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FRIDAY, MAY 31st, 1940.

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WHO IS TO BLAME?

There is often good reason for the complaint of association officials that lack of interest on the part of members not only makes their task difficult but sometimes hardly worth while. Branch secretaries, particularly, often struggle on under great discouragement, and it is not surprising, therefore, if they, in turn, lose heart. Their enthusiasm must be damped by frequent failures on the part of members to back up their efforts; and they cannot always be blamed if they themselves become slack. Apparently a spirit of apathy has crept into the affairs of the Midland Counties Association in Nottinghamshire, and a correspondent this week inquires what is happening in this district. He is disappointed that so few attempts have been made to hold meetings. He is obviously one of the enthusiasts, and we can understand that he feels a sense of disappointment that meetings should be few and far between. On the other hand, the responsible official must have been disappointed at the small response with which his efforts have been met in the district for some time past. Reference to the annual report of the association reveals that in the Nottingham district last year 'only a few members turned up' at the only two meetings that were held. It would seem that the Nottingham district members are themselves partly to blame.

A somewhat similar state of affairs occurred not long ago in the Chesterfield District of the association, where there was a difficulty in obtaining officers to manage the branch. That, perhaps, had an additional cause in the closing down of ringing in the centre of the district, in Chesterfield itself, but the association has, we believe, re-invigorated the branch, and it now appears to be necessary to do something in the Nottingham area to rehabilitate the activities of the association. The times, of course, are difficult and abnormal for any new drive of this kind, but the city of Nottingham has in it a number of keen ringers who should form the nucleus for a determined effort to restore animation.

Nottinghamshire, however, is not an isolated example of apathy. There are many places where district officials are left to carry the burden—are expected to do the 'donkey' work—but where ringers feel no responsibility to do anything to back up their officials' labours. Nothing damps the enthusiasm of a secretary more than to be let down over the meetings he arranges, not for his own amusement, but in the interests of the members. Much is taken for granted by those who do not do the work, and there is a very general feeling among ringers that their presence at a meeting is a matter

(Continued on page 254.)

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purely of their own inclination or convenience. In these days, of course, there may be perfectly good reasons why men cannot attend meetings, and, indeed, why meetings cannot be arranged at all, but when normal conditions prevail ringers owe a duty to their association and an acknowledgment to their officials, and one way in which to discharge the one and express the other is to give their support to the meetings arranged for their pleasure and ringing profit.

It is a constant complaint in many parts of the country that, for the most part, only a very limited section of the members attend district meetings. That these ringers are constant in their support shows, however, that they not only appreciate what is done on their behalf, but that they find attendance at meetings worth while—that, in fact, they get pleasure of various kinds out of such gatherings. That they do so is due to the fact that they, on their part, are prepared to put something into the common stock. We feel that if in Nottinghamshire and elsewhere, where there may be seeming cause for complaint of official laxity, members would show a real interest in the meetings, a new spirit would be introduced, and prospects of the future materially improved.

EIGHT BELL PEAL.

WATH-ON-DEARNE, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 25, 1940, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

HAROLD CHANT Treble	SIDNEY BRIGGS 5
MRS. E. BRADLEY 2	EDWARD BRADLEY 6
WILLIE GREEN 3	ARTHUR GILL 7
MISS D. M. HAWLEY 4	DANIEL SMITH Tenor

Composed by H. CHANT.

Conducted by D. SMITH.

First peal in the method on the bells. First peal in the method as conductor. The composition now rung for the first time.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

HADDISCOE, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 4, 1940, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being eight extents of St. Simon's (four callings), 12 of Plain Bob (four callings), 20 of Grandsire (ten callings and Morris' 240).

Tenor 10 cwt. (approx.).

*GEORGE T. BUSSEY Treble	*ERNEST W. BROWN 3
MRS. R. W. BARBER 2	STANLEY W. GALL 4

R. WILLIAM BARBER Tenor

Conducted by R. W. BARBER.

* First peal of Doubles. First peal on the bells.

STRATTON STRAWLESS, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, May 22, 1940, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of an extent of Cambridge Surprise, Double Court, Plain Bob, Double Oxford, Oxford Treble Bob, St. Clement's and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 11½ cwt. in G.

WILLIAM C. DUFFIELD ... Treble	REV. A. G. G. THURLOW ... 4
ERIC DURRANT 2	WALTER C. MEDLER 5
F. NOLAN GOLDEN 3	GEORGE BAILEY Tenor

Conducted by F. NOLAN GOLDEN.

J. A. TROLLOPE'S

'COLLEGE YOUTHS' A History of the Society

5/6 (post free) from

'THE RINGING WORLD' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD WOKING, SURREY.

BRONLLYS, BRECKNOCKSHIRE.
THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 25, 1940, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 extents, 10 callings.

Tenor 7½ cwt.

FREDERICK H. BAILEY Treble	DAVID H. BENNETT 4
LESLIE EVANS 2	ALBERT E. JONES 5
TREVOR JONES 3	*WILLIAM DREW Tenor

Conducted by D. H. BENNETT.

* First attempt to ring a peal since July 25th, 1908. Rung in honour of Empire Day, also as a 14th birthday compliment to the treble ringer, he being the youngest member of the Guild to ring a peal.

SOUTH DAMERHAM, HAMPSHIRE.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 25, 1940, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's.

Tenor 8½ cwt.

*LEONARD HARRIS Treble	*FRANK W. ROMAINE 4
*FRANK L. HARRIS 2	WILLIAM C. SHUTE 5
*JAMES E. FIGGURES 3	WILLIAM E. CHEATER Tenor

Conducted by W. E. CHEATER.

* First peal of Minor. First peal on the bells. Rung at the request of the Vicar of Damerham, the Rev. H. W. Moule.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BUSHEY, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, May 22, 1940, in Two Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

AT THE ROYAL MASONIC JUNIOR SCHOOL,

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15.

CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY 1-2	EDWIN A. BARNETT 5-6
ERNEST C. S. TURNER 3-4	EDWIN BARNETT 7-8

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by C. W. WOOLLEY.

Umpire—Edwin Jennings.

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, May 23, 1940, in Two Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,

AT 20, ABERDEEN CRESCENT,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor size 17 in B flat.

ALFRED BARNES 1-2	ALLEN F. BAILEY 5-6
HAROLD JACKSON 3-4	PETER LAFLIN 7-8

WILLIAM JACKSON 9-10

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by A. F. BAILEY.

Witness—Mrs. A. F. Bailey.

Rung as a silver wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. William Jackson.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

VISIT TO GUISELEY.

The weather was perfect and showed to the full the charming surroundings at the May meeting of the Leeds and District Amalgamated Society, which was held on Saturday at Guiseley.

The bells were rung up soon after 3 p.m., and except for the usual breaks for tea and the business meeting, continued until 8.30 p.m.

The Rector (Archdeacon Lowe) paid a visit to the tower and gave a welcome to the society, and, in reply, the President (Mr. J. F. Harvey) expressed the society's pleasure and thanks. After watching the ringing for a short while, the Rector left to attend evensong.

At the business meeting, which was held in the tower, Mr. J. F. Harvey presided, and members were present from Armley, Bradford Cathedral, Burley, Drighlington, Headingley (St. Chad's), Idle, Leeds Parish Church, Hunslet, Shipley and the local company. Mr. Josh. Woodhead, late of Holbeck, who is approaching his 87th birthday, was present for a short time, enquiring for his old friends. The many friends of Mr. George Titterton (85) will be pleased to know that he has almost recovered from his serious illness and was among those present in the belfry.

