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FRIDAY, APRIL 15th, 1927.

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### NORFOLK GUILD'S JUBILEE.

There is an imposing list of Association and Guild Meetings next Monday, as is usual at Eastertide, and the most interesting one will be that at Norwich, where the Norfolk Guild celebrates its Jubilee. The Norfolk Guild is fourth in seniority of the modern county and diocesan organisations and it follows Devon, Lancashire and Yorkshire in the completion of fifty years of work in the cause of bell-ringing. It began its history as the Norwich Diocesan Association at a time when the diocese covered the biggest part of two counties, and in the course of its long career it can claim to have done some splendid work for the art in East Anglia. As in the days of old—the history of change ringing in Norwich goes back well over two hundred years—when the city could frequently claim some of the most able men in the Exercise, so the modern association has been able to boast of some of the most competent ringers of their day and generation. It has possessed among its members those who have made ringing history; whose names will remain as landmarks, if the metaphor may be permitted, as long as the Exercise lasts.

The association can pride itself upon having to its credit more peals than any other similar organisation. If there be some who look upon a record of this kind as a doubtful matter for congratulation because they deprecate peals as being, for the most part, rung for selfish ends, let it be remembered that, before peal-ringing can be brought to the pitch which it one time attained in the diocese of Norwich, when peal ringers could be numbered by the hundred and the peals were distributed over a large number of towers, patience and painstaking spade work must have been done and done very widely and thoroughly by a large number of men; success in this direction has not been achieved in selfish accomplishment, it was the outcome of enthusiasm and hard work in spreading the art.

The jubilee of the Norfolk Guild comes at a time when it cannot be said to have fully recovered from the severance of territory which followed the creation of the diocese of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich and the new Guild which was set up as a consequence. The 'pruning' that thus took place might have been expected to add vigour to the old stem, but this has not shown itself in any marked degree. Perhaps this jubilee celebration will arouse a new enthusiasm in the rank and file and lead them to put fresh energy into the cause of ringing in the county. There have been indications of a lack of interest in the work of the Guild—an unfailing sign of lack of interest, also.

(Continued on page 226.)

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in ringing itself—and the present is a time when a new call may well be made for a more general revival throughout the diocese. There are great traditions behind the organisation and the example of many great men who have made a name in the Exercise. A notable event like that which occurs this year should be a spur to renewed effort on the part of those who are to-day the inheritors of an association which has always been one of the foremost in the country.

### TEN BELL PEALS.

MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, April 2, 1927, in Three Hours and Forty-One Minutes.*

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE VIRGIN MARY,  
SS. GEORGE AND DENIS,

**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor 27 cwt. 3 qr. 26 lb. in D flat.

ALFRED BARNES ... .. Treble	FRANCIS BIBBY ... .. 6
WILLIAM BIBBY ... .. 2	TITUS BARLOW ... .. 7
EDWARD JENKINS ... .. 3	HARRY CHAPMAN ... .. 8
JOHN E. BIBBY ... .. 4	FRED PAGE ... .. 9
THOMAS B. WORSLEY ... .. 5	ALLAN F. BAILEY ... .. Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY.

Conducted by E. JENKINS.

First peal of Surprise Royal by all the band, except ringers of 3rd and 8th. First peal of Royal on the new bells, and first peal of Surprise in the city of Manchester.

SOUTHOVER, LEWES, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, April 9, 1927, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes.*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;**

Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.

GEORGE PIPER ... .. Treble	*ALBERT HODDEN ... .. 6
*ROBERT W. E. DAWE ... .. 2	FRANK BENNETT ... .. 7
MRS. F. J. HAIRS ... .. 3	ALFRED J. TURNER ... .. 8
HAROLD S. HODDEN ... .. 4	ROBERT J. DAWE ... .. 9
EDWARD C. MERRITT ... .. 5	JAMES HART ... .. Tenor

Composed by ERNEST MORRIS.

Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

\* First peal on ten bells.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

*On Saturday, April 9, 1927, in Three Hours and Two Minutes.*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTON, STEPNEY,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;**

Tenor 31 cwt.

CHALLIS F. WINNEY ... Treble	EDWIN F. PIKE ... .. 6
FREDERICK G. SYMONDS ... 2	MAJOR J. H. B. HESSE ... 7
WILSON RUSHION ... .. 3	THOMAS LANGDON ... .. 8
HERBERT LANGDON ... .. 4	JAMES BULLOCK ... .. 9
WILLIAM S. LANGDON ... 5	JOSEPH S. HAWKINS ... .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by H. LANGDON.

HORNSEY.—At St. Mary's Church, on Monday, April 4th, 720 changes of Boh Minor in 28 mins.: A. Underwood 1, R. Newman 2, H. Blee 3, E. G. Hibble 4, R. Lister 5, C. H. Ross (conductor) 6. A birthday compliment to the ringer of 2nd.

WALTHAMSTOW.—At St. Mary's Church, on Saturday, March 26th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 48 mins.: L. R. Welsh (longest length and aged 14) 1, J. H. Wilkins 2, R. Maynard, jun., 3, J. C. Adams 4, H. Rumens (conductor) 5, R. Maynard, sen., 6, F. C. Maynard 7, W. Morley 8. Rung, by request, on the anniversary of the birthday of the late Mr. Henry Turner.

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**EIGHT BELL PEALS.**

BROMLEY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, April 5, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

THORSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

ROBERT BRETT SMITH ... Treble	PERCY J. SPICE ... 5
WALTER SMITH ... 2	GEORGE HUXLEY ... 6
WILLIAM J. RAWLINGS ... 3	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. 7
ISAAC EMERY ... 4	ALFRED JAMES ... Tenor

Conducted by THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, SEN.

Rung with clappers half-muffled as a last token of respect to the late Mr. G. Durling.

LONG MELFORD.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, April 9, 1927, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At the Church of the Holy Trinity,

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

GRANVILLE C. BIXBY ... Treble	ARTHUR MAXIM ... 5
SAMUEL EVANS ... 2	THOMAS CHINERY ... 6
PERCY GRIDLEY ... 3	CHARLES G. BIXBY ... 7
ERNEST AMBROSE ... 4	ALBERT CATTERWELL ... Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by GRANVILLE C. BIXBY

Rung on the occasion of the birth of a son to the conductor. Also as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the seventh. First peal in the method as conductor.

HADLOW, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 9, 1927, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

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

Tenor 15 cwt. in A flat.

*GEORGE POUND ... Treble	JOHN WHEADON ... 5
CHARLES H. SONE ... 2	THOMAS E. SONE ... 6
†BERT LUCK ... 3	†ARTHUR H. SMITH ... 7
GEORGE FULLER ... 4	LEWIS NEWMAN ... Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.

\* First peal of Treble Bob. † First peal on eight. Ringers of 3rd, 4th and 7th hail from St. Mary's, Lamberhurst.

ASHTED, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 9, 1927, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Giles,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;**

Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

ARTHUR C. OTWAY ... Treble	GEORGE MARRINER ... 5
MRS. C. HAZELDEN ... 2	JOHN HOYLE ... 6
JOHN BEAMS ... 3	CHARLES HAZELDEN ... 7
ALFRED H. WINCH ... 4	ALBERT HARMAN ... Tenor

Composed by F. ROBINSON. Conducted by A. H. WINCH.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, April 9, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Margaret,

**A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**

Tenor 20½ cwt. in E.

REGINALD C. KERSEY ... Treble	CHARLES F. BAILEY ... 5
ALFRED KEEBLE ... 2	ERNEST S. BAILEY ... 6
JAMES M. BAILEY ... 3	GEORGE WILSON ... 7
JAMES G. ROMSEY ... 4	FREDERICK J. SMITH ... Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by CHAS. F. BAILEY.

PULFORD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 9, 1927, in Three Hours,

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

**A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 10 lb.

ROBERT SPERRING ... Treble	*HAROLD EDWARDS ... 5
GEORGE R. JONES ... 2	JAMES SWINDLEY ... 6
HARRY F. HOLDING ... 3	SAMUEL JONES, JUN. ... 7
ALBERT J. HUGHES ... 4	JAMES H. RIDING ... Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by ROBERT SPERRING

\* First peal in the method.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 9, 1927, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,

**A PEAL OF NORFOLK SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;**

Tenor 13½ cwt.

*ALFRED J. BULL ... Treble	†JOHN A. COLE ... 5
*GEORGE ELLIS ... 2	*WILLIAM T. BEESON ... 6
†WILLIAM J. ROBINSON ... 3	*CLARENCE H. DOBBIE ... 7
*OLIVER SIPPETTS ... 4	ALFRED H. PULLING ... Tenor

Composed by H. JOHNSON.

Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

\* First touch in the method. † First peal in the method.

PORT SUNLIGHT, CHESHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 9, 1927, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

At Christ Church,

**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;**

Tenor 15 cwt.

ARTHUR LINTOTT ... Treble	JOHN WILKINSON ... 5
THOMAS HAMMOND ... 2	*CLAUDE I. DAVIES ... 6
THOMAS W. GILMOUR ... 3	HERBERT LUCKIN ... 7
GEORGE R. NEWTON ... 4	EDWARD CAUNCE ... Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by GEORGE R. NEWTON.

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

TURVEY, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 9, 1927, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

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

Tenor 19 cwt.

HENRY W. GAYTON ... Treble	HERBERT J. HARLOW ... 5
AMOS SMARY ... 2	WILLIAM SHARP ... 6
PEARL INSKIP ... 3	HERBERT L. HARLOW ... 7
WILLIAM STOCK ... 4	HENRY STAPLETON ... Tenor

Composed by the late JOHN W. BARKER.

Conducted by HENRY W. GAYTON.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 9, 1927, in Two Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,

At the Bell Foundry Campanile,

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

Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in B.

*J. KELHAM DEACON ... Treble	†HARRY MORGAN ... 5
EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD ... 2	JAMES S. HUTCHBY ... 6
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... 3	J. FREDERICK MILNER ... 7
†PERCIVAL A. ALDHAM ... 4	JAMES GEORGE ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

\* First peal in the method. † First peal in the method on an inside bell. Treble ringer from Earl Shilton, 2nd, 3rd and 5th from Leicester, 4th from Hinckley, 6th local, 7th from Southwell, tenor from Birmingham.

STALYBRIDGE, CHESHIRE.

THE ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

On Saturday, April 9, 1927, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

At the Church of the Holy Trinity,

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

JOSEPH MILLOR ... Treble	WILLIAM BRAMMER ... 5
JAMES CARTER ... 2	FRED ALTHORP ... 6
HARRY HEAP ... 3	ALBERT ADAMS ... 7
ALBERT GORRINGE ... 4	BENJAMIN THORP ... Tenor

Composed by SAMUEL WOOD. Conducted by BENJAMIN THORP.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Samuel Wood, who attained the age of 70 years on April 7th last. Mr. Wood, who is the well-known conductor of the Ashton Parish Church ringers, has to his credit over 50 years' service in ringing. This was Mr. William Brammer's 50th peal.

CHERTSEY, SURREY.—For confirmation service, on Thursday, April 7th, a quarter-peal of Grandshire Triples in 46 mins.: H. J. Chaffey 1, G. Warrington 2, Mrs. J. Crocker 3, Miss Nell Stevens 4, H. R. Stevens 5, J. B. Hessey 6, S. G. Armstrong (conductor) 7, J. Crocker 8. Also rung as a birthday compliment to Messrs. G. Warrington and H. R. Stevens.

## BORDON, KENT.

## THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 9, 1927, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul.

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 22 cwt. in E flat.

