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FRIDAY, OCTOBER 29th, 1937.

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FALSE PEALS.

Last week two peals of Stedman Cinques were withdrawn because false compositions had been rung; this week a false peal of Bob Major is similarly withdrawn. Within the last two years conductors have had to cancel quite a large number of peals, because they have used figures which have subsequently been found defective. It is always a matter of regret when performances of this kind are discovered to be worthless, because, in many instances, there have been involved not only the energies of the ringers in the actual ringing, but much organisation and travel. In both the Lincoln and the Surfleet peals many of the band had come from considerable distances, and this makes the disappointment all the greater. In both these peals, and in the one at Eastwood, which is withdrawn to-day, the compositions were by men of high standing among composers, and Mr. Arthur Knights, skilled and experienced as he is in the production of peals, admits, in a letter in another column, that a lapse of memory allowed him to step into a trap which was quite familiar to him.

The work of men of outstanding reputation is so seldom at fault that conductors rely implicitly upon their productions, but the risk is there, and these recent happenings go to show once more that the most reliable authors are, after all, only human, and that there is nothing in peal compositions in which truth can be taken for granted without independent test. It is the eminence of the name which lulls one into a sense of security, for experienced conductors generally take steps to check up the figures of the lesser lights before they call their compositions. But one wonders how many false peals really have been rung and have passed unnoticed.

There are those who think that the discovery of false peals some time after the performance should not invalidate the record, but with this view we cannot agree. It would at once undermine the whole spirit of peal ringing, which, from the very beginning, has been based upon the strict truth of what is rung. To find out years afterwards, as in the case of the long peal of Stedman Cinques at Southwark, that the composition is false, does not detract from the credit of the ringers in putting up a fine ringing achievement, but such a performance cannot rank as a true peal. Neither, in our view, would it be right, when a false peal has been discovered, not to disclose the fact, particularly when the figures of the composition have been published. One of the main purposes of frankly withdrawing false peals is to prevent others ringing them again afterwards, although once the figures have been in print there can be no certainty that someone may not

(Continued on page 710.)

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subsequently get hold of them, not knowing of the falsehood, and repeat the performance. There is always that risk. It is quite possible, too, that many false compositions have been rung, and handed on to others, which no one but the composers and those who have called them have seen, and everyone concerned is still in blissful ignorance that there is anything wrong with them. We do not for a moment intend to cast a general slur on unpublished compositions, but when, as we have seen, men of reputation sometimes fail, it behoves all those who call peals by lesser-known composers to take every reasonable precaution to ascertain first of all that the figures are true.

TEN BELL PEALS.

CROYDON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 16, 1937, in Three Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

No. 3 version. Tenor 30½ cwt. in D.

HARRY W. SIMMONS Treble	*FREDERICK E. COLLINS ... 6
MRS. CHARLES H. KIPPIN ... 2	EDWARD G. TALBOT ... 7
FRANK E. DARBY 3	TONY R. PRICE 8
*WILLIAM H. HEWITT ... 4	DANIEL D. COOPER ... 9
THOMAS G. BANNISTER ... 5	CHARLES H. KIPPIN ... Tenor

Composed by F. E. DARBY. Conducted by CHAS. H. KIPPIN.

* First peal of London Royal. First peal in the method on the bells.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, October 18, 1937, in Three Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CLEMENT DANES, STRAND,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

HERBERT LANGDON Treble	WILLIE ROUGHTON 6
EDWIN H. LEWIS 2	HENRY G. MILES 7
ALBERT A. HUGHES 3	JACK WAUGH 8
WILLIAM G. WHITEHEAD ... 4	GEORGE W. DEBENHAM ... 9
HARRY HOSKINS 5	RICHARD F. DEAL Tenor

Composed by REV. H. S. T. RICHARDSON. Conducted by E. H. LEWIS.
Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. Pennington-Bickford. It was also the birthday of the ringers of the 6th and tenor.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

NORWICH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, October 12, 1937, in Three Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER, MANCROFT,

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

Tenor 37 cwt. 3 qr. 15 lb. in C.

ARTHUR J. E. SMALLS Treble	*EDMUND G. KETT 5
GEORGE MAYERS 2	BERTIE J. HOWCHIN ... 6
ARTHUR G. KING 3	GEORGE BAILEY 7
NOLAN GOLDEN 4	REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal of Double Norwich.

STONEY STANTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(HINCKLEY DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, October 16, 1937, in Three Hours

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

*FRANK BAILESS Treble	ALFRED BALLARD 5
FRANK K. MEASURES 2	WILLIAM A. WOOD 6
J. EDWARD CLOUGH 3	CECIL E. CARR 7
JOHN H. BAILESS 4	*GEORGE A. CHARLTON ... Tenor

Conducted by FRANK K. MEASURES.

* First peal on eight bells and first attempt. † First peal in the method 'inside.'

HILGAY, NORFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 16, 1937, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

WILLIAM BUCKENHAM Treble	ALBERT E. AUSTIN 5
SIDNEY BROWN 2	*CLAUDE COUSINS 6
*WALLACE W. COUSINS 3	CRCIL V. EBBERSON 7
NOLAN GOLDEN 4	ARTHUR G. BASON Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal in the method. Claude Cousins' one hundredth peal.

MOULTON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 16, 1937, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

HARRY SEAR Treble	*HARRY V. SEAR 5
THOMAS LAW 2	GEORGE VALENTINE 6
PHILIP JONES 3	TOM TEBBUTT 7
GEORGE FREEMAN 4	JOSEPH C. DRAN Tenor

Conducted by TOM TEBBUTT.

* First peal of Stedman Triples. Rung as a farewell peal to the Vicar (the Rev. J. M. Turner).

STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, October 16, 1937, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND MARY,

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

Tenor 24 cwt.

EDWIN A. CRACKNELL Treble	*ALAN R. ANDREWS 5
LAURENCE POULSON 2	*URBAN W. WILDNEY 6
ARTHUR GRIMWOOD 3	*HORACE A. WRIGHT 7
HARRY D. LISTER 4	EDWARD E. DAVEY Tenor

Composed by WM. WIGHTMAN.

Conducted by H. D. LISTER.

* First peal in the method. A birthday compliment to Mr. W. E. Wathen, a member of the local Sunday service band.

STOW BARDOLPH, NORFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, October 17, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 13 lb. in G.

SYDNEY FLINT Treble	NOLAN GOLDEN 5
WALLACE W. COUSINS 2	ARTHUR G. BASON 6
ALFRED BACON 3	CRCIL V. EBBERSON 7
*WILLIAM BUCKENHAM 4	CLAUDE COUSINS Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

CHELMSTFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, October 18, 1937, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 9½ cwt.

HERBERT DEVENISH Treble	REGINALD C. THRIPT 5
HARRY ALLEN 2	DENNIS A. S. SYMONDS 6
RICHARD C. CLARK 3	HENRY W. SHADRACK 7
JOHN WOOD 4	LESLIE J. CLARK Tenor

Composed by F. ROBINSON.

Conducted by L. J. CLARK.

Rung to celebrate the birth of a son to the Lord Lieutenant of Essex, Col. Whitmore.

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MADE FROM ITALIAN HEMP, OR ITALIAN FLAX.
SOFT AND PLIABLE IN HAND. ALL ROPES SENT
CARRIAGE PAID AND ON APPROVAL.

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DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, October 19, 1937, in Two Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 6½ cwt.

GEORFREY HARRISON Treble	G. RONALD EDWARDS 5
JOHN SADDINGTON 2	CHARLES ALLSOP 6
JOHN P. FIDLER 3	RALPH NARBOROUGH 7
FRED W. SALTER 4	GUILDFORD ONSLOW Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES ALLSOP.

ALBURGH, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, October 19, 1937, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb.

GEORGE W. HOWLETT Treble	FRED W. MUNNINGS 5
*CAPT. A. JOHNSTONE, R.N. 2	RUSSELL RICHES 6
CHARLES W. LOOME 3	ROBERT GUNTON 7
FREDERICK GUNTON 4	WALTER BARRETT Tenor

Composed by F. ROBINSON. Conducted by GEORGE W. HOWLETT.

* First peal.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, October 20, 1937, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

VICARS' SIX-PART.

Tenor 24 cwt.

HARRY ALLRED, SEN. Treble	BIRLEY WALSHAW 5
CHARLES RIDYARD 2	JOSEPH H. RIDYARD 6
BENJAMIN WELSBY 3	JAMES K. WELSBY 7
PERCY H. DARBYSHIRE 4	ROBERT ALLRED Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH H. RIDYARD.

GRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, October 22, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,

A PEAL OF HERWARD BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*EDWIN BARNETT Treble	*HERBERT E. AUDSLEY 5
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 2	*DEREK M. SHARP 6
*ARTHUR S. RICHARDS 3	*EDWIN A. BARNETT 7
THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. 4	*HARRY HOVERD Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER.

Conducted by E. A. BARNETT.

* First peal in the method. J. H. Cheesman's 150th peal on the bells.

HALEWOOD, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 23, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S ODD-BOB, No. 2.

Tenor 11 cwt.

THOMAS W. HAMMOND Treble	HERBERT LUDKIN 5
GEORGE R. NEWTON 2	JOSEPH RIDYARD 6
THOMAS ROBINSON 3	PERCIVAL W. CAVE 7
EDWIN C. BIRKETT 4	EDWARD CADNOR Tenor

Conducted by PERCIVAL W. CAVE.

GORTON, MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 23, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE UNITARIAN CHURCH, BROOKFIELD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

ALFRED BARNES Treble	ALLEN F. BAILEY 5
PETER LAFLIN 2	EDWARD F. MAWBY 6
WILLIAM BRAMMER 3	THOMAS B. WORSLEY 7
WILLIAM H. SHUKER 4	CHARLES OLLIER Tenor

Conducted by T. B. WORSLEY.

Rung to celebrate the completion of 50 years' ringing by Mr. W. H. Shuker and was his 150th peal.

FRESSINGFIELD, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 23, 1937, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt.

GEORGE W. HOWLETT Treble	FREDERICK W. MUNNINGS ... 5
ROBERT RICHES 2	ROBERT D. GUNTON 6
FREDERICK C. GUNTON ... 3	RUSSELL RICHES 7
STANLEY W. COPLING ... 4	CHARLES W. LOOME Tenor

Composed by D. PRENTICE. Conducted by CHARLES W. LOOME.

HETHERSETT, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 23, 1937, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. REMIGIUS,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt. 1 qr. 12 lb. in G.

WILLIAM J. WASEY Treble	ERIC G. BENNETT 5
WILLIAM B. DUNCAN 2	*WILLIAM E. BASON 6
GEORGE MAYERS 3	GEORGE BAILEY 7
R. WILLIAM BARBER 4	WILLIAM CLOVER Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by WILLIAM CLOVER.

* 200th peal.

FARNHAM, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 23, 1937, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 20½ cwt.

*ERNEST J. AYLIFFE Treble	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY ... 5
JACK M. CRIPPS 2	FREDERICK W. ROGERS ... 6
KENNETH SNELLING 3	OLIVER SIPPETTS 7
WILLIAM T. BEESON 4	C. ERNEST SMITH Tenor

Composed by A. CRAVEN. Conducted by C. ERNEST SMITH.

* First Surprise peal. First peal in the method on the bells and by the Guild. First peal in the method as conductor.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 23, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb.

JAMES FERNLEY Treble	JAMES A. MILNER 5
REV. FRANK BONNER 2	LIONEL CLOUGH 6
C. KENNETH LEWIS 3	JOHN WORTH 7
WILLIAM FERNLEY 4	JOSEPH WHITTAKER Tenor

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, October 23, 1937, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 21½ cwt.

ERNEST F. POPPY Treble	*SIDNEY W. ARBON 5
BERT CHILVERS 2	HARRY MOSS 6
JAMES BETTS 3	THOMAS H. CHAPPELL ... 7
WILLIAM J. GROOM 4	WILLIAM C. RUMSEY Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by WILLIAM C. RUMSEY.

* First peal on eight bells.

CHESTER.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 23, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-WITHIN-THE-WALLS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

ROBERT SPERRING Treble	JAMES MORGAN 5
GEORGE F. SPERRING 2	J. WILLIAM CLARKE 6
RONALD G. JONES 3	ARTHUR NEWELL 7
ALBERT E. RICHARDS 4	EDWARD PRICE Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT SPERRING.

Mr. R. Sperring's 550th peal.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 23, 1937, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OLAVE, HART STREET, CITY,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt.

GEORGE A. PARSONS Treble	ERNEST C. S. TURNER ... 5
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 2	WILLIAM R. MADGWICK ... 6
CHARLES T. COLES 3	ROBERT RICHARDSON 7
GEORGE R. PYE 4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by CHARLES T. COLES.

Rung in honour of the Silver Jubilee of the Ladies' Guild.

MERE, WILTS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, October 23, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 22 cwt.

EDWARD G. L. COWARD ... Treble	FREDERICK A. TARGETT ... 5
FREDERICK A. COWARD ... 2	EDWARD G. ROWE 6
KENNETH FORD 3	RONALD G. BECK 7
EDWIN H. NASH 4	JOSEPH T. DYKE Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by J. T. DYKE.

ERITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 23, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASBROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... Treble	JOHN WHEADON 5
HARRY HOSKINS 2	HARRY PARKES 6
HARRY HOVERD 3	JAMES E. BAILEY 7
FREDERICK J. CULLUM ... 4	THOMAS MORTIMER Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK J. CULLUM.

CHAGFORD, DEVON.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, October 23, 1937, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt.

*CLIFFORD A. VESSEY ... Treble	R. E. TRUMAN 5
REV. RHYS JAMES 2	J. E. LILLEY 6
F. C. SMALE 3	C. R. LILLEY 7
*G. E. WOODLEY 4	W. H. HOWE Tenor

Conducted by C. R. LILLEY.

* First peal in Triples. First peal on the bells.

GREAT BADDOW, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 23, 1937, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt. in G.

