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FRIDAY, JUNE 30th, 1939.

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transmission as a newspaper.]

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Founders
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GREATEST OF ALL MINOR PEALS.

Something approaching the limit of possibility in a peal of spliced Minor must have been reached in North Lincolnshire on Saturday, when one hundred and two methods were included in seven extents. This has followed closely upon a peal in one hundred methods, the details of which appear in this issue. These are astonishing performances, upon which every ringer, and more particularly those who have had experience of spliced ringing, will congratulate the band most heartily. For the past three years or so there has been a friendly rivalry between the Lincoln and the Chester Guilds in this particular phase of ringing, and we are sure that none will be warmer in their praise of the achievement than the Cheshire ringers, who had held the lead since July last year. These peals must rank as the greatest of all peals of Minor.

It is sometimes argued that, as there are only slight constructional differences between the members of certain groups of Minor methods, splicing of this description is not as difficult as some people would have us believe. Within a limited scope there may be some truth in this, but it must be admitted that to memorise a hundred methods and be prepared and able to strike off into one or other of them at a second's notice requires a grasp of the subject and a training that is far beyond that demanded in the average spliced peal. Not only must all these methods, and their names, be at the finger ends of the ringers, but every one of the band must be keyed up to the highest pitch throughout the peal, while the conductor's share in the success is, of course, a gigantic one and his task stupendous. It is, apart from the actual ringing of so many methods, an extraordinary feat of memory and a terrific tax upon one's mental energy to call a peal of this sort. Mr. George Feirn has completed an achievement of outstanding merit, and he might now very well rest upon his laurels. In any case, there can be very little further mathematical scope in Minor splicing. There are constructional limitations to the number of methods that can be crowded into seven true extents, and these limits must have well nigh been reached.

These latest performances seem a far cry from 1911, when the late Rev. H. Law James first showed, in a practical manner, the possibility of splicing by ringing a peal in fourteen methods. At that time, even he could not have foreseen the lengths to which his new ideas would be carried. It would not be an unfitting climax, therefore, if the ultimate record rested with the Guild for which he rang that first peal. As long as the limit, imposed by the laws of our science, remains unreached, how-

(Continued on page 410.)

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borough, Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's,
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ever, there will probably be bands ready to strive for the laurels, but whatever achievements remain for the future, nothing can detract from the greatness of the performances of the company that, at Bassingham on June 16th, were the first to ring one hundred methods in a peal, and have since even excelled this performance.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 6019 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

HAROLD G. JENNEY Treble	FREDERICK H. DEXTER ... 7
SIDNEY O. CHENEY 2	WILLIAM J. ROOT 8
*CHARLES H. WEBB 3	HARRY BROUGHTON 9
ERNEST W. ROWSON 4	COLIN HARRISON 10
HARRY WAYNE 5	ARNOLD BRUNTON 11
SHIRLEY BURTON 6	JOHN GRANT Tenor

Composed by F. H. DEXTER. Conducted by ARNOLD BRUNTON.

* First peal on twelve bells.

TEN BELL PEALS.

WIGAN, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 6021 CHANGES;

Tenor 29 cwt.

JOHN BOOTH Treble	†STANLEY MAJOR 6
*JOHN MAJOR 2	GEORGE T. JENKS 7
ALBERT PARKER 3	JAMES W. GROUNDS 8
†WILLIAM H. SETTLE 4	PETER CROOK, SEN. 9
SYDNEY FORSEAW 5	CHARLES SHARPLES Tenor

Composed by J. COX. Conducted by PETER CROOK, SEN.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.' ‡ First peal of Caters. Rung as a welcome to their Majesties the King and Queen on their return from overseas.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 6040 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt.

STANLEY E. ARMSTRONG ... Treble	*RAYMOND WOOD, JUN. ... 6
KENNETH SNELLING 2	FRANK I. HAIRS 7
MRS. F. I. HAIRS 3	C. ERNEST SMITH 8
ALFRED W. GROVES 4	OLIVER SIPPETTS 9
WILLIAM T. BEESON 5	FREDERICK W. ROGERS ... Tenor

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by FREDK. W. ROGERS.

* First peal of Surprise Royal.

WRINGTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 6025 CHANGES;

Tenor 37 cwt.

HERBERT W. KNIGHT ... Treble	ALFRED E. REEVES 6
JOHN H. B. HESSE 2	J. FRANK SMALLWOOD 7
MRS. J. THOMAS 3	RONALD G. BECK 8
JOHN THOMAS 4	JOSEPH T. DYKE 9
DONALD G. CLIFT 5	HENRY VOWELS Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by JOHN THOMAS.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Knight on the occasion of their silver wedding.

WELCOME HOME.

As a welcome home to the King and Queen from the royal tour, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor (1,260 changes) was rung at Cosgrave, Northants, on June 22nd: E. R. Lambert 1, R. G. Abrahams 2, E. C. Lambert (conductor) 3, F. Tustian 4, J. Higgins 5, R. Howson 6.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

ROLVENDEN, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.)

On Saturday, June 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 16 cwt.

F. CHAPMAN Treble	ALBERT H. KEMP 5
A. STEVENSON 2	H. J. POPE 6
G. MASKELL 3	J. G. POWELL 7
JAMES AVERY 4	ALFRED BLACKBURN Tenor

Composed by J. G. POWELL.

A birthday compliment to the ringers of the 2nd and 4th.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, June 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, BRISTOL, SUPERLATIVE & CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 10½ cwt.

GILBERT E. DEBENHAM ... Treble	FRANCIS KIRK 5
HENRY HODGETTS 2	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW ... 6
EDWIN JENNINGS 3	Cecil C. MAYNE 7
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY ... 4	HAROLD G. CASHMORE ... Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN.

Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

The peal consisted of 2,240 London, 1,728 Bristol and 576 each of Superlative and Cambridge, with 116 changes of method. The first peal of Spliced Surprise on the bells and by the Guild.

SHILDON, DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 17, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

*D. G. COATES Treble	S. BRYANT 5
J. TAYLOR 2	J. PENTLAND 6
J. WEST 3	G. W. HUTCHINSON 7
†J. L. BROWN 4	R. B. ROBINSON Tenor

Composed by B. ANNABLE.

Conducted by R. B. ROBINSON.

* First peal. † First peal on eight bells.

HOLLESLEY, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, June 17, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes;

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

CLAUDE SNOWDEN Treble	FRANK CLAYDON 5
*SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER 2	HILDA G. SNOWDEN 6
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY 3	LEWIS W. WIFFEN 7
LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN 4	Cecil W. PIPE Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by L. W. WIFFEN.

* First peal in the method. First peal of Bristol on the bells.

SHIFNAL, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 17, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt. in E flat.

*JOHN F. BUTLER Treble	G. LEONARD HEWITT 5
WILLIAM A. FARMER 2	WILLIAM J. CHESTER 6
†ROBERT EVANS 3	EDWARD V. RODENHURST ... 7
THOMAS PRICE 4	ARTHUR PRITCHARD Tenor

Composed by G. R. NEWTON.

Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.

* First peal on eight bells. † First peal of Major.

WEST BROMWICH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

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

On Wednesday, June 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 15 lb.

DANIEL T. MATKIN Treble	MAURICE G. TURNER 5
RONALD I. SHEPHERD 2	HOWARD HOWELL 6
SIDNEY O'C. HOLLOWAY 3	JOHN S. MASON 7
GEORGE H. WILLIAMS 4	JAMES H. SHEPHERD Tenor

Composed by GEO. HUGHES. Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.

First peal in the method on the bells.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, June 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb. in D.

FREDERICK OLDROYD Treble	JOHN HOYLE 5
GEORGE MARRINER 2	ALFRED H. PULLING 6
ALFRED H. WINCH 3	GEORGE E. CLODE 7
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON 4	ALBERT HARMAN Tenor

Composed by G. H. CROSS.

Conducted by ALBERT HARMAN.

Arranged and rung on the occasion of the 'youth rally' at the new Cathedral.

HARWELL, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, June 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 26 lb. in E.

ALBERT E. LOCK Treble	WILLIAM C. PORTER 5
MARIE R. CROSS 2	*REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG 6
JONATHAN HONEY 3	†ALFRED H. WEBB 7
JOHN NOBES 4	ALAN R. PINK Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* First peal of Major in the method. † First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL GUILD.)

On Friday, June 23, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt. 5 lb. in A flat.

ADAM DEAS Treble	CHARLES E. LAWSON 5
JOHN ANDERSON 2	*ERNEST WALLACE 6
JOSEPH E. R. KEEN 3	WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON 7
WILLIAM STORY 4	WILLIAM H. BARBER Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS.

Conducted by W. J. DAVIDSON.

* First peal in the method.

EAST DEREHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CAMPANILE OF THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF FULBECK BOB MAJOR, 5182 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. 2 qr. 17 lb. in E flat.

JOHN A. GODFREY Treble	WILLIAM E. BASON 5
MISS G. E. M. TUNNADINE ... 2	GEORGE SAYER 6
GEORGE MAYERS 3	BERTIE J. HOWCROFT 7
NORMAN V. HARDING 4	NOLAN GOLDEN Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

First peal in the method by all, on the bells and for the association. Mr. W. E. Bason's 200th peal for the association.

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LONGTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, June 22, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

*WILLIAM J. CARTER Treble	EDWARD STEELE 5
NEVILLE R. HOLLAND 2	ANDREW THOMPSON 6
*HENRY CARTER 3	ALAN D. STEELE 7
† WILLIAM PERKINS 4	HENRY HALL Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by HENRY HALL.

* First peal of Major. † First peal of Major 'inside.' First peal of Major as conductor. Rung to celebrate the homecoming of their Majesties from the Dominion of Canada and the U.S.

MONKS KIRBY, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, June 22, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. EDITH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

*CECIL E. CARR Treble	WILLIAM A. WOOD 5
WILLIAM BOTTRILL 2	ALFRED BALLARD 6
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD 3	*FRANK K. MEASURES 7
W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON 4	ARTHUR DERENHAM Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by WILLIAM BOTTRILL

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

WESTHAM, SUSSEX.