LAURENCE HALES ... .. Treble	FRED A. FAIRBEARD ... .. 5
THOMAS BRAUMONT ... .. 2	WILLIAM S. WALKER ... .. 6
SAM TAYLOR ... .. 3	ERNEST J. DOBBIE ... .. 7
WILLIAM SPICE ... .. 4	GEORGE GILBERT ... .. Tenor

Composed by F. E. W. MEADOWS. Conducted by GEO. GILBERT.

Rung on the 10th anniversary of the conductor's wedding.

## SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

KINGSLEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

## THE NORTH STAFFORD AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, March 6, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Werburgh,

## A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Violet, Woodbine, Kent, and two 720's each of Duke of York and Oxford. Tenor 12 cwt.

FRANK EDWARDS ... .. Treble	WILLIAM CARNWELL ... .. 4
JOSEPH BERESFORD ... .. 2	JOHN MORRISON ... .. 5
HENRY CARNWELL ... .. 3	EDWARD EDWARDS ... .. Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH BERESFORD.

This peal was arranged for J. Moreton, who has been away from the tower for about 15 years.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, April 7, 1927, in Two Hours and Nine Minutes,

At the Bell Foundry Campanile,

## A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different 720's. Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in B.

ERNEST MORRIS ... .. Treble	J. CHARLES DICKEN ... .. 4
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... .. 2	* ERNEST F. PAYNE ... .. 5
JAMES S. HUTCHBY ... .. 3	JAMES GEORGE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

\* First peal of Minor. Rung after meeting short for Stedman.

BARKBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 9, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

* T. HARRY LEWIN ... .. Treble	THOMAS H. PAYNE ... .. 3
† JOHN A. PAYNE ... .. 2	ERNEST F. PAYNE ... .. 4
ERNEST MORRIS ... .. 3	ERNEST MORRIS ... .. Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

\* First peal on five. † First peal 'inside.' A birthday compliment to Mrs. Payne, mother of the above brothers. First peal or these bells, an arduous task, but 'Labor omnia vincit.'

SOUTH WEALD, ESSEX.

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 9, 1927, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Peter,

## A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's. Tenor 15 cwt.

WILLIAM H. POOLE ... .. Treble	HARRY TURNER ... .. 4
* ROBERT HEAZEL ... .. 2	ERNEST FURBANK ... .. 5
JACK C. FURLONG ... .. 3	WILLIAM D. LEGGATT ... .. Tenor

Conducted by HARRY TURNER.

\* First peal of Minor.

## HANDBELL PEALS.

STOCKPORT.

## THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, April 5, 1927, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

At 81, BRECH ROAD,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

WILLIAM JACKSON ... .. 1-2	MORRIS J. MORRIS ... .. 5-6
HAROLD JACKSON ... .. 3-4	EDWARD A. JACKSON ... .. 7-8

Conducted by MORRIS J. MORRIS.

## NORTHAMPTON.

## THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHAMPTON BRANCH.)

On Sunday, April 3, 1927, in Two Hours and Eight Minutes.

In the Belfry of the Church of St. Edmund,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of 42 six-scores, with ten callings.

\* ERNEST SIBLEY ... .. 1-2 | TOM TEBBUTT ... .. 3-4

\* JAMES MARR ... .. 5-6

Conducted by TOM TEBBUTT.

Umpire: HORACE GOODMAN.

\* First peal on handbells. First peal on handbells as conductor.

BRADFORD, YORKS.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, April 5, 1927, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

At 130, HARROGATE STREET,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 6057 CHANGES;

Mrs. J. COTTERELL ... .. 1-2 | PERCY J. JOHNSON ... .. 5-6

WILLIAM BARTON ... .. 3-4 | JAMES COTTERELL ... .. 7-8

JOHN AMBLER ... .. 9-10

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by PERCY J. JOHNSON

First handbell peal of Grandsire Caters by the ringer of 1-2, also first handbell peal of Caters in the city.

## SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

BARKING, ESSEX.—On Sunday, April 10th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes) was rung in 47 mins.: T. Faulkner 1, R. Fenn 2, F. Russell 3, F. C. Newman 4, W. Theobald 5, G. W. Faulkner 6, C. Fenn 7, H. Wagstaff 8.

STREATHAM.—On Sunday, April 10th, at the Church of St. Leonard, for evensong, 1,260 Stedman Triples; Miss E. E. Hardcastle 1, Miss H. F. Mills 2, A. N. Hardy 3, J. Lee 4, J. W. Chapman 5, J. L. Watkins 6, C. W. Roberts (conductor) 7, W. E. G. Hewson 8.

BROOKFIELD, GORTON.—On Sunday, April 3rd, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,312 changes) in 53 mins.: J. Mellor 1, J. Carter 2, A. Gorrings 3, S. Marshall 4, C. Hollier 5, F. Althorp 6, W. Brammer 7, B. Thorp (conductor) 8.

KENSINGTON, LONDON.—At the Church of St. Mary Abbots, on Sunday evening, March 27th, 1,260 Stedman Triples in 53 mins.: F. V. Sinkins 1, E. E. Sadler 2, A. Cutmore 3, H. G. Miles 4, O. F. Winney (conductor) 5, H. Wakelam 6, G. C. Rice 7, E. G. Garvard 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. A. Cutmore.

LONDON.—At St. Andrew's Church, Holborn, on Sunday, March 27th, for morning service, a quarter-peal (1,260 changes) of Grandsire Triples in 49 mins.: H. Franks (composer and conductor) 1, E. Brett 2, G. Iles 3, R. Green 4, L. Gray 5, A. Darnell 6, F. Crook 7, A. Viller 8.—Also on April 3rd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,280 changes) in 47 mins.: E. C. Russell 1, C. J. Choo 2, W. J. Norton 3, J. S. Hawkins 4, L. Gray 5, R. Green 6, A. C. Darnell 7, E. Brett (composer and conductor) 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to R. Green.

SANDIACRE, DERBYSHIRE.—At St. Giles' Church, on Sunday, March 27th, for evening service, 720 of York Surprise: W. Thornley 1, W. R. Drage 2, J. Hall 3, A. Freeman 4, R. H. Cox (conductor) 5, H. Turner 6.

BAGSHOT, SURREY.—At St. Anne's Church, on Sunday, March 27th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins.: Miss M. Wood 1, Miss M. Nye 2, Mr. Burley 3, H. Hunt 4, F. Nye 5, J. Hessey 6, S. Armstrong 7, H. Gould 8. Rung for Confirmation service, which was held at St. Anne's by the Lord Bishop of Winchester.

WESTMINSTER.—On Sunday, March 27th, for evensong, 1,263 Stedman Caters in 45 mins.: Mrs. R. F. Deal 1, Mrs. F. I. Hairs 2, Miss E. Chapman 3, J. E. Davis 4, W. H. Hewett 5, W. J. Nudds 6, W. R. Grimwood 7, F. I. Hairs 8, R. Sanders 9, A. W. Coles (conductor) 10.

BARTON-ON-HUMBER.—At St. Peter's Church, on Sunday, March 27th, after evening service and Confirmation, a quarter-peal of Bob Major in 42 mins.: Sam Wood 1, Miss L. M. Mobbs 2, J. Bray 3, Mrs. J. Bray 4, H. Easto 5, G. Hobbins 6, M. Walker 7, A. H. Hoodless 8. Longest length in the method by Mrs. Bray.

SHIPLEY, YORKS.—On Sunday, March 20th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes): F. Seager 1, H. Haigh 2, T. A. King 3, F. H. Simpson 4, Mrs. Seager 5, H. Stott 6, T. B. Kendall (conductor) 7, A. Trotter 8. First in the method for ringers of 2nd, 3rd and 5th. Also first by an all-Shipley company.

DERBY.—At St. Andrew's Church, on Sunday, March 20th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1,268 changes): J. Sharman 1, E. H. Clarke 2, A. H. Ward (conductor) 3, H. Inckle 4, C. Draper 5, S. Maskrey 6, W. Wallace 7, C. E. Hart 8, A. Braunes 9, A. G. F. Ward 10. First quarter-peal by the ringers of the treble and tenor. Rung as a birthday compliment to S. Maskrey.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS.—On Sunday morning, March 13th, for service at St. Peter's Church, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Court Bob: Alec Richardson 1, Frank Ballard 2, W. Laiter 3, W. Collison 4, Donald Findlay 5, H. Markwell 6, S. H. Green (conductor) 7, F. White 8. Mr. Ballard's first quarter-peal in the method and first attempt.



## A LECTURE TO ENGINEERS.

## MR. ALBERT WALKER TALKS ON BELLS AND BELL RINGING

An interesting evening was spent by members of the Birmingham Association of Mechanical Engineers at the Grand Hotel, Birmingham, on Friday week, when Mr. Albert Walker (Deputy Ringing Master of St. Martin's Guild), who is a member of the Council of the association, gave a lecture on Campanology, in which he dealt with the casting, tuning, hanging and ringing of church bells and carillons. There was a large attendance presided over by Mr. John Fearn, M.I.Mech.E.

Mr. Walker sketched the history of the development of bells, and, dealing with the metal of which bells are made, said copper and tin are used in the proportions approximately of 16 oz. of copper to 4½ oz. of tin, this alloy having been proved to be of the very best for the production of good tone. The note of the bell, he pointed out, is governed by diameter of the bell at its mouth and the thickness of the metal at the soundbow. The tone is governed by the shape or contour of the bell, and the thickness of the metal at various points in its height. The shape of a bell is of greater importance in the quality of tone than the quality of metal used, and a bell cast on correct lines, even if a slightly inferior metal is used, would give a very fair tone, whereas the finest quality metal with a wrong shape would produce a bad-toned bell.

A feature in bell moulding is the number of drying processes the mould undergoes. The loam is applied in five stages for average size bells and stoved after each stage. This is done to reduce the shrinkage to a minimum, as the shrinkage of the metal is calculated very closely. It would not do, as in the case of commercial castings, to allow an ample margin for machining, because the amount of tuning a bell will stand is very limited.

Mr. Walker went on to describe the methods of tuning bells, and dealt also with carillons. He also explained in detail the modern methods of hanging peals, and dealt also with the mechanical aspect of correct clapping. He briefly described change ringing and illustrated it with diagrams and demonstrations on handbells, in which he was assisted by members of St. Martin's Guild.

## HANDBELL ILLUSTRATIONS.

The lecture throughout had been illustrated with a number of slides which had been lent by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, John Taylor and Co., and Gillett and Johnston, over 40 pictures being thrown on the screen. The handbell ringing included courses of Grandsire Triples and Bob Major, and at the close of the lecture a splendid course of Stedman Cinques was rung by: P. O. Laffin 1-2, G. F. Swann 3-4, T. Miller 5-6, A. Walker 7-8, A. E. Norman 9-10, M. J. Morris 11-12. Two tunes were also afterwards rung, 'Soldier's Joy' and 'Blue Bells of Scotland,' by Messrs. H. Williams, T. Miller and H. Withers. Other ringers who were present were Alderman J. S. Pritchett and Messrs. J. Neal, W. T. Froggatt and E. Price.

The President, after stating that it was not proposed to have a discussion on the lecture, said he was sure all present would agree that they had been given a very interesting 'paper.' It was more than a lecture which Mr. Walker, with the assistance of his colleagues, had given, and after such a paper they would have a far better idea of the art of bell ringing and its intricacies than they had previously. The President had great pleasure in proposing that a hearty vote of thanks be given to Mr. Walker and the gentlemen who had assisted him for the instructive and interesting entertainment they had given.

