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FRIDAY, MARCH 16th, 1928.

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THINGS THAT MATTER.

Matters of interest and importance to all associations were raised at a meeting of the Dunster Deanery Branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association the other day, when the need for more keenness among members between meetings and the desirability of having more than one person in a tower capable of conducting were stressed. The Dunster Deanery Branch finds no lack of interest displayed in its meetings, and, indeed, it is to be congratulated upon the fact that, in a district where travelling facilities are none too good, the annual meeting attracted about eighty members. It seems, however, that, having come out of their towers for these official gatherings once a quarter, they return to their shell and are content to remain quiescent until the next meeting comes round. There are many associations in which similar conditions prevail. Well-attended meetings are, of course, a sign of interest, but they are not necessarily an indication of progress. They only achieve their fullest purpose when they help to maintain an enthusiasm which impels members to go out into the highways and byways, as it were, helping others and improving their own standard of ringing. Ringers are too often content to leave everything to their officials, instead of 'pulling their weight' and realising that, however good and willing their officers may be, they cannot unaided carry the organisation to success for ever. Members of an association have responsibilities as well as privileges, and, if more thought were given to the former, associations would be able to do even greater work than they are doing to-day.

The other question which was raised at the meeting referred to is one of vital importance to the future of the Exercise, and one which has several times been the subject of articles in this journal. It is essential to the continuity of progress in any tower that there should be more than one ringer capable of acting as conductor. There can only be one leader in a belfry; but there can and should be more than one person able to conduct. If conducting is continually monopolised by one man, there comes a time when, if from any cause he is removed, the band is in danger of collapsing, or in any event of receiving a serious setback while someone else learns the technicalities of the job. Every conductor should at least have one understudy, but, better still, several. It need not mean a usurpation of authority in the tower; but it is a step in the campanological education of the band; for there can be no question that the more real knowledge a man has of conducting, the safer he will be as a ringer. Sometimes, of course, the absence of an understudy in a tower is due to the deliberate intention of the conductor,

(Continued on page 162.)

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who is jealous of his position, but more often, we believe, it is due to that spirit so prevalent in the Exercise, of leaving things to the other man. As long as there is someone in the belfry willing to do the extra thinking that conducting calls for, ringers are content to let things slide, particularly if the conductor is really capable. But it is a mistake. Let the best man be commander-in-chief by all means, but he should have lieutenants to succeed him if he wants to see his work live after him. An army without a leader becomes a rabble; and that is what happens in the campanological sense when a band is left without a conductor.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

NORTHFIELD, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Monday, March 5, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S		Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 13 lb.	
*CYRIL TUDOR Treble	*ALEX. HOWE 5		
†JACK WITHERS, JUN. 2	JOHN WITHERS, SEN. 6		
†JAMES VAUGHAN 3	*FRED HOBBS 7		
*JAMES TURNER 4	*ALFRED HOBBS Tenor		

Conducted by JOHN WITHERS, SEN.

* First peal. † First peal of Grandsire Triples. First peal on the bells by a local band. First peal on eight bells as conductor.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 6, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S VARIATION.		Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in B.	
LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD ... Treble	JAMES S. HUTCHBY 5		
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD 2	*SAM W. CHAPMAN 6		
ALFRED BALLARD 3	JAMES GEORGE 7		
ALBAN DISNEY 4	†FRANK HASLUM Tenor		

Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

* First peal on more than six bells, first in the method and first attempt. † First peal and first 'attempt.'

JARROW GRANGE, DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, March 7, 1928, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 17½ cwt.			
ANDREW TULLEY Treble	JAMES E. SCOTT 5		
JOSEPH ROBERTSON 2	JAMES L. GRAY 6		
*HENRY HALL 3	ADAM DEAS 7		
†EDWARD A. HERN 4	JOSEPH E. SYKES Tenor		

Composed by ERNEST MORRIS. Conducted by JOSEPH E. SYKES.

* First peal. † 100th peal.

BRIDGEND, GLAMORGANSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, March 7, 1928, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ILTYD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.		Tenor 16 cwt.	
RICHARD J. COLLINS Treble	FRANK ROWSELL 5		
BENJAMIN J. TOBY 2	ALFRED W. WRIGHT 6		
G. WILLIAM HOLLIS 3	ALBERT J. PITMAN 7		
ROYDEN DAVIES 4	CHARLES H. PERRY Tenor		

Transposed by ERNEST MORRIS. Conducted by ALBERT J. PITMAN.
Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mrs. E. Stith, wife of Mr. Ernest Stith, a much respected member of the association, with whom much sympathy is felt.

NOTTINGHAM.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 8, 1928, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF SPICED DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB AND PLAIN BOB MAJOR, 6040 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

NORMAN HEMMINGTON Treble	MAURICE WARD 5
SAMUEL PINDER 2	DAVID VINCENT 6
FREDRICK A. SALTER 3	FREDRICK W. BAILEY 7
J. ALFRED BARRATT 4	ERNEST MORRIS Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER (No. 3). Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS
This composition, containing 2,528 changes of Double Norwich, and 2,512 Plain Bob, is now rung for the first time.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, March 9, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,

A PEAL OF ROUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 6024 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

ERNEST NOY Treble	JOHN T. KENTISH 5
STAFFORD H. GREEN 2	EDWIN BARNETT, JUN. 6
HERBERT E. ADDSLEY 3	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. 7
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 4	EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by E. BARNETT, SEN.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Messrs. Green and Kentish. It was Mr. E. Barnett, sen.'s, 700th peal, and was rung after meeting short for Cambridge.

KING'S NORTON, BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Saturday, March 10, 1928, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 17½ cwt.

WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT ... Treble	WILLIAM C. DOWDING ... 5
GEORGE E. LARGE 2	FRED PRICE 6
WALTER E. MOORE 3	J. FRANK SMALLWOOD ... 7
FREDERICK W. RISHWORTH ... 4	WILLIAM DAVIES Tenor

Conducted by J. FRANK SMALLWOOD.

First peal by Mr. W. E. Moore, who was actively concerned in the restoration of King's Norton bells. The best thanks of the band are tendered to this gentleman for his splendid hospitality after the peal, which was rung as a birthday compliment to him.

HYDE, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 10, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 6056 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. in E.

PETER LAFLIN Treble	*TOM WILDE I 5
JAMES H. RIDING 2	THOMAS B. WORSLEY ... 6
JOHN E. BIBBY 3	TITUS BARLOW 7
WILLIAM BIBBY 4	EDWARD JENKINS Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by E. JENKINS.

* First peal of Bristol. First peal of Bristol in the tower.

DUNMOW, ESSEX

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 10, 1928, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 21 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lb. in C.

*PERCY GREEN Treble	WALTER H. SMITH 5
WILLIAM LINCOLN 2	DR. SPENCER PHILLIPS ... 6
ARTHUR HEAD 3	GEORGE GREEN 7
*JOSEPH JENNINGS 4	*ERNEST RICHARDSON ... Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE GREEN.

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

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 10, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, WILLESDEN,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 6024 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

THOMAS LOCK Treble	CHARLES T. COLES 5
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE 2	GEORGE R. FYE 6
GEORGE M. KILBY 3	HARRY KILBY 7
WILLIAM MILLER 4	WILLIAM FYE Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by WILLIAM FYE.

BEBINGTON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 10, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

ROBERT SPERRING Treble	SAMUEL ROBERTS 5
RONALD G. JONES 2	GEORGE WILLIAMS 6
HARRY F. HOLDING 3	GEORGE R. JONES 7
GEORFFREY MILTON 4	A. J. HUGHES Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE R. JONES.

NEWCHURCH-IN-ROSSENDALE, LANC.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(CHURCHKIRK SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, March 10, 1928, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 18 lb. in F.

SYDNEY BROWN Treble	ARTHUR INGHAM 5
*JOHN BEATTIE 2	†JAMES INGHAM 6
RICHARD BOLDERSTONE ... 3	JOHN HIRST 7
ARTHUR BROWN 4	LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS ... Tenor

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON. Conducted by L. J. WILLIAMS.

* First peal of Treble Bob inside. † First peal of Treble Bob.

IRTHLINGBOROUGH, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

(WELLINGBOROUGH DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, March 10, 1928, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 6056 CHANGES;

Tenor 10½ cwt.

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

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by ANDERSON Y. TYLER

SWINDON, WILTS.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 10, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 11½ cwt.

GEORGE LAWRENCE Treble	CHARLES J. GARDINER ... 5
SIDNEY H. HOPPER 2	HARRY WHEELER 6
ROBERT W. HYNER 3	ALBERT HEATH 7
JACK S. ROBERTS 4	HARRY HATTON Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT W. HYNER.

First peal on the bells since augmented from six by Mears and Stainbank last May.

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PENSNETT, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, March 10, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mark.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

*ROBERT COOPER Treble	EDWARD V. RODENHURST... .. 5
S. J. HUGHES 2	CHAS. WM. COOPER 6
WILLIAM GREEN 3	JOHN GOODMAN, JUN. 7
JOHN PRICE... .. 4	*FRANK WALKER Tenor

Conducted by J. GOODMAN, JUN.

* First peal. Arranged for Mr. Edward V. Rodenhurst.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

WOLLASTON, STOURBRIDGE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, March 6, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
At the Church of St. James.

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*SID THOMPSON Treble	HAROLD V. COOPER 4
JOHN BASS 2	CHAS. WM. COOPER 5
WILLIAM GIBBS... .. 3	WILLIAM A. BEDDARD ... Tenor

Conducted by J. BASS.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal of Minor with a bob bell. First peal as conductor.

STAPLEFORD, CAMBS.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, March 7, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
At the Church of St. Andrew.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's.

Tenor 7 cwt. in A flat.

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

Conducted by ALBERT E. AUSTIN.

This peal was arranged for Mr. W. Bolwell, of Devizes, Wilts, who was staying in Cambridge, and it was his first peal of Minor. He was elected a member of the Ely Association previous to starting for the peal.

STOKE POGES, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(EAST BERKS & SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, March 7, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,
At the Church of St. Giles.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven differently called extents.

Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 3 lb.

CECIL C. MAYNE Treble	†LEONARD STILWELL 4
*PHYLLIS M. MOSS 2	WILLIAM HENLEY 5
HERBERT C. ALBROW ... 3	WILLIAM L. GUTTERIDGE Tenor

Conducted by CECIL C. MAYNE.

* 50th peal. † First Surprise peal and 50th peal.

SUTTON-ON-TRENT, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.
THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 10, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
At the Church of All Saints.

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's.

Tenor 12 cwt.

*TOM CLARK... .. Treble	C. ALLEN HEWITT 4
MISS KATHARINE BURCHNALL 2	LEONARD PIERREPONT ... 5
MISS GRACE BURCHNALL... 3	HARRY MORGAN Tenor

Conducted by HARRY MORGAN.