The usual vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. Lofthouse and seconded by Mr. F. Hutchinson.

The next meeting is due to be held at Hunslet on June 29th, but, owing to the war-time uncertainty, members are asked to watch the notice columns of 'The Ringing World.'

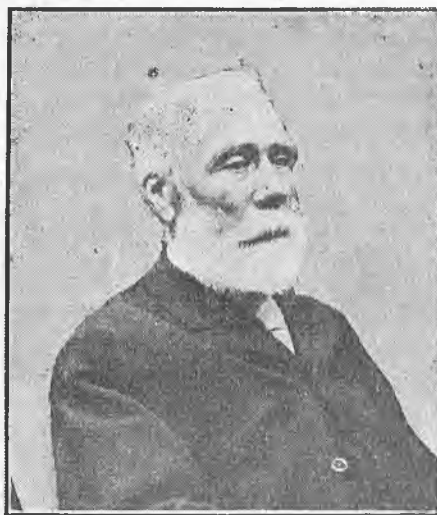
WOOLWICH BICENTENARY.

A CHURCH WITH FAMOUS RINGING CONNECTION.

To celebrate the 200th anniversary of St. Mary's Church, Woolwich, a peal was arranged for Saturday, May 11th, but owing to the turn taken in the war it had to be cancelled. The following, however, rang a 720 Bob Minor: Miss L. H. Aldridge 1, Miss M. Rawlings 2, C. Cullen 3, R. Johnson 4, J. E. Lyddiard 5, B. W. Aldridge (conductor) 6. It is hoped to record a peal later.

St. Mary's, Woolwich, was a notable ringing centre about the middle of the last century and was made particularly famous by the Banister family. Henry Banister, who died at the age of 87 on June 30th, 1869, was a ringer at Woolwich Parish Church for 60 years, and in 1852 conducted what was almost a family peal of Grandsire Triples. Six of his sons took part and the family stood in order of seniority, the youngest on the treble and the father on the 7th. The tenor was rung by Edward P. West.

Before this, however, this talented family had made ringing history. On February 10th, 1849, five of them, including the father, and with William Banister as composer and conductor, rang at Woolwich one



WILLIAM BANISTER.

(Photograph taken shortly before his death.)

of the earliest peals of Superlative Surprise Major, and then, on October 11th in the same year, 'the same band, after diligent practice and steady perseverance' as the peal board records, rang a peal of London Surprise Major of 5,600 changes. The 'arduous task was completed in 3 hours 27 minutes,' and the peal was again composed and conducted by William Banister. It is also interesting to note that the tenor in both these peals was rung by Edward West. This peal of London was only the second ever rung, the first having been at Norwich in 1835. What is more, no other peal of London was rung until the end of the year 1870.

The first peal on the bells at St. Mary's, Woolwich, was rung on November 13th, 1821, by a Society of Eastern Scholars (which had, as far as we know, no relation to the earlier society of that name), and Henry Banister took part in this peal also.

The best known member of the family was William Banister, who lived to a ripe old age and died some 25 years ago. For many years he was a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths and took part in most of the twelve-bell peals rung by them in the middle of the nineteenth century. He rang the third to the then longest peal of Stedman Cinques accomplished at Cripplegate in 1851, which beat the peal at Birmingham rung in 1848.

William Banister was employed in Woolwich Arsenal and in 1865 he was transferred to Devonport. The dockyard chapel had a ring of six bells, which he managed to get augmented to eight, and on them he called a peal of Grandsire Triples with a band of young ringers he had taught in six months.

Banister was the author of a text book on change ringing, which was published in 1874, and went through a second edition.

Older members of the Central Council will remember William Banister's visit to the meeting in 1914, when he spoke in reply to the congratulations of Sir Arthur Heywood, the president.

MAPLEDURHAM, OXFORDSHIRE.—On Saturday, May 4th, at the Church of St. Margaret, a half-peal of Grandsire Doubles (2,520 changes): A. Jemmett 1, E. Nash (conductor) 2, J. Eymor 3, P. Aldridge 4, N. Tanner 5, J. Smith 6. A birthday compliment to the wife of the treble ringer and to the conductor. Longest length by all except the conductor.

CHURCH BELLS OF LONDON.

ST. BRIDE'S, FLEET STREET.

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

Peal ringing is not the only interest in the Exercise; probably it is not the most important interest, even if we consider the art as a secular sport and leave out of our consideration the use of the bells in the service of the Church. But peal ringing has an irresistible attraction for every keen and enthusiastic ringer, and it provides a wonderfully good standard by which we can judge an individual, or a company, or the Exercise at large.

When a company is in a healthy state we usually find that peals are rung; when peal ringing is dropped, apathy and decay are not far away. So we may fairly claim that, even if we admit that the sole purpose of ringing is to minister to the services of the Church (and few of us are likely to go so far), peal ringing is necessary to maintain a high standard.

But in peal ringing the number that is rung does not supply the real test of proficiency and progress. Far more important are the variety of the methods and the excellency of the striking. It is in these things that the greatness of Benjamin Annable and the early College Youths is shown. As pioneers of the art of change ringing, they stand far above every other early company, except only the Norwich Scholars.

In judging their records, it would be absurd to compare a list of the peals they rang with those rung by a modern band. They rang Plain Bob and Oxford Treble Bob where we ring London and Bristol Surprise, but their performances were just as meritorious as ours are—more so, in some respects. What we do to-day has been made possible by what they did then. We have climbed on their shoulders, but we must not boast that we are taller than they.

To compare the quality of the striking in those early days with that of to-day is, of course, well nigh impossible, but we have the testimony of Thomas Hearne, who was a very keen and competent critic, as to its excellency.

A very noticeable thing about these men is that they were not content to keep on ringing peals in the same method. Throughout Annable's career he scarcely ever rang a peal which was not either the first in the method, or the longest in the method, or the first on the bells. It was his aim always to achieve something new, and that is the way progress is made. There is no more illuminating sign of the difference between the development of the art in the second quarter of the eighteenth century and the stagnation and decline of a hundred years later than a comparison of Annable's performance with the interminable and monotonous list of peals of Grandsire Triples rung by Thomas Tolladay and the St. James' Society.

As soon as they had achieved peals in Grandsire Caters and Cinques, and Plain Bob Major, Royal and Maximus, the College Youths turned their attention to Double Bob Major, and they rang the first peal of it on January 14th, 1727. That was not at St. Bride's, but at St. Dunstan's at the other end of Fleet Street. Annable, however, called the first peal of Double Bob Royal at St. Bride's in 1734, and of Maximus at Southwark in 1740. It was at St. Bride's, too, that the College Youths rang the first peals of Double Grandsire Caters (1733) and Cinques (1738). Annable called one and John Cundell the other.

John Cundell was for many years one of the leading men in the Society of College Youths, and challenged

Annable's supremacy both as conductor and heavy bell ringer. He was connected with the theatre, being in later years in charge of the box office at Covent Garden. Elsewhere I have given reasons for believing that he was a lineal descendant of Shakespeare's friend, Henry Condell, the man who collected and published the first folio edition of the plays.

