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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5th, 1926.

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The Recast Ring of 10 (Tenor 28 cwt.) for MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL, Nov., 1925

## BELLFOUNDERS

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## THE SHERWOOD YOUTHS.

Although the majority of our ringing associations are the product of the last half century, we have several societies in the country whose roots go deep into the past. The College Youths and the Royal Cumberlands in London, and St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham, are among the oldest and best known of these ancient institutions, but in the provinces there are smaller societies with equally long traditions, among them notably the Painswick Youths, St. Stephen's Youths, Bristol, the Saffron Walden Society and the Sherwood Youths. The last named has, in recent years, taken a renewed lease of life, and, thanks largely to the enthusiasm of Mr. Albert Coppock and Mr. Fred Blood, of Nottingham, has been raised from a moribund condition to one of active and vigorous growth. The gathering which took place on Saturday showed the increasing interest which is being taken in the organisation, which dates from 1672, although, under a different title, namely, that of the Northern Youths, who gave two trebles to St. Peter's Church, Nottingham, nearly three hundred years ago, the society may have existed before that date.

The Sherwood Youths took a prominent part in building up the history of ringing in the northern midlands, and its most distinguished member was William Double-day Crofts, a Nottingham attorney, who lived in the eighteenth century, and whose competence as a ringer has been revealed by the manuscripts he left, showing his knowledge of composition and his ability as a ringer and conductor. He was actively engaged in the art at a time when ringing was confined to comparatively few centres, when intercommunication between men engaged in ringing was a matter of great difficulty, and travel was a thing not lightly to be undertaken. Crofts must have been a close student of the art of ringing, for he appears to have mastered many of the early problems, and that, too, without much, if any, outside assistance. He travelled widely over the district in connection with peal ringing, and in several instances he had a hand in opening a new peal of bells, having, doubtless, in some cases, exercised his influence in getting the work done.

Crofts was unquestionably an outstanding man in his day, and the decision of the present generation of Sherwood Youths to commemorate his memory, and keep it green, is highly to be commended. The efforts which have been made by the Nottingham men to discover the history of this 'light of other days' has been also an interesting task, and it is an example of what may be done by perseverance. There have been many men whose names have been well known in ringing history, and who deserve a niche in the Temple of ringing fame,

(Continued on page 82.)

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but concerning whom there is little tangible record now available. Researches in this direction should provide a field of interesting work for amateur investigators, and would, when completed, be an invaluable acquisition for the future historian of the Exercise. There must be material available; the difficulty is to unearth it, but it was only perseverance that brought to light the story of W. D. Crofts, and a similar application in connection with other societies and individuals might lead to equally interesting and excellent results.

### TWELVE BELL PEAL.

SHREWSBURY, SALOP.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

(THE ST. CHAD'S SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Three Hours and Forty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 39 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb. in B.

CHARLES R. LILLEY ... .. Treble	ROBERT PICKERING ... .. 7
HERBERT KNIGHT ... .. 2	WILLIAM B. KYNASTON ... .. 8
SIDNEY ELTON ... .. 3	EDWARD F. MITCHELL ... .. 9
JOHN PERRY ... .. 4	JOHN C. ADAMS ... .. 10
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER ... .. 5	THOMAS J. ELTON ... .. 11
JAMES E. LILLEY ... .. 6	JAMES GEORGE ... .. Tenor

Composed by the late CHARLES HENRY HATTERSLEY.

Conducted by CHARLES RICHARD LILLEY.

Ringers of treble, 6th and 8th belong to St. Chad's; 2nd and 9th to Wolverhampton; 3rd and 11th to Walsall; 4th to Brewood; 5th to Willenhall; 7th to Tettenhall; 10th to Bloxwich, and tenor to Birmingham. \* First peal of Stedman Cinques. † First peal of Stedman Cinques as conductor. ‡ Fiftieth peal of Stedman.

### TEN BELL PEAL.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(S. NICOLAS SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF S. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 6039 CHANGES;

REGINALD RADFORD ... .. Treble	WILLIAM W. THORNE ... .. 6
FREDERICK RADFORD ... .. 2	GEORGE NICHOLS ... .. 7
EDWARD ETHERIDGE ... .. 3	GEORGE TOMSETT ... .. 8
MRS. C. HAZELDEN ... .. 4	SEPTIMUS RADFORD ... .. 9
CHARLES HAZELDEN ... .. 5	GEORGE R. GIBBS ... .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN ROGERS. Conducted by SEPTIMUS RADFORD.

\* First peal. † First ten-bell peal away from the treble.

### EIGHT BELL PEALS.

DORE, SHEFFIELD.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, January 23, 1926, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 11½ cwt. in G.

ARTHUR CRAVEN ... .. Treble	REV. E. S. POWELL ... .. 5
NORMAN SHORT ... .. 2	REV. W. P. WRIGHT ... .. 6
REV. B. F. SHEPHERD ... .. 3	J. E. LEWIS COCKEY ... .. 7
MISS MOLLY DAVENPORT ... .. 4	FRANCIS WARD ... .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by ARTHUR CRAVEN.

Rung in order to commemorate the appointment of the Rev. B. O. F. Heywood (Vicar of Leeds) to the Bishopric of Southwell; and arranged for the Rev. Everard S. Powell, Vicar of Holbaton, Devon, and president of the Devonshire Guild; and for Miss Molly Davenport, whose first peal it was, and who is the first lady to take part in a peal on these bells. First peal in the method on tower bells by the ringer of the third. The composition, rung for the first time, contains all the 7685's, 7584's, 7684's, 7586's and 7496's; with the 4th and 6th each 20 course ends in 6th's place, and the 2nd and 3rd never in that position. The ringers of 1, 3 and 8 are from Sheffield Cathedral; 2, 4 and 7 from Dore; and 5 from Eyam.

WYMONDHAM, NORFOLK.  
THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, January 23, 1926, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,  
At the Church of St. Mary,

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DEXTER'S VARIATION.

Tenor 25 cwt. 1 qr.

GEORGE MAYERS ... ..	... Treble	WILLIAM C. DUFFIELD ...	5
JAMES F. DUFFIELD ... ..	2	GEORGE H. CROSS ... ..	6
BEN S. THOMPSON ... ..	3	FREDK. J. HOWCHIN ... ..	7
*B. E. BASSINGTHWAITE ...	4	WILLIAM CLOVER ... ..	Tenor

Conducted by GRO. H. CROSS.

\* First peal in the method.

FRODSHAM, CHESHIRE.  
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 23, 1926, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,  
At the Church of St. Laurence,

## A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 6184 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt. in F.

*MISS NORAH M. BIBBY ...	... Treble	ALLAN F. BAILEY ... ..	5
WILLIAM BIBBY ... ..	2	FRANCIS BIBBY ... ..	6
*HENRY W. WILDE ... ..	3	EDWARD JENKINS ... ..	7
JOHN E. BIBBY ... ..	4	HARRY CHAPMAN ... ..	Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK.

Conducted by E. JENKINS.

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

BELPER, DERBYSHIRE.  
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.  
(DUFFIELD SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, January 23, 1926, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Peter,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

R. BOULTON ... ..	... Treble	H. HILL ... ..	5
*G. WARRINGTON ... ..	2	S. DAWSON ... ..	6
W. BATES ... ..	3	H. LETTS ... ..	7
MISS FOULK ... ..	4	C. BRADLEY ... ..	Tenor

Conducted by G. WARRINGTON.

First peal on the new bells.

## ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Saturday, January 23, 1926, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Barnabas,

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

Tenor 15½ cwt. in F.

*CHARLES COTTRELL ... ..	... Treble	WILLIAM J. MEERS ... ..	5
HERBERT C. SPENCER ... ..	2	*FRED PRICE ... ..	6
JOSEPH W. PEMBERTON ...	3	*WILLIAM DAVIES ... ..	7
GEORGE F. GARRISON ... ..	4	GEORGE F. SWANN ... ..	Tenor

Composed by SIR A. F. HEYWOOD. Conducted by H. C. SPENCER.

\* First peal in the method. † First peal of Major. First peal in the method as conductor.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.  
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.  
(BOLTON BRANCH.)

On Monday, January 25, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary, Deane,

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TITUS BARLOW ... ..	... Treble	RICHARD P. HEALD ... ..	5
THOMAS B. WORSLEY ... ..	2	WILLIAM PENNINGTON ...	6
ERNEST CUTSFORTH ... ..	3	PETER CROOK ... ..	7
GEORGE PINCOTT ... ..	4	WILLIAM DICKENSON ... ..	Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK.

Conducted by PETER CROOK.

## LONDON SURPRISE RECORD.

As already notified, there is to be an attempt to-morrow at Warnham, Sussex, for a record peal of London Surprise Major, the length being 14,144 changes, which is one lead more than the peal rung at King's Norton by St. Martin's Guild, on May 11th, 1903. The start is at 11 a.m.

Mr. George Williams writes: 'I am very pleased to see above attempt is to be under Sussex County Association, as it is at a Sussex tower. I wish my old colleagues success, but it would have looked more consistent if one or two peals recently rung in Sussex had been on similar conditions.'

## ERITH, KENT.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 25, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,  
At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S VARIATION.

Tenor 18 cwt.

FREDK. J. CULLUM, SEN. ...	... Treble	WILLIAM A. MARTIN ...	5
FREDK. J. CULLUM, JUN. ...	2	HERBERT E. ADSLEY ...	6
JOHN H. CHEESMAN ... ..	3	GEORGE H. DAYNES ...	7
ISAAC G. SHADE ... ..	4	*LIONEL J. CULLUM ...	Tenor

Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN.

\* First peal of Stedman.

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.  
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, January 25, 1926, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 19½ cwt.

*ARTHUR GODFREY ... ..	... Treble	GEORGE WHITING ... ..	5
WILLIAM WEEDON ... ..	2	GEORGE BENNETT ... ..	6
LESLIE G. BRETT ... ..	3	T. WILLIAM LAST ... ..	7
GEORGE PRYKE ... ..	4	ERNEST E. LANHAM ...	Tenor

Composed by F. E. W. MEADOWS.

Conducted by T. W. LAST.

Credit is due to the treble ringer, who is only 15 years of age, this being his first peal and first attempt. All the above are members of the local company.

## CHISLEHURST, KENT.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 25, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Nicholas,

## A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 17½ cwt.

ISAAC EMERY ... ..	... Treble	HERBERT J. SKELT ... ..	5
ROBERT BRETT SMITH ... ..	2	*PERCY BRETT SMITH ...	6
†CYRIL BRETT SMITH ... ..	3	THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.	7
*TOM BRETT SMITH ... ..	4	THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, SEN.	Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by T. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.

\* First peal of Treble Bob. † First of Treble Bob on tower bells.

## BROMLEY, KENT.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 26, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

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

Tenor 19½ cwt.

