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WITH PERSEVERANCE COMES SUCCESS

THE rain became heavier, and an occasional spot trickled discomfortingly down Albert's neck. This particular Saturday afternoon seemed even more dismal than the many other occasions when one looks forward to a change from the week's toils, only to be baulked by that particularly nasty weather that appears to save itself up for the week-end.

Albert gazed hopefully at the far-off tower and his head half turned to bring an ear in line with his distant objective. 'Ah! . . . that sounded like . . . yes! . . . no! — gone again.' 'Must be the church clock.' Albert trudged on along a typically wet, muddy, 'off the beaten track' country lane. 'Suppose that must have been 3 o'clock striking. . . . I'd have been there by now if it wasn't for the stupid time tables they have in these remote places.' 'Bah! . . . one bus every two hours and on a Saturday afternoon at that. . . . Can't understand why they bother to run one at all. . . . What time did it say the meeting is? . . . Can't hear a sound. . . . Perhaps . . . perhaps it isn't this week . . . perhaps I've got the date wrong!' Albert sorted feverishly through the pockets of his now very wet raincoat and at last came across a soggy and crumpled copy of that weekly publication, seemingly printed for the benefit of George . . . somebody . . . or other of Birmingham and a gentleman from Leicester; a quick search through the ads eased Albert's mind considerably and he stepped out with new-found energy.

A rather irregular yet melodious sound issued forth from the heights of a fine Norman tower; and Albert, rain and buses forgotten, strode happily towards a small doorway almost hidden by one of the huge buttresses. The worn steps were no handicap to Albert, who proceeded to climb them two at a time.

Another small door came into view. Albert stopped. His hand lifted the latch and in he went. A flurry of ropes came into view, shooting up to the heavy oak beams and

down again. A big man wearing a large moustache frowned across at Albert from his soap box pedestal and with a contemptuous roar shouted 'This is all' . . . and with an air of boredom added . . . 'at hand stroke.'

Albert slid on to a vacant and out of the way portion of the seat situated between the clock case and the heavily laden coat rack and waited. A gruff 'Like a pull?' aroused him from a very industrious study of a piece of paper covered with very impressive looking blue lines. . . . 'Eh! . . . eh . . . yes,' said Albert, sheepishly looking up at the big man with the moustache. 'What's it to be . . . Cambridge . . . or London perhaps?' laughed the 'soapbox king.' Albert stuttered in confusion, ' . . . I . . . I'm afraid I . . . I can only manage . . . Grandsire.'

Albert took the third. . . . 'Go Grandsire,' roared the big man. 'Thirds . . . then into lead,' whispered Albert to himself . . . 'hunt out behind . . . dodging 5-4 down next time.' . . . Bob! . . . 'Oh! . . . 7-6 down . . . who with? . . . the 4th? . . . the 6th? . . . ' 'Dodging with the 4th,' shouted the big man with the moustache. Albert managed to get into lead after a short skirmish in 7-6. . . . 6-7 up . . . 4-5 next time . . . Bob! . . . 'into the hunt.' Albert got out of the hunt, and into another mess, this time with the 5th. 'Stand,' roared the big man with the moustache, and threw a withering glance at Albert. . . . 'Can't go on like that,' he said.

A rather dejected Albert walked out into the wet and miserable afternoon an hour later. 'Only one touch . . . and I made a mess of that. . . . What time did they say the next bus was? . . . An hour to wait? . . . Might as well walk it again.'

Albert pushed his hands deep into his raincoat pockets and slowly retraced his footsteps.

Postscript: Despite many discouraging occasions such as this, Albert persevered with his ringing, practising regularly and seizing every opportunity to increase his ringing knowledge without neglecting his Sunday service ringing obligations, and now often finds a place in one of the most prominent Surprise peal bands in the country.

Albert still has a lot to learn, but he realises that with perseverance comes success.
M. G. M.

TWELVE BELL PEAL

WAKEFIELD, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 4 Hours and 11 Minutes.

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5280 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 35½ cwt. in C sharp.

JOHN WORTH	Treble	*GORDON BENFIELD	7
FRED DUNKERLEY	2	ALAN A. POTTS	8
BASIL JONES	3	EDWARD JENKINS	9
C. KENNETH LEWIS	4	WILFRID F. MORETON	10
LESLIE W. G. MORRIS	5	JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER	11
W. ERIC CRITCHLEY	6	RALPH G. EDWARDS	Tenor

Composed and Conducted by LESLIE W. G. MORRIS.

* First peal of Yorkshire Surprise Maximus. A birthday compliment to Mr. John Worth.

TEN BELL PEAL

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.

LONDON COUNTY ASSN. & N. SOUTHWARK DIO. GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 13, 1954, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF 5040 PRITTLEWELL SURPRISE ROYAL

Composer's Circuits C.W.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

MRS. K. F. J. PARR	Treble	SQUIRE CROFT	6
MRS. O. L. ROGERS	2	D. KAY ADKINS	7
WILFRID G. WILSON	3	FRANCIS D. BISHOP	8
THOMAS E. DAVIES	4	VICTOR GRIFFIN	9
JOHN R. MAYNE	5	HAROLD W. ROGERS	Tenor

Composed by CHARLES J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by HAROLD W. ROGERS.
First peal in the method by all, for the Association, and in the county of Middlesex.

Rung in memoriam Rev. P. W. Shepherd-Smith, a Vicar of Isleworth for 14 years

EIGHT BELL PEALS

HUGHENDEN, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Jan. 30, 1954, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part.

Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb.

NORMAN CORNWALL	Treble	WALTER LEE	5
DOREEN COKER	2	ARTHUR NEWTON	6
ROLAND BIGGS	3	PERCY NEWTON	7
ANTHONY E. COX	4	VICTOR EVANS	Tenor

Rung Non-Conducted.

All are Sunday service ringers of the above church except the ringer of the 5th.

IRCHESTER, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 6, 1954, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. KATHERINE.

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 21 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.

C. HENRY HARDING	Treble	DEREK P. JONES	5
*C. MICHAEL ORME	2	BRYAN SIMS	6
RONALD J. SHARP	3	GEOFFREY E. WATSON	7
JOHN KING	4	PATRICK I. CHAPMAN	Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by GEOFFREY E. WATSON.

* First peal of Surprise Major.

UPTON-ON-SEVERN, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 13, 1954, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

J. J. Parker's Twelve-part (7th observation).

Tenor 17½ cwt.

MARTYN HAWKES	Treble	HAROLD WILLETT	5
FRANK LAWRENCE	2	ERNEST F. CUBBERLEY	6
ARTHUR JOPP	3	CHARLES J. CAMM	7
MURIEL WILLETT	4	*WILLIAM FINCH	Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES J. CAMM.

* First peal.

A birthday compliment to the conductor.

ENDERBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Feb. 15, 1954, in 2 Hours and 15 Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF 5056 HELMINGHAM SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 11½ cwt.

JOHN R. SMITH	Treble	JOHN A. ACRES	5
ERNEST W. RAWSON	2	HAROLD J. POOLE	6
PETER J. STANFORTH	3	S. ANTHONY JESSON	7
MRS. H. J. POOLE	4	TERENCE A. THORNER	Tenor

Composed by CHARLES J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

First peal in the method by all and for the Guild.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Feb. 17, 1954, in 2 Hours and 2 Minutes.

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE.

A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 6½ cwt.

PAUL L. TAYLOR	Treble	TERENCE A. THORNER	5
MRS. H. J. POOLE	2	E. ALAN JACQUES	6
HAROLD J. POOLE	3	PETER J. STANFORTH	7
JOHN R. SMITH	4	G. RONALD EDWARDS	Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN. Conducted by PETER J. STANFORTH.

WHITWICK, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Feb. 19, 1954, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF 5088 STOUTON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt.

JOSEPH W. COTTON	Treble	JOHN A. ACRES	5
WINIFRED M. BURTON	2	ROLAND BENISTON	6
HAROLD J. POOLE	3	S. ANTHONY JESSON	7
ERNEST W. RAWSON	4	MICHAEL E. BROWN	Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

First peal to be rung in this method.

BICESTER, OXFORDSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDBURGH.

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part.

Tenor 15 cwt. 7 lb.

ALAN R. PINK	Treble	†WILLIAM BAGGETT	5
FREDERICK SHARPE	2	‡HARRY HATFIELD	6
*ERNEST G. JONES	3	EDGAR J. SMITH	7
CYRIL H. KINCH	4	*WILLIAM WHITING	Tenor

Conducted by EDGAR J. SMITH.

* First peal. † First peal of Triples 'inside.' ‡ Has now 'circled the tower.'

Rung as a farewell peal to the Rev. C. Cowland Cooper, Vicar of Bicester and president of the Bicester Deanery Branch, on his retirement.

BOURN, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND HELENA.

A PEAL OF 5000 SPLICED PLAIN MAJOR

Consisting of 2,112 Plain Bob, 592 Double Bob, 1,032 Gainsborough Little Bob, 1264 Little Bob, with 182 changes of method.

Tenor 14½ cwt. in F.

*MICHAEL N. BLAND	Treble	*WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN	5
*MARGARET A. SWANN	2	*J. HENRY FIELDEN	6
*ROGER B. MORRIS	3	F. ERIC ROBERTS	7
*RICHARD J. W. HOUSDEN	4	CHRIS. M. P. JOHNSON	Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by F. ERIC ROBERTS.

* First peal of Spliced. First peal of Spliced in four methods for the Association.

BUSHEY HEATH, HERTFORDSHIRE.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF 5056 PAINSWICK SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 11½ cwt.

JOHN E. ROOTES	Treble	WILLIAM WENBAN	5
REGINALD ROWLEY	2	CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	6
FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW	3	GEOFFREY W. SEAMAN	7
D. KAY ADKINS	4	JOHN R. MAYNE	Tenor

Composed by H. G. CASHMORE. Conducted by GEOFFREY W. SEAMAN.

First peal in the method by all except ringer of 5th in the county and for the Association.

BOTTESFORD, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 22½ cwt.

*CECIL H. JALLANDS .. Treble	*CLARENCE F. BRIGG .. 5
FREDERICK PINCHBECK .. 2	HENRY SQUIRES .. 6
ARTHUR W. WARD .. 3	WILLIAM H. DALE .. 7
LESLIE SQUIRES .. 4	GEORGE W. CREASEY .. Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by GEORGE W. CREASEY.
 * First peal in the method.

Rung for the 50th anniversary of the first peal on the bells (Stedman Triples).

Also birthday compliments to A. W. Ward (70), February 26th, and C. F. Briggs (50), February 12th.

BURTON LATIMER, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF 5056 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10½ cwt.

ANGELA WILLES .. Treble	JOHN KING .. 5
RONALD J. SHARP .. 2	† PHILIP MEHEW .. 6
* C. MICHAEL ORME .. 3	GEOFFREY E. WATSON .. 7
ANDREW C. SINFIELD .. 4	DEREK P. JONES .. Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY (C.C.C. No. 4).

Conducted by GEOFFREY E. WATSON.

* First peal in the method. † First peal of Surprise Major.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Middleton's (Johnson's Variation).

Tenor 13½ cwt.

RAYMOND OVERY .. Treble	HENRY C. WEAVER .. 5
LEONARD STILWELL .. 2	KENNETH SNELLING .. 6
EDWARD G. COWARD .. 3	ALBERT E. LAKER .. 7
EDGAR R. RAPLEY .. 4	RAYMOND P. WOOD .. Tenor

Conducted by RAYMOND OVERY.

A birthday compliment to the secretary of the Ancient Society and to the ringers of the 2nd.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF 5024 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 21½ cwt. in E.

* DIANA M. MATTHEW .. Treble	ALBERT E. WHITING .. 5
* PATRICIA M. CLARKE .. 2	LESLIE G. BRETT .. 6
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY .. 3	† CECIL W. PIPE .. 7
GEORGE A. FLEMING .. 4	GEORGE W. PIPE .. Tenor

Composed by CHARLES W. ROBERTS. Conducted by GEORGE W. PIPE.