PERCY GREEN Treble	FREDERICK RIDGEWELL ... 5
GEORGE GREEN 2	DR. P. T. SPENCER PHILLIPS 6
HORACE J. MANSFIELD ... 3	LEWIS W. WIFFEN 7
FRANK CLAYDON 4	*ALBERT WIFFEN Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by PERCY GREEN.

* 25th peal of Cambridge. Especially arranged and rung as a compliment to George Green, on his completing 50 years as a ringer at this church.

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NORTHAMPTON.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 23, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

T. TEBBUTT Treble	W. R. PARKER 5
G. FREEMAN 2	P. JONES 6
T. LAW 3	W. H. AUSTIN 7
J. C. DEAN 4	A. MONK Tenor

Conducted by T. TEBBUTT.

A birthday compliment to the ringers of the 4th and 5th. T. Law's 100th peal.

WROTHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 23, 1937, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

TOM SAUNDERS Treble	THOMAS E. SONE 5
LUTHER J. HONESS 2	HERBERT A. HOLDEN 6
*FREDERICK W. BUDGEN 3	JOHN O. WELLER 7
GEOFFREY V. MURPHY 4	PHILIP A. CORBY Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 327). Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE

* First peal on eight tower bells. A seventh birthday compliment to Audrey Sone, daughter of the conductor.

SIX BELL PEALS.

WHITCHURCH, GLAMORGANSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, October 13, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 6040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 15 cwt.

*WALTER L. PROSSER Treble	JOHN W. JONES 4
*HOWARD L. MORGAN 2	GEORGE TALBOT 5
ROBERT SMITH 3	JOHN PHILLIPS Tenor

Conducted by JOHN PHILLIPS.

* First peal of Minor. First peal of Minor as conductor.

ARKSEY, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, October 16, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720's of Oxford Treble Bob and two each of Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt. (approx.).

GEORGE CLARK Treble	HARRY GOODALE 4
WILLIAM FAY 2	FOORD NEWTON 5
*HOWARD SCOTT 3	ERNEST COOPER Tenor

Conducted by E. COOPER.

* First peal. A birthday compliment to Mr. G. Clark.

CHOLSEY, BERKSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 16, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being twenty 120's, six of Pitman's and five of Morris' 240's (21 callings).

FREDERICK J. NOBES Treble	WALTER WEBB 4
JOHN NOBES 2	PERCY W. FLETCHER 5
ALFRED BENNETT 3	ERIC FLETCHER Tenor

Conducted by JOHN NOBES.

EAST ANSTEY, NORTH DEVON.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(DUNSTER DRANERY BRANCH.)

On Saturday, October 16, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two extents. Tenor 7½ cwt.

HENRY PURCHASE Treble	*CECIL BELLOW 4
*WILLIAM GEORGE WATTS 2	CLAUDE TARR 5
ALBERT TOUT 3	VICTOR N. BURROW Tenor

Conducted by A. TOUT.

* First attempt for a peal. First peal on the bells.

BARNBY-IN-THE-WILLOWS, NOTTS.
THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION AND
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 16, 1937, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Thelwall, Childwall, Double Oxford, Single Court, St. Clement's, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 6½ cwt.

FRANK W. VERNON Treble	JACK C. VESSEY 4
*KENNETH W. MAYER 2	JACK L. MILLHOUSE 5
MISS DOROTHY VESSEY 3	THOMAS VESSEY Tenor

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

* First peal in seven plain methods. First peal in seven methods as conductor. Rung for the harvest thanksgiving.

MORETON CORBET, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, October 17, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob, and two each of Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

WALTER LYCETT Treble	EDWARD V. RODENBURST 4
THOMAS PRICE 2	WILLIAM J. CHESTER 5
FREDERICK PRICE 3	ARTHUR PRITCHARD Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.

First peal in five methods on the bells and by all the band except the ringer of the 4th. Rung as a farewell to the Rev. E. C. Pigot (treasurer of the association), who is retiring after 25 years as Rector of this parish.

KEDINGTON, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sunday, October 17, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 of Woodbine Treble Bob and two 720's each of Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

GEORGE N. IVES Treble	ARTHUR P. BALLARD 4
RALPH BIRD 2	ALBERT CATTERWELL 5
BERNARD W. PETTITT 3	RONALD SUCKLING Tenor

Conducted by R. SUCKLING.

First peal on the bells.

WALLINGTON, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 16, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's. Tenor 8½ cwt.

*WILLIAM COLLINS Treble	ARTHUR DILLEY 4
†STUART BONNETT 2	PERCY TOMPKINS 5
JOHN CHURCH 3	R. THOMAS NEWMAN Tenor

Conducted by R. T. NEWMAN.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal and attempt.

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DISLEY, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, October 18, 1937, in Two Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SPLICED TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents in 23 methods, viz.: (1) Norbury, Morning Star Treble Bob and Disley Delight; (2) Ockley, Duke of Norfolk and College Exercise Treble Bob; (3) Marple, Taxal and Willesden Delight; (4) Old Oxford, College Bob IV, and Newdigate Delight; (5) Braintree, Humber and Wragby Delight; (6) Neasden, St. Albans and Charlwood Delight; (7) Oxford, Capel, Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure and Kingston Treble Bob.

Tenor 8½ cwt.

JAMES FERNLEY Treble	ALBERT T. BANCROFT ... 4
Rev. FRANK BONNER ... 2	JOHN WORTH 5
C. KENNETH LEWIS ... 3	JAMES A. MILNER ... Tenor

Conducted by C. K. LEWIS.

Seventy-two changes of method. * First peal in 23 methods. Rung fully muffled as a last token of respect and esteem for Mr. H. Haythorn, a valued member of the local band and of the Guild.

TUDDENHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, October 18, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of 720 of Cambridge Surprise, and two 720's each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 8 cwt.

RONALD W. STEWARD ... Treble	ALAN R. ANDREWS ... 4
WILLIAM J. G. BROWN ... 2	GEORGE A. FLEMING ... 5
URBAN W. WILDSNEY ... 3	SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER ... Tenor

Conducted by SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER.

First peal in four methods as conductor.

HAMPTON-IN-ARDEN, WARWICKSHIRE.
ST. EDBURGA'S SOCIETY, YARDLEY.

On Saturday, October 23, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, ten different callings.

Tenor 12 cwt.

CONRAD PHILLIPS ... Treble	GEORGE H. TAYLOR ... 4
ALBERT T. SCRIVENS ... 2	WILLIAM C. RHODES ... 5
JOHN LINDON ... 3	*JOSEPH PRENTICE ... Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE H. TAYLOR.

* First peal, and a local ringer.

BECKLEY, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 23, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Tenor 13 cwt.

*GEORGE BENEY ... Treble	ARTHUR F. LEWRY ... 4
ALBERT RELFE ... 2	FRANK H. HICKS ... 5
LESLIE W. JARVIS ... 3	WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE ... Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT RELFE.

* First peal. A birthday peal for the ringers of the 3rd and tenor.

LYMINSTER, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, October 23, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, ten different callings.

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 16 lb.

*LESLIE SMITH ... Treble	*GEOFFREY LEE ... 4
HARRY HUNT ... 2	ERNEST TREAGUS ... 5
JOHN NETLEY ... 3	*HENRY BENTINCK ... Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST TREAGUS.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.' First peal as conductor.

OVERSEALE, DERBYSHIRE.—At St. Matthew's Church on Sunday, October 10th, for the harvest festival, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples for matins: W. Bosworth 1, W. E. Clayfield 2, H. C. Adams 3, H. Carter (first 'inside') 4, G. W. Clayfield (conductor) 5, W. Brooker 6, J. W. Cotton 7, H. Curson 8.

DIDSBURY, LANCASHIRE.—On Sunday, September 26th, for harvest festival at Christ Church, 1,428 Grandsire Triples: H. Jones 1, T. Jones 2, H. Davies 3, A. Frost 4, G. Newton 5, B. Murgatroyd 6, N. Heaps (conductor) 7, F. Lapham 8.

PEAL NOTES.

INTERESTING POINTS FROM PERFORMANCES.

Members of the Surrey Association, conducted by Mr. C. H. Kippin, added to their fine list of peals of Royal by ringing another of London Surprise (No. 3 'version') at St. Peter's Church, Croydon, on Oct. 16th. Messrs. Bill Hewitt and Fred Collins scored their first peal in the method.

With reference to the handbell peal rung at Hinton-on-the-Green on October 16th and published in our last issue, it is interesting to note that in 1915 Mr. F. S. Wilson rang handbell peals of Grandsire Triples and Caters respectively with the late Mr. F. J. Johnson (father of the talented family of ringers) and with the late Miss Ellen M. Johnson, the eldest daughter, so that Mr. Wilson has now rung handbell peals with no less than five members of the Johnson family.

At Lyminster, Sussex, on Saturday, the first peal was rung on the bells since they were returned and rebung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

Mr. T. Law, of Northampton, rang his one hundredth peal on Saturday, and Mr. John H. Cheesman, of Greenhithe, his 150th peal on Crayford bells on Friday.

The peal of Grandsire Doubles at Hampton-in-Arden, Warwickshire, rung by members of St. Edburgha's Society, Yardley, Birmingham, was in celebration of the wedding of Mr. Roland Edwards, a member of the society, and to mark the rehanging of the bells by Messrs. John Taylor and Co.

A peal of Grandsire Triples was rung on the back eight at Worsley, Lancs, on October 20th, as a 'coming of age' compliment to Mr. J. K. Welsby. It was also the birthday of Mr. H. Allred, sen., and the wedding anniversary of Mr. R. Allred. All of them received the congratulations of the rest of the band.

The conductor, Mr. J. H. Ridyard, has now rung every bell in the tower to a peal, and this was the quickest peal on the bells. It was rung in exactly three hours; the tenor is 24 cwt.

Mr. William B. Duncan has now added Hethersett to the list of towers where he has 'completed the circle.'

October 21st was the 26th anniversary of the first peal rung by eight brothers, the Baileys, of Leiston, Suffolk. That peal was Allen P.'s first, and he celebrated it on Thursday week by calling a peal of Stedman Caters on handbells at Stockport.

The Bailey brothers made history by the number of family peals they rang.

Odd-bob peals of Stedman Triples are a rare occurrence now that Maurice Swinfield and the Midland Counties' Wednesday band have ceased operations, but Mr. P. W. Cave called Carter's No. 2 at Halewood, Lancs, on Saturday.

Mr. W. H. Shaker, hon. secretary of the Lancashire Association, has just completed 50 years of ringing, and on Saturday celebrated it by ringing his 150th peal.

In this peal of Stedman Triples, rung at Gorton, Manchester, Messrs. Alfred Barnes and Charles Ollier also took part, and both these have put in over 50 years' service. It was the one hundredth peal together by Messrs. P. Laffin and A. F. Bailey.

Sheila Graham has begun to receive birthday compliments early. To celebrate her first birthday, a peal was rung at Norbury (Hazel Grove), Cheshire, on the twelfth anniversary of the restoration of the bells.

The tenor at Kedington, Suffolk, was recast and the rest of the bells rehung in a new frame and fittings by Mr. R. White, of Appleton. The first peal was rung on them on October 17th.

Mr. Sidney W. Arbon rang his first peal on eight bells on Saturday. It was Kent Treble Bob Major at Debenham, and previous to the peal he had not rung as much as a plain course in the method in the tower.

Mr. Bert Chivers, who took part in the peal, and on the previous Saturday rang in a peal of Minor at Thornham, Suffolk, has only one arm. Despite this handicap, he can strike a bell really well.

Mr. Robert Sperring, of Chester, rang his 550th peal on Saturday when he called a peal of Grandsire Triples. He chose this method as his first peal, rung at Holt, Denbighshire, in 1901, was Grandsire Doubles.

(Continued on next page.)

HANDBELL PEAL.

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE. THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, October 21, 1937, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT 20, ABERDEEN CRESCENT,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5079 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

JAMES W. WASBROOK ... 1-2	ALLEN F. BAILEY ... 5-6
HAROLD JACKSON ... 3-4	ALFRED BARNES ... 7-8
PETER LAFIN ... 9-10	

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by A. F. BAILEY.

Witness: Mrs. A. F. Bailey.

(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over.)

A PEAL OF MAJOR AT ST. PETER MANCROFT

(Continued from previous page.)

The Rev. C. E. Wigg rang the tenor at St. Peter Mancroft, Norwich, to a peal of Double Norwich Major on October 12th. It is not often, in these days, that this bell is turned in to Major. She weighs nearly 38 cwt.

Members of the Middlesex Association rang a peal of Bristol Surprise at St. Olave's, Hart Street, London, on Saturday, in honour of the silver jubilee of the Ladies' Guild. Afterwards the three married men of the party went on to the dinner held by the ladies in celebration of the event, but it was noted that the five bachelors made their escape from the city as quickly as possible. There were rumours that Kate would be present at the dinner.

The peal of Cambridge Surprise Major at Great Baddow on October 23rd was rung as a compliment to Mr. George Green on his completion of 50 years as a ringer at that church. The peal was conducted by his son. The band was afterwards kindly entertained by Mr. and Mrs. Green.

George Green is a keen and talented ringer, and his jovial manner and his kind and generous disposition has won for him a large circle of friends, who wish him many more years of continued activity in the Exercise.

On the light eight at Chelmsford Cathedral, a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung on October 18th in honour of the birth of a son to Col. Whitmore, Lord Lieutenant of the County of Essex.

A peal comprising 23 methods in seven 720's was rung fully muffled at Disley, Cheshire, on October 18th, as a last token of respect and esteem for Mr. H. Haythorn, a valued member of the local band and of the Chester Diocesan Guild.

Miss Sylvia Bowyer rang the tenor (8 cwt.) to a peal of Minor at Tuddenham, Suffolk, on October 18th, and scored her first peal in four methods as conductor.

Mr. O. E. Carr on October 16th 'completed the circle' at Stoney Stanton with a peal of Grandsire Triples, to which he rang the 7th. The peal was rung on the eve of the harvest festival.

The peal of Stedman Triples at Erith on Saturday was rung after meeting short for Bristol Surprise, Mr. T. Mortimer kindly standing in at the last moment and ringing the tenor.

