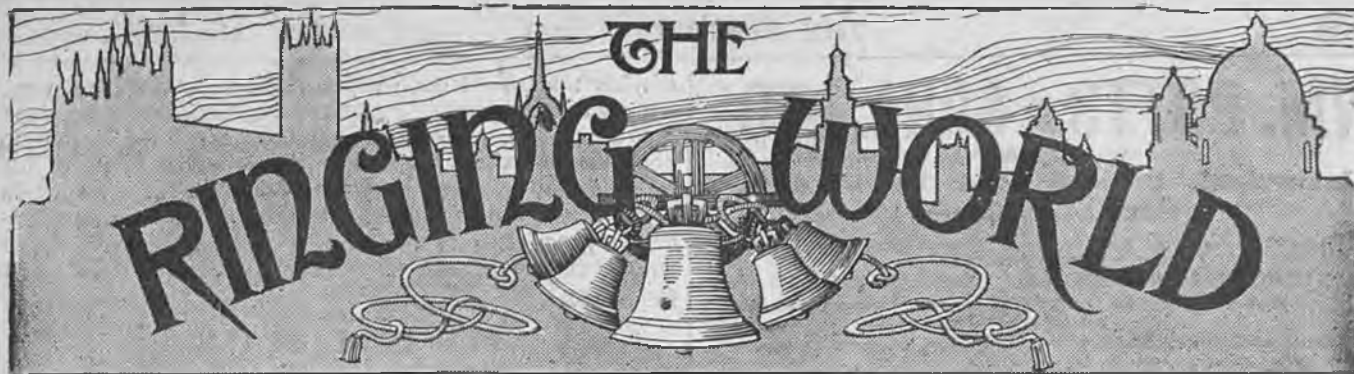


Hutchinson



No. 1,044. Vol. XXVI.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27th, 1931.

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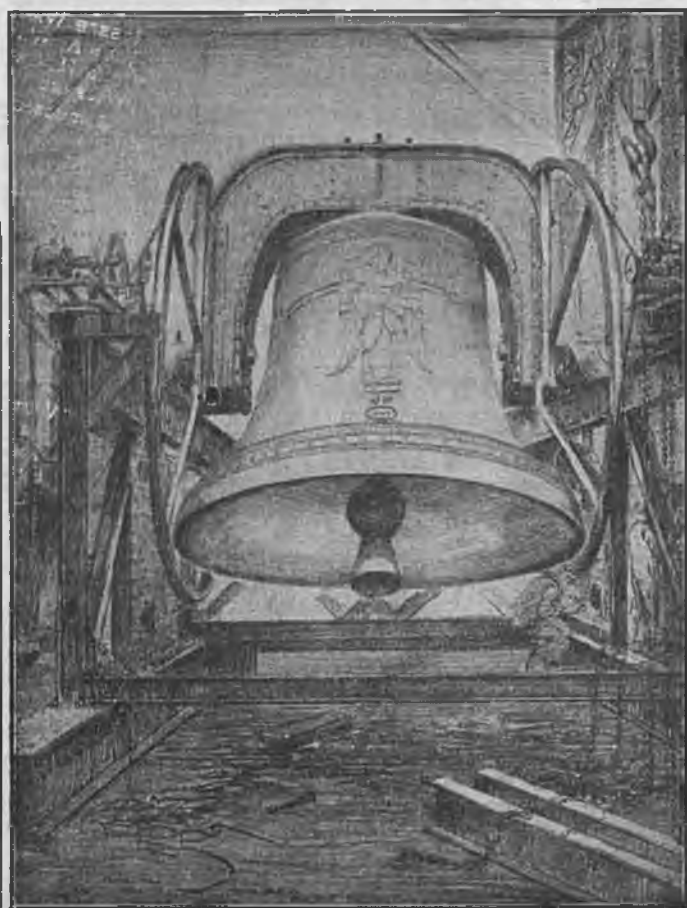
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THE STEDMAN COMMEMORATION.

The proposal which was made in this column a few weeks ago that something should be done in this year of 1931 to commemorate Fabian Stedman, who was born exactly three centuries ago, is now beginning to take definite shape. The suggestion was that funds should be raised to put into ringing order the bells of St. Benet's Church, Cambridge, where Stedman himself rang and where there are still five of the actual bells upon which he and his band used to practise. It was pointed out that the tower in which the bells hang is a very precious relic—one of the oldest buildings in East Anglia. It is of Saxon origin, and dates from somewhere round about the year 1000 A.D. Obviously nothing which would in the slightest degree involve a risk to the stability of this venerable pile could be dreamt of, and it is the safety of the tower which must dominate any scheme in which the bells are concerned. Further, as the object of any restoration work which might be carried out is the commemoration of the 'father' of change ringing, it must naturally be an essential part of the scheme to preserve as far as possible that with which Stedman was personally identified, and, in this instance, there is only one line to take, and that is to keep intact, with any imperfections that cannot be removed without recasting, the bells of Stedman's days.

These are the primary conditions upon which any commemoration scheme which includes a work of restoration must be based, and there is good ground for hoping that the ringers of England will have the opportunity of taking in hand a renovation which will be a practical memorial to the man to whose genius the Exercise owes so much—owes, indeed, the foundation of its art. The Saxon tower and the bells have been carefully inspected by Mr. E. H. Lewis, president of the Central Council, than whom no greater authority on questions of the stresses set up by bells on towers exists, and by Mr. A. R. Powys, architect and secretary of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings. There is every prospect of an agreement between the 'ringing' and the 'antiquarian' views as represented by these experts, and, what is more, their proposals are likely to meet with sympathetic consideration on the part of the church authorities.

We cannot anticipate their report, but we think there is little doubt that it will open the way for the Exercise to commemorate one of its first and most famous members, and of doing so by a practical act which will bring back into use some of its most historic bells, for what bells could be of more historic interest from the ringers' point

(Continued on page 194.)

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of view than those upon which Fabian Stedman first rang his own incomparable method? No time could be more appropriate than the 300th anniversary of his birth; no opportunity more unique, nor the practical value of the proposals more advantageous. We hope the scheme will become national in character; and that associations collectively and ringers individually will give in accordance with their means when the time comes to ask for their assistance.

TEN BELL PEALS.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

THE SECRETARIES' ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERPILARS, 5043 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt. in E flat.

FREDERICK M. MITCHELL, Kent County Association	... ..	Treble
JOHN W. JONES, Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association	2	
RICHARD T. HIBBERT, Oxford Diocesan Guild	... ..	3
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH, Guildford Diocesan Guild	... ..	4
CHARLES T. COLES, Middlesex County Association	... ..	5
CHARLES H. KIPPIN, Surrey Association	... ..	6
GEORGE A. CARD, Royal Cumberland Youths	... ..	7
PERCY J. JOHNSON, Yorkshire Association	... ..	8
FREDERICK W. ROGERS, Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild	... ..	9
JOSEPH T. DYKE, Bath and Wells Diocesan Association	... ..	Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF (Irish Association).

Conducted by JOHN S. GOLDSMITH.

The above are secretaries of their respective associations and guilds.

DUDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, March 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERPILARS, 5057 CHANGES;

JOHN PRICE	... ..	Treble	HARRY HUBBALL	... ..	6
BENJAMIN GOUGH	... ..	2	WILLIAM GREEN	... ..	7
HARRY GOODMAN	... ..	3	CHARLES WILLIAM COOPER	... ..	8
HENRY GOODMAN	... ..	4	WALTER FARLEY	... ..	9
SAMUEL J. HUGHES	... ..	5	JOHN GOODMAN	... ..	Tenor

Conducted by JOHN GOODMAN.

* First peal 'inside.' Arranged as a birthday peal to Messrs. B. Gough (Dudley) and W. Green (Old Hill), but owing to the lamented death of Mrs. Sheppard, wife of Mr. Herbert J. Sheppard, the much-esteemed secretary of the Guild, the bells were rung half-muffled as a token of respect.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BRENTWOOD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, March 16, 1931, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

ERNEST J. BUTLER	... ..	Treble	ROBERT HEAZEL	... ..	5
GEORGE R. PYE	... ..	2	ERNEST W. FORBANK	... ..	6
FRANK C. RINGE	... ..	3	WILLIAM PYE	... ..	7
ALFRED PYE	... ..	4	JAMES BENNETT	... ..	Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY.

Conducted by GEORGE R. PYE.

WINDERMERE, WESTMORLAND.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(FURNESS AND LAKE DISTRICT BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, March 17, 1931, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

JIM TREAY	... ..	Treble	THOMAS S. JEFFERSON	... ..	5
EDWIN JENNINGS	... ..	2	WILLIAM T. TROUGHTON	... ..	6
HECTOR WOODBURN	... ..	3	FRANK WILSON	... ..	7
HUBERT RICHARDSON	... ..	4	WILFRED WALKER	... ..	Tenor

Conducted by EDWIN JENNINGS.

* First peal of Triples. This peal was rung with the bells half-muffled as a last mark of respect to the late Mr. Thomas Bell, a member of the local band, who was interred at Bowness during the afternoon.

ERITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 17, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES:

Tenor 15 cwt.

JOHN S. MORTON Treble	GEORGE H. CROSS 5
WILFRED WILLIAMS 2	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY 6
*HARRY HOVERD 3	FREDERICK J. CULLOM, JUN. ... 7
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS Tenor

Composed by G. H. CROSS. Conducted by F. J. CULLOM, JUN.
 * First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

ST. GILES, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, March 18, 1931, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 17½ cwt. in F.

FREDERICK S. BAYLEY ... Treble	A. F. MARTIN STEWART ... 5
D. CREIL WILLIAMS 2	WILLIAM E. CHEATER 6
GEORGE PRESTON 3	GEORGE WILLIAMS 7
*MISS MARCIA WHITE ... 4	†WILLIAM G. GALE Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

* First peal of Stedman Triples. † First peal. The band were kindly entertained to tea by Mr. Martin Stewart after the peal.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.

