

No. 891. Vol. XXIII.

FRIDAY, APRIL 20th, 1928.

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

Price 3d.

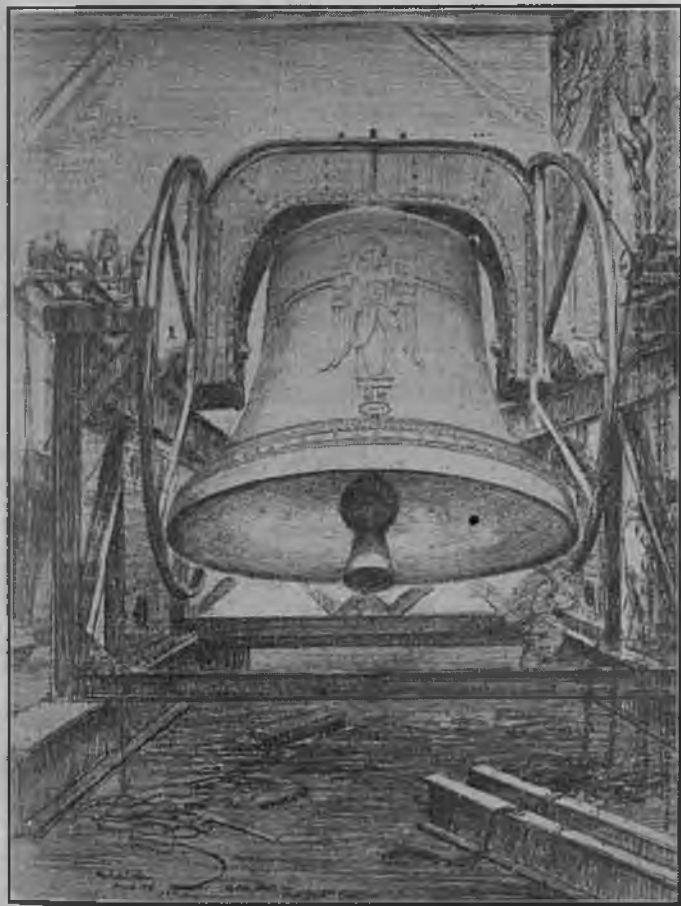
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DIOCESAN STATUS.

The question of embracing diocesan status is at present a matter which concerns more than one of the territorial associations, but for the time being the Midland Counties Association has shelved its proposal to divide the organisation into four diocesan societies. It is, of course, no easy matter to dig up by the roots a tree so well developed as the M.C.A., which has grown deep into the soil of the Exercise and whose branches spread out over four or more counties. It is well that nothing should be done hurriedly, and for that reason a postponement of the scheme of division to some future date will do no harm. At the same time, we feel confident that the problem will have to be dealt with sooner or later, and, it may be, sooner than some may think.

When the modern associations were first launched their relation to the Church was markedly different from that of to-day. If not exactly secular, their objects, so far as the Church was concerned, sought for little more than the removal of the abuses to be found in the belfry. It could hardly be said that the ringers of those days were, in the mass, a body of Churchmen; but the tendency ever since has been towards that desirable end, when those who ring the bells should be in name and in fact Churchmen doing a real work for the Church. That goal may not even yet have been entirely attained, and the full recognition which it is desired to achieve cannot perhaps be said to have completely taken place. The majority of the clergy may look upon their ringers as church workers, but for all the public may know, a county association of change ringers may be as secular a body as a county football association. In the impression which it makes there is a great deal in a name in matters of this kind, and a diocesan title at once links it in the public mind with church work and makes the aims which the associations have in view so much easier of attainment. Moreover, let it not be forgotten that without the aid of the Church ringing would be in a parlous state. We depend absolutely upon the Church for the means of carrying on our art, and how much stronger is our position if we can say that we have diocesan status? If Church bell ringing were ever threatened with outside interference it can stand much more securely upon a diocesan basis than upon an apparently secular footing. All these points enter into the argument when a subject like this is under discussion.

If and when the Midland Counties Association sets about a division—and it is admittedly now somewhat unwieldy—the diocesan basis must offer the best solution, but the scheme will have to be a comprehensive one, and

(Continued on page 242.)

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to argue pro or con without having taken into consultation societies like the North Notts, the Archdeaconry of Staffs, and the rest within the four dioceses, is to invite rebuff and failure. The desire to cling to old traditions is great; but when the Church itself is courageous enough to break the links of centuries in the interests of Church life, ringers ought not to be afraid to sever the ties of a few decades if the ultimate result is going to benefit ringing, by creating new interests and activities, and instilling new life by bringing ringers into closer touch with their organisations.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, April 9, 1928, in Three Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 62 cwt.

WILSON RUSHION Treble	JOHN H. B. HESSE 7
ALBERT WALKER... .. 2	WILLIAM G. WHITEHEAD 8
WILLIAM S. LANGDON... .. 3	ARCHIBALD F. HARRIS 9
EDWIN F. PIKE 4	REV. C. W. O. JENKYN 10
HERBERT LANGDON 5	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT 11
J. FRANK SMALLWOOD... .. 6	JAMES BULLOCK Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by H. LANGDON.

CHELMSFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 9, 1928, in Four Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 6280 CHANGES;

Tenor 34½ cwt.

JAMES BENNETT Treble	WILLIAM J. NUDDS 7
ALBERT W. COLES 2	JAMES E. DAVIS 8
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY 3	CHARLES W. ROBERTS 9
GEORGE R. PYE 4	EDWARD V. DUFFIELD 10
CHARLES T. COLES 5	LEWIS W. WIFFEN 11
WILLIAM H. HEWETT... .. 6	WILLIAM PYE Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

First peal in the method in the county.

CIRENCESTER, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Easter Monday, April 9, 1928, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CINQUES, 5169 CHANGES;

THOMAS PRICE Treble	* JAMES BUTLER 7
FRANCIS J. LEWIS 2	JACK S. ROBERTS 8
THOMAS BALDWIN 3	EX-SGT. J. WILLIAMS 9
CHARLES GARDINER 4	LESLIE BARRY 10
HENRY C. BOND 5	JOHN BALLINGER 11
ALBERT WRIGHT 6	* WILFRED H. HAYWARD Tenor

Composed and Conducted by ALBERT WRIGHT.

* First peal of Cinques. J. Ballinger's 100th peal.

TEN BELL PEALS.

KETERING, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Easter Tuesday, April 10, 1928, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 8043 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

CHARLES W. BIRD Treble	* FREDERICK J. TITE 6
THOMAS R. HENSHER... .. 2	JOHN KING 7
ROBERT G. BLACK 3	JOHN R. MAIN 8
CYRIL D. NICHOLS 4	ANDERSON Y. TYLER... .. 9
HARRY BAXTER 5	ARTHUR TOMPKINS Tenor

Composed by GEO. DALTRY. Conducted by ANDERSON Y. TYLER.

* First peal on ten bells. Mr. C. W. Bird has now rung a peal on each bell in this tower, this being his thirtieth peal on the bells.

LIVERPOOL.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 9, 1928, in Three Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Nicholas,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 39 cwt. 3 qr. 10 lb. in C.

EDWARD JENKINS 6	JOHN E. BIBBY 6
*ERNEST JONES 2	JOHN WILKINSON 7
WILLIAM BIBBY 3	THOMAS C. LARKEY 8
THOMAS HAMMOND 4	JAMES H. RIDING 9
JOHN C. E. SIMPSON 5	EDWARD CAUNCE Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY.

Conducted by E. JENKINS.

* First peal of Surprise Royal * inside.

KING'S NORTON, BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Saturday, April 14, 1928, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Nicolas,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt.

PERCY O. LAFLIN 6	JOHN EATON 6
HERBERT C. SPENCER 2	CHARLES WEBB 7
ALBERT WALKER 3	JOHN NEAL 8
O. FRANK SMALLWOOD 4	JAMES GEORGE 9
ARTHUR CHAMBERS 5	JOHN WITHERS Tenor

Composed by JAMES GEORGE. Conducted by PERCY O. LAFLIN.

A birthday peal to Miss Margery Smallwood.

BRADFORD, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 14, 1928, in Three Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,

At the Cathedral Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt.

JAMES COTTERELL 6	*ARTHUR GILL 6
JOHN WM. CUNDALL 2	WILLIAM BARTON 7
THOS. B. KENDALL 3	*FRED HODGSON 8
JOSEPH BROADLEY 4	*JOHN AMBLER 9
*WILLIAM AMBLER 5	PERCY J. JOHNSON Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON.

* First peal of Treble Bob Royal. First peal of Treble Bob Royal as conductor. Rung on the 48th anniversary of the wedding of Mr. H. Lindsay, of Headingley.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

TODMORDEN, LANCASHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 7, 1928, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

At Christ Church,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 23½ cwt.

*CLARENCE BLACKBURN 5	WILLIAM HORAN 5
*ARNOLD BLACKBURN 2	*LESLIE W. G. MORRIS 6
CHARLES E. LAWSON 3	FRED HODGSON 7
HERBERT DAVENPORT 4	PERCY J. JOHNSON Tenor

Composed by A. P. HEYWOOD.

Conducted by F. HODGSON.

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

EAST GRINSTEAD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Easter Monday, April 9, 1928, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Swithun,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. 2 qr. 25 lb.

*FRANK GORR 5	ROBERT T. LAMBERT 5
*REGINALD E. LAMBERT 2	ALFRED J. TURNER 6
*ERNEST J. LADD 3	JOSEPH WREN 7
*GEORGE LAMBERT 4	ALBERT E. EDWARDS Tenor

Composed by FRANK BENNETT. Conducted by ALBERT E. EDWARDS

* First peal and first attempt at Bob Major. † First peal of Bob Major. Rung on the 31st anniversary of the first peal of Major on this grand ring of bells, the conductor of this peal then ringing the 6th to Kent Treble Bob Major.

PENDLETON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 7, 1928, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Thomas,

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

Tenor 18 cwt. in E.

*TOM JONES 5	EDWARD JENKINS 5
WILLIAM BIBBY 2	TITUS BARLOW 6
CYRIL VALENTINE 3	PETER LAFLIN 7
JOHN E. BIBBY 4	JAMES H. RIDING Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by E. JENKINS.

* First peal in the method.

COLEMAN'S HATCH, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Easter Monday, April 9, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of the Holy Trinity,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 11½ cwt.

ALFRED J. TURNER 5	JOSEPH WREN 5
ERNEST J. LADD 2	REGINALD E. LAMBERT 6
GEORGE LAMBERT 3	ROBERT T. LAMBERT 7
*FRANK GORR 4	ALBERT E. EDWARDS Tenor

Composed by J. BARKER.

Conducted by ALBERT E. EDWARDS.

* First peal with a bob bell. This was Mr. Reginald E. Lambert's 100th peal.

WYMONDHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, April 9, 1928, in Three Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. 1 qr.

FREDERICK R. BORRETT 5	CLEMENT J. MORE 5
GEORGE CURSON 2	RUSSELL RICHES 6
JOHN SNELLING 3	WALTER BARRETT 7
ALFRED SMITH 4	ERNEST WHITING Tenor

Composed by JOHN THORP.

