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4d.

DORCHESTER ABBEY

Where the Peal of Spliced Surprise Major in 25 Methods
Was Rung

By FREDERICK SHARP

SOME nine miles to the south-east of Oxford, near the junction of the River Thame with the Thames, lies the ancient town of Dorchester, famed for its historical associations and for its unique Abbey Church. Here, in the first half of the seventh century, St. Birinus, the 'Apostle of Wessex' as he is often called, preached to the West Saxons; and here Cynegils, their king, was afterwards baptised.

In Roman times Dorchester had been a fortified town, and, after the baptism of Cynegils, was given to St. Birinus to be his cathedral city. He became the first bishop circa A.D. 634. Later in the seventh century the See was removed to Leicester; it was re-established at Dorchester in the middle of the tenth century, only to be transferred again circa 1075, this time to Lincoln. The old Cathedral was then converted into an Abbey, and so continued until the suppression of the monasteries in the sixteenth century. Part of the Abbey Church, dedicated to St. Peter and St. Paul, belonged to the parishioners, and had been used by them as a parish church for centuries. This naturally escaped the fate of the monastic buildings; but the preservation of the monastic portion of the church is due to the generosity of Sir Richard Beauforest, who purchased it for £140 about the year 1554 and gave it to the parish.

No portion of the Cathedral of St. Birinus and little, if indeed any, of that built in the 11th century by Bishop Eadnorth remain. The present Abbey Church dates chiefly from the twelfth and fourteenth centuries; it is noted (inter alia) for its irregularity of shape, for the splendour of the arcades on both sides of the choir, and for the beauty of the sanctuary. This was extended eastwards at the end of the Decorated period of architecture, and contains three large windows, dating from that period, and remarkable by reason of their tracery not being confined to the upper portions of the windows but continued throughout the whole, and also because additional ornaments in the form of sculptured figures have been added to the tracery. On the north side of the sanctuary is the famous 'Jesse' window in which the unique features already mentioned are utilised to form the branches of a

genealogical tree, depicting the descent of our Lord: on the north side are the very beautiful fourteenth century sedilia and piscina. The western tower was rebuilt in the seventeenth century, but contains some earlier windows then reinserted.

The tower contains a ring of eight bells, with a tenor 45½ inches in diameter, in E natural, weighing approximately 16 cwt. The bells are far-famed for their tones, and are in many ways unique. They have been so well cared for that, with the possible exception of one bell and in spite of extensive use, all the original castings made for the ring have been preserved. An inventory, made by the Commissioners of Edward VI., states that in 1552 the church possessed: Item a lych bell. Item 2 bellys. Item a saunce bell. Of these, the lych bell, a small handbell rung in front of funeral processions, and the saunce have disappeared. The 2 bellys, now the seventh and tenor of the ring, are fortunately as sound as they were in the days of the Augustinian Canons.

The oldest bell is the tenor, a fine-toned example from the mediæval foundry at Wokingham. This bell bears the inscription:

PROTEGE BIRINE QVOS CONVOCO TV SINE FINE
RAF RASTWOLD

in the beautiful lettering introduced by the owners of that foundry, circa 1350. Between each word is a crowned stop, and each letter is surmounted by a crown. In addition to the usual Wokingham foundry marks, the lion's head, trefoil, crowned cross, and reverse of a groat, the bell bears the figures of a dragon and a horse. The bell dates from the second half of the fourteenth century, and has the merit of being inscribed with the name of its donor, Ra(l)f Rastwold, who died in 1383. He probably gave the bell to Dorchester Abbey during his lifetime.

The next oldest bell is the seventh, which is generally considered the finest-toned bell in the ring. It dates from the last quarter of the fourteenth century, and is a product of the Exeter foundry. Its lettering and founder's marks show that it was cast by one of the predecessors of Robert Norton, who placed on it the inscription:

PETRE : TVIS : APERI : DA : PAVLE : TVIS :
MISERERI.

The fourth, fifth and sixth are the work of Henry Knight I., of Reading, and are chiefly remarkable for the pre-Reformation character of their inscriptions. They were cast not from mediæval moulds as the guide books would have us believe, but in the wording of the inscriptions of

the fifth and sixth it would appear that the spirit of the Canons of Dorchester had survived until the early years of the seventeenth century; these two bells are inscribed respectively in mixed Gothic lettering:

SANCTA TOMA ORA PRO NOBIS 1606

and

VIRGINIIS EGREGIE DICAR CAMPANA MARIA
1591 HK.

The date 1591 marks the augmentation of the number of the bells in the ring to three; they were increased to five in 1603, to six in 1651, and to eight in 1867 when the treble and second were added by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, who also installed the present oak bell-frame. In 1936 the bells were rehung in the existing frame and new gear supplied by Mr. Richard White, of Appleton. With the exception of the fourth, all the bells retain their canons.

There is a local tradition that no snake can live within the sound of the tenor; this is commemorated in the rhyme:

Within the sound of the great bell

No snake nor adder ere shall dwell.

Dorchester bells are very familiar to members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild and to visiting ringers from kindred societies. Many are the peals which have been rung on them in the past, but none so laudable as that completed on February 4th, 1951, when, as reported in our peal columns last week, a peal of Spliced Surprise Major in 25 methods was scored by Mr. Walter F. Judge and his band on these famous bells.

Bibliography: C. Headlam, *Oxford and Neighbourhood*, 1925; E. A. Freeman, *On the Architecture of the Abbey Church of Dorchester*, 1854; F. G. Brabant, *Oxfordshire*, 1906; F. Sharpe, *The Church Bells of Oxfordshire*, vol. II., Oxfordshire Record Society, 1950.

TWELVE BELL PEALS

SHEFFIELD.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 10, 1951, in 3 Hours and 42 Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5019 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor 40 cwt. 10 lb. in B.

PETER J. STANFORTH .. Treble	NORMAN A. CHADDOCK .. 7
*BRIAN G. WARWICK .. 2	†JOHN HILL 8
*†TERENCE A. THORNER .. 3	JOHN BRAMLEY 9
JILL POOLE 4	§HERBERT O. CHADDOCK .. 10
†S. ANTHONY JESSON .. 5	ERNEST A. THORPE .. 11
SHIRLEY BURTON 6	†JOHN E. TURLEY .. Tenor

Composed by FRED H. DEXTER. Conducted by PETER J. STANFORTH.

* First peal of Stedman Cinques on tower bells. † 100th peal.
‡ First peal of Stedman Cinques. § First peal on 12 bells. First peal of Stedman Cinques on tower bells as conductor. A birthday compliment to Mr. D. Staniforth, father of the conductor.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Tues., Feb. 13, 1951, in 3 Hours and 34 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF 5019 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor 37 cwt. in C.

LEONARD TREVOR .. Treble	GEORGE E. FEARN 7
ARTHUR V. PEARSON .. 2	G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY .. 8
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD .. 3	*RODNEY B. MEADOWS .. 9
ALBERT WALKER 4	WILLIAM E. THOMPSETT .. 10
WILLIAM C. DOWDING .. 5	FRANK E. HAYNES 11
JOHN SCOTT 6	JOHN N. LINDON .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

* First peal of Stedman and on twelve bells. First peal of twelve as conductor.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Feb. 15, 1951, in 3 Hours and 33 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF 5040 SPLICED SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Comprising 2,160 Belgrave and 2,880 Cambridge with 30 changes of method.

S. ANTHONY JESSON .. Treble	*JOHN HILL 7
JILL POOLE 2	HARRY G. WAYNE 8
PETER J. STANFORTH .. 3	JOHN R. SMITH 9
HAROLD J. POOLE 4	HERRICK B. BOWLEY .. 10
ERNEST W. RAWSON .. 5	TERENCE A. THORNER .. 11
SHIRLEY BURTON 6	WILLIAM J. ROOT .. Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN.

* First peal of Spliced Surprise. First peal of Surprise Maximus in two methods by all the band.

WALSALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., Feb. 17, 1951, in 3 Hours and 30 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF 5019 STEDMAN CINQUES

Tenor 26½ cwt. in D.

MAURICE G. TURNER .. Treble	EDGAR T. SMITH 7
J. NORMAN HADLEY .. 2	ERNEST STITCH 8
HARRY F. HOLDING .. 3	ALAN ELSMORE 9
HOWARD HOWELL 4	EDWARD V. RODENHURST .. 10
FRANCIS BROTHERTON .. 5	RICHARD D. LANGFORD .. 11
GEORGE A. PACKER 6	WM. FRANK STENSON .. Tenor

Composed by FREDK. H. DEXTER.

Conducted by HOWARD HOWELL.
Rung as a birthday compliment to the Vicar, the Rev. Canon A. T. Jenkins, and Mr. James S. Eastwood. Maurice G. Turner completes the 'circle.'

TEN BELL PEALS

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Thurs., Feb. 8, 1951, in 3 Hours and 30 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP,

A PEAL OF 5040 BIRMINGHAM SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 31 cwt. 21 lb. in D.

JOHN SCOTT Treble	TERRY R. HAMPTON 6
JOHN PINFOLD 2	HENRY H. FEARN 7
G. WM. CRITCHLEY .. 3	RODNEY B. MEADOWS .. 8
FRANK E. PERVIN 4	LEONARD TREVOR 9
ARTHUR V. PEARSON .. 5	GEORGE E. FEARN .. Tenor

Composed by CHARLES J. SEDGLEY.

Conducted by GEORGE E. FEARN.

The first peal in the method.

LEEDS, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(Sheffield and District Society.)

On Sat., Feb. 17, 1951, in 3 Hours and 42 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Tenor 42 cwt. 1 qr. 27 lb. in C.

JOHN J. L. GILBERT .. Treble	†ROY BETLEY-COOKE .. 6
FREDERICK SEAGER .. 2	NORMAN CHADDOCK .. 7
MICHAEL MORETON .. 3	†FRANK REED 8
JOHN ROCK 4	HERBERT O. CHADDOCK .. 9
*GORDON C. BRIGGS .. 5	JOHN E. TURLEY .. Tenor

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE.

Conducted by NORMAN CHADDOCK.
* 50th peal for the Yorkshire Association. † First peal of Bob Royal. Rung in memoriam Harry Seager, brother of the ringer of the 2nd, who died February 12th.

KINGSTON, SURREY.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Sat., Feb. 17, 1951, in 3 Hours and 22 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL 5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 27 cwt. 2 qr. 24 lb. in C sharp.

BARBARA M. HARRIS .. Treble	ALFRED J. HOUSE 6
MRS. R. F. DEAL 2	*FRANK E. HAWTHORNE .. 7
*MRS. C. J. MATTHEWS .. 3	T. MARK WHITE 8
GEORGE H. CROSS 4	*HAROLD A. MAY 9
THOMAS H. FRANCIS .. 5	WILLIAM T. BEESON .. Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS.

Conducted by THOMAS H. FRANCIS.

* First peal of Yorkshire Surprise Royal.



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MIRFIELD, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 17, 1951, in 3 Hours and 37 Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF 5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 30 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb. in D.

F. BERNARD DITCHER .. Treble	J. FREDK. MILNER 6
*MILTON C. FOWLER 2	GORDON BENFIELD 7
†J. MARTIN THORLEY 3	†GIBSON JACKSON 8
LESLIE W. G. MORRIS 4	W. ERIC CRITCHLEY 9
J. EDWARD CAWSE 5	EDWARD JENKINS Tenor

Composed and Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSE.

* First peal of Yorkshire Royal away from the treble. † First peal of Yorkshire Royal. First peal of Surprise on the bells.

WILLENHALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., Feb. 17, 1951, in 3 Hours and 17 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF 5057 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 16 cwt.

FRANCIS A. SEDGEWICK .. Treble	CHRISTOPHER WALLATER .. 6
JOAN BERESFORD 2	STANLEY PRESTIDGE 7
PETER BERESFORD 3	WALTER J. COPE 8
WILLIAM DAVIES 4	GEORGE E. OLIVER 9
DENNIS BERESFORD 5	FRED BENNETT Tenor

Composed by J. E. GROVES.

Conducted by GEORGE E. OLIVER.

In memoriam Mr. F. G. T. Webb, a former churchwarden and vice-chairman of the Parochial Church Council of St. Giles'.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

CONSETT, COUNTY DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 10, 1951, in 3 Hours and 30 Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF 5008 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 17½ cwt.

RICHARD OLIVER .. Treble	†PHILIP DRAFFEN 5
*JOYCE LEWIS 2	ROBERT B. SKELTON 6
†ERIC HARRISON 3	STEPHEN THOMPSON 7
†ARTHUR COWAN 4	THOMAS W. DODD Tenor

Composed by W. HARRISON.

Conducted by THOMAS W. DODD.

* First peal of Bob Major. † First peal in the method. † First peal. First peal of Bob Major as conductor. Rung half-muffled as a token of respect to the Rev. W. C. D. Feddon, one time Vicar of Consett parish and late of Ryton-on-Tyne.

HENLEY, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 10, 1951, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5184 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 8 cwt.

GEORGE W. PIPE .. Treble	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL .. 5
WILLIAM J. BUTTON 2	MAX PAGE 6
HARRY D. LISTER 3	RONALD W. STEWARD .. 7
FRANK G. BLOOMFIELD .. 4	ERNEST W. PYE Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by ERNEST W. PYE.

LITTON CHENEY, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 10, 1951, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 LITTLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt.

G. STEDMAN MORRIS .. Treble	*HENRY G. KEELEY 5
*ARTHUR J. SCOTT 2	*H. DENNIS W. BISHOP .. 6
*ROGER KEELEY 3	*JOSEPH T. BARRETT 7
*J. LEONARD GLYDE 4	*CUTHBERT W. POWELL .. Tenor

Composed by EDWARD FRANCIS.

Conducted by G. STEDMAN MORRIS.

* First peal in the method. First in the method as conductor. First peal in the method for the Guild. First peal on the bells since being augmented from 6 to 8.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., Feb. 10, 1951, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 13 cwt. in F sharp.

