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FRIDAY, MAY 14th, 1937.

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NEXT TUESDAY'S COUNCIL MEETING

The Central Council's meeting at Canterbury next Tuesday seems likely to be one of the 'quietest' of recent years. Unless the committee reports give rise to unexpected debatable matter, there is only one subject likely to produce diversity of opinion. There are an unusually large number of reports to be dealt with, but except for the Analysis and Records Committee's report, none of them has yet been published. The work of the Council is carried on very largely through its committees, most of whom find work to do throughout the year. Sometimes the early publication of their reports has aroused interest in the Exercise generally, for ringers, like other folk, dearly love an argument. At one time, too, it was the only way in which the members of the Council gained any fore-knowledge of what they were to be asked to discuss. Often, however, a report was only verbally presented at the Council meeting. The adoption of more businesslike methods has now resulted in the circulation of all reports to the members prior to the meeting, which has the advantage of giving the representatives time to make a study of them beforehand.

The only motion on the agenda is likely to arouse discussion, for it brings up again, on the subject of peals of Doubles, a similar question to that raised on peals of Minor. There is most likely to be sharply divided opinion on the motion as it stands, for the admission of anything but true six-scores of Doubles in peals is a matter on which most ringers take a firm stand. As with Minor, there are some people who are prepared to admit that in Doubles anything is permissible so long as the changes are produced by a recognised method and do not occur more or less than 42 times each in a 5,040. They put forward their arguments in the case of peals of Minor, and will doubtless do so again, with equal cogency, in the case of the Doubles.

On the other hand, the majority of ringers, we think, are old fashioned enough to hold that if Doubles are to be allowed to rank as peals—and it is too late now to go back upon that subject—the six-scores, which are the foundation, must be individually true. Some, and probably a large part of the Exercise who give it a thought, hold that rounds must come at the end of each six-score. Between this and the licence which would be given by the movers of the resolution which is to come before the Council, there is a gap, into which the 'splicing' of one six-score into another finds a place. Where exactly between the various degrees of liberty the Council will land remains to be seen, but it must not be overlooked that in this question more is at stake than peals of Doubles.

(Continued on page 310.)

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There is a question of principle; and the Council must be prepared, if they accept the motion in its entirety, to be asked to go back on their previous decisions and allow, in the ringing of peals of Minor, compositions which do not produce true extents.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 8, 1937, in Three Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-BOW, CHEAPSIDE, E.C.,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 6007 CHANGES;

Tenor 54 cwt, 12 lb.

CHARLES T. COLES Treble	JOSEPH F. MARKS... .. 7
GEORGE R. PYE 2	GEORGE W. STEERE 8
HERBERT E. AUDSLEY... .. 3	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON 9
WILLIAM H. HEWETT... .. 4	JAMES H. RIDING... .. 10
RICHARD F. DEAL 5	REUBEN SANDERS 11
HARRY HOVERD 6	WILFRED WILLIAMS Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by WILLIAM H. HEWETT

TEN BELL PEAL.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 8, 1937, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt.

FREDERICK S. BAYLEY Treble	FREDERICK PAGE 6
EDWARD J. CHARMAN 2	FRANK I. HAIRS 7
MRS. F. I. HAIRS... .. 3	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE... .. 8
ALFRED W. GROVES 4	ALFRED T. GREENWOOD 9
C. ERNEST SMITH 5	FREDERICK W. ROGERS Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by FREDK. W. ROGERS.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

QUORNDON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, April 29, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S.

Tenor 14 cwt.

FRANK MASON Treble	JOHN E. CLARKE 5
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD 2	EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD 6
CHARLES ALLSOP... .. 3	LESLIE W. STEPHENS... .. 7
LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD 4	HAROLD HAMMERSLEY... .. Tenor

Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

Specially arranged for the coming-of-age of the ringer of the treble. It was his first peal of Stedman and first attempt. The first peal of Stedman on the bells since they were hung on ball bearings.

GREAT HOLLAND, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 1, 1937, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

*RONALD BOGG Treble	GEORGE JENNINGS 5
WALTER SOUTHGATE... .. 2	ALAN R. ANDREWS 6
*MRS. W. ROUSE 3	HORACE A. WRIGHT 7
WILLIAM A. ROUSE 4	EDWARD E. DAVEY Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by E. E. DAVEY.

* First peal. The ringer of the treble is only 13 years of age.

BECKINGTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 1, 1937, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GREGORY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 17 cwt.

MISS NORAH G. WILLIAMS Treble	EDWIN NASH 5
MISS BERYL LOOK 2	KENNETH FORD 6
*A. EDWARD VEZEY 3	JOSEPH T. DYRE 7
HENRY J. SANGER 4	RONALD G. BECK Tenor

Conducted by H. J. SANGER.

* First peal.

NORTH LOPHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 1, 1937, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Nicholas,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 10½ cwt. in G.

WALTER ELSEY Treble	NOLAN GOLDEN 5
* PHILIP W. J. FRYER 2	GEORGE MAYERS 6
ERIC G. BENNETT 3	HENRY TOOK 7
CLEMENT J. MORE 4	WILLIAM J. CLOVER Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.
* First attempt for a peal in the method. Rung as a Coronation peal by request, since there is no resident band.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, May 1, 1937, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

ARTHUR RADLEY Treble	GEORGE GILBERT 5
MRS. GEORGE H. CROSS 2	HARRY HOVERD 6
GEORGE J. BUTCHER 3	HERBERT E. ADDSLEY 7
GEORGE H. CROSS 4	WILLIAM BOTTRILL Tenor

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

Monday, May 3, 1937, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,

At the Bell Foundry Campanile,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DEXTER'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

LESLIE W. STEVENS Treble	G. RONALD EDWARDS 5
COLIN HARRISON 2	J. FREDERICK MILNER 6
GEORGE E. FOSTER 3	RALPH NARBOROUGH 7
FRANK BRADLEY 4	EDWARD FOSTER Tenor

Conducted by J. F. MILNER.

Rung in honour of Mr. W. A. Hall, of St. Matthias', Nottingham, who was 21 this day.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, May 7, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Paulinus,

A PEAL OF REAL DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR. 5072 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

* ERNEST H. ONENHAM Treble	HERBERT E. ADDSLEY 5
EDWIN BARNETT 2	* DEREK M. SHARP 6
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 3	* EDWIN A. BARNETT 7
* ARTHUR S. RICHARDS 4	* HARRY HOVERD Tenor

Composed by E. BARNETT, SEN. Conducted by E. A. BARNETT.

* First peal of Real Double Norwich.

GREAT BUDWORTH, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 8, 1937, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary and All Saints,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt. 2 qr. 4 lb.

CHRISTOPHER GUDGEON Treble	HAROLD WARRILL 5
REGINALD WOKKALL 2	STANLEY R. HARRISON 6
FREDERICK NEALE 3	HARRY PARKER 7
HARRY W. HOWARD 4	CECIL RADDEN Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by C. GUDGEON.

Rung in honour of the Coronation.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 8, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Thomas,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S.

Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb.

WILFRED STEVENSON Treble	JAMES A. MILNER 5
* REV. FRANK BONNER 2	KENNETH LEWIS 6
JAMES FERNLEY 3	WILLIAM FERNLEY 7
WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT 4	JOHN WORTH Tenor

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

* First peal of Surprise and first attempt. Rung in honour of the Coronation.

MOULTON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

OFFICERS' AND CENTRAL COMMITTEE-MEN'S CORONATION PEAL.

On Saturday, May 8, 1937, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At the Church of SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 15½ cwt.

REV. EVERARD S. POWELL, Guild Ringing Master Treble	
* GEORGE A. HOLLOCK, Secretary, Guilsborough Branch 2	
WALTER PERKINS, Ringing Master, Wellingborough Branch 3	
THOMAS LAW, Treasurer, Northampton Branch 4	
TOM TEBBUTT, Central Council Representative 5	
ERNEST C. LAMBERT, Central Committee, Towcester Branch 6	
BURLEY P. MORRIS, Central Committee, Kettering Branch 7	
ROBERT G. BLACK, General Secretary Tenor	

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by REV. E. S. POWELL.

* First peal of Major 'inside.' First peal of Major on the bells.

GALLEYWOOD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 8, 1937, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

GEORGE GREEN Treble	REGINALD C. THRIFT 5
* STANLEY E. EDWARDS 2	HARRY BRADLEY 6
HIRZEL EDWARDS 3	* HORACE J. MANSFIELD 7
ARTHUR H. EVERETT 4	FRED CHALK Tenor

Composed by J. PRATT. Conducted by GEORGE GREEN.
* First peal of Oxford Treble Bob. † First peal of Oxford away from the treble. Rung in honour of the Coronation of their Majesties.

STEWKLEY, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 8, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES. 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 11½ cwt.

RICHARD WHITE Treble	FREDERICK MESSINGER 5
WALTER SEAR 2	GEORGE HOLIFIELD, JUN. 6
JESSE POPLETT 3	HARRY SEAR 7
FRANCIS TAYLOR 4	FRED WHITE Tenor

Conducted by G. HOLIFIELD, JUN.

The first peal on the bells. Rung in honour of the birthday of the donor of the trebles (Mr. F. Bliss) and the 79th birthday of Mr. G. Holifield, sen.

ALBURGH, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 8, 1937, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb.

CHARLES LOOME Treble	FREDERICK C. GUNTON 5
ERNEST WHITING 2	STANLEY COPLING 6
* FREDERICK W. MUNNINGS 3	RUSSELL RICHES 7
GEORGE W. HOWLETT 4	WILLIAM FLATT Tenor

Composed by REV. H. E. BOLWER. Conducted by WILLIAM FLATT

* First peal.

COLWALL, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 8, 1937, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

At the Church of St. James-the-Great,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt.

ROBERT G. KNOWLES Treble	WILLIAM RANFORD 5
* RALPH W. SAYERS 2	SYDNEY T. HOLT 6
GEORGE E. LARGE 3	† REGINALD WOODYATT 7
† ALLEN MORGAN 4	THOMAS W. LEWIS Tenor

Composed by F. ROBINSON. Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE.

* First peal of Major and of Treble Bob. † First peal of Kent Treble Bob Major. This completed 100 peals by the conductor, rung in 50 different towers. Arranged in honour of W. Ranford's 68th birthday.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

LITTLE HOUGHTON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 1, 1937, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of 10 six-scores each of St. Simon, Plain Bob and April Day, and 12 six-scores of Grandsire.

