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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10th, 1937.

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transmission as a newspaper.]

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THE GREATEST SIX-BELL ACHIEVEMENT

The Exercise will, we are sure, unite in congratulations to the Lincolnshire band who, last Saturday, created another 'splicing' record by ringing, in the course of seven 720's, no fewer than eighty different methods. Only a few years ago this would have been regarded as an impossible feat, not only from the point of view of practical ringing, but because it was inconceivable that such a large number of methods could be crowded into seven true six-bell extents. With the rapid progress that has been made in this phase of ringing, however, composers have kept pace with the demands of the ringers, and a peal in eighty methods now becomes an accomplished fact. This is very close to the known limit; but who can say where this clever manipulation of methods will end?

Let us acknowledge the work of the men who have made such peals possible. The brothers Jarries were the first to see the possibilities of 'spliced' ringing, although it was some years after their pioneer work in this direction that serious attention was given to composition on these lines. Mr. Joseph W. Parker, the late Mr. Henry Wilde, and Mr. E. H. Lewis contributed their share to developing the ground, but it was left to one who does very little practical ringing to bring out the really high lights of composition in splicing Minor methods. To Mr. A. G. Driver is due much of the credit for the investigations which have made extents in a large number of methods possible. In the most painstaking manner he pushed out the scope of composition until well over a dozen methods were included in a single 720, and compiled tables by which other investigators could pursue the work upon a well-established foundation.

And in this latest performance at Algarkirk we have an instance of what has come of it, and, too, a very fine example of the good spirit which ought always to prevail among ringers. Until last Saturday the 'spliced' record was 73 methods rung by a Cheshire band and conducted by Mr. Kenneth Lewis. One of the new 720's rung at Algarkirk, one containing the greatest number of methods (namely 19) yet included in an extent, was composed by Mr. Kenneth Lewis. Thus he facilitated, even if he alone did not make possible, the beating of the record which he held with his Cheshire friends. There is a moral in this, which he who runs may read.

For the men, and particularly for the conductor, who rang the peal last Saturday, there will be nothing but admiration. It is a great feat to carry eighty methods in one's head, and to be able to step straight out of one into another at a word of command, especially when these

(Continued on page 814.)

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commands, at times, follow one another every twenty-five seconds or so. This is a business of quick thinking as well as accurate ringing. The Lincolnshire band of enterprising young men have striven hard for this crowning achievement. Success has been hard earned, and those, if there be any, who doubt the merit of the performance, would do well to try for themselves, for a start, Mr. Kenneth Lewis' new extent. We feel sure that the first to congratulate the Algbarkirk band will be the men who rang the 73 methods at Buxton last June. Although they then rang the maximum number of Treble Bob methods which can be spliced into seven true extents, we hope they will not rest entirely on their laurels, but will give their friends in Lincolnshire something more to think about and perform. We salute both the Lincolnshire and Cheshire men upon their great achievements.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF
BIRMINGHAM.

On Tuesday, November 30, 1937, in Three Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5084 CHANGES;

Tenor 37 cwt.

JOHN G. MASON Treble	MORRIS J. MORRIS 7
HERBERT KNIGHT 2	JAMES GEORGE 8
GEORGE E. FEARN 3	ERNEST MANSELL 9
DANIEL T. MATKIN 4	FRANK E. PERVIN 10
SIDNEY O'C. HOLLOWAY 5	ALBERT WALKER 11
WILLIAM C. DOWDING 6	ALBERT E. NORMAN ... Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.

This composition is now rung for the first time. Specially composed and rung in honour of Mr. James George's 84th birthday.

KIDDERMINSTER, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 4, 1937, in Three Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF SPLICED BOB AND LITTLE BOB MAXIMUS,
5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 24½ cwt.

WILLIAM SHORT Treble	RALPH HARRIS 7
JOSEPH D. JOHNSON 2	CHARLES H. WOODBERRY ... 8
ROBERT MATTHEWS 3	GEOFFREY J. LEWIS 9
SIDNEY T. HOLT 4	JOSEPH E. NEWMAN 10
MRS. J. THOMAS 5	THOMAS W. LEWIS 11
JOHN THOMAS 6	CHARLES CAMM Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by JOSEPH D. JOHNSON.

* First peal of Maximus. † First peal of Spliced Maximus by all the band, on the bells and by the association. Each course was rung one lead Plain, one Little and one Plain.

TEN BELL PEALS.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 4, 1937, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 6000 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. in D.

*CHARLES A. DOHERTY ... Treble	GEORGE W. DEBENHAM ... 6
*STEPHEN H. HOARE 2	THOMAS J. HULL 7
GILBERT E. DEBENHAM ... 3	HAROLD V. FROST 8
JOSEPH F. CHATLEY 4	MADRICE F. R. HIBBERT ... 9
*THOMAS A. BLOW 5	*HAROLD G. CASHMORE ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by G. W. DEBENHAM.

* First peal of Royal. † First peal of Royal in the method. Rung as a silver wedding compliment to Mr. T. J. Hull, who has been a ringer at this church for 33 years and the steeplekeeper for the past 18 years.

BALDOCK, HERTS.—On Sunday, November 7th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: J. Dear 1, E. G. Buck (first quarter-peal as conductor) 2, S. Bonnett 3, W. Collins (first quarter-peal 'inside') 4, J. Morley 5, W. D. Pooley 6, R. S. Newman 7, C. Kinch 8.

MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 4, 1937, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

At the Cathedral Church of SS. Mary and Denys,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 27 cwt. 3 qr. 6 lb.

WILFRED STEVENSON Treble	† C. KENNETH LEWIS 6
* REV. FRANK BONNER 2	JOHN WORTH 7
† JAMES FERNLEY 3	DAVID VINCENT 8
† WILLIAM FERNLEY 4	SAMUEL JONES, JUN. 9
† JAMES A. MILNER 5	* LIONEL CLOUGH Tenor

Composed by W. T. ELSON.

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

* First peal in the method. † First peal of Grandsire Caters.

DERBY.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 4, 1937, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew, Litchurch,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb. in E.

ARTHUR BRAINES Treble	GEORGE ROBINSON 6
JOHN H. SWINFELD 2	GEORGE E. FEARN 7
ALBERT H. WARD 3	JAMES H. SHEPHERD 8
RONALD H. DOVE 4	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS 9
SIDNEY F. PALMER 5	JAMES GEORGE Tenor

Composed by G. R. NEWTON. Conducted by LESLIE W. G. MORRIS

Specially arranged and rung as an 84th birthday compliment to Mr. James George. It was also his 1,270th peal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BARROW-IN-FURNESS, LANC.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 27, 1937, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

PRITCHARD'S FOUR-PART.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

* GEORGE SLACK Treble	FREDERICK H. CRAWLEY 5
FRED C. LIME 2	ARTHUR STEDMAN 6
JOHN BAGNALL 3	C. J. A. CUSHING 7
JAMES E. WILLIAMS 4	JAMES E. BURLES Tenor

Conducted by JAMES E. BURLES.

* First peal on eight bells. Rung in the year of the Coronation of their Majesties King George VI. and Queen Elizabeth. Also in honour of the 72nd birthday, during the week, of the leader of this tower, Mr. C. J. A. Cushing, who has completed 55 years' service as ringer here. All the band are regular Sunday service ringers at this church.

OAKFORD, DEVONSHIRE.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, November 27, 1937, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 12 cwt. (approx.).

J. HENRY PURCHASE Treble	CLAUDE FARR 5
* VICTOR N. BARROW 2	ARTHUR TRUMAN 6
ALBERT TOUT 3	EDWARD H. BIFFIN 7
JOHN H. HOSGOOD 4	WILLIAM H. HOWE Tenor

Conducted by EDWARD H. BIFFIN.

* First peal of Triples.

SWANAGE, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 27, 1937, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5168 CHANGES;

Tenor 22 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lb.

WILLIAM G. YOUNG Treble	ARTHUR V. DAVIS 5
* ROY C. HURST 2	* FRANK HAYSOME 6
PERCY W. WITHAM 3	HARRY SMALE 7
WILLIAM C. SHUTE 4	FREDERICK G. COLE Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN.

Conducted by F. G. COLE.

* First peal in the method. Rung on the occasion of the wedding of Miss Margery V. Bastable to Mr. Percy C. Barnes.

BORDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 27, 1937, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 22 cwt. in E flat.

WILLIAM SPICE, SEN. Treble	GEORGE H. SPICE 5
* JOHN E. SPICE 2	VICTOR A. JARRETT, R.E. 6
FRANCIS J. CHEAL 3	WILLIAM J. WALKER 7
GEORGE KENWARD 4	WILLIAM B. GORMAN Tenor

Conducted by V. A. JARRETT.

* First peal. First peal as conductor on eight bells.

LECKHAMPTON, CHELTENHAM.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(CHELTENHAM BRANCH.)

On Monday, November 29, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

HUBBARD'S FIVE-PART.

Tenor 9 wt. in A.

WILLIAM TOWNSEND Treble	THOMAS BORRHAM 5
WILLIAM OAKLEY 2	GEORGE H. WALTERS 6
HAROLD HALFORD 3	WILLIAM HUNT 7
CHARLES W. MARTIN 4	JOHN F. BALLINGER Tenor

Conducted by JOHN F. BALLINGER.

SOUTHPORT, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 30, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

At Christ Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 10 cwt.

* JACK TAYLOR Treble	* CHARLES GREGORY 5
LEWIS TYLDESLEY 2	JOSEPH RIDYARD 6
* JOHN ROBINSON 3	† GEORGE B. JACKSON 7
JAMES J. JACKSON 4	WILLIAM DICKINSON Tenor

Conducted by J. RIDYARD.

* First peal. † First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor. Rung as a farewell to the Vicar, the Rev. J. L. Coursey, M.A.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 30, 1937, in Two Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

At the Bell Foundry,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DEXTER'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 6½ cwt.

