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

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'RECRUITING' DIFFICULTIES.

Here and there among associations there is sometimes complaint of the difficulty of drawing young men into the ranks of ringers, the many counter-attractions of the modern age being blamed. Recently a writer in a local paper expressed the disappointment of the officials of the Halifax Association that more young men do not come forward to take up the art. There is no doubt that present day inducements to easy pleasure—the tendency to watch sport rather than to take part in it, to find amusement in those things which require the least physical or mental effort—divert a large proportion of the youth of the country from any interest in a pursuit—to put it upon no higher plane—such as bell ringing offers. As with most other things into which intelligence and skill enters, there is required in the art of ringing a certain amount of preliminary drudgery, which, not infrequently, effectually deters many beginners, blunts their interest and eventually results in their giving up, after, perhaps, a great deal of work on the part of a tutor. A succession of losses of this kind, not unnaturally, has its effect upon all but the most enthusiastic teacher, and wherever you find a man who has devoted himself to training young ringers you can learn of innumerable failures, and perhaps dozens of disappointments for every single success.

The difficulties which are existing in Halifax and district are not peculiar to that area, and, although there are to be found conspicuous instances of youthful enthusiasm, there are many places where, when the present band disappears, there will be no young ringers to carry on. In the old days the young men, however aspiring, were taught to take a back seat, and were made to understand that it was a privilege to sit in the belfry and watch the old ones ring. To-day we have not got sufficient young men to replace those of whom time and circumstance take toll. As at Halifax, it is not always the fault of the present ringers. The counter-attractions are so strong that recruits seem, in many places, impossible to obtain; and, even when obtained, are difficult to keep.

What steps can be taken to overcome these problems? We believe that much more might be made of the ranks of the Church of England Men's Society as a recruiting ground. In this organisation there is a body of men pledged to the Church's service, and there is no higher service they can give than by assisting in the belfry. Already many ringers are members of the C.E.M.S., and where that is the case the way is already prepared for bringing the subject to the notice of the local branch. Where ringers are not thus in membership, their incumbent would doubtless be only too ready to take action and

(Continued on page 226.)

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bring them into touch. How to keep the young ringers is almost a greater difficulty. The drudgery cannot well be avoided, but encouragement, example and enlightenment are three things which old ringers can offer, and which should be sufficient to stimulate the interest of those whom we must train and help so that they may carry on when the older ones have gone.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

CHELMSFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Easter Monday, April 5, 1926, in Three Hours & Thirty-Seven Minutes

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5025 CHANGES;

Tenor 34½ cwt.

EDWARD P. DUFFIELD ... Treble	*CECIL V. EBBERSON ... 7
GEORGE R. PYE ... 2	JAMES E. DAVIS ... 8
CHARLES T. COLES ... 3	JOHN WOOD ... 9
THOMAS LINCOLN ... 4	HENRY T. WILSON ... 10
LEWIS W. WIFFEN ... 5	WILLIAM PYE ... 11
WILLIAM LINCOLN ... 6	ARTHUR HEAD ... Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

Conducted by C. T. COLES.

* First peal on twelve bells.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Easter Monday, April 5, 1926, in Three Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5002 CHANGES;

Tenor 31 cwt.

MRS. ARTHUR D. BARKER ... Treble	REV. C. W. O. JENKYN ... 7
HARRY MILES ... 2	VICTOR J. F. BENNETT ... 8
ARTHUR D. BARKER ... 3	*EDGAR HUMFREY ... 9
ALBERT D. CULLUM ... 4	HARRY SEAR ... 10
RICHARD T. HIBBERT ... 5	*RICHARD WHITE ... 11
*WALTER F. JUDGE ... 6	WILLIAM STONE ... Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by ARTHUR D. BARKER.

* First peal on twelve bells. W. F. Judge's 50th peal. All the band are resident members of the Guild.

TEN BELL PEALS.

BIRCHINGTON, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 3, 1926, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE WATERLOO TOWER, QUEX PARK,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5151 CHANGES;

Tenor 15½ cwt.

ALFRED H. POLLING ... Treble	WILLIAM SPICE ... 6
*C.S.M. J. BENNETT, R.M. ... 2	C.Q.M.S.G. GILBERT, R.E. ... 7
ISAAC G. SHADE ... 3	ERNEST J. DOBBIE ... 8
JOHN A. COLE ... 4	JOSEPH T. DYKE ... 9
CLARENCE H. DOBBIE ... 5	OLIVER SIPPETTS ... Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by A. H. POLLING.

* 300th peal.

LEEDS, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Easter Monday, April 5, 1926, in Three Hours & Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

JAMES GEORGE ... Treble	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... 6
JOHN H. CHEESMAN ... 2	C.Q.M.S.G. GILBERT, R.E. ... 7
*PERCY J. SPICE ... 3	JOSEPH T. DYKE ... 8
C.S.M. J. BENNETT, R.M. ... 4	OLIVER SIPPETTS ... 9
CLARENCE H. DOBBIE ... 5	ALFRED H. POLLING ... Tenor

Composed by GEORGE CROSS.

Conducted by A. H. POLLING.

* First peal of Treble Bob Royal. Bung after an attempt for a record peal of Stedman Caters had come to grief.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Easter Monday, April 5, 1926, in Three Hours & Thirty Minutes,
At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERERS, 5031 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt.

KEITH HART ... ..	... Treble	ARTHUR T. VERRALLS ...	6
MRS. F. I. HAIRS	2	FRANK BENNETT	7
EDWIN F. PIKE	3	JOHN DEARLOVE	8
FRANK I. HAIRS	4	WILLIAM C. HART	9
ROBERT J. DAWE	5	ALFRED J. TURNER ...	Tenor

Composed and Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. W. C. Hart.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, March 22, 1926, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

STEDMAN H. SYMONDS ...	... Treble	LAURENCE POULSON ...	5
ARTHUR SYMONDS	2	FREDK. F. MORTLOCK ...	6
FREDK. L. LEES	3	WM. R. J. POULSON ...	7
MAURICE T. SYMONDS ...	4	FREDK. A. POULSON ...	Tenor

Conducted by S. H. SYMONDS.

Rung with deeply muffled clappers, as a last mark of respect to Mr. W. W. J. Roper, a member of the SS. Peter and Paul's Society of Ringers, who was buried on that day.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, March 27, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Luke, Blakenhall.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THORSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 10 cwt.

HERBERT KNIGHT ... ..	... Treble	JOHN C. ADAMS	5
EDWARD F. MITCHELL ...	2	CHRISTOPHER WALLATER ...	6
JOHN T. DAVIES	3	WILLIAM FISHER	7
ROBERT PICKERING	4	ALFRED FALLON	Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM FISHER.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Daniel Jones, a former member of the local band, and a much respected member of the above society.

TODMORDEN, YORKSHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 27, 1926, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Paul, Cross Stone,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

MRS. WILLIAM CRABTREE ...	Treble	ARTHUR TOMLINSON ...	5
HERBERT DAVENPORT ...	2	FRED READ	6
FRED HINDLE	3	WILLIAM HORAN	7
*JAMES SMITH	4	WILLIAM CRABTREE ...	Tenor

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE.

Conducted by MRS. WILLIAM CRABTREE.

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

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, April 3, 1926, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

At the Bell Foundry Campanile,

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 6720 CHANGES;

Tenor 6½ cwt.

ERNEST MORRIS ... ..	... Treble	*J. FREDERICK MILNER ...	5
JAMES F. CLARKE, JUN. ...	2	*PERCIVAL PRICE	6
*C. ARTHUR MANNING ...	3	*FRED COTTON	7
*EDWARD C. GOBEY	4	GEO. STEDMAN MORRIS ...	Tenor

Composed by JOSEPH W. PARKER. Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

* First in the method. This composition has the extent of the tenors together, and is the longest peal yet rung in this method.

EPSOM, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Easter Monday, April 5th, 1926, in Five Hours & Forty-Five Minutes,

At Christ Church,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 10400 CHANGES;

Tenor 11½ cwt. in F sharp.

JOHN LEE ... ..	... Treble	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ...	5
THOMAS G. BANNISTER ...	2	DANIEL COOPER	6
GEORGE ELLIS	3	ALBERT HARMAN	7
JOHN F. GALYER	4	CHARLES H. KIPPIN ...	Tenor

Composed and Conducted by CHARLES H. KIPPIN.

Longest length rung by the above association, and upon the bells.
Longest length by all except C. W. Roberts.

PENDLETON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 3, 1926, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Thomas,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. in E.

ERNEST CUTSFORTH ...	... Treble	THOMAS WALLWORK ...	5
WILLIAM BIBBY	2	EDWARD JENKINS	6
ROBERT WALLWORK ...	3	TITUS BARLOW	7
JOHN E. BIBBY	4	THOMAS B. WORSLEY ...	Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by E. JENKINS.

HAVERFORDWEST, PEMBROKESHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Easter Monday, April 5, 1926, in Three Hours & Twenty-Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 19 cwt. 3 qr. 16 lb.

JOHN W. JONES ... ..	... Treble	CHARLES GREEDY	5
FRANK J. BAILEY	2	ERNEST STITCH	6
JOHN HAMMOND	3	ALBERT J. PITMAN ...	7
CHARLES H. PERRY	4	ALFRED W. WRIGHT ...	Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT J. PITMAN.

First peal on the bells, which were rehung in 1923 by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

DERBY.

EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Easter Monday, April 5, 1926, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb.

C. JAMES JENNINGS ...	... Treble	WILLIAM POYSER	5
*JACK BAILEY	2	W. HARRY BUXTON	6
*ALFRED MOULD	3	†JOHN W. GLEW	7
WILLIAM LANCASTER ...	4	JOSEPH LORD	Tenor

Composed by J. THORPE.

Conducted by J. W. GLEW.

* First peal in the method. † First peal in the method as conductor. First peal in the method by the association.

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Easter Monday, April 5, 1926, in Three Hours and Four Minutes

At the Church of St. Nicolas,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 26 qr. in G.

IOSIAH D. HARRIS ... ..	... Treble	FREDERICK W. ROGERS ...	5
REGINALD BROWN	2	WILLIAM E. CHEATER ...	6
D. CECIL WILLIAMS	3	FRANK BLONDELL	7
FREDERICK A. BURNETT ...	4	GEORGE WILLIAMS	Tenor

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH. Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS

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CAYTHORPE, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
 (SOUTH AND NORTH BRANCHES.)