GEORGE DURLING ... ..	... Treble	ISAAC EMERY ... ..	5
THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.	2	ROBERT BRETT SMITH ...	6
ISAAC G. SHADE ... ..	3	PERCY J. SPICE ... ..	7
*MISS ELSIE E. CHAPMAN ...	4	THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, SEN.	Tenor

Composed by G. HOWARD.

Conducted by THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, SEN.

\* First peal in the method.

## WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON  
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, January 26, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

## A PEAL OF NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

EDWARD LANKESTER ... ..	... Treble	GEORGE R. PYE ... ..	5
CHARLES T. COLES ... ..	2	HARRY KILBY ... ..	6
GEORGE M. KILBY ... ..	3	JAMES E. DAVIS ... ..	7
CECIL V. EBBERSON ... ..	4	J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE ...	Tenor

Composed by B. THACKRAB.

Conducted by J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

First peal of New Cambridge on the bells, and by all the band, except ringers of 5, 7 and 8.

NORTH STONEHAM.—On January 7th, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal, 1,728 London Surprise Major, in 59 mins.: F. G. Cole 1, W. G. Edwards 2, G. Pullinger 3, W. G. Rowe 4, W. T. Tucker 5, D. C. Williams 6, F. Blondell 7, G. Williams (conductor) 8.

OLD CLEEVE, SOMERSET.—At St. Andrew's Church, on Monday evening, January 18th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, in 45 mins.: T. Bennett (first quarter) 1, H. Rowe 2, G. Cridland (first on an inside bell) 3, J. Gratton 4, A. Bryant (conductor) 5, N. Hurley 6, A. Stevens 7.

## GUILDFORD, SURREY.

## THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, January 26, 1926, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

At the Church of the Holy Trinity,

## A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

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

*RAYMOND PHILPOTT... ..Treble	JOHN A. COLE ... .. 5
CHARLES N. BURDOCK ... .. 2	*WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ... .. 6
*JOHN T. SCOTT ... .. 3	GEORGE W. STEERE ... .. 7
†C.Q.M.S. G. GILBERT, R.E. 4	ALFRED H. PULLING... ..Tenor

Composed by F. A. HOLDEN.

Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

\* First peal in the method. † First peal in the method away from the treble.

## FARNHAM, SURREY.

## THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, January 26, 1926, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew.

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. W. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 20½ cwt.

*JOHN READ... ..Treble	*HARRY KEMP ... .. 5
GEORGE UPSHALL ... .. 2	THOMAS UPSHALL ... .. 6
*CHARLES WELLS ... .. 3	RICHARD HASTED ... .. 7
*SIDNEY MEADOWS ... .. 4	ALBERT E. KING ... ..Tenor

Conducted by RICHARD HASTED.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. Edward Clapshaw, the esteemed captain of the band, on attaining his 81st birthday on this date, he having been a ringer at this church for over 60 years. \* First peal. All the above are regular service ringers, and it is the first peal on the bells by an entirely local band for upwards of 12 years.

## WORTLEY, YORKSHIRE.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, January 27, 1926, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Leonard,

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*FRANK DOWNHILL ... ..Treble	ARCHIE BREARLEY ... .. 5
SAMUEL HARRISON ... .. 2	JOHN R. BREARLEY ... .. 6
WM. A. WOOLER ... .. 3	JOHN A. BREARLEY ... .. 7
*FRANK WADSWORTH... .. 4	GEORGE HILL ... ..Tenor

Composed by W. HARRISON.

Conducted by J. A. BREARLEY.

\* First peal. Ringers of 2, 5, 6, 7 are from Bolsterstone; tenor from Penistone; and remainder belong to the local company.

## GODSTONE, SURREY.

## THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, January 27, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Nicholas,

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

Tenor 12 cwt. 4 lb. in G.

*JOHN R. HUMPHREYS ...Treble	JOHN F. GALVER ... .. 5
FRANK E. DARBY ... .. 2	†FREDERICK E. COLLINS ... .. 6
GEORGE F. HOAD ... .. 3	†WALTER CLAYDON ... .. 7
THOMAS G. BANNISTER ... 4	CHARLES H. KIPPIN ... ..Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

Conducted by CHAS. H. KIPPIN.

First peal in method on the bells. \* First peal on eight bells. † First peal in the method away from the treble. ‡ First peal of Double Norwich.

## BRIDGEND, GLAMORGAN.

## THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, January 27, 1926, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Illtyd,

## A PEAL OF SPLICED OXFORD BOB AND GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

JOHN W. JONES ... ..Treble	ALBERT TALBOT ... .. 5
CHARLES H. PERRY ... .. 2	DAVID R. JAMES ... .. 6
ALLEN C. JONES ... .. 3	ALBERT J. PITMAN ... .. 7
RICHARD EVANS ... .. 4	WILLIAM H. WRIGHT... ..Tenor

Composed and Conducted by A. J. PITMAN.

This is the first peal of Spliced Oxford Bob and Grandsire Triples ever rung; also the first peal of Triples ever rung without Singles, Bobs only being used. The methods were intermixed throughout.

## HOGHTON, LANCASHIRE.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, January 27, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes

At the Church of the Holy Trinity,

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

ARTHUR TOMLINSON ... ..Treble	JOHN BROWN... .. 5
MISS MAY CLAYTON ... .. 2	FREDERICK HINDLE ... .. 6
JAMES HARRISON ... .. 3	JOHN WATSON ... .. 7
THOMAS CALDERBANK... .. 4	JOSEPH E. SYKES ... ..Tenor

Composed by J. R. FRITCHARD.

Conducted by ARTHUR TOMLINSON.

## NUNEATON.

## THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Thursday, January 28, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

## A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

JOHNSON'S VARIATION.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

HARRY ARGYLE... ..Treble	*JOHN THOMPSON... .. 5
ABRAHAM WILKERSON ... .. 2	ERNEST STONE ... .. 6
*WALTER MARTIN ... .. 3	THOMAS W. CHAPMAN ... .. 7
WALTER HORTON ... .. 4	DOUGLAS H. ARGYLE ... ..Tenor

Conducted by D. H. ARGYLE.

\* First peal in the method.

## BLACKBURN, LANCASHIRE.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, January 29, 1926, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels,

## A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

ARTHUR TOMLINSON... ..Treble	FREDERICK HINDLE ... .. 5
*HERBERT CHAMBERS ... .. 2	JOHN BROWN... .. 6
FRED CHAMBERS ... .. 3	JOHN WATSON ... .. 7
THOMAS WILSON ... .. 4	JOSEPH E. SYKES... ..Tenor

Composed by F. A. HOLDEN.

Conducted by J. E. SYKES.

\* First peal in the method. This composition contains the 6th its extent right at nine course-ends, without the 2nd in 6th's. This is the 100th peal that Mr. Tomlinson and Mr. Watson, the genial secretary of the Blackburn Branch, have rung together.

## BRENCHELEY, KENT.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

CHARLES H. SONE ... ..Treble	HARRY BAKER ... .. 5
LEWIS NEWMAN ... .. 2	*LUTHER J. HONESS ... .. 6
WILLIAM E. PITMAN ... .. 3	†FREDERICK A. FAIRBEARD 7
MRS. H. BAKER ... .. 4	THOMAS E. SONE ... ..Tenor

Composed and Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.

\* First peal of Major. † First peal in the method. Arranged for L. J. Honess, of Wingham, Kent, who commenced ringing at the above tower.

## NORTH MYMMS, HERTS.

## THE HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 13 cwt.

ALBERT R. LAWRENCE ...Treble	JOHN MALYAN ... .. 5
BEN JARMAN... .. 2	WILLIAM NASH ... .. 6
HORACE E. C. GOODENOUGH 3	JOHN T. KENTISH ... .. 7
RICHARD E. RICHARDSON ... 4	LEONARD SHEPHERD ... ..Tenor

Conducted by JOHN T. KENTISH.

First peal in method on the bells. The conductor's 150th peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. W. Nash. Mr. Nash has now rung all the bells round in this tower to a peal. It was also a silver wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Kentish.

DALTON-IN-FURNESS.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, Jan. 3rd, for evening service, 720 Bob Minor: T. R. Jackson 1, T. Watson 2, G. Jackson 3, T. Metcalfe (conductor) 4, W. H. Dennison 5, J. Burrows 6.



## DEPTFORD, LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON  
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Nicholas,

## A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S.

Tenor 21 cwt.

JAMES E. DAVIS ... .. Treble	GEORGE R. PYE ... .. 5
ISAAC G. SHADE ... .. 2	WILLIAM J. NUDDS ... .. 6
WILLIAM PYE ... .. 3	RICHARD F. DEAL ... .. 7
CECIL V. EBBERSON ... .. 4	GEORGE H. DAYNES ... .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

## MARKET DRAYTON, SHROPSHIRE.

## THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SIR A. P. HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. in F.

JAMES H. RIDING ... .. Treble	RICHARD T. HOLDING ... .. 5
WILLIAM S. HIGGINSON ... .. 2	WILLIAM WEATHERBY ... .. 6
HARRY F. HOLDING ... .. 3	THOMAS R. BUTLER ... .. 7
† HAROLD EDWARDS ... .. 4	* EDWARD J. HOLLOWAY ... .. Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS R. BUTLER.

\* First peal, and first attempt. † First peal in the method, and first attempt. Rung on the occasion of the marriage of the sister-in-law of the ringer of the fifth.

## ORMESBY.

## CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

## A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

ARTHUR BOLTON ... .. Treble	CECIL ROBINSON ... .. 5
ALFRED COATES ... .. 2	ALBERT HUNTER ... .. 6
* MISS LAURA LANCASTER ... .. 3	WILLIAM AINSWORTH ... .. 7
THOMAS METCALFE ... .. 4	THOMAS LANCASTER ... .. Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by T. LANCASTER.

\* First peal in the method away from the treble.

## ROWLEY REGIS, STAFFORDSHIRE.

## THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICTS GUILD.

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Giles.

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5030 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

WALTER FENDALL ... .. Treble	PERCY HACKETT ... .. 5
WILLIAM GREEN ... .. 2	LEONARD JOHNSON ... .. 6
BERTRAM PRICE ... .. 3	JOHN GOODMAN, JUN. ... .. 7
JOHN PRICE ... .. 4	GILBERT GUEST ... .. Tenor

Conducted by J. GOODMAN, JUN.

This peal was rung for the 19th birthday of Mr. P. Hackett.

## YORKTOWN, SURREY.

## THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael,

## A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. in F.

* BARZILLAI HAWKINS ... .. Treble	JOHN A. COLE ... .. 5
CHARLES N. BURDOCK ... .. 2	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE ... .. 6
MISS IRENE L. HASTIE ... .. 3	OLIVER SIPPETTS ... .. 7
WILLIAM T. BEESON, JUN. ... .. 4	ALFRED H. PULLING ... .. Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH.

Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

\* First peal in the method.

REIGATE, SURREY.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, Jan. 3rd, for evening service, in 48 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: W. Pooley 1, A. Bashford 2, M. Northover 3, J. Foster 4, G. Hoad 5, H. Jordan 6, W. Claydon (conductor) 7, W. Whitehead 8. Rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. J. Foster (secretary of the society), which took place at Teddington on Boxing Day.

## SIX BELL PEALS.

## BLAXHALL, SUFFOLK.

## THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, January 25, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter.

## A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

In seven different methods, being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, College Exercise, Woodbine Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Double Court and Plain Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

H. G. SMITH ... .. Treble	J. SMY ... .. 4
W. SMITH ... .. 2	A. E. SMITH ... .. 5
A. A. LING ... .. 3	A. LING ... .. Tenor

Conducted by A. LING.

## HOLT, WILTS.

## THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, January 27, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Katharine,

## A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's.

Tenor 9 cwt.

ALBERT STOKES ... .. Treble	WILLIAM R. BAXTER ... .. 4
JESSE FRANCIS ... .. 2	CHARLES F. ANDREWS ... .. 5
WILLIAM LOUD ... .. 3	JOSEPH T. DYKE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by J. T. DYKE.

## HORSELL, SURREY.

## THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, January 27, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

## A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of Canterbury Pleasure, Oxford Treble Bob, three of Plain Bob and two of Kent Treble Bob alternately.

Tenor 10½ cwt. in G.

* MISS FLORRIE E. WEYMAN Treble	MISS BERTHA M. MILLS ... .. 4
† MISS NORA E. SHORTER ... .. 2	* GDSM. E. J. BRAGG, GREN. G. 5
* MISS NANCIE DENYER ... .. 3	C.Q.M.S.G. GILBERT, R.E. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE GILBERT, R.E.

\* First peal of Minor. † First peal of Minor in four methods away from the treble, and rung in honour of her brother's 21st birthday.

## WEEKLEY, NORTHANTS.

## THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Kettering Branch.)

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin,

## A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of seven different 720's.

Tenor 8 cwt. 10 lb.

* CHARLES MOORE ... .. Treble	MISS KITTY MOORE ... .. 4
R. WILLIAM LAWRENCE ... .. 2	† DAVID SHATFORD ... .. 5
RONALD F. LAWRENCE ... .. 3	ROBERT G. BLACK ... .. Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT G. BLACK.

\* First peal on six bells. † First peal in the method. This is the first peal ever rung on these bells by a local band, all of whom are Sunday Service ringers.

## GREAT BARR, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Margaret.

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores with ten different callings.

Tenor 12 cwt. (approx.) in G.

MISS ENID FOSTER ... .. Treble	LOUIS S. GRIFFITHS ... .. 4
WALTER TERRY ... .. 2	FREDERICK W. RISHWORTH ... .. 5
WILLIAM J. BATEMAN ... .. 3	GEORGE E. LARGE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by LOUIS S. GRIFFITHS.

This was specially arranged for ringers of treble, 2nd and 3rd, it being their first peal. W. Terry and W. J. Bateman are local ringers at this church.

FARNHAM, SURREY.—On Sunday, Jan. 3rd, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 48 mins.: H. Prior 1, J. Road 2, C. Wells 3, S. Meadows 4, H. Kemp 5, T. Upshall 6, R. Hasted (conductor) 7, A. E. King 8.

BROOMFIELD, ESSEX.  
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 30, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,  
At the Church of St. Mary,

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

720 each of Cambridge, College Exercise, Double Court, New London, Woodbine, Kent and Oxford. Tenor 11 cwt.

*M. WINDLEY ... .. Treble	ERNEST CLARK ... .. 4
†HARRY WAIN ... .. 2	HERBERT DEVENISH ... .. 5
HARRY BRADLEY ... .. 3	EDWARD BUCKINGHAM... .. Tenor

Conducted by EDWARD BUCKINGHAM.

\* First peal. † First peal of Minor 'inside.' Rung as a welcome to the new Vicar (the Rev. A. G. Bunbury) and Mrs. Bunbury.

HANLEY CASTLE, WORCESTERSHIRE.  
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.  
(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,  
At the Church of St. Mary,

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being 720 each of Court Bob, Double Oxford, Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 14 cwt.

ROBERT G. KNOWLES ... .. Treble	WILLIAM RANFORD ... .. 4
SIDNEY T. HOLT... .. 2	JAMES R. NEWMAN ... .. 5
ERNEST GIBBS ... .. 3	CHARLES CAMM ... .. Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES CAMM.

First peal on the bells since they were overhauled by Taylor and Co., the 'go' being excellent.

BRAY, BERKSHIRE.  
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,  
At the Church of St. Michael,

**A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being seven different extents. Tenor 27 cwt. (approx.)

FREDERICK J. RUSSELL ... .. Treble	*WILLIAM E. TAYLOR ... .. 4
REGINALD S. COOK ... .. 2	ROBERT DARVILLE ... .. 5
PHILIP G. MORRIS ... .. 3	WALTER AYRE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by W. AYRE.

\* First peal of Minor, and first peal for 30 years. First peal on the bells, which date from 1600. Treble, 3rd and 4th belong to the local company; 5th hails from Twyford; 2nd from King's Langley, and tenor from Leverstock Green. 2nd and 4th were elected members of the Guild previous to the peal.

STOKE POGES, BUCKS.  
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.  
(EAST BERKS & SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,  
At the Church of St. Giles.

**A PEAL OF SPLICED OXFORD AND KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Seven different 720's without bobs.

Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 3 lbs in F sharp.

*HUGH W. STEVENSON ... .. Treble	HERBERT C. ALBROW... .. 4
†JOHN SHUKER ... .. 2	MRS. ARTHUR D. BARKER... .. 5
ARTHUR D. BARKER ... .. 3	WILLIAM L. GUTTERIDGE... .. Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR D. BARKER.

\* First peal, aged 16 years. † First peal away from treble. First peal of Spliced Minor by all the band, on the bells, in the county, and for the Guild. This is believed to be the first peal of Spliced Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Minor ever rung. Rung as an 18th birthday compliment to the ringer of the 4th.

**HANDBELL PEAL.**

NORTHERPPES, NORFOLK.  
THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Thursday, January 28, 1926, in Two Hours and Nine Minutes,  
At the Tower of St. Mary,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

Consisting of 42 extents called differently. Tenor size 20 in E.

CYRIL POOLEY ... .. 1-2	F. NOLAN GOLDEN ... .. 3-4
ERNEST L. RISEBROW... .. 5-6	

Conducted by F. N. GOLDEN. Witness: SIDNEY J. POOLEY.

Birthday compliment to Mr. C. Pooley, captain of the local band.

[Other Peal Reports are unavoidably held over.]

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**

NOTTINGHAM REPORT CRITICISED.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I regret to criticise the Nottingham report in your issue of Jan. 22nd, but the inaccuracies call for a reply. First: If the report, was written by the local secretary, let me say at once that he had no right to put forth a statement of accounts, at least before the accounts have been audited. Moreover, the figures are wrong. Secondly, he had no right to ask the local members for a 'grant to the secretary,' neither have they the power to make it. That is the business of the general committee and the whole association. There has been a series of attempts to force the hand of the committee for a grant of money to the branch 'for local funds'? It now resolves itself into a request for an allowance for the secretary. In plain English—a paid job. It may be worth it, but I incline to the view that if a man seeks office to serve his fellow men, he should do it for the honour, seeking what he can give to the cause, and not what he can get out of it.

Lastly, he states, 'Secretaries pay expenses out of their own pocket . . . and cannot afford it.' This is ridiculously untrue. No secretary is called upon to pay one penny out of his pocket. The whole expenses of the branch are defrayed and have never yet been questioned. I have before me at this moment a scrap of paper of one word: 'Expenses £1 3s,' with no details, although I know that this amount does not cover half the expenditure, for other bills are due. The fact that at the Nottingham mass meeting only 15 (fifteen) out of 200 turned up—and these from seven sections—shows that either the members are tired of being 'bored stiff,' or are satisfied with the management as it at present exists.

WILLIAM WILLSON,

Hon. Treasurer, M.C.A.

**RINGING STANDARDS.**

THE ISSUE OF CERTIFICATES.

With reference to the suggestion that the Central Council should formulate a series of standards of ringing attainment, the secretary of the Suffolk Guild writes to say that his Guild has had printed a number of certificates of proficiency, but that none have as yet been issued. They could, therefore, be used to certify the attainment of any standards laid down by the Council. The Guild Committee have suggested that the following achievements should entitle a member to a certificate, certifying the fact that it has been accomplished: (a) First 720; (b) first peal (5,040); (c) every first peal in a new method; (d) every 50th peal; (e) any 'name' peal; (f) any peal over 7,000.

He suggests that those interested in the matter should get their representatives on the Council to send in notice of a resolution without delay.

**DURHAM & NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.**

PEAL RINGING SLACKNESS.

A meeting of the Western Division was held at Chester-le-Street on Saturday, January 16th, when there were present members from St. John's, Darlington; St. Ignatius, Sunderland; Newcastle Cathedral, Tanfield and Consett. In spite of other attractions and the wintry weather prevailing, a very enjoyable time was spent, and several methods were rung under the conductorship of Mr. Patterson and Mr. Sheraton, vice-presidents of the Eastern and Western Divisions respectively.

General regrets were expressed at the absence from the meeting of Mr. C. T. Brice, of Pulham, and hopes were expressed that he would soon be sufficiently recovered to visit them on a future date.

Congratulations were extended to Mr. Wm. Story, one of the esteemed ex-presidents of the association, on having been made W.M. of the 'Hotspur' Lodge of Freemasons, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

There was a strong feeling among the members that a certain slackness was noticeable throughout the association in connection with peal ringing, and if any was attempted it was generally the favoured few who were selected. Obviously, writes our correspondent, the passing over of several deserving ringers is harmful, and against the best interests of the association.

Also a word in season to the local secretaries. It would be as well to remind them, when arranging their meetings, to get in touch with each other so that the gatherings would not clash, as was the case on this occasion.

The next meeting of the Western Division, of which due notice will appear in 'The Ringing World,' will be held at Consett.

At the close of the meeting, the Rector, Canon Jackson, D.D., was thanked for kindly granting the use of the bells, and thanks were also accorded to those members who looked after the arrangements.

**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.**

The annual meeting of the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham was held at the St. Martin's Hotel, City, on January 19th, when a good attendance was presided over by Mr. Vice-President J. H. Shepherd, in the unavoidable absence of the Presiding Ringing Master, Mr. Alderman Pritchett. The latter gentleman, in the exercise of his office, as acting judge in Herefordshire on that date, expressed his regret at being unable to be present, but it is understood that several persons who had perforce to make his acquaintance, in the course of the said duties, would have been quite loath to spare him, and probably consigned him, when communing inwardly, to a place further even than Birmingham!

