



THE RINGING WORLD

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELLRINGERS

No. 1,770. Vol. XL

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 23rd, 1945.

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

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NEW GUILDS.

The letter from the president of the Midland Counties Association which we publish on another page makes it clear that the scheme for the reconstruction of the society has now reached the stage when mere discussion is largely superfluous and action is called for. The formation of new diocesan guilds is inevitable, and the sooner they are in being and fully working the better it will be for everyone concerned. On two points there seems to be some uncertainty of opinion, and it may be as well to discuss them on general lines.

The first concerns the precise boundaries of the territories to be covered by the new organisations. These at first sight appear to be fixed and unalterable. If the new guilds are to be diocesan, then their areas obviously must be those of the dioceses, and so, speaking generally, no doubt they will be. But the object of any ringing organisation is to serve the interests of the Exercise, and if those interests would be best served by departing from the strict lines laid down by county or diocesan boundaries, then it would be unwise not to do so. So far as Leicester is concerned this difficulty apparently will not arise. It distinctly will in the case of Derby. What the future status of Burton-on-Trent will be is a matter for the people on the spot to decide, but it can be said that there would be nothing wrong or irregular if the town and its few adjacent towers were considered as belonging to the Derby diocese for the purposes of ringing. The relationship between the ringers of Burton and Derby has been so close and so long standing, that the erection of any artificial barrier could only do harm. On the other hand, there are parts of Derbyshire which to outsiders seem very remote from the county and cathedral town, and might well be handed over by arrangement to a neighbouring association. Once was the time when Chesterfield was fully capable of being the living centre of a district either of the old Midland Counties Association, or of a new Derby Diocesan Association. It may be so again, but circumstances may be such that the area could best be considered as belonging temporarily for ringing purposes to the Sheffield area.

The question of exact boundaries, however, is not of immediate importance, and should not be allowed to delay the formation of the new guilds.

The other point on which uncertainty seems to exist is the relationship of the new guilds to each other after they have been formed. It is natural that among many

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of the members, especially of the older members, there is a great reluctance to make an end of the Midland Counties Association and all it has stood for, and there is a feeling (to which Canon Wilkinson gives expression) that though new diocesan guilds are inevitable, yet not only should they in fact carry on the work of the older body, but that in some way or other the joint origin and close connection of the new guilds should be recognised. Two means of doing this are suggested. One is that the new guilds should use the name of the old association as part of their titles. The other is that fully-paid-up membership of one guild should confer qualified membership of the other two guilds.

About the first, little need be said except this. If each of the new guilds is to serve the interests of its members it must start its career on a footing of equality with the other great territorial associations of the country and no more hampered than they are by obligations arising from its past. When the Suffolk Guild separated from the old Norwich Diocesan Association, and when the Guildford Guild separated from the old Winchester Diocesan Guild, the new bodies lost nothing because they started their lives as fully independent organisations; nor would a Leicester or a Derby Diocesan Guild.

The granting of qualified membership by each of the new guilds to the fully-paid-up members of the other two would not be nearly so effective as appears on the surface. To the majority of members it would give no more rights than an ordinary ringer enjoys of courtesy at any time he attends a meeting of an association not his own. The only men affected would be peal ringers, who would not be required to pay a life subscription to qualify for taking part in peal attempts.

Why should they be exempted? Peal ringers sometimes act and think as if associations and guilds existed for their especial benefit. No small part of the money subscribed by the general members has to be spent in printing the records of the peals. Ringers in general, and peal ringers in particular, are no more selfish than other people, but they are very prone to forget how cheaply they get their amusement. They pay nothing for electric light or lubricant or wear and tear of ropes and fittings when they visit a tower for a peal. Surely it is not a great hardship for a man to be asked to pay a life subscription to an association when he expects his peals to be recorded in its annual report.

WILLIAM CHATTEL.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Referring to the recent article on William Chattel by the late John Day, the following will be of interest as showing the visit to Leicester (referred to in the article) as it appeared in the local Press of the time:—

'Dec. 30th, 1853. The inhabitants of Leicester experienced a treat on Tuesday last in the way of ringing. The change ringers of St. Philip's, Birmingham, being accustomed to make a tour every Christmas, came to Leicester on Tuesday and rang a peal on St. Margaret's bells.

The peal consisted of 5,160 Caters on Stedman's principle and was rung by the following persons: Amos Cresser treble, John Bannister 2, John Perks 3, Robert Yates 4, Charles Shaw 5, John Brain 6, John Day (conductor) 7, Robert Wright 8, William Chattel 9, John Robinson tenor. The peal was composed by Mr. Lates. It lasted three hours and twenty-eight minutes. The ringers were agreeably surprised at the condition and tone of the bells, finding them much easier to ring than they had anticipated. After ringing two short touches on Wednesday they returned to Birmingham, apparently well pleased with the bells and with the reception they met with. It is a very considerable time since a peal of this kind was rung in Leicester.'

ERNEST MORRIS.

Coventry Street, Leicester.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

WALSALL, STAFFS.

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

On Sat., Feb. 17, 1945, in Three Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5010 CHANGES;

Tenor 26½ cwt. in D.

A. PADDON SMITH ... Treble	HENRY H. FEARN ... 7
DANIEL T. MATKIN ... 2	*GEORGE E. FEARN ... 8
RICHARD J. B. HADDEN... 3	HERBERT C. SPENCER ... 9
ERNEST T. ALLAWAY ... 4	FRANK E. HAYNES ... 10
THOMAS H. REEVES ... 5	WILFRED WILLIAMS ... 11
ALBERT WALKER ... 6	ALBERT E. NORMAN ... Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.

* 100th peal of Stedman.

TEN BELL PEAL.

WORCESTER.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Feb. 14, 1945, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

*HORACE J. BENTLEY ... Treble	*FREDK. N. FLUCK ... 6
GEOFFREY J. LEWIS ... 2	†ALBERT E. HUMPHRIES 7
GEORGE HINTON ... 3	DENIS R. MORRIS ... 8
GEORGE E. LARGE ... 4	REGINALD WOODYATT ... 9
ALLEN MORGAN ... 5	GEORGE AMBLER ... Tenor

Composed by FRED G. MAY. Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE.

* First peal on ten bells. † First peal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

MARKET HARBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 10, 1945, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DIONYSIUS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION. Tenor 19 cwt.

JILL POOLE ... Treble	PETER J. STANFORTH ... 5
*GEOFFREY GAYTON ... 2	*GEORGE CARE ... 6
PHILIP JONES ... 3	REDVERS F. ELKINGTON 7
DENNIS DODSON ... 4	JOHN W. RAWSON ... Tenor

Conducted by REDVERS F. ELKINGTON.

* First peal of Stedman Triples.

WOOLTON, LIVERPOOL.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Feb. 11, 1945, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

*IAN FRASER ... Treble	GEORGE R. NEWTON ... 5
JAMES TOMSET ... 2	†FREDERICK S. ALMOND 6
*GILBERT PENDLETON ... 3	EDWIN C. BIRKETT ... 7
ARTHUR LINTOTT ... 4	THOMAS W. HESKETH... Tenor

Composed by GEO. R. NEWTON. Conducted by T. W. HESKETH.

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

GREAT TEW, OXFORDSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

On Sat., Feb. 17, 1945, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF SPLICED KENT AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;

WORCESTER VARIATION. Tenor 22 cwt. 10 lb. in E.

MARIE R. CROSS ... Treble	*WILLIAM G. E. COLLETT 5
*BETTY SPICE ... 2	*WILLIAM C. PORTER ... 6
*HERBERT H. ALEXANDER 3	*WILLIAM JUDGE ... 7
*ALFRED G. WILLIAMS ... 4	WALTER F. JUDGE ... Tenor

Composed by ERNEST MORRIS. Conducted by WALTER F. JUDGE.

* First peal in the method.

HALESOWEN, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 17, 1945, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DAVIES' VARIATION OF THURSTANS'. Tenor 17 cwt.	
EDWARD HOLT Treble	ALBERT H. HARRIS ... 5
WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT ... 2	THOMAS HEMMING ... 6
CLIFFORD SKIDMORE ... 3	JOHN PINFOLD ... 7
THOMAS GREENHALL ... 4	WILLIAM T. FROGGATT... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT.

