

No. 829. Vol. XXII.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 11th, 1927.

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

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# GILLETT AND JOHNSTON

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## JOHN CARTER.

John Carter is dead, and a giant has gone from the Exercise, for, intellectually in regard to ringing, he was literally a giant. Although in the last two or three years impaired health had reduced him to but a wreck of his former self, for something like half a century he had devoted his genius to unravelling some of the mysteries of our art, and his achievements have given the Exercise material such as few men have presented to us. He would take what appeared to be an abstruse problem, wave a magician's wand over it, and, presto! the thing was done. It was, perhaps, not really as simple as that, but to the average mind that was what John Carter seemed to do. The real truth was that he had a gift for getting to the heart of a problem, of realising its possibilities, of analysing its factors and constructing a solution, if solution there were. But his great achievements were only reached by patient study and research, aided by a richly endowed mind. His compositions of Stedman Triples, and his planning of those thousands of peals of Stedman Caters, to mention only two things, show how much he was above the average composer in his methods of dealing with things of this kind.

But great as was his wizardry in the realm of figures, his genius for mechanics certainly excelled any other accomplishment he possessed. In his business as a gunsmith he was responsible for not a few inventions which made more efficient and more deadly the lethal weapons in which he was interested, but in the ringing Exercise he will always be remembered as the inventor of the ringing machine. This marvellous piece of mechanism ranks among the cleverest creations of its type. Its uncanny perfection in producing changes is as much a mystery to those ringers who have been privileged to see it in operation as the permutations on tower bells, rung by human hands, are to the uninstructed public. But this machine can reproduce upon the bells, or upon paper, any method, however intricate, not only in plain courses, but in full extent. Indeed, wonderful as it would be if its possibilities were confined to plain courses, the marvellous ingenuity of the thing is revealed in the fact that it can make a bob in any method, provided the operator presses a key at the right time—and the machine cannot make a mistake!

This is the thing which has been the child of Mr. Carter's brain, which, through a long period of years, he has gradually brought to perfection, and which reveals to us the greatness of his intellect. Those who come after him and study its intricacies may understand the working of the mechanism, but few will be able fully to appreciate the magnitude of the mind that devised and

(Continued on page 82.)

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planned its details. And yet John Carter was a humble man. He did not talk about what he could do. He just did it, and was content. He has gone from us now, but his works will remain. Without the ringing machine, his work as a composer would have ensured him an honoured place among the great men of the Exercise, but his name will endure throughout ringing history not only for his labours in the realm of composition, but for that other unique product of his fertile brain to which we have done but inadequate justice.

### TEN BELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(LATE THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, January 29, 1927, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CLEMENT DANES, STRAND.

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5008 CHANGES;**

Tenor 24 cwt.

JEFFERY R. GAMMON ... .. Treble	HARRY MANCE ... .. 6
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ... .. 2	GEORGE HAYDEN ... .. 7
GEORGE A. CARD ... .. 3	* WILLIAM ROGERS ... .. 8
JAMES BENNETT ... .. 4	EDWARD D. SMITH ... .. 9
WILLIAM W. THORNE ... .. 5	FREDERICK W. CHORLEY ... Tenor

Composed by G. NEWSON. Conducted by THOMAS H. TAFFENDER.

\* First peal on ten bells. Rung on the anniversary of the birth of F. W. Chorley, also as a similar compliment to an old and esteemed member, Mr. Joseph Waghorn, sen., on attaining his 84th birthday.

SURFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(ELLOE DEANERIES BRANCH.)

On Monday, January 31, 1927, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;**

Tenor 12 cwt. 9 lb. in F.

* ALBERT A. BUSLEY ... .. Treble	JOHN W. WOOD ... .. 6
THE REV. H. LAW JAMES ... .. 2	JOHN CURRY ... .. 7
GEORGE LADD ... .. 3	ARTHUR RIGGALL ... .. 8
† JOHN T. BROWN ... .. 4	RUPERT RICHARDSON ... .. 9
† JOHN G. AMES ... .. 5	† ERNEST A. HOODLESS ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by the Rev. H. LAW JAMES.

\* First peal. † First peal of Caters.

### EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BRIDGINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Tuesday, January 25, 1927, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. BARNABAS,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

GROVES' VARIATION. Tenor 15½ cwt.

CHARLES COTTRELL ... .. Treble	WILLIAM J. MEERS ... .. 5
JONATHAN PRESTON ... .. 2	WILLIAM DAVIES ... .. 6
WILLIAM C. RHODES ... .. 3	GEORGE F. SWANN ... .. 7
JOSEPH W. PEMBERTON ... .. 4	JOHN E. PYWELL ... .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. MEERS.

This peal was specially rung to commemorate the completion of the Rev. Canon Swindell's 40 years' true and devoted ministry of this parish.

CLITHEROE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 29, 1927, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

WILLIAM E. WILSON ... .. Treble	JAS. HARRISON ... .. 5
THOS. WILSON ... .. 2	ARTHUR TOMLINSON ... .. 6
MISS M. CLAYTON ... .. 3	JOHN BROWN ... .. 7
THOS. CALDERBANK ... .. 4	FRED HINDLE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by A. TOMLINSON.

## NORTHALLERTON.

## CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 29, 1927, in Three Hours and Two Minutes.

At the PARISH CHURCH,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

*HENRY METCALFE ... .. Treble	THOMAS METCALFE ... .. 5
*FRED MEER ... .. 2	JAMES W. NEESAM ... .. 6
LAWRENCE BROWN ... .. 3	†ROBERT A. DICK ... .. 7
GEORGE MELLING ... .. 4	HENRY STEVENSON ... .. Tenor

Composed by the Rev. C. P. DAVIS. Conducted by T. METCALFE.

\* First peal and first attempt. † First peal an inside bell. Ringers of 1, 3, 4 and tenor are from Northallerton, 2, 6 and 7 from Thirsk, and 5 from Middlesbrough.

## GT. STANMORE, MIDDLESEX.

On Saturday, January 29, 1927, in Three Hours,

At the CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 12 cwt. 10 lb.

EDWARD LEVERSOUE ... .. Treble	†GEORGE CHESHIRE ... .. 5
*ROY WILKINSON ... .. 2	FREDERICK EDWARDS ... .. 6
JOSEPH MILNER ... .. 3	CHARLES DYKE ... .. 7
JOHN H. EDWARDS ... .. 4	GEORGE A. HUGHES ... .. Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK EDWARDS.

\* First peal inside away from treble. † First peal. Rung on the occasion of the wedding of Marjory, the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Romer, of Stanmore, to Ronald, son of Dr. and Mrs. Matthews, of Crawley, Sussex.

## DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

## THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, January 31, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'. Tenor 19 cwt. 2 qr. 14 lb.

WILLIAM J. GROOM ... .. Treble	LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN ... .. 5
JAMES BETTS ... .. 2	THOMAS H. CHAPPELL ... .. 6
LESLIE G. BRETT ... .. 3	WILLIAM C. RUMSEY ... .. 7
ERNEST E. GRIMES ... .. 4	WILLIAM LAST ... .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM C. RUMSEY.

Rung with half-muffled clappers as a token of respect to Mr. Arthur H. Moore, of Crows Hall, Debenham, for many years people's warden at St. Mary's, the interment having taken place the same afternoon.

## LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 1, 1927, in Two Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,

At the BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'.

Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in B.

JOHN P. FIDLER ... .. Treble	JAMES GEORGE ... .. 5
*LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD ... .. 2	JAMES S. HUTCHLEY ... .. 6
HARRY MORGAN ... .. 3	WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... .. 7
E. HARRY STONELEY ... .. 4	RICHARD GRANT ... .. Tenor

Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

25th peal in the method. Specially arranged for Mr. James George, of Birmingham. A birthday compliment to W. Cope and C. H. Belton.

## BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

## THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, February 2, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

At the CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

## A PEAL OF SPLICED CANTERBURY PLEASURE AND BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

WILLIAM BENDARD ... .. Treble	HAROLD V. COOPER ... .. 5
CHARLES E. PERKINS ... .. 2	ROBERT MATTHEWS ... .. 6
WILLIAM POTTER ... .. 3	WILLIAM GIBBS ... .. 7
THOMAS HEMMING ... .. 4	CLIFFORD SKIDMORE ... .. Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER.

Conducted by R. MATTHEWS.

This is the first 'spliced' peal by all the band, also on the bells and by the association. Rung on the eve of the 21st birthday of T. Hemming.

## BARWELL, LEICESTERSHIRE.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 2, 1927, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

At the CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THORSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 17 cwt.

PERCIVAL A. ALDHAM ... Treble	RICHARD C. BELTON ... .. 5
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... 2	THOMAS K. DEACON ... .. 6
*GEORGE THOMPSON ... .. 3	E. HARRY STONELEY ... .. 7
JAMES GEORGE ... .. 4	FRED COTTON ... .. Tenor

Conducted by E. HARRY STONELEY.

\* First peal in the method. Rung on the feast of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

## CROYDON, SURREY.

## THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 2, 1927, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

At the CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 31 cwt. in E flat.

JAMES RUMBLE, SEN. ... Treble	FREDERICK E. COLLINS ... .. 5
THOMAS A. S. BLOXHAM ... 2	AMOS W. CLARK ... .. 6
*ALFRED W. VOYSEY ... .. 3	DANIEL COOPER ... .. 7
†JAMES RUMBLE, JUN. ... .. 4	HERBERT G. PRATT ... .. Tenor

Conducted by DANIEL COOPER.

\* First peal on an inside bell. † First peal. First peal in the method as conductor. Rung as a farewell to the Vicar, the Rev. Canon W. P. G. McCormick, who has been appointed to the living of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, London.

## MERTHYR TYDFIL, GLAM.

## LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 2, 1927, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

At the CHURCH OF ST. TYDFIL,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt. 15 lb. in F.

GEORGE POPNELL ... .. Treble	FRANK CHAVE ... .. 5
*GILBERT JONES ... .. 2	P.C. JOHN COLES ... .. 6
FREDERICK SHARPE ... .. 3	WILLIAM FISHER ... .. 7
*LAURENCE STIRKE ... .. 4	FRANK STIRKE ... .. Tenor

Composed by W. TAYLOR. Conducted by GEORGE POPNELL.

\* First peal. First peal of Triples as conductor. All except the 5th ringer and conductor are members of the local band.

## PUDSEY, YORKSHIRE.

## THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 3, 1927, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At the CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,

## A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

PRATT CORDINGLEY ... .. Treble	WILLIAM BARTON ... .. 5
SAMUEL WARD ... .. 2	GEORGE AMBLER ... .. 6
J. CECIL BOOTH ... .. 3	J. ERNEST PROCTER ... .. 7
ROWLAND MYERS ... .. 4	JOHN AMBLER ... .. Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN. Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON.

First peal and first attempt by ringers of the 4th and 6th, who were proposed members of the Association previous to starting. Rung with the bells deeply muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Vicar of the parish (Rev. C. Owen French, M.A.), who was interred on the above date. All are members of the local company.