* First peal of Minor. Rung as a welcome to the Rev. A. K. Fenn, who is temporarily taking charge of the parish for a period of six months.

WYMESWOLD, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 10, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different extents.

Tenor 13 cwt.

RONALD H. DOVE Treble	JAMES S. HUTCHBY 4
FELIX J. SUTTON... .. 2	ERNEST MORRIS 5
FREDERICK BROWN 3	WALTER WHITE Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

The above band represents six towers, viz.: Burton-on-Trent, Kegworth, West Hallam, Loughborough, Leicester, and Cotgrave. The Vicar (Rev. Le G. C. Bouchier) kindly entertained the band to an excellent tea after the peal. This is the 108th Leicestershire tower in which the conductor has rung peals.

KEELE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 10, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist.

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of London, Wells, Cambridge and Ipswich Surprise, Duke of York, Kent and Oxford.

Tenor 6 cwt.

OWEN WILLIAMS... .. Treble	THOMAS HURD 4
CHARLES S. RYLES 2	WILLIAM P. DEANE 5
JOHN E. WHELDON 3	JAMES WALLEY Tenor

Conducted by JOHN E. WHELDON.

This is the first peal on the bells in seven Treble Bob methods. T. Hurd hails from Burslem, the others from Norton.

5,720 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL.

BY JOHN A. BURFORD.

23456 M. W. H.

54283 Bobs at 1, 4, 6, 11, 13, 16, 17.

25463 —

45382 —

35264 —

42563 —

52364 —

63425 —

42635 —

62534 —

35426 —

42356 —

54326 —

25346 —

34256 —

23456 —

Contains the extent of the 6th wrong and right. Rung as a level 5,000 at St. Stephen's, Bristol, on December 24th, 1927, by omitting the three consecutive middles.

9,600 SPLICED TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

BY E. C. GOBEY.

Kent.	Oxford.
23456	2 3 4
42356	— — —
63542	— 4 —
56342	— — —

Nine times repeated, calling Oxford at 2.4 in 3rd course of 1st and 6th parts, in lieu of one at 3. The extent of the tenors together. Rung at Loughborough on December 24th, 1927, conducted by the composer.

G. & F. COPE & CO., NOTTINGHAM,
TOWER CLOCK MANUFACTURERS.

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED FOR NEW CLOCKS, CHIME ADDITIONS, REPAIRS,
OR REPAINTING OF DIALS.

SURPRISE MAJOR METHODS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am very sorry indeed to have to reply to Mr. Craven's remarks in his letter, dealing with Lincolnshire Surprise, in which he reproduced the figures of practically my first attempt at arranging figures. Does he mean to be sarcastic, or does he intend to place me in the same class as Mr. James? If so, I must say he is doing me a great honour. I myself am not ashamed of what I did, as I tendered an explanation at the time it was pointed out to me. Where have these figures turned up from? As I understand they were deposited on the rubbish heap some 18 months ago, but some people have remarkable memories. I enclose, however, two more methods, which I hope you will publish, and of which I am not ashamed to have under my name, and if Mr. Craven will please refrain from publishing anything more of my first attempt I shall be truly thankful, not that I mind, as I know that all our experts were once beginners.—Thanking you and all concerned, Yours truly,

E. W. TIPLER.

WYCLIFFE SURPRISE MAJOR. WARWICK SURPRISE MAJOR.

12345678	12345678
21354768	21354768
12537486	12537486
21357846	21573846
23175864	25178364
32718546	52713846
32175864	52178364
23718546	25713846
32781564	27531486
37285146	72354168
73281564	73251486
78325146	37524168
87352416	73254618
78534261	37526481
75832416	35724618
57584261	53276481
75834621	35726841
57586412	53278614
53784621	52376841
35876412	25738614
53867142	52378164
58361724	25731846
85637142	27538164
86531724	72351846
68513742	73215486
86157324	37124568
86513742	37215486
68157324	73124568
61875342	71325486
16785432	17352846
61874523	71538264
16847253	17583624
16482735	17856342
18642735 = Bot	15786342 = Bob.
False course-ends.	False course-ends,
24365	which number five, form
43265	one round block from
32465	which 30 true courses are
	obtainable.

MUFFLED BELLS AT LLANBRADACH.

The sudden death has occurred at Llanbradach of Arthur Williams, one of the ringers of All Saints' Church. After only five days' illness of bronchial pneumonia he passed away on Tuesday, February 28th. He was interred at Ystrad Mynach on Saturday, March 3rd. A wreath in the shape of a bell was given by his fellow-ringers. He will be greatly missed, as he was a regular Sunday service change ringer.

On Sunday week, for morning service, the bells were rung half-muffled. Touches of Grandsire Doubles were rung on the back six: O. Stevens 1, F. Stevens (conductor) 2, L. Stevens 3, H. Cassel 4, W. Burgess 5, W. Fisher 6.

For evening service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, half-muffled, by: L. Stevens 1, A. Addicott 2, F. Stevens 3, G. Cook (conductor) 4, H. Broughton 5, H. Cassel 6, W. Burgess 7, C. Stevens 8. First quarter-peal of Triples for ringers of 1st and 8th. No. 2, 4 and 5 came specially from Caerphilly to assist the local band.

BANHAM, NORFOLK.—On Monday evening, February 27th, a quarter-peal of Minor (1,260 changes) in 44 mins., being 120 Plain Bob, 180 Double Court, 360 Kent and 600 Oxford Treble Bob: F. Copeman 1, F. Clarke 2, F. Mapes (conductor) 3, E. Bennett 4, W. Chenery 5, C. F. Goodman 6. Rung for the first anniversary of the reopening of the above bells.

A CONSPIRACY. THE PLOT.

June 24th, 1927, was the 25th anniversary of the opening of the Royal Memorial bells at the Church of St. John-the-Divine, Leicester, also Mr. William Willson's 25th year as organiser and conductor of the St. John's Society of Ringers. We (the society) had a feeling that something ought to be done to mark the occasion, and unanimously decided to keep 'Father' in ignorance of the fact. The next point was WHAT? Knowing that he had been presented with battle axes, swords, spears and shields, and has also used a lot of ink during the course of his career as a ringer, we (the society) thought that probably his inkpot must be getting a little the worse for wear, so we wrote to Woking about it.

THE EXECUTION THEREOF.

The annual dinner of the society was held at the Wyvern Hotel on Saturday, February 25th, when the Vicar, Rev. H. V. Williams, presided, and there were present the members, their wives and friends.

After a splendid repast and the toast of 'The King' had been drunk, the plot was revealed.

Mr. J. Smith in a few words broke the news, and on behalf of the society asked the chairman to present to Mr. Willson a silver bell inkstand, suitably engraved. All who know 'W.W.' will agree that it takes a lot to get him guessing, although it is rumoured that one night at 11.55 he 'got America', but at 12.5 he went to bed because London and Daventry had closed down. But we had him guessing on this occasion, and left him to regain his faculties while we dealt with Mrs. Willson.

Mrs. Smith, on behalf of the ladies, asked the chairman to present a handsome rose bowl for, as he very aptly put it, being the wife of Mr. Willson. That left Mrs. W. bowled out in every sense of the word.

W.W., who was slowly but surely recovering, said he was almost at a loss how to express his feelings, but he managed very well indeed. Mrs. W. also was almost too full for words.

After all the excitement, a very pleasant evening was spent with music, songs, recitations and handbells, and everyone voted it the best annual gathering we have had.

A CONSPIRATOR.

A PROBLEM FOR THE MATHEMATICALLY MINDED.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Knowing the fondness of the ringing fraternity for an argument, I venture to propound the following: Is it a fair method of comparison between peals, assuming other things to be equal, to compare them on the basis of:

TONS OF METAL DISPLACED = **WEIGHT** of all bells of 'ring' in **TONS** x **No. of changes.**

The word 'displaced' is in itself open to criticism and misinterpretation. It certainly cannot be regarded as 'work done' in the strictly mechanical sense, as so many unknown factors enter into it. For example, a light ring of badly-going bells would possibly take up much more effort in pulling through a peal than a modern, well-hung ring of heavier weight. And again, if the ringing is slow, more effort is required each time, and this is accentuated if a bell goes badly.

Is there, then, any means of comparing—in actual figures—the respective merits of, say, a 5,040 on a ring of six badly-going bells with a 20 cwt. tenor, and a (say) 7,000 (or so) on a lighter ring (with, say, a 15 cwt. tenor) of recently rehung bells in tip-top condition?

Working on the basis mentioned we might have, say:—

(i.) Total weight of bells = 82 cwt.

$$\text{'Displacement' of metal (P)} = \frac{82 \times 5040}{20} = 20,600 \text{ tons.}$$

(ii.) Total weight of bells = 58 cwt.

$$\text{'Displacement' (P) of metal} = \frac{58 \times 7000}{20} = 20,300 \text{ tons.}$$

Mentally (ii.) would have imposed the greater strain, and also physically from the 'time' point of view.

Physically, one might imagine (i.) to have required the greater effort, but—DO THE FIGURES CONVEY ANY REAL SIGNIFICANCE? From some points of view it would seem so, while from others one doubts.

Perhaps you might think this of sufficient interest to open a discussion in your columns.—Yours faithfully,

J. R. NICHOLS.

A DATE TOUCH.

At Harwell, Berks, on Tuesday, March 6th, Grandsire Doubles in 1 hr. 7 mins.: W. Hitchman (conductor) 1, H. Palmer 2, J. E. Bosley 3, W. Cordery 4, J. H. James 5, E. Milford 6. Longest touch by ringers of 3rd, 5th and 6th, and longest away from tenor by 4th. Rung as a compliment to Miss F. Hitchman, youngest daughter of the conductor on her 21st birthday.

'LINCOLNSHIRE' SURPRISE AND 'COURT SHUNTS.'

To the Editor.

Sir,—Everyone has a right to change his opinions, but doing so will not alter a mathematical fact once established.

In your columns of January 7th, 1927, Mr. W. Taylor, writing of 'Superlative' Surprise, states the following:—

'The supreme test of the correctness of an extension is that its diagram must correspond to that of the original.'

In your last issue he is asking us to believe that 'Lincolnshire' Surprise Major, Royal and Maximus, is a correct extension of 'Cambridge' Surprise Minor!

Such a statement as the last is so farcical that it scarcely needs contradiction; the practical ringers who rang in the first peal of 'Lincolnshire' Major will be able, if they also ring 'Cambridge' Surprise Minor, to give us their views on this question.

The supreme test of the correctness of an extension is the PLACE making. To prove this make a double method of 'Cambridge' producing an irregular lead-head on ALL numbers, and then test its round blocks.

What Mr. Taylor is pleased to call a 'Court Shunt' consists of two movements, as shown in the examples given below:—

FIRST SECTION OF TREBLE BOB HUNT PRINCIPLE.