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 17, 1945, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 19½ cwt. in E flat.

WILLOUGHBY E. MAULDEN Treble	*JAMES W. JENNINGS ... 5
MRS. CECIL W. PIPE ... 2	LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN ... 6
GEORGE A. FLEMING ... 3	T. WILLIAM LAST ... 7
LESLIE G. BRETT ... 4	CECIL W. PIPE ... Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by MRS. C. W. PIPE.

* First peal in the method.

FARNHAM, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 17, 1945, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 21 cwt. in E flat.	
*RAYMOND A. CLIST ... Treble	GEORGE L. GROVER ... 5
ALBERT LAMBKIN ... 2	†FRANK C. W. KNIGHT 6
CHARLES HAZELDEN ... 3	ALFRED H. PULLING ... 7
WILLIAM T. BEESON ... 4	FREDERICK H. WILKINS Tenor

Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

* First peal in the method. † First peal on an inside bell.

BARNET, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 17, 1945, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

*FREDERICK G. ROBBINS Treble	ERIC B. HARTLEY ... 5
GEORGE M. KIRBY ... 2	RALPH BIRD ... 6
HERBERT J. ELDERED ... 3	JAMES BULLOCK ... 7
FREDERICK G. BALDWIN 4	FREDERICK E. COLLINS... Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by F. E. COLLINS.

* First peal of Major. Farewell peal to Mr. H. J. Eldred, who has been connected with Barnet belfry for 30 years and is now leaving the district for Gorleston, Norfolk.

DRAYTON, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 17, 1945, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CATHERINE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 19½ cwt.

BERTRAM T. JEONES ... Treble	ARTHUR A. WALKER ... 5
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ... 2	WALTER H. POOLE ... 6
HERBERT H. WALKER ... 3	WILLIAM G. GIGG ... 7
*HERBERT W. PEARCE ... 4	*JOHN T. LOCKE ... Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by T. H. TAFFENDER.

* First peal of Major.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

OXENHOPE, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Feb. 11, 1945, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's called differently. Tenor 12 cwt.

ALLAN RUSHWORTH ... Treble	HERBERT HELLIWILL ... 4
DENNIS MAUDE ... 2	VERNEY BAIRSTOW ... 5
STANLEY WHITEHEAD ... 3	ARTHUR BAIRSTOW ... Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR BAIRSTOW.

OSWALDTWISTLE, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Feb. 11, 1945, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 11½ cwt.

*F. RENSHAW ... Treble	*H. CATLOW ... 4
J. LITTLEFAIR ... 2	C. SHARPLES ... 5
*F. LITTLEFAIR ... 3	*F. SMITH ... Tenor

Conducted by C. SHARPLES.

* First peal. Rung half-muffled for T. Littlefair and P. Norman, ringers of this church, killed in action.

SAWLEY, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Feb. 13, 1945, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's. Tenor 9½ cwt.

BLANCHE WINFIELD ... Treble	†ARTHUR GARNER ... 4
*SAMUEL ROBERTS ... 2	CHARLES TOWER ... 5
CHARLES GEARY ... 3	WILLIAM DAWSON... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM DAWSON.

* First peal inside. † First peal of Minor.

KERESLEY, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 17, 1945, in Two Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 6½ cwt.

WILFRED E. BOX ... Treble	*G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY... 3
THOMAS E. HASTINGS ... 2	WILLIAM A. STOTE ... 4
JOHN N. LINDON ... Tenor	

Conducted by WILLIAM A. STOTE.

* First peal. Quickest peal on the bells.

RIPPINGALE, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 17, 1945, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of London, Hull, Ipswich, Durham, York, Primrose and Cambridge. Tenor 12 cwt.

FRED BRIGHTMAN ... Treble	WILLIAM OLDMAN ... 4
HORACE M. DAY ... 2	ALBERT E. SCOTT ... 5
*GEORGE BOOTH ... 3	*FRANK TAYLOR ... Tenor

Conducted by H. M. DAY.

* First peal in seven Surprise methods.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BURGESS HILL, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Feb. 13, 1945, in Two Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
AT THE OAKS, THEOBALDS ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

MRS. F. I. HAIRS ... 1-2	*GEORGE W. CECIL ... 5-6
FRANK I. HAIRS ... 3-4	EDWIN A. BARNETT ... 7-8

Conducted by FRANK I. HAIRS.

* First peal on handbells.

BURGESS HILL, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Feb. 14, 1945, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE OAKS, THEOBALDS ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

MRS. E. A. BARNETT ... 1-2	EDWIN A. BARNETT ... 5-6
FRANK I. HAIRS ... 3-4	MRS. F. I. HAIRS ... 7-8

Conducted by E. A. BARNETT.

The conductor's 450th peal.

THE PLAIN MAJOR METHODS.

(Continued from page 56.)

The Court Shunts and their variations form one of the two main ways by which the lead-ends are produced in all Plain, Treble Bob and Surprise methods on all numbers of bells. The other main way is supplied by the Slow Work Shunts which are the expression of the general law that if a given number of bells, left by the Treble on the lead when it is hunting up, remain there until the Treble returns, the Treble is put backward in Coursing Order as many positions as there are bells in this Slow Work.

The method which best illustrates the nature and function of a Slow Work Shunt is Kent Treble Bob. In it all the bells, including the Treble, keep the same Coursing Order throughout the lead except that the bell next in Coursing Order after the Treble at the lead-end remains on the front, making a series of Seconds places until that bell returns, when the Slow Work bell takes position in Coursing Order in front of the Treble. In

it the bell which turned the Treble from the lead, continued to lead until the Treble returned, the other bells making Seconds and back. Not a method we should think of practising to-day, but one worth a little study, for it shows in the simplest form one of the two main ways in which the lead-ends of all methods are produced.

When we have two bells in the Slow Work they can dodge together, and so we have Crayford College Major. It gets its name, partly because the first peal of it was rung in 1919 at Crayford, and partly because it is essentially the same method as the College Single, which was very popular on six and seven bells from the seventeenth century onwards, and of which an occasional peal has been rung on eight bells down to quite recent years. The difference between the two methods is that in the modern variation the shunt is made on the front, and the correct lead-ends are produced; while in the older variation the shunt is made behind (the in 7-8 dodge) and the lead-ends are irregular.

Crayford College Major is a very simple method to

Crayford College.	St. Clement's Bob.	Spalding College.	Ashbourne College Bob.
12345678	12345678	12345678	12345678
21436587	21436587	21436587	21436587
24163857	24163857	24163857	24163857
42618375	42618375	42618375	42618375
24681735	24681735	46281735	46281735
42867153	42867153	64827153	64827153
24876513	24876513	46287513	46287513
42785631	42785631	64825731	64825731
24758361	24758361	46285371	46285371
42573816	42573816	64823517	64823517
24537186	24537186	46283157	46283157
42351768	42351768	64821375	64821375
24315678	24315678	68412735	68412735
42136587	42136587	86147253	86147253
41263857	41263857	81674523	81674523
14628375	14628375	18765432	18765432
16482735	14263857	17856342	18674523
61847253	41628375	71583624	81765432
68174523	46182735	75138264	87156342
86715432	64817253	57312846	78513624
68751342	46871523		
86573124	64785132		
68537214	46758312		
86352741	64573821		

the first lead, at the start the Coursing Order is 31246875, the Second being next behind the Treble. At the lead-end the Coursing Order is 32146875, the Second being in front of the Treble. The first lead-end is 4263857.

An essential difference between the Court Shunts and the Slow Work Shunts is that, in the former the Treble changes positions in Coursing Order with the bell next in front of it, and in the latter the Treble changes positions in Coursing Order with the bell or bells next after it.

Slow Work Shunts consisting of an odd number of bells do not readily adapt themselves to the making of good Plain Major methods, for reasons which are obvious directly we begin to prick them down. For instance, a one-bell Slow Shunt gives the method which used to be rung in the Eastern Counties (on five bells) under the name of Christmas Eve. It was a traditional method which had come down from the seventeenth century. In

ring. A bell plain hunts, except that it makes Thirds place from the back unless the Treble is below it, when it goes to the front and does a five-pull dodge—in 1-2 up (if it turns the Treble from the lead), in 1-2 down (if it passes the Treble in 2-3). At the bob, Sixths place is made, and the bells in 7-8 dodge once. The method can hardly be called a good one for practical purposes, but is very much improved if Seconds place is made at the lead-end, which will give us St. Clement's Bob Major.

