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RINGING IN LONDON.

In his address to the members of the London County Association, at the service held in conjunction with their annual meeting, the Rev. F. L. Edwards referred to the difficulties of keeping church bells going for service ringing in the Metropolis, and the responsibilities of the ringing organisations in overcoming these obstacles. There are far too many silent bells in and around the city; congregations and ringers alike have gone. The outward drift of the population has emptied the belfries as it has emptied the pews. The churches within the city itself where service ringing takes place every Sunday could be numbered on the fingers of one hand, while in the fringe immediately surrounding it the position is little better. True, there are a number of churches where the bells are rung for service once a month, or so, but that is done, very often, only by robbing bands at more distant places and not always with a disinterested object.

The whole situation in regard to ringing requires a thorough investigation if any planned improvement is to take place. There is more overlapping of ringing organisations in and around London than anywhere else in the country, and less practical result; there are too many factions and too little cohesion; too much jealousy and far too little co-operation. While this state of affairs persists, there can be no hope of improving the position. In the early days of the mutually exclusive societies, and, indeed, down to well within the last one hundred years, ringing in London had little to do with the Church services, but the relation of ringers to the Church in these days has entirely altered the situation. Ringing should be done primarily as a service to the Church, and instead of rivalry among the ringing societies there should be a spirit of brotherhood which should unite them in a desire not only to organise ringing to the best advantage, but to plan for the future maintenance of the art in this, its earliest home.

First and foremost, the great need is more ringers, and what has been done at St. Lawrence Jewry and at Stepney should be possible at other churches. Material may be hard to get, but it can be found if the effort is made. It is true that no miracle can be worked in this matter, but a really amicable understanding between the half-dozen societies which cover Greater London might lead to a tremendous improvement. But these societies must first come together, meet on common ground and adjust those differences which unfortunately maintain something akin to a barrier between them. These 'differences' are, we are quite sure, very largely imaginary, or, if they have had any substantial founda-

(Continued on page 122.)

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tion, the causes have long since disappeared. Outwardly among London ringers when they meet there is a display of friendliness, but beneath the surface in certain circles there is maintained a feeling which does not help towards unity in a cause which all should be striving to promote. The Rev. F. Ll. Edwards has given a call which London ringers as a whole should answer, and which they could answer effectively if they would.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

WALSALL, STAFFS.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Thursday, February 17, 1938, in Three Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5005 CHANGES;

Tenor 26 cwt. 18 lb.

HOWARD HOWELL Treble	HAROLD SMITH 7
DANIEL T. MATKIN 2	ARTHUR T. DUTTON 8
EDGAR T. SMITH 3	SIDNEY O'C. HOLLOWAY 9
BARNABAS G. KEY 4	GEORGE W. HUGHES 10
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER 5	THOMAS J. ELTON 11
HARRY T. HIGGINS 6	WILLIAM A. WALKER Tenor

Composed by F. W. PARRENS. Conducted by HOWARD HOWELL.
First peal as conductor. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. J. S. Eastwood.

TEN BELL PEALS.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt. in E flat.

MRS. F. W. HOUSDEN Treble	ROYDON DAVIES 6
FRANK E. DARBY 2	THOMAS G. BANNISTER 7
MRS. C. H. KIPPIN 3	TONY R. PRICE 8
FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN 4	DANIEL D. COOPER 9
WILLIAM H. HEWETT 5	CHARLES H. KIPPIN Tenor

Composed by F. E. DARBY. Conducted by CHAS. H. KIPPIN.
* First peal of London Royal. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. F. W. Housden, sister of the conductor.

DUDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5030 CHANGES;

*SAMUEL WEBB Treble	ERNEST CALCUTT 6
†REGINALD CHANCE 2	NORMAN G. LEECH 7
JOHN GOODMAN 3	GILBERT GUEST 8
HERBERT SHEPPARD 4	WALTER FARLEY 9
HENRY HUBBALL 5	RONALD GOODMAN Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by J. GOODMAN.
* First peal on ten bells and first attempt. † First peal of Grandsire Caters. A birthday peal for Mr. W. Farley.

PRITTLEWELL, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes

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

A PEAL OF CAM TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

ARTHUR S. RICHARDS Treble	EDWIN A. BARNETT 6
HARRY HOSKINS 2	†HENRY S. WILSON 7
*FRANK B. LUFKIN 3	JOHN W. EUSTON 8
HENRY T. WILSON 4	ERNEST W. FURBANK 9
*ALBERT E. W. NORTH 5	HARRY PARKES Tenor

Composed by REV. E. B. JAMES. Conducted by E. A. BARNETT.
* First peal of Treble Ten. † First peal of Royal. First peal of Cam Royal by all, except H. Parkes, and by the association.

BIRMINGHAM.—At the Church of St. John, Perry Barr, for evening service, on Sunday, January 23rd, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: G. Mitcheson 1, G. Williams 2, D. T. Matkin (conductor) 3, J. S. Mason 4, M. J. Morris 5, S. Holloway 6, F. E. Haynes 7, F. W. Rishworth 8.

WISBECH, CAMBS.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 22 cwt. 1 qr. 15 lb. in E flat.

WILLIAM E. BASON Treble	WALLACE W. COUSINS ... 6
ALFRED E. BACON 2	ARTHUR G. BASON 7
WILLIAM ROSE 3	FRANK WARRINGTON 8
*LEWIS BUSH 4	WALTER H. FREEMAN ... 9
†JOHN A. GODFREY 5	CLAUDE COUSINS Tenor

Composed by YORK GREEN. Conducted by WILLIAM E. BASON.

* First peal on ten bells. Rung to celebrate the silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. William E. Bason.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

DARTFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, January 31, 1938, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 18½ cwt.

HERBERT A. HOLDEN ... Treble	FREDERICK J. CULLUM ... 5
JAMES BENNETT 2	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... 6
*MRS. JAMES E. BAILEY ... 3	HARRY HOVERD 7
DEREK SHARPE 4	JAMES E. BAILEY Tenor

Conducted by HERBERT E. AUDSLEY.

* First peal of Surprise on an 'inside' bell. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor and J. H. Cheesman, also to J. M. Bailey, of Leiston, Suffolk.

CLAINES, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Monday, February 7, 1938, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S SIX-PART, No. 13. Tenor 14 cwt.

ERNEST WILSON Treble	RAYMOND C. SAYERS 5
THOMAS W. LEWIS 2	GEORGE E. LARGE 6
REGINALD WOODYATT ... 3	JOHN J. JEFFERIES 7
JAMES WOODYATT 4	FREDERICK G. YATES ... Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE.

Rung half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to Mr. Charles J. Green, for eight years a member of this tower, who suddenly passed away in St. John's (Worcester) belfry on Tuesday, February 1st.

CUCKFIELD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 9, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 15 cwt.

JOHN DEARLOVE Treble	NELSON ELLIOTT 5
*JAMES JEFFERY 2	KEITH HART 6
FREDERICK PAGE 3	RAYMOND OVERY 7
TOM MITCHELL 4	GEORGE APPS Tenor

Conducted by RAYMOND OVERY.

* First peal of Stedman.

NOTTINGHAM.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 10, 1938, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

*RONALD F. SALTER ... Treble	FRANK BRADLEY 5
JOHN E. HOBBS 2	J. ALFRED BARRETT ... 6
†WALTER NICHOLS 3	RALPH NARBOROUGH ... 7
*FRANK W. BROWN 4	FREDERICK A. SALTER ... Tenor

Composed by J. H. PILKINGTON. Conducted by F. A. SALTER.

* First peal of Bob Major. † First peal of Bob Major on an 'inside' bell. A birthday compliment to the ringer of the treble.

LODDON, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 10, 1938, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

SYDNEY FLINT Treble	*REGINALD H. DRANE ... 5
*LESLIE H. JERMY 2	STANLEY W. COPLING ... 6
ROBERT A. WARMAN 3	GODFREY G. WALPOLE ... 7
†LIONEL A. LESTER 4	NOLAN GOLDEN Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal. † First peal of Major.

ECKINGTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 17 cwt.

JESSE J. MOSS Treble	HAROLD KENT 5
JOHN HOLMAN 2	*JOHN R. BREARLEY 6
F. BERNARD DITCHER ... 3	*JOHN A. BREARLEY 7
JOHN FLINT 4	J. FRED. MILNER Tenor

Composed by GEORGE LEWIS.

Conducted by J. F. MILNER.

* First peal of New Cambridge. Rung to celebrate the birth of a son to Sergt.-Instructor and Mrs. H. Laver at Nowsheera, North-West Frontier Province, India. Mrs. Laver is the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Brearley.

GREAT HOLLAND, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

URBAN W. WILDNEY ... Treble	GEORGE E. JENNINGS ... 5
WALTER SOUTHGATE ... 2	ALAN R. ANDREWS 6
WILLIAM J. NEVARD 3	HORACE A. WRIGHT 7
MISS VIOLET FROST 4	EDWARD E. DAVEY Tenor

Composed by J. R. FRITCHARD.

Conducted by E. E. DAVEY.

Rung for the 82nd birthday of Mr. W. J. Nevard.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

*FREDERICK ALLFREY ... Treble	JOHN COOK 5
†MISS H. DARVILLE ... 2	RAYMOND WOOD, JUN... 6
WILLIAM STANFORD 3	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE ... 7
*HAROLD F. WOOD 4	PETER CHARMAN Tenor

Conducted by R. WOOD, JUN.

* First peal. † First peal of Triples.

PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS-OF-CANTERBURY,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt. in E flat.

C. ERNEST SMITH ... Treble	JAMES TOPP 5
KENNETH SNELLING 2	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY ... 6
FREDERICK W. STIMP ... 3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS ... 7
FREDERICK W. BURNETT ... 4	OLIVER SIPPETTS Tenor

Composed by G. LEWIS.

