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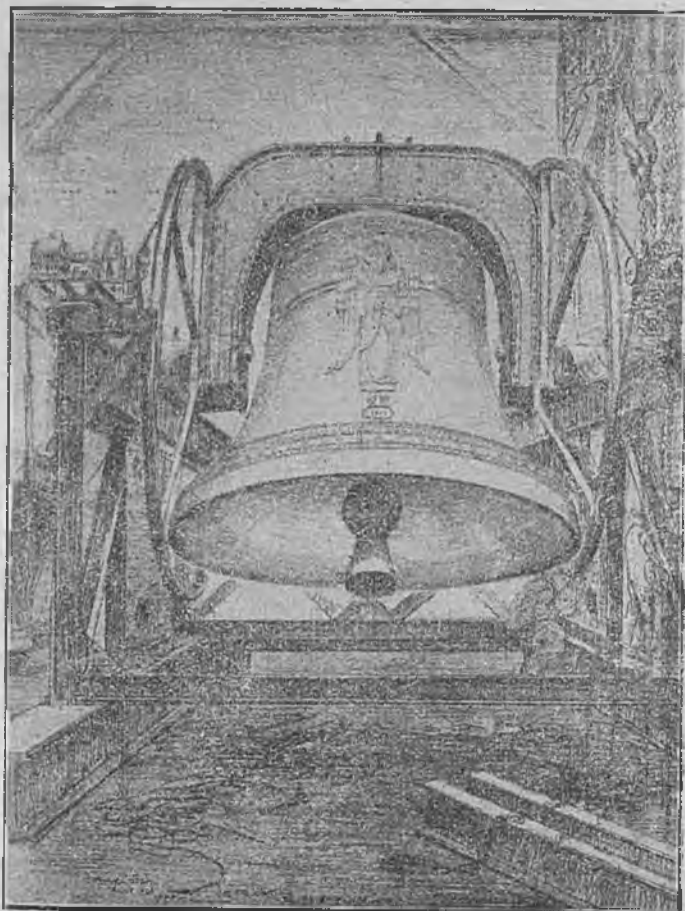
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THE CENTRAL COUNCIL'S POSITION

A letter in our last issue raises again a pertinent question in regard to the position of the Central Council in the Exercise. It is this: Shall the Council represent the views of the Guilds and Associations who elect the majority of the members, or shall it represent only the opinions of the individuals of which it is formed? It is a question of great importance to the future of the Council, and one which sooner or later has got to be met and dealt with. At present the tradition of the Council is that the members attend the meetings free and untrammelled, to vote on any matter as they personally think fit; and, when we consider the conditions under which the Council was formed, the very loose organisation that existed among ringers throughout the country at that time and the still more meagre ties between the individual associations, it is obvious that in those days nothing which savoured of "authority" or "dictatorial powers" could have hoped to succeed. It was just a friendly gathering of men interested in the Exercise, selected by their associations, to meet annually, express opinions and pass pious resolutions which it was hoped ringers would accept as being for the benefit of the art. That position continues to this day. Although the associations have advanced in the hold which they have in their respective territories and have become, most of them, far more representative of the ringers, the Council remains constitutionally where it did.

But the Council has done this; it has shown by its work that it is an indispensable part of the organisation of the Exercise. Despite all that may be said by those who pooh-pooh its value, the Council is the real hub of ringing, and without it the wheel of the Exercise would become nothing but disintegrated units, with differing aims and nothing to co-ordinate their common activities. Realising, as the majority of ringers do, therefore, that the Council, with all its shortcomings, is an essential in the welfare of the Art, is it not time that it was put on to a more substantial foundation in its relation to the associations? In other words, should the members represent their own views or the wishes of those who send them and, who, in many cases, pay the expenses? There will be those who will say, 'Let well alone,' but there is a strong feeling in some quarters that if the interest of ringers in the Council is to be increased and their respect for its rulings maintained, some stronger link is necessary to bind the associations to the central body. At present there are those who look upon the Council's meetings as a pleasant holiday jaunt for those who have the good fortune to be elected

(Continued on page 130.)

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to attend them, and that no importance attaches to the decisions arrived at. That feeling is neither good for the Exercise nor the Council, and it might be well if the whole position were considered in the light of present day opinion among large bodies of the ringing fraternity. The triennial elections take place next year, and that would be the time to test the feeling of the members of associations on the subject.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 23, 1929, in Three Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD, SHOREDITCH,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;
Tenor 28 $\frac{3}{4}$ cwt.

EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. ... Treble	GEORGE W. STERE ... 7
JOHN D. MATTHEWS ... 2	GEORGE A. CARD ... 8
*MISS FREDA ORR ... 3	†JOHN W. CORNFORD ... 9
ARTHUR J. NEALE ... 4	RONALD H. BULLEN ... 10
GEORGE H. CROSS ... 5	LEONARD H. BAYBOT ... 11
THOMAS NEWMAN ... 6	CECIL J. MATTHEWS ... Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH.

Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS.

* First peal on twelve. † First peal of Cambridge Maximus.

TEN BELL PEALS.

EPSOM, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 23, 1929, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5067 CHANGES;
Tenor 16 cwt.

ARTHUR DEAN ... Treble	JOHN H. B. HESSE ... 6
ALFRED H. WINCH ... 2	JOHN HOYLE ... 7
GEORGE MARRINER ... 3	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 8
WILLIAM H. HEWETT ... 4	JAMES E. DAVIS ... 9
CHARLES W. GRIMWOOD ... 5	*HARRY ELLIOT ... Tenor

Composed by JAMES E. GROVES.

Conducted by W. H. HEWETT.

* First peal on ten bells. First peal of Stedman Caters by the Guild.

STROUD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 23, 1929, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;

*FRANK SIMMONDS ... Treble	THOMAS WITTS ... 6
THOMAS BALDWIN ... 2	FRANK COLE ... 7
ALBERT WRIGHT ... 3	GEORGE ORCHARD ... 8
TRAVERS PRICHARD ... 4	TOM PRICE ... 9
FRANK PONTING ... 5	*WILLIAM MILLS ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Conducted by ALBERT WRIGHT.

* First peal of Caters.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

MOORSIDE, OLDHAM.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(ROCHDALE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 2, 1929, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

HARRY PLATT ... Treble	*JOHN W. TRUELOVE ... 5
FRANK LAWTON ... 2	IVAN KAY ... 6
*HARRY A. MELLOR ... 3	TOM CHAPMAN ... 7
VINCENT HOWORTH ... 4	CHARLES E. PLATT ... Tenor

Composed by J. THORP.

Conducted by CHARLES E. PLATT.

* First peal and first attempt.

PETERBOROUGH.—On Saturday, February 16th, 720 Primrose Surprise Minor: E. A. Sneath 1, W. H. Waldron (first in the method) 2, H. M. Day (conductor) 3, J. O. Landon 4, W. Tilley 5, G. A. Wells 6. The tenor ringer will be 73 years of age in March.

PORT SUNLIGHT, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, February 18, 1929, in Three Hours and One Minute,
At Christ Church,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr. 11 lb. in F.

G. RONALD EDWARDS... ..Treble	JOHN BREESE 5
RALPH G. EDWARDS 2	JOHN COOKE 6
WALTER J. BAYLLE 3	JOSEPH GODDARD... .. 7
GEORGE R. NEWTON 4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON... ..Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH.

Conducted by J. C. E. SIMPSON.

This peal was arranged and rung as a farewell to the Rev. R. W. T. Middleton, B.A., who is leaving Port Sunlight for Birmingham, and who has always allowed free use of the bells on numerous occasions.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, February 19, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF PUDSEY SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

EDWARD LANKASTERTreble	CHARLES T. COLES 5
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE 2	ALBERT W. COLES 6
GEORGE M. KILBY 3	JAMES BENNETT 7
GEORGE R. PYE 4	WILLIAM PYETenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

First peal in the method in the county and by all the band. Rung without previous practice.

ERITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 21, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

*BERTIE W. ALDRIDGETreble	JOHN H. CHEESMAN 5
HERBERT E. AUDSLEY 2	ERNEST B. CROWDER 6
JOHN J. LAMB 3	HERBERT A. HOLDEN 7
FREDERICK W. RICHARDSON 4	FREDK. J. CULLUM, JUN.Tenor

Composed by G. H. CROSS. Conducted by FREDK. J. CULLUM, JUN.

* First peal in the method.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 21, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

*FRANK STACEYTreble	WILLIAM G. WHITEHEAD 5
MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT... .. 2	WILLIAM SEELEY 6
STEPHEN H. HOARE 3	FRANCIS A. SMITH 7
*EDWARD AYLETT 4	*HERBERT F. DALETenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by M. F. R. HIBBERT

* First peal of Stedman. Mr. F. A. Smith's 100th peal upon these bells, and he is the first to accomplish this. He is also believed to be the first to accomplish 100 peals upon his own bells in the county.

BRENTWOOD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 23, 1929, in Three Hours,
At the Church of St. Thomas-the-Martyr,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

ERNEST J. BOILERTreble	ALFRED PYE 5
GEORGE R. PYE 2	JOHN T. KENTISE... .. 6
WILLIAM R. MADGWICK 3	JAMES BENNETT 7
ERNEST W. FORBANK... .. 4	WILLIAM PYETenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

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ALTON, HANTS.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 23, 1929, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,
At the Church of St. Lawrence,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

*HARRY KEMPTreble	THOMAS UPSHALL 5
GEORGE UPSHALL 2	CHARLES CHILDS 6
CHARLES WELLS 3	RICHARD HASTED 7
*FRANK KEMP 4	ALAN R. PINKTenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by RICHARD HASTED.

* First peal of Major. † First peal away from the treble. The ringers of the 6th and 8th hail from Godalming and Dorking respectively. The rest belong to the Farnham band.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

(THE ALL SAINTS' SOCIETY, FULHAM.)

On Saturday, February 23, 1929, in Three Hours,
At the Church of All Saints, Fulham.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt.

ARTHUR CUTMORETreble	*ALEXN. WADDINGTON 5
HORACE BELCHER 2	CHARLES T. COLES 6
ALBERT W. COLES 3	FRANK CORKE 7
WILLIAM E. JODD 4	HUGH M. PAGETenor

Conducted by ALBERT W. COLES.

* First peal. Specially arranged and rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. W. H. Hollier, the esteemed joint hon. secretary of the above association, with best wishes from the band.

BARTHOMLEY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 23, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
At the Church of St. Bartholine,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb.

ERIC B. ALLMANTreble	JOHN BRASSINGTON 5
HARRY PARKER 2	ALBERT CRAWLEY 6
*JOHN H. PARKER 3	ARTHUR ALLMAN 7
JOHN MATTHEWS 4	ALBERT ASTBURYTenor

Conducted by A. CRAWLEY.

* First peal of Triples inside. Messrs. A. Allman and J. Brassington's 50th peal together.

