

THE RINGING WORLD

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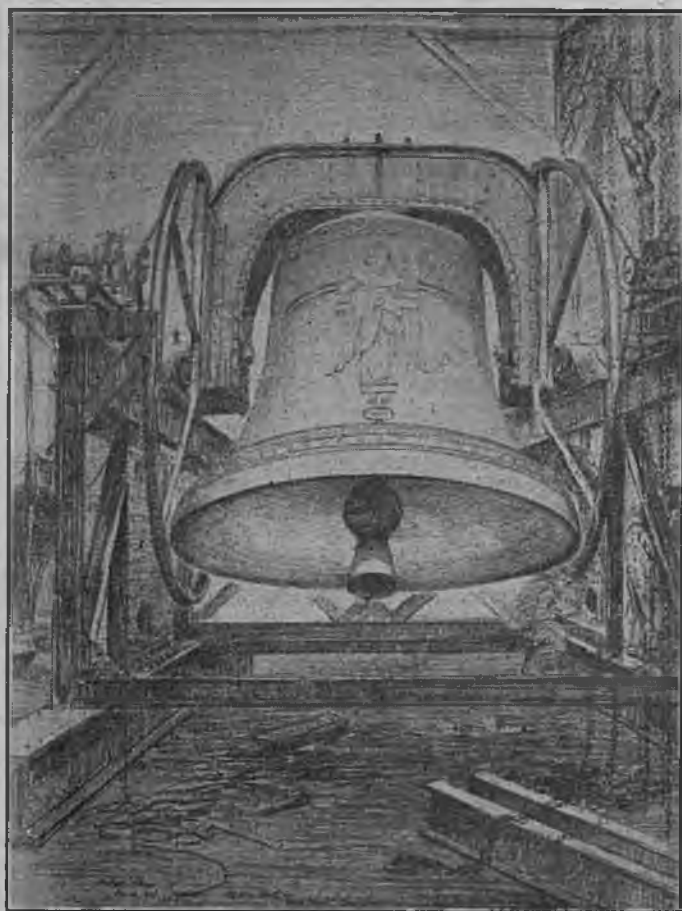
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PEALS ON FIVE AND SIX BELLS.

The article which we published a fortnight ago on the subject of peals of Doubles and Minor has stirred up a new interest in this matter, and it may be well if certain of the facts were briefly reviewed. Up to the time when the Central Council met last Whitsuntide, no definition had ever been laid down to cover what should constitute a peal on five bells; while the definition which, since the years 1911-1912, had governed the requirements for a peal of Minor, failed to meet a modern advance in Minor ringing which enabled a 720 to end with a row other than rounds, the old rules laying down that peals of Minor should 'consist of at least seven true and complete 720's, the bells striking round only once at the end of each and immediately going into the next.'

Obviously, to bring the rules of the Council up to date some amendment to the conditions for peals of Minor was required, and a definition for peals of Doubles was also necessary. Three months' notice of the new proposals was given. During that time the suggested conditions were brought to the notice of ringers at many meetings throughout the country, and were discussed at the Council meeting. There was ample opportunity for considering their effect on future peals, and it was open to any member of the Council to move any alteration in the wording that he thought fit. But the motion, which was introduced solely to bring the Council's rules into line with modern practice and to maintain the standard which should be required for peal performances, went through unaltered. Now, however, six months afterwards, we are being informed that instead of the new conditions doing anything to raise the standard of peals they have 'the unintended effect of crabbing any device that will do so,' according to Mr. Powell's letter last week, and 'squashing' those in a humble sphere who attempt to introduce variation, according to Mr. Ernest Morris' letter in this issue.

With regard to the latter point, we fail to see that enterprise in ringing is in any way restricted by the conditions adopted by the Council. There is nothing to prevent a conductor calling false six-scores of Doubles as often as he likes, but we venture to think that the Council is right in demanding, where recognition of a peal is claimed, that the six-scores which go to make up the peal shall each be true. Indeed, the whole question, it seems to us, turns on whether these extents of Doubles and Minor shall be true or not. The whole trend of the Council's decisions in the past has been for 'truth' in peals. It was with this end in view that such performances as fourteen 360's rung irrespective of the repetition

(Continued on page 770.)

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of changes, was ruled out, and provision made that in spliced methods on any number of bells, the peal should consist of true changes. It would be going back on this old and desirable principle to admit, in peals, six-scores or 720's which do not conform to the requirements laid down for other numbers.

Other points are raised in this discussion to which we will refer later, but lest there are any of our readers who think that the issue is a small one, we should like to stress the view that the matter is of considerable importance to the Exercise, inasmuch as it vitally affects what is to be admitted, in future, as a peal.

TEN BELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, November 30, 1928, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET, WESTMINSTER, S.W.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 26½ cwt.

HORACE BELCHER Treble	WALTER AVRE 6
MISS FREDA E. ORR 2	JAMES E. DAVIS 7
RONALD H. BULLEN 3	*ALBERT DISERENS 8
JOHN T. KENTISH 4	GEORGE H. CROSS 9
CHARLES W. ROBERTS 5	REUBEN SANDERS Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH.

Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.

* First peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal. First peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal as conductor.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BILLINGSHURST, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, November 18, 1928, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

MISS FLORRIE WYMAN Treble	NELSON ELLIOTT 5
GEORGE OLLIVER 2	*REGINALD V. JOHNSON 6
KENNETH SNELLING 3	CECIL NICE 7
BERNARD WELLS 4	OLIVER SIPPETTS Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS.

Conducted by O. SIPPETTS.

* 50th peal. First peal of Oxford by all except the conductor.

HIGHER WALTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BLACKBURN & PRESTON BRANCHES.)

On Monday, November 19, 1928, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

JOHN BROWN Treble	JAMES ARMSTRONG 5
MISS MAY CLAYTON 2	ARTHUR TOMLINSON 6
JAMES HARRISON 3	FREDERICK HINDLE 7
THOMAS CALDERBANK 4	*WILLIAM KING Tenor

Conducted by A. TOMLINSON.

* First peal on eight bells. First peal on the bells since their increase to eight by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough. Ringers of 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 4th from Houghton, 6th and 7th from Blackburn, 5th and tenor are local men.

CORSTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 24, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT Treble	CHARLES W. BELL 5
THOMAS F. KING 2	*WILLIAM H. CROCKER 6
*FRANK MERRETT 3	JOSEPH T. DYKE 7
HORACE TAYLOR 4	GILBERT H. HARDING Tenor

Composed by J. BARKER.

Conducted by J. T. DYKE.

* First peal in the method.

HORNBY, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(FURNESS AND LAKE DISTRICT BRANCH.)

On Saturday, November 24, 1928, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

WILLIAM ROBINSON Treble	*THOMAS HANNAN 5
EDWIN JENNINGS 2	WILLIAM PITCHALL 6
JOHN WOODS 3	JAMES E. BURLS 7
JOHN HOLME 4	*RICHARD RAINFORD Tenor

Conducted by EDWIN JENNINGS.

* First peal. First peal on these bells. The back six are by Rudhall, and trebles by Mears and Stainbank.

BOTTESFORD, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 24, 1928, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 22 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb.

JOHN R. JACKSON Treble	WILLIAM G. THORPE 5
MARK BEND 2	*ARTHUR W. WARD 6
HARRY THORPE 3	SIDNEY PROCTOR 7
CLARENCE F. BRIGGS 4	THOMAS H. HALL Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY PROCTOR.

* 25th peal. First peal on the bells since they were rebung and restored by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough. Rung as a compliment to Mark Bend on his 72nd birthday. Also as a thank-offering for the restoration of the spire.

CRESWELL, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
(SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, November 24, 1928, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN FLINT Treble	JOHN HOLMAN 5
JESSE J. MOSS 2	ERNEST WAGSTAFF 6
JOHN H. BROTHWELL 3	LESLIE W. BACON 7
GEORGE W. CHAMBERS 4	HAROLD KENT Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN.

Conducted by JOHN FLINT.

Rung as a farewell peal to the Rev. W. Kay, who has just left Creswell for Whitwell, and as a welcome to the Rev. C. Smith to the Vicariate of Creswell. Also to celebrate the 21st birthday of L. W. Bacon. The band desire to thank Mr. and Mrs. J. Bacon for their hospitality after the peal.

COSELEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.
SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, November 24, 1928, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

BENJAMIN GOUGH Treble	CHRISTOPHER WALLATER 5
ALFRED ROWLEY 2	HERBERT KNIGHT 6
JOHN PERRY 3	ABRAHAM GREENFIELD 7
ROBERT PICKERING 4	WILLIAM FISHER Tenor

Composed by W. SOTTANSTALL.

Conducted by WILLIAM FISHER.

Rung on the 35th anniversary of the first peal of Kent Treble Bob Major on the bells, the same composition being rung. Mr. B. Gough rang the same bell in the first peal. This was Mr. C. Wallater's 200th peal for the above society.

ABERAVON, GLAMORGANSHIRE.

THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, November 26, 1928, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt.

FREDERICK E. STONE Treble	*JOHN J. WILLIAMS 5
HARRY BOYCE 2	ERNEST STITCH 6
GWYN I. LEWIS 3	ALBERT J. PITMAN 7
WALTER J. NURTON 4	{ALBERT E. PITMAN Tenor

Conducted by E. STITCH.

* First peal of Triples. + First peal on eight. Rung as a wedding compliment to Mr. G. W. Hollis (late of the local band) and Miss Gill, who were married at King's Nympton, Devon, on this date, the band wishing them every happiness in the future.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, November 24, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET.

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 20½ cwt.

GEORGE WILSON Treble	JAMES M. BAILEY 5
ALFRED KERBLE 2	ERNEST S. BAILEY 6
LEONARD P. BAILEY 3	JAMES G. RUMSEY 7
FREDERICK J. SMITH 4	CHARLES F. BAILEY Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

Conducted by CHAS. F. BAILEY.

EGREMONT, CUMBERLAND.

THE CUMBERLAND COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 24, 1928, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt.

*J. SPEDDING Treble	A. EILBECK 5
W. G. NORMAN 2	J. ROTHRY 6
W. T. HOLMES 3	G. W. TENBY 7
J. HUTCHINSON 4	W. H. COOK Tenor

Conducted by W. G. NORMAN.

* First peal in method. First peal as conductor. Rung with the bells fully muffled in memory of the fallen.