* GEOFFREY HARRISON Treble	CHARLES ALLSOP 5
LESLIE STEVENS 2	FREDERICK H. DEXTER 6
REDVERS F. ELKINGTON 3	COLIN HARRISON 7
JOHN SADDINGTON 4	G. RONALD EDWARDS Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK H. DEXTER.

* First peal of Stedman and rung at the first attempt.

DISS, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 30, 1937, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. 2 qr. 26 lb. in D.

ERIC G. BENNETT Treble	GEORGE ARCHER 5
* WALTER ELSEY 2	FREDERICK C. ROPER 6
* CHARLES V. ORVES 3	WILLIAM MUSK 7
ALBERT G. HARRISON 4	WILLIAM STEGGALL Tenor

Composed by NOLAN GOLDEN. Conducted by E. G. BENNETT.

* First peal in the method. Rung to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Ezekiel Larter, of Diss, who were married at the above church on November 30th, 1867.

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DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

GORTON, MANCHESTER.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, November 30, 1937, in Three Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the UNITARIAN CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

ALAN BROWN Treble	JOHN HASSEL 5
WILLIAM H. SHOKER 2	WILLIAM BRAMMER 6
FRANK REYNOLDS 3	E. MURGATROYD 7
HERBERT MCKINNEL 4	N. HEAPS Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF

Conducted by N. HEAPS.

* First peal.

BISHOP'S WALTHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD

On Wednesday, December 1, 1937, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At the CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 20 lb. in F.

WILLIAM LINTER, SEN. ... Treble	WILLIAM LINTER, JUN. ... 5
GEORGE WILLIAMS 2	ERNEST W. WHITEMAN ... 6
WALTER LINTER 3	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY ... 7
ROY LINTER 4	REGINALD A. REED ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

First peal on the bells, recently augmented from six to eight by John Taylor and Co. Rung as a birthday compliment to W. Linter, sen., who reached his 80th birthday on November 28th.

WITLEY, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 4, 1937, in Three Hours,

At the CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL. Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 12 lb.

HERBERT W. COLLIER ... Treble	ALFRED H. PULLING ... 5
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON ... 2	ERNEST J. AYLIFFE ... 6
THOMAS E. DENVER ... 3	ARTHUR J. BARTLETT ... 7
JOHN H. B. HESSE ... 4	WILFRED BARTLETT ... Tenor

Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Major J. H. B. Hesse.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 4, 1937, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

At the CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 18 cwt.

FRANCIS S. WILSON ... Treble	FRANK BENNETT ... 5
OWEN GILES 2	FREDERICK PAGE ... 6
ALFRED C. LEVETT ... 3	HENRY STALHAM ... 7
JACK WHITEHEAD ... 4	FRIEZ OITAWAY ... Tenor

Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

Arranged and rung for the patronal festival. F. S. Wilson's 50th peal.

DODDERHILL, DROITWICH, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 4, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

At the CHURCH OF ST. AUGUSTINE,

A PEAL OF DARLSTON BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S SIX-PART, No. 59.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

ARTHUR G. THOMAS ... Treble	REGINALD WOODVATT ... 5
CHARLES R. SMITH ... 2	GEORGE E. LARGE ... 6
ARTHUR R. MOSELEY ... 3	JOHN H. COLLEY ... 7
WALTER H. RAXTER ... 4	FREDERICK G. YATES ... Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE.

First peal in the method by all the band and on the bells. Rung at first attempt. Ringers of 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7 are members of the Sunday band at this church.

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EBBW VALE, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 4, 1937, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

At CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb. in D.

GEORGE POPNELL ... Treble	GEORGE TALBOT ... 5
ROBERT E. COLES ... 2	JOHN W. JONES ... 6
REV. IVOR J. RICHARDS ... 3	ALFRED W. HEATH ... 7
ROBERT SMITH ... 4	JOHN PHILLIPS ... Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER.

Conducted by JOHN W. JONES.

First peal on the bells. Rung on the eve of the conductor's 72nd birthday.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 4, 1937, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb.

HORACE H. SMITH ... Treble	FREDERICK J. PLUMMER ... 5
*MISS DORIS E. LIDBETTER ... 2	ALBERT FLEET ... 6
HENRY B. WHITNEY ... 3	EDWIN A. BELSON ... 7
*FREDERICK JEFFES ... 4	JOSEPH E. ARNOLD ... Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by J. E. ARNOLD.

* First peal of Major.

RAINHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 4, 1937, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation).

Tenor 18½ cwt.

BERT W. MAY ... Treble	FRANK BELSEY ... 5
FRANCIS J. CHEAL ... 2	*WILLIAM J. WALKER ... 6
CHARLES BELSEY ... 3	*WILLIAM A. J. KNIGHT ... 7
GEORGE A. NAYLOR ... 4	CHARLES H. WEBB ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM A. J. KNIGHT.

First peal of Grandsire as conductor. A 21st birthday compliment to Miss Kathleen Cheal.

SIX AND BELL FIVE PEALS.

LEINTWARDINE, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, October 30, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

At the CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

E. RICHARD BALDWIN ... Treble	CHARLES H. CARTWRIGHT ... 4
WILLIAM J. BENIAMS ... 2	ARTHUR C. NASON ... 5
HUBERT JONES ... 3	HAROLD H. CORFIELD ... Tenor

Conducted by WM. J. BENIAMS.

BLETSOE, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 20, 1937, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At the CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Viz.: 720 of Kent Treble Bob and two extents each of Oxford Treble Bob, Oxford Single and Plain Bob. Tenor 15 cwt.

JOHN HILSON ... Treble	DONALD L. COCKINGS ... 4
HERBERT L. HARLOW ... 2	C. HENRY HARDING ... 5
LEONARD WILLIAMS ... 3	REGINALD J. HOUGHTON ... Tenor

Conducted by C. H. HARDING.

STOKESAY, SHROPSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, November 21, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

At the CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, 10 callings.

Tenor 12 cwt.

LEONARD E. A. DAVIES ... Treble	HUBERT JONES ... 4
WILLIAM J. BENIAMS ... 2	ARTHUR C. NASON ... 5
JAMES HUGHES ... 3	GEORGE ALLEN ... Tenor

Conducted by WM. J. BENIAMS.

Rung in honour of the birth of a daughter to the Rev. S. Z. and Mrs. Edwards, Stokesay.

BASSINGHAM, Lincs.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, November 21, 1937, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Double Bob, Double Court, Single Court, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Childwall and Plain Bob.
Tenor 10½ cwt.

KENNETH W. MAYER Treble	GEO. LESLIE A. LUNN 4
*MISS DOROTHY VESSEY 2	RICHARD H. M. HARVEY 5
FRANK W. VERNON 3	JACK L. MILLHOUSE Tenor

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

* 25th peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to Miss D. Vessey, and to Mr. J. A. Freeman, of Lincoln.

HIGHAM ST. MARY, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Friday, November 26, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents. Tenor 9 cwt, 6 lb. in A.

*LESLIE WRIGHT Treble	MISS SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER 4
†MISS ELKANOR REEVE 2	RONALD W. STEWARD 5
URBAN W. WILDNEY 3	ALAN R. ANDREWS Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal in the method.

SILTON, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, November 26, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two extents. Tenor 12 cwt.

*FRANK B. FELTHAM Treble	*ERNEST G. SUTER 3
*SETH SUTER 2	EDWARD G. COWARD 4
WILLIAM C. SHUTE Tenor	

Conducted by W. C. SHUTE.

* First peal. First peal on the bells.

FELKIRK, NEAR BARNSLEY, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, November 27, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Ringers' Surprise, Capel, Bolton Abbey, York Minster, Wragby Delight and Kent. Tenor 10 cwt.

CLIFFORD ROBINSON Treble	ERNEST BROOKES 4
*HERMAN ROSEBY 2	J. THOMAS WHITE 5
HAROLD CHANT 3	DANIEL SMITH Tenor

Conducted by H. CHANT.

* First peal and first attempt.

BILLESDON, LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 27, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Oxford and Plain Bob. Tenor 11½ cwt.

R. RUSSELL Treble	*WILLIAM A. WOODS 4
GEO. GEARY 2	A. L. WARD 5
A. BALLARD 3	J. H. BLOFF Tenor

Conducted by J. H. BLOFF.

* Fiftieth peal.

STANDISH, GLOS.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 27, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE & ST. DUNSTON'S DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores each called differently. Tenor 15 cwt.

*NORMAN PERKINS Treble	†LEONARD EDWARDS 4
LEWIS MERRETT 2	THOMAS BAILEY 5
THOMAS PRICE 3	*HARRY CURSON Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS PRICE.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.'

BATHEASTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, November 27, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 18 cwt.

FREDERICK GREEN Treble	MAURICE SMART 4
JAMES SMART 2	JOSEPH MORE 5
JESSE HALLETT 3	HORACE D. TAYLOR Tenor

Conducted by H. D. TAYLOR.

Rung in honour of the ordination at Liverpool Cathedral of David Mercier, son of the Rev. P. B. Mercier, Vicar of Batheaston.

WISTASTON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, November 27, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, Plain Bob and Oxford Bob and two 720's each of Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 6 cwt, 6 lb.

HARRY PARKER Treble	*HARRY THELWELL 4
HARRY W. HOWARD 2	*ANDREW THOMPSON 5
RICHARD T. HOLDING 3	ALBERT CRAWLEY Tenor

Conducted by A. CRAWLEY.

* First peal of Minor in five methods.

STOULTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, November 29, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND, KING AND MARTYR,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Double Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 7½ cwt.