ST. ANNES-ON-SEA.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(FYLDE BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 23, 1929, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Anne,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART.

*NOEL THORNERTreble	*FRANK YDULES 5
WILLIAM RATCLIFFE 2	CHARLES SHARPLES 6
LAWRENCE GREEN 3	†GEORGE MARIES 7
*ROBERT CARDWELL 4	*ARTHUR LESLIETenor

Conducted by C. SHARPLES.

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

HIGHCLERE, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD

On Saturday, February 23, 1929, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S.

Tenor 11 cwt. 26 lb.

ERNEST BISHOPTreble	REGINALD REX 5
*HARRY BALAM 2	D. CECIL WILLIAMS 6
GEORGE POLLINGER 3	CHARLES J. GARDINER 7
NOLAN GOLDEN 4	GEORGE WILLIAMSTenor

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

* First peal of Surprise Major. First peal on the bells, which have recently been augmented from 6 to 8 by Messrs. Taylor and Co. The ringers of 2nd and 3rd have each lost their right arm. After the peal the band were entertained to an excellent meal by Mr. and Mrs. Knapp, through the forethought of the Vicar and Mrs. Dunlop, who were both unfortunately on the sick list and unable to meet them.

MARSDEN, YORKSHIRE.

On Saturday, February 23, 1929, in Three Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 26½ cwt.

Lewis Byram Treble	Harry Shaw 5
* John Turner 2	Donald Snowball 6
Sam Whitehead 3	Charles H. Craven 7
Jack Turner 4	Henry H. Smith Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by C. H. CRAVEN.

* First peal.

MARKET DRAYTON, SHROPSHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 23, 1929, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr.

* William Saunders Treble	Richard T. Holding 5
Harry F. Holding 2	James H. Riding 6
Harold Edwards 3	William Weatherley 7
* Arthur Pritchard 4	Edward V. Rodenhurst Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY.

Conducted by J. H. RIDING.

* First peal in the method.

FAREHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 23, 1929, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. in F sharp.

* S. A. Bamford, R.M. Treble	† Percival Giles 5
Frederick A. Burnett 2	Frederick W. Burnett 6
Josiah D. Harris 3	† Percival L. Cook 7
* Charles Shepherd 4	Harry L. W. Aitken Tenor

Composed by H. J. TUCKER.

Conducted by H. L. W. AITKEN.

* First peal. † First peal of Major. First peal as conductor.

ROTHERFIELD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 23, 1929, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. 23 lb.

FREDK. J. LAMBERT, SEN. Treble	Stafford H. Green 5
William Collison 2	Keith Hart 6
Reginald E. Lambert 3	Herbert Markwell 7
Frank Bennett 4	Frederick White Tenor

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW. Conducted by FREDERICK WHITE
A birthday compliment to the ringer of the treble.

CLAINES, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 23, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

William Short Treble	Clifford Skidmore 5
Thomas Hemming 2	Hector G. Bird 6
Harry Price 3	Robert Matthews 7
Gordon W. Checkitts 4	Alfred Hackett Tenor

Composed by Rev. H. EARLE BULWER. Conducted by R. MATTHEWS

USK, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 23, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

Wilfred Williams Treble	George Popnell 5
Arthur Hawkins 2	* Arthur L. Lucas 6
Donald G. Clift 3	Charles Greedy 7
Edward W. Luff 4	George Hawkins Tenor

Conducted by WILFRED WILLIAMS.

* First peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. P. T. Clift, father of the 3rd ringer.

BROMBOROUGH, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 23, 1929, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARNABAS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 20 cwt. in E flat.

* Thomas Birch Treble	Herbert Ludkin 5
Walter J. Battle 2	John Breese 6
* Ralph G. Edwards 3	James C. E. Simpson 7
* G. Ronald Edwards 4	Edward Jenkins Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY.

Conducted by E. JENKINS.

* First Surprise peal. First Surprise peal, and quickest peal of Major on the bells.

MOSSLEY, LANCs.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 23, 1929, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

B. Thorpe Treble	J. Lees 5
* G. Barlow 2	A. Gorrington 6
E. Garside 3	H. Barlow 7
† V. Sykes 4	W. W. Wolstencroft Tenor

Composed and Conducted by B. THORPE.

* First peal in the method. † First peal on an inside bell.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, February 23, 1929, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

STEDMAN H. SYMONDS Treble	Frank A. Turner 5
* Frederick G. Symonds 2	Lawrence Poulson 6
* Maurice T. Symonds 3	Frederick A. Poulson 7
Arthur Symonds 4	William R. J. Poulson Tenor

Composed by W. SOXTANSTALL.

Conducted by S. H. SYMONDS.

* First peal in the method. The first four ringers are sons (two), grandson and father respectively. A. Symonds has now completed the circle in this tower six times. This is the 100th peal that has been rung on the bells since March 3rd, 1888, and A. Symonds has had the remarkable, and probably unique, experience of having taken part in every one. This is believed to be a record.

SIX BELL PEALS.

SWYNNERTON, STAFFS.

THE NORTH STAFFORD AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 23, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, with ten different callings. Tenor 9 cwt.

* Rev. J. B. Frith Treble	Jack Head 4
Willis Buckley 2	Arthur Rowley 5
* Harry Hodson 3	Claude Templeton Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR ROWLEY.

* First peal. First peal for all in Doubles. Ringers of 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th and tenor from Stone. They wish to thank the Rev. J. B. Frith for his kind hospitality after the peal.

HUNTON, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 23, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Rev. E. Bankes James' composition. Tenor 12 cwt.

* Charles H. Sone Treble	James Bassett 4
* Mrs. H. Baker 2	* Harry Baker 5
Albert Relfe 3	Arthur H. Smith Tenor

Conducted by A. H. SMITH.

* First peal in the method. The band wish to thank the sexton of the church, and his wife, for their kind hospitality after the peal.

ROCK FERRY, CHESHIRE.—On Thursday, February 21st, 1929, Kent Treble Bob: Miss D. I. Lenthall 1, Miss M. Cooke 2, J. Gorst 3, T. Birch 4, G. R. Edwards 5, J. Cooke (conductor) 6. First 720 of Treble Bob for the ringer of the treble and the first inside for the ringers of the 2nd and 3rd.

HANDBELL PEAL.

MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 21, 1929, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,

At 16, LIME GROVE,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 14 in D.

HAROLD JACKSON 1-2 | FREDERICK PAGE 5-6

ALLEN F. BAILEY 3-4 | PETER LAFLIN 7-8

*MORRIS J. MORRIS 9-10

Composed by GEORGE H. CROSS. Conducted by ALLEN F. BAILEY

Umpire: ALFRED BARNES.

* First peal of Bob Royal.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**GRIMSBY DISTRICT'S JOINT MEETING WITH LADIES' GUILD.**

The Grimsby District of the Lincoln Guild held a combined meeting with the Lincoln District of the Ladies' Guild at Grimsby, at which some thirty-two members attended from Barrow, Barton-on-Humber, Bigby, Ulceby, Goxhill, Laceby, Burton-on-Stather, Grimsby St. James' and Grimsby St. Andrew's, also Rev. J. Barber, Rector of Great Coates, Mr. and Mrs. R. Richardson, of Surfleet, and ladies from Laceby. The service was held at St. Andrew's Church, conducted by the Vicar (Rev. T. Russel Warrilow), who gave an interesting address. The Ladies' Guild service was used, and Mr. H. Rushby kindly presided at the organ.

Tea was served in the Church Hall. Tea over, the ladies' meeting took place, followed by the annual meeting of the Grimsby District. The Rev. H. T. Parry was re-elected president, Mr. H. I. Mingay secretary, Mr. C. W. Taylor representative on the branch committee, Mr. J. Bray Ringing Master, and Mr. G. Blanchard Deputy Ringing Master.

Seven new performing members and two honorary members were elected. Places and dates fixed for the district meetings for the year were: Ulceby April 6th, Louth May 20th, Burton-on-Stather combined meeting June 22nd, Bigby July 20th, Waltham August 17th, Scunthorpe September 19th, Thursday afternoon meeting, Barton-on-Humber October 26th.

The collection for the district bell fund amounted to 17s.

A resolution that the Guild should have reports printed as in previous years was carried unanimously.

A vote of thanks was given to the Vicars of St. Andrew's and St. James' for the use of the bells, to the Vicar of St. Andrew's for conducting the service, to Mr. Rushby for presiding at the organ, to all those who made the meeting such a success, also the president for presiding.

Members then adjourned to the towers for more ringing.

BRAINTREE RINGER'S LOSS.

Ringers friends of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert C. Reason, of Braintree, will read with regret of the death of their son, Geoffrey Charles. Although not yet thirteen years of age, the deceased was a very promising lad. He won a scholarship at the County High School before he was twelve years old, and was already keenly interested in ringing. Until a fortnight ago, he was very robust, and the picture of health. Very suddenly he became ill, and was removed to hospital, and passed away on Tuesday, January 29th.

The funeral took place on Saturday, February 2nd. Rev. G. P. Bassett-Kerry, M.A., Vicar, officiated at the church, and the committal service in the cemetery was taken by the Rev. S. J. Rust, assistant curate.

In addition to the parents and relatives, there were present Mr. A. M. Dell, the headmaster, and pupils from the High School, Mr. C. E. Fulbeck, headmaster, and Mr. E. G. Hick, assistant master, and scholars from the Church of England School, where the deceased formerly attended, Mr. D. Smith, superintendent of the Church Sunday Schools, Messrs. L. W. and A. Wiffen, H. E. and W. H. Hammond, G. Lindridge and C. H. Howard, members of the St. Michael's Guild of Ringers, and quite a number of his friends from Felstead, where he formerly lived and with whom he was very popular. Floral tributes were sent from relatives and friends, pupils of the High School and C.E. School, and the St. Michael's Guild of Ringers, who, immediately afterwards, rang touches of Double Norwich Major with the clappers half-muffled on the bells of the Parish Church.

'NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.'**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION EXPANDS ITS TITLE.**

A very successful meeting of the London County Association was held on Saturday, February 9th, the towers of St. Clement Danes, Strand, and St. Dunstan's-in-the-East being available. After ringing, a short service was conducted by the Rev. Kingston, who kindly consented to officiate in the absence of the hon. chaplain, who, it was regretted, was unable to attend. After tea, the members proceeded to St. Clement Danes' Parish Hall for the annual business meeting, as a preliminary to which members of the Isleworth band played a selection of tunes.

It was gratifying to note that the districts had progressed very favourably during 1928, and it was hoped that they would continue to do so.

The Master, Mr. T. H. Taffender, was again unanimously elected to fill that position. Other officers were as follows: General secretary, Mr. S. C. Moye; assistant secretaries, Messrs. T. Wyatt and T. W. Taffender; treasurer, Mr. E. A. Young; trustees, Messrs. A. H. Keighley and F. E. Dawe; stewards, Messrs. F. Chorley and W. Grainger.

