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FRIDAY, JULY 24th, 1936.

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THE NOISE OF CHURCH BELLS.

More and more attention is being focussed in these days upon church bells, partly by the wider notice which is being accorded to them in the Press and partly by the fact that, among some sections of the public, bells are classed indiscriminately with all the rest of the noisy things which are tending to make modern life intolerable. We welcome the action of the general Press, which puts the art of change ringing and the services rendered by ringers in proper perspective before the public. When this is done we have nothing to fear from the influences which are spread, but we need to beware of the activities of those who would condemn church bells, not only particularly, but generally with all other noises which are classed among the 'nuisances' which reformers declare are driving the population to distraction, are breaking down their mental stability, and should be suppressed.

It is refreshing to find, in this connection, a protest against classing the sounds of church bells with the din of 'modern upstarts,' made by a preacher of the standing and influence of Canon R. B. Jolly, Vicar of the important parish of St. Mary's, Southampton. Clergy, generally, would be rendering a great service to the Church if they more often took this line. If they would emphasise to their parishioners and to the public generally the proper place which the sound of the bells occupies in church and national life, they would serve an end not less important than they have in view by constantly reminding ringers of their duty to attend the services for which they ring. The clergy often tell us how much they value the work of ringers. Their remarks are always appreciated, but we should value them still more if they were sometimes made in the presence of the parishioners and if occasionally the clergy would point out to the people the purpose of the bells and the aims of the ringers. It might help to allay the feeling, which certain sections of the public seek to spread, that church bells are among the public nuisances.

This, however, does not mean that ringers themselves should not do what common sense shows might be done to allay public opposition to their activities. There are admittedly many instances up and down the country where the church bells, especially if rung for any lengthy period, can become a source of annoyance to most who live close to the tower. Where the sound is overpowering, it is to the interests of everyone, ringers included, that steps should be taken to allay the trouble. The Towers and Belfries Committee of the Central Council have devoted considerable attention to this matter of late, and we would once more urge that ringers, not only where there are actual com-

(Continued on page 478.)

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plaints but at all towers where the bells are on the noisy side, should carefully consider the opinions which this Committee have expressed. Where there is need for a permanent reduction of the volume of sound in the immediate vicinity of the church, there are effective remedies, such as bricking up the louvres, or covering them internally with boards lined with one or other of the sound resisting materials which are now on the market. Where the modification of the sound is required only on occasions of practice or peal ringing, there is a different and much cheaper means of doing what is necessary. The Davis silencers have proved effective. They can be purchased for about five shillings a bell and can be put on like muffles and taken off as and when desired. These silencers will put an end to many annoyances, real and imaginary, will enable ringers to carry on their practices, and even to ring peals without seriously disturbing the public, and in addition to saving many towers from being closed in populous areas, would, if adopted, result, we believe, in the re-opening of most of those towers which have already been shut up on account of the objections of the public and, in some cases, of the parson himself when he dislikes the sound of his own bells.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

SALFORD, LANCs.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(MANCHESTER BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, July 14, 1936, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE SACRED TRINITY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

A. KNIGHTS' No 67.

Tenor 11 cwt.

HAROLD HOLLINGWORTH ... Treble

HERBERT A. MCKINELL ... 5

JOHN HUXTER ... 2

FRANK REYNOLDS ... 6

P.C. GEORGE PYE ... 3

P.C. WILLIAM PYE ... 7

ALAN J. BROWN ... 4

WILFRED J. MOSS ... Tenor

Conducted by W. J. Moss.

* First in the method. † First of Bob Major. Rung for the wedding of Mr. Stanley Hulme, a ringer of the above church.

PONTEFRAC, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, July 14, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FIVE-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*WILFRED FOX ... Treble

CHARLES BROWN ... 5

HAROLD DYSON ... 2

HARRY MELLOR ... 6

ARTHUR WALKER ... 3

HARRY C. WALTERS ... 7

WILLIAM PEARSON ... 4

WILLIAM R. TATE ... Tenor

Conducted by HARRY C. WALTERS.

* First peal. † First peal of Stedman with a bob bell. Rung as a wedding compliment for Mr. J. E. Atkinson and Miss D. Mitchell.

STAPLEHURST, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

On Wednesday, July 15, 1936, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 21½ cwt.

FREDERICK WHITE ... Treble

R. GORDON CROSS ... 5

HARRY BAKER ... 2

THOMAS E. SONE ... 6

*MALCOLM C. C. MELVILLE ... 3

WILLIAM WENBAN ... 7

TOM SAUNDERS ... 4

A. PATRICK CANNON ... Tenor

Composed by AMBURN WILSON. Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.

* First peal of Kent. Birthday peal for Mrs. H. Baker, L. J. Honess, G. Kenward and the conductor. Malcolm Melville proposed a member of the association before starting.

BURNHAM, BUCKS.—For evensong on Empire Day, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples: Miss S. M. S. Fleming 1, B. O'Neill 2, J. E. Taylor 3, J. D. Taylor 4, G. W. Limmer (conductor) 5, B. T. Harrison 6, G. H. Limmer 7, G. Gilbert 8.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, July 15, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;
Tenor 12½ cwt.

EDWIN BARNETT Treble	FREDERICK M. MITCHELL ... 5
HARRY HOSKINS 2	STANLEY J. T. SHELLOCK ... 6
EDWIN A. BARNETT 3	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... 7
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 4	JAMES BENNETT Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by J. BENNETT.

250th peal by the ringer of the 5th, the esteemed hon. general secretary of the above association, and a birthday compliment to Mrs. F. M. Mitchell, also a ringer of high repute. The conductor has now rung a peal on tower bells, eight and upwards, on every day in the year, viz., the 366 dates on the calendar.

HIGHCLERE, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, July 15, 1936, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael-the-Archangel,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt. 26 lb.

SAMUEL QUINION Treble	JAMES W. BERRY 5
D. CECIL WILLIAMS 2	CYRIL J. HIBBERT 6
BURLEY P. MORRIS 3	GEORGE WILLIAMS 7
*HENRY LAWRENSEN 4	REGINALD W. REX Tenor

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

* First peal of Major. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Miss Irene Knapp, daughter of Mr. F. Knapp, captain of the local band.

NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Thursday, July 16, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Nicholas,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

*PERCY STONE Treble	EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD ... 5
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... 2	HARRY HARRIS 6
ALFRED BALLARD 3	ERNEST STONE 7
*FRANK MEASURES 4	JOHN THOMPSON Tenor

Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

* First peal of Stedman. † 100th peal.

CAMPSALL, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, July 18, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FIVE-PART.

Tenor 11 cwt.

Geo. W. DEBENHAM Treble	FRED NEWYON 5
ARTHUR WALKER 2	HAROLD WALKER 6
HERBERT WALKER 3	HARRY C. WALTERS 7
RONALD H. DOVE 4	CHARLES BROWN Tenor

Conducted by HARRY C. WALTERS.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the wife of the ringer of the 2nd.

SHEPshed, LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, July 18, 1936, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Botolph,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

HARRY KIRBY Treble	JOHN W. BOOTH 5
CHARLES ALLSOP 2	FELIX J. SUTTON 6
WILLIAM JOHNSON 3	JOHN H. GRUNDY 7
R. S. WILLIAM SMITH 4	ERNEST MORRIS Tenor

Composed and Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

Rung to commemorate the dedication of additions to the church of new transept and vestry by the Lord Bishop of Leicester, the Right Rev. Cyril Bardsley, D.D.

MARGATE.—On Sunday, June 21st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples at St. John the Baptist Church: R. Dadds 1, F. Gadsden (conductor) 2, E. Spickett 3, A. Dadds 4, J. Waghorn 5, J. Fifield 6, A. Saxby 7, R. Whybrow 8. Rung on the occasion of the dedication of a new reredos, chancel screen and carved pulpit by the Archbishop of Canterbury.

BUSHEY HEATH, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 18, 1936, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 11½ cwt.

JOHN E. ROOTES Treble	FRANCIS KIRK 5
MRS. EDITH K. FLETCHER ... 2	GEORGE W. FLETCHER ... 6
WALTER G. PAUL 3	JAMES PARKER 7
WALTER AYRE 4	HAROLD G. CASHMORE ... Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

Rung to celebrate the conferring of a knighthood on Sir David Rutherford, a member of this association and donor of these bells.

LONDON.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH
SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 18, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Leonard, Sirbatham S.W.,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

*MISS OLIVE L. ASHBROOK Treble	*ROY K. MOWFORTH ... 5
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ... 2	ERNEST J. KING ... 6
HARRY MANCE 3	JAMES W. CHAPMAN ... 7
THOMAS W. TAFFENDER ... 4	LESLIE G. FRANKS ... Tenor

Conducted by JAMES W. CHAPMAN.

* First peal in the method.

SIX BELL PEALS.

WROXHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 11, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three different callings.

Tenor 9½ cwt.

*T. W. DE VILLE Treble	*R. W. BARBER 4
*S. W. GALL 2	*A. G. KING 5
H. C. READ 3	G. BAILEY Tenor

Conducted by G. BAILEY.

* First Surprise peal.

WROXHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, July 13, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

MISS GWYN TONNADINE ... Treble	A. F. BOYCE 4
GEORGE MAYERS 2	H. C. READ 5
*GEORGE SAYER 3	G. BAILEY Tenor

Conducted by G. BAILEY.

* First peal.

CATHERINGTON, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, July 17, 1936, in Two Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's.

Tenor 9 cwt.

FREDERICK S. BAYLEY ... Treble	RAYMOND PHILPOTT ... 4
BURLEY P. MORRIS 2	FREDERICK W. ROGERS ... 5
CHARLES E. BASSETT 3	ALFRED T. GREENWOOD ... Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK W. ROGERS.

First peal on the bells.

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DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

OTLEY, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, July 18, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's each called differently, with 5-6 the right way.
Tenor 10½ cwt.

JOHN ARRON Treble	JAMES BENNETT, JUN. 4
*JAMES ROSE 2	GEORGE BENNETT 5
*KEITH W. WHITTLE 3	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL ... Tenor

Conducted by GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL.

* First peal of Cambridge Minor. James Rose has now completed
peals of Cambridge from Minor to Maximus.

WOOL, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 18, 1936, in Three Hours and Six Minutes.

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's. Tenor 11 cwt. 24 lb.

HENRY W. SAUNDERS ... Treble	† FRANCIS G. BLAKE 4
*LIONEL H. PINK 2	WILLIAM C. SHUTE 5
JAMES F. HATCHLEY 3	WILLIAM G. YOUNG Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM C. SHUTE.

* First peal of Minor 'inside.' † First peal of Minor. The first
peal of Minor on the bells.

STONE, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, July 18, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Double Court, Double Oxford,
St. Clement's, Single Oxford, Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 13 cwt. in F sharp.

WILLIAM HENLEY ... Treble	WILLIAM WELLING 4
LEONARD STILWELL 2	REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG 5
R. GORDON CROSS 3	TONY PRICE Tenor

Conducted by TONY PRICE.

First peal on the bells.

HEMINGFORD ABBOTS, HUNTS.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, July 19, 1936, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's of Double Oxford and two of Kent Treble Bob, with
three 720's of Plain Bob, each called differently.
Tenor 14 cwt. (approx.).

JACK PARISH Treble	FRANK NICHOLS 4
GEORGE L. PERKINS 2	FRANK WARRINGTON 5
HARRY SAUNDERS 3	JOHN PERKINS Tenor

Conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.