The members passed a hearty vote of congratulation to the alderman on having reached his 71st birthday, and wished him 'Many Happy Returns,' and a continuance of the robust health which he has fortunately enjoyed.

All officers were re-elected for the ensuing twelve months, as follows: President, the Lord Bishop of the Diocese; vice-presidents, the Rev. Canon T. Guy Rogers, B.D., M.C., Rector of Birmingham, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, M.A., B.C.L., Messrs. W. H. Godden, John Carter, J. B. Shepherd, Wm. Kent and Thomas Russam; Presiding Ringing Master, Ald. J. S. Pritchett, M.A., B.C.L.; Deputy Ringing Master, Mr. Albert Walter; trustees, Messrs. T. Russam and C. Dickens; auditors, Messrs. T. H. Reeves and Jonathan Preston; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. A. Paddon Smith.

The balance sheet for 1925 was approved and adopted, and several new members were elected.

The Secretary reported that the Connaught Room at the Imperial Hotel had been booked for the Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner, which would be held on Saturday, March 6th.

The next quarterly meeting will be held, with the Vicar's permission, at Rowley Regis.

**A DATE TOUCH.**

At Goldhanger, Essex, on January 23rd, a date touch of Minor (1,926 changes), consisting of 720 each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, 360 of College Exercise and 126 Plain Bob: J. D. Buckingham 1, S. J. White 2, H. B. Gardner 3, J. R. Owens 4, G. H. Neville (conductor) 5, A. Appleton 6. Longest length by the ringer of the 2nd; also by G. H. Neville as conductor. Rung as a birthday compliment to A. Appleton.

**NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.****FLOURISHING POSITION.**

The first meeting of the new year was held at Workshop on Saturday last, when members were present from Anston, Blyth, Bawborough, Shireoaks, Mansfield, Handsworth, and the local company. By the kind permission of the Rev. Canon d'Arcy the bells of the Priory Church were at the disposal of ringers, and the methods rung during the day included Kent Treble Bob Major, Grandsire Triples, Oxford, Kent, Violet, Duke of York and London Scholars' Pleasure. The Blyth ringers, who brought a full company, raised the bells in peal, and rang a well-struck 720 of Oxford Treble Bob, conducted by A. Eastland. Tea was served at the Co-operative Cafe, and the business meeting followed, presided over by Mr. Hargreaves (Shireoaks).

The Secretary announced that Tuxford bells would shortly be rehung in a new iron frame, the 4th bell recast, and all the others cleaned and retuned. Thus one more ring of bells would be put in good order for the association, and for the Tuxford ringers, who have laboured hard in the past to ring the bells at all.

The next meeting is to be held at Ordsall, shortly after Easter, and will be advertised as usual in 'The Ringing World.'

The Hon. Sec. mentioned that the association was never in a better position than it was to-day, numerically and financially. Every six-bell tower except one was affiliated to the association, and the membership was over 200. One thing he would like to see carried out was that at least one representative should be sent to every meeting from each tower, to keep in touch with the association and extend that spirit of brotherhood that had existed amongst them for so many years. Whilst many association secretaries regretted that members' subscriptions came in badly, and ringers attended meetings who had not paid anything for a number of years in the shape of subscriptions, he was proud to say it was just the opposite in the North Notts Association. What he wanted to see was a better attendance at all their meetings to give the hon. secretary some encouragement to continue in office. While some of the meetings had been well attended, there were many that were not, but perhaps the weather had had something to do with it.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. Canon d'Arcy for granting the use of the bells concluded the business.

Ringing was finished at 8.30 p.m. by a well-struck touch of Kent Treble Bob Major, in which three six-bell ringers took part in their first attempt of Major.

# John Taylor & Co.

## LOUGHBOROUGH.

\*\*\*\*\*

### THE

# LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

# MEARS & STAINBANK,

**Foundry  
Established  
A.D. 1570**  
(12th year  
of reign of  
Elizabeth).

**Bellfounders and  
Bellhangers,  
32 & 34, WHITECHAPEL ROAD  
LONDON, E.1.**



**ESTIMATES SUBMITTED**

for

**Recasting, Retuning and Rehangings.**

**HANDBELLS**

**In Sets of any number.**

**BELL ROPES. MUFFLES. &c**

## BELFRY GOSSIP.

Mr. Cyril Johnston, head of the Croydon Bell Foundry, has just returned to England after a trip to the U.S.A., where he attended the official opening of the great New York carillon.

Next week the Croydon Foundry are sending to Guelph, Ontario, a carillon of 23 bells, which will be fitted with an improved kind of keyboard. Instead of the old-fashioned clavier, it will have a board, similar to that of a piano, which is electrically controlled.

To-day is the anniversary of two peals of 12,000. At Bromley, Kent, on February 5th, 1783, a peal of 12,672 Bob Major was rung in 7 hours 48 minutes. The same date in 1888 witnessed the 12,041 Stedman Caters at Appleton, where, after a 13,054 in the same method had been rung at Cheltenham in the following May, a 15,041 was rung on the last day of the same year. It was at Appleton, too, that the existing record of 21,363 was put up in the year 1922.

The attempt to be made to-morrow for a record length of London Surprise recalls the interesting fact that it is the anniversary of the first peal rung in this method on handbells. This was at Romford on February 6th, 1904.

Exactly a hundred years to-morrow, 'the Society of Change Ringers of Bingley (Yorks) met in the tower of the parish church and rang during the day in three touches of 12 twelve-scores each, without a single breakdown or a false change, the extraordinary number of 36 twelve-scores, making a total of 8,640 changes.' Thirty-six different methods were rung, among them many of the names we know to-day, but one there is which appears to be lost in oblivion—Symphony.

When St. Botolph's Bishopsgate, bells were opened on Feb. 7th, 1783, three peals were rung in the one day by three different bands, viz. 5,120 Oxford Treble Bob, 5,040 Grandsire Triples, 5,216 Oxford Treble Bob. The neighbours didn't grumble in those days—at least, if they did, it didn't have much effect.

## COVENTRY BELLS.

**HARMONICALLY TUNED BELLS BEST.**

*To the Editor.*

Sir,—I heartily support Mr. A. Walker's letter in your last issue, it being wholly to the point. I never had the pleasure of hearing these bells, although I saw them many years ago in the tower. But from the evidence in support of the petition the case was hopeless, the witnesses as a whole 'giving the show away,' by their admissions as to tuning.

Personally, I am against old and historical bells being recast, if they are good; and no bell would be classed good in these days unless harmonically in tune with itself. That is why individual old bells are picked out up and down the country as of exceptional merit.

I will only mention one, the 11th at Exeter Cathedral, which the late Mr. J. W. Taylor described as an exceptionally fine bell, and could not be improved, and when asked why there was such difference in the weight of the tenor, replied: 'We had to put the extra metal to correspond with the extraordinary quality of the 9th' (now 11th). Therefore, if recasting is necessary to get the bell in true harmony with itself, undoubtedly it is the right thing.

I used to have the idea that if the top note was right, that was sufficient for change ringing, but after many years' experience on so many harmonically tuned bells, I come to the conclusion the better in tune the bells are the more enjoyable the ringing.

I find in Major ringing, when bells are well struck to time, every last blow of the backstroke is a perfect finish, if the bells are truly in tune; if they are not, you do not get that finish.

Therefore, I am with Mr. Walker, if bells can be improved let us assist in carrying it out.

West End, Hants.

GEORGE WILLIAMS.

## THE 'COVENTRY TRIAL.'

*To the Editor.*

Sir,—It was in the year 1870 and again in 1871 my father took my brother and I to hear and ring on St. Michael's bells. My father, who was a good musician, always carried a pitch pipe and a tuning fork, and I always remember him saying the bells were a perfect peal. I rang in a touch of Grandsire Triples, and the treble in a course of Caters. (I was nine years of age then.) In 1883 or 1884 I went with Mr. Thomas Holmes to Coventry, and he, too, always carried a tuning fork, and he said the bells were true to tune, and I say so now, but what were our representatives doing? Was there not one who could argue with Drs. Brazil and Starmer? I must agree with Mr. A. Walker that the modern tuning is the best. If you have a peal of handbells, one should know if they are in tune, and the same thing applies to our church bells. I have rung on some of the best and the worst bells in England, and know it. I wrote to Mr. Caldicott my version in good time. My old friend, the late Rowland Cartwright, and I were appointed to go and judge a new peal (I won't mention where), but we soon condemned them, and they had to be taken away. At the same time, we must give our representatives credit for doing their best. Mr. Dawe's letter is good, and should be appreciated.—Yours, etc.,

JOHN JAGGAR.

[Other Letters are held over.]



## THE SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS

### CROFTS' COMMEMORATION AT NOTTINGHAM.

An interesting and enjoyable gathering took place at Nottingham on Saturday, when the Society of Sherwood Youths met for the fourth successive year to commemorate the memory of William Doubleday Crofts, one of Nottingham's most distinguished ringers of a century and a half ago. The Sherwood Youths established themselves 250 years ago, and although the society never really lapsed, there was a period when its activities reached a low ebb. Since the war, however, the Nottingham ringers have resuscitated the society, and in addition to the dinner which is now annually held, periodical meetings for ringing and social entertainment take place. The society is a useful adjunct to the Midland Counties Association, and in no sense a rival organisation for membership of the M.C.A. is a *sine qua non* of election to the Sherwood Youths.

Saturday's gathering brought together a company of between 70 and 80. Ringing was enjoyed by many at St. Mary's Church in the afternoon, and then the party assembled round the festive board at the Welbeck Hotel, where an excellent dinner was served. Mr. Albert Coppock (Master) presided, and among the company, which included many ladies, were the Mayor of Nottingham (Alderman Foulds), Canon Field (Vicar of St. Mary's), Mr. George Walker (Birmingham), Mr. C. F. Johnston (Croydon), Mr. H. F. Stubbs (representing Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., Loughborough), Mr. J. S. Goldsmith (Woking), Mr. F. Blood (honorary secretary), Mr. E. C. Shepherd (honorary treasurer), Mr. F. W. Bailey (steward), Mr. W. E. White (Cotgrave), Messrs. A. Archer, W. Flinders, J. Ward (one of the original members of the Midland Counties Association), and W. Clifford (hon. members of the society), Mr. E. C. Gobey (Ilkeston), Mr. F. Spencer (Radcliffe), Mr. J. E. Hobbs (Greasley), Mr. J. Bailey (Long Eaton), Mr. A. Ward (Bottesford), Mr. A. C. Hickton (Sawley), Mr. G. Copeland (Eastwood), Mr. Collins (Loughborough), while the local towers well represented were St. Peter's and St. Mary's, Nottingham, Beeston, Basford, etc. An excellent repast was served and much enjoyed, and the toast of 'The King' was honoured.