THOMAS W. LEWIS Treble	JOHN THOMAS 4
SIDNEY T. HOLT 2	JOSEPH D. JOHNSON 5
MRS. J. THOMAS 3	CHARLES CAMM Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

First peal on the new peal of bells, recently installed by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

BRAMFORD, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, November 29, 1937, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being an extent each of St. Clement's, Double Court, Double Oxford, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Cambridge Surprise and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 11½ cwt.

RONALD W. STEWARD Treble	GEORGE A. FLEMING 4
KEITH W. WHITTLE 2	URBAN W. WILDNEY 5
SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER 3	ALAN R. ANDREWS Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.

TALGARH, BRECONSHIRE.

THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, December 1, 1937, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GWENDOLINE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two extents with the ten callings. Tenor 10 cwt.

*JONES L. GWYNNE Treble	BERNARD H. DAVIES 4
ALBERT E. JONES 2	JAMES P. HYETT 5
DAVID H. BRUNETT 3	SELWYN L. SPEAKE Tenor

Conducted by D. H. BRUNETT.

* First peal. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Stanley Charles Powell, a member of the local band, interred at St. Gwendoline's on November 27th.

SUTTON, MACCLESFIELD.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, December 1, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's, viz.: Willesden, College Bob IV., St. Albans and Wragby Delight, and London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston and Oxford Treble Bob.

*JOHN W. L. SLACK Treble	JOHN WORTH 4
JACK TIPPER 2	STANLEY NOBLE 5
TOM TAYLOR 3	JOSEPH WHITTAKER Tenor

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

* First peal in seven methods.

**TERRINGTON ST. JOHN, NORFOLK.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

On Monday, November 29, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's of Plain Bob and one 720 each of Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, St. Clement's, Single Oxford and Double Oxford. Tenor 12 cwt. in F sharp.

SYDNEY FLINT Treble	WALLACE W. COUSINS ... 4
WILLIAM BOCKENHAM 2	JOHN BOCKENHAM 5
CLAUDE COUSINS 3	CRCIL V. EBBERSON Tenor

The first 720 was rung 'silent.' The rest were conducted in turn by the six ringers from treble to tenor. Rang at the request of the Vicar as a thanksgiving peal for the restoration of the church.

ALGARKIRK, LINES.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(EASTERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 4, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's in 80 methods, viz.:—

- (1) Tattershall, Candlesby, Langton, Alford, Benington, Butterwick, Freiston, Frampton, Leake, Whaplode and Wrangle Alliance and Bastow Little Court.
- (2) Gedney, Gunby, Bicker, Spilsby, Gosberton, Sibsey, Surfleet, Wainfleet, Pinchbeck and Spalding Alliance and Kent Little Court.
- (3) Windermere, Frodsham, Killarney, Horsmonden, Cumberland, Ennerdale, London Bob, Lytham, Double Oxford, Thelwall, St. Clement's, Childwall, College, Waverfree, Plain Bob, Fulbeck, Double Bob, Canterbury Pleasure and Reverse Bob.
- (4) Old Oxford, Willesden, College Bob IV., Newdigate, Marple, Taxal, Humber, Braintree, Elston, Clarence, Neasden, Wragby, Charlwood and St. Albans Delight and Morning Star Treble Bob.
- (5) Sandal, Capel, Kingston, London Scholars' Pleasure, Duke of Norfolk, Norbury, Ockley, College Exercise and Oxford Treble Bob, and Pontefract, Dunottar, Wath and Carisbrooke Delight.
- (6) Hereward, Oxford Bob, Single Court and Double Court.
- (7) Cambridge, Ipswich, Norfolk, Primrose, Hull and Bourne Surprise.

Tenor 12 cwt.

GEORGE W. BURRELL Treble	HARVEY E. BURRELL 4
ARTHUR YOUNG 2	HAROLD BARSLEY 5
VERNON TAYLOR 3	CYRIL R. BURRELL Tenor

Conducted by V. TAYLOR.

Witness—W. A. Richardson.

There were 176 changes of method. This is the greatest number of methods yet rung in a peal.

HANDBELL PEALS.

HINTON-ON-THE-GREEN, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 1, 1937, in Two Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes.

AT THE RESIDENCE OF MRS. F. J. JOHNSON,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

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

MISS KATHLEEN M. JOHNSON 1-2	JOSEPH D. JOHNSON 5-6
MRS. J. THOMAS 3-4	MRS. A. J. MARTIN 7-8

Conducted by JOSEPH D. JOHNSON.

Umpire—John Thomas.

This band, three sisters and brother, met specially on the 25th anniversary of the peal of Grandsire Doubles rung 'in hand' by three members of the same family at the ages of 12, 13 and 10 years respectively.

KENSINGTON, LONDON.

THE ST. MARY ABBOT'S GUILD, KENSINGTON.

On Friday, December 3, 1937, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes.

IN THE BELFRY OF ST. MARY ABBOT'S CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;

CLARENCE H. DOBBIE 1-2	JAMES R. MACKMAN 5-6
WILLIAM E. JODD 3-4	ERNEST C. S. TURNER 7-8

ARTHUR J. W. HUGHES ... 9-10

Composed by J. CARTER (No. 51). Conducted by E. C. S. TURNER

(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over.)

PEAL NOTES.

THREE SONS RING WITH FATHER FOR 80th BIRTHDAY.

On November 28th Mr. William Linter, sen., of Swanmore, Hants, celebrated his 80th birthday, and three days later the event was honoured by the first peal on the augmented bells of Bishop's Waltham Church.

It was, as it should be, very much of a family affair, for three of Mr. Linter's sons took part in the peal. The method was Bob Major and it was called by Mr. Linter's old friend, Mr. George Williams, himself past the four-score mark.

Mr. Linter, sen.'s, first peal was called by Mr. Williams at Soberton on June 21st, 1889, and that peal was also the first by Mr. Linter's late brother, Robert. Another brother, Frank, rang his first peal when George Williams rang his first as conductor in January, 1885. In 1886 they were both members of the Reigate Society.

Anyhow, this birthday peal was the event of a lifetime, and many interesting recollections were brought to light over the teacups after the ringing, the participants being entertained by Mr. W. Linter, jun. (who was in the Australian touring party). The splendid birthday cake was kindly provided by Mrs. F. S. Bayley.

Bishop's Waltham bells were recently retuned and restored by Messrs. Taylor and Co., who also added two trebles to complete the octave.

The members of the Linter family ring, in these days, at different towers: William Linter, sen., at Swanmore; William Linter, jun., at Fareham; Walter Linter at Bishop's Waltham; and Roy Linter at North Stoneham.

Curiously enough this was the first occasion upon which these four members of the Linter family had all taken part in a peal together.

Congratulations to Miss Dorothy Vessey on ringing her 25th peal on her 18th birthday. She has only been ringing a little over 18 months and this performance—seven different 720's of Minor—was her 21st peal this year.

A peal well 'spiced' was rung at Borden, Kent, on November 27th, when three generations of the Spice family, whose roots are in Tunstall, took part together in Taylor's six-part peal of Grandsire Triples. William Spice, sen., rang the treble, his son, George H. Spice, the fifth, and his grandson, John E. Spice, the second to his first peal at the first attempt. Victor Jarrett (Musician, R.E.) called his first peal on eight bells.

CHILDREN'S PEAL RECALLED.

Spliced Bob and Little Bob Maximus has been added to the variety of peals rung on the twelve at Kidderminster. It was rung on December 4th and was the first peal of Spliced Maximus by all the band. Each course consisted of one lead of Plain, one of Little and one of Pain Bob. The composition was arranged, as well as conducted, by the hon. secretary of the Worcestershire Association, Mr. J. D. Johnson.

Mr. Johnson, three days earlier, was also the conductor of another interesting peal. On December 1st, 1912, he, with two of his sisters, Ellen and Ruth, rang a peal of Grandsire Doubles on handbells. Ellen, since deceased, was then 12 and rang 1-2. Joseph was 13 and called the peal from 3-4, and Ruth, only 10, rang 5-6. The peal was independently umpired.

On December 1st, 1937, twenty-five years after, Joseph, with three sisters, called a handbell peal of Grandsire Triples to commemorate the anniversary. The family party were Miss Kathleen Johnson, Mrs. John Thomas, Joseph Johnson and Mrs. A. J. Martin, ringing in that order. How proud their father, the late Mr. Frederick J. Johnson, would have been had he lived to see this event.

Both living and dead were remembered in a peal rung at Leekhampton, Cheltenham, on November 29th. The peal was in memory of Mrs. Isobel Richardson, to whose memory the two treble bells were added in 1904, and in honour of the 84th birthday of Mr. James George, of Birmingham.

As a farewell to the Vicar (the Rev. J. L. Coursey), who was leaving Christ Church, Southport, for Christ Church, Cheltenham, a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at the former church on November 30th.

It was the 49th anniversary of Mr. L. Tyldesley's first peal, and he cannot recollect any previous peal rung at Christ Church, Southport, by a regular Sunday service band.

As a 'coming of age' compliment to Miss Kathleen Cheal, a member of the band at Rainham, Kent, a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at that church on December 4th. Her brother took part in the peal, and afterwards Miss Cheal extended hospitality to the ringers, who wish to thank her for her kindness.

(Continued on next page.)

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CURIOSITIES OF 'STARS.'

(Continued from previous page.)

Many curiosities occur in regard to 'starred' performances. Mr. Harold Cashmore's name appears this week with a 'star' for ringing his first peal of Royal. And he is the man who calls peals in Spliced Surprise methods on handbells! Other 'advanced' ringers are similarly 'decorated' for the same peal, rung at St. Peter's Church, St. Albans.

Another instance comes from Manchester, where, at the Cathedral, three of a band who have rung in a peal of 73 Spliced Treble Bob methods rang their first peal of Grandsire Caters on Saturday.