Conducted by ERNEST WHITING.

RAWMARSH, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(DONCASTER & DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Tuesday, April 10, 1928, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB MAJOR, 6152 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

MILTON C. FOWLER 5	J. EDWARD CAWSE 5
WILLIAM A. WOOLER 2	ARCHIE BREARLEY 6
JAMES MCCLUSKEY 3	JOHN A. BREARLEY 7
ARNOLD HILL 4	JOHN R. BREARLEY Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSE

First peal in the method by all the band, in the county, and for the association.

ROTHWELL, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Tuesday, April 10, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of the Holy Trinity,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION.

Tenor 13 cwt.

*ALBERT WORMALD 5	GEORGE W. STEEL 5
*ARTHUR G. WOOD 2	*HAROLD L. JONES 6
HARRY WARD 3	THOMAS WM. STRANGEWAYS 7
*PERCY MASSEM 4	*HUGH TAYLOR Tenor

Conducted by T. W. STRANGEWAYS.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor. First peal of Stedman on the bells by a local company. Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the third.

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NORTH SHIELDS, NORTHUMBERLAND.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
Tuesday, April 10, 1928, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE OXFORD BOB MAJOR, 5038 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt.

*JOSEPH A. ROBERTSON Treble	*JAMES C. GRAY 5
ANDREW TULLY 2	*ARTHUR TUGWOOD 6
JAMES E. SCOTT 3	*JOHN GEORGE 7
EDWARD A. HERN 4	*ADAM DEAS Tenor

Composed by the late T. TEASDALE. Conducted by EDWARD A. HERN

* First peal in the method. Seven of the above ringers are members of the local band; the ringer of the tenor hails from Gosforth.

COMPTON GIFFORD, DEVONSHIRE.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Tuesday, April 10, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE EMMANUEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 21 cwt. in E flat.

*WILLIAM J. SYMONS Treble	CHARLES R. LILLEY 5
†ROBERT J. BALDREY 2	JOSEPH WOODLEY 6
G. HARRY MYERS 3	THOMAS G. MYERS 7
JAMES E. LILLEY 4	SIDNEY P. SYMONS Tenor

Conducted by C. R. LILLEY.

* First peal away from tenor. † First peal on an 'inside' bell. Rung in honour of the wedding of Lieut.-Commander E. M. Bolton and Miss E. Harding, which took place at the above church. It was also a birthday compliment to the conductor. Ringers of 3rd and 7th belong to St. Andrew's, Plymouth, the rest to Emmanuel. Quickest peal on the bells.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, April 12, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 14 cwt.

MRS. W. H. THOMAS Treble	*WILLIAM H. POPHAM 5
JAMES H. BLACKMORE 2	ERNEST PARKER 6
MRS. R. J. WILKINS 3	JAMES R. JONES 7
WILLIAM H. THOMAS 4	*HENRY PARSONS Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST PARKER.

* First peal. Rung to celebrate the completion, by Mr. Jesse Marche, of 50 years' service as parish clerk at St. John's Church. Also as a birthday compliment to J. H. Blackmore.

LINTON, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 14, 1928, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF SPLICED TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

ILNESTON VARIATION.

Tenor 15 cwt.

SAMUEL E. TAYLOR Treble	HARRY BAKER 5
MRS. H. BAKER 2	ARTHUR H. SMITH 6
THOMAS E. SONE 3	CHARLES H. SONE 7
BERTRAM LUCK 4	FREDERICK WHITE Tenor

Composed by ERNEST MORRIS. Conducted by CHARLES H. SONE.

First peal of Ilkeston by all the band. Rung as a welcome home to Lord and Lady Cornwallis, after a six months' tour in India. Thomas E. Sone has now rung a peal on every bell in the tower.

THRAPSTON, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 14, 1928, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 7 lb.

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

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by ANDERSON Y. TYLER.

* First peal in the method, also on the bells. Rung as a compliment to the ringer of the treble on completion of thirty years as captain of this bellry. Also to Mr. William Hillyard on retiring from the office of churchwarden after thirty-six years' valuable service.

GRAVESEND, KENT.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, April 14, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

CHALLIS F. WINNEY Treble	PERCY E. CLARK 5
EVERED J. WALSON 2	JOSEPH HAWKINS 6
WILSON RUSHTON 3	HERBERT LANGDON 7
FREDERICK M. MITCHELL 4	EDWARD HADLOW Tenor

Conducted by C. F. WINNEY.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. W. T. Cockerill and Mr. P. E. Clark.

LISCARD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(WIRRAL BRANCH.)

On Saturday, April 14, 1928, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb. in F.

*DAVID HUGHES Treble	†G. RONALD EDWARDS 5
WALTER J. BATTLE 2	*JOHN BREESE 6
†JAMES F. SMITH 3	HERBERT LUDKIN 7
THOMAS A. ROGERS 4	*JAMES C. E. SIMPSON Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by J. C. E. SIMPSON.

* First peal of Oxford Treble Bob. † First peal of Treble Bob Major.

BURTON-ON-TRENT.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 14, 1928, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

G. LINDOFF'S TWELVE-PART (No. 7).

Tenor 28½ cwt.

JOHN H. SWINFIELD Treble	HENRY FLETCHER 5
MAURICE SWINFIELD 2	ERNEST W. BEADSMORE 6
GEORGE FREEBREY 3	PERCY TATE 7
*JACK BAILEY 4	GEORGE F. NEWMAN Tenor

Conducted by M. SWINFIELD.

* First peal of Stedman. The above was rung after meeting short for Caters.

GRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 14, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINGS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

LIONEL J. CULLUM Treble	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY 5
EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. 2	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. 6
JOHN BURLS 3	WILLIAM BOND 7
HERBERT HOLDEN 4	EDWIN BARNETT, JUN. Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by E. BARNETT, SEN.

CHURCH, LANCs.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD AND THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 14, 1928, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

J. W. PARKER'S No. 9.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

ALBERT YATES Treble	SYDNEY BROWN 5
WILLIE AARON 2	ARTHUR INGHAM 6
JOHN BEATTIE 3	JOHN HIRST 7
ARTHUR BROWN 4	LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS Tenor

Conducted by L. J. WILLIAMS.

First peal in the method for both the above associations, and for all the band. This is also the first peal in Lancashire for the Archdeaconry of Stafford Society. All the above are non-resident members.

OTTERY ST. MARY, DEVON.—On April 11th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 50 mins.: K. G. Godfrey 1, J. H. Godfrey 2, J. Hind 3, F. H. Stuckey 4, C. Turner (conductor) 5, J. Arbury 6, E. Marks 7, J. Lovering 8. Rung in honour of the wedding of Miss M. Davenport and the Rev. E. S. Powell. First quarter as conductor. All are Sunday service ringers.

DARLINGTON.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 14, 1928, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. John.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 10 cwt.

ALFRED COATES Treble	WILLIAM DAWSON 5
MISS LAURA LANCASTER ... 2	WILLIAM BROADLEY 6
THOMAS B. CLAYDON 3	THOMAS METCALFE 7
HENRY TAYLOR 4	HERBERT BROADLEY Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS METCALFE.

Rung to commemorate the silver wedding of William Broadley.

TITCHMARSH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 14, 1928, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DEXTER-WASHBROOK VARIATION.

Tenor 17 cwt. 3 qr. 22 lb.

GEORGE CLAPHAM Treble	ALBERT E. FLOWMAN 5
AMOS SMART 2	HARRY PETTITT 6
GEORGE EITE 3	THOMAS R. HENSHER 7
THOMAS ABBOTT 4	ARTHUR TOMPKINS Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS R. HENSHER.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sunday, April 15, 1928, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S.

Tenor 19 cwt. 2 qr. 14 lb.

GEORGE A. FLEMING Treble	WILLIAM C. RUMSEY 5
WILLIAM J. GROOM 2	*WILLIAM J. G. BROWN ... 6
ALBERT A. FLEMING 3	LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN 7
GEORGE BENNETT 4	LESLIE G. BRETT Tenor

Conducted by WM. C. RUMSEY.

* First peal in the method.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

WESTON UNDERWOOD, BUCKS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Easter Monday, April 9, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Double Court, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor about 10 cwt.

PEARL INSKIP Treble	HERBERT L. HARLOW 4
WILLIAM STOCK 2	AMOS SMART 5
HENRY W. GAYTON 3	CHARLES W. CLARKE Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

This is the 50th tower in which the ringer of the 3rd has rung a peal.

EMBERTON, BUCKS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Easter Monday, April 9, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of College Exercise, Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford and Double Court. Tenor 9½ cwt.

HERBERT L. HARLOW Treble	PEARL INSKIP 4
HENRY W. GAYTON 2	WILLIAM STOCK 5
CHARLES W. CLARKE 3	AMOS SMART Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

WILLINGHAM, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Easter Monday, April 9, 1928, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary and All Saints,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's. Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr.

FRANCIS G. GLEAVES ... Treble	*NATHAN ROBINSON 4
*HUBERT T. FROBOCK 2	ARTHUR J. GINN 5
ALBERT HUCKELL 3	FRANK WARRINGTON Tenor

Conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.

* First peal. Ringers of 2nd, 3rd and 4th belong to local band. Mr. Frobock is 55 years of age, and this was his first attempt for a peal.

LOWER SLAUGHTER, GLOS.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(STOW-ON-THE-WOLD BRANCH.)

On Monday, April 9, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, fifteen different callings. Tenor 8½ cwt.

ALBERT WARREN Treble	BERNARD T. PHILLIPS ... 4
A. WILLIAM WRIGHT 2	GEORGE AYRES 5
FRED A. CLEMENTS 3	ALFRED HOBBS Tenor

Conducted by FRED A. CLEMENTS.

Rung as a farewell to the ringer of the tenor, and as a mark of appreciation to the Bourton-on-the-Water tower for valued tuition and advice, especially to the ringers of the 2nd and 4th, who hail from Bourton, and who have come over to Slaughtier every Tuesday night since August last to teach the new band. This is the first peal by all except the ringer of the 4th.

MORTON, DERBYSHIRE.

EAST DERBY AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, April 11, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of the Holy Cross,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's, called differently. Tenor 4 cwt. 3 qr. 7 lb.

ERNEST DEAKEN Treble	*FRED WHEELER 4
*BERNARD WHEELER 2	WILLIAM SWAIN 5
VAUGHAN COX 3	FREDERICK WM. KNOWLES Tenor

Conducted by FREDK. WM. KNOWLES.

* First peal. This was the first peal rung for the above association since the change of name.

CROMER, NORFOLK.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Thursday, April 12, 1928, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising seven different extents. Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lb. in G.

NOLAN GOLDEN Treble	CYRIL POOLEY 4
HANBURY F. CARTER 2	*EDWARD C. COOKE 5
EDWARD C. WILSON 3	WILLIAM TENNANT Tenor

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal of Minor. Second peal on the bells hung in this noble tower in 1874. Ringers of 1st, 2nd and 4th from Northrepps, 4th and 6th local, 5th from Fakenham.

BARLEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, April 13, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Margaret,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 changes each of Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, College Single, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt.