### WELCOME TO THE MAYOR.

The Master, as the Mayor had to leave early to attend another engagement, took the opportunity of welcoming his Worship. They of the Sherwood Youths, he said, with the tradition of Robin Hood and Little John behind them, looked on the Sheriff as their lawful prey last year, but this year they had angled for larger fish, and the Mayor had risen to the bait admirably (applause). He not only honoured them with his presence, but he came among them as an honorary member of the Midland Counties Association. In the course of his official duties, the Mayor came into contact with numerous small societies which existed for a variety of purposes, and which were working for the benefit of their members. He submitted that the Sherwood Youths was one of these societies. They could compare the Midland Counties Association, he continued, with a valve set, with Alderman R. B. Chambers as the detector valve, and if there was any money about he found the carrier wave (laughter). The branches they could take as amplifiers, but the Nottingham branch, using as it did the other society in conjunction, could be taken as a valve with two filaments in parallel, and was, therefore, the strongest of the association's branches. Their duty, he pointed out, was to clear the belfries of all undesirables, and to replace them with men and women who both recognised their duty to the church, and pursued their hobby with enthusiasm. Thus they found ringers taking their position in the church as sidesmen, choristers, organists, and churchwardens, while the number of ringing clergy grew larger every year. That was the first occasion on which they had not had a ringing parson with them at that annual gathering, although they could hardly exempt Canon Field, who had 'done a bit.' In that district, however, they had one or two very clever ringing parsons, in the Rev. C. J. Sturton, the Rev. A. D. Hill, who rang in the first parson's peal of Stedman Triples, and their old friend, Mr. Wilkinson, who must be now one of the greatest living authorities on the bells of Nottinghamshire. The Master then gave 'the Health of the Mayor,' which was honoured with enthusiasm.

The Mayor, in responding, said his term of office had revealed to him that there were in Nottingham societies of a most interesting and varied character, of which one heard little, but scarcely a week passed without him coming across something fresh, something which, before, he had not had the slightest idea existed. He did not know until that night that that society had for its main object the study and practice of campanology. He knew there was some association with that old Nottingham worthy, Mr. Doubleday Crofts. He gathered from their chairman that little was known of him outside his bell ringing operations. Had he been a clergyman they would probably have heard more about him, but being a solicitor he had so much to do for his clients that he had no time to write his own records. It was to be regretted that a man occupying such an interesting posi-

tion had not left some better record behind him. It was, however, very nice to have that dinner in his memory. It was a very creditable thing to keep alive the memory of this old gentleman of Sherwood, and he was glad to be there as representing the city to give every possible encouragement to their society (applause).

### BADGES FOR THE OFFICERS.

At the Master's request the Mayor then presented to the officers of the society silver gilt badges of office, which had been presented to the society by two of the members. The recipients were the Master (Mr. A. Coppock), the secretary (Mr. F. Blood), the treasurer (Mr. E. C. Shepherd), and the steward (Mr. F. Bailey).

The Mayor having taken his leave, the Master gave a review of the year. He said the membership of the Nottingham District of the Midland Counties Association had reached the record figure of 205, and the membership of the Sherwood Youths was between 50 and 60. To a great extent that success was due to a gentleman named Blood (applause). There was one thing they must do, and that was to protect their secretary from attacks similar to those of which they had read in 'The Ringing World'; the integrity of the secretary was the integrity of them all, and it was for them to put up a bold front to deal with it. It might only be a small thing, but it might have grave consequences. Continuing, Mr. Coppock referred to the peal performances of the past year, and said the outstanding peal was that rung twelve months ago that day, a peal of London Surprise at Beeston, the first in the district by a local band, and easily the first for quality ever rung in that district. It had two unique records, in that it was the conductor's first peal in the method, and a greater one was that their old friend, William Clifford, was a participant in it, and thus rang his first peal of London at the age of 76 (applause). Turning from the oldest to the youngest member—Edward Gobey, jun., had rung his first peal during the year. Another peal of interest was the London Surprise at Long Eaton, while the peal at Grantham, credited to the Sherwood Youths only, was rung on the 150th anniversary of the first peal rung there by the Sherwood Youths, in which W. D. Crofts took part. Then there was the spliced peal of Grandsire and Stedman Caters at St. Mary's, one of the finest peals of Caters he had ever heard. Early last year the bells of St. Mary's were broadcast, and were heard as far away as Barcelona. Proceeding, the Chairman said they had with them as guests four veterans whom they were glad to welcome. They were Alf Archer, the only connecting link between the old society of Sherwood Youths and the new; Jack Ward, William Clifford, and old Billy Flinders, wielder of the oil can at St. Peter's (laughter and applause). During the year death had removed four of their members, Enoch Foster, Geo. Johnson, George Oldham and Joe Woolley. They had also lost the Bishop of Southwell, whose last act in a belfry was to unveil the board for the peal of London in the belfry at Beeston. 'They have passed from our midst,' said the Chairman, 'do not let them pass from our minds.'

A silent toast was drunk to their memory.

### RINGING IN AMERICA.

Mr. Cyril Johnston then proposed the toast of 'Church and State.' It was hardly necessary for him, he said, to repeat what had been said so many times before, that the ringers were now much more in alliance with the clergy and the officials of the church than they were in years gone by. To-day they had a considerable number of ringing clergy, and he was glad to know that their Vicar is a ringing clergyman (The Vicar: Was.) Mr. Johnston said he used the word 'is,' because 'once a ringer, always a ringer' (applause). He added that he had just come back from America. The last time he rang, before ringing that day, was in Boston, U.S.A. The Boston Guild mustered a band to meet him, and one man came 40 miles for the purpose. Among them was Dick Newton. There were five English ringers to meet him, and they were pleased to have another English ringer to come among them for a pull. It showed how strong the love for ringing was in those men who had stuck to it in face of great difficulties. They rang that night, about three weeks ago, the third 720 Kent Treble Bob ever rung in the United States. He went to a dinner later in the evening, and when the people there heard about this ringing they looked upon him as having just come from a party of lunatics (laughter), but they became interested, and still more interested when he told them they could ring 479,001,600 changes on twelve bells, and it was a bit of a shock to them when they learnt it would take about 37 years to ring them (laughter). Continuing, Mr. Johnston said the bells were rung in this country on other than ecclesiastical occasions—they rang on great State occasions. Long might it be so. Ringers were always willing to give up their work, and spend time, trouble and money to ring for special occasions, and he did not suppose bells had ever been rung so universally as on a certain November 11th, which they all remembered.

Canon Field, who responded, said it was the first dinner he had attended in Nottingham at which that toast was honoured. He reminded his hearers that that day was the anniversary of the martyrdom of King Charles, and said it was very little more than a hundred years ago that festivities of all sorts were prohibited on Jan. 30th. He was not one of those who could regard King Charles'

character without stain, but in responding to that toast it would be the greatest ingratitude not to recognise that King Charles might have saved his life if he had consented to sacrifice what he thought was his duty to the Church of England. Those who put King Charles to death would have viewed with absolute disfavour any such nefarious practice as that of ringing church bells. Proceeding, Canon Field spoke of the change which had come about in the atmosphere of the helfries, and the attitude of the ringers towards the church, its services, and its organisation, and he hoped that the spirit which now prevailed would continue to grow.

#### A PIONEER OF CHANGE RINGING.

Mr. Walter Hunt was entrusted with the toast of 'William Doubleday Crofts and the Sherwood Youths.' He said, in reviving the memory of Crofts, a pioneer of change ringing over a hundred years ago, and in assembling as they did once a year in that manner, they were paying a tribute to his memory in the truest and sincerest form. They owed a debt of gratitude, he said, to their chairman, who had done so much to unravel the history of Mr. Crofts. On March 3rd, 1778—148 years ago—Mr. Wm. Doubleday Crofts and nine of his colleagues rang a peal of Grandsire Caters, consisting of over ten thousand changes, on St. Mary's bells, Nottingham. That might not be a great performance in view of the established records of the last 25 years, but it was a wonderful performance in those distant days. The resuscitation of the Sherwood Youths re-established the link with those far-off years, although the link had never really been severed, for they had with them that night one who was a member of the old society. The excellent manner in which the society had been put on its feet revealed that it had a bright and prosperous future before it. The society was secondary to that great organisation, the Midland Counties Association, and it was in no sense a rival, for, before any ringer could become a member of the Sherwood Youths, he must first become a member of the Midland Counties Association. The wealth and success of the M.C.A. was largely due to the enormous area which it had under its wing. It was governed by excellent officials, with their energetic president, Mr. Chambers, at their head, but he thought the time was ripe when each centre should control its own finances, and deal with its own affairs. Mr. Hunt urged that peal attempts should not be made by members on days appointed for meetings, for they should remember that meetings of the past had been the training grounds of those who are successful to-day.

When the toast had been honoured, Mr. Blood proposed the election of Mr. Cyril Johnston as a member of the Sherwood Youths. This was seconded by the Master, and carried with enthusiasm.—Mr. Johnston briefly acknowledged his election.

Mr. F. S. Price, in a pointed and telling speech, proposed 'The Ringing World.' 'Whatever ringers would do without "The Ringing World,"' he said, amid laughter, 'God above knows.' The paper deserved every ringer's support, for they could not possibly keep abreast of the times unless they read the paper. He knew of some helfries where they took only one copy; and that, he thought, was a very paltry thing to do (hear, hear). Ringers should give their whole-hearted support to the paper, which was doing its utmost for ringing (applause).

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith replied, and emphasised the point that it was up to the ringers themselves to secure a cheaper paper, if they wanted it, by showing they were willing to shoulder some of the financial responsibility. A cheaper paper could only be produced by a larger circulation, and if ringers would unite in showing that they were ready to ensure this larger circulation by taking practical action, there would be encouragement to give them what it was his great desire to see, a better journal at a lower price (applause).

Mr. W. E. White proposed 'The Visitors,' whom he welcomed, and especially thanked the ladies for their presence.

Mr. George Walker responded, and thanked the Sherwood Youths both for their hospitality and their entertainment. He had been delighted to meet and talk with their Rector. In him they had got the right man in the right place, and, he believed, if they handled him properly it would not be long before they had a peal of twelve in Nottingham (applause). Mr. Walker extended to the members of the Sherwood Youths the promise of a cordial welcome if they attended the Henry Johnson dinner at Birmingham on March 6th.