## BEESTON, NOTTS.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION AND SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 5, 1927, in Three Hours,

At the CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

HENRY PRICE, JUN. ... Treble	FREDERICK W. BAILEY ... .. 5
ALBERT COPPOCK ... .. 2	FREDERICK A. SALTER ... .. 6
*SAMUEL PINDER ... .. 3	FREDERICK S. PRICE ... .. 7
ALFRED B. MOSS ... .. 4	PERCIVAL PRICE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT COPPOCK.

\* First peal and first attempt. Rung with half-muffled clappers as a mark of esteem and respect to the late Mr. Nicholson, Vicar's warden at this church, and a real friend to the ringers.

## FRODSHAM.

## THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

On Friday, February 4, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Lawrence,

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*OSWALD CLAYBROOK... ..Treble	HENRY C. COLLYER ... .. 5
*GEORGE COOKE ... .. 2	WILLIAM BIBBY ... .. 6
JOHN E. BIBBY ... .. 3	GEORGE H. RANGLES... .. 7
CYRIL VALENTINE ... .. 4	FRANCIS BIBBY ... ..Tenor

C.C.C. No. 48.

Conducted by J. E. BIBBY.

\* First peal.

## DORCHESTER, OXON.

## THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 5, 1927, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes.

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Brooks' Variation. Tenor 18 cwt.

*HARRY BENNETT ... ..Treble	HAROLD HUMFREY ... .. 5
MRS. ALBERT E. LOCK ... .. 2	ALBERT E. LOCK... .. 6
*FREDERICK MESSENGER ... .. 3	GORDON CAUDWELL ... .. 7
JACK HONEY ... .. 4	WILLIAM HUTTON ... ..Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT E. LOCK.

\* First in the method.

## WALDRON, SUSSEX.

## THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 5, 1927, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes.

At the Church of All Saints,

## A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HALEY'S.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

FRANK BENNETT ... ..Treble	HERBERT RANN ... .. 5
WILFRED BOOTH ... .. 2	KENNETH PATTENDEN ... .. 6
HAROLD S. HODDEN ... .. 3	CHARLES W. PLAYER ... .. 7
PHILIP S. THOMPSON... .. 4	FREDK. J. LAMBERT, JUN. ...Tenor

Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

## MILNROW, LANCASHIRE.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(ROCHDALE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 5, 1927, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes.

At the Church of St. James,

## A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

JOHN FITTON ... ..Treble	*SIDNEY WM. DONN ... .. 5
*HAROLD HAMAR... .. 2	GEORGE STAFF ... .. 6
WALTER STAFF ... .. 3	INO. H. C. MASSEY ... .. 7
*JAMES B. SHAW ... .. 4	HERBERT DEVONPORT ...Tenor

Composed by W. HARRISON.

Conducted by H. DEVONPORT.

\* First peal in the method. This was arranged as a local peal, and should have been the first in the above method by the local band, but illness interfered, and at the last moment H. Devonport, of Todmorden, kindly took the vacant rope.

## BELPER, DERBYSHIRE.

## THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 5, 1927, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes.

At the Church of St. Peter,

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5072 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

*HENRY CAVIGAN ... ..Treble	JOHN FLOWER ... .. 5
PERCY H. TATE... .. 2	JACK BAILEY ... .. 6
*MISS ELIZABETH FOULK ... .. 3	*GEORGE WARRINGTON ... .. 7
GEORGE FREEBREV ... .. 4	ALFRED MOULD ... ..Tenor

Composed and Conducted by GEO. FREEBREV.

\* First peal of Major. First peal of Major on the bells.

## OLD HILL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

## THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 5, 1927, in Three Hours,

At the Church of the Holy Trinity,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Groves' Variation of Parker's Twelve-Part.

*BERT MASON ... ..Treble	JOHN PRICE ... .. 5
†WALTER FENDALL ... .. 2	PERCY HACKETT ... .. 6
SAMUEL J. HUGHES ... .. 3	JOHN GOODMAN, JUN. ... .. 7
LOUIS S. GRIFFITHS ... .. 4	GILBERT GUEST ... ..Tenor

Conducted by JOHN GOODMAN, JUN.

\* First peal. † First peal with a bob bell. Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 6th. Quarterly peal for the Northern Branch.

## ITHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.

## THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 5, 1927, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes.

At the Church of St. Peter,

## A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 10½ cwt.

JAMES T. WARD... ..Treble	*JOHN KING ... .. 5
WALTER PERKINS ... .. 2	HARRY CHAMBERS ... .. 6
GEORGE BASFORD ... .. 3	ANDERSON Y. TYLER ... .. 7
*JOHN R. MAIN ... .. 4	JOHN J. MAWBY ... ..Tenor

Composed by N. J. PYSTOW. Conducted by ANDERSON Y. TYLER.

\* First peal in the method, and rung at the first attempt. Rung as a birthday peal to John J. Mawby.

## BLETCHINGLEY, SURREY.

## THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 5, 1927, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin,

## A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. in E.

*C. ERNEST SMITH ... ..Treble	ALFRED H. PULLING ... .. 5
GEORGE ELLIS ... .. 2	WILLIAM T. BRESON ... .. 6
*WILLIAM T. ROBINSON ... .. 3	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE ... .. 7
ALFRED J. BULL ... .. 4	OLIVER SIPPETTS... ..Tenor

Composed by E. BARNETT.

Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

\* First peal in the method.

## HARBORNE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

## THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 5, 1927, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes.

At the Church of St. Peter,

## A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

ALFRED HACKETT ... ..Treble	JOSEPH H. W. WHITE ... .. 5
THOMAS J. SALTER ... .. 2	JOSEPH FIGOTT ... .. 6
FRANK PERVIN ... .. 3	SAMUEL GROVE ... .. 7
JOHN BASS ... .. 4	ROBERT MATTHEWS ... ..Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS.

Conducted by R. MATTHEWS.

First peal in the method on the bells. It was also J. Bass' 300th peal for this association.

## WIDFORD, ESSEX.

## THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 5, 1927, in Three Hours

At the Parish Church,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Groves' Variation of Parker's Twelve-Part. Tenor 14 cwt.

*WILFRED AMOS ... ..Treble	T. LINCOLN ... .. 5
R. C. CLARK ... .. 2	A. HEAD ... .. 6
*H. DRONISH ... .. 3	GEORGE GREEN ... .. 7
J. WOOD ... .. 4	G. COOPER ... ..Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE GREEN.

\* First peal.

# G. & F. COPE & CO., NOTTINGHAM,

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OR REPAINTING OF DIALS.

GREAT BENTLEY, ESSEX.  
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 5, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,  
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;  
Tenor 8 cwt. in A.

GEORGE ANDREWS ... .. Treble	FRANK CLAYDON ... .. 5
LEWIS W. WIFFEN ... .. 2	WILLIAM KEEBLE ... .. 6
WALTER ARNOLD ... .. 3	JAMES FLEURY ... .. 7
WILLIAM J. NEVARD ... .. 4	DAVID ELLIOTT ... .. Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE.  
Rung as a birthday compliment to W. J. Nevard, and as a welcome to the Rev. G. Colley, Vicar, recently inducted to Gt. Bentley.

SHEFFIELD, YORKSHIRE.  
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.  
(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, February 5, 1927, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,  
At the R.C. Church of St. Marie,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;  
Tenor 25 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb.

*JOHN TOKE ... .. Treble	JOHN THORPE ... .. 5
HENRY BOWER ... .. 2	JAMES EVINSON ... .. 6
ARTHUR CRAVEN ... .. 3	*ROBERT HARRISON, JUN. ... 7
HAYDN THORPE ... .. 4	COLIN HARRISON ... .. Tenor

Composed by GEORGE LEWIS. Conducted by COLIN HARRISON.  
\* First peal of Plain Bob. A birthday compliment to the mother of the ringers of 7th and tenor.

KEIGHLEY, YORKSHIRE.  
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 5, 1927, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,  
At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;  
Tenor 16½ cwt.

THOMAS SENIOR ... .. Treble	ROBERT BOTTOMLEY ... .. 5
ROBERT W. JENNISON, SEN. ... 2	*ROBERT W. JENNISON, JUN. ... 6
ARTHUR BAIRSTOW ... .. 3	JOE GREENWOOD ... .. 7
VERNEY BAIRSTOW ... .. 4	WILLIAM AMBLER ... .. Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by WM. AMBLER.  
\* First peal. The ringer of the 2nd has now rung each bell in this tower to a peal.

WOKINGHAM, BERKS.  
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 5, 1927, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,  
At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 19½ cwt.	
J. RANCE ... .. Treble	*E. LANGLEY ... .. 5
F. LASH ... .. 2	R. T. HIBBERT ... .. 6
W. J. PAICE ... .. 3	W. J. BROOKS ... .. 7
MISS VERA ROBINSON ... .. 4	W. BOYLES ... .. Tenor

Conducted by W. J. BROOKS.

\* First peal. First peal as conductor.

RADCLIFFE, LANCASHIRE.  
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 5, 1927, in Three Hours,  
At the Parish Church.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FIVE-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.	
JOSEPH HALL ... .. Treble	GERALD W. SCHOFIELD ... 5
THOMAS K. DRIVER ... .. 2	PETER CROOK ... .. 6
WILLIAM H. SHUKER ... .. 3	WILLIAM HORAN ... .. 7
*VERNON SYKES ... .. 4	ABRAHAM BROMLEY ... .. Tenor

Conducted by PETER CROOK.

\* First peal.

MUFFLED BELLS.

At All Saints' Church, Hooke, Chester, on January 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes), with ten different callings, was rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mrs. Benyon, wife of the towerkeeper: E. Barlow 1, G. R. Jones (conductor) 2, W. Westman 3, H. Cousins 4, J. Benyon, jun., 5, A. Wilson 6.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, February 6, 1927, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,  
At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,

A PEAL OF BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
Tenor 13½ cwt.

*KENNETH SNELLING ... .. Treble	CECIL NICE ... .. 5
GEORGE ELLIS ... .. 2	NELSON ELLIOTT ... .. 6
BERNARD WELLS ... .. 3	OLIVER SIPPETTS ... .. 7
ALFRED J. BULL ... .. 4	JOHN S. MORLEY ... .. Tenor

Conducted by H. HUBBARD.

Conducted by O. SIPPETTS.

\* First peal.

SIX BELL PEALS.

THORNHAM MAGNA, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Tuesday, January 25, 1927, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,  
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

EDWARD YOUNGS ... .. Treble	ERNEST F. POPPY ... .. 4
ALFRED J. BERRY ... .. 2	DEREK LOCKWOOD ... .. 5
HARRY MOSS ... .. 3	GEORGE CATTERMOLLE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by G. CATTERMOLLE.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the Rt. Hon. Lord Henniker and E. Youngs.