St. Clement's is quite worth ringing. The five-pull dodging on the front is rather a lot, but it acts as a contrast to the rest of the dodging, which essentially is that of Bob Major, only in the reverse order. First 3-4 up, then 5-6 up, and 7-8 up. Then 7-8 down, 5-6 down and 3-4 down. And so to Seconds place, preceded and followed by a five-pull dodge in 1-2. As a change from more familiar methods, whether for peals or touches, St. Clement's is a good and useful method.

Now, since there is a two-bell Slow Work shunt in Crayford College Major, the Treble in each lead changes positions with the two bells next before it in Coursing Order. In the first lead of the plain course there are the Second and the Fourth, and consequently at the lead-end the Treble, instead of being next in front of the Second, is next behind the Fourth, the Coursing Order is 32416875, and the lead-end is 6482735. When in St. Clement's, Seconds place is made at the lead-end, the Treble changes positions with the Fourth (the bell next in front of it) and the lead-end 4263857 is produced.

A four-bell Slow Work shunt gives us Spalding College. Allowing for there being four bells in the slow work instead of two, the method is the same as Crayford. A bell, hunting down, makes Fifths place and returns to the back unless the Treble is below it. If it turns the Treble from the front it does a three-pull dodge in 3-4 up. If it passes the Treble in 2-3 down it does a three-pull dodge in 1-2 up. If it passes the Treble in 3-4 down, it does a three-pull dodge in 1-2 down. And if it passes the Treble in 4-5 down, it does a three-pull dodge in 3-4 down. The sequence of the work is—Dodge 3-4 down, Fifths place, dodge 1-2 down, Fifths place, dodge 1-2 up, Fifths place, dodge 3-4 up. This is another easy method, and so far it has not been rung to a peal. There is nothing particularly good about the music since there is a deficiency of dodging above the treble.

Seconds place added to Spalding produces Ashbourne Bob, rather more complex but by no means difficult. The dodging below the treble can be made by the rules given above for Spalding, and the dodging above the treble by the rules of Bob Major. A peal of Ashbourne was rung at Staines in 1938.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT WROXHAM.

The annual meeting of the North Norfolk Branch of the Norwich Diocesan Association at Wroxham on February 10th was attended by 24 members from Buxton, Hethersett, Northrepps, Norwich, Mulbarton, Scottow, Wroxham, Wymondham, Acle, Ranworth, Great Yarmouth and Northampton.

The Rev. C. W. Blyth was re-elected chairman and Mr. H. Tooke secretary. The following were elected to the Branch Committee: Messrs. G. Bailey, W. C. Duffield, F. C. Goodman, G. Mayer and the Rev. G. W. Wilson. Mr. W. C. Duffield and the Rev. G. W. Wilson were appointed to the Standing Committee.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Aylsham on Saturday, April 14th, subject to the necessary permission being obtained.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

TONBRIDGE DISTRICT MEETING AT WESTERHAM.

The meeting at Westerham of the Tonbridge District of the Kent County Association on February 17th was attended by 24 members from various towers. The Vicar, the Rev. J. Castle, conducted the service. Tea was served in the Wolfe Cafe, followed by the business meeting, with Mr. B. Collison in the chair.

Seven new members were elected. The secretary reported the deaths of Mr. H. Rabbitt, of Hadlow, and Mr. T. Malyan, of Edenbridge. Hadlow was selected for the next meeting on April 7th. A collection in aid of the Benevolent Fund realised 10s.

THE MONTH'S PEALS.

JANUARY.

During the month of January 60 peals were rung, 47 of them on tower bells and 13 on handbells.

The tower bell peals were: Grandsire Doubles 3, Triples 6, Caters 1; Bob Minor 3, Major 4, Royal 1; St. Clement's Bob Major 1; Oxford Treble Bob Minor 2, Major 1; Stedman Triples 1, Caters 3; Double Norwich Court Bob Major 8, Caters 1; Cambridge Surprise Minor 2, Major 2; Yorkshire Surprise Major 1, London 1; Minor 4, Doubles 2.

The handbell peals were: Grandsire Triples 2; Bob Minor 2, Major 4; Kent Treble Bob Major 1; Spliced Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob Major 1; Double Norwich Court Bob Major 1; Stedman Cinques 1; Twenty-one Spliced Plain Major methods 1.

In January, 1944, fifty peals were rung, 34 of them on tower bells and 16 on handbells.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

.....

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MUFFLES,
Etc.

'THE RINGING WORLD.'

The official Journal of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

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Hon. Secretary of the Council: GEORGE W. FLETCHER.
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All communications for this journal should be addressed to:— The Editor,
'The Ringing World,'
c/o The Woodbridge Press, Ltd.,
Guildford, Surrey.

The increasing circulation of 'The Ringing World' has now exhausted the extra supply of paper recently allowed us, and new orders for delivery by post can only be accepted subject to vacancies occurring in the present list of subscribers, either from death or some other cause. Orders sent to Mr. George W. Fletcher will be dealt with in strict rotation as quickly as opportunity offers.

Cheques and remittances should be made payable to 'The Ringing World.'

In last week's report of the Mid-Devon Branch of the Devon Guild meeting at Newton Abbot on February 10th, the end of the paragraph concerning the re-election of officers should read, 'It was also decided to recommend to the General Committee that Mr. Walker be nominated for the Central Council.'

Mr. Edwin Barnett has now completed 50 years' service as a ringer at Crayford. He reminds us that when he congratulated F. J. O. Helmore on the completion of 50 years in holy orders, he received the following characteristic reply: 'Dear Ted,—Many thanks. I am not sure the occasion is one for congratulation. It can't be helped.'

HANDBELL PEALS, 1943.

Association.	MAXIMUS CINQUES	ROYAL	CATERS	MAJOR	TRIPLES	MINOR	DOUBLES	TOTAL
Kent Treble Bob								
Stedman								
Kent Treble Bob								
Sp. Pl. & Gains. L. B.								
Plain Bob								
Double Bob								
Reverse Bob								
Stedman								
Grandjeire								
Sp. L. B. C. & Sup								
London								
Bristol								
Kent Treble Bob								
Double Norwich								
Reverse Bob								
Plain Bob								
Double Bob								
Stedman								
Grandjeire								
One Method								
Three Methods								
One Method								
Two Methods								
TOTAL								
An. Soc. Coll. Yths	1							4
Essex County								5
Glouc't'r & Bristol					3			1
Guildford Diocesan								1
Hertford County								1
Kent County								5
Ladies Guild		1						12
Lincoln Diocesan								1
Middlesex County	1	1						5
Midland Counties			2	2	1			20
North Staffs			1	4				24
Norwich Diocesan								1
Oxford Diocesan					2	5	1	1
Oxford Univ. Soc.		1	1		1	15	1	20
Salisbury Guild								11
Shropshire Assn.								7
St Martin's Guild	1	1						1
Suffolk Guild	1							1
Surrey Assn.								1
Warwickshire G.								1
Win. & Ports. Dio.								5
Yorkshire Assoc.								11
Universities Assn.	1							7
Totals	2	6	4	1	4	1	1	8
	1	1	8	5	1	1	1	12
	4	1	3	5	3	4	19	18
	2	6	6	1	2	6	6	14