* First peal of Bristol Surprise. † 100th peal of Surprise Major.

First peal in the method as conductor.

In memoriam William Last.

FRODSHAM, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF 5024 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12½ cwt.

* HAROLD HAYES, JUN. .. Treble	FRED JACKSON .. 5
† ANN SLINGER .. 2	WILLIAM E. ALLMAN .. 6
ALAN DUGDALE .. 3	JOHN E. BIBBY .. 7
WILLIAM BIBBY .. 4	WALTER ALLMAN .. Tenor

Composed by F. E. W. MEADOWS. Conducted by WALTER ALLMAN.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.'

GORING, OXON.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF 5120 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 8 cwt.

ROBERT BLOND .. Treble	* JACK BERRY .. 5
* FRED S. SMITH .. 2	* CLAUDE CORDEROY .. 6
* JAMES BLOND .. 3	HENRY BISHOP .. 7
ERNEST GARRARD .. 4	† JOHN SEYMOUR .. Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES. Conducted by ROBERT BLOND.

* First peal of Kent Treble Bob. † First peal of Kent Treble Bob 'inside.'

HARMSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5120 SPICED SURPRISE MAJOR

In 32 methods, being 160 each of Shoreditch, Apsley, Norfolk, Hitchin, Radlett, Derwent, Yorkshire, Otley, Deben, Cambridge, Lessness, Lindum, Pudsey, Wembley, Uxbridge, Langley, London, Lindoff's London, Superlative, Eastcote, Framley, Lincolnshire, Dublin, Claybrooke, Ealing, Painswick, Rutland, Bristol, New Gloucester, Watford, Trowbridge and Falmouth, with 159 changes of method. Tenor 12 cwt.

ARCHER T. LOWMAN .. Treble	JACK L. MILLHOUSE .. 5
BETTY BROWN .. 2	WALTER TOMLINSON .. 6
RAYMOND F. SMITH .. 3	JOHN WALDEN .. 7
SYDNEY A. CHAMBERS .. 4	JOHN FREEMAN .. Tenor

Composed by W. ERIC CRITCHLEY. Conducted by JOHN FREEMAN.

Umpire: H. LESLIE PASK.

The greatest number of Surprise Major methods yet rung in a peal for the Guild. Norfolk rung with a 4ths place bob.

HODNET, SHROPSHIRE.
THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 24 lb.

FREDERICK G. BEDDOW .. Treble	CHARLES H. PAGE .. 5
SHELAGH R. COLLINS .. 2	G. ARNOLD MOORE .. 6
FREDERICK LEECH .. 3	EWART H. EDGE .. 7
EDWARD V. RODENHURST .. 4	ARTHUR PRITCHARD .. Tenor

Composed by J. E. BURTON. Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 3 Hours and 23 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 23 cwt.

MAURICE T. SYMONDS .. Treble	FREDERICK BOREHAM .. 5
STEDMAN H. SYMONDS .. 2	DENNIS A. S. SYMONDS .. 6
* VICTOR AMBROSE .. 3	FREDERICK MORTLOCK .. 7
* FREDERICK E. DAY .. 4	WILFRED JARVIS .. Tenor

Composed by H. HUBBARD. Conducted by MAURICE T. SYMONDS.

* First peal in the method. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor and the Rev. H. S. Cotton (Rector). The tenor man has now 'circled the tower.'

MALPAS, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 3 Hours and 13 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OSWALD,

A PEAL OF 5056 SHREWSBURY BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 6 lb.

J. BENJAMIN BUDD .. Treble	DENNIS H. B. MILLWARD .. 5
JOHN W. BEST .. 2	BRIAN HARRIS .. 6
JOHN W. GRIFFITHS .. 3	R. GORDON CORBY .. 7
ROBERT W. HINDE .. 4	PERCY SWINDLEY .. Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by JOHN W. GRIFFITHS.

The first peal in the method (C.C.C. 25).



CHURCH & TURRET CLOCKS

New Installations : Repairs : Maintenance

Estimates and Advice Free

JOHN SMITH & SON, Midland Clock Works, DERBY, LTD.

MARKET DRAYTON, SHROPSHIRE. THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5088 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 17½ cwt.

HAROLD F. WHITE Treble	FREDK. E. WILSHAW 5
BERNARD MADELEY 2	GEORGE A. PACKER 6
RICHARD D. LANGFORD 3	FREDK. PRICE 7
RAYMOND D. HAZELDINE .. 4	IVOR R. NICHOLS Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW.

Conducted by IVOR R. NICHOLS.

NANTWICH, CHESHIRE. THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 LITTLE BOB MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 qr. 18 lb.

HAROLD G. SMITH Treble	HENRY PARKER 5
JOHN E. BROUGH 2	FREDERICK S. SUTTON .. 6
*DOUGLAS KIRKPATRICK .. 3	JOHN SCOTT 7
EDWARD J. BOFFEY 4	*HARRY W. HOWARD Tenor

Composed by GEORGE WILLIAMS. Conducted by HARRY W. HOWARD.

* 25th peal together. The conductor's 250th peal.

Rung as birthday compliments to Harry Stubbs (75 years), Frank Barnard, sen., and Jack Thomas.

NETHERSEALE, DERBYSHIRE. THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5024 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr.

WILLIAM F. WOODWARD .. Treble	HAROLD TAYLOR 5
WALTER G. SOAR 2	ALBERT E. THOMPSON .. 6
FRANCIS R. LOWE 3	JOSEPH WM. COTTON 7
W. RODNEY HARRISON .. 4	DENIS R. CARLISLE Tenor

Composed and Conducted by DENIS R. CARLISLE.

Believed to be the first peal of Yorkshire Surprise Major on the bells.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE. THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICTS GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Heywood's.	Tenor 13 cwt. 3 lb.
MAURICE G. TURNER Treble	*HAROLD WHITE 5
HOWARD HOWELL 2	*C. FREDERICK JUKES .. 6
HAROLD J. SHUCK 3	WILLIAM DAVIES 7
STANLEY PRESTIDGE 4	ERNEST STITCH Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM DAVIES.

* First peal in the method. The quarterly peal for the Guild.

A compliment to Mr. James S. Eastwood on his 60th birthday.

NORTHOWRAM, HALIFAX, YORKSHIRE. THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 3 Hours and 20 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

Middleton's.	Tenor 16 cwt.
*ROY MANN Treble	*JOHN F. BRYANT 5
†W. GEORGE TURNER 2	†JOHN PEARSON 6
*SHEILA M. TAYLOR 3	*ROBERT E. MOULDS .. 7
*M. VIVIEN COPPING .. 4	VERNON BOTTOMLEY .. Tenor

Conducted by VERNON BOTTOMLEY.

* First peal of Surprise. † First peal of Surprise 'inside.' ‡ First peal in the method. First peal of Cambridge as conductor.

PENKRIDGE, STAFFORDSHIRE. THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Thursians' Four-part.	Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 21 lb.
EDMUND MALIN Treble	*J. DENNIS HOLDEN .. 5
GEORGE DAVIS 2	PETER BERESFORD 6
JOAN BERESFORD 3	GEORGE E. OLIVER 7
RICHARD J. WARRILOW .. 4	ROY K. MOWFORTH .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. OLIVER.

* 100th peal for the Society.

Rung with the bells half-muffled in memoriam John Rogers.

WIGSTON MAGNA, LEICESTERSHIRE. THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5152 WIGSTON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 16 cwt. 11 lb. in E.

CECIL H. F. KNIGHT .. Treble	FRANK S. CHENEY 5
*ANNIE E. HUMBERSTONE .. 2	†S. JOHN HAINES 6
†T. MAUREEN LLOYD 3	KENNETH A. ROE 7
†ANDREW CARTER 4	THOMAS E. HARROLD .. Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by KENNETH A. ROE.

* First peal in the method. † First peal. ‡ First peal of Major. All are Sunday service ringers at the church.

WIRKSWORTH, DERBYSHIRE. THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

'Barabool' Peal.	Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 13 lb.
*DOREEN M. MURFIN .. Treble	RODNEY W. HARRISON .. 5
JACK BAILEY 2	WILLIAM LANCASTER .. 6
FRANCIS R. LOWE 3	†SYDNEY J. MERRY 7
†ALAN TAYLOR 4	MARK J. BARKER Tenor

Composed by the REV. E. BANKES JAMES. Conducted by JACK BAILEY.

* First peal. † First peal in the method.

Rung to welcome the return from Her Majesty's Forces of Mr. Maurice Bailey, son of the conductor.

WIVELISCOMBE, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES

Dexter's Variation.	Tenor 19½ cwt.
GEORGE SPARKES Treble	†CECIL T. BELLEW 5
*DAVID J. GAY 2	WILLIAM A. THEOBALD .. 6
ARTHUR H. REED 3	WILLIAM G. GIGG 7
CLAUDE TARR 4	†ARCHIBALD C. GALE .. Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM G. GIGG.

* First peal of Stedman Triples. † First peal on eight bells. First peal on the bells since rehung on modern bearings by Mears and Stainbank.

FRITTENDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Feb. 24, 1954, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5024 PUDSEY SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 15 cwt.

HARRY BAKER Treble	*ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD .. 5
THOMAS E. SONE 2	*MARK W. MARSHALL .. 6
*WILLIAM C. MARSHALL .. 3	MARK S. LANCEFIELD .. 7
*JOHN R. COOPER 4	THOMAS CULLINGWORTH .. Tenor

Composed by R. F. B. SPEED. Conducted by MARK S. LANCEFIELD.

* First peal in the method.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

SHELLEY, NR. HUDDERSFIELD, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(Barnsley District Society.)

On Sat., Feb. 6, 1954, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF EMMANUEL,

A PEAL OF 5040 TREBLE BOB MINOR

Being seven extents in 20 methods, viz., (1) Willesden, Marple and College Bob IV.; (2) Newdigate and Old Oxford; (3) Wragby and Braintree; (4) St. Albans, Charlwood and Neasden; (5) College Exercise and Morning Star; (6) Norbury, Ockley and Duke of Norfolk; (7) Kingston, Oxford, Capel, London Scholars and Sandal.

Tenor 11½ cwt.

*JAMES W. BUXTON .. Treble	DANIEL SMITH 4
*CYRIL RUSBY 2	*HERMANN RUSBY 5
HAROLD CHANT 3	*NOEL F. MOXON Tenor

Conducted by DANIEL SMITH.

* First peal in 20 methods.

Rung in honour of the birthdays of Michael Chant (January 9th), Helen Chant (January 23) and John Buxton (February 15th).

LLANDEGAI, CAERNARVONSHIRE.
THE NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 13, 1954, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. TEGAI,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores (10 callings).

MRS. J. G. PARKINGTON .. Treble	Tenor 10 cwt. in G.
JOSEPH P. GRIFFITHS .. 4	
LEWIS S. GRIFFITHS .. 2	ANDREW J. SALISBURY .. 5
L. JOHN EVANS .. 3	*STANLEY WILLIAMS .. Tenor

Conducted by LEWIS S. GRIFFITHS.

* First peal.

DERSINGHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Mon., Feb. 15, 1954, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents.

G. E. LARNER Treble	Tenor 9 cwt. 8 lb. in G.
GEORGE BATTERBEE 4	
ALEX NURSE 2	CECIL V. EBBERSON 5
RONALD THAXTER 3	FRED RIX Tenor

Conducted by CECIL V. EBBERSON.

Rung to the memory of Robert Lingwood, and in thanksgiving for his life of service to the Church at Sculthorpe, where he was, until his death, bellringer, sidesman, member of the Church Council and friend to all.

MOULTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wed., Feb. 17, 1954, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

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

Tenor 16 cwt.

MAURICE BENNETT Treble	FREDA OLDERSHAW 4
JOHN G. AMES 2	STANLEY E. BENNETT 5
THOMAS H. CHARLTON .. 3	FRANK TAYLOR Tenor

Conducted by FRANK TAYLOR.

WAREHORNE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Feb. 17, 1954, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven different extents.

JOHN R. COOPER Treble	Tenor 9 cwt.
ROBERT SWIFT 4	
*MAISIE VANTOM 2	ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD .. 5
*OLIVE M. BOULDEN .. 3	MARK S. LANCEFIELD .. Tenor

Conducted by MARK S. LANCEFIELD.

* First peal of Cambridge.

PIDDINGTON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Feb. 18, 1954, in 2 Hours and 46½ Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent of Single Oxford Bob, and two extents each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb. in F sharp.

J. MICHAEL STEPHENS .. Treble	PHILIP JONES 4
PERCY AMOS 2	GEORGE CARE 5
HARRY GAYTON 3	BRYAN PATTISON Tenor

Conducted by BRYAN PATTISON.

First peal of Minor as conductor.

BRADOC, CORNWALL.

THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 2 Hours and 25 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being eight extents of Reverse Canterbury, six of St. Colomb, seven of Old, eight of Plain Bob, six of April Day, three of Grandsire and 240 each of Pitman's and Morris's Arrangements.

Tenor 4 cwt. 2 qr. 16 lb.

*REV. A. S. ROBERTS .. Treble	*ALEXANDER R. JONES .. 3
†A. HUBERT EPLETT .. 2	*ALAN CARVETH 4

*CYRIL A. WRATTEN .. Tenor

Conducted by CYRIL A. WRATTEN.

* First peal in six methods. † 50th peal. ‡ First peal of Doubles.
The first peal on the bells, which have been a ring of five since 1845.



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BELL FOUNDERS
AND
CLOCK MAKERS

CROYDON



BLYTHBURGH, SUFFOLK. **THE SUFFOLK GUILD.**

On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of St. Clement's, Double Oxford and Oxford Treble Bob and two extents each of Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 10½ cwt.

E. JACK THURLOW Treble	*RICHARD S. PAYNE 4
*MARGOT R. THOMPSON .. 2	*C. JACK GIBSON 5
*REGINALD J. DARCH .. 3	JOHN W. BLYTHE Tenor

Conducted by JOHN W. BLYTHE.

* First peal in five methods 'inside.'

A 21st birthday compliment to Miss Barbara Payne, member of the Southwold company

CAPEL, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 2 Hours and 23 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being seven extents in nine methods, viz., (1) Double Court; (2) Double Bob and Oxford Bob; (3) Double Oxford and St. Clement's; (4) Cambridge Surprise; (5) Oxford Treble Bob; (6) Kent Treble Bob; (7) Plain Bob. Tenor 7 cwt. 1 qr. in A.

*MARGARET E. BROWN .. Treble	LEONARD STILWELL 4
*ANN M. COX 2	RALPH BIRD 5
ROLAND W. MORANT .. 3	A. PATRICK CANNON Tenor

Conducted by A. PATRICK CANNON.

* First peal in nine methods. Mr. A. P. Cannon's 325th tower for a peal.

CHURCH KIRK, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob and three extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr.

*ROSEMARY PARKINSON .. Treble	CHARLES W. BLAKEY .. 4
†JEAN DAWSON 2	WALTER WILKINSON .. 5
ARTHUR TOMLINSON .. 3	ERNEST GOWER Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR TOMLINSON.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal in three methods.

With bells half-muffled. In memoriam Mrs. Williams, mother of the Blackburn Branch President, Mr. L. J. Williams.

DOWNHAM, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and three extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 7 cwt.

*MAXWELL J. GARRETT .. Treble	†ERIC M. BAKER 4
HARRY TURNER 2	ROBIN N. PITTMAN .. 5
†BRYAN E. SHEDEL 3	HERMON J. OLIVER Tenor

Conducted by ROBIN N. PITTMAN.

* First peal. † First peal of Minor. ‡ First peal in three methods. First peal as conductor.

ELSTON, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 2 Hours and 34 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Consisting of eight extents each of Stedman, Reverse St. Bartholomew, April Day and Plain Bob, and ten extents of Grandsire. Tenor 9½ cwt.

WILLIAM L. EXTON Treble	SIMON L. BARLEY 4
F. WILLIAM MIDWINTER .. 2	*FREDERICK G. HOOPER .. 5
GEORGE E. FOSTER 3	HAROLD STEVENSON .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. FOSTER.

* 100th peal on tower bells. First peal in five Doubles methods by all the band.

FARNHAM, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW.

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 20½ cwt. in E flat.

EDWARD J. BRAGG Treble	EILEEN M. TURNER .. 4
*MONICA E. COLLINS .. 2	JAMES F. DODSON 5
R. JAMES COOK 3	E. JOHN WELLS Tenor

Conducted by E. JOHN WELLS.

* First peal 'inside.' First peal of Minor on the bells.

Rung as a farewell to the Rev. G. L. Clowes, Rung after meeting short for Major, owing to a breakdown in transport.

GOOSNARGH, LANCASHIRE. **THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**

(Preston Branch.)

On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and three extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

BERNARD JACKSON Treble	STANLEY WALMSLEY .. 4
JOHN JACKSON 2	E. ROGER MARTIN .. 5
LAWRENCE WALMSLEY .. 3	KENNETH MARTIN Tenor

Conducted by E. ROGER MARTIN.

Rung by three fathers and three sons to mark the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. J. Robinson, of Leyland.

HAMMERWOOD, SUSSEX.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 2 Hours and 15 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN.

A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN DOUBLES

Beings 15 callings. Tenor 7½ cwt.

MICHAEL V. CHILCOTT .. Treble	JOHN E. CHILCOTT .. 3
WILFRED WILLIAMS 2	ALFRED B. PECK 4
FREDERICK E. COLLINS .. Tenor	

Conducted by WILFRED WILLIAMS.

First peal of Stedman Doubles and on five bells by all the band.

LITTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Double Bob, Hereward Bob, Double Court, Single Court, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 11 cwt.

RONALD G. BECK Treble	VICTOR SAVAGE 4
GEORGE W. MASSEY 2	A. GEORGE CLARE .. 5
DAVID HOARE 3	EDWARD J. CHIVERS .. Tenor

Conducted by DAVID HOARE.

Compliments to Miss S. Lewis and Mr. K. Curtis on the occasion of their marriage this day at Farrington Gurney.

STAGSDEN, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 20, 1954, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB DOUBLES

Tenor 10 cwt 2 qr. 18 lb. in G.

*ROY F. BARRETT (17) .. Treble	*RAYMOND A. LUCAS (16) 4
*M. A. C. SINFIELD (15) 2	BRYAN PATTISON (17) .. 5
*BRIAN MAKEHAM (16) .. 3	*ROGER LENNARD (14) .. Tenor

Conducted by BRYAN PATTISON.

* First peal.

First peal by a band of members of Bedford Modern School. This is the youngest band to ring a peal for the Association. Average age approximately 16.

Rung on the eve of Sexagesima.

HANDBELL PEALS

NORWICH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Feb. 17, 1954, in 2 Hours and 25 Minutes.
AT 27, CHALK HILL ROAD.

A PEAL OF 5088 SPLICED PLAIN & LITTLE BOB MAJOR

Being 3,840 changes of Plain Bob and 1,248 changes of Little Bob; 263 changes of method. Tenor size 15 in C.

H. WILLIAM BARRETT .. 1-2	BERT GOGLE 5-6
NOLAN GOLDEN 3-4	ARTHUR G. BASON .. 7-8

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

First peal of Spliced on handbells by all and by the Association.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY

On Thurs., Feb. 18, 1954, in 2 Hours and 25 Minutes.
AT 15, PEMBROKE STREET.

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 15 in C.

WILLIAM H. JACKSON 1-2	JOHN E. SPICE (New College) 5-6
DEREK G. GOODMAN (Keble) 3-4	*DONALD H. NIBLETT (Pembroke) 7-8

Conducted by JOHN E. SPICE.

* First peal 'in hand.'

QUARTER PEALS

ALDRINGTON, SUSSEX.—On Feb. 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Pamela Law 1, Valerie Mepharm 2, Beryl Reynolds (first in the method 'inside') 3, Mary W. Brown 4, H. W. Brown (cond.) 5, J. Sexton 6. Rung as a compliment to Beryl Reynolds and James Sexton on their engagement.

ARDLEIGH, ESSEX.—On Feb. 23rd, 1,344 Plain Bob Major: G. Moss 1, F. Southgate 2, A. Honeywood 3, A. Cole 4, M. Bantick 5, D. Whent 6, G. W. Barnes 7, F. Erith (cond.) 8. First of Major for 2 and 6 and as conductor. First quarter in newly-erected gallery.

BALDOCK, HERTS.—On Feb. 21st, 1,264 Bob Major: E. Buck 1, L. Hughes 2, R. Castledine (aged 14) 3, T. Holehouse 4, D. Sutcliffe 5, W. Collins 6, C. Harwood (aged 15, first as cond.) 7, J. Dear 8. First of Major 'inside' for 2 and 3.

BEDWELLY, MON.—On Feb. 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. Williams 1, Miss H. Evans 2, G. Williams 3, Mrs. A. R. Price 4, Miss J. Powell 5, G. Flower 6, A. R. Price (cond.) 7, C. Thomas 8. Believed to be the first quarter of Grandsire Triples rung by a local band on the bells.

BODENHAM, HEREFORDS.—On Feb. 4th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: S. Palmer 1, J. Minton 2, Mrs. T. Rushton 3, R. Billings 4, T. Rushton (cond.) 5, G. Tong 6. Rung half-muffled as a tribute to Mrs. Beatrice R. M. Thursby-Pelham, wife of the Vicar of the parish, interred this day.

BREADSALL, DERBYS.—On Feb. 6th, 1,320 Grandsire Doubles: Peter J. Skinner 1, J. F. Murfin 2, Elisabeth Grime 3, W. R. Harrison 4, D. K. Walklate (cond.) 5, D. Shakespear (first quarter) 6. Average age 15 years 4 months. Rung to mark the formation of the Grammar and Technical Schools Association. Also as a birthday compliment to J. Mansfield. Also on Feb. 20th, 1,500 Grandsire Doubles: D. Shakespear 1, P. J. Skinner (first 'inside') 2, J. F. Murfin 3, D. K. Walklate (cond.) 4, M. Hatch 5, Vivian Horton 6. Average age 14 years 8 months.

CARDINGTON, BEDS.—On Feb. 7th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Phyllis Gray 1, R. A. Ward 2, D. Bridges 3, P. I. Chapman 4, B. Pattison (cond.) 5. Rung on the back five for Evensong.

EBBW VALE, MON.—On Feb. 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss B. Stephens 1, Miss A. Stephens 2, Miss D. Evans (first 'inside') 3, R. Stephens 4, D. Bruten 5, J. Alsop (cond.) 6, B. Werry 7, J. Jeynes 8. First quarter for 1 and 5.

EYE, SUFFOLK.—On Feb. 20th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: R. E. Lester (cond.) 1, G. E. Catton 2, D. Brand 3, W. J. Button 4, J. S. Wybrew 5, A. G. Fever 6. A 70th birthday compliment to Frederick Brunning, steeplekeeper and captain of the ringers at Eye.

FOLKESTONE, KENT.—On Feb. 11th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. G. Kedwell 1, Miss M. Vantom 2, F. W. Cook 3, W. J. Bidnell 4, J. Willis 5, T. J. Anderson (cond.) 6, R. Swift 7, J. E. Chittenden 8. Rung to celebrate the wedding of the Vicar of Folkestone (Canon Ian White Thomson, M.A.).

