



No. 833. Vol. XXII.

FRIDAY, MARCH 11th, 1927.

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

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# GILLETT AND JOHNSTON

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MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL, Nov., 1925

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## ACTIVITY AMONG BELL FOUNDERS.

One of the best signs of the public interest in bells is the continued activity of the bell founders. In all their careers the leading firms can seldom, if ever, have been as busy as now, and there seems to be no lack of work in prospect. This is probably due to various factors, first and foremost being a growing realisation on the part of church people that their bells are valuable property, and ought to be in as good order as the organ; that the bells have a definite place in the scheme of the Church's services, and that, therefore, if they are to be rung their mechanical efficiency must be maintained. Further, there is greater consideration for the ringers, and it is being realised more and more that men, who give their time and services in the work of the Church, are entitled to have the instruments they use kept in proper order, and not, on account of neglect, to have to labour unnecessarily in their ringing. It has not been always thus, and there are still many places where the condition of the bells seems to be the last thing that matters, but, speaking generally, the present demand for bell restoration is a practical manifestation of the fact that church authorities are beginning to appreciate their responsibilities.

Another factor is the attitude of the ringers themselves. They are now seldom content to go on with bells that are mechanically deficient, and they rightly demand that, in return for their services, the bells, their frame and fittings, shall be in tolerably good condition. The augmentations which are another happy feature of the activity in the bell founding world—and in our columns are constant reminders of what is taking place in this direction—are mainly, we imagine, the outcome of the enthusiasm of the ringers themselves, who are anxious to make advances in their art. New peals, too, are springing up in many directions, but this, gratifying as it is, forces home once more the realisation that we are probably not holding our own in regard to personnel in the Exercise. There are doubtless to-day many more change ringers than there were thirty or forty years ago, but has the number of bell ringers increased in the same ratio as the ringable peals of bells? We doubt it. The activity among the founders should find corresponding energy among the associations in teaching new ringers, for not only is there the constant loss of man power, from death, removal and loss of interest, to make up, but we have to meet the growing numbers of bells in all directions. It takes longer, as a rule, to make an efficient ringer than it does to make an efficient bell, and if we allow the number of bells to outstrip the number of ringers it can only mean the eventual neglect of many fine rings, upon which much money has been expended.

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## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BRAMLEY, LEEDS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 21, 1927, in Three Hours and Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr.

*W. WATERHOUSE ... .. Treble	J. THACKRAY ... .. 5
T. LATIMER ... .. 2	*F. JACKSON ... .. 6
S. HELLIWELL ... .. 3	*H. BLACKBETH ... .. 7
F. BLACKBETH ... .. 4	*J. S. EASTWOOD ... .. Tenor

Conducted by J. S. EASTWOOD.

\* First peal. First peal of Major on the bells and for the ringer of the 3rd. First attempt for a peal as conductor. J. Thackray rang in the first peal of Minor on these bells in 1895.

WORTLEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, February 26, 1927, in Three Hours and Three Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

ALBERT HELLIWELL ... .. Treble	ARCHIE BREARLEY ... .. 5
JOHN A. BREARLEY ... .. 2	ARTHUR GILL ... .. 6
WILLIAM A. WOOLER ... .. 3	JOHN R. BREARLEY ... .. 7
ARTHUR PANTHER ... .. 4	JAMES H. CHARLESWORTH ... .. Tenor

Composed by GEORGE LEWIS. Conducted by J. R. BREARLEY.

This composition, now rung for the first time, contains the 5th the extent in 5th's, and 4th and 6th their extent in 6th's, without 2nd or 3rd in 6th's. The peal was specially arranged for Messrs. Panther and Gill, of Wath, whose first peal in the method it was. Also in honour of the wedding of Mr. Joseph E. Sykes, brother-in-law of the conductor, which took place the same day. Tenor ringer's 50th peal.

BIRCH-IN-RUSHOLME.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 26, 1927, in Three Hours and Five Minutes

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF PARKER'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JAMES JACQUES ... .. Treble	SAMUEL HOLT ... .. 5
WILLIAM BERRY ... .. 2	TOM A. OGDEN ... .. 6
THOMAS K. DRIVER ... .. 3	PETER LAFLIN ... .. 7
JOHN SMITH ... .. 4	WILLIAM HARDMAN ... .. Tenor

This peal was rung by Middleton ringers in honour of Dr. Parsons, Rector of Birch-in-Rusholme, who on January 25th last was consecrated Bishop of Middleton, a previous attempt on that date at Middleton having failed. The ringers wish to thank the Bishop for the use of the bells, and also the Birch ringers for having everything ready for them.

TICKHILL, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Monday, February 28, 1927, in Three Hours and Six Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qr. 7 lb.

PERCY GLEDSTONE ... .. Treble	HARRY BARNES ... .. 5
*JAMES MCCLUSKY ... .. 2	J. EDWARD CAWSE ... .. 6
*STANLEY SHEPPARD ... .. 3	FREDERICK G. LEWIS ... .. 7
OLIVER GREATHEAD ... .. 4	ARNOLD HILL ... .. Tenor

Composed by H. TUCKER. Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSE

\* First peal of Major and in the method. Rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. H. Manfield and Miss E. Owlett, which took place at the above church earlier in the day, and as a compliment to the mother of the ringer of the 5th on the 71st anniversary of her birthday.

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## LYE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

## THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 26, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,  
At CHRIST CHURCH,

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

Tenor 3½ cwt.

WILLIAM GIBBS ... .. Treble	JOSEPH H. W. WHITE ... .. 5
JOHN BASS ... .. 2	ROBERT MATTHEWS ... .. 6
SAMUEL GROVE ... .. 3	ALFRED HACKETT ... .. 7
JOSEPH E. SYKES ... .. 4	JOSEPH PIGOTT ... .. Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by R. MATTHEWS.

First peal in the method on the bells.

## HOGHTON, LANCASHIRE.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(PRESTON BRANCH.)

On Monday, February 28, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,  
At THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

*HENRY MARGERINSON ... Treble	THOMAS CALDERBANK ... 5
WILLIAM ILSLEY ... .. 2	JAMES HARRISON ... .. 6
MISS MAY CLAYTON ... .. 3	JOHN MOULDING ... .. 7
GEORGE HOOPER ... .. 4	JOHN BROWN ... .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by JOHN BROWN.

\* First peal. † First of Major. Rung to celebrate the enthronement of the Rev. Percy Mark Herbert, M.A., D.D., as the first Bishop of Blackburn. First peal of Major on the bells by a local company, the bells having been installed by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank in 1887. First peal in the method as conductor.

## BLACKBURN, LANCASHIRE.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 28, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,  
At THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

CHARLES BROCKLEHURST ... Treble	*WILLIAM MILLER ... .. 5
THOS. CHAMBERS ... .. 2	ARTHUR TOMLINSON ... .. 6
FRED CHAMBERS ... .. 3	FRED BRADLEY ... .. 7
HERBERT CHAMBERS ... .. 4	JOSEPH A. TOMLINSON ... Tenor

Conducted by A. TOMLINSON.

\* First peal in the method. Rung on the occasion of the enthronement and as a welcome to the Right Rev. Percy Mark Herbert, D.D., the first Lord Bishop of Blackburn.

## BANBURY, OXON.

## THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(BANBURY AND DISTRICT BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, March 1, 1927, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 21½ cwt.

RICHARD W. BORROWS ... Treble	MAURICE SMITH ... .. 5
ROBERT R. LEWIS ... .. 2	*HERBERT IMPEY ... .. 6
WILLIAM TANDY ... .. 3	JOHN SIMONS ... .. 7
*THOMAS IMPEY ... .. 4	ROBERT HIGHAM ... .. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN SIMONS.

\* First peal inside. First peal on the bells by an entirely local band. It is eighteen years since a peal was rung on these bells.

## WOOLWICH, KENT.

## THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(LATE THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY.)

On Tuesday, March 1, 1927, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 13 cwt.

*THOMAS H. CULVER ... Treble	BERTIE ALDRIDGE ... .. 5
WILLIAM E. JUDD ... .. 2	LESTER L. GRAY ... .. 6
JAMES A. HALES ... .. 3	THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ... 7
THOMAS WYATT ... .. 4	*CYRIL E. PALMER ... .. Tenor

Conducted by W. E. JUDD.

\* First peal. † First peal away from tenor.

## BRIDGEND, GLAMORGAN.

## THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 5, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. ILLYD,

## A PEAL OF LONDON BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

JOHN W. JONES ... .. Treble	CHARLES H. PERRY ... .. 5
ALBERT J. PITMAN ... .. 2	ERNEST STITCH ... .. 6
RICHARD EVANS ... .. 3	DAVID R. JAMES ... .. 7
ALFRED TALBOT ... .. 4	HARRY BOYCE ... .. Tenor

Composed by ALBERT J. PITMAN. Conducted by CHARLES H. PERRY.

This is believed to be the first peal ever rung in this method, and it was rung at the first attempt.

## WRAYSBURY, HUCKS.

## THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 5, 1927, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S ONE-PART.

Tenor 10 cwt.

ERNEST J. GOATER ... Treble	HUBERT J. CHAFFEY ... 5
JOHN B. HESSEY ... .. 2	WILLIAM C. PARKER ... 6
*EDWIN BURLEY ... .. 3	SIDNEY G. ARMSTRONG ... 7
WILLIAM WELLING ... .. 4	GEORGE HAIN ... .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM WELLING.

\* First peal on an inside bell. † First peal. The treble and tenor ringers were proposed members of the above Guild before starting.

## BUNBURY, CHESHIRE.

## THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 5, 1927, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ST. BONIFACE,

## A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr. 11 lb.

ROBERT SPERRING ... Treble	HARRY F. HOLDING ... 5
SAMUEL JONES, JUN. ... 2	GEORGE R. JONES ... 6
RICHARD T. HOLDING ... 3	HARRY WOODWARD ... 7
*HAROLD EDWARDS ... .. 4	JAMES H. RIDING ... .. Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by J. H. RIDING.

\* First peal in the method. First peal on the bells since being rehung in ball bearings by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

## TODMORDEN, LANCASHIRE.

## THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 5, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

At THE PARISH CHURCH,

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

Tenor 24 cwt. in E flat.

*ROBERT BARKER ... Treble	THOMAS B. WORSLEY ... 5
ALFRED BARNES ... .. 2	WILLIAM CRABTREE ... 6
ERNEST CUTSFORTH ... 3	HERBERT DAVENPORT ... 7
WILLIAM BIBBY ... .. 4	EDWARD JENKINS ... .. Tenor

Composed by E. BARNETT, SEN.

Conducted by E. JENKINS.

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

## KEA, NEAR TRURO, CORNWALL.

## THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 5, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

At THE CHURCH OF ALL HALLOWS,

## A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 12 cwt.

*WILLIAM T. TEAGUE ... Treble	*PHILIP J. HITCHENS ... 5
*ARTHUR S. ROBERTS ... 2	CHARLES R. LILLEY ... 6
FREDERICK G. VILES ... 3	*WILLIAM H. SOUTHARD ... 7
ALBERT F. KNIGHT ... .. 4	*BERTIE PASCOE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

\* First peal. All except the conductor reside in the Diocese of Truro, this being the first peal any resident members have taken part in since 1911.