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING THE YEAR 1943

Compiled by the Committee appointed by the Central Council
of Church Bellringers

ASSOCIATION	CINQUES	ROYAL	CATERS	MAJOR		TRIPLES		MINOR			DOUBLES	TOTAL, Tower Bells	TOTAL, Handbells	GRAND TOTAL												
	Stedman Grandsire	Cambridge Plain Bob	Stedman Grandsire	Sp. Ion, Bristol Cam. & Sup.	Cambridge	Bristol Superfative	Kent & Oxford T. B. Kent Treble Bob	Plain Bob Double Norwich	Stedman Grandsire	1 Method 2 Methods 3 Methods 4 Methods 7 Methods	1 Method 3 Methods 5 Methods 6 Methods	TOTAL, Tower Bells	TOTAL, Handbells													
An. Soc. College Yths.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4												
Bath and Wells Dio. . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1												
Bedfordshire	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1												
Chester Diocesan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1												
Durham & Newcastle . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1												
Ely Diocesan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2												
Essex Association	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1												
Gloucester & Bristol . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5												
Guildford Diocesan . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1												
Hereford Diocesan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2												
Hertford County	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5												
Irish Association	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5												
Kent County	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3												
Ladies Guild	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7												
Lancashire Assoc.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12												
Lincoln Diocesan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1												
Llandaf & Monmouth . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7												
Middlesex County	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1												
Midland Counties	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5												
North Staffs	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10												
Norwich Diocesan	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5												
Oxford Dio. Guild	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1												
Oxford University	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10												
Peterborough Dio.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1												
Salisbury Guild	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11												
Shropshire Assoc.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1												
St. Martin's Guild	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7												
Suffolk Guild	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1												
Surrey Association	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8												
Sussex Association	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1												
Warwickshire Guild	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2												
Win. and Portsmouth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1												
Worcester & Districts . . .	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5												
Yorkshire Assoc.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	11												
Universities Assoc.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3												
TOTAL	1	1	1	3	1	7	1	9	1	6	12	10	13	12	9	1	4	4	4	5	2	1	1	105	145	250

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

The February meeting of the Barnsley and District Society was held at Sandal, near Wakefield, when 30 members were present from Bolsterstone, Cawthorne, Earlsheaton, Eastwood, Felkirk, Liversedge, Rotherham, Sherburn-in-Elmet, Wath and the local company. At the business meeting the Vicar the Rev. A. Walls, presided, supported by the president, Mr. J. R. Brearley, of Bolsterstone.

Four new members were elected as follows: Mr. E. Liversedge (Rotherham), Miss E. Nicholls (Wath), Miss M. Bradley (Sherburn-in-Elmet) and Miss H. Pavar (Liversedge). Good use was made of the bells during the afternoon and evening until about 8.30 in methods ranging from Bob Minor to Cambridge Surprise and plenty of rounds for the beginners. The next meeting will be held at Shelley, near Huddersfield, on Saturday, March 10th.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

CHELTENHAM BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING.

There was a good attendance at the annual meeting of the Cheltenham Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Association, held at Bishop's Cleeve on Saturday, February 10th.

After tea, arranged by Mrs. Bland, the Rector (the Rev. T. Jesson) presided over the meeting. Mr. Wilfred Williams referred to the sad loss the district had sustained in the death of Mr. John Austin, of Gloucester. A record number of peals had been rung in the district during the past year.

Fourteen new members were elected and the following officers appointed: Mr. W. C. Rose (chairman), Mr. W. Dyer (representative) and Mr. W. Yeend (hon. secretary). It was proposed to hold the next meeting at Tewkesbury.

Mr. Dyer suggested that they make the ring of six bells at Bishop's Cleeve into an eight as a war memorial. The Rector agreed to do his best to that end.

BELLS IN MONTREAL.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I notice in your issue of December 22nd a letter from G. A. Prior regarding the bells of St. George's Church, Montreal. Mr. Burgess chimes the eight bells of St. George's for service every Sunday, but I question if he would be able to chime a peal of 5,040. Some years ago when I was living in Montreal we rang a plain course of Grandsire Triples with Mr. Burgess on handbells with Tony Price and Charles Wilshire. There are two peals of ten in Montreal, St. Patrick's and Notre Dame, but no ringers. Four or five of the bells of St. Patrick's are now rung by electric motors. Mr. Charles Wilshire, residing at 2294, Beaconsfield Avenue, N.D.G., would be glad to meet any ringer visiting Montreal. In Quebec there are two peals of eight in good ringing order and, two peals of ten and four or five peals of eight in Boston, but very few ringers. Here in Los Angeles we have no peals of bells, the nearest being in Victoria, a very fine peal of eight by Mears and Stainbank, tenor 30 cwt., and a peal of eight in Vancouver, 16 cwt.

E. WEATHERBY.
4511, South Raymond, Los Angeles 37.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT SANDY.

A meeting of the Biggleswade District of the Bedfordshire Association was held at Sandy on February 10th, at which 32 ringers were present from Biggleswade, Tempsford, Roxton, Henlow, Maulden, Turvey, Biddenham, Bromham, Linpsford, Bedford, Silsoe and the local belfry. Service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. T. H. Strong, and the company were entertained to tea by Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Ball. Mr. Ball has now been hon. secretary of the district for 25 years, and it was his birthday. The methods rung included Cambridge and London Surprise, Plain and Double Bob, and St. Clement's Bob Minor, Stedman Doubles and rounds.

OLD BIRMINGHAM RINGERS.

BY JOHN DAY.

(Written in the year 1894.)

(Continued from page 69.)

JOSEPH RILEY.

Joseph Riley was, I believe, a native of Cheltenham, and by profession a lawyer. There can be little doubt that for some years he was the leading spirit of the St. Martin's Youths. He was always spoken of with respect as being a gentleman, though somewhat austere in manner. He was a clever ringer, a good conductor, a composer of considerable ability, and quite an enthusiast in the art. Among his exploits was that of calling Holt's one-part peal of Grandsire Triples while ringing the treble, being one of the first, if not the first, time of its achievement in the provinces.

In 1818 a party of the Youths had a ringing tour under his guidance. At Shrewsbury they attempted a peal of Stedman Cinques, but failed, and went on to Wrexham, where they rang Riley's now well-known peal of 5,000 Treble Bob Royal. This peal, like other good compositions, has had numerous authors. When the late Mr. Sottanstall visited Birmingham in about 1865, he brought the peal with him, and wanted to ring it in Birmingham. He first showed it to Chattel, who looked it over, and, turning to Johnson, who was in the company, said, 'Why, Harry, this is Riley's peal.' Johnson confirmed this, and Sottanstall expressed great surprise. Some years after this, Mr. J. Thorpe, of Ashton-under-Lyne, composed and published it in 'The Bell News,' when there was quite a controversy about it. Both these instances were rather remarkable, because the peal is in Shipway's book.

Riley was really the leading spirit of the society in 1820, and took a prominent part in the memorable peals rung in that year. The Treble Bob Maximus was, I believe, rung at the first attempt. After failing in the first start for the Stedman Cinques, Riley named an early day for another attempt, and as an inducement promised the band a bowl of punch per man if they succeeded. The peal was rung, and I have heard it said that Cooper at once began to hint in a doubtful sort of way as to the truth of the composition. Riley, being annoyed at this, demanded an immediate investigation, and Cooper, Thurstans and himself retired to a private room to sift the matter out, when all was pronounced correct, and the band and their friends were entertained to their heart's content.

I believe the meeting place of the society at that time was the King's Head in Worcester Street, kept by Robert Mayo, and in the room used by them hung one or more portraits of prominent ringers, notably an oil painting of Alexander Sanders. When the existing Market Hall was built, in about 1832, the house was pulled down and the portraits vanished.

The last peal I can trace to Mr. Riley was the Treble Bob Cinques, 1832, to this time (1894), the only peal ever rung, and he died in the following year, aged about 70 years. He left his peal book to J. Hopkins, and Hopkins left it to Henry Johnson. At the present time I believe it is in the possession of H. Johnson, his son. It is in the form of a large pocket book, in which the peals are very neatly written, some having very well-designed frames sketched round them in pen and ink.

In the St. Martin's Youths' peal book, Riley is credited with calling Holt's original peal of Grandsire Triples twice from the treble, once at Aston and once at Burton-on-Trent. Probably when he called it from the fourth it was a non-society peal. I believe it is entered in his own peal book, because Mr. Johnson used to speak of it.

JOHN BAYLISS.

Although J. Bayliss had no great position in Birmingham, I think I ought not to pass him by, as I knew him well, rang with him once, and did not like him. He was the son of old Ben Bayliss, at one time gravedigger at St. Philip's, who was also a ringer and took part in one of the long peals at Aston, I believe the 15,360. Prior to the closing of the churchyards at Birmingham, J. Bayliss was one of the four beadles at St. Philip's Church, and a very pompous sort of beadle he used to look. He was a stout-built, round-faced, rather good looking man, and when in uniform was 'all there.' The beadles had a grand uniform, blue coat, waistcoat and knee breeches with scarlet facings and gilt buttons, and hats bound and looped up with gold lace.