The Bishop of Southwark having kindly consented to become a patron of the association, it was agreed to alter the name of the association to read 'The London County Association and North Southwark Diocesan Guild.'

The meeting terminated with some excellent touches on the handbells by several of the members.

NOTTS RINGER'S 100 PEALS.

By ringing a peal of York Surprise Royal recently, Mr. J. Frederick Milner, a member of the band at Southwell Cathedral, brought his total number of peals to the century. The following is the detailed list, which have been rung in four counties and 30 towers:—

DOUBLES:	Tower	Bells.	Conducted.
Grandsire	...	1	—
In two methods	...	1	1
In three methods	...	1	1
MINOR:			
Plain Bob	...	2	1
In two methods	...	3	—
In three methods	...	2	—
In four methods	...	1	1
Cambridge Surprise	...	1*	—
TRIPLES:			
Grandsire	...	1	—
Stedman	...	23	5
MAJOR:			
Plain Bob	...	4	—
Little Bob	...	1†	—
Kent Treble Bob	...	3	—
Oxford Treble Bob	...	2	—
Spliced Treble Bob Worcester Variation	...	1*	—
Spliced Treble Bob Ilkeston Variation	...	4	—
Spliced in six methods	...	1*	—
Double Norwich Court Bob	...	7	—
Pudsey Surprise	...	2	—
Yorkshire Surprise	...	5	—
New Cambridge Surprise	...	2	—
Superlative Surprise	...	8	1
Cambridge Surprise	...	9	1
Spliced Cambridge and Superlative Surprise	...	1*	—
CATERS:			
Grandsire	...	2	1
Stedman	...	5	—
Spliced Stedman and Grandsire	...	1*	—
ROYAL:			
Plain Bob	...	2	—
Spliced Treble Bob	...	1	—
York Surprise	...	1*	—
Total	...	98	12
Grandsire Doubles	...	1	1
Doubles in four methods	...	1	1*
Total 100, conducted	...	14	2

* Rung for the first time for the M.C.A. † 6,720 (record). ‡ 9,600 (record).

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OLD RECORDS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Many years ago I looked through the old issues of the 'Norwich Gazette' at the British Museum for my friend, Samuel Slater. The earliest number of the 'Gazette' there was that of April 24th, 1725. The first entry related to the addition of two bells to the six then at St. Michael Coslany.

Then comes a notice of an attempt of the College Youths for a peal of 5,000 and odd changes on St. Martin's bells, lost after three hours through a rope breaking.

The first record of a peal was in the 'Gazette' of April 8th, 1727, as follows: Norwich, April 8th, on the 1st instant was rung by eight men at the Church of St. Michael Coslany, in this city, the quarter-peal of Treble Bob Royal (called by some in England Union Bob), containing 10,080 changes, which they rung in 6 hours 28 minutes, with not a bell out of course or anything amiss.

In the 'Gazette' of November 8th, 1729, there was a letter from the Eye ringers disputing the truth of the above peal, and of others claimed by Norwich.

I think the reference to the peal at St. Margaret's, Leicester, on February 23rd, 1730, was rung by the society of Leicester Scholars, the whole peal of 5,040 Triples in 3 hours 6 minutes and 27 seconds, to the great satisfaction of all the Hearers, is well known at Leicester.

Whether the particulars I furnished to Mr. Slater were among the papers destroyed at his death or not I do not know. The Editor of the 'Norwich Gazette' must have had some very general interest in bells and ringing and some very wide correspondence, or he had an enthusiast on his staff.—Yours faithfully, E. P. COLE.

P.S.—The earliest copy of the 'Gazette' at the British Museum was No. 969. Vol 19. Are the earlier numbers extant?

EARLY PEALS AT KETTERING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I have noticed in 'Grandsire,' page 126, the copy of the record of a peal rung at Kettering. This is not a correct copy of the peal board, which is still in the belfry, and reads: 'February 28th, 1729 (and not February 20th), the whole peal of Grandsire Triples, containing 5,040 changes, was rung here in 3 hours and 18 minutes by the following persons, all of this parish, viz.: Tho. Howard 1, Tho. Woodford 2, John Law 3, Geo. Eayre 4, Hen. Parker 5, Jas. Booth 6, Jno. Carley 7, Henry Lades 8.'

As next Thursday is the 200th anniversary of the peal being rung, it is an appropriate time to note this error. The next peal at Kettering, 'Grandsire,' page 127, is copied correctly with the exception of Rob. Booth, which on the board is Jas. Booth, and the ringer of the fourth is George Eayre, given as G. Eayre.—Yours faithfully, R. G. BLACK.

Geddington,

February 24th, 1929.

NOT THE 'FIRST.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I see in the peal columns of your last issue of 'The Ringing World' a peal of Minor rung at Lockerley, Hants, under the auspices of the Winchester Guild which states in a footnote: 'First peal on the bells.' This is evidently an unintentional error, as the first peal was rung on August 10th, 1891, by members of the Romsey Abbey Branch of the Winchester Diocesan Guild, and was published in 'The Bell News' of that period.—Yours, etc., C. TRIBE.

Tenterden, Kent.

A COMBINED MEETING

A PRESENTATION AT TENTERDEN.

A combined meeting of the Kent County Association and Romney Marsh and District Guild was held at Tenterden on Saturday, February 16th. The afternoon was spent in ringing, and a service was conducted by the Vicar (Rev. M. Mann), who gave an inspiring address on the value of ringers as churchworkers. Tea was partaken of at English's Restaurant, and 24 members were present. The K.C.A. business meeting was presided over by the Vicar. Fritenden was chosen for the next meeting, and two new members from Headcorn were elected.

Then a very pleasant surprise was sprung upon Mr. G. Cramp, the oldest member of the local band, the Vicar presenting him with an umbrella and cheque on attaining his 80th birthday. He still mounts the lofty tower regularly to ring for divine service. The gift was subscribed for by the Vicar, churchwardens and the local band.

The Rev. M. N. Vicker, president of the Romney Marsh Guild, then presided over the Guild meeting, when five probationers from Appledore were elected and Hythe was chosen for the next monthly meeting.

Thanks to the two chairmen for presiding, and to the organist (Mr. W. E. Pitman), concluded the meetings. The members then returned to the tower for more ringing, when, alas, out went the electric lights, and the bells were lowered with the aid of a storm lantern, and the day was finished in 'ringing talk.'

A SUSSEX AUGMENTATION

The little village of Wisborough Green, in North-West Sussex, has had its church bells augmented to six. Originally there were four, but one was cracked, and this has been recast. The two additional bells have been provided by the generosity of a parishioner, and the whole have been hung in a new H frame on one level. The work has been carried out by Messrs. Taylor and Co., who tuned the old bells, and, considering what their tone was before the operation, a marvellous improvement has been effected. The tower was restored, on the advice of Major J. H. B. Hesse, and the manner in which this part of the scheme has been carried out is an example of how work of this description ought to be done. In the rehang-ing of the bells, which is a perfect Loughborough job, they have been brought twelve feet lower in the tower, and the peal are a very musical six.

The dedication took place on Sunday, when the opening rounds were rung by the ringers from the neighbouring tower of Kirdford, and afterwards touches were rung by numerous ringing visitors.

CORNWALL RESIDENTS' SUCCESS

FIRST EIGHT-BELL PEAL FOR 46 YEARS.

A peal of Grandsire Triples, rung at Phillach on February 2nd, and recently published in the peal columns of this paper, brought to an end the long period since an eight-bell peal was rung in Cornwall by a band all living in the county. It was as long ago as June 4th, 1883—46 years ago—that Dr. J. Symons, the present Ringing Master of the Truro Diocesan Guild, conducted a peal at St. Mary's, Penzance. There was at that time no Truro Diocesan Guild, and the peal was rung for the Devon Guild. Alas! St. Mary's bells are now unringable, having been in this state for years, and out of Cornwall's twenty-nine octaves are the only ring in this forlorn condition. Although there is a substantial sum in hand for the restoration, the church authorities seem far from keen to complete this work.

Several residents have taken part in peals for the Truro Guild during its twenty-four years' existence, especially during the past three years, but in every case the conductor and some of the band have come across the Tamar, from Devon. The peal on February 2nd was the fourth attempt during the past few months, the other three being at Truro Cathedral, where it was hoped to achieve the 'first' for the Truro Diocesan Guild. It seemed as if peals would not come round on the Cathedral bells last year. Every attempt proved elusive, even Stedman Caters by a very efficient band, under the conductorship of Mr. Frank Bennett, last August.

However, it was a reward to be able to record a peal rung without a 'trip' from start to finish, and with beautiful striking. With the previous failures, R. A. Watts, A. M. Thomas, Horace Bennett, Harold Bennett, F. M. Roberts and H. Stephens have to be associated.

A ONE-PART PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES

BY ALBERT E. PARKER.

2314587	S.	H.	L.	Q.	S.	H.	L.	Q.
346125	82				641235	x	x	
518342		x	x		345261	x		
236514		x	x		461253	x	x	
456231		x	x		653214	x	x	
126453		x	x		324156	x	x	x
(231456)		x	x	814	256143	x	x	
356412	x	x			543162	x	x	
512463	x	x			453126	x	x	
613452	x				526134	x	x	
152436	x	x			234165	x	x	
538421	x	x			365142	x	x	
321465	x	x			642153	x	x	
265413	x	x			415632	x		x
163425	x				132654	x	x	
625431	x	x			354621	x	x	
246351	x	x		x	521643	x	x	
136245		x	x		243615	x	x	
435216	x				462135	x	x	x
316254	x	x			635124	x	x	
426315		x	x		514236	x	x	x
215364	x	x			624513	x	x	
164352	x	x			213546	x	x	
652341	x	x			146532	x	x	
541326	x	x			432561	x	x	
631542		x	x		361524	x	x	
342516	x	x			451382	x		x
416523	x	x			562314	x	x	
123564	x	x			614325	x	x	
264531	x	x			125346	x	x	
154263		x	x		231456	x	x	x
563241	x	x						

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

If Bray is the most attractive tower in the East Berks and South Bucks Branch for young ringers, then Marlow must be the magnet for the older members, for, in spite of a foggy evening, nearly all the 'old school' turned up at the combined practice on Saturday, and with a few young ones filled the tower to overflowing, so that quite a number visited Mr. J. C. Fruss for another change. Methods ranging from Grandsire to London were tried, the evening closing with a visit from the Vicar, who hoped that all had enjoyed their practice. It was decided to hold the next practice at Cookham on March 23rd.

BEDWAS RINGER'S DEATH.

The death occurred from pneumonia on February 18th of Mr. A. J. Hurford, one of the ringers at Bedwas, Mon. He was 53 years of age, and succumbed after only a week's illness.

