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AN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME.

The new Guildford Diocesan Guild is now entirely on its feet, its districts are established, and its officials are in the saddle. It has started under the happiest auspices, and the Exercise will watch with interest to see if it makes good. Its aims are high, and it is entering upon its career with plenty of enthusiasm among its members. How far the objects set before it will be achieved depends upon the extent to which that enthusiasm is maintained. In the general scheme of things which is being devised every effort is to be made to maintain interest, and it is hoped that, as far as Guild affairs are concerned, members will not be content with paying an annual subscription and attending an occasional meeting. The instructional side, it is intended, shall figure largely in the programme, in the hope of raising the standard of method ringing in all the towers; but obviously if this is to be a success it must be backed up by the members themselves, both by those who desire to learn and those with knowledge which they can impart to others.

We have always advocated a more extensive system of teaching among all the associations. It is all very well to say that a man who wants to learn, will make his own opportunities. That is quite true. The enthusiast will always find ways and means of seeking his desired end, but in the ringing Exercise, as in other pursuits, there is a far larger number who want to advance and yet do not possess the initiative or opportunity to provide their own method of progress. In our view one of the principal reasons for the existence of an association is to take the initiative and organise the opportunities for these members. If, then, they do not respond, the association cannot be blamed, but there are many ringing organisations who make little or no co-ordinated effort to help their members in this direction. From time to time we have dwelt on the desirability of a form of instruction which goes beyond merely teaching a band how to ring Grandsire Doubles or Bob Minor. In the art of change ringing we need never cease learning, and for that reason it cannot be said that an association has done its duty when it has brought a new band just into contact with the extreme edge of it.

For this reason we commend to other societies the proposals which the Guildford Guild will endeavour to carry out. There are to be weekly combined practices in each district; at the district meetings the methods to be specially practised will be decided upon beforehand, and, following the example set in Lancashire, there are to be methods on every occasion at each end of the scale. The methods selected will be on a progressive plan, and thus, it is hoped, create a sustained interest. In addition, an

(Continued on page 178.)

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entirely new experiment is to be made. There is to be an attempt to teach conducting, by having special 'classes,' or meetings, for those who desire to learn or to improve their knowledge, and for this, again, it is hoped to enlist the help of all those with experience. What success will attend this departure remains to be seen, but it is something that a Guild should be prepared to venture on such a scheme. It has behind it the double object of strengthening the bands and carrying the 'education' of the ringer a stage further than that of being only a 'change ringer'; as well as providing a reserve conductor in every tower. These are ambitious proposals, but nowhere, we imagine, could a comprehensive scheme be better attempted than in a new Guild, in the full flood of a new enthusiasm, and covering a compact area throughout which there are ample means of communication by road or rail. But its success must depend upon the rank and file, and it will be their duty to support their officers if they wish to make the most of their opportunities.

TEN BELL PEALS.

APPLETON, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 10, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5075 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

F. STEDMAN WHITE Treble	CUTHBERT G. WHITE... .. 6
GEORGE HOLIFIELD, SEN. ... 2	REV. CYRIL W. O. JENKYN ... 7
MISS STELLA DAVIS 3	GEORGE HOLIFIELD, JUN. ... 8
MRS. ALBERT E. LOCK 4	RICHARD WHITE 9
ALBERT E. LOCK 5	FRED WHITE... .. Tenor

Composed by G. HOLIFIELD, SEN.

Conducted by G. HOLIFIELD, JUN.

Rung on the 109th anniversary of the opening of the bells.

NOTTINGHAM.

THE SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 17, 1928, in Three Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 34 cwt.

*MISS IDA B. THOMPSON ... Treble	ALBERT H. WARD 6
ALBERT R. COPPOCK... .. 2	*EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD... 7
*FRED BLOOD 3	FREDERICK A. SALTER ... 8
FREDERICK S. PRICE... .. 4	EDWARD C. GOBEY 9
ALLEN R. HICKTON 5	PERCIVAL PRICE... .. Tenor

Composed by WM. DOUBLEDAY CROFTS.

Conducted by ALBERT R. COPPOCK.

* First peal of Royal. Rung to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the 10,260 Grandsire Caters rung at this church on March 3rd, 1778, and conducted by W. D. Crofts. James Coppock, great-grandfather of the conductor of this last peal, was a participator in the original peal. A lady appears for the first time in the peal records at this church.

LIVERPOOL.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 17, 1928, in Three Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 39 cwt. 3 qr. in C.

ERNEST JONES Treble	†THOMAS C. LARKEY 6
THOMAS HAMMOND 2	JOHN WILKINSON 7
WILLIAM BIBBY... .. 3	HARRY CHAPMAN 8
JOHN E. BIBBY 4	EDWARD JENKINS 9
*JOHN C. E. SIMPSON... .. 5	EDWARD CAUNCE Tenor

Composed by W. PYE.

Conducted by E. JENKINS.

* First peal of Surprise. † First peal of Surprise Royal. Rung with half-muffled clappers as a last token of respect to the Right Rev. Dr. Chevasse, D.D., for 23 years Bishop of Liverpool, 'the friend of all men.'

EPSOM, SURREY.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 17, 1928, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Martin,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

*THOMAS BEVAN Treble	LEONARD H. BAYBUT ... 6
*JOHN SPARROW 2	*GEORGE W. STEERE ... 7
ARTHUR J. NEAL 3	GEORGE A. CARD ... 8
THOMAS NEWMAN 4	STAFFORD H. GREEN ... 9
JOHN D. MATTHEWS 5	†CECIL J. MATTHEWS ... Tenor

Composed by W. PYE.

Conducted by JOHN D. MATTHEWS.

* First peal of Cambridge Royal. † First Surprise peal 'inside.'

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 10, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

At the Parish Church of St. Michael and All Angels,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

THOMAS BENNEY Treble	F. DONALD BOREHAM ... 5
CHALLIS F. WINNEY 2	ROLAND BIGGS ... 6
CHARLES J. CHOERT 3	JOSEPH S. HAWKINS ... 7
ARTHUR J. HOING 4	ERNEST J. SAMPSON ... Tenor

Conducted by C. F. WINNEY.

The band heartily congratulated Mr. Tom Benney (who is in his 77th year) on the manner in which he rang his bell throughout the peal.

PENN, STAFFS.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sunday, March 11, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Bartholomew,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

T. RODEN Treble	J. BLOORE 5
J. A. TOMPKINS 2	A. RODEN 6
J. HICKMAN 3	E. G. BOWYER 7
T. BEARDS 4	E. BEARDS Tenor

Conducted by E. G. BOWYER.

Rung to commemorate the consecration of the new burial ground by the Lord Bishop of Lichfield on March 8th.

REDDISH, STOCKPORT.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, March 13, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Elisabeth,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

J. R. BARNES Treble	*FRANK TWIGG 5
*C. E. TOMKINSON 2	TOM WILDE 6
THOS. JONES 3	W. W. WOLSTENCROFT ... 7
HAROLD JACKSON 4	*JOHN E. BEAVER Tenor

Conducted by W. W. WOLSTENCROFT.

* First peal.

CHESTER-LE-STREET, DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 13, 1928, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Mary and Cuthbert,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

JOSEPH A. ROBERTSON ... Treble	EDWARD A. HERN ... 5
Mrs. A. DONNISON 2	JOHN CRAWFORD 6
WILLIAM BROWN 3	FREDERICK SHERATON ... 7
*WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON ... 4	ADAM DEAS Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS.

Conducted by EDWARD A. HERN.

* First peal in the method. This peal was rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. John Crawford, who for many years was secretary of Chester-le-Street Guild.

EALING.—On Monday, March 12th, 720 St. Clement's Bob Minor in 19 mins., on handbells: J. Armiger Trollope 1-2, E. C. Turner 3-4, Wilfred G. Wilson (conductor) 5-6. First 720 in the method by all.

STAPLEHURST, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 13, 1928, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

HERBERT T. THIRKELL ... Treble	THOMAS E. SONE 5
MRS. H. BAKER 2	WILLIAM WENBAN 6
CHARLES H. SONE 3	BENJAMIN BAKER 7
HARRY BAKER 4	FREDERICK WHITE Tenor

Composed by FRANK BENNETT.

Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.

Rung in honour of the visit of the Bishop of Dover for Confirmation service.

CONISBOROUGH, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(DONCASTER & DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Thursday, March 15, 1928, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF COLLEGE SINGLE MAJOR, 6216 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 20 lb.

SAMUEL HARRISON Treble	HARRY BARNES 5
*MILTON C. FOWLER 2	*STANLEY SHEPPARD 6
J. EDWARD CAWSEY 3	*PERCY GLEDSTONE 7
*ARNOLD HILL 4	*HAROLD WALKER Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSEY

* First peal in the method, and first attempt. First peal in the method on the bells. Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 7th.

WYMONDHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, March 17, 1928, in Three Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

BEN S. THOMPSON Treble	WILLIAM B. DUNCAN 5
WILLIAM WASEY 2	GEORGE H. CLAXTON 6
RICHARD BALDRY 3	GEORGE POYNTEY 7
JOHN C. DICKEN 4	WILLIAM E. BASON Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Conducted by B. S. THOMPSON.

BRIGHTLING, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 17, 1928, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Thomas-a-Becket,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

JAMES CROFT Treble	PHILIP S. THOMPSON 5
MRS. H. BAKER 2	FREDERICK J. LAMBERT, JUN. 6
WILFRED BOOTH 3	ALBERT E. EDWARDS 7
HARRY BAKER 4	GEORGE PONT Tenor

Composed by REV. E. BANKS JAMES.

Conducted by A. E. EDWARDS

Rung as a birthday compliment to the eldest daughter of the ringer of the 8th.

ERITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 17, 1928, in Three Hours,

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

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

Tenor 15 cwt.

LIONEL J. CULLUM Treble	HERBERT A. HOLDEN 5
EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. ... 2	GEORGE H. DAVIES 6
EDWIN BARNETT, JUN. ... 3	ROBERT BRETT SMITH ... 7
HENRY WOOD 4	FREDERICK J. CULLUM, JUN. Tenor

Composed by EDWIN BARNETT, SEN.

Conducted by FREDERICK J. CULLUM, JUN.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor. It was his first peal in the method as conductor.

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PENWORTHAM, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(PRESTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 17, 1928, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5028 CHANGES;

Tenor 8½ cwt.

