

THE RINGING WORLD

No. 950. Vol. XXIV.

FRIDAY, JUNE 7th, 1929.

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

Price 3d.

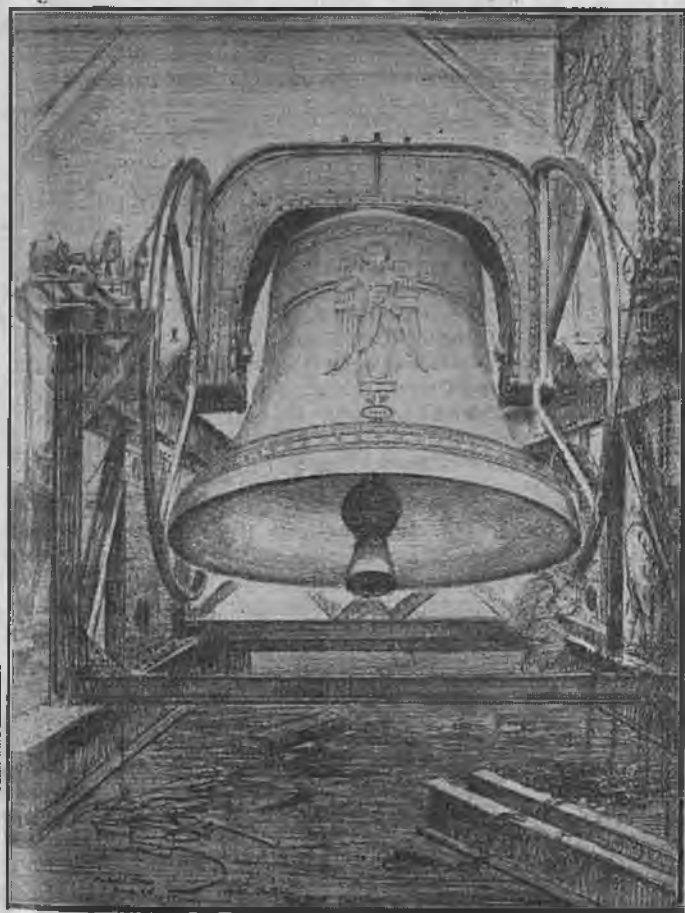
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RESULTS OF THE COUNCIL'S MEETING

Although, in the opinion of some of the members, the Central Council meeting at Chelmsford was to a large extent 'negative' in its results, it was certainly one of the most interesting of recent years. A number of minor topics came under consideration, but there were two outstanding features. One was the really excellent discussion on the Methods Committee's report, which involved an important principle as to what the Council should include among the compositions in its forthcoming new edition of Five and Six-bell Methods; and the other was the report presented by the Legal Committee, about which there was no debate, but which laid before the Council, in clear and concise form, the various aspects of the law relating to church bells and bellringers. It was one of the most important, informative and useful reports ever presented to the Council.

The Methods Committee's report and the motion defining what the Council should recognise as a peal of Minor and as a peal of Doubles, although distinct, were to some extent interlocking, and there were some representatives who would have liked to discuss the motion before coming to a decision on the report. They thought, if the Council defined anew its views as to what should constitute a peal, they could more readily settle what should and what should not be included in one of their publications, to which ringers will in future turn for the purpose of obtaining peal compositions. The president, however, held the members to the agenda, and in this the ruling was obviously the strictly correct one. Even had he acceded to the request to reverse the procedure, it is doubtful if time would have been saved.

Altogether something like three hours were spent over the subject, and in the end no one got exactly what they wanted. The decision on the Methods Committee's report became a compromise; the motion was postponed to a future meeting. On both these matters we hope to have something to say when the report of the discussions have appeared in our columns, but it was this indecision, coupled with the rejection of a proposal to set up a committee to consider the best method of dealing with cases of extraordinary sickness among members of the Exercise, that probably led to the view in some quarters that the day had been largely one of 'negative' results, for the other business transacted, if we except the Legal Committee's report, was not of far-reaching importance. Yet it was by no means a wasted day. It is often in the small things that the most effective work is done. Here are some of the things which resulted from the meeting: The new Collection of Minor Methods will

(Continued on page 354.)

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now be published; a revised edition of the publication on 'The Preservation of Bells' and of 'Rules for a Local Company' are to make their appearance; and, in addition to their valuable report, the Legal Committee are to be kept in being to keep an eye on legislative matters which might be prejudicial to the use of church bells. These matters alone are proof of the Council's service to the Exercise. No other body is in a position to do this work, with similar weight or authority.

TEN BELL PEAL

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, June 1, 1929, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OSWALD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5043 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

ERNEST E. FERRY 1	JOSEPH W. PARKER 6
*FREDERICK ROBSON 2	*SIDNEY S. BREEZE 7
JOHN J. LEIGHTON 3	STEPHEN W. STRATFORD ... 8
THOMAS T. GOFTON 4	ADAM DEAS 9
*ERNEST BURNETT 5	ROBERT L. PATTERSON ... 10

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by E. E. FERRY.

* First peal of Stedman Caters and a service ringer at the above church.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

FEERING, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 18, 1929, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. in F.

GEORGE WILLIAMS 1	WILLIAM KEEBLE 5
WILLIAM J. NEVARD 2	WALTER ARNOLD 6
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY 3	LEWIS W. WIFFEN 7
JAMES HUNT 4	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. ... 8

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE

Mr. J. Hunt was elected a life member previous to starting for the peal. Rung to celebrate the jubilee of the association, and on the 50th birthday of the daughter of Mr. W. J. Nevard.

GRIMSBY.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, May 19, 1929, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 15½ cwt.

FREDERICK H. DEXTER 1	FREDERICK OVERTON 5
GEORGE F. WILLIAMS 2	CHARLES W. TAYLOR 6
STEPHEN BROMFIELD 3	JOHN W. HOBSON 7
JOHN CHAMBERLAIN 4	HERBERT I. MINGAY 8

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON. Conducted by GEORGE F. WILLIAMS

Mr. F. H. Dexter's 250th peal.

ILKESTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, May 21, 1929, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SPICED TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt. 9 lb. in E.

EDMUND C. CHASTY 1	*SAMUEL PINDER 5
*JOSEPH BAILEY 2	*ALFRED BARRETT 6
WILLIAM THORNLEY 3	HENRY HARRISON 7
JAMES S. HUTCHBY 4	EDWARD C. GOBEY 8

Composed and Conducted by EDWARD C. GOBEY.

* First peal of Spiced Treble Bob.

BATTERSEA.—At St. Mary's Church, for special service, on Sunday, April 28th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: E. Dodds 1, H. Mance (conductor) 2, W. Coe 3, H. W. Mance 4, W. Essery 5, C. D. Nichols 6, H. Weeks 7, F. Cossom 8.

KINGSWINFORD, STAFFS.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Tuesday, May 21, 1929, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

FRANCIS BROTHERTON Treble	ABRAHAM GREENFIELD 5
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER 2	EDWARD V. RODENHURST 6
ROBERT PICKERING 3	HERBERT KNIGHT 7
JOHN PERRY 4	HARRY BOSWELL Tenor

Conducted by HERBERT KNIGHT.

Rung for the Whitsun festival.

BRISTOL.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, May 22, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN-THE-MARTYR,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

ALBERT STOWELL Treble	WILLIAM KNIGHT 5
JOHN A. BURFORD 2	HARRY BENNETT 6
THOMAS F. KING 3	ALFRED E. REEVES 7
HERBERT KNIGHT 4	URIAH BRAVEN Tenor

Conducted by ALFRED E. REEVES.

* First peal of Stedman Triples away from the tenor.

CONISBOROUGH, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(DONCASTER & DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Friday, May 24, 1929, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5248 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 2 qr. 20 lb.

J. EDWARD CAWSE Treble	ARTHUR ADAMS 5
OLIVER GREATHEAD 2	ARNOLD HILL 6
MILTON C. FOWLER 3	EDGAR C. STACEY 7
PERCY GLEDSTONE 4	JAMES MCCLUSKEY Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 116). Conducted by J. E. CAWSE

* First peal in the method and first attempt. Rung in honour of Empire Day.

ABERGAVENNY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, May 24, 1929, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVE'S TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt.

WILLIAM H. SAUNDERS Treble	GEORGE R. JONES 5
SYDNEY T. RACKHAM 2	ARTHUR W. DAVIS 6
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL 3	CHARLES EDWARDS 7
GEOFFREY W. TAYSON 4	WILLIAM HORSINGTON Tenor

Conducted by C. EDWARDS.

The ringers of 4th, 6th and 7th were elected members of the Guild before commencing the peal. Rung in honour of Empire Day. The Vicar ascended the tower after the peal, and congratulated the band upon the striking, and the ringers take this opportunity of thanking him for the use of the bells, and also for entertaining them after the peal.

CHRISTLETON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(CHESTER BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 25, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART, Tenor 12½ cwt. in F sharp.

GEORGE R. JONES Treble	GEFFREY MILTON 5
EDWARD HARRISON 2	WALTER THOMAS 6
ROBERT SPERRING 3	JAMES MORGAN 7
HENRY W. WILDE 4	SAMUEL JONES, JUN. Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT SPERRING.

First peal on the bells. These bells were recast and rehung in ball bearings by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., and were dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Chester on Sunday, February 12th, 1928. Rung as a birthday compliment to E. Harrison, and on the 40th anniversary of H. W. Wilde's first peal.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, May 22, 1929, in Two Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S.

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

LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD Treble	JAMES S. HUTCHBY 5
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD 2	CHARLES DRAPER 6
CHARLES R. BELTON 3	JAMES GEORGE 7
JAMES PAGITT 4	F. HORACE E. STUBBS Tenor

Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

The band are greatly indebted to Mr. Stubbs for making the band up at a second's notice.

READING, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, May 22, 1929, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

HARRY TUCKER Treble	RICHARD T. HIBBERT 5
DR. L. JOYCE 2	JOHN SWAIN 6
MISS STELLA DAVIS 3	WILLIAM HIBBERT 7
AMBROSE W. OSBORNE 4	PERCY J. DYKE Tenor

Conducted by R. T. HIBBERT.

BRAINTREE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, May 23, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL-THE-ARCHANGEL,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 11½ cwt. in G.

HENRY E. HAMMOND Treble	FREDERICK RIDGWELL 5
WILLIAM KEEBLE 2	ALBERT WIFFEN 6
LEWIS W. WIFFEN 3	ARTHUR SAUNDERS 7
HERBERT C. REASON 4	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. Tenor

Composed by CHAS. MIDDLETON. Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE

Rung to celebrate the jubilee of the association.

CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 25, 1929, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CAMPANILE,

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

Tenor 21½ cwt.