Rung on the eve of the patronal festival and a welcome to the Rev.
Robert Wilfred Balleine, M.A., instituted to this Rectory May 1st.

HANDBELL PEALS.

KIRKELLA, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, July 12, 1936, in Two Hours and Seven Minutes.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, eight different callings.

COLIN A. HOPPER 1-2	DEREK M. SHARP 3-4
ALAN J. HOPPER 5-6	

Conducted by DEREK M. SHARP.

Witness—Joseph W. Chatley.

This peal was rung in a henhouse among the hens, it being the
only convenient place at the time.

ENFIELD.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, July 14, 1936, in Two Hours and Thirteen Minutes.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5072 CHANGES;

GEORGE W. FLETCHER 1-2	EDITH K. FLETCHER 5-6
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY ... 3-4	*ISAAC J. ATTWATER 7-8

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by C. W. WOOLLEY.

* First peal in the method.

THE LADIES' GUILD.

AREA OF DIVISIONS REFERRED TO SPECIAL COMMITTEE.

About 25 members attended the annual meeting of the Ladies' Guild, held at Bath on Saturday, July 11th. Ringing took place at the Abbey and St. Mark's Church in the afternoon. The service was held at St. Mark's, conducted by the Vicar, who gave a short address.

After tea the meeting was held, with Miss Evelyn Steel, the president, in the chair. The hon. treasurer reported that the excess of income over expenditure for the year was 13s. 3d. She pointed out that the excess would have been much more had the subscriptions been paid more promptly. The number of members who had not paid for 1935-36 amounted to 80. The cash balance stood at £21 14s. 7d.

The hon. secretary reported that in all districts meetings had been held regularly, and for the most part had been well supported. Three new ringing members and one life non-ringing member were elected.

Miss Evelyn Steel was unanimously re-elected president, and Mrs. Fletcher hon. secretary and treasurer. Mrs. Richardson reported on the Central Council meeting, and urged all members to support 'The Ringing World.'

It was decided to publish duplicated reports, which the hon. secretary undertook to prepare.

The date fixed for the 25th anniversary dinner in 1937 was October 23rd. This would be held in London, and details were being arranged by the committee.

The quotation for the badges were submitted to the members, and it was decided to add a small amount to the cost to cover postage and packing. The prices were fixed at 5s. for silver and 1s. 6d. for silver-plated. The secretary asked members to make application as soon as possible in order to give some idea of the number required.

A discussion took place on the present division of districts, and it was decided to form a committee, consisting of the president, hon. secretary and district secretaries, to go into this matter, with a view to covering the country more effectively, and to report at the next meeting.

The next annual general meeting was fixed to take place at Hands-worth, Sheffield. The date for the Corporate Communion was also fixed for Sunday, October 25th.

Votes of thanks were passed to all who had contributed to the success of the meeting. After the meeting ringing took place at Twerton.

TRURO RINGERS' TRIBUTE.

MEMORIAL TABLET TO THE LATE MR. WILLIAM PYE.

The annual festival of the Truro Diocesan Guild was held at St. Stephen-in-Brannel on Saturday, July 18th. St. Stephen's fine peal of eight (tenor 13 cwt.) was available, and also the neighbouring towers of St. Denys (6), St. Enoder (8), Ladock (8), St. Mewan (6) and Roche (8). Over 100 ringers were present from Truro Cathedral, Callington, Gulval, Illogan, St. Enoder, St. Michael Carhayes, Towednack, Manaccan, St. Anthony, Redruth, with the local band, also visitors from London and Plymouth.

A service was held in St. Stephen's Church, at which a procession, consisting of a crossbearer, servers, the Rev. W. H. R. Trehwella (hon. secretary of the Guild), the Rev. E. F. Gilbert (Rector of St. Stephen and hon. secretary of the Mid-Cornwall Association), went down to the belfry during the singing of the hymn, 'They whose course on earth is o'er.' In the belfry the Rector dedicated a tablet commemorating the last peal conducted by the late Mr. William Pye. This tablet is an exceedingly fine one of bronze, and was made by Mr. W. G. Hiscott, a member of the Guild, and who was present at the festival. As the procession returned to the chancel, about two dozen well-struck rounds were rung on the bells by the St. Stephen's ringers. The sermon was preached by the Rev. W. H. R. Trehwella, who took for his text Joshua iv., 21, 'What mean these stones?' and said perhaps some would be asking what means this tablet? He pointed out that Mr. Pye was the greatest ringer that had ever lived, and not only did he set out to achieve great things himself, but also to lead others on to achieve great things.

Tea was served in the Church Hall, at which Lt.-Col. C. F. Jerram (Ringing Master) thanked the people of St. Stephen for their work in connection with the festival, and welcomed the visitors. Mr. C. H. Coles (hon. secretary of the Middlesex Association) and Mr. G. R. Pye (brother of the late Mr. William Pye) spoke of how they appreciated the tribute the Truro Diocesan Guild had paid to this great ringer.

Mr. E. P. Duffield, Master of the College Youths, was unfortunately prevented at the last moment from being present.

HINTON-ON-THE-GREEN, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, July 17, 1936, in Two Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor size 12 in F.

MISS KATH. M. JOHNSON ... 1-2	JOSEPH D. JOHNSON 5-6
*MISS AMY R. JOHNSON ... 3-4	MISS MAGGIE J. JOHNSON ... 7-8

Conducted by JOSEPH D. JOHNSON.

* 50th peal. First peal of Triples 'in hand' by all except the conductor.

FOR BEGINNERS.

STEPS IN TREBLE BOB.

To get on to what are sometimes called the 'higher methods,' from the Plain Bob stage, the young ringer has got to master the principles of Treble Bob ringing. The Surprise methods are really Treble Bob with an elaborated work for the working bells; and the basis of Treble Bob is a 'dodging' hunt by the treble.

In plain hunting, a bell moves to and fro, from front and back and back to front, one place at a time, without interruption. The treble does this in Plain Bob and so do the other bells, except (that when the treble leads, one of them makes second's and the rest, stopped in their courses, step back one place before going on again. This step back constitutes a dodge.

In a Treble Bob hunt, however, this dodge has to occur in all the dodging places, that is, in 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, etc., both up and down. If you ring the treble, you strike your first blow in changes in 2nd's place, dodge, or step back one place to strike a blow at lead (which will be at backstroke), and then hunt up until you come to 3-4. Actually, having led, you go forward three steps before stepping back again; but it is best, to start with, if you count your way up to 4th's and then dodge back to 3rd's. Then count your way up to 6th's, before starting back to 5th's.

If you are ringing Major, you go on to 8th's before stepping back to 7th's, but if it is Minor, having reached 6th's, you complete a whole pull behind and begin to dodge down. You make a blow in 5th's, step back to 6th's, count your way down to 3rd's, step back to 4th's, count your way to lead, where you have one blow at handstroke, step back to 2nd's and then lead your whole pull.

That is the Treble Bob hunt for the treble in every lead. In the same way every other bell, beginning, of course, in its respective place, can ring a lead by dodging in this way, and if you are a young band, a few such leads, until you grasp this idea of 'dodging in every place,' as it is sometimes called, is not bad practice, but you must remember that if you do this, you will have a repetition of changes—which does not really matter for this purpose.

If you find a difficulty in your 'ropesight,' it will help you to hunt from place to place if you remember that the bell you strike over both before and after your step back is one and the same. This enables you to look round a little more confidently for your next bell.

In Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, on any number of bells, this dodging hunt is pursued by every bell after it has got above 4th's place, but all the bells do not dodge in 3-4 every time, and none at all in 1-2 unless it is with the treble. It is these variations in the work that make the method.

In Kent Treble Bob, which is considered the easiest method of this kind to begin on, chiefly because it does not break the Plain Bob coursing order of the bells, the bells in 3-4 make places instead of dodging when the treble itself is below them in 1-2. A bell coming down from behind makes a whole pull in 4th's, followed immediately by a whole pull in 3rd's, and correspondingly the bell coming from the front makes 3rd's, followed by 4th's. Two pairs of bells do this in each lead—all the rest dodge when they come to 3-4 (or 4-3, on the way down).

There is one other piece of work which needs explaining. It is known as the 'slow' work, because it keeps one bell in 1-2 from the time the treble leaves the lead until it gets back again.

This bell is the one which dodges with the treble, after the latter has led, and when the treble goes away it alternately leads a whole pull and lies a whole pull in 2nd's place (each time over a different bell) until the treble gets back again to dodge with it. It is the making of this 2nd's place which causes all the dodging above it. This bell is one of those which, going in, makes 4th's and 3rd's, and, going out, makes 3rd's and 4th's. It is well to know that all these places in 3-4 are made the 'wrong' way: that is at backstroke and handstroke. The series of whole pulls made in 2nd's place in the 'slow' are, however, all made the right way.

To ring Treble Bob, it is not really necessary to construct a table showing the work of every lead, because except in 1-2, and in 3-4 when the treble is in 1-2, every bell dodges in every dodging place. From 4-3 every bell runs straight in to lead and straight out again to 3-4, unless it is going into or coming out of the 'slow.'

The important thing is to know when these places in 3-4 are to be made and when the slow work is coming.

You make places in 4-3 (down) in two leads in succession. Before you come to the first one, you will have passed the treble (in Minor) in 4-5; before you come to the second you will dodge with the treble in 5-6 (up), the treble being the bell that dodges down with you. You hunt down behind the treble and dodge with it in 2-1. You then complete the Slow work, and make places in 3-4 on the way out (having dodged with the treble in 1-2). You dodge your way round to 4-3 (down), hunt in and lead a whole pull, pass the treble in 2-3 and repeat the places.

You are then free of place-making until you again pass the treble in 4-5; if it is in Major, until you pass the treble in 6-7.

A Bob is simply made. All the bells above 4th's, having met and begun to dodge in pairs, have an *additional double dodge* when a bob is called; that is, instead of stepping back once they step back three times. The bell that passed the treble in 2-3 and is making

(Continued in next column.)

BURITON RINGERS JOIN WINCHESTER GUILD.

PORTSMOUTH DISTRICT'S ENJOYABLE MEETING.

A quarterly meeting of the Portsmouth District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild was held at Buriton on Saturday, July 18th, when members attended from Blackmoor, Catherington, Havant, Petersfield, Portsmouth (St. Mary's), Steep, Soberton, Titchfield and Wickham. The local band welcomed the visitors, it being the first time the Guild had held a meeting at Buriton. The ring of six were kept going during the afternoon in a variety of methods. The Guild service was conducted by the Rector (Canon G. S. Morley).

An excellent tea was served at the local inn, after which the business meeting was held, the Rector being voted to the chair. On the proposition of Mr. H. Dudman, seconded by Mr. F. W. Rogers, Capt. E. P. Bickford was elected an honorary member of the Guild. This was carried with acclamation, the secretary reminding the members that Capt. Bickford was taking a great interest in getting Soberton bells restored.

The following ringing members were then elected on the proposition of Mr. A. T. Greenwood, seconded by Mr. F. S. Bayley: R. V. Cockle (Bishop's Waltham), R. Robinson (Portsea), J. Pope (Soberton), G. New, W. Burgess, H. G. Harper, W. Patrick, W. Pretty and H. J. Stubbs (Buriton). The election of B. P. Morris prior to a peal attempt was confirmed. The general secretary said how pleased he was to welcome the Buriton ringers into the Guild, and trusted they would progress and interest themselves in its work.