The musical programme was a feature of the evening, the principal vocal items being contributed by a quartet, Messrs. L. C. Pearce, A. Coppock, J. F. Adkin and J. Warren, whose spendid singing gave great delight to the company. Members of the party also gave songs and duets, and added greatly to the enjoyment of a pleasurable evening. Miss Winnie Gobey sang two songs, in very sweet voice, and Mr. Matthews provided the humorous element with some highly diverting contributions. Master Fred Blood played piano solos in masterly style, and the programme was completed by a course of Grandsire tapped on handbells by Miss Edith Gobey, a course of Caters rung double-handed, and, most weird and wonderful of all, a course of Duffield played on the saxophone by Mr. W. C. Hunt.

#### MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

##### NORTH AND EAST DISTRICT.

The annual meeting of the North and East District was held on Saturday, January 23rd, at St. Giles'-in-the-Fields, when upwards of 70 members put in an appearance. The bells were set going soon after 3 o'clock, most of the standard methods being rung. Quite a large number of members attended at St. Bartholomew-the-Great, Smithfield, to take advantage of the somewhat rare opportunity to have a pull on the ring of five pre-Reformation bells, and several 120's of Grandsire, Plain Bob and Stedman Doubles were rung. Service was held at 5.30, with an address by the Rector (the Rev. W. H. Davies), who heartily welcomed the members of the association to St. Giles'-in-the-Fields.

Subsequently an excellent tea was partaken of in the School House, Endell Street, and was followed by the business meeting. The chair was taken by the president (Mr. F. A. Milne), who was supported by Messrs. W. Pickworth (vice-president), N. A. Tomlinson (District Master), C. T. Coles, hon. secretary, and a large company of ringers, several of whom, it was noticed, had come from the neighbouring counties of Hertfordshire, Essex and Surrey—quite a pleasant and healthy sign of the good feeling existing amongst the associations.

The balance sheet, showing a credit of £18 0s. 8d., plus £73 13s. 8d. invested, was adopted, and fourteen new members were elected. The sum of £5 was voted towards the fund for providing two new bells at Isleworth, and the hope was expressed that it would soon be possible to say that the scheme was a success.

The whole of the district officers were re-elected.

A hearty and unanimous vote of congratulation was passed to the Ladies' Guild on their fine achievement in ringing a peal of Stedman Caters on January 20th at St. Clement Danes'. It was noted with satisfaction that the whole of the band were also members of this association. The congratulations of the meeting were briefly acknowledged by Miss P. A. Upsher, one of the band, on behalf of the Ladies' Guild.

It was decided to hold the next meeting of the district at St. Mary's, Islington, if possible, on March 6th, whilst Southgate was chosen as the venue for the next district annual meeting.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector for the use of the bells, and for his address at the service; to the Rev. W. F. G. Sandwith (Rector of St. Bartholomew-the-Great) for allowing the members to ring at that church; to the organist; and to the several friends who had so ably assisted at the tea tables.—This was acknowledged by the Rev. W. H. Davies.

The bells were afterwards kept going until 9 o'clock, Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob, Cambridge, Bristol and London Surprise being amongst the methods rung.

#### SPLICED TRIPLES.

BY A. J. PITMAN.

Mr. A. J. Pitman, of Port Talbot in sending for publication the figures of the peal of Spliced Oxford and Grandsire Triples, rung at Bridgend, on January 27th, says: I would like to draw attention to the advantages of splicing touches and peals on this plan. If a stated method is rung in every lead in which a certain bell is in the hunt, the truth of a composition will be ensured. Thus it is possible to ring six or more methods if desired, and in this way the ringing can be made more intricate and interesting.

Further than this, I have discovered that peals can be obtained on this plan without singles, as shown in this composition, only bobs being used, so that all the changes are Triple Changes.

##### 5,040 SPLICED OXFORD AND GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

234567		Continued	
		723654	5
672534	1	627435	5
346257	2	546327	1
463257	2 *	275634	2
573246	1	532167	4
625473	1	675243	2
346725	1	276354	5
574263	1	372654	5
325674	1	543672	1
743625	1	375426	3
647532	5	473526	5
326754	2	324657	4

With 2, 3 or 4 in the hunt, ring Oxford; with 5, 6 or 7 in the hunt, ring Grandsire. Repeat 5 times, omitting sixth bob \* in parts 2, 4 and 6. First rung at Bridgend on January 27th, 1926, conducted by the composer, this being the first spliced peal rung in these methods.

Double Court may be rung instead of Oxford. With the 7th in the hunt, Double Grandsire, St. Clement's or College Single may be rung.

## NOTES BY THE WAY.

## THE FIRST PEALS OF DOUBLE NORWICH MAXIMUS.

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

From what I last wrote it is clear that we have no direct evidence as to what was rung in 1817 as Norwich Court Bob Maximus. We know definitely from 'The Clavis' that the peal of Court Bob Royal rung in 1769 was Double Norwich Royal, and that the Court Bob Major rung in Norwich during the latter part of the eighteenth century was Double Norwich Major. But we have no corresponding evidence about the twelve-bell peal. The first time that Norwich Court Bob Maximus was printed was in the first part of Shipway's 'Campanologia' in 1812. He gives a lead of the double variation, and tells his reader how to get from it the single and reverse variations. It is clear that he himself made the extensions from ten bells, and he knew nothing about anything that was practised at Norwich. He says that it has been confined to the double method, and that on eight bells only, and has not until late years been rung on ten bells. He is here referring to two peals rung in London in 1801, the first at Christ Church, Spitalfields, by a band selected from the three principal societies of ringers in the Metropolis, and on a tablet in that steeple it is stated to be the first ever rung in that intricate method. The 5,220 was rung at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, by a band of the Society of Cumberlanders. Consequently by that statement they are the first and only society that has accomplished so arduous an undertaking. J. Noonan composed and called the first peal, George Gross, sen., the second. On the other hand, the Norwich Scholars knew nothing about Shipway's system of classifying methods into Single, Reverse and Double Variations. By 1827 the custom of calling the method Double Norwich was adopted by the Mancroft men, but the peals of Major they rang in 1815 and 1817 (which we know were in the double variation) were still called Norwich Court. Whatever the twelve-bell method was, it was produced by a Norwich man without outside help, and the evidence is clear that that man was Samuel Thurston.

Nearly forty years ago this point was raised in a very interesting way. The Ipswich men had already rung peals of Double Norwich Royal, and, in 1886, they began to practice Double Norwich Maximus. They were naturally anxious to know if, when they should ring a peal, it would be the first in the method. Mr. Percival Heywood (afterwards Sir Arthur) collected all the evidence in the matter at that time available, and wrote a series of articles in 'The Bell News' of January 26th, 1889, and following weeks. After reviewing the evidence he came to the conclusion that the Mancroft peal was undoubtedly Double Norwich Court Bob Maximus.

The evidence was purely circumstantial, and the Ipswich men were not satisfied. When at last they did succeed in scoring a 5,000 they claimed it as the first in the method. The reasons that influenced them were, I think, three. First, Jasper Snowden, in his book, had left the matter undecided; second, the Mancroft peal is called Norwich Court Bob on the tablet, not Double Norwich Court Bob; and Norwich Court Bob is the title usually given to the single variation; and thirdly, and chiefly, by a piece of what they considered direct evidence. In October, 1879, five of their band paid a visit to Norwich, and when in the tower looking at the board with the late Mr. James Young, then Master of the Norwich Scholars, the question was asked: "Was it Double Norwich?" He replied, "No, it was a single method." Really, Young was simply guessing. He came to Norwich in 1856. More than one of the old ringers were living in 1896 who were members of the Mancroft company many years before Young, and who were sure that all memory of what was rung had faded away before 1856. It seems strange; for some of the 1817 band, Thomas Hurry for one, lived to be old men. The late Henry Dains remembered Hurry quite well. Yet Hubbard's silence about the method is significant, and it certainly was the tradition that there had been some unpleasantness about the peal, some jealousy or other: on account of which it was not even mentioned among the ringers. Some of them (presumably not any of those who rang in it) spoke of it contemptuously as 'Bob Major spoiled.' All this is hard to reconcile with the peal board, and the fact that eight years after it was rung the united ringers of St. Peter Mancroft presented Samuel Thurston with a jewel for his eminent services in composing the peal.

And yet I think there cannot be any shadow of doubt that the peal was well and truly rung, and that it was Double Norwich Court Bob Maximus. It is quite evident from the peal board, and from the nature of the case, that the ringers intended to ring the proper extension to twelve bells of Double Norwich Major and Royal, both of which had been regularly rung at Norwich since 1751.

Now, the construction of Court Bob is such that it has not one and one only obvious extension, as most of the standard methods, Plain Bob, Oxford, Kent, Grandsire, Stedman, etc., have. If you are extending Court Bob Minor to eight bells there are several extensions all of equal value. If you are extending Double Norwich Major to ten bells there are several extensions possible; and we know how regularly somebody writes to 'The Ringing World' to say that

Double Norwich Royal ought to be so and so, and not what is usually accepted. But once you have got both Double Norwich Major and Royal, this difficulty disappears. What you have to do is to get a twelve-bell method, which bears the same relation to Double Norwich Royal that Double Norwich Royal does to Double Norwich Major. And there is only one such method. When Shipway and Thurston extended the method they worked entirely independently, but I am sure they used the same argument, which amounts to this. In both the Major and the Royal Fourth's and Third's are made round the treble, as she is passing through 3-4. Therefore, similar fourth's and third's must be made in Maximus. In Major, sixth's and fifth's are made round the treble when she is passing through 5-6; in Royal eighth's and seventh's are made round the treble when she is passing through 7-8. Therefore, in Maximus, tenth's and ninth's must be made round the treble when she is passing through 9-10. Having got that you have got the method.

As for the suggestion that a single method was rung, that will not stand any examination at all. The Norwich men never rang any single Norwich Court on any number, nor did any other band till, in recent years, the Cambridge University Guild rang a peal of Single Norwich Major. Besides, the only Single Court methods known anywhere in 1817 were Shipway's, and they are definitely excluded by the wording of the peal board which says that there was 'very short dodging before and behind.' There is no dodging before in any of Shipway's single methods. Hubbard's so-called Single Norwich Maximus, which is printed in his 1876 edition, was a production of much later time.

But though we cannot allow the Ipswich claim to have rung the first peal of Double Norwich Maximus, we shall all agree that their performance was an exceedingly fine one, one that ranks high among the most famous peals in the history of the Exercise. On November 23rd, 1886, they rang their first peal of Double Norwich Royal, the fourth ever accomplished, and the first after the two I mentioned above. A week later they began to practise Double Norwich Maximus on handbells, single-handed; but it was not till 1888 that a full course was rung on the tower bells. The first touch was rung in October, 1893. Then followed many attempts for a peal, which was at last successful on November 28th, 1896, a good example of patience and perseverance rewarded. The following is the record of the performance from 'Campanology' of December 2nd, 1896:—

'The St. Mary-le-Tower Society, Ipswich.—The Norwich Diocesan Association and the Ancient Society of College Youths, Ipswich, Suffolk.—On Saturday, November 28th, 1896, in three hours and forty-seven minutes, at the Church of St. Mary-le-Tower, a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Maximus, 5,016 changes. Tenor 32 cwt.:

Stephen Cook .....	1	Robert Hawes .....	7
Edgar Pemberton .....	2	Henry Howell .....	8
Isaac S. Alexander .....	3	James Motts .....	9
Albert Durrant .....	4	William Wood .....	10
William L. Catchpole .....	5	Robert Brundle .....	11
William Motts .....	6	Frederick Tillett .....	Tenor

Composed and conducted by James Motts.