DENBY, DERBYSHIRE.  
EAST DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 29, 1927, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,  
At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 20 lb. in G.

PERCY WESTON ... .. Treble	BENJAMIN WALVIN ... .. 4
THOMAS CRESSWELL ... .. 2	HERBERT G. FRETWELL ... 5
GEORGE WILSON ... .. 3	*FRANK F. HILL ... .. Tenor

\* First peal of Doubles. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the late Mr. Francis Weston, for 54 years years a ringer at this church, who was interred in the churchyard the same day.

WITBOURN, HEREFORDSHIRE.  
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

On Sunday, January 30, 1927, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,  
At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge, Surprise, Woodhine, Oxford, and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

THOMAS PRATT ... .. Treble	CHRIS BOWERS ... .. 4
SIDNEY HOLT ... .. 2	DAVID HORNE ... .. 5
WILLIAM RANFORD ... .. 3	GEORGE JORDAN ... .. Tenor

Conducted by D. HORNE.

MARKET DEBBING, LINCOLNSHIRE.  
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 5, 1927, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,  
At the Church of St. Guthlac,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's in twelve methods, viz., Fulbeck Bob, Cambridge and Primrose Surprise, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, St. Clement's, Double and Single Oxford, Double and Single Bob, Double and Single Court. Tenor 16 cwt.

COTTEBERT T. H. BRADLEY Treble	JOHN J. JUTSON ... .. 4
MISS KATHLEEN A. JUTSON ... 2	JOSEPH O. LANDAN ... .. 5
WILLIAM TILLEY ... .. 3	HORACE M. DAY ... .. Tenor

Conducted by H. M. DAY.

First peal in 12 methods by all, and first attempt by ringer of the 3rd inside for this peal.

NEW PEAL OF SIX IN BUCKS.

At St. Mary's Church, Woughton, Bucks, on January 19th, 720 of Cambridge Surprise Minor: G. Grove 1, F. Gilby 2, F. Rowe 3, D. Hurst 4, S. Smith (conductor) 5, A. B. Corden 6. All the above hail from St. Martin's, Fenny Stratford. First 720 of Cambridge on the bells, which have recently been augmented from four to six, the old bells having been recast and the peal hung in iron and steel frame by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

NORTH COLLINGHAM, NOTTS.  
THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 31, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

**A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being seven different extents.		Tenor 10 cwt.	
EDWARD D. PRIESTLEY	... Treble	MISS VIOLET BIRKETT	... 4
MRS. LAURA EAST	... 2	HAROLD PICKET	... 5
JOHN H. CLAYTON	... 3	RALPH THOMPSON	... Tenor

Conducted by RALPH THOMPSON.

This is the first peal on the bells, also first peal by all the band, who are all Sunday service ringers.

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

On Saturday, February 5, 1927, in Three Hours and Five Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being two 720's of Kent Treble Bob, and five of Plain Bob, each called differently.

WALTER STAPLES	... Treble	ARTHUR RIGGALL	... 4
JOHN T. BROWN	... 2	GEORGE W. SIMPSON	... 5
GEORGE W. MILLS	... 3	JOHN G. AMES	... Tenor

Conducted by J. G. AMES.

BRATHAY, LANCASHIRE.  
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(FURNESS AND LAKE DISTRICT BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 5, 1927, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes.

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

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

WILLIAM ROBINSON	... Treble	FURNESS WOODEND	... 4
EDWIN JENNINGS	... 2	HAROLD HARDY	... 5
WOODBURN NEVINSON	... 3	THOMAS B. NEWTON	... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM ROBINSON.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. F. Woodend.

**HANDBELL PEALS.**

LEEDS, YORKSHIRE.  
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 1, 1927, in One Hour and Fifty-Nine Minutes.

AT 396, MEANWOOD ROAD,

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**

JOHN AMBLER	... 1-2	WILLIAM BARTON	... 5-6
PERCY J. JOHNSON	... 3-4	H. STANLEY ROBINSON	... 7-8

Composed by GEORGE LEWIS. Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON.

Rung after meeting short for Grandshire Caters.

WOBURN, BEDS.  
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 3, 1927, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes.

AT 20, BEDFORD STREET,

**A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;**

*WILLIAM A. JAMES	... 1-2	ERNEST HERBERT	... 5-6
DOUGLAS HARRIS	... 3-4	CYRIL HERBERT	... 7-8
†EDMUND J. HOBBS	... 9-10		

Composed by E. FRANCIS. Conducted by E. J. HOBBS.

\* First peal of Bob Royal. † First peal of Royal in hand, and also as conductor. The conductor's 100th peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to Cyril Herbert.

LONDON.  
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Friday, February 4, 1927, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes.

AT 34, CASTLEDOWN ROAD, WEST KENSINGTON,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

*WILLIAM S. LANGDON	... 1-2	CHALLIS F. WINNEY	... 5-6
WILLIAM E. JUDD	... 3-4	*JOSEPH S. HAWKINS	... 7-8

Conducted by CHALLIS F. WINNEY.

Umpire: CHARLES W. ROBERTS.

\* First peal on handbells.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**

**GUILDFORD DISTRICT AND THE COMING DIVISION.**

Matters concerning the suggested splitting up of the Winchester Diocesan Guild, when the new diocese of Guildford is formed, occupied the attention of the Guildford District at the quarterly meeting held at Cranleigh on Saturday. There was an attendance of between forty and fifty members from a number of the towers in the district. After ringing touches in the ancient tower, the members attended service, the Guild's form being conducted by the Rector (the Rev. P. Cunningham), who is a life member of the Guild. The organist was kindly in attendance.

The Rector addressed the members, and spoke of the coming division of the diocese. He referred to what had been accomplished in the raising of funds and preparing for the creation of the two new bishoprics. The project, which had occupied their attention for 15 years, had now reached the point where the Ecclesiastical Commissioners had been asked to obtain from the Privy Council an Order in Council for the creation of the dioceses of Guildford and Portsmouth. In faith and prayer they had accomplished great things, but there were, of course, many difficult and perplexing matters to be dealt with. He had heard that the ringers in that area were proposing to take certain steps to create a new diocesan organisation. He did not know how far they had proceeded, but he did not doubt they would have their own difficulties and perplexities in this matter. He urged them to face them with faith and courage, and he was sure they would be surmounted. The Bishop of Winchester had expressed the hope that even after the division of the diocese the daughter dioceses would sometimes meet the mother diocese in the great Cathedral at Winchester in acts of praise and worship, and would feel that they were still one with her, like grown-up children returning to their old home. He (the Rector) hoped this spirit would also prevail among the ringers, and that, although they would probably be separating from the parent organisation, they would from time to time be able to return and join the Winchester Guild in united services in the old Cathedral.

At the business meeting after tea, at which the Rector presided, the committee appointed at the annual district meeting presented a report detailing the work which they had at present done, and recording with satisfaction that the Yorktown District (as reported in our last issue) had resolved to unite with them in the formation of the new association.

Two resolutions were passed, requesting the district representatives to bring before the Winchester Guild Committee motions to recommend the annual meeting to resolve that as from January 1st, 1928, the area of the present diocesan guild should be restricted to the parishes comprising the dioceses of Winchester and Portsmouth, and that a reciprocal arrangement be made between Winchester and Guildford areas enabling a resident member of one society to become a compounding member of the other upon payment of 1s.

It was also resolved to request the Winchester Guild to permit the form of service now in use to be adapted to the requirements of the new association.

The other business included a report by the Ringing Master (Mr. C. Hazelden), who stated that it was proposed to hold a series of combined ten-bell practices at Epsom, Leatherhead and Guildford.

Two new members were elected, and votes of thanks were accorded to the Rector for the use of the bells, conducting the service and presiding at the meeting, to the organist and to the ladies who superintended the serving of the tea.

In the evening, further ringing took place.

**YOUNG RINGERS' ACHIEVEMENTS.**

Last September, 'The Ringing World' recorded the dedication on August 28th of two new trebles added to the ancient four bells of the historic plague village of Eyam in the Peak of Derbyshire, where change ringing was up till then unknown. It is a very great pleasure to record that on February 1st, a very excellent 720 of Bob Minor was rung by the following local band: Uriah Dane 1, Colin Marples 2, Ivor Facer 3, Rev. W. P. Wright (conductor) 4, William Barber 5, Kenneth Facer 6.

This is the first 720 for all excepting the conductor, and the first on the bells by a local band. The ringers are to be highly commended for the progress they have made in the time, due, of course, to their keenness, perseverance, and determination to become qualified change ringers, and they thoroughly deserve the success they have gained.

**BEGINNERS' TOUCHES.**

On Tuesday, January 18th, at Holy Trinity Church, Barrow-on-Humber, Lincolnshire, one lady beginner rang her first touch of four six-scores, and another her first plain course. The 480 Bob Doubles was rung by: E. Fowler 1, J. Barriok 2, Miss Eva Tong 3, W. Crowder (conductor) 4, E. Dannatt 5, R. Pratt 6. Afterwards the plain course with Miss B. Tong 2.

At Stapleford, Cambs, on Wednesday, January 19th, 720 Bob Minor: E. H. Finch 1, Miss K. Willers 2, R. Jordan 3, A. E. Austin (conductor) 4, F. E. Haynes 5, R. Howard 6. First 720 of Minor by R. Jordan.

At the Parish Church, Cirencester, Glos, on Tuesday, January 11th, 629 Grandshire Caters: H. Cook 1, A. Parsons 2, F. W. Bond 3, F. J. Lewis (conductor) 5, F. Edwards 6, W. H. Hayward 7, H. R. Acock, Fairford (first attempt on ten bells) 8, H. C. Bond 9, J. Roberts 10.

**SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

A meeting of the Central Division was held at the six-bell tower of Keymer on Saturday, January 29th. Ringing commenced at 3.0; but, owing to unforeseen circumstances, the service arranged for 4 o'clock could not be held. At 4.30, all adjourned to the Greyhound Inn, where twenty-four sat down to an excellent tea.

The business meeting which followed was mostly of a routine nature, and was presided over by the Master (Mr. J. T. Rickman). The following new members were elected: The Rev. H. T. Mogridge (Rector), Messrs. E. E. Trusler and H. Steele (Aldrington), F. N. Smeaton and J. Langley (St. Nicholas', Brighton), F. C. J. Turner (St. Peter's, Brighton), E. Court and A. Trevatt (Henfield). The election of Mr. T. G. Bannister, South Norwood, and Mr. C. W. Roberts, London, as non-resident members, was confirmed.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Rector of Keymer (the Rev. H. B. W. Denison) for the use of the bells; also to the Vicar of Ditchling (the Rev. C. P. Williams), where the bells were kindly placed at the disposal of the meeting after tea.

Keymer belfry was again visited after the meeting for about an hour, when all proceeded to Ditchling. The ringing at Keymer, which ranged from rounds to Surprise, and at Ditchling, where both Triples and Major were rung, was very good.