THE HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Monday, May 29, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents.

Tenor 10 cwt.

*ARTHUR ROLF Treble	ALBERT H. KEMP 4
GEORGE MASKELL 2	C. A. LEVETT 5
ARCHIBALD STEVENSON 3	J. G. POWELL Tenor

Conducted by J. G. POWELL.

* First peal of Minor. Rung in honour of the wedding of Miss E. V. Stevenson (daughter of the ringer of the 3rd) to Mr. A. Ballard.

ST. MARY BOURNE, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, June 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Ten different callings.

Tenor 12 cwt.

*HENRY PHILLIPS Treble	*ALFRED KIMPTON 4
*RONALD PHILLIPS 2	JAMES HOLLOWAY 5
LESLIE TRICKEY 3	*FREDERICK PAYNE Tenor

Conducted by JAMES HOLLOWAY.

* First peal. First peal as conductor. First peal on the bells. Rung in honour of His Majesty the King's birthday.

WROXHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three 720's of Plain Bob.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

ERNEST BENSON Treble	GEORGE BAILEY 4
W. C. MEDLER 2	ERIC DURRANT 5
J. N. A. PUMPHREY 3	ERNEST V. BLAKE Tenor

Conducted by E. V. BLAKE.

OLD CHESTERTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(SOCIETY OF CAMBRIDGE YOUTHS.)

On Tuesday, June 13, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

*FREDERICK C. NEWMAN ... Treble	VICTOR CHAPMAN 4
ERNEST G. HIBBENS 2	ALFRED RAYNER 5
JOHN V. CROSS 3	JAMES W. R. QUINNEY ... Tenor

Conducted by JAMES W. R. QUINNEY.

* First peal.

BROCKENHURST, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, June 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720's of Kent Treble Bob and four 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 4 cwt. 1 qr. 12 lb. in B flat.

*FREDERICK EATON ... Treble	EDWARD T. GRIFFIN 4
STANLEY E. ANDREWS ... 2	MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY ... 5
F. FRANKLIN RIGBY 3	A. PATRICK CANNON Tenor

Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.

* First peal of Minor. First peal in two methods on the bells.

BASSINGHAM, Lincs.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Friday, June 16, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents in 100 methods:—

1. Blaxhall, Mitcham, Stanhoe, Stratton, Stonehouse, Ringstead, Hayes, Sharnbrook, Finchley, Ellacombe, Buxton, Wordsley, Lamherhurst, Harmondsworth, Bramfield Alliance, Crayford Little Court, and Little Bob.
2. Windermere, Frodsham, Killarney, Horsmonden, Ennerdale, Cumberland, Lytham, Thelwall, London Bob, Double Oxford, Waver-tree, Childwall, College, St. Clement's, Canterbury Pleasure, Fulbeck, Reverse Bob, Double Bob and Plain Bob.
3. Langton, Candlesby, Alford, Tattershall, Benington, Freiston, Frampton, Butterwick, Poynton, Chelford, Denton, Sutton, Leake, Wrangle Alliance, and Bastow Little Court.
4. Bicker, Gedney, Gunby, Spilsby, Wainfleet, Surfleet, Spalding, Pinchbeck, Sibsey, Gosberton Alliance, and Kent Little Court.
5. Chalfont, Cromer, Stevenston, Tibenham, Fulmer, Walsingham, Lammam, Olney, Northaw, Penshurst Alliance, Crayford Little Court, and Little Bob.
6. Charlwood, Neasden, St. Albans, Wragby, Newdigate, Old Oxford, College Bob IV., Willesden, Humber, Braintree, Taxal, Marple, Clarence, Elston Delight, and Morning Star Treble Bob.
7. Capel, Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston, Ockley, Duke of Norfolk, College Exercise, Norbury, Oxford Treble Bob, Carisbrooke, Wath, Donottar, and Pontefract Delight.

Tenor 13 cwt.

FRANK LORD Treble	JACK BRAY 4
MRS. J. BRAY 2	JACK L. MILLHOUSE 5
CHARLES MCGUINNESS ... 3	GEORGE E. FEIRN Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. FEIRN.

There were 189 changes of method. The greatest number of methods yet rung in seven true and complete extents.

MARPLE, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, June 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF SPLICED TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents in 39 methods, viz:—

1. Dover, Fotheringay, Skipton, Balmoral and Chepstow Delight.
2. Ely, Bogedone, Knutsford, Wilmslow and Rostherne Delight.
3. Canterbury, Abbeyville, Crowland, Combermere, Vale Royal and St. Werburgh Delight.
4. Taxal, Marple, Newdigate, Old Oxford, College Bob IV. and Willesden Delight.
5. Humber, Braintree, Charlwood, Neasden, St. Albans and Wragby Delight.
6. Disley Delight, Morning Star, Ockley, Duke of Norfolk, College Exercise and Norbury Treble Bob.
7. Oxford, Capel, Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure and Kingston Treble Bob.

Tenor 17 cwt. (approx.).

*JOCELYN B. GARDINER ... Treble	JOHN WORTH 4
*REV. FRANK BONNER ... 2	JOSEPH WHITTAKER 5
C. KENNETH LEWIS 3	JAMES A. MILNER Tenor

Conducted by C. K. LEWIS.

* First peal in 39 methods. Sixty-five changes of method. Rung in honour of the birth of a daughter to the Rev. F. S. Spackman, Vicar of this parish, and Mrs. Spackman.

BELL ROPES

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SOFT AND PLIABLE IN HAND. ALL ROPES SENT
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Cheap Quotations. Established 150 years. Phone 203.

DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

OFFLEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's.

Tenor 16 cwt.

EDWIN G. BUCK Treble	HERBERT W. ELSE 4
*MISS FLORENCE K. HARTLE 2	STANLEY WALLIS 5
†HENRY LAWRENCE 3	PERCY W. TOMPKINS Tenor

Conducted by P. W. TOMPKINS.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal 'inside.'

THORNHAM MAGNA, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, June 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of three extents of Plain Bob and two each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob.

LESLIE W. FOSTER Treble	RUSSELL W. WARD 4
LEONARD H. LOCK 2	*BERTIE ALDRIDGE 5
FREDERICK G. POPPY 3	ARCHIE W. LOCK Tenor

Conducted by A. W. LOCK.

* First peal on six bells. Rung half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. Isaac Moss.

WATTON, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

JOHN CLARKE Treble	LESLIE HODGKINSON 4
ALFRED BACON 2	JOHN BUCKENHAM 5
*CHARLES BANHAM 3	WILLIAM BUCKENHAM Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM BUCKENHAM.

* First peal in four methods.

FRANT, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THE EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, June 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of: (1) Oxford Bob and Single Court; (2) St. Clement's Bob and Double Oxford; (3) Double and Single Bob; (4) Double Court; (5) Cambridge Surprise; (6) Oxford Treble Bob; (7) Kent Treble Bob.

CHARLES A. BASSETT Treble	FRANK H. HICKS 4
ARTHUR F. LEWRY 2	LESLIE W. JARVIS 5
WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE 3	ALBERT RELFE Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT RELFE.

First peal in ten methods by all.

TYBERTON, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, June 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings.

Tenor 6½ cwt.

HORACE D. WRIGHT Treble	A. JAMES YOUNG 3
TRACEY H. YOUNG 2	ARTHUR H. OAKLEY 4

ALLAN CALCOMBE Tenor

Conducted by TRACEY H. YOUNG.

WORTH, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, June 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being an extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, St. Clement's, Canterbury Pleasure, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

*JAMES LAKER Treble	KENNETH SNELLING 4
*FREDERICK ROBERTS 2	ALBERT E. LAKER 5
OLIVER SIPPETTS 3	*ALBERT J. STEELE Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT J. STEELE

* First peal in seven methods. † First peal as conductor.

SILKSTONE, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BARNESLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Monday, June 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Braintree, Wragby, Charlwood, Neasden Delights, Burton, Rochester and Kent.

Tenor 12 cwt.

ROLAND HILL Treble	ERNEST BROOKES 4
ARTHUR PANTHER 2	ARTHUR GILL 5
CLIFFORD ROBINSON 3	DANIEL SMITH Tenor

Conducted by DANIEL SMITH.

Rung to welcome Mr. A. Panther back after a severe illness.

SANDHURST, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, June 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being an extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Bob, Double Oxford, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, St. Clement's and Plain Bob.

Tenor 6½ cwt. (approx.).

BERNARD C. CASTLE Treble	WILLIAM H. J. PARKER 4
WILLIAM J. PAICE 2	ARTHUR A. ARLOTT 5
MISS FREDA N. ARLOTT 3	GEOFFREY E. FOWLER Tenor

Conducted by GEOFFREY E. FOWLER

First peal on the bells since rehanging.

NETHERSEALE, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, June 23, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings.

Tenor 11 cwt.

GEOFFREY WM. HAIR Treble	CECIL GEO. SMITH 4
OLIVER HINES 2	JOSEPH WM. COTTON 5
FRANK SHARPE 3	SIDNEY S. SCATTERGOOD Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH WM. COTTON.

Rung as a wedding compliment to Mr. Arthur Yates, a member of the local company.

DISLEY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, June 24, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SPLICED MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents in 46 methods:—

1. Plain Bob, Double Bob, Reverse Bob, Fulbeck Bob and Canterbury Pleasure Bob.
2. Dover, Fotheringay, Skipton, Balmoral and Chestow Delight.
3. Ely, Bogedone, Knutsford, Wilmslow and Rostherne Delight.
4. Abbeyville, Canterbury, Crowland, Combermere, Vale Royal and St. Werburgh Delight.
5. Marple, Taxal, Newdigate, Old Oxford, College Bob IV. and Willenden Delight.
6. Braintree, Humber, Charlwood, Neasden, St. Albans and Wragby Delight.
7. Oxford, Capel, Ockley, Sandal, Duke of Norfolk, London Scholars' Pleasure, College Exercise, Kingston, Norbury Treble Bob, Carisbrooke, Donoltar, Wath and Pontefract Delight.