As far as I can ascertain, Bayliss' chief performance was ringing the tenth in the Treble Bob Cinques at St. Martin's. I never heard whether he was of any particular trade, but I know he used to clean clocks and both father and son had a good name as salleyers of bell ropes. My uncle used to say that Old Ben came from Kidderminster to Birmingham and brought the art of salleying with him. William Hill, of Deritend, used to make the ropes for the churches all round the district, and Bayliss used to put in the salleys. Very neatly he did them, his charge being one penny an inch or half-a-crown for a thirty inch sally. They had one great fault about them, for after being in use for some time—long or short as the case might be—they began to pull out. More than once I have seen the ringer surrounded by bits of worsted from the salley of his rope. They were not to be compared with the salleys of to-day either for firmness or durability, though, to my mind, they looked prettier. There was more variety of colour, and Bayliss had quite a nice fancy for patterns, one in particular being to make the patterns of the salley twist the contrary way to the strands of the rope. He could also work them in diamonds of diverse colours, and used

to buy the worsted thrums from a carpet factory at Kidderminster. I do not think he ever gave a young ringer the slightest encouragement or assistance, at least I can speak for myself, and I never remember seeing him in a belfry but once, except when there was money to be made.

WILLIAM HASSALL.

There was another member of the old St. Martin's Youths whom I remember well. I remember seeing him in St. Martin's belfry on one of the first occasions on which Chattel's young band was invited there for a pull. He was a very nice gentlemanly old man, and after that meeting was generally present at the Sunday morning practice at St. Martin's, when he would be sure to take part in a touch, always ringing, whether in Caters or Cinques, the eighth bell in the twelve. He was then about 75 years of age and still a good ringer, and, I remember, on one occasion he gave me some good advice on striking, and in the proper use of my course bell, especially in Stedman.

Mr. Hassall rang the seventh in the long peal of Bob Major in October, 1793, took part in both peals at St. Martin's in 1823, and in many other notable performances.

He was for many years cashier to the old Birmingham Gas Company, and was superannuated by them about the year 1847 or 1848, at which he rather kicked, because at 78 he thought he was still able to do his work as well as ever he was. He died, I believe, in 1851, and I had the honour of calling the muffled touch of Stedman Caters rung to his memory at St. Philip's, St. Martin's bells being then unringable. He was about 82 years of age and was universally respected.

I was present in Aston belfry on the fiftieth anniversary of the long peal. On that occasion Mr. John Short, son of the Joshua Short who composed and conducted the peal from the tenor, invited a few friends to dine with him, and among them Mr. Hassall, the only survivor of the band. It was on a Sunday, and a company assembled at Aston to celebrate the day by a touch. Mr. Hassall came up to the belfry, and, looking around, went and stood by the ninth (of course, the seventh in the original ring of eight). With hat in hand he made a short neat speech, in the most reverent manner, and, alluding to his old companions who had all passed away, he ended by saying that what puzzled him most was—how quickly time had flown. The one hundredth anniversary of this peal also happened on a Sunday, and eight members of the St. Martin's Guild rang a peal of Bob Major on the evening previous in commemoration thereof, while, with Mr. Hassall, I can also truly say—how quickly time had flown.

Mr. Hassall conducted the only peal of Grandsire Maximus ever rung on St. Martin's bells—a 5,040 on June 12th, 1815.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

DISTRICT MEETING AT GUILDFORD.

The annual meeting of the Guildford District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild, held at Guildford on February 10th, attracted an attendance of 60 from various parts of the diocese, also visitors from Croydon, Westminster, Bracknell and Olchester. The Master (Mr. A. Harman), the general secretary (Mr. G. L. Grover), treasurer (M. J. Corbett) and all the district secretaries were among those present.

The Guild service was held at S. Nicolas' Church, conducted by the Rev. C. K. F. Brown, who gave an interesting address.

The annual business meeting followed tea at Ayers' Restaurant, Mr. A. Harman presiding. The existing officers were all re-elected. A discussion arose regarding a proposal to augment the Guild's original grant to the Bramley Bells Fund by a contribution of two guineas from the fund of the Guildford District. The proposition was passed on from the Woking meeting. The formal proposition A. H. Pulling, 'To defer consideration for one year,' was defeated. The original motion was eventually passed with a small alteration, the effect of which postpones payment of the extra contribution until work on the bells has started.

Twenty-three new members were elected, including a young band at Shere, and others from Witley, Haslemere, Worplesdon and Guildford.

SERVICE TOUCHES.

STEDMAN CATERS.

231456789	461					231456789	461				
	1	5	6	16			1	5	6	16	
362154978	—	—	—	—	—	362154978	—	—	—	—	—
364251	—	—	—	—	—	264153	—	—	—	—	—
463152	—	—	—	—	—	463152	—	—	—	—	—
231456789	569					231456789	569				
	1	5	6	16			1	5	6	16	
362154978	—	—	—	—	—	361452978	—	—	—	—	—
364251	—	—	—	—	—	163254	—	—	—	—	—
463152	—	—	—	—	—	164352	—	—	—	—	—
462351	—	—	—	—	—	462351	—	—	—	—	—
231456789	675					231456789	675				
	1	5	6	16			1	5	6	16	
362154978	—	—	—	—	—	761452	—	—	—	—	—
264153	—	—	—	—	—	163254	—	—	—	—	—
462351	—	—	—	—	—	164352	—	—	—	—	—
461253	—	—	—	—	—	461253	—	—	—	—	—
463152	—	—	—	—	—	463152	—	—	—	—	—

All round by bobs at 4, 5, 16, 18, 20, 21, and 22.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
THE PROPOSED NEW GUILDS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—For a long time past some of us have felt that the Midland Counties Association was trying to cover too large an area for efficiency and extension in the best interests of ringing. Nearly 20 years ago a former president suggested some kind of division. The association has now existed for 62 years, and has undoubtedly filled a great purpose, and many of us owe everything that we know to older members of the association. But when it was founded change ringing towers were few and far between, and the number of good peals of bells was limited. Since then there has been a great increase in the number of bells and a vast improvement in bellfries.

The natural unit for a society of this kind is the county or the diocese, but in 1882 Leicestershire was part of the Diocese of Peterborough, Notts was part of Lincoln, and Derbyshire belonged to Lichfield. Diocesan guilds would have been unwieldy and impossible, so the three counties, which had no cathedral of their own, joined together, and Burton became one of the four centres, not from a territorial point of view, for it has never included more than two or three Staffordshire towers, but because of the zeal and ability of the ringers there, who were on friendly terms with Derby.

NEW DIOCESES.

Great changes have taken place, and church progress and efficiency have been marked by new divisions all over England, and now Leicester, Notts and Derby each have their own bishop and cathedral. The county and diocese have the same boundary in each case. If we remember the purpose of our associations, the diocese should always count for a great deal in the eyes of any Sunday service ringer. Clergy and laymen know their bishop and know one another in their own diocese, and belong to various societies, with their centre in that ancient unit of administration, upon which church life has depended through all its history. The county is also a very ancient unit, which has always inspired loyalty and fellowship in English people. The Midland Counties Association is trying to accomplish a very big task in being responsible in modern days for three counties, and a small part of a fourth, in four separate dioceses. In fact, they have never tried to cover any whole county except Leicestershire. North Notts, East Derbyshire, Sheffield and District all work in the northern territory, and are on friendly terms with the Yorkshire Association. Some years ago North Notts were willing to become the Northern District of a Diocesan Guild, but it would have been impossible for them to take an active part in the Midland Counties Association. If East Derbyshire were willing, they could very well become the Eastern District of a Derby Guild.

If we examine figures of ringing members we find

	1914	1924	1944	Towers (1944)
Burton	84	78	64	10
Derby	169	160	138	22
Notts	127	173	114	20
Leicestershire ...	228	349	396	61

These figures are greatly to the credit of the last county and the energetic secretary and the districts.

POSITION OF BURTON DISTRICT.