WILLIAM DAVIES .. Treble	J. NORMAN HADLEY 5
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER .. 2	EDWARD V. RODENHURST .. 6
STANLEY PRESTIDGE 3	HOWARD HOWELL 7
*GEORGE PAGE 4	MAURICE G. TURNER Tenor

Composed by J. NICHOLLS.

Conducted by HOWARD HOWELL.

* First peal of Treble Bob. First peal of Treble Bob as conductor. Mr. Wm. Davies has now completed the 'circle.'

NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 10, 1951, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5152 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb. in E.

ERNEST MORRIS .. Treble	HECTOR A. KNIGHTS .. 5
J. W. FRANK TROTMAN .. 2	JACK BAILEY 6
WALTER G. SOAR 3	SIDNEY H. JONES 7
JOSEPH WM. COTTON 4	ALFRED MOULD Tenor

Composed and Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

A birthday compliment to W. H. Curson, chairman of the Guild.

SUTTERTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 10, 1951, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

W. A. Cave's Variation of J. W. Washbrook's. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

*LORNA BRIGGS .. Treble	*ROBERT BROWN 5
MARGARET A. SWANN .. 2	*JACK PETCH 6
CHARLES MCGUINNESS .. 3	JACK L. MILLHOUSE .. 7
OWEN A. NEEDHAM 4	DONOVAN R. WHITE .. Tenor

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

* First peal of Stedman. The first peal of Stedman on the bells.

TARPORLEY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 10, 1951, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 10 lb. in G.

FRANK BARNARD .. Treble	GEORGE A. PACKER .. 5
*HERBERT SUTTON 2	JOHN E. BROUGH 6
HAROLD G. SMITH 3	FREDERICK S. SUTTON .. 7
J. DEREK SMITH 4	EDWARD J. BOFFEY Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by JOHN E. BROUGH.

* 25th peal. Rung for the 18th wedding anniversary of G. A. Packer, ringer of 5th. Also a birthday compliment to Janet, daughter of conductor.

WHITBY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 10, 1951, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part (2nd observation). Tenor 19 cwt. 11 lb. in E.

CHARLES TINDALE .. Treble	ALBERT V. COATES 5
WM. A. BRECKON 2	SIDNEY R. ELWICK 6
JOHN R. WALLER 3	HARRY SHORT 7
GEORGE W. WHITE 4	HUBERT WATERS Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM A. BRECKON.

Rung in honour of the wedding of the Marquis of Normanby to the Hon. Grania M. R. Guinness, who were married this day at St. Oswald's, Lythe, Parish Church.

FAKENHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Feb. 11, 1951, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 19½ cwt. in E.

*REGINALD LING .. Treble	GORDON L. DYE 5
*MRS. V. R. OVENS 2	GEORGE A. COOKE 6
†JACK S. WILLIAMSON .. 3	TONY OWEN 7
JESSIE R. COOKE 4	VINCENT R. OVENS Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by VINCENT R. OVENS.

* First peal of Major. † First peal of Major 'inside.' First peal of Major as conductor. Rung as a welcome to the Rev. J. F. B. Keith.

MAULDEN, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Feb. 13, 1951, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. in F sharp.

C. EDWARD JEFFRIES .. Treble	C. HENRY HARDING 5
CLIFFORD W. IZZARD .. 2	ANDREW C. SINFIELD .. 6
*PATRICK I. CHAPMAN .. 3	BRYAN F. SIMS 7
RONALD J. SHARP 4	A. PATRICK CANNON .. Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW.

Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells. A birthday compliment to the ringer of the 5th.

SHIRLEY, BIRMINGHAM.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Sat., Feb. 10, 1951, in 2 Hours and 27 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES-THE-GREAT,
A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 6½ cwt. in A.	
HENRY H. FEARN Treble	WM. E. THOMPSETT .. 5
MURIEL REAY 2	EDWARD T. LLOYD .. 6
GEORGE E. FEARN 3	*S. GEORGE CHAPLIN .. 7
G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY .. 4	JOHN PINFOLD Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY.
* First peal of Surprise

WHISTON, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE SOCIETY.
(Sheffield and District Society.)
On Tues., Feb. 13, 1951, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,
A PEAL OF 5024 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb. in F.	
MRS. J. E. TURLEY Treble	WILFRED L. ROBINSON .. 5
GORDON C. BRIGGS 2	FRANK REED 6
ERNEST THORPE 3	NORMAN CHADDOCK .. 7
HERBERT O. CHADDOCK .. 4	JOHN E. TURLEY Tenor

Composed by NOLAN GOLDEN. Conducted by NORMAN CHADDOCK.

BURTON-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Wed., Feb. 14, 1951, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's 12-part (7th observation). Tenor 28 cwt. 2 qr. 9 lb. in D flat.	
PETER FOSTER Treble	BARNABAS G. KEY .. 5
MRS. S. H. JONES 2	SIDNEY H. JONES .. 6
RONALD H. DOVE 3	GEORGE L. RODEN .. 7
WILLIAM J. LEACH 4	EDWARD J. WHITE Tenor

Conducted by BARNABAS G. KEY.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to William Steuart Dove (father of the ringer of the third), for over sixty years organist, who was buried the previous day.

ERITH, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., Feb. 16, 1951, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF 5152 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. in G.	
HERBERT E. AUDSLEY .. Treble	ARTHUR S. RICHARDS .. 5
JAMES BENNETT 2	RALPH BIRD 6
FREDK. J. CULLUM 3	THOMAS CULLINGWORTH .. 7
FRANK I. HAIRS 4	HARRY PARKS Tenor

Composed by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD. Conducted by H. E. AUDSLEY.
Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. J. Bennett and Miss Mary Parkes.

BEAMINSTER, DORSET.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Feb. 17, 1951, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Heywood's Transposition. Tenor 26½ cwt.	
*NORMAN MALLETT .. Treble	HENRY G. KEELEY .. 5
G. STEDMAN MORRIS .. 2	J. LEONARD GLYDE .. 6
†ROGER KEELEY 3	THOMAS J. SETTER .. 7
JOSEPH T. BARRETT .. 4	CUTHBERT W. POWELL .. Tenor

Conducted by G. STEDMAN MORRIS.
* First peal of Stedman. † 25th peal (age 15).

BRENTWOOD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Feb. 17, 1951, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS-THE-MARTYR,
A PEAL OF 5120 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 19½ cwt.	
HENRY T. WILSON .. Treble	DENIS A. S. SYMONDS .. 5
*DESMOND G. MAYELL .. 2	*SIDNEY PENFOLD .. 6
HARRY TURNER 3	ALBERT PRYKE 7
COLIN E. WRIGHT 4	JOHN SITCH Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by HARRY TURNER.
* First peal of Double Norwich. Rung as a welcome to, and in honour of, the Right Rev. Sherard Falkner Allison, D.D., on the occasion of his enthronement as Lord Bishop of Chelmsford.

CHIPPING NORTON, OXFORDSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Feb. 17, 1951, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 LITTLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt.	
CYRIL H. KINCH .. Treble	JOHN S. WALTON .. 5
ALBERT DISERENS .. 2	EDMUND E. PEARSON .. 6
HERBERT H. ALEXANDER .. 3	EDGAR J. SMITH .. 7
DOUGLAS O. WILKS .. 4	ALAN R. PINK Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.
First peal in the method by all the band and on the bells.

PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Feb. 17, 1951, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, PORTSEA,
A PEAL OF 5120 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR
Containing 2,880 London, 800 Bristol, and 480 each of Cambridge, Superlative and Yorkshire, with 119 changes of method.

Tenor 17 cwt. 7 lb. in F.	
JOSIAH D. HARRIS .. Treble	TOWER R. TAYLOR .. 5
MRS. E. F. SALMONS .. 2	TOM PAGE 6
*NELIA M. LEAHY .. 3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS .. 7
*REV. K. W. H. FELSTEAD 4	CHARLES H. KIPPIN .. Tenor

Composed by JAMES TOPP. Conducted by FREDK. W. ROGERS.
* First peal of Spliced Surprise. First peal of Spliced Surprise Major in five methods by all the band and for the Guild.

SIX BELL PEALS

STAMFORD, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 30, 1951, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLE OXFORD BOB MINOR

Being seven different 720's. Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr.	
CECIL MATTHEWS .. Treble	RONALD RUSSELL .. 4
JOHN H. BLUFF 2	ROBERT H. KNIGHT .. 5
PERCY D. BALDOCK .. 3	JAMES BLUFF Tenor

Conducted by JOHN H. BLUFF.
Rung to commemorate the 35th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. P. D. Baldock.

BURGH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Sun., Jan. 28, 1951, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. BOTOLPH AND ANDREW,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one 720 of St. Clement's and two 720's each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 7½ cwt.	
WILLIAM J. BUTTON .. Treble	MAX PAGE 4
*RONALD W. STEWARD .. 2	GEORGE W. PIPE .. 5
PETER BARNES 3	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE W. PIPE.
* 75th peal of Minor. William J. Button has 'circled' the tower.

STOTFOLD, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Feb. 3, 1951, in 2 Hours and 31 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Double Court, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 11 cwt.	
REGINALD T. NEWMAN .. Treble	WALTER POOLEY .. 4
SIDNEY F. CARTER .. 2	JOHN WELCH .. 5
JOHN CHURCH 3	WALTER AYRE Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY F. CARTER.
First peal in seven methods on the bells. Rung for the feast of the Purification.

TILNEY, NORFOLK.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Mon., Feb. 5, 1951, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 16½ cwt.	
EDWARD BARKER .. Treble	JOHN E. FOX .. 4
STANLEY ELSEY .. 2	*GEORGE RICH .. 5
ERNEST MASTIN .. 3	WILLIAM ROSE .. Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST MASTIN.

WARSOP, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.
THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Feb. 9, 1951, in 3 Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two 720's each of Double Oxford Bob, College and St. Clement's
and one of Plain Bob. Tenor 15 cwt.

JEAN HAYNES Treble	DOUGLAS H. ROOKE 4
*JOAN SMITH 2	HERBERT T. ROOKE 5
GEORGE CHALLANS 3	ARNOLD HILL Tenor

Conducted by HERBERT T. ROOKE.

* First peal 'inside' in four methods. First peal in four plain
methods by all the band, on the bells and for the Guild.

BOLLINGTON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Feb. 10, 1951, in 3 Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Consisting of two 720's each of Plain Bob and Oxford and Kent Treble
Bob, and one 720 of Cambridge Surprise. Tenor 17 cwt.

JEAN C. BROWN Treble	NEIL D. LOMAS 4
JUNE M. HENSHAW 2	RONALD BARLOW 5
M. JILIAN BRIERLEY 3	DENIS MOTTERSHEAD .. Tenor

Conducted by DENIS MOTTERSHEAD.

First peal as conductor. Average age of the band 18 years.

DAVENHAM, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Feb. 10, 1951, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,
A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being 720 each of Durham and York, two 720's of London and three
720's of Cambridge Surprise. Tenor 15 cwt.

ALFRED WILKINSON Treble	HARRY W. HOWARD 4
ELIZABETH MORTON 2	DOROTHY C. OSBORN 5
DAVID SMITH 3	A. GORDON LAWRENCE .. Tenor

Conducted by A. GORDON LAWRENCE.

First peal in four Surprise methods by all. A birthday compliment
to the ringer of the 5th.

GREAT EASTON, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Feb. 10, 1951, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. JOHN AND GILES,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one 720 each of Woodbine, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble
Bob, Double Oxford, Double Court, and two 720's of Cambridge
Surprise. Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 10 lb. in G.

G. SAUNDERS Treble	G. SCHLUETER 4
G. LITTLE 2	W. SMITH 5
F. HARRINGTON 3	J. JENNINGS Tenor

Conducted by J. JENNINGS.

HIGHCLERE, HANTS.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Feb. 10, 1951, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Tenor 11½ cwt.

*MRS. ANN STRATLING .. Treble	*MAURICE J. DODD 4
*PHILLIP E. DODD 2	GEOFFREY K. DODD 5
*MICHAEL J. GOSS 3	*JOHN F. SMITH Tenor

Conducted by GEOFFREY K. DODD.

* First peal. First peal as conductor. Rung as a farewell to the
conductor before going abroad on national service.

SILK WILLOUGHBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Feb. 10, 1951, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DENIS,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent of Double Court and two each of Single Court,
Single Oxford and Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb. in A.

*FRANK R. MITCHELL .. Treble	*HENRY P. COLLIN 4
GEOFFREY R. PARKER .. 2	WILLIAM R. PARKER .. 5
*DENIS A. FRITH 3	JAMES H. MUSSON Tenor

Conducted by JAMES H. MUSSON.

* First peal in four methods.

LYMPSTONE, DEVON.
THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.
On Tues., Feb. 13, 1951, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Tenor 12 cwt.

DONALD PITMAN Treble	BRIAN PIDGEON 4
*ROBERT PERRY 2	JAMES SMITH 5
SIDNEY SKINNER 3	JOHN QUICK Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY SKINNER.

* First peal. A 21st birthday compliment to Cyril Beem.

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WALPOLE, NORFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Feb. 14, 1951, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents of Oxford, two of Kent, one of St. Clement's and two of Plain Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt.

ERNEST MASTIN Treble	ROLAND REED 4
STANLEY ELSEY 2	JOHN E. FOX 5
*WALTER J. HAMMOND .. 3	WILLIAM ROSE Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST MASTIN.

* First peal in four methods.

FRAMPTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Eastern Branch.)

On Thurs., Feb. 15, 1951, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Double Oxford and St. Clement's (two callings to each method) and three extents of Plain Bob (three callings). Tenor 13 cwt.

ARTHUR YOUNG Treble	JOHN P. MORRIS 4
*LESLIE TAYLOR 2	*THOMAS CUMMINS 5
†JOSEPH W. BAILEY 3	EDWIN FISHER Tenor

Conducted by EDWIN FISHER.

* First peal in three methods 'inside.' † First peal in three methods. First peal in three methods as conductor. Rung to celebrate the 13th wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. J. P. Morris.

WINTERTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Feb. 15, 1951, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Kent Treble Bob and St. Clement's and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

JACK BRAY Treble	JACK L. FREEMAN 4
*G. EDWARD BRUMPTON .. 2	HARRY HALL 5
RONALD CHAFER 3	GEORGE E. FEIRN Tenor

Conducted by JACK BRAY.

* First peal in three methods 'inside.' Rung as a welcome to the Rev. Canon H. D. and Mrs. Henderson, who have returned to the parish after 21 years in other parts of the diocese.

BERRIEW, MONTGOMERYSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 17, 1951, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BEUNO,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 10 cwt.

*ERNEST F. WILLCOX .. Treble	EDWARD W. COLLEY 4
ALFRED E. G. OWEN .. 2	RICHARD F. DAVIES 5
JOHN B. SANSOM 3	LEONARD COLLEY Tenor

Conducted by JOHN B. SANSOM.

* First peal away from tenor. First peal as conductor. A birthday compliment to ringer of the treble. Believed to be the first peal on the bells.

CHIPPING SODBURY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 17, 1951, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being ten 120's and eight 240's each of Morris's and Pitman's arrangement. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

*ARTHUR HILLIER .. Treble	CHARLES WATTS 4
MARY DREW 2	LESLIE BARRY 5
CHARLES ROUSE 3	*EDWARD TOWNSEND .. Tenor

Conducted by LESLIE BARRY.

* First peal. First peal on the bells.

DOWNHAM, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 17, 1951, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Double Bob, Double Oxford, Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob and Oxford Treble Bob, and two extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 7½ cwt.

BRIAN J. HOWARD .. Treble	VICTOR W. GRIMWADE .. 4
PHILIP SADLER 2	FRANK B. LUFKIN 5
WILLIAM PERRY 3	RODERICK W. CROUCHER .. Tenor

Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN.

Rung as a welcome to the new Bishop of Chelmsford, enthroned in Chelmsford Cathedral this day, and a birthday compliment to the treble ringer.

HANDBELL PEALS

BOURNEMOUTH.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Feb. 6, 1951, in 2 Hours and 2 Minutes,

AT 26, WELLINGTON ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5024 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 17 in A.

ROY C. HURST 1-2	DANIEL T. MATKIN 5-6
MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY .. 3-4	WILLIAM ROGERS 7-8

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS.

Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.

Witness: ARTHUR G. JANES.

Arranged for William Rogers, of Rotherfield, Sussex.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Feb. 6, 1951, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes,

AT THE WAYSIDE, 150, NARBOROUGH ROAD SOUTH,

A PEAL OF 5000 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL

Tenor size 21 in D sharp.

*HAROLD J. POOLE 1-2	*ALFRED BALLARD 5-6
PETER J. STANFORTH 3-4	ERNEST MORRIS 7-8

TERENCE A. THORNER .. 9-10

Composed by G. R. NEWTON.

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* 225th peal together.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Feb. 9, 1951, in 1 Hour and 42 Minutes,

AT 26, WELLINGTON ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor size 14 in D.

*JOYCE GIBBONS 1-2	MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY .. 3-4
DANIEL T. MATKIN 5-6	

Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.

Witness: ARTHUR G. JANES.

* First peal of Bob Minor.

BOURNEMOUTH.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD

On Sun., Feb. 11, 1951, in 2 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT 26, WELLINGTON ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5000 SPLICED MAJOR

In ten methods, comprising: 1,552 Plain, 760 Little Bob, 400 each of Double, Reverse and Fulbeck, 384 Crayford College, 368 St. Clement's, 276 each of Gainsborough and Wellington Little Bob, and 184 Crayford Little Bob, with 335 changes of method. Tenor size 17 in A.

WILLIAM G. YOUNG 1-2	DANIEL T. MATKIN 5-6
MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY .. 3-4	ROY C. HURST 7-8

Composed by NOLAN GOLDEN.

Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.

Witness: ARTHUR G. JANES.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tues., Feb. 13, 1951, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,

AT THE WAYSIDE, 150, NARBOROUGH ROAD SOUTH,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor size 15 in C.

JILL POOLE 1-2	PETER J. STANFORTH 5-6
HAROLD J. POOLE 3-4	ALFRED BALLARD 7-8

TERENCE A. THORNER .. 9-10

Composed by WILLIAM PYE.

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

LONDONDERRY, NORTHERN IRELAND.

THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Feb. 13, 1951, in 1 Hour and 30 Minutes,

IN THE CATHEDRAL SCHOOLS, LONDON STREET,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores. Tenor size 18 in G.

JOHN J. FIELDING 1-2	FRED E. DUKES 3-4
JOHN CAMPBELL 5-6	

Conducted by JOHN J. FIELDING.

Rung in honour of the birthday of the ringer of 5-6.

SOUTHWARK, LONDON, S.E.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

On Wed., Feb. 14, 1951, in 2 Hours and 25 Minutes,

IN THE VESTRY OF THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE-THE-MARTYR,

A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 14 in D.

A. B. STOCKDALE (Girton) .. 1-2	G. DODDS (Emmanuel) .. 5-6
B. D. THRELFALL (Trinity) .. 3-4	R. F. B. SPEED (Caius) .. 7-8

Composed by J. REEVES.

Conducted by R. F. B. SPEED.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

On Thurs., Feb. 15, 1951, in 1 Hour and 49 Minutes,

AT JESUS COLLEGE,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor size 11 in G.

M. ELIZABETH ROE 1-2	*ROBIN G. TURNER 3-4
*MICHAEL SLANEY 5-6	

Conducted by MICHAEL SLANEY.

* First peal.

QUARTER PEALS

ALVERSTOKE, HANTS.—On Feb. 16th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: E. Coulson (first quarter) 1, Miss B. M. Ball 2, E. A. Jurd 3, H. Reynolds 4, H. A. Nobes 5, F. W. Burnett 6, J. H. Hunt (cond.) 7, F. Edwards 8.

BANSTEAD, SURREY.—On Feb. 11th, 1,248 Bristol Surprise Major: H. Smerdon 1, M. F. Layton (first in method) 2, G. P. Smerdon 3, Jill Brittain 4, N. Hobden 5, H. N. Pittow 6, A. E. Cheesman 7, A. J. Adams (first in method as cond.) 8. Rung for the birth of a second daughter to the conductor.

BENTLEY, YORKS.—On Feb. 17th, 1,260 Doubles (360 St. Blaise, 300 Grandsire, 360 April Day and 240 Plain Bob): H. A. Sanderson 1, Mrs. E. Wylie 2, D. Wheat 3, Miss D. Smythe 4, R. J. Sanderson (cond.) 5.

BRIDLINGTON, YORKS.—On Feb. 11th, 1,260 Doubles (600 Plain Bob, 660 Grandsire): J. Foot (first quarter) 1, C. Robson 2, H. Parker (cond.) 3, J. Porter 4, J. A. Parker 5, J. Bower 6. First quarter in two methods by all. Rung to commemorate Fisherman's Sunday.

CLERKENWELL, LONDON.—At St. James, on Feb. 11th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. Hawkins 1, E. Thurlow 2, W. Prockson 3, F. Barker 4, W. N. Genna 5, A. W. Coles 6, J. Euston 7, Dr. W. R. Winterton 8.

DONCASTER, YORKS.—On Feb. 5th, 1,260 Erin Triples: E. C. Stacey 1, Mrs. N. Wall 2, W. Jackson 3, G. Jackson 4, H. Wagstaffe 5, J. McCluskey 6, W. E. Critchley (cond.) 7, P. J. Dawe 8. Rung for the induction of the new Vicar, Canon H. G. O. Herklots.

FULHAM, LONDON.—On Feb. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss D. Bryant 1, R. Mackrill 2, R. Sanders 3, R. Charge 4, J. Chilcott 5, H. Page 6, J. Phillips (cond.) 7, M. Chilcott 8.

GODSHILL, I.O.W.—On Feb. 14th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: F. Rowson 1, S. Hollis 2, E. Thorne 3, C. Callaway 4, L. Bailey (cond.) 5, C. Morris 6. Rung for the 79th birthday of John Rowson, father of the treble ringer.

HERTINGFORDBURY, HERTS.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,320 Doubles (being 840 of Grandsire Doubles and 480 of Bob Doubles): W. Peat 1, J. Chamberlain 2, Mrs. J. Chamberlain 3, C. Stonebridge 4, S. F. Carter (cond.) 5. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to Mr. F. Barton, one of the local ringers, interested that day.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.—On Feb. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. Cox 1, A. E. Cox 2, I. S. Biggs 3, J. D. Kape 4, N. Cornwall 5, F. D. Boreham (cond.) 6, R. Blaby 7, V. Evans 8.

HUNTINGDON.—On Feb. 11th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: J. R. G. Spicer (first of Treble Bob Major) 1, R. F. Baker 2, H. S. Peacock 3, Miss C. Dunnington 4, R. H. Brooker 5, A. Clements 6, G. H. Dunnington 7, S. Gilbert (first Treble Bob Major as cond.) 8.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.—On Feb. 11th, 1,280 Yorkshire Surprise Major: Mrs. K. Parr 1, Sheila E. Harris 2, R. Joyce Pett 3, Mrs. O. L. Rogers 4, F. D. Bishop 5, S. Croft 6, D. J. Charnley 7, H. W. Rogers (cond.) 8.

LAMBETH, LONDON.—On Feb. 11th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: D. Martin 1, Jean Curtis 2, Joan Yearsley 3, S. Evans 4, B. Threlfall 5, J. R. Worral 6, P. R. Blackman (cond.) 7, P. G. Foote 8. First quarter in method 2, 3 and as conductor.—On Feb. 4th, 1,312 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: T. H. Taffender 1, W. A. Theobald 2, C. W. Otley 3, C. M. Meyer 4, R. Begrie 5, C. H. Wood 6, J. Bullock 7, H. G. Andrews (cond.) 8.

LLANBRADACH, GLAM.—On Feb. 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss M. James 1, H. Cassell 2, H. Selwood 3, J. Coppage 4, F. Bailey (cond.) 5, G. Morse 6, W. Dare 7, A. Wormald (first quarter) 8. Rung half-muffled in memoriam Mr. W. Amos, chorister and church worker, interred earlier in the day.

MITCHAM, SURREY.—On Feb. 10th, 1,296 Cambridge Surprise Minor: R. Charge 1, H. Allen (first quarter in the method) 2, Miss J. Freer 3, J. Chapman 4, S. Howard (first quarter in method on an 'inside' bell as cond.) 5, R. Sanders 6. Rung in memory of Mr. C. H. Reading, who died on Feb. 13th, 1941, also as a birthday compliment to Mr. J. Hyde, who was 86 on Feb. 6th, 1951.

PAULTON, SOMERSET.—On Feb. 15th, 1,260 Single Court: G. Chivers (first quarter of Minor) 1, Mrs. T. W. Kimber 2, G. Clare 3, T. W. Kimber 4, F. Savage (cond.) 5, V. Savage 6. Rung in memoriam of Thomas M. Griffen, of Radstock, who passed away Feb. 12th.

PRITTLEWELL, ESSEX.—On Feb. 7th, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: Mrs. C. Woodgate 1, B. Howard 2, D. Coombes 3, B. Sadler 4, W. Perry 5, A. B. Wiffin 6, P. Sadler 7, P. King 8, F. B. Lufkin (cond.) 9, C. R. Chambers 10. Rung before Ash Wednesday evening service.

SHIRLEY, WARWICKS.—On Feb. 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss M. Lewis 1, V. A. Hemming (cond.) 2, W. J. Gethin 3, T. Gwilt 4, E. T. Lloyd 5, B. Tisor 6. First quarter 1 and 6.

RUMNEY, MON.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: M. M. Reid 1, R. C. Lucas 2, F. G. Smith (first quarter) 3, L. Hulbert 4, W. R. Speake (cond.) 5, S. Shackell 6. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to Mr. B. Baldwin, captain of this tower for 25 years, who was interred in the churchyard on this day.

SHEFFIELD, YORKS.—At All Saints' Church on Feb. 11th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: A. Proctor 1, W. Holland 2, C. A. Brown 3, J. S. Woodhouse 4, P. E. Sampson 5, D. Holland (cond.) 6. Rung as a farewell to P. E. Sampson on joining the R.A.F.—Also on Feb. 18th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: A. Proctor 1, W. Holland 2, C. A. Brown 3, L. E. Smith 4, J. S. Woodhouse 5, D. Holland (cond.) 6. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late W. W. Parker, sometime warden and for many years an active member of this church, who died Feb. 7th.

SOUTH NEWTON, WILTS.—On Feb. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. Lowe 1, E. Smith 2, J. Sutton 3, J. Lewis 4, A. Haines (cond.) 5, G. Smith 6. Rung as a compliment to the Rector (the Rev. G. C. Smith) to celebrate his 50th anniversary of priesthood.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.—At the Cathedral on Feb. 13th, 1,323 Stedman Cinques: H. E. C. Goodenough (cond.) 1, C. F. Sayer 2, B. A. Cornell 3, Miss B. Copson 4, Miss O. Martin 5, R. G. Darvill 6, A. W. Coles 7, B. C. Johnson 8, R. F. Ewer 9, A. H. Hatten 10, W. J. Arnold 11, H. A. Hofton 12. First quarter peal on 12 bells by 4, 6 and 12.

ST. IVES, HUNTS.—On Feb. 11th, 1,320 Plain Bob: J. P. Stocker 1, H. W. Pratt 2, W. Noble 3, F. Warrington (cond.) 4, F. R. Nicholls 5, L. W. Fisher 6, S. Clements covering tenor. A birthday compliment to Miss C. Dunnington.—Also on Feb. 18th, 1,248 Kent Treble Bob Major: G. L. Perkins 1, G. H. Dunnington 2, F. Warrington (cond.) 3, H. S. Peacock 4, F. R. Nicholls 5, A. Clements 6, W. Ransom 7, R. H. Brooker 8.

