



THE RINGING WORLD

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These famous bell-founding firms have kindly consented to this adaptation of their advertisements to meet the pressure on our space, due to the compulsory reduction in the number of our pages this week.

THE RINGERS' HANDBOOK.

There are not many things that need a good supply of well written text books more than change ringing does. During the ages, and still at the present time, the art has been handed down from generation to generation by verbal instruction and personal contact in the belfry, and nothing can fully take the place of a good teacher. But something more is needed. The opportunities for instruction during practice time are limited. There is much which can only be explained when the pupil and his instructor can sit down quietly with pencil and paper, and as a rule the beginner who expects (as many do) to learn everything when he has a rope in his hands is a slow and dull pupil and never succeeds in understanding some of the most important things in the art; while the keen, enthusiastic man, who takes every opportunity of picking up what knowledge he can outside the steeple, requires comparatively little instruction inside but rather needs opportunities for practice, good examples to follow, and sound and timely advice as occasion offers. For these persons good elementary text books are invaluable, and fortunately ringers have not during the last seventy years lacked such.

The Exercise has had during nearly three hundred years a long series of technical books of varying merit, some as good as Richard Duckworth's 'Tintinnologia' and William Jones' 'Clavis Campanalogia,' and some as bad as Benjamin Thackrah's and William Sottanstell's books, but all the earlier ones aimed at covering the whole range of the art and science. It has only been during the last seventy or eighty years that the really elementary text book, designed primarily for the use of beginners, has become common, and it is surely something more than just a coincidence that those years have seen a wider development of change ringing than all the ages which went before them.

Troyte's 'Change Ringing' appeared in 1869 and served a most useful purpose during many years. It is now out of print, but its place has been taken, and more than taken, by Mr. and Mrs. Powell's 'Ringers' Handbook,' which covers much the same ground, but on more up-to-date lines.

When the three years' ban on ringing was ended there was a most gratifying and unexpected revival of change ringing, and large numbers of recruits were attracted to the belfries. Now was the time when the need for good text books was more urgent than ever. There were three

(Continued on page 106.)

especially suitable ones available, and as it happened they did not in any way compete with each other. A new 'Standard Methods' was printed in 1939 and placed on the market in 1943. A reprint of 'Ropesight' appeared later, and now a new edition of 'The Ringers' Handbook' is on sale. For some time the value of the book had been shown by the way the previous edition was selling.

One of the results of the war, as everybody knows, has been the shortage of paper and the difficulty in printing and publishing books. Fortunately the Exercise has been treated quite fairly in this matter, and it has been possible to produce the new 'Ringers' Handbook' on good paper, excellently printed, and rather larger than the previous edition. The price necessarily is somewhat more, but that will not be grudged. This is a book which should be in the hands of all beginners and instructors alike.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 8, 1945, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

(On the Steltox Eight)

HARRY G. WAYNE Treble	HAROLD G. JENNEY 5
WILLIAM J. ROOT 2	*HERBERT W. PERKINS 6
SHIRLEY BURTON... .. 3	ERNEST MORRIS... .. 7
HAROLD J. POOLE 4	G. STEDMAN MORRIS... .. Tenor

Composed by G. R. PYE.

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* First peal in the method.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 10, 1945, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, LAMBETH,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES,

Tenor 17 cwt.

JOHN WHEADON Treble	PHILIP A. CORBY... .. 5
GEORGE M. KILBY 2	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT 6
J. FRANK SMALLWOOD... .. 3	HAROLD G. CASHMORE 7
ERNEST C. S. TURNER 4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS... .. Tenor

Composed by F. BENNETT.

Conducted by P. A. CORBY.

GRAYSHOTT, HAMPSHIRE.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 10, 1945, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

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

Tenor 8½ cwt. in A flat.

*FRANK C. W. KNIGHT ... Treble	WILLIAM T. BEESON 5
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON ... 2	CPL. C. F. ANDREWS 6
GEORGE L. GROVER 3	CHARLES HAZELDEN 7
C. ERNEST SMITH 4	ALFRED H. PULLING Tenor

Composed by F. A. HOLDEN.

Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

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

MILFORD-ON-SEA, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 10, 1945, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*MISS KATH. BRAYSHAW ... Treble	ANDREW I. PEARMAIN 5
FRANCIS S. WILSON 2	JOHN V. DAVIS 6
MRS. F. JOHN MARSHALLSAY 3	ARTHUR V. DAVIS 7
† BRUCE B. ROGERS 4	HARRY GILLARD... .. Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR V. DAVIS.

* First peal, aged 13 years. † First peal on tower bells. ‡ First peal of Triples. All first attempt.

PEBMARSH, ESSEX.—On February 26th, 1440 Bob Minor: C. Weavers 1, *Miss E. Tyler 2, *Mrs. C. Woodgate 3, *Miss J. Woodgate 4, *C. Pope 5, G. Trendell 6. * First quarter-peal.

HANBURY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 10, 1945, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 15 lb. in G.

JAMES WOODYATT Treble	WILLIAM RANFORD 5
*FRED N. FLUCK... .. 2	DENIS R. MORRIS 6
GEORGE E. LARGE 3	REGINALD WOODYATT... .. 7
ALLEN MORGAN 4	GEORGE AMBLER Tenor

Composed by C. CHARGE.

Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE.

* First peal of Major. First of Major on the present ring.

