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SUBSTITUTES FOR BELLS.

In these days we are constantly hearing of substitutes for church bells and the latest instrument to come on the market is a very ingenious apparatus. It is claimed that the effect of a peal of bells of any weight or note can be produced, and, in extolling the virtues of the new invention, an assertion has been made—utterly absurd, of course — that a single operator can achieve elaborate change ringing without previous knowledge of campanology. More than sixty years ago another substitute for bells was seriously advocated, and it was suggested that their manufacture would form a new branch of industry. The substitute in that case was steel bars, which 'produce a very pure, distinct and particularly melodious sound, with many other advantages over church bells of moderate size.' The claims of steel bars were put forward by a serious journal, 'The Choir,' but we know of no case where the experiment was tried. As instruments of tone and tune, however, the steel bells produced from a factory in Sheffield about that time were dismal failures, as the few examples now left to us prove.

Threats to the bell industry are thus no new thing, but modern methods and propaganda often have far reaching results. There is a growing tendency to use mechanical aids, and there are a number of churches where gramophone bell records and amplifiers are already in use. The electronic instrument, which has now been introduced, is not a mere contrivance for reproduction of records, but can be operated in the same way that a carillon can be played. We do not think, however, that there is any real danger of church bells being ousted from their place, either in the purpose which they serve, or in the position they occupy in the sentiments of the majority of the English public. There may be, indeed, something to be said for the contention, put forward at the meeting of the Central Council, that amplified records, which reproduce good change ringing on well-known peals of bells, are to be preferred to the monotonous clang of a single bell. Operated with skill, also, the public would probably rather hear the new musical instrument than the ting-tang of some of those unmelodious things which pass for bells, but the drawback to artificial devices is that they are a temptation to church builders to be content with something cheap, and to put permanently out of consideration any idea of completing their work with a noble tower and a peal of bells, with which it was the delight of our forefathers to crown their efforts in church building. As ringers it should be our duty to influence, as far as possible, the provision of proper rings of bells in new churches and to prevent the spread of the idea, that modern inventions are any real substitute for bells and

(Continued on page 514.)

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still less a substitute for the fine old art of change ringing. 'Canned' bells may have their uses, but there is, we hope, little real danger of them taking the place of the products of our English foundries as long as the love of bells continues in this country and ringers can be found to man the ropes and ply their centuries' old craft.

'A HISTORY OF THE COLLEGE YOUTHS.'

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

To be published in September by
'The Ringing World'

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

SURFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 31, 1937, in Three Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5005 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 9 lb.

ALBERT WALKER 2	MRS. JACK BRAY 7
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 2	ERNEST C. S. TURNER ... 8
GEORGE R. PYE 3	GEORGE E. FEIRN 9
CHARLES T. COLES 4	GEORGE F. SWANN 10
RUPERT RICHARDSON ... 5	FRANK E. HAYNES 11
JOHN HOLMAN 6	JACK BRAY Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 37). Conducted by CHAS. T. COLES

This composition is now rung for the first time. Rung in honour of the birth of Eileen Mary Hurle, granddaughter of the conductor, and as a birthday compliment to the baby's mother. Mr. J. Holman's 300th peal.

SAFFRON WALDEN, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 2, 1937, in Three Hours and Forty-One Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 2	FREDERICK DENCH 7
ALBERT WALKER 2	JAMES BENNETT 8
GEORGE R. PYE 3	ERNEST C. S. TURNER ... 9
MRS. R. RICHARDSON ... 4	GEORGE F. SWANN 10
WILLIAM HEWETT 5	ROBEN SAUNDERS 11
LEONARD E. PITSTOW ... 6	RUPERT RICHARDSON ... Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

ADLINGTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 29, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

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

Tenor 13½ cwt.

JAMES W. GROUNDS 2	JAMES L. WRIGHT 5
LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS ... 2	ARTHUR TOMLINSON 6
E. ROGER MARTIN 3	JOSEPH RIDYARD 7
JOHN BOOTH 4	THOMAS B. WORSLEY ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by T. B. WORSLEY.

LYMINGE, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, July 25, 1937, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Mary and Eadburga,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Holt's Original.

Tenor 18 cwt.

WALTER J. PREBBLE Treble	FREDERICK LEASON 5
GORDON WEBB 2	BENJAMIN BAKER 6
WILLIAM BIDNELL, SEN. ... 3	LOUIS HEAD 7
ALBC WEBB 4	ROBERT WEBB Tenor

Conducted by LOUIS HEAD.

Rung in honour of Mr. Albert Tanton on completing 60 years as sexton of this church, and as a birthday peal for the treble ringer, who is aged 70.

DARESBURY, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, July 27, 1937, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

C.C.C. No. 88.

Tenor 15 cwt.

*NOAH SMITH Treble	JOHN E. BIBBY 5
ROBERT B. HULSE 2	STANLEY HARRISON 6
*STANLEY W. BOOTH 3	CYRIL VALENTINE 7
HAROLD WORRAL 4	CECIL RADDOCK Tenor

Conducted by J. E. BIBBY.

* First peal. Rung half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Joseph Little, a highly respected member of the Daresbury tower.

COLEMAN'S HATCH, SUSSEX.

THE EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Wednesday, July 28, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

At the Church of the Holy Trinity,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 11½ cwt. in G.

BERNARD COLLISON Treble	DANIEL COOPER 5
MRS. F. W. HOUSDEN 2	*ERNEST J. LADD 6
FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN ... 3	FREDERICK E. COLLINS ... 7
MRS. C. H. KIPPIN 4	CHARLES H. KIPPIN Tenor

Composed and Conducted by CHARLES H. KIPPIN.

* First peal of Cambridge Major. This peal replaces the false one rung at Edenbridge on April 3rd by the same band.

CLAYBROOK, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, July 28, 1937, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

ERNEST W. TIPLER Treble	WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... 5
LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD ... 2	PERCIVAL A. ALDHAM 6
WILLIAM A. WOOD 3	FRANK K. MEASURES 7
JOHN A. TIMSON 4	FRED PERRY Tenor

Conducted by FRANK K. MEASURES.

First peal of Stedman as conductor.

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Wednesday, July 28, 1937, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF MINSMERE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 19½ cwt.

JOHN H. ARBON Treble	GEORGE BENNETT 5
LESLIE G. BRETT 2	JAMES BENNETT, JUN. 6
GEORGE PRYKE 3	T. WILLIAM LAST 7
GEORGE WHITING 4	LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by L. C. WIGHTMAN.

First peal rung in the method (Lindoff's No. 70).

GRUNDISBURGH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Thursday, July 29, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

CHARLES W. PARKER Treble	GEORGE BENNETT 5
*OLIVER J. KIDBY 2	PERCY K. PARKER 6
JAMES BENNETT, JDN. 3	WILLIAM J. G. BROWN ... 7
JOHN R. CROOKS 4	ROBERT MALSTER Tenor

Composed by H. HUBBARD. Conducted by WILLIAM J. G. BROWN.

* First peal on eight bells. First peal in the method on the bells, for the Guild and by all the band. A farewell peal to the Rev. F. Sutton on his retirement.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, July 30, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Paulinus,

A PEAL OF DARTFORD LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

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

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE.

Conducted by E. A. BARNETT.

* First peal in the method.

WROTHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 31, 1937, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. George,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Parker's Twelve-Part (7th observation).

Tenor 20 cwt.

LUTHER J. HONESS Treble	JOHN MEDHURST 5
TOM SAUNDERS 2	BENJAMIN BAKER 6
*ALBERT HIBBIN 3	WILLIAM WENBAN 7
HARRY BAKER 4	WILLIAM H. DARTNALL ... Tenor

Conducted by W. WENBAN.

* First peal on eight bells. Rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. Robert G. Rayfield, of the local band, and Miss Victoria Louise Ford.

SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD

On Saturday, July 31, 1937, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Mary and Nicholas,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt.

ARTHUR J. FARR Treble	FRANK DEWEY 5
GEORGE LADD 2	SIDNEY PROCTOR 6
WILLIAM G. THORPE 3	JOHN G. AMES 7
*ALBERT E. FLATTERS 4	WILLIAM E. CLARKE Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY PROCTOR.

* First peal of Stedman. Rung as a 71st birthday compliment to Mr. G. Ladd.

THROWLEY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, August 1, 1937, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt.

ALFRED H. POLLING Treble	WALTER H. DOBBIE 5
ARTHUR S. BOAR 2	STANLEY B. DOBBIE 6
DORIS G. DOBBIE 3	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE 7
ERNEST J. DOBBIE 4	HARRY PARKES Tenor

Composed by G. CONYARD. Conducted by ALFRED H. POLLING.

Rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. F. Wallace and Miss H. E. Wood, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Wood, which took place on the previous day at Queenborough.

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SHERFIELD ENGLISH, HANTS.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, July 31, 1937, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr. 1 lb.

ANDREW J. CORRIGAN ... Treble	HAROLD P. REED ... 5
*MISS EDNA BEDFORD ... 2	REGINALD W. REX ... 6
†LEONARD KNOTT ... 3	GEORGE WILLIAMS ... 7
FREDERICK J. COLES ... 4	REGINALD A. REED ... Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

* First peal of Major. † First peal of Surprise.

FOLKESTONE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, August 2, 1937, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND EANSWYTH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 25 cwt. in E.

ALFRED H. PULLING ... Treble	WALTER H. DOBBIE ... 5
DORIS G. DOBBIE ... 2	HORACE WHITEHEAD ... 6
CHARLES R. MILLWAY ... 3	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE ... 7
ERNEST J. DOBBIE ... 4	STANLEY B. DOBBIE ... Tenor

Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING.

Arranged and rung as a Folkestone Coronation peal. This was the 100th peal rung together by Ernest and Stanley Dobbie.

FAREHAM, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, August 2, 1937, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

*ERNEST W. WHITEMAN ... Treble	FRANK BENNETT ... 5
GEORGE WILLIAMS ... 2	ANDREW J. CORRIGAN ... 6
FREDERICK A. BURNETT ... 3	REGINALD W. REX ... 7
WILLIAM LINTER, JUN. ... 4	FREDERICK W. BURNETT ... Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

* First peal of Surprise.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

BISHOPSTEIGNTON, DEVON.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Wednesday, July 21, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, ten different callings. Tenor 10 cwt.