JOSIAH D. HARRIS Treble	ALFRED W. GROVES 5
GEORGE WILLIAMS 2	FREDERICK W. ROGERS 6
ALFRED T. GREENWOOD 3	EDWIN J. HARDING, SEN. 7
HENRY J. TUCKER 4	KEITH HART Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS

First peal of Double Norwich on the bells. Rung on the 102nd birthday of Mr. Thomas Fenner, of Chichester, whose son, Mr. T. J. Fenner, aged 76 years, is custodian of the Cathedral tower.

WRITTLE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 25, 1929, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt. in F.

PERCY GREEN Treble	WILLIAM KEEBLE 5
WILLIAM LINCOLN 2	DR. SPENCER PHILLIPS 6
WILLIAM J. NEVARD 3	GEORGE GREEN 7
THOMAS LINCOLN 4	JOHN WOOD Tenor

Composed by JAMES HUNT. Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE.

Rung to celebrate the jubilee of the association. Also as a birthday compliment to G. Green.

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THRAPSTON, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 25, 1929, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt. 7 lb.

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

Conducted by WALTER PERKINS.

Rung to celebrate Empire Day.

BRITH, KENT.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, May 26, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

HAROLD J. POOLE Treble	FREDERICK J. CULLUM, JUN. ... 5
WILLIAM BOTTRILL 2	JAMES F. CLARKE, JUN. ... 6
PERCY HARRISON 3	E. HARRY STONELEY 7
SHIRLEY BORTON 4	ERNEST MORRIS Tenor

Composed by JAMES S. WILDE. Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

All except the ringers of 2nd and 5th hail from Leicester and district. Rung in honour of the 62nd birthday of Her Majesty Queen Mary.

HARLOW COMMON, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, May 28, 1929, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

HARRY SMALE Treble	GEORGE DENT 5
STANLEY CLARK 2	WILLIAM WHEELER 6
LEWIS CORDELL 3	CHARLES BUTTON 7
WILLIAM MORRIS 4	HENRY F. COOPER Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Conducted by G. DENT.

* 100th peal. H. Smale has now rung each bell in the tower to a peal. Arranged for G. Button, of Framlingham, Suffolk, who was elected a member before starting. Also rung to celebrate the birthday of H. F. Cooper and his granddaughter, born on his birthday, March 11th.

LISCARD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(WIRRAL BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, May 28, 1929, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

At the Parish Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

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

LESTER L. GRAY Treble	THOMAS ROGERS 5
JOHN BREESE 2	JOHN HUGHES 6
DAVID HUGHES 3	JOHN COOKE 7
G. RONALD EDWARDS 4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by J. C. E. SIMPSON.

This peal was rung with half-muffled clappers as a token of deep regret to the memories of Isaac F. Winstanley and William Hughes, two members of the local band, who both recently passed away. Mr. Winstanley retired from ringing some years ago, but Mr. Hughes was able to ring until a few months before his death, and had been a ringer at the church for forty years.

CHIPPENHAM, WILTS.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, May 29, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

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

Tenor 21 cwt.

THOMAS DAVISON Treble	SAMUEL J. HECTOR 5
ERNEST BISHOP 2	CHARLES J. GARDINER 6
SIDNEY J. HILLER 3	CHARLES F. ANDREWS 7
ALFRED E. REEVES 4	WILLIAM A. CAVE Tenor

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM A. CAVE.

This peal was arranged to give the conductor an opportunity to call a peal in the tower where he called his first touch ever, in November, 1895. It was intended to ring Cambridge Surprise, but in the regretted absence of Mr. Fred Lambeth, owing to a family bereavement, the above was substituted.

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

On Saturday, May 25, 1929, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 15 lb. in A flat.

*MISS DORIS LEATHAM ... Treble	WALTER J. BATTLE 5
WALTER BATTLE 2	G. RONALD EDWARDS 6
*LESTER L. GRAY 3	JOHN BREESE 7
THOMAS ROGERS 4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON Tenor

Composed by G. H. CROSS. Conducted by J. C. E. SIMPSON.

* First peal and first attempt.

CRESWELL, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, May 25, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN FLINT Treble	JESSE J. MOSS 5
GEORGE HARDWICK 2	GEORGE L. CHAMBERS 6
THOMAS BETTISON 3	JOHN T. BROTHWELL 7
LESLIE W. BACON 4	EDWARD ROBBINS Tenor

Composed by A. CRAVEN.

Conducted by J. FLINT.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, May 29, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

At the Church of St. Alkmund,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S COMPANION TO FIVE-PART. No. 8. Tenor 17 cwt.

MAURICE SWINFIELD ... Treble	JOHN H. SWINFIELD 5
JOSEPH BAILEY 2	SAMUEL PINDER 6
MISS ELIZABETH FOULK ... 3	JAMES GEORGE 7
JOHN P. TARTLTON 4	CHARLES DRAPER Tenor

Conducted by MAURICE SWINFIELD.

BROMLEY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE SOCIETY OF BROMLEY YOUTHS.)

On Wednesday, May 29, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WALDER'S TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

*ERNEST JAMES Treble	PERCY J. SPICE 5
ISAAC EMERY 2	GEORGE HUXLEY 6
ALFRED JAMES 3	EDMUND MOUNTER 7
WILLIAM GRACE 4	*GEORGE LETCHFORD Tenor

Conducted by ISAAC EMERY.

* First peal. This peal was rung on the 156th anniversary of the dedication of the bells.

SPALDING, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(ELLOE DEANERIES BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, May 29, 1929, in Three Hours and One Minute,

At the Church of SS. Mary and Nicholas,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt.

GEORGE W. SIMPSON ... Treble	SYDNEY E. ANDREWS 5
JOHN T. BROWN 2	*PERCY D. BALDOCK 6
ARTHUR J. FARR 3	JOHN G. AMES 7
RICHARD SMITH 4	LEONARD H. WRIGHT Tenor

Conducted by JOHN G. AMES.

* First peal of Triples. Rung as a compliment to Mr. George Jarvis, churchwarden, on his 93rd birthday.

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Though the one-part peal of mine which you kindly publish in this week's issue is quite original, and is mine in every sense of the word, I must withdraw all claim to its being the first to be composed with only three bells called Before. Only two days ago, in searching through some old numbers of 'Bell News,' I found that Mr. Moorhouse, of Wakefield, had forestalled me as long ago as 1907. See 'Bell News,' vol. xxxi., p. 244, issue of August 16th, 1907.

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

SIX BELL PEALS.

HANLEY CASTLE, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 18, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GABRIEL.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Beverley, York, London and Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and Double Oxford. Tenor 10½ cwt.
ROBERT G. KNOWLES... ..Treble | SIDNEY T. HOLT... .. 4
FRANK LAWRENCE... .. 2 | WILLIAM RANFORD... .. 5
CYRIL TANSELL... .. 3 | CHARLES CAMM... ..Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. E. P. Thomas.

MEARS ASHBY, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 18, 1929, in Three Hours and One Minute.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of London and Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.
FRANK KIRK... ..Treble | HENRY W. GAYTON... .. 4
WALTER PERKINS... .. 2 | AMOS SMART... .. 5
GEORGE BASFORD... .. 3 | WILLIAM STOCK... ..Tenor

Conducted by HENRY W. GAYTON.

WESTBURY-SUB-MENDIP, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 18, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

42 six-scores, ten different callings. Tenor 12 cwt.
HERBERT COLLINS... ..Treble | FREDERICK J. TALBOT... .. 4
WILLIAM BAILEY... .. 2 | RAYMOND J. WEBB... .. 5
FRANKLIN D. RICKARDS... .. 3 | WILLIAM BAKER... ..Tenor

Conducted by F. D. RICKARDS.

First peal on the bells.

WOUGHTON, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Monday, May 20, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Ten callings.
*EDMUND J. HOBES... ..Treble | GEORGE AMOR... .. 4
†HORACE P. GILES... .. 2 | CHARLES W. SMITH... .. 5
*ALBERT FLEET... .. 3 | †SIDNEY FOSKETT... ..Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES W. SMITH.

* First peal of Grandsire Doubles. † First peal of Doubles. First peal of Doubles on the bells. First peal by G. Amor, a member of the local company and for whom the peal was arranged.

TRULL, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(TAUNTON DEANERY.)

On Wednesday, May 22, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being twelve six-scores of Stedman, with six different callings, and thirty six-scores of Grandsire with five different callings. Tenor 18 cwt.
WILLIAM G. GIGG... ..Treble | *HARRY CHURCHILL... .. 4
ALFRED J. WYATT... .. 2 | †WILLIAM H. LLOYD... .. 5
ARTHUR H. REED... .. 3 | JOHN CHURCHILL... ..Tenor

Conducted by A. H. REED.

* First peal. † First peal of Doubles. First peal as conductor. A birthday peal for A. J. Wyatt.

ALDENHAM, HERTS.—On Wednesday, May 15th, at St. John-the-Baptist's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 48 mins.: G. Godman 1, S. Jones 2, W. Inwood 3, C. Evans 4, C. H. Horton (conductor) 5, W. Gilks 6, E. Southey 7, J. Marsh 8. Rung as a compliment on the occasion of the wedding of Miss Wilma Mairi Vickers to John Duncan Vaughan Campbell, Earl of Cawdor.

RINGSTEAD, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, May 23, 1929, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of London, Wells, and Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 3 lb.

ARTHUR BELLAMY... ..Treble | FRANCIS BALL... .. 4
*ALBERT L. BALL... .. 2 | AMOS SMART... .. 5
JAMES WARD... .. 3 | WALTER PERKINS... ..Tenor

Conducted by WALTER PERKINS.

* First peal in seven methods. The first 720 of Wells rung to a peal for the Guild.

MISTLEY, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, May 23, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's. Tenor 12½ cwt.

STANLEY G. MOSS... ..Treble | WILLIAM STIFF... .. 4
*JAMES SOTTER... .. 2 | CHARLES HONEYWOOD... .. 5
GEORGE F. HONEYWOOD... .. 3 | GEORGE W. MOSS... ..Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE W. MOSS.

* First peal of Treble Bob Minor. Rung to celebrate the jubilee of the Essex Association, and the 21st election of Mr. C. H. Howard as Master.

MORTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 25, 1929, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS.

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5760 CHANGES;

Being eight complete 720's.

*ARTHUR SMITHSON... ..Treble | *BERNARD BAILEY... .. 4
ERNEST E. MALLENDER... .. 2 | BERNARD WHEELER... .. 5
ERNEST A. WILSON... .. 3 | FREDERICK W. KNOWLES... ..Tenor

Conducted by F. W. KNOWLES.

* First peal for the association. Longest length on the bells and by all the band.

TENDRING, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 25, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's of Kent Treble Bob, two of Oxford Treble Bob, one of Double Court Bob, and two of Plain Bob.