ALBERT HOWARD Treble	WALTER MANSFIELD 4
*JOHN W. WARD 2	*FRANK HARPER 5
ROBERT G. KING 3	ROBERT HOWARD Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT HOWARD.

* First peal in seven methods, and hail from Melbourn, Cambs. The ringer of 3rd is from Royston.

WENDENS AMBO, ESSEX.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 14, 1928, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF BERWICK SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's. Tenor 8 cwt.

GORDON LILLEY Treble	*FRANK E. HAYNES 4
MISS KITTY WILLERS 2	EDWARD H. FINCH 5
ALBERT E. AUSTIN 3	ROBERT HOWARD Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT HOWARD.

* Fiftieth peal.

LIMPSFIELD CHART, SURREY.—At St. Andrew's Church, on Wednesday, April 4th, with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the late Mr. H. S. Whitmore, who was sidesman of the above church, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor: Ernest N. Tidy (first quarter-peal) 1, James Knight, jun. (first quarter-peal) 2, Edward Tidy 3, James Knight, sen., 4, Leonard Tidy (conductor) 5, William Ashdown 6.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. ANNUAL MEETING AT NOTTINGHAM.

According to the usual rotation, the annual meeting of the Midland Counties Association was held at Nottingham on Easter Monday, when from an early hour the bells of St. Mary's (ten) and St. Peter's (ten) were made good use of by visitors from many parts, and later in the day Beeston (eight), Lenton (eight), and Basford (eight) were available, whilst the standard of ringing was of the usual meeting type, more or less 'syncopated.' All the seven centres of the M.C.A. activity, viz., Burton-on-Trent, Chesterfield, Derby, Hinckley, Leicester, Loughborough, and Nottingham, were well represented by members from places too numerous to mention, and it was pleasing to mark the presence of the hon. secretaries of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild (Mr. R. G. Black), Bath and Wells (Mr. J. T. Dyke), Warwickshire (Mr. J. A. Fenton), and many other friends of kindred societies, and last, but not least, James the Great (by George!).

The committee met at St. Peter's Schools at 2.30 p.m., and in the unfortunate absence of the president (Alderman R. B. Chambers, B.A., J.P.), owing to advancing years and illness, Mr. C. Draper, of Derby, presided. Routine business was disposed of, and certain recommendations passed to be placed before the general meeting, whilst the suggested division of the association into diocesan Guilds was freely discussed at considerable length. Owing to the great diversity of opinions expressed, it was finally decided to put to the members (a) whether to take a complete vote of all members, or (b) whether to let the matter drop for the time being.

A short service was held in St. Peter's Church at 4 p.m., and the Rector, the Rev. H. P. Hale, M.A., who officiated, gave an inspiring address. A collection was made and subsequently voted to the Restoration Fund of St. Peter's Church. The general hon. secretary here records his great disappointment that so few members attended this service which was specially arranged for them, but is consoled somewhat by the fact that those who did attend were, in the words of the Rector's text, 'faithful witnesses' to those who stayed away.

A meal tea was provided in St. Peter's School, and once again the hon. secretary had to apologise for some inconvenience and overlapping, caused through certain members failing to notify the local committee of their intention of being present, although the Editor of 'The Ringing World' published a special letter of appeal on the matter.

After tea, the general meeting was held, about 130 members being present. In the absence of the president, Ald. R. B. Chambers, the Rector of St. Peter's, Rev. H. P. Hale, M.A., presided, and was supported by the Rev. A. Chaplin, of Cotgrave, Notts. A letter of apology was read from Ald. Chambers regretting his inability to be present, owing to ill-health and doctor's orders, and expressing good wishes for a successful meeting.

Members elected since the last quarterly meeting in January were confirmed, viz., two honorary, two life, and 23 ordinary. The committee's recommendations for the next three quarterly meetings were passed, after voting on an alternative of Southwell for Mansfield, viz., June Melbourne, September Mansfield, January, 1929, Loughborough, the next annual meeting to be at Leicester by the usual rotation.

Honorariums to secretaries, C.C. delegates' fees, steeplekeeper's and vergers' allowances were ordered to be paid in accordance with the committee's resolutions, and a grant of £5 5s. to Croft (where three old bells are being made into six with all new fittings) was ratified.

Owing to the lamented death of Mr. Pryce Taylor, a vacancy occurred among the representatives on the Central Council, and three nominations having been received, a ballot was taken, and Mr. John H. Swinfield, of Burton-on-Trent, elected.

Alderman R. B. Chambers wished, on account of advancing age (he is now approaching 80 years) and ill-health, to resign the presidency after nine years' most useful service, in which, by his strenuous efforts in obtaining the large number of honorary members, he has raised the association to its present financial soundness. Under doctor's orders he has to cancel all his public engagements, and has already resigned from the Derbyshire Education Committee, the Derby Magistrates' Association, the Derby Branch of the League of Nations Union, and many other charitable and public institutions.

Mr. W. Willson voiced the feelings of regret of the whole of the members, recognising the president's great work for the M.C.A. in the past, and proposed an alternative that Alderman Chambers be asked to remain as president, and to have as assistant, or vice-president, Mr. Joseph Griffin, of Burton-on-Trent. The hon. secretary informed the members that Mr. Chambers had promised to look after the Derby honorary members who formed the bulk, whilst he himself would look after the remainder. This proposition was carried with acclamation.

Mr. W. Willson, having definitely resigned the position of hon. treasurer, proposed as his successor Mr. W. Wallace, of Derby, who was also nominated by the Burton District, and this was carried.

The re-election of the general hon. secretary was proposed by seven or eight persons at once, to the consternation and amusement of the chairman, who wanted a seconder, and Mr. Ernest Morris, of Leicester, has got to 'carry on.'

PROPOSED DIVISION DEFEATED.

Then followed a long discussion on the proposed division of the association into Diocesan Guilds, and the committee's alternatives were put to the meeting. Very deep and sincere appeals and protests were voiced by Messrs. A. Coppuck, J. H. Swinfield, W. White, R. H. Bartram, J. Harris, C. H. Webb, P. S. Price, H. W. Needham and others, there being much diversity of opinion.

As a result of the discussion at Syston in January, the hon. secretary had written to each of the four Bishops explaining the position and the proposal which had been put forward that the association should be put on a diocesan, as distinct from a county and territorial basis. The letter went on to state: 'If the M.C.A. territory were simply coterminous with the four dioceses of Derby, Leicester, Lichfield and Southwell, the matter would be comparatively simple, but the M.C.A. is confronted with the fact that there are other not unimportant societies operating within the main areas. In the Southwell diocese there is the North Notts Association to be taken into account, while in Derby diocese there is the East Derbyshire Association and the old East Derby portion of the Sheffield District Society. In Leicestershire there are the Framland and Goscoat Societies covering those deaneries. In the Lichfield diocese the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford and the North Staffs Society are working successfully. So that if the scheme for the division on the lines suggested is to be made effective and to embrace all the ringers in their respective dioceses, it will have to be handled with diplomacy. The committee would be grateful to your lordship if you would give us your opinion on the matter, and if the diocesan Guilds were established you would be willing to become a patron of the portion included in your own diocese.'

THE BISHOPS' VIEWS.

The Bishop of Derby replied that he thought it would be a good thing to reorganise change ringing societies on a diocesan basis, but he saw the difficulty of dealing with old-established bodies. If they should rearrange by dioceses, he would gladly become patron.

The Bishop of Leicester wrote that the proposal that a diocesan Guild should be established seemed to him an excellent one, and he would be glad to do anything he could to promote its success. It would be necessary to get into touch with the Framland and Goscoat Societies, and consider with their representatives their position and their wishes in regard to a diocesan Guild.

The Bishop of Lichfield, in his letter, said on the face of it there was a good case for making the associations coterminous with dioceses. If there was a Lichfield Association, he would be proud to be a patron. But it would not be worth while, for the sake of symmetry, to run the risk of damaging associations which are now working well. He had not the knowledge to enable him to judge how far the associations were working well, and what were the local prejudices which must not be offended. So far as Lichfield diocese was concerned they must remember that North Shropshire was in the diocese. The leading members of the N. Staffs and S. Staffs Societies might well be consulted as to whether they would consider amalgamation a good thing, or whether there were objections to it. The Bishop concluded by saying: 'I am afraid this is not a very helpful letter, but I do not know the ropes well enough to allow me to be confident in giving advice.'

In the absence of the Bishop of Southwell, the Archdeacon of Nottingham (a ringer and hon. member) wrote: 'Clearly, the present area is too large, but it is possible to get too small. I do not know what difficulties there may be, and therefore my opinion is probably of little value. It is clear that we would cease to be such a combining force, if we confine ourselves merely to a county or diocese. Diocesan Guilds are excellent, and I should certainly value one for the whole of Notts, which is now the diocese of Southwell. At the same time there ought to be some means whereby such Guilds were kept in touch with one another. Could the present association be so continued as to work locally through the Diocesan Guild? In this way it would help to maintain the brotherhood of ringing, which is such a delightful feature!'

The Hon. Secretary pointed out that, as reported in a recent issue of 'The Ringing World', Burton-on-Trent District were unanimous against the division, as their position was unique and peculiar. In the early days, this district was one of the mainstays of the M.C.A., both as regards officers and ringing performances, and in the latter sphere especially they added to the laurels of the association many historic and valuable records. The town itself stands in two dioceses, whilst its 80 odd members are divided (territorially) into three, just over twenty in each—Derby, Leicester and Lichfield. The Hon. Secretary also pointed out that the remaining 800 members were divided as follows: 200 in Derby, 400 in Leicester, and 200 in Southwell diocese. It would be seen that whilst each of the Lord Bishops would welcome diocesan Guilds, they were reluctant to advocate the breaking up of old associations, which were doing good work, and not being quite sure of the position could not with certainty advise upon such division.

Mr. Walter White, of Cotgrave, the original mover of the resolution to ask for the Bishops' views, said this altered the case considerably, as they could not thrust the matter on to the Bishops while such uncertainty held, but they should leave it until such time as the position could be more clearly seen.

The committee's motion was put, and by an overwhelming majority it was decided to carry on the good work as heretofore, and not to split the association, at least until much more favourable conditions prevail, and the Bishops, whose letters the hon. secretary read, were more sure and unanimous in asking for the members to form diocesan Guilds.

Heartly votes of thanks were given to the local committee for arrangements made, especially to Mr. L. Chadburn, who had carried on pro tem. in the unfortunate absence, through grave illness, of the local hon. secretary (Fred W. Bailey), who, everyone was pleased to know, is going on favourably. Further ringing and fraternising ended a very successful and enjoyable day.

