
November 7th, 1939.

CONTROL OF NOISE.

Sir,—In the Control of Noise (Defence) Order, No. 1169, dated September 1st, 1939, Clause 3(2) provided that nothing in the Order shall be deemed to prevent the use of any church or chapel bell in such manner as has been customary.

The Control of Noise (Defence) (No. 2) Order, dated October 31st, 1939, does not mention church and chapel bells among the exceptions.

May it be understood that church and chapel bells are still exempted by the original Order, and that they may continue to be used for their customary purposes?

As this is a matter of great importance to the churches of this country, I shall be very much obliged if you will let me have an early reply.—Yours faithfully,

J. S. GOLDSMITH,
Editor.

The following reply has been received, and it is gratifying to know that church bells are still exempted from the operation of the Order:—

Home Office
Air-Raid Precautions Dept.,
Horseferry House,
Thorney Street,
London, S.W.1,
November 10th, 1939.

CONTROL OF NOISE (DEFENCE) (No. 2) ORDER, 1939.

Sir,

In reply to your letter of November 7th, I am directed by the Minister of Home Security to say that it is intended that the use of church and chapel bells should be excepted from any restrictions by virtue of clause 1(b) of the Control of Noise (Defence) (No. 2) Order, 1939.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) R. L. POLAND.

The Editor,
'The Ringing World.'

Confusion had already arisen from the wording of the second Order, and we have, since writing to the Minister of Home Security, received information that the police have banned the ringing of bells in certain places. We shall be glad to hear of any case where such action has been taken, as we hope that some further steps may be taken to have the position made clear.

WHAT THE NEW ORDER SAYS.

Clause 1 of the Order of October 31st, so far as it is relevant, runs as follows:—

Subject to the provisions of the Order, no person shall, in any area in Great Britain, sound any instrument or cause or permit any instrument to be sounded, except—

(a) for the purpose of making a signal, in accordance with directions given by the local authority or chief officer of police for the area, to indicate that an air-raid by the enemy is expected or is in progress or has ceased, or that noxious gas is present, or that danger from such gas has ceased, or

(b) in such circumstances that the sound of the instrument is not liable to be mistaken for any such signal as aforesaid.

Clause 4 (c) of the Order lays down that the expression 'instrument' means any siren, hooter, whistle, rattle, bell, horn or other like instrument.

BELLS AND THE A.R.P.

CANCELLED MEETING AT UPHAM.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—A district meeting was arranged to be held at Upham on November 11th, and was duly advertised in 'The Ringing World,' the ringing to be completed during the hours of daylight.

At the last minute the meeting had to be cancelled, as the A.R.P. authority informed the incumbent that the church bells must not be rung at any time other than for Sunday services.

I communicated with as many as possible and apologise to anyone who may have been overlooked and made the journey to Upham in vain.

Upham is a very quiet village with few houses near the church. It appears to me that the local A.R.P. authority acted in a high-handed manner, as the Control of Noise (Defence) Order, 1939, specially exempts the ringing of any church or chapel bell in such manner as has been customary, and it has long been the custom to ring the church bells in Hampshire in connection with district meetings.

Can any of your readers with experience of A.R.P. administration give advice on this point? GEORGE PULLINGER.

Bishopstoke, Hants.

RINGING AFTER SUNSET.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I would like to know if you could give me any help in the following. We are able to ring each Sunday morning at our tower from 10 to 11 o'clock. We are blacking out our church windows so that evening service can be held at the ordinary time, and we are thinking of blacking out our belfry, which can easily be done. Before we do so, however, I would like to know if the law as far as church bells are concerned allows us to ring after sunset? I shall be greatly obliged if you can, through 'The Ringing World,' give me a reply, so as to give us an idea of what is the best thing to do.

Great Tey, Essex. J. W. DYER.

The Order controlling noise in war time specially exempts church bells rung for normal purposes, as will be seen from the article 'Church Bells and New Noise Order' in this issue. There is no law against the ringing of church bells after sunset, although it might be well to consult the local police authorities on the matter. The chief obstacle to the ringing of bells arises if there is a 'listening' post nearby, but if there is no objection to daylight ringing there cannot, we think, be any objection to ringing after nightfall, provided the black-out regulations are observed.—EDITOR, 'The Ringing World.'

CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

ST. LEONARD'S, SHOREDITCH.

By J. Armiger Trollope.

The first peal at Shoreditch of which we have any account was rung on March 1st, 1741, by the Society of Eastern Scholars. The method was Double Bob Major, the bobs were called by John Sharp, and the band included several men who were prominent ringers at the time. The tenor man, Philemon Mainwaring, earned a leading position among the heavy bellringers of all time. He was the first man to turn St. Saviour's, Southwark, tenor in to a peal; he rang the 28 cwt. tenor at West Ham to a fifteen-thousand of Bob Major, and the 44 cwt. tenor at Spitalfields to a five-thousand of Oxford Treble Bob Major. These bells were hung with the old style fittings, and peals rung on bells with modern fittings cannot be compared with these feats.

Thomas Bennett, who rang the seventh at St. Leonard's, had a long and active ringing career, during which he was a member of nearly every one of the leading London companies.

The peal of Double Bob was not claimed as the first in the tower, and, as it was not rung until the bells had been two years in the steeple, the likelihood is that others had already been scored which are now forgotten, especially as five years elapsed before we have any record of a second performance. This, too, was by the Eastern Scholars, and was 5,040 changes of Bob Major, composed and conducted by Joseph Prior.

It was an interesting composition, being the first that ever was rung with the sixth the extent (twelve times) at home. The earlier peals were on the plan of Annable's Three-part, in which the sixth is nine times in each one of the five available positions at the course-ends.

Later on in the same year Prior called 6,832 changes of Bob Major, and on December 27th, 1747, Thomas Bennett conducted 5,040 changes of 'that excellent new peal called Eastern Bob.'

This method was the composition of Joseph Prior. He afterwards extended it to Royal and produced the double variation of Major, and peals of both were rung by the Eastern Scholars. A century later the method was rediscovered by Henry Hubbard and published by him under the name of Yorkshire Court. Though it does not now rank as a 'regular' method, it has many good qualities.

Meanwhile, on January 12th, 1746, the College Youths rang the first peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major on the bells, Annable calling the bobs.

The ringer of the second was Thomas Prior, who possibly was Joseph Prior's brother, and, like him, was a very active metropolitan ringer. The 'General Advertiser' of 1746 contains an advertisement by 'Thomas Prior, Esq.,' in which he offers for sale a marvellous tar water which would cure almost any complaint, including asthmas, cancers, small-pox, lowness of spirit, etc.' His address was Painter's Court, Bury Street, St. James'. There is nothing beside the name to identify this man with the ringer, but quite likely they were the same

In 1747 began the long connection between the belfry of Shoreditch and the Society of Cumberland Youths. Concerning the origin of this company, a number of legends grew up which have been repeated many times and are still believed in, but, unfortunately, like so many other ringing legends, when they are subjected to any real test, turn out to be baseless.

Osborn, writing a hundred years ago, tells us that in his time the tradition was that 'when, in 1746, the Duke of Cumberland returned to London after defeating the Scotch rebels at the battle of Culloden, he entered the Metropolis by the old North Road through Kingsland and Shoreditch. The London Scholars welcomed him with a merry peal on the bells of Shoreditch Church, and, to show their loyalty and joy at his safe return, they



THE TOWER OF SHORE DITCH CHURCH IN 1733.

changed their name, and afterwards, to commemorate the event, an appropriate and ornamental medal, with the likeness of the Royal Duke on his charger enamelled in gold, was presented to the society; which medal is usually worn by the master at the society's general meetings."

Later writers allowed their fancy some freedom, and we are usually told that the Duke was so pleased with the ringing that he sent and congratulated the ringers, and himself presented the medal.

'A History of Shoreditch Church,' published some years ago, is still more circumstantial, and relates that the Duke was so charmed with the music that he entered the tower and afterwards gave the two bells which then made the ten. He certainly was a ringer and the founder of the Cumberland Society, and the medal was presented to the Society by the Duke himself in 1746.

'The Duke also presented a large oil painting of himself to the society, and this hung in the centre porch until the bells could no longer be rung, when it was removed to St. Martin's-in-the-Fields.'

All this is only fancy run riot, and would hardly deserve notice if it were not that it is sometimes repeated

by responsible people as genuine history. The Duke had no personal connection with either Shoreditch Church or the Society of Cumberland Youths. He was a German by birth, and a soldier by profession, and his action at Carlisle in 1747, when his army tried to confiscate the cathedral bells, shows that he had no particular sentiment in favour of church bells.

Osborn's account, it will be noted, was very much more moderate. He does not say that the Duke himself had anything to do with the matter. The tradition had not then developed beyond the statement that the London Scholars rang Shoreditch bells to welcome him when he came home, and afterwards changed their name to show their loyalty and joy at his safe return. This is a much more credible statement, but it also fails completely when we apply any real tests to it.

The Society of London Scholars had been founded some time before the end of the seventeenth century, and for half a century its members ranked with the College Youths as the leading ringers of the country, both socially and in the belfry. Unfortunately the society's records are lost, and all we know about their performances is that they rang three peals, one of Grandsire Caters and two of Grandsire Cinques. The last we hear of their doings is that in 1730 they were proposing to try Rudhall's new bells at Fulham. After that they drop entirely out of history.

They were then at the height of their prosperity, and we must not suppose that they went to pieces until some time after. Most probably they continued to meet in tower and tavern long after they had given up peal ringing. The mere gap of years is no proof that they did not become the Society of Cumberland Youths. But what is certainly lacking is any signs of continuity.

The London Scholars consisted of 'gentlemen and others' who met and rang in the City and West End; the Cumberlands were men of Shoreditch and district who practised in the northern and eastern suburbs, and, in those days, Shoreditch was a long way from St. Martin's-in-the-Felds. If the tradition were true, we should have to believe that the London Scholars not only changed their name, but they entirely cut themselves apart from their past, destroyed all their old records, and had an entirely fresh start. Moreover, though the battle of Culloden was fought on April 16th, 1746, the new society was not formed until September 6th, 1747, and it is certain that neither the London Scholars nor any other company greeted the Duke on his return with a merry peal on Shoreditch bells, or any other bells.

The Duke's victory had made him a popular hero, and his return was eagerly awaited. The contemporary newspapers contain several statements that he was expected on such and such a date, and then that his coming had been postponed; and, finally, he arrived unannounced and unexpected by the general public. Six days after he had set out from the North, 'The General Advertiser' stated that 'there is no certain account when H.R.H. the Duke of Cumberland will set out from Fort Augustus,' and it was not till the third day after his arrival that it printed a message from Whitehall, dated July 26th, saying that 'yesterday about one o'clock in the afternoon his Royal Highness, the Duke of Cumberland, arrived at the Palace of Kensington from the North and immediately waited on his Majesty.'

(Continued in next column.)

NOTICES.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—A combined practice will be held at the Cathedral, Portsmouth, on Saturday, November 18th. Ringing from 2.30 to 5.30 p.m. No service or business meeting. All ringers welcome.—A. T. Greenwood, Hon. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—Afternoon ringing meeting at Rodbourne Cheney on Saturday, November 18th. Six bells. Open from 2.30 p.m. to 5 p.m. On Swindon Corporation bus route.—W. B. Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Swindon, Wilts.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—All members are requested to attend a special meeting at Wraxall on Saturday, November 18th, to discuss programme of future meetings. The bells will be available from 2 o'clock.—Percy G. Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guilsborough Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Naseby on November 18th, when the bells will be dedicated. Dedication service at 3 o'clock.—H. H. Shrives, Hon. Branch Sec., Long Buckby, Rugby.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Derby District.—The next meeting will be held at St. Werburgh's, Spondon, on Saturday, November 18th. Bells available from 2.30 till dusk. All ringers invited. Nottingham and Burton districts please note and make an effort to attend.—Wm. Lancaster, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A meeting will be held at Aylestone (6 bells) on Saturday, November 18th. Ringing from 3 p.m. till dusk. Tea and meeting. It is hoped everyone will make a special effort to attend.—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Wimborne Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. James', Poole, on Saturday, November 18th. Ringing from 2.30.—C. A. Phillips, Hon. Branch Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Northern District.—A meeting for practice will be held at Crawley on Saturday, November 18th. Tower open 3 p.m. till 6 p.m. No business meeting or tea.—O. Sippetts, 10, Three Bridges Road, Crawley.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol City Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Peter's on Saturday, November 18th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow (election of officers, future meetings, etc.). Handbell practice afterwards. Please advise early for tea to A. M. Tyler, 5, Addison Road, Bristol, 3.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Newbury on Saturday, November 18th. Bells (10) available from 2.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. only. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 p.m.—T. J. Fisher, Hon. Sec., Arniston, Manor Lane, Newbury.

SHOREDITCH BELLS.

(Continued from previous column.)

It is clear, then, that the London Scholars did not welcome the Duke as he came home past Shoreditch Church, and so did not alter their name and become the Cumberland Youths. But the questions still remain: What did become of the former society?, and How did the latter society originate and get its name?

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch will be held at Cropthorne on Saturday, November 18th. Bells available from 2.30 and after the meeting. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15, followed by business meeting. Will all members who can possibly do so, attend and make this a good meeting.

NASEBY, NEAR RUGBY.—The ring of five bells restored by John Taylor and Co. will be re-dedicated by Bishop Willis at 3 p.m. on Saturday, November 18th.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—Meeting at Croft on Saturday, November 18th. Ringing from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m., when a short service will be held followed by tea (1s. each). Names for tea should be sent to Mr. J. Bayliss, Brookside Cottage, Croft, Leicester, as early as possible. Handbells available for the rest of the evening. Come and enjoy yourself.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Holy Trinity, Bolton, on Saturday, November 18th. Bells available 2.30 to 5 p.m. Business: Future meetings.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—A meeting of the above will be held at Sutterton on Saturday, November 18th. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. Service 4.45 p.m. Tea at 5.15 p.m. followed by business meeting.—W. E. Clarke, Hon. Sec., Park House, 99, Norfolk Street, Boston, Lincs.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Wimborne Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. James', Poole, on Saturday, November 18th. Ringing from 2.30 and after 7 p.m. Service 4.45. Address by the Rector, the Rev. E. C. Harris. Tea in Old Rectory 5.30, followed by business meeting.—C. A. Phillips, Hon. Branch Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Writtle on Saturday, November 18th. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.15, followed by tea and business meeting.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Upper Arbour Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting of this district will be held at Biddenham on Saturday, November 18th. Bells (6) ready from 2 p.m. till evening. We shall be pleased to see you.—Frank C. Tysoe, Hon. Dis. Sec., 10, Grange Road, Bromham, Bedford.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—A meeting will be held on Saturday next, November 18th. at St. Dunstan's, Stepney. Ringing from 2.30 to 5 p.m. A meeting will be held at the Coffee Pot on Tuesday, November 21st, at 7 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. James', Birch-in Rusholme, on Saturday afternoon, November 25th. Tower open for ringing at 3 p.m.—J. H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Leatherhead District.—A meeting will be held at Leatherhead on Saturday, November 25th, when there is nearly a full moon to counteract the black-out. Ringing from 3 until 5. Tea and business meeting at the Duke's Head, with further ringing until 9 o'clock. Owing to caterer's difficulties, please send numbers for tea to Mr. A. Dean, 24, Church Walk, Leatherhead, as early as possible. Everybody welcome.—A. H. Smith, Hon. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION (Southern District) and THE SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—A joint practice meeting will be held at Ranmoor, Sheffield, on Saturday, November 25th. Bells (10) available from 2.30 p.m. until 'black-out.' Short business meeting will be held in the Church Hall immediately afterwards, to be followed by handbells, and also instructional advice on theory and advanced methods by Mr. George Lewis. All welcome. No tea provided, but refreshment obtainable close by. There will be a full moon on this date, therefore no transport difficulties anticipated. Rally up.—Sidney F. Palmer and Maurice E. Wilson, Hon. Secs.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Christchurch District.—The annual meeting will be held at Christchurch on Saturday, November 25th. Bells (12) available from 2 p.m. Tea at 4.30 p.m. at King's Arms Hotel, P.R.H.A. Please advise early for tea to G. Preston, 42, Waterloo Place, Christchurch.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. Augustine's, Kilburn, on Saturday, November 25th. Bells available 2 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., followed by tea, reservations for which must be sent to Mr. E. M. Atkins, 18, Westbere Road, N.W.2 (telephone, Hampstead 4510), by Wednesday 22nd. Business and handbell ringing afterwards.—T. J. Lock, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Next meeting will be held at East Crompton on Saturday, November 25th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Method to learn, London Scholars'. For tea, please notify Mr. John Butterworth, 3, Society Street, Shaw. Business meeting to follow at 6.30 p.m.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—A branch meeting will be held at Hyde on Saturday, November 25th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. Please note change of tower, and also, in view of present circumstances, kindly advise Mr. T. Wilde, 23, York Road, Gee Cross, Hyde, the number requiring tea.—C. K. Lewis, Hon. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newport Pagnell Deanery.—A meeting will be held at Lavendon on Saturday, November 25th, from 2 to 4.30 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Learners and beginners invited.—J. F. Amies, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—General quarterly meeting, Loughborough, Saturday, November 25th. Bell foundry bells (10) open all afternoon. Committee meet 4 p.m. General meeting in ringing room 5 p.m. Owing to difficulty of transport, etc., members are asked to cater for themselves. Tea can be got at local cafe.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Padiham on Saturday, November 25th. Bells available 3 p.m. until black-out. Meeting after business; important. Members and non-members cordially invited.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—The meeting which was to have been held at Ospringe on Saturday, November 25th, is cancelled, owing to a restriction placed on all ringing in that area by the police authorities. Please watch 'The Ringing World,' as it is hoped to arrange another meeting elsewhere.—B. J. Luck, 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — The Luton District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Dunstable on Saturday, November 25th. The eight bells will be available from 3 till 8 p.m. Tea at 5.30 p.m. All ringers invited.—E. A. Belson, Dis. Sec., 7, Queen Street, Leighton Buzzard.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be at Birstall on Saturday, November 25th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Business meeting in the tower.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Leeds, 12.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—The annual district meeting will be held at St. Albans on Saturday, November 25th. The cathedral bells (12) open 2.30 4 p.m. St. Peter's bells (10) open 3.30-5 p.m. Ringers' service will follow at this church. Tea at McMeekan's Restaurant 5.45 p.m. Business meeting (further meetings, election of officers, secretary's report, etc.) and handbell ringing. All towers in the district should be represented. All ringers and friends welcome, but send me a card if you intend to be present. —Harold V. Frost, Dis. Sec., 4, Kimberley Road, St. Albans.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch, Gainsborough District.—A meeting will be held at Upton on Saturday, November 25th. Bells (5) available from 1.30 to 4.15 p.m. Short service. Tea at moderate charge to those who notify me by Thursday previous. A whist drive will be held in the Village Hall during the evening.—Geo. L. A. Lunn, Hon. Sec., 248, Lea Road, Gainsborough.

NEWPORT, MON.—St. Woolos' Cathedral.—The augmented ring of twelve will be dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Monmouth during 11 a.m. service on Sunday, November 26th. The two new trebles added and Nos. 3, 4 and 5 recast by Gillett and Johnston.

CANNINGTON, NEAR BRIDGWATER, SOMERSET.—The ring of six bells rehung by John Taylor and Co. will be re-dedicated by the Bishop of Bath and Wells at 2.30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 28th.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—The ' black out ' will not interfere with the next meeting, to be held at Newhall on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells (6) available from 2.30 to 7.30. Tea and meeting in Church Room at 4.45. Appreciation of the efforts made to ring after tea should be shown in attendance. All are welcome. Note: Postcards to me by Thursday previous.—J. W. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—The annual meeting of the division will be held at Leytonstone on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells available from 2 p.m. till dusk. Business meeting to follow. Will everyone please make an effort to attend this meeting, when it will be discussed what course should be adopted with regard to practice meetings?—J. H. Crampion, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Cedar Avenue, Chadwell Heath, Essex.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A general meeting will be held at Norwich on Saturday, December 2nd. The bells of St. Michael at Coslany available from 2-4. Tea in St. Miles' Mission Hall at 4.15. Business meeting to discuss plan of campaign and incidental problems at 4.45, followed by social evening, including the showing of a film in colour by the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow, taken by him on his recent holiday in Norway and Spitzbergen, and the use of handbells. It is most important that I know by Tuesday, November 28th, if you are coming.—Nolan Golden, Gen. Sec. and Treas., Winton, 26, Brabazon Road, Norwich.

DEVON GUILD.—Exeter Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. David's Institute, Haldon Road, Exeter, on Saturday, December 2nd. Tea at 5 o'clock, preceded by a short service at 4.45. Will those requiring tea please notify me by November 25th? St. Sidwell's, St. Thomas' and St. David's bells available from 2 to 5 p.m.—W. H. Howe, Hon. Sec., 8, Courtenay Road, Exeter.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Wednesbury on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells available 3 p.m. Service in church at 4.15. Business meeting afterwards. All arrears in subscriptions should be paid at this meeting.—Herbert Sheppard, 17, Grange Road, Dudley.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Cuthbert's Church, Lytham, on Saturday, December 2nd. Ringing from 3 p.m. Business meeting 5 p.m. A good attendance requested.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—A meeting will be held at Hersham on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. More ringing after business meeting. Nominations for district officers for 1940 at this meeting. All ringers welcomed. Names for tea to Mr. W. Simmonds, 33, Burwood Close, Hersham, not later than Wednesday, November 29th.—F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Dis. Sec.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Western Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Kempsey on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Tea 4.15 p.m., with business meeting to follow. Please notify numbers for tea by Tuesday, November 28th, without fail.—E. F. Cubberley, Hon. Sec., Park Cottages, Kempsey, near Worcester.

LYDFORD, DEVON.—The ring of six bells rehung by John Taylor and Co. will be re-opened at 3 p.m. on Sunday, December 3rd.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—Owing to circumstances over which I had no control, it has not been possible for me to arrange the usual annual meeting. I tender my apologies to all concerned. Please note change of address.—Alec E. Richardson, 24, Norton Road, Southborough.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 1,496. Vol. XXXIV. FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 24th, 1939. [Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.] Price 3d.

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THE EXEMPTION OF CHURCH BELLS.

The correspondence which we published last week concerning the new Control of Noise Order cleared up a position which had led to doubt in the minds of many authorities. It is now abundantly plain, as it was even under the first Order, that church bells may be rung for all customary purposes, including peal ringing. The new Order which, unlike the first, did not specifically mention the exception of church bells, gave rise to some serious qualms as to ringing in future, but the reply of the Ministry of Home Security to the inquiry made on behalf of 'The Ringing World' has settled any doubts on the matter. Confirmation also comes from the hon. secretary of the Central Council, who has been in touch with the Ministry of Home Security, and we publish elsewhere a statement agreed between the Ministry and the Central Council. As a matter of fact, there is nothing new in this statement beyond what has already been printed in our columns, but this fresh authoritative statement puts the position beyond doubt.

There is nothing in the new Order to prevent church bells being rung at any time, but this does not relieve ringers of the responsibility of acting at all times in the interests of public security. It goes without saying that, where the public interest demands it, bells will be immediately silenced, and for that reason the step which we have all along advocated, and of which the Minister has approved, of keeping a man posted to give instant notification of any air-raid warning, should be strictly observed. It should be the object of ringers so to act that there can be no cause for reasonable complaint about the ringing, as it concerns public safety, and it is in the interests of ringing that nothing should be done which may jeopardise the freedom from restriction which church bells now enjoy. In times like these there must be give and take, but it is very satisfactory to know that the new Order in no way curtails the exemption directly laid down by the first Control Order.

When war was declared, there was a sudden cessation of all ringing, more because of the fear of immediate calamitous happenings than anything else, but now the first three months have passed without such anticipated disasters materialising, and life in this country is being adjusted to the abnormal conditions, it is realised that there are some things which can safely be continued without risk. The ringing of church bells is one of them, and not only should service ringing be continued or, where it has ceased, be resumed, but every opportunity should be made to continue practices and hold meetings. There is, indeed, no reason in law why even peals should not be

(Continued on page 702.)

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rung, at any rate, for special occasions. There should, of course, be a certain amount of circumspection in doing this, and there may come times when such ringing would be altogether out of place, but, at any rate while conditions remain as they are, a certain amount of peal ringing could not be considered in any way to contravene public feeling. A correspondent this week puts forward reasoned grounds why peal ringing might be resumed, and where the church authorities offer no objection, and where proper precauions are taken, there is something to be said for continuing the ringing of peals.

But the greatest value of the exemption accorded to church bells is the fact that it enables service ringing to be maintained, and makes practices and the continued cultivation of the art of ringing possible. In many towers, of course, the 'black out' renders practices after nightfall out of question, but in a number of districts ringers are surmounting the obstacle by combining their forces and ringing either before darkness sets in or at towers where the structural conditions make it possible to comply with the lighting restrictions. For the next two months or so the short days will, of course, limit the afternoon practices except at places where lights can be properly obscured, but the opportunities which ringers continue to enjoy should not be neglected, and should be utilised not only to maintain service ringing but the interest of all the ringers who are left at home to carry on and, in addition, to raise additional forces to fill the gaps that, alas, must inevitably occur as the war goes on.

TEN BELL PEALS.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, November 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 6½ cwt.

GEOFFREY HARRISON	...Treble	SIDNEY O. CHEENEY	... 6
SHIRLEY BURTON	2	*†CHARLES ALLSOP	7
ERNEST RAWSON	3	COLIN HARRISON	8
WILLIAM J. ROOT	4	G. RONALD EDWARDS ...	9
*HARRY WAYNE	5	‡FREDERICK H. DEXTER	...Tenor

Composed by WM. PYE. Conducted by COLIN HARRISON.

* First peal of Cambridge Royal. † 100th peal. ‡ 50th peal of Surprise Royal.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, November 18, 1939, in Three Hours & Twenty-Seven Minutes
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5120 CHANGES;
Tenor 24 cwt.

*JOSEPH BOYER	...Treble	STANLEY HARRISON	6
MISS ANNIE POTTER	2	FRED GRUNDY	7
JOHN POTTER	3	PERCY H. DERBYSHIRE ...	8
WILLIAM H. SHUKER ...	4	JOSEPH H. RIDYARD	9
FRANK REYNOLDS	5	CECIL RADDON	...Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by JOSEPH H. RIDYARD.

* First peal of Caters. Rung to celebrate the coming of age of Mr. Robin Renshaw.

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EIGHT BELL PEAL.

WEST WYCOMBE, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S COMPOSITION. Tenor 17 cwt.

HARRY JONES	*Treble*	PERCY NEWTON	5
FREDERICK G. BIGGS	2	RICHARD LEE	6
ROLAND BIGGS	3	F. DONALD BOREHAM	7
REV. R. F. R. ROUTH ...	4	H. WINGROVE	*Tenor*

Conducted by HARRY WINGROVE.

Rung as a compliment to the Rev. W. H. Marsh and Miss C. A. Lester, who were married at the Church of SS. Mary and George, Sands, that day.

SIX BELL PEAL.

CUCKNEY, NOTTS.

THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720's of Oxford Treble Bob, one of Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 10½ cwt.

JOB READER	*Treble*	ARTHUR E. CHILTON	4
FREDERICK FLINT	2	RICHARD REECH	5
GEORGE E. FOSTER	3	HERBERT T. ROOKE ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by H. T. ROOKE.

Rung with the bells half-muffled for Remembrance Day.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BUSHEY, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT 50, RUDOLPH ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15.

FRANCIS KIRK	1-2	EDWIN A. BARNETT	5-6
ERNEST C. S. TURNER... ...	3-4	EDWIN JENNINGS	7-8

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

Umpire—C. C. Mayne.

HEVINGHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, November 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CONDUCTOR'S RESIDENCE,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's, three callings.

JACK N. A. PUMPHREY... ...	1-2	WALTER C. MEDLER	3-4
*ERIC DURRANT	5-6		

Conducted by WALTER C. MEDLER.

* First peal on handbells.

THE B.B.C. INTERVAL SIGNAL.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am rather surprised at the continued correspondence concerning the interval signal used by the B.B.C. In the first place, it is most unlikely that any change in the way of a new record will be made at this time, and it may be that any steps we take as an organisation during war time will have just the opposite effect we desire, i.e., the disappearance of the bells record entirely.

We ringers have much greater problems. Service ringing must be kept up and practices arranged wherever possible. Recruits must be brought along under very adverse circumstances while the Exercise in general is affected when individuals succeed in using the present national emergency to gain their own way to curtail or stop the ringing of the bells in their locality.

Such attacks have been made, and with success, by people who have vowed vengeance on the bells for years past, and when this happens it presents a pretty problem for the band concerned. They have to decide whether it is a legitimate action or a little bit of the Hitlerism we are pledged to destroy.

ARTHUR V. DAVIS.

Bournemouth.

A 'SHUNT' IN RINGING PARLANCE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I may be very dense, but I fail to understand why you say that the Oxford English Dictionary contradicts, when actually it bears me out altogether.

What clinches the matter is the definition you quote: The calling or omission of a bob in order to divert the track of a composition from one part to the corresponding point in another part. This so exactly describes the correct meaning which appears from the Jasper Snowdon series that he may have written it himself. I expect, however, it is more likely that his brother wrote it. It is to support this definition that I have written both now, and on previous occasions; and if anything I have written 'contradicts' it, I am only too glad here and now to withdraw any such words.

From his writings I should say that Jasper Snowdon was careful of his etymology. In conversation with his brother William I found that the latter was an etymological authority. He was, however, the only such ringer that I have met. Ringers as a rule have no use for etymology whatever, and I must sorrowfully admit that you are probably right in not giving much consideration to my arguments in that matter. I will, therefore, now give some mathematical reasons to which ringers may perhaps pay more attention.

Mathematicians have divided the science of mechanics into Statics and Dynamics. In Statics a machine is treated as being in full action at a given moment, but only that moment is considered. That is to say the work of the machine is alone discussed, apart from its movement: in Dynamics, movement is added.

These two divisions lend themselves well to change ringing. When figures are written or printed in a row, they are static: we may write or print another row: this also will be static. In fact, what is printed cannot be anything else.

Now let those two rows be rung. We can hear, or we can feel, each bell ringing after another, or each row coming after another. That is to say there is movement; the work is dynamic. We can further see that some words are static, some dynamic, and that we must keep them distinct.

Take your sentence: 'An operation which alters the position of . . . we will call a shunt.' The words 'operation' and 'alters' are dynamic; 'position' and 'shunt' are static. (The remaining words are indifferent.) The result is always static. The word by which it is brought about is dynamic. In all the meanings you quote from the Oxford English Dictionary, the word 'shunt' is static; but you equate it with a dynamic word, and use it in a dynamic sense. You are condemned by the authority you have called in.

You speak of a 'right.' I am afraid I know of no such right: of course anyone can be as puzzling as they wish. But why wish? The puzzle you set us is to know whether the word as you employ it is to be static or dynamic. Is a row intended, or is it work you speak of?

You use two other words in your description, why not keep to one of these? You could tell us very well about 'Operation, No. 1,' No. 2, etc.—or 'Alteration, No. 1,' No. 2 and so on. Or there are plenty of other words, such as 'Move, No. 1.' I assure you that the use of such words would make very much greater the usefulness of your excellent series of articles.

HERBERT DRAKE.

Ufford Rectory, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

The Oxford English Dictionary does contradict Mr. Drake. It does not agree that 'shunt' is a 'factitive form' of 'shun,' but says that the origin of the word is unknown. The various definitions it gives show that there is nothing static implied in the meaning. The general idea behind all the various meanings is that of something being moved from one track to another, which is the idea which lies behind our use of the word.

Neither Jasper nor William Snowdon used the word 'shunt' in connection with change ringing. It was first so employed by C. D. P. Davies as the name of the bobs in peals of Grandsire Triples similar to the extra bobs which Reeves added to Holt's Ten-Part to produce Reeves' Variation. These bobs have an exactly similar effect on the Coursing Order of the bells to the 'shunts' referred to in our articles.—EDITOR, 'Ringing World.'

A NEW RING OF SIX IN SOUTH WALES.

On Saturday last the recast and augmented ring of bells at St. Bride's Major, Glamorgan, was dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Llandaff, who gave the address.

As the procession of clergy returned to the chancel the bells were rung for a short while. Tea was provided by the Vicar and churchwardens, and in the evening Mr. J. W. Jones gave an address in the church on bells and bellringing.

Ringers were present from Newport, Llanbradach, Newton, Aberavon and Bridgard, as well as Mr. J. H. Shephard, of Swindon.

A well-struck 720 of Bob Minor was rung by J. W. Jones 1, H. Cassells 2, T. Roderick 3, C. W. Perry (conductor) 4, D. R. James 5, E Stitch 6.

The work of restoration included a new lead roof and new floors, besides the recasting of the old five bells, the addition of a new treble, and hanging them with up-to-date fittings. The work was carried out by Messrs. John Taylor and Co. in their usual first-class style.

CHANGE RINGING ON HANDBELLS.

BY C. R. WOOLLEY.

(Continued from page 692.)

If we examine a method with places we can quite easily see the effects which places have. It can only be possible to do so with straightforward methods, having places made ' right ' (that is, at hand- and back-stroke) ; places made wrong (back and hand) are more complicated, so the reader is left to do this himself. The following remarks apply only to places made ' right.'

In straightforward methods the changes can be split up into pairs (at hand and back), and in each pair it will be seen that two places occur. In plain hunting these are at front and back. In making these places, bells turn round to hunt the opposite way. Now it will be easily seen that in any pair of changes an odd place (one in 3rd's, 5th's or 7th's) can take the place of the lead; and an even place (in 2nd's, 4th's or 6th's) can take the place of the lie. These internal places are made by bells which are turning round to hunt the other way before reaching the front or back, consequently odd places are made from the back, even places from the front. Also it will be seen that an odd place causes dodging in front of it without affecting the bells hunting above it; while an even place causes dodging above it, without affecting the plain hunt below it. Each pair of changes must contain one odd and one even place (external or internal).

Taking Double Norwich for an example, we see that the construction depends on a series of compartments or boxes formed by places made around the treble as it moves up and down; these are made as near to its path as possible without, of course, affecting its plain hunt.

Numbering the pairs of changes 1 to 8 as shown we have:—

	12345678
1	21436587 24135678
2	42316587 24361578
3	42635187 24365817
4	42638571 46283751
5	64827315 46287135
6	64821753 46812735
7	64187253 61482735
8	16847253 18674523

In (1) the treble is crossing 2-3. Fourth's place is made, which, with the lead, forms the ' box ' round the treble's path. This fourth's allows hunting in 1-2-3 but causes dodging in 5-6-7-8.

In (2) the treble is crossing 4-5. Thirds and sixth's places form the box, and these cause dodging in 1-2 and 7-8, only allowing hunting between them in 4-5.

In (3) the treble is crossing 6-7. Fifth's and eighth's form the box. Dodging in 1-2-3-4.

In (4) a whole pull at lead goes with the treble's lie. This allows plain hunting all through.

Now consider the effect on a pair. Take 7-8 for a simple example.

In (1) fourth's is made, so the pair dodge together in 7-8.

In (2) sixth's is made, so the pair do another dodge in 7-8.

In (3) fifth's is made; this allows the tenor to hunt down from behind, while the 7th lies the pull.

In (4) the pair hunt down parallel.

At the beginning of (5) the tenor has reached third's and the 7th fifth's. Consequently, the 7th must make the place, and this causes the tenor to dodge back into fourth's. Therefore the pair strike together in 4-5.

In (6) the pair have separated by two bells, and are in third's and sixth's. They thus make the places. Notice that all pairs of places in Double Norwich are made by pairs of coursing bells.

In (7) the pair strike together in 4-5, and the tenor, being in fourth's, makes the place. This causes the 7th to dodge back into sixth's, and this brings the pair into course again, with one bell in between.

In (8) the tenor goes down to turn the treble, the 7th following in course.

Since in this type of method an even place can only be made while a bell is leading a whole pull and an odd place while it is lying, we need really only know the internal places. So that the half lead may be summed up as: Fourth's, Third's and Sixth's, Fifth's; and the second half, Fifth's, Third's and Sixth's, Fourth's.

Looking at the Surprise methods we find that an internal place is necessary whenever the treble dodges to prevent repetition; or, looked at in another way, to cause the dodge. Also, by definition of the class, an internal place is also needed when the treble moves from one set of dodging places to another (that is, at every cross-section).

Taking Cambridge Minor as a simple example, we can set out the construction in the following way by the position of the treble, internal place, and its effect:—

Position of treble.	Internal Place.	Effect.
Dodging in 1-2.	Third's.	Dodging in 1-2. Plain hunt in 4-5-6.
Crossing 2-3.	Fourth's.	Dodging in 5-6. Plain hunt in 1-2-3.
Dodging in 3-4.	Second's.	Dodging in 3-4 and 5-6.
Crossing 4-5.	Third's.	Dodging in 1-2. Plain hunt in 4-5-6.
Dodging in 5-6.	Fourth's.	Dodging in 5-6. Plain hunt in 1-2-3.
Lying in sixth's.	Fifth's.	Dodging in 1-2 and 3-4.

The second half-lead is, of course, a repetition of the above in reverse, so need not be given.

Surprise Major can be treated in exactly the same way. A decided resemblance will be noticed between Cambridge, Superlative and Double Norwich, the two Surprise methods having the same places as the plain method at the cross-sections. London and Bristol both have places made ' wrong ' coupled with backward hunting; such places do not conform to the same rules. For example, place-making bells do not necessarily reverse, nor have they the same effects on the other bells. However, all methods can be similarly treated by construction for double-handed ringing.

A DOUBLE CELEBRATION

A quarter-peal of Double Norwich Major was rung at Great Baddow, Essex, on Sunday, October 22nd, to commemorate Mr. George Green's 52 years as a ringer at Great Baddow and to celebrate the engagement of Anthony Tyrell, eldest son of Dr. Spencer-Phillips, Master of the Essex Association, to Miss J. Ducat Amos, of Reading, Berkshire: R. C. Thrift 1, George Green 2, P. Felton 3, P. Green (composer and conductor) 4, H. Carter (first quarter-peal in the method) 5, Pat Spencer-Phillips 6, Dr. J. Spencer-Phillips 7, L. J. Clark 8.

LADIES' GUILD.

PRESENTATION TO FORMER BRANCH SECRETARY.

Her many friends in the South Midlands Branch of the Ladies' Guild have presented Miss S. Thursfield with a brown leather handbag as a small token of their affection and of their great gratitude to her for all she has done for them in her many years' secretaryship. Owing to war conditions it has not been found possible to hold a meeting at which the presentation could be made, so the bag has been sent by post and Mrs. Powell has received the following letter from Miss Thursfield in acknowledgment.

'Dear Mrs. Powell.—I really do not know how to thank you all enough. I am simply delighted with the lovely bag and I feel quite overwhelmed with the kindness of all my friends in the Ladies' Guild. Please give them my best thanks; I do so much appreciate the fact of you all giving me anything, and you could not have chosen anything that I like more, for it is really a lovely bag. I am taking it into immediate use, as I was badly in need of a nice one, and I shall love to feel that I shall have it as a constant reminder of my friends in the Guild.

'My association with the Guild has given me some of the happiest times I have ever had, and I thoroughly look forward to meeting everyone again. Meanwhile, the best of thanks to everyone. I appreciate it more than I can say.'

Miss F. E. Hart, of Weston-by-Welland, Market Harborough, has succeeded Miss Thursfield as district secretary, and a meeting of the branch is to be held at Rothwell on December 2nd.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

DERBY DISTRICT.

A very successful meeting was held at St. Werburgh's, Spondon, last Saturday, when members attended from Nottingham, Breaston, Repton and Derby. A good variety of methods was rung, including Grandsire Doubles, Oxford Treble Bob, Cambridge Surprise, Bob Minor, Double Oxford, Double Court, Stedman Doubles, Oxford Bob, Spliced Treble Bob and Little Bob Minor.

At the short business meeting held in the belfry it was decided to hold the next meeting at St. Luke's, Derby, on December 16th. Members were reminded of the meeting to be held at Loughborough the following Saturday. Votes of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and to the towerkeeper for having all in readiness were proposed by Mr. James Pagett, seconded by Mr. W. Slater and carried unanimously. The bells were lowered in peal about 5.15, after which handbells were brought into use till about 5.45.

RINGERS WEDDED AT ALDERSHOT.

MR. R. G. CROSS, R.N.—MISS I. S. TUCK.

The wedding took place by special licence at the Old Parish Church, Aldershot, on Monday, November 13th, of Miss Irene Stella Tuck, only daughter of the late Mr. Tuck and of Mrs. Tuck, of Ash Road, Aldershot, and Mr. Robert Gordon Cross, R.N., only son of Mr. and Mrs. Cross, of Twyford, Berks. The bride is secretary of the Float Iron Laundry, Aldershot, and a keen member of the local ringing company. The bridegroom is an Instructor-Lieutenant in the Royal Navy and is well known as an accomplished ringer.