EDWARD LAWSON Treble	HARRY FRANCE 5
BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS 2	*JOHN THOMAS MILLER 6
*JAMES MILLER, JUN. 3	FREDERICK HARWOOD 7
WILLIAM SHARPLES 4	E. ROGER MARTIN Tenor

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

* First peal in the method. A birthday compliment to James Miller and H. France.

BETCHWORTH, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

(SOUTHERN DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, March 17, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

JAMES H. JUDD Treble	JESSE POPLETT 5
HENRY A. HOAD 2	ALFRED J. BULL 6
*CHARLES S. HOAD 3	GEORGE F. HOAD 7
HUGH R. THORPE 4	†CHRISTOPHER J. WREN Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE F. HOAD.

* First peal of Triples. † First peal. Messrs. Puplett and Wren were elected members previous to commencing. Arranged as the first district quarterly peal of the year. Mr. J. Puplett hails from Tring, it being his first peal on the bells of his native village.

PERRY BARR, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM

On Saturday, March 17, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

GEORGE T. MITCHISON Treble	GEORGE F. SWANN 5
GEORGE GARRISON 2	MORRIS J. MORRIS 6
FRED PRICE 3	FREDERICK W. RISHWORTH 7
RICHARD C. INGRAM 4	WILLIAM DAVIES Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by G. F. SWANN.

Rung on St. Patrick's Day, and to celebrate the 80th birthday of Mr. William Cooper, who has been a ringer at the above tower for upwards of 50 years. It was also a birthday compliment to the daughter of the ringer of the treble.

MANGOTSFIELD, BRISTOL.
GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 17, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

MRS. W. THOMAS Treble	†WM. KNIGHT 5
W. THOMAS 2	W. FARLEY 6
F. LEAKER 3	J. G. JEFFRIES 7
*E. PALMER 4	*T. JAMES Tenor

Conducted by J. G. JEFFRIES.

* First peal of Stedman. † 100th peal of Stedman. First peal in the method as conductor, and first peal of Stedman on the bells. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. G. F. Winney, of London.

NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, March 17, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5000 CHANGES;

*ALFRED KING Treble	WILFRED H. J. HOOTON 5
*MISS D. EVA LEWIS 2	THOMAS W. CHAPMAN 6
HARRY ARGYLE 3	ERNEST STONE 7
*ABRAHAM WILKERSON 4	DOUGLAS H. ARGYLE Tenor

Composed by S. H. WOOD. Conducted by W. H. J. HOOTON.

* First peal in the method and first in the method on the bells. This composition is in five equal parts.

RAWTENSTALL, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 17, 1928, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

GEORGE BROWN Treble	WILLIE HOLT 5
JAMES INGHAM 2	HERBERT MILLS 6
FRANK FIELDEN 3	STANLEY PICKUP 7
*JOHN CRYER 4	WILLIAM HORAN Tenor

Composed by GEORGE LEWIS. Conducted by WILLIAM HORAN.

* First peal in the method. First peal on the bells since they were rehung by Messrs. Taylor and Co., in September last.

WILBY, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, March 17, 1928, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

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

Tenor 15 cwt.

ALFRED J. BERRY Treble	LESLIE G. BRETT 5
WILLIAM C. RUMSEY 2	THOMAS H. CHAPPELL 6
ALBERT G. HARRISON 3	JAMES BETTS 7
ERNEST F. POPPY 4	WILLIAM STEGGALL Tenor

Composed by JAMES PAGETT. Conducted by WILLIAM C. RUMSEY.

First peal in the method on the bells.

MALPAS, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 17, 1928, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5028 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

GEOFFREY MILTON Treble	EDWARD V. RODENHURST 5
ROBERT SPERRING 2	ALBERT J. HUGHES 6
HAROLD EDWARDS 3	GEORGE R. JONES 7
HARRY F. HOLDING 4	JAMES H. RIDING Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by J. H. RIDING.

BICESTER, OXFORDSHIRE.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 17, 1928, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDBURG,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 7 lb.

*FRED NEALE Treble	FREDERICK W. ELLIOTT 5
WALTER F. JUDGE 2	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT 6
STEPHEN HOARE 3	EDWIN HIMS 7
GEORGE H. CROSS 4	CAPT. J. HOWARD FREEBORN Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by GEO. H. CROSS.

* First peal of Major. The ringers of the treble, 2nd and 7th were proposed members of the association previous to starting.

CHURCHKIRK, LANCs.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(CHURCHKIRK SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, March 17, 1928, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

WILLIAM HINDLE Treble	ARTHUR INGHAM 5
JAMES PARR 2	LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS 6
WILLIE AARON 3	JAMES INGHAM 7
ARTHUR BROWN 4	SYDNEY BROWN Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by L. J. WILLIAMS.

Rung with bells muffled at handstroke as a token of respect for the late Bishop Chevasse, of Liverpool, who was one of the patrons of the Lancashire Association.

WEST CLANDON.—For practice on Thursday, March 15th, 720 London Surprise Minor: H. Harding, sen., 1, N. V. Harding 2, Wm. J. Robinson 3, J. Goacher 4, G. Grover 5, F. Bennett (conductor) 6. First 720 London Surprise on the bells since the fire in 1913. First extent in the method for ringers of 1st, 2nd and 5th.

QUEENSBURY, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 17, 1928, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

CLARENCE BLACKBURN ... Treble	WILLIAM BARTON ... 5
THOMAS B. KENDALL ... 2	GEORGE AMBLER ... 6
ROWLAND MYERS ... 3	FRED HODGSON ... 7
JOSEPH BROADLEY ... 4	WILLIAM AMBLER ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN. Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON.

Rung to celebrate the 20th anniversary of the first peal on the bells. The ringer of the 4th has now rung every bell in this tower to a peal, it being the sixth tower in which he has accomplished the feat.

ICKLETON, CAMBS.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 17, 1928, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

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

Tenor 18 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb.

*REGINALD CLEMENTS ... Treble	T. REGINALD DENNIS ... 5
†MISS KITTY WILLERS ... 2	*EDWARD FINCH ... 6
ALBERT E. AUSTIN ... 3	ERNEST G. HIBBINS ... 7
PERCY WEBB ... 4	A. GEORGE RIVERS ... Tenor

Composed by REV. H. EARLE BULWER. Conducted by E. G. HIBBINS

* First peal in the method. † Fiftieth peal.

BOLSOVER, DERBYSHIRE.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, March 17, 1928, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOHN FLINT ... Treble	STANLEY SLANEY ... 5
THOMAS RILEY ... 2	JOHN H. BROTHWELL ... 6
*JOSEPH LAXTON ... 3	CHARLES MASON ... 7
ERNEST WAGSTAFF ... 4	HAROLD KENT ... Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD Conducted by JOHN FLINT.

* First peal.

COLEMAN'S HATCH, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.)

On Sunday, March 18, 1928, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5072 CHANGES;

Tenor 11½ cwt.

KENNETH SNELLING ... Treble	CECIL NICE ... 5
*GEORGE OLLIVER ... 2	REGINALD V. JOHNSON ... 6
CHARLES H. SURRIDGE ... 3	NELSON ELLIOTT ... 7
BERNARD WELLS ... 4	OLIVER SIFFETTS ... Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by O. SIFFETTS.

* First peal of Double Norwich 'inside.'

SIX BELL PEALS.

HIGH LITTLETON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 17, 1928, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 6½ cwt.

*CECIL BISHOP ... Treble	WILLIAM T. SHORE ... 4
R. THOMAS CLARK ... 2	HAROLD E. BLACKER ... 5
†ERNEST F. BROWN ... 3	*GRAHAM ASHLEY ... Tenor

Conducted by H. E. BLACKER.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal inside. Messrs. Bishop and Ashley are to be congratulated on the way they rang throughout the peal, only having rung Doubles once before. The peal was rung to mark the election of Mr. R. F. Clark, as branch secretary of the above association. The band was drawn from six different towers, viz., Puddlow, Timsbury, Chewton Mendip, Farmborough, Clutton, and Stanton Drew.

OVER, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(THE OVER SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, March 10, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's with varied callings.

Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qr. in F.

ARTHUR W. T. GINN ... Treble	FRANCIS G. GLEAVES ... 4
FRED C. GINN ... 2	ARTHUR J. GINN ... 5
BERRY WAYMAN ... 3	FRANK WARRINGTON ... Tenor

Conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.

The first Surprise peal on the bells. All except Mr. Gleaves are natives of Over. Arranged and rung without 6-5's at back stroke.

PLYMOUTH, DEVON.

THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.

(SOUTH-WEST DISTRICT BRANCH.)

On Monday, March 12, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT CHARLES CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's, Rev. E. B. James' plan.

*WILLIAM LAVERS ... Treble	WILLIAM A. WONNACOTT ... 4
*THOMAS G. MYERS ... 2	ERNEST W. MARSH ... 5
CHARLES R. LILLEY ... 3	REV. EVERARD S. POWELL ... Tenor

Conducted by REV. EVERARD S. POWELL.

* First peal of Surprise Minor. Rung on the front six. First peal of Surprise Minor in Plymouth. Quarterly peal of the branch.

WYLAM, NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, March 14, 1928, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OSWIN,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 22 cwt. 23 lb.

*EDWARD WRAGG ... Treble	JOHN LOWREY ... 4
EDWARD LOWREY ... 2	HENRY B. TAYLOR ... 5
EDWARD A. HERN ... 3	ADAM DRAS ... Tenor

Conducted by EDWARD A. HERN.

* First peal in any method.

STOKE ALBANY, NORTHANTS.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 17, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 11 cwt.

JOSEPH NORTON ... Treble	RONALD RUSSELL ... 4
J. GEOFFREY GEARY ... 2	A. NORMAN GEARY ... 5
LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD ... 3	ERNEST MORRIS ... Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

Rung on the festival of St. Patrick.

ISLIP, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 17, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and two 720's each of Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr. 9 lb.

JOHN COLEMAN ... Treble	CYRIL WILSON ... 4
FRANK KIRK ... 2	AMOS SMART ... 5
JAMES M. NICKERSON ... 3	THOMAS JERVIS ... Tenor

Conducted by AMOS SMART.

This peal was arranged to be rung on March 3rd as a birthday compliment to the ringers of the 2nd and 3rd, also the daughter of the 3rd, but owing to unforeseen circumstances had to be postponed to this date.

HORSINGTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 17, 1928, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

HARRY ANDREWS ... Treble	EDWARD G. L. COWARD ... 4
WILLIAM J. COOMBS ... 2	WILLIAM C. SHUTE ... 5
PERCY H. HAZZARD ... 3	FRED A. COWARD ... Tenor

Conducted by W. C. SHUTE.