STROUD, GLOS.—On Feb. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: P. Riddiford 1, B. Latham 2, T. Pritchard 3, Doris Shepperd 4, F. Ponting 5, T. Wills (cond.) 6, W. Dean 7, M. Simpson 8.

WHITBY, YORKS.—On Feb. 15th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: D. Elwick (12) (first quarter) 1, S. R. Elwick 2, A. Hunter 3, W. A. Breckon 4, J. Waller 5, G. White 6, H. Short (cond.) 7, A. V. Coates 8.

WATFORD, HERTS.—On Feb. 18th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: P. Pratt (first quarter) 1, R. G. Smith (first 'inside') 2, W. G. Paul 3, F. H. Crook 4, S. H. Hoare 5, R. G. Bell (cond.) 6, G. W. Seaman 7, R. B. King 8.

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LOUGHBOROUGH



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In connection with the
Central Council's visit to
Chester at Whitsuntide, Mr.
R. G. Edwards, of 70, Mount Road, Higher
Tranmere, Birkenhead, has undertaken to be
responsible for making arrangements for peal
attempts. All those who wish to take part in
peal attempts should communicate direct with
him stating dates and methods preferred.

The peal of Plain Bob Major at St. Paul's,
Bedford, on February 6th, contained 5,008
changes and no 5,088 as published.

Mr. Richard Dale, of Horsham and Feering,
died on February 17th. He rang his first peal
at Horsham—Oxford Bob Triples—on January
31st, 1885. He was over 90 years of age.

Mr. Samuel Pinder, of Old Basford, Notting-
ham, is to be congratulated on his performance
during the peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major
rang at Thurcaston, Leics, on the eve of his
70th birthday. The peal was rung without any
of the 'first-timers' having had previous prac-
tice in the method.

Mr. B. H. Swinson, of North Tarrytown, New
York, informs us that the old bob five part and
irregular two part peals of Stedman Triples
published in 'The Ringing World' on January
31st, 1941, are false. The basic round blocks
from which all three peals were obtained are
true and the falseness arises through the mis-
application of the 'shunting singles.'

Considerable publicity has been given to the
comments of the Rev. M. W. Bulstrode at the
annual meeting of St. Michael's Church, Fram-
lingham. He is quoted as saying: 'Our efforts
to get a band of bellringers is a struggle. There
is plenty of enthusiasm among visiting ringers,
but if we have got to a stage when bells cannot
be used to call people to church on Sundays,
then it appears wrong to use them for the en-
tertainment of bellringing enthusiasts on week-
days.'

BELFRY GOSSIP

Another success was
achieved by Mr. G. E.
Feirn and his band by a
peal of 46 Spliced Major methods 'in hand' in-
volving 341 changes of method. This was a
landmark in the ringing careers of Mr. Feirn
and Mr. Jack Bray, being their 200th peal to-
gether. By a coincidence it was the 50th peal
together by Mr. Philip Barnes and Mr. Feirn.
Their next objective is a peal in 50 methods.

Mr. George W. Ternbury, a valued member
of the Cumberland and North Westmorland
Association, died on January 12th.

Which is the largest town in Britain that
possesses no ring of bells or a chime? An
Aldershot reader who addresses this query to
'The Ringing World' suggests Bognor Regis.

We regret to learn of the death of Mr. Charles
H. Sone, of Linton, Kent. An appreciation of
his services to ringing will appear in our next
issue.

The handbell peal of three Minor methods
for the Midland Counties Guild at Leicester,
and published on page 102, was rung on
January 20th and not January 13th as submitted
to us.

Holy Trinity Cathedral, Guildford, ringing
chamber has been redecorated by Mr. H.
Hutton, who has been a member of the com-
pany for more than 50 years, as a thank-offering
for his recovery from a serious illness some
two years ago. The gift is deeply appreciated
by the ringers.

Mr. R. C. H. Connolly, of Watford, con-
tributes a general interest article on Bell Ringing
to the Eastern Electricity Board magazine. He
gives this advice to visiting ringers: 'Don't
compare other people's bells or style of ringing
in any way that can cause offence. It is the
best they have to offer you and in any case you
have probably gone into their tower uninvited.'
Mr. Connolly apparently is not a 'Belfryman.'

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CENTRAL COUNCIL AT CHESTER

For the guidance of representatives attending the Central Council meeting at Chester next Whitsun, we append a list of the leading hotels:—

Licensed Hotels and Inns

Grosvenor Hotel, Eastgate Street.
Blossoms Hotel, Foregate Street.
Queen's Hotel, City Road (Trust House).
Ye Olde King's Head Hotel, Lower Bridge Street.
The Peacock Hotel, Christleton Road.
Grosvenor Arms, Aldford, near Chester.
Grosvenor Arms Hotel, Pulford, near Chester.
Albion Hotel, City Road.
Swan Hotel, Foregate Street.
Pied Bull Hotel, Northgate Street.
Old Nag's Head Hotel, Foregate Street.
The Grotto Hotel, Bridge Street.
Coach and Horses Hotel, Town Hall Square.

Unlicensed and Private Temperance Hotels

Belgrave Hotel, 118, Foregate Street.
Stafford Hotel, City Road.
Westminster Hotel, City Road.
Windsor Hotel, City Road.
Edgar House Hotel, City Walls.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSN.

South Norfolk Branch

Sixty-one ringers and friends from 30 different parishes in Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex attended the annual meeting of the South Norfolk Branch at Diss on February 10th.

Various touches were rung until 4.30 when the service was conducted by Canon Appleton, Rector of Diss, assisted by the Rev. E. Taylor (curate), the Rev. F. E. Vokes (Forncett), and the address given by the Rev. A. Gilbert G. Thurlow, Precentor of Norwich Cathedral.

Tea, in the Corn Hall, was followed by the business meeting. Mr. W. L. Duffield presided, supported by Canon Appleton (vice-president), Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow (general secretary and treasurer), Mr. Nolan Golden (Ringing Master), Rev. F. E. Vokes, Rev. E. Taylor, Mr. E. Whitling (Branch Ringing Master), Mr. A. G. Harrison (branch secretary) and Messrs. E. G. Bennett, C. E. G. Banham, W. G. Saunders, F. C. Roper, A. Lock and F. C. W. Phillippo (members of the committee).

The officers of the branch were all re-elected and it was decided to hold the next meeting at Pulham St. Mary on May 5th. Dr. Paul H. A. Jonason, of East Harling, was elected a ringing member and Mr. Frank Stenson of Crewe, a non-resident life member.

The meeting deeply regretted the absence of the president, the Rev. A. St. J. Heard (an influenza victim), and best wishes for a speedy recovery were passed at the meeting.

Mr. Golden proposed the votes of thanks to all who had assisted the branch during 1950, and to the Rector of Diss and all who had helped to make the meeting so successful. The members then retired for more ringing during the evening.

RECORD PEAL OF SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR CONGRATULATIONS

Dear Sir,—As umpire for the previously-held record of Spliced Surprise Major in 22 methods rung for the Lincoln Diocesan Guild in 1948, I should like to congratulate Mr. W. F. Judge and his band on surpassing this. It is a very fine performance in a rapidly developing sphere of ringing.

I also feel that it must bring a great deal of pleasure to Mr. A. J. Pitman to see quite a number of his difficult compositions being rung now.

K. S. B. CROFT.

Southampton.

METHODS COMMITTEE

Advice Wanted on Doubles Methods

Dear Sir,—The Methods Committee would be grateful for the help and advice of 5 and 6 bell ringers on the following points concerning the ringing of Doubles Methods:—

(a) What methods are rung having more than two consecutive blows in one place, other than in 5ths at the trebles' lead? (Please give essential figures as there is confusion over names.)

(b) Do they think it necessary or desirable so to depart from the normally accepted standards?

Whilst writing, it seems to be a good opportunity to issue a word of warning to those contemplating peals in new Surprise Royal methods. The Methods Committee considers that many of the extensions from the Major in Mr. Corrigan's book are unacceptable and suggests that its advice be sought before a band contemplates the ringing of any not yet rung.

Thirdly, in answer to Mr. Segar, the members of the Committee are unanimous in the opinion that a 'Bob' is not a part of the method (this was actually stated at the last meeting of the Central Council). Thus if Mr. Segar has a composition of Reverse Grandsire with a thirds place bob it is perfectly legitimate as far as we are concerned.—Yours sincerely,

K. W. H. FELSTEAD.

St. Michael's Vicarage,
Southampton.

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD

Andover District

A very successful meeting was held at Andover on February 17th the occasion being the annual meeting of the District. Over 50 members and visitors attended from Abbot's Ann, Aldershot, Andover, Amport, Basingstoke, Bishopstoke, Buckland Newton (Dorset), Farnham, Emsom, Ewell, Goodworth Clatford, Highclere, Thatcham (Berks), Templecombe (Somerset), Sturminster Newton (Dorset), Woolton Hill, Over Wallop, Wonston, Winchester.

Ringings on St. Mary's (8 tenor 17 cwt.) ranged from rounds to Cambridge Surprise (not forgetting Little Bob for its exponent from Farnham) and everyone expressed their delight with the fine job done by Messrs. Taylor three years ago.

Tea at the Stuart Cafe was presided over by the Vicar of Andover (the Rev. A. Fletcher, M.A.) and attended by the Mayor of Andover (Councillor S. E. Vincent) and several visiting clergy.

Due to the unexpectedly large attendance it was necessary to hold the business meeting in the nave of St. Mary's. In the absence of the district chairman, Mr. G. Pullinger (Guild Ringing Master) took the chair. The secretary's report and balance sheet for 1950 were accepted; all the officers were re-elected.

Miss D. M. Walden and Mr. N. B. Davis, of Piddlehinton, Dorset, were elected compounding members. Some discussion took place on the subject of practices for higher methods and it was decided to arrange a series of District practices at Andover on the first Saturday in each month for that purpose. Ringing then continued until 9 p.m.

THREE GENERATIONS IN A PEAL

Dear Sir,—Referring to Mr. John G. Jefferies' peal with three generations: on April 15th, 1934, a peal of 5,168 Bob Major, in 2 hours and 59 minutes, was rung at St. Mary's, Grundisburgh, Suffolk. Those taking part were:—F. C. Clarke, grandfather, his son Charles and grandson Charles M., F. J. Tillett, grandfather, his son John F. and granddaughter Phyllis E., G. E. Symonds, father, and his son Harold E. Only three families participating, conducted by G. E. Symonds.—Yours truly,

Ipswich.

G. E. SYMONDS.

BELLS AS TIME SIGNALS

Dear Sir,—I am interested in Mr. R. Buchanan's letter on the above subject, since some years ago, when in charge of the bells at St. Mary's, Redcliffe, Bristol, I was approached by the West Regional Director of Religious Broadcasting with a proposal to make a record of Redcliffe bells ringing Stedman Cinques. I was informed that, if suitable, it was proposed to introduce the record as an interval signal between certain West Regional programmes. The record was duly made, though we had to make a number of recordings, our first efforts being marred by a high wind which gave a marked fading effect to the bells. The B.B.C., however, were at great pains to obtain the best position for the 'mike' and were very co-operative to our suggestions. Ultimately we produced several good recordings of 120 changes of Stedman Cinques which finished by bobbing 8-10 behind, the conducting being shared by E. J. Brown, E. F. Hancock and myself.

Subsequently a portion of this recording was used in programmes dealing with bells and bellringing in the West Country which was introduced by Mr. E. J. Taylor, of Tiverton. During odd periods since, I have heard this record used as an interval signal on the B.B.C. West Regional Station; the occasions have, however, been somewhat rare.

I certainly favour Mr. Buchanan's suggestion that each region should have its own Bell Interval Signal but I cannot agree that St. Mary's, Southampton, would be either appropriate or suitable. There are many more majestic rings of bells, such as Eaton (Wilts), Buckfast, Bristol, Wrington, Ditchat, Chewton Mendip and Queen Camel, to name but a few, which are more suitable than St. Mary's, Southampton, where the acoustics of the town accentuates the Simpson Tuning and, in my humble opinion, produces too much hum for good broadcasting, and certainly for a recording of the type required for an interval signal.—Yours faithfully,

DONALD G. CLIFT, A.M.I.E.

St. Albans, Herts.

CHRISTMAS BELLS

Dear Sir,—Many thanks for publishing my letter re above; now that the storm is subsiding, I would like to wind it up.

I must apologise to our friends of Portishead for 'losing' two of their bells. It sounded like six; I must get my radio attended to. I don't know the origin of the word 'stone', beyond it implies a call-change ringer, and I don't think the average ringer implies anything else (except the snobs, if they exist). In fact I recall being at Bideford, North Devon, in 1911, and I have yet to hear better striking and this was, of course, preceded by a perfect 'rise and fall'.

I am of the opinion that friendly rivalry can do much to improve our local standards and would like to see a National Festival on 'knock-out' lines as is common in many of our national pastimes.

I am reluctant to reply to the many comments raised, particularly as our clerical friend fears bad feeling is creeping in (I would assure him otherwise). The general opinion is, however, that we have got to 'pull up our socks' locally and I would agree with a gentleman from Kent that the correct procedure is through associations.

I should, therefore, like to conclude with an appeal to District Secretaries and Executive Committee Representatives to make use of our democratic structure and endeavour to get their representatives on the Central Council to raise the question of recruiting and general extension of our work organised on a national basis.

Many thanks to all correspondents for their interest and backing and I hope we can benefit jointly from 'airing' our views.—Yours faithfully,

JOHN A. HILL.

Andover, Hants.

ANOTHER CHAPTER OF LAST CENTURY VETERANS

Memories Revived

This week we publish the third instalment of those ringers who rang their first peals in the last century. The list recalls great names:

RANG 128 PEALS IN LAST CENTURY

Probably the surviving veteran holding the record for the most peals in the last century is Mr. James Parker, father of Mrs. G. W. Fletcher, of Caister-on-Sea. He rang 128 peals up to the end of the century and these included Superlative, London, Cambridge and New Cambridge Surprise Major and Alliance. He conducted the record length of 9,312 Superlative Surprise Major at Crawley in 1894, where he lived for six years before moving to London. His first peal was at Warnham, Sussex, Kent Treble Bob Major, on October 19th, 1890. He is now nearly 85.