EAST DEREHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 10, 1945, in Three Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

CLAYTON PARNELL Treble	*WILFRED G. SAUNDERS 5
MICHAEL J. FOSTER 2	RUSSELL W. CURSON 6
F. CHARLES GOODMAN 3	GEORGE SAYER 7
JOHN R. SMITH 4	NOLAN GOLDEN Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal of Major 'inside.' Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute to the memory of Bertie J. Whiteside, Master of the Dereham ringers.

UFFORD, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, March 10, 1945, in Three Hours,

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

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

WILLOUGHBY E. MAULDEN Treble	FRANK L. FISHER 5
GEORGE A. FLEMING 2	JAMES BENNETT, JUN. 6
MRS. C. W. PIPE... .. 3	CHARLES E. FISHER 7
WILLIAM J. G. BROWN 4	LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN ... Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by L. C. WIGHTMAN.

CONGRESBURY, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 10, 1945, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S VARIATION.

Tenor 35 cwt.

THOMAS W. KIMBER Treble	DONALD G. CLIFT 5
GEORGE OLLIVER... .. 2	GEORGE TALBOT... .. 6
HERBERT W. KNIGHT... .. 3	EMLYN F. HANCOCK 7
CLEMENT GLENN... .. 4	LEONARD DERRICK Tenor

Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.

DERBY.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 10, 1945, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 30 cwt. in E.

*RONALD FOSTER... .. Treble	WILFRED BUXTON 5
CYRIL JENNINGS... .. 2	JACK BAILEY... .. 6
WILLIAM LANCASTER 3	FRANCIS R. LOWE 7
VICTOR TAYLOR... .. 4	ALFRED MOULD Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by J. BAILEY.

* First peal of Major.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 10, 1945, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE, PRITTLEWELL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

WILLIAM PERRY Treble	JOHN E. GROVE 5
JOHN E. FOWLER... .. 2	FREDERICK SOWTER 6
ARNOLD BRUNTON 3	SYDNEY M. BAILEY 7
RICHARD W. STANNARD 4	FRANK B. LUFKIN Tenor

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH.

Conducted by F. B. LUFKIN.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

DEEPING ST. NICHOLAS, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 10, 1945, in Two Hours and Thirty-One Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Oxford Bob, Double Oxford, Single Court, Double Court, Plain Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 6½ cwt.

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

Conducted by H. M. DAY.

* First peal in seven methods inside.

SHALSTONE, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 10, 1945, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD-THE-CONFESSOR,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six scores, ten callings. Tenor 8 cwt.

HERBERT A. ALEXANDER... Treble	† REX GRAINGE 3
† GEORGE JAY 2	* WILLIAM YATES... .. 4
JOHN TOWNSEND... .. Tenor	

Conducted by H. H. ALEXANDER.

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

RAYNE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 10, 1945, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two extents of Oxford, Kent and Plain and one extent of St. Clement's.

ROBERT LE BEAU... .. Treble	GEORGE SAUNDERS 4
HENRY PRAIT 2	ERNEST BRIGHT... .. 5
STANLEY BONES 3	RONALD SÜCKLING Tenor

Conducted by R. SÜCKLING.

APPLETON SOCIETY.

The Appleton Society celebrated its 127th anniversary on March 10th. This was the first time during the war that the festival had been marked. Twenty-four ringers were present, including some from Oxford, Reading and Newbury. Tea was served at the Thatched Tavern and the Vicar was the guest of honour.

Mr. Fred Sharpe said how pleased he was to see so many youngsters at that festival and he would tell them what they had actually gathered there for. In 1818 a peal of six bells were hung in the tower, probably at the expense of the local squire, and all the villagers were given a day's holiday to celebrate the occasion. This was the first of the many gatherings that have since been held annually. Later, due to the efforts of Alfred White, the money was forthcoming to buy a new treble bell, whilst an old tenor bell was bought from Wednesbury in Staffordshire. The Rev. F. E. Robinson learned to ring at Appleton, and in 1857 he added two tenors to make the fine peal of ten, which now hung in the tower. When it became fashionable to ring long peals, two record lengths were rung on these bells.

Although the methods rung during the afternoon did not go beyond Grandsire and Stedman Caters, good striking was the aim of all, and beginners were able to get in some good practice. A very good day was wound up with some method and tune ringing on handbells.

ST. MARGARET'S, LEICESTER.

DEDICATION OF PEAL TABLET.

During evening service on Sunday, March 4th, at St. Margaret's, Leicester, the Vicar dedicated a carved oak tablet erected to record the peal of 5,005 Stedman Cinquses rung on May 14th, 1944, to commemorate the five hundredth anniversary of the signing of the deed for the erection of the tower. The peal was conducted by Mr. Ernest Morris, and the board was the gift of the churchwarden, Mr. F. M. Stapleton. Following the dedication, a course of Stedman Triples was rung on handbells by Messrs. H. J. Poole, G. S. Morris, Ernest Morris and J. Morris.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT EAST CROMPTON.

A meeting of the Rochdale Branch of the Lancashire Association was held at East Crompton on March 3rd, at which 34 members and friends were present. Tea in the Co-operative Cafe was provided by Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Byrom. The methods rung were Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Spliced Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and London Scholars' Pleasure Minor, Stedman Doubles, rounds and call changes.

HANDBELL PEALS.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, February 28, 1945 in Two Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT 24, SUFFOLK ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

ERIC A. DENCH 1-2	CHARLES W. ROBERTS... .. 5-6
MRS. J. THOMAS 3-4	PHILIP J. COWARD 7-8

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by E. A. DENCH.

Witness—W. D. Smith.

DARTFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 6, 1945, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT 20, SWAISLAND ROAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

* DENNIS L. HALL 1-2	* ALFRED G. WILLIAMS 5-6
* ALAN G. HALL 3-4	* NORMAN SUMMERHAYES 7-8
JAMES E. BAILEY 9-10	

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by J. E. BAILEY.

Witness—Mrs. J. E. Bailey.

* First peal of Caters. First peal 'in hand' by all except the conductor. First peal of Caters as conductor.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, March 7, 1945, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT 24, SUFFOLK ROAD,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5120 CHANGES,

Tenor size 16.

* ERIC A. DENCH 1-2	* ERNEST C. S. TURNER 5-6
MRS. J. THOMAS... .. 3-4	JOHN THOMAS 7-8
CHARLES W. ROBERTS 9-10	

Conducted by CHARLES W. ROBERTS.

* First peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, March 8, 1945, in One Hour and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT 24, SUFFOLK ROAD,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's—one of Oxford Bob, two each of Oxford and Kent, Treble Bob and Plain Bob.

M. S. J. THOMAS 1-2	JOHN THOMAS 3-4
ALBERT J. WALLMAN 5-6	

Conducted by JOHN THOMAS.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, March 9, 1945, in Two Hours and Two Minutes,

AT 11, EXTON ROAD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor size 15 in C.

MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY... .. 1-2	ARTHUR V. DAVIS... .. 5-6
* MISS MONICA RICHARDSON 3-4	FRANCIS S. WILSON 7-8

Conducted by ARTHUR V. DAVIS.

* First peal of Grandsire Triples.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

BRAY, BERKS.—On February 19th, following the funeral of Canon Jones (Vicar), with the bells fully muffled, 1,440 Bob Minor: E. G. Hobbs 1, *M. Upstone 2, W. Henley 3, N. V. Harding 4, F. H. Hicks 5, G. Gilbert 6. Also 720 Bob Minor: *B. Howes 1, F. J. Russell 2, W. Henley 3, N. V. Harding 4, F. H. Hicks 5, G. Gilbert 6. * First 720 of Minor.

GLASGOW.—On Sunday, February 27th, at St. Mary's Cathedral, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor: W. H. Pickett (conductor) 1, R. G. Townsend 2, H. F. Sargent 3, A. E. Haynes 4, E. A. Stafford 5, F. Wilson 6.

HARLOW COMMON.—On February 28th, 2,520 Stedman Triples: F. Whitby 1, L. Whitby 2, R. Springham 3, V. Tipton 4, L. Cordell 5, W. Wheeler 6, S. Clark (conductor) 7, W. Horsnell 8. Rung for Mr. and Mrs. Copping's golden wedding. Mr. Copping is a member of the local band.

'THE RINGING WORLD.'

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

President of the Council: EDWIN H. LEWIS, M.A.
 Hon. Secretary of the Council: GEORGE W. FLETCHER.
 The White House, Caister-on-Sea, Norfolk.
 Treasurer of 'The Ringing World': A. A. HUGHES, J.P.,
 34, Whitechapel Road, E.1.

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.'

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL LIBRARY. IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Captain W. H. J. Hooton will be glad if all those who have at present books belonging to the Central Council Library will return them to him at Newton Bank, Newton-le-Willows, Bedale, Yorks, for the purpose of cataloguing.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT SOUTHOVER, LEWES.

The annual meeting of the Southern Division of the Sussex County Association took place on Saturday, March 3rd, at St. John the Baptist's, Southover, and was well attended, members being present from Balcombe, Burgess Hill, Brighton (St. Nicholas', St. Peter's and the Good Shepherd), Cuckfield, Eastbourne, Hastings, Heene, Bexhill, and Ringmer, with the local ringers.

The Rector (the Rev. D. G. Matthews) welcomed the association once more and also conducted the short service. Tea followed, at which nearly 40 sat down, and thanks are due to the local lady ringers for the excellent fare they had provided.

At the business meeting the Master (Mr. F. I. Hairs) was in the chair, supported by the hon. general secretary. Four new members were elected. Mr. R. C. Hide was elected Ringing Master, Mrs. E. L. Hairs re-elected hon. secretary, and Mr. K. Hart and Mr. W. Coppard were appointed on the committee. A practice meeting in April at Hurstpierpoint and the next quarterly meeting at Aldrington in June were proposed and seconded.

The next item on the agenda was the consideration of the new rules. A lengthy discussion took place, and after all points had been probed it was decided provisionally that the rules be recommended for adoption.

Handbell and tower ringing from rounds to Stedman Caters gave everyone an opportunity of practice.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

MEETING AT DEVIZES.

A meeting of the Devizes Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild was held at St. James', Devizes, on March 3rd, and was attended by 65 members from Bishops Cannings, Bradford-on-Avon, Bratton, Devizes (St. John's and St. Mary's), Enford, Erchfont, Chirton, Holt, Keevil, Marden, Melksham, North Bradley, Steeple Ashton, Southbroom, Trowbridge and Warminster, as well as visitors from Norwich and Salisbury. The service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. A. W. Douglas.

The members of the branch were the guests of the St. James' ringers for tea, and the business meeting was presided over by Mr. C. D. Heginbotham, a vice-president of the Guild, who mentioned the deaths of two officials of the branch, the Rev. J. A. Sturton and Mr. Frank Green. During the afternoon and evening, at St. Mary's and St. John's, the methods rung were Grandsire and Stedman Doubles and Triples, Kent Treble Bob Minor, Bob Major, Double Norwich Court Bob Major and rounds.

OBITUARY.

MR. ARTHUR HARDY.