E. M.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.**SPLENDID MEETING AT NORTH COLLINGHAM.**

Collingham is seated on a gentle eminence above the Trent Marsh, five and a half miles north by east of Newark. It is a large, pleasant and well-built village, comprising the two parishes of North and South Collingham, which together contain 5,115 acres of land. North Collingham parish includes the better half of the village, also Potter Hill, a lofty tumulus on the border of Lincolnshire, where many Roman relics have been found, and it is very likely to have been a military station. The church, dedicated to All Saints, stands in the centre of the village. It is a very ancient structure in the Norman style of architecture, and in the tower a ring of six bells, recently increased from four, are decidedly musical, and certainly much admired by the parishioners, the tenor being a little more than 9 cwt. It was at this place that a hearty welcome awaited the arrival of the North Notts ringers and members of kindred associations on Easter Monday by the Rev. R. F. Gould, the three lady ringers and four gentlemen who constitute the local team. Splendid use was made of the bells from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. by the 43 ringers, who came from the following places: Anston, Barlborough, Branston, Bassingham, Gainsborough, Gamston, Lincoln, Ordsall, Treeton, Misterton, Sutton-on-Trent, Southwell Cathedral, Wheatley and Worksop, with the full company of local ringers.

The methods rung during the day were as follows: Plain Bob, Double Oxford Bob, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Duke of York, Sandal, London and Cambridge Surprise. In 720 of Cambridge, the first on the bells, the band included two ladies, who scored their first 720 in the method: F. S. W. Butler, Miss K. Burchnell, Miss G. Burchnell, H. Stenton, H. Haigh (conductor), and L. Pierrepont. The Vicar, who visited the tower during the afternoon, complimented the ladies who had taken part, and gave a special word of praise to his own band of ringers, who were under splendid leadership.

Tea was served, the lady ringers of Collingham doing splendid service in catering for the wants of the inner man. The tea and meeting were presided over by the Vicar, who was supported by Mrs. Gould, the Misses Burchnell, the hon. secretary (Mr. H. Haigh), and the assistant secretary (Mr. H. Revill). The Vicar gave a very hearty welcome to the ringers, and said that anything that tended to increase the standard of change ringing should be welcomed by all true lovers of the art—for it was an art. It was not a game of sport, but a true art and science, and nothing was more beautiful than the sound of church bells when skilfully rung in the true, loyal spirit—the team spirit which should prevail with all ringers. Whenever the North Notts ringers wished to visit Collingham again, he would be glad to give them a most hearty welcome (applause).

Two new members, Miss Ethel Marshall, of Gainsborough, and Mr. William Morrison, of Bawtry, were elected.

The annual meeting will be held at East Relford in May or June, the date to be fixed by the committee and advertised in 'The Ringing World.'

The Anston ringers, who are having their bells rebung, some recast and probably augmented to eight, made application for a grant from the funds of the association, and this will be brought before the annual general meeting.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar for presiding over tea and meeting, for use of the bells, and many other little kindnesses to the ringers, also to the ringers of Collingham for their splendid catering, brought the meeting to a close.

Ringing was kept up until 8 p.m. During the day some of the ringers tried their skill on a peal of five bells at St. John-the-Baptist's, South Collingham.

H. H.

LADIES' GUILD.**PRESENTATION TO A LATE SECRETARY.**

A meeting of the Northern District of the Ladies' Guild was held at Rotherham on Easter Monday, in conjunction with the Sheffield and District Society, when the bells of the Parish Church (ten) and Eastwood (eight) were at the disposal of those present. Members attended from North Wingfield, Dore, Handsworth, Little Norton, Rotherham and Mansfield-Woodhouse, and those who reached the church in time were able to ring for the wedding of a prominent member of the district, Miss A. Taylor. A special feature was a touch of Bob Minor rung entirely by ladies, conducted by Miss N. Cawthorne.

Tea was served in the Parish Room, after which the business meeting was held, the Vicar's wife, Mrs. Allen, presiding.

It was unanimously decided that the peal tablet recording the first peal of Major ever rung by a band of ladies should be of marblette, and for which Mr. F. Watkinson, 159, Hall Road, Handsworth, Sheffield, will gratefully acknowledge subscriptions.

It was hoped to be able to present the late secretary, Miss M. Davenport, with a gift on the occasion of her marriage with the Rev. E. S. Powell, but owing to her inability to be present at the meeting a deputation was sent to convey the same to her with the best wishes of the members for her future happiness.

The gift took the form of a bell-shaped gong, with a suitably inscribed tablet on the base.

A vote of thanks was extended to the Vicar's wife for presiding over the meeting.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Armley, Leeds, on Saturday, June 30th.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The East Derbyshire Association has changed its name, so we gather, to East Derbyshire and Notts Association.

The meeting of the Northern District of the London County Association to-morrow is to be held at Old Hackney instead of South Hackney.

The four memorial bells added at Lincoln Cathedral to make a ring of twelve are to be dedicated at the Lincoln Guild annual meeting on April 28th.

A sum of about £9 was realised by the recent dance social at Acton for the Isleworth Bell Fund, which now amounts to £131. About £200 in all is needed to enable the two treble bells to be added.

Forty years ago to-morrow a peal of 10,304 Boh Major was rung in 6 hrs. 17 mins. at Leiston, Suffolk, by members of the Norwich Diocesan Guild.

Sunday is the sixth anniversary of the record peal of Stedman Caters at Appleton, when 21,363 changes were rung in 12 hrs. 25 mins.

A hundred and fifty years ago next Monday a peal of 10,080 Boh Major was rung at Braughing, Herts. This was evidently in preparation for greater efforts, for about a year afterwards a peal of 12,210 was rung on the same bells, although the record of 15,120, set up at West Ham in 1737, never appears to have been exceeded in the Hertfordshire tower.

Monday is also the centenary of a peal of 8,000 Oxford Treble Boh Major, rung at Redenhall, Norfolk.

'IRENEUS PISTOR.' FUND REACHES £200.

With the closing of our appeal for help for Mr. Alf. T. Baker ('Ireneus Pistor'), of Hillsborough, Sheffield, whose affliction has resulted in the permanent loss of his sight, we are delighted to announce that the fund has reached £200—a really wonderful as well as a gratifying result, and one which reveals the extraordinary spirit of practical brotherhood which prevails in the Ringing Exercise.

Any further contributions, if sent to the Editor, will be acknowledged in these columns. The following further amounts, for which grateful thanks are tendered, have been received this week:—

	£	s.	d.
Amount already received	194	10	5
Collected at Sheffield District Society meeting at Rotherham, per R. Harrison	1	10	0
Ashby-de-la-Zouch Parish Church ringers, per E. W. Readsmoore	10	0	0
Collected at the meeting of the Chester Diocesan Guild, per E. W. Elwell	1	7	6
King's Norton ringers, per R. O. Ladin	1	0	0
F. R. Yates, King's Norton	1	0	0
F. Brown, West Hallam, Derbyshire	2	6	0
F. Bowden, Haslemere, Surrey	1	0	0
Miss K. Collard, Haslemere, Surrey	1	0	0
Harry Pates, Clacton-on-Sea	10	0	0
'E. S. A.'	5	0	0
W. Simmonds, Oxford	2	6	0
Ringers of Christ Church, Swindon, Wilts	18	0	0

Total £201-17-11

A PEAL AT ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Referring to the peal of Stedman Chiques rung at St. Paul's Cathedral on Easter Monday, I am sure my brother provincial College Youths would like me to express in your columns the great appreciation of the spirit of our London brethren of the Ancient Society in giving us an opportunity of standing in on the rare occasion when permission can be granted for a peal by the Cathedral authorities, and especially of Mr. H. Langdon, who both arranged the band and also conducted the peal in his characteristic and masterly manner.—Yours truly,

CYRIL W. O. JENKYN.

[The report of the peal had not reached us when we went to press.—Ed. 'R.W.']

DEATH OF AN OLD CROYDON RINGER.

By the death on Easter Sunday of William States, at the age of 72, the Croydon Parish Church ringers have lost their oldest comrade. For over fifty years, 'Father,' as he was always called, had been a ringer at the Parish Church, and for many years acted as steeple-keeper.

The funeral service took place on Friday, April 13th, at the Parish Church, where the bells, which he had loved so well, were rung fully muffled. Among the ringers present were Mr. J. D. Drawett, J.P. (Master) and Mr. C. H. Kippin (general secretary), of the Surrey Association (of which deceased had been a member for over 40 years), and many members of the local company. The interment took place at Mitcham Road Cemetery, and a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells at the graveside by A. W. Clark 1-2, D. Cooper 3-4, C. H. Kippin 5-6, Mrs. A. W. Clark 7-8. Among the many floral tributes was a wreath from the Surrey Association, and one, in the form of a bell, from his comrades of the Parish Church belfry. In the evening the bells were rung half-muffled as a last tribute to his memory.

THE RECORD PEAL ATTEMPT.

FAILURE AFTER 10½ HOURS.

A great attempt was made last Saturday at Heptonstall, Yorks, to beat the existing record length, and the Exercise will share with the band regret that ringing had to be abandoned after 10 hrs. 36 mins. on account of the bearings of the tenor running dry. In that time approximately 18,360 changes had been rung, the method being Double Norwich Major. This is fairly fast ringing, being nearly 29 changes a minute.

It had been apparent to the ringers for some time before they stopped that all was not well with the tenor, but they went on in the hope that they might pull through. However, the bell defeated them, but it was defeat that was almost as great as success.

The bells are a fine peal by Messrs. Taylor and Co., and the tenor is 18 cwt.

The band, who were ringing as members of the Lancashire Association, were T. B. Worsley 1, J. E. Bibby 2, E. Jenkins (conductor) 3, P. Ladin 4, T. Barlow 5, J. H. Riding 6, G. Lindoff 7, A. E. Pegler 8. They desire to thank the local band for their work in getting everything in order, and Messrs. W. Bibby and J. E. Ashcroft for providing ropes for the attempt.

Not a bit dismayed, they hope, if permission can be obtained, to make another attempt later in the year.

The existing record peal is the 21,363 Stedman Caters, rung in 12 hrs. 25 mins., at Appleton, on April 22nd, 1922. The longest length of Double Norwich is the 17,104 rung in 10 hrs. 35 mins. at South Wigston, on December 27th, 1904, the previous record in the method being the 17,024 in 11 hrs. 12 mins. at Kidlington on May 22nd, 1893. Apart from the peal at Appleton, only once before has a band, single-handed, rung over 18,000 changes, and that was in the 18,027 Stedman Caters at Loughborough in 12 hrs. 18 mins. on April 12th, 1909.

BELL TONES AND RINGERS' OPINIONS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—In reply to Mr. Trollope's letter in 'The Ringing World' of April 13th, may I ask, Why should there be a storm of protest against the recasting of the peal of twelve at St. Martin's, Birmingham? Surely, it only concerns the authorities and ringers of St. Martin's, and, as they are to be recast, I am glad to note they are to be tuned on the five-tone principle.

There has been a lot said and written about the tuning of bells, and the fact that there are more peals to-day being turned out tuned to the five-tone principle I think goes to prove that it is the best. There are still some old peals about that are full of music, and individual bells also, and I was surprised to read in 'The Ringing World' a few weeks ago the criticisms on Bow tenor. In my opinion she is not a perfect bell, and, I think, could be improved by tuning, but I do think she is a good bell. I have listened often, both inside and outside the tower, to the whole peal with pleasure. The trebles are a bit wild, I admit, and they undoubtedly could be improved.