The first peal on the bells of Chagford, Devon, recast by Taylor in 1914, was rung on Saturday, and was the first peal for the Devon Guild by the Rev. Rhys James, the vice-president.

Chagford was the home town of W. Aggett, who did a lot of bell-hanging in the West in the past generation. He was the inventor of the self-aligning bearing for bells. Though hung on wood by him, with his patent bearings, before the war, Chagford bells go remarkably well.

F. W. Vernon and T. Vessey completed the circle of the tower at Baruby-in-the-Willows, Notts, when they took part in a peal in seven methods of Minor on October 16th.

The Rev. E. C. Pigot, who is hon. treasurer of the Shropshire Association, is retiring from the incumbency of Moreton Corbet after 25 years as Rector. Members of the association rang a farewell peal of Minor on Sunday, October 17th. Mr. Pigot has always taken the greatest interest in ringing and ringers.

A peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at Stow Bardolph, Norfolk, on Sunday, October 17th, was Mr. William Buckenham's fiftieth for the Ely Diocesan Association.

A band from the Dunster Deanery of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association rang the first peal on the bells at East Anstey, North Devon, on October 16th. The ringers came from Chipstable, Bampton, Milverton and Wiveliscombe.

The ringer of the 3rd in the peal of Double Norwich at Burton Latimer on October 16th was Arthur Bigley and not Bigby as printed.

FIRST QUARTER-PEALS.

YATELEY, HANTS.—For the harvest festival, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: W. G. Bunch 1, S. Bunch 2, E. Hearman (first quarter-peal 'inside') 3, C. Bunch 4, G. Butler (conductor) 5, A. Goodall 6, S. J. Riddell 7, G. Over 8. Also 504 Stedman Triples with A. Hearman 3 and A. E. Hearman 8, conducted by G. Butler.

BROMLEY, KENT.—At SS. Peter and Paul's Church on Sunday, October 3rd, for harvest festival morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: B. F. Glaysher 1, C. Mounter 2, P. J. Spice 3, F. E. Pitman 4, I. Emery (conductor) 5, G. Huxley 6, A. James 7, R. Williams 8. First quarter-peal by the treble and tenor men.

HITCHIN.—At St. Mary's Church on October 3rd, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: W. E. Symonds 1, H. Else 2, C. V. Hare 3, J. Hare 4, G. Wolfe 5, L. Fidler (conductor) 6, T. Castle 7, A. E. Symonds 8. First quarter-peal in the method by the treble ringer, who is only 14 years of age.

RELIGRAVE, LEICESTER.—At St. Peter's Church for harvest festival on Thursday, September 30th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: A. Williams 1, R. Swann 2, H. Martin 3, G. Walker 4, G. Tilson 5, S. Harrison 6, R. Barrow (conductor) 7, H. Woolaston (first quarter-peal) 8.

BROMLEY, KENT.—At SS. Peter and Paul's Church for morning harvest festival service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: B. Glaysher (first quarter-peal) 1, E. Mounter 2, P. Spice 3, F. E. Pitman 4, I. Emery (conductor) 5, G. Huxley 6, A. James 7, R. Williams (first quarter-peal) 8. All are local Sunday service ringers.

TEACHING BEGINNERS.

REPLIES TO MR. S. H. WOOD.

To the Editor

Dear Sir,—Briefly, my replies to Mr. Wood's letter are:—

1. 'Method of hunting up, etc.' Returning to the lead after the making of 2nd place or 3rd place, the teaching of 'hunting up' is incorporated in the work which follows, be it Bob Major or Grandsire Triples.

2. No 2 is still my plan to 'learn to strike evenly over other bells, as stated in my letter published in 'The Ringing World' on Oct. 1st.

3. Learning to lead. For my part, I should not be satisfied until each pupil had passed the instruction test of 'learning to lead' by taking the treble, and I should not prolong the instruction by ringing the treble myself. The subject is 'learning to lead.'

4. 'Stedman' is the parent of Surprise methods, and, I claim, can be taught a *band* more easily than Grandsire.

The one thing which inspired Mr. Wood to write his first article in 'The Ringing World' was to try to find out 'which is the best method on which to start beginners,' and at the moment I cannot agree that a Major method is best. And why do anything to detract from the splendid articles published each week in 'The Ringing World' for beginners?

May I refer Mr. Wood to April 25th, 1925, and ask, was it encouraging and beneficial to greater efforts?

Bath.

ARTHUR PRINCE.

GRANDFATHERS WERE NOT ALWAYS WRONG.

Sir,—Because one happens to disagree with Mr. S. H. Wood and simply gave a few plain facts, in reply to his distorted arguments, he says he is subjected to rudeness and personal abuse. Mr. Wood dislikes being told straight, and in the fewest words, that his article is neither new nor original, and, like a good many other writers in various spheres, drags in the grandfather phrase. Our grandfathers were not always wrong, and we owe much to them for their hard work, enterprise and splendid examples, especially with regard to good striking.

My vision is not blinded with rage, and because I do not choose to write page after page trying to raise arguments, Mr. Wood says there is no constructive criticism. When Mr. Wood puts forth a reasonable argument, I shall be pleased to deal with the subject in a fuller manner. Having stated that he leads only with his ears and nothing more, I need not comment further.

Mr. Wood wants to know where he states his aversion to Grandsire Triples. My answer is, on pages 633 and 634 of 'The Ringing World.' I still say that Grandsire is the best method to teach beginners, and it has been proved beyond question in many ways, if Mr. Wood will only take the trouble to find out. There is no argument about it whatsoever. I would refer Mr. Wood to page 663 of 'The Ringing World,' which will give him some idea of the correct method to teach beginners, and if he requires further information it can be obtained without much trouble. It is not for me to tell him how to get his proofs.

In conclusion, I may say that, having reviewed both letters which are claimed to be rude and abusive, I fail to trace anything of same in either of them, and when devoid of reasonable argument it is easy to state that those who disagree are capable of such measures.

W. SHEPHERD.

BOYS' QUICK GRASP OF STEDMAN.

Dear Sir,—I have read Mr. Stephen Wood's two letters on this important subject with considerable interest. Mr. Wood says he would like to hear results of personal experience in this matter, and I think that an experience we have had at our tower at Anstey, Leicestershire, during the last ten months may interest him. Judging by this experience I should say that, *providing you have the right instructor* and pupils of average intelligence, *Stedman* is the best method to start a beginner with.

Last Christmas holidays our Ringing Master, Mr. Redvers F. Elkington, who is well known in Midland ringing circles, started to teach three lads, who are scholars at the Boys' Wyggeston Grammar School, Leicester, and were then aged 12½, 14 and 14½ respectively. On Sunday, October 17th, these three rang in a good quarter-peal of Stedman Triples.

Their method of instruction was roughly as follows: First of all plenty of practice with the 'clapper-stays' on to get them thoroughly master of their bells; then rounds and 'call changes,' followed by 'plain hunting' commencing on four bells. While they were in the 'plain hunting' stage, Mr. Elkington took pains to explain the Stedman method very thoroughly to these three lads, so that when they came to ring it later on they found little difficulty with it.

Mr. Wood's point about even-bell ringing for beginners is an interesting one. These three learners were given a certain amount of 'plain hunting' on six bells, and after having the Kent Treble Bob method explained to them they quickly mastered the Minor and were soon able to ring Kent Treble Bob Major—in fact, two of them had had luck recently as they rang very nearly to the end of a quarter-peal of Kent for the weekday harvest festival service, a 'trip' unfortunately putting 'paid' to it about a course from home. We do not possess any handbells, and all the instruction, therefore, had to be done on the tower bells.

Anstey.

ALBAN DISNEY.

SNOWDEN MEMORIAL DINNER. RECORD GATHERING AT LEEDS.

The annual dinner in commemoration of past officers of the Yorkshire Association was held at the Leeds and County Conservative Club on Saturday, October 9th. This was a new venue. Whether the change had anything to do with the size of the gathering it is impossible to say, but the fact remains that a record number of 160 sat down to the excellent repast provided, a total which left the previous record held by Sheffield far behind. A further gratifying feature was that on this occasion by far the greater percentage of those present were resident members of the Yorkshire Association, so that the usual plea of the president for a greater loyalty to their own association was unnecessary, as indeed it should be.

Amongst those who sat down under the presidency of Canon C. C. Marshall were the Right Rev. P. F. D. de Labilliere (Bishop Suffragan of Knaresborough), the Rev. W. Thompson Elliot (Vicar of Leeds), the Rev. F. J. Lindley (Vicar of Burley), the Rev. C. O. Ellison and the Rev. J. H. Z. Andrews, Messrs. White and West (churchwardens of St. Chad's, Headingley), and Schofield (churchwarden of St. Michael and All Angels, Headingley). Extra-territorial participants included Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Fletcher (representing the Central Council and the Ladies' Guild respectively), Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Shaker (Lancashire Association), Mr. R. Park (secretary of the Durham and Newcastle Association), Mr. N. Park (treasurer of the Durham and Newcastle Association), Mrs. Park, Mr. J. O. Pollard and Mr. J. Reed (president and secretary respectively of the Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association), and Mr. G. W. Park, of Darlington.

After the dinner Councillor E. E. Bullus proposed the toast of 'The Church and State.' In a short and pointed discourse, Councillor Bullus suggested that, although to some disestablishmentarianism might seem the only solution to the reconciliation of the Church and State on certain points, such as had been raised by the new Divorce Act, in which the Church had been placed in an anomalous position, he himself thought, on the contrary, this was a time when there should be a closer unity, and he appealed for support to the Archbishop's recall to religion as an answer to the problems arising from modern conditions of life.

Canon W. Thompson Elliot responded to the toast. He paid tribute to those, such as the president, who had done much to raise and maintain the status of ringing and ringers, and referred to the unique position that bells occupied in the parochial life of England. Indulging in reminiscences, he said he remembered when a proposal to rehang a peal of bells, in which he was interested, was opposed on the grounds that there was no canonical authority for more than three bells in a church and no authority whatsoever for bells to be used for recreative purposes. He was able to say, however, that the peal of bells was restored and no attention was paid to the remarks of the objector to the enterprise.

Regretting that even to-day there are two classes of ringers, the one going to service after ringing and the other going to drink beer, he hoped that (whilst again he had no canonical authority for saying this) ringers would come to regard themselves as being members of a minor order of church ministers. He concluded by wishing the association and the ringers themselves success in the work they were doing.

A course of Grandsire Caters was then rung by Messrs. S. F. Palmer 1-2, G. Lewis 3-4, P. J. Johnson 5-6, W. Barton 7-8 and J. Ambler 9-10.

Canon C. C. Marshall then read a telegram which had been received from Mrs. and Miss Snowden, of Carlisle: 'Best possible wishes to this evening's meeting,' and next called upon Mr. P. J. Johnson to propose the toast of the evening, 'Jasper Whitfield Snowden and Past Officers of the Yorkshire Association.'

NOTABLE PAST OFFICERS.

Mr. Johnson said that he considered it a signal honour to be able to propose a toast to those early members of the association, and whilst he had no personal knowledge of Jasper Snowden, he had been associated with many who knew him intimately as a true son of the Church. Yorkshire and the Yorkshire Association were proud of him who did more than any other single man to further the cause of change ringing by his writings. His brother, William Snowden, he (Mr. Johnson) knew well, and he considered that his ability was

insufficiently recognised, as he devoted himself wholeheartedly to the propagation of his brother's writings throughout the Exercise.

Other officers known to many included C. H. Hattersley, of Sheffield, a grandson of a former ringer of that town—William Booth. A composer of great merit, Charles Hattersley had left behind in Sheffield belfry a large manuscript collection, as well as numerous books, which was highly treasured by the Sheffield ringers. Referring to Charles Jackson, of Hull, the speaker recalled that he was a good story teller who was prepared to go peal ringing at any time and every time. William Whittaker, of Leeds, and G. Bolland, of Tong, were mentioned for their excellent striking as well as for other virtues, before the speaker passed on to that well-known ringer and conductor, the late Mr. James Cotterell, who was treasurer of the association for many years, and a man of great ability, who commanded the respect of all who met him.

Mr. H. Lofthouse, secretary of the Leeds and District Society, welcomed the visitors and proposed the toast to them. The toast, which was further supported by the president and replied to by the Bishop of Knaresborough and Alderman Bretherick.

'CAMPANOLOGISTS' A HORRID TERM.

The Bishop said that he did not think that he was altogether amongst strangers as, whilst he was not a ringer, he was, what was probably the next best thing, one who has tried, but, after dangling at the end of a rope and then measuring his length, considered that ringing was not his vocation (laughter). He would, however, raise two contentious questions, one from the point of view of an anti-noise association, 'Do bells make a noise or a melodious sound?' He would suggest that the answer to this question would depend mainly on the conscience of the person who was listening to the bells.

The second was whether the use of that horrid hybrid term, 'Campanologists,' should be continued, as it savoured too much of the new-fangled terminology beloved of Americans, and recalled that he was talking to a chauffeur who had returned from Salt Lake City, where he said that he had been driving for a 'mortification.' He suggested, therefore, that this term was unworthy of the ringers of church bells, which had been ascribed with the power of driving away devils as long ago as 1552—work which, he said, they could still do by working on the conscience of the hearer. 'May England,' he concluded, 'long continue to be known as the ringing isle.'

In proposing the toast of the 'Continued Prosperity of the Yorkshire Association,' Mr. W. Barton pointed out that this was an important toast, as it was a matter which concerned all the members of the association. He recounted briefly the gradual growth of ringers' societies from the early days of the art, and asked the members to note that now, as then, the welfare of the society depended upon the individual members and not upon the officers of the association, and that by obeying the rules of the society in such small items as paying their subscriptions promptly, they could facilitate the easy running of that body, whilst they would help themselves by attending meetings which were arranged for them.

Mr. G. W. Fletcher, in a short speech, drew attention to the fact that the long overdue visit of the Central Council to Leeds would take place next year, which would give Leeds an opportunity to show what it could do. He was sure that Leeds people would not let the Yorkshire Association down.

A course of Double Norwich Court Bob Major then followed on handbells by W. Ambler, P. J. Johnson, W. Barton and J. Ambler.