CHARLES R. LILLEY ... Treble	LEONARD MENSLEY ... 4
CHARLES HOWARD ... 2	*CHARLES W. MUNDAY ... 5
JAMES E. LILLEY ... 3	†FREDERICK A. MUNDAY ... Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

* First peal of Doubles. † First peal. Messrs. Munday are from Basingstoke.

STEEP, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, July 22, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 12 six-scores each of Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob, with four different callings, and 18 six-scores of Grandsire, with six different callings. Tenor 10 cwt.

*ALBERT E. WARREN ... Treble	*MISS ALINE ROBERTSON ... 3
MRS. GRACE M. HUNT ... 2	WILLIAM HIGGINS ... 4

CHARLES E. BASSETT ... Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES E. BASSETT.

* First peal. All are local ringers except the conductor.

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SOFT AND PLIABLE IN HAND. ALL ROPES SENT
CARRIAGE PAID AND ON APPROVAL.

Cheap Quotations. Established 150 years. Phone 203.

DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

MILLAND, SUSSEX.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, July 25, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

WILLIAM AMEY ... Treble	ARTHUR WATTS ... 4
*HARRY GAUNTLETT ... 2	WILLIAM READ ... 5
CHRISTOPHER DAY ... 3	ARTHUR NORRIS ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM READ.

* First peal. Ringers of 2 and 4 are members of the local band.

HOLMER, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, July 26, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's called differently.

Tenor 11 cwt.

CHARLES H. TOMPKINS ... Treble	WALTER S. EVANS ... 4
JOSEPH W. DOWNES ... 2	WILLIAM DUGGAN ... 5
*AUSTIN WINGATE ... 3	ERNEST F. SALMONS ... Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST F. SALMONS.

* First peal of Minor at first attempt. The quarterly peal for the Hereford District of the Guild, and rung in honour of the visit of H.M. Queen Mary to Hereford.

BRERETON-CUM-SWETHWICK, CHESHIRE.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, July 31, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OSWALD,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of six extents each of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, St. Simon's, April Day and Plain Bob, eight of St. Dunstan's and ten of Grandsire. Tenor 12 cwt.

*HARRY THELWELL ... Treble	FREDERIC H. CRAWLEY ... 3
GEORGE H. CRAWLEY ... 2	*HARRY PARKER ... 4

ALBERT CRAWLEY ... Tenor

Conducted by A. CRAWLEY.

* First peal of Doubles in six methods. First peal in six methods on the bells. Ring in honour of the tercentenary of the society. Lord Brereton, one of the founders of the society, was buried at this church.

HENLOW, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 31, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

HERBERT L. HARLOW ... Treble	PERCY TOMPKINS ... 4
STANLEY GRAVESTOCK ... 2	FRANK WARRINGTON ... 5
JOHN CHURCH ... 3	*LEWIS H. BYWATERS ... Tenor

Composed by REV. E. B. JAMES. Conducted by L. H. BYWATERS.

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

HANDBELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE ST. MARY ABBOT'S GUILD, KENSINGTON.

On Friday, July 30, 1937, in Two Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY ABBOTT, KENSINGTON,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

CLARENCE H. DOBBIE ... 1-2	ERNEST C. S. TURNER ... 5-6
WILLIAM E. JUDD ... 3-4	ARTHUR J. W. HUGHES ... 7-8

Conducted by W. E. JUDD.

SILVER WEDDING CELEBRATED.

BLIND RINGER TAKES PART.

On Thursday, July 29th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at Holy Trinity Church, Llandudno, in honour of the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. F. V. Nicholls, of Stourbridge, Worcester-shire: S. Brown 1, J. Flint 2, A. Bray 3, A. E. Pegler (conductor) 4, F. V. Nicholls 5, W. H. Lawrence 6, S. Edwards 7, T. Lowe 8.
Mr. G. Bromley, who has been totally blind from birth, rang the 6th to 504 Grandsire Triples, conducted by W. H. Lawrence.

PEAL NOTES.

MEN AND EVENTS.

The first peal on the bells at the village of Steep, Hampshire, in which local ringers have taken part, was rung on July 22nd. It was a peal of Doubles rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. James Knight on reaching the age of 70 years. Mr. Knight has been a Sunday service ringer at Steep for 50 years.

At the age of 82 years, Mr. Albert Tanton still rings for Sunday service at Lyminge, Kent. In honour of his having completed 60 years as sexton at the Parish Church, a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung on Sunday, July 25th. It was also a birthday peal for Mr. Walter J. Prebble, who reached the age of 70, and rang the treble. The ringers wish to thank Mrs. Webb for her hospitality after the peal.

The Suffolk Guild have added another new Surprise method to their long list of first performances. Mr. Gabriel Lindoff's No. 70 has been named Minsmere.

To obtain a new peal of Cambridge Surprise Major is a distinction for any composer, and Mr. C. H. Kippin has conducted a peal composed by himself to replace one rung four months ago which afterwards turned out to be false. It is believed to be the first peal of Cambridge Major with the sixth six courses at home.

A peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at Wrotham, Kent, on Saturday, in honour of the wedding of Mr. R. G. Rayfield and Miss V. L. Ford. The bridegroom is one of the local ringers and after the peal he entertained the band to a meat tea.

The 71st birthday of Mr. George Ladd, of Pinchbeck, the genial hon. secretary of the Elloe Deaneries Branch of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, was suitably celebrated by a peal of Stedman Triples at Spalding on Saturday.

In the neighbouring parish of Surfleet another peal of celebration was being rung at the same time on the lightest ring of twelve in the country. There was a 'gathering of the clans,' and 5,005 Stedman Cinques came round in honour of the birth of the conductor's third granddaughter.

It was John Holman's 300th peal and his first for exactly a year. The Sheffield veteran has rung his peals in 99 towers in 23 counties.

Half the band who rang at Surfleet on Saturday rang in another peal of Stedman Cinques on Monday at Saffron Walden, Essex, this time in honour of one of the oldest ringers, the 77th birthday of Mr. Ernest Pitstow, one of the celebrated family, of which the late Mr. Nathan Pitstow was such a distinguished member.

The peal of Kent Treble Bob Major rung at Surfleet on July 24th was not the first by all Eastern Branch members of the Lincoln Guild, as one was rung at Silsey on November 28th, 1929.

Old-fashioned Bob Triples is a feature among the peals of last week. Rung as a farewell to the Vicar of Grandsburgh, Suffolk, on his retirement, it was the first peal of Bob Triples by all the band and by the Suffolk Guild. It will probably be the last for a good long time.

The brothers Ernest and Stanley Dobbie rang their 100th peal together on Monday when they took part in Folkestone's Coronation peal. The band received a hearty welcome from the Rector and local ringers.

HAPPY MEMORIES FROM OUTINGS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It has been my pleasure for the past eight or nine years to arrange for our band the annual and other outings, and visiting the counties of Herts, Beds, Bucks, Berks and Essex.

I am very pleased to say that everywhere the local ringers and rectors too have given me help in making arrangements and a great welcome to our band, with a cheery 'Come and see us again' when we have left their tower.

If our country friends knew how much we enjoyed these excursions into the wide open spaces they would know how much we have appreciated their efforts to make our tours a success.

To them all we say 'Thank you' and hope we shall see them again some time. In the meantime, if anyone would like to visit us when passing this way I am sure they will be welcome, although I'm sorry we cannot offer the wide open spaces.

Finchley, London, N.3.

A. F. WARREN.

CLIFTON RINGERS' FIRST 720.

At Backwell, Somerset, on June 17th, 720 Bob Minor by Hedley Gregory 1, Miss I. Hastie 2, William Bonner 3, Hedley Gregory, jun. 4, Wilfred Webb 5, Stephen H. Wood (conductor) 6. First 720 by ringers of 1, 3, 4 and 5. The above are all Sunday service ringers at Clifton Parish Church, Bristol.

BANSTEAD, SURREY.—At All Saints' Church for evensong on Sunday, July 18th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans): H. N. Pitstow 1, S. R. L. Dearn 2, A. E. Cheesman 3, J. Hobden 4, F. G. Woodies 5, T. E. Norman 6, A. J. Adams (aged 16, conductor) 7, E. T. Wooloff 8. Rung on the 17th birthday of the ringer of the 2nd.

FOR BEGINNERS.

TREBLE BOB IS NOT REALLY DIFFICULT.

It is not really a very difficult step from Plain to Treble Bob, but, when mastered, it opens up a much wider scope for the ringer's talents.

When plain hunting, the ringer takes his bell regularly from place to place, a step at a time. After leading he moves into 2nd's, then into 3rd's, next into 4th's, and so on, until he gets behind all the rest of the bells. He turns about by having a whole pull behind, and then comes down step by step, just as he went up, until he reaches the lead, where he has a whole pull, which really is only the means of turning round to hunt in the opposite direction, just as was his whole pull behind.

If the ringer has gone any step beyond ringing the treble in a plain hunt, he will know what dodging is. It is one step back in some place, which breaks up the regularity of the forward march.

Treble Bob consists of a series of backward steps throughout the lead. It is, in fact, a dodging hunt. It is based on a dodge in every dodging position; that is 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, etc., and the treble keeps to this dodging path. The other bells cannot keep strictly to it, or no progress could be made in the production of changes, but in the simpler Treble Bob methods they keep fairly closely to it.

The work of the treble in Treble Bob consists of three steps forward and one back, allowing, of course, for the turning round in front and behind. The treble starts by making one blow in 2nd's place, and stepping back at the next blow to lead a half-pull, at backstroke. Then it hunts forward three places, bringing it into 4th's, and steps back one into 3rd's (at backstroke). Then forward again three places and back one into 5th's (at backstroke). If you are ringing Minor the whole pull behind comes next, and then, corresponding with the blow in 2nd's on the front, one blow in 5th's and a step back into 6th's (at backstroke); forward three places to 3rd's, and a step back into 4th's (at backstroke), forward three places to lead, and a step back into 2nd's (at backstroke) and then the whole pull at lead.