Burton has always held a somewhat anomalous position, as it is neither a county nor cathedral town. If we examine further, we find that, of Burton's 10 towers, five are in Derbyshire, three in Leicestershire and two with 14 members are in Staffordshire. Whatever may have been decided in the past, there does not seem much justification for one of the four annual meetings to be held there to-day. Of the 20 towers in Nottingham District, five are in Derbyshire and one in Leicestershire. So that if we take either the diocesan or county boundaries, which are the most usual in any association of ringers, the real figures for tower membership are: Staffs 2, Derby 32, Notts 14, Leicester 65.

Transport had something to do with this, and geography. Looking at the map, it would appear that a new district might be formed at Ashby, and the old Burton District towers might join this or Derby. I have no doubt in my own mind that steps ought to be taken to form diocesan guilds as suggested by Mr. H. J. Poole in his circular. It has been tacitly agreed to divide up the capital funds equally.

But we do not wish to forget the old association, and I think the official titles of the new guilds might well have the words Midland Counties Association in brackets underneath. It was suggested at the last annual meeting at Leicester that the new guilds should thus always recognise each other's members, as part of the larger association, for peals or meetings without additional subscription. In fact, I think this might well be adopted all over England. We all know the hurried ceremony of proposing a man just before the peal starts, and the collecting of one subscription if the peal is successful! Why should not we recognise one another always without this formality, and if I am in Sussex or Devon, why should not I be allowed to take part as a visitor and a member of the Exercise, without any intention of claiming the full privilege of membership, provided that I am a fully paid up member of some recognised society?

As you rightly say, we want 'missionary work in no man's land,' and new guilds could devote time and energy to Central Notts and West Derbyshire and the dormant Peak District. Reconstruction is in the air, and we ought not to be afraid of it. Probably we shall be able to get fairly accurately the opinion of those away on service, and some will possibly not be released for a few years. But I agree

that the younger generation will almost certainly welcome the division we propose, and final ratification could be delayed until the end of the war, if thought necessary.

R. F. WILKINSON (President of M.C.A.)

The Rectory, West Bridgford, Notts.

THE OXFORD SOCIETY.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Now that so many of our skilled men are absent owing to the war, it is often necessary to do essential things in somewhat unorthodox ways. And thus it happened at the recent annual luncheon of the Oxford Society that, in the absence of one proficient in the art of taking down speeches in shorthand, a member well skilled in the art of change ringing, whose name frequently appears in your peal columns, but which I do not wish to mention here, was asked to take notes of the proceedings in longhand. He was further handicapped by the fact that the history of the society was, not his pet subject, and, unfortunately, his report contained a number of inaccuracies.

In all fairness to Mr. Victor Bennett, it should be stated that the account of the society which he gave at the luncheon was almost identical with that given by Mr. Trollope in 'The Ringing World.'

One small item which shows how Richard Duckworth retained his interest in Oxford bells may be mentioned. Among the entries in the churchwardens' accounts of St. Martin (Carfax) for the year 1677 occur the following in connection with the installation of the ring of six there in 1676: 'Impris. Pd. Richard Keene for new casting the bells and for adding mettle to make the five old bells six and for making the frame for them and hanging them up £89 8s. 0d. Spent upon Mr. Read when he came over to tune the bells 6s. 6d. Gave the ringers 3s. 0d. Paid John Reston by Mr. Duckworth's order, for doing something to the bells, 5s. 0d.'

No one knows how old the Oxford Society actually is, but we do know that change ringing has been practised in the city for a long time; tradition tells us since the days of Charles the Second. There have been rings of eight in the city since the days of the Commonwealth. As I stated at the luncheon, I feel that more effort should be made to trace out the history of the society: there is always the possibility that something may be discovered.

At the time Lukis was in Oxford little interest was being taken in the 'science of ringing,' which he deplored. Under these circumstances it is possible that little value was placed on manuscript records of previous performances by the ringers of that day. We know that Lukis made use of earlier MSS. in the compilation of his book on 'Church Bells,' as he gives details of inscriptions on bells which had been recast before his day. That there was a manuscript history of Oxford bells written about the year 1800, and that Lukis probably used it, was known to the late Mr. H. B. Walters, and I have his written testimony of this. I am glad to learn of the allusion (even if rather vague) to some manuscript book on Oxford ringing in one of the College Youths' manuscripts, and hope that if such a book exists we may be able to trace it. Again, the records of Christ Church may throw some new light on the activities of the society, and it is gratifying to learn from the Dean that these are to be investigated after the war.

The influence of the Oxford Society has been manifest in many ways; not the least of these being the introduction by James Newman of change ringing to Appleton in 1818. Had it not been for this there would have been no incentive for the augmentation of Appleton bells, first to eight and later to ten, and no Appleton Society as we know it to-day. Many notable ringers, including the Rev. F. E. Robinson, were taught by the Appleton Society, and many record peals accomplished there.

F. SHARPE.

Launton, Bicester.

[There is in the British Museum a manuscript giving the details of the inscriptions on most of the principal rings of bells at Oxford and which probably is the one referred to by Mr. Sharpe. I do not remember whether it has any indications of date and authorship, and I am pretty certain there is nothing about change ringing. At present it is not available for inspection.—J. A. T.]

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING AT BASINGSTOKE.

The annual meeting of the Basingstoke District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild, held at Basingstoke on January 27th, was attended by 46 members, including many young people. Service was held in St. Michael's Church, followed by tea in the Church Cottage, kindly arranged by Mrs. Woodley and lady helpers.

Several new members were elected at the meeting which followed. The chair was taken by Mr. Charles Kippin. The following officers were elected: Chairman, the Rev. Canon Chute, M.A.; hon. secretary, Mr. J. Chesterman; Ringing Master, Mr. C. Ostler; representative, Mr. H. Balaam; auditor, Mr. R. G. Flew. Major Stilwell, the previous hon. secretary, unfortunately was leaving the district, so he very reluctantly had to resign. The meeting wished him all success in his new sphere and thanked him very warmly for his services.

Quarterly meetings were fixed at Kingsclere in April, Odiham in July, Bramley in September, dates to be arranged by the hon. secretary. Ringing ranged from rounds to Cambridge Surprise, and many made use of both St. Michael's and All Saints' bells after the meeting until late in the evening.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

ASHBRITTLE, SOMERSET.—On Sunday, January 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Bristow 1, R. Alderman 2, W. Stevens 3, C. W. Tarr 4, S. N. Bristow (conductor) 5, D. C. Enticott 6. Rung after the induction of the Rector, the Rev. M. P. Ralph-Bowman.

NORTON-IN-THE-MOORS.—On Sunday, February 3rd, 720 London Surprise Minor: O. Williams 1, S. B. Bailey 2, S. Ryles 3, W. C. Lawrence 4, W. P. Deane (conductor) 5, J. Walley 6.

HARROW WEALD.—On Sunday, February 4th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: F. J. Wilcox 1, Miss E. K. Fulton 2, H. D. Butler 3, F. A. Vincett 4, H. G. Hart 5, W. Wenban (conductor) 6.

LYTCHETT MATRAVERS, DORSET.—On Sunday, February 4th, 1,260 Reverse Canterbury: M. H. Martin 1, Miss V. Maberly 2, D. King 3, L. H. Pink 4, H. E. White (conductor) 5, L.A.C. D. Carey 6.

ROTHERHAM.—On Sunday, February 4th, at All Saints', 1,260 Grandsire Triples: *David Adams 1, Mrs. T. C. Ryder 2, Arthur Stamp 3, *Leslie Fields 4, Lionel Parkin 5, *Edgar Liversidge 6, Arthur Firth (conductor) 7, T. Colin Ryder 8. *First quarter-peal.

EWELL, SURREY.—On Sunday, February 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss F. Watkinson (first quarter-peal) 1, A. Brown 2, Miss P. Smees 3, E. T. Grove 4, Miss E. Harrington 5, A. Harman (conductor) 6, H. E. Good 7, J. E. Beams 8.

QUEENSBURY, BRADFORD.—On Sunday, February 4th, 1,023 Bob Major: Edgar Whiteley 1, Paul Birkett 2, Clifford Elleson 3, Sam Blundell 4, Sam Longbottom 5, Albert Pickles 6, William Ambler (conductor) 7, Harold Pearce 8; and 800 Bob Major: Edgar Whiteley 1, Paul Birkett 2, Derrick Taylor 3, Sam Blundell 4, Clifford Ellison 5, Albert Pickles 6, William Ambler (conductor) 7, Harold Pearce 8.