PRINDSBURY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 1, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

VICARS' SIX-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

ALAN BISHOP Treble	WALTER S. BEAUMONT 5
SIDNEY T. JARRETT 2	PHILIP C. SPRINGHAM 6
*MISS HILDA COLLISHAW 3	WILLIAM J. WALKER 7
EDWARD A. G. ALLEN 4	WILLIAM COLLISHAW Tenor

Conducted by P. C. SPRINGHAM.

* First peal on an inside bell. A birthday peal for Rev. Canon F. J. O. Helmore, general secretary of the association.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 1, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,

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

Tenor 12½ cwt.

FREDERICK A. MITCHELL ... Treble	WILLIAM R. MADGWICK ... 5
EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. ... 2	EDWIN F. PIKE 6
EDWIN BARNETT, JUN. ... 3	ROBERT BRETT-SMITH ... 7
FREDERICK M. MITCHELL ... 4	ISAAC EMERY Tenor

Composed by E. BARNETT, SEN.

Conducted by ISAAC EMERY.

DAYBROOK, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 1, 1928, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

JOHN E. HOBBS Treble	LAWRENCE CHADBURN ... 5
*WILSON ALLIN, SEN. ... 2	NORMAN HEMMINGTON ... 6
WILLIAM THORNLEY ... 3	ALFRED BARRATT 7
THOMAS BETTISON ... 4	SAMUEL PENDER Tenor

Composed by JOHN COX.

Conducted by A. BARRATT.

* First peal of Kent Major. First peal as conductor in the method, and first attempt.

BUNGAY, SUFFOLK.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, December 1, 1928, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

HENRY BARRELL Treble	EDWIN R. GOATE 5
*STANLEY W. COPIING ... 2	CHARLES BAILEY 6
EDGAR BAILEY 3	JAMES SPALDING 7
*ERNEST BAILEY 4	CHARLES F. SAYER Tenor

Composed by GEO. H. CROSS.

Conducted by E. R. GOATE.

* First peal of Bob Major with an inside bell.

LLANBRADACH, GLAMORGANSHIRE.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 1, 1928, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 12 cwt.

WILLIAM PIKE Treble	PERCY JONES 5
GEORGE COOKE 2	JOHN W. JONES 6
HAROLD CASSEL 3	ALBAN E. SLATTER 7
JOHN PHILLIPS 4	HARRY BROUGHTON Tenor

Conducted by ALBAN E. SLATTER.

Specially arranged and rung as a welcome to the new Vicar, the Rev. D. J. Wills, M.A., B.D.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 1, 1928, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. O. LANCASHIRE'S ODD-AND-EVEN BOB AND SINGLE TEN-PART.

Tenor 28½ cwt.

MAURICE SWINFIELD Treble	HENRY FLETCHER 5
JOHN H. SWINFIELD 2	J. FRANK SMALLWOOD 6
CHARLES DRAPER 3	JAMES GEORGE 7
ALBERT H. WARD 4	JOHN CURTIS Tenor

Conducted by M. SWINFIELD.

A twenty-first birthday peal for Miss Margaret Ward, daughter of the ringer of the fourth.

BINGHAM, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 1, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

F. H. DEXTER'S VARIATION.

Tenor 15 cwt.

FREDERICK S. PRICE Treble	EDWARD C. GOBEY 5
WALTER WHITE 2	J. FREDERICK MILNER 6
GEORGE FOSTER 3	EDWARD FOSTER 7
ARTHUR W. WARD 4	LEONARD PIERREPONT Tenor

Conducted by J. F. MILNER.

TICKHILL, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION,

(DONCASTER & DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, December 1, 1928, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

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

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

Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qr. 7 lb.

PERCY GLEDSTONE Treble	ARCHIE BREARLEY 5
GEORGE CLARK 2	J. EDWARD CAWSEY 6
WILLIAM A. WOOLER 3	JOHN A. BREARLEY 7
* MILTON C. FOWLER 4	JOHN R. BREARLEY Tenor

Composed by E. BARNETT, SEN. Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSEY

* First peal in the method and first attempt. Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 4th.

NANTWICH, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 1, 1928, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S.

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 18 lb.

* WILLIAM WEATHERBY Treble	* HAROLD EDWARDS 5
ROBERT SPERRING 2	HARRY OVERTON 5
RICHARD D. LANGFORD 3	RICHARD T. HOLDING 7
HARRY F. HOLDING 4	JAMES H. RIDING Tenor

Conducted by J. H. RIDING.

* First peal of Surprise Major. First peal of Surprise on the bells.

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DARTFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 29, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

* MISS C. HOVERD Treble	† FRANK E. WALKER 5
HERBERT E. AUDELEY 2	JOHN H. CHESMAN 6
† EDWARD BROWN 3	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. 7
* HARRY HOVERD 4	HENRY SIMMONS Tenor

Conducted by THOS. GROOMBRIDGE.

* First peal. † First peal in the method with a bob bell. ‡ First peal in the method.

STAPLEHURST, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 1, 1928, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

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

Tenor 21 cwt.

THOMAS E. SONE Treble	JOHN WHEADON 5
CHARLES H. SONE 2	WILLIAM WENBAN 6
MRS. H. BAKER 3	ARTHUR H. SMITH 7
HARRY BAKER 4	ALBERT RELFE Tenor

Composed by NATHAN J. PYSTOW. Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE

Rung as a birthday compliment to the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, hon. secretary of the association, also to Mr. A. Relfe. The conductor has now completed 'the circle,' the third tower to be completed this year.

WIDFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 1, 1928, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 11½ cwt.

* FREDERICK WOOD Treble	* JOHN W. LEGGETT 5
* JOHN C. FORLONG 2	GEORGE MILES 6
* JOHN HARRIDGE 3	WILLIAM D. LEGGETT 7
HARRY TURNER 4	* EDWARD W. PALMER Tenor

Conducted by H. TURNER.

* First peal on eight bells.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, December 1, 1928, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

* GEORGE HUGHES Treble	BENJAMIN GOUGH 5
SAMUEL BAKER 2	CYRIL WINWOOD 6
ALFRED ROWLEY 3	JOHN GOODMAN, JUN. 7
RICHARD ROUND 4	* FRANK WILLIAMS Tenor

Conducted by J. GOODMAN, JUN.

* First peal. The ringer of the tenor was proposed a member previous to starting. Rung after meeting short for Bob Major.

MARSDEN, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 1, 1928, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 26 cwt. 2 qr.

WILLIAM H. SENIOR Treble	HARRY MARSDEN 5
JAMES INGHAM 2	WILLIAM HORAN 6
SAMUEL WHITEHEAD 3	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS 7
* THOMAS JONES 4	HERBERT PEEL Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN. Conducted by LESLIE W. G. MORRIS

* First peal in the method. First peal as conductor. The band represent Batley, Mytholmroyd, Marsden, Didsbury, Batley, Todmorden, Armley and Birstall respectively. The ringers of the 3rd and 4th were elected members of the association prior to the commencement of the peal. The band wish to thank the ringer of the 3rd for kindly standing in after meeting short.

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK. THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, December 1, 1928, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

GEORGE WHITING Treble	WILLIAM WIGHTMAN 5
*JAMES BENNETT, JUN. 2	ERNEST E. LANHAM 6
GEORGE PRYKE 3	GEORGE WIGHTMAN 7
GEORGE BENNETT 4	†ALBERT E. WHITING Tenor

Conducted by G. WHITING.

* First peal of Grandsire inside. † First peal. First peal on the bells since they were rehung by Mr. Alfred Bowell, the 'go' being all that can be desired.

BRITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, December 2, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S VARIATION.

Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

FREDERICK CULLOM, JUN. ... Treble	*HERBERT A. HOLDEN 5
PERCY J. SPICE 2	†BERTIE ALDRIDGE 6
JOHN S. MORTON 3	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY 7
JOHN H. CHRESMAN 4	WILLIAM C. DARKE Tenor

Conducted by JOHN H. CHRESMAN.

* 100th peal. † First peal of Stedman. Rung as a birthday compliment to the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, the veteran hon. secretary of the association.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

EASTON-IN-GORDANO, SOMERSET.

On Wednesday, November 14, 1928, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 21 six-scores each of Plain Bob and Grandsire. Tenor 21 cwt.

S. DELVE Treble	N. COOMBS 4
T. WYATT 2	L. MOORE 5
H. KNIGHT 3	R. PORTER Tenor

Conducted by H. KNIGHT.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the late Mrs. H. Preston, who died November 3rd, aged 100 years and 11 months; also to Mrs. H. Porter, who died Oct. 25th, aged 82 years; and in memory of the late Mr. H. Porter, a member of the Easton band for seventy years, who died November 9th, 1927.

BARTON SEAGRAVE, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Kettering Branch.)

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

At the Church of St. Botolph,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two six-scores each of Stedman, Canterbury, St. Simon's, and Nightingale, four each of Plain Bob, Old Doubles, New Doubles, St. Simon's Chase, Antelope, Canterbury, and eight of Grandsire.

Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb.

GEORGE MIDDLETON Treble	RONALD COLEMAN 3
GEORGE BROWN 2	REGINALD WILLIAMSON 4
SIDNEY MUNTON Tenor	

Conducted by REGINALD WILLIAMSON.

First peal of eleven methods by all the band. All the band reside at Pytchley, and are Sunday service ringers at the Parish Church of All Saints. The peal was rung by kind permission of the Rector of Barton Seagrave, the Rev. H. A. Curtis.

WALSALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Monday, November 19, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

At Christ Church, Blakenall Heath,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, ten different callings. Tenor 8½ cwt.

*HAROLD RILEY Treble	ARTHUR PAINTER 3
THOMAS J. ELTON 2	*THOMAS HILL 4
SIDNEY ELTON Tenor	

Conducted by SIDNEY ELTON.

* First peal. First of Doubles by all the band. First peal as conductor, also first peal on the bells.

WEST CLANDON, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, November 22, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of 720 each of Beverley, Chester, Carlisle, Canterbury, York, London and Cambridge. Tenor 17½ cwt.

FREDERICK DAY Treble	JOSEPH F. GOACHER 4
*NORMAN V. HARDING 2	†G. GROVER 5
†WILLIAM J. ROBINSON 3	FREDERICK BENNETT Tenor

Conducted by F. BENNETT.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal of Surprise Minor. First peal on the bells, which were hung in 1914 after the old six had been destroyed by fire. F. Day was elected a member of the Guild previous to the peal.