Formerly of Dawlish Wake (Somerset), Mr. Hurford had long been a faithful member of the Bedwas band, by whom he will be much missed. He started change ringing about seven years ago, and had rung half a dozen peals of Triples for the Llandaff and Monmouth Association.

The funeral took place on Thursday of last week, and afterwards the bells were rung half-muffled by A. G. Martin, A. E. Slatter, S. Addicott, G. Cooke, G. H. Martin, R. Ridout, W. Bennett, J. Parry and H. Matthews.

WYCOMBE RINGERS.

The annual meeting of the High Wycombe belfry took place at the Vicarage recently. The Vicar presided. It was shown that 1,388 attendances had been put in for the year. The balance sheet was submitted and approved. The officers for the year were elected as follow: President, the Vicar, Rev. W. L. P. Float, M.A.; foreman, Mr. Ralph Cole; deputy foreman, Mr. George White; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. George Twitchen; collector, Mr. Boxell.

The annual outing was fixed to take place on Whit Monday.—A small committee was appointed to revise the rules.

The meeting over, the ringers adjourned to another room, where the Vicar and Mrs. Float had in readiness a first-class supper. The menu was typically Old English, and served with a daintiness and charm that satisfied the most fastidious, and the meal was most heartily enjoyed.

At the close, Messrs. J. W. Wilkins and G. White voiced the gratitude of the ringers to their host and hostess. 'To our next' and a 'chain of fire' brought the interesting proceedings to a close.

MUFFLED BELLS.

At Truro Cathedral, on Sunday, February 17th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): Noel Williams (first quarter) 1, A. S. Roberts 2, R. A. Watts 3, A. F. Knight 4, Horace Bennett 5, W. H. Sleeman 6, W. H. Southard (conductor) 7, F. M. Roberts 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled in memory of the late Dr. W. O. Burrows, D.D., Bishop of Chichester, formerly Bishop of Truro. Miss D. Mannell and H. Stephens also took part in half-muffled ringing prior to the memorial service at 2 p.m. on Monday, February 18th.

At Kimpton, Herts, on Monday, February 18th, 720 Bob Minor in 25 mins.: G. Cain 1, A. Gillings (conductor) 2, D. Luck 3, J. Wells 4, R. Hall 5, T. Cann 6. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Rev. A. T. Whyte-Venables, of Shinfield, Reading, until recently Vicar of Kimpton, whose body was interred in Kimpton Churchyard on the same day.

At St. John's Church, Stanmore, Middlesex, on Sunday evening, February 24th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 45 mins., with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect for the late C. Johnson, who was verger at the above church for 53 years: F. Hill 1, G. A. Hughes, jun., 2, H. Moxom 3, E. Heading 4, G. Cheshire 5, F. Edwards 6, C. Dyke (conductor) 7, G. A. Hughes, sen., 8.

WOOLWICH BELLRINGERS' ANNUAL SUPPER.

The band of ringers attached to Woolwich Parish Church (St. Mary's) recently held their annual supper. The Rector (Rev. A. M. Pickering) presided, supported by past and present churchwardens. In proposing the ringers' health, the Chairman expressed extreme appreciation of the work of the band, which was founded in 1925.—Mr. Aldridge, Master of the company, gave a report on the work of 1928, during which six quarter-peals of Grandsire Doubles had been rung.—Mr. C. Palmer, secretary, supplying some statistics, stated that all present ringers belonged to the London County Association and five to the Kent County Association. Although the bells would first need an overhaul by a bell hanger, it was hoped, he said, that a peal of Grandsire Triples would be accomplished during 1929.

A musical entertainment by friends and a demonstration on the handbells by the ringers brought a very pleasant evening to a close.

WIVELISCOMBE.—At St. Andrew's Church, on January 30th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes, ten ways): W. J. Greedy 1, C. Parkman (first quarter-peal) 2, H. Rawles 3, E. Brarington 4, W. A. J. Knight (conductor) 5, S. Furze 6.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Forty years ago to-day the Warnham, Sussex, band rung a peal of 13,440 Canterbury Pleasure Major in 7 hrs. 45 mins. They had scored the first peal ever rung in the method on the previous December 17th. Later, they essayed a 20,000, but this was unsuccessful.

March 1st is the anniversary of two long peals of Grandsire Caters, one, 8,064, rung in 1734, and the other, 10,080, the following year.

A society of which very little is known rang Holt's peal of Grandsire Triples at Oswestry on March 3rd, 1785. The ringers described themselves as members of the 'Anacreontic' Society, whatever that was, and the name appears on the board in the tower.

William D. Crofts called a peal of 10,260 Grandsire Caters at St. Mary's, Nottingham, on Shrove Tuesday, March 3rd, 1778.

The Yorkshire Association rang their first peal of Cambridge Surprise Major thirty years ago next Monday.

The Surrey Youths of St. Giles', one or the more or less ephemeral societies of which London has had several instances, rang a peal of Grandsire Caters at St. Giles', Camberwell, 'the first peal performed on the bells,' on March 5th, 1845. It was composed and conducted by John Cox.

We are pleased to be able to state that the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, hon. secretary of the Kent County Association, is slowly recovering from his recent severe illness, but not being able to undertake the secretarial duties connected with the annual meeting to be held on Easter Monday, he has appointed Mr. F. M. Mitchell, the Rochester District hon. secretary, to act in his stead, and all correspondence concerning the meeting should be sent to 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

COLLEGE YOUTHS' RECORDS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I notice under the list of notable performances by the College Youths in their recently issued and most interesting book, a peal of Grandsire Triples rung at Christ Church, Spitalfields, January 31st, 1851, which they claim to be the first non-conducted peal. May I point out that on Sunday, June 26th, 1803, a peal of Bob Major was rung at Aston, Birmingham, the footnote of which reads: 'Rung without a bob or single being called or any explanation being given.'

Again, I notice the College Youths claim to have rung the first peal in Wales by ringing 5,040 Grandsire Triples at Llanstephan, January 1st, 1876, whereas there was rung at Wrexham, July 27th, 1803, a peal of Grandsire Caters, 5,021 changes, and recorded as the first peal in the Principality. The second peal in Wales was rung at the opening of the bells at Dolgelly, on September 25th, 1809. It was 5,040 Grandsire Triples, conducted by John Kints (probably Mears' bell hanger). The next day a peal of Oxford Treble Major (5,088) was also rung at Dolgelly.—Yours faithfully,
Birmingham. JAS. E. GROVES.

PEAL RINGING FOR PRACTICE.

Peals of Rutland and Pudsey Surprise Major were rung at St. Mary's, Willesden, on February 5th and 19th respectively by members of the Middlesex County Association. These peals, like that of Lincolnshire Surprise on October 2nd last, were rung for practice with a view to the methods being spliced in the Rev. H. Law James' composition, which has already been rung to four and five methods. Each of these three peals was rung at the first attempt, and in no instance had any of the band any previous practice!

THE J. LOWE APPEAL.

The appeal which has been made by the Lancashire Association on behalf of Mr. J. Lowe, of Bolton, has become more urgent. Mr. Lowe has for a long time been incapacitated, and everyone knows what a drain this is upon the limited resources of a working man. Hitherto his son has been the main support of the home, but now, we regret to say, he has met with a serious accident while following his employment in a colliery, and lies in Bolton Infirmary in a precarious condition. This additional misfortune makes the effort of the association to assist Mr. Lowe all the more pressing, and it is hoped that ringers throughout the country will give a helping hand, as they have done in other recent cases of genuine distress.

Those who wish to contribute should send their donations to Mr. J. Hall, 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting, Manchester, the Manchester District secretary of the Lancs Association.

	£	s.	d.
Amount already acknowledged	31	2	0
Dalton Parish Church Ringers (per Mr. J. Watson)	10	0	0
St. George's, Hyde, ringer (per Mr. J. Shaw)	1	1	6
Mr. H. Chapman	2	0	0
Rossendale Branch (per Mr. J. H. Haydock)	1	7	6
Kent County Association, Lewisham meeting (per Mr. T. Groombridge, jun.)	1	12	0
St. John's, Deptford, ringers	12	0	0
Total	£36	7	0

PEALS OF MINOR.

MR. JAMES REPLIES TO HIS CRITICS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Mr. Severn deserves no answer to his two questions because he has broken through the friendly spirit with which this discussion has so far been carried on; but he shall have his answers for the sake of others who are interested in this matter.

Question 1 is already answered, but to make sure, the first row is 123456, the last is 124365. The first row of the 2nd 720 is 123456, and the last is 143265. The first row of the 3rd 720 is 142356, and the last is 132465. The first row of the 4th 720 is 134256, and the last is 124365. The 5th is the same as the 2nd, the 6th as the 3rd, and the 7th as the 4th.

Question 2 raises a very important question. Twelve or fourteen years ago I was talking one day to Mr. John W. Taylor, of Loughborough, and he said to me that the musical taste of the British public was slowly improving, and that the time would come when there would be a demand, first of all, for properly tuned bells, and, secondly, that the changes rung upon the bells should be good musical changes, and that if ringers did not take notice of these demands, change ringing would become unpopular and finally be stopped.

Now there are a large number of six-bell ringers who have a very laudable ambition to ring a peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor, and also of London Surprise Minor, but they have refrained from doing so because before these arrangements appeared both these methods brought up 6-5 a backstroke, which is a most objectionable noise.

And now I turn to Mr. Parker, who asks, 'Why not include three of the 720's twice?'

Simply because that would be a step in the wrong direction. Forty years ago we used to see 14 360's in fourteen methods published in 'The Bell News' as a peal of Minor. Six-bell ringers have not only left that behind, but to-day never think of ringing the same 720 twice in a peal. Look at the Minor peals published. Bob Minor, 'seven 720's, each called differently,' appears week after week, and now the 'each called differently' is often left out because it has ceased to be necessary, being taken for granted.

Mr. Parker complains that the last three 720's are not 720's, I suppose because they are neither one round block nor one continuous string of rows, but each of them consists of 720 rows, and each of them is produced by making 720 changes, and they each of them differ from the first four because the Q sets which are bobbed are not the same, and the whole object of the resolution which was passed at Hertford was to eliminate the necessity of round blocks from the definition of a peal of Minor, and this was accomplished by omitting the statement in the old definition that the bells should strike round once at the end of each 720.

H. LAW JAMES.

A QUESTION OF DEGREE.

Dear Sir,—We should keep the two attributes 'true' and 'complete' distinct in our minds. As has been rightly said, truth is a matter of principle. But it does not follow that this principle is always to be observed strictly. As a matter of fact, about which all are agreed, it is a principle which is strictly observed on seven and higher numbers. On five or six bells, the principle has been relaxed to allow of a 5,040 being made up of extents which are linked together by one row only of rounds. What is now proposed is that instead of extents being linked only, they may also be spliced. I do not think that this can be styled more than a question of degree. If it were a matter of principle, the same question of principle must also exclude spliced methods. As I have said, I am not anxious to allow the proposed 'freaks,' but I do not think that those who wish to exclude them have made out a logical case.