*SIDNEY WILKINS Treble	*FRED ROBINSON 3
†EDWARD HASTINGS 2	PHILIP JONES 4
CYRIL LONGLAND Tenor	

Conducted by PHILIP JONES.

* First peal. † First peal on a working bell. First peal on the bells since their rehanging and tuning by J. Taylor and Co. It is believed to be the first peal on the bells. Rung in honour of the wedding of the Rev. R. H. Palmer, late curate of Little Houghton and Brafield, and Miss M. Benson, of Little Houghton.

SHARNBROOK, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 1, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Tenor 12 cwt. (approx.).

CHARLES W. CLARKE Treble	HENRY W. GAYTON 4
MISS EVELYN STEEL 2	ERNEST WHITMORE 5
HERBERT L. HARLOW 3	WILLIAM J. WHITMORE ... Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

SUCKLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 1, 1937, in Three Hours,

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

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven differently called extents.

Tenor 14 cwt.

*JAMES WOODVATT Treble	GEORGE E. LARGE 4
†RALPH W. SAYERS 2	ALLEN MORGAN 5
REGINALD ROWE 3	WILLIAM RANFORD Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE.

* First peal other than Triples. † First peal of Minor and with an 'inside' bell in the method.

CAWTHORNE, NEAR BARNESLEY.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BARNESLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, May 1, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. All Saints,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Plain Bob, Oxford, London Scholars' Pleasure, College Exercise, Kingston, Sandal and Kent Treble Bob.

Tenor 9 cwt.

WILFRED TIBBLE Treble	ERNEST BROOKES 4
*ROLAND HILL 2	HAROLD CHANT 5
CLIFFORD ROBINSON 3	DANIEL SMITH Tenor

Conducted by D. SMITH.

* First peal 'inside' and first attempt.

WROXETER, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, May 2, 1937, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, ten callings.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

*FRANK GREGORY Treble	*FRED GREGORY 4
*EDWARD HUGHES 2	WILLIAM H. LLOYD 5
WILLIAM DOWNES 3	*CHARLIE GREGORY Tenor

Conducted by W. H. LLOYD.

* First peal and first attempt. Believed to be the first peal on these old bells, which date from 1598 to 1877. Ringers of 1, 2, 4, 6 are Sunday service ringers at this church.

ABERAVON, GLAM.—On Sunday, April 4th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: C. Hughes 1, V. Smith (first quarter-peal of Triples) 2, A. J. Pitman (conductor) 3, W. J. Nurton 4, C. Mathers 5, F. E. Stone 6, E. Stith 7, J. Weathersby 8.

TOTTENHOE, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, May 4, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Giles,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents.

Tenor 9½ cwt. in F sharp.

C. EDWARD JEFFRIES Treble	*FREDERICK L. COOK 4
*HUBERT C. HILLYARD 2	*WILLIAM A. TWIDELL 5
R. JACK SCOTT 3	JAMES G. NEWMAN Tenor

Conducted by J. G. NEWMAN.

* First peal. First peal as conductor.

UPWELL, NORFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, May 5, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Double Court, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Single Oxford, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb.

SIDNEY FLINT Treble	WALLACE COUSINS 4
ALFRED BACON 2	CLAUDE COUSINS 5
WILLIAM BUCKENHAM 3	FRED WIGMORE Tenor

Conducted by F. WIGMORE.

STRATTON ST. MARGARET, WILTS.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, May 6, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Margaret,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, ten callings.

Tenor 8 cwt. 1 qr. 17 lb.

CHARLES J. GARDINER Treble	CHARLES J. HATHAWAY 4
*GEORGE LANCASTER 2	W. BERTRAM KYNASTON 5
*A. GEORGE WELLS 3	WILLIAM M. GREENAWAY ... Tenor

Conducted by W. BERTRAM KYNASTON.

* First peal of Doubles. A compliment to Mr. R. C. Argent (a member of the local band) on the occasion of his marriage. Rung after meeting short for Triples, Mr. H. W. Bishop standing out.

MOORLYNCH, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 8, 1937, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Ten callings.

Tenor 20 cwt. (approx.).

*S. HAROLD EMERY Treble	*ERNEST E. CHAPMAN 4
*ALFRED J. PEACOCK 2	JACK ROY 5
BERTRAM T. JEANES 3	*JOHN H. BROWN Tenor

Conducted by JACK ROY.

* First peal and first attempt. First peal as conductor. First peal on the bells. Rung in honour of the Coronation.

STEVENTON, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 8, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 22 extents in ten different callings and ten 240's. Tenor 11½ cwt.

FRANK W. BUNCE Treble	*WILLIAM E. GOODEY 4
JOHN NOBES 2	PERCY W. FLETCHER 5
*ALFRED BENNETT 3	*ERIC FLETCHER Tenor

Conducted by JOHN NOBES.

* First peal. Rung in honour of the Coronation of their Majesties King George VI. and Queen Elizabeth.

KEMPSTON, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 8, 1937, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 19 cwt.

GEORGE WHITE Treble	REGINALD WEST 4
HERBERT L. HARLOW 2	HARRY TYSON 5
HENRY W. GAYTON 3	PEARL INSKIP Tenor

Conducted by PEARL INSKIP.

All the above band are grandfathers.

FOR BEGINNERS.

DOUBLE METHODS.

When the work of a method with the treble in front (that is, in Minor when it is *below* 4th's, and in Major *below* 5th's) is reproduced, relatively, with the treble behind (*above* 3rd's in Minor and *above* 4th's in Major), that method is a 'double' method. A simple example is Double Bob.

In Plain Bob, the 2nd's place made when the treble is leading causes the bells *above* to dodge in pairs. If a place is made immediately below the treble when that bells lies its whole pull behind (5th's place in Minor, 7th's in Major), the bells *below* dodge in pairs. 'Double' Bob is the method in which both 2nd's and 5th's are made and dodging takes place on each occasion.

It is interesting to notice the effect of this on the 'lead head' (that is the position of the bells at the backstroke lead of the treble). Rounds is the first lead head. The second lead head in Bob Minor is 135264; the third lead head is 156342. You get this by transposing 135264 by 135264. Now if you introduce 5th's when the treble is behind as well as 2nd's when the treble is in front, then your second lead head is 135264 transposed by 135264, giving you 156342, and your third lead head is 156342 transposed by 156342, viz., 142635.

Without going into a detailed explanation of the reason, it may be stated that all 'regular' Minor methods produce the same lead heads, although, as we have seen above, they may come in a different order. There are five lead heads in a course, and, beginning, as we always must, with rounds, they can come up in four different orders:—

First lead head:	123456	123456	123456	123456
Second lead head:	135264	156342	164523	142635

If you work out the courses under each of these heads, by using the transpositions shown in each case, you will find that, as we said above, they produce exactly the same lead heads, but in a different order.

All this may seem to have little to do with 'double' methods, but it is one of the established facts about 'regular' methods which beginners should know and remember, because it will help in an understanding of certain groupings of methods, which we hope to deal with later.

But, now, about these double methods. In examining their construction, and, at the moment, we will deal only with Minor, you want to write out a course, draw your diagram over it, and then divide it from top to bottom with a line drawn between the 3rd and 4th figures. When you have done this you will see that the 'work' on each side of the line is exactly balanced, that you can, in fact, turn it upside down, read your method from bottom to top, and find it is the same either way.

When we explained Oxford Bob we said it consisted of 4th's place made twice inside each lead, and 2nd's place when the treble leads. Now Double Oxford Bob contains all these places, made when the treble is below 4th's, and corresponding places, two of them in 3rd's and 5th's place when the treble is above 3rd's. Here is a lead, but we recommend you to write out the full course and study it. Compare its construction with Oxford Bob:—

Oxford Bob	Double Oxford
123456	123456
214365	214365
241356	241356
423165	423165
432615	243615
346251	426351
364521	243651
635412	426315
653142	246135
561324	421653
516342	412635
153624	146253
156342	142635

The two methods are totally different to ring; and in some ways Double Oxford should prove easier than the single variety. There is really very little to remember. There is a three-pull dodge each way (that is, down and up, with 2nd's place between) on the front; and a three-pull dodge each way (that is, up and down, with 5th's place between) behind. In between, whether going up or down, there is a dodge in 3-4, places 'across the treble' (that is 4th's and 3rd's when going up or 3rd's and 4th's when going down), and another dodge in 3-4.

If you look at the figures above you will see the lead head of the double method, 142635, is a double transposition of the 156342 of the single method.

If you want a 720, you can call Double Oxford, as you call the single method (because, in both methods, 2nd's is made when the treble leads) Wrong, Right and Wrong, with an additional single called at the otherwise plain Right, at half-way and end. Remember, however, that while in Oxford Bob the Wrong is the third lead of the course, in Double Oxford the Wrong is the fourth lead.

There is the same alternative extent, with the fifth called Right, Wrong and Right, as there is in Plain Bob.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE WHITSUN MEETING.

HEADQUARTERS.—The County Hotel, High Street, Canterbury. Members are invited to use this hotel as a meeting place. Particulars of any alterations in the arrangements will be available.

CATHEDRAL.—Mr. Morton Pierce will be pleased to conduct members round the Cathedral. Please see Mr. Mitchell or Mr. Luck.

SATURDAY, May 15th.—No arrangements have been made for ringing. If required, please advise Mr. B. J. Luck, 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

WHIT SUNDAY, May 16th.—Holy Communion: Cathedral, 7 a.m. and 8 a.m. Service ringing: Cathedral (12 bells), 2-3 p.m.; St. Stephen's (8 bells), 10-11 a.m., 5.30-6.30 p.m.; St. Alphege's (6 bells), 10-11 a.m., 5.30-6.30 p.m.; St. Dunstan's (6 bells), 10.30-11 a.m., 6 p.m.

WHIT MONDAY, May 17th.—Ringing: Cathedral, 11-1 and 4-8.30; St. Stephen's, 10-12, 2-4, 6.30-8.30; St. Dunstan's, 10-12, 2-4, 6.30-8.30; St. Alphege's, 10-12, 6.30-8.30.

The following bells are available, but members are asked to advise Mr. Mitchell (address below) or Mr. Luck if they wish to take advantage of the opportunity: Margate (8 bells), Ramsgate (10), St. Peter's, Thanet (8), Waterloo Tower, Quex Park (12), Broadstairs (8). (These places are easily accessible by bus or train.)

Standing Committee meeting at 8 o'clock at headquarters.

WHIT TUESDAY, May 18th.—Holy Communion, Cathedral, 8 a.m. Standing Committee meeting in Chapter House, 9.45.