Tenor 8½ cwt.

*ALBERT T. BANCROFT Treble	JOHN WORTH 4
JAMES FERNLEY 2	*JOSEPH WHITTAKER 5
C. KENNETH LEWIS 3	JAMES A. MILNER Tenor

Conducted by C. K. LEWIS.

* First peal in 46 methods. Eighty-nine changes of method. Rung on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. A. Rowbotham, a member of the local band, to Miss K. Marsh.

HANDBELL PEAL.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, June 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE ROYAL MASONIC JUNIOR SCHOOL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DAVIES' VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

HENRY HODGETTS 1-2	†HAROLD G. CASHMORE 5-6
*CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY 3-4	†JOHN E. ROOTES 7-8

Conducted by C. W. WOOLLEY.

* First peal of Stedman Triples on an 'inside' pair and as conductor 'in hand.' † First peal of Stedman Triples 'in hand.' Rung as a compliment to Mr. G. W. Fletcher.

(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over.)

PEAL NOTES.

SIXTY YEARS ON.

Mr. William Story took part in a peal of Double Norwich Major at St. John the Baptist's Church, Newcastle, on Friday, the eve of St. John the Baptist's Day. It is 60 years since he began his ringing career at this church. The peal was the 100th which Messrs. W. H. Barber and J. Anderson have rung together.

The first peal of Fulbeck Bob Major by the Norwich Diocesan Association was rung at East Dereham on Saturday. It was also the first in the method by all the band and was arranged for Mr. Norman Harding, of Wraysbury, Middlesex, who was spending a holiday in the district. It was Mr. W. E. Bason's 200th peal for the association.

The composition, by Mr. Nolan Golden, the conductor, was in 50 courses, containing the course-end extent with the 6th at home and all the combinations of 4-5-6 in 5-6. It is, presumably, rung for the first time.

At Netherseale, Derbyshire, on Friday, a peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung to celebrate the wedding of Mr. A. Yates, a local ringer, to Miss B. Satham, whose wedding took place at this church on the previous Friday. It had been arranged as a peal by all local ringers, but owing to the illness of Mr. W. F. Woodward, the local captain, Mr. J. W. Cotton kindly assisted at the last moment and called the peal.

A peal of Stedman Cinques at St. Martin's Cathedral, Leicester, on Saturday, enabled Mr. C. H. Webb, of Rugby, to complete the series in the method from Doubles to Cinques.

The Spliced Surprise Major at Irthlingborough on June 17th was Mr. C. W. Woolley's 300th peal, and on Wednesday of last week at Bushey he conducted his first peal of Stedman Triples 'in hand,' and Messrs. H. G. Cashmore and J. E. Rootes rang their first peal of Stedman on handbells.

We had heard it said, although we never believed there was any justification in such rumour, that when some of these Spliced Surprise experts tackled Stedman Triples 'in hand' their knees knocked together and their teeth chattered, so scared were they of the method. But this latest peal gives the lie to it, or shows they have beaten down their nervousness.

Major J. H. B. Hesse, who lives at Haslemere, Surrey, has now rung every bell at Wrington, Somerset, to a peal, and Haslemere and Wrington are over a hundred miles apart! But Major Hesse has a personal interest in Wrington, and Wrington has a glorious ring of ten bells. The peal on Saturday was a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Knight, on the occasion of their silver wedding.

Reference is made elsewhere to the peal of Minor in one hundred methods rung at Bassingham, but another notable performance in Spliced Minor ringing is also recorded this week. The Chester Guild rang a peal in 48 methods at Disley on Saturday. In one of the 720's there were 13 methods.

Mr. Arthur Panther, who was formerly hon. secretary of the Barnsley and District Society, was welcomed back to ringing on June 19th after a severe illness, which had threatened to put an end to his peal ringing. Happily these prognostications were not fulfilled, and Mr. Panther was able to share in the peal of seven Treble Bob Minor methods at Silkstone.

Edward and Alan Steel rang their 25th peal together at Longton, Staffs, on June 22nd, when they took part in a peal of Bob Major rung to celebrate the homecoming of their Majesties from the royal tour.

The lovely church of St. Edith, Monks Kirby, is set on a hill, the magnificent tower overlooking the few houses that form the village. A tower of such a size must be difficult to find in such a small parish elsewhere. That, at any rate, was the impression of the 'Thursdayites,' when, on June 22nd, they arrived in 'good fettle' to attempt Double Norwich. The heavy ring of eight were up in readiness, thanks to Mr. Tom Pittam, one of the local band, and some good ringing was soon to be heard over the countryside.

Throughout the peal 'Our Arthur' was in his element, turning in the 'big un.' Mr. W. Bottrill was again responsible for the calling, and it is with profound regret that within the next few weeks the 'Thursdayites' will be losing such a ringer, who is moving into Bedfordshire and is to reside at Luton.

The talented trio of brothers, George, Harry and Jesse Moss, who began their ringing career at Thornham Magna, Suffolk, have suffered bereavement by the death of their father, Mr. Isaac Moss, an old inhabitant of the village. A peal of Minor rung there on Saturday, which had been arranged to enable Mr. B. Aldridge, of Woolwich, to ring a peal in his native district, was therefore rung half-muffled.

By ringing a peal in which ten methods were included in seven extents, Mr. Albert Relfe, of Lamberhurst, has now scored peals of Minor in from one to fourteen methods. The peal at Frant on June 17th was the first in ten methods by all the band.

The band who rang the peal of Minor at Watton, Norfolk, desire to thank Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Houghton for providing refreshments after the peal. They also thank Mr. C. Banham for standing in at short notice. The peal was rung on June 17th.

Mr. Pat Cannon has now rung a peal on the lightest as well as the heaviest six in the country. The former is at Brockenhurst, Hants, where the tenor is only 4 cwt. 1 qr. 12 lb. It is ten years since a peal was rung on them. Mr. Cannon has now rung 125 peals and they have been spread over 119 towers. The Brockenhurst peal was rung on June 14th.

PEALS IN ONE HUNDRED METHODS.

A GREAT MINOR RECORD.

Lincolnshire Ringers' Achievement.

Having, as we briefly recorded in our last issue, rung for the first time a peal in 100 Minor methods in seven extents at Bassingham on June 17th, the talented North Lincolnshire six-bell band went on to ring a peal in 102 methods last Saturday at Leadenham, and they have thus set up a great record, the previous highest number of methods in a peal having been 84. Comment on these performances is made in our leading article.

The peal at Bassingham, of which we give details elsewhere, included a new extent by Mr. A. G. Driver. It was rung at the first 720 and is made up of fifteen Alliance and two Little methods. Three other of the 720's were composed by Mr. Driver, and the rest were arranged by Mr. C. K. Lewis from Mr. Driver's tables.

It is interesting to note that at least one plain lead of every method was employed in the course of the peal.

The peal is a signal triumph for this talented Minor band, which includes a lady, Mrs. J. Bray. They are the second Lincolnshire company to take a hand in the friendly rivalry with the Chester Guild for Minor method honours. A South Lincolnshire band, practising at Algarkirk, were the first to challenge the Chester Guild's records, and since these men became dispersed, the company in the north of the county have taken up the challenge.

In these peals the heaviest task falls upon the conductor. Mr. George Feirn, who called the peal at Bassingham, is 25 years of age, began ringing eight years ago and rang his first peal in December, 1932.

The following list shows how the number of methods has grown in peals of Spliced Minor. Those in Lincolnshire have been rung for the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, and those in Cheshire and Derbyshire for the Chester Diocesan Guild.

MR. G. E. FEIRN,
the Conductor.

Date	Place	No. of methods	Changes of method
Feb. 15, 1911	Edenham, Lincs.	14	
Dec. 4, 1923	Norbury, Cheshire	35	
Dec. 29, 1934	Chapel-en-le-Frith, Derbys.	39	
Jan. 19, 1935	Sutton, Cheshire	40	
Feb. 9, 1935	Disley, Cheshire	42	
May 23, 1935	Marple, Cheshire	51	172
June 13, 1936	Algarkirk, Lincs.	57	196
Aug. 3, 1936	Whaplode, Lincs.	60	199
Aug. 8, 1936	Freiston, Lincs.	61	196
Aug. 22, 1936	Marple, Cheshire	66	138
Sept. 5, 1936	Disley, Cheshire	68	138
Dec. 5, 1936	Algarkirk, Lincs.	70	173
June 12, 1937	Buxton, Derbyshire	73	142
Dec. 4, 1937	Algarkirk, Lincs.	80	178
July 16, 1938	Disley, Cheshire.	84	178

The North Lincolnshire band's progress is shown in the following list of peals:—

Date	Place	No. of methods	Changes of method
Feb. 12, 1938	Dunholm, Lincs.	34	130
Aug. 17, 1938	Elsham, Lincs.	43	128
Nov. 26, 1938	Elsham, Lincs.	49	132
Dec. 17, 1938	Bassingham, Lincs.	53	138
April 28, 1939	Rigby, Lincs.	60	166
May 26, 1939	Dunholm, Lincs.	70	181
June 16, 1939	Bassingham, Lincs.	100	189

BISHOP WELCOMED.

To welcome the Bishop of Guildford, who visited Bramley (Surrey) on June 6th in connection with the special appeal that is being made throughout the diocese for the New Cathedral Building Fund, the local band with the district secretary (Mr. W. F. J. Cope), rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles. Peter Davy, the conductor, is only 16 years old, and Ronald Jackson, who rang the treble, is only 14. The latter and the tenorman, Mr. C. M. Martin, rang their first quarter-peal at the first attempt: R. Jackson 1, A. E. J. Hyde 2, W. E. Enticknap 3, W. F. J. Cope 4, P. F. Davy (conductor) 5, C. M. Martin 6.

ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.**DISAPPOINTING ATTENDANCE AT COUNTRY MEETING.**

The quarterly meeting of the Royal Cumberland Youths was held at Great Baddow on Saturday, June 24th, but was very poorly supported. No doubt other meetings in Essex were partly responsible, but, even so, 18 was a very disappointing attendance. Of this number five came from the south side of the Thames, which meant upwards of 80 miles' travelling for each of them.

The rest of the company included Mr. George Green and his son, of the local band, and that 62-year-old veteran, Mr. William Nevard, who is one of the society's oldest and staunchest supporters.

The Vicar (the Rev. R. H. Holmes) conducted the service, and Mr. Hussel, a lay reader and very accomplished speaker, gave a most interesting address.

At the business meeting the Vicar presided, and the election of seven new members in various towers was duly ratified.

The secretary stated that joint meetings with the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Middlesex and Essex Associations were being arranged. Dates had not yet been finally settled, but it was expected that with the College Youths would be held at Croydon on October 14th and that with the other associations within a fortnight either side of that date.

The Master (Mr. G. H. Cross) proposed that the annual dinner be held on March 16th next year.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar, Mr. Hussel, Mr. G. Green and the organist was proposed by Mr. A. Hardy and carried with acclamation. Handbells were then brought into use, before a return was made to the tower, where ringing was again carried on.

DEATH OF A LANCASHIRE RINGER.

The last survivor of the first peal of Double Norwich Major rung in Lancashire has passed away in the person of Mr. J. T. Baguley. The peal was rung 50 years ago on April 8th at Worsley, where Mr. Baguley was, at the time, one of the band. Later he lived in Eccles and rang at the Parish Church there, and when he retired and went to live at Davyhulme, he joined the Flixton Parish Church company. His death occurred, after a brief illness, at the age of 76. The deceased leaves a widow and family in bereavement.

The funeral took place on Monday, June 19th, the first part of the service being held in Flixton Parish Church and the interment taking place at Urnston Cemetery. Before and after the service half-muffled touches of Grandsire Triples were rung at Flixton, and in the evening an attempt was made for a peal of Stedman Triples. This, however, came to grief after an hour and ten minutes. The band represented Worsley, Bowden, Manchester and the local company.

A WORCESTERSHIRE RESTORATION.

The culmination of a long worked for restoration scheme at Alderminster, Worcestershire, was reached on June 7th, when the former five bells were rededicated and a treble bell was dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Coventry at a special service. Of the old peal, the treble and 4th were cast by Abraham Rudhall in 1714 and 1716 respectively, the other three being by Harry Bagley, of Chacombe. The old timber bell frame was becoming rickety and the ringing of the bells was not an easy matter. This frame work has been preserved, and the results of the work of the bell hangers, Messrs. John Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, speak for themselves. As the frame was designed to carry six bells, a new treble bell has been added to complete the ring of six. By paying special attention to the tuning of the old bells, Messrs. Taylor have effected a very good splice.

The weight of the tenor is 12½ cwt. and the ease with which it was possible to ring the bells astounded the local men, which is not surprising, considering the hard and difficult task they had to face before the rehanging. Quite a number of neighbouring ringers took the opportunity of trying the newly-hung bells. Mr. J. P. Fidler, of Loughborough, was amongst these present.

SUFFOLK GUILD.**HALESWORTH COMPANY'S ANCIENT FOUNDATION.**

On Whit Monday, the Suffolk Guild held a meeting at Halesworth, when members and friends from 26 towers rang touches at St. Mary's throughout the day. One enthusiast, Mr. Frank Corney, cycled from Wanstead, a distance of 95 miles each way.

At the meeting, the chair was taken by the Rev. T. H. Caren, who extended a hearty welcome to all present and commended the evident goodwill and fellowship prevailing among the ringers. He said that what struck him about the ringing that day was the expert skill with which, though coming from various towers, they were able to produce harmonious results straight away.

Twelve new members were elected, and an invitation from the Rev. B. T. Pitts to the Guild to meet at Fressingfield was accepted.

Mr. C. E. Fisher, hon. treasurer, spoke on the financial position of the Guild, saying that this was better than at any time during its 17 years' existence.

Mr. H. G. Herbert, hon. secretary, expressed the thanks of all to the Rector, and, in replying, Mr. Caren invited the ringers to walk round the Rectory grounds.

Mr. F. C. Lambert, the local captain, reminded the meeting that the Halesworth company was this year celebrating its 400th anniversary, having been established in 1539. He had also a book showing written changes of ringing bearing date of 1621.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Mr. C. D. Potter, of Barnsley, is still in Sheffield Royal Hospital, where he has undergone two operations. We are pleased to state, however, that he is progressing favourably.

The naming of Surprise methods is not altogether an easy thing, when you do a lot of it. That, at any rate, seems to be the experience of the Hertfordshire band, who for the last year or two have had to find new names almost every week.

They have almost exhausted the county directory, have filled in the birthplaces of all the band, and now are wiping off the rest of the alphabet.

We imagined a place-name beginning with X might be a difficulty, but we believe they have found one—but not in Hertfordshire.

And writing of method names, we would direct the special attention of those ringers, who have a method to which they desire to give a name of their own selection, to the letter of the Methods Committee, fixing the end of July as the latest date for claiming to name any of the methods which are to appear in the new Surprise book.

The 'outing' season is now reaching its peak, and many reports of these enjoyable excursions have reached us. They will be published as soon and as far as space permits.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION AND BENEVOLENT FUND.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In answer to Mr. Chalk's letter in 'The Ringing World,' June 16th, and your leading article last week, with reference to a benevolent fund for the Essex Association, I would like to point out that the subject has been before the association for nearly two years, and although the proposer has used every means at his disposal to get it accepted, it has been rejected, not because our members are more lacking in the spirit of brotherhood and friendliness than people who live elsewhere, but because they definitely believe that the scheme is impracticable, notwithstanding what has been said in its favour.

In Mr. Chalk's letter he has a sly dig at peal ringing. I submit that peal ringing is probably the most important feature which stimulates our ringing journal, without which our Exercise would sink to a very low ebb.

The Essex Association has a Bell Restoration Fund, from which comparatively small grants are made, in the great majority of cases, where new frames have been installed and bells recast, etc.; certainly not for mending decrepit bell frames.

LEWIS W. WIFFEN.

THE COLLECTION OF SURPRISE MAJOR METHODS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In the report of the Methods Committee printed in 'The Ringing World' on June 23rd, persons who hope to ring and name Surprise Major methods in the future were asked to send in the figures with the proposed names. If any of these methods are in the Collection of Surprise Major Methods the committee will accept the names suggested, unless they are obviously unsuitable. Any names suggested for methods not in the collection will not be used for any other methods in the book.

It was agreed at the Central Council meeting in London to keep this offer open for one month, as after the book has been sent to the printers no such alterations can be made. Methods should be sent to the undersigned not later than July 31st, 1939, which is the latest date on which the committee can guarantee to alter any names in the book.

ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

65, Kingsley Avenue, West Ealing, London, W.13.

VISITOR'S 'FRIGID' RECEPTION.

To the Editor.

Sir,—One of the general assumptions among bellringers is that they extend hospitality towards outside ringers visiting their towers.

We would like, through the medium of your paper, to express our deep feeling of indignation when, on visiting Bridport tower on Sunday, the 18th inst., we were accorded a frigid reception and totally ignored. Following this the ringers continued to ring Grandsire Doubles on the front six, with 7, 6, 8 behind, for the next 20 minutes, by which time the bells had to be lowered for evensong. We were, therefore, not even offered the opportunity to ring.

Although it may be their practice to ring 120's of Grandsire consecutively, surely on such an occasion it is usual to waive such custom.

H. G. BLANCHARD.
N. G. KNEE.

Warminster.

HANDBELLS IN CHURCH.

On Sunday, June 11th, five members of the Kelham handbell band went to St. George's Church, Nottingham. The occasion was the dedication festival of the church and the end of their jubilee year.

The handbells were rung outside the church before, and inside the church after, evensong.

Ringings consisted of courses of Grandsire Caters, Bob Royal, Bob Major and Rounds and Queen's on twelve bells (four in hand).

The time allowed was about 20 minutes at either end of evensong. The congregation seemed to appreciate the students' efforts—at least there were no complaints about 'noise'!

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from page 402.)

LITERATURE, PRESS AND BROADCASTING COMMITTEE.

The report of the Literature, Press and Broadcasting Committee was as follows: Those who were present at the meeting of the Council in 1938 will remember that on the presentation of this committee's report it was agreed to send a message of congratulation with a gift to Mr. Charles Slingsby, on the attainment of his 101st birthday. The Press has since recorded his death, and all concerned will be glad that the opportunity was thus taken of paying a tribute to the oldest member of the Exercise in the last year of his life.

One event reported in the Press during 1938 is of supreme interest: The royal visit to St. Paul's Church, Walden, when the King and Queen watched the ringers at work in the belfry, and, conducted by a ringer, ascended to the bell chamber and saw the new bell being rung. It would be interesting to know whether this was actually the first time that such a thing had ever been done by a reigning Sovereign. The former Queen Elizabeth, of blessed memory, is reputed to have been partial to the music of bells, but there is good reason to believe that the fashion in court dress favoured by that right royal lady would have proved a decisive impediment to the ascent of the tower steps.

Bellringing is apparently regarded as 'good copy' by journalists and news editors of the present day. References to the subject, often with illustrations, have frequently appeared in the popular Press. These are largely of personal interest: Notices of veteran and, more often, of young ringers, while lady ringers never fail to attract attention. Miss Bowyer's wonderful record in peal ringing made front page news under the apt title of 'A Pealing Belle'—and we are here reminded of the full accounts given in Yorkshire journals of the Central Council meeting at Leeds, when a much respected lady member was 'starred' for a performance having only an indirect connection with change ringing. Family combinations in ringing also find their way into the news. Two instances of this character are of special interest—one family named White and another Brown, each capable of raising a complete band, in one case a band of eight, to ring at the wedding of another member of the family. In a daily paper last June the main part of a page was devoted to an admirably written article on 'The Ancient Mystery of Bellringing.'