THE DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 19, 1931, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

At the Church of St. George, Jesmond,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

ARTHUR PAYNE Treble	WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON ... 5
JOHN ANDERSON 2	ADAM DEAS 6
ROBERT S. ANDERSON ... 3	STEPHEN W. STRATFORD ... 7
THOMAS T. GOFTON 4	WILLIAM H. BARBER Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by W. J. DAVIDSON.
 * First peal of Surprise as conductor.

ABERAVON, GLAMORGANSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, March 20, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt.

GEORGE CHAPPELL Treble	WALTER J. NORTON 5
WILLIAM WILLIAMS 2	*CYRIL MATHERS 6
FREDERICK E. STONE 3	ALBERT J. PITMAN 7
ERNEST STITCH 4	JOHN WEATHERSEY Tenor

Conducted by A. J. PITMAN.

* First peal on a bob bell. First peal ever rung on the bells (which were put in the tower in 1893) by all Sunday service ringers at the above church. The ringer of the 2nd took part in the first peal on the bells in 1904.

FRODSHAM, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

On Friday, March 20, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Lawrence,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

OSWALD CLAYBROOK ... Treble	CYRIL VALENTINE 5
ARTHUR BERRINGTON ... 2	WILLIAM BIBBY 6
NORAH M. BIBBY 3	GEORGE H. RANGLES 7
JOHN E. BIBBY 4	FRANCIS BIBBY Tenor

Composed by N. J. PIRSTOW. Conducted by J. E. BIBBY.
 Rung by eight members of the Sunday service band at Frodsam.

BENENDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(ROMNEY MARSH GUILD.)

On Saturday, March 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. George,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 19½ cwt. in E flat.

CHARLES TRIBE Treble	JAMES POWELL 5
ARCHIBALD STEVENSON ... 2	HAROLD MANT 6
WILLIAM GORRINGE 3	WILLIAM H. HOAD 7
WILLIAM H. LAMBERT ... 4	*CHARLES BOYCE Tenor

Conducted by W. H. HOAD.

* First peal.

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 21, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Nicolas,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 26 lb.

GEORGE WILLIAMS Treble	*FREDERICK W. BURNETT ... 5
FREDERICK A. BURNETT ... 2	REGINALD BROWN 6
FREDERICK S. BAYLEY ... 3	*ALFRED T. GREENWOOD ... 7
WALTER G. ROWE 4	WILLIAM E. CHEATER ... Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

* First peal in the method. Rung by request of ringers of 5th and 7th, after meeting one short for Bristol Surprise.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, March 21, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Margaret,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 20½ cwt.

ALFRED KEEBLE Treble	FREDERICK J. SMITH 5
*REGINALD C. KERSEY ... 2	JAMES M. BAILEY 6
GEORGE WILSON 3	CHARLES F. BAILEY 7
ERNEST S. BAILEY 4	JAMES G. ROMSEY Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

Conducted by CHAS. F. BAILEY

* First peal in the method.

GODSTONE, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

(SOUTHERN DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, March 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Church of St. Nicholas,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

LEONARD A. TIDY Treble	*ARTHUR WILLETT 5
*FRANK JEAL 2	WALTER CLAYDON 6
ALFRED J. BULL 3	ROBERT G. HOARE 7
HUGH R. THORP 4	GEORGE F. HOAD Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR T. KING. Conducted by GEORGE F. HOAD.

* First peal on 'inside' bell. Rung as the quarterly peal for the district.

BOLSOVER, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, March 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF NORFOLK SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

STANLEY SLANEY Treble	JESSE J. MOSS 5
JOHN HOLMAN 2	JOHN H. BROTHWELL ... 6
CHARLES MASON 3	*JOHN R. BREARLEY 7
HAROLD KENT 4	JOHN FLINT Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 177). Conducted by JOHN FLINT.

* 100th peal.

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EWELL, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 21, 1931, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES

Tenor 14 cwt. in F sharp.

*WILLIAM WHITING Treble	ALBERT E. CHEESMAN 5
GEORGE MARRINER 2	GEORGE A. COOK 6
ALAN R. PINK 3	†WILLIAM G. NEWBERRY 7
†JOHN HOYLE 4	ALBERT HARMAN Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by ALBERT HARMAN.

* First peal of Treble Bob. † First peal in the method with a bob bell. ‡ First peal in the method.

HERSHAM, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GUILDFORD SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 8½ cwt.

HUBERT J. CHAFFEY Treble	*RAYMOND OVERY 5
WILLIAM T. BEESON 2	*GEORGE GILBERT 6
GEORGE W. STEERE 3	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE 7
C. ERNEST SMITH 4	ALFRED H. PULLING Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by ALFRED H. PULLING

* First peal in the method and first attempt.

NORWICH, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 21, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-DE-SEFOLCHRE,

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

Tenor 10 cwt.

FREDERICK H. KNIGHTS Treble	GEORGE MAYERS 5
GEORGE HOUGHIN 2	CHARLES E. LOVETT 6
WILLIAM J. WASEY 3	WILLIAM CLOVER 7
WILLIAM B. DUNCAN 4	WILLIAM E. BASON Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by WILLIAM E. BASON

Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

LEYTON, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 21, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S.

Tenor 8½ cwt.

WILLIAM H. THEOBALD Treble	ERNEST J. BUTLER 5
*CHARLES A. HUGHES 2	ERNEST W. FORBANK 6
WILLIAM KEEBLE 3	*JOHN MOULE 7
WILLIAM J. NEVARD 4	EDWARD D. SMITH Tenor

Conducted by EDWARD D. SMITH.

* First peal in the method.

DEPTFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 21, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-EVANGELIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 14 cwt.

ROBERT A. FOSDIKE Treble	WILLIAM J. JEFFRIES 5
JOHN J. LAMB 2	ISAAC EMERY 6
WILLIAM A. MARTIN 3	FREDERICK W. RICHARDSON 7
CHARLES ELLIOTT 4	FREDERICK W. THORNTON Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK WILLIAM RICHARDSON.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last mark of respect to the late John Crowder, of Lee, whose son is a member of St. John's.

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HUGHENDON, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EAST BERKS & SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR 5152 CHANGES

Tenor 12½ cwt.

FRANK BUCKLAND Treble	FREDERICK G. BIGGS 5
ROLAND BIGGS 2	RALPH H. BIGGS 6
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL 3	FRANK CORKE 7
GEORGE MARTIN 4	HARRY WINGROVE Tenor

Composed by J. J. PARKER, of Farnham Royal.

Conducted by GEORGE MARTIN.

The 106th peal on these bells, which were restored and made eight some fifty years ago. A birthday peal for the composer, who celebrated his 78th birthday recently.

ROWLEY REGIS, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, March 21, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

ALBERT TAYLOR Treble	ABRAHAM GREENFIELD 5
HAROLD L. FLAVELL 2	ALBERT D. COLLINS 6
HARRY BOSWELL 3	ALFRED FALLON 7
HERBERT E. BOOTH 4	*RAYMOND BLACKWELL Tenor

Conducted by A. GREENFIELD.

* First peal and first attempt on eight. 70th peal as conductor. Rung as a farewell to the Vicar, Rev. F. J. Cheverton, and Mrs. Cheverton, who are leaving for Byfleet, Surrey.

EARLSHEATON, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

*ERNEST PICKLES Treble	MAURICE HODGSON 5
*HAROLD PICKLES 2	*GEORGE HEWITT 6
HERBERT ROWLEY 3	HERBERT DRANSFIELD 7
JOSEPH HEWITT 4	ROBERT THICKEIT Tenor

Composed and Conducted by MAURICE HODGSON.

* First peal. First peal as conductor.

ROLVENDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 21, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

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

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

Tenor 16 cwt. in F sharp.

ALBERT RELFE Treble	CYRIL W. A. BROWN 5
*MRS. H. BAKER 2	HARRY BAKER 6
WILLIAM BUTTON 3	*THOMAS E. SONE 7
KENNETH PATTENDEN 4	CHARLES W. PLAYER Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.

* 75th peal together. Birthday peal for Mr. W. Button and his son, the ringer of the 3rd. This composition, No. 169, is now rung for the first time.

BLAGDON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 20 cwt.

*CESAR DAVIS Treble	WILLIAM F. WEBB 5
EDWARD H. STRADLING 2	WILLIAM KNIGHT 6
GEORGE POPNELL 3	DONALD G. CLIFT 7
GEORGE HAWKINS 4	*JEFFREY TOSSELL Tenor

Conducted by DONALD G. CLIFT.

* First peal in the method. The ringers of 2, 4 and 7 were elected members of the association previous to starting the peal. The band are greatly indebted to Mr. Knight, who filled a gap at a moment's notice, also to the Vicar for the use of the bells.

EX-SERVICE MEN'S PEAL.

ASHTEAD, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, March 22, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

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

Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

Ex-Corp. A. C. OTWAY, Wilts. Regt. ... ..	... Treble
Ex-Pte. A. H. WINCH, Labour Corps ... ..	... 2
Ex-Sergt. F. G. WOODISS, Grenadier Guards ... ..	... 3
Ex-Sergt. G. MARRINER, E. Surrey Regt. ... ..	... 4
* Ex-Bmdr. H. E. CHRESMAN, R.F.A. ... ..	... 5
Ex-Corp. G. A. COOK, London Regt. ... ..	... 6
Ex-S/Sergt. A. HARMAN, M.S.M., R.G.A. ... ..	... 7
Ex-C.S.M. J. BENNETT, R.M. ... ..	... Tenor

Composed by Ex-Flt./Sergt. F. A. HOLDEN.

Conducted by Ex-S/Sgt. A. HARMAN, M.S.M.

* First peal in the method. Rung on the occasion of the laying-up of the King's colour and for the unveiling of the memorial to the honoured dead of the 21st (Public Schools) Battalion, Royal Fusiliers, which took place at the above church on this day. Also a birthday compliment to A. H. Winch. The band consists of four College Youths and four Cumberlands.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

LYTHAM, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(FYLDE BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, March 10, 1931, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of 720 each of Violet, New London Pleasure, Woodbine, Merchant's Return, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent and Plain Bob.