Altogether about thirty members were present at the meeting, representing the following towers: Aldrington, St. Peter's and St. Nicholas', Brighton, Crawley, Ditchling, Henfield, Hurstpierpoint, Keymer, and Lindfield.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**

The annual meeting of the Stroud Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Association was held at Stroud on Saturday, January 22nd, and was attended by 22 members. The association form of service was conducted by the Rev. W. J. Clay, R.D., chairman of the branch. Tea was partaken of in the Corn Hall, the Rev. W. J. Clay presiding. The balance sheet and the report of the branch for the year were read by the secretary, and passed as highly satisfactory.—Three new members were elected.

The election of officers next took place, and the following were appointed: Rev. W. J. Clay, R.D., chairman; Mr. Albert Wright, secretary; Mr. H. Barrett, representative on the Management Committee.

The usual votes of thanks were passed to the officers for their services for the past year.

The tower was again visited, when touches of Grandsire Triples, Caters, Stedman Triples and Bob Royal were rung.

**A SOMERSET PEAL REHUNG.**

The church tower of St. Mary's, Ashill, Somerset, built in the year 1426, has just undergone a thorough restoration at the hands of Mr. R. C. Vile, of Puckington, under the direction of Mr. Caroc, architect, of Westminster. The work will be complete when the pointing of the southern side has been carried out. A new concrete floor has been made in the tower, on which the bell cage rests; the old floor of oak was thoroughly decayed, and had been in a dangerous condition for a long time.

The five bells were removed from the tower last March, and sent to Ipswich. The tenor and treble bells have been recast and the whole peal rehung on massive oak frames, with all modern fittings. The work has been carried out by Mr. Alfred Howell, church bell founder, of Ipswich.

Ringers from Puckington and Ilminster paid a visit to try the newly-hung bells recently, when several 120's of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles were rung. Everyone expressed their entire satisfaction with the 'go' of the bells, and it is hoped that ere long a young band of ringers will be formed to make good use of the newly-hung peal. It is about 20 years since these bells were rung. The tenor bell weighs about 12 cwt.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**

The quarterly service and meeting of the Banbury and District Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild was held on Saturday week. The Guild service was held at St. Mary's Church, at which the Rev. G. F. Cholmondeley, the Vicar, officiated, and an appropriate sermon was preached by the Rev. C. C. Brookes, of Duns Tew.

Mr. and Mrs. Cholmondeley afterwards entertained the ringers to tea, and Mr. Cholmondeley presided as chairman of the branch.

It was agreed to hold the next meeting at Somerton.—Five new members were elected, three from Heyford, and one each from Duns Tew and Adderbury.

The Chairman alluded in complimentary terms to the way the branch had grown in numbers, and expressed the wish and hope that it would continue to progress for the benefit of the church. Those social gatherings did a good work. Votes of thanks were accorded to the Vicar and Mrs. Cholmondeley for their kind hospitality, and the ladies who assisted at the tea, to Mr. W. H. Taylor, the organist, to the blower, and also to the Rev. C. C. Brookes for his interesting sermon. This comprehensive vote of thanks was expressed by Mr. Selwyn, vergor of St. Mary's, Banbury, and responded to by the Rev. C. F. Cholmondeley and the Rev. C. C. Brookes.

# John Taylor & Co.

## LOUGHBOROUGH.

\*\*\*\*\*

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## BELFERY GOSSIP.

It is a coincidence that Mr. John Carter should have died on the anniversary of the death of two other great composers, Huley and Cox. All three died on January 29th.

The dedication of the ring of ten bells at St. Giles', Camberwell, London, after the rehangings in new fittings by Messrs. Taylor and Co., will take place on Tuesday, March 8th. The service will be at eight p.m., and the Bishop of Southwark will perform the ceremony. Owing to the late hour, only a short touch will be rung by the local band. It is expected the tower will be available for a ringers' opening on Saturday, April 8th. Particulars will be announced later.

To-morrow is the anniversary of the 14,016 Kent Treble Bob (the record length in the method at the time), rung at Oldham on February 12th, 1821, where 9,399 Grandsire Major was rung on February 15th, 1825.

On February 14th, 1731, 7,018 Grandsire Cinques was rung at Cornhill, and on the same day in 1920 the record length for a 12-bell peal was made at Painswick, when 13,001 Grandsire Cinques was rung in 8 hrs. 45 mins. A commemorative peal will be attempted to-morrow.

A peal of 14,224 Bob Major was rung at Aston by the St. Martin's Youths on February 16th, 1789, and, in view of what has lately transpired regarding ringing at Gt. St. Mary's, Cambridge, it is interesting to recall that on February 18th, 1780, 6,000 Oxford Treble Bob Royal was rung there.

Two catastrophes are recalled this week. On February 11th, 1810, the spire of St. Nicholas' Church, Liverpool, fell with the loss of 22 lives, mostly children, who had assembled for a service. On February 17th, 1836, the peal of twelve bells at Christ Church, Spitalfields, was destroyed by fire.

Cannot the College Youths celebrate their record peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal, which was rung at Shoreditch exactly a hundred and fifty years ago next Friday?

Mr. Edgar Rivers expresses his regret to the Wrentham company that he should have claimed the peal of Cambridge Minor at Sproughton as the first in Norfolk or Suffolk. He had not a copy of the Norfolk Guild's report for that year, and overlooked the Wrentham band's peal.

## THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The annual meeting will be held in London on Whit Tuesday, June 7th next, of which particulars will appear later. Will secretaries of the affiliated Guilds and associations please note that their subscriptions became due on January 1st last; and please supply the names and addresses of all representatives.

Those who have already paid are: Peterborough (January 7th), Ely, Ladies, and Surrey.

E. A. YOUNG.

155, Rushey Green, S.E.6.

## THE JOHNSON COMMEMORATION DINNER.

### AN INFORMAL CONFERENCE.

Arrangements are now complete for the Johnson Commemoration Dinner at Birmingham on Saturday week, and a large company is already assured. Accommodation is not unlimited, and early application for tickets is therefore necessary.

An informal conference is to be held for half an hour after the close of ringing at St. Martin's Church at 5 p.m. The Rector has kindly placed the Baptistery at the disposal of the members for the purpose, and the subject, which Alderman Pritchett will open, is to be, 'How can we keep beginners interested in the art?' The choice, it will be seen, follows as a sequel to the subject which was discussed at Bristol.

Parties of ringers visiting Birmingham and reaching there earlier than the advertised times can have the use of the other peals of bells in the city, if they will communicate with Mr. Albert Walker, 81, Baker Street, Sparkhill, Birmingham, not later than Tuesday next.

Those who desire to find accommodation for the night can do so at the following central hotels: The Cobden, the Hen and Chickens, and the Market Hotel, Station Street.

## ST. GILES' SOCIETY, READING.

St. Giles' Society, Reading, held their annual meeting on January 15th, at the Rising Sun Inn, when members and friends numbering about 24 enjoyed an excellent supper and subsequent musical programme.

Among those present were the Rev. F. C. Bond, tower warden, Rev. E. B. M. Shepherd and Mr. Goodship. Mr. H. Egby occupied the chair.

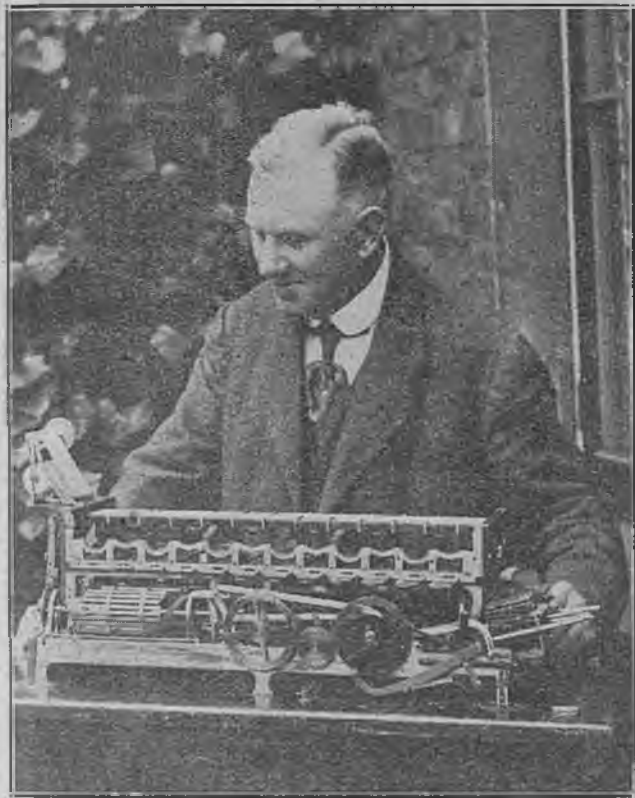
The business meeting included the adoption of a satisfactory balance sheet, the re-election of Mr. A. W. Osborne as foreman and temple-keeper for the 21st consecutive year, Mr. L. Osborne as sub-foreman, Mr. E. Humfrey hon. treasurer and secretary, and the Rev. F. C. Bond as tower warden.

Mr. Osborne made a very satisfactory report of the Sunday service ringing done for the past year, remarking that, although the membership had been below normal, they had been able to carry on with the assistance of visitors, but with the addition of three new members elected that evening the future of their ringing was satisfactorily secured for the ensuing year.

## THE DEATH OF MR. JOHN CARTER.

RINGER, COMPOSER AND INVENTOR.

The passing of John Carter, whose death we briefly announced last week, leaves a gap in the Exercise which, in some respects at any rate, can never be filled. For nearly fifty years his name has been one to conjure with among ringers, for his interest in our art has been of a diversified nature; his researches have carried forward our knowledge in numerous directions, and his work has had the stamp of genius. His intimate friend, Mr. E. Alex. Young (secretary of the Central Council), in the notes which we append hereto, has dealt with Mr. Carter's early days, and there is no need to repeat those details. Suffice it to say that the incident which brought Mr. Carter into the ringing world was one which, insignificant and commonplace as it was, was destined to bear much fruit in the advancement of our art, for it gave the Exercise one of those men destined by his work and the love of his hobby to leave our knowledge of some of its mysteries a considerable stage beyond the point that he found it.



THE LATE MR. J. CARTER WITH HIS RINGING MACHINE.

Mr. Carter died at his residence, 25, Lessing Street, Honor Oak Park, London, S.E., on January 29th. He had been confined to his bed for nearly a year, and had been almost a complete invalid for some time previously, following a paralytic stroke in November, 1923. His wife and niece, and his friend and neighbour Mr. E. Alexander Young, were with him early in the evening, and he expressed a wish that his last should be given to all his friends.

### SOME PERSONAL NOTES ON HIS LIFE.

Mr. Young, who, being a near neighbour of Mr. Carter, and in whose house the ringing machine was finally completed, in sending us the following notes, says they are culled from the many chats he had with Mr. Carter during the past three or four years, during which time they were much together. Where possible, the actual words as used are given, but it must be remembered that Mr. Carter's great gifts did not lie in the way of narration.