OXHEY, HERTS.—On Tuesday, February 6th, 720 Double Court: G. C. Tarr 1, Mrs. G. Savill (first 720 in the method) 2, J. Cleaver 3, L. Tarr 4, H. Hodgetts 5, F. W. Brinklow (conductor) 6.

GLASGOW.—On Tuesday, February 6th, at St. Mary's Cathedral, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor, followed by a course of London Surprise Minor: A. E. Haynes 1, R. G. Townsend 2, H. F. Sargent 3, E. A. Stafford 4, E. Bounphrey 5, W. H. Pickitt (conductor) 6.

STANMORE.—On February 7th, 720 Bob Minor: C. Wenban 1, H. D. Butler 2, H. G. Hart 3, R. Bird 4, W. Wenban (conductor) 5, Flight-Sgt. R. Cadamy 6.

HANDSWORTH, NEAR SHEFFIELD.—On Wednesday, February 7th, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: J. G. Brothwell (conductor) 1, A. Allwood 2, H. Wilson 3, W. Taylor (first 720 of Cambridge Minor) 4, J. H. Brothwell 5, H. Taylor 6. Also 720 St. Clement's Minor: J. G. Brothwell (conductor) 1, A. Allwood 2, H. Wilson 3, W. Taylor 4, H. Taylor 5, J. H. Brothwell 6. First 720 of St. Clement's Minor by the band.

PENARTH, GLAM.—On Wednesday, February 7th, at St. Augustine's, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: L. W. Prosser 1, T. Yeomans 2, F. Hannington 3, E. Coombes (conductor) 4, W. Heath 5, A. Rowley 6, A. Parnell 7, J. Lovett 8. Rung half-muffled for the donor of the bells, Jessie Lillian Willcocks.

CHICHESTER.—On February 7th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples, half-muffled in tribute to the late Mr. T. A. Doick: *Mrs. G. W. Tamplin 1, P. R. Blackman 2, W. R. Falconer 3, †Miss Joyce Humphrey 4, *R. G. Blackman 5, *D. Sleet 6, L. Stilwell (conductor) 7, †H. F. Dunford 8. *First quarter-peal on eight bells. †First quarter-peal.

PENTRE RHONDDA.—On Thursday, February 8th, 720 Bob Minor: W. Page 1, *J. Evans 2, H. Davies 3, *T. Yeomans 4, T. Page (conductor) 5, J. Lovett 6, W. Lambert tenor. *First 720 of Minor.

ISLEWORTH.—On February 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: P. Thirst (first quarter-peal) 1, Miss K. Brooks 2, D. R. Judd 3, J. C. Birt 4, A. F. Thirst 5, S. W. Arbon 6, H. W. Rogers (conductor) 7, H. Brooks 8.

STRATTON AUDLEY, OXON.—On February 10th, 720 Grandsire Doubles: F. Sharpe 1, C. Stockley (conductor) 2, H. Gregory 3, E. Smith 4, F. Timms 5. Rung muffled at the funeral of the Rector, the Rev. H. S. Fox.

PINNER.—On Saturday, February 10th, at St. John's, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: *Harold Puff 1, †F. G. Robbins 2, P. Holmes 3, N. Genna 4, F. Blondell 5, T. Collins 6, F. Corke 7, *E. Ware 8. *First quarter-peal. †First quarter-peal inside.

WIGSTON MAGNA, LEICESTER.—On Saturday, February 10th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: S. O. Cheney 1, *W. V. Newberry 2, H. J. Poole (conductor) 3, H. G. Wayne 4, J. S. Carter 5, H. W. Perkins 6, G. S. Morris 7, *C. F. Knight 8. *First quarter-peal.

WOODESFORD, YORKS.—On Saturday, February 10th, 720 Bob Minor: Patricia E. M. Barton 1, Keith Brayshaw (first 720) 2, Harry Lofthouse 3, Thomas W. Strangeway 4, George W. Steel 5, William Barton (conductor) 6.

ORSETT, ESSEX.—On Saturday, February 10th, 720 Bob Minor: A. Howell 1, A. Reeve 2, A. Ockendon 3, Miss C. Chinnery 4, S. M. Bailey (conductor) 5, H. Chinnery 6.

FULHAM.—On Sunday, February 11th, 1,079 Grandsire Caters: H. Harris 1, Mrs. R. F. Deal 2, H. Miles 3, E. R. Mackrill 4, H. Langdon 5, A. Jones 6, W. Paice 7, H. Belcher 8, R. F. Deal 9, H. M. Page 10.

SOMERSHAM, HUNTS.—On Sunday, February 11th, 720 Bob Minor: J. Ransom 1, W. Ransom 2, Rev. B. F. Sheppard 3, L. Wakeling 4, C. Goodgear 5, L.A.C. E. Nobles (conductor) 6.

WHITTLE-LE-WOODS, LANCs.—On Sunday, February 11th, 720 Bob Minor: *L. Bowker 1, Opl. S. Tuson 2, H. Blackledge 3, *G. Bowling 4, F. Blackledge (conductor) 5, F. G. Bradley 6. *First 720.

HEREFORD.—On Sunday, February 11th, at All Saints' Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: *M. P. Moreton 1, A. W. Davis 2, G. Davis 3, S. C. Milton 4, W. H. Simmonds 5, *R. D. M. Lewis 6, W. F. Moreton (conductor) 7, R. L. Prosser 8. *First quarter of Triples.

CRAYFORD, KENT.—On Sunday, February 11th, at St. Paulinus', 1,260 Stedman Triples: H. Hovert 1, N. Summerhayes 2, G. A. Thompson (first quarter-peal) 3, G. Large 4, F. A. Caley 5, A. G. Hall 6, J. E. Bailey (conductor) 7, W. Bond 8.

BEXLEY, KENT.—On Sunday, February 11th, at St. Mary's, 1,264 Bob Major: Betty Frost 1, Audrey Holden 2, A. G. Williams 3, A. Ball 4, G. Large 5, J. E. Bailey 6, G. A. Thompson (first quarter-peal of Major) 7, A. G. Hall (conductor) 8.

ROTHERFIELD.—On Sunday, February 11th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor with 7-8 cover: E. Bishop, sen. 1, E. Bishop, jun. 2, A. Lewrey 3, F. Hammond 4, C. Brasier 5, W. Rogers (conductor) 6, T. Keeley 7, W. Holder 8.

STAGSDEN, BEDS.—On Sunday, February 11th, 1,260 Bob Minor: Marjorie Watson 1, Pat Gilbert 2, P. Beard 3, W. Tebbutt 4, R. Chapman 5, L. H. Bowler (conductor) 6. Rung half-muffled for Sergt.-Flight Engineer P. R. Jefferies, R.A.F.

KESWICK.—On Sunday, February 11th, at Crosthwaite Church, 720 Bob Minor: Mrs. T. Wilson 1, T. Wilson 2, R. Grisdale 3, S. Grisdale (first 720) 4, F. Grisdale 5, F. Hogarth 6, J. Brownrigg (conductor) 7, W. Thompson 8. Rung on the middle seven.

SWINDON.—On Sunday, February 11th, 1,276 Grandsire Caters: *Miss P. Townsend 1, Mrs. T. Cullingworth 2, T. Cullingworth 3, F. J. Daniell 4, W. Carter 5, C. J. Gardner (conductor) 6, T. Townsend 7, S. Palmer 8, A. G. Wells 9, W. A. Bullock 10. *First quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters.

HEADINGTON, OXFORD.—On Sunday, February 11th, at St. Andrew's, 720 Grandsire Doubles: R. S. Coles 1, Miss P. Smith 2, F. Hill 3, D. Hill 4, L. J. Coles 5, T. Smith (conductor) 6. This band started from scratch in April of last year and this is their first 720.

PUDSEY, YORKS.—On Monday, February 12th, 720 Bob Minor: Patricia E. M. Barton 1, Gordon Benfield 2, Jack Gibson (first 720) 3, William Barton (conductor) 4, Rowland S. Myers 5, William Cordingley 6.