If we are to maintain the attribute 'complete,' Mr. Powell's peal will be ruled out. If he had meant his proposal seriously, it would be necessary to ask him how he intended to conclude the ringing. Would he have stopped abruptly, immediately his last change was rung? Surely a difficult act after ringing a 5,000. Suppose one or two involuntary 'changes' were sounded before the bells ceased, would this invalidate the peal? Or would he teach his hand the last row by heart, so that they would repeat it several times before ceasing? Or would he 'jump' the bells into rounds? Or, even worse, bring them home by call changes?

It might seem that these are mere frivolous questions, but I am asking them in order to make it abundantly clear that the peal would be 'unfinished,' as everyone who heard it would be bound to say. Therefore it must be incomplete, or, if the exact meaning of that word be doubted, imperfect; or we might perhaps more exactly say, the rhythm of the ringing was broken.

But while the same process takes place in Minor or Doubles, we do not meet with the same catastrophe. The incompleteness of the one extent is completed in the next (or the imperfection is made perfect, or the broken rhythm is united). The same thing could be done in Mr. Powell's peal, if it were not for the convention which makes us ring exactly the extent, and no more or less, on seven bells only.

When I spoke of the same old six-scores I purposely used the plural, while those who have criticised me evidently are thinking of one special six-score. My point was that by splicing you are not limited to 120 changes in one cyclical round (or set) at a time. You give five-bell ringers a similar rhythmical (or cyclical relief) to that which ringers on higher numbers get from spliced methods. Moreover, you do not get this rhythmical relief by varying the place from which you start in Snowdon's figure, or by making each bell the hunt in turn.

HERBERT DRAKE.

LAWS ARE NECESSARY.

Sir,—May I congratulate you for so fully publishing so many views on the present controversy, and at the same time trying to interpret to us what the rules and conditions of a peal must be? I am sure all must agree that we must have some laws, like unto the Medes and Persians, and no Council should entertain any exits or entrances but what are already laid down. Methinks that our worthy clergy had better kept to 'splicing' at the chance end of the church, then we should have been saved much confusion.—Yours truly,

T. H. VALLANCE.

JOHN BRIANT'S CENTENARY

AN INVENTIVE GENIUS.

John Briant, the famous Hertford bell founder and clock maker, the centenary of whose death was commemorated on Wednesday by the dedication of a memorial tablet in All Saints' Church, Hertford, lived a long and active life, for he was 80 years old when he died at St. Albans, an inmate of the almshouses, on February 27th, 1829. He plied his calling for more than half a century in Hertford, and there are still more than 400 bells in existence which were cast by him.

'The Hertfordshire Mercury' of March 7th, 1829, contained a lengthy obituary notice of the old founder, in the course of which it said: 'It would be difficult for the most accurate biographer to travel through the versatile ingenuity of the life of the subject of the present narrative; but in justice to the memory of departed worth, we most cheerfully devote rather an unusual space to record the excellence of a man possessing a mind so capacious that shrank at no difficulties. Mr. Briant was born at Exning, in Suffolk, and was the son of a respectable foreigner, who, at an early age, sent him to a classical and mathematical school at Newmarket, as a preparatory introduction to one of the universities, where it was intended that he should be brought up as a minister of the Established Church. His mind, however, was bent on mechanism, and nothing would suit his inventive genius but the bench of a white-smith's shop. He speedily soared beyond the vice and the anvil to this new capacity, and his predilections for bell founding, for music, and clock making engrossed his sole attention. He was, in every sense of the word, a self-taught mechanic, and became a proficient in each of the sciences in which he had embarked; and his superiority as a founder was allowed by all contemporaries to be unrivalled; but his pre-eminence was conspicuous as a noble founder, of which the bells of Cripplegate Church will be a lasting memory.'

'The town of Hertford is indebted to the Marquis of Salisbury, the grandfather of the present noble Marquis, under whose auspices he commenced his pursuits as a mechanic in this neighbourhood, and of whom, as well as the last-mentioned nobleman, Mr. Briant, when alive, was wont to speak in terms of most grateful remembrance. The first and maiden peal of bells that he was the founder of were those of our own town church of St. Andrew, and were succeeded by those of Hatfield; Barnstable, Devonshire; Shrewsbury; Conquerer; the famous peal of tens, Saffron Walden; North Mimms, etc., etc., and within the last two years of his life he was called to Lincoln by the Dean and Chapter, to communicate upon the best method of recasting the well-known "Great Tom," so called from its immense size and ponderous weight. This appeared to be an object he was most desirous to accomplish, as a masterly finish to a most useful and most industrious life. The infirmities of age, however, checked his progress; but the ingenious models of pulleys invented for the purpose of taking down the bell, were prominent tokens of an unimpaired mind.'

As with his bells, so with his clocks. They are to be found all over the country.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

DERBY BRANCH AT WEST HALLAM.

The ring of bells at West Hallam, which has been recently increased in number from six to eight, was made good use of on Saturday, February 23rd, when a monthly meeting of the Derby District was held there. The methods rung included Double Norwich and Cambridge Surprise, and everybody agreed that Messrs. John Taylor and Co. had made an excellent 'splice.'

Tea was provided at the Punch Bowl Inn, fourteen members sitting down, including Mr. J. Pagett, Ringing Master, Derby Cathedral, who greatly entertained the company.

At the subsequent business meeting (presided over by Mr. H. Fletcher), Belper was selected as the place for the next meeting, due notice of which will be published in 'The Ringing World.'

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE MEETING AT HEREFORD.

The second session of the thirteenth Council (36th meeting) was held in St. Peter's Church House on Tuesday, June 5th, 1928, at 11 a.m. The chair was taken by the president, Canon G. F. Coleridge, who opened the meeting with prayer. There were present 78 members, 36 Guilds and Associations being represented. The Bishop of Hereford welcomed the Council to that city, and expressed his appreciation of the excellent work being done by ringers in bringing the manhood of the country, and particularly of the country villages, into closer touch with the Church. On behalf of the diocese and City of Hereford, he bid them a hearty welcome and God-speed in their work.

The President then thanked the Bishop, and the Council proceeded to discuss the business on the agenda.

The minutes of the last meeting having been published, were taken as read and duly confirmed and signed.

Apologies for absence were received from the Rev. A. H. F. Boughiey, Rev. E. W. Carpenter, Rev. E. E. Marshall, Canon H. J. Elsee, Messrs. W. J. Nevard, C. H. Howard, J. D. Matthews, C. J. Sedgley, H. Barton, J. W. Parker, W. Ayre, C. F. Johnston, C. Dean, T. R. Dennis, H. Walker, H. Argyle, W. Story, H. W. Wilde, W. Shephard, A. L. Coleman, G. P. Burton, E. H. Lewis, W. Bolton and A. E. Sharman.

The hon. secretary and treasurer presented the financial statement, which showed that the year began with a balance at the bank of £45 3s. 10d., and that this balance, after the receipts and expenditure of the year had been dealt with, was £26 15s. 6d., and, in addition to the invested sum of £100 (nominal). The accounts were audited by Messrs. A. Paddon Smith and J. Griffin, and formally adopted.

The Hon. Secretary further stated that the new edition of the 'Rules and Decisions' of the Council was now published and was on the table. It contained much new matter, including actions of the Council and a short account of its history.

The hon. librarian, Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, submitted his report and statement of accounts, which were duly adopted. In view of the revised edition of 'Rules and Decisions,' placed upon the table that day, he proposed that the remainder of the old edition be scrapped, which was agreed to. Following Mr. P. J. Johnson's suggestion to popularise the Council's publications, the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn agreed to send parcels, on sale or return, to the various secretaries of associations or any responsible person. The report and statement were then adopted.

The Hon. Secretary said that amongst the additional books now in the library were two 'Copy' peal books of the now defunct 'Trinity Youths' of Deptford, which had been presented to the Council by Mr. F. W. Thornton. On the motion of the hon. secretary, seconded by Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, it was agreed to accept the gift with many thanks.

Mr. E. W. Elwell then reported for the sub-committee revising 'Model rules for a local company,' their work being now completed. He proposed, and Mr. W. H. Hollier seconded, that they be now printed. This, subject to a rider proposed by Mr. A. Paddon Smith and seconded by Mr. J. George, limiting the cost to £5, was agreed to.

The retiring hon. members, Rev. A. H. F. Boughiey, Rev. H. S. T. Richardson, and Mr. J. W. Parker, were re-elected, with the exception of Mr. Boughiey, who had tendered his resignation owing to ill-health and advancing years. The standing committee recommended that the place rendered vacant should not be filled. This course was adopted on the motion of Rev. F. L. Edwards and seconded by Mr. W. A. Cave.

New members of the Council attending for the first time were then formally introduced to the president and welcomed by him.

The Council then dealt with the committee reports as follows:—

STANDING COMMITTEE.

The Hon. Secretary having referred to certain correspondence and conversations which had passed between Miss Heywood and the officers of the Midland Counties Association and the Lancashire Association in regard to a proposal to have a memorial bell at Pendleton, in memory of Sir Arthur Heywood, the President said the best course of action would be for an association formally to approach the Council. He also reminded the Council that, at the suggestion of Canon Elsee, a memorial table had just been erected to record Sir Arthur's last peal, and said that Mr. Wilde, who kindly officiated during Canon Elsee's absence abroad, had reported to the committee that morning there was a deficit of £2 7s. 11d., and that amount had been forthwith subscribed. Mr. Wilde was cordially thanked for the trouble he had taken in connection with the memorial tablet.

PEAL COLLECTION COMMITTEE.

The Rev. H. S. T. Richardson reported for the committee, and said that they now produced the typed results of their work, which was now nearly completed. Mrs. E. K. Fletcher suggested that the one-part peals of Treble Bob should be typed and bound in a similar manner as the first part of the collection had been done.

On the motion of the President, this was agreed to, and Mrs. Fletcher cordially thanked for what, he said, must have been a gigantic task.

LITERATURE AND PRESS COMMITTEE.

The committee's report, as given in 'The Ringing World' of June 1st, was moved by the Rev. F. L. Edwards, seconded by Mr. J. Griffin, and adopted.

METHODS COMMITTEE.

The Rev. H. Law James reported on behalf of the committee, and stated that they were now practically ready to publish the new edition of Minor Methods. Their recommendations as to the names proposed were as published in 'The Ringing World.' Mr. J. A. Trollope said that they had carefully revised the names and, as promised, had had them published. It would be seen that there had been no abuse of their powers, and that their list was practically that presented by the Analysis Committee at Salisbury; so, despite what has been said, the difference between the two committees was but small. As regards the previously proposed list of amendments, etc., their committee were perfectly neutral, their job being to settle the names in order of priority alone. Whilst there should be an opportunity given for discussing the wider point of view, the time was now past, he thought, for any general review of the names themselves.