It was proposed by Mr. F. W. Rogers, seconded by Mr. H. J. Smith, that the next quarterly meeting be held at St. Mary's, Portsmouth, on either Saturday, October 10th, or Saturday, October 17th.

Votes of thanks were accorded the Rector for the use of the bells and officiating at service and business meeting, also to the organist and the caterers for their excellent tea. The Rector suitably responded and expressed a wish that the Guild would visit Buriton in the near future.

The members then returned to the tower for further ringing, which ranged from rounds to Cambridge Surprise Minor.

SURREY AND SUSSEX RINGERS FRATERNISE.

A JOINT MEETING AT LINGFIELD.

A joint meeting of the Southern District of the Surrey Association with the East Grinstead and District Guild was held on Saturday, July 11th, at Lingfield, Surrey. About 40 were present from both associations, an excellent attendance considering the inclemency of the weather. This was the first joint meeting ever to be held by the Southern District, but it is hoped that many more will take place, as expressions of goodwill were heard on all sides. The Rev. Owen gave an inspiring address on the subject of 'Unity,' and said how pleased he was to welcome such a fine body of men as the ringers of the two associations were. He congratulated them on the good striking he had heard during the afternoon.

During tea, a contingent arrived from Hartfield, Sussex. They had to face the ordeal of 'fire and water.' After two motor-cycle punctures, a breakdown and a four or five mile walk in the pouring rain, they duly arrived, and set a fine example of what ringers can and often do.

After tea more ringing was indulged in until 9 o'clock, when the bells were lowered in peal. All the standard methods were rung, and the secretaries of both associations were highly delighted at the success of this first joint venture. Among those present were a lady and gentleman from Bromley, who had bravely cycled all the way through the dreadful weather.

(Continued from previous column.)

3rd's and 4th's makes a further 4th's and 3rd's and returns to lead. The next lead it goes back into the Slow work.

The bell that actually goes in to dodge with the treble and the one that comes out of the Slow work are not affected by a bob. The work for a bob is the same on all numbers of bells, and here are figures showing the place-making at a plain lead and at a bob in Minor:—

Plain Lead	Bob
356142	356142
531624	531624
536142	536142
351624	351624
315264	315264
135246	135246
312564	Bob 312564
132546	132546
123456	123456
213485	213485
124356	125364
214365	215346
241635	251436
426153	524163
421635	521436
246153	254163

NEW PEAL OF EIGHT FOR SUSSEX.

OPENING OF FAIRWARP BELLS.

With a great wind blowing across the country, the new peal of eight bells at Christ Church, Fairwarp, was dedicated and opened on Saturday. From a small village church there has developed, by the magnificent gift of Sir Bernard Eckstein in memory of his father and mother, one of the finest modern churches in the county. The original part of the church now forms the west end of the nave, and there has been added to this the new sanctuary, a children's chapel and a commanding central tower.

It was at first suggested that a chime of bells should be placed in the tower, but, after careful consideration and with the assurance of help from the Sussex County Association, it was finally decided to instal a ringing peal, and the work was put into the hands of Messrs. Gillett and Johnston. The result is a peal of eight with a tenor of 15½ cwt. in F sharp, of which any church might be proud. The bells are hung in a low side A frame on heavy steel girders, with the latest type of ball bearings and headstocks. On the tenor is fitted a clapper control, and the whole peal is tuned on the true five tone harmonic principle. Every provision has been made for the comfort of the ringers by the fitting of sound proof floors to moderate the noise of the bells in the ringing chamber and the panelling of the chamber itself.

At the dedicatory service, the Right Rev. the Bishop of Chichester officiated, assisted by the Vicar of Fairwarp (the Rev. D. Pilkington). After an introductory psalm and prayers, the Bishop proceeded to the pulpit and thence to the children's chapel, dedicating each in turn. Meanwhile the trap had been removed from the floor of the ringing chamber, giving a clear opening to the nave and chancel below, and during the singing of the hymn, 'We love the place, O God,' the Bishop mounted the tower steps. On his arrival the tenor was struck once and the dedicatory prayers for the tower and bells said. At once the bells struck into rounds, and the hymn was concluded as the Bishop returned to the altar. Then followed the anthem, 'Blessed be the God and Father,' which preceded the sermon.

In his address the Bishop expressed his appreciation of the magnificent gift which had enabled this fine church to be built to the glory of God, and drew attention to the need for new churches in the diocese in those areas where new settlements and new estates had made their provision essential if the faith of the Church was to be carried on. In this cause there had been instigated the Society of Sussex Church Builders, which had already done good work in providing new places of worship. The need, however, was still a pressing one, and could not be satisfied without even greater efforts, and with this end in view he appealed to all present for their help in this important work.

Among the congregation present were the donor of the church, Sir Bernard Eckstein, with Capt. Roberts, Col. Barchard and the Misses Barchard, P. C. Mitchell Innes, Miss Dunbar and the family of the Shakley Akers.

BISHOP AND DONOR MEET RINGERS.

The opening touch on the bells was rung by members of the Sussex County Association from Warnham, Crawley and Brighton, and consisted of Superlative Surprise Major, conducted by Mr. Oliver Sippetts, secretary of the Northern Division, in whose hands the organisation of the ringing had been placed. Visiting ringers were present from practically all the towers in centre of the county to the number of 79, and all partook of Sir Bernard's hospitality at tea in the Foresters' Arms. At the conclusion of the meal the Bishop, president of the association, and the Vicar of Fairwarp joined the company. The Bishop recalled with pleasure his previous meeting with the members of the association on the occasion of their jubilee dinner in Brighton last year and the Master, Mr. H. R. Butcher, expressed the members' gratitude for his presence and welcomed him among them again.

In the evening the tower was thrown open for ringing, during which Sir Bernard was conducted to the belfry by Mr. Cyril Johnston to see the ringers at work and the bells in action. The donor of the bells was introduced to the Master of the association, the hon. general secretary (Mr. S. E. Armstrong), Mr. Oliver Sippetts and the hon. secretary of the Surrey Association (Mr. C. Kippin). In a few words Sir Bernard expressed his pleasure in meeting for the first time the large company of ringers who had come to hear and try the bells. The Master replied, assuring Sir Bernard that everything that could be done by the association to ensure the formation of a band at Fairwarp to ring the splendid peal provided by his generosity would be undertaken.

The foundry staff of Messrs. Gillett and Johnston was represented by the works manager (Mr. H. E. Anderson) and Messrs. G. Brown, Newsom and S. Rorer, together with the proprietor (Mr. Cyril Johnston). The excellence of the work at Fairwarp reflects great credit on the firm, and it is greatly to be hoped that all will combine in making a band worthy of the peal installed. Now that the dedication ceremony has been completed and the bells opened there begins the difficult task of training a completely new band from the very start. Any help in this direction will be greatly appreciated by the church authorities and the secretary of the Northern Division.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

DEVIZES BRANCH ACTIVITY.

The half-yearly meeting of the Devizes Branch was held at Trowbridge on July 4th. The Rector, the Rev. S. N. Wallace, met the members and opened the proceedings in the tower with prayers taken from the Guild service. Ringing commenced shortly afterwards and continued until 7 p.m., with a break for tea and meeting, which were held in the Co-op Institute, with Mr. E. F. White, branch chairman, presiding.

The Chairman spoke feelingly of the great loss the Guild hon. secretary and treasurer had sustained in the death of his mother, and it was unanimously decided to send a letter of sympathy to him direct from that meeting.

Mr. S. Hillier was thanked for his brief report of the Central Council meeting, and it was decided to hold the next meeting at Urchfont, taking in the three five-bell towers in that district during the evening.

After votes of thanks to those concerned for allowing the meeting that day, the members again visited the tower.

Later in the evening a party went on to Hilpertou, where they were met by the Rector (the Rev. Canon Dunlop) and Mr. W. J. Mees, and ringing continued until 9 p.m. on this light ring of six.

During the day methods ranging from Stedman Triples to Cinques, Bob Major, Double Norwich and Cambridge Surprise at Trowbridge, and Grandsire Doubles to Surprise Minor at Hilpertou. During the afternoon and evening about 50 members joined in ringing, including welcome visitors from Swindon.

YORKSHIRE RINGERS AT WITHERNSEA.

By the kind invitation of the Vicar and local ringers, an extra practice meeting of the Eastern District of the Yorkshire Association was held at WitherNSEA on Saturday, July 19th. Owing to the meeting clashing with several other events in the district and the inclement weather, the attendance was somewhat below the average, but some good practice was enjoyed in the following methods: Cambridge Surprise, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Plain and Treble Bob Minor and Stedman and Grandsire Doubles.

After tea at the Select Cafe, an hour was spent on the promenade and then a further two hours' ringing. The company included two lady ringers from Sherburn-in-Elmet, which tower has now three lady members all making excellent progress, largely due to the leadership of Mr. R. H. Vigor. The towers represented were Hemingbrough, Hull, Selby, Sherburn-in-Elmet and WitherNSEA.

HUGHENDEN SURPRISE MAJOR.

BY G. LINDOFF.

12345678	5,088 CHANGES.			
21354768	23456	M	W	B H
12537486	45236	—	—	—
21357846	24536	—	—	—
23158764	52436	—	—	—
32517846	34625	—	—	—
32158764	62345	—	—	—
23517846	36245	—	—	—
32571486	23645	—	—	—
23754168	36245	—	—	—
27351486	64235	—	—	—
72534168	26435	—	—	—
27354618	46325	—	B	—
23756481	52364	—	—	—
32574618	35264	—	—	—
35276481	23564	—	—	—
53726841	56234	—	—	—
57328614	25634	—	—	—
75236841	62534	—	—	—
72538614	43526	—	—	—
27358164	54326	—	—	—
72531846	35426	—	—	—
75238164	42356	—	—	—
57321846	34256	—	—	—
75312486	23456	—	—	—
57134268	The first peal in this method, Lindoff's No. 102, was rung at Hughenden by members of Oxford Diocesan Guild, on April 18th, 1936, conducted by H. Wingrove.			
57312486				
75134268				
71532486				
17352846	False C.E.			
71538264				
17583624	24365			
17856342				
Boh				
15786342				

STOURBRIDGE RINGER'S FATAL ACCIDENT.

St. Thomas' Church, Stourbridge, have lost a much respected member of their band of ringers by the tragic death of Mr. Louis W. Turner, who passed away on July 12th. Aged 22, Mr. Turner had recently commenced business on his own account as a boot repairer and was on his way to his shop at Fairfield, near Bromsgrove, on his motor-cycle, on July 9th, when for some unknown reason he fell from his machine and fractured his skull. He was conveyed to the Corbett Hospital and recovered consciousness to a certain extent, but was not well enough to make any statement about the accident. No light on the tragedy was revealed at the inquest, and a verdict of 'Accidental death' was returned.

The funeral took place on July 15th, and was preceded by a service in St. Thomas' Church, where deceased had served as a chorister and bellringer. The Vicar (Canon M. S. Newland) officiated, and among the many present were the Rev. F. S. Wadsworth (curate in charge of Fairfield), the Rev. G. H. Mallen (Derby), Mr. W. A. Horne (churchwarden) and Mrs. Horne, Miss Newland and Miss Cave-Browne-Cave. The interment was at the Borough Cemetery, the committal prayers being read by the Vicar. Six of his brother ringers, Messrs. J. W. Smith, F. W. Gibbs, F. Vaughan Nicholls, Kenneth I. Pardoe, Arthur D. Fellows and C. W. Cooper, acted as bearers, and other ringers present were Messrs. E. S. Bushell, R. J. Chance and Norman G. Leech.