A vote of thanks to the chairman was proposed by Mr. E. White, who congratulated him on his successful juggling with the programme. After the reply by Canon Marshall, in which he promised the Central Council a Yorkshire welcome, the company slowly dispersed.

During the evening songs were rendered by Mr. J. Allerton and Mr. Naylor.

Mr. F. G. Sherwood is to be heartily congratulated upon the excellent arrangements which he made for the ringing previous to the dinner and for the dinner itself. He proved himself an able secretary for the occasion.

HALIFAX ASSOCIATIONS SIX-BELL CONTEST.

LIVERSEDGE WIN.

The quarterly meeting and six-bell contest of the Halifax and District Association was held at Elland on October 16th. The contest consisted of 600 changes, with a plain course for practice, and the three teams that entered rang in the following order: Liversedge (who rang College Exercise), New Mill (Oxford), Meltham (Oxford).

Tea was served in the Parochial Hall, to which about 30 visitors sat down, and after the competing teams had rung the meeting was held in the school.

The President (Mr. Earnshaw) moved that the best thanks be accorded to the Vicar, churchwardens and local company at Elland for entertaining the association that afternoon.

In the absence of the Vicar, the curate (the Rev. F. R. Arnott) replied. The judge, Mr. W. Idle, gave his decision as follows: Liversedge, 98 faults; New Mill, 156 faults, rang out; Meltham, 180 faults, 5 penalty, total 185. Liversedge were, therefore, declared winners, and the Rev. F. R. Arnott presented the cup to the Liversedge conductor, Mr. F. Hodgson.

The next meeting is due to be held at New Mill on March 19th, and it was proposed that Kirkheaton be approached with a view to holding the contest there on April 23rd, 1938.



JASPER W. SNOWDON.
Born 1844. Died 1885.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. LEWISHAM DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of Lewisham District was held at St. Mary's, Lewisham, on October 16th. Ringing was enjoyed by some 50 members during the afternoon and evening.

The association's service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. C. R. Cotter), and afterwards the members were entertained to tea in St. Mary's Hall by the Vicar, who presided, supported by his churchwarden, Mr. J. A. Musto.

At the meeting the chairman and Mr. J. A. Musto extended a warm and generous welcome to the visitors.

The secretary's report and balance sheet were read and adopted. It was suggested that such reports be printed, hectographed, or otherwise duplicated, in order that members interested might obtain copies for future reference.

The election of one member previous to a peal was ratified.

Eltham was chosen for the next meeting, to be held, if possible, on Saturday, January 29th.

The district secretary (Mr. A. G. Hill) and the Ringing Master (Mr. T. Groombridge, sen) were re-elected. The selection of district representatives on the Management Committee led to the re-election of Mr. F. J. Cullum and the appointment of Mr. W. Smith to succeed Mr. J. Wheadon.

Votes of thanks were passed to the officers for their past services, the secretary being instructed to convey this expression of appreciation to Mr. Wheadon, who was unavoidably absent.

Mr. F. M. Mitchell (the general secretary) was invited by the chairman to address the meeting, and did so wisely, shortly and well, voicing the general satisfaction felt in observing a good proportion of younger ringers among those attending.

A cordial vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, for his generous hospitality, for conducting the service and presiding at the business meeting, to the Vicar and churchwarden jointly for their welcome to Lewisham, to the organist and the caterers for their willing help, and to Mr. H. Warnett (steeplekeeper) and Mr. O. H. Walker (secretary, St. Mary's ringers) for making such smooth working arrangements.—The Chairman replied, and further ringing on the tower bells terminated proceedings.

FAREWELL TO A VICAR.

At the Parish Church, Willingham, Cambs, on Sunday, October 10th, before evensong, as a farewell to Canon A. C. Hair, a quarter-peal (1,320 changes, Bankes James') of Cambridge Surprise Minor: D. Adams 1, C. Robinson 2, F. Warrington 3, A. W. T. Ginn 4, F. G. Gleaves 5, R. Thoday 6.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

MEMBERS ENTERTAINED AT GARVESTON.

An informal meeting of the North Norfolk Branch was held at Garveston on October 16th and was well attended by representatives from all four branches: Attleborough, Dersingham, East Dereham, Fakenham, Gressenhall, Halvergate, Reedham, Saham-Toney, Wymondham and the local band. At a short service held in the afternoon the Rector (the Rev. R. C. Boorman) dedicated an illuminated record of a peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor, rung on July 24th, 1937. Afterwards the members present were entertained to tea at the Rectory.

The branch secretary, Mr. H. Tooke, thanked the Rev. and Mrs. Boorman for entertaining them and for the use of the bells.—Mr. R. W. Cooke seconded, and, in reply, the Rector welcomed all present to Garveston. He said he was pleased to allow the bells to be rung on such an occasion, and he paid a tribute to Mr. T. Spight, of Wymondham, for his work in preparing the peal record.

The local company have arranged a practice night on Thursdays fortnightly from October 21st, and will welcome any ringer who would care to attend.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

A VICAR'S THANKS TO MEMBERS.

A quarterly meeting of the Portsmouth District was held at Bishop's Waltham on Saturday, October 16th, when members attended from Alresford, Bishop's Waltham, Bishopstoke, Curdridge, Coleman's Hatch, Fareham, Gosport, Liss, North Stoneham, Petersfield, Portsmouth (Cathedral and St. Mary's), Southampton, Soberton, Swanmore, Winchester and Wickham. The recently augmented peal was well in demand during the afternoon. The Guild service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. N. H. Stubbs). Tea was served in the Church Hall, after which the business meeting was presided over by the district chairman (the Rev. E. B. James).

Mr. W. H. Heyhoe (Wickham) was elected a ringing member of the Guild, and Havant was selected for the next quarterly meeting, to be held in April, 1938.

The Vicar thanked the members of the Guild for their generosity and kind donations towards the cost of the two new bells recently added to the ring of six.

Votes of thanks were accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells, Church Hall and officiating at the service. Thanks were also extended the organist and the ladies who kindly catered for tea. The members afterwards returned to the tower for further ringing.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The eight bells of the Church of the Sacred Heart (R.C.), Talbot Road, Blackpool, will be at liberty for ringing from 4 p.m. to 5.30 on Saturday next on the occasion of the Lancashire Association's annual dinner.

Lady's Surprise is the latest thing in ringing. It was depicted on Mrs. Fletcher's face when a handbag was presented to her at the Ladies' Guild dinner on Saturday and she discovered its contents.

The members of the Ladies' Guild who attended the silver jubilee festival on Saturday came from no fewer than 18 counties. Five of the foundation members attended, and the youngest member present (in point of age) was Miss Enid Richardson, who is 13.

Mr. 'Jim' Bennett, of Lewisham, underwent an operation in St. Bartholomew's Hospital on Tuesday. His many friends will wish him a speedy recovery. He is in the 'Percival Pott' Ward of the hospital.

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS.

MR. A. B. PECK TO SUCCEED MR. W. T. COCKERILL AS HON. SECRETARY.

At a meeting of the Ancient Society of College Youths at their headquarters on Tuesday evening the officers for the ensuing year were nominated.

There will be only one change. Mr. W. T. Cockerill, who is giving up the secretaryship after 46 years' service, will be succeeded by Mr. Alfred B. Peck, who has been a member of the St. Paul's Cathedral company for many years.

The other officers were renominated, viz.: Master, Mr. E. H. Lewis; hon. treasurer, Mr. A. A. Hughes; senior steward, Mr. L. B. Porter; junior steward, Mr. J. Waugh; trustees, Messrs. C. F. Winney and H. R. Newton.

BEQUEST TO BELLRINGERS.

£10 EACH FOR MEMBERS OF BANSTEAD BAND.

Lt.-Col. Thomas Frank Parkinson, of De Burgh Park, Banstead, Surrey, barrister of the Middle Temple, who died a short time ago, left £15,737 (net personalty £11,259).

He was a ringer at Banstead Parish Church and a member of the Guildford Diocesan Guild and the Surrey Association.

In his will he left £10 to each of the bellringers at Banstead Church who have rung on at least 40 Sundays in the year ending with his death, and £15 extra to the captain at the date of his death of the band of bellringers.

He bequeathed his residence and effects to Alice Newman, his housekeeper for 36 years. He also left her £100 and an annuity of £208, and a life interest in the residue of his estate subsequent to the life interest of his brother and sister.

ANOTHER FALSE COMPOSITION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—As I have just learned that the peal of Bob Major which I called at St. Stephen's, Eastwood, Rotherham, on June 15th, 1937, and which was subsequently published in 'The Ringing World,' is false, I beg to withdraw it. I should like to take this opportunity of apologising to the ringers who took part in the peal, which was a 5,216 by Arthur Craven, with tenors parted 24 courses, giving 4-8-8 and 6-4-8 course ends.

NORMAN CHADDOCK.

Rotherham.

A FORGOTTEN 'TRAP.'

Dear Sir,—I sincerely regret that the two peals of 5,005 Stedman Cinques have been found to be false. I knew of this 'trap' many years ago, but had quite forgotten it, as I had never previously used it. I wish to apologise to Mr. C. T. Coles and all who took part in the peals. It was a complete lapse of memory. I have now corrected both peals.

ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Chesterfield.

SUFFOLK TOWN WITH THREE PEALS.

SUDBURY'S GOOD FORTUNE.

Sudbury, Suffolk, with a population of only seven thousand, has three peals of eight bells, all in good ringing order. It must be the only town of this size in the country so well equipped.

The bells of All Saints' Church have recently been rehung on new bearings and the tenor provided with a new iron headstock. The work was formally dedicated on Sunday, October 17th, by the Bishop of Dunwich. The Bishop was conducted by the Vicar, the churchwardens and Mr. H. G. Herbert, hon. secretary of the Suffolk Guild, to the west end of the church, where he recited the dedicatory prayers and, handing a rope to the Vicar, committed the restored bells to his charge.

The bells were rung in the opening touch by S. Gridley 1, T. Chinery 2, H. G. Felton 3, W. Lee 4, A. A. Fitch 5, L. Johnson 6, S. Howell 7, D. H. Elliott 8.

LADIES' GUILD SILVER JUBILEE.

SUCCESSFUL CELEBRATION IN LONDON.

Presentation to the Hon. Secretary.

The Ladies' Guild celebrated the silver jubilee of their organisation at an enthusiastic and representative gathering in London on Saturday. Founded on October 26th, 1912, the membership has grown in the 25 years from 40 to over 300, and more than 70 of them were present to join in the festivities. They came from all parts of the country, and in the afternoon took part in ringing at St. Clement Danes Church. They then attended service, at which the lesson was read by the president (Miss E. Steel, of Bedford), and an address given by the Rev. W. L. Bell (curate). Miss G. Church, a member of the Guild, was at the organ.

Afterwards a dinner was held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, attended by a company of about 130. Miss Steel presided and was supported by Miss Dorothy L. Sayers, Mrs. G. W. Fletcher (hon. secretary), Mr. E. H. Lewis (president of the Central Council and Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths), Mrs. Lewis, and Canon G. F. Coleridge (Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild). Those also present included the following vice-presidents: Miss L. K. Bowling (Northern District), Mrs. Bruce (Southern District), Mrs. J. Bray (Lincoln District), Mrs. R. F. Deal (Central District), Mrs. Boulton (Northants District); district secretaries, Mrs. R. Richardson (Lincoln District), Miss S. Thursfield (Northants), Mrs. G. H. Cross (Central), Miss N. G. Williams (Western), Miss H. F. Mills (Southern), Miss K. M. Bradford (assistant secretary, Central). The company also included Mr. F. M. Mitchell (hon. secretary, Kent County Association) and Mrs. Mitchell, Mr. C. T. Coles (hon. secretary, Middlesex Association) and Mrs. Coles, Mr. R. Richardson (Master of the Lincoln Guild) and Miss Enid Richardson, Mr. A. D. Barker (hon. treasurer, Oxford Guild) and Mrs. Barker, Mr. A. A. Hughes (hon. treasurer of the College Youths) and Mrs. Hughes, Mr. and Mrs. Goodship and Miss G. Goodship, Misses E. K. Fulton, F. Clayton and F. Harle (Harrow Weald), Miss E. Foulk (Dufield), Misses M. and D. Lidbetter (Isleworth), Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Perrens (Coventry), Mrs. A. Beamish (Nuneaton), Misses M. Godderidge (Polestone), Radley (Broxbourne), G. Church (Waltham Cross), Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Housden (Tunbridge Wells), Mr. and Mrs. R. Collins, Miss D. Collins (Sevenoaks), Mr. and Mrs. G. Parks (Croydon), Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Davis (London), Misses M. Robertson, H. W. Bill and A. Cushion (Norwich), Mr. and Miss H. Snowden (Halstead), Mrs. Tillotson, Mrs. Osborne (Loughton), Miss K. M. Shepherd (East Grinstead), Misses K. and D. Fletcher (Beaconsfield), Miss E. Knight (Bedford), Mrs. A. Chapman (Walthamstow), Miss E. N. Belcher (Ditching), Mrs. L. Hardy, Miss N. Baker (Leicester), Mr. and Mrs. C. McGuinness, Mrs. A. McGuinness, Mrs. Neal (Lincoln), Mrs. L. East (East Collingham), Mr. and Mrs. J. Parker, Mr. and Mrs. J. Thomas, Misses O. Pittock, N. Scopes and E. Collins (Enfield), Mr. and Mrs. H. Knight (Wrixton), Misses M. Gardiner and A. Brown and Mrs. Skidmore (Bristol), Mrs. Norton (Kingston Seymour), Miss Turnbull (Edmonton), Mrs. O. Cotterell (Leeds), Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Atkins, Misses B. Hart, Vale and Jacques (Kilburn), Mrs. Humphrey, Mrs. P. Humphrey, Miss P. Humphrey, Mr. and Mrs. J. Botham, Miss B. Mills and Miss L. Keeley (London), Miss K. Avenall (Worplesdon), Mr. and Mrs. W. Massey and Mr. G. Massey (Claygate), Mrs. C. Matthews (Southfields), Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Elson (Putney), Mr. and Mrs. N. Bagworth (Fulham), Mr. and Mrs. R. Rawlings (Beckenham), Mr. and Mrs. C. Wilson and Miss B. Roughton (Isham), Messrs. G. W. Fletcher (hon. secretary, Central Council), J. A. Trollope (vice-president, Middlesex Association), A. E. Sharman (hon. secretary, Bedfordshire Association), G. H. Cross (Master, Royal Cumberland Youths), J. S. Goldsmith (hon. secretary, Guildford Diocesan Guild), A. H. Ward (Derby), R. F. Deal, C. W. Roberts, W. Williams and T. J. Lock (London), J. Bray and G. Feirn (Burton-on-Stather), G. Hart (Harrow Weald), F. E. Collins (Croydon), R. Curzon and H. Tooke (Norwich), etc.