In most cases statements made on the subject have been accurate and well informed. Naturally, errors are found here and there. For example, one of the fair sex was recently described as 'one of the few women bellringers in the country'—a statement fairly eclipsed by a reference to a girl as 'believed to be the only girl ringer!' 'Bow Bells may have to close down' was a recent scare headline to an article on the lack of support accorded to Bow Church. It was an easily comprehensible mistake that led a Northern newspaper to speak of the method 'Double Knowledge.'

Sad to say, one source of copy for the public Press is the substitution of gramophone records for real bells. One regrettable instance is at Thetford, where the church possesses eight bells. On this point we may quote with approval a paragraph from the 'Salisbury Diocesan Gazette': 'Fearing the harm that these synthetic bells might possibly do to church bells and their ringing, if such a "switch on" system became general, the committee recommended . . . that possibly some form of qualified faculty might be granted in the Weymouth case without prejudice to any subsequent case . . . and that in future the committee should not advise a faculty, if a bell or peal were already available in the church.'

BROADCASTING.

Broadcasts of bells have been quite frequent. Some have been entirely good, a few definitely bad, others at best indifferent. The average has been fair, but there is decided room for improvement. At the same time there has been noticeable a strange silence of bells in several cases of services broadcast from churches with good peals, such as Leicester, Nottingham, Aston and others. Change ringing of the first order continues to be heard from Croydon on Sunday mornings, while Lichfield Cathedral has shown welcome improvement, which we hope will be maintained and enhanced.

A renewed outbreak has occurred of interference with the short period of ringing on Sunday evenings—this time in the form of historical notes on the churches concerned. In this way what would have been two of the most perfect broadcasts of the year, from St. Olave's and Portsea, were cut down to the last few changes. Strong letters of protest to the B.B.C. produced one or two amazing statements in reply, but the result has been a considerable abatement of the nuisance. It may be added that the historical notes are in themselves admirable, but the obvious time to introduce them is during that awkward pause between 7.50 p.m. and 7.55, which is apt to set one speculating whether there is any defect—one of those 'technical hitches'—either in transmission or reception.

In one respect a commendable improvement may be recorded with satisfaction; on Easter Day there were broadcasts of bells both in the morning and evening.

In proposing the adoption of the report, the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards called attention to the increasing notice which the Press was now giving to bellringing and the doings of bellringers, and said that for the most part the newspapers were getting quite respectably accurate on the subject. On the subject of broadcasting he said it was obvious the committee could not go much into detail on the various broadcasts of bells that took place; that could only be done if there were

one or more members of the committee in a position to listen to every broadcast throughout the year and take notes at the time. He had heard a few examples of beautiful ringing, but the two towers named in the report were mentioned because they had a regular Sunday broadcast.

Mr. A. Paddon Smith seconded, and it was suggested that when the 'Model Rules' were printed a note might be added recommending that wherever a broadcast of the bells was to take place the leader of the tower should be responsible for raising a competent band for the occasion.

The report was adopted, and the committee, consisting of the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards (convener) and Messrs. A. Paddon Smith, A. Walker and J. S. Goldsmith, was reappointed.

OLD PEAL BOARDS.

The Peal Boards Committee reported as follows: In our last annual report we stated that we hoped to submit to the Council this year a comprehensive report on our work. Unlike some of the other committees of the Council, our task is one which it should be possible to complete within a limited period. The length of the period, however, depends upon the co-operation we receive from members of the Exercise.

It is difficult to form any estimate of the number of peal boards which now exist recording performances up to and including 1825, but we think that the total number is unlikely to exceed 500. We are advised that there are none in Ireland; it is improbable that there are any in Scotland and we have no knowledge of any in Wales.

So far we have received details of 177 boards, recording 208 performances in 83 towers. Of these, details of 132 boards recording 144 performances in 62 towers have been indexed, and typed copies have been placed in alphabetical and date order files. The remaining details have been indexed and it is hoped to copy them shortly. In addition we have been fortunate in obtaining access to a detailed collection of peal boards in the London area and we anticipate being able to add these to our collection during the coming year. Apart from this, however, we have received very few details in the past twelve months, and we have considered whether we shall modify our methods in the hope of expediting our work.

It is obviously impossible for us to visit each tower in the country and we have relied upon appeals to members of the Exercise to forward us details from towers in their own localities. Members of this Council, representing as they do the whole of the country, could have set a good example in this connection and, indeed, it might have been expected that a large proportion of the material could have been collected by now with their help. But we have in many cases only received details from one or two towers in a county, while there are 15 counties from which we have received no details at all, though we would not be justified in assuming that there are no old boards in those counties.

It would be desirable that in each county there should be somebody with a direct interest in the work of the committee, who would obtain details from the towers in his own area. We do not suggest that such persons should be ordinary members of the committee as that would mean that they would have to be members of the Council. Neither do we suggest the appointment by the Council of co-opted members of the committee, as that would make the committee too large. We feel, however, that there are many members of the Exercise, not necessarily members of this Council, who would be glad to be associated with the work of the Council, and we submit a recommendation that we should be authorised to appoint representatives to be associated with our work so far as particular areas are concerned. We shall be glad if any member of the Council or of the Exercise who is willing to act as a district representative for us will let us know without waiting to be asked. As the work would be confined to the representative's own locality it should not prove onerous. We will report annually the names of the people we appoint.

It has been suggested that many people do not send us details of particular boards as they think we probably have them already. We shall be glad to inform anybody whether we already have details or not, but we would point out that if details are received from two separate sources they form a very useful check as to accuracy and will be acknowledged gratefully.

We thank all those who have helped us and we repeat our wish for assistance to enable us to complete our work as soon as possible. Any member of the Council prepared to represent the committee in his locality should let us know; if you know of any old peal boards, please tell us what is on them and their condition.

The committee made the following recommendation: 'That the Peal Boards Committee be authorised to appoint district representatives to be associated with the committee in order to obtain details of old peal boards in particular localities.'

Mr. W. G. Wilson, who proposed the adoption of the report, said since it was prepared details had been received concerning the old boards in 30 further towers and covering 80 performances. It would seem, therefore, that they were getting somewhere near half-way in the collection. Referring to the recommendation of the committee to appoint assistants to enable them to complete the work, Mr. Wilson said this did not mean that the committee was not grateful to those who had already helped them so far; the committee hoped they would continue to help, but it seemed there was need for further assistance if the task was to be completed. They did not intend to limit their choice of representatives to people who were well known in the

(Continued on next page.)

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from previous page.)

Exercise. Anyone who was willing and able to help, they would be only too glad to appoint as agents in a locality. Moreover, he thought such appointments might well promote interest in the Council and its work among younger ringers, who were possible future members of the Council. The appointment of these helpers would not make the work of the committee any lighter, because for the time being there would be extra work to do, in appointing representatives and corresponding with them. The committee hoped the scheme would help their work and enable them to present their final report a few years earlier than would otherwise be the case; but if it was not a success they would be no worse off.

The Rev. C. E. Wigg seconded and the report and recommendation were adopted. The committee was then reappointed as follows: Mr. W. G. Wilson (convener), the Rev. C. E. Wigg and Mr. W. Ayre.

BIOGRAPHIES.

In their report the Biographies Committee said the work was proceeding. Considerable labour was involved in 'sub-editing' and preparing the material before the final draft could be typed, and this could not hurriedly be completed. There were still a considerable number of forms outstanding, and the committee would be glad to receive them as soon as possible. Especially they hoped to receive photographs from those members and ex-members who had not yet supplied them, for the photographs would be not the least interesting part of the biographical collection.

It now seemed obvious that details concerning many of the early members of the Council would not be received through the forms issued and a search of back volumes of the ringing papers would be necessary to help make the work of the committee complete. The committee were pleased to say that Mr. A. C. Hazelden, Guildford Diocesan Guild's librarian and a member of the Council, was prepared to undertake some of this research work, and they suggested, therefore, that he be added to the committee.

On the motion of Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, seconded by Mr. F. I. Hairs, the report and recommendation were adopted. The committee, consisting of Mr. J. S. Goldsmith (convener), Mrs. Fletcher and Mr. W. A. Cave, were reappointed with the addition of Mr. A. C. Hazelden.

THE STANDING COMMITTEE.

The appointment of the Standing Committee then took place. On the motion of Mr. T. Groombridge, seconded by Mr. J. Hunt, retiring members were re-elected as follows: Ven. Archdeacon H. T. Parry, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, Major J. H. B. Hesse, Messrs. W. A. Cave, J. T. Dyke, C. F. Johnston, R. Richardson, A. Paddon Smith, A. Walker and S. H. Wood.

Vacancies were filled by the election of Mr. E. C. S. Turner and Mr. Gilbert Debenham.

In addition to the above the following are ex-officio members of the committee: The president, hon. librarian, hon. secretary, hon. auditors, conveners of committees and past officers (if still members of the Council).

The President proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to the members of the committees for the work they had done during the last three years. He did not know whether they had heard the definition of gratitude, that it was an 'anticipation of favours to come' (laughter). While they thanked the committees for the valuable work they had done, the Council hoped they would go on doing this good work (applause).

The motion was carried by acclamation.

'THE RINGING WORLD.'

On the question of the circulation of 'The Ringing World,' which had been before the Central Council in previous years, and in connection with which action had been referred to the officers, the Hon. Secretary said they had already had lengthy discussions and they felt that all there was to be said had already been said and anything further could only be a repetition. The officers did not present a report this year, because they felt that everything that could be discussed had been discussed and generally the views of all members were known. If, as they believed, the Council were anxious to see the future of 'The Ringing World' safeguarded by an increase of circulation, then action must take the place of words and for that reason the officers asked that the matter be left in their hands with full powers to act, it being understood that the Standing Committee would be consulted as necessary.

