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LONDON RINGING SOCIETIES.

It was not surprising that, at the dinner of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, on Saturday, some reference should be made to the relationship between London ringing societies. Every expression of opinion that was heard was a plea for the extension of the spirit of good will and of the desire that energies should be devoted to furthering the cause of ringing instead of to petty quarrels. This view was particularly emphasised by Mr. E. H. Lewis, and will be echoed by all who have really at heart the cause of ringing in general and of London in particular. We have constantly urged, in this column, that the time is long past when the old feuds and jealousies should be allowed to govern the policy of those responsible for ringing, which should no longer be the subject of rivalries, as it was in the days when it was purely a secular pastime and bands of ringers were out to get the better of their competitors, not only in the peals they could ring, but in the towers they could monopolise.

In London that spirit took a long time to die, even if it can be said to be entirely dead to-day. But the extinction of this spirit is not in itself sufficient. What is wanted is a new outlook, demanded by the change in the attitude which the vast majority of ringers have towards their craft. No longer is bell ringing to be treated as a purely secular occupation, although it still suffers in many places from the fact that service ringing is done by paid ringers, whose jealous eye on the tiny loaves and fishes is often a stumbling block to progress. The reformation which has come about in the last half century has changed that view. Most ringers treat their services as a contribution to be made to the Church and in that respect rivalries which give rise to jealousies should have no place. Yet they will come to the surface from time to time. But the more ringers mix and rub shoulders the quicker will their differences disappear. Joint meetings between societies operating in the London area have begun to break down barriers in the metropolis, where the old feeling has persisted longest. There is a good way further to go yet before the ideal situation is reached, and we look forward to seeing brought about in the near future the joint meeting between the College Youths and the Cumberlands, suggested once again on Saturday. It would be another step in the right direction towards that goal which we believe to be obtainable if unlimited good will prevailed, not only officially, but in the backwaters of London ringing, a goal which would bring about not only a better understanding, but a genuine collaboration that could result in some, at any rate of London's dilapidated and neglected peals of bells being brought into action again.

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TWELVE BELL PEALS.

MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes.

AT THE TOWN HALL.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 42 cwt. 2 qr. 25 lb.

C. KENNETH LEWIS 2	† LIONEL CLOUGH 7
JAMES FERNLEY 2	ALBERT FORD 8
* WILLIAM ROBINSON 3	FREDERICK R. WILLIAMS ... 9
JAMES A. MILNER 4	CHARLES H. PAGE 10
WILLIAM FERNLEY 5	* RICHARD BENSON 11
* ANDREW THOMPSON 6	JOHN WORTH Tenor

Composed and Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

* First peal of Maximus. † First peal in the method on twelve bells. First peal of Maximus on the bells.

GREAT YARMOUTH, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAXIMUS, 5010 CHANGES;

Tenor 30 cwt.

C. FREDERICK SAYER 2	† CLAYTON PARNELL 7
* R. WILLIAM BARBER 2	* STANLEY W. GALL 8
EDWIN R. GOATE 3	ARTHUR G. KING 9
J. G. WILLIAM HARWOOD ... 4	* ALFRED J. MOY 10
† DENNIS A. BAYLES 5	* HENRY TOOKE 11
GEORGE MAYERS 6	WILLIAM CLOVER Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES.

Conducted by E. R. GOATE.

* First peal of Plain Maximus. † First peal of Maximus.

TEN BELL PEAL.

KING'S NORTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 17½ cwt.

* EDWARD HOLT 2	† REGINALD WOODVATT ... 6
SIDNEY T. HOLT 2	THOMAS W. LEWIS 7
GEORGE E. LARGE 3	† NORMAN G. GOODMAN ... 8
† EDWARD W. BLAKE 4	CHARLES CAMM 9
ALLEN MORGAN 5	WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT ... Tenor

Composed by FRED G. MAY.

Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

* First peal on ten bells. † First peal away from the tenor. ‡ First peal of Grandsire Caters.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

HARWICH, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 28, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

RONALD G. BUGG 2	† GEORGE THOMPSON 5
WALTER SOUTHGATE 2	WALTER R. FELGATE 6
URBAN W. WILDNEY 3	FREDERICK C. RAMPLIN ... 7
* SIDNEY E. JENNINGS 4	GEORGE WATERMAN Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by U. W. WILDNEY.

* First peal.

GREAT HOLLAND, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 10 lb. in F sharp.

EDWARD B. SMITH 2	† WILLIAM A. ROUSE 5
WALTER SOUTHGATE 2	GEORGE THOMPSON 6
MRS. W. A. ROUSE 3	GEORGE WATERMAN 7
* FREDERICK ORRIS 4	URBAN W. WILDNEY Tenor

Composed by H. HUBBARD.

Conducted by URBAN W. WILDNEY.

* First peal.

DARLEY DALE, DERBYSHIRE. THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. (Peak District Society.)

On Wednesday, March 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES; Tenor 17 cwt.

Table listing names and positions for the Little Bob Major peal, including Dennis Scott, Robert Allsop, Bernard Allsop, Victor E. Taylor, Hugh W. Gregory, Herbert E. Taylor, Ronald Allsop, George A. Paulson, and conductor G. H. Paulson.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 16, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMPS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 6088 CHANGES;

Table listing names and positions for the Double Norwich Court Bob Major peal, including Henry Southall, Leonard Luck, Frederick W. Brinklow, Maurice F. R. Hibbert, John E. Rootes, Cyril C. Mayne, Edwin Jennings, and Francis Kirk.

LONDON.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 16, 1939, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE-THE-MARTYR, SOUTHWARK,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES; By members of the Civil Service.

Table listing names and positions for the London Surprise Major peal, including Stanley J. T. Shellock, Edwin A. Barnett, Walter Hunt, Albert W. Coles, George H. Cross, Frederick W. Housden, George W. Steere, and Charles H. Kippin.

WEST MEON, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, March 16, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-EVANGELIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr. 27 lb. in F.

Table listing names and positions for the Stedman Triples peal, including Harry Hoskins, Thomas H. Taffender, Henry G. Miles, John S. Goldsmith, T. Wilfred Taffender, George Williams, Francis E. Dawe, and Herbert E. Audsley.

Rung on the 77th birthday of the conductor, in the village where he was born.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 16, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes, AT THE BELL FOUNDRY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHEROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART, Tenor 8 1/2 cwt.

Table listing names and positions for the Stedman Triples peal, including Leslie Stevens, Walter P. Whitehead, Edward R. Whitehead, W. Arthur Riddington, Charles Marshall, William Bottrill, Arthur Cayell, and Ronald W. Swann.

First peal of Stedman as conductor.

DESBOROUGH, NORTHANTS. THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. (Kettering Branch.)

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES; Tenor 10 1/2 cwt.

Table listing names and positions for the Bob Major peal, including Bernard J. Saddington, Arthur H. Idle, Raymond H. Idle, Lewis W. Kilbourn, Denis A. H. Yeomans, Geoffrey E. Watson, Christopher G. Hendry, and Burley P. Morris.

WILLENHALL, STAFFS.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Table listing names and positions for the Grandsire Triples peal, including Parker's Twelve-Part (7th observation), William Saunders, Bery Horton, Samuel Baker, John Warriow, Herbert Sheppard, Walter Lago, Christopher Wallater, and Arthur E. Reed.

First peal of Grandsire on the bells since they were recast. All the above ringers are grandfathers.

MILNROW, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. (ROCHDALE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES; Tenor 18 cwt.

Table listing names and positions for the Bob Major peal, including Stephen L. Parry, Selwyn H. Dearden, Dennis Hollos, John Meadowcroft, Jun., Harry Byrom, Ivan Kay, Harold Hamer, and Albert Buckby.

First peal in the method. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Mr. Harry Byrom.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES; Tenor 15 1/2 cwt.

Table listing names and positions for the Cambridge Surprise Major peal, including William P. Garrett, Albert E. Whiting, Leslie G. Brett, Keith W. Whittell, Frank L. Fisher, Harry D. Lister, George More, and Alderman Ling.

A birthday compliment to the conductor.

RUNCORN, CHESHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Table listing names and positions for the Grandsire Triples peal, including Parker's Twelve-Part (7th observation), Thomas S. Horrridge, William O. Farrimond, Robert B. P. Hulse, Stanley N. Harrison, George R. Newton, Walter Allman, Ernest F. Bennett, and Cecil Raddon.

* First peal on a 'working' bell.

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WOOTTON BASSETT, WILTS.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.
(CALNE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW AND ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 19½ cwt. in E.

*THOMAS FREEGARD Treble	†REGINALD BARRY 5
LOUIS A. WILSON 2	†H. BURRY 6
†WILLIAM HACKER 3	A. OWEN WRINTMORE 7
†RONALD SAYE 4	†WILLIAM HAINES Tenor

Conducted by A. O. WRINTMORE.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal of Triples. First peal of Triples as conductor.

GILMORTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEOMAN TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

DEXTER'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 12 cwt.

CECIL E. CARR Treble	WILLIAM J. ROOT... .. 5
*THOMAS C. BELTON 2	ERNEST W. TIPLER 6
ALFRED BALLARD 3	FRANK K. MEASURES 7
WILLIAM A. WOOD 4	PERCY W. BENNETT Tenor

Conducted by FRANK K. MEASURES.

* First peal in the method.

CODDENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

MISS SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER Treble	MISS HILDA G. SNOWDEN ... 5
HOBART E. SMITH 2	CECIL W. PIPE 6
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY 3	LEWIS W. WIFFEN 7
CLAUDE SNOWDEN 4	A. PATRICK CANNON Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by LEWIS W. WIFFEN.

STAPLEHURST, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 21½ cwt.

*RALPH E. W. WENBAN ... Treble	THOMAS E. SONE 5
CHARLES H. SONE 2	LUTHER J. HONESS 6
TOM SAUNDERS 3	WILLIAM WENBAN 7
HARRY BAER 4	JAMES W. SPILLETT Tenor

Conducted by W. WENBAN.

* First peal.

LONGTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

*WILLIAM PERKINS Treble	JOHN G. CARLIDGE 5
*GEORGE HULME... .. 2	RICHARD J. WARRILOW ... 6
†HARRY HALL 3	WILLIAM CARNWELL 7
†EDWARD STEBLE 4	ARTHUR W. HALL Tenor

Composed by H. HUBBARD. Conducted by WILLIAM CARNWELL.

* First peal of Major. † First peal in the method 'inside.' First peal of Major as conductor.

LITTLEPORT, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5216 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. 2 qr. 5 lb. in E.

WALLACE W. COUSINS ... Treble	JOHN A. GODFREY 5
*LEWIS BUSH 2	NOLAN GOLDEN 6
WILLIAM BUCKENHAM ... 3	CECIL V. EBBERSON 7
ARTHUR G. BASON 4	CLAUDE COUSINS Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal in the method.

SIX BELL PEALS.

STONE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of London, Beverley, Surfleet, Netherseale, Norwich, Ipswich and Cambridge. Tenor 13 cwt.

WALTER HUNT Treble	FRANCIS E. TAYLOR 4
MARIE R. CROSS 2	REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG 5
R. GORDON CROSS 3	ALAN R. PINK Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

First peal of Surprise Minor on the bells and by all the band except the conductor.

COMPTON DANDO, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, March 3, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two six-scores of Plain Bob and 40 six-scores of Grandsire with 12 different callings. Tenor 16 cwt.

CHARLES HARVEY Treble	FRANCIS C. MOGFORD... .. 4
LESLIE B. COLES 2	WILLIAM J. ROSEWELL ... 5
*RONALD R. TREASURE ... 3	WALTER S. BATES Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. ROSEWELL.

* First peal on an 'inside' bell.

LITTLE MUNDEN, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 7, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, New London Pleasure, Woodbine, Oxford Delight, Oxford Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS Treble	ARTHUR PHILLIPS... .. 4
BARNARD PATMORE 2	ERNEST OVERALL... .. 5
ALBERT LAWRENCE 3	SIDNEY CARTER Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY CARTER.

EXTON, RUTLAND.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

(RUTLAND BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Three Hours,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents of Oxford Bob and Plain Bob, rung alternately. Tenor 12½ cwt.

J. R. NICHOLS Treble	R. ROSSSELL 5
J. G. GRARY 2	R. H. KNIGHT 4
P. D. BALDOCK 3	J. H. BLUFF Tenor

Conducted by J. H. BLUFF.

DAVENHAM, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, March 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRED,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents called differently. Tenor 15 cwt.

HARRY W. HOWARD Treble	JOHN HASSELL 4
HERBERT A. MCKINSELL ... 2	C. KENNETH LEWIS 5
HARRY PARKER 3	DAVID VINCENT Tenor

Conducted by C. K. LEWIS.

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DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

SCOTTOW, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob, two 720's of Kent Treble Bob and three 720's of Plain Bob, the extents being called differently.
Tenor 10½ cwt.

MISS OLIVE LOWE Treble	DOUGLAS E. RUST 4
WALTER C. MEDLER 2	ERIC DURRANT 5
JOHN N. A. PUMPHREY 3	E. V. BLAKE Tenor

Conducted by E. V. BLAKE.

CALVERLEIGH, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Tuesday, March 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY THE VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 5½ cwt.

MISS M. MACAULEY Treble	MISS H. RODD 4
MISS G. TOLLEMACHE 2	P. MAYNE 5
C. FLEW 3	J. HILL Tenor

Conducted by P. MAYNE.

First peal by all the band.

WARBLETON, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
THE EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 10½ cwt.

ALBERT RELFE Treble	*CHARLES A. BASSETT 4
ARTHUR F. LEWRY 2	*STANLEY T. A. RUSSELL 5
WILLIAM A. KITCBENSIDE 3	FRANK H. HICKS Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT RELFE.

* First peal of Cambridge.

THORPE-LE-SOKEN, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Kent Treble Bob and St. Clement's, two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob and three 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

ERNEST J. DURRANT Treble	Mrs. W. A. ROUSE 4
RONALD G. BUGG 2	URBAN W. WILDNEY 5
LEONARD E. SHARPE 3	WALTER F. DOWNS Tenor

Conducted by URBAN W. WILDNEY.

First peal in four methods by all except the conductor and first in four methods on the bells.

HANDBELL PEALS.

ROTHERHAM, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Eleven Minutes,
AT BIRKBY, DONCASTER ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Mrs. T. C. RYDER 1-2	HAROLD CHANT 5-6
ALBERT NASH 3-4	T. COLIN RYDER 7-8

Composed by GEO. LEWIS.

Conducted by A. NASH.

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

On Tuesday, March 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT 45, WALSHINGHAM ROAD.

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

*GEORGE W. FLEICHER 1-2	HAROLD G. CASHMORE 5-6
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY 3-4	*EDITH K. FLEICHER 7-8

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.
Umpire—RONALD H. BULLEN.

* First peal of Surprise on handbells.

(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over).

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.
ANNUAL MEETING AT ARKLOW.

Ladies in Winning Competition Team.

The annual meeting of the Irish Association was held in Arklow on St. Patrick's Day, March 17th. The weather was summerlike and 104 ringers were present from Arklow, Bray, Dublin (Christ Church Cathedral, SS. Augustine and John, St. George's and St. Patrick's Cathedral), Kilkenny and Waterford.

The Murphy Cup competition for the best striking commenced at 11.30 a.m., when the following six towers met in a very keen competition: St. Patrick's Cathedral (holders), Christ Church Cathedral, St. George's, Bray, Arklow and Waterford.

St. George's, Dublin, won the cup for the first time, with only nine faults; they were thus the first team including lady ringers to win the trophy. St. Patrick's Cathedral were second with 13 faults.

Lunch was very kindly provided by the local company in the Marlborough Hall. The business meeting followed, with the president, Mr. J. C. Cherry, F.R.C.S.I., in the chair.

POINTS FROM THE REPORT.

The annual report was read by the assistant hon. secretary (Mr. F. E. Dukes) and included a new feature, viz., reports from local companies for the interest of other societies. The following are some points from the report: The annual subscription was increased by 3d. to 1s. 3d. per member, in order to pay for the printing of the annual report. This is the first year of the increase, and the committee decided that, as the report for the present year (1939) is not due until 1940, not to print a report this year, but instead to go ahead with the printing of Mr. Lindoff's pamphlet of 'Instructions on Change Ringing, etc., for Beginners.'

Only one peal was rung during the past year—that at Limerick on August 1st.

Waterford Cathedral bells are at present being rehung by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, Croydon.

Mr. Thomas Boyd, for 50 years connected with St. Canice's, Kilkenny, passed away during the year. His loss is keenly felt.

Bray and St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, both broadcast from Radio Eireann in the series 'Bells Around Ireland' last September. The former rang a touch of Plain Bob Triples and the latter Grand-sire Triples.

The total membership at present is 323. The general fund shows a credit balance of 17s. 5d. and the bell restoration fund a balance of £63 10s. 3d.

The association were invited to St. George's, Dublin, for luncheon and their annual meeting in 1940 by Mr. F. E. Dukes on behalf of that society.

Mr. J. B. Tough (Bray) was elected president for the coming year. All other officers were re-elected as follows: Hon. Treasurer, Mr. D. Gibson; hon. secretary, Mr. Gabriel Lindoff; assistant hon. secretary, Mr. F. E. Dukes, Grad.I.E.F., M.I.E.T.; Ringing Master, Mr. R. S. F. Murphy, P.O.; representatives on the Central Council, Messrs. Murphy and Lindoff.

Mr. Tough thanked the association for the high honour they had conferred on him, and put forward the following resolution: 'That the resolution of 1906 be altered to read, "that the business year of the Irish Association end on the 31st December," instead of on the 25th March as at present.' This was carried unanimously.

JUDGES' REPORT.

Mr. J. C. Cherry (president) presented the Murphy Cup to the winners, St. George's, Dublin, handing it to their conductor, Mr. F. Dukes. He also presented the same tower with the challenge shield for Sunday service ringing. They won it for 1938 with 99.87 per cent. Christ Church Cathedral, Dublin, were runners-up with 99.75 per cent.

The judges of the competition, Messrs. G. S. Gibb and B. M. Wolfe, of Kilkenny, in their report, said they had a hard task, as the standard of ringing was so high. The common fault was open leads, too close leading, gaps in the changes, clashing and failing to set bells. The winners, they said, had perfect leading and the ringing was most uniform. The winning team was F. Dukes 1, Miss A. Dukes 2, Miss I. Eyre 3, A. Worrell 4, G. McGregor 5, W. McGregor 6, D. McGregor 7, W. Hall 8.

The President made an appeal to the meeting to support 'The Ringing World,' which was the bellringers' newspaper. His remarks were supported by Mr. Dukes, who said that some towers had never seen the paper and it only cost 3d. a week, duty free.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Rev. W. Carroll, Rector, the ringers and ladies who so kindly lent the bells and the hall and provided the lunch and tea.—The Rector suitably replied.

Thanks were also passed to the outgoing president and to the judges of the Striking Competition.

The bells of St. Saviour's were put to plenty of use, after the meeting had concluded, until a late hour, when touches of Grandsire Doubles and Triples, Plain Bob and Stedman Triples were rung for the benefit of the less proficient in the art.

MR. C. F. WINNEY'S BIRTHDAY.

As a birthday compliment to Mr. Challis F. Winney, who attained his 81st birthday on March 17th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at St. Andrew's, Holborn, on Sunday evening, by H. C. Alford 1, J. S. Hawkins 2, E. Brett 3, U. W. Wildney 4, W. J. Norton 5, A. G. Darnell (conductor) 6, T. Bannister 7, C. H. Vitler 8.

PEAL NOTES.

CIVIL SERVANTS' PEAL.

A number of peals have been rung in the past by men all engaged in the same profession or craft. We recall peals by bankers, gardeners, railwaymen, to say nothing of Messons, Foresters, Oddfellows, Association Secretaries and others. The Civil Servants have now achieved success in this direction.