You will have noticed that the step back is always at backstroke. It may help you. If you are not quite sure of your position, you know for certain that the next pull, if it is a handstroke, cannot be a backward step.

For a young band who are all just tackling Treble Bob for the first time it is not bad preliminary practice for all the bells to carry out a dodging hunt on these lines. There will be repetition of changes, but it will help the ringers to get used to a continuous dodging hunt and also to pick out the dodging places.

Kent Treble Bob is probably the easiest of all Treble Bob methods to ring. In each lead one bell remains in front, alternately leading and making 2nd's place (a whole pull in each) except when dodging with the treble. This is called the 'Slow' work and results in there being no dodging in 1-2, except with the treble; while, when the treble is in 1-2, place-making is substituted for dodging in 3-4, the bells going up making 3rd's (a whole pull) and 4th's (a whole pull) and those coming down 4th's and 3rd's. These places begin at backstroke.

There are some simple rules to guide you to this place-making. When you leave the Slow work, by dodging in 1-2 with the treble, make 3rd's and 4th's places going out; make similar places the next lead, immediately after passing the treble in 2-3.

When you pass the treble in 4-5 make 4th's and 3rd's places on the way down; make similar places the next lead, after you have dodged in 5-6 with the treble.

When the places are completed and you go down to lead, you will find yourself with the treble on the front. Dodge with the treble and begin the Slow work, which, as mentioned above, consists of a whole pull at lead and a whole pull in 2nd's alternately, until the treble comes back again.

There is no other dodging on the front, but with the exceptions in 3-4, while the treble is in 1-2, every bell dodges in every dodging place, whatever the number of bells employed, be it 6, 8, 10 or 12.

We suggest that beginners should endeavour to construct a lead or two of the method.

1 2 3 4 5 6
2 1 3 4 6 5
1 2 4 3 5 6
2 1 4 3 6 5

2 4 1 6 3 5
4 2 6 1 5 3
4 2 1 6 3 5
2 4 6 1 5 3

These figures show you how to start. You repeat the work of the second section until the treble has completed its dodge in 4-3 on the way down, and then put in a section corresponding to the first. That completed, make 6th's place when the treble leads and it should give you 142635 at the new 'lead head'; that is the row in the second lead corresponding to rounds in the first. Just try it!

SAILORS' SERVICE.

The special service held in Southampton Docks for the Merchant Navy and Fishing Fleets on Sunday, July 18th, was preceded by ringing at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Cambridge Surprise Major (1,344 changes) being rung by O. N. Curtis 1, L. Knott 2, J. W. Faithfull 3, George Williams (conductor) 4, A. J. Corrigan 5, R. Brown 6, H. Reed 7, R. Reed 8. First attempt for ringers of 1 and 2.

SOUTH DEVON TOUR.

A WEEK FULL OF INTEREST AND ENJOYMENT.

On Saturday, July 10th, a party of 18 ringers and wives left home by road for a week's ringing tour in South Devon. These included, apart from the peal ringers, Mr. and Mrs. C. Parks and Mr. C. Dean, of Croydon, Mrs. R. Collins (Sevenoaks) and Mrs. W. Melville (Winchester).

The main object being to see as much of the country as possible in the short time available, peal attempts were restricted to one each day, commencing on Monday.

Headquarters were at Newton Abbott, and ringing for Sunday morning service took place at St. Leonard's tower, where the visitors were warmly welcomed by Mr. Chris. Walker and others. The church was demolished in 1836, leaving only the tower, from which until recently curfew was rung every evening. Stedman and Cambridge were successfully brought round on the interesting light ring of eight. A stroll up the road brought the party to Wolborough, where they listened to rounds and call changes rung in the perfect Devonshire style by the local company. Sunday evening saw the tourists at Paignton, where they rang touches of Cambridge, Stedman and Grandsire for service at the Parish Church. A visit to the picturesque fishing village of Brixham concluded the day, which, although showery, had proved very enjoyable.

On Monday morning the first peal attempt was successfully concluded. This was Cambridge Major on the fine ring of eight at Totnes, one of the band being Mr. T. Myers, of Plymouth. The church is interesting for its unusual stone screen, thought to be the finest in Devon. A damp morning gave place to a fine afternoon, when the party drove to the charming village of Berry Pomeroy, and rang there a course of Superlative and touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples. The remainder of the day was spent on Goodrington sands.

On Tuesday the company set out for the stately Church of Plympton St. Mary, where a course of Cambridge and touches of London, Stedman and Grandsire were rung on the noble peal of eight. Plymouth was the next stop, and at Charles Church, which has an excellent light ring of ten, Grandsire Caters and Cambridge Royal were rung. Mr. Myers ringing his first course in the latter method preparatory to starting for a peal of it in the evening. A delightful afternoon in beautiful weather was spent on the Hoe, where the party watched with great interest the movements of seaplanes and other craft in the Sound. After a false start, the peal of Cambridge Royal at St. Andrew's was successful, and Mr. Myers is to be congratulated on his splendid performance.

THE ONLY PEAL FAILURE.

The next day an early start was made for a peal of London Surprise Major at Highweek, a mile from headquarters, but this unfortunately came to grief and the bells were then set going to a course of Bristol and touches of Stedman and Grandsire. This attempt proved to be the only failure among the peals. In the afternoon a visit was paid to Kingsteignton, which stands at the beginning of the beautiful Teign valley, and here the party rang courses of Cambridge and London and touches of Stedman and Bob Major on the musical octave. A strenuous game of football on the sands at Dawlish followed, and the day ended with a drive round some of the surrounding country before turning in to headquarters.

On Thursday the tourists journeyed to Buckfastleigh, home of Mr. Aubrey Bennett, who rang in the successful peal of Stedman Triples in his home tower and to whom they were indebted for the privilege of ringing at Buckfast Abbey. Here the ladies were at first refused admission to the belfry, but after some delay consent was given. Ringing on these grand bells consisted of Grandsire Cinques, Stedman Caters (in which two ringers on holiday from Basingstoke took part) and Bristol Major on the back eight. After admiring the Abbey, with its wonderful golden altar, and purchasing souvenirs from the monks, the party lunched and then drove to Widecombe-in-the-Moor, scene of the famous fair. Nothing could be more beautiful than this little village, with its lofty church rising from a cluster of tiny cottages and the wide sweep of Dartmoor beyond. The nice peal of six were set going to Cambridge and Kent Minor and Grandsire Doubles. Then came a drive through the incomparable beauty of the moor to Princetown, so called in honour of the Prince of Wales, afterwards George IV., because it forms part of the estates of the Duchy of Cornwall. Tea at Princetown was followed by the long drive home to Newton Abbott.

On Friday morning a peal of Cambridge Major (in which Mr. C. Walker rang the treble) was scored at Moretonhampstead, and after lunch the party went on to Bovey Tracey, where they met Dr. Taylor, of Sevenoaks, who, although the real instigator of the tour, was unable to join in it. He had just returned from Sweden and was then on his way to Cornwall. After stopping to call a touch of Stedman, he said 'Au revoir' to the party, who concluded the ringing with a course of London and a touch of Grandsire on this well-going peal of eight. The church screen, a very fine and ornate piece of workmanship, was duly admired by the visitors. The next stop was Teignmouth, where the time was occupied either by bathing or enjoying a motor boat trip along the coast. Later in the evening came a drive to the old-world village of Stoke-in-Teignhead, en route for Newton Abbott.

The last day of the tour started well by a peal of London Major being scored at Kingsteignton. Mr. Walker, who was to have rung

(Continued in next column.)

DEATH OF A RAUNDS RINGER.

FORMER STEEPLEKEEPER AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH.

The death occurred on Monday, July 19th, of Mr. Horace Copperwheat, who, for about 40 years, had been a member of the St. Peter's Society, Raunds. Deceased had been towerkeeper for a considerable number of years, and under his care the bells and belfry were always in good condition. He was not a great peal ringer, but had rung about 20 peals in most of the standard methods from Flim Bob to Superlative Surprise Major.

A man of very quiet disposition, he regularly attended branch meetings up to about two years ago, when he ceased ringing altogether. He also gave up the position of towerkeeper at the same time, his son, Mr. W. Copperwheat, taking over the duties. Deceased had never told anyone why he had resigned, but when it was learned, a few weeks before his death, that he was suffering from cancer, it was realised that it must have been through ill-health.

The funeral took place on Thursday, July 22nd, after which touches were rung half-muffled by the local band and G. H. Roberts, Ringstead. Deceased, who was 57 years of age, leaves a widow, three sons and three daughters in bereavement.

SUMMER MEETING IN DEVON.

ENTHUSIASTIC SCHOOLBOYS.

A summer meeting (the first of its kind) of the North Devon Branch of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers was held at East Buckland and proved very successful. Twelve of the probationers of the West Buckland School Guild, who ring at East Buckland, were present, and the two other towers in the branch, Combe Martin and Ilfracombe, were well represented. Visitors, including the president of the Guild (the Rev. E. V. Cox) and the treasurer (Mr. T. G. Bartlett), came from Milverton, Calverleigh, Bampton, Bramford Speke, Upton Pyne, Exeter and Ide, making a total attendance of 42.

Ringing began at 2.30 and continued in the four standard methods until evensong at 4.30. After tea many of the company tried the new ring of six in the neighbouring church at Charies.

One most notable feature of the meeting was the eagerness of the more experienced ringers to help the boys of the School Guild, who took part in Grandsire, Stedman and Kent Treble Bob. Ringing in both towers ceased at 7.30, for the boys had to be back in school, and many of the visitors had 30 or 40 miles to go home.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

DEVIZES BRANCH HOLDS SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT MELKSHAM.

The half-yearly meeting of Devizes Branch of the Salisbury Guild was held at Melksham on July 3rd. The bells, an excellent ring of eight by Taylor and Co., were made good use of throughout the afternoon and evening. The service was conducted by the Vicar (Rev. Canon F. H. Sangster), whose address was greatly appreciated. The organ being out of commission, Mr. A. T. Weeks accompanied the singing with the piano. Tea, which had been prepared by lady members of the branch, was held in the Parish Room and 40 sat down. The Vicar, who is an hon. member of the Guild, having to leave early for another engagement, offered the members a hearty welcome.