We regret to record the death on March 8th of Mr. Arthur Hardy, of Stockwell, London, at the age of 80. His carefully compiled records show nearly 260 peals, mostly in London towers, dating from 1898 when he joined the Cumberland Youths. He was one of the band who rang at Westminster Abbey for the Coronation of his late Majesty King George V.

MR. G. H. SPARROW.

The death is announced of Mr. G. H. Sparrow, who passed away on February 27th at Saffron Walden. He had learnt to ring at Debenham and went to Saffron Walden about 40 years ago, where he was an active member of the local band. His last peal was Stedman Cinques in 1939.

At the funeral service in the Parish Church members of the local society were present, and in the evening the bells were rung half-muffled.

THE REV. J. A. STURTON.

The death is announced of the Rev. J. A. Sturton, who was chairman of the Devizes Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild from 1912 to 1918. At the funeral on March 3rd the large congregation included Mr. E. F. White, chairman of the branch, Mr. W. C. West, secretary, and Mr. J. S. Weeks. The bells were rung half-muffled after the service and again in the evening.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT HESTON.

A meeting of the South and West District of the Middlesex County Association was held at Heston on February 24th, at which 36 members and friends were present from Bushey, Darley Dale, Ealing (St. Mary's and St. Stephen's), Feltham, Harmondsworth, Heston, Hillingdon (St. John's), Isleworth, Osterley, Ruislip, Stowmarket, Twickenham and Uxbridge. During the afternoon and evening touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob, Double Norwich and Kent Treble Bob, and Cambridge and Superlative Surprise Major were rung. Tea was in the Westbrooke Memorial Hall. Mr. G. M. Kilby took the chair at the business meeting, at which the secretary was asked to write to the president, the Rev. Preb. Cole-Sheane, and to convey to him the sympathy of the association in his recent bereavements. The following were elected: Miss Dorothy Richardson, non-resident life member, and Messrs. A. F. Thirst, John Chilcott, John Sansom, David Thomas and Noel Thomas as ringing members. News was received that Mr. Arthur Braybrooke is believed to have been killed in France. It was decided to hold the annual district meeting at Christ Church, Ealing, on Saturday, April 7th, it being hoped that St. Stephen's bells would also be available.

NORTH AND EAST DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the North and East District took place at Christ Church, Southgate, on Saturday, and was attended by over sixty members and friends. The Rev. Stainsby, Vicar, took the chair in the unintentional absence of Mr. C. T. Coles, vice-president. Messrs. N. H. Makins, J. R. Mayne and A. E. Hoare (unattached) and B. McKie (Northaw) were elected ringing members.

The secretary's report for 1944 stated that five district meetings had been held, one of which was held jointly with the Essex Association and the average attendance was 37. In addition, an association general meeting was held at Acton in September. The district had lost five of its members through death, whilst 20 new members had been elected. Fifty-four members are recorded as having joined H.M. Forces and of these four are known to have died in the Service. From the secretary's observations, at practically all the towers where it is possible the bells are rung at least once each Sunday, and an encouraging sign for the future is the number of young people to be seen handling a tower bell at meetings and on other ringing occasions.

A favourable statement of accounts was submitted and approved, and all retiring officers were re-elected.

Mr. T. J. Lock proposed that a few mid-week evening practices be held at towers on their usual practice day, firstly, to assist the band at such towers, and, secondly, to gain experience for the visitors; this was agreed to and a notice will appear in 'The Ringing World.'

BARNSELY DISTRICT SOCIETY.

The March meeting of the Barnsley District Society was held at Shelley, near Huddersfield, on March 10th. The following towers were represented: Cawthorne, Earlsheaton, Felkirk, Horbury, Liversedge, Meltham, Penistone, Sandal, Wath and the local company.

At the business meeting after tea, the Vicar, the Rev. F. W. Coop, presided. Apologies for absence were received from the president, Mr. J. R. Brearley, Bolsterstone, and Mr. A. Firth, Rotherham. Four new members were elected, the Vicar was enrolled as an honorary member and the following three as ringing members: Messrs. E. Atkinson (Horbury), Donald Kershaw (Earlsheaton), and Peter Simpson (Sandal). It was left with the secretary to arrange the next meeting at South Kirkby on Saturday, April 14th. Further ringing followed, good use being made of the bells.

HENRY JOHNSON COMMEMORATION

On Saturday, March 3rd, the 57th Henry Johnson Commemoration was celebrated in Birmingham, when about 150 ringers and friends were present at the luncheon held at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street. The gathering was one of the most representative that has ever assembled at this popular function. Indeed, the proceedings as a whole constituted, by general consent, one of the most successful and enjoyable days that those present had experienced for some years. Ringing at the Cathedral at noon was followed by the luncheon with its subsequent speeches and entertainment, which lasted until 5 p.m.; while after a visit to St. Martin's a large company enjoyed handbells and other relaxations at the Tamworth Arms.

The chairman was Mr. T. H. Reeves, secretary and treasurer of the St. Martin's Guild, who was accompanied by Mrs. Reeves, and supported by Mr. Walker (Master) and Mrs. Walker, Canon Guy Rogers (Rector of Birmingham), the Ven. H. McGowan (Archdeacon of Aston), Mr. G. E. Fearn (Ringing Master) and Mrs. Fearn, Councillor A. Paddon Smith (vice-president) and Mr. F. E. Haynes.