The ceremony was conducted by the Vicar of Aldershot, the Rev. J. B. Rowsell. Mr. R. Tuck gave his sister away, while Miss E. C. Southby attended her friend as bridesmaid. The duties of best man were carried out by Mr. C. W. Denyer.

As the bridal couple left the church, via the belfry, beneath an archway of bellropes and a shower of confetti, the bells rang out merrily. Later in the day Mr. and Mrs. R. G. Cross left for the bridegroom's home at Twyford, where a brief honeymoon was spent, Mr. Cross having to return to his ship on the following Thursday.

WEDDING BELLS AT THORNE, YORKS.

On Saturday, November 18th, at the Parish Church, the marriage took place between Mr. Ernest Thorley and Miss Violet H. Williams. The bridegroom is a member of the local band, and as the happy couple left the church, 672 Grandsire Triples was rung by his fellow-ringers: J. Thorley 1, T. Leask 2, A. Woods 3, T. A. Hepworth 4, C. H. Thorley 5, W. Hobson 6, C. Thorley (conductor) 7, H. Cooper 8.

NORTH STAFFS ASSOCIATION.

ARMISTICE DAY MEETING AT CHEADLE.

By the kind invitation of Father Macdonald, priest of the Roman Catholic Church at Cheadle, a meeting was held on Armistice Day, when the bells were rung half-muffled. Ringers attended from Norton, Kingsley, Leek, Uttoxeter, Longton, Burslem, Draycott, Stoke and the local belfry. The methods rung included Bob Major, Stedman Triples, Oxford Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise, besides rounds and Bob Minor for the young local band, who are doing well under the leadership of Mr. A. Hall.

Tea was provided at the Wheatsheaf Hotel, by the kindness of Father Macdonald, who sent a letter of welcome, not being able to be present in person, and in return a hearty vote of thanks was passed to him.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The war-time derangement of the postal services and the necessity of getting the copies of 'The Ringing World' into the hands of the publishers earlier on Thursday make it absolutely essential that all contributions to our columns, and particularly all notices, should be in our hands by MONDAY in each week. We cannot guarantee the insertion in the following issue of anything received later.

We hope that secretaries will send us prompt reports of their meetings, and we shall welcome any items of news relating to ringers and ringing, but they must reach us early.

BELFRY GOSSIP.

Next Monday, Mr. James George, of Birmingham, reaches his 86th birthday, and his friends everywhere will join in offering their congratulations. He has now recovered from his long illness and is enjoying good health. Few men have accomplished as much as Mr. George in the world of ringing, and but for the war we can imagine he would by this time have been as busy as ever at the rope end.

Last Tuesday was the two hundred and second anniversary of the peal at West Ham (mentioned in last week's issue) in which Philemon Mainwaring turned the 28 cwt. tenor in to 15,120 changes of Plain Bob Major.

On November 23rd, 1732, the City Scholars rang 6,012 changes of Grandsire Caters at St. Giles', Cripplegate, and on the same date in 1775 the Norwich Scholars scored the first peal on the grand ring of twelve at St. Peter Mancroft, which had recently been erected. The method was Grandsire Cinques.

November 25th is the anniversary of two other 18th century peals of Grandsire Cinques. In 1729 the London Scholars rang 6,204 changes at St. Michael's, Cornhill, and in 1799 the Union Society of Shrewsbury rang 6,006 changes at St. Chad's.

The board which recorded the Cornhill peal was in existence 100 years ago, but soon afterwards was taken down from the wall during some repairs, and ultimately was broken up and destroyed.

The dedication of the two new bells, cast by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, to augment to twelve the present ring at St. Woolos' Cathedral, Newport, will take place on Sunday morning, November 26th. On the following Saturday there will be an open meeting for ringers.

Mr. Arthur Panther, of Wath-on-Dearne, Yorks, is at present in the Montagu Hospital, Mexborough, where he has undergone several operations for internal trouble. We are pleased to state he is progressing favourably and have no doubt his many friends will wish him a speedy recovery.

The peal of Grandsire Caters at Worsley on Saturday was rung to celebrate the coming of age of Mr. Robin Renshaw, son of the Vicar, the Rev. J. Renshaw. The ringers were invited to the Vicarage to drink the young man's health and wish him many happy returns of the day. All the band thank the Vicar for his kindness. The peal was also a birthday compliment to Mr. Frank Reynolds, the ringer of the fifth.

RUGBY RINGER'S DEATH.

ST. ANDREW'S SOCIETY LOSES VALUED MEMBER.

The passing of Mr. Albert Bramall on November 7th robs the Rugby St. Andrew's band of its oldest member and the Warwickshire Guild of one of its few remaining pioneers. A robust man, he belied his 77 years by his handling of the heavier bells, and until a month before his death was ever eager to turn in the 25 cwt. tenor to a touch of Surprise.

Mr. Bramall began his ringing career in 1886 at St. James', Grimsby, and rang in a peal of Grandsire Triples there on March 4th, 1889. His first peal, however, for the Lincolnshire Guild (also Grandsire Triples) was scored on August 18th in the previous year at St. Andrew's Church, Grimsby, where he may still be remembered as 'Old Blossom.'

His livelihood on the railway took him to Rugby in May, 1899, to be followed a year later by another Lincoln Guild enthusiast, Mr. J. B. Fenton, and the present standard of change ringing at Rugby owes much to their early encouragement on handbells.

Although Mr. Bramall rang but one peal for the Warwickshire Guild, he has been one of the most conscientious service and practice ringers during his 40 years at Rugby, and he will be much missed for a very long time to come.

On Sunday, November 12th, his colleagues paid their last tribute to him with half-muffled touches of Stedman Triples before morning service, one of these being called by his son, Mr. Leslie Bramall, who is the deputy ringing master.

WAR TIME RINGING.

CENTRAL COUNCIL AND MINISTRY OF HOME SECURITY. AN AGREED STATEMENT.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Since the early days of the war I have been in touch with the Ministry of Home Security as to ringing in general, and am now able to publish the following agreed notice.

A copy has been or will be sent to all affiliated associations and all members of the Council, and I am arranging for a supply to be available for any tower secretary who may desire a copy. In the latter case a stamped addressed envelope will be appreciated.

All ringers are urged to observe the requirements of the notice and to advise me of any difficulties they may have with the authorities in their district. In this way we shall avoid troubles, help the Ministry and help ourselves.

I have indicated to the Ministry that we are all prepared to help, and in their last letter they write:—

'I should like to take this opportunity of expressing our appreciation of the co-operation which you have so kindly offered.'

GEORGE W. FLETCHER,
Hon. Secretary, Central Council.

THE RINGING OF CHURCH BELLS.

CIVIL DEFENCE REGULATIONS.

Under the provisions of the Control of Noise (Defence) (No. 2) Order, 1939, the sounding of any instrument which might be mistaken by the public for an air raid or poison gas warning signal is, in general, prohibited. The use of church or chapel bells or clock chimes in a customary manner is not, however, considered to be likely to cause confusion, and is not prohibited.

It is, nevertheless, desirable that arrangements should be made for ringing (whether the bells be in rounds or changes) to cease immediately an air raid warning is given.

To ensure that the bells stop immediately, a ringer or some other responsible person should be posted outside the tower with means to communicate the warning.

Ringers are reminded that all ringing chambers, bell chambers and staircases are subject to the lighting restrictions, and all lights therein must be adequately screened or, where this is not possible, must not be used after sunset or before sunrise.

The foregoing notice has been approved by the Ministry of Home Security. All ringers are urged to observe the above requirements in the interest of public security and so that further restrictions may not become necessary.

GEORGE W. FLETCHER,
Hon. Secretary, Central Council.

PEAL RINGING IN WAR TIME.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The Central Council's resolution of 1915, recalled by Rev. F. Ll. Edwards in 'The Ringing World' for Nov. 10th, regarding abstention from peal ringing during the Great War is interesting, but I hope it will not be taken as a binding precedent to be followed during the present war.

The attitude of the authorities is quite definitely in favour of the continuance of normal activities, so long as they do not lessen the nation's war effort. Forms of entertainment and sport have been encouraged as far as possible, and peal ringing, which, together with association meetings, forms the secular side of our art, seems to me to come definitely into this category. It might be argued that it would not be desirable to start for a peal on the day of the announcement of a big loss to our defence forces—though even that does not stop such things as football matches—but the only other reasons I can see for stopping peal ringing are those which have already in some places stopped or curtailed service ringing. One of the most necessary things at the present time is to keep up the morale of the ordinary population and this will not be done if one's ordinary means of recreation are cut off.

Obviously we cannot expect the usual number of peals to be rung—difficulties of travelling and of maintaining bands are often too great, but in places where this can be overcome peal ringing can do no harm to the country.

WILFRID G. WILSON.

WAR-TIME MEETINGS IN LANCASHIRE.

At a meeting of the Bolton Branch of the Lancashire Association on Saturday last, the arrangement of war-time meetings was discussed. It was decided to select a tower where the windows could be blacked out and at a church in the town until the evenings were lighter. Bolton is fortunate in having seven rings of eight and one of six in the town itself. In some towers, when and how bells could be rung was a little doubtful, but the meeting felt thankful to the Editor of 'The Ringing World' for clearing the matter up.

The meeting was fairly well attended, eight local towers being represented, and the visitors included the president and the secretary of the Preston Branch and Mr. Fred F. Rigby, a former branch member, who has come back from Bournemouth to reside in the district.

SUCCESSFUL COMBINED PRACTICES.

ACTIVITY IN VARIOUS CENTRES.

A very successful combined practice of the Cranleigh-Ewhurst-Bramley-Wonersh block of towers was held at Cranleigh on Saturday afternoon, November 18th, when 16 ringers and learners were present from six different towers, together with members of the local band. The eight bells were raised in peal at 3 o'clock, and between that time and 5 o'clock, when the bells were lowered (again in peal), no time whatever was wasted, and ringing, from rounds to Double Norwich was continuous and enjoyed by all present. The opinion was generally expressed that an enjoyable and useful afternoon had been spent, and that such practices were well worth arranging, especially under present circumstances.

Arrangements have been made for further such combined practices from 3 to 5 in the afternoon, to be held at Bramley, November 25th; Shere, December 2nd; Bramley, December 9th; Ewhurst, December 16th; Wonersh, December 23rd; and Bramley, December 30th. All ringers will be welcome.

Combined practices have been held at various towers in South Buckinghamshire on most Saturday afternoons since the outbreak of war. Ringers will be welcomed at Hughenden to-morrow and at Chalfont St. Peter's on Saturday, December 2nd, both at 3 p.m.

Recent practices at Stoke Poges and Clewer have been enjoyed by those enthusiasts who put in an appearance, despite the war and the black-out. Various methods were rung, including Surprise, some touches being nearly good enough for the secretary. A start has been made with some evacuees, who will be useful when they return to London. The next practice is at Cookham to-morrow, but as some of the meetings are put on at short notice, it is as well to keep in touch with one of the 'regulars,' in case there is not time to advertise in 'The Ringing World.'

It has been decided to visit the following towers on the dates mentioned for combined practices: Erith (Christ Church), November 25th; Crayford, December 2nd, Erith (St. John's), December 9th; Bexley, December 16th; Dartford, December 23rd. Practices will then be repeated in the same order. The idea is to keep the goodly number of young ringers at these towers interested.

WAR TIME RINGING ARRANGEMENTS.

Newcastle Cathedral, 10.15 to 11 a.m. and 2.45 to 3.30 p.m.
Merstham, Surrey, 10.30 to 11 a.m. and 2.30 to 3 p.m. Practice, Friday, 7.30 p.m.
Worplesdon, 10.15 a.m. Practice, Tuesday, 7.30 p.m.
Broxbourne, 10.20 to 11 a.m. and 2.50 to 3.30 p.m. Practice, Wednesday, 6.45 p.m.
Bournemouth, 9.30 to 10.50 a.m. and 2.40 p.m.
Winchester Cathedral, 10.25 a.m. and 2 p.m.
St. Albans, St. Peter's, 10.15 to 11 a.m. and 5.30 to 6 p.m. Practice, Monday, 8 p.m.

BRISTOL UNITED GUILDS.

DECISION TO HOLD ANNUAL DINNER.

The committee of Bristol United Ringing Guilds have decided to hold the annual dinner on the third Saturday in January (the 20th). The place will be decided later. Subject to any rationing conditions that may prevail, the dinner will be of the usual character and tickets will be 4s. 6d. each. The customary social programme will be arranged. Those who are proposing to attend should communicate with the hon. secretary (Mr. E. Guise) before November 25th.

The committee are also hoping to promote dances on Saturday evenings at St. Michael's Parish Hall, if sufficient tickets, at 1s. each, are sold.

THE RECORD PEAL OF MINOR.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM TASMANIA.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Readers of 'The Ringing World' will probably be interested to know how widely interest has been created by the band which rang the 104 method peal at Bigby on July 19th last. Amongst the numerous letters of congratulation one has been received by me from Mr. A. R. Wilson, hon. secretary of the Holy Trinity Bellringers' Association, Hobart, Tasmania. The members of the association sent their congratulations to the band who rang the peal.

Since ringing the 104 method peal, which was thought, at the time, to be the extent of methods in seven 720's, Mr. C. K. Lewis has found it possible to include 105 methods in seven extents. So the extent of methods has yet to be rung when we are in happier times.

Grasby, Lincoln. GEORGE E. FEIRN.

MR. JOHN SHAND'S ARTICLE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Apropos your note in Belfry Gossip recently of Mr Shand's article in the 'Nineteenth Century and After.' I should like to draw your attention to the fact that this gentleman made a contribution to the 'Spectator' of October 30th, 1936, on the 'Bellringer's Art.' In this he spoke at length on aspects of general interest in campanology and told of the special preparations being made for ringing during the Coronation celebrations in 1937.

Fenham, Newcastle-on-Tyne. K. ARTHUR.

CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

HOW THE ROYAL CUMBERLAND SOCIETY WAS FORMED.

By J. Armiger Trollope.

Nowadays it is so unusual for any ringer not to be a member of one of the large societies or associations that we naturally think it was always so. But such was not the case.

The leading societies formerly were small and exclusive bodies, the members of which were closely associated together and formed one band only. There were, indeed, members who lived in the provinces or the outlying villages of Middlesex and Surrey, but they hardly counted in the general life of the society. The band at headquarters elected only just a sufficient number of recruits to fill vacancies caused by deaths or retirement.

Societies so constituted were very liable to vicissitudes of fortune, and there were many causes which might easily bring the whole thing to an end. A quarrel, the death of the leading members, waning interest, or the slackness which comes with increasing years—any one might cause the break-up of the company; and so the life of most of these societies was not a long one. And especially the fortunes of these bodies depended on the possession of good leaders. Where there was a man of energy and ability, there the society prospered. When such was lacking, there was decay and, usually, final extinction.

These considerations give us all we really need to know about the fate of the Society of London Scholars. It is most likely that they failed to adapt themselves to the changing conditions of the time, and after Doleman, in the early days of the eighteenth century, they do not appear to have had any leader of outstanding ability such as the College Youths found in Benjamin Annable, and the Union Scholars in John Holt. In 1742 some of their members joined the College Youths, and that probably marks the final break-up of the society.

The Society of Cumberland Youths was formed from quite a different class of people. Outside the leading companies there were many ringers, loosely organised into bands, who met at different towers, and did most of the not inconsiderable amount of paid ringing there was to be done.

Who they were, what they did, and what peals they rang, have mostly been forgotten, but in Laughton's book we get a brief glimpse of some of these people. In all there were forty-two men associated with the Ramblers' Club in 1733. Ten of them were, at the time, members of the Society of College Youths, one or two were, then or afterwards, members of the Eastern Scholars or the London Youths; but for the most part they were not members of any society that we know of.

They were ringers before the club was formed, and (we cannot doubt) they continued to be ringers after it was broken up. The majority of them lived in the north or north-eastern suburbs of the town. They rang at Christ Church, Spitalfields, and when Shoreditch Church was built and the new bells put up, they were the people who usually rang them.

As these men dropped out of ringing others took their places, and though they had, so far as we know, no formal society, there were all the materials for making one. All they needed was a first-class leader to organise them, and him they found at last in George Partrick.

Partrick was the real founder of the Society of Cumberland Youths; but for him it probably would never have existed, and since he had appeared it would still have come into being had the battle of Culloden never been fought.

This accounts for the discrepancy of the dates. When the society was founded it needed a name. It was the fashion at the time all over England to call things after the Duke of Cumberland, and, since he was nowhere more popular than in Spitalfields and Shoreditch, it was natural enough that the new company should be the Society of Cumberland Youths. That special permission was given to use the name, or that the Duke knew anything about it, is not in the least likely. The medal worn by the Master to this day, is an impress of one that had been struck to commemorate Culloden, and it was given to the society, not by the Duke, but by William Manley, a gentleman who lived at Woldham Hall, near Rochester, and who was Master of the society in 1774.

The new society was formed on September 6th, 1747, nearly eighteen months after the battle of Culloden, and the society's book leaves no doubt that it was a new company and not merely a change in the title of an old one.

The list of early members shows the connection with the Ramblers' Club. Jeremiah Gilbert, Laughton's close friend, was one of the foundation members, and so was John Harrington, another Rambler, while the names of several others suggest that they were the sons or relatives of men who had been associated with Laughton.

Of George Partrick nothing apart from his ringing career is known. We are tempted to think he was a member of a family which supplied more than one eminent ringer. There was a John Patrick, a leading composer at the end of the seventeenth century, two of whose six-bell methods are still rung. Another John Patrick was Master of the College Youths in 1736, and Robert Patrick, half a century later, was an excellent ringer and a bell founder, who cast the bells at Bishopsgate and Hackney and the tenor at Cripplegate. At least his name is on these bells as founder, but whether he cast them himself is perhaps doubtful.

George Partrick was a composer, but only one of his compositions has survived. It is the well-known one-part peal of Treble Bob Major in twenty-two courses which, curiously enough, is generally attributed to John Patrick.

At Spitalfields and Shoreditch, a large colony of French refugees had settled and carried on the trade of silk weaving. The names of many the members of the new society show that they were of French extraction, and notably among them were Samuel and Francis Wood, whose family name had originally been Dubois. Francis Wood was the grandfather of Matthew Wood, whom older people still remember to-day as one of the leading London ringers of a past generation.

This, then, is the genesis of the Society of Cumberland Youths, which was for many years so closely associated with the bells and belfry of St. Leonard's, Shoreditch. I have mentioned that during the first six or seven years after the bells were put up only a couple of peals are known to have been rung on them, and those by a visiting company. It is a not unlikely explanation that other peals had been rung by these men before they became the Society of Cumberland Youths, for, soon after they had

(Continued on next page.)

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

NORTHERN DIVISION'S SUCCESSFUL YEAR.

The annual meeting of the Northern Division of the Essex Association took place on Saturday, November 11th, at Docking, 33 ringers attending from 15 different parishes. In view of the circumstances which now prevail, ringing commenced shortly after 2 p.m. and was continued until 4 p.m., when a short service was conducted by the Dean (the Very Rev. E. Rogers, O.B.E.), and a collection for the Bell Restoration Fund amounted to 8s. 4d. After the service ringing was resumed until dark, when the company adjourned to the Church Hall for tea, which was followed by the business meeting.

The District Master (Mr. F. Ridgwell) presided, and a splendid report on the year's work in the division was read by the secretary (Miss Hilda Snowden). Meetings had been held at Coggeshall, Stisted, Belchamp St. Paul's, and Bocking, with an average attendance of 31. The Yeldham meeting had to be postponed owing to the outbreak of war. Nine new ringing members had been elected. Twenty-six peals had been rung. The number was not so high as in other years, owing to the difficulty which had arisen from September, but the standard was a great deal higher than ever before. The analysis showed that the peals included three of Spliced Minor in 30, 32 and 34 methods, one each of Netherseale and Bourne Surprise Minor, one of Annable's London Minor, and seven more in other Minor methods; two of Spliced London, Bristol, Cambridge and Superlative Surprise Major, four London Surprise Major, two of Bristol, one of Superlative, two of Cambridge and two of Bob Major. The conductors were R. Bird (9), L. W. Wiffen (8), C. W. Woolley (3), J. Jennings and R. Suckling (2 each), J. Elliott and J. H. Crampion (one each). It was gratifying to note that the Spliced Surprise Major was rung entirely by members of this division, under the conductorship of Mr. L. W. Wiffen. It was also encouraging to note that several young ringers rang their first peal.

For the election of officers Mr. L. W. Wiffen took the chair. Mr. F. Ridgwell expressed a wish that someone else should be elected to the Mastership. It was, he said, an office that should go round, and he proposed that Mr. H. W. Smith be elected Master for the ensuing year.—This was seconded by Mr. F. Claydon and carried.

Mr. L. W. Wiffen, on behalf of the members, thanked Mr. Ridgwell for his past services.

Miss Hilda Snowden was re-elected hon. secretary on the proposition of R. Suckling, seconded by C. Burton.

Three new ringing members were elected.

A discussion followed as to what should be done in the division during the war, and all were in favour of the proposition that practices be held at available towers every second Saturday in the month, the secretary making the necessary inquiries and arrangements.

The possibility of future meetings was left to the secretary, when information was forthcoming regarding towers that were available.

The Master proposed a vote of thanks to the Dean, and Mrs. Rogers and her willing helpers for the tea. He also welcomed the Sub-Dean's presence.—The Dean briefly replied.

Several members then made use of the handbells.

ST. LEONARD'S, SHOREDITCH.

(Continued from previous page.)

been organised and George Partrick had assumed control, they became one of the most prolific peal-ringing bands in the metropolis.

But, though the Cumberlands looked on St. Leonard's as especially their tower, and practised there regularly, they never enjoyed a monopoly of the bells. The belfry was always open for peal ringing to any band who could get the right side of the steeplekeeper and, presumably, pay the recognised steeplage fee. It was not due to any generosity or tolerance on the part of the Cumberlands, for, as we had evidence in the account of the opening of Horsleydown bells, the relations between rival bands were normally anything but friendly. It seems that there were some towers where the local authorities did not mind how much ringing there was, and raised no objection if the bells were rung on two or three nights in every week.

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 MONDAY.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Leatherhead District.—A meeting will be held at Leatherhead on Saturday, November 25th, when there is nearly a full moon to counteract the black-out. Ringing from 3 until 5. Tea and business meeting at the Duke's Head, with further ringing until 9 o'clock. Owing to caterer's difficulties, please send numbers for tea to Mr. A. Dean, 24, Church Walk, Leatherhead, as early as possible. Everybody welcome.—A. H. Smith, Hon. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION (Southern District) and THE SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—A joint practice meeting will be held at Ranmoor, Sheffield, on Saturday, November 25th. Bells (10) available from 2.30 p.m. until 'black-out.' Short business meeting will be held in the Church Hall immediately afterwards, to be followed by handbells, and also instructional advice on theory and advanced methods by Mr. George Lewis. All welcome. No tea provided, but refreshment obtainable close by. There will be a full moon on this date, therefore no transport difficulties anticipated. Rally up.—Sidney F. Palmer and Maurice E. Wilson, Hon. Secs.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Christchurch District.—The annual meeting will be held at Christchurch on Saturday, November 25th. Bells (12) available from 2 p.m. Tea at 4.30 p.m. at King's Arms Hotel, P.R.H.A.—G. Preston, 42, Waterloo Place, Christchurch.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Next meeting will be held at East Crompton on Saturday, November 25th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Method to learn, London Scholars'. For tea, please notify Mr. John Butterworth, 3, Society Street, Shaw. Business meeting to follow at 6.30 p.m.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—The annual district meeting will be held at St. Albans on Saturday, November 25th. The cathedral bells (12) open 4 to 5 p.m. St. Peter's bells (10) open 2.30 and after tea. Service at St. Peter's 5.15. Tea at McMeekan's Restaurant 5.45 p.m. Business meeting (further meetings, election of officers, secretary's report, etc.) and handbell ringing. All towers in the district should be represented. All ringers and friends welcome.—Harold V. Frost, Dis. Sec., 4, Kimberley Road, St. Albans.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newport Pagnell Deanery.—A meeting will be held at Lavendon on Saturday, November 25th, from 2 to 7 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Learners and beginners invited. Tea, 1s. each, by notice on arrival.—J. F. Amies, Hon. Sec.

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MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—General quarterly meeting, Loughborough, Saturday, November 25th. Bell foundry bells (10) open all afternoon. Committee meet 4 p.m. General meeting in ringing room 5 p.m. Owing to difficulty of transport, etc., members are asked to cater for themselves. Tea can be got at local cafe.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Padiham on Saturday, November 25th. Bells available 3 p.m. until black-out. Meeting after business; important. Members and non-members cordially invited.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — The Luton District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Dunstable on Saturday, November 25th. The eight bells will be available from 3 till 8 p.m. Tea at 5.30 p.m. All ringers invited.—E. A. Belson, Dis. Sec., 7, Queen Street, Leighton Buzzard.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—A branch meeting will be held at Hyde on Saturday, November 25th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. Please note change of tower, and also, in view of present circumstances, kindly advise Mr. T. Wilde, 23, York Road, Gee Cross, Hyde, the number requiring tea.—C. K. Lewis, Hon. Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. Augustine's, Kilburn, on Saturday, November 25th. Bells available 2 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., followed by tea. Business and handbell ringing afterwards.—T. J. Lock, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch, Gainsborough District.—A meeting will be held at Upton on Saturday, November 25th. Bells (5) available from 1.30 to 4.15 p.m. Short service. A whist drive will be held in the Village Hall during the evening.—Geo. L. A. Lunn, Hon. Sec., 248, Lea Road, Gainsborough.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next practice has been arranged at Cookham (6 bells) on Saturday, November 25th, 3 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Stay to tea and go home by moonlight. Handbells as well, if possible.—S. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough. Slough 23260.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Oxford City Branch.—The annual general meeting will be held at Wolvercote to-morrow, Saturday, November 25th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service at 4, followed by tea and business meeting. All welcome.—E. J. Morton, 11, Water Eaton Road, Oxford.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District — There will be a practice at Little Waltham on Saturday, November 25th, at 2.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec.

NEWPORT, MON.—St. Woolos' Cathedral.—The augmented ring of twelve will be dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Monmouth during 11 a.m. service on Sunday, November 26th. The two new trebles added and Nos. 3, 4 and 5 recast by Gillett and Johnston.

ST. WOOLOS' CATHEDRAL, NEWPORT, MON.—The 10 bells, now augmented to 12 in memory of the late Dr. Egerton Williams, will be dedicated on Sunday morning, November 26th, by the Lord Bishop of Monmouth. The following Saturday, December 2nd, the bells will be available for ringing until black-out time. Visitors please notify Mr. C. Greedy, 68, Morden Road.

CANNINGTON, NEAR BRIDGWATER, SOMERSET.—The ring of six bells rehung by John Taylor and Co. will be re-dedicated by the Bishop of Bath and Wells at 2.30 p.m. on Tuesday, November 28th.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—The 'black out' will not interfere with the next meeting, to be held at Newhall on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells (6) available from 2.30 to 7.30. Tea and meeting in Church Room at 4.45. Appreciation of the efforts made to ring after tea should be shown in attendance. All are welcome.—J. W. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—The annual meeting of the division will be held at Leytonstone on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells available from 2 p.m. till dusk. Business meeting to follow. Will everyone please make an effort to attend this meeting, when it will be discussed what course should be adopted with regard to practice meetings?—J. H. Crampion, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Cedar Avenue, Chadwell Heath, Essex.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A general meeting will be held at Norwich on Saturday, December 2nd. The bells of St. Michael at Coslany available from 2-4. Tea in St. Miles' Mission Hall at 4.15. Business meeting to discuss plan of campaign and incidental problems at 4.45, followed by social evening, including the showing of a film in colour by the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow, taken by him on his recent holiday in Norway and Spitzbergen, and the use of handbells. It is most important that I know by Tuesday, November 28th, if you are coming.—Nolan Golden, Gen. Sec. and Treas., Winton, 26, Brabazon Road, Norwich.

DEVON GUILD.—Exeter Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. David's Institute, Haldon Road, Exeter, on Saturday, December 2nd. Tea at 5 o'clock, preceded by a short service at 4.45. Will those requiring tea please notify me by November 25th? St. Sidwell's, St. Thomas' and St. David's bells available from 2 to 5 p.m.—W. H. Howe, Hon. Sec., 8, Courtenay Road, Exeter.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Cuthbert's Church, Lytham, on Saturday, December 2nd. Ringing from 3 p.m. Business meeting 5 p.m. A good attendance requested.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—A meeting will be held at Hersham on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. More ringing after business meeting. Nominations for district officers for 1940 at this meeting. All ringers welcomed. Names for tea to Mr. W. Simmonds, 33, Burwood Close, Hersham, not later than Wednesday, November 29th.—F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Dis. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—A practice will be held at St. Paul's, Wokingham, on Saturday, December 2nd, from 2.15 p.m. until dark. All welcome, but please come early.—W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec., Merrel, California, Wokingham.

LADIES' GUILD.—South Midland District.—The next meeting will be held at Rothwell (8 bells) on Saturday, December 2nd, from 2 p.m. till black-out. Please send names for tea by Monday, November 27th, to F. E. Hart, Hon. Sec., Weston-by-Welland, Market Harborough, Leics.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Western Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Kempsey on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Tea 4.15 p.m., with business meeting to follow. Please notify numbers for tea by Tuesday, November 28th, without fail.—E. F. Cubberley, Hon. Sec., Park Cottages, Kempsey, near Worcester.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Ambrose's Church on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells open 2 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Please advise for tea.—R. C. Gifford, Hon. Sec., Gifford House, Frampton Cotterell, near Bristol.

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD.—Southern District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Morriston on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells (6) available 2 p.m. until black-out. Service and tea, with meeting to follow. Numbers for tea by November 28th certain.—E. Stitch, Hon. Dis. Sec., 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glam.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Stoke-on-Trent on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Will those requiring tea kindly notify Mr. S. Churton, 1, Birks Street, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, not later than Wednesday. All ringers welcome.—Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Come along to Coleman's Hatch on Saturday, December 2nd, and help keep the East Grinstead flag flying. Bells available 2.30-8.30 p.m. Mr. R. D. Divall has made arrangements for tea, so play the game, chaps, and send him a postcard before November 30th, at Kewins, Hartfield.—C. A. Bassett, Asst. Sec.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—A meeting will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Bradford-on-Avon, on Saturday, December 2nd. Ringing from 3 p.m. It is essential that those requiring tea should inform me not later than Thursday, November 30th.—W. C. West, Hon. Sec., 584, Semington Road, Melksham. Phone, 297.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Mistley on December 2nd. Bells available from 2 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea and meeting at Thorne Hotel 5.30. Will all those intending to be there please notify me by Saturday next?—J. R. Sparling.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—A meeting will be held at Dalton-in-Furness (10 bells) on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells available from 2 till 4.30 p.m. Meeting afterwards. A good attendance is requested.—N. M. Newby, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Deane, during the afternoon of Saturday, December 2nd.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

LYDFORD, DEVON.—The ring of six bells rehung by John Taylor and Co. will be re-opened at 3 p.m. on Sunday, December 3rd.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — Northern Division.—A practice will be held at Braintree on Saturday, December 9th, commencing 2.30 p.m. sharp.—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Dis. Sec.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Wollaston on Saturday, December 9th. Buses from Stourbridge Town pass the church. Ringing from 3 to 4 p.m. Service and meeting after. Ringing 5.15 to 6.15 p.m. Election of officers, so please try and get there.—J. Lloyd, Ringing Master.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Weedon (six bells), on Saturday, December 9th. Kindly notify me for tea.—W. C. Moore, 5, William's Terrace, Daventry, Northants.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—A meeting will be held at St. John's, Redhill, on Saturday, December 9th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5.15 p.m. at the Parochial Hall, Brighton Road, followed by a business meeting and ringing again from 7 to 9 p.m. Numbers for tea to be sent to Mr. A. Gear, Sandyway, The Cutting, Redhill, by Wednesday, December 6th. All ringers welcome.—H. Hancock, Hon. Sec., Hillview, Eastbourne Road, Godstone.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Leyland, St. James', on Saturday, December 9th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Will those requiring tea please notify Mr. J. T. Millar, Oak House, Midge Hall, not later than Wednesday, December 6th?—Fred Rigby, Hon. Branch Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—The address of Mr. Charles McGuiness is now 124, Carholme Road, Lincoln. Telephone, Lincoln 8451.

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REVIVAL OF MEETINGS.

The revival of activity among ringers all over the country is very emphatically evidenced by the large number of meetings advertised in our last issue. Nearly forty such gatherings were announced. It is gratifying that the associations are getting back, as nearly as conditions permit, to a normal procedure, and now that they have had time to take stock of the position, we hope they will find it possible to carry on with the good work. One doubtful point, at any rate, has been settled, and the position of church bellringing has been made absolutely clear by the Ministry of Home Security. There is no need for further hesitation among either clergy or association officials in providing opportunities for meetings. We can only repeat that for the maintenance of the art, and with it service to the Church, as well as providing a contribution to the upkeep of the public morale—for the cessation of all but war activities would quickly have a depressing effect—there is every justification for keeping the bells of the churches ringing for normal purposes. And in this connection meetings and practices have their part. The question of peal ringing may come in a slightly different category, but there are occasions when even peals may be rung without any affront to public sentiment.

The 'black out' is the most serious handicap to ringing at the moment. The lighting restrictions must be complied with, and there are many belfries where the making of effective provision under the regulations is almost out of the question, on account of the size of the belfry windows. The towers with only small window openings, which in ordinary times are often looked upon with disfavour, have come into their own, as it were, for they can now be effectively blacked out, whereas the well-lighted towers are debarred from use after nightfall. Nevertheless ringers are overcoming the difficulties by holding their practices on Saturday afternoons, as we suggested immediately after war began. There is, however, one point in connection with these Saturday afternoon practices that should be borne in mind. They should not be allowed to clash with association official meetings. Local practices ought always to give way for the larger gatherings of this kind, not only because they are more important, but also because the ringers owe a loyalty to the associations, which demands co-operation in making the meetings a success. In normal times, Saturday meetings do not clash with practices, which ordinarily take place on other evenings of the week, but now that the black-out has put an end to ringing after nightfall in so many places, Saturday afternoons are the

(Continued on page 714.)

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only alternative. There seems, however, to be some evidence that these Saturday practices are interfering with the attendance at the association meetings that are now being arranged, and at Kilburn, on Saturday, the question formed the subject of a resolution at a gathering of the Middlesex Association. After all, meetings are in themselves a practice and, indeed, usually provide a more advanced practice than can be got at the average tower by a local band. There is need in these days for every encouragement to be given to ringers to support the efforts of the associations, and it is hardly fair to those responsible for arranging the meetings that there should be rival claims, as it were, in the same locality. There should be a full measure of co-operation in this matter, and we feel sure that ringers have only to give the matter a moment's serious thought to see which way their duty lies.

SIX BELL PEALS.

POULTON-LE-FYLDE, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

*ALBERT ADCOCK	*Treble*	JOHN H. FOSTER	4
RUFUS COWELL	2	CHARLES SHARPLES	5
JOHN HANBY	3	BERNARD H. HALL	*Tenor*

Conducted by C. SHARPLES.

* First peal. Rung to celebrate the wedding of Miss Mary Ramsden and Mr. Thomas Swarbrick. First peal of Doubles in the Fylde.

DUBLIN.
THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.
(ST. GEORGE'S SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, November 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

*WILLIAM MCGREGOR ...	*Treble*	GABRIEL LINDOFF	4
*DAVID MCGREGOR	2	FRED E. DUKES	5
*MISS ADA C. DUKES	3	*MATTHEW DOOLAN ...	*Tenor*

Conducted by FRED E. DUKES.

* First peal. First peal by all in the method. First peal as conductor.

HANDBELL PEALS.

HEADINGLEY, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT 27, ANCASTER ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MISS L. KATHLEEN BOWLING	1-2	WILLIAM BARTON	5-6
JOHN AMBLER	3-4	*CANON C. C. MARSHALL ...	7-8

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON.

* First peal on handbells.

WEST GRINSTEAD, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
AND THE EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Wednesday, November 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes

AT 92, BUTCHER'S ROW,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 20 in F.

*FREDERICK ROBERTS	1-2	EDGAR RAPLEY	3-4
		CECIL LONGHURST	5-6

Conducted by EDGAR RAPLEY.

* First peal 'in hand.' A 21st birthday compliment to Dennis Brock, of Sunbury-on-Thames, who is now in the Royal Artillery.

PUDSEY, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, November 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Six Minutes,
AT 9, PEMBROKE ROAD,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

PERCY J. JOHNSON	1-2	WILLIAM BARTON...	5-6
*MISS L. KATHLEEN BOWLING	3-4	JOHN AMBLER	7-8

Composed by YORKE GREEN. Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON.
* First peal on an 'inside' pair.

WALTON, LIVERPOOL.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, November 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes
AT 56, CHEPSTOW STREET,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor size 18 in G.

SELWYN H. DEARDEN	1-2	WILLIAM H. DEACON	3-4
THOMAS S. HORRIDGE	5-6		

Conducted by W. H. DEACON.
Witness—L. J. Horridge.
First peal 'in hand' by all.

BUSHEY, HERTS.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Friday, November 24, 1939, in Two Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE ROYAL MASONIC JUNIOR SCHOOL,
A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor size 15 in C.

*EDWIN H. LEWIS	1-2	EDWIN A. BARNETT	5-6
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	3-4	EDWIN JENNINGS	7-8

Composed by J. REEVES. Conducted by E. H. LEWIS.
* First peal of Little Bob Major 'in hand.'

DEATH OF A GARSTON RINGER.

The Church of St. Michael, Garston, Liverpool, has sustained a great loss through the death of Robert Kelly.

Mr. Kelly for 36 years was a regular service ringer and a devoted churchman. He had been a member of the Lancashire Association for the 36 years of his ringing career. He was held in high esteem by his fellow-ringers, who deeply mourn his death.

The funeral service was attended by a large gathering of deceased's fellow-workmen, and the Vicar of Garston (the Rev. J. M. Swift) spoke in high terms of Mr. Kelly's loyalty and zeal when at work and of his value as a Sunday service ringer.

The bells were rung half-muffled before and after the service by his fellow-ringers and ringing friends from the churches of Woolton and Liverpool St. Nicholas.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

CHATTERIS, CAMBS.—At the Parish Church on Sunday, November 26th, for evensong, 720 Double Court Minor: P. A. Smith 1, S. Murphy 2, W. Young 3, A. J. Abrams 4, W. Seekings 5, F. Warrington (conductor) 6.

CHELSEA.—For afternoon service at St. Luke's Church on Sunday, November 26th, 1,278 Grandsire Caters: T. H. Taffender 1, F. Howson 2, L. Brown (first quarter-peal 'inside') 3, C. W. Ottley 4, F. Skevington 5, A. F. Udall 6, C. Nicholls 7, S. J. Hart (first quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters) 8, G. W. Debenham (conductor) 9, C. Bartlett 10.

HASTINGS.—At All Saints' Church on Sunday, November 26th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples (1,260 changes) in 49 minutes: W. White 1, W. Bradfield 2, A. Funnell 3, A. Levett (conductor) 4, S. Driver 5, G. Piper 6, W. Jainer 7, W. Levett 8.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.—At SS. James and Basil on Sunday, November 26th, for evensong, a 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor: J. Hedley 1, M. Anderson 2, A. Brown 3, J. Roach 4, T. W. Crowe 5, K. Arthur 6, R. Crosby 8. Specially arranged as a compliment to Nancy, daughter of Mr. M. Anderson, on the occasion of her marriage, which took place on the previous day.

COLCHESTER.—At St. Peter's Church on Sunday, November 19th, on the occasion of the state visit of the Mayor and Town Council, 992 Oxford Treble Bob Major: Mrs. G. Burch 1, H. T. Pye 2, G. Rashbrook 3, F. L. Bumpstead 4, R. Cadamy 5, C.Q.M.S. R. W. Pye (Essex Regt.) 6, W. Chalk 7, E. P. Duffield (conductor) 8.

OVER, CAMBS.—At the Church of St. Mary on November 9th for evensong, 448 Cambridge Surprise Major: E. J. Parish 1, G. E. Crisp 2, R. Smith 3, A. W. T. Ginn 4, C. Robinson 5, D. Adams 6, F. Warrington (conductor) 7, R. Thoday 8.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CANON COLERIDGE'S ADVICE.

The joy and confidence which bellringing gives to the public during war time was referred to at the annual meeting of the Newbury Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, held at St. Nicholas' Parish Room, Newbury, on Saturday, November 18th. This was coupled with appeals to ringers to carry on as usual during the troublous times ahead.

'We have got to put our hands to the rope and keep going until every tower resounds o'er hill and dale the message of peace,' said Canon G. F. Coleridge. 'We are up against plenty of difficulties, but nevertheless the Guild is still full of life.' He congratulated the Newbury Branch on their pluck and determination in arranging the meeting and on having such a good attendance under the circumstances.