Plain	12345678
	21436587
	12345678
	21436587
24163857 transposed by 31527486 = 12345678	
Quick 3rds	12345678
	21436587
	12463857
	21648375
26184735 transposed by 31527486 = 12463857 (a)	
Quick 4ths	12345678
	21436587
	12345678
	21436587
24136578 transposed by 31527486 = 12547386 (b).	
(a) 12463857 transposed by (b) 12547386 = 12365478 (c).	
Quick 3rds	12345678
	21436587
	12463857
	21648375
Quick 4ths	26143857 transposed by 31527486 = 12365478 (c)

Yours faithfully,

GEORGE BAKER.

SHUNT OR STUNT.

Sir,—It is clearer from Mr. W. Taylor's letter what 'shunt' is intended to mean than it has been from the letters of the other three people who use this elegant word.

A shunt means that something is 'shunned' or 'shunted.' In change ringing, what we want to shun or shunt is falseness of any kind. Yet these 'shunts' apparently introduce falsehood. Mr. Taylor speaks of a 'shunt . . . with its attendant false-end.' The effects of this false-end may be avoided by some move or other, which, of course, would then be a real 'shunt'; but it cannot be called a 'shunt' because that name has falsely been given to the other move. Could anything be more ridiculous?

The wantonness of the whole thing is displayed when one notices that the word is quite unnecessary. If it were omitted entirely from Mr. Taylor's letter, not only would the letter be much simpler, but it would be much more easily understood. Its use is simply a bit of 'swank.' The word 'Court' by itself is a perfectly good name, and would exactly describe the move, and contrast it more clearly with the move which he calls an 'Extreme.'

It is clear from his letter that the effect of both these moves is that two bells exchange their work. Why not, then, simply describe the moves as 'exchanges'? True, it would not be so 'swanky,' but it would certainly get more readers for the letter.

If Mr. Taylor had written that in Lincolnshire Surprise a 'Court Exchange' is substituted for the 'Extreme Exchange' in Cambridge Surprise, how much simpler the whole argument would appear.

HERBERT DRAKE.

A BOY'S PROGRESS.

At Hillingdon, Middlesex, on Sunday, March 11th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters in 51 mins.: E. Baldwin 1, E. W. Twinn 2, G. Goodfellow (conductor) 3, R. Warnett 4, H. H. Chandler 5, J. Lucas 6, J. J. Pratt 7, L. Corke 8, W. Honor 9, C. Nicholls 10. E. W. Twinn is only 13 years of age, and he has rung upwards of 20 quarter-peals in the methods of Stedman Caters, Grandsire Caters, Stedman Triples, Grandsire Triples and Bob Major.

THEORY AND PRACTICE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—If there has been any 'hair splitting' in the points which I have raised, surely it was begun when Mr. Trollope gave us his definition of 'a change.' There are only two points in Mr. Joyce's letter in your last issue that call for any reply from me. I have never said, as Mr. Joyce implies, that a conductor at the end of a peal shouts, 'Rounds next change,' and I am quite sure that Mr. Joyce has never heard that intimation given. I referred to the use of the word 'change' in compositions of Stedman Caters, as given in print or MS., when 'rounds' comes up in the change after the course-end. Stedman, in his use of the word, was treating of a change in its simplest form only, viz., on two bells, and I hold that from that time onward the word, as used by practical ringers, has had a well-defined and undisputed meaning.

Different men have different ways of learning methods, and also of splicing them. While a knowledge of the 'difference' between lead-heads and lead-ends may have been necessary to Mr. Joyce before he could appreciate the simplicity of splicing, many ringers have been, and are, able to do it without such knowledge, because they know that methods run in groups which produce the same rows in a course, but occurring in a different sequence, according to whether you make 2nd's or 6th's, when the treble leads; and 5th's or otherwise when the treble is behind, as well as to internal variations, into which I need not go, for I do not think even Mr. Joyce got much benefit from his knowledge of lead-heads when it came to the splicing of Beverley and Surfleet, to which he refers in his letter. Cambridge and Primrose is but an example of a course composed of similar rows, with 2nd's place made at the treble lead in the one and 6th's in the other. You have only to remember this and know how every bell starts in Cambridge to be able to switch with the utmost ease from one method to the other. A knowledge of the theoretical difference between lead-heads and lead-ends is no more essential to the ringing of spliced methods than it is to the ringing of Bob Minor.

I am afraid that we have been getting a little away from the main object of my original letter in your columns in August last, which asked the Rev. H. Law James why, in his opinion, the method rung at Ipswich and called 'Superlative Surprise Maximus,' is not Superlative, and why it is not as good an extension of Superlative Major as is his own extension to Maximus of Shipway's Superlative Royal? Those questions have never yet been answered, although I hope that the incursions into somewhat side issues have not been without interest to your readers.—Yours faithfully,

A PLAIN RINGER.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
NORTH BUCKS BRANCH.

A quarterly meeting of the North Bucks Branch was held at Newport Pagnell on Saturday, March 3rd, when about 35 members attended, representing Blechley, Bradwell, Chicheley, Penny Stratford, Stony Stratford, Stoke Goldington, and the local ringers. There were also visitors from the Towcester and District and Beds Associations. The Guild form of service was used, which was conducted by the Vicar of Newport Pagnell, Rev. L. Moxon, who is also chairman of the branch, and he gave a very interesting address. Tea was provided in the schoolroom, where a nice spread had been prepared, and was much enjoyed. After tea, the Secretary announced that he had no special business to bring forward, only to remind members that the annual festival was the next meeting, which he hoped all would attend.

A very hearty vote of thanks was given to the chairman for making arrangements for the service, also to those responsible for the catering, which was suitably responded to. Ringing took place during the afternoon and evening, the methods ranging from Grandsire and Stedman Triples to Cambridge Surprise Major.

'FAREWELLS'

At the Parish Church, Luton, Beds, on Sunday, March 11th, for evening service, 1,260 Stedman Triples in 46 mins.: S. E. Armstrong (first quarter in the method) 1, A. King 2, F. Hunt 3, A. Smith 4, H. Wood 5, T. Kendall 6, L. A. Goodenough (conductor) 7, A. Bookwood 8. Rung as a farewell to Mr. Armstrong on his leaving for Alton, Hants.

On wishing the Luton band goodbye, he thanked them for the courtesy shown him during his six months' sojourn in Luton. During this period he has learnt the methods of Stedman Triples and Double Norwich Major.

At All Saints' Church, Wootton Bassett, Wilts, for morning service on Sunday, 336 Grandsire Triples. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Doubles (1,260 changes): J. Boulter 1, Miss Amy Laurence 2, E. Flewelling 3, J. Gibbs 4, H. E. Flewelling 5, W. Boulter 6, L. A. Wilson (conductor) 7, W. Jones 8. First 336 by the ringers of treble, 3rd, 4th, 7th and 8th, and first quarter-peal by the treble and tenor men, and first inside by the 2nd ringer. Rung as a farewell to Mr. W. Jones on leaving to take up the duties of caretaker at Christ Church, Swindon. He goes with the best wishes of his colleagues for a successful career, both as vergor and ringer. All the above are service ringers at Wootton Bassett, except B. Guy, who hails from Fairford.

RESTORATION AT BROWNEIDGE.

On Sunday, March 4th, the recast ring of eight bells at St. Mary's R.C. Church, Browneidge, were rung for the first time by the Preston Parish Church Society. The opening ringing was with muffled clappers as a mark of respect to the late Rector (the Rev. Father Turner, O.S.B.), who passed away the day after the bells were blessed, February 6th. It was he who decided to make a thorough restoration, the old six being recast and made into eight, with a new frame, while the clock was renovated and Westminster chimes fitted. The pity is that he did not live to see his scheme completed.

After service, the bells were rung open to Stedman Triples and Double Norwich, opportunity being given to several visiting ringers to have a pull. Further ringing took place after evening service, the methods being the same, with the addition of Treble Bob.

Messrs. Taylor and Co. have carried out the work in a highly successful manner. The bells hang in two tiers, and the tenor is 16 cwt. in F. All the latest mechanical improvements have been added, and a good circle formed in the ringing room.

Mr. J. P. Fidler was present on behalf of Messrs. Taylor and Co., and took part in the ringing. The Rector, Fr. Wilson, O.S.B., personally thanked the Preston Society for their great kindness, and in the evening a vote of thanks was accorded to the reverend gentleman for his consideration in providing refreshments. A local band has been formed, and will make a start when the clock is completed.

ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL RINGERS' LOSS.

On Monday, March 5th, the funeral of the Very Rev. John Storrs, the late Dean of Rochester, took place. The service was held in the Cathedral, which was filled to overflowing by those who desired to pay a last tribute of respect to the late Dean, who was very popular.

The bells which he loved so well were rung half-muffled before and after the service. He was laid to rest in the Cathedral Cemetery, the Bishop of Rochester officiating, accompanied by all the Canons and clergy in the district and the Cathedral choir.

In the evening a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1,287 changes) was rung with muffled bells: P. Springham 1, H. Poulter 2, T. Beaumont 3, E. A. G. Allen 4, F. Belsey 5, H. Springate 6, C. Winsor 7, W. Haigh (conductor) 8, J. Haigh 9, C. Norris 10. The ringers feel they have lost a dear and respected friend, to whose generosity and influence they have got a fine peal of ten bells.

BOLTON, LANCS.—At All Souls' Church, on Saturday, March 10th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) was rung in 48 mins., to celebrate the 21st birthday of Miss Gertrude Markland: C. Pike 1, A. Holden 2, R. Holden 3, H. Wallbank 4, J. Kay, jun., 5, H. Johnson 6, J. E. Markland (conductor) 7, J. W. Kay 8.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

CARDIFF.—On Thursday, March 8th, at St. John-the-Baptist's Church, in 47 mins., a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: W. Richards 1, J. Phillips 2, J. Davies 3, P. Heath 4, A. Parnell 5, W. Heath 6, G. Large (conductor) 7, S. R. Barker 8. Rung after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal.

LONDON.—On Monday, March 5th, at St. Mary Abbots, on hand-bells, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,330 changes): Challis F. Winney (conductor) 1-2, S. C. Reeve-Flaxman 3-4, W. E. Judd 5-6, G. C. Rice (first quarter-peal 'in hand') 7-8.

OVER, CAMBS.—For practice on Monday, March 5th, a 720 London Surprise: H. Robinson 1, F. C. Ginn 2, A. W. T. Ginn (first on an inside bell in the method) 3, F. G. Gleaves 4, A. J. Ginn 5, F. Warrington (conductor) 6.

WOOLWICH.—On Monday, March 5th, at the Church of St. Mary Magdalene, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 42 mins.: H. G. Martyn (first quarter) 1, A. Grove (Ord. Art., R.N.) 2, W. Watchorn 3, T. H. Culver 4, C. E. Palmer (first quarter away from tenor) 5, B. Aldridge 6, F. J. Cullem, jun., 7, C. Fairman (first quarter) 8.