PERCY ALMOND... ..Treble | EARNEST DURRANT... .. 4
JOSEPH BOWELL... .. 2 | GEORGE A. ANDREWS... .. 5
CHARLES A. ANDREWS... .. 3 | WALTER HONEYWOOD... ..Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE A. ANDREWS.

Ringer of the treble from Great Brompton, 2nd from Great Bromley, 3rd and 5th from Sherington, 4th from Thorpe-le-Soken, and tenor from Mistley. Rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. C. Marnen, church clerk, and one of the local ringers, who afterwards entertained the band to tea.

WEARE, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 25, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GREGORY.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

42 six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 17½ cwt.

GEORGE SHALLISH... ..Treble | *RICHMOND ROBERTS... .. 4
WILLIAM BALCH... .. 2 | HAROLD E. BLACKER... .. 5
SIDNEY CLARK... .. 3 | JOHN SHALLISH... ..Tenor

Conducted by H. E. BLACKER.

* First peal peal away from tenor. Ringers of treble and tenor are from Churchill, 2nd and 3rd from Chew Stoke, 4th from Winscombe, 5th from Clutton. The last peal rung on these bells was in 1911. After the peal the ringers were kindly entertained to supper by Mr. and Mrs. Henry Banwell.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE).—On Monday, April 15th, for practice, a quarter-peal of Bristol Surprise Major (1,248 changes) in 45 mins.: J. Fernley, sen., 1, E. Bennett (age 15) 2, J. Fernley, jun., 3, H. Langley 4, W. Fernley 5, W. W. Wolstencroft 6, T. Wilde (first in the method as conductor) 7, J. W. Hartley 8. First in the method by all the band except the conductor.

RICKINGHALL SUPERIOR, SUFFOLK. THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, May 25, 1929, in Two Hours and Thirty Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob, each called differently. Tenor 10½ cwt.

W. STEGGALL Treble	DAVID WHITING 4
ARTHUR COOK 2	ALBERT G. HARRISON 5
ALPHAEUS J. BERRY 3	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL ... Tenor

Conducted by W. STEGGALL.

THRANDESTON, SUFFOLK. THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, May 27, 1929, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET OF ANTIOCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising seven different extents, two each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

NOLAN GOLDEN Treble	ALBERT G. HARRISON 4
DAVID WHITING 2	GARNHAM J. BLAXCELL 5
ALPHAEUS J. BERRY 3	WILLIAM STEGGALL Tenor

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

This peal was specially arranged for the conductor, who was on a 'flying visit' to Diss. It was rung also in honour of the Queen's birthday.

CHRISHALL, ESSEX.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, May 29, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of London, Wells, York, Durham, Cambridge, Beverley and Surfeet.

BERTRAM PILGRIM Treble	FRANK HARPER 4
MISS KITTY WILLERS 2	EDWARD H. FINCH 5
ALBERT E. AUSTIN 3	ROBERT HOWARD Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT HOWARD.

HANDBELL PEAL.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, May 22, 1929, in Two Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,

AT 21, VINCENT ROAD, HIGHAMS PARK,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

GEORGE R. PYE 1-2	RUPERT RICHARDSON 5-6
WILLIAM PYE 3-4	CHARLES T. COLES 7-8

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

Witnesses: MRS. R. RICHARDSON and C. T. W. COLES

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTS.—On Sunday, June 2nd, for morning service at St. Michael's Church, 1,036 Grandsire Triples (from Holt's Ten-Part): H. Wacey 1, V. Matthews 2, F. Springham 3, H. M. White 4, F. Bird (conductor) 5, W. W. Tucker 6, W. T. Prior 7, E. Ansell 8.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.—On Sunday, June 2nd, at St. Margaret's Church, for evensong, 1,260 Grandsire Triples in 44 mins.: C. Denyer 1, J. Stanford 2, J. Cook (conductor) 3, P. Charman 4, W. Hooker 5, J. Blanch 6, Wal. Charman 7, Alf. Charman 8.

LONDON.—At St. Augustine's, Kilburn, on June 2nd, for evensong and in celebration of the feast of Corpus Christi, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples (1,260 changes): *L. Hicks 1, Mrs. F. A. Atkins 2, E. M. Atkins (conductor) 3, *C. Conway 4, R. Gilbert 5, G. Moon 6, A. Gardner 7, †S. Pacey 8. * First quarter-peal with a working bell. † First quarter-peal. First on the bells by an entirely local band.

HOUNSLOW.—On Sunday, June 2nd, at St. Paul's Church, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 42 mins.: R. Worthy 1, F. G. Goddard 2, C. F. Winney 3, W. F. Ellingham 4, H. Dzas 5, F. E. Hawthorne 6, C. J. Tricker 7, J. Kent 8.

GORTON, MANCHESTER.—On Sunday, May 27th, for evening service at Brookfield Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 45 mins.: E. Mawby 1, A. Barnes 2, F. Knott 3, E. Seddon 4, A. F. Bailey (conductor) 5, H. Gaskill 6, C. Ollier 7, J. Fearnhead 8. Longest length in the method by the treble, 3rd and 4th ringers.

DEATH OF COL. E. F. STRANGE.

A FIRST MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The death has recently taken place of Colonel Edward F. Strange, well known among ringers of a generation ago. Col. Strange was late keeper of the Department of Engraving, Illustration and Design, at the Victoria and Albert Museum, London, and was an expert upon, among other things, Japanese colour prints, on which he had published several books. He was an honorary fellow of the Royal Society of Painter-etchers, an honorary member of the Art Workers' Guild, and the Society of Graver Printers, and a member of the Council of the Japanese Society.

Col. Strange began his ringing in the Kidderminster district, but migrated to London something like 45 years ago, when he became a member of the College Youths, and later joined the various other societies operating in and around the Metropolis, including the St. James' Society, the Waterloo Society, the Essex, Middlesex and Surrey Associations, with most of which he rang peals. He was one of the first members of the Central Council, on which he represented the Surrey Association, and his name was proposed as first secretary, but on a vote he was defeated by Mr. F. E. Dawe, who was elected to the office.

Col. Strange was always deeply interested in the Volunteer movement, in which he rose to C.O. rank. He was interred at Mortlake Cemetery.

THE PEAL AT HASLEMERE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Re peal of Stedman Caters at St. Bartholomew's, Haslemere, on Saturday, May 18th, in 3 hrs. 25 mins. (tenor 13 cwt.), taking into consideration the ability of the tenor man and the weight of the tenor (recently rehung), myself and friends wondered if the number of changes had been correctly quoted, or perhaps they rang Stedman Royal. Perhaps they rang the last quarter twice, or did they put the 'ralliantandoes' in at backstroke? Hoping you will be able to relieve our anxiety, Yours etc., TINTINNABULATOR.

London.

DEATH OF MR. DAVID J. NICHOLS.

FORMER NORTHANTS SECRETARY.

The Kettering band and the Peterborough Guild have sustained another loss by the lamented death of Mr. D. J. Nichols which took place at his home, 3, York Road, Kettering, on Friday, May 24th, at the early age of 48 years. Mr. Nichols was one of the best-known and most accomplished ringers and conductors among the Guild members. In 1899 he joined the Kettering band, of which he was leader for some years, until unable to carry on owing to ill-health. He was a man of fine character, and a splendid disposition, whose place will be hard to fill. The work of the Peterborough Guild was very dear to him. He was specially gifted in teaching young ringers, and many in his locality owe what they know of the art and of conducting to Mr. Nichols' able tuition.

When ill-health kept him from climbing the belfry stairs, he always made welcome at his home any ringers, young or old, who called to see him, and several (the writer included) have, during that time, learned many things of benefit to them on ringing matters.

Mr. Nichols served on the Central Council of Church Bellingrings from 1912 to 1926, and was elected general hon. secretary of the Central Northants Association in 1920, which position he held up to the formation of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild in 1924. He took an active part in the reorganisation, and was elected the first general secretary of the Guild, which position, however, he had to resign early in 1926 owing to ill-health.

He served in the R.F.A. on the Western Front during the war, and his war services had ill effects on his health. He was practically an invalid for the last five or more years.

All his peals, 124 in number, were rung for the Central Northants Association, of which he conducted 80. Mr. Nichols was writing a history of the bells and ringers of Kettering, and the peals which have been rung there, but this is unfinished.

The funeral took place at Kettering Cemetery on Monday, May 27th, the first portion of the service being conducted by the Rev. S. M. Morris, assisted by Mr. P. Wilford (Master of the Guild), who read the lesson, in the Church of SS. Peter and Paul. As the cortege approached the church, the bells were chimed by his fellow-ringers. In addition to the family mourners, a large number of ringers met to pay a last tribute of respect to a departed friend, and amongst these were Rev. R. C. Thursfield, J.P., president, Kettering Branch, Rev. L. H. Lethbridge, Rev. E. J. Atkins, Mr. F. Wilford (Guild Master), Mrs. Wilford, Miss Thursfield and Miss Hepburn (Ladies' Guild), Messrs. W. T. Wilson (treasurer), R. G. Black (general secretary), F. Barber and H. Baxter (branch secretaries), A. E. York, W. Perkins, T. R. Hensher, A. Tompkins, S. J. Lawrence, W. Lawrence, A. Bellamy, A. Smart, C. Moore, B. Morris, and the Kettering ringers.

After the committal sentences a course of Grandsire Triples was rung over the grave by Messrs. A. V. Inns 1-2, R. G. Black 3-4, E. Chapman 5-6, A. Henman 7-8.

The bells of the Church of SS. Peter and Paul were rung half-muffled in the afternoon and evening to touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and the 'whole pull and stand' 48 times by Messrs. W. Perkins, A. Henman, A. E. Payne, R. F. Turner, C. W. Bird, R. G. Black, T. R. Hensher, and A. V. Inns.

On Monday evening at St. Giles', Northampton, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,259 changes) was rung in 53 mins., as a last token of respect by: Messrs. H. Key 1, W. Rogers 2, J. J. Taylor 3, S. J. Lawrence 4, T. Tebbutt 5, T. Law 6, J. T. Hensman 7, F. Wilford (conductor) 8, G. Flavell 9, and W. Gammage 10.

The peals rung by the late Mr. D. J. Nichols were as follows:—

Tower Bells.		Rung. Conducted	
Grandsire Triples	9	8	
Grandsire Caters	1	1	
Stedman Triples	13	7	
Stedman Caters	2	1	
Bob Major	3	1	
Kent Treble Bob Major	1	—	
Double Norwich Court Bob Major	10	10	
Superlative Surprise Major	11	4	
Cambridge Surprise Minor	1	1	
Cambridge Surprise Major	4	4	
London Surprise Major	1	1	
One method of Minor	4	3	
Three methods of Minor	1	—	
Four methods of Minor	2	1	
Five methods of Minor	2	2	
Seven methods of Minor	14	11	
Eight methods of Minor	1	1	
Doubles	2	1	
Handbells.			
Grandsire Triples	6	5	
Grandsire Caters	2	1	
Bob Minor	2	1	
Bob Major	20	15	
Bob Royal	2	1	
Kent Treble Bob Major	6	1	
Kent Treble Bob Royal	1	—	
Little Bob Major	2	—	
Double Norwich Court Bob Major	1	—	
Totals	124	80	

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

THE NEW PEAK DISTRICT.