Mr. D. G. Mackintosh, M.B.E., M.I.Struc.E., said it was always a joy to listen to an enthusiast, particularly one like Mr. Walker, who had such a good knowledge of his subject. To the majority, the lecture had been something quite new, and they would have a more profound respect than ever for campanology in the future, because they would realise that there was much more in it than the mere tugging at a rope. Personally, Mr. Mackintosh admitted that he had by no means 'got the hang' of the tables of figures shown on the screen (laughter). It had been a great pleasure to listen to the lecture and to the examples of bell ringing which had been given, and he had much pleasure in seconding the vote of thanks to Mr. Walker and his colleagues.

## ONE OF THE FINEST EXERCISES.

Upon being requested by the president to address the meeting, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, M.A., B.C.L., said it was indeed a pleasure to him as a visitor to say a few words in praise of his friend, Mr. Walker. He himself could speak with some knowledge on the subject of campanology. Mr. Walker had given an extremely lucid exposition of the subject. The paper was very well constructed, and the examples selected for the bell ringers were also well chosen. It was not easy to make intelligible to the lay mind the intricacies of changes in campanology, but Mr. Walker had gone as far as was humanly possible in that direction in his lecture. The association might be interested to know that Mr. Walker was one of the greatest bell ringers in the country. He could ring any method and for any reasonable length of time. His name was a household word amongst campanologists from Berwick-on-Tweed to Cornwall. He was the leader of the ringers at St. Martin's Church, Birmingham, where change ringing was indulged in every Sunday morning, and it was done in a manner which compelled the admiration of all who understood the subject. Mr. Pritchett added that he had not had the pleasure of listening to Mr. Walker as a lecturer before, and he was sure that everyone had been greatly interested in the paper and the bell ringing illustrations, also the pictures shown on the screen. He knew Mr. Walker as an expert can-

panologist, but he had no idea that he was so good as a lecturer. If Mr. Walker was as good in his profession as an engineer, Mr. Pritchett was sure he was an asset to the firm with which he was connected. With regard to the bell-ringing demonstrations on the handbells, Mr. Pritchett said he had listened most carefully, and he had not heard a single mistake—not even in the last illustration of 12 bells that had been given, which was really a remarkable feat. It was all done so perfectly that one could imagine it was done by some mechanism. He could assure them that it took a tremendous amount of practice to acquire the ability to do that, and they (the audience) were very fortunate in having such a capable set of ringers to give the examples. Coming to the technical side of campanology, Alderman Pritchett said it would seem that in the future a contest would be waged between the old-fashioned bell ringing and the new carillon system. There were people to-day who regarded the old method of ringing as somewhat of a nuisance, and who held the opinion that we ought to have the mechanical bells instead, but he wished to point out that the human element came in there—the human touch, so to speak. Bell ringing, such as they had listened to and as described by Mr. Walker, was not only a fine physical exercise, but it also developed the intellectual faculties. Speaking of physical strain, he could assure them that to go on for about four hours at bell ringing the physical and mental strain was very great indeed. The exercise certainly tended to longevity, and he could commend it to any young man who was desirous of keeping fit. He described it as one of the finest exercises in which they could indulge, as it brought into play not only the muscles of the arms, shoulders and chest but also many other muscles—as novices found out after giving it a trial. It was also a good mental exercise. Alderman Pritchett said it gave him much pleasure to support the vote of thanks to Mr. Walker, which had been so ably moved and seconded by the President and Mr. Mackintosh.

The President (Mr. J. Fearn) said he could assure Alderman Pritchett that Mr. Walker did occupy a position of great responsibility in business, and from personal knowledge he could say that Mr. Walker filled the position admirably and to the satisfaction of one of the largest concerns in the world.

Mr. Walker, in responding, said he regarded it as the most difficult of the evening's proceedings (laughter). He thanked Mr. Fearn, Mr. Mackintosh and Alderman Pritchett for the vote of thanks and the nice things they had said about him, and he also thanked the audience not only for the way they had received the vote of thanks but also for the patient manner in which they had listened to his paper, and for the interest they had shown in the examples of bell ringing that had been given. It had indeed been a pleasure to him to prepare and give the paper, and he regarded it as time very well spent, especially after the kind expressions which had been made. Campanology was a difficult subject to explain to people who had not even a knowledge of its elementary principles, and there was also a tendency for the enthusiast to get carried away, so to speak, with his subject. It was rather difficult to explain, but he was satisfied that his audience did not regard the time they had spent in that room as having been wasted.

RAMBLING.  
To the Editor.

Sir,—Contrary to the advice of my ophthalmic surgeon, I have stuck my nose within three inches of page 202 of your issue of April 1st, and with disgust one has read the 'blunt' rambling of Mr. Joseph E. Sykes (The Greater).

The point at issue, I believe, is the 'instruction of beginners,' and open my poor Milton eyes as wide as I may, I fail to see what a beautiful chronograph of a place where they juggle with girders, carillons, and a few match stalks 'have to do with the point. One has read a brief account of the juggle with the girder, and I think our friend shows very bad taste in hurling ridicule on a thing which might have turned out with fatal results.

For 'Ego,' might I commend to the Exercise these words: 'I have steered a matter of two hundred colts through their first peal.' Tut! tut! Such rambling! Steering colts through their first peals is a secondary process. Who had done the spade work before our friend started to steer? That's naughty! Who had inculcated the rudiments into these colts? Who had instilled, instructed, guided them through the labyrinth of technicalities? I'll tell you, it's the unassuming instructor who takes the rough edges off, and he does it without 'ego'!

I am holding no brief for Mr. Armstrong; for the instruction of the beginner I do. 'The Ringing World' was never intended to be a book of instruction. It was founded to supply a want, and 'The Greater' is not the only one who had the first copy. There's a few of the 'lesser,' who took 'Church Bells,' 'Bell News,' 'Campanology,' etc., and there's one here with his poor Bartimeous eyes who can see that the instruction of beginners will never be progressive till some of the egotists cut out that 'causer' of ringing two peals a day and are content to ring one, and then take up 'Troyte's' and fan the smouldering interest which is in the beginner into flame. Then, and then only, will the beginner make progress. Beginners must know something before they are in anything like form to be steered through peals. Let's have less ego, and let's inculcate something into the beginner. I could point the finger at where it is being done and where it is not being done.—Yours sincerely,

IRENAUS.

**NOTES BY THE WAY.**  
**MORE EXTRACTS FROM HEARNE'S DIARY.**  
 BY J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

The contrast between September the twenty-seventh and November the fifth disgusted Hearne. That the bells should have been rung disgracefully in honour of the two Catholic Saints and the great mediæval Churchman, and excellently well in honour of Dutch William was more than he could stand. And the ringers being very proud of their performance at the Cathedral (though they did not get the peal) made matters worse. So he determined to punish them, first by finding out who were the offenders at New College and then by putting it down in his diary and so transmitting it to posterity. To-day the readers of 'The Ringing World' know all about John Vickers' extra glass of beer and his two missed bobs, as part of his punishment for having taken part in ringing on the wrong political side in 1734.

'And now I have mentioned this 5th of November ringing I will beg leave to take notice of the names of those who rang at New College (Friday) September 27 last, being the founder of New College's Obit, a thing I should not have done, had not the ringers been so proud of this 5th of November at Christ Church and been so much ashamed of what was done at New College. That they are ashamed of what was done at New College appears from all accounts. In so much that they have endeavoured as much as ever they can to conceal the names of those that chiefly erred or blundered in the ringing, which notwithstanding I have been able to find out. The names of the ringers are in order thus:—1, Mr. John Vickers; 2, Mr. Thomas Nash; 3, Mr. John George; 4, Mr. Guy Terry; 5, Mr. Thomas Yates; 6, Mr. John Broughton; 7, Mr. Richard Smith; 8, Mr. William Barnes; 9, Mr. Arthur Lloyd; 10, Mr. Nicholas Benwell. The day before ringing Mr. Vickers told me that Mr. Richard Hearne was to ring the first and himself the fifth and Mr. Yates the sixth; but Hearne excusing himself from being one of them, Vickers, thereupon, rang the first and Mr. Yates the fifth and Mr. Broughton (who was not otherwise to have been one) the sixth. As to Mr. Vicars he is very ingenious in the art of ringing and is excellent in calling the bobs and managing the musick of ringing. I think he is one of the very best in England as he is with all a very good ringer himself; and yet at this time he miss'd calling two of the bobs (one of which was before she had gone two hundred changes) as at the same time did likewise Mr. Arthur Lloyd and Mr. William Barnes (otherwise two famous ringers) commit most notorious blunders and these were the three chief blunders in this undertaking and 'twas from their mistakes that the peal was spoiled; and yet it must be owned that it happened purely from their being much in liquor, whereas they ought to have been sober as indeed there cannot be any true ringing but by persons that come perfectly sober.'

No further attempt for the six thousand seems to have been made during the winter. On March 11th, 1735, the band started again at New College, but failed after something over four thousand changes. Unfortunately Hearne was ill and could not hear the ringing and we are deprived of his criticisms. The attempt, it will be noticed, was made on a Sunday and probably would have filled up all the time between the finish of Matins and the beginning of Evensong.

'1735, March 12, Monday—Yesterday a new attempt was made at New College by Oxford ringers to ring 6876

Cator Changes, but they did not succeed as it was hoped they would. They began about half an hour after twelve and rang till a little after three in the afternoon. Being indisposed with a diarrhoea I could not go out to hear them and so will not pretend to be critical about the ringing.'

Nine days later at the same tower another attempt was made and this time it was successful!

'1735, March 22nd, Saturday.—On Thursday last the Oxford ringers began to ring at New College at three quarters after twelve o'clock and rang completely what they had attempted several times before, 6876 Cator Changes, finishing the peal about three quarters of an hour after four o'clock. 'Tis the first time that such a number of Cator Changes was ever rung in Oxford upon ten bells. I did not hear the ringing myself for the same reason I have specified above March 12th inst., but I have heard from good judges, that take it altogether 'twas a glorious performance. For tho' there were two very great blunders and some other bad ringing yet considering the length of the peal it was admirable ringing, such as can hardly be mended, unless it be by the Londoners, it being a thing as it were next to impossible to go through such a long tedious work without faults.

The names of the ringers were (as before—1734):

1. Hearne, the Taylor.
2. Mr. Vickers, second Butler of New College.
3. Mr. George, the Taylor.
4. Mr. Guy Terry, the Potash maker in St. Clement's.
5. Mr. Yates, second Cook of Magdalen College.
6. Mr. John Broughton, Barber.
7. Mr. Richard Smith, Glover.
8. Mr. Barnes, second Cook of Christ Church.
9. Mr. Arthur Lloyd, of Holywell, Carpenter and Bell Hanger.
10. Mr. Nicholas Benwell, who shows Great Tom.

They were much caressed when they had done and were handsomely treated or entertained at New College, but Mr. Barnes could not be at the entertainment, being obliged as soon as the ringing was done to go to his brother the Waggoner's in St. Aldate's then dying, who indeed died that evening of a dropsy. He is the same Barnes that set up a waggon in opposition to the Vice-Chancellor.'

The band was exactly the same and stood in the same order as in the first peal at Christ Church on January 1st, 1734. The Oxford Society's peal book gives the date of the peal as March 20th, 1734, instead of 1835.

The ring at Magdalen College was made into ten in 1740 and on Easter Monday, April 19th, 1742, the following band rang 7,000 Grandsire Caters in 4 hours, 25 minutes.