I do not agree with Mr. Trollope's remarks on clapper controls. If you have a peal of bells correctly tuned to the five-tone principle, and have them all fitted with clapper buffers, the outside effect, in my opinion, is better than without them; but, if the bells are not correctly tuned, the outside effect would be the reverse, because you would accentuate the hum of false harmonics running into one another, which would increase the discord. I have recently fitted clapper buffers to the whole peal of ten at Haslemere. People who are competent to judge, who are not ringers, have remarked on the improvement, that the bells sound distinctly softer. Of course, inside the tower there is more hum, which, I think, makes ringing a little more difficult, and the trebles are not heard quite so distinctly as before, but this I hope I shall overcome by fitting a sound shute to the treble and second, with a large mouthpiece over the top of the bells when they are up, and running the shute right down into the ringing chamber in the church.

I do not think ringers, as a whole, think enough of outside criticism. It must be remembered that we have the outside public to please as well as ourselves.—Yours, etc.,

J. H. R. HESSE.

'COMMON SENSE.'

Dear Sir,—Would you please kindly allow me, through the medium of 'The Ringing World,' to say 'Thank you' to Mr. J. A. Trollope for his excellent common-sense contribution on 'Bell Tones and Ringers' Opinions' in your last week's issue?—Yours truly,

G. H. GUTTERIDGE.

PRITTLEWELL LOSES AN OLD RINGER.

Mr. John Perry, an old ringer of Pritlewell, Essex, passed away on April 5th. He had been ringing at St. Mary's Church for over half a century. He rang in the first 720 on the old six in 1887, also in the first peals of Triples and Caters, when the bells were augmented. He had rung altogether about 20 peals of Triples, Major, Caters and Royal in various methods. He was buried on April 11th, and the bells were rung muffled to the usual 'whole pull and stand,' after which touches of Stedman, Cambridge, etc., were rung by W. Bacon, G. Bacon, H. T. Wilson, G. E. Wilson, W. Dudley, L. Page, S. Baybutt, J. W. Cornford and W. H. Judd.

DIOCESAN GUILDS.

VIEWS OF THE MIDDLESEX COMMITTEE.

An interesting reference to diocesan Guilds is made in the report presented on Saturday to the members of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild at their annual meeting at Ealing. The report opened with the following paragraph:—

The most important event that occurred in the world of ringing during the year that has just ended was the successful launching of a new diocesan Guild in the western part of Surrey, for the recently-formed diocese of Guildford. Formerly in the Winchester diocese, the area covered by the new Guild includes some very active centres of ringing, and the success of this young organisation seems already assured. A fresh problem has, however, arisen, as practically the whole of the territory is in the county of Surrey, where there is a county association. This problem is, of course, capable of being settled by those chiefly concerned with it, but we venture to suggest that the only solution of this and other similar cases of overlapping is by the adoption of diocesan status all round. We notice that the Midland Counties Association is considering the formation of Guilds for the various dioceses in its area, with the present organisation as a parent body. Here again other existing societies are concerned, and we shall watch developments with interest. With the formation of new dioceses in all parts of the country it is quite conceivable that the idea of a separate ringing organisation for each would only result in small, and consequently weak, societies, and the suggestion of the committee of the Midland Counties Association seems to be a practical way of avoiding this obvious drawback, whilst at the same time attaining diocesan status. We have to thank our late president, Mr. A. T. King, for obtaining the recognition of the Bishop of this diocese in 1903, but, in the course of time, the problems that confront other associations to-day may confront us to-morrow, and we should do well to study whatever methods may be adopted by ringers in Surrey and the Midlands with a view of solving their difficulties. The proposal of the Midland Counties Association to form diocesan Guilds with a governing body covering its present area, if capable of being applied successfully, would solve any similar problem arising in our own diocese should a division at any time take place.

DEATH OF THE REV. W. SALTREN WILLETT.

LINK WITH FORMER GENERATION BROKEN.

Many ringers, especially of the older generation, will hear with sincere regret of the death of Rev. W. Saltren Willett, which occurred at Tunbridge Wells on Wednesday, 11th inst. The elder son of Rev. Charles Saltren Willett, Vicar of Monkleigh, North Devon, he was born over seventy years ago, and was educated at Eton, whence he passed on to Oriel College, Oxford, in the year 1876. It was while at Oxford, where for a short time he was secretary of Oxford University Guild, that he laid the foundation, sound and good, of the knowledge of the groundwork of change ringing, and became, as he continued to be to the end of his ringing career, an exceptionally steady, trustworthy hand in a peal. In the midst of a trip, or a bit of shaky ringing, just when collapse seemed imminent, he would plod on, without noise or fuss, as steady as a rock, not infrequently to the saving of the situation. He was the very man that delights the heart of a conductor. Always a good striker, he would, even if he had not been in practice for months, settle down at once to his work, and, though he may have protested beforehand that he would be likely to cause a smash, we who knew him and his ringing knew better than that. When once settled down to Stedman Triples or Stedman Caters he was thoroughly in his element, and, as far as he was concerned, all the rest were happy. Whether he kept a list of his peals, we do not know. So far as we are aware, they were mainly in the methods of Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob, Treble Bob, and Double Norwich. He rang in the chief clerical peals, and in the old days was to be found again and again in the company of Rev. F. E. Robinson.

As regards his clerical career, he was ordained at Lichfield, and served his first curacy at Barton-under-Needwood from 1880 to 1882. Thence he went to St. Martin's, Brighton, which he left in 1884 for the curacy of Windsor, remaining there till 1888, when he took his own living of Monkleigh. After remaining there for eleven years he accepted the living at Gilston, near Harlow, and there worked until well on in the war, when he was overtaken by a nervous breakdown caused almost entirely by the strains of that period. Full of sympathy, he felt acutely the losses and suffering among his parishioners, to whom he was deeply attached. When his health failed, it became evident that he could not do otherwise than retire, and he and his family took up their abode at Tunbridge Wells, where he finally passed peacefully away. He leaves a widow, daughter of the late Right Rev. Bishop Bowlby, and two sons and a daughter.

To his friends and to those who knew him personally, he leaves the happiest of memories behind him. Always the same—quiet, cheery, full of dry humour, he was a delightful companion. A good raconteur, his stories were brief and pithy. Able to see as far through a stone wall as most of us, he was quick to detect quackery or nonsense of any sort, and hinted it. Once a friend he was always a friend, and, in fact, his whole character was like his ringing—firm as a rock. It is one of the pleasures and privileges of life to have known him.

He was laid to rest on Saturday, April 14th, by his old friend, Rev. Canon Coleridge, at Rushall, near Tunbridge Wells, where he had long worshipped. 'Requiescat in pace.'

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. MEMBERS DISCUSS CENTRAL COUNCIL AGENDA.

Over a hundred members attended the annual meeting of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild held at Ealing on Saturday. With three eight-bell towers available there was plenty of scope for ringing, and good use was made both in the afternoon and evening of the peals at St. Mary's (which have recently been returned and rehung by Messrs. Taylor and Co.), St. Stephen's and Christ Church. Service was held at St. Mary's Church, and was conducted by the Rev. T. Matthews (curate), Canon G. F. Coleridge (president of the Central Council) was the preacher, and at the outset he referred to the death of the Rev. E. Saltren Willett, an old ringing friend, whose funeral he had attended at Tunbridge Wells that day. Probably none but the president of that association (Mr. Milne) knew the Rev. Saltren Willett, who was at Oxford with them 52 years ago, and succeeded their president as secretary of the Oxford University Society of Change Ringers in 1877. He (the preacher) rang with him in the first peal of the University Society in 1879. He was a most accurate ringer, but had not rung for many years. Standing at his graveside that day, he (the preacher) was reminded of the words in Psalm xl. 2: 'He brought me up out of an horrible pit, out of the mire and clay, and set my feet upon a rock.' That was an Easter message telling them of the resurrection. Not a few of them, continued the preacher, were present at the Bell Foundry at Croydon, when they heard that wondrous peal of ten bells, the treble a ton and a quarter, and the tenor 18½ tons. None of them, he supposed, had ever heard such tones in their lives—certainly, he never had—and that great big bell coming in at the end, a solemn note, speaking to them as, he thought, no other note of music had ever appealed to them. Yet not many weeks before, those bells, so to speak, were in the mire and the clay. The lesson which came home to them whenever they heard bells ringing was that they must take care that their lives also were in tune with the bells. There were good ringers and there were bad ringers, just as there were big bells and little bells. He read the other day that while looking at that mighty bell at Croydon a ringer produced the smallest bell that had ever been cast, weighing about half an ounce. It was cast by the late Henry Haley. Compare those two bells and think of the numerous notes that come in between the little bell and the big one—a wonderful series. So it was that every ringer had his part to play in life. He might be, or he might not be, very skilled in the bellry, but it was the bounden duty of every Christian man and woman to be well skilled in the faith which he or she professed, and to see that nothing marred the harmony of his life in any way, but that everything was done to the praise and honour and glory of God. As he looked at that great bell in the foundry the thought occurred to him of what would be the effect if some musician were to stand beneath it with a violin. He could strike many notes, and there would be no response whatever; but let him strike the exact note of that bell on his violin, and that empty mass of metal would vibrate with sound in response to the comparatively feeble one. So it was with them all. Over them was the great blue vault of heaven, like some great bell. They were puny creatures underneath it, striking their notes in their daily lives. When they struck the right note the whole heavens rang with praise, and the angels and archangels took up the strain. They might not be very beautiful in their voices, but they might be very beautiful in their lives. Whether in the ringing chamber, the workshop or the home, let their lives sound out true and real and pure, so that the heavens might respond and the whole earth and firmament be filled with the praise and glory of God. In conclusion, the preacher offered his blessing upon the work which they were doing in the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild.

THE BUSINESS MEETING.

Tea was served in the Good Shepherd Hall, where the business meeting afterwards took place, Mr. F. A. Milne, president, being in the chair.

In the report, which was adopted on the motion of the president, the committee stated that an extension of the holding of mid-week practice meetings in the North and East District was fairly successful, while joint meetings with neighbouring associations were an interesting feature of the year's activities. Good feeling and comradeship animated the proceedings, and the committee were convinced that these meetings were a means of drawing societies together towards a common understanding.

There was a considerable increase in the number of peals rung during the year, the total for 1927 being 72, nine of which were rung on handbells. The number of members who took part in the peals was 173, and those who conducted peals numbered 22. One of the handbell peals, consisting of seven extents of Bob Minor, was something of a novelty, each of the three ringers conducting two extents, whilst the seventh was rung non-conducted. Incidentally, this peal was the first rung by one of the band, and the first on handbells by another.

Those who rang their first peals numbered 15, whilst 84 members performed something new. Three members rang their first peals of Cambridge Maximus, whilst there were four first peals of London, five of Bristol, three of Superlative, five of Cambridge Major, two of Cambridge Royal, and two of Stedman Cinques. Two members rang their first peals on handbells, and one his first peal of Stedman Cinques on handbells.