LITTLE MUNDEN, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE LITTLE MUNDEN SOCIETY.)

On Thursday, November 22, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Duke of York, New London Pleasure, Woodbine, Oxford Delight, Kent and Oxford. Tenor 13 cwt.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS Treble	ARTHUR PHILLIPS 4
SIDNEY CARTER 2	GEORGE H. CARTER 5
ARTHUR WOOLSTON 3	WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE H. CARTER.

MONNEWDEN, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, November 24, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Ipswich Surprise, College Exercise, Cambridge Surprise, Double Court, Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 6 cwt.

*JAMES BENNETT Treble	WILLIAM WIGHTMAN 4
GEORGE BENNETT 2	GEORGE WIGHTMAN 5
GEORGE PRYKE 3	GEORGE W. ABLETT Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE WIGHTMAN.

* First peal of Minor.

PYTCHLEY, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD AND ANCIENT ORDER OF FORESTERS.

On Tuesday, November 27, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being ten six-scores of Grandsire, and eight each of St. Simon's, Canterbury, Old Doubles, and Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt.

*HERBERT MUNTON Treble	RONALD COLEMAN 3
GEORGE BROWN 2	†GEORGE MIDDLETON 4
SIDNEY MUNTON Tenor	

Conducted by RONALD COLEMAN.

* First peal. † First peal away from treble. First peal as conductor. The above ringers are all members of the Pytchley branch of the A.O.F. (Court 'Tree of Knowledge' 1428), four of them holding office for the present year. Second ringer is 'Chief Ranger,' treble and fourth 'Woodwards,' and tenor 'Beadle.' First peal of its kind ever attempted at Pytchley. All are service ringers at the above church.

WOOD GREEN, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 1, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Oxford Bob and one of Plain Bob. Tenor 10½ cwt.

FREDERICK S. TUBE Treble	FREDERICK CHERRETT 4
*WILLIAM J. NORTON 2	PHILIP BLAKE 5
BERTRAM TUBE 3	FREDERICK A. BARKER Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK A. BARKER.

* Elected a member of the association prior to starting. His first peal of Minor in four methods. The ringers wish to thank the Vicar for the use of the bells and also the towerkeeper for having everything in readiness.

APPLEBY, LENCs.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Thursday, November 22, 1928, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents.

Tenor 10 cwt.

CECIL PYZ Treble	GEORGE HOBBS 4
FRANK LORD 2	WILLIAM GARTY 5
ARTHUR TOMLINSON 3	JACK BRAY Tenor

Conducted by J. BRAY.

Ringers of treble, 2nd and 5th are from Scunthorpe, and this was their first peal.

STAPLEFORD, CAMBS.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, November 22, 1928, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13-cwt.

F. REGINALD DENNIS ... Treble	*FRANK HARPER 4
ALBERT E. AUSTIN 2	EDWARD H. FINCH 5
*JOHN W. WARD 3	ROBERT HOWARD Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT HOWARD.

* First peal in the method.

CLAPHAM, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 1, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS-A-BECKET,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of London and Cambridge Surprise, College Exercise, London Scholars' Pleasure, Woodbine, Kent and Oxford. Tenor 5½ cwt.

HENRY STAPLETON ... Treble	EDMUND J. HOBBS 4
*HENRY W. GAYTON 2	ALBERT FLEET 5
HORACE SMITH 3	CHARLES W. CLARKE Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

* 200th peal.

BATHFORD, BATH

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 1, 1928, in Two Hours and Thirty Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SWITHUN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 of Double Court and two each of Single Court, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

JOHN TARGETT Treble	RONALD G. BECK 4
MISS N. G. WILLIAMS 2	GILBERT H. HARDING 5
WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT 3	JOSEPH T. DYKE Tenor

Conducted by J. T. DYKE.

MOULTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(ELLOE DEANERIES BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 1, 1928, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents of Plain Bob, each called differently.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

JOHN TAYLOR Treble	GEORGE W. SIMPSON 4
JOHN T. BROWN 2	PERCY D. BALDOCK 5
ROGER W. DANIELS 3	JOHN G. AMES Tenor

Conducted by JOHN G. AMES.

THE CHART, LINPSFIELD, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

(SOUTHERN DISTRICT.)

On Friday, November 30, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720's of Oxford Treble Bob, two of Kent and two of Plain Bob. Tenor 10½ cwt. in G.

*WILLIAM PATERNOSTER ... Treble	LEONARD A. TIDY 4
†ERNEST N. TIDY 2	WILLIAM D. ASHDOWN 5
EDWARD E. TIDY 3	CHARLES W. CLINCH Tenor

Conducted by L. A. TIDY.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal. Rung on St. Andrew's Day.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Tuesday, November 27, 1928, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT 81, BAKER STREET, SPARKHILL.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor size 17 in B flat.

GEORGE F. SWANN 1-2	ALBERT WALKER 7-8
ALBERT E. NORMAN 3-4	JOHN THOMAS 9-10
PERCY O. LAFLIN 5-6	JAMES GEORGE 11-12

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

Referee: F. W. WALKER and OTHERS.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. J. George on his 75th birthday, which was duly celebrated after the peal.

IPSWICH.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

(ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, December 1, 1928, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

IN THE BELFRY OF THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAXIMUS, 5016 CHANGES;

*HOBART E. SMITH 1-2	WILLIAM P. GARRETT 7-8
*CHARLES J. SEDGLEY 3-4	FREDERICK J. TILLET 9-10
*GEORGE E. SYMONDS 5-6	*WILLIAM J. G. BROWN 11-12

Composed by JOHN REEVES. Conducted by GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

Witness: CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE.

* First peal of Bob Maximus on handbells.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Gloucester Branch was held at St. Mary de Lode Church, Gloucester, on Saturday, November 24th, and was well attended. The bells were opened at 3 p.m. and kept going by mixed bands. At 4.30 p.m. service was held in the church, at which the Rev. Wyndham Jones officiated, Miss Workman presiding at the organ. Afterwards, the members adjourned to the schoolroom, where an excellent tea had been provided by Miss Gardener. The business meeting followed, the Rev. Wyndham Jones presiding.

The branch secretary presented his report, which showed that nine meetings had been held during the past year, with a total attendance of 185 members—an average of just over 20 members per meeting. There are now 121 performing members, against 119 last year; and 24 honorary members, the same as last year, including three lady members, also one life member, an increase of two in the total membership. The secretary thanked the various incumbents for the courtesy shown to the members when visiting the towers. The report was considered very satisfactory, and adopted.

The Rev. H. G. Endow, Vicar of Quedgely, was again elected chairman of the branch, Mr. W. H. Harris branch secretary, and Mr. T. Baldwin representative on Management Committee.

Mr. J. Stephens proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar (Rev. W. G. Pritchard) for the use of the bells, to Rev. Wyndham Jones for conducting the service, and for his excellent advice, to Miss Workman for presiding at the organ, and to the ladies.—This was seconded by ex-Sergt. Williams, and carried with applause.

Rev. Wyndham Jones acknowledged the vote, and Mr. G. Jackson replied in the absence of the Vicar. He said he would convey the vote of thanks to the Vicar, and added that it was a pleasure to have the members at St. Mary de Lode.

Tune playing on the handbells by Mr. J. Austin and ex-Sergt. Williams and touches of Triples by other members, including the veteran Mr. B. Etheridge, who is in his 81st year, brought a very pleasant meeting to a close.

MR. JAMES SEARLE'S PEALS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I should like to thank Messrs. C. Tyler, G. Williams and F. Dunch for their kindly references in 'The Ringing World' to my late uncle, Mr. J. Searle. I have found among his papers cuttings from the 'Bell News' of 77 peals, in which his name appears and of them he had conducted 15.

One peal of Stedman Caters was rung at Birmingham on March 1st, 1889, and the company included ringers from Newcastle to Brighton. My uncle often used to listen to the local ringers, but did not feel like doing any ringing himself. He contented himself with looking over his records of peals and reciting their various histories.—Yours truly,

HAROLD D. SEARLE

44, Green Street, Eastbourne.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT POPLAR.**

The last meeting of the North and East District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild for this year was held at All Saints', Poplar, on Saturday last, and an enjoyable afternoon was spent. The proceedings were opened with a touch of Grandsire Triples almost punctually to the advertised time, and Grandsire and Stedman Caters quickly followed. Members of the local band, who are receiving instruction from the association, joined in the ringing, and showed considerable aptitude.

Divine service was held at 4.30, when a very encouraging address was given by the Rector (Rev. C. Mayne), who urged the ringers to give of their best, whether they were novices or experts. Only the best was acceptable to God, and ringers should make sure that they always did their best when ringing to His service.

Tea was served at Messrs. Lyons, and afterwards another visit was paid to the tower. Several touches of Stedman and Grandsire Caters and Cambridge Surprise Royal were rung, the end of the time allocated for ringing coming all too quickly.

The business meeting was held in the belfry. Seven new members were elected, and it was announced that the next meeting would be held at Edmonton on February 2nd, it being the annual meeting of the district.

The action of the hon. secretary in conveying the condolences of the members to the widow and family of the late Mr. E. H. Tubb, of the Finchley band, was endorsed.

A letter from the late president, the Rev. F. R. Bonsey, now Rector of Wrentham, conveying good wishes to all members, was read.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector, who paid a visit to the belfry during the afternoon's ringing, for his very cordial welcome to the association, and for the use of the bells; also to Messrs. W. Partiss, A. S. Askew, and the local ringers, for having everything in readiness. The belfry was a picture of neatness, and reflected great credit on those responsible for its appearance. The attendance during the afternoon and evening reached forty members.

CHEW STOKE LEADER'S DEATH.

On November 15th, at Chew Stoke, Somerset, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, with the bells half-muffled, in 40 mins.: W. Raynon 1, W. Balch (conductor) 2, G. H. Martin (Bedwas, Mon) 3, S. Clark 4, H. Babb 5, H. Clark 6. Also several six-scores of Grandsire Doubles with the bells half-muffled at Chew Magna, 7, 8, 8 covering, as a token of respect to the late Mr. J. Rawlings, who was leader of both towers for a long time. He was buried at Chew Stoke on this date.

A DISS PEAL RECORDED.