Mr. Henry Wood, of Warnham and Horsham, rang his first peal of Triples, Oxford Bob at Crawley, on December 26th 1882, having previously rung a peal of Minor at Warnham. He gave up ringing years ago and though nearly 90 walked 1½ miles to hear Horsham bells recently.

A peal board in Chester Cathedral records a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at Bromborough, Cheshire, by the Cathedral ringers on September 6th, 1884. A member of the band was Mr. John Gibson, who now resides at Whitchurch, Shropshire, and is 96 years of age. There is no indication, states a Chester correspondent, that this was Mr. Gibson's first peal.

'THE FINEST TREBLER'

Mr. Harry Hollingsworth, captain of the local band at Melbourne, Derby, and says our correspondent, 'the finest trebler up and down' in this district, rang his first peal at St. Michael's, Melbourne, Derbyshire, on September 24th, 1887.

Mr. William T. Prior, of Bishop's Stortford, who is in his 80th year and still a regular service ringer, has rung 165 peals. His first was Bob Major at St. Michael's, Bishop's Stortford, on December 31st, 1888.

SUFFOLK VETERANS

Mr. George Wightman, of Cretingham, Woodbridge, Suffolk, rang his first peal at Euston, Suffolk, on June 14th, 1886. It was a peal of Doubles in seven methods.

Mr. William Wightman rang his first peal at St. Mary's Framden, Suffolk, on November 23rd, 1896—a peal of Bob Triples.

Mr. John C. Pugsley, of Minehead, Somerset, rang his first peal, Grandsire Triples, at St. Michael's, Minehead, on April 27th, 1891.

Mr. William T. Elson, of 56, Pursers Cross Road, S.W.6, now in his 84th year, rang his first peal, 5,472 Bob Major, on September 1st, 1892. He rang a number of his early peals with Mr. E. H. Adams and also with Messrs. W. H. H. Buckingham and J. C. Mitchell. In the last century he rang 28 peals.

Mr. G. Martin, of Maidenhead, conducted his first peal. This was on October 7th, 1895, at Boyne Hill, the method being Grandsire Triples. He sends us particulars of two other veterans:—Mr. W. Walker, Grandsire Triples, at Boyne Hill, on October 31st, 1896, and Mr. Jesse Eldridge, Stedman Triples, on April 11th, 1898, at Burnham, Bucks.

Mr. G. M. Rashbrook's first peal was 5,056 Oxford Treble Bob Major, at St. Mary's, Ardleigh, Essex, on April 22nd, 1893.

Mr. Joseph S. Hawkins, of Strand, W.C.2, rang his first peal at All Saints' Church, Marlow, Bucks, on April 30th, 1898—Grandsire Triples (Carter's 12 part).

WITH GABRIEL LINDOFF

Mr. R. W. Stannard, of Barking, rang two peals of Bob Triples—in November, 1886, and January 10th, 1887. The second, 6,024 Oxford Treble Bob, was conducted by the late Gabriel Lindoff. This was the first time the latter rang

as G. Lindoff, his first three peals being rung as G. Baxter. Mr. Stannard rang 17 peals before 1900.

Mr. G. W. Park, who is still a regular ringer at Holy Trinity, Darlington, rang his first peal on December 14th, 1895, at St. John the Evangelist, Darlington. The method was Kent Treble Bob Major.

Mr. David Wright, then of Westerham, but later of Croydon and Southgate, now in his 91st year, rang the treble to Holt's Original at Tonbridge on September 23rd, 1893, Tom Manering conducting.

76 PEALS BEFORE 1900

Mr. H. Gibbs, of Brede, Sussex, who rang his first peal when 17 years of age—Stedman Triples at Crayford, Kent, on August 17th, 1889—is the last survivor of that band which was as follows:—Challis V. Winney 1, George Conyard 2, Edward E. Richards 3, Richard French 4, William Weatherstone 5, Edwin Barnett 6, Frederick G. Newton (cond.) 7, Henry Gibbs 8. Previous to 1900 he had rung 76 peals. Mr. Gibbs still rings at Brede.

Mr. T. Elcox, of Areley Kings, Worcestershire, who is now 86 and still able to ring, rang his first peal at Stone, near Kidderminster, on July 30th 1892. It was a peal of Doubles in four different methods.

Mr. H. Tucker, of Reading, Berks, rang his first peal at Tilehurst Parish Church, Reading, on February 24th, 1894, the method being Bob Major.

Mr. H. Knight's (Wolverhampton) first peal was Grandsire Caters at St. Peter's, Wolverhampton, on December 1st, 1894. The only survivor of that peal and, incidentally, the composer, is Mr. James George. He took part in 62 peals during the last century including 7,019 and 11,563 Grandsire Caters.

SOME OF THE ANCIENTS

Mr. A. B. Peck, secretary of the Ancient Society of College Youths, submits to us the list of the following.—The brothers Francis T. Hoad (1893), George F. Hoad (1895); Roland Fenn (1895), Caleb Fenn (1896), Ernest G. Fenn (1898); William S. Langdon (1895), Herbert Lanodon (1899); and also William H. Pasmore (1896) and George Faulkner (1898).

Mr. Rowland Fenn, of St. Margaret's, Barking, rang his first peal on November 26th, 1895, at Barking, the method being Grandsire Triples. Mr. Albert C. Hardy, who rang in the peal, still survives.

Mr. Caleb Fenn, of Barking, rang his first peal 'in hand,' on July 4th, 1896. It was Plain Bob Major, the band being Rowland Fenn 1-2, Albert C. Hardy 3-4, Thomas Faulkner 5-6, Caleb Fenn 7-8. Three of the four are still with us. His first peal on tower bells was 5,152 Plain Bob Major at Brentwood, Essex.

WITH J. E. GROVE

Mr. William R. Stockdale, who rings at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, rang the second to J. E. Groves' variation of Parker's Grandsire Triples, at Church Stretton, Salop, on September 24th, 1895. The peal was conducted by J. E. Grove. This was his second peal, his first being of several Doubles methods, at Bicton, Salop, the record of which he has lost.

Mr. Isaac J. Attwater, of Enfield, Middlesex, was the composer and conductor of his first peal, Grandsire Triples, rung at Cuckfield, Sussex, on March 21st, 1896.

Mr. W. W. Wolstencroft, of Stoke Poges, rang seven peals in the last century and he is the only survivor of the ringers who participated. His first was Grandsire Triples, on January 9th, 1897.

Mr. C. W. R. Grimwood, of Hersham, Surrey, rang his first peal at Lavenham, Suffolk, on August 29th, 1896, the method being Bob Major.

PORTSMOUTH AREA

Two veterans of the Portsmouth District—Mr. H. Reynolds (Alverstoke) and Mr. F. A. Burnett (Portsmouth Cathedral)—rang their first peals together—Stedman Triples, at Holy Trinity, Gosport, on January 12th, 1897.

Mr. Josiah D. Harris, of Portsmouth, who has over 50 peals to his credit and at the age of 78 is still willing to stand in any attempt, rang his first peal, Grandsire Triples, on August 5th, 1896, at St. Mary's, Portsea. He rang two other peals that year.

Mr. H. Barlow's (New Moston, Middlesex) first peal was rung in honour of his 21st birthday. It was Grandsire Triples, on October 29th, 1898.

Mr. F. J. Lewis, sen., of Cirencester, Glos, rang his first peal on June 30th, 1898, Grandsire Caters at Cirencester, conducted by John Austin.

LEICESTER'S GRAND OLD MAN

Mr. Josiah Morris, the grand old man of Leicester ringers, and the father of Ernest and George Stedman Morris, rang his first peal, Grandsire Caters, at All Saints', Loughborough, on December 28th, 1896. He has rung about 400 peals of which 16 were before 1900. Mr. T. Taffender, of London, and Mr. Morris are the only survivors of the long peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major at South Wigston in 1904. Mr. Morris will be 84 on July 1st.

Mr. William Walters, of Monmouth, rang in the only local band peal of his native town on July 1st, 1886. The method was Grandsire Triples and was conducted by the late Mr. Edwin A. Barnett, who came to Monmouth from Ross in 1882 and afterwards went to Crayford. Mr. Walters did not keep up ringing but remained a chorister at the church until recently.

Mr. William Rose, of Peterborough, rang his first peal when 14 years of age. It was the treble to a peal of Doubles in April, 1899. In the following November he rang the third to a peal of Doubles in 12 methods on the old five at Thornham Magna, Suffolk.

IN WHICH CENTURY?

Dear Sir,—When I lost my first peal attempt in the summer of 1899, I was not unduly disappointed until I read the leading article in the 'Bell News' of December 16th following. It began—The 19th century is almost at its close and we are therefore upon the threshold of the 20th—I then knew that I had lost for ever all chances of ringing a peal in the 19th century and began to feel a little resentment towards that conductor who thought he could call 'Holt's Original.'

Over half a century has rolled by since those happy days. I rang my first peal on June 30th, 1900, but I have always had a little regret that I could not squeeze it in the 19th. At least I have until I saw last week's 'Ringing World,' and there I saw recalled, under the heading 'Veterans who rang in the last century,' a peal in which I also took part, and was, in fact, my second peal, so it seems I rang my first in the 20th and my second in the 19th. I think that is a record that will take a bit of beating. I remember we nearly had a civil war about when the new century began '1899—1901 and all that.' Not for worlds would I try to stir up all that ancient argument again. But as I rang five peals in 1900, I would love for one of our brain-twisters to tell me which century they were rung in.

My first peal was rung at Banstead, Surrey, on June 30th, 1900, and conducted by the late Charles R. Lilley.

ERNEST H. OXENHAM.

Bampton, Devon.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

HOLT'S ORIGINAL

An Anniversary to be Remembered

Dear Sir,—July 7th, which this year conveniently falls on a Saturday, will be the 200th anniversary of the first performance of Holt's Original which, as probably most ringers know, was conducted from manuscript by its composer, who sat in the tower of St. Margaret's, Westminster.

Much has been written about this composition which had no imitator for well over a century and it was said at one time to be the ambition of nearly every conductor to call it. Times have evidently changed. For instance, whereas in 1890, out of 247 peals of Grandsire Triples, the Original was called 73 times by 43 different conductors, by 1950, when probably there were about 200 peals of Grandsire Triples, the numbers had dwindled to nine performances by six conductors.

The main object of this letter is to suggest that it would be very fitting if the forthcoming anniversary were to be commemorated by as many performances of the composition as possible. There are three months during which conductors can make themselves familiar with it and while perhaps the result may not look as impressive on paper as peals in this or that Surprise method, there is little doubt as to which is the more difficult (and more interesting) task for the bob-caller.—Yours faithfully,

E. A. BARNETT.

Crayford, Kent.

A SPLENDID INITIATION

Dear Sir,—This year's winners of the London County Association's Challenge Cup for hand-bell ringing are a team of young ringers from St. Lawrence's, Brentford, three of whom are still at school. Last December, having just reached the stage of Grandsire Doubles on tower bells, a group was formed to learn Grandsire Triples 'in hand.' Two of the beginners had already rung one or two courses on the trebles so these were given the diagrams of 1-2 and 3-4 to learn. One or two ringers were tried on 7-8 during the first three practices in the Christmas holiday.

Then, on January 7th, Colin, brother of Gillian Lamont, was asked if he would like to try. After having the diagram explained and being shown how to hold and strike the bells, a slow but successful course was rung. At the same time, he began to handle a tower bell and is now a regular service ringer.

After only five more weekly practices, a fair standard was achieved and it was decided to try for the competition on the following Saturday, if only to make another entry. Little was hoped for when it was discovered that three other teams, all from ten-bell towers, were also competing.

To find themselves placed first at their first attempt was certainly beyond their wildest hopes. This has come as a great reward for the patience and hard work of many months by the very small but keen young team of ringers at Brentford.

The ringers were:—Miss Gillian R. Cumber (16) 1-2, Miss Gillian R. Lamont (16) 3-4, Geoffrey Dodds 5-6, Colin R. Lamont (14) 7-8.—Yours, etc.,

GEOFFREY DODDS.

Isleworth, Middlesex.

ALL SAINTS', WORCESTER, BELLS

Dear Sir,—Are any of your readers in a position to supply any information regarding the bells of All Saints', Worcester, which for some weeks now have appeared in the 'Church Times' advertisement columns, as being for sale, for £550, with the condition attached that they are not to be melted down, except one which is cracked?—Yours sincerely,

ERNEST J. ROWE.

6. Church Street,
Broseley, Salop.

A DEVONSHIRE CALL-CHANGE

Dear Sir,—I was very interested in Mr. George C. Grills' letter about the contribution of call changes as I am a call-change ringer myself. I attend many of the ringing competitions held in the North Devon District and I find it very interesting to listen to what some of the call-change ringers have to say about method ringing.

Personally, I am very interested in method ringing and would very much like to learn but the nearest tower where there is a team of change-ringers is nearly ten miles away. If ever I get the chance to learn method ringing I shall certainly make the most of it.

Where I live, the bells are in very bad order and are not rung very often so I go to Pilton where there is a very good ring of eight and I always receive a very warm welcome.

I have also heard a few change-ringing teams there, and it is my opinion that both types of the Exercise are criticised far too much. I have heard and seen some very cutting things from both sides but there is always room for improvement no matter which method is practised.—Yours, etc.,

C. TRIBE.

Bratton Fleming.

A CALL-CHANGER REPLIES

Dear Sir,—Your correspondent, Mr. Peter W. B. Semmons, would do well to pay a visit to Devonshire during one of our ringing festivals. I feel certain he will be impressed by the striking he will hear.

May I remind him that we take a great pride in the fact that every ringer has complete control over his bell from the start and we rise and fall (regardless of weight) as a team, not singly as is so often the custom with the method ringers.