After some discussion Mr. J. S. Goldsmith moved:—

That the following names be substituted in the Treble Bob methods for those contained in the committee's list, viz.: No. 16 (for "Shamrock") "Waterford"; No. 17 (for "Bluebell") "Berwyn"; No. 20 (for "Daffodil") "Cheviot"; No. 21 (for "Fuchsia") "Chiltern"; No. 22 (for "Foxglove") "Cotswold"; No. 23 (for "Hyacinth") "Mendip"; No. 24 (for "Marigold") "Pennine"; No. 27 (for "Dahlia") "Quantock"; and No. 28 (for "Geranium") "Snowdon."

The proposer said that the avoidance of flower names, as suggested, was more dignified as belittling a product of mathematical science, and that they were in substitution of names of recent origin only. Mr. P. J. Johnson, having seconded the motion, Mr. E. W. Elwell expressed the hope that the Council would still support the naming by ringers of a method which they were the first to ring, as had been the actual case with the Chester Guild. Alderman Pritchett and Rev. A. T. Beeston also spoke against the motion which, however, being supported by Messrs. Barker, Cave and others, was eventually carried by 40 to 19.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith then further proposed that the following alteration of names of methods should be made:—

That No. 5 of Treble be renamed "London Treble Bob"; No. 4 of 4th's-place Delight be renamed "Clarence"; No. 14 of 3rd's-place Delight be renamed "Barham"; and No. 36 of 3rd's-place Delight be renamed "Windsor."

The motion, upon being seconded by Mr. J. Hunt, was carried unanimously.

The Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn then moved the deletion of the words 'Castle' and 'Abbey' from the names of Delight methods, which was seconded by Mr. T. H. Beams, and, after some explanatory remarks by the Revs. H. Law James and H. Drake, the motion was carried.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, having called the attention of the Council to certain difficulties which arose in the ringing of some Double Surprise Minor methods, Mr. T. Faulkner also pointed out difficulties which appeared to have arisen in connection with the names 'Primrose' and 'Canterbury,' whereupon Mr. Trollope, for the committee, explained that the name 'Canterbury' had been given to the wrong method in the first edition of the Council's Collection, and subsequently corrected by the Analysis Committee. And in regard to 'Primrose,' though the previous name was an older one, it was generally known in the Exercise to-day as 'Primrose.' He suggested the printing of an appendix of such dual names, which would solve any difficulty. Mr. T. J. Salter then proposed: 'That "King's Norton" should be substituted for "Primrose."' Mr. J. S. Pritchett seconded this, but, on its being put to the meeting, the motion was lost.

The Rev. H. Drake then called attention to the following two names, viz., No. 40 of 3rd's-place Delight, 'Bogedone,' and No. 22 of the Surprise methods, 'Immanuel,' names which he deprecated. The President expressed some concurrence, and his suggestion that the committee should look into these points was accepted, and the committee's statement received.

PEALS ANALYSIS COMMITTEE.

The report of this committee was moved by the Rev. A. T. Beeston. The report, he said, had been published in 'The Ringing World,' and he desired to correct one mistake in respect of the length of the record peal of Treble Bob, which was given as 17,284 instead of 17,824. The Rev. C. D. P. Davies seconded, and the report was adopted, and on the motion of the President a vote of thanks to the committee for their work was passed.

TOWERS AND BELFRIES COMMITTEE.

The Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn reported for this committee, and said the members had been fairly busy during the year. He called attention to the desirability of the following questions, viz., some agreed arrangement whereby the condition of old bells should be certified before they left the precincts of the church, in order to prevent contentious issues arising after their removal. Also the desirability of considering further the acoustic properties of towers, especially as regards the ringing room. He also thought much

might be done to improve the ventilation of these rooms.—The Rev. F. Ll. Edwards seconded and supported the adoption of the report. After some favourable discussion of the honorary librarian's suggestions it was, on the motion of the President, agreed that the committee be instructed to inquire into and report upon the acoustic difficulties referred to, which he declared carried.

Mr. E. M. Atkins, having asked what the committee were doing in respect to the welding of old bells, Major Hesse replied that he had known cases which were quite successful in regard to tone, but it was still questionable how long the bell would survive. After some remarks by Mr. A. A. Hughes and Mr. Hunt, on the stresses in bells, the Hon. Secretary, also replying for the committee, said that bells were likely to be subjected to such undue stresses, whether they were brazed or recast, and in regard to the former he expressed the hope, as a lover of mediæval bells, that the welding process should be used wherever practicable. The Rev. H. Drake, having referred to some successful cases of welding which had come under his notice and which had worked out very cheaply, the report of the committee was adopted, and the Council adjourned for lunch.

RECORDS COMMITTEE.

On the reassembling of the Council, the Rev. A. T. Beeston presented his report and read a list of first peals of new methods and progressive lengths in other methods rung during the present year. On the motion of the President, the report was adopted.

LEGAL COMMITTEE.

Mr. F. A. Milne, on behalf of the committee, desired to report progress, and expressed the hope that a formal report would be ready for next year's meeting. On the motion of the President, the committee's report was accepted.

BROADCASTING COMMITTEE.

The Rev. F. Ll. Edwards, being asked to report for this committee, he having been elected to give the 'Talk,' said that he had had several interviews with the B.B.C., and they expected the 'Talk' with handbell demonstration to take place in the autumn.

The Hon. Secretary then detailed the work which had been done by himself and other members of the committee in establishing the situation. He seconded the report which, after some further discussion, was adopted.

The Council then proceeded to discuss the motions on the agenda, and the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, speaking to his resolution, adjourned from the year before, in reference to issuing peal diplomas, said that during the past year he had found that opinion was almost unanimous in his own Guild in favour of these diplomas, and, having dealt with the motion in detail the previous year, he now again formally proposed it.

Mr. J. Hunt, in seconding, said that in the West the proposal found general support. It was further supported by Mr. F. Hopgood and Mr. C. Edwards, but was strongly condemned by Mr. James George.

It was thought by Mr. P. J. Johnson and others, that the proposed diploma should be issued by the affiliated Guilds and not by the Council.

After several other speakers had voiced their views for and against, on a vote being taken, the motion was declared lost.

The Rev. F. Ll. Edwards then moved his motion, 'Deprecating the discontinuance of the curfew and other traditional bells and calling upon all those associated with the Council to endeavour to prevent such breaches with ancient usage.' Mr. Edwards reviewed this subject historically, presenting many interesting facts for the consideration of the Council, and urged that the subject touched ringing very closely.

Mr. T. H. Beams, in seconding, drew attention to the unfortunate diversion of money left for such purposes and for the upkeep of bells. Several other speakers supported the motion, but Mr. A. Paddon Smith spoke strongly to the contrary, drawing a sharp line between bells in rural and those in urban areas. But he was the only dissident when the motion was carried.

The Hon. Secretary then moved his motion in respect to placing memorial tablets to famous ringers of the past, instancing Annable, Holt, Shipway, etc. He pointed out that the authorities in London of late years were fixing plaques on buildings associated with famous citizens and others, and he thought that the Council and associations with the local Guilds, and at the latter's expense, might arrange for Boulton's to supply a suitably designed series of plaques, which would cost about £5 each. He instanced that the Council had just put up a tablet to the memory of Sir Arthur Heywood. Mr. A. A. Hughes seconded the motion. But, upon its being opposed by Mr. James George, Rev. C. A. Clements, Mr. J. S. Pritchett and others, it was defeated by a large majority.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith then moved his resolution, as follows:—
'That in the "Conditions required for peals," laid down by the Central Council, the following be inserted: "ON FIVE BELLS: That peals of Doubles consist of at least 42 true and complete 120's rung without interval and without 'rounds' or any other rows being included or rung more than once in any 120. A peal may be lengthened by the addition of any number of 120's fulfilling the same conditions, with or without one touch of less than 120." And the following be substituted for the present definition

of a peal on six bells: "ON SIX BELLS: That peals of Minor consist of at least seven true and complete 720's rung without interval and without 'rounds' or any other row being included or rung more than once in any 720. A peal may be lengthened by the addition of any number of 720's fulfilling the same conditions, with or without one touch of less than 720."

Mr. Goldsmith explained the shortcomings of the present rule, and stated that the motion was to place peals of Doubles on parallel lines to peals of Minor. And, while it would not exclude Pitman's spliced 240's of Grandsire, it would rule out that practised by Mr. Morris where each 120 suffered from a repetition of no less than 40 changes. His aim was to raise the standard of peals. The Rev. H. Law James seconded, and explained the working of the proposed arrangement.

The Rev. E. S. Powell supported the motion, but moved a rider 'that in a peal the calling should be as varied as the method or methods would permit.'

After some further remarks by Mr. Coles and Mr. E. M. Atkins, for and against, the motion was carried without dissent, and the rider, on being seconded and put separately, was lost by 13 to 9.

A motion which had been received from Mr. W. Ayre, as regards dealing with cases of sickness amongst members, not having been seconded, was ruled out of order, and the Council proceeded to consider the place for next year's meeting. The President stated that the Standing Committee recommended Chelmsford for 1929, in respect of which they had had an invitation from the Essex Association.

Blackburn, as an alternative, having been proposed and seconded, a vote was taken, and Chelmsford was carried by a large majority.

The above concluded the formal business. But as the hour was not late, the Council gave permission, on the motion of the President, to discuss addenda motions which had been received too late for the agenda paper.

Mr. R. Whittington proposed that this Council invite its affiliated associations and Guilds to unite in a scheme for keeping touch with ringers who remove from one area to another. Mr. Whittington, having explained his scheme, it was seconded by Mr. A. H. Puling, and received general support, including a word of praise from the President, and was carried unanimously. In connection with the motion, Mr. Goldsmith offered to publish in 'The Ringing World,' once a year, a complete list of the secretaries of the affiliated Guilds, in order to facilitate inter-communication.

There were two other motions on the addenda, and which had been considered by the Standing Committee, but the president ruled them out of order. It was also suggested that the motion standing in the name of Mr. Ayre (who was absent) might be brought forward by proxy and seconded, but the proposal to do so, being put by the president, was lost.

The President then referred to the loss the Council had sustained by the death of Mr. Pryer Taylor, who had been a valuable member of the Council and the Standing Committee. He asked those present to stand in silence as a mark of respect, which was done.

The President then said he had much pleasure in asking Mrs. Fletcher (Miss E. Parker) to accept a wedding present collected in the room that day in commemoration of her unselfish work for the Council. Mrs. Fletcher, in accepting the cheque for £5 10s., said she greatly appreciated the kindly thought which had prompted the gift. Her work for the Council had always been one of great pleasure.

A vote of thanks to the president, moved by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, was carried with acclamation, and briefly responded to, and the meeting closed about 5 p.m.

