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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26th, 1924.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.]

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GILLETT & JOHNSTON

CROYDON, SURREY.



The Recast Tenor (30 cwt.) at
ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL.

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BELLS, CARILLONS, CLOCKS.

RINGING COMPETITIONS.

'Prize ringing' has to a very considerable degree gone the way of most of the things supposed to be characteristic of the belfry in 'the bad old days.' There are very few instances of a survival of this phase of ringing, although we are not certain that it can be said that it is absolutely extinct. With the rise of the Associations, which have as one of their principal objects, 'belfry reform,' an influence was exerted which has almost, if not entirely, got rid of the old practice, with the abuses which accompanied it, and the Exercise has been all the better for it.

That, however, does not by any means exclude consideration of the proposal put forward by a correspondent this week, that ringing contests should be revived. We are not quite sure that 'revived' is the correct term, for in the North of England there are already in existence in one or two societies periodical competitions, in which it is considered an honour to win the trophy offered for the best ringing performance of the day. These contests take place in church towers, with the full consent of the incumbents, and in their conduct there appears nothing to which exception can be taken. The object of these competitions is to improve the quality of the striking among the bands belonging to the association, and it must be admitted that nothing conduces to perfection so much as friendly rivalry in an effort to excel. As our correspondent points out, there are competitions for choirs, and a competition for ringers, properly conducted, can be no more harmful.

In our view, everything would depend upon the spirit in which such a competition was run. If it were organised and carried out purely as an incentive to ringers to improve in their ringing, and to test their skill by comparison with others, little exception could be taken to a much wider adoption of these contests. It may seem a heresy to put forward such a view, but if rivalry is encouraged in peal ringing among associations by the allocation of points for these performances, there is not much to be said against offering a reward to the band which, on a given date, can ring the best-struck touch. At any rate, the views put forward by our correspondent are worth consideration, and need not be hastily rejected because in past days the association of 'prize' ringing with the churches led to proceedings which were by no means creditable. We can see very little that would be objectionable, for instance, in a dozen bands, each ringing a touch in a highly commendable style and the awarding of a medal to each of the company adjudged to have accomplished the best performance. On the other hand,

(Continued on page 610.)

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it is quite certain that the practice that would necessarily take place before either team competed would permanently improve the quality of the ringing in every one of those twelve towers. And if that could be done—as it could be—without introducing any of the vices which we are told accompanied the old prize ringing events, the Exercise would gain by it and the Church and the public would benefit by the higher standard of ringing which would be attained.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(LATE THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, September 20, 1924, in Three Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR, SOUTHWARK, S.E.,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5014 CHANGES;

Tenor 50 cwt.

ARTHUR J. NEALE Treble	*HERBERT J. SKELT 7
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER 2	HERBERT E. ADDSLEY 8
GEORGE H. CROSS 3	JEFFERY R. GAMMON 9
ERNEST J. KING 4	*EDWARD D. SMITH 10
FREDERICK R. BORRETT 5	JAMES GEORGE 11
JOHN H. CHESMAN 6	GEORGE A. CARD Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by THOMAS H. TAFFENDER.

* First attempt, and first peal on twelve bells.

TEN BELL PEAL.

EWERBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, September 20, 1924, in Three Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 2 lb. in D.

*CHARLES MCGUINNESS ... Treble	*WILLIAM H. LLOYD 6
*HAROLD MARCON 2	ERNEST NIDD 7
*H. LESLIE PASK 3	WILLIAM DICKINSON 8
*THOMAS HUMBERSTONE 4	FREDERICK W. STOKES 9
SYDNEY PROCTOR 5	GEORGE R. SMITH Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by SYDNEY PROCTOR.

* First peal of Grandsire Caters. Ringers of 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th hail from Lincoln; 5th and 7th Grantham; 8th Heckington; 4th Great Hale; 9th Blankney; tenor from Ewerby. Mr. Smith very kindly stood in at the last moment, after the band had met one short, and was elected a member of the Guild previous to commencing the peal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BOLSTERSTONE, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 13, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

LEONARD SHAW Treble	ARCHIE BREARLEY
SAML. HARRISON 2	ALBERT HELLIWELL 6
WM. A. WOOLER 3	JNO. R. BREARLEY 7
JNO. A. BREARLEY 4	JAS. H. CHARLESWORTH Tenor

Composed by W. SHIPWAY. Conducted by J. R. BREARLEY.

This is Shipway's 5-part taken from Snowden's 'History of Double Norwich,' and was rung as a birthday compliment to the popular secretary of the Bolsterstone company, Mr. Samuel Harrison.

THOS. J. GROOMBRIDGE

Church Bell Hanger,

CRAYFORD, KENT

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED FOR NEW OR REPAIR WORK

WITNEY, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, September 15, 1924, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 18 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lb.

THOMAS W. BOND Treble	GORDON CAUDWELL 5
LESLIE OLIFFE 2	JOHN MONK 6
MRS. A. E. LOCK 3	NOBLE SPINDLOW 7
ALBERT LOCK 4	GEORGE BROOKS Tenor

Conducted by JOHN MONK.

CHILVERS COTON, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Tuesday, September 16, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

MISS PATTIE CLARKE ... Treble	† FRANK BRASSINGTON ... 5
† MISS EVA LEWIS ... 2	* ARTHUR H. BEAMISH ... 6
MISS GLADYS M. DODDS ... 3	† JOHN E. MORETON ... 7
THOMAS W. CHAPMAN ... 4	ABRAHAM WILKERSON ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR T. KING. Conducted by A. WILKERSON.

* First peal. † First peal in the method. Ringers of 2nd, 3rd, 6th and 7th, belong to Chilvers Coton band, the rest are members of the Nuneaton Society. The ladies deserve special praise for the way they rang their bells throughout the peal.

BOURN, CAMBS.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, September 16, 1924, in Three Hours and One Minute,

At the Church of SS. Mary and Helena,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY Treble	ALBERT E. AUSTIN ... 5
REV. H. B. WOOLLEY ... 2	HAROLD J. HAZELL ... 6
FRANK WARRINGTON ... 3	JOHN WOOLLEY ... 7
FRANCIS GLEAVES ... 4	WILFRED H. J. HOOTON ... Tenor

Conducted by JOHN WOOLLEY.

First peal in the method on the bells.

NUNEATON,

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Thursday, September 18, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION.

HARRY ARGYLE Treble	HARRY STONELEY 5
MISS GLADYS DODDS ... 2	* FRED COTTON 6
JOHN THOMPSON 3	DOUGLAS H. ARGYLE ... 7
ABRAHAM WILKERSON ... 4	THOMAS W. CHAPMAN ... Tenor

Conducted by DOUGLAS H. ARGYLE.

† First peal. * First peal of Stedman Triples, and was elected a member of the Warwickshire Guild before starting for the peal. T. W. Chapman's 100th peal for the Guild.

TAUNTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 20, 1924, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 20 cwt.	
* WILLIAM MILLARD ... Treble	HENRY BOSLEY ... 5
PERCY MERSON ... 2	HENRY NORMAN ... 6
WILLIAM H. TARR ... 3	JAMES HUNT ... 7
† WILLIAM H. COLES ... 4	JOHN CARRIER ... Tenor

Conducted by JAMES HUNT.

* First peal. † First peal on eight bells. Rang as a token of respect to Major J. R. F. Lightowlers, 10 years churchwarden at St. Mary's Church.

BUCKLEBURY.—At the Parish Church, on Sept. 19th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes), in 47 mins.: Miss E. Franklin 1, Miss R. Hazell 2, Miss S. Davis 3, Miss D. Futter 4, J. Hazell 5, W. Wigmore 6, W. Mathews (conductor) 7, T. Goddard 8. First quarter-peal by ringers of 2nd, 4th and 8th.

WORTLEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 20, 1924, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Leonard,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

LEONARD SHAW Treble	ARCHIE BREARLEY 5
SAML. HARRISON 2	ALBERT HELLIWELL 6
WM. A. WOOLER 3	JOHN R. BREARLEY 7
JOHN A. BREARLEY 4	JAS. H. CHARLESWORTH ... Tenor

Composed by J. MILLER.

Conducted by J. R. BREARLEY.

Rung to celebrate the birthday of Master Reuel Harrison. All the ringers hail from Bolsterstone, with the exception of the 3rd, who is a local ringer.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, September 20, 1924, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. George,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. 11 lb. in E.

JOSEPH MELLOR Treble	ARTHUR HAUGHTON 5
JAMES ADAMS 2	HERBERT DAVENPORT ... 6
JOHN BRIERLEY 3	ALBERT HOGG 7
HARRY NORGROVE 4	BENJAMIN THORP Tenor

Composed by JOHN THORP.

Conducted by BENJAMIN THORP.

Rung with the bells muffled as a last tribute of esteem and respect to Councillor Joshua Howcroft, a much-esteemed member of the local band, who was interred on the previous day.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 20, 1924, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Mark,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5080 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

* WILFRED GRUNDY ... Treble	JOSEPH HENRY RIDYARD ... 5
FREDERICK GRUNDY ... 2	JOSEPH RIDYARD 6
* JAMES HOWARD 3	ARTHUR RIDYARD 7
* JOHN FREEMAN 4	STANLEY HARRISON Tenor

Composed by JOHN R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by J. H. RIDYARD.

This peal was rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. H. Moore, of Monton, to Miss E. Derbyshire, of Beesley Green, Worsley, the ceremony taking place at the above church. Miss Derbyshire is the youngest daughter of Mr. Percy H. Derbyshire, chief ringer at St. Mark's, where he has been a member for 29 years.

MONKEN HADLEY, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, September 20, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary the Virgin,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 11 cwt

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE ... Treble	C. V. EBBERTSON
* A. CRANE 2	NORMAN G. TOMLINSON ... 6
H. J. ELDERED 3	JOHN ARMSTRONG 7
R. ROFFEY 4	W. LANGLEY Tenor

Conducted by J. ARMSTRONG.

* First peal 'inside.' This peal was originally attempted on July 5th, at Barnet, as a compliment to Mr. F. A. Milne, president of the Middlesex Association, on his 70th birthday, and was then lost after two hours' ringing on account of the bad 'go' of the 7th.

BLACKBURN, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 20, 1924, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels,

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

JOHN BROWN Treble	* WILLIAM E. WILSON ... 5
THOMAS WALLWORK ... 2	* WILLIAM ROBINSON ... 6
* THOMAS WILSON 3	ARTHUR TOMLINSON ... 7
JAMES H. BANKS 4	JOHN WATSON Tenor

Composed by REV. H. LAW JAMES.

Conducted by A. TOMLINSON.

* First peal in the method. Arranged for W. Robinson, of Ambleside, and rung as a birthday compliment to T. Wilson.

HASLEMERE, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, September 20, 1924, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes.

At the Church of St. Bartholomew,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 6 lb. in F.

† JAMES A. WISDOM Treble	HARRY MULLARD 5
† FRED BOWDEN 2	* JOHN A. COLE 6
RICHARD HAYES 3	JOHN H. B. HESSE 7
C. Q. M. S. G. GILBERT, R.E. 4	ALFRED H. PULLING Tenor

Composed by J. HOWES.

† First peal of Major. * First peal of Major on an inside bell. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. G. Gilbert and the conductor.