This is the first peal in the method ever rung.

Less than a month later, on December 12th, they rang a second peal, also 5,016, which was composed and conducted by William L. Catchpole.

To an outsider one of the most pleasing features of the Ipswich band was the harmony and co-operation which existed between Mr. Motts and Mr. Catchpole. The two men were about equal in skill and ability, and ambition. In too many cases this would have led to rivalry, jealousy and division. At Ipswich they worked together, taking turns with the conducting, and helping each other. This co-operation which lasted for forty years was, I think, the chief factor in the causes that put the Ipswich men for so many years at the very top of the twelve-bell bands in the country.

In after years two more peals of Double Norwich Maximus were rung at Ipswich, and these are all that have been accomplished. The method is not one that I should particularly advise a twelve-bell band to practise. Double Norwich Major is the most perfect method that can be got on eight bells. Double Norwich Royal is a good method, but by no means the best to be had on ten bells. And when you get to twelve bells the comparative scarcity of dodging makes the music too thin; although it has the advantage of keeping the tenors well together. The method would be very much improved, both from the point of music and interest in ringing, if you make Court Places in 5-6 as well as in 3-4 and 9-10.

## FAMILY RINGING.

On Sunday morning, Jan. 24th, the infant son of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Lakin, jun., of Old Leake, was christened, the Rev. W. S. Brindley conducting the ceremony. After the service, Mr. J. W. Lakin, sen., and three of his sons and two daughters rang a touch on the church bells in honour of the event, the ringers being two of the child's aunts, two uncles, the father and grandfather.



**LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.****THE NEW SLEAFORD DISTRICT.**

About 40 ringers attended the annual meeting of the newly-formed Sleaford district at Sleaford on Saturday, Jan. 16th. The towers of the district were well represented, and many enthusiasts came from Lincoln, Spalding, Pinchbeck and Hough-on-the-Hill. Apologies were received from the Rev. H. L. James, Master of the Guild; Mr. J. R. Freeman, Branch Ringing Master; Mr. F. F. Linley and Mr. F. W. S. Butler, branch president and hon. secretary.

The ringing of Triples and Major alternately, in short touches, gave everybody a chance of a ring, and many got their first touch in Grandsire Triples, while a good course of Cambridge was much enjoyed.

A very appropriate service for ringers was conducted by the Rev. Chambers, curate-in-charge, assisted by Mr. N. E. Snow at the organ.

At the business meeting, after tea, Mr. Norman E. Snow was elected as president and chairman of the district. Many older London ringers will remember this gentleman's activity about 30 years ago.

Mr. Reginald Scott was elected as district hon. secretary; Flight-Serjt. F. A. Holden as District Ringing Master, and Mr. Walter H. Wood as the member to serve on the branch committee. Twenty old and new members paid their annual dues; and at the other meetings later on, the committee hope to make the acquaintance of many more.

A very old and respected member of the Guild, Mr. John T. Holmes, has been very ill, and it was the wish of all present that the hon. secretary should write and send him a few cheery words, as it was always his wish to see a district formed near his beloved tower of Heckington.

Ringing in the evening had to be cut down, owing to the shopkeepers in the market square, where the church stands, so a few tried their hand at double-handed ringing in front of a nice fire, and found it not a bad game either.

F. A. H.

**GAINSBOROUGH DISTRICT.**

The annual meeting of the Gainsborough District was held at Gainsborough on Saturday, January 23rd, when members were present from Stow, Scotter, Brigg, Blyton, also the local company. The bells at the Parish Church were available, and kept going to the methods of Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob, Treble Bob, Little Bob, Forward and Double Norwich.

The Vicar (the Rev. Canon Morris) gave an inspiring and helpful address at the service which was held.

Tea was served at Everatt's Cafe, when the ringers were joined by Mr. F. F. Linley, president of the Northern Branch; the Rev. Canon Morris, Vicar; the Rev. J. S. Walton, curate; and Mr. A. Stephenson, organist.

At the business meeting, the chair was taken by the Vicar, and the officials for the year were elected as follows: President, the Rev. Canon Morris; secretary, Mr. H. Cooper; member to serve on the Northern Branch Committee, Mr. E. Dawber; Ringing Master, Mr. H. Morgan.

The towers chosen for meetings were: April, Blyton; May, Covingham; June, Broughton; July, Stow; August, Brigg; September, Kirtlington-Lindsey, the dates being left open.

Mr. F. F. Linley then spoke on the need for good striking, and urged the ringers to take up the higher methods.

After the usual votes of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and the organist for his services, the tower was again visited, and further ringing took place.

**CRAYFORD LITTLE BOB MAJOR.**

THE METHOD. 5,040, by E. BARNETT.

12345678	23456	1	4	6
21436587	24356	—	—	S
24163857	42653	—	—	—
42618375	26453	—	—	—
46213857	62354	—	—	—
64128375	23654	—	—	—
61482735	56324	—	—	—
16847253	63524	—	—	—
18674523	35624	—	—	—
	26534	—	—	—
	65234	—	—	—
	52634	—	—	—
	36254	—	—	—
	63452	—	—	—
	53264	—	—	—
	32564	—	—	—

Bobs and Singles as  
in Double Norwich  
Major.  
Five times repeated with  
B for S except in the  
4th part.

First rung at Crayford, January 16th, 1926, conducted by E. Barnett, senr.

**SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.**

We regret that, owing to the demands upon the space available for Sunday Service Touches, we are unable to undertake to insert anything less than a quarter-peal on eight bells and upwards, and 720 of Doubles or Minor. Many correspondents send us quite short touches for publication and they must not be disappointed if we are unable to find room for them.

**LONDON.**—On Sunday, Jan. 24th, for evening service, at St. John's, Wilton Road, Fimlico, S.W., a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: G. Channer 1, J. R. Gammon (conductor) 2, S. C. Noye 3, T. H. Taffender 4, J. L. Watkin 5, G. J. Harman 6, H. W. Hibbert 7, H. N. Platt 8.

**TOTTENHAM.**—At All Hallows', on Sunday, Jan. 24th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: H. W. H. Strickland 1, S. W. Crabb 2, W. P. Roe 3, J. G. Nash 4, W. J. Ellis 5, J. A. Dart (conductor) 6, C. A. Button 7, E. A. Hull 8.

**STAMFORD HILL, N.**—On Sunday, January 10th, for morning service, at St. Ann's Church, 720 Bob Minor, in 22 mins.: A. Underwood 1, Miss M. Ringrose 2, F. E. Ringrose 3, W. E. Ringrose 4, J. G. Nash 5, A. E. Putland (conductor) 6.

**STAPLEHURST, KENT.**—On Sunday, January 10th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (from Holt's Original): H. Thirkell 1, E. Pope 2, Mrs. H. Baker 3, C. Baker 4, H. Baker 5, J. Head (conductor) 6, B. Baker 7, G. Chadwick (first quarter) 8.

**BATH.**—On Sunday, January 10th, for evening service, at the Church of St. Michael's, Twerton-on-Avon, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes), in 45 mins.: S. Roper 1, G. Temple 2, Miss Nora G. Williams 3, J. Austin (conductor) 4, H. W. Brown 5, H. Beckett 6, E. E. Davis 7, T. F. King 8.

**NORTHAMPTON.**—At the Church of St. Peter, on Sunday, Jan. 10th, for evening service, 1,260 Stedman Triples: W. H. Austin 1, W. J. Dove 2, J. T. Hensman 3, E. Sibley 4, W. R. Parker 5, W. Sturgess 6, F. Hopper (conductor) 7, J. Wilkins 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

**ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.**—On Sunday, Jan. 10th, at the Parish Church of St. Barnabas, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major (1,280 changes): C. Cottrell 1, H. C. Spencer (conductor) 2, W. J. Meers 3, J. W. Pemberton 4, G. F. Garrison 5, F. Price 6, W. Davies 7, G. F. Swann 8.

**MILTON, NORTHANTS.**—On Sunday, Jan. 10th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Doubles (1,260 changes): A. Turner 1, C. Yates 2, P. Asplin 3, J. Townsend (conductor) 4, T. Tebbutt 5. Also a birthday compliment to Messrs. A. Turner and J. Townsend, whose birthdays were on January 9th.

**BRISTOL.**—On Sunday, January 10th, at the Church of SS. Philip and Jacob, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes): R. C. Seager 1, Miss A. Brown 2, E. J. Brown (conductor) 3, F. E. Tyler 4, P. G. Williams 5, H. W. Fussell 6, A. Burcombe 7, F. E. Tyler, jun., 8. Arranged for Mr. W. H. Fussell, of Dursley, and Mr. A. Burcombe, of Stinchcombe. The latter's first quarter-peal of Stedman.

**FULMER, BUCKS.**—On Sunday, January 10th, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: G. Basden 1, Miss P. Moss 2, A. D. Barker (conductor) 3, F. Corke 4, G. H. Gutteridge 5, Mrs. A. D. Barker 6. Also 288 Kent and Oxford Spliced.

**EARLS COLNE, ESSEX.**—On Sunday, January 3rd, for evening service, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: S. Warne 1, A. Saunders 2, J. Turner 3, J. Fleuty 4, F. Claydon 5, W. Arnold (conductor) 6, J. French 7, W. Scillitoe 8.

**LONDON.**—On Sunday, January 3rd, at the Church of St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, for evensong, 1,287 Stedman Caters: A. V. Selby 1, F. V. H. Sinkins 2, P. L. Miles 3, J. A. Dart 4, C. W. Roberts 5, E. G. Locke 6, S. C. Reeve-Flaxman 7, R. Congreve-Pridgeon (conductor) 8, A. F. Harris 9, G. H. Harding 10.

**ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY, IPSWICH.**

The annual meeting of the above society was held on Tuesday, January 5th, when the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: Master, Hobart E. Smith; Deputy Master, Robert H. Brundle; steeplekeeper, Frederick J. Tillet; treasurer, Chas. J. Sedgley; auditors, R. H. Brundle and W. P. Garrett; secretary, G. E. Symonds, 28, Chevallier Street, Ipswich.