The Rev. W. Kingsley Kefford (chairman) said there was nothing like a peal of bells to give cheer and encouragement to the people. On every Sunday, and weekdays as well if possible, they wanted to hear church bells ringing from every tower. If ringing ceased, Sunday services would be like a garden without flowers.

Mr. R. T. Hibbert (general secretary) appealed to those present not to allow either the Guild, the Newbury Branch or the towers to slip back. They should remember that Sunday service ringing should be the greatest pleasure of a ringer's life.

DEATH OF MR. 'TED' HADLOW.

STEEPLEKEEPER AT GRAVESEND PARISH CHURCH.

The death occurred suddenly on November 20th of Mr. Edward Hadlow, of St. Thomas' Almshouses, Wrotham Road, Gravesend. He was 80 years of age.

Mr. Hadlow was one of the best known men in the district. He was one of the oldest bellringers in Kent and had been in church choirs nearly all his life.

He had been steeplekeeper at St. George's for many years. One of the bells there is inscribed with his name, for, when the bells were restored 17 years ago, Mr. Hadlow personally collected about £550 for the restoration fund.

At a very early age he assisted his father, who was sexton at Harrietsham Church for 50 years.

Some years ago he took part in a peal in which all the ringers were named Edward. On his birthday each year special peals were rung in his honour at St. George's.

He had had a varied career. He was employed at several windmills, including Lenham Heath, Lenham Town, Headcorn black mill and Headcorn white mill.

He was in the Canterbury Borough Police Force and Kent County Constabulary. He had also been a foreman in a fruit stores, engine cleaner, ship's steward, book-keeper and, prior to his retirement, a dock labourer.

He came to Gravesend about 46 years ago. He lived in Spencer Street for some 20 years and on his retirement six years ago moved to St. Thomas' Almshouses.

He was a member of St. George's Parochial Church Council, a member of the Kent County Association, and a member of the Gravesend Philharmonic Society.

In addition to the widow, five sons and a daughter are bereaved. One, Leslie, was recently promoted inspector in the Kent Constabulary and is at Ashford.

The funeral took place on Thursday. A service at St. George's Parish Church preceded the interment in Gravesend Cemetery. The Rector and Rural Dean (Canon H. T. Southgate) officiated. The choir were present.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

The first monthly meeting of the society under war-time arrangements was held at Birstall on Saturday last. Instead of the full moon which was expected, heavy rain and boisterous wind were prevalent during the day. Ringing began at 3 p.m. and continued until soon after 7 p.m., except for a short break for tea, which was held at the Church Sale of Work that is always held on the last Saturday in November.

Members were present from Armley, Batley, Bradford, Drighlington, Headingley (St. Chad's), Leeds Parish Church, Liversedge and the local company, also Gunner Dennis T. Brock, of Sunbury-on-Thames, now stationed somewhere in Yorkshire.

No business meeting was held.

A CHURCH FESTIVAL.

On Saturday, November 4th, for the dedication festival at Fulmer, Bucks, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: Miss D. R. Fletcher (Beaconsfield) 1, E. Harding 2, G. H. Gutteridge (conductor) 3, Miss E. Clarke (Chalfont St. Peter) 4, W. S. Childs (Denham) 5, H. C. Wingrove (Beaconsfield) 6. Also 240 Oxford Treble Bob and 240 Grandsire Triples, in which Miss F. M. Gutteridge and Miss Gudgin took part. Fulmer Church was dedicated by the Bishop of Lincoln on November 4th, 1610.

The Fulmer ringers tender their best thanks to their friends for coming to help them on this occasion.

WITH PENCIL AND PAPER.

MORE ABOUT METHOD CONSTRUCTION.

The best music, from the point of view of the listener, whether he be a ringer or one of the general public, is produced by those methods, in the plain course of which the natural Coursing Order of the bells is not altered, except by the varying position of the treble.

The reason is that a regular beat of the bells is sustained which, with good striking, gives that impression of musical rhythm which forms the main charm of change ringing for the listener.

This is usually described as 'keeping the tenors together,' but a good deal of nonsense has been talked about keeping the tenors together. People have argued that because in London Surprise Major the number of changes in which the seventh and the eighth are not parted by more than one or two bells greatly exceed those in which they are so parted, therefore the method produces excellent music. We have heard that said at Central Council meetings, and by eminent people, but not, we believe, by anyone who had rung much of the method, or had any very keen ear for striking or the finer points of bell music.

Now, the only operations which do maintain the Coursing Order unbroken, except for the varying position of the treble, are those which we have described under the names of the Extreme and Court Shunts. Therefore, when we are studying method construction, the first thing we must do is to see what are the methods which these Shunts produce.

Perhaps, to avoid misunderstanding, we ought to say that there is one other Shunt which comes very near giving the same effect as these do, but that cannot be dealt with now.

If you have written out all the possible leads on eight bells, each with one of these Shunts in a different position, you will find that you have got two possible Extremes, A and B, and two possible R. Court Shunts with the treble going from front to back.

If we work out the combinations of these we shall have all the methods on the plan which are now considered 'regular.'

For it is a condition required of methods that they should be 'symmetrical,' which, for our present purposes, means that if an R. Court Shunt is made in 3-4, when the treble is hunting up, another must also be made in 3-4, when the treble is hunting down, and if an R. Court Shunt is made in 5-6, when the treble is hunting up, another must be made in 5-6, when the treble is hunting down. So that we can work out our methods by pricking the first half-lead, and the rest follows automatically.

Now take pencil and paper and work out the methods.

With Extremes alone, we have three—Plain Bob, Reverse Bob, and Double Bob.

With R. Court Shunts alone we have also three—places in 3-4, places in 5-6, and places in both 3-4 and 5-6.

To each of the methods produced by the R. Court Shunts we can add one of the three combinations of Extremes, which will give us nine more methods, or fifteen in all.

From a musical point of view these fifteen are the very pick of Major methods. Some of them (Double Norwich, for instance, which has the two R. Court Shunts), are well enough known, and are popular, but all of them deserve a greater amount of attention and practice than they have as yet received.

There remain the P. Court Shunts. These, as we said, keep the natural Coursing Order, but have the defect that, when used by themselves, they cause bells to lead or lie for four consecutive blows.

We can, however, remove this defect if we use the P. Court Shunt in 4-5 between two R. Court Shunts, as shown in the annexed half-lead.

That will give us a method which is quite distinct from the others and far more difficult to ring.

12345678
21436587
24135678
42315768
24351786
23457168
32547618
23456781

Every one of the Extremes and Court Shunts, by itself, will produce the lead-end 3527486, which is the first lead-end of Bob Major. Two of them in a lead will produce a lead-end which is the second lead-end of Bob Major. Three will produce the third lead-end. And so on. You can always tell lead-ends of these methods from the number of Shunts they contain.

In the method just given (which is Double Coslany Court) there are six Shunts. If we add an Extreme (either A or B), we shall have seven. That means that the treble will have completed its cyclical path through the Coursing Order of the working bells, and the bells will run round at the first lead-end. But if we add both Extremes, we shall have a method (Double Mancroft), in which the first lead-end is the same as the first lead-end of Plain Bob.

On ten and twelve bells, combinations of Extremes and Court Shunts will give a large range of most excellent methods. Some of them are very difficult indeed to ring, but all of them, from the point of view of the outside listener, are much superior to the Surprise methods which, up to now, have attracted the attention of ten and twelve-bell ringers.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT KILBURN.

The North and East District meeting at St. Augustine's, Kilburn, on Saturday, November 25th, was attended by upwards of 25 ringers, and the bells were rung in rounds and a variety of methods until 5 p.m. Prayers and a short address were followed by tea, after which the company sat around a nice coal fire to attend to business. It was the general opinion of those present that, while local towers showed enthusiasm by holding Saturday afternoon meetings when the usual week-day evening practice was not possible, support should be given to the district meetings by cancelling, if necessary, the local practice.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, if available, on Saturday, January 6th, 1940, which would be followed by the annual district meeting at St. Giles'-in-the-Fields on Saturday, January 27th.

After the business handbells were brought into good use and were the concluding item of an enjoyable gathering.

NORTH STAFFS ASSOCIATION.

On October 21st a general practice was held at Longton (eight bells), at which the attendance was fairly good and the following towers were represented: Leek, Stoke, Burslem, Hanley, Draycott, Cheadle and Longton. The following methods were rung: Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob Major, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major, Stedman Triples and Double Norwich.

A welcome visitor was a ringer from London, who at present is staying in the district and has been giving a helping hand at the Stoke tower on Sundays. The ringers in the district are doing their best to carry on with the art.

At all the towers ringing is as usual on Sundays. Some of the members have joined the Forces, but those who are left are struggling on and pushing the young ringers forward.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

HINCKLEY DISTRICT.

Members and friends of the Hinckley District met at Croft on November 18th. They came from Broughton Astley, Burbage, Croft, Earl Shilton, Hinckley, Peckleton, Sharnford, Thurlaston and Keresley (Coventry).

Good use was made of the light six bells until dusk, by which time Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob Minor, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court and Cambridge Surprise Minor had been rung.

The service having been cancelled, the bells were lowered in peal, and the company, 24 in number, partook of an excellent tea, arranged by the local ladies, in the nearby schoolroom.

At the short business meeting, presided over by the district chairman, it was announced that the next meeting would be at Hinckley on December 9th, and arrangements for tea and the use of a room for the evening were in hand. Although tower ringing would of necessity be of short duration, there would be ample opportunity for handbell ringing and for the enjoyment of that 'get together' spirit for which the Hinckley District is noted.

Mr. C. H. Webb asked the meeting to stand for a few moments in token of sympathy with Mrs. Bailess and family in their very recent bereavement. Mr. Webb said he had known the late Mr. Bailess for many years, and although he had not been a ringer, his sons were. One was the local captain. Mrs. Bailess had expressed the wish that the meeting and tea should be carried on as usual.

Ringers were invited to attend the Earl Shilton practice nights on Wednesdays from 7.30 to 8.30, the tower having been successfully blacked out for the purpose.

Thanks to the local ladies and to Mr. J. Bailess for their excellent tea arrangements concluded the meeting.

Continuous rain by this time had set in, so the company passed the time handbell ringing until a suitable room over the way had been specially blacked out. The company then moved over and spent a most enjoyable time. Handbells were in continual use, several having their first attempt 'inside.' Others, more expert, showed how it should be done.

DUBLIN REMEMBRANCE SERVICE

A quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung at St. George's Parish Church, Dublin, before remembrance (evening) service on Sunday, November 12th. The following (all members of St. George's Society) took part: W. McGregor 1, D. McGregor 2, Miss A. Dukes 3, G. G. Lindoff (conductor) 4, G. Lindoff 5, A. Worrell 6, W. Hall 7, M. Doolan 8. Rung on the front five with 7.6.8 covering.

A NOTTINGHAMSHIRE RESTORATION.

DEATH-WATCH BEETLE AT LANGAR, NOTTS.

The Church of St. Andrew, at Langar, Notts, which has been called 'the Cathedral of the Vale of Belvoir,' suffered the ravages of the death-watch beetle in the belfry about three years ago.

Originally there were four bells. The first bell was dated 1611, the second 1636, the third 1601, and the fourth 1611. These were recast in 1859 and, through the magnificent effort of the late Rev. Thomas Butler, the then Rector, father of the famous Samuel Butler, a fifth bell was added. The tenor weighs 12¾ cwt.

The mischief caused by the death-watch beetle has been repaired by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, to the complete satisfaction of all, especially the ringers, who attended the dedication of the work on Sunday afternoon, November 19th.

The service was conducted by the Rev. A. Chaplin, Rector of Cotgrave and Rural Dean of Bingham. The bells are rung on the ground floor, the tower being in the centre of the church, and, during the singing of the hymn which followed the address, the crowded congregation saw the bells raised in peal by Ralph Hardy 1, Leslie Holland 2, Ralph Narborough 3, Harold Parfrement 4, Walter Nichols 5, all members of St. Mary's, Nottingham. When the hymn finished the bells were rung for a few moments in rounds. After the service several 120's of Grandsire Doubles were brought round, conducted by Messrs. Nichols and Parfrement, to the delight of the inhabitants who had not heard their bells for many years. Several other ringers then took part in ringing, amongst those present being Mr. W. White, of Cotgrave, the hon. treasurer of the Midland Counties Association.

Afterwards the Rector kindly entertained the ringers to tea at the Rectory and thanked Mr. Narborough for all his efforts in helping to see their restoration successfully carried out. He told the ringers that he would now commence to raise funds to add a treble to make a peal of six.

WAR-TIME RINGING ARRANGEMENTS.

Hatfield, 10.15 a.m., fourth Sunday 9.50 a.m.

Brierley Hill, 10.15 to 11 a.m. only. Owing to the fact that a listening post has been placed not far from the church, other ringing has been stopped by the police.

Ewell, Surrey, 9.30 to 10 a.m. and 2.30 to 3 p.m. Practice, Tuesdays, 7 p.m.

Chatteris, Cambs, 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Over, Cambs, 5.20 p.m. Practice, Mondays, 7.30 p.m.

Colchester, St. Peter's, 10 a.m.

John Taylor & Co.

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BELL ROPES, MUFFLES, &c.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The war-time derangement of the postal services and the necessity of getting the copies of 'The Ringing World' into the hands of the publishers earlier on Thursday make it absolutely essential that all contributions to our columns, and particularly all notices, should be in our hands by MONDAY in each week. We cannot guarantee the insertion in the following issue of anything received later.

We hope that secretaries will send us prompt reports of their meetings, and we shall welcome any items of news relating to ringers and ringing, but they must reach us early.

BELFRY GOSSIP.

Several handbell peals have been rung this week, and congratulations will be extended to the band at Walton, Liverpool, all of whom scored their first 'in hand.'

This peal of seven 720's of Kent Treble Bob Minor is the result of eight weeks' patient practice. When they first met they tried all the methods they knew and made no progress until 'they came to their senses,' as our correspondent puts it, and rang nothing but Kent. Then they achieved the success recorded elsewhere.

We congratulate Canon Marshall on his first handbell peal rung last Saturday. This was the first time, we believe, that a president of the Yorkshire Association has rung a peal in hand.

On November 28th, 1774, the Society of All Saints' Youths, of Worcester, rang 7,326 changes of Grandsire Caters. As the bells came round the tenor clapper fell out. On the same date in 1829 the Cumberlands rang the first peal on the bells at St. James', Bermondsey. The method was Oxford Treble Bob Royal, and the bobs were called by the younger George Gross.

William Doubleday Crofts, of Nottingham, died on November 29th, 1909.

To-day is the anniversary of one of the earliest peals. At Greenwich 'the Society of Kentish Youths Rung on Fryday ye 1st of Decemr, 1732, A Peal of 5040 Grandsire Tripples in the Eighth Month of their Practice.' The record in the belfry, which for many years was hidden, has recently been uncovered. On December 4th, 1803, the Kensington band, with Edward Bartell from Spitalfields, rang the first peal of Stedman Triples which we know to have been true. On December 6th, 1731, the Norwich men rang the second five thousand ever accomplished in the method. The composition is lost, but, short of a miracle, cannot have been true.

By calling the peal of Doubles at Poulton-le-Fylde last Saturday, Mr. Charles Sharples has now rung a peal of Grandsire on all numbers from Doubles to Cinques. The peal of Cinques was that rung in Melbourne, Australia, on November 11th, 1934.

The other five thousand of Grandsire Doubles reported in our peal column was rung to celebrate the election of the Rector, the Rev. E. H. F. Campbell, to a prebend in St. Patrick's Cathedral. It was also a birthday compliment to Mr. Gabriel Lindoff. Miss Ada Dukes, who rang the third, is the first resident Irishwoman to ring a peal.

Next Tuesday is the birthday of Mr. J. W. Jones, the popular secretary of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association. We offer him our congratulations.

Next Wednesday is the seventieth anniversary of a peal of Grandsire Triples rung at Southover, Lewes, Sussex, on December 6th, 1869. The band was made up of six Lewes and two Brighton ringers, and the father and grandfather of the Editor of 'The Ringing World' took part. Had it not been for the war a commemorative peal would have been attempted.

A BAGLEY BELL FRAME.

STILL SOUND AFTER 250 YEARS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I notice in 'The Ringing World' of a few weeks ago an article about Henry Bagley.

A few months ago I put in many hours cleaning and creosoting the timbers of our bell chamber at Willesbourne, in Warwickshire. These timbers were put in by Henry Bagley when the ring of six was put in in 1681. There have been no alterations to the timbers of the cage, but the third and fourth bells had new wheels and stocks fitted about 30 years ago. The timbers are still perfectly sound and the ring still pealable, although some of the bearings need replacing and tightening.

J. FARRINGTON.

Elstree.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

COMMITTEE AND SERVING MEMBERS.

The committee of the Kent County Association met at Maidstone on Saturday last and unanimously agreed that all members who had joined His Majesty's Forces, and those who may join during the progress of the war, should be retained in membership of the association without payment for the duration of the war. When tower secretaries send in their names and subscriptions for 1940, will they please include all serving members and mark accordingly.

The committee wished all serving members 'God-speed' and a safe return to the towers they had left.

It was also decided (D.V.), war or no war, to hold the annual general meeting on Easter Monday next at Maidstone.

REV. F. J. O. HELMORE MEMORIAL.

It has been decided to institute a memorial to the memory of the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, who for 38 years was hon. secretary of the Kent County Association. The Benevolent Fund of the association was initiated during his term of office, and the memorial will take the following form:—

'That a fund be inaugurated to be known as "The Helmore Memorial Fund" and the whole amount raised by subscription be invested with the Ecclesiastical Commissioners and the interest accruing therefrom be paid into the Benevolent Fund of the association, and that amount, together with any further sum necessary, be paid annually from that fund and to be known as the "Helmore Grant" to an old deserving member of the association, whose name shall have been on the books for at least 25 consecutive years, the recipient to be determined by the Benevolent Committee.'



THE LATE REV. F. J. O. HELMORE.

It is felt that many would like to be associated with this memorial and the committee at their meeting agreed to open a fund and any subscriptions will be gladly received. All cheques and postal orders should be made payable to the 'Helmore Memorial Fund' and crossed 'Lloyds Bank, Gravesend,' and forwarded to Mr. F. M. Mitchell, 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend, who will gratefully acknowledge the receipt.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

MEETING AT LEATHERHEAD.

No fewer than 17 towers were represented at the meeting of the Leatherhead District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild at Leatherhead on Saturday, and in spite of the very mixed bands, the ringing on the whole was good and covered a wide range, including rounds and several Surprise Major and two Surprise Royal methods. So it will be gathered that it was a meeting of enthusiasts in all stages.

Owing to the church not being blacked out, there was no service, but the Vicar (the Rev. G. H. B. Coleridge), with his usual enthusiasm for ringers, came and presided at tea and the business meeting, which took place in the club room of the Duke's Head.

The retiring district officers were all renominated, despite a plea by Mr. A. Harman that someone should take his place as Ringing Master.

The Vicar said he was sorry that circumstances made a service impracticable, but he welcomed the ringers to Leatherhead, especially as he noticed many who were strangers to him, and he hoped it might be possible to hold a service at the next meeting in February.

Ringing was resumed until 9 o'clock.

SIXTY YEARS A RINGER.

It is 60 years since Mr. Samuel Quintin started his ringing career, and on Saturday, November 25th, a quarter-peal was rung at St. Mary's Church, Thatcham, by members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild to celebrate the occasion and also as a birthday compliment to this 'youth': A. Smith 1, Miss Joan Matthews 2, T. J. Fisher 3, S. Quintin 4, C. Pearce 5, R. Rex 6, H. W. Curtis (conductor) 7, A. H. Brown 8.

ANCIENT CUSTOMS.

EARLY RINGING PRACTICES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—War work and illness have combined to hinder a reply to Mr. Trollope's letter sooner.

In order to show that I am 'very little acquainted' with the matter of ringing in 1539, he quotes documents dated 1620, 1630 and 1636; about a century too late! Even then the quotations do not mention changes 'Rung in compass,' or 'more compass,' might to-day imply change ringing, or they might not. At the dates mentioned the question is more doubtful still. However, if Mr. Trollope wants to suggest that they were ringing changes at Halesworth in 1539 I do not wish to contradict him.

I quite agree with him about call changes. In fact, I 'dragged them in,' as he puts it, for this purpose.

As for foreign bells not being in tune, all those which I have heard out of England have been in tune, which is more than I can say for those in England. Once, for a year, I lived near a well-tuned octave (in a Roman Catholic Cathedral), but it was never rung in rounds, always 'jangled.' This disposes completely of Mr. Trollope's argument that bells must have been rung in rounds, because they were cast in scale. Indeed, it is so unlikely that one cannot believe it. All other instruments are tuned in scale, why should bells be any different? Rounds are not often played on other instruments (and then only as exercises), why should they be rung on bells? The answer, of course, is that rounds are one row in changes. Until changes were rung, no one would think of ringing rounds. They would be too objectionable!

If Mr. Trollope had remembered the whole of Ophelia's lament when she believes Hamlet to be mad, he would hardly have quoted just four words. Here is more of what she says on Hamlet's exit:—

O, what a noble mind is here o'erthrown!
. . . . I . . . .
Now see that noble and most sovereign reason,
Like sweet bells jangled, out of tune and harsh;
That unmatched form and feature of blown youth,
Blasted with ecstasy.

Mr. Trollope says that Shakespeare uses the word 'jangled' 'in exactly the same sense as any one of us would use it now.' Well, I used the word a few lines back. I think that anyone who has read so far will have understood quite well what I meant, and moreover would have used it himself, had he wanted to express the same meaning. Yet I certainly did not use it in the sense that Shakespeare uses it, nor would any of your readers. The bells I heard were neither out of tune nor harsh; nor would anyone hearing them jangled, as I did, have thought the sound the least bit like madness. In case anyone may object that these were modern bells, I may point out that we have in the five-bell tower of St. Lawrence, Ipswich, a ring of bells which ring now exactly as they did in Shakespeare's time; nay even in the year 1539, of which we are speaking, and perhaps years before that. I have heard these well-tuned and sweet bells jangled by beginners, and I have heard them well struck by skilled ringers, but there was, in either case, nothing that would make me think of one deranged; nor would any way of manipulating them have done so.

Now supposing a number of very fine instruments were gathered together, and they were played at once without any tuning, either of the instruments themselves or with one another, would not that make one think of madness? It might, however, be objected that a crowd of madmen would be conjured up. Suppose, then, that one sounds a few bells, taken at random, in tune neither with themselves nor with one another, would not the result be harsh and just like the crude and disconnected musing of a madman? Is not this what was in Shakespeare's mind, when he wrote of sweet bells jangled? Instruments that might be so sweet, if only their harshness and lack of tune were put into proper order.

I have now shown two things. First that the word 'jangled' took on a new meaning (which it could not have had before) on the introduction of change ringing. All the ringers would now mean by the word, that bells are not 'well struck,' but clashing, and with ill-arranged intervals, and so on. So much will meet with general agreement.

As a corollary to this, I would suggest that before change ringing was introduced, bells were always jangled, as we now put it, and never rung in rounds or call changes. This is more disputable; and Mr. Trollope takes the other view from mine.

The second thing that I have shown is that Shakespeare used the word 'jangled' in its pre-change ringing meaning. This he must have done, as he was not accustomed to listen to changes being well struck or even struck at all. If, however, Mr. Trollope can prove that Shakespeare did hear change ringing, no one would be better pleased than I. But I fear he cannot do so from the words he has quoted.

It is a great comfort that Mr. Trollope, at any rate, knows exactly what was in the mind of Bishop Grandison and Martin Bucer. But when he speaks of 'particular circumstances' he is agreeing with me. All I object to is anyone saying that drinking connected with ringing *always* took place in the belfry. Usually there were (and often still are) places outside the church where ringers met. And at several places where I have seen ringers' jugs they could not have been taken up the stairs if they were full.

HERBERT DRAKE.

Ufford Rectory.

CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

FAMOUS RECORDS AT ST. LEONARD'S, SHOREDITCH.

By J. Armiger Trollope.

The first peal by the Society of Cumberland Youths was rung at Shoreditch on November 19th, 1749. The method was Bob Major, and the conductor was George Partrick. Three days later the same band (except for one man) rang a peal of Double Bob.

For about ten years Partrick continued to be the leader of the society and chief conductor; then he quarrelled with his friends and went over to the ancient Society of College Youths, with whom he rang a few peals. He was soon back again with the Cumberlands, however, and for the rest of his life was an honoured member of the company, but the conducting for the most part fell into the hands of younger men.

While Partrick was leader, the society rang at St. Leonard's one or two peals of special interest.

On March 28th, 1750, they scored a peal of New Bob Triples, the first and, I believe, the only one in the method ever rung.

New Bob Triples is the seven-bell extension of New Bob Doubles, which, notwithstanding its name, is one of the oldest of methods. It was in existence before Richard Duckworth wrote the 'Tintinnalogia,' and both on five and seven bells is worthy of practice to-day.

On October 12th, 1754, Partrick called 'Mr. John Holt's celebrated peal of Grandsire Tripples with a single at the half-way.' This is usually supposed to be the first performance of the ten-part, and the peal book seems to claim it as such. But in the previous May and June, William Underwood had called peals of Grandsire Triples at Romford and St. George's-in-the-East for the Eastern Scholars. The second one was said to be with two singles, and it is difficult to suppose what other composition it can have been than the ten-part.

The peal had been composed before 1753, perhaps a little earlier, for it is written out in the mutilated manuscript which once belonged to the College Youths and is now in the British Museum. We rather wonder why Holt did not call it himself, as he did the earlier Original. His last peal (which he conducted) was one of Grandsire Caters at St. Sepulchre's on the last day of 1752.

The Cumberlands had a habit of calling by their own name any variation of the standard methods that they rang. Other people did not adopt the names, and so, to-day, we are often at a loss to know what actually was rung. Among the performances at St. Leonard's were Cumberland Bob in 1753, Cumberland Grand New Double in 1755, and Cumberland Fancy in 1761. They also rang Cumberland Pleasure at Whitechapel, Cumberland Eight-in at St. George's-in-the-East, and Cumberland Treble Bob Maximus at Southwark. The last two, it is pretty certain, were the first peals ever rung of Grandsire Major, and Kent Treble Twelve.

When the bells at St. Leonard's were made into a ring of ten, it was the College Youths who rang the first peal on them, not the Cumberlands. The latter were having a lean time, owing, no doubt, to one of the quarrels which were so frequent in these old companies. From April, 1764, until October, 1766, they did not score a single five thousand.

The College Youths' peal was 5,112 changes of Grandsire Caters, rung on September 29th, 1765, and conducted by William Underwood. A little more than a couple of months later the same society rang 5,202 changes of Double Grandsire Caters.

On October 19th, 1766, the College Youths, with George Meakins as conductor, rang the first peal of Royal in the steeple. It was 6,000 changes of Oxford Treble Bob, and began the series of long lengths on the bells which still forms, perhaps, the most interesting ringing contest in the history of the art.

In the previous year, James Barham and his band at Leeds in Kent had rung 6,000 changes in the method, but the London men knew nothing of that, or, if they had heard of it, they thought little of the other men's ringing.

Three months after Meakins' peal it was beaten by the London Youths, who rang 6,200 changes. The peal was composed and conducted by Christopher Wells, who was the first man to discover that Treble Bob Major may be true at the lead-ends and yet have repetition in the interior of the leads. Nevertheless, the peal of Royal that he called was a false one.

So, too, was one of 7,080 changes rung three months later by the Cumberlands with John Reeves as conductor, but whether it was false in the composition or the ringing we do not know. The band was a first-class one. It included Charles Purser, George Gross, John Povey, Francis and Samuel Wood, and Samuel Muggeridge at the tenor.

Muggeridge was, perhaps, the best tenor man of the day; Purser, Gross, Reeves, Povey and Samuel Wood were among the leading conductors of the century; and John Reeves was one of the cleverest composers the Exercise has ever produced.

What happened we do not know, but it looks as if there was a violent quarrel, and the performance was not entered in the peal book. Reeves left the society and, though he came back again for a short time after a few years, it is clear that there was bad feeling between him and George Gross, which lasted for the rest of their lives. After this the contest died down for a while, but it broke out again in 1777 with redoubled force.

The Cumberlands started on January 20th with 6,240 changes, which they claimed as 'the first true 6,000 and the most ever rung.' George Gross was now the society's conductor, and the tenor was again rung by Samuel Muggeridge.

On February 18th, the College Youths, perhaps with the idea of settling the contest once and for all, rang ten thousand changes in 7 hours and 28 minutes. Charles Purser who, in the meanwhile, had left the Cumberlands, called the bobs from the fourth; John Povey, who had also gone over, rang the fifth, and the tenor was rung by Muggeridge's son, who was also named Samuel.

This performance set the Cumberlands a hard nut to crack, but they did not intend to be beaten. Their doubt seems to have been concerning their tenor man. The elder Muggeridge probably did not consider himself young enough to attempt a ten thousand on a 30 cwt. bell, otherwise we should have had the interesting spectacle of the tenor men of the two competing societies being father and son.

The Cumberlands had, therefore, to find a new tenor man, and they solved the difficulty by putting Samuel Wood and Robert Mann, who had rung the eighth and ninth to the 6,240, on to the ninth and tenor.

But, before starting for the record length, as practice

they rang 5,080 changes on March 12th and 8,120 on April 5th.

On May 10th they rang 10,200 changes, and so gained the record, but they held it for nine days only, for the band of College Youths that had scored the ten thousand, 'insatiated with glory,' as they described themselves, rang 11,080 changes, and so grasped the palm of victory, which remained in their hands for seven years. A month earlier, at Southwark, they had also gained the twelve-bell record.

The Cumberlands' long peals at Shoreditch were composed by George Gross, the College Youths' by Charles Purser. We know something, but not much, about Gross as a composer; we know nothing about Purser. All the peals of Treble Bob by both men are lost, and the best we can say is that Gross' may have been true, and that Purser's may not have been false.

The climax of the long peal contest came in 1784. On March 10th, the College Youths, by ringing 7,008 changes at Southwark, regained the twelve-bell record which in 1778 had gone to Norwich; and on March 27th, by ringing 12,000 changes, at Shoreditch, the Cumberlands finally gained the ten-bell record.

George Gross called the peal, as he did the other long lengths. The composition was by John Reeves, but on the board and in the peal book it was claimed as the production of Gross. Here we may see one of the causes of the ill-feeling between the two.

Only three of the band who rang the 10,200 in 1777 took part in the 12,000. The new tenor man was Allen Grant.

No long peal in the history of change ringing has captured the imagination of the Exercise quite as much as this one did. A century later, Jasper Snowdon could still refer to it as a performance which was not likely to be approached, let alone exceeded in his time.

When, late at night, on March 27th, the Cumberlands walked through a cheering lane of people from Shoreditch tower to the White Hart, the society stood at the supreme moment of its history, and its leader had staked out a claim to be the foremost ringer of his generation. Three months later a violent quarrel had split the company, Gross had broken with his friends, had left them and started a new society.

BEDFORD TOWER'S LOSS.

DEATH OF TWO MEMBERS.

The Bedfordshire Association has lately had to mourn the loss of two of its members, both from the St. Paul's, Bedford, company. Mr. Herbert Sharp, better known as 'Jack' to ringers in Beds and Northants, passed away on September 24th at the age of 68. He had been in failing health for some time, but in spite of acute deafness kept on his ringing till his last illness. He learnt to ring at Clapham and then went to live for some years in Northamptonshire, where he developed into a very fine heavy bell ringer. Later, returning to Bedford, he was one of the foremost ringers of the day. His many peals included the first of Cambridge Surprise Major and of seven Surprise Minor methods for the Bedfordshire Association.

Mr. Edgar Tingey died on November 12th after a painful illness lasting ten weeks. He was 58 years of age. He started to ring at an early age and rang a number of peals up and down the country. He was secretary to the St. Paul's company and his quiet influence in the tower will be much missed.

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 MONDAY.

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

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

ST. WOOLOS' CATHEDRAL, NEWPORT, MON.—The 10 bells, now augmented to 12 in memory of the late Dr. Egerton Williams, and dedicated on Sunday morning, November 26th, by the Lord Bishop of Monmouth, will be available for ringing until black-out time on Saturday, December 2nd. Visitors please notify Mr. C. Greedy, 68, Morden Road.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—The 'black out' will not interfere with the next meeting, to be held at Newhall on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells (6) available from 2.30 to 7.30. Tea and meeting in Church Room at 4.45. Appreciation of the efforts made to ring after tea should be shown in attendance. All are welcome.—J. W. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Western Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Kempsey on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Tea 4.15 p.m., with business meeting to follow.—E. F. Cubberley, Hon. Sec., Park Cottages, Kempsey, near Worcester.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Ambrose's Church on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells open 2 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow.—R. C. Gifford, Hon. Sec., Gifford House, Frampton Cotterell, near Bristol.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Cuthbert's Church, Lytham, on Saturday, December 2nd. Ringing from 3 p.m. Business meeting 5 p.m. A good attendance requested.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Come along to Coleman's Hatch on Saturday, December 2nd, and help keep the East Grinstead flag flying. Bells available 2.30-8.30 p.m.—C. A. Bassett, Asst. Sec.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—A meeting will be held at Hersham on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. More ringing after business meeting. Nominations for district officers for 1940 at this meeting. All ringers welcomed.—F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Dis. Sec.

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OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—A practice will be held at St. Paul's, Wokingham, on Saturday, December 2nd, from 2.15 p.m. until dark. All welcome, but please come early.—W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec., Merrel, California, Wokingham.

LADIES' GUILD.—South Midland District.—The next meeting will be held at Rothwell (8 bells) on Saturday, December 2nd, from 2 p.m. till black-out.—F. E. Hart, Hon. Sec., Weston-by-Welland, Market Harborough, Leics.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—The annual meeting of the division will be held at Leytonstone on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells available from 2 p.m. till dusk. Business meeting to follow. Will everyone please make an effort to attend this meeting, when it will be discussed what course should be adopted with regard to practice meetings?—J. H. Crampion, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Cedar Avenue, Chadwell Heath, Essex.

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD.—Southern District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Morriston on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells (6) available 2 p.m. until black-out. Service and tea, with meeting to follow.—E. Stitch, Hon. Dis. Sec., 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glam.

DEVON GUILD.—Exeter Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. David's Institute, Haldon Road, Exeter, on Saturday, December 2nd. Tea at 5 o'clock, preceded by a short service at 4.45. St. Sidwell's, St. Thomas' and St. David's bells available from 2 to 5 p.m. —W. H. Howe, Hon. Sec., 8, Courtenay Road, Exeter.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A general meeting will be held at Norwich on Saturday, December 2nd. The bells of St. Michael at Coslany available from 2-4. Tea in St. Miles' Mission Hall at 4.15. Business meeting to discuss plan of campaign and incidental problems at 4.45, followed by social evening, including the showing of a film in colour by the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow, taken by him on his recent holiday in Norway and Spitzbergen, and the use of handbells. — Nolan Golden, Gen. Sec. and Treas., Winton, 26, Brabazon Road, Norwich.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch. —A meeting will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Bradford-on-Avon, on Saturday, December 2nd. Ringing from 3 p.m.—W. C. West, Hon. Sec., 584, Semington Road, Melksham. Phone, 297.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Mistley on December 2nd. Bells available from 2 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea and meeting at Thorne Hotel 5.30.—J. R. Sparling.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—A meeting will be held at Dalton-in-Furness (10 bells) on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells available from 2 till 4.30 p.m. Meeting afterwards. A good attendance is requested.—N. M. Newby, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Deane, during the afternoon of Saturday, December 2nd.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Arlesey on Saturday, December 2nd. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Ringing during afternoon and evening. Please don't expect tea. All ringers welcome. Please come.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—Practices will be held at Galleywood on December 2nd and Springfield on December 9th, both at 2 p.m. All ringers welcomed.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LYDFORD, DEVON.—The ring of six bells rehung by John Taylor and Co. will be re-opened at 3 p.m. on Sunday, December 3rd.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—The next meeting of the society will be held at the Coffee Pot on Tuesday, December 5th, at 7 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

LYNDHURST, HANTS.—The ring of six bells tuned and rehung in new framework by John Taylor and Co., will be rededicated by the Bishop of Winchester at 2.45 p.m. on Wednesday next, December 6th.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Wollaston on Saturday, December 9th. Buses from Stourbridge Town pass the church. Ringing from 3 to 4 p.m. Service and meeting after. Ringing 5.15 to 6.15 p.m. Election of officers, so please try and get there.—J. Lloyd, Ringing Master.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Weedon (six bells), on Saturday, December 9th. Kindly notify me for tea.—W. C. Moore, 5, William's Terrace, Daventry, Northants.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—A meeting will be held at St. John's, Redhill, on Saturday, December 9th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5.15 p.m. at the Parochial Hall, Brighton Road, followed by a business meeting and ringing again from 7 to 9 p.m. Numbers for tea to be sent to Mr. A. Gear, Sandyway, The Cutting, Redhill, by Wednesday, December 6th. All ringers welcome.—H. Hancock, Hon. Sec., Hillview, Eastbourne Road, Godstone.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Leyland, St. James', on Saturday, December 9th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Will those requiring tea please notify Mr. J. T. Millar, Oak House, Midge Hall, not later than Wednesday, December 6th?—Fred Rigby, Hon. Branch Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—A meeting at York Town on Saturday, December 9th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting in Church Room 5.15 p.m. Nominations for officers for 1940 to be made at this meeting. Please notify for tea by December 6th.—C. W. Denyer, Hon. Sec., 120, Ash Road, Aldershot.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Dorset Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Marnhull on Saturday, December 9th. Bells ready at 2.30. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting 4.30. It is essential that those intending to be present at tea send word by Tuesday, 5th, to the Hon. Sec., Rev. W. Uphill, Stour Provost Rectory, Gillingham, Dorset.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch, Newport Pagnell Deanery.—A meeting will be held at Stoke Goldington, on Saturday, December 9th, from 2 to 8 p.m. Service 3.30. Learners and beginners invited.—Rev. J. F. Amies, Ravenstone Vicarage, Olney, Bucks.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Central Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Cuddington on Saturday, December 9th. Bells (6) available 2.15 to 4.30 p.m. Service, tea and meeting to follow.—F. Gibbard, Hon. Sec., 30, Horn Street, Winslow.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The fourth and last war-time meeting for 1939 will be held at Hinckley on Saturday, December 9th. Bells from 2 p.m. until dusk. Names for tea to Mr. B. Ridgway, 61, Priesthills Road, Hinckley, early. A room is being reserved for the evening. Come early, all are welcome, especially friends from Warwickshire.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Long Ashton on Saturday, December 9th. Bells available from 2 o'clock. Service at 4 o'clock. Tea at 4.30 p.m., with business meeting to follow.—Percy G. Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—Annual branch meeting at Christ Church, Swindon, on Saturday, December 9th. Bells (10) available 2.30 to 4.30. Tea and meeting. Please advise for tea if possible.—W. B. Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Swindon, Wilts.

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at St. Philip's, Bristol, on Saturday, December 9th. Bells available from 2.30. Service 4 o'clock. Tea and meeting to follow. Will those requiring tea please send a postcard?—N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Weston, Bath.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The usual December monthly meeting, which should have been at Garston on Saturday, December 9th, cannot be held this year owing to war-time difficulties. Leaders of towers will be notified in due course, when and where the next meeting will be held.—G. R. Newton, Branch Sec.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Long Buckby (5 bells) on December 16th. Names for tea by Tuesday previous, please.—H. H. Shrives, Hon. Branch Sec., The Mill, Long Buckby, Rugby.

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Watford District.—The annual meeting of the district will be held on Saturday, December 16th, at St. Mary's, Watford. Full particulars next week.

CROWAN, CAMBORNE, CORNWALL.—The two new bells will be dedicated by the Bishop of Truro at 2.30 on Saturday afternoon, December 16th. Peal augmented to a ring of eight by John Taylor and Co.

CHANGES OF ADDRESS.

Mr. A. T. Greenwood, of Portsmouth, has removed to 15, Fir Tree Avenue, Walkerville, Newcastle-on-Tyne, 6. The secretarial duties of the Portsmouth District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild are now being carried on by Mr. F. W. Rogers.

Mr. Wilfred Williams has removed to 63, Kennington Oval, London, S.E.11.

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RINGING FOR A NEW MAYOR.

On Thursday, November 9th, the bells of Tynemouth Parish Church were rung to touches of Stedman, Grandsire and Kent Treble Bob to celebrate the election of Alderman N. T. Smith as Mayor; and again on the Sunday morning, when the newly-elected Mayor with the Corporation attended divine service.

MISCELLANEOUS.