CHURCH LAWTON, CHESHIRE.—On February 20th, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor in 25 mins.: W. Rigby 1, J. Wildblood 2, T. Harpin 3, W. Longman 4, T. Arrowsmith 5, G. Hiddulph (first 720 as conductor) 6, G. Stonehewer tenor. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to T. Arrowsmith, after meeting short for a quarter-peal of Stedman.

NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.  
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, March 5, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes.

At the Church of St. Nicholas.

**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**

JOHNSON'S VARIATION OF MIDDLETON'S.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

MISS PATTIE CLARKE ... 1 <i>Treble</i>	THOMAS W. CHAPMAN ... 5
*OSWALD J. HUNT ... 2	ARTHUR H. BEAMISH ... 6
FRANK W. PERRENS ... 3	JOSEPH A. FENTON ... 7
JOSEPH H. W. WHITE ... 4	FREDERICK H. DEXTER ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by FRANK W. PERRENS.

\* First peal in the method.

PRESTON.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 5, 1927, in Three Hours and Two Minutes.

At the Church of St. Mary, PKNWORTHAM.

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

Tenor 8 cwt.

WILLIAM TAYLOR ... <i>Treble</i>	GEORGE R. NEWTON ... 5
JOHN R. TAYLOR ... 2	CLAUDE I. DAVIES ... 6
JOHN WILKINSON ... 3	JAMES MARTIN ... 7
THOMAS HAMMOND ... 4	EDWARD CAUNCE ... <i>Tenor</i>

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by GEORGE R. NEWTON

First peal in the method on the bells.

**SIX BELL PEALS.**

EVERSHOLT, BEDFORDSHIRE.  
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 24, 1927, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes.

At the Parish Church.

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

Tenor 17½ cwt.

CYRIL SINFIELD ... <i>Treble</i>	EDMUND J. HOBBS ... 4
WILLIAM JAMES ... 2	ALBERT FLEET ... 5
WILLIAM PEACOCK ... 3	HORACE H. SMITH ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by HORACE H. SMITH.

First peal of Kent Treble Bob by all.

BIDSTON, CHESHIRE.  
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.  
(WIRRAL BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 26, 1927, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes.

At the Church of St. Oswald.

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

Being 720 each of Beverley and Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and two of Plain Bob. Tenor 6 cwt.

*RALPH G. EDWARDS ... <i>Treble</i>	FREDERICK C. AMOS ... 4
*G. RONALD EDWARDS ... 2	WILLIAM DEAN ... 5
THOMAS BIRCH ... 3	JOHN COOKE ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by J. COOKE.

\* First peal. The ringer of the treble is only 12 years of age.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND, KENT.  
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 26, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes.

At the Parish Church of SS. PETER AND PAUL.

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

Being three 720's of Plain Bob and two each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, rung alternately and each called differently.

Tenor 12½ cwt. in F sharp.

*FREDERICK M. MITCHELL <i>Treble</i>	GEORGE MORRAD ... 4
CYRIL M. MITCHELL ... 2	HARRY ARGENT ... 5
FREDERICK A. MITCHELL ... 3	JOHN BURLES ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by JOHN BURLES.

\* 33rd peal on these bells and first on the treble, thus completing the circle. † First peal on a 'bob' bell, and first attempt. Rung as a birthday peal to Thomas, second son of the conductor.

FELKIRK, YORKSHIRE.

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 26, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes.

At the Parish Church.

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

Being seven different 720's.

Tenor 10 cwt.

L. ROBBUCK ... <i>Treble</i>	D. SMITH ... 4
H. COOPER ... 2	M. PERRY ... 5
H. CHANT ... 3	J. T. WHITE ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by J. T. WHITE.

This is the first peal and first attempt by all, who are Sunday service ringers at this church, also first peal rung on these bells. The tenor was cast in 1613. Rung as a welcome to the new Vicar, the Rev. H. S. P. Coster, late Vicar of St. Mary's, Bloemfontein, South Africa.

POWNSHOPE, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

On Sunday, February 27, 1927, in Three Hours.

At the Church of St. Mary.

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

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, College Single, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt.

THOMAS PRATT ... <i>Treble</i>	SIDNEY T. HOLT ... 4
DAVID HORNE ... 2	CHARLES CAMM ... 5
WILLIAM RANFORD ... 3	GEORGE JORDAN ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

BRINDLE, LANCS.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(PRESTON BRANCH.)

On Monday, February 28, 1927, in Three Hours.

At the Parish Church.

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

Being two 720's each of Woodbine and Oxford Treble Bob and one 720 each of Kent Treble Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, and Plain Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt.

*CHARLES R. POWER ... <i>Treble</i>	*ARTHUR HATCH ... 4
WILLIAM SHARPLES ... 2	JOHN R. STOTT ... 5
FRED BLACKLIDGE ... 3	WILLIAM FOWLER ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by WILLIAM SHARPLES.

\* First peal. Rung on the enthronement of Bishop Herbert, of Blackburn.

RISHTON, LANCS.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 28, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes.

At the Church of SS. PETER AND PAUL.

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

Being seven 720's.

Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb.

*RICHARD AYERTON ... <i>Treble</i>	ARTHUR LORD ... 4
ALBERT YATES ... 2	JOHN HIRST ... 5
JACK BEATTY ... 3	FRED READ ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by FRED READ.

\* First peal. First in the method for ringer of 3rd, who comes from Accrington. The rest are local ringers. None of the above are 20 years of age. Rung for the enthronement of the Bishop of Blackburn.

WESTON, BATH.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 1, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes.

At the Church of All Saints.

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

Being 40 six-scores with ten different callings, and one 240 Pitman's arrangement. Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr.

JOHN LYE ... <i>Treble</i>	WILLIAM H. CROCKER ... 4
MISS NORA G. WILLIAMS ... 2	GEORGE CROSS ... 5
FRANK MERRETT ... 3	GEORGE BRAVER ... <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by WILLIAM H. CROCKER.

Rung as a birthday peal to Joseph Stagg, who for forty years has been a ringer in the above tower.

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**TOWER CLOCK MANUFACTURERS.**  
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OR REPAINTING OF DIALS.



STAPLEFORD, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.  
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 3, 1927, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF DURHAM SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's.

Tenor 7 cwt. in A flat.

ALBERT E. AUSTIN ... .. Treble	WILLIAM A. TACK ... .. 4
MISS KITTY WILLERS ... .. 2	EDWARD H. FINCH ... .. 5
FRANK E. HAYNES ... .. 3	ROBERT HOWARD ... .. Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT HOWARD.

BREADSALL, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 5, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's of Kent Treble Bob and five 720's of Plain Bob.  
Tenor 14 cwt.

*THOMAS R. SHARMAN ... .. Treble	ALFRED MOULD ... .. 4
GEORGE FREEBRY ... .. 2	WILLIAM LANCASTER ... .. 5
†REGINALD BOULTON ... .. 3	JACK BAILEY ... .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE FREEBRY.

\* First peal. † First peal of Minor.

EARLS BARTON, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 5, 1927, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of seven different 720's.

PERCY AMOS ... .. Treble	JOHN R. MAIN ... .. 4
GEORGE PARKER ... .. 2	HARRY PETTIT ... .. 5
JOHN KING ... .. 3	THOMAS WISE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS WISE.

ST. ERME, CORNWALL.

THE TREURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, March 6, 1927, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Hermes,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, with ten different callings. Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr.

*JOHN SEDGELEY ... .. Treble	ALBERT F. KNIGHT ... .. 4
WILLIAM H. SOUTHEARD ... .. 2	CHARLES R. LILLEY ... .. 5
ARTHUR S. ROBERTS ... .. 3	BERTIE PASCOE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

\* First peal and first attempt. First peal on the bells.

HANDBELL PEALS.

PLYMOUTH.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Friday, February 25, 1927, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,

In the Belfry of the Church of Charles,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

42 six-scores, ten different callings.

*THOMAS G. MYERS ... .. 1-2	CHARLES R. LILLEY ... .. 3-4
*WARREN S. HORNERBROOK ... .. 5-6	

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

Umpire: ALFRED T. WESTCOTT.

\* First peal 'in hand.'

CAMBRIDGE.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

On Ash Wednesday, March 2, 1927, in Two Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,

In Trinity College,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 16 in B.

F. E. HAYNES (St. Cath's) ... .. 1-2	S. H. WOOD (MAGDALENE) ... .. 5-6
C. W. WOOLLEY (SELWYN) ... .. 3-4	*REV. R. WOOLLEY (CAIUS) ... .. 7-8

Composed by E. M. ATKINS (St. Cath's). Conducted by S. H. WOOD.

\* First peal.

ST. ALBANS.—On Monday, February 28th, at St. Peter's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 50 mins.: T. Hull (conductor) 1, F. Spicer 2, H. G. Lightfoot 3, T. Gardner 4, J. Porter 5, B. Swinson 6, F. Kirk 7, H. Lucas (Bridgwater, Somerset, first quarter-peal) 8.

STEDMAN TRIPLES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—May I be allowed to reply to the note of Mr. Cave's recent letter? He says 'I have complained as to the use of blue pencil.' I was not aware of this complaint, as I merely told him that it had been used, and that my letter did not convey all I wished it to. He also says my letter to him contained nothing of value. I might say it contained all I intended it to, and that was what he asked for, viz., the particulars of the Variation of Haley's and the date of peal. What more does he want? I must say that he has rightly guessed that of the peals I sent the first is known as Tipler's Variation of Haley's, but considering that he has had the figures of the peal, together with 'R.W.' peal card, by his side for three weeks, it is a marvellous piece of deduction. But where the 'Washbrook' comes about, I fail to see, as he has already admitted that neither Haley's nor Brook's on the six single plan had been rung or published, and I have always been led to believe the ringing or publishing decides the issue. As for the transposition he talks about, a transposition is another version of the original, so that settles that. Mr. Cave says that his notes are simply to prove that there is no such thing as Dexter's Variation, and that he has done so, but I am not so certain as yet about it. Although a member of M.C.A., I have not reports for 1912 and 1913, so cannot compare peals 2197 and 2284 to see what F. H. D. has done to the latter when compared with the former, and if my information is correct he can go back farther still.—Yours truly,  
E. W. TIPLER.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Mr. Cave is right, but still a few years out. The peal in question was first rung at Boyne Hill, Maidenhead, on February 13th, 1890, conducted by Mr. Washbrook. When a lad, I well remember hearing him state that he had called 'Thurstans' peal without extras or omits, using six singles, two the reverse of two, and two to connect the two halves.—Yours,

FRANK SMITH.

Hampstead.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

BURTON-ON-TRENT DISTRICT.

A successful meeting was held at Measham on Saturday, March 5th. In spite of inclement weather, upwards of twenty members and friends were present from Ashby, Burton, Market Bosworth, Overseale, Netherscale, Appleby Magna and Tamworth.

The Parish Church bells were well utilised during the afternoon in various methods, ranging from Grandsire Doubles to Kent Treble Bob Major, whilst after tea handbell ringing was indulged in.

The Vicar (the Rev. J. R. King) welcomed the ringers, and on behalf of all present Mr. J. H. Swinfield suitably replied.

A short business meeting was held after tea, at which it was decided that the next meeting should be held at Repton if possible, or otherwise at St. Paul's, Burton. It was also decided that the meeting at Alreowas, which had been unavoidably cancelled, should be held later, when the repairs necessitated by the recent belfry fire had been completed.—Two new ringing members were elected, both from Appleby Magna.

LONDON BOB TRIPLES.

5,040 BY ALBERT J. PITMAN, PORT TALBOT.