A BIRTHDAY TOUCH.

On Sunday evening last, February 24th, eight members of the Oxford Society rang on St. Giles' bells, Oxford, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes) in 46 mins.: V. Bennett 1, Miss M. Reynolds 2, H. Miles 3, F. Sharpe 4, F. Taylor (conductor) 5, F. Exon 6, R. Post 7, J. R. Chaundy 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringers of treble, 2nd, 4th, 5th, 7th and tenor, all of whose birthdays occur in February.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

WALKDEN.—At St. Paul's Church, on February 18th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples for confirmation service: J. Potter 1, S. James 2, B. Walsby 3, J. Denner 4, S. Osakes 5, C. Gudgeon 6, J. H. Ridyard (conductor) 7, R. Potter 8. During the ringing a message was brought up to the ringers from the Bishop, complimenting the ringers on the splendid striking.

BUSHEY HEATH.—On Monday, February 11th, at St. Peter's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 46 mins.: F. Hazell 1, A. Smith 2, T. Norris 3, S. Hoare 4, C. Cook 5, F. Edwards (conductor) 6, C. Dyke 7, H. Cockram 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mrs. Tarrant. First quarter-peal by the ringers of the treble and 2nd.

WEST CLANDON, SURREY.—On Thursday, January 31st, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: A. Walker (first extent of Treble Bob) 1, F. Day 2, G. Grover 3, J. Goacher 4, W. Melville 5, F. Bennett (conductor) 6.

AN ABRIDGED SYSTEM OF PROOF.

BY 'MINORMANIA.'

(Continued from page 26.)

OPERATIONS C. AND D.—The Hidden Factors will be the lead-ends of those leads which are indicated by the positional pairs in the combinations (it is unnecessary to bring them 'home' as before); by the Resultants from these Hidden Factors transpose the lead-heads of the coursing pairs, as done in the other system. The results will be the false course ends, with the tenors in the places indicated by the coursing and positional pairs, as usual.

It is a good plan to prepare a table of lead-ends, which will point to the lead-end row of any lead-head immediately, and which will be standard to any regular method. There are seven, any one of which may appear as the first lead-end of a method, and they are given in the first column of the table below. The same seven will, of course, keep recurring, no matter which of them is the first lead-end. The other seven columns are headed by the lead-end which is the first in the method under consideration, and tabulated in each column are the lead-heads, to which the lead-end (in the first column) pertains; e.g., our lead-end in London Major being 1462... etc., we use the fourth column; and, requiring the lead-end of the 2/3 head, for instance, opposite the 2/3 (in column 14...) we find, in column No. 1, the lead-end 15372846.

Lead-end Rows:—	124..	13..	14...	15...	16...	17...	18...
12436587	7/8	6/8	5/7	4/6	3/5	2/4	2/3
13254768	5/7	7/8	3/5	6/8	2/3	4/6	2/4
14628375	6/8	4/6	7/8	2/4	5/7	2/3	3/5
15372846	3/5	5/7	2/3	7/8	2/4	6/8	4/6
16847253	4/6	2/4	6/8	2/3	7/8	3/5	5/7
17583624	2/3	3/5	2/4	5/7	4/6	7/8	6/8
18765432	2/4	2/3	4/6	3/5	6/8	5/7	7/8

We have, then, two combinations from the downward treatment of rows 5-7, viz., 35 in 4/6 and 23 in 6/8, which have to be transposed back to the lead-ends of the positional pairs. Read, in row 5, the Hidden Factors, first the 4/6 lead-end in the table (18765432), and then the 6/8 lead-end (16847253). The resultants, from row 7, are 18762435 and 16847523 respectively. By these we transpose the coursing pair lead-heads (35 and 23). The LH 15738284, transposed by the Resultant 18762435, gives 14625378. The LH 17856342, transposed by (R) 16847523, gives 13254678. Thus we have PC (3/5) — 46253 (4/6), and PC (2/3) — 32546 (6/8), respectively, for the two combinations from the downward treatment.

The upwards combinations we found to be identical, viz.: 35 in 4/6 and 23 in 6/8; the same Hidden Factors read, in row 7, produce, from row 5, identical results with those from the downward treatment. This so happens, and need not of necessity be the case.

There are now four further combinations from the other pair of rows with the treble in third's place (which appear in the lower half of the method), and these combinations will be the reverse of the above, and happen to be in the same courses. Thus we have PC (3/5) — 46253 (4/6), and (the reverse of this) PC (4/6) — 46253 (3/5); then PC (2/3) — 32546 (6/8), and (the reverse) PC (6/8) — 32546 (2/3).

But, while the combinations will be reversed, the false course ends will not, of necessity, be identical.

The other four (i.e., two from the upward treatment of rows 5-7 and their reverse combinations) being duplicates of those already found, this section is proved.

A brief example of an asymmetrical section of a method which has a different lead-end from London:—

Palatine Surprise.

Rows.		Lead-head
1. + 12345678		12345678.
2. — 21354687		Lead-end 13254768.
3. — 12536478		
4. + 21356748	L/E Positional Pairs—(Y) 3/2; 2/4; 4/6, 6/8.	
	(Z) 3/5, 5/7, 7/8.	

Row 2-4 produce no combination, and thus the rows with the treble in second's place have a clean proof scale.

Under 2/4 in row 1 we have 23: this is a combination, 23 in 3/5 (3/5 because the 2/4 of the lead-end replaces the 3/5 of the lead-head). Above 3, — 12536478, 3/2, in row 3, we have 42; another combination, 24 in 2/3. (Note: The 3/2 of the lead-end is replacing the 2/3 of the lead-head.)

The Hidden Factor for row 1 is the 3/5 lead-end, which (from the 13... column in our table) we find to be 17583624. The Resultant from row 3 is 17685423. Then the 2/3 lead-head (17856342), transposed by (R) 17685423, gives 14326578, i.e., PC (2/3) — 43265 (3/5).

The Hidden Factor in row 3 is the 2/3 lead-end (18765432), and the Resultant from row 1 is 18753642. The 2/4 lead-head (18674523), by (R) 18753642, gives 13246578, i.e., PC (2/4) — 32465 (2/3).

The other two rows in the lower half of the lead, in reverse combinations, again happen to give identical courses; we get PC (3/5) — 43265 (2/3) and PC (2/3) — 32465 (2/4) respectively, and we have proved this asymmetrical section in a very few minutes.

(Continued in next column.)

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

LLANDAFF.—On February 24th, at the Cathedral, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: G. F. Williams 1, J. Pitcher 2, G. T. J. Richards (first quarter) 3, Allen Rowley 4, T. Carter 5, G. Large 6, E. Coombes (conductor) 7, E. Coles 8.

LAMBERHURST.—At St. Mary's Church, on Sunday, February 24th, for the morning service, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor, non-conducted: G. Fuller 1, A. Relfe 2, A. H. Smith 3, A. Marshall 4, B. Luck 5, J. Bassett 6.

BRIDGEND, GLAM.—At St. Iltyd's Church, on Sunday, February 24th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 50 mins.: E. Smith (first quarter-peal) 1, W. H. Evans 2, B. J. Toby 3, C. H. Perry (conductor) 4, J. Evans 5, A. W. Wright 6, D. R. James 7, W. James 8.

DORE, SHEFFIELD.—At Christ Church, for matins, on Sunday, February 17th, in 49 mins., a quarter-peal (1,260 changes) of Grandsire Triples: N. W. Westlake 1, Mrs. E. S. Powell 2, Miss F. Mellic Elvidge 3, A. S. Robinson 4, Miss J. Davenport 5, N. Short (conductor) 6, J. E. Lewis Cockey 7, R. E. Johnson 8. Rung as a welcome to Mrs. E. S. Powell, of Clyst St. George, Exeter, a former member of the band. First quarter-peal by Norman Westlake (age 15), and by Miss F. M. Elvidge (age 17).

HIGHCLERE, HANTS.—On Sunday evening, February 17th, at All Saints' Church, Highclere, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 48 mins.: N. Scott 1, J. Scott 2, C. Pearce 3, S. Quintin 4, R. Rex 5, F. J. Knapp 6, H. W. Curtis (conductor) 7, A. Herrington (first quarter-peal) 8. First quarter-peal on the bells since augmented to eight by Messrs. Taylor and Co. Ringers of 1st, 2nd, and 5th are from Woolton Hill, 3rd 4th and 7th from Newbury, 6th and 8th from Highclere.

PULBOROUGH, SUSSEX.—On Sunday, February 10th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,280 changes): P. H. Doick 1, A. E. Holden 2, A. V. Corden 3, C. S. Greenfield 4, H. C. Greenfield 5, Alfred Greenfield 6, C. Smart, sen., 7, A. C. Greenfield 8. Composed and conducted by C. Smart, sen. First quarter-peal of Bob Major rung by an entirely local band. First quarter-peal of Bob Major as conductor, and first quarter-peal in this method by the ringers of the 2nd, 4th, 5th and 8th.

RUSSLIP, MIDDLESEX.—On Sunday, evening, February 10th, at St. Martin's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 50 mins.: W. Bunce, jun., 1, H. Ive 2, P. Thriest 3, G. M. Kilby (conductor) 4, W. Bunce, sen., 5, A. Hunter 6, T. Collins 7, F. W. Collins 8. First quarter-peal on eight bells by ringers of 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th and 8th, and believed to be the first quarter-peal on the bells by an entirely local band.

WILLENHALL, STAFFS.—On Sunday, February 3rd, at St. Giles' Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 45 mins.: B. E. Pountney 1, C. Wallater 2, E. Trubshaw 3, H. Ludford 4, C. Law 5, J. T. Davies 6, S. H. Coley (conductor) 7, A. E. Read 8. Rung on the occasion of the visit to St. Giles' of the Lord Bishop of Lichfield.

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.—On Sunday, January 27th, at the Parish Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Cambridge Surprise Major in 51 mins.: Miss K. Fletcher 1, Miss P. Moss 2, Miss D. Fletcher 3, H. Wingrove 4, J. Harrison 5, J. Batting 6, R. Buckland 7, C. C. Mayne (conductor) 8. Rung as a farewell to the conductor, who is leaving the district for Bournemouth.

LATE NOTICE.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Central Bucks Branch.—A meeting at Waddesdon, Saturday, March 9th. Service at 4.30 p.m. Preacher, the Waddesdon Deanery Lent Missioner. Tea and business meeting as usual. Please send numbers to the Rev. J. F. Amies, Edgcote Rectory, Aylesbury, by Wednesday, March 6th.

(Continued from previous column.)