In the evening the bells at St. Thomas' were rung half-muffled as a last token of respect, several touches being accomplished by the following: Messrs. J. W. Smith, W. Farley, F. W. Gibbs, F. V. Nicholls, A. D. Fellows, A. L. Dunn, A. Reynolds, N. G. Leech and C. W. Cooper. Messrs. J. W. Smith and W. Farley were the conductors. There were many beautiful wreaths, including one from St. Thomas' ringers. Much sympathy has been offered to the bereaved parents and family.

FROM FATHER TO SON.

At St. Michael's Parish Church, Macclesfield, on Sunday, July 12th, before evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Cinques (1,452 changes): H. Davenport (first quarter-peal) 1, W. Matthews 2, G. Bottomley 3, A. Burgess 4, T. Potts 5, J. Tipper 6, W. Stevenson 7, H. Dean 8, J. Bradbury 9, H. Lomas 10, J. Worth (conductor) 11, V. Norbury 12. Longest length of Grandsire Cinques by all the band and on the bells.

Rung to commemorate the retirement of the verger, Mr. J. Norbury, and the induction into the office of verger of his son, Mr. V. Norbury, which took place during the service. Mr. J. Norbury is also leader of the band.

RINGER FOR 40 YEARS.**PRESENTATION TO MR. G. T. WHITE AT DORCHESTER.**

Members of the St. Peter's Society, Dorchester, recently gathered at St. Peter's Institute for a very pleasing little ceremony, when their president (the Rev. A. Wilkinson Markby, M.A.) presented to Mr. G. T. White, on their behalf, a Lenwell armchair, in recognition of his 40 years' service as a ringer at St. Peter's.

In asking Mr. White to accept the gift, the Rector expressed to him the appreciation of the society for the great help he had rendered them during this long period, and also for his regularity of attendance and the willingness he had always shown to assist in any way he could, especially in helping on beginners.

Mr. White, who was obviously taken by surprise, thanked the members for their very kind gift, and said it had been a great pleasure to him to do what he could for them.

Several others also spoke of the assistance they had received from Mr. White.

Joining the society in March, 1896, Mr. White was elected captain in 1897, a post which he held, with the exception of one year, until 1921. In 1902 he conducted the first peal (Grandsire Triples) that was rung upon the bells, and is the only present member of the tower who took part in that performance. He has since rung a number of peals in different methods, both in his own and other towers, and has conducted five of the seven peals which he subsequently rang at St. Peter's with the local band.

THE BELLS OF 'BRUM.'**NURSERY RHYMES FOR BELLRINGERS.**

Old cross bones and skull, toll the bells of Solihull.

Ah! Life is no joke, cry the bells of Selly Oak.

Let's be happy and glad, chime the bells of Saint Chad.

My tankard and fill it, shout the bells of Saint Philip.

A long drink and short one, say the bells of King's Norton.

To the Bishop and Darwin, sing the bells of Saint Martin.

With a good peal and long one, ring the bells of old Aston.

Then listen, quite still, to the bells of Bournville.

There's no sound on earth like the bells of Handsworth.

Ring Stedman or Norwich, ask the bells of West Bromwich.

Then the world without end plead the bells of Deritend.

Now God save the King, roar the bells of Bull Ring.

W. H. F.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Last Saturday, at Algarkirk, Lincs, the talented band who have been helping to make history in Minor method splicing made a valiant attempt for a new record.

They started for a peal of seven 720's in no fewer than 60 methods, and when all was going well the treble rope broke in the last lead of the fifth 720!

Messrs. Gillett and Johnston have received the order to rehang with modern fittings in an iron frame the peal of six bells at Donington, near Spalding, Lincolnshire.

In connection with the congratulatory peal at Leyton on July 11th, published in our last issue, Mr. George Hayden should have been described as steeplekeeper and sexton.

To the long list of young peal ringers must be added Percy Stone (15), who rang his first peal of Stedman on July 16th at Nuneaton. Mr. Frank Measures, who also scored his 'first' of Stedman, was elected a member of the Warwickshire Guild before starting.

A long cherished ambition has been achieved by Mr. James Bennett by ringing a peal on every day of the year, viz., the 366 dates in the calendar. The long series was completed at Milton-next-Gravesend on July 15th. The whole of Mr. Bennett's peals have been rung on tower bells eight and upwards.

There was another interesting performance associated with the peal at Milton-next-Gravesend, apart from Mr. Bennett's completion of his calendar of peals. Mr. Fred M. Mitchell had the satisfaction of recording his 250th peal. Many of Mr. Mitchell's earlier peals were rung in association with Mr. Bennett.

Handbell peals have been rung in strange places, but the performance recorded this week at Kirkella, Yorkshire, in a henhouse among the hens, really takes the biscuit. We could well understand our Yorkshire friends selecting extensive kennels for such a performance, but the henhouse is, indeed, a novelty.

His many friends will regret to hear that Mr. James George, the veteran Birmingham ringer, is far from well. Since his accident on July 6th he has had a severe attack of bronchitis and whooping cough. He wishes, through our columns, to thank his many friends for their kind inquiries.

At a county scout and girl guide rally at Lincoln last Saturday, a feature was a human map of Lincolnshire, showing its industries and other features. The city of Lincoln was represented by a large model of its Cathedral, and the spectators heard the ringing of the bells. A party of guides, who had been instructed by Mr. Harold Marcon, rang Triples on handbells, on the 'lapping' principle, and afterwards rounds on twelve.

The many friends of Miss Olive Renton, of Whingate, Armley, will be pleased to learn that she is progressing as favourably as can be expected after her recent accident. On Tuesday week Miss Renton was knocked down by a tramcar whilst crossing the road. She was taken to the Infirmary, where she was found to be suffering from concussion and scalp wounds. Latest information is that she is showing considerable improvement, but it will be many weeks before she is able to take any active part in ringing. Miss Renton is attached to the Christ Church tower, Upper Armley, and is well known in ringing circles.

ARMLEY RINGER HONOURED.

At an investiture of awards for loyal and efficient service in the ambulance movement, in London on July 10th, Mr. John William Bente, of Armley, was appointed an honorary serving brother of the Order of St. John. Mr. Bente has taken an active part in ambulance work for the past 30 years. He took his first-aid certificate in 1904, graduating through the ranks of corporal, sergeant and ambulance officer to superintendent of the division. He holds the brigade long service medal with three bars, also the railway company's gold medal and three bars for efficiency. Mr. Bente is a ringing member of the Christ Church tower, and is a regular attendant at the meetings of the Yorkshire Association and the Leeds and District Society.

MR. F. M. MITCHELL'S 250 PEALS.

Mr. F. M. Mitchell completed his 250th peal this week. His record is an interesting one, the peals being rung in 55 towers, in eight counties, with 39 conductors. Sixty were rung in his home tower at Milton-next-Gravesend, Kent. Details are appended:—

Doubles 1. Minor: One method, 4; two methods, 1; three methods, 2; four methods, 5; five methods, 4; six methods, 3; seven methods, 32; ten methods, 2.

Triples: Grandsire 3, Stedman 39.

Major: Plain Bob 4, Dartford Little Bob 1, Hereward 1, Canterbury 1, Victory 1, Kent Treble Bob 30, Oxford Treble Bob 7, Grants Treble Bob 1, Cam Treble Bob 1, Double Norwich 28, Spliced Double Norwich and Double Oxford 1, Spliced Bob Major and Stedman 1, Spliced Bob Major, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob 1, Spliced Cambridge and Superlative Surprise 1, Cambridge Surprise 27, Superlative 14, London 1.

Caters: Grandsire 1, Stedman 15.

Royal: Plain Bob 1, Little Bob 1, Kent Treble Bob 7, Oxford Treble Bob 1, Cam Treble Bob 1, Grants Treble Bob 1, Spliced Kent and Oxford Treble Bob 1, Cambridge Surprise 1.

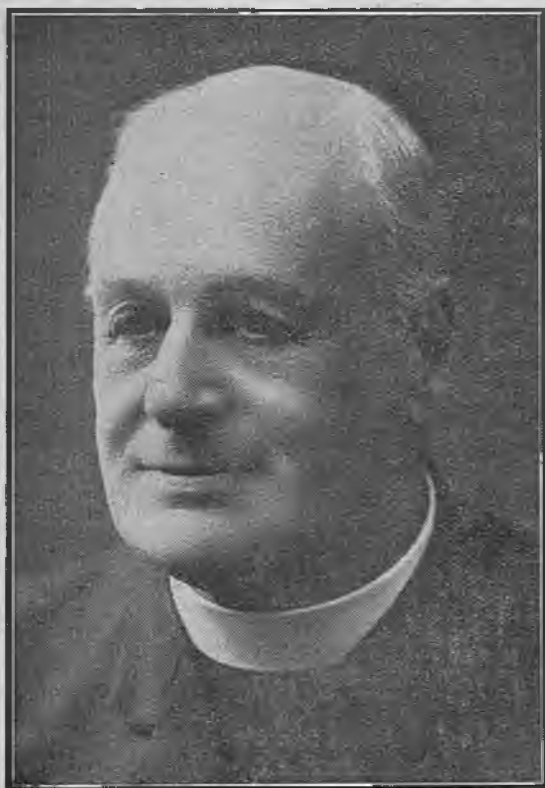
Cinquies: Stedman 3.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. SEVEN NEW TOWERS AFFILIATE.

Importance of Parliamentary Representation.

The annual meeting of the Oxford Diocesan Guild took place at Oxford last Saturday, and was attended by a large number of members from all parts of the diocese. At the service in the cathedral the prayers were said by Canon Coleridge, the lesson was read by the Rev. C. C. Inge, Rural Dean of Oxford, and the sermon was preached by the Deputy Master of the Guild (Rev. C. Elliot Wigg).

Mr. Wigg gave a thoughtful discourse, which he prefaced with a reference to a scene from Shakespeare's 'As You Like It' in place of the usual text. He said that the most important things in England to-day were not the most obvious, like material prosperity and scientific progress, but things less obvious and more fundamental, the settled order of society, the healthy pleasures of social life, happy united homes, and the deep things connected with religion. Religion gives a point of contact between ourselves and what is greater than ourselves and is permanent. If a man says that religion is nothing to him, what he means is that he does not know what religion is.



CANON G. F. COLERIDGE.

Who has again been elected Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

In the dark ages the Church stood for social order and security, and to-day she still stands for order and all that is best in life. The bells speak to us of the true value of human life and of the deeper truths. Let us listen to them.

The business meeting followed immediately in the Chapter House. Canon Coleridge, the Master, presided, supported by the Deputy Master, the hon. secretary (Mr. R. T. Hibbert) and the hon. treasurer (Mr. A. J. Wright). The annual reports of the officers were taken as printed. They were short and show steady progress in the life and work of the Guild. A slight decrease had taken place in the numbers, both of the honorary and ringing members, but at the end of 1935 there were 219 of the former and 2,391 of the latter, with 251 towers in union, which easily places the Guild among the two or three largest in the country. During the year seven towers had joined and 116 peals had been rung, which included several in new Surprise methods, and many young ringers took part in their first peal.