EAST HAGBOURNE, BERKS.—On Saturday, March 3rd, after meeting short for a peal, there was rung a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 40 mins.: W. Lamboll (first quarter-peal) 1, J. Butler 2, W. V. Webb 3, K. White 4, F. H. Abbott 5, A. H. Webb (conductor) 6, G. E. James 7, H. Appleton 8.

BOLTON, LANCS.—On Tuesday, February 28th, at the Holy Trinity Church, 1,442 changes of Grandsire Triples in 55 mins.: F. Morris, 1, R. Fishwick 2, Peter Crook, jun., 3, Peter Nuttall 4, J. Kay 5, G. Pincott 6, Peter Crook (conductor) 7, R. W. Moseley 8. The ringer of the 3rd is aged 14 years.

WICKEN, NORTHANTS.—On Tuesday, February 28th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): W. Atkins (first quarter) 1, A. J. Green 2, W. Neale (first with a bob bell) 3, L. Smith 4, E. Lambert 5, T. Roberts (conductor) 6, R. Foddy 7, G. Foddy 8.

LITTLE HORSTED, SUSSEX.—On Thursday, February 23rd, 720 Bob Minor: A. Hoare 1, B. Saunders 2, G. Fairbrother 3, W. Unsted 4, G. Frost 5, J. A. Hart (conductor) 6. First 720 by all except the conductor.

WEST GRINSTEAD, SUSSEX.—At St. George's Church, 720 College Exercise, 720 Cambridge Surprise, 720 Annable's London Surprise (first 720 by all the band), 720 London Surprise, 720 Carlisle and 720 Woodbine by the following band: V. Turrell 1, F. Turrell 2, G. Warnett 3, V. Goatcher 4, H. Turrell 5, W. Denman, jun. (conductor) 6.—On February 23rd, 720 Norwich Surprise: V. Goatcher 1, F. Turrell 2, G. Warnett 3, R. Strudwick 4, H. Turrell 5, W. Denman, jun. (conductor) 6. First 720 by all the band.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Little ringing is now being done in Boston, U.S.A., and district, but it is hoped to have a good-going peal of eight in the magnificent tower of Groton School in the near future. New headstocks and ball bearings are to be fitted.

Groton is 38 miles from Boston. 'It seems a long way to go for a ring,' as Mr. Dick Newton tells us, 'but not so far in a Lizzie.'

His many friends will be glad to see the name of Mr. Fred Wilford, Master of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild, appearing again in the peal reports. After a long abstinence from peal ringing, through a serious illness, Mr. Wilford, as recorded last week, conducted a 'centenary' Oddfellows' peal at Northampton.

The bells at Christ Church, Jarrow, were hung, a peal of six, in 1832. The first peal on them was rung on February 22nd, 1905—twenty-three years after they were cast! They were augmented to eight in 1919. The second peal on them was rung on March 7th, nine years after the octave was completed. Visiting bands are made heartily welcome by everyone but the bells. The fact of there having been only two peals rung on them speaks volumes for the 'excellence' of the 'go' of them.

It is worthy of note that Messrs. Tully and Sykes, who rang the treble and tenor on March 7th, 1928, are the only two survivors of the band who rang in the first peal on the bells in 1905, and they are both agreed that the Points' Committee should allot them at least nine points each for having promised to go and try again when the next pair of trebles is a matter of ten years old—not before! 'Uncle Justacuss,' who supplies this information, adds that someone tied the foundation stone to the 7th.

Congratulations to that talented and delightful College Youth, Challis F. Winney, who, born at Nayland, Suffolk, reaches his 70th birthday to-morrow.

Among those who were elected members of the Sussex Association at the last meeting of the Central Division was Mr. J. Whitehead, of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Brighton, where is installed the newest ring of eight in Sussex. Mr. Whitehead's name was inadvertently omitted from the report of the meeting sent to us.

A hundred and fifty years ago to-day a peal of 6,240 Treble Bob Maximus was rung at St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, in 5 hrs. 22 mins., this being the greatest performance ever done by any society. It was rung for the Cumberland Youths by a band of Norwich ringers. John and James Frowse rang the tenor.

To-day is also the anniversary of a memorable performance at Debenham. On March 16th, 1767, 'was rang in this steeple a peal of ten thousand and eighty changes Bob Major by the Debenham company. 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 true sixty courses of Stedman Caters (out of course) ever rung was on March 17th, 1846, in a peal of 7,025 at All Saints', Poplar, composed and conducted by Henry Haley.

The ringers of St. Sidwell's, Exeter, have been entertained to supper by their Rector, and they spent a very enjoyable evening with toast and song.

THE LATE MR. CARTER'S RINGING MACHINE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Before visiting Croydon on March 3rd, a brother ringer and myself from County Durham paid a visit to South Kensington Museum in order to see the late Mr. J. Carter's 'Campanutaphone,' having read a description of the same in 'The Ringing World.'

After several inquiries we found it on the first floor of the new buildings. With it was also a splendid model of a belfry (six bells) made by Mr. T. Horrex. We should be greatly obliged if you or any reader of 'The Ringing World' could inform us if the machine can be seen in operation, and, if so, what steps are necessary to have this pleasure.—Yours faithfully,

A. COATES.

Darlington.

THE ROCHESTER, U.S.A., CARILLON.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In the front page of the interesting account of the All England gathering at Croydon, printed as a supplement to 'The Ringing World' in your last issue, the first word of the sixth line from the bottom of the page contains two of the twenty-six letters of the alphabet which have been struck in their wrong places, namely, the letters 'l' and 'e' in the word 'Male.'

It may interest some of your readers to know that Rochester, Minnesota, U.S.A., is the Mecca of the surgical world. That Rochester, a small and until recently a little-known country town, has become one of the most famous cities of the world is due to its fortune in being the birthplace and the scene of the labours of two of the master surgeons of the world, the two brothers, Drs. William and Charles MAYO—doubtless the donors of the carillon mentioned as the gift of two doctors of Rochester.

The letters 'l' and 'e' in the word Male should be 'y' and 'o' in the word 'Mayo.'—Yours faithfully,

J. LEONARD JOYCE.

A NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor.

Sir,—The question of the formation of a national association of ringers is a revival of what took place at a well-attended meeting of ringers held at Reading during the Church Congress some 45 years ago. Two excellent papers having been read, which appeared in 'Bell News,' a discussion that followed brought out the view that it would be desirable a national association of ringers should be formed, although no active steps to bring such into existence were taken.

Some years after, a meeting of ringers from various parts of the country was called at the Inns of Court, Holborn, by the late Sir Arthur P. Heywood, and the Central Council came into existence, the annual meetings of which for about 18 years I attended as the representative of 'Bell News,' as I did the Reading meeting.

Without the slightest word of disrespect toward a single member whom I had the pleasure of meeting, notwithstanding its excellent work in the past, and, may be, in the future, the Central Council has never appeared to me to be a national association, as referred to at the Reading meeting, and I have no hesitation in expressing the view that a national association is wanted. There are many questions besides those of a technical type that such an association could deal with, especially membership of more than one association, except honorary of the various branches, as the associations, etc., would become. With rules by which every belfry in the country should be visited and reported on every year, greater would be belfry reform, and the more would ringers become recognised as church workers, and the more popular would be the progress of the science.

B. KEEBLE.

55, Vine Street, Romford.

'HALF THE DIFFICULTY.'

Dear Sir,—As soon as a system of national affiliation is evolved, which allows free and unrestricted peal ringing in every society or association, half the difficulties of overlapping territorial and diocesan organisations will disappear. The initial reason for the formation of such associations was, and is, the promotion of the belfry to its sacred function, and no one will deny that it has been successful. For divine service, ringers are welcome in any tower, no matter from what part of the country or association they come. If it is for peal ringing, a secular matter, we get the ridiculous formality of electing the visitor a member in the tower, and penalising him in sums varying in amount almost as much as there are numbers of associations. Is it really worth while?—Yours,

Nottingham.

A. COPPOCK.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.

MR. COLIN HARRISON'S RETIREMENT.

Despite wintry conditions, about 60 members visited St. Marie's R.C. Church, Sheffield, on Saturday, for the annual meeting of Sheffield District Society, the gathering being of a very representative character. The fine-tuned peal of eight, with tenor 25½ cwt., were constantly engaged from 3 p.m. until after 9 in the evening, except for the time occupied by the business meeting.

Canon Dolan gave the visitors a hearty welcome and spoke in high praise of his own ringers, who were a band of which he was most proud.

The balance sheet was presented, and showed a clear gain of £1 9s. on the year's finances, plus 5s. 2d. bank interest, the total assets at December 31st last being £11 17s. 3d., and 12s. 2d. cash in hand. The total membership is approximately 320, and it would appear that this will be the society's maximum, as most towers in the district are affiliated to the society, and future policy will be directed to maintaining the membership at its present standard. A total of 32 peals had been rung during the past year, comprising no less than 17 distinct methods, and of the 32 rung 13 of them had been Surprise peals. Fifteen members had conducted the peals, which ranged from Minor to Maximus and from Plain Bob to London Surprise.

Mr. J. P. Tarlton was re-elected president; Messrs. A. Knights, J. Flint, J. Holman and C. Severn, vice-presidents; J. E. L. Cockey, treasurer; A. Craven and C. Haynes, trustees; J. Thorpe and W. Stubley, auditors; R. Harrison, jun., was elected secretary; and G. Lewis, assistant secretary.

The best thanks of the society were accorded Mr. Colin Harrison for the services he had rendered during the last three years. He is vacating the post of secretary on taking up an appointment with Messrs. John Taylor and Co., Loughborough. He takes with him the good wishes of the members, who expressed the hope that his future would be as happy and successful as his connection had been with the Sheffield District Society.

New rules were adopted, and from henceforth the name of the society will be 'The Sheffield and District Society of Change Ringers,' and its area of activity will be a radius of 20 miles around Sheffield.

The suggestion of a united gathering with the Yorkshire Association (Southern Division), the Barnsley and the Doncaster District Societies, was warmly welcomed, and the proposed place of meeting is Ecclesfield, on June 16th.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

COMPLETING THE ORGANISATION.

Members of the Chertsey District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild showed considerable interest in their first district meeting, which was held at Hersham on Saturday. There was an attendance of over 40, the following towers being represented: Chertsey, Egham, Hersham, Otlands, Ottershaw, Thames Ditton, Weybridge and Walton, and visitors from Banstead, Feltham, Guildford, Hounslow, Leatherhead, London, Tunbridge Wells, and Woking.

In the afternoon, Otlands and Hersham towers were open for ringing, and the methods ranged from Grandsire Doubles to Cambridge Surprise Major. The Rev. E. R. Brittain (Vicar) conducted the Guild's service in Hersham Church, Mr. A. Chittenden, the organist, also kindly giving his aid. While admitting he had no technical knowledge of bells, the Vicar gave a most interesting and inspiring address, in which he urged his hearers to uphold the standard of their high calling.