Annable and the early College Youths never rang a peal of Grandsire Triples, but the statement which is sometimes made that they objected to seven-bell ringing which was not all triple changes, has no real foundation in fact. Annable experimented with a number of seven-bell methods with a treble and six working bells, and a peal in one of them, Simon's Triples, was rung at St. Bride's on April 12th, 1732. It is quite a good method, being substantially the same as is now rung as St. Clement's Bob Major, but it is marred by a bell lying still four blows in seventh's at the lead end. Annable also called at St. Bride's the first peals in two Major methods, College Bob Major on January 24th, 1736, and Morning Exercise on December 28th following.

College Bob Major received a certain amount of attention in after years, especially in Yorkshire, and even now a peal is very occasionally rung. Morning Exercise is a Treble Bob method. With the tenors together, it has eight false course ends, and so the peal that Annable called was undoubtedly false. Shipway afterwards claimed to have composed a true peal of it, but he had to part the tenors for the greater part of the peal.

For many years the College Youths were the only company to ring peals at St. Bride's, but in 1749 the Eastern Scholars, with John Blake as conductor and tenor man, rang 6,072 changes of Bob Maximus. 'The Company never before attempted this Peal, and Completed it the first Tryal in 4 hours & 45 minutes.'

John Holt called a peal of Bob Major for the Union Scholars in 1750, which they rang on the front eight, and in the next year one of Grandsire Cinques.

Benjamin Annable died on February 1st, 1756, and was buried within the steeple of St. Bride's, where he had rung his first peal, and which was the scene of so many of his exploits. He was fifty-three years old. At the time of his death, the Society of College Youths was torn by a quarrel, which soon afterwards split it into two divergent sections. Annable himself had a large share in that quarrel, nevertheless his services to the society far outweighed any faults. His is the greatest name in the records of the College Youths. To him more than to anyone else they owed the prestige and the leading position they held in the Exercise. The bicentenary of his death is not so very far off, and perhaps when it comes, in happier times than the present, the society will remember him and erect a suitable memorial.

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

The May meeting of the Barnsley and District Society was held at Sandal on Saturday, when 24 ringers were present from Cawthorne, Barlsheaton, Telkirk, Hoylandswaine, Rothwell, Wath, Meltham and the local company, and there was one visitor from Notts and another from the Bedfordshire Association.

After the tea, which was served in the Parochial Hall, the business meeting followed, with the Vicar (the Rev. T. Wall) in the chair.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at South Kirkby on June 8th, and the annual shield contest at Silkstone on Saturday, July 13th.

The Vicar was thanked for the use of the bells and for presiding, and the best thanks were given to the local company for the arrangements made and to the ladies for the tea.

The Vicar replied and assured all of a hearty welcome.

Further ringing followed until about 8.15 p.m. in a variety of Plain and Treble Bob Minor methods.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

WAR-TIME MEETINGS JUSTIFIED.

The decision of the officers of the South and West District of the Middlesex County Association not to cancel the joint meeting with the North and East District arranged for May 25th at Ruislip and Pinner was fully justified by the success of the meeting. After ringing at Ruislip in the afternoon, the Vicar (the Rev. G. D. Barnsley) conducted a short service, in the course of which he welcomed the association and spoke of the message of the bells. The service ended with the hymn, 'Ruislip Bells,' accompanied by its composer, Mr. A. W. Owen, organist of St. Martin's, and led by the choirboys.

Over thirty members and friends, including three members of the R.A.F., had tea in the Church Room, with the Vicar and Mr. Owen. The vice-president (Mr. J. A. Trollope) thanked the Vicar and Mr. Owen for their welcome, and Mrs. Stone and her helpers for the excellent tea. Mr. Trollope referred to the present state of the war and to the doubts of the officers whether to continue to arrange meetings as long as possible. So long as members supported them, he thought meetings should be held where practicable, and his opinion was evidently that of the members present. The Vicar and Mr. Owen replied.

The assistant secretary apologised for the absence of the secretary, Mr. J. E. L. Cockey, on A.R.P. duty. Two new members, Mr. H. Harris and Mr. R. Knights, of All Saints', Fulham, were elected.

Several courses were rung on the new peal of handbells brought by Mr. J. Taylor, of Watford, until it was time to go on to Pinner for further ringing, under the direction of Mr. G. Kilby, until dark. Thanks are due to the incumbents and towerkeepers at both churches and to all who helped with the arrangements. The ringing ranged from rounds to Spliced Surprise Major.

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.

Despite the fact that the enemy were little more than 50 miles away, the Hawkhurst and District Guild held quite a successful meeting at Wadhurst on Saturday. It was the second meeting ever held in the tower, the Sussex County having held the first in 1901. The heavy going six were raised in peal at 3.30 p.m. and put to good use by ringers who attended from Hawkhurst, Hastings, Hailsham, Eastbourne, Brasted, Lamberhurst, Mayfield, Tunbridge Wells and Uckfield. Methods ranged from Doubles to Cambridge Surprise, and despite the hard work required on the back three bells, the striking was excellent. Members of the local band were able to stand in their first touch of Bob Doubles.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

CHERTSEY DISTRICT.

A highly successful meeting of the Chertsey District of the Guildford Guild was held at Ottershaw on Saturday, and it would have done the critics good to see the spade work that was put in there. The ringing, which began at 3.30, was under the direction of the District Ringing Master, Mr. J. B. Hessey, and several six-scores of Grand sire Doubles were brought round by the novices present, who were very keen to take hold.

At 4.15 the Guild service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. D. Hiam-Spring), who extended to the ringers a most cordial welcome. In his address he reminded them that their work in the belfry was very necessary at this time of national stress and that the sound of the bells helped to draw the thoughts of people to higher things.

Tea was served near the church, and was followed by a short business meeting, at which the chair was taken by the District Master. Mr. W. Massey deputised for the secretary, who was unable to be present owing to A.R.P. duties.

Mr. Charman, of Horsell, was elected a ringing member of the Guild. Mr. E. W. Morey, a member of the Executive Committee, gave, for the benefit of those members who had been unable to attend it, a brief account of the Guild's annual meeting.—The acting secretary drew attention to the handbell peal rung at Chertsey by three members of the district, and the meeting heartily congratulated the performers.

After having passed the usual votes of thanks, the company returned to the tower, where further ringing took place, ranging from Grand sire Doubles to Kent Minor. One course of the latter method was rung by a band of district members. The bells were then lowered in peal and brought a first rate meeting to a close.

Those present represented the district towers of Horsell, Chertsey, Ottershaw, Esher, Hersham and Chobham, as well as Staines, Ash, Pirbright and Kingston-on-Thames.

The meeting was extremely gratifying in view of the growing feeling in the Guild that the Chertsey District was decaying from apathy. The attendance was not large, but among the members elected were ringers from one tower hitherto entirely outside the Guild. It is hoped that as a result of this revival of interest, further life will be put into the district.

NEWCASTLE.—On Tuesday, May 21st, at the Cathedral, on the light six, a 720 of Bob Minor: Colonel Clutterbuck 1, W. H. Barber 2, C. L. Routledge (conductor) 3, J. Anderson 4, Jack Hedley 5, T. W. Crowe 6. First 720 of Bob Minor for treble and 5th ringers.

John Taylor & Co.

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(12th year
of reign of
Elizabeth).