After an excellent meal, the loyal toast was honoured on the call of the president.

Miss Sylvia Thursfield proposed the toast of 'The Church,' which, she said, was vitally connected with the work of the Guild. If they were to ask what point in their connection with the Church was most vital, she would say, the fact that their work and this Exercise which

they so greatly enjoyed was privileged to take place within the churches and cathedrals. That day they were celebrating their silver jubilee. They had not got the antiquity which other ringing guilds and societies enjoyed, but could they imagine what might possibly have happened if women had started ringing, say, a hundred or more years ago? She thought it might easily have jeopardised their chances for ever; they might have been looked upon with such alarm and concern that they would never afterwards have stood much chance. Instead, today, they had an established position and were not only recognised, but welcomed by the Church. That was due, she thought, very largely to the clergy. She came from one of the smallest districts of the Ladies' Guild, but from her experience she could say that what they met with, from the church officials, was not just a balance of average friendliness, but a definite recognition of the full value of their work. They had many friends among the clergy and that night they greatly welcomed Canon Coleridge, who had been a staunch supporter of the Guild ever since it started (applause). Ringing parsons were one of the greatest assets they had got, but second to them she put the non-ringing parsons, whose interest, she thought, was largely due to the words which the ringing parsons put in for the ladies. The support which they got from the clergy was a thing they should realise and value. She hoped it might long continue and grow from year to year (applause).

HISTORY REPEATS ITSELF.

Canon Coleridge reminded the company that the 'Church' referred as much to them as to himself. He held office in one position in the Church, they held it in another and did an enormous amount of good. He looked back to the days when it was a very rare thing to find a lady in the belfry, but on those rare occasions when he was now able to ring he was always delighted when he could get a lady near him (laughter). When he called to mind the many wonderful things which had been done by ladies in the belfries, he could not but be very definite in expressing his warm thanks and the thanks of all connected with the Church for the wonderful work they had done, were doing and would do in the future for the Church. Soon after the Ladies' Guild started he preached to them once at Reading, and he little thought then that it would develop as it had done. With such a healthy looking lot of ladies in front of him he did not think there was much doubt they would attract the young men to the belfry (laughter), and many of them would no doubt find their true partner in life.

Continuing, Canon Coleridge said he had just read that delightful little book brought out by Mr. Trollope—'A History of the College Youths.' He advised everyone to get a copy and read it, because it showed them how very different the Exercise was nearly 300 years ago to what it is at the present day. Canon Coleridge read a short extract from the book in reference to the occasion when the College Youths rang their peal of 7,018 of Cinques at St. Michael's, Cornhill, for the first time with 13 men only. Having rung this peal, they very naturally desired to commemorate it, and it was recorded that a month afterwards they repaired to The Meece and partook of 'a very handsome dinner in commemoration of that unequalled performance and were accompanied by many worthy gentlemen who delight in the Exercise.' 'Does not history repeat itself?' added Canon Coleridge. He did not know exactly what 'a very handsome dinner was,' but he saw many handsome faces round him that night. It was equally true that many worthy gentlemen who delight in the Exercise were present on that occasion, and it gave them the greatest possible pleasure to be there (applause).

Continuing, Canon Coleridge attributed many of the changes of recent years to the admirable example set by the lady ringers. They came to the front in the war time and filled the gaps and had kept on with a perseverance that was wonderful. To illustrate the changes, the speaker quoted extracts from the diary of a village tailor who was also a ringer at Thorverton, Devon, when he (Canon Coleridge) learned to ring there as a boy. It recorded, for instance, in 1831, that 'this day Rev. Dr. Coleridge took the benefits and gave the ringers £3,' and a month after, 'Rev. Dr. Coleridge read himself in to-day and gave the ringers a sovereign.' When his daughter was married they received two sovereigns, and when the daughter gave birth to her first child he gave the ringers a pound. On one occasion when a local yeoman farmer was married he gave the ringers £2 in money, three rounds of beef (rounds of beef in those days were about 30 lb. each) and 100 gallons of beer (laughter).

Canon Coleridge concluded by thanking the ladies for the toast and said he trusted they would all go on to do the very best they could for the Church by every means in their power.

FOUNDATION OF GUILD RECALLED.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith submitted the toast of 'The Ladies' Guild.' He congratulated the Guild on reaching its silver jubilee and said that it gave him special pleasure to propose the toast because he took part in the formation of the Guild 25 years ago. He was not only present when the Guild was formed, but was privileged to take the chair at the inaugural meeting. To that extent he was responsible for bringing it into the world. He did not know whether they would call him the father of the Guild or the family physician, but in whatever relation he stood to it, he had watched with the greatest interest, as the whole Exercise had done, the growth of the Guild through the



MRS. E. K. FLETCHER.

LADIES TRIUMPH OVER DIFFICULTIES.

(Continued from previous page.)

intervening years. He recalled the discussion which took place at the first meeting as to whether it should be called the Ladies' or the Women's Guild, and said he thought they had chosen rightly. But in any case the members were ladies by their conduct and example in the belfry, and women in the best sense of the term, by the way in which they were ready to fulfil the duties laid upon them by their adopted calling and their readiness to share on equal terms with the men the discipline which change ringing imposed.

He could look back, he said, to the days when ladies were unknown in the belfry as ringers, and he remembered the mild sensation which was caused when Miss Alice White, as she then was, rang in the first peal on tower bells in which a lady had taken part. Her performance was greatly admired, but it was generally felt to be just a passing incident. No one at that time imagined that the ladies would take up the art as seriously as they have done and in such numbers. But many a church had reason to be grateful to the ladies for the part they played in helping to keep the bells going during the war period, and in not a few cases since. The formation of the Guild in 1912 set the seal on their position in the Exercise. Ladies had been received in most belfries with open arms, and the other associations, with one notable exception, had been ready to embrace them—metaphorically (laughter). While sharing in the interests of other associations they had shown their independence by running their own Guild, whose activities were bounded only by the seas and their aspirations by the heavens. And looking back over the last 25 years one wondered at the success which the Guild had attained, in face of the difficulties which had confronted it from the very start—a scattered membership and the difficulty of maintaining touch with each other. The formation of districts had helped partly to solve the problem, but not wholly, and those who knew something of the organisation of ringing associations marvelled at the way the ladies kept the Guild together under very difficult conditions. They admired them for the tenacity with which they stuck to the task and hoped that in the coming years they would reap the reward of still larger membership and wider influence (applause).

Proceeding, Mr. Goldsmith 'disillusioned' the ladies who held the idea that women had only in comparatively recent years taken up ringing, and caused much amusement by quoting from some hitherto unpublished (and unauthenticated) pages of the diary of Samuel Pepys, who found some ladies ringing at St. Olave's in 1670 and afterwards accepted their invitation to a dinner.

In conclusion Mr. Goldsmith referred to the work which had been done on behalf of the Ladies' Guild by a succession of presidents and district officers, and to the devoted labours of Mrs. Fletcher. She, he said, was one of the prime movers in founding the Guild, she had been honorary secretary and treasurer throughout the whole 25 years, and had discharged the duties with increasing zeal and success; in fact, she had largely made the Guild what it was to-day. In asking them to drink to the continued success and prosperity of the Ladies' Guild, he asked them also to drink to the health of Mrs. Fletcher, their guide, philosopher, secretary and friend.

LADIES' FIRST PEAL AND WHAT CAME OF IT

The toast was enthusiastically honoured, and Mrs. Fletcher was cordially received when she replied. She said that 25 years seemed quite a short time compared with the life of some of the societies in various parts of the country, especially the old society in London, which this year was celebrating its three hundredth anniversary, but when they formed the Ladies' Guild in 1912 it did not seem possible that it would so grow that they would be able to have a meeting of that description 25 years after. With them that night they had five of the original members of the Guild and five who took part in the first ladies' peal at Cubitt Town on July 20th, 1912. The others, she was glad to say, were all alive and would have been present, but were prevented by ill-health. Mrs. Fletcher recalled that they struggled for five hours to ring that peal. They started in the afternoon, on a very hot day. They failed, and tried again and failed. Then some wise woman suggested they should have a cup of tea. So they had their cup of tea and then started again, and after three hours they accomplished their peal (applause). They were all very tired and the blisters on some people's hands would have frightened some men (laughter). She did not think she had ever seen blisters like it. On the way back to London someone suggested they should form a Guild. They advertised in 'The Ringing World' and had forty applications for membership from ladies in various parts of the country. They held their inaugural meeting at St. Giles-in-the-Field in October and started on their way. Some of the members who were there on that day had passed away, among them Miss Margery Sampson and Miss Pigott, of Smethwick. In addition, from those who joined at the time, they had lost Mrs. George Williams, the first lady ever to ring a peal on handbells, and Miss Nellie Johnson, of Evesham. They were four of the original members. They found it very difficult in those early days, Mrs. Fletcher continued, because there were not enough members in the country to form districts. There was just one here and there. So they did their best and had meetings occasionally which were not always very well supported. Then came the Great War, but just before that they had enough members to be eligible for election to the Central Council. They were very dubious as to whether they would be admitted, but they had a very good friend in the president at that time, Sir Arthur Heywood, who, besides helping them with a

big donation at the start of the Guild, did his utmost to get them admitted to the Council. In 1914 at the meeting at Winchester they were admitted to the Council, and there was only one man who raised his hand against them (laughter). They sent one representative, but when their membership grew sufficiently they sent two, and this year they had sufficient members to enable them next year to send three representatives (applause). During the war, continuing Mrs. Fletcher, many ladies started in the belfry and kept the bells going while the men were away, but after the war a number dropped out and the membership of the Guild fell a little. Afterwards they began to grow again, and they formed the districts one by one. The work which the district secretaries put in was really wonderful, for they had many disappointments and got precious little support in some parts. But gradually the Guild had spread and they hoped in time they would be able to have every part of the country in some district or other. Continuing, Mrs. Fletcher said that the Guild had rung 15 peals since the one rung at Cubitt Town. They rang one peal of Grandsire Triples in 1915, and another in 1918; a peal of Bob Minor in 1922; Stedman Triples in 1924 and again in 1925; Stedman Caters in 1926; Bob Major and Cambridge Surprise in 1928; Bob Major in 1929; Minor in three methods and Cambridge Surprise in 1930; Kent Treble Bob Major in 1931; Bob Major in 1932; Superlative Surprise in 1935; and Stedman Triples in 1936. Considering their difficulties, she did not think they had done badly in regard to peals (applause). In conclusion, Mrs. Fletcher expressed appreciation of all that had been said about the Guild, and hoped that that wonderful gathering would make them all determined to do more for the Guild in future.

GIFTS TO THE HON. SECRETARY.

The President said Mrs. Fletcher had told them a little about the work that had been done for the Guild. The members wanted to show some slight appreciation of what she had put into it, and she asked her to accept their gift with their best wishes. She hoped, when they held their 50th anniversary dinner, that Mrs. Fletcher would still be their secretary and that they would see present in 25 years' time all the faces that had gathered there that evening (laughter and applause).

Miss Steele then handed to Mrs. Fletcher a very nice leather hand-bag, which, when opened by the recipient, was found to contain a pearl necklace, with diamond clasp, and a handsome gold wristlet watch inscribed with a monogram and the date.

Mrs. Fletcher, who received the gift amid loud applause, was taken completely by surprise, and thanked the members from the bottom of her heart.

THE HELP OF KINDRED SOCIETIES.

Miss Kathleen Bowling gave the toast of 'Kindred Societies,' to whom she said the Ladies' Guild owed a tremendous debt of gratitude. Among the societies represented were the Ancient Society of College Youths, the Royal Cumberland Youths, the Middlesex, Kent, Midland Counties, Bedfordshire and Yorkshire Associations, the Lincoln, Warwickshire and Guildford Guilds and the National Police Guild. They welcomed them very warmly and were glad to see so many friends joining in the ladies' jubilee celebration. They were specially honoured, she said, in having with them Mr. Lewis, both in his capacity as president of the Central Council and Master of the College Youths, to whom, through him, they would like to extend warmest congratulations upon their tercentenary and best wishes for the future. The Ladies' Guild, continued Miss Bowling, had to depend a great deal upon their brother ringers, more than they, perhaps, sometimes realised. In the first place, they taught them to ring and certainly made it possible for them to hold successful district meetings. The ladies were so scattered that it would be almost impossible for them to hold district meetings with purely their own members, and the gentlemen were always an enormous help in the ringing. There had been, said Miss Bowling, a good deal written and said from time to time about whether the presence of ladies was desirable in the belfry or not. There were all sorts of opinions on the subject, but from her own experience she could say that ladies always met with real friendliness in the belfry. They were most grateful for all the help they had received from kindred societies through the 25 years of their existence (applause).

Mr. E. H. Lewis, in reply, thanked Miss Bowling for her congratulations to the Ancient Society which he represented that night, and said he would duly convey them to the members. The various associations appreciated the help which the ladies gave at their meetings, said Mr. Lewis, and he went on to refer to some of the performances which they had put up. He recalled two particularly in which their secretary was concerned. In one year before the war, when they used, after the Central Council meeting in London, to hold a social at the Westminster Hotel, Miss E. K. Parker rang the trebles to a course of Bob Royal on handbells, and Sir Arthur Heywood said he had never heard trebles rung better in Royal in his life (applause). The other performance was by the same talented lady recently when she rang the 30 cwt. tenor at Wedmore to a peal of Stedman Triples and afterwards was anxious to turn it in to a course of Bob Major, but the seven men in front had had enough (laughter and applause). In conclusion, Mr. Lewis hoped the friendship between the Ladies' Guild and the other societies would long continue.