BEAMINSTER, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, September 20, 1924, in Three Hours and Five Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary the Virgin,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 26 cwt.

* T. GUNNING Treble	* F. BROOKS 5
T. HERVEY BEAMS 2	JESSE TYLER 6
D. G. TAYLOR 3	† F. BUGLER 7
G. SIBLY 4	W. S. B. NORTHOVER Tenor

Conducted by T. HERVEY BEAMS.

* First peal. † First peal of Triples. Minor repairs to this grand peal have recently been carried out by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and they now 'go' like the proverbial 'tops.'

WESTERHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, September 20, 1924, in Three Hours and Three Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 23½ cwt.

ISAAC EMERY Treble	ROBERT BREIT-SMITH 5
ERNEST B. CROWDER 2	EDMUND MOUNTON 6
GEORGE DURLING 3	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. 7
WALTER SMITH 4	HARRY DURLING Tenor

Conducted by THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, SEN.

SIX BELL PEALS.

LONG STANTON, CAMBS.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, August 30, 1924, in Two Hours and Thirty 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.

HAROLD J. HAZELL Treble	CHRISTOPHER WOOLLEY 4
FRANCIS GLEAVES 2	FRANK WARRINGTON 5
JOHN T. NEWINGTON 3	JOHN WOOLLEY Tenor

Conducted by JOHN WOOLLEY.

First peal of Minor on the bells.

CHELFORD, CHESHIRE.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(MAGGLESFIELD BRANCH.)

On Thursday, September 11, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes.

At the Church of St. John,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's, each called differently. Tenor 10 cwt.

W. L. SLACK Treble	* S. HYDER 4
WILFRED MATTHEWS 2	HERBERT DAVENPORT 5
TOM MOTTERSHEAD 3	EDWARD JOHNSON Tenor

Conducted by H. DAVENPORT.

* First peal. First peal on the bells.

DERBY.—On Sunday evening, Sept. 7th, at the Church of St. Alkmund's, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,302 changes), in 46 mins.: E. H. Clarke 1, E. Summerside 2, H. Waterfield 3, W. Slater, junr., 4, W. Slater, senr., 5, C. Draper 6, Geo. Freebury (conductor) 7, W. Critchley 8.

ASH, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, September 15, 1924, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes.

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Oxford Treble Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, Oxford Single Bob, and two 720's each of Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 7 cwt. 1 qr. 21 lb. in A.

* GEORGE PETTER Treble	HUBERT J. CHAFFEY 4
MISS BERTHA M. MILLS 2	† SPR. R. B. F. HAMMOND, R.E. 5
MISS HILDA F. MILLS 3	C. Q. M. S. G. GILBERT, R.E. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE GILBERT, R.E.

* First peal on six bells. † First peal of Minor in five methods.

BRINDLE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(PRESTON BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, September 16, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes.

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

FRED BLACKLIDGE Treble	HERBERT BLACKLIDGE 4
THOMAS STOTT 2	WILLIAM SHARPLES 5
JOHN R. STOTT 3	WILLIAM FOWLER Tenor

Conducted by W. SHARPLES.

First peal of Surprise by all; and on the bells. First peal of Cambridge Surprise by the branch.

WELLINGTON, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

On Saturday, September 20, 1924, in Three Hours and Four Minutes.

At the Church of St. Margaret,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, 22 different callings.

Tenor 17 cwt.

ALFRED PARKER Treble	JOSEPH W. DOWNES 4
FREDERICK G. GRIFFITHS 2	JAMES P. HYETT 5
JOSEPH W. RUSHTON 3	ALBERT WEAVER Tenor

Conducted by J. P. HYETT.

Rung to oblige A. Weaver, of Penarth, who was elected a life member in the tower. First peal on the bells since being augmented to six.

WINCHESTER GUILD TOUR.

The following peals were rung during a week in Hampshire by members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild.

NORTH STONEHAM, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, September 6, 1924, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes.

At the Church of St. Nicolas,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 0 qr. 26 lb.

GEORGE WILLIAMS Treble	CECIL C. MAYNE 5
† WILLIAM H. FOSSELL 2	* HARRY PARKES 6
WILLIAM J. NEVARD 3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS 7
FREDERICK S. BAYLEY 4	JAMES H. SHEPHERD Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY.

Conducted by G. WILLIAMS.

* First peal in the method. † 550th peal.

EAST TYTHERLEY, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, September 8, 1924, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes.

At the Church of St. Peter,

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

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lb.

W. H. FOSSELL Treble	HARRY PARKES 5
FREDERICK S. BAYLEY 2	GEORGE WILLIAMS 6
ERNEST J. HOBBS 3	ARTHUR E. SHARMAN 7
ISAAC G. SHADE 4	JAMES H. SHEPHERD Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

DIBDEN, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, September 11, 1924, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 10½ cwt.

*WALTER SCOTT, SEN. ... Treble	HARRY PARKES 5
ARTHUR E. SHARMAN 2	CECIL C. MAYNE 6
ISAAC G. SHADE 3	GEORGE WILLIAMS 7
ERNEST J. HOBBS 5	OLIVER SIPPETTS ... Tenor

Composed by FREDERICK PITSTOW. Conducted by OLIVER SIPPETTS.

* First peal in the method.

CHRISTCHURCH, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, September 12, 1924, in Three Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE PRIORY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 27 cwt.

GEORGE WILLIAMS ... Treble	HARRY PARKES 6
ISAAC G. SHADE 2	*ERNEST J. HOBBS 7
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL 3	JAMES GEORGE 8
ARTHUR E. SHARMAN 4	CECIL C. MAYNE 9
WILLIAM J. NEVARD 5	KEITH HART ... Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by KEITH HART.

* First peal of Royal.

RINGWOOD, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, September 12, 1924, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL.

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

Tenor 20 cwt.

*WILLIAM UPTON ... Treble	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL ... 5
KEITH HART 2	CECIL C. MAYNE 6
GEORGE WILLIAMS 3	ERNEST J. HOBBS 7
WILLIAM J. NEVARD 4	ARTHUR E. SHARMAN ... Tenor

Composed by GEORGE H. CROSS. Conducted by ARTHUR SHARMAN.

* First peal in the method. First in the method on the bells.

CURDRIDGE, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, September 13, 1924, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 26 cwt. in D.

ARTHUR E. SHARMAN ... Treble	GEORGE WILLIAMS 5
WILLIAM UPTON 2	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY ... 6
WILLIAM J. NEVARD 3	KEITH HART 7
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL 4	CECIL C. MAYNE ... Tenor

Conducted by KEITH HART.

HIGH WYCOMBE RINGERS' TRIP.

On Saturday, Sept. 13th, members of the High Wycombe belfry spent a very pleasant afternoon and evening, on the occasion of their annual outing. The party left by the mid-day train, the first tower to be visited being Shiplake. After leaving the station, a walk of about a mile through typical rural scenery brought them to the church, and the bells were soon on the move, some good touches being enjoyed. After about an hour, steps were turned towards the station, with the intention of training to Henley, but a charabanc appearing on the road it was at once 'commandeered,' and once aboard, the party were so comfortable that there was no 'slight course' till the famous town of Henley was reached. On arrival here, the first item was 'a rattling good ten' at Mr. Hawker's restaurant, the meal being well served, and much enjoyed. At the church all was in readiness for ringing, and some of the local men, as well as the visitors, kept the bells on the go for pretty well a couple of hours. 'By the 6.45 for Wargrave' was the concluding item, and this renowned tower and church held the attention of the party till half-past eight, when with 'pipes in full blast, and cigarettes aglow,' they sauntered to the quiet little station to catch the 8.45 for home, which was reached in good time, after an enjoyable and interesting outing. The ringers wish to tender their sincere thanks to the Vicars and foremen of the towers for their kindness.

THE ELY 'RESOLUTION.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—As one of the members of the Ely Diocesan Association who was present at the Bourn meeting, I feel a few words are necessary in reply to your unjust criticism in your 'leader' of the 12th, also to the letter of 'Once a Beginner' for trying to label certain members of the Ely Association 'Dogs in the manger.' The resolution requesting bands of visiting ringers to credit peals they ring to the Ely Association was intended as a friendly hint to such bands that such an association as the Ely does exist. To refuse outside bands the use of towers, under the area of the 'Ely,' never entered the minds of one of those present; also I am quite sure no such feeling exists amongst the whole of its members. I do not pay much regard to anyone who writes and finishes a letter without his or her name. 'Once a Beginner,' however, begins by criticising our resolution. Then goes on to ask other Guilds to do the very thing he criticises us for. We are quite intelligent enough to know that after all it is the incumbents who are in sole command.—Yours faithfully,

E. G. HIBBINS.

[It is quite easy for our correspondent to say our criticism is 'unjust.' Will he point out, however, wherein it is unjust in view of the report of the meeting as supplied to us? The resolution to be conveyed to incumbents requested that they should inform visiting ringers that the peal to be attempted 'should be rung for the Ely Diocesan Association.' That is a form of command, and our article, while expressly indicating our view that the Ely Association had no desire to put obstacles in the way of visiting ringers, merely pointed out the practical difficulties of carrying out the resolution—difficulties which, we venture now to say, were not fully realised by all those who voted for the motion. If, as our correspondent states, the resolution was intended merely as a friendly hint, then it was rather unfortunately framed, and unless this qualification of the terms is conveyed to the incumbents, through whose agency it is hoped to make the resolution effective, it is quite certain that in some cases the interpretation will be different to that which, according to Mr. Hibbins, was intended by the meeting. Therefore, rather than regretting what we said, we think we may emphasise the point which we made that 'the Association will find it desirable to review this resolution.'—Ed. 'R.W.')

VALUELESS PEAL POINTS?

Sir,—The Ely Association's resolution at Bourn, concerning peals rung in their area, leads me again to wonder what minute value, if any, can be assigned to the points given for peals in the annual peal analysis.

It seems reasonable to assume that the points were meant to be an index to the standard of ringing in the area occupied by each association; yet it is possible for a band of ringers on tour from all parts of the country to ring many Surprise peals for the association in whose area they are touring, thereby scoring many points for that association, although they may be in no way actively connected with that association beyond having paid a life subscription. Thus the points cannot give anything but a false idea of the standard of ringing in that area.

The Ely Association's idea may be that its peal book shall be a record of all peals rung in its area. Excellent, but still the peal points will give an erroneous idea of the efficiency of the resident members of the Ely Association.

The resolution seems to show that there is dissatisfaction with the present state of affairs, and surely the first thing to do is to abolish the peal points—they are as obsolete as the beltry beer jug. Then, perhaps, it would be possible for each association to keep a record of all peals rung in its area, but only to take credit for peals rung by bands whose members are all either resident in, or natives of, the district covered by that association.

'MEDICUS VECTENSIS.'

WEDDING BELLS.

At Belgrave, Leicester, on Monday, Sept. 15th, at St. Peter's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 47 mins.: R. Barrow 1, L. H. Whitehead 2, W. P. Whitehead 3, G. H. Straw (first quarter-peal of Triples) 4, A. Disney 5, W. H. Clarke (first quarter-peal as conductor) 6, H. Reeve 7, A. Bishop 8. Rung on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. H. S. Sibson, one of the local ringers, to Miss E. S. Sharpe, which took place at this church the same morning.