BRAINTREE. — At St. Michael's on Sunday, November 12th, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major: W. Hammond 1, A. Wiffen 2, B. Redgwell 3, G. Lindridge 4, H. Felton 5, S. Warne 6, L. Wiffen 7, R. Martin 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. C. Howard, late Master of the Essex Association.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.—On Sunday, November 5th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1,293 changes): Keith Welsby 1, Arthur James 2, Charles J. Ridyard 3, Frank Barrowclough 4, Robert Allred 5, Benjamin Budd 6, Fred Grundy 7, Percy H. Derbyshire 8, Joseph H. Ridyard (conductor) 9, Robert Jones 10.

HALESOWEN.—On Sunday, November 5th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: E. Woodall 1, A. H. Harris 2, W. Brown 3, H. Shilvock 4, L. Clissett 5, T. Greenhall 6, J. H. Cox (conductor) 7, N. Saunders 8. Rung for the 60th birthday of Mr. W. H. Well, Ringing Master.

WREXHAM.—At the Parish Church on Sunday, October 15th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: A. Lea, sen. 1, A. Clutton 2, W. Jones 3, F. Evans (conductor) 4, A. Lea, jun. 5, T. Cathrall 6, J. Capper 7, F. Mitchell 8.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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RAISE THE STANDARD OF STRIKING.

War's effects upon ringing are felt in many ways. Some of the restrictions compelled by the emergency are being slowly overcome, but the difficulties of man power are likely to increase rather than diminish. National service, in one form or another, is taking men from the belfry, and many bands are already sadly depleted. There is, however, every reason why those who are left should increase their efforts to fill the gaps by enlisting recruits, and it is possible that, when nearly everyone is anxious to do something to help, not only in the national cause, but also in social and other services, it may be easier now to get fresh people interested than it is in normal times, when counter pleasures of less useful character claim more attention. But however badly a band may be hit by the call for men in other and more important spheres, there is never reason for giving up the attempt to improve the standard of ringing by practising to raise the level of striking.

The loss of ringers from a belfry may hold up progress in method ringing, but there need be no slackening of effort to improve what is even more important than the ability to ring a method, and that is the skill to strike a bell properly. There is some truth in the allegation that striking is often sacrificed to method ringing, and ringers are all too frequently encouraged to take up advanced method ringing before they are able to put a bell accurately in its place in rounds. The fallacious argument is used that if a man learns to ring a method, the striking will come with practice. But very frequently it doesn't. The ringer has to put into ringing the method what he ought to be putting into his striking, and the result is that many a good method ringer continues throughout his career to be an indifferent striker. Not enough attention is paid to the importance of good striking. Bad striking may be due to a variety of causes, but to none, we believe, more than to too much impatience to push the young ringer into change ringing before he is adequately equipped. Incompetent instruction, inefficient handling, inability to use ears as well as eyes, are all causes of poor ringing, but the erroneous idea of pushing beginners as quickly as possible into change ringing is responsible for more bad striking than perhaps anything else.

The remedy is to devote more time to putting a polish on the beginner as a striker, and leaving method ringing to take care of itself for the time being, instead of pushing the scientific side to the detriment of the manual. In days gone by it was often complained that beginners were left to sit on the belfry form, while their elders had their

(Continued on page 726.)

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change-ringing practice. It may be that in some such cases the beginners' enthusiasm waned, but where it was strong enough to survive a better ringer was almost certainly the result. What practice he got was all put into his striking and, in the long run, he was made a better ringer, as a striker, than many of the beginners who to-day are either pushed on too fast or who, eager to catch up with the rest, endeavour to run before they can walk.

These thoughts lead to the suggestion that, now that method ringing is necessarily limited in many towers, more attention should be paid to cultivating good striking. And if this is a step to be encouraged at local practices, it is certainly equally essential at meetings and combined practices. The desire to provide opportunities for method advancement should not be allowed to override the importance of good striking for, after all, good striking is the essence of church bellringing. Bad striking can be an intolerable nuisance to the public, as well as an irritation to good ringers, but it takes only one indifferent hand in a company to spoil the efforts of all the rest. Ringers are often over-sensitive to the correction of faults in their striking, and it needs a good deal of tact, sometimes, to tell a man of his failing without giving offence. It is in this matter that the true leader proves himself, but the risk of offending a bad ringer's susceptibilities is no reason why in touch or peal his persistent faults should not be pointed out; and the practice that is provided at meetings ought always to have as its aim the general improvement of striking as well as the advance of method ringing. A touch of Grandsire well struck is better than a course of London badly rung and, we believe, far more enjoyable to the man who is a really good ringer in any method. If nothing else can be done during these restrictive days, there is no reason why, wherever ringing is possible, some definite effort should not be made to raise the standard of striking.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ST. ALBANS DISTRICT.

In spite of the disadvantage of prevailing conditions, a successful meeting was held at St. Albans on Saturday, November 25th, when about 30 ringers had a pull on the bells at the Cathedral and St. Peter's Church, and afterwards at St. Peter's attended a ringers' service where a course on handbells was rung as a concluding voluntary.

Tea arrangements proved to be very satisfactory, to the relief of the district secretary (Mr. H. V. Frost).

At the business meeting the president of the association (Mr. A. Day) welcomed the members, and eight ringing members and nine probationers were elected.

It was decided to hold the next meeting again in St. Albans, on the second Saturday in February, when the General Committee would be meeting.

The secretary's report and financial statement were adopted. The secretary was re-elected, with Mr. A. Day as assistant secretary to take over the duties if necessary.

Mr. H. J. Hazell was elected to serve on the committee in place of Mr. G. E. Debenham, who was unable to stand for re-election.

A vote of thanks to all concerned was voiced by Mr. A. Lawrence, and ringing on handbells and the bells of St. Peter's concluded an enjoyable meeting.

RAMPTON NEW BELLS.

AN INVITATION FROM THE RECTOR.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I should be glad to supply tea and biscuits or buns at the Rectory at 4 o'clock for any visiting teams, to whom the bells would be available (subject to local police regulations if any) on any weekday or on Saturday. Bells available from 2 o'clock onwards. We are not blacked out, and there is plenty of moonlight. However, as we are Fen country and near East Anglia, we don't ring after dark except Angelus at 6.

THOMAS L. HAVERS, Rector.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

EAST HAGBOURNE, BERKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, November 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 20 cwt.

*ROBERT BLOND ... ...*Treble*		BERTRAM BROWN... 5	
*KEITH WHITE 2		WILLIAM LAMBELL 6	
WALTER WEBB 3		ALFRED WEBB 7	
*HARRY BISHOP 4		WILLIAM GOODENOUGH ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by ALFRED WEBB.

* First peal of Stedman. First peal in the method ever rung by a band comprising all Hagbourne ringers.

MILNROW, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION
(ROCHDALE BRANCH.)
On Saturday, December 2, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF KENT AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;

WORCESTER ARRANGEMENT. Tenor 18⅝ cwt.

*ALLAN WITHNELL ... ...*Treble*		†JOHN H. C. MASSEY 5	
*JOHN MEADOWCROFT, JUN. 2		*SELWYN H. DEARDEN ... 6	
*HARRY BYROM 3		†HAROLD HAMER... 7	
†STEPHEN LL. PARRY 4		*IVAN KAY ... ...*Tenor*	

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by H. HAMER.

* First peal of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major. † First peal in the Worcester Arrangement. First peal in the method as conductor. First peal on the bells without bobs.

PULFORD, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, December 2, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 26 lb.

GEORGE SPERRING ... ...*Treble*		JAMES SWINDLEY 5	
HARRY LEWIS 2		JOHN W. GRIFFITHS 7	
ROBERT SPERRING 3		HARRY PYE 6	
FRED HARTMAN 4		PERCY SWINDLEY ... ...*Tenor*	

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by PERCY SWINDLEY.

Rung as a welcome to the new Bishop of Chester, the Right Rev. Douglas Henry Crick.

SIX BELL PEAL.

LOUGHBOROUGH.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, December 2, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 6½ cwt.

REGINALD M. HILL ... ...*Treble*		C. RAYMOND HILL 4	
SIDNEY HARRISON 2		GEO. STEDMAN MORRIS ... 5	
ERNEST MORRIS 3		JOHN H. HILL ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

Witness: Mr. Josiah Morris, who sat in the belfry throughout.
The conductor's 800th peal.

HANDBELL PEAL.

LEICESTER.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, November 30, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes
AT THE FIFTEENTH CENTURY PARVIS OF ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S VARIATION. Tenor size 15 in C.

WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... 1-2		ERNEST MORRIS 5-6	
*EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD ... 3-4		JAMES GEORGE 7-8	

Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

* 50th peal of Stedman Triples. Specially arranged to mark the 86th birthday of Mr. James George, which occurred on Nov. 27th. The above was his 1,280th peal.

'SWEET BELLS JANGLED.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It is, I fear, rather characteristic of Mr. Drake to read into another man's writings something which is not there, and on it to try and build up a far-fetched argument.

For instance, Shakespeare did not make Ophelia talk about bells being badly tuned. Her lament was to 'see that noble and most sovereign reason' (Hamlet's) 'out of tune and harsh.' The simile—'like sweet bells jangled'—is a parenthetical addition in the true Shakespearian manner, to extend and fortify the idea.

That, at least, is what most editors have thought is the correct reading of the passage; but no one knows what, exactly, Shakespeare wrote. The first folio (1623) has 'jangled out of tune,' 'tune' being used in the common sense of 'melody.' The second quarto (1604), which is the earliest book giving the play substantially as it is printed to-day, has 'jangled out of time.' In both these the allusion is definitely to badly struck bells.

Jangle is a very old English word, which, for many hundred years, has been used in connection with bells, and did not (as Mr. Drake asserts) take on a new meaning with the introduction of change ringing. As early as 1494 a writer speaks of the 'changelyng of bells'; and another in 1581 said that 'the Belles from the Turretis make a wonderful janglyng.'

I did not suggest that they were ringing changes at Halesworth in 1539. I did not say that foreign bells are not in tune. (I said I believed that none of them are tuned to the musical scale unless they are in carillons.) I did not say that Shakespeare heard change ringing (Hamlet was first printed in 1603 and Plain Bob Doubles was not rung until about 1640). I did not say that I knew 'exactly what was in the minds of Bishop Grandison and Martin Bucer,' and I did not say that 'drinking connected with ringing *always* took place in the belfry.'

The statement I made, more than once, which Mr. Drake has flatly contradicted, is that from the fifteenth century onwards English bells were cast and tuned to a musical scale, and rung in orderly rounds. And from this round ringing change ringing was developed in the early years of the seventeenth century.

For this statement there is ample evidence; and even were there no direct evidence, it is difficult to see how a thing like change ringing could be developed out of such ringing as there is on the Continent and with such bells as are in the churches there.

In Shakespeare's time ringing was a very popular sport in England, and especially in London. The style of ringing then practised survived unaltered in places down to living memory, and the men who about the year 1600 witnessed the first performance of Hamlet knew what 'sweet bells jangled' meant just as much as did the Cornish folk of 50 years ago.

J. A. TROLLOPE.

P.S.—Mr. Drake says that 'until changes were rung no one would think of ringing rounds. They would be too objectionable!' John Milton evidently did not think so, as witness the lines from 'L'Allegro':—

'When the merry bells ring round
And the jocund rebecks sound.'

Milton had perhaps as good an ear for music as Mr. Drake. His brother was a ringer and a member of the Society of College Youths, and I should like to think that he himself had a nodding acquaintance with the art in his young days at Queen's College, Cambridge, where there were some who practised it in its elementary stages.

BRISTOL CITY MEETINGS.

FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS.

Despite the fact that the weather conditions were anything but encouraging, nearly forty ringers attended the annual meeting of the Bristol City Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association at St. Peter's on November 18th. Soon after three o'clock the eight bells were in full swing, and although the methods were not outstanding, there was varied practice from 'rounds and Queen's' to an unsuccessful attempt at Cambridge Major.

A short service was very kindly conducted by the Rev. S. Loveday, and tea followed in the Parish Hall. Visitors from Cirencester, Bath and other districts attended, in spite of the curtailed bus services, but unfortunately several were compelled to leave early rather than face a long and dreary walk home.

Mr. P. C. Williams (treasurer of the association) took the chair for the election of officers.

Mr. D. G. Clift succeeded Mr. H. Burt as chairman for the ensuing year (the latter having completed four years in office). It was decided to elect a vice-chairman, and Mr. T. Harris was appointed.

After the secretary and the representative on the Management Committee had been re-elected, future meetings were discussed.

It was decided to visit St. Michael's for the December monthly meeting, followed by St. Stephen's and St. Thomas' for the January and February meetings respectively.

Under 'any other business,' it was agreed to leave in abeyance the question of paying the subscriptions of those who had been called upon for military service until the next quarterly meeting.

To conclude the day, several ringers remained for a handbell practice, which passed away the rest of an enjoyable afternoon.

WITH PENCIL AND PAPER.

SYMMETRY IN METHODS.

We have seen that by means of Extremes and R. Court Shunts fifteen Major methods are produced. These are the first fifteen given in the Central Council Collection of Plain Major Methods, and the whole group is a valuable one, not only because it is one of the main bases on which hundreds of other methods are founded, but also because the methods themselves are eminently suitable for ringing in the belfry.

It is quite likely that some of our readers may think that all this talk about ' shunts ' and how methods are constructed, although perhaps interesting enough to ' experts,' is of no use to practical ringers. If so, they make a mistake.

In his admirable articles on handbell ringing, Mr. Woolley showed us how you can simplify the ringing of two handbells to the more complex methods if you take note of the position of the places and the accompanying dodging. We shall not, we hope, be thought to be trespassing on his ground if we point out that the task can be still more simplified if you know the effect the place-making has on the Coursing Order of the bells, or, in other words, how the method is constructed. And in tower bellringing the knowledge is not less useful.

But before we go on to consider some points in practical ringing we must notice two methods, both of them old ones, which are not included among the fifteen, although they are constructed by similar means.

The first is the one which Shipway gives in his book on Double Court Bob Major.

Double Court Minor is one of the very best of the six-bell methods. It was practised from early times, and it was natural enough that men should try and extend it to eight bells.

But when they did so, opinions differed as to what is the correct Major extension, and more than one method was practised and called Court Bob Major. Two of them became popular and were rung to peals. The Norwich men rang 5,040 changes of Court Bob Major at St. Michael's Coslany in 1742, and the College Youths rang 5,040 changes of Court Bob Major at St. Lawrence Jewry in 1735. The names were the same, but the methods were quite different, so in the course of time, to distinguish them, men called one Norwich Court and the other London Court.

When Shipway wrote his book, he, as he tells us, gave the matter the most careful examination and, rejecting both as correct extensions, introduced a third which he called Double Court Bob Major.

This is how he produced it. The bell which the treble turns from the lead, makes the Court Places in 3-4 up, and follows the treble up behind. 21436587
At the half-lead end, the bells are in natural Coursing Order with the treble between the 3rd and 5th. 24135678
42316587
24361857

The bell which the treble turns from behind makes the Court Places in 5-6 down, and follows the treble down to the lead.

As in the lead there are two R. Court Shunts, one in each half, the lead-end is the same as that of the second lead of Bob Major, viz., 5738264. 86745213
68475123
86741532
87614523

By this means Shipway produced a true double method in which the bells work from the back in the same manner as they do from the front, one which he believed reproduced the characteristic work of Double Court Minor, and one which, since the Coursing Order of the bells is not broken, will give excellent music.

He thought that he had produced something entirely new, but, as it happened, a very similar method had already been rung.

In the accounts of London Church Bells, which have recently appeared in our columns, reference was made to peals of Eastern Bob Major, Eastern Bob Royal, and Double Eastern Bob Major rung at Shoreditch, St. Sepulchre's, and Westminster in 1747, 1750 and 1752, by the Eastern Scholars.

In Eastern Bob Major and Royal the bell which is coursing in front of the treble makes the Court Places in 3-4 up. No places are made when the treble is hunting down, but at the lead-end the Extreme Shunt is made.

In Double Eastern Bob Major, the same places are made, and in addition the Extreme Shunt is made when the treble is behind, and the bell coursing in front of the treble makes the Court Places in 5-6 down.

A century later, Henry Hubbard rediscovered this method and printed it in his ' Campanalogia ' under the names of Yorkshire Court Major and Double Yorkshire Court.

Here again you have a method which produces excellent music. Nevertheless neither it nor Shipway's Double Court is to-day considered a ' regular ' method. Why?

The Eastern Scholars thought a lot of their method, when they had rung it, and declared that it was ' unparalleled for music,' but when they showed it to Benjamin Annable he laughed at it, and said it was ' lop-sided.' To-day we say the same thing, only we use a Greek word instead of old Ben's Anglo-Saxon, and call it ' unsymmetrical.'

But why should an unsymmetrical method not be rung? This is a question which is hard to answer. Thirty years ago the matter was hotly debated, and one school of experts, led by C. D. P. Davies, poured scorn on the whole thing. What's wrong with a method like Union Triples? they asked, and nobody, so far as we know, could give a really satisfactory answer. Nevertheless, the Exercise has tacitly settled the question, and to-day only symmetrical methods are rung.

It is quite easy to see why symmetry is a necessary quality in some cases. Hubbard gave the six-bell variation of Yorkshire Court in his book, and it was widely rung and included in peals. But what people did not realise for many years was that, owing to the lack of symmetry in the method, no true 720 is possible; and so all the peals which included it, and they were many, were false. With the ' Standard ' calling, for instance, you get the two lead-ends—23564 and 46532. Write out the two leads in full and see what happens.

In a similar way you will find that in very many, perhaps the majority, of unsymmetrical methods, true peals are not possible.

But you can get true peals of Eastern Bob and of the method Shipway called Double Court, so this objection does not apply to them. Nevertheless, there is an objection, as Annable saw two hundred years ago. Perhaps it lies in the fact that symmetry is one of those great qualities like truth and beauty on which all good things are based. But we must not go into that now

DEATH OF WELL-KNOWN LONDON RINGER.

FORMER DISTRICT MASTER OF THE L.C.A.

Mr. Harry Mance, late Master of the Southern District of the London County Association and a member of the Surrey Association, passed away after two weeks' illness at his residence at West Norwood on Monday, November 27th.

Born at Horsham, Sussex, in 1873, he became a ringer at the Parish Church there when 16 years of age. He came to London in 1905 and lived in Battersea, where he took up ringing at St. Mary's Church. Later he joined the St. Luke's, Chelsea, band and was Master of that society for a number of years. About four years ago for business reasons he went to reside at West Norwood. He then joined the St Leonard's, Streatham, band.

He held office as District Master of the London County Association for a good number of years, retiring in 1937, owing to health and business reasons. His general demeanour was always quiet and unassuming. He was a great help to young ringers and was respected by all. He was a conductor of no mean ability and called a good many peals, but there is no record of how many he rang.

At the funeral, which took place at Streatham Cemetery, Magdalen Road, Wandsworth, on Saturday last, many ringers were present, including Mr. T. H. Taffender, Master, and Miss O. L. Ashbrook, assistant secretary of the London County Association. The handbell ringing over the grave consisted of three whole pulls of rounds with intervals three times, followed by a course of Grandsire Triples: O. L. Ashbrook 1-2, H. G. Miles 3-4, T. H. Taffender 5-6, J. W. Chapman 7-8.

In the evening half-muffled ringing took place at St. Leonard's, Streatham, touches in various methods being rung by his brother members of the local band and others.

He leaves a widow, two sons and a daughter to mourn their loss. The two sons, H. H. Mance and B. Mance, are also ringers.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

NORTHERN DISTRICT MEETING AT WOODFORD.

A meeting of the Northern District of the London County Association was held at Woodford on November 18th, and, despite the present conditions and inclement weather, the 20 ringers who turned up were rewarded with some good ringing in methods from Grandsire to London Surprise Major. Tea was served in the Parish Hall, followed by a short business meeting.

A very pleasant hour on the handbells brought the day to a close with the thanks of the district to the Vicar of Woodford, the Rev. T. J. Ison, and Mr. C. R. Morss for making the necessary arrangements.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

MACCLESFIELD BRANCH OVERCOMES WAR-TIME HANDICAP.

The Macclesfield Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild has been able to resume quarterly meetings. The September meeting had to be postponed owing to the national emergency, but on November 18th a meeting was held at St. James', Sutton. Although the attendance was not so good as would have been the case in normal times, the meeting did not lack anything in enthusiasm.

On the handy and harmonious ring of six the early arrivals were induced to 'experiment,' and courses of Plain Bob and St. Simon's Doubles were successfully accomplished, much to the amusement of certain members. After this preliminary effort the gathering was considerably augmented, and the bells were kept going almost continuously until about 5.30 p.m. The methods rung were a goodly assortment—variety being the spice of life, not to mention ringing meetings—and catered for the expert and also the struggling apprentice. Grandsire and Stedman Doubles were followed by Plain Bob Minor, and eventually Cambridge and London Surprise Minor were rung. Mention should also be made of a 'touch' of Spliced Treble Bob Minor, which was indeed a joy to at least one member of the company.

After the bells had been brought to rest the Guild service followed, conducted by the Vicar of St. James' (the Rev. E. G. M. Evans), at the end of which arrangements were made to satisfy the demands of the inner man and full justice was done to the repast waiting for the party.

At the business meeting which followed immediately afterwards, the Rev. E. C. M. Evans, who acted as chairman, and the Rev. S. J. Sharples were elected honorary members of the Guild.

A resolution was passed unanimously that the secretary should forward a letter of good wishes to the Rev. N. A. Vesey, former president of the Macclesfield Branch, who had left the town to take up an appointment in Bridlington.

The general meeting of the branch was arranged to take place the second Saturday in January, 1940.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for allowing the use of the bells, for conducting the service and acting as chairman, also to the local company and especially to Mr. Taylor for having everything in readiness, and to the ladies who had prepared tea, concluded the business.

Further use could not be made of the tower bells, but the handbells were brought into service and courses of Bob Major and Grandsire Caters were rung by the fireside. Eventually the last remaining members found that time will wait for no man and departed upon their various ways, thus bringing to an end a very enjoyable day.

John Taylor & Co.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The war-time derangement of the postal services and the necessity of getting the copies of 'The Ringing World' into the hands of the publishers earlier on Thursday make it absolutely essential that all contributions to our columns, and particularly all notices, should be in our hands by MONDAY in each week. We cannot guarantee the insertion in the following issue of anything received later.

We hope that secretaries will send us prompt reports of their meetings, and we shall welcome any items of news relating to ringers and ringing, but they must reach us early.

BELFRY GOSSIP.

Mr. James George has received so many letters of congratulation upon his 86th birthday (including one from the Lord Mayor of Birmingham) that he finds it impossible to reply to them individually. He desires to thank sincerely all those who have sent him such kindly messages. A peal of Stedman Triples on handbells, specially arranged at Leicester on November 30th in his honour, and in which he took part, was rung in 2 hours and 25 minutes.

To-day is the anniversary of a peal of Stedman Caters rung by the Ancient Society of College Youths at All Saints', Fulham, in 1883. The number of changes was 11,111, which at the time was the record length in the method, beating the 10,047 rung at Aston by the St. Martin's Society in 1859. Two of the Fulham band, Messrs. C. F. Winney and F. E. Dawe, are still alive.

On the same date in 1746 James Barham and his band rang 10,080 changes of Double Bob Major, which still remains the longest length in the method.

On December 9th, 1835, the Painswick men rang the then longest length of Treble Bob Maximus, 10,224 changes, beating one of 7,392 changes rung at Oldham in the previous year.

John Cox was born on December 9th, 1813.

On December 10th, 1881, the first peal was rung on the bells of St. Paul's Cathedral. The method was Stedman Cinques and the conductor was Henry W. Haley. Two men were at the tenor.

A handsome and well-restored tablet in the base of the tower at St. Sepulchre's, Snow Hill, records the ringing of 5,111 changes of Grandsire Caters by the Society of Junior Cumberlands on December 10th, 1793.

On December 10th, 1770, the Cumberlands rang at St. Magnus the Martyr 'the first peal ever completed' of 'Cumberlands' Caters real double with the bobs alternately behind as before.' This was the first peal of real Double Grandsire Caters.

A peal of Bob Major on handbells was rung on the Indian Ocean on December 10th, 1934.

The handbell peal of Bob Major at Headingley in which Canon Marshall took part was rung on Saturday, November 25th, not Saturday, November 4th, as published in last week's 'Ringing World.'

The number of changes in the peal of Grandsire Caters rung at Worsley on November 18th was 5,021, not 5,120 as stated in our issue of November 24th.

On December 7th, 1889, a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at Caldicot, the first peal on the bells. It was intended to ring the jubilee peal this week, but owing to the war the attempt is postponed indefinitely.

The Rev. H. T. Wisdom, of Worthing, has been appointed assistant priest at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Brighton, and takes up his duties on the first day of the new year. He will be an acquisition to the Exercise in the town. His new address is 25, Hampstead Road, Brighton 5.

MESSRS. JOHN TAYLOR AND CO.'S CALENDAR.

Messrs. John Taylor and Co. inform us that, owing to difficulties consequent on the war, they have to discontinue temporarily the issue of their annual calendar and none will be published for the year 1940.

Messrs Taylor's calendar, with its fine photographs of famous bell towers, is prized by very many ringers, who will look forward to its re-issue in happier times.

ACCIDENT TO MR. W. W. WOLSTENCROFT.

The many friends of Mr. Walter W. Wolstencroft, of Ashton-under-Lyne, will be sorry to hear that he met with an accident while at work last week. As a result he is laid up with a severely strained back, and it will be several weeks before he is well enough to enter the belfry again.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT LOUGHBOROUGH FOUNDRY.

Owing to the prevailing war conditions, the second quarterly meeting of the Midland Counties Association, fixed to take place at Newark in September, had to be cancelled. However, it was felt that a general meeting should take place, but as no suitable tower in the Nottingham district was available, Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. very kindly granted permission for the use of the ten bells in their bell foundry campanile at Loughborough, and the meeting was held on Saturday, November 25th. Despite the difficulties of travel and the very inclement weather, quite a large number of members and friends turned up, some 30 or more representatives from Derby, Spondon, Hinckley, Leicester, Syston, Cotgrave, Belgrave, Burton, Overseale, Nottingham, Sawley and other places being present and making good use of the bells during the afternoon.

The committee met in the Foundry House at 4 p.m. and carried through their routine business. The general meeting was held in the belfry room an hour later, and in the absence of the president (the Rev. Canon H. E. Fitzherbert), the vice-president (Mr. Colin Harrison) took the chair. He was supported by the hon. treasurer (Mr. W. E. White) and hon. secretary (Mr. Ernest Morris).

The Chairman spoke of the unusual circumstances under which they had assembled, but stressed the fact that they must not let present conditions curtail their activities in the art. Especially was it up to all of them to keep the bells going for Sunday services. That was most essential, and even though peal ringing (which, at the best, was but a 'side issue') was curtailed, service ringing should take first place. Mr. Harrison welcomed such a good gathering, and trusted all would enjoy their visit, despite the fact that local catering could not be carried out this time as hitherto. Everyone, however, could get refreshments at cafes quite comfortably if desired.

New members proposed since the last quarterly meeting, viz., 10 ringing, five rejoined, two life and five honorary, were duly elected.

The hon. secretary mentioned that M.C.A. badges were available and he trusted all members would now purchase these from local secretaries and so help to clear the initial cost of production.

The question of the subscriptions of members now serving in H.M. Forces (as distinct from local A.R.P. duties) was discussed, and Mr. C. Hutchence proposed and Mr. Geoffrey Harrison seconded that any such members should be exempt from paying their subscriptions while on active service away from home.

Mr. W. E. White proposed and Mr. P. H. Swinfield seconded that a list of these members be compiled and printed in the next annual report.

Will local secretaries and members, therefore, please note this and send full details to the general hon. secretary, where possible giving name of unit and rank of the members now serving.

After a discussion on the Nottingham District management, it was announced that the next general meeting would be held at Earl Shilton on Saturday, January 27th, 1940.

This concluded the business and the remainder of the afternoon was spent in further touches on the Bell Foundry bells.

BURTON DISTRICT OVERCOME THE BLACK OUT CONDITIONS.

A good gathering was held at St. John's, Newhall, on Saturday last, when members from the following towers met for the district meeting: Burton (St. Paul's), Ashby, Repton, Measham, Netherseale, Overseale, Ticknall, Derby, Melbourne and the local company.

The co-operation of the police having been sought and obtained, full advantage was taken of the privilege, and the Vicar (the Rev. W. H. Goffin) kindly acted as listener in case of any air raid warning being given.

It was unfortunate, owing to the black-out making travelling difficult, that one or two were unable to stay for tea, which was served in the Church Room, and it was noted that food rationing was not in evidence, for the ladies had prepared an excellent tea for a very modest charge.

The Vicar was voted to the chair for the short meeting, and it was proposed that the annual district meeting be held at Measham on January 6th, 1940, and as the tower can easily be fitted to comply with lighting restrictions, ringing may continue until a late hour.

The secretary asked that names and particulars of all members joining the Forces should be sent to him so that they may be placed on record in the association's yearly report.

The Vicar, in reply to a vote of thanks, said that it was a pleasure to welcome the members to Newhall, and although his remarks were rather belated, he assured the ringers they were very sincere. He would always be ready to place Newhall bells at their disposal if conditions in times that lay ahead made it difficult to arrange meetings at certain towers, adding that if food control was then in force, suitable provision would be arranged for tea.

The tower was revisited and touches in the following methods were brought round: Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Cambridge Surprise, Double Court, Single Court and Double Oxford Bob Minor, with plenty of opportunities for the recruits in Plain Bob, Grandsire and Stedman Doubles.

WAR-TIME RINGING.

The position generally in the Guildford Diocese is that, with the exception of the Guildford towers, where ringing is prohibited, service ringing on Sundays (in the majority of cases in the morning only) seems to be general. At some towers, including Aldershot, Shalford, Horsham, Cranleigh, Leatherhead, Shere and Ewhurst, the ringing room has been blacked out and evening practices continue as usual. Where practices are suspended owing to blacking out difficulties, district officers and members of the committee are urged to organise combined practices for groups of towers on Saturday afternoons.

The officers are of opinion that it is not practicable to hold a dinner this season. It is not proposed to call the Executive Committee together to discuss the matter unless a majority of the members send in a written request for a meeting.

RINGING ARRANGEMENTS.

Stoke Poges: 10.15 to 11 a.m. and 2.15 to 3 p.m.
Burnham, Bucks: 10.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. Practice, Tuesday, 7.30 p.m.
Fulham: 1st and 3rd Sundays, 5.15 to 6.15 p.m.
Acton: 1st Sunday, 2 to 3 p.m.
Rampton, Cambs: 9.30 to 10 a.m. and 2.30 to 3 p.m.
Debenham: The tower is blacked out and the bells are available at any time up to 9 p.m. by arrangement. There is no regular practice meeting.
St. Alban's Cathedral: Practice Saturday afternoons, 4 to 5.30 p.m.

RINGERS' DUTY TO KEEP THE BELLS IN USE.

A LETTER FROM INDIA.

To the Editor.

Sir,—As one of the ringers who have been called up for service, I have been much interested in your articles on ringing during war time and in the letters which it has given rise to.

There is, however, one aspect of the matter which has not received attention, but which is of great importance. In many places there is a strong element of hostility to ringing among a certain section of the population, as is well known to ringers. It is only because ringing has been continually kept going in such places that this hostile section has not been able to work its will in silencing the bells, and if, owing to the war, or any other reason, such towers once cease to operate actively, then the chance of reopening them to the Exercise later on will be practically nil.

I would put forward the plea that ringers who remain at home owe it as a plain duty to those who are called up for service to hand back their heritage of towers and bells unimpaired at the end of the war.

c/o Navy Office, Bombay, India. A. R. POYNTZ.

PEAL RINGING IN WAR TIME.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In reply to Mr. Wilson's letter in your issue of November 24th, the abstention from peal ringing noted and commended by the Central Council in 1915 was not 'total abstinence,' but a marked degree of restraint. Reference to back numbers of your paper at that period will show that reports of a few peals appeared regularly week by week. At the same time there is obvious reason for taking care that peals are not rung under such conditions as to jar upon the feelings of the public.

I quite agree that peal ringing on special occasions is to be encouraged. The present month affords notable opportunities. Besides the Christmas festival, Monday, 11th, will be the anniversary of the King's Accession, and Thursday, 14th, the King's birthday.

F. LL. EDWARDS.

CHURCH BELLS AND THE NOISE ORDER.

'THE RINGING WORLD' PRODUCED TO POLICE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—You will be pleased to know that we have commenced ringing again at St. Giles', Willenhall, on Sunday mornings 10.30 till 11; Sunday evenings 6 to 6.30; and practice, Tuesday, 8 p.m. A welcome to visitors.

Our Vicar, the Rev. C. E. Turner, informed me that he approached the police authorities on the subject, taking with him the copy of 'The Ringing World' of November 17th containing your letter to the Ministry of Home Security and the letter you received in reply. The Inspector of Police then made further inquiries, using the copy of 'The Ringing World,' and shortly afterwards we were informed that everything was in order and we could ring as usual when the black-out restrictions had been complied with.

C. WALLATER.

DEATH OF CAPTAIN OF SALEHURST BAND.

At Salehurst, Sussex, on Sunday, December 3rd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to Mr. Trayton Booth, for over twenty years a respected member and captain of the local band, who passed peacefully away on November 26th: E. Avery 1, F. Morgan 2, J. G. Powell 3, G. King 4, W. H. Hoad (conductor) 5, A. E. Edwards 6, E. Mills 7, A. Smith 8.

CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

ST. LEONARD'S, SHOREDITCH.

By J. Armiger Trollope.

In addition to the long peals of Oxford Treble Bob Royal, one or two other lengths of over six thousand changes were rung at St. Leonard's by the Cumberland Youths during the eighteenth century. Of these, perhaps the most interesting was one of 7,001 of Grandsire Caters on November 3rd, 1773. Although it is not definitely so stated, the composition was probably the one by George Gross, which is given in the 'Clavis.' It contains the sixty course ends with the big bells in the tittums, and is an excellent production. Gross seems to have been the first man to use short courses in Grandsire Caters, all the other peals being produced by 7-8's and 8-9's.

To get the required length and also, probably, to arrange the changes so that the bells could be brought round at hand, Gross started with eight courses with the big bells in the ordinary backstroke position, and John Reeves no doubt thought he had produced a much superior peal when he composed one with the same qualities in the same number of changes and only one long going-off course.

It was at St. Leonard's that Benjamin Annable rang his last peal, one of Bob Major in 1754. Although it is included in the present peal book of the College Youths, it was not really rung by members of that society. Half the band were then members of the Society of Eastern Scholars, and the performance was one link in a chain of circumstances which led to the ultimate break-up of both societies and the formation of that Society of College Youths which became the leading metropolitan company in the second half of the eighteenth century, absorbing all that was best in the older two.

After George Gross had quarrelled with the Cumberlands in 1782, he formed a new company which called themselves the Society of Junior Cumberland Youths. These men rang several peals at different towers, including Shoreditch, none of which are of particular interest. Then came the usual quarrel, and the best men among them drifted back to the old Society of Cumberlands. Among them was William Shipway.

Meanwhile the Ancient Society of College Youths had paid their famous visit to Norwich and brought back Stedman Caters and Cinques, which thenceforth became the most esteemed methods among London ringers.

In 1787, John Reeves called the first peal of Stedman Caters, at Horsleydown, for a band of the ancient Society of College Youths, and shortly afterwards that company broke up. Some of the band went to the other Society of College Youths, and helped to make up the band which rang the first peal of Stedman Cinques.

Reeves joined the Cumberlands, and on August 23rd, 1788, he called for them at Shoreditch the second peal of Stedman Caters ever rung. The figures of the composition are lost. The fourth was rung by William Shipway and the third by George Gross.

At the first sight we should imagine that this was the elder George Gross, who had broken with the junior Cumberlands and who was anxious to regain his former position in his old company. Neither the peal book nor the peal board is clear about the matter, but it is not at all likely that Gross would have stood in a peal with his rival as conductor, and, while the name book records the election of the younger Gross as a new member, it says nothing about the return of his father.

It was not until about six years later, when Reeves had left the society, that Gross got his chance. He then returned, was at once elected to his old office of beadle, and remained the leader of the company for the rest of his life.

After the Stedman Caters, the only peal rung at St. Leonard's for some years was by the College Youths, but with the return of Gross the Cumberlands once more scored peals there.

On December 13th, 1794, Gross called '5,200 changes of Cumberland Royal Treble Bob, the most that can be rung in 9 courses.' There is no direct evidence as to what method was rung, but there is little doubt that it was Reeves' nine-course peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal. Peals of Kent Treble-ten had already been rung at Leeds in Kent, and the method was printed in the 'Clavis' of 1788, where it is called New Treble Bob, a not very good name, which fortunately did not stick to it. The Cumberlands went on and rang peals of Kent Major and Maximus, but the method was not regularly practised in London until well on into the next century. The name Kent first appears in print in Shipway's book.

On November 12th, 1796, Shipway called a 'William' peal at Shoreditch. It was not the first name peal, for that had been rung a few years earlier when eight Georges, with George Gross as conductor, scored a peal of Treble Bob Major at St. Olave's, Southwark. In 1801 George Gross called a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Royal, and the peal book claims it as the 'first ever rung in that method.' The claim, however, is not a sound one, for the Norwich men had rung the first peal, and a mixed band, with John Noonan as conductor, rang the second peal at Spitalfields five weeks before the Shoreditch performance.

In 1802 Shipway called a peal of Imperial Place Caters, a method of which he was rather proud and which is produced without any dodging. As, however, the bells which turn and are turned by the treble lie still for three blows, its merits are not great.

The next interesting peal on the bells was in 1805, when the Cumberlands rang 6,129 changes of Stedman Caters at the time the longest length in the method. It was composed and conducted by the younger George Gross.

In 1807, on the opening day after the bells were increased to twelve, the Cumberlands rang 5,390 of Grandsire Cinques, and in 1809 6,000 of Oxford Treble Bob Maximus. Then, during the following twenty years, there were ten or a dozen peals of Grandsire and Treble Bob on ten and twelve bells. The last was 5,040 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Maximus in February, 1830, and after that, silence for half a century.

The cause may have been that the bells were getting into a bad condition or that the tenor had become broken and unringable.

The Cumberlands, who for so long had made the tower their principal practice place, now abandoned the belfry and moved first of all to St. Mary-le-Bow, and shortly afterwards, when the College Youths left St. Martin-in-the-Fields for Southwark, to Trafalgar Square.

They took with them one or two of the boards from the belfry and re-erected them in their new home. One is that which records Reeves' peal of Stedman Caters. It has been restored and is now in excellent condition. The

other I was unable to read. Here we probably have the origin of the legend about the Duke of Cumberland's picture and its removal to St. Martin's.

The tenor was recast in 1875 by Blews, of Birmingham, and the bells put into some sort of repair, and in 1882 the College Youths ended the long break in peal ringing by scoring 5,000 changes of Stedman Cinques. Two years later the Cumberlands, mainly through the influence of Henry Dains, celebrated the centenary of Gross' long peal of Treble Bob Royal by ringing a five thousand. But they rang Kent and not Oxford, which had become almost a forgotten method except in East Anglia. In the same year the society rang a peal of Treble Twelve and one of Stedman Caters, and then, save for one peal in 1886, another silence fell on the bells until after they were restored in 1913.

The first peal after restoration was Stedman Cinques, conducted by Mr. Frank Bennett, and since then there has been a steady succession of performances in the belfry, most of them, naturally, by the Society of Cumberland Youths.

We should have imagined that a belfry with a long ringing history like that of Shoreditch would have a large collection of interesting peal boards, but in that respect St. Leonard's is somewhat disappointing. As stated above, two boards were taken to St. Martin's, and it is certain that some were destroyed during the long period of neglect. Fifty years ago two boards, recording Kent Treble Bob Royal rung in 1801 and Gross' long peal of Stedman Caters, were still in existence, but now they have disappeared.

The only old board still actually in the belfry records the peal of New Bob Triples rung in 1750, but two very fine tablets, recording the long peals of Treble Bob Royal by the College Youths and the Cumberlands, have been removed to the base of the tower, which forms the vestibule of the church. Both have been restored and are in good condition. Photographs and descriptions of them are given in the London County Council official Survey of London. The College Youths' record is in gilt letters on a black ground and enclosed in a carved wood frame, which was carefully restored by the instructors and pupils of the Shoreditch Technical School. The other is in gilt writing on a copper plate, with an elaborate carved and gilded frame. Hung where they now are, these most valuable and interesting records of the past are likely to be preserved for very many years.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.

MEETING AT COLEMAN'S HATCH.

The East Grinstead and District Guild held another successful meeting last Saturday, when 17 members enjoyed ringing on the light octave at Coleman's Hatch.

The bells were kept going from 3 o'clock to 8, with a break for tea and meeting. The methods ranged from rounds to Cambridge Surprise. At tea the new Vicar was introduced and proved to be a jolly companion who joined in the usual leg-pulling with great gusto.

The next meeting was arranged for January 6th at Tunbridge Wells, and the annual meeting at East Grinstead in February.

ST. WOOLOS' CATHEDRAL, NEWPORT.

OPENING OF THE AUGMENTED RING OF TWELVE.