Tea in the Church Institute was followed by the business meeting, over which the Vicar presided, supported by the Rev. W. N. Willis (Vicar of Ottershaw), Admiral T. P. Walker (hon. treasurer of the Guild), Mr. J. S. Goldsmith (hon. general secretary), Mr. A. Chittenden, etc. In a general statement, the Hon. Secretary said that the number of towers coming into the Guild under the affiliation scheme was increasing. Twenty-five had already paid the affiliation fee, and he had every reason to believe that all the towers, where there were ringers belonging to the Guild, would support the project. In the Chertsey District there were twelve towers. Ten of these had come into the Guild, and in the case of one of the others (Chobham) the affiliation fee had been paid, but for the time being the ringers refused to join. The total membership of the Guild up to that day was 428 (applause), and of these there were one honorary and 51 ringing members in the Chertsey District. It was apparent from the membership that several towers had not got a full complement of ringers, and he urged the district, as one of its first duties, to do its best to help the local bands to bring their numbers up to full strength.

The chairman and the Rev. W. N. Willis were elected honorary members, and eleven ringing members and one compounding member were elected.

THE DISTRICT OFFICERS.

Two nominations had been received for the office of District Ringing Master, viz., Mr. W. T. Beeson (Walton) and Mr. H. J. Chaffey (Chertsey). Mr. Chaffey withdrew his name, remarking that he could give just as much help to the Guild by having a free hand.—Mr. Beeson was thereupon elected.

Mr. J. B. Hessey, who was for some years district secretary of the Yorktown District of the Winchester Guild, had been nominated as hon. district secretary, but declined to stand, partly on the ground of indifferent health. Mr. Chaffey was therefore prevailed upon to undertake the duties, and unanimously elected.

There was a ballot for the ringing members on the Executive Committee, and Mr. Hancock (Ottershaw) and Mr. Hawthorne (Thames Ditton) were elected. The Rev. W. N. Willis was elected as the hon. member on the Executive Committee from the Chertsey District.

Chertsey was selected as the place for the district annual meeting in 1929, and the following towers were chosen for other meetings: Eight-bell towers: Wallon, Chobham or Weybridge, Egham; six-bell towers: Ottershaw, Thames Ditton.

It was resolved to accept in principle the scheme of weekly combined practices on the practice night of the tower to be visited, the details being left to the District Committee to work out.—Mr. A. H. Winch, who is responsible for the scheme in the Leatherhead District, said that district had embarked upon the plan, and the first meeting that week at Dorking had been a great success, several ringers being able to ring their first courses in fresh methods.

Several proposals for furthering the work of the Guild, which will have the consideration of the Executive Committee, were put forward, and the meeting also discussed the question of diplomas for young ringers—referred to the various associations by the Central Council. It was resolved that the proposal should be supported.

The Hon. General Secretary called the attention of the members to the project which was being carried out by the Winchester Diocesan Guild to erect a memorial to the late Rev. C. E. Matthews, and asked the members to give it all the support possible.

The Secretary also reminded the members that at the inaugural meeting it had been resolved to hold a summer festival at Epsom on June 30th, and he was pleased to be able to inform them that he had secured the promise of the president, the Bishop of Guildford, to preach at the service, and to join them afterwards at tea.

The meeting closed with cordial thanks to the Vicars of Hersham and Otlands for the use of the bells and to the ringers at those churches for the arrangements made. Thanks were also extended to the Vicar of Hersham for conducting the service and for his address, and also to the organist.

Afterwards, the little ringing chamber at Hersham was filled to overflowing, and touches in a variety of methods, including London Surprise Major, were rung.

The remaining district meeting to complete the organisation of the Guild will be held at Guildford to-morrow.

DUDLEY & DISTRICT GUILD INCREASE IN MEMBERSHIP.

The annual meeting of the Dudley and District Guild was held at Dudley on Saturday week, the weather being all that could be desired. The ten bells were available from three o'clock, and were kept merrily going in various methods until 4.30, when the usual Guild service was said in church, conducted by the president of the Guild, the Rev. Canon A. H. Phelps (Vicar of Dudley), who also gave an eloquent and interesting address.

At the close of the service an adjournment was made to the school-room, where a substantial tea was in readiness. The following ladies kindly presided at the tables: Mrs. Phelps, Mrs. Blaker, Mrs. Goodman, sen., and Miss Bessie Sheppard. Upwards of one hundred members and friends sat down, representing the following towers: Bilston, Hradley, Coseley, Dudley, Old Hill, Stourbridge, Smethwick, Tipton, Sedgley, Rowley Regis, Kingswinford, Netherton, West Bromwich, Wolverhampton, etc. At the business meeting which followed the chair was taken by the Rev. Canon Phelps, supported by the churchwardens (Dr. Blaker and Mr. W. Shuttleworth) and Mr. Harry Mason (vice-presidents). The chairman gave a right cordial welcome to the members to Dudley on behalf of himself as Vicar, the churchwardens, and the Parochial Church Council.

After routine business had been disposed of, the hon. secretary presented his annual report, which showed an improvement in the work of the Guild during the past year. An increase of new membership, compared with the previous year, was noted, seven new life members, six honorary members and 24 performing members having been added to the roll during the year, which spoke well for the popularity of the Guild.

The balance sheet was then read, and showed a balance at the bank, after meeting all expenses, of £12 5s. 6d.

The Rev. Canon Phelps was again unanimously elected president, and, on the proposition of Mr. H. Mason, he was heartily thanked for his past services to the Guild. The following vice-presidents were also re-elected: Messrs. J. W. Naylor, H. Watson, Arthur Spittle, C. E. Lloyd, M.P., F. R. McDowell, H. Mason, and the Rev. F. J. Chaverton, Vicar of Rowley Regis. The churchwardens (Dr. Blaker and Mr. W. Shuttleworth) were also elected as vice-presidents.

Mr. John Goodman, jun., was again elected Ringing Master, and the hon. secretary (Mr. H. Sheppard) was also re-elected unanimously, and a hearty vote of thanks was given to him for his valuable services to the Guild during the past year.

Mr. S. J. Hughes was again elected hon. treasurer, and Messrs. F. Evans and T. H. Justice were appointed auditors. Several new members (life, honorary and performing) were added to the roll.

At this point, Mr. Mason offered to Miss Sadie Pigott the hearty congratulations of the members present upon her restoration to health after a long and serious illness. Miss Pigott thanked Mr. Mason and the members for their good wishes.

The hon. secretary made an appeal to the members on behalf of Mr. A. T. Baker ('Ironous Pistor'), in his sad affliction, and the result of the appeal was that the sum of one guinea was sent to 'The Ringing World' fund.

It was mentioned that if any band required assistance they should write to the Ringing Master, 45, Holcroft Street, Burnt Tree, Tipton, Staffs. The committee also desire it to be known that there is a Guild practice at the Dudley Parish Church on the first Monday in the month at 7.45 p.m., at which all ringers will be welcomed.

At the close of the meeting, a hearty vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. Mason and seconded by Mr. John Goodman, jun., was passed to the president for his warm welcome, for his kindness in conducting the service in church, and for his eloquent address, also for the use of the bells and schoolroom. Thanks were also given to the ladies for presiding at the tables, and those ladies who had prepared and served the tea and looked after the comfort of those present. It was also desired to offer sincere thanks to the donors of the tea, the funds for which were provided by subscriptions collected by the hon. secretary from members of the Dudley Parish Church congregation, who are all staunch supporters of the Guild. Thanks were given to the assistant organist, Mr. R. Pasfield, for his kindness in presiding at the organ. Votes of thanks were passed to the officers for their past services, and to all who had in any way assisted in making this meeting the most happy and successful one that the Guild had ever had. The President briefly replied on behalf of all concerned, and the wardens gave a few encouraging remarks.

The president then closed the meeting with prayer.

It is proposed to hold the next meeting at Ponsnett, and the annual peal will be attempted at Dudley, the arrangements for same being left with the Ringing Master.

BELL HANGERS REQUIRED?

At Hartshorne, Derbyshire, on Saturday, March 3rd, 1,440 Grand-sire Doubles: P. W. Grace 1, F. Brown 2, R. H. Dove 3, F. R. Boulstridge 4, J. W. Cotton 5. First 720 conducted by R. H. Dove, second by J. W. Cotton. A greater length was impossible owing to the bad 'go' of the three back bells. The ringers were kindly entertained by the Rector (the Rev. A. R. Langhorne) afterwards.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. DUNSTER DEANERY BRANCH.

The meetings of the Dunster Deanery Branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association are always well attended, and the annual meeting at Cutcombe on February 25th drew a large number of ringers to that place, there being nearly 80 members present from Cutcombe, Wootton Courtenay, Timberscombe, Old Cleeve, Winsford, Chipstable, Huish Champflower, Porlock, Selworthy, Dulverton, Milverton, Carhampton, Exton, Withypool, and Minehead.

The Rev. A. C. Jenoure (Vicar of Cutcombe), at whose invitation the gathering was held there, officiated at the service in the afternoon, which was the association's special form. Miss Hayes was the organist. On this occasion the president of the branch, Rev. T. S. Dawson, gave the address, preaching a very effective and helpful discourse from the words, 'Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it.'

The Vicar kindly entertained the ringers to tea, and at the business meeting, which followed, the chair was taken by the branch president.

Mr. G. Stacey (hon. secretary) presented a report for the year 1927, which stated that four meetings had been held and well attended. The association heartily thanked all the clergy and Church Councils for the welcomes given and for providing teas and rooms free for the meetings. Twenty-two performing and four hon. members had been elected. Several members had fallen out through not paying their subscriptions, and there were several names proposed as members and hon. members last year, but no subscriptions received. As this rather muddled up the books, the hon. secretary thought it would be a good plan to pay the first subscription when a member was elected. Regret was expressed at the loss of the Rev. E. P. Stanley, the Rev. J. C. L. Isard, and Mr. W. Newberry, who had left the deanery; and also by the deaths of Mr. J. Bulpin (Watchet), Mr. J. Kent (Selworthy), and Mr. J. Sully (Carhampton).

The company stood in silence for a moment in memory of those who had passed away.

A statement of accounts for 1927 showed on the receipts' side a total of £10 5s., made up of ordinary subscriptions £9 15s., and tower fees 10s. Of this amount, £7 had been sent to the diocesan secretary, and there was a balance in hand on the local fund of £4 6s. 6d.

On the motion of Mr. T. Newberry, seconded by Mr. H. Holloway, the accounts were passed.

MORE KEENNESS WANTED.