GEORGE MARIES ... ..	... Treble	ROBERT CARDWELL ... ..	... 4
CHARLES SHARPLES ... ..	... 2	WILLIAM CARDWELL ... ..	... 5
DAVID McLELLAN ... ..	... 3	JOSEPH SWIFT ... ..	... Tenor

Conducted by G. MARIES.

Rung to celebrate fifty years of service ringing at St. John's Church by C. H. Kerr, captain of the band.

SHARESHILL, STAFFS.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, March 14, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, ten different callings.

* HOWARD BUTLER ... ..	... Treble	HERBERT E. BOOTH ... ..	... 4
† RAYMOND BLACKWELL ... ..	... 2	ALBERT D. COLLINS ... ..	... 5
HAROLD L. FLAVELL ... ..	... 3	† SIDNEY LEVETT ... ..	... Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD L. FLAVELL.

* First peal away from tenor. † First peal 'inside.' ‡ First peal. First peal as conductor on tower bells.

COMPTON MARTIN, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, March 15, 1931, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

* SIDNEY ROWE ... ..	... Treble	* ERNEST TOSSELL ... ..	... 4
CHARLES R. LILLEY ... ..	... 2	CHARLES FIELD ... ..	... 5
JEFFERY TOSSELL ... ..	... 3	WILLIAM WEBB ... ..	... Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

* First peal. Rung as a farewell peal to Mr. Charles Lilley, who was leaving the district for Plymouth, Devonshire.

BENEFIELD, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 21, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 7½ cwt.

ERNEST E. WHITMORE ... Treble	BURLEY P. MORRIS ... ..	... 4
* JOHN D. BELL	WILLIAM J. WHITMORE ... ..	... 5
CHARLES WHITNEY	GEORGE W. JEFFES ... ..	... Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE W. JEFFES.

* First peal. First peal as conductor of Minor.

GRAFTON UNDERWOOD, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

(KETTERING BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 21, 1931, in Two Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being twelve six-scores of Plain Bob and thirty six-scores of Grand-sire. Tenor 7 cwt. 1 qr.

* JOHN LEWIN ... ..	... Treble	† FRANK LEWIN ... ..	... 3
W. REGINALD BUTCHER ... ..	... 2	LEONARD TOSELAND ... ..	... 4
		ROBERT G. BLACK ... ..	... Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT G. BLACK.

* First peal of Doubles. † First of Doubles 'inside.' Arranged and rung as a compliment to Mr. L. Toseland on his 21st birthday.

BRINDLE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION

(PRESTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 21, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

CHARLES R. POWER ... ..	... Treble	HERBERT BLACKLIDGE ... ..	... 4
ARTHUR HATCH ... ..	... 2	WILLIAM SHARPLES ... ..	... 5
FRED BLACKLIDGE ... ..	... 3	WILLIAM FOWLER ... ..	... Tenor

Conducted by HERBERT BLACKLIDGE.

First peal of London Surprise by all and on the bells. First peal of London Surprise Minor by the association. All are Sunday service ringers at the above church.

HENLOW, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 30 six-scores of Grandsire and 12 six-scores of Bob Doubles. Tenor 15 cwt.

HERBERT L. HARLOW ... <i>Treble</i>	* LEWIS H. BYWATERS... ..	3
* ARTHUR W. DILLEY 2	TOM BARTRAM	4
HERBERT SHERMAN <i>Tenor</i>		

Conducted by HERBERT L. HARLOW.

* First peal of Doubles. First peal on the bells. Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 3rd.

SPALDWICK, HUNTINGDONSHIRE.

THE OVER SOCIETY AND ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 21, 1931, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

ROBERT SMITH ... ..	... Treble	FRED C. GINN ... ..	... 4
MANSFIELD GINN ... ..	... 2	ARTHUR J. GINN ... ..	... 5
FRANCIS G. GLEAVES ... ..	... 3	FRANK WARRINGTON ... ..	... Tenor

Conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.

UBLEY, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, March 22, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of seven extents, each called differently. Tenor 12 cwt. in F.

CESAR DAVIS ... ..	... Treble	JEFFERY TOSSELL ... ..	... 4
GEORGE HAWKINS ... ..	... 2	GEORGE POPNELL ... ..	... 5
EDWARD H. STRADLING ... ..	... 3	DONALD G. CLIFT ... ..	... Tenor

Conducted by DONALD G. CLIFT.

The ringers of 2, 3, 5 and 6 take this opportunity of thanking Mr. C. Davis and Mr. W. F. Webb for their kind help in arranging this and the peal at Blagdon; also Mr. Webb for the tea which he provided after the above peal.

BOURNEMOUTH.—On Thursday, February 5th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 50 mins.: H. Osborne 1, R. Dear 2, Rev. E. V. Cox 3, L. V. Davis (aged 16 and first attempt for a quarter-peal) 4, A. V. Dent 5, E. Waters 6, A. V. Davis (conductor) 7, C. Chandler 8. A birthday compliment to the tenor man. All Sunday service ringers with the exception of the Rev. E. V. Cox.

HANDBELL PEALS.

STOCKPORT.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, March 19, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT 23, GREEK STREET,

A PEAL OF BOB MAXIMUS, 5016 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

ALFRED BARNES	1-2	FREDERICK PAGE	7-8
ALLEN F. BAILEY... ..	3-4	PETER LAFLIN	9-10
HAROLD JACKSON	5-6	WILLIAM JACKSON	11-12

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by A. F. BAILEY.

First peal of Bob Maximus by all except the conductor. First peal of Maximus on handbells in the county and for the Guild.

SIBLE HEDINGHAM, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 19, 1931, in Two Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MR. L. WISEMAN,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

L. WISEMAN	1-2	O. BROYD	3-4
A. CATERWELL	5-6		

Conducted by O. BROYD.

Witness: Miss M. WISEMAN.

First peal in seven methods 'double-handed' by the ringer of 5-6. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. L. Wiseman and also Miss Dot Wiseman, his daughter.

DEATH OF MR. WILLIAM REYNER.

CHORISTER AND RINGER FOR OVER FIFTY YEARS.

One of the best-known and most highly respected residents in the Sandal district has passed away in the person of Mr. William Reyner, whose death took place suddenly at his residence, Hill Top, Newmillerdam, on March 10th, at the age of 71 years, after a full and active life. A lifelong abstainer and non-smoker, for 62 years the deceased was a chorister, and for over 52 years a change ringer at the Parish Church of Sandal, which he dearly loved, and where he was a communicant. It was one of his proud boasts that never was there a disagreement between the ringers and the clergy in the history of the bells. Of his ringing abilities it could not be said that he was a 'globe trotter.' He confined himself to Minor on the six bells of his own tower, and was seldom absent except on holiday. He was a great supporter of the Yorkshire Association, which he joined in 1879. He was the very life and soul of Barnsley and District Association from its beginning. A past-president and vice-president, his enthusiasm for its welfare knew no bounds. He was always eager to join hands in unity. He was always anxious that ringers should stand well in the opinion of the Bishop and clergy of the diocese.

At the funeral, which took place on the 13th at Sandal Church, the service was fully choral, and was conducted by the Vicar (Rev. A. Audley Parry). The Rev. Canon Hone (hon. president of the Barnsley and District Association) and the Rev. E. C. Hamer were also present. The hymns, 'Peace, perfect peace,' and 'On the resurrection morning,' were effectively rendered. The Oddfellows' funeral service was read at the graveside, and the committal prayers were said by the Vicar. Representatives from the many societies of which Mr. Reyner was a member were present, including Wakefield Oddfellows, Barnsley and District Association of Change Ringers, Sandal Property Owners' Association, the Paxton Society, Sandal Church bellringers and choir, and the officials and workmen of the Wakefield Golf Club, where he was last employed.

The bells were muffled and rung for both services on Sunday, the tenor having one side 'open.' For all he did Mr. Reyner had a reason, and for everyone he had a word in season.

MUFFLED BELLS.

On Wednesday evening, March 18th, with bells half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandshire Triples (1,260 changes) was rung at the Parish Church, Milnrow, Lancs, in memory of Mr. Clifton Fielding, who was interred earlier in the day in the parish churchyard. Mr. C. Fielding was formerly a member of the local band, but had to resign owing to ill-health: S. Parry 1, J. H. C. Massey 2, W. Staff 3, G. Staff (conductor) 4, J. B. Shaw 5, J. C. Bennett 6, A. Buckley 7, A. Sidebottom 8.

On Wednesday, March 4th, at SS. Peter and Paul's Church, Lavenham, a quarter-peal of Grandshire Triples (1,260 changes) in 56 mins.: F. A. Turner 1, M. T. Symonds 2, A. Symonds 3, S. H. Symonds (conductor) 4, W. Jarvis 5, L. Pryke 6, W. R. Poulson 7, F. F. Mortlock 8. Rung with half-muffled clappers as a mark of respect for Miss Boby, a churchworker for fifty years, who was interred that day.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHERN DIVISION.

The annual meeting of the Southern Division was held at Hands-worth, Sheffield, on Saturday last. For an annual meeting, the attendance was only moderate, the towers represented being St. Marie's and the Cathedral, Sheffield, Rammoor, Ecclesfield, Darfield, Doncaster, Arksey, Wortley, Rawmarsh and Wath, with visitors from Leeds, Dore, Grimsby, Ordsall and Norton bringing the number up to nearly forty. Ringing in various methods was carried on up to 4.30, when a service was held, at which the preacher was the Rev. R. F. Wilkinson, Vicar of Ordsall, Notis, and a well-known member of the Exercise. At a later stage in the day's proceedings, the rev. gentleman said he always knew beforehand what he was going to read in 'The Ringing World' about the service: 'The preacher gave a very inspiring and helpful address.' He could not say that about his own, as he was afraid it was neither.

As it would not be polite to contradict a parson (the use of his bells might be wanted at some time), it might be let go at that (verb. sap.).

A splendid tea was provided by the local company in the Schools, and the business was transacted in the same place, the Rector presiding.

The secretary read correspondence received from the societies in the southern area of the county with regard to the quarterly meetings being joint ones, but from the views expressed in the letters it was decided not to proceed with the matter further, but to still have the one annual joint meeting. The secretary was instructed to try and arrange this at Whiston, near Rotherham, on either the second or fourth Saturday in June next.