On Monday, Sept. 15th, for a wedding at Green's Norton, Northants, 720 Kent Treble Bob: A. Booth 1, G. F. Lucas 2, Geo. Mansfield 3, A. Mansfield 4, J. M. Gray 5, J. Wilfred Sharp (conductor) 6. Also 720 Oxford Single: W. Wise 1, G. F. Lucas 2, A. Mansfield 3, Geo. Mansfield 4, A. Booth 5, J. M. Gray (conductor) 6.

At the Church of Bartholomew, Birmingham, a quarter-peal of Stedman Doubles, consisting of 1,260 changes: Harry Withers (conductor) 1, John Withers 2, John Withers, junr., 3, George Pigott 4, R. Russell 5, Harry Parkes 6. Rung to celebrate the wedding of Miss Louise Ward and Mr. V. G. Hemus.

THE HAMPSHIRE WEEK.

'Ye hand for worke, ye heade for wytte,
'Ye hearts for worshippes part.'

This county ringing holiday was a sort of 'go-as-you-please' this year, and those who held a rope when 'go' was called were more pleased than those who did not. Twelve peals were arranged, half of which were successfully 'rounded,' the other half going 'West'—Southampton West. Mr. George Pullinger, who has more 'pull' in one arm than most people have with two, kindly obtained the necessary permission and help of the respective clergymen and steeple-keepers for the use of the towers and bells on behalf of the visitors, who greatly appreciated, and desire me to express their gratitude and thanks for the favours bestowed. There being no hitch to mar the daily task, no tale of woe can be related, and a happy, comfortable holiday was enjoyed by all, with headquarters at Swaythling the whole of the time. Several men were old 'campaigners,' and the activities of the late Rev. F. E. Robinson and the Oxford lad he 'brought out' (J. W. Washbrook), were gone over again, in our conversations, with the same zest as ever. Some arrived a day late, and others left a day or so before the week's close, but, by carefully revising the daily roll call we managed to find a 'spare part' at each tower visited, which raised the question of 'standing out.'

The unfortunate bell hanger who came to rehang Winchester Cathedral 11th bell was 'blessed,' as his coming meant hasty postponement of Stedman Cinques, planned to start this tour on Saturday, Sept. 6th. However, we spliced Superlative Major into the gap at North Stoneham, and discussed future attempts at 'The Fleming Arms' before going to our additional billets at 'The Mason's Arms' and 'Kennard's,' because one house could not manage us all.

Sunday morning, a 'gathering of the Clans' at North Stoneham Church, with introductions to the local band, enabled several methods to be performed for the morning service, and a vacant pew in the nave to be filled by ringing visitors. Southampton was visited after dinner by tram car, and touches rung for the children's service at 3 o'clock, and again for evensong at St. Mary's. We were discovered on the pier by flower sellers, and enjoyed a pier concert in the afternoon, thus patronising the local collecting fund for the hospital. One piece of band music employed a set of tubular bells, with good effect, and another brought in the Westminster chimes—euphonium solo—and one gentleman in the audience, a stranger, much interested in our 'jollity,' courteously mentioned, prophet-like, the name of the coming winner of the St. Ledger on Wednesday—'Salmon Trout.' On the day of the race we had boiled cod-fish for lunch, and our host's daughter, by drawing 'S.T.' won the 'sweepstake,' which a dozen of our party made up.

A motor-bus was hired for Monday to drive us to Sherfield English and East Tytherley, a picturesque drive through Hampshire forest country. Both peals of eight are by Taylor, of Loughborough, with good tuning and banging, and the loss of the peal attempt at the former tower was due to war's ravages upon the constitution of one of our men. It was the first 'attempt' on the bells—all other peals hitherto at Sherfield having proved successful. How the landlady of the village inn, 'The Axe,' was disturbed in her needlework by the request for a 'dinner for twelve' in an hour or so should be noted. She placed boiled ham and greens—a Berkshire dish—upon the table in prompt time, and we found that her husband lived near Twyford for years in connection with the Garth Hunt. How the ghost of Richard Gifford—1598—paraded the nave during a musical touch of Major at Tytherley, wearing the original helmet and visor, created wonder for the ringer concerned. Our way homeward was broken at Lockerley (six bells), with two old bells preserved in the porch, and again at Dunsbury for tea and handbells, before Romsey and Swaythling were reached.

The two days following were peal-less, but full of interest, Hursley and Stoneham on Tuesday, and Southampton on Wednesday. Men not ringing in the attempt for Stedman at St. Mary's obtained permission to see over the mighty liner 'Mauretania' lying at the Docks, by careful use of a silver-lined cigarette card. This day we were augmented by the arrival of Messrs. Pulling, Scott and Upton, which just about compensated us for the loss of our portly shepherd.

On Thursday the bus proprietor failed us, his 'wire' coming after the birds had flown. Three motor-cycles and two sidecars were brought out by the owners, and, fully loaded with eight men for Diben, the remainder took tram and steamboat across the estuary to Hythe pier, and walked to the church, leaving a weighty legacy in the cars to let the pealmen know of their visit. We all dined at 'The Fleming,' at two o'clock, on leg o' mutton served 'à la Gifford.' Bishopstoke in the afternoon was reached via Eastleigh, by train and walk, and we had tea with Mr. Nevard on the way back, and gave Keith Hart a welcome. All were attracted to the Fleming later on to ring handbells and gossip till eleven o'clock. Regarding the latter, our Birmingham hero amused the company by revelations of his trivings through the crowded streets of the city, where he is well known to the police.

By previous ordering we were granted cheap travelling tickets as a picnic party on Friday to and from Christchurch. There being just a dozen of us for the Royal at the Priory, two went on to Bournemouth to look round, and rejoined us later. One of our number—like one of the twelve apostles—failed his comrades, preferring to use his 'director's pass' to taking a share in the picnic. At the finish of the Treble Ten we were informed of the vain attempts of an infuriated resident, newly come to the town, to break into the belfry, and it seemed at one time as if the Ringing Master of the Guild would be 'pitched into' by him. Time did not permit of any physical argument, with our dinner waiting for an hour, and the car for Ringwood ready for us. We said good-bye to George Preston, and hoped the Church Council would pay the court fines—and if the case was too serious—he wouldn't get more than 14 days' hard. Here we sent off flying to the station Messrs. Parkes, Shade and 'Birmingham,' whose peal 'calls' in London and Quex Park had to be met on the morrow, according to promise.

At Ringwood a good peal of Major was rung, without spare time for sight-seeing, or even a call for refreshments. The local band congratulated us, and mentioned that the organist had been trying to get into the belfry to us, with a view to our 'stopping' whilst the three or four choir-boys had a practice. As the door was locked, we had, instead, half an hour's organ recital below the ringing-room, which is in a central tower, but this was like water on a duck's back to our band.

The winding road amidst creeks and waterways between Ringwood and Christchurch would not suit an amateur motor driver, and so we did not make the journey so quickly in the rain and darkness as it was hoped. When alighting at the entrance door of the station the Swaythling train pulled in to the platform, and we hastily changed our seats, reaching headquarters with 1½ hours to the good, or, like the handbells, 'in hand.' Would the end of the week furnish two doubles in the last two days? If 'yes,' then amends would be made for the 48 hours and four failures.

Saturday, our final day, was bright and summerlike. The ride by road through Botley was enjoyed, our fleet of sidecars again conveying the party to the church—Curdrige this time—where Stedman was accomplished. The only peals scored in this tower hitherto (15) have all been conducted by Mr. G. Williams. Even the bells seem to know him. On this occasion, however, Mr. Hart broke the magic spell as conductor, by rattling off Thurstan's bobs with the regularity of a 'pulsometer.' Curdrige are a fine octave of bells (tenor 26 cwt.), sister peal to Ryde, by Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, but neither equal the newer peal at Southampton (tenor 23 cwt.), by same founders, beautifully tuned upon their modified system. At North Stoneham in the afternoon London Surprise for the third time of asking lasted twenty minutes only, although half the band had rung three peals in 24 hours in the same method some twenty years ago. Various touches followed, with other friends joining in, and the last touch of all, with the glass to the lips—'here's to our next happy outing amongst the dear old Churches of Motherland.'

W. H. F.

NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.

INCREASED CONTRIBUTIONS.

Two meetings of this association have been held this year. The annual meeting was held at Rhyl on Whit Monday, when members were present from Rhyl, Bangor, Portmadoc, Wrexham, Gresford and Buckley. The balance sheet showed a balance in hand of 26 6s. 1d., and the secretary reported that during the past year six peals had been rung by the association, which showed a slight improvement on the previous few years. The retiring president, master, treasurer and secretary were re-elected, and a hearty vote of thanks was passed to them for their work during the year.—Three new members and one life member were admitted into the association.—It was decided to hold the next meeting at Hawarden on Saturday, Sept. 6th, 1924, but as this day was not convenient, it was postponed until the following Saturday, Sept. 13th, when members attended from Rhyl, Wrexham, Hawarden, Bangor, Gresford and Buckley, and the Rev. C. F. Lyttleton, Rector of Hawarden, was in the chair.

It was decided to raise the members' annual subscription from 1s. to 2s., and the life members' fee from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 6d. The object of this is to provide funds to pay the Master's expenses to visit various towers to teach and encourage the art of change ringing.

A motion was brought forward to alter the date of the annual meeting from Whit Monday to Easter Monday each year, but it was decided to leave the question over until the next meeting, which was fixed for Whit Monday, 1925, at Portmadoc.

The members were entertained to tea at both meetings by the home ringers, and touches in various methods were rung during the day.

INFORMATION WANTED.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Could any reader tell me how to fix up a silent practice apparatus for six bells, and the cost of such an apparatus, not including the small bells to be fixed in ringing room: or give an address where it can be got?

NOVICE.

DUNSTABLE PRIORY CHURCH RINGERS' OUTING.