The idea of such a peal arose many years ago, but until now it was impossible to get a band for the purpose. On March 16th, however, an excellent peal of London Surprise Major was rung at St. George's, Southwark.

Mr. William Bottrill, now living in Leicestershire, who was formerly a chief inspector in the Metropolitan Police, and, while a member of the Force, took a leading part in the formation of the Metropolitan Guild of Police Ringers and also the National Police Guild, of which he is a vice-president, rang his first peal of Stedman as conductor on March 16th at Loughborough Bell Foundry. In view of the considerable number of peals on from six to twelve bells which Mr. Bottrill has rung, this will probably come as a surprise to many, but there are quite a lot of capable ringers who, for one reason or another, 'hide their light under a bushel.'

A band at Darley Dale, Derbyshire, all, with one exception, members of the local company, rang their first peal of Little Bob Major on March 15th. Little Bob is an interesting step between Plain Bob and Treble Bob and more musical than the latter. It is rather surprising, therefore, that it is not practised by more bands up and down the country. The composition rung at Darley Dale was a ten part by Edward Francis, although, when the peal was composed, Little Bob had never been thought of.

Mr. David Vincent, of Hale, Cheshire, who rang the tenor to a peal of Bob Minor at Davenham on March 13th, has now rung peals of Plain Bob from Minor to Maximus. It was a birthday compliment to Mr. Harry W. Howard, who rang the treble, and to K. Parker, son of Mr. Harry Parker, who rang the third.

LADY'S PEAL OF LONDON 'IN HAND.'

A peal of London Surprise Major has been rung on handbells at Enfield, in which Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Fletcher took part. This is an achievement of more than passing noteworthiness, for Mrs. Fletcher is the first lady ever to ring a peal of London 'in hand.' The peal was rung on March 14th.

Actually this was the fifth attempt which the band had made for the peal, but three of them were made some months ago. It was only about a fortnight before their successful attempt that they renewed their efforts.

Apart from Mrs. Fletcher, Mrs. Frank Hairs is the only lady to have rung a Surprise Major peal on handbells. She rang 1-2 to a peal of Superlative.

At Calverleigh, Devon, on March 14th, a peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung. It was the first peal by all the band, which included three young ladies who are still pupils at Ingleside School. Congratulations are well deserved for this performance. It was the first peal on the bells since they were rehung.

Messrs. J. G. Geary and J. H. Bluff rang their 25th peal together on March 11th at Exton, Rutland, where the latter called a peal of Oxford Bob and Plain Bob Minor.

The name of the ringer of the treble in the peal of Cambridge Surprise at Tunbridge Wells on March 4th was Donald M. Findlay, not Swindley as printed.

The peal of Stedman Triples at Gilmorton, Leicestershire, on Saturday, was a birthday compliment to the ringer of the tenor (Mr. P. W. Bennett), who stood in at a moment's notice, after the rest of the band, who met for a peal of Major, had waited in vain for an hour for the absentee. It was Mr. Ernest Tipler's 70th peal.

Mr. W. B. Cartwright has now rung a peal on each bell in the Worcestershire tower of King's Norton. He 'completed the circle' on Saturday, when a peal of Grandsire Caters was rung.

A GRANDFATHERS' PEAL.

Eight grandfathers rang a peal of Grandsire Triples at Willenhall, Staffs, on Saturday. It is not the first grandfathers' peal that has been rung, but it is, nevertheless, an interesting performance.

The tenorman, Mr. Arthur E. Reed, is a great-grandfather and the peal was arranged in honour of his golden wedding at the first opportunity that occurred at his own tower since the auspicious event was celebrated on January 8th last. It was also a birthday compliment to Master John Ravenscroft, grandson of the conductor, Mr. Chris. Wallater, and was the first peal of Grandsire on Willenhall bells since they were recast.

Four members of the Desborough, Northants, band took part in a peal of Bob Major on Saturday, two of them, Raymond Idle and Denis Yeomans, are only 14 years of age. Lewis Kilbourn rang his first peal of Major, and Arthur Idle his first peal on eight bells. It had been arranged in honour of the latter's 21st birthday and had been attempted on the previous Saturday, but lost owing to a 'shift.' After the attempt the two boys rang a good course of Cambridge Surprise Major without having previously struck a blow in the method.

Desborough shows every promise of turning out a good band of ringers, in spite of a rather poor peal of bells. Incidentally it may be remarked that the peal on Saturday was Mr. B. J. Saddington's 50th.

Another 'coming of age' celebration on Saturday was the peal at Milnrow, Lancashire, the compliment being extended to Mr. Harry Brown, and he and two others of the band rang their first peal of

Bob Major. The peal was also rung on the anniversary of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Kay.

The first peal of Triples ever rung by members of the Calne Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild was accomplished on Saturday at Wootton Bassett, Wilts. The trebleman rang his first peal, the tenorman and four others rang their first peal of Triples, and the conductor had not called a peal of Triples before. An excellent performance.

It was rung as a compliment to Mr. L. A. Wilson, the branch secretary, who was the only one of the band not to achieve something new by the peal.

A TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS COMPOSITION.

The first peal of Maximus at the Town Hall, Manchester, was rung on Saturday. Mr. John Worth, of Macclesfield, who called a composition of Treble Bob Maximus of his own, rung for the first time, turned in the 42½ cwt. tenor in 3 hours 40 minutes. Here is the composition:—

	23456	M	W	H
62534	2	1	2	2
36245	2	2	2	
32465		1	2	2
64235		2	2	
35426	1	2	2	
45236		2	1	
23456		1	1	

Messrs. C. F. Sayer and R. W. Barber, who took part in a peal of Bob Maximus on Saturday at St. Nicholas', Great Yarmouth, have now rung every bell in the tower to a peal.

At another tower, Warbleton in Sussex, where there are six bells, two of the band that rang a peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor on Saturday also 'completed the circle.' They were Messrs. W. A. Kitchenside and F. H. Hicks.

Last Saturday a peal of Double Norwich Major was rung at Littleport, Cambridgeshire, and the eight ringers travelled an average of 55 miles each to take part. The newly-inducted Rector (the Rev. Mr. Payne) welcomed the ringers and expressed his and the Diocesan Bishop's pleasure at the ringing.

Three new arrivals were celebrated by a peal of Minor at Thorpe-le-Soken, Essex, on Saturday. A son has been born to Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Durrant, a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Sharp and a son to Mr. and Mrs. W. F. Downs. The three proud fathers, who are local ringers, all took part in the peal.

The birthday of Mr. H. Bloor, a ringer at Longton, Staffs, was celebrated by a peal of Kent Treble Bob at his parish church on Saturday. He did not, however, take part in it.

In the peal of Grandsire Triples at Staplehurst, Kent, on March 18th, Ralph Wenban, who is only 17 years of age, rang his first peal at the first attempt. He is the son of the conductor, Mr. William Wenban, and is to be congratulated upon the way in which he struck his bell throughout the peal.

In our notes on March 10th we referred to a peal of Superlative Surprise by Mr. A. J. Pitman, and said that, apart from it having been conducted by Mr. Leslie Morris on the previous Saturday, it had only once before been rung, when it was called by Mr. Ernest Morris. We are now informed that the composition was called from an 'inside' bell by Mr. Harold Cashmore on August Bank Holiday.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Southern District of the Yorkshire Association was held at St. Stephen's, Eastwood, on Saturday, March 18th. About 40 members attended from Sheffield (Cathedral and St. Marie's), Doncaster, Arksey, Wath, Rawmarsh, Felkirk, Handsworth, Ranmoor and the local company. Ringing in various plain and Surprise methods took place during the afternoon and evening on the light and easy-going peal of eight bells.

A short service was held in the afternoon, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. P. W. R. Kennody, who gave a very interesting address on 'Friendship,' especially of the close friendship that existed between ringers.

An excellent tea was prepared in the Church Hall by local ladies. It was pleasing to hear that the number of people who had sent their names for tea was nearly as many as the number who sat down. Well-struck courses of Grandsire Caters and Bob Major were rung on handbells after tea.

At the general meeting the Vicar was voted to the chair, and an apology was read out from the Ringing Master (Mr. S. F. Palmer), who was ill and could not attend.

Three of the four retiring officers were re-elected. The other, Mr. W. A. Wooler, wished to resign, as he intends leaving the district. Mr. S. Briggs was elected in his place.

Three new members, Messrs. F. Nichols, D. Burling and P. Low, were elected.

It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Wath on Saturday, June 17th.

Reference was made to the death of Mr. Arthur Knights. Mr. Lewis said that, although an out-county member, Mr. Knights had always been in close contact with the association and was held in high esteem by all its members.—As a token of respect, the meeting stood in silence.

Ringling until nine o'clock brought a very successful meeting to a close.

**A NEW ESSEX PEAL.
DEDICATION AT STANFORD-LE-HOPE.**

One Bell Given By Methodists.

Last Saturday was a great day in the parochial life of the little town of Stanford-le-Hope, Essex, a new peal of bells being dedicated in the Parish Church by the Lord Bishop of Chelmsford.

Previously the tower had contained an almost unique peal of six, installed by Moore, Holmes and Mackenzie, of Redenhall, in 1886. This firm is reputed to have only one or two other rings to their credit. The frame was of great interest, being amongst the earliest wrought iron frames installed in the Eastern Counties, and was of most unusual design. It consisted of a single cross lattice arrangement, with the bells in two rows on the tips of these members. The strain on the tower, with all the bells thus swinging one way, was very great, and this was one of the chief reasons why a restoration became necessary. The tone of the old bells also left much to be desired, and it was wisely decided to make a clean sweep.

The final result has been a new peal of eight with a tenor of 11 cwt. 2 qr. 5 lb., hung in a modern steel frame by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, who are to be congratulated upon a really fine peal. The position of the frame in the tower has been lowered some feet below the louvres, and the circle of ropes in the ringing chamber is exceptionally good.

At the dedication service the church was packed with parishioners and ringers, and many, who were unable to obtain admittance, heard the service relayed by loud-speaker van outside.