Conducted by OLIVER SIPPETTS.

First peal of Yorkshire Surprise on the bells.

BOCKING, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt. in E.

G. SAUNDERS Treble	H. W. SMITH 5
D. N. JENNINGS 2	V. MORLEY 6
*R. PORTWAY 3	*R. SUCKLING 7
D. C. JENNINGS 4	J. C. JENNINGS Tenor

Composed by J. PLATT.

Conducted by J. C. JENNINGS.

* First peal in the method.

NOTTINGHAM.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 37 cwt.

HAROLD PARFREMENT ... Treble	J. ALFRED BARRATT ... 5
IDA B. THOMPSON ... 2	RALPH NARBOROUGH ... 6
RONALD F. SALTER ... 3	FREDERICK A. SALTER ... 7
FRANK BRADLEY ... 4	WALTER NICHOLS ... Tenor

Conducted by RALPH NARBOROUGH.

Rung half-muffled for the funeral of Prince Nicholas, father of the Duchess of Kent. First peal of Grandsire as conductor.

QUEENSBURY, BRADFORD.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S TRANSPOSITION OF BROOKS'.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

WILFRED HALLIWELL ... Treble	HAROLD PEARCE ... 5
*W. GEORGE TURNER ... 2	ALBERT PICKLES ... 6
EDGAR WHITELEY ... 3	WILLIAM AMBLER ... 7
HARRY WILD ... 4	SAM LONGBOTTOM ... Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD PEARCE.

* First peal in the method.

EARL SHILTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. SIMON AND JUDE,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

GEORGE A. NEWTON ... Treble	FRANK E. PERVIN ... 5
JOSEPH A. FENTON ... 2	J. FRANK SMALLWOOD ... 6
JOSEPH H. W. WHITE ... 3	HARRY BROUGHTON ... 7
FRANK W. PERRENS ... 4	HAROLD J. POOLE ... Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH.

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

LEWISHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 22½ cwt.

*JACK DAFTERS ... Treble	JAMES BENNETT ... 5
MRS. J. E. DAVIS ... 2	ERNEST W. PYE ... 6
†MISS HILDA OAKSHETT ... 3	JAMES E. DAVIS ... 7
GEORGE R. PYE ... 4	CECIL C. MAYNE ... Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by J. BENNETT.

* First peal of Cambridge. † First attempt for a Surprise peal.

BARNWOOD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 10½ cwt.

HENRY NEWMAN ... Treble	WILLIAM C. JONES ... 5
EX-SGT. J. WILLIAMS ... 2	GEORGE CONDICK ... 6
JOHN AUSTIN ... 3	WILLIAM H. HARRIS ... 7
SYDNEY E. ROMANS ... 4	JOHN CLARK ... Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

Rung as a diamond jubilee peal for the association.

BUSHEY HEATH, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 11½ cwt.

*LEONARD LUCK ... Treble	CHARLES DYKE ... 5
PERCY L. PARSLOW ... 2	WILLIAM SEERLEY ... 6
EDWARD P. ASHEY ... 3	JOHN E. ROOTES ... 7
EDWIN JENNINGS ... 4	*FREDERICK W. ALLBYWAY Tenor

Composed by G. F. WOODHOUSE.

Conducted by E. JENNINGS.

* First peal of Major.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Two Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY, WEST HILL, WANDSWORTH.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt.

ALFRED B. PECK ... Treble	ALAN R. MACDONALD ... 5
HENRY R. NEWTON ... 2	WILSON RUSHTON ... 6
HENRY G. MILES ... 3	HERBERT LANGDON ... 7
ALBERT A. HUGHES ... 4	JAMES RUMLEY ... Tenor

Conducted by HENRY R. NEWTON.

First peal on the bells. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

SURFLEET, Lincs.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 12 cwt. 9 lb.

MRS. R. RICHARDSON ... Treble	*CHARLES C. RAWDING ... 5
JOHN FREEMAN ... 2	*JOHN W. CARTER ... 6
RUPERT RICHARDSON ... 3	JOHN A. FREEMAN ... 7
*CYRIL DOBNEY ... 4	*NORMAN T. KING ... Tenor

Conducted by JOHN A. FREEMAN.

* First peal in the method. First peal of Stedman Triples on the bells.

NORTON, SHEFFIELD.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY)

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Three Hours and Thirty-One Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5600 CHANGES;

Tenor 15½ cwt.

ARTHUR KNIGHTS ... Treble	ERNEST A. THORPE ... 5
WILLIAM A. WOOLER ... 2	WILLIAM H. TURTON ... 6
HARRY WARBURTON ... 3	WILLIAM BIGGIN ... 7
WALTER ALLWOOD ... 4	SIDNEY F. PALMER ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

The conductor's 600th peal. The composition, No. 381, was rung for the first time.

WOOD GREEN, STAFFS.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

*THOMAS HILL ... Treble	J. DENNIS HOLDEN ... 5
GEORGE OLIVER ... 2	HOWARD HOWELL ... 6
*HAROLD SMITH ... 3	THOMAS J. ELTON ... 7
CHRIS. WALLATER ... 4	BARNABAS G. KEY ... Tenor

Composed by A. CRAVEN.

Conducted by B. G. KEY.

* First peal of Treble Bob Major. First peal of Treble Bob as conductor.

CHATHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. in E flat.

ERNEST H. OXENHAM ... Treble	HERBERT A. HOLDEN ... 5
DEREK M. SHARP ... 2	GEORGE J. BUTCHER ... 6
GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ... 3	HARRY HOVERD ... 7
JOHN WHEADON ... 4	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by HARRY HOVERD.

Rung to commemorate the fortieth anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. John Wheadon's wedding.

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SOFT AND PLIABLE IN HAND. ALL ROPES SENT
CARRIAGE PAID AND ON APPROVAL.

Cheap Quotations. Established 150 years. Phone 203.

DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

ACLE, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 5, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND,**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being one 720 of Oxford Bob and three 720's each of Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 19 lb.

R. WILLIAM BARBER... .. Treble	DENIS A. BAYLES... .. 4
*JOHN R. WILKINSON... .. 2	GODFREY G. WALPOLE... .. 5
*MISS JOAN K. PRIEST... .. 3	THOMAS W. DE VILLE... .. Tenor

Conducted by GODFREY G. WALPOLE.

* First peal.

ALDRIDGE, STAFFS.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Monday, February 7, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's of Kent Treble Bob, two of Oxford Treble Bob, two of Plain Bob and one of Oxford Bob. Tenor 7 cwt.

*P. GEORGE GOLDER... .. Tenor	*GEORGE OLIVER... .. 4
†HAROLD SMITH... .. 2	BARNABAS G. KEY... .. 5
CHRIS. WALLATER... .. 3	HOWARD HOWELL... .. Tenor

Conducted by B. G. KEY.

* First peal in four methods. † First peal in four Minor methods. First peal of Minor in four methods as conductor and on the bells.

GREAT FENBOROUGH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Tuesday, February 8, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of St. Clement's, two 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and two 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt.

R. JOHN STED... .. Treble	*SIDNEY W. ARBON... .. 4
*LESLIE FOSTER... .. 2	A. ROY WOODARD... .. 5
EDWIN A. CRACKNELL... .. 3	FRANK W. J. ROPER... .. Tenor

Conducted by FRANK ROPER.

* First peal in four methods.

COMPTON DANDO, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 9, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores with ten callings. Tenor 16 cwt.

CHARLES HARVEY... .. Treble	WILLIAM ROSEWELL... .. 4
*THOMAS POCOCK... .. 2	WILLIAM BAILEY... .. 5
*JAMES POCOCK... .. 3	*LEF BATES... .. Tenor

Conducted by W. BAILEY.

* First peal and first attempt. First peal as conductor. First peal on the bells by the local band.

DUNHOLME, Lincs.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,

A PEAL OF SPLICED MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents in 34 methods:—

- (1) Charlwood, Neasden, St. Albans and Wragby Delight.
- (2) Capel, Sandal, Oxford, London Scholars' Pleasure and Kingston Treble Bob.
- (3) Ockley, Duke of Norfolk, College Exercise and Norbury Treble Bob.
- (4) Newdigate, Old Oxford, College Bob IV. and Willesden Delight.
- (5) Hereward, Oxford Bob, Double Court and Single Court.
- (6) London Bob, Lytham, Double Oxford, Thelwall, College, Wavertree, St. Clement's and Childwall.
- (7) Plain Bob, Fulbeck, Canterbury Pleasure, Double Bob and Reverse Bob.

Tenor 10 cwt.

HAROLD MARCON... .. Treble	JACK BRAY... .. 4
MRS. J. BAY... .. 2	JACK L. MITCHELL... .. 5
CHARLES MC GUINNESS... .. 3	GEORGE E. FEIRN... .. Tenor

Conducted by G. E. FEIRN.

First peal in 34 methods by all the band and for the branch. There were 130 changes of method.

STANFORD-LE-HOPE, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 9, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's called differently.

ARTHUR REEVE... .. Treble	FRANK B. LUFKIN... .. 4
JACK BELCHAM... .. 2	ALBERT E. NORTH... .. 5
HENRY S. WILSON... .. 3	HENRY T. WILSON... .. Tenor

Conducted by F. B. LUFKIN.

Rung to welcome the Rev. L. S. Bewers back to his home town as assistant curate. First peal of Kent Treble Bob Minor by all the band.

WEST WICKHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 10 1938, in Two Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of four extents of St. Simon's, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and Stedman, 10 extents of Plain Bob (each with four variations of calling), and 20 extents of Grandsire (10 variations of calling).

Tenor 13 cwt. in G.

*GEORGE W. FOGDEN... .. Treble	DEREK M. SHARP... .. 3
GEOFFREY V. MURPHY... .. 2	ARTHUR S. RICHARDS... .. 4
A. PATRICK CANNON... .. Tenor	

Conducted by ARTHUR S. RICHARDS.