HANDBELL PEALS.

MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 12, 1928, in Two Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

At 16, LIME GROVE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor size 17 in A.

ALFRED BARNES	1-2	FREDERICK PAGE	5-6
ALLEN F. BAILEY	3-4	PETER LAFLIN	7-8

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by A. F. BAILEY.

* First peal 'in hand.'

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, March 16, 1928, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

At 29, VAUXBALL STREET,

A PEAL OF STEOMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S VARIATION.

Tenor size 10 in A.

WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ...	1-2	ERNEST MORRIS	5-6
EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD ...	3-4	LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD ..	7-8

Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

* First peal of Triples 'in hand.'

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

EASTERN DISTRICT MEETING AT GOOLE.

The annual meeting was held on Saturday, March 10th, and despite the wintry conditions prevailing, a representative gathering availed themselves of the kind invitation of the Vicar and churchwardens of Goole.

A short service was held in the Parish Church, when an address was given by the Vicar, the Rev. H. E. Wall, M.A., who had only been inducted to the living the previous evening by the Bishop of Sheffield. He extended a generous welcome to the gathering present, and expressed a keen desire to assist the work of the association, as did his predecessor, Bishop G. D. Iliffe, a commendable act which is greatly appreciated.

Ten was served in the Church schools, 40 members participating, and being representatives of towers at Beverley, Conisborough, Hemingbrough, Howden, Hull, Pontefract, Selby, Thorne, York, and the local company.

The business meeting followed, the vice-president, Mr. F. Cryer (Selby), occupying the chair. On the motion of Mr. H. Fairlam (Selby), it was agreed that the summer meeting be held at Snaith, no previous meeting of the association having been held there before. Five new members were elected, all of Goole: Messrs. J. Waud, G. Waud, F. Stephenson, A. Smith, and Miss Miriam Smith.

A vote of condolence was moved with the family and relatives of the late Mr. James Swift Calvert, J.P., an esteemed member of the St. James' company, Sutton-on-Hull. Deceased was also a member of the Sculcoates Board of Guardians, being at one time chairman.

The retiring officers were re-elected, with the exception of Mr. J. E. Pickard (Pontefract), who has left the country, this position being filled by Mr. H. A. Wallers (Pontefract).

A unanimous, hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells, service and address, the ladies who kindly served tea, and to Messrs. M. Tate and J. Drake, who worked so assiduously for the welfare of the meeting. This was responded to by Mr. J. Drake, in the absence of the Vicar (who had previously made his apologies), and this concluded a pleasant meeting.

SOUTHERN DIVISION.

The annual meeting of the Southern Division was held at Tickhill on Saturday, March 17th, and for an annual meeting the attendance was very small. Whether this was due to the fact that Tickhill is rather difficult of access from the Sheffield area, or that the members are satisfied with the officers, would be interesting to know. The towers represented were Sheffield Cathedral, Barnsley, Doncaster, Arkesey, Ecclesfield, Wortley, Rotherham and Conisborough.

The business meeting was held in the ringing chamber, Mr. G. Lewis (vice-president) being in the chair. For the annual joint meeting of the societies in the Southern Area, Ecclesfield was selected, the date being June 16th.

Mr. G. Halksworth was re-elected Ringing Master, and for the committee Messrs. H. Walker (Doncaster), Panther (Wath), and Hill (Tickhill) were elected. Mr. H. Walker was elected to general committee in place of Mr. C. Harrison, of Sheffield, who had resigned on leaving the county to take up a position with Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough.

Votes of thanks to the local company for having made all the necessary preparations concluded the meeting.

THEORY AND PRACTICE.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I should trespass if I continued to endeavour to convert 'A Plain Ringer' to views which are peculiar to myself, and I gracefully withdraw. In any case, I admire a man who is dogmatic and is unafraid to state his case.

However, as there must be many others of your readers who look upon lead 'heads' as being something quite apart from the practical, may I supplement my last letter with a final remark, and without controversial desire?

The little book 'Method Splicing' first taught me how useful this division of the leads can be to a practical ringer; it taught me that Cambridge-Primrose is not only an example of a course composed of similar rows, but that, as rows, they are one and the same method. This will explain, in part, my remark that we splice six Surprise methods in one 720 by 'ringing' only three. I hope, one day, to offer you an enlargement on this subject, when you can spare the space. But for the moment I will content myself by saying that some time, perhaps, your correspondent and I shall ring a little 'touch' together. He shall ring Cambridge, and I shall ring Primrose, while a third man shall call the bobs.—Yours faithfully,

GEO. L. JOYCE.

Leytonstone.

'BETWEEN' THE ROWS.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—It is now some thirty years since, in the pages of 'Bell News,' someone told us that changes took place 'between the rows.' I do not remember who it was, but evidently he knew nothing of nomenclature, or he would not have misled us so long. We have now to thank 'A Plain Ringer' for pointing out that 'there is nothing between the rows'; a simple self-evident truth which only needs stating to be accepted by everyone.

What the original author of this blunder meant was that it takes two rows to make a change (like two people to make a quarrel). A change is not completed until the second row is rung. This, however, does not mean that the change is 'between' the rows. The change is 'from' one row to another. If you are not ringing rounds, you cannot get rounds without a change, but that does not mean that rounds is a change.

When it is said, somewhat loosely, that all other rows but rounds are changes, all that is meant is that the starting row is the only one that is repeated, and when that is done the ringing of changes is finished for that time.

HERBERT DRAKE.

THE OCCASIONS OF MUFFLED RINGING.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Is there any rule regarding service ringing on the occasion of the death or funeral of any national or local celebrity? Should the bells be muffled, or is it incorrect to muffle them for service ringing under any circumstances?

I should imagine, of course, that this question should be decided for each individual tower by the incumbent in charge of same, but in the many cases where the incumbent takes no interest whatever in the ringing the question is left for the ringers themselves to decide, and as I am a member of a band of ringers which recently had occasion to try and settle this question for themselves, I am writing for information on the subject, as there was a very sharp division of opinion as to the propriety of ringing bells muffled for Sunday service.

Please note, I am asking for authoritative information and not for individual opinions on the subject—Yours faithfully,

P. W. CAVE.

Liverpool.

MR. CARTER'S RINGING MACHINE.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Like Mr. Coates, on my way to Croydon on March 3rd I paid a visit to the South Kensington Museum to see the machine myself, and there I found the object of my visit in the organ section on the third floor. The machine itself is a fine piece of mechanism, and I, as a campanologist, consider it one of the sights of London, and no ringer should visit London without making an effort to see it. The machine is enclosed in a glass case, and in another case next to it and connected with it is hung a peal of bells (12, if my memory serves me right). I was at the museum about one o'clock, and I was told by the attendant who took me to the machine that if I had been staying in the museum until 3 or 4 o'clock I should have a chance of hearing the machine playing, but having to get down to Croydon I was sorry to have to leave it at that. Any person paying a visit to the museum to see the machine, should ask for the organ section, and I don't think they will have any difficulty in finding the exhibit.—Yours truly,

WALTER IDLE.

Dewsbury.

THE CURFEW.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Illness has prevented me from replying before to Mr. Drake's letter. Its appearance in your issue of March 2nd was a curious coincidence, as I had just tabled a resolution for the Central Council with reference to the 'Curfew, Angelus or other traditional bell.' The wording is proof of some community of ideas between us both.

To enter into the history of the curfew would involve much expenditure of time and no little demand on your valuable space, but I will answer the last query in Mr. Drake's letter at once.

The curfew rung at Seville is called 'Queda,' from the verb Quedar, meaning to stay or remain. An ancient regulation required inhabitants of the city to repair to their dwellings at the sound of the bell and remain there for the night. A firmly-established tradition ascribes this ordinance to Don Pedro the Cruel (14th century), who answers in that respect to William the Conqueror. In Spain, as in England, the restrictions have long since been removed, but the curfew continues to be rung. Actually, it is rung between 9 and 10 from October to March, and between 10 and 11 from April to September. Either time would be very early for a Spaniard to retire, as in Madrid theatres frequently open at 11 p.m.

While the Cathedral bells are used at frequent intervals for ecclesiastical purposes—in some cases for services no longer held, which fact bears out Mr. Drake's suggestion—the curfew is recognised as a civil institution and paid for out of the city funds.—Yours faithfully,

F. L. EDWARDS.

Kington Magna.

HOW TIME FLIES!*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Will you kindly allow me, through your columns, to correct an error made by my old friend George Flavel re the touch of 1,263 Stedman Caters rung at St. Giles', Northampton, on March 6th, and which was recorded in your last issue of March 16th, stating that 'it was rung on the 46th anniversary of his first peal of Stedman Cinques.' As one who took part in this peal, I may say it was rung on Saturday, March 6th, 1880, at St. Bride's, Fleet Street, and is recorded in my private peal book, which nearly every London ringer of that time has seen. This would make it 48 years instead of 46.—Yours truly,

HENRY A. HOPKINS,
Royal Cumberland Youths, London.

YORK MINSTER BELLS.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—In your issue of March 9th Mr. Colin Harrison is reported to have said that the magnificent ring of twelve at York Minster was the outcome of Mr. A. Walker's speech at the Yorkshire Commemoration Dinner some years ago. Kindly allow me to correct that statement. What did happen was this. The local ringers, after constant complaints to the Minster authorities about the bad going of some of the bells, succeeded in enlisting the sympathy of the Dean (Dr. W. Foxley Norris), and he graciously undertook to have the bells put in order. This occurred before the above-mentioned dinner was held. Afterwards, it was largely a question of £ s. d. as to what was to be done, and also who was to have the handling of this formidable task. Fortunately, the Rev. Canon Nolloth was placed at the helm, and the result is York Minster's magnificent peal of twelve, with an extra A flat bell added, also 'Great Peter' recast and rehung. May St. Martin's, Birmingham, have the same good fortune.—Yours faithfully,

T. F. EARNSHAW

(President of the York Minster Society).

59, Nun Mill Street, York,

March 19th, 1928.

BARNSELEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

A monthly meeting of the Barnsley and District Association was held at Royston on Saturday, March 10th, when members attended from Wath, Shelley, Darfield, Felkirk, Sandal, Barnsley, and the local company. The bells were rung from 3.15 p.m. until 9 p.m., in a wide variety of Minor methods. A short service, at the request of the Vicar, was held in church, and was well attended, the ministrations of Rev. Lambert being much appreciated. He did not fail in his duty to stress the faith and duty of Christian ringers, and to act well their part.