A successful meeting of the Peak District was held at Great Longstone, near Bakewell, on Saturday week. About 20 members were present from Baslow, Bakewell, Castleton, Derby, Dore, Eyam and Great Longstone. The bells, a ring of six in a tower little more than eight feet square, were kept going in Grandsire, Bob Minor, St. Clement's, Kent and Oxford till about 8 p.m., some fair striking being accomplished in spite of the rather difficult 'go' of the bells.

A substantial tea was provided at the Crispin, followed by a short business meeting, presided over by the Rev. W. D. Wright (Eyam), supported by Mr. W. Wallace (Derby), treasurer of the M.C.A., and Mr. J. E. Lewis Cockey (Dore), hon. district secretary.

Mr. Wright welcomed those present, and appealed to them to urge their fellow-members to attend the meetings of the new district to make it not only a success from a ringing point of view but to make the meetings of a happy social nature, and to give every possible facility for those learning the art. The delightful nature of the villages in the district was emphasised, ideal places for a summer outing, and the hope was expressed that members from other districts would pay occasional visits to some of the little-known towers at which it was hoped to hold meetings.

A full quarterly meeting of the M.C.A. having been arranged for Bakewell on the last Saturday in June, it was decided to defer the next monthly meeting till July 13th, and if possible to hold it at Castleton and Hope. It was suggested that, in order to encourage an advance in the art, members might like to select a particular method for special practice at each monthly meeting, and for the July meeting it was decided to recommend Cambridge (Major and Minor) for special attention, this, however, not to interfere with the opportunities of those less advanced.

A hearty vote of thanks to the wardens for the use of the bells (the incumbency being vacant), and to the local company for the arrangements made, concluded the proceedings.

MR. H. F. COOPER'S 100 PEALS.

Minor in three methods 2, Minor in seven methods 1, Cambridge Surprise Minor 1, Bob Major 5 (conducted 1), Kent Treble Bob Major 26, Oxford Treble Bob Major 3, Double Norwich Major 7, Superlative Surprise Major 1, Oxford Bob Triples 1, Grandsire Triples 37 (conducted 9), Grandsire Caters 3, *Grandsire Cinques 1 (conducted 1), Stedman Triples 9, Stedman Caters 2, Stedman Cinques 1; total 100 (conducted 11). *First peal on twelve bells ever rung in the county of Essex. Rung in 32 towers and 6 counties.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

'Looker-on,' who posted a letter to us from Burton-on-Trent, is not a very courageous correspondent, otherwise he would have added his own name and address. Either 'Looker-on' is not a regular reader of 'The Ringing World' or his memory is defective, and we would refer him especially to our issues of August 27th, 1926, and December 21st, 1928. He might also be interested in our issue of November 30th, 1928.

Is there any older practising ringer than Mr. C. Slingsby, of Aldington, Kent? He was 92 on May 26th, and still 'going strong.'

The Middlesex County Association's practice meeting, which was to have been held at St. Mark's, Dalston, on June 13th, has been postponed.

The postponed meeting of the Suffolk Guild at Stowmarket will be held on June 15th.

Yesterday was the anniversary of the 16,608 Oxford Treble Bob Major at Debenham, in 1892; to-day is the anniversary of the performance of the next longest length of Treble Bob, 16,800, rung in the Kent variation at Mottram in 1906.

The first peal on the bells at Ashbourne, Derbyshire, was rung on June 13th, 1821, by Nottingham men, who walked the distance, 27 miles, each way and had a free fight in the churchyard with the Ashbourne ringers after the peal!

It was on June 9th, 1850, that the first peal was rung in America. Some English ringers, touring the States with handbells, got together a party in Philadelphia, and rang Holt's Ten-Part peal of Grandsire Triples at Christ Church. Henry Haley was the conductor, and for the first 2½ hours of the peal the tenor was rung by R. Dodd, a one-legged man.

It was originally intended to combine the jubilee festival of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild, and the summer festival of the Guildford Diocesan Guild, the places tentatively chosen having been Petersfield and Haslemere. The difficulties in combining with success at places so far apart and so much on the extremity of the big area of the Winchester and Portsmouth dioceses have, however, led to an abandonment of the project. Winchester Guild is to meet at Winchester, and the Guildford Guild will go on with its arrangements at Haslemere. Unfortunately, both meetings are to be held the same day.

THANKSGIVING DAY.

To the Editor.

Sir,—When the date of the Thanksgiving for His Majesty's restoration to health is officially announced, there are two ways in which ringers may distinguish the day from an ordinary Sunday. One is by ringing in the early morning, wherever it is practicable: the other by ringing at the conclusion of the Thanksgiving Services as well as before them. There may even be an opening in the special form for ringing a few rounds at a central point in the service itself. It is also to be hoped that many endeavours will be made to provide for the ringing of bells seldom otherwise used, whether for lack of ringers or any other reason.—Yours faithfully,

F. LL. EDWARDS.

Kington Magna.

THE BEGINNING OF THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

The jubilee of the Essex Association brings us, from Mr. C. F. Winney, the following extract from 'Church Bells, 1879:—

'Change ringing at Writtle, Essex.—On Easter Monday, the following members of the Ancient Society of College Youths paid a visit to Chelmsford with the intention of ringing a peal at the Parish Church, but finding the bells were not in peal ringing order they went on to Writtle, where, by the kind permission of the Rev. John B. Seaman, M.A., they rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (5,024 changes) in 3 hrs. 15 mins.: H. Bright (70th year) 1, W. Cecil 2, G. Mash 3, S. Reeves 4, E. Carter 5, F. Bate 6, E. Horrex 7, J. M. Hayes (conductor) 8. Composed by H. Hubbard, sen. Tenor, 18 cwt. When the ringing was over, the Rev. Seaman entered the belfry and invited the party to the Vicarage to partake of refreshments, and kindly promised a tablet.'

Mr. Winney adds that the Rev. J. B. Seaman greased the bells for the peal, and it was he who at the following Whitsuntide started the Essex Association. J. Murray Hayes was a native of Bocking, and, says Mr. Winney, always counted himself a pioneer of the association. All the band of this peal of fifty years ago are now dead.

THE 'BEER FETCHER.'

At Steeple Claydon, Bucks, on Whit Monday, 720 Grandsire Doubles were rung by: C. Everitt 1, F. Case 2, H. Stopp 3, H. Jones 4, J. Stopp (conductor) 5. This is believed to be the first time the bells have been rung to changes for 36 years. In this village is an old member of the local company, who recalls the 'days gone past.' He qualified as a member, not by his ringing abilities, but as 'beer fetcher,' his duty being to carry two gallons of ale to the belfry whenever the bells were rung.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

(Continued from page 346.)

Mrs. Fletcher, representing the Peal Collection Committee, reported that the Rev. H. S. T. Richardson was proving the peals of Treble Bob with the tenors parted, and the work was still in hand.

A WATCHFUL EYE NEEDED.

The Rev. F. L. Edwards presented the following report of the Literature and Press Committee:—

Nothing has occurred during the past year to call for concerted action on the part of the committee. We are glad to be able to give a satisfactory report on the press generally in relation to bells and bellringing. The publication of the book, 'Bells through the Ages,' constitutes a distinct landmark in the literature of our art, and we understand that a further work on the history of bellringing is in course of preparation.

References to ringing in the newspapers have as a rule been accurate and appreciative. The jubilee of St. Paul's Cathedral bells and the College Youths' anniversary, as also the commemoration of John Briant, the Hertford bell founder, were the occasion of interesting and well-informed paragraphs in the daily press. A request received from the editor of a musical publication for an article on church bells is not without its significance. The statement made by a clergyman of Derby, that he placed church bells, bagpipes and cats at night in the same musical category, naturally provided good copy for journalists, but the reverend gentleman's views were evidently treated as a humorous contribution to popular literature.

In a recent number of the 'Church Times,' a writer of eminent literary ability indited an admirable article on 'The Music of Bells.' It is true that he described the two bells used for the daily services at Westminster Abbey as 'two mean and sour bells,' but there is little cause for ringers to quarrel with that description, for what bell could sound anything but mean, when it is subjected to the lifeless thud of a chiming hammer? Indeed, the author shows a very enlightened attitude on this point. 'Sometimes,' he writes, 'musical experts have sought to tame the bells. They have hindered the freedom of their swinging by mechanical contraptions. And what is the result? The charm has gone. . . . One further sentence is well worth quoting: 'We in England,' says the writer, 'should be proud of our bells, for our fathers before us, alone among Christian men, devised the plan we call change ringing.'

The campaign conducted in some journals against street noises has inevitably elicited an occasional letter from misguided persons disliking the sound of church bells, but these objections have not been followed up with any enthusiasm. At the same time, it might easily be in this direction that danger lies. There seems to be considerable likelihood of legislation being promoted to deal with noises, and a proposal from some M.P. with an obsession against bells to include them in the purview of a Bill might be passed by a bare majority of a thin House and a clause to that effect inserted without attracting any notice. Any such provision would be especially dangerous, if it took the insidious form of giving general powers to the Minister of Health to make orders under such Act, or to local authorities to frame by-laws. We suggest that members of the legal profession on the Council be asked to keep a watchful eye on legislative measures of this nature, and to be prepared to take such action in conjunction with the Standing Committee as emergency may demand.

The President: It is a most admirable report of great interest and great usefulness.

Rev. E. S. Powell said a son of Troyte was a member of the last Parliament, and if he was a member of the next Parliament he (the speaker) did not think anything affecting bells would go through without notice or without comment, for Mr. Troyte was himself a change ringer (applause). He would no doubt watch the interests of ringing in that respect.

The report was adopted.

Mr. E. W. Elwell, reporting for the sub-committee entrusted with the revision and reprinting of the 'Rules for a Local Company,' said the revision had been completed, and the committee were now negotiating with 'The Ringing World' with regard to the price for printing the work. He thought it would be possible not to exceed the £5 which the Council had already authorised, and to publish the rules at 6d.—The report was adopted.

THE METHODS COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The next report to be dealt with was that of the Methods Committee, which appeared in 'The Ringing World' on April 26th, and which related to the inclusion of certain types of compositions in the new edition of the 'Collection of Minor Methods.'