* First peal on five bells. First peal in five Doubles methods by all except the conductor.

SANDHURST, KENT.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.)

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Tenor 12½ cwt.

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

Conducted by ALBERT RELFE.

First peal in six methods by all except the conductor.

EASTWOOD, ROTHERHAM.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JACK CASSWELL... .. Treble	G. STEPHEN LEE... .. 4
LIONEL PARKIN... .. 2	JOHN J. L. GILBERT... .. 5
JOHN E. TURLEY... .. 3	NORMAN CHADDOCK... .. Tenor

Conducted by NORMAN CHADDOCK.

DISLEY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents in 17 methods: (1) Ockley and Duke of Norfolk Treble Bob; (2) College Exercise and Norbury Treble Bob; (3) Willesden and Newdigate Delight; (4) Old Oxford and College Bob IV. Delight; (5) St. Albans and Charlwood Delight; (6) Neasden and Wragby Delight; (7) Capel, Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston and Oxford Treble Bob. Seventeen changes of method.

Tenor 8½ cwt.

*MRS. J. FERNLEY... .. Treble	ALBERT T. BANCROFT... .. 4
JAMES FERNLEY... .. 2	WILFRED WILDE... .. 5
C. KENNETH LEWIS... .. 3	JAMES A. MILNER... .. Tenor

Conducted by J. A. MILNER.

* First peal of Minor.

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HANDBELL PEALS.

LINCOLN.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, February 9, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT 95, SINCIL BANK,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor size 16 in B.

JOHN FREEMAN	1-2	FREDERICK W. STOKES	5-6
CHARLES MCGUINNESS	3-4	JOHN A. FREEMAN	7-8

Conducted by JOHN A. FREEMAN.

KENSINGTON, LONDON.

THE ST. MARY ABBOT'S GUILD, KENSINGTON.

On Friday, February 11, 1938, in Two Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor size 18.

ERNEST C. S. TURNER	1-2	*CLARENCE H. DOBBIE	5-6
WILLIAM E. JUDD	3-4	ARTHUR J. W. HUGHES	7-8

Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

* First handbell peal of Grandsire on an 'inside' pair.

SURFLEET, Lincs.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, February 13, 1938, in Two Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes, at

AT GLYN GARTH.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor size 13 in E.

MRS. R. RICHARDSON	1-2	JOHN A. FREEMAN	5-6
JOHN FREEMAN	3-4	KUPERT RICHARDSON	7-8

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by JOHN FREEMAN.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THE VOLUNTARY BELL FUND.

It has been decided to have a collection for the association's bell restoration fund at all future meetings of the St. Albans District. This decision was taken at a meeting at Harpenden, when four non-resident life members were elected and the meetings for the year were provisionally fixed.

Ringling during the afternoon was interrupted by a baptismal service. While this was in progress the ringers adjourned to the Parish Hall and made use of the piano, dart board and billiard table. Some seemed loth to return to the tower, but ringling was resumed until 5 p.m., when a break was made for tea and business meetings.

The next meeting will be held at Essendon with Northaw, if available, on February 26th.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

NEW SECRETARY IN GLASTON BRANCH.

The members of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association in the Jurisdiction of Glaston Branch held their annual meeting at Glastonbury on Saturday, January 29th. There was a fair attendance, and a service at St. John's was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. L. S. Lewis (president of the branch).

The company were entertained to tea through the generosity of Miss Roche, of Chalice Hill, Glastonbury.

The business of the meeting followed, with the Rev. L. S. Lewis in the chair, supported by the hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. F. D. Rickards (Bath), the Rev. W. M. K. Warren (Master of the association) and the Rev. C. L. Buckingham (Street).

The secretary presented the report and balance sheet for 1937, which was duly adopted.—The Rev. L. S. Lewis moved a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Rickards for his services to the branch as hon. secretary and treasurer during the past 13 years, and this was carried with acclamation, Mr. Rickards responding.

The following officers were elected for the year 1938: President, the Rev. L. S. Lewis (Glastonbury); hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. W. H. Marsh (Street); representative on the General Committee, the hon. secretary; Ringling Master, Mr. R. J. Webb (Wells).

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Pilton on the last Saturday in April.

Votes of thanks were accorded the Rev. Lewis for the use of the bells, the service and address, to Miss Roche for giving the tea, and to the local ringers.

Ringling took place during the afternoon and evening, and after tea some of the members went to St. Benedict's (6), Glastonbury, for a pull.

A 'whip round' for St. Andrew's, Northampton, bells resulted in the sum of 13s. 6d. being collected and forwarded to the fund secretary.

PEAL NOTES.**JANUARY'S 'HIGH WATER' LEVEL.**

An exceptionally large number of peals were rung during January. Since the war, last month's total of 166 has, we believe, only once been exceeded, and that was in 1936, when 227 were rung, a number largely accounted for by the death of King George V.

In January, 1937, only 116 peals were rung, and in January, 1935, 124. In the year 1913, when the record number of 2,359 peals were rung in the twelve months, 168 peals were rung in January.

Last month there were four twelve-bell peals, 17 ten-bell, 82 eight-bell, 53 six and five bell, and 10 handbell peals. In 1937, the January figures were two twelve-bell, 8 ten-bell, 64 eight-bell, 36 six and five bell, and six handbell peals.

The first peal of Bob Major by Ronald Salter, one of Nottingham's promising youngsters, was rung for his birthday at St. Peter's Church on February 10th.

It is never too late—to begin peal ringling. On February 5th Mr. John R. Wilkerson, of Acle, Norfolk, rang his first peal (Minor in three methods). Mr. Wilkerson is 73 years of age. At the same time, Miss Joan Priest, also of the local band, rang her first peal, and another Acle ringer Mr. Denis Bayles, also took part.

LONDON SURPRISE ROYAL.

A peal of London Surprise Royal is still a rare event, but another was rung at Beddington on February 12th. Hitherto, we believe, the reports have stated which 'version' of the method has been rung—there is more than one—but on this occasion it is designated just 'London Surprise Royal.'

That may be as well, if there is complete agreement that this is the only version to be recognised by the name 'London,' but if there is still diversity of opinion it might be wise, for the sake of history, to say exactly which version of the method is rung when a peal is scored.

The number of methods in spliced Minor peals by the North Lincolnshire band is growing. Do they intend to rival the achievements of their friends at the other end of the county? On February 12th Mr. George Feirn called a peal in 34 methods, with 130 changes of method. It was the first peal in this number of methods by all the band and by the Northern Branch of the Lincoln Guild. It was rung at Dunholme. Mrs. Jack Bray was one of those taking part.

The arrival of a baby boy in India was celebrated by a peal at Eckington, Derbyshire. He is the grandson of Mr. and Mrs. J. R. Brearley, whose son-in-law and daughter, Sergt.-Instructor and Mrs. H. Laver, are living at Nowshera, in the North-West Frontier Province.

A wedding and two births were celebrated by a peal of Minor in three methods at St. Stephen's, Eastwood, Rotherham, on February 12th. A peal of Major had been intended, but the band met short. The events celebrated were the wedding of Miss Frey Shimmin, in Melbourne, Australia, the birth of a daughter to the Vicar of St. Stephen's and Mrs. Kennedy, and the birth of a daughter to Mr. and Mrs. G. Stephen Lee. Mr. Lee took part in the peal.

Among the birthday peals recorded this week is one rung at Great Holland, Essex, on February 12th, as a compliment to Mr. W. J. Nevard, of Great Bentley, on his 82nd birthday. Mr. Nevard took part in the peal and kindly entertained the band afterwards.

Mr. Alec M. Genery rang his 50th peal and Mr. Ralph Bird his 25th at Colne Engaine, Essex, on February 12th. They are both members of the St. Andrew's Guild, Earls Colne, and the peal was in five Minor methods. The report, however, has been sent to us without the name of the conductor. This we shall be glad to receive.

A peal of Grandsire Triples was rung on the back eight at St. Mary's, Nottingham, on February 12th, with the bells half-muffled for the funeral of Prince Nicholas (father of the Duchess of Kent), which took place in Athens.

Mr. Howard Howell called his first peal on February 17th. It was Stedman Cinques at Walsall, and it was the first time he had called any Stedman Cinques at all.

'FRANK.'

The peal of London Surprise rung at Earl Shilton on February 12th may rightly be described as the peal with the 'Frank' atmosphere. There were the two Coventry Franks and a Frank from Bath, and after the peal the band were joined by a Leicester Frank, not by name but absolutely by nature. His proper name is Fred, and by the time he had put over some of his sergeant-major stuff everyone present was as frank as it was possible to be. Mr. Joseph A. Fenton rang the 2nd. It was 26 years since he last rang a peal of London. He is one of those real old youngsters. One or two of the band were quite frank as to where they may be when Joe rings his next peal of London if a similar interval elapses.

The first peal of Yorkshire Surprise at Portsmouth Cathedral was rung on February 12th.

A birthday peal of Grandsire Caters at Dudley, Worcestershire, for Mr. Walter Parley, was rung on the 41st anniversary of Mr. Herbert Sheppard's first peal. Mr. Sheppard is the hon. secretary of the Dudley and District Guild, and he and Mr. John Goodman, who called the peal, have now rung 102 peals together. Ronald Goodman rang the tenor and 'completed the circle' in his home tower.

Cam Treble Bob Royal, one of the varieties which keeps the big bells out of the 'slow,' was rung at Prittlewell, Essex, by a mixed band of Essex and Kent ringers on February 12th.

(Continued on next page.)

CHESTERFIELD VETERAN'S 600th PEAL.

(Continued from previous page.)

Mr. Arthur Knights, of Chesterfield, rang his 600th peal on February 12th at Norton, Sheffield. He has been ringing and composing peals for something like 60 years, and his output of compositions, particularly of Treble Bob, has been prolific. The composition on this occasion, No. 381, was rung for the first time, and was made to fit the event—5,600 changes.