Peal attempts at Dodderhill, Droitwich, Worcestershire, are rare, through restrictions, but last Saturday, the ban being lifted, a peal of Darlaston Bob Triples was rung there, the band including five of the local company, with three from Claines. The method was taken from 'The Glossary' and had previously been practised as a change from Oxford Bob. The conductor found it necessary to send away for a composition to Mr. J. Pigott, to whom he is indebted. It was the first peal in the method by all the band and on the bells, and was rung at the first attempt. The long dodging behind probably accounted for its being a quick peal.

The first peal on the bells at Leighton Buzzard, Bedfordshire, since they were rehung by Messrs. Taylor and Co. in 1935, was rung on Saturday. It should have been Bob Royal, but the band, meeting short, rang Bob Major.

On September 19th the dedication of Monmouthshire's heaviest and grandest ring of bells, installed by John Taylor and Co., took place at Ebbw Vale. The first attempt for a peal was made on Saturday last and proved successful. The date was specially chosen as it was the eve of the 72nd birthday of Mr. John W. Jones, hon. secretary of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association and conductor of the peal.

Congratulations were extended to him. It is nearly 49 years ago since he rang his first peal, which was also Grandsire Triples.

Tea was kindly provided by the ladies of the parish, and thanks are extended to them and to Mr. Alsop, the local leader, for his kindness in doing 'the needful' at the tower. The new band at Ebbw Vale are making good progress.

Mr. and Mrs. Ezekiel Larter, of Diss, Norfolk, have just celebrated the 70th anniversary of their wedding. No wonder the bells were rung for them! The wedding took place at Diss Parish Church on November 30th, 1867, and when the anniversary came round last week a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung.

To mark the completion of his 50 years' membership of the Lancashire Association, a peal of Bob Major in honour of Mr. William Brammer was rung at Gorton Unitarian Church, Manchester, on November 30th. It was also a birthday peal for Miss Cynthia Dulton.

MR. JAMES GEORGE IS 84.**HOW HE CELEBRATED HIS BIRTHDAY.**

Mr. James George celebrated his 84th birthday as actively as a youth of 24. In the afternoon he rang at Birmingham Cathedral for the induction of the new Provost, who was installed by the Bishop of Birmingham, at a very impressive ceremony. Immediately afterwards, Mr. George, with seven others of the band, rang a peal of Stedman Triples at Bishop Ryder's Church. The peal was a pleasure to ring, and a credit to Mr. George, who rang the seventh.

At the conclusion of the peal the band, with five other ringers, were the guests of Mr. George at a dinner. Many were the congratulations that Mr. George received upon attaining one more birthday towards his century in such remarkably good health.

But Mr. George will not be satisfied with a century; he is determined to double his present age. 'I've never felt better in my life,' was his remark.

An unusual honour was accorded to Mr. George at St. Martin's, Birmingham, where on November 30th a peal of 5,084 Stedman Cinques, specially composed for the occasion by Mr. Gabriel Lindoff, was rung to celebrate his birthday by members of St. Martin's Guild. Mr. George rang the 8th faultlessly.

Unfortunately he was not so successful with two other peal attempts. Stedman Triples on the back eight at Burton-on-Trent on the day after the peal in the 'Bull Ring' was lost through a change course, and on the following day Double Norwich at Brierley Hill 'went west' after eight courses.

Nevertheless, the birthday was duly celebrated on each occasion, and Mr. George, although there will be quite a few birthdays intervening, is now contemplating where and what he will ring for his 100th birthday. Will it be Liverpool Cathedral tenor?

But, joking apart, Mr. George at 84 is physically and mentally a wonder to all his friends.

Last Saturday Mr. George capped his week's performances by ringing the tenor at St. Andrew's, Derby, to a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal. It was his 1,270th peal. We are told he turned in the tenor with all his former accuracy and zest, and finished up 'as fresh as paint and just as pretty.'

Peals on eight, ten and twelve bells within a week are not bad going, even for a youth of 84.

After the unsuccessful attempt for a peal at Burton-on-Trent, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung: M. Swinfield (conductor) 1, J. H. Swinfield 2, E. W. Beadmoore 3, S. Holloway 4, W. R. Drage 5, D. T. Matkin 6, J. George (composer) 7, G. L. Roden 8.

John Taylor & Co.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

If you want to make a suitable and lasting gift to a ringer for Christmas, send 5s. 6d. to 'The Ringing World,' Lower Pyrford Road, Woking, for a copy of J. A. Trollope's interesting history of the College Youths.

Miss Dorothy L. Sayers, the novelist, was the guest of the Ancient Society of College Youths at the meeting at St. Paul's Cathedral, and afterwards at the Coffee Pot, on Tuesday evening.

A faculty has been granted by the Rochester Diocesan Registry for the restoration of the bells at St. Mary's Church, Bexley, Kent. Messrs. Mears and Stainbank are to retune the six bells and rehang them in new fittings in a steel frame, with provision for two trebles when funds are available.

Among the subscribers to the restoration fund is Her Majesty the Queen, whose grandparents were married at this church.

The Ladies' Guild made a gallant attempt for a peal of London Surprise Major on Saturday at Great Baddow, Essex. They had rung for 2 hours 45 minutes and only had three courses to go when the peal 'went west.' Hard lines, ladies!

The ringers were Mrs. P. Humphreys 1, Mrs. J. E. Davis 2, Mrs. F. W. Housden 3, Mrs. R. Richardson 4, Mrs. R. F. Deal 5, Mrs. G. W. Fletcher (conductor) 6, Mrs. F. Botham 7, Miss H. Snowden 8. The ringing was excellent until the fatal trip came.

It is said that, after the attempt, seven married ladies went to the railway station to catch a train that didn't run. It is, however, not true that they then went to a cosy corner to drown their sorrows. It was to get out of the cold while waiting for a train that did run. We have this information on the authority of an independent witness.

Mr. James George has received so many letters of congratulations upon his 84th birthday that he finds it impossible to reply to them individually. He desires to thank sincerely all those who have sent him such kindly messages.

Messrs. J. Taylor and Co.'s almanack for 1938, which has just been distributed, again bears on each page a photograph of some interesting cathedral or church where the Loughborough firm have recently carried out restoration or new work. The almanack is suitable for hanging in any ringing room.

We regret to record the passing on October 23rd of Mr. Montagu Henry Smith at Heyford, Northamptonshire, after a very short illness. He was a member of the Daventry Branch of the Peterborough Guild, the meetings of which he regularly attended. He was always ready to help the younger ringers and will be much missed.

The verger of Rolvenden Church, Kent, who has also been a ringer since Victorian days, was 'In Town To-night' in the wireless programme of Saturday.

We regret that pressure on our space again necessitates the holding over of several reports and letters to the Editor.

NATIONAL POLICE GUILD.

FURTHER ORGANISATION IN MANCHESTER DISTRICT.

A successful gathering of the National Police Guild took place in Manchester on Saturday last. About a score of members from Manchester, Liverpool, Bolton, Stockport and about another score of ringing friends met at the Town Hall during the afternoon for ringing. They then adjourned to the new police headquarters, where tea was served in the restaurant. Afterwards a tour was made of the premises which are considered to be the most up-to-date in the country.

Further ringing was then indulged in until 8 p.m., after which a quiet room was found in a local inn in which to discuss, in an unofficial manner, matters appertaining to the Guild.

The president of the Guild, Supt. Williams, sent an apology for his absence. Several others were similarly absent owing to exigencies of the service.

Sergt. Peter Crook, in reviewing the work of the Guild, said he had noticed through 'The Ringing World' that they had many capable members in the North, and he was very pleased to see some had been ringing peals in the Surprise methods. After what he had seen that afternoon in the tower he thought more ought to be done in the Guild's name, and the only reason, as far as he could see, was that everybody was waiting for someone else to make a move. It showed what could be done when they looked at that day's gathering. The thanks for that meeting were due to Constable William Pys, of Manchester. He thought an organising secretary would be a useful help in that direction.

Sergt. Crook, after a discussion, promised to act in that capacity. The Town Hall bells are a fine peal of twelve, tenor 42 cwt., with an extra sharp bell in the trebles for a light eight.

Touches of Grandsire, Stedman, Treble Twelve and Double Norwich on the light eight were brought round.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Chief Constable for allowing the use of the restaurant, to Supt. Williams for the assistance he had given, to the Town Hall Superintendent for the use of the bells, and to P.C. Pys for his splendid arrangements.

NEW MAYOR HONOURED

The new Mayor of Yeovil (Councillor F. Beal) is sidesman at the Parish Church, and on his election to the civic chair on November 9th a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung: G. H. Hurst 1, O. Jeanes 2, F. Hunt 3, T. Marks 4, E. Barnington 5, S. Ricketts 6, J. Baker (conductor) 7, F. Smith 8.

A WILTSHIRE RINGER'S SERVICE.

MR. L. A. WILSON'S EFFORTS FOR BELL RESTORATION.

Forty Years' Work in Calne Deanery.

Few men can have done more to promote bell restoration than Mr. L. A. Wilson, of Wootton Bassett, Wilts. Mr. Wilson has just completed forty years as a ringer at Wootton Bassett, and well-deserved tributes were paid to his labours at a meeting held at Wootton Bassett, when the Calne and Devizes branches of the Salisbury Guild and the Swindon Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association joined forces for the day.

Mr. Wilson first learnt ringing in Devonshire under the late Rev. Maitland Kelly. When he came to Wiltshire 40 years ago he took

charge of the bells at Wootton Bassett and has taught many ringers. His early drilling in Grandsire in Devon did not prevent him going on to more advanced methods, and he owes a good deal of his progress to the encouragement of the late Mr. Ernest Bishop, of Swindon.