Mr. Barker was elected treasurer in the place of Mr. Wright, who, after long service, wished to retire.

A long discussion ensued as to the place of next year's meeting. Oxford was proposed and seconded, and Reading as an amendment. Then another proposal was put forward to hold an autumn meeting at Reading in addition to the summer one at Oxford. In the end both meetings at Reading were negative and Oxford agreed to by a large majority.

REVISION OF GUILD SERVICE.

A proposal had been made to revise the Guild's service book, and a sub-committee had been appointed, but had not met. They were now instructed to do so and to report to the next annual general meeting. Grants towards restoration funds were made to several towers, and a further grant was promised to Streatley if the six bells there were increased to eight. A grant of five guineas promised by the General Committee to the William Pye Memorial Fund was confirmed.

In giving an account of the meeting of the Central Council in London, Canon Coleridge urged the necessity for greater support being given to 'The Ringing World.' Ringers could not do without the paper and yet only a handful of them bought it. If everyone in the Oxford Diocesan Guild bought a copy, they could have a bigger and better paper at less cost than at present. He also mentioned that Lord Shaftesbury had been elected a member of the Council, and said that ringers had now a representative in Parliament who would look after their interests in case they were threatened by anything like a noise abatement bill.

CONSIDER THE HERRING.

As the British Medical Association was holding a series of meetings in Oxford, the great hall of Christ Church College was not available, but an excellent luncheon was served at the Carfax Assembly Rooms. At the close the Master gave the loyal toast and the National Anthem was sung. The Rural Dean proposed the health of the Guild, and Mr. R. T. Hibbert that of the Master. In thanking the company, the Canon said he now felt as well as ever he did, and he hoped to serve the Guild as long as possible, but last autumn he had a very bad time. It started with his left shoulder, went down his leg and so all over his body until every bone in his body save only one knee-cap ached. When he told a friend about it, the other replied that he had much to be thankful for. The Almighty might have created him a herring! Dr. Joyce gave the toast of 'The Visitors,' and Mr. J. A. Trollope replied.

During the day there was ringing at many of the towers of the colleges and parish churches. Oxford is one of the very best places in England in which to hold a ringers' meeting. It is full of lovely and interesting buildings and has plenty of bells. It would be an ideal place for a band to spend a week's holiday in if you could only get rid of the townsmen, visitors and university people. The bells at the Cathedral, the 'bonny Christ Church bells,' are one of the most famous rings in England. They are a mixed lot, but quite pleasing to listen to. The ten at New College are a lot of old pots, and Magdalen bells, for all the kind things that have been said about them, are not much better. We did not hear the eight at Merton.

COMBINED PRACTICES.

GEOGRAPHICAL DIFFICULTIES AT BRADFIELD.

The annual festival of the Bradfield Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild was held at Beenham on July 11th, when about 20 members assembled at the Parish Church of St. Mary. Short touches were rung before the service, which was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. R. Howes.

The business meeting followed. The Vicar, who is hon. secretary of the Bradfield Branch, gave his report of the year's work. He maintained that the combined practices had been a failure, which he ascribed to apathy and geographical difficulties. He doubted if it was worth while continuing the practices, and suggested the rearrangement of the towers in the branch to overcome the geographical difficulty. After some discussion the following resolution was carried unanimously: 'That the Bradfield Branch be dissolved and the towers be allowed to join either Reading or Newbury branches, with their consent; also that the money in hand in the Bradfield Branch be divided in some proportion between Reading and Newbury branches.'

This resolution was forwarded to the annual meeting of the Guild, held at Oxford on July 18th.

GREAT RINGING DAY.

The 313th anniversary of Great Ringing Day was observed on Saturday, June 27th, when the usual festival was held at Saffron Walden. Ringing commenced at 2 p.m. and continued until 4.45 p.m., when the company sat down to a meal (tea at the King's Arms Hotel). The Master of the local society (Mr. A. E. Pitstow) presided, and was supported by the Vicar (Dr. L. Hughes), members of the local band and many visiting ringers.

A service was held in the Parish Church at 6 p.m. The Vicar preached a most interesting sermon, giving quotations on bells from the English poets, saying all were bell-lovers except Shakespeare, who lived before the art of change ringing was established.

The bells were kept going until 8.45 p.m. in all the Surprise methods on eight bells, with touches of Caters and Royal on ten bells.

BY COACH AND TRAIN TO DISTANT TOWERS.

CRAYFORD RINGERS IN NORTHANTS.

On Saturday, July 4th, the band of St. Paulinus', Crayford, minus those who could not tear themselves away from duty, plus a few friends, had their 'annual.' Setting out by coach from Crayford at 7.15 p.m., they had a few stops to pick up stragglers, and then non-stop—except for traffic lights—to Stony Stratford, where the local pilot, Mr. Percy Amos, was observed scrutinising all coach index plates for signs of a course end. Taking his post 'on the bridge,' or rather beside the driver, he proceeded to pilot the company down lanes and byways and over bridges, recalling Blackpool scenic railway, round a hairpin bend where two lorries had just had a forcible argument, to the old-world village of Wicken, where Mr. A. J. Green and his son were in attendance. This handy, well-toned peal were put into action to Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob and Bristol. As there were four more towers on the list and a long ride home, the bells were lowered in peal and a quick adjournment made to Wicken's rest house (to find the driver) before dodging back into Bedfordshire again to Bromham. Unfortunately, the bells there were not heard at their best, as there was a constant rush to 'hear them outside,' and it was only with the help of Mr. Tysoe that the eight were kept going. The writer was one of the unlucky ones who was not artful enough to get out, but it must be recorded that the bells were a treat to listen to inside, even if a bit on the noisy side. Here the visitors were spared the job of lowering, as there was a meeting later, and it is firmly believed that had it not been for the distance to walk home, some of the party would have deserted and spent the afternoon there. After another brief spell to enjoy the hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Tysoe, the party turned back again over the county border to Olney, where Mr. Boswell was patiently waiting. It was evident that the visitors had had good advice in the choice of peals, for here again a 25 cwt. ring were well worth the journey. The standard methods were once more attacked, a touch to suit everybody, a fall in peal and on to Northampton, where everyone felt they had earned a good lunch (it was now 3 p.m.). Thanks to the pilot's arrangements, all were satisfied. A visit to St. Giles', Northampton, where Mr. W. Rogers was waiting, brought forth Stedman and Grandsire Caters, a few 'firsts' among them. A quick look round the famous Round Church followed before setting out for the finale—Finedon. This was reached at 6.15, and two of the company decided to find Tom Hensher before going up into the tower. This was a bad move, for he had gone to find the party, and by the time they had got to the church Tom had returned to attend to business. However, they did eventually meet with several more of the Finedon band, and all sorts of antics were indulged in up to and including Cambridge Major.

None of the party had evidently realised how happily Host Hensher was situated to make a party feel at home, or they would have doubtless 'cut the cake' and made a move earlier in the day, and so had longer to spend at Finedon, but, alas, 'twas too late. The driver of the coach seemed to be terribly concerned about 'his job to-morrow,' and one by one he collected his fares and eventually set out on the return journey just after 8 p.m., reaching Crayford at 11.30. The thanks of the company are here tendered to Messrs. Green, of Wicken, F. Tysoe, of Bromham, F. Boswell, of Olney, W. Rogers, of St. Giles', Northampton, and T. R. Hensher and those of the local company at Finedon who all assisted to make the day an enjoyable one, and last, but not least, to Mr. Percy Amos for acting as pilot for the day, and who assisted greatly in the arrangements which went off so smoothly.

BURTON DISTRICT OF M.C.A. VISITS HINCKLEY.

Eighteen ringers and friends from Burton, Derby, Newhall, Overseal, Ashby, Appleby, Measham, Loughborough and Norton-in-the-Moors spent an interesting though showery afternoon on Saturday, July 11th, in the Hinckley District of the M.C.A. Journeying via Overseal, Measham and Market Bosworth, the first call was Earl Shilton, where all the members tried the grand peal of eight, which were a delight to handle. Next the party proceeded to Barwell and the bells were soon ringing out to a touch of Bob Major. Here again Grandsire Doubles was rung for the younger members, while the ladies enjoyed the privilege of looking round the Rectory grounds. At Hinckley three-quarters of an hour's good ringing was enjoyed, especially the last two touches of Kent Treble Bob Major and Stedman Triples.

An excellent tea was partaken at the Carlton Cafe, and before leaving for Tamworth a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded the late Rector of Seale (the Rev. H. E. Worthington, B.A.) for his generous donation towards the cost of tea. Upon reaching Tamworth the party rung touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Kent and Plain Bob Major. The return journey was made via No Man's Heath, Measham and Overseal, and brought a very enjoyable outing to a close. The party would like to thank all incumbents for use of the bells, and Messrs. G. A. Newton, C. H. Belton, B. Ridgeway and S. G. Chaplin for making the arrangements at their respective towers and having everything in readiness.

SAFFRON WALDEN RINGERS AT LOUGHBOROUGH.

The Saffron Walden Society held its annual outing on Monday, July 6th, the chief object being to visit Messrs. Taylor's Bell Foundry at Loughborough. The party of 14 left at 9 a.m. by motor-coach, and the first call was made at Kettering, where touches of Stedman Caters, London and Cambridge Surprise were rung. Upon arrival at Loughborough, an excellent lunch was served at the King's Head.

A visit was then paid to the bell foundry, where the party were met by Mr. Colin Harrison, who, after a brief introduction to all, kindly showed them round the foundry, giving a most interesting description of how a bell is cast, tuned and hung. The party were very interested in the carillon built for U.S.A., and Mr. A. Pitstow played a few leads of Grandsire Triples and 'Drink to me only' on the bells. After the works had been thoroughly inspected, the party adjourned to the Campanile, where a touch of Stedman Caters and a course of London Surprise were rung. The visitors were especially pleased to meet Mr. Dennison Taylor, to whom thanks were expressed for allowing the party to visit the foundry and ring on the peal.

The next call was at the Parish Church to ring on the fine peal of ten. This tower is of special interest to the Society, as three of its members took part in the 8,800 of Superlative Surprise in 1894, e.g., the late Mr. N. J. Pitstow, the late Mr. A. James and Mr. Ernest Pitstow, who was present with the party. The visitors rang Stedman Caters, London Surprise and Grandsire Triples in this tower.

From Loughborough the journey was resumed to Leicester, where Mr. Ernest Morris, Mr. F. Dexter and others accorded the party a cordial welcome. A touch of Stedman Cinques was successfully brought round, after which a course of Cambridge Royal was lost when nearly home. The day's ringing closed with a course of London on the back eight of this fine peal. After a chat and refreshments, the homeward journey was commenced at 8.15, home being reached at midnight, all agreeing that a most enjoyable day had been spent. The ringers would like to express their thanks to Messrs. Taylor and the incumbents for allowing them to ring, and to the local ringers for having everything ready.

WORCESTERSHIRE RINGERS VISIT SOMERSET.