The committee again record their satisfaction at the number of new members admitted, the figures for the year being 4 honorary and 55-ringing members in the North and East District, and 3 and 28 respectively in the South and West District. On the other hand, there has been a larger number of lapses of membership than usual, and also a heavy loss by death, no fewer than eleven members having died during the year. Consequently, the total membership remains almost the same as last year, the actual number being 830.

The report recorded that instruction had been given at several towers and varying degrees of progress made. In connection with the work done in this direction, thanks were accorded to Messrs. E. Corke, F. W. Goodfellow, A. W. Coles, G. M. Kilby, H. Kilby, E. Edwards, J. A. Trollope, J. E. Davis, and the district masters and secretaries, for the invaluable assistance rendered.

Several important bell restorations had taken place during the year. Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. have rehung the peals of eight at St. Mary's, Ealing, and St. Augustine's, Kilburn, in both cases in new cast-iron framework, besides recasting the fourth bell at the latter church. Messrs. Gillett and Johnston have rehung the peal of ten at St. Stephen's, Hampstead, on ball bearings; whilst Messrs. Mears and Stanbank have rehung the peals of six and eight at Hornsey and St. Saviour's, Walthamstow, respectively, in new bearings, with newly-strengthened framework. The Isleworth bell augmentation fund now reaches £120, and further subscriptions are earnestly solicited. In view of the many appeals which have recently been received in connection with bell restorations, a fund has been started in the South and West District, from which grants may, if thought fit, be made. It has been decided that each ringer in a peal in this district shall contribute 3d. towards this fund. The committee of the district concerned is confident of receiving the loyal co-operation of the members in this matter.

The balance sheet, showing a balance in hand in the Central Fund of £29 7s. 9d., compared with £25 13s. 2d. at the beginning of the year, was adopted, and all the officers re-elected, viz.: President and hon. treasurer Mr. F. A. Milne, Master Mr. William Pye, joint hon. secretaries Messrs. C. T. Coles and W. H. Hollier, and auditors Messrs. J. E. Miller and W. Pickworth.

The President again nominated Messrs. C. S. Bird and W. Pickworth as vice-presidents, and it was resolved that the association peal books and other volumes should remain for the year at Acton tower.

A VOTE AGAINST 'PEAL DIPLOMAS.'

The agenda of the next Central Council meeting was brought before the members by Mr. Coles, and the resolutions which are to be proposed were discussed.

On the question of the issue of peal diplomas, the Hon. Secretary said the committee had come to the conclusion that it was not desirable to issue certificates for a first or any other peal, and this view was supported by several speakers.

Mr. J. A. Trollope thought the awarding of diplomas was unworkable, but those who brought the matter before the Council were anxious to see if something could not be done for the encouragement of young ringers, and he thought the association should not tie the hands of its representatives, but should allow them to use their discretion after having heard the views put forward at the Council meeting. Personally, he thought the only way to encourage young ringers was in their own towers.

The committee's recommendation was carried nem. con.

The motions in favour of retaining the curfew, the angelus, and the ringing of other traditional bells, and of placing plaques in bellries to commemorate distinguished ringers, were approved.

The motion with regard to the definition of peals on five and six bells was discussed at some length, but no resolution was passed, it being left to the representatives to vote according to their own judgment after hearing the arguments in the Council meeting.

The proposal to investigate the possibilities of a scheme for helping ringers in cases of extraordinary sickness was also discussed, and it was resolved that the association's representatives should vote against this. One member pointed out that they already had to pay enough now in the way of contributions to sick funds, and Mr. W. H. Hollier said if they were going to impose more work on the secretaries of associations they would not get secretaries to carry on.

It was resolved to hold the next annual meeting at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate.

The president proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Canon Coleridge for his address, and for attending the meeting, to which Canon Coleridge replied.

Thanks were also accorded to the Rev. E. G. Sharp (St. Mary's), Rev. Maynard (St. Stephen's), and Rev. W. T. King (Christ Church) for the use of their respective bells, and to those who had arranged the tea.

A vote of sympathy was passed to Mr. T. Beadle, an old and respected member of the association, who has long been ill, and is once more in hospital.

Mr. Horace Belcher and his family, with Mr. A. Fulwell, gave some excellent handbell selections after tea.

The ringing at St. Stephen's in the afternoon included Superlative, Stedman, etc.; at St. Mary's in the afternoon and evening, London, Cambridge, Superlative, Double Norwich, Kent, Grandsire and Stedman; and at Christ Church Bristol, Cambridge, Double Norwich, Grandsire, Stedman and Spiced Surprise Major (four methods).

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**THE CATHEDRAL BELL RESTORATION.**

Once again an enjoyable day was spent at Worcester on the occasion of the annual meeting of the Worcestershire and Districts Association on Easter Monday. Five rings of bells were going early in the morning to the music of methods ranging from Doubles to Cambridge Royal and Stedman Caters. Those at the Cathedral were not available, as, although they were still in the tower, they were not safe to ring, but a new peal at Claines, recently relunged and increased from five to eight, was a welcome addition to those usually in use on these occasions. The business portion of the day's proceeding was transacted in the Cathedral Chapter House in the afternoon, with the president (the Very Rev. Moore Ede, D.D.) as chairman. Among the apologies received was one from the Master, Mr. J. D. Johnson, his absence being due to the illness of his wife, and the Chairman voiced the feelings of those present by expressing a hope that she would soon be well again.

A subscription from members and friends toward the rehanging and recasting of the Cathedral bells had been organised, and the treasurer, Mr. A. E. Parsons, reported that he had received about £85, including a grant from the Belfry Repairs Fund of £20, and it was decided to keep this open for a time and to make an effort to raise in all £100.

There are at present in the Cathedral tower, a ring of twelve bells, tenor 50 cwt., in D flat, three semitone bells, not hung for ringing, but used for the chimes, and the hour bell of 90 cwt., and the Dean and Chapter have decided to have all, except the hour bell, recast and relunged. When completed, there will be a ring of twelve, tenor 50 cwt., in B natural, and one of the three new semitone bells will be hung for ringing so as to make a ring of eight, with a tenor of about 20 cwt.

The Chairman, in speaking of this improvement, mentioned that the recasting was due to the remarks made at the last annual meeting of the association, and that the total cost would be about £1,400.

The formation of a library was referred back to the committee, the arrangements for the annual peal were left to the Master, and the next meeting is again to be held at Worcester.

The Central Council agenda occasioned a certain amount of discussion, and after the re-election of all the officers the meeting closed with a comprehensive vote of thanks, moved by Ald. J. S. Pritchett.

The members attended afternoon service in the Cathedral, and the musical rendering of this is always a pleasure. Tea followed, and the day ended with further ringing.

TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.**'ROUND RINGERS' WANT A SHIELD.**

A general meeting of the Truro Diocesan Guild was held at Truro on Easter Monday, when between 60 and 70 members attended from Gulval, Kenwyn, Kea, Truro Cathedral, Pillaton, St. Goran, Gwennap, Perranwell, Zennor, St. Newlyn East, Landulph and Redruth, as well as Mr. F. I. Hairs (London), Mr. E. W. Marsh (Plymouth), Mr. W. Hiscott (Plymouth), Rev. R. Hocking (Vicar of Pillaton), Rev. J. V. Yonge (St. Goran), Rev. Jenkin (Landulph), and Rev. W. H. R. Trehwella (Zennor).

The ring of ten at the Cathedral and the rings of eight at Kenwyn and Kea were available for ringing throughout the day. The Cathedral bells came in for most attention, and the many round ringers from six-bell towers acquitted themselves exceptionally well on this higher number with more metal. The only method ringing done was Grandsire, and several good touches of Triples were brought round in this method.

Evensong was sung in the choir at 4 p.m., and conducted by the Precentor, Canon E. C. Corfe, who also gave an address. The Rev. F. J. Driscoll presided at the organ.

Tea was partaken of in St. Mary's Hall, and afterwards a flashlight photograph of the company was taken. This was followed by a short discussion of great importance to the future prosperity of the Guild.

As no annual general meeting of the Guild has been held for several years, the officers of the Guild are elected and the general business is transacted at the annual committee meeting held on the last Monday in January of each year. This committee, which consists of the officers and one representative from each band in union, is always poorly attended, as Monday is a very inconvenient day for those who live at any distance from the place of meeting.

It was the general feeling of all present that this committee meeting should be held on a Saturday, and the Truro district secretary (Mr. A. S. Roberts) was asked to convey this motion to the general secretary, Canon H. R. Jennings, who was unable to be present.

Several 'round ringers' supported the view that the Guild should award a shield, to be competed for annually, for affiliated bands. Mr. Nicholls (St. Gluvias') said his band were strongly in favour of this, as also were the St. Stephen's band. The Rev. W. H. R. Trehwella pointed out that the Guild's task was to cultivate change ringing, and thought that, if a shield was awarded, bands would be content to do nothing but 'rise, ring rounds and fall.'

Mr. W. H. Southeard said that if the round-ringing bands wanted to improve their striking and progress, which it was the object of the Guild to further, they should be tested on rounds one year, Grandsire Doubles the next, and so forth. A shield would then be an advantage, but he was inclined to think they would be content to continue ringing.

(Continued in next column.)

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**BIG GATHERING AT GRAVESEND.**

The annual general meeting of the Kent County Association was held on Easter Monday at Gravesend. Once more we have to be thankful for glorious holiday weather, which was duly appreciated by the members, one hundred and twenty-five or so, attending from different parts of the county. The towers of St. George's (eight), Northfleet (eight), Swanscombe (eight), and Milton (six) were open for ringing, and both before and after the service and dinner the bells were kept going in various methods from Plain Bob to London Surprise. Other six-bell towers in the neighbourhood were available for any band who cared to visit them. At the service in St. George's, the Rector, Rev. Ernest Michell, read the prayers, Rev. G. A. Tait, Vicar of Meopham, read the special lesson (Rom. xii.), and Mr. W. E. Pitman presided at the organ. A small surplined choir of ringers attended—an unusual feature at these gatherings, but very acceptable, though quite unnecessary from the choral point of view, as the Kent County Association are more than able to 'hoist the tune' without the assistance of a choir. In the course of the service three hymns were sung—the Easter hymn, the ringers' hymn ('Unchanging God'), and 'Light's abode, celestial Salem.' The Rev. Canon Gedge, Rector of Crayford, formerly Rector of Gravesend, gave a very striking address on Psalm cxxxiv. 3, 'Lift up your hands in the sanctuary and praise the Lord.' Such an effect had this discourse, that the wish was expressed that it might be printed and circulated among the members. The collection after the address was for the 'Douglas Haig Memorial Homes,' and amounted to £2 11s. 6d.

By the kindness of the Mayor, Alderman J. A. Axcell, luncheon was laid in the Town Hall, a spacious chamber, on whose walls were hung portraits of past Gravesend worthies. The Mayor presided, supported by the Rector, Revs. G. W. Mennie (Rector of Milton), G. T. Colson (Vicar of Northfleet), G. A. Tait (Vicar of Meopham), Messrs. Everden and Grant (churchwardens of St. George's), the hon. secretary (Rev. F. J. O. Helmore), and members of the committee.