234567	235476
342675 . 3	762435 . 4
563427 . 2	467235 . 5
635274 . 3	524673 . 2
746235 . 4	365247 . 2
247635 . 5	1473265 . 4
642735 . 5	364527 . 1
236574 . 1	643275 . 3
1452367 . 2	246375 . 5
264735 . 1	532467 . 2
432576 . 1	435267 . 5

Repeat five times, omitting call marked † in 2nd, 4th and 6th parts. Repeat five times, omitting call marked † in 8th, 10th and 12th parts.

Holt's Bob Single at 6th and 12th part ends.  
First rung at Bridgend, Glam., on March 5th, 1927, conducted by Charles H. Perry.

A BIRTHDAY COMPLIMENT.

At Churchkirk, Lancashire, on Monday, February 14th, 1,264 Bob Major. A. Chadwick 1, W. Aaron 2, J. Woods 3, Miss E. Shaw 4, J. Parr 5, J. Hirst 6, F. Read 7, L. J. Williams (conductor) 8. Specially rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. M. Williams, the conductor's mother, on attaining the age of 60 years.

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.—On Saturday, March 5th, at St. Nicolas', 1,248 Superlative Surprise Major: E. Dumper 1, H. Badger 2, G. Williams 3, F. A. Burnett 4, F. W. Rogers (conductor) 5, W. T. Tucker 6, W. E. Cheater 7, F. Blondell 8.

## AN EDINBURGH CELEBRATION.

### A PEAL AND PRESENTATIONS AT ST. CUTHBERT'S.

As recorded in our last issue, a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at St. Cuthbert's, Edinburgh, on February 19th, to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the dedication of the fine ring of eight bells (by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough), the gift to the church of the late Mrs. General Anderson. The peal was well struck throughout, and afforded considerable satisfaction in that three of the ringers scored their first peal in any method, and one scored her first peal of Grandsire. Two of the band, it will have been observed, were ladies. St. Cuthbert's Society can boast of four lady members, and too much praise can scarcely be bestowed on them for the immense interest they take in the work of the bellry. It is seldom, if ever, they miss a practice or attendance on Sundays for two services, and sometimes three, and they are always willing to take their share in forming a band to bring on beginners, which, as all know who have any experience of teaching change ringing, is a very important matter.

Following the peal, a sumptuous tea was provided in the Church Hall, and a pleasant evening ensued, at which all the members of the St. Cuthbert's Society were present, with the addition of Mr. W. B. Sampson, representing St. Mary's Cathedral, and Miss Brown and Mr. Lawson, representing St. James' Episcopal Church, Leith. The thanks of the society are specially due to the church officer and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. James Macdonald, for the trouble they took on this occasion.

The main object of this meeting, however, was not only to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the dedication of the bells but to acknowledge the completion of 25 years of valuable service by Mr. William C. S. Heathcote, the esteemed instructor and conductor of the St. Cuthbert's Society. Change ringing in Scotland does not enjoy the same popularity as it does south of the Tweed. Open practices are almost unknown, recruits are few in number, and peals have to be attempted very sparingly. It says a lot, therefore, for Mr. Heathcote that, in spite of all these difficulties, he has kept up the interest in change ringing that he has done during his 25 years at St. Cuthbert's.

In the course of the evening, Mr. Ellis was asked to act as the mouth-piece of Mr. Heathcote's fellow ringers and friends, and to express to him their appreciation of his untiring energy, exceptional patience and skill as an instructor. Mr. Ellis said that the society felt that they could not let an occasion like that pass without asking Mr. Heathcote to accept some tribute of the affection and esteem in which he was held by all who had had the pleasure of being associated with him. The suggestion to make Mr. Heathcote a presentation was taken up with the utmost enthusiasm, and subscriptions were willingly given. Those who had long ceased to have connection with St. Cuthbert's contributed, and the value of their contributions was enhanced by the letters received, all of which testified to the pleasure it gave them to be parties to the project and to the admiration held for Mr. Heathcote.

Mr. Ellis, on behalf of the subscribers, then handed to Mr. Heathcote a gold hunting watch, suitably inscribed, with a gold chain and a St. Cuthbert's cross attached also in gold. He said that if the beat of the watch proved as true to time as the beat of affection in the hearts of the subscribers, Mr. Heathcote would have no cause to complain.

Other members also spoke, including the only two now remaining of the original band formed in 1902, viz., Mr. Adam and Mr. Stocks.

Mr. Heathcote, on rising to reply, was greeted with much applause and the singing of 'He's a jolly good fellow.' He feelingly and suitably responded to the remarks that had been made.

On Wednesday evening, February 23rd, the annual dinner of the society was held in the Caledonian Station Hotel. Ladies and gentlemen to the number of about 100 were present, and a most enjoyable evening was spent. Mr. Fulton occupied the chair. The organist, Mr. Cowie, presided at the piano, and songs were rendered by ladies and gentlemen of the choir. A course of Grandsire Caters on handbells was rung by five members of the society, including two of the ladies.

The toast of 'The Donor of the Bells,' which was drunk in silence, was entrusted to the Rev. Dr. Maclean, senior minister of St. Cuthbert's, who had just returned from Australia.

'The Society of Change Ringers' was proposed by the Rev. Mr. Macleod, colleague to Dr. Maclean, and responded to by the secretary, Mr. Henry Mann.

The toast of 'The Church of Scotland' was eloquently proposed by Dr. Lyn, and replied to by the Rev. Dr. Maclean.

The Chairman, in a few well-chosen words, on behalf of the Kirk Session of St. Cuthbert's and with every expression of appreciation and goodwill, asked Mr. Heathcote's acceptance of a cheque for £25.—Mr. Heathcote, who was somewhat overwhelmed by being made the recipient of such a gift, spoke of the pleasure he had always had in his work as instructor to the Society of Change Ringers. He returned sincere and grateful thanks for the manner in which his services had been recognised by all concerned.

## BISHOP'S ENTHRONEMENT.

To celebrate the enthronement of the Bishop of Blackburn, on Monday, February 28th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes) was rung at Holy Trinity Church, Burnley, in 45 mins.: H. Wormwell 1, H. Entwistle 2, W. Stephenson 3, F. Bentley 4, W. Robinson 5, R. Hartley 6, W. Hunter (conductor) 7. The longest length in the method by ringers of 4 and 5. Owing to sickness, this was rung without a covering holl.

## SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.

### RANMOOR BELLS RESTORATION SCHEME.

Despite the unsettled state of the weather, about 50 members visited Ranmoor, on Saturday, March 5th, the towers represented being: Barnsley, Chesterfield, Dore, Handsworth, Killamash, Norton, Rotherham, Sheffield Cathedral, All Saints', St. Marie's, Treeton and Wortley, backed up by a strong contingent of the local company. The peal of eight bells are not in very good going order, consequently it was not surprising that the majority of attempts to bring touches round came to grief, though it was gratifying to land a course of London Surprise.

The Vicar, Rev. J. R. Lee Nicholls (a ringing member of the Society), conducted the service in the magnificent church, and gave a most interesting address which was commendable for its brevity.

Tea was provided in the local schoolroom with the usual thoroughness characteristic of the Ranmoor company, where the ringers were joined by the organist and the two churchwardens.

The business meeting, presided over by the Vicar, was opened by a course of Grandsire Caters on the handbells, after which the minutes of last year's annual meeting were passed 'as read.'

The balance sheet was presented, and showed a clear gain of £2 0s. 7d. on the year's working, which, together with the capital in the bank, indicated the society's worth at December 31st last to be £10 3s. 1d.

An extempore report for the year 1926 was given by the secretary (Mr. Colin Harrison), who took the opportunity to eulogise the services which the late Mr. Sam Thomas had rendered to the local company and the Sheffield District Society, and expressed the hope that the Vicar and his colleagues would in the near future take some steps to improving the condition of St. John's bells as a memorial to Mr. Thomas. Twenty-two peals had been rung during the year, which represented an increase of 7 over 1925, the methods ranging from Minor to Cinques, and including Grandsire, Treble Bob, Plain Bob, Little Bob, Double Norwich, Norfolk Surprise, Cambridge Surprise Major and Royal, New Cambridge, Yorkshire and London Surprise Major. The peal book was entered up to date, and the society had no outstanding financial liabilities whatever.

The whole of the officers and members of committees were re-elected with the exception of the president, Mr. Arthur Craven expressing the desire to retire on the grounds of indifferent health and other calls upon his time. Mr. J. P. Tarlton, of North Wingfield, was therefore unanimously elected to this honoured post for the ensuing year.

In replying to the vote of thanks to the Vicar, churchwardens and local company, the Rev. J. R. Lee Nicholls said that they fully appreciated the remarks of the secretary with regard to the condition of their bells. He agreed that their rehauling, etc., would be a fitting memorial to the late Mr. Sam Thomas, and the local Church Council were unanimous in their opinion regarding the welfare of the bells and their ringers. They had already received two tenders from leading bellfounders for carrying out the intended work, which approximated to £700, but owing to the bad times through which we were passing, and the heavy drain which the diocesan fund made upon their resources (their quota to this fund was £2400 annually), they did not think that the moment which they could call opportune had arrived to carry out an ambitious scheme.—Mr. Tindall, churchwarden, associated himself and his colleague with what the Vicar had said, and assured the gathering that the matter would not be shelved; they were only waiting for financial conditions to improve, so that, when they made their appeal for funds, they would be assured of a successful response.

Although the service, tea and business meeting occupied the best part of 2½ hours, members considered the time well spent in having the assurance that the Vicar and his colleagues were with them in their desire to perpetuate the memory of Sam Thomas in a lasting and much-hoped-for manner.

## LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

### ROSSENDALE BRANCH.

A well attended meeting of the Rosendale Branch was held at St. Nicholas', Newchurch, on Saturday, February 26th. Ringing was indulged in from 3 o'clock to 5.30, when an adjournment was made to the Boar's Head, to partake of 'hot pot' kindly provided by the Rector, and to which ample justice was done.

Afterwards, a meeting was held, the Rector, the Rev. G. E. Knapps Fisher, occupying the chair. It was decided to hold the next meeting at St. Saviour's, Bacup, the date to be arranged. Two new members were elected, and Mr. J. H. Banks proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector for his hospitality. This was seconded by Mr. Tom Rollerson, and the Rector responded. Thanks were also given to Mr. and Mrs. Cowell, the host and hostess, for providing such an excellent repast, to the Rector and wardens for use of bells, and to the local ringers for having all in order.

Every tower in the branch was represented, with one visitor, Mr. H. Davenport, of Todmorden, a total of 37 altogether.

After the meeting, an adjournment was made to the tower, where ringing was indulged in up to a late hour, and during the afternoon and evening Bob Minor, Grandsire, Stedman, Kent Treble Bob, Double Norwich, and other methods were rung. This proved one of the best meetings held in the district for a considerable time.

**ST. AUGUSTINE'S, KILBURN.****ANOTHER LONDON PEAL IN FIRST-RATE ORDER.**

The bells of this church were cast by Vanaerschodt, of Louvain, in 1898, and were originally so hung that they were obliged to be rung with clappers striking the wrong side in order to be heard at all. Even so, clear strike notes were unattainable, and the trebles were much overpowered. Last August the timber frame, which was not designed to take the stress of the bells when rung, was removed, and the bells were sent to Loughborough. Messrs. Taylor have now re-erected them in a cast-iron frame carried by steel girders. One of the bells has been recast, but the remainder, which have the angular lips characteristic of continental bells, have been tuned, and Messrs. Taylor have provided entirely new fittings, including ball bearings for the gudgeons and pulleys and force-feed lubricators for the bearings of the clappers. The clock chimes have been altered, so as to produce correct Cambridge chimes, with an octave interval between the chimes and the hour bell.