FULHAM, S.W.—On Feb. 14th, 1,277 Grandsire Caters: H. Page 1, Mrs. C. Watts 2, H. Belcher 3, K. W. Mackintosh 4, W. J. Rawlings 5, J. Waters 6, J. Stephenson 7, M. Chilcott 8, J. Phillips 9, J. Chilcott 10.

HORNCHURCH, ESSEX.—On Feb. 14th, 1,280 Oxford Treble Bob Major: D. W. Beard 1, A. H. Worboys 2, F. G. Richardson (first in method) 3, J. Fowler 4, H. Long 5, D. M. Salisbury 6, T. East 7, F. V. Gant (cond.) 8.

HUTTON, ESSEX.—On Feb. 14th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Barbara Forster 1, Eileen Malden (first on 'inside' bell) 2, W. Wright 3, W. Hill 4, B. Shedel (cond.) 5. Ad gloriam Deo.

KETTERING, NORTHANTS.—On Feb. 21st, 1,260 Plain Bob and Grandsire Doubles: Mrs. D. I. Haynes (first quarter) 1, R. F. Turner 2, D. I. Haynes (first in two methods) 3, C. W. Bird 4, P. I. Chapman 5, G. Geary (first quarter) 6.

LEIGHTON BUZZARD, BEDS.—On Feb. 13th, at All Saints' Church, 1,299 Stedman Caters: V. W. Conquest 1, J. G. Newman 2, H. B. Whitney 3, R. Piron 4, J. W. V. Sinfield 5, R. Kendall 6, E. J. Conquest 7, D. Knox 8, A. E. Rushton (cond.) 9, J. H. Conquest 10. Birthday compliment to the Rev. S. J. Forrest, Valerie Willard and Ralph Butcher.

LEYTONSTONE, E.—On Feb. 21st, 1,280 Yorkshire Surprise Major: C. R. Smith 1, Miss M. E. Stephens (first quarter in method) 2, C. A. Hughes 3, J. M. Stephens 4, R. W. Stephens 5, D. W. Beard 6, J. H. Crampion (cond.) 7, C. E. Willmington 8.

MATHON, HEREFORDS.—On Feb. 20th, 1,260 April Day, Plain Bob, Reverse Canterbury and Grandsire Doubles: E. Price 1, C. W. Nutt 2, H. Hill 3, R. Lewis 4, J. Ward (cond.) 5, Mac Jones 6. Rung half-muffled in memory of Mr. William Ranford, interred at Suckley Church this day, who was a regular service ringer at this church.

MITCHAM, SURREY.—At Christ Church, on Feb. 20th, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob Minor: J. Tomsett 1, J. Parslow 2, E. Jones 3, H. Allen 4, E. Beauchamp 5, S. Ball (cond.) 6. In memory of three former colleagues—C. H. Reading, died Feb. 13th, 1941; A. Miller, died Feb. 11th, 1951; T. Miller, died Feb. 15th, 1952.

NORTH CURRY, SOMERSET.—On Feb. 16th, 1,280 Bob Major: F. Matravers (first of Major) 1, A. Read 2, W. H. Tarr 3, W. A. Theobald (cond.) 4, W. Slcombe 5, H. Churchill 6, T. Lock 7, W. Gigg 8. First quarter on the rehung bells.

NORTH WEALD, ESSEX.—On Feb. 16th, 1,500 Doubles (3 extents each of St. Simon's, Canterbury Pleasure, Plain Bob, and 34 of Grandsire): H. King 1, L. Cordell 2, S. King 3, W. Wedlock (cond.) 4, S. Stevens 5.

PYLLIE, SOMERSET.—On Feb. 18th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Marion March 1, R. Crago 2, D. Hill 3, R. March (cond.) 4, J. Nicholls 5, P. Bobbett 6.

ST. COLUMB MINOR, CORNWALL.—On Feb. 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. J. M. Simpkin 1, A. Carveth (cond.) 2, Miss P. D. Prowse 3, Miss V. M. Matthews 4, A. H. Eplett 5, C. K. Brawer 6, C. A. Wratten 7, H. Harper 8. Rung to mark the induction of the Rev. E. C. Seager.

UPPER CLAPTON, E.—On Feb. 21st, at the Church of St. Matthew, 1,260 Plain Bob Triples: Mrs. R. K. C. Wilkings 1, Miss G. L. Friswell 2, Miss N. Hales 3, J. A. Hales (first of Triples in method) 4, J. Hales 5, R. K. C. Wilkings 6, D. Neal (cond.) 7.

WEST DERBY, LANCs.—At St. James' Church, on Feb. 21st, 1,440 Minor (720 Oxford Bob and 720 Plain Bob): Jean Nixon 1, W. A. Rawsthorne (cond.) 2, Betty Hinds 3, R. Edwards 4, P. E. Parry 5, I. M. Parry 6. First quarter for 1, 3 and 4. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Miss Mira Prince, a ringer at this tower.

WOLSTANTON, STAFFS.—On Feb. 7th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Miss G. Higgins 1, Miss R. Snell 2, Miss S. Collins 3, P. Whalley 4, W. Massey 5, G. R. Whalley 6, G. W. Biddulph 7, E. H. Edge (cond.) 8.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

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EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

LATE NEWS

Ludgate Surprise Royal has been introduced
to the Exercise, by a peal rung at Worsley,
Lancs, on February 27th, conducted by Mr. C.
Kenneth Lewis. The method is a slight variation
of the original which was worked out by
Mr. Thomas B. Worsley in 1928 when investi-
gating the possibilities of the extension of
London Surprise Major.

Mr. G. H. Spice, secretary
of the Kent County Associa-
tion for the past eight years,
is not seeking re-election as general secretary
at the annual meeting on Easter Monday. His
resignation, which is prompted solely by health
reasons, will be received with very deep regret.

Mr. R. S. Shutter, of Anstey, is the new dis-
trict secretary of the Western District, Herts
County Association.

Our 'Gratefully Acknowledged' column re-
cords the gift of 4s. for a lost peal at Crook-
ham, Hants. A real smile in adversity!

Bedford Modern School have rung their first
peal, one of Plain Bob Doubles. The approxi-
mate age of the band was 16 years, and they
constitute the youngest band to ring a peal for
the Bedfordshire Association.

Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Hubbard, of Langham,
Rutland, hospitably entertained the band who
rang the peal at Twyford, Leicestershire, on
February 20th. Through the 'Ringing World'
the ringers express their thanks to their hosts.

The Sussex County Association annual week's
tour from July 4th to 11th this year will be in
Yorkshire, staying at Ilkley. There are a few
vacant seats and accommodation if anyone is
interested. Please write Miss F. Wyman, next
Post Office, High Street, Lingfield, Surrey.

The resignation of the Rev. C. Cowland
Cooper from the living of Bicester was marked
by a peal on the bells of the Parish Church on
February 20th. He has been Vicar of Bicester
since 1942 and president of the Bicester Dean-
ery branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild since
1944. Mr. Cowland Cooper was an excellent
president, and his own brand of humour en-
livened the business meetings. The best wishes
of the branch are extended to him in his retire-
ment.

BELFRY

GOSSIP

The peal of Cambridge Sur-
prise Major at Northowram,
Halifax, on February 20th, in-
dicates the remarkable progress which has been
made in Halifax during the last year or so.
The two girls—Sheila M. Taylor and M. Vivien
Copping—who rang very creditably, were taught
to handle a bell less than 18 months ago. This
is the first peal of Surprise rung by a band
composed of Halifax ringers. Six are members
of All Souls', Holey Hill, and the other two are
from Northowram.

Two first peals in the method are recorded
this week:—Shrewsbury Bob Major (C.C.C.
25) rung at Malpas, Cheshire, and Stoughton
Surprise Major at Whitwick, Leicestershire.

Mr. Ernest Morris has given a recording to
the B.B.C. for direct transmission to Canada in
'English Half Hour' series. It was part of
'A Visit to Leicester.'

Mr. John A. Freeman, Master of the Lincoln
Diocesan Guild, returned home on February
27th from hospital after his operation. We
wish him a speedy convalescence.

Perhaps now Wiveliscombe, Somerset, bells
have been rehung, peals here will be more fre-
quent. The band which rang the peal recorded
this week included Mr. W. A. Theobald, who
was responsible for the rehanging. The eight
at North Curry and St. James', Taunton, all in
the same deanery, have also been rehung by
him.

With regard to the peal of 32 Spliced Sur-
prise Major methods at Harmston, Lincs., on
February 20th, the umpire checked the methods
as they were rung, the bobs and every lead-end
throughout the peal. Miss Betty Brown has the
distinction of having rung Spliced Surprise
Major in a greater number of methods than
any other lady ringer.

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YORKSHIRE PROVIDES NEW RECORD WITH 36-METHOD SPliced SURPRISE MAJOR PEAL



The band that set a new standard in Spliced Surprise Major ringing by a peal in 36 methods at Handsworth, Sheffield, on February 13th. Left to right: Messrs. Norman Chaddock (Rotherham), W. Eric Critchley (Doncaster), John G. L. Gilbert (Handsworth, Sheffield), J. Frederick Milner (Southwell), Wilfrid F. Moreton (Wakefield), Howard Scott (Adwick-le-Street), Gordon Benfield (Pudsey) and Milton C. Fowler (Conisborough). [Photo and block by courtesy of 'The Sheffield Telegraph and Star,' Ltd.]

This week 'The Ringing World' is able to present to its readers the story behind the new record peal in Spliced Surprise Major ringing of 36 methods. The composer and conductor of the peal was Mr. W. E. Critchley. The performance, on February 13th, at St. Mary's Church, Handsworth, surpasses the previous record in 25 methods held by the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

One previous attempt to ring a 36 method Spliced Surprise Major peal failed. There had also been a practice. The band deserve the warmest congratulations of the Exercise on a really remarkable achievement. We append an inside story of this great ringing feat.

Stage fright was apparent when the band assembled at St. Mary's, Handsworth, on the afternoon of February 13th. Several jokes were cracked, but no one laughed. Rounds were suggested to try the bells and, as everyone seemed satisfied, the conductor called 'Go,' and off the bells went into the changes of the first method, Framley. By common consent the beat was a very slow one at first, as these bells, tenor 12 cwt., run very quickly, the local band often ringing peals in about 2 hours 40 minutes.

The first break in the tension came when Fred Milner and Gordon Benfield, on the 2nd and 3rd, smiled with satisfaction when they were called to do the long dodge on the front in Derwent; the conductor remarked enviously on this to the 4th, resulting in a row of grinning faces for the remainder of the lead, until a stern reprimand from a more serious member of the band restored order. Fred Milner was also highly amused whenever 'Lindum' was called, because, to avoid confusion with London, the conductor pronounced it 'Lindume.'

RECEIVED FIGURES ON BOXING DAY

'Maulden,' and the first part-end; the ringers of the fixed bells looked very satisfied; they had now rung all the work that was demanded of them. The conductor also relaxed slightly, and began to notice some of the expressions of concentration around him. Gordon Benfield, on the 3rd, looked fixedly straight ahead, apparently unmoved by anything going off around him. He deserves special mention, as he was only given a copy of the figures and composition on Boxing Day of last year, and had no previous practice at the peal—the rest of the band had had one evening's practice, and one attempt at the peal.

The tenor and seventh were doing a good job of work, maintaining a very steady beat and refusing to allow the bells to 'run away' in too high a speed. They also gave helpful and encouraging nods to those making any number of dodges or 'snaps' with them, to indicate the end of the work.