I have been a call-change ringer for nearly 20 years and until I hear better striking and less 'mud-slinging' on the part of some of the change-ringers, I shall prefer to stay and practise the art as we know it.

To Mr. Semmons I would say it is no 'misfortune' to belong to a county or a team that will not tolerate 'shoddy striking' at any price; indeed it is an honour.

We welcome any ringer, no matter what category, to our tower and invite him to 'have a go' with us. Surely it is much better to offer the hand of friendship than stand aloof. After all, are we not brothers in this great calling and stand on equal terms in God's belfry?—Yours faithfully,

LESLIE E. EDWORTHY.

Widcombe-in-the-Moor, Devon.

MR. FUSSELL'S DIARY

Dear Sir,—Mr. Simmonds' letter correcting the spelling of Mr. Egby's name prompts me to write and make a similar correction, Arthur H. Gardom, not Gardam.

Arthur Gardom was a son of a well-to-do family at Wanstead, Essex. He was a fine ringer and conductor and when we lived at Leytonstone was a frequent visitor to our house to ring 5-6 to my father's 1-2-3-4.

He had a good position in a bank in London but, I have been told, lost it through neglect for ringing after which he emigrated to South Africa when nothing further was heard of him in ringing circles.

Two other Wanstead ringers also emigrated there much about the same time—Lewis Green and James F. Priest—and these took part in the first and, I believe, only peal in South Africa—Grandsire Triples, at Woodstock, in 1904.—Yours faithfully,

E. BARNETT.

Crayford, Kent.

LIBERTY (AND PLENTY OF IT) WITHOUT LICENCE

Dear Sir,—Thank you for your effective 'Leader' on February 9th in reply to the criticism of the Rev. P. T. Robbins which fully represents by far the majority opinion of the Exercise.

It was a very wide, sweeping statement evidently made without knowledge of the inside working of the Exercise.

I have attended a good many monthly and annual meetings of branches and guilds and associations and have occasionally heard and seen a few (though very few) things of which I did not approve. I have severely criticised—and have been more severely criticised—but I did not intend it in any acrimonious or trouble-making spirit, neither felt any. The Central Council—that Church Assembly for Ringers—for which that great-hearted Derbyshire ringer, Sir Percival Heywood, was mainly responsible, has to 'take it' sometimes. No, 'fraternity'—in its fullest sense and meaning—is not too strong a word or out of place; it is one of the strongest and best and is not by any means a closed shop.

Ringers might say that some of the clergy—although we must not be too sweeping—are primarily responsible for 'these unhappy divisions,' and when asked about some of the causes say the Church is so comprehensive; so is 'The Ringing World,' and the Editor wisely and widely tolerant. Though severe in our criticism of each other, ringers are cognizant of and jealous of the integrity of the Editor and the tone of 'The Ringing World,' which allows liberty without licence to ringers to express their views; it stimulates discussion which should not create discord. I would like to suggest your 'Leader' be read in conjunction with the article in 'The Radio Times' recently, 'Asking any Questions,' and relates to the Question Master, Gilbert Harding, 'never afraid to express his mind'; he says we might take some of our correspondence as entertainment. I do.—Yours sincerely,

Crewe.

H. FRANK STENSON.

GLASGOW CATHEDRAL SOCIETY :
INFORMATION WANTED

Dear Sir,—The 50th anniversary of the opening of the bells of St. Mary's Cathedral falls on June 8th, 1951. As we have no records prior to October, 1929, when the present society was formed under the direction of the late Stephen H. Wood, Ashton, we would be grateful for any items of interest about ringing or ringers (including peal attempts) prior to that date. We do know that the first band was formed by Mr. Cleveland Ellis, of St. Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, and another band formed later by Mr. J. E. Sykes (Uncle Joe) and Mr. Tom O'Hara, all of whom are now deceased.

Any information as above will be carefully recorded.—Yours faithfully,

ERNEST A. STAFFORD.

Hon. Secretary.

17, Tabard Road,
Glasgow, 3.

TRIPLES IN AUSTRALIA

Dear Sir,—Your copy of December 22nd, 1950, has just come to hand and in it is a letter from Mr. A. Richardson, of Surfleet, in regard to a footnote in 'The Ringing World' stating that Miss Ruth Donnelly was the first lady to ring a peal of Triples in Australia.

Our apologies to Mrs. Richardson; this footnote should have read 'the first Australian lady.' It is well known that Mrs. Richardson rang the peals she states as the achievement is recorded by a tablet in the tower at the Ballarat Town Hall; not only that, 'The Great Adventure' gives full particulars.

Trusting that Mrs. Richardson will forgive our oversight.—Yours faithfully,

W. M. ROWE,

Capt., St. Jude's, Randwick.

OBITUARIES OF THE WEEK

MR. JOHN DYSON

We regret to record the death of Mr. John Dyson, of Bolsterstone, Yorkshire, aged 75 years. This veteran was the last of the original band which learnt to ring at Bolsterstone, under the late David Brearley.

When he rang in the first peal on the bells by a local company, he was 17 years old. That was in 1894, two years after the bells were hung and although rheumatism had prevented him ringing these last few years, he rang when the ban was removed during the war.

He had some 23 peals to his credit, all on the treble, and was always an excellent striker and could be depended on to keep right under almost any circumstance. A gamekeeper in his younger days, he often came into the belfry straight from his job, put his gun in the corner and his dog under the seat, to ring for practice. He was interred at Bolsterstone on February 9th.

MR. A. HAWKINS

Usk and district has lost one of its keenest ringers, after a long illness, by the recent death of Mr. Arthur Hawkins, at the age of 73.

Mr. Hawkins learned his early ringing at Cwmcarvan. When the old six at Usk were recast and augmented to eight in 1926, he joined the band there and subsequently became captain.

In January, 1930, he conducted the first peal to be rung by the local band, Holt's Ten Part peal of Grandsire Triples, a peal of which he was very proud. He loved good ringing and would travel any distance for a peal. His first peal was Grandsire Doubles rung at Tredunnock on January 21st, 1928, in which he shared the conducting with the writer. It was the first peal by all the band, and of his 59 peals I had the pleasure of taking part in 37.

His list of peals is as follows:—Grandsire Doubles 1; Doubles, two methods 1; Plain Bob Minor 4; Grandsire Triples 33 (1); Oxford Bob Triples 1; Stedman Triples 2; Plain Bob Major 14; Grandsire Caters 3; total 59 (conducted 1).
D. G. C.

MR. DANIEL KENNEDY

The Irish Association suffered the loss of its 'Grand Old Man of Dublin's Bellringers' in February 5th, through the death of Mr. Daniel Kennedy at the ripe old age of 84.

Dan, as he was affectionately known, was attached to the belfry of the Augustinian Church of St. John-the-Baptist, High Street, Dublin, for over 70 years. He ascended the belfry by the circular iron staircase, which rises over the organ at the back of the church, daily throughout his long life, and d'd so up to a few days before his death, to ring his beloved bells. He was a great friend of the late Gabriel Lindoff, who also worked in the firm of Messrs. Guinness and Sons.

He became a member of the Association in 1902 and was elected president in 1925 and 1926. When the Association was reorganised in 1948, he was unanimously elected the first chairman of the Eastern District, but owing to failing health he was compelled to relinquish these duties. The Association, however, conferred the honour of life membership upon him in appreciation of his past services, which are too numerous to mention.

A very high ecclesiastical honour was conferred upon Dan in 1942 when he was decorated by the Pope for 'renowned, long and unbroken service' as a bellringer. The Papal decoration was the 'Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice'.

As his funeral left, on the morning of February 7th, the church where he used to ring, 'his bells' were rung muffled by a team consisting of his sons and nephews, all of whom he had initiated in the art. So passed on another of the Grand Old Ringers of Ireland who have rendered unselfish service to maintain the bell-ringing teams in our churches.

MR. ALFRED MILLER

The death of Mr. Alfred Miller took place in St. Helier Hospital, Surrey, on February 11th, after a very short illness.

Mr. Miller, who was 71 years of age, had lived in Mitcham all his life. He was a member of the Surrey Association, the London County Association and a College Youth and had been a ringer at Christ Church, Mitcham, for 55 years and over 40 years as captain. He rang and conducted his first peal at Christ Church, Mitcham, on August 6th, 1910, it being a peal of Grandsire Doubles and the first peal on the bells.

He will mostly be remembered by those who have visited the tower for his cheerful willingness to help beginners. Only a week or two before his death he was trying to recall the number of youngsters who had learnt to handle a bell in the tower. The methods he usually rang were Grandsire and Stedman Doubles and Triples, Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor and Major, but during the last 12 months he had been very pleased to take part in short touches of Cambridge Surprise Minor when enough of his friends turned up to make it possible.

During the early summer of 1949, Mr. Miller went by air to Canada to visit a sister and to the U.S.A. to visit a brother whom he had not seen for over 60 years. Flying was a new experience for him and he was surprised at the comfort that can be enjoyed thousands of feet above the Atlantic. He spoke very highly of the reception he received in Canada and the U.S.A.

He leaves four daughters and four grandchildren and many old friends from Christ Church to mourn their loss.

The funeral service was at Christ Church, Mitcham, on February 17th and was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. G. S. Johnston): many of his ringing friends attended. The tenor bell, half muffled, tolled the years before the service began.

The Vicar, in expressing deep sympathy with the family and mourners, said Mr. Miller had lived in the parish since his boyhood days and was very widely respected. His passing had left a large gap in their midst but they must thank God he had lived so long to serve the Church. His colleagues in the ringing chamber had lost a good friend and he would be sadly missed there. The hymn 'Abide with me' was sung and as the funeral procession left the church the 'Dead March' was played by the organist, Mr. E. J. Piercey. The burial took place at the London Road Cemetery, Mitcham. The chief mourners were his daughters and sons-in-law; Mr. G. Pidwell (who was his schoolmate and a fellow-ringer); Mr. J. Parslow, Mr. J. Hyde and the following ringers, most of whom were able to be present at the church service:—Mrs. E. Jones, S. Ball, J. Tompsett, Mrs. Allen (representing H. Allen), S. Howard, J. Uden, T. Miller, R. Sanders, J. Chapman, Miss A. Castle, Miss J. Frear, Mr. and Mrs. Lathbury (Surrey Association), Mr. W. Passmore (the College Youths) and Mrs. Oatway (St. John's, Croydon).

A course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells at the graveside by Messrs. R. Sanders, W. Passmore, J. Chapman and R. Lathbury. Amongst the many floral tributes was one from the Surrey Association and one in the shape of a bell from his past and present colleagues at Christ Church, Mitcham, and St. Leonard's Church, Streatham.
S. H.

THREE GENERATIONS IN A PEAL

Dear Sir,—Henry, Charles H. and William Briggs (father, son and grandson respectively) took part in a peal of Grandsire Triples at Stoney Stanton, Leicestershire, on December 10th, 1921.—Yours faithfully,

HENRY BROUGHTON.

Leicester.

MR. C. SMITH

By the passing of Mr. Charles Smith, Rodbourne Cheney has lost a faithful ringer, choirman and secretary of the Duplex scheme. He was ill only a few weeks and his death at the age of 50 came as a shock to all who knew him. Some years ago he met with a serious accident while following his employment on the G.W.R. and his ringing was restricted to the treble, but he was most regular in his attendance for Sunday service ringing and will be greatly missed.

The funeral took place at Rodbourne Cheney, the bells being rung half-muffled before the service and the whole pull and stand was rung following the interment.

MR. WILLIAM HENRY WALKER

It is with deep regret that we record the death of Mr. William Walker, of Boyne Hill, Maidenhead, who passed away at St. Mark's Hospital, on February 15th, at the age of 74.

Mr. Walker was a regular Sunday service ringer at All Saints', Boyne Hill, for 60 years and was foreman and steeplekeeper for a great number of years, an office he held up to the time of his death.

He was a member of the Oxford Diocesan Guild and a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths. He rang his first peal in 1896, but owing to the nature of his work he was unable to participate in as many peals as he would have wished. He took part in many peals in his own tower, which included a peal of London Surprise in 1930, rung by a local band. In his younger days he was a keen cricketer and was a life member of Boyne Hill Cricket Club.

On February 19th his body was borne to the church he served so faithfully, there to lie during the night. The funeral the next day was preceded by a choral service at All Saints', conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. Eric Perkins, attended by relatives and friends, including a number of ringers.

The bells he loved so much were rung half-muffled, to touches of Stedman, by local and visiting ringers. A plain course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells after the service, by four of his old ringing comrades, Messrs. George Martin, Jesse Eldridge, Thomas Goodchild and William Judd.

In the evening, touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples were rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect and in sorrow at the loss of a brother ringer.

E. E. G.

MR. CHARLES TYLER

Mr. C. E. Borrett, of Sheringham, writes with reference to the death of Mr. Charles Tyler, of Henfield (page 61):—

I have no records to refer to but I clearly recollect the amazement caused by the records of double-handed handbell peals of Stedman by Mr. Tyler, who conducted, and his Henfield men. I believe Triples, Caters and Cinques were scored some time in the 1890's or thereabouts. At that time peals of Stedman Cinques on handbells could be counted on the fingers of one hand—two were rung in London and one in Birmingham—so that such a peal by a village band with only eight bells in their home tower was outstanding. For the benefit and interest of younger ringers, perhaps some member of the Sussex Association would send particulars. To-day such peals are frequent but in the earlier days they were landmarks.

SEVENOAKS, KENT.—On Feb. 11th. 1.264 Plain Bob Major: Miss D. Corke 1, Miss D. Golding 2, H. Baker 3, P. Turley 4, L. Turley 5, R. Pankhurst 6, Miss D. Colgate 7, R. Collins (cond.) 8. First of Major for 2 and 6. A birthday compliment to Paul, elder son of L. Turley and grandson of P. Turley.
SOUTHWARK, LONDON.—On Feb. 11th, at St. George-the-Martyr's, 1.280 Cambridge Major: Anne B. Stockdale 1, R. F. B. Speed 2, W. Williams 3, T. G. Fox 4, R. H. Begrie 5, A. Lancaster (first of Surprise) 6, B. D. Threlfall 7, J. R. Worrall (first of Surprise Major as cond.) 8.