Also among those present were Canon Blofeld (Vicar of Edgbaston) and Mrs. Blofeld, Mr. F. B. Yates and Mrs. Yates, the Rev. Hassett (Vicar of Bishop Ryder's) and Mrs. Hassett, Mr. C. F. Johnston, Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Kippin, Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Collins, Messrs. C. Dean, D. Cooper and A. Laker (Croydon), Mr. A. Diserens (Reading), Mr. and Mrs. R. Richardson (Surfleet), Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Pervin, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Perrins (Coventry), Mr. J. W. Worth, Mr. and Mrs. D. Vincent (Macclesfield), ex-Supt. Williams (Manchester), Messrs. W. F. Judge and W. C. Porter (Oxford), Mr. G. Holfield (Appleton), Miss V. Hill (Oxford), Miss M. Cross (Radley), Mr. J. P. Fidler (Loughborough), Messrs. D. G. Clift and F. Skidmore (Bristol), Mr. J. W. Jones (Newport), Mr. J. H. Shepherd (Swindon), Miss M. Telford, Miss M. Lyon (Oxford University), Mr. J. F. Smallwood (London) and Mrs. Smallwood, Mr. E. W. Pye (Romford), Mr. and Mrs. L. Trevor (Nuneaton), Mr. W. Saunders (Coalbrookdale), Mr. W. Williams (Cheltenham), and Mr. A. H. Reed (Taunton).

Many 'resident' members of the St. Martin's Guild were present, among whom the chairman was particularly glad to welcome the two oldest members, Messrs. Tom Miller and James George.

Apologies were received from the Bishop of Birmingham, the Provost and Mrs. Richards, Mr. A. A. Hughes, Canon Roskell (St. Chad's), Mrs. Rogers, Mr. H. J. Poole, Mr. G. E. Large and Mr. J. A. Trollope. Greetings and best wishes were brought by Mr. Smallwood from the Ancient Society of College Youths.

THE TOASTS.

Mr. F. E. Haynes said he was glad that the St. Martin's Guild gave so prominent a place in the toast list to 'Church and State.' Most societies at their annual gatherings were in the habit of drinking to the 'Church' or to the 'Clergy,' but the St. Martin's Guild preferred to acknowledge their responsibility both as citizens of the State and as members of the Church. Although he had once heard of a prominent ringer, now deceased, whose one regret in connection with his hobby was that most bells hung in church towers, he was certain that the vast majority of ringers to-day found it a source of pride that their pastime was also a form of service to the Church. In fact, he sometimes thought that it was mainly due to this fact, at any rate in the centre of large towns, that ringers enjoyed the freedom to practise their art that they do; the general public might be tempted to raise more objections to the noise sometimes created were it not for the fact that 'it's something to do with the church'! Church and State should be mutually helpful: possibly the State could do more than it was doing to help the Church. Recent wars had shown that despite our love of liberty we were very ready to submit to a measure of control—even of compulsion—to ensure the survival of the State; might it not be possible, by compulsory study of the Bible and Prayer Book at school, for example, to increase the comparatively small number of people actively interested in the Church? He had great pleasure in coupling with the toast the name of Canon Guy Rogers, who had for so many years been a regular visitor to the Johnson Commemoration and had always shown a keen interest in the affairs of the Guild.

In his reply, the Rector said that the clergy needed help from the laity in these days more than ever before and appealed to ringers to do all they could to help the Church. The relationship between Church and State in this country was, on the whole, a very happy one. Frequently the Church had to act in the nature of an irritant upon the body of the State: it was prepared to encourage State activity in certain directions, while its leaders would not hesitate to speak out boldly against what they thought to be wrong. We had suffered a great loss in the death of Archbishop Temple, who had been ready at all times to state the Church's case on all matters affecting the welfare of the State as a whole, even in the face of powerful opposition and criticism. And was it not significant that in Greece the politicians had been obliged to turn to the head of the Church, Archbishop Damaskinos, to find a man acceptable to all parties who could be entrusted with the task of forming a provisional government? This was indeed something of which all churchmen might be proud, and the Rector was sure that the Church would play its due part in the reconstruction of Europe after the war. In conclusion, he referred to the cordial relations existing between himself and his ringers at St. Martin's, mentioning especially the services rendered for many years past by his old friend, Mr. Albert Walker.

The Chairman then spoke briefly to 'The Memory of Henry Johnson.' First of all, according to custom, he asked all those who had known Johnson personally to stand, a distinction claimed this year by four only, Messrs. G. Mitchison, C. Williams, T. Miller and J. George. Continuing, Mr. Reeves said that in the nature of things the time could not be very long delayed when there would be no one surviving who had actually known Johnson. Nevertheless, he regarded it as most important that Henry Johnson's name should always be associated with the function, even if his name meant little to some of the younger men, some of whom regarded the gathering merely as 'The Annual St. Martin's Dinner.' He would like them to remember Henry Johnson from all they had heard about him from the older generation of ringers who had known him and esteemed him as the great character he was. In any case there had been gatherings previous to the first 'Johnson Commemoration' of 1889, so that it was essential that the title be retained if only for the sake of historical accuracy, especially as old records were so liable to be called into question in these days. The toast was then honoured in silence and was followed by a well-struck course of Stedman Cinques on handbells by F. E. Haynes 1-2, F. W. Perrins 3-4, A. Walker 5-6, J. F. Smallwood 7-8, F. E. Pervin 9-10, G. E. Fearn 11-12.