The adoption of the report was moved by the Rev. H. Law James. Last year at Hereford, he said, the committee was authorised to publish a new edition of the Minor Methods. Mr. Jenkyn that day had said he was sorry the book had not come to hand, and he (Mr. James) must tell them why it had not done so. The committee wished to give the Minor ringers a perfect book containing the whole of the information that they had gathered together with regard to Minor methods and their composition. As the Council was aware, a controversy broke out in 'The Ringing World' some months ago on the question of peals of Minor and Doubles, and the committee felt if they published the book complete with all the information they had got, the members of the Council and the Exer-

cise at large might think they were trying to force upon the Exercise a fresh definition of peals of Doubles and peals of Minor, and it would have been very difficult indeed, after publishing the book, to prove that they had no such intention. They had no such intention. They wanted to publish a complete book, but they did not want to define a peal of Doubles or a peal of Minor—that was not their business. They wanted to give the Exercise all the information they possessed. The Exercise possessed an excellent book, written by Snowden and edited by the Rev. C. D. P. Davies. It contained 'incomplete' peals of Grandsire Triples. What were they put there for? They were of no use, but they were put there in order that the book might be complete, and, secondly, in order that some time in the future people should not waste their time in producing things that were useless. The Methods Committee had gathered a lot of information, and they wanted to publish all the information they had got in Doubles and Minor. In dealing with the matter he would confine his attention to seven-hundreds of Treble Bob Minor. A 720 being a complete round block, there were exactly five compositions of Treble Bob Minor and only five, and those five were very old. Yet there appeared in 'The Ringing World' two 720's of London Minor supposed to be new, and not only so, but someone wrote and congratulated the author of these two 720's on having produced them. The man simply wasted his time—the things were in existence long before any of the ringers of to-day were born. How did the mistake come about? Simply and solely because there was no complete collection of Treble Bob 720's in existence. They found one here and another there; one in 'Bell News' in 1887, and another in 'The Ringing World,' and so on. When the committee published this book it would contain all these 700's, and in future no one would be tempted to waste his time in trying to produce new ones. In addition to that, there had appeared on the scene, within the time of his own experience, fresh compositions of Treble Bob Minor which were not in keeping with the tradition of the Exercise. A good many things had appeared in course of history which were not in keeping with the tradition of the Exercise, some of them had vanished, others held the field. Take for instance Holt's peals, Holt's Original and Holt's ten-part. Someone wrote from Norwich to Dr. Mason of Trinity College, Cambridge, to say that the ringers at Norwich would not subscribe to the broadsheet because Mr. Benjamin Annable would have nothing to do with it. The tradition of the Exercise at that time was that Grandsire Triples must be a complete peal with bobs only, but the tradition of the Exercise had changed, and rightly changed. A similar thing happened with regard to Treble Bob. The first peal rung happened to be true, but the great majority of the next peals rung were found out to be false, and the tradition of the Exercise had to change; and that sort of thing was likely to happen again in the future. The tradition of the Exercise was very valuable; they must not go against it if they could avoid it, but it was quite likely that something or other would come to light which would cause them to change tradition. The committee wanted to put into this book all this fresh information that had come to light, but they did not wish to force any fresh definition of a peal of Minor or Doubles on the Exercise. They could have published this book months ago, and nobody could have said they were not entitled to do so, but they came to the Council and said: 'Please accept this report. We want to put in certain compositions, but that does not mean that they are either valuable or not valuable, but it does mean that if the Exercise finds them valuable they will come into use; if the Exercise finds they are of no value they will disappear.' But, anyhow, whether valuable or not, there would be nobody in fifty years' time producing these things as new compositions in the way the gentleman he had referred to had published two 720's of London Surprise Minor. If the Council accepted the report they would have a perfect book, containing every mortal thing the committee knew up to date. If they rejected it, they would have a book out of date before it was printed. The question of what constituted a peal of Doubles or a peal of Minor was a question which had got to be settled on scientific grounds; it was the only way in which it could be settled. How did they settle any question which arose in natural science? They settled it by experiment. If they put all these things in the book, it did not mean that people were going to use them for peals of Doubles or peals of Minor, but that the whole Exercise would have these things before them, and ringers could go into the tower and test for themselves whether they were any good or not. They would then some day be in a position to define peals of Minor and Doubles. At the present moment, if they asked him to do so, he would tell them he was quite incapable of doing anything of the kind.

MR. TROLLOPE AND 'THE RINGING WORLD.'

Mr. J. A. Trollope seconded, and reminded the Council that that was the thirtieth anniversary of the first appointment of the Methods Committee. Out of the original members, John Carter, Henry Dains and Earle Bulwer were dead; two other members, Arthur Craven and Bankes James had retired, and the only two remaining were Mr. Law James and himself (applause). The whole of their equation with the Council was practically bound up with the Methods Committee, and, speaking for himself, he thought he should feel strange if he woke up one morning and found himself no longer a member of the Methods Committee. The one thing the committee

did which had the most direct influence on ringing was the publication of the book containing the 'Collection of Six-Bell Methods.' It was fair to say that book had revolutionised Minor ringing and given to the six-bell ringer hundreds of good methods where before they had only a handful. It had done more than that, it had made spliced ringing possible. Mr. Trollope went on to refer to the hindrances which had occurred in the publication of the new edition of the book, and remarked, with regard to the discussion on the naming of the methods, that when the committee got the matter into their own hands they settled it to the satisfaction of everyone. They thought they would then be able to go straight forward, but before the year was out the editor of 'The Ringing World' threw his bombshell. He said he was not going to print as a peal of Doubles anything which contained a certain composition (hear, hear). I am not going to criticise the way he carries on his paper, said Mr. Trollope; that is his own matter. I believe he is sincerely desirous of carrying on that paper to give expression to the wishes of the Council and to the opinions of the Exercise (applause). As a matter of fact, his particular opinions on that particular thing are not ours. We had to take up the challenge. When we first started to make this new book, the ideal we set before us was to have a complete book. I was very much impressed by something Mr. Hunt said at one meeting. He said, 'When you are getting this book out, don't assume we know too much. There are lots of things which you may take for granted, which the ordinary five and six bell ringer does not know.' We took that largely as a motto, and we were going to give everything in that book that the ordinary man in the five or six bell tower might want. We felt, therefore, that we should give the whole of the compositions, within limits, for five and six bells. We found in use two compositions, one of Doubles and one of Minor, and both had this in common, that both broke away from the traditional idea that in ringing you were confined to a complete 120 or 720. Let us be clear about one thing. A 720 starts from rounds and ends with rounds, and there is nothing else as a 720 but that (hear, hear). We have got Bankes James' Cambridge and Morris' Doubles; they were being rung, and I personally have reason to believe that the use of those Doubles was of great help to young conductors. Then the question arose, Are we going to put these things into the book? In the first place, are these compositions of value or likely to be of value to the Exercise now or in the future, and, in the second place, is there anything in them which in any way contradicts any fundamental law or rule of ringing? ('Yes.'). When I say 'contradicts any fundamental law or rule of ringing,' I do not mean any written law; I mean is there anything in it, from the point of view of the five-bell ringer, which would compel us to say they must not ring it? 'The Ringing World' threw out its ultimatum, 'If you ring Morris' Doubles you are not going to have it published.' There were two ways in which we could have acted. We could have said, 'The Council has given us power to print these things; we have had thirty years' experience, and are as likely to know the rights and wrongs as anyone else, and whatever we do somebody will find fault, and so we might have gone ahead and printed the book.' If we had done that, it would have been completed by now. We decided, however, that on the whole it would be a good thing if ringers had the opportunity of arguing these things, and we decided on the same thing as we did about the names at Hereford. There we published the list and came to the Council and said, 'Here is the list; give us your instructions as to what alterations you want.' That is what we are doing to-day, and you have the opportunity of saying 'Yes' or 'No,' but we strongly advise you, having looked on the matter from all points of view, to agree to the insertion of these compositions.

'VERBAL' INCONSISTENCIES.

Continuing, Mr. Trollope said a letter appeared in 'The Ringing World' from Mr. Stephen Wood, who, he thought, they would all agree had a brilliant future before him, charging the committee with being inconsistent, and the editor of 'The Ringing World' had taken out remarks by members of the committee and set them side by side to show that they had been inconsistent. It was not a difficult thing to go through anybody's statements made over a controversial thing over a period of years, take a statement out of its context, put it beside another statement, and make out that one had contradicted himself. 'I don't profess,' added Mr. Trollope, 'to go in for verbal consistency, but I should be quite prepared to defend any of these contradictions, although I do not think I need do so here.' One thing, said Mr. Trollope, the committee were agreed upon, was that these compositions ought to go into the book, but they were not agreed by any means upon the reasons for including them: in fact, they had a 'terrible scrap' over them (laughter), but they were agreed that they should be included. A second point which had been emphasised in the criticism of the committee was that there should be 'no juggling with truth.' He believed everyone agreed that the essential thing in a peal was that it should be true, and that it should be complete. That was a fundamental rule. Change ringing was an art founded on a mathematical science, and they had to be true to their mathematical basis, but, when they came to the application of it, it was not always easy; it was not always easy to say what was true and what was false. ('Oh, yes.'). If they rang 120 of Doubles followed by another 120 of Doubles, they

said that was true. What they did in Morris' Doubles was, they rang a true 120 at handstroke and a true 120 at backstroke; the repetition between Morris' handstrokes and backstrokes was no more or less than the repetition between one 120 followed by another 120. If mere repetition meant falseness, then the old idea of the Devonshire Guild must stand, that a peal consisted of an extent and nothing but an extent (hear, hear); a peal of Doubles, therefore, was 120, and a peal of Major 40,320—that was the old idea. If they were going to give that up, as they had given it up and must give it up, then mere repetition, as repetition, did not mean falseness. They had got to get out of the idea that, in opposing a thing like Morris' Doubles, they were standing up for the question of truth. A very large number of people were willing to accept Bankes James' arrangement of Cambridge, but could not swallow Morris' Grandire Doubles. His (Mr. Trollope's) difficulty was that he could justify to some extent the Morris Doubles, but he found great difficulty in justifying the Bankes James Cambridge. If they could once admit the Bankes James arrangement of Cambridge, there was no difficulty at all about the other, but let them not be led away with the idea that because they could write out Bankes James' 5,000 and get 720 different rows followed by 720 different rows, and so on, that it was true. They did not write out rows when they were ringing. The 720 in the tower was 720 'changes,' and 720 true changes was not 720 true rows. If the thing was false in one change, it was false. The committee, continued Mr. Trollope, had been accused of setting up a new standard. It was all very well to say that, but if the Council put these compositions into this new book, it was not in fact setting up a new standard. By putting these things into the book they would not be altering the standard. The standard of five and six bell ringing had been changed twice within the last two or three years, and the last alteration was made last year at Hereford. That alteration was proposed by Mr. Goldsmith, and all the committee had done was to accept the alteration. The issue before the Council was, were they going to agree that the arrangements of Morris, Pitman and Bankes James should go into the book, or were they not? He asked the Council to agree to their insertion on the grounds that they have proved themselves useful, that they were likely to be useful in the Exercise, and did not in any shape or form contravene any law of truth or any other law of the Council.