Mr. J. Farmer (Timberscombe), commenting on the good attendances at the meetings during the year, wished that more keenness was shown between the meetings. For instance, he said, they had a meeting and practice every month at different towers; but beyond the band belonging to the tower where the practice was held hardly anybody turned up. 'When I learned ringing first,' said Mr. Farmer, 'members would go anywhere, rain or shine, but they won't go out now if it is a little rough.' He suggested that it would make for greater keenness if there were more conductors. In some towers there was one conductor who conducted all the time, and it would be a good plan if everyone were to learn conducting (hear, hear). If that was done, there would be a good deal more interest taken, he was sure, and ringers would get to know the methods better.

The Chairman observed that if they took these remarks to heart they would, he thought, profit by it.

Mr. Stacey also expressed a similar hope during some little discussion on the suggestion.

The Rev. T. S. Dawson was re-elected branch president, by acclamation, as was Mr. G. Stacey as hon. secretary, the latter being cordially thanked for his services. Mr. Stacey said he knew they all tried to help him all they could, and if they would all do their best to look up members in arrears with their subscriptions he would be very glad. He did not like to see towers drop out of the association because their members had not paid their subscriptions. He promised to do his best as secretary for another year, but hoped that they would look out for somebody else to take his place.

Mr. W. A. Hawkins was re-elected hon. auditor and Mr. W. Hoyle (Minehead) Ringing Master, with appreciations of their services. The Chairman especially thanked Mr. Hoyle, who, he said, had done a great amount of work in getting round to different towers. They ought to thank him for his past services, and hope that they would profit by his help during the coming year (applause).

Mr. H. A. Phillips (Timberscombe) was re-elected representative on the Diocesan Committee, and thanked for his services during the year.

Four new members—Messrs. Montague Cook (Carhampton), John Turner (Old Cleeve), Edward Kent and Fred Kent (Selworthy)—were proposed and accepted.

Places suggested for the next quarterly meeting were Monksilver and St. Decuman's, and the latter place was approved by a large majority on a vote being taken.

CARHAMPTON'S DIFFICULT TASK.

The Chairman referred to the condition of Carhampton bells. Through the gudgeon of the fifth breaking, the bells were now out of action, and they had a scheme of restoration on hand. At a meeting of the Church Council it was decided to recommend that Messrs. Gillett and Johnston should carry out the work, at a cost of £430, of recasting and rehanging the bells, with steel cage, and everything new, the six bells to be rehung in such a position as to allow for two (Continued in next column.)

ASPENDEN'S OLD BELLS.

Mr. Richardson's interesting account of the above bells, and his desire for further information as to the method rung in the peal of 1746, has led me to search various authorities for the desired information. Unfortunately, I have been unsuccessful. However, the following may be of interest to your readers: Sir Henry Chauncy, Kt., who lived at Yardley Bury, Herts, in his 'Historical Antiquities of Hertfordshire,' published in 1700, states: 'Almost two miles distant from Wakeley, towards the east, stands Aspenden, so termed from the asps or adders which frequently breed in the vale. . . . The church is erected upon a side hill, near the Manor House, in the Deanery of Baldock, in the Diocese of Lincoln; whereof the chancel and church are covered with tile; and at the west end of the church a square tower is erected, where hangs a small ring of five bells, with a short shaft or spire built upon it. . . . Ralph Freeman, Esq., An. Dom. 1644, gave the treble bell to this parish church.'

The Freeman family appear to have been generous benefactors, not only to the poor of the parish, but to the church also. The manor of Aspenden was purchased in the fifth year of James I. by William and Ralph Freeman, who were London merchants. From William descended Ralph Freeman, whose name is inscribed on the tenor. He died on November 26th, 1714, aged 88 years, and was buried at Aspenden. William, whose name appears on the treble, succeeded to the estates. He died on February 6th, 1749, and was buried at Braughing, to which church he gave the first three bells, which are dated 1745. The gift is thus noted in the parish books: '1744, March 30.—William Freeman, Esq., of Hammells, gave three bells to Braughing and made frames and flooring of the bells new, and gave a new flooring for the ringers to stand on by nailing it upon the old one about seven foot higher. 1745.'

The following are the inscriptions upon the Aspenden bells:—

1 and 2.—'The gift of Wm. Freeman, Esq., Robert Phelps, Londini Facit 1736.' (Diameters, 25, 25½in.)

3.—'Robert Phelps made me 1738.' (Diameter 27in.)

4, 5, 6.—'George Chandler made me 1681.' (Diameters, 29, 30½, 32in.)

7.—'Recast by John Warner and Sons, London, 1871.' (Diameter 37½in.)

8.—'Ralph Freeman, Esq., George Chandler, made me 1681.' (Diameter 40½in.)

The seventh bell was previously inscribed: 'George Chandler made me 1681, Henry Holbeam, C.W.'

Thomas North, in 'Bells of Hertfordshire,' gives the Aspenden peal as 1764, but assuming Mr. Richardson's date, 1746, correct, may we not associate the peal of Triples rung at Braughing on September 30th, 1746, which is recorded in the belfry, with the same band? A checking of names might give the desired information. Perhaps our ringing friends at Braughing can solve the problem! G.W.C.

(Continued from previous column.)

more to be hung when they had the money (hear, hear), 'but I want to make sure of the money first,' added Mr. Dawson. They had to raise £440 before they could attend to the present business, and that was a tremendous task for Carhampton. They were going on quietly however. At Christmas time they raised £40, and since then in other little ways they had been going on with the fund. It was a tremendous pull on Carhampton because they had no gentry in the parish except one or two who were not permanently staying there. 'So if you can excite any interest,' added the chairman, 'on behalf of our little peal at Carhampton we shall be most grateful.' He was hoping to get the job done before this year was out. He was now in correspondence with regard to the facilities, etc., and, he added, 'as soon as they are done I shall invite the association to have a meeting at Carhampton, and you will have nice new bells with all the latest devices. But help us to get them as soon as possible' (applause).

Thanks were accorded to the Rev. A. C. Jenoure for his welcome to Cutcombe, and to the organist and all who had helped to make the occasion such a success. Thanks were also passed to the officers and the chairman, and the ringers then returned to the tower, where, during the afternoon and evening, many touches were rung.

TAUNTON DEANERY.

The annual meeting of the deanery was held at Taunton recently, when the Bishop of Taunton addressed the gathering from the chancel steps of St. James' Church. Tea followed the service. The business meeting was then held, presided over by the Rural Dean (Rev. J. Lindsay Coursey). The Hon. Secretary, Mr. P. Merson, presented the report and balance sheet, which was received with satisfaction. The report stated that 11 peals had been rung under seven conductors. The peals that deserved special mention were Oxford Treble Bob Major, conducted by J. Hunt, first peal of Oxford by all the band; seven different extents of Bob Minor, conducted by H. Pocock, first as conductor; ten different extents of Surprise Minor by the Wilton band, Conductor G. Coles creating a record for the association and the West of England; also a peal of Stedman Doubles at Bishop's Hull, conducted by P. Merson, being 42 different 120's, the first of its kind rung in the country.

The officials were all re-elected, viz., Mr. P. Merson hon. secretary, Mr. J. Hunt Ringing Master, Mr. P. Merson member of general committee of diocese.—Seven new members were also elected—five performing and two honorary (Rev. J. L. Coursey and the Rev. E. Ogden).

'IRENÆUS PISTOR.'

Our fund for the assistance of Mr. Alf. T. Baker ('Irenæus Pistor') of Hillsborough, Sheffield, continues to grow in a gratifying manner, but we hope that all those who intend to contribute will do so at an early date, as the appeal will be closed immediately after Easter. We are extending it to that date so that collections made at any of the numerous association meetings held during the holidays may be added to the list.

The following additional contributions are acknowledged with sincere thanks:—

	£	s.	d.
Amount previously acknowledged	169	14	11
The Ancient Society of College Youths, per W. T. Cockerill	2	2	0
Some members of the Leicester District, M.C.A., per Alban Disney	2	4	6
Harwell (Berks) ringers	3	0	0
Leicestershire Association, Rochdale Branch, per W. Horan:			
Oldham Parish Church	10	0	0
Milnrow	10	0	0
Todmorden	10	0	0
Cross Stone	7	6	0
Gladwick	5	0	0
Newhey	5	0	0
Heywood	5	0	0
Moorside	5	0	0
Todmorden Unitarian	5	0	0
	3	2	6
A. N. Wood, Northampton	2	0	0
F. Warrington, Long Stanton	2	0	0
Total	£179	8	11

CHELTEMHAM VETERANS.

The Parish Church and St. Mary's Guild of Ringers, Cheltenham, met on Tuesday, February 28th, and rang the 12 bells to celebrate the birthdays of Mr. A. W. Humphris and Mr. W. T. Pates (captain), the former's being on the 26th, and the latter's on the 28th. These veterans rang their first peal together on August 6th, 1883, at Upton St. Leonards.

Mr. Pates rang his first two peals at Cheltenham: Holt's Original in 1876, conducted by the late C. Hounslow (Oxford), and Holt's Ten Part in 1878, conducted by the late C. A. W. Troyt, the late J. Snowdon ringing the tenor. Mr. Pates always speaks of this as a great honour, and often comments on the fine physique of the last-named.

Mr. Pates was made captain of the Cheltenham company in 1891, which office he has held ever since. After the birthday ringing, the company was invited to the house of the captain, where his hospitality took the form of a cold supper. After some hours of sound enjoyment, the party broke up to the strains of 'Auld Lang Syne.'

DEATH OF A TAUNTON RINGER.

Mr. Isaac Creed, after an illness of seven and a half years' duration, passed away at Norton Fitzwarren, near Taunton, on the 2nd inst., at the age of 86 years, and was laid to rest in the churchyard on March 8th, amid many manifestations of esteem and respect, being carried to his last resting place by six local ringers. He leaves a widow and daughter to mourn their loss. Amongst many floral tributes was a wreath from the local band and also one from St. Mary's, Taunton, to which band in the later days of his ringing he was attached.

After the interment, the bells of the local church were rung half muffled, and in the evening two courses of Grandsire Cinques at St. Mary's, conducted by Mr. J. Burge. Mr. Creed, who was a carpenter and joiner, had worked, previous to his illness, for Mr. H. J. Spiller for 36 years, and he was a most excellent craftsman. The writer worked with him 33 years ago, and has had experience of his skill in hard woods.

In ringing, Mr. Creed was no less skilful than in his ordinary occupation. He rang altogether 64 peals, conducting 41. He acted as conductor to the Norton band for a great number of years. For about ten years, from 1899 to 1909, this band accomplished some very good performances, including peals in from seven to ten Treble Bob methods. For Queen Victoria's funeral, they rang 7,440 of Bob Doubles, February 2nd, 1901; and for King Edward's funeral, 8,180 of Grandsire Doubles. Both these peals are believed to be the longest peals of Doubles rung.

Mr. Creed was of a lovable nature, and all those who came in contact with him, whether at work or in ringing, realise they have lost a staunch comrade. May he rest in peace.