The service was conducted by the assistant curate of the parish, the Rev. L. S. Bowers, who had been chiefly responsible for the carrying through of the augmentation. The dedication ceremony was carried out at the bottom of the tower by the Lord Bishop of Chelmsford, after which a course of Grandsire Triples was rung by a band from St. Mary's, Prittlewell. During this the congregation remained standing, listening for the first time to the complete peal.

In the course of his address the Bishop said he was very pleased to be present on such an occasion, and he congratulated the parish upon what it had done. Several of the bells had been given in memory of past churchworkers, which was a very nice action, but the one that impressed him most was the 7th, which bears the following inscription: 'To the Glory of God and an expression of the Unity in devotion to our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ, from the Methodist Church in this Parish.'

The Bishop thanked most heartily the authorities concerned, and said he wished there could be many more such actions to break down differences and help them all to realise their common purpose, holy

worship. He went on to comment on the large congregation, and asked why it was not always so, for, he said, he was under no delusions about the normal attendances. Slackness, he was convinced, was due to indifference and not to disbelief in a call which alone could save the world in the present troubled times.

After the service the tower was open to visiting ringers, and good use was made of the bells until 4.45 p.m., when about 70 ringers sat down to tea in the Parish Hall. Afterwards the Rev. L. S. Bowers said how pleased he was to welcome so many members of the Essex and neighbouring associations, and said that he hoped the association would do all in its power to help his ringers.

Mr. J. Chalk, Ringing Master of the South-West District of the Essex Association, congratulated the parish on what it had done, and thanked all who had taken part in the service and the ladies who had provided the fine tea. He was pleased to see so many ringers there, and hoped for great things from the Stanford ringers, now that they had such a fine peal.

Mr. Howell replied on behalf of the Stanford ringers and thanked Mr. Chalk. He looked forward to as much assistance as the association could give. They had 16 ringers of their own, but they did not yet do method ringing.

The tower was revisited at 6 o'clock and ringing continued until 7.30, many methods being rung.

The opinion of those who should know was that an ideal job had been made of the founding and hanging. It is the hope of South-East Essex ringers that this is the first of many needful restorations in the area.

SUFFOLK GUILD.

EYE BRANCH WELCOMES YOUNGSTERS.

A successful meeting of the Eye Branch of the Suffolk Guild was held at Yaxley on Saturday. Owing to a misunderstanding, the service was abandoned and the bells at Yaxley were not available, but good use was made of the rings at Brome, Oakley, Thornham and Stoke Ash. One ringer was heard to remark that it was his sixth fresh tower, in six counties, this year.

Ringers attended from Suffolk, Norfolk, Essex and Cambridgeshire and a party of about 30 sat down to tea, under the chairmanship of the Rev. H. Drake, of Ufford.

Nine new members were elected, the Chairman welcoming so many youngsters. He also asked the members to stand in silence as a mark of respect to the late Mr. Arthur Knights, of Chesterfield, who was born in the village of Brome.

A few words of welcome to those living beyond the Suffolk borders, and an expression of thanks to the incumbents for granting permission to ring their bells, brought a very pleasant meeting to a close.

John Taylor & Co.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The Hertford County Association will hold their annual meeting this year at Hertford, instead of St. Albans. It is 49 years since the annual meeting of the association was held in the county town.

There is some prospect of a new ringing society being formed. When the Civil Servants met for their first peal the other day, they discussed the matter, but it was adjourned for settlement on a future occasion, as they could not agree whether to call themselves the 'National Society of Dodgers,' or 'The Lead Swingers' Association.'

The meeting of the Bolton Branch of the Lancashire Association, at All Souls', Bolton, on Saturday, has been cancelled.

Members of the Ladies' Guild thoroughly enjoyed themselves at the dinner of the Royal Cumberland Youths on Saturday. Their general secretary thought it desirable to move her seat so that she could be among them to sober their hilarity, but her immediate presence was without any substantial effect. Indeed, we are not sure that she, too, did not become a victim of the infectious spirit of jollity that prevailed in that particular quarter.

Mr. George Henry Coombes, of 25, Swanmore Road, Ryde, Isle of Wight, the oldest ringer in the country, will celebrate his 96th birthday next Tuesday. All ringers will extend to him heartiest greetings and good wishes.

FUTURE OF RINGING AT LICHFIELD COLLEGE.

RAPID PROGRESS.

Mr. Malcolm Melville, formerly hon. secretary of the Warwickshire Guild, who has been active in creating an interest in ringing among students at Lichfield Theological College during his residence there, is leaving in June. Fortunately the future of ringing at the college is assured, at least for a time. A few days ago one of his pupils, E. A. C. Brodribb, called a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles on handbells. Six different 120's were used and it was his first quarter-peal as conductor: R. A. C. Brodribb 1-2, M. C. C. Melville 3-4, M. M. A. Warren 5. Michael Warren is a son of the Rev. W. M. K. Warren, president of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association.

Following upon the quarter-peal conducted by Richard Brodribb, another quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles on handbells was rung on Thursday, March 16th, conducted by Michael Warren.

Progress during the term just ended has been both rapid and interesting. At the beginning of the term the members had not even rung their first 120 of Doubles, double-handed, but within a fortnight they had rung their first quarter-peal and repeated the performance four days later. Three weeks afterwards they rang a peal with ten callings, and since then have rung two other quarter-peals, conducted by the two ringers mentioned above. Thus in nine weeks they have rung four quarter-peals and one peal, not to mention several spliced 240's and many 'silent' touches.

A BIRTHDAY PEAL.

MR. F. E. DAWE RETURNS TO HIS BIRTHPLACE.

Mr. F. E. Dawe, of Woking, fittingly celebrated his 77th birthday on Thursday of last week by calling a peal of Stedman Triples at West Meon, his birthplace. The picturesque thatched house, in which he first saw the light, still stands at the junction of the main road and that leading to the church in this little Hampshire village. It is interesting to recall that on the Sunday morning when Mr. Dawe was born, the bells were ringing to call the folk to service, and Mr. Dawe's eldest brother was one of the ringers. Whether it was this coincidence or not that led Mr. Dawe to take up ringing when he grew up we do not know, but the ringing of the bells at the auspicious moment certainly heralded the advent of one who, later on, was to take a prominent part in ringing. Not only was Mr. Dawe Master of the College Youths on five occasions, but he was for a short time secretary of the Central Council, and he has to his credit many memorable peals, particularly those rung at a large number of cathedrals, some of them the first on the bells.

From time to time Mr. Dawe has gone back to West Meon, which he first left at an early age, to celebrate his natal day. He did so when he was 50; again when he was 60 and 70, and also on his 75th birthday, and on each occasion he scored a peal. On Thursday week he once more collected a band of friends and added yet another successful visit. On this occasion he rang the seventh, and has now called a peal from all six of the bells that were ringing when he came into the world so near at hand.

After the peal the bells were 'fired,' further to celebrate the occasion, and then Mr. Dawe very kindly entertained the ringers to dinner at the Red Lion, where they were joined by the Rector (the Rev. Ernest Castle) and the leader of the local ringers, Mr. Trodd.

Mr. George Williams, the doyen of the company, proposed Mr. Dawe's health, and, on behalf of the party, wished him still 'many happy returns of the day' and thanked him for his hospitality.

Mr. Dawe, in replying, thanked the Rector for the use of the bells and Mr. Trodd for what he had done to ensure the success of the visit. The Rector, who has only recently come to the parish, expressed his pleasure at the visit of the ringers and invited them to come again on some future occasion.

It is not uninteresting to note that of those who took part in this peal, Messrs. G. Williams and J. S. Goldsmith were in the first peal on the bells, nearly 41 years ago.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—63.

CHARLES R. LILLEY.

Few ringers have been able to spread their ringing activities about the country as Mr. Charles R. Lilley, now of Highweek, Devon, has done. His occupation has taken him to many centres, and wherever he has settled he has found an outlet for his energies. This has brought him into close contact with a large number of ringers, especially with the older members of the Exercise, and the experience he thus gained has made him not only a capable ringer but an excellent instructor. Many young ringers owe to him their opportunities for their first peals.

Mr. Lilley was born on April 8th, 1874, at Candlesby, Lincolnshire, where his father was for many years a churchwarden. He inherited his love of ringing, however, from his great-grandfather, William Fant, of Freiston, and still possesses his ancestor's ringing books. Mr. Lilley learnt to ring in Lincolnshire and his first peal was in 12 methods of Doubles at Wrangle in 1894. He rang his first peal as conductor on August 7th, 1897, at Bennington, Lincs, where he called seven 720's of Bob Minor. In 1897 he moved to Bedford, where he was associated with Mr. Charles Clarke, who, as Mr. Lilley describes it, put the finishing touches on him. About this time the bells at St. Paul's, Bedford, were made into ten, and he took part in some of the first peals on this augmented ring, including the first peals of Kent Treble Bob Royal and Bob Royal, as well as Superlative Major for the Beds Association. Afterwards Mr. Lilley moved to various places, including Oxfordshire, where he took of Double Norwich Major, part in the famous 17,024 rung at Kidlington in 11 hours 12 minutes on May 22nd, 1899, conducted by James Washbrook.



MR. CHARLES R. LILLEY.

He went to Shrewsbury in 1913, where he conducted the first peal of Stedman Triples in the town at St. Alkmund's and was afterwards appointed Ringing Master and Towerkeeper at St. Chad's. The bells there were then in bad order, and Mr. Lilley urged their restoration, which was eventually carried out by Messrs. Taylor and Co., who recast the bells into what Mr. Lilley considers the finest twelve in England. He conducted a number of first peals on these bells, including Grandsire and Stedman Cinques and Plain and Treble Bob Maximus, and was possibly the first ringer to conduct peals in the four standard methods on twelve bells in his own tower. In this tower he brought along a young band until they could ring Cambridge, and he also served for some years as a sidesman in the church. On one occasion at Wem in Shropshire he conducted a peal of Grandsire Triples, ringing the fifth in the first half and the seventh to the second half. The seventh was going badly and the change over was made to relieve the man who had started on her.