Mr. A. Walker seconded the proposal, which was carried.

MUFFLING OF BELLS.

On the question of the muffling of bells, which had also been referred to the officers, the President said he had hoped during the year to receive some information about interesting old customs, but he had heard nothing from members, so he suggested they should wait no longer, but go ahead with their final report, which would be sent to the proper authorities.

This course was agreed to.

CARDIFF FOR THE NEXT MEETING.

It was announced that the Standing Committee recommended that the next meeting should be held at Cardiff, the President pointing out that, in accordance with custom, it was the turn of west and east in the present triennial period.

Mr. Trollope proposed and Mr. Cave seconded Cardiff.

(Continued in next column.)

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

POSITION IN THE PEAK DISTRICT.

Present Arrangements Not to be Disturbed.

A most successful meeting was held at Bakewell on Saturday, June 17th, in conjunction with the Peak Society. The village was enlivened by a carnival, and bands and processions with the Bakewell 'Beauty Queen' turned out to welcome the visitors!

The bells of the Parish Church (8) were kept going all the afternoon and evening to various methods to suit all visitors. Owing to the carnival, catering was difficult, but a substantial tea was served at the Wheatsheaf Hotel, some 40 or more members and friends sitting down. The committee met in the afternoon and carried out their routine business.

The general meeting was held in the spacious belfry after tea, the chair being taken by the president (the Rev. Canon H. E. Fitzherbert), supported by the vice-president (Mr. Colin Harrison), the hon. secretary (Mr. Ernest Morris) and the Rev. W. P. Wright, of Eyam. An apology for absence was received from the hon. treasurer, Mr. W. E. White. Members were present from each of the association's centres: Burton, Chesterfield, Derby, Hinckley, Leicester, Loughborough and Nottingham, as well as friends from Bolsover, Ashover, Dore, Darley Dale, Matlock, Staveley and other places.

The President, in opening the meeting, said how pleased he was to see such a good and representative gathering, covering so wide an area. He brought forward the question of forming a branch of the M.C.A. in the Peak District and invited members' views on the subject.

Mr. H. Warburton, of Dore, said that as secretary of the Peak Society for the last four years or so, he could see no real object in the proposal. They were quite happy in their present arrangements. They had well-attended meetings seven or eight times a year in various towers of the area. Those present had a good time both in ringing and social intercourse and collected among themselves to cover any incidental expenses, thereby costing the M.C.A. nothing. So far as he knew, the majority of those taking part were loyal members of the M.C.A.

Mr. A. H. Bowler, of Ashover, supported this view and said members of the Peak Society were not lax in their support of the M.C.A., and the secretary (Mr. Ernest Morris) had written them to the effect that he wished other districts were so prompt in paying subscriptions and supporting the association generally. He, therefore, could see no object in upsetting present arrangements, which were working admirably.

The Rev. W. P. Wright said there would be no practical good beyond changing the name. They had meetings every six weeks or so over a scattered area, where transport was difficult, and it was to the credit of those members who supported the meetings, for it meant not only giving up time, but involved certain expense in travelling.

Mr. Deane, of Norton, Stoke-on-Trent, said that as a member of the Peak District of the old days and a regular attendant at meetings of the present Peak Society, there was nothing to be gained by breaking up present arrangements and the happy meetings they now enjoyed.

It was thereupon decided to leave matters as they are and the towers as at present shown under Chesterfield District.

Mr. A. J. Harris and Mr. J. H. Swinfield gave brief reviews of the Central Council meeting on Whit Tuesday.

New members proposed since Easter, viz., 15 ringing, 5 rejoining and 4 honorary, were duly elected.

The hon. secretary reported that the new badges were now in circulation and could be had either from him or from local secretaries, bronze 1s. 6d., silver 2s. each.

On behalf of all present, the President voiced hearty thanks to the Vicar of Bakewell for the use of bells, to Mr. Alexander and the local company for arrangements made for such an enjoyable meeting.

Mr. Bowler, on behalf of the Peak Society, said how pleased they were to welcome the association and trusted it would not be so long before they came again.

It was announced that the next meeting of the society would be at Ashover on July 15th, to which Chesterfield District and any other friends would be welcomed. The next M.C.A. quarterly meeting will be at Newark in September.

Further tower-bell ringing and a 'convivial' terminated a most successful and enjoyable meeting.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from previous column.)

Mr. A. King proposed Dublin. On being put to the vote, Cardiff was agreed to by a big majority.

Mr. J. W. Jones, hon. secretary of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association, in whose area Cardiff is situated, said they would do their best to make the visit of the Council a success, but they could not hope to do what their friends in Yorkshire did last year. He had been a member of the Council for a great many years, and he felt that in return for what had been done for him and his fellow-representatives from South Wales, they should try and do something for the Council when it visited Cardiff. Everything they could do to make the visit a success the Council could rely upon them doing (applause).

(To be continued.)

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. PROPOSED BELLS REPAIR FUND.

'Unofficial' Ringing Masters.

A successful general meeting of the Yorkshire Association was held at Barnsley, by kind invitation of the Rector, Canon W. E. Wilkinson, and the local company. The eight bells at St. Mary's Church were made good use of during the afternoon and evening. A brief service took place prior to a sumptuous tea, which was served in the Barnsley British Co-operative Cafe.

The business meeting followed, presided over by Canon C. C. Marshall, M.A., president of the association, and at the outset the president announced that since the last meeting they had lost one of their oldest and most esteemed members in the person of Mr. Arthur Knights, of Chesterfield.

Mr. P. J. Johnson said that Mr. Knights had been a member of the association since 1880, and, apart from the great services he had rendered to the Exercise in the sphere of composition, his kindly and unassuming manner had endeared him to all with whom he came in contact. He was one of the most talented men the Exercise had produced, and was always ready to assist. The number of younger composers who owed their beginning to him was, indeed, difficult to tell. He moved that a letter of condolence be sent to his relatives.—This was seconded by Mr. G. Lewis, following which the meeting stood in silence as a tribute of respect.

The President then proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector and churchwardens of Barnsley for kindly inviting them to hold their meeting there. He assured them that the association appreciated their invitation and also the warm welcome that had been accorded to the association. He coupled with this vote of thanks the name of their old and esteemed colleague, Mr. C. D. Potter, who had hoped to be with them at that meeting, but unfortunately had been taken ill and at that moment was in hospital. He moved that a letter be sent to Mr. Potter expressing their sympathy and conveying their best wishes for a speedy recovery.—This was seconded by Mr. P. J. Johnson and carried.

The Rector, in reply, said how pleased they were to welcome the association to Barnsley, and hoped it would not be long before the association paid them another visit. Like their president, he was sorry indeed that Mr. Potter was prevented by illness from being with them that night, but he felt and knew that Mr. Potter would look forward to hearing a report of their proceedings.

A vote of thanks to the local company for their kind arrangements was moved by Mr. A. Nash, seconded by Mr. W. Moxon and carried.

The President announced that no invitations had been received for the next meeting, and the committee had discussed the matter. The next meeting was due to be held in the Northern District, and they felt that Ripon would be suitable, if necessary arrangements could be made.

Ripon and Middleham were proposed, and, on a vote being taken, 19 were in favour of Middleham and 15 in favour of Ripon.

The President, in announcing the verdict, suggested that Middleham be approached in the event of it not being possible to make arrangements at Ripon.

The next business was a report in connection with the proposed bell repairs fund. The President stated that opinion from the districts was in favour of such a scheme, but as yet the sub-committee had not met and the matter had been referred back. He hoped to report further at the next meeting.

A suggestion from the Eastern District that deputy ringing masters should be appointed had been discussed by the committee, and the President reported that it was felt to be undesirable to alter the constitution of the association to accommodate the proposal. He pointed out, however, that if a district wished to appoint such an officer in an unofficial capacity, they could do so. It must be understood that no official status attached to any such appointment, as far as the association was concerned.

An application was received from the Doncaster ringers asking for a grant to assist in the work of restoring the Doncaster Parish Church bells. The President announced that the committee had also had this matter under discussion, and felt that as no fund existed specifically for this purpose, they could not accede to the request on the grounds that a precedent would thereby be created. He pointed out that they had had to give a similar reply to an application received some time ago in another case.

The General Secretary (Mr. L. Morris) said that in the latter case referred to by the president they decided to do what they could unofficially to assist and a collection was taken. He would like to move that a collection be taken in the present case. This was agreed to and a sum of 22s. was realised.

The following new members were elected: Messrs. A. E. Harrison, South Kirkby; Donald Barrett, Pontefract; J. R. Stanger, J. S. Robson and E. Kettell, of Rotherham.

The President then reminded the members that the Snowdon Dinner was due to be held at York in October, pointing out that an endeavour would be made to arrange it on October 14th.

After the meeting, further ringing took place, but most of those present availed themselves of the opportunity of spending a social

(Continued in next column.)

WINCHESTER GUILD'S DIAMOND JUBILEE THE FOUNDER OF THE SOCIETY.

To-morrow, when the annual meeting is held at Ryde, Isle of Wight, the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild will celebrate the diamond jubilee of its foundation.

In the late 'seventies,' when 'belfry reform' was being much discussed and guilds and associations were being formed in various parts of the country to promote change ringing, a greater recognition of the belfry as a part of the church and the services rendered by the ringers as a contribution to church work, the Rev. Arthur Du Boulay Hill, then a master at Winchester College, took up the cause in the diocese of Winchester and, with Canon Madge, began to enlist interest in the movement. The diocese of Winchester was a vast one in those days. It covered Hampshire, the Isle of Wight and a considerable portion of Surrey, but change ringers were few and far between.



THE LATE REV. A. DU B. HILL.