Mrs. F. M. Mitchell submitted 'The Visitors,' whom she welcomed very heartily. She was particularly pleased to see present her old friend Canon Coleridge, who was among the earliest of her ringing

(Continued on next page.)

AUTHORESS OF 'THE NINE TAILORS.'

(Continued from previous page.)

recollections. There was only one whom she knew better, and that was the late Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn. They would probably be surprised to know that 'Kate' had honoured them with her presence. Evidently she thought there was safety in numbers (laughter). And Francis Bacon, too, was there and appeared to be happy among the ladies (laughter). They were highly honoured in having with them the noted authoress, Miss Dorothy Sayers (applause), who in her book, 'The Nine Tailors,' had enlightened many readers upon the art of change ringing. It was wonderful how she toiled over figures until she was able to prick out Grandsire and Treble Bob without any previous knowledge of ringing. Members of the ringing fraternity might well take example from her by using more pencil and paper (laughter and applause). They were also pleased, said Mrs. Mitchell, to welcome another author, Mr. Trollope, who in his book on the history of the College Youths had shown them again how painstaking he was in what he did for the benefit of the Exercise (applause).

KINDNESSES FROM BELLRINGERS.

Miss Sayers, in responding to the toast, said she felt most embarrassed, for she must have been chosen to reply because she was the most ignorant person in the assembly in regard to ringing. She only came into the bellringing world on the principle, as it were, of being among those who rush in where angels fear to tread (laughter). When she first quite rashly undertook a book on bellringing, she knew absolutely nothing about it, but one thing she had learned since writing that book was that what she had always heard, about the great kindness and friendliness in the bellringing world, was certainly a very well-founded tradition, for she had received an extraordinary amount of kindness from bellringers, since writing 'The Nine Tailors.' In that book she made the bells of Fenchurch St. Paul kill a man who was left tied up in the belfry. She did not usually get kind invitations to dinner, for example, from the Incorporated Society of Poisoners or the Ancient Society of Footpads and Highwaymen (laughter). Robbers and gangsters did not ask her to 'go for a ride' with them, nor did the murderers ever let her into their secrets (laughter), but the bellringers had been most kind to her and offered to take her into their towers and show her the bells ringing. She was not sure whether it was with sinister intention that they took her into a bell chamber to stand as near as possible to the bells. It was true it was only for about nine seconds, instead of nine hours (laughter). Miss Sayers thanked her hostesses for a very delightful entertainment; the dinner had been 'handsome' in every sense of the word (laughter). A good deal had been said about the entries of ladies into bellringing, but she felt sure that in spite of the admirable extracts from Mr. Pepys' diary, which suggested that it might have been considered in the past 'unsexing,' she could not believe that it was so, for looking at their programme she found that the handbell ringing and the songs all dealt with the tender emotion of love (laughter). Miss Sayers added that she hoped the Ladies' Guild and all the other guilds of ringers would go on and prosper, that there would be more bells dedicated and more people ringing and making a merry noise in the church. She never understood why the devil should have all the best tunes and the loudest noises. He certainly had a great many of them and she was only too glad there was still one great noise which they were allowed to make to the glory of God and their own enjoyment, in spite of the people who preferred the noise of petrol engines and the blaring of unpleasant instruments (applause).

HOW LADIES WERE ELECTED TO CENTRAL COUNCIL.

Mr. J. A. Trollope, whose name was also coupled with the toast, thanked the Ladies' Guild on behalf of the men for allowing them to spend such a very enjoyable evening. Being a bachelor, he naturally only saw the best side of ladies (laughter). His recollection, he continued, went back to the very first lady ringer (except those referred to in Mr. Pepys' diary). She was the daughter of a Norfolk clergyman. After her came one or two others, and then presently they began to hear about a young lady, a daughter of Jim Parker, ringing London Surprise and calling from an inside bell. In those days London Surprise was only rung by the tip-top, exclusive bands, and it didn't seem right to some ringers that a girl should be doing what they couldn't do. So they got over it by saying they did not believe she could do it (laughter). Some of the old ones began to shake their heads and wonder what was going to happen when ladies took up ringing. They said there would be a great lowering of the standard of ringing and men would be pushed out of the towers (laughter). When it was said that these girls were going to form a Guild of their own, and afterwards when it was said they were going to apply for membership of the Central Council, some of the older people—they were all dead now—said that was going a bit too far (laughter). What they expected the Council to do was to say: 'Oh, yes, we shall be very pleased indeed to have you, but the time is not quite ripe (laughter). Come back in ten years; in the meantime, just run away and play' (laughter). He knew quite a dozen members of the Council who had made up their minds to have no truck with the ladies, but they all voted for them at the finish, except one man (laughter). He was a bachelor and they would be glad to know he suffered afterwards for his faults. He was married now (laughter). All the things the pessimists prophesied had not come to pass. Certainly the standard of ringing had not gone down. If the ladies wanted to know if there were any good ringers among them, they

(Continued in next column.)

NOW ON SALE

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MISS SAYERS ELECTED AN HONORARY MEMBER.

(Continued from previous column.)

should first look in the looking glass; and when in the tower look at each other, and when they had done that they should look at Mrs. Fletcher. They would not find anywhere among ringers anyone whose knowledge of practical ringing was better than hers or one whose opinions on things appertaining to ringing was better worth having (applause). There had been one or two references that night to a person named Kate, and it had been hinted that he might know something about her. He could assure them he knew no more about her than they did. He had certainly never met her and never expected to. In fact, he did not believe there was such a person. If there ever had been, he believed she was one of those bright spirits who had been sent down to this earth to cheer up mankind, and, having done her job, had disappeared (laughter).

The remaining toast was 'The Press,' proposed by Mrs. Richardson, who referred in terms of appreciation to the services rendered to the Exercise by 'The Ringing World.' Without it, she said, ringers in one part of the country would not know what was being done in other parts and much of the interest would be lost. For that reason alone they should support 'The Ringing World' in far greater degree. The Editor had shown his interest in the Ladies' Guild, and the Ladies' Guild, in return, should support the paper and act as 'missionaries' in the districts in which they lived. 'The Ringing World' linked up ringers not only in this country, but throughout the Empire. Without the paper ringers would be at a loss, and she asked the members of the Ladies' Guild to do their share in getting others to support it.

The toast was acknowledged by Mr. J. S. Goldsmith.

The President announced, amid applause, that Miss Sayers had joined the Guild as an honorary member.

Miss Sayers, in acknowledging the election, said she felt most unworthy of the honour and thought she must go and read 'Troyte' all over again (laughter and applause).

The speeches were interspersed with some delightful handbell solos by Mrs. A. A. Hughes and some charming songs by Miss Enid Collins. Mrs. Bray, Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Fletcher and Mrs. Richardson rang a touch of Grandsire Triples, and Messrs. Trollope, Lewis, Cross and Richardson rang a short touch of 'Oxford and Kent' Treble Bob.

The happy proceedings formally terminated with 'Auld Lang Syne,' but were continued informally afterwards to a late hour. The gathering achieved great success and everyone responsible deserved the hearty commendations passed upon their efforts, especially the hon. secretary (Mrs. Fletcher) and the members of the Dinner Committee: Mrs. Deal, Mrs. Cross and Miss Bradford.

DARTFORD, KENT.—On Sunday, October 3rd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: H. Fox 1, J. R. Lambkin (first quarter-peal 'inside') 2, Mrs. J. E. Bailey 3, F. Walker 4, J. E. Bailey 5, J. H. Cheesman 6, N. Summerhayes (conductor) 7, R. Jenkins 8.

FORMER RINGER'S MUNIFICENT GIFT.

DEDICATION OF NEW TOWER AND BELLS AT STOULTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

Only rarely does one hear of a tower being rebuilt in order to fulfil its primary function, and when such a scheme is made possible through the generosity of a former ringer, the subject becomes of double interest. Yet this has happened at the village of Stoulton, near Pershore, and by the dedication of the new tower and bells by the Lord Bishop of Worcester at the evening service on Sunday, October 17th, yet another has been added to the chain of six-bell towers surrounding the Bredon Hill.

Situated on an eminence a few yards from the main Worcester-London road, the picturesque, old, ivy-clad tower had been something of a landmark, but the ivy had done its work too well, for, penetrating in places right through the walls, it had caused irreparable damage. Becoming unsafe for the ringing of the five bells it contained, these had been silent for the past 15 years.

These facts coming to the knowledge of Mr. Bruce Kingsford, of Cheltenham, the son of a former Vicar of Stoulton and himself an old Worcestershire ringer, he made the magnificent offer of financing the building of a new tower, the recasting and rehanging of the bells with the addition of a treble.

The new tower is built of Cotswold stone, similar to the main part of the church, and follows the old design except that it is slightly higher and possessed of more substantial buttresses. In the east arch and dividing the tower from the main body of the church is a handsome oak screen, which finishes about 3ft. above the ringing chamber floor, the ringers thus being in full view from the church. This screen bears the following inscription:—

'In 1936 the tower of this church was rebuilt and the bells were recast and one added by Hamilton Bruce Kingsford, in memory of his father, Hamilton Kingsford, M.A., Oxon., priest in charge of this parish, 1867-1912.'

The bells, with a tenor of 7 cwt., have been hung in a new cast iron frame. They are now a tuneful peal, all of solid tone and speaking out in a manner hardly to be anticipated from their weight. Even with everything lending itself to the perfect job, they reflect the greatest credit on the founders, Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

DONOR TAKES PART IN RINGING.

A huge congregation assembled for the dedication service, every available space being utilised for extra seating, even to the vestries and the porch. Basing his address on II. Corinthians v., 17, 'Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold all things are become new,' the Bishop said they could draw two lessons from their recast peal of bells. He could not say the same of the tower because the old one had gone too far, but of the bells five were not new, but were the old metal, remoulded, recast and retuned. Applying this to human nature, the Bishop said, 'We are created as we are for a purpose. God takes us exactly as we are and remoulds, recreates us. Allow this creative spirit in your hearts and you are like a peal of bells—giving out sweet sounds in complete harmony with all around. Secondly,' he continued, 'to-night this church is crammed—it is not always so. Those beautiful bells you have just heard send forth a message—calling, calling, calling. Would they consistently respond to that call, first as individuals, then as a parish and as a diocese, and so fulfil the words of our Lord, "Ye shall be my witnesses"?'

Immediately after the words of dedication had been pronounced, the bells were rung in rounds by a representative band of the Worcestershire Association: S. T. Holt 1, Mrs. J. Thomas 2, W. Short 3, J. D. Johnson 4, T. W. Lewis 5, C. Camm 6. Later a large gathering of ringers kept the bells going until nearly 9 p.m., an interesting touch being 120 Stedman Doubles, to which the donor rang the tenor. Two others of the band (Messrs. W. Short and R. G. Knowles) rang with him some 40 years ago. The founders were represented by Mr. A. A. Hughes and Mr. J. Thomas (who carried out the work in the tower).

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

A meeting of the Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association was held at Ormesby on Saturday, October 2nd. The attendance was not as good as was expected, but those who did attend made good use of the lovely peal of bells and had a very pleasant time.

Tea was provided at the Bungalow Cafe, presided over by the president, Mr. J. C. Pollard. The only business was to pass a vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells.

The Vicar visited the tower later in the evening and expressed regret that he was not able to be present at tea, but welcomed the association to Ormesby and wished that they would come more frequently.

Ringings continued until 8 p.m., the methods rung being Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob Minor and Major, Double Norwich and Superlative Surprise Major. Ringers attended from Middlesbrough, Stockton, Skelton, Saltburn, Guisborough, Leeds, Darlington and Ormesby.

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON GUILD.

A very happy and successful meeting of the Wednesday Afternoon Guild of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association was held at St. George's Church, Jesmond, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on October 13th.

Tea was generously provided by the Vicar (the Rev. J. W. Woodhouse), after which a short meeting took place. A vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and to the ladies for preparing the tea.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at St. Mary's, Gateshead, on December 1st.

Towers were represented from North Shields, South Shields, Houghton-le-Spring, Gateshead, Chester-le-Street and from All Saints', St. George's and St. Nicholas' Cathedral, of Newcastle-upon-Tyne.

ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD SOCIETY.

NEW BISHOP OF LICHFIELD BECOMES PATRON.

The autumn meeting of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford took place at St. Bartholomew's Church, Penn, in beautiful weather, when about 60 members and lady friends took advantage of a trip into the country. The bells were raised at 3 o'clock and were kept going in a variety of methods, including London Surprise. A short service was conducted by the Rev. N. D. Fourdrinier, and an address given by the Vicar, the Rev. Edgar Hartill, M.A., R.D. Mr. Brewster officiated at the organ.

A capital tea, laid in the Parish Hall, was kindly provided by Mrs. A. C. Twentyman. The Vicar presided.

A letter was received from the new Bishop of Lichfield signifying his pleasure in becoming patron of the society, and accompanied by the hope of his meeting the members on some future occasion.

The next quarterly meeting is to be held at Cosleley in January.

A meeting for practice is to take place at Penkridge, of which due notice will be given in 'The Ringing World.'

A vote of thanks to the Vicar for his address and the use of the bells, etc., to Mrs. A. C. Twentyman for providing the tea, and to all who had assisted in making provision for the comfort and happiness of the visitors, was moved by the Rev. C. H. Barker, L.Th., and carried with applause.

A DAY ROUND OXFORD.

CRAYFORD RINGERS' EXCURSION.

The third annual outing of the Crayford ringers took place on Sunday, October 3rd. The ringers, and friends from West Wickham, Chislehurst, Dartford and Beckenham, made the journey by coach to Oxford. The bus left Crayford Church at the early hour of 7 a.m. and picked up various members of the party en route. In spite of protest of the driver, who considered that there was one too many in the vehicle, the three-hour journey to Oxford was much enjoyed by all the party.