Since he has been in Devon Mr. Lilley has devoted much time to teaching, and among other performances has called the first peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major in the West, the first peal of Triples at Truro Cathedral and the first peal of Double Norwich Major by resident Devonshire ringers.

Altogether Mr. Lilley has rung 710 peals, of which he has conducted 463. They have been rung in 360 towers, including ten cathedrals, in 52 counties, and among them have been 34 handbell peals, of which he has conducted 33.

He represented the Shropshire Association on the Central Council from 1924 to 1926 and has been chairman of the Exeter Branch of the Devon Guild.

YOUNG BAND'S PROGRESS AT ASTON.

The steady progress of the young band at Aston was further marked on Sunday week, when seven of them rang their first quarter-peal of Stedman Cinques (1,311 changes) before morning service at the Parish Church. All the ringers were members of the local company: *G. Mitchieson 1, A. Short 2, *R. Shepherd 3, *A. Allen 4, F. Price (conductor) 5, A. Rainey 6, *W. Pettigrew 7, *W. Best 8, *F. W. Rishworth 9, P. Rainey 10, W. Davies 11, *A. Pettigrew 12. * First quarter-peal of Stedman Cinques.

GOOD FRIDAY BELLS.

MR. BOX THANKED.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Will you please allow a word of thanks to Mr. W. E. Box for his letter, particularly for his reference to the ancient service books, which, to many of us, are indeed a closed book, because we have no access to them.

There is no doubt that, both as regards liturgy and tradition, Mr. Box is right, although at one place many years ago we used to ring the bells half-muffled on Good Friday. At another Parish Church it became a custom to toll the tenor bell 33 strokes at the end of the three hours' devotion. This custom, I believe, was continued for about 20 years. In both cases, however, the ringing is now discontinued, and I believe that the ruling, no bells from Palm Sunday to Easter Day, including also the Sacring and the Angelus, is more generally observed.

Your correspondent's reference to the Sarum Missal is very interesting. It confirms to some extent what I have long suspected, that the use of bells in peal, to which we are accustomed in England, must have its origin in some use connected with the Liturgy, while other uses of bells, mostly of single bells, have to do with important heavenly visitations. For instance, the Holy Presence at the time of the Sacring bell, and the Angel of the Salutation at the hours of the Angelus. So, reasoning from the known to the unknown, it is reasonable to suggest that the use of bells in number together may have begun in a commemoration of the visit of angels in great numbers; 'a multitude of the heavenly host,' singing together their Gloria in Excelsis.

Mr. Box's reference, however, strips this idea of some of its glamour, because he seems to transfer it from Christmas, where one might expect to find it, to Easter, which feast, although it does, indeed, celebrate a visit of angels, has no mention of a great multitude, nor does the traditional Easter Day story say that the angels sang their tremendous news. Could you, sir, persuade Mr. Box to kindly look up for us the Rubrics in the Sarum and other Missals for the Christmas festival?

A. C. HAZELDEN.

Guildford.

ANCIENT CHURCH ORDERS BELLS TO BE SILENT.

Sir,—May I take this opportunity of thanking those of your readers who have replied to my letter on the above, but, as I feel that my ideas have been misunderstood, I propose encroaching upon your columns again.

Allow me to begin by stating that I am not the sanctimonious, self-righteous individual some of your correspondents apparently think me, but I do, honestly, feel that Good Friday ringing would be an unfortunate break with ancient Church tradition, which view I have already set forth in your columns and endeavoured to support by quotations from the beautiful ancient 'Uses,' which were the only forms of prayer and services known and used in this land of ours before the Reformation.

Surely enough of these old 'forms and ceremonies,' so dear to our forefathers in the 'Ages of Faith,' were lost during the iconoclastic times of the Reformation, without the few remaining being shattered to-day, especially when the Anglican Church is endeavouring to get back to the 'godly ancient usage,' as the Prayer Book says, of former days.

To put a broader view on the matter, I am quite aware that these are the times of George VI., not George I., as Mr. Amos rather artlessly puts it, but we ringers have 52 Sundays in the year on which to make ourselves heard without ringing on its most sacred day, on which, as I have tried to show, the ancient Church expressly orders the bells to be silent.

Let us get our bells rung well and regularly for Sunday services before we begin ringing on Good Friday. The question of the appropriateness of muffled ringing, an 18th century innovation, is, of course, beside the point, but the old rubrics seem to enjoin complete silence.

With regard to the custom of silence during Holy Week at the R.C. Cathedral Church of St. Chad, Birmingham, it is neither 'modern' nor 'Anglican,' but simply good manners and respect for that solemn season; furthermore, as the office of Tenebrae is said each evening during the week it would be quite impossible for us to ring.

In conclusion, may I say that this is my last word on the matter, but we shall be very glad to welcome any of your correspondents to ring at St. Chad's, whether they show 'deplorable lack of knowledge of liturgical tradition' or not.

WILFRED E. BOX.

Harborne.

MUFFLED BELLS.

On Monday, March 13th, at All Saints' Church, Newport, Mon., a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the people's churchwarden, Mr. H. G. Matthews, who died on the previous day: T. Ford 1, L. Olson 2, T. Webb 3, H. Forbes 4, E. Bainham 5, J. W. Jones 6, L. Bainham (conductor) 7, G. Webb 8. This was the first quarter-peal of Stedman for the ringers of the 2nd, 3rd and 8th. All the band are Sunday service ringers and learned their ringing in this tower, excepting the ringer of the 6th.

ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS. THE ANNUAL DINNER.

Plea for Co-operation Among Ringing Societies.

A merry party, including a number of ladies, gathered at the Old Bell Restaurant, Holborn, on Saturday, for the annual dinner of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths. There were nearly a hundred present, and the Master (Mr. George H. Cross), who presided, was supported by Mrs. Cross, the Rev. Henry Cecil (Vicar of St. Leonard's, Shoreditch), Mr. E. H. Lewis (president of the Central Council) and Mr. E. G. Fenn (Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths). The officers present included Mr. G. W. Steere (hon. secretary), Mr. T. Bevan (senior steward), Mr. R. Heazel (junior steward), Messrs. A. Hardy and C. J. Matthews (trustees). Among the veterans were two octogenarians, Mr. G. Williams (Southampton) and Mr. W. J. Nevard (Great Bentley), and there were others present whose membership goes back half a century or more. The attendance included Mr. A. A. Hughes (hon. treasurer of the College Youths), Mr. G. W. Fletcher (hon. secretary of the Central Council), Mrs. Fletcher (hon. secretary of the Ladies' Guild), Mr. and Mrs. James Parker (Edmonton), Mrs. J. D. Matthews (widow of the late Master), the Rev. J. Pelloe, Mr. R. Narborough (Nottingham), Mr. G. Pullinger (Bishopstoke), Mr. R. Philpott (Southsea), Messrs. A. H. Pulling and W. J. Robinson (Guildford), Mr. G. Gilbert (Burnham) and members from towers around London, as well as quite a number of members of the College Youths. An excellent dinner was enjoyed, after which the toast of 'The King' was honoured.

RINGERS' DUTY TO THE CHURCH.

Mrs. E. K. Fletcher, in proposing the toast of 'The Church,' said they, as ringers, were included in the toast because they were part of the Church and were doing a work for the Church. She asked, however, whether they were doing that work as they should do it. Sometimes it came to them, she thought, that perhaps they were not doing it as well as they might. At a meeting of the Ladies' Guild a few weeks ago the Vicar of the church they were attending said that what amazed him was that if he wanted ringers to ring for a wedding in the mid-week they could always raise a full team, but on Sundays they could not find enough men to ring all the bells for the services. That state of affairs, said Mrs. Fletcher, was wrong. Sometimes they complained that the clergy did not come up into the tower to meet them. She thought the reason often was that the clergy were afraid to come. If they did go into the tower they heard all sorts of mysterious orders given, which they did not understand and which no one attempted to explain to them. They might even think the ringers were mad and when they went downstairs they decided they had had a marvellous escape and would not go up again (laughter). 'We do not meet them half way,' said Mrs. Fletcher. 'We expect them to come the whole way and we do not interest them in our work. On an occasion like this,' she continued, 'we should think of all we owe to the clergy. A lot of our ringing, and especially our peal ringing, is done for pleasure. It helps us to improve our striking, but it is primarily done for pleasure, and if the clergy withdrew their permission to us to ring the bells a lot of our pleasure would be lost. We should think, therefore, of what we owe them, for their interest and the kindness they show us in many ways, particularly in allowing us to hold meetings and in taking the services for us. But the greatest thing of all for us to remember is our primary duty to the church as bellringers. Our duty is to ring the bells for the Sunday services, and it is up to us, in the Church, to pull our weight and to do our utmost above all to keep the bells going on Sundays. The ringing which we do for pleasure we shall enjoy very much more if we feel we are not failing in our duty to the Church on Sunday' (applause).

SHOREDITCH WANTS A REGULAR BAND.

The Rev. Ernest Cecil, who replied, said he felt himself rather remiss in not climbing the stairs to the belfry at Shoreditch as often as he should have done, but he did know some of the ringers who came occasionally to ring the bells and he wanted to say how much those services were appreciated and they would like them to come more often. Recently the bells had been silent for many months on account of the restoration of the tower and steeple, but now this work had been completed he hoped very much that the ringers would come and help them more. They had the first ringing, since the tower was restored, on the preceding Sunday, and while perhaps they did not have any more people at church they certainly came earlier through hearing the bells instead of coming in at the last moment, and the atmosphere of worship was thereby enhanced. Many people had said how nice it was to hear the bells again. It seemed to him a great pity they had not got a regular band of young men at Shoreditch who could settle down to learn the art of ringing (hear, hear). He knew it was difficult, for those who at present came to ring, to come more often than they did, but they would be glad to see them, and he and the church officers and Church Council were tremendously grateful to them for what they did (applause). The Rector went on to explain the work that had been done to the church and tower and mentioned that while it was in progress they found serious cracks in the cupola on the top of the tower which might have resulted in it coming crashing to the ground in a violent storm. That cost them an additional £700 to put right, and altogether they had spent £2,500 on the restoration scheme. He was glad to say the work had been very well done and the ringers could come there and ring their longest peal in perfect safety (applause).