BELFRY GOSSIP.

The secretary of the Burton District of the Midland Counties Association regrets the last minute postponement of the meeting arranged for Appleby Magna on May 25th, and offers apologies to the Birmingham ringer who cycled there in vain. The meeting is now rearranged for June 8th, and it is hoped similar circumstances will not arise.

Owing to the crisis, the meeting of the South-Western Branch of the Essex Association, which should have been held at Stanford-le-Hope, has been cancelled.

The record peal of Bristol Surprise Major (15,264 changes) was rung by the Middlesex County Association at Hornchurch in Essex on Whit Monday, May 27th, 1912. William Pye rang the tenor and conducted, his brother Bob rang the second, and Ernest the seventh. Four other men, then among the best known of ringers, Isaac G. Shade, John H. Cheesman, Bertram Prewett and Alfred W. Grimes, were in the band. Messrs. Reuben Saunders and George R. Pye are the only two who are still alive.

The first Surprise peal outside England was one of Superlative Surprise Major rung at Bray in Ireland on May 28th, 1901, conducted by Mr. J. S. Goldsmith.

On the return journey from Ireland on that occasion, the first peal on the sea was rung—a peal of Stedman Caters, conducted by William Short, which was finished as the vessel entered Holyhead harbour.

The Burton-on-Trent men, with William Wakeley as conductor, rang on May 31st, 1886, 5,024 changes of New Cumberland Major, a method by Henry Earle Bulwer, which was called Surprise, but according to the accepted standard is not now included in that class. It is, however, an excellent method and fully merits more attention than it has received.

On May 31st, 1888, the Birmingham men rang 8,888 changes of Stedman Caters on handbells, and on June 1st, 1912, the Surrey men rang 14,031 changes of the same method.

The first peal on the old twelve bells at St. Martin's, Birmingham, was one of Grandsire Cinques rung on June 3rd, 1773. It was the third in the method away from London and the second by a provincial band. John Archer composed and called the peal.

The conductor of the peal at Ewell on May 4th was John Beams, and not John E. Beams.

THE FIRST PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS.

ANNIVERSARY OF HISTORIC PERFORMANCE.

Last Wednesday, May 28th, was the one hundred and fifty-third anniversary of the first peal of Stedman Caters ever accomplished. It was rung by a band of the 'ancient' Society of College Youths, one of the two separate and independent companies which then called themselves by that name. Two years before they had paid a visit to Norwich, where they heard for the first time Stedman rung on the higher numbers, and on their return to London they had begun to practice Stedman Caters and Stedman Cinques.

Among those who visited East Anglia were William Jones, John Reeves and Thomas Blakemore, the three men who wrote the 'Clavis,' which was published early in 1788. Reeves was one of the greatest composers in the history of change ringing and Blakemore was also a composer, though his merits are difficult to assess nowadays. These two men quarrelled about who should compose and call the peal of Caters, and when it actually was rung Blakemore was not in the band. Neither was Jones, but the board which was erected to record the performance pays him an unusual and fulsome compliment.

'St. John's, Horsleydown. In honour of a most noble performance by the ancient Society of College Youths who on Monday, May 28th, 1787, did ring in an excellent manner the first complete peal of Caters on Stedman's Principle 5,076 changes in 3 hours and 27 mins. May this panel transmit their names to posterity with that of the ingenious Mr. W. Jones on whose abilities his inimitable commentaries so happily concludes with "Here the Cynic and the Panegyrist stop" and join in eulogisms to such distinguished merits: John Reeves 1, John Anderson 2, Daniel Jenkins 3, John Inville 4, Thomas Heap 5, Nathaniel Williamson 6, Allen Grant 7, Christopher Wells 8, William Lowndes 9, Paul Webb 10. Composed and conducted by Mr. John Reeves.'

This board is not now in existence.

The composition has often been said to be false, but is not so. It is, however, on a plan which is now obsolete and somewhat crude. The Ancient Society of College Youths rang it again not many years ago, with Mr. Herbert Langdon as conductor.

	9,720
231456789	
673152489	1, 4, 6, 10
623154789	9
361524978	9, 15
364125	16
365421	16
581234	4, 16

Four times repeated, omitting the first bob, gives 231456978. The whole twice repeated.

Reduced to 5,076 changes by the bobs at 10, 9, and 9 being omitted twice in the first part and always in the last part, and calling the bob at 1 only in the second part.

RINGERS IN THE PAST.

THEIR CONNECTION WITH THE CHURCH.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In his excellent articles about past ringers, Mr. Trollope often spoils a good case by trying to prove too much. If he were content to say that, in the past, ringers were not so closely connected with the Church, as they should be now, we could all agree. But when he says that there was no pretence that they were church workers, we can only say that it is true, in that the words 'church workers' were not then in use; but this is not what Mr. Trollope means.

From the time the Suffolk Guild started, we had one most efficient district secretary; it was not till a year or two after his death that I heard that he was also a leading Nonconformist. Another active district secretary was (and maybe still is) a leading member of the choir at one church and also a leading ringer at another church in the same town, but some distance away. Irregularities will always exist. But we must not, therefore, like Mr. Trollope, imagine that the irregular is the usual. We need not suppose that in the first half of the twentieth century it was usual for ringers to be Nonconformists, or for men to sing at one church and to ring at another. Nor, because at one time ringers sat lightly to their church practice, are we now to imagine that 'there was no pretence that they were church workers.' Of course they must necessarily have been. That many of them did not ring for services was perhaps true enough (and still is, for some ringers). That there was more chiming than ringing for service was no doubt then true; indeed, it would be hard to say that it is not still true, even in London. No doubt, also, in the past there were many who rang for pleasure rather than for church work. But even of these there are many still in evidence!

Equally wrong is Mr. Trollope's statement that a claim has been made that the Halesworth ringers were once organised like the College Youths. No such claim has ever been made, and I have more than once told him so in private correspondence. I wrote to him that the Halesworth ringers have told me that they are a body of ringers such as exists in most small country towns, and that they have never been anything else. I especially told him that they said they were never like the College Youths. They have a record showing that they were in existence more than two hundred years ago, and have been in existence every year since. They do not claim that this is longer than any other band, only that no other band possesses such unbroken written records. There is a tradition that this goes back to pre-Reformation times, when one, Walpole, was alive. This is borne out by various facts which, owing to the war, I am unable to verify. Until Mr. Trollope (or someone else) does this, he and I must leave them in possession of the Walpole tradition.

This tradition comes from a family which has not only produced a Prime Minister of England, but also one of our own churchwardens, who learned how to ring at Ufford Church.

I have also explained in your columns how Halesworth possesses the oldest written changes in existence (as well as the oldest known body of ringers).

Ufford Rectory.

HERBERT DRAKE.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

LOUGHBOROUGH DISTRICT TO HOLD FURTHER MEETINGS.

A meeting was held at Shepshed last Saturday, and in spite of the national crisis, the attendance was well maintained, members being present from Copt Oak, Hugglescote, Ibstock, Oaks-in-Charnwood, Shepshed and Thrumpton, as well as Mr. J. H. Swinfield, of Burton-on-Trent, Mr. Hartland from Worcestershire, and Second-Lieut. Samson, of the Chester Diocesan Guild.