T. Roberts	Treble	Joseph Gent	6
J. Vickers	2	R. Smith	7
P. Manning	3	W. Carter	8
Guy Terry	4	A. Lloyd	9
T. Yate	5	Nicholas Benwell	Tenor

It was intended to have rung ten thousand but Vickers made some mistake in the calling and brought the bells round after ringing seven thousand. I take it the mistake did not make the peal false as it is recorded in the Oxford Society's peal book.

**A DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATED.**

In commemoration of the 60th anniversary of the laying of the foundation stone of Christ Church, Aughton, Lancashire, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung on the bells in 42 mins.: J. Marsh 1, W. Fairclough (conductor) 2, J. Lunham 3, J. Gardiner 4, J. Taylor 5, T. Rothwell 6, E. Rothwell 7, W. Gibbons 8.—Also a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 43 mins., conducted by Mr. J. Marsh, with Messrs. W. Rimmer and R. Larkey standing in place of J. Taylor and T. Rothwell.

**SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.****EASTERN DIVISION.**

The annual meeting of the Eastern Division was held at Eastbourne on Saturday, March 26th. The bells of All Saints' were available from 2.30 p.m., and good practice was had during the afternoon. The members proceeded to the Parish Church (St. Mary's) for the service at 4.30 p.m., the Vicar (the Rev. Canon Streetfeild) giving a most appropriate address. Tea was also provided through the kindness of Canon Streetfeild at the Pitman Institute, and 23 sat down to the good things provided. Upon his leaving after tea, the Vicar was heartily thanked for his address at the service, and also for his hospitality to the members.

At the business meeting, Mr. W. D. Smith was voted to the chair.

Mr. G. W. Stokes was re-elected hon. secretary. In responding, he pointed out that he would not be able to carry on beyond the year, and asked the members to look out for a successor before the next annual meeting, as he intended definitely to resign at that meeting.

Messrs. Franks and Miles were re-elected on the committee. Owing to the continued ill-health of Mr. G. H. Howse, Mr. W. Booth was elected on the committee in his place.

New members were elected as follows: Mr. G. Marten, St. Clement's, Hastings; Messrs. J. Bellingham, H. Brooks, T. Barrow, J. Bennett, E. Fenner, W. B. Hiscock, J. Hafenden, C. Jenner, W. Kitchenside, C. Medhurst, C. Pennygar, G. Shorter, and Miss R. Wicker, all of Mayfield.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Brighton in June.

Before closing the meeting, the Vicars of All Saints' and St. Saviour's were thanked for placing the bells at the disposal of the members. After the meeting, the members made their way to St. Saviour's, where good practice was had until 8 p.m.

**A PEAL WITHDRAWN.**

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—With reference to the peal of Bob Major rung at Salle, on March 22nd, and published in 'The Ringing World' on April 1st, this was rung one course short. After a bob at 'wrong' in 10th course, there was a hitch, and course-end 63425 came up, instead of 62345, the former figures being 11th course-end, and thinking the bells were right and the 11th course-end completed, I carried on the calling from the latter course-end to bring the bells home, a course short.—Yours truly,  
W. B. DUNCAN.

Reepham, Norfolk.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.****THE QUESTION OF CENTRAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES.**

A meeting of the North Western Division was held at Saffron Walden on Saturday, April 2nd. This clashed with the 'Ringers' Rally' that was being held at Croydon on that day, and possibly accounted for the rather small attendance. The bells were rung during the afternoon, and a service was held in the church. Afterwards 21 members were served with tea at the Abbey Tea Rooms. Following tea, the usual business meeting was held, the Rev. L. Hughes in the chair.

The question of delegates for the Central Council was put before the meeting. This question had been dealt with at two previous meetings, and each time left open for further consideration on the part of the members. After the question had been discussed at length, it was finally decided to refer the question to the next meeting.

Mr. L. A. Simmonds, of Saffron Walden, was elected a ringing member of the association, and Elvedon was selected as the next place of meeting.

In closing the business meeting Mr. H. Dew, on behalf of the division, thanked the Vicar for granting them the use of the bells and for the service which he conducted in the church.—The Rev. L. Hughes, in replying, said he was always pleased to see the ringers, and congratulated them upon the singing at the service.—Ringing was afterwards continued in the evening.

**DEATH OF AN ESSEX DISTRICT SECRETARY.**

The death occurred somewhat unexpectedly last week of Mr. W. H. Dyson, a well-known member of the Essex Association and hon. secretary of the Northern District. He had been unwell for some time past, and he passed away while on a visit to his daughter at Westcliff for the benefit of his health.

**A J. PITMAN'S PEAL OF GRANDSIRE.**

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—The composition of Grandsire Triples in your issue of April 1st, by Mr. A. J. Pitman, is really a variation of the late Mr. Carter's twelve-part, I myself having a similar composition, which has been before the Exercise over 25 years, and was first rung at Stanford-in-Soar, Notts, in 1901. With due respect to Mr. Pitman, we cannot call them original compositions.—Yours faithfully,

H. WHITTLE.

# John Taylor & Co.

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## BELFRY GOSSIP.

We are asked to mention that there will be no ringing at St. Michael's, Cornhill, on Easter Day. The College Youths hope to ring there in future every third Sunday in the month, 5.45 to 6.30 p.m.

Barkby bells, Leicestershire, have, as a notice in the belfry inaptly puts it, been rehung on the 'latest pattern roller bearings' by a local firm of engineers. The party who last Saturday rang the first peal on the bells, only did so through grim determination and long suffering, the 'go' being dreadful and bells most difficult to handle. This is a similar case of the proverbial watch going to the blacksmith. The anniversaries of another batch of long peals occur within the next week:

April 17th, 1820.—7,200 New Treble Bob Maximus at Birmingham in 5 hrs. 8 mins.

1900.—9,512 Superlative Surprise Major at Irtlingborough in 5 hrs. 30 mins.

1911.—12,240 Kent Treble Maximus at Ashton-under-Lyne in 8 hrs. 39 mins.

April 18th, 1737.—12,006 Grandsire Caters at Painswick in 7 hrs. 55 mins.

1894.—13,440 Double Norwich Major at Romford in 8 hrs. 26 mins.

April 21st, 1888.—10,304 Bob Major at Leiston in 6 hrs. 17 mins.

We have referred elsewhere to the fact that much ringing history has been made at Norwich. On April 17th, 1769, the first peal of Court Bob Royal was rung at St. Peter Mancroft. 'It was performed in 3 hrs. 29 mins. without a bell being out of course, and from the harmony and regularity of its changes filled every lover of the art of ringing with the most pleasing wonder and astonishment.'

This incomparable peal was invented in the year 1751 by Mr. William Porter, one of the ringers belonging to St. Peter's company, and though from that time it has been annually practised, yet never was perfectly gone through without the bells being out of course, till now, so that it may be affirmed that this is the first complete 5,040 that ever was rung in the known world.

The Rev. H. S. T. Richardson, of Hopesay, Salop, has been offered, and has accepted, the living of St. Nicholas, in the city of Hereford. This should be a great help to the ringers in the neighbourhood of Hereford.

A band of 'Georges' hope to meet on St. George's Day at the Church of St. George, in the parish of G—not George—for a Surprise peal. A peal has also been arranged in the adjoining parish by friends of the 'Georges' on the same day and at the same time, when a particular friend of one of the 'Georges' will be met with a medley of names. It is hoped the 'London' and 'Cambridge' will be 'united' in more senses than one, and a convivial enjoyed afterwards.

## HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. AN EIGHT-BELL CONTEST.

The Halifax and District Association held a quarterly meeting and eight-bell contest on Saturday, April 2nd, at Earlsheaton Church, Dewsbury. It was rather unfortunate that the elements did not smile upon the gathering while ringing took place, as it rained all the afternoon. The interest taken, however, helped the visitors to forget the weather. The draw was as follows: No. 1, Batley; No. 2, Huddersfield; No. 3, Birstall; No. 4, Lindley. The competition was 800 changes, any method, but each set rang Kent Treble Bob Major.

An excellent tea was provided in the schoolroom, and the meeting was held immediately ringing ceased, about 7.30. Mr. W. Frith (Huddersfield) occupied the chair, in the absence of the president. On the motion of Mr. J. E. Carter, seconded by Mr. W. H. Senior (Batley), a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the churchwardens, ringers and ladies of Earlsheaton for use of bells and for helping to make the contest such a success.—Major Goater (churchwarden) replying, said it was a pleasure to him if all had enjoyed themselves, and hoped the association would soon visit Earlsheaton again. He was sorry there was no Vicar to welcome them, as the late Vicar had only recently resigned, and another had not yet been appointed.

The judges, Mr. J. Broadley (Bradford), Mr. G. H. Hardy (Earlsheaton), with Mr. A. Goodhall (Earlsheaton), marker, gave their decision, viz., No. 1, 191 faults, total 191; No. 2, 221 faults, 221; No. 3, 145 faults, 10 penalties, 155; No. 4, 285 faults, 10 penalties, 295. No. 3 company, Birstall, were therefore declared winners of the cup.

Major Goater, on presenting the cup to Mr. S. Goodhall, leader of the Birstall band, said he hoped they would go on winning, as he was assured they must have deserved it.—Mr. Goodhall replied, and a vote of thanks was then accorded to the judges, on the proposition of Mr. J. E. Carter, seconded by Mr. G. Scholey.—Mr. Broadley, in acknowledging the vote of thanks, said he was sorry that there was not a cup for all the sets.

It may be mentioned that this was the 49th contest in which Mr. Broadley had acted as judge.

A vote of thanks to the chairman closed a very enjoyable meeting.

## GOLDEN WEDDING BELLS.

A quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes) was rung at Halesowen on March 31st to celebrate the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. G. F. Grove: W. Webb 1, T. Greenhall 2, W. Coley 3, A. Harris 4, V. White 5, W. Brown 6, A. Hackett (conductor) 7, B. Ashford 8.



# NORFOLK GUILD JUBILEE.

## A BRIEF HISTORY.

In view of the jubilee of the Norfolk Guild, which is to be celebrated at Norwich on Easter Monday, the annual report which has just been published gives a brief history of the organisation, which will be read with interest. The Norfolk Guild will be the fourth of the diocesan Guilds and county associations to reach a jubilee year, says the report. The Devonshire Guild did so in 1924, the Yorkshire Association in 1925, the Lancashire Association in 1926, and now the Norfolk Guild in 1927. The early promoters of the Guild were the Rev. A. C. Copeman, the Rev. J. Crompton, the Rev. H. J. Coleman, the Rev. C. L. Kennaway, Gervas Holmes, Esq., Captain A. P. Moore, Dr. G. F. W. Meadows, and the Rev. G. H. Harris, by whom a meeting was called at Norwich on Feb. 10th, 1877, when it was proposed and carried that an association be at once formed and to be called the Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers. On April 4th, 1877, a general meeting was held at Norwich, and at that meeting the Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers was founded. The Right Rev. the Bishop of Norwich (Dr. Polham), patron; the Very Rev. the Dean of Norwich (Dr. Goulburn), president; the Archdeacons of Norfolk, Norwich and Suffolk, Sir Robert Buxton, Bart, M.P., Sir Francis Boileau, Bart., the Mayor of Norwich, Gervas Holmes, Esq., J.P., vice-presidents; the Rev. G. H. Harris, secretary and treasurer; and with 58 original members constituted the Norwich Diocesan Association. Of the promoters of the association only the Rev. C. L. Kennaway, now of The Vicarage, Tarrant Crawford, survives, and it may be of interest to note that the late Rev. H. J. Coleman is the father of our present general secretary and treasurer, Mr. Arthur L. Coleman, who now holds the same office as did his godfather, the late Rev. G. H. Harris, first secretary of the association in 1877.