THE CALL TO YOUTH.

Mr. Walter Ayre proposed the toast of 'The Society of Royal Cumberland Youths.' It had been his privilege, he said, to be a member for the last 20 years, and he had always met with the greatest kindness and courtesy from the society ever since he first came to London as a real country bumpkin. Continuing, he said the point was being much stressed of the need for youth and it had always been a very strong point with him, but it came as a great surprise to him that night to see so many young people in that gathering, both young men and young ladies (applause). It was rather difficult in these days to find new members in London itself, and he felt it was the duty of the provincial members to do what they could to recruit the ranks of the society. He suggested they should make it their business in the country to rope in some new members so that they could continue to add new life in the society. He was sure they did not make enough of their society, of which they should be proud (hear, hear). They should pride themselves on being Cumberlands and should 'boost' their society more; they should get more new members and make it stronger. It would not be long before they celebrated their bicentenary—they were founded as the Royal Cumberland Youths in 1745—and he thought that in the next six years they ought to be able to increase their membership considerably. The old members could not carry on indefinitely; they must have support and it was only youth that could give them that support (applause). It was, he knew, difficult to carry on in London, but he thought it would be a very fine idea if the Cumberlands would take on more towers for regular ringing. There was, for instance, Shoreditch, with a fine peal of bells, that needed a regular Sunday service band, and there were one or two other towers where the bells were very seldom rung, which the society might make an effort to man, so that they might get more people who were on the spot to ring the bells of the churches for the purpose for which they were placed in the towers, namely, calling people to worship (applause). He realised, from his own experience in his own association, that it was becoming more and more difficult, except in a few centres, to get youth to come in to fill up the ranks as the stalwarts dropped out, and he knew many places where the ranks were not being filled, but he felt that an effort in this direction should be made and would be found worth while (applause). If in the area of greater London and outside they could get more members for their society, some were bound to gravitate to London, and if they were already members of the society they would naturally come to headquarters to take part in its activities and thus eventually be able to help ring the bells that were at present silent (hear, hear). Mr. Ayre concluded by telling the company that they had among them that evening the first lady to ring a peal of London Surprise double-handed. She was a member of their society, and in their name he heartily congratulated her upon her performance (applause).

MEMBERSHIP ON UP GRADE.

The Master, who replied to the toast, first thanked the hon. secretary (Mr. G. W. Steere) and the late hon. secretary (Mr. N. Summerhayes) for the excellent arrangements they had made for the dinner and went on to mention the receipt of apologies from, among others, the Rev. W. Pennington Bickford (St. Clement Danes), the Rev. G. L. Davey (St. Martin's-in-the-Fields), Mr. W. H. Fussell (Slough), Mr. A. F. Martin Stewart (Wimborne), etc. The Master continued that he had recently been looking back over the membership of the society and he found that between 1933 and 1938 the membership had increased by 50 per cent., so that instead of there having been a decline they were well on the up grade (applause). He mentioned the recent fine performance of a peal in 30 Minor methods rung by Essex members of the society, conducted by Mr. Ralph Bird, and congratulated them upon the achievement. With regard to Sunday ringing, he said, they maintained the ringing at St. Martin's on Sunday mornings and for the broadcast services, and they also rang at Shoreditch, when the bells were available, once a month and sometimes twice, and they had also rung at St. Bride's and St. Olave's, Hart Street. It had been suggested to him by Mr. Ayre, he added, that they might try to arrange a joint meeting with the College Youths, and the officers would certainly see what could be done in that direction (applause). Perhaps, too, Mr. Fenn would bring the matter to the notice of his society. In conclusion, the Master said he had received a letter from an old member, Mr. W. Keeble, who, as most of them knew, had been for a long time in hospital at Severalls, Colchester. Mr. Keeble would welcome a visit from any ringers who could call and see him. The Master added that he thought it would be a kindly gesture if, from that meeting, they could send a practical mark of their sympathy to Mr. Keeble.

Subsequently a collection was made, which realised £2 12s. for Mr. Keeble.

Mr. J. W. Cornford submitted 'The Visitors' and said he was pleased to see so large a number present that night. The dinner in that room, he said, took him back 20 years, when, in the same place, the annual dinner of the society was inaugurated and he saw faces now present who were with them on the first occasion (applause). There were members of many kindred societies present, societies who, with their own, were once looked upon as antagonistic. But those days he was glad to say were past: the social side of ringing had brought them together as one big family (applause). They had ringers present from many distant places, including some from Nottingham and some from Southampton. They particularly welcomed Mr. E. H. Lewis, the president of the Central Council and past Master of the College Youths (applause). Some were present, no doubt, to greet old friends

and to talk of the peals they rang together years ago, perhaps in the 'gay nineties' (laughter). Then there were some of the strong men with them with their eyes fixed on Liverpool tower. He wished them luck (laughter and applause). But for whatever reason they were there, there was, behind all, the love of ringing, of meeting old friends and of doing honour to that grand old society (applause).

MISPLACED ENERGY.

Mr. E. H. Lewis, in responding, mentioned that he had spent some hours that afternoon on the river bank watching the 'Head of the River' races, and he went on to draw analogies between the team work required in rowing and in rigging. The coach of the crew, he said, could say exactly what he liked to the men and what he thought about them, and no member of the crew dared to reply or even to look surly; if he did he would be chucked out of the boat. He thought it would be for the good of ringing if they could have a little more of that spirit in the tower. He did not mean to say they should use the same kind of language inside a sacred building that was used on the towpath (laughter), but the idea should be that whoever was conducting should be in complete charge and should say what he thought about the striking, without the person spoken to feeling any ill-will at all. That was the spirit they wanted to get into the tower (applause).

There were many problems to which one might refer on that occasion, continued Mr. Lewis, but it had been quite clear in the past year or two that in some societies there had been a great deal of energy that had been misplaced. They cried out for recruits, and no society could be successful unless there was a continuous flow of young ringers, but what had struck him was that in some quarters a lot of energy had been spent, in quarrelling about overlapping, which might have been more usefully turned into another direction, that of teaching young ringers (hear, hear). In his own county association, a number of whose members were present that night, if the energy spent in quarrelling over the rules had been put into teaching young ringers, the association would have been a great deal better off (applause). In Kent there were only just over 50 per cent. of the towers in union with the association, and in many of those towers the striking, to say the least of it, was very far from perfect. For that reason he thought a lot of the misplaced energy should have been turned into the right direction, for they should not be satisfied until they had every tower in the county in union with the association and the striking everywhere fit to be broadcast (hear, hear). That could only be done by getting young ringers, teaching them carefully from the start and paying attention to every little detail, from the proper way to hold the rope, onward. It was details such as the holding of the rope and the handling of the bell which did so much towards accurate striking at a later date. It was upon such things as this that they should spend their time and energy instead of quarrelling about the definition of districts or the exact meaning of rules. The best societies were those which were worked on a basis of friendship and rules should not be required at all (applause). In conclusion, Mr. Lewis on behalf of the visitors, and the ringers of England, which, as president of the Central Council, he could claim to represent, wished the Royal Cumberland Youths continued prosperity.

SUGGESTED JOINT MEETING OF COLLEGE YOUTHS AND CUMBERLANDS.

Mr. N. Summerhayes proposed 'Kindred Societies.' He said London was unique in this respect that it was covered by four or five or more societies, and he supposed it was inevitable that small questions and disagreements—small compared with the ideas behind ringing—should crop up, but violent controversy and acrimonious argument could do nothing at all to improve the position. Everything could be settled in a friendly manner: if it was not it would only bring discredit on the Exercise and breed bad feeling among ringers (hear, hear). They often heard that so and so would not ring with someone else, and you could not have this man in a peal if you had that man. That was most deplorable. The ideal behind a ringing society was effectively to organise ringing and particularly Sunday service ringing. Their object should be to work together in a friendly way. During 1938 the Cumberland Youths held two joint meetings. One was with the Middlesex and Essex Associations at Shoreditch, Bethnal Green and Hart Street. It was a terrific success, and 80, at least, attended although it was on the Saturday that followed the critical week in September. They also held a joint meeting with the London County Association, which was also a success. At the meeting at Shoreditch one or two mentioned the idea of a joint meeting with the Ancient Society of College Youths. He thought if it could be done it would create a tremendous impression, and he was sure it would be as successful as either of the other meetings. He would like to reiterate the desire of his society to co-operate with the other societies in the London areas; they were always delighted to welcome members of any other society at their meetings and practices. He coupled with the toast the name of Mr. E. G. Fenn, Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

Mr. Fenn, who was cordially received, said there was one thing he had noticed about the kindred societies in the provinces, and that was the brotherhood and good fellowship that existed between them. It was gatherings such as they were holding that evening that kept this brotherhood going, and he doubted if there was any other art in the world which could produce the brotherhood and good spirit that was to be found in ringing to-day (applause). The Ancient Society of College Youths was pleased to welcome any ringers, to

whatever society they belonged, whether they were Cumberlands, or the Ladies' Guild, or what not. Mr. Fenn went on humorously to remark that as the men could not join the Ladies' Guild, perhaps the next best thing was to marry a lady ringer, although that might have its drawbacks—their wives might know too much sometimes (laughter). On one occasion after a peal, he said, he went home early. He arrived at eight o'clock and his wife exclaimed, 'What's the matter, aren't you well?' (laughter). The next time he did not get home until half-past ten, and when asked for an explanation he said they had had ten more changes to ring (laughter). 'But,' said Mr. Fenn, 'you couldn't tell that tale to your wife if she was a ringer' (laughter). Proceeding Mr. Fenn said the College Youths once played the Cumberlands at cricket; he now understood there was a team wanting to play the Cumberlands at darts (laughter and applause). With regard to the joint meeting of the two societies which had been mentioned he would certainly bring the matter up at their next meeting. It rested, of course, with the members to say if they were in agreement with the suggestion. For himself he was in favour of it, as such meetings did create good fellowship between ringers (applause).

LADIES' CHALLENGE.