Oxford was looking her best in the morning sun when the party arrived about 10 a.m. Mr. R. A. Post was patiently waiting at the car park to lead the way to All Saints' Church, where they were met by Mr. Walter Judge. The tenor here weighs only just over 7 cwt., and the bells are a really musical and easily handled peal. Kent Treble Bob, Grandsire and a course of Cambridge went well, the last named only being completed in time to set the bells up at backstroke before the morning service.

Coffee and biscuits were followed by a visit to the beautiful Christ Church Cathedral. The driver, having recovered from his little grievance, joined in the sightseeing tour, and afterwards at Stewart's Restaurant 23 enjoyed a very good lunch.

Some of the party remained sightseeing in Oxford while others made the journey to the delightful village of Appleton, where they were met by Mr. Richard White and other 'long-pealers.' Stedman and Grandsire Caters, Treble Bob Royal and a course of Cambridge on the back eight formed the fare here. The visitors seemed to have some difficulty with striking these bells, and, perhaps, the less said about our performance here the better. All were interested in the tablets recording the long peals, and in the photos of the bands, which they were given permission to view in the Thatched Tavern.

Returning to Oxford by another route, the Crayfordites were lucky to 'grab' another tower. The Vicar of Cumnor, Berks, was kind enough to allow them to ring there for half an hour. Those are a rather heavy six of 19½ cwt., and very musical. Treble Bob, Plain Bob, Grandsire and the inevitable Cambridge were rung. After tea in Oxford a move was made to St. Giles', where Mr. V. Bennett and other members of the local band greeted the visitors. Stedman, Cambridge, Grandsire and Plain Bob were rung on this very ancient but musical peal, tenor 14 cwt. At 7.15 p.m. a visit was paid to the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, with its magnificent peal of six bells, tenor 27 cwt. The bells were first raised in peal, then Kent Treble Bob and a few rounds were rung, and a fitting climax to a very enjoyable day was reached by a perfect course of Cambridge Minor, to which 'Tubby' turned in the tenor. The bells were afterwards lowered in peal, sounding out with a touching majesty across the ancient city where all had spent such a happy day. A happy party arrived home about 11.30 p.m. and wish to convey their thanks to all incumbents and towerkeepers, those whose names are here mentioned and those whose names are not, and most of all to Mr. R. A. Post, who gave up his whole day to entertaining the excursionists.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WESTERN BRANCH OFFICERS' SUCCESSFUL WORK.

Fourteen towers were represented when the Western Branch of the Worcestershire and Districts Association held its annual meeting at St. John's, Worcester, on Saturday, October 16th, and though the attendance was below expectations, the 34 members present formed an enthusiastic company. The Church of St. John the Baptist contains a very pleasant ring of eight bells, hung on ball bearings, the tenor weighing 15½ cwt. These were made good use of from 3 o'clock until 4.15, when a short service, with address, was held, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. C. T. Powell. Tea was served in the Parish Hall, where the business meeting was afterwards held.

The Vicar presided, and supporting him were Messrs. J. R. Newman and R. G. Knowles (vice-presidents), E. E. Barber and S. T. Holt (auditors), C. Camm (Branch Ringing Master), G. E. Large (hon. secretary and treasurer), W. Ranford (Central Committee) and W. Lewis (Ringing Master, St. John's). Apologies were read from Major M. F. S. Jewell (hon. member) and Mr. J. D. Johnson (general hon. secretary).

All the officers were re-elected and had many 'bouquets' handed to them. The Branch Ringing Master was complimented on the way he looked after the ringing at meetings. 'Charlie' Camm has held that office for many years and there seems to be no desire for a change on the part of members. In another 20 years or so he will perhaps have qualified for a grandmother clock, but he, being a modern version of Hercules, will doubtless require one of the grandfather variety.

Messrs. E. E. Barber and R. G. Knowles paid tribute to the work of the hon. secretary, congratulating him upon the flourishing condition of the branch.

The Chairman caused much amusement by saying: 'This esteemed gentleman, the hon. secretary, has so much correspondence to attend to that he has to-day moved into a larger house.'

Mr. G. E. Large, in reply, thanked the speakers for the nice things they had said about him. As he had their confidence, he would be pleased to hold the secretaryship of the branch another year.

'Bill' Ranford was warmly thanked for his services as representative to the Central Committee, but the chairman's efforts to get him to speak failed, for 'Father' took refuge behind an imaginary cold!

It was reported that the quarterly peal attempted at Longdon had failed. Mr. W. Lewis was delegated to arrange the quarterly peal to be rung at St. John's. The secretary said he had received a strong invitation for the branch to hold its next meeting at Ripple, and there were also invitations from Ombersley. This latter place was chosen after some discussion, on account of its being nearer to the majority of towers in the branch in the event of bad weather. Ripple was placed on the minutes as the first choice for the summer meeting.

Three new members were elected and one re-elected.

Mr. J. R. Newman, in proposing a vote of thanks to the Rev. C. T. Powell, said it gave him extra pleasure to do so, because he had had intimate connections with St. John's all his life. He asked the chairman to accept their sincere thanks for giving up so much of his time that afternoon and evening.

To this the Vicar replied, saying it had given him pleasure to do what he had done. They were, he knew, anxious to get back to the tower before the customary service at seven o'clock, after which they would ring on until the police stopped them!

Methods rung during the day ranged from Oxford Bob Triples to Cambridge Surprise. One or two of the experts were 'floored' when a member of the Dodderhill band asked for Darlaston Bob Triples—'What's that?' and 'How does it go?' might have been (but wasn't) answered by 'This is where you get off!'

A GAINSBOROUGH BRIDE.

TAKES PART IN HER WEDDING RINGING.

The wedding took place at Gainsborough Parish Church on Saturday, October 9th, of Mr. Eric Grey and Miss Ethel Marshall, both of Gainsborough.

Canon Witworth, vice-president of the Northern Branch of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, officiated, and the ceremony was witnessed by a large number of friends and relations, including about a dozen ringers.

The bride is a very popular ringer in the district and is a member of the Gainsborough band. She has rung about 25 peals for the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, the North Notts Association and the Ladies' Guild. A few years ago she was one of the band of lady ringers who rang a peal of Bob Major at Handsworth, Yorks, and in January of this year she was one of the band of ladies who made an unsuccessful attempt of Double Norwich in the same tower.

A peal had been suggested in honour of the event, but as there were others present besides the peal band, and in order that the bride could ring on her own wedding day, the idea was abandoned and the afternoon was spent in ringing touches in various methods.

The couple received numerous presents, and on behalf of the Gainsborough and district ringers Mr. F. S. W. Butler, in a few well-chosen remarks, presented them with two cases of spoons and forks. He said how much the services of the bride had been appreciated as a ringer and wished the happy couple every success and happiness in the future.

The honeymoon was spent in Boston, and Mr. and Mrs. Grey's home is now in Gainsborough.

THE START OF METHODS.

SUGGESTED CHANGE FOR STEDMAN, GRANDSIRE, ETC.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I quite agree with Mr. H. Miles that a change in the start of Stedman should be made this year, for the reason that he gives and also because there would be no dodge at the start if the first row after rounds was the first row of a 'six.'

I have always thought it a campanological error that methods like Stedman, Grandsire, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Forward should start with a dodge; it is as though we were unwilling to leave rounds and pass on to changes.

In my humble opinion, the dodge would sound better at the end of a lead, plain course or touch instead of at the beginning. Probably the reason why the Plain Bob method has such musical charm is because all the bells do a plain hunt for as long as possible and also because the dodge comes at the end of a lead, when the treble is leading, therefore we ought to take the Plain Bob method as our criterion.

In its present form, the dodging occurs in Grandsire when the bell in the hunt is leading. In my opinion, Grandsire would be improved if the dodging occurred when the treble is leading. In order to achieve this, the bell in the hunt would have to lead immediately before the treble leads always, and the bell that the bell in the hunt turns from lead would have to make 3rd's place. The bell in the hunt in the plain course would be the 3rd and not the 2nd. Starting Stedman with the first row of a quick 'six' would make the go off similar to this new start in Grandsire.

Turning to the even-bell methods, I would have a Plain Bob go off for Oxford, and nearly the same for Kent and Forward, except for the place-making in 3-4.

W. A. WOOLER.

LADY RINGER MARRIED.

A pretty wedding of interest to ringers took place on Saturday, October 9th, at St. George's Church, Brede, when Miss Joan Kingdon, secretary of the Brede belfry, was married to Mr. Robin Home McCall, solicitor, of Bexhill.

The bride, in her mother's wedding gown of heavy ivory satin, was attended by a page, in kilt of the McBeth tartan, and three bridesmaids wearing dresses of shot gold taffeta, carrying bouquets of golden brown chrysanthemums and dahlias named 'Joan Kingdon' after the bride.

Guides formed a guard of honour and the bells were rung before and after the service by members of the tower, and later a peal of Bob Minor by members of the Sussex County Association and Hastings District Guild was rung as recorded last week.

Miss Kingdon, with her sister, learned to ring at Worplesdon, Surrey, before removing to Brede about three years ago.

A MONMOUTHSHIRE TOUR.

On Saturday, September 25th, a band of Monmouthshire ringers visited several towers in the neighbourhood of Raglan, Tregare (5 bells), Penrhos (4 bells), Llanarth (6 bells) and Usk (8 bells). The party were given a very hearty reception at Penrhos, where tea was provided for them, by the Vicar and his wife. The band, under the leadership of the Rev. I. J. Richards, Master of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association, were Miss G. M. Smith, Messrs. W. Powell, R. Smith, S. Bamford, G. John, of Llanfrehfa, J. W. Jones, L. Bainham, of All Saints', Newport, A. Williams, Llangibby, and G. Popnell, Bedwelty. Thanks are due to the Vicars and tower keepers of the towers visited.

BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR.

To the Editor.

Sir,—About two years ago Mr. C. W. Roberts, of London, sent me a peal of Bristol Surprise with one lead short of the full extent of 4, 5 and 6 in 6th's in 13 courses, asking me if I could improve upon it. I sent the two following peals as my best contribution. In your issue of September 10th you publish a very good peal by Mr. T. B. Worsley on the same lines. Incidentally all these peals have one lead missing.

F. DENCH.

Saffron Walden.

23456	5,056			
	M	B	W	H
42356				1
43526	1	—	2	2
56234	2	—	2	2
52364	1	—	2	2
34625	2	—	2	2
36245	1	—	2	2
54263	2	—	2	1
43265	2	—	1	2
42635	1	—	2	2
65324	2	—	2	2
63254	1	—	2	2
24536	2	—	2	2
53246	1	—	2	1
23456			2	1

23456	5,024			
	M	B	W	H
42356				1
65324	2	—	2	1
63254	1	—	2	2
24536	2	—	2	2
62345	2	—	1	2
54326	2	—	2	1
53246	1	—	2	2
26435	2	—	2	2
52364	2	—	1	2
46325	2	—	2	1
54263			2	2
43265	2	—	1	2
25634	2	—	2	2
23456			2	1

A RARE MEETING PLACE.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD AT STRATFORD-ON-AVON.

Ringings meetings at Stratford-on-Avon are, of necessity, few and far between, only four having been held there during the last 30 years. However, despite the fact that Stratford is right on the edge of the county, such meetings have always been found to be well attended, and at the meeting held there on October 16th by the Warwickshire Guild the attendance was above the average for quarterly meetings. Ringers attended from all parts of Warwickshire, towers represented including Bulkington, Keresley, Stoke, Chilvers Coton, Nuneaton, Leamington Hastings, Lillington, Erdington, Allesley, Exhall, Warwick, and members of the local band. Welcome visitors included the Rev. E. S. and Mrs. Powell, of Staverton, Mr. E. Pearson, of the Oxford Guild, and others from Banbury and Mickleton.

Before the business meeting the Rector, the Rev. Canon W. G. Melville, who has recently celebrated his jubilee in the priesthood, ascended the tower and in a short speech welcomed the Guild and expressed the wish that they would 'come again.'

At the business meeting Mr. F. W. Perrens was chairman. Meeting places were discussed and were arranged as follows: November at Poiesworth, December at Berkswell, and the January quarterly meeting at Chilvers Coton.

The following new members were elected: Messrs. R. C. Chapman, R. Walker, S. Oughton and S. J. Oughton. A very welcome 'new member' was Mr. J. F. Simpson. He was a member of the Stoke, Coventry, band from 1919 until 1925, when he went to reside in Oxfordshire. He has now returned to live at Warwick.

Touches in various methods from rounds and Bob Triples to Surprise were rung on the bells during the afternoon and evening.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS A BELLRINGER.

PRESENTATION AT TRURO.

At Truro Cathedral on Tuesday, October 18th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung to commemorate the completion by Mr. W. H. Southard of 25 years as a member of the Truro Cathedral company.

Mr. Southard is the only remaining member of the original band formed in 1912. He was Master of the company from 1924 to 1932, and has been Vice-Master and treasurer for the last two years.

After the quarter-peal he was presented with a suitably engraved silver bell inkstand by the members of the company as a token of appreciation of his services.

The ringers in the quarter-peal were Miss M. Penrose 1, W. H. Southard 2, Miss E. J. C. Angwin 3, W. E. Minors 4, H. Williams 5, W. H. Sleeman 6, C. E. Lanyon (conductor) 7, J. Treloar 8.

HALF-PEALS.

On Monday, September 20th, at the Parish Church of St. Cynwyd, Llangynwyd, members of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association rang a half-peal of Grandsire Doubles (2,520 changes) in 1 hour 35 minutes: E. Stith (conductor) 1, T. H. Roderick 2, J. Hale 3, Ivor Bassett 4, John Ryland 5, J. David 6. It was the first attempt and longest length by ringers of 3, 4, 5 and 6, who are local men, and was rung as a farewell to the Rev. J. J. Thomas, curate-in-charge, who is leaving the parish, and whose departure will be a very great loss to the Guild and the church in general. The half-peal was also rung for the wedding of Mr. O. Bowser, a ringing member of the Guild, whose marriage took place earlier in the day.