On Sunday, November 26th, the two new bells at St. Woolos', Newport, were dedicated by the Dean in the unavoidable absence of the Bishop.

The bells are a memorial to Dr. Egerton Williams and their cost as well as that of recasting three others was met by his generous bequest.

Last Saturday the belfry was open to ringers, and visitors from Taunton, Bath, Bristol and Hereford turned up, as well as many from Monmouth and Glamorganshire.

Ringing began shortly after 2 p.m. and continued until black-out time. Afterwards 42, including the Dean, Mr. Price, the churchwarden, and Mr. C. F. Johnston, of Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, sat down to tea. The Dean welcomed the visitors and congratulated Mr. Johnston on the way the work was done and the perfect splice that had been made.

St. Woolos' now possesses the only ring of twelve in the Province of Wales. The tenor is 21¼ cwt. and the whole ring is a very handy one which will bear comparison with any other in the country of the same weight.

MR. ERNEST MORRIS' 800 PEALS.

After many disappointments, Mr. Ernest Morris, of Leicester, has scored his 800th peal. The 799th was a splendidly struck peal of Stedman Triples on handbells, with Mr. James George at the tenors. He came three times all the way from Birmingham to Leicester, and after two failures was successful on his 86th birthday.

Mr. Morris' 800th peal was one of Grandsire Doubles at the bell tower of Loughborough Foundry. It was specially arranged for two brothers, Messrs. Reginald M. Hill and C. Raymond Hill. The former, who was 21 years old on December 4th, is in the Royal Navy and came home on leave for his birthday. On the same day his brother, who is 19 years old, left Leicester also to join the Navy, the band wishing him God-speed and a safe return.

Mr. Morris' peal list is a long and varied one, ranging from Grandsire Doubles to Cambridge Surprise Maximus. Four hundred and eight were conducted by him and 52 were rung in hand. They were rung in 207 towers, 24 counties and for 23 societies. They include the record length of Cambridge Surprise Major (12,896 changes), the quickest tower-bell peals of Minor and Major, the Secretaries' peal of Stedman Cinques, the first 'Ernest' peal and peals by four sets of brothers, four fathers and sons, and five fathers and sons.

YATTENDON BELLS RESTORED.

COST BORNE BY VOLUNTARY SUBSCRIPTION.

The ring of six bells at SS. Peter and Paul's Church, Yattendon, Berks, has recently been rehung and the treble and tenor recast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. Practically the whole cost of the restoration has been borne by voluntary subscription.

The treble bell, which bears the inscription, 'They owe their mirth to me,' was made by Lester and Pack and was the gift of Richard Welbourne, Esq., in 1756.

The second is dated 1657, the third 1925 and the fourth 1660.

The fifth is of local interest. It bears the inscription, 'Sancte Nicollai ora pro nobis,' and probably is of the 15th century, for it bears the early lion's head stop of the Wokingham foundry and cross composed of four fleurs-de-lys.

The tenor bears the date 1617 and the inscription 'Henry Knight made mee.'

The dedication service was performed by the Rev. H. C. Wilder, chairman of the Bradfield Deanery Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, and the visiting ringers were from the Bucklebury tower under their foreman, Mr. W. Mathews.

A new band of ringers has been got together and shows great keenness. They are being introduced to the intricacies of change ringing by Mr. Ward, of Basildon, and one of the keenest recruits is the Rector, the Rev. A. F. G. Farmer.

WALTHAM ST. LAWRENCE, BERKS. — On Sunday, November 19th, for the marriage of Mr. William Palmer, the son of the parish clerk, 720 Minor, being 240 Plain Bob, 240 Kent Treble Bob and 240 Oxford Treble Bob: Stanley Darvill 1, Pte. A. Pearson (Oxford and Bucks Light Infantry) 2, J. Coope, sen. 3, V. Darvill 4, J. Darvill 5, T. Tilley (conductor) 6.

WHISTON, YORKSHIRE.—On November 4th, 720 of Bob Minor was rung at St. Mary Magdalene's Church by G. W. Brothwell (first 720) 1, Mrs. N. Chaddock 2, John H. Brothwell 3, G. Brothwell 4, Tom Brothwell 5, Norman Chaddock (conductor) 6.

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ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

NORTH-EASTERN DISTRICT MEETING AT MISTLEY.

A meeting of the North-Eastern District of the Essex Association was held at Mistley last Saturday and was attended by 22 members, 11 towers being represented. Ringing began soon after two o'clock and was kept up until half-past eight, a good number of methods being rung.

The service was conducted by the Vicar, who gave a very hearty welcome to the ringers present, saying that it was the second time during his incumbency that he had the pleasure of welcoming the association, and hoped he would be able to do so again under more pleasant conditions when he could extend some hospitality to those present. He complimented the members for getting together to ring the bells. It was a grand thing to tell the people that the bells were calling all to worship at their village church.

A collection was made during the service for the Bell Restoration Fund, which amounted to 8s.

After the service and more ringing, the company sat down to tea at the Thore Hotel. At the business meeting the Master (Mr. G. Waterman) apologised for the absence of the secretary, due to his being engaged on work of national importance. It was explained why the annual district meeting had been arranged to take place that day, for it was only after some considerable trouble that a tower could be obtained at all.

Mr. G. Waterman, of Harwich, was re-elected District Master for the next year, and Mr. L. Wright, of Mistley, was elected temporary secretary.

The next meeting was arranged to take place at Tendring at the end of April next.

A discussion followed regarding ringing members of H.M. Forces, and it was proposed by Mr. C. Ellis that all members serving in H.M. Forces should have their subscriptions paid for them, and this was carried.

After touches on the handbells a return was made to the tower for more ringing.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

BOWDON, STOCKPORT AND MOTTRAM BRANCH.

The last meeting of the year was held at Hyde on Saturday, November 25th, when, despite terrible weather conditions and the 'black-out,' some 25 members and friends attended.

The bells were set going early in the afternoon, and touches in various methods were rung before service in church at 4.30. This was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. E. Victor Dawson, who also gave a very interesting address, basing his remarks on the inscriptions to be found on bells, and in particular one inscribed 'Serving the Lord.' He dwelt upon the wonderful inspiration which could be gained from the long line of ringers who have served the Church down the ages, and their devoted service in handing down to future generations the truths and that faith will always win through.

Tea followed in the Parish Hall under the guidance of the local ringers' wives, who, despite the difficulties of these days, had managed to provide an excellent repast.

After tea the usual business meeting was held under the chairmanship of the Vicar, who gave the ringers a warm welcome to Hyde. A discussion on the effects of the war on ringing, and the efforts we should make to combat them, showed agreement on the following points: (a) Service ringing to be maintained as far as possible. (b) Practices to be held where feasible. A scheme of Saturday afternoon practices is already in operation in six of the central towers of the branch. (c) Peal ringing to be limited to special occasions. (d) To forward a recommendation to the general secretary suggesting that members serving in the King's Forces should remain members of the Guild whether their subscriptions were paid or not. (e) Meetings to be held as usual, but instead of fixing the list for the year to work from meeting to meeting, having regard to the state of affairs at the time.

Reference was made to the passing to higher service of Messrs. Bert Davies, of Didsbury, and A. Wright, of Stockport. The revised rules of the Guild were submitted and approved.

Further ringing then took place till a late hour on handbells and tower bells, the methods ranging from rounds to Cambridge Surprise Major.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

E. BERKS AND S. BUCKS BRANCH.

A cheerful afternoon was enjoyed by those who turned up at Cookham, various methods being successfully accomplished throughout. Then the tea. What a tea for a bob! We just couldn't eat everything up.

The handbells having been sorted out, a fair course of Grandsire Triples was rung, followed by a few tunes, but we could have done with one more to ring a touch.

Come to Burnham on December 16th, as there may be something doing on Boxing Day, if the secretary can get away from work.

A. D. B.

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.

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WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Wollaston on Saturday, December 9th. Buses from Stourbridge Town pass the church. Ringing from 3 to 4 p.m. Service and meeting after. Ringing 5.15 to 6.15 p.m. Election of officers, so please try and get there.—J. Lloyd, Ringing Master.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Weedon (six bells), on Saturday, December 9th.—W. C. Moore, 5, William's Terrace, Daventry, Northants.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—A meeting will be held at St. John's, Redhill, on Saturday, December 9th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5.15 p.m. at the Parochial Hall, Brighton Road, followed by a business meeting and ringing again from 7 to 9 p.m. All ringers welcome.—H. Hancock, Hon. Sec., Hillview, Eastbourne Road, Godstone.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Leyland, St. James', on Saturday, December 9th. Bells available from 3 p.m. —Fred Rigby, Hon. Branch Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—A meeting at York Town on Saturday, December 9th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting in Church Room 5.15 p.m. Nominations for officers for 1940 to be made at this meeting. —C. W. Denyer, Hon. Sec., 120, Ash Road, Aldershot.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Dorset Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Marnhull on Saturday, December 9th. Bells ready at 2.30. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting 4.30.—Rev. W. Uphill, Hon. Sec., Stour Provost Rectory, Gillingham, Dorset.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch, Newport Pagnell Deanery.—A meeting will be held at Stoke Goldington, on Saturday, December 9th, from 2 to 8 p.m. Service 3.30. Learners and beginners invited.—Rev. J. F. Amies, Ravenstone Vicarage, Olney, Bucks.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. —Chew Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Long Ashton on Saturday, December 9th. Bells available from 2 o'clock. Service at 4 o'clock. Tea at 4.30 p.m., with business meeting to follow.—Percy G. Fox, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The fourth and last war-time meeting for 1939 will be held at Hinckley on Saturday, December 9th. Bells from 2 p.m. until dusk. A room is being reserved for the evening. Come early, all are welcome, especially friends from Warwickshire.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at St. Philip's, Bristol, on Saturday, December 9th. Bells available from 2.30. Service 4 o'clock. Tea and meeting to follow.—N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Weston, Bath.

RICKMANSWORTH PARISH CHURCH.—Meeting for practice (Stedman Caters, Little Bob and Cambridge) on Saturday, December 9th, 2.30 to 5.30 p.m.—J. Howard Freeborn.

CROWAN, CAMBORNE, CORNWALL.—The two new bells will be dedicated by the Bishop of Truro at 2.30 on Saturday afternoon, December 16th. Peal augmented to a ring of eight by John Taylor and Co.

WATFORD, HERTS ASSOCIATION. — Meeting (annual), Saturday, December 16th. Bells available from 2.30. Tea and business meeting in Old School about 5. Those requiring tea must let me know by Wednesday, December 13th, so that arrangements may be made.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey. City 4270.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Sacred Trinity, Salford, on Saturday afternoon, December 16th. Tower open for ringing at 3.30 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—Joseph H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—The next meeting of the Crewe Branch will be held at Alsager (8 bells) on Saturday, December 16th. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. Please let me know if you intend to be present.—Richard D. Langford, Hon. Branch Sec., 118, Ruskin Road, Crewe.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Derby District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at St. Michael's, Alvaston, Derby, on December 16th (St. Luke's not being available). Tower 'blacked out,' so come and make use of this handy ring of six. All welcome. Bells available 2.30.—Wm. Lancaster, 83, Albert Road, Chaddesden.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the North-Western Division will be held at Bishops Stortford on December 16th. Ringing from 2 p.m. until dusk. Tea and meeting to be arranged during ringing. —W. Wheeler, Dis. Sec., Mill Street, Harlow Common, Harlow, Essex.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next practice will be held at Burnham (8 bells) on Saturday, December 16th, at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. (send a postcard), and ringing after tea.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough. Phone, Slough 23260.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. —Taunton Deanery.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Taunton, on Saturday, December 16th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Further ringing until 7.30 p.m.—R. W. Hayward, 24, Fairwater Cottages, Taunton.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the Gloucester Branch will be held on Saturday, December 16th, at Barnwood. Bells (8) available from 2 to 4 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. A card for tea (free) will much oblige.—W. H. Harris, Branch Hon. Sec., 4, G.W.R. Terrace, Lydney Dock, Lydney, Glos.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A gathering in lieu of the postponed annual meeting will be held at the Crown Hotel, Clayton Street, Newcastle, on Saturday, December 16th, at 2.30 p.m. Will those intending to be present please notify me on or before Tuesday, December 12th, in order that definite arrangements can be made for tea.—Roland Park, Hon. Sec., 23, Oaklands Terrace, Darlington.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Bedford District.—A meeting of this District will be held at Kempston on Saturday, December 16th. Bells (6) ready from 2 till 5 p.m. Tea will be at 5 p.m., followed by handbell ringing. Please make an effort to attend. All ringers welcomed.—Frank C. Tysoe, Dis. Sec., 10, Grange Road, Bromham, Bedford.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A ringing meeting will be held at Chatteris on Saturday, December 16th. —F. Warrington.

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ST. ALBANS.—At St. Peter's Church on Sunday, November 19th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal (1,480 changes) in 61 mins.: F. Kirk 1, H. Goodenough 2, G. E. Debenham 3, W. Ayre 4, *E. Gale 5, *H. Mason 6, †W. Arnold 7, F. Spicer 8, G. W. Debenham (conductor) 9, H. Frost 10. * First quarter-peal of Treble Ten † First quarter-peal of Treble Bob.

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THE RINGING WORLD

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LOOKING AHEAD.

The story of the destruction of the bells at Christ Church, Spitalfields, which is told in this week's article on London Bells, is a reminder of vicissitudes of various kinds which have befallen many famous rings in the city, the worst of all being the neglect which most of them in turn have suffered. Happily few peals of bells have met the fate of Spitalfields, except, of course, in the Great Fire, but Bethnal Green and St. Olave's, Southwark, lost their bells by fire after Spitalfields. The greatest despoiler of London's bells has been negligence, and there are still a large number whose tones have not been heard for years and of whose existence, in all probability, the vast majority of the inhabitants in each parish are unaware. Some of these bells have figured prominently in the past in London history; they have now gone into decay for want of use. It is a sad story and one for which London ringing societies are not entirely free from blame.

It has to be remembered, of course, that conditions in London are vastly different to those in nearly every other place in England, and the silencing of the many church bells, which now are no longer heard, is not due solely to any one cause. The reasons which from time to time have led to the demolition of city churches, have resulted in others becoming more or less deserted, and the disappearance of the ringers is but a phase of the conditions which have led to the disappearance of the congregation. But there is another cause which must not be overlooked, and that is the policy of the ringers themselves in a past generation. In the South of England, at any rate, Sunday service ringing was not practised, except in isolated cases, until about the 'eighties of last century. Such ringing as was done was almost entirely for the amusement or profit of the ringers. In London the bells were, prior to that time, and in some cases even later, merely the sport of the different bands that sprang up. The only times the bells at many churches were rung were paid occasions and for peals, and when the former failed and the latter became impossible through the condition of the bells or the inactivity or the loss of interest of the ringers, the bells were just allowed to lapse into permanent silence. For years many of them have hung mute, and it has been surprising to watch, through even this century, how little real effort London ringing societies have made to create any local interest in bell restoration which might lead to a general improvement. There have been one or two notable exceptions, but even so there are literally dozens of rings of bells within the metropolitan area that, up to the outbreak of war, have been abso-

(Continued on page 738.)

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lutely neglected unless for one reason or other some enthusiast has organised a band to attempt a peal.

Ringers do not need to be reminded that the best way to preserve bells is to ring them, and nothing is more likely to keep them in reasonable ringing order than their regular use on Sundays. Until war broke out we believe that the bells of St. Paul's Cathedral had been rung every Sunday without a break since their opening in the year 1878, and their condition now is a tribute to the care bestowed upon them during that long period. It is doubtful if they would have been so well maintained had they not been regularly rung on Sundays. Regular ringing leads to regular attention being given to the bells and their fittings, and unless they are primarily used in the service of the Church, ringers can hardly expect to raise the authorities' interest in their upkeep.

It is doubly essential in these days, when conditions tend to reduce the ringing of church bells, that no effort should be spared to keep going those that may be rung. For the sake of the bells themselves, as well as for the place they fill in connection with the services, they should be regularly heard at least once on Sunday. Moreover, it will be found to be very difficult to restart those bells which are allowed to become silent. The interest of ringers may wane; the public themselves in some places may object to their revival, although we feel that among the majority of people the sound of the bells after the war is likely to be received with general joy. But be that as it may, what is now required is a determination to keep the bells of this country going, and during this period of enforced partial inactivity in the towers the London ringing societies might well give thought to planning a great revival when happier times come again.

LUNAR CALENDAR

FOR THE BENEFIT OF ASSOCIATION SECRETARIES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I think the enclosed Lunar Almanac should be useful for quick reference to secretaries arranging meetings or practices.

Moonlight Period.	Full Moon.
1939	1939
Dec. 18—29	Dec. 26
1940	1940
Jan. 16—27	Jan. 24
Feb. 14—25	Feb. 23
Mar. 14—24	Mar. 23
April 13—22	April 22
May 12—21	May 21
June 12—20	June 19
July 13—21	July 19
Aug. 12—22	Aug. 17
Sept. 10—22	Sept. 16
Oct. 9—21	Oct. 16
Nov. 7—19	Nov. 15
Dec. 6—18	Dec. 14

Hourly particulars are given, of course, in the local papers each day.

C. L. ROUTLEDGE.

Newcastle-on-Tyne.

RINGERS WED AT BATLEY.

On Saturday, December 2nd, the wedding took place at Batley Parish Church between Miss Hazel Holmes, who is one of the local ringers, and Mr. Morris Hodgson, who until his departure to London a year ago was also a ringer at the same church.

As the bridal pair left the church a touch of Treble Bob was rung on the bells and the band then adjourned to a local cafe, where the party was celebrating the event, and a sumptuous tea was partaken of.

The bride and bridegroom were presented with a timepiece from the local band, and after the usual compliments the couple wished to ring a farewell touch before their departure to somewhere in England, where Mr. Hodgson is on aeronautical research work. A well-struck course of Treble Bob was brought round and then they left to catch their train, all wishing them the best of luck and happiness. Mr. and Mrs. Hodgson are members of the Yorkshire and the Leeds and District Associations, and Mrs. Hodgson is also a member of the Ladies' Guild.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

CLYRO, RADNORSHIRE.
THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, December 2, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 24 six-scores, three 240's of Lindoff's and six 240's of Morris' Arrangements. Tenor 10 cwt.

JAMES P. HYETT	*Treble*	LESLIE EVANS	3
ALBERT E. JONES	2	FREDERICK J. WATKINS ...	4

DAVID H. BENNETT ... ... *Tenor*
Conducted by D. H. BENNETT.

Rung as a welcome to the new Bishop of Swansea and Brecon, who was consecrated at Bangor Cathedral on St. Andrew's Day.

DEEPING ST. NICHOLAS, LINCS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tuesday, December 5, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two 720's of Double Court and five of Plain Bob. Tenor 6½ cwt.

CHARLES E. BLACK	*Treble*	CHARLES PERKINS	4
WILLIAM DOFFY	2	*FRED BRIGHTMAN	5
EDWARD BROWN	3	FRANK TAYLOR	*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK TAYLOR.
* First peal on an 'inside' bell.

HANDBELL PEALS.

WEST GRINSTEAD, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, December 3, 1939, in Two Hours and Two Minutes,
AT 92, BUTCHER'S ROW,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Three callings. Tenor size 15 in C.

*HAROLD WOOD	1-2	EDGAR RAPLEY	3-4
CECIL LONGHURST	5-6		

Conducted by E. RAPLEY.
Witness—F. Roberts.
* First peal 'in hand.'

WOLVERHAMPTON.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Monday, December 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT 15, RUGBY STREET,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor size 14 in D.

*HERBERT KNIGHT	1-2	†FRANCIS BROTHERTON ...	3-4
REV. A. F. SARGENT	5-6		

Conducted by the REV. A. F. SARGENT.
* First peal in the method 'in hand.' † First peal 'in hand.' Rung as a birthday compliment to H. Knight.

BUSHEY, HERTS.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, December 9, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT 50, RUDOLPH ROAD,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor size 15 in C.

*CECIL C. MAYNE	1-2	EDWIN A. BARNETT	5-6
CHRIS. W. WOOLLEY	3-4	EDWIN JENNINGS	7-8

Composed by C. H. MARTIN. Conducted by E. A. BARNETT.
* First peal on handbells. First handbell peal as conductor.

BRAINTREE, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, December 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,
AT 19, HOWARD ROAD, BRAINTREE.
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

*RONALD SUCKLING	1-2	LEWIS W. WIFFEN	5-6
BASIL RIDGWELL	3-4	ALBERT WIFFEN	7-8

Composed by J. E. BORTON. Conducted by L. W. WIFFEN.
* First peal on handbells. A birthday compliment to Mrs. A. Wiffen.

'MOURNFUL' BELLS.

A NORTHAMPTON COMPLAINT.
To the Editor.

Sir,—A letter complaining about the sound of bells has appeared in a newspaper in the town in which I live, the text of which I give below: 'The local striking of church clocks every quarter of an hour throughout the night with a mournful snatch of melody brings to mind the following lines from the poet, Edgar Allan Poe: "Through the balmy air of night, how they ring out their delight! How they clang and clash and roar, What a horror they outpour. Is there balm in Gilead?—tell me, I implore! Quoth the raven nevermore."' The writer goes on: 'One wonders if the ecclesiastical authorities have really considered whether they are serving a good purpose in so disturbing the sleep of people who happen to live nearby, and, secondly, whether they are immune from the law relating to nuisances which states that every person who creates an unusual noise in the night time in the neighbourhood of a dwelling house so as to disturb the repose of the inmates is guilty of a nuisance.' The writer signs himself 'Ronald Frank.'

It will be seen that he considers the sound of bells 'mournful.' Though the complaint chiefly deals with clock chimes, there is one thing I would like to say a word or two about: In Northampton (and I have noticed it elsewhere) ringers seem to have fallen into the lazy and distasteful habit, when meeting short, of picking on the front end bells for chiming and often for ringing, irrespective of whether their notes present a pleasing or untuneful sound to the ear. One church, in the centre of Northampton, in particular has the peculiar habit of chiming the first seven of its octave. Another the first six and sometimes the first three. And another church has more than once been heard to ring the first five of the eight.

Is this not opening up the path for complaints about mournful bells? If any of the peals in question were particularly heavy or went badly there might be a certain amount of excuse. But in Northampton every church which has bells has had them rehung since 1927. Whether here or elsewhere, I would ask, do ringers think they are being fair both to the Exercise and to the public by adopting such lazy habits and not studying the musical side to their art as well as the physical—if any be needed on such light-going bells?

Another thing I would like to draw attention to is, after a band has met short and raised the back six or five, often someone will walk in late and without any consideration for the ears of people outside, up will go the other two or three trebles clanging on top of each other. Is not this also opening up the path for complaints? I know the old cry—well, we haven't always got time to pull them up singly or in pairs. Which is the best—to sacrifice 'a 120' or cause some strong complaint? And a word about the ringing of seven bells: When ringers meet seven strong, is it not better and more tuneful to ring seven missing the second of the octave out than to ring the last seven?

P. AMOS.

Northampton.

GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING OF BRISTOL RURAL BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the Bristol Rural Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association was held on Saturday, December 2nd, at St. Ambrose's Church, Bristol East, where there is a very nice ring of eight bells, with a tenor of 11¼ cwt. These were set going shortly after 2 p.m. and standard methods were rung until half-past four, some useful practice being put in. About 45 members and visitors attended the service conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. F. S. Lee). The address was given by the Rev. C. K. Davis, himself a ringer.

Tea was served in the Church Room, and afterwards the Vicar was thanked for taking the service and for the use of the bells. Thanks were also given to the organist and choirboys for their attendance.

The meeting was presided over by the branch chairman, Mr. C. Harding. The balance sheet having been adopted, the Chairman remarked that, owing to the war, the past year had not been a very good one for the branch. When the war started the activities of the association were brought practically to a standstill for a time, but they were gradually getting used to the abnormal conditions, and meetings were now being held as often as possible. He said he hoped that practices and Sunday ringing would now go on, and added that they should keep the art as much alive as possible during these dark days.

Mr. C. Harding was re-elected chairman of the branch and thanked the members for their confidence. Mr. R. C. Gifford was re-elected secretary, and the Rev. C. K. Davis was elected as representative of the branch on the Management Committee.

Meetings were arranged as follows: January, St. Werburgh's; February, Westerleigh; March, Bitton.

A resolution that 'members who had joined H.M. Forces should remain members without payment until their return' was asked to be forwarded to the Management Committee for their consideration.

The Chairman said he would like to thank all those who had made the meeting so successful, especially the tower secretary, Mr. F. Skidmore, and the local captain, Mr. Maggs (who also apparently grows a good brand of celery). He also welcomed the visitors from the Bristol City Branch.

A few members then indulged in handbell ringing, and this brought a very successful meeting to a close.

WITH PENCIL AND PAPER.

THE ART OF PRICKING CHANGES.

Before we study our group of fifteen methods in detail it is well to write out a full plain course of each of them. Perhaps some of our readers will think that it means an immense amount of trouble, and others may think that it means unnecessary and useless trouble.

But when you know how to do it the trouble is not so great after all. With a little practice you can prick changes about as fast as you can ring them; and though you can, if you are experienced, find out everything about the course from one lead of it, many hundreds of ringers have discovered from the Diagrams in Snowdon's 'Standard Methods,' the advantages of having a full course.

It may be objected that the goodness of those diagrams lies, not in the figures, but in the 'blue line' which shows the work of one bell, and that you can draw the 'blue line' as a 'skeleton course,' a much more convenient form, which does away with any necessity for having figures.

It is quite true that many ringers, and those among the most experienced, never use figures at all but always learn their methods from skeleton courses. We should be the last to belittle the value of the skeleton course, but we must point out that, while it will give you the bare essentials which you must know before you can ring a method, it will not help you to understand the method nor tell you those things you must know when you study the conducting and composition. It may be that among our readers there are some beginners who do not know what a skeleton course is. For their benefit we will explain that it is a lined diagram showing the path of one bell only, and, as it can be very much foreshortened, it is possible to draw it on a page of a small note book, which of course makes it very convenient.

Hundreds of ringers, as we said, have realised from Snowdon's 'Standard Methods' the advantages of having a full course to study; but they would get much more benefit from it if they were to prick it themselves, rather than use one which has already been written or printed by someone else, provided they prick it from a knowledge of the construction of the method, and do not just blindly copy what another has written.

It is worth while, therefore, to say a few things about the pricking of changes.

And first you must realise that a written course of a method is not merely a collection of figures put together in a certain way. The figures are symbols which are intended to represent as nearly as possible that movement of the bells which is the essential thing in change ringing. Hence the most important thing is not the rows of figures themselves but the way in which one is produced from another.

For our illustration, we will confine ourselves to eight bells, and since plain hunting is the basis of all change ringing, we will start by seeing how we must prick changes to represent plain hunting. We start from the row 12345678, which represents rounds.

In this row of eight figures there are four pairs, 1 and 2, 3 and 4, 5 and 6, and 7 and 8. The first thing we do is to transpose each of these pairs and write down 21436587 under 12345678.

We have still got four pairs of bells, but if we transpose them again we shall merely come back to where we started from. We therefore, in the next row, write the first and last bells (in this case 2 and 7) in the same positions as they were in the previous row, and alter the positions of the six other bells only.

We have now got three pairs of bells to deal with, those in 2-3, 4-5 and 6-7 (in this case 1 and 4, 3 and 6, and 5 and 8). We transpose each of these pairs and write down the result 24163857 as our third row.

What we have done is, first of all, to transpose all four pairs of bells, and then to transpose the three internal pairs of bells, and if we continue to do these alternately we shall produce the plain hunting course.

Now all change ringing consists of plain hunting (forwards or backwards) with certain variations, and in a similar way all pricking consists of the alternate transpositions just described, with certain variations.

The only way we can vary hunting is by the introduction of place making. The making of a place involves certain definite alterations in work of some of the other bells, and so, if we know when and where the places are made, we can also know the whole of the work of the method.

There are two kinds of methods. In one of them all the work (place making and dodging) is at backstroke. In the other, handstroke places and work are introduced.

The latter, both in construction and in actual practice, are much the more complex, and so we will confine our attention for the present to the others. In pricking these backstroke methods (that is, the methods in which the place is completed by the backstroke blow) we note two things. The first is that every alternate row is always produced by transposing all four pairs of bells, just as when we are pricking plain hunting. The second is that all the variations from plain hunting are done by keeping one of the inside bells in the same position as it was in the previous row instead of one of the first or last bells.

This is what we call moving an external place to the interior of the change, and, however we do it, we shall still get three pairs of bells to transpose.

The external place on the front can only be moved to 3rd's, 5th's or 7th's; the external place at the back can only be moved to 6th's, 4th's or 2nd's. It follows that place making in 3rd's, 5th's or 7th's affects the bells below those positions, but not the bells above. And place making in 6th's, 4th's and 2nd's affects the bells above those positions, but not the bells below.

When we are pricking, and we know that 3rd's place has got to be made, we transpose the pair in 1-2, keep the bells in thirds in the same position, and transpose the other bells as we should do if we were pricking plain hunting. Similarly, if we know that 4th's place has to be made we write the bell in fourths in the same position as it was in the previous row, and transpose the pairs in 5-6 and 7-8.

Now experiment by attempting to write out one of our fifteen methods from the position of the places.

Take Edmonton Bob, an excellent method which is produced by the R. Court Shunts in 5-6 and the Extreme at the lead-end.

For the first four changes we have plain hunting, so we prick by alternately transposing four pairs and three pairs. When the treble gets into fifths, 6th's place is made over it, so we transpose the pair in 7-8 instead of

(Continued in next column.)

WITH PENCIL AND PAPER.

(Continued from previous column.)

that in 6-7. Two changes later 5th's place is made, so we transpose the pairs in 1-2, and 3-4 instead of those in 2-3 and 4-5. Four changes further on we do the same thing, and two changes later still, when 6th's place is made, we transpose the pair in 7-8 instead of that in 6-7. At the lead-end 2nd's is made, so we transpose the pairs in 3-4, 5-6 and 7-8 instead of those in 2-3, 3-4 and 5-6. Except for these variations we prick exactly as if we were pricking plain hunting. You see how simple it is, provided that we know exactly where the places are made.

From Mr. Woolley's article we learn that all this will be a great help in ringing two handbells.

'CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.'

THE FIRST PEAL OF KENT MAXIMUS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In connection with Mr. J. Armiger Trollope's interesting article on the above in 'The Ringing World' of December 8th, will Mr. Trollope kindly inform me when the Cumberlands rang their first peal of New Treble Bob Maximus (otherwise Kent Treble Bob Maximus)?

There is a peal tablet in St. Martin's ringing room, Birmingham, recording 7,200 New Treble Bob Maximus rung by the St. Martin's Youths on April 17th, 1820, in 5 hours and 8 minutes. The celebrated Thomas Thurstans rang the tenor and Henry Cooper conducted. This peal is also recorded in St. Martin's Guild peal book as 7,200 Oxford Treble Bob Maximus (Kent Variation) and the first peal rung in this variation on twelve bells. ALBERT WALKER.

Birmingham.

WAR-TIME RINGING.

The ringers at Chilvers Coton, Warwickshire, have now been granted permission to ring after black-out time, provided the police are notified of the times of ringing. A practice on Saturday next, December 16th, from 5 to 7 p.m., has, therefore, been arranged, to which any ringers will be very welcome.

Since our last issue we learn that the bells of S. Nicolas', Guildford, will now be rung on Sunday mornings at 10.15 a.m. There will be no ringing for evensong and no practice until the new year.

COURSING ORDER AND METHOD CONSTRUCTION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—A system of so-called constructional R Court Shunts and P Court Shunts can never give a *true* explanation of Coursing Order and Method Construction, they only deal with the fringe of the subject.

To understand Coursing Order and Methods one needs first of all to understand the Primary Plain Principles and the Treble Bob Principle. I am tired of repeating that every place, or move, in a method counts just as much as every Bob in a peal counts.

You, sir, do not welcome columns of figures in your pages, and as I know of no other way to prove the truth of my assertions, I wish to say that any of your readers who desire to know 'the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth' about Coursing Order and Method Construction can have their wishes granted by writing to me direct, and I will guarantee to satisfy anyone except those people who belong to the class of 'There are none so blind as those that won't see.'

GEORGE BAKER.

2, North Street Quadrant, Brighton.

CWT. OR CWTS.?

Sir,—Will you allow me to point out a common error into which your contributors often fall? In speaking of the weight of a bell, many of them write *cwts.* and *lbs.*; in both cases the s is wrong. In the first the mistake is obvious, for no one ever writes or says 'hundredweights': in the second the reason is different, because lb. stands for the Latin *libra* (sing.) or *libræ* (plur.) indifferently; and as *libras* has no s, it is wrong to write lbs. W. C. B.

A MANCHESTER POLICEMAN JOINS H.M. FORCES.

FAREWELL QUARTER-PEAL AT DIDSBURY.

At Christ Church, Didsbury, Manchester, on Sunday afternoon, December 3rd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung as a farewell to P.C. Albert Ford, of the Manchester City Police, who is leaving to join H.M. Forces. It was also to celebrate the retirement on pension of P.C. John Carter, who now resides at Saddleworth, Yorkshire: Thomas Jones 1, Harold Hollingworth 2, ex-P.C. Birley Walshaw 3, Alfred Frost 4, Harold Jones 5, P.C. Richard Benson 6, P.C. Albert Ford (conductor) 7, ex-P.C. James Turner 8. Composed by the late R. T. Davies, for 40 years head ringer at Christ Church. P.C. Ford would like to thank those taking part and the other ringers who attended in exceptionally bad weather, some of them travelling ten miles to be present.

John Taylor & Co.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The war-time derangement of the postal services and the necessity of getting the copies of 'The Ringing World' into the hands of the publishers earlier on Thursday make it absolutely essential that all contributions to our columns, and particularly all notices, should be in our hands by MONDAY in each week. We cannot guarantee the insertion in the following issue of anything received later.

We hope that secretaries will send us prompt reports of their meetings, and we shall welcome any items of news relating to ringers and ringing, but they must reach us early.

BELFRY GOSSIP

Mr. Roger St. John Smith, of Heanor, Nottingham, is to be ordained deacon by the Bishop of Manchester, in Manchester Cathedral, on St. Thomas' Day, December 21st, and licensed to the parish of St. Paul's, Kersal.

Mr. St. John Smith, who took his B.A. degree at Cambridge and afterwards read Theology as a member of Jesus College and Ripon Hall, Oxford, holds the unique distinction of having been Master of both Cambridge University Guild and Oxford University Society.

The Rev. A. F. Sargent, who conducted the handbell peal of Minor at Wolverhampton on December 4th, has recently been appointed to a title at St. Giles', Willenhall. He is looking forward with pleasure to the prospect of a happy time in the district, and will certainly be an asset to the Archdeaconry of Stafford Society as well as to the Willenhall band.

Last Tuesday was the 204th anniversary of the first peal at St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, 'which,' said the 'Ipswich Gazette,' 'was rung by our town ringers, being the whole peal of Grandsire Triples on eight bells. It was done in three hours and eight minutes to the satisfaction of all the lovers of that science.'

In the records of early peals of Grandsire Triples the expression 'whole peal' is frequently used and there is good reason to believe that this is a reference to the composition in the J.D. and C.M. Campanalogia, which is false.

On December 12th, 1848, the Birmingham men rang 7,392 changes of Stedman Cinques, beating by 266 changes the peal rung in 1844 at St. Peter, Mancroft, by the Norwich Scholars. Birmingham held the record until 1851.

To-day is the anniversary of the first peal on the twelve at St. Saviour's, Southwark. It was rung by the College Youths in 1735, the method was Grandsire Cinques and the number of changes was 8,008. This length has never been exceeded in the tower, except in 1923, when the College Youths rang the long peal of Stedman Cinques, which, unfortunately, turned out to be false in the composition.

The first peal on the present ring at St. Saviour's was Grandsire Caters rung by the Eastern Scholars, and Benjamin Annable called a peal of Bob Triples on the old ring of eight, the tenor of which weighed 49 cwt.

On December 16th, 1819, the St. Martin's Society of Birmingham rang the first 720 of Stedman Minor. Thomas Thurstans was the tenor man. It is quite possible that this is the only 720 ever rung in the method, which, of course, is only a freak.

Mr. F. C. Tysoe informs us that it is hoped the tower bells will be rung after tea at the Bedfordshire Association meeting at Kempston to-morrow.

THE FIRST PEAL AT ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In the much appreciated 'Belfry Gossip' in your last issue I notice there is an error—a very rare occurrence in your retrospective account of past achievements of noteworthy interest—with regard to the first peal at St. Paul's Cathedral. It was 5,014 Stedman Cinques, rung in 4 hours 17 minutes, on December 10th, 1881, composed by Henry W. Haley and conducted by James Pettit, one of the best, most reliable and respected members that ever joined the Ancient Society of College Youths! I was very nearly taking part in the peal, as one member of the selected band turned up very late—in fact, the preliminary 'rounds' had been rung! Of the two 'spares' present, William Greenleaf was finally considered to be the most able of the two of us to tackle the 9th and he took part in the 'preliminary.' I spent the whole time at or near the Goose and Gridiron with many others, including Henry W. Haley, the composer, who was too advanced in age to take part in it. Mr. Haley frequently pointed out to me the progress of the peal, especially when a fresh bell was put 'behind the 7th' and who were together behind, or who made the 'bobs.' The ringing was truly magnificent and accurate, and elicited roars of applause at its conclusion, the united opinion being that the quality of the striking 'couldn't be beaten'! A little while afterwards we had a dinner at the Goose and Gridiron in honour of the event!

F. E. DAWE.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

FARNHAM DISTRICT'S USEFUL MEETING.

Yorktown Church, Surrey, is one of the places where the black-out restrictions have been sufficiently overcome to allow practices to be held in the dark evenings, and there, on Saturday, members of the Farnham District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild held a very useful meeting. There was not so large an attendance as was usual in happier days than these, when Aldershot by itself could provide a good sized meeting, but about 20 ringers put in an appearance, and some good practice was put in in standard methods. Nothing higher than Double Norwich was attempted, but a good many of those present found the opportunity to improve their acquaintance with the methods rung.

The customary Guild service was held, the Vicar, the Rev. F. W. T. Waithman, officiating, the singing being led by choirboys.

The Vicar gave an inspiring address, based on words from the Advent Collect, 'Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness and put upon us the armour of light.' In these times, he said, these words seemed to have more reality about them than ever, because if ever there was a time when the works of darkness were very evident, that time was the present. We were waging a spiritual war against the powers of darkness. To do so successfully we must put on the armour of light, and whatever we did, whether in work or recreation, should be done to the glory of God as well as for our own interest. He was glad that the ringers were maintaining their service to the Church, that they were not only keeping up their own church-going, but were doing their best to bring others to church. It was difficult in these times to keep up the spirit of church-going and to keep up everything in connection with our churches as it should be kept. He found a difference between this war and the last. In the last war their churches were thronged, but they did not see that now. Although the fact remained that if ever there was a spiritual cause for which they fought they were fighting for that cause now, yet people did not take the trouble to go to worship God as they should. He felt deeply grateful to those who not only came to church but tried to bring others by ringing the church bells. It was a great thing to remind people that the dear old church still goes on, that God is still there, waiting to be worshipped. He asked each one of them to do their utmost to keep up their service to God in this and other ways.

After tea in the Church Room, the Vicar, the choir, the organist and the local ringers were thanked by Mr. R. Gillians. At the business meeting which followed, the chair was taken by Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, a vice-president of the Guild. Apologies were received from the District Ringing Master (Mr. R. Hasted) on account of the indisposition of his wife, and Miss Betty Stewart, of Aldershot, who was also indisposed.

Miss Cotterill and Mr. Nash, both of Basingstoke, were elected compounding members.

Mr. R. Hasted (Farnham) was again nominated as District Ringing Master, Mr. C. W. Denyer (Aldershot) hon. secretary and Mr. P. Eldridge (Farnborough) auditor. Mr. T. Upshall (Farnham), the retiring representative on the Executive Committee, who was unable to be present, had expressed a wish to retire, and he was thanked for his services, which have extended from the formation of the Guild. Mr. Gillians was nominated to the vacant position.

The Chairman explained that it was the feeling of those responsible that the annual dinner should be abandoned next January. In his view, he thought it undesirable to hold the dinner, not because there was any reason to make themselves miserable over the war, but because of the difficulties of travelling in the black-out, which would in all probability severely limit the possible attendance.

The Chairman also referred to the scheme which it had been proposed to launch to provide a sanctus bell for the new Cathedral when the first portion of the building was opened in 1941. The coming of the war, he said, had caused the scheme to be delayed, but he hoped after Christmas it would be possible to go ahead with it, although the changed circumstances might involve adopting a different plan to that originally proposed.

The Chairman went on to remind the meeting that many familiar faces were missing from that gathering, called away to serve the country in the forces of the Crown and elsewhere. The meeting would, he was sure, send them greetings and good wishes for a safe return. He suggested that the district secretaries should keep a list of all the members who joined the services, with a record of their units, so that when the war was over this information could be permanently preserved in some suitable form in the Guild library.