On June 26th, 1879, the Winchester Diocesan Guild was founded at a meeting held at Basingstoke, and the Rev. A. Du Boulay Hill became the first hon. secretary. He filled this office for two years, and those who have since served the Guild in this capacity have been the Rev. H. A. Spyers 1881-1890, the Rev. R. C. M. Harvey 1890-1896, the Rev. C. E. Matthews 1896-1902, the Rev. E. W. Carpenter 1902-1906, the Rev. O. W. Scott 1906-1908, the Rev. W. E. Colchester 1908-1912, Mr. G. Williams 1912-1919, the Rev. Sir John Herschel 1919-1921, the Rev. C. N. Wood 1921-1923, Mr. G. Pullinger 1923-1930, and Mr. F. W. Rogers hon. secretary since 1930.

The first peal by the Guild was not rung until December 27th, 1881. This was Grandsire Triples at St. Nicolas', Guildford, and it was more than two years later before the next was scored. This was

at Soberton, on January 17th, 1884, and was the first peal by the present Master, Mr. George Williams, who is, we believe, the oldest surviving member of the Guild. He was elected on February 25th, 1880.

The founder of the Guild, the Rev. A. Du Boulay Hill, passed away only last October at the venerable age of 88 years, having lived in retirement at Dudswell. He was the eldest son of the Rev. G. Hill, who was for 25 years Vicar of St. Winnow, Cornwall. Educated at Winchester, and Magdalen College, Oxford, the Rev. A. du B. Hill was assistant master at Winchester College, and afterwards Vicar of Downton, Salisbury, from 1882 to 1898, and Rector of East Bridgford, Notts, from 1898 to 1927.

He was a man of great scholarly attainments and an historian. His keen interest in bells and ringing was maintained throughout his long life. Wherever he went he taught bands of young ringers, while his interest in antiquarian matters led him to investigate the bells of Winchester and Hampshire, and he has left an interesting note-book on the bells of the county, in which he has copied inscriptions and sketched the ancient stamps and lettering used by the old founders. This book, it is noted on the fly leaf, was begun in 1877. This note-book and another on bells and bellringing generally have been handed by his sister to the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(Continued from previous column.)

hour at the Royal Hotel, where Mr. C. D. Potter had engaged a room, and, in the absence of his father, who was still in hospital, Mr. Potter, jun., was present to welcome them. A delightful evening was spent and handbells were brought into use. Mr. Potter, jun., in his welcome, said how his father would have enjoyed being with them that night. He was glad to say that he was progressing as well as could be expected, and he would give him a full report of the proceedings at Barnsley.

Several members voiced their appreciation of the kindness extended to them by Mr. Potter over a long period, and asked Mr. Potter, jun., to convey to his father their thanks for his very kind thought on this occasion.

SECRETARIAL CONTINUITY.**VALUE OF THE PERSONAL TOUCH.**

The sudden change of the tower for the annual meeting of the North Bucks Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild did not appear to deprive the ringers of the delight which has now been seen in these gatherings for more than 20 years. Clearly someone was at fault, and the writer of this report regrets that no sorrow was expressed. The secretary, however, has actively held his position for 24 years; being in touch personally with the clergy and the leaders for so many years he carried the responsibility for the sudden change by himself and was successful.

At the business meeting after tea the Rev. J. P. Taylor, Vicar of Hanslope, took the chair. He was re-elected; knowing of the quick work of the secretary, Mr. W. Sear, in keeping this annual meeting on the date appointed, June 3rd, and of the regular attention to detail which has been building up this branch for 24 years under Mr. W. Sear, the Chairman urged everyone to appoint him for another year in spite of his reiteration that he would resign. Mr. Sear at last gave way, and Mr. R. Howson, the leader of Newport Pagnell belfry, was appointed assistant secretary.

For the last few years it has been known to several ringers that Mr. Sear, owing to pressure of responsible work, installing electric signals on the L.M.S. on a long stretch of railway line, has wished that someone would take his place as the secretary. But it was one of his own fellow-ringers at Bletchley who asked the ringers to remember that it was only one year more to complete the '25 years.'

Perhaps it was only to save the time of the ringers from the belfry that no one spoke of the advisability of a successor working as an assistant under a secretary of a ringers' guild or association before taking the full responsibility, especially after a secretariat of 24 years. Without the personal contact, during a change of officials, the success of whose work depends on the relations of a secretary with leaders of various sorts of belfries, there is something lost. A new secretary has a different character, and his way of working must be different, however hard he may try to do the same as his predecessor; if he can work under him for awhile, he can learn the way of approaching the leaders and how to inquire of their methods. And during the conversation aside at the meetings a secretary can inform his successor of the methods by which he has been trying to revive the interest where it has been diminishing and to get a belfry opened for new young ringers to learn with a company of old ringers who are used to one another and do not wish to be used to any more.

The secretary reported that there were 213 ringing members, 15 honorary members and 27 towers in North Bucks in union with the Guild. The financial position is good, the branch having a balance of £13 14s. 3d. in hand and £10 invested.

A grant of one guinea was voted for the Guild Restoration Fund. The meetings in Newport Pagnell Deanery were considered satisfactory, and the branch agreed to continue to bear the cost of postage and notices.

Fifty ringers attended from the towers at Bletchley, Bradwell, Hanslope, Milton Keynes, Newport Pagnell, Olney, Sympson, Stoke Goldington, Stony Stratford, Weston Underwood, among whom a few were visitors from the North Berkshire Branch of the Guild and from the Bedfordshire Association.

ACTIVITIES IN HOBART.

The members of the Holy Trinity Association, Hobart, Tasmania, recently celebrated the 82nd birthday anniversary of the Very Rev. A. R. Rivers, who has been Dean of Hobart for 19 years. The bells of St. David's Cathedral were rung at noon, Holy Trinity ringers being assisted by Mr. J. Roper, of St. Paul's Cathedral, Melbourne. Afterwards the Dean entertained the party to refreshments at the Deanery.

After the usual practice of the association on May 2nd the members were entertained to a supper party, at the invitation of Mr. and Mrs. and Miss Pedder, at their home, Sherbourne, New Town. The members, old and new, were introduced to the host and hostess by the hon. secretary (Mr. R. Wilson).

During the evening 120 changes of Doubles were rung on handbells in honour of Mr. and Mrs. Pedder and family, and after supper appropriate speeches were made by the president (the Ven. Archdeacon Blackwood), the Master Ringer and others.

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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.

MEDBOURNE, MARKET HARBOROUGH, LEICS.

—The ring of five bells, which has been restored by John Taylor and Co., will be re-dedicated on Saturday, July 1st, at 2.30 p.m. Garden fete after service.

LADIES' GUILD (Southern District, Annual Meeting) AND **GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD**.—Guildford District.—A joint meeting will be held at Shere on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meetings. All members and visitors welcome.—Miss H. F. Mills and W. F. J. Cope, Hon. Secs.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—North-East Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bradninch on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. A large attendance is hoped for.—R. Harris, Hon. Sec., Park, Silverton, near Exeter.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held at Whalley on Saturday, July 1st. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members cordially invited.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Sutton Coldfield, on Saturday, July 1st. Bells available at 3.30 p.m. Tea at 5.15 p.m., to be followed by business meeting.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham 11.

LADIES' GUILD.—London District.—The annual district meeting will be held at St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, on Saturday, July 1st. Bells from 3.30. Service 5.30. Tea (1s. per head) at 6 o'clock in the historic old coaching house, The George, Borough High Street, the only galleried inn now left in London. Business meeting to follow.—I. R. Housden, 20, Fairwood Court, Fairlop Road, E.11. Tel. LEYtonstone 3850.

LADIES' GUILD.—North Midland Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Andrew's, Derby, on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Gentlemen cordially invited.—A. Richardson, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—The next meeting will be held at Ripley on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Methods for special attention, Treble Bob and Double Norwich. A cordial invitation extended to all ringers to try this splendid peal.—Wm. Lancaster, 83, Albert Road, Chad-desden, Derby.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Next meeting will be held at St. Luke's Church, Heywood, on July 1st. Bells available from 2.45 to 9 p.m. All welcome. Your presence will be appreciated.—I. Kay, Sec.