'Continued Prosperity of the St. Martin's Guild' was proposed by the Master, Mr. A. Walker, who expressed his pleasure at the splendid gathering present, which was in itself an indication of the Guild's prosperity. Giving a summary of the activities of the past year, Mr. Walker mentioned that 23 peals had been rung (not all Stedman), with seven conductors; there had been regular practices at St. Martin's and St. Philip's, while Sunday ringing had been well maintained. There were several young people making rapid progress under Mr. Fearn's tuition, especially Messrs. R. J. B. Hadden and A. D. Cook, while several older men who had 'come back to the fold' after the raising of the ban were now rendering enthusiastic and valuable assistance. Mr. J. F. Harvey, too, who had recently come to Birmingham from Yorkshire, was a welcome addition to the strength of the Guild. Much of the success achieved was due to the untiring efforts of Mr. George Fearn, Ringing Master, who was prepared to give a tremendous amount of time to instruction and practice, and was always ready to encourage both beginners and visitors.

Mr. George Fearn thanked Mr. Walker for the kind references he had made to himself, and went on to give further details of progress made during the year. However much time he gave to ringing he would never begrudge if the members of the Guild continued to give him the support they were giving now. Among the churches they had visited was Bishop Ryder's, but recent ringing there had not been very successful owing to the poor state of the ropes; Mr. James George, however, who was for some years churchwarden at that church, had very kindly offered to provide a new set.

At this point some tune ringing on handbells was given by Messrs. W. Pocock, E. Mansell and R. Mansell, accompanied by Mr. Walker, and met with enthusiastic applause.

KINDRED SOCIETIES.

The toast of 'Kindred Societies' was then proposed in an entertaining manner by the Ven. H. McGowan, Archdeacon of Aston. He said that his speech had almost been written out for him by the secretary in the list of visitors which he had supplied. As he named the representatives of the various associations, the Archdeacon asked them in turn to rise and 'reveal their identity,' a proceeding which turned the first part of his speech into a pleasant little ceremony; in response to his bidding members of about twelve associations rose, to be greeted with applause. After the war there would be a large number of young men returning from the Forces who might feel somewhat 'at a loose end'; he would appeal to ringers to be on the look-out for such people when the time came and to be ready to recruit them into their societies and give them instruction in the art of change ringing, which could be so satisfying and valuable a hobby. Saying that by so doing ringers would be helping the Church, the Archdeacon then gave some interesting figures in connection with baptism and confirmation to show that the strength of the Church was not to be judged merely by the number of people attending service, as remarks made by a previous speaker might suggest. The thanks of St. Martin's Guild were due to all those who had come from a distance, particularly to those from country districts, because city dwellers were liable to suffer from a delusion that nothing of any importance ever happened 'more than 200 yards from the Council House.' By coming into the town those visitors were doing a service to all by extending the feeling of fellowship and helping them to realise that ringing was a national institution not confined to any one district.

Mr. C. F. Johnston first replied, but as he had to hurry away to catch a train, he confined his remarks to a brief expression of thanks, and then made way for Mr. C. H. Kippin. Mr. Kippin referred to a word that had been used by a previous speaker, 'compulsion': this, to him, suggested nationalisation and he was glad to have the opportunity of again advocating something which he supported strongly some years ago—the formation of a National Association. If such a body had been formed there would, of course, have been no toast of 'Kindred Associations,' because there would be no 'visitors'; all ringers would be equally at home anywhere! Nevertheless, he was very pleased to associate himself with the remarks made by Mr. Johnston and to join in expressing thanks for the excellent time they were enjoying.

(Continued on next page.)

OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.**ANNUAL LUNCHEON.**

The annual luncheon of the Oxford University Society was held on February 24th in St. Adate's Rectory Room. The president (the Rev. C. E. Wigg) occupied the chair and was supported by the vice-president (Mr. H. Miles), the Master (Mr. T. E. Spice), the secretary (Miss B. Spice), the treasurer (Miss B. W. Smith) and 25 resident members. Other members present were Miss G. Mossop, Dr. W. L. B. Leese, the Rev. F. L. Edwards, Mr. Inglis, Miss H. Raynor, the Rev. R. F. R. Routh and the Rev. A. C. F. Davies. The guests included Mr. Albert Walker, Mr. F. Haynes, Major J. H. R. Freeborn, Mr. W. Williams, Miss Marie Cross, Mr. W. Judge, Mr. V. Bennett, Mr. W. Porter, Mr. N. Alnutt and Mr. B. Badder. Four of the local clergy were present, the Vicars of St. Mary's, All Saints', St. Thomas' and St. Cross'.

A course of Bob Major was rung on handbells by Miss A. Sellors, Miss F. M. Martin, Miss J. H. Preston and Mr. J. V. Lonsborough; and a touch of Spliced Surprise Major in seven methods (London, Bristol, Cambridge, Super active, Rutland, Faling and Wembley) was rung by Miss M. L. Tutt, Miss B. Spice, Mr. J. E. Spice and Miss J. A. Southeast.

The President welcomed the visitors, and Mr. Albert Walker replied. He congratulated the Master on the excellent work he was doing and assured him that the activities of the society were being watched with interest in Birmingham.

The Rev. F. L. Edwards proposed the toast of 'The Society' and added his congratulations.

The Master gave a resumé of the year's activities, and referred to the death of the late Dean of New College, Mr. Boulton, who had been a very good friend to the society and would himself have been an active member had his health permitted.

Dr. W. L. B. Leese proposed the toast of 'The Clergy,' expressing the wish that the present co-operation between ringers and clergy would continue. Dr. Talland, replying, said he felt the art of ringing was of value not only for the purpose of worship, but also in recapturing the enchantments of the Middle Ages.