The hon. secretary reminded the members that the next meeting would be the annual district meeting and would be held at Farnham. He hoped every effort would be made to ensure a good attendance.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION'S EXCELLENT PROGRESS.

The annual meeting of the South-Western Division of the Essex Association was held at Leytonstone on Saturday, December 2nd, attended by 36 members, representing 11 towers. Good use of the excellent peal of eight was made during the afternoon, the methods rung ranging from Grandsire to Bristol and London Surprise. At 5 p.m. the company adjourned to the vestry for the business meeting, presided over by the District Master, Mr. J. Chalk.

In opening the meeting the Master mentioned the great loss the district had sustained by the death of Canon Brown, of Leytonstone, one of the association's oldest honorary members, and one who had always shown a very great interest in the welfare of the association, and requested that the company stand for a moment in silence.

The secretary (Mr. J. H. Crampion) then read a report on the working of the district for the year. Meetings had been held at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, North Weald and Rayleigh, the average attendance being 42. The meeting arranged for Orsett in September unfortunately had to be cancelled owing to the outbreak of war. Twenty new ringing members had been elected, and two extra towers, namely, Stanford-le-Hope and Langdon Hills, had joined the association. Two dedications had taken place, at Stanford-le-Hope and Dagenham, where in each case the peals had been augmented from six to eight bells.

Twenty-five peals had been rung as follows: One Cambridge Royal, one Oxford Treble Bob Royal, one Kent Treble Bob Royal, one Erith Little Bob Royal, one Stedman Caters, three Cambridge, two Superlative and one Yorkshire Surprise Major, one Double Norwich, five Kent Treble Bob Major, three Bob Major, one Bob Triples, one Stedman Triples, and three of Minor, being one each in one, three and seven methods.

The conducting was shared by J. H. Crampion (9), F. B. Lufkin (7), H. Turner (3), P. Corby and J. Bennett (2 each), and A. Prior and E. A. Barnett (1 each). Three members rang their first peal and 35 their first peal in the method. Mr. G. L. Joyce moved the adoption of the report, which was carried.

FUTURE MEETINGS.

With regard to future meetings, it was proposed by Mr. E. J. Butler and seconded by Mr. G. L. Joyce that it be left to the discretion of the Master and secretary when and where they should be held. This was carried, and the secretary informed the company that he hoped to arrange the next meeting at Epping Town on Saturday, March 16th.

For the election of Master, Mr. A. Prior took the chair and Mr. E. D. Smith proposed the re-election of Mr. J. Chalk. This was seconded by Mr. A. Pye and carried unanimously. Mr. Chalk then proposed from the chair the re-election of Mr. J. H. Crampion as secretary, which was carried. Mr. A. Prior proposed and Mr. G. L. Joyce seconded a hearty vote of thanks to the Master and secretary for the able way in which they had performed their duties during the past year. This was responded to by Mr. Chalk, who thanked the members for their confidence.

Mr. F. W. Housden brought up the question of members serving in H.M. Forces, and after some discussion it was decided that the General Committee be approached with a suggestion that all members be exempt from subscription while on active service.

The secretary announced that he intended arranging monthly practices, particulars of which would appear in 'The Ringing World.'

The meeting concluded with a hearty vote of thanks to the church authorities of St. John's for use of tower and bells, and vestry for the business meeting, and to Mr. Dawson, of the Leytonstone band, for making all arrangements. This was carried with applause and responded to by Mr. Dawson.

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CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

CHRIST CHURCH, SPITALFIELDS.

By J. Armiger Trollope.

Spitalfields, originally part of the great parish of Stepney, got its name from a priory and hospital commonly called St. Mary Spital. After the revocation of the Edict of Nantes in 1685, by which the Protestants had enjoyed rights and toleration in France, large numbers of the Huguenots, as these French Protestants were called, came to England and settled in this district, where they followed the trade of silk weaving. By the time of Queen Anne, the population had increased so much that, when the Act of Parliament was passed in 1712 to provide new churches for certain parts of London, one of the churches was allotted to this district and a new parish was formed out of Stepney.

As Parliament was finding the money, everything was done on a grand scale. The new building, designed by Nicholas Hawkesmoor, cost £14,418 3s. 6d., and the site £1,260. These are large sums for the time.

The architecture of the church has been criticised as being too heavy, but it certainly does not lack a certain massive grandeur. The building was consecrated by the Bishop of London on July 5th, 1729.

A Mr. Wheatley, a wealthy parishioner, promised to give a ring of eight heavy bells, and on December 20th, 1729, the 'Universal Spectator and Weekly Journal' announced that 'Mr. Phelps the famous Bell Founder of White-Chappel has orders to cast a Sett of Eight Bells for the new Church in Spittle Fields. The Timber Work and Frame are now making in the Belfry of the said Church. The Tenor is to be 36 hundred weight.'

The weight of the tenor has always been said to be 44 cwt. in C sharp, and, though it is impossible to be quite sure, since the foundry records were destroyed by fire, the information given me by Mr. Albert Hughes of the weights and sizes of the two trebles cast in 1801 seem to show that that weight was correct.

The first recorded peal on the bells was 5,120 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Major rung on February 23rd, 1735, by the Eastern Scholars. Philemon Mainwaring called the bobs and rang the tenor single-handed. This was an outstanding heavy bell performance, for it was not until the present century that a heavier bell had been turned in to a peal of Major.

But Spitalfields tenor must have gone well for its weight. In the year following, John Trenell rang it to a 'fine' peal of Treble Bob with a band of College Youths. Twenty years later, in 1760, a band belonging to the ancient Society of College Youths, with the elder Samuel Muggeridge on the box, rang 5,120 changes of Treble Bob, and a week later their rivals, the 'junior' Society of College Youths, beat the performance with a peal of 6,080 changes, Joseph Monk ringing the tenor. This in its turn was beaten by the Cumberlands, who, on December 3rd, 1785, rang 6,400 changes. Robert Mann was the tenor ringer. It is worth noting that all these peals were rung in the winter time, and that when William Laughton and the Rambling Ringers visited the belfry in the summer of 1734 he complained of the bad going of the bells.

The ring was augmented to ten in 1789, and on June 25th in that year the Cumberlands rang 5,201 changes of Grandsire Caters. Two men were needed for the tenor, and the peal was conducted by Thomas Blakemore, who, owing to the troubles and disputes which were wrecking the ancient Society of College Youths, had come for a few months to the Cumberlands. The same society rang the first peal of Royal in the steeple—5,440 changes of Treble Bob in 1789 conducted by John Reeves.



Christ Church, Spitalfields, at the end of the 18th century.

Like the neighbouring tower of St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, Christ Church belfry was the scene of several interesting contests between rival bands. In 1793 the College Youths rang 6,280 changes of Treble Bob Royal, and the Cumberlands immediately followed with 6,360 changes. In 1796, the junior Society of Cumberland Youths rang the first seven thousand on the bells, and in the following year 6,003 changes of Stedman Caters. This was the longest peal at the time in the method, but the composition by John Noonan was a false one. Noonan in 1804 called another notable peal, the first of Double Norwich Court Bob Royal rung away from Norwich.

In 1801 the bells were increased to twelve. The Cumberlands rang 5,170 changes of Grandsire Cinques on March 5th, 1804, and a month later 7,104 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Maximus, repeating their performance of two years previous at St. Saviour's, Southwark. James Marlton rang the tenors to both peals, and they were outstanding heavy bell feats.

In 1805, a match, with a purse of one hundred guineas, took place between the Norwich Scholars, and a band picked from the London ringers, which was won by the provincial men who scored a seven thousand of Royal. But the tenor proved too much for Charles Purser, who collapsed after ringing four thousand changes and so lost the match for the Londoners.

In 1806 the two societies of Cumberland Youths were contending for the honours of ringing the first peal of Stedman Cinques on the bells. The seniors started on December 13th for a six thousand and got out after ringing upwards of 5,500 changes. Two days later the juniors rang a peal of 5,086, and five days after that the first band was successful in their peal attempt.

Following this we have no record of any peal rung in the tower for over twenty years, with the exception of one of Treble Bob Maximus by the College Youths in 1808; but in 1829 the Cumberlands scored 5,015 changes of Grandsire Cinques, and that was the last peal on the twelve bells.

For many years Charles Purser had the charge of the bells and belfry. He was followed by Edward Bartell, another well-known ringer, who lived at 16, Union Street, in the parish, and had rung the tenor to the Court Bob Royal in 1804. He, in turn, was followed by a man named Dawson, who died at the end of the year 1835.

The appointment of his successor was in the hands of the vestry, and the churchwardens refrained from filling up the vacancy pending the meeting of that body at the ensuing Easter.

Meanwhile, the parish beadle had the charge of the belfry. He knew nothing about the bells, and cared less, and he employed or allowed a number of the young ringers of the district to do the service chiming. They were a somewhat undisciplined lot of young fellows, and though, for very good reasons, no names are mentioned, it is pretty certain that they included men who were afterwards known as the leading ringers of London. They turned the belfry into a sort of club room, where they met and spent their time talking, and smoking and, no doubt, handbell ringing, which was becoming very popular among the ringers of the district. It was a state of things which the Church authorities would not have tolerated for a moment had they known of it; but, apart from the disastrous sequel, it is impossible to say that there was anything particularly morally wrong about it. It was winter time, and to warm themselves they made a fire in a brazier.

On Wednesday, February 17th, 1836, they spent some time in the belfry, and then, hearing someone come into the tower, and fearing to be caught where they had no business to be, they pushed the brazier behind the tenor box and decamped.

Later in the afternoon someone saw smoke coming from the belfry windows and raised an alarm. Fire engines were soon on the spot but, owing to the height from the ground, the water could not reach the fire, and the firemen confined their efforts towards saving the church, which they did mainly by cutting away part of the roof. A stiff wind was blowing and the fire burnt fiercely. As the floors, beams and frame perished, the bells crashed to the ground, and every one was broken or melted. By seven o'clock the fire was stopped, when the steeple was completely gutted.

The parochial surveyor reported that, besides the destruction of the bells, the roof of the church was partly burnt, the organ so damaged as to require reconstruction, the clock and chimes destroyed, the massive steeple entirely burnt out, and the stonework of the interior materially injured.

Churches in those days were not insured against fire, the damage had to be repaired by public subscription, and the restoration could not be done on the same lavish scale as the church was built. The twelve bells were not replaced, but sufficient metal was salvaged from the debris to make the present ring of eight, the tenor of which is 34 cwt.

The cause of the fire was never officially known. The beadle had good reason to keep his mouth shut, and fear of the consequences was enough to stop the culprits themselves from talking. Even Osborn who, as secretary of the Society of Cumberland Youths had as good an opportunity as anyone for learning the truth, only knew that the fire was caused by some boys who smoked in the belfry. But many years afterwards men like Matthew Wood, Henry Haley, John Cox, and their friends used to tell what happened, and I think we may be sure that they gained their knowledge from something more than hearsay. At the time, Matthew Wood, who saw the fire, was only ten years old, and so could hardly have been in the belfry; but Cox was twenty-three and Haley seventeen, and though there is no proof that they were actually among the culprits, there is not much doubt that they belonged to the same party. Samuel Austin, who wrote an account which is now among the papers belonging to the College Youths, was of an earlier generation, and, like Osborn, was not privy to the secret.

The new bells were cast in 1837, but evidently they did not go too well, and it was not until 1845 that the Cumberlands rang the first peal on them, one of Grandsire Triples with two men to the tenor.

Shortly afterwards eight College Youths rang another peal of Grandsire, and when they published the report in 'The Era' they added, 'It is only fair to remark that this is the first peal on the bells rung by eight men only, another society having failed to do so with the same number of men after several trials, and having only accomplished the same peal after much trouble with nine men.'

But a year later the Cumberlands rang 5,280 changes of Kent Treble Bob Major single handed.

In 1850 both societies rang a peal of Stedman Triples on the bells, and in 1851 the College Youths rang the first non-conducted peal ever accomplished. The composition was Holt's Ten-part, and a local builder had offered a prize of £5 to the first band which should perform the feat.

A few peals have been achieved in the steeple since, the most notable being one of Bristol Surprise, rung just before the Great War on December 20th, 1913, by the Middlesex County Association. Ernest Pye rang the tenor, William Pye called the peal from the seventh, and the band included such well-known ringers as Isaac G. Shade, Bertram Prewett and Alfred W. Grimes, besides C. T. Coles and Reuben Saunders, who are still among us. For several years now the bells have been unringable.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

YEAR'S WORK REVIEWED.

The first meeting of the Norwich Diocesan Association since the war was held at Norwich on December 2nd and was very well supported. Members from Acle, Attleborough, Bergh Apton, Buxton, Forncett, Gressenhall, Halvergate, Mulbarton, Norwich, Reedham, Saxlingham, Swaffham (St. Margaret's), Wymondham and Yarmouth overcame the lack of pool petrol and the terrors of the black-out and congregated at St. Michael-at-Coslany Church, Norwich, and later in St. Miles' Mission Hall.

A number of touches in a variety of methods, including Cambridge and Superlative Surprise, were rung on the historic bells before black-out hour arrived. Then a tea of goodly proportions was assimilated before the business meeting, which was presided over by the association's president, the Rev. Hugh McMullan, Vicar of St. Peter Mancroft.

The ratification of the belfry elections of four ringers was confirmed, and Mr. Robert Gray, of Northrepps, was elected a ringing member.

It was decided to publish a report for the year as usual, and to keep the names of those who had joined the Forces on the books without payment.

A somewhat heated discussion with regard to the holding of meetings during the war and carrying on the other normal activities of the association occupied some time.

The general secretary gave a resumé of the year's work. He said, while 46 new members had been elected, 12 had been lost through death, and, up to date, 42 subscriptions were outstanding, in spite of charmingly worded and beautifully printed reminders which he had sent out There was a balance at present of £3 7s. 11d., and stocks of certificates and badges were exhausted. Thirteen branch meetings had been held, and all except one had been very satisfactory. There were three restorations to report — the recasting and hanging of Hethersett bells, the rehanging of those at Somerleyton and the augmentation of the five at Paston to six. Fifty-one peals, including two on handbells, had been rung, 124 ringers taking part, relying on the skill of 15 conductors.

After the meeting a number of touches were rung on handbells, and two of the party showed their adroitness at tune ringing on bells larger than they normally grab at. Then the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow made his first contribution to a ringing meeting in the diocese by lecturing on his holiday in Norway, in the Arctic Ocean aud in Spitzbergen during June this year.

Mr. Thurlow proved himself to be an expert cameraman, for he brought home with him a colour film of rare beauty, and this film was highly appreciated by the meeting, as was the commentary thereon. Everybody envies Mr. Thurlow's hours in 'Paradise' with that charming young female and his experiences in 'Hell.' N. G.

DEATH OF A VETERAN NORTHANTS RINGER.

THE PASSING OF MR. FRED JONES, OF EARLS BARTON.

We regret to announce the death, at the age of 80 years, of Mr. Fred Jones, of Earls Barton, who passed away, after an illness of a little over a week, at the home of his brother, Mr. E. Jones, of Easton Maudit.

For more than sixty years he had been a ringer at Earls Barton. He began his ringing at Easton Maudit at the age of 18 and joined the Earls Barton band two years later. He was made a member of the old Central Northants Guild at a meeting at Earls Barton on November 27th, 1909, and rang one peal of Minor.

For some years and up to his death he was a member of the committee of the Wellingborough Branch of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild. So keen was he on his art that during recent years he gave up two evenings a week to the instruction of young men who wished to become ringers. He was very proud of Earls Barton's new peal of eight bells and never happier than when up among them seeing to their maintenance.

Although at so ripe an old age, he was a most enthusiastic attendant at branch meetings, and many times he has walked six or more miles to the place of gathering. The funeral took place at Earls Barton Parish Church on Tuesday afternoon, December 5th, when tribute was paid to his work by the Vicar (the Rev. L. A. Ewart). Members of the choir were present, and 'Abide with me' and 'Peace, perfect peace' were sung.

The members of the district present included Messrs. C. W. Partridge, G. Brafield and W. Perkins, and the latter brought with him a wreath as a last tribute of respect from the branch.

In the evening touches of Grandsire Triples and a six-score of Stedman Doubles with 4-6-8 covering were rung with the bells half-muffled Messrs. W. G. Callis (Mears Ashby) and C. W. Partridge (Wilby) were present, and by the kindness of Mr. D. G. Deighton, of Rushden, Messrs. A. Bigley, H. Chambers and W. Perkins, of Irthlingborough, were enabled to help the local band with the ringing.

(Continued from next column.)

Mr. Morris rang in the peal of Stedman Cinques by 12 secretaries, the first 'Ernest' peal, and peals by four sets of brothers (Triples), four fathers and sons (Triples) and five fathers and sons (Royal).

As is well known, Mr. Morris is the author of 'History and Art of Change Ringing,' 'Legends o' the Bells,' and other works, and a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society.

MR. ERNEST MORRIS' 800 PEALS.

INTERESTING RECORDS IN A VARIED LIST.

As was recorded in our last issue, Mr. Ernest Morris, the hon. secretary of the Midland Counties Association, rang his 800th peal on December 2nd at Loughborough Bell Foundry. His peals have been rung in a great variety of methods and include a number of interesting records. There are among them 76 peals of Doubles, 91 peals of Minor, 155 peals of Triples, 301 peals of Major, 82 peals of Caters, 52 peals of Royal, 32 peals of Cinques and 11 peals of Maximus.

		Rung	Conducted	
Doubles:—				
One to 14 methods		76	73	(a)
Minor:—				
One to 12 methods		85	78	(b)
Cambridge Surprise		5	3	
Spliced Minor and Doubles		1	1	
Triples:—				
Grandsire		87	65	
Stedman	(c)	67	15	
Canterbury Pleasure		1	1	
Major:—				
Plain Bob		68	53	(d)
Little Bob		5	5	(e)
Spliced Plain and Little Bob		1	1	
Canterbury Pleasure		2	2	
Little Canterbury		3	3	(f)
Spliced Canterbury and Plain Bob		1	1	
Double Norwich Court Bob		36	12	
Spliced Double Norwich and Plain Bob		1	1	
Shilton		1	1	
Forward		1	1	
Duffield		1		
Kent Treble Bob		25	13	(g)
Oxford Treble Bob		4	2	(h)
Ilkeston Treble Bob		6	3	(i)
Worcester Treble Bob	(j)	2	1	
Liversedge Treble Bob		1	1	
Granta Treble Bob		1	1	
Spliced in three methods		1	1	
Spliced in six methods		1	1	
Spliced Major and Triples		2	2	
Superlative Surprise		37	9	
'Real' Superlative Surprise		1	1	
Cambridge Surprise	(k)	47	10	
'New' Cambridge Surprise		2		
Spliced Cambridge and Superlative Surprise		1	1	
Bristol Surprise		20		
Yorkshire Surprise		3		
York Surprise		1		
Staffordshire Surprise		1		
Pudsey Surprise		1		
London Surprise		24	1	
Caters:—				
Grandsire		17	11	
Stedman		64	14	
Spliced Grandsire and Stedman		1	1	
Royal:—				
Plain Bob		6	4	
Kent Treble Bob		10	5	
Oxford Treble Bob		1	1	
Spliced Kent and Oxford Treble Bob		1		
Cambridge Surprise		27	4	
'New' Cambridge Surprise		1		
Leicester Surprise		2		
Pudsey Surprise		1		
Goldsborough Surprise		1		
York Surprise		1		
Melton Surprise		1		
Cinques:—				
Grandsire		3	2	
Stedman		29	1	
Maximus:—				
Plain Bob		1	1	
Kent Treble Bob		2	1	
Cambridge Surprise		8		
	Total	800	408	

The total includes 52 peals 'in hand.' (a) 6,600 M.C.A. record; (b) 7,200 and 10,080 M.C.A. record; (c) includes heaviest and lightest handbells ever rung; (d) 7,488 Northants record, 7,008, 9,760 (all Singles) and 13,440 M.C.A. record; (e) 6,720 record; (f) 6,720 record; (g) 10,912 M.C.A. record; (h) 7,840 M.C.A. record; (i) 9,120 record; (j) 9,600 record; (k) 7,008 and 12,698 record.

The peals were rung in 207 towers, in 24 counties, for 23 societies.

Mr. Morris has conducted the quickest tower-bell peal (Cambridge Surprise Minor in 1 hour 50 minutes) and the quickest peal of Major on tower bells (Double Norwich in 2 hours 8 minutes). His performances also include the record for towers in one county, viz., 121 in Leicestershire.

(Continued in previous column.)

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.

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LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Sacred Trinity, Salford, on Saturday afternoon, December 16th. Tower open for ringing at 3.30 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—Joseph H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—The next meeting of the Crewe Branch will be held at Alsager (8 bells) on Saturday, December 16th. Ringing from 2.30 p.m.—Richard D. Langford, Hon. Branch Sec., 118, Ruskin Road, Crewe.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Derby District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at St. Michael's, Alvaston, Derby, on December 16th (St. Luke's not being available). Tower ' blacked out,' so come and make use of this handy ring of six. All welcome. Bells available 2.30.—Wm. Lancaster, 83, Albert Road. Chaddesden.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the North-Western Division will be held at Bishops Stortford on December 16th. Ringing from 2 p.m. until dusk. Tea and meeting to be arranged during ringing. —W. Wheeler, Dis. Sec., Mill Street, Harlow Common, Harlow, Essex.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next practice will be held at Burnham (8 bells) on Saturday, December 16th, at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m., and ringing after tea.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough. Phone, Slough 23260.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. —Taunton Deanery.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Taunton, on Saturday, December 16th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Further ringing until 7.30 p.m.—R. W. Hayward, 24, Fairwater Cottages, Taunton.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A gathering in lieu of the postponed annual meeting will be held at the Crown Hotel, Clayton Street, Newcastle, on Saturday, December 16th, at 2.30 p.m. —Roland Park, Hon. Sec., 23, Oaklands Terrace, Darlington.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A ringing meeting will be held at Chatteris on Saturday, December 16th. —F. Warrington.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch, Newport Pagnell Deanery.—A meeting will be held at Clifton Reynes on Saturday, December 16th. Service 3.30. Learners and beginners invited.—Rev. J. F. Amies, Ravenstone Vicarage, Olney, Bucks.

WATFORD.—Herts Association. — District annual meeting, Sat., December 16th, at Parish Church. Ringing from 2.30. Tea in Old School 5. Business meeting after.—C. H. Horton, Bushey. City 4270.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—A practice will be held at Writtle on Saturday, December 16th, at 2 p.m.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—The next meeting will be held at headquarters (The Coffee Pot) on Tuesday, December 19th.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—It is hoped that arrangements may be made to hold a meeting about the third week in January. Further particulars will be published in this column in due course. —G. H. Spice, Hon. Dis. Sec., 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 1,500. Vol. XXXIV. FRIDAY, DECEMBER 22nd, 1939. [Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.] Price 3d.

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RINGING FOR CHRISTMAS.

A letter elsewhere in this issue from the Hon. Secretary of the Central Council further confirms the information which has already been published on the subject of church bell ringing in war time. There are still places in which efforts are being made, under the Control of Noise Order, to restrict the ringing of church bells, but it is not the intention of the Ministry of Home Security that local authorities should do this. The Department, we learn, is, therefore, communicating with the Regional Commissioners on the subject. This step would appear to be necessary, for only this week we have received information that the Chief Constable of Cheshire has forbidden any ringing at a village in that county. There may, of course, be exceptional circumstances in this case, which make it desirable that the bells should not be rung, but, in view of the exception which the order provides, it will be interesting to know the exact grounds upon which the ban is based. It seems obvious, from the fact that the Minister is approaching the Regional Commissioners that there is a misunderstanding in some places, and no doubt the action of the Defence Authorities will put the matter right.

It is gratifying to learn that the Ministry is anxious that, as far as possible, normal ringing shall be continued, even to the extent of including in this category peals of ordinary length. In view of the desire of everyone that the morale of the people shall be maintained at a high level and of the attitude towards keeping up the usual activities of the public outside their working hours, including the encouragement of sport and entertainment, and everything that will lead to the quenching of pessimism or depression, it is of course a natural corollary that no attempt should be made to curtail the ringing of church bells which, taken by and large, is a thing which the great majority of English people like to hear, particularly on Sundays and on special occasions. Among the latter are the great festivals, and there is no occasion when the sound of church bells strikes the popular imagination more than on Christmas morning. Then, too, the ringing of bells at the passing of the old year, and their joyous pealing in the first minutes of the new year is not only a traditional practice in very many places, but is awaited with pleasant, and we may say, sentimental anticipation by vast numbers of people. It is a little surprising, therefore, to find doubts in the mind of the Ministry concerning ringing early on Christmas morning or at the passing of the old year. We wonder whether doubts would have arisen about these two occasions unless the sug-

(Continued on page 750.)

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gestion had been made to the Ministry. The Hon. Secretary of the Council asks for a voluntary abstention from ringing on these two traditional occasions, principally, it appears, on the ground that it may disturb the rest of those who are engaged on work of national importance. We think this is taking a somewhat exaggerated view of the possible effect. This particular early morning and late night ringing is something which the public expect and, provided a reasonable spirit is shown in the hour and duration of the ringing, we must say we feel bound to disagree, and we do it somewhat regretfully, with the suggestion of the Council's secretary. The early morning ringing on Christmas Day and late ringing on New Year's Eve will be impossible in many towers, because of the lighting restrictions, but wherever it is possible and has been customary we believe the public will desire to have the traditional practice maintained and, indeed, will be disappointed if they fail to hear the bells. To ring on these occasions will only be to carry out, in one more direction, the aim which we all desire to achieve, namely, that of keeping up the public spirit and, after all, in as far as Christmas is concerned, what more appropriate action can be taken, in this distracted and war-ridden world, than to herald the festival with a reminder of the great message of 'Peace on Earth good will to men,' which perhaps summarises, better than any other phrase, what we and our Allies are fighting for.

OUR 1,500th NUMBER.

This is the fifteen hundredth issue of 'The Ringing World.' Established in 1911, this paper has endeavoured to foster the interest of ringers and raise the standard of ringing throughout these 28 years. With the exception of one week during the general strike of 1926, when publication was impossible, 'The Ringing World' has never failed to appear. Even in the vicissitudes of the last war the paper was published with the greatest regularity and, now that the country is once more in the throes of a similar struggle, we hope we may be able to continue similar service to the Exercise. We hope, also, that ringers will, in these difficult days, continue to give us their full support. It is not only during the present that this support is important to 'The Ringing World,' but it is important also for the future of ringing; for recovery from the present difficulties will be infinitely greater if there is no journal to help co-ordinate effort and keep ringers in touch with what is being done. This fifteen hundredth number is a suitable occasion, therefore, once more to direct attention to the imperative needs of this journal to the future fortunes of the Exercise.

OVER, CAMBS.—At St. Mary's Parish Church on December 4th, 720 Double Court Minor: W. I. Ginn 1, F. Warrington (conductor) 2, G. E. Crisp 3, D. Adams 4, C. Robinson 5, A. W. T. Ginn 6, W. Thorpe tenor (covering). First 720 Double Court by ringers of 1, 4, 5 and 6 (with no previous practice).

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TEN BELL PEAL.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 16, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5031 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

CHARLES A. HUGHES ...	...*Treble*	*HERBERT G. ANDREWS ...	6
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ...	2	JAMES W. CHAPMAN	7
MISS OLIVE L. ASHBROOK...	3	GEORGE W. DEBENHAM ...	8
HENRY G. MILES...	4	THOMAS W. TAFFENDER ...	9
CHARLES W. OXTLEY	5	†HAROLD W. ROGERS ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by THOS. H. TAFFENDER.

* First peal in the method and on ten bells. † First peal on ten bells. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last mark of respect to the late Mr. Harry Mance, late Southern District Master of this association.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

ALDENHAM, HERTS.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 9, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, BRISTOL, CAMBRIDGE & SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

EDWARD P. ASHBY ...	...*Treble*	CHARLES T. COLES	5
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	2	CECIL C. MAYNE	6
EDWIN A. BARNETT	3	EDWIN JENNINGS	7
FREDERICK W. BRINELOW ...	4	HAROLD G. CASHMORE	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

The peal consisted of 2,240 London, 1,664 Bristol and 576 each Cambridge and Superlative, with 115 changes of method.

BRENTWOOD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 16, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS-THE-MARTYR,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

EDWARD T. SITCH ...	...*Treble*	*REGINALD W. DARVILL ...	5
ERNEST W. FORBANK	2	JOHN H. SITCH	6
HARRY TORNER	3	ALBERT E. PRYKE	7
FRANK B. LOPKIN	4	ROBERT C. HEAZEL ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. HUNT. Conducted by FRANK B. LOPKIN.

* First peal of Double Norwich. First peal of Double Norwich as conductor.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, December 9, 1939, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT 81, BAKER STREET, SPARKHILL.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor size 17 in B flat.

DANIEL T. MATKIN	1-2	GEORGE F SWANN	7-8
ALBERT WALKER	3-4	FRANK E. HAYNES	9-10
FRANK E. PERVIN...	5-6	*MORRIS J. MORRIS ...	...11-12

Composed by JOHN CARTER Conducted by ALBERT WALKER

* 120th peal of Stedman Cinques. Rung in honour of the gift of a son to Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Reynolds (nee Winnie Walker), also of the 41st wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. A. Walker (the grandparents).

SURFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, December 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT GLYN GARTH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 13 in E.

MRS. R. RICHARDSON	1-2	*ALBERT H. FIRTH	5-6
RUPERT RICHARDSON	3-4	*CYRIL WANDER	7-8

Composed by F. A. HOLDEN. Conducted by RUPERT RICHARDSON.

* First peal 'in hand.'

HARROW, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, December 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,

AT 170, HEADSTONE LANE.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

CECIL C. MAYNE	1-2	HAROLD G. CASHMORE ...	5-6
CHRIS. W. WOOLLEY	3-4	EDWIN JENNINGS	7-8

Composed by J. B. WOOLLEY. Conducted by C. W. WOOLLEY.

HEVINGHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, December 17, 1939, in One Hour and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF W. C. MEDLER,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

JACK N. A. POMPHREY... ...	1-2
WALTER C. MEDLER	3-4
ERIC DURRANT	5-6

Conducted by ERIC DURRANT

First handbell peal of Treble Bob by all. First handbell peal as conductor. Believed to be the first handbell peal of Oxford Minor for the association.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE WESTERN BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the Western Branch was held on Saturday, December 2nd, at Kempsey, where there is a peal of six, tenor 15 cwt. There were 38 members present from Claines, Crowle, Grimley, Hallow, Powick, Suckley, Upton-on-Severn, Worcester Cathedral and St. John's and the local band. Ringing began promptly at 2.30 p.m. and the bells were kept going in a variety of methods, from Grandsire to London Surprise, till 4.15 p.m., when all the ringers adjourned to the Vicarage for tea, which was generously supplied by the Vicar (the Rev E. B. R. de Jersey) and Mrs. de Jersey.

After tea the business meeting was held, presided over by the Vicar, who gave a hearty welcome to all and remarked that, apart from the pleasure ringers obtained from bellringing, it was a work for God and was much appreciated in every parish.

Mr A. Morgan reported that for various reasons they had been unable to attempt the last quarterly peal, which should have been rung at Shelsley Beauchamp. Mr. G. E. Large proposed and Mr. E. Wilson seconded that the next quarterly peal should be attempted at Kempsey with as many of the local band as possible and to be conducted by Mr. E. F. Cubberley.

All the officers were re-elected, viz.: Master, Mr. C. Camm, Upton-on-Severn; secretary, Mr. E. F. Cubberley, Kempsey; representative to the Central Committee, Mr. W. Ranford, Suckley. Two new members were elected, Miss M. Butcher and Mr. Derrington, both of Kempsey.

It was decided that the next meeting should be at Claines, when two new bells would, most likely, have been added, making a ring of ten.

Mr S. T. Holt read a circular issued by the Central Council on the use of bells in war time. He then put forward a suggestion that practices should be arranged on Saturday afternoons while the war lasted This was carried unanimously, and the arrangements for the first meeting were left to the Master and the secretary.

A collection was made for the Belfry Repair Fund, and Mr. J. R. Newman proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar and Mrs. de Jersey, which was carried with applause. The Vicar briefly responded and told all the members to come again.

The ringers then returned to the tower and the bells were kept going till 8 o'clock.

NORTHERN BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE CONTINUED.

A good meeting of the Northern Branch of the Worcestershire and Districts Association was held at Wollaston on Saturday, December 9th. The election of officers took place, and as the hon. secretary (Mr. N. Goodman) had been called up for the Army, a new appointment had to be made.

Mr. J Lloyd was elected Ringing Master. Mr. B. Ashford was appointed to fill the office of branch secretary. Mr. J. Bass was elected as a representative on the Central Committee.

Ringing was carried out in various methods before the service and again for about an hour in the evening. The tone and go of the bells was favourably commented on. They have recently been retuned and rehung by Messrs. Taylor and Co.

The curate (the Rev. Craze), who presided at the meeting, gave a short account of how the money for the bells had been raised.

The Vicar is now acting as a padre in the Army. The Association Ringing Master (Mr. S. T. Holt) was present in spite of the awkward travelling and black-out.

The quarterly peal was arranged to be rung at Wollaston, the date being left in the hands of Mr. J. Bass, the chairman saying he would do what he could to get permission.

It was decided to carry on with the quarterly meetings, and the next will be held in January at Wordsley, by kind invitation of Wordsley ringers.

WITH PENCIL AND PAPER.

THE IN AND OUT OF COURSE OF THE CHANGES.

Our last week's talk on pricking changes will give us a good insight into another important matter connected with change ringing. That is the in and out of course of the changes or, as we more often say now, the nature of the rows.

This is a thing which at a very early time forced itself on the notice of ringers. As far back as the middle of the seventeenth century Robert Roan set himself the task of composing a six-score on five bells produced by all double changes. He got as far as a three-score and then found that, in order to get the full extent he must make two Singles. As he had produced our familiar 120 of Grandsire Doubles he had not laboured in vain.

Roan evidently was a clever man, and perhaps he could see the reason for it all, and why he failed to get the extent of a five-bell method with all double changes. The men who followed him were just as sure from experience that the thing was not possible, but why it should be so seemed to them too deep to be understood, and the in-and-out-of-course of the changes came to be looked upon as a mathematical mystery which could be recognised, but which could hardly be explained.

Several of the older authors attempted to give an explanation, but their writing only showed the fog which was in their own minds, and it was left to Jasper Snowden, first in 'Church Bells' and then in his 'Treatise of Treble Bob,' to give the first satisfactory explanation of the matter. Even his description rather defeats its own ends by being overweighted and attempting to explain too much.

For the only difficulty about the question is its extreme simplicity. This is not a paradox, for simple things, just because they are simple and elementary, are the hardest to explain.

We saw last week that each row is produced from the preceding row by transposing a certain number of pairs of bells. Those rows which are produced directly or indirectly from rounds by transposing an even number of pairs are the even or in-course rows; and those which are produced directly, or indirectly, from rounds by transposing an odd number of pairs of bells are the odd or out-of-course rows.

That is the full explanation of the matter, but one or two other things should be said.

When we get 21436587 from 12345678 we produce it directly from rounds by transposing four pairs of bells, and as four is an even number the row is an even row.

But very few rows are or can be got directly from rounds in this way. Between most of them and rounds many other rows intervene. In those cases we count all the pairs of bells which have been transposed in the intervening changes, and as the total number is odd or even so is the resultant row an odd or an even row.

For it is a mathematical fact that, though any row can be produced indirectly from rounds in a great number of ways, if one of those ways involves the transposition of an odd number of pairs of bells so do all the ways. And if one involves the transposition of an even number of pairs of bells so do all the ways. You can never get a row from rounds in one way by transposing an odd number of pairs, and in another way by transposing an even number of pairs, though you may be able to get it by transposing any one of a great number of pairs, all of which are even or all of which are odd.

Nowadays we usually talk about rows being odd or even. Some people prefer 'positive' and 'negative,' which are terms not nearly so suitable, although it is customary when marking the nature of rows to use the + sign for the even rows and the — sign for the odd rows.

Older writers and, indeed, the whole Exercise, until the last forty or fifty years used the terms 'in-course' and 'out-of-course.'

Now most of the terms we use in change ringing did not appear because once upon a time someone invented them. Nearly all of them are ordinary English words which came into use naturally because they expressed the idea which was in the minds of the people at the time. Only in the course of time did they harden into technical terms with precise and limited meanings.

When we remember this we can often recapture what was in the minds of the old ringers by studying the terms they used.

For instance, 'in-course' and 'out-of-course' do not seem very good terms to distinguish between rows of opposite nature, and in fact that was not what the early ringers meant when they use the terms. They knew from experience that if two bells got shifted, no arrangement of bob calling would bring the bells round at backstroke. So they said the bells were out of course. They did not apply the term to individual rows. From the time a shift had taken place, or a single had been made, until the shift had been put right or another single had been made, all the changes were out of course, though the rows might be some odd and some even.

To this day the expression 'out of course' is often used with this meaning and quite legitimately. When ringing is going on, it is a great help to the conductor if he can tell at any time whether the bells are in or out of course in this sense of the words, and there are more than one way of so doing. One way is to notice particular rows which come up and of which you know the nature. You know, for instance, that if the course end 42365 turned up, the bells are out of course. The better way is to judge by the natural coursing order of the bells. Those conductors who have studied coursing order and made use of it when calling peals can tell in a surprisingly quick time whether the bells are in course or out of course.

DEATH OF MR. E. A. PERRETT, OF ROWDE.

The death took place on Thursday morning, December 7th, of Mr. E. A. Perrett at his residence in Marsh Lane, Rowde. He had been in failing health for the last two years, and took to his bed about ten days before his passing. The funeral was on Saturday week at Rowde Church, where he had been a choirman and bellringer for 50 years, and also for some time the sexton. He took a keen interest in ringing, was the captain of the local band and a most loyal member of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild.

There was a large congregation at the service, which was choral. Miss Wright, one of the ringers, was at the organ, the choir were present, and the Rector (the Rev. P. H. Opperman) officiated. Among the congregation were Mr. C. D. Heginbotham (representing the Salisbury Guild) and several members from Devizes.

His own band of ringers then rang the bells half-muffled, after which 360 changes of Grandsire Doubles were rung by A. T. Weeks 1, C. D. Heginbotham 2, S. Hillier 3, G England 4, F. Green 5, T. Ferris 6. Among the wreaths was one sent by the Devizes ringers.

CIRENCESTER, GLOS.—On Sunday, November 19th, to mark the dedication festival of Holy Trinity Church, Watermoor, 1,120 Kent Treble Bob Major: F. J. Lewis, sen. (conductor) 1, A. W. Baldwin 2, H. S. Parsons 3, A. Painter 4, H. L. Cooke 5, W. Godwin (longest length in the method) 6, F. J. Lewis, jun. 7, W. H. Harward 8.

DEATH OF MR. ABRAHAM HAIGH.

MEMBER OF YORK MINSTER SOCIETY.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Abraham Haigh, of York, which occurred suddenly on Wednesday, December 13th, after a seizure, at the ripe age of 85 years. He had carried out his duties almost to the end, and was present at the Minster on the previous Sunday morning, after walking the 2½ miles from New Earswick, his usual custom each Sunday, no bus service being available to enable him being present in time to ring.

Mr. Haigh was elected a member of York Minster Society in the year 1876, and remained a member with the exception of about ten years spent at Gillingham, Kent, at his trade of engineer in H.M. Dockyards. He continued to follow the art along with his brother William Haigh, a respected member of Kent County Association. He had been a member of the Yorkshire Association since the year 1875. Until the last year or two, when advancing years compelled him to ring one of the smaller bells, he was always at the heavy end, usually at the eleventh.

The funeral was on Friday, December 15th, at SS. Philip and James' Church, Clifton, where he first learnt to handle a bell and where he continued to be an active ringer and choirman until the end (with the exception of the time absent in Kent). His remains were afterwards interred at Huntington Churchyard.

The majority of the Minster ringers were present to show their regard for one whose ever jovial smile and good companionship will be greatly missed.

On Sunday, the 17th, the bells at Clifton Church were rung half-muffled by the local company, assisted by Mr. W. Haigh, Kent, and Mr. Fuller, Farnham, Surrey, as a last token of respect.

DEATH OF MR. ALFRED PYE.

We learn with regret of the death of Mr. Alfred Pye, of Seven Kings, Essex. He was buried on Saturday at Aldborough Hatch, near Ilford.

The late Mr. Pye was one of the famous family, which included the late William and Ernest Pye and Mr. George R. Pye, of Chadwell Heath.

Although he had not been so conspicuous in the Exercise as his brothers, Mr. Alfred Pye, nevertheless, took part in many peals. He served for over twenty years in the Army as staff-sergeant.

He was a member of the Royal Cumberland Youths, as well as of the Essex, Middlesex and Kent Associations.