He has for many years been secretary of the Calne Branch of the Salisbury Guild, and by his efforts with the various incumbents the following long list of bell restorations has been effected in the district:—

Bremhill (8), rehung; Calne (8), rehung; Broad Hinton (6), rehung; Lyneham (5), rehung; Yatesbury (4), rehung and treble added; Brinkworth (5), rehung and treble added; Purton (5), rehung and treble added; Lydiard Millicent, treble added; Hilmartin (6), now being rehung; Wootton Bassett, rehung at his own expense. This leaves only three peals of five in the Calne Deanery not ring-



MR. L. A. WILSON.

able, but, even so, a fund is being raised for the rehousing of Heddington in the near future.

Mr. Wilson is the possessor of a silver tea service given to him by the parishioners of Broad Hinton, and a silver watch presented by the parishioners of Brinkworth for the services he has rendered.

At the joint meeting on November 20th ringers were present from Swindon, Devizes, Bishops Cammings, Melksham, Holt, South Cerney, Bremhill, Lyneham, Brinkworth, Hilmartin, Broad Hinton, Clyffe Pypard and Wootton Bassett, and amongst the clergy in attendance were Canon A. E. G. Peters, the Rev. C. E. L. Cowan, the Rev. H. V. White and the Rev. H. H. Barber, who conducted a service in the Parish Church.

Following tea in the Church of England Schools, the Rev. H. V. White (chairman of the Calne Branch) expressed thanks to all who had made the gatherings so successful.

Canon Peters, in the course of words of encouragement to the ringers, made special reference to the fact that Mr. L. A. Wilson had that day completed 40 years of service in the tower at Wootton Bassett. He considered that Mr. Wilson had served the parish well and hoped he would be spared to continue for many more years.

Mr. Green (assistant general secretary of Salisbury Guild) and Mr. W. Trueman (Master of the Swindon Branch) spoke of their long association with Mr. Wilson, and referred to his wholehearted work for the ringers, not only of his own town, but of the surrounding parishes. They hoped he would continue his work until he at least reached the age of that grand old ringer, Mr. A. Lawrence, of Swindon, who is 83 years old and was present at the meeting.

Mr. Wilson, in reply, appealed to the young ringers to continue their work, and also urged others to take it up.

CHISWICK'S VETERAN RINGER.

As a birthday compliment to Mr. J. Dalton, who was 81 a few days previously, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at Chiswick on November 14th. Mr. Dalton is a regular Sunday service ringer, but owing to a chill was unable to take part in the quarter-peal, which was rung before evening service: *R. R. Fulford 1, †T. J. Thurlley 2, H. W. Lidbetter 3, Miss D. E. Lidbetter 4, †F. H. Fulford 5, A. R. Pink 6, †F. D. Bishop (conductor) 7, N. H. Manning 8. * First quarter-peal at first attempt. † First quarter-peal. † First quarter-peal as conductor.

GOOD STRIKING.

THE ST. CLEMENT DANES' RECORD.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—You rightly point out that the Spliced Surprise gramophone record is about as perfect as ringing can be. There is no reason why tower-bell ringing should not be as perfect. I know that it can be, having heard it a good many times.

In reply to Mr. Joyce, may I say that, from what I heard through the headphones in the B.B.C. van, I should agree with some of the band that the touch of Grandsire Caters recorded at St. Clement Danes was not perfect. I cannot criticise in detail, as I was, at the time, much more concerned with the perfect recording of a complete touch than with the recording of a perfect touch. I did notice one or two close leads, probably caused by the slight drag of the tenor.

I do not pretend to be a perfect striker, but I generally know when my striking is at fault, and why. I hope I shall never be too satisfied to learn to improve.

Brasted, Kent.

F. H. LEWIS.

CRITICISM IS NECESSARY.

Dear Sir,—Mr. G. L. Joyce in his letter to you, published in last week's issue of 'The Ringing World,' says, 'In his many criticisms the president of the Council and Master of the College Youths, Mr. E. H. Lewis, has fayed us alive, and for my personal satisfaction only I hope one day unknown to "stand behind" him.' I wonder what Mr. Joyce is getting at? Every change ringer to-day should thank Mr. Lewis from the bottom of his heart for so faying us. The only fault is that he has not fayed enough. As our president he is doing his duty by taking such an active interest in us. We should thank him also for his propaganda work in bringing the art so much before the public. Criticism in regard to striking we must have. If some people manipulated a musical instrument in an orchestra a quarter as bad as some ringers manipulate a bell to a touch, they would be shot out after a bar or two. Why must we tolerate indifferent ringing without saying something to the offenders, and who is more competent than our president to do this?

Now for the next part of the paragraph mentioned above. What does Mr. Joyce imagine he is going to find if and when he does stand behind Mr. Lewis (whether known or unknown)? What in the world does it matter what he finds? This is the position: Some of us are trying to raise the standard of ringing. The president of the Central Council of Church Bellringers is supporting us in our action. Mr. Joyce knows that the term, 'good striking,' cannot be measured by degrees, but I am sure that after 25 years' experience, providing, of course, that he can hear the actual changes he takes part in, he also knows what good striking means.

There are some persons who tell me that they cannot hear the individual bells they are helping to ring. It sounds just a jumble, they say. In spite of this, they seem to get a certain amount of pleasure out of it, which, of course, is more than anyone else does. These are the people we are up against. Either they must be trained to hear, or prohibited to ring. I should like also to say that in my opinion such a letter as Mr. Joyce has written has no constructive value whatever, and only tends to confuse the minds of the learners to whom we are trying to teach 'good striking.'

ALEC E. RICHARDSON.

Southborough, Kent.

UNITY COUNTS.

Sir,—I have read with interest your admirable article upon good striking and I agree entirely with you.

Personally I feel that what is essentially needed in every tower is the catholic spirit; that is, completely forgetting oneself in the performance of the whole, and remembering that it is the unity of the whole, which counts.

For example, if there are seven men in a tower, doing their best to strike well, their efforts can be marred by the bad striking of the eighth.

The listener outside does not hear the seven, who are doing their best, but, irritated by the bad striking of one, condemns the whole.

This grand principle applies to all ringing. It must be as catholic in its outlook as in its practice. No company should be content to ring the same methods year in, year out.

The very art demands that it should go from strength to strength. Our Lord commands, 'Be ye therefore perfect, as my Father in Heaven is perfect.'

Therefore, let us ringers remember that nothing but the very best is worthy of God, to Whose glory we ring and Whose Gospel we proclaim with every pull of our bell.

RONALD SUCKLING.

A BROADCAST DISAPPOINTMENT.

To the Editor.

Sir,—On Sunday I looked through 'The Radio Times' to see if there were to be any bells broadcast, and I found that a service from Northumberland on the North Regional was to be preceded by 'the bells.' Picture my feelings when tuning in to hear a single bell, chimed badly, coming over the air.

A. A. SAXBY.

Margate

'BELLS OVER LONDON.'

COMPLIMENTS AND CRITICISM.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—While registering my appreciation of the recent broadcast in connection with the College Youths' tercentenary, I should like to say that it was with not a little surprise that I discovered a complete absence of correspondence in last week's issue of 'The Ringing World' concerning Mr. E. H. Lewis' talk in the 'Bells Over London' broadcast. As nearly as I can recollect, he stated that for a bell-ringer to be a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths was synonymous with an oarsman belonging to Leander R.C. or a cricketer to the M.C.C.

As one who is quite unprejudiced, not having any connection with the Ancient Society or its rival organisation, I cannot but express my deprecation of such a remark from the president of the Central Council. To this Council all the guilds and associations throughout the Kingdom hold loyalty, their unity being symbolised by the president's high office.

Hence I was grossly disappointed to learn from Mr. Lewis' own lips that any one society should be considered superior among those which give their allegiance to the organisation of which he is the head. Such snobbery I really could not understand, as it merely serves to engender resentment and ill-feeling among ringers, especially in view of the fact that as it came over the ether its hearers are unable to make reply. To broadcast such information to millions unaware of the existence of or the good work done by other similar organisations is, I feel, using the microphone as the late Canon 'Dick' Sheppard described the pulpit, as a 'coward's castle.'

The church bells of this country are a glorious heritage, and their ringing a sacred trust, committed to us by God. Let us, therefore, one and all forget all pride and everything else which may separate us one from another, and work with a united front to proclaim to the best of our ability the message of Christ from the belfries of our land.

W. BIRMINGHAM.

Slough, Bucks.

THE WITHDRAWN 'COLLABORATION.'

Dear Sir,—I listened to the broadcast on November 24th and I experienced a feeling of slight disappointment when I heard the preliminary announcement that Mr. Willie Roughton had 'been unable to collaborate, etc.'

I had hoped to find some sort of 'official' explanation in 'The Ringing World' to-day, but all I can find is reference to something which appeared in the London newspapers, and, in the absence of comment, I assume that their explanation is the correct one. If that is the case I think it is deplorable, and, in my opinion, the sooner Willie Roughton withdraws his collaboration from all matters appertaining to ringing and ringers the better it will be for the Exercise as a whole. He might form himself into a society of one and achieve that exclusiveness of which, judging by his speech at the recent dinner of the College Youths, he is so proud.

Miss Sayers in writing her book 'The Nine Tailors' has probably done more good for ringing than Mr. Roughton and his kind have done or will ever do.

Mr. T. Groombridge, by his efforts, did much to improve the relations between the Exercise and the B.B.C., and it now remains to be seen how much of that good work has been undone by Willie Roughton's latest attempt at having it all his own way.

P. W. CAVE.

Huyton, Lanes.

AN APPRECIATION.

Dear Sir,—I should like to express my appreciation of the broadcast of 'Bells Over London' on November 24th. I am quite sure that the description given by Mr. Lewis must have been most interesting to all listeners, whether bellringers or not.

To bellringers it must be gratifying to know that the art of change ringing is being made more popular in the eyes of the public through the microphone, as is shown by the several broadcasts given recently in connection with the tercentenary of the College Youths.

H. BADGER.

Thame, Oxon.