J. H.

PENHOW, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—On Tuesday, February 7th, in 45 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes): A. Flook 1, T. Morris 2, T. Edwards 3, F. Harris 4, A. Freebury 5, S. Flook 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the memory of the late Field Marshal Earl Haig. First quarter-peal for all, and first on the bells.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. DEVIZES BRANCH AT MARKET LAVINGTON.

The monthly meeting of the Devizes Branch was held at Market Lavington on Saturday, March 10th. A good number attended, and ringing commenced shortly after 3 p.m. This was continued in various methods till 4.40, when the usual Guild service was held, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. J. A. Sturton, M.A. Tea followed at the Institute, and 27 sat down, including the Vicar, and representatives from the following towers: Devizes (St. John's, St. Mary's and St. James'), Southbroom, Bratton Holt, Trowbridge, Melksham, Bradford-on-Avon, Chirton, Warminster, Potterne, Rowde, Stourton and Market Lavington.

A short business meeting followed the tea. In the absence of the chairman (on business) and the vice-chairman (attending a Guild committee meeting at Salisbury the same afternoon), the Rev. J. A. Sturton occupied the chair.

The Secretary reported that he had heard of the death of Mr. George Meade, one of the leading ringers at Upavon for many years. Mr. Meade was fatally injured by being thrown from his cycle at Ludgershall, during the gales last month. As a mark of respect to his memory, the company stood in silence for a few moments.

Eight new members were elected—five from Marden, two from Christ Church, Bradford-on-Avon, and one from Warminster. It was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Westbury on the Saturday after Easter.

The Rev. J. A. Sturton welcomed those present, especially from Stourton. Mr. S. Hillier proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, for the service, and for presiding over the meeting, etc., to which the Vicar suitably replied.

This concluded the meeting, and a move was made to the tower for further ringing, which was continued till 8 p.m.

The following methods were rung during the afternoon and evening: Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, and Bob Minor, Stedman, Grand-sire and Bob Doubles. All the ringers were delighted with the 'go' of the bells, also with the greatly improved tone of the peal, which was fully restored in June, 1927. The local band rang their first peal of Doubles a few weeks ago.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A most successful meeting was held at Watford, ringers coming from distant towers as well as towers close by. Tea was laid in the Parish Hall and thoroughly enjoyed. Rev. Edwards, Vicar of Watford, occupied the chair, and welcomed the association in a very charming speech.

Two new members were made.—The next meeting is to be held at Bushey.

The Vicar and wardens were thanked for use of bells and for arranging the tea and for the use of the room. Ringing was carried on until 8.30 p.m.

FLAMSTEAD BELLS REDEDICATED.

The bells of St. Leonard's Church, Flamstead, were rededicated on Saturday last, after having been rehung and retuned by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, who have admirably carried out the work. After the service, 720 Bob Minor was rung in 28 mins. by: J. Hobbs (Redbourn) 1, E. Plummer (Woodford) 2, J. Marks (Wanstead) 3, H. W. Anstee (King's Walden) 4, H. J. Shepherd (Swindon) 5, C. R. Morss (Woodford) (conductor) 6.

STAFFORD RINGER'S FAREWELL.

On Sunday, February 5th, for evening service at St. Mary's Church, Stafford, as a farewell compliment to Mr. J. J. Taylor, the conductor of the band (who has now left Stafford to take an appointment in Northampton), a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes) was rung on the bells of St. Mary's Church, Stafford, in 46 mins.: F. T. Hayle 1, J. Warrilow 2, A. E. Garbett 3, A. H. Taylor 4, R. Warrilow 5, F. V. Haggis 6, J. J. Taylor (conductor) 7, W. H. Jones 8. By ringing the tenor, Mr. Jones has now rung a quarter-peal on each of the ten bells in the tower. This is the first quarter-peal of Stedman Triples rung on St. Mary's bells by Sunday service ringers, and is due largely to the efforts of Mr. Taylor, who, since being appointed conductor, has by his devotion and keenness for ringing, raised an efficient band of voluntary ringers. His services, so willingly given, are much appreciated, and he has left Stafford with the best wishes of all his colleagues.

'FIRST BY ALL'

It is always a special pleasure to record a 'first by all.'

At St. Michael's Church, Hallaton, Market Harborough, on February 23rd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, the first quarter by all the band, was rung by: R. Russell 1, J. Norton 2, G. Geary (conductor) 3, N. Geary 4, A. Kitchen 5, C. Jones 6.

At Churchill, on Sunday, February 26th, the local band rang for evening service their first 720 Bob Minor: G. E. Shallish 1, F. Hawkins 2, E. G. Norton 3, E. J. Avery 4, G. Gilling (conductor) 5, R. A. Dare 6.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

WINDSOR.—On Sunday, March 11th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: J. W. Croft 1, T. Smith 2, W. Phipps 3, F. Knight 4, A. R. Gale (first quarter) 5, C. W. Pipe (Life Guards) 6, L. Stilwell (conductor) 7, J. H. Cropley 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to the composer (E. S. T. Farr) and F. Knight. All are local ringers.

CHELSEA.—At St. Luke's Church, for evening service, Sunday, March 11th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1,263 changes): W. Dean 1, C. A. Mitchell 2, F. C. Hawthorne (first quarter-peal of Stedman) 3, E. H. Mance 4, W. Essery 5, H. Dyas 6, A. Reeve 7, L. Manner 8, A. Newman (first quarter-peal of Stedman Caters as conductor) 9, H. Mance 10.

GREAT BADDOW, ESSEX.—On Sunday evening, March 11th, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,230 changes): P. Green 1, H. Warn 2, H. Devonish 3, E. Clark 4, G. Green 5, Dr. Spencer Phillips 6, W. Lincoln 7, A. Head 8.

SWINDON, WILTS.—On Sunday, March 11th, at St. Mark's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): N. Allnatt 1, H. Hatton 2, J. Woodroff 3, A. Heath 4, J. Roberts (first quarter-peal as conductor) 5, G. Lawrence 6, W. Lancaster 7, F. Weston 8.

KILBURN, LONDON.—At St. Augustine's Church, on February 26th, for evensong, 1,080 Bob Triples in 38 mins.: A. Gardiner 1, Rev. M. C. Edgar 2, Mrs. Atkins 3, R. Gilbert 4, J. Rymer 5, G. M. Atkins 6, Cyril Nichols 7, J. Lawson (longest touch) 8. Rung to celebrate the anniversary of reopening of the bells.

HYTHE, KENT.—At St. Leonard's Church for morning service, Sunday, February 26th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,262 changes) in 46 mins.: W. Fright 1, A. R. Manning 2, W. J. Bidnell 3, W. Bidnell 4, R. J. Birch 5, S. Mowl (conductor) 6, S. A. Gower 7, W. J. Prebble 8.

PORTSMOUTH.—On Sunday, February 26th, for evensong, at St. Mary's, 1,260 Stedman Triples (from J. W. Washbrook's peal) in 44 mins.: J. J. Symons 1, A. T. Greenwood 2, F. W. Rogers (conductor) 3, J. D. Harris 4, T. R. Taylor 5, R. J. Stone 6, E. J. Harding, sen., 7, J. Gates 8.

RISHTON, LANCs.—On Sunday, February 26th, 1,056 Bob Major: R. Atherton 1, A. Yates 2, A. Hutchison 3, R. Balderstone 4, F. Hirst (longest length) 5, A. Lord 6, J. Hirst 7, F. Read (conductor) 8.

NORWICH.—At the Church of St. John de Snpulchre, on Sunday, February 26th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes) in 44 mins.: D. Grimble 1, Miss Mabel Robertson 2, Miss Helen Bill 3, G. Mayers 4, J. Rampley 5, G. Bailey 6, C. Lovett 7, J. F. Duffield (conductor) 8. This was Dudley Grimble's first quarter-peal, and the first quarter by Miss Robertson with a working bell.

EAST GRINSTEAD, SUSSEX.—For morning service, on Sunday, February 12th, in 45 mins., 1,152 Bob Major: C. Nice 1, K. Snelling 2, G. Oliver 3, N. Elliott 4, G. Lambert 5, E. J. Ladd 6, J. Wren 7, O. Sippelts (conductor) 8. G. Lambert, E. J. Ladd and J. Wren are East Grinstead ringers, and this was their longest touch of Bob Major.

TUNSTALL, KENT.—On Sunday, February 19th, for morning service, a quarter-peal (1,260 changes) of Grandsire Triples: Bernard Sharp 1, G. H. Spice 2, W. E. Spice 3, G. Kenward 4, E. H. Spice 5, J. T. Webb 6, W. Spice, sen. (conductor) 7, Mrs. E. H. Spice 8. This was Bernard Sharp's first quarter-peal, and a farewell quarter for Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Spice, who are leaving Tunstall for Gravesend.

SOUTH CROYDON, SURREY.—At the Church of St. Peter, on Sunday, March 4th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1,263 changes): S. R. Roper 1, J. Austin (conductor) 2, C. Austin 3, T. A. S. Bloxham 4, W. Groves 5, J. G. Hall 6, H. Beckett 7, T. Metcalfe 8, F. E. Collins 9, W. J. Adcock 10. Arranged for visitors to the All England ringers' meeting at Croydon Bell Foundry. The ringer of the 2nd bells from Gloucester, 6th and 8th Middlesbrough, 7th Upton St. Leonard's. The rest are local men.

LONDON.—On March 4th, at Shoreditch, for evening service, 1,056 Cambridge Surprise Maximus: T. Bevan 1, J. Sparrow 2, A. J. Neale 3, Mrs. R. Deal 4, T. Newman 5, J. D. Matthews (conductor) 6, J. Bennett 7, R. Bullen 8, R. Deal 9, G. Card 10, L. H. Baybutt 11, C. J. Matthews 12.

NOTICE.

DERBY CATHEDRAL.—To avoid disappointment to visitors and ringing friends to Derby Cathedral on Monday next (the usual practice night), permission having been given to a visiting band of change ringers to attempt a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters, the usual courtesy to ringing friends will have to be excused on this occasion.—Sunday Service ringing 10 to 10.45 a.m. and 5.30 to 6.30 p.m. Practice night every Monday, 7.30 to 9 p.m. The Cathedral bells on Easter Monday are available for Cambridge Surprise Royal.—Write James Pagett, 107, Abbey Street, Derby, not later than March 31st.

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 3d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with a minimum charge of 1/6.