SURREY ASSOCIATION (Southern District) **AND EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD**.—A joint meeting of the above will be held at Horley (8 bells) on Saturday, July 1st. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m. All ringers are welcome.—H. Hancock and B. Saunders, Hon. Secs.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Yeovil on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. The special business meeting in connection with the proposed alterations to rules will next take place, and will be followed by the general meeting. The towers at East Coker (8), West Coker (8), Preston (6) and Hardington Mandeville (6) will be open to members after the meeting.—J. T. Dyke, Chilcompton, Bath.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—The 60th annual meeting will be held at Ryde, Isle of Wight, on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (8) available from 1.30 to 3.45, also Brading (8) from 1.30 to 3.30 p.m. Service in All Saints', Ryde, at 4 p.m., with address by the Lord Bishop of Portsmouth. Business meeting after tea. Both towers open for further ringing in the evening. A good attendance is requested, and all ringers will be welcome.—F. W. Rogers, Hon. Gen. Sec., 52, Samuel Road, Portsmouth.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chester Branch.—summer meeting will be held at Christleton on Saturday, July 1st. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30.—J. W. Clarke, Mollington, Chester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—The branch annual meeting will be held at St. James' Church, Barrow-in-Furness, on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m., meeting after. Subscriptions due. Would those requiring tea, please notify Mr. J. E. Burles, 2, Rand Villas, North Scale, Walney?—N. M. Newby, Sec.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—A meeting will be held at Hilgay on Saturday, July 1st. Bells (8) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. Please try to be present.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Southern Division will be held at Twineham on Saturday, July 1st. Tower open 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea, by kind invitation, 5 p.m. Half rail fare (maximum 1s. 6d.) allowed to members.—S. E. Armstrong, Hon. Div. Sec., 70, Hollingbury Park Avenue, Brighton 6.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—A meeting will be held at Lower Beeding on Saturday, July 1st. Tower open 3 p.m., service and meeting to follow. Come and try these Belgian bells.—O. Sippetts, 10, Three Bridges Road, Crawley.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—Please note that the next meeting is at Lockington on Saturday, July 1st (not June 24th as arranged). Bells available 3 p.m. Tea and meeting at 5 p.m. All members and friends cordially invited.—A. E. Rowley, Hon. Sec., Penistone Street, Ibstock.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Northenden on Saturday, July 1st. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. For tea, please advise Mr. F. Brickill, 25, Wythenshawe Road, Northenden. All welcome.—C. K. Lewis, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Parbold, on Saturday, July 1st. Bells available from 3 p.m.—S. Forshaw, 55, Poolstock, Wigan.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Service ringing, St. Clement Danes, Strand, July 2nd, 10 a.m. Practices, St. Clement Danes, July 3rd, 6.45 p.m., followed by quarterly meeting at 8.15 p.m., and 17th and 31st at 7.30 p.m.; St. Mary's, Lambeth, August 1st, 8 p.m.—T. W. Taffender, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Practices for July: *St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, 4th; St. Magnus-the-Martyr, 6th and 20th; St. Giles', Cripplegate, 11th; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 13th; *St. Paul's Cathedral, 18th; Southwark Cathedral, 25th; St. Clement Danes, 27th; all at 7.30 p.m. * Business meeting afterwards.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wednesday Afternoon Guild.—The next meeting will be held at SS. James' and Basil's, Fenham, Newcastle. Bells available at 3 p.m. until 5 p.m., and those at St. John's, Grainger Street (8), at 6 p.m. until 7.30 p.m., on Wednesday, July 5th. All are welcome.—Margaret A. P. Bertie, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—A summer meeting will be held at Chislehurst on Saturday, July 8th. Both towers will be available for ringing from 3 p.m. Names for tea to be sent to Mr. T. Groombridge, 35, Albany Road, by July 4th.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Summer Festival meeting at Haslemere, on Saturday, July 8th. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea (1s. each) in the Schools at 5.15 p.m. Further ringing until 9 p.m. It is essential that numbers for tea should be sent to Mr. E. J. Ayliffe, Woolmer Croft, Critchmere Hill, Haslemere, by July 4th.—G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec., East Clandon, near Guildford.

LADIES' GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at Ipswich on Saturday, July 8th. The following towers will be open from 2.30: St. Mary-le-Tower (12), St. Margaret's (8), St. Matthew's (6), St. Clement's (6), and St. Lawrence (5). Service in St. Mary-le-Tower Church at 4.30 p.m. Tea at the Oriental Cafe, Westgate Street, at 5.15 p.m. (1s. per head), followed by business meeting. It is particularly requested that all members and friends requiring tea should send their names to Miss Sylvia Bowyer, 32, Gatacre Road, Ipswich, by Saturday, July 1st.—E. K. Fletcher, Hon. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Eastrington on Saturday, July 8th. Bells (6) will be available from two o'clock. Short service at 4.30 p.m. Tea, 1s. per head, in Parochial Hall, followed by business meeting. Those requiring tea, please advise Mr. W. N. Hains, Bennett Lodge, Eastrington, near Howden, East Yorkshire, by Wednesday, July 5th. All welcome.—H. S. Morley, Dis. Sec., 5, Ebor Street, Selby.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Caldicot on Saturday, July 8th. Bells (8) available from 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow.—J. W. Jones, Hon. Sec., 94, Alteryen View, Newport, Mon.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Macclesfield Branch.—A ringing meeting will be held at Congleton, St. Peter's, on July 8th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. If tea is required, kindly advise Mr. A. Slater, 10, Lower Park Street, Congleton, by Wednesday, July 5th.—Jack Tipper, Hon. Branch Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Rayleigh on Saturday, July 8th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. The presentation to the late district secretary will be made at this meeting, and it is hoped that every tower in the district will be represented. Will those intending to be present please advise me by Wednesday, July 5th?—J. H. Crampion, Dis. Sec., 7, Cedar Avenue, Chadwell Heath.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Banbury District.—Annual meeting at Banbury on Saturday, July 8th. Bells (10) from 2.30. Service 4 o'clock. Tea and business meeting at White Horse Hotel. Other towers open if required during the evening. Please notify for tea.—E. Pearson, Hon. Dis. Sec., Adderbury West, Banbury.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—Half-yearly meeting at West Malling, on Saturday, July 8th. Tower open at 3. Service 5, followed by tea and business meeting. Half travelling expenses up to 2s. will be paid to members at this meeting. Members wishing to be present at tea please notify me by not later than July 5th.—R. G. Rayfield, Hon. Dis. Sec., Downsview, Spring Lane, Ightham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, Didsbury, on Saturday, July 8th. Tower open 6 o'clock. Meeting in the belfry at 7.30. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—J. H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Frome and Midsomer Norton Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Paulton on Saturday, July 8th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5 p.m.—E. H. Nash, Hon. Sec., Mells.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Central Branch.—A meeting will be held at Fordham, near Ely, Cambs, on Saturday, July 8th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Service if arranged. Please advise Mr. J. W. Pickett, School House, Fordham, Cambs, number for tea. A good company is hoped for.—F. Warrington and A. R. Paul, Dis. Secs.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The summer meeting will be held in Morpeth on Saturday, July 8th, when the bells of the Watch Tower will be available during the afternoon and evening. Tea will be available at Oliver's Cafe, Bridge Street, at 1s. 3d. per head, at 5 p.m., and requirements should reach me by Wednesday, July 5th, at latest.—Roland Park, Hon. Sec., 23, Oaklands Terrace, Darlington.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Sempringham Abbey, on Saturday, July 8th. Bells recently augmented to six, will be available from 2 to 9 p.m. Service 4.15, followed by tea and business meeting at the School, Pointon. Tea will be provided for those who notify, by Wednesday previous, Mr. J. T. Rolt, Pointon, Sleaford.—C. T. H. Bradley, Hon. Sec., Folkington, Lincs.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Offley, July 8th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.45, followed by tea and business meeting. Subscriptions are due. Look up Double Oxford and London Surprise Minor. Please notify me for tea by July 5th.—R. T. Newman, 36, Salisbury Road, Baldock.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Halewood on Saturday, July 8th. Tower will be open from 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea will be provided for a nominal charge. All those intending to be present are requested to inform Mr. J. Robinson, 3, Rock Hill Road, Woolton, Liverpool, not later than Thursday, July 6th.—G. R. Newton, Branch Sec.

BARNSELEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The annual shield contest will be held at Kirkthorpe, near Wakefield, on Saturday, July 8th. Draw 2.45 p.m. Ringing to commence 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Those requiring tea, please notify Mr. W. Riley, 12, Woodland Avenue, Kirkthorpe, near Wakefield, by Wednesday, July 5th.—D. Smith, Rock Cottages, Shafton, near Barnsley.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guilborough Branch.—Special meeting will be held at Theddingworth (5 bells) on Saturday, July 8th. Usual arrangements.—H. H. Shrivess, Hon. Branch Sec., The Mill, Long Buckby, Rugby.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Helmsford on Saturday, July 8th. Bells ready at 3.30. A good attendance is requested. Everybody welcome. You can't go wrong here. The local lads can ring 'Owt'.—J. Porter, Hon. Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting of this district will be held at Bletsoe on Saturday, July 8th. Bells (8) ready from 3 p.m. Tea at 5. Milton bells not available. You will be very welcome.—Frank C. Tysse, Dis. Sec., 10, Grange Road, Bromham, Bedford.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Note: The next meeting will be held at Norton Church (8 bells) on Saturday, July 8th. For tea, please notify Mr. Wm. Biggin, Mangerhay, Norton, near Sheffield.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 13, St. Ronans Road, Sheffield 7.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—The next meeting will be held at Little Waltham on Saturday, July 15th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting after. Will those requiring tea please let me know by Wednesday, July 12th?—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Upper Arbour Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford.

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OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual festival will be held at Oxford on Saturday, July 15th. Service in Cathedral at 11.15 a.m. Preacher, Rev. J. K. E. O'Malley (Rector of Sandhurst, Berks). Business meeting in Chapter House immediately after service. Dinner in Christ Church Hall at 1.30 p.m. Tickets 2s. each to members, 3s. each to non-members. All applications for tickets, accompanied by remittance, must reach general secretary not later than Wednesday, July 12th, after which date the business will be in the hands of the caterers. A collection will be taken at the service for the Guild Restoration Fund.—R. T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Basingstoke District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Silchester on Saturday, July 15th (not 8th). Bells available 2.30. Service 4. Tea and business meeting follow. All requiring tea, please notify by July 12th, to Mr. W. Cottrell, Chitty Farm, Mortimer West, Reading.—J. G. Stilwell, Hon. Dis. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—A great gathering is expected at Penshurst on Saturday, July 15th. The beautiful gardens of Penshurst Place, and the Rectory, will be open to ringers, by kind permission of Lord de Isle and Dudley, and the Rev. P. H. Turnbull. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea in the Village Hall at 1s. 3d. a head, followed by a short business meeting. Special attention paid to learners at all meetings. Please notify me of intention to attend by Tuesday, July 11th.—Alec. E. Richardson, Laurel Cottage, Victoria Road, Southborough.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A ringers' garden party will be held at Acton on July 15th, by kind invitation of the Rector. Bells available from 3 p.m. and in the evening. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea in the Rectory gardens, at the invitation of the Rector, followed by games for those who prefer this to ringing. Church of St. Mary (8 bells, tenor 14 cwt.). A large attendance is hoped for. Visitors and friends from other districts will be welcomed. Names to the undersigned not later than July 13th. Reports available. Subscriptions due.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec.

ABBOTS LANGLEY (HERTS).—Six bells. Meeting, Saturday, July 22nd. Arrangements in next issue.—C. H. Horton, Herts Association.

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