On Easter Monday, April 5, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. VINCENT.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

HAROLD MARCON Treble	ERNEST NIDD 5
GEORGE CHESTER 2	WILLIAM LLOYD 6
HARRY THORPE 3	SIDNEY PROCTOR 7
WILLIAM G. THORPE 4	THOMAS HALL Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY PROCTOR.

HINCKLEY, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
 (HINCKLEY DISTRICT.)

On Easter Monday, April 5, 1926, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 22 cwt.

GEORGE THOMPSON Treble	SAMUEL WHITE 5
PERCIVAL A. ALDHAM 2	BERT RIDGWAY 6
JOHN ISON 3	THOMAS WRIGHT 7
CHARLES PAYNE 4	FRED COTTON Tenor

Composed by G. HAYWOOD.

Conducted by F. COTTON.

First peal on the bells since they were recast. All the above are service ringers at St. Mary's Church.

SIX BELL PEALS.

SANDY, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 20, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SWITHIN.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 Woodbine, three 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

WILLIAM C. FOX Treble	TOM BARTRAM 4
MISS CATHERINE FIELDS 2	FRANK WARRINGTON 5
CHARLES J. BALL 3	HERBERT FIELDS Tenor

Conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.

Ringers of 1st and 3rd belong to Sandy; 2nd and tenor to St. Neots; 4th to Roxton; 5th to Long Stanton. It is the conductor's first 720 of Woodbine.

LLANELLY, BRECONSHIRE.

THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, March 28, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ELLI.

A PEAL OF GRANSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores with 10 different callings. Tenor 13 cwt.

*WILLIAM SAUNDERS Treble	SYDNEY T. RACKHAM 4
GEORGE POPNELL 2	ALAN A. RACKHAM 5
ALFRED A. RACKHAM 3	*BRINLEY JONES Tenor

Conducted by S. T. RACKHAM.

* First peal. The ringer of the treble was elected a member previous to commencing the peal, and the band wish to express their thanks to the Rector (the Rev. W. Davies), who kindly provided tea after the peal.

BLAXHALL, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, March 29, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

□ Seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 9½ cwt.

H. G. SMITH Treble	J. SMY 4
A. LING, JUN. 2	A. A. LING 5
A. E. SMITH 3	WM. SMITH Tenor

Conducted by A. LING, JUN.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringers of the 2nd and 3rd.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BURTON-ON-STATHER, Lincs.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, March 28, 1926, in Two Hours and Eight Minutes,
 AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. G. HOBBS.

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Twenty extents of Grandsire, twelve of St. Simon's and ten of Plain Bob.

MISS N. GRASSBY 1-2	JACK BRAY 3-4
GEORGE HOBBS 5-6	

Conducted by G. HOBBS.

First peal 'in hand' by all. First peal of Doubles for ringer of 1-2. First of Doubles as conductor.

LEEDS, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 30, 1926, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,
 AT 396, MEANWOOD ROAD.

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

*FRED HODGSON 1-2	PERCY J. JOHNSON 5-6
WILLIAM BARTON 3-4	*JOHN AMBLER 7-8
*H. STANLEY ROBINSON 9-10	

Composed by J. W. MOORHOUSE. Conducted by PERCY J. JOHNSON

* First peal on ten bells. First peal of Bob Royal by all except the conductor.

FRODSHAM, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, April 1, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
 AT SUPERLATIVE VILLA.

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB ROYAL, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor, size 16 in B.

MISS NORAH M. BIBBY 1-2	FRANCIS BIBBY 5-6
JOHN E. BIBBY 3-4	EDWARD JENKINS 7-8
WILLIAM BIBBY 9-10	

Composed and Conducted by E. JENKINS.

HALIFAX ASSOCIATION'S CONTEST.

ONLY THREE COMPETING TEAMS ON EIGHT BELLS.

The Halifax and District Association held their quarterly meeting and eight-bell contest at St. Matthew's Church, Lightcliffe, on March 27th. Only three teams entered for the competition, which was a matter for regret, but there were a number of visitors to listen to the ringing. The contest consisted of 800 changes in any method, and each of those which entered rang Kent Treble Bob. The judges were Messrs. G. H. Hardy (Earlsheaton) and J. Broadley (Bradford).

A company of over 50 sat down to tea, immediately after the ringing, the president (Mr. C. E. Carrington) occupying the chair.

Mr. W. Frith (Huddersfield) proposed thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the fine peal of bells, and to the lady friends for providing the tea.—Mr. Squires (Halifax) seconded.

The Vicar of Lightcliffe, in reply, briefly acknowledged the thanks in a few appropriate words. He said that whatever his other qualifications, he could not ring a bell, although he had tried several times. He thought that the officials of each church should take more interest in the bell ringers than they did. Most of them seemed to think that the belfry was another part of the church. He was glad to say that at Lightcliffe they held their ringers in the highest esteem, and three of them had attained a ripe age.

Mr. J. Lawson (Lightcliffe) briefly replied, on behalf of the ringers and ladies, and welcomed the association to Lightcliffe at any time they wished to go there.

The judges gave their decision as follows: No. 1 (Birstall) rung out: No. 2 (Batley), 221 faults; No. 3 (Lindley), 458 faults, 10 penalty, total 448. The president then declared No. 2 (Batley) as winners of the cup.

The Vicar presented the cup to Mr. S. Gibson, the Batley conductor, who suitably replied, and said he wished the members would listen to their striking, for he was assured that Batley could be beaten, although they had won the cup on several occasions.

A vote of thanks to judges and chairman closed a successful meeting.

G. & F. COPE & CO., NOTTINGHAM,
TOWER CLOCK MANUFACTURERS.

**ESTIMATES SUBMITTED FOR 'NEW CLOCKS,' CHIME ADDITIONS, REPAIRS,
 OR REPAINTING OF DIALS.**

'METHOD SPLICING.'

By JOSEPH W. PARKER.

In mixing with ringers on eight bells and upwards, and discussing the value of splicing on the higher numbers, one is forced to the conclusion that they consider the true joining of methods for seven bells and over is based on entirely different principles to the splicing of Minor methods. For that reason even those who are interested in this form of ringing have formed the opinion that the little book with the above title can have nothing to teach them.

This is due in some measure to the limited number of methods practised, for very few of them have the relationships required in Minor methods which will splice. However, it is a matter of fact that, generally speaking, the true splicing of methods on all numbers depends upon the same principles as shown for Minor.

The few exceptions have mostly been illustrated by peals already rung and published, such as Plain Triples (the truth depending upon a change of hunt), Cambridge and Superlative, Oxford and Kent in ordinary courses, Caters, and Cinques, all of which have to be carefully proved one against the other. That these (Major and over) exist is due to the increased number of changes permitting a certain amount of falseness to be overcome.

The rarity of these exceptions goes to show that the mixing of methods on any number will mainly be confined to those having the same changes in a course, or in a lead or number of leads.

Then it follows that anyone who studies 'Method Splicing,' and has taken the trouble to master the principles there explained, will be able to apply them to Triples and Major, and to know whether any method examined is likely to have one or more companion methods with which it will splice.

Take as an instance Double Oxford Minor, and alter fifth's place when the treble lies behind to a whole pull at lead; and second's place when the treble leads to a whole pull behind, and the result is Double Court; alter the first named only, and it is Hereward Bob and the last named only gives Hereward Reverse. 'Spliced Methods' shows that methods varied thus have the same changes in a course, and can be spliced. The same principle must apply to Major, if the extensions are correct; therefore, Double Oxford Major treated in the same way gives Double Norwich, Hereward Bob, and its reverse, and all will have the same changes in a course.

To splice them safely it is only necessary to see that each complete course is rung in one method only.

The same facility for variation is shown in the case of Treble Bob Methods. Instances in Major are the extensions of Surfee' and Hexham Surprise Minor, which may be combined in one peal. Brighton Surprise Major, by Mr. George Baker, gives, in all, four companion methods which will splice, and there are many others.

In the case of Plain Methods it is also shown which methods cannot repeat with each other, if one set is confined to the even and the other to the odd part of a peal, and thus by using two suitable combinations of four methods, eight may be introduced into one peal.

The student of Method Splicing may discover many wonders, such as a short course of two or more leads. Take two well-known methods, Double Oxford and Double Norwich. It has already been said that they have the same changes in a course, and that each complete course should be rung in one method only. However, portions of the course may be rung in two methods, and when it is seen that the first and second leads of Double Norwich do not repeat with the last of Double Oxford, the truth of the following short course, and its alternative A, is assured:—

12345678	A.	12345678
21436587	Double Norwich	21436587
24135678		Double Oxford
42316587		
24361578		
42635187		
24365817		
42638571		42638571
46283751		24365871
64827315		
46287135		
64821753		
46812735		
64187253		
61482735		
16847253		14628375
1. 18674523	M.	14263857
81765432		41628375
87164523		Double Norwich
78615432		
87651423		
78564132		
87654312		
78563421		64827351

75836241	68472531
57382614	
75832184	
57381246	
75318264	
57132846	
51738264	
15372846	18765432
13527486	6. 17856342

31254768	Double Oxford
32157486	
23514768	
32541786	
23457168	
32547618	
23456781	57382641
32547681	53728461
23456718	
32546178	
23451687	
32415678	
23146587	
21345678	
12436587	13254768
H. 12345678	12345678

By combining the methods in this way the course-ends are brought up in 48 changes, and the 120 course-ends, and at least 637 78's, may be obtained in 5,760 changes. This is well worth ringing, but is likely to prove a 'tough nut' for even a 'cracker' band.

Not the least remarkable feature of these combined blocks is in regard to composition. This is due to the fact that the alteration brings the M. position into the same place as 1. in the basis block, and permits the 120 courses to be obtained in a simple way, which is impossible with complete courses.

The following peal, for which no originality is claimed, is a remarkable illustration of this:—

5,760 DOUBLE NORWICH & DOUBLE OXFORD MAJOR (SPLICED).

3 Lead Variation.

23456

A.	36452	M.	6
A.	64352		6
A.	43652		6
	63542	1.	H.
	53462	1.	H.
	45362		H.
	34562		H.
	54632	1.	H.
	65432		H.
	46532		H.
	56342	1.	H.
	35642		H.

Nine times repeated, calling single for both M. in the fifth and tenth parts.

May be reduced to 5,088 by omitting sets of three consecutive bobs. If the first part is called as follows, it is reduced to 5,280:—

23456

A.	43652	M.
	35642	1.

The courses marked A. are rung in the alternative form as shown.