The peal was rung on the eve of the 90th birthday of the Rev. W. Upton Wooler, formerly Vicar of West Wycombe, Bucks, whose son, Mr. W. A. Wooler, took part in the peal. The band desire to thank the Rev. J. Stanton Pegge and Mrs. Pegge for their kind hospitality after the ringing.

A composition of Bob Major, by Mr. G. F. Woodhouse, was rung for the first time on February 12th at Bushey Heath. Mr. Woodhouse is the inventor of one of the two wonderful machines which can be used for change ringing. The other, invented by Mr. John Carter, is in the Science Museum at South Kensington. There has been a third, but that had to be scrapped.

The first peal on the bells at Holy Trinity, West Hill, Wandsworth, was rung on February 12th. Ringing at this church is very restricted, as it adjoins a hospital for incurables.

The peal was a birthday compliment to the conductor, Mr. Henry R. Newton, whose services to the College Youths and ringing in London extend over something like 50 years. A member of the old Rochester Row Surprise band, Mr. Newton has rung Southwark Cathedral 50 cwt. tenor to peals of Superlative and Cambridge Surprise Major, and the old 53 cwt. Bow tenor to London Surprise.

The silver wedding of Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Bason, of Thetford, Norfolk, was celebrated by a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal at Wisbech, which Mr. Bason conducted.

Mr. John Austin called a peal of Bob Major at Barnwood, on February 12th, to celebrate the diamond jubilee of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. His old friend, ex-Police-Sergt. Joseph Williams, took part in the peal. He is 85 and as keen as ever. Another of the band was Mr. Sydney E. Romans, Master of the association, who, like some of the others who rang, is growing old in the cause.

It seems rather remarkable that, with all the peals that have been rung at Surfleet, Lincs, including Stedman Caters and Cinques, a peal of Stedman Triples had not been rung on them until February 12th. But there it is. Some of the Guild Master's pupils rang their first peal in the method on this occasion.

(Continued in next column.)

SILENT BELLS AT ILSINGTON.**RINGERS' DISAGREEMENT WITH VICAR.**

A ban placed on the old custom of ringing the bells at 6 a.m. on Christmas Day in the village of Ilsington, Devon, by the Vicar, has led to their silence since, except on New Year's Eve.

The matter was mentioned at the annual meeting of the parochial church electors, and Mr. S. Wills said it had always been a custom in most Devon parishes to ring the bells at 6 a.m. on Christmas Day.

The Vicar replied that he was not concerned about a custom unless it was a good custom. It did not seem a good custom for men to ring when there was no service and yet refuse to ring when there were services. He thought it true to say that some men rang church bells merely for their own amusement.

It rested with the Vicar when the bells should be rung, and he was not going to be dictated to in the matter. On Christmas Eve there was a service at midnight and another at 8 a.m. on Christmas Day, and there were people who attended those services who did not feel like being aroused at 6 a.m. by the ringers. They could have rung at the 8 a.m. service. The ringers were still at liberty to use the bells. He had no quarrel with them and he was prepared to meet them at any time.

Mr. S. Wills said some of the ringers had to be up at 4.30 a.m. in order to ring the bells at 6 a.m., and there was not much amusement about that. Some could not ring at 8 a.m., even on Christmas Day, because they had work which had to be carried out.

The Vicar said he had given his point of view, and there were other matters he could mention, but he did not think it was necessary.

(Continued from previous column.)

The peal of Grandsire Triples rung at the Church of St. Mary-without-the-Walls, Chester, on December 31st last, was conducted by John Hayes, and not by William E. Fletcher, as printed in our report.

Another ringer to complete Kent Treble Bob from Minor to Maximus is Mr. H. T. Wilson, of Prittlewell. He rang the Minor on February 9th at Stanford-le-Hope, when the whole band rang their first peal of Kent Minor. It was rung as a welcome to the Rev. L. S. Bewers on his return to his home town as assistant curate, after having been at Prittlewell. Five Prittlewell ringers took part in the peal.

The local band at Compton Dando, Somerset, scored their first peal on February 9th, when they rang a peal of Grandsire Doubles. Three of the ringers scored their first peal and did so at the first attempt.

By a peal of Doubles in five methods at West Wickham, Kent, in 2 hours 34 minutes on February 10th, 17 minutes was knocked off the time of the previous quickest peal. The tenor is 13 cwt.

John Taylor & Co.

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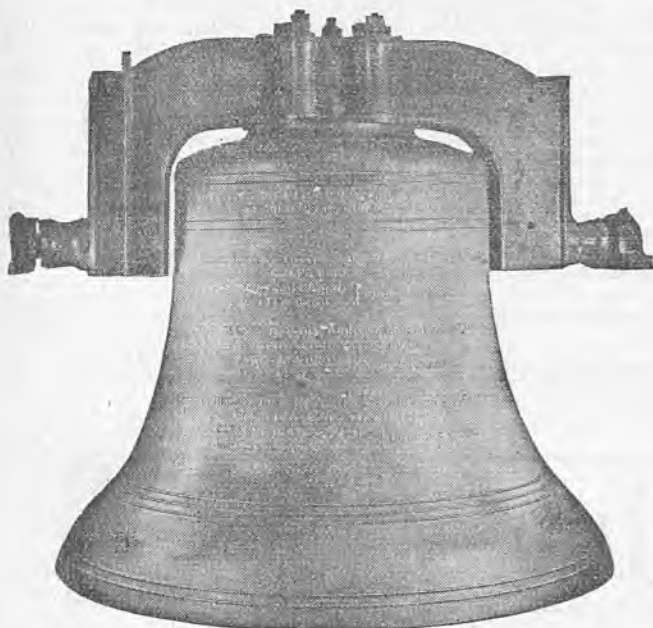
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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The Rev. E. G. Benson has been elected hon. secretary of the Hereford Diocesan Guild in succession to the late Rev. H. S. T. Richardson.

A band of schoolgirls, whose ages range from 14 to 17 years, has been formed at Calverleigh, Devon. They are pupils at Ingleside School, and have made such excellent progress under the instruction of the Rector (the Rev. F. Carter) that they can ring Grandsire Doubles.

The bells at Calverleigh are a ring of six, with a tenor of 5½ cwt., rehung by Messrs. Taylor and Co. in 1936.

The Ven. Archdeacon of Stoke-on-Trent presided over a company of 118 at the first annual dinner of the North Staffordshire Association at Burslem on Saturday week. A report of the proceedings will appear in our next issue.

The death has taken place of Mr. W. A. Cooke, secretary of the band at St. Margaret's, Rainham, Kent, and churchwarden. A half-muffled peal of Grandsire Triples was rung there on February 12th as a last token of respect.

Mr. Cooke had taken part in many peals in the district, and as a member of the local band at Gillingham in 1893 he rang in the first peals of Cambridge and Superlative Surprise Major for the Kent County Association.

The address of Mr. J. E. Lewis Cockey, the new hon. secretary of the South and West District of the Middlesex County Association, is 16, St. Stephen's Road, West Ealing, W.13.

SHOULD BELLS BE RUNG BY NON-SERVICE RINGERS ?

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Bearing in mind that the primary purpose of church bells is that they should be rung in the service of the Church, is it a desirable state of affairs that a number of 'free-lances,' who can be classed as non-service ringers, should be allowed to travel about the country seeking fresh towers and amassing peals solely for their own amusement?

One hears of ringers who will travel many miles for a peal, but make distance an excuse when it comes to the question of Sunday service ringing.

Cannot the Church authorities, supported by the tower captains concerned, check the activities of these undesirable 'free-lances,' who avail themselves of the privileges given to change ringers, yet fail lamentably in their first duty to the Church?

FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN.

St. Peter's, Tunbridge Wells.

BEDALE BELL BROADCASTS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I have just been listening to a disgraceful exhibition of ringing from Bedale Parish Church, Yorks. The rounds were very bad. The treble man hardly ever keeping his back stroke lead off the tenor, resulting in some difficulty in hearing the note of the tenor. When call changes were attempted, the bells were almost fired.

How long must the listening public be afflicted with this kind of ringing? We hear much in these days about the need for good striking in order to educate the non-ringer, and what I heard to-night was not good propaganda. If the tower is affiliated to the Yorkshire Association, the ears of listening Yorkshire ringers must have burned with shame, and if the tower is not affiliated, then it is time it was, so that some instruction can be given.

ALAN R. PINK.

Hanwell.

OLD-TIME CHIME MACHINES.

To the Editor.

Sir,—If you would be good enough to allow me space, I should be glad to appeal to your readers, in the hope of their being able to assist me in procuring a selection of photographs of tune-barrels belonging to old-time chime machines, of which many still exist, and for your courtesy I express my thanks.

RUSSELL HARPER.

61, Dale Street, Stockport

FALSE PEALS OF BOB MAJOR.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I hope you can find space to insert this apology to all those who rang with me a peal of 5,072 Bob Major at Rawmarsh on May 30th, 1931. This has only recently been found to be hopelessly false (composed by A. Craven), and I am exceedingly sorry.

A. NASH.

Rotherham.

An error in the letter which we published last week with regard to Mr. Arthur Craven's false peals of Major ought to be corrected.