On Monday evening, November 26th, a new peal board was unveiled and dedicated in the belfry of St. Mary's Church, Diss, Norfolk, by the Rector of Diss, Rev. R. L. Whytehead, M.A., at 8 p.m. It records a peal of Superlative Surprise Major rung at Diss on Monday, July 2nd, 1928, and was given by one of the local ringers who took part in the peal, Mr. Albert G. Harrison, who also made the massive oak frame which surrounds it. The lettering has been most artistically done by Mr. H. Flatman, of Diss.

Ringers from Dickleburgh and North Lopham were present, also the churchwarden, Messrs. A. L. Vaughan, and G. J. Moss, and the parish clerk (Mr. W. H. Harrison).

Immediately after the dedication eight members of the Diss company rang a plain course of Superlative Surprise Major, standing in the same order as in the peal, excepting treble and 2nd, which were rung by A. Leeder and W. Wiskius.

'ON THE WAR PATH.'*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Your editorial of November 9th, under the above, was interesting to me, having just recently had some experience.

A paragraph having appeared in a local journal complaining of the ringing of church bells at Romford, was followed by a correspondent who asserted that the bells had been 'clanging and jangling for four hours,' to which I replied stating that the last time the bells were even rung four hours was over thirty years ago, and that the talented band that rang at Romford for Sunday morning service were a body of churchworkers, but had no week-day practice, and pointed out that only five peals were rung during 1927 without the slightest clanging or jangling, claiming that some bands that rang a peal returned home as happy as the football team that took home the Association Cup. A further letter appeared, in which the unjust assertion of jangling and clanging for four hours was repeated, and I had again to repeat what I had previously written, upon which no further unjust assertions were made.

Unfortunately, there is too much apathy among ringers in such matters, and it is to be regretted such unjust assertions are not more frequently taken up by the Exercise. This is a matter that a national association could handle by a committee, to whom all such assertions could be sent and dealt with at once with good effect.

W. KEEBLE.

Romford,
November 22nd, 1928.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

To-morrow is the 45th anniversary of the 'five ones' of Stedman Caters (11,111 changes) rung at Fulham in 7 hrs. 11 mins. by the College Youths. Of that band, Messrs. F. E. Dawe, J. W. Rowbotham, C. F. Winney and W. Prime are still among us.

A peal of 10,224 Treble Bob Maximus was rung at Painswick on December 9th, 1833, and remained a record length in the method until the peal at Ashton-under-Lyne in 1911.

The first peal of St. Paul's Cathedral was rung on December 10th, 1881.

A peal of 'Real Double Caters,' composed and conducted by George Gross, was rung at St. Magnus' Church, London, on December 10th, 1770.

Eighty years ago next Wednesday a record peal of Stedman Cinques was rung at St. Martin's, Birmingham. This was 7,392, composed and conducted by Henry Johnson. More than once St. Martin's has 'captured' the Stedman Cinques record, which is at present held by the College Youths, with the 12,675 rung at Southwark in 1923.

Mr. C. E. Palmer, of Woolwich, referring to our note which stated that the first peal of London Surprise Major in London was rung on December 8th, 1888, at Fulham, reminds us that a peal of London was rung at St. Mary's, Woolwich, by the Woolwich Branch of the College Youths, on October 11th, 1849, conducted by William Banister.

Forty years ago, however, Woolwich was not considered to be part of London.

BIRMINGHAM'S NEW RING OF TWELVE.

TO-MORROW'S OPENING.

Great preparations are being made for the opening of the bells of St. Martin's Church, Birmingham, on Saturday, an event which will be given in the city the due importance which it deserves.

The dedication is to be performed by the Rector, Canon Guy Rogers, at a special service to commence at 3 p.m., and a large gathering of ringers from many parts of the country is expected. The bells will be open for ringing from 4 to 5 p.m., and from 6 to 7 p.m., and afterwards there is to be a 'social' at St. Martin's Hotel.

The bells are also to be the subject of a special 'broadcast' service on Sunday evening at 8 p.m. The bells will be heard over the ether from 8 to 8.10 p.m., and the service itself will include the hymn, 'Ring out wild bells to the wild sky,' and a bell carol.

On Sunday morning a new Holy Table, in memory of the late Dean Willink, of Norwich, formerly Rector of Birmingham, is to be dedicated by the Bishop of Birmingham. Sunday is also Thanksgiving Day, when it is hoped to raise a sum of £200 to balance the revenue account of the church.

Visitors on Saturday will be advised as to where tea can be obtained.

The new ring of twelve have been cast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of the Whitechapel Foundry, and ringers over a wide area are looking forward with eager anticipation to hearing a grand peal of bells. The tenor is just a little under 36 cwt. in the key of C. The old frame, which was in good condition, has been strengthened and the bells have been hung in all the latest type of fittings, including ball bearings.

It is interesting to note that to carry out this big scheme of restoration it has not been necessary to appeal to the public for funds. The whole cost has been defrayed from the Rope Croft Fund—a fund which originated in the generosity of a parishioner who over two hundred years ago left a plot of land, the rent from which was to go to the provision of bell ropes for the Parish Church. The accretion of value of this piece of land has been such that the annual income is now some hundreds of pounds, and thus funds are available for important improvements to the church.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ARCHBISHOP.

Mr. Cyril F. Johnston, of Croydon, who is abroad on a health tour, sent the following cablegram from Los Angeles to Archbishop Davidson, on the occasion of his golden wedding: 'May I join with ringers of England and Croydon Bell Foundry staff, who met you March 3rd, in sending sincere congratulations your Grace and Mrs. Randall Davidson on your golden wedding day.'

CONSIDERATION FOR PARISHIONERS!

Not one hundred miles from Leicester, writes a correspondent, is a nice ring of six bells, with a contented band of round ringers. No peals are allowed to be rung, the reason given being that the noise of the bells are a nuisance to the residents near the church. A competent band asked permission to ring an Armistice peal, and, knowing the circumstances of the case, were willing to ring the bells fully muffled. A neighbouring Rector, interested in ringing, personally appealed on behalf of the band, but all met with a firm refusal and the statement that the parishioners must be considered.

To-day (St. Andrew's Day) the bells were being rung at 6 a.m., the 'Firing,' or an attempt thereat, being also indulged in. Were the parishioners considered?

PEALS OF DOUBLES AND MINOR. REV. E. BANKES JAMES' ARRANGEMENT.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—You will not doubt remember that some months ago I pointed out to you that the Rev. E. Bankes James' arrangement of Cambridge Minor does not comply with all the Central Council's conditions for a true peal. In the present discussion on peals of Minor and Doubles I notice the matter again crops up.

If I understand aright, in the Rev. E. Bankes James' arrangement the 720's are true provided rounds is considered as the first change of a 720. Naturally, if rounds is the first change it cannot be the last, and, therefore, the peal does not end with rounds, but with 124365 or 132465. This does not comply with the condition laid down by the Central Council on page 15 of its recent publication, 'Rules and Decisions of the Council,' where it distinctly states that, 'On all numbers of bells a true peal shall in all cases start from and end with rounds.'

To put our house in order, we must either alter the last stipulation or decline to recognise the Rev. E. Bankes James' arrangement for Cambridge as a true peal.—Yours faithfully,

FRANK W. PERRENS.

'TRUE AND COMPLETE.'

Sir,—The question of the meaning of the resolution concerning peals of Minor and Doubles passed at Hereford turns upon the question of what we mean by a 720 or a six-score.

It has been the custom of the Exercise to talk about a true 720 or a true peal. Does this mean that we have actually made 720 different changes, or does it mean that the bells have sounded in 720 different orders? The word changes suggests the former, but a little consideration will show that that is impossible. It is commonly said that we can ring six changes on three bells. Let us examine them: 123; change 1 and 2, 213; change 1 and 3, 231; change 2 and 3, 321. We have now made three different changes, and the bells have struck in our different orders, but the bells can strike in two more orders, 312 and 132, and neither of these can be produced unless we repeat the change of 1 and 2, while 3 lies still; and the change of 1 and 3, while 2 lies still. From this it follows that a six on three bells means the six different orders in which the bells strike; moreover, in all the old ringing books we find 720 of Bob Minor having 14 bobs and two singles. The two singles go thus:—

126354 and 136254
126345 and 136245

We also get:—

123654 bob and 132654 bob
132645 and 123645

and

163254 plain and 162354 plain
162345 and 163245

Now this 720 has always been accepted as true, but it is evident that when the treble leads and 4.5 change in 5.6, 6 never changes with 2 or 3. If this 720 is true and complete, then my brother's arrangements of Cambridge Minor are true and complete, Mr. Morris' arrangement of Doubles is true and complete, and the so-called incomplete peal of Grandsire Triples, given on page 143 in Grandsire, is really true and complete, as the two missing rows come at the beginning.

Finally, the definition rules out any such absurdity as ringing each lead of a six-score of Bob Doubles forty-two times consecutively, and then going on to the next lead, for each of the forty-one repeats would be only the plain course of Original Doubles and not a six-score.—Yours truly,

H. LAW JAMES.

[Is not Mr. James confusing Mr. Morris' arrangement with Mr. Pitman's? The latter is true and complete in the way suggested by Mr. James, but the former contains a repetition of 40 changes in each 120.—Ed. 'R.W.']

'GIVE ENCOURAGEMENT WHERE WE CAN.'

Dear Sir,—Will you kindly point out in your next issue that I am not the author of the Spliced 240 of Grandsire Doubles, so strongly commented upon in your recent leader. It is by my friend and namesake, 'Leslie,' and without entering into any merit or otherwise, I simply say it does conform to the method throughout, and is a welcome change from the old ten 120's.

Evidently you fail to realise the great difficulty many of our isolated 5 and 6-bell towers have to keep a hand together, even to ring the 'original' six-score, and who are not like the majority of us better favoured ones, who can, when going for a peal, pick out the best from two or three towers. There are often one or two struggling along continually teaching fresh hands, and never getting a possible chance of advancing, unless going perhaps many miles and to some inconvenience and expense to visit other towers better situated. Therefore, we should welcome any attempt at variation, even if in this humble sphere, and give encouragement where we can—not simply squash them.

I repeat that which appears in our 1927 report, which will equally apply to other associations:—

(Continued in next column.)

DEATH OF MR. F. KNIGHTS.

A LINK WITH OLD NORWICH RINGERS.