Mr. Carter was born at Darlaston, in Staffordshire, which, as he said, is in the midst of the Black Country. The date was April 30th, 1854. He was thus nearly 73 years of age when he died on January 29th last. His father was a gun-lock maker, and the family had lived at Darlaston for several generations. It was during his boyhood that the great advance in gun and pistol making took place (largely due to the Civil War in America), and the modern rifle came into being. The British Government took up the 'Sneider,' and then it was that many a Midlander came south, and with them Carter, senior, bringing his son, then a youth of 12, with him, and they both worked at the Small Arms Factory at Enfield Lock, near Waltham Abbey.

Young Carter had already worked for his father for three years. In those days, Mr. Carter has said, 'as soon as they could work,

the little children went to the factory, and boys from the early age of five years had to blow the bellows for 2s. per week.' It is not to be wondered at that belated factory legislation interfered with young Carter, and it was not long before a rule was issued that no one under 14 years should be allowed to work in the factory. 'So my father took me from the factory,' he said, 'and placed me in the Enfield Highway School, and when I was 'supposed' to be 14 they found me a job in the factory again, where I then worked for over four years.'

It appears the Government cooled off on the 'Sneider,' or made a general reduction. At any rate, father and son resumed work in their native Darlaston. It was, however, at this time that John Carter took up shooting, in which he afterwards became so well known. He says: 'I was not old enough to be enrolled with the Volunteers at Enfield, so they made me a bugler, and I used to fire with the old smooth bore gun, and I won a first prize with it.'

### HOW HIS RINGING CAREER BEGAN.

In the summer of 1873, he was at work at Darlaston, but residing with an uncle, a Mr. J. Brazier, whose sons, it so happened, had lately taken up ringing at the Parish Church. Again, to use his own words, 'one day, when going to practice, they asked me to accompany them, but it was, however, upon the following Sunday morning for eight o'clock service that I went, and that was the very first time I saw a bell.'

It appears he was particularly interested at once, and readily fell in with the offer on their part to teach him to become a ringer. 'So on the following Thursday,' he said, 'which was in the first week of July, 1873, I took my first lesson, and in two months I could ring Stedman Triples better than my cousins could. In fact, they were so disappointed at the way things turned out that they abandoned ringing for good!' So far, however, from his giving it up, he had by the Christmas rung a quarter-peal and a date touch, both of Stedman. After going to London and doing some general ringing, it was in June, 1874, that he scored his first peal at Willenhall—Grandsire Triples, conducted by W. Johnson. Two years later, he called 'Holt's Original' at All Saints', West Bromwich, it being the first time that it had been rung in the county. In May, 1878, he rang a peal of Cinques at St. Martin's, Birmingham, conducted by the famous Henry Johnson, and so his ringing career may be said to have well started.

### RINGING IN LONDON.

In 1874, Carter, sen., had already returned to Enfield, the Government having then determined to make the well-known 'Marthin,' and in early January the son followed him. The stay was only a short one—four months—but for him a busy one, for he was now a ringer. He attended the fortnightly practices at Waltham Abbey, and also visited Bethnal Green, at that time the seat of a famous band of ringers. Speaking of the former, he says: 'One night, after practice, I was invited to try the handbells for a course of Stedman Triples. I took 3-4, and it was my first attempt to do anything upon handbells, and they seemed much surprised at the end when I told them so. They then wished to see me repeat it, but at the second attempt I went all to pieces, being now too excited.'

It was by going to Bethnal Green one Sunday morning that he met, amongst others, Haley. He was asked to take a rope for Grandsire, and upon his saying he could only ring Stedman, Haley asked, 'What part of the country do you come from where they teach Stedman before Grandsire?' Carter replied Darlaston, and that though he hardly knew anything of Grandsire, the other he knew quite well. It was at this time, he says, he also met Cox, Powell and W. Alps (the latter is still alive).

In 1876, John Carter joined the Volunteers at West Bromwich. He says: 'By this time they had got the "Sneider," and I became well known in the shooting world. As a recruit I won first prize and also the third prize for the whole battalion. The Colonel said it was never intended, and the rules were altered to prevent recruits doing so again.' In 1879, Mr. Carter went to Wimbledon, and so on every year and afterwards to Bisley, until 1909. In 1888, he was a prize-man, being in the Queen's 300. It was when he was in London in 1878 that he joined the College Youths. 'When I came up,' he told me, 'I called upon Tom Reeves for a chat. He happened to be Master that year, and he asked me to ring with him at Southwark Cathedral and to meet them. I said I should be proud to join them, and I remember meeting Musket, Haley, Pettit, Dwight, Cox, Murray Hayes and Ted Horrex.'

### THE RINGING MACHINE.

'It was some time in 1890 I got a hand together to go for a peal at Perry Barr, about three miles from Birmingham. I was at this time doing a considerable amount of peal ringing, for which I used to organise the bands in and around Birmingham, and even travelling as far as Manchester. On one occasion I had arranged this peal at Perry Barr, and whilst riding the three-mile tram car ride from Birmingham to Perry Barr I began thinking over in my mind a machine which would ring changes (the idea had struck me in the morning whilst at work). I concentrated my mind on it the whole journey to such an extent that when I met the band in the tower I could not call the peal. In fact, I could hardly ring, and the band were so astonished that someone said, "What is the matter, John?" and when I told them that my mind was occupied with the idea of a ringing machine, so I could think of nothing else, they were all very much surprised, but they let me off, with the remark that "it certainly was a very good excuse."'

## NOTEWORTHY PEALS.

It is noteworthy that Mr. Carter conducted the first peals on handbells ever rung in Birmingham of Grandsire Major, Caters, Royal and Cinques, and also of Bob Major. On October 16th, 1883, he composed and conducted what was at that time the record peal on handbells, 10,176 Grandsire Major, rung in 4 hrs. 55 mins., and, later, a record peal of 6,137 Grandsire Caters on handbells. Not until December 5th, 1885, did he call a peal of Stedman Triples, which he succeeded in doing at Perry Barr. Then, after a lapse of thirteen years from the commencement of his ringing career, he conducted the first peal of Stedman Triples ever rung upon the bells at his native place, Darlaston. On November 20th, 1886, he rang the 2nd at St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, in the first 'silent' peal ever rung upon tower bells, while he also took part in the 'all conductors' peal at the same place on its anniversary. He could boast of being the first Birmingham man to ring a peal in a Surprise method, accomplishing this feat at St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, in Superlative, Cambridge and London. His first peal of Maximus was one of Kent Treble Bob, which he conducted at Sheffield Parish Church (now the Cathedral) on November 16th, 1889.

On May 10th, 1893, he had the honour of being selected as one of the national representatives at the opening of the Imperial Institute and bells by Queen Victoria. Elected on the Central Council at its commencement as the representative of the Birmingham Amalgamated Society, he was for many years up to the time of his death an honorary member of the Council, to which he had rendered great service on some of its committees.

In addition to the 10,176 Grandsire Major and 6,137 Grandsire Caters rung on handbells, Mr. Carter rang in 10,272 Grandsire Major at Rowley Regis, which he composed and conducted, and which contained the 120 course ends with tenors together; 7,001 Grandsire Caters at All Saints', Worcester, in 1890; 8,009 Grandsire Caters at St. Peter's, Wolverhampton, in 1893, believed to be the longest muffled peal ever rung. There were the settings of tragedy about this peal. On March 25th, a peal of 5,165 Grandsire Caters was rung at the same church—an excerpt from a 17,045 composed by Mr. Carter, which it was proposed to ring on Easter Monday, April 3rd. The tenor man, Mr. H. Roden, died after only a short illness on Good Friday, and the muffled peal was rung instead.

## COMPOSITIONS BY THE THOUSAND.

As a composer, Mr. Carter had few equals. He was the author of a number of methods, among them Darlaston Bob, Forward, Aston, Handsworth and Carter's Principle, while in the realm of peal composition he was a Master. His knowledge of Stedman Triples and his patience in obtaining original peals has never been excelled, and his Old-Bob One Part will stand as long as the Exercise lasts as a monument to his genius. He was the first to get a peal on these lines, and the only composer who has ever obtained a peal in the method containing both odd and even bobs. His ambition was always to obtain peals of sterling quality, and many of his compositions are in the pocket-books of our foremost conductors. In Stedman, Grandsire and numerous other methods he found scope for originality, and he astonished the ringing world when he published his broad sheet of Stedman Caters, which was, as far as we know, the first attempt at composition on mass production principles. Most people are content if, by long application, they can get just one or two true peals. Mr. Carter has over 7,000 peals of Stedman Caters on simple plans in his broad sheet, and it is said that he has composed 500 peals in his dinner hour! That may be a little exaggeration in actual fact, although we believe it is true to this extent that in one of his dinner hours he found the plan by which 500 peals were afterwards produced.

## THE WONDERS OF THE RINGING MACHINE.

But with all his ability as a composer and his energy and enthusiasm in bygone days as a ringer, John Carter will in the future be best known for his 'ringing machine.' Brought up and trained to be 'mechanically minded,' Mr. Carter made many excursions into the world of invention, and while he was associated with the firm of Webley, the famous gun makers, numerous inventions and improvements in firearms were the outcome of his fertile brain. It is not, therefore, altogether surprising that he should have turned his attention to a machine that would ring changes. The thought occurred to him one morning while at work, he concentrated on it during the afternoon, and was so absorbed in it while ringing in a peal that, as recorded in Mr. Young's notes, he astonished all his friends by his apparent incapacity to ring. The result was the peal was an utter failure, but the germ of the ringing machine had implanted itself in his brain. For thirty years afterwards he was thinking and plotting and scheming to bring this machine to perfection, and there rests now in the Science Museum at South Kensington the completed product of a master mind. To say that it is a truly wonderful machine is but stating a bare fact. There is nothing in the way of change ringing on any number of bells up to 12 that it will not do. It will ring a single bell, produce the two changes on two bells, the six changes on three bells, and so on up to the extent on twelve bells. It can be set to ring any method, either already in existence or which may be created in the future on any number of bells, or it can be made to work the changes without the bells ringing, the same as practising with the clappers tied. It can be made to print the figures of a method, or the course ends only, as they are being rung. It will make the diagrams showing the working of the method on which it is engaged;

it will show how many changes have been rung, and will make any kind of call, such as bob or single, always provided they are called (by pressing a button) at the proper time. This machine was to Mr. Carter a labour of love. It is impossible to say how many hours or how much money he devoted to its construction and perfection. He rebuilt it times out of number, always improving and correcting any little defects which revealed themselves to him. In fact, it seemed at one time as if he were loth to complete it—this child of his genius. But he did eventually do so, although none too soon, for he was stricken down not long after he had finished it to his own satisfaction. It now rests in the South Kensington Museum; its construction has been carefully recorded by diagrams and explanations, thanks to the interest which has been taken by Mr. E. A. Young, and a knowledge of its working has been imparted to Mr. C. W. Roberts, so that its intricacies may not be lost to future generations of ringers.