AIR SEEMED ELECTRIFIED

As the bells swung into the last third of the peal, the beat was becoming noticeably quicker; the conductor became a little nervous at this point; he seemed to have no time to think at all! As the last few leads approached the air seemed electrified, until the last lead of Maulden, then 'That's all' brought a finely struck peal to a close. Congratulations were heaped upon the conductor, but, as he pointed out then, it was the whole band who had rung the peal and who ought to be congratulated on a splendid performance. A local lady ringer had been listening downstairs to the peal and the calling; she said it sounded like a tour of England to hear all the names!

The band then repaired to the local hostelry to celebrate in traditional style and to meet the local Press. Here three of the band rang a touch of Spliced Minor 'in hand' to show they still had some life left. It is sad to relate, however, that on the way home the ringers of the 2nd and 6th went to the station refreshment room, and all they bought and shared there was a glass of water and a tube of aspirins!

The band would like to take this opportunity of expressing their grateful thanks to Mr. John Segar, of Retford, Notts, who spent some considerable time in checking the figures of the peal.

THE RINGERS

Treble.—Milton C. Fowler. Aged 54. A clerk to the National Coal Board, near Doncaster. Rang his first peal at his home tower, Conisborough, in 1921. Has rung 166 peals, which include eight peals of Spliced Surprise.

Second.—J. Frederick Miller. Aged 54. In business as an agricultural engineer and blacksmith. Learned to ring at his native village, Kirklington, Notts, where there are three bells. Joined the company at Southwell Minster in 1920, and is now Ringing Master. Rang his first peal of Surprise in 1924 at Worksop Abbey, conducted by John Flint. Peal total is 490, including 19 peals of Spliced Surprise. Fred has always travelled considerable distances for his peal ringing, and estimates his total mileage for peals at 42,000 miles!

Third.—Gordon Benfield. Aged 24, the youngest member of the band. A schoolmaster by profession. Learned to ring in 1944 at St. Lawrence's, Pudsey, under the guidance of Mr. William Barton. Rang his first peal in 1945. General treasurer of the Yorkshire Association. Has rung 77 peals, including four of Spliced Surprise. Conducted 10 peals.

Fourth.—Howard Scott. Aged 31. Schoolmaster. Taught to ring in 1936 by Mr. George Clark, who is still well remembered as a first-class teacher in South Yorkshire. Rang his first peal at Arksey, near Doncaster, in 1937. Ringing Master at Adwick-le-Street, Doncaster. Has made remarkable progress during the last year and a half. Rang his first peal of Surprise in February, 1952, and his last eleven peals have been 'firsts.' Peal total 51, conducted 2. Total includes three of Spliced Surprise.

Fifth.—W. Eric Critchley. Aged 30. Schoolmaster. Composer and conductor of the peal. Learned to ring, though only call-changes, at Campsall, near Doncaster. First peal at Barnby Don, Doncaster, in 1945. Member of the service band at St. George's, Doncaster. Peal secretary for the Yorkshire Association. Member of the Central Council. Has conducted A. J. Pitman's well-known peal of four-spliced Surprise, with 'all the work' from all the non-observation bells. Rang peals in 34 different Surprise Major methods. Peal total 266, conducted 82. Spliced Surprise total 17, conducted 10.

Sixth.—Wilfrid F. Moreton. Aged 29. Schoolmaster. Regarded by the conductor of the peal as 'second-in-command,' and has given him much help and encouragement during the past few months. Rang his first peal in 1939, at Holme Lacy, and conducted his first peal soon afterwards, at the age of 14. Took part in the previous record of 25 Spliced Surprise Major. Member of the Central Council for the Hereford Guild since 1945. Peal total 462, conducted 214. Spliced Surprise total 26, conducted 2.

Seventh.—John J. L. Gilbert. Aged 35. Clerk to the Electricity Board, Sheffield. Learned to ring when 11 years old, and rang his first peal when 12. Conducted the youngest band ever to ring a peal of Major in 1934 at Crayford, Kent. Southern District secretary, Yorkshire Association. Treasurer and Assistant Ringing Master, Sheffield and District Society. Ringing Master, St. Mary's, Handsworth, Sheffield. Peal total 195, conducted 48.

(Continued on next page)

Spliced Surprise Major Record—Cont.

Tenor.—Norman Chaddock. Aged 39. Schoolmaster. Member of the Rotherham Parish Church company. Ringing Master of the Sheffield and District Society. Member of the Central Council. Recently rang Rotherham tenor to a peal of 4-spliced, probably the heaviest bell (34½ cwt.) to be rung to a peal of Spliced Surprise Major. Peal total 184, conducted 82. Spliced Surprise total 5, conducted 1.

THE COMPOSITION

2345678 Framley	Continued
4263857 Yorkshire	3246857 Pudsey
2357486—Wembley	6527384 Eastcote
4523678—Lindum	3265478—London
2465837 Hitchin	4632857—Apsley
5347286 Falmouth	6257483—Lessness
2453678—Hanbury	5642378 Framley
5264837 Trowbridge	4536827 Yorkshire
4327586 Radlett	5627483—Wembley
5243678 Watford	4256378—Lindum
4562837 Lincolnshire	3542867—Cambridge
5237486—Falmouth	2657384 Rutland
4532678—Derwent	3526478—Derwent
5463827 Aldenham	4235867—Bristol
3247586 Rutland	3425867—Langley
5432678—Uxbridge	5647382 Claybrook
3564827 Painswick	3456278—Stockport
4257386 Eastcote	5324867 Jersey
3542678—Shoreditch	3467582—Cray
4365827 Langley	5623847 Cambridge
3527486—Lessness	6347582—Dublin
4235678—Lindoff's	4637582—London
London	5346278—New
6342857—Superlative	Gloucester
2537684 Radlett	4536278—Deben
6325478—Lindoff's	2345867—Lincolnshire
London	5637284 Maulden
2643857 Painswick	2356478—
3567284 Claybrook	Twice repeated.
2635478—Ramsey	

Rung at Handsworth, Sheffield, on February 13th, 1954, composed and conducted by W. Eric Critchley.

A NEW JUNIOR SOCIETY

On February 13th a general meeting of the Derby District of the Grammar and Technical Schools Association of Change Ringers was held at Brailsford, Derbyshire.

This Association was formed in December, 1953, to promote the art of change ringing amongst some of the younger ringers.

The business meeting came directly after the afternoon's ringing. As there were no minutes of the last meeting, held at Breadsall, the first item on the agenda was the election of new members and these numbered five.

A welcome was extended to members of the Association to attend, every Wednesday night, at St. Luke's, Derby, for handbell ringing. A vote of thanks was proposed to the Rector for the use of the bells.

Methods rung during the afternoon included St. Simon's, St. Nicholas', Stedman, Grandsire, Plain Bob, April Day and Reverse Court Pleasure Doubles.

Officers for the Derby District this year are: District president, the Rev. G. T. Perry; treasurer, D. Shakespear; peal secretary, R. J. Stretton; secretary, P. J. Skinner, 27, Rykneld Road, Littleover, Derby.

Will any person attending Grammar or Technical Schools wishing to join get in touch with the Derby district secretary.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION**Annual Meeting at Southwark**

The annual general meeting of the London County Association was held in the Chapter House of Southwark Cathedral on February 6th. Ringing took place in the afternoon at St. Mary's, Lambeth, St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, and at the Cathedral.

The members then attended Evensong in the Cathedral, at which the Precentor, Canon Brown, officiated, and the large choir of St. Luke's, West Norwood, assisted.

Tea was served in the Chapter House to approximately 80 members and this was followed by the business meeting.

Officers elected for the ensuing year were as follows:—Master, Mr. T. H. Taffender; hon. general secretary, Mr. H. W. Rogers; assistant secretary No. 1, Mr. W. G. Wilson; assistant secretary No. 2, Mrs. O. L. Rogers; treasurer, Mr. J. E. Lewis Cockey; senior steward, Mr. M. Meyer; junior steward, Mr. V. Neal; trustees, Messrs. J. A. Hales and F. Blewer; auditors, Messrs. A. D. Barker and E. Webb.

The Central Council members were re-elected for the next three years, viz.:—Messrs. T. H. Taffender, H. W. Rogers, W. G. Wilson and Mrs. O. L. Rogers.

Six new members were elected at the meeting. In his report, the Master stated that 19 new members had been elected during the year, that 12 peals had been rung, two of which were firsts for the Association—New Cambridge Surprise Royal and Albanian Surprise Royal—which were rung at Isleworth. Mr. H. W. Rogers headed the list of conductors for the year.

The Master, with his mobile Sunday service band, had rung on 48 Sunday evenings throughout the year at churches where there was no local band to man the bells. He stated that good touches and quarter peals in Plain and Surprise methods had been successfully brought home.

The meeting stood in silence to the memory of its members lost by death during the year, one of whom was an honorary member, the Rev. P. W. Shepherd-Smith, a former Vicar of Isleworth and a loyal friend to the local ringers.

The finances of the Association were shown to be in good order with an adequate balance in hand, but the members were reminded that peal-writing fees were still to be extracted from this when the writing was completed for the year.

Votes of thanks were accorded to the Provost, the Rev. H. Ashdown, for the use of the Cathedral bells and the Chapter House; to the officers of the Association for their work throughout the year; and to the ladies who so ably prepared and served tea.

The handbell competition for the Dawe Cup followed the meeting, but unfortunately only one team was entered, that being from Christ-the-Saviour's, Ealing. They rang an almost perfect course of Grandsire Triples, and in the opinion of the judges deserved to hold the cup for the year.

After the meeting further ringing took place at the Cathedral until approximately 9.30 p.m.

Gratefully Acknowledged

The Editorial Committee acknowledge with gratitude the following donations to help meet the cost of producing the 'Ringing World':

Personal.—Anon. 5s.; 'Lost peal at Crookham' 4s.

Peals.—Cheddar 4s.; Wombourne 5s.; Handsworth 4s.; Burnham 5s.; Knowle 3s. 6d.; Moulton 3s.; Crawley 4s.; Elston 3s.; Upton-on-Severn 4s.

Quarter peals.—North Curry 4s.; Pyle 1s. 6d.; Leighton Buzzard 2s. 6d.; Hutton 2s. 6d.; Wolstanton 4s.; Baldock 3s.; North Weald 2s. 6d.; Derby 4s.; Bedwellty 2s.; Upper Clapton 1s. 9d.

SOCIETY OF ROVING RINGERS**Sixth Annual Reunion**

Thirty-one members and friends of the Society attended the annual reunion held at Worcester on February 6th.

We met at Evesham early Saturday afternoon and enjoyed some 12-bell ringing on these already familiar bells, visited on our summer tour.

Most people travelled by bus to Worcester, except the enterprising few who hailed a taxi and arrived in style at St. John's. Cambridge Surprise Major and Double Norwich were amongst the methods rung on these eight bells before we walked briskly back over the river for our ring on the ten at All Saints'.

Dinner was held at the Crown Hotel, our headquarters for the week-end.

The business meeting began promptly at 8 p.m. with Mr. Mark White being elected as chairman. Apologies for absence were received from several members, including two on National Service. We were pleased, however, that two other H.M.F. members were able to spend the week-end with us.

In his report, the secretary, Mr. John Chilcott, said that both the 1953 Whitsun week-end and summer tour had been very successful and enjoyable. Two peals were rung by the Society during the past year, including a peal of Stedman Caters at Beddington in honour of the wedding of Raymond and Jill Parsons. A bedroom chair was our gift from the Society. Congratulations were also extended to Tony Oliver and Iris Purser on their engagement and to Bill and Hilda Kingcott on the recent addition to their family.

The following new members were elected: Mary Munday (Devon), Cyril Lewington (Reading) and Terence Thorner (Leicester). Honorary membership was conferred upon Mr. W. Farmer (Shrewsbury), Mr. R. G. Morris (Worcester) and Mr. T. W. Lewis (Worcester).