An outstanding personality in the Exercise, Mr. Frederick Knights, passed away at his residence, Heigham Street, Norwich, on November 27th.

Born at Catfield, Norfolk, December 12th, 1851, he was employed, at the early age of five, in searing crows, being rewarded for this at the rate of 1s. per week. At a still early age he found employment in a bakehouse at Diss, and it was here he learned to ring, the writer having heard him say that he could ring when he was twelve years of age.

In 1866 he came to Norwich, and very soon made the acquaintance of the old company, then practising at St. Peter Mancroft, the late Mr. James Trueman being head man and conductor, and he was asked to take part in the ringing for a visit to Norwich of the Prince of Wales (later Edward VII.) during that year.

He continued practising with the Mancroft company until 1873, when he transferred his activities to what were known as the 'Stags,' the rival company to the Norwich Scholars (Mancroft company).

In 1876, a vacancy having occurred in the Mancroft company by the death of Robert Burrell, and Mr. Knights being the only ringer in Norwich at the time with the necessary qualifications, he was asked to fill the vacancy, which he did.

In 1882, when the late Mr. James Youngs, who had succeeded Mr. James Trueman as head man, became incapacitated, Mr. Knights took over the leadership and continued to fulfil the duties until the old company ceased their connection with St. Peter Mancroft.

Mr. Knights was an original member of the Norwich Diocesan Association, and also a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths. Besides this, he was the last link with the old Norwich company, having known Thos. Hurry, James Trueman and Charles Middleton. But, most of all, Mr. Knights will be remembered for his charming personality. Meeting him for the first time one would instinctively call him a gentleman; as a ringer he was a superb striker at either end, and maintained to the full the Norwich tradition of easy and correct manipulation of a bell.

Perhaps his outstanding performance was the ringing of the tenor to the back eight at Mancroft to Oxford Treble Bob Major, on November 20th, 1890, which he also conducted.

Mr. Knights built up a prosperous business as a baker and confectioner, and brought up a large family, only one of whom is a ringer, the eldest son, Mr. F. H. Knights.

Very musically inclined, Mr. Knights took in hand the teaching and training of the Albert Street handbell ringers, whose services were in great demand during the last twenty years of the last century. Norwich being a city with a reputation for music, the success of these handbell performances was something to be proud of; in fact, the whole of his family are very expert tune ringers.

His peal total was 129 on tower bells, on all numbers from six to twelve, and three handbell peals. He conducted many of these, and it is safe to say that those peals were rung; if the striking was rough, Fred Knights would not stand for it.

His name is not so well known to the present generation, but many will remember him and many will be proud to have known him and to have rung with him, for he was one of those who have helped more than a little to build up the Exercise. Deceased was a widower for many years, and the sympathy of the Exercise will go out to the family in their bereavement.

He was interred in the City of Norwich Cemetery on December 4th. May he rest in peace.

B. S. T.

(Continued from previous column.)

'It would be well if all branches of the M.C.A. actively realised that there are in nearly every county more than three times the number of five and six-bell towers to those of higher numbers, and much good might be done, many members interested and secured, and the art considerably increased if these towers were not isolated so much, but brought into line with their more fortunate confrères of greater numbers.'

Yours sincerely,

ERNEST MORRIS.

Leicester.

THE PEAL AT BROUGHTON ASTLEY.

Dear Sir,—We thank you for publishing our peal rung at Broughton Astley. Its publication, together with the correspondence arising therefrom, has somewhat relieved the shock we experienced from your leading article in the preceding week's issue. Unfortunately, owing to the bad go of the bells, especially of the tenor, peal ringing here is not altogether a Saturday afternoon's holiday. As far as is known, only two previous peals have been rung, one in 1915 and one in 1921, both by well-known ringers, with the inclusion in the former of our captain, Mr. John Braud, who has been a ringer here for 56 years. Several of these ringers have congratulated us on our achievement, and some are prepared to argue on the point raised, but it is not our wish to enter into any controversy on the matter. We are naturally proud of obtaining a local peal, and we shall watch with great interest any further development on the subject.—Yours, etc.,

Broughton Astley.

H. BIRD.

NAMES AND MEANINGS.

BY REV. H. DRAKE.

The article by 'Minormania' has said just what needs saying. It is all of it excellent. The only sentence I do not understand is that in which he speaks of 'my expressed opinion of "one method, one name."' In the first place, I do not see how it conflicts with his argument; and in the second place it is hardly my opinion more than anyone else's. It underlies all that the Council and its committees have done with regard to methods. For example, why publish a list of names, if one method could have two names, or several methods had to share one name?

What I have pressed is the fact that it is the duty of the Council to express itself definitely on one side or the other on this and similar elementary questions. It does not matter so much which side they take, as that they take one side or the other, so that we can get on, and put an end to these interminable disputes about so elementary a matter as the nomenclature of method extension. Had our resolutions, or other alternative ones, been passed, I should have seen to it that either our committee or some other applied them to the resolution of this and other matters. One thing is certain: it is a piece of work that has got to be done. We have elected the Council to do such work as this, but if it continues to refuse to do their job, it will have to be done in some other way. It is not likely that ringers will continue much longer to be under the thumb of three experts who can only repeat 'non possumus.'

Methods, as they extend, branch out and interlace, like the branches of a tree. They may be difficult to trace, but artists do not for that reason say they cannot draw a tree, though they may occasionally find that for their purpose a conventional form is better than one which is literally exact.

One can answer both Mr. Bixby's and Mr. Trollope's questions together. In teaching a beginner to prick changes, it is quite easy, and may be advisable, to point out to him a 'move,' 'movement,' and 'motion,' in the changes. Such way of teaching is at the same time simple and scientific. It is, however, neither simple nor scientific to call these elementary ideas by the confusing name of 'shunt' in 'the more abstruse part of the science of method construction'—to use Mr. Trollope's words, which are in the best style of obscurantism. In the same way it does not help a learner to be told that a method is named after Bowdon, and is called Bogeytown, and spelt Bogedone. Mr. Trollope tells us that he has learnt how to pronounce this word. He has, therefore, beaten me, as I never could pronounce Anglo-Saxon. But, then, I was always bad at languages. The only thing I remember is that there is no 'e' mute in Anglo-Saxon, so the word must have four syllables. By the way, no one seems to have owned up to the Cuneastre joke, or to have told us how to pronounce it. Will all who ring these methods have to take a preliminary course in Anglo-Saxon from Mr. Trollope? Is this another piece of obscurantism from the high priest of 'the more abstruse part of the science'?

However, it is clear that I must unreservedly withdraw the word 'pledge.' I used the word to show that I was referring to an informal arrangement, and not to a definite resolution; but the word can, of course, mean a solemn promise, in the sense in which Mr. Trollope takes it, and this I did not mean.

Mr. Trollope had said that I had my opportunity at Hereford and did not take it; all I was concerned with was to show that I did take it. His words implied that the Methods Committee considered that they had no power to make further changes. But he now says they still have the power. Well and good. What I want to make clear is that it is not my funeral. The committee must take full responsibility for these follies, and not try to make me or the Council responsible.

I did not mean to imply that he expressed any opinion about these names, much less that he did not think them 'sensible.'

It is very strange that Mr. Trollope not only denies that this list was a report from the Methods Committee, but even denies that the committee presented any report. This is neither in accordance with my memory, nor with the published accounts in your columns.

The word 'report' means to bring back. The Methods Committee were 'sent out' again last year, and this year, among other things, they 'brought back' this list. Therefore, I am absolutely correct in calling it a report, which it is. Even if it were not technically a report (which I do not believe), I should still be justified in calling it one, as it was brought forward when they were asked for their report. To disown it as their report, only means that they are ashamed of it.

Now, although we understood that we were passing the list ready for the printer, Mr. Trollope gives us to understand that it will not be printed. This seems strange. Will there not even be a contents table?

I notice that Mr. Trollope says himself that 'Immanuel' was condemned by the general feeling of the Council, although no formal vote was passed. My point is that the same applies to 'Bogedon' and 'Cuneastre,' only much more forcibly: for several voices were raised then, and since, in support of the one, while no one has ever spoken in support of the other two—nor ever will.

In conclusion, I may point out that the committee have not followed the rule he says they have, of keeping to the names given by (Continued in next column.)

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.

The annual meeting of the Southern District was held at St. Mary's Church, Swansea, on Saturday, when about 30 members were present from Aheravon, Neath, Cadoxton, Morriston, Llanelly, Gorseion, Tenby, with the local band, and Mr. G. Popnell from Bedwellty, and Mr. W. Williams from Blackwood, Mon, who were very welcome visitors. The bells (a peal of eight) were rung before the service, which was conducted by the Vicar, Rev. W. T. Havard. Tea followed in the Market Restaurant, kindly provided by the Vicar, and was very much appreciated. At the business meeting the Vicar kindly presided. Officers elected for 1929 were Mr. E. Stith, hon. district secretary, and Mr. G. W. Hollis, auditor.

Morriston was chosen for the place of next meeting. One new member was elected, and the Vicar became an hon. member.

A collection was made for the Bates appeal fund, the amount collected being 15s.

Votes of thanks were accorded to the Vicar for the use of the bells, for conducting the service, for the splendid tea, and for presiding at the meeting; also to the organist for his services at the organ.—The Vicar (who is a true friend of ringers) said how very pleased he was to do his best to make them all happy, and he hoped they would come again soon.

The tower was again visited, when the four standard methods were rung and rounds for the beginners. The bells were lowered in peal about 8.30 p.m., bringing to a close the best meeting ever held in Swansea by the Guild.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.

A quarterly meeting of the Southern District of the Surrey Association was held at Bletchingley on Saturday, the following towers being represented: Godstone, Redhill, Roigate, Merstham, Horley, Buckland, Burstow, Limpsfield Chart, and Mr. H. Wren, Bletchingley, with visitors from Crawley and Croydon. Ringing commenced at three o'clock, and continued until five, when a short service was conducted by the Rev. A. Aitken, Crawshaw, who gave the association a warm welcome. Afterwards the party, numbering 26, sat down to tea, and this was followed by a business meeting, at which the Rev. A. Aitken, Crawshaw, presided.

The company stood for a few moments as a token of respect to the late Master, Mr. J. D. Drowitt, and the secretary was instructed to write a letter of condolence to the relatives.