THE FIRST PEAL OF MAXIMUS AT BOW.

AN ACCOUNT BY AN OUTSIDER.

What is probably the best book ever written on the churches of London contains the following passage in its account of St. Mary-le-Bow. Ringers will read it with amusement, and it shows how badly astray even clever and well-informed men can go when they try to write about bells and bellringing.

'The 1881 set of twelve bells were not rung with all the full honours of a "maximus" or twelve-bell method till January 19th, 1907. On that occasion a select party from the Ancient Society of College Youths—who were established in 1637, and have always since that date been the Bow Church ringers—rang a touch on the method known among campanologists as "Triple Bob Maximus," which, if I mistake not, is the *ne plus ultra* of twelve-bell ringing.

'The completion of the same would have taken nearly thirty-eight years. The "Youths" got as far as 5,088 changes, which appears to be a certain stage in the proceedings, in four hours and one minute, working at terrific speed. This would give four bell strokes per second, and each ringer would pull once in three seconds. To do this for the larger bells must require enormous skill.

'There was a continuous roar of sound, but one can hardly say much campanological beauty, for the whole of the four hours. The noise in the belfry must have been pandemonian. However, after this ceremony one must suppose that the bells may be considered baptised and ready for any sort of service.'

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

WEST DORSET BRANCH EFFORTS TO CARRY ON.

The annual meeting of the West Dorset Branch was held at Bridport on December 2nd, and was, naturally, much affected by transport difficulties and other restrictions. Arrangements had been made for Bridport tower to be open from 1.30 p.m., and eventually some 15 members mustered from Bridport, Beaminster and Lyme Regis.

At the business meeting held in the tower the officers of the branch were unanimously re-elected, and the chairman, the Rev. C. Carew Cox, expressed the hope that all bands would do their utmost to keep together and uphold the ringing for Sunday services at least. Evening practices were likely to be be resumed at Beaminster, but were not possible at present at Lyme owing to the close proximity of the church to the sea.

It was decided to abandon the February meeting and hold one at Bradpole in May.

The bells were kept going in Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major during the afternoon and evening.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The war-time derangement of the postal services and the necessity of getting the copies of 'The Ringing World' into the hands of the publishers earlier on Thursday make it absolutely essential that all contributions to our columns, and particularly all notices, should be in our hands by MONDAY in each week. We cannot guarantee the insertion in the following issue of anything received later.

We hope that secretaries will send us prompt reports of their meetings, and we shall welcome any items of news relating to ringers and ringing, but they must reach us early.

The Editor of 'The Ringing World' extends Greetings to all his readers, and expresses the hope that, in these troublous times, they will keep a good heart and courage.

BELFRY GOSSIP.

Messrs. Mears and Stainbank have just completed the rehanging of the eight bells at St. Mary's, Gateshead, in new framework.

The bells at Tewin, Herts, have been increased to six by the addition of a new treble. The work has been carried out by the Whitechapel Foundry.

On December 17th, 1888, the first peal of Canterbury Pleasure Major was rung at Warnham in Sussex. The band had rung peals of Bob Major and Oxford Bob Triples in the same tower on the two previous days. Canterbury Pleasure was generally known as 'Bob Major spoilt,' a not inappropriate name. Also on this date, in 1810, the Richmond ringers rang 8,448 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Major.

December 18th was the anniversary of the first peal accomplished in the county of Devon. The method was Grandsire Triples and it was rung at St. Sidwell's, Exeter, by a band of ringers from Huntsham, assisted by William Banister, of Devonport, who conducted. C. A. W. Troyte rang the seventh. He did much for the art not only in the West, but, by means of his well-known text book, throughout the country.

Banister, who had been one of a very skilful band at Woolwich, was also the author of a text-book on ringing, which was largely modelled on Hubbard's 'Campanalogia.'

On December 19th, 1853, a band of the Cumberland Youths, which included John Cox and Henry Haley, rang 5,040 changes of Stedman Triples in hand. William Cooter, who heard the peal, asserted that Cox changed his bells and put them right again just before a part end came up. As his assertion seems to be a well-founded one, the honour of ringing the first double-handed peal in the method belongs to the College Youths.

On the same date in 1730 Benjamin Annable called a peal of Bob Triples at St. Saviour's, Southwark, the only five thousand ever achieved on the old eight bells in that tower.

It was a very fine heavy bell feat when, on December 19th, 1925, William Pye turned the famous old Bow tenor in to 7,392 changes of Cambridge Maximus.

Last Wednesday was the one hundred and thirty-third anniversary of the long peal of Stedman Cinques at Christ Church, Spitalfields, mentioned in our last issue. Thirty years later on the same date the Junior Society of College Youths rang 5,001 changes of Stedman Caters at Southwark.

On Christmas Eve, 1934, the last peal connected with the Australian tour was rung. It was a peal of Bob Major on the Red Sea, rung by the remnant of the party making the homeward trip via Suez. Five of the rest were steaming eastward and two had been left behind in India.

Mr. William B. Cartwright's friends no doubt will be interested to hear that he has passed the solicitors' final examination held by the Law Society.

DEATH OF MR. JOHN H. CHEESMAN.

A TALENTED RINGER.

We much regret to announce the death of Mr. John H. Cheesman, late of Greenhithe, Kent, who was well known to so many of our readers as a leading ringer and conductor. Two years ago Mr. Cheesman fell and broke his arm, and since then he had not been really well, but had spent much time in various hospitals, including a month in Guy's, ten weeks in Gravesend General Hospital, and about six weeks in the County Hospital at Dartford.

At the outbreak of the war he and Mrs. Cheesman removed to Margate, where at first he seemed to pick up a little, but he had to enter the local hospital, where he underwent three operations, the last on Wednesday, December 13th, from which he did not recover, but passed away early last Friday.

Mr. Cheesman was born on January 23rd, 1872, at Stowting, near Folkestone. He learnt to ring on the five bells in his native village,



THE LATE MR. J. H. CHEESMAN.

and on his seventeenth birthday, rang and conducted his first peal at Lyminge, turning in the 18 cwt. tenor to seven 720's of Bob Minor.

Soon afterwards he moved to North Kent and joined the very active band at Crayford. At the age of 19 he rang the tenor at St. John's, Erith, to 10,080 changes of Canterbury Pleasure Major in 5 hours and 50 minutes.

In the year 1894 he went to New Zealand, but he felt the absence of ringing there, and four years later returned home. Erith in those days, was the scene of much peal ringing, and the late William Pye and his brothers were often there. On April 3rd, 1899, 15,072 of Double Norwich was rung; on April 9th the first peal of London Surprise by Mr. Cheesman and the brothers Pye; on April 22nd a peal of Double Norwich; on May 6th a peal of Stedman Triples; on May 17th a peal of Duffield Major; and on June 1st a peal of Superlative Surprise. Also at Erith on Boxing Day, 1898, he took part in 10,464 of Kent Treble Bob Major. Altogether at this tower he rang about 150 peals, and very nearly as many at Crayford.

His other long lengths included the 18,027 of Stedman Caters at Loughborough in 1909, which took 12 hours and 18 minutes, and was at the time the record length in any method; the 15,264 of Bristol Surprise Major at Hornchurch in 1912 (in which he never made a trip); the 7,392 of Cambridge Maximus at St. Mary-le-Bow in 1925; and 11,008 of Double Norwich at Erith in 1927.

As a conductor he had few equals, and no composition was too difficult for him. He was particularly brilliant in calling Stedman and conducted about 200 peals in that method on all numbers, in-

(Continued in next column.)

THE RINGING OF CHURCH BELLS.

CIVIL DEFENCE REGULATIONS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—At the beginning of November I was able to issue a notice regarding the above which had the approval of the Ministry of Home Security. This notice had been under discussion for some time prior to its issue, but publication was delayed so as not to anticipate the Control of Noise No. 2 Order.

Since the issue of this circular many reports of objections by the police have reached me, these being principally through misinterpretation of the No. 2 Order.

In some cases ringers and incumbents are uncertain as to the position. I am now able to state the following:—

1. The approved circular is confirmed.

2. The words 'customary manner' mean service ringing, i.e., Sundays, saints' days and other festivals, etc., weekly practice, association meetings, and peals of normal length. The Ministry are anxious that, so far as is possible, all normal ringing shall be continued. The Ministry are also aware that peals of normal length take approximately three to four hours.

3. To overcome the difficulties which have arisen at various places the Ministry are communicating with all Regional Commissioners on Home Security enclosing a copy of the circular, together with the further particulars above.

The one question which is causing some anxiety to the Ministry concerns midnight and early morning ringing at Christmas and for the New Year. There is nothing in the Control of Noise Act to prohibit this ringing, so may I ask for a voluntary abandonment of these ancient practices during the present troubles? Ringers are asked to remember that many engaged on work of national importance may be enjoying a well-earned rest, and that it is important that this brief holiday should not be disturbed.

I am grateful to those who have advised me of their difficulties and would ask that they would again approach those who are responsible, with a request that the matter be referred to the Regional Commissioner. If no satisfaction is obtained and they will write to me again, the Ministry will be advised.

In all cases please try to avoid bad feeling with those who are trying to serve us all in the interests of public security.

May I invite all those who communicate with the Ministry to send me a copy of their letter, or write to me direct, as the Ministry are now referring ringing matters to me, and with full particulars to hand I may be of greater assistance to everybody.

GEORGE W. FLETCHER,
Hon. Secretary, Central Council.

RINGING THE OLD YEAR OUT.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I suppose ringing in the New Year will be out of the question this year. And yet it seems to me there would be no danger, especially so far west as this, in ringing a short touch.

Martock, Somerset. F. FARRANT.

There is nothing, in law, to prevent church bells being rung at the departure of the old year, provided, of course, the regulations relating to the lighting restrictions are observed. The Control of Noise (Defence) (No. 2) Order provides that no instrument shall be sounded except for air raid signal purposes, or 'in such circumstances that the sound of the instrument is not liable to be mistaken for any such signal.' Church bells, ringing in the customary way, could not, of course, be mistaken for an air raid signal, and, under the Order, there is no restriction as to the hours during which church bells may be rung.—EDITOR, 'Ringing World.'

WAR-TIME RINGING ARRANGEMENTS.

Nuneaton: 10 a.m. and 2.15 p.m.
Stepney, St. Dunstan's: 10 to 10.30 a.m. and 3 to 3.30 p.m. (revised times). Practice, Saturdays, 2.30 p.m. fortnightly.
Hereford Cathedral: 2 to 3 p.m. and 10 to 11 a.m. every third Sunday.
Lyme Regis: 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.
Maulden, Beds: Practice, Wednesday, 7.15 p.m.
Sible Hedingham: 10.15 a.m. and 2.15 p.m.

(Continued from previous column.)

cluding Carter's Odd Bob one-part peal, all of them from non-observation bells.

He rang in the first John name peal, one of London Surprise at St. Stephen's, Rochester Row, in 1904; and called the second, one of Superlative Surprise at St. John's, Waterloo Road, in 1905. He also called the John peal of Stedman Cinques rung at St. Giles', Cripplegate, on November 23rd, 1912.

By calling Middleton's peal of Cambridge at Crayford on December 17th, 1935, he reached his thousandth peal, and in the following February he was one of a band, all of whom had gained a similar record, who rang the same composition at St. Olave's, Hart Street.

John Cheesman will be remembered not only as a brilliant ringer, but as a quiet unassuming man with sterling qualities which endeared him to a host of friends, who will mourn his death.

The funeral took place last Wednesday at Stone Cemetery, near Dartford

THE MUSIC OF CATERS.

EFFECTS OF THE TITTUM POSITION.

By Edgar C. Shepherd.

The history of change ringing, like the history of other branches of music, is the story of the growth of Art Forms. Musically, the establishment of Form in change ringing was not possible until ringing was practised on higher numbers than six bells. On the lesser numbers there was mathematical Form and Truth, but beyond an innate desire to keep 5.6 the right way in Minor, nothing could be done on any musical plan.

From the moment, however, when that great genius, Ben Annable, ' saw no reason for parting the tenors in a peal of five or six thousand,' a musical Form may be said to have been established. What was the basis of this musical Form? It was undoubtedly the principle of making the heavy bells (perhaps two, or perhaps more) play a tune of their own and to play it as they coursed to and fro amid the embroidery of sound from the lesser bells.

If you listen to one of those grand old chorales of J. S. Bach you will notice how the simple strong tune is wrapped round and round with a beautiful decoration of other melodies. They weave over and under the tune, and yet the tune stands out from its framework, going on sturdily among the marvellous patterns of the added melodies. In a much lesser degree it is so with the use of the heavy bells on the higher numbers. In Major it may be only the beating of 7 and 8 as they course to and fro among the pattern their brethren are making, or it may be the more satisfying tune that 6, 7 and 8 can make; but it is this persistence that provides rhythmic pleasure to what would otherwise be an unrhythmical succession of sounds.

The ringing of Caters provided, of course, scope for a big advance in musical Form. To judge by the old peals given in ' Campanalogia ' (about 1700) the early ringing of Caters was a very jumbled business. It was not as if the heavy bells were kept in their plain course positions (as is suggested by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies). They were allowed to take their chance. The small bells were the half-hunts, while the big bells wandered about quite aimlessly. When, however, Annable threw them ' into the harmonious tittums ' he performed a service for change ringing as great as that performed for instrumental music by Haydn. The Symphony is, of course, far and away above the Tittum position in its sublimity, but both are the products of the love of Form so marked in the 18th century.

The Tittum position provided a satisfying tune, 7-8-9, and the ' framework ' of the bells was big enough for them to be heard a great deal on their journeys from front to back and back to front. The result was a delight that has never palled. In addition we were provided with the beautiful termination 978 and the termination 7-89. The 8.9 termination is worth noting. The 8.9 alone was good, but how much better it was with 7 close at hand.

The position was so satisfying that it was quite a long time before the thought of adding to it became a conscious one. It is true that the peals of Annable, Reeves and Gross show the 6th behind the 9th, but it is not until the time of stout old John Martin, of Leicester, that we find this position fully appreciated. For Martin the Tittum position was sublime, and he does not hesitate to record his delight in it. To it he added the joy of using the 6th. We find in his peal book a reverence and admiration for the blocks of changes with the 6th behind the 9th, and he loses no opportunity of drawing our attention to compositions in which he has incorporated what he calls ' the long twelve-hundred course with ye 6th behind ye 9th.' And there is no doubt that the 6th was a royal addition. The tune 7-8-9 was very pleasant, but 7-8-9-6 was a greater joy. The termination 7-89 was very good, but 7689 was the quintessence.

The old classical plan of long-course calling, with bobs on 8.9 and 7.8, did not lend itself to the retention of a bell in 6th's place, and it was not until the time of Tebbs, at the beginning of the 19th century, that the short-course plan gave opportunities for the 6th to be fixed in front of the 7th. Here was a new effect. One missed the 7689 termination, but in place of it there was a grandeur in the new tune 6-7-8-9 rolling down to the front, and uplift in the surge of 9-8-7-6 towards the back.

It is one of those inexplicable mysteries that, while the plain course position 6789 is comparatively uninteresting, the inverted plain course position, usually called the Handstroke Position, is so very beautiful. But it is so. The termination 7698, followed by 6789, seems trite and commonplace, but 6789, followed at backstroke by 7698, achieves a great measure of beauty and majesty.

Although the position was found in the middle of the 18th century, it does not seem to have been appreciated and exploited until nearly a hundred years later. It was certainly used for bringing the bells round at hand, and Henry Cooper, in his peal, dated 1816, used two or three courses in the position; but until the middle of the 19th century the musical aim seems to have been to keep the bells in the Tittums as long as possible. From the middle of the 19th century, however, the ' Handstroke Home ' position was exploited fully, and, while it has never equalled the Tittum position, it has been its closest rival.

The effect of ' open leads ' is nowhere demonstrated so clearly as in the difference between the Tittums and the Inverted Tittums. In the latter the music is at handstroke, and while it cannot compare with the Tittum position, yet one feels that Mr. Trollope is hardly fair when he calls it very poor stuff. It is certainly the best form for muffled ringing, where the open handstrokes need the best music, and when employed in this way it can be very noble and awe-inspiring.

The earliest attempt to use the position systematically appears in a long touch given in Shipway's book of 1816, but it was left to the end of the 19th century to adopt it for the specific purpose of muffled ringing. In this particular Form the use of the 6th should be noted. If you wish to get the 7689 termination you must have the 6th at home, whereas it will be recollected, in the Tittums the 6th must be fifth's-place bell to produce this termination.

From the middle of the 19th century onwards many experiments were carried out in the use of the back bells in different positions, but, apart from the Tittums and the Inverted Tittums, none of these placings is very satisfactory without the constant attendance of the 6th. Using the 6th in conjunction with variation of the position of 7, 8, and 9, however, some fine musical effects can be secured. Thus, 7968 is good as a termination, and the ' tune ' is 7-6-8-9. The 7896 position is a handsome

(Continued in next column.)

THE DEKYNS OF COVENTRY.

MEDIÆVAL BELL RINGERS.

By J. Armiger Trollope.

In the year 1834 a man who signed himself 'T.S.' sent to the 'British Magazine' a transcript of two ancient manuscripts, which were preserved in the vestry of Holy Trinity Church, Coventry. They are a copy of the 'constitutions of the office of the deacons' in that church, drawn up in the year 1462, and they have great historical value, not only as showing the duties of parochial officers at the time, but also (and for us ringers much more important) as throwing a good deal of light on the conditions of early ringing and the genesis of the Exercise. The dekyns were two in number, a senior and his fellow. As we read, we quickly realise that they were not deacons in the correct meaning of the word, but the term is used as the equivalent of 'clerk,' which is frequently employed in the same sense in contemporary writings.

The diaconate was originally founded, as we know from the Acts of the Apostles, as a body of men who should attend to the temporal and mundane affairs of the Church and save the apostles from the necessity of 'serving tables'; and much of the original idea still clung (at least in theory) to the office through the succeeding ages. But long before the Middle Ages it had become, which it is to-day, little more than a novitiate to the priesthood, though all along there were men who remained, for some reason or other, in deacon's orders throughout their lives, with no intention of taking the higher step. This was not uncommon in the post-Reformation Church of England, notably among the fellows of colleges at the two universities.

One of the duties of the deacons in early times was to assist the priest at Mass, both by making the necessary preparations and at the actual celebration. At High Mass the three ministers were the priest, the deacon and the sub-deacon, the chief duties of the two last being to read the gospel and epistle. This custom has been retained in the Church of England, whenever it is possible, although the titles are not used in the Prayer Book.

What we have to notice is that the duties, and, to some extent, the title of the deacon were dissociated from the actual order of deacons. The deacon at High Mass might be, and usually was, in priestly orders, or he might be a bishop, as is always the case in the Coronation service. Of course, the superior orders included the lesser.

On the other hand, much of the deacon's duties were performed by men who were not in major orders at all.

These Coventry constitutions give an interesting example of this confusion of titles and duties. The senior dekyn had to 'find a dekyn to read the gospel at hye masse every sonday ond woly (holy) day.' He was not to read it himself—he was not qualified. It is rather a strange order, but it shows that he was responsible for all the arrangements of the service and for seeing that the necessary ministers were available.

The dekyns of Coventry, then, were not, strictly speaking, deacons at all, but belonged to that body of men who were usually referred to as 'clerks.' They were not laymen. They were clerics in minor orders and enjoyed the 'benefit of clergy,' which was one of the causes of the bitter disputes between Church and State in the Middle Ages. They claimed exemption from the jurisdiction of the Civil Courts and could not be punished by the king's officers, even for such crimes as murder, until they had been condemned by an ecclesiastical court, and degraded from their orders. This benefit of clergy lingered long after the Reformation and was not finally abolished until the beginning of the last century, the last people to enjoy it being, oddly enough, the members of the House of Lords.

The clerks as a body took an important part in Church life. In secular conventual churches, in the many hospitals, in colleges connected with parish churches, and in the parish churches themselves they were indispensable. Socially and in importance they were at least the equals of the chantry priests, and, though they were inferior in status to the incumbents, they all came from much the same class of people, and there was no great social distinction between them.

In the Coventry manuscripts we have a detailed list of the duties of the two dekyns, which do not differ in essentials from those of the clerks throughout the country.

At half past six in the morning of every week day the second dekyn had to be at the church to unlock the doors for Matins. If it was a commemoration, that is, an ordinary saint's day (of which there were many), the first dekyn had to be there, too, to help to ring 'all in.' They got ready the books and vestments and assisted at Mass, and at High Mass sang in the choir.

After the service was done the first dekyn was responsible for seeing that the chalice and books were safely locked up in the vestry. At three in the afternoon, if it was a saint's day, a 'feast of nine lessons' or a double feast, he had to be in church to help to ring 'all in' and to sing in the choir as rector, or leader, on the south side, and afterwards to lock up the church.

His other duties included sweeping the floor of the choir when needed, and cleaning away snow; and he and his fellow were specially charged to keep the leads of the church clean. He had to provide holy water for the priest and to bear holy water to every house in his ward, to hang a towel about the font at Easter and Whitsuntide, to vest the altars, to tend the lamps and find oil, to find palms for Palm Sunday, and to watch the sepulchre at Easter.

At Mass he had to see that the holy bread was cut up and distributed to every man according to his quality;

(Continued on next page.)

THE MUSIC OF CATERS.

(Continued from previous column.)

piece of work, for not only is the 'tune' 7-9-6-8, but every so often we get the termination 7-9-68. It will be seen at once that while the termination 68 is good, its effect is immeasurably greater because 7 and 9 are close at hand.

The six placings of 689 all have interesting features and will provide good music. In taking advantage of them there is no need to lose the 7th. 7689, 7968, 7896, 7869 and 7698 will each yield 24 courses, and it is not too difficult to turn the bells from one position to another.

To get the best music then, we must aim at two things:—

(1) Keeping 7, 8 and 9 close together:

(2) Making good use of the 6th.

No. 1 alone will not satisfy us entirely, nor is No. 2 of any use if the 7th is allowed to get away; but a judicious use of both means will place a wealth of musical possibility at our disposal.

THE DEKYNS OF COVENTRY

(Continued from previous page.)

and he had to attend the priest when he went to visit the sick, or else find a deputy. He had also to provide 'iij dysciplyn rods,' and presumably to use them on refractory boys.

In Lent the two deykns helped the churchwardens to veil the altar and rood 'and ye churche wardens schall gyffe them money to drynke.'

To some extent the second dekyn was the assistant of the first, but he had clearly defined duties of his own. He had his part of the church and the leads to clean and keep clear of snow. He had to lead the singing on the north side of the choir; and, while his fellow had to provide a deacon to read the gospel, he had to provide a child to act as server. He had to take charge of funerals, put on his surplice and escort the body to the church, and to provide candles. 'Also he schall helpe to sarve at ev'y drenkyng after ev'y derige done at ye coste of ye churche.'

Two things are especially noticeable in these constitutions. One is the importance of the bells in the services of the church; the other is that all the care and maintenance and use of them was entrusted to the clerks. They took charge in turn. During one quarter the first dekyn had to oil the bells and look to the baldricks and the ropes. If anything was amiss he had to report it to the churchwardens so that it might be put right in due season. The next quarter the second dekyn took charge, and so turn and turn about.

The first dekyn rang the day bell, that is the twelve o'clock bell. The second dekyn rang curfew at eight in the evening, and afterwards 'he schall searche ye churche all aboute lest ther be any p'sons lyeing in any sete or corner and yen lokke ye churche dur sure.'

These were secular bells, rung for secular purposes. There is no mention of the ringing of an angelus or ave bell, though no doubt many pious persons would repeat the 'Hail Mary' when they heard the sound of a bell rung primarily for other reasons.

The fees for the use of the bells at buryings and obiits were given to the dekyns, and they were made responsible for the bells being rung whenever the bishop, king, queen, or prince came to Coventry. Royal visits to the city were rare, and this probably was the general rule and custom throughout the country.

There are many instances of parishes being fined for not ringing on such occasions, and at Holy Trinity it was ordered that if there was such negligence the dekyns should bear any fine that might be incurred.

Throughout the day the services—Matins, Mass and Evensong—were marked by bell ringing, the more important feasts being distinguished by two bells being rung instead of one. There were also special services; during Lent the first dekyn rang the great bell to compline on Saturdays, but on ferial days the second dekyn rang the first bell.

THE FIRST PEAL OF KENT MAXIMUS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The first peal which we know without any doubt whatever was Kent Treble Twelve was, as Mr. Walker points out, the 7,200 rung at St. Martin's, Birmingham, in 1820.

But the Cumberlands rang between December 13th, 1794, and May 26th, 1795, 5,200 Cumberland Royal Treble Bob at Shoreditch, 'the most that can be rung in 9 courses'; 5,232 Cumberland Treble Bob Maximus, at Southwark, 'the first rang on 12 bells in this method': 5,504 Cumberland Treble Bob Major at Bishopsgate, and 5,120 of the same at Edmonton.

It is certain that the method was a close variation of Oxford Treble Bob. Shipway rang in the Edmonton peal, and we can be almost sure that he would give the method in his book. The Cumberlands rang the first peal of 'real' Double Bob Major in 1769 and called it Cumberland Real Double eight-in: the first peal of 'real' Double Grandsire Caters in 1770, and called it Cumberland Caters real double; and the first peal of 'real' Double Grandsire Cinques, and called it Cumberland's Cinques. We know from the Clavis what methods actually were rung in these instances, though neither the book nor the Exercise generally accepted the new titles. The composition of the peal of Royal rung in 1794 at Shoreditch was obviously Reeves' 9-course peal of Treble Bob, and, taking everything into consideration, it is difficult to see what method could have been rung except Kent Treble Bob.

So I think we may fairly conclude that the peal rung at Southwark on Monday, March 9th, 1795, was the first of Kent Treble Bob Maximus.

J. A. T.

A NEW BELL AT EASTBOURNE.

RINGER'S GIFT.

A new bell has been given to Holy Trinity Church, Eastbourne, by Mr. Albert Piper, deputy warden, in memory of his wife. Mr. Piper is one of the original members of the Sussex Association, and was formerly attached to St. Peter's, Brighton, company. Another ringing colleague, Mr. Edward Bray, is sexton and verger, although Holy Trinity has but one bell. The previous bell, which has been in use for over a century, has been presented to the Bishop Hannington Memorial Church, Hove.

The dedication of the new bell at Holy Trinity Church was performed by the Vicar, and a tablet bearing the following inscription was then unveiled by the Vicar: 'The bell in this tower was given to the glory of God and in memory of Sarah Ann Piper, who died 14th April, 1939, aged 71 years. She was for many years a humble worker for the Church. Her first thought was for others.'

During the dedication ceremony Mr. Piper was attended by a number of his sidesmen colleagues, and afterwards he went into the tower and tolled the bell several times.

Preaching on the text 'Bells of pure gold,' the Vicar expressed the hope that the bell might be instrumental in drawing many to Christ

The bell was cast at the ancient Church Bell Foundry in Whitechapel, and is a deep C sharp. It is interesting to note that the same firm (Mears and Stainbank) cast the former bell, which was made for the opening of Trinity Church in 1838.

ANCIENT BELL FRAMES.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I was very interested in the letter with reference to the Bagley frame at Wellesbourne, Warwickshire, which appeared in 'The Ringing World' issue of December 1st, but there is one in the same locality which is, I think, even older.

At Alderminster Parish Church near Stratford-on-Avon is an oak bell frame, still in use, which is said by the local ringers to be 600 years old—at any rate, it was there when the oldest bell in the tower was installed by Bagley in 1653.

The bells, a lovely little peal, were tuned and rehung in the old frame with new fittings this year by Messrs. Taylor and Co. and are dated as follows: Treble, 1939, Taylor; 2nd, 1714, Rudhall; 3rd, 1653, Bagley; 4th, 1668, Bagley; 5th, 1716, Rudhall; tenor, 1676, Bagley (12 cwt. 2 lb. in F.).

They are described in 'Ancient Warwickshire Churches' as a 'most ancient and tuneful peal,' which is certainly true. It would appear that the frame dates at least from 1653—thirty years earlier than the Wellesbourne example.

WILFRED E. BOX.

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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 MONDAY.

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

CHESTER, ST. MARY-ON-THE-HILL.—The ring of eight bells restored by John Taylor and Co. will be re-dedicated by the Bishop of Chester on Sunday next, Dec. 24th, at 3 p.m.

S.O.S. — Will any ringers visiting Scarborough at Christmas please come up and help, as we are only ' five '? Ringing, Sunday morning, 10 a.m., and Christmas morning, 10 a.m.—H. Ferguson.

ST. GILES', CAMBERWELL.—Boxing Day, all ringers welcomed, from 10.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.—T. W. Taffender.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—South Forest Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Lydney (8 bells) on Saturday, Dec. 30th, at 3.30 p.m. Election of officers for 1940, etc. All who require tea must let me know by Wednesday, Dec. 27th. —Oliver Thomas, Branch Hon. Sec., 11, Victoria Road, Lydney, Glos.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. — The next meeting will be held at headquarters, the Coffee Pot, on Tuesday, January 2nd. — A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—North-East Branch.— The annual meeting will be held at Tiverton on Saturday, January 6th. Bells (8) 2 p.m. Time of service and tea will be announced at meeting. It is necessary that those wishing to attend should notify me as soon as possible for the purpose of arranging tea.—R. Harris, Park, Silverton, near Exeter.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755). — Annual meeting will be held at St. Martin's Church on Saturday, Jan. 6th. Further details regarding ringing, etc., in next week's issue.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Ringing St. Clement Danes, Strand, Saturday, January 6th, 2.30 p.m., followed by quarterly meeting, also Sunday, January 7th, at 10 a.m.—T. W. Taffender, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Burton District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Measham on Saturday, January 6th. Bells (8) available at 2.45 p.m. until 7.30 p.m. Business important. It is hoped to arrange tea or light refreshment in Church Room at 4.45 p.m., but those intending to be present must notify me by Thursday, Jan. 4th. Hearty invitation to all. Frequent bus service from Birmingham, Tamworth and Nottingham.—J. W. Cotton, Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. Matthew's, Mount Pleasant Lane, Upper Clapton, on Saturday, January 6th. Bells at 2.30 p.m. and also after business meeting. Tea at 5 p.m., notifications for which must be sent to me by Tuesday, Jan. 2nd. Handbells will be available.—T. J. Lock, Hon. Dis. Sec., 57, Holloways Lane, North Mimms, Hatfield, Herts.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The third annual dinner will be held at the George Hotel, Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent, on Saturday, Feb. 3rd, at 6 p.m. Tickets, 4s. each, may be obtained with remittance from Andrew Thompson (Hon. Secretary), 55, Whitehouse Road, Cross Heath, Newcastle, Staffs, until Jan. 18th. Ringing arrangements later.

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL.—Sunday, ringing 2 to 3 in afternoon; 10 to 11 every third Sunday in month.—W. H. Symonds.

GREETINGS!

Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. — The Rev. Noel E. Hope, Master of the association, sends best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all members.

Pay S. Lieut. C. Glenn, R.N.V.R., sends hearty greetings and best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to the ' mad band ' and all ringing friends.

Francis E. Dawe once again heartily wishes all his many ringing friends, both at home and ' at the Front,' and in the Dominions beyond the seas, ' All the Best of the Very Best ' for Christmas and the New Year, together with Good Health—the greatest Blessing of All! —Woking, 1939.

Swansea and Brecon Diocesan Guild, Southern District. Best wishes for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all ringing friends, from E. Stitch, 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glam.

Mr. A. B. Peck, hon. secretary of the Ancient Society of College Youths, extends to all his ringing friends the compliments of the season.

HANDBELLS FOR SALE.

SEVERAL PEALS OF EIGHT, handy size F 12.—T. Miller, 21a, Smith Street, Hockley, Birmingham, 19.

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THE RINGING WORLD

No. 1,601. Vol. XXXIV. FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29th, 1939. [Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.] Price 3d.

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LOOKING BACKWARDS.

War came this year to cut off suddenly the activities of ringers, as it disrupted the even flow of almost every phase of normal life, and 1939 goes out amid an upheaval, the effects of which no one can foresee. In attempting a review of ringing in the past twelve months it is only possible to say that a year which opened brightly and showed great prospects of producing results as good as if not better than any of its immediate predecessors has ended in placing the art under a heavy cloud. Compared with the great issues at stake that is a matter of no importance, but one cannot help regretting the setback which ringing has received. That it will recover in the better days which lie ahead, when this conflict is over, and the world, we hope, will be allowed to live in peace, there can be no doubt. Ringing rose after the last war to greater heights than ever before, and it will do so again when this country and its Allies come, as assuredly they will, successfully out of the war. But until those happier days it is left to the ringers who remain in the belfries to carry on the task as best they can.

Reviewing, in these last days of the old year, the effect of the war on ringing, the most striking thing was the sudden cessation of everything connected with the activities of ringers when war was declared. Nothing could have been more complete than the way in which ringing was abandoned. It was, perhaps, not altogether surprising. Everyone had anticipated that, as soon as war broke out, the country would be subjected to devastating attacks from the air, and no one knew where the blows would fall. Until there had been time to measure the effects of the changed world about us, it was natural that ringing, among other things, should be entirely suspended. Slowly, however, after the first two or three weeks, when it was found that the threatened attacks from the air did not materialise, ringers began to return to their towers. In the limited revival which has followed we think 'The Ringing World' can claim some share for the lead it gave. That there was no official reason for the abandonment of bell ringing has been made plain in the Control of Noise Orders which have been issued by the Minister of Home Security. The authorities, except a few local police officials, have seen no objection to the normal use of bells, and it is now becoming the general practice once again to ring for Sunday services, where blackout restrictions do not intervene. More and more, we hope, ringers will get the bells going in town and village and, with regard to the latter, we think the recent pronouncement of the

(Continued on page 782.)

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Minister of Home Security, that it is not even intended that air raid warnings shall be sounded in rural areas, gives still greater reason why any local bans which may still remain on the ringing of village church bells should be lifted.

But what of the year 1939 before the war began? The eight months to the end of August were full of promise. No record lengths were rung, but records were made in other directions which rank equally high in merit. Foremost, probably, were the performances by bands in the Lincoln Diocesan Guild. A six-bell company, it will be remembered, made three successive records in spliced method ringing by increasing the number of methods in a peal of Minor from 84 to 100, then to 102 and afterwards to 104. These were outstanding achievements which only a few years ago were not even dreamed of, for the reason, if for nothing else, that it was not deemed possible to incorporate so many methods in seven true extents of Minor. Then, too, Lincolnshire must be credited with one of the other notable performances of the year when a band rang a peal in ten Surprise Major methods. Worcestershire men also gathered laurels by ringing a spliced peal in eight Surprise Major methods, and the Hertfordshire handbell band continued their remarkable achievements by further peals in Spliced Surprise Major on handbells. Yes, the year certainly showed great promise, for alongside these outstanding performances were many things which indicated progress in many quarters.

But the blow which fell at the end of August and seemed at first entirely to paralyse ringing will prove to be merely one of the fortunes of war. True, with the calls made upon the mind and energy of men, such things as ringing must take a very subsidiary place, yet there is, nevertheless, a place even for ringing in the distracted life which we are now living. The coming year may present new difficulties, and in any event ringing inevitably must be carried on in a very subdued manner, but that is no reason why all concerned, both in towers and associations, should not bend all their available energies towards keeping the art going and strengthening their forces, as far as possible, against the time when peace on earth will once more permit the bells to come again into their own: when in Tennyson's immortal words, they may indeed:

Ring out the thousand wars of old,
Ring in the thousand years of peace.

. . . . . .

Ring in the valiant man and free,
The larger heart, the kindlier hand,
Ring out the darkness of the land,
Ring in the Christ that is to be.

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EIGHT BELL PEAL.

COALBROOKDALE, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 16, 1939, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 19 cwt. in D.

WILLIAM SAUNDERS ...	...*Treble*	JOSEPH HANLEY...	5
G. LEONARD HEWITT ...	2	*ALAN M. JONES	6
*E. DENNIS POOLE	3	EDWARD V. RODENBURST...	7
ALFRED S. BAYLEY	4	JOSEPH L. STANIER ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by E. V. RODENBURST.

* First peal. Rung after meeting short for Grandsire Caters. Specially arranged and rung on the occasion of the marriage of Leone Jeuett, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. C. Underwood Whitney, to Lieut. E. Leo Kellett Donaldson Wood, Royal Navy. The bride's brothers, Rupert and Tony, are members of the Coalbrookdale band. Also rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the fourth.

SIX BELL PEAL.

CLIFFORD, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 16, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Morning Star, Canterbury Pleasure, Plain Bob, Clifford Pleasure, Percy's Pleasure, Reverse Canterbury and Grandsire.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*WILLIAM BEAVER ...	...*Treble*	*A. BRYAN ELSMORE	4
JAMES P. HYETT... ...	2	DAVID H. BENNETT	5
LESLIE EVANS	3	ALBERT E. JONES ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. P. HYETT.

* First peal in seven methods. Rung in honour of His Majesty's birthday Quickest peal on the back six bells.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, December 20, 1939, in Two Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE RECTORY,

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

*ERNEST C. S. TURNER ...	1-2	HAROLD G. CASHMORE ...	5-6
EDWIN A. BARNETT	3-4	EDWIN JENNINGS	7-8

Composed by B. ANNABLE. Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

* First peal of Little Bob Major. Rung on the tenth anniversary of E. A. Barnett's first peal. The band would like to thank the Rev. L. S. R. Beckley for his kindness in providing accommodation and refreshment for them.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 23, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes.

AT THE ROYAL GRAMMAR SCHOOL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE... ...	1-2	ERNEST C. J. TURNER	5-6
ALFRED H. PULLING	3-4	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH	7-8

Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS.

INTERESTING ADDITIONS TO THE SOCIETY'S ARCHIVES.

An addition was recently made to the collection of books in the 'Cockerill Memorial Bookcase' in St. Paul's Cathedral belfry. This was the book recording the names of the subscribers to a presentation purse, given to the late James Pettit in the late '90's.

The following superscription has been added in the form of a fly-leaf: 'This book, originally given to the late Mr. James Pettit, a former Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths and Leader of St. Paul's Cathedral ringers, was discovered in after years at Bristol It was then bought and kindly given to the society by Messrs. J. T. Dyke and S. H. Wood, both of whom are well-known members. The book records the names of those fellow-ringers and members of the society who subscribed to the presentation. A few only now remain, and one of the oldest, Mr. F. E. Dawe, Past Master, has kindly provided this superscription. July, 1939.'

THE LATE MR. J. H. CHEESMAN.

HIS LIST OF PEALS.

The funeral of the late Mr. John H. Cheesmau, of Greenhithe, whose death at Margate Hospital on December 15th we recorded last week, took place at Stone, near Dartford, on December 20th, and was conducted by the Rector. In addition to the family mourners the following ringers were present: Messrs. H. Hoskins (representing the Ancient Society of College Youths), G. W. Steere (hon. secretary, representing the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths), E. Barnett (representing the Kent County Association), H. E. Audsley, J. Bennett, J. Bailey, E. H. Oxenham and Finn (Lyminge). Mr. Finn took part in Mr. Cheesman's first peal, rung 50 years ago.

Mr. Cheesman, who was for many years a representative of the Kent County Association on the Central Council, rang, in all, 1,066 peals, of which he conducted 433. Of these 159 were rung at St. John the Baptist's Church, Erith, 155 at Crayford and 83 at Dartford. He completed his 1,000 peals in December, 1935, and his last peal was at Dexley in June, 1938. There was never a more unassuming ringer or one more modest about his achievements than John Cheesman, whose passing is mourned by a large circle of ringing friends. Appended is the list of his peals:—

	Rung	Conducted
Minor	4	4
Triples—Grandsire	12	4
Plain Bob	1	
Canterbury Pleasure	1	
Erin	1	
Oxford Bob	1	
Darlaston Bob	2	1
Union	4	1
Stedman	217	128
Major—Plain Bob	22	6
Reverse Bob	2	
Canterbury Pleasure	13	
Double Norwich	(a) 161	77
Real Double Norwich	4	
Double Oxford	6	
Hereward Bob	2	
St. Clement's	1	
Painswick College	1	
Pulford Bob	1	
Little Bob	1	1
Little Canterbury	1	
Crayford Little Court	1	
Dartford Little Bob	2	
Erith Little Bob	2	
Northfleet Little Bob	1	
Duffield	1	1
Forward	2	2
Kent Treble Bob	(b) 49	25
Oxford Treble Bob	12	3
Granta Treble Bob	1	
Cam Treble Bob	2	
Kent and Oxford Treble Bob	(c) 3	
Bob Major and Stedman Triples	1	1
Bob Major, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob	1	1
Bob Major and Canterbury Pleasure	1	
Bob Major and Double Norwich	1	
Bob Major and Double Oxford	1	
Double Norwich and Double Oxford	1	
Cambridge and Superlative Surprise	1	1
Cambridge Surprise	103	45
New Cambridge Surprise	9	2
Superlative Surprise	103	36
New Cumberland Surprise	1	
Norfolk Surprise	4	1
Yorkshire Surprise	4	1
Pudsey Surprise	3	1
Lincolnshire Surprise	2	
Ipswich Surprise	1	
Staffordshire Surprise	1	
Erith Surprise	1	
Crayford Surprise	1	
Lessness Surprise	1	
Wheatley Surprise	1	
London Surprise	34	
Bristol Surprise	(d) 23	1
Four Spliced Surprise	4	
Caters—Stedman	(e) 92	56
Royal—Little Bob	1	
Kent Treble Bob	27	11
Oxford Treble Bob	2	2
Cam Treble Bob	1	
Kent and Oxford Treble Bob	1	1
Cambridge Surprise	5	1
Cinques—Grandsire	3	
Stedman	56	16

(Continued on next page.)