(To be continued.)

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION'S HAPPY GATHERING.

The recent fine weather no doubt accounted for the large number of members and friends who found their way to Bentley on Saturday last for the meeting of the South-Western Division of the Essex Association. The church is a modern one of flint and rubble, situated just off the main Brentwood-Ongar Road, amidst beautiful pine woods. These, together with other delightful surroundings, make an ideal spot, and there is no wonder at the several comments being passed as to its being one of the beauty spots of Essex. The church was opened for worship in 1880, and the authorities are looking forward to celebrating their jubilee next year, and it has been suggested an appropriate way would be, it possible, to add another bell to the existing five, thus making a handy ring of six.

Members arriving soon after three o'clock had the bells going to Grandire, Stedman, etc., till 4.30 p.m., when those present attended the association service taken by the Vicar. It was pleasing to note that, in addition to the ringers, several prominent members of the Church were present, and all had the pleasure of once again hearing Miss Dawson's splendidly rendered solos. At the conclusion, tea, kindly provided by some members' wives and other helpers, was ready, 52 sitting down to a most enjoyable repast, after which the business meeting followed, presided over by the Vicar, supported by Mr. C. H. Howard (Master of the Association), and Mr. A. Prior (District Master).

One non-resident, one honorary and two ringing members were elected, and Orsett chosen as the place for the next meeting, to be held, if possible, on July 13th.

A vote of thanks to the Vicar for allowing use of the tower and bells, and for conducting the service, to the organist (Mr. Pettit), Miss Dawson for her splendidly rendered solo, Mesdames Butler, Rainbird and Wyatt for providing the tea, and ladies for helping, Mr. Rainbird for having everything in readiness, and to Mr. E. Heasel for so kindly placing his car at the hon. secretary's disposal.

The Vicar and Mr. Rainbird, in response, stated how pleased they were that the association had paid them a visit, and hoped it would not be long before they had the pleasure of entertaining them again.

After tea, some wended their way back to the tower, whilst others went for a walk across the fields to Navestock Side to view the green and cricket pitch, where the Essex County Cricket Club first played their fixtures, the programme and list of members for the year 1790 still being in a good state of preservation at the local hostel. Shades of evening were well advanced when thoughts of home arose, and regrets were numerous that it was not possible to stay longer, but the special bus could not wait, and the lights of Brentwood reminded all that time and trains wait for no man. Thus ended a most delightful afternoon, voted one of the best in the annals of the South-Western Division.

THE SECESSION OF GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL.

To the Editor.

Sir,—With the tenor of your leading article on the secession of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association from the Central Council no one, I feel sure, will disagree, and I most cordially endorse the last two or three lines of your opening paragraph.

My special object in writing is to endeavour to point out what I strongly feel to be the wholly inadequate, and I may add, the utterly unreasonable grounds of the action taken.

Perhaps the shortest way in which to explain what I feel will be to take the speech of Mr. Guise as reported in your columns, and to comment upon each point as it arises.

But before doing so, let me disavow any feelings but those of the warmest personal friendship for the hon. secretary, with whom, during the two years of my mastership, it was the greatest pleasure to work. My warm esteem for him, however, cannot blind my eyes to his utter want of logic.

(1) Ringers throughout the country really thought they sent 'delegates.'

What if they do? What does it matter? As regards their being 'members' or 'delegates,' we send them as our representatives, and it lies wholly between ourselves and those we send to arrange the terms on which we send them. We may regard them (wrongly, as I personally think) as 'delegates,' but the Council has every right, if it so likes, to regard them and treat them as 'members.' If they regard themselves and act as delegates, they break no rule of the Council. They merely accept a lower status.

(2) 'Upon a member stating that he had been instructed to vote in favour, although he was personally against, the ruling given was that he was there as a member of the Council, and not as a delegate from his association.'

Where was this ruling wrong? Any other ruling would have been absolutely indefensible, and would have lowered the position of the Council before the whole Exercise.

What did the ruling mean? It meant that as far as the Council was concerned the member was free to vote in any way that he chose. The Council not only has no power (I hope it never will have) to order a member to vote in any particular way, but is far too jealous of its own freedom and of that of each and all of its members to gag their freedom of speech. What arrangements there may be between any individual member and the association which sends him, or what limitations they may put upon him, are matters that concern them and him and his sense of his own dignity and independence, and are no affair of the Council. On this point Mr. Prescott spoke most valuably and to the point.

3. Concerning the item on the agenda for 1926, which Mr. Guise complains was not allowed at the meeting, my memory does not serve me with sufficient accuracy to enable me to speak, but there was probably some formal flaw somewhere that could easily have been rectified in readiness for 1927.

4. As regards the fees payable this year, Mr. Guise shows misapprehension of the position in more than one particular. First, by the rules of the Council the fees are payable, as in most other organisations, in time for the treasurer to balance the accounts for presentation at the annual meeting, and in deferring their payment at the proper time this year Mr. Guise was not only running counter to the rules of the Council, but was treating the hon. treasurer in a manner that he himself would have resented had he been in his place.

Next, as the Council does not expire till next year, the elected representatives were actual members of the Council, and the association was not only bound in honour to pay their dues, but could not prevent them from attending the meeting, if they were able and willing to go. Mr. Guise was therefore mistaken all through this part of the business, and, so far from any blame attaching to the hon. secretary of the Council in anything that he said or did, it seems to me that the very reverse is the case.

No: I fear that Mr. Guise has managed to get fogged on the whole question. The pity of it is that he found 35 members at rather a small annual meeting to follow his lead and land the association in a regrettable position.

One comfort is that it has been the means of the Council securing the—as I hope—permanent services of such a good man and a good ringer as Mr. W. A. Cave.

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

WHAT THE COUNCIL HAS RECEIVED.

Dear Sir,—I am exceedingly loath to pour oil on a conflagration, but will you kindly allow me to point out that, possibly through a printer's error, Mr. Guise is stated in your last issue to have said the Central Council has received £4,000, approximately, during the past forty years.

In case some of our members should say, 'What have we done with so large a sum?' I would state that the gross amounts received to date are £650. Most of the money available, as your readers are aware, has been spent on producing the Council's publications. I must add that, despite our serious disbursements of late years, the Council still has upwards of £130 cash in hand or invested.—Yours faithfully,

E. ALEX. YOUNG,

Hon. Secretary and Treasurer.

NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.

The picturesque village of Gresford was the venue of the North Wales Association's annual meeting held on Whit Monday. The weather was gloriously fine, and a most enjoyable day was spent. Ringing commenced at 1 p.m., and a service was afterwards held, conducted by the Rev. W. H. Boulton in the absence of the Vicar (Canon Williams), who was indisposed. A very interesting address was given on the history of the bells, and of Gresford bells in particular. The 3rd bell is over 300 years old.

The business meeting was presided over by the Vicar of Tryddyn, who referred to the death of Mr. Edward Rowland, of Wrexham, the treasurer of the association for many years.—Those present stood in silence as a token of respect.

Two new ringing members, and one life member were elected.

Two new officers were elected, viz., Ringing Master, Mr. W. Jones, Wrexham; hon. treasurer, Mr. T. Catherall.

It was decided to hold the next half-yearly meeting at Llandudno in September, and the annual meeting at Portmadoc.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman. About forty members and friends afterwards sat down to an excellent tea, prepared by Mrs. G. Williams. The tower was then again visited, and excellent touches of Stedman and Grandsire were rung.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

The spring meeting of the Witney and Woodstock branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild was held at Yarnton on Saturday, May 11th. A service was conducted in the Parish Church by the Rev. E. N. Aston. Mr. W. Evetts, jun., the district secretary, read the lesson, and the Rev. E. M. Thompson (Rector of Woodstock) spoke on the words, 'Make a joyful sound to the God of Jacob.'

After tea the spring meeting was held, the Rev. F. R. Marriott (president of the branch) being in the chair. The Rev. E. N. Aston welcomed the members to Yarnton, and Mr. W. Evetts, jun., thanked the Rector of Woodstock for his address.

The balance sheet showed that at the beginning of 1928 there was a balance in hand of £24 15s., and at the end of the year there was £29 18s. The number of ringing members was 120, and Mr. Evetts said the number of hon. members kept up well. They had lost, by the death of Mr. J. F. Mason, of Eynsham Hall, a valued hon. member.—It was agreed to hold the autumn meeting of Witney on October 5th.

The meeting decided to give a testimonial from the branch funds to Mr. John Monk, of Witney, who had been connected with the branch for half a century, the greater part of which time he had been hon. secretary.

Touches were rung at Cassington and Yarnton. Ringers were present from Yarnton, Cassington, Stanton Harcourt, Freeland, Standlake, Witney, Eynsham, Wootton, Woodstock, Summertown and Swindon.

BELLS ON BALL BEARINGS.

The following is a copy of a letter, sent by Mr. Cyril F. Johnston, of Croydon, author of the booklet, 'Bells, Old and New,' to Mr. E. Denison Taylor, of Loughborough:—

Dear Mr. Taylor,—I am writing to you direct to reply to your firm's letter which appears in last week's issue of 'The Ringing World,' under the heading 'Bells on Ball Bearings.'

In my pamphlet, 'Bells, Old and New,' I have dealt only with complete peals hung on ball bearings, and I am glad to know of that at Longney, so that it can be added to that of St. Stephen's, Clapham Park.

Would you mind telling me if this applies to Hensingham also? I mean, are there eight bells only in the peal? In that case, I will add mention of both those towers in the paragraph referred to, before any more copies are issued, as only the first hundred have been presented, and my idea has been to keep the booklet as impersonal as possible and entirely clear of the name of any bell founding firm. It is an attempt to put the truth forward as clearly and moderately as possible to those interested in bell restoration generally.

I am asking the editor of 'The Ringing World' if he would be good enough to publish a copy of this letter.—Yours very truly,

(Signed) CYRIL F. JOHNSTON.

P.S.—Before going to press, I was told that the entire peal at Waltham Abbey had been hung on ball bearings, and I therefore sent a representative to verify my own belief that the two tenors only had been so treated.

Messrs. Taylor and Co. have replied as follows to Mr. Johnston:—Dear Sir,—Referring to your letter of the 1st inst. (addressed to Mr. E. Denison Taylor), we have to inform you that, as stated in our letter in last week's 'Ringing World,' we fitted ball bearings to the eight bells of the Hensingham peal in 1914.—Yours faithfully,

JOHN TAYLOR AND CO.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**PRESENTATION TO NORTHERN BRANCH PRESIDENT.**

In glorious weather the annual meeting of the Northern Branch was held at Gainsborough on Saturday, May 25th. Among the towers represented were Barrow-on-Humber, Bassingham, Bigby, Blankney, Brantson, Elsham, Grimsby (St. Andrew's), Haxey, Lincoln (Cathedral and St. Peter-at-Gowts), Scotter, Scunthorpe, Stow, Ulceby, Upton and Willingham, in addition to the local company. Mr. and Mrs. R. Richardson, from the Elloe Deaneries Branch, Mr. J. H. Brothwell, Treton, Mrs. East, North Collingham, and Mr. T. Bartholomew, were also present.