The toast of 'The Oxford Society' was proposed by Miss B. Spice. The thanks of the University Society were due to them for their co-operation and for the opportunities they provided for taking part in such twelve-bell ringing as there was at Christ Church. Mr. V. Bennett replied.

Dr. Sutton proposed 'The Ladies of the Society.' Before joining the society he had thought of belringing as being reminiscent of a machine for testing strength—if one punched hard enough, one rang the bell. He now knew that if one pulled hard enough, one broke the stay. Undoubtedly the society owed a great debt to its ladies, many of whom were most proficient, for without them the society could not have survived under war-time conditions. Miss Gwen Mossop replied.

Before the lunch a service was held in All Saints' Church, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. R. R. Martin, assisted by the Rev. C. E. Wigg. The sermon was preached by the Rev. T. R. Milford, Vicar of St. Mary-the-Virgin.

During the day there was ringing at Carfax, All Saints', Christ Church Cathedral and Magdalen College.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**MEETING AT SAXLINGHAM.**

The annual meeting of the South Norfolk Branch was held at Saxlingham on Saturday, March 3rd, when 29 ringers and friends attended from Acle, Diss, Loddon, Long Stratton, Mubarton, Norwich, Redenhall, Ranworth, Skelton, Saxlingham and Wymondham. A short service, conducted by the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow, was followed by an excellent tea kindly given by the Rector and Mrs. Deuchar.

Mr. W. L. Duffield presided at the business meeting which followed, and at the close expressed the sympathy of all to the Rector (the Rev. J. S. Deuchar), who had recently undergone a serious operation and was still in a nursing home. A variety of methods were rung, including Spliced Double Norwich and Bob Major. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Kenninghall on May 26th.

HENRY JOHNSON COMMEMORATION

(Continued from previous page.)

The final toast was that of 'The Chairman.' Councillor Paddon Smith recalled how many years ago Mr. Reeves and he used to cycle home from ringing together; little did he then imagine that one day he would have the pleasure of seeing Mr. Reeves in the chair at a Johnson Commemoration. Mr. Reeves had fulfilled his task in an admirable manner and merited the thanks and congratulations of all. After several interesting anecdotes suggested by previous speeches, and told in Mr. Smith's usual entertaining way, the toast was accorded musical honours.

Mr. Reeves expressed his appreciation of the honour that had been accorded him, mentioning that as long ago as 1885 his father, Mr. S. Reeves, had been chairman at one of the celebrations held on Johnson's birthday in connection with the long peal of 9,238 Stedman Cinques rung in 1881. He himself was now serving his 17th year as secretary and treasurer, but so long as he felt that he carried the confidence of the Guild he was content to carry on with his duties to the best of his ability.

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR ONE INSERTION of a notice of a meeting is 2s. Other insertions are at the rate of 1s. each. Altered notices count as new notices.

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The charge for notices other than of meetings is 2s. 6d. for each insertion.

NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN MONDAY.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual general committee meeting, Saturday, March 17th, at 3.15 p.m., at the Central Girls' Club, Chain Street, Reading, Berks.—Richard T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

LINCOLN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—Annual, Boston, Saturday, March 17th, 2 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea at nearby cafes.—W. E. Clarke, Hon. Sec., 99, Norfolk Street, Boston.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Annual, Saturday, March 17th, St. John's, Redhill, 3.15 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea and business, Parochial Hall.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSN.—Northern District.—Hitchin, Saturday, March 17th, 3 p.m.—H. E. Symonds, The Cottage, Windmill Hill, Hitchin.

YORKSHIRE ASSN.—Southern District.—Annual, Barnsley, March 17th, 2.30 p.m. Committee meeting in vestry 4.15 p.m. Tea at Hagenbach's Cafe 5 p.m. Important business, Royal Hotel, 6 p.m.—Sidney F. Palmer, Acting Hon. Dis. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSN.—Derby District.—Duffield (10), Saturday, March 17th, 2.30. Bring food; cups of tea, Bridge Inn, 5 p.m. Meeting belfry 6 p.m.—Wm. Lancaster, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSN.—Leicester District.—South Wigston (8), March 17th. Ringing 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea and meeting in schools.—H. W. Perkins, 53, Landseer Road, Leicester.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—West Dorset Branch.—Annual, Bridport, Saturday, March 17th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5.15.—C. H. Lathey, Sec., Malmaison, Bradpole, Bridport.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Annual, St. Thomas', Dudley, Saturday, March 24th, 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea and business 5. Names to Mr. N. Leech, 14, Forest Street, Dudley.—F. Colclough, Hon. Sec.

KENT ASSN.—Canterbury Dis.—Faversham, Saturday, March 24th, 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea, 1s. 6d. per head, to those who inform Mr. F. C. Farnsworth, 16, Kings Road, Faversham, not later than March 22nd.—B. J. Luck, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSN.—Hinckley (8), Saturday, March 24th, 3 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. B. Ridgway, 61, Priesthills Road, Hinckley, Leics. Names early, please.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS ASSN.—Axbridge Branch.—Rowberrow (6), Saturday, March 24th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea in the Manor 5 p.m., followed by business meeting. Shipham (6) available after meeting.—E. J. Avery, Hon. Local Sec., Sandford, Bristol.

LANCASHIRE ASSN.—Bolton Branch.—Meeting at St. Peter's, Halliwell, Saturday, March 24th, 2.30. Business meeting 6.30 p.m. Tea provided. Names to J. F. Wood, 51, Melrose Avenue, Bolton.—P. Crook, Hon. Sec.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Marlborough Branch.—Annual, St. Mary's, Marlborough (6), Saturday, March 24th, 2.30. Names to the Rev. F. C. Whitter, 30, The Green, Marlborough, by March 21st.—T. A. Palmer.