Apart from falseness of the course ends with Wrong lead ends, repetitions also occur in the 3rd lead of one course against the 6th lead of another, in the 4th lead of one against the 5th of another, and so on. Practically the whole of the 6.4.8 courses are rung backwards in the 4.6.8 courses.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—7.**NOLAN GOLDEN.**

One of the younger generation of conductors—he is still in the 'twenties'—and one of the most active is Mr. Nolan Golden, of Norwich, who last year was elected hon. secretary and treasurer of the Norwich Diocesan Association, after having been hon. secretary of South Norfolk Branch since 1929 and of both the North and South Norfolk Branches since 1934. Mr. Golden spends nearly all his spare time in promoting the art of ringing in Norfolk, visiting towers and encouraging beginners, attending meetings—and just taking his peal ringing in his stride. He was born at Northrepps, near Cromer, and his first peal was rung on handbells, in his native village, on November 24th, 1924. It was a peal of Grandsire Doubles rung on five bells, to which Mr. Golden rang 2-3. On December 30th—five weeks later—the same three rang a handbell peal of Doubles in four methods, with Nolan Golden as conductor—a portent of the great ability which he has since shown.

It was not until August, 1925, that Mr. Golden rang a tower bell peal, his first being Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor at Denver, in the Ely Diocese. And then he did not ring another on tower bells until June, 1926, when he conducted a peal of Bob Minor at Wroxham, Norfolk.

Mr. Golden's peal ringing activities have ranged through all numbers of bells, although he has a preference, as most Eastern Counties ringers have, for even-bell ringing. Despite his numerous achievements, Mr. Golden has not kept a record of all his peals. His total, however, is approximately 380, of which 335 have been rung for the Norwich Diocesan Association. Of the Norwich peals he has conducted 259.

He has rung and conducted peals in ten counties, and last year rang 39 peals, of which he conducted 36. But in 1934 he conducted 56 peals for the Norwich Diocesan Association alone.

Mr. Golden has also devoted considerable attention to composition, and has produced a number of peals of exceptional merit. Indeed, among the peals he has conducted have been 8,096 and 11,264 Double Norwich Major, and 7,168 Superlative Surprise, all of them one-part peals composed by himself.

His peal ringing has been devoted in considerable degree to encouraging others, and among those who have taken part in them have been a good big sprinkling of 'firsts' of one sort or another.

Mr. Golden has been one of the representatives of his association on the Central Council since 1931.

Next week: Mr. Sidney T. Holt.

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

The February meeting of the Barnsley and District Society was held at Sandal, when 30 members attended from Armley, Ackworth, Adwick, Cawthorne, Crofton, Earlsheaton, Felkirk, Horbury, Rothwell, Wath, Wagray and the local company.

The bells were rung in the afternoon and tea was served in the Parish Room.

The Vicar, the Rev. A. Walls, presided over the business meeting. South Kirby was chosen for the next meeting on March 12th, and four new members were elected.

Minor and Major were rung on the handbells, and the tower bells were kept going until 9.15 p.m. in a good variety of methods, ranging from Plain Bob to London Surprise.

A LONDON PEAL GOING AGAIN.

The bells at St. John's, Waterloo Road, where in days gone by many peals were rung, have been restored, and on Sunday evening, February 6th, 1232 Double Norwich Court Bob Major was rung: J. Euston 1, Mrs. Ellen E. Davis 2, H. Belcher 3, H. Hoskins 4, E. Pike 5, W. Hewett 6, R. Sanders 7, J. E. Davis (conductor) 8.



MR. NOLAN GOLDEN.

NEGLECTED LONDON BELLS.**REV. F. LL. EDWARDS ON RINGERS' RESPONSIBILITIES.**

The duty of London ringing associations to do their best to supply bands to ring the bells of the Metropolis was referred to in the address given in connection with the annual general meeting of the London County Association and North Southwark Diocesan Guild, held on Saturday, February 12th.

Ringing took place in the afternoon at St. Olave's, Hart Street, St. Giles', Cripplegate, and St. Clement Danes', Strand. The service was held in the last-mentioned church, where the Rev. F. Llewellyn Edwards (hon. secretary of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild) addressed a congregation numbering about 70. He spoke to the ringers of the difficulty of obtaining a local band to ring the bells in the churches in the City of London, where there was no residential population from which to obtain ringers. It was the duty of the association and other similar societies in the London area to supply bands for these churches and to see that the bells were not allowed to fall into disuse and disrepair. Every peal of church bells had been solemnly dedicated to the glory of God, and it was a travesty to allow a peal to fall into disuse. This sometimes happened where there was a shortage of ringers, and the association could play their part in preventing it, by encouraging youngsters in the art of change ringing so that there would always be an adequate supply of ringers, even at those churches where the lack of residential population made it impossible to obtain a band locally.

After the service, and tea at a nearby restaurant, further ringing at St. Clement Danes took place until 7.15 p.m.

The business meeting was held in St. Clement Danes' Parish Room. The Master, Mr. T. H. Taffender, presiding. Five new members, including the Rev. F. Llewellyn Edwards, were elected and the election of five others ratified. The balance sheet for 1937, showing a small balance of income over expenditure, was read by the hon. auditor, Mr. A. H. Keighley, and was adopted.

The Master, in his report for 1937, revealed a very satisfactory position. Twenty-one peals were rung during the year, as against 16 in 1936, and 74 members had taken part in these, compared with 49 the previous year. Twelve members had rung their first peals and there were 34 'first peals in the method.' During the year 33 new members had been elected, this being an increase of 14 over the previous year. In commenting on the peal performances, the Master drew attention to the peal of Grandsire Triples conducted by Mr. Len Fox on May 1st, 1937, at St. Dunstan's, Stepney, when all the local band rang their first peal at first attempt—a splendid performance. The practices at both St. Clement Danes' and St. Mary's, Lambeth, had been well attended, but there was still room for improvement in the attendance for Sunday service ringing. The publication of the first report book had proved a success; the second was already on sale and it was hoped that it would be equally well received.

Eight members of the association had passed away during the year and the meeting stood in silence as a mark of respect.

The election of officers resulted as follows: Master, Mr. T. H. Taffender; hon. secretary, Mr. T. W. Taffender; assistant secretaries, Mr. N. H. Manning and Miss Olive L. Ashbrook; treasurer, Mr. E. A. Young; stewards, Messrs. T. W. Wyatt and P. Carter; trustees, Messrs. A. H. Keighley and F. E. Dawe.

Votes of thanks were accorded for permission to ring at St. Giles' and St. Olave's, to the Rev. F. Llewellyn Edwards, and to all those responsible for making the arrangements and helping at St. Clement Danes'.

At the conclusion of the meeting Miss Ashbrook congratulated Mr. T. H. Taffender on having completed 25 years as Master of the association. This statement was greeted with hearty applause from the members.

The handbell competition for the Dawe Cup took place immediately afterwards and concluded the evening. Bands from St. Stephen's, Westminster, St. Leonard's, Streatham, and St. Dunstan's, Stepney, competed, the cup being awarded by the judges to the Stepney ringers (Guild of Stepney Scholars), who rang a course of Bob Major.

A WEDNESDAY GUILD MEETING.

A very happy and successful meeting of the Wednesday Afternoon Guild of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association was held at SS. Mary and Cuthbert's Parish Church, Chester-le-Street, on February 2nd, when members were present from North Shields, South Shields, Houghton-le-Spring, Durham, Fenham, Benwell and All Saints', Newcastle. During the afternoon and evening Bob Major, Grandsire Triples, Kent Treble Bob Major, Stedman Doubles and Triples were rung.

Tea was prepared in the Institute by the ladies, and a vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector, the Rev. H. S. Wilkinson, for the use of the bells and the Institute. The Rector, in replying, welcomed all visitors, as, he said, he was very keen on having the bells rung. He was pleased to see so many young men taking up the art.

The next meeting is to be held at Houghton-le-Spring on Wednesday, April 20th.

NATIONAL GUILD OF POLICE RINGERS ENJOYABLE VISIT TO NOTTINGHAM.

The annual meeting of the National Guild of Police Ringers was held at Nottingham on Saturday, February 5th, when members were present from the following forces: Metropolitan, Manchester City, Liverpool City, Leicester City, Birmingham City, Cardiff City, Bolton Borough, Grantham Borough, Reigate Borough, Northants County, Leicester County, Hertford County and Nottingham County.

Visitors began to arrive in Nottingham before 9 a.m. and assembled outside the Council House, whence they travelled by special omnibuses to the factory of Messrs. Player and Sons, where a party of 70 were shown over the cigarette-making department. They were delighted and, indeed, amazed with some of the things they saw in the course of the tour.

The next journey was a 'Trip to Jerusalem,' and for the benefit of those who do not know, this is alleged to be the oldest licensed house in England, complete with caves and museum. Most of the visitors enjoyed seeing the relics in this famous old building and saw all the premises, bar the residential portion, whilst others—to their satisfaction—saw all bar and nothing else.

A visit was then paid to St. Mary's Church, where some of the Metropolitan members were making good use of the bells. Various methods were rung, including touches of Grandsire and Stedman Caters.

BIG LUNCHEON PARTY.

Luncheon, to which 82 sat down, was served at the Milton Cafe, Milton Street, and the Guild here had the pleasure of welcoming Supt. G. W. Downs, M.B.E., Deputy Chief Constable of Nottingham City. Other distinguished visitors included Insp. R. Barnes (Nottingham City), Mr. R. Narborough (Nottingham), Mr. J. W. Jones (Cardiff), Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Perrins (Coventry), Mr. and Mrs. F. H. Dexter (Leicester).

Apologies for absence were received from Supt. W. Green (Deputy Chief Constable, Oxfordshire), Supt. A. Wiggins (Deputy Chief Constable, Berkshire), Supt. C. P. Hilton (Surrey), ex-Chief Inspector W. Bottrill (Metropolitan Police) and other Guild members.

After luncheon, Supt. F. R. Williams (Manchester), president of the Guild, extended a hearty welcome to Supt. G. W. Downs and other visitors, and in doing so said the Guild was breaking fresh ground in holding a meeting at Nottingham.

In replying, Supt. Downs said he had often heard the bells of St. Mary's Church and at times had not been favourably disposed towards them. Now that he had been enlightened with regard to what bell-ringing was, he felt sure he should be more in sympathy with them than had hitherto been the case.