Tea followed, and here the churchwardens, some of the lady churchworkers, and others met to give welcome to the ringers. After tea, the Vicar kindly took the chair for the business meeting. The chief item came at the end, when the President, Mr. J. Moxon, and vice-president, Mr. W. Reyner, put forward a vote of thanks for all the generosity and kindness received by the association. They begged for recognition and consideration from all within the church to ringers, who desire that touch of feeling that makes the whole world kin.

The Vicar replied in feeling terms, and expressed a warm desire to see and know more of such important work.

C. D. P.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Sir Henry Chauncy, Kt., who was recently referred to in these columns as being the author of 'Historical Antiquities of Hertfordshire' (1700), was a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

A band at Rishton, Lancs, all under 21 years, whose average age is 18½, are ringing Treble Bob Major for Sunday services, and they would like to know if there is any younger local company doing this.

Mr. David Collins, the veteran Suffolk ringer, recently celebrated his 80th birthday, and the bells at Worlingworth were rung in honour of the event, the veteran himself ringing the tenor to a 704 of Oxford Treble Bob Major.

'Oranges and lemons, say the bells of St. Clement's,' and the old nursery rhyme will become true again on March 31st, when the bells of St. Clement Danes, London, ring for the festival at which the children will receive gifts of oranges and lemons. Particulars of the ringing will be found among the notices.

The bells of St. Philip's Cathedral, Birmingham, will be broadcast on Sunday, from 7.50 to 8 p.m.

At the triennial election of parish councillors held in the Town Hall, Clun, Salop, on the 12th, Mr. W. Mead (churchwarden and district hon. secretary of the Hereford Guild) was re-elected at the head of the poll, another ringer, Mr. S. W. Roberts, being second. Unfortunately, Mr. Mead was not able to be present owing to an illness which has kept him indoors since the beginning of the month.

The 18½ ton bell at Croydon, on the occasion of the 'All England' meeting, sounded round the world, for not only did the press of this country give extensive notice of the event, but the newspapers of two continents have talked about it. Already a cutting from the 'Detroit News,' describing the bell and the gathering, has reached us, and Detroit is 12 days' mail journey distant from Woking.

The first peal of Reverse Bob Major was rung at Harrietsham, Kent, on March 23rd, 1751. It was conducted by that famous old ringer, James Barham.

On the same day in 1783, at Fulham, the College Youths rang 5,020 Old Double Caters, 'being the first peal ever rung in that method.'

A year later, on March 24th, 1784, the same society rang at St. Bride's, Fleet Street, 5,160 'Double Twelve In,' and two days afterwards they rang at St. Saviour's, Southwark, 6,048 'Real Double Twelve In.'

While the College Youths were busy with those performances, the Royal Cumberland Youths set about the Treble Bob Royal record, and at Shoreditch on March 27th, 1784, rang the peal of 12,000, in 9 hrs. 5 mins., which stood as the record until 1911.

March 27th is also the anniversary of the first peal of Superlative Surprise Royal, which was rung at Wakefield in 1826. It was a hundred years before the next was rung—at Surfleet.

A peal of 'New Double Tripples,' being the only peal that was ever completed in that method, was rung at Shoreditch on March 28th, 1750.

On March 29th, 1762, the College Youths rang a peal of 10,080 Grandsire Caters, in 6 hrs. 53 mins.

This is not a bad record for one week of anniversaries of events 150 to 200 years ago. There were enterprising ringers and giants in the Exercise even in those days.

FROM THREE TO EIGHT.

LILLINGTON'S NEW OCTAVE.

Some months ago the three old bells which hung in the tower of the Church of St. Mary Magdalene, Lillington, were taken down by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and sent to their foundry, where they were tuned, and five new bells added to make the octave:—

Tenor.—9 cwt. 0 qr. 18 lb., F sharp. Henry Bagley made me, 1675.

7.—8 cwt. 0 qr. 22 lb., G sharp. Hugh Watts, Leicester, 1625.

6.—7 cwt. 0 qr. 20 lb., A sharp. By Thomas Harrys, London, about 1480.

5.—5 cwt. 1 qr. 3 lb., B. To the glory of God and in memory of Mary Bidemead, Stratton, who passed to eternal rest on August 14th, 1926. And little children's voices echo answer, making Alleluia.

4.—5 cwt. 1 qr. 27 lb., C sharp. In memoriam, Mary Bidemead, Stratton.

3.—4 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb., D sharp. Ditto.

2.—3 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lb., E sharp. Ditto.

Treble.—3 cwt. 3 qr. 16 lb., F sharp. Ditto.

Also on each of the new bells, M. and S., London, 1927.

The bells have been hung in a new oak frame, with all the latest fittings, including ball bearings and iron headstocks. The cannons of the three old bells have not been removed.

After the dedication took place on December 19th last, members of the Warwickshire Guild of Ringers from Rugby and Allesley rang a touch of Stedman Triples, also a course of Cambridge Surprise Major, in which Mr. A. A. Hughes, of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, took part.

On Saturday, March 3rd, members from the same towers rang a peal of Stedman Triples upon the bells, a report of which has appeared in 'The Ringing World.' It was agreed by all the band that Messrs. Mears and Stainbank have carried out the work in a most excellent manner.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The Second Session of the Thirteenth Council (36th Annual Meeting) will be held at Hereford, on Whitsun Tuesday, May 29th, 1928, at 11 a.m. precisely.

The morning sitting will be adjourned from 1 p.m. till 2.30, from which hour the Council will sit, if necessary, until 5.30 p.m.

The Standing Committee will meet previously at 9.45 a.m. in the same room.

AGENDA, 1928.

1. Minutes of the last meeting.
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Statement of accounts and of sale of publications.
4. Election of honorary members.
5. Presentation of new members to the president.
6. To receive and discuss the reports of the following committees, viz.:—
 - (a) Standing.
 - (b) Peal Collection.
 - (c) Literature and Press.
 - (d) Methods.
 - (e) Peals' Analysis.
 - (f) Towers and Belfries.
 - (g) Records.
 - (h) Legal Liability.
 - (i) Broadcasting.
7. That the Council shall issue, at a small charge, peal diplomas for the encouragement of young ringers (last year's adjourned motion).
8. That this Council emphatically deprecates the discontinuance of the Curfew, Angelus or other bell traditionally rung in any parish, alike on historical, spiritual and practical grounds, and calls upon its officers and members to exert their efforts individually or collectively to prevent any such breach with ancient usage. (Rev. F. L. Edwards and Mr. T. Hervey Beams.)
9. That the Council should consider the feasibility of supplying and fixing memorial plaques in towers associated with famous ringers of the past. (Messrs. E. Alex. Young and A. A. Hughes.)
10. That in the 'Conditions required for peals' laid down by the Central Council, the following be inserted: 'ON FIVE BELLS. That peals of Doubles consist of at least 42 true and complete 120's rung without interval and without "rounds" or any other rows being included or rung more than once in any 120. A peal may be lengthened by the addition of any number of 120's fulfilling the same conditions, with or without one touch of less than 120.' And the following be substituted for the present definition of a peal on six bells: 'ON SIX BELLS. That peals of Minor consist of at least seven true and complete 720's rung without interval and without "rounds" or any other row being included or rung more than once in any 720. A peal may be lengthened by the addition of any number of 720's fulfilling the same conditions, with or without one touch of less than 720.' (Messrs. J. S. Goldsmith and Joseph W. Parker.)
11. That a committee be appointed to consider the best method of dealing with cases of extraordinary sickness amongst members of our affiliated change ringing associations, with power to report to the next annual meeting. (Proposed by W. Ayre; seconder not yet given.)
12. To fix the place of next year's meeting.
13. Other business, if any.

RE-DEDICATION OF FLAMSTEAD BELLS.

The bells of St. Leonard's Church, Flamstead, Herts, which have been tuned and rehung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, were, as already briefly recorded, rededicated on Saturday afternoon, March 10th, at a service of thanksgiving conducted by the Vicar (Rev. F. C. Clare), at which the Rev. H. W. B. Berry, Vicar of Redbourn, Herts, was the preacher. Prayers were said at the tower arch for benefactors, ringers and workmen, for the sick, and the departed, and, after the prayers and before the last hymn, the ringers rang the bells for a few minutes. A new window in the tower and extensive works of repair were blessed at the same time. The sermon was an earnest appeal to all to respond to the real message of the bells, and was greatly appreciated.

After the service, tea was provided at the Vicarage by the Vicar and Mrs. Clare, to which the ringers, visitors from other places, and several office holders of the parish were invited. After tea, happy speeches were made by the Vicar, Mr. Hayes (leader), Mr. F. Smith (vice-leader), Major Deacon (architect), and Mr. H. W. Austee, a former leader, and the Flamstead ringers gave a few tunes on the handbells. The party then adjourned to the belfry, where various touches were rung.

It is agreed on all sides that the bells, five of which are dated 1664 and one 1729, are vastly improved in tone, and the new method of hanging has greatly eased the task of the ringers.

BELLS OF ST. MARTIN'S, BIRMINGHAM.

A NEW PEAL OF TWELVE FOR THE BULL RING.

The contract has now been placed with Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of the Whitechapel Foundry, for the recasting of the bells of St. Martin's, Birmingham. The famous church in the Bull Ring is to have a new Simpson-tuned peal of 12 bells, with a tenor about 37 cwt., slightly heavier than the present tenor. The old wooden frame, which is in an excellent state of preservation, is to be retained.

By this decision of the church authorities the old bells will go back to the foundry whence they came, for they were, nearly all of them, cast by Lester, Pack and Chapman. There were six bells in the tower from 1682 to 1758, when Lester and Pack supplied a new peal of ten, and in 1771 two trebles were added to make a ring of twelve.

For the purposes of its bells, St. Martin's is exceedingly fortunate. It is recorded that 'Jno. Billingsley, A.D. 1629, left a croft of land to provide bell ropes.' This croft is now situated in one of the busiest thoroughfares in Birmingham, and having been built upon and duly appreciated in value, St. Martin's bells have never been silent for want of ropes, while in these days there is a bumping surplus which has enabled the present recasting scheme to be undertaken.

The magnificent tower, with its lofty spire 220 feet high, is a nobly proportioned structure, and was built about the year 1690.

DIVISION OF THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

UNANIMOUS REJECTION OF SCHEME BY BURTON DISTRICT.