RINGERS' PUBLIC DINNERS IN LENT.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I wonder whether the Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner could be fixed each year in future for the last Saturday before Lent. It would vary very little from the present arrangement, and would bring an extra number of ringers in who do make it a rule not to go in for extras at any rate during that one season. The enterprising officials of St. Martin's Guild could easily make that little alteration, especially as an ever-increasing number of ringers are coming to regard Lent as a non-ringing season (not Sunday service ringing, of course, unless it is on the two last Sundays during Passiontide). I know a place where the early Easter morning pealing was appreciated more than anything by all classes, and raised some to the seventh heaven of delight after a very quiet Lent season. This always prepared the ground for a few extra peals during Easter-tide, and made a good excuse for slipping a long one in, which is worth thinking about in these days. Lent does not last long, and I think that a rest once a year is beneficial for both ringers and listeners, apart from church reasons.

A MEMBER OF ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

NOTES BY THE WAY. SHIPWAY AND METHOD EXTENSION.—NEW CATER METHODS.

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

Mr. Drake quotes me as saying that Stedman was the most brilliant and clever ringer that ever lived. I don't think I have ever said anything of the sort. I certainly never intended to. What I did say was that the Exercise has had all along a succession of clever and brilliant men, but never another like Stedman. I meant the words to be taken literally. And what is pre-eminently true of Stedman is true (though in a far less degree) of all the great ringers of the past. Men differ from each other; one made his name and his mark because he possessed this gift, and another because he possessed that. Unfortunately, we know so little about the men themselves, even about those of whose doings we know quite a lot. It is only here and there that we have some hint by which we can reconstruct them. Now nothing, perhaps, so reveals a man as his casual sayings and letters; and, if we only had a few more like those of Melchior I lately printed, we could make the history of ringing so much more real and interesting. As it is, too many of the old ringers are names, and nothing else. I cannot even guess what manner of man George Gross was. Of Holt and John Reeves we know they were gifted composers, but neither has left any writing, for I do not think any of the letterpress of 'The Clavis' is Reeves.

Benjamin Annable stands out vividly as a big man, a dominating personality, a great leader. Of him, perhaps, an interesting sketch could be made. There is a fair amount of material available, only it requires collecting, and that takes time and trouble. Shipway was neither a great leader as Annable was, nor a great writer as Stedman was, nor a composer of the first rank as Holt and Reeves were. He was no genius. He was not a man of original thought. His great gift was, as I have already said, that he was a most methodical and systematic thinker and worker. And such a man can do a lot and go far in a thing like change ringing. This system and method of his are at once the making of his book, and the direct cause of its greatest defect. For when he is dealing with a method he is not content unless he can give it in its different variations, and on all numbers.

Now there are many methods which are excellent in one form, and on one number of bells, but are useless in other forms and on other numbers. To this Shipway shut his eyes. He seemed to think that because, say, Double Norwich Major is a most excellent method he must give single and reverse Norwich also; though they never have and never will prove much more than curiosities. And especially is this shown by his treatment of Stedman's Principle. Stedman on odd numbers is a unique and excellent method, its usefulness proved by two and a half centuries of experience. That does not content Shipway. He must need extend it to even numbers, and to double and reverse variations, and gives a number of abortions with bells lying still instead of dodging. They are so much lumber which adds to the size of the book, without in any way increasing its usefulness. Yet it must be admitted that no little skill is shown in the arrangement of these extensions; and that is generally true of everything Shipway does in method construction.

You may not always agree with him, but you must always admit that he invariably shows skill and knowledge and ability. But he himself was evidently dissatisfied with these even bell extensions of Stedman; and, because the plan on which he was writing his book, required that everything should be complete and rounded off, he sets himself to supply an adaptation rather than an extension of Stedman's Principle to even numbers. This was his third entirely new system which he called 'Shipway's Principle.' New it was, but original it certainly was not. It was admittedly in everything, not only in form, but also in name, an imitation of Stedman.

I do not think that Shipway had any particular enthusiasm for this system, and certainly the Exercise found no use for it. It was not till a year or two ago that a peal was rung in it, and then, no doubt, more as a curiosity than anything else. And, indeed, experience has proved that only those methods which have a fixed treble are of any real value on even numbers.

The fixed treble working in succession among the other bells allows the tenors to be kept fairly close together throughout, and at the same time gives variety both to work and music. If you do away with it you have to use one of two constructions. Either you must use an alternate quick and slow which makes the greater part of the course a mere jumble, or you must adopt the plan of Duffield and Forward of all your sixes alike; which means that both work and music are altogether too monotonous.

There is one form of extension which Shipway largely used, and in which he showed real insight into the laws of extension; and that is in the production of an odd bell variation of an even bell method. He did not, perhaps, originate this, but he certainly did reduce it to a general law.

When you have a method with hunt and working bells, and you want to extend it to a higher number, the first thing that seems natural to do is to add to your working bells. But you will speedily find that, if the first number is even and the 2nd odd, your extra bell will not fit in with the dodging, and you will have to have more than two consecutive blows in different positions. This is bad enough with Plain Bob, where you have a bell lying for four blows; in such a method as Double Norwich you would have a bell leading and lying for eight blows, which would be intolerable. The way out of the difficulty is to add, not to your working bells, but to your hunts.

SIMPSON-TUNING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—On behalf of 'S.T.' enthusiasts I would like to reply to Mr. Barnett's assertions in your issue of March 19th. This latest outburst proves to the Exercise that his experience and knowledge of these bells is absolutely nil. He has not the courage even to name the peals that he finds fault with, and so give others the opportunity if they desire of contradicting or disagreeing with his statements. One regiment does not make an army, neither will one light peal of eight condemn Simpson-tuning. Every Simpson-tuned peal in this district gives the impression that they are ten cwt. heavier than they really are, and the clappers do not have to be as heavy as the bells themselves to get any sound out of them. I would remind Mr. Barnett that casting, tuning, hanging and clapping have these last few years been brought to a fine art, and if he thinks that modern foundries are going back to these rule-of-thumb methods that were in vogue years ago he is mistaken. Mr. Barnett, with his super-knowledge, should know to-day (1926) that foundries, when casting, always allow extra metal for the amount that is turned out of a bell in the tuning process. To quote a bell by Taylor cast 50 years ago as an illustration shows that he has not yet woken up. Why! even Taylors, I imagine, would like to forget those days. His theory that the resonance of a bell lies in its outer skin is laughable, and he is the only one who believes it. A good bell has to be correct in shape and have the correct mixture of metal, and modern foundries have given up the idea of throwing into the melting pot any old boots and shoes that happen to lie about the foundry. There are a few ringers who, under no circumstances whatever, will say a fair word for Simpson-tuning, and in their smoke room arguments pose as authorities on the subject, and condemn Simpson-tuned peals which they have never heard and take good care to keep away from.

To those who have an open mind on this subject I would suggest, when an opportunity occurs, a run over to Loughborough to hear one of the best old peals put side by side with a 1926 Simpson-tuned peal. The result, I can assure them, is startling, and would give Mr. Barnett and his friends the shock of their lives. It is interesting to note that Mr. Walker's letter has not yet brought one word of complaint from those who have had their good old peals recast and Simpson-tuned. Yet 'The Ringing World' informs us, year after year, that some of the most noted peals have been recast and Simpson-tuned. No, Mr. Barnett, leave Simpson-tuning to those who understand it and have built up such a large business with it. This could not have been done if the ringers and public were not satisfied with it.

I should like to say that at the recent gathering at Birmingham this discussion on Simpson-tuning was one of the chief topics, and I am very pleased and satisfied with the many kind expressions and letters I have received by those who are evidently in agreement with me.—Yours truly,

PERCY O. LAFLIN.

Sir,—I would like to tell 'Irenæus' that I certainly have never claimed to be a professor of metallurgy; but having worked forty years in the metal trade, I am not entirely ignorant of the nature of metals.

I notice that no explanation has been given why those highly Simpson-tuned bells fell off at the crown if they were not too thin. This fact has been left severely alone. Abuse and ridicule are no argument from the person who hides his identity under a nom de plume.—Yours, etc.

E. BARNETT.

SOME TOWERS NOT SUITABLE.

Sir,—I cannot quite agree with all Mr. Barnett has to say on Simpson-tuning. There is no doubt a lot of howl with some of the present Simpson-tuned bells, but not with all. Neither would I class them all as 'tin cans.' In my opinion there is improvement in the system. Shall we see still further improvement? I think so. Again, some towers, I think, are not suitable for Simpson bells, particularly so in confined spaces, with buildings all round, which do not allow the sound to disperse quickly enough. This, I believe, causes more howling than would be the case if the tower were more isolated from other buildings.—Yours truly,

W. REEBLE.

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2 1 8 6 7 4 5 3
2 8 1 6 4 7 3 5
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4 1 2 6 3 8 5 7

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NOMENCLATURE.

BY THE REV. H. DRAKE.

This article has nothing to do with the Nomenclature Committee, but merely with finding correct names generally.

Some ten or twelve years ago, Mr. Law James and Mr. Trollope began publishing references to 'Hunting Backwards.' I could not find a sufficient clue in the context to this mysterious operation, and have asked them both, in private letters, and in public, what the words mean; but have been met with absolute silence. Now, however, in 'The Ringing World' for March 26th, Mr. Trollope explains it to mean that 'the odd bells come down, and the even bells go up.' No wonder we were all puzzled, for it seems that 'hunting backwards' is neither hunting, nor is it backwards.

This is an instance of the difficulties into which practical men get, when they try to give names to theoretical processes. When a man is taught to ring, he is shown that, when his bell hunts up, he takes the other bells in the ascending order of their numbers if they are even, and in the descending order if they are odd. You may write them down for him like this: 2, 4, 6, 5, 3, 1, and then it is quite true that if you write that row of figures out backwards—1, 3, 5, 6, 4, 2—you will get the order in which you meet the bells when doing what Mr. Trollope calls 'hunting backwards.' Thus, to call it by that name gives it a very vivid idea which will strike his attention, and help him to remember what it means, quite irrespective of whether it is either true or correct.

As a matter of fact it is neither. The rows of figures which I have written out are not hunting, but the figures of the bells out of which he takes those that he follows in the order designated by that row. This is usually called the 'coursing order,' and the difference between that and 'hunting,' is the difference between meum and tuum. In the one case, you are thinking of one bell's work, in the other, of the work of all the rest that are ringing. Now this difference in actual ringing does not matter very much. Indeed, the ringing of your bell in the tower is the making one fit in rightly with the other.