The usual business was transacted, and it was proposed to hold the next meeting (which is the annual district meeting) at Charlwood.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector for the use of the bells, for his address at the services, and for presiding at the meeting, also to Mr. Bashford, jun., for presiding at the organ. Ringing was afterwards enjoyed up till 8.30 in the standard methods, including Cambridge Minor.

BELFRY ELECTIONS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I note with much interest a letter by a prominent Yorkshire Association official calling attention to Joseph's 'mental aberration.' Has he only just become aware of it? Joseph has been very fond of telling the story of how three Yorkshire ringers went up to a big city and got together some others from round the district for a peal. Before starting they found that no association had a majority among the members present, so went for a friendly peal and got it. After the peal, the gist of the conversation was: 'It's a pity it can't be published as rung for some association or other.' Whereupon one of the Yorkshire men made a suggestion that it be published as a Yorks Association peal, and he would pay all subscriptions. This met with the approval of the four or five present (the rest having gone), and would Mr. So-and-So please tell the others that Mr. — was kindly paying their subscriptions?

This is typical of the way many ringers are elected to membership in lots of places to-day. I myself have rung in two peals with 'Uncle' in which non-association ringers took part, his idea, like mine, being that a non-member in standing in for a peal with a majority of members of an association, automatically becomes a member of same. Why bandy words? 'I propose So-and-So,' and 'I second him.' It's all right at a meeting, because it's in keeping with the dignity of the meeting, but it seems out of place before a peal. 'Don't be silly; we haven't met for just a friendly peal, and so long as the secretary gets his subscription he's just as much a member of the Guild as you or I.' Any way, these are the ideas forced upon him by the experiences of

A YOUNG PEAL SNATCHER.

(Continued from previous column.)

the bands who first rang them. This is the part of the country where Plain Bob was first rung, and here it is always called 'Plain.' I know that in some parts of the country it is called 'Bob,' but to call this one method 'Bob' is not only to break the vital rule to start with, but it makes meaningless the use of the same term as the name of a class. I admit that 'Reverse Plain' is not very elegant, nor logical, but it is far better, from both points of view, than 'Reverse Bob,' which is, when you come to think of it, really ridiculous.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**A SMALL, BUT USEFUL, MEETING.**

Cobham, a Surrey village on the banks of the River Mole, was the venue selected for a meeting of the Leatherhead District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild, held on Saturday, but it was rather poorly attended, only about twenty members being present. Although on the main road from London to Portsmouth, and within about twenty miles of the Metropolis, Cobham is not easy to get to from other places in the Leatherhead District, as instance the fact that it took the district secretary over two hours to reach the village from his home, eight miles away as the crow flies. It may have been this inaccessibility that in part led to the sparse attendance, but it did not account for the absence of those who promised to come but did not put in an appearance. A counter-attraction in the shape of a Surrey Association meeting at Croydon may also have been responsible for the absence of some whose homes are nearer to the bell foundry town than to Cobham. But what was lacking in numbers was made up in interest. The four hours during which the bells were utilised enabled some sound practice to be put in, and the eight-bell men had their ringing education improved—which is as it should be when they visit a six-bell tower. 'You don't get half the fun out of eight, ten and twelve-bell ringing, that you do out of six-bell ringing,' said one of them, after his experience. 'Fancy ringing Stedman Cinques all your life, when you can go to a six-bell tower and ring hundreds of methods.' If he was exaggerating a bit, he had, at any rate, grasped the interest which enterprising six-bell ringers can get out of the art. The ringing during the afternoon included Grandsire, Stedman, and St. Simon's Doubles, Bob, Double Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise Minor. The bells are a musical ring, with tenor of 9 cwt., three being by Taylor and the rest tuned by that firm.

The Rector (the Rev. J. du V. Brunton) conducted the Guild's service, and, led by the choirboys, was fully choral. The Leatherhead District ringers have among them some excellent vocalists, and the singing was therefore equal to that which might have been expected from a much larger congregation.

The Rector gave a homely address, in which he referred to the contribution of skill, patience and time which ringers give to their work, and suggested that their meetings should be made the occasion of the rededication of their services to the Church.

Tea was served in the Parish Hall, the Master of the Guild (Major J. H. B. Hesce) presiding, supported by the district secretary (Mr. E. G. Woodiss), the District Master (Mr. A. Harman), and the general secretary (Mr. J. S. Goldsmith).

The election of six compounding members prior to peals was confirmed, and the District Secretary reported that the district committee had decided to suspend the weekly combined practices during December, but to resume them in the New Year. The committee had also had before them a suggestion for a combined meeting with the Surrey Association in the district early next year, and he (the secretary) had asked their Surrey friends to select the place they would most like to visit for the gathering.

The question of the meetings of the district clashing with those of the Central and Southern Districts of the Surrey Association was discussed, it being pointed out that all three districts were meeting that day. The Guildford Guild has adopted the practice of drawing up and issuing its programme of meetings for the year, to avoid the clashing of meetings in its own districts, and it was resolved, when next year's programme had been decided upon, to send a copy to the Surrey Association district secretaries, so that they may be able, if they are willing to do so, to select dates to avoid clashing.

The Master proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector for the use of the bells and for conducting the service, to the organist and to the choir. This was seconded by the district secretary and carried by acclamation.

A specially cordial vote of thanks was passed to Mr. W. James, the local secretary, for having made all the arrangements at Cobham, and for having, out of his own pocket, paid the choirboys for their attendance.

AN AUGMENTED RING.

On Saturday, the Farnham District held a combined practice at Farnborough to give the local band a good send-off into the practice of Minor, now that they have had their bells augmented from five to six by the addition of a new treble, which was dedicated on Tuesday week. Messrs. Gillett and Johnston have made a very good job of the addition, the splice being perfect, and, by reason of its being hung on ball bearings, the bell practically rings itself. During the afternoon and evening several ringers found it rather unmanageable.

Twenty-five ringers from Aldershot, Farnham, Farnborough, Seale, Guildford (Holy Trinity) and Sandhurst, attended, and ringing commencing about 3.30 p.m., continued, with a break for tea, until nine o'clock.

During the evening the Rector (the Rev. W. A. Challacombe) visited the belfry and said how pleased he was to see so many ringers at Farnborough, and expressed his disappointment at being unable to invite them to tea at the Rectory, but he also invited all the ringers to come again in the summer and bring their wives and friends.

(Continued in next column.)

IRISH ASSOCIATION.**NORTHERN BRANCH AT HOLYWOOD.**

The November quarterly meeting of the Northern Branch of the Irish Association was held on Saturday, the 17th, at Holywood. There was an excellent attendance of members, and Mr. G. Lindoff travelled from Dublin specially for the meeting. The visiting members took full advantage of this pretty peal of eight bells (tenor 13 cwt.), and got through several extents of Doubles.

The service was conducted by the Rev. Canon Manning (Vicar), who also gave a very inspiring address from the text, 'Whatever ye doeth for the Lord, do it with a good heart.'

A very substantial tea had been provided by Mrs. Manning in the Parochial Hall, and a hearty vote of thanks was passed to her for the tea, and to the Canon for the use of the bells and conducting the service in the church.

Mr. W. J. McCarthy, one of the churchwardens, was made a 'life member' of the association, and presented with a membership ticket by the president, Mr. W. Young, who complimented Mr. McCarthy on becoming the first life member from Holywood.

Mr. Lindoff, after being introduced to the members by the Vicar, and welcomed to the meeting, gave a most interesting lecture on the art of change ringing on five and six bells, and this brought a very pleasant meeting to a close.

After the meeting the Holywood band rung 600 changes of Hob Minor on the church bells, and for Sunday morning service Mr. Lindoff stood in with the local team, who rang three extents of 'Doubles' and 180 changes of Minor.

This was the fifth quarterly meeting of the Northern Branch, which was inaugurated in October of last year. There were forty members present, including the local band and ringers from St. Thomas', Belfast, and St. Nicholas', Carrickfergus.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**NEWBURY BRANCH.**

The annual meeting of the Newbury Branch was held at Shaw on Saturday, November 17th. Service was conducted by the Rector of Shaw (Rev. W. Kingsley Kefford), assisted by the Rector of Newbury (the Rev. L. R. Majendie), an address being given by the Master of the Guild (the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn).

Tea, served in the Parish Hall, was kindly given by the Rector of Shaw, and a company of 48 sat down.

The business meeting followed, over which the Rev. L. R. Majendie presided, supported by the Master, the general secretary (Mr. T. Hibbert), the general treasurer (Mr. A. J. Wright), and the hon. branch secretary and treasurer.

Mr. H. W. Curtis gave a report of meetings held during the year, which had been well attended. Four peals had been rung in the branch year. The balance sheet was also presented, and showed a balance in hand of £13 12s.

The Rev. L. R. Majendie was re-elected chairman, Mr. H. W. Curtis re-elected hon. secretary and treasurer, and Miss S. Davis, Messrs. T. Curtis, S. Quintin, and F. Owen were elected as representatives on the general committee.

Three new ringing members and one hon. members were elected. The Master said he was very pleased to know Newbury bells were going to be rehung. Thatcham bells were also badly in need of repair.—Mr. R. T. Hibbert congratulated the branch on their progress during the year.—Mr. A. J. Wright congratulated Newbury on their large balance in hand.

£5 was voted towards Newbury bells.

Mr. H. W. Curtis moved a vote of thanks to the Rev. W. Kingsley Kefford for welcoming the members and also for entertaining them to tea, to the Rev. L. R. Majendie for presiding, to Miss Love for playing the organ at the service, to the Master for his address, and to the ladies for undertaking the catering.

The next meeting of the branch was fixed for Compton on Saturday, February 16th.

A collection taken up at the close for Newbury bells, and amounted to £1 12s. 6d.

A HALF PEAL.

At Brookfield Church, Gorton, on November 10th, 2,520 Stedman Triples in 1 hr. 30 mins.: T. Jones 1, A. Barnes 2, H. Shuker 3, K. Gaskell 4, C. Ollier 5, J. Fearnhead 6, B. Thorpe (conductor) 7, G. Eaton 8. Longest length of Stedman by the ringers of the 6th and tenor.

This was a peal attempt as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 5th, but was brought home at half-way owing to the heavy going of the bells, coupled with a late start.

(Continued from previous column.)

On the proposition of the hon. secretary (Mr. B. Clark) the Rector was accorded a very hearty vote of thanks for his kindness in issuing such a wide invitation, and for the use of the bells.