WEST BROMWICH.—On Tuesday, February 13th, at All Saints', 1,274 Grandsire Triples from Holt's Original: N. Hadley 1, J. C. Cotterill 2, J. Cooper 3, E. Parish 4, W. Partridge 5, W. Reynolds 6, A. Mills (conductor) 7, S. Loach 8.

ANSTEY, NEAR LEICESTER.—On Ash Wednesday, February 14th, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: E. Gardner 1, D. Dodson 2, R. F. Elkington (conductor) 3, S. R. Gardner 4, S. Iliffe 5, P. J. Staniforth 6. First 720 of Cambridge Minor by ringers of 1, 2 and 4.

BASINGSTOKE.—On Saturday, February 17th, at All Saints' Church, 504 Grandsire Triples: *C. Urwin 1, J. Ballard (conductor) 2, *Miss O. Osler 3, *W. Clift 4, C. Osler 5, *J. Weaver 6, E. Austin 7, J. B. Woodley 8. *First 500 of Triples.

TRING, HERTS.—On Sunday, February 18th, 504 Grandsire Triples: C. Badrick 1, F. C. Reeve, R.A.F. 2, F. J. Reeve (conductor) 3, W. Lee 4, R. Metcalf (first 504) 5, H. Bull 6, H. Lewis 7, N. Brackley 8.

OXFORD.—At St. Martin's and All Saints' on Sunday, February 18th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: *Miss Margaret C. Cossar 1, Walter F. Judge 2, †Robert Challen 3, Miss Enid Badder 4, Herbert Badder 5, Gordon Caudwell 6, William C. Porter (conductor) 7, *A. T. Goddard 8. *First quarter-peal. †First quarter-peal inside.

GRUNDISBURGH.—On Sunday, February 18th, 720 Bob Minor: George W. Pipe (first 720) 1, Mrs. C. W. Pipe 2, William Dye 3, Frederick J. Crappell 4, Charles Clarke 5, Cecil W. Pipe (conductor) 6.—Also 504 Bob Triples: Lewis J. Last 1, John F. Jennings 2, George A. Fleming 3, Mrs. C. W. Pipe 4, Charles Clarke 5, James W. Jennings 6, Cecil W. Pipe 7, Frederick J. Crappell 8.

BATH.—On Sunday, February 18th, at Bath Abbey, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: G. Hawkins 1, Mrs. A. Evans 2, F. Merrett 3, H. Beckett 4, E. King 5, M. Smart 6, J. Hallett 7, T. F. King (conductor) 8, S. Woodburn 9, H. Merrett and J. Bond 10.

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NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.

MIDDLESEX ASSN.—Heston, Saturday, Feb. 24th, 3 p.m. Tea and business, Westbrook Hall, 5 p.m.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec. Per. 5320.

KENT COUNTY ASSN.—Maidstone and Ashford Districts.—Charing, Saturday, Feb. 24th. Service 3 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock at Chestnut Tea Rooms, 1s. 3d. per head.—C. H. Sone, Dis. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Bell Foundry, Whitechapel Road, E.1, Feb. 24th, 3 p.m. Ringing St. Margaret's, Westminster, 4.45 p.m.—A. B. Peck, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—Wooburn, Bucks, Feb. 24th, 3 p.m.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—V.W.H. Branch.—Ashbury (6), Feb. 24th, 2.30. Service 4.30.—R. F. J. Gilling, Hon. Sec., Fernham, Faringdon.

GLOS AND BRISTOL ASSN.—Bristol Rural Branch.—St. Ambrose's, Bristol East, Saturday, Feb. 24th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea after service.—Cyril R. Harding, 77, Bromley Heath Road, Downend.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSN.—Chesterfield District.—Annual, Bolsover, Feb. 24th. Names to Mr. B. Cooper, Wickstead, Rectory Road, Duckmanton, Chesterfield.—Sam Scattergood, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LANCS ASSN.—Rossendale Branch.—Helmshore, Feb. 24th, 3 p.m. (not Feb. 17th, as stated last week). Bring own food; cups of tea provided. Apologies to all who suffered any inconvenience from my mistake.—H. Parkinson, Hon. Sec.

CHESTER GUILD.—Macclesfield Branch.—Annual, Parish Church, Macclesfield (12), Saturday, Feb. 24th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Meeting after.—John Worth.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD, BIRMINGHAM.—Henry Johnson Commemoration luncheon, Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, Saturday, Mar. 3rd, 1.30 p.m. Tickets to fully-paid-up ringing members, 2s. each; to other members and friends 6s. 6d. each. Number is strictly limited. Bells of St. Philip's Cathedral, 12 to 1, St. Martin's after lunch for one hour.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham, 11.

SUSSEX ASSN.—Southern Division.—Annual, St. John-the-Baptist, Southover, Lewes, March 3rd, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Names to Mrs. E. L. Hairs, The Oaks, Theobalds Road, Burgess Hill, by Feb. 28th.

SALISBURY GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—Quarterly, Saturday, March 3rd, Southbroom, Devizes (6), 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. Please advise. St. Mary's (6) afternoon, St. John's (8) evening.—W. C. West, Hon. Sec., 584, Semington Road, Melksham. Phone 297.

GAMSTON, NOTTS (6).—Practice, Saturday, March 3rd, 2.30 p.m. Names to Mr. S. Carnell, 16, Gamston, Retford.—H. Denman.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—Quarterly, Buckingham (8), March 3rd, 2.30 p.m. Service 3.30.—H. H wson, Hon. Sec., 19, Greenfield Road, Newport Pagnell, Bletchley.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSN.—Eastern District.—Sunderland St. Ignatius' (8), Saturday, March 3rd, 2.30 p.m. Bring food; cups of tea provided.—F. Ainsley, 30, Aysgarth Avenue, Grangetown, Sunderland.

BEDS ASSN.—Biddenham, Saturday, March 3rd, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at Village Hall, 5 p.m.—L. H. Bowler, Hon. Sec., Maisonette, Bromham, Bedford.

LANCASHIRE ASSN.—St. James', East Crompton, Saturday, March 3rd, 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. in Co-op Cafe. Business in tower 6.30 p.m. Names to Mr. R. H. Byrom, 1, Avis Street, Shaw.—Ivan Kay, Branch Sec.

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD.—Sketty (8), March 3rd, 3 p.m.—E. Stitch, Hon. Dis. Sec., 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glam.

NORWICH ASSN.—South Norfolk Branch.—Annual, Saxlingham Nethergate (8), Saturday, March 3rd, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business 5 p.m. Names for tea by 28th.—A. G. Harrison, 10, Mount Pleasant, Diss, Norfolk.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSN.—Burton-on-Trent District.—Meeting at Measham (8), Saturday, March 3rd, 3.30. Tea 4.45. Bring own eatables; cups of tea provided. All welcome.—J. W. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Overseal.

LANCASHIRE ASSN.—Blackburn Branch.—Rish-ton, Saturday, March 3rd, 2.30 p.m. Cups of tea provided. Meeting in the tower at 6 p.m.—Charles W. Blakey, Branch Sec., 133, Or erod Street, Accrington.

ELY ASSN.—Hunts District.—St. Ives (8), Saturday, March 3rd, 3 p.m.—H. J. Parker, Dis. Sec., Gt. Staughton, St. Neots.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSN.—Saturday, March 3rd, Draycott (8). Tea, notify Mr. F. Shelley, Cresswell Farm, Blythe Bridge, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, not later than Feb. 27th.—Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec.

KENT ASSN.—Ashford District.—Headcorn, Saturday, March 10th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—P. Page, Dis. Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN.—North and East District.—Annual, Southgate, Saturday, March 10th. Bells 3 p.m. District committee meeting 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea to follow for those who send in names. No. 29 bus to Cherry Tree or tube to Southgate station.—T. J. Lock, Dis. Sec., 57, Holloways Lane, North Mimms, Hatfield, Herts.

SHEFFIELD SOCIETY.—Annual, Saturday, March 10th. Cathedral bells 2.30 to 5.30 and 7 to 8 p.m. Business 5.30. British Restaurant and cafes nearby.—G. G. Graham, Hon. Sec., 5, Pipworth Lane, Eckington.

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