Council meeting in Chapter House 11 a.m. prompt. (Will members kindly sign the roll and be in their places by 10.55?)

Members and their friends are invited to be the guests of the Kent County Association at tea to be served at headquarters. Admission by tickets to be applied for on or before Friday, May 14th, from Mr. F. M. Mitchell, 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

Ringing at the Cathedral during the evening.

Social at headquarters at 8 p.m.

IMPORTANT.—The Kent County Association have appointed a sub-committee to assist members. Please make your requirements known to them.

MR. J. BENNETT IN U.S.A.

RINGING AT KENT SCHOOL.

When the 'Queen Mary' docked at Southampton on Monday, one of her passengers was Mr. 'Jim' Bennett, of Lewisham. He had just finished 'a quick one'—no, not the kind usually associated with that phrase, but a swift visit to the United States. Mr. Bennett travelled out on the 'Berengaria' and spent about four and a half hectic days in America, during which he visited Niagara Falls (463 miles from New York), went to Kent School, Connecticut, and did some ringing, saw the famous carillon of 72 bells with 18 ton bass at Riverside Church, New York, and had a breathless ride to the top of the Empire State Building, 1,250 feet from the ground.

His visit to Kent School took place on Monday, May 3rd, and there he met the students who are endeavouring to carry on the ringing introduced when the new ring of bells was installed at the School Chapel. Prior to the usual short 6.15 p.m. service, various touches of Grandsire Doubles and Triples and rounds on the excellent peal of ten bells were rung.

After service and supper, by the kind permission of the Rev. Father F. H. Sill, O.H.C., further ringing was carried on.

Among the several touches brought round were 120 Grandsire Doubles by Theodore Sterling, jun. 1, James Girdwood 2, James Bennett (conductor) 3, George Mallory 4, Joseph Bodell, jun. 5, William Taylor 6.

Also 168 Grandsire Triples by Theodore Sterling, jun. 1, Franklin Seeley 2, J. Bennett (conductor) 3, Harry Van Rensselaer 4, Joseph Bodell, jun. 5, James Girdwood 6, George Mallory 7, Julian Simmons 8. Two probationers, Dudley Amos and George Whittlesley, also took part in some rounds, etc.

Great credit is due to Father Sill and the students for maintaining a change ringing band at Kent School under very difficult circumstances. No instructor has been available since the return to England of Mr. I. J. Attwater, who first initiated this band into change ringing.

Any visiting ringers to the United States may be assured of a very warm and hearty welcome from Father Sill and the students.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

CROYDON, SURREY.—At the Church of St. John the Baptist for evensong on Sunday, April 25th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Cinques (1,341 changes): R. Davis 1, J. E. Cooper 2, H. J. Skelt 3, E. Acock (first quarter-peal of Cinques) 4, A. W. Clark 5, D. Buxton 6, F. E. Mitchell 7, G. H. Humphries 8, J. Rumble 9, F. E. Collins 10, D. Cooper (conductor) 11, H. G. Pratt 12.

EASTBOURNE.—At Christ Church, on Sunday, April 4th, for evensong service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): R. Percy 1, H. S. Hobden 2, R. Rayfield (first quarter-peal) 3, J. Filsell 4, B. Fisher 5, C. Savage (first quarter as conductor and first attempt) 6, H. Reynolds 7, W. Erridge 8.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

AN HARMONIOUS BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the East Berks and South Bucks Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild was held at All Saints', Boyne Hill, Maidenhead, members from Beaconsfield, Boynce Hill, Bray, Burnham, Clewer, Cookham, Farnham Royal, Fulmer, Hughenden, Marlow, Slough, Stoke Poges, Wendover, Old Windsor, Wooburn, High Wycombe and West Wycombe being present. The Guild service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. W. S. Mahony, and an interesting sermon was preached by the Rev. Canon C. E. M. Fry, R.D.

Tea was enjoyed by some 60 persons in the Parish Hall, Mrs. Walker and Mrs. Eldridge having provided an excellent repast. Owing to illness, the chairman, Sir Charles A. Bennett, was unable to be present, and the Master of the Guild (the Rev. Canon G. F. Coleridge) was, therefore, asked to preside at the business meeting. The vice-chairman (Mr. W. H. Fussell), Deputy Master (the Rev. C. Elliot Wigg) and general secretary (Mr. R. T. Hibbert) were also present.

Several new members were elected and the statement of accounts was accepted. The district has a balance of £27 14s. 3d. The secretary, having read his report, said that as it seemed to be one long grouse, he would tell them how nearly they had lost it. He caused much laughter with the story.

The Branch Ringing Master's report was unanimously accepted, and a recommendation from the committee that five guineas be given to the Stoke Poges Bell Fund was also passed.

The officers were re-elected en bloc, also the seven representatives for the General Committee.

It was decided to take part as usual in the joint meetings with neighbouring associations and guilds on August 28th and October 9th.

Mr. W. H. Fussell proposed a vote of thanks to all those who had helped to make the meeting a success, the Vicar, the preacher, the organist, Mr. W. H. Walker (foreman) and the ladies who had served the tea.

Mrs. A. D. Barker proposed a vote of thanks to the Master for conducting the meeting, and to the Deputy Master and general secretary for their presence.

Canon Coleridge expressed his very great pleasure at being able to come to this branch annual meeting and see how harmoniously the branch was conducted, which lightened the work of the general officers. He also reminded the members that good striking, the foundation of all good ringing, was the thing all ringers should aim at.

The Deputy Master (the Rev. C. Elliot Wigg) thanked the members for their welcome, mentioned that he had been meeting a certain individual at other branch annuals, and said that, in his opinion, this was the most efficiently run of all branches.

Mr. R. T. Hibbert gave his usual contribution to the proceedings. He said he had been meeting men with whom for over 50 years he had had real friendship. There was no lack of young faces in that branch. He hoped to meet them all for several more years, and if other branches would meet more often, it would help to keep the Oxford Guild at the top of the tree.

A short silence was observed in memory of Mr. Frank Boreham, of High Wycombe.

After the meeting, in answer to a letter from the branch, the following communication was received from Buckingham Palace:—

'The Private Secretary is commanded to convey to the members of the East Berks and South Bucks Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers the King's thanks for their kind message of good wishes in connection with the forthcoming Coronation of their Majesties.'

NEWBURY BRANCH VOTES GRANT FOR BEENHAM.

The spring meeting of the Newbury Branch was held at Aldermaston on Saturday, April 24th. About 40 ringers attended during the afternoon and evening, the following towers being represented: Bucklebury, Beenham, Chieveley, Compton, East Ilsley, Newbury, Thatcham and Aldermaston. Visitors attended from Basingstoke, Highclere, Overton and Swindon.

The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. F. Newham) and the address given by the Rev. R. Howes (Vicar of Beenham). Mr. L. A. Nutley was at the organ.

Tea at the Hind's Head Hotel was followed by the business meeting, over which the Rev. R. Howes presided in the absence of the Rev. W. Kingsley Kefford (chairman). He was supported by the hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. H. W. Curtis.

The summer meeting was fixed for Beenham in June.

A grant of three guineas was voted towards the rehanging of the bells at Beenham.

Two new members were elected.

Votes of thanks were accorded to the Rev. F. Newham, the Rev. R. Howes, Mr. L. A. Nutley and Mrs. Hunt for providing the tea. Various methods up to Double Norwich Major were rung during the afternoon and evening.

ALDBOURNE, WILTS.—On March 27th, a quarter-peal of Grand-sire Doubles was rung as a farewell to Miss J. Elliott and D. Avery: H. Palmer 1, W. N. Hawkins 2, T. J. Palmer 3, T. A. Palmer (conductor) 4, P. Newman 5, G. Barnes 6.

MANCHESTER TOWN HALL BELLS.

The new bells at Manchester Town Hall installed by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. were formally opened on Saturday by the Lord Mayor of Manchester. The bells are now 24 in number. The great hour bell, weighing 8 tons, is hung in the dome of the tower with the remaining 23 bells below. Thirteen of the bells are hung for ringing, these being a ring of 12 with tenor 43 cwt., note B, and an additional sharp second to produce an octave with the 8 as tenor bell.

DEDICATION OF BURTON HASTINGS BELLS.

A GIFT FROM THE BARRON BELL TRUST.

The bells of St. Botolph's, Burton Hastings, were dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Coventry on Saturday, May 1st. The tiny church proved quite incapable of holding all the parishioners and visiting ringers who desired to attend the service, and the congregation overflowed into the church walk and the village street.

The church had three bells, and two trebles have been added to make them into a ring of five. The cracked tenor bell has been recast and the peal hung lower down in the tower, with new fittings and new framework. The inscriptions are as follows:—

Treble.—3 cwt. 1 qr. 18 lb. Note F sharp. J. Taylor and Co., Loughborough, 1937. This peal was augmented to five bells by the Barron Bell Trust, 1937. Emma Barron, Founder; F. Hopkins, C. M. Walroud, W. H. Eldred, Trustees.

Second.—3 cwt. 3 qr. 1 lb. Note E. J. Taylor and Co., Loughborough, 1937. To commemorate the Crowning of King George VI.

Third.—4 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lb. Note D sharp. Bryanus Eldridge me facit, 1659.

Fourth.—5 cwt. 1 lb. Note C sharp. Henry Bagley made mee, 1687.

Tenor.—6 cwt. 3 qr. 9 lb. Note B. Praise God only.

This bell was badly cracked and has been recast; its date is probably about 1600. The original inscription has been perpetuated.

The service was conducted by the Rev. Mostyn Robinson (Vicar of Wolvey with Burton Hastings). Special prayers were said, and the service took the form of shortened evensong.

During the singing of a hymn, a procession was formed and made its way to the west end of the church, where the Bishop, whilst holding a bell rope, dedicated the bells, and asked the Vicar and churchwardens to receive them for the service and glory of God.

Immediately after this a few rounds were rung by the Burton Hastings and Wolvey ringers.

In the course of a striking address the Bishop spoke of the church, which had come down through the ages and yet still stood at the centre of their village life. It was his privilege to thank all who had helped in bringing about that day, so that a dream could be realised, that of Burton's bells ringing for the Coronation. With regard to the bells, they could not have them sending out their message without the ringers. Change ringing was a true English custom. There was hardly any other country where the bells were rung like they were in England. People did all sorts of queer things with bells. When the bells of Jerusalem were broadcast he knew it was said that people wished bellringers from England had been there to ring them. He hoped there would always be the bellringers and that their relationships with the Vicar and congregation would always be of the best.