The first district meeting of the year was held at Overseal on Saturday, March 17th, when upwards of twenty ringers and friends were present from Burton, Ashby, Measham, Newhall, Repton, Uttoxeter, Melbourne and the local company, whilst Mr. J. H. Shepherd, of Swindon, also arrived at teatime. The methods rung during the afternoon and evening included Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Minor and Major.

A capital tea had been prepared in the schools by the Overseal lady ringers and friends, this being followed by the business meeting. The Rev. H. E. Worthington, Rector of Seales, presided.

For the impending vacancy of treasurer, no one from the district coming forward for office, Mr. E. W. Beadsmoore proposed, and Mr. J. W. Cotton seconded, the nomination of Mr. Albert Coppock, of Nottingham.

As an amendment, the local Secretary (Mr. R. H. Dove) proposed the nomination of Mr. Walter Wallace, of Derby. Mr. W. Brooker seconded, and on being put to the vote Mr. Coppock was nominated. It was, however, resolved to nominate Mr. Wallace in the event of the former's refusal to hold office.

For the vacancy on the Central Council caused by the death of Mr. Pryce Taylor, of Loughborough, Mr. J. H. Swinfield was unanimously nominated as delegate.

Nominations for these two offices had been made at the annual district meeting in January, but the persons nominated had declined to hold office.

The Rev. J. R. King, Vicar of Measham, who was present, invited the district to hold their next meeting at his church on Saturday, April 28th, this being carried.

The final and most important item on the agenda, was the discussion of the proposed formation of Diocesan Guilds for the respective dioceses of Derby, Leicester, Lichfield and Southwell. Various items from 'The Ringing World' were read, and a discussion then took place, the principal speakers being the two clergy present, and Messrs. J. H. Swinfield, E. W. Beadsmoore, J. W. Cotton and R. H. Dove.

The district covers portions of the dioceses of Derby, Leicester and Lichfield, Burton itself being in two dioceses. There is a membership in the district of 81 ringing members, nearly 10 per cent. of the total membership. Of these, 21 are in Leicester diocese, 29 in Lichfield, and 31 in Derby. It was pointed out that if the association were divided into Diocesan Guilds, no fewer than three districts would come under Leicester, namely, Leicester, Hinckley and Loughborough (with few exceptions), in addition to several towers from the Burton district. This would probably cause dissatisfaction in other quarters when the time came for the apportioning of the funds.

Altogether it was decided amongst those present at the meeting that the scheme, as the members understood it, was quite impracticable in the district.

The following resolutions were accordingly passed unanimously:—

'That the members of the local committee be authorised to vote against the scheme at the forthcoming annual meeting.'

'That as the members were insufficiently informed as to the exact proposals, the matter be left over to the following annual meeting, by which time a vote of the whole association could be taken, and the matter properly discussed amongst the several districts.'

This concluded the business, after which a vote of thanks was passed to the ladies for their help with the tea, and to the Rector for his presence and permission for the use of the bells.

Further ringing in the evening concluded the meeting.

CONDUCTED FIVE HUNDRED 720'S.

At Lambethurst, Kent, on Thursday, March 15th, for practice, 720 Plain Bob: J. J. Bassett (aged 12 years, first 720) 1, A. Relfe (conductor) 2, G. Fuller 3, A. Marshall 4, A. Smith 5, J. Waghorn 6. This was A. Relfe's 503rd 720 as conductor.

THE LADIES' PEAL OF MAJOR.

A BAND WHO MADE RINGING HISTORY.

The first peal of Major rung by a band of ladies was achieved, it will be remembered, as recently as January 7th of this year, at St. Mary's, Handsworth, Sheffield, and was a notable performance. It was rung under the auspices of the Ladies' Guild and the Yorkshire Association by: Mrs. C. Ryder treble, Miss Elsie Smith 2, Mrs. Hilda Jacques 3, Miss Eva Hopkins 4, Miss Molly Davenport (conductor) 5, Miss Noel Cawthorne 6, Miss Amy Taylor 7, Miss Elizabeth Foulk tenor. By the courtesy of Mr. William Willson, of Leicester, we are enabled to publish this photograph of the band.

fact that she only rang her first peal on January 23rd, 1926, since when she has rung six more, total seven. Cupid whispers that she is about to change again, this time a 'spliced' method in conjunction with a well-known clerical ringer.

Miss Noel Cawthorne also hails from Handsworth, and therefore was quite at home in her own tower. She rang her first 5,040 on November 1st, 1924, and has now five 'scalps' in her vanity bag.

Miss Amy Taylor, of Worksop, is a bashful maiden, with very little opportunities for peal ringing, but the fact that she rang the 7th bell in a Major peal is a hallmark of ability. A badly-rung seventh can spoil the best tenor ringer's efforts, and it is on record that Miss Taylor struck her bell splendidly. She has rung two peals up to the present.

Miss E. Foulk (Duffield) is one of the few 'Tenoras' in the Exercise. Her first essay as a peal ringer was on St. Valentine's Day, February 14th, 1925. She is equally at home on any other bell, and has rung peals of Grandsire and Stedman Triples (inside) for the M.C.A. The choice of Miss Foulk for the tenor was a good one. Among the sterner sex, the ringer of that bell has a duty to 'shepherd' the strollers when the 'colts' run green, and it must be infinitely more difficult with a band of 'les filles.' Miss Foulk's total of peals is 11.



Reading from left to right: Top row: Miss A. Taylor, Mrs. H. Jacques, Miss N. Cawthorne, Miss E. Hopkins. Bottom row: Miss E. Foulk, Miss M. Davenport, Mrs. C. Ryder, Miss E. Smith.

'WHO'S WHO' IN THE LADIES' BAND.

Mrs. C. Ryder, Rotherham, who rang the treble, was the first lady to ring a peal for the Yorkshire Association. She rang her first in March, 1913, and has scored 30 peals.

Miss Elsie Smith (Norton) accomplished her first in November, 1922, and since that time has accounted for three others; total, four.

Mrs. Hilda Jacques (Mansfield-Woodhouse) was better known as Miss Hilda Willson, of Leicester, before her marriage. She rang her first peal at the age of 13. The next year scored two in one day—Stedman Caters and Double Norwich. Has rung 33 peals in most methods on eight and ten bells, including Superlative, Cambridge, and London Surprise, and conducting one of Treble Bob.

Miss Eva Hopkins learned to ring a bell at Handsworth, and made her debut as a peal ringer there March 11th, 1922. Up to the present she has rung a total of six peals.

Miss Molly Davenport (Dore), the conductress, is to be congratulated on calling the peal from an inside bell. Her skill is obvious from the

As this performance was rung under the auspices of the Yorkshire Association, it has been suggested that it be commemorated by a peal tablet. It goes without saying that if some member of the Y.A. will initiate a fund, other subscriptions will follow. The writer is promised several, even from Aberdeen. Verb sap.

APSLEY END.—On Monday, Mar. 12th, at St. Mary's Church, after Confirmation Service, a quarter-peal of Minor in 43 mins., being 360 Oxford Bob and 900 Plain Bob: R. Bruce 1, F. Tompkins 2, J. Stopp 3, A. Brinklow 4, H. Golding 5, A. V. Good (conductor) 6.

SOUTHAMPTON, HANTS.—At St. Mary's Church, on Saturday, March 17th, previous to the induction of the Rev. R. B. Jolly, M.A., as Rector of the parish, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): W. J. Butler 1, A. Newman 2, G. Pullinger 3, J. Faithfull (conductor) 4, H. Payne 5, F. Mursell 6, G. Williams 7, Ray Curtis 8. —For evening service, Sunday, March 18th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire: C. Smith (first attempt) 1, J. Faithfull 2, H. Payne 3, Reg Curtis 4, F. Mursell 5, H. Reeves (conductor) 6, F. Cole 7, H. Nash 8.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**KEENNESS IN THE GUILDFORD DISTRICT.**

The concluding meeting in connection with the organisation of the four districts into which the new Guildford Diocesan Guild has been formed was held on Saturday, when members of the Guildford District met in their cathedral city, and the greatest keenness was shown. Splendid use was made of the ring of ten bells at St. Nicolas' Church during the afternoon, several members getting their first touches of Caters or Royal. The Guild's service was well attended, and an admirable address given by the Rev. J. M. la F. McNally (Rector of Haslemere). After tea at the Prince of Wales Assembly Room, the business meeting was presided over by Mr. Walter Harrison, supported by the Master of the Guild (Major J. H. B. Hesse), the hon. treasurer (Admiral T. P. Walker, D.S.O.), the hon. general secretary (Mr. J. S. Goldsmith), and nearly 70 members from the following towers: Guildford (Cathedral and St. Nicolas'), Chiddingfold, Cranleigh, Godalming, Haslemere, Merrow, Pirbright, Shalford, Shere, West Clandon, Witley, Woking and Worplesdon. There were also visiting members from Aldershot, Bagshot, Barnet, Dorking, Farnham, Leatherhead, Portsea and Thursley. A warm welcome was given by the chairman and members to Mr. A. H. Pulling, who was present at the first meeting he has been able to attend since his accident more than six months ago.

The Hon. Secretary, in a statement on the position of the Guild, said the towers were rapidly coming into the affiliation scheme, and 28 out of the 56 in the diocese had actually paid the affiliation fee, while others had pledged themselves to do so. In the Guildford District 17 out of the 21 towers had either paid or promised to pay the affiliation fee, and he thought that what they started as a venture of faith might now be said to be an assured success. Up to that moment they had 448 members, representing 48 towers. The Guildford District had members from 19 out of the 21 towers in the area, the roll including 129 ringing and 24 hon. members. The old Guildford District was looked upon as one of the strongest in the Winchester Diocesan Guild, but the Guildford Diocesan Guild had not only got affiliated to it all the towers in the diocese that were formerly in membership with the Winchester Guild through the Guildford District, but 16 others in that area which were not in membership (applause). He thought that was an admirable result of their work, and the best justification for having established a new Guild (applause).

Mr. H. Mayers, of Godalming, was elected an honorary member, and 20 ringing members were elected from Worplesdon (3), Wonerish (1), Godalming (2), Haslemere (1), Cathedral (4), St. Nicolas' Guildford (1), and Merrow (8).

THE DISTRICT OFFICERS.

The Cathedral Society had suggested that there should be joint Ringing Masters for the district, one to be elected from an eight-bell tower, and one from a six-bell tower; also that owing to the size of the district there should be an assistant or organising secretary.