The methods rung ranged from Grandsire Doubles to Cambridge Surprise Minor, and everybody voted it one of the most successful meetings held in the Farnham District.

This is the first augmentation of a ring of bells in the area of the Guildford Diocesan Guild since its formation.

THE BATES APPEAL FUND.

The third list of donations to the fund which is being raised to assist Mrs. E. Bates, of Dartford, who has been left in straitened circumstances with three small children (one aged four and twins of six months) by the fatal accident to her husband, one of the Dartford ringers, is printed below. The great help which can be given by collections in the belfry or at meetings is emphasised by the sums which have this week been added by this means, and we hope that bands everywhere will assist in this way. As we mentioned last week, there may be many who are willing to give a small contribution but who would yet hesitate to forward it as an individual gift. If it goes 'into the hat' the collective result is of great assistance. It need not prevent anyone from sending a separate donation, but these small contributions are too valuable to be lost.

Contributions to the fund should be sent to Mr. T. Groombridge, jun., 127, Crayford Way, Crayford, Kent, and will be acknowledged in these columns.

	£	s.	d.
Previously acknowledged	13	14	6
Miss E. M. Outforth	2	6	
Mr. J. Newman	2	0	
Mr. and Mrs. T. Newman	10	0	
'Anon.'	2	0	
'Unattached, Epsom'	5	0	
'A.H. and W.J.'	3	0	
Mr. William Pickworth	5	0	
Mr. Harry Miller	2	6	
St. John-the-Baptist's, Leytonstone (per Mr. W. Miller)	10	0	
Mr. F. E. Dawe	10	0	
Mr. A. Pye	2	0	
St. Mary Cray band (per Mr. G. H. Lovelock)	10	0	
The Ancient Society of College Youths (grant from gift box)	1	0	0
Mr. E. A. Young	10	0	
Mr. John Clark, London	2	6	
J.H.	2	0	
Mr. W. H. Fussell	5	0	
Collection, Worcester Association Southern Branch quarterly meeting at Eversham (per Mr. F. T. Johnson)	11	0	
Mr. E. Barnett, sen.	5	0	
Elham (Kent) band (per Mr. F. Verney)	10	6	
Mr. G. Edwards	2	0	
'Single Court'	2	6	
N.R.	2	0	
Midland Counties Association, Derby District meeting at Derby Cathedral, collection (per Mr. W. Wallace)	10	0	
J.G.	1	0	
Fred Groombridge	1	0	
St. Andrew's band, Farnham (per Mr. R. Hasted)	10	0	
Total	221	13	0

DEVON GUILD.

EXETER BRANCH SECRETARY RETIRES.

The annual meeting of the Exeter Branch was held at St. Thomas', Exeter, on Saturday, preceded by service in the Parish Church, at which the Vicar (Rev. G. B. Nicholls) gave an address. About 100 sat down to tea in the Buller Hall. The chairman (Rev. E. V. Cox) was supported by the president and Mrs. E. S. Powell.

A slight decrease in membership was reported, but activities had been maintained and considerable progress made in learning even-bell methods.

A suggestion to incorporate the words 'Exeter Diocesan' in the title was not approved.

Rev. E. V. Cox was re-elected chairman, Miss E. Lomas was elected hon. secretary and treasurer in place of Mr. Stokes who resigned with great regret, and Miss G. Davey was elected assistant. Several speakers paid tribute to the work done by the retiring hon. secretary.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Newton St. Cyres on February 9th.

MUFFLED BELLS.

On Saturday, November 24th, at Higham Ferrers, Northants, an attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Triples, but it was lost in the 13th part, owing the 7th rope breaking: J. Ward 1, L. Chapman 2, J. Garratt 3, A. Y. Tyler 4, J. J. Mawby 5, D. Deacon 6, W. Perkins (conductor) 7, C. Croft 8. Rung with the bells muffled in memory of Mr. W. Hall, who was a member of the Higham Ferrers belfry.

At Lavenham, on Monday, November 12th, at SS. Peter and Paul's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes) (Brook's): A. Symonds 1, F. A. Poulson 2, F. F. Mortlock 3, W. R. J. Poulson 4, L. Poulson 5, W. Faiers 6, F. A. Turner 7, S. H. Symonds (conductor) 8. Rung deeply muffled as a mark of respect to Denis H. Lennox-Conyngnam, elder son of the Rev. G. H. Lennox-Conyngnam, Rector, who was interred the same day.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

TIMSBURY, SOMERSET.—On Advent Sunday, December 2nd, for evening service, 720 Plain Bob Minor in 27 mins.: G. Comer (first 720) 1, F. J. L. Brown 2, W. A. Young 3, R. T. Clark (conductor) 4, J. Fear 5, Wm. Young 6.

MALDON.—At All Saints' Church, on Sunday, December 2nd, before evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): F. Chalk 1, S. R. Linnett (first quarter-peal of Grandsire) 2, J. Amos 3, E. G. Ellenger 4, F. White 5, A. South 6, H. J. Mansfield (conductor) 7, J. Ford (first quarter-peal) 8.

ABERAVON, GLAM.—On Sunday, December 2nd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 45 mins.: C. Mathers 1, W. Williams 2, F. E. Stone 3, E. Stitch 4, W. Nulton 5, C. Hughes 6, A. J. Pitman (conductor) 7, J. Weatherby 8.

CHERTSEY.—On Sunday, December 2nd, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: H. Stevens 1, H. Chaffey 2, G. Warrington 3, Miss N. Stevens 4, F. Allen 5, J. Crocker 6, J. Hessey (conductor) 7, P. Percy 8. First quarter-peal by ringers of 3rd, 4th, 5th and tenor. First quarter-peal as conductor in the method. First quarter-peal of Stedman by an entirely local band.

WINDSOR.—On Sunday evening, December 2nd, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Cambridge Surprise Major (1,280 changes) in 49 mins.: E. S. T. Farr 1, W. Welling 2, Miss P. Moss 3, W. H. Fussell 4, G. Gilbert 5, L. Stilwell 6, W. Henley 7, C. C. Mayne (conductor) 8. First quarter-peal in the method by ringers of 1st and 6th, and on the bells.

BARKING, ESSEX.—On Sunday, December 2nd, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes) in 48 mins.: T. Faulkner 1, W. Beard 2, F. C. Russell 3, F. C. Newman 4, C. Fenn (conductor) 5, R. Fenn 6, G. W. Faulkner 7, G. E. Cottis 8. Rung after the confirmation service, and as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. W. Cottis (parents of the ringer of the tenor) on the occasion of their 57th wedding anniversary.

LINSLADE.—At St. Barnabas' Church, on December 2nd for Confirmation service, in the evening, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: *W. Inley 1, F. Buttrum 2, W. J. Jeffs 3, R. Oliver 4, F. Dedman 5, T. Dixon 6, F. Vickers (conductor) 7, *R. Keep 8. * First quarter-peal.

UXBRIDGE.—At St. Andrew's Church, on November 25th, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples in 44 mins. for evening service: C. Nicholls 1, P. Jones 2, R. Warnett 3, E. G. Swift 4, G. H. Gutteridge 5, F. Corke (conductor) 6, R. Carter 7, J. Lucas 8. First quarter in the method by ringers of 3rd and 4th, and first away from tenor by treble ringer.—For St. Andrew's Day (November 3rd) a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles in 36 mins.: T. Smith 1, R. Warnett 2, C. Nicholls 3, F. Corke 4, R. Carter 5, J. Lucas 6. First quarter of Doubles by 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 5th. Rung after meeting short for Triples.

LITTLE MUNDEN.—On November 25th, for morning service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: W. Williams, W. S. Lawrence, S. Head, A. Phillips, S. Carter, W. H. Lawrence (conductor).—For evening service, 720 Woodbine: W. Williams, W. S. Lawrence, S. Head, W. H. Lawrence, S. Carter, A. Phillips (conductor).

PULBOROUGH, SUSSEX.—On Sunday, November 18th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,280 changes): O. Sippetts (conductor) 1, Miss F. Wyman 2, K. Snelling 3, B. Wells 4, C. Smart 5, R. V. Johnson 6, C. Nice 7, N. Elliott 8.

WINDSOR.—On Sunday evening, November 18th, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal (1,260 changes) of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins.: J. W. Croft 1, W. P. Cross 2, W. Phipps 3, T. Smith 4, R. Gale 5, L. Stilwell (conductor) 6, W. Henley 7, J. H. Cropley 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to W. P. Cross.

BUSHEY, HERTS.—On Sunday, November 18th, at St. James' Church, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 42 mins.: J. Evans (first quarter-peal away from tenor) 1, E. Aylett (first quarter-peal as conductor) 2, J. J. Allen 3, P. Parsloe 4, F. A. Smith 5, W. Seeley 6, M. Hibbert 7, H. Dale 8.

LONDON.—On Sunday, November 18th, at St. Margaret's, Westminster, for evensong, 1,263 Stedman Caters: W. H. Hewett 1, Miss E. E. Chapman 2, J. E. Davis 3, H. S. Ellis 4, C. W. Roberts (conductor) 5, W. R. Madgwick 6, C. W. R. Grimwood 7, G. H. Cross 8, W. J. Nudds 9, R. Sanders 10.

DEPTFORD.—At St. John's Church, on Sunday, October 28th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 38 mins.: E. Rivett 1, Sergt. Steers 2, W. A. Martin 3, R. A. Fosdike 4, P. C. Davis 5, P. C. Elliott 6, W. J. Jeffries (conductor) 7, A. F. Benington 8. All the above are regular Sunday service ringers, and the ringers of the 2nd, 5th and 6th are members of the 'R' Division Metropolitan Police Force.