The presidents of the Guild have been the following: The Dean of Norwich (Dr. E. M. Goulburn), 1877 to 1889; the Rev. Canon J. J. Raven, D.D., 1890 to 1899; J. Sancerft Holmes, Esq., Gawdy Hall, 1900 to 1916; the Dean of Norwich (Dr. J. W. Willink) since 1919.

The secretaries and treasurers: The Rev. G. H. Harris, 1877 to 1883; the Rev. N. Bolingbroke, 1884 to 1889; the Rev. H. Earle Bulwer, 1890 to 1902; the Rev. C. L. Kennaway, hon. clerical secretary, 1902 to 1913; Mr. Charles E. Borrett, 1902 to 1919; and Mr. Arthur L. Coleman since 1919.

The first peal was one of Superlative Surprise Major, rung at the Church of St. Mary, Redenhall, on Tuesday, November 6th, 1877, and of the band taking part only Robert Whiting, now of Pulham Market, survives. The late James Motts heads our list of peal ringers, having 559 peals to his credit at the time of his death, and Mr. Frederick R. Borrett comes a close second with 533 peals.

Our total of 4,160 peals during these fifty years contains many splendid performances and makes a list of which we may well be proud, including one of 16,608 changes of Oxford Treble Bob Major (at the time the long-length record). Nine over 10,000 and fifteen over 7,000 changes. The number of peals rung in the first year of the Guild (1877-8) was 9. The greatest number of peals in a single year was 291 in 1913; grand total of peals rung to December 31st, 1926, being 4,160, a record number not exceeded by any other Guild or association.

## CHANGES IN TITLE.

The record year for total membership was 1,156 in 1913, the highest attendance at an annual meeting being 214 members at Norwich, September 25th, 1894, the average attendances at the annual meetings being 134 prior to the Great War, and since then it has fallen to an average of 55 members. In 1913, the diocese of Norwich was divided, and the new diocese of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich was founded, the whole of our East Suffolk area with the exception of the Lotherland Drangery forming part of the new diocese, although at the division our Suffolk members decided to remain in membership, and the question of the reorganisation had to be held in abeyance during the Great War.

In 1919, the title of the association was altered to the Norwich Diocesan and Ipswich Association of Ringers, East Suffolk, as hitherto, remaining within the area of the association. In 1920, the association was constituted into two branches, called the Norwich Branch and the Ipswich Branch, with the title amended to the Norwich and Ipswich Association of Ringers, with the sub-title For the Diocese of Norwich and Archdeaconry of Suffolk.

In 1922, the title was again amended to the Norwich and St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich Diocesan Association of Ringers for the Diocese of Norwich and St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich, and the branches to the Norwich Diocesan Branch and the St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich Diocesan Branch. It was during this particular period (1921-2) in the history of the Guild, the Suffolk County Association was brought into existence and afterwards disbanded and re-formed itself into the Suffolk Guild of Ringers, sub-title, For the Diocese of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich, the area of the Guild being coterminous with the new diocese. This movement so seriously affected our position in Suffolk, with our Suffolk members divided between the two Guilds, that another reorganisation became imperative to meet the state of affairs in our Suffolk area, and at the annual general meeting held at Norwich on October 4th, 1923, it was resolved to make the Guild's area coterminous with the diocese of Norwich, and the title of the Guild finally amended to the Norfolk Guild of Ringers—sub-title, For the Diocese of Norwich, and provision was made for those Suffolk members wishing to remain members of their old association by becoming life members (non-resident) of the Guild.

The following veterans will also this year (1927) celebrate the jubilee of their membership, to whom we offer our hearty congratulations: William Ireland, Diss; Denison Hayward, Great Yarmouth; Frederick Knights, Norwich; Arthur Knights, Chesterfield; Robert Whiting, Pulham Market; Robert H. Brundle, Ipswich; Joseph Last, Hasketon; Edgar Pemberton, Ipswich; David Collins, Worlingworth—a fine record for our septuagenarian members.

The following item from the annals of the Guild may be of interest. With the view of constituting a central authority, a draft scheme was drawn up for a National Association of Ringers, and submitted to a committee meeting of the association on March 22nd, 1884, and received with general approval, after certain suggested improvements, and was entrusted to the secretary to forward to Captain J. E. Acland-Troyte, and that in the event of the National Association maturing, the Norwich Diocesan Association should be affiliated to it. What became of the scheme our records do not relate. However, eventually a central authority was constituted, when the Central Council of Church Bell-ringers was founded by the late Sir Arthur P. Heywood, Bart., in 1892.

Finally, may the Norfolk Guild of Ringers continue to flourish in the future as it has done in the past.

The Guild has to-day a total membership of 773, a decrease of 13 owing to the removal of the names of those in arrears with their subscriptions. There was an increase in the balance on the year's working of £4 9s. 10d., but the Guild has a reserve fund, the present value of which is £150 2s. 6d. During 1926, 61 peals were rung, in which 148 members took part.

## BEGINNERS' PERFORMANCES.

At St. Lawrence's, Northfield, Worcestershire, on Monday, April 4th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins.: C. Tudor 1, J. Bond 2, J. Withers, jun., 3, J. Turner 4, J. Vaughan 5, A. Howe 6, J. Withers, sen. (conductor) 7, A. Hobbs 8. First quarter-peal on the bells by a local band, and first quarter-peal by treble, 2nd, 4th, 5th, 6th and tenor. Longest length by treble, 2nd, 4th, 6th and tenor.

On Tuesday evening, April 5th, at St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,278 changes) in 55 mins. (approx.): Anna E. Cushing 1, Arthur W. Haistead 2, Miss Durrant 3, Miss Helen Bill 4, Jas. Rampley 5, Philip Sadler 6, Geo. P. Burton 7, Geo. S. Mayers 8, Jas. F. Duffield (conductor) 9, Bert Bassingthwaite 10. This is the first quarter-peal by the ringers of the treble and second. It is also the first quarter-peal of its kind by the ringers of 3rd, 4th, 5th, 6th and 10th.

## NOTICES.

Will secretaries of associations who have not already done so, kindly let Mr. Cyril Johnston, of the Croydon Hill Foundry, know how many towers were represented at Croydon on Saturday, April 2nd, and also the names of the towers.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—The next meeting will be held at East Garston on Saturday, April 23rd. Bells (six) available from 3 p.m. Service, 4 p.m. Tea 4.30, kindly provided by the Rev. and Mrs. Thomas. Intending visitors please notify the Rev. Thomas, the Vicarage, East Garston, Lambourn, by Wednesday, April 20th.—H. W. Curtis, Hon. Branch Secretary, Church Road, Shaw, Newbury.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—The first of a series of combined practices in Royal methods will be held at Leatherhead on Saturday, April 23rd. Bells available at 6 p.m. Will those attending please come prepared to practise either Plain Bob, Treble Bob or Cambridge Surprise Royal?—A. C. Hazelden, Guildford.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-eastern Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Kirby-le-Soken on Saturday, April 23rd. Service at 4.30. Tea and meeting at 5.15. Will all ringers intending to be present please notify me by April 20th?—R. W. Stannard, Hon. Secretary, 12, Ireton Road, Colchester.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chester Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Aldford on Saturday, April 23rd. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service, 4 p.m. Will those intending to be present please notify me?—J. W. Clarke, Hon. Secretary, Aldford, Chester.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—A meeting will be held at Acton on Saturday, April 23rd. Bells (five) available from 3 p.m. Business meeting, 4.30. All ringers invited to discuss the question of district meetings in West Suffolk. Five and six-bell towers—please note.—S. H. Symonds, Assistant Secretary, Lavenham.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Lincoln on Saturday, April 30th. Full details next week.—F. W. Stokes, Hon. Secretary, Blankney, Lincoln.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Chesterfield District.—A ringing meeting will be held at Eyam on Saturday, April 23rd. Bells (six) open from noon. Tea (1s. 6d. per head) can be arranged for those who inform Rev. W. P. Wright, The Hall, Eyam, by April 20th.—A. Knights, District Hon. Secretary, 32, Higher Albert Street, Chesterfield.

## THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

### OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE MEETING AT IPSWICH.

The third session of the twelfth Council (34th meeting) was held in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall, Ipswich, on Tuesday May 25th, 1926, at 11 a.m. The chair was taken by the president, Canon G. F. Coleridge, who opened the meeting with prayer. There were present 51 members, 23 Guilds and associations being represented.

Archdeacon Farmiloe, on behalf of the Suffolk Guild, welcomed the Council to the Diocese. The President, having thanked the Archdeacon, was then introduced to the Bishop of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich, who had now entered the chamber. The Bishop said, in welcoming them, that though there were a few who did not appreciate bells, he was certain the majority of people realised that bells were one of the joys of life and one of the ways of expressing it. The Church accepted the help of ringers with great joy, and realised that they were fellow workers. The President then thanked the Bishop for his kindly welcome, and the Council proceeded to discuss the business upon the agenda.

The minutes of the last meeting having been published, were taken as read, and duly confirmed and signed.

Arising out of the minutes, the Honorary Secretary stated that about 40 letters had been addressed to the authorities in the various dioceses in reference to having a representative, with a knowledge of bells, on the advisory committees. There had been about 20 replies generally in agreement with the suggestion.

The Hon. Secretary reported, also, that he had had 500 copies of the Card of Instructions printed as directed, and a further 750 copies, as the first number were sold out, and he moved that his action be confirmed, which, on being seconded by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, was agreed.

On account of the restricted train service, following upon the General Strike, there were a large number of apologies for absence, following some doubt as to whether the meeting would have had to be abandoned. Apologies for absence were received from Revs. A. T. Beeston, Canon Baker, A. H. F. Boughey, E. W. Carpenter, L. S. Clark, C. C. Cox, H. Tyrwhitt-Drake, F. J. O. Helmore, C. C. Marshall, C. E. Matthews and H. S. T. Richardson, Mrs. N. Edwards, Messrs. J. Carter, Alderman R. B. Chambers, J. Cotterill, H. Day, H. Haigh, A. J. Hughes, P. J. Johnson, E. H. Lewis, T. Metcalfe, J. D. Matthews, D. J. Nichols, H. W. Wilde and W. Willson.

The balance sheet, presented by the hon. secretary and treasurer, showed that the year started with a balance in hand of £67 14s. 3d. The receipts included a donation of £5 towards the publication of the Cards of Instruction from the Rev. H. Drake, affiliation fees £13 10s., interest on stock £4 10s. 8d., and sale of Cards of Instruction 13s. 1d., a total of £24 13s. 8d. The expenditure, including the loss on the sale of publications of £5 12s. 6d., was £16 13s., leaving a balance in the bank of £70 16s. The accounts were adopted on the motion of the Rev. H. Law James, seconded by Mr. Pryce Taylor.

The Hon. Librarian, Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, reported the completion of the Washbrook Memorial Scheme, and said that there was a balance of £28. Turning to the Council's publications, he said that the sales realised £4 19s. 1d., the expenses were £10 11s. 3d., including £9 2s. for advertising. He also reported that the 'Collection of Minor Methods' was out of print. He had purchased for the Council, Canon Elseo's stock of 'On the Preservation of Bells,' and also secured a considerable number of copies of 'Bell News' for 1912-1915, inclusive, but he still required some further copies to complete the years 1912, 1913 and 1915.