But in theory, or in writing out the figures of a method, one does not usually look at the matter from that single bell point of view, with which the beginner in the tower has to be content, nor does one think so much of hunting, which is the work of one bell, as of the coursing order which concerns the bells as a whole.

And if it is incorrect to use the word 'hunting' in this connection, it is also untrue that the motion described is backwards. If one

could prove that either of the rows I have written down were 'forwards,' the other could be truly described as 'backwards.' But, as a matter of fact, each is just as much the one as the other, and therefore such an epithet does not apply to either.

To describe these alternatives as 'coursing odd,' or 'coursing even,' according as one took the odd or even bells in their ascending order, would seem to meet the case, and would have the advantage that the term 'odd' would apply to the less usual alternative.

A few lines further on Mr. Trollope uses the word 'reverse' when the word 'alter' would be quite sufficient. Surely the word 'reverse' is already much too overworked among ringing terms, without adding a new use to increase the existing confusion.

I am very glad that Mr. Trollope has given a few lines to the consideration of the making of three places. I have found that three places, made in the middle, turns the succeeding series of rows upside down; but I have not worked out the matter to see if this was only accidental, or an invariable result. It has always seemed to me that this is a point which is worth more than the summary treatment is usually receives.

This leads me to point out that the process of 'reversing' sometimes means taking the last change first, and so on, until the first becomes the last. Is not this really 'inverting' the rows, and should not the process be called 'inversion'?

'Reverse' is more usually applied to alteration of the columns: you take the last column of figures (or the work done in that column), and put it in the first column, and so on, until once more the first becomes the last. Is it not possible to confine the word 'reverse' to this use? The original arrangement of columns would then be the 'obverse,' or usual one.

TREBLE BOB MAJOR.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I notice in 'The Ringing World' of the 29th ult. a peal of 17,440 Treble Bob Major by E. Timbrell, which is claimed to be the longest length of Treble Bob Major yet produced. In 'The Ringing World,' dated March 14th, 1924, there is a peal of 25,920, which I produced, and which I have extended to over 26,000 in one part form.

Seeing that Kent and Oxford are variations of Treble Bob, the fact that it is spliced makes no difference.—Yours faithfully,

A. J. PITMAN.

[Mr. Timbrell was not responsible for the note appended to his composition. Mr. Pitman's 'spliced method' peal was overlooked when we wrote it, and for this we are sorry.—Ed. 'R.W.']

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Hearty congratulations to Miss Norah Bibby, of Fredsham, on having rung at the first attempt an inside bell in a peal of London Surprise as reported last week. In doing this Miss Bibby has probably created a new record, as this is believed to be the first time father, daughter and two sons have rung a peal together in this method.

A new striking clock is to be fixed in Everton Church, Bawtry, by Messrs. G. and F. Cope and Co., of Nottingham, who have recently completed the renovation of the old clock in Market Deeping Church, Lincolnshire, made in 1765, and have also just received the order for overhauling the church clock at Crowle, Worcestershire.

Mr. John Carter sends his congratulations to the Ipswich band upon the ringing the peal of Forward Maximus. He says this is only the second peal rung on tower bells, the first having been rung at Birmingham. He believes that one peal has also been rung 'in hand' at Birmingham.

Even in these times some ringers look upon two peals in a day as a considerable undertaking. What must it have been 170 years ago? On April 9th, 1751, John Holt took part in 5,800 Double Bob and 5,040 Plain Bob Major at St. Mary's, Hillingdon.

April 11th is the anniversary of the 13,265 Grandsire Caters at Appleton. This record, has, of course, since been exceeded, but it was a great performance. Appleton, however, still holds the record, with the 21,363 Stedman Caters rung on April 22nd, 1922.

Seventeen years ago next Monday, another record, which still stands as one of the greatest performances ever accomplished, was made—18,027 Stedman Caters at Loughborough on a peal of bells with 30 cwt. tenor.

Easter Monday, 1914, which in that year was on April 13th, saw the achievement of 14,000 Kent Treble Bob Royal at Ashton-under-Lyne.

THE BELLFOUNDER'S REBUKE.

(Verses, upon observing in 'The Ringing World,' that yet another 'ring' of Rudhall's bells, from the old Gloucester Foundry, had followed so many of their fellows to the melting pot.)

Oh! sweet Vale of Usk, why misgivings or fears?
The bells you have lost, tho' you had had them for years,
Were at best but a poor lot, in very sad state,
Out of tune, and—what's worse—all out of date.
For the Treble was sharp, and the Second quite flat,
The Third or (say) Fourth badly cracked; and that's that!
And the rest, you'll remember, were all on the shelf,
With the Tenor, of course, 'not in tune with itself.'

You say—'But tears of grief and joy,

'So truly beatific,

'Had blended with their tones for years'?—

Humph! that's not scientific.

Come! Simpson's notes are quite soft, tho' we'll say they're not bold,
Still, surely, you'd not let our furnace go cold?

No! Rejoice that we smashed 'em, be careless who groans,
For though made by Great Rudhall, he missed the 'five tones.'

TEMPLE BAR.

'TURNER'S HILL PEAL CRITICISM.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The second half of my previous letter clearly indicates the nature of my criticism, and, upon seeing Mr. Hart's reply thereto, I shall have no objection to my name being published.—Yours truly,

'LISTENER.'

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting of the Leicester district was held at St. Peter's, Belgrave, on Saturday, March 27th. Touches of Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob Major, Cambridge and Superlative Surprise and Double Norwich Major were brought round during the afternoon. Tea was partaken of by 15 members in the parish room, after which the belfry was again visited, when a touch of 'Real' Superlative Surprise Major was successfully accomplished. This was followed by London Surprise, Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major. The London Surprise, however, chose to run round unexpectedly at hand-stroke.

After the bells had been lowered, a move was made to the Talbot Inn, where the business meeting was held. Following the meeting, a course of Stedman Caters was rung on the handbells. Mr. W. Willson obliged with a recitation, and Mr. J. Morris with a song, whilst the 'Old English Gentleman,' by the veteran, 'Old Joe' (Mr. J. S. Needham) was greatly appreciated by all. In conclusion, three leads of 'Treble Ten' were successfully brought round on a light set of handbells kindly supplied by Mr. Needham.

THE RECORD PEAL AT LEEDS.

A BREAKDOWN AFTER 3½ HOURS.

The attempt to create a new record length on tower bells at Leeds, Keal, on Monday, ended in failure, after three and three-quarter hours' ringing, a mis-call bringing the effort to an end.

The band assembled at the quaint little village, with its equally quaint old tower, no taller than the roof of the church, and nearly as broad as it is high, on Sunday, and rang for the evening service. 'Early to bed and early to rise' was a strictly applied motto, and the party were at the belfry well before six o'clock in the morning. Mr. Herbert Langdon was present as witness on behalf of the band of the Oxford Guild and College Youths, of which he was the conductor, and which set up the existing record. Motoring through the night on the long journey from Appleton came Messrs. William and George Holfield, keen to hear the start.

In the lower the band were positioned as follows: P. I. Spice 1, J. H. Cheesman 2, O. Sippetts 3, A. H. Pulling (conductor) 4, C. H. Dobbie 5, H. E. Audsley 6, G. Gilbert 7, J. Bennett 8, J. T. Dyke 9, J. George 10. Two sides, and the rope end of one ringer came out of tuck. Then, at 6.17 a.m., away the bells went again on Mr. Louis Head's 22,033 Stedman Caters, and the ringing settled down. At the end of an hour or so, however, the oiler up among the bells got in the way of the eighth and momentarily she dropped, but soon was righted, and, after that, the course-ends rolled up regularly until the first turning course from titlums to handstroke arrived. Then, 'stand.' The conductor had made a mis-call, and the attempt was finished, to the regret of all, and not least to the Vicar and the good folk of Leeds, who had been keenly interested in the great task. The time of the 'stop' was 10.2, and the number of changes rung 5,940.

The Vicar was one of the first in the belfry to express regret, and he at once offered to place the tower at the disposal of the band at a later date. Without making any excuses, it is only fair to say that two of the band were not really fit for such a gigantic task, for the effects of influenza had not entirely worn off. It is hoped, however, that when next they meet for the peal they will be in better condition.

The rest of the day was not exactly wasted, for the band, after an interval, knocked off a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal, just to show, as it were, that they were not downhearted.

BELLS THAT MADE THE YEWES SWAY AND DAFFODILS DANCE.

Considerable prominence was given to the attempt in some of the London daily papers, and we think the following report from 'The Special Correspondent' of the 'Daily Chronicle' will be read with interest, and, perhaps, amusement:—

Ten Kentish bellringers started an attempt to ring a world record peal of bells at the ancient parish church here at sunrise to-day.

Locked in a twelfth-century belfry without food or drink, they began a 15-hour task at 6.10. They broke down at 10 o'clock, having rung only 5,900 of the 22,033 changes called Stedman Caters.

Thus the ten men who rang the bells of Appleton, Berks, for 12½ hours in 1922 retain the record.

To-day's attempt was a noteworthy one. Mr. Herbert Langdon, of the Ancient Society of College Youths, was here to see fair play, and Messrs. William and George Holfield, two of the record-making Appleton team, motored through the night to hear the first bell at dawn.

The Kentish ringers had a short practice before evensong last night, and were all abed by 9 o'clock. As fresh as daisies they stepped out into misty morn at daybreak, and, after being checked by the adjudicator, ascended the belfry and were locked in.

The party were a case of 'Old Uncle Tom Cobleigh an' all.' At their head was 'Old Jimmy George,' of Birmingham, an ex-railway servant, 72 years of age, who came to ring the one-ton tenor bell.

Then there were Percy Spice, of Bromley; Jack Cheesman, of Greenhithe; Oliver Sippetts, of Crawley; Clarence Dobbie, of Teddington; Bert Audsley, of Crayford; Quartermaster-Sergeant Gilbert, of Rainham; Sergeant-Major Bennett, of Chatham; Joe Dyke, of Chilcompton (Somerset); with Fred Pulling, of Guildford, as conductor.

The peal began nobly. Straightway the old tower throbbled with energy, churchyard vews swayed, daffodils danced, gay cherry-trees shook themselves with delight, and scattered blossom over the village while its good inhabitants arose and smiled over their Easter eggs and bacon.