The bells were rerung for the first time for evensong on February 23rd, the eve of the Feast of the Dedication of the church, when, after rounds had been rung by a local band, 420 Stedman Triples was rung by: E. M. Atkins (conductor) 1, J. A. Trollope 2, C. T. Coles 3, Miss E. K. Parker 4, G. M. Kilby 5, R. Holloway 6, G. Fletcher 7, Rev. M. C. Edgar 8. Afterwards touches of Double Norwich, Kent and Grand-sire were rung. On the following evening, 180 Bob Minor was rung by the following local band: W. Ball 1, Rev. M. C. Edgar 2, G. Margetts 3, Mrs. F. A. Atkins 4, A. Gardner 5, E. M. Atkins 6, R. Gilbert 7, H. L. Jones 8.

The bells will normally be rung on Sundays 10.15-11 and 5.45-6.30 (except in evening of first Sunday in the month), and on Thursdays 8.9.30, when any visitors will be welcome. They are not to be rung, however, during the last fortnight of Lent.

**MR. W. J. NEVARD'S THANKS.**

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I should like, through the medium of 'The Ringing World,' to thank most heartily all kind subscribers for their handsome and unexpected gift of a cup presented to me at Colchester in celebration of my 50 years' ringing, and particularly those who, for various reasons, were unable to be present at the presentation by the Lord Bishop of Colchester.—Yours, etc.,

W. J. NEVARD.

The Myrtles, Great Bentley.

**WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.****ISLE OF WIGHT DISTRICT.**

A quarterly meeting of this district was held at Freshwater on Saturday, February 26th, when, owing to illness amongst island ringers, there was a poor attendance of members. Arrangements had been made by the Rector for the bells to be half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Rev. C. E. Matthews, vice-president of the Guild, and ringing commenced with the whole pull and stand rung 63 times. Prior to the service, 360 Bob Minor was rung: A. Long (Carisbrooke) 1, Mr. H. Barton (conductor) 2, Dr. J. B. Williamson (Ventnor) 3, F. Taylor (Carisbrooke) 4, B. J. Snow 5, A. R. Ward (Ryde) 6. The Rector, who conducted the service, made special reference to the passing of the late Rev. C. E. Matthews, who was a lover of bells, a friend of the ringers, and an ardent worker in promoting the interest of the art and in all Guild matters.

Both of the hymns in the Guild's form of service, written by the deceased, were sung, and at the close of the service the organist, Mr. J. H. G. Ives, played the 'Dead March.'

The members were entertained at the Parish Hall by the Rector and Mrs. Coombes to a sumptuous tea; and at the short business meeting following, over which the Rector presided, it was resolved to hold the next quarterly meeting at Brading on Saturday, May 28th, also a combined practice meeting at Carisbrooke on Saturday, April 30th.—The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Rev. H. E. H. Coombes and Mrs. Coombes for their kind hospitality, also to Mr. Ives, the organist, for his service. Further ringing on handbells and the church bells was then indulged in.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

The quarterly meeting of the Ashford District was held at Appledore on February 26th, but the attendance was not up to the usual average, only 17 members being present, representing Ashford, Frittenden, Hythe, Lydd, Stone, Tenterden, Willesborough, and the local band. Service was conducted by the Vicar (Rev. A. O. Scott), and tea was partaken of at the Swan Hotel, kindly provided by the secretary.

The Vicar, having another engagement, gave a few words of welcome before leaving at the business meeting which followed. Mr. A. J. Battin was voted to the chair. It was decided to hold the next meeting at Rolvenden on May 21st.

Six new members were then elected, and the secretary gave a brief report of the committee meeting held at Maidstone in November.—Votes of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and to Mr. G. Johnson, who had things ready, concluded the business, and a return was made to the tower, where the bells were kept going till 8.30.

# John Taylor & Co.

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## BELFRY GOSSIP.

Messrs. J. B. Joyce and Co., Ltd., Whitechurch, Salop, have just erected a new striking clock at Grinshill Church, Salop. They have also in hand a new striking clock for Tisbury Church, Wilts.

A writer in a London daily the other day referred to the 'tortures of the church bell,' and said that as the members of 14 other denominations can assemble without the clanging bell it is not necessary for the remainder.

He evidently overlooked the fact that most of the members of the other 14 denominations take their time from the church bell. Their services usually commence at the same hours, and the church bell, although provided by someone else, answers their purpose as well. They might not admit it, but—well, it is so.

We have had to wait until 1927 for the first peal of London Bob Triples. It was rung at Bridgend, Glamorganshire, on Saturday last, conducted by C. H. Perry. This method, which is quite interesting to ring, is given in C.C.C. of Methods as No. 5, but for some reason it is not named there.

The most interesting anniversary which falls next week, and one which ought to be duly celebrated, is the bicentenary of the first peal at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields. It was a 6,006 Grandsire Cinques, rung by the London Scholars on March 14th, 1727. It was one of the only three peals known to have been rung by the society.

The church had been consecrated on October 26th, 1726, and it is thought to be not unlikely that the society had its headquarters at St. Martin's. On the day following the London Scholars' successful peal, the College Youths had the use of the bells, and, going one better in regard to length, rang 6,314 Grandsire Cinques, which was called by Benjamin Annable.

These peals are outstanding events in the early history of ringing, and the 200th anniversary ought not to pass without suitable recognition.

Messrs. Gillett and Johnston are to recast the existing peal of five at Ropley, Hants, and add a treble. The peal of six will be rehanging in a new frame with new fittings throughout.

The first peal of Treble Bob Maximus was rung at Southwark on March 12th, 1758, by the College Youths.

Ninety years ago next Monday a peal of 10,133 Grandsire Caters was rung at Christ Church, Bristol.

Wednesday is the 160th anniversary of a peal of 10,080 Bob Major, rung at Debenham. This peal was excellently completed in six hours and one minute, a performance never before accomplished by eight men without assistance to ye great bells.

The first peal of Violet Treble Bob Major was rung at St. Peter's, Huddersfield, on March 16th, 1865.

Birthday greetings to Mr. Challis F. Winney, who was born at Nayland, Suffolk, on March 17th, 1858.

The 'Shrewsbury Chronicle' last week quoted the following from its issue of Saturday, March 1st, 1777: 'On Tuesday last was rung, at St. Mary's Church, in this town, by the Society of Change Ringers, the quarter-peal of Bob Major, containing 10,080 changes, in 5 hours and 56 minutes. To those who know the strict attention necessary to be supported by every person engaged in such an undertaking, during so long a period, this performance must appear very extraordinary; and what adds to the merit of the performers is their completing it at the first attempt.'

The ringer of the 7th in the 11,008 Double Norwich Major at Erith, on February 26th, was F. J. Cullam, not Cunningham. The ringer of the 6th in the peal at Pulford on February 5th was Albert J. Hughes, not James Swindley, as published.

A well-known figure in Yorkshire ringing circles has passed away in the person of Mr. Thomas Henry Haigh, of the York Minster Society, who died last week at the age of 74 years.

The Lord Mayor of London having kindly placed a room at the disposal of the Central Council for their Whitsuntide gathering, the meeting will be held at the Mansion House. This, we believe, will be the first time a Council meeting has been held 'in the City.'

## 'RUNG FOR THE FIRST TIME.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I may be thought awfully particular, but very frequently footnotes to peals state: 'This composition is now rung for the first time.' Now, without any reference of files of peals in various methods, how can one be certain that this assertion is correct, especially in Cambridge Royal, in which true peals are somewhat more limited than in other methods?

It is to be hoped that this subject will be on the agenda at the next Central Council meeting, and something definite decided on.—Yours truly,

G. E. SYMONDS.

St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich.

## RINGER'S BEREAVEMENT.

Much sympathy is felt for Mr. Edward Young of Thornham, by the loss of his wife, who died on February 23rd at the age of 68. After the funeral on Monday, Feb. 28th, the bells were rung, with half-muffled clappers, to touches in various methods by Messrs. Berry, Blaxwell, Lockwood, Moss, Nunn, Poppy and Steggalls.



## PROPOSED NEW PEAL OF 12 FOR KENSINGTON.

## OVER £100 COLLECTED AT GUILD'S DINNER.

The annual dinner of the St. Mary Abbot's Guild, Kensington, took place at the Parish Hall on Tuesday evening, February 28th. The visitors present were: The Vicar, the Rev. E. Marling Roberts, Rev. R. C. L. Williams, D.S.O. (chaplain to the Guild), Rev. H. H. Low, Rural Dean, Rev. S. A. Spackman, Mr. T. Groombridge (Master), Mr. W. J. Cockerill (hon. secretary of the College Youths), Mr. R. A. Daniell, Mr. E. Brown, Mrs. Wilkins, Bristol (hon. member), and the churchwardens, Mr. R. Carter (hon. treasurer of the Guild) and Mr. H. V. Kenyon. Letters regretting their inability to attend were received from Dr. Forrest Brown, sometime Bishop of Bristol (a resident of the parish and 93 years of age), Rev. R. F. R. Routh (a former member of the Guild), Capt. Fielding (church secretary), Mr. Shuttleworth (organist), Mr. A. B. Bennett, Mr. J. A. Dart, and Mr. W. H. Fussell. The unfortunate accident that befell Mr. Fussell not only prevented him from being present at the dinner but prevented him from making up to date the peal book of the Guild. This book, which is usually open to inspection at the dinner, was therefore not on view this year. Hopes were expressed that Mr. Fussell would speedily recover.

The proposal to take down the existing ring of ten bells (tenor 32 cwt.) and replace them by a slightly heavier ring of twelve, was brought up again at this dinner, the scheme having been in abeyance since 1913. Mr. Brown was the first to offer a donation, and Mr. Carter, who has done such great work for the Guild, immediately took up the cause, contributing a very handsome donation himself. Well over £100 was collected from those present at the dinner. An appeal is to be made for funds in order that the work may be put in hand as soon as possible.

The toast of 'The King' was proposed by the Vicar; 'The Church' was submitted by Mr. Smith and responded to by the Vicar; Mr. R. A. Daniell proposed 'The Guild,' and this was responded to by Mr. Garrard, who gave a report of the year's working. He reported that 11 quarter-peals and two peals of Stedman Caters had been rung.

The Vicar then specially thanked Mr. Garrard for his great work in the belfry.

The next toast was 'The Visitors,' proposed by Mr. Selby and responded to by the Rev. S. A. Spackman, the Rev. H. H. Low, and Mr. Cockerill. The health of 'The Hon. Treasurer' (Mr. Carter) was proposed by Mr. Sadler, and Mr. Carter responded amidst cheers from all present. During the past year, Mr. Carter has made numerous gifts to the Guild, among which is a new clock in the belfry.

After the toast list, songs and recitations were given by Mr. Daniell, Rev. R. C. L. Williams, Mr. Harris and Mr. Miles.

A course of Stedman Cinques and a course of Grandsire Caters were rung, the following taking part: Messrs. Daniell, Cockerill, Winney, Miles, Judd, Groombridge and Roberts. The evening terminated with the singing of 'Auld Lang Syne.'

## HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

## WESTERN DISTRICT.

A useful meeting was held at Hemel Hempstead on Saturday, February 26th, members attending from Redbourn, Apsley End, King's Langley, Berkhamsted, Tring, Harpenden and the local band. The bells, available from 3 p.m., were made full use of in the following methods: Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Kent and Little Bob. Double Norwich was attempted, but would not materialise.

A short service was conducted by the Vicar, who gave a very appropriate address as well as interesting information about the bells of that tower. Afterwards, the whole company adjourned to St. Mary's Hall, where the Vicar had made ample preparations for a goodly company.

At the business meeting which followed, the Vicar (unanimously voted to the chair) cordially welcomed the ringers to Hemel Hempstead and offered apologies for the absence of Mrs. Robson and the churchwarden, but handed rounded cigarettes from the latter, in lieu of his presence that afternoon.

Two new members were elected, Mr. E. J. Wynn (Hemel Hempstead) and Mr. Robert Bruce (Apsley), and the election of Mr. C. W. Roberts prior to a peal was ratified.

The next meeting was arranged for Northchurch, the date to be left with the Rector and the secretary. The quarterly peal attempt was also left with the secretary.

The next combined practice was fixed for King's Langley, on Tuesday, March 8th, at 7.30 p.m. It was unanimously agreed that the secretary write to the Berkhamsted Parochial Council, drawing their attention to the condition of the 5th and 6th bells, and respectfully asking if they might suggest that this matter be one of the chief objects of improvement in the parish this year.

The Redbourn band, present at the meeting, were congratulated on having had four of their members included in a peal on their own bells.

A very hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for his generosity in providing tea, for allowing the use of the bells, and for the interesting address he gave.

A course each of Grandsire Triples and Bob Minor in hand concluded this part of the programme. The ringers then adjourned for more tower ringing. Had the weather been at all kind, the meeting would have been one of the largest ever held in the Western District.

## THE INSTRUCTION OF BEGINNERS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Your editorial in 'The Ringing World' of March 4th is good as far as it goes, but it does not touch the root of the matter. There certainly is need for an overhaul of the many instruction books in change ringing. I have most of these, from 'Grandsire Simply Explained' to Troyte and the whole Snowdon series, and though I believe I am endowed with an average amount of brain power, I must confess I have found them of very little value to me as a beginner. For so ancient an art the literature of change ringing is disgraceful. There does not appear to be a single writer on the subject who is able to express himself in explicit and grammatical English, and every authority seems to vie with every other in making confusion worse confounded. As for any ability to teach, it does not appear to exist at all in any writer on the subject.

There remains, then (I am thinking of the absolute beginner), only one way of learning the art, and that is by practical instruction in the belfry, but there is a great difference between the practical ringer and the efficient teacher. After seeing the methods adopted in about a dozen towers in different parts of the country, I have found only three or four instructors who have any teaching ability at all. I have watched three experts trying to teach a beginner at the same time. No. 1 told him to 'Make third's and go out back'; No. 2, 'Lead and hunt up'; No. 3, 'Go behind in the compass of four and get back in the compass of three,' while the ringer himself was mentally following what another expert had taught him, 'Lead, lead, 1-2, 1-2, lead, lead, 5-3-1-2-5-3,' etc. Now, sir, what value is there in instruction of this sort? Its certain result is that a novice, who has been kept up to rounds and call changes, gets 'fed up' and drops out after a few lessons of this sort in change ringing. I own that the experts have always been ready to teach me what they know, and many a time I have wished that they wouldn't!

There is such unholy haste to get young ringers on to plain courses, 60's and 120's, that there is no time for real instruction. Does anybody expect that a child who has just learnt to count 10 will be put straight on to the working of intricate problems with a schoolmaster shouting at him to tell him what figures to put down next? No, he must learn his tables and his four elementary rules. I have seldom seen any systematic teaching of the four rules of change ringing—counting the place, hunting, dodging and placemaking—but the novice is taken by the neck straight from his counting rounds and flung into the problems of Grandsire or Minor. It is of no use for the pundits to deplore the decline of the art while they make no effort really to teach the novice.

What is needed is a standardised system of instruction, the use of exactly the same terms, always bearing the same meaning, and the instruction of the instructors. It would be an excellent idea for the central authority to draw up a book of formal, systematic and progressive instruction which the various Guilds could adopt for the use of their ringers. The Guild could even arrange 'refresher courses' for the captains of belfries, so that they would be taught how to put their knowledge into a form that would be assimilated by their bands.

'The Ringing World' itself is much to blame for the present state of affairs, as it does little or nothing for the learner. Of what use to gardening would a horticultural journal be that confined its activities to the recording of the weights of the biggest marrows grown in the country and the occasional analysis of a chemical manure? 'The Ringing World' does little more than this for ringers.

If the central authority cannot adopt the idea of systematising the instruction in change ringing, why cannot 'The Ringing World' step in and do so? Then this journal would become a living force in the Exercise and not remain what it now is—the mere tombstone of a declining art.—Yours truly,

J. P. ARMSTRONG.

The School House,  
Brockenhurst, Hants.

[Surely our correspondent's apportionment of blame to 'The Ringing World' for the state of affairs of which he complains is as much unwarranted as would be similar strictures on a horticultural journal for the failure of a potato crop through the incapacity of a so-called 'gardener.' That some form of systematised instruction in our art is necessary, we agree, but even in schools teaching is not done through a newspaper—schoolmasters and textbooks are employed.—Ed. 'R.W.']

## BELLS AND GUIDE BOOKS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In the guide and touring books issued by the railway companies, town councils, and travel bureaux, one generally finds a description of the churches in the various places treated in these books.

Often the architecture, the style of the tower, the interior, and the organ are described in detail, but rarely are the bells mentioned.

Could not something be done to remedy this state of things, as surely the bells are just as much a part of the church as a carved oak lectern?

Besides, reference to the bells would tend to keep alive the public's interest in them, and possibly induce some wealthy tourist to have his own neglected parish church bells put in order on his return home.—Yours faithfully,

'OBSERVER.'

## NEW TOWER AND BELLS AT CRESWELL.

### A PERFECT PEAL FROM LOUGHBOROUGH.

Creswell, a mining village on the borders of Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, and situated in the Dukeries, three miles from Welbeck Abbey, the seat of the Duke of Portland, has just completed its Parish Church by the addition of a tower and ring of eight bells, and set the seal to one of the most successful schemes of parochial co-operation ever undertaken in a comparatively small town.

Some 13 or 14 years ago, Mr. S. Evans, J.P., Mr. John Eyre, the late Mr. Reuben Davies, and Mr. J. T. Blagg, agreed to subscribe £100 each to the proposed scheme. Through many reasons, including, of course, the Great War, the scheme was not proceeded with until the advent of the present Vicar (the Rev. W. Kay, D.S.O., M.C., M.A.), who immediately took the matter in hand, and has since worked with unflinching energy to realise its maturity. The serious work commenced in October, 1922, and since then all kinds of efforts have been made in aid of the scheme by the various sections of the church. Bazaars, dances, whist drives, etc., have been held in galore in order to augment the funds, but the most outstanding fact is that the parishioners themselves, including people of other denominations, decided by a canvass of the village, to support the scheme in its entirety. As a result of this canvass, no less than 1,231 people made weekly contributions to the effort. Altogether, the building of the tower and bells will cost a little over £4,000, of which about £3,667 has already been subscribed, and, judging from the support the scheme has already received, the balance will be forthcoming in a very short time.

The tower itself is a work of art, and congratulations must be showered upon the people who have been responsible for its erection. It is built in a late decorated style, with handmade brick, together with Weldon stone dressings, while the woodwork (doors, etc.) is of oak. The carvings in the tower (carried out by Messrs. A. H. Borrowdale and Sons, monumental sculptors, of London and Workson), comprise 18 ornamental bosses, eight of which are symbolic emblems. Those on the north and south sides represent the four evangelists, viz., Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John. The remaining ones on the tower are in the form of gargoyles, while those over the West doorway are ornamental floral bosses from the architects' design.

The bells, which come from the Loughborough Foundry, are 'harmonically' perfect, being tuned on the Taylor 'true harmonic' system, by which each bell is made absolutely true in itself, and also in perfect accord with the other bells. All the latest improvements in hanging and in the fittings have been introduced, including ball bearings. The new hollow box section cast iron headstocks, which have now replaced the wooden type, do not require screwing up and adjusting as did the old ones, and the improved design of clapper joints is of a vastly superior type. The Creswell bells are hung in a new strong and massive iron framework, designed specially for them, the frame being supported by stout steel girders, well-braced and bolted together, the ends of which are grouted into the tower walls, and, in addition to supporting the frame, are thereby a source of strength to the tower. The tenor is 12 cwt. 2 qr. 4 lb. in F sharp.

The bells are a very fine ring of eight, and great credit is due to Messrs. Taylor and Co., as the whole job is really as near perfection as possible.

The inscriptions on the bells are as follows:

Tenor.—'For the Honour of God this peal was hung in 1926 by the Parishioners.' W. Kay, D.S.O., M.C., M.A., Vicar; J. W. Eadson, J. W. Shacklock, Churchwardens.

7th.—'To the Glory of God in loving memory of Hannah Blagg and Ann Ellis. The gift of John Thomas and Sarah Ann Blagg, 1926.'

6th.—'To the Glory of God in memory of Father, Mother and Brothers. The gift of John Eyre.'

5th.—'To the Glory of God and in loving memory of Reuben Davies. The gift of his Wife and Children, 1926.'

4th.—'To the Glory of God and in loving memory of Richard Skinner (born 1825, died 1911) and Emily Skinner (born 1835, died 1913). This Bell was presented by their daughter, Ann Day, 1926.'

3rd.—'Day by Day we magnify Thee.'

2nd.—'We praise Thee; we bless Thee; we glorify Thee.'

Treble.—'To the Honour of our blessed Lord Jesus. The Children's Bell.'

The dedication was performed by the Bishop of Southwell (Dr. Heywood) on Saturday, February 26th, and the event aroused great pleasure and interest among the parishioners. The village was a scene of animation long before the time of the service, and the famous Creswell Colliery prize band, anxious to take their part in the day's proceedings, led the procession of Boys' Brigade, which formed a guard of honour to their graces the Duke and Duchess of Portland, who attended. The church was crowded to excess, hundreds having to be content to remain outside, anxiously waiting to hear their bells. The service, which commenced at 2.45 p.m., was conducted by the Vicar, assisted by the Rev. R. F. Wilkinson, and many clergy from neighbouring parishes. The lower and bells were dedicated by the Bishop, and, while he with the clergy and choir returned to the chancel, the newly-formed band of Creswell ringers rang rounds for a few minutes. They did this exceptionally well, so well, indeed, that several older ringers could scarcely believe that they had not been helped.

The Bishop gave an address, in which he referred to the part which the bells played in the Christian life, and spoke, incidentally, of the practical interest in ringing in that county which had been taken in the past by his cousin, the late Sir Arthur Heywood.

After the service, the Bolsover ringers rang a four-course touch of Double Norwich, after which the bells were open to visiting ringers, and touches and courses were rung in the following methods: Kens Treble Bob, Stedman Triples, Superlative, Cambridge, Norfolk, London, Original Major, Duke of York and Bob Major, several of the Creswell ringers taking part in the latter.