LATE NOTICE.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Tempsford on Sat. December 15th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome.—C. J. Ball, 2, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

NOTICES.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—The subscription of 1s. 8d., which enables members who have not attended twenty times in the past year to vote on matters of finance, is now due. Meetings will be held at St. Magnus' on Dec. 20th; *St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 11th; St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 13th; *St. Paul's Cathedral (special business) on the 18th; Southwark Cathedral on the 27th; all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

AMBROSDEN, OXFORDSHIRE (2 miles from Bicester). The Rt. Rev. E. D. Shaw, B.D., Archbishop of Oxford, will dedicate 2 new treble bells, to complete the octave, on Friday, Dec. 7th, at 6 p.m. The tenor bell has been recast and the whole peal rehung in a modern iron frame. Tenor 20 cwt. All ringers welcome.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A meeting will be held at St. Andrew's, Hillingdon, on Saturday, Dec. 8th. Ringing from 2.45. Other arrangements as usual. Every ringer welcome. — Wm. H. Hollier, 29, Duke Road, W.4.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the above branch will be held at Leckhampton on Saturday, Dec. 8th. Bells open 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea 5.30, by invitation of the Rector (Canon F. W. Sears, M.A.).—Walter Yeend, Branch Sec., Mellfield, Tewkesbury Road, Cheltenham.

ST. MARTIN'S, BIRMINGHAM.—The recast bells of St. Martin's will be dedicated and opened at 3 o'clock on Saturday, Dec. 8th. Ringing from 4 to 5 and 6 to 7 p.m. All ringers welcome. Social evening later at St. Martin's Hotel. The bells will be broadcast on Sunday, Dec. 9th, at 8 o'clock.—A. Paddon Smith.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The eighth annual social of the above branch will be held at Higher Walton on Saturday, Dec. 8th. The bells, 8 (newly rehung and augmented by Taylor and Co.) will be available from 2 p.m. Tea on tables 4.45. Tickets 2s. 6d. each adult; children half-price. — Fred Rigby, Hon. Branch Sec.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Ely Archdeaconry will be held at Long Stanton on Saturday, Dec. 8th. Bells (8) ready at 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Address by Rev. H. B. Woolley. Tea in Schoolroom 5 p.m. — F. Warrington, Dis. Sec., Long Stanton, Cambs.

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District. — The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Ambrose, Bristol, on Saturday, Dec. 8th. Bells available from 3.15 p.m. Tea and meeting 4.30. Service 6 p.m. — N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Weston, Bath.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kettering Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Geddington (5) on Saturday, Dec. 8th. Usual arrangements. — H. Baxter, Silver Street, Broughton, Kettering.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Brierley Hill, Staffs, on Saturday, Dec. 8th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service in church at 4.30. Tea and business meeting afterwards. — Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Bushey Heath, Saturday, Dec. 8th. Bells open from 3.30. Tea 5.30 in Parish Hall. Cheap tickets from all stations to Watford or Bushey. Buses stop at church.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey. (Tel. City 4270.)

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The next bye-meeting of this district will be held at Tonbridge on Saturday, December 8th. Tower open at 4 o'clock.—W. Latter, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD. — A ringing meeting will be held at Turner's Hill on Sat., December 8th. Tower open 3 o'clock.—G. Lambert, Drummond Hay, East Grinstead.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next monthly meeting will be held on Saturday, Dec. 8th, at Ruddington. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea can be arranged at the meeting. All ringers welcome. Good bus service from Collin Street, Nottingham.—Fredk. W. Bailey, Local Sec., 42, Rupert Street, Nottingham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Garston on Saturday, Dec. 8th. Bells (8) ready 3 p.m. Service 5.30 p.m. Tea and meeting 6 p.m. Those intending to be present notify Mr. W. Hughes, 3, Shrewsbury Place, Garston. Special attention Oxford Bob Triples. A good muster is requested.—Claude I. Davies, Branch Sec.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Dorset Branch.—The annual meeting of the above branch will be held at Blandford on Saturday, Dec. 8th. Towers available: Blandford (8), Bryanston (6), Durweston (6), Stourpaine (5). Ringing from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea 5 (6d. for members). Meeting to follow. —A. E. Nedham, Compton Abbas Rectory, Shaftesbury.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Marlborough Branch.—The next monthly meeting of the above branch will be held on Saturday, Dec. 8th, at Collingbourn, Kingston. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Tea for those who notify the secretary, 4.15. — Cyril Hussey, Hon. Sec., East Leaze, Baydon, Marlborough.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—A combined practice will be held at Thames Ditton on Saturday, Dec. 8th. Bells (6) available from 6 till 8.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—H. J. Chaffey, Hon. Sec., Upper Childown, Longcross, Chertsey.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Western Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Bishop's Stortford on Saturday, Dec. 8th. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.45 p.m. Tea in St. Michael's Parish Room at 5.15 p.m., to be followed by business meeting. Those requiring tea kindly advise me. — C. Beeston, 5, King Street, Bishop's Stortford.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Bradford-on-Avon (Holy Trinity) on Saturday, Dec. 8th. Bells (8) ready 2.30 p.m. Guild service 4.40. Tea 5. Business meeting follows tea. All ringers welcome. — F. Green, Branch Sec., 53, Avon Road, Devizes.

ACTON.—St. Mary's.—Ringing, Sunday evenings at 5.30 p.m., and weekly practice Wednesdays at 8 p.m., commencing Dec. 12th. All ringers welcome.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — A Wednesday meeting of the association will be held at Chester-le-Street on Dec. 12th. The bells of St. Cuthbert's (8, tenor 21 cwt.) will be available after

2.30. Tea at the Lambton Arms at 5, 1s. 6d. per head. Members intending to be present please notify me before Saturday, Dec. 8th.—George S. Taylor, Sec., 149, St. Leonard Street, Sunderland.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Snodland on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 4 o'clock. Tea after service, at 1s. per head, at the Parish Room. Kindly notify not later than Tuesday, Dec. 11th.—C. H. Sone, The Bungalow, Linton, Maidstone.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting at Perry Barr on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells available 3.30. Tea will be arranged for those who advise their intention to be present.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., Donnor, Wellington Road, Handsworth Wood, Birmingham.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—The next district meeting will be held at Aldershot Parish Church on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells available 3 o'clock. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Will all who intend to be present at tea notify me before Dec. 12th?—B. H. Clark, Hon. Sec., 17, St. James' Avenue, Farnham.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Hintlesham on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells available afternoon and evening. Tea, 1s. each, at the George, at 4.30. Meeting follows. Every ringer welcomed. — G. E. Symonds, Dis. Sec., 28, Chevallier Street, Ipswich.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the Town Hall, Manchester, on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells ready 4 o'clock. Meeting 7 p.m. A good attendance is requested.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting, Manchester.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District. — The next quarterly meeting will be held at Thorne on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. Service at 4.30, followed by tea in Mission Room at 5, at a charge of 1s. 6d. per head. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. C. H. Thorley, 6, Bridge Street, Thorne, not later than Thursday, Dec. 13th. Business meeting to follow.—A. B. Cook, Hon. Dis. Sec., 58, Wyndham Street, Hull.

CEFN COED.—Rededication of the ring of 6 bells, retuned and rehung by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, will take place on Dec. 15th at 3 p.m. All ringers welcome.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Sonning Deanery Branch. — Combined practice at St. Paul's, Wokingham, Saturday, Dec. 15th, from 6 till 9 p.m. All welcome.—W. J. Paice, Branch Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Central Bucks Branch.—Dec. 15th, Saturday. A meeting at Marsh Gibbon 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting afterwards. Please send numbers to the secretary, the Rev. J. F. Amies, Edgcote Rectory, Aylesbury, by Tuesday, Dec. 11th.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division. —A joint meeting of the Southern Division and the Sheffield District Society will be held at Rawmarsh on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells ready from 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock, at 1s. per head. Will those requiring same please notify Mr. E. Pammenter, 110, Goosebutt Street, Parkgate, near Rotherham, by Dec. 12th, so that provision may be made?—F. Clark and R. Harrison, Hon. Secs.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Wimborne Branch.—The annual meeting is to be held at St. James', Poole, on Saturday, Dec. 15th, and not Nov. 24th, as first arranged. Fuller notice later.—C. A. Phillips, Hon. Branch Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—The annual general meeting will be held at Loughborough on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Business meeting in the Bellfoundry Tower at 6 p.m. Stanfords-on-Soar bells available from 3 to 5 p.m. Foundry bells from 6 to 9 p.m. Buses run from Loughborough to Stanford at frequent intervals.—D. S. Collins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Davant Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Daventry (8) on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Usual arrangements.—W. C. Moore, Hon. Sec., Fircroft, Braunston Road, Daventry.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Northern District.—A meeting will be held at St. Sepulchre's, Holborn, on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells (10) available during the afternoon and evening. Tea and meeting at 4.30 p.m. Visitors heartily welcome.—J. A. Waugh, Hon. Dis. Sec., 8, Fullers Road, E.18.

SAFFRON WALDEN. — The dedication of the four trebles by the Bishop of Colchester will take place on Saturday, Dec. 15th, at 3 p.m. All visitors welcome. Tea will be provided to all those who notify me by Thursday, Dec. 13th.—Leonard E. Pitstow, Hon. Sec., 21, Debden Road, Saffron Walden.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Fylde Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Poulton-le-Fylde (6 bells) on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Meeting at 5.30.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec., 10, Warbree Road, Blackpool.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The last meeting of 1928 will take place at Redbourn on Saturday, Dec. 15th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Buses from St. Albans, Luton and Dunstable. Usual arrangements. Let me know if you are coming.—W. Ayre, Leverstock Green.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Chesterfield District.—A ringing meeting will be held at Old Brampton, Chesterfield (6 bells) on Dec. 15th. Bells at 3 o'clock. Those requiring tea should inform the Vicar (Rev. E. C. Mackenzie) not later than Dec. 12th. Buses leave Markham Road at 2, 3.15 and 4.15.—A. Knights, Dis. Sec.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The December meeting will be held at Bulkington on the 15th inst. The 6 bells will be available for ringing from 3 p.m. All ringers and friends welcome.—J. A. Fenton, Gen. Hon. Sec., 6, Frederick Street, Rugby.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD. — A meeting of the above will be held at Charing on Saturday, Dec. 15th, at 2.30. Tea will be arranged for those who notify me not later than Wednesday, Dec. 12th. Will all members who have not already paid their subscriptions please do so?—C. W. Everett, Hon. Sec., 48, Sussex Avenue, Ashford.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Lincoln District.—The postponed meeting will be held at Branston (6), Saturday, Dec. 15th. Tower open 2 p.m. Excellent bus service to and from St. Mary's Street and St. Mark's. All ringers heartily welcome. Notification for tea to Harold Marcon, Dis. Sec., 269, Wragby Road, Lincoln.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Tyldesley on Saturday, Dec. 22nd. Bells available 4 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

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