Hinton-on-the-Green ringers were accompanied on their annual outing by friends from Hampton, Badsey and Bretforton. The party left Hinton at 7.30 a.m. and made their first stop at Wrington, Somerset. Short touches of Grandsire and Stedman Caters and Kent Treble Bob Royal were rung on the peal of ten bells at All Saints' Church (tenor 37 cwt.), and Grandsire Triples on the handbells. From Wrington the party went on to Cheddar, where they had lunch, and then spent an enjoyable three-quarters of an hour in Gough's caves. The next stop was made at Clevedon, where touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Bob Major were rung at the Church of St. Peter (tenor 12 cwt.), after which an excellent tea was partaken of. A visit to Portishead followed, where the bells of the Parish Church (tenor 16 cwt.) were rung to Grandsire, Stedman and Oxford Bob Triples, after which the party returned home.

LOWESTOFT RINGERS MAKE MERRY.

As it is the usual practice among the bellringing fraternity to take a 'busman's holiday' at least once a year, the band from St. Margaret's, Lowestoft, sallied forth in search of adventure on an afternoon in July with the blessings of the Clerk of the Weather. Peter Simple's version of a bellringers' outing is worth quoting from 'The Morning Post.' He says the ringers' idea of fun is to pile into a motor-coach with his peers, make for some adjoining county, and there, by kind permission of the local parsons and a sort of freemasonry that prevails among bellringers, hie from village to village alternately ringing their bells and sampling their nut brown ale.

The first call of the Lowestoft ringers was Woodbridge, with its beautiful church. Some of the boys seemed somewhat nervous when they saw the dominating tower with a ring of eight. The tenor, weighing 26½ cwt., was in the safe keeping of Francis Naunton, of Wrentham, and a most enjoyable time was spent there. Retiring to the Bull Hotel, a delightful tea was awaiting them, the special feature being the strawberries and cream. Onwards to Helmingham, with a slight reduction in the weight of bell metal, the tenor weighing 19½ cwt. A very pretty spot this, and what a mecca for beginners! No neighbours to annoy. The last port of call was Framlingham, another ring of eight. Here the boys had the unique experience of watching from above the actual working of the bells in peal. After one or two touches, it was suggested that it was time for refreshment, and ringing activities for the day were, therefore, terminated. Brothers Jerry and Baldry (the latter better known as 'Ginger') caused endless fun among some of the local inhabitants of Framlingham by descending upon the Farriers Arms in jovial spirits, borrowing the landlady's bonnet, coat and apron complete, and with pint mugs having their photographs taken as Farmer and Mrs. Giles. The landlady is to have a copy of the photograph as a memento of the occasion. How these young fellows captivated the hearts of the old folks! The return route was made via Saxmundham, and the journey's end was reached about midnight. The ringers, as a whole, would like to thank Albert E. Coleman and committee for their efforts in making the day the success it was.

THROUGH YORKSHIRE DALES.

On Saturday, July 4th, the ringers of Rotherham Parish Church, with a few friends, including the Vicar, Canon H. D. Morgan, made a tour by motor-coach of the Yorkshire dales (and hills). Starting from Rotherham at 6.30 a.m., the party made for Masham, where a splendid breakfast was enjoyed. Unfortunately, no ringing could be done at Masham owing to the unsafe condition of the spire. Continuing the journey up Wensleydale, a stop was made at Aysgarth, where the party was met by Mr. Latimer, and conducted to the tower of St. Andrew's Church, where the peal of six bells (tenor 11½ cwt.) were soon going to Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob and Bob Minor. After viewing the beautiful Swallow Falls, the journey was continued up Wensleydale and over the hill to Sedburgh. Here Mr. G. F. Woodhouse welcomed the visitors. The peal of eight bells (tenor 15 cwt.) were rung to London Surprise Major, followed by Double Norwich and Yorkshire Surprise Major. Before leaving Sedburgh there was an inspection of the change ringing machine, which was demonstrated by the inventor, Mr. Woodhouse, a course of Silchester Surprise Major and Stedman Triples being tapped and typed by the machine (by request). Thanking Mr. Woodhouse for his hearty welcome and his interesting demonstration, the party continued through some beautiful country to Ingleton, where, after tea at the Ingleborough Hotel, appreciation was expressed by Canon Morgan on behalf of the party to the organisers of the trip and the host (Mr. Froggatt, late of Rotherham) for tea, Mr. Ryder and Mr. Froggatt responding. The journey was then continued through the wonderful scenery which Yorkshire gives at each turn in the road, over Buckspaw Brow and into Giggleswick-in-Craven and to the Church of St. Alkelda, where the visitors were met by Mr. Hodgson and several of the local ringers. Here a light peal of eight bells (tenor 10 cwt., and a rather talkative treble) were set going to Double Norwich, Superlative Surprise and Kent Treble Bob Major. Then, wending their way through the Craven district, a halt was made at Skipton. They were welcomed by Mr. W. Billows, and London Surprise, Yorkshire Surprise and Little Bob Major were rung on the beautiful peal of eight bells (tenor 22 cwt.). A good standard of striking was maintained throughout the day. Rotherham was reached at 11.30 p.m. after a splendid outing. Thanks are extended to clergy, ringers and all else who helped to make the excursion a complete success. A. F.

PORTSEA RINGERS' ENJOYABLE TOUR.

The ringers of St. Mary's, Portsea, held their annual outing on Saturday, July 11th, visiting towers in Dorset and East Hampshire. A start was made from headquarters about 1 o'clock, and, after picking up the Rev. E. Banks James and Mr. W. Linter at Fareham and Mr. and Mrs. Bayley and friend at Titchfield, the first part of the journey was made to Bournemouth.

A delightful run through the New Forest (including a blinding rainstorm of about a quarter of an hour) brought us in sight of the beautiful Priory at Christchurch with its glorious ring of twelve bells. Before reaching Bournemouth the coach passed through Iford (made famous by the proposed installation of 'gramophone' bells). St. John's was reached shortly before 3 p.m., and after the bells were raised, touches of Stedman Triples, Double Norwich and Cambridge were rung, much to the enjoyment of everybody. The bells are indeed a melodious product of the Loughborough Foundry, and, after lowering the bells in peal, a reluctant departure was made. Once aboard the lugger again and a pleasant run via Poole was made to Wimborne. Here the visitors were met at the Minster by Messrs. P. C. Hart and A. F. Martin Stewart, and the fine ring of ten by the Croydon Foundry (tenor 29 cwt. in C sharp) were soon going to Stedman Caters, Plain Bob and Cambridge Royal. Time here was all too short, but the 'inner man' had to be attended to, and for this purpose the company adjourned to Gush's Restaurant. A splendid repast was partaken of, leaving a unanimous impression of the way in which Dorset can cater.

After tea, at the kind invitation of Mr. Stewart, a halt was made at Ferndown to visit the world-famous nurseries and receive the usual hospitality always extended to ringers and their wives, etc. Although this was not allowed for in the programme, after a bit of persuasion the party were eventually rounded up from this vast estate and a run was made to Ringwood, the last tower on the list. Here they were warmly welcomed by Mr. W. E. Cheater, who had earlier met the company and made the subsequent journey with him. A fine ring of eight, recently restored by Taylor's (tenor 19 cwt.), were soon going to Stedman Triples, Double Norwich, London and Bristol Surprise and a touch of Spliced Surprise in the four usual methods.

After bidding farewell to Messrs. Stewart and Cheater, the homeward journey was commenced via Minstead and Cadnam to Totton, where a halt was called for a breather and refresher. A course of Stedman Triples 'in hand' was rung by the enthusiasts before the services of the chauffeur were required. Passing through Southampton with the once famous 'Majestic' on the right in the famous docks at Millbrook, the last stage was commenced, and, after disembarking passengers at Titchfield and Fareham, headquarters was reached about 11.30 p.m., after a highly enjoyable trip. Thanks are due to all the incumbents for their ready permission and the local ringers who met the ringers and contributed to the enjoyment of the day, not forgetting the Good Samaritan.

AMONG THE BELLS OF KENT.

If you were an early bird you might have observed in the old-world village of Charlwood one June morn a small knot of men embarking on a coach with a sparkle in their eyes and many other signs of suppressed excitement. But why all this commotion, you may ask? Well, it was the Charlwood, Buckland and Merstham ringers' combined annual outing. On the stroke of nine o'clock the coach pulled up at Hever Church. The pretty little bells reminded us of our neighbouring Nutfield, and they were rung to Bob Minor and Kent Treble Bob. Amongst the party was an historian who took us around the church and lectured us upon its history and Ann Boleyn, who lived in the adjoining castle. Everybody knows that Ann was decapitated, so if Kate reads this let her beware! Leaving Hever we were whizzed Horsmonden-wards. Horsmonden Church is not on the map (ours, at any rate) and 2½ miles from the village itself, so, of course, we thoroughly lost our way in spite of directions kindly given the writer by the steeple-keeper of the tower and also by a noted Charlwood ringer, who had been there before several times and sat beside the driver to 'direct' him. Anyway when we did arrive these magnificently toned bells were soon pealing forth majestically to Cambridge Surprise, Kent and Plain Bob. Loth were we to cut down our stay, but we had a long programme before us. In the course of another long ride we got lost again, but eventually reaching Egerton, we were welcomed by Mr. A. Waddington, who assisted us to ring some excellent London Surprise, Plain Bob and Kent. These bells pleased our party very much, as did the nice, roomy belfry. Afterwards we hurried along to the Swan Hotel at Charing for dinner. We intended to ring at Charing as well, but, owing to the delays that occurred, we very reluctantly had to cancel this item. It was a pity, as good Mr. Good had got everything ready for us. We hope he doesn't think we were a party of 'bears.' Next on the list was East Sutton, well off the beaten track; a dear little church with a light peal of six, but, unfortunately, seldom rung. However, we rang them right well to Woodbine, Kent, Oxford and College Exercise. This church has connection with the Filmer-Wilson family (said our historian), and he took us to a chapel and showed us a really fine brass of an ancient member of the Filmer family, together with his wife and 19 children. Obviously he didn't live in a council cottage!

Next we flitted to Yalding, where we were again met by Mr. Waddington, who had brought two other ringers with him. We had a real good 'go' here with many methods, including Carlisle and London Surprise, and then adjourned to the Walnut Tree, where a real ringers' tea awaited us. Mr. Waddington produced a set of handbells, which were set going to Grand sire Triples, and then tunes, directed by our musical friend, Mr. Horace Edwards. The performance took place in front of a crowd of admirers, who came from somewhere and completely blocked the road and the garden opposite. Moreover, when we left they gave us a mighty cheer. We are glad to know somebody likes bells. All the people I know (except ringers) never cease dinging into my ears the enormity of my offence in being a bellringer. That cheer resounded in our ears all the way to Igtham, where the tenor was described by one of our party as 'sounding like a frying pan,' while another asked its ringer to pull harder as he couldn't hear it properly. This bell was cracked and has been welded, but the tone really is dreadful. It is a great pity, as the other five bells are quite nice and the tenor completely spoils them. We rang several touches and then sped on the last tower, which was Brasted. Here we met Mr. E. H. Lewis, and Mr. Jack Weller, of Westerham. Between us we rang quite a lot, including London again. At the close, Mr. Lewis and his men treated us to a touch of Bob Minor double-handed, and to the handbell men of our party this was a delight and an eye-opener as to how handbells should be rung. After farewells we left for home. During the day we had some different ringing and some very good ringing: 11 methods were rung, including three Surprises, and the conducting was shared by Messrs. L. A. Tidy, H. R. Thorpe, A. Cheaseley and A. Ellis. The organiser wishes to thank all the incumbents for the use of their bells and the gentlemen who met the party at various places and got things ready.

SWINDON RINGERS VISIT NORTHANTS AND BEDFORD.