A public tea was provided, to which 450 sat down, and about thirty ringers were invited. Congratulatory speeches were made by, among others, the Duke and Duchess of Portland, and the architect for the tower (Mr. Lewis Ambler, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., of Temple Chambers, London), representatives of the builders (Messrs. Vallance and Son, of Mansfield), and Mr. Pryce Taylor, representing the founders, were present.

The bells were kept going until 8.45 p.m., and arrangements were made for a band to stay overnight to ring for Sunday service. The methods rung for service were: Grandsire Triples, Double Norwich, Superlative, Cambridge, Yorkshire, London and Bristol. It is to be hoped the Creswell band will make headway after so brilliant a beginning. They have everything in their favour—beautiful bells, a good ringing room and an interested Vicar.

## RICKMANSWORTH BELLS TO BE AUGMENTED.

### TWO TREBLES TO MAKE A RING OF TEN.

The second annual dinner of the Rickmansworth Society took place on Tuesday evening, March 1st. Proceedings commenced by ringing from 6.30 till 8 o'clock, Cambridge, Superlative, Double Norwich, Stedman and Grandsire Triples being rung, and every touch brought round in good style. The company, 18 in all, then sat down to an excellent repast at the Red Spider tea-rooms, where the inner man was well attended to by the genial proprietor, Mr. Willard. The company included the Vicar (the Rev. Newton), Major F. Hinton and Mr. Clubb (churchwardens), Capt. J. H. R. Freeborn, Messrs. F. Brinklow and H. Hodgetts (Oxhey), M. F. R. Hibbert and C. H. Horton (Bushey), and Mr. S. H. Hoare (Watford).

Two toasts were proposed by Capt. Freeborn, viz., 'The Vicar and Churchwardens,' to which all three gentlemen responded, and 'The Visitors.' In proposing the latter toast, Mr. Freeborn alluded to a remark of Mr. Clubb, as to his ignorance of the art of change ringing, and said that in every trade or hobby the outsider could understand something about it, except in ringing. He said that all their ringing visitors that evening were expert men, and extended to them the thanks of the local band for their presence. He mentioned that the fund for the proposed two new bells would be opened shortly, and asked for the visitors co-operation in their towers.

Mr. Horton replied, and said that when he received the courteous invitation to be present he made haste to accept, knowing he was on a good thing. He alluded to the good attendances at the Herts Association district meetings, and thanked all present for their loyal support. He promised the support of the visitors to the scheme for making the Rickmansworth peal into ten, saying that such a peal was needed on that side of Hertfordshire.

At the close, Mr. Foster, the hon. secretary of the band, proposed a vote of thanks to Capt. Freeborn for the keen interest he takes in the local company. The company dispersed at 10 p.m., everyone agreeing that the evening had been most enjoyable.

## YOUNG RINGERS DISCOURAGED.

### To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Allow me space to fall in line with your correspondent, Mr. James H. Hales, who writes in your issue of February 4th. Mr. Hales gives an incident of a church in London where the ringers were paid for festivals. He goes on to say that a year ago he had a band of very keen young fellows who took a great interest in the art. At the time of these festivals they were ousted by some elderly and more experienced men, who, after collecting the few shillings due to them, vanished and did not appear again until the next pay-day, and thus offended and put an end to a very promising band. Putting aside the money point of view, this is exactly what is happening here and in many other places to-day. Only a few days ago I witnessed a similar incident in a steeple where a peal of eight have just undergone recasting and rehangings, and were to be rung for the first time since their return, for testing purposes. Instead of the ringers of the church, who are also chiefly young men, ringing them themselves, they, likewise, were ousted by a lot of elderly and more experienced men, who only put in an appearance when there is something special on, or when they want a peal. Consequently, what happened? Likewise, the local men turned away downhearted. It is nothing but these selfish shabby tricks that prevent young fellows taking the proper interest in ringing. There is that sex, who, when they become aged and experienced, especially if they hold some office, are inclined to be rather humphious and like to show their authority. From my experience, young fellows will not put up with this kind of thing nowadays. Where a thing is voluntary, there should be every encouragement, not punishment, given to those who volunteer. As your correspondent says, one often sees the question put in 'The Ringing World,' 'How can we keep young fellows interested in the art?' There are many eager and willing to be taught, I for one, but it is the selfishness of a certain number that keeps them away. Such, at any rate, is the opinion of

PERCY AMOS.

47, Overstone Road, Northampton.

### 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.

155, Rushey Green, S.E.6.

E. A. YOUNG.

### CHEAP RAILWAY TRAVELLING FACILITIES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Will you please publish the enclosed letters, by which the Exercise will gather that certain negotiations are pending in respect to the above, but so far, I fear, with little success.

May I ask those ringers who think they would care to avail themselves of the opportunity of a Sunday to Wednesday ticket to London at Whitsuntide, to please advise me of their names and numbers, as it will be necessary for me to have the vouchers printed, so that they can be issued by me in a proper and formal manner. It is obvious that unless taken up by a fairly large number it will not be worth while proceeding with at all.—Yours faithfully,

E. ALEX. YOUNG,

Hon. Sec.

Railway Clearing House,  
Seymour Street, Euston Square,  
London, N.W.1.

March 2nd, 1927.

### BELLRINGERS' ASSOCIATIONS' ANNUAL MEETING.

#### BELLRINGERS' ASSOCIATIONS' PERIODICAL MEETINGS.

Dear Sir,—With reference to your letter of January 25th last, and to your call with Rev. Canon G. F. Coleridge at this office on the 8th ultimo, I have pleasure in informing you that the railway companies in Great Britain (except the Metropolitan, Metropolitan District and London Electric Railway Companies) have agreed to issue tickets at the ordinary single fare and one-third for the double journey, fractions of 5d. reckoned as 3d., minimum adult fare 1s., to persons travelling to attend the annual meeting of the bellringers' associations this year. Vouchers (to be printed by you in similar form to specimen attached), duly filled in, and signed personally by you, must be surrendered at the booking offices by the persons in whose favour the forms are issued. The cheap rail tickets will be available from the day before to the day after the meeting, and, in order that the various railway companies may be advised, I shall be glad if you will kindly advise me the place and actual dates of the meeting. (Sunday is a dies non).

I am desirous to add that if the total number of passengers who avail themselves of this facility falls below 200, the concession will not be repeated next year.

With regard to your application for a similar concession to be granted for the periodical meetings of bellringers' associations, the railway companies regret they cannot see their way to accede to your request.—Yours faithfully,

(Signed) P. H. PRICE.

E. Alex. Young, Esq.,

155, Rushey Green, Catford, S.E.6.

5th March, 1927.

### BELLRINGERS' ASSOCIATIONS' ANNUAL MEETING.

#### BELLRINGERS' ASSOCIATIONS' PERIODICAL MEETINGS.

Dear Sir,—I am obliged by your letter of the 2nd inst., and for your good offices in putting our case in the proper quarter. I observe that the railway companies mentioned are prepared to grant cheap travelling facilities for our annual meeting only, and that if the total number of passengers availing themselves of this facility falls below 200 it will not be repeated next year.

The meeting this year is in London, and by the courtesy of the Lord Mayor will be held in the Mansion House on Whit Tuesday, commencing at 9.45 a.m.

As our total number of elected representatives is only some 120, of which possibly a few might care to bring interested parties other than representatives with them, of course there is little likelihood of the 200 tickets being sold. But I take it that it is deemed desirable that the concession should be tried, in which I agree, for it might form the basis of further negotiations at a subsequent time.—Yours faithfully,

(Signed) E. ALEX. YOUNG,

Hon. Sec.

P. H. Price, Esq.,

Railway Clearing House.

### THE NEW LEICESTER DIOCESE.

The Sunday service band of All Saints', Wigston Magna, rang in honour of the hallowing of Leicester Cathedral on Monday, February 21st, 1,536 Kent Treble Bob: A. Pacey 1, W. Brown 2, W. Humberstone 3, A. Chamberlain 4, H. Carter 5, G. Deacon 6, J. Carter (longest touch of Treble Bob as conductor) 7, F. Lloyd 8. This was the longest touch of Treble Bob by ringers of 1, 4, 5 and 6.

ROMERTON.—At the Church of St. Paul, Glyn Road, on Tuesday, February 22nd, for practice, a plain course of Bob Minor: A. W. Clark 1, J. Ward 2, J. A. Hales 3, H. Jeffreys 4, E. Dymont 5, J. Waugh 6. First plain course by ringers of 1, 2, 4, 5, who are members of the local band. Also 120 Grandsire Doubles: A. W. Clarke (conductor) 1, J. Ward 2, G. W. T. Briggs (first 120 inside) 3, G. Ventris 4, E. Dymont 5, J. Waugh 6.

### LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

#### MOTION FOR LOWER ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION DEFEATED.

There was a representative attendance of members of the Elton Deaneries Branch of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild at Spalding on Saturday, February 26th, when the annual meeting of the branch was held. About 50 sat down to tea, and at the business meeting there were present representatives of the following towers: Bicker, Butterwick, Deeping St. Nicholas, Donington, Folkingham, Fleet, Long Sutton, Lutton, Holbeach, Market Deeping, Moulton, Peterborough, Pinchbeck, Spalding and Surfleet.

The meeting was presided over by the Rev. H. Law James, M.A., Vicar of Surfleet, the Ringing Master of the Guild, who apologised for the absence of the Rev. B. G. Nicholas, Vicar of Spalding, who was unable to be present owing to being occupied in visiting the many sick in the town. He also regretted that, unfortunately, there could be no ringing that day at the Parish Church, as was the usual custom at their annual meetings, on account of sickness in the neighbourhood. Other peals of bells in the immediate neighbourhood, however, were available, and some ringers had already that afternoon rung at Fulney.

The following were elected officers for 1927: President, Rev. G. H. Clarke (Vicar of Bicker); vice-presidents, Rev. B. G. Nicholas, Spalding; Canon Hutchinson, Holbeach; Rev. H. Law James, Surfleet; Rev. E. Creswell Gee, Pinchbeck; Rev. T. G. Dovitt, Fleet; and Mr. G. W. Hensman, Pinchbeck: hon. secretary, Mr. G. Ladd, Pinchbeck: hon. treasurer, Mr. R. Smith, Spalding; hon. auditors, Mr. Rupert Richardson, Surfleet, and Mr. J. T. Brown, Spalding.

Mr. P. Bray, Lutton, was elected a ringing member.

A resolution that the subscription of ringing members be lowered, and that no expenses be allowed to members attending meetings, was practically unanimously defeated.

For the next places of meeting, the following were decided: Bicker (Saturday in Whitsun week), Holbeach (July 23rd), and Surfleet (October 8th), and secretaries of other branches are asked to note these dates.

The treasurer presented the balance sheet, which showed a balance in hand of £30 8s. 5d. Everyone agreed that this was most satisfactory.

On the proposition of Mr. R. Richardson, it was decided to make a collection at the close of the meeting, there being no special ringers' service that day. The collection amounted to £1, and will be devoted to the belfry repairs fund.

On the conclusion of the meeting, those not partaking in ringing were invited to attend evensong at the Parish Church. A party was made up to visit Surfleet, where they enjoyed ringing on the peal of ten.

### LINCOLN DISTRICT'S SUCCESSFUL MEETING.

The Lincoln District held the first of their meetings for the current session at Bassingham on Saturday, February 26th. The meeting was successful, and ringers were present from Lincoln, Gainsborough, Blunkney, Branston, Washingborough, Collingham, and the local tower. The bells, a recently augmented peal of six, were set in motion early in the afternoon, and the local ringers, a very enthusiastic band, were given every opportunity of acquiring the art of change ringing.