On Saturday, Sept. 6th, the Dunstable company held their annual outing, when Northamptonshire was the venue. Accompanied by the Rev. H. H. Fauvel (curate-in-charge), and Messrs. C. C. S. Benning and P. W. Ashwell (churchwardens), the party, 15 in number, left Dunstable at 8 a.m. by charabanc for Higham Ferrers, via Bedford, where Canon Baker was taken aboard. Higham Ferrers was reached as the clock was striking 10. Mr. G. Randall met the visitors, and escorted them to the church, where the magnificent ring of bells (tenor 22 cwt.) was raised in peal. The opening touch of 252 Stedman, followed by 320 of Double Norwich, was a good send-off for the day's ringing. A good course of Superlative Surprise with Mr. Martin, one of the local ringers standing in, concluded the ringing at this tower. After the church had been inspected, and some of the camera men had taken several snap shots, the 'bus' was again boarded for Finedon, where the party were welcomed on arrival by the Ven. Archdeacon Greaves (Rector). Another fine peal of bells, with a tenor 22 cwt., was found. After raising the bells in peal, and a touch of Bob Major and Double Norwich rung, Erin Triples was attempted, but wouldn't go at all. Mr. G. Basford joined in the ringing at this tower. Kettering was the next stop, where at the Cross Keys Cafe a sumptuous hot dinner was awaiting the party. After full justice had been done, the parish church was visited, and awaiting the visitors were Messrs. Sawfoot, Payne and Black, of the local band. Grandsire and Stedman Caters and a course of Kent Treble Bob Royal were rung, some of the younger members ringing their first course of Royal. Rothwell was the next place on the programme, Messrs. Sawfoot and Black also making the journey. Mr. A. York was awaiting the visitors' arrival. The bells are a magnificent peal (tenor 21 cwt.), and were considered by most to be the gem of the trip. Stedman Triples, Superlative Surprise, and 560 Double Norwich, with Mr. A. York taking part, were successfully brought round. Most of the visitors also took the opportunity of visiting the ancient bone crypt at this church. Tea was then partaken of before making the last call, which was at Burton Latimer. Mr. G. Lines and other members of the local band welcomed the visitors. The bells here were quite a contrast to the heavy rings which had been tackled earlier in the day, the tenor (10½ cwt.) being lately rehung in ball bearings by Messrs. Taylor and Co. The 'official' tenorman would not tackle this light and easy-going ring, so the amusing spectacle was witnessed of one of the little-bell men 'drumming' Stedman Triples, Superlative Surprise was also rung here. The Vicar (the Rev. R. Lethbridge) visited the belfry, and

extended a hearty welcome to the party. This concluded the day's ringing, and preparations were made for the return, Dunstable being reached at 10.30, after one of the most enjoyable days it was possible to imagine. Good bells, a hearty welcome at every tower, good fellowship, and good ringing, all helped to make the day memorable. The visitors desire to express, through 'The Ringing World,' their best thanks to the clergy of the various churches visited for so readily granting permission to ring, also to all the local ringers who met them, and the hearty welcome extended to them; and, lastly, to their own church authorities for making such a pleasant day's outing possible.

LEICESTERSHIRE OUTING.

On Saturday, Sept. 13th, the ringers of All Saints' Church, with friends, to the number of twenty, had an outing which they hope to make an annual event. The venue was Rothwell, the place of many bones, and although on pleasure bent, the art of campanology was not overlooked, as arrangements had been made by the energetic secretary and captain, Mr. W. J. Brewin, for ringing at Desborough en route, and also at Rothwell. Journeying by charabanc, the party passed through some of the most beautiful scenery in the Midlands. Touches were successfully brought round of Wigston Major, Double Norwich, Stedman and Grandsire Triples at both churches. The 'go' of the bells at Desborough was excellent, but those at Rothwell required careful management. Tea was well served at the Cosy Tearooms, Rothwell, and afterwards the party became split for a time, some visiting Kettering to view the beautiful park given by Earl Winstead to the inhabitants. Home was eventually reached about 11 p.m., and the ringers take this opportunity of thanking the clergy for the use of the bells, and Mr. Wells, of Rothwell, for making the afternoon an enjoyable one.

STOKE-ON-TRENT RINGERS' VISIT TO LIVERPOOL.

On Saturday, Sept. 6th, the ringers from Stoke-on-Trent held their annual outing, and visited Liverpool and New Brighton. Travelling by train from Stoke they arrived at Liverpool about 10.30, and paid a visit to the new Cathedral. After dinner and a look round the city, the party took the ferry to New Brighton, where a very enjoyable afternoon was spent. The ringers would have liked to ring at Wallasey, but owing to a peal attempt this was impossible. The return journey was made from New Brighton about 8.45 p.m., and Stoke was reached soon after midnight, after a very enjoyable outing.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The peal rung at East Tytherley, Hants, recalls the fact that just twenty-five years ago, while another ringing tour was in progress, three Surprise peals in a day were almost accomplished on the bells at this picturesque church.

Cambridge Surprise was rung in the morning, Superlative in the afternoon, and a big slice of London in the evening. It was because one of the band got a whole pull out and would not be convinced he was wrong, that the third peal was lost.

There have probably been as many ringing tours in Hampshire as in any county in the kingdom.

The peal of Stedman Triples rung at the Loughborough Bell Foundry on Sept. 11th was Heywood's Variation, and was rung in 2 hrs. 40 mins., not 2 hrs. 14 mins., as printed.

The peal rung at Colerne, Wilts, on Sept. 10th, was the first on the bells since they were overhauled by the local ringers, previous to which they were in a dangerous state.

Visitors to Stanmore should note that the practice night, advertised in the report of the Middlesex Association on Mondays, has now been altered to Thursday, from 7 to 9 p.m.

Two new bells were to be dedicated by the Bishop of Crediton at Ipplepen, Devon, yesterday.

The Exeter Branch of the Devon Guild is inaugurating a winter series of social gatherings. The first is to take place on October 11th, and a ringing clergyman is to preside. Four others have also promised to take their turn in the chair.

William Shipway was born in Bath on Sept. 29th, 1760. He learnt his ringing there, his first access to the belfry being gained through the fact that he was apprenticed to a Mr. Handcock, a cabinet maker, who was appointed sexton of the abbey.

The first peal of Bristol Surprise on handbells was rung at Romford on October 1st, 1907.

On October 1st, 1793, a peal of 15,360 Bob Major was rung at Aston, conducted by Joshua Short.

St. Lawrence's Church, Thanet, is to be a ten-bell tower in the near future. The order for two new trebles has been placed with Messrs. Mears and Stainbank (whose work in this tower bears the best recommendation for at least a century), the cost being £230. The bells are to be completed by Armistice Day, November 11th. One is to be inscribed 'Peace' and the other 'Remembrance.' The augmentation will be greatly appreciated by ringers in that corner of Kent.

THE SNOWDON COMMEMORATION DINNER.

The Dean of York presided at the Snowdon Commemoration dinner, held at the Windmill Hotel, York, on Saturday last. The company numbered over 130, and included many visitors from outside the county of York. The gathering was a most successful one, and we hope to give a full report of the proceedings in our next issue.

DEATH OF THE REV. W. E. COLCHESTER.

FORMER SECRETARY OF THE WINCHESTER GUILD.

We regret to record the death of the Rev. W. E. Colchester, Rector of Alresford, Hants, which took place on Sept. 12th, after a long and painful illness. Mr. Colchester was for a time general secretary, and afterwards hon. treasurer, and for many years an enthusiastic member of the Winchester Diocesan Guild. He was the author of a very valuable work, entitled 'Hampshire Church Bells,' which was published in 1920, and while he was Rector of St. Maurice, Winchester, he had the old ring of five bells rebung and made into a ring of six, as a memorial to the men of that parish who fell in the war. He was also largely instrumental in getting the Cathedral bells increased to twelve.

At the funeral, which took place at Alresford on Sept. 15th, the Winchester Guild was represented by Mr. W. Andrews and Mr. G. Pullinger (the Rev. C. E. Matthews, vice-president, and Mr. G. Williams, Master, were unavoidably absent). Amongst the many beautiful floral tributes was a wreath from the Winchester Diocesan Guild of Ringers.

The 7th and 8th bells at Alresford require rehangings, and it has been suggested that an appropriate way of commemorating the Rev. W. E. Colchester's incumbency would be to rehang these two bells and to overhaul the others.

SHALL WE REVIVE PRIZE RINGING?

By W. W.

Steady now! Easy with the brickbats, there's no need for a rough house. I merely ask the question, and the reader, gentle or otherwise, had better think twice before he answers it. Probably no other cult contains so much smug hypocrisy and cant as the art of ringing. Now you have it in the neck. There was a time when paid ringers were called 'scruffers,' probably because they scooped up all the filthy lucre they could get their hands on. What an unholy lot of fellows! Let us give thanks that we are not like them. Selah! Ringers nowadays always refuse remuneration — or nearly always (so I hear).

Those were the decadent days of ringing, and yet somehow, history deponeth that some of the greatest achievements took place in those terrible times.

Again, ringers used to frequent places known as public-houses, now abbreviated to the first syllable. How shocking! Yet I remember once at the opening of a new ring of bells, how the Bishop, clergy, Mayor and Corporation, were entertained at the principal hotel of the place, where the loyal toasts, 'Church and State,' and a lot more, were drunk in honour of the event. The ringers not being invited, made their way to another place, designated by the vulgar, a 'pub,' and did likewise. How demoralising! Yet the liquid nourishment was the same. At least, if any difference, the ringers had it (so I hear). Ahem!

In the days of prize ringing, the church belfry was made a rendezvous for 'sport.'

I have an hazy impression that peals of 5,040 and upwards, also records, are also brought off at the same place, and is there any man with an ounce of honesty prepared to say that such are done for the glory of God? So much for the facts that cannot be refuted, and which should be well digested before we hold up our hands in (pious) horror at the suggestion at the head of this article.

The Victorian age has much to its credit, but it cannot be denied that it was rampant with Chadbandism. The line of demarcation between classes and masses was sharply defined. The petty delinquencies of the latter were exaggerated by the former, especially in our art. Times have changed, and we to-day are inclined to take a wider view of men and manners. In all spheres emulation is applauded, and few will deny that with a goal set before us, the end nearly always justifies the means. The painter now able to write R.A. after his name, had to live in the early days by his 'pot-boilers' until the day dawned when his ambition was achieved, for to be 'hung on the line' not only meant honour, but fortune. In music, Eisteddfod, and competitive festival, has always produced the desired results, as Sir Henry Wood and Landon Ronald could bear witness. In fact, in every sphere where competition has obtained, the process of elimination has borne fruit.

The King himself is patron of the Brass Band contest, and would anyone care to say that such competition is demoralising?

Let us come to ringing. I dare say my readers have noticed that at ringers' meetings, as a rule, the striking is not exactly superlative. The reason is not far to seek. If there are eight or ten bells, those who have hitherto rung only on six, see that here is a chance too good to be missed. No one can blame them, for what good is an association if it does not provide something otherwise unobtainable? Quite so. One passenger is all very well, but when the bus is overloaded with them the result is obvious, and no one is satisfied. The public ear is not considered in the least as it should be, and as I am convinced it will have to be considered sooner or later, for clanging is not music. I will anticipate the retort that everyone must have a chance if he wishes to improve. Again, quite so: but that is not any reason why a better way should not be tried. The accomplishment of a peal in the higher methods is not always a criterion of ability. A famous carillonneur recently said, 'I would sooner hear you ringers ring good rounds than bad changes.' A hard saying to those of us who feed on figures, but nevertheless the view is a correct one, for many learners jump into changes before they can ring rounds fit to be heard. Whatever may be urged against prize ringing in the old days, it cannot be denied that wherever it obtained—in Yorkshire especially—they could ring like clockwork.

I am induced to this line of thought from the fact that the public love emulation and the fighting spirit. Given a competitive festival (better name than prize ringing), nothing but good would accrue. As a rough outline, I would allow each band to choose its own method, each band to be a recognised company of a tower; and the verdict to rest on the striking alone. The company ringing 168 of Grandsire Triangles faultlessly would beat a jangled touch of London Surprise, and I think rightly so. There should be no test piece, on the ground that it might shut out some whose ability was limited to certain methods.