Officers for 1954 were elected as follows: Ringing Master, Michael Chilcott; joint secretaries, Jeanette Winchester and Kathleen Weller; treasurer, Raymond Parsons; recorder, Audrey Bailey. The chairman proposed and members unanimously agreed that a vote of thanks be given to the retiring officers for their hard work during the past year.

It was decided to hold this year's tour in the counties of Hampshire, Wiltshire and Dorset, spending the Bank Holiday week-end at Yeovil or Sherborne. Oxford was also suggested as a rendezvous for Whitsun week-end, if it could be arranged.

After the meeting handbell ringing was enjoyed and the first touch of Stedman Cinques 'in hand' by the Society was rung. The evening concluded with songs, music and the usual social activities.

We rang for Sunday service at Worcester Cathedral, and whilst a few went on to Claines, the rest drank coffee. After lunch at the Savoy, ten members left by bus for Birmingham, where they were very warmly welcomed by Mr. Albert Walker and the St. Martin's band.

We would like to take this opportunity of thanking Mr. R. G. Morris, Mr. T. W. Lewis, our joint secretaries and all friends in Worcester who helped to make this week-end so enjoyable.

J. W., K. W.

THE QUEEN IN AUSTRALIA

First report of ringing to welcome H.M. the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh on Australian soil was received this week.

On February 7th, at St. Mary's Basilica, Sydney, a quarter peal of 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung in 49 minutes by the following band: J. Sheehy treble, Miss M. Winter 2, Miss J. Hills 3, G. Logan 4, J. J. Cummins 5, E. J. Fowell 6, T. W. Goodyer (conductor) 7, L. Curran tenor (26 cwt.). This was the first quarter in the method for all but the ringer of the third.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

Resignation of Hon. Secretary

Dear Sir—Very shortly there will appear in 'The Ringing World' a preliminary notice of the annual general meeting of the Kent County Association of Change Ringers to be held at Bromley on Easter Monday.

At this meeting the usual business of electing officers for the ensuing year will be on the agenda, and it is relevant to this election I wish to make it known in advance—feeling it to be in the best interests of the Association to do so—that owing to indifferent health over the past two or three years, I shall not seek re-election to the office of honorary secretary—an office it has been my great pleasure to occupy for the past eight years.

In bringing this impending change to your notice now, it is my hope that ample time is available to find a suitable successor. For some time I have realised that our Association is worthy of a secretary more energetic and enterprising than myself, and I am confident that among our number we have good ringers of the reliable go-ahead type from whom to select one who would not only find much pleasure in carrying out the routine secretarial duties, but would also prove himself an enthusiast in furthering the aims and objects of our Association.—Yours sincerely,

G. H. SPICE.

Sittingbourne, Kent.

INSPIRED BY 'FATUOUS'

Dear Sir,—That Arthur M. Morris should use the word 'fatuous' with reference to part of my original letter prompts me to request that he should keep to constructive criticism, expose an untruth or keep out.

The writer's many newspaper items and articles, visits to youth clubs for talks and handbell, change and tune ringing, two nights per week for some twenty years and regularly twice on Sundays entirely voluntary (and the enjoyment of every minute of it) are mentioned to remove the untruth this non-ringing correspondent lays at my door.

On a recent morning we had a reporter and photographer in our tower, which was all part of our effort to stimulate and maintain outside interest in the real thing.

Mention has been made of the B.B.C. and recordings: neither the interval signal nor the many broadcasts of bells suggest a tingling alarm to anyone, and your suggestions, sir, are in keeping with your resting back content that bell-ringing influences the youth of the country. I beg you, sir, go to your nearest tower and get some real hours in. One is never too old to learn, and I suspect you could very well teach others. I again beg the Central Council to appoint a committee to advise on standards, particularly on range and quality. This is what the churches without bells need—help, not abuse.

Bell-ringers' meetings, small or large, should not be a time for showing off by the Surprise fraternity, but a time when all ringers should renew their enthusiasm and spread encouragement. We badly need something in the nature of an annual gathering of thousands at York—for the North. What a privilege it was to attend such a service and hear the Minster bells—to come back with a memory of the real thing and to think of the Minster ringers there Sunday by Sunday.

A committee in London could do the C.C. work and know what they were doing. Bells, wherever they are, are our talents: if we bury them—through they are buried high in a steeple—we know our reward.—Yours very faithfully,

ERNEST L. HUMPHRIS.

Woolton, Liverpool.

NORTHERN DIVISION ESSEX ASSOCIATION REFUTE UNREST

Dear Sir,—I was amazed to read in Mr. J. R. Leeming's letter of much unrest in the Northern Division of the Essex Association, also of the lack of unity and good feeling. I am sure that if Mr. Leeming would go around the Division and meet the members he would find plenty of unity, good feeling and a happy atmosphere. I am proud to have been a member of the Division since 1921 and its secretary for the past eight years; and, furthermore, the bells of all the churches in the Division are rung (except two) to the glory of God for the Sunday services.—Yours sincerely,

HENRY A. PRATT.

Honorary Secretary,
Northern Division Essex Association.

COMPLAINTS SHOULD BE AIRED AT MEETINGS

Dear Sir,—As a member of the Northern Division of the Essex Association, I feel bound to reply to Mr. Leeming's letter in 'The Ringing World' (February 19th). It is not a personal challenge: he has challenged the whole of the Northern Division.

First, at a meeting of approximately 80 members, Miss H. Snowden was re-elected Master by a truly overwhelming majority. This proves that most members feel she is quite capable of the task. Not only that, but in the course of her work as Master of the Northern Division she has done a tremendous amount for the good of towers, ringing and ringers, and has not spared herself doing so. To my mind this proves she does not need reminding of her duties.

Then, 'the attitude of certain people in the belfry and elsewhere,' goes on Mr. Leeming, 'is causing much unrest in the Northern Division and undermining the quality of ringing.'

All right, Mr. Leeming, our Division meets about four times a year; everybody is entitled to air their views. Why not attend a meeting and state your case? This can be discussed and perhaps remedied. Those meetings are the place for complaints which concern the Division, not the columns of the 'Ringing World.'

Also to use this as an excuse for poor quality ringing is poppycock. The answer is practice, and not advance to a new method before the previous one can be rung perfectly.—Yours faithfully,

ALAN R. ELLIOTT.

Kelvedon, Essex.

DETAILS OF FALSE PEALS WANTED

Dear Sir,—When anyone has the unfortunate duty of withdrawing peals because they have been found to be false, may I ask that more particulars be kindly given? Simply to give the number of the peal in the particular Association's records is probably not even sufficient for members of the band who rang the peal. May we have date, method and place, please, as well as the reason for the falseness of the composition? This will help those who record these things, and I know I am not the only one who does so.—Yours faithfully,

K. W. H. FELSTEAD.

Southampton.

WEST TARRING, SUSSEX.—On Feb. 21st, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: R. W. Black 1, Miss D. K. Saunders 2, Miss J. M. Clements 3, C. A. J. Chappell 4, J. R. Wilson (cond.) 5, H. C. Weaver 6. First quarter of Minor by ringers of 1, 2 and 3.

WILLINGHAM, CAMBS.—On Feb. 21st, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: A. Denson 1, F. Elsom 2, K. Bonus 3, G. E. Crisp 4, G. A. Lucas 5, M. Ginn (cond.) 6. First quarter by 1 and 3.

FORTY YEARS AGO

From 'The Ringing World' of Mar. 6th, 1914

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

On Tuesday, February 24th, 1914, in 3 hours and 46 minutes.

At the Church of St. Martin.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5,019 CHANGES

Tenor 36 cwt.

Charles Dickens	Treble
Thomas H. Reeves	2
Albert Walker	3
John Carter	4
Thomas Miller	5
Edmund J. Hyland	6
James George	7
John Neal	8
Alf Paddon Smith	9
Samuel Grove	10
James E. Groves	11
James H. Shepherd	Tenor

Composed by John Carter. Conducted by James E. Groves.

This is the 100th peal of Stedman Cinques rung in the tower, which is a record. It was also Mr. A. Paddon Smith's 60th peal of Stedman Cinques.

[Five other members of the band had rung over 50 peals of Stedman Cinques—C. Dickens 53, A. Walker 61, J. George 51, J. Neal 55 and J. E. Groves 56, while T. Miller's total was 47. Mr. Walker has now accomplished no fewer than 446 peals in the method, while the number on St. Martin's bells must have been more than doubled.]

LONDON

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION
On Saturday, February 28th, 1914, in 3 hours and 42 minutes

At the Church of St. Leonard, Shoreditch.

A PEAL OF BOB MAXIMUS 5,016 CHANGES

Tenor 28 cwt.

Edwin Barnett, jun.	Treble
Edwin Barnett, sen.	2
William H. Hewett	3
John H. Cheesman	4
Frank Bennett	5
Reginald Brough	6
Frank I. Hairs	7
William J. Jeffries	8
James E. Davis	9
William J. Nudds	10
Harry Flanders	11
Alfred W. Grimes	Tenor

Composed by J. Reeves. Conducted by E. Barnett, sen.

This was the first peal of Bob Maximus on tower bells rung in London for more than 100 years.

Radyr Ringers' Annual Dinner

Radyr ringers this year visited Caerleon for their annual dinner which took place on February 20th.

The party, numbering 28, were greeted on arrival and made most welcome by the Vicar, the Rev. Ivor Davies, who proudly showed them around his beautiful church. Everyone enjoyed the community hymn singing, with the Vicar acting as accompanist.

The ringers then went to the tower and soon the lovely eight were up and Grandsire Triples once again rang out. The captain, Mr. Trevor Lewis, maintained his policy of a fair share of the ringing for all members, and this ranged from rounds and call changes to Stedman.

All too soon the bells were reluctantly rung down and the party proceeded to the White Hart Inn where a delicious meal had been laid on. Mr. Edser, a churchwarden, presided, and thanks are due to Mr. Bill Heath and Mr. Harold Cassell for their help in ringing Stedman. Grateful thanks are also due to the Vicar.

DEDICATION

BUCKMINSTER, LEICS

Buckminster bells have been rehung on ball bearings in the original frame, which has been strengthened. The fifth bell, which was cracked, has been recast and inscribed to the memory of Sir Lionel F. C. E. Tollemache and Lady H. H. D. Tollemache.

For the dedication on February 20th the beautiful Minster Church of St. John the Baptist was filled to capacity by parishioners from Buckminster and Sewstern and bell ringers from a very wide area.

The procession from the Rectory, led by the cross-bearer, choir, Mr. T. H. Simpkins (captain of ringers), the Rural Dean (the Rev. H. W. Sherwin, of Wymondham), the Rev. E. D. Deane, of Sproston, Lay Canon H. J. Poole (president, Leicester Guild), churchwardens, the Rector (Canon Williams), the Rev. H. Collyer (Goadby Marwood) and the Lord Bishop of Leicester, the Right Rev. Ronald Ralf Williams, D.D., entered the church during the singing of the hymn, 'We love the place, O God.' During the singing of the hymn, 'Hark, hark, my soul!' the Lord Bishop, clergy, churchwardens, ringers and choir proceeded to the tower. Mr. Paul Taylor, of the bell founders, handed the ropes to the Lord Bishop, and the Vicar said, 'Right Reverend Father in God, I pray you to kindly dedicate these bells.' He replied, 'I am ready so to do.' After the dedication prayers the local band rang a few rounds.

The Bishop, in his address, told the congregation of the significance of the ringing of the bells. They reminded people of their faith, called the faithful to prayer and reminded those outside of the church. Ringing for the newly married was in token of the happy union of those pledged in Christian faith; it was also a comfort to the sick.

This was the Bishop's first visit to a country parish since his enthronement.

After the procession had left the church a touch of welcome was rung on the bells by Paul Taylor 1, A. E. Rowley (cond.) 2, J. H. Cook 3, F. J. Williams 4, J. Beale 5, A. Fidler 6.