The four retiring honorary members, Mrs. Edwards, Rev. E. W. Carpenter, Mr. J. George and Mr. H. W. Wilde, were re-elected.

The following new members were then introduced to the president: Mr. J. Hammond (Swansea and Brecon), Mr. F. J. Davey (Deron), and Mr. E. P. Poppy (Suffolk).

### COVENTRY BELLS.

The Hon. Secretary then reported on the steps which, after consultation with the president and Standing Committee, were taken in the Consistory Court to preserve Coventry bells. Unfortunately, though they put up a good fight, they were not successful. He said they were very much indebted to the services of Mr. Pritchett, an eminent member of the Bar, and a member of the Council's Standing Committee. The Hon. Secretary, referring to the long efforts which Mr. Cyril E. Johnston had made to save the loss of these bells as a ringing-peak, said if he had come to the Council for help those efforts might have met with more success. Mr. J. S. Pritchett then pointed out that the action was not altogether wasted, because it secured the bells being preserved as a peal of ten, instead of merely part of a carillon. The Hon. Secretary then moved that the Council confirm the action of the Standing Committee and pay the incidental expenses incurred. This was seconded by Rev. H. Drake, of the Suffolk Guild, which had, he said, supported the action enthusiastically. The President expressed the Council's heartiest thanks to Mr. Young and Mr. Pritchett, and the motion was carried. (All those present were presented by Mr. Young with a quarto booklet, giving the whole of the letters, etc., in the action.)

### PEAL COLLECTION COMMITTEE.

Miss Parker reported that the work of adding the new Treble Bob compositions was proceeding. It involved the examination of the original peals to see that variations did not creep in, and it was hoped to have it in type for the next meeting. The report was adopted.

## LITERATURE AND PRESS COMMITTEE.

In the absence through illness of the convener, Rev. C. E. Matthews, the Hon. Secretary reported that during the year the committee had been revising the Book of Rules, which they hoped to have in type before the next meeting. Incidentally, during the year the committee had been looking after the ringers' interests in the Press and in broadcasting. Rev. H. Law James said the report on Methods should not be reprinted in the book until the Methods Committee had brought it up to date. The report was accepted.

### METHODS COMMITTEE.

Rev. H. Law James reported that the committee was still ready to print the Plain Major methods, and he moved that 300 copies now be printed. Mr. Burton having intervened on behalf of the Nomenclature Committee, it was moved by Mr. T. Hervey Beams, and seconded by Rev. C. D. P. Davies, and agreed that the matters referred to should be dealt with later in the day. The motion and report being seconded by the honorary secretary, were then carried and accepted.

### PEALS ANALYSIS COMMITTEE.

The report as published was formally presented by Miss Parker, and on the motion of the President was unanimously adopted.

### TOWERS AND BELLRIES COMMITTEE.

In the absence of the convener, Mr. E. H. Lewis, the Hon. Secretary, reported he said that during the year Major J. H. B. Hesse and himself were asked to inspect and report upon the tower of the Church of St. Michael, Southampton. Major Hesse called attention to the necessity of painting metal bell-frames at least every five years. He said he had seen some bad cases of neglect lately. The President said he thought they should be painted every three years. The report being formally seconded by Rev. C. D. P. Davies, was carried.

### RECORDS COMMITTEE.

Mr. T. Hervey Beams said the committee had practically nothing to report, and on the motion of the President the statement was accepted.

### SCIENCE MUSEUM EXHIBIT COMMITTEE.

The Hon. Secretary (as convener) said they had now in the National Science Museum a small section illustrating their art, and that it included the famous ringing machine invented by Mr. John Carter. He proposed that, as there was no more work for the committee to do, it should be allowed to lapse, and the duties be taken over by the Standing Committee. These duties included the care of the Carter machine. It had, he said, been Mr. Carter's wish for it to be in the museum on permanent loan, under the trusteeship of the Council, and for him and Rev. C. D. P. Davies to be the first trustees. They had accepted the post, and now proposed to appoint Mr. C. Roberts, a London ringer, who had agreed to master the machine and to demonstrate it. He (Mr. Young) had been able to extract from Mr. Carter details of the machine, which he had incorporated in a book deposited with the machine. Rev. C. D. P. Davies, in seconding, congratulated the Council upon the arrangements made. Mr. J. S. Pritchett expressed appreciation of the services which Mr. Young rendered in the matter. It was resolved that the report be accepted and that the committee be dissolved, and the duties carried on by the Standing Committee, and also that representatives be appointed by the Council to act as trustees of the Carter ringing machine.

### NOMENCLATURE COMMITTEE.

Mr. G. P. Burton reported for his committee, and said they presented their report a year ago. This year they had embodied with it 13 resolutions, all as per the typed copy which those present had in their hands. The interval had allowed time for reflection, and, of course, criticism; the latter they welcomed when it was helpful and constructive. He dealt at length with the position and with some of the points urged against their report, and, speaking of some of the old methods, said he realised that their history was reflected in their compound names; but too many adjectives were an encumbrance, and if of old there was the power to build up names, so there should be to-day the power to revise or undo them. It was wrong for any individual to have such liberty in nomenclature; it engendered trouble and even ridicule; it was also a duty they owed to the future to hand on suitable names. Flower names certainly should go, and to this and the other proposals he asked for a plain 'Yes' or 'No.' Mr. Burton then moved the 13 resolutions as published ('R.W.' April 2nd and July 9th, 1926).

Mr. J. A. Trollope moved as an amendment: 'That this Council, while urging on the Exercise the extreme importance of choosing suitable names for new methods, declines to interfere with such rights as bands and individual ringers at present enjoy of giving names to new methods. And, further, is of the opinion that no alteration should be made in the names of old and historical methods, except where urgently necessary.'

The speaker disagreed as to the alleged confusion and lack of system; on the contrary, he said, the present names were, on the whole, good, and some had been in use nearly 300 years. After all, what was wrong with 'Double Norwich Court Bob Major'? Such titles were replete with history, and could never be replaced with single-word names. The amendment aimed at non-interference with individual rights and prevention of any break in the continuity of their history.

The Rev. C. D. P. Davies, in seconding, said he was against altering the accustomed names, and believed in natural growth in such things. The amendment was debated at considerable length, the Rev. H. Law James and Mr. E. W. Elwell strongly supporting it, whilst Mr. W. A. Cave, being in part agreement only, urged the resolutions

be voted clause by clause. After the luncheon interval, Mr. J. S. Pritchett supported the amendment, and dealt with the Council's difficulty, i.e., there was too much to digest, for even if taken line by line they had work enough for a week. The committee would be wiser first to concentrate upon reform of the urgent and worst cases, for wholesale changes invited controversy; the lines upon which they might well proceed were suggested in the amendment, and their aim should be a less elaborate report. Though he agreed that non-historic and uncouth names required alteration, he preferred to keep the floral names. He was sure progress could be made if his suggestion was followed.

The Rev. H. Drake, speaking for the committee, said that the latter had discussed the amendment, and were largely in agreement with it. He agreed with most of Mr. Pritchett's remarks, but would remind them, however, that there had been the definite instructions of the Council to formulate their suggestions and revisions, and especially so in the case of the floral names. It would be found that they had so acted, and that the historical names were practically untouched. He suggested that the amendment be treated as a rider, then the committee could carry on albeit a little differently and with less feeling of wasted effort. This suggestion not meeting with favour, the amendment was then put and carried by 29 to 3, and was then agreed as a substantive motion without further discussion.

#### SIMPSON TUNING.

The Hon. Secretary then moved his motion, of which notice was given at Chester the year before, i.e., 'That the Council should consider whether "Simpson" tuning is in the best interests of the Exercise.' He said he had stepped into the controversy with some diffidence, the subject being naturally obscure and difficult. He was sure, however, that though most of those present might differ from him, all would find the subject of bell tones very near to them. Firstly, dealing with personal associations, he referred to two peals in his native Southampton, one the old tuning, and one the new, i.e., at St. Michael's and St. Mary's. Then passing on to the views for and against such tuning, he referred to the life and work of both the late Canon Simpson and also the late Mr. T. C. Lewis, and described what was meant by the Medieval, the Old Standard, and the Simpson methods. The Church to-day, he continued, was pressed for funds, and it was therefore the more wasteful to spend large sums in recasting, merely to comply with certain modern ideas, which latter might well be open to doubt. The money could be better spent over a wider and more useful field. Then turning to the practical side, it was well known that many conductors complained of the Simpson 'howl.' There were also the questions of ear fatigue, and, again, bell fatigue, due to excessive vibration, of which little was as yet known.

Mr. Young, who had given all those present his pamphlet on 'Bell Tones,' then dealt at length with the musical and theoretical sides of the case. A bell, he said, should have the right overtones in order to give a certain liquid quality to the natural percussive character of its note. He gave the accepted values of the consonant intervals, and demonstrated the 'thirds,' especially the difficult minor third, so characteristic of the Simpson-tuned bell. He referred to the disadvantages of the minor key, and contrasted it with that of the Major. It was remarkable, he said, that the change in musical ideas in the sixteenth century, as ultimately fixed by the great Bach, synchronised with the great alteration deliberately made by the English bell founders, a change not lightly to be set aside. In concluding, Mr. Young said the Simpsonian method was not necessarily 'scientific'; the term, he thought, belonged more properly to the 'Old Standard,' and that the present trend was a retrograde one. He trusted that the founders would most carefully consider the position and leave as many as possible of the old good bells as a legacy for the future.—Mr. W. A. Cave briefly supported and seconded the motion.

Major J. H. B. Eesse, speaking to the contrary from a lengthy and carefully prepared statement, claimed that the misunderstanding began when they attempted to define Simpson tuning. All knew that this new system originated with a certain firm of bell founders, who advertised their bells as tuned 'upon Canon Simpson's principle,' but after his death dropped it for 'in true harmonic tone,' as being more correct. He asked if it were not better to cast and tune with understanding rather than by chance. Would anyone really think that Rudhall and other past masters of the art could unconsciously and without knowledge do finer work than the scientific founders of to-day? Objectors should honestly say that their real reasons were sentimental and archaeological, and influenced by fear of the carillon. Continuing, the speaker gave a long list of towers containing successful Simpson peals, and said that many famous old bells proved to be nearly true to that principle.

It being here suggested that there be concurrently taken a motion upon the agenda, viz., 'That, in the opinion of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, historic bells should not be turned on the "Simpson" principle.' It was ruled by the president that the motion was 'out of order.'

Mr. Cyril F. Johnston referred first of all to the Coventry bells, which he said were not being destroyed but only recast; and he enlarged upon the difficulties which his firm had had to surmount. Turning to Simpson tuning, he reminded them that there was nothing new under the sun, and admitted that the new system was the rediscovery, and, he trusted, improvement also, of the practice of the mediæval founders. He agreed with Mr. Young that the harmonics at St. Michael's, Southampton, were very good, but the bells were recast

owing to structural defects. The bell founders welcomed criticism; he disagreed, however, with the mover of the resolution in the matter of the 7th hum note, and, quoting Coventry bells as an example, showed that there was no sequence in their falsities, and that these were quite fortuitous. All good old bells, he claimed, possessed the minor third. Founders realised there were difficulties, and it was impossible to eliminate them in any system. They were much indebted to the late Canon Simpson for the new light he had thrown on tuning, and his efforts had undoubtedly induced certain founders to improve upon their work.

Mr. Pryce Taylor mentioned his own acquaintance with the late Canon Simpson, and referred to his firm's close connection with him. Habit and prejudice were hindrances, but no one who had experienced the musical satisfaction of Simpson peals could be content with the incomplete tuning which had hitherto passed muster. He claimed for his firm the honour of being the first to produce the scientifically tuned bells. Referring to the minor third, in his opinion it was a necessity in any good bell, old or new.