Four new members were elected, viz., Messrs. R. Payne and J. Heywood, of Treeton, J. Gilbert and Miss M. Higgins, of Handsworth.

Mr. G. Halksworth, of Doncaster, the retiring Ringing Master, was elected for a further term of three years, and, in returning thanks for his re-election, said that it would be his last term. He had held the office from the formation of the district in 1914, and as this term would make his period of office up to twenty years, he thought it was time they found a fresh Ringing Master. He hoped they would give his successor (whoever he might be) the same support as he had received.

Mr. Halksworth was heartily thanked for his services. Mr. S. F. Palmer (Sheffield Cathedral), Mr. A. Panther (Wath) and Mr. T. C. Ryder (Rotherham) were elected to the committee, Mr. Ryder taking the place of Mr. A. Hill, of Tickhill, who had resigned on account of business reasons. Mr. Palmer was further elected to service on the general committee for a period of three years.

Votes of thanks to the preacher, the Rector, the local company, and to the 'wenches' (this was the Rector's word for the ladies who attended to the ringers' wants at tea) were heartily carried and replied to by the Rector, who gave the association a cordial invitation to pay another visit in the near future.

WESTERN DIVISION OFFICERS RE-ELECTED.

The annual meeting of the Western Division of the Yorkshire Association was held at Queensbury on Saturday last, when members from the following towers were present: Keighley, Headingley, Far Headingley, Guiseley, Halifax, Bradford, Pudsey, Batley, Bramley, Armley, Idle, Brighouse, Leeds, Lindley, Ripon, Shipley, Donholme, Northowram and the local company. During the afternoon the bells at Holy Trinity were rung to Treble Bob, Plain Bob and Stedman, and a short service was held, the address being given by the Rev. F. C. Foote. Tea was served in the Schools, and at the business meeting which followed, Mr. J. Cotterell, vice-president, was in the chair, supported by the Rev. C. C. Marshall (president of the association).

The following officers were re-elected for a further term of three years: J. Broadley (Ringing Master), F. W. Dixon, J. Hardcastle and R. Umpleby (committee). A vote of thanks to the retiring officers was moved from the chair, and seconded by Mr. J. Woodhead.

Seven new members were elected: M. Ryder (Idle), Miss Mary Jagger, E. Sandland, G. Pitt (Northowram), F. Carter, F. Dalby (Donholme), R. Greaves (Bramley).

The place of the next meeting was discussed, and it was decided to endeavour to arrange one at East Ardsley.

The Rev. C. C. Marshall proposed, and Mr. Greenwood seconded, a vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells and address, and to the organist and choir for their services. This was carried, and Mr. Craven responded. A vote of thanks to the ladies for presiding at the tea tables, and to the local company for the arrangements made, was proposed by the chairman and seconded by Mr. J. Woodhead. This was also carried, and Mr. Gregson and Mr. Whiteley responded. A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the business meeting. The tower was again visited, and further ringing indulged in.

STEVENAGE, HERTS.—On Sunday, March 22nd, for evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob in 23 mins.: G. Johnson 1, H. Withering 2, W. Brown 3, F. Turner 4, W. H. Coles (Taunton) 5, W. Lawrence (conductor) 6.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday last, a very successful meeting was held at Barkway. About thirty-five members were present, and represented the following towers: Anstey, Barkway, Barley, Braughing, Chrishall, Hitchin, Little Mundeu, Molbourn, Meldreth, Taunton (Somerset) and Trumpington.

The standard of ringing was good, and methods ranged from Grandsire Triples to Cambridge Surprise. An excellent tea was served at the Wheatsheaf, and a short business meeting followed with Mr. W. H. Lawrence in the chair.

The two outstanding events of the meeting were undoubtedly performed by Mr. W. H. Lawrence—that of ringing 3-4 on the tower bells to a course of Grandsire Triples, and after tea accompanying some tune playing on handbells, with '9-10-11-12' in hand, and, considering the size of the tenor was 18 in G, he had literally got a 'handful'!

Ringling continued until about 9 p.m. As this was the last meeting of the ringing year, the secretary would like to thank the many friends who attended this and all the other meetings during the past year, and trusts that they will continue to do so, as, after all, the secretary merely arranges the meetings—the ringers make them either a success or a failure.

D. C. M.

DOUBLE LITTLE BOB.*To the Editor.*

Sir,—Mr. Nolan Golden's undignified and sarcastic manner of expressing himself does not commend itself to me. He has apparently, in spite of the correspondence in 'The Ringing World' between Mr. G. Lewis and myself, deliberately altered the name of the method he rang at North Lopham, on February 15th last, from Erith Little Bob to Double Little Bob. If the attitude he adopts is allowed to go unchallenged, we shall find him one day trying to alter the names of some of the standard methods just because he may think they do not conform to his ideas of what is right or wrong. It has always been recognised by the Exercise that the band who first ring a peal in an unnamed method have the privilege of naming it, and no amount of explanation can alter the fact that the band who rang the first peal in the method under discussion named it Erith Little Bob, and they have no intention of altering its name.

I hope the Peal Analysis Committee will take notice of my objection.—Yours faithfully,

E. BARNETT.

BARNSELEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The monthly meeting of this association was held at Royston on Saturday, March 14th, when the towers represented were Badsworth, Cawthorne, Darfield, Felkirk, Hoylandswaine, Horbury, Penistone, Sandal, Wath, and the local company. After ringing during the afternoon, tea was served in the schoolroom, thirty-one being present. At the business meeting which followed, the Vicar, Rev. E. Walker, presided, and referred to the death of Mr. William Reynier, of Sandal. He moved a vote of condolence to the widow and relatives, and all present stood in silence.

Crofton was selected for the shield contest to be held on July 4th. Two new members were elected, and Darfield was chosen for the next place of meeting.

The usual vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells and to the ladies for providing tea. The Vicar, in reply, gave a hearty welcome to the ringers, and said he would like to have the bells overhauled, but financial difficulties would not allow it at present.

Further ringing continued until 9 p.m., various methods being practised.

'FATHER' OF ISLAND RINGERS.**EIGHTY-EIGHT AND STILL RINGING REGULARLY.**

The veteran Isle of Wight ringer and 'father' of the Ryde band (Mr. George Henry Coombes) will celebrate the eighty-eighth year of his birth to-morrow.

For 45 years he has been a member of Ryde All Saints' Parish Church bellringers, having joined the band in 1886, soon after the bells were installed there by Taylor and Co. He was then 43 years old (no 'chick' to commence change ringing), but he soon mastered his bell and method ringing, and has since been a most regular service ringer. He has rung several peals of Grandsire Triples, his last peal being in honour of his seventieth birthday in 1913. In addition to ringing regularly for Sunday service, he still attends and takes an active part in the weekly practices, and is, we believe, the oldest active ringer in the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild.

A horticulturist by profession, Mr. Coombes is still as keen as ever, and his flower beds at his residence, 25, Swanmore Road, Ryde, are greatly admired by both residents and visitors during the summer months, and are worthy of inspection. A lover of football, he is also a keen follower and supporter of the local team, and only very severe weather prevents his attendance at every match.

In the name of the Exercise we extend to Mr. Coombes hearty greetings and congratulations upon his birthday.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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PHOTOGRAPHS WANTED.

PICTURES OF CHURCH TOWERS FOR PUBLICATION IN 'THE RINGING WORLD.'

The Editor of 'The Ringing World' will be glad to receive photographs of churches, with a view to their future publication when suitable occasion arises.

The photographs should be accompanied by brief particulars of the bells, with their inscriptions and dates if possible, and any other interesting information about them.

Pictures should, for preference, be photographic post-cards, and, where there is any choice, the tower should be a feature.

Obviously, of course, all the pictures cannot be published at once, the object of getting a collection being that the photographs may be ready at hand for use when fitting opportunity occurs.

Will each tower secretary be good enough to send a photograph of his own tower? It should be forwarded in an envelope for protection, and addressed to The Editor, 'The Ringing World,' Woking, Surrey, and the sender should enclose his name and address.

BELFRY GOSSIP.

In response to the paragraph in this column last week, we are to say that T. Maude (Yorks) cannot recall having written to the Forge, Handbridge, Chester.

To-day is the anniversary of the 12,000 of Treble Rob Royal rung by the Royal Cumberland Youths at Shoreditch in 1784, and which stood as a record until 1911.

A hundred and five years ago to-day the first peal of Superlative Surprise Royal was rung at Wakefield.

His many friends, both in and outside the Dudley and District Guild, will extend heartfelt sympathy to the hon. secretary, Mr. Herbert Sheppard, whose wife passed away on Wednesday week after a long illness.

Mr. Maurice E. Wilson, of 221, Hanover Street, Sheffield, was on Saturday elected hon. secretary of the Sheffield and District Society to succeed Mr. H. Thorpe.

The death has occurred at Hemel Hempstead of Mr. J. Floyd, who was for forty years a ringer at St. Mary's Church.

We are glad to be able to state that Mr. James George is making good progress towards recovery after his recent bad attack of influenza and bronchitis. He sends his kind regards to all old friends, and desires to express his thanks to those who have made kind inquiries during his illness.

SURREY ASSOCIATION PEALS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Will you please note that the undermentioned peals rung during 1930, conducted by Mr. O. Sippetts, have been deleted from the Surrey Association's records owing to non-payment of the booking fee in accordance with the rules:—

Horley, May 18th, Double Norwich Major.

Reigate, May 31st, Superlative Surprise.

Godstone, June 11th, Cambridge Surprise Major.

Leigh, June 22nd, Minor in seven methods.

Yours faithfully,

CHAS. H. KIPPIN,

Hon. Secretary.

THANKS TO OUR 'SPECIAL INVESTIGATOR.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Thanks very much to your 'Special Investigator.' His note had the desired effect. A certain gentleman, not many miles from Gloucester, who specialises in umbrellas, on looking through 'The Ringing World' last Saturday morning suddenly realised he had got the wrong hat.