GATESHEAD RINGER'S DEATH.**MR. JOHN STUART'S LONG CONNECTION WITH PARISH CHURCH.**

A well-known Gateshead ringer, Mr. John Stuart, has recently passed away at the age of 74 years. He had been a member of St. Mary's Guild for 58 years. He joined the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association in 1902 and served for many years on the committee. On his retirement from active ringing this year, he was made an honorary member. He had rung 31 peals for the association.

Mr. Stuart had attended St. Mary's Church for over 60 years and had served as a ringer under five rectors. He was also a member of the ancient body known as the 'Four and Twenty' of the Gateshead Parish Church. Mr. Stuart was employed in the Weights and Measures Department of Gateshead Corporation for 40 years and retired in 1930.

**A NEW RECORD IN SPLICING.
LINCS RINGERS' GREAT PERFORMANCE.****A Peal in 80 Methods.**

Another new record in 'Spliced' Minor has been set up by the Lincolnshire band at Algarkirk, where on Saturday a peal in 80 six-bell methods was rung. It is an amazing achievement.

Our peal columns give the official details of the performance, and comment upon it will be found in our leading article. It will be noted from the report that there was a 'witness' to the peal, a departure new in this particular phase of ringing.

Except for one 720, the peal was arranged by Mr. A. G. Driver. The exception was a 720 composed by Mr. Kenneth Lewis, of Stockport, and contains the greatest number of methods yet included in a true extent. Mr. Lewis has incorporated no fewer than 19 methods into the 720, and in the 60 leads there are 45 changes of method. There were 176 changes of method in the whole peal, and Sibsey and Gosberton Alliance were rung for the first time.

Mr. Kenneth Lewis' 720 is as follows:—

23456 Double Bob	45263 Childwall
56342 Windermere	24356 St. Clement's
64523 Plain Bob	32645 Lytham
— 64235 Plain Bob	56432 Killarney
— 64352 Plain Bob	— 24563 College
45623 Canterbury	35624 Thelwall
52436 Canterbury	63452 Thelwall
23564 St. Clement's	46235 St. Clement's
S 54236 St. Clement's	S 25463 Wavertree
— 62543 Killarney	34625 Reverse Bob
35462 Childwall	42356 Fulbeck
43256 St. Clement's	56234 Frodsham
24635 London Bob	63542 Plain Bob
56324 College	— 63425 Plain Bob
— 43562 College	— 63254 Plain Bob
25643 Double Oxford	35642 Ennerdale
62354 Thelwall	54326 Canterbury
36425 St. Clement's	42563 St. Clement's
S 45362 Wavertree	S 53426 St. Clement's
23645 Reverse Bob	— 64532 Killarney
34256 Cumberland	25364 Childwall
56423 Frodsham	32456 Horsmonden
62534 Plain Bob	43625 Lytham
— 62345 Plain Bob	56243 College
— 62453 Plain Bob	— 32564 College
25634 Canterbury	45632 Double Oxford
53246 Ennerdale	64253 Double Oxford
34562 St. Clement's	26345 St. Clement's
S 52346 Killarney	S 35264 Wavertree
— 63524 Killarney	42635 Canterbury
	23456

The raising of the record has progressed as follows:—

Date	Place	No. of methods	Changes of methods
Feb. 14th, 1911	Edenham, Lincs	14	
Dec. 4th, 1923	Norbury, Cheshire	35	
Dec. 29th, 1934	Chapel-en-le-Frith, Derbyshire	39	
Jan. 19th, 1935	Sutton, Cheshire	40	
Feb. 9th, 1935	Disley, Cheshire	42	
May 23rd, 1935	Marple, Cheshire	51	172
June 13th, 1936	Algarkirk, Lincs	57	196
Aug. 3rd, 1936	Whaplode, Lincs	60	199
Aug. 8th, 1936	Freiston, Lincs	61	196
Aug. 22nd, 1936	Marple, Cheshire	66	138
Sept. 5th, 1936	Disley, Cheshire	68	138
Dec. 5th, 1936	Algarkirk, Lincs	70	173
June 12th, 1937	Buxton, Derbyshire	73	142
Dec. 4th, 1937	Algarkirk, Lincs	80	176

'THE COLLEGE YOUTHS'**A History of the Society
by J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE**

'This is one of the very few books I have read which seem to me might, with advantage, have been considerably longer.'—*The Dean of St. Paul's.*

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NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION

A REVIEW OF THE YEAR'S WORK.

The annual meeting of the North Staffordshire Association was held at Stoke on Saturday. Although the weather was very bad, no fewer than 56 sat down to tea, and two arrived afterwards. Ringers came from Barlaston, Bucknall, Burslem, Brown Edge, Coventry, Crewe, Cheadle, Draycott, Exhall, Hanley, Kingsley, Longton, Leek, Lawton, Newcastle, Norton, Stone, Stoke, Tunstall, Uttoxeter, Wistaston and Wellington, Salop.

The Ven. Archdeacon Hartill, Rector of Stoke, extended a very hearty welcome to all present and specially to those who had travelled a distance on such a day.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. J. E. Wheeldon to the Rector of Stoke for the use of the bells and the excellent tea he had given them. He thought, however, it would only be a little drop in the ocean after the Rector had paid his eight curates.—Mr. S. Churton seconded the motion.

The Rector, in responding, said his income, which raised comment in the London newspapers, was £3,560. After he had paid his curates and £300 in travelling expenses, he could, however, still afford to pay for the tea without fear of bankruptcy.

Mr. A. D. Steel proposed a vote of thanks to the visitors, whom they were always pleased to see, and he also spoke of a proposal to establish a local branch of the Police Guild of Ringers, in connection with which he had been in touch with the Chief Constable of Stoke-on-Trent.

The business meeting followed, with the president (the Rector of Stoke) in the chair, supported by the Rev. F. D. Gardner (clerical secretary), Mr. Andrew Thompson (hon. secretary) and Mr. Kenneth Thacker (assistant hon. secretary).

The committee reported that at their annual meeting, held at Burslem on November 15th, the following report was presented by the hon. secretary: During the past year twelve meetings have been held, one for every month; two at ten-bell towers, six at eight, and four at six-bell towers. The average attendance had been 39, a decrease of two per meeting on last year. Five members had attended all the meetings, viz., Messrs. T. Hurd, J. E. Wheeldon, E. Steele, S. Thompson and A. Thompson. Three of these five attended them all in the previous year as well. One hundred and twenty-six members had attended at least one meeting during the year, an increase of 23. Thirty-one new members had been elected, namely, three honorary, 12 non-resident and 16 ringing, but with regret the death of Mr. W. J. Woodward, honorary member, at Uttoxeter, and of Mr. R. G. Lewis, Ringing Master for eight-bell towers for over ten years, was recorded. Two committee meetings had been held; one at Fenton to arrange Coronation peals, the other at Kingsley, where it was decided to hold an association dinner in February, 1938. Mr. A. D. Steel was elected Ringing Master for eight-bell towers, and a suggestion was made that the association should change its name to one which he regarded as more appropriate, namely, 'The North Staffordshire Association of Change Ringers.'

RECORD NUMBER OF PEALS.

During the year, the secretary stated, he had again visited most of the towers in the district, and found them in very good condition. Silverdale tower had again been opened for Sunday ringing, after being closed for two years. Thirty peals had been rung during the year, consisting of five of Major (one Plain Bob, one Kent Treble Bob, one Little Bob, one Cambridge and one of Staffordshire), eight of Triples (one Stedman, and seven of Grandsire), 12 of Minor (two Bob Minor, ten of Treble Bob—nine in seven methods and one in five methods), five of Grandsire Doubles. This was a record number of peals rung in one year for the association.

Ten ringers had rung their first peal and two had conducted their first peal. The secretary added that he would very much like to see more young ringers taking more interest in conducting, so that, as years go on, the number of peals might be increased. Forty peals should be rung by an association of their size each year. The most interesting peal footnotes are of Cambridge Major rung at Newcastle in honour of Alderman S. Myott being elected Mayor for the third time, of one rung in honour of the enthronement of Dr. Woods as Lord Bishop of Lichfield, and of ten Coronation peals.

The association was represented at the Central Council meeting held at Canterbury on May 18th, and a report of the meeting, the first given by a representative of the association, was presented by Mr. Andrew Thompson.

W. Wade, former leader of Longton, had completed his 50th year as a ringer. The secretary added that although his suggestion regarding the advertising of meetings in 'The Ringing World' was not adopted, he hoped more interest would be taken in this great bell-ringing paper. Ten reports of their meetings had appeared in it this year.

The secretary was complimented on his report by Messrs. J. E. Wheeldon and G. E. Plant.

The statement of accounts was read and accepted, as was the auditor's report, in which it was stated that the Post Office Savings Bank book was credited with £15 4s., and the cash in the secretary's hands was £10 14s. 3d. The increased balance on the year was £7 10s. 8½d.

(Continued in next column.)

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

CANTERBURY DISTRICT MEETING.

A successful and pleasant by-meeting of the Canterbury District of the Kent County Association was held at Wickhambreaux on Saturday, November 27th. Forty-five members were present, representing Ash, Birchington, Canterbury (4), Dover, Eythorne, Littlebourne, Sturry and Brabourne, in addition to the strong band of the local tower.

Ringling was enjoyed on the peal of six bells during the afternoon and evening. The usual service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. G. A. Blackman), the lesson being read by Mr. W. E. Shipton, of Birchington, while Mr. W. E. Pitman presided at the organ. A number of local residents were also present at the service.

Tea, by kind invitation of the Rector, followed in the Boys' Club. Mr. W. E. Shipton and the Rev. Bulstrode (Nonington) were elected hon. members with enthusiasm. In thanking the members for electing him a member, Mr. Shipton said that was the first time he had come into contact with ringers and ringling. He was more than interested in what they did, and counted it an honour to join the association.