I do not propose here to give anything but a general outline. I do not suggest what the prize should be. It might be a cup, or a bell, a sum of money to the winning companies or their fund, or take the form of a dinner to the winners, or anything that conveys satisfac-

tion to the fortunate bands. One thing is certain. The ideal would be perfection in striking. A day or half-day could be set aside for the competition, and it would bring pleasure not only to the contestants, but to the listeners outside. To those who ask, 'Who will provide the funds?' I answer: 'I do not know, it might be a useful expense on the part of the respective associations that approve, to find the means.'

I would like to have other views, hostile or not, as I have an impression that more than one patron of the Exercise would be pleased to put up the trophies or funds for the purpose.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SPREADING THE ART.

A quarterly meeting was held at Matherne, near Chepstow, on Saturday last, but owing to the very wet afternoon was not so well attended as is generally the case. The bells, a ring of six, by Evans, were rehung by Messrs. Taylor well over 30 years ago in a iron frame, and still go like the proverbial fiddles. Service was held at 4.30, fully choral, with a surpliced choir, and conducted by the Vicar (Rev. W. H. Williams), who gave an excellent address. Tea, which had been very generously provided, immediately followed in a building, close to the church, which is part of the old palace, in which, prior to Llandaff, the Bishops made their home. Four of them are buried in the Parish Church.

Tea over, the business meeting followed, at which a report was made on the instructional visit to Skenfrith. It was gratifying to learn that at this tower where call changes prevail, it has been decided to practise half-pull ringing. An instructor was discovered, and it is hoped one more tower will be added to the change ringing list shortly.

It was also reported that at Usk, where the bells have been idle for years, a band has been got together, and are now ringing for the Sunday services. It was a surprise to find on arrival at Matherne that a young band has been got together, and are now practising half-pull ringing, and all were unanimously elected as members of the association.

The usual votes of thanks closed the meeting.

Invitation was then extended and accepted for a walk through the very beautifully laid-out grounds and gardens of the Old Palace now occupied by Colonel McNab. Then followed more ringing, which included the four standard methods, which brought to a close a most enjoyable afternoon and evening regardless of the very wet weather.

The next meeting is at Bonvilston, near Cardiff, on October 11th.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

PEAL RINGING AT MONKS KIRBY.

The last of the monthly meetings for the year took place at Monks Kirby on Saturday, and in spite of the unpropitious weather, was attended by upwards of 30 ringers, including several ladies. Bulkington, Chilvers Coton, Coventry, Exhall, Marton, Nuneaton, Rugby, Southam, Stoke, Wolvey, and the local band, were represented.

The Vicar (the Rev. R. L. B. Oliver) and Mrs. Oliver kindly provided tea, at the conclusion of which Mr. T. W. Chapman (Ringing Master), on behalf of the members present, cordially thanked both for their kindness in so doing.—The Vicar, in reply, said how pleased Mrs. Oliver and himself were to welcome the Guild. They would have liked to see more present, but no doubt the very wet afternoon kept some away. He also said he very much regretted to have to refuse the bells on several occasions recently for peals. Complaints had been received that too much peal ringing had been going on, and although he himself loved to hear the bells rung, he did not wish the bells to become unpopular, and, therefore, he had reluctantly stipulated that attempts for peals must in future be limited to once a month.

The Vicar himself is an enthusiast, and is teaching a band to become change ringers. They meet once a week at the Vicarage for handbell practice and once in the tower. He also took part in the ringing on Saturday. The methods rung during the afternoon and evening included Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob, Double Norwich, Kent, Cambridge and Sumerlative Surprise.

The next quarterly meeting is at Warwick on October 18th.

A DATE TOUCH.

On Saturday, September 20th, six members of the Norton-le-Moors branch of the Stoke-on-Trent Association visited the Cheddleton, Staffs, and were successful in ringing a date touch (1,924 changes), in 1 hour and 10 minutes, comprising 360 each of London, Wells and Cambridge Surprise, 240 each of Duke of York, Woodhine and Violet, and 124 of Kent: H. Wibberley 1, J. W. Walker 2, F. Triner 3, W. P. Deane 4, J. E. Wheelodon (conductor) 5, J. Walley 6. The ringers wish to thank the Vicar (the Rev. W. G. Burgess) for kindly allowing them the use of the bells, and Mr. T. Willschaw for having everything in readiness.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

SUGGESTED FURTHER DECENTRALISATION.

The second quarterly meeting of the above was held at Hinckley, Leicestershire, on Saturday, September 13th. Hinckley is famous in the Midlands for several things. Inter alia, it is the home of the notorious Tin Hat, though since 1914 more men have worn a tin hat than ever before, and to some purpose. Hinckleyites would not care to claim the origin of the army type, for theirs was of a highly respectable shape—to wit—the stovepipe style. Anyway, Hinckley and Tin Hat Town are synonymous terms.

Also the local postman-bellringer is a celebrity worth knowing. He spends his days in his retirement seeking out comic songs with which to bombard ringers' meetings, and his nights in awaiting a message from Mars. The constellations, planets, stars, Jupiter, Venus, and all their family, are to him an open book, and any stargazing student can gain a lot of information and be bored stiff free of any charge.

Jupiter Pluvius must have been at home on Saturday week, for a good soaking was in waiting for the 40 to 50 members who turned up to ring at St. Mary's, but the pelting rain had no effect once inside the belfry, where most methods from Grandsire to London and Bristol were rung. Tea was served in the Parish Room, well catered for by the local branch, after which the general meeting took place. In the absence of the president (Ald. R. B. Chambers, J.P.), and the hon. secretary (Mr. A. C. Wright), the chair was taken by the Rev. R. F. Wilkinson, M.A., of Mansfield, supported by the curate (the Rev. G. H. Harrison, Messrs. Pryce Taylor, A. Coppock, and the hon. treasurer (Mr. W. Willson). Apologies for the absence of the president and secretary were made.

It was agreed to place on the list of free members, the names of four Nottingham veterans. This is a happy departure, providing as it does, free membership for life, for old and indigent ringers who in days gone by have given of their best.

Messrs. Coppock and Taylor, delegates to the Central Council, gave a resume of the Westminster meeting, the former saying that he was not very much impressed with his first meeting, far too much levity being allowed. (Thank goodness, there are no Clydesiders!)

The election of new members again produced a big list, 34 fresh adherents being added to the M.C.A., now approaching its thousand.

Votes of thanks to the clergy and the local committee were carried with acclamation, the Rev. G. H. Harrison responding.

It may be here mentioned that a feeling exists, and was discussed in committee, that the time was ripe for decentralisation, i.e., that each district should assume local autonomy of its funds, with a capitation fee to the central body. This system obtains in several other associations with success, but the situations are not parallel. It should be borne in mind that a large percentage of the revenue of the M.C.A. comes from honorary members' subscriptions, and chiefly from one or two counties, moreover, these may not be permanent. In the opinion of the writer, if decentralisation comes, it should be on the condition that at first, at least, all honorary subscriptions should go to a central fund, local control remaining over ringing members only. These comments are made at this juncture in order that no measure may be sprung on the members without full and careful consideration.

The remainder of the evening was spent at a neighbouring hostelry yepte Ye White Hart, where handbell ringing and song filled the bill—also the audience until the time of departure, and as Samuel Pepys always ended up his diary—'so to bed.' W. W.

FIFTY YEARS A RINGER.

PRESENTATION AT CRANLEIGH.

Mr. William Charman, of Yew Tree Cottage, Cranleigh Common, has been a bell ringer at the Parish Church, Cranleigh, Surrey, for half a century, and to mark this interesting record he was the recipient of a presentation on Wednesday, Sept. 17th.

The gift was an appropriate one—a silver inkstand in the form of a bell—and with it was a framed list of the subscribers, neatly done by Mr. R. W. Whittington, the organiser of the fund, whose service as a bell ringer also extends over fifty years. Inscribed on the bell were the words: 'Presented to Mr. W. Charman by the Rector, churchwardens, and ringers on the completion of 50 years' service ringing, and 30 years as leader, 1874-1924. S. Nicolas, Cranleigh.' Ex-churchwardens and other church officers also subscribed.

The presentation took place in the church tower, and the gifts were handed to the recipient by the Rev. Philip Cunningham (Rector), who made suitable reference to the services Mr. Charman had rendered. Mr. Charman, who was obviously taken by surprise, returned thanks for the gifts.

Mr. Charman's father was a ringer, and his brother and two sons still perform these services. Mr. Whittington, who organised the fund, and his wife were the first married couple to take part in a peal on tower bells.

DEVON GUILD.

SUCCESSFUL VILLAGE MEETING.

A quarterly meeting of the Exeter Branch of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers was held at Christow on Saturday. Service was conducted in the Parish Church by the Rev. Bassett Pike, who extended a very hearty welcome to the Guild. After service a move was made to the Y.M.C.A. Hut, where an excellent tea was provided by the ringers and their wives, and a few friends.

The meeting that followed was well attended. Those present included Messrs. E. Shepherd (chairman of the branch), W. J. Southwood (hon. secretary), J. C. Oke (assistant secretary), the Rev. E. V. Cox (hon. secretary of the Guild), Mr. T. Barlett (hon. treasurer of the Guild), the Rev. Bassett Pike, the Rev. F. Knight, and about 80 members representing the following bands: St. Sidwell's, St. David's, St. Thomas', St. Petrock's, Heavitree, Exminster, Upton Pyne, Topsham, Withycombe, Littleham, Newton St. Cyres, Crediton, Christow.

Votes of thanks were accorded to the Rector for conducting the service, the organist for playing, and the ringers of Christow and their wives and friends for providing tea.

It was decided to hold a supplementary meeting at Woodbury, on Saturday, November 1st, and to have fraternal meetings monthly, at the Franklin Hall, Exeter, these meetings to be in the nature of social gatherings, with chats on bells and bell ringing generally.

Several new members were elected, including two life members.

Ringing was indulged in at Christow, Ashton, Bridford, Dunsford, Trusham, and Ide.

Christow is nearly ten miles from Exeter, and it was a bold venture to expect a large meeting in a small, outlandish village, but the optimism of the Guild officials was fully justified, for there was an attendance of nearly 90 at the church service. This in itself caused some surprise to the Rector and the local friends. To find men so keenly interested in Divine worship fully demonstrated the fact that the Guild does inculcate some very lofty ideals, besides mere rope pulling.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A pleasant meeting of the North and East District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild was held at Stanmore on Saturday last, when some 30 members attended. Ringing commenced shortly after 3 p.m., and continued until 5.30 p.m., touches in several methods, ranging from Grandsire Triples to Bristol Surprise, being rung. Unfortunately the absence of the Rector, on holiday, prevented the usual service being held.

After a very nice tea had been enjoyed, the business meeting was held. The hon. secretary (Mr. C. T. Coles) apologised for the non-attendance of the president (Mr. F. A. Milne), through illness, and of the Master (Mr. G. B. Lucas), on holiday. Mr. W. Pickworth, in the absence of the former, took the chair.

Five new members all of the local band, were elected, and the hon. secretary congratulated the Stanmore ringers, who were fortunate in having the able assistance of Mr. F. Edwards, of Bushey, on the progress they were making.