The annual outing of the Swindon Parish Church ringers took place on June 20th, and, in accordance with usual custom, was favoured with beautiful weather. The journey was begun at 6.55 a.m. by rail to Oxford. There a motor-coach was provided, and, on arrival at Tingewick, the Rector was found in attendance at the church, and the recently relunged peal of five bells was soon going. Buckingham bells were not available, but a short stay was made in the town for refreshments. St. Giles', Northampton, was the next objective, and the visitors were welcomed by Messrs. Dean, Rogers and Flavell, a few good touches being enjoyed on the ten bells. An excellent lunch was served at the Angel Hotel, and then a nice run to Bedford found Messrs. Tingey and Co. waiting at St. Paul's. This fine peal pleased everybody. On arrival at Leighton Buzzard the course at the Tea Caddy was very welcome, and here Mr. J. Nicholls met the party. Time restricted the ringing on this excellent peal, but everyone had a pull and enjoyed it. A halt was made at Wheatley to admire the view, and the train was duly boarded at Oxford, Swindon being reached at 9.50 p.m. Thanks are extended to all who contributed towards the success of the outing. The ringing during the day ranged from Grand sire Doubles to Stedman Caters and Bob Royal.

MIDDLESEX RINGERS IN SUSSEX.

Despite dull weather, the annual outing of the Uxbridge ringers was a thoroughly enjoyable one. Leaving Uxbridge shortly after two o'clock, with wives and ringing friends from neighbouring towers, the trip began with a lovely ride via Kingston and Reigate to Horley, where Mr. A. J. Bull had all in readiness for ringing. Touches of Grandsire, Stedman and Double Norwich were rung on the very musical peal of eight bells. On leaving here necks were craned to watch the performances of the 'air aces' in connection with the opening of London's new airport at Gatwick. Passing through Crawley, to a shrimp tea was greatly appreciated, at the Queen's Head, Horsham. Afterwards the beautiful Parish Church was eventually reached, Belisha safety first contrivances causing the party to walk to the church. The ringing on this grand peal of eight included Grandsire and Stedman Triples. At Ruspur the party found the church under repair, but touches of Grandsire and Stedman were rung under conditions of difficulty owing to noise, caused by the great holes in the ceiling. At Newdigate a very musical, light ring of six was rung to Doubles and Minor. The homeward journey was by way of the Surrey beauty spot, Box Hill, Leatherhead, Walton and Staines, Uxbridge being reached shortly after 10.30 after a most enjoyable afternoon and evening. Thanks were due to Mr. Corke for his kindness in the arranging of the outing, and to all the incumbents who allowed the use of their bells.

TONG AND BUSHBURY VISITED.

Twelve members of the North Staffs Association visited Tong and Bushbury in beautiful weather on June 20th. The party, consisting of ringers and friends from Bucknall, Brown Edge and Norton, numbered 37 in all. Tong is situated on the Shropshire border, and has a beautiful 11th century church. The visitors were met by the Rev. F. W. Edmunds and Mr. Bowden, the latter having been a ringer here for 70 years. The ropes drop into the choir stalls, which have to be moved forward before ringing can begin. There is also a very long draught, but a steady band can manage the bells successfully, as they 'go' very well. Among other touches, 240 Cambridge Surprise Minor was beautifully struck, this being the first of Surprise on the bells. After tea at the Bell Inn, Bushbury was visited, and Mr. James Shaw and his band of ringers were waiting to give hearty welcome. They were also greeted by Mrs. James Shaw, who always takes a keen interest in her husband's ringing activities. Oxford Treble Bob, Plain Bob and London Surprise were rung, the last named being also the first touch of Surprise on the bells. Thanks are tendered to Mr. James Walley for organising the outing, which proved a huge success. J. E. W.

ESSEX RINGERS IN KENT.

The ringers of St. Barnabas', Great Tey, Essex, visited towers in Kent for their annual outing. The twelve ringers of the local band were accompanied by the Vicar and wardens, and, with friends, made up a party of 32. Leaving the village at 7.30, their first call was at St. Thomas', Brentwood, where they had a very nice pull on some very fine bells. They then made for Kent, stopping at Crayford, and then going on to Rochester, where they had lunch. The next tower was St. Nicholas', Sevenoaks, where some more very fine bells were handled. The last place for ringing was Beckenham (St. George's), where they were met by two of the local band. At 7.30 they thought it was time for tea, and when they had nicely settled down to their meal they found that a generous member of the party had 'stood treat' and paid for the teas. This act was very much appreciated. Home was reached at 11.20 p.m. after 'a perfect day.' The ringers would like to thank, through 'The Ringing World,' all incumbents and steeplekeepers for their kindness. Bob Major, Oxford and Kent Major and Grandsire were rung during the day.

MORE YORKSHIRE BEAUTY SPOTS.

St. Michael's band, Headingley, held their annual outing on July 4th, and were accompanied by the St. Chad's band, together with a few friends from Bradford, Halifax and a member from the Parish Church band. Fountain's Abbey was the first place visited, and the interest of everyone was held by the description given by Mr. P. J. Johnson and others familiar with this beautiful old place. Mr. Tingle met them at Ripon Cathedral, when the splendid ring of ten bells was set going to a touch of Stedman Caters. Other touches were rung on the back eight for those who did not ring ten. After luncheon at the Black Bull Hotel, Ripon, the party left for Snape Castle. Through the kindness of Mr. E. Beresford Peirse, of Bedale, Thorpe Perrow (the beautiful home of Mr. William Ropner) was visited. A course of Grandsire Caters was rung on the lawn, after which Mr. Ropner himself conducted the party over the magnificent gardens and grounds. All were indeed loth to leave these peaceful surroundings.

On arrival at the old market town of Bedale, the inhabitants thereof were soon awakened by the sound of the eight bells pealing forth Double Norwich and other methods. These bells have recently been rehung by Mears and Stainbank. The tenor is a pre-Reformation bell (28 cwt.) and bears the inscription:—

I.O.V. (Immaculate Optime Virgini) Ego Cum Fiam Cruce Custos
Lauda Maria Digna Dei Maude Mater Dignissima Gaude.

The translation is:—

(Initials) 'To the Immaculate Most Excellent Virgin.' And the other, 'Since I am made Watcher of the Cross, I praise Mary with a praise worthy of God—Most Worthy Mother rejoice.'

Another 'plain course'—plain, but excellent—was served at the King's Head Hotel, and after this had come round the party left for Sharow, where a well-struck touch of Double Norwich was brought round, followed by a touch of Stedman, and the party then left for home.

The ringers wish to thank all the incumbents for the use of the bells, the local members at various towers, and all those who made the outing such a pleasant one.

SUDDEN DEATH OF MR. JAMES T. WARD.

With deep regret we record the death of Mr. James Thomas Ward, of Finedor, Road, Irthlingborough, which took place on Sunday, July 12th, at the age of 47 years. He had been a ringer at Irthlingborough for 30 years and had rung over 100 peals in the following methods: London, Bristol, Cambridge, Superlative, Yorkshire, Irchester and Irthlingborough Surprise, Double Norwich, Kent Treble Bob, Stedman Triples and Surprise Minor.

Mr. Ward lived by himself, and on Sunday morning rang the tenor for service to a course of Yorkshire Surprise Major. He usually went to bed after dinner, and as he was not at work on Monday morning inquiries were made. He was found dead in bed.

The funeral took place on July 16th, the service at the church and also the committal rites being conducted by the Rev. M. E. R. Mannox (assistant curate). A course of Grandsire Triples was rung over the grave by A. Bigley 1-2, W. Perkins 3-4, A. Y. Tyler 5-6, J. Mawby 7-8. Six of his fellow-ringers were the bearers.

After the service the ringers returned to the tower and rang 504 of Stedman Triples with the bells half-muffled: W. Perkins (conductor) 1, F. Palmer 2, T. R. Hensher 3, A. H. Martin 4, F. Ball 5, A. Y. Tyler 6, H. Chapman 7, A. Bigley 8. Touches of Bob Major, Superlative and Stedman were also rung. The bells were muffled all day on Sunday. Visiting ringers included Messrs. T. R. Hensher, H. Chapman, A. H. Martin and F. Ball.

THE QUICKEST SIX-SCORE.

To the Editor

Dear Sir,—I read with interest in 'The Ringing World' of the quickest 120 rung, which was in 3min. 5sec. On Monday, May 25th, the St. Mellons (Mon.) band rang a 120 in 2min. 58sec. A ringer from Cardiff took the time with a stop-watch. R. H. ADDIS.
Marshfield.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

YARNTON, OXON.—On Sunday morning, July 12th, a quarter-peal of Doubles (two of Plain Bob and eight of Grandsire): G. H. Cox 1, H. P. Floyd 2, H. Radley 3, W. A. Stote 4, A. P. Cannon (conductor) 5, G. E. Brown 6 (tenor 27½ cwt.). Kindly arranged for the conductor and Mr. W. A. Stote. These are the oldest ring of six in the country, dated 1620.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, July 12th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,344 changes): S. Prestidge 1, J. W. Smith 2, J. Round 3, H. Hubbard 4, A. Yates 5, William Davies 6, A. Prestidge, son, 7, A. Davies (conductor) 8. Specially arranged for the ringer of the 5th, who hails from Pritton Parish Church, Blackburn.

BRENCHEY BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Will you kindly allow me space to say that I have approached the above Church Council with a view to reopening the tower for peal ringing and visitors? I am pleased to say that this request has been granted, but only for Wednesdays and Bank Holidays. Applications should be sent to the Vicar, the Rev. A. Patrick McNeill, Aylsham, Brencley. T. E. SONE.
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SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**QUARTERLY MEETING AT WYLYE.**

A meeting of the Salisbury Branch was held at Wylye, Wilts, on Saturday, July 18th, and, in spite of the inclement weather, there was a very fair attendance, ringers being present from Salisbury St. Martin, Wylye, Wilton, Winterbourne, Britford, Breamore, Damerham, Kingston Magna, Berwick St. John, etc.

The Guild office was conducted by the Rector, the Rev. W. J. F. Groves, who also gave the address, the lesson being read by the Master, the Rev. R. G. Gundry.

Tea followed in the village inn and there was a brief business meeting, the branch chairman inviting the Master (who was at one time incumbent at Wylye) to preside, and this he consented to do, supported by the branch secretary (Mr. F. W. Romaine), the general secretary (the Rev. F. L. Edwards) and the Rev. H. W. Moule. Arising out of the minutes, the secretary reported that the order of the meetings had been altered and Wylye visited this quarter in order to afford the Master an opportunity of attending, he having expressed a wish to be present at a meeting at Wylye. At the close of the meeting Mr. Caple proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector for the use of the bells and conducting the Guild service, also to the organist for her services; he likewise welcomed the Master and the general secretary to the branch meeting.

The Rector, in replying, expressed the appreciation of the Wylye ringers at being able to entertain the branch so early in their term of membership; he added that Dr. Tupholme had placed the bells at Steeple Langford at the disposal of the ringers. The Rev. Gundry also replied, remarking how pleased he was at being able to attend the gathering at Wylye. Ringing was then resumed.

THE WILMSLOW BELL BROADCAST.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—It is strange how people's ideas differ. Mr. W. Cyril Smith thinks that the ringing was excellent. To my mind, its characterless, deadly monotony was the very antithesis of good change ringing. The absence of the open handstroke lead, with the treble an honourable exception, spoilt completely a clean and otherwise good performance. For some reason or other, I gained the impression that the bells were not being rung at all, but chimed by one man on an Ellacombe chiming apparatus.