Two courses of Triples were rung on the handbells, and then followed what all the young members of Wickhambreaux had been waiting for, tunes by the Dover 'twins,' 'Horatio and Herbaceous,' who by now must be getting somewhat famous in the district both for their tune ringling and their difference in stature! Their tunes were received with delight by all, especially the Rector and his friends, and all present joined in singing two or three of the airs.

Thanks to the Rector were expressed for the use of the bells and for the service and address, and a return was then made to the tower for further ringling. Numerous methods were practised. There were many expressions of regret that Mr. Harrison Smith was unable to be present at the meeting (in his own tower) through the serious illness of his brother.

DEATH OF MR. J. EMERY.

A FORMER STEEPLEKEEPER AT HERSHAM.

We regret to record the death of Mr. John Emery, who passed away at Walton, Surrey, on Sunday week, at the age of 72 years. He had been in failing health for some time.

Mr. Emery learned to ring at St. Mary Cray, Kent, when a lad. On going to Hersham, Surrey, nearly 40 years ago, he helped to teach a young band, and was for some years steeplekeeper. He rang about 30 peals in the standard methods and was a member of the Winchester Diocesan Guild, the Kent County Association and formerly of the Surrey Association. His brother is Mr. Isaac Emery, of Bromley, Kent.

The funeral took place at Walton on December 1st.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(Continued from previous column.)

The Rev. F. D. Gardner was re-elected clerical secretary, Mr. Andrew Thompson hon. secretary, Mr. Kenneth Thacker assistant hon. secretary, Mr. T. Hurd chairman of committee, Mr. A. D. Steel Ringing Master for eight-bell towers, Mr. J. E. Wheeldon Ringing Master for six-bell towers, and Mr. W. Wheeldon was elected auditor.

It was proposed by Mr. J. E. Wheeldon and seconded by Mr. W. Hazeldine that the name of the association be changed from 'The North Staffs and District Association of Change Ringers' to 'The North Staffordshire Association of Change Ringers.'

The following list of meetings was proposed for 1938: January, Norton; February, Longton; March, Newcastle; April, Bucknall; May, Leek; June, Biddulph; July, Stone and Draycott; August, Cheddleton; September, Uttoxeter; October, Tunstall; November, Burslem; December, Stoke.

A vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. J. E. Wheeldon to the Editor of 'The Ringing World' for the meeting reports he had published during the year. He said that the younger ringers ought to take in that paper. This was seconded by Mr. C. H. Page, and tributes were also paid to the 'Evening Sentinel' staff, who published the ringling activities of North Staffordshire.

The secretary's thanks to the chairman for his co-operation, to Mr. J. E. Wheeldon for recording and entering all peals rung during the year, and to Mr. Kenneth Thacker for his great help and co-operation during the past twelve months, concluded the business of the committee meeting.

A vote of confidence in the secretary was then proposed by Mr. J. E. Wheeldon, who remarked that he hoped Mr. Thompson would continue as secretary for many years to come.—Mr. T. Hurd, in seconding the proposition, said he had been a member of the association for over 30 years, but could not remember a secretary who gave the association such reports as they had received that day.

The Secretary responded by saying he hoped to continue as their secretary as long as his interest was in the association. He would not be like some other secretaries before him, who had carried on with no interest, and only made more work for the next one. When the time came that his interest waned, he would resign, so as to keep the association on the move.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**FLOURISHING CONDITION OF NEWBURY BRANCH.**

Over sixty ringers and friends from ten towers in the district and from Abingdon, Brightwell, Chearsley, Reading, Twyford, Kingsclere, Wallingford and Lower Wychendon attended the annual meeting of the Newbury Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild at Newbury Parish Church on November 20th.

The Rector, Canon W. L. Cooper, conducted the service and an address was given by the Rev. C. E. Wigg, Deputy Master of the Guild. Tea was served by Mrs. H. W. Curtis in the Parish Room, after which the Rev. W. Kingsley Kefford presided over the business meeting.

The hon. secretary, Mr. H. W. Curtis, reported that meetings had been held during the year at Brightwalton, Aldermaston, Beenham, Bucklebury and Farnborough. The average attendance was 48. The meeting at Farnborough was the first to be held there, and it proved a great success. The branch had 23 honorary members, 163 ringing members and nine life subscribers, showing an increase of five honorary members and ten ringing members. Thanks were due to the chairman for his kind co-operation, also to the clergy and foremen of towers for arranging the services and so making the meetings a success.

The balance sheet, also presented by Mr. Curtis, showed that receipts, including a balance of £20 18s. 7d. brought forward from the previous year, amounted to £38 12s. 1d., and expenses to £21 7s., leaving a balance in hand of £17 5s. 1d.

Satisfactory reports were given from representatives of the following towers: Beenham, Brightwalton, Bucklebury, Compton, East Isley, Newbury, Peasemore, Shaw-cum-Donnington and Thatcham.

References to the flourishing state of the branch were made by the Deputy Master, Mr. R. T. Hibbert (general secretary), Mr. A. D. Barker (general treasurer) and Alderman C. A. Hawker (churchwarden).

A telegram had been received from the Master, Canon G. F. Coleridge, of Crowthorne, regretting his absence, and the secretary was asked to write to him congratulating him on having attained the age of 80 years.

Meetings for the coming year were fixed for Chieveley, Hungerford, East Isley and Compton, with the annual meeting, as usual, at Newbury. Two new ringing members were elected from Bucklebury, two from Beenham, two from Peasemore and one from Brightwalton.

The following officers were re-elected: Chairman, the Rev. W. Kingsley Kefford; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. H. W. Curtis; committee, Messrs. S. Quintin, T. Curtis, F. J. Owen and A. Smith.

After the meeting the tower was again visited, and the bells kept going in various methods until nine o'clock.

A 'COMING OF AGE' GATHERING.

The R.Y.P. (otherwise the Bright Young People, and not all of them so young at that) held their monthly practice on November 27th at Langley, where the bells have recently been rehung and a new treble added. Ringing commenced soon after the advertised time with Grandfire Doubles, and as the company increased so did the variety of methods, London Surprise Minor being rung before adjourning for tea. This, the most important item of the afternoon, was served at The Chestnuts, whose landlord is foreman of the local ringers.

During tea, Mrs. A. D. Barker produced an iced cake, suitably inscribed, which she had made as a 21st birthday compliment to a buxom young lady who always pulls her weight at these meetings. Presents ranging from a 'dummy' to 'something in pink' were also presented amid laughter and cheers.

The secretary again impressed upon the company the great importance of supporting their national paper, 'The Ringing World,' and expressed a hope that if there were any present who did not take the paper they would do so at once, as its future was entirely in the hands of the ringers themselves.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and Denham suggested for the December practice.

The tower was again visited, although a few stayed behind to try their skill at darts, and others to indulge in that highly developed art of 'buying a postcard.'

The bells were lowered in peal at 8.30 p.m., everyone delighted with the 'go,' and congratulating the bellhangers on making a good job out of an awkward 1.5.2.4.3.

A 'GREAT' LITTLE MAN.**DEATH OF A BEDFORDSHIRE WORTHY.**

Mr. William West, of Biddenham, Bedfordshire, has passed away in his 90th year. He started to learn to ring at the age of 12 and was made a member of the local band when 14 years old. He succeeded his father when he died as steeplekeeper, and was succeeded a year ago by his son, Mr. R. West.

William West loved his bells and welcomed everyone who came to ring them, but they had to be well struck. Always ready and willing to teach, most of the lads in this small village learnt to ring under his tutelage. Small of stature, William West was a 'great' little man.

A muffled peal which was attempted at Biddenham on December 4th by members of the Bedfordshire Association in memory of Mr. West unfortunately came to grief in the fifth 720. E. S.

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.

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.

—The quarterly meeting of the Western Division will be held at St. Matthew's, Northowram, on Saturday, December 11th. Service in the church at 4.15 p.m. Tea in the schools about 5 p.m., 1s. 3d. each. Business meeting after tea.—Frank Rayment, Hon. Dis. Sec., Bramley.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.

—A meeting will be held at St. Andrew's, Uxbridge, on Saturday, December 11th. Service 5 p.m. Tea, 5.30, in Express Dairy, High Street, 1s. each. St. Andrew's bells (8) from 4.30 and after tea. St. John's, Hillingdon, bells (10), 3-4.30. Trolley buses (607), etc., connect with both churches.—F. W. Goodfellow, Hon. Sec., Seaford, Slough Road, Iver Heath, Bucks.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.

The next meeting will be held at Leyland St. James (Moss Side) on Saturday, December 11th. Bells (6) from 2.30 p.m.—A. Blogg, Branch Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

—Taunton Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Wilton on Saturday, December 11th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business in the schools after service.—P. Merson, Bishop's Hull.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.

—A monthly meeting will be held at Linslade on Saturday, December 11th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. A special invitation to all North Bucks Branch ringers, so we want a good home team to welcome them.—F. J. Plummer, Dis. Sec., Leighton Buzzard.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.

—Next meeting will be held on Saturday, December 11th, at All Saints', Hamer (one mile from Rochdale). Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. to 9 p.m. Meeting in the tower at 6.30 p.m. A good turn-up requested.—Stephen Lloyd Parry, Branch Sec., 24, St. James Street, Milnrow, Rochdale.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.

—A meeting will be held at Sandy on Saturday, December 11th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome. Please come; a good company is requested.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts Branch.

—A meeting will be held at St. Ives, on Saturday, December 11th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—H. J. Parker, Dis. Sec., Great Staughton, St. Neots.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Christchurch District.

—The annual meeting will be held at Christchurch on Saturday, December 11th. Bells (12) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. at the King's Arms, P.R.H.A.—G. Preston, 42, Waterloo Place, Christchurch.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Michael's, Garston, on Saturday, December 11th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea and meeting in the Institute. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. W. Hughes, 3, Shrewsbury Place, Liverpool, 19.—H. Grundy, Branch Sec.