Tottenham was chosen as the place for the next meeting, on Nov. 1st, whilst it was announced that a practice meeting was being held at Hornsey on Monday, Sept. 29th.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Rector (the Rev. S. F. L. Bernays) for the use of the bells, and to Mr. Heading and Mr. Hughes, of the local band, for the excellent arrangements made.—Mr. Hughes briefly replied, with a welcome to the association, and stated that they were looking forward at Stanmore to ringing their first peal at no distant date. He also mentioned that visiting ringers, who were always welcome, should note that the practice night was now Thursday from 7 to 9 p.m.

Afterwards the bells were kept going until nearly 9 o'clock, whilst several of the company paid a visit to Harrow Weald where they were met by Mr. J. Furness, and rang touches of Cambridge Surprise, Double Court, Kent, and Plain Bob Minor.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting was held on Saturday at Great Totham, 25 members being present from 11 parishes. Owing to a breakdown on the National Bus Service the secretary, and others, were stranded for two hours, and were unable to reach their destination till after the service at 4.30 p.m.

The Vicar presided at the tea at the Bull Inn. Thanks were accorded to the Vicar and all who had assisted, the Hon. Secretary voicing the opinion of the visitors as to the pretty little churchyard. He thought it to be the neatest and best-kept churchyard in the diocese.—Nine new members were elected, and Great Bentley was selected for the next place of meeting.

METHOD 'CONSTRUCTION.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—There is usually little profit in a conversation in which the speakers make use of different languages which they do not both understand. Mr. Baker is fond of using the expression—prove the construction. What does he mean by it? Or does it mean anything at all? I confess I have not myself the faintest idea. According to my understanding of English, you can prove a theorem; my dictionary describes construction as the act of building or of devising and forming. Where is the connection?

If Mr. Baker will only leave his sheets of figures alone for a short time and do a little real thinking, so as to clear up in his own mind what it is he wishes to convey to others, we may hope for progress; without it we shall never get any further.

Moreover, in his first sentence he expresses his agreement with Mr. Trollope's letter of September 12th. In the question he puts at the end of the letter he tells us in so many words that he has failed to grasp the meaning of a single sentence of that letter.

At the same time he has done more than he knew. For members of the old school of empirical constructionists who proclaim that the place is the method, he has set a pretty problem in his examples of two methods, apparently closely allied, but perhaps as far apart as the Poles in their actual construction.—Yours faithfully,

Holbeton, Devon.

E. S. POWELL.

A NEW TERM SUGGESTED.

Sir,—One must thank Mr. Trollope for his interesting letter, and especially for his clear explanation of a 'Constructional Shunt.'

At the same time one may be permitted to raise an objection to so clumsy a term, and to wonder how it got its name. It is not the same as the 'Shunt' in the Glossary, and though there is a connection in the meaning of the two terms, the connection has nothing to do with the meaning one usually attaches to the word 'Shunt.'

Shunts are not things which usually bring you back to where you start from, even if you take all there are—up to infinity.

Might I suggest the word 'Lift' instead?

Then the construction of a method, if treble-dominated, would be, perhaps, as follows (I speak subject to correction):—

First, a 'Hunt,' which might be either Single or 'Twin': Plain or Dodging (for the latter, the old word for Dodge, viz., Bob, is used).

Second, the Hunt receives a cyclical 'Lift.' A Lift may be 'Forward' or 'Backward': 'Extreme,' or 'Court' (i.e., internal): P (odd) or R (even).

Third, the 'Work' of the other 'Working' bells. This may be 'Consequential' on the 'Lift' (as the dodge of the two bells behind at the third's place in Grandsire Doubles—they cannot do anything else), or 'Independent' or 'Varied.'

Then there would be three kinds of 'Lift':—

First, the 'Constructional Lift,' which we have just considered.

Second, the 'Method Lift,' caused by a call.

Third, the 'Composition Lift,' caused by the cut-out, or insertion of a block of changes.

Nothing has been said about 'Hunting Backward' or the 'Pivot Bell,' as no clear definition of these terms has been given to the Exercise.

Mr. Trollope is undoubtedly correct in what he says about Duplex and Complex. Duplex means that a thing is double, with a further complication or fold. Complex means with several complications or folds. Anything which is merely Double should never be called Duplex. 'Twin' also is not merely Double, it means that two things are not only a similar pair, but that they fit in with one another so as to be almost as one.

HERBERT DRAKE.

Ufford Rectory, Woodbridge, Suffolk.

Sept. 16th, 1924.

LONDON RINGERS AT COOKHAM.

On Saturday, Sept. 13th, the St. Giles-in-the-Fields Guild held their annual outing, the members and their friends paying a visit to Cookham-on-Thames. The party numbered 15, and although London was left in a good deal of cloud, there were bright intervals at Cookham.

On arrival, the party proceeded to the church (Holy Trinity), the bells of which had been kindly placed at their disposal. Ringing was enjoyed for the greater part of four hours. The 'going' was excellent, and these beautiful bells are probably so well known to ringers that more need not be said about them. A good spread awaited the party at the King's Arms, which was much enjoyed. More ringing, boating, light refreshments and a 'sing-song' concluded the very happy afternoon's programme. All were grateful to Dr. Batchelor and Mr. Fowler for their kind welcome and arrangements for the enjoyment of the visitors.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WESTERN DISTRICT.

As last year, the September meeting of the Western district struck a bad day, but, unlike the previous meeting, the attendance was much better than anticipated, ringers being present from Hinckley (Leicestershire), Maldon (Essex), Linslade (Bucks), King's Langley, Hemel Hempstead, Berkhamsted, and the local tower. The bells were early pealing forth Grandsire and Stedman Triples, followed by Plain Bob, Treble Bob and Forward Major. A short service was held at 5 p.m., when the Rev. S. Meade gave a very straightforward address on 'Bells and Ringers.'

After the inner man had been satisfied, a business meeting followed, at which the Rev. S. Meade kindly presided.—Two new members (one a lady) were elected from King's Langley, and that tower was chosen as the place of next meeting, some time in November, to suit the local conditions.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar for the use of the bells, the Rev. S. Meade for his able address, the organist for her kind services, and Mr. Reeve for his good offices.

The Secretary wished the Berkhamsted friends to 'pass on' the advice given in the address, then he was sure their bells would not long remain in the condition they now are.

The general secretary paid a flying visit during the meeting, but could not stay, as he wasn't his own 'shover.' Better luck next time.

After further ringing, the bells were lowered in peal, and the ringers wended their way homewards, one or two having ten miles to cycle through the rain.

LADIES' GUILD.

MIDLAND DISTRICT OFFICIALS.

The annual meeting of the Midland District of the Ladies' Guild was held at Bromsgrove on Saturday, Sept. 13th, when there was a good attendance in spite of the rain. Members were present from Smethwick, Cleat, Evesham and Handsworth.

The local ringers had the bells going when the visitors arrived, and helped the ladies to keep them going the whole of the afternoon.

The Guild form of service was used, the Vicar (the Rev. T. C. de la Haye) officiating. After service, ample justice was done to a splendid tea kindly provided by the Vicar, and Mrs. de la Haye, who, with other ladies, attended to the wants of the visitors. A party of 25 sat down, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar and the ladies, also to the local ringers.

No new ringing members were elected, but one hon. member, Mrs. Price, of Old Hill, was elected. Mrs. Groves wished to retire from the secretaryship, but was re-elected, as were all the members of the committee except Mrs. White, of Coventry. Miss Dodds, of Chilvers Coton, being appointed in Mrs. White's place.

In accordance with the resolution passed at the annual meeting at Bristol, it was decided to have the annual branch meeting in June instead of September.

THE WASHBROOK MEMORIAL.

To the Editor.

Sir,—On the subject of the Washbrook Memorial bells, I should like to enter a very earnest plea in favour of St. Ebbe's tower being chosen. In the first place, St. Ebbe's is the one really 'live' tower in Oxford. All its members are enthusiastic and progressive ringers, who are regular and punctual both at Sunday ringing and at week-day practice. Careful record is kept of their successful 720's, which include peals in many different methods, and often amount to more than 80 in a year—many more than all the other ringers in Oxford together can claim. No other tower in Oxford ever attempts such a peal as a 5,040, consisting of seven Surprise Minor methods, and St. Ebbe's is always the best represented tower whenever there is ringing on a larger number of bells. Of course, these ringers could not be expected to desert their own Parish Church on Sundays for the purpose of ringing elsewhere on eight bells. Now, I am sure I am not alone in my conviction that if the late Mr. Washbrook himself could have the ordering of the matter he would have the bells placed where they would be of most use to the ringers, and there could be only one choice.

My second point is in answer to Mr. Judge's statement that a fair number of ringers in Oxford are in favour of St. Giles' as the most suitable tower for the memorial. I am quite sure that if the opinions of the really active ringers of Oxford were recorded the balance would weigh heavily in favour of St. Ebbe's. A very large proportion of the ringers of Oxford have 'passed out' through St. Ebbe's, and they, including one of the most prominent of St. Giles' own ringers, remain loyal to the tower to which they owe so much.—Yours faithfully,

W. G. COLLETT.
St. Aldate's Tower.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

SANDIACRE.—For morning service, on Sunday, Sept. 21st, at St. Giles' Church, 720 of Spiced Violet and New London Pleasure: J. Hall 1, W. Halford 2, W. R. Drage 3, A. Freeman 4, R. H. Cox (conductor) 5, H. Turner 6.

LONDON.—On Sunday, Sept. 21st, for evening service, at St. Clement Danes, Strand, W.C., 1,440 Cambridge Surprise Royal: G. W. Harris 1, T. H. Taffender (conductor) 2, E. J. King 3, C. V. Ebberson 4, G. H. Cross 5, F. R. Borrett 6, J. R. Gammon 7, G. A. Card 8, W. J. Nudds 9, E. D. Smith 10; and, afterwards, two courses of Stedman Caters. Messrs. G. Cross and F. Borrett are from Norwich and Pulham, Norfolk, respectively.

OXFORD.—On Sunday, Sept. 21st, at the Church of St. Ebbe, for the harvest festival, 720 Kent Treble Bob: W. G. Collett 1, F. Beckett 2, S. Hounslow 3, W. H. B. Wilkins (conductor) 4, C. Coles 5, F. A. H. Wilkins 6.

THANET, KENT.—On Sunday, Sept. 21st, at St. Lawrence Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins.: H. Williamson (first quarter-peal) 1, W. J. Jarman 2, T. Scott 3, W. G. Birch 4, A. E. Jarman 5, P. E. Clark 6, E. J. Watson (conductor) 7, F. S. Palmer 8. Ringers of 6th, 7th and 8th are from St. Stephen's, Ealing. A compliment to the ringer of the 3rd on his silver wedding.

BUCKNALL, STAFFS.—On Sunday, Sept. 21st, for evensong, at the Church of St. Mary, 720 Burslem Delight, and 240 Cambridge Surprise: W. Wheeldon, junr., 1, Alice Wheeldon 2, C. Bowen 3, Alice Preston (conductor) 4, J. E. Wheeldon 5, W. Wheeldon, senr., 6.

CARDIFF.—On Sunday, Sept. 21st, at St. John's Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1,359 changes), in 52 mins.: G. Large 1, F. Smith (first quarter of Stedman Caters) 2, W. Biss 3, W. Richards (first quarter of Stedman Caters) 4, J. Davies 5, S. Dawe 6, A. Parnell 7, E. Coombes 8, F. Chamberlain (conductor) 9, S. R. Barker 10.