SUSSEX ASSN.—Northern Division.—Annual, Cuckfield (8), Saturday, March 24th, 3 o'clock. Service and tea follow. Names for tea not later than 20th inst.—O. Sippetts, 10, Three Bridges Road, Crawley.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Southampton District.—Practice North Stoneham, Saturday, March 24th, 2.30 to 6 p.m. No teas.—G. Pullinger.

PETERBOROUGH GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—St. Peter's, Northampton, on Saturday, March 24th. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea provided.—R. S. Cowley, 83, Beech Avenue, Northampton.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Bell Foundry, Whitechapel, March 24th, 3 p.m. Ringing St Botolph's, Bishopsgate.—A. B. Peck, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

LEEDS SOCIETY.—Bramley, March 24th, 3 p.m. Members bring own food; tea provided. Business meeting to follow tea at approximately 6 p.m.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Andover District.—Annual, Whitchurch, Saturday, March 24th, 2.30. Service 4 p.m. Tea, White Hart Hotel. Names by March 19th to F. S. H. Marle, Deane Rectory, Basingstoke.

OXFORD GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—Fulmer, Saturday, March 24th, 3 p.m. Names for tea by March 19th.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough, Bucks.

ELY ASSN.—Terrington St. John (6), Saturday, March 24th. Bring food.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John.

HERTFORD ASSN.—Hatfield (10), Saturday, March 24th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at Salisbury Guest House, 5.15 p.m. Names to R. Darvill, 23, Elm Drive, St. Albans.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—Walton-on-Thames (8), Saturday, March 31st, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. Names for tea to W. Simmonds, 33, Burwood Close, Hershaw, by Tuesday, 27th.—F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Sec.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSN.—Annual, Worcester, Easter Monday, April 2nd. General meeting 2.15 p.m. Committee meeting 11 a.m. Subscriptions and reports 11.30 to 12.30; all in College Hall. Evensong Cathedral 4.15. Tea (1s. 6d.) for those only who notify me before Tuesday, March 27th. Bells: Cathedral (12) 12 to 2 p.m., St. John's (8) morning, All Saints' (10) evening, St. Swithin's (6).—J. D. Johnson, Hon. Sec., Sedgewerrow, Evesham.

TRURO GUILD.—Easter Monday at the Cathedral, 12 noon. Service 4 p.m., followed by tea. Kenwyn (8) also available.—W. H. Souheard.

KENT ASSN.—Annual, Maidstone, Easter Monday. Committee 11.30. Service 3. Tea and business 4.30. Tea only for those who notify me by March 28th. Nominations for Central Council representatives. Usual arrangements at towers in the district.—F. M. Mitchell, 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

SURREY ASSN.—North-Western District.—Kingston, Easter Monday, April 2nd, 3 p.m. Service 6.30. Tea will be arranged if possible.—D. Cooper, Hon. Dis. Sec., 51, Waddon Road, Croydon.

LANCASHIRE ASSN.—Rochdale Branch.—Open ringing day at Saddleworth Church, Easter Monday. Names for tea to Mr. H. Nutt, Royal George, Greenfield, near Oldham, or secretary by Wednesday, March 28th.—I. Kay, Sec.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSN.—Annual, Norwich, Easter Monday, April 2nd. Bells available: Mancroft, 10-3.45 and 6-7; St. Miles', 10-1; St. Giles', 2-4; St. John de Sepulchre, 6-8. Service, Mancroft 3.45; preacher, Rev. G. W. Wilson, Rector of Lamas. Tea (1s. 6d.) and business meeting, Ber House, 4.30. Names by March 27th to Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow, 52, The Close, Norwich.

LLANDAFF & MONMOUTH ASSN.—Annual, Cardiff, Easter Monday, 2 p.m. Service in St. John's, 3.15. Tea and business 4 p.m. in St. James' Schoolroom.—J. W. Jones, Hon. Sec., 94, Altery View, Newport, Mon.

DEVON GUILD.—East Devon Branch.—Annual, Easter Monday, Ottery St. Mary (8). Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.30 at Church Institute. Names for tea by March 28th, to J. H. Godfrey, Hon. Sec., Southernhay, Ottery St. Mary.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSN.—Annual, Derby, Saturday, April 7th. Bells of Cathedral (10), St. Peter's (8) and St. Luke's (8) available during afternoon. Committee meet 3 p.m., general meeting 5.30, both in St. Peter's Hall. Tea at Babington Cafe at 4.30, only for those whose obtain tickets (2s. 6d. each) from Mr. W. Lancaster, 83, Albert Road, Chaddesden, Derby, by April 5th.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

HERTS COUNTY ASSN.—Annual, St. Albans, Saturday, April 7th. Service at Cathedral 4 p.m. Tea at Waterend Barn 5.30, price 2s. Names by April 4th. Notice of alteration of Rule 6: 'That the first meeting of the year in each district shall be an annual district meeting.'—G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec., Duffield, St. Albans.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—Sowton (8), April 7th. Service 4.30 p.m. Names to B. Pidgeon, Hon. Sec., East Budleigh.

DEATHS.

HARDY.—On Thursday, March 8th, 1945, at the age of 80, Arthur Hardy, 51, Kay Road, Stockwell, London, S.W.11.

THOMPSON.—On Feb. 27th, 1945, Jane, the beloved mother of Ida B. Thompson, Nottingham, passed to her rest.



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