At Wallasey, Cheshire, on Thursday, September 23rd, a half-peal of Minor, consisting of 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob, and 360 Oxford Bob, was rung by J. Ledsham (longest length) 1, L. L. Gray 2, F. Varty 3, A. Howard 4, H. Rogers 5, T. Rogers (conductor) 6. A welcome to the Rev. F. G. A. Willis, the first assistant curate St. Nicholas' Church has ever had.

As a farewell to Canon A. G. G. Ross, who is leaving Swindon after 45 years' ministration, a peal of Stedman Triples (Thurstans' Four-Part) was attempted at St. Mark's, Swindon, on Saturday, September 25th, but owing to a ringer's indisposition the bells were allowed to run home at half-way: C. J. Gardiner 1, W. W. T. Daniell 2, S. Palmer 3, C. J. Hathaway 4, W. H. Trueman 5, N. Allnatt 6, W. B. Kynaston (conductor) 7, E. Vincent 8.

MRS. PENNINGTON BICKFORD'S BIRTHDAY.

On Sunday evening, October 17th, for evening service at St. Andrew's Church, Holborn, as a birthday compliment to Mrs. L. Pennington Bickford, wife of the Rector of St. Clement Danes, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: John R. Wilson (first quarter-peal on eight bells) 1, J. S. Hawkins 2, R. W. Green 3, H. C. Alford 4, W. H. Seabrook 5, A. C. Darnell (conductor) 6, T. G. Bannister 7, C. H. Vitter 8.

On Monday, October 18th, a peal of Bob Royal was rung at St. Clement Danes as a compliment to Mrs. Pennington Bickford.

GOLDEN WEDDING BELLS.

At St. Peter's Church, Hersham, Surrey, on Friday, October 22nd, to celebrate the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Painter, of Hersham, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung: F. Oakley 1, W. Simmonds 2, J. Gill 3, J. Loveridge 4, G. Curtis 5, H. Colcombe 6, F. Dodson (conductor) 7, W. Mills 8. The bells were then 'fired' and lowered in peal. All the band belong to the local company.

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.

NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN TUESDAY.

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

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THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

TERCENTENARY CELEBRATION, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6th, 1937.

The following towers will be open from 12.30 p.m. to 3 p.m.:-

St. Mary-le-Bow ...	12 bells.
St. Giles, Cripplegate ...	12 "
St. Magnus, London Bridge ...	10 "
St. Clement Danes ...	10 "
St. Lawrence, Old Jewry ...	8 "
St. Andrew, Holborn ...	8 "

3.00 p.m. Unveiling of tablet on the tombstone of Sir Henry Tulse, Lord Mayor and Master in the year 1684, in the churchyard of St. Dionys, Backchurch, Lime Street, E.C.

3.30 p.m. Three courses of Stedman Cinques, to be rung at St. Paul's Cathedral by the members of the St. Paul's Cathedral Band.

4.00 p.m. Service in St. Paul's Cathedral. Seats will be reserved under the Dome for members and their friends and relations. All members of the general public will be welcome. There will be a special hymn and anthem, and a course of Stedman Triples on handbells. Preacher: The Venerable The Archdeacon of London. There will be a collection for the A.S.C.Y. Benevolent Fund and St. Paul's Cathedral.

5.15 p.m. At the Cannon Street Hotel, the Master will receive the members and guests for dinner at 6 p.m. (The reception room will be suitably furnished.)

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual dinner at Blackpool on Saturday, October 30th. Owing to the large demand for tickets the County Hotel cannot find the necessary accommodation. The dinner will therefore be held at The Imperial Hydro, North Promenade, Blackpool (a penny tram fare from Talbot Square). Tickets 4s. each. A special room is being reserved for ticket holders from 5 p.m. onwards.—C. Sharples, 35, Berwick Road, Blackpool.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Central Branch.—A meeting will be held at March, Cambs, on Saturday, October 30th. Bells (six) 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Service, if arranged. Please inform Mr. H. W. Giddings, 2a, Church Street, March, Cambs, numbers for tea. I beg members to make effort to attend.—F. Warrington, Cox End Lane, Over, Cambs.

LADIES' GUILD AND GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Joint meeting at Aldershot on Saturday, October 30th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea in Parish Hall, 5. Meetings after.—(Miss) H. F. Mills and C. W. Denyer, Hon. Secs.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—Annual meeting, Tonbridge, Saturday, October 30th. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea at the Carlton Cafe, High Street, 5.15. It is *your duty* to see that your tower is represented. Half fares up to 2s. will be allowed members.—Alec. E. Richardson, Laurel Cottage, Victoria Road, Southborough.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Rochester Cathedral on Saturday, Oct. 30th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Evensong at 4 p.m. Tea, at the City Cafe, at 5 p.m., only for those who notify the secretary. Business meeting afterwards for the election of district officers, etc., and members are particularly urged to attend.—Stanley J. T. Shellock, Hon. Dis. Sec., 162, Barnsole Road, Gillingham, Kent.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next meeting has been arranged at Hughenden (8 bells) on Saturday, October 30th, at 5.15 p.m. Tea at Lyons', High Wycombe, 4 p.m. No names this time.—A. D. Baker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Wroxeter (6 bells) on Saturday, October 30th. Bells available 3 p.m. Business after tea. For tea, please advise W. A. Farmer, 6, Mayfield Terrace, Mountfields, Shrewsbury.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Alton and Petersfield District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bramshott on Saturday, October 30th. Bells (6) available 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea in Parish Room 5.15, followed by business meeting.—C. E. Bassett, Hon. Dis. Sec., 32, Charles Street, Petersfield.

BARKWAY, NORTH HERTS ASSOCIATION.—These eight are still capable of producing everything from Rounds to London—it's the ringers 'at the bottom' that are required. So book the date, Saturday, October 30th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Mr. C. Bysouth, High Street, Barkway, is kindly arranging a tea, to be prepared at the Wheatsheaf, so I think we ought to let him know the number, don't you?—Don Mears, Hon. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Winscombe on Saturday, October 30th. Bells (8) from 2.30 p.m. Divine service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5 p.m.—H. Minifie, Hon. Sec., Royston, Uphill, Weston-super-Mare.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Rippingale on Saturday, October 30th. Bells (6) available during afternoon and evening. Service 4.30, followed by tea in the School. Business meeting after tea.—C. T. H. Bradley, Hon. Sec., Folkingham, Lincs.

OXHEY.—Saturday, October 30th. Bells open from 3.30. Tea, 5.30, at Cottage Cafe, High Street. Business after. Excellent train and bus service from all parts. Herts Association.—C. H. Horton, Bushey. City 4270.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Bentley on Saturday, October 30th (Aldwick bells not available). Bells ready at 3 p.m. Make this meeting a success.—Ernest Cooper, 1, Grosvenor Crescent, Arksey, Doncaster.

WENDRON, NEAR HELSTON, CORNWALL.—The dedication of the bells will take place on Sunday, October 31st, at 6 p.m., by the Archdeacon of Cornwall—five bells restored in new oak bell frame and augmented to a ring of six by John Taylor and Co., Loughborough.

SOUTH BRENT, DEVON.—The bells will be rededicated on Wednesday, November 3rd, at 3 p.m.—a ring of six, tuned and rehung in new bell frame by John Taylor and Co., Loughborough.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Andrew's, Holborn, on November 4th (8 p.m.); *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 9th (election night); St. Magnus' on the 11th and 25th; *St. Mary-le-Bow on the 23rd; St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 30th, at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-West Division.—A meeting will be held at Wendon on Saturday, November 6th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m. Those intending to be present kindly advise me.—H. A. Wacey, Hon. Sec., 69, Rye Street, Bishop's Stortford.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Brede on Saturday, November 6th. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock, 1s. per head. Will members intending to be present kindly let me know Wednesday previous to meeting.—A. C. Pankhurst, Hon. Div. Sec., 13, Bradford Street, Eastbourne.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—The annual meeting of this division will be held at Bocking on Saturday, November 6th. Bells (8) from 2.30. Service 4.30, to be followed by tea and business meeting. Will those intending to be present oblige by letting me know not later than Wednesday, the 3rd.—F. Ridgwell, Dis. Sec., Queen's Road, Earls Colne.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guilborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Ravensthorpe (5 bells) on Saturday, November 6th. Usual arrangements. Please notify hon. secretary not later than Tuesday previous of those requiring tea.—Geo. A. Hollick, Hon. Branch Sec., West Street, Welford, Rugby.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A special meeting of this district will be held at Bedford on Saturday, November 6th. The bells of St. Paul's Church (10), will be available from 2.30. Short service at 4.15. Tea at 5. You will be very welcome.—Frank C. Tysoe, Dis. Sec., 10, Grange Road, Bromham, Bedford.

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LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Peter's Church, Ormskirk, on Saturday, November 6th. Bells available from 3 p.m.—S. Forshaw, Branch Sec., 38, Poolstock, Wigan.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting will be held at Thurlaston on Saturday, November 6th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Mr. G. Wright, sen., will arrange tea for anyone sending him a card addressed Enderby Road, Thurlaston.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Clifton on Saturday, November 6th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome. Please come, as you will help to make the meeting a success.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hereford District.—A quarterly meeting of the district will be held at Lugwardine on Saturday, November 6th. Bells (8) available 3 to 9 p.m. Service 4.45 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m., 6d. each to those notifying me not later than November 2nd.—R. H. Stickley, Dis. Sec., The Green, Fownhope, Hereford.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—A meeting of the Lincoln District will be held on Saturday, November 6th, at Timberland (6 bells, subject to the tower being available). Tea at moderate charge to those who inform me by Tuesday, November 2nd.—K. W. Mayer, Dis. Sec., 31, Vine Street, Lincoln.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Staveley Parish Church on Saturday, November 6th. For tea, please notify Mr. A. E. Parsons, 42, Circular Road, Staveley, near Chesterfield. All welcome.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 13, St. Ronans Road, Sheffield, 7.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District.—A practice meeting will be held at Cartmel Priory on Saturday, November. Bells (6) available at 2.30 p.m.—N. M. Newby, Branch Sec.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kettering Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Burton Latimer (8 bells) on Saturday, November 6th. Usual arrangements. Please notify me if you require tea.—H. Baxter, 256, Windmill Avenue, Kettering.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—A ringing practice will be held at Calverton (6 bells) on Saturday, November 6th, from 5 p.m. All ringers will be welcome.—Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—The next meeting will be held at Newhall on Saturday, November 6th. Short service 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m., followed by meeting. Will those who intend being present kindly inform me by Wednesday, November 3rd? All are welcome.—J. W. Cotton, Overseale, Burton-on-Trent.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Potterne on Saturday, November 6th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea, with short meeting to follow, 5 o'clock. For tea, please advise W. C. West, Hon. Sec., Melksham.

BISHAMPTON, NEAR PERSHORE, WORCS.—The bells will be re-dedicated by the Bishop of Worces-

ter on Sunday, November 7th, at 6.30 p.m.—a ring of six, tuned and rehung in new framework by John Taylor and Co., Loughborough.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Samlesbury on Saturday, November 13th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m.—A. Blogg, Branch Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch, Newport Pagnell Deanery.—A meeting at Lathbury on Saturday, November 13th. 2.30 ring up. Service 4. Tea 4.45.—J. F. Amies.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.—The next quarterly meeting of the Ashton-under-Lyne Society will be held at St. George's Church, Mossley, near Manchester, on November 13th. Ringing from 3 p.m.—Carus Wilson, Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—The district annual meeting will be held at Woodford on Saturday, November 13th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea to follow. Will all those intending to be present advise me not later than Wednesday, November 10th, certain?—E. J. Butler, Dis. Sec., 313, Mawney's Road, Romford.

LADIES' GUILD.—Central District.—The next meeting will be held at All Saints', Isleworth, Middlesex, on Saturday, November 13th. Bells (10) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea to follow in the Church Hall at 9d. per head, to all who notify me by Tuesday, November 9th. Gentlemen cordially invited.—M. L. Cross, Hon. Sec., 9, Beverley Road, Barnehurst, Kent.

LANCASHIRE.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Walsden on Saturday, November 13th. Bells available from 3 to 9 p.m. A hearty invitation is extended to all ringers and friends to come along and support us.—Stephen Lloyd Parry, Branch Sec., 24, St. James' Street, Milnrow, Rochdale.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—What have you done for the Guild this year? If the answer is 'Nothing' or 'Not much,' make amends by attending the district meeting at Shalford on Saturday, November 13th. Bells at 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30 p.m. Don't trouble to send your name for tea. I am in form at guessing. (If you see the joke, let me know by November 9th).—G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec., East Clandon.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—The jubilee dinner and concert will be held at the Stafford Hotel, City Road, Chester, on Saturday, November 20th. Dinner at 6 p.m. prompt. Tickets 2s. 6d. each. Application for tickets (enclosing remittance) to H. Parker, 3, London Road, Davenham, Cheshire, or the branch secretaries, before November 13th.

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CANDLES FAIL AND END PEAL ATTEMPT.

On Wednesday evening, September 29th, a company met at Bromley Parish Church for a peal of Bob Major as a compliment to Mrs. F. E. Pitman, whose birthday occurred on September 27th. On arrival at the church it was discovered that the electric light was off, but candles were hurriedly fetched by Mr. Mounter from his home (it was early closing day and shops were shut) and a good start was made. Unfortunately, after 24 hours, first one then another of the candles expired, and in the semi-darkness a trip ended the attempt after 2 hours 50 minutes' good ringing. Those taking part were E. Mounter 1, F. E. Pitman 2, A. Purdon 3, J. Lyddiard 4, W. Grace 5, J. Bennett (conductor) 6, P. A. Corby 7, J. Dafters 8.

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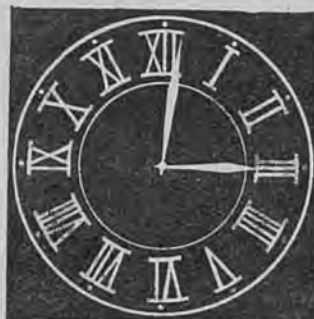
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