It was no good, the Bishop continued, dedicating bells to the glory of God unless there were people who were going to answer the summons and call. The bells spoke of the harmony which marked a Christian congregation; expressed sympathy at times of sorrow and joy; whilst they also bore witness to the love of Christ. There were many who never said a word in season about what Christianity had done for them. They might talk about the English reserve in making excuses for that, but he thought it was everyone's duty to tell it out, like the bells, into the streets, the workshops and everywhere.

Immediately after the service a representative band rang the first touch on the bells, and then they were thrown open to visiting ringers. The ringers were also entertained to tea in the Parish Schools by the kindness of the Vicar.

NORTH STAFFS ASSOCIATION.

CORONATION PEALS.

A meeting of the North Staffordshire Association was held at Leek on Saturday, May 1st. Forty-seven members and friends were present from Brown Edge, Burslem, Burton-on-Trent, Cheadle, Draycott, Derby, Kingsley, Kidsgrove, Leek, Longton, Norton, Newcastle, Stone, Stoke-on-Trent, Tunstall and Uttoxeter.

A hearty welcome was extended to all present by the Rev. J. F. S. Martin (curate), and a vote of thanks was proposed to the Vicar and the ringers of Leek for the use of the bells by Mr. T. Hurd, seconded by Mr. A. D. Steel.

Congratulations were extended by Mr. W. P. Deane, on behalf of the association, to Mr. T. Hurd, on completing his 100th peal.

Reference was made to the proposals regarding 'Coronation' peals. Mr. J. E. Wheelton withdrew his proposition that all peals rung during May should be recognised as Coronation peals, and proposed that should a band fail to ring the peal arranged for a Coronation peal in May, it may attempt it until the end of June.—This view was strongly supported by the meeting.

One honorary member, the Rev. Brookes (Rector of Longton), was elected.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**SOUTH NORFOLK BRANCH'S NEW SECRETARY.**

The South Norfolk Branch of the Norwich Diocesan Association spent an enjoyable afternoon at Pulham Market on Saturday, April 24th, when 39 members supported the meeting, at which a new secretary of the branch had to be elected on account of Mr. Nolan Golden's appointment as general secretary of the association.

The Rev. R. Hugh Stacey, Rector of Pulham St. Mary, conducted the service and delivered an address. Tea was partaken of in the Rectory Room.

At the business meeting which followed, Mr. William L. Duffield presided, supported by the Rev. R. Hugh Stacey, the Rev. Canon T. J. Perowne, Mr. N. Golden (general secretary and treasurer), Messrs. E. G. Bennett, A. G. Harrison, C. J. More, R. Riches and E. Whiting (members of the committee), and representatives from Alburgh, Diss, Redenhall, Saxlingham and the local band, while other branches were represented by members from Halvergate, Norwich, Swaffham and Wymondham.

The Chairman referred to Mr. Golden's appointment to the secretaryship creating a vacancy in the branch officers.

Mr. Golden spoke of the happiness the work had given him, and proposed that Mr. Albert G. Harrison, of Diss, be the new secretary. This was seconded and carried unanimously.—Mr. Harrison expressed his thanks and his willingness to undertake the work.

Mr. Charles Loomer, of Redenhall, was elected a member of the committee in place of Mr. Harrison.

The following elections took place: Capt. Andrew Johnstone, R.N., of Alburgh (performing member), Mr. Robert D. Gunton, of Alburgh (ratification of belfry election) and Mr. Frederick W. Munnings, of Mendham (re-election).

It was decided to visit Kenninghall on July 3rd and to include a visit, if possible, to Quidenham.

Votes of thanks to the Rev. R. Hugh Stacey for his hospitality and for conducting the service, to the helpers at tea and to the organist concluded the business of the meeting.

A variety of methods were rung during the afternoon and evening, including attempts at Bob Major, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Double Norwich, Cambridge, Superlative, London and Bristol Surprise.

BURNHAM, BUCKS.—On Saturday, March 20th, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal of Kent Treble Bob by the local band, a quarter-peal (1,264) Bob Major: B. O'Neill 1, M. A. Blamey 2, P. A. Blamey 3, C. A. Burgess 4, J. E. Taylor 5, G. W. Lommer 6, G. H. Limmer 7, G. Gilbert (conductor) 8. First quarter of Major by ringers of 1, 2, 3 and 4.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**'SPECIAL' METHODS FOR MEETINGS.**

A glorious summer's afternoon should have attracted a crowd to a North and East District meeting of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild at Pinner on Saturday, May 1st, but there was only a moderate attendance. Perhaps it was the cup final; possibly the bus strike; or a combination of both. However that may be, the 30 or so ringers who did attend were given a real royal welcome. In fact, there were so many flags and banners that it was difficult to see the church when looking up the main street in this fine old village.

Ringling commenced some little time after that advertised, and at 4.30 a short service was held. The Vicar (the Rev. Eric Barnes) gave a cordial welcome, and some interesting and useful thoughts on the Coronation, to the ringers present. After tea the usual business was held, and this very necessary, but sometimes boring, part of the day's proceedings was quickly disposed of, under the able chairmanship of Mr. G. W. Fletcher.

Harrow Weald was chosen for the next meeting on May 29th, and it was decided to give a further trial to St. Lawrence Little Bob Major as the special method. The hon. secretary reminded members that if they experienced any difficulty in obtaining the figures of the methods advertised for special practice, these could be found in the Central Council publications, on sale at a cheap rate, as advertised in 'The Ringing World.'

Mr. G. W. Fletcher proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for his address at the service and for the use of the bells, to the organist and choir, and to Mr. A. J. Harding for making arrangements for the meeting. This was carried with acclamation, and the Rev. Eric Barnes, in reply, said he was very glad indeed to see the members of the association, who were always welcome at Pinner.

A brief interlude on the handbells followed, after which more ringling took place on the fine peal in the tower, under the able guidance of Mr. T. J. Lock, who gave opportunity to all to ring the methods of their choice. Included in the ringling were an excellent touch of St. Lawrence Little Bob, the special method for the day; another of Cambridge Court Bob, to show that a previous special method had not been forgotten; and a touch of Spliced Surprise Major in five methods, as a grand finale!

In connection with the special methods chosen for practice, the hon. secretary would like it to be known that these are circulated, with the notice of meeting, to all affiliated towers. He will be prepared to make arrangements with any unattached members to supply them with copies at the time the tower notices are sent out.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, for many years hon. secretary of the Kent County Association, is about to retire from the position of Minor Canon of Canterbury Cathedral, which he has held for 58 years. A band of grandfathers rang a peal in seven Minor methods at Kempston Beds, on Saturday, and it is believed to be the first rung for the Bedfordshire Association by a band consisting entirely of 'granfers.' Mr. H. L. Harlow, who took part, is also a great-grandfather. The peal was called by the youngest member of the band.

A peal of 'Real' Double Norwich has been rung at Crayford. Other similar peals have been rung before, and we wonder who first seized upon the rather stupid way of describing this form of ringing the method. Double Norwich is just as 'real' whether bobs are made when the treble is behind or not.

Bobs made in 3rd's place when the treble is in 8th's do not make the method any more real; in fact, we should think the only thing they really do is to break away from Double Norwich pure and simple. We don't blame the Crayford men; they have only called it by the name others have used before them. It is another instance of the loose application of terms in ringing.

UNSAFE TOWERS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Your article on a certain tower in which ringing has been forbidden because the tower is considered unsafe raises the question as to the position in which the Parochial Church Council are thereby placed.

Juries are very inclined nowadays to give heavy damages for injuries, and if ringing has been stopped, evidence of an incontrovertible nature has been gratuitously provided for anyone who may imagine he has been injured by the state of the fabric.

Is there no insurance expert among us who would explain the exact position?

HERBERT DRAKE.

Ufford Rectory.

ANOTHER BELFRY ROMANCE.

MARRIAGE OF MR. N. S. BAGWORTH AND MISS M. GREENALL.

At St. Andrew's Parish Church, Enfield, on April 24th, another belfry romance culminated in the marriage of Miss Elsie M. Greenall, a member of the Edmonton band and the Ladies' Guild, and Mr. Norman S. Bagworth, honorary secretary of the Metropolitan Police Guild.

The Rev. E. Cooke, Rector of St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, the tower at which the Metropolitan Police Guild meet, officiated, and the hymns were 'The Voice that breathed o'er Eden' and 'Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven.'

The bride, who was given away by her father, was attired in a dress of oyster satin, an embroidered veil and halo of orange blossom, and carried a sheaf of arum lilies. She was attended by two bridesmaids, her sister and a friend, who wore ground length frocks of eaudenil satin, and carried sheaves of iris.

After the ceremony, the bride's mother held a reception in the Church Room, which was attended by a considerable number of ringing friends of the bride and bridegroom. Mr. and Mrs. Bagworth left later for Abingdon for their honeymoon.

A peal of Stedman Triples was attempted at Edmonton in honour of the occasion, but, unfortunately, came to grief after 55 minutes. It has been suggested since that the sole cause of the breakdown was 'weddingitis.'

ST. MARY'S, NOTTINGHAM

MR. RALPH NARBOROUGH ELECTED RINGING MASTER.

A meeting was held in the belfry of the above church on April 26th to appoint a Ringing Master in the place of the late Mr. Albert Coppock.

The Right Rev. Neville S. Talbot, D.D., M.C., Vicar of St. Mary's, presided, and on his special recommendation the ringers (with the exception of Miss Thompson, who expressed a wish not to vote) unanimously elected Mr. Ralph Narborough as their Ringing Master.

Mr. Narborough has been a member of this band since 1929, and he has the good wishes of the band now under his leadership. He was formerly Ringing Master at St. Peter's, Wisbech, and formerly represented the old Central Northants Association on the Central Council.

THE FALSE PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It was very generous of Mr. O. H. Kippin to take the entire blame for the false peal of Cambridge Surprise Major rung at Edenbridge.

My proving of the peal, as I thought, was entirely separate from the plan used by Mr. Kippin, but in both cases the course had 25346 was the stumbling-block, and I wish to offer my sincere apologies to the band who rang the peal for the oversight (first found by Mr. Kippin), which was as much, or more, my fault than it was Mr. Kippin's.

GEORGE BAKER.

THE DEDICATION OF BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL BELLS.



By courtesy of the 'Birmingham Post.'

Birmingham Ringers, with the Bishop and Lord Mayor, at the Dedication Ceremony.