Mr. E. F. White presided at the meeting which followed. He mentioned ringers who were present from outside the Guild area from Cirencester, Overton, Hants, and Chippenham, and hoped they would have a happy time.

Mr. K. C. Davis, of Blagdon, was elected a life ringing member of the Guild.

Rowds was decided upon for the next meeting, with Upavon (provisionally) for September and Westbury for the quarterly meeting in October.

Votes of thanks were passed to those who had contributed to the success of the meeting. Mr. Garrett (Overton, Hants) thanked all for the excellent welcome the visitors had received, and this was endorsed by Mr. F. J. Lewis, of Cirencester.

Ringing was then continued, methods being rung up to Cambridge Surprise Major. The following towers were represented: Bishop's Cannings, Bratton, Chippenham, Cirencester, Devizes (St. John's and St. Mary's), Bradford (Holy Trinity), Market Lavington, Melksham, North Bradley, Rowde, Southbroom, Trowbridge, Overton, Frome, Westbury and Warminster. Altogether about 56 members attended at the tower for ringing, and the meeting proved a most successful and enjoyable one.

(Continued from previous column.)

the treble to this peal, was prevented by business from doing so. In the afternoon the party split up, some going to Slapton Sands for bathing and others to Salcombe, where they paid a visit to the Herzogin Cecilie, the famous windjammer that went ashore last year and is now to be broken up.

On Sunday an early start was made for home, after a week packed full of interest and enjoyment, no small part of which was due to local gentlemen who welcomed and helped the visitors at the various stopping places. Mr. F. E. Collins, who is fully conversant with this part of the country and arranged all the ringing and excursions, must be heartily congratulated on the success which has crowned his efforts.

I. R. H.

LADIES' GUILD.**CENTRAL DISTRICT ELECT OFFICERS.**

The annual meeting of the Central District was held at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, London, about 35 people attending. Little ringing took place during the afternoon owing to the heat, and tea was welcomed at the early hour of 4.30 at the Express Dairy.

A business meeting afterwards took place, Mrs. R. Deal presiding. Seven new members were elected, viz., Miss Hooker and Mrs. Tanner, both of Throwley, Kent; Miss B. Colgate, Miss D. Corke, Mrs. R. Collins, Miss M. Crouch and Miss O. Matthews, all of Sevenoaks, Kent.

The following officers were re-elected: Vice-president, Mrs. R. Deal; hon. secretary, Mrs. G. H. Cross; assistant hon. secretary, Miss K. Bradford.

The committee was chosen as follows: Mrs. A. D. Barker, Mrs. C. H. Kippen, Mrs. F. M. Mitchell (re-elected) and Mrs. Massey, elected to fill the vacancy left by Miss K. Bradford becoming assistant secretary.

It was announced that the arrangements had been made for a meeting to be held at Great Baddow, Essex, on September 4th, following the suggestion made at the Beddington meeting. Isleworth was proposed as the place of the November meeting, the date to be the 13th. Mrs. Fletcher (general hon. secretary) drew the attention of members to the expenses incurred through the number of notices sent out during the past year to members, and it was decided that only those members who specially requested it should have the notices sent to them.

Mrs. Fletcher said that up to the present applications for about 40 tickets for the silver jubilee dinner had been made. Early application was desirable by those who did not want to be disappointed.

After a vote of thanks had been accorded to the Vicar for the use of the bells and to Mr. R. Geare for making all the necessary arrangements, a move was made to the belfry by all but the Dinner Committee, but great disappointment was felt when, on arrival, a request came through to the vergers that no further ringing should take place, as there was serious illness in the vicinity of the church.

PROGRESS OF NORTHERN DISTRICT.

All the officers and committee of the Northern District have been re-elected as before, and one new member, Miss Mary Richardson, of St. Mary's, Nottingham, was elected.

The secretaries' reports and accounts were read and passed and pleasure expressed at the progress made by the district during the past year in spite of the difficulties that had to be contended with.

(Continued in next column.)

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**CANTERBURY DISTRICT MEETING.**

The summer meeting of the Canterbury District of the Kent County Association was held at Ash on Saturday, July 10th, when 30 members attended, representing Canterbury (four towers), Wickhambreaux, Eythorne, Dover, Ospringe, Boughton, together with the local band.

Tea in a nearby hostelry was presided over by the Rev. Mahon, but as he was prevented from taking the chair at the subsequent business meeting his place was filled by Mr. H. Whitehead (Dover).

Two new members were elected, and Quex Park was chosen as the venue for the next meeting, the provisional date being fixed for August 28th.

After handbells in the garden a return was made to the tower and further ringing took place until 8.30 p.m., rounds, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major and Kent Treble Bob being rung.

The thanks of the members were expressed to the Vicar of Ash (the Rev. C. McGraw) for the use of the bells, to the Rev. W. Mahon for conducting the service and his address, to Mr. W. E. Pitman for his services at the organ, and to Mr. W. C. E. Goldup for making the local arrangements.

A FIVE-METHOD QUARTER-PEAL.

At Watford, Herts, on Sunday, July 11th, for evening service at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Spliced Surprise Major in five methods, viz., Superlative, Cambridge, Bristol, London and Watford (1,280 changes): W. Norris 1, W. G. Paul 2, A. W. Dix 3, H. L. Long 4, S. H. Hoare 5, R. G. Bell 6, G. E. Howchin 7, H. G. Cashmore (conductor) 8. First quarter-peal in five methods on the bells. It was rung by the local band.

(Continued from previous column.)

Eleven new members had been elected during the past year, practically a new member each month, so that it was felt the district was progressing and was encouraged to go forward.

Eleven members were present at the meeting, held at St. Mary's, Nottingham, and apologies for absence, owing to distance, were received from four, while three were prevented from attendance through sickness. Mrs. Kelly (joint secretary) had to stay at home at the last minute through the illness of her husband. The members expressed regret and wished all a speedy recovery.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

A useful collection of touches of Stedman Caters and Cinques, compiled from various sources by Mr. W. A. Cave, has just been printed and will be welcomed by conductors on ten and twelve bells. Mr. Cave will send a copy free on receipt of a stamped addressed envelope, forwarded to him at 29, Victoria Street, Bristol. His kindness will be appreciated.

The peal rung at Garveston (not Garvestone) on Saturday, July 24th, was rung under the auspices of the Norwich Diocesan Association, a fact which was omitted from the particulars sent to us regarding the performance.

A correspondent asks what is the best thing to use on tender hands, to keep them from blistering when ringing. Perhaps some of our readers, who have suffered in this way, can offer suggestions.

STEEL BARS FOR BELLS.

A SUBSTITUTE SUGGESTED SIXTY YEARS AGO.

'At a time when efforts are being made in different parts of the country to raise peals of church bells, a suggestion on the subject in 'The Choir' is opportune. Dr. Ferdinand Rables, of Malvern House, South Hackney, writes suggesting the use of steel bars as a substitute for cast bells. They are, he says, introduced in the United States and Germany with great success, and would form a new branch of industry should the manufacture of them be taken up in this country. There is not only a large area for them in England, but a great demand may be expected from the flourishing colonies of Canada, Australia, New Zealand and India as soon as they are known in those regions. The following outlines will explain their particular merits, combined with cheapness of production: Steel bars produce a very pure, distinct and particularly melodious sound, with many other great advantages over church bells of moderate size. The power of a clear and sonorous sound can be obtained equally well, if not superior, to that cast from bell-metal or steel. Their weight will be light in comparison to the present ponderous productions. They will not burden the steeple so much, and consequently, will give more scope for architectural design, and have the merit of far sounding. Their winding and hanging up will not be so difficult, dangerous and expensive. They are not liable to crack, as is often the occurrence with bells, and, therefore, adapted for use in any climate. By a simple and mechanical contrivance they are more easily set in motion. The cost, compared with manufactured cast bells, is so trivial that small churches and chapels, and especially mission stations abroad, will be enabled to secure a peal. Three or four steel bars, forming a peal whose weight would not exceed 100lb., could be manufactured for £11 or £12, whereas only three cast bells of the same power would at least amount to £50 or £60.'

This paragraph appeared in 'Church Bells' of July 12th, 1873, and to it was attached the following comment: We insert the above, which has been kindly sent to us as a cutting from some newspaper, for the amusement and instruction of our readers. If the only object be to make a noise for calling people to church, or for occasions of rejoicing, no doubt steel bars would answer well enough; so would a lot of old frying pans; but neither one nor the other would be bells; therefore it is vanity to talk of such substitutes.

A MEETING AT SCARBOROUGH.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I had a most interesting experience recently whilst on my holidays at Scarborough. At the boarding house where I was staying the visitors are accommodated at various small tables in the dining room, and at my first meal on Saturday evening, my wife and I were introduced to our table companions, a lady and gentleman from Bletchley and two other young people from the North. We talked, as people do, of everything under the sun, and so ended Saturday.

Sunday morning came, with breakfast at 9 o'clock. I kept my eye on the time, as I intended to be in the Parish Church belfry at 9.45 a.m.

I noticed that the gentleman from Bletchley also seemed to rush breakfast and that he left the house before me, presumably for a sharp walk along the front.

Imagine my surprise when, on entering the belfry, the first man I saw was my table companion, just about to take off his coat for a ring—Mr. Sears, of Bletchley, well known in ringing circles, but until then known to me by name only. I don't know which of us was the more surprised when we faced each other in the belfry.

Needless to say, we had many interesting talks during the holiday, and they were not all about the weather.

R. D. LANGFORD.

WEDDING BELLS.

A quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung at St. James' Church, Devizes, on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. R. T. Kemp and Miss R. L. Cannon on July 28th: R. W. Bridges 1, A. T. Weeks 2, J. S. Weeks (conductor) 3, T. Weeks 4, G. Winter 5, D. Cleverley 6. All are Sunday service ringers at this church with the exception of the ringer of the 5th.

A YORKSHIRE RINGING COMPETITION

FREIZELAND COMPANY WIN HALIFAX ASSOCIATION'S SIX-BELL CONTEST.