STORY OF A GREAT RINGING CAREER

DIARY OF THE LATE MR. W. H. FUSSELL—11

Edited by ERNEST MORRIS

A WHITECHAPEL APPOINTMENT

In March, 1884, Mr. Fussell reports that: 'I went to London and called on Mears and Stainbank re situation as bell-tuner; received 10s. railway expenses. Met Mr. Lawton, the new proprietor of the business—a very nice gentleman—and he seemed very interested in my having the situation. Had a long chat with him and Mr. Waskett, whom I met in the office and he showed me over the foundry explaining the nature of the work I was required to do. Saw the old bells of Beaconsfield which the firm had to make up into a ring of eight.

'Little did I think when I copied the inscriptions off them, that I should next see them at the foundry. The very coat I was wearing at the time was marked with grease off them, obtained on my last visit at Christmas to Beaconsfield . . .

'In the evening went to St. Martin's and rang in a touch of Stedman Caters: very bad ringing as several young hands were in it. The rest of the evening was spent in practising for a peal of Stedman Cinques to-morrow (Saturday) and a peal of Treble 12 on the 27th inst.'

Later, Mr. Fussell says he went to the foundry, saw Mr. Lawton and Mr. Waskett, also Greenleaf, and made a trial on the lathe at handbell turning. Then left at 5 p.m. The next day he went again and worked till 5.30 p.m. at the lathe: 'made very fair progress and arranged to start work on Monday.' On this day he 'began operations as a bell-tuner—added four in front of a ring of 12, two semitones and replaced three cracked bells in a ring for Shaw Higham.'

Often he quotes various bells coming into the foundry as, for instance: 'Several old bells were broken up with a hammer in the foundry to-day. It seemed sorrowful to have the poor old things destroyed to go into the furnace again, if one considers the number of years they resounded to many past generations, and after a long life the old and feeble thus destroyed. Several were from Drayton Went back to the foundry to see some bells run but, owing to the wood for firing being damp, it did not take place till later for the metal to get in condition. This was my first view of bell-casting and the performance is very interesting as well as momentous to those concerned in the work. There were seven bells in the pit, the largest of 3 cwt, of four for Wollaston, two bells to a ring of five for Great Bentley and two others, one for the eight going to Crystal Palace—excellent castings they afterwards proved, and good quality.' During the time the bells were at Crystal Palace Exhibition Mr. Fussell went 'almost daily to chime tunes, etc., on them.

Being in London gave Mr. Fussell opportunities of meeting many ringers, attending practices and meetings of the various societies and he made the most of these. His diary tells of visits almost daily and of many peal attempts, some of which were successful. For instance he 'went to St. Leonard's, Shoreditch—met a lot of the Cumberland Society and pulled off for the first time on 12 bells and rang a quarter peal of Treble 12: 30 leads, 1,440 changes, in 1 hour 23 minutes, the striking reported to be good considering it was difficult to hear the trebles speak.'

WITH THE COLLEGE YOUTHS

Again after work at the foundry he 'had a walk over Southwark Bridge to St. Saviour's . . . met Mr. Haworth and many of the College

Youths Society I had never met before—Mr. S. Musckett, Pettitt, George Dorrington, etc. Saw the company's peal books which were certainly very interesting. Also saw the cup presented by J. A. Haworth and the original one of 1783. Routh was present. Greenleaf, whom I am working under at the foundry, was presiding as Master at the meeting.'

In April, 1884, he says that after ringing the tenor at the Chapel of Ease, Holloway Road, he was on the way home when he saw the reflection of a large fire in the City which resulted in damage of £20,000 at premises in Paternoster Row, mostly belonging to bookbinders and publishers.

His first attempt for a peal on more than eight bells was at St. Clement Danes', where he took part in one of Grandsire Caters in 3 hours 40 minutes. This was for St. James' Society. After the peal he went on down the Strand and arrived at St. Martin's in time to hear a peal of Treble 12 begin. 'The striking was bad and Newson called Stand. A fresh start was made at 6 o'clock and I heard the first hour. Then I went to St. Paul's for the first time with Haworth. Let the eighth down. Heard some Stedman Cinques rung. There can be no doubt that, as a ringing chamber, St. Paul's is unequalled. It was announced in the daily papers there would be ringing and this was the means of a large crowd of people congregating in the neighbourhood, filling all round the churchyard. 'F. E. Dawe, who had been ill through blood poison by inhaling foul smell had been absent the last four weeks. Went into the Goose and Gridiron afterwards.'

PERSONAL MEMORIES!!

Mr. Fussell says on one occasion he 'went up into St. Mary's tower at Whitechapel when the bells were being chimed—by clocking—for 7 p.m. service. Tried some Doubles with the steeplekeeper and two young men.' It was here where the present writer rang the tenor to the hardest peal he ever remembers ringing. This was with the late William and Bob Pye and T. Coles. It will be recalled that a few years ago this event was 'aired' in these columns.

AN ECCENTRIC OLD FELLOW

When at home in Slough at Easter, Mr. Fussell relates that he, his brother and J. Parker went to Uxbridge and 'gave old Tiny Hastings (of St. Margaret's Church) a look-up in the Bell Yard, and he seemed quite pleased, inviting us to come again. He seemed to be a very eccentric old fellow, and his room (or rather workshop, living room and study combined) presented a very muggy and musty interior, quite devoid of any comforts. Gave the old man sixpence and went our way to Rickmansworth. After walking some distance we made enquiries for the right road. Following the way pointed out we found ourselves two miles further away, nearing the village of Ruislip. This unexpected stretch in our already long journey damped our spirits so that we at once dropped into a friendly inn to enquire the way. We retraced our steps and at length arrived at Harefield. Here the whole place was busy and quite lively, it being the village 'wake.' During the journey I picked a long withy pole and used it as a staff to walk by. I was, therefore, cutely gazed on when I arrived amid the crowd of yokels, some saying I was an athlete and going to compete at the sports. Still we trudged on and at last got to Rickmansworth at 2 o'clock.

'Here we met the rest of the band and my long pole was carefully rested in a corner of the "George" after his six-mile journey. I

commenced to feed heartily on a good piece of boiled beef and pickles, afterwards some tart and jellies to the expense of 1s. 6d., and I thoroughly enjoyed the meal and, by all appearance, so did my brother and Parker. We went to the tower and rang Reeves' Variation of Holt's 10 part in 3 hours 10 minutes. This was the first on the bells for 65 years. There were five peal boards in the belfry, all in bad condition. The bells are a grand ring, tenor 24 cwt.

'I think I did enough walking this Easter. Ten miles yesterday, 17 on Sunday. Parker was done up by the time he got to Farnham—it would be a 28 miles walk for him. We frequently had to shelter on our journey from rain showers. There were a few nice little talkative tales on the way, some not modest enough to repeat here for other eyes to read!

'Certainly ringers are curious men, their ways are many. Our peal was for St. James' Society, four being College Youths, 4-5-6-7 men Cumberlands, all in a row—strange! On Monday the Cumberlands attempted 13,000 at Fulham but it failed after 6 hours 33 minutes.'

A VISIT TO MATTHEW A WOOD

Mr. Fussell went to ring for service at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green (a 504 Grandsire Triples) and afterwards 'went into Mr. Wood's home opposite and there saw Messrs. Cooter, Dwight, Haward and others—this was quite a ringers' den. The "Bell News" was carefully handed round to most of those present who were subscribers. Went to service at St. Mary's, Whitechapel, in the evening.'

One week-end he returned to Slough and went over to Farnham. The Rector (the Rev. Marshall) was present, and during his stay of an hour Mr. Fussell says: 'I frequently gave divers suggestions and hints for two new trebles, but the mean old gentleman made many excuses for spending the money on other requirements.' Later Mr. Fussell writes: 'Harrington is falling away from all ringing meetings. "so much for being married." I suppose he will soon be tired and again resume his old ways by regular attendance. Perhaps I may be married at some future time and then be able to account for the home attendance being in preference to ringing meetings.'

ANOTHER DOG STORY

In May, 1884, Mr. Fussell went to Camberwell for a peal of Double Norwich Court Bob. He says: 'Barrett was in poor condition for ringing having gout in his foot badly which compelled him to stop after one hour. "Carlo," Hopkins' dog, was in the tower quietly sleeping while the ringing was on. The dog has stayed in towers on many occasions with both the Hopkins throughout a peal.'

A ROYAL BIRTHDAY

This is how Mr. Fussell spent his time on the Queen's birthday: 'Left Foundry 10 a.m. and went at once to St. Bride's, Fleet Street, rang call-changes on back ten. From here to St. Sepulchre's (ten bells) and finished at noon. Rode to Westminster Abbey and heard the old heavy six: went up the tower where I found it in a very dirty condition—a disgrace to the authorities. Rang the tenor for once. Then went to St. Margaret's nearby and rang till 1.30. From here, walked to St. Martin's but all ringers had gone, so went to St. Clement Danes' and saw C. F. Winney. Waited about but no one came. Then I went to Holloway and at the Chapel of Ease rang some Stedman Triples. Then back to King's Cross and so on to Star Street, Paddington, where there is a good ring of eight bells packed into a wretched, small tower, hung four over others. Rang Bob Major. The day was very hot and after ringing at six towers, I found I had had enough for one day.'

(To be continued)

LONDON.—At St. Giles-in-the-Fields on Feb. 11th. 1,264 Plain Bob Major: G. A. Parsons 1, Miss I. B. Cording 2, Mrs. M. Hodgeson 3, C. E. Lankester 4, A. Cutler 5, E. H. Kilby 6, M. Hodgson 7, L. Bowler (cond.) 8.

GUILD of DEVONSHIRE RINGERS**Meeting at Bridgerule**

The N.W. Branch of the Guild held its annual meeting at Bridgerule on February 10th and about 35 members and friends were present. The service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. F. H. Kingdon) and the Rev. W. H. Ravenhill read the lesson.

Tea was served at Church Town Farm. At the business meeting a credit balance of £7 2s. 9d. was reported. All the officers—Rev. W. H. Ravenhill (chairman), Mr. J. W. Sangwin (secretary), Mr. F. Sangwin (Ringing Master), Rev. W. H. Smale, Mr. W. H. R. Smale and Mr. F. Sangwin (representatives to the general committee)—were re-elected. Mr. G. Abbott was elected as a member and Mr. W. A. R. Bray as a non-resident member.

It was decided that the July meeting be, if agreed, a joint one with the Exeter Branch at Okehampton and that the next annual meeting shall be held at Sutcombe. The Rector was thanked for his excellent address and the use of his bells. The organist, Mrs. Bath, the local ringers and the ladies who catered so well were also thanked.

Ringers from Plymouth, Stratton, Marhamchurch, Holsworthy, Lifton, Pyworthy, Okehampton, Bradworthy and Sutcombe as well as the local band were present. The bells were kept going with rounds, Stedman and Grandsire Triples.

BARNESLEY DISTRICT SOCIETY

A very successful meeting was held at Royston on February 10th, about 30 members being present from Barnsley, Doncaster, Dronfield, Cawthorne, Crofton, Felkirk, Horbury, Sandal, Shelley, Sprotborough and the local company.

Tea was served in the church schools. The business meeting as held in the same room, the president, Mr. N. F. Moxon, being in the chair. Four new members were elected. Thanks were given to the Vicar for the use of the bells and to Mr. S. Dance and the local company for making the arrangements.

The March meeting will be held at Felkirk as a farewell meeting to the Vicar, the Rev. Donald Moxon, who is leaving soon after Easter to take up new duties at Brighouse.

Further ringing followed until about 8.30 p.m. in a variety of methods including some of the old favourites; good use was made of the bells during the afternoon and evening.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION**Rochdale Branch's Party**

On February 3rd, the Rochdale Branch of the Lancashire Association held their annual party. This time it was St. Mark's, Glodwick, who were the hosts. The first contingent arrived by motor coach from Rochdale and whilst the non-ringing women folk took the first bus to the town's shopping centre, the ringers got to work on the rather sweet-toned ring of eight. All sections were catered for in the ringing: rounds and thirds for the learners, up to the more advanced classes.

At 4.30 they all filed into the church where the Vicar (the Rev. R. H. Cadman) conducted the service. The St. Mark's ringers provided the organist, the soloist and the lesson reader. A very appropriate address, with bells as the main theme, was given by Mr. John Whitworth, one of the churchwardens. Tea followed in the schoolroom, the company numbering 60.

Until the social evening got into its stride, some of the ringers returned to the tower for a few quick touches, and then to 'bring them in.' Both old time and modern dancing kept everyone busy and short breathing spaces brought back the soloist and the Oldham Handbell Ringers, who were very well received with all tunes. Mr. Whitworth presented a few typical stories of the time-honoured types of cotton mill workers—a never-ending source of amusement in this part of the country.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION**Western Division at Pulborough**

Twenty-two towers were represented by 62 ringers at the annual meeting of the Western Division of the Sussex County Association held at Pulborough on February 17th.

The Rector (the Rev. G. H. W. Royle) and Mrs. Royle contributed largely to the success of the meeting and prepared tea in the Rectory.

Mr. G. W. Cecil paid his first visit to the Division as Master of the Association and received a warm welcome as he took the chair for the business meeting.

The report for 1950 showed an increase in membership but a slight loss financially on the year's working. Only one ring of bells (the five at Pagham) is unringable in the Division. Restorations have been completed during the year at Arundel, Amberley, Lymminster and S. Harting. Officers were re-elected; a ballot for a new committee proved without a doubt the confidence the meeting had in the retiring members.

Thanks were expressed to all who had helped with the arrangements, particularly the Rector and Mrs. Royle for the splendid tea, and to the Master for attending and presiding.

Ringing was somewhat difficult owing to the confined space, but the attendance of so many young people was very encouraging.