During the afternoon Supt. Downs very kindly showed some of the visitors over the Guildhall, much to their delight. Another party visited the Council Chambers and also had a view of the quarter chiming bells and 'Little John,' the big bell, the fourth biggest and the one with the deepest tone in England. In the words of one of the party, 'the Council Chamber was simply magnificent.'

Some of the members returned to St. Mary's Church for more ringing and were delighted to see here Mr. O. J. B. Cole, Chief Constable of Leicester City, and Mrs. Cole. Mr. Cole has been an honorary member of the Guild since its inception and went up into the belfry to see the bells being rung. Various methods, including a course of Cambridge Surprise Royal, were rung during the afternoon.

A return was then made to the Milton Cafe, where 86 sat down to tea. After tea the guild president extended a very sincere welcome to Mr. and Mrs. O. J. B. Cole. Mr. Cole, he said, had shown exceptional interest in the Guild, and from time to time had granted facilities with regard to its members. In referring to Mrs. Cole, the President said it was the first time the Guild had had the honour and pleasure of having the wife of a Chief Constable present at any of its functions.

Mr. Cole, in reply, said he had always been most interested in the Guild. One reason was because the Guild had its inception at Leicester and another was that some of the members of the Leicester City Force were in some measure responsible for the Guild being founded. He had received a copy of the report recently printed. He complimented the secretary on this excellent report and the Guild on its sound position. He said he was getting to know more and more about bell-ringing, but the names of the methods rather confused him. What with 'Grandsire Triplets' and 'Bob Martins,' he continued, it's rather difficult.

Both he and Mrs. Cole were greatly interested in a course of Grandsire Triples rung on the handbells.

A SATISFACTORY POSITION.

At the business meeting which followed, Supt. F. R. Williams was re-elected president, ex-Chief Inspector W. Bottrill vice-president, Inspector H. J. Poole hon. secretary and treasurer, and Sergt. H. G. Jenney guild auditor. The committee were re-elected en bloc.

The secretary referred to the first printed report of the Guild, a copy of which was distributed to the members prior to the meeting. This covered the activities of the Guild since its inception in 1931. It also included peals rung by bands of police officers prior to the formation of the Guild and the name and address of each member. It should serve to create further interest in the Guild.

The balance sheet showed, at the end of December, 1937, a balance in hand of £12 19s. 1d., although a substantial amount of this had since been expended in printing the report.

(Continued in next column.)

NEW ASSOCIATION FOR HUDDERSFIELD DISTRICT. FORMATION AT ELLAND.

A very successful meeting of ringers was held at Elland on Saturday, February 12th. It was the outcome of a wish held by many local ringers for some time past to form a society to serve the many scattered towers in and around Halifax and Huddersfield, and out of a possible 24 towers there were 11 that were represented.

Ringings commenced early and a very gratifying number of learners took part in touches of Grandsire, Plain Bob and Kent and Oxford Treble Bob.

The business meeting took place after tea, with the Rev. T. Mathieson in the chair. He explained the object of the meeting, stating that it was the aim of the organisers to form a society on the lines of the many associations that existed throughout the country, giving as an example the flourishing Leeds and District Society.

After much discussion the proposal to form a society was made, and it was carried unanimously.

Officers were then elected as follows for the year: President, the Rev. T. Mathieson (Elland); Ringing Master, Mr. F. Rhodes (Rippondon); secretary, Mr. F. Linfoot (Elland); treasurer, Mr. W. Spencer (Heptonstall).

The day's programme was brought to an end by further ringing until nine o'clock, when a very happy and most successful meeting came to a close.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD

GAINSBOROUGH DISTRICT OFFICERS RE-ELECTED.

The annual meeting of the Gainsborough District of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild was held at Gainsborough on Saturday, February 5th. Members were present from Blyton, Burton-on-Stather, Holton-le-Moor, Lea, Misterton, Surfleet, Upton and Willingham, besides some of the local company, and Mr. O. Street, of Retford.

The Guild form of service was conducted by the Vicar of Gainsborough (the Rev. Canon G. E. A. Whitworth), who also gave a short address.

Some 30 members and friends sat down to tea at the Tudor Cafe, and the business meeting followed, under the chairmanship of Mr. R. Richardson, Master of the Guild.

The district officers were re-elected en bloc for the coming year. Mrs. C. H. Baker, of Gainsborough, was elected an honorary member of the Guild, and Mr. O. Street, of Retford, a non-resident life member.

The tower was again visited and the bells were kept going in a number of methods.

(Continued from previous column.)

Twenty-seven peals have been rung for the Guild, including Grandsire Triples, Caters and Cinques, Stedman Triples, Caters and Cinques, Bob Major, Treble Bob Major and Royal, and Cambridge Surprise Major. The Guild membership at present is two honorary members and 87 ringing members.

After the meeting ringing was enjoyed on the ten bells at St. Peter's Church, and afterwards the visitors reassembled at the Nottingham City Police Recreation Rooms, Guildhall, for a social evening, the programme including a concert by the Nottingham City Police Concert Party. The company were shown various efforts to 'Blow the candle out' by impersonation of persons with funny faces, one of whom was the cross-eyed lady who was blowing where the candle was not. It is to be hoped that the lady impersonator in this case will not forget herself if ever she is called upon to blow a policeman's whistle for assistance. Even so, this may not prove a disaster, as the violent prisoner would undoubtedly become helpless from laughter.

There was also an exhibition of Grandma getting over the stile, and after many unsuccessful efforts, the poor old toothless lady decided to 'Get up (not out) and get under.'

Another amusing incident was with the conjuror, who was assisted by P.C. Frank Perrens and P.C. Jack Fiddler. The latter was fiddling the whole of the time and thought he had fiddled the conjuror into a corner by asking him to produce a 'joker' from his pocket. P.C. Fiddler had well shuffled the cards by dropping them on the stage. To 'Fiddling Jack's' amazement, and indeed, to the amazement of all, the worthy conjuror produced, not one, but about five 'jokers.'

During the interval sandwiches and refreshment were provided by the Nottingham City Police Athletic Club and served by members of the Nottingham City Police Wives' Association.

Before the close, Supt. F. R. Williams expressed thanks, on behalf of the Guild, to all those who had assisted in any way to make the day such a success.

Supt. G. W. Downs suitably replied on behalf of the Nottingham City Police.

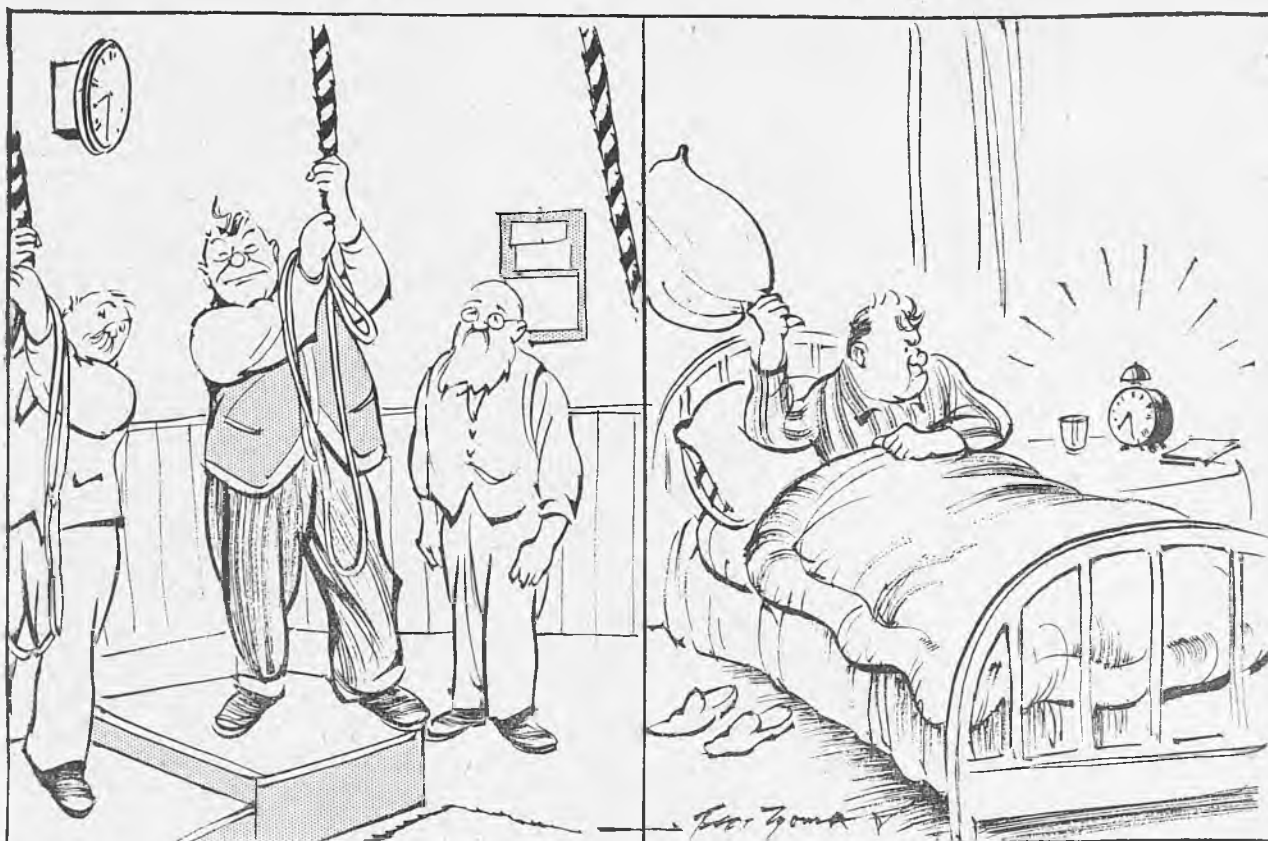
This is yet another 'red letter day' added to the annals of the Police Ringing Guild. Apparently by now it is its own recommendation, as it is seldom one misses this annual event having once had the pleasure.