The spire of St. Nicholas' Church, Liverpool, fell on Feb. 11th, 1810. There were 22 people (mostly children) killed, and it is supposed that the accident happened in consequence of the bells having been rung while the spire was undergoing repair.

A Winchester Guild veteran, Mr. E. Clapshaw, who has been a ringer at Farnham for over sixty years, has just celebrated his 81st birthday. He still enjoys a turn at the rope end, and is keenly interested in the art.



**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.

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**SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.**—The next meeting will be held at Rotherham Parish Church (10 bells) on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Committee meeting in the church at 4.30. General meeting in belfry at 6 p.m. Visitors please make their own arrangements for tea.—Colin Harrison, Hon. Sec. (pro tem.), 52, Roach Road, Sheffield.

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Macclesfield Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Macclesfield, on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells at 3. Meeting at 6.—J. Norbury, Branch Sec.

**LADIES' GUILD.**—Southern District.—The postponed meeting at Seale is fixed for Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. All welcome.—H. F. Mills, 125, St. Michael's Road, Aldershot.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Reading Branch.—The Annual Meeting of the above Branch will be held at Reading, on Saturday, Feb. 6th. The towers of St. Giles and St. Mary's open for ringing from 3 p.m. Service at St. Lawrence's at 5 p.m., address by the Rev. J. T. Mumford. Tea, business meeting, and smoker at the Central Café, Friar Street, at 6 p.m., at 2s. 6d. each.—F. W. Hopgood, Hon. Branch Sec., 75, Kensington Road, Reading.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Ilchester Deanery Branch.—Annual meeting of the above Branch will be held at Martock on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock. Meeting to follow.—F. Farrant, Hon. Local Sec., North Street, Martock.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Christchurch District.—A meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Bournemouth, on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea at 5.30.—G. Preston, 3, Waterloo Place, Christchurch.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—A meeting will be held at Rochdale Parish Church on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. **SUBSCRIPTIONS ARE NOW DUE. REPORTS TO HAND.** All ringers welcome.—William Horan, Branch Sec., 2, Greenhirst Hey, Todmorden.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—South-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Ingatestone on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells available 3 o'clock. Service 4.30, followed by tea and meeting in the Parish Room. Subscriptions for 1926 are now due. A good attendance is requested.—P. Timson, Hon. Sec., 80, Springfield Street, Chelmsford.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Lewisham District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. John's, Erith, on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea (kindly supplied by the Vicar) and business meeting to follow. Subscriptions for 1926 are now due, and should be paid at this meeting.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 53, Hengist Road, Erith, Kent.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Bedford District.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at Elstow on Saturday, Feb. 6th. Tower open from 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Meeting to follow.—W. Stapleton, New Fenlake, Bedford.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Thrapston Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Ringstead on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Service 4.15. Tea 5 o'clock. Those requiring tea kindly advise me by Tuesday, Feb. 9th.—J. Nickerson, Halford Street, Thrapston.

**ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.**—The next meeting will be held at Ashford on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells available at 2.30 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea will be arranged.—C. W. Franklin, Hon. Sec., 18, Kingsnorth Road, Ashford.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Fylde Branch.—The next meeting will be at Lytham, St. John's and St. Peter's, on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells ready 2.30. Business meeting 6 p.m.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec., 320, N. Promenade, Blackpool.

**HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Hereford District.—The annual meeting of the district will be held at Hereford on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells available: St. Nicholas' (6), 2.30 to 4.30; All Saints' (8), 2.30 to 4.15. Cathedral (10), 6.30 to 9. Service St. Nicholas' 4.30. Tea, Spread Eagle Hotel, 5.30. Please notify me not later than Feb. 10th.—A. Gwynne, District Sec., Deanery Cottage, Castle Street, Hereford.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Newbury Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at East Ilsley on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea, 1s., at 5 p.m. Visitors please notify Mr. W. Hibbert, East Ilsley, by Tuesday, Feb. 9th, for tea.—H. W. Curtis, Hon. Branch Sec., Church Road, Shaw, Newbury.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—A new treble bell has recently been hung in the tower of Bleadon Parish Church, near Weston-super-Mare, making a peal of six. The dedication ceremony will be performed on Saturday, Feb. 13th, at 3 p.m., by the Master Ringer (Rev. E. C. Lock, Vicar of West Pennard). Collection for bell fund. Bells available after the service. Tea at 1s. at Queen's Arms, near church. Please inform Rector, Bleadon, Weston-super-Mare, of numbers coming on or before Feb. 11th.

**SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS**—Nottingham — (Established 1672).—A meeting of the above will be held at Beeston on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Tower open 5. Meeting in the Manchester Hall at 8 p.m. A good attendance is desired.—F. Blood, Hon. Sec.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Guildford District.—A district meeting will be held at Farnham on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells (8) available at 2.30. Service at 4.30. Tea at Ransom's Restaurant. Short business meeting after.—E. Raddon, Hon. Dis. Sec., Hillcrest, Baillie Road, Guildford.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Portsmouth District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Wickham on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells (6) available 2.30 p.m., also Swanmore (6). Tea at 5 p.m., followed by business meeting. Will those requiring tea kindly inform me by Tuesday, the 9th? All ringers welcome.—F. W. Rogers, Hon. Sec., 52, Samuel Road, Portsmouth.

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.** — North Dorset Branch. — The next quarterly meeting will be held at Motcombe on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 (Preacher, Rev. E. C. King, Vicar). Tea at 5 (6d. for members), to be followed by a short business meeting. Towers available: Motcombe (6), Holy Trinity, Shaftesbury (6), St. Peter's, Shaftesbury (6). I shall be much obliged if all who wish for tea will let me know not later than Feb. 9th.—R. E. P. Gorringer, Manston Rectory, Sturminster Newton.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.** — Loughborough District.—The next meeting of the district will be held at Hugglescote on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells (8). Business meeting 4.30. Bells open from 3 o'clock onwards.—J. Saddington, Hon. Dis. Sec.

**SURREY ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, Feb. 13th, at Beddington. Will those intending to be at the tea please inform Mr. A. J. Trappitt, of 57, Mellows Road, Wallington, as soon as possible, so that the necessary arrangements may be made? The business meeting will include that relating to the Central District, as well as that usually transacted at the annual general meeting.—Chas. Dean, Hon. Sec.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, Feb. 13th, and all members are asked to attend if possible. Ringing at All Hallows', Lombard Street, from 1.45 to 3.15 sharp, and at St. Clement Danes from 2 to 3.30. Service at the latter at 4 p.m., before which, at 3.45, a group photograph will be taken if circumstances permit. Tea in the Parish Room, tickets for which should be obtained in advance, followed by business meeting. Other meetings for February:—St. Clement Danes, Sunday, the 7th, at 10 a.m., and Mondays, the 1st and 15th, at 7.30; St. John's, Wilton Road, Monday, the 8th, at 7.30; and St. Mary's, Lambeth, Tuesday, the 23rd, at 8.—A. H. Keighley, Gen. Sec., 18, Merrick Square, S.E.1.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.** — Tonbridge District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held at Penshurst on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Tower open at 3. Service at 4.30. Tea at the Institute after service, followed by business meeting. Members requiring tea must notify the district secretary not later than Tuesday, Feb. 9th. Subscriptions are now due, and should be paid at the meeting or sent to the district secretary.—W. Latter, Hon. District Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.** — Manchester Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Eccles on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells ready 3 o'clock. Meeting 7 p.m. Reports to hand. A good muster is requested.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting, Manchester.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Wanstead on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service 5.15 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Subscriptions for 1926 are now due. Will secretaries of bands note and forward to district hon. secretary?—E. Butler, 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Preston Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Preston Parish Church on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m.—Fred Rigby, Branch Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—Western Branch. — A meeting will be held at Upton-on-Severn on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Service at 4 prompt. Business meeting afterwards. The bells will be available. Tea provided. The branch secretary should be notified how many to expect by the Wednesday previous.—R. G. Knowles, Madresfield, Malvern.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—South and West District.—The annual meeting will be held at Isleworth on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Tower open at 3. Service at 5. Tea at 5.45, and business to follow. Members will be entertained to tea by the Vicar and churchwardens. Will members, other than the South and West, let me know by the 8th if they require tea?—W. H. Hollier, Hon. Sec., 29, Duke Road, W.4.

**LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.** — Elloe Deaneries Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Surfleet on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells (10) available from 12 noon. Service at 3.30 p.m. Tea at 4.15 p.m. Business meeting immediately after tea. Tea will be provided for those who notify me not later than Wednesday, Feb. 10th.—Geo. Ladd, Hon. Sec., Pinchbeck, Spalding.

**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The pre-Lent meeting will be held at Newton Hall on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Committee meeting at 4 p.m. and tea at 5 p.m. in the Church Institute (adjoining the church). Tea, 1s. 6d. per head. Those coming to tea please notify me by Monday, Feb. 8th.—E. Ferry, Hon. Sec., 16, Gordon Avenue, Gosforth, Newcastle.

**DEVONSHIRE GUILD OF RINGERS.**—Exeter Branch. — Meeting at Topsham Feb. 13th. Service 4 o'clock. Tea free to members. Adjacent towers open. Further particulars from Stokes, 35, Okehampton Road, Exeter.

**BARNESLEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**—A meeting will be held at Horbury on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells available. Those who desire tea should apply to Mr. Robert Thickett, Station Road, Horbury.—C. D. Potter, Hon. Sec.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members who have not made 20 attendances in the past year to vote on matters of finance, should be paid before the 28th inst. Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus on the 18th, \*St. Mary le Bow on the 9th, St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 11th (8 p.m.), St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 21st (6 p.m.), for service; \*St. Paul's Cathedral on the 23rd, at 7.30 p.m. \*Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. James', Waterfoot, on Saturday, Feb. 20th. Bells (6) ready at 3.30. Meeting at 7. Subscriptions are now due; reports to hand. A hot-pot will be provided for all those sending in not later than Feb. 17th to Mr. Alfred Fox, 11, Back Church Street, Newchurch-in-Rossendale, near Manchester. — John H. Haydock, Branch Sec., 31, St. Paul's Street, Ramsbottom.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Phillip's, Nelson, on Saturday, Feb. 20th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Hon. Branch Sec.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.** — Vale of White Horse Branch.—A meeting will be held at Stanford-in-the-Vale on Saturday, Feb. 20th. Service 3.30, followed by tea and meeting. Ringing before and after meeting. Intending visitors to tea please notify me by Feb. 16th.—G. A. Webley, Hon. Sec., Southampton St., Faringdon.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS.**—Mr. J. T. Dyke, hon. sec. of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association of Change Ringers, has removed to Downside Rd., Chilcompton, Bath.

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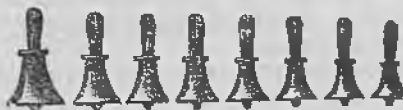
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