Later the Master read a note, that had been handed up to him, that the Ladies' Guild would challenge the winners of the match between the College Youths and the Cumberlands in a darts competition (laughter and applause).

Mr. C. J. Matthews proposed 'The Press,' and, speaking from his own experience in connection with newspaper production, said he was sure very few ringers understood the great amount of work Mr. Goldsmith put into 'The Ringing World' for their benefit every week. 'The Ringing World' was indispensable to the Exercise, but Mr. Goldsmith was indispensable to 'The Ringing World.' He wished success to 'The Ringing World' and hoped Mr. Goldsmith would long be able to carry on.

Mr. Goldsmith, whose name had been received with musical honours, responded, and, in thanking Mr. Matthews for his kindly remarks, said whether or not he was indispensable, the time must inevitably come when he would no longer be here to carry on, and his great desire was to see sufficient support given to the paper to ensure its continuation in the interests of ringing. Mr. Goldsmith referred to the position of ringing in London, where within five miles of Charing Cross, he said, there were something like 80 towers, while regular service ringing was carried on in probably less than 20 of them. There was plenty of scope for improving this position, he added, if only the various societies would get together in a friendly spirit of collaboration (applause).

During the evening the company were entertained with songs by Miss M. Dawson and Mr. Walter Ayre; Mr. George de Sell mystified the audience with some extraordinarily clever tricks; and there was also handbell ringing, which included courses of Stedman Caters and Double Norwich Major, the enjoyable evening concluding with community singing.

A photograph was taken of the dinner party, and details as to the price of copies, etc., can be had from the hon. secretary of the society, Mr. G. W. Steere.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir.—The Exercise will, I think, agree with Mr. Simmond's letter in your last issue as to the undesirability of causing bitterness and ill-feeling between the Guildford Diocesan Guild and the London County Association by a continuance of the correspondence relating particularly to those two associations.

But a re-reading of Mr. C. T. Coles' letter in 'The Ringing World' of March 10th will show that, apart from a reference in his opening paragraph, Mr. Coles does not refer to this matter at all. The withdrawal of the remarks relating to the Guildford Diocesan Guild has, it is hoped, ended this question.

Mr. Coles' letter relates solely to two other points contained in Mr. Taffender's first letter—(a) 'the assistance of another writer' in leading the Editor, and (b) 'this association (the L.C.A.) has in no way ever ignored its title.'

With regard to (a), you, sir, have denied any such assistance, and I agree with Mr. Coles that, if the charge cannot be substantiated, it should be withdrawn. On the question of the L.C.A. not ignoring its title and yet laying claim to the postal districts of London, I am irresistibly reminded of the leader of the Third Reich, who has 'no more territorial ambitions' until he springs his next surprise on the world. As Mr. Woodiss said in his letter published on February 24th, nothing has been done 'with regard to the more important question of overlapping' and 'as to the conduct of the activities of the association in the future.' It is interesting to note that a former district master of the L.C.A. (Mr. Waugh) has said that it is 'quite useless to try to run the society on a territorial basis, with its present constitution' ('Ringing World,' February 10th, 1939). Presumably he speaks from experience.

Everyone who knows Mr. Coles knows that he has spent the whole of his ringing career in trying to promote the welfare of the Exercise and good feeling among the associations and their members, and for Mr. Simmonds to imply anything else is quite unjustifiable. The two points in Mr. Coles' letter were quite clearly nothing to do with the relations between the Guildford Diocesan Guild and the London County Association.

WILFRID G. WILSON

'RINGING UP.'**RINGERS OFFER SOME USEFUL HINTS.***To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—In answer to 'Yokel's' letter as to 'ringing up,' I should like to offer the band some advice on this subject. Your correspondent says his band cannot agree on what is the cause of their failure, but some light on the culprit is thrown by your correspondent when he says the back bells have to pull down from their normal swing, which is obviously wrong and plainly points out that the treble is not raising his bell. This checking on the back bells is a guide to the leader that he is at fault.

In the next paragraph I am with the tenorman in his opinion on raising his own bell.

My advice to this band is to get to some tower where the bells are raised as they should be; if not, get some expert ringer to coach the band, for I am sure in our great fraternity someone would be only too pleased to assist.

Here is some advice to the band on raising:—

1. The leader should always be raising, but only gradually.
2. The front bells keep as close as possible at the commencement of the rise.
3. No. 2, you are setting the rhythm, see to it that you keep it.
4. Do not try to follow a bell that is not in its place, but keep your ears open and see that your bell is speaking at its proper time.
5. Gradually open out when nearly up. The treble and second here play an important part.

This peal, with a tenor of 17 cwt., should take at the least five minutes to raise; a little longer would add to the beautiful effect of a good rise.

In conclusion, I consider these bells an ideal six to raise in peal, for, having been recently rehung and with a tenor of that weight, they should go well and have some tone in them. J. E. HOBBS.

Watnall, Notts.

ANOTHER 'TIP.'

Dear Sir,—'Yokel' has hit one nail on the head when he says 'the bells should be really close together in the early stages.' That gives the back strokes an opportunity of falling into place without clashing.

The other point I have found invaluable in my experience is this: The trebleman should keep an eye on the tenor, and as soon as possible touch 'sally' and 'end' in opposition to his rope. Then, if the others are keeping their proper places, the result should be entirely satisfactory. HENRY MARTIN.

Dawlish, Devon.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT BARNBY-IN-THE-WILLOWS.**

A very enjoyable meeting of the North Notts Association was held on Saturday, March 11th, at Barnby-in-the-Willows, near Newark. The light six, with a tenor of 6½ cwt., went well, and after a late start the bells were kept going by the 24 ringers present. The towers represented were Sutton-on-Prent, Ordsall, Southwell, Lincoln Cathedral, St. Giles', Lincoln, and the home tower. The members were also pleased to welcome a Warwickshire ringer from a tower near Coventry.

The ringing included the usual Doubles, and Plain, Treble Bob and Surprise Minor methods, and the striking was quite good. One or two touches were rung rather quickly, and a little of the joy of ringing and beauty of tone seemed to be lost at the greater speed.

Tea in the Schoolroom was, as usual at Barnby, an excellent meal. At the meeting afterwards the Rev. H. Walton took the chair and welcomed the association very heartily to his church.

Mr. J. Pearson, of Branton, was elected a non-resident life member.

The secretary suggested that the annual meeting be held at Retford on either April 15th or 22nd, and the meeting was asked to state which date was preferable. April 15th was put forward as a recommendation to the committee meeting, which will be held on April 1st.

The Rev. R. F. Wilkinson said it had been suggested that the annual meeting be held at Retford and Newark alternately. In the case of Newark, the date would have to be Easter Monday. This will be borne in mind in future years.

Votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells and to the ladies for preparing tea.—The Rev. Walton replied in humorous vein to both these votes.

Further ringing took place afterwards.

BELLS AND BROADCAST SERVICES.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I had the pleasure of ringing at St. Margaret's, Lee, recently, and I was very surprised when I heard that the bells will not be broadcast on Palm Sunday. This church has had quite a number of services broadcast, but not once have we heard the bells. I am sure there are other churches, as well as that named, which never are broadcast and yet ring previous to the broadcast service. I hope we shall try to get these peals broadcast if possible. I am sure that Churchyard Bob would sound better over the air than some of the 'fring' we hear.

Wimbledon, S.W.

S. HOPGOOD.

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.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

To Secretaries of Affiliated Associations. Subscriptions for 1938/39 became due in January.

To all Members.

All resolutions to be proposed at the next meeting, and all nominations for the offices of President, Hon. Secretary and Hon. Librarian should be sent to me before March 30th.

GEORGE W. FLETCHER,

Hon. Secretary.

45, Walsingham Road,
Enfield, Middlesex.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—Book this date, March 25th, for Parish Church, Ashby-de-la-Zouch. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. The above district will hold its next meeting there, and a hearty invitation awaits all ringers. Excellent bus service from all parts.—J. W. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Overseale, Burton-on-Trent.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION—Canterbury District.—The next meeting will be held at Elham (Chilham unavailable) on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (8) from 2.30. Service 4.30, followed by tea, 1s. per head. Usual methods, but special attention to Double Norwich, please.—B. J. Luck, Hon. Dis. Sec., 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — The next meeting will be held at Tickhill on Saturday, March 25th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Let us have a good meeting to welcome the new vicar. Send your card to Ernest Cooper, 6, Grosvenor Crescent, Arksey, Doncaster, Yorks.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Derby District.—A meeting will be held at St. Luke's Church, Derby, on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (8, tenor 30 cwt.) available 3 p.m. All ringers cordially invited to try this splendid peal. Subscriptions now due. — Wm. Lancaster, Hon. Sec., 83, Albert Road, Chaddesden, Derby.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks & S. Bucks Branch.—The next meeting has been arranged at Fulmer (6 bells) on Saturday, March 25th, at 6 p.m. Subscriptions now due. Annual reports ready shortly. Note date of annual meeting, April 22nd, at Beaconsfield. — A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — St. Albans District.—A meeting will be held at Hatfield on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Short service 5. Tea at the Temperance Hotel (1s.) 5.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—Harold V. Frost, Dis. Sec., 4, Kimberley Road, St. Albans.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. — The meeting arranged at All Souls, Bolton, for Saturday, March 25th, has been cancelled. — Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District. — The next monthly practice at Chelmsford Cathedral will be held on Saturday, March 25th, at 7.30 p.m. The special method is 'Cambridge,' up to Royal.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District. —A quarterly meeting will be held at Wye on Saturday, March 25th. Bells ready 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. —P. Page, Hon. Dis. Sec., 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—The next meeting will be held at Chobham on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (8) available 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. at the White Hart. The Vicar is anxious to meet the diocesan ringers, so a hearty welcome is extended to the neighbouring districts and others. — F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Sec., 39, Queen's Road, Thames Ditton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Colne on Saturday, March 25th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members cordially invited. —F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District. — The next meeting is at St. Ippolyt's on March 25th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea, by kind invitation of the Vicar.—L. T. Newman, Hon. Dis. Sec., 36, Salisbury Road, Baldock.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Malins Lee, Wellington, on Saturday, March 25th. Usual arrangements. Visitors welcome, but please notify numbers for tea. — W. A. Farmer, 70, Oakfield Road, Shrewsbury.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Almondsbury on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (6) open from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Please advise for tea.—R. C. Gifford, Hon. Sec., Gifford House, Frampton Cotterell.