The Vicar, the Rev. S. N. Swain, pondered with pride on the age and wisdom of the bells. 'These bells,' he murmured to me as they rang to the hazy heavens, 'easily make up for all our letters which go to a Yorkshire city.'

At 10 o'clock, nevertheless, the rhythmic message of the bells was tempered by human frailty. Tall Fred Pulling (caretaker at Guildford Grammar School, by the way) was forced to call a stop because three of the bells were out of their order.

With the good grace which grows of long association with bells, Fred smiled as he left the belfry.

'Somebody's memory gone?' I suggested.

'Oh, no,' he replied. 'It has really nothing to do with memory. It's rope-sight that counts. You get the knack of seeing which rope is being pulled before and after your own, and the conductor—that's me—shouts "Bob" or "Single" to certain ringers when they change the progression.

'When I found three were out, I had to "call" a stop.'

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MONDAY'S MEETING AT CAMBRIDGE.

The annual meeting was held at Cambridge on Easter Monday. The committee met in the vestry of Great St. Mary's Church before the short service at noon. In the absence of the Vicar, who has gone abroad, on account of his health, the short service was conducted by the hon. secretary of the association (the Rev. R. Copeman). A forcible and most practical address was given by the Rev. R. F. R. Routh, Rector of Castle Camps.

The lunch and general meeting took place at the Dorothy Cafe. The Rev. A. H. F. Boughey presided, and 28 members and visitors were present.

The Hon. Secretary read his report, and announced that 26 peals (six on handbells) had been rung during the past year by the association. The accounts were presented, showing a balance in hand of about £9, after paying for the long-delayed report for the years 1921—1924.

It was decided that a report be printed for 1925, members to pay 6d. a copy.

The district secretaries were reappointed, viz. Mr. A. E. Austin (Ely), the Rev. H. B. Woolley (Hunts), Mr. H. W. Giddings (Wisbech), and Mr. W. G. Cross (Marshland).

The hon. secretary was reappointed, and also the auditor (Mr. T. R. Dennis). In addition to these, the Revs. A. H. F. Boughey and R. F. R. Routh, and Messrs. J. Taylor and G. Rivers, were chosen to form the Diocesan Committee.

Votes of thanks were given to the preacher and the incumbents, who had granted the use of their bells, and it was the desire of the members that a letter be sent to Canon Hulbert, the Vicar of Great St. Mary's, expressing their regret for the cause of his absence, and hoping that he would return with his health restored.

A vote of thanks was passed with acclamation to Mr. A. E. Austin for the time and care he had bestowed in the preparation of the report. — The meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Boughey for presiding.

The bells of Great St. Mary's were going before the service and after the meeting. Stedman Caters and Cinqus and Bob Royal being some of the methods rung. Ringing also took place at St. Andrew's-the-Great.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

BLACKBURN BRANCH.

A meeting of the Blackburn Branch was held at Clitheroe on Saturday, March 20th. There was a fair attendance of ringers, representing Blackburn Parish, Blackburn St. Michael's, Whalley, and Clitheroe. During the afternoon there was an excellent practice of Grandsire Triples for the benefit of the young ringers.

Mr. W. Wilkinson presided over the business proceedings, and it was proposed to hold the next meeting at Padiham on Saturday, April 17th. One new ringing member from Whalley was elected.

The ringing secretary to the association (Mr. A. Tomlinson) gave a paper and demonstration on pricking changes in Grandsire Doubles, Triples, and short touches, which was followed attentively, especially by the young ringers.

Mr. Wilkinson, in proposing a vote of thanks, said how highly they appreciated the paper given by Mr. Tomlinson.—This was seconded, and carried with acclamation.

The usual votes of thanks to the Vicar and wardens for the use of the bells, to the Clitheroe ringers for their hearty welcome; and to Mr. Wilkinson for presiding were accorded.

The branch president was absent until after the meeting was concluded, but was doing good work in the meantime by scoring a peal of Bob Minor at Waddington with five of his young ringers.

DEATH OF AN ESSEX RINGER.

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL'S VETERAN VERGER.

Mr. James Oswick, who for the past twenty-seven years was verger at Chelmsford Cathedral, passed away on March 23rd, after a short illness. The deceased, who was 75 years of age, was well known and highly respected by all who knew him, and was fulfilling his duties in the Cathedral until about a fortnight before his death. Although he had done no ringing for a number of years he always took a keen interest in the ringing at the Cathedral, and his name appears on a board in the lower recording a peal of Grandsire Triples.

The funeral, which took place on Saturday, March 27th, was attended by a large number of mourners and friends, including the Bishop of the Diocese and the Bishop of Barking. The first part of the service was held in the Cathedral, and the interment took place at the Borough Cemetery.

On Sunday morning, March 28th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters was rung, with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect: F. Tolworthy 1, C. Gentry 2, R. O. Clark 3, A. Saltmarsh 4, J. Wood 5, A. Head 6, C. Pease 7, P. Timson 8, L. J. Clark (conductor) 9, G. Cooper 10.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

EASTERTIDE FESTIVAL AT ST. ALBANS.

The annual meeting of the Hertford County Association took place, as usual, at St. Albans, on Easter Monday, when there was an unusually large gathering of members, some of whom visited the various towers of the city, and afterwards assembled for evening at the Cathedral, the service being followed by tea and the annual meeting at the Abbey Institute, where Mr. E. P. Debenham presided, owing to the death of the President (Mr. F. R. Bacon). Among those supporting him were the Dean of St. Albans, Canon G. H. C. Shorting, the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt Drake, Mr. B. Jarman, Mr. E. N. Wix and the Honorary Secretary (Mr. G. W. Cartmel).

The Chairman, in the name of the ringers of St. Albans, conveyed a hearty welcome to those assembled for the annual meeting, expressing pleasure at seeing such an excellent muster, as well as at the performances that day in the towers of St. Albans, which had shown some real progress in some directions.

Alluding to the death during his year of office of the association's president (Mr. F. R. Bacon), the Chairman asked those present to stand in silence for a few moments as an indication of their sympathy with Mrs. Bacon in her bereavement, which they did forthwith.

NEW MEMBERS.

The following were then elected honorary members of the association:—The Dean of St. Albans, Canon G. H. C. Shorting and Mr. H. S. Cox. The provisional election of Messrs. S. T. Chappell (Berkhamsted), F. Kirk (St. Albans), Jesse Puppelt (Hemel Hempstead), W. Theobald, R. Molton and E. G. Smith (Leytonstone), J. Conquest (Hertford) and Mr. J. Saxby (Edmonton) took place.

The following were elected ringing members:—A. Dollin, E. J. A. Kendall, E. Cutmore, A. J. Constable, J. E. Sanders, of St. Albans Cathedral Society; C. A. Baker, Gainsborough; R. Styles and B. McKie, Northaw; G. Carl, Harpenden; S. Frost and T. Cannon, Bennington; H. Brackley, Tring; S. J. Carley, Barnet; A. Stanley and G. Johnson, Stevenage; W. R. Smith, St. Albans; H. W. Anstee, Breachwood Green; G. Cain, Kimpton; J. R. Gittings and R. W. Gittings, Welwyn; W. Kimble, Kimpton.

The balance sheet, presented by Mr. E. P. Debenham, as honorary treasurer, showed that the year opened with a balance in hand of £8 ls. 3d. Subscriptions from honorary, ringing and life members, and fees for peal entries brought the total income to £46 14s. 9d. After the expenses for the year had been met, there remained an increased balance at the end of the year of £13 13s. 2d. On the reserve fund there was £17 9s. 8d. deposited in the Post Office Savings Bank, and interest received during the year brought the total to £18 13s. 10d. In addition, the association holds £15 15s. 9d. five per cent. War Stock.

On the proposition of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. H. E. Good-enough, the balance sheet was received and adopted.

When presenting his annual report, the Honorary Secretary called attention to an interesting record established by the St. Albans Cathedral Society, who, he said, on Easter Day, starting at five o'clock in the morning, rang quarter-peals in the following methods:—Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Double Norwich and Grand sire Triples.

A generation, continued the Secretary, has passed away since our formation, but increasing years have not damped our enthusiasm for ringing, and though we have naturally to face the problems of retirement and the inevitable passing away of our members, yet we have preserved our existence numerically, and continue to render to the Church our loyal service. The year has been normal as far as the number of peals that have been rung; but the variety of methods rung has been excellent. To judge by the published reports of quarter-peals for evening service, I should say there has been a keen appreciation of bands to give of their best in service ringing. This we acknowledge to be our first duty, and is one which I feel sure will ever be recognised. To the incumbents we would acknowledge our indebtedness to them for their continued interest in the association, expressed in so many kindly ways, by their readiness in giving permission for peal ringing, and in addressing ringers at the quarterly services. Thirty peals have been rung during the year, 25 on tower bells and five on handbells.

There have been fifteen conductors for the tower peals, and two conductors for the handbell peals. Messrs. W. N. Cooper, W. C. Hughes, R. Wilkinson, E. Loversuch, C. Cooke, L. A. Weare, F. Blunt, S. T. Chappell, J. E. Graney, E. J. Rowe and Miss R. S. Cooke have rung their first peal. Many others have rung their first on eight and ten bells and the first in new methods. Congratulations to Mr. Maurice Hibbert and his band in ringing the first peal of Norfolk Surprise Major for the association, also to Mr. Hibbert for his splendid achievement in being the first conductor to call J. W. Parker's odd and even five-part peal of Stedman Triples. The King's Langley band are progressing, and Mr. Cooke must feel proud in piloting his daughter through her first peal. The Rickmansworth band has made excellent progress, and now possess a first-class company. They are anticipating an addition to their ring, which we hope will come to fruition, as it will give a splendid impetus to ten-bell ringing. Change ringing is also being practised at Redbourn, and Mr. Ayre has had the credit of conducting the first peal on the bells; also the first on the Flamstead bells. A note to the peal of

Doubles recently rung at Berkhamsted states that Mr. Norris has been a member of the local company for 52 years. But our friend, Mr. Conley, of St. Albans, who has only recently given up ringing, has a record of over 70 years. One important matter was brought before the committee by Mr. Horton, who reported that peals had been fixed in his district on the day of meetings, which he considered was against all principles of sport and good fellowship. The committee deprecated the action as being not conducive to the prosperity of the association, and lacking in moral support of the secretary's effort. As a solution to the difficulty I would suggest that the 'seventy times seven' injunction be put into practice by all concerned, which alone can bring happy fellowship.