NOTICES

The charge for one insertion of a notice of a meeting is one penny per word, minimum 2s. For additional insertions with no change over-half above charge for each insertion.

Other notices one penny per word, minimum 2s. 6d.

All notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received not later than Monday.

BIRTHS

CORBY.—On Sunday, February 25th, 1951, at 83, Hurstbourne Road, Forest Hill, S.E.23, to Lucile (née Hubbert), wife of Philip A. Corby, a daughter, Judith Mary (a sister for Andrew). 8471

SMITH.—At Mount Alvernia, Godalming, Surrey, on February 17th, 1951, to Joan (née Herrington), wife of C. Ernest Smith, of 1, Green Lane, Farncombe, Godalming, a son, (Malcolm Alan). 8474

FORTHCOMING MARRIAGE

The marriage of Mr. Derek Chatfield and Miss Brenda Philpott takes place at St. Dunstan's Church, Canterbury, on March 31st, at 2.30 p.m. All friends welcome at the church. 8472

DEATH

BIRD.—Suddenly, on February 1st, 1951, at 54, Russell Street, Kettering, Frances Ellen, the beloved wife of Charles W. Bird. 8464

HANDBELLS WANTED

WANTED.—A set of eight handbells. Must be in good order and reasonable price.—Woodhouse, Spaxton Court, Bridgwater, Sussex. 8478

HANDBELLS FOR SALE

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MISCELLANEOUS

HYTHE, KENT.—Please note that the ringing practice night has been changed from Friday to Tuesday, commencing March 6th. 8460

OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.—The tour will be held from April 6th to 12th. Will old members interested communicate with W. G. Thomas, Jesus College? 8467

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MEETINGS

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South Eastern Division.—Meeting, Danbury, Saturday, March 3rd. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Numbers for tea to Everett, 24, The Chase, Boreham. 8386

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—A meeting will be held at Frindsbury (8) on Saturday, March 3rd. Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea in the Village Hall. 8408

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cambridge District.—Little Shelford (5), Saturday, March 3rd. 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5, at Prince Regent.—H. L. Martin. 8438

HENRY JOHNSON COMMEMORATION DINNER.—March 3rd. Ringing arrangements: St. Chad's (8) 1.30—2.30. Bishop Ryder's (8) 2—3. Aston (12) 3—4. St. Martin's (12) 3.30—4.30. Cathedral (12) 4—5.30.—G. E. Fearn. (Phone SPR 1025.) 8449

LADIES' GUILD.—West Midland District.—Meeting at Meriden, March 3rd. Bells (5) 3. Tea available. 8453

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—Dallington, March 3rd. Bells 3.30. Names for tea to Mr. Eric Nobles, Hon. Sec., 48, Millway, Duston, Northants. 8436

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The annual meeting will be held at Rammoor on Saturday, March 3rd. Bells (10) at 3 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. E. G. Dickens, 18, Gisborne Road, Sheffield, 11. Very important business. A good attendance is requested.—J. E. Turley, Hon. Sec. 8429

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Halesworth District.—Meeting at Bramfield (5) 3 p.m., on Saturday, March 3rd. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m.—R. S. Payne, Hon. Sec. 8443

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Quarterly meeting at Redhill (8), on Saturday, March 3rd. Ringing 3. Service 4. Tea and meeting 4.30, ringing after. 8427

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern.—Practice meeting, West Hoathly (6), Saturday, March 3rd at 3 p.m. 8454

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—Ernest Turner will give another talk on 'Conducting' in St. Giles-in-the-Fields' Vestry, at 7 p.m., Wednesday, March 7th. 8446

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Annual meeting, Saturday, March 10th, at Dudley. Bells 2.30. Guild service 4.15, conducted by the president, Rev. Canon J. Waring. This will be the president's last Guild service before leaving for Norwich Cathedral, so a good attendance, please. Tea and meeting 5 o'clock. Names for tea essential by March 6th to F. Colclough, Hall Park Street, Bilston. 8447

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Meeting at Redbourn (6), Saturday, March 10th, 2.30 p.m. Names for tea by March 7th, to Mr. J. Hobbs, 84, High Street, Redbourn.—P. A. Martin, Dis. Sec. 8440

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—By-meeting, Littlebourne, March 10th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 1s. 6d. per head. Names for tea with cost enclosed to reach me not later than Wednesday, March 7th. B. J. Luck, 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury. 8442

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—General committee meeting, St. Mary's Church House, The Butts, Reading, March 10th, 3 p.m. Service, St. Laurence's, 4.30 p.m. Tea, St. Mary's Church House, 5.15 p.m. Special general meeting immediately afterwards. Ringing St. Laurence's and Caversham, 3 p.m. Names for tea by March 3rd, please, to P. J. Dyke, 77 Audley Street, Reading.—W. Hibbert, Gen. Sec. 8434

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—Annual meeting, East Grinstead, March 10th. Bells (8) 3. Service at 4.30. Tea and business in small Parish Hall. Names to Miss Shepherd, 34, Cantelupe Road, East Grinstead.—C. A. Bassett. 8435

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Boston on Saturday, March 10th. Bells from 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea at 5 in Memorial Hall. Important! Names for tea must reach me by Monday, March 5th; no names, no tea.—W. E. Clarke, Hon. Sec., 99, Norfolk Street, Boston, Lincs. 8437

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—March 10th. Annual general meeting, Croydon. Parish Church bells (12) 3. Service 5, at which the Archdeacon will dedicate a memorial tablet to the late Cyril F. Johnston. Tea, by kind invitation of Mrs. C. F. Johnston, at Croydon Bell Foundry, for those notifying, by March 6th, D. Cooper, 51, Waddon Road, Croydon.—W. F. Oatway, Hon. Sec. 8424

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—St. Peter's, Weedon Bec, Northampton, March 10th, at 3 p.m. Dedication of two new trebles, installed by John Taylor and Co., making ring of eight. Names for tea by March 3rd to R. Smith, 2, The Hollies, South Street, Weedon Bec, Northampton; no name, no tea—this is definite. 8432

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—North Notts Branch.—Annual meeting at Retford, Saturday, March 10th. East Retford (10), West Retford (6) and Ordsall (6) available. Service at 4.15. Tea at Pheasant Hotel at 5 p.m. only for those who notify by March 6th, Mr. K. Beardsall, 48, Trent Street, Retford.—H. Denman. 8422

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Arlesey on Saturday, March 10th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Tea at 5.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy. 8490

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Grappenhall Branch.—Meeting at Daresbury, March 10th. Advise if requiring tea, J. Worrall, 5, Causeway Avenue, Warrington.—John E. Ashcroft, Hon. Sec. 8462

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wirral Branch.—Third annual dinner, entertainment and dance. Coach and Horses Inn, Moreton, Saturday, March 10th. 5.45 p.m. to 12 midnight. Tickets (15s. each) still available.—A. J. Martin, 19, Falcon Road, Birkenhead. 8495

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts District.—Eynesbury, Saturday, March 10th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Own tea arrangements. 8487

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—Rodbourn Cheney (6), March 10th. Tea.—W. B. Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Rodbourne Cheney, Swindon. 8459

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Meeting at Stevenage (8), Saturday, March 10th. 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea, please, by March 7th, to Mr. W. Lawrence, 97, Letchmore Road, Stevenage.—A. E. Symonds, Dis. Sec. 8485

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Coach Tour of District Towers will be also arranged if sufficient demand notified by April 14th (approx. cost 8/- per head). Please address your requirements and queries to Arthur V. Davis, 116, Alma Road, Bournemouth, at an early date.

LADIES GUILD.—Western District.—The annual meeting will be held at Wrington on Saturday, March 10th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Names for tea to Mrs. Knight, Woolmers, Cleeve, near Bristol.—N. G. Williams, 20, Macaulay, Bath. 8481

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Meeting at St. Thomas', Newhey, March 10th. Ringing from 3 p.m.—F. Pritchard. 8494

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Joint meeting of Leicester and Syston Districts, Belgrave, Saturday, March 10th. Bells (8) 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5 in Abbey Lane room. Names, by Wednesday, March 7th, to J. R. Smith, 75, Woodville Road, Leicester. 8466

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Loughborough District.—Hugglescote, March 10th. Ringing 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea, Schoolroom, 5. Names, by Wednesday, 7th, to H. Over, 130, Ashburton Road, Hugglescote.—C. W. Hall. 8468

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION AND LONDON GUILD.—North and East District.—Meeting at St. Mary Magdalene's, Holloway, on Saturday, March 10th, 3 p.m. Service, tea and business.—T. J. Lock, Dis. Sec. 8484

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—The annual supper and social of the South and West District at Church Hall, Heston, Saturday, March 10th, 6 p.m. Tickets, 8s. 6d., available from Tower Secretaries and F. Finch, closing date Wednesday, March 7th. Heston bells 3.30.—F. Finch. 8488

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Central Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting at Dinton, Saturday, March 10th. Bells (6) at 2.45. Service 4. Tea 4.45.—E. F. Gibbard, 30, Horn Street, Winslow, Bucks. 8473

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Dorset Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Shillingstone on March 10th at 3. Visitors welcome.—Rev. Wm. Uphill, Stour Provost Rectory, Gillingham, Dorset. 8463

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Whitchurch, Saturday, March 10th, 2.30.—E. J. Rowe, 6, Church Street, Broseley. 8492

ST. DAVID'S GUILD.—Quarterly meeting at Llandovery (6 bells), March 10th. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. Names for tea to C. H. Hawkins, 2, Machynis Road, New Dock, Llanelly, Carmar. 8461

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Cleve Prior, Saturday, March 10th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea. Names, by March 8th please, to W. J. Newman, 7, New Road, Hampton, Evesham. 8486

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Market Harborough District.—N. Kilworth, Saturday, March 10th. Bells (5) 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Please notify by March 7th, L. W. Allen, High Street, Gt. Glenn. 8475

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—Meeting at Yate (6), March 10th. Notify for tea by March 6th, to Mary Drew, Bibstone Farm, Cromhall. 8499

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—To all committee members. Next committee meeting March 10th, Town Hall, Manchester, No 4 Committee Room, 3.30 p.m. Important meeting. 8498

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Sudbury District.—Meeting at Sudbury, Saturday, March 10th, 3 p.m., at St. Gregory's. St. Peter's and All Saints' available at 6.30 on request. Tea 5 p.m. at Pimpernel Cafe, King Street, for those sending names to A. A. Fitch, 7, Croft Road, Sudbury, Suffolk. 8496

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Peak District.—Meeting at Youlgrave (8). Saturday, March 17th, 3 p.m. Tea and sandwiches for all at the Bull's Head.—Dennis Scott, Hon. Sec. 8476

THE DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The Joseph W. Parker Commemoration Meeting will be held at St. Ignatius', Sunderland, on Saturday, March 17th. Will members requiring tea (approximately 2s. 6d. each) please notify Mr. F. Ainsley, 30, Aysgarth Avenue, Grange Town, Sunderland, not later than March 14th.—John A. Brown, Hon. Sec. 8456

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—Meeting at Earls Colne, Saturday, March 17th. Bells (8) from 2.30. Service 4.30. Names for tea to F. Ridgwell, Queen's Road, Earls Colne, near Colchester. 8491

HILLINGDON, MIDDLESEX.—A special evening practice will be held at St. John's on Saturday, March 17th, from 6 to 8.30 p.m. All ringers welcomed.—F. W. Goodfellow, Tower Sec. 8458

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION (Ashford District) and HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Joint meeting Saturday, March 17th. Full details next week. 8483

LADIES' GUILD.—Midland District.—Meeting, Ashby-de-la-Zouch, March 17th. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 4.45 p.m. at Radford's Cafe, Bath Street. Names for tea, not later than March 14th, to Mr. E. W. Beadsmoore, Lyncroft, Packington Road, Ashby-de-la-Zouch. All ringers welcome.—Jill Poole, Hon. Sec. 8465

SELBY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Monthly meeting, Carlton-juxta-Snaith, Saturday, March 17th. Bells (6) 2. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Please notify, before March 15th, Miss L. Cromac, Low Street, Carlton, Goole.—L. M. Woodhead, Hon. Sec. 8470

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Newark District.—Meeting at North Muskham, Saturday, March 17th, 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. for those notifying, by previous Tuesday, H. J. Cloxton, Holme, near Newark. 8469

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Preliminary.—Annual meeting at Tonbridge, Easter Monday. Nominations of representatives for Central Council (with name of proposer and seconder) must reach me by March 12th, latest.—G. H. Spice, 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne. 8439

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, Easter Monday, March 26th, at Norwich. Lunch. Mancroft Youth Centre, 1 p.m. Admission only by ticket, which must be ordered, enclosing remittance, 4s. each, before Saturday, March 17th. Business meeting after lunch. Bells available:—Mancroft (12) and St. Giles' (8), 10 to 11.45 and 2.30 onwards; St. John de Sepulchre (8), St. Miles' (8) and St. St. George's, Colegate (6), 2.30 onwards. Service Mancroft, 12; preacher Rev. A. St. J. Heard, president. Remittance for lunch to Gen. Sec., Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow, 3, Colegate, Norwich, before March 17th. 8489

(Continued on next page)

NOTICES—Continued

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—Annual Festival, Newton Abbot, Easter Monday, March 26th. Service, St. Leonard's Church, 12.15 p.m. Luncheon, Wolborough Parish Hall, 1 p.m. Towers open:—Wolborough (8), Highweek (8), 3.30—4.30 p.m.; and Kingskerswell (6). Admission to luncheon, by prepaid ticket only, 4s. each from the Gen Sec., E. J. Taylor, Westhayes, Post Hill, Tiverton, before March 17th.

HALIFAX DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—Quarterly meeting and contest, Thornhill, Saturday, March 31st. For teas notify, by March 24th, C. Hodge, 68, Thorn Avenue, Thornhill, Dewsbury.—A. Farrand, Hon. Sec. **BURES, SUFFOLK.**—Dedication of new trebles on April 28th, at 3. Names for tea must be sent to Leslie Mills, Colchester Road. 8487

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