To catch the first bus to Gloucester and restore it to the rightful owner was his first thought, and eventually the exchange was made, much to the comfort of the owner, who was about to buy a new one. Needless to say, a few more empties had to be moved after the happy reunion.—Yours truly,

Gloucester.

JOHN AUSTIN.

A PILGRIMAGE TO YPRES? SUGGESTED RINGERS' VISIT TO BELGIUM.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Several ringers have written me regarding the proposal, mooted in the 1,000th number of 'The Ringing World,' to promote an outing to Belgium with a view to a pilgrimage to the Menin Gate. The most suitable time for such an undertaking is naturally in the August holidays, and the anniversary of the outbreak of the Great War.

The suggested plan is as follows:—

To leave London on Saturday, August 1st, for Ostend.
Sunday, a free day (or otherwise as the company decide).
Monday, to tour the battlefields, visiting Ypres, with a short service at Menin Gate, with handbells. At night, Bruges carillon.
Tuesday, return.



THE MENIN GATE, YPRES.

The above is for those who cannot stay for the 'week' of eight days. For those who can stay, it is proposed to visit Lille or Arras (France), and, if possible, Cologne (Germany).

Now the cost. For the week-end tour: To travel London-Dover-Ostend out and home, with three full days' board and accommodation at Hotel Pension Myra, including all charges and a guide, is £3 15s. The battlefields trip is 7s., and the Bruges one 5s.

The cost for the week of eight days is £5 8s. 9d. per head 'all in,' but the charges for Ypres and Bruges as above are extra. There are numerous firms of 'chara' transport running trips every day in all directions, and a visit to Brussels or Cologne can be fixed up by rail on the spot.

I have been over some of the ground and consider that a visit such as is contemplated would be remembered with pleasure for a lifetime. It is proposed to attempt handbell peals if the scheme matures. For those who do not ring there are sights that will sink into the soul. They can stand on the spot where their friends or relatives laid down their lives for posterity.

"In the land where poppies grow,

Where graves are white in the fading light
As flakes of falling snow."

Will those who are willing to join such a party send me a postcard with their name and address. Later it will be necessary to deposit five shillings; the remainder can be paid a month before the date.

No passports are necessary for the short date tour, but for those who stay the full week they are compulsory. I will do all the correspondence of organisation willingly, and free of charge. Send your postcard to me

W. WILLSON,
3, Winchester Avenue, Leicester.

HOW A NEW ASSOCIATION WAS FORMED.

TEN SECRETARIES RING A PEAL.

An event took place at Beddington, Surrey, last Saturday, unique in the annals of ringing. The general secretaries of ten associations and guilds met and rang a peal together. Some of them came long distances, and, as all good secretaries should, they were punctually at the meeting place. The last to arrive was the man on the spot, but even he was not late. The question of the society to which the peal should be credited was a perplexing one, but the secretaries even found a way out of this difficulty—good secretaries are expected to find a way out of all difficulties. The solution of the problem in this case, seeing that they belonged to so many different societies without all belonging to any one society, was to form a new society and elect themselves as members. Quite a simple and cheap procedure when you think about it and know how to go about the job! And secretaries are supposed to know—it's their business, and they know a good deal. For instance, they know the trouble it is to get in subscriptions; they know what a bore it is to have to write up minutes—you who propose and second all sorts of motions and amendments know nothing of the days of worry and the sleepless nights you sometimes give your over-worked and under-paid secretaries. Yes, secretaries know something, and in drawing up the constitution of their new society they were careful to eliminate anything that would be likely to create work. So this is the resolution which was solemnly proposed, seconded by everyone, and carried with acclamation, unanimity, nem con, nem dis, and any other old thing by, on or with which resolutions are carried. It was put to the meeting by the self-constituted chairman, and the words in parentheses show how it was greeted with a crescendo of approval:—

'That an association, to be known as the Secretaries' Association, be and the same is hereby formed (hear, hear); that those here present become its first members (applause); that it be open to secretaries of recognised ringing guilds and associations (loud applause); that there be no entrance fee or annual subscription (loud cheers), and that no minutes of its proceedings be kept' (loud and prolonged cheers).

After that, of course, all that remained was to ring the peal and record it for the Secretaries' Association in the columns of 'The Ringing World.' At least, it wasn't quite all. At the 'Harvest Home' there was another small formality. The president—the chairman had, in the meantime, been raised a step in the peerage—was authorised to spend the entrance fees and subscriptions due to date for the refreshment of himself and the rest of the company. This he did, with the result that he found himself with a deficit in the balance sheet—which no good secretary ought to have.

By the way, Beddington is not quite in the centre of the map for the secretaries of ten associations who have to come from such uncivilised places as Yorkshire, South Wales, Somerset, Portsmouth, Berkshire and some others that could, but need not, be mentioned. As a consequence, various means of transport had to be employed, and a system of collection and delivery organised. The collection was all right, but in one case the delivery agent failed in his contract. The Chilcompton 'busman' was entrusted with the delivery of the goods for Reading at Guildford Railway Station not later than 9.40 p.m., and left in good time—that is to say, good time for him, for in the ordinary course he needs only about half the time that any other equally careful driver would require. When he 'treads on the gas' the policeman does not even have time to gasp, 'Crikey, that's Joe, that was!' But the trouble about Joe is, apparently, that at night, when he can't read the sign posts he navigates by the stars, and on this occasion a horrible cloud overspread the heavens soon after he set out, and he lost his bearings. When at last the stars reappeared, the pilot found the Pole Star to the south, and Orion's Belt to the west, or east or north—or somewhere where it ought not to be—and so he decided to get out and ask where he was. He wasn't on the road from Beddington to Guildford—not by a long chalk. He was nearer Reigate on the other side of the county. And so 'Old Tom' enjoyed a tour round half Surrey, missed his train and got home at heaven knows what hour. But all's well that ends well; and when you have helped to form a new association and have rung in its first peal, both in one day, what does it matter what time you get home?

But now from the gay to the grave, for there was a sad side to an otherwise delightful gathering of friends. Mr. John W. Jones, of Newport, Mon, was one of the band. He had reluctantly left the sick-bed of his wife, who urged him to come in order to 'keep his promise and not 'let down' the rest of the company. As soon as the peal was over, he made a dash by car to catch a train to South Wales from Paddington. With only a minute to spare—thanks to the admirable driving of his son—he caught the express and reached home after midnight. At nine o'clock in the morning his wife died. The tragedy of it! On behalf of the other members of the band and himself, the writer of these notes tenders to Mr. Jones the deepest sympathy of them all.

PENNINGTON, LANCASHIRE.—For evening service, on Sunday, March 15th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob: W. Howard (longest in method) 1, R. Johnson 2, S. Greenhalgh 3, R. F. Deal (conductor) 4, S. Holt 5, W. H. Shuker 6, H. Greenhalgh 7, W. Edwards 8.

THE GLOUCESTER DINNER. THIRD SUCCESSFUL REUNION.

The third annual dinner of the Gloucester Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association was held on Saturday, March 14th, at the Spread Eagle Hotel, when 97 members and friends sat down. The Mayor of Gloucester (Councillor W. R. Eggleton) presided, and was supported by the Rev. E. G. Saleby (Vicar of Leonard Stanley and Master of the association) and the Rev. E. D. S. Camus (Vicar of St. Mary de Crypt), Mr. Sidney Romans (chairman of the branch), Mr. W. H. Harris (branch secretary), Mr. J. Austin and Mr. Geo. Jackson. Apologies for absence were received from Rev. Canon Brathwaite, Rev. H. G. Hadow and the Rev. W. G. Pritchard. The visitors included Mr. and Mrs. E. Guise and a party from Bristol, Mr. C. Gardiner and party from Swindon, Mr. Holt and party from Worcester, Mr. Cam and party from Upton-on-Severn, Mr. A. Wright, Stroud, also several ringing friends from Cheltenham district, Lydney and Westbury-on-Severn. Messrs. Taylor and Co. were represented by Mr. J. P. Fidler, and Messrs. Gillett and Johnston by Mr. S. Roper.

After an excellent repast, served under the direction of Mrs. Stanley Smith, the loyal toast was honoured on the call of the chairman.

In proposing the toast of 'The Church,' the Mayor said he was proud to think that his education was started at a church school. He wanted to acknowledge the very great debt of gratitude that was due to the women for the work they were doing for the Church. He saw a large number of men present that night, and he wanted to tell them that in that respect the women were ahead of them every time. At the early morning service they found a preponderance of women, and he hoped that the men would take that as an example to follow. The men might say that they had had a hard week's work, and wanted a bit of sport on Sundays, but he could assure those present that it was nothing as compared with the old days. The toast of 'The Church,' concluded the Mayor, covered very wide ground. It referred to the life of the Church at home, in the Army, in the Navy, in the hospitals, and in foreign fields, and if everyone took the Church into their lives he believed that half their troubles would be solved (applause).

In response, the Rev. E. D. S. Camus said that bellringers were very much concerned with the Church, and there should be a closer connection between them. Continuing, he said there never was a time when the churches, and what the churches stood for, were more discussed than at present. Once upon a time it was rather rare to find anything about religion in the morning newspapers, but now there was always something somewhere. That spoke for itself of the influence of the Church among men. In these days, when the question arose as to whether theatres or cinemas should be opened on Sunday, one felt a strong debt of gratitude for those who climbed the church towers and rang the bells, for those at all events would be heard outside the churches, whereas the voice of the preacher would be confined to the inside for those who attended. Reference had been made to the work of the women, and a good many men thought that womenfolk could do all there was to do in the church. That was not so. There was a lot of work in the church that could be done by men. They wanted to encourage that feeling of brotherhood, so that they could all work together in the service of the Father of them all (applause).

APPEAL FOR YOUNG MEMBERS.

The Rev. E. S. Saleby proposed 'The Gloucester and Bristol Association and Kindred Societies,' and said he thought they should all encourage team work. Everyone who pulled bells knew how necessary team work was. Regarding the association, he was glad to say the finances were satisfactory, and wherever he went he was impressed by the wonderful spirit that was to be found at all the branch meetings. He appealed to the young men to take up bellringing and join the association, and so help to maintain the position they now held.