The **EDITORIAL OFFICE** of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 63, **COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.**

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ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637). — Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on March 29th; *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 20th; Southwark 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.—North and East District.—Next meeting at Hornsey, Saturday, March 17th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Short service at 5. Tea at 5.30, 1s. each. Please let me know if you require same.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A meeting will be held at Chiswick on Saturday, March 17th. Tower open at 2.45. A social and dance will be held at Acton, Saturday, April 7th, for Isleworth Bell Fund, tickets 1s. 6d. Details later.—Wm. H. Hollier, Hon. Sec., 29, Duke Road, W.4.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Hemel Hempstead on Saturday, March 17th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Short service, followed by tea. Cheap tickets to Boxmoor Station. Frequent bus service to Hempsstead. Let me know early if you are coming.—W. Ayre, Leverstock Green, Hemel Hempstead.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Tickhill, near Rotherham, on Saturday, March 17th. Tower open at 3 o'clock. Tea at 5.30, at 1s. 6d. each.—F. Clark, Hon. Sec., 18, Royston Avenue, Doncaster.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—The next meeting will be held at Overseal on Saturday, March 17th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Tea (1s. each) and meeting 5 p.m. All members are requested to attend, as matters of vital importance will be discussed. All ringers and friends welcome.—R. H. Dove, Dis. Sec., 128, Station Street, Burton-on-Trent.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Next meeting, Lambeth, Saturday, March 17th. Ringing 2.30 to 4.30. Short service, tea and business till 6. More ringing till 7.30. A social hour is being arranged to follow, handbells, songs, etc.—J. Herbert, Hon. Dis. Sec., 17, Grimston Road, S.W.6.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Harlow Common on Saturday, March 17th, at 3 p.m. Service at 4.45 p.m. Tea at 5.15 p.m., free of charge to all who advise me of their intended presence at the meeting. We are looking forward to a large attendance.—C. Beeston, King Street, Bishop's Stortford, Herts.

GLOUCESTER AND DISTRICT DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The spring meeting of the Cheltenham Branch will be held at St. Mark's, Cheltenham, on Saturday, March 17th. Bells open at 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea 5.30, kindly given by the Vicar and Parochial Church Council. Business meeting to follow.—Walter Yeend, Millfield, Tewkesbury Road, Cheltenham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, West Didsbury, on Saturday, March 17th. Bells at liberty 4 o'clock, meeting at 7 p.m.; as these bells have recently been rehung a good attendance is requested.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—Meeting for the election of district officers, etc., will be held at Guildford on Saturday, March 17th. S. Nicolas' bells (10) available from 2.30. Service in S. Nicolas' Church 4.45. Tea (1s. each) at the Prince of Wales Assembly Room, Woodbridge Road, 5.30. Business meeting afterwards.—J. S. Goldsmith, Hon. Gen. Sec., 63, Commercial Road, Woking.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Bispham on Saturday, March 17th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Visitors welcomed.—C. Sharples, Fylde Branch Sec., 10, Warbreck Road, Blackpool.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—A meeting of the Guild will be held at Berkswell on Saturday, March 17th. The 6 bells will be available for ringing from 3 p.m.—J. A. Fenton, Hon. Sec., 42, Bennett Street, Rugby.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Binfield on Saturday, March 17th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Divine service 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m. All ringers welcome.—W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Marlborough Branch.—A meeting will be held at Aldbourne on Saturday, March 17th. Bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. Good bus service from Swindon and Hungerford, No. 69.—Cyril Hussey, Hon. Sec., East Leaze, Baydon S.O., Wilts.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next ringing practice has been arranged at Penn (6 bells) on Saturday, March 24th, at 6 p.m. All welcome.—A. D. Barker, Branch Sec. and Treasurer, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Oxford and District Branch.—Half-yearly business meeting postponed to Saturday, March 24th, at St. Giles' Church. Ringing 6 to 8 p.m. Service in church 8 p.m., followed by business meeting in Parish Room.—W. Collett, Hon. Sec.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Eastern District will be held at Jarrow on Saturday, March 24th. Bells of Christ Church, St. Peter's, and Hebburn will be available after 2.30. Tea at Co-operative Café at 5. Please advise Mr. H. Hall, 49, Gladstone Street, Hebburn, before the 21st.—George S. Taylor, Sec., 149, St. Leonard Street, Sunderland.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—A by-meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Thanet, on Saturday, March 24th. Tower open 3 p.m. Business meeting to follow.—Percy W. Smith, Dis. Sec., Canterbury.

EAST GRINSTEAD & DISTRICT GUILD.—There will be a ringing meeting at Cowden on Saturday, March 24th. Tower open 3.0. All ringers welcome.—G. Lambert, Drummond Hay, East Grinstead.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Earlsheaton on Saturday, March 24th. Bells available from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Meat tea will be provided at 1s. per head to all those who notify Mr. H. Dransfield, Ellenroyd, Commercial Street, Earlsheaton, Dewsbury, not later than March 20th.—F. Hutchinson, Dis. Sec.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—A special general meeting will be held at Leatherhead on Saturday, March 24th, to consider the following business: (1) Proposed amalgamation of the association with the Guildford Diocesan Guild. (2) Proposed new rules. (3) Report re association certificate. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea (at the Institute) 5.15. Meeting 6 o'clock. Members requiring tea must notify the undersigned not later than Tuesday, March 20th.—Chas. H. Kippin, Hon. Sec., Winchester, Guy Road, Beddington, Croydon.

HERTS ASSOCIATION.—Bushey, Saturday, March 24th. Bells open from 3.30. Service 5.30. Tea 6 (1s. each). Cheap trains from all stations which lead to Bushey. Number for tea by 21st.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey. Tel. City 4270.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—A meeting will be held at Brixworth on Saturday, March 24th. Bells (5) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 o'clock. Please notify me not later than Tuesday, March 20th, who require tea.—T. Tebbutt, West Street, Moulton, Northampton.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Eastwell on Saturday, March 24th. Bells available 2.30. Tea will be arranged.—C. W. Everett, Hon. Sec., 48, Sussex Avenue, Ashford.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION will hold their quarterly meeting, and a 6-bell contest, at Shelley, near Huddersfield, on Saturday, March 24th. Draw to take place at 2.45 p.m. Will all those who require tea (1s. 6d. each) notify the secretary not later than March 19th. — L. Hargreaves, 30, Bankfield View, Halifax.

BRISTOL UNITED RINGING GUILDS.—A lantern lecture will be given in connection with the above in St. Michael's (City) Parish Hall on Friday, March 30th, at 8 o'clock on 'Somerset Church Towers' by C. F. W. Denning, Esq., President of the Bristol Society of Architects. Doors open 7.30. Admission 6d. The Rev. W. S. Hazeldine will preside.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—A meeting will be held at Smarden on Saturday, March 31st. Tower open at 2.30 p.m. Tea will be arranged at 5 o'clock. All ringers welcome.—A. C. Kay, Dis. Sec., 6, Sturges Road, Ashford.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—The meeting previously arranged for Norton, March 31st, has been unavoidably cancelled, and will be held Saturday, April 14th. Members please note.—W. C. Moore, Hon. Sec., Fircroft, Braunston Road, Daventry.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Spondon on Saturday, March 31st. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—Charles Draper, Town Street, Duffield.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting of Central Division at East Grinstead on Saturday, March 31st. Tower open 2.30. Service 4. Tea 4.45 in Small Parish Hall, by kind invitation of the Vicar. Those attending please notify the undersigned not later than Wednesday, the 28th.—A. D. Stone, 16, Belgrave Street, Brighton.

RINGERS' AND THEIR LADY FRIENDS' DANCE SOCIAL in St. Mary's Hall, Rectory Road, Acton (close to church—bells open 4 p.m.) Saturday, April 7th (Easter Eve), 7.30 p.m. Tickets (including refreshments) 1s. 6d., to be had from W. H. Hollier, 29, Duke Road, Chiswick; J. A. Trollope, 52, Lammas Park Road, Ealing; Robt. Holloway, 10, Summerlands Avenue, Acton, W. Proceeds for Isleworth Bell Fund.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Preliminary Notice.—The annual general meeting will be held at Gravesend on Easter Monday, April 9th. Particulars next week.—Fred J. O. Helmore, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Preliminary Notice.—Annual meeting, Easter Monday, at Nottingham, when various towers will be open for ringing. Full details later. Will all committee members from every district make a special effort to come for discussion on the proposed division of the M.C.A. into Diocesan Guilds, and be prepared to give their respective members' views on this matter?—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.—The Jubilee meeting of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association will be held at Bristol on Whit-Monday, May 28th. A Life Member's peal is being arranged and other peals for visitors on Saturday, May 26th. Will those wishing to take part kindly advise soon? Arrangements for ringing, etc., on Sunday are being made. Monday's programme, ringing up till noon at any or all city churches. Service at St. Mary Redcliffe, 12 noon. Luncheon 1 p.m. Business meeting 2 p.m. Tea to follow. Social evening arrangements (good train service to Hereford), luncheon 3s. 6d., tea 1s. (a grant will be made towards this cost). Will members and visitors kindly advise early now so that extra accommodation can be sought if necessary. The 1928 Report will be issued in souvenir form on May 28th. Life members and visitors wishing to take part in peals for Saturday should apply early. Hotel accommodation will be arranged at reasonable cost.—Edgar Guise, Hon. Sec., 39, Tankard's Close, St. Michael's Hill, Bristol.

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A VETERAN RETAINS HIS FORM.

At St. Giles', Northampton, on March 6th, 1,263 Stedman Caters: W. Rogers (conductor) 1, E. Sibley 2, A. N. Wood 3, J. T. Hensman 4, W. Atterbury 5, W. Farey, sen., 6, P. Hopper 7, W. J. Dove 8, G. Flavell 9, R. Timms 10. Rung on the 46th anniversary of Mr. George Flavell's first peal of Stedman Cinques, and this touch proved that the veteran has lost none of his masterly style.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

MACHEN, MON.—On Saturday, March 10th, in 40 mins., a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes): G. Popnell 1, W. Pike 2, C. Greedy 3, H. Broughton 4, P. Jones 5, J. Hammond 6, W. Williams (conductor) 7, W. Phillips 8. First quarter-peal in the method as conductor.

CAERPHILLY, GLAM.—On Wednesday, March 7th, at St. Martin's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes) in 44 mins.: H. Broughton 1, G. Popnell 2, S. Addicott 3, W. Pike 4, P. Jones 5, W. Williams 6, A. Addicott (conductor) 7, T. Jones 8. Rung half-muffled in memory of Mrs. Brinson, wife of the Vicar's warden.

DURHAM.—At St. Oswald's Church, on Monday, February 13th, 720 Bob Minor in 26 mins.: *A. Clement 1, H. Jackson 2, E. Raine 3, J. R. Temple 4, C. F. Vasey 5, W. H. Johnson (conductor) 6. * First 720 of Minor. First 720 of Minor as conductor. The ringers of 2nd and 3rd hail from Willington, the rest belong to the local band.

BILLINGSHURST, SUSSEX.—On January 13th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 47 mins.: P. Wood 1, T. Adams 2, J. Burdfield 3, R. Wood 4, T. Newman (first quarter-peal) 5, W. J. Wicks 6, A. Feist (conductor) 7, E. Radbourne 8. First quarter-peal at this church by all local ringers for 20 years, and all are Sunday service ringers.

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