The Vicar (the Rev. C. O. Worman) conducted the association form of service and gave a very inspiring address on the need for unity of service, especially now in this time of distress. He referred to the call to prayer issued by H.M. the King for the following Sunday.

The meeting was held in the belfry, Mr. G. R. Edwards presiding. The Vicar was elected an honorary member of the association and Mrs. Edwards a ringing member.

A letter was read from the district chairman (Mr. J. H. Grundy) suggesting that the district meetings should be cancelled, but this did not meet with any support, and a resolution was adopted that the meetings should be held where possible.

It was decided to accept the invitation of Mr. Hutchinson to a joint meeting with other districts at Sawley on Saturday, June 15th.

As this meeting will not be in the Loughborough area, it was decided to hold another meeting at Ibstock on the following Saturday, if suitable arrangements can be made, and also to join with the Burton District at Cole Orton on Saturday, July 13th.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar for the use of the bells and for conducting the service, to the organist and blower, and to all who had contributed to the success of the meeting.

TWICKENHAM.—On National Prayer Sunday for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: E. Pond 1, G. Bradford 2, Jack Lovell (first quarter-peal inside) 3, E. Morris 4, J. Herbert 5, H. Andrews 6, E. C. S. Turner (conductor) 7, J. Lovell, sen. 8.

LADIES IN THE BELFRY.

MR. WORBOYS IS ANNOYED WITH 'THE RINGING WORLD.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—My last letter addressed to you was intended as a definite attack on your previous article. I see you have adopted your usual procedure of 'pooh-pooh' and left it to a few outsiders to defend your cause. Whether my letter contained anything helpful or not is beside the point. I think I made some direct hits, but, of course, you wouldn't choose to answer them. This was also the case in my last criticism of your article about bells in London.

Well, my answer to the gentlemen who replied to the attack is that they can hold their point of view and I'm holding mine, even if it is in the minority. Or is it? My desire was to show the Editor that all the writings in this paper do not meet with approval; it is unfortunate that there is not another such paper. To Mr. P. H. Brown I would advise him to read the 'Manchester Guardian' so as to learn the difference between criticism and personal sarcasm.

And lastly to the ladies, my opinion is that they look much more ladylike cleaning the brass than hanging on the end of a rope.

The leading article this week is at it again. You remark on the Ancient Society's gathering as 'an interesting experiment.' Sure, because the ladies were invited, and you then go on to mention 'obviously the lack of support is due to the prevailing situation.' Was it? Are you sure this really was the cause of cancelling it? You have written before, urging the Ancient Society to open its ranks to ladies. I am going to suggest that the society has many members capable of managing its affairs without the persuasion and intervention of this paper. The society has in previous years catered for the lady friends and wives of members in a very pleasant manner. I cannot see any advantage in making it an indoor affair. It would be well for every member of the Ancient Society to consider every viewpoint before attempting to alter any customs or traditions now prevailing in this very grand society. A. HAROLD WORBOYS.

Barking, Essex.

P.S.—My views expressed in this or any other letter do not necessarily reflect the opinion of my home tower.

A FUTILE ATTACK.

Mr. Worboys seems to be very annoyed with us—apparently because we had ignored his letter editorially. Actually the attack was such a futile attempt to kick us that it really wasn't worth noticing, although for the life of us we don't see why Mr. Worboys cannot let us enjoy our own opinion, as he claims to stick to his point of view. We said what we thought; we allowed him to say what he thought, so what has he got to complain about?

Obviously the mention of ladies in the belfry acts upon him as the proverbial red rag to a bull, and any suggestion that ladies may have improved the 'tone' of the belfry is like the shaft of the matador. His indignation was obviously bursting in his first letter when he called us to account for having the 'check' to say that 'what influence women have had in the belfry has been to raise the standard of conduct.' If Mr. Worboys hasn't noticed it, it may be due to one of two causes—either he hasn't lived long enough or he hasn't kept the right company.

By the way, it would be most unfortunate if everybody agreed with all we said—there wouldn't be any Mr. Worboys to try to kick us. But if he wants another such paper as this, he has only to start one—or he could have started one before last Monday. As it is, he must now wait until the war is over.

There is just one other thing. The College Youths themselves (and not 'The Ringing World') proposed to extend the invitation to ladies to attend the now abandoned luncheon. Surely Mr. Worboys is besmirching the judgment of the members when he calls their decision into question. It looks as if it is Mr. Worboys trying to run the society and 'The Ringing World,' rather than this paper trying to exert undue influence on the society. Anyhow, Mr. Worboys, here's our hand. Editor, 'The Ringing World.'

GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT DURSLEY.

A joint meeting of the Wotton, Bristol City and Bristol Rural Branches was held last Saturday at Dursley, when over 30 members attended, including Mr. J. Austin and ex-Sgt. J. Williams from Gloucester and Mr. S. T. Price from Stonehouse.

Tea at the Queen Anne Hall was followed by the joint business meeting, at which the Vicar of Dursley presided. Mr. T. Harris was elected chairman of the Bristol City Branch, Mr. D. Clift having resigned, and Mr. N. L. Owen was elected secretary of the Wotton Branch in place of Mr. W. J. Smith, who had been called to the Colours.

The General Secretary urged the members to continue holding meetings, even though attendances may prove to be discouraging. Those members who were serving in the Forces would expect it, to ensure that there should be ringing for them when the war was over. The Rev. K. C. Davies supported the appeal. It was decided to continue to hold meetings as usual.

The Vicar conducted the service after the meeting, and Mr. R. C. Gifford (hon. secretary, Rural Branch) presided at the organ.

Thanks were accorded to Mr. Roberts, Mr. Morgan and Mr. Owen for the excellent arrangements.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

A YEAR OF WONDERFUL RECORDS.

There was a very fair attendance of members at the annual meeting of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, held on April 27th, in spite of the restricted transport facilities, although one missed many out-county members and friends. Owing to local difficulties, the usual tea could not be arranged, and so, after ringing at the Cathedral and St. Giles', followed by evensong at the Cathedral, visitors dispersed to the various cafes in the city, gathering again in the beautiful Chapter House, where by kind permission of the Dean of Lincoln the business meeting was held. Unfortunately, through illness, the Dean was unable to be present, and the Ven. Archdeacon H. T. Parry, president of the Northern Branch, took the chair.

The officers were all re-elected, namely, the Very Rev. R. A. Mitchell, Dean of Lincoln, president; Mr. Rupert Richardson, Master; Mr. F. W. Stokes, hon. secretary and treasurer.

It was unanimously decided to have a report printed on the usual lines for the year 1939, and to leave the question of printing one for the current year for consideration at the next annual meeting.

Mr. Rupert Richardson, Master of the Guild, said it was impossible to compare the peal figures with those of the previous year, but that up to the beginning of the war the Guild had a wonderful record. The North Lincolnshire Minor band had rung peals of seven extents comprising 60, 70, 100, 102 and 104 methods, thus bringing the Minor record back to the Lincoln Guild. This had been followed up by a peal of nine extents in 125 methods. Three of the band had also rung a peal of Minor on handbells in 50 methods. Then the young handbell band at Lincoln had rung peals in spliced Major methods, and the Cathedral band had rung a peal in ten spliced Surprise Major methods. He said he was proud to be Master of a Guild capable of putting up such performances. The Master went on to mention that the Chapter House, in which they were now holding their meeting, was virtually the birthplace of the Guild, for it was in that building, on April 29th, 1899, that the Guild was formed by the amalgamation of the four separate societies then existing in the diocese. He appealed to all members to do their utmost to keep ringing alive in their respective towers during the present difficult times.