The annual meeting and six-bell contest was held at Almondbury on Saturday. Seven teams had entered the competition to ring 600 changes with a plain course for practice. The draw for the order of ringing was as follows: 1 Holmfirth, 2 Sandal, 3 Freizeland, 4 Liversedge, 5 Meltham, 6 New Mill, 7 Shelley. All the teams rang Oxford except Meltham, who rang Kent.



THE FRIEZELAND RINGERS, WINNERS OF THE CONTEST.

Left to right: Fred Gartside, Leslie Dawson, Harry Nutt, Wilfred Bennett, John E. Fielding, Joseph Bennett.

Tea was served in the Parochial Hall, to which about 50 sat down, and, after listening to some further excellent ringing, all again adjourned to the Parochial Hall for the meeting.

The balance sheet for 1936-7 was presented and adopted, and it was decided to hold the next committee meeting at Shelley on September 18th.

The officers were re-elected for the ensuing year.

After the usual vote of thanks to the clergy, churchwardens and local ringers, the judge (Mr. H. H. Smith) announced his decision as follows:—

Holmfirth: 17 faults, 5 penalty, total 22.

Sandal: 107 faults, total 107.

Freizeland: 11 faults, 5 penalty, total 16.

Liversedge: 20 faults, 5 penalty, total 20.

Meltham: 45 faults, total 45.

New Mill: 52 faults, 5 penalty, total 57.

Shelley: 137 faults, total 137.

Freizeland company were, therefore, declared winners and each ringer received a clock. Holmfirth ringers, who were second, each received a pair of 'Nell Gwyn' candlesticks.

The following new members were elected: Mr. R. Armitage, Mr. S. Manchester and Miss M. Byrom. Miss Byrom is believed to be the first lady member of the Halifax Association.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

PORTSMOUTH DISTRICT.

A quarterly meeting of the Portsmouth District was held at Curdridge on Saturday, July 24th, members attending from Alversloke, Bishop's Waltham, Curdridge, North Stoneham, Hedge End, Portsmouth (Cathedral and St. Mary's), Swanmore and Wickham.

The Guild service was conducted by the Vicar of Curdridge (the Rev. A. H. Starey). An excellent tea was served in the Reading Room, after which the Master of the association (Mr. G. Williams) presided over the business meeting in the absence of the Vicar.

Messrs. E. F. Hancock and R. Burnett, of the Cathedral and St. Mary's, Portsmouth, respectively, were elected members of the Guild. The election of Mr. E. J. Charman, prior to a peal attempt, was also confirmed.

Bishop's Waltham and Hambledon were both proposed for the next meeting, the former being selected, the date to be October 16th.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and for officiating at the service. Votes of thanks were also accorded to the organist (Mr. H. V. Harris) and the lady who provided the excellent tea.

The sum of 12s. 6d. was collected for the Soberton Bell Fund, and the members returned to the tower for further ringing, which ranged from Grandsire and Stedman Triples to London and Bristol Surprise Major.

ANOTHER RING OF SIX FOR WARWICKSHIRE.

NEW BELLS ADDED AT CHURCH LAWFORD.

The Church of St. Peter, Church Lawford, Warwickshire, until recently possessed only four bells. By the generosity of a friend of the Rector, these have been rehung in a new iron frame with all new fittings, the old treble recast and two new trebles added, making a very musical ring of six in the key of B flat, with a tenor of 7 cwt. 3 qr. 5 lb.

The bells were dedicated on Saturday, July 24th, by the Bishop of Coventry, who was accompanied by the Rev. W. H. Trickett (Rector), the Rev. T. N. R. Prentice, Vicar of Newbold-on-Avon, and Canon Ashton. The dedication took place in the tower, and, following the blessing, the bells were rung by six members of the Warwickshire Guild and also again immediately after the service. Tea was then partaken of at the Parish Room, a bountiful spread having been generously provided by the ladies of the Church Council, to whom the best thanks of the ringers are due.

A large number of ringers were present, including Mr. R. F. Deal, of London, and the methods rung during the evening ranged from Grandsire Doubles to London Surprise Minor.

On the following day for morning service, 720 of Bob Minor was rung: W. Vann 1, B. Beebee 2, C. Rayson 3, J. B. Fenton 4, C. H. Webb 5, J. H. White (conductor) 6.

The restoration has been carried out by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, and is another excellent example of their work. Mr. J. P. Fidler represented the firm.

COLLEGE YOUTHS' TERCENTENARY.

SOCIETY'S INTERESTING MEMENTO.

Over 300 tickets for the tercentenary dinner of the Ancient Society of College Youths on November 6th next have been bespoken. As the company is limited by the available accommodation to 400, those who wish to be present and have not already applied for tickets should do so at once.

A souvenir of the event is being issued by the society to all those who purchase tickets. It is a colotype reproduction of the original ornate invitation issued by the society to their guests in the early eighteenth century. Bow, St. Bride's and St. Saviour's (now Southwark Cathedral) churches are illustrated upon it.

The only alteration made has been to adapt the original wording to the present occasion, and the souvenir forms a very interesting memento of the auspicious event.

Only two copies of the original invitation are known to exist, one in the British Museum and the other in the Guildhall Library, London.

Lord Brereton, one of the founders of the College Youths and first Master, died and was buried at Brereton in Cheshire. Last Saturday in honour of the tercentenary a peal of Doubles was rung there by Cheshire members of the society through the kindness of the Rector (Canon H. H. Pitts), who generously provided refreshments for the ringers after the peal.

RINGING AND CRICKET AT TUNSTALL.

ENJOYABLE KENT MEETING.

The members of the Rochester District of the Kent County Association, as usual for the summer meeting, arranged a visit to the country and a very successful gathering took place at Tunstall on Saturday, July 24th. Representatives were present from Northfleet, Frindsbury, Rochester, Hoo, Chatham, Gillingham, Rainham, Bobbing, Queenborough and Sittingbourne, together with visitors from the Canterbury district and the local company in full force.

A cricket match was arranged in conjunction with the ringing, and this turned out to be a very 'Spicy' affair, although the 'Luck' appeared to be against the home side. The arrival of the district secretary to strengthen the batting of the home team was anxiously awaited, but when the time came, as a chip basket was not available for protection, the secretary deemed it wise not to rely on pads only and refused to be slaughtered. The smoking of pipes on such occasions should be debarred, and it is rumoured that a further sub-committee is foreshadowed to deal with this point with regard to the association's rules. It is also considered that the local cricket captain should be reprimanded by his belfry captain for allowing the visitors to bat first and so handicap the home side owing to the quick growth of the grass.

The association's Guild service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. A. A. Midwinter, an honorary member of the association, and the collection for the Benevolent Fund of the association amounted to £1.

The ringers with their wives and friends after the service adjourned to the Parish Hall, where they were right royally entertained to tea by the generosity of the Rector, Mr. Churchwarden Wills, also an honorary member, being present to support the Rector and encourage the ringers. A very special assortment of 'cherries from heaven' arrived, as is usual, at Tunstall.

The business meeting was quite formal, the only important item being the venue of the annual district meeting, which it was decided to hold at Rochester.

Very hearty votes of thanks were passed to the Rector for taking the service and for his kind generosity, to Mr. Wills for his support, Mrs. Spice for her help at the organ, and all the ladies who so graciously waited upon the ringers.

RINGERS TOUR THE COUNTRYSIDE. MANY EXCURSIONS DESCRIBED.

Excursions in these days take ringers farther and farther afield, and on these 'busmen's holidays' the countryside is scoured for likely and unlikely places to ring. A large number of outings have taken place in recent weeks and here are a few reports sent in to us by correspondents who have participated in the trips.

CONTRASTS IN ESSEX.

HOW KELVEDON RINGERS WERE RECEIVED.

The ringers of St. Mary's Church, Kelvedon, had a thoroughly enjoyable half-day's outing on Saturday, July 17th. The first call was at Nayland, and then on to Stoke-by-Nayland. After ringing this heavy peal with some success, the company adjourned to the local inn for tea, and subsequently proceeded through the beautiful Constable country to Elgham and Stratford St. Mary. A successful day's ringing was brought to a close at the picturesque little church at Langham.

Touques were rung on all the peals mentioned, and the thanks of the company are extended to the incumbents of the churches concerned, and to those gentlemen who were kind enough to meet the visitors at the churches and who helped to make the trip so successful.

The outing was in no way marred by the ultra modern young housewife, who burst into one of the churches, hatless and stockingless, and informed the company that they had awakened her baby, that she couldn't hear the wireless for the bells and she was really very tired of bellringers. Rather was the outing made more enjoyable by the lady who met the company as they emerged from the same church, and who was really delighted that the bells had been rung by a visiting company. There certainly are extremes among the womenfolk, even in rural Essex, but luckily for bellringers the latter type prevails.

DISS RINGERS IN THE 'SHIRES' AGIAN.

A 221 MILES' TRIP.

Leaving Diss at 6.30 a.m. on Saturday, July 17th, in ideal weather, the St. Mary the Virgin Society set out for their annual outing. At Cambridge Mr. Tom Chevery (well known in the Diss District) joined the party and was of great assistance as guide for the rest of the day. On arrival at St. Neot's, touches of various methods were rung on the fine peal at the Parish Church. Then on to Finedon, where Mr. Tom Hensler was waiting to welcome the party, who, after ringing on the bells of the Parish Church, went to 'Tom's' hotel, the Prince of Wales, and partook of an excellent lunch. The next call was at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, Northampton. On the homeward journey the ten-bell tower of St. Paul's Church, Bedford, was visited, and touches of Stedman and Grandsire Caters and Kent Treble Bob Royal were rung. After tea in Bedford, the party made for Cambridge and rang touches of Stedman Caters on the back ten at Great St. Mary's Church. A social hour was then spent at the Ringers' College, where good-bye was said to Tom Chevery. At Bury St. Edmunds, at 11 p.m., 'Sam' smelt fish and chips and demanded that the bus should be stopped. After a good supper 'Sam' returned to his back seat, where he had been guarding certain 'luggage' during the day. Diss was reached at midnight after a journey of 221 miles in 17½ hours. The ringers would like, through 'The Ringing World,' to thank all incumbents for the use of the bells and the ringers who assisted them, especially Mr. Tom Chevery.

A. G. H.

NORTH WEALD RINGERS GROW AMBITIOUS.

AND GO ON A RINGING TOUR.

The St. Andrew's North Weald, Guild had their first ringing tour on July 10th. Hitherto they have had a seaside outing with little or no ringing. It should be explained that the Guild is young as yet and only struggling with method ringing, but, having mastered Grandsire Doubles, Bob Doubles and Bob Minor, they grew ambitious. The towers of Bedford, Cambridge and Huntingdon were chosen for the excursion, and the selection of suitable six-bell towers and other details of the tour were settled after consultation with Miss Kitty Willers. The Guild are very grateful for her advice. As a consequence a very enjoyable and interesting tour was arranged, i.e., Elston (Bedford), Eynesbury, Hemmingford Grey, Swavesey, Histon, St. Benedict's, Cambridge, and Trumpington. Elston, reached at 10.30 a.m., has a very nice old church and tower. The bells went well, and John Bunyan himself did not manage his bell better than those who rang it. Eynesbury came next, but of this place a sad tale is to be told. There is a fine church and tower, but the bells are very awkward. Three ropes are close together in the doorway, and they run the wrong way round! This caught the boys guessing and only Grandsire Doubles was rung successfully. Very little time was spent here. The ringers retreated in haste and made their way to Hemmingford Grey, where everything went well. Swavesey was reached just an hour behind schedule, but here the Guild would have liked to stay the rest of the day. A lovely church with lovely bells. The three 120's Grandsire Doubles and Bob Doubles and 360 Bob Minor were perfect. At Histon a fete in the grounds adjoining the church curtailed the ringing, but the two handbell ringers of the

party went into the grounds and gave a few tunes. Then came Cambridge and St. Benedict's. All were anxious to visit Stedman's church, but whether it was nerves, because the church was half full with sightseers, or because it had been impressed upon them that here must be good ringing, no one knows, but, alas! the only 720 (Bob Minor) arranged for the day failed. A touch of 120 was, however, brought round.

A stay of ¾ hours was made in Cambridge, where a splendid meal tea was enjoyed. The last tower, at 7.40 p.m., was Trumpington, where Miss Willers was present to meet the visitors, but the ringers did not show to advantage. By this time they were tired. The party reached home at 11 p.m., having thoroughly enjoyed themselves.

ANOTHER BUSMAN'S HOLIDAY.

AN ADVENTURE AT PERSHORE.

On Saturday afternoon, July 17th, the ringers of St. Ambrose's, Bristol, and Mangotsfield combined for their annual outing, when they made an excursion into Worcestershire. They journeyed by train to Cheltenham, where two luxurious motor-coaches were waiting to convey them to Evesham (via Cleve Hill, Winchcomb and Broadway). The view from the Cotswold Hills en route was greatly admired.

On arrival at Evesham the party were met by Mr. Jack Thomas and his wife, and all thoroughly enjoyed tea at the Avon Hotel. Ringing was indulged in at the bell tower, Grandsire and Stedman Caters being thoroughly enjoyed, and there was also round ringing for the learners.

Saying 'good-bye' to Evesham at 7.15 p.m., the party went on to Pershore, where at the Abbey they climbed up to the ringing chamber, which is a square cage, supported on arched timbers and surrounded by iron railings and wire netting, about 100ft. above the west end of the nave. It is approached by an ordinary stairway at the end of the south transept, thence over the top of the transept into two galleries which surround the inside of the tower. These are connected by short stairways, and one has to confine oneself into as small a space as possible to get round the galleries. From here the ringing cage is reached by a small spiral metal stairway, and you say 'thank you' when you get there. Ringing here is a 'a man's job,' but the ladies were not to be deterred.

One of the party on coming down lost himself in one of the galleries, which he kept going round, failing to find the exit door. It caused much amusement to the remainder of the party to hear him calling out repeatedly, 'Mother, where are you?' meaning, of course, his wife, who was in the other gallery.

The return to Cheltenham was made in time to catch a train at 10.20 p.m. Supper was served on the train and Mangotsfield was reached about 11.30 p.m. A motor-coach awaited the St. Ambrose party at Mangotsfield to complete the journey, and everyone was put down at their own homes by midnight after a very enjoyable half-day's outing, said to be 'the best yet.' Thanks are accorded to the incumbents for the use of their bells and the local ringers for having everything in readiness. Special thanks are due to the L.M. and S. Railway Co. for the excellent facilities afforded to the party. F. S.

A LONG DAY FROM GREAT TEY.

A beautiful day favoured the ringers of St. Barnabas' Church, Great Tey, Essex, when they had their annual outing on July 14th. The Vicar and two churchwardens accompanied them. The party, numbering 32, left the village at 7.30 a.m., their first halt being at St. Mary's, Woodford, where they were met by Mr. Marss. The next stop was at Christ Church, Ealing, where they were received by Mr. J. A. Trollope, and afterwards they went to St. Margaret's, Uxbridge, where they were met by Miss Bedford. At each place they enjoyed some very nice ringing. After lunch they visited Windsor Castle, and also rang at St. John's Church, where they were met by Mr. Smith. On the way home they called at St. Andrew's, Hornchurch, but had to leave out St. Margaret's, Barking, as time would not permit stopping, much to the disappointment of the ringers. At Hornchurch they were met by Mr. Dale. Home was reached at 11.15 p.m. after a most enjoyable day. The ringing included Grandsire Triples, Bob Major and Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Major. The ringers, through 'The Ringing World,' thank all steepkeepers or those in charge, whose kindness greatly added to the day's enjoyment.

AN OUTING IN SUSSEX.

Christ Church, Southgate, band visited Sussex for their annual outing. Leaving about 8 a.m. and travelling by coach, they went first to Cuckfield, where, at Holy Trinity Church, they rang Stedman Triples, London Surprise and Spliced London, Bristol, Cambridge and Superlative. The journey was continued to St. Nicholas', Brighton, where they were met by Mr. F. Bennett and their old friend Mr. W. Pickworth. Stedman Triples and Caters and Cambridge Surprise Royal were rung on this good going peal of ten.

After dinner the rest of the afternoon was spent by various members in and on the sea. At 4.30 they rejoined the coach and travelled through Lewes and Uckfield to Fairwarp, where they had tea, and, on the new peal of bells, rang some excellent Stedman Triples, Cambridge Surprise and Spliced Surprise, also a course of Grandsire Triples with one of the local band on the treble. A very pretty ride through Ashdown Forest and on through Godstone and the Caterham Valley eventually brought the party back to Southgate about 10.45, after a most enjoyable day. S. W.

INTERESTING CHURCHES.

WANSTEAD RINGERS IN KENT AND SUSSEX.

A tour in Kent and Sussex on Saturday, July 10th, constituted the outing of the Wanstead ringers, augmented by ringing friends from Woodford, Leytonstone, Hornchurch and Witham, and they visited some of the most interesting parts of these two counties.

The first halt was made at Charing, a charming and compact village situated on the chalky slope of the North Downs. The party was met at the Church of SS. Peter and Paul by the veteran ringer, Mr. Good, and touches of Cambridge Surprise, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob were rung on a tuneful six, tenor 13½ cwt. The present church, dating back to the 13th century, stands on the ground given by King Ethelred to St. Augustine, who, tradition has it, erected a mission church on the site. Much of the interior of the original 13th century building was destroyed by fire in August, 1590, through, it is said, the careless act of a local farmer, whose shot at a pigeon perched on the roof fired the belfry timbers, causing an outburst during the night. The original bells melted away, and until 1878 only one bell, recast from the molten metal, summoned the people to worship. The windows, several of which depict biblical incidents in skilful colouring, reveal in form fine Plantagenet workmanship. A wooden sundial above the south porch bears the following inscription: 'Life's but a shadow. Redeem the Time. Tempus fugit.'

Just before noon Hythe was reached and a happy 45 minutes was spent in the Parish Church of St. Leonard. Here Mr. Fright welcomed the ringers, and well-struck touches of Kent, Double Norwich and Plain Bob Major were rung on a splendid peal of eight, tenor 19 cwt. The outstanding feature of a very interesting edifice is the magnificent Gothic chancel, raised high above the nave level, giving it a cathedral-like appearance. The parvise over the 13th century south porch served as the Council Chamber up to 1794. The ancient church registers, dating back to 1566, are kept in an ancient iron chest, said to have been taken from one of the Spanish Armada vessels. The crypt contains a great number of human thigh bones and skulls, remains of inhabitants who lived between 1200 and 1450 A.D.

A run across Romney Marsh brought the ringers to St. Nicholas', New Romney, where Mr. Humphrey greeted the party. Touches of Kent, Stedman and Double Norwich were rung on a well-sounding eight, tenor 18 cwt., which grace a very interesting late Norman tower divided into five distinct stages of architecture, surmounted with four turrets between which may be seen the base of a one-time spire. More excellent work is seen in the nave pillars, whilst the spacious chancel belongs to the 14th century. Squints are in the walls which separate the side chapels from the high altar. A large monument, 'The Stappenny Tomb,' in the south chapel, is associated with local government, for it was the place where the Mayor and councillors of the old Cinque Port held their elections and meetings.

A WOODEN BELFRY.

Lunch was well served at Pope's Hotel overlooking the sea. Then followed a visit to St. Augustine's, Brookland, a most attractive church built in the 15th century, famous for its wooden belfry detached from the church. Various legends are told of this strange erection, octagonal in shape, resembling a mighty extinguisher, divided into three sections. Much to the joy of the villagers the bells were set going, and with the aid of candles a course of Bob Doubles was rung. The 3rd bell was cast by Henry Jordan (1442-1468), the others being the work of John Hodson, 1685.

Battle was the next objective and was reached via Rye and Hastings. Picturesque scenes were plentiful, with the South Downs making a charming background. Messrs. W. Franks and J. Sinden gave a genial welcome to the party at St. Mary's, where touches of Double Norwich, Stedman and Plain Bob were rung on a tuneful eight, tenor 23½ cwt. No little skill was needed to keep the tenor going! Time was too limited to view the many interesting features of a beautiful building with fine Norman and Early English work, especially the Norman font.

The last stopping place was Chiddingfold, reached after an intensive survey of signposts. A refreshing tea at the Six Bells was thoroughly enjoyed, and before rising Messrs. H. Barratt and J. Chalk, on behalf of non-ringers and ringers respectively, thanked Mr. J. Crampion for organising such a delightful tour. Messrs. W. Butler (Witham) and R. Smith (Leytonstone) expressed their gratitude at having been included in the party. Owing to the critical condition of the proprietor, the bells of the church close by were not rung. The Rector, the Rev. H. Overs, kindly conducted the party round the church, one that does not bear a name. Much of the work dates back to the 13th and 14th centuries. An imposing alabaster monument, 18ft. by 12ft., stands to the memory of Sir John Jefferay, Chancellor to Queen Elizabeth. Two chairs of Charles II.'s reign stand near the altar. The 15th century tower has a stone spire 150ft. high, one of four such spires in the county.

At eight o'clock the homeward journey began via Tunbridge Wells and Sevenoaks. All will hold dear the memories of such a joyous day! Sincere thanks are offered to the incumbents for the use of the bells and to the ringers who extended such genial welcomes to the party.

WEDDING BELLS AT STOCKPORT.

At St. George's Church, Stockport, on Saturday, June 5th, for the wedding of Mr. J. J. Battersby's daughter, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: C. Harris 1, G. L. Burgess 2, F. Twigg 3, E. Jackson 4, H. Meakin 5, A. F. Bailey 6, H. Ashton (conductor) 7, P. Laffin 8.

A VISIT TO LONDON TOWERS.

BRAINTREE RINGERS TRY CITY BELLS.

On July 10th members of St. Michael's Guild, Braintree, with a few friends, held their annual outing and made a trip to London. The journey through the fine scenery of Epping Forest brought the party to the first stop, Loughton, where Mr. Rann had made the arrangements, then on to Chigwell Row, which, at the last moment, through the courtesy of Canon Thomson, was substituted for Woodford, where the Vicar had suffered a great bereavement. The next stop was at Leytonstone to ring on the William Pye memorial bells, and Mr. E. W. Pye welcomed the visitors. After lunch they went on to St. James', Clerkenwell, where Mr. A. W. Coles and Mr. J. Bennett were waiting, and afterwards to St. Andrew's, Holborn, where Mr. J. Hawkins had everything in readiness and Mr. Potheary also welcomed the party. The tower won here. At St. Lawrence Jewry, Mr. A. A. Hughes welcomed the Guild, and Mr. G. Debenham, with Mr. W. Martin, from the county of broad acres, joined in the ringing. After tea St. Mary's, Lambeth, was visited, Mr. Hardy being in charge, and a good day's ringing was concluded with courses of Bob Major, Cambridge, Superlative, Bristol and London. After an hour's run in the city the party left about 9 o'clock and reached Braintree about midnight.

The Guild took this opportunity of thanking the respective incumbents for the use of their bells and also the friends mentioned and others who assisted in an enjoyable and successful outing.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH RINGERS' EXCURSION.

RIVER TRIP INCLUDED IN TOUR.

Irthlingborough ringers and their friends are once more very indebted to their brother ringers and the clergy for a very successful outing, held on July 10th, when four good peals of bells were sampled and glorious scenery enjoyed. Bicester was first visited, and Mr. T. Clifton conducted the party to the ringing chamber of the fine Parish Church. After enjoying some good ringing, a move was made to Henley-on-Thames, via Oxford. Luncheon was partaken of at the Armistice Cafe, and afterwards Mr. W. Appleby met the party. After looking round the church, a lovely view of the Thames was obtained from the tower. The fine peal of bells (tenor approximately 21 cwt.) were set going to Superlative, Stedman Triples and Kent Treble Bob.

The tit-bit of the day was the journey by river steamer from Henley to Great Marlow. The trees and riverside gardens were at their best, and ringers are recommended to make a note of this for some future outing. The use of Marlow bells could not be obtained, but tea was enjoyed at the Bridge Restaurant. Taking to the road again, a short ride brought the party to High Wycombe, just in time to get the bells up and ring one course of Stedman Triples for six o'clock service. After service Stedman Caters were rung with the help of Mr. R. Coles and members of the local band. The tenor is about 31 cwt. and the music of the ten bells was very much enjoyed by all.

On resuming the journey, the British Film Studios were passed, and a view of some 'Indian' scenes, etc., showed how easily the public are deluded by the pictures made. Rickmansworth was the last call for ringing, and the visitors were met by Mr. F. W. Elliott. Stedman Caters, Superlative and rounds were rung, after which the bells were lowered in peal. The ringers wish to thank all those friends who kindly helped in any way to make the day so very enjoyable. A. B.

A DAY IN WORCESTERSHIRE.

A VISIT TO THE TWELVES AND TENS.

The ringers of St. Laurence's, Reading, had their 'busman's holiday' in Worcestershire. Meeting at the tower at 6.30 a.m., a good run was made to Evesham, where the fine ten were rung for a short hour. Then to Pershore Abbey, where one or two of the band thought the floor unsafe and suffered from something like mal-de-mer. All Saints', Worcester, where more Stedman Caters were rung, brought dinner time, and a good meal was much enjoyed. Then the fine peal of 12 at the Cathedral was sampled, Grandsire Cinques and Stedman being brought home. Kidderminster twelve was the next item, and the weight and 'go' suited the visitors very nicely, for it was very like ringing at home. Bromsgrove, with its old peal of ten and old-world streets, was much enjoyed, as was also a good tea. A 20 miles run to Banbury took the party back into their own diocese, and the fine little ten there were much enjoyed by all, Stedman Caters and Bob Royal going well. A social hour with the Banbury friends brought starting time, and Reading was safely reached at 10.30 p.m., everyone having had a most happy day. Will all those who did so much in making arrangements and who met and welcomed the visitors at all the places accept the heartfelt thanks of the St. Laurence's ringers? R. T. H.

LAVENHAM RINGERS IN ESSEX.

The Lavenham Society held their annual outing on Saturday, July 24th, when, travelling by motor-coach, they visited the following churches: St. Andrew's, Halstead; St. Andrew's, Earls Colne; St. Peter's, Colchester; All Saints', Feering; St. Peter-ad-Vincula, Coggeshall; and St. Barnabas', Great Tey. Luncheon was served at the Cherry Tree Inn, Brightlingsea, and this was followed by tunes and changes on the handbells.

(Continued on next page.)

(Continued from page 523.)

The chief toast was 'Arthur Symonds, the G.O.M. of the society,' who suitably responded.

Methods rung during the day were Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob, Double Norwich, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Cambridge and Superlative Surprise. The ringers wish to thank the incumbents of the various churches, the friends who met them, and all who helped to make the outing a big success.

IN NORTH NORTHUMBERLAND.

PENHAM RINGERS' TREK.

Holiday influences were largely responsible for the ringers of SS. James and Basil, Penham, Northumberland, deserting their own church and accepting the invitation of the Vicar of Embleton to ring for services at his church on Sunday, July 11th. Reaching this small seaside village shortly after 9.30 a.m., the five ringers, who travelled by car, were met by Mr. D. Reay, who was camping nearby.

Soon the light(?) peal of six (11 cwt.) were re-echoing through the village, and several visitors were tempted into the belfry to investigate the mysteries of change ringing and the ringers themselves turning into grease spots. In this way a touch of 960 changes of Minor, consisting of 240 Cambridge Surprise, 360 Kent Treble Bob and 360 Plain Bob was brought round.

The afternoon saw a further trek north to Bamburgh, where permission to ring the fine peal of eight (14 cwt.) was given. Double Court, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob were the methods rung in this beautifully kept belfry.

In the evening a return was made to Embleton, and courses of Double Court, Double Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob were rung for evening service.

Then the long drive back was taken, but only with much regret, after such a perfect day. The Vicar of Embleton's most enthusiastic invitation to return is not likely to go begging. Those taking part in the day's ringing were T. W. Crowe, N. Paiman, C. E. Lawson, J. Roach, D. Reay and K. Arthur.

BOYNE HILL RINGERS' OUTING.

BABY CAR'S ROAD DIAGRAM.

The Boyne Hill ringers, accompanied by a few friends, held their annual outing in Hertfordshire. Rickmansworth was the first call, where good use was made of the splendid ring of ten bells by

Taylor, of Loughborough. Next they made for Hertford, stopping en route for a wayside picnic lunch. At Hertford they were met by one of the local band, and after a look round the beautiful church the bells were set going to Stedman Caters, Double Norwich, Stedman and Grandsire Triples. The bells are a lovely ring of ten by Mears and Stainbank, and have needed no adjustment since they were placed in the tower about 35 years ago—a year or so after the church was rebuilt following a disastrous fire. Some of the bell metal which was recovered from the debris was used in making these lovely bells, the tenor of which is about 25 cwt.

The return journey was made via Watford, where an excellent tea was served at the King's Head Hotel. The party then visited the tower, where there is a very musical ring of eight by Gillett and Johnston, of Croydon. Here the visitors were joined by some of the 'locals,' and methods from Grandsire Triples to Cambridge Surprise Major were splendidly struck. The tenor bell in this tower is about 24 cwt. in the key of E flat.

The al fresco supper, the songs and the handbells enjoyed at a half-way house, opposite a village smithy which really does stand under a spreading chestnut tree, was a good finish to a very enjoyable day. Maidenhead was reached at 10.30 after a rather exciting run from Slough behind a cheeky 'baby' car, whose front 'legs' were either bandy or crossed. Probably the occupiers had been (or were going) to the 'dogs.' The diagram made by that car would make some of our standard methods look like straight lines.

The ringing and the arrangements throughout the day were of the highest standard, and those who made up the party will look forward to next year's outing with all the keenness they possess. T. J. F.

ST. MARY ABBOT'S GUILD IN SUSSEX.

St. Mary Abbot's Guild (Kensington) held their annual outing on Saturday, July 24th. The party of 30 included Messrs. A. B. Bennett and W. H. Hollier. Visits were made to East Grinstead, Coleman's Hatch and Turner's Hill, Sussex. The Vicar of St. Mary Abbot's, Preb. A. E. Smith, met the party at East Grinstead and took tea with the Guild. After the tea a short touch of Stedman Caters was rung on the handbells. The bells of the three churches visited were rung to a variety of methods, including Stedman, Double Norwich, Cambridge and London Surprise. At Turner's Hill the party were met by Mr. O. Sippetts, to whom the Guild is indebted for making the arrangements, for what was unanimously agreed to have been a very enjoyable outing.



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OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

SERVICE RINGING IN BANBURY BRANCH.

The annual meeting of the Banbury Branch of the Oxford Guild was held at Adderbury, about 60 being present. Ringing commenced at 2.30 p.m., after which service was held, conducted by the president of the branch, the Rev. A. L. E. Williams, Vicar of Banbury and Rural Dean. The sermon was preached by the Rev. C. E. Wigg, Deputy Master of the Guild.

The business meeting followed the tea. In his report, the hon. secretary (Mr. E. Pearson) referred to the fact that several honorary members had not paid their subscriptions, and that he had, therefore, only been able to forward £5 18s. to the general treasurer. The statement of accounts showed a balance of £25 in hand. The secretary also regretted that service ringing and practice was not so well maintained in some towers and appealed for support.

Mr. L. J. Malings, commenting on this, said he was glad Mr. Pearson had not shirked the question. One way suggested to counteract this falling off was to have plenty of recruits, but he believed this was only partly true. It was not altogether quantity but quality that was wanted. He urged ringers to hold out the high ideals of fellowship and service in the tower, branch or guild, to young ringers, since he believed youth was ready to follow ideals if they were high enough.

The officers were all re-elected for the coming year, with the chairman as trustee (a new post). There were two honorary members and two ringing members elected.

Swalcliffe was chosen as the place of the next meeting, the date being left to the secretary.

Mr. R. T. Hibbert, general secretary of the Guild, and the Rev. C. E. Wigg contributed 'the usual few words' expected of them at these annual meetings, and held out encouragement towards continued progress.

Following a comprehensive vote of thanks, ringing was resumed at Adderbury, while others went on to King's Sutton and Deddington.

Eleven branch towers were represented, and there were a large number of visitors, including one who arrived on a cycle from Tewkesbury at 6.30 p.m., left King's Sutton tower at half-past eight to mend a puncture and commence the journey back home! One felt this was an object lesson in keenness which might be taken to heart by all who feel their inability to attend when a meeting is held at the other side of their branch's district. Other visitors were present from Coventry, Exhall, Twyford, Oxford, Abingdon, Leicester and Cammorr.

DROITWICH SURPRISE MAJOR.

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26843175	64352				—
28641357	36245				—
82463175	26543				—
28643715	42563				—
26847351	54326				—
62483715	34625				—
64287351	23645				—
46823751	62534				—
48627315	52436				—
84263751	35426				—
82467315	43652				—
28647135	63254				—
82461753	56234				—
84267135	56342				—
48621753	64523				—
84612735	64235				—
48167253	26435				—
48612735	42635				—
84167253	42356				—
81462735	34256				—
18647253	23456				—
81674523					
18765432					

First rung by the
Suffolk Guild at Hel-
mingham on Feb.
22nd, 1937.

Bob

17864523

This method is No. 72 in Mr. Lindoff's collection.

HARLOW COMMON—At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene on July 25th before Holy Eucharist, a quarter-peal of Bob Major was rung in honour of the marriage of the Vicar (the Rev. J. O. White) and also as a birthday compliment to Mr. L. Cordell: *J. Wood 1, W. Aley 2, B. Copping 3, *B. Laird 4, V. Tipton 5, S. Clark 6, L. Cordell 7, E. Rochester (conductor) 8. * First quarter-peal.

NOTICES.

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

NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN TUESDAY.

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

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.

—The next meeting will be held at Oldham Parish Church, St. Mary's (12 bells) on Saturday, Aug. 7th. Bells available from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. Business meeting at 7 p.m. A hearty welcome to all ringers and friends to come along and support us.—Stephen Lloyd Parry, Branch Sec., 24, St. James' Street, Milnrow, Rochdale, Lancs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.

—The next meeting will be held at St. James' Church, Accrington, on Saturday, Aug. 7th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Everybody welcome. — F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wirral Branch.

—A meeting of the Wirral branch will be held at Christ Church, Port Sunlight, on Saturday, Aug. 7th. Tower open at 3 o'clock. Service at 5.30 p.m. Meeting afterwards.—Harry S. Brocklebank, Hon. Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.

—Quarterly meeting Saturday, Aug. 7th, Walesby (8 bells). — K. W. Mayer, Hon. Sec., 31, Vine Street, Lincoln.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.

—The branch will meet at Upwell on Saturday, Aug. 7th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

CLAY CROSS, near Chesterfield.—The bells will be dedicated by the Archdeacon of Chesterfield on Sunday, Aug. 8th, at 6.30 p.m. A ring of six recast and rehung in new framework by John Taylor and Co.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

—Ringing for evening service on Sunday, Aug. 8th, at 5.15 p.m., at St. Olaves, Hart Street, E.C.3. On Sunday, Aug. 22nd, at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, at 5.15 p.m. The usual monthly practice will take place at Shoreditch on Thursday, Aug. 26th, at 6.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—G. H. Cross, Master.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN

GUILD.—Alton and Peterfield District.—There will be an evening meeting for practice, at Blackmoor on Wednesday, Aug. 11th. Bells (6) available from 6 to 9 p.m.—C. E. Bassett, Hon. Dis. Sec., 32, Charles Street, Petersfield.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS

(Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on the 19th, St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 12th, *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 17th, Southwark Cathedral on the 26th, St. Mary-le-Bow on the 31st. *Business meeting afterwards.—Wm. T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD. — Combined practices during August: Holy Rood, Southampton (8 bells), Fridays, Aug. 13th, 20th and 27th, at 7.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—G. Williams, Master, 1, Chestnut Avenue, Eastleigh.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Burton District.—The next meeting will be held at Repton on Saturday, Aug. 14th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Tea 4.45 p.m. It is most essential that those intending to be present for tea should notify me by Wednesday, Aug. 11th. Ringers and friends welcome.—J. W. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Overseale.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—A meeting will be held at Coddenham on Aug. 14th. Ringing on tower bells (8) afternoon and evening. Tea in Rectory garden, 4.30, at 9d. each.—Harold G. Herbert, Sec., 61, Acton Lane, Sudbury.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. Mary's Church, Willesden, on Saturday, Aug. 14th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service at 5. Tea, in the Church Hall, at 5.30, 1s. each. Please advise me by Aug. 11th. All ringers welcomed. Special method: Edmonton Bob Major.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4. Tel. Larkswood, 1959.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bradfield Deanery Branch will hold summer meeting at Bradfield on Saturday, Aug. 14th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30, and tea at 5 (9d.). Ringing during the evening. Please notify T. W. Palmer, Hon. Sec., 128, Halls Road, Tilchurst.

BARNESLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Horbury on Saturday, Aug. 14th. Bells (8) ready 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m., 1s. each. Will those requiring tea please notify Mr. H. Pickles, 9, Co-operative Street, Horbury, near Wakefield, by Aug. 11th? Ossett bells (10) are also available, 3 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. and 6.45 p.m. to 9 p.m. A hearty welcome to all.—Daniel Smith, Hon. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Bridlington on Saturday, Aug. 14th. The fine heavy peal of 8 (tenor 26 cwt.) will be available at 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Will those intending to come please notify Mr. R. H. Vigor, Sherburn-in-Elmet?—H. S. Morley, Hon. Dis. Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Roxton on Saturday, Aug. 14th. Bells at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers and their friends will be welcome. Please come and let us have a good meeting.—C. J. Ball, Hon. Dis. Sec., 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Buxted (St. Margaret's, in Buxted Park) on Saturday, Aug. 14th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Tea, free, 5 p.m. Everybody welcome, but

please notify for tea, if possible.—B. Saunders, 18, New Road, Ridgewood, Uckfield, Sussex.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—Monthly meeting at Latton and Cricklade on Saturday, Aug. 14th. Both five bell towers. Latton available 3.30 to 5 p.m. Cricklade 6 to 8 p.m. Tea at Cricklade about 5.15. Please advise if possible. On railway and Bristol bus route.—W. B. Kynaston, 3, Dumbarton Terrace, Victoria Road, Swindon, Wilts.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A joint meeting of the Preston and Fylde Branches will be held at Preston Parish Church on Aug. 21st. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m.—A. Blogg and C. Sharples, Branch Secs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. George's, Mossley, Saturday, Aug. 21st. Bells ready 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Rev. J. F. Southworth, B.D., will officiate and extends a hearty welcome to the Bolton branch. Names to be sent to H. Pickles, 11, Seel Terrace, Leas Road, Mossley, not later than Aug. 11th.—J. H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

A JOINT MEETING of the Guildford and Oxford Diocesan Guilds and the Middlesex and Surrey Associations will be held at Staines, Egham and Wraysbury on Saturday, Aug. 28th. Full particulars later. — F. W. Goodfellow, Hon. Sec., Middlesex County Association (S. and W. District).

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—A souvenir invitation to the 300th dinner on November 6th has been prepared. Copies of this will be sent in due course, together with an admission ticket, to members who apply with remittances (10s. for members, 12s. 6d. for non-members) to any of the following:—Messrs. C. S. Burden, P. E. Clark, W. T. Cockerill, E. P. Duffield, E. G. Fenn, T. Groombridge, J. S. Hawkins, R. T. Hibbert, C. H. Horton, A. A. Hughes, H. Langdon, E. H. Lewis, F. M. Mitchell, H. R. Newton, A. B. Peck, L. B. Porter, W. Roughton, A. Walker, J. A. Waugh, C. F. Winney, E. A. Young. Members are reminded that seating accommodation at the Cannon Street Hotel is limited to 400.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec.

MARRIAGE.

SALLEY—SAUNDERS.—On July 31st at St. Chad's Roman Catholic Cathedral, Birmingham, by the Rev. Father Joseph Boland, James Joseph Salley, youngest son of the late Councillor and Mrs. Robert Salley, of Newcastle-on-Tyne, to Dorothy Saunders, only child of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Saunders, The Technical Institute, Colbrookdale, Shropshire.

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