Tea was provided by the Buckminster ringers in the Institute. Mr. J. N. P. Richards, churchwarden, gave a welcome to the Bishop and Mrs. Williams; Miss Rhona Rayson presented Mrs. Williams with a bouquet, and Mr. T. H. Simpkins, captain of the ringers, presented the Bishop with a stick of Buckminster rock.

In the evening the visiting ringers made good use of the bells. Plain Bob, Treble Bob, Cambridge, Stedman and Grandsire Doubles were rung.

Ringers were present from Asfordby, Kirby Bellars, Melton Mowbray, Harby, Eaton, Waltham, Somerby, Wymondham, Leicester Cathedral, Sutton-on-Trent, Wilvey, Warwickshire, and Ibstock.

A CORNISH FIFTY

Congratulations will be offered by many to Mr. A. Hubert Eplett, who is a churchwarden at St. Mawgan-in-Pydar, on ringing his fiftieth peal. Forty-eight have been for the Truro Guild. Mr. Eplett only started ringing with his local stoney band in 1948, but his interest went wider, and he rang his first peal in the same year. His enthusiasm has been unbounding, and there is little doubt that his total has been reached more quickly than by any other Cornish ringer.

Sometimes a man is judged only by his fanatical peal total. Hubert Eplett must not be. Before a recent peal at St. Mawgan he had not only oiled the bells, but had lighted the church boiler for the week-end, to go into the stoke-hole after the peal to bank it down for the night, and then he took the band home to give them tea. Such churchwardens-cum-ringers are invaluable in any parish. Mrs. Eplett, too, has assisted in the total by consent and should be thanked. Ringers' wives spend many an anxious hour!

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD

Lyme Regis Bells Please Branch

The quarterly meeting of the West Dorset Branch was held at Lyme Regis on February 20th. Members attended from Beaminster, Bridport, Charmouth, Evershot, Netherbury, Lyme Regis and Powerstock and visitors came from Stalbridge and Templecombe.

The bells were raised in peal just after 3 p.m. and those who had not heard the ring since the recasting soon expressed their approval of this delightful eight. Methods rung included Cambridge, London, Superlative Surprise Major and the usual plain methods.

The Guild service was conducted by Canon C. C. Cox assisted by the Rev G. L. Tiark, recently inducted Vicar of Lyme Regis, who also gave a short address.

Tea was then taken in the Church Hall, provision having been made by the wives of the Lyme Regis ringers, who also defrayed the cost.

Preceding the minutes of the last meeting, Canon Cox expressed the thanks of the Branch to the Rev. G. L. Tiark for the use of his church and bells and said how pleased he was that the Branch should visit Lyme Regis so quickly after Mr. Tiark had taken up residence in Lyme. Canon Cox also thanked the Lyme ringers and their wives for the splendid tea, and Mr. Elsworth the Branch organist.

Apology for absence was read from the Rev. O. L. Willmott, who had a Confirmation service that afternoon. The accounts for 1953 were passed and showed a balance in hand of £42 9s. 2d.

Mr. J. Davis told the meeting that Netherbury had got about £50 of the £306 wanted to rehang their bells. The meeting voted that the Branch make a donation of £2 2s. from the Branch funds.

Mrs. Davis and the Rev. R. R. Powell were elected honorary members.

Canon Cox said that Litton Cheney ringers had expressed a wish to be transferred to the Dorchester Branch. The Branch secretary had seen Litton Cheney ringers and put their wishes before the Guild Committee, who approved the transfer.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION

Bishop Pleased at Number of Young Ringers

Seventy-one members attended the annual meeting of the Western Division at Chichester Cathedral on February 13th. Ringing commenced at 3 p.m. under the direction of Mr. R. P. Wood, the Ringing Master. The company filled the choir to capacity for the service at 4.15, which was conducted by the Rev. Mr. Fost, the lesson being read by the Bishop, Dr. Bell.

An excellent tea was provided at the Assembly Rooms by the Chichester ringers and friends, where Dr. Bell joined the company. Before leaving he was thanked for gracing the ringers with his presence both at the service and at tea. In his reply Dr. Bell said that it was very gratifying to see so many young ringers, and after thanking all ringers for the service which they render the Church, he took his leave.

At the business meeting which followed, the Rev. H. Woodford (Ringing Master from the newly-affiliated tower of Shipley) took the chair. The report and balance sheet, which were adopted, showed the very healthy condition of the Division.

The following officers were elected:—Ringing Master, Mr. R. P. Wood; secretary, Mr. W. L. Weller; committee, Mr. H. Weaver and Mr. R. P. Wood; auditor, Miss S. Richardson; Central Council delegate, Mr. R. G. Blackman.

Ringling ranging to Bristol and London Surprise Major then continued at the Campanile until 8 p.m. W. L. W.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY

ASSOCIATION

North and East District Appeal for City Churches

The North and East District annual meeting held at St. Giles-in-the-Field, Holborn, on February 13th was attended by over 60 ringers who shared in ringing at St. Bartholomew-the-Great, Smithfield, and St. Margaret's, Westminster, in addition to the local tower. Evensong was conducted by the Rev. G. C. Taylor, Rector of St. Giles', who welcomed members of the Association and others who were present, and addressed the congregation on his belief of a religious revival, quoting Romans xiii., v. 12, 'The night is far spent,' as his theme.

At the business meeting the memory of Mr. George M. Kilby was respected, and the ensuing proceedings were under the chairmanship of Mr. W. N. Genna. The secretary, in his annual report, stated that 12 meetings had been arranged and an average of 25 ringers had attended; new members elected comprised one honorary life, 38 ringing and three non-resident life. A return of quarter peals rung at the various towers totalled 113, in which St. Mary's, Harrow-on-the-Hill, figured for the first time for many years. The return of St. Margaret's, Edgware, was welcomed, and reference was made to the present situation of some churches in the City of London where ringers were needed. The good work of Mr. H. Kirby was recognised, and congratulations were extended to Mr. William Hewett on his receipt of a Coronation medal.

The statement of accounts showed a balance of £31 2s. 2d., an increase on the previous year, to be carried to the Central Fund of the Association, and also an amount of £4 9s. to be credited to the Bell Restoration Fund.

District officers were elected as follows:—Mr. A. Cutler, Master; Miss E. K. Fulton, Assistant Master; Mr. T. J. Lock, secretary; Mr. C. F. Neal, assistant secretary; Mr. R. F. B. Speed, auditor; Messrs. R. H. Begrie, H. G. Hart and G. A. Parsons members of committee. The following were elected ringing members of the Association: The Misses M. Mesley and J. Wilcockson (Stanmore) and the Misses P. Harbridge, M. Pavitt and S. Clayton (Pinner).

A KETTERING VETERAN

The cover page of 'Keystone,' the monthly journal of the Church of SS. Peter and Paul, Kettering, contains a photograph of some of the ringers on this well-known ten ringing for service.

The captain of the bell ringers, Mr. R. F. Turner, must surely hold the record for continuous service to the church in one organisation, states 'Keystone.' He started to learn the mysterious art of campanology at the turn of the century and, 50 years ago, on December 30th, 1903, he took part in his first peal on Kettering bells, one of the Grandsire Triples, with the local team under the conductorship of the late David J. Nichols, whom he succeeded as captain in 1928. A brother, Mr. Morris A. Turner, who also took part in the peal, emigrated to Philadelphia, U.S.A., many years ago, and in 1937 Mr. Turner crossed the Atlantic to visit him. The only other survivor of the peal is Mr. Fred Tingle, now captain of the ringers at Ripon Cathedral.

We have always, ever since the very earliest days of change ringing, had a team of ringers well famed in the ringing fraternity for its proficiency, and it is hoped that the present team, consisting as it does for the most part of young people, will be able to ring a complete peal of Grandsire Triples in February to mark the 225th anniversary of the first peal ever rung on the bells, in 1729. We hope that this team will help to carry on the tradition in the future as there is much promising material, including six ladies at various stages of efficiency.

THE BELLS OF TEWKESBURY ABBEY

RECASTING THE GREAT BELL

In 1648 the Great Bell cracked, and although it was, of course, a much heavier bell, the cost of repairing it, as compared with that of recasting the Little Bell sixty-two years earlier, gives a very good indication as to how prices were rising.

Paid Prigwell for ye clapper and Balrigge of ye Greate bell	£1 5s. 0d.
Paid John Cooke for iron worke for ye greate bell and clocke	4s. 0d.
Paid Thomas Wilshaw for slackinge and Hangeinge ye greate bell	£1 12s. 0d.
Paid for a wheel for ye greate bell	13. 0d.
Paid ye bellfounders charges when ye bell came from Gloucester	14s. 0d.
Paid for takinge downe ye greate bell and for carryinge him oute	13s. 4d.
Paid for carrying ye bell to and from ye key	10s. 9d.
Paid for drawinge ye greate bell into ye tower	12s. 0d.
Paid for ye use of ye gable to wind up ye bell	3s. 0d.
Paid for bringing ye gable to and from ye key twice	4s. 0d.
Paid for carrying ye bell to Gloucester and bringinge it back	11s. 2d.
Paid for weighinge it att Gloucester	3s. 0d.
Paid for ye staple for ye bell	2s. 6d.
Paid for watchinge ye bell att ye key two nights	1s. 0d.
Paid for charges att Gloucester when ye bell was cast	£1 6s. 4d.
Paid at Worcester att ye bargain to cast ye bell	3s. 8d.
Paid at Gloucester for drawinge articles and other charges	6s. 0d.
Paid to ye bellfounder in earnest	2s. 6d.
Paid John Bernard for castinge ye bell	£14 0s. 0d.
Paid for 420 lbs. of mettelle for ye bell at 7d. ye pound	£13 13s. 0d.

It would seem that the 420 lbs. of 'mettle' was to increase the size and weight of the great bell. However, the great bell cost the churchwardens £37 0s. 3d. on this occasion.

In 1648 an item of historical interest occurs 'for ringinge att ye routinge of ye Scots ye 7th September, 5s.' This undoubtedly refers to the occasion in the second civil war when the Duke of Hamilton invaded England on the side of Charles II. and was totally defeated by Cromwell's Ironsides at Preston.

In 1649 one Thomas Prywell was paid 3s. 4d. for 'shutting' the 5th bell clapper. This word 'shutting' appears constantly in the records and in the main refers to blacksmith's repairs. Perhaps the most modern equivalent would be 'welding' though it is interesting to note that the word 'shutting' is still in use by blacksmiths in Gloucestershire. Occasionally the word is used in reference to ropes, and in such cases one can only suppose that splicing is meant.

YOUNG RINGERS AND ROPES

There must have been some keen young ringers in Tewkesbury in 1650 as an item occurs 'received of the young ringers towards buyinge ropes 6s. 6d.'

This year also brings another echo of the civil wars. On July 26th the ringers were paid 8s. 'for thanksgiving day for Scotland,' and in 1651 one Ffrancis Jeffries, who rented the churchyard, refused to pay more than 5s. 'by reason ye souldiers brought their carridges into it'; and on October 25th the ringers were paid 10s. 'being ye thanksgiving day per Mastre Bayliffs order.' These incidents bring to our minds how young Charles II. slipped down the West Coast road from Scotland for a rash in-

By T. V. LISTER

(Continued from page 142)

vasion of England, how Cromwell turned south from defeating the Scots, outmarched Charles, crossed the Pennines and reached the Severn valley when Charles was at Worcester. There he was decisively beaten and we all recall the story of his hiding in the oak at Boscobel. However in spite of these momentous events on Tewkesbury's doorstep, so to speak, the even tenor of life went on and in the same year we read 'Payd for ye casting of ye greate bell clapper and ye charge of carriage to Newin (Newent) and Bache 19s. 2d.' The carriage to Ashleworth quay, referred to earlier, cost 1s., whilst Mastre Clark's work men at Newent received 6s. 'for working ye clapper att ye forge.'