I am indebted to Mr. George Baker for a courteous explanation of his 'proving value.' It was his use, as a row, of the positions occupied by rounds in another row, which led me to a proper understanding of this fact, viz.: That a string of numbers in a row may typify not only bells or positions, but, upon occasion, both of these. Further, by a cursory examination of the original draft of this article, Mr. Baker was able to correct certain obvious fallacies which appeared therein, for which I owe him thanks. There may be some which still remain, and the interested reader should assure himself, by comparison with the orthodox, that these systems will work satisfactorily.

If he will take this trouble and will master the two systems, it may show profit. He will find that, by using the tables given herein, it is not impossible to satisfy himself, within three minutes, that a method with symmetrical sections has a clean proof scale; and that, well within fifteen, he can prove a method which produces five false course ends in ten combinations.

Provided, as I have said, he is satisfied that the system will 'work.' A supplementary article is to follow on a further means of condensing the proof.

NOTICES.

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

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

'The Ringing World' can be sent direct by post from the Editorial Office for 4/- per quarter.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM. (Established 1755.)—The 41st annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, March 2nd, at 6 o'clock, when the chair will be taken by Canon T. Guy Rogers, B.D., M.C., Rector of Birmingham, Chaplain to the King. To fully qualified members tickets will be issued on payment of 2s., to other members and friends 6s. 6d. each. The bells of St. Martin's (12) will be available from 3 to 5 o'clock, the Cathedral (10) and Bishop Ryder's (8) from 4 to 5.30. Applications for tickets, accompanied by remittance, should be made to Thomas H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.—Subscriptions to the Central Council for the year 1929 are now due.

The annual meeting will be held at Chelmsford on Whitsun Tuesday, May 21st, and notices of motions must be sent to the Hon. Sec., Mr. E. Alex. Young, 155, Rushey Green, Catford, S.E.6., at once.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. —The next meeting will be held at St. Michael's Church, Blackburn, on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. A good attendance requested. Reports to hand. Subscriptions due. — F. Hindle, Hon. Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

TOWCESTER AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Wicken on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells at 2.30 p.m. Service at 3.30, at which three peal boards will be dedicated. All welcome. — A. J. Green, Wicken, Bletchley, Bucks.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—A meeting will be held at Witham on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells at 3 p.m. Short service at 4.30. Subscriptions for 1929 are now due. — W. Arnold, Dis. Sec., Holt Street, Earls Colne, Essex.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton-on-Trent District.—The next meeting will be held at Netherseal on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. A good attendance requested. Subscriptions can be paid at this meeting.—John Leach, Hon. Dis. Sec.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—A quarterly meeting, Hadleigh, on March 2nd. Bells (8) available, 2. Tea at Bloomfield's Restaurant at 9d., at 4.30. Meeting follows.—H. Drake, Ufford, Woodbridge.

APPLETON, BERKS.—The anniversary of these bells will be celebrated on Saturday, March 2nd. Dinner at 4 p.m. Bells available from 8 a.m. till 4 p.m. All intending to be present please notify.—R. White, Appleton, Berks.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at St. Chad's, Far Headingley, Leeds, on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea can be obtained near the church.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Armley, Leeds.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch. —The monthly meeting will be held at Market Lavington on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells (6) ready at 3 p.m. Guild service 4.40. Tea 5. Short business meeting follows tea.—F. Green, Branch Sec., 53, Avon Road, Devizes.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Upholland on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. A good attendance requested.—James Grounds, Sec., 8, School Lane, Standish.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Meetings for March: St. Clement Danes', Strand, Sunday, 3rd, at 10 a.m.; Monday, 1st and 25th, at 7.30 p.m.—S. C. Moye, Gen. Sec., 14, Great Bland Street, S.E.1.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at the Coffee Pot, on March 5th; St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 7th; St. Magnus' on the 14th; St. Paul's Cathedral on the 19th; Southwark Cathedral on the 21st; all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A meeting will be held at Christ Church, Ealing, on Saturday, March 9th. Ringing from 3.30 p.m. Tea arranged as usual. Following meeting, a dance and social will be held in Christ Church Parish Hall in aid of the Isleworth Bell Fund. Tickets, 1s. 6d. inclusive, may be had from the hon. secretary, Wm. H. Hollier, 29, Duke Road, W.4.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Dudley on Saturday, March 9th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service in church 4.30. Tea and business meeting afterwards. — Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division. —The next meeting will be held at Fryerning on Saturday, March 9th. Bells (6) available at 2.30. Usual arrangements. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. A. Bradley, Dodd's Farm, Fryerning, Ingatestone, not later than Thursday morning, March 7th.—H. W. Kirton, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Higher Walton on Saturday, March 9th. Bells (8) available from 2.30. A good attendance is requested. Will those requiring tea please write to Mr. C. Clarke, 338, Higher Walton Road, Higher Walton, not later than March 5th.—Fred Rigby, Hon. Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Morriston (bells 6) on Saturday, March 9th. Bells open at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., with tea and meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—E. Stitch, Hon. Dis. Sec., 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glam.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Broxbourne on March 9th, when the bells will be available during the afternoon and evening. Service at 5 o'clock. Tea at the Welcome after. All members and ringing friends will be heartily welcome.—W. H. Lawrence, Dis. Sec., Little Munden.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A meeting will be held at Cranleigh on Saturday, March 9th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. Those requiring tea please inform Mr. R. Whittington, Guildford Road, Cranleigh, not later than March 4th.—G. Grover, Hon. Dis. Sec., Merrow Cottage, East Clandon.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Davertry Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Flare (6) on Saturday, March 9th. Usual arrangements. Will members requiring tea kindly inform me not later than Thursday, March 7th?—W. C. Moore, Braunston Road, Daventry, Northants.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The annual meeting will be held on March 9th at St. Marie's and the Cathedral, Sheffield. Bells open early. Committee meeting 4 p.m. in St. Marie's Presbytery. General meeting 6 p.m., in St. Marie's Presbytery for election of officers. Details of contest for silver cup, etc. Visitors make own arrangements for tea.—R. Harrison, Sec., 41, Baltic Road, Sheffield.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Mildenhall District.—Ringing meeting at Newmarket on March 9th. Bells: St. Martin's, Exning (5), St. Mary's (6), All Saints' (8) available from 3 p.m. All ringers invited.—L. Moon, Ramleh, Newmarket.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Widnes, on Saturday, March 9th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 5.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Special method: Court Bob Triples. Those intending to be present please notify me on or before Tuesday, March 5th. Members are requested to make a special effort to attend this meeting.—Claude I. Davies, Branch Sec., Caerleon, Dunbabin Road, Wavertree.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—The next meeting will be held at Quorn on Saturday, March 9th. Bells (8) will be ready from 3.30 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify secretary not later than Thursday, March 7th.—D. S. Collins, Hon. Dis. Sec., 145, Paget Street, Loughborough.

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Royston on Saturday, March 9th. Bells ready 2 p.m. Tea in Church Schools 5 p.m., 1s. each, for which applications must be made before March 6th. A hearty invitation is offered by the Vicar and ringers of Royston.—C. D. Potter, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A meeting will be held at Whetstone on Saturday, March 9th. Bells (6) available from 3.30 p.m. This is the first of a series of meetings to be held at some of the 5 and 6-bell towers in the district, now seldom, if ever, visited. It is hoped that members will do their best to support both this and subsequent meetings.—Alban Disney, Local Hon. Sec., 19, Houlditch Road, Knighton Fields, Leicester.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Chigwell Row (8 bells) on Saturday, March 9th. Bells from 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Subscriptions for 1929 are now due.—E. J. Butler, Dis. Sec., 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath, Essex.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—A meeting will be held at Hamer, Rochdale, on Saturday, March 9th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m.—William Horan, Branch Sec., 2, Greenhirst Hey, Todmorden.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Rawtenstall, on Saturday, March 9th. Bells ready at 3.30. Meeting at 6.30. Subscriptions are due. Reports, etc., to hand. Expecting a good muster of members and visitors.—John H. Haydock, Branch Sec., 8, Oaklands Road, Edenfield.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held on Saturday, March 16th, at Reigate. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea at the Parish Hall, Lesbourn Road, at 5.45 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Nominations for officers and representative upon the Central Council (now vacant) should be sent to me in writing at once. All those requiring tea must notify Mr. G. F. Hoad, 20, Warren Road, Reigate, by Wednesday, March 13th.—Chas. H. Kippin, Hon. Gen. Sec., Winchester, Guy Road, Beddington, Croydon.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. Ann's, Stamford Hill, on Saturday, March 16th. Bells from 3 p.m. Short service at 5 p.m., followed by tea (usual terms) and business meeting. Please advise me if you require tea. All members and friends welcomed.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next monthly meeting of the above district will be on Saturday, March 16th, at Daybrook. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. It is essential that all those requiring tea to notify me not later than March 13th.—Frederick W. Bailey, Local Sec., 42, Rupert Street, Nottingham.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Ranmoor, Sheffield, on Saturday, March 16th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service at 5. Tea at 5.30, at 1s. per head. Will all who require tea please notify Mr. C. Haynes, 441a, Sandygate Road, Sheffield, by Wednesday, the 13th? The business meeting for the election of officers, etc., will be held at the Institute after tea, and a good attendance is desired. The annual report will be available at the meeting.—F. Clark, Hon. Sec.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Mayfield on Saturday, March 23rd. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock, to be followed by the business meeting. Will those intending to be present kindly notify me by Wednesday, March 20th?—Geo. W. Stokes, Hon. Dis. Sec., 22, Melbourne Road, Eastbourne.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Maidstone on Easter Monday, April 1st. Further particulars next week.—Fred M. Mitchell, Assistant Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

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LEICESTER RINGERS ENTERTAINED.

St. John-the-Divine Society, Leicester, was entertained to dinner on February 16th at the Wyvern Hotel by their Ringing Master and Mrs. Willson. After a splendid repast, the host, in the absence of the president (Rev. Williams), owing to illness, gave the toast of 'The King.' After dinner, all adjourned to the lounge, where they were treated to musical items, and at the close the host thanked the members of the choir and friends, who had so ably entertained them. This was followed by a vote of thanks to the host and hostess, carried with three hearty cheers, from ringers, their wives and friends.

DEPTFORD, KENT.—On Monday, February 11th, in 40 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) at St. John's Church: J. Colby 1, F. W. Thornton 2, E. E. Richards 3, P. C. C. Davies 4, P. S. R. Steers 5, A. F. Pedrie 6, W. J. Jeffries (conductor) 7, A. F. Bennington 8.—On Wednesday, Feb. 13th, in 40 mins., quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): W. J. Jeffries 1, F. Richardson (conductor) 2, J. Lamb 3, W. A. Martin 4, P. S. R. Steers 5, A. F. Pedrie 6, P. C. C. Davies 7, F. W. Thornton 8. These quarter-peals were specially arranged for three old ringers, Messrs. F. W. Thornton, E. E. Richards, and J. Lamb, who were for many years ringers at St. Alphege's, Greenwich, a tower which unfortunately has reverted to 'call changes.'

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