The final amusing incident was in the train returning to Leicester. Upon hearing the handbells, a stranger came along the corridor to the compartment door and said, 'You seem to be having a right time, are you Coventry supporters?' Coventry City had played Nottingham Forest that afternoon. Apparently he thought the ringers had no occasion to ring the bells on the ground, for Coventry lost, but were giving vent to their feelings in the train.

ON DUTY ...

By Bert Thomas

... AND OFF



He rings a pretty change, it's said . . . But this bell makes the man see red.

Reproduced, by kind permission of the London 'Evening News,' from Bert Thomas' amusing series of cartoons 'On Duty—and Off.'

DEATH OF MR. FRANK SMITH.

A PROMINENT CUMBERLAND.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Frank Smith on Saturday, February 19th, after a short illness. He had not been feeling well for some weeks and was admitted to Hampstead Hospital for observation only 10 days earlier. He succumbed to heart failure.

Born at Witney, Oxon, on January 1st, 1872, Mr. Smith was apprenticed in his native town to a coachsmith, and in his early 'teens was a member of John Monk's band at St. Mary's Church, ringing his first peal (Grandsire Doubles) there on March 30th, 1891. Much of his early ringing was done with the help of James W. Washbrook, Mark Woodcock, the Rev. F. E. Robinson and the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn.

From Witney, Mr. Smith's work took him to Sleaford and Sheffield, where he rang with the local bands for a short time.

About 1897 he settled in Hampstead, and at once commenced ringing at Highgate and Star Street. He rang many peals with the late William Pye. Soon after his arrival in the London district he joined the Royal Cumberland Youths and was Master for one year. He represented the society on the Central Council from 1915.

Mr. Smith kept no record of his peals, but he had rung over 300 and conducted quite a number. Over 100 of these were Cumberland peals.

In 1914 he was employed at Warner's Bell Foundry, and, tower-bell ringing being restricted during the war, the opportunity of handbell peals was possible among the employees at the foundry. Many handbell peals were rung there after working hours by Messrs. Nudds, Wightman, White, Hunt and Smith.

Mr. Smith was one of the original band to start regular Sunday service ringing at St. Martin-in-the-Fields in 1916, and kept up his attendance until a few weeks ago.

His last peal was Stedman Cinques at Cheltenham on August 31st, 1929. He leaves in bereavement a widow, son and daughter. The funeral took place yesterday, the service being at Gospel Oak, and the interment at Highgate Cemetery.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

INTRODUCTION OF 'CANNED BELLS' DEPLORED.

The annual meeting of the Macclesfield Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild was held on Saturday, February 12th, at St. Michael's Parish Church, Macclesfield. Various methods were practised on the bells prior to and after the meeting, ranging from Bob Minor to Bob Major, Stedman Triples and Grandsire Caters.

At the meeting the chair was taken by the president of the branch (the Rev. N. Vesey, Vicar of Macclesfield).

The report for 1937 spoke of the poor attendances at ringing meetings held throughout the year, and the loss of Chelford from the Guild was regretted. The year had not been altogether successful.

The Chairman deplored the use in certain districts of gramophone records of change ringing, through amplifiers, to call people to worship, and hoped sincerely that the practice would not spread throughout the country.

This wish was endorsed by the meeting in general. A cutting from the 'Times' of a week or so ago was quoted to the effect that a deputation of Dorset ringers were to protest against this sort of thing, specially against the use in one of their own churches, which had adopted this scheme during the last few months.

The Chairman stressed the importance of combating this unfair competition with one of the oldest arts in the country.

The Rev. N. A. Vesey was re-elected president, Mr. J. Worth Ringing Master, and Mr. T. Taylor's name was put forward for election on the Council. Although Mr. J. Norbury was proposed as secretary and treasurer, a position he has held for many years, he stated that he wished to retire and that a younger man should be elected to this office.—It was then proposed that Mr. J. Tipper be elected, and this was carried unanimously.

Mr. Tipper accepted the position of secretary, but moved that Mr. Norbury be elected treasurer, so that his name should not be lost after so many years' faithful service.—This proposition was carried with cordiality.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**FOURTEEN MEMBERS ELECTED AT CANTERBURY DISTRICT MEETING.**

A meeting of the Canterbury District of the Kent County Association was held at Faversham on February 12th. Good use was made of the ring of eight bells during the afternoon and evening, and the usual service was held in St. Saviour's Church, conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. P. A. L. Clarke (Rural Dean), who also gave a short address. The members were entertained to tea by the Vicar, who, with members of the local band, waited upon those present.

The business meeting followed, the chair being taken by the Vicar. Fourteen new members were elected from Faversham, Throwley, Eythorne, Birchington, Ospringe, Wickhambreaux, St. Alphage (Canterbury) and St. Dunstan's (Canterbury). Two towers were proposed for the next by-meeting, Goodnestone and Whitstable, the former tower eventually being selected.

The Vicar was cordially thanked for his kindness in allowing the members the use of the bells, for conducting the service, and for generously entertaining them to tea. Mrs. Birley was also thanked for presiding at the organ at short notice.—The Vicar, in reply, welcomed the association to Faversham and thanked them on Mrs. Birley's behalf.

Following handbell ringing in the hall, the members returned to the tower. Among the methods practised were Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob, Double Norwich and Cambridge Surprise.

The attendance was good in spite of the weather, twenty-one towers and four districts of the association being represented.

YORKSHIRE VETERAN'S BIRTHDAY.

Mr. George Halksworth, a Doncaster stalwart, has just celebrated his 72nd birthday. He commenced his ringing at the Parish Church there in 1890 and still regularly climbs the 137 steps to the belfry to take his part in the service and practice ringing.

Yorkshire is proud of this veteran. He has held various offices, and is still serving on the Management Committee of the Yorkshire Association, as well as being vice-president of the Doncaster and District Society.

To celebrate his birthday a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung on Sunday, February 20th, before morning service: G. Halksworth (conductor) 1, E. Baldwin 2, J. Holmes 3, E. Stacey 4, W. E. Lloyd 5, H. Wagstaffe 6, R. Thompson 7, P. Dowe 8.

TWO METHODS—OR ONE ?

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In the peal in 12 Minor methods rung at Hallaton, Leics., on Saturday, February 5th, I notice one 720 includes three 'methods,' Oxford Bob, Single Court and College Reverse.

In the C.C. Collection of Minor Methods, a plain lead of College Reverse is identical with a bobbed lead of Oxford Bob. This being the case, is College Reverse a method, or have these gentlemen rung a peal in only 11 instead of 12 methods?

Congratulations to them on attempting something above the usual seven.

VERNON TAYLOR.

Melton Mowbray.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**TWINS RECEIVE PEAL CERTIFICATES.**

A meeting of the North Staffordshire Association was held at Longton on Saturday, February 5th. Thirty-nine members were present from Burslem, Brown Edge, Burton-on-Trent, Crewe, Cheadle, Draycott, Hanley, Kingsley, Leek, Longton, Lawton, Norton, Newcastle, Stoke-on-Trent, Tunstall and Wistaston.

A short service was held, at which the Rev. T. H. Brookes (Rector of Longton) officiated. He extended a hearty welcome to Longton, and hoped that all present would return to their towers and serve the church as faithfully as his own ringers at Longton did.

After tea at the Dorothy Cafe, a vote of thanks was proposed by Mr. A. D. Steel to the Rector and the ringers for the excellent arrangements made in connection with the meeting.—This was seconded by Mr. J. E. Wheeldon.

Mr. Edward Steele, leader of Longton band, expressed his gratitude in having four more members present than last year, and hoped Longton would become a very popular tower for meetings. It is 123 years since the bells were hung in the tower. Samuel Lawrence, of Shifnal, records having rung a peal of Grandsire Triples at Lane End, Staffs, on April 15th, 1816. It consisted of 5,012 changes, and the peal came round 'owing to an error of the conductor,' who was W. Jaegar. Lane End has since had its name changed to Longton.

Mr. J. H. Swinfield, of Burton, expressed his pleasure at being able to attend another meeting in North Staffordshire, as he always enjoyed the good fellowship which existed and was glad to see the number of young ringers that are coming along.

Mr. J. E. Wheeldon congratulated the band who rang the recent peal of Bob Royal at Leek, this being the first peal of Bob Royal rung by the association.

Two peal certificates were presented, viz., to W. J. Carter and H. Carter, both of Longton, who are twins.

One new member, Mr. R. Pounds, from Stoke-on-Trent, was elected.