DEATH OF PRESIDENT.

It is with feelings of sorrow that I have to record the death of our President, Mr. F. R. Bacon, which occurred on September 25th. The funeral service was held at St. Mary's Church, Hitchin, being conducted by the Vicar of Hitchin and the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt-Drake. The association was represented by Messrs. E. W. Day, J. F. Foster, H. Day, C. Cannon, J. Hare and R. Fidler, of the local band, who placed a bell-shaped wreath upon the grave of their comrade. One was also sent in the name of the members of the association. One regretted that other officers and members were not present; but many knew nothing of the sad event until the appearance of their ringing paper. Our late president came from Ely to Hitchin about 30 years ago, and for some time acted as secretary to the local band. His peals were few; he was essentially a Sunday service ringer, one who rang from the highest motive of praise. He succeeded the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt-Drake as secretary for the Northern Division at Easter, 1914, which duties he continued up to date of death. He was an excellent secretary, his secret of ability emanating from a mind centred on spiritual things. To our late friend we owe the starting of the quarterly service at district meetings, which was seldom omitted in his arrangements. But he had also a great love for the historical fabric, possessing a knowledge of architecture, which he wore so interestingly into the paragraphs he contributed to 'The Ringing World.' He was also a devoted member of his Parish Church, being on the Finance Committee of the Parochial Church Council. The Vicar of Hitchin, writing to me, says: 'We shall miss him so dreadfully in the parish, and I myself have lost a very old and very good friend, whom I was very fond of.' May God raise up many more such men, fearless in their allegiance to Him, and with a warm-hearted desire not only to forward the cause of change ringing, but all other good works. I have tendered personally to Mrs. Bacon our deepest sympathy.

By the death of Colonel Baker we have lost a pioneer of change ringing in Hertfordshire, and one of the few remaining original members of the association. He was a magnificent ringer, and one who has left behind the fragrance of delightful companionship, and a record of notable achievements in the belfries of Hertfordshire and beyond. The committee were desirous that he should become president, and to that end he was approached on several occasions, but each time he declined the honour, probably through stress of public duties which he considered more urgent. His life was the inspiration of the Hertford bands, and I trust that the town which possesses such an ancient history not only in change ringing, but in bell founding, will continue to furnish other men of outstanding ability to carry on the traditions of the craft.

The Secretary added satisfactory reports from each of the districts, and thanks were given to the district secretaries, to the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt-Drake, the association's representative on the Central Council, and to the librarian (Mr. T. J. Hull).

In conclusion, the Secretary said: I would remind you, and myself, of our calling, 'Workers together with Him.' Failure to realise this is causing disaster in our Church to-day. It is a great privilege, one of the greatest bestowed upon mankind, and the wonderment of all ages. Let us remember that bellringers are included in the 'workers.' True, our work is not directly spiritual; but surely it is included among the God-appointed helps that St. Paul mentions, if that service is rendered to His praise. If we get a clear insight into the meaning of the words 'Workers together with Him,' it will revolutionise our conception of service. Then there is the fellowship that exists amongst us, the beauty of which is sometimes marred because of failure to appreciate our calling. I would stress this most strongly. Difficulties, misunderstandings, jealousies creep in often unawares, and maybe you cannot keep them out. But when in, you can deal with them promptly under Divine guidance. Good fellowship is congenial and helpful, but it will lack power and initiative unless its aims and ambitions are centred upon the One 'Who is able to make all things abound.' May you, my brothers, go back to your respective belfries refreshed and cheered in your work because of our fellowship to-day, and may you ever continue to prosper in the science we all so much love.

When proposing the adoption of the annual report, the Dean of St. Albans congratulated the association upon the width and extent of its activities, and the amount of enthusiasm and keenness for working for the Church which its members displayed. It was a wonderful thing to see that organisation, spread over the whole diocese, and bringing men together in feelings of good fellowship, and a desire for real Christian service. He congratulated the association

also upon the possession of such a secretary as Mr. Cartmel, who threw himself so thoroughly into the work, and was evidently in living touch with the members in every district.

The Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt-Drake, seconding the motion, endorsed the observations of the Dean, remarking that they always listened to the hon. secretary's annual report with the intensest interest and keenness, and were grateful to Mr. Cartmel for the spirit he always imparted to it.

The report was adopted.

A PEAL OF TWELVE FOR THE CATHEDRAL?

The Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt-Drake next proposed a vote of thanks to the Dean for his sermon at the ringers' service, declaring: 'I have never heard a better address in any cathedral or any other place.' Coupled with this vote of thanks was an expression of gratitude to the Dean and the Vicars of St. Peter's, St. Michael's and St. Stephen's Churches for the use of their bells during the day. Thanks to the editor of 'The Ringing World,' added Mr. Tyrwhitt-Drake, the St. Albans meeting each Easter was one of the best known meetings held anywhere around London, and they owed a good deal of that to the cheery welcome which the ringers of the Hertfordshire Association always received in the four towers he had mentioned.

The vote was seconded by Mr. B. Jarman, and heartily accorded.

Incidentally, the Chairman observed, when putting the matter to the vote, if the bells of St. Albans Cathedral could be increased from eight to twelve, it would be a very happy day for the ringers of the county (applause). The present Dean was the third holder of the office to whom that suggestion had been made, and he hoped, as this was 'the third time of asking,' it would produce the result they desired (laughter).

In the course of his reply, the Dean said he had always found the ringers among his best helpers, both in Scotland and England, although he frankly confessed his ignorance about bellringing was abysmal—he hardly knew a Bob Major from a sergeant-major (laughter). There was a tradition, he said, that the number of strokes on the bell that an incumbent gave when being instituted indicated the number of years he would remain in the place. He had been told by the ringers that when he was instituted at St. Albans Cathedral, he only rang three—and one of those years had nearly gone. The Dean spoke in terms of admiration of the qualities of the St. Albans Cathedral Society. As soon as he saw the leader of the cathedral band, he said to himself, 'That's Goodenough' (laughter). Two things he was very proud of—one was that someone who took part in the peal rung at his institution was one of his ringers from St. Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, and the other was that he believed he was to have a whole peal rung on the anniversary of his institution (applause).

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

On the recommendation of the committee, and at the proposal of the chairman, seconded by Mr. W. H. L. Buckingham, Mr. B. Jarman was unanimously elected president of the association. Mr. E. P. Debenham was re-elected honorary treasurer, on the motion of Mr. Buckingham, seconded by Mr. W. G. Whitehead; Mr. G. W. Cartmel was re-elected honorary secretary, on the motion of the president, seconded by Mr. F. E. Smith; Mr. T. J. Hull, proposed by the president, and seconded by Mr. W. Nash, was re-elected honorary librarian; Mr. W. Mercer was re-elected honorary auditor, with thanks for past services; the Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt-Drake was re-elected representative of the association on the Central Council; and Messrs. E. W. Day, W. H. Lawrence, W. Nash, C. H. Horton and W. Ayre were re-elected as district secretaries for the Northern, Eastern, St. Albans, Watford, and Western Divisions respectively.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the caterer (Mr. C. F. Haunaford).

At the service in the choir of St. Albans Cathedral, which preceded the annual meeting, the sermon was preached by the Dean of St. Albans (the Very Rev. E. L. Henderson), who based an interesting discourse upon the word 'Remember,' from Ecclesiastes xiii. 1. This text, he said, seemed to contain a special message for ringers, because it was the message of their bells as they rang out over the countryside calling men to lift up their hearts to God; to turn away from the world that was so close to them, pressing upon them every moment, to the unseen world that lies behind. It was a message which ringers needed, for it was so easy to let their ideals of service drop down. The bellry did not bring them so closely into touch with the Church as it did other church workers, and it was so easy to get slack and get discouraged, and let the whole tone of their service drop. Let them not forget that all service counted alike with God; if it was done for Him, and for His sake. He reminded them of the solemn occasions on which they came into being in men's lives with their bells, in their call to service, on wedding days, in the passing of the old year, in national rejoicing and sorrow; and when death came the bell tolled, calling men to pray for the soul of the departed, and for the bereaved, and bidding men remember that they, too, must die. Let them think of the responsible and worthy work that God had called them to, and let them remember if the work was to be done well, if the message of their bells was to reach not merely

people's ears, but their hearts, their lives, as ringers, must be in tune with their message. They must join in the worship of the congregation, and in the life of their parish as a whole, and not be a little clique, a small select body, interested in ringing and ringing only, and in themselves. So would their work be blessed, and so would their message ring out true and sweet and strong. They would be taking their part in the preaching of the gospel of God's love for every soul.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

EASTERN DISTRICT.

The annual meeting of the Eastern District was held at Sherburn-in-Elmet on Saturday, March 27th, and was attended by upwards of some thirty members and visitors. Choral Evensong was held in church, at which the Vicar of Monk Fryston gave a very interesting address. This was followed by an excellent tea, served in the Church House.

At the business meeting the chair was occupied by the Vicar (the Rev. P. Bone, M.A.).—Mr. F. Cryer (Selby) was elected vice-president for one year, in place of Mr. A. E. West (Sutton-on-Hull), resigned.

Mr. A. B. Cook was re-elected hon. secretary, Messrs. G. T. Miller (Hull) and R. B. Smith (Howden) were re-elected as committeemen, and Mr. J. H. Howell (Hull) was elected to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Cryer's election as vice-president.

The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Beverley, in June.

The Hon. Secretary proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar of Sherburn-in-Elmet for the use of the bells and for the beautiful service; also to the Vicar of Monk Fryston for his address; to the ladies for serving tea, and to the local ringers for their very excellent arrangements, and was seconded by Mr. P. J. Johnson, hon. general secretary.—Replies by the two respective Vicars brought a pleasant meeting to a close.

LADIES' GUILD.

The quarterly meeting of the Western District was held at Mangotsfield on March 13th, members attending from Bath, Bristol, Clapton, Corston and Portishead. The bells were going soon after 3 o'clock, touches of Grandsire, Stedman and Bob Major being rung. The Guild service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. F. R. H. Crews), and was followed by tea and the business meeting, at which Miss E. Smith presided.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Portishead in June, and the possibility of arranging an intermediate practice meeting was discussed, but, after various places had been suggested, the idea was finally abandoned, owing to the difficulty of securing a sufficient attendance.