A service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. T. I. Pocock. An excellent tea was served in the adjoining schoolroom, and the ringers found it difficult to avoid a 'change course' among the exquisite dainties before 'stand' was called.

A business meeting followed, over which the Rector presided. Letters were read by the secretary (Mr. H. Maroon) concerning the Eagle ringers, who had been asked to join the Guild, and it was decided that a representative body should visit this tower, and the secretary was asked to arrange accordingly.

Comprehensive were the thanks accorded to the Rector, members of the choir, the organist, and also the caterers.

Prior to the close of the meeting, the Rev. Pocock was complimented upon his excellent address, which, while being both interesting and instructive, was not so much in common with many other ringers' service addresses, and the resultant change was greatly appreciated.

Handbell ringing was indulged in vigorously in the following methods: Grandsire Triples and Caters, Bob Major and Royal. An attempt at a course of Treble Ten evidently presented some difficulty, as the band were unable to complete the distance in this instance. Ringing on the tower bells continued until nine o'clock, and by that time a good variety of methods had been rung, including Grandsire and Sledman Doubles, Plain Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, Oxford Bob, St. Clement's, Cambridge and London Surprise.

Experience goes a long way, so the saying goes, and the experience of one ringer during the ringing of Oxford Bob resulted in a jocular comment being made when 'stand' was called. It appears that he did not hear the 'bob' portion of the method's term, and, of course, following the 'go next' he experienced difficulty in traversing his bell in Treble Bob style. The 'go' of the bells was excellent, and the easy swinging treble seemed to be a little too spirited on the hack stroke for some of the 'plain bearing' ringers. The bells were lowered about nine o'clock, and the chiming apparatus was manipulated to the tune of 'Now the day is over,' a most appropriate conclusion for the day.

TUSHINGHAM, CHESHIRE.—On March 3rd, 720 Oxford Bob Minor: S. Jones 1, J. W. Clarke 2, G. Jones 3, E. V. Rodenhurst 4, J. Morgan 5, A. E. Richards (conductor) 6.



## BOW BELLS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Can you obtain and give us any correct information as to what really is the matter with the bells and steeple of St. Mary-le-Bow? One report states that the fabric of the steeple is unsafe; another that the fittings of the bells are out of order; while another goes so far as to say that the noble tenor is cracked.

I am sure that most of the readers of 'The Ringing World' would be glad to have a correct report on this matter.

A good many repairs and additions to the steeple and bells have been made since the church was rebuilt by Wren, after the Great Fire of 1666.

In the 'Gentleman's Magazine' for November, 1822, it is stated that after the rebuilding of the church, 'the steeple was prepared for twelve bells, but that only eight were hung there.' These bells, I believe, were cast by John and Christopher Hodson. In 1738, the tenor, being cracked, was recast by Richard Phelps and Thomas Lester jointly. Phelps died in the same year, and the Whitechapel foundry was then carried on by Thomas Lester alone, who afterwards took Thomas Pack into partnership with him. The present tenor is the one mentioned above. The account in the 'Gentleman's Magazine' goes on to say that 'the tenor bell is the completest in Europe, but that the other seven are very much inferior, and by no means suitable to the said tenor.'

At this time it was proposed to recast the front seven bells and to add two trebles to make a peal of ten. The steeple was accordingly examined by Dance and Chambers, the two ablest architects of the day, who reported, 'that such additional weight, nor any weight that can be put upon it, will have any greater effect than the number of bells now placed there.' Accordingly nine new bells were cast from the old front seven with additional metal by Lester and Pack, thus forming a peal of ten, with the old tenor retained. They were rung for the first time on June 4th, 1762.

The steeple was again repaired under the direction of Mr. George Gwilt in 1819, when the belfry was surrounded by strong iron braces, both internally and in the masonry itself, the ashlar or external face being cut through to admit the same, space being left to admit of the expansion of the metal, the weight of these braces being about six tons. A record of this last repair is engraved upon the waist of the eighth bell as follows: 'These chain ties of cast iron were applied for the security of this tower, September, 1819. George Gwilt, Archt.' When the work was finished, the bells were rung for trial, and a subsequent examination of the steeple proved that everything was satisfactory. Several other repairs have since then been carried out.

In 1881, the peal was augmented to twelve by the addition of two trebles, cast by Mears and Stainbank, and about twenty years ago extensive work in the way of rehunging was carried out by the same firm, since which time several notable peals have been rung upon them.

Probably many of your readers will remember that I gave an account of these bells, with the full inscriptions on them all in your issue of December 26th, 1913, also what few particulars I was able to glean concerning the old bells before the Fire of 1666.—Yours, etc., J. R. JERRAM.

[There is no truth in the statement that the tenor bell is cracked, but it is believed that two of the others are, and may have to be recast. The whole peal require rehunging. As to the fabric of the tower, this shows some signs of that decay which in the course of years affects London buildings, but there is nothing radically wrong with the structure.—Ed. 'R.W.']

## LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A very enjoyable and well-attended bye-meeting of the Northern District of the London County Association took place at St. Mary's, Whitechapel, on Saturday, February 26th. Proceedings opened with a touch of Grandsire Triples. It was really funny to watch the antics of some of the members, for the bells require very careful handling; as the Master of the association is fond of saying, 'If you can ring at Whitechapel, you can ring anywhere.' Despite this, however, some excellent touches were rung. At five o'clock the company adjourned to the church, where the Rector, the Rev. J. O. Mayo (a very old and esteemed friend of the association) conducted a short service. The absence of the organist gave the members the opportunity to display their 'basso profundis,' and by the end of the service the Rector was quite convinced that the belfry's gain was the choir's loss.

About 30 members and friends sat down to tea, which the Rector had kindly provided. There being no business meeting, the handbells were brought into use, Stedman and Grandsire Caters and Bob Major being successfully accomplished.

The District Master, Mr. L. Gray, moved a very hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for his kindness, to which the Rector replied in suitable terms.

At eight o'clock a move was made to the tower and the bells were kept busy for an hour.

## A BIRTHDAY TOUCH.

On Sunday, February 6th, the Leeds Parish Church ringers rang seven courses of Stedman Cinques on the tower bells in honour of Mr. Harry Brains, who reached his 70th birthday. He was the recipient of the good wishes of the ringers.

## SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

WRENTHAM, SUFFOLK.—On Sunday, March 6th, for morning service, 720 Norfolk Surprise Minor: J. Spencer 1, W. C. Bunn (conductor) 2, E. Bailey 3, G. Lee 4, A. J. L. Naunton 5, F. W. Naunton 6.

LAVENHAM.—On Sunday, March 6th, at SS. Peter and Paul's Church, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,260 changes): F. A. Turner 1, M. T. Symonds 2, V. Johnson (Glensford) 3, S. H. Symonds (conductor) 4, A. Symonds 5, W. Walters 6, F. F. Mortlock 7, T. E. Slater (Glensford) 8.

TRUMPINGTON, CAMBRIDGE.—On Sunday, March 6th, for 3 p.m. evensong, 720 Doubles, 2 six-scores each of Plain Bob, Grandsire and Oxford Singles: D. Freestone (first attempt for 720) 1, J. Harper 2, R. Jordan (first 720 of Doubles inside) 3, K. Willers 4, A. Wilson (conductor) 5.—In the evening, in honour of the visit of the Lord Bishop of Ely to hold a Confirmation, 720 Grandsire Doubles, three variations of Mr. L. Morris' arrangement: J. Harper 1, K. Willers (conductor) 2, R. Jordan 3, A. Wilson 4, F. Haynes 5.

SANDIACRE, DERBYSHIRE.—On Sunday, March 6th, for evening service, at St. Giles' Church, 720 London Surprise Minor: W. Thornley 1, R. H. Cox 2, J. Hall 3, A. Freeman 4, W. R. Drage 5, H. Turner (conductor) 6.

OXHEY.—On Sunday, February 13th, for morning service, 1,344 Superlative Surprise Major in 44 mins.: P. Bishop (first quarter-peal) 1, H. Hodgetts 2, S. Hoare 3, A. W. Dix 4, F. W. Elliott 5, C. Leman 6, W. Hodgetts 7, F. W. Brinklow (conductor) 8.

BRAMLEY, LEEDS.—On Sunday, February 13th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,260 changes) in 48 mins.: W. Waterhouse 1, J. S. Eastwood 2, S. Helliwell 3, P. Blacketh 4, J. Guy 5, F. Jackson 6, E. Redshaw 7, J. W. T. Holgate (conductor) 8.

OVER, CAMBS.—On Sunday, February 13th, for evening service, 720 Cambridge Surprise: C. Robinson 1, F. Ginn 2, B. Wayman 3, F. G. Gleaves 4, A. J. Ginn 5, F. Warrington (conductor) 6.

HURWORTH-ON-TEES.—On Sunday, February 6th, at All Saints' Church, for morning service, 720 London Surprise Minor: Miss K. Simpson 1, F. Newton 2, B. Newton 3, T. Newton (conductor) 4, W. Newton 5, W. Newton 6.—For evening service, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: Miss K. Simpson 1, T. Newton 2, B. Newton 3, F. Newton 4, W. Newton (conductor) 5, W. Simpson 6.

MARKET HARBOUROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, February 6th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes): A. Manning (conductor) 1, F. Clark 2, R. March 3, W. Hector 4, J. Chester 5, W. Wallington 6, Frank Wallington 7, Fred Wallington 8. All are Sunday service ringers. This quarter-peal was rung at the 9th attempt.

STAUNTON-ON-WYE.—On Sunday, February 6th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles in 42 mins.: H. Male 1, J. Price 2, J. Randle 3, G. Breeze 4, J. P. Hyett 5, W. H. Price 6. First quarter inside for J. Price and J. Randle. First quarter for W. H. Price.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.—On Sunday, February 6th, for evensong at the Church of St. Margaret, a quarter-peal (1,260) of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins.: J. Stanford 1, G. Branch 2, J. Cook 3, W. Hooker 4, P. Charman 5, W. Pettifer 6, Wal. Charman (conductor) 7, Alb. Charman 8.

## ESSEX ASSOCIATION

## NORTHERN DISTRICT ENTERTAINED AT WITHAM.

A meeting of the Northern District was held on Saturday week at the ancient Church of St. Nicholas, Witham, which dates from the year 1530. Members were present representing the following twenty parishes, viz.: Earls Colne, Braintree, Rayne, Stebbing, Great Bentley, Wormingford, Maldon, Dunmow, Sible Hedingham, Great Bardfield, Greenstead Green, Black Notley, Great Yeldham, Chelmsford, Witham, Wethersfield, Terling, Little Waltham, Feering and Ardleigh. The usual Ringers' Office was said in the church by the Rev. N. Hagger, who also gave a very interesting and helpful address.

At the close of the service, the ringers adjourned to the Church House, where a bountiful tea had been provided for them, through the generosity of Miss Eyre, sister of the late general secretary of the association, the Rev. H. T. W. Eyre. The Rev. N. Hagger occupied the chair, and a company of 47 was present.

The usual business meeting was presided over by the District Master, Mr. Frank Claydon, who was supported by the Master of the association, Mr. C. H. Howard, Mr. W. J. Nevard (Master of the North-Eastern District) and Mr. L. W. Wiffen.

Three new members were elected, including Mr. J. P. Fidler as a life member.