The meeting unanimously adopted a resolution allowing members of His Majesty's Forces, who desired to ring peals for the Guild, to become life members of the Guild without payment of the usual subscription.

The Ven. Archdeacon Parry, president of the Northern Branch, in alluding to the record peal of Minor, said that he thought it was very fitting that the peal should have been rung at his own Parish Church at Bigby. He hoped that a peal board commemorating the performance would be dedicated on June 29th, and invited all who could come to visit Bigby on that day, when the Dean of Lincoln had kindly promised to preach.

Although many had to leave for home much earlier than usual, there was a good muster at both the Cathedral and St. Giles' for further ringing in the evening.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.

DISTRICT MEETING AT BANSTEAD.

A successful meeting of the North-Western District of the Surrey Association was held at Banstead on Saturday, when 36 members and friends attended from Banstead, Beddington, Croydon (St. John's and St. Peter's), Epsom, Christ Church, Leatherhead, Mitcham (SS. Peter and Paul's), and London.

Ringling began at 3.15 and continued until 5 o'clock, when a short service was conducted by the curate, the Rev. J. S. F. Farrer, in the absence of the Vicar. The curate expressed his regret at being unable to join the meeting at tea.

An excellent tea was served at the Memorial Cafe, where a short business meeting was held, presided over by the District Master, Mr. D. Cooper. Four new members were elected, the Misses M. J. Cox, J. Newington, K. Newington and P. Terry, all of South Croydon.

It was stated that every endeavour would be made to arrange the usual summer meetings, namely, at Ranmoor Common, jointly with the Leatherhead District of the Guildford Guild, on July 27th; a ringers' gathering at Leatherhead on Monday, August 5th, if the Bank Holiday is not cancelled; and at Staines and Egham jointly with neighbouring associations towards the end of August. Clapham Park was recommended for the next district meeting on Saturday, September 28th, and Battersea was put forward as an alternative tower if Clapham Park should not be available.

The local National Service authorities had arranged a recruiting parade in the parish, complete with band and loud-speaker cars, and at this point in the proceedings the procession passed the tea-room window, when the lads at the table by the window took the opportunity of cheering the gallant local volunteers as they marched along, dressed in resplendent uniforms. When order was at last restored, votes of thanks were passed to all who had helped to make the meeting a success, especially to Mr. F. G. Woodiss for arranging the tea.

The company then returned to the tower, where further ringing took place, ranging from rounds and call changes to Spliced Surprise Major until 8.45, when the bells were lowered in peal. Some of the ringers put a set of handbells to good use in a secluded part of the church.

LAXITY IN NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

WHAT ARE THE M.C.A. DISTRICT OFFICIALS DOING?

To the Editor.

Sir,—Some time ago I got interested in bellringing, and as soon as I was qualified I joined the M.C.A., thinking from what I had heard and from reading the rules and objects of the association I had done a good thing. I am not satisfied. There is something wrong in the Nottingham district. I have heard grumbling all round. We are supposed to have monthly meetings, but in 1939 there were not more than two, and in this year, so far, two.

What are the local committee and the district secretary doing? If they cannot do the job, why do they allow themselves to be elected and why are they elected? Why is the district secretary granted an honorarium? He did not turn up at the April meeting at Bottesford, where it was decided to hold the May meeting at Attentborough, but no arrangement for it has been made up to the present.

Are the other members in the Nottingham district satisfied? If not, can't we get together and talk things over with the idea of mending matters? Look in our last annual report and see how much better the other districts are managed.

I understand that for some years past these monthly meetings have been poorly attended and that at many of the meetings, without the assistance of ringers from outside the district, the bells could not have been rung. If we do get going again, will the members give more support? I hope so and encourage the officers.

R.S.V.P.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

DORCHESTER BRANCH MEETINGS TO BE CARRIED ON.

A meeting of the Dorchester Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild was held at Charminster on Saturday week, and, considering the situation, it was very successful, the beautiful weather helping to make the gathering a pleasant one. The Vicar met the ringers as they came to the church and the bells were raised just after 3 p.m. Service was well attended, the Vicar (the Rev. D. B. Eperson) officiating and giving a short address. He welcomed the Guild to the church for the first time, and, referring to the war, asked those present to pray for those who were fighting for us and making the supreme sacrifice.

Following the service, the members were invited by the Vicar and Mrs. Eperson to tea on the Vicarage lawn, which was greatly enjoyed in the lovely sunshine.

Subsequently a short business meeting was held, over which the chairman of the branch (the Rev. A. W. Markby) presided, supported by the Vicar (Canon D. F. Slemek) and the Rev. A. F. Godley. Thirty-five members were present.

Mr. R. Faithfull (Southampton) was elected a life member. An interesting discussion as to future meetings and a motion to carry on was agreed to.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. C. H. Jennings) said they usually catered for one Thursday in the year for those who could not attend on Saturdays. He had been in communication with West Lulworth, and the Vicar had invited them there one Thursday in July.—This offer was accepted with thanks.

The Rector of Stratton invited the branch to his parish, which would enable them also to ring at Bradford Peverell, in August, and the Vicar of Preston (Weymouth) had invited the Guild in September with a ringing practice, also at Upwey.

Thanks were given for the kindness thus extended to the Guild, the Chairman remarking they could leave it to their hon. secretary to make the best arrangements.

A warm welcome was given to all visitors from outside the branch.

A comprehensive vote of thanks was carried with acclamation to the Vicar for conducting the service and giving such a helpful address, also to him and Mrs. Eperson for their kind hospitality in providing such a bountiful tea, and also to the W.I. members for their assistance. Thanks were also given to the organist (Mrs. Eperson) and the blower.—The meeting terminated after a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman.

The members returned to the tower for further practice, and afterwards visited St. Peter's, Dorchester, where they rang from 7.30 to 9.

The following towers were represented at the meeting: Bradford Peverell, Charminster, Dorchester, Maiden Newton, Preston, Stratton, Sydling, Upwey, Wool and Wyke Regis; the West Dorset Branch by Bearminster and Netherbury; Wimborne Branch by Lytchett Matravers (two lady ringers cycling over 40 miles); North Dorset Branch by the Ringing Master and Manston; members of H.M. Forces stationed in the district, and the branch Deputy Ringing Master (from 'Somewhere in England').

HANDBELLS AT EVENSONG.

WHIT SUNDAY SERVICE AT KINGTON MAGNA.

Whit Sunday is observed at Kington Magna, Dorset, as the Sunday School anniversary, when recitations and sacred music are rendered by the scholars at evensong. As the festival fell this year on Coronation Day, two little girls recited sentences referring to the event, which concluded with the words, 'Trumpets were sounded and the Abbey bells rung.' Thereupon four boys with an octave of handbells gave a practical illustration of rounds, firing and Queens.

TREBLE BOB & INTERNAL FALSENESS.