WITH PENCIL AND PAPER.

SOME RULES OF METHOD CONSTRUCTION.

When, nearly fifty years ago, the Central Council was started, it set itself the task of drawing up rules, formulating definitions, and generally tidying up all matters connected with the art and science.

In this it was largely influenced by Sir Arthur Heywood (or, as he was then, Mr. Percival Heywood) and naturally so, for he was fully qualified socially and intellectually to be a leader of men.

Among the things he desired to have settled were the rules which should govern the construction of a method. He had, himself, given the matter a lot of consideration, had published several articles in ' The Bell News,' and in his excellent little book on Duffield had explained many of the qualities which he thought every method should possess.

Quite a number of people were publishing methods which offended his sense of what was right, and he thought that the way out of the difficulty would be for the Council to draw up a number of definite rules to distinguish what was then called a ' legitimate ' method from an ' illegitimate ' one.

He did not actually introduce the matter himself, for he was the President and would, of course, have to occupy the chair, but left it to Henry Earle Bulwer, with whom he had closely collaborated in several investigations into ringing problems, and who was very largely in sympathy with his views.

The result was not quite what was intended. Instead of a few simple rules being agreed to, a committee was appointed to go into the matter. This was the beginning of the Methods Committee and of a long and keenly fought out controversy.

For it speedily became clear that there was anything but agreement on the matter among those people who were called ' experts,' and it is equally clear now that this disagreement was mainly because all those people did not really know so much about the matter as they thought they did.

The question has been settled, not by one set of controversialists being proved to be right and the other wrong (for that can hardly be said), but by bringing to the test of actual experience what was for the most part in those days conjecture and theory.

Heywood's own ideas were mainly based on the dictum that the only thing which matters is music. Everything must give way to that, and he had formed some definite opinions of what made for good music and what did not.

Not all of them will stand any real test. He accepted the rule, as did everyone else, that the tenors should be kept together as much as possible and held, rightly, that double dodging is the finest movement in ringing. But he did not stop to consider what mathematical laws were involved in combining the two. In fact, neither he nor anyone else thought that mathematical laws had anything particular at all to do with the construction of a method. The bells were mixed up in a lead, pretty much as one liked within limits, and if a lead end was produced which would repeat the required number of times, a method, good or bad as the case might be, was the result.

One rule he rather strongly insisted on for the sake of the music. Places should not be made together side by side. He did not go so far as to say that it must never be done, but, in his opinion, it was a defect.

It is difficult to follow him here and to see why, for instance, the first four changes of Oxford Treble Bob, in which third's and fourth's are made together, are musically inferior to the first four changes of Superlative, where third's and sixth's are made.

C. D. P. Davies was a great authority on the composition of Grandsire Triples. In that he did pioneer work of real excellence. When he started, the problem was whether a peal in the method was possible with common bobs only, and this coloured and influenced his entire outlook on all ringing problems. A peal of Grandsire on seven bells should (if possible) consist of triple changes and triple changes only, and therefore an eight bell method must consist of alternate quadruple and triple changes without any deviation from the regular succession.

That meant that only those methods which we recently described as ' backstroke ' methods were legitimate. It meant that such methods of London and Bristol and, above all, Cambridge, were to be rejected as ' illegitimate,' and that he was quite prepared to do. He had the courage of his opinions, and he published one or two pamphlets and his book on the Surprise Methods to spread these ideas.

Heywood rather inclined to the same opinion. He laid it down as an axiom that ' every bell must move that can move,' which, properly understood, is a perfectly sound and important truth. It must be remembered that in those days London was rung only by one or two very expert bands, and Cambridge was rather despised as an early and crude attempt at method building. These ideas, which to us seem rather absurd, could easily be reconciled with the methods then rung.

But Heywood had an advantage which Davies and Bulwer lacked. He was closely associated with the Burton-on-Trent band and had a good band in his own tower and so could bring his theories to the test of personal practical experience. He had rung peals of London and was not prepared to reject it altogether. His conclusion was rather a lame one. London might break the strict rule, but the question was how much illegitimacy might be allowed in a legitimate method.

After half a century's experience the conclusion the Exercise has reached is that the regular succession of the nature of the rows is of no importance, except so far as it is necessary for the production of true peals.

There are still, however, a large number of men who hold that a seven-bell method must be all triple changes and a nine-bell method all cater changes.

THE LATE MR J H CHEESMAN'S LIST OF PEALS

(Continued from previous page.)

	Rung	Conducted
Maximus—Plain Bob	5	
Canterbury Pleasure	1	
Little Bob	1	
Kent Treble Bob	17	3
Cambridge Surprise	(f) 17	
	1,066	433

(a) Including 11,008 and 15,072. (b) Including 10,064. (c) Two Combined, one Spliced. (d) Including 15,072 (record). (e) Including 18,027. (f) Including 7,392 at St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

DERBY DISTRICT.

The last meeting of the year was held at St. Michael's, Alvaston, on Saturday, December 16th, when members attended from Nottingham, Sawley, Breaston, Burton, Ticknall, Spondon and Derby, with the local ringers. The methods rung included Bob Minor, Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Oxford Treble Bob, Cambridge Surprise, Spliced Treble Bob, Double Court, Oxford Bob and Kent Treble Bob.

A short business meeting was held in the belfry, at which the secretary read a letter from the Chief Constable saymg he did not think it would be wise to ring the bells for any lengthy period either on Christmas Eve or any other day, as it might interfere with an air raid warning. The meeting interpreted this as referring to peal ringing The secretary stated that he had left with the police a copy of 'The Ringing World' containing the correspondence with the authorities on the subject, and had been advised to carry on as usual unless he heard from them to the contrary.

The annual meeting and the election of officers will be held at St. Andrew's, Derby, on Saturday, January 13th, 1940.

The secretary gave a short summary of the meetings held during the year. Nine meetings were held, and one, which was arranged at Belper just prior to the outbreak of war, had to be postponed, the Vicar saying that he considered the bells ought not to be rung, as the public might put a wrong construction on the matter. The average attendance was 24. Seven new ringing members had been elected, six had rejoined and three had been transferred from the Burton district owing to removals, one of them being the Rev. Lloyd-Jones, who was now Rector of West Hallam. Two old members, Mr. Walter Wallace and Mr. Charles Davies, of Melbourne, had been added to the list of life members.

This was considered a very satisfactory statement in view of the war and the fact that meetings had been discontinued in the district.

Handbells were then brought into use and brought to a conclusion what all considered had been a very successful meeting.

COLLEGE YOUTHS' STEWARD MARRIED.

On Saturday, December 2nd, at St. Dunstan's, Stepney, the marriage took place between Mr. G. W. Cecil and Miss Julia Harrison.

Mr. Cecil is an officer of the St. Dunstan's band and junior steward of the Ancient Society of College Youths. The bride was attended by her sister, Miss May Harrison, and Mr. Frank Shorter was best man. As the party left the church a 720 of Bob Minor was rung by members of the St. Dunstan's Guild: G. Boomsma 1, H. Stracey 2, T. G. Fox 3, H. E. Thompson 4, R. G. Cousins 5, L. J. Fox (conductor) 6.

FOUR-PART PEALS OF BOB MAJOR.

WHAT THE BARKING MEN DID.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Recently in 'The Ringing World' you published the figures of two peals of Bob Major. The first one I know well.

When we started to learn to ring at Barking in the terrible winter of 1895 we were being taught change ringing under Samuel Hayes and York Green. We went along rather fast and were soon taken on to ring handbells. We practised Bob Major at first and we soon mastered that, those who took part being T. Faulkner, A. Hardy, R. Fenn and C. Fenn. While we were making headway York Green gave us something to do. He wanted one of us to composed a peal so that when we rang it we could make it all Barking.

A. Hardy was first to get a composition and gave his peal to York Green, who proved it. I got one out a few weeks later. It was a variation of Hardy's and was the same as you published in 'The Ringing World' last week. Hardy's peal was rung on handbells on July 4th, 1896, conducted by T. Faulkner. I have enclosed the figures. The one you published was rung at Harwich, Essex, and A. Hardy was the composer and it was a variation to his.

Afterwards Mr. Green asked us to get the sixth the other way, namely, 24 times R. and 20 times W. I got the peal out and gave it to Mr. Green, who asked us to ring it on tower bells, as he would like to hear it. It was rung, without a clip, on April 18th, 1903, and was the first peal by all natives of Barking. Several College Youths were outside to hear it. The peals were published with figures in 'The Bell News.'

CALEB FENN.

Barking

A. C. Hardy.

23456	W	B	M	H
23564	—	—		3
24536	—		—	2
53246	—			1
34562		—		3
32546	—		—	2

Rung July 4th, 1896.

C. Fenn.

23456	W	B	M	H
52364	—	—		1
43526	—		—	1
24365	—	—		1
45362			—	2
23564				1
24536	—		—	2
32546	—			3

Rung April 18th, 1903.

DAWLEY, SHROPSHIRE.—At the Church of the Holy Trinity, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes): *Sidney Douglas (aged 13) 1, *S. Rushton 2, F. Attwood 3, *H. Jones 4, *S. Birch (conductor) 5, *W. Houlston 6. * First quarter-peal. Rung for the wedding of Dorothy Lewis-Price and C. James Pearce.

John Taylor & Co.

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IMPORTANT NOTICE.

The war-time derangement of the postal services and the necessity of getting the copies of 'The Ringing World' into the hands of the publishers earlier on Thursday make it absolutely essential that all contributions to our columns, and particularly all notices, should be in our hands by MONDAY in each week. We cannot guarantee the insertion in the following issue of anything received later.

We hope that secretaries will send us prompt reports of their meetings, and we shall welcome any items of news relating to ringers and ringing, but they must reach us early.

A Happy New Year
to all Ringers
Wherever they may be.

BELFRY GOSSIP.

Messrs Mears and Stainbank have just completed the rehanging of the bells at Milborne Port, Somerset, where the tenor is 28 cwt.

The Whitechapel Foundry has also completely rehung with fittings the six bells at Priors Marston, Warwickshire. The bell frame has also been strengthened.

Rogate, Sussex, has a timber tower, containing six bells. Messrs. Mears and Stainbank have strengthened the tower and repaired the bells

Sir Arthur Heywood, son of Sir Perceval Heywood, the third baronet, was born on Christmas Day, 1849. He died on April 18th, 1916, during the Great War. For many years he was the undisputed head of the Ringing Exercise.

We are pleased to state that Mr. A. Panther is now at his home at 29, Avenue Road, Wath-on-Dearne, where he is progressing favourably after his recent operations.

The rehanging of Shotteswell bells, Warwickshire, has been entrusted to Mr. Thomas Bond, of Burford, Oxon. As he is at present employed on work of national importance, these bells will be rehung as soon as circumstances permit.

It may be interesting to add that the fourth bell was recast in 1887 by Mr. Bond.

Holt's Original was rung at Saffron Walden on Christmas Day, 1754, by the 'Society of Young Ringers of the Town, 'to the no small Mortification of their antagonists (some of the old society).' The bobs were called by Charles Bacon, who rang the second, but whether he had any visible aids to memory in so doing is perhaps rather doubtful. John Holt himself, a little more than three years earlier, had called from manuscript without taking a rope.

More long peals have been rung on December 26th than on any other date in the year. Among them are the following: 15,168 Kent Treble Bob Major, at Elland in 1831; 8,064 Double Norwich Court Bob Major, at Leiston in 1885; 9,312 Superlative Surprise Major, at Crawley in 1894; 11,111 Stedman Cinques, at Birmingham in 1901; 9,728 Superlative Surprise Major, at Clent in 1910; and 10,442 Cambridge Surprise Royal at Walthamstow in 1923.

On the same date in 1760 the College Youths rang a peal of College Exercise Major at St. John's, Hackney. Almost certainly the composition was a false one.

On December 27th, 1718, the Union Scholars rang at St. Dunstan's-in-the-East the first peal ever achieved of Oxford Treble Bob Major, and, indeed, of any Major method. The five-part composition, which probably was composed by Robert Baldwin, was true, more we suspect by luck than by wit.

Thirty years later, on the same date, the 'Friendly Society of Ringers' rang at St. Andrew's, Holborn, 6,000 changes of Bob Major. This is the only notice we have of this society and probably the name was taken for the occasion by a band made up from more than one company. The board, which was still in existence 60 years ago, has long since disappeared.

The 27th is also the anniversary of several long lengths, including 6,000 Bob Major, at Twickenham in 1749; 6,600 Stedman Cinques, at Birmingham in 1820; 16,608 Kent Treble Bob Major, at Earlsheaton in 1872; and 17,104 Double Norwich Court Bob Major, at South Wigston in 1904.

Doubts were expressed as to the truth of the Earlsheaton peal, and it is not now recognised as a genuine record.

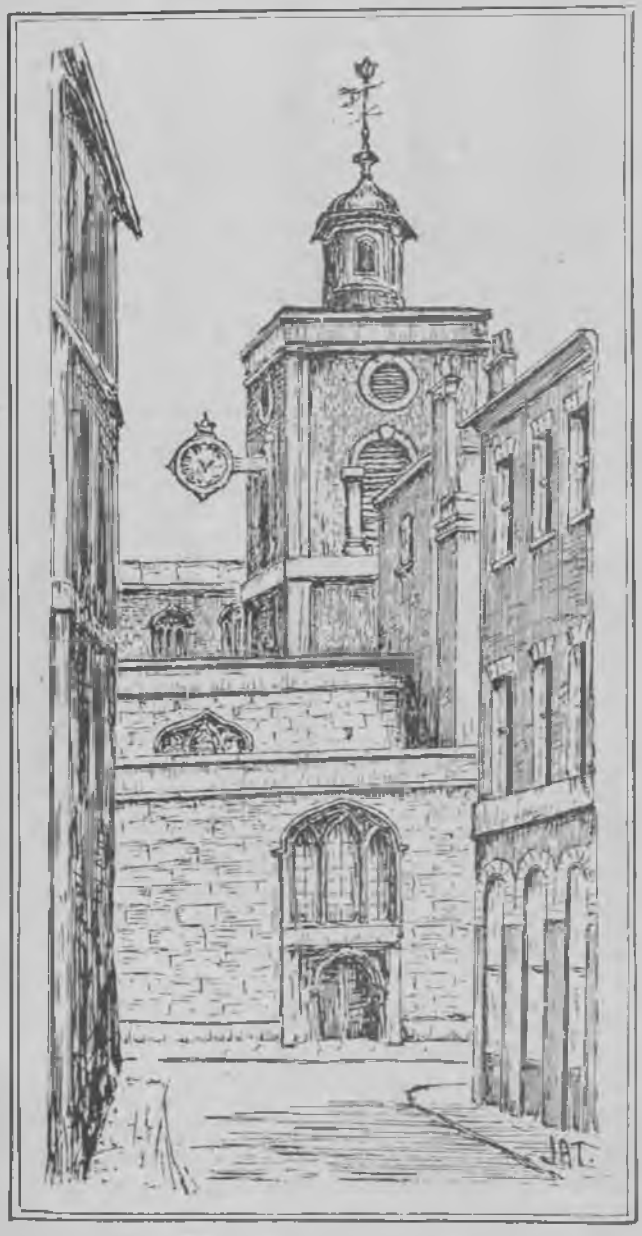
On the last day of the year 1888, 15,041 changes of Stedman Caters were rung at Appleton; and in 1892, 12,096 changes of Double Norwich Court Bob Major at Maidenhead.

CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

ST. OLAVE'S, HART STREET.

By J. Armiger Trollope.

St. Olave's is one of the smallest, but one of the most interesting of the City churches. It was built in the fifteenth century, and the inventory made in the reign of Edward VI. records that 'there remayneth in the steple iiij greate belles and a saunce bell.'



ST. OLAVE'S, HART STREET, LONDON.

Queen Elizabeth is said to have returned thanks in the church on her release from the Tower, where she had been confined in her sister's reign. The tale goes that, to commemorate the event, she presented the church with a set of silken bellropes, and the parish erected a crown above the weathercock on the steeple.

The latter part of the story may be true (there is a crown above the weathercock at the present time), but the other is clearly a legend, though, since Elizabeth liked to hear church bells rung, it may have had some foundation in fact.

St. Olave's is closely associated with Samuel Pepys. It was his parish church, and in it he is buried. On January 30th, 1666, he set down in his diary—'This is the first time I have been in the church since I left London for the plague and it frightened me indeed to go through the church more than I thought it could have done to see so many graves lie so high upon the churchyard where people had been buried of the plague. I was much troubled at it and do not think to go through again a good while.'

Anthony Bartlet, of the Whitechapel foundry, had just recently (1662) hung a ring of six bells in the tower, and they are all there still, except the tenor, which was recast by James Bartlet in 1694.

The church escaped the great fire of 1666, but very narrowly. Burning embers fell into Seething Lane, which runs by the east end of the building, and the dial of All Hallows' Church at the bottom of the lane was burnt. That was the furthest point reached by the fire towards the east.

Like all the rings at the other City churches, St. Olave's bells were rung regularly, during the following years, but they do not figure in the history of London ringing. The leading societies, who had rings of eight, ten and twelve bells at their disposal, were inclined to despise six-bell ringing, and no record survives of any peal of Minor rung in one of the half dozen City towers which possessed six bells.

The Rambling Ringers paid a visit to the belfry on December 6th, 1733, and rang one 720 of Plain Bob and another of College Single. Jeremiah Gilbert rang the treble (he rang the treble to the first peal scored by the Cumberlands), Laughton rang the third, and John Trenell rang the tenor. Trenell was a fine heavy bellringer, who afterwards took part in many peals with the College Youths.

In 1929 the bells of St. Olave's were rehung and two trebles were added by the Whitechapel foundry, making them a very handy octave. A good many peals have since been rung on them in all the Standard methods, the most notable being one in which every member of the band had already scored over a thousand peals.

A SWEDISH TRANSLATION OF 'THE NINE TAILORS'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I notice a suggestion that a 720 of Stedman Minor may not have been rung since December 16th, 1819. Some 35 years ago I saw Thurstans' composition of a 720, with the result that it was rung one evening at St. Michael's, Gurston.

Being confined to my bed in a Glasgow hotel with influenza, I have no means of giving you the date in this letter.

By the same post as 'The Ringing World' there arrived for me a copy of 'De Nio Malarna,' just published in Stockholm. This is a Swedish translation of 'The Nine Tailors.' With it was a charming note from Miss Sonja Bergvall, the translator, thanking me for some slight help I was able to give to her, and to this she kindly refers in the preface.

My attempts to read Swedish have so far been confined to two or three technical papers on cement, but I hope to read 'De Nio Malarna' to see how far Miss Bergvall has succeeded in the most difficult task of translating such a book.

EDWIN H. LEWIS.

EALING.—On Sunday, November 26th, at St. Stephen's, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 42 minutes: J. A. Trollope 1, J. E. Churchill 2, Miss I. Hastie 3, P. E. Clark 4, M. Stacey 5, E. C. S. Turner 6, W. G. Wilson (conductor) 7, F. Miller 8. A birthday compliment to the ringer of the second.

PEALS OF DOUBLES.

THE PRESENT ILLOGICAL POSITION.

Now that the activities of ringers are so seriously curtailed, there may be opportunity to discuss in these columns some of the subjects connected with ringing, which will not be any the worse for ventilation, and may serve to keep interest alive in these slack days.

For instance, although the Central Council, when it met at Canterbury, settled to its own satisfaction the question of what should be recognised as a peal of Doubles, it actually left the matter in a very unsatisfactory state. The members did not visualise all the consequences of their decision. What the Council did was to concentrate attention on Grandsire, and it is doubtful if any thought at that time was given to Stedman. And Stedman Doubles offers an interesting problem in the light of the decision laid down.

The Council decided that a peal of Doubles shall consist of 5,040 or more changes, rung in :—

(a) True and complete Six-Scores, without interval between any two Six-Scores, and without rounds or any other row being struck more than once before the next change is made.

(b) Round blocks consisting of two or more Six-Scores, provided that each of the Six-Scores which comprise the round blocks shall be itself a true and complete round block.

(c) Twelve-Scores known as Morris' and Pitman's.

(d) Combinations of (a), (b) and (c) above, or any two of them.

Thus the Council said that if the following 240 be rung one or more times in a 5,040, it may be called a peal.

2345					
S 5423	S 3542	S 4352	— 4532	S 2543	S 4253
S 3254	— 4235	— 5243	S 2345	— 4325	— 5342
S 4532	S 5342	S 3452	— 4523	S 5243	S 2453
4253	5234	3245	4352	5324	2345

But if you want your peal recognised, you may not ring the first three blocks and repeat them, although that would produce exactly the same changes, with the last half in a different order. Neither may you ring the last three blocks and repeat them, although this arrangement would also produce exactly the same changes as in the original. And yet these are 240's made up by repetition of the two halves of Pitman's composition!

There are other types of 240 excluded by the resolution which are just as 'true,' if such things can come within the category of what has hitherto been deemed 'true' in ringing.

For example, is there any logical reason for ruling out the following 240's, which are as near truth, in the separate six-scores, as Pitman's and nearer truth than Morris'?—

2345	3245	2345	3245
2534	3524	2534	3524
S 4325	S 4235	S 4325	S 4235
— 2543	— 3542	4532	4523
S 3425	S 2435	— 3245	— 2345
3542	2543	3524	2534
S 2435	S 3425	— 2435	— 3425
— 3524	— 2534	2543	3542
S 4235	S 4325	S 3425	S 2435
4523	4532	3542	2543
S 3245	S 2345	— 4235	— 4325
— 4532	— 4523	4523	4532
— 3245	— 2345	S 3245	S 2345

Thus it will be seen that the Council's definition of a peal of Doubles, even in Grandsire, excludes compositions of exactly like character, which is entirely absurd, whichever side you take in the argument as to what should constitute a true peal of Doubles.

Then take Stedman. Peals of Stedman Doubles are not infrequently rung and deserve some consideration.

It would probably be possible to compose a peal of Stedman Doubles in one part and conform to the Council's definition. Equally it would be possible to compose a peal in one part which did not conform to the definition and yet include each change 42 times and no more.

Restrictions of space prevent printing examples of such peals here, but below are given two 'touches' of Stedman Doubles. One conforms to the Council's ruling; the other doesn't. Yet they contain all the 120 changes the same number of times each, and they are produced by the same number of calls.

How many ringers are there, even among those who decided the future of a peal of Doubles, who can say which of the two, incorporated in a peal, would be recognised under the definition and which would not and why one should be accepted if the other is rejected? The rows are the six-ends, and the two 600's are divided into five columns representing 120 changes each.

23145	14253	15243	13245	13254
34251	45132	54132	34152	35142
S 34521	45321	54321	34521	35421
42315	52413	42513	42315	52314
S 42135	52134	S 42153	S 42135	S 52134
23451	23541	25431	23451	23541
23514	23415	25314	23514	23415
31245	31254	S 51234	31245	31254
31452	31542	51342	31452	31542
15324	14325	14523	15324	14325
S 15234	S 14235	S 14253	15243	S 14235
53142	43152	45132	54132	43152
53421	43521	45321	54321	S 43512
32514	32415	52413	42513	31425
S 32154	S 32145	S 52143	S 42153	31254
25341	24351	24531	25431	15342
25413	24513	24315	25314	15423
51234	41235	41253	51243	S 52143
51342	41352	41532	51432	52431
14523	15423	13425	13524	23514
S 14253	S 15243	S 13245	S 13254	23145

23145	42153	41523	34215	13542
34251	25431	12435	41352	S 34152
S 34521	25314	12354	41523	34521
42315	S 51234	25143	12435	42315
42153	51342	S 25413	12354	42153
25431	14523	51234	S 25134	25431
S 25341	14235	51342	25341	25314
54213	43152	14523	54213	S 51234
54132	S 43512	14235	54132	51342
43521	31425	S 43125	43521	14523
S 43251	31254	43251	43215	14235
35412	15342	35412	S 31425	43152
35124	15423	35124	31254	S 43512
52341	S 52143	52341	15342	31425
S 52431	52431	52413	15423	31254
23514	23514	S 21543	52134	15342
23145	23145	21435	S 52314	15423
34251	34251	13254	21543	S 52143
S 34521	34512	13542	21435	52431
42315	S 41352	34125	13254	23514
42153	41523	S 34215	13542	23145

All this, of course, appears to favour the argument of those who would admit anything as a peal of Doubles as long as each change appears 42 times in a recognised method, because once a break is made in the recognised practice of requiring true extents there is no logical argument against any form of composition, good or bad.

To carry the Council's policy to its logical conclusion, both the above 'touches' of Stedman must be admitted in a peal and so must the alternative 240's of Grandsire which are printed above. Also, we ought to admit 240's made up of:—

2345
2534
— 3425
— 2534
— 3425

Five times repeated with a single half-way at end. And having gone that far we should accept the same calling repeated 83 times with a single half-way and end; that is to say a peal of Grandsire Doubles with only two singles. Further, we should recognise 5,040's of Stedman Doubles with only two singles and made up otherwise entirely of plain courses!

THE LATE ALFRED PYE.

FUNERAL AT ALDBOROUGH HATCH.

Mr. Alfred Pye, who, as announced in our last issue, died suddenly on December 12th at the age of 78, was buried at Aldborough Hatch Churchyard on Saturday, the 16th.

Among those present were Messrs. G. W. Steere, C. J. Matthews and Arthur Hardy, of the Cumberland Youths; James E. Davis and George Lucas, of the Middlesex County Association; and E. J. Butler, J. W. Butler, W. Watson, G. Dawson and J. H. Crampion, of the Essex Association.

We hope to give some particulars of Mr. Pye's ringing career in a future issue.

GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ANNUAL MEETING OF SWINDON BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the Swindon Branch was held on Dec. 9th and the attendance was rather poor. Ringing took place during the afternoon and ranged from rounds and Grandsire Doubles to Kent Royal. Tea and meeting followed, at which all the branch officers were re-elected. The towers for the next three meetings are (D.V.) Stratton St. Margaret; St. Mark's, Swindon, and Rodbourne Cheney. Members attended from various towers in the branch, with visitors from Cirencester and Trowbridge.

THE DEKYNS OF COVENTRY.

THE BIRTH OF THE RINGING EXERCISE.

(Continued from page 758.)

In addition to the ringing before the services there was ringing which was done during the services as part of the ritual. The two dekyns took turns monthly to ring the sacring bell at High Mass on Sundays and holy days. Evidently this was not a handbell, but a small bell hung on the screen or wall of the choir. No doubt they also rang the sanctus bell, but of that there is no mention.

There was also ringing during the procession before High Mass, for which the dekyns were responsible. This was not merely knolling by a single bell, but all the tunable bells in the steeple were rung up as high as they could be.

How, we may ask, could the dekyns, busied with their other duties, attend to this ringing? Of course they could not.

In the early days of the Church, when the buildings were small and the services simple, the priest himself rang the bell that summoned the faithful. In some cases it was a handbell, in others a small bell hung on the roof with a cord coming down inside the building.

As time went on and towers were built and heavier bells were cast, and as the services became more elaborate, the ringing was (with other things) entrusted to assistants, who became the clerks in minor orders. So long as only one bell was used, and that could be rung from the floor of the church, they could quite easily include the bell ringing among the other things they had to do to assist the priest at the altar. But when the bells were heavy, when the ringer had to climb a lofty staircase or ladder and especially when several bells had to be rung and not merely tolled, this was no longer possible.

Part of the difficulty was got over by providing the small saunce bells, which were light enough to be rung by a cord coming down to the floor of the church. It is not, I think, known when these bells were introduced, but they were in general use in the fourteenth century. Soon afterwards, and especially in the fifteenth century, the number of bells in the towers of the parish churches was increased. It was no longer possible for the clerks to ring them and attend to their other duties, and so another set of men had to be employed.

In earlier times that would have meant adding to the number of men in minor orders, and there would have been an order of ringers to take their places alongside the ostiarii or door keepers. But in the fourteenth century the time for that sort of thing had long since gone by. The customs and traditions of the Church had crystallised. In theory the clerks were still supposed to do all the ringing themselves, but in practice they had to get others to help them. It was the natural and obvious thing to pick a few strong, lusty young fellows and send them up into the tower to pull on the ropes. So was born the ringing Exercise.

At Holy Trinity, Coventry, it seems that the first dekyn controlled the ringing at procession time and gave the necessary signals to the ringers by knolling the saunce bell, but the second dekyn was responsible for providing half the number of ringers.

Now we must notice that the ringers, as such, did not receive any regular status in the parochial organisation. They were not the servants of the church, nor were they employed by the church. The parish dealt with the dekyn and the dekyn dealt with the ringers. It was so everywhere, and it continued to be so for five centuries. How much this fact affected and still affects the ringing Exercise is not easy to say.

Once a year, on All Hallows' Eve, the bells were rung throughout the night. It was a very old custom, the origin of which, I believe, is unknown. Perhaps it was a pagan survival and was connected with the belief in evil spirits, which was strong in the Middle Ages and especially in connection with death. The ringing was supposed in some way to benefit all Christian souls. And much in the same way, that in later years, the people of the parish gave to the ringers at Christmas time, so in these old days they collected for the ringers at All Hallows-tide. At evening on All Saints' Day the two dekyns went through the church, the first dekyn on the north side and the second dekyn on the south side and gathered the money.

Notwithstanding the many changes in doctrine and ritual during the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries, the Church of England is (or, at any rate, until lately was) the most conservative Church in Christendom. Her organisation, customs, and traditions went back to remote ages. And especially was this so in the parochial life. Throughout the Reformation period, and even throughout the time of the Commonwealth, the parochial organisation remained unchanged. The parish clerks and sextons of post-Reformation times were the successors of the clerks in the Middle Ages, holding the same office and discharging the same duties adapted to the changes in ritual and doctrine. The two dekyns of Coventry were the predecessors of the later clerks and sextons, and, indeed, in the regulations drawn up at St. Stephen's, Coleman Street, London, in 1467, only five years after those at Coventry, they are so called by name. In smaller parishes the two offices were often held by the same man; and, as in early times, the bells and ringing were in the charge of the clerks, so they continued to be in the hands of their successors. For instance, in 1628 the following rule was passed at Newcastle-under-Lyme—' June 10. It is agreed that Thomas Harrison the Church Clarke shall not suffer any peal to be rung, upon pain of twelve pence, without the consent of Mr. Mayor or his deputy for the time being except to prayers and burials and that sparingly.'

Throughout the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries and well down into the nineteenth we never came across an instance where the ringers were appointed or paid by the churchwardens directly. And of any contact between the clergy and the ringers there is absolutely no trace whatever.

I have pointed out elsewhere that the very unsatisfactory state of the Exercise in the nineteenth century was largely due to the fault of the clergy, who grossly neglected their ringers and made no attempt to see that they were recruited from suitable classes. It is easy to attribute this to the sloth and apathy of the eighteenth century, but it would be wrong. The cause is far deeper seated.

It is held by competent authorities that the incumbent has the sole control of the bells, the ringers, and the ringing; and that he alone can say when they shall

(Continued on next page.)

THE DEKYNS OF COVENTRY.

(Continued from previous page.)

be rung and by whom. The church laws (canons they are called) instruct the churchwardens to prevent superstitious ringing, but give them no authority to order or allow any ringing themselves. No doubt this has always been the law, but when we study what we know of the history of the past we get a considerably different impression. The incumbent was the chief man in the parochial organisation, but he was not the only one who held authority. The churchwardens acted independently and on behalf of the laity, to whom very often the bells were important things. The clerk was subordinate to both, but he was not merely their servant. His office was a freehold and he could not be dismissed at pleasure any more than the parson could. As we have seen, by custom and prescription the bells and ringing were within his province. The clergy did not consider that those matters were their concern, and it is likely that any attempt at interference by them would have been resented.

The Coventry manuscripts, supplemented by the statutes of St. Stephen's, Coleman Street (1467), and other evidence, give us a good deal of information as to the ringing of bells in mediæval times and the beginnings of the Exercise. We can see that the tale which is sometimes told of bells being considered such sacred things that they might only be rung by priests vested in surplices, is a mere fable. We can see also that there was no room for guilds of ringers in the Middle Ages, though we are sometimes told that there were such. The Guild of Westminster was unique and had no compeer or successor. The societies of ringers which sprang up towards the end of the sixteenth century had their origin in the practice of ringing as a secular sport and were totally unconnected with any parochial organisation. Nor did they comprise more than a small and select part of the Exercise.

MISCELLANEOUS.

WINDSOR, BERKS.—On Thursday evening, December 14th, at the Parish Church of St. John the Baptist, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans') to commemorate the 44th birthday of His Majesty. F. V. H. Sinkins 1, W. Birmingham 2, T. Smith 3, W. W. Phipps 4, J. A. Glass 5, G. Bargus 6, E. S. T. Farr (conductor) 7, F. Simmonds 8. Also 272 Bob Major, in which Sergt. Ford, of the Grenadier Guards, stationed at Windsor, took part. Previous to the outbreak of war Sergt. Ford was a member of the Manchester Police Force.

SALISBURY.—At St. Martin's Church for morning service on Sunday, December 10th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 45 minutes by J. Thompson 1, J. E. Figgures 2, A. Bennett 3, A. Fry 4, W. A. Romaine 5, A. Southey 6, F. W. Romaine (conductor) 7, W. Chalk 8. This was also a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 6th on his 70th birthday.

STREATHAM.—On Sunday, November 26th, for morning service at St. Leonard's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes): C. A. Button 1, T. W. Taffender (conductor) 2, E. L. Miles 3, E. E. Bish 4, T. W. Welbourne 5, J. W. Chapman 6, T. H. Taffender 7, E. Wright 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. James George.

MARSTON MAGNA, SOMERSET.—At the Parish Church on Saturday, November 25th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Doubles: Percy N. G. Rainey (conductor) 1, Frederick J. Reeves 2, William A. Osborne 3, Percy H. Witham 4, Thomas J. Setter 5, Gilbert C. Bugby 6. First quarter-peal of Stedman Doubles by the ringers of 2, 4, 5 and tenor. Rung for the wedding of one of the local ringers.

WEST BROMWICH.—On Sunday, November 19th, for evensong at All Saints' Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,274 changes) taken from Holt's Original Norman Hadley 1, William Peart 2, William Partridge 3, Herbert Howe 4, Frederick Horsfield 5, Maurice G. Turner (conductor) 6, Albert Mills 7, Samuel Loach 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to Messrs. Herbert Howe and Samuel Loach.

WATFORD, HERTS.—On Sunday, November 12th, for Remembrance Day service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples with the bells half-muffled: L. C. Webb 1, D. Laud 2, A. W. Dix 3, F. Bullock 4, S. H. Hoare (conductor) 5, F. H. Crook 6, R. G. Bell 7, D. Pearson 8.

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 MONDAY.

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

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GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—South Forest Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Lydney (8 bells) on Saturday, Dec. 30th, at 3.30 p.m. Election of officers for 1940, etc.—Oliver Thomas, Branch Hon. Sec., 11, Victoria Road, Lydney, Glos.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. — The next meeting will be held at headquarters, the Coffee Pot, on Tuesday, January 2nd. — A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—North-East Branch.— The annual meeting will be held at Tiverton on Saturday, January 6th. Bells (8) 2 p.m. Time of service and tea will be announced at meeting. It is necessary that those wishing to attend should notify me as soon as possible for the purpose of arranging tea.—R. Harris, Park, Silverton, near Exeter.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755). — Annual meeting will be held at St. Martin's Church on Saturday, Jan. 6th. Further details regarding ringing, etc., in next week's issue.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Ringing St., Clement Danes, Strand, Saturday, January 6th, 2.30 p.m., followed by quarterly meeting, also Sunday, January 7th, at 10 a.m.—T. W. Taffender, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Burton District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Measham on Saturday, January 6th. Bells (8) available at 2.45 p.m. until 7.30 p.m. Business important. It is hoped to arrange tea or light refreshment in Church Room at 4.45 p.m., but those intending to be present must notify me by Thursday, Jan. 4th. Hearty invitation to all. Frequent bus service from Birmingham, Tamworth and Nottingham.—J. W. Cotton, Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. Matthew's, Mount Pleasant Lane, Upper Clapton, on Saturday, January 6th. Bells at 2.30 p.m. and also after business meeting. Tea at 5 p.m., notifications for which must be sent to me by Tuesday, Jan. 2nd. Handbells will be available.—T. J. Lock, Hon. Dis. Sec., 57, Holloways Lane, North Mimms, Hatfield, Herts.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. —A quarterly meeting will be held at LONG ASHTON on Saturday, Jan. 6th. Bells available 2 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Further ringing after the meeting.—J. T. Dyke, Hon. Sec., Chilcompton.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Winchester District. — The annual district meeting will be held at Winchester on Saturday, Jan. 6th. Service at the Cathedral at 3 p.m., to be followed by business meeting and tea, at St. Maurice's Hall. The Cathedral and St. Maurice's Church bells will be available from 1.45 to 3 p.m. It is particularly requested that those requiring tea shall notify me not later than Tuesday, Jan. 2nd.—W. G. Goodchild, Hon. Dis. Sec., 139, Stanmore Lane, Winchester.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch. The annual meeting will be held at St. John's, Devizes, on January 6th. Service at 5 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. It is essential that those requiring tea should notify me by January 4th.—W. C. West, 584, Semington Road, Melksham. Phone 297.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Dorchester Branch. — The annual meeting will be held at Dorchester on Saturday, Jan. 13th. Bells at Charminster and Fordington available from 3 p.m., St. Peter's from 4. Service in St. Peter's Church at 4.30. Tea in the Moule Institute, adjoining Fordington Church, at 5.30. Business meeting to follow. Please notify by Tuesday, Jan. 9th, how many we may expect.—C. H. Jennings, Hon. Sec., 3, Sunnyside Road, Wyke Regis, Weymouth.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The annual general meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Barnsley, on Saturday, Jan. 13th. Bells (8) available 2.30 to 5 p.m. Tea in Rectory Rooms, Huddersfield Road, 5.15 p.m., followed by business meeting. Those requiring teas must notify me not later than Thursday, Jan. 11th. All are welcome.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., Rock Cottages, Shafton, near Barnsley.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS. —The annual general meeting will be held at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields on January 20th, at 4.30 p.m., in the Vestry Hall. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Owing to the present conditions no arrangements can be made for tea at this meeting.—G. W. Steere, Hon. Sec., 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

BRISTOL UNITED RINGING GUILDS.—The 19th annual dinner will be held at the Grand Hotel, Broad Street, Bristol, on Saturday, January 20th, at 5 p.m. Tickets 4/6 each. Chairman, Mr. W. Abrahams. The Very Rev. the Dean of Bristol is chief guest. Ringing at Temple Church 1.30 p.m. Annual meeting at St. Thomas' Church Room 2.30 p m. Ringing at St. Nicholas' 3.45 p.m. Please obtain tickets early.—Edgar Guise, Hon. Secretary, 46a, Tankards Close, Bristol, 2.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The third annual dinner will be held at the George Hotel, Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent, on Saturday, Feb. 3rd, at 6 p.m. Tickets, 4s. each, may be obtained with remittance from Andrew Thompson (Hon. Secretary), 55, Whitehouse Road, Cross Heath, Newcastle, Staffs, until Jan. 18th. Ringing arrangements later.

HEREFORD CATHEDRAL.—Sunday, ringing 2 to 3 in afternoon; 10 to 11 every third Sunday in month.—W. H. Symonds.

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CHANGES OF ADDRESS.

Will ringers please note that the address of Mr. A. C. Pankhurst, Hon. Sec. of Eastern Division, Sussex Association, is now 11, Salehurst Road, Old Town, Eastbourne.

The address of Mr. R. C. H. Connolly is now 27, Monmouth Road, Watford, Herts. Telephone No. 5660.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES

BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTS.—At the Parish Church of St. Michael for evensong on Sunday, December 3rd, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples (1,260 changes): T. Ward 1, R. Wood 2, W. T. Prior 3, F. Bird (conductor) 4, H. Bird 5, H. M. White 6, E. Ansell 7, W. Wilkinson 8.

STREATHAM.—On Advent Sunday, December 3rd, at Emmanuel Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 45 minutes: C. A. Button 1, T. H. Taffender 2, H. G. Andrews 3, C. Pothecary 4, T. W. Welbourne 5, L. G. Franks 6, J. W. Chapman (conductor) 7, F. Hopgood 8.

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