After the toast of 'The King,' given from the chair, had been duly honoured, a course of Grandsire Cinques was rung on handbells by Messrs. E. J. Beer (Gravesend), R. Brett-Smith and E. Brett-Smith (Eltham), J. H. Cheesman (Greenhithe), T. Groombridge, jun. (Crayford), and T. Groombridge, sen. (Chislehurst).

The health of 'The Archbishop and Clergy' was proposed by Mr. F. White (Cranbrook), who referred to the interesting ceremony at Canterbury on Easter Eve, the presentation of the Freedom of the City to the Archbishop on the attainment of his eightieth birthday. The Rector of Gravesend, in returning thanks, suggested that an address of congratulation might be sent from the meeting to the Archbishop. The members present cordially agreed, and the following day the secretary conveyed the members' congratulations to the Archbishop.

The toast of 'The Mayor' followed, and his Worship, in the course of his reply, related some of his experiences at the end of a bell rope. He reminded his hearers that the last and only annual meeting at Gravesend was in 1886, and expressed a hope that the Association would not let another forty-two years go by before the next general gathering at Gravesend.

After this the business meeting was held, which was mainly of a formal character, the reading of the report and balance sheets, and the re-election of the officers, vice-presidents, committee, secretary and treasurer.

Slight additions were made to the rules respecting non-resident life members, on the proposition of Mr. I. Emery (Bramley), seconded by Mr. T. Groombridge, sen.

The company then dispersed, some to the towers for ringing, some across the water to Tilbury to see the big liners, others to stand about, as ringers will, within hearing distance of the bells—all, as far as could be gathered, well pleased with their day's outing and at the success of the association's forty-eight annual meeting.

F. J. O. H.

ASPENDEN BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Many thanks to Mr. G. W. Cartmel for his interesting account of these bells, and also to Mr. W. K. North for his letter giving the record of the Braughing peal. But it does seem strange that, although a few peals have been rung at Braughing, the bells of Aspenden appear to have been severely left alone, more so considering that Renington is so near.—Yours faithfully,

F. W. RICHARDSON.

(Continued from previous column.)

ing rounds, as was the case with the prize-ringing associations in East Cornwall.

Mr. A. S. Roberts asked if anyone who was in favour of having a shield was prepared to give one, as he did not think one would be forthcoming from the Guild Committee.

This ended the discussion, and the various bands returned to the towers for further ringing. Unfortunately, Dr. J. Symons, the Diocesan Ringing Master, was unable to be present owing to sickness.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

WOLVERHAMPTON.—On Easter Sunday, for morning service, at St. Peter's Collegiate Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,259 changes) in 51 mins.: *W. Maddox 1, H. Knight 2, F. W. Perrens 3, *R. Thompson 4, *H. Piper 5, T. Smith 6, F. Brotherton 7, W. H. Lawley 8, W. A. Cooper (conductor) 9, *H. Boswell 10. *Longest length on ten.

FRYERNING, ESSEX.—On Easter Sunday, before 7 a.m. Choral Eucharist, 720 Ipswich Surprise and 720 Woodbine Treble Bob. Before 11 a.m. matins, 720 Norwich Surprise and 720 Kingston Treble Bob. On Sunday, April 15th, before 6.30 p.m. evensong, 720 London Surprise and 720 Kent Treble Bob. Ringers: F. Wright, H. Wright, C. Harrington, I. Camp, G. Camp, E. Sitch, A. Bradley (conductor).

TETENHALL, STAFFS.—For the Eucharist Service, on Easter Sunday, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 44 mins.: J. W. Taylor 1, K. C. Taylor 2, Ben Dalton 3, T. E. Taylor 4, A. Butler 5, A. Bennett 6, R. Pickering (conductor) 7, T. Bate 8. First quarter of Triples by ringers of 1st, 2nd, 4th and tenor.

PORTISHEAD, SOMERSET.—On Easter Day, for 7 a.m. celebration of Holy Communion, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins.: Miss B. Stadden 1, Miss G. Stadden 2, Miss H. Orchard 3, A. Berg (first quarter on an inside bell) 4, J. Nisbet 5, A. E. Colburn 6, W. Gillingham (conductor) 7, J. Thomas 8.

BATH.—At St. Saviour's Church, Kensington, on Easter Sunday, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's Original), in 45 mins.: J. W. Bell 1, A. Prince (conductor) 2, S. White 3, G. Jones 4, F. Merritt 5, J. Hallett 6, C. W. Bell 7, W. Starr 8.

CHICHESTER.—On Easter Sunday, for morning service, at the Cathedral, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 51 mins.: W. E. Ticehurst 1, W. Falconer 2, C. W. Fountain (York) 3, F. B. Tompkins 4, H. J. Tucker (conductor) 5, J. H. Blake 6, M. R. Heffer 7, A. Tugwell 8.

CHELMSFORD, ESSEX.—On Easter Sunday, for matins, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples on the back eight bells, at the Cathedral: J. Clark (conductor) 1, R. Clark 2, W. Lincoln 3, H. Devenish 4, C. Gentry 5, A. Head 6, W. Cheater 7, C. Cooper 8.

WRITTELE, ESSEX.—On Easter Sunday, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: T. Lincoln 1, W. Lincoln 2, F. Radley 3, H. Edwards 4, H. Joyce (first quarter in the method) 5, A. Head 6, W. Cheater (first quarter in the method as conductor) 7, W. Emery 8.

HORNSEY.—On Easter Day, at St. Mary's Church, for early celebration, 720 Bob Minor in 29 mins.: G. W. Bloo 1, C. H. Ross (conductor) 2, H. Blee 3, E. G. Hibble 4, M. Pensom 5, J. G. Nash 6.

WALTON-ON-THAMES.—At St. Mary's Church, on Easter Sunday, for 8 a.m. service, several 120's of Grandsire Doubles: W. Alderton 1, L. Gregory 2, S. Lawrence 3, A. Nightingale 4, W. Beeson (conductor) 5, I. Perkins 6. All the above are local ringers, and it is the first time they have rung complete 120's for Sunday service.

HERSHAM, SURREY.—At St. Peter's Church, for evensong, on Easter Sunday, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 45 mins.: J. Dodson 1, J. Gill 2, J. Emery 3, J. Loveridge 4, A. Woodrow 5, A. R. Pink 6, W. T. Beeson (conductor) 7, H. Batty 8.

FAIRFORD, GLOS.—On Sunday, April 1st, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 48 mins.: G. Law 1, F. J. Lewis 2, W. C. Cuss 3, W. G. Cook 4, H. A. Cock 5, J. Hope (conductor) 6, W. H. Hayward 7, J. Smith 8. Taken from Parker's twelve part.

HASLEMERE, SURREY.—On Sunday, April 1st, at the Parish Church, for evensong, 270 Grandsire Caters: Miss K. Collard 1, R. Hayes 2, B. Elliott 3, R. Overy 4, F. Bowden (conductor) 5, Miss I. Hastie 6, J. H. B. Hesse 7, J. McDermott 8, F. White 9, W. Eldridge 10. Also three courses of Grandsire Caters, with H. Furlonger ringing the 2nd.

BRAINTREE.—On Sunday, April 1st, for evensong, at the Parish Church, 1,280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: A. Wiffen 1, Miss E. Pettitt 2, R. E. Hammond 3, W. G. Melbourne 4, J. Jennings (first in the method) 5, H. T. Reason 6, L. W. Wiffen (conductor) 7, W. H. Hammond 8.

WEST EALING.—On Sunday, March 25th, for morning service, at St. Stephen's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 48 mins.: O. Edwards 1, E. J. Walsom 2, P. Clarke 3, R. Thompson (conductor) 4, J. H. Hunniset 5, H. J. Hunniset 6, E. Harris 7, F. S. Palmer 8.

NORFOLK GUILD.

At the annual meeting on Easter Monday, the Archdeacon of Norwich was elected president, and the question of the reorganisation of the Guild was referred to a small committee.

A full report of the meeting will appear in our next issue.

NOTICE.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Calne Branch.—All ringers are invited to attend a meeting at St. Mary's, Calne, on Saturday, April 28th, to ring on the 8 bells (tenor 24½ cwt.) just re-hung on ball-bearings by Messrs. Mears & Stainank of Whitechapel, London. Bells ready 2 p.m. Tea can be had at Maslin's Restaurant close to church.—L. A. Wilson, Hon. Sec.

NOTICES.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—The annual meeting of the district will be held at West Malling on Saturday, April 21st. Bells available 3 o'clock. Service in Church at 5. Tea and business meeting afterwards. — C. H. Sone, Bungalow, Linton, Maidstone.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—The next meeting will be held at Capel on Saturday, April 21st. Tower open 3 p.m. Ockley bells will also be available for ringing from 3 p.m. to 4.30 p.m., and again in the evening. Service at Capel at 5 p.m., followed by tea and meeting in Church Room at 5.30 p.m.—F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Sec., 28, Strathearn Road, Sutton, Surrey.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Flixton on Saturday, April 21st. Bells ready 4 o'clock. Meeting 7 p.m. Will members look up Double Norwich. Reports to hand. Subscriptions due.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, April 21st, at the Parish Church, Llangattock. Ringing at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea and meeting at 5 p.m. Tea provided by the Vicar.—F. E. Thomas, Dis. Sec., Bellevue, Brecon.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—A meeting will be held at Cross Stone, Todmorden, on Saturday, April 21st. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. Tea in the Bay Horse Inn at 1s. 9d. per head. All ringers welcome. — William Horan, Branch Sec., 2, Greenhirst Hey, Todmorden.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—There will be a ringing meeting at Withyham on Saturday, April 21st. Tower open 2.30. Tea, by kind invitation of the Rector.—G. Lambert, Drummond Hay, East Grinstead.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ilchester Deanery Branch.—A meeting will be held at Montacute on Saturday, April 21st. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock. Meeting to follow. Stoke-under-Ham bells available. Will those requiring tea kindly give early notice?—F. Farrant, North Street, Martock.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Quarterly meeting will be held at King's Somborne on April 21st. Bells available from 2.30: King's Somborne (6), Stockbridge (6), Broughton (5), Longstock (5). Service in the church, with an address by Canon Braithwaite. Tea in the Village Hall 4.45.—C. A. Smith, Hon. Dis. Sec.