The members wish to express their thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and to Mr. Jefferies for so kindly making all the necessary arrangements.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

ST. GEORGE'S-IN-THE-EAST.—On Sunday, March 28th, 720 Grandsire Doubles, in 29 mins.: G. Buffles 1, S. Kelly 2, E. Butler 3, A. Annis 4, J. Warneken 5, H. Bullwinkle 6, A. Barrett (conductor) 7, A. Ball 8. Rung with 4, 6, 8 covering, with bells half-muffled.

MIDSOMER NORTON.—On Sunday, Feb. 14th, in 44 mins., 1,260 Grandsire Triples: E. Wadman 1, W. Milbourne 2, G. Gunning 3, J. Hambleton 4, E. Chivers 5, H. Prout 6, J. T. Dyke (conductor) 7, W. Ford 8. Composed by the late A. P. Wakley. This is the 7th successive occasion on which this quarter-peal has been rung on these bells on the Sunday nearest to the anniversary of the composer's death.

LITTLE MUNDEN.—On Sunday, Feb. 7th, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor: W. H. Lawrence 1 and 2, S. Carter 3, W. Williams 4, G. H. Carter (conductor) 5, A. Woolston 6.—For evening service, 720 New London Pleasure: W. Williams 1, S. Carter (conductor) 2, A. Woolston 3, A. Phillips 4, G. H. Carter 5, W. H. Lawrence 6.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.—On Sunday, January 31st, at the Parish Church, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Cambridge Surprise Major (1,280 changes), in 45 mins.: A. Bellamy 1, C. Newman 2, A. Bigley 3, H. Chambers 4, J. King 5, J. R. Main 6, J. T. Ward 7, W. Perkins (conductor) 8. Longest touch in the method by J. King and J. R. Main.

A MOTHER OF RINGERS.

DEATH OF MRS. F. WHITE, OF APPLETON.

At Appleton, Berks, on Saturday, April 3rd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,259 changes) was rung in 46 mins.: W. Holifield 1, H. C. White 2, G. Holifield, senr., 3, C. G. White 4, F. Messenger 5, A. H. White 6, F. S. White 7, G. Holifield, junr. (conductor), 8, R. White 9, F. White 10. The bells were muffled as a last token of respect to the late Mrs. F. White, who passed away at the advanced age of 85 years, and who was laid to rest on Good Friday. Mrs. White was mother of the ringers of 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, and widow of the late Mr. F. White bell hanger, of Appleton.

EASTER DAY TOUCHES.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD.—At All Saints' Church, for matins, on Easter Day, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 52½ mins.: R. Butcher (first quarter) 1, C. Whybrow 2, A. Seabrook 3, W. Botsford 4, A. Butcher 5, J. E. Arnold (conductor) 6, J. Nicholls 7, G. Butcher 8.

ISLEWORTH.—On Easter Day, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: E. Webb 1, H. Mackman 2, A. Brookland 3, W. H. Hollver (conductor) 4, H. T. Beadle 5, H. W. Lidbetter 6, J. R. Mackman 7, H. Sheard 8.

KENSINGTON.—On Easter Day, in the evening, at St. Mary Abbot's, 1,263 Stedman Caters: H. G. Miles 1, W. E. Garrard (conductor) 2, F. V. Sinkins 3, A. Cutmore 4, J. A. Dart 5, E. G. Locke 6, J. L. Hayward 7, C. W. Roberts 8, A. F. Harris 9, S. A. Tompsett 10.

BARNES.—On Easter Day, at St. Mary's Church, for afternoon service, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: P. Stratton 1, H. Barrett 2, R. Mackrill 3, A. Cutmore 4, H. Cook 5, F. Skevington (conductor) 6, C. Hunt 7, J. Willmott 8. For evening service, 720 Spliced Oxford Bob and Plain Bob: J. Willmott 1, H. Barrett 2, H. Cook 3, R. Mackrill 4, C. Hunt 5, F. Skevington (conductor) 6.

TOTTENHAM (All Hallows').—On Easter Day, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: S. W. Crabb 1, W. Dickinson 2, W. P. Roe 3, H. Ellis 4, E. A. Hull 5, H. W. H. Strickland 6, C. A. Button (conductor) 7, W. Patmore 8.

FRINDSBURY.—On Easter Day, at All Saints' Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 44 mins.: R. Paine 1, S. Jarrett 2, C. Winsor 3, W. Evans 4, W. Stockley 5, W. S. Beaumont (conductor) 6, E. A. G. Allen 7, T. Beaumont 8.

ROTHERHAM.—On Easter Day, for evening service at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes), in 52 mins.: S. Briggs (conductor) 1, C. Poulteney 2, A. Stamp 3, J. W. J. Cottam 4, A. Firth 5, L. Littlewood 6, C. Ryder 7, G. Oakes 8.

LITTLE MUNDEEN.—On Easter Day, for early service, 720 Duke of York Treble Bob, G. H. Carter conductor.—For morning service, 720 Woodbine, A. Woolston conductor.—For evening service, 720 Kent Treble Bob, S. Carter conductor. W. Williams, S. Carter, A. Phillips, A. Woolston, S. Head, G. H. Carter and W. H. Lawrence took part.

LONDON.—On Easter Day, at St. Mary Abbot's, Kensington, for evensong, 1,263 Stedman Caters: H. G. Miles 1, W. E. Garrard (conductor) 2, F. V. H. Sinkins 3, A. Cutmore 4, J. A. Dart 5, E. G. Locke 6, J. L. Hayward (longest length of Caters) 7, C. W. Roberts 8, A. F. Harris 9, S. R. Tompsett 10. Rung in honour of the Easter festival.

CHICHESTER.—On Easter Day, for morning service, at the Cathedral, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 48 mins.: A. G. Rowe 1, W. Falconer 2, G. Marshall 3, J. H. Blake 4, J. Arthur (Maidstone) 5, W. E. Ticehurst (conductor) 6, M. R. Heffer 7, H. J. Tucker 8.

PORTSMOUTH.—On Easter Day, for evening service, at St. Thomas-a-Beckett Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 52 mins.: E. Martin 1, F. Burnett 2, Mrs. F. A. Burnett 3, P. Giles 4, H. J. Tucker (conductor) 5, W. E. Ticehurst 6, J. H. Blake 7, P. Cook 8.

HORNSEY.—On Easter Day, for morning service, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes), in 45 mins.: G. W. Blee 1, J. G. Nash 2, E. G. Hibble 3, C. H. Ross (conductor) 4, R. Lister 5, H. Blee 6. Also, after evensong, 720 Bob Minor, in 25 mins.: G. W. Blee 1, E. G. Hibble 2, H. Blee 3, A. Howell 4, J. G. Nash 5, C. H. Ross (conductor) 6. R. Lister's appearance in the belfry, after an absence of over two years, was greatly welcomed by the remainder of the band.

DEPTFORD, KENT.—At the Church of St. John-the-Evangelist, on Easter Day, for 7 a.m. Holy Communion, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: E. W. Pannett 1, E. J. Pannett 2, T. A. Easterby 3, E. A. Fosdike 4, A. Bradley 5, H. J. Norgate 6, W. J. Jeffries (conductor) 7, A. F. Bennington 8. Another quarter, for matins: E. W. Pannett 1, T. A. Easterby 2, E. J. Pannett 3, H. J. Norgate 4, W. J. Jeffries 5, R. A. Fosdike 6, E. B. Crowder (conductor) 7, A. F. Bennington. Another quarter, for evensong: E. W. Pannett 1, E. J. Pannett 2, T. A. Easterby 3, R. A. Fosdike 4, E. B. Crowder 5, W. J. Jeffries 6, A. Bradley (conductor) 7, A. F. Bennington 8. All the above are members of the St. John's Society, and are regular Sunday Service ringers.

GREAT BARDFIELD.—On Easter Day, for morning service, 720 changes Woodbine Treble Bob Minor: A. Piper 1, G. Hills 2, W. Piper 3, F. Suckling 4, E. Townsend 5, J. Jennings (conductor) 6.—For evening service, 720 Spliced Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Minor: G. Hills 1, A. Piper 2, W. Piper 3, F. Suckling 4, E. Townsend 5, J. Jennings (conductor) 6.

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 8d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with a minimum charge of 1/6.

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

'The Ringing World' can be sent direct by post from the Editorial Office for 4/- per quarter.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—(Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus', on the 15th and 29th; * St. Paul's Cathedral on the 20th; Southwark Cathedral on the 27th, all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards. — William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 'Frodingham,' 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general committee meeting will be held in the Chapter House, Christchurch, Oxford, on Saturday, April 10th, at 3.15 p.m.—Richard T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The 29th annual general meeting will be held at Fulham on Saturday, April 10th. Service at 4.30, preacher, Rev. J. H. Newsam-Taylor, Rector of Acton. Tea in the Church Hall at 5 p.m. at 1s. each. Ringing at Fulham 2.30 to 4.30 and 6.30 to 8.30, Putney 3 to 4.15, Hammersmith 7 to 9 p.m.—C. T. Coles, 49, Wood Street, E.17, W. H. Hollier, 29, Duke Road, W.4, Hon. Secs.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Basingstoke District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Oakley on Saturday, April 10th. Tower open at 2.30. Service at 4 p.m. Tea at 4.30.—Charles D. P. Davies, Hon. Dis. Sec., Deane Rectory, Basingstoke.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Walton, on April 10th. Bells ready at 4. Service at 5.30. Meeting at 6.—Walter Hughes, 3, Shrewsbury Place, Garston.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston and Wigan Branches.—A joint meeting will be held at Wigan Parish Church, on Saturday, April 10th. Bells available from 3 o'clock.—Fred Rigby, 8, Carrington Road, Chorley, and James W. Grounds, 8, School Lane, Standish, Secs.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A meeting will be held at Welton (two miles from Daventry) on Saturday, April 10th. Usual arrangements.—W. C. Moore, Branch Sec., Braunston Road, Daventry.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The first quarterly meeting of this district will be held at Barwell on Saturday, April 10th. Bells (8) available from 3.30 p.m. Business meeting to follow. 1925 reports will be available at this meeting. All ringers invited.—W. Cope, Wigston Parva, Hinckley.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Meeting of the Eastern District at Durham on Saturday, April 10th. St. Oswald's (recently rehung) and St. Nicholas' bells after 2.30. Cathedral bells after 3 o'clock service. Tea at Pattinson's Café, Old Elvet, at 5. Members attending please advise Mr. W. H. Johnson, 4, Church Lane, Durham, before April 7th.—G. S. Taylor, Dis. Sec.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch. —A Quarterly meeting will be held at Bradford-on-Avon (Christ Church), on Saturday, April 10th. Bells (8) ready at 3 p.m. Service 4.40. Tea 5. Business meeting follows tea. Holy Trinity bells (8) also available afternoon and evening.—F. Green, Branch Sec., 53, Avon Rd., Devizes.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch. —A meeting will be held at Whitworth, on Saturday, April 10th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—William Horan, Branch Sec., 2, Greenhirst Hey, Todmorden.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—The next meeting will be held at Tempsford, on Saturday, April 10th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. A good company is requested.—C. J. Ball, Dist. Sec., 2, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

BARNESLEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. — A meeting will be held at South Kirby on Saturday, April 10th. Bells ready 2 p.m. Parties requiring tea must send their names to Mr. A. R. Harrison, 74, Mill Lane, South Kirby, Pontefract. A very hearty welcome is extended to all ringers.—C. D. Potter, Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Frome and Midsomer Norton Deanery Branch. — The next quarterly meeting will be held at West Cranmore, Shepton Mallet, on Saturday, April 10th. Divine service 4 p.m. Tea and business at 5 p.m. Bells available at 2.30 p.m. Douling and Shepton Mallet bells also available. Members requiring tea please notify the secretary.—I. B. Holmyard, Hon. Sec., 83, Radstock Road, Midsomer Norton.