It was decided that, subject to the approval of the authorities, the next meeting be held at Felstead, and, failing that, at Stebbing.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded, on the proposition of Mr. C. H. Howard, to the Vicar for allowing the use of the bells, the Rev. N. Hagger for taking the service and for his helpful address, also to the organist. Mr. Howard also moved a very hearty vote of thanks to Miss Eyre for her kindness and generosity in providing the tea, and this was carried with acclamation.

During the afternoon and evening, touches were rung in the tower in most of the standard methods, and the thanks of those present are due to Mr. Andrew Evers for his splendid arrangements both for the ringing and the tea.



**NOTES BY THE WAY.**

By J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

We will let Hearne tell the tale in his own words:—

Thursday, May 24th, 1733—On Whit-Sunday last (May 13th) came to Oxford on foot fifteen ringers from London, and the day before came on horseback, one Mr. Skelton, about 14 or 15 years ago, a Commoner of Queen's College, Oxford, and an excellent ringer, and at this time Register to the Bishop of London (Gibson) and a proctor in the Arches. The next day being Monday, May 14th, the Oxford ringers gave them a short peal at Magdalen College, as they did in the evening a short one at Christ Church, the Londoners laying still that day that they might refresh themselves after the fatigues of their journey. On Wednesday, May 16th, they began to ring at Christ Church in the morning a quarter or more before twelve, and they rang till two most incomparably well, when the gudgeons being bad, the biggest bell (that is the tenth) fell down, but not through the loft, otherwise they proposed to have rung 5,040 changes.

Wednesday, May 16th, in the evening, they rang upon the eight bells at Magdalen College, but two or three ropes breaking, they could not proceed above half an hour.

On Thursday, May 17th, they began to ring at New College, proposing to ring the said number of changes, viz., 5,040, there. They began a little before twelve, and rang about three-quarters of an hour, when one of the ropes broke, and so they were stopped. Afterwards they dined at Weers beyond Friar Bacon's Study, and some (if not all) of them, stepping over to Ifley, they rang the six bells there (viz., 700 changes upon them).

The next day being Friday, May 18th, they were resolved to ring the above mentioned number of 5,040 changes upon New College ten bells, as they had begun to do before. Accordingly, they began a little before twelve, and rang full two hours in the morning, wanting two minutes, when the ropes broke, and put a stop to the peal, for which all were very sorry, as they were at the fall of the great bell at Christ Church. For their ringing at both places, as elsewhere, was most surprisingly fine, without the least fault from beginning to end, such as never was before in Oxford, and 'tis a scandal that the bells should not be in good order. Saturday, May the 19th, they went out of town.

Tuesday, July 9th, 1734.—Anno 1733 came out in London, a little book in 12's, being the third edition of *Campanalogia* or the Art of Ringing. One Annables is now putting out a new edition of the same book, which 'tis said will be the best of its kind that ever was printed on that subject. The said Annables is one of the London ringers that rang at Oxford at Whitsuntide in 1733. He rang the ninth bell, and is judged to understand ringing as well if not better than any man in the world.

On Tuesday, May 22nd, the great bell at Christ Church was got up again, and in the evening the Oxford men rang all ten, and endeavoured to imitate the Londoners, but they were soon out, and made poor of it in comparison with the others.

Hearne does not give the names of the ringers, nor the conductor, nor the method they rang. It is pretty certain, however, that Grandsire Caters was rung. As we shall see later, it was soon after this much practised at Oxford, and it was a method to which Annable had given much attention. He was the first man who dis-

covered the musical qualities of the Tittum position. In the older compositions the big bells were mixed up without much regard for the musical effect.

The little book mentioned as published in 1734 was one of the editions of '*Campanalogia*' by J. D. and C. M. The advance of ringing was so rapid that it was out of date at the time it appeared, and it was natural that Benjamin Annable, who was himself the leading authority on the art, should have thought of issuing a book of his own. Unfortunately, he never carried out his intention. It could hardly fail to have been a very valuable and interesting book. In the British Museum there is a manuscript of his which is evidently a draft of part of this book. It contains a large number of six-bell methods carefully written in an excellent handwriting. It has also a good many notes of eight-bell ringing, but these are much more roughly written, and evidently he did not get so far as to begin to arrange this part. Or, if he did, it is now lost.

Hearne's opinion of Annable's abilities as a ringer were shared by all his contemporaries. No man has ever occupied a more commanding position in the Exercise than he did. It was his abilities, his energy and his genius as a leader that gave the College Youths the position they held for so many years.

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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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ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at Southwark Cathedral on March 29th, St. Magnus' on the 17th and 31st, \*St. Paul's Cathedral on the 22nd; all at 7.30 p.m. \*Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 'Frodingham,' 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A meeting will be held at Acton on Saturday, March 12th. Ringing from 3 p.m. The usual tea arrangements will be made. All are welcome.—W. H. Hollier, Hon. Sec., 29, Duke Road, W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Walton-le-Dale on Saturday, March 12th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea at 1s. 6d. a head. A good attendance is requested.—Fred Rigby, Hon. Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Glyn Road, Homerton, on Saturday, March 12th. Bells available from 3.30. Short service at 5.15. Tea at 5.45, at usual charge of 1s.; Buses or trams to Median Road, Clapton. Trains to Homerton (L.M.S.). Members and friends invited.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at the Blackburn Cathedral on Saturday, March 12th. Ringing at 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Hon. Branch Sec.

BARNESLEY & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at South Kirby on Saturday, March 12th. Bells ready early.—C. D. Potter, Hon. Sec.

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Twerton-on-Avon on Saturday, March 12th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30. Tea in Church Room at 5 p.m. The bells of St. Mark's, Bath, will be available in the evening from 7 o'clock.—N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Weston, Bath.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—A meeting will be held at Middleton on Saturday, March 12th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—William Horan, Branch Sec., 2, Greenhirst Hey, Tormorden.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—A meeting will be held at Kislisbury on Saturday, March 12th. Bells (5) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 o'clock. Important.—T. Tebbutt, 53, Louise Road, Northampton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at West Derby on Saturday, March 12th. Bells ready at 4.30. A good meeting is requested.—Walter Hughes, Hon. Sec., 3, Shrewsbury Place, Garston.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Waltham St. Lawrence on Saturday, March 12th. Bells (6) at 3. Short Service 4.30. Tea at small charge, in Parish Hall, at 5. All ringers welcome.—W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec. and Treas., Merrel, California, Wokingham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Brookfield Church, Hyde Road, Gorton, on Saturday, March 12th. Bells at liberty 3 o'clock till 7.15 p.m. Meeting after. A good attendance is requested.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Archdeaconry of Ely.—A district meeting will be held at Fulbourn on Saturday, March 19th. Bells (8) available afternoon and evening. Short service at 5 o'clock.—A. E. Austin, 4, Hills View, Great Shelford, Cambs.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The annual meeting will be held at Howden on Saturday, March 19th. Bells (8) available from 1 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea will be served in the Mission Room at 5 p.m. at a charge of 1s. 9d. per head. Applications for same to be made to Mr. R. B. Smith, Vicar Lane, Howden, not later than Wednesday, March 16th. Business meeting afterwards. Subscriptions for current year are now due.—A. B. Cook, Hon. Dis. Sec., 58, Wyndham Street, Hull.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Nomination meeting.—The next meeting will be held at Armley on March 19th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea (1s. 6d. per head) will be arranged for all who notify me by March 16th.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Armley, Leeds.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—A meeting will be held at St. Mary Magdalene, Holloway, on Saturday, March 19th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Tea at 5 o'clock, followed by business meeting. All ringers and friends invited.—J. A. Hales, Hon. Sec., 20, Aspland Grove, Hackney, E.8.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Handsworth, Sheffield, on Saturday, March 19th. Bells (8) available from 2 to 9 p.m. Service at 4.30. Preacher, the Lord Bishop of Sheffield. Tea and meeting after service. Will those requiring tea (1s. each) please notify Mr. J. Garth, 391, Handsworth Road, Sheffield, by Wednesday, March 16th? Subscriptions for 1927 now due. Further particulars have been sent by circular to local secretaries.—F. Clark, 18, Royston Avenue, Doncaster.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Slinfold on Saturday, March 19th. Bells available from 2.30. Tea at the King's Head at 5 o'clock. Will all those intending being present kindly advise by March 15th?—A. W. Groves, Amherst, Ham Road, Worthing.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Chippenham on Saturday, March 19th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Please notify me by Tuesday, March 13th, if requiring tea.—S. Hopper, 79, Edinburgh Street, Gorse Hill, Swindon.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Quarterly meeting at Stowmarket on March 19th. Bells available 2 p.m. Tea 4.30 to those sending word by March 16th.—B. Chilvers, Hon. Dis. Sec., Cotton, Stowmarket.

**HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Ware on March 19th. The bells will be open during the afternoon and evening. A short service will be conducted by the Vicar at 5 o'clock. Tea and business meeting, opposite the church, at 5.30. All friends will be welcomed. Kindly note subscriptions are now due.—W. H. Lawrence Dis. Sec., Little Munden, Herts.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Fylde Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Ansdell R.C. Church (8 bells) on Saturday, March 19th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Business meeting 6 p.m.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec., 10, Warbreck Road N.S., Blackpool.

**ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.**—The next meeting will be held at St. Stephen's, Canterbury, on Saturday, March 19th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.45 p.m. Tea will be arranged. All ringers welcome.—C. W. Franklin, Hon. Sec., 18, Kingsnorth Road, Ashford.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Davertry Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Dodford (6) on Saturday, March 19th. Usual arrangements. Will those requiring tea kindly notify me by Tuesday, March 15th?—W. C. Moore, Braunston Road, Daventry.

**ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Archdeaconry of Wisbech Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at March on Saturday, March 26th. Short service at 4.30. Tea, for those who notify me, in the Church Room at 5 p.m., followed by usual business meeting.—H. W. Giddings, Dis. Sec., 101, Elwyn Road, March.

**SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Eastern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Eastbourne on Saturday, March 26th. Bells: All Saints' (8) available 2.30 p.m. to 4 p.m. Service at the Parish Church (St. Mary's) at 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow. The bells at St. Saviour's will be available from 6.30 p.m. to 8 p.m.—Geo. W. Stokes, Hon. Div. Sec., 22, Melbourne Road, Eastbourne.

**CHANGE OF ADDRESS.**—Will all "brother strings" kindly note that W. E. Pitman, Mus. Bac., F.R.C.O., has moved to 18, Forty Acres Road, Canterbury? Available for peals, etc., in Easter week and after.

#### PUBLICATIONS.

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**LITTLE MUNDEN, HERTS.**—On February 26th, for morning service, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob: W. Williams 1, S. Carter 2, P.S. A. Lawrence 3, A. Phillips 4, W. H. Lawrence 5, G. H. Carter (conductor) 6.—For evening service, 720 Oxford Delight: W. Williams 1, S. Carter 2, P.S. A. Lawrence 3, G. H. Carter 4, W. H. Lawrence 5, A. Woolston (conductor) 6.—On March 6th, for morning service, 720 Bob Minor: W. Williams 1, S. Carter 2, W. S. Lawrence 3, A. Woolston 4, A. Phillips 5, W. H. Lawrence (conductor) 6.—For evening service, 720 Duke of York: W. Williams 1, S. Carter 2, A. Woolston 3, A. Phillips 4, G. H. Carter 5, W. H. Lawrence (conductor) 6.

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