DEVON GUILD.—N.E. Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Holcombe Rogus on Saturday, April 21st. Bells (6) available 2.30. Service 4.45. Tea, 1s. each, 5.15. Permission to ring at Burlescombe (6) and Sampford Peverell (6) has kindly been given. Will any band or ringer let me know at what time they would like to visit either or both of these towers so that I can arrange accordingly?—M. Hanson, 2, The Avenue, Tiverton.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—The spring meeting of the above branch will be held at Bucklebury on Saturday, April 21st. Bells (8). Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. at 1s. All ringers welcome.—H. W. Curtis, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Shaw, Newbury.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The annual meeting of the Guild will be held at Nuncaton on Saturday, April 21st. The eight bells of the Parish Church will be available for ringing from 3 p.m. Committee meeting at 4.15 and short service at 4.45. Tea will be provided in the School-room adjoining the church at 5.15, to be followed by the general meeting. All ringers and friends welcome.—J. A. Fenton, Gen. Hon. Sec., 42, Bennett Street, Rugby.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wellingborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Borzeat on Saturday, April 21st. Bells available at 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow.—F. Barber, Branch Sec., School House, Gordon Road, Wellingborough.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Quarterly meeting of the Frome and Midsomer Norton Deanery Branch at Stanton Drew on Saturday, April 21st. Bells (5). Service at 4 p.m. Tea and business at 5 p.m.—R. T. Clark, Hon. Sec., High Street, Timsbury.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—A meeting of the Andover District will be held at St. Mary Bourne on Saturday, April 21st. Bells (6) from 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m.—G. Pullinger, Gen. Sec., 17, Stoke Park Road, Bishopstoke, Hants.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Marlborough Branch.—A combined meeting of the Devizes and Marlborough branches will be held at Pewsey on Saturday, April 21st. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Tea 4.30.—Cyril Hussey, Hon. Sec., East Leaze, Baydon S.O., Wilts.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Crossens on Saturday, April 21st. Tower open for ringing at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 6. A good attendance requested.—James Grounds, Hon. Sec., 8, School Lane, Standish.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guilborough Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Lilbourne on April 21st. Usual arrangements.—K. J. Cater, Althorp Park Station, East Haddon.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Old Warden on Saturday, April 21st. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome. A good company is requested.—C. J. Ball, Dis. Sec., 2, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—A meeting will take place at Old Hackney on Saturday, April 21st. Bells available from 3 to 9 p.m. Meeting 5.30, in the tower. St. Paul's, Glyn Road, bells available (if required) from 7 to 9 p.m. Note: Old Hackney, not South Hackney.—J. A. Waugh, Hon. Dis. Sec., 8, Fuller's Road, E.18.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meeting for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on April 26th, at 7.30.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.—The annual meeting will be held on April 28th at St. Michael's Church, Ashton-under-Lyne. Bells available from 3 p.m. Business meeting 7 p.m. All ringers invited.—S. Thompson, Hon. Sec.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Quarterly meeting at Malins Lee (6) on Saturday, April 28th. Ringing 3 p.m. Tea in Church Room (1s. each), followed by business meeting. Kindly reply by 24th inst. to Rev. F. Tennison, St. Alkmund's Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Christ Church, Erith, on Saturday, April 28th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. Tea will be provided only for those who notify me before Tuesday, April 24th.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 53, Hengist Road, Erith, Kent.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Tunstall on Saturday, April 28th. Tower open at 3. Association service in church at 5, conducted by the Rev. Green. Tea will be provided for those who notify me by first post Wednesday, the 25th inst. Business meeting after tea.—Fred M. Mitchell, Hon. District Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—A meeting of the above will be held at Tanfield on Saturday, April 28th. Bells available after 2.30. Will those intending coming please notify me on Wednesday, the 25th, to arrange for tea?—H. Tyson, 23, Bungalow, Tanfield Lea.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—The next meeting will be held at Hugglescote on Saturday, April 28th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Will those requiring tea please notify me by April 24th? Subscriptions now due.—D. S. Collins, Dis. Sec., 145, Paget Street, Loughborough.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Bitton on Saturday, April 28th. Bells open from 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. A charabanc leaves St. Stephen's (City) at 2.30 p.m. Please advise me if attending as early as possible.—G. Way, 1a, Seymour Road, Bishopston, Bristol.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Woodford (6 bells) on Saturday, April 28th. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea in Memorial Hall 5.30 p.m. Subscriptions for 1928 are now due.—E. J. Butler, Hon. Dis. Sec., 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—The next meeting will be held at King's Walden on Saturday, April 28th. Bells (6) available afternoon and evening. Tea 5 o'clock, kindly provided by Major Harrison. Could intending visitors please let me know by the 24th? Large grounds also open. All are welcome.—George T. Croft, Dis. Sec., 37, Burnell Walk, Letchworth.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Belper on Saturday, April 28th. Bells (8) ready 2.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—Chas. Draper, Local Sec.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Braughing on Saturday, April 28th, when the bells will be open during the afternoon and evening. A short service will be held at 5 o'clock. Tea at 5.30 at the Brown Bear, as usual. All will be made welcome.—W. H. Lawrence, Dis. Sec., Little Munden.

GLOUCESTER AND DISTRICT DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cirencester Branch.—A meeting will be held at South Cerney on Saturday, April 28th. Bells open 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock, kindly provided by Vicar. Will those who intend being present please let me know by 23rd inst.—F. J. Lewis, Branch Hon. Sec., 67, Chester Street, Cirencester.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Lincoln on Saturday, April 28th. Evensong at the Cathedral at 4.30 p.m., to be followed immediately by the dedication, in the Nave, of the four new memorial bells by the Very Rev. the Dean of Lincoln (President of the Guild). Tea at the Co-operative Hall, Silver Street, at 5.45, at 1s. 9d. per head. Business meeting immediately afterwards. Ringing at St. Peter-at-Gowts (6) and St. Botolph's (6) from 2.30 to 4, and from 7 to 9. The tower of St. Peter-at-Arches will also be open for handbell ringing. All members requiring tea should send their names to Mr. G. Chester, 16, Carline Road, Lincoln, not later than by Wednesday's post, April 25th. — F. W. Stokes, Hon. Sec., Blankney, Lincoln.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Thorne on Saturday, April 28th. A good meeting is desired. Will all who require tea notify me before the 26th?—Harold Walker, Hon. Sec., 3, Beech Crescent, Old Hexthorpe, Doncaster.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—The next meeting will be held at Ash on Saturday, April 28th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Meeting to follow. Tea only for those who notify me by Wednesday, April 25th.—B. H. Clark, Hon. Sec., 17, St. James' Avenue, Farnham, Surrey.

NOTTINGHAM SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS (Established 1672).—The annual meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Nottingham, on Saturday, April 28th. Ringing from 5 to 9 p.m. Meeting in the tower at 7 p.m. A good attendance is desired. All ringers welcome.—F. Blood, Hon. Sec., 91, Dame Agnes Street, Nottingham.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Thrapston Branch. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Great Addington on Saturday, April 28th. Bells available 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock. Those requiring tea let me know by Tuesday, April 24th.—J. Nickerson, Branch Sec., Halford Street, Thrapston.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—A bye-meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Tunbridge Wells, on Saturday, April 28th. Tower open at 3.30. Tea will be provided in the Parish Room at 5.30, 1s. per head. Members requiring tea must notify the district secretary not later than Wednesday, April 25th.—W. Latter, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — The general meeting will be held at Leeds Parish Church, Kirkgate, on Saturday, April 28th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Business meeting 8 p.m. All towers are requested to send a representative. — H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Armley

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Basingstoke District. — Spring meeting at Deane on Saturday, April 28th. Bells available 2.30. Also Oakley bells. Service 4. Tea 4.30. Business meeting 5.15 p.m. Names to Rev. Evan Jones, 5, Church Square, Basingstoke.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Burton District.—The next meeting will be held at Measham (8 bells) on Saturday, April 28th. Bells available 2 to 6 p.m. Tea and meeting 6 o'clock. Those requiring tea (moderate charge) please advise the Vicar, Rev. J. R. King, beforehand. A good attendance hoped for. All ringers welcome.—R. H. Dove, Dis. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.— East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The Branch annual meeting will be held at Beaconsfield on Saturday, April 28th. Bells (8) available at 3.0 p.m. Guild Service 5.0 p.m. Tea 5.30 at 1/- per head. Business meeting 6.15 p.m. Names of those requiring tea must reach me not later than Monday, April 23rd.—A. D. Barker, Branch Sec. and Treas., Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Ely Archdeaconry.—A meeting will be held at Fulbourn on Saturday, April 28th. Bells (8) ready 3 p.m. All ringers welcome.—F. Warrington, Dis. Sec., Long Stanton.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Petersfield on Saturday, April 28th. Bells (8) available 2.30; also Steep (5). Service 4.30, with an address by Canon Masters. Tea in the Parish Hall 5 p.m. Will those who intend to be present kindly inform me by Tuesday, April 24th? All ringers welcome.—F. W. Rogers, 52, Samuel Road, Portsmouth.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESES OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS.—Chippenham Branch. — The quarterly meeting of the above branch will be held at Colerne (8 bells) on Saturday next, the 28th inst. Bells open at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Visitors will be welcome. Please notify early.—F. W. Merrett, Branch Hon. Sec., 38, Downing Street, The Woodlands, Chippenham.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—Next meeting at Hendon, Saturday, May 5th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Short service at 5. Tea at 5.30, 1s. each. Please advise me if you are coming.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at St. Bartholomew's Church, Burstow, on Saturday, May 5th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at 5. Tea at 5.30, by kind invitation of the Rector, the Rev. A. F. Bradley. Business meeting to follow. Those requiring tea must let me know by Wednesday, May 2nd.—A. J. Bull, Hon. Dis. Sec., Jesmond, Queen's Road, Horley, Surrey.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—The festival will be held at Salisbury on Saturday, May 19th. Services in Cathedral at 3 p.m. Preacher, the Dean. Further details to follow.—F. L. Edwards, Secretary.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A general meeting of the Yorkshire Association will be held at Ilkley on Saturday, May 19th. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tea will be provided at a charge of 1s. per head, and all applications for same must reach Mr. T. W. Crawshaw not later than first post Wednesday, May 16th. Members are reminded that subscriptions are now due, and should be paid without delay.—P. J. Johnson, Hon. Gen. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The Jubilee festival will be held in Bristol at Whitsuntide. The following arrangements have been made:—

Friday, May 25th. Two eight bell peals have been arranged.

Saturday, May 26th. Peals for life members and visitors have been arranged at St. Mary, Redcliffe (12), St. Stephen (10), St. James' (10), St. Philip (8), whilst the leaning tower, Temple Church, will also be available.

The Bristol Branch will hold a branch meeting during the afternoon.

Social evening at the Crown Restaurant, The Market, Nicholas Street, at 7.30 p.m.
 Sunday, May 27th. Usual and additional Sunday service ringing.

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Monday, May 28th. At 9 a.m. St. Thomas' Church Room, Victoria Street, near station, will be opened and stewards will be in attendance to direct visitors or give information upon the day's proceedings.

Service at St. Mary Redcliffe Church, 12 noon.

Luncheon at St. Mary's Parish Hall at 1 p.m.

Meeting, Bedminster Bridge School, at 2.30 p.m.

Notice of motion to alter, delete or add to rules must be given before April 30th. Revised copies upon application.

Tea, St. Mary's Parish Hall, at about 5 p.m., to be followed by more ringing and a social evening (announcement later).

Tickets for luncheon and tea upon deposit of 1s. Luncheon 3s. 6d. Tea 1s. (a large portion of this expense will be assisted from a special fund). Tickets for meeting free upon application. All applications should be made before May 20th. Train leaves Temple Meads Tuesday morning at 7.38 a.m. for Hereford, arriving at 9.50 a.m., for Central Council meeting. Return fare 8s. 6d.

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