DIFFICULTIES OF STUDENTS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I was very glad to read the excellent explanation, published on May 10th, amplifying that given in the issue of February 23rd. In spite of what has been written as to the danger of overdoing it, I do feel that all help should be given to the student to understand. My own difficulties in endeavouring to open the door, 15 years ago, left a lasting impression that text books are, of necessity, written by those with knowledge, who in far too many cases write of facts in terms which leave the reader in the air. It was an understanding of this which led the Editor to publish a series from the pen of a 'Beginner' in 1927; a 'diary' as it were. A naive idea, which was appreciated in some quarters, but which, of course, had many faults.

I pestered all sorts of people in my endeavours and met with every courtesy. But it was not until I was fortunate enough to drag home Mr. T. Groombridge, jun., one evening, that I got the clue I wanted. The point is, that it came by word of mouth, and not from the text books. The result was 'Abridged Proof' in 1928, which, to quote Mr. A. G. Driver, of Belvedere, was so bad an exposition of very excellent material that he at first judged it to be pure 'tripe'! The trouble was that fundamentals were hidden by a mass of material, which he cut away. I was handicapped by tradition and the text books. 'Why go backwards, via lead heads to course heads,' he said, 'when you can go forwards to the actual rows with 1-7-8 in like positions?'

It just had not occurred to me, and I had never read the 'Clavis' (and, probably, should not have understood anyway). And so, when I read in 1935 that 'Proof' was to be included in the new Surprise book, I put Mr. Driver's modification into typescript in case the Methods Committee would consider it.

All this by way of showing a student's difficulty. I am not belabouring any point. I am merely offering appreciation of the article of May 10th, but there is one point which I should like to see clarified. It is the paragraph at the bottom of the first column on page 224, where it says that odd rows need not be compared . . . because . . . if even rows show false course ends, the odd rows will show 'complementary' ones. I do not like this word, and my dictionary does not satisfactorily explain why I do not want them. It seems to follow a point I made in my criticism of the original article, but I did not say that, and I should like to see explained the example I then gave. Here it is in full:—

+ 12345678 (a)	Following the instructions appearing on February
+ 21354687	23rd, I get, from the plain course, these pairs of
+ 12534867 (c)	rows: 14263857 and 13254768
+ 21358476	12534867 12643758

From the first pair come the false heads 54263 and/or 46325; from the second pair come 34562 and/or 62345. Now the 'and/ors' are paired 'reflections,' each of the other, and one is not required. But, when proving a peal, can I do without one of each pair?

GEORGE L. JOYCE.

Hornchurch, Essex.

MACCLESFIELD RINGER'S DEATH.

FIFTY YEARS AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

The death has occurred at Macclesfield, Cheshire, of Mr. J. Norbury, vergor and ringer at the Parish Church of St. Michael. The funeral took place on Saturday week.

The deceased was a great churchman, and, in addition to being vergor of the Parish Church for many years, was a member of the Bible Class and other church organisations. He was associated with the belfry for a period covering some 50 years and was leader and conductor for a considerable part of this time.

For 25 years or more he was secretary-treasurer of the Macclesfield Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild, and the members of this branch paid fitting tribute to the deeply muffled bells prior to the funeral service, while as the cortege was leaving the church, the muffled bells, which had had a great share of Mr. Norbury's affection, gave a sorrowful farewell. At the graveside officials of the branch rang a course of Grandsire Triples over the open grave, and afterwards a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung on the now half-muffled bells by G. Bottomley 1, H. Dean 2, J. Tipper 3, A. Worth 4, J. Worth 5, H. Lomas (conductor) 6, W. Gayes 7, C. Morlidge 8.

Among the many floral tributes were wreaths from the Parish Church company and from the Chester Diocesan Guild (Macclesfield Branch).

CORONATION ANNIVERSARY.

At Taunton on Whit Sunday for evensong and also on the third anniversary of the Coronation of their Majesties the King and Queen, members of St. James' Guild rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: F. G. Gigg 1, H. H. Walker 2, W. T. Jeanes 3, A. A. Walker 4, F. Morris 5, J. Roy 6, W. G. Gigg (conductor) 7, S. Chaplin 8. First quarter-peal for the treble ringer, who is the son of the conductor.

BOWDON, CHESHIRE.—On May 8th, for Confirmation service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 43 minutes: O. J. Hunt 1, C. Edwards 2, A. J. Brown 3, C. K. Lewis 4, J. Hassell 5, D. Vincent (conductor) 6, Rev. R. D. St. John Smith 7, F. Reynolds 8. After service 336 Double Norwich Major.

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 MONDAY.

'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.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—A meeting will be held at New Romney on Saturday, June 1st. Bells from 2.30. Service 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting.—P. Page, 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Kirby-le-Soken on Saturday, June 1st. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. till 9 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea at the Church Hall.—L. Wright, Hon. Dis. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deancry Branch.—Practice at Waltham St. Lawrence (6 bells), Saturday, June 1st, 3 p.m. All welcome.—W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec., Merrel, California, Wokingham.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—The annual festival will be held at Bletchley on Saturday, June 1st. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. Visitors will be welcomed.—Walter Sear, 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch, Lincoln District.—The next meeting of the above will be at Caythorpe on Saturday, June 1st. Bells (8, tenor 14 cwt.) available from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Short service 4.15 p.m. Bring your own tea and picnic in the fields.—Kenneth W. Mayer, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—A meeting will be held at Halsall on Saturday, June 1st. Bells available from 2.30.—S. Forshaw, Branch Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—Owing to the present acute international situation, the meeting arranged to take place to-morrow, Saturday, June 1st, has been cancelled.—J. H. Crampton, Hon. Dis. Sec.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Cheddleton on Saturday, June 1st. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Stoke meeting June 22nd.—Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Ashwell on Saturday, June 1st. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Service 4.30.—R. Thos. Newman, Dis. Sec., 36, Salisbury Road, Baldock, Herts.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION (Derby District) AND THE PEAK SOCIETY.—A combined meeting will be held at Darley Dale, near Matlock, on Saturday, June 1st. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m.—H. L. Warburton, Hon. Sec., Peak District.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District.—The next practice meeting will be held at St. Cuthbert's Church, Kirkby-in-Furness, on Saturday, June 1st. Bells (6) available at 2.30 p.m.—N. M. Newby, Branch Sec., Brewery Mount, Ulverston.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Handsworth on Saturday, June 1st. All welcome.—G. G. Graham, Hon. Sec., 5, Pipworth Lane, Eckington, near Sheffield.

SCOTTISH ASSOCIATION.—Special 10-bell practice at St. Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, on Saturday, June 1st. Ringing from 3 to 4.30 p.m.—Charles R. Raine, Hon. Sec., 21, Grosvenor Crescent, Edinburgh.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—Next meeting at Higham-on-the-Hill. Usual times on Saturday, June 1st. All welcome.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—There will be ringing for evensong at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, on Sunday, June 2nd, at 5.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—G. W. Steere, Hon. Sec.

LADIES' GUILD.—London District.—Practice at the Borough on Thursday, June 6th, at 7.30, and in future at the same time on the first Thursday in every month until further notice.—I. R. Housden.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Rotherfield on Saturday, June 8th, in conjunction with the East Grinstead and District Guild. The eight bells will be available from 3 o'clock. A service will be held.—C. A. Levett, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Eccleston Church on Saturday, June 8th. Bells available from 3 p.m.—F. Rigby, Hon. Branch Sec.