From left to right: J. C. Gill (past warden), W. P. Waller (people's warden), Bishop Hamilton Baynes (Provost), A. Paddon Smith, the Lord Mayor of Birmingham (Alderman H. Roberts), the Rev. H. R. Holloway, the Bishop of Birmingham (Dr. Barnes), G. E. Fearn (Ringing Master at the Cathedral), T. H. Reeves, E. T. Allaway, A. Walker, A. Norman, F. E. Haynes, W. T. Froggatt, D. T. Matkin, H. H. Fearn.

DEVON GUILD.

BRANCH MEETING AT BICKINGTON.

A quarterly meeting of the Mid-Devon Branch of the Devonshire Guild was held at Bickington, near Newton Abbot, on Saturday, when ringers were present from Kenn, Newton Abbot, Buckfastleigh, Collaton, Paignton and Cockington. Ringing commenced on the handy peal of six bells after three o'clock, and a service was later held in church, conducted by the Rev. W. R. D. Mills, chairman of the branch, in the absence of the Vicar of Bickington, who was away from home. The collection for the Guild Bells Restoration Fund amounted to 4s. 9d.

After ten the usual business meeting was held, the Rev. R. D. Mills presiding.

The Chairman reported that he had interviewed Mr. Pope regarding his resignation, but without success.

It was also reported that the General Committee had made a grant to the branch towards instruction purposes, but that it had not yet been received.

The secretary reported that he had the arrangements in hand regarding the proposed joint meeting with the Exeter Branch at Teignmouth on June 12th, and after a discussion it was resolved to apply for the bells of Bishopstoke only, in addition to St. Michael's, Teignmouth.

Apologies for absence were received from the president of the Guild, the general secretary and Mr. O. R. Lilley.

The following were unanimously elected non-resident members of the Guild, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Kippin and Mr. D. Cooper, of Croydon, and Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Housden, of Tunbridge Wells.

A certificate was presented by the chairman to Mr. Richard Cann, of Cockington band.

It was resolved to hold the next meeting at Kingskerswell on Saturday, October 16th, subject to the necessary permission being obtained.

Hearty votes of thanks, accorded the Vicar of Bickington for the use of his church and bells, Mr. Christopher for presiding at the organ, and the secretary for the arrangements, concluded the business, and the party returned to the tower for further ringing.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

THIRTEEN MEMBERS ELECTED AT BARKSTON MEETING.

A quarterly meeting of the Southern District was held at Barkston recently and was well attended, some 25 ringers being present from Peterborough, Grantham, Rotherham, Market Deeping, Billingborough, Donnington, Hough-on-the-Hill, Blankney, Folkingham, and Barkston. The musical and good going peal of six was available for ringing during the afternoon and evening, and was kept going to a variety of methods, including Plain, Treble Bob and Surprise. Service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. F. A. Thorold Eller, who gave a helpful and interesting address and extended a hearty welcome to the visiting ringers. He explained that he returned to England in 1931, after being in Canada for 25 years, and one of the greatest joys to him on his return to this land was the sound of church bells coming across the green fields. He hoped ringers from the various parishes represented at the meeting would endeavour to ring their own bells Sunday by Sunday and to realise the duty and privilege that was entrusted to them. He was sure the average Englishman appreciated the sound of church bells twice on a Sunday, even if they did not often attend a place of worship. Tea was served in one of the large and spacious rooms at the Rectory, with a beautiful view across Syston Park, looking its best in the foliage of spring.

At the business meeting Mr. F. W. Stokes (general secretary of the Guild) presided, and 13 new performing members of the branch were elected, viz., J. E. Allen, A. E. Chilton, A. Chilton, G. S. Collishaw, G. Creasey, F. Carford, S. Wilson, all of Billingborough; J. Whitmore, A. Wilson, Mrs. Coupland, Miss Muriel Wilson, Miss Maud Faulkner, Miss Violet Palmer, all of Rippingdale.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Billingborough in July.

The meeting concluded with a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for his hospitality and for the use of the bells and the service, and also to the organist.

The tower was again visited and it was gratifying to see a good muster of young ringers, some ringing their first touch in a method. The bells were lowered in peal at 8.30, and this concluded a very successful meeting.

400 YEARS OF BELL HISTORY.

ANCIENT RING RESTORED IN HAMPSHIRE VILLAGE.

One of the most interesting churches in the diocese of Guildford has just had its six bells restored. The village of Crondall, just inside the Hampshire border, goes back to Roman times; in Saxon days the manor was held by King Alfred. It passed through his successors to King Edgar, who left it in his will, dated A.D. 976, 'to the Church of the Venerated Trinity, lovingly dedicated to Peter and his co-Apostle Paul, in the city of Winchester, as a perpetual pension for the support of the monks dwelling therein, for the propitiation of my sins, and those of my sons, and of the people of the entire kingdom.' The nature and extent of the gift is described as 'a certain portion of land, forty-five cassates, in the famous place, which is called by the well-known name, Crundel.'

The Domesday Book, 1086, records that 'the Bishop holds Crundele; it has always belonged to the Church.' It goes on to state: 'There is a church there, worth twenty shillings.' This church, of course, was Saxon, the sole relic of which is the font.

During the latter half of the 12th century the present Norman church, dedicated to All Saints, was built. This consisted of a nave, with two lean-to aisles and chancel, and a central tower over the chancel arches. To the north of the chancel, a stair turret still exists, which gave access to the rood loft, and also to the great central tower.

The bosses in the chancel roof bear the stamp of having been carved by one of the carvers who were engaged at Canterbury, under William de Sens, c.1176. There are two styles at Canterbury, the second being derived from the first, but different from it in many respects. The second style spread to various places in Sussex, Hampshire, Surrey and elsewhere. But the first style of Canterbury has not been met with anywhere but in the Cathedral itself and at Crondall.

The stability of the ancient Norman tower became a matter of serious urgency in the year 1642. In that year a new bell frame was placed in the old tower, and the bells rebung. In 1653 the old tower was re-leaded, after which it was evident that the last straw had been added to the camel's back, and steps had to be taken to remove the old tower and build a new one. This was carried out in 1657, and the present tower built in 1659; the bell frame, which had been made in 1642, being transferred from the old tower to the new. It still bears the date of its making, and the names of the churchwardens and carpenter.

BELL FRAME 300 YEARS OLD.

Bells in the old Norman tower can be traced in the churchwardens' accounts as far back as 1543, when repairs were charged for 'the third bell,' 'the great bell,' 'the second bell' and 'the foremost bell.' In 1546 one 'Olyver of Froyle' mended 'all the iii bell clappers.'

The bell frame of 1642 was obviously made to carry six bells, but it is not known exactly when the ring was increased.

The treble bell bears the inscription: 'Henry Knight made this bell 1616. W.B.' This bell was recast in 1556, and again in 1616. A bell, not specified, was recast in 1586, probably the treble bell.

No. 2 bell has the inscription: 'William Baker and George Burt, churchwardens, 1619. H.K.' There is no specific reference to this in the accounts.

No. 3 bell is inscribed thus: 'Robert Wells, Aldbourn, Wilts, fecit, 1788.' This was a recasting.

No. 4 bell has a curious inscription: 'This bell gayned by William Baker, and his naybors, W.C., E.H., G.B., B.H., 1616; and new cast by H. Knight, 1619.' This, again, is not mentioned in the accounts.

No. 5 bell has a Latin hexameter line for its inscription: 'Me resonare jubet pietas, mors, atque voluptas, 1650. William Baker and William Reeves, Churchwardens.'

The tenor bell records that it was made by Robert Wells, of Aldbourne, Wilts, in 1788. This bell was recast in 1616, and, before that, was mentioned in the earliest accounts of 1543.

The tenor was badly out of tune and has now been recast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, who have returned and rebung the rest of the bells. The old frame, which proved to be in excellent condition, has been retained and strengthened, and given the additional support of three beams of Australian jarrah wood.

There is a curious entry to the ringing room. The ringers use the old stairway that formerly led to the rood loft, then pass across an external wooden bridge, to the doorway leading into the ringing chamber in the new tower.

The tenor bell has again been recast as a memorial to Capt. Cecil Maxwell-Lefroy, C.M.G., R.N., and now bears three inscriptions: 'Recast 1616,' its 1788 inscription, and a new one, viz.: 'Recast, 1937. C. R. Anson, J. W. Taylor, Churchwardens. R. P. Butterfield, Vicar.' A memorial tablet or plate will also bear the inscription: 'To the memory of Captain Cecil Maxwell-Lefroy, C.M.G., R.N. The tenor bell restored by his wife, Beatrice W. Maxwell-Lefroy, 1937.'

The greater part of the cost has been raised within the parish, but among the gifts from outside was a donation of 30 guineas from St. Cross Hospital, Winchester.

The restored bells were dedicated by the Bishop of Guildford on Sunday week in the presence of a large congregation, which included Mrs. Maxwell-Lefroy and her son, Mr. J. R. Maxwell-Lefroy, who took part in the procession to the tower.

The Bishop's address dealt with the long history of the parish of Crondall and its church. Such traditions, he said, were a rich inheritance.

(Continued in next column.)

ARCHITECTS AND BELL RESTORATIONS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I know nothing of the circumstances at Thetford, other than as reported in your issue of April 16th, but, putting personal matters aside, there is, I think, a good deal to be said for the Advisory Committee's work. All bell foundry or hangers are not equally competent, nor are all ringers even, and certainly not churchwardens. There is a tendency sometimes to exaggerate the antique side at the expense of the practical, but there is certainly an equal tendency to do the opposite. This is where the Advisory Committee is, or should be, able to guide both sides into the right channels. To do this they must have on the committee some competent architect and some competent ringer with a knowledge of what is good art as well as what is practical. The obvious person for this latter duty is the president or Master of the local Diocesan Guild. And it is certainly time that the Guilds got together, perhaps through the medium of the Central Council, and pressed for a representative on the Advisory Committee. In my diocese this has already been done without pressure, the Bishop inviting me, as Ringing Master, to be a member.

Some trouble is undoubtedly caused by antiquaries ignorant of the art of ringing, but, in my experience, there is far more danger from the desire to have something new and perfect at the expense of art. All pre-Reformation bells and a good many cast since should be treated primarily from the art side. To cut the cannons off a good old bell unnecessarily is a crime.