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Clifton Parish Church on Saturday, December 11th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service 4.15. Tea and meeting to follow in Parish Hall.—N. G. Williams, Weston House, Weston, Bath.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Coleman's Hatch on Saturday, December 11th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. All welcome.—B. Saunders, 18, New Road, Ridgewood, Uckfield, Sussex.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Colchester, on Saturday, December 11th. Bells (8) available at 2.30. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting at 5 p.m.—F. R. Sparling, Hon. Sec., Station Hotel, Wivenhoe, Essex.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—No business, but a ringing meeting will be held on December 11th at St. Ann's, Brookfields, from 5 p.m. till 6.30 p.m. The Vicar of St. Martin's, Gospel Oak, has also given us permission to ring from 7.30 p.m. till 9.30 p.m. Will all the N.W. London District members come and make it an enjoyable ringing evening?—T. Bevan.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting will be held at Wootton on Saturday, December 11th. The bells (a fine six) will be available from 3 p.m. Tea at the Cot at 5 p.m. If you only ring rounds, we shall be pleased to see you.—Frank C. Tysoe, District Secretary, 10, Grange Road, Bromham, Bedford.

HINCKLEY DISTRICT MEMBERS OF THE M.C.A.—Where shall we go for the district annual meeting on January 8th? Interested? Then come to the last meeting of the year at Croft on December 11th. Bring any unpaid subs. too. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. All ringers welcome. Names to Mr. J. Bayliss, Brookside Cottage, Croft.—Wm. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—There will be ringing for Sunday service at St. Olave's, Hart Street, on December 12th, commencing at 5.30 p.m. Will all members please note that the annual meeting will be held on January 22nd, 1938? Book the date!—N. Summerhayes, Acting Hon. Sec., 28, Bean Road, Bexleyheath.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus, Dec. 23rd; Southwark Cathedral, December 16th; *St. Mary-le-Bow, December 21st (all at 7.30 p.m.); St. Andrew's, Holborn, December 30th, at 8 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-West Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Bishop's Stortford, on Saturday, December 18th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m. Will those intending to be present kindly advise me not later than December 15th?—H. A. Wacey, Hon. Sec., 69, Rye Street, Bishop's Stortford.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the Gloucester Branch will be held at Barnwood on Saturday, December 18th. Bells (8) open at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5.15 p.m., kindly provided by the Rector (Rev. E. H. Noott). All ringers welcome. Kindly notify me for tea not later than December 13th.—W. H. Harris, Branch Hon. Sec., 4, G.W.R. Terrace, Lydney Dock, Lydney.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Chad's, Poulton, on Saturday, December 18th. Bells (8) ready 3 p.m. Business meeting after tea. Come and hear the new octave, tenor 8 cwt. Subscriptions due.—C. Sharples, Fylde Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Oswaldtwistle on Saturday, December 18th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. Everybody welcome.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—The last meeting for 1937 will be held at the Parish Church, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, on Saturday, December 18th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Tea in Church Room 4.30 prompt. Short service at 5.30. All ringers and friends welcome, especially Loughborough District members, at this meeting. Please remember the 'P.C.' for tea to be sent to me by Wednesday, December 15th.—J. W. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Overseale, Burton-on-Trent.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Andover District.—Dedication by the Bishop of Winchester of the new ring of six bells at Goodworth Clatford, on Saturday, December 18th, at 3 p.m. Three new bells added to three already existing in the tower, by Messrs. Taylor & Co., of Loughborough. Tea in the Vicarage at 4.30 p.m. Bells open for visitors after tea. Those requiring tea please notify Rev. A. Gidlow, Goodworth Clatford Rectory, Andover.

SHAUGH PRIOR, S. DEVON.—Ring of six bells, tuned and rehung in new framework by John Taylor and Co. Rededication service by the Lord Bishop of Plymouth on Saturday, December 18th, at 3.15 p.m.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wimborne Branch.—The annual meeting is to be held at St. James', Poole, on Saturday, December 18th. Ringing from 2.30. Service at 4.30. Address by the Rector, Rev. E. C. Harris. Tea in the Church House, 5.15, followed by the usual business.—C. A. Phillips, Hon. Branch Sec.

MAWGAN, NEAR HELSTON, CORNWALL.—The bells, restored and augmented to a ring of six by John Taylor and Co., will be dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Truro on Saturday, December 18th, at 3.30 p.m.

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YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Ranmoor, Sheffield, on Saturday, December 18th. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Tea in the Parish Hall at 5 p.m. at 1s. each. Please notify Mr. C. Haynes, 441a, Sandygate Road, Sheffield, 10, by Wednesday previous.—F. Clark, Hon. Sec., 35, Finkle Street, Bentley, Doncaster.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Holy Trinity, Bolton, on Saturday, December 18th. Bells available 3 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Calne Branch.—Annual meeting will be held at Calne on December 18th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Ringing friends welcome.—L. A. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 109, High Street, Wootton Bassett.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Ambrose, on Saturday, December 18th. Bells (8) open 3. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Please advise for tea.—R. C. Gifford, Branch Sec., Frampton Cotterell, near Bristol.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held at St. Albans on Saturday, December 18th. St. Peter's bells (10) available from 3 p.m. until 5. The Cathedral bells (12) after tea. Tea arrangements are being made. Will all those who can please attend this meeting, especially the committee for the district?—W. Nash, North Minims, Hatfield, and H. V. Frost, 4, Kimberley Road, St. Albans, Dis. Secs.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL GUILD.—Chippenham Branch.—Annual meeting at St. Paul's, Chippenham (8 bells), on Saturday, December 18th, at 3 p.m. Service 4.45. Tea after. St. Andrew's (8 bells) will also be open. Visitors please notify me by 16th inst. Monthly meetings 1938 will be held at Grittleton (6 bells), January 15th, Lacock (6 bells), February 19th, at 3 p.m. Ringers please note.—F. W. Merrett, Branch Hon. Sec., 38, Downing Street, Chippenham, Wilts.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—A meeting will be held at Sawley on Saturday, December 18th. Arrangements for tea on the spot. Service 4.30. Please turn up and let us have a swagger Christmas meeting.—Tom Clark, Dis. President.

WATFORD IS ON THE MAP in Herts on Saturday, December 18th, only *do* let me know if you are coming by the 15th inst. 'It's the goods' (the bells know all the methods), C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey (City 4270). Train or coach from all parts. Excellent service. Ringing from 3.30. Tea 5.30.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—A monthly meeting will be held at Berkswell on Saturday, December 18th. Tea at the Garden Cafe at 5 p.m. Bells (6) available afternoon and evening.—M. Melville, Gen. Hon. Sec., Ex-hall, Coventry.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Alsager on Saturday, December 18th. Ringing (8 bells) from 2.30 p.m. Will members please note that the list of meetings for 1938 will be compiled at Alsager, and it is desirable that all towers should be represented to make the necessary arrangements? Please let me have cards from those who intend to be present not later than December 15th.—Rich. D. Langford, Hon. Branch Sec., 118, Ruskin Road, Crewe.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—Next meeting at Wisbech on Saturday, December 18th. Bells (10) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. The members of the district committee are asked to meet at 4 p.m. Please help to make the last meeting of the year a great success.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington, St. John, Wisbech.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, December 18th, at Hackney. Both towers will probably be open. Tea will be arranged. There is important business for discussion. Full details next week.—James G. A. Prior, Hon. Sec., 31, Lilmerston Street, S.W.10.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next practice has been arranged at Old Windsor on Saturday, December 18th, at 6 p.m.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the Town Hall, Manchester, on Saturday, December 18th. Tower opens 6 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—J. H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

PLYMSTOCK, S. DEVON.—Rededication of the ring of six bells, tuned and rehung in a new framework by John Taylor and Co., will take place on Monday, December 20th, at 7 p.m. Preacher, the Lord Bishop of Plymouth.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual Dinner, Saturday, January 8th, 1938, at the Lion Hotel, Guildford, at 6 p.m. Tickets 5s. 6d. each, from J. S. Goldsmith, Hon. Sec., Southover Cottage, Lower Pyrford Road, Woking, Surrey.

BRISTOL UNITED RINGING GUILDS.—The 17th annual dinner will be held at the Grand Hotel, Broad Street, Bristol, on Saturday, January 15th, 1938. Full details later. Tickets 4s. 6d., from Messrs. Kynaston (Swindon), J. Austin (Gloucester), J. Hawkins (London), A. Walker (Birmingham), W. Yeend (Cheltenham), H. Knight (Wroughton), J. Dyke (Chilcompton), W. Smith (Yate), G. Nailor (Chippenham), or from officials and stewards.—Edgar Guise, Hon. Sec., 46a, Tankard's Close, Bristol, 2.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Peal secretary. Please note change of address: Mr. Alfred E. Reeves, 2, Green Street, Tottenham, Bristol, 4.

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CAMBERWELL.—On Sunday evening, November 14th, at St. Giles', Camberwell, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: E. J. King 1, Miss O. L. Ashbrook 2, A. Hughes 3, G. W. Fogden (first quarter in the method) 4, A. S. Richards 5, T. W. Taffender (conductor) 6, P. A. Corby 7, F. Hopgood 8.

NORBURY, CHESHIRE.—At St. Thomas' Church on Saturday, November 6th, a quarter-peal of Spliced Treble Bob Major, viz.: 756 Oxford and 640 Kent, with ten changes of method: Mrs. J. Fernley (first quarter-peal of Treble Bob) 1, J. Fernley 2, A. Bancroft (first quarter-peal of Major) 3, W. Fernley 4, J. Worth 5, W. W. Wolstencroft 6, C. K. Lewis (conductor) 7, L. Clough 8.

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