Considerable discussion took place on the question of the joint mastership, but eventually it was resolved that there should be only one. For the office, two nominations had been received—Mr. A. C. Hazelden (St. Nicolas', Guildford) and Mr. W. J. Robinson (Cathedral). On a show of hands, Mr. Hazelden was elected.

Three nominations had been received for the secretaryship, and, after close voting, Mr. N. V. Harding, of Orchard Cottage, West Clandon, a young and enthusiastic ringer, was elected.

It was resolved to appoint an assistant organising secretary, and this post was filled by the election of Mr. W. R. Melville.

For the two ringing members on the Executive Committee, six names had been nominated, but Mr. Hazelden, having become an ex-officio member, five went to the ballot, with Messrs. F. W. Rogers (Portsea) and E. Nye (Bagshot) as scrutineers. The result was announced later, when the Chairman declared Messrs. C. N. Burdock (Cathedral) and B. Whittington (Cranleigh) elected.

Only one nomination had been received as the hon. member of the district on the Executive Committee, and the Hon. Secretary stated that Mr. Walter Harrison was therefore elected. This was received with loud applause, for Mr. Harrison has rendered invaluable service to the Guild throughout the period of its organisation.

It was resolved that the annual meeting of the district should be held at Guildford on January 19th, 1929, and that district meetings be held, on dates to be arranged by the secretary, at Shere and Albury, Merrow and Clandon, Haslemere, Bramley and Wonerish, and Godalming. The selection of these five was made to fit into the general scheme by which there will be a meeting somewhere in the Guild area once a fortnight. A joint meeting with the Leatherhead District at Shere was also approved.

The meeting also approved in principle of district combined practices, the details being left to the District Committee. It was also resolved that special methods should be selected beforehand for practice at the district meetings. The methods for the first six-bell meeting will be Grandsire Doubles and Bob Minor for beginners; Oxford and Sandal Treble Bob for the more advanced. For the first eight-bell practice, Grandsire Triples and Bob Major for beginners, and Shipway's Court Major for the more advanced. The idea behind the scheme is to lead on by easy stages to the Surprise methods both on six and eight bells.

(Continued in next column.)

'IRENEUS PISTOR.'

The following further sums have been received towards the fund for helping Mr. Alf T. Baker ('Ireneus Pistor'), of Hillsborough, Sheffield, in his affliction. Those who desire to contribute should send on their donations without delay.

	£	s.	d.
Amount already acknowledged	179	8	11
Ringers of St. John-the-Baptist's Church, Peterborough		10	0
A. Flowers, Marysville, Michigan, U.S.A.		1	0
James S. Wilde, 9, Balmoral Street, Opoho, Dunedin, New Zealand		1	0
	£181	18	11

BOTTESFORD BELLS RESTORED.**OLD PEAL RETUNED AND HUNG IN NEW FRAME.**

For some considerable time it was known that something must be done to the ancient ring of eight bells at St. Mary's, Bottesford. The 'go' had become very bad, and the peal was sadly out of tune. It was therefore decided to call in experts, and they were firmly of the opinion that to continue ringing would result in some serious mishap. The old oak beams which supported the frame were sadly decayed, and it was deemed advisable to clear out the whole of the frame and the old beams.

With the knowledge of what needed to be done, and with the realisation that the present generation had a duty to perform, steps were taken to raise the necessary funds to carry out the work of restoration. This contract was eventually entrusted to Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, who removed the bells to the foundry for tuning and alterations. The bells have been rehung in a new cast-iron frame, which is carried on 15in. rolled steel girders built firmly into the walls of the tower, the whole peal being fitted with new cast-iron headstocks and hung on ball bearings. They have been placed about 14 feet lower in the tower, which has necessitated the erection of a new ringing chamber. The whole work reflects the greatest credit on the firm.

A special reopening and thanksgiving service took place on Saturday, March 10th. The preacher was the Rev. B. H. Smith, M.A., M.C., honorary secretary of the Framland Society of Bellringers. The lessons were read by the Rev. C. J. Sturton, Vicar of Orston, and a popular campanologist. Preceded by the churchwarden, the clergy passed to the west end of the nave, where appropriate dedicatory prayers were read by the Rector, the Rev. F. Walford, M.A., a few well-struck rounds being rung whilst the clergy returned to the chancel.

The Rev. B. H. Smith preached a most instructive sermon, taking as his text the words, 'Father, I thank thee.' He said they were met that day in an act of thanksgiving to Almighty God for the success which had crowned their efforts for the restoration of the bells of their beautiful church. To have raised such a large sum in so short a time for the purpose of God's house was a splendid achievement. He felt sure the small amount required would be as gladly given as the larger amounts had been.

Immediately after the blessing, the bells were set going, when a perfect touch of Grandsire Triples was rung by: A. Mackears 1, M. Bend 2, S. Proctor 3, E. Nidd 4, H. Thorpe 5, R. H. Bartram 6, A. W. Ward 7, T. H. Hall 8. Ringers were present from Grantham, Melton Mowbray, Hough-on-the-Hill and Loughborough, Messrs. Taylor and Co. being represented by Mr. J. Oldham and Mr. W. Smith, the bell-hanger. The tone and 'go' of the bells is excellent, and it is agreed on all sides that Messrs. Taylor and Co. deserve great praise for the splendid improvement they have made. That Bottesford people are justly proud of their fine old bells is proved by the way they have responded to the appeal, as practically the whole of the money required is raised, with the exception of about £50.

A. W. W.

The suggestion for a series of meetings for conductors' instruction also met with approval, and details of this will be arranged by the committee.

'Diplomas for young ringers,' referred to the associations by the Central Council, was discussed, and, on the motion of Mr. Melville, seconded by Admiral Walker, who made excellent speeches in favour of the proposal, it was resolved, with only two dissentients, to approve of the scheme.

The General Secretary mentioned that the Bishop of Guildford had promised to attend the summer festival at Epsom on June 30th and preach at the service. He also renewed the appeal made on behalf of the memorial fund being raised by the Winchester Diocesan Guild towards providing three new bells, to make a ring of eight at Milford-on-Sea in memory of the late Master of the Guild (Rev. C. E. Matthews).

The Chairman mentioned the important matter of the suggested amalgamation of the Guild with the Surrey Association, which was to be discussed by the latter on the following Saturday, and urged the members to give it their careful consideration in case the matter was referred to them by the Surrey Association.

Votes of thanks to the Rector of St. Nicolas' and St. Nicolas' band, to the preacher, the organist, and the Chairman concluded the meeting.

THE CROYDON PARTY.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Will you allow me through your columns to say a brief word in warm admiration of everything at the Croydon Bell Foundry on the 3rd inst.? First, of the bells themselves. All of them, large and small, struck me as being beautifully pure in tone, while the sound of the large ones came as nothing short of a revelation. Bells of a weight comparable to them, and certainly coming anywhere near the weight of the Great Bourdon bell, have, so far as my limited experience goes, given forth not one but a discordant mixture of several notes; and these bells of Messrs. Gillett and Johnston have ushered us into a new era. Truly, the firm is to be most warmly congratulated, as are also England, whence they come, and America, whither they go.

Then as to the party. Never in all my ringing career have I seen such a gathering or a happier one. It was delightful to meet old friends from all parts of the country. The arrangements were perfect in every respect for enabling the vast crowd to see all parts of the works, and were a striking testimony to the care and thought and organisation that had been bestowed on every particular. For myself, I owe a special debt of gratitude to Mr. Cyril Johnston, who had the heavy ten rung for my personal benefit just before I had, to my intense regret, to leave at half-past three. They form a glorious ring-of-ten.

May I, in conclusion, Sir, add a word of warm congratulation to yourself for the full and admirable report given of this unique occasion in last week's 'Ringing World'? This must have been a matter of no light undertaking, and with the excellent illustrations will form a valuable record in time to come.

Only one point more. Cannot we get the sound of these glorious bells broadcast on the wireless? If there is any music worthy of it, it is surely this.—Yours truly,

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

Kemerton, Tewkesbury.

A SALOP PEAL REHUNG.

Another milestone in the history of the ancient village of Worthen, Salop, which, it is interesting to note, was formerly a market town under charter of Henry III., was reached with the rededication of the rehung ring of six bells by the Lord Bishop of Hereford on Saturday, March 10th.

The tower, whilst laying no claim to architectural beauty, is imposing with its massive ruggedness, signifying it was built for use and not for ornament, for it must be borne in mind that owing to the nearness of the Welsh Border it was not immune from the attacks of the marauders from that country in the days of old.

As far as can be ascertained, the earliest record of bells hanging in the tower is that of four bells, hung in an oak frame, in the year 1616; in 1850 they were recast into a peal of six at the Whitechapel Foundry. Owing to the dilapidated condition of the frame and fittings, the bells have remained unringed for many years. In view of the large sums of money necessary for the restoration of the church fabric and schools, the parishioners were reluctantly compelled to leave the bells in their unsatisfactory state. To all appearances it seemed likely that this state of affairs would last indefinitely, but, thanks to the munificence of Mr. John Powell, of Birmingham, whose ancestors have been connected with Worthen since 1568, the bells have been tuned and rehung in a new and massive iron frame on a foundation of heavy steel girders, by Messrs. John Taylor and Company, Loughborough. All the fittings are entirely new, and incorporate all the improvements introduced by that firm, including ball bearings. A nicely-executed tablet on the north wall of the nave records Mr. Powell's magnificent gift.

The honour of reopening the bells was accorded to the ringers of Conbrookdale Parish Church, who spoke highly of the tone and 'go.' Following the raising of the bells in peal, Grandsire, Stedman Doubles and Plain and Treble Bob Minor were rung.

The late hour of the special service debarred many from attending this out of the way place, but much enthusiasm was displayed locally. The dedicatory prayers and eloquent address of the Bishop were followed with interest. Immediately after the Benediction the Bishop, clergy, and congregation remained seated whilst five of the 'Dale' ringers rung on handbells a well-struck course of Grandsire Caters, an innovation that called forth well-earned compliments, and later in the evening, in between ringing on the tower bells, the visitors were prevailed upon to oblige with a few selections on handbells, which were rendered in masterly style.

That the visiting ringers' services were appreciated is evidenced by the manner in which the Vicar (Canon Bell) entertained them, also in the kindness of the churchwarden who entertained them previous to returning to the 'home' position, and to these gentlemen thanks are accorded.