Prior to my appointment, within the last few years in one tower alone three medieval bells, uncracked, were put into the melting pot, and the other had its cannons removed when a ring of six was installed. This is merely one instance of many. As an instance of good work, take the following. A tower with one medieval bell requiring a complete ring. It was decided locally, with the advice of the founder, to cast a complete ring and keep the medieval as an art treasure. But supposing the contract had appeared before the Advisory Board with the inclusion of this ancient bell to be recast, are they to be considered 'silly old fossils' because they refuse to recommend the faculty? If so, I am a silly old fossil.

One could go on indefinitely, but I have already written enough to show that, in my view, it is not the existence of the Advisory Board which is wrong, but the fact that probably in some cases they do not go wide enough in their membership. It is, of course, absurd to botch up an old wood frame if the parish is prepared to go to the expense of a new one; but is it so equally absurd to refuse a grant to alter entirely the character of an old bell by cutting off its cannons unless there is some defect which makes this desirable? 'NEMO.'

WORM-EATEN FRAME 'TOO OLD TO BE DESTROYED.'

Dear Sir,—In reference to your recent leader, with which we quite agree, the Bishop's Advisory Committee certainly use very little commonsense in some of their decisions, as, for instance, when they decided that the old worm-eaten frame in which the six bells at Solihull Toney, Norfolk, had swung for so many years was too old to be destroyed, and had it fixed over the new frame, an excellent task one, recently erected by Bowell and Son. Perhaps the local Church Council intend making a charge for viewing.

E. F. POPPY.

Stoke Ash.

A RINGERS' MEETING

(Continued from previous column.)

heritance and an inspiration, and the efforts of Crondall churchpeople in restoring their ancient peals of bells showed that they were not forgotten.

The collection, which was for the New Cathedral Fund, amounted to £7 16s. 10d.

After the service the local ringers first rang, and then ringers from various parts of the diocese took part in touches of Minor and Doubles on the restored bells. Mr. A. A. Hughes, representing the firm of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, took part in the ringing.

There was a large gathering of ringers and friends at Crondall last Saturday, when a joint meeting of the Farnham District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild and the Southern District of the Ladies' Guild was held. Some good ringing was enjoyed in spite of the bells being hung anti-clockwise. The Rev. R. P. Butterfield (Vicar of Crondall) conducted the Guild service and interested the ringers with an address on the history of the Crondall Church and bells.

Tea was served at The Cricketers, a company of nearly 50 sitting down. The Farnham District business meeting was presided over by the Vicar, and three ringing members and one honorary member were elected.

Mr. J. W. Carter (Seale) congratulated the Vicar, ringers and all concerned upon the carrying out of the work of restoration in the tower. The bells were now a pleasure to ring, he said.

The Vicar responded and a vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar, the organist and local ringers with acclamation.

The Ladies' Guild business meeting was presided over by Mrs. Bruce. It was decided to hold the annual district meeting at Frensham in June, and the next quarterly meeting at Aldershot on October 30th.

Ringing in the evening was directed by Mr. R. Hasted (District Ringing Master) and Miss H. Mills (hon. secretary, Ladies' Guild). Representatives were present from Ash, Aldershot, Seale, Worplesdon, Fleet, Farnham, Bramley (Hants), Bentley, Haslemere, Yorktown, Frensham, Long Sutton, Pirbright, Portsmouth and the local company.

EIGHTY—NOT OUT.

MR. GEORGE WILLIAMS, OCTOGENARIAN.

Last Friday, Mr. George Williams, Master of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild, reached the age of 80 years, and received the congratulations of many friends. Unfortunately a peal of Stedman Caters on the bells of North Stoneham Church in honour of the event was lost after about an hour and a quarter's ringing, much to the disappointment of all the band, not least to the conductor, one of George Williams' many pupils. In the comb-out of a rather bad mix up, after some excellent ringing on this almost toy-like ring of ten, there was a change course, and, despite the occasion—well, that was that.

Of course, it was not the first peal George Williams had lost, nor even the first on a great occasion, and he took it with the philosophical calm that has been a characteristic of his long ringing life. Has anyone ever seen George Williams excited, or ruffled in temper? I never have and I have known him for nearly 45 years. He still smiles his way through life, with that merry twinkle in his eye, that is so well known to his friends.



MR. GEORGE WILLIAMS.

Last Friday I found him at his home at Eastleigh, where he has lived since he gave up work, surrounded by many reminders of his long career in ringing, and which recalled to me events of 40 years or so ago. For instance, there was a framed record of the first peal rung by a lady, when Mrs. Williams rang 1-2 to a peal of Grandsire which her husband conducted. Then there was the photograph of a group taken outside Winchester Cathedral in 1899 after the first peal of Stedman Caters in Hampshire and by the Winchester Guild.

'We thought we had done something to talk about when we rang that peal, George,' I said to him.

'Yes, and so we had,' he replied. 'Peals were peals in those days and you had to earn them.'

And so we did. Those whose peals in these days come almost for the asking hardly realise the difficulties that had to be overcome. When George Williams rang his first peal, rung at Soberton, Hants, which incidentally was the first peal in the county by the then newly-formed Winchester Guild, two counties had to be scoured to find ringers capable of ringing a peal of Grandsire Triples.

Since those days Mr. Williams has rendered yeoman service to the cause of ringing not only in Sussex and Hampshire in particular, but in the Exercise in general. It has been the encouragement he has given to youngsters throughout his long life that is the outstanding merit of his career. Scores and scores he has taught to ring; scores and scores of others owe their advancement to him. I am among the latter, and gratefully I acknowledge the encouragement I received from him when, as a lad, I was privileged to join in the practices at St. Peter's, Brighton, when that society were making history in advanced method ringing, but were never too concerned with their affairs to give opportunities to one much below their own ringing stature. George Williams was the mainspring behind the progress made at St. Peter's. His encouragement of the lesser fry, however, helped to make ringers of the future; and he was as ready to ring a peal of Grandsire Triples for a beginner as he was to ring a peal of London Surprise or in some new method with his own accomplished band.

And thus he has gone on through the years, giving his service to helping others and gaining his own reward thereby. He was for years a district secretary of the Sussex County Association when he lived at Brighton, and when he left was made an honorary life member. After returning to his native Hampshire he filled the office of hon. secretary of the Winchester Diocesan Guild, of which he was afterwards made a vice-president and Master—offices which, under the enlarged title, he still holds.

At North Stoneham, the tower with which he became associated when living at West End, near Southampton, he built up a new band and quickly got the bells augmented to eight. To celebrate their golden wedding Mr. and Mrs. Williams gave two new treble bells, and recently, in memory of his wife, who died about two years ago, Mr. Williams presented to the church a handsome oak belfry screen, to which, on his 80th birthday, was attached a bell metal tablet recording the purpose of the gift. It has effected a great improvement in the conditions for ringing, which is done on the ground floor and was formerly open to the church.

George Williams is 80 years young, and the wish of all his many friends will be that he may long be spared to enjoy the art of which he has been such a brilliant exponent. He has now rung 1,422 peals, of which he has conducted over a thousand.

J. S. G.

NEW BELLS IN SUFFOLK VILLAGE.

STOKE ASH RING AUGMENTED TO FIVE.

A ring of five bells has been installed in the Parish Church of the little village of Stoke Ash, in Suffolk, and they were dedicated on Sunday week by the Bishop of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich. The tower formerly contained four bells of considerable age, but they had got into a very dilapidated and dangerous condition.

Some time ago the late Mrs. Brance Bowen, widow of the late Rev. E. J. O. Bowen, bequeathed the sum of £100 to the Church Council to spend and use on the bells in memory of her husband, who was Rector from 1898 to 1920. This amount was insufficient to meet the cost of procuring a peal of five bells, and an appeal for further help, in conjunction with an appeal for a new organ, was made, and as a result the sum of £112 was collected.

The Church Council decided to have some of the bells recast, and the work was entrusted to Mr. Alfred Bowell, of Ipswich. Nos. 1 and 2 were cast from a part of the old tenor bell, which was of the pre-Reformation period. The part bearing the inscription is now in the church. The two new bells bear the inscription, 'Alfred Bowell, Founder, Ipswich. Cast from old Tenor Bell, 1937.' No. 3 is another ancient bell bearing the inscription, 'William Dobson, Founder, Downham, Norfolk,' and was in good condition. No. 4 was recast, being an old Bury bell, and bears the inscription, 'Recast by Bowell, of Ipswich. Coronation of George VI., May, 1937. F. H. R. Perkins, Rector. G. H. Lunnis, E. F. Poppy, Churchwardens.' No. 5, a Bury bell of the period 1527-1587 and bearing the inscription, 'Sancta Anna Ora Pro Nobis,' was in good order.

The weights of the bells are: Treble, 2 cwt. 3 qr. 17 lb.; 2nd, 2 cwt. 3 qr. 23 lb.; 3rd, 3 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb.; 4th, 4 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lb.; tenor, 6 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb.; a total weight of 20 cwt. 2 qr. 8 lb.

The church could not hold all who sought to be present at the dedication, and over a hundred were unable to obtain admission. The congregation included ringers from far and near, including the Master of the Suffolk Guild of Ringers, Mr. C. J. Sedgley, and followers of campanology from Bentley, Boxford, Braiseworth, Cotton, Creetingham, Debenham, Eye, Goldhanger, Helmingham, Ipswich, Kenton, Mendlesham, Norwich, North Walsham, Saxlingham, Sproughton, Wetheringsett, Wickham Skeith, Woodbridge, Wymondham, Thorndon, Thornham, Stouham, Diss, Newmarket, Wrentham, Palgrave and Garboldisham.

The service, which was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. F. H. R. Perkins, commenced with the singing of the hymn, 'Unchanging God,' followed by the 84th Psalm. The first lesson was read by the Rev. P. T. E. Wareham, and the choir rendered the anthem, 'Make a joyful noise.'

The second lesson was read by the Rev. W. E. Mattinson, and the Bishop and the clergy then proceeded to the ringing chamber, where the churchwardens, Mr. Lunnis and Mr. Poppy, were awaiting them.

After the dedicatory prayers the bells were rung in rounds while the procession returned to the chancel. The Bishop, in his address, referred to the ministry of the late Rev. E. C. J. Bowen, and spoke of the place of the bells in the lives of the people and history of the nation. The call to prayer and worship, he said, ought to be answered more regularly than it was at present. To attend church for worship was the height of good living.

At the conclusion of the service 120 Bob Doubles was rung by E. F. Poppy 1, Miss Phyllis Tillet 2, Miss Eleanor Reeve 3, Miss Bertha Reeve 4, Miss Sylvia Bower 5. The ladies are ringers at Ipswich. Afterwards visiting ringers in turn rang on the bells and later were entertained to tea in the Parish Room, where the Rector thanked them for their interest.