Mr. A. A. Hughes, following, said he had no doubt that scientific tuning had come to stay. Mr. E. Barnett thought that Simpson-tuned bells were offensively noisy and harsh against the beautiful softness of bells tuned by the old founders.

Mr. T. Faulkner, in moving an amendment 'That this Council as a body is not qualified to pass an opinion on the subject at present,' said that few of the Council possessed the necessary training, education or knowledge to pass judgment upon either method of tuning. This was seconded by the Rev. E. S. Powell in a brief speech.

The Rev. H. Law James admitted his conversion to the Simpson method of tuning, after some doubts on the matter, and made suggestions which he thought might prevent undue 'howling.' The debate was continued by Mr. T. R. Dennis, the Rev. C. D. P. Davies and Canon H. J. Elsee, the latter saying that whilst he himself preferred Simpson tuning, he allowed there was much to be said on both sides, and he thought the matter was one for the taste of the general public rather than that of the Exercise. It would be a pity, however, if old bells were melted down to be tuned on new principles, as it would be pure vandalism to destroy all examples of the work of bell founders of the eighteenth and previous centuries. Concluding, he endorsed Mr. Young's observations on the necessity of conserving Church funds for vital needs.

Mr. Young, in briefly replying, drew a parallel from the 'exact' and wonderful Parthenon at Athens. Columns, etc., were put out of truth to please the eye; could not a bell be slightly out of truth to please the ear?

There being only one dissentient to the amendment, it was put as a motion and agreed, nem con.

#### RINGERS ON ADVISORY COMMITTEES.

The Rev. Law James moved the following resolution: 'Forasmuch as the church towers of England contain a large number of valuable old bells, the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers request the Diocesan Advisory Committees of the various dioceses to co-opt some members, having knowledge of the archaeology, tuning and proper hanging of bells, to form a special sub-committee to advise them, when necessary, on all questions relating to the tuning, recasting or rehanging of bells, in order that bells may not needlessly be recast, and that rehanging shall be carried out in a proper manner.' He said very little had come of the previous circular letter in respect to putting a change ringer on the committees. Mr. R. Richardson seconded the motion.

Mr. Drake agreed with the motion, and he thought the Council should lay down rules dealing with the care of ancient bells. The debate was continued by Messrs. C. H. Howard, C. Mee and F. Wilford. The Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn pointed out that it was not always necessary to have such a member upon the committee, as it was perhaps better to have an adviser outside it, which was his position in regard to the Oxford Diocesan Committee. Being reminded by the honorary secretary, the president pointed out that the matter was before the meeting last year, when a circular letter was sent to the secretaries of the 36 dioceses. The motion was carried.

#### RAILWAY TRAVELLING FACILITIES.

Mr. E. Guise moved 'that the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association earnestly requests the Central Council to continue to press the Railway Clearing Board for cheap travelling facilities to be granted to ringers.' He said that his association had taken it up with the local railway superintendent without success. This was seconded by Mr. E. Bishop. The President having referred to previous abortive attempts, the Hon. Secretary said that he had had an interview with the Central Authority, but though the case had been again considered, they had not been successful. He, however, suggested taking it up again next year. It was ultimately agreed to leave the matter in the hands of the president and hon. secretary to see what could be done.

Mr. T. H. Taffender moved, 'That the Council consider the question of the institution of a "Bell ringers' Sunday" by means of an annual service throughout the country, and make recommendations.' He said he hoped it would be possible for the Council to draw up a scheme for a bell ringers' Sunday in the same way that there were hospital and other Sundays. This was seconded by Mr. A. D. Barker, but considerable objection was made by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, and the Rev. H. Law James thought that it would be better for every Guild to have their own special Sunday service. Rev. Canon H. J. Elsee concurred with the latter.

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After some further remarks by Messrs. T. R. Dennis, E. W. Elwell and J. Hunt, Mr. W. A. Cave suggested a bell ringers' Saturday, which being ruled out of order by the president, the motion was put and lost.

A resolution deprecating Simpson tuning of historic bells was next upon the agenda, but it had already been ruled out of order by the president.

Mr. T. Faulkner having raised a question as to the umpiring of record peals, after some discursive remarks and a few words from the president the matter was allowed to drop.

On the motion of the President, the Council accepted the offer of the hon. secretary to send, on its behalf, the Coventry Bells booklet to those members who were absent, and also to the secretaries of the affiliated Guilds, after the proceedings in the Consistory Court had been added in the book.

The President expressed the appreciation and thanks of the Council for all that had been done for their comfort and convenience by the Suffolk Guild, and Canon H. J. Elsee proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman. Both motions being carried with applause, the President briefly replied, and the proceedings terminated at about 5.20.

#### MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

**GUILDFORD.**—On Wednesday, April 6th, at Holy Trinity Church for Confirmation service, 1,120 changes of St. Blaise Surprise Major in 45 mins.: R. Philpott 1, C. N. Burdock 2, J. A. Cole 3, H. Hutton 4, W. J. Robinson 5, W. R. Melville 6, G. W. Steere 7, A. H. Pulling (conductor) 8.

**SWINDON.**—On Monday, April 4th at Christ Church, for Confirmation service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1,301 changes) in 55 mins.: W. G. Lancaster 1, G. W. Townsend 2, A. W. Bond 3, E. Bishop 4, H. W. Bishop (conductor) 5, S. Palmer 6, C. J. Gardiner 7, H. A. Hearl 8, T. Townsend 9, A. W. Smith 10.

**RYEBURNING.**—At St. Mary's Church, on Wednesday, March 30th, 720 London Scholars' Pleasure: L. Camp 1, G. Camp 2, C. Harrington 3, H. Wright 4, E. Sitch 5, A. Bradley (conductor) 6. First in method by all.—On Sunday, April 3rd, before morning service, 720 Norwich Surprise: L. Camp 1, E. Sitch 2, C. Harrington 3, H. Wright 4, G. Camp 5, A. Bradley (conductor) 6.

#### MUFFLED BELLS.

On March 21st, at St. Michael's Church, Beccles, Suffolk, a quarter-peal of Bob Major, with fully muffled clappers, in memory of one of its oldest members, Alderman Mickleburgh: Miss V. M. Beckett 1, R. Spalding 2, C. Bailey 3, T. Beckett 4, K. Goate 5, G. Baxter 6, J. Spalding (conductor) 7, C. Rush 8. The ringer of treble is 14 years of age, and of the second 76.

#### PUBLICATIONS.

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### NOTICES.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.**—Established 1637.—Meetings for practice will be held at \*St. Paul's Cathedral on the 19th, Southwark Cathedral on the 26th, St. Magnus' on the 28th; all at 7.30 p.m. \*Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 'Frodingham,' 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

**LADIES' GUILD.**—Northern District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Gainsborough on Easter Monday. Parish Church (8) and Lea (6) bells open from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Service 4 o'clock, followed by tea and business meeting. All ringers very welcome.—Molly Davenport, Hon. Sec., Broomfield, Dore, near Sheffield.

**DEVON GUILD.**—East Devon Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch will be held on Easter Monday at Sidmouth. Bells (8) available. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—John H. Godfrey, Hon. Sec., Ottery St. Mary.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held on Easter Monday at Derby. Bells of St. Andrew's (10), St. Alkmund's (8), St. Luke's (8), St. Peter's (8) available from 10 a.m. Committee meeting in All Saints' Schools 3 p.m. Service at All Saints' Church 4 p.m., at which it is hoped all members will attend. Preacher will be Rev. H. Boorman, Vicar of St. Luke's. Tea in All Saints' Schools 5 p.m., followed by general meeting. Smoking concert at 8 p.m. in King's Café, St. Peter's Street, arranged by Mr. E. E. Bradley (Littleover Handbell Ringers) and Mr. W. H. L. Dodd (vocalists).—Ernest Morris, General Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

**CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—The next meeting will be held at Stockton-on-Tees on Easter Monday, April 18th. Bells (10, tenor 27 cwt.) will be available for ringing from and after 10.30 a.m. Lunch will be provided at Spooner's Café, Dovecote Street, at 1 p.m. Members 1s. 6d., non-members 2s. It is hoped that members and friends will make it convenient to attend this meeting.—T. Metcalfe, Hon. Sec., 26, High Street, North Ormesby, Middlesbrough.

**SURREY ASSOCIATION.**—Central District.—The next meeting will be held at Beddington on Easter Monday, April 18th. Ringing from 2.30. Tea and business meeting at 5.30.—A. J. Trappitt, Hon. Dis. Sec., 57, Melhows Road, Wallington.

**WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.**—The annual meeting of the Guild will be held on Saturday, April 23rd, at Bishop Ryder's, Birmingham. Bells at Bishop Ryder's and St. Chad's, Bath Street, will be available for ringing from 3 p.m. Tea and general meeting will be held in the Schoolroom of the former at 5 p.m. Will those requiring tea please write Mr. James George, 44, Cuckoo Road, Nechells, Birmingham, not later than the 21st.—J. A. Fenton, 42, Bennett Street, Rugby, Gen. Hon. Sec.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Bedford on Easter Monday. The bells of St. Paul's (10) and St. Peter's (6) will be available from 10 a.m. The luncheon, to be followed by the annual business meeting, at the Silver Grill (near St. Paul's) at 1 p.m. Visitors will be heartily welcome.—Arthur E. Sharman, Hon. Sec., 199, High Street N., Dunstable.



**NORFOLK GUILD OF RINGERS FOR THE DIOCESE OF NORWICH.**—1877-1927. — The jubilee meeting of the Guild will be held at Norwich on Easter Monday, April 18th. The annual service will take place in the Church of St. Peter Mancroft at 12.30 p.m., when the preacher will be the Venerable the Archdeacon of Norfolk. By kind invitation of the president and committee luncheon will be provided at Snellings, Rampant Horse Street, at 1.30 p.m. Circular letter giving full particulars has been sent to all the district secretaries, leaders of companies and unattached members, who are kindly requested to send in a list of the names of those members accepting the invitation to luncheon. The general business meeting will be held immediately after the luncheon. The bells of St. Peter Mancroft, St. John-de-Sepulchre and All Saints' are kindly placed at the disposal of the members.—Arthur L. Coleman, General Sec., High Croft, North Walsham, Norfolk.

**SUFFOLK GUILD.**—The annual meeting will be held at Ipswich on Easter Monday at St. Mary-le-Tower. Committee meeting in Vestry at 12.15. Service, with address by the Vicar, at 1 p.m. Luncheon at 1.30 at Day's Restaurant, Cornhill. Meeting follows. Bells available all day (12); also St. Margaret's (8), St. Clement's (6), St. Matthew's (5), Sproughton (6), Bramford (6).—Herbert Drake, Ufford, Woodbridge.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Annual general meeting at Bromley, Easter Monday, April 18th. Towers open for ringing: Bromley (SS. Peter and Paul), St. Luke's, Bromley Common, St. George's, Beckenham, Eltham (8), Chislehurst (morning only), Hayes (6) (afternoon). Committee meeting in Church Committee Room 12 noon. Service, SS. Peter and Paul, 12.30. Preacher, Rev. H. P. Kennedy Skipton, F.R. Hist. Soc. Dinner in the Old Town Hall 1.30 p.m., followed by business meeting.—Fred J. O. Helmore, Hon. Sec., Canterbury.

**ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Cambridge on Easter Monday, April 18th. Service at 12 noon. Address by the Rev. A. C. Moule. Luncheon followed by the business meeting at 1 p.m. at the 'Dorothy Cafe.' Ringing at Great St. Mary's (12), St. Andrew's (8). Church of St. Mary and the Martyrs (8), and Old Chesterton (6).—Rev. R. Copeman, Owlstone Road, Cambridge.

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at St. Albans on Easter Monday, when the four towers will be open at 2 p.m. Earlier ringing at the six-bell towers can be had by arrangement with the respective conductors. Service in Cathedral 5 p.m. Address by the Rev. Henry Edwards, Vicar of Watford. Tea in the Abbey Institute 6 p.m., followed by business meeting. A sumptuous tea at a cheap price. Let me know if you can come.—G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec., 'Duffield,' St. Albans.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—A general meeting of the Yorkshire Association will be held at Huddersfield on Easter Monday, April 18th. Bells available for ringing: Parish Church (10), Almondbury (8), Longwood (8), Kirkheaton (6). Divine service will be held at Parish Church at 3.45 p.m. Preacher, Vicar of Huddersfield, Rev. Canon A. Baines. Business meeting in Parochial Hall, Springwood Street, at 3 p.m. Tea in same hall at 5 p.m.—P. J. Johnson, Hon. Gen. Sec., 396, Meanwood Road, Leeds.

**SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.**—Meeting on Easter Monday at Worksop. Bells (8) available until 9 p.m. Tea, at 1s. 3d. per head, will be provided in the old Gatehouse, adjoining the church. Will those intending to be present please advise Mr. G. Hardwick, Sparken Cottages, Worksop?—C. Harrison, Hon. Sec.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Furness and Lake District Branch.—The next half-yearly meeting of the members will be held on April 18th (Easter Monday) at the Vicarage Parish Room, Ambleside, at 4 p.m. Ambleside bells (8) and Brathay (6) will be available for ringing at 1 p.m.—W. T. Clark, Branch Secretary, Broughton-in-Furness.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Deane, Bolton, on Saturday, 23rd April. Bells available 4.0. Meeting 7.0.—Peter Crook, Hon. Secretary, 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

**LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—General meeting. The next meeting will be held at Leeds Parish Church, on Saturday the 23rd April, 1927. Bells available from 5 p.m.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Armley.

**GUILD OF DEVON RINGERS.**—North-Eastern Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Huntsham on Saturday, April 23rd. Bells (8) available 2.30. Service 4.45. Tea, 1s. each, 5.15. Will those who hope to attend kindly let me know by Tuesday, April 19th?—M. Hanson, 2, The Avenue, Tiverton.

**ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.**—The next meeting will be held at Sellinge on Saturday, April 23rd. Bells available at 2.30 p.m. Tea will be arranged.—Chas. W. Franklin, Hon. Sec., 18, Kingsnorth Road, Ashford.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—A quarterly meeting will be held at Clevedon, St. Andrews, on Saturday, April 23rd. Ringing afternoon and evening. Evensong, 4 p.m. Tea and business meeting, 5 p.m. It is most important that intending visitors should notify Mr. T. E. Francis, Southbourne House, Clevedon.—J. T. Dyke, Hon. Sec.

**SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Central Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Henfield on Saturday, April 23rd. Tower open 2.30. Service 4. Tea, 4.30, Parish Room, by kind invitation. Half rail fare (maximum 1s.). Important: Those who intend to be present please notify the undersigned not later than Wednesday, April 20th.—A. D. Stone, Hon. Divisional Sec., 16, Belgrave Street, Brighton.

**LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Eastern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Frampton on Saturday, 23rd April. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Divine service 4.15 p.m. Tea 4.45 p.m. Business meeting immediately after tea. Those intending to be present are requested to advise me not later than first post on Wednesday, 20th April.—John Phillips, Hon. Sec., The School House, Butterwick, near Boston, Lincs.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Burnley, Holy Trinity, on Saturday, April 23rd. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea will be provided in the Schools at 1s. per head. Will all persons requiring tea please notify Mr. W. Hunter, 40, Prestwick Street, Burnley, by the 20th inst.—J. Watson, Branch Sec., 48, Palmer Street, Blackburn.

**CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Bowden and Stockport Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at New Mills on Saturday, April 23rd. Bells ready 3 o'clock. For tea please inform C. Smith, High Hill Road, Birch Vale, near Stockport.—T. Wilde, Hon. Sec.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Tempsford on Saturday, April 23rd. Bells (6) available at 3 o'clock. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome, a good company is requested.—C. J. Ball, 2, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

**LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Usk (Mon.), on Saturday, April 23rd. Bells (8) available. Service at 4.30. Business meeting to follow.—John W. Jones, Hon. Sec., 'Cartref,' Barrack Road, Newport, Mon.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—The annual general meeting will be held at All Saints', Poplar, E., on Saturday, April 23rd. Divine service will be held at 5.15 p.m., when the sermon will be preached by the Rector (Rev. C. Mayne). Tea, at 5.45 p.m., will be followed by the usual business meeting, at which the report and balance sheet will be presented. The officers for the ensuing year and four representatives to the Central Council will be elected. Ringing arrangements are as follows:—At All Saints', Poplar (10 bells): From 3.15 to 5.10 p.m., and after the meeting. At Christ Church, Cubitt Town (8 bells): From 3 to 4.45 p.m. At Holy Trinity, Barking Road (6 bells): From 3 to 4.45 p.m. All Saints' Church can be reached by train from Fenchurch Street (L. and N.E.) to Millwall Junction; or from Broad Street, Willesden, Acton, etc., to Poplar (L.M. & S.). Buses and trams from Aldgate and the City pass the church. The usual charge of 1s. will be made for tea, and, as a definite number has to be given, it is essential that members should advise either of the undersigned not later than Tuesday, April 19th, of their intention of being present.—C. T. Coles, 21, Vincent Road, E.4, W. H. Hollier, 29, Duke Road, W.4., Hon. Secs.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Fylde Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. John's and St. Peter's R.C., Lytham, on Saturday, April 23rd. Bells ready 3 p.m. Business meeting 5.30.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec., 10, Warbreck Road, Blackpool.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Kettering Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Rushton on Saturday, April 23rd. Usual arrangements. Will those requiring tea please notify me by Tuesday, April 19th.—H. Baxter, Silver Street, Broughton, Kettering.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Basingstoke District.—A meeting will be held at St. Mary Bourne on Saturday, April 23rd. Tower open at 2.30 p.m.—Henry T. Adams, Hon. Sec., Silchester Rectory, Silchester, Reading.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.**—Hinckley District.—The next meeting will be at Sapcote on April 23rd. Bells available from 4 p.m. with business meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—W. Cope, Smockington, Hinckley.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Peterborough Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at Crowland on Saturday, April 23rd. Service in the Abbey at 4.30. Tea at 5.15. Those requiring tea please notify me by Wednesday, April 20th.—W. H. Waldron, Hon. Sec., 137, Scotney Street, Peterborough.

**SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD OF BELLRINGERS.**—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, April 23rd, at St. Peter's Church, Glasbury, at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 and tea at 5, kindly provided by the Vicar and Mrs. Lockyer.—F. E. Thomas, Dis. Sec.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—South-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Boreham on Saturday, April 30th. Bells available 2.30. Tea and meeting to follow. This is to replace the meeting that was to have been held at Maldon on Easter Monday. Buses leave Chelmsford 2.30 p.m. and 3.20 p.m., and return from Boreham 7.15 p.m. and 9.30 p.m. Will all members intending to be present to tea please notify me on or before Wednesday, April 27th?—P. Timson, Hon. Dis. Sec., 80, Springfield Street, Chelmsford.

**NOTTINGHAM SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS** (Established 1672).—The adjourned annual meeting will be held at Basford on Saturday, April 30th. Tower open 4 to 8 p.m. Meeting at 6 p.m. All ringers welcome.—F. Blood, Hon. Sec., 91, Dame Agnes Street, Nottingham.

**SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.**—Quarterly meeting will be held at Bloxwick on Saturday, April 30th. Bells available from 3.0. Service in church, with an address by the Rev. J. C. Hamilton, Vicar at 4.45. Tea (1/-) at 5.30. Please send word not later than Tuesday, 26th inst.—H. Knight, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Maidstone District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held at Linton on Saturday, April 30th. Tower open at 3. Service at 5 p.m. Tea and meeting after service. Please notify me before Thursday, April 28th.—C. H. Sone, Hon. Dis. Sec., Bungalow, Linton, Maidstone.

**SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—A quarterly meeting will be held at Wellington on Saturday, April 30th. Bells (8) available 2.30. Short service in Church 4.30. Meeting in Parish Hall 5 p.m. Tea at Y.M.C.A. Cafe (1/- each) at 6 o'clock. Kindly send number requiring tea to Rev. F. Tennison, St. Alkmund's Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

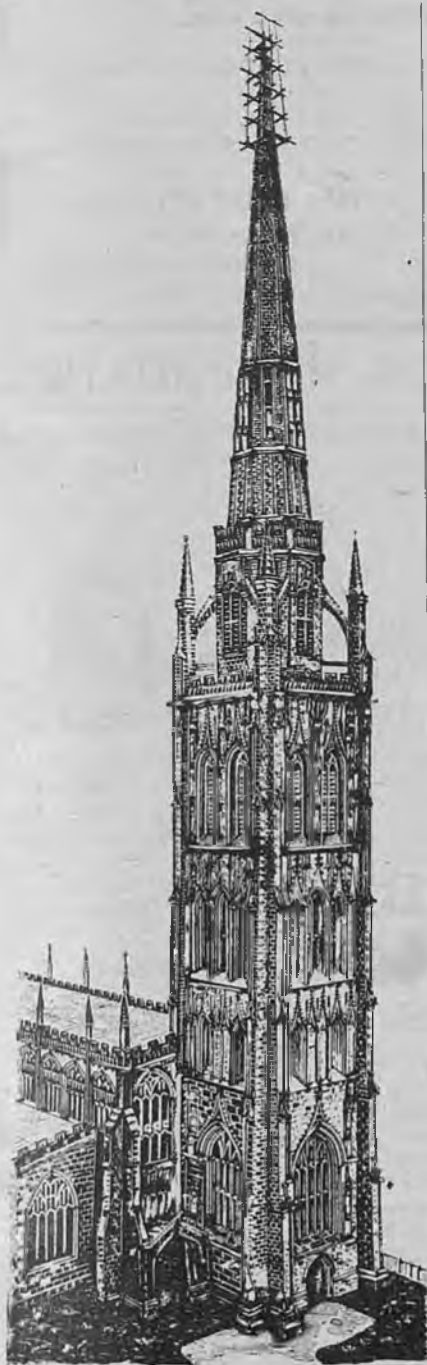
**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Rochester District.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Queenborough, Isle of Sheppey, on Saturday, April 30th. Tower open at 3. Association service in Church at 5, conducted by the Vicar, Rev. O. F. R. Strickland, B.A. Invitation tea, followed by business meeting. It must be distinctly understood that tea will only be provided for those who notify me by first post on Tuesday, April 26th. East-church bells (6), will also be available if sufficient notify me. Half rail fares up to 2s. will be paid to members at this meeting. It is hoped to make this visit to the 'island' a success, so all ringers are invited.—Fred M. Mitchell, Dis. Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

**ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY** will hold their annual meeting on Saturday, April 30th, at St. Peter's Church, Ashton-under-Lyne. Bells available from 3.30, and the meeting to be held at 7 o'clock prompt.—F. Althorp, Hon. Sec.

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