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.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Adwick on Saturday, February 26th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. A good attendance is hoped for at this meeting.—Ernest Cooper, Hon. Sec., 1, Grosvenor Crescent, Arksey, near Doncaster.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next practice has been arranged at Wooburn (8 bells) on Saturday, February 26th, at 6 p.m. Subscriptions are now due.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Royston, Saturday, February 26th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Short service, followed by tea, given by the Vicar. If you wish for tea to be provided, drop card to the Rev. F. F. Greig, The Vicarage, Royston. We want a better meeting than we had last year, so book the date and don't be late! and please send a card; if you don't, and there isn't enough tea, don't blame me.—Don Mears, Fritton, Moor-mead Close, Hitchin.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Burnley Parish Church on Saturday, February 26th. Members and non-members cordially invited. Bells available 3 p.m. Meeting in tower, 6.30 p.m.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts Branch.—A meeting will be held at Hartford on Saturday, Feb. 26th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock.—H. J. Parker, Dis. Sec., Great Staughton, St. Neots, Hunts.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—The branch will meet at Watlington on Saturday, February 26th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. Please try to be present.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The pre-Lent meeting will be held at Whitley Bay on Saturday, February 26th, when the bells will be available during the afternoon and evening. A committee meeting will be held in the Church Hall at 4 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., followed by tea, at 1s. 3d. per person, in the Church Hall.—Roland Park, Hon. Sec., 23, Oaklands Terrace, Darlington.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Spalding on Saturday, Feb. 26th. Bells available from 2 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.15 p.m. Business meeting afterwards.—Geo. Ladd, Hon. Sec., Pinchbeck, Spalding.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Halliwell, on Saturday, February 26th. Bells available 3 o'clock.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

SEE THE COUNTRY and have minor changes. Langley Bury (Hunton Bridge), February 26th. Bells (6) open from 3.30. Tea, Church Institute, 5.30. Excellent bus and train service from all parts. (Herts Association).—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey, City 4270.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Christchurch District.—A combined meeting with the Wimborne Branch of the Salisbury Guild will be held at St. John's, Bournemouth, on Saturday, February 26th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 to 4.30, St. Peter's 6 to 7.45. Tea 5 o'clock at Voysey's.—G. Preston, Dis. Sec., Christchurch.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice during March: *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 1st and 29th; St. Magnus', 3rd and 17th; Southwark Cathedral, 8th; *St. Mary-le-Bow, 15th; St. Michael's, Cornhill, 22nd; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 24th. *Business meeting afterwards.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

APPLETON, BERKS.—The 120th anniversary will be celebrated Saturday, March 5th. Bells available all day. Dinner at 4.30 p.m., 2s. 6d. per head. Please notify R. White, Appleton, Berks.

LEICESTER AND DISTRICT RINGING SOCIETIES.—The annual dinner will be held at the Hotel Victory (near the L.N.E. Railway Station) at 6.30 p.m., on Saturday, March 5th. Tickets, 3s., to be applied for not later than March 2nd. Ringing at Belgrave St. Peter's (8 bells) from 3 p.m. till 5 p.m., and St. John's (10 bells) from 4 p.m. till 5.30 p.m.—H. W. Perkins, 53, Landseer Road, Leicester.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting of the district will be held at Elstow on Saturday, March 5th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Tea at the Red Lion. You will be very welcome.—Frank C. Tysoe, District Secretary, 10, Grange Road, Bromham, Bedford.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Reigate on Saturday, March 5th. Bells available from 3 o'clock and in the evening. Service 5 o'clock. Tea at the Parish Hall, Lesbourne Road, 5.45. Meeting 6.30. The bells of St. John's, Redhill (8), will also be available during the afternoon. Notifications for tea to be sent to Mr. Walter Claydon, 8, Chartfield Road, Reigate, by Wednesday, March 2nd.—E. G. Talbot, Hon. Sec., 8, The Ridgeway, Croydon.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Archdeaconry of Ely Branch.—A meeting will be held at Ickleton on Saturday, March 5th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. A hearty welcome awaits our usual and all other visitors to this meeting. A postcard to Mr. P. Webb, Ickleton, Great Chesterford, Essex, for tea, would be appreciated.—C. W. Cook, Dis. Sec., Newton, Cambridge.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The North and East Branches combine at Blofield on Saturday, March 5th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea in Village Hall 5 p.m., followed by business meeting. The Standing Committee meets at the Rectory at 6 p.m. (approximately). Numbers for tea (1s. 3d.) by March 2nd to Nolan Golden, general secretary and treasurer, Winton, 26, Brabazon Road, Norwich.—John G. W. Harwood and Henry Tooke, Branch Secs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Poolstock, on Saturday, March 5th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Tea free. As the committee of the Lancashire Association also meet at Poolstock on the above date, it would be appreciated if all ringers who intend to be present would notify Mr. A. Parker, 89, Barnsley Street, Wigan, by Wednesday, March 2nd.—S. Forshaw, 38, Poolstock, Wigan.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Eastbourne (St. Saviour's) on Saturday, March 5th. Tower open 2.45. Service 4 o'clock. Tea 4.45 (1s. 3d. per head). Will all those intending to be present kindly let me know by Wednesday previous to meeting?—A. C. Pankhurst, Hon. Div. Sec., 13, Bradford Street, Eastbourne.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Greasley on Saturday, March 5th. Bells (8) ready 3 p.m. All ringers welcome. Please come and strike 'um. Will those wishing for tea kindly let me know in time to arrange?—E. C. Gobey, Trowell, Notts.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guilborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Thornby (5 bells) on Saturday, March 5th. Usual arrangements. Owing to difficulties of catering, please notify me by Tuesday if requiring tea.—Geo. A. Hollick, Branch Sec., West Street, Welford, Rugby.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Bromham on Saturday, March 5th. Bells (6) available from 3 o'clock. Other arrangements as usual. A card for tea would oblige.—W. C. West, Hon. Sec., 584, Semington Road, Melksham.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting of the above branch will be held at Olney on Saturday, March 5th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Names for tea in good time. A good attendance will be welcomed.—Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—A meeting will be held at Essendon on Saturday, March 5th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m., near church. Buses: St. Albans-Hertford or Barnet-Hertford. Northaw bells (6) may be available for the evening. All ringers and friends welcome.—H. V. Frost, Dis. Sec., 4, Kimberley Road, St. Albans.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—A ringing meeting will be held at South Normanton on Saturday, March 5th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock to those who notify me by Wednesday, March 2nd.—J. W. England, 49, The Common, South Normanton.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—The Jubilee 'Henry Johnson' Commemoration Dinner will be held at the White Horse Restaurant, Congreve Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, March 5th, at 6 p.m. prompt, the

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Master, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, M.A., B.C.L., in the chair. The bells of St. Martin's (12), Aston Parish Church (12), and the Cathedral Church (10), will be available from 3.30 to 5 o'clock. Tickets will be issued to fully-paid ringing members at 2s. each; to other members and friends at 6s. 6d. each. Early application accompanied by remittance is essential, latest date being February 26th.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham, 11.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Newcastle on Saturday, March 5th. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Chester Guild ringers heartily invited. Special method, Cambridge Royal. Those who require tea will you kindly notify me before March 2nd?—Andrew Thompson, 37, Broad Street, Newcastle, Staffs.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—The spring meeting will be held at Stoulton on Saturday, March 5th. Bells, recently recast and increased to six by Mears and Stainbank, available from 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., followed by meeting. Numbers for tea by Tuesday previous.—J. E. Newman, Hinton, Evesham.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Swansea on Saturday, March 5th. Bells (8) available 3. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. All ringers welcome. Numbers for tea by February 28th certain.—E. Stitch, Hon. Dis. Sec., 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glam.

LADIES' GUILD.—Central District.—The next meeting will be held at St. John's, Erith, Kent, on Saturday, March 12th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea to follow in Parish Room. Will all those requiring tea please notify me not later than Tuesday, March 8th. Gentlemen cordially invited.—M. L. Cross, Hon. Sec., 9, Beverley Road, Barnehurst, Kent.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Harlow Common on Saturday, March 12th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Tea will be provided for those advising me not later than Wednesday, March 9th.—H. A. Wacey, Hon. Sec., 69, Rye Street, Bishop's Stortford.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—A meeting will be held at Beccles (10 bells) on March 12th. Tea and meeting at Red Triangle Club, 5 p.m. Please send postcard to Mr. E. R. Goate, 47, Smallgate, Beccles, for tea. Ringing during afternoon from 2.30 p.m.—H. G. Herbert, Sec., 61, Acton Lane, Sudbury.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—Annual meeting at St. Michael's Church, East Ardsley, on Saturday, March 12th. Bells (8) available from 3 o'clock. Short service at 4.15 p.m. Tea (1s. 3d.) about 5 o'clock. Business meeting, election of officers, etc., afterwards. Those requiring tea must notify Mr. E. Watson, 56, Bradford Road, East Ardsley, not later than March 10th.—Frank Rayment, Hon. Dis. Sec., Bramley.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—A by-meeting will be held at Boxley (6 bells) on Saturday, March 12th. Details later.—A. Waddington, Hon. Dis. Sec., Egerton.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND DON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting is on Saturday, March 12th, at St. Mary's, Ealing. It is hoped to have ringing at three towers. Details next week.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Sec., 16, St. Stephen's Road, W.13.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held at Chorley Parish Church, on Saturday, March 12th. Tower open for ringing from 2.30 p.m. Tea 1s. per head. It will be esteemed a favour if all those coming to tea will kindly notify Mr. Fred Rigby, 8, Carrington Road, Chorley, not later than Wednesday, March 9th. All ringers cordially invited.—A. Blogg, Branch Sec.

FORNCETT ST. PETER, NEAR NORWICH.—The ring of five bells, rehung by John Taylor and Co., in a new oak bell frame, will be dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Norwich on Sunday, March 13th, at 3 p.m.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—The annual dinner will be held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C.4, on Saturday, March 19th, at 6.30 p.m. Towers open for ringing: St. Olave's, Hart Street, 3-4; St. Martin-in-the-Fields, 4-5; St. Clement Danes, Strand, 5-6. Tickets (6s. each) obtainable from Messrs. G. H. Cross, G. W. Steere, G. Gilbert, R. Heazel, G. Radley, E. J. Butler and N. Summerhayes, Hon. Sec., 28, Bean Road, Bexleyheath, Kent.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Diamond Jubilee meeting (60 years). This will be held in Bristol on Easter Monday, April 18th. Full details will be given in these columns shortly. Management Committee meeting will be held at Gloucester on Saturday, March 26th, at 3.15 p.m., Spreadeagle Hotel. (Gloucester dinner same evening, same place.)—Edgar Guise, Gen. Hon. Sec., 46a, Tankards Close, Bristol, 2.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES.—The Parish Church.—The ringers at this church have now been reorganised. Ringing every Tuesday evening, 7.45-9 p.m. Sundays, 10 a.m. only.—W. Barrett, Hon. Sec., 22, Firdene, Tolworth, Surrey.

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