Mr. J. Austin, in reply, also referred to the shortage of young members, and said it was on them that the future of the association depended. Some young men joined, got to a certain stage, and then left, but he thought that if they once got over the early difficulties it was a life membership for them. In conclusion, he paid a tribute to the work of the officers of the Gloucester Branch.

Captain Lodge proposed 'The Visitors,' and Mr. E. Guise (Bristol) replied.

During the evening the Tuffley Revellers gave an entertainment, and selections on handbells were rendered by Mr. and Miss H. Holford (Cheltenham) and other members of the association.

VETERAN WEM RINGER.

An attempt was made for a half-muffled peal of Grandsire Triples at Wem, Shropshire, on Saturday, as a token of respect for the late Mr. George James Moore, who died suddenly on the previous Thursday. Mr. Moore was in his 80th year, and had been a ringer for about 57 years, having learnt to handle a bell when at Adderley at the age of twelve. Before going to Wem, he had resided in Birmingham and at Wellington, Salop, and was a ringer at Wem up to the time of his death. He was towerkeeper there for many years.

The peal attempt failed through the clapper of one of the bells coming out towards the end.

DEATH OF MRS. E. GOLDSMITH, LEWES.

At the advanced age of 84 years, the death took place at Southover, Lewes, Sussex, on Sunday, of Mrs. Emma Goldsmith, widow of the late Mr. John Goldsmith, and thus was peacefully closed a long life characterised by many Christian virtues.

Daughter, wife and mother of church bellringers, Mrs. Goldsmith was well known to many members of the Exercise who had visited Lewes, where the King's Head, of which she had held the license since the death of her husband in 1884, has been the scene of many happy gatherings of ringers. Although knowing nothing of the art itself, Mrs. Goldsmith took an immense interest in all things appertaining to ringing, and nothing gave her greater pleasure than the success of a peal attempt on the bells of her beloved parish church, where for sixty years she had been a worshipper, and which she had served faithfully as an office bearer for many years.

Her interest in ringing developed through the activities of her husband, who, in his day, thought lightly of walking fourteen or sixteen miles to practise Grandsire Triples, and who taught change ringing to more than one band in the district. One of her most cherished possessions was a framed portrait of her husband, presented to her in recognition of what he voluntarily did to instruct a band of ringers at Seaford in the late '70's.

At the time of his death in 1884, Mr. John Goldsmith was parish clerk of Southover, and the office passed to his widow, who filled this post—an unusual one for a woman—until 1900, when she retired and was presented with a silver tea and coffee service by the parishioners. It was her instigation, in the desire to see the connection with ringing, which had been handed on for three or four generations, continued in the family, that prompted her son, the editor of 'The Ringing World,' first to take up the art. For many years she was treasurer of the Southover Church Bellringers' Guild, and under her roof many ringers' dinners have been held, and many ringing friends, first of her husband and afterwards of her son, have enjoyed her hospitality.

Mrs. Goldsmith was widely known and greatly respected in Lewes, where she endeared herself by many acts of kindness. It is interesting to note that the license of the King's Head was held by her husband and herself for the unbroken period of over 72 years.

The funeral took place at Southover yesterday.

LLANDAFF SECRETARY'S BEREAVEMENT.

The deepest sympathy of his many ringing friends throughout the country will be extended to Mr. John W. Jones, of Newport, Mon., hon. secretary of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association, in the irreparable loss which has overtaken him by the death of his wife.

Mrs. Jones developed a serious illness last week, which caused much anxiety to her family, but despite her condition she urged her husband to fulfil an engagement of long standing which he had made to take part in a peal at Beddington, Surrey, on Saturday, with nine other association secretaries. The bells came round about 7.5 p.m., and Mr. Jones' son, who lives at Wraybury, was waiting to take him by car to Paddington, where by the narrowest margin they caught the 7.55 to Newport. Reaching home after midnight, Mr. Jones unhappily found his wife worse, and she passed away about 9 a.m. on Sunday.

Of gentle nature and sweet disposition, Mrs. Jones shared her husband's interest in ringing, and it was only by her persuasion, when she urged him not to disappoint anyone, that he left the sick bedside on Saturday.

A son and three grown-up daughters are left, with Mr. Jones, to mourn their loss.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

The first Guildford District meeting of the year was held at Shere on Saturday, when the peal of eight were kept going to various touches throughout the afternoon and evening. Members and visitors attended from the Guildford towers, Cranleigh, Buckland, Witley, Aldershot, Seale, Old Woking, Clandon and Baldock.

In spite of a special appeal from the secretary, the members of the local band (with the exception of one old stalwart) and those from the neighbouring parish of Albury were conspicuous by their absence. In the case of the local men no apology for absence was received, but the Albury secretary wrote regretting that the members of his band were too busy to attend, and that the bell ropes were in too bad a condition to permit of any ringing there.

The Guild's form of service was conducted, and an 'out of the ordinary' address given by the Rector of Shere, the Rev. Sir Paget Bowman. The Rector also presided at the business meeting after tea.

Six new members, including two ladies, one of whom comes from Handsworth, Yorkshire, and the other from Bath, were elected.

On the proposition of Admiral T. P. Walker, votes of thanks to the Rector and the organist were carried with applause, and in acknowledging this the Rector said how sorry he was that only one of his ringers was a member of the Guild, that he did not know why none of the others would join, and that he had always been anxious that they should support the Guild.

JUST PUBLISHED**THE HISTORY AND ART OF
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Owing to Good Friday, 'The Ringing World' next week will be published on Thursday.

All matter for publication must, therefore, reach this office not later than first post on Monday next.

BEDWORTH BELLS IMPROVED.

The meeting of the Warwickshire Guild, held at Bedworth on Saturday, March 21st, was very well attended by members from Allesley, Bulkington, Chilvers Coton, Lillington, Nuneaton, Shilton, Stoke and Warwick, together with the local band.

During the afternoon Grandsire and Plain Bob were the only methods rung, some useful work being put in on behalf of those on the threshold of change ringing.

Tea was served in the schools, and afterwards Mr. H. Argyle proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector for the use of the bells and to the ladies for preparing the tea. Some of the members then stayed in the tea room to ring Stedman and Kent Treble Bob on handbells, while the majority returned to the church for further ringing on the tower bells. The methods rung during the evening were Stedman, Double Norwich, Superlative, Cambridge, London and Bristol. This was the first meeting at Bedworth since the bells have been overhauled by Messrs. Taylor and Co., and they were pronounced by all to be much improved.

SUDDEN DEATH IN A BELFRY.

While practice was in progress at Southover Church, Lewes, Sussex, on Tuesday of last week, the death took place in the ringing chamber of Mr. John Farncombe Stedman, the oldest member of the band and a ringer at Southover Church for about forty years. Mr. Stedman, who was 69 years of age, had rung the tenor to a touch of Grandsire Triples, and had sat down in a chair, when, without warning, he collapsed and fell to the floor. The other ringers went immediately to his aid, and a doctor was summoned, but life was found to be extinct. The body was reverently removed from the church, but an inquest was not considered necessary, the doctor being able to certify that death was due to heart disease.

John Stedman's ringing was confined to covering, but he rang a few peals on the tenor of his own church, his first being in 1904. He also rang the tenor to the first 'local' peal on the bells.

The funeral took place on Saturday, when the bells were rung muffled while the cortege was proceeding from the church to the cemetery, and again in the evening. Among the wreaths was one from the Guild.

Much sympathy has been extended to the widow and family in their sudden bereavement.

A YORKSHIRE REPORT CORRECTION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I shall esteem it a favour if you will kindly publish the following correction of Peal No. 3,332 (5,021 Grandsire Caters by G. F. Williams), which is wrongly printed in the new issue of the Yorkshire Association report.

The last section of the composition should read:—

42356978	
65243879	2s. 3.
24563	3 in 3s.
42365	1. 2. 3s. 4s.
34265	8 in 3.

Rounds at hand the lead previous to the last course-end.

WM. BARTON,
Peal Secretary, Y.A.C.R.

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SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

TOTTENHAM.—At All Hallows' Church, on Sunday afternoon, March 22nd, for Confirmation, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: W. Bowden 1, Mrs. G. Fletcher 2, J. G. Nash 3, W. J. Ellis 4, E. A. Hull 5, J. Parker (conductor) 6, G. Fletcher 7, H. Ellis 8.

SUTTON-ON-TRENT, NOTTS.—On Sunday, March 22nd, at the Church of All Saints, for matins, 720 Spliced Oxford and Kent Treble Bob Minor in 26 mins.: N. Moxon 1, Miss G. Burchall 2, Miss K. Burchall 3, H. Denman (first 720 in the method) 4, E. Midwinter 5, L. Pierpont (conductor) 6. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to Mr. T. Wales, who was buried the previous Tuesday, at Sutton-on-Trent.

HARLOW COMMON.—On Sunday morning, March 22nd, 1,280 Superlative Surprise: W. Morris 1, F. Whitby 2, L. Cordell 3, S. Clark 4, H. Smaile 5, I. Cavill 6, J. Cordell 7, W. Wheeler (conductor) 8. For evensong, 1,260 Stedman Triples: F. Whitby 1, L. Cordell 2, S. Clark 3, W. Morris 4, H. Smaile 5, W. Wheeler 6, I. Cavill (conductor) 7, J. Cordell 8.

OVER, CAMBS.—On Sunday, March 22nd, for morning service, at the Church of St. Mary, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: D. Adams 1, G. Whybrow 2, M. Ginn 3, R. Thoday 4, C. Robinson 5, F. Warrington (conductor) 6. For evensong, 720 York Surprise Minor: G. Whybrow 1, M. Ginn 2, F. Warrington (conductor) 3, F. G. Gleaves 4, A. J. Ginn 5, C. Robinson 6.

BRAMLEY, LEEDS.—On Sunday, March 22nd, a quarter-peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major (1,280 changes) in 46 mins.: W. Waterhouse 1, Miss P. M. Leach (first quarter-peal) 2, F. Blackith 3, Fred Blackith (conductor) 4, S. Helliwell 5, F. Jackson 6, E. Redshaw 7, J. Thackray 8.