It is understood that a band of young ringers is in course of formation, whose intention it is to join the Shropshire County Association and the Hereford Diocesan Guild. To them we wish every success.

WEST GRINSTEAD, SUSSEX.—On Wednesday, March 14th, for Confirmation service, 720 Woodbine and 720 Cambridge Surprise: V. Turrell 1, R. Stredwick 2, G. Warnett 3, V. Goatcher 4, H. Turrell 5, W. Denman (conductor) 6.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The meeting of the North and East District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild, arranged at Hornsey on Saturday last, proved an attraction to some 38 members, who enjoyed good practice on the fine-toned peal of six hung in the old tower, which now stands alone. The ancient church has recently been demolished, and the services are held in a stately edifice some 50 yards from the site of the original building.

Ringings commenced at three o'clock, and at 5 p.m. the usual service was held. The Rector (Rev. H. C. Montgomerie Campbell) preached one of the most instructive and useful sermons that the writer has heard for a long time.

An excellent tea was served in the Church Hall, after which the business meeting was held. Hendon was chosen for the next meeting, if possible on May 5th.

Votes of thanks to the Rector for his address at the service and for presiding at the meeting, and to the local ringers for the excellent way in which matters had been arranged, were unanimously passed.—The Rector, in acknowledging the thanks of the members, gave the association a hearty welcome, and expressed a hope that another such meeting would be held at no distant date.

The tower was afterwards visited, and several touches rung, the methods practised being Grandsire Doubles, Plain and Kent Treble Bob, Cambridge and London Surprise Minor.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A successful meeting of the Southern District was held at Lambeth on Saturday last, and was largely attended by members and friends from a wide area. As ringing facilities were rather restricted, an early start was necessary, and, therefore, soon after 2.30 the bells were merrily swinging to the good old tune of Stedman Triples. No time was to be lost, so a succession of touches in various methods followed, including Cambridge Surprise Major. About 4.30 the company attended service, a shortened form of evensong being used, with a brief address. The organ helped largely in the musical parts, and was very ably played by one of the members, Mr. James Archer, of the Woolwich band. Tea was partaken of at the Old Brew House, an ancient building attached to Archbishop Tait's Infants' School, and 29 'hefty chaps' did full justice to the fare provided.

At the business meeting, the usual routine was disposed of in the shortest possible time commensurate with efficiency, and a return was then made to the tower, where 'more ringing' was indulged in till the hour for evening service. The company then adjourned to a nearby place, where the time passed pleasantly, the members being entertained with some splendid handbell tune ringing by Messrs. Goddard, Tricker and Ellingham, of Hounslow, their efforts being lustily applauded by an appreciative audience. Messrs. Smith, Goddard and Herbert rendered songs, and courses of Grandsire Triples, Caters and Bob Major were rung by any heroes who had pluck enough to 'have a cut.' Grandsire Doubles on 12 bells in the Queen's Position (Goddard's Variation) was most ably done, and was voted both tuneful and interesting. During the meeting, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector and churchwardens for the use of the bells, to the curate for conducting the service, to Mr. Archer for his able manipulation of organ and piano in the musical department, and lastly, but by no means least, to Mr. Wyatt, of Lambeth, for the splendid work put in to make the meeting the success it was.

LYDNEY RINGER HONOURED.

On Saturday last a few very old ringing colleagues hailing from Gloucester and Newport, Mon., journeyed to Lydney to honour and celebrate the 60th birthday of Mr. John W. Davies, the local leader, and together with four of the locals started the proceedings by making an attempt for a peal of Triples. It was one of the 'off' days, and, as is often the case when a peal is specially wanted, things would not go right. After an hour and a half's ringing, down came the fourth rope, which put 'paid' to the peal. However, after putting another rope on, a very good quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by: O. Thomas 1, J. Austin (conductor) 2, N. Rees 3, J. Gillett 4, J. W. Jones 5, W. Harris 6, J. W. Davies 7, A. Sandford 8. All were afterwards the guests of Mr. Davies at the Cross Keys Hotel, where an excellent cold supper was found waiting on the table, to which real good justice was done.

The toast of 'The King' was given by Mr. Davies, and his Majesty's health drunk. This was followed by the toast of the evening being proposed by Mr. Jones wishing Mr. Davies 'very many happy returns' and continued good health.

Mr. Jones remarked that the association of Mr. Davies and himself was an unbroken one of just forty years, which commenced at Caeleon, at that time the only tower for many miles which had a ring of eight bells, and where Triples and Major could be obtained.

Mr. Austin spoke of the happy relations that for a great many years had existed between himself and Mr. Davies, and the good times and ever welcome spirit that prevailed at Lydney. Others also had a good word, especially Mr. N. Rees, one of the local ringers.—Mr. Davies' reply was that his life of ringing had been a great labour of love, and he thanked all for coming to Lydney to honour him.

A most happy and convivial evening was spent, and it was unanimously decided that the same band should again attempt the peal, which no doubt will find a permanent record in the proper place.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**EASTERN DIVISION.**

The annual meeting was held at Christ Church, Blacklands, on Saturday, March 17th. About 22 ringers attended, representing the following towers: Battle, Brighton (St. Peter's), Eastbourne (St. Saviour's), St. Leonards (Christ Church), Hastings (St. Clement's), Rye, Salehurst, together with members of the local band. During the afternoon the bells were kept going in various methods.

A service was held at 4.30 p.m., at which the Vicar, the Rev. J. Morgan, gave an excellent address. Tea was provided in the Parish Room, and at the business meeting which followed the Rev. J. Morgan occupied the chair.

Mr. G. W. Stokes was re-elected as hon. secretary, and Messrs. A. R. Miles, W. Franks, and W. Booth were re-elected on the committee.

Mr. Stokes pointed out that he could only accept the secretaryship on the understanding that someone else was appointed to fill the post pro tem, in the event of his leaving the district. It was then proposed by Mr. W. D. Smith, and seconded by Mr. Hobbs, that Mr. F. G. Haymark, of Eastbourne, be elected as assistant secretary in order to take over the duties should occasion arise.—This was put to the meeting and carried.

The following new members were elected: Messrs. F. Banks, A. Carpenter, E. Geall, J. Geall, H. W. Jones, E. Lay, J. Muddle, J. J. Miller, F. Playford, C. Painter and G. Wiggins, all of Ringmer.

Following a short discussion, it was decided to hold the next meeting at Heathfield.

Mr. W. D. Smith proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, for the address at the service, and also for presiding at the meeting. The Vicar, in reply, stated that it had been a great pleasure to welcome the members of the association to Christ Church, Blacklands, that day.—The meeting then terminated, and the members returned to the tower, where further ringing took place until 7 p.m. The members then proceeded to Christ Church, St. Leonards, where a further enjoyable hour's ringing was spent.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

HOUNSLOW.—On Sunday, March 18th, for evensong, 1,264 Bob Major in 47 mins.: W. F. Ellingham 1, F. G. Goddard 2, L. Mannering 3, F. E. Hawthorne 4, J. Kent 5, S. Stilwell 6, J. W. Trappitt, sen., 7, C. J. Tricker (conductor) 8.

TRING.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, March 18th, for evening service, 1,008 Grandire Triples in 40 mins.: A. Cherry 1, F. Keen 2, H. Bishop 3, H. Bull 4, C. Badrick 5, F. C. Reevo 6, F. J. Reevo (conductor) 7, N. Brackley 8. Longest length by the ringers of 1st, 3rd and 5th.

STAINES.—At St. Peter's Church, on March 18th, a quarter-peal of Grandire Triples in 47 mins.: (1,280 changes) for evening service: A. J. Hiscock 1, W. Shorter 2, W. B. Butler 3, J. Phillips 4, G. Walsley 5, E. J. Goater (conductor) 6, W. C. Parker 7, W. Brant 8.—On January 22nd, a quarter-peal of Grandire Triples: W. E. Butler 1, W. Shorter (first quarter) 2, J. Phillips 3, A. J. Hiscock 4, G. Walsley 5, E. J. Goater 6, W. C. Parker (conductor) 7, F. W. Smith 8.

SOUTH CROYDON, SURREY.—At the Church of St. Peter, on Sunday, March 18th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1,263 changes): D. Wright 1, R. Brough 2, W. Bulpitt 3, W. H. Hewitt 4, F. Larby 5, W. S. Smith 6, G. W. R. Grimwood (conductor) 7, W. H. Joiner 8, A. Dean 9, W. Groves 10.

EALING, MIDDLESEX.—At St. Mary's Church, for evening service on Sunday, March 18th, a quarter-peal of Grandire Triples in 50 mins.: H. Belcher 1, E. J. Walsom 2, E. Churchill 3, J. H. Hunnisett 4, R. Thompson (conductor) 5, M. Stacey 6, H. J. Hunnisett 7, P. E. Clark 8. Rang as a birthday compliment to Mr. Challis F. Winney.

DARLINGTON.—On Sunday, February 19th, for matins, at Holy Trinity Church, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: J. T. Titt 1, Edwin H. Lewis 2, G. W. Park 3, W. H. Porter 4, Roland Park 5, W. N. Park (conductor) 6. For evensong, 720 London Surprise Minor: J. T. Titt 1, W. Oliver 2, W. N. Park 3, G. W. Park 4, R. Park (conductor) 5, W. H. Porter 6.—On Sunday, February 26th, for matins, 840 London Surprise Minor: J. T. Titt 1, Edwin H. Lewis 2, G. W. Park (conductor) 3, W. N. Park 4, W. H. Porter 5, Roland Park 6. For evensong, 720 York Surprise Minor: J. T. Titt 1, Edwin H. Lewis 2, G. W. Park 3, W. H. Porter 4, W. N. Park 5, Roland Park (conductor) 6. Mr. Edwin H. Lewis is from Glasgow, and the above was his first 720 of York Surprise Minor.

NOTICE

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting will be held at Soham, on Easter Monday, April 9th. Service at 4 p.m. Tea and business meeting 4.30 sharp. Ringing at Soham (10 bells) from 10 a.m., Ely St. Mary's (8) and Fordham (6) from 6 p.m. Members requiring tea are requested to inform the Secretary not later than Tuesday, April 3rd.—Rev. R. Copeman, 53, Owlstone Road, Cambridge.

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 3d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with a minimum charge of 1/6.