## PEALS.

In all, Mr. Carter had rung 315 peals, and there are no more beautifully kept peal books than the two volumes containing his records. An index to each gives the number of the peal, the place where it was rung, the number of changes, the method and the conductor. Volume I. also contains in alphabetical list of all the ringers with whom he had rung peals and the consecutive number of the peals, and a similar alphabetical list giving the towers, with an index figure showing the method. The peals themselves are beautifully written in colours, many of the important ones illuminated, and, more valuable still, with every peal is the composition or a reference to show where the figures can be found. A fourth table is an analysis of the peals rung in the different years. The illuminated title page of the first volume, which contains 231 peals, is inscribed: 'A list of peals successfully rung by Mr. John Carter, of Birmingham, from 1874 to 1907, with full details written by his sincere friend George Chester.' They are the most carefully kept individual records that we have seen. The following is the list of his peals, the last being one of Stedman Triples which he himself conducted at Deptford in 1923.

	Rung.	Conducted.
Grandsire Triples ... ..	46	28
Grandsire Major ... ..	13	13
Grandsire Caters ... ..	50	40
Grandsire Royal ... ..	2	2
Grandsire Cinques ... ..	2	2
Grandsire Maximus ... ..	1	1
New Grandsire Triples ... ..	5	1
New Grandsire Caters ... ..	1	
Bob Triples ... ..	3	3
Bob Major ... ..	19	17
Bob Caters ... ..	1	1
Bob Royal ... ..	4	4
Kent Treble Bob Major ... ..	8	5
Kent Treble Bob Royal ... ..	5	3
Kent Treble Bob Maximus ... ..	2	1
Stedman Triples ... ..	55	34
Stedman Caters ... ..	28	13
Stedman Cinques ... ..	21	3
Union Triples ... ..	3	2
Oxford Bob Triples ... ..	1	1
Darlaston Bob Triples ... ..	14	14
Darlaston Bob Caters ... ..	1	1
College Single Triples ... ..	1	1
Forward Major ... ..	5	5
Forward Royal ... ..	3	2
Forward Maximus ... ..	1	1
Duffield Royal ... ..	1	
Erim Cinques ... ..	1	
Double Oxford Major ... ..	2	1
Canterbury Pleasure Major ... ..	2	2
Double Norwich Major ... ..	2	2
Aston Major ... ..	1	1
Aston Royal ... ..	1	1
Handsworth Major ... ..	1	1
Handsworth Royal ... ..	1	1
Superlative Surprise Major ... ..	3	
Cambridge Surprise Major ... ..	4	
London Surprise Major ... ..	1	
Totals ... ..	315	207

His funeral took place on Wednesday week at Lewisham Cemetery, Ladywell. Mr. Alfred and Mr. John Carter, the deceased's two sons, represented the family. There were a number present from those who attend the Lee Chapel, at which the son, Mr. John Carter, officiates as pastor, and also Mr. Carter's nurse and Mrs. E. A. Young.

The Ringing Exercise was represented by Mr. T. Groombridge, Master of the College Youths, Mr. E. Alexander Young, hon. secretary of the Central Council, Mr. Albert Walker, representing the Birmingham ringers, with whom the deceased had rung for many years, and also Messrs. W. T. Cockerill, W. J. Jeffries, A. A. Hughes, H. Langdon, J. Milner, H. R. Passmore, T. H. Taffender, and C. F. Winney. Amongst the wreaths was one brought by Mr. Walker from St. Martin's, Birmingham.

The service in the chapel was conducted by the Rev. E. Rose, who gave an appropriate address, which was followed by the singing of the hymn, 'Crown Him with many crowns.' After the interment, \*

Plain Course of Stedman Cinques was rung by the following at the graveside: T. H. Taffender 1-2, C. F. Winney 3-4, A. Walker 5-6, H. R. Passmore, 7-8, H. Langdon 9-10, W. T. Cockrill 11-12. At the grave, Mr. John Carter thanked all the ringers who had come to do honour to his father's memory. He then led the singing of a verse from 'Gospel Bells,' which was taken up and joined in by all those present. And so, in the gathering twilight, in the now otherwise empty cemetery, was said the final farewell to John Carter.

A muffled peal of Stedman Cinques was rung at Wolverhampton on Saturday.

## MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

### SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT LOUGHBOROUGH.

Loughborough, the place made famous by bells, was the scene of yet another successful gathering of ringers from far and near on the occasion of the third quarterly meeting of the Midland Counties Association on Saturday, January 22nd. Although the weather was wintery and uninviting, visitors turned up early, some with a view to a pull on the grand peal of ten at All Saints' Church (where the long peal of 18,027 Stedman Caters was rung on Easter Monday, 1909), or on the little peal of ten in the Bell Foundry Campanile. At the latter place, some weird exhibitions were witnessed on the light end, more like a gymnastic display than a campanistic one, as these 'little' uns want some handling. However, touches in several of the standard methods were more or less successfully rung. By an act of courtesy the Bell Foundry itself was thrown open to visitors by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., and all who went round the works were amply repaid by the interesting collection of bells in all stages of manufacture from and for all parts of the world.

The committee met in the Pearson Hall, and owing to the unfortunate absence of the president (Ald. R. B. Chambers, B.A., J.P.) through indisposition and the severe weather, Mr. Pryce Taylor was voted to the chair. The usual routine business was attended to, and the hon. treasurer gave a summary of the balance sheet, which was very satisfactory.

It was decided to print the 1926 report as usual, and charge 6d. per copy as formerly.

The Hon. Secretary asked if it was the wish of the committee to insert an advertisement for 'The Ringing World' in the report, and this was agreed to.

A request for a grant from the bell repair fund was received from Ockbrook, near Derby, where a peal of six is being erected in place of the old three bells. This was agreed to.

Tea was served in the same hall, and about 80 members sat down to an excellent repast, after which followed the general meeting.

The Rector of Loughborough (Rev. Canon Briggs, M.A.), was voted to the chair in the absence of the president, and there were present Mr. P. Taylor, the hon. treasurer (Mr. W. Willson), hon. secretary (Mr. E. Morris), Rev. Peter Wright (Eyam), Rev. I. B. Ll. Gibbs (Ockbrook), and members from Burton, Chesterfield, Cotgrave, Derby, Duffield, Ilkeston, Leicester, Loughborough, Melton Mowbray, Nottingham, Wigston, and other places too numerous to mention.

The Chairman, in welcoming the members to Loughborough, spoke with pleasure at his recollections of other meetings there, and hoped this would not be the last. He mentioned Messrs. Taylor's Bell Foundry, and how they had given Loughborough the name for bells it now possessed, and the proud feeling they had in the possession of one of the finest peals of ten bells at their Parish Church, and the crowning glory of the war memorial carillon, which none could equal in this country.

Thirty-nine new members elected since the last meeting were confirmed, viz., 14 honorary and 25 ordinary. Among the former, the president had enrolled the Mayors of Burton, Derby, Loughborough, Leicester and Nottingham.

Two auditors were elected to check the hon. treasurer's account, and the grant suggested to Ockbrook duly ratified.

Mr. P. Taylor gave an outline of the committee meeting, and announced that Mr. Jordon, Loughborough's official carillonneur, was present and would be pleased to show any members up the war memorial tower, and allow them to inspect the bells, clavier, mechanism, and also the war relics now deposited there. Needless to say, almost all present availed themselves of this unique opportunity, which was greatly appreciated. Mr. Jordon explained 'how it was done,' and afterwards played various selections for an hour. Ringing at the Parish Church till a late hour completed a most successful meeting.

### COMPLIMENT TO A BISHOP.

At Birch-in-Rusholme on January 29th, at St. James' Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins.: G. Whiteless 1, R. Davies 2, W. H. Shaker 3, W. J. Wheaden 4, H. G. Frampton 5, F. Stoneley 6, A. Frost (first quarter as conductor) 7, T. Timperley (first quarter) 8.

This was rung after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal in the same method to mark the elevation of Canon Parsons, D.D., of St. James' parish, to be Suffragan Bishop of Middleton; also as a farewell to the ringer of the 5th, who is leaving the district. The thanks of the band are due to the ringer of the tenor who, although a young learner, stood in at a moment's notice to complete the party, and handled his bell extremely well throughout the ringing.

## THE CROFTS COMMEMORATION DINNER. SHERWOOD YOUTHS HAVE ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL GATHERING.

The fifth William Doubleday Crofts Commemoration dinner proved no less attractive than its predecessors, albeit, the fashionable complaint, influenza, robbed it of a percentage of would-be attenders and artistes. The first item of importance was in the tower of St. Mary's, where the Vicar (the Rev. Geoffrey Gordon) dedicated, after the unveiling by Mrs. Gordon, a peal board recording the first peal of Spliced Grandsire and Stedman Caters, which was rung on the bells on October 31st, 1925. The tablet is the work of the conductor, Mr. Ernest Morris, and is an addition of considerable importance and beauty to the ringing room.

The dinner was held at the Welbeck Hotel, with the Master (Mr. A. Coppock) in the chair. Supporting him were the Sheriff of Nottingham (Councillor J. Hopkin), the Vicar of St. Mary's (the Rev. G. Gordon), and Mrs. Gordon, Messrs. Cyril Johnston (Craydon), Pryce Taylor and J. P. Fidler (Loughborough), J. F. Smallwood (Derby), W. P. Whitehead (Leicester), G. F. Cope (Nottingham), F. Blood (hon. secretary), F. Salter (treasurer), and F. Bailey (steward).

Letters of apology for absence were read from the Lord Bishop of Southwell, the Mayor of Nottingham, Canon Boden, Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, and Mr. Geo. Walker.

Nearly 70 persons sat down to an excellent dinner, and the entertainment afterwards was equally enjoyable. A fine course of Caters on handbells following the loyal toast made a good send-off, and Mr. Fidler, in proposing the toast of 'The Church,' referred humorously to an incumbent who, being at variance with his choir and ringers, included in the next Litany, 'From ringers and singers, good Lord deliver us.'—The Rev. G. Gordon, replying, made use of an amusing Army anecdote, and contended that where an incumbent and his choir or ringers could not agree, there was possibly some fault on both sides, and strikes should not be entered into until each contending opinion had received due consideration.

The Chairman, in proposing the health of 'The Sheriff,' said that the Sherwood Youths, with the tradition of Robin Hood behind them, look upon the Sheriff as their lawful prey, but that instead of laying in wait to rob or harm him, they now asked him to honour them by appearing at their festive board. For many times, he added, he and the Sheriff had occupied the same platform, with the difference that the Sheriff had been chairman and he a 'common or garden' vocalist.

—The Sheriff's reply was an uncommonly interesting one, dealing with the varied improvements, pending or accomplished, in the City. Regarding the bells for the new City Hall, he could give no definite information, but later it was elicited that the new clock would chime on bells totalling 16 tons in weight.