CORONATION QUARTER-PEALS.

On Sunday, May 9th, for morning service at the Cathedral Campanile, Chichester, a quarter-peal of Oxford Bob Triples (1,260 changes): H. Stovold 1, W. Falconer 2, T. A. Doick 3, W. E. Ticehurst 4, H. J. Tucker (composer and conductor) 5, G. Marshall 6, J. H. Blake 7, A. Carver 8. Arranged as a Coronation quarter-peal for their Majesties King George VI. and Queen Elizabeth. The band are all Sunday service ringers at the Cathedral.

At Swindon, Wilts, on Sunday, May 9th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,259 changes): W. A. Bullock 1, A. Lawrence 2, R. G. Townsend 3, W. W. T. Daniell 4, E. J. Berry 5, S. Palmer 6, A. G. Wells 7, W. B. Kynaston (conductor) 8, C. J. Gardiner 9, A. E. W. Smith 10. Rung before the official pre-Coronation service.

At Birmingham Cathedral, on May 9th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters: F. B. Yates 1, C. Webb 2, E. T. Allaway 3, H. H. Fearn 4, D. Marsh 5, H. J. Turner 6, J. Marshall 7, J. George 8, G. E. Fearu (conductor) 9, S. J. Mason 10. The first quarter-peal on the bells. It was specially arranged for the Coronation civic service, conducted by the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Birmingham.

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CLERICAL RINGING WEEK.

VISITS TO MANY CHURCHES ROUND EVESHAM.

The clerical ringing week was held this year with headquarters at Evesham, again under the efficient leadership of the Rev. E. V. Cox (Brampford Speke, Devon). The rest of the party were as follows: The Revs. E. G. Benson (Burghill), H. G. Benson (Nyasaaland), C. Carew Cox (Lyne Regis), F. L. Edwards (Kington Magna), E. B. James (Fareham), F. H. S. Marle (Deane), the Rev. and Mrs. E. S. Powell (Staverton), the Revs. B. F. Sheppard (Cambridge), A. G. G. Thurlow (Wokingham), W. M. K. Warren (Binegar), C. Elliot Wigg (High Wycombe) and R. F. Wilkinson (Ordsall) and Mr. Chris. W. Woolley, who had somehow forgotten to bring his clerical collar with him (O, these forgetful clergy!), and although he is sometimes known as a wizard, he couldn't manage to produce one! Some of us were, unfortunately, only able to appear for part of the week.

The programme opened on April 5th, punctually at 2.30, at Ashchurch, near Tewkesbury, where the six bells were raised and lowered in peal (this was always done when possible), and rang Bob Minor, Cambridge and Stedman. Mr. Harris kindly met and rang with us. After touches of Kent and Oxford at Overbury (6, tenor 9½ cwt.), we were kindly invited to tea by the Vicar; whence we went on to Breton's Norton (6, tenor 6 cwt.), where Mr. Attwood met us. Here the back five are by Rudhall. After spliced Kent and Oxford (when some wit remarked that the clergy had often spliced people, but not methods before), etc., we went to our headquarters, the Hampton House Hotel, Evesham, a very nice place, where they do not mind if you ring handbells till midnight.

SALLY NEARLY SEVEN FEET LONG.

On Tuesday we arrived first at Elmley Castle (6, tenor 18 cwt.), where the two trebles went tuning badly. Here we rang Cambridge, and, after 'a little something' at the Vicarage, went on to Little Comberton (6), and Great Comberton (6, tenor 8 cwt.), where the Rev. J. F. Hastings (who was, unfortunately, only able to be with us for a few hours) nearly got stuck in the narrow staircase. After Stedman and Double Court, we found a delightful spot near the River Avon (don't ask me which Avon!) for picnic lunch. Then on to Croome D'Abitot. Here the key, which ought to have been in the fust, or under the harmonium, or somewhere, had to be fetched some distance. After a long delay, which E. V. stood with amazing patience, we eventually got up to the bells, which hadn't been rung for two years. However, E. V.'s castor oil worked wonders, and the bells were soon going. The tenor sally is nearly 7ft. long. It was rather curious, while raising her, to have the top of the sally rising at handstroke, while the bottom was still coiled up in one's hand! How did the pigeons, hatching in the bell chamber, like our Grandsire, I wonder?

Then to Pershore Abbey (8, tenor 31 cwt.), where we rang Stedman and Bob Major, suspended 'twixt heaven and earth—heaven seemed terrifyingly near, and earth an uncomfortable distance away! After a hasty look round the glorious church and the nearby Church of St. Andrew, where the six are to be restored, we had tea at the Vicarage; then to Norton (St. Egwin, 6 bells, tenor 15 cwt.). After Grandsire and Cambridge here and dinner at Evesham, the day finished with London, etc., at Hampton (6, tenor 9½ cwt.), where we had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Hemming and other friends.

We started at Offenham (6) on Tuesday, and there rang Queens and 'fired' the bells for the Vicar and Mrs. Combs' wedding anniversary. Then to Badsey, a nice ring of 8, tenor 15 cwt. After Double Norwich we went to Child's Wickham (6, tenor 11 cwt.), where the ringers of 4 and 5 can see their bells swinging. Unconducted touches are the most successful at this place. Mary Lane is buried here; she died, aged 133, in 1741. Then to Willersey, a nice 6 by Rudhall, tenor 11½ cwt. Here Mr. Heath rang with us, and later we had a 720 of Cambridge. At Saintbury, very near by, we rang Stedman, etc., on a nice ring of 6, tenor 11½ cwt., and also had the pleasure of ringing with Miss Mavis Brighton. Next, at Mickleton (8, tenor 18 cwt.), we rang Treble Bob (both variations) and Double Norwich and Stedman. Messrs. L. Kinchin and F. Tuffley rang with us, while Cyril Tuffley, aged 8½, showed us how to ring a bell solo. At Brefforton (6, tenor 8 cwt.), Mr. Perkins met us, and we rang Kent, etc. After a touch of London, off to dinner at Evesham. After this the Cambridge Guild members rang Grandsire Cinques and Bob Major and Royal, Double Norwich, etc., on handbells, other members joining in too.

AN INTERESTING CHURCH.

Thursday began with Stedman and Cambridge at Bidford-on-Avon (6, tenor 13½ cwt.). At Alcester (6), the 5th slipped wheel and set during the first touch. After producing enough keys to unlock all the doors in Alcester, the Vicar's daughter kindly found the bell chamber key, and we righted things and had time for a short touch before leaving for Stratford-on-Avon. Here we rang Cambridge and Double Norwich on a beautiful ring of eight (tenor 17½ cwt.), and after lunch, a photograph and a look at Shakespeare's tomb, went on to Snitterfield, where the Rev. Thomas met us, and we much enjoyed Bob Minor, etc., on a fine six (tenor reputed 20 cwt.). At Quinton (6, tenor 19 cwt.) the Vicar, who afterwards kindly gave us tea, seemed rather perturbed at being told that his tenor would eventually come off the headstock if not tightened up. At Chipping Camden (8, tenor 25 cwt.) we were delighted to find one of the most beautiful

(Continued in next column.)

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DISAPPOINTING ATTENDANCE AT FENHAM MEETING.

The 'luxury meeting,' as it was termed by Mr. C. L. Routledge, held at Fenham, proved unsuccessful from the point of view of the attendance, only 15 members sitting down to tea when nearer 50 were expected. The feelings of those present, however, were not damped and good use was made of the bells, Cambridge Surprise Major, Duffield and Double Bob Major, the special method, being the most noteworthy methods brought round.

In the absence of the vice-president, Mr. M. D. Onbridge, Mr. Routledge presided over the meeting and thanked the Vicar, Canon S. Redman, for the use of the bells. The Vicar, in replying, referred to the fine effect produced by the use of the new silencers. The bells were almost inaudible at the foot of the tower, but at a distance they are sweetly and clearly heard.

Mr. John Anderson thanked the ladies for the splendid tea.

It was decided that no meeting should be held on Whit Monday, but St. Paul's, Whitley Bay, was proposed for the Saturday following, i.e., May 26th, and London Surprise Major was adopted as the special method for practice.

A district practice was also proposed for May 6th at St. George's, Jesmond where the bells have been recently rehung. Both proposals were agreed to.

The secretary informed the meeting that the report of the sub-committee on Coronation ringing was not yet ready.

Following the adjournment, the handbells were rung to Grandsire Caters, Stedman and Grandsire Triples, and further ringing took place in the tower.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

PRESENTATION TO FORMER CARY DEANERY SECRETARY.

A gathering of about 30 ringers attended the meeting of the Cary Deanery Branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association at Bruton on Saturday, April 24th. Fourteen towers were represented and visitors were welcomed from Melksham, Pensford, Zeals and Stourton. Ringing in various methods of Doubles and Minor took place in the afternoon and evening.

At the business meeting following the tea the president (Rev. F. H. Lang) presented Mr. E. F. Creed with an inscribed inlaid barometer as a token of appreciation of his work as hon. secretary of the branch since 1919. Mr. Creed taught first lessons in change ringing at many towers, and acknowledging the gift, said he was pleased to see there that day many of his pupils of years ago.

The secretary (Mr. W. A. Osborne), speaking on the subject of Coronation ringing, said that he hoped all tower leaders would make careful arrangements for ringing, and suggested that if a full peal was not possible a half or quarter-peal should be attempted, but whatever ringing was done nothing should be attempted that could not be perfectly done. The times for ringing should be arranged to fit in with the local celebrations, but no ringing should take place during the Abbey service broadcast or other important broadcasts.

Votes of thanks were accorded to the clergy, organist and choir and to the ladies who provided the tea.

CLERICAL RINGING WEEK.—Continued from previous column.

of the little Cotswold towns, with a grand church, similar in many ways to Northleach, with some fine old brasses, and the oldest cope and altar frontal, etc., still remaining in its own church in England. The cope dates from 1380, and the altar frontal (1480) was copied by command of Queen Mary for the high altar of Westminster Abbey for the Coronation in 1911. Here we rang Double Norwich, Stedman, etc.

After dinner we visited the Bell Tower at Evesham, built by Clement Lichfield, the last Abbot of Evesham but one, about 1525. Here we enjoyed Grandsire and Stedman Caters and Kent and Bob Royal on the fine ring of 10 (tenor 31 cwt.), and were very pleased to meet Mr. Hemming and other friends again.