SOUTHGATE.—On Sunday, March 22nd, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Cambridge Surprise Major in 48 mins.: A. R. Glasscock 1, S. Wade 2, G. Plater (first quarter-peal of Cambridge Surprise) 3, W. Pickworth 4, N. A. Tomlinson 5, H. Miller 6, J. E. Miller 7, J. Armstrong (conductor) 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes) in 48 mins.: A. G. Crane 1, A. R. Glasscock 2, D. Pink 3, D. Ovington 4, G. Plater 5, J. Armstrong (conductor) 6, J. E. Miller 7, W. Pickworth 8.

WATFORD, HERTS.—At the Parish Church for evensong on Sunday, March 22nd, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Major (1,264 changes) in 50 mins.: H. Milton 1, R. Picton 2, S. Hoare (conductor) 3, F. Crook 4, H. Long 5, R. Bell 6, E. Palmer 7, H. Cashmore 8.

OVERSEAL, DERBYSHIRE.—On Sunday, March 15th, for an organ recital in connection with the 'Ringers' Sunday effort, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 48 mins.: G. Clayfield 1, F. Boulstridge 2, L. Freeman 3, W. Brooker 4, W. E. Clayfield 5, W. Curson 6, J. W. Cotton (conductor) 7, P. Grice 8.—On February 24th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins.: G. Clayfield 1, F. Boulstridge 2, L. Freeman 3, P. Grice 4, W. Brooker 5, W. Curson 6, J. W. Cotton (first quarter-peal as conductor) 7, W. Woodward 8. First quarter-peal by ringers of treble, 2nd, 3rd, 5th and 8th.

LONDON, E.C.—On Sunday, March 15th, at the Church of St. Botolph, for evensong, 1,280 Spliced London, Bristol, Cambridge and Superlative Surprise Major: J. H. Crampion 1, J. A. Waugh 2, W. Williams 3, W. H. Hewett 4, E. F. Pike 5, W. R. Madgwick 6, J. E. Davis 7, C. W. Roberts (conductor) 8.

LONDON.—On Sunday, March 15th, for morning service, at St. Olave's, Hart Street, City, in 55 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes, 6.7.8 covering): W. Bush 1, W. E. Kilbey 2, A. H. Rowe 3, F. W. Thornton (conductor) 4, G. W. Dumper 5, H. Willson, sen., 6, H. Willson, jun., 7, J. Kilbey 8. Longest length by ringers of 7 and 8.

TAUNTON.—At St. George's Church, Wilton, on Sunday, March 1st, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Plain Bob Major (1,264 changes) in 47 mins.: A. W. Hayward 1, S. Wyatt 2, E. J. Bull (first quarter of Major 'inside') 3, H. E. Cansley 4, A. J. Wyatt 5, D. F. Sheldon 6, S. G. Coles 7, S. A. Wyatt (first quarter as conductor) 8.

WINDERMERE.—On Sunday, February 8th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 45 mins. Also rung as a compliment to the conductor on the birth of a son the previous day: E. Hadwin 1, Jim Tebay 2, H. Woodburn 3, H. Richardson 4, T. Jefferson (conductor) 5, W. Troughton 6, F. Wilson 7, W. Walker 8.

WARWICK.—On Sunday, February 8th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,259 changes) in 56 mins.: J. L. Rye 1, A. W. Bond 2, A. W. Brighton 3, H. C. Burt 4, C. Wildsmith 5, W. C. Harrison 6, J. T. C. Rye 7, H. Huxley 8, E. H. Adams (conductor) 9, F. Berry 10. First quarter-peal of Caters by H. C. Burt and F. Berry. With the exception of A. W. Brighton (London) all are local ringers.

SALISBURY.—At St. Martin's Church, on Sunday, February 8th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 47 mins.: Miss M. E. Romaine 1, Miss E. Mathews 2, A. Fry 3, I. Harris 4, W. A. Romaine 5, A. Bennett 6, F. W. Romaine (conductor) 7, W. Chalk 8.

BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER, GLOS.—At the Church of St. Lawrence, on Sunday, February 8th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) for evensong by the following Sunday service ringers: H. James 1, J. Collett 2, C. Pratley 3, G. Burtonshaw 4, W. Wright 5, T. Banning 6, B. Phillips (conductor) 7, E. Gardner 8.

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.

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE of 'THE RINGING WORLD,' WOKING, SURREY.

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

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM. (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting will be held at King's Norton Parish Church, on Saturday, March 28th. Bells (10) will be available from 3 p.m. Short service in church at 4.30. Tea at Saracen's Head at 5, to be followed by usual business meeting. Please notify me regarding tea.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 138, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

LADIES' GUILD.—Northern District. — The third quarterly meeting will be held at Daybrook, Notts, on Saturday, March 28th. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.30, at 1s. 3d. per head. Gentlemen cordially invited.—L. N. Cawthorne, Hon. Dis. Sec., 394, Handsworth Rd., Sheffield

LADIES' GUILD.—Northamptonshire District. — A meeting will be held at Cranford (6) on Saturday, March 28th. The address at the service, to be held at 4 o'clock, will be given by the Lord Bishop of Peterborough. —S. Thursfield, Hon. Sec., Cranford, Kettering.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cary Deanery.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Charlton Horethorne on Saturday, March 28th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea, in the Schoolroom, 5 p.m. Meeting to follow.—E. F. Creed, Dimmer Farm, Castle Cary.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District. — A meeting will be held at Charlwood on Saturday, March 28th. Tower open at 3. Service at 5. Tea and meeting to follow.—A. J. Bull, Hon. Sec., Jesmond, Queen's Road, Horley.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Archdeaconry of Ely. — A meeting at Stetchworth on Saturday, March 28th. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea following, by kind invitation, at the White Horse Hotel. Dullingham and Wood Ditton bells also available.—K. Willers, Dis. Sec., Sweetbriars, Trumpington, Cambridge.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Oxford and District Branch.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Wolvercote on Saturday, March 28th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Evensong 5 p.m. Tea 5.30. Meeting to follow. All ringers cordially invited.—W. Simmonds, Hon. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next practice has been arranged at Cookham on Saturday, March 28th. Bells (6) available at 3.30 p.m. Tea at the Royal Exchange.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

KIDSGROVE, near Stoke-on-Trent.—The ring of six bells recast and hung in a new framework by Taylors, of Loughborough, will be dedicated on Saturday, March 28th, at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m.

MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—The first quarterly meeting will be held at Enderby (8 bells) on Saturday, March 28th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Tea at 5 o'clock, in the Institute, followed by business meeting. All members and friends welcome. — Ernest H. Bagworth, 36, Turner Road, Leicester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. — The next meeting will be held at St. George's, Bolton, on Saturday, March 28th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Eastern District. — A meeting will be held at Sawbridgeworth on March 28th, when the bells will be open during the afternoon and evening. Service at 5, address by the Vicar. Tea after, at 5.30, 1s. each. I hope for a good muster. All ringing friends welcome. Essex friends give us a look up. — W. H. Lawrence, Hon. Dis. Sec., Little Munden.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Peak District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Baslow on Saturday, Mar. 28th. Church of St. Anne (6 bells) available afternoon and evening. Tea at the Rutland Arms at 5 p.m. It is hoped to arrange a visit to Edensor (in Chatsworth Park) after tea. Church of St. Peter (6 bells). Visitors welcomed. Subscriptions due.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec., Leamwood, Dore.

MARKET DRAYTON, SHROPSHIRE.—The recast peal of 8 bells and new cast iron framework by Taylor, Loughborough, will be dedicated by the Bishop of Stafford on Palm Sunday, March 29th, at 11 a.m. Bells available in the afternoon.

RODBOURNE CHENEY, near Swindon.—The peal of five bells restored and augmented to six by Taylors, of Loughborough, will be dedicated on Sunday, March 29th, at 3.30 p.m.

HINTON-ON-THE-GREEN, Evesham.—The dedication of the restored and augmented peals of 8 bells, by Taylors, of Loughborough, will take place on Wednesday, April 1st, at 5.30 p.m.

HALSALL, LANCS. — The recast ring of 6 bells, together with the clock and carillon machine, by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, Croydon, will be re-dedicated by the Archdeacon of Warrington on Saturday, April 4th, at 2.45 p.m. All ringers welcome.