The silent toast followed a little later, when a brief sketch of the careers of C. W. P. Clifton, for a time a resident of Nottingham, William Wadsley (Bulwell), and William Clifford (Beeston) was given by the Master, the whole company drinking to their memory standing in silence.

Responding to Mr. F. S. Price's proposition of the health of 'The Visitors,' Mr. Cyril Johnston replied in his customary suave manner, slyly digging at the chairman for calling on him without any notice whatsoever. The Chairman herewith apologises, and is wearing sackcloth and ashes in consequence, but ventures to suggest that Mr. Johnston, and also any other gentleman who spoke, enjoyed his or their dinner all the more for having no mental worries during the meal.

The musical programme was of high character, including Madame C. Harris, a really delightful and cultured soprano, Miss Amy Blagdon, daughter of the steeplekeeper at Lenton, an exceedingly promising contralto, Mr. J. F. Adkin, basso, Mr. A. Coppock, baritone, with Miss N. Price and F. Blood as accompanists, the latter playing two delightful pianoforte solos. He also played a Charleston later, but we are forbidden to say anything further on this incident, the official programme having terminated. The proceedings herabouts developed into an informal conference on matters of scarcely sufficient importance to relate to the Exercise generally, but were none the less interesting and enjoyable.

The menu included 'Superlative' soup, fried fillets of whiting and 'Stedman' sauce, Roast Beef and 'Troblo Bob' pudding, Roast Lamb and 'S.H.L.Q.' sauce, 'Spliced' vegetables, apple tart and custard, jellies in the 'Tittums' position.

### RINGER-CHURCHWARDEN.

At the annual parochial church meeting of St. Thomas' (City), Bristol, held on Thursday, February 3rd, Mr. F. G. Leaker, captain of the bellringers (as stated on the cover of the parish magazine), was elected churchwarden of that ancient church.

Mr. Leaker has been a ringer at St. Thomas' for the past 27 years, being one of a band formed there by Mr. W. A. Cave in February, 1900, at the request of the then churchwarden, Mr. W. T. Parker, upon whose proposition Mr. Leaker was elected to this high office. At the same meeting, Mr. Cave was re-elected as sidesman, upon the role of which are two other ringers, viz., Mr. H. Green and Mr. C. H. Jennings.

### LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. SLEAFORD DISTRICT PROGRESS.

The annual meeting of the Sleaford District of the Northern Branch of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild was held at Sleaford on Saturday, January 29th. Ringing commenced early in the afternoon, and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, and Double Norwich Court Bob Major were brought round.

A short service was held in the Parish Church, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. W. Norton-Howe, who gave an interesting address on the history and use of bells. Tea was then served in the Church Room, at which 38 ringers were present.

During the business meeting which followed, the Master, the Rev. H. Law James, congratulated the district on its successful meeting and on the ringing progress at Sleaford, and urged the paramount necessity of good striking.

The following officers were unanimously re-elected: Mr. H. E. Snow (president), Mr. Reginald Scott (secretary), Flight-Sergt. F. A. Holden (Ringing Master), Mr. W. H. Wood (district representative). The ringers, who came from Lincoln, Bransdon, Heckington, Great Hale, Ruskington, Ewerby, Folkingham, Grantham and Hough-on-the-Hill, then enjoyed the use of the tower bells until 3.30 p.m.

#### EASTERN BRANCH.

The annual meeting was held at Sibsey on Saturday, January 29th, when members were present from Boston, Butterwick, Frampton, Leake, Poterborough, Stickney, Surfleet, together with friends from the Elloe Deaneries Branch.

A service was conducted by the president (Rev. J. R. Trotter), and afterwards tea was partaken of at the White Hart, about 25 members and friends sitting down.

The business meeting followed, when the officers for the ensuing year were elected. The president, the Rev. J. R. Trotter (Vicar of Freiston with Butterwick) was unanimously re-elected. The vice-presidents were re-elected en bloc. Mr. J. Phillips, of Butterwick, was unanimously re-elected to the offices of hon. sec. and treasurer, and Messrs. W. E. Clarke and Alex. Sharp were also unanimously re-elected to the offices of branch Ringing Master and Guild representative respectively.

Frampton was selected as the place for the next quarterly meeting. Votes of thanks were heartily accorded the Vicar of Sibsey for the use of the bells and to the president for his instructive address and for the great interest he takes in matters concerning the welfare of ringers in the branch generally.

After the tea, the tower was again visited, the bells being kept going until close upon 9 p.m. During the afternoon and evening, touches in the following methods were successfully brought round: Double Norwich, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Major, Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Double Court, Single Court, Double Oxford and Plain Bob Minor.

### KENT COUNTY SIBSEY ASSOCIATION. ROCHESTER DISTRICT MEETING.

A quarterly meeting of the Rochester District was held at Sittingbourne on Saturday, January 29th, and nearly 60 members attended. The methods rung ranged from Grandsire Triples to Superlative Surprise, and the association service was conducted by the Vicar, Mr. E. A. G. Allen, one of the district ringers, presiding at the organ. Tea followed at Cremer's Restaurant, to which 50 sat down. At the business meeting, Mr. W. Spice, of Tunstall, was voted to the chair, and at the outset read a letter from the district secretary, Mr. F. M. Mitchell, apologising for his absence owing to illness.

The Chairman referred to the sad loss the association, and their district especially, had sustained by the death of Mr. W. H. Harper, of Swancombe, who had been a member over 40 years, and the whole company stood in silence for a minute as a tribute to his memory. The action of the hon. secretary in sending a wreath and a letter of condolence to Mrs. Harper was endorsed.

One honorary member, the Vicar of Queenborough, Rev. O. F. R. Strickland, and ten new members were elected, and the ratification of an election of a member previous to a peal was confirmed. Queenborough Tower was again brought into the association.

The place of the next meeting was Queenborough, which was unanimously carried, to be held on the last Saturday in April.

On the proposition of Mr. W. Haigh (Gillingham), seconded by Mr. C. Winsor (Frindsbury), it was unanimously decided that the name of the district secretary, Mr. F. M. Mitchell, should be brought forward as a candidate from this district as a Central Council representative for the county.

A discussion took place as to the best means to try and get new members to take up the art, the general opinion being to start in the church itself, and try and get members of the choir and other organisations.

Mr. Haigh, district representative, gave an account of the business that was transacted at the annual committee meeting in November last, and was thanked for his report.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and conducting the service, and to Mr. Allen for presiding at the organ, concluded the business.

The tower was again visited, the bells going until nine o'clock in various methods. Eleven towers in the district were represented.

The district secretary thinks now he is justified in having a 'growl.' The names sent in for the tea were 27, and 50 put in an appearance. Owing to the absence of the secretary, through illness, this placed his deputy in an unenviable position, and if this should meet the eye of any of those who did not send in their names, and any ringer who is slack in this respect, please think of it in the future, as it is not always possible to arrange at such short notice.

### LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY AT PUDSEY.

The usual monthly meeting of the Leeds and District Society was held at Pudsey on January 29th, and were again entertained to tea by the Pudsey company. The ringing started about 2.30 p.m., and continued until close on 9 o'clock. The tea was held in the rooms of the Park Hotel. As soon as tea was finished, the Leeds Parish Church ringers started 'Community' singing, conducted by Mr. H. Lockwood, who tried his best to explain where each part started, and if on the up or down stroke. As he could not get the best out of his choir, he turned them on to the handbells, where he again led them in 'Callers' hymn.

At the business meeting the chair was taken by the president, and five new members were elected.

The Secretary brought forward the question of providing tea for members at other meetings.—Mr. Robinson proposed that tea be arranged at meetings and advertised in 'The Ringing World' each month. This was seconded by Mr. S. Sadler (St. Michael's), and agreed to.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells and to the local company for the splendid arrangements was proposed by Mr. G. Barraclough (Leeds P.C.) and seconded by Mr. S. Wheatley (Calverley).

The handbells were again brought into use, and some very good ringing was heard on 6, 8, 10 and 12 bells, the company dispersing just after 10 p.m.

### SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

**PUDSEY, YORKSHIRE.**—On Sunday, January 30th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of London Surprise Major (1,344 changes) in 48 mins.: P. Cordingley 1, S. Ward 2, J. C. Booth 3, J. E. Proctor 4, W. Barton (conductor) 5, S. Briggs 6, J. Ambler 7, J. W. Cordingley 8. First quarter-peal in the method by the ringer of the 6th, who hails from Rotherham.

**CROYDON, SURREY.**—At St. John-the-Baptist's Church on Sunday, January 30th, for evening service, as a farewell to the Rev. Canon W. P. G. McCormick, who is leaving Croydon for St. Martin-in-the-Fields, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: J. Rumble, sen., 1, H. J. Skelt 2, H. G. Humphries 3, J. Rumble, jun., 4, J. Talbot 5, J. Cawley 6, A. W. Clark (conductor) 7, D. Cooper 8.—Also after evening service, 384 Stedman Triples, conducted by D. Cooper.

**PAIGNTON.**—On Sunday, January 30th, at the Parish Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 48 mins.: F. Allwood 1, D. Green 2, H. J. Hole 3, T. S. Collings 4, F. Parnell 5, F. T. Gover 6, C. R. Walker (conductor) 7, C. Boyce 8.

**CHEADLE, STAFFS.**—On Sunday, January 30th, for evening service at St. Giles' R.C. Church, 720 Bob Minor: R. Keates 1, A. Plant (first 720 inside) 2, P. Hawley 3, J. Barker 4, J. Cartlidge 5, A. W. Hall (conductor) 6.

**TOTTENHAM.**—At All Hallows', on Sunday, January 30th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes) in 42 mins.: S. W. Crabb 1, H. A. Barnett 2, Miss P. A. Upsher 3, J. G. Nash 4, C. A. Button 5, E. A. Hull 6, N. A. Tomlinson (conductor) 7, J. L. Ellis 8. Rung for evening service, and as a compliment to J. G. Nash on his coming of age.

**NORTHAMPTON.**—At the Church of St. Peter, on Sunday, January 9th, for evening service, 1,260 Stedman Triples by: E. Sibley 1, S. J. Lawrence 2, A. Robinson 3, J. Marr 4, W. R. Parker 5, W. J. Dove 6, F. Hopper (conductor) 7, J. Wilkins 8. Rung on the eve of the conductor's birthday.

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## NOTICES.

**THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES** of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 8d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with a minimum charge of 1/6.