HILLINGDON, MIDDLESEX.—On Sunday, Sept. 21st, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: J. H. Lucas 1, Miss G. Baker 2, P. Jones 3, J. J. Pratt (conductor) 4, W. Corke 5, R. Carter 6, H. Chandler 7, W. Honor 8.

ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.—On Sunday, Sept. 14th, for evensong, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,280 changes), composed by G. F. Swann, in 43 mins.: C. Chapman 1, J. Preston 2, G. T. Swann 3, R. Ingram 4, J. Pratt 5, W. J. Meers 6, J. W. Pemberton (conductor) 7, H. C. Spencer 8. Specially arranged for the treble and 5th ringers, who hail from Tamworth, Staffs.

BUCKNALL, STAFFS.—On Sunday, Sept. 14th, 720 Kent Treble Bob: Reg. Preston (first in the method) 1, Alice Wheeldon 2, C. Bowen 3, Alice Preston (conductor) 4, Wm. Wheeldon, senr., 5, W. Fradley 6. Also 720 Violet Treble Bob, standing as above.

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS.—On Sunday, Sept. 7th, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Cambridge Surprise Major, for afternoon service, in 50 mins.: W. Gibbs 1, H. Cooper 2, J. Bass 3, W. Potter 4, R. Mathews (cond.) 5, W. Cooper 6, E. C. Perkins 7, J. Lloyd 8. First quarter-peal in the method by all the band.

WILTON, TAUNTON.—On Sunday, Sept. 7th, for evening service, 720 College Exercise Minor, in 24 mins.: W. Hayward 1, S. A. Wyatt 2, A. Wyatt 3, W. Coles 4, A. W. Hayward (conductor) 5, G. Coles 6. First in the method by all, and first attempt. Rung as a compliment to the ringer of the treble, on his 70th birthday.

FENNY STRATFORD.—At St. Martin's Church, for evening service, on Sunday, Sept. 7th, 720 of Bob Minor: F. Vickers (first 720) 1, A. B. Corden 2, G. Grove 3, D. Hurst 4, F. A. Gilby 5, J. Searcy (conductor) 6.

NORTH SHIELDS.—At Tynemouth Parish Church, on Sunday, Sept. 7th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: J. Robertson 1, J. E. Scott 2, E. Gosden 3, C. Waugh 4, A. Tully 5, W. Robson, South Shields (first quarter-peal) 6, G. Dix (conductor) 7, R. E. Skeoch 8.

SOUTHGATE, MIDDLESEX.—On Sunday, Sept. 6th, for evening service, 1,259 Grandsire Caters, in 51 mins.: A. G. Crane 1, A. R. Glasscock 2, J. Armstrong (conductor) 3, H. E. Balsam 4, J. E. Arnold 5, W. J. Bowder 6, J. E. Miller 7, H. Miller 8, N. A. Tomlinson 9, G. Besler 10. Arranged for J. E. Arnold, of Leighton Buzzard (first quarter-peal of Caters), and H. E. Balsam, of Woolton Hill, Hampshire.

WALTHAM ABBEY.—On Sunday, Sept. 7th, for evening service, on the bells of the Abbey Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes), in 50 mins.: W. Ellis 1, G. Peace 2, W. H. Hewett 3, G. Thurgood 4, F. Perrin 5, W. A. Alps (conductor) 6, G. Radley 7, G. Cole 8. This was rung on the back eight of the peal of twelve.

DORCHESTER, OKON.—On Sunday, Sept. 7th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes): W. Judge (conductor) 1, A. E. Lock 2, J. Judge 3, P. Dyke 4, W. J. Napper 5, G. Caudwell 6, J. S. Napper 7, W. F. Judge 8.

GRANTHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE.—For evening service, at St. Wulfram's Church, on Sunday, August 31st, 1,259 Grandsire Caters, in 51 mins.: W. Thorpe 1, F. Proctor 2, S. Proctor (conductor) 3, E. Nedd 4, E. Cassell 5, A. Parker 6, A. Ward 7, T. Hall 8, F. Turner 9, R. Peck 10. Arranged for E. Cassell, of Hammersmith, and A. Ward, of Bottesford.

MALVERN LINK, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday evening, August 17th, at the Church of St. Matthias a quarter-peal (1,260 changes) of Stedman Triples: R. G. Knowles (conductor) 1, W. Niblett 2, F. Stanton 3, W. Ranford 4, E. Gibbs 5, H. T. Knowles 6, S. T. Holt 7, A. Richings 8. Also two courses of Double Norwich. Rung half-muffled as the annual 'In Memoriam' for the donor of the bells.

WICKHAMBEAUX, KENT.—On Sunday, August 17th, for morning service, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: O. Masters 1, H. Castle 2, J. Walter 3, S. Walter 4, H. Smith 5, S. White (conductor) 6. First 720 of Treble Bob by ringer of treble.

BATH.—At St. Saviour's Church, on Sunday, August 17th, for morning service, a quarter-peal (1,280 changes) of Bob Major was rung in 55 mins.: J. W. Bell 1, J. Taylor 2, T. Grant 3, J. Hallett 4, S. Holt 5, G. James 6, H. D. Taylor 7, C. W. Bell (conductor) 8. The ringer of the 5th hails from Middleton, Manchester, and the 7th from Melksham, Wilts.

DOVER.—On Sunday, August 17th, at St. Mary's Parish Church, for evening service, 504 Stedman Triples: R. H. Stevens 1, A. Binfield 2, C. Turner 3, T. G. Bartlett 4, F. Elliott 5, C. R. Walker (conductor) 6, C. R. Millway 7, L. Sibley—576 Kent Treble Bob: J. Engles 1, C. R. Millway 2, T. G. Bartlett 3, C. R. Walker 4, F. W. Elliott 5, R. H. Stevens 6, H. J. Saunders 7, C. Turner (conductor) 8. T. G. Bartlett hails from Exeter.

COLLATON, DEVON.—At the Parish Church, recently, for evening service, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles, the first quarter-peal on the bells: F. T. Gover 1, T. S. Collings 2, F. Norrish 3, F. E. Parnell 4, H. J. Hole (conductor) 5. The ringers were from Paignton.

RESTORATIONS IN DEVON.

The peal of eight bells at St. Edmund's Church, Kingsbridge, Devon, have been under restoration by Messrs. W. Aggett and Son, of Chagford. The bells have been rehung on the firm's patent adjustable bearings, and entirely new fittings have been installed. Recently a test was made, and the ringers were well satisfied with the improvements carried out.

The fine peal of eight at St. Mary's, Lifton, have been removed, prior to rehanging by the same firm, as are the peal of five at Cornbury, North Devon. The latter are to be rehung in a massive iron frame, on steel joists, and equipped with modern fittings.

SURPRISE METHODS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I was not surprised to find the method given by me in 'The Ringing World' of the 5th inst. has been independently worked out by my old friend, John Carter, and by Mr. E. A. Ridgway. The former gentleman published it in 'The Ringing World' of December 26th, 1919, together with several other Surprise Variations worked out on the same principle as that used by myself. I think if Mr. Ridgway will refer to Mr. Carter's article he will find his method amongst the others.—I am, yours faithfully,
Birmingham. J. S. PRITCHETT.

OATLANDS TOWER AND WINCHESTER GUILD.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Mr. Hessey's letter in your last issue is misleading. The writer of the report of the Yateley meeting used the word 'represented,' and now Mr. Hessey seeks to imply a different meaning to the word. My last letter made it quite clear that the Oatlands tower and ringers are outside the Winchester Guild, and no Guild can reasonably claim representation on the lines that Mr. Hessey suggests.

I agree with Mr. Hessey that the Winchester Guild should not put obstacles in the way, and, speaking for myself, I shall be very pleased to rejoin again when they are removed. I have no desire to appear in print, and my only object was to ensure correctness in future reports.—Yours faithfully,
W. SHEPHERD.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The Southern district of the London County Association held a business meeting at the Church of SS. Peter and Paul, Mitcham, on Saturday. The tower was opened at 4 o'clock, but ringing was late in starting. After a few touches, a move was made for tea, after which the usual business was transacted. There was some good ringing after tea, and among the methods rung were Cambridge Surprise, Double Norwich, Kent Treble Bob and Stedman. The evening finished with a nice touch of Stedman. It was the wish of the ringers that a hearty vote of thanks be accorded to the Rector for the use of the bells.

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 a minimum charge of 1/6.

The **EDITORIAL OFFICE** of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 63, **COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.**

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HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting and 8-bell contest will take place at Batley on Saturday, Sept. 27th. A set of medals, kindly given by the Batley company, will be presented with the Cup. Tenor is 10 cwt., not 16 cwt., as previously mentioned.—R. Hargreaves, Hon. Sec.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Visit to Chertsey on Saturday, Sept. 27th. Trains from Waterloo at 1.54, 2.15 and 3.15, fare 2s. 10d. return. Tea about 5 p.m. Good attendance requested. Meeting at St. Clement Danes on Monday, Sept. 29th, at 7 p.m., instead of 7.30, owing to committee meeting.—A. H. Keighley, Hon. Sec., 18, Merrick Square, S.E.1.

LADIES GUILD.—Western District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Evercreech on Saturday, Sept. 27th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m.—E. E. Emm, School House, Evercreech, Bath, Somerset.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Central District.—The next meeting will be held at Banstead on Saturday, Sept. 27th. Bells available 2.30. Evensong 5.30. Tea and meeting 6 p.m.—A. J. Trappitt, Hon. Dist. Sec., 57, Mellows Road, Wallington.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at Whalley (new peal of 8) on Saturday, Sept. 27th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Branch Sec., 48, Palmer Street, Blackburn.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Ringmer on Saturday, Sept. 27th. Tower open at 2.30. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock in the Parish Room (9d. per head). Business meeting to follow.—Geo. W. Stokes, Hon. Div. Sec., 22, Melbourne Road, Eastbourne.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Ludlow and Church Stretton District.—A quarterly meeting of the district will be held at Stokesay on Saturday, Sept. 27th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow.—P. Lane, District Hon. Sec., 19, Castle View, Ludlow, Salop.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Tortworth on Saturday, Sept. 27th. Bells from 3 p.m.—W. A. Lewis, Branch Hon. Sec., Ham, Berkeley, Glos.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—The next quarterly meeting of the above branch will be held at Swindon on Saturday, Sept. 27th. Bells (10) available from 2.30 p.m.—H. A. Hearl, Branch Hon. Sec.