An important discussion took place at the hotel in the evening. On Friday the only peal attempt of the week (Double Norwich) 'went west' after a little over an hour. This was at Hinton-on-the-Green. After ringing Cambridge, etc., during which Miss Johnson rang with us, we went on to lunch at Broadway, another delightful Cotswold village. After Double Court, etc., on the fine six at Broadway Old Church, on to Stanton, perhaps the least spoilt of all the villages we saw. Cambridge, etc., on the six here was followed by tea at Stow-on-the-Wold. We had meant to ring handbells in the four counties round the Four Shire Stone nearby, but as no one thought of bringing handbells, we contented ourselves with an unmusical course of Bob Minor on some of the table bells in the cafe at Stow. At Stow Church, our last tower, the Rev. Hare met us, and we had a pleasant finish to the week with Stedman and Bob Major on a fine eight (tenor 30 cwt.).

In conclusion, we should like to thank the clergy for the use of their towers, those clergy and their wives who gave us tea and other refreshment, the steeplekeepers and other ringers who rang with us, and most of all the Rev. E. V. Cox, to whose wonderfully efficient organisation the success of a most delightful week was so largely due.

A. G. G. THURLOW

NOTICES.**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.**

(Established 1637.)

THE TERCENTENARY FESTIVAL.**PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT.**

A service will be held at St. Paul's Cathedral on Saturday, Nov. 6th, at 4 p.m. Dinner at Cannon Street Hotel at 6 p.m. Tickets to members 10s. each, to non-members 12s. 6d. each. The maximum seating capacity is 400. Application should be made as early as possible, as no tickets can be issued in excess of that number.

William T. Cockerill,
Hon. Secretary.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Walsden St. Peter's NOT available on May 15th. Therefore the meeting will take place at St. Paul's, Cross Stones, Todmorden, on that date. All ringers and friends welcomed. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.; business at 6.45 p.m. By the way, keep June 5th in mind. Great Ringing Day at St. Mark's, Glodwick, Oldham. Further announcement with full particulars will be given later.—S. Lloyd Parry, Branch Sec., 24, St. James Street, Milnrow, Rochdale.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The pre-Whitsun meeting will be held at Hexham on Saturday, May 15th, when the bells of the Abbey will be available.—R. Park, Hon. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—For Newport Pagnell Deanery and others. A meeting at Milton Keynes. to-morrow, Saturday, May 15th. 2.30 begin. 4 p.m. service. 4.45 tea.—Rev. J. F. Amies, Ravenstone Vicarage, Olney, Bucks.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—A meeting will be held at Hatfield on Saturday, May 15th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Short service at 5 p.m., tea at 5.30. All ringers and friends welcome.—W. Nash, North Mimms, Hatfield, and H. V. Frost, 4, Kimberly Road, St. Albans, Dis. Secs.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—The 58th annual meeting will be held at Chelmsford on Whit-Monday, May 17th. 11.30 a.m. Service in the Cathedral, preacher Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow; 12.15 p.m., approx., meetings in the Chapter House; 1.15 p.m., approx., lunch at The Golden Fleece (members 1s. 6d., non-members 2s. 6d.). Towers open for ringing during the day: Cathedral (12), Boreham (8), Great Baddow (8), Galleywood (8), Great Waltham (8), Widford (8), Writtle (8), Broomfield (6), Danbury (6), Springfield (6), Little Waltham (6).—L. J. Clark, Hon. Gen. Sec., 36, Lynmouth Avenue, Chelmsford.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual festival on Whit Monday at Ludlow. Bells available from 12 noon. Service 3.30 p.m. (the Guild's new form of service will be used). Tea at Queen's Head Hotel 4.15 p.m., price 2s. Members applying for tickets before May 14th to Mr. W. J. Beniams, Ben-All, Henley Road, Ludlow, will be charged 1s. only. Money should not be

sent with applications. Business meeting after tea. Ringers and friends wishing to view Ludlow Castle please write to Rev. H. S. T. Richardson, Hon. Sec., S. Nicolas' Rectory, Hereford.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Thrapston on Whit-Monday, May 17th. Committee meet Parish Room 10.45. Service, Thrapston Church, 12 noon. Lunch at King's Arms Hotel at 1 p.m., followed by meeting. Non-members and non-resident members 2s. 6d. each. Bells available: Islip (6), Thrapston (8) 10 a.m. to 11.45 a.m. and after meeting, Raunds (8), Tichmarsh (8), Lowick (6) after the meeting.—Robt. G. Black, Gen. Sec., Stamford Road, Geddington, Kettering.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on the 27th; St. Andrew's on the 20th; *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 25th, at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—Please note:—The next meeting will be held at OVERSEALE on Saturday, May 22nd. Measham bells not available. Time 3 p.m. Tea 4.45 p.m., followed by meeting. A hearty welcome awaits all visitors. Don't forget p.c. for tea arrangements to be sent to me by Thursday, May 20th.—Joseph Wm. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Overseale, Burton-on-Trent.

RISHTON PARISH CHURCH.—The re-dedication of the peal of eight bells, recast and rehung by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, Ltd., Croydon, will take place on Saturday, May 22nd, at 3 p.m. The dedication will be conducted by the Rev. Canon G. Stewart Perry, M.A. (Rural Dean of Blackburn). Tea will be provided after the service in the Horwood Road Schools. Ringers and friends are heartily invited to the dedication service.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—The branch will meet at Walsoken, on Saturday, May 22nd. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chester Branch.—A meeting will be held at Malpas on Saturday, May 22nd. Ringing from 3. Service, 4.30. Those who hope to be present for tea please notify me by Thursday, May 20th.—J. W. Clarke, Hon. Sec., Wayside, Circular Drive, Chester.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting will be held at Sapcote on Saturday, May 22nd. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Usual arrangements for tea. The Sharnford meeting is fixed for June 26th.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—The next practice meeting will be held at St. George's Church, Millom, on Saturday, May 22nd. Tower open at 2.30.—N. M. Newby, Branch Sec.

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GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol City and Rural Branches.—A combined meeting of the above branches will be held at Mangotsfield on Saturday, May 22nd. Bells (8) open from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Please make a special effort to attend, and do not fail to send numbers requiring tea.—R. C. Gifford, Hon. Sec., Gifford House, Frampton Cotterell, near Bristol.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next practice has been arranged at Chenies (6 bells) on Saturday, May 22nd, at 3.30 p.m. Tea, at 1s. per head, for those who notify me not later than May 18th.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Gainsborough on Saturday, May 22nd. Service 4.15. Tea at the Sun Hotel 5 p.m. (resident members, whose subscriptions are paid for the current year, free, non-members 1s. 6d.), for those who notify me by the Wednesday previous. Bells (8) available 2 p.m. and after the meeting. Hearty welcome to all.—F. S. Butler, Hon. Sec., 2, Bayard Street, Gainsborough.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—The next meeting will be held at Rothley on May 22nd. Quorn bells not available. Ringing from 3.30 to 4.30 and 6 to 8 p.m. only. Subscriptions accepted.—H. O. Over, Hon. Dis. Sec., 130, Ashburton Road, Hugglescote.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Daventry (8 bells) on Saturday, May 22nd. Usual arrangements.—W. C. Moore, Braunston Road, Daventry, Northants.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Henlow on Saturday, May 22nd. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. All ringers welcome.—C. J. Ball, Sec., 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Berkshire Branch.—Annual meeting will be held at Wantage on Saturday, May 22nd. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify early.—A. E. Lock, 35, East St. Helen's Street, Abingdon, Berks.

TETSWORTH, OXON.—The first anniversary will be celebrated on Saturday, May 29th. Bells available all day. Dinner 5.30. Please notify.—J. W. Gibbard, Tetsworth, Oxon.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Chichester on Saturday, May 29th. Cathedral bells available from 3 p.m. Meat tea at 5.15 p.m., price 2s. 6d. (1s. to members), but notification by May 26th is essential. Service will be at the sub-deanery church at 4.30. Half rail fare (maximum 2s. 6d.) allowed to resident members.—S. E. Armstrong, Hon. Gen. Sec., 70, Hollingbury Park Avenue, Brighton 6.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—Next meeting, Harrow Weald, Saturday, May 29th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Short service at 5. Tea, 1s. each, at 5.30. Advices by May 26th, please. Special method, St. Lawrence Little Bob Major. Nearest station, Stanmore (Met.), and short walk, or No. 114 bus (if running). Alternative route, if buses are available, tube to Edgware and No. 114 bus. All ringers welcomed.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4. Tel. number, Larkwood 1959.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Kissingbury on Saturday, May 29th. Usual arrangements. Names for tea by May 27th.—J. C. Dean, Hon. Sec., 16, St. Peter's Street, Northampton.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Ashford District) AND ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.—A meeting will be held at Aldington on Saturday, May 29th, to celebrate the 100th birthday of Mr. C. Slingsby. Bells ready 2.30. Service 4.30. Preacher, the Bishop of Dover. Tea 5 p.m. Please send numbers for tea by Monday, the 24th.—P. Page, 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Oswestry on Saturday, May 29th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. All requiring tea to notify me not later than Tuesday, May 25th.—R. R. Pole, Hon. Sec., Craigmore, Upper Road, Neole Brace, Shrewsbury.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at South Weald on Saturday, May 29th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea to follow. Will all those intending to be present kindly advise me not later than Tuesday, May 25th?—E. J. Butler, Dis. Sec., 313, Mawneys Road, Romford.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—North Norfolk Branch.—The branch meets at Cromer on Saturday, May 29th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea (1s. 3d.) at the Rendezvous Tea Rooms, The Parade, at 5 p.m. Special business: (1) Presentation of album containing subscribers' names to his testimonial to Mr. A. L. Coleman; (2) election of branch secretary. It is hoped all members of the association will make a special effort to attend. It is important that I should be informed of those who require tea.—Nolan Golden, Gen. Sec. and Treasurer, Winton, 26, Brabazon Road, Norwich.

SATURDAY, JUNE 5th.—At Elstree, Herts (6 bells). Tower open from 3.30. Tea at 5.30. Herts Association.—C. H. Horton, Bushey (City 4270).

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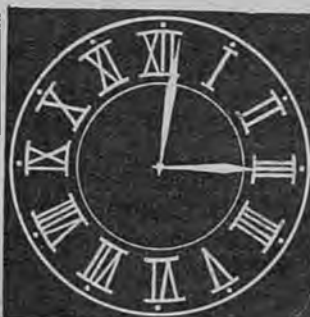
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