It will be remembered that the Protectorate lasted from 1653 to 1658, and in 1654 it is recorded 'Payd ye Ringers 24th December my Lord Protector being proclaymed yt day 8s.' Under this entry, in an entirely different handwriting, is an observation which one can take as one likes, 'Who was ye grand Rebal.'

BUYING ROPES BY WEIGHT

We have noticed in our own times how the method of buying articles can change from numbers to weight, and in 1660 this occurred with bell ropes. Up to that day they had been purchased at so much each, but in 1660 it is recorded 'of Mr. Hornblow for five bell ropes weight 52 lbs att five pence the pound £1 1s. 6d.' This method of buying ropes continued until well into the 18th century when the method of buying them by numbers was restored. Either the ropes were of very poor quality, or there was a very great deal of ringing, because at least one new set was obtained every year. It is an interesting comparison to note that some of the ropes in use at the Abbey to-day (1954) have been there since 1933 without replacements.

In 1660 it is noted 'Payd ye Ringers upon ye Coronacone Day 10s.' and in 1663 'paid ye ringers one ye 29th May 6s. 6d.' It will be remembered that May 29th was the date when Charles II. returned to England in triumph, and it was also his birthday. The practice of the Abbey ringers being paid to ring on May 29th continued until quite recent times.

HIGH FLOODS OF 1663

The exceptionally high floods of 1947 will still be fresh in the memory of many people who live in Gloucestershire, but high as they were, it is clear that they did not reach the level of those in 1663, because it is recorded 'Paid John Perrett for mending ye paving in ye body of ye church which by reason of ye ffood did sinke in many places and for ye like labour in other parts of ye church £1.'

In 1671 it would seem that the 4th bell cracked because there are numerous items for taking it down, conveying it by water to Worcester, for new metal and for casting, to a total cost of £24 8s. 10d. Although the work was done by a founder named Martins, there is also an item of expenditure of 5s. to 'ye bell founder at Gloucester.' One can only assume that this was for an estimate and that the Worcester estimate for the work was lower than that obtained from Gloucester.

On May 29th 1665, occur two items of interest, first, 'Paid for ringing 5s.,' and 'For ringing for ye Victory twice 3s.' From this date for approximately 150 years the ringers received regular payment for their services and the amount steadily rose until about 100 years later they were being paid 10s. 6d. two or

three times a year. The ringing for victory no doubt refers to the capture of the New England and Virginia colonies on the American seaboard from the Dutch.

AN EARLY RUDHALL BELL

In 1678 there was more trouble with the bells but there is nothing to indicate what the trouble was or how many bells were involved. What is of particular interest is that the work of recasting was done at Bishop's Cleeve, a village some five miles from Tewkesbury in the direction of Cheltenham. One item is 'for halling ye bells to Cleave and back £1 6s. 8d.' Although it states that £10 was paid to the bell-founder for casting the bells, without giving the name of the founder, later on £6 was paid to 'Abraham Riddle' for hanging them. Again in 1679 something occurred which necessitated one or more of the bells being taken down as various expenses are listed including one to 'Abraham Ridall' for 10s. 6d., and to the 'bell founder for £7 14s. 2d.' It is an historical fact that Abraham Rudhall founded his great firm in Gloucester in 1684, but this is clear evidence that he was operating in the county some considerable time before that. Perhaps he was still in the itinerant stage of his career and possibly collaborating with John Bernard, who recast the great bell in 1648. One wonders whether John Bernard was the founder who dealt with the bells in 1678 and 1679 and whether Rudhall eventually took over his business in Gloucester. Perhaps some reader could throw some light on Rudhall's activities for the years immediately prior to his founding his firm in 1684. Whatever was wrong with the bells in 1678-79 it could not have been very serious as the accounts show regular payments to the ringers throughout both these years.

NATIONAL OCCASIONS

It will be remembered that Charles II. died on February 5th, 1685, and it is evident that he had been in failing health for some time as we read that in 1684 the ringers were paid 10s. 'on news of the hopes of the recovery of King Charles the second.' The Abbey continued to mark the chief occasions in English history and the following year they rang for two important occasions—to the ringers on news of the defeat of the rebels in the West several times 15s., and, 'more at the coronation of King James the second 5s.' The first will refer to Monmouth's abortive rebellion which culminated at the battle of Sedgemoor on July 6th, 1685 the last battle fought on English soil. The Battle of the Boyne, in 1690, when William of Orange defeated James II. was celebrated at Tewkesbury on September 8th 'for joy of the kings saffe returne into Ingland spent and gave to the Dromors (drummers) and toards a bonfire and ringing 6s. 6d.,' and in 1691 'For ringing for ye victory in Ireland 5s.,' also 'To ye ringers for ye taking of Limrick 5s.,' the last Jacobite stronghold to resist in Ireland. The occasion in 1692 when Admiral Russell engaged Admiral Tourville and beat him is shown 'To ye ringers for ye vicktory at sea against ye French 5s.' In 1695 the ringers were paid 'for ringing at the surrender of the Castle of Namur 2s.,' and in 1697 'for ringing when peace was proclaimed 5s.' Historians will connect both these events with William of Orange's war in Flanders which lasted from 1691 to 1697.

(To be continued)

STOKE-UNDER-HAM, SOMERSET.—On Feb. 14th. 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss C. Beale 1, D. Best 2, Mrs. E. S. Powell 3, J. W. Drew (cond.) 4, F. Welch 5, R. Welch 6, K. Welch 7, G. Best 8. Rung to welcome home Mr. R. C. Beale, who has completed his National Service. It was composed by his father, and his sister Christine rang the treble.

OBITUARY

A POSTHUMOUS LETTER

In the papers of Pilot Officer Martin Jackson, R.A.F., who was killed in an air accident while training at Merryfield, Somerset, was a half-finished letter to the Editor. We feel certain that Martin's friends, especially those in Canada, would like it published:—

Dear Sir,—I was very interested in a recent article in 'The Ringing World' about a journey of 839 miles to visit a tower in Australia.

In another outpost of the Commonwealth there is a similar isolated tower, in Victoria, B.C., Canada. It is the only tower on the west coast of the North American continent to practise the art of change ringing. During a recent stay in Canada, training for aircraft duties under the NATO training scheme at Gimli, Manitoba, and Moose Jaw, Sask., I made a 1,500 mile trip to 'grab' Victoria. . . .

Mrs. Jackson informs us that the ringers in Victoria, B.C., were very kind and invited Martin to help ring the bells for the Coronation, which were recorded and used later by the Canadian Broadcasting Company on June 2nd. He was happy to be able to say he had rung the bells for H.M. Coronation, although on Coronation Day itself he was stationed at Gimli, Manitoba, hundreds of miles away from Victoria.

Martin was a great enthusiast for ringing and had 'collected' 84 towers, the last 14 during his few weeks on the R.A.F. station at Merryfield. The night before he died he had been ringing at Ilminster, helping to train some of their young ringers. But for the accident which brought about his untimely death at the age of 20 he was going up to Cambridge this October and was looking forward to his association with ringers at the University.

MR. WILLIAM RANFORD

Many ringers, I am sure, will join with me in paying a humble tribute to a great friend and ringer, William Ranford, of Suckley, Worcestershire. To most of us he was known as 'Father,' and all those who knew him will agree this name was not misplaced. He passed away on February 17th, at the age of 84, after a very short illness, and was laid to rest on Saturday, February 20th, at Suckley beneath the tower he loved so much and the bells which so often pealed out to his masterly touch. There, in beautiful sunshine, stood a large gathering of ringers and friends from Worcestershire and Herefordshire paying their last respects to a personality which will live long in the memory of all those who were fortunate enough to have met him.

He never seemed to grow old, always alert and ready to stand in; in fact, attempting peals right up to the last. He rang over 500 peals, for which he must have cycled thousands of miles to achieve. I will not attempt here to write about his ringing career; I am sure a much more able pen than mine can do that; but his absence among us will leave a great gap, and I am sure the way he would wish us to perpetuate his memory would be to enlist more ringers into our bands and never allow our church bells to become silent. We are happy to know that two of the family are carrying on the great tradition—son and grandson—and what pride it must have given 'Father' when all three rang together at Christmas.

We extend our sincere sympathy to the family in their loss. G. J. LEWIS.

MR. C. N. SHARPLES

The sympathy of a wide circle of ringers will be extended to Mr. Charles Sharples, of Blackpool, who is one of the Lancashire Association's representatives on the Central Council, in the death of his son, Mr. Charles Norman Sharples, C.I.E., formerly deputy secretary, Commerce Department, Government of

India. Mr. C. N. Sharples died on February 25th, aged 47.

Educated at Blackpool Grammar School and Selwyn College, Cambridge, Mr. C. N. Sharples entered the Indian Civil Service in which he had a brilliant career. He was made a C.I.E. in 1947 and retired to farm in Cornwall. He leaves a widow, a son and a daughter.

MR. J. E. CHURCHILL

An old stalwart of the Middlesex County Association has died in the person of Mr. J. E. Churchill. His membership of the Association extended over 50 years and he was a late member of St. Mary's, Ealing, band.

On February 18th, the day of his funeral, the bells of St. Mary's were rung half-muffled to a quarter peal of Grandire Triples by the following band:—E. W. Coulson 1, W. Ellis 2, A. M. Stacey (conductor) 3, P. E. Clark 4, H. J. Eldred 5, J. H. Harrop (first quarter) 6, A. Harding 7, H. Belcher 8.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS

At the meeting of the Society held on Feb. 13th, the following alterations were made in Rules 3 and 7:—

Rule 3. To read: . . . and such other churches as may be officially selected from time to time for the purpose of practising change ringing, where the sum of sixpence will be collected from each member present.

Rule 7. To read: Each member ringing a peal shall pay a booking fee of one shilling for each peal entered in the peal book.

A. B. PECK.

NOTICES

Scale of Charges

The charge of Notices for meetings is one penny a word, minimum 2s. 6d. For additional insertions with no change of type one half of the above charge for each insertion.

Other Notices one penny per word, minimum 3s.

All notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received on the Monday preceding publication.

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

BOURNEMOUTH.—Fitted basins in all double rooms. Excellent position near sea; one minute buses, shops. Terms till June, 16s. 6d. per day (Easter four days or less 18s. per day, full week 16s. 6d. per day); June-September, six guineas per week, all inclusive of full board. Meal times: Breakfast 8.30-9; dinner 1; high tea 5.30; and a hot drink and a sandwich at 10 p.m. Packed lunches provided. Beach hut available (communal use).—Mr. and Mrs. Fred Price, St. Michael's, 9, Fisherman's Avenue Southbourne, Bournemouth. Southbourne 46005. 3971

SCARBOROUGH.—At 12, Highfield, Mr. and Mrs. Bert Sutton welcome old friends and new. Board-residence, bed-breakfast and high tea or bed and breakfast only. Terms on application. Personal attention. One minute to buses all parts. Garage adjoining. 4011

HANDBELLS WANTED

VALE ROAD SCHOOL for Physically Handicapped Children, London, N.4, wants to purchase a set of handbells. Any offers, with price, to Headmaster, please. 4014

FOR SALE

COMPLETE SETS of 'Ringing World' for years 1948 to 1953. Reasonable offers—Howard, 19, Married Quarters, C.A.D., Bramley Camp, near Basingstoke, Hants. 4024

PUBLICATIONS

'BELLS OF ALL NATIONS' now out of print. A few copies only left at published price, 21s., from the author, Ernest Morris, Verger's Lodge, St. Margaret's Vicarage, Leicester. 4017

'CHURCH BELLS AND RINGERS OF NORWICH,' by A. G. G. Thurlow, 5s. 6d. post free from the author, St. Clement's Rectory, 3, Colegate, Norwich. An account of the bells of one of England's most historic cities, well illustrated with