The bells were available during the afternoon and evening, and were kept going in various methods ranging from Grandsire Triples to London Surprise Major. Service, consisting of shortened evensong, was held, a large congregation being present. The music was led by a number of the choirboys, and the singing was heartily joined in by all. Mr. F. F. Linley (Northern Branch president) read the lessons, and an eloquent address was given by the Very Rev. the Dean of Lincoln (Dr. T. C. Fry).

Afterwards over 100 members of friends partook of an excellent tea at the Parish Church Institute. This was followed by the business meeting, over which the Dean of Lincoln presided, supported by Mr. Linley, Canon Morris (Vicar of Gainsborough), Rev. H. T. Parry (president of the Grimsby District), and members of the committee. Apologies for absence were received from Mr. R. Scott (Sleaford district secretary), Rev. R. Bond (Caistor, late of St. Peter-at-Arches, Lincoln), Mr. H. Knott (Washingborough), Mr. H. Haigh (secretary of the North Notts Association), Alderman J. S. Pritchett (Recorder of Lincoln), and Major H. D. Marshall, D.L., J.P. (Pillham Hall, Gainsborough).

The balance sheet and secretary's report for 1928 were passed, and the whole of the officers re-elected, viz.: President and treasurer, Mr. F. F. Linley; hon. secretary, Mr. F. S. W. Butler; hon. auditors, Mr. F. W. Stokes and Mr. J. R. Sharpe; Ringing Master, Mr. J. A. Freeman; two representatives to serve on the Guild Committee, Mr. Geo. Chester and Mr. J. A. Freeman. Messrs. H. Marcon (Lincoln), H. I. Mingay (Grimsby), and R. Scott (Sleaford) were elected to serve on a sub-committee, consisting of representative members from each branch, for the purpose of considering the printing of a more extensive Guild annual report, similar to those of pre-war years.

A resolution from the committee, 'That an honorarium of £2 2s. be granted to the hon. secretary,' was carried.

The last, but not by any means least, interesting item on the agenda was the presentation of a handsome easy chair by the Dean, on behalf of the members, to Mr. Linley, as a token of their affection and appreciation of the invaluable services which he has rendered for the welfare of the ringing community during his term of office, first, as a vice-president of the North Lincolnshire Association from its formation in 1884 to 1899, then as a vice-president of the Northern Branch of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild from its amalgamation in 1899 to 1905. In the latter year he was elected president of the Northern Branch, and without a break has held that office down to the present day.

The Dean spoke appreciatively concerning the excellent work that Mr. Linley has done, particularly in regard to the augmentation of the Cathedral bells, while the members showed their full approval by singing 'For he's a jolly good fellow.'

Mr. Linley suitably thanked the members for the kind way in which they had shown their appreciation of his services.

Votes of thanks to the church authorities for the use of the bells, to the organist (Miss Cox), to the caterers for the excellent tea provided, and to any others who had helped toward making the meeting such a success, concluded the business.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**A BRANCH MASTER APPOINTED.**

A well-attended meeting of the Ely Archdeaconry was held at Sawston on Saturday, May 25th. Members were present from Cambridge, Fulbourn, Great Staughton, Ickleton, Long Stanton, Melbourn, Newmarket, Over, Stapleford, Trumpington, Willingham, and the local band. It was agreed, on the proposition of Mr. A. E. Austin, supported by Mr. C. W. Cook, to hold the next meeting at Bourne in July.

The appointment of a Branch Master was next discussed, and, after Mr. A. E. Finch had explained the matter, he proposed, and was supported by Mr. F. Hurry, that Mr. F. Warrington carry on as Branch Master, which was carried unanimously. Mr. P. Webb, Ickleton, also remarked on the necessity of a Branch Master who would see that at the branch meetings all got a pull. More satisfaction would thus be given.

A vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells, for his inspiring address and for presiding.—The Vicar, in reply, welcomed the association to Sawston, and thanked his organist (Mr. G. Robinson) for his services that afternoon. To Mr. F. Hurry, who made arrangements for tea and also had the bells in readiness, credit and thanks are also due, as everyone had a good time. The methods rung included Superlative and Cambridge Surprise Major, Double Norwich, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob Major, Stedman and Grandsire Triples.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.

A most successful meeting of the Sheffield District Society was held at Bolsover on Saturday, June 1st, when over 40 members turned up to ring on the fine musical peal of eight, tenor about 15 cwt., founded by Taylor and Co. in 1902. With a ring of bells in such good going order, and possessing a sweet, melodious tone, it is not surprising that they are so frequently used for peal attempts.

Favoured with bright, sunny weather, the visitors who hailed from Chesterfield, Staveley, Ecclesfield, Barlborough, Sheffield Cathedral and St. Marie's, North Wingfield, Rotherham, and several other towers, had a very pleasant time. The local company, as usual, were in full force.

Tea was provided in the Parish Hall, at which the ringers were joined by the Rev. Canon Paget, Vicar, who welcomed the visitors, and presided over the business meeting, at which new members were elected, and a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Canon for the use of the bells, to the local company for their arrangements, and to the ladies for providing a bountiful tea. To this the Canon suitably replied, his remarks being supplemented by a clerical relative. Courses of Triples, Major and Caters were afterwards rung on handbells, and a move then made to the tower, where touches ranging from Plain Bob to London Surprise were successfully accomplished.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**SECRETARIAL CHANGE IN FARNHAM DISTRICT.**

A meeting of the Farnham District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild was held at Bagshot on Saturday, when about forty ringers were present. The Rev. R. L. Board, Vicar of Wolverton, Hants, hon. secretary of the Basingstoke District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild, was the preacher at the service, conducted by the Vicar of Bagshot (Rev. R. W. H. Stuart). The latter also presided at the tea and meeting held in the Village Hall. The principal business was the election of a new district secretary in place of Mr. Bernard Clark, whose business ties made it necessary for him to resign. A young and enthusiastic ringer, Mr. C. Denyer, was elected in his place, and a vote of thanks to Mr. Clark was passed and ordered to be recorded on the minutes.

Mr. W. J. Francis, churchwarden, of Bagshot, who was also present at the meeting, was elected to fill a vacancy on the Executive Committee as a representative of the honorary members.

Major Gale was elected a ringing member of the Hawley band.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the preacher and to the organist, on the motion of the chairman, who in turn was thanked for conducting the service, allowing the use of the bells, and presiding at the meeting.

Afterwards, the district secretary, with the secretary of the Basingstoke District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild, and the secretary of the Sonning District, of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, discussed arrangements for a joint meeting of the three Guilds which is to be held at Hawley and Vateley on August 31st.

It is rather remarkable that circumstances have compelled a change in the secretaryship of each of the four districts of the Guild this year.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**DEVIZES BRANCH AT BROMHAM.**

The monthly meeting of the Devizes Branch was held at St. Nicholas' Church, Bromham, on Saturday, June 1st. The Guild service was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. J. L. Thorold, Miss King being the organist. Tea followed, to which 35 sat down. Mr. C. D. Heginbotham, chairman of the branch, presided over the business meeting, and extended a hearty welcome to the visitors, Miss N. G. Williams, Weston, Bath, Messrs. T. Davison and J. Harris, Chippenham, and Mr. R. Horton, Calne.

The following were elected members of the Guild, viz.: Messrs. G. Poppall and W. Williams, of Bedwelly, Mon., and Mr. J. Trout, of Chippenham. The usual vote of thanks was passed, to which the Rector replied.

Ringers, in addition to those mentioned, were present from Devizes St. John's and St. Mary's, Bromham, Bratton, Rowde, Holt, Bishop's Cannings, Melksham, Warminster, Trowbridge. Touches in the various standard methods were rung during the afternoon and evening.

Bromham Church, which is dedicated to St. Nicholas, is, except for north and west walls of the nave, and the lower part of the tower, which are Norman, a Perpendicular building. Its glory, however, lies in the south transept and chapel, which were, the one remodelled and the other erected, by William Beauchamp, Lord St. Amand, who there founded a chantry in honour of our Lady.

The bells, tenor 17 cwt. 2 qr. 12 lb., E flat, were cast by John Warner and Sons, London, 1875. A tablet in the church commemorates the recasting. The old bells are supposed to be the bells which inspired the poet Thomas Moore, who lived at Sloperston Cottage from 1817, and who died in 1852, and is buried near the belfry steps, to write the poem 'Evening Bells.'

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.