HORDLE, NR. LYMINGTON, HANTS.—The ring of five bells (one old and four new) will be dedicated by the Bishop of Southampton on Sunday, March 26th, at the 11 o'clock service. The work has been carried out by John Taylor and Co.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637). — Meetings for March: *St. Paul's Cathedral, 28th; St. Magnus-the-Martyr, 30th. *Business meeting afterwards. Both at 7.30.—A. B. Peck, Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS. —A practice will be held at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, on Thursday, March 30th, at 6.30 p.m.—G. W. Steere, 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting will be held at Aston Parish Church, Birmingham, on Saturday, April 1st. Bells (12) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m., to be followed by business meeting. Please notify Mr. W. Davies, 99, Rosary Road, Erdington, Birmingham, regarding tea not later than Thursday, 30th inst.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division. — A meeting of this division will be held at Stisted on Saturday, April 1st. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Will all those requiring tea please notify Mr. R. Suckling, 334, Church Street, Bocking, Essex, not later than Wednesday, March 29th. All ringers welcome.—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Dis. Sec., 3, Belle Vue, Heddingham Road, Halstead, Essex.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch. —The monthly meeting will be held at Steeple Ashton on Saturday, April 1st. Ringing 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5. Meeting to follow.—W. C. West, Branch Hon. Sec., 584, Semington Road, Melksham.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Archdeaconry of Ely Branch.—A meeting will be held at Ickleton on Saturday, April 1st. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Visitors heartily welcomed. Please send card for tea to Mr. P. Webb, Ickleton, Saffron Walden, Essex.—C. W. Cook, Newton, Cambridge.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—A meeting will be held at Benwell (bells 6) on Saturday, April 1st, at 3 p.m. These bells have just been rehung, so please give the Benwell chaps a good restart.—Jack Roach, Hon. Sec.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — The next meeting will be held at South Anston Church (bells 8) on Saturday, April 1st. For tea please notify Mr. H. Stenton, 32, Sheffield Road, South Anston, near Sheffield. All welcome.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 13, St. Ronans Road, Sheffield 7.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Winchester District.—Quarterly meeting at Alresford on Saturday, April 1st, next. Bells (8) available from 2.30. Service at 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. Will those requiring tea kindly notify Mr. H. Newnham, West View, Rosebery Avenue, Alresford, by Thursday, March 30th? — W. G. Goodchild, Hon. Dis. Sec., 139, Stanmore Lane, Winchester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Cophull, on Saturday, April 1st. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea, 9d. each, for which please notify Mr. J. Blackburn, 38, Park Road, Cophull, near Chorley. Special invitation to friends from Preston Branch. — S. Forshaw, 55, Poolstock, Wigan.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Enderby on April 1st. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m., followed by the business meeting. Will all those requiring tea notify me on or before March 29th?—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — A meeting will be held at Brown Edge on Saturday, April 1st. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Will those requiring tea kindly notify Mr. G. Hall, Brown Edge, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, not later than March 29th? Tickets are available from the secretary for the second annual dinner at the George Hotel, Burslem, on Saturday, April 15th, 3s. 6d. each. — Andrew Thompson, 37, Broad Street, Newcastle, Staffs.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Gillsborough Branch. — A special meeting will be held at West Haddon (5 bells) on Saturday, April 1st. Usual arrangements. Please notify honorary secre-

tary not later than Tuesday, March 28th, of those requiring tea.—H. H. Shrivess, Hon. Branch Sec., The Mill, Long Buckby, Rugby.

MORECAMBE, LANCS.—The new ring of eight bells installed by John Taylor and Co. will be dedicated by the Bishop of Blackburn on Sunday, April 2nd, at the 10.30 service.

BRONLLYS, TALGARTH, BRECONS.—Reopening of the bells on Saturday, April 8th, at 3 p.m. Preacher, the Lord Bishop of Swansea and Brecon. Notification to the Vicar for tea, which will be supplied at a nominal charge. The five bells restored and a new treble added to make six by John Taylor and Co.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, Easter Monday, at Burton-on-Trent. Bells open: St. Paul's (10) from 10 a.m.; Rolleston-on-Dove (8), 11.30 to 12.30, 1.30 to 3.30; Winshill (6), 11 to 12 a.m., 1.30 to 4 p.m. Subject to weddings and funerals. Committee meet 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.45 prompt, followed by general meeting in St. Paul's Institute. Tickets for tea, members 1s. 9d., visitors 2s., to be obtained not later than Apr. 5th from J. W. Cotton, Coronation Street, Overseale, Burton-on-Trent. Owing to catering difficulties, please note, those without tickets must fend for themselves.—Ernest Morris, General Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The 59th annual general meeting will be held at Erith on Easter Monday, April 10th. Committee meeting in St. John's Hall at 11.15 a.m. Service in the Church of St. John the Baptist at noon. Address by the Vicar of Erith (Rev. R. W. Thornhill, M.A.). Luncheon in St. John's Hall at 1 p.m. (free to practising members, 2s. 6d. others). His Worship the Mayor of Erith (Rev. J. W. Wilkinson) will preside. Business meeting follows for the election of officers and Central Council representatives (4). Nominations must reach me by March 27th. A new rule to be submitted. The tower of St. John's will be open for ringing from 10 a.m. and after the meeting. Other towers in the vicinity available will be announced later. All applications for luncheon tickets must reach me by Tuesday, April 4th, otherwise too late.—Fred M. Mitchell, Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The ANNUAL MEETING will be held at HERTFORD, on EASTER MONDAY. Ringing from 2 p.m. at All Saints (10 bells), St. Andrew's (8), Bengoe (8). Hertingfordbury (5) 1.30 to 3 p.m. Service in St. Andrew's Church 4.30 p.m. Tea in St. Nicholas Hall, St. Andrew's, 5 p.m., price 2s., followed by business meeting. Ringing at the three Hertford churches up to 9 p.m. It will help the caterer if your intentions can be sent to the secretary not later than April 6th. Thank you.—G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec., Duffield, St. Albans.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will take place at Norwich on Easter Monday, April 10th. The bells of St. Peter Mancroft, St. Giles, St. Michael at Coslany and All Saints available from 10.30 a.m. Service at St. Peter Mancroft at 12.30 p.m. Address by the Rev. E. William Blyth, Rector of Northrepps. Luncheon (2s. 6d.) at The Castle Hotel at 1.30 p.m. Kindly notify attendance at luncheon.—F. Nolan Golden, Gen. Sec. and Treasurer, Winton, 26, Brabazon Road, Norwich.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Worcester on Easter Monday, April 10th. General business meeting in the College Hall at 2.45 p.m. prompt. Chairman: The Very Rev. Arthur Davies, D.Litt., Dean of Worcester. Service in the Cathedral at 4.15 p.m. Special preacher: The Rev. J. R. Bamber, Vicar of Wollaston. Tea (non-members 1s. each) will be provided at 5.30 p.m., for all those who notify me on or before Wednesday, April 5th. Bells available: Cathedral (12), 1-2 p.m.; All Saints (10), St. John-in-Bedwardine (8), and St. Nicholas (6). St. Swithun (6, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. only). Central Committee meeting in St. Albans at 11.30 a.m. Subscriptions should be paid and reports obtained in St. Albans' Church Room, Fish Street, between 12 noon and 1 p.m. Members are particularly asked to note that St. Helen's Church House will not be available as in previous years.—J. D. Johnson, Gen. Hon. Sec., Aubyns, Cheltenham Road, Sedgeberrow, Evesham.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Cardiff on Easter Monday next. Bells (10) available from 2 o'clock. Service at 4.15. Tea and business meeting to follow.—J. W. Jones, Hon. Sec., Cartref, 94, Altery View, Newport, Mon.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—East Devon Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Awliscombe, near Honiton, on Easter Monday, April 10th. Bells (6) available 2.30; also Ottery St. Mary (8). Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting, Parish Room, 5.15 p.m. All are welcome.—John H. Godfrey, Hon. Sec., 9, Silver Street, Ottery St. Mary.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, Epsom, on Easter Monday, April 10th. Bells available: St. Mary's, Ewell, 11 a.m. to 12.30; St. Martin's, Epsom, 2 p.m. to 3 p.m.; Christ Church, Epsom, 3.30 to 4.55, and again in the evening. Service at Christ Church 5 p.m., followed by tea at Christ Church Hall at 1s. per head. Business meeting afterwards. Numbers for tea to be sent to Mr. J. Crawford, 2, Woodcote Side, Epsom, not later than Wednesday, April 5th. All ringers and friends heartily welcome.—F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Sec., 28, Strathearn Road, Sutton, Surrey.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, on Saturday, April 22nd. Full particulars later.—C. T. Coles, Gen. Sec.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.—The annual dinner will be held in LIVERPOOL on Saturday, October 21st. Book the date NOW. Details later, but BOOK THE DATE.—Claude I. Davies, Hon. Treasurer, 68, Dunbabin Road, Liverpool 16.

SITUATION WANTED.

RINGER, seeks situation as sexton, caretaker, or any work connected with the church. References.—Write, Box R., 'The Ringing World,' Lower Pyrford Road, Woking, Surrey.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT.

Mr. T. J. Cox, of 60, Royal Road, Ramsgate, acknowledges with many thanks the following donations for the orphaned children of the late Mrs. E. Taylor: Anonymous, 4s. 6d.; Ranmoor Company, Sheffield, 10s.; St. Michael's, Bray, 5s.; A. J. Wells, Swindon, 5s.

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A first performance on handbells by other ringers has been accomplished at Walford, where 720 Bob Minor was rung by W. G. Paul (conductor) 1-2, W. G. Porter (first 720) 3, D. Laud (first 720) 4, R. G. Bell (first 720 'in hand') 5-6.

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