Eulogy in the Press of bell performances should be used with restraint. Not so long ago a letter appeared in praise of certain broadcast ringing. I wrote your correspondent privately, pointing out that one of the bells had not made a clean blow at backstroke during the time the bells were 'on the air.' Mistaken praise is worse than unconstructive criticism.

J. T. DYKE.

Chilcompton, Bath.

FIRST QUARTER-PEALS.

EXETER, DEVON.—At St. Thomas' Church on Whit Sunday for morning service, a quarter-peat of Grandsire Triples: W. Rundle 1, W. A. Wills 2, R. Rundle 3, J. Hosgood 4, F. Wills 5, E. Hill 6, E. W. Biffin (conductor) 7, H. Brooks 8. First quarter-peat for ringers of 1 and 8.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTS.—On Whitsun Sunday, at the Parish Church, for morning service, a quarter-peat of Bob Major (1,280 changes): E. Ansell 1, H. Bird 2, H. Bull 3, F. Springham 4, H. J. Tucker (conductor) 5, F. Bird 6, W. T. Prior 7, H. M. White 8. First quarter-peat in the method by the ringers of 1 and 2. For evening service, a quarter-peat of Grandsire Caters (1,259 changes): E. Ansell 1, R. Hayden 2, W. T. Prior 3, W. Prior 4, F. Springham 5, F. Bird 6, H. Bull 7, H. J. Tucker (conductor) 8, S. Carter 9, W. Wilkinson 10.

BANSTEAD, SURREY.—At All Saints' Church for evensong on Whit Sunday, a quarter-peat of Double Norwich Major (1,280 changes): H. N. Pitslow (conductor) 1, *S. R. Dearle 2, A. J. Adams 3, J. Hobden 4, N. Hobden 5, *T. Norman 6, F. G. Woodiss 7, A. E. Cheesman 8. * First quarter-peat in the method. First quarter-peat in the method by an entirely local band. A birthday compliment to the ringer of the 6th.

READING, BERKS.—At St. Giles' Church on Sunday evening, May 31st, a quarter-peat of Grandsire Triples: C. B. Davies (first quarter-peat) 1, A. J. Mayo 2, A. Pound 3, W. Osborne 4, A. E. Bailey 5, A. Jeffery 6, L. T. Osborne (conductor) 7, H. A. Osborne 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 the minimum charge of 1/6.

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ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meeting for practice will be held at Southwark Cathedral on July 30th, at 7.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Flamstead (6) on Saturday, July 25th. Bells available 3 p.m. Short service at 3.30. Tea 5.30.—W. Ayre, Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Prittlewell on Saturday, July 25th. Bells (10) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea to follow.—E. J. Butler, Dis. Sec., 313, Mawneys Road, Romford.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-West Division.—A meeting will be held at Rodwinter on Saturday, July 25th. Bells available from 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Those intending to be present kindly advise me.—H. A. Wacey, Hon. Sec., 73, Rye Street, Bishop's Stortford.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—Next meeting at Barnet on Saturday, July 25th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 5. Tea, 1s. each, at 5.30. All members and friends welcomed.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS, SURREY ASSOCIATION, and GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—A combined meeting of members of these three organisations will be held at Beddington on Saturday, July 25th. Bells available 3 o'clock. Service 5. Tea at the Harvest Home, Beddington Lane, at 1/3 per head.—G. A. Card, A. H. Smith, F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Secs.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—The next meeting will be held at Bobbing on Saturday, July 25th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., followed by tea, by kind invitation, only to those who send a card.—Stanley J. T. Shellock, Hon. Dis. Sec., 162, Barnsole Road, Gillingham, Kent.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.—The next quarterly meeting of the Ashton-under-Lyne Society will be held at St. Mary's Church, Oldham, on Saturday, July 25th, from 3 to 9 p.m.—Carus Wilson.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next practice has been arranged at Amersham (6 bells) on Saturday, July 25th, at 3.30 p.m.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

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BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting of this district will be held at Colmworth on Saturday, July 25th. Bells (5) ready from 3 p.m. Tea at 5. A new treble has just been added, so come over and try them. You will be very welcome.—Frank C. Tysoe, Dis. Sec., 10, Grange Road, Bromham, Bedford.

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.—A garden fete is to be held in the beautiful grounds of Helmingham Hall, Saturday, July 25th, in aid of church repair fund. The tower will be open to ringers from 3 till 9 p.m. Teas can be obtained on grounds.—G. Whiting, Tower Keeper.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—The next meeting will be held at Countesthorpe (6) on Saturday, July 25th, at 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. A good bus service from the Newarkes. A good attendance hoped for.—Ernest H. Bagworth, Dis. Sec., 36, Turner Road, Leicester.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Mildenhall District.—A joint meeting of the Suffolk Guild and Norfolk Diocesan Association will be held at Elveden on Saturday, July 25th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Tea, usual place, 5 p.m. It is hoped to have a good muster of Ely, Norfolk and London friends.—R. C. Sharpe and N. Golden, Dis. Secs.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The competition for the Society's Silver Cup will take place at Clowne Church on Saturday, July 25th, commencing at 2.30 p.m. For tea please notify Rev. J. Waugh, Clowne Rectory, Clowne, near Chesterfield. Open tower after tea. All welcome.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 221, Hanover St., Sheffield, 3.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton and Wigan Branches.—A joint meeting will be held at Adlington, instead of Westhoughton as previously arranged, on Saturday, 25th July. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook and William O. Farrimond, Branch Secs.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Eynsford on Saturday, July 25th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Half rail fares paid to members attending this meeting. Please ensure that your tower is represented.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere, Kent.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Summer meeting at Staindrop on Saturday, July 25th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service in St. Mary's Church at 4.30. Tea at the Central Cafe, 1s. 3d. per head, at 5. Members intending to be present please advise Mr. H. Shipp, 6, Duke Street, Staindrop, at once.—G. S. Taylor, Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—Monthly meeting at St. Werburgh's on Saturday, July 25th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow.—R. C. Gifford, Frampton Cotterell, nr. Bristol.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bath Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Freshford on Saturday, July 25th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—Theo Grant, Swainswick, Bath, Somerset.

THE LADIES' GUILD.—A meeting will be held at St. George's, Borough, S.E. on Wednesday, July 29th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Usual arrangements for tea.—E. K. Fletcher, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Blackburn Cathedral on Saturday, August 1st. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30. Members and non-members cordially invited.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil St., Blackburn

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hereford District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Allensmore on Saturday, August 1st. Bells (6) available. Service 4.45 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. for which please notify me not later than Tuesday, July 28th.—R. H. Stickley, Dis. Sec., Froome Bungalow, Mordiford, Hereford.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Chiddingly on Saturday, August 1st. Tower open 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock, 1/3 per head. Half rail fare, maximum 1/6. All those intending to be present kindly let me know by Wednesday previous to meeting.—A. C. Pankhurst, Hon. Div. Sec., 12, Bradford Street, Eastbourne.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Urchfont on Saturday, August 1st. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4. Tea 4.30. All Cannings, Chilton and Marden bells available during the evening. All ringing friends welcome. For tea please advise W. C. West, Hon. Sec., Semington Road, Melksham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The annual meeting will take place on Saturday, August 1st, at Whitworth Parish Church. Nominations for the following positions must be sent in to me before July 29th: President, Secretary and two Committeemen. Tea will be provided at moderate charges to all those who send in their names to Mr. C. Hall, 187, Grove Terrace, Whitworth. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting in the tower at 6.30 p.m.—H. Hamer, Hon. Branch Sec., 3, Nail Street, Milnrow, Rochdale.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Central Branch.—A meeting will be held at Swavesey on Saturday, August 1st. Bells (6) available afternoon and evening. Tea 5 p.m. at Isgrove's. Bells recently rehung by Gillett and Johnston—a nice peal. Please come early; good bus and train service. Church close railway.—F. Warrington, Dis. Sec., Over, Cambs.

DUFFIELD, DERBYSHIRE.—By special permission of the Vicar (Rev. W. M. Irwin) the 10 bells will be available for ringing on Saturday, August 1st, at 3 o'clock. All ringers will be welcome. Tea will be provided at a nominal charge to all sending in their names to Mr. Sydney Dawson, Tamworth Street, Duffield, not later than July 30th.

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PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Daventry (8) on Saturday, August 1st. Also special meeting at Staverton (5) on Saturday, August 15th. Usual arrangements.—W. C. Moore, Braunston Road, Daventry, Northants.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Horsley on Saturday, August 1st. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea at the Vicarage at 5 p.m. to those who notify me by Wednesday, July 29th.—J. W. England, 46, The Common, South Normanton.

NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Wrexham on August Bank Holiday, August 3rd. Bells (10) available at 2 p.m. Service at 3 p.m., followed by business meeting and tea (1/-). Will those requiring tea please notify me not later than Wednesday, July 29th?—W. Cathrall, Hon. Sec., 19, Cunliffe Walk, Garden Village, Wrexham.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Worksop (8 bells) on August Bank Holiday, August 3rd. Tower open 2.30 p.m. Those requiring tea, cafe close by. All welcome.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 221, Hanover Street, Sheffield, 3.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual festival will be held at Liscard on August Bank Holiday, August 3rd. Service at 11 a.m., preacher Rev. W. S. Coad, M.A., Rural Dean of Wallasey. Meeting at 12 noon. Lunch at 1 p.m., tickets, price 2/- (1/6 to members), obtainable from the branch secretaries.—H. Parker, 3, London Road, Davenham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The annual meeting of the above branch will be held at Rainford Parish Church on Saturday, August 8th. For tea please send names to Mr. J. W. Hall, 99, Bank Villas, Rainford, before Wednesday August 5th.—William Farrimond, Branch Sec., 3, Catherine Street extension, Leicester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual dinner will be held on Saturday, October 31st, at the Bear's Paw Restaurant, Liverpool. Tickets 4/-. Book the date.—Claude I. Davies, Hon. Treasurer.

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FIRST QUARTER-PEALS.

LEWES, SUSSEX.—On May 30th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples at Southover Church: F. Crees (first quarter-peal on the treble) 1, R. J. Dawe 2, W. Coppard 3, G. Wiggins 4, G. P. Elphick 5, A. J. Turner 6, R. W. E. Dawe (conductor) 7, J. Wilmshurst 8.

LONDON.—On Sunday, May 17th, for evening service at St. Giles', Camberwell, 1,263 Stedman Caters: B. R. Harris (first quarter-peal of Caters) 1, T. H. Taffender 2, Miss O. L. Ashbrook (first quarter-peal of Caters) 3, F. L. Blewer 4, E. J. King 5, W. D. Grainger 6, R. K. Mowforth (first quarter-peal of Caters) 7, H. Gibson (Scarborough) 8, T. W. Taffender 9, H. H. Peters 10.

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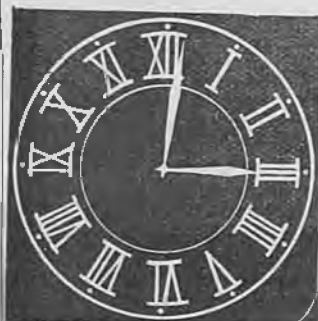
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