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ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on June 20th, *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 11th, Southwark Cathedral on the 13th, *Coffee Pot on the 25th, St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 27th; all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—A bye-meeting will be held at Petham (6) on Saturday, June 8th. Bells available from 3 p.m.—Percy W. Smith, Hon. Sec., Fair View, Littlebourne, Canterbury.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Cuthbert's Church, Lytham (8 bells) on Saturday, June 8th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Meeting 6 p.m.—C. Sharples, 10, Warbreck Road, Blackpool.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Sefton on Saturday, June 8th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 5.30 p.m. Tea (by kind invitation of the Rector) and meeting to follow. Archdeacon Howson will be present.—Claude I. Davies, Branch Sec., Caerleon, Dunbabin Road, Wavertree.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Christchurch District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Fordingbridge on Saturday, June 8th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m.—G. Preston, Dis. Sec., 3, Waterloo Place, Christchurch.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Eastern District.—The spring meeting will be held at Benington on June 8th, when the bells will be open during the afternoon and evening. The Rev. W. E. Mills is providing tea free. All ringing friends will be welcome.—W. H. Lawrence, Little Mundon, Herts.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Mansfield on Saturday, June 8th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Members make own arrangements for tea.—F. W. Bailey, Local Sec., 42, Rupert Street, Nottingham.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—A meeting is to be held at Tring on Saturday, June 8th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Short service at 5 p.m. Tea and meeting 5.30 p.m. All welcome. Cheap fares by train and bus. Numbers for tea would help.—W. Ayre, Leverstock Green.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Daventry (8) on Saturday, June 8th. Will members kindly reserve this date?—W. C. Moore, Braunston Road, Daventry.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting will be held jointly at Kirkby Mallory and Peckleton on Saturday, June 8th. Kirkby bells available from 3.30 p.m. to 5 p.m., with Peckleton to follow. Tea at Kirkby Mallory. A good meeting is hoped for.—W. A. Cope, Smockington, Hinckley.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Central Bucks. Branch.—June 8th, the annual meeting, at Steeple Claydon. Tower open at 2 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Preacher: The Rev. C. Bass, the Vicar. This service will be the thanksgiving for the rehanging of the bells; it is 30 years since they were rung. Tea, 5 p.m., 1s. each.—The Rev. J. F. Amies, Edgcote Rectory, Aylesbury.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Debenham District. — Meeting at Framsden on Saturday, June 8th. Bells available 2.30 p.m., also the restored ring at Helmingham, it being proposed to meet there first at the above hour. Tea in Mission Room, Framsden, 5 p.m., 1s. each, to be followed by short business meeting.—W. C. Rumsey, Debenham, Stowmarket.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division. — The annual meeting is to be held on June 8th at Middleham in Wensleydale, Yorks, where the peal of 8 bells, by kind permission of the Vicar, will be available for ringing. All members are requested to make this meeting a success, and ringing friends will be cordially welcomed. Tea will be served at the Commercial Hotel, Middleham, at 2s. per head.—J. W. Addison, Hon. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION. — Swindon Branch.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Bishopstone on Saturday, June 8th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m.—S. Hopper, Hon. Sec., 79, Edinburgh Street, Gorse Hill, Swindon.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—A meeting will be held at Offley on Saturday, June 8th. Bells (6) will be available at 3 p.m. A short service and dedication of a peal board at 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m. Bus service from Hitchin and Luton every half-hour. A good attendance is requested. Please notify me if you require tea.—Donald C. Mears, Hon. Dis. Sec., Offley, Hitchin.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cary Deanery.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Wincanton on June 8th. Bells, 2.30. Service, 4.30. Tea in North Street Schoolroom, 5 p.m., meeting to follow. Those requiring tea please notify—E. Creed, 6, West Park, Castle Cary.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Wednesday Guild will be held in Sunderland on June 12th. Meet at St. Michael's, Bishopwearmouth, at 2.30. Tea at North of England Café, Fawcett Street, at 5. Ringing at St. Ignatius' Church after tea. Those intending to be present please advise Mr. G. Siddle, Sec., 16, Poplar Street, Chester-le-Street, not later than June 10th.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch. — A meeting of the above branch will be held at Bewdley on Saturday, June 15th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service in church at 4.30. Tea 1s. per head. All those requiring tea must notify me not later than June 11th.—A. J. Skelding, 7, Cecil Street, Stourbridge.

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS. — N.E. Branch. — The next quarterly meeting will be held at Rackenford on Saturday, June 15th. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.45. Tea 5.15, 1s. each.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—General meeting for East and West Suffolk combined, at Stowmarket on June 15th. Bells (8) available from 2.30; also Great Finborough (6). Tea at the Temperance Hotel at 4.30, 1s. each. Meeting follows.—Drake, Ufford, Woodbridge.

BARNESLEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—Hoylandswaine Cup Contest. — Open to all towers in above association. Will be held on Saturday, June 15th. It is hoped all will join at once. Draw 2.45. First band to compete at 3.15. All ringers and friends are invited. Tea will be provided in Parochial Church Room, 1s. 6d. each. It is essential for number to be sent to Mr. L. Wilkinson, Jackson Terrace, Hoylandswaine, near Penistone, before June 12th. The village is purely agricultural, and no other accommodation for tea exists.—C. D. Potter, Hon. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Marsden on Saturday, June 15th. Bells available from 1.30 p.m. Tea, at 1s. 6d. per head, to all those who send in their names to Mr. S. Whitehead, Throstle Nest, Marsden, near Huddersfield, not later than Friday, June 14th. — F. Hutchinson, Dis. Sec.

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—The annual meeting will be held at Portishead on Saturday, June 15th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow at White Cot Dairy. Will those desiring tea kindly let me know by June 12th?—N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Weston, Bath.

LADIES' GUILD.—Southern District.—Annual meeting.—**GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Guildford District.—Ringing meeting.—Both at Worplesdon, June 15th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Tea, by kind invitation of Mrs. Bruce, to all who send in their names by June 10th. Ladies' Guild members please notify Miss H. F. Mills, Cairneyhill, Bridgefield, Farnham. Guildford Diocesan Guild members please notify G. L. Grover, Merrow Cottage, East Clandon, near Guildford.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District.—Next meeting will be held at Ranmore Common on Saturday, June 15th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m., tea following. Those requiring tea kindly let me know before Wednesday, June 12th.—D. Cooper, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Harrison's Rise, Croydon.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Tempsford on Saturday, June 15th. Bells (6) available at 2.30. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome. A good company is requested.—C. J. Ball, 2, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—The summer meeting of the above branch will be held at Bucklebury on Saturday, June 15th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Service, 4.30. Tea, 5 p.m., at 1s. All ringers welcome. Intending visitors please notify the Rev. E. M. Thorp, The Vicarage, Bucklebury, Reading, not later than Wednesday, June 12th, for tea.—H. W. Curtis, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Shaw, Newbury.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Wargrave, Saturday, June 15th. Bells (8), 3 p.m. Divine service, 4.30. Tea at 5 to all who inform me by Tuesday, June 11th. Twyford bells available after tea. All welcome.—W. J. Paice, Branch Sec., Merrel, California, Wokingham.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Southern District will be held at Staindrop on Saturday, June 15th. Bells (8) available afternoon and evening. Tea at 5 p.m. Ringers please notify me if tea required by the morning of Thursday, June 13th. All ringers welcome.—J. T. Titt, Hon. District Sec., 71, Surtees Street, Darlington.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting of the Chesterfield District of the above association will be held at Morton on June 15th. Will those requiring tea notify me not later than June 12th?—J. P. Tarlton, Bright Street, North Wingfield, near Chesterfield.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Joint meeting of Eastern and Western Districts at Chester-le-Street on June 15th. Further particulars next week.—F. Ainsley and H. Tyson, Secs.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—A joint meeting of the Chester Diocesan Guild (Bowdon and Stockport Branch) and the Lancashire Association (Manchester Branch) will be held at St. Paul's, Stalybridge, on Saturday, June 15th, to celebrate the opening of the peal of eight bells recently recast and rehung by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30, conducted by the Vicar of Staley and Canon H. J. Elsee, M.A., president of the Lancashire Association. Preacher, Rev. C. A. Clements, M.A., Master of the Chester Diocesan Guild. A meat tea, 1s. each, will be provided for those who notify Mr. G. E. Shaw, 160, Huddersfield Road, Stalybridge, not later than Wednesday, June 12th. All ringers welcome.—J. Hall and T. Wilde, Hon. Branch Secs.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Dorchester Branch.—The summer meeting will be held at Milton Abbey on Saturday, June 15th. Bells (8) (also Bere Regis, Hilton and Puddletown (6)) available at 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30, followed by tea and meeting. Motor leaves Weymouth 1.45, going via Bere Regis, picking up en route.—C. H. Jennings, Hon. Sec., Sunnyside Road, Wyke Regis, Weymouth.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Exhall, near Coventry, on Saturday, June 15th. Service in church at 4.30, to be taken by the Vicar (Rev. F. Melville). Tea at 5 o'clock, 1s. each. Will those requiring tea please notify me by Thursday, June 13th?—Miss D. E. Lewis, Firholm, King Edward Road, Nuneaton.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guilborough Branch.—A special meeting of the above branch will be held at Stanford (5) on Saturday, June 15th. Usual arrangements.—R. Adams, East Haddon.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—Next meeting, St. Paul's, Bath Road, Hounslow, June 15th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service, tea and meeting, 5. Social hour 8 o'clock. A p.c. to signify your intention of being present will be appreciated. Visitors welcome.—J. Herbert, Hon. District Sec., 17, Grimston Road, S.W.6.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—A district meeting will be held at Newdigate on June 22nd. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea, at the Six Bells Inn, 5 p.m., followed by short business meeting. Will those requiring tea please notify Mr. R. Brett, New House Farm, Newdigate, not later than Wednesday, June 19th? A special appeal is issued to friends in neighbouring associations to join us in making good use of this pretty peal of bells.—Alan R. Pink, Hon. Dis. Sec.

THE ANNIVERSARY OF LAVENHAM BELLS will be held on Saturday, June 22nd. Bells ready 2.30 p.m.—A. Symonds.

LADIES' GUILD.—Northern District.—Annual meeting to be held at St. Mary's Church, Nottingham, on Saturday, June 22nd. Notices for tea to Miss I. Thompson, 52, Lace Street, Dunkirk, Notts, by Thursday, the 20th. Bells available at 2.30 p.m. Permission to view the new Exchange Buildings and peal of bells may be granted.—H. F. Jacques, Hon. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The annual joint meeting of the societies in the Southern Division will be held at Whiston, near Rotherham, on Saturday, June 22nd. Bells (8) available from 12 o'clock. Tea at 1s. per head. All names to be sent to Mr. F. Roddis, Revill Villa, Whiston, near Rotherham, by Monday, the 17th. Buses leave the Old Cattle Market every thirty minutes after mid-day, and a good attendance is desired.—F. Clark, Hon. Sec.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—A bye-meeting will be held at Limpsfield Chart on Saturday, June 22nd. Tower open at 3. Short service at 5. Tea at 5.30. All intending to be present must notify me not later than Wednesday, June 19th.—A. J. Bull, Hon. District Sec.

ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS AND GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD will hold a joint meeting at Epsom on Saturday, June 29th. Book the date.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Ringmer on Saturday, June 29th. Tower open at 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock, business meeting to follow (half fares, maximum 1s. 6d., to members).—Geo. W. Stokes, Hon. District Sec., 22, Melbourne Road, Eastbourne.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Preliminary notice.—A special meeting to celebrate the jubilee will be held at Winchester on Saturday, July 6th. Full details later.—G. Pullinger, Gen. Sec.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual summer festival will be held at Haslemere on Saturday, July 6th. Further details will be published later.—J. S. Goldsmith, Hon. Sec.

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WHITTLE-LE-WOODS, LANCS.—On Tuesday, April 9th, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,760 changes) in 1 hr. 10 mins.: E. B. Coxhead 1, J. Charnock 2, H. Nelson 3, Adam Blogg 4, F. G. Bradley 5, A. Hartley 6, E. Lawson 7, Alfred Blogg (conductor) 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. A. Marsden, for 17 years churchwarden at the above church, who was interred on the above date. He was also for over 40 years secretary to the Loyal Star Lodge, Manchester Unity Independent Order of Oddfellows, Chorley District.

KENT ASSOCIATION RECORDS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Will you kindly allow me space in your column to point out an error in the list of first performances, K.C.A. Report, 1929? Number 73 in the list (Worcester Variation) should be struck off, as Mr. Barnett's party rang the first on October 4th, 1924, at Crayford.—Yours truly,

T. E. SONE.

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