SEDDLEWORTH CHURCH, UPPER MILL.—Service for restoration of bells, Saturday, April 4th, 2.30 p.m.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society. Established 1824) **AND NORTH SOUTH-WARK DIOCESAN GUILD.** — April meetings: Sunday, 5th, at 10 a.m., St. Clement Danes'; Tuesday, 14th, 7.30 p.m., St. Mary, Lambeth; Monday, 20th, St. Clement Danes', practice, 7.30 p.m., quarterly meeting 8.15 p.m. With a view to improving attendances at fortnightly Monday practices, also at the first Sunday morning of each month at St. Clement Danes', I shall be glad to receive members' promises to attend at least once a year, also dates most convenient to them. Possibly some living long distances would thus appreciate a visit. —Chas. O. Moore, Hon. Gen. Sec., 7, Station Road, Camberwell, London, S.E.5.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting of the above association will be held at Cambridge on Easter Monday, April 6th. The bells of the Church of Our Lady (R.C.) will be available from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Great St. Mary's and Great St. Andrew's from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Service at Great St. Mary's 4.15 p.m. Tea and business meeting at 5 p.m. at the Dorothy Café. Will all those intending to be present please notify me before April 2nd? — T. R. Dennis, Gen. Sec., 33, Clarendon Street, Cambridge.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Albans on Easter Monday, April 6th. Service in the Cathedral at 4.30 p.m., with address by the Rev. R. F. R. Routh, Vicar of Hitchin. Tea at the Ver Residential Hotel, Holywell Hill (near Abbey Station) immediately after the service, followed by annual business meeting for election of officers, etc. Towers open at 2 p.m., but ringing can be had at the two six-bell towers, during the morning, if early application is made to me. The peal of 8 at Harpenden will be available from 12.20 p.m.—G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Leckhampton, Cheltenham (through the kindness of the Vicar, Rev. Canon Sears), on Easter Monday, April 6th. Service at 2.30 p.m., to be followed by the general meeting in the Parish Hall. Dinner and tea arrangements will be announced in these columns in due course. Prestbury Church bells (8) available 11 a.m. till 1 p.m., Leckhampton Church bells (8) before and after service and meeting, Charlton King's Church bells (8) from 6.30 p.m. Nominations for the various offices are requested.—Edgar Guise, Hon. Sec., 39, Tankard's Close, St. Michael's Hill, Bristol.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Next meeting will be held at South Anston on Easter Monday, April 6th. Bells (8) available early. Will members requiring tea please notify Mr. Hy. Stenton, South Anston, by Thursday, April 3rd?—Maurice E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 221, Hanover Street, Sheffield.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Tadcaster on Easter Monday, April 6th. Bells (8, tenor 23 cwt.) will be available for ringing from 2.30 to 7 p.m. Dinner will be provided at Woodward's Café at 1 p.m. Members 1s. 6d. Non-members 2s. It is hoped that members and friends will make a special effort to attend this meeting. Those intending to be at dinner must notify the secretary not later than Wednesday, April 1st, or they will not be provided for.—T. Metcalfe, Hon. Sec., 26, High Street, North Ormesby, Middlesbrough.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Bedford on Easter Monday, April 6th. The bells of St. Paul's (10) (recently rehung) will be available from 10.30 a.m. St. Peter de Merton (6) also available. Luncheon at the Silver Grill at 1 p.m., to be followed by the annual business meeting. A hearty welcome is extended to any visitors.—Arthur E. Sharman, Hon. Sec., 199, High Street N., Dunstable.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting, Easter Monday, Derby. Bells available: Cathedral (10), 9.45 to 11 a.m. and 2 to 4.30 p.m.; St. Peter's (8), 3 to 4.30 and 7 to 8 p.m.; St. Luke's (8), 3 to 4.30 p.m.; St. Andrew's (10), 11 a.m. to 4.30 p.m. and 7 to 8 p.m. Committee meet 3.15 prompt. Tea 4.45, followed by general meeting at King's Café, St. Peter's Street. Application for tea (2s. per head) must be made to Mr. G. Freebrey, 81, Roe Street, Derby, not later than Friday, April 3rd. To avoid disappointment, will all intending to be present note this and act accordingly? It is regretted that Ald. Chambers' Memorial cannot be completed by this date. Will members of committee meet at Littleover Church at noon, to view and make final arrangements?—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The 51st annual general meeting will be held at Tonbridge on Easter Monday, April 6th. Committee meeting in the Parish Hall at 11.15. Association service in the Parish Church of SS. Peter and Paul at 12 noon. Address by the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Rochester. Dinner in the Carlton Café, High Street, at 1.15, followed by business meeting. The following towers will be open for ringing from 10 a.m. till 11.30 and after the meeting: Tonbridge (8), Tunbridge Wells (8), Chiddingstone (8), Penshurst (8), Sevenoaks (8), Hadlow (8), Shipbourne (6) and Speldhurst (8). Application for dinner tickets (free to practising members, 3s. to non-members) must be made on or before last post Tuesday, March 31st.—Fred M. Mitchell, Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Worcester on Easter Monday, April 6th. Business meeting in the Cathedral Chapter House at 2.15 p.m. prompt. Chairman: The Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, D.D., President. Service, with address by the Rev. G. W. Webb, Vicar of Longdon, in the Cathedral, at 4.15 p.m. Tea will be provided at 5.30 p.m. for all those who notify me before Wednesday, April 1st. Bells available: Cathedral (12), 12.30 to 2, St. John-in-Bedwardine (8), 11 to 12 and after 5.30, All Saints' (10), St. Nicholas' (6) and St. Swithun's (6). Subscriptions should be paid and reports obtained in St. Helen's Church House between 11.30 a.m. and 12.30 p.m.—J. R. Newman, Hon. Sec., Sheepcote, Severn Stoke, Worcester.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District. —The next meeting will be held at Dorking on Easter Monday, April 6th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., tea and meeting following. Those requiring tea please notify me by Wednesday, April 1st. All ringers welcome. — D. Cooper, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Harrison's Rise, Croydon.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Ripley on Easter Monday. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. at a moderate charge. Will visitors please inform Mr. F. F. Hill, 5, Argyll Road, Ripley, by Thursday, April 2nd? A good attendance requested.—J. W. England, Sec.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—East Devon Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Sidmouth on Easter Monday, April 6th. Bells (8) available; also Ottery St. Mary (8) and Tidbury (6). Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5 p.m., at Bray's Café. All ringers welcome. — J. H. Godfrey, Hon. Sec., Silver Street, Ottery St. Mary, Devon.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting of the association will be held at Norwich on Easter Monday, April 6th. By kind permission of the Incumbents, the bells at St. Peter Mancroft, St. John de Sepulchre, St. Michael-at-Coslany, and All Saints', will be placed at the disposal of the members from 10 o'clock a.m. Divine service will be held at St. Peter Mancroft at 12.30 p.m., when the address will be given by the Rev. Canon C.C. Lanchester. Luncheon will be served at the Bell Hotel, Orford Hill, at 1.30 p.m. Tickets, 2s. 6d. per head. Members intending to be present at luncheon are kindly requested to notify the secretary on or before Wednesday, April 1st. The annual business meeting will follow immediately after the luncheon.—Arthur L. Coleman, Secretary and Treasurer, High Croft, North Walsham, Norfolk.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at *St. Paul's Cathedral on April 7th, St. Magnus' on the 9th and 23rd, Southwark Cathedral on the 16th, *St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 21st, all at 7.30 p.m., and at St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 30th, at 8 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Blackburn, on Saturday, April 11th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Everybody welcome.—F. Hindle, Hon. Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Ipswich on Saturday, April 11th. Bells available from 10 a.m.: St. Mary-le-Tower (12), St. Margaret's (8), Rushmere (6), Bramford (6). Service 4.30. Tea at Co-operative Hall 1s. each, at 5. Meeting to follow.—H. Drake, Ufford, Woodbridge.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD. — The next quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, April 11th, at the Parish Church, Cefn Coed. Ringing at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea and meeting at 5 p.m. The tea will be supplied by the generosity of the Vicar.—F. E. Thomas, Dis. Sec., Belle Vue, Brecon.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general committee meeting will be held at St. Laurence's Hall, Abbey Street, Reading, at 3 p.m., Saturday, April 11th (p.v.). Will branch secretaries notify me before that date the number of annual reports required for their respective branches? — Richard T. Hibbert, Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at St. James', Clerkenwell, on Saturday, April 11th. Full particulars later.—C. T. Coles and W. H. Hollier, Hon. Secs.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting will be held at St. John's, Glastonbury, on Saturday, April 11th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Evensong 4 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 p.m.—J. T. Dyke, Chilcompton.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — Great Holland. Preliminary Notice. — Dedication by the Lord Bishop of Chelmsford of the new ring of eight erected to the memory of Miss Emma Barron, founder of the Barron Bell Trust, on Saturday, April 18th, at 3 p.m. Further particulars later.—C. H. Howard, Master.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Basingstoke District. — Quarterly meeting at Bramley, April 18th. Service 4. Tea 4.30. Visitors welcomed. Numbers to me by April 15th, please.—D. L. Board, Wolverton Rectory, Basingstoke.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at Guildford on Saturday, April 18th. Full particulars later. — J. S. Goldsmith, Hon. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Maidstone District. —The annual meeting of the district will be held at Birling on Saturday, April 18th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.45. Tea (free) and meeting to follow. All ringers welcome. Please notify me early. — C. H. Sone, Dis. Sec., Bungalow, Linton, Maidstone.

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—On and after March 31st the address of Mr. Walter Idle will be 28, Back Kent Street, Boothroyd Lane, Dewsbury. Friends please note.

IN MEMORIAM.

SHEPPARD.—On March 18th, at 113, Himley Road, Dudley, Mary Ann, the dearly loved wife of Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., Dudley and District Guild, passed peacefully onwards after a long illness, patiently borne. At peace with God.

DEATH.

GOLDSMITH. — At Southover, Lewes, Sussex, on March 22nd, Emma Goldsmith, widow of the late John Goldsmith, aged 84 years.

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LEWISHAM DISTRICT'S LOSS.

The Lewisham District has lost one of its oldest members of the Exercise by the death of Mr. John Crowder, of Lee.

John Crowder was twenty-five years with the late Rev. F. Law, M.A., Rector of Lee, during which period he was steeplekeeper, the peal having been augmented from three bells to six. For the past thirty years he was keeper of the Parish Schools, where he passed peacefully away on Saturday, March 14th, at the age of 78 years. He was laid to rest in Lee Cemetery on Thursday, March 19th. He was for several years a member of St. John's Society, which was represented at the graveside by its oldest member, Mr. W. A. Martin. A half-muffled peal was rung at St. John's on Saturday, March 21st, to his memory.

DEATH OF A RINGER AT WINDERMERE.

Members of the Exercise in the Lake District have sustained a loss by the death of Mr. Thomas Bell, of Bowness who expired during Saturday night, March 14th. Mr. Bell was forty years of age, and is survived by a widow and two daughters.

Decensed joined the Windermere Parish Church band at its formation just about three years ago, and had taken part in only one peal, a peal of Doubles, the only one rung in Windermere.

The funeral took place at Bowness-on-Windermere on March 17th, when a large number of ringers, friends and members of the British Legion attended the last sad rites.

After the funeral a half-muffled peal was rung.

A DATE TOUCH.

At Holy Trinity, Bolton, on March 18th, by the service ringers, with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the Vicar's warden, who was interred on the preceding Saturday, a date touch of 1,932 changes in 1 hr. 13 mins.: R. Fishwick 1, G. Tyson 2, J. W. Kay 3, A. Sandiford 4, E. Edwards 5, P. Crook, jun. (conductor) 6, P. Crook, sen., 7, O. Olive 8.

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