LADIES' GUILD.—Northern District.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Cross Stone, Todmorden, on Saturday, June 8th. Bells from 3 p.m. Please send names for tea to Miss R. Bell, 496, Halifax Road, Todmorden, by Tuesday, June 4th. All ringers welcome.—E. Dorice Kelly, 164, Richmond Road, Sheffield 9.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Pensnett, on Saturday, June 8th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Business meeting afterwards.—John Goodman, 45, Holcroft Street, Burnt Tree, Tipton.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—A joint meeting with the Sussex County Association will be held at Rotherfield on Saturday, June 8th. Make own arrangements for tea. Everyone welcome at this popular tower.—C. A. Bassett, Assist. Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch, Gainsborough District.—A meeting will be held at Kirton Lindsey on Saturday, June 8th. Bells (6, tenor 20 cwt.) available from 2.30 to 8.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m., for which names need not be sent.—Geo. L. A. Lunn, 248, Lea Road, Gainsborough.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guilborough Branch.—A special deanery meeting will be held at East Haddon (6 bells) on Saturday, June 8th. Please let me have names for tea by June 5th. No sugar provided.—H. H. Shrices, The Mill, Long Buckby, Rugby.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Winchester District.—Quarterly meeting at King's Somborne on Saturday, June 8th next. Bells (6) available from 2.30. Service at 4.30, to be followed by tea and business meeting in the Village Hall. Those requiring tea must please notify Mr. F. Davis, Winchester Road, King's Somborne, Stockbridge, not later than Wednesday, June 5th.—W. G. Goodchild, Hon. Dis. Sec., 139, Stanmore Lane, Winchester.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—The next meeting will be held (D.V.) at Crondall on Saturday, June 8th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. at the Cricketers. Please notify for tea by Tuesday the 4th.—C. W. Denyer, Hon. Sec., 120, Ash Road, Aldershot, Hants.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—Meeting at Bishopstone on Saturday, June 8th. Bells (8) afternoon and evening. Tea 5 p.m. Please advise if possible.—W. B. Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Swindon, Wilts.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Central Bucks Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held at Long Crendon on Saturday, June 8th. Bells (8) available from 2.45 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. Please send a card if you require tea. All ringers welcome.—F. Gibbard, 30, Horn Street, Winslow, Bletchley, Bucks.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Kibworth on June 8th. Bells (8) at 3 p.m. Tea 1s. each at the Newtown Cafe at 5 p.m., for those who notify me by June 6th.—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Sefton (6 bells) on Saturday, June 8th. Tower open from 2.30 until 9 p.m. Service at 5, followed by the meeting. Owing to local difficulties, it has not so far been found possible to arrange tea. Please do not let this deter you from coming.—G. R. Newton, Branch Sec.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Pleaseley on Saturday, June 8th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service 4.30, and tea at 5 o'clock to those who notify me by Wednesday, June 5th.—J. W. England, 49, The Common, South Normanton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—The postponed meeting will be held at Appleby Magna on Saturday, June 8th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. It is hoped to provide tea, so will all intending to be present notify me by Thursday, June 6th? Visitors welcomed.—J. W. Cotton, Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

BARNLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at South Kirkby on Saturday, June 8th. Bells (6) ready 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Those requiring tea must notify Mr. A. E. Harrison, 154, Barnsley Road, South Kirkby, near Pontefract, not later than June 5th. A hearty welcome is extended to all.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., Rock Cottages, Shafton, near Barnsley.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Macclesfield Branch.—A ringing meeting will be held on Saturday, June 8th, at Gawsworth. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. If tea is required, please notify Mr. E. Bailey, The Warren, Gawsworth, as early as possible.—Jack Tipper, Hon. Branch Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Moreton on Saturday, June 8th. Bells (6) available from 3.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting 5 p.m.—W. H. Wheeler, Hon. Sec., Mill Street, Harlow Common.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Please support Ladies' Guild meeting at Cross Stone, Todmorden, on Saturday, June 8th. For tea, notify Miss Rose A. Bell, 496, Halifax Road, Springside, Todmorden.—I. Kay, Branch Sec.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—A meeting will be held at Sutterton on Saturday, June 8th. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. till 8.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Business meeting afterwards. Cups of tea will be provided at Sutterton Vicarage, but all attending must bring their own food, including sugar. Will all intending to be present please let me know by Tuesday, June 4th?—W. E. Clarke, Hon. Sec., Park House, 99, Norfolk Street, Boston.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—A combined meeting with the Sheffield and District Society, the Barnsley and District Society and the Doncaster and District Society will be held at Wath-on-Dearne on Saturday, June 15th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Short service at 4.30 p.m. Tea will be served at Binn's Cafe at 5 p.m. Charge, 1s. 6d. per head. All those requiring same must notify Mr. A. Gill, 84, Doncaster Road, Wath-on-Dearne, near Rotherham, by Wednesday, June 12th, without fail. Business meeting in the Church House immediately after tea. All ringers cordially invited.—Sidney F. Palmer, Acting Hon. Dis. Sec., 4, Quarry Road, Totley, near Sheffield.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—A meeting will be held at Newdigate on Saturday, June 15th. Service at 4.30, tea afterwards. Will those requiring tea please notify Mr. E. Vine, the Village Club, Newdigate, Dorking, as early as possible.—A. H. Smith, Hon. Sec., Recreation Bungalow, Dorking Road, Great Bookham, Leatherhead.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—The next meeting will be held at Rettendon on Saturday, June 15th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service at 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. So that adequate arrangements can be made for the catering, will all those who require tea please let me know by Wednesday, June 12th, at the latest?—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 48, Arbour Lane, Chelmsford.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—The summer meeting will be held at All Saints', Ilkley, on Sat., June 15th. Bells (8, tenor 18 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt.) available from 1 o'clock. Addingham bells (6) available all evening. Service at 4.30. Tea at Blue Bird Cafe 5 o'clock (1s. 9d.). Names to W. H. Crawshaw, 20, Leicester Crescent, Ilkley, by Thursday, June 13th. Business meeting after tea. All welcome.—F. Rayment, Dis. Sec., Bramley.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—General quarterly meeting, Saturday, June 29th, will be at Anstey (not Ratby and Groby). Bells (8) available during afternoon. Committee meet 4 p.m. Other details later.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec.

HERTS ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Rickmansworth (10 bells), Saturday, July 6th. Ringing from 3.30 till 5.30 and 7 till 8. Tea at 5.30.—C. H. Horton, Bushey. City 4270.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—Please note that Mr. T. Wilde, 23, York Road, Gee Cross, Hyde, has taken over the secretarial duties of the branch as the secretary has been called up for military service.

DEATH.

COLE.—On May 21st, at 48, Lake Road, Hamworthy, Poole, Dorset, Clara, beloved wife of Frederick G. Cole, after 11 years of suffering cheerfully borne. Passed peacefully over. 'Promoted.'

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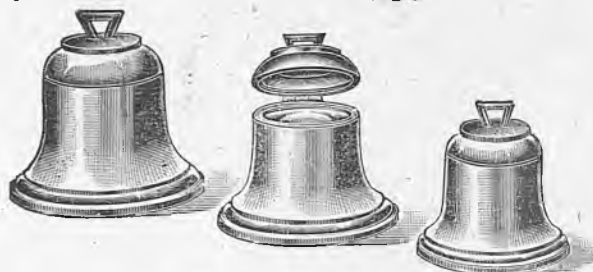
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