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

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ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. (Established 1637).—Meeting for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on March 29th, at 7.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch. — The next ringing practice has been arranged at Penn (6 bells) on Saturday, March 24th, at 6 p.m. All welcome.—A. D. Barker, Branch Sec. and Treasurer, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Oxford and District Branch.—Half-yearly business meeting postponed to Saturday, March 24th, at St. Giles' Church. Ringing 6 to 8 p.m. Service in church 8 p.m., followed by business meeting in Parish Room.—W. Collett, Hon. Sec.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Eastern District will be held at Jarrow on Saturday, March 24th. Bells of Christ Church, St. Peter's, and Hebburn will be available after 2.30. Tea at Co-operative Café at 5.—George S. Taylor, Sec., 149, St. Leonard Street, Sunderland.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—A by-meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Thanet, on Saturday, March 24th. Tower open 3 p.m. Business meeting to follow.—Percy W. Smith, Dis. Sec., Canterbury.

EAST GRINSTEAD & DISTRICT GUILD.—There will be a ringing meeting at Cowden on Saturday, March 24th. Tower open 3.0. All ringers welcome.—G. Lambert, Drummond Hay, East Grinstead.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division. —The annual meeting will be held at Earlsheaton on Saturday, March 24th. Bells available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.—F. Hutchinson, Dis. Sec.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—A special general meeting will be held at Leatherhead on Saturday, March 24th, to consider the following business: (1) Proposed amalgamation of the association with the Guildford Diocesan Guild. (2) Proposed new rules. (3) Report re association certificate. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea (at the Institute) 5.15. Meeting 6 o'clock.—Chas. H. Kippen, Hon. Sec., Winchester, Guy Road, Beddington, Croydon.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—A meeting will be held at Brixworth on Saturday, March 24th. Bells (5) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 o'clock. — T. Tebbutt, West Street, Moulton, Northampton.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION will hold their quarterly meeting, and a 6-bell contest, at Shelley, near Huddersfield, on Saturday, March 24th. Draw to take place at 2.45 p.m.—L. Hargreaves, 30, Bankfield View, Halifax.

HERTS ASSOCIATION.—Bushey, Saturday, March 24th. Bells open from 3.30. Service 5.30. Tea 6 (1s. each). Cheap tickets from all stations.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey. Tel. City 4270.

BRISTOL UNITED RINGING GUILDS.—A lantern lecture will be given in connection with the above in St. Michael's (City) Parish Hall on Friday, March 30th, at 8 o'clock on 'Somerset Church Towers' by C. F. W. Denning, Esq., President of the Bristol Society of Architects. Doors open 7.30. Admission 6d. The Rev. W. S. Hazeldine will preside.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Davertry Branch.—The meeting previously arranged for Norton, March 31st, has been unavoidably cancelled, and will be held Saturday, April 14th. Members please note.—W. C. Moore, Hon. Sec., Fircroft, Braunston Road, Daventry.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting of Central Division at East Grinstead on Saturday, March 31st. Tower open 2.30. Service 4. Tea 4.45, in Small Parish Hall, by kind invitation of the Vicar. Those attending please notify the undersigned not later than Wednesday, the 28th.—A. D. Stone, 16, Belgrave Street, Brighton.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Hatfield on March 31st. The recently recast ring of eight bells will be available early. There will be a meeting of the Cup Committee. Will all who require tea please notify me before the 28th? —Harold Walker, Hon. Sec., 3, Beech Crescent, Old Hexthorpe, Doncaster.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—The first quarterly meeting will be held at Humberstone on Saturday, March 31st. Bells (6) available from 3.30 p.m. Important business meeting (re M.C.A.'s future) at 6.30 p.m. All ringers and friends welcome.—Alban Disney, Local Hon. Sec., 19, Houlditch Road, Knighton Fields, Leicester.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The nomination meeting will be held at Christ Church, Armley, on Saturday, March 31st. Tea (1s. 6d. per head) will be arranged, in the Parish Hall, for all who send in their names by March 28th to H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Armley, Leeds.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—A meeting will be held at Marshfield on Saturday, March 31st. Bells open from 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Charabanc leaves St. Stephen's (City) 2.20 p.m. approximately.—G. Way, 12, Seymour Road, Bishopston, Bristol.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Quarterly meetings: March 31st at Ufford; tea in St. Mary's Hall at 4.45 for all sending me word by March 28th. Meeting follows. April 21st at Fressingfield; tea at 4.45, for 9d., at Fox and Goose Room.—Herbert Drake, Ufford, Woodbridge.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Spondon on Saturday, March 31st. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—Charles Draper, Town Street, Duffield.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—A meeting will be held at Smarden on Saturday, March 31st. Tower open at 2.30 p.m. Tea will be arranged at 5 o'clock. All ringers welcome.—A. C. Kay, Dis. Sec., 6, Sturges Road, Ashford.

ST. CLEMENT YOUTHS, St. Clement Danes', Strand, W.C.—'Oranges and Lemons Say the Bells of St. Clemen's.'—The children's festival to perpetuate the old parish custom will take place on Saturday afternoon, March 31st, at 4.30. Ringing from 3.30 to 4.20 and again about 5.30, when each child, on leaving the church, will be presented with an orange and lemon by little Danish children.—F. W. H. Sergison, Hon. Sec.

RINGERS' AND THEIR LADY FRIENDS' DANCE SOCIAL in St. Mary's Hall, Rectory Road, Acton (close to church—bells open 4 p.m.) Saturday, April 7th (Easter Eve), 7.30 p.m. Tickets (including refreshments) 1s. 6d., to be had from W. H. Hollier, 29, Duke Road, Chiswick; J. A. Trollope, 52, Lammas Park Road, Ealing; Robt. Holloway, 10, Summerlands Avenue, Acton, W. Proceeds for Isleworth Bell Fund.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Gravesend on Easter Monday (April 9th). Committee meeting in the Church House 11.15 a.m. Service in St. George's at 12. Address by Rev. E. Lionel Gedge, Rector of Crayford. Collection for Earl Haig Memorial Fund. Dinner in the Town Hall 1.15 p.m., followed by business meeting. Towers open: Gravesend (8), Northfleet (8), Swanscombe (8), Milton (6). Members wishing to ring at Cliffe, Higham, Shorne, Meopham or Cobham are requested to write to Mr. F. M. Mitchell, 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend, before April 6th. For dinner tickets apply before April 4th to Fredk. J. O. Helmore, Hon. Sec., Canterbury.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Central District.—A meeting will be held at Kingston-on-Thames on Easter Monday, April 9th. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.45, with tea and meeting to follow. Will those coming to tea please notify Mr. J. Howes, 9, Hawk's Road, Kingston-on-Thames, not later than Wednesday, April 4th?—A. J. Trappitt, Hon. Dis. Sec., 57, Mellows Road, Wallington.

NORFOLK GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at Norwich on Easter Monday, April 9th. The rings of bells at St. Peter Mancroft (12), St. John-de-Sepulchre (8), St. Michael at Coslany (8) and All Saints' (5) will be available. Service at St. Peter Mancroft Church at 12.30 p.m. Preacher: The Rev. Roger Bulstrode, Rector of Holy Trinity, Heigham. Luncheon at Messrs. Ashworth and Pike's Restaurant, Davey Place, Norwich, at 1.30 p.m. Tickets 2s. 6d. per head. Members requiring luncheon are urgently requested to send in their names to the secretary not later than Thursday, April 5th. The annual business meeting for the election of new president, officers and committee will follow immediately after the luncheon.—Arthur L. Coleman, Sec., High Croft, North Walsham, Norfolk.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS' ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Worcester on Easter Monday, April 9th. Business meeting in the Cathedral Chapter House at 2.30 p.m. prompt. Chairman: The Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, D.D., President. Service in the Cathedral at 4.15 p.m. Address by the Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, D.D., Dean. Tea will be provided at 5.30 p.m. for all those who notify me before Wednesday, April 4th. Bells available: All Saints (10), St. Helen (8), Claines (8), St. Nicholas (6) and St. John-in-Bedwardine (6). Subscriptions should be paid and reports obtained in St. Helen's Church House between 12 noon and 1 p.m.—J. R. Newman, Hon. Sec., Sheepcote, Severn Stoke, Worcester.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Preliminary Notice.—Annual meeting, Easter Monday, at Nottingham, when various towers will be open for ringing. Full details later. Committee meet at 2.30 in St. Peter's School. Short service in St. Peter's School 4 p.m. Meat tea in St. Peter's School, 5 p.m. 1/6 full members, 2/- others. Will all Committee members from every district make a special effort to come for discussion on the proposed division of the M.C.A. into Diocesan Guilds, and be prepared to give their respective members' views on this matter?—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at St. Mary's Church, Ealing, on Saturday, April 14th. Service at 4.30 p.m. Preacher: Canon G. F. Coleridge, President of the Central Council. Tea at 5.15 p.m. in the Good Shepherd Hall, Ealing Road, near South Ealing Station. One shilling will be charged, but please advise your district secretary by April 11th if you are coming. Business meeting after tea. Ringing arrangements: St. Mary's, Ealing, from 2 to 4.30 and from 7 to 9.; St. Stephen's, West Ealing, from 2.45 to 4; Christ Church, Ealing, from 7 to 9.—C. T. Coles, 21, Vincent Road, E.4., and W. H. Hollier, 29, Duke Road, W.4, Hon. Secs.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.—The Jubilee meeting of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association will be held at Bristol on Whit-Monday, May 28th. A Life Member's peal is being arranged and other peals for visitors on Saturday, May 26th. Will those wishing to take part kindly advise soon? Arrangements for ringing, etc., on Sunday are being made. Monday's programme, ringing up till noon at any or all city churches. Service at St. Mary Redcliffe, 12 noon. Luncheon 1 p.m. Business meeting 2 p.m. Tea to follow. Social evening arrangements (good train service to Hereford), luncheon 3s. 6d., tea 1s. (a grant will be made towards this cost). Will members and visitors kindly advise early now so that extra accommodation can be sought if necessary. The 1928 Report will be issued in souvenir form on May 28th. Life members and visitors wishing to take part in peals for Saturday should apply early. Hotel accommodation will be arranged at reasonable cost.—Edgar Guise, Hon. Sec., 39, Tankard's Close, St. Michael's Hill, Bristol.

PUBLICATIONS.

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BURTON-ON-STATHER, Lincs.—On Sunday, March 8th, for evening service, 720 Doubles (240 St. Simon's, 480 Grandsire): B. Gillatt, sen., 1, A. Thornton 2, J. Bray 3, J. Coles 4, G. Hobbins (conductor) 5, B. Gillatt, jun., (longest length) 6.

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