DEVON GUILD.—Special general meeting to be held in Exeter on Saturday, April 17th. Dedication of peal tablets in Cathedral belfry 2.15 p.m., doors closed 2.10 p.m. Meeting at Trade Hall, 8, Northernhay Place, 5 p.m. Tea, 1s. each, to those applying before April 13th. Ringing at Cathedral and other Exeter towers. — T. Laver, Gen. Sec., 21, Cross Park, Heavitree, Exeter.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch. —The next meeting will be held at St. George's, Mossley, on Saturday, April 17th, as this is the most convenient date. Bells ready 3.30. Meeting at 7 o'clock, presided over by the Vicar. Trains from Manchester Exchange 1.52, 3.15, 4.10 p.m. Excursion fare 1/3 return. Will members make a special effort to be present?—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver St., Miles Platting, Manchester.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Epping, St. John's (8 bells), on Saturday, April 17th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service 4.45 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. A good attendance is requested.—E. Butler, Dis. Sec., 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. —The next branch meeting will be held at Pudimham on Saturday, April 17th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. A good attendance is requested.—J. Watson, Hon. Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting of the Central Division will be held at Cuckfield on Saturday, April 17th. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 (1s. per head). Business meeting to follow. Half rail fare (maximum 1s.). Those who intend to be present to tea please notify the undersigned not later than Wednesday, April 14th. — A. D. Stone, 16, Belgrave Street, Brighton.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—The annual district meeting will be held at All Saints', Maidstone, on Saturday, April 17th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Divine service at 5 p.m. Tea at Palace Tea Rooms after service, to be followed by business meeting. Will all those intending to be present kindly let me know not later than Wednesday, April 14th? —C. H. Sone, Hon. Dis. Sec., Bungalow, Linton, Maidstone.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION. — Swindon Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Brinkworth on Saturday, April 17th. Bells available at 3 p.m.—S. Hopper, Hon. Sec., 2, Florence Street, Swindon.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Stafford on Saturday, April 17th. Bells available from 3. Service in church, with address by the Rev. I. O. Johnson, at 4.45. Tea (1s.) at 5.30. Please send word by April 13th.—H. Knight, Hon. Sec., 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

COALBROOKDALE BELLS.—The Lord Bishop of Hereford will (n.v.) dedicate the two new trebles at the official opening on Saturday afternoon, April 17th. All ringers will be most welcome, and special arrangements will be made for all ringers to have a pull. Complete bands, from Plain to Surprise methods, will be given every opportunity, so that the bells may be heard at their best during the afternoon and evening. There is exceptionally good train service from Shrewsbury and Wellington. Train leaves Coalbrookdale 8.15 Saturday evening. Midland bus runs to and from Wellington Saturday nights from Coalbrookdale 6.5, 8.45 and 10.55. Sunday service, from Wellington 11 a.m., 3 p.m., 5 p.m., 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. From Coalbrookdale, 12.45, 4.25, 6.25, 8.25 and 9.47 p.m. All the above connect at Wellington for Shrewsbury. Lodgings can be booked at Coalbrookdale if arrangements are made in good time. G.W. trains leave Coalbrookdale for Wellington on week days 6.20, 7.20 and 9 a.m.—All ringers who propose visiting Coalbrookdale should write to William Saunders, Institution House, Coalbrookdale, Salop.

SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS, NOTTINGHAM (Established 1872). — A meeting will be held at Cotgrave on Saturday, April 17th. Tea will be provided for those who advise Mr. W. E. White by Thursday, April 15th, at 1s. each. All ringers welcome.—F. Blood, Hon. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Mells on Saturday, April 17th. Evensong 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. It is particularly requested that ringers intending to be present should notify me, as the tea is to be given by the Rector of Mells.—J. T. Dyke, Hon. Sec., Chilcompton, Bath.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kettering Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Isham (6) on Saturday, April 17th. Usual arrangements. Will those requiring tea please notify me not later than Tuesday, April 13th?—R. G. Black, Branch Sec., Geddington.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Merthyr Tydfil on Saturday, April 17th. Bells (8) available. Service at 4.45. Tea and business meeting to follow. The new certificate will be on view.—John W. Jones, Hon. Sec., 29, Barrack Hill, Newport, Mon.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Ordsall, Retford (five minutes' walk from L.N.E. Station), on Saturday, April 17th. Bells (6) available from 2 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. Visitors welcome. Tea will be provided at 5 p.m. in the Parish Hall for those who notify the Rev. R. F. Wilkinson, Ordsall Rectory, Retford, not later than April 13th.—H. Haigh, Hon. Sec., 103, Gateford Road, Worksop.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at St. Martin's, Stamford, on Saturday, April 17th. The bells of All Saints' will be available for one hour during the afternoon. Will members wishing to attend please make their own arrangements for tea, as there are several restaurants?—W. H. Waldron, Hon. Sec., 137, Scotney Street, Peterborough.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The annual meeting of the above Guild will be held at Warwick on Saturday, April 17th. A short service will take place at St. Mary's at 4.30, followed by tea at the Dale Temperance Hotel and general meeting. The following towers will be available for ringing during afternoon and evening: St. Mary's, Warwick (10), St. Nicholas' (8), All Saints', Emscote (8).—J. A. Fenton, Gen. Hon. Sec., 42, Bennett Street, Rugby.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North Essex Division. — A meeting will be held at Great Tey on Saturday, April 17th. Eight bells. A short service will be held at 4.30 p.m. and tea at 5 p.m., 1s. each. Will all those intending to be present at tea please let me know by Tuesday morning, April 13th, as only a limited number can be seated?—R. W. Stannard, Hon. Sec., 12, Ireton Road, Colchester.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Braughing on April 17th, when the bells will be available during the afternoon and evening. Tea at the Brown Bear at 5.15. Business after. All members and ringing friends will be made welcome. — W. H. Lawrence, Dis. Sec., Little Munden.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton Branch.—District meeting at Overseal, April 17th (not April 24th, as previously decided). Requests for tea—1/- per head—to be sent to Mr. J. Cotton, 50, Gresley Wood Road, Church Gresley, Burton-on-Trent, as soon as possible. All ringers welcome.—R. H. Dove, Hon. Sec., 128, Station Street, Burton-on-Trent.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Bushey, Saturday, April 17th. Bells open 3.30. Tea (1/3 each) 5.30, business meeting after. Oxhey Church open during the evening. Cheap trains from Euston and Broad Street.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A district meeting will be held at Witley, on Saturday, April 17th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea and short business meeting after.—E. Raddon, Hon. Dist. Sec., Hillcrest, 15, Baillie Road, Guildford.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—The Bells of St. Mary's, Dunmow, will be dedicated by the Bishop of Colchester on Sunday, April 18th, at 3 p.m. All ringers are cordially invited to attend, and ringing will continue after the service for the respective companies. Will those intending to be present please let me know so as to arrange for light refreshments, also seats in church?—H. W. Smith, 11, The Causeway, Dunmow.

DEVON GUILD.—N.E. Branch.—Quarterly meeting will be held at Silverton on Saturday, April 24th. Bells available at 2.30. Service 4.45. Tea at 5.15, 1s. each. Those requiring tea please notify me by Tuesday, April 20th.—M. Hanson, Hon. Sec., 2, The Avenue, Tiverton, Devon.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Cliffe-at-Hoo on Saturday, April 24th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Association service in church at 5, conducted by the Rector of Cliffe (the Rev. A. T. Wallis). Tea will be provided, at a charge, at the 'Six Bells' to those who notify me on or before first post Wednesday, April 21st. Half rail fares up to 2s. will be paid to members attending.—Fred M. Mitchell, Dis. Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend, Kent.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Lincoln on Saturday, April 24th. Evensong in the Ringers' Chapel at the Cathedral at 3.30, with an address by the Very Rev. the Dean of Lincoln (President of the Guild). A collection will be made on behalf of the Cathedral Bells Memorial Fund. Ringing at St. Peter-at-Gowt's (6) at St. Botolph's (6) from 2.30 to 3, and from 7 to 9. Washingborough bells (8) will also be available in the evening from 6 to 9. Tea at the Co-operative Hall, Silver Street, at 4.15, at 1s. 9d. per head. Members requiring tea must send their names to their branch secretary on or before Tuesday, April 20th. Visitors to advise Mr. G. Chester, 16, Carline Road, Lincoln.—F. W. Stokes, Hon. Sec., Blankney, Lincoln.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Poulton, on Saturday, April 24th (postponed from 17th). Bells ready 2.30, business meeting 6 p.m.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec., 320, N. Promenade, Blackpool.

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HEMEL HEMPSTEAD, HERTS.—On Saturday, February 20th, in 47 mins. a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes): *Owen Bayes 1, *W. Hughes 2, A. V. Goode 3, *F. J. Reeves 4, H. Golding 5, W. Shepherd 6, Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt-Drake 7, Walter Ayre (conductor) 8. Rang after meeting too late to start for a peal. * First quarter of Bob Major. The ringer of the 2nd had only rung a course previously.

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