OXFORD GUILD.—North Berkshire Branch.—A meeting will be held at Ardington on Saturday, Sept. 27th. Service at 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Other towers available for ringing will be given out at the meeting.—A. E. Lock, 6, Vineyard, Abingdon, Berks.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Lincoln on Saturday, Sept. 27th. Service in St. Peter-at-Arches Church 4.30. Tea at the Co-operative Hall 5.15. Members free. Non-members 1s. 9d. The city bells (except Cathedral) and Washingborough will be available. St. Peter-at-Arches 8 to 9, other towers afternoon and evening.—F. S. W. Butler, Hon. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Hythe on Saturday, Sept. 27th, by kind permission of the Vicar (Rev. — Dale). Bells available at 2.30. Tea at 5 o'clock, provided by the association, and general business meeting to follow for the election of officers, etc. Folkestone tower will be available for ringing in the evening from 7 till 8.30.—C. Tribe, Hon. Dis. Sec., British School Villas, Tenterden.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—A meeting will be held at Wickhambreux (6 bells) on Saturday, Sept. 27th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Divine service 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock, kindly provided by the Rector (the Rev. B. W. Chancellor, M.A.).—E. G. Buesden, Hon. Dis. Sec., 3, Hackington Terrace, Canterbury.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—A ringing meeting has been arranged for Saturday, Sept. 27th, at Warfield (8 bells) at 4 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m. Winkfield (6 bells) 8 p.m.—A. D. Barker, Hon. Sec., Cambridge, Wexham Wood, Slough.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A district meeting will be held at Aldershot on Saturday, Sept. 27th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. Ash bells (6) will also be available in the evening.—E. Raddon, Hon. Dis. Sec., 15, Baillie Road, Guildford.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting of the above will be held at Biddenham on Saturday, Sept. 27th. Bells 2.30 p.m., tea at 5.—L. Turner, Hon. Sec., 7, High Street, Kempston, Beds.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—The September meeting of the Western Division will be held at Mytholmroyd on Saturday, Sept. 27th. Bells (8, tenor 14 cwt.) will be available for ringing from 2 p.m. For further particulars see circulars.—F. Hopwood, Dis. Sec., 8, Keswick Street, Laisterdyke, Bradford.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A practice meeting will be held at Hornsey on Monday, Sept. 29th. Bells from 7-9.30. Members and friends cordially invited.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Established 1637.—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus on Oct. 2nd, 16th and 30th; *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 7th; Southwark Cathedral on the 14th; *St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 21st; St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 23rd. All at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—A general meeting will be held in the Church Rooms, Lavenham, on Saturday, Oct. 4th, Archdeacon Farmiloe presiding, at 4.30. Committee meeting 3.30. Bells available 2.—H. Drake, Ufford, Woodbridge.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Oldham on Oct. 4th. Tea will be provided for those sending their names to Mr. James Cox, 144, Horsedgate Street, on or before Wednesday, Oct. 1st; price 1s. 6d.—W. H. Shuker and A. Tomlinson, Hon. Secs.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—Established 1755.—A meeting will be held at Coleshill on Saturday, Oct. 4th. Bells available from 3.30. Tea will be arranged at the Swan Hotel for those who advise me not later than Sept. 30th of their intention to be present.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—Owing to the inability of the Vice-President and the Secretary to be present at the meeting at Pickering, on Oct. 4, the meeting is postponed. It is hoped to publish a definite date next week.—A. L. Henderson, Hon. Dis. Sec.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Dore on Saturday, Oct. 4th. Bells available from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tea will be provided if not less than 20 applications are received by Mr. J. E. Lewis Cockey, 'Leamwood,' Rushley Road, Dore, not later than Wednesday, Oct. 1st. Tea can only be guaranteed to those sending notice. There will be a meeting of the committee and also one of the Cup Sub-Committee during the afternoon.—T. W. Chown, Hon. Sec., 68, Canada Street, Sheffield.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Bishop's Cannings on Saturday, Oct. 4th. Bells (8) ready at 2.30. Service, tea and meeting as usual.—F. Green, Branch Hon. Sec., 53, Avon Road, Devizes.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—A meeting will be held at Westoning on Saturday, Oct. 4th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. A hearty welcome to all.—A. E. Sharman, 199, High Street North, Dunstable.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—A ringers' festival will be held at Great Dunmow on Saturday, Oct. 4th. Ringing to commence at 3 p.m. A short service at 4.30 p.m. Free tea, at 5 o'clock, to all who notify W. Smith, 11, The Causeway, Dunmow, not later than Wednesday, Oct. 1st. All ringers will be welcomed.—W. H. Dyson, Hon. Sec., Northern Division.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wellingborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Great Doddington on Saturday, Oct. 4th. Bells available 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. A good attendance is requested. Will those requiring tea please notify me not later than Wednesday, Oct. 1st?—F. Barber, School House, Gordon Road, Wellingborough.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—A meeting of this branch will be held at Barwell on Saturday, Oct. 4th. Bells available 4 p.m. All ringers welcome.—F. Cotton, Local Hon. Sec., Hinckley.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—The usual monthly meeting will be held at Hugglescote on Saturday Oct. 4th. Bells (8). Meeting 5 p.m. All ringers and friends welcome.—J. Saddington, Hon. Dis. Sec., 27, Chapman Street, Loughborough.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—A practice meeting will be held at All Saints', Fulham, on Oct. 4th. Tower opened for ringing from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.—C. F. Mitchell, Hon. Dis. Sec., 4, Phene Street, Chelsea, S.W.3.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Meetings for October: St. Clement Danes, Sunday, the 5th, at 10 a.m.; Mondays, the 13th, at 6.30, quarterly business meeting at 8 o'clock, and the 27th, at 7.30. St. Botolph, Bishopsgate, Monday, the 20th, at 7.30. Special Northern District meeting on Saturday, the 18th, at St. Mary, Islington, to which members of both districts are invited. Tower open from 3 p.m. Tea about 5 o'clock, to be followed by business meeting.—A. H. Keighley, Hon. Gen. Sec., 18, Merrick Square, S.E.1.

NORFOLK GUILD OF RINGERS FOR THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH.—The annual general meeting of the Guild will be held at Great Yarmouth on Thursday, Oct. 9th, the President (the Dean of Norwich) presiding. By kind permission of the Vicar (Canon R. Aubrey Aitken) the ring of 12 at the Parish Church of St. Nicholas will be open to the members. Divine service will be held in the Parish Church of St. Nicholas at 12.30 p.m. The address will be given by Canon R. Aubrey Aitken. Luncheon will be served at Hills' Restaurant, 168, King Street, at 1.30 p.m. Members who intend to be present must notify the secretary on or before Monday, Oct. 6th. Tickets 2s. 6d. per head. The annual business meeting will be held in the Priory Hall, Church Plain, at 2.30 p.m.—Arthur L. Coleman, Sec., High Croft, North Walsham, Norfolk.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The annual branch party will be held at All Saints, Hamer, Rochdale, on Saturday, Oct. 11th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Tea in School at 4.30. Tickets (2s. gentlemen and 1s. 9d. ladies) obtainable from the local secretaries, or additional supplies from Mr. A. Smith, 58, Cook Street, off Halifax Road, Rochdale. All ringers and friends welcome.—William Horan, Branch Sec., 2, Greenhirst Hey, Todmorden.

BARNESLEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Wath-on-Dearne on Saturday, Oct. 11th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea will be provided (1s. 6d. per head) for those who apply by Wednesday, the 8th, to A. Panther, 25, Sandymount Road, Wath-on-Dearne.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Blackrod on Saturday, Oct. 11th. Bells available 3 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 201, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

LADIES GUILD.—Southern District.—Preliminary Notice.—The annual meeting for this district will be held at Holy Trinity, Guildford, on Saturday, Oct. 11th. Further particulars later.—H. F. Mills, Hon. Dis. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Yalding on Saturday, Oct. 11th. Tower open at 3. Service at 5. Tea after service at the Bull Hotel, followed by business meeting. Hunton tower will also be open from 7 o'clock. Half travelling expenses up to 2s. will be paid to members attending. Please notify me not later than Oct. 8th.—C. H. Sone, Hon. Dis. Sec., Toke Cottage, Linton, Maidstone.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Edenham on Saturday, Oct. 11th. Bells available afternoon and evening. Service in the church at 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting at 5 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify me by Oct. 7th.—S. Proctor, 72, Bridge End Road, Grantham.

ST. CLEMENTS YOUTHS.—St. Clement Danes, Strand, W.C.—Practice every Wednesday evening 6.30 to 8.30. Ringing Sunday mornings, 10 o'clock to 11 o'clock, except the first Sunday morning in each month. Ringing, Sunday evening Oct. 19th, 5.30 to 6.30, for harvest festival. Business meeting last Wednesday evening of each month.—F. W. H. Sergison, Hon. Sec.

CHURCH CONGRESS.—Any ringers purposing to attend the Church Congress at Oxford will be welcomed for Sunday Service ringing at the towers of St. Ebbe's or St. Mary Magdalene's.

PUBLICATION.

'AMONG THE BELLS.'—THE RINGING CAREER OF LATE REV. F. E. ROBINSON, M.A., Vicar of Drayton, Berks, Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. Part I. to XX may be had singly at 6d. net. Unbound numbers I to XX complete, 8s. 6d. Or the whole work bound in cloth for 10s. 6d. net. From MRS. ROBINSON, Fair Home, Wokingham.

PRESENTATION AT UPHILL.

Prior to the ringing of the bells at the old church on Sunday, Sept. 14th, an interesting presentation was made to Mr. H. T. Hawkins, who has been a member of the Uphill ringing company for upwards of seven years, but who will shortly be moving to Wrington to reside.—Mr. G. R. Masters, on behalf of the ringers, in handing the gift (a safety razor and all accessories in handsome leather case) to the recipient, expressed the regret they all felt at his impending departure, and thanked him heartily for his past services at the tower, and in the interest of campanology. They could not allow him to go, he said, without marking their appreciation in a practical manner, and asked his acceptance of that gift just as a small token of their esteem and respect, also of their gratitude for his regular services. In conclusion, he wished Mr. Hawkins every happiness for the future, and invited him to visit his old friends whenever he could do so, especially at Christmas for the annual dinner.—Messrs. E. Parker and W. Popham (members of the Weston-super-Mare Parish Church company) were also present for the purpose of extending their good wishes to the recipient, and during the afternoon took part in several touches of Grandsire.

Mr. Hawkins, in replying, thanked Mr. F. Stuckey for his kind thought, and feelingly remarked that he was very sorry to have to break his long connection with the ringers of Uphill. He heartily thanked them for the very useful present that he had just received, which would tend to remind him of the happy times they had spent together. He hoped to visit them from time to time.

After several other members had spoken in similar terms, ringing was carried on for about an hour.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

The quarterly meeting of this Guild was held on Sunday, Sept. 6th, in ideal weather, at Hagley, where the bells (eight) of the Parish Church of St. John-the-Baptist were placed at the disposal of the members from 3 o'clock. The Guild's beautiful service was said in church, and was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. R. Burns), who also gave a very interesting and helpful address. The business meeting took place in the vestry, under the chairmanship of the Rector, who gave the members a hearty welcome to Hagley, and said he hoped that they would pay another visit on some future occasion.

Other business of a routine character having been disposed of, a vote of thanks, on the proposition of Mr. Ben Gough, and seconded by Mr. J. Price, was accorded to the Rector for his permission to hold the meeting at Hagley, also for his kindness in conducting the service, and his eloquent address, for the use of the tower and bells. Thanks were also given to Mr. Fred Molineux for making the necessary arrangements. Some of the members afterwards returned to the belfry for a little more ringing, while others strolled round the beautiful country until the time arrived for departure to their several homes.

The quarterly peal is to be attempted at Hagley, and the arrangements were left in the hands of the Ringing Master. It was also proposed to hold the next quarterly meeting at Old Hill, subject to the usual permission being obtained.

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