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**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM** (Established 1755).—The 39th Annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, Feb. 19th, at 6 o'clock prompt, when the chair will be taken by Canon T. Guy Rogers, B.D., M.C., Rector of Birmingham, Chaplain to the King. To fully qualified members tickets will be issued on payment of 2s., to other members and friends, 6s. 6d. each. Every full member should be clear on the books not later than Saturday, Feb. 12th. The bells of St. Martin's (12) will be available from 3 to 5 o'clock, the Cathedral (10) from 4 to 5.30. Bishop Ryder's (8) 3 to 4.30 p.m. An informal conference at 5 p.m. in the Baptistery at St. Martin's. Subject: "How can we keep beginners interested in the art?" Early application for tickets (with remittance) should be made to Albert Walker, 81, Baker Street, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members who have not attended twenty times in the past year to vote on financial matters, should be paid before February 28th. Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on Feb. 17th, \*St. Paul's Cathedral on the 22nd; both at 7.30 p.m. \*Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 'Prodingham,' 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

**HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Bushey.—Saturday, Feb. 12th. Bells open 3.15. Tea 5.30, at Institute. Business Meeting after. Ringing till 8.30 p.m. Cheap tickets from London.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey. Note.—Subscriptions are now due.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—A meeting will be held at Glodwick on Saturday, Feb. 12th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. Subscriptions now due. Reports to hand. — William Horan, Branch Sec., 2, Greenhirst Hey, Todmorden.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch.—A ringing meeting of the above branch will be held at Padham on Saturday, Feb. 12th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. —J. Watson, Hon. Branch Sec.

**SUFFOLK GUILD.**—Quarterly meeting will be held at Ufford on Saturday, Feb. 12th. Bells available all day. Tea 4.30. Meeting afterwards in St. Mary's Hall.—H. Drake, Ufford Rectory, Woodbridge.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will take place on Saturday, Feb. 12th. Ringing at St. Dunstan's-in-the-East from 2.30 to 4, and at St. Clement Danes' from 2.30. Service at the latter at 4.30, address by the Rev. W. Pennington Bickford, Rector and Honorary Chaplain. Tea in the Parish Room, tickets for which should be obtained in advance from the Masters or secretaries, followed by the business meeting. A good gathering is desired.—A. H. Keighley, Gen. Sec., 19, Pepys Road, S.E.14.

**HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Northern District.—The next meeting will be held at Baldock on Saturday, Feb. 12th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Tea and meeting at the White Lion at 5.30. All are welcome.—E. W. Day, Dis. Sec., 58, King's Road, Hitchin.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the Town Hall, Manchester, on Saturday, Feb. 12th. Bells at liberty 4 o'clock. Meeting at 7. Reports to hand. All ringers welcome.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting, Manchester.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's R.C. Church, Chorley, on Saturday, Feb. 12th. The bells (8, recently rehung and tuned) will be available from 3 p.m. Tea at 1s. 6d. a head. All ringers welcome. — Fred Rigby, Branch Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Ilchester Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting of the above branch will be held at Martock on Saturday, Feb. 12th. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock. Meeting to follow. — F. Farrant, Hon. Local Sec., North Street, Martock.

**BARNSELEY & DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—A monthly meeting will be held at Darfield on Saturday, Feb. 12th. Bells ready early. Tea in Church Schools at 5 p.m. Apply for tickets to Mr. T. Hilton, Victoria Street, Darfield, Near Barnsley.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Tuebrook on Saturday, Feb. 12th. Bells ready at 4.30. Members intending being present please send word to secretary, W. Hughes, 3, Shrewsbury Place, Garston.

**LADIES' GUILD.**—Northamptonshire District.—A meeting will be held at Woodston, Peterborough, on Saturday, Feb. 12th. Ringing from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea in Church Hall 5 o'clock. All ringers welcome.—S. Thursfield, Cranford Rectory, Kettering.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Reading Branch.—The annual meeting of the Reading branch of the above Guild will be held at Reading on Saturday, Feb. 12th. St. Giles' belfry will be open for ringing from 3 p.m. Ringers' service at St. Lawrence's Church at 5 p.m. Tea and business meeting, followed by a smoking concert, by the 'Maxims' party, at the Central Café, Friar Street, at 6 p.m.—F. W. Hopgood, Hon. Branch Sec.

**HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Bridgnorth Branch.—The annual meeting of the above branch will be held at Bridgnorth on Saturday, Feb. 12th. Bells (8 and 6) available from 3 p.m. Service in St. Leonard's at 5 o'clock. Tea at 5.30, followed by meeting.—W. Hayward, Dis. Hon. Sec., 3, North Gate, Bridgnorth.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting will be held at Sheffield on Saturday, Feb. 12th. The rings of 12 at the Cathedral and eight at St. Marie's are available for ringing from 2.30 p.m. A charge of 1s. 6d. per head will be made for tea. Divine service will be held in the Cathedral at 5 p.m. Preacher, Archdeacon of Sheffield. Subscriptions are now due, and reports will be issued at this meeting on payment of same.—P. J. Johnson, Hon. Gen. Sec., 396, Meanwood Road, Leeds.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Fylde Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Poulton (6 bells) on Feb. 19th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Business meeting 5.30. —C. Sharples, Branch Sec., 320, N. Promenade, Blackpool.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—Meeting for united practice at St. Peter's Church, Colchester, Saturday, Feb. 19th. Ringing from 3 to 5 p.m., followed by tea and social at St. Peter's Parish Room. Tea 1s. 4d. each. Will those who propose being present send in their names not later than Tuesday, Feb. 15th? Opening of peal of 6 bells at St. Leonard's, Colchester, on Thursday, Feb. 17th, at 3 p.m.—R. W. Stannard, Hon. Sec., N.E. District, 12, Ireton Road, Colchester.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Loughborough District.—The next meeting of the district will be held at Sutton Bonnington on Saturday, Feb. 19th. Bells (5) open from 3 o'clock onwards. Tea is being provided for those who notify me not later than the 17th. A hearty invitation is given to all ringers and friends.—J. Saddington, Hon. Dis. Sec., Rose Dene Bungalow, Swing Bridge Road, Loughborough.

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Stone on Saturday, Feb. 19th. Bells open from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. All ringers welcome.—H. G. Phillips, Hon. Sec., Lynch, Berkeley, Glos.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Newbury Branch.—A meeting will be held at Beedon on Saturday, Feb. 19th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. at 1s. All ringers welcome. Intending visitors please notify the Rev. L. Coles, The Vicarage, Beedon, near Newbury, not later than Wednesday, Feb. 16th, for tea.—H. W. Curtis, Hon. Branch Sec., Church Road, Shaw, Newbury.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—South-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Widford on Saturday, Feb. 19th. Bells available 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow at White Horse Hotel. Will all members intending to be present please notify me on or before Wednesday, Feb. 16th? Subscriptions for 1927 are now due.—P. Timson, Dis. Sec., 80, Springfield Street, Chelmsford.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Barking on Saturday, Feb. 19th. Bells from 3 p.m. Short service 4.30 p.m. Tea at Municipal Restaurant, East Street, 5.15 p.m. Will all those wanting tea advise me by Tuesday, Feb. 15th, as exact number has to be given? Subscriptions for 1927 are now due.—E. Butler, Hon. Sec., 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Hindley St. Peter's Diamond Jubilee Celebration of Bells, Sunday, Feb. 20th.—Special Services 10.30 and 6.30. Preacher at evening service, the Rev. Canon Elsec, President, Lancashire Association. Ringing before and after evening service. All ringers welcome.

**LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Spalding on Saturday, Feb. 26th. Bells available after 12.30 p.m. Tea at Barker's Restaurant at 4.30. Even-song at 6.30. Anyone requiring tea please let me know not later than first post Feb. 23rd.—Geo. Ladd, Hon. Sec., Pinchbeck, Spalding.

**HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Clifford District.—The annual meeting will be held at Eardisley on Saturday, Feb. 26th. Service 4 p.m. Tea at the Vicarage 4.45 p.m. Business meeting to follow. Those requiring tea please advise by the 22nd.—J. P. Hyett, Hon. Dis. Sec., Dulas Terrace, Hay.

**HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Hereford District.—The annual meeting of the district will be held at Hereford on Saturday, Feb. 26th. Bells available: St. Nicholas' (6) 2.30 to 4.15, All Saints' (8) 2.30 to 4.15, Cathedral (10) 6.30 to 8.30. Service, All Saints', 4.30 p.m. Tea, Booth Hall, 5.15 p.m. Please notify me not later than Feb. 22nd.—A. Gwynne, Dis. Sec., Deanery Cottage, Castle Street, Hereford.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Nicholas', Newchurch, on Saturday, Feb. 26th. Bells ready at 3.30. Subscriptions are now due. Reports to hand. A hot pot, provided at 5.30, for those sending in to Mr. Wm. Ashworth, 15, Wardle Street, Stacksteads, not later than Feb. 23rd. Meeting to take place afterwards.—John H. Haydock, Branch Sec., 8, Oaklands Road, Edenfield, near Bury.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Ashford District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Appledore on Saturday, Feb. 26th. Bells available from 2.30. Service at 4.45, followed by tea at the Swan Hotel. Business meeting to be held afterwards. All ringers invited.—A. C. Kay, Hon. Dis. Sec., 6, Sturges Road, Ashford.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Northern District.—A meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Whitechapel, on Saturday, Feb. 26th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service at 5 o'clock, followed by tea (kindly provided by the Rector). Business meeting afterwards.—J. A. Hales, Hon. Sec., 20, Aspland Grove, Hackney, E.8.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Yorktown District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Pirbright on Saturday, Feb. 26th. Bells available 3 p.m. Guild's service 4.45 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Subscriptions for the year are now due.—J. B. Hessey, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Queen Street, Chertsey.

**GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.**—Exeter Branch.—Meeting at Broadclyst on Saturday, Feb. 26th. Sowton, Honiton Cyst, Pinhoe and Poltimore towers also open. Tea 1s.—Further particulars from T. J. Stokes, 35, Okehampton Road, Exeter.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Isle of Wight District.—Next quarterly meeting at Freshwater on Saturday, Feb. 26th. Bells (6) available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., provided by the Rector in the Parish for those who notify me by Tuesday, the 22nd. Business meeting after tea.—B. J. Snow, Hon. Dis. Sec., 2, Collingwood, Daniel Street, Ryde, I.W.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Derby District.—A meeting of the above will be held at Ockbrook on Saturday, Feb. 26th. Bells (6) at 3 o'clock. Tea will be arranged if sufficient number will send me their names at once, or not later than Wednesday, the 23rd, that they will be present. All ringers will be welcome.—Chas. Draper, 25, Western Road, Derby.

**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The Pre-Lent Meeting will be held at Lanchester, Co. Durham, on Saturday, February 26th. Committee meeting at 4 p.m. and tea at 5 p.m., at the King's Head Hotel. Tea 2/- to members and 2/6 to non-members. Owing to difficulty of catering, those coming to tea are requested to send in their names by first post on Monday, February 21st.—E. Ferry, Hon. Sec., 16 Gordon Avenue, Gosforth, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting of the Canterbury District will be held on Saturday, Feb. 27th. Further details next week.—Fred J. O. Helmore, Hon. Sec.

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Printed for the Proprietor by the Woodbridge Press, Ltd., Guildford, and Published by The Rolls House Publishing Co., Ltd., Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.1.