



No. 1,425. Vol. XXXIII.

FRIDAY, JULY 15th, 1938.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
transmission as a newspaper.]

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MUFFLING OF BELLS.

The diversity of opinion as to the correct way of muffling bells, which came into prominence in ringing circles on the occasion of the death of King George V., led to the Central Council being asked to give some guidance on this subject. The question was referred to the officers of the Council, who have since been seeking information as to local customs. They have been supplied with details of existing practice in many places, and their final report is now to be drafted with a view to submitting it to Church authorities, so that, when the occasion next arises for the general muffling of bells those responsible may have something authoritative to which to turn. The real point at issue has been between half-muffling and full muffling, and, in a measure, the use of an open back stroke on the tenor when both sides of the other bells are muffled.

For ordinary occasions half-muffled bells seem to be the most usual way of signalling a death, but for the higher dignitaries of the Church and for a member of the royal family, as also, in some cases, for a humble ringer, the bells at some churches are fully muffled when rung on any occasion before the funeral. Without knowing exactly what the report to be issued to Church authorities will contain, the consensus of opinion in the Council is unquestionably that the most effective form of ringing on occasions of mourning is with the bells half-muffled at back stroke. There is good reason for not ringing fully muffled. To the public, the only effect is that the sound of the bells has been entirely reduced in volume, without the significance of the change being brought home to them. As well merely block up the louvres. If fully muffled ringing is employed immediately before a funeral service, the open back stroke of the tenor may give the necessary emphasis of mourning. Not only, however, from the ringers' standpoint, but out of consideration of the public, the monotony of this form of ringing ought never to be employed in a peal.

There are, in some places, interesting local customs that will and ought to be preserved, although it should not be forgotten that muffled ringing is a comparatively modern introduction and, in its origin, was only used upon the death of a ringer. The age-long custom for notifying death, whether of king, peer or commoner, was the tolling of a bell, and that, of course, is still observed. Muffled ringing has not displaced the traditional 'knell,' it merely supplements it; but it has become a form of expressing national or local sorrow which is now accepted throughout the country as widely as is the pealing of bells on occasions of joy and celebration.

(Continued on page 454.)

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borough, Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's,
Manchester, Durban and Worcester Cathedrals, etc., etc.

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There is one point which should not be overlooked. In many places, especially in connection with the death of a ringer, it is the practice to ring the bells half-muffled for the services on the Sunday following. This custom, however well intentioned, is one that should not be encouraged. Sunday service ringing is purely associated with the activities of the Church; Sunday is a festival, and half-muffled bells are out of place, except before or after a funeral or memorial service. We think that, even on the score of 'local custom,' muffled ringing for Sunday services cannot be justified.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BROMLEY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, June 29, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 17½ cwt.

PERCY J. SPICE Treble	GEORGE H. DAYNES 5
WILLIAM G. GRACE 2	EDMUND MOUNTER 6
PHILIP A. CORBY 3	SIDNEY J. HUMPHREY 7
FREDERICK E. PITMAN 4	JACK DAFTERS Tenor

Composed by C. CHARGE.

Conducted by P. A. CORBY.

A birthday compliment to Mr. P. J. Spice and Mr. I. Emery, secretary and captain respectively of the local band, also to Mrs. E. Pitman, mother of the ringer of the fourth.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, June 30, 1938, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Tenor 14½ cwt.

*HARRY BUNCE Treble	†ALEC GAMMON 5
GEORGE HORWOOD 2	§JOHN H. GARDINER 6
†KENNETH WALKER 3	RICHARD A. POST 7
GEORGE AYRES 4	†JOHN S. WYNNE Tenor

Conducted by RICHARD A. POST.

* First peal of Triples. † First peal. ‡ First peal of Grandsire.
§ First peal of Grandsire and first away from tenor. First peal of Grandsire Triples on the bells.

GLOUCESTER.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF CRYPT YOUTHS.)

On Thursday, June 30, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-DE-CRYPT,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

SYDNEY E. ROMANS Treble	*HENRY DANIELS 5
THOMAS BALDWIN 2	JOHN AUSTIN 6
*WILLIAM C. JONES 3	GEORGE CONDIS 7
*GEORGE KILMINSTER 4	LESLIE BARRY Tenor

Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

* First peal of Stedman. Rung for the Founders' Day celebrations.

HANDSWORTH, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(SOUTHERN DISTRICT.)

On Friday, July 1, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

FREDERICK WATKINSON Treble	JOHN J. L. GILBERT 5
MISS L. KELLY 2	JOHN E. TURLEY 6
RONALD BIRCH 3	TOM BROTHWELL 7
HERBERT CHADDOK 4	LESLIE HAYWOOD Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by L. HAYWOOD.

Rung with bells half-muffled in commemoration of the 22nd anniversary of the Battle of the Somme.

ST. ENODER, CORNWALL.
THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, July 1, 1938, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes.

At the Church of St. Enoder,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

*JOHN REED Treble	EDWARD SANDERS 5
FREDERICK H. HARRIS 2	WILLIAM H. SOUTHEARD 6
†VIVIAN WILLIAMS 3	PETER CROOK, SEN. 7
CYRIL E. LANXON 4	PERCY R. C. WILLIAMS ... Tenor

Composed by T. DAY.

Conducted by P. CROOK, SEN.

* First peal on eight. † First peal on eight 'inside.'

ORMSKIRK, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 2, 1938, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes.

At the Church of SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 25 cwt.

JAMES TAYLOR Treble	GEORGE T. JENKS 5
SYDNEY FORSHAW 2	JOSEPH RIDYARD 6
*THOMAS HORRIDGE 3	*WILLIAM PELKINGTON 7
GEORGE JACKSON 4	WILLIAM GIBBONS ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM PELKINGTON.

* First peal of Grandsire.

NEWPORT PAGNELL, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 2, 1938, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes.

At the Church of SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. 2 qr. 16 lb. in E flat.

WILLIAM WELLING Treble	WILLIAM HENLEY 5
ALBERT E. AUSTIN 2	HARRY WINGROVE 6
WALLACE COUSINS 3	CECIL C. MAYNE 7
CLAUDE COUSINS 4	TONY PRICE Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by HARRY WINGROVE.

Rung in honour of the patronal festival.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 2, 1938, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes.

At the Church of St. Thomas,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb.

JOSEPH WHITTAKER Treble	C. KENNETH LEWIS 5
LIONEL CLOUGH 2	WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT 6
REV. FRANK BONNER 3	JAMES A. MILNER 7
JAMES FERNLEY 4	JOHN WORTH Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY.

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

A birthday compliment to the Rev. F. Bonner.

TICKHILL, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, July 2, 1938, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qr. 7 lb.

EDGAR C. STACEY Treble	ARTHUR STAVELY 5
GEORGE CLARK 2	HAROLD WAGSTAFF 6
ERNEST COOPER 3	FORD P. NEWTON 7
WILLIAM FAY 4	J. EDWARD CAWSE ... Tenor

Composed by G. H. CROSS. Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSE.

Specially rung as a thanksgiving for the recovery of Mrs. Harold Wagstaff from a serious illness.

HILLINGDON, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 2, 1938, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

PERCY E. JONES Treble	*ERIC B. HARTLEY 5
GEORGE H. GUTTERIDGE 2	ERNEST C. S. TURNER 6
EDWARD LANKESTER 3	FRANK CORKE 7
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE 4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON ... Tenor

Composed by N. J. PIRSTOW.

Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER

* First peal in the method.

STAINES, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, July 6, 1938, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF ASHBOURNE COLLEGE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

EDWIN A. BARNETT Treble	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 5
GEORGE H. GUTTERIDGE 2	WILLIAM WELLING 6
LEONARD STILWELL 3	FRANK CORKE 7
WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM 4	ALAN R. PINK Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER.

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

The first peal in the method, No. 42 in the Central Council's 'Collection of Plain Major Methods.'

CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Wednesday, July 6, 1938, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes.

At the Cathedral Campanile,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 21½ cwt.

HENRY J. TUCKER Treble	TOWER R. TAYLOR 5
KENNETH SNELLING 2	ALFRED B. PECK 6
FREDERICK S. BAYLEY 3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS 7
NELSON ELLIOTT 4	OLIVER SIPPETTS Tenor

Composed by FRANK BENNETT. Conducted by FREDK. W. ROGERS.

SWAFFHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, July 7, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes.

At the Church of SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 23 lb. in E.

JOHN BUCKENHAM Treble	CECIL V. EBBERSON 5
WILLIAM BUCKENHAM 2	WALLACE W. COUSINS 6
GEORGE MAYERS 3	*LESLIE W. HOUGHTON 7
NOLAN GOLDEN 4	CLAUDE COUSINS Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal in the method.

PINNER, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 9, 1938, in Three Hours and One Minute.

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

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

GEORGE H. GUTTERIDGE ... Treble	HARRY PENDRY 5
PERCY E. JONES 2	EDGAR HANCOX 6
*MISS A. M. LOOK 3	FRANK CORKE 7
THOMAS COLLINS 4	*SIDNEY SMITH Tenor

Conducted by FRANK CORKE.

* First peal of Stedman. A 21st birthday compliment to Mr. F. Bedford, of St. Margaret's, Uxbridge.

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ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 9, 1938, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

**A PEAL OF SPLICED BRISTOL, LONDON, SUPERLATIVE & CAMBRIDGE
SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**

Tenor 16½ cwt.

EDWARD LANKESTER Treble	WILLIAM WELLING 5
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE 2	CECIL C. MAYNE 6
ERNEST C. S. TURNER 3	JAMES E. DAVIS 7
GEORGE M. KILBY 4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON Tenor

Composed by JAMES TOPP. Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

This peal contained 2,016 Bristol, 1,920 London, 576 Superlative and 544 Cambridge, with 111 changes of method.

BEXLEY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 9, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DEXTER'S VARIATION OF WASHBROOK'S. Tenor 7 cwt. 2 qr. 18 lb.

HARRY HOVERD Treble	JAMES E. BAILEY 5
GEORGE H. CROSS 2	JOHN WHEADON 6
HARRY HOSKINS 3	FREDERICK J. CULLUM 7
HERBERT A. HOLDEN 4	PHILIP A. CORBY Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK J. CULLUM.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. M. Cross, mother of the ringer of the 2nd.

ALBURGH, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 9, 1938, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE OXFORD BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb.

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

Composed by G. H. CROSS. Conducted by ERNEST WHITING.

First in the method by all the band. First in method on the bells.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EAST BERKS AND SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Saturday, July 9, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

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

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*HARRY C. JONES Treble	WILLIAM HENLEY 5
FREDERICK G. BIGGS 2	PERCY NEWTON 6
ROLAND BIGGS 3	*WALTER LEE 7
F. DONALD BOREHAM 4	HARRY WINGROVE Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by HARRY WINGROVE.

* First peal in the method.

PETERSFIELD, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 9, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

FREDERICK S. BAYLEY Treble	WILLIAM T. BEESON 5
CHARLES E. BASSETT 2	JACK M. CRIPPS 6
JAMES TOPP 3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS 7
TOWER R. TAYLOR 4	C. ERNEST SMITH Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by FREDK. W. ROGERS.

GALLEYWOOD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 9, 1938, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

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

ILKESTON ARRANGEMENT.

GORDON A. BACON Treble	REGINALD W. DARVILL 5
FRANK B. LUFKIN 2	HENRY T. WILSON 6
HENRY S. WILSON 3	FRED CHALK 7
HORACE J. MANSFIELD 4	ERNEST W. FURBANK Tenor

Composed by E. C. GOBEY.

Conducted by F. B. LUFKIN.

A birthday compliment to Henry S. Wilson.

SIX BELL PEALS.

WIGMORE, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, June 18, 1938, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, ten callings.

Tenor 8½ cwt.

*GRAHAM EVANS Treble	BRIAN ELSMORE 4
THOMAS PAYNE 2	WILLIAM J. BENIAMS 5
LESLIE EVANS 3	*JAMES A. BRIDGES Tenor

Conducted by W. J. BENIAMS,

* First peal.

LANGDON HILLS, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, June 30, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising two extents each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob and one extent of Plain Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt.

GORDON A. BACON Treble	ALBERT E. NORTH 4
*EDWIN A. BARNETT 2	HENRY T. WILSON 5
FRANK B. LUFKIN 3	*PHILIP A. CORBY Tenor

Conducted by P. A. CORBY.

* First peal on six in more than one method. Arranged and rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. G. A. Corby (brother of the conductor) and Miss N. French, which took place at the neighbouring Church of St. Nicholas, Landon, earlier in the day.

HAMPTON-BISHOP, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, June 30, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, ten callings.

Tenor 10 cwt.

*WILLIAM HARRISON Treble	AUSTIN WINGATE 4
GEORGE GRIFFITHS 2	ERNEST F. SALMONS 5
HARRY JOHNSON 3	ERNEST WILLIAMS Tenor

Conducted by AUSTIN WINGATE.

* First peal. First peal as conductor. Quarterly peal for the Hereford District of the Guild. Also rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. E. Williams and Mrs. H. L. Adams.

CHILD OKEFORD, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 2, 1938, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Ten callings.

Tenor 17½ cwt.

WILLIAM DAMEN Treble	*RONALD DOUCH 4
*GEORGE EAGLE 2	WILLIAM C. SHUTE 5
W. JAMES JACKSON 3	FREDERICK H. HART Tenor

Conducted by W. C. SHUTE.

* First peal. Rung as a farewell to Canon Bower (Rector of Child Okeford for 30 years) on his retirement from the ministry. First peal on the bells.

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TOWER CLOCK MANUFACTURERS.

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OR REPAINTING OF DIALS.**

**STAUNTON-ON-ARROW, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On Sunday, July 3, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb. in B flat.

*BRIAN ELSMORE Treble	LESLIE EVANS 4
*THOMAS PAYNE 2	TREVOR JONES 5
*WILLIAM PREECE 3	ERNEST F. SALMONS Tenor

Conducted by E. F. SALMONS.

* First peal of Minor. Rung as a 22nd birthday compliment to the conductor.

**GREAT FINBOROUGH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.**

On Monday, July 4, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

FRANK BORLEY Treble	A. ROY WOODARD 4
R. JOHN STREED 2	EDWIN A. CRACKNELL 5
CLEM W. CRACKNELL 3	FRANK W. J. ROPER Tenor

Conducted by FRANK W. J. ROPER.

Rung in honour of the baptism of the conductor's son.

WIVENHOE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 9, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents. Tenor 8 cwt. in A.

*ALBERT C. HALES Treble	VIOLET A. FROST 4
*JAMES E. GOULD 2	HARRY J. MILLATT 5
GABRIEL G. LINDOFF 3	ALAN R. ANDREWS Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.

* First peal and first attempt.

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

FINE RINGING IN SHIELD CONTEST.

The annual shield contest was held at Horbury on Saturday, July 9th, when nine bands competed. The 'test piece' was 600 changes in an 'w' method. Mr. A. Nash, of Rotherham, and Mr. W. Idle, of Earlsheaton, were the judges. The order of ringing and the result was as follows:—

	Faults	Penalties	Total
1. Shelly	79	10	89
2. Friezland	52	0	52
3. Holmfirth	43	5	48
4. Sandal	31	0	31
5. Liversedge	29	0	29
6. Wath	56	10	66
7. New Mill	47	0	47
8. Penistone	74	10	84
9. Cawthorne	57	0	57

A very high standard of ringing was reached, and Liversedge, with only 29 faults, were the winners, and Sandal, two points behind, second.

Mr. Rowley, chairman of the Urban District Council, presented the shield and six salad bowls to Liversedge team, and six cases of fruit servers to Sandal. Liversedge rang Killamarsh, Wath rang Burton, Cawthorne rang Kent and the remainder rang Oxford. It was an extremely good contest, and it was very pleasing that all the bands rang through.

Wragby was chosen for the next meeting on August 14th. After the usual business, Mr. C. D. Potter moved the best thanks to all for such a successful gathering, to which Mr. R. Thickett and Mr. H. Pickles replied. This brought to a close a very happy day.

ENTERTAINMENTS.

THE BIG ATTRACTION for garden fetes, England and Wales. The Girl Handbell Ringers, Singers and Entertainers. Particulars, vacant dates, write, 79, Hazeldene Road, Goodmayes, London.

APARTMENTS.

LLANDUDNO, NORTH WALES.—Superior Board-Residence or Bed and Breakfast; 2 minutes sea, tennis courts, bowling green and park.—Mrs. Brown, Avonholm, 24, Queen's Road. Telephone 6965.

SCARBOROUGH.—The Jedburgh private hotel, Givendale Road, North Bay. Terms moderate; every convenience; and close to the sea.—Write for tariff to residential proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. G. Dean.

PEAL NOTES.

AN OLD GLOUCESTER SOCIETY.

The Founders' Day celebrations at St. Mary de Crypt Church, Gloucester, were marked by a peal of Stedman Triples, rung on June 30th by members of the Ancient Society of Crypt Youths.

The Crypt Youths were a flourishing society in Gloucester in the early part of last century, and tablets in the tower record a peal of Grandsire Triples in 1810, peals of Bob Major in 1815, of New Treble Bob Major (i.e., Kent Treble Bob) in 1828 and 1829, and of other peals of Grandsire Triples in 1856. James Ingram and Thomas Handy, who rang in the 1815 peals, also took part in peals of Grandsire in 1856.

In the ringing room at St. Mary de Crypt Church is a chandelier inscribed 'God preserve the Crypt Youths.'

One more of the plain Major methods in the Central Council's collection was rung for the first time to a peal on July 6th at St. Mary's, Staines. It was Ashbourne College Bob—and no one objected to the name, which had been given to the method by the Methods Committee when they published the book.

The method has a series of three fifth's places made in the middle of the lead, and Bob Major is rung when the treble is at the other end. One wit said the diagram, when turned on its side, looked like the roof of a house with a lot of chimney pots, some with crows on.

For the 22nd birthday of Mr. E. F. Salmons, a Hereford Diocesan Guild peal of Bob Minor was rung at Staunton-on-Arrow on July 3rd.

A peal of Bob Major at Tickhill, Yorkshire, on July 2nd, was specially rung as a thanksgiving for the recovery from serious illness of Mrs. Wagstaff, wife of Mr. Harold Wagstaff, one of the ringers.

A peal of Superlative Surprise rung at Hillingdon, Middlesex, on July 2nd, was the one hundredth peal which Mr. J. A. Trollope and Mr. Ernest Turner had rung together.

A week later Mr. Turner rang his fiftieth peal with Mr. George Kilby, when he called a peal of Spliced Surprise Major in the four methods Bristol, London, Superlative and Cambridge. The composition, by Mr. J. Topp, is the first to be rung in these four methods containing more Bristol than London. Of the 5,056 changes, 2,016 were Bristol and only 1,920 London. Here are the figures, which, in their extent, run to 5,440.

23456	M	W	R	Methods
42356	3	3	—	L B B C B B L
26354	—	—	2	B B C L B
36452	—	—	3	L C L B B
24653	—	—	—	L C L
65243	3	—	—	L B B C L
32546	—	3	—	L C B B L
64523	—	—	—	L C B B

Four times repeated. C=Cambridge or Superlative.

The peal is reduced to 5,056 by omitting three bobs and two leads of Bristol six times.

Mr. H. J. Tucker, who rang in the peal of London Surprise at Chichester Cathedral on July 6th, will be 80 years of age in August. He joined the College Youths 60 years ago, having been made a member in 1878.

Canon Bower, who has been Rector of Child Okeford, Dorset, for 30 years, has just retired from the ministry. As a farewell to him, a peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung on July 2nd—the first peal on the bells of the church he served so long and so faithfully.

Not many peals of Double Oxford Bob Major are rung, but a band of the Norwich Diocesan Association scored one—the first by all the company—at Alburgh, Norfolk, on July 9th.

A peal of Stedman Triples at Pinner, Middlesex, on July 9th, was a 'coming of age' compliment to Mr. F. Bedford, a ringer at St. Margaret's, Uxbridge.

Another 'birthday' peal of Stedman, on the same day, was that at Bexley, Kent. It was a compliment to Mrs. M. Cross, mother of Mr. G. H. Cross, Master of the Royal Cumberland Youths.

Mr. Donald Boreham, of High Wycombe, has 'completed the circle' in peals at Hughenden, Bucks. He rounded off the performance with a peal of Double Norwich Major on the fourth bell on July 9th.

The brothers John and William Buckenham, of Marsham, have now rung 50 peals together. They reached this total with a peal of Double Norwich Major at Swaffham, Norfolk, on July 7th.

Six of the Sunday service ringers at St. Giles', Oxford, rang a peal of Grandsire Triples on June 30th. Two rang their first peal, two their first of Grandsire and one his first of Triples. It was the first peal of Grandsire Triples on the bells.

The 22nd anniversary of the Battle of the Somme was commemorated at Handsworth, Yorkshire, by a half-muffled peal of Bob Major on July 1st.

Mr. Peter Crook, of Bolton, spending a holiday in Cornwall, called a peal of Grandsire Triples at St. Enoder on July 1st.

The Rev. Frank Bonner's birthday was celebrated at Norbury (Hazel Grove), Cheshire, on July 2nd, by a peal of London Surprise. After the peal, in which he took part, he kindly provided refreshments for the ringers.

RINGING COMPETITIONS.

DEVON GUILD'S ATTITUDE.

Question of Union With Rival Organisation.

Ringers in Devonshire have long been divided into two rival organisations. The Devon Guild has always been strongly opposed to competitive ringing, while the Devonshire Association (equally well supported by the clergy and churchpeople) has encouraged it. The president of the Devon Guild (the Rev. E. V. Cox) made a reference to this at the annual meeting at Whitsun, and expressed the hope that the Guild and the association might unite by eliminating the rule which at present formed a barrier to the amalgamation. This rule says that no member of the Devon Guild shall take part in any competitive ringing.

Presiding at a quarterly meeting of the North-East Branch of the Devon Guild at Upplowman on July 2nd, the Rev. F. Carter (chairman of the district) referred to the president's remarks. He asked the members to consider it as regards the question of encouraging good ringing and at the same time retaining the standard of good striking. The question was one which had to be borne in mind by members at their quarterly meetings.

The meeting was attended by about 50 members. The towers represented were Upplowman, Hunfsham, Burliscombe, Calverley, Tiverton (St. Peter's), Washfield, Silvertown and Stoodleigh. Visitors included the Rev. J. M. Turner (Washfield), Messrs. A. W. Searle (Exeter), C. Lilley and J. E. Lilley (Newton Abbot) and F. V. Voysey (Washfield). Service was conducted by the Rev. F. Carter, in the absence of the Rector (the Rev. A. T. Law) through illness. An inspiring address was based upon the Guild's Belfry Prayer.

At the business meeting, which followed tea, the Rev. F. Carter proposed the usual comprehensive vote of thanks, and extended the sympathy of the members to the Rector, with their hope for his speedy recovery.

The chairman welcomed two new members to the Guild, Misses E. M. Dean and M. A. Lutley, from Ingleside School. They were also presented with certificates of proficiency.

The Rev. J. M. Turner was elected an honorary member.

The Chairman read a detailed account from Mr. T. Laver (general secretary of the Guild) on the meeting of the Central Council at Leeds.

A number of girl ringers from Ingleside School were present, and, in addition to showing a high degree of skill on the church bells, rang handbell tunes after the meeting.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT BOTTESFORD.

Situated amid glorious scenery of the Belvoir country, on the borders of Leicestershire and Lincolnshire, Bottesford was the venue of the quarterly meeting of the Midland Counties Association. Famous for its many monuments to past Dukes of Rutland, the magnificent Parish Church, whose chancel is like a miniature Westminster Abbey, has a fine ring of eight bells which go well and are rung from a light and airy belfry. Good use was made of the opportunity to ring here, by friends and visitors from each district of the association, viz., Burton, Chesterfield, Derby, Hinckley, Leicester, Loughborough and Nottingham, as well as several out-county members from further afield. Various touches from Grandsire to London Surprise were rung.

The committee met and carried out their usual routine work, and it was announced that two complete sets of the association's annual reports from 1882 to 1937 were now bound in volumes, also that the association handbells were now provided with a leather carrying bag and were available for use at that meeting. Grants were made from the association funds towards the memorials to the late Canon Elsee and the late Mr. J. J. Parker.

Between 30 and 40 members and friends sat down to a meat tea, following which the general business was carried through. The vice-president (Mr. John Oldham) took the chair, and was supported by Mr. W. E. White (hon. treasurer) and Mr. Ernest Morris (general secretary). The Chairman said how pleased he was to see such a good number of ringers and friends present at that somewhat out of the way village, and remarked it was specially delightful to see the celebrated 'Sergeant-Major' from Leicester—an unexpected pleasure at a quarterly meeting! He stated that he felt highly honoured to be chosen for the position of vice-president of the association and assured the members of his wholehearted interest in their work. One incident of the past quarter he regretted, and that was the passing of Mr. W. Smith, a stalwart of the Burton-on-Trent band, and a long-standing member of the association. He called upon those present to stand in silence for a moment to his memory.

A number of new members, ringing, honorary and life, were duly elected. A resolution rescinding a previous minute was passed, that the association handbells should in future be held in the general hon. secretary's keeping, and brought to every general meeting of the association. They could be loaned out by the secretary to any responsible person for use when desired.

Mr. A. J. Harris and Mr. J. H. Swinfield both gave their impressions of the Central Council meeting at Leeds on Whit Tuesday, and they were sincerely thanked by the members present. Members and friends then adjourned to the church for further tower-bell ringing, while a few stayed behind to ring handbells.

The next quarterly meeting will be held at Wirksworth in September.

GUILDFORD GUILD SUMMER FESTIVAL.

VISIT TO FARNHAM.

Blind Ringer Turns Tenor In To Cambridge.

The summer festival of the Guildford Diocesan Guild on Saturday attracted nearly a hundred ringers and their friends to the ancient town of Farnham, which for 800 years was the home of successive Bishops of Winchester. The weather was not too kindly, it was cold, with some rain, and anything but summery. Nevertheless, the event was entirely successful. There was a very hearty welcome, a variety of ringing of sorts, a stirring service with a practical address by the Vicar (Canon E. M. Girling), and after tea a 'conducted' tour to Farnham Castle, as the Bishop's home, with its Norman keep, is called. Part of it is now the official residence of the Bishop of Guildford, part is a Retreat House and the rest of the commanding pile is used for other diocesan purposes. Canon Girling was the guide, and even those who had made previous visits learned a good deal more about the history of the ancient building.

Both in the afternoon and evening the spacious belfry of Farnham Parish Church was filled with ringers, and the ringing, good, had and indifferent, ranged from rounds to Bristol Surprise.

Among those who took part were Mr. Sheppard Walwyn, of Oxford University Society. Despite the handicap of complete blindness, Mr. Sheppard Walwyn learned to ring while at Oxford, and on Saturday he took part in a number of touches. He actually rang the tenor to an attempt for Cambridge Major, and it was not his fault that the course was not completed. He rings, of course, entirely by ear and counting his places, and his remarkable achievement is a triumph over one of life's most staggering misfortunes. Farnham tenor is a man's job anyway. The bell is over a ton and sluggish, while it is rung from a narrow platform against a wall, but while the rest kept going Mr. Sheppard Walwyn seemed to have no difficulty in putting the bell in its place.

THE PROBLEM OF BLOXHAM'S BELLS.

OXFORD GUILD REVIVES INTEREST.

The annual meetings of the Banbury Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild always serve as an encouragement to those whose task it is to further the branch's work, and last Saturday's annual meeting at Deddington was no exception, even though the weather was inclement. The peal of six, tenor 17 cwt., was in good demand before service. For the latter, a revised form was used, and many favourable comments were made on the singing and chanting of this village choir. It was pleasing to see so many clergy present, especially in view of the many demands on their time in these days. The Rural Dean, who is president of the branch, shared in conducting the service with the Vicar of Deddington, and the preacher was the Rev. B. R. Buchanan, Vicar of Bloxham.

After a very ample tea, the business meeting was held, with the president in the chair, and once again the secretary's report and statement of accounts showed a favourable position, both financially and as regards progress in ringing.

The officers were all re-elected with acclamation and without hesitation, always a sure sign of the confidence placed in them. Several new members were elected, including two from Deddington, who are quite the youngest of the branch, being two out of a number of choir-boy ringers who will, it is hoped, all be elected as their progress warrants it.

The routine business having been disposed of, the Rev. C. E. Wigg, Deputy Master of the Guild, spoke of his pleasure at being present, and referred to the J. J. Parker Memorial Fund. Towards this a grant of two guineas was made.

Mr. R. T. Hibbert, general secretary, had also a word of encouragement, and then raised a matter which is often in the minds of branch members, namely, the question of Bloxham bells. Bloxham has a tall, slender spire of great architectural interest, and a noble ring of eight bells, with a tenor of between 25 and 30 cwt. Of recent years, only the front six have been rung, and these very seldom, on account of feared damage to the spire and the incorrect hanging of the two tenors. Mr. Hibbert expressed the hope that a move would one day be made to get this job done. He realised it was a big task, but, he said, Englishmen had done big tasks in the past.

In reply, Mr. Buchanan stated that he had been told the cost would be about £1,000, and he did not feel he could saddle his parishioners with the responsibility of finding such a sum.

Mr. Hibbert was quick to point out that the work could be well carried out for under half this sum, and Mr. Buchanan promised that the matter should be raised. This was encouraging, for there are only two rings of eight in the branch, and the reopening of Bloxham would be a fine addition.

Following the usual vote of thanks, the members adjourned for more ringing at Deddington, while others went on to Aynho and King's Sutton, two musical eighties in the extreme corner of the Peterborough Diocese. The methods rung during the day did not advance beyond Grandsire and Stedman Doubles and Triples, and Plain Bob up to Major, but there were some well-struck touches. Many branch towers were represented, and there were a large number of visitors, including old friends and new, to all of whom the members extend a hearty invitation to come again.

CUMBERLAND YOUTHS AT READING.**SUCCESSFUL MEETING.**

The Society of Royal Cumberland Youths held a very successful summer meeting at Reading on July 2nd, about 50 members and friends turning up to take part in ringing during the afternoon on the eight (tenor 15 cwt.) at St. Giles' and the twelve (tenor 24 cwt.) at St. Laurence's. Methods were rung to suit all shades of taste and ability, including 'two' leads of Treble Bob at St. Giles'.

A short service was conducted by the Rev. Arthur Keeble in St. Laurence's Church, and tea followed at the Talbot Cafe, Queen Victoria Street.

Following tea a business meeting was held, the Master (Mr. G. H. Cross) taking the chair. The secretary (Mr. N. Summerhayes) read a letter of welcome to Reading received from the hon. secretary of the Reading Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild. The letter expressed regret that both the chairman and the writer would be on holiday on the day of the meeting, but the branch hoped that arrangements made would prove satisfactory and that the society would have such a good time that they would want to come again.

The ratification of membership of L.-Cpl. P. H. Tocock prior to a peal of Bob Major at Burnham on April 8th was agreed to, and the following new members were elected: Mrs. F. W. Housden (London), Mr. Wilfred Gowing (Farnham Royal) and Mr. Leslie Samuels (Burnham).

Mr. W. H. Fussell (Slough) proposed a hearty vote of thanks to all who had assisted in making the arrangements, thanking particularly the Rev. Arthur Keeble for his welcome to the society and for conducting their service.—This was seconded by Mr. A. H. Pulling (Guildford), who made reference to the fact that they had the pleasure of the company of two members of the Ancient Society of College Youths, Messrs. R. T. Hibbert and R. Fowler, both of whom, together with the Rev. Keeble, made suitable response.

Further ringing took place during the evening on the superb eight (tenor 28 cwt.) at St. Mary's, and on the eight (tenor 15 cwt.) at Caversham, a thoroughly enjoyable meeting being brought to a close at 9 o'clock.

CONDUCTOR AT FOURTEEN.

At Anstey, Leicestershire, on Sunday, July 3rd, on the occasion of the Sunday School anniversary, for morning service, Thurstan's' quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: H. B. Bowley (first quarter-peal in the method) 1, T. Isom 2, A. Disney 3, J. E. Adams 4, G. E. Bowler 5, R. F. Elkington 6, J. T. Smith (conductor) 7, R. S. W. Smith 8. It was the conductor's first attempt to call a quarter-peal. He is just 14 years of age.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**NORTHERN BRANCH ENTERTAINED AT BROMSGROVE.**

The Northern Branch of the Worcestershire Association held its summer meeting at Bromsgrove on June 18th, when about 45 members and friends attended. The drop in attendance was probably due to a very heavy storm which occurred at midday.

During the afternoon and evening some useful practice was put in on the ring of ten bells in the Parish Church, methods rung including Grandsire and Stedman Caters, with courses of Plain Bob and Cambridge Surprise Royal. The bells are a peal of ten with tenor 18 cwt. in E flat. They are, however, rather a mixed lot in tone as well as age. The treble and second were cast in 1816 with the seventh by Mears, the fifth in 1701 by A. Rudhall, and the 3rd, 4th, 6th, 8th and tenor in 1773 by T. Rudhall.

The afternoon service was conducted by the Vicar of Bromsgrove, when the association's special form of service was used. The Vicar of Inkberrow, who has recently been made Rural Dean of Feckenham, gave a helpful address, in which he avoided the pitfall into which preachers at ringers' meetings usually fall—lectures on bells and bellringers' habits. He deplored the present tendency of the countries of the world towards Godless dictatorships, and urged a recall to religion as being the only way to save civilisation.

The branch was entertained to tea by the Vicar of Bromsgrove, who afterwards presided over the business meeting. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Harborne, as an invitation had been received from that tower. Mr. Harold Martin undertook to make arrangements for the quarterly peal, which would be rung at Bromsgrove, subject to a pinnacle of the tower, which had just been restored, being considered safe enough to stand three hours' ringing.

The belfry elections of two life members were ratified, Messrs. Richard Instone and Donald Marsh, this being quite a contrast with the January meeting, when about 20 new members were elected.

At the close of the meeting a very hearty vote of thanks was passed to all those who had helped to make the meeting possible, and the Vicar, in replying, hoped that the association would visit Bromsgrove again on future occasions. He recalled how the association had helped him when the Bromsgrove Guild of Change Ringers was re-formed about 17 years ago, and spoke of his early days at Kidderminster, when he made the acquaintance of old Worcestershire Association ringers, mentioning particularly James Bennett and John Woodberry.

Following the recently adopted practice, the collection for the belfry repairs fund was taken after tea, and it eventually realised 22s. 6d.

The branch secretary gave notice that he would not be offering himself for re-election in September and hoped that someone would be ready to take over the job.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

It had been hoped to reopen Farnham Royal bells, which are being restored in memory of the late Mr. J. J. Parker, before the end of this month, but it has been found necessary to postpone the ceremony, probably until September. Contributions to the fund should be sent without delay.

Mr. Gordon R. Cross has been given a commission in the Royal Navy, as Instructor-Lieutenant in the Education Department, and enters upon his duties at Greenwich after the summer vacation.

The recast peal at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, has recently been held up as one of the most pleasing rings of twelve in the country. The original twelve were opened just 140 years ago next Monday, with a peal of Grandsire Cinques rung by College Youths.

Fifteen years ago next Thursday, the Kent Treble Bob Major record of 17,280 changes, rung in ten hours, was set up at Over, in Cheshire.

Only 29 faults were registered in the touch of 600 changes of Killamash Treble Bob, by which Liversedge band won the Barnsley and District Shield contest on Saturday. They were run very closely by Sandal, who had only two more faults.

RINGS OF TWELVE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I think Mr. Pendragon's letter touches two points which, to me, seem to be important when judging peals of bells, viz., position and locality. We, at St. Nicholas', Liverpool, have a fine peal of 12, which are unfortunately hemmed in on three sides by huge offices and warehouses, which cause the sound of the bells, when ringing, to be beaten back against the tower, absolutely spoiling the effect. The other remaining side is open to the river, and when heard from the water they sound a magnificent peal.

I have never had the pleasure of hearing St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, but I am acquainted with the Quarry, and can quite imagine what they would sound like amongst such beautiful surroundings. Perhaps some of our famous London twelves would sound better under the same conditions.

Bootle.

E. F. BENNETT.

RINGING AT THEOLOGICAL COLLEGES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Your readers may be interested to know that as a result of the appeal which appeared in your issues of February 4th and March 11th, a sum of £5 was raised on behalf of the new bands at Kelham and Lichfield Theological College.

It will be remembered that the original intention was to supply them with handbells, but as both bands had in the meantime received a set of these from generous donors, it was decided to spend the money subscribed on ringing books for the college libraries.

The following books have, therefore, been purchased and sent off to them: For general reading, 'Bells Thro' the Ages' (Nichols), 'History and Art of Change Ringing' (Morris), 'The College Youths' (Trollope). Instructional, 'Ringers' Handbook (Powell), 'Ropesight', 'Standard Methods (diagrams), Treble Bob, Grandsire, Stedman (Snowdon series).

In addition, several other books have been sent direct by individual well-wishers, and these, as well as those mentioned above, have been placed in the libraries of the two colleges. In the case of the three items marked with an asterisk, several copies of each have been supplied so that in addition to those kept in the libraries a number will always be available for the students actually learning change ringing.

In acknowledging the books, Mr. Sargent, of Kelham, and Mr. Malcolm Melville, of Lichfield, ask me to convey their thanks and those of their bands to all your readers who have shown such interest in their efforts and contributed towards the gifts. They both report good progress with the handbell ringing, and I myself spent a day recently at Kelham and can testify to the rapid advance which has been made under Mr. Sargent's energetic leadership, and to the interest and enthusiasm for ringing which is being shown by a substantial number of the students. They have been able to get their first practice on tower bells this term, and are hoping to obtain more opportunities for gaining experience in this side of the art in the future.

In adding my own thanks to those of your readers who supported my appeal so generously, I should like to conclude by stating that at both Kelham and Lichfield Theological Colleges a copy of 'The Ringing World' is placed regularly each week with the other papers in the general common room, where it comes under the eye of many of our future clergy—quite apart from those actively interested in ringing who no doubt all take their own copies!

Bristol.

STEPHEN H. WOOD.

GOLDEN WEDDING CELEBRATED.

At All Saints' Church, Wath-on-Deane, on Saturday, June 25th, 1,728 of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung in honour of the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Ashwin. Mr. Ashwin was churchwarden of this church for many years. Those taking part were: T. Nicholls 1, W. Green 2, A. Panther 3, G. Lord 4, T. Cullingworth 5, E. Brookes 6, A. Gill 7, D. Smith (conductor) 8. Longest length of Major by the ringers of 1, 4 and 6, also longest touch of Major as conductor.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—27.**GEORGE MARTIN.**

There are some men who never come conspicuously into the lime-light, but yet, by their unostentatious and constant endeavour, and by ability displayed in a quiet way, earn a success of which they may be proud. George Martin, of Maidenhead, Berks, is one of these. His ringing career has been one long record of steady endeavour. If we except, perhaps, his share in the Australian tour, he has never been associated with what one may call the spectacular performances which have brought some men into prominence, but he has earned a high place among our leading conductors.

Born at Boyne Hill, in the Thames-side village of Bray, on July 7th, 1877, Mr. Martin began his ringing in Boyne Hill tower about the year 1893, and has been attached to the Sunday band at this church ever since. His first peal was rung there in 1895, and Mr. Martin is one of the comparatively few men who have called their own first peal. This was Grand-sire Triples. It is typical of him that he considers his best performances those rung among his own colleagues in his own tower, including Holt's Original, by a band of bachelors in 1899; Bob Major in 1903; Kent Treble Bob in 1905; Double Norwich later in the same year; Superlative Surprise in 1906; Cambridge in 1908; and London in 1930. All these peals were rung by a local band, all but the Original were the first in the method on the bells and all were conducted by Mr. Martin. This, indeed, is a record of solid, steady progress, marking the building up of a strong local company.

Altogether Mr. Martin has rung 521 peals in 38 counties in England, Ireland and Wales, and of these he has conducted 214.

Another group of peals of which he is naturally very proud are those rung on the Australian tour in 1934. Mr. Martin rang in the first peals of Bob Royal, Kent Treble Bob Major, Bob Major, Stedman Triples and Grand-sire Cinqs in the Commonwealth, of which he called the Treble Bob at Hobart, and the Stedman Triples at Ballarat, as well as the second peals of Kent and Stedman at Sydney. He has rung three handbell peals, two of Grand-sire Triples, which he conducted, and one of Bob Major on the Indian Ocean.

Among his other notable performances have been the first peal of Cambridge Surprise Major in Bucks, and four non-conducted peals—two of Cambridge Surprise, one of Yorkshire Surprise and one of Stedman Triples.

At one time Mr. Martin held the office of assistant secretary of the East Berks and South Bucks Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, and ever since has been a member of the General Committee. He joined the Oxford Guild when he began ringing so that he has been a member for nearly 45 years.

Next week: Mr. Harold G. Cashmore.

A GLOUCESTER RINGER'S DEATH.**MASTER OF CRYPT YOUTHS.**

A well-known Gloucester ringer passed away on June 19th in the person of Mr. Jesse Gillett, a member of the band at St. Mary de Crypt Church. He had been Master of the Ancient Society of Crypt Youths since 1907, and was, of course, an old member of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

The funeral service at St. Mary de Crypt was conducted by the Rev. E. D. S. Comus, and the hymns, 'There is a land' and 'On the Resurrection morning,' were sung.

The interment took place at the cemetery, and a course of Grand-sire Triples was rung at the graveside by four of Mr. Gillett's old friends: Messrs. S. E. Romans, J. Austin, J. Williams and G. Condict. Other ringers present were Messrs. J. Clark (Hereford Guild), H. Newman (Barnwood), H. Daniels, A. Martin and G. Case (Gloucester).

The Crypt Youths and St. Mary de Crypt choir sent wreaths.



MR. GEORGE MARTIN.

BATH & WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**INCREASED ACTIVITIES.****Master's Encouraging Report.**

The annual meeting of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association was attended by members from all parts of the diocese, but the total number present, about 50, was disappointingly low. Wells, however, is not easy of access from many parts of the county. Ringing took place at the Cathedral and at St. Cuthbert's. The association service was held at the latter, and the Vicar of Wells, the Rev. Preb. E. B. Cook, who conducted the service, gave an unusual and helpful address. Tea was served in the Church Room, and the business meeting commenced with the Rev. W. M. K. Warren (Master) in the chair. Apologies for absence were received from the Very Rev. the Dean of Wells, from Mr. W. Prescott and Mr. W. Farley. Routine business was quickly disposed of, and the Master's report adopted.

The Master's report for the past year said the prevailing decline in the number of ringers in some parts of the country did not appear to have affected the association. There were signs of increased activity all over the diocese. While a few towers had seceded through non-payment of subscriptions, the loss had been more than made up by the advent of new towers. The three new branch secretaries had all done good work and had persuaded more towers to join the Guild. The number of peals was less than that of last year, viz., 42. There was rather a preponderance of Doubles, but it was hoped this was but a stepping stone to higher methods. Among the peals was the first by all the band at Greinton—a noteworthy feat. Mrs. G. W. Fletcher, weighing 8 stone 3 lb., rang Wedmore tenor of 30 cwt. to a peal in perfect style. This was a tribute alike to Mrs. Fletcher's determination and to the work of the bellhangers, Mears and Stainbank.

The standard of striking was very high in some branches, while others stood in need of much improvement in this respect. Some service touches at meetings had been magnificent. The broadcast by the ringers of Backwell was typical of what a good broadcast should be. The ringers attempted nothing which was in the least degree 'chancy,' but rang Stedman Doubles with almost perfect rhythm. The president of the Central Council publicly praised the ringing, and this was indeed high praise. Mr. H. W. Knight, of Wrington, deserved commendation in that he had been the honorary instructor of the band. When the two trebles, which it is understood are in the offing, are added, good eight-bell ringing over the air can be looked forward to.

The balance in the funds was slightly increased, and it was likely that the increase would be more than maintained next year. In the last twelve years £30 had been added to the deposit and £84 9s. 6d. had been expended in grants to towers and in memorials without recourse to collections and without raising the annual subscriptions.

The Master added: I hear a great deal about the difficulty of keeping up the strength of local bands. I think there is much to be said for the suggestion of passing on the elder members of the choirboys, Sunday School and confirmation candidates into the tower. Not only do they often prove apt pupils, but it is also a way of keeping these boys in touch with the Church and saves them from the prevalent drift. I am sure the clergy would be only too glad to co-operate with the captains of bands if approached.

One non-resident life member, Mr. A. J. Corrigan, of Bristol, was elected.

Mr. J. Hunt gave a short account of the Central Council meeting at Leeds, in which he emphasised the wonderful hospitality of the Yorkshire Association. Arising out of his report, he proposed that the association support the publication of the Surprise Major book to the extent of £2.—This was seconded by Mr. J. T. Dyke.

The motion was strongly opposed by Mr. F. J. Smallwood and Mr. A. Wilkerson, but Mr. Hunt's proposition was carried.

The following recommendations of the committee were then put to the meeting and agreed to: (1) That quarterly meetings be held at Wellington, Weston-super-Mare and Mells. (2) That Miss N. G. Williams, the Rev. W. M. K. Warren, J. Hunt and J. Dyke represent the association on the next Central Council. (3) That a special meeting be held immediately before the annual at Yeovil in July, 1939. Business, proposed alterations to rules.

All the officers of the association were re-elected, viz.: The Rev. W. M. K. Warren, Master; Mr. J. T. Dyke, hon. secretary and treasurer; Mr. D. G. Taylor, hon. auditor. The hon. secretary was also voted the usual honorarium.

The meeting concluded with votes of thanks to all who had made the meeting a success.

Ringings of sorts, including Stedman Caters and Cambridge Major, was accomplished during the day.

OXFORD GUILD FUNDS.**To the Editor.**

Dear Sir,—As a practical change ringer and a member of the Oxford Diocesan Guild for 47 years, I fail to see what advantage ringers obtain from the association. Could not the fund for bell restorations and the investments be put to a more useful purpose to encourage the art of change ringing, something in the way of instructions, or the supply of bellropes, a copy of 'The Ringing World' in the tower every week, a report of the Guild activities to each member?

I have noticed in several towers lately only four or five ringers attending where there is a peal of eight bells. 'OXFORDSHIRE.'

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from page 446.)

MUFFLING OF BELLS.

The question of the muffling of bells has been three times before the Council, and the matter came up this year on a report from the officers. This stated that at the last meeting of the Council a report was submitted by the president, the adoption of which was recommended by the Standing Committee. It was agreed to request all secretaries of affiliated societies to furnish particulars of local customs, and details of these if thought suitable to be included in the final report, the completed report to be considered by the Standing Committee and, after approval, to be circulated to all members, and finally to be submitted to the ecclesiastical authorities.

The completed report has not been circulated to members owing to the difficulty in obtaining particulars of local customs, and in those cases where they have been received, the lack of time available for consideration has rendered it impossible to carry out the wishes of the Council.

The officers of the Council now present the original report as passed at the last meeting, together with extracts from the various letters received, and trust that the Council will indicate which of these are worthy of inclusion.

The original report stated: 'The practice of muffled ringing for Royalty or indeed for any person is comparatively recent. As far as we can trace, ringing with bells half-muffled or fully muffled was first practised by ringers as a mark of respect to deceased ringers, and was later introduced for persons other than ringers.'

Various customs have grown up in different parts of the country, and we think it undesirable that these customs should be changed. Where there is no fixed custom we should recommend the following practice:—

1. That as a mark of respect bells should be rung half-muffled (open at handstroke).
2. That bells should not be rung muffled for a service on a Sunday or feast day unless the service is a funeral or of the nature of a memorial service.
3. That if a death of Royalty occurs, or a death in a parish where a meeting has been arranged, either the bells should not be rung or be rung muffled in a few touches with carefully chosen bands. We deprecate the holding of an ordinary practice meeting with the bells muffled.
4. That all muffled ringing should be in as slow time as possible.
5. That certain local customs are worthy of more general adoption. For example, the Cambridge custom of setting up one bell at a time, gradually reducing the number and then tolling the age on the tenor, is very effective.

The report was accompanied by extracts from letters from numerous sources giving particulars of local customs.

In one letter referring to London it was stated 'the general practice in London is "half-muffling," and I think it gives the best result. It is the practice at St. Paul's and at Westminster Abbey, and I think those two instances could very well be a good lead.'

In presenting the report, the President said the Standing Committee had considered it, and of those local customs which were recorded, he thought mention might be made of that at Westminster Abbey and at St. Paul's Cathedral more particularly. It was suggested that the completion of the report should be left to the officers, who would put in one or two more examples of local customs which they thought worthy of more general practice, and then, subject to final approval by the Standing Committee, they should send the report round to the Church authorities as was originally suggested.

This course was agreed to.

EXTENDING PEALS OF DOUBLES.

The following motion was proposed by Mr. J. S. Goldsmith: 'This Council, desiring that peals of Doubles and Minor shall be put upon a similar basis, resolves that peals of Doubles, as already defined, may be lengthened at the end by one true touch of less than 120 changes.' He said that when, last year, the Council changed the definition of a peal of Doubles they were accused of being consistent only in their inconsistency. By an amendment that was passed they struck out from the new definition a paragraph which allowed an odd length of Doubles to be added to 42 or more complete six-scores. By so doing they certainly did something further to earn the criticism of being inconsistent, for a similar permission already existed in regard to the extension of a peal of Minor. The deletion of the paragraph from last year's motion also emphasised another thing; it showed the danger of altering considered definitions by unconsidered amendments, without giving the Council time or opportunity of calculating the exact effect. Mr. Goldsmith reviewed briefly the various steps which the Council had taken in its efforts to define peals of Doubles and Minor. They made one early attempt to define a peal of Minor, but eventually had to revoke it. It was not until 1912 that a definition of a peal of Minor was finally put into the 'Rules and Decisions.' That definition included permission to add a true touch at the end of seven or more complete 720's. In 1928, at Hereford, the definition of a peal of Minor was revised, and, for the first time, a definition was laid down for a peal of Doubles. The permissive touch at the end of a peal of Minor provided in the earlier definition was retained and was also included in the definition of a peal of Doubles. Last year this permission was

cut out of the Doubles definition. A lot was said at that time, in persuading the Council to amend the previous Doubles definition, about putting Doubles ringers on the same footing as Minor ringers, and yet the first thing they did was to rob Doubles ringers of one of the things they shared with Minor ringers. It was not often that odd lengths were rung either in peals of Minor or Doubles, but there was nothing to stop a band from doing it if they wished, and the Council might, therefore, just as well legalise it. At all events Doubles and Minor should undoubtedly be on the same footing, and it was for this reason and to save the Council from a further charge of inconsistency that he proposed the motion.

Mr. W. G. Wilson, who seconded the resolution, was the proposer of the motion, which last year altered the Council's definition of a peal of Doubles. He said that when, on that occasion, he accepted the amendment, striking out the permission to add a true touch at the end, he qualified his acceptance of it by saying he thought there was nothing fundamentally wrong about the odd touch, but he did accept the amendment, when perhaps he ought not to have done so. He accepted it because he did not want to do anything to prejudice his main motion and to make it necessary to bring the subject up year after year. He did not think it mattered two hoots whether they permitted these additions or not, but they must have it the same in both the Minor and Doubles. They could not permit it in one and disallow it in the other.

The Rev. H. Drake said he did not think any reason had ever been put forward for making this extraordinary addition to a peal of Minor or Doubles. If they were going to make any alteration, let them take it out altogether; they already had enough repetitions in a peal on five bells.

The motion was carried by a large majority.

In reply to a question, the President said if 42 six-scores had been rung and the ringers broke down in the additional touch, they would not be allowed to claim that they had rung a peal.

CANON ELSEE MEMORIAL.

The President said the Standing Committee required instructions about the grant made last year to the Canon Elsee Memorial. A year ago the Council voted three guineas to a memorial scheme which was to provide some additional bells at St. George's Church, Bolton. That scheme had now been abandoned, and it was proposed to erect a stained glass window. The Standing Committee wanted authority, if the donation was to be made to the new scheme. The appeal came to them signed by the Rev. Arthur Scott, president of the Lancashire Association.

Mr. T. Groombridge proposed that the three guineas be given to the revised scheme.

Mr. T. Clark seconded and the motion was agreed to.

Mr. J. Hunt said a friend of his had asked him to inquire if it were possible for the Council to publish a book on conducting.

The President: We will bear it in mind.

Mr. P. J. Johnson: May I suggest that they read Snowden's 'Rope-sight'?

Mr. A. D. Barker said the late Mr. J. Parker had left many books and papers relating to ringing. If the Council would like to have them he believed they could be obtained.

The President said he was sure the Council would agree they would be a valuable addition to the library. There must be a great deal of original research in them. An appeal was being made for the repair of Farnham Royal bells as a memorial to Mr. Parker.

The Hon. Secretary said a letter had been received from the Midland Counties Association suggesting that the Council's notice and agenda should be published and circulated at least a month before the meeting to enable associations to discuss the various matters and instruct their representatives. Mr. Fletcher pointed out that for the last six years the agenda had been sent out six or seven weeks before Whitsun. The Standing Committee, therefore, suggested that no action should be taken on the letter.—The Council endorsed this view.

HANDBELL RINGING AT GLASGOW EXHIBITION

The President said they had received a letter from Glasgow calling attention to the fact that the ringers of St. Mary's Cathedral had been ringing handbells outside the Episcopal Church every Saturday before evensong, and asking whether something more could be done by way of demonstrating change ringing at the exhibition. The Standing Committee decided that they could do nothing further, but it was interesting to know what was being done. He suggested they might write and thank the St. Mary's Society for what they were doing.—This was agreed to.

The Secretary reported that 92 members had signed the roll at that meeting. Twenty societies were fully represented by 47 members. 22 partly represented by 36 members, nine were unrepresented, and nine honorary members were present.

VOTES OF THANKS.

The President proposed an omnibus vote of thanks to all concerned in the arrangements for the meeting; in the first place to the Mayor and Corporation of the city of Leeds for their kindness in allowing the Council the use of the room for the meeting; to the Deputy Lord Mayor (Councillor Mrs. Hammond) for coming to welcome them; to the Vicar of Leeds for his words of welcome; and to the Yorkshire Association for their wonderful hospitality (applause). It seemed to him, said the President, that they had been a long time coming to

Yorkshire, but it had given the association a long time to save up (laughter). He would like to thank particularly Mr. Percy Johnson and his committee for all the arrangements they had made. The Council would agree they could not have done better (applause). They also thanked Dr. Moody, the organist of Ripon Cathedral, for the time he gave them on the previous day in conducting them round Fountains Abbey. They also thanked Mr. G. F. Woodhouse for bringing his ringing machine for their inspection and spending so much time in demonstrating it. Then they had to thank the Church authorities for the use of the various bells on which they had been ringing and the towerkeepers for having these bells in good order. Finally they had to thank Mr. Sherwood, who organised the coach trip, for the efficient way that was done.—The motion was carried by acclamation.

Canon G. F. Coleridge moved a vote of thanks to the president. Although that was the closing meeting of that session, he hoped they would find him in the chair again next year (applause). He thanked the president for the interest he took in the Council, and also Mr. and Mrs. Fletcher and the librarian for all the work they put in on behalf of the Council (applause).

This concluded the business and the Council then rose.

YORKSHIRE HOSPITALITY.

Afterwards the members and their friends were entertained to a meat tea at the Constitutional Club. A large party sat down and enjoyed a substantial meal.

Canon Marshall, in a happy speech, said they were proud to have the Council in Leeds. It was the first time the Central Council had honoured them with its presence in the city, and he hoped it would not be very many years before they came again. They had endeavoured to make the members enjoy themselves during their stay and had shown them some of the beauties of that great county (applause). One of the great difficulties in the Yorkshire Association was that they had to cover the whole of that huge county, of which the Council had seen just a wee bit on their tour the previous day. Perhaps the members of the Council would now sometimes sympathise with the officers of the association when they thought of what they had to do. They hoped the Council would take away happy memories of Yorkshire, of the broad acres and of the queer folk (laughter and applause).

Mr. P. J. Johnson added a word of welcome. They had saved up for some years to give the Council this welcome, said Mr. Johnson, amid laughter. He specially thanked Mr. Sherwood for his help, saying he did not know what he would have done without him. Neither did he know what Mrs. Sherwood had done without him (laughter). It was only their wives who knew how much time ringers spent away from home—the ringers themselves didn't (laughter). Mr. Sherwood had travelled over the county many times to fix up the outing which they had had on the previous day, and he had taken immense trouble. The committee felt more than gratified that the Council had enjoyed themselves. Leeds was the finest city in the finest county in England, and he hoped it would not be long before the Council came there again (applause).

The President said they were very grateful for all that had been done for them. They had had a marvellous time, and he thought the best way he could sum it up was in the words of one member, who wanted to propose that the meeting of the Council be held at Leeds permanently (laughter). He thanked the Yorkshire Association and the committee very sincerely for all they had done to make the meeting such a success.

After ringing at various churches in the evening, a social was held at headquarters (the Griffin Hotel), and the hours passed rapidly in friendly intercourse, music and handbell ringing. Further votes of thanks were passed in warm-hearted speeches, and the health of a number of people was drunk with musical honours. It was in the 'wee sma' coors' that the company finally broke up after one of the most successful and enjoyable meetings in the history of the Council.

During two days, Mr. G. F. Woodhouse had his wonderful ringing machine on view, and each evening demonstrated it to wondering and admiring groups of ringers. Its ingenuity staggered them, especially when, while one method was being rung, the machine was set to ring another and touches in 'spliced' methods were performed.

The Rev. F. L. Edwards, convener of the Literature, Press and Broadcasting Committee, writes: 'Until I read the report of the Central Council proceedings in "The Ringing World," a mistake in the Literature and Press Committee's report had escaped my notice. In the last paragraph on broadcasting the reference should have been to Coronation Day, 1938—not 1937—that is, to the anniversary of the Coronation. I shall be much obliged to you if you will publish this correction, with apologies for the error.'

NOTICES.

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

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual festival will be held at Oxford on Saturday, July 16th. Service in Cathedral at 11.15 a.m. Preacher, Bishop R. G. Shedden, D.D. Business meeting in Chapter House immediately after service. Dinner in Christ Church Hall at 1.30 p.m.—R. T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

COMBINED MEETING.—Ladies' Guild (Southern District) annual meeting, and Guildford Diocesan Guild (Guildford District) quarterly meeting, at Pirbright on Saturday, July 16th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting.—H. F. Mills, Hon. Sec., Ladies' Guild, Maiden Combe, Northbrook Road, Aldershot.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Hampton-in-Arden, near Solihull, Warwickshire, on Saturday, July 16th. Bells available at 3.30 p.m. Short service at 4.30. Tea 5.15. Business meeting to follow.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham, 11.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—North Norfolk Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Horsham St. Faith's on Saturday, July 16th. Bells (6) will be available from 2.30 p.m. Service in church at 4.15 p.m. Tea in Church Room at 5 p.m.—H. Tooke, Branch Sec., The Lizard, Wymondham, Norfolk.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—The next meeting will be held at Great Totham on Saturday, July 16th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting after.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Upper Arbour Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Little Munden on July 16th. Service, tea and meeting will be as usual. Kindly send a card if you are coming as catering facilities are not easy here. All ringing friends welcomed. Buses from Hertford Car Park to Dane End 10 minutes to every hour; nine minutes later from Ware level crossing.—W. H. Lawrence, Hon. Dis. Sec., Little Munden, Ware, Herts.

GREAT BENTLEY, ESSEX.—Reopening of the bells, restored in a new frame and rehung, through the generosity of Mr. W. J. Nevard, by Messrs. Bowell and Son, of Ipswich, on July 16th. Dedication service at 3 p.m. by the Lord Bishop of Chelmsford. Tea will be provided free to all who send their names to Mr. W. J. Nevard, Myrtle Cottage, Great Bentley, near Colchester. Good train service to Bentley and back in the evening.—J. R. Sparling, Hon. Sec., N.E. Div. Essex Association.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, July 16th, at Hough-on-the-Hill. Bells (6) available from 2 to 9 p.m. Usual arrangements. Tea and business meeting at the School.—C. T. H. Bradley, Hon. Sec.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Central Branch.—A ringing meeting will be held at Fordham on Saturday, July 16th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m., tea 5 p.m. Please notify numbers for tea to Mr. J. W. Pickett, School House, Fordham, Cambs. All ringers welcome.—F. Warrington, Dis. Sec.

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WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Hambledon on Saturday, July 16th. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at the New Inn 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—A. T. Greenwood, 6, Sheffield Road, Portsmouth.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Salisbury Branch. — Meeting at Wilton (the Carpet Town) on Saturday, July 16th. Strange but magnificent church, with 110 ft. campanile. Ringing on 6 bells (tenor 8 cwt.) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. Direct bus service every ten minutes from Salisbury Market (return fare 5d.).

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — A meeting of the Northern District will be held at Birstwith, on Saturday, July 16th. Bells (8) available for ringing during the afternoon and evening. Short service in the church at 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m. A short business meeting will be held immediately after tea.—Edward Hudson, 4, Keldale Terrace, Sharow, Ripon.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — West Dorset Branch.—A meeting will be held at Beaminster on Saturday, July 16th. Bells (8), recently rehung by Taylors, available at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow.—C. H. Lathey, Branch Sec., Malmaison, Bradpole, Bridport.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD. — The July quarterly meeting will be held at Monk's Kirby, near Rugby, on Saturday, July 16th. Bells (8) available during afternoon and evening. Tea at Denbigh Arms at a moderate charge, followed by business meeting.—D. E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch. — The quarterly meeting of the Manchester Branch will be held at Flixton on July 16th. Bells ready 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Price of tea 1s. 3d.—Joseph H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

SPECIAL SUMMER ATTRACTION.—The Loughborough district of the Midland Counties Association will be holding a meeting at Copt Oak on July 16th, and would welcome visitors from all parts. See the beauties of the glorious Charnwood Forest, and brush up your Minor methods at the same time. Tea on Vicarage lawn at 5 p.m. Evensong 6 p.m. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Don't forget p.c. for tea to H. O. Over, Huglescote.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—An extra meeting of the Lincoln District will be held at Branston (6 bells) on Saturday, July 16th. Tea will be served at a very moderate charge.—K. W. Mayer, Dis. Sec.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Meeting of Southampton District at Eling on Saturday, July 16th. Bells from 2.30. Tea at 5. Diben bells after tea.—G. Pullinger, 17, Stoke Park Road, Bishopstoke, Hants.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts Branch. —A meeting will be held at St. Neots on Saturday, July 16th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock.—H. J. Parker, Dis. Sec., Great Staughton, St. Neots.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—Mid-quarterly meeting at Peatling Parva, July 16th. Bells (5) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m.—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec., 53, Landseer Road, Leicester.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Condover, Saturday, July 16th. Nice ring of 8. Usual arrangements.—W. A. Farmer, 70, Oakfield Road, Shrewsbury.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The contest for the Society's Silver Cup will take place at Clowne Church, Clowne, near Chesterfield, on Saturday, July 16th. Draw 2.30 p.m. Open ringing after contest. For tea please notify Mr. W. Kennan, c/o Mr. Cleavis, 13, Creswell Road, Clowne, Chesterfield. All welcome.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 13, St. Ronans Road, Sheffield 7.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The monthly meeting of the district will be held at Trowell on Saturday, July 16th. Bells (6) ready 3 p.m. Tea can be arranged close to church. Plenty of buses. Subscriptions are now overdue. Will members kindly oblige? Come and try this little peal of six where the president of the Central Council spent his early days in ringing, also the district secretary. All ringers welcome.—E. C. Gobey, Dis. Sec., Trowell, Notts.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chester Branch.—The summer meeting will be held at Farndon on Saturday, July 16th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30, followed by tea.—J. W. Clarke, Hon. Secretary, Wayside, Circular Drive, Chester.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—The Bishop of Guildford will dedicate two new bells at Ewhurst (present peal of six) on July 17th at 3.15 p.m. The Rector of Ewhurst kindly invites district ringers to the ceremony. Please note change of address.—W. F. J. Cope, Hon. Sec., 26, Curling Vale, Guildford.

EWHURST, NEAR GUILDFORD.—The bells will be dedicated by the Bishop of Guildford on Sunday, July 17th, at 3.15 p.m. The former ring of six restored, augmented to eight and hung in a new framework by John Taylor and Co.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637). — Practices for July—all at 7.30 p.m.: *19th, St. Paul's Cathedral; 21st, St. Magnus; 26th, Southwark Cathedral. *Business meeting afterwards.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

KIRTLINGTON, OXON.—At 6.30 p.m., on Thursday, July 21st, the Rev. Canon Batchelor, D.C.L., will dedicate the ring of eight bells which has been restored and rehung in a new framework by John Taylor and Co.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD (Leatherhead District) **AND SURREY ASSOCIATION** (N.W. District).—A joint meeting will be held at Ranmore on Saturday, July 23rd. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30, followed by tea. Please send numbers for tea to A. H. Smith, Drakelow, Howard Road, Great Bookham, as early as possible.—A. H. Smith and F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Secs.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Bexley, on Saturday, July 23rd. Bells (recently augmented to 8) available at 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea and business meeting to follow. Tea, by kind invitation of the Vicar, will be provided only for those notifying me not later than Tuesday, July 19th. Half-fares, maximum 2s., will be paid to members attending this meeting.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere, Kent.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION (St. Albans District) **AND MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD** (N. and E. District).—A joint meeting will be held at North Mimms on Saturday, July 23rd. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. Please notify numbers for tea to B. Spencer, Churchyard Cottage, N. Mimms, Hatfield. — Harold V. Frost and Gilbert R. Goodship, Dis. Secs.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District. — Meeting at Northchurch on Saturday, July 23rd. Bells (a delightful 8) ready from 3. To make the necessary arrangements, those who require tea (at 5.15 p.m.) are asked to let me know by the Thursday previous. Friends from *Beds and Bucks* cordially invited. — W. Ayre, Hon. Sec., Leverstock Green.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wotton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at North Nibley, between Wotton-under-Edge and Dursley, on Sat., July 23rd. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 p.m., at The White Hart. All visitors welcome. — W. J. Smith, 130, Station Road, Yate, Bristol.

A **JOINT MEETING** of the Suffolk Guild and Norfolk Association will be held on Saturday, July 23rd, at Elveden. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. till 8 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. All ringers welcome to this beauty spot. — R. Sharpe and A. Harrison, Hon. Dis. Secs.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wellingborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Castle Ashby on Saturday, July 23rd. Service at 4.30. Permission to walk round Castle Grounds. Make up your mind and send me a card re tea. — Arthur Bigley, Hon. Branch Sec., 30, Allen Road, Irthlingborough.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Waldron on Saturday, July 23rd. Tower open 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock at the Rectory. Half rail fares (maximum 1s. 6d.). Will members intending to be present let me know Wednesday previous to meeting. — A. C. Pankhurst, Hon. Div. Sec., 13, Bradford Street, Eastbourne.

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD.—Annual Festival at Brecon, July 23rd. Service 3 p.m. Address by Canon W. J. Thomas, Vicar of Gorseinon. Tea 4 p.m. Meeting 4.30 p.m. Please notify number for tea to L. T. Havard, 2, Harp Terrace, Brecon.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District. —The next meeting will be held on Saturday, July 23rd, at Acton. Parish Church of St. Mary (8 bells, tenor 14 cwt.). Ringing from 3 p.m. and after tea. Short service at 5 p.m. Tea in the Parish Room, free, at the invitation of the Rector, but guaranteed only to those who notify the undersigned by July 21st. Reports available, subscriptions due. — J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Sec., 16, St. Stephen's Road, West Ealing, W.13.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—A general meeting will be held at Debenham on Saturday, July 23rd. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m., and at Stonham Aspal (10 bells) after tea. Please advise numbers for tea, Parish Hall, gd. each. — H. G. Herbert, Hon. Sec., 61, Acton Lane, Sudbury.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Northern District. —A meeting will be held at Helmsley on Saturday, July 23rd. Bells (8) available during afternoon and evening. Names for tea (at a charge of 1s. 6d.) to Mr. F. S. Ricketts, Church Street, Helmsley, before Wednesday, the 20th. A hearty welcome from all concerned to all interested, a beautiful and interesting church, and a fine day? — Edward Hudson, Hon. Sec., Northern District.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — The summer festival at Wisbech on Saturday, July 23rd. Bells (10) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock. — Kitty Willers, Gen. Sec., Sweetbriars, Trumpington, Cambridge.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District. —Quarterly meeting at Woburn on Saturday, July 23rd. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. A special invitation to all ringers. — F. J. Plummer, Hon. Sec.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Alton and Petersfield District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Liss on Saturday, July 23rd. New ring of eight bells by Mears and Stainbank available from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea in St. Mary's Hall 5.15. Business meeting follows. Please let me know numbers for tea by Wednesday, July 20th. — C. E. Bassett, Hon. Dis. Sec., 32, Charles Street, Petersfield.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next practice has been arranged at Stoke Poges (8 bells) on Saturday, July 23rd, at 6.30 p.m. Have you sent your contribution to the Farnham Royal Restoration Fund (J. J. Parker Memorial)? — A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Bentley on Saturday, July 23rd. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Will those requiring tea please let me know not later than Wednesday, the 20th? — Ernest Cooper, Hon. Sec., 1, Grosvenor Crescent, Arksey, near Doncaster, Yorks.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Harlestone, on Saturday, July 23rd. Usual arrangements. Names for tea by July 20th. — J. C. Dean, Hon. Sec., 16, St. Peter's Street, Northampton.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Next meeting of the Southern District will be held at Gainford on Saturday, July 23rd. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. All ringers welcome. — J. T. Titt, Hon. Dis. Sec., 54, Newlands Road, Darlington.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Parbold on Saturday, July 23rd. Bells available from 3 p.m. — S. Forshaw, 38, Poolstock, Wigan.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Meeting of the Gloucester Branch will be held at Whitminster on Saturday, July 23rd. Bells (6) open at 3 p.m. Usual procedure. Tea at 5.15 p.m. Will those requiring tea kindly notify me by 19th inst. — W. H. Harris, Hon. Branch Secretary, 4, G.W.R. Terrace, Lydney Dock, Lydney.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Hunslet (St. Mary's) on Saturday, July 23rd. Names for tea to Mr. A. Cole, 26, Exchange Street, Leeds, by July 20th. All Balm Road trams from near City station pass the church. — H. Loft-house, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—The summer meeting will be held at Netherseale on Saturday, July 23rd. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m. Usual tea arrangements. A good attendance is requested, so that a hearty welcome may be given to the newly-appointed Rector of Seale, Rev. Dr. W. J. Beale, M.A. Wednesday, July 20th, last day for postcard re tea. Thank you. — J. W. Cotton, Overseale, Burton-on-Trent.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Halton Holgate, near Spilsby, on Saturday, July 23rd. Bells (6) available from 2.30. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea at the Bell Inn at 5 p.m. Will all intending to be present for tea please inform me by Tuesday, July 19th.—W. E. Clarke, Hon. Sec., Park House, 99, Norfolk Street, Boston.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Thrapston Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Tichmarsh on Saturday, July 23rd. Ringing from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30, followed by tea and meeting.—W. J. Whitmore, Hon. Sec., Raunds, Northants.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Iron Acton, on Saturday, July 23rd. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Please endeavour to attend this affiliated tower.—R. C. Gifford, Branch Sec.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Draycott on Saturday, July 23rd. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Committee meeting after tea. Will those requiring tea kindly notify Mr. W. Shelley, The Wentlow, Tean, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, not later than July 20th?—Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec., 37, Broad Street, Newcastle, Staffs.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Dorchester Branch.—A meeting will be held at Wool on Saturday, July 23rd. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. West Lulworth bells (6) also available.—C. H. Jennings, Hon. Sec., 3, Sunnyside Road, Wyke Regis, Weymouth.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bridgnorth Branch.—The next meeting of this branch will be held at Merville on Saturday, July 23rd. Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., followed by meeting. Those requiring tea please notify the undersigned.—H. G. Thomas, Hildon, Victoria Road, Bridgnorth.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cary Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Marston Magna on Saturday, July 23rd. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30, followed by tea. Queen Camel bells also available. Postcard for tea, please.—W. A. Osborn, Branch Sec., Galhampton, Yeovil.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Jurisdiction of Glaston Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Croscombe on Saturday, July 23rd. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow.—W. H. Marsh, Dove Cottages, Street.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch.—The summer meeting will be held at Checkendon on Saturday, July 23rd. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. Service 5.15 p.m., collection for Bell Restoration Fund. Tea 6 p.m. in the Village Hall. Please let Rev. R. D. St. G. Edwards, Checkendon Rectory, know how many for tea.—E. G. Foster, Hon. Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—A meeting of the Grimsby District will be held at Elsham on Saturday, July 23rd. Bells (6) ready 2.15. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., in the School, at 1s. 3d. per head. Everybody is welcome, only send a postcard to Mr. G. Elsom, Elsham, Brigg, by the Wednesday previous, and reserve your tea. Business meeting to follow.—H. Mingay, Hon. Dis. Sec., 394, Wellington Street, Grimsby.

WINWICK, HUNTS.—The dedication of the restored peal of five bells on Wednesday, July 27th, at 7.45 p.m., by the Right Rev. H. Crotty, D.D. All ringers welcome.—K. Willers, Gen. Sec., Ely Diocesan Association.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.—The annual meeting will be held at Old Glossop Parish Church on July 30th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting from 7.30 p.m.—Carus Wilson, Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Rochdale (3 p.m. to 9 p.m.), on Saturday, July 30th. Business meeting (election of a committee man) at 6.30 p.m. in the tower. A hearty invitation to all ringers and friends.—Stephen Lloyd Parry, Branch Sec., 24, St. James' Street, Milnrow, Rochdale.

LOOK OUT! THIS IS IT. DUFFIELD (10 bells). The home of the Duffield Method. Book the date, July 30th. A special ringing meeting, 2.30 to 8.30, is one of the privileges given by the Vicar, Dr. Irwin, to use the bells, and all ringers and friends welcome. Duffield is delightfully situated in the country, on the banks of the River Derwent, among the green fields, makes one prefer to ramble and listen to the music of the bells across the meadows. All ringers guaranteed a ring. Trent bus service from Derby every 10 minutes. Car parking free. Five o'clock tea can be arranged at a nominal charge. Further information, write Mr. James Pagett 19, Lynton Street, Derby.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Quarterly meeting at Cliffe, near Rochester, July 30th. Full particulars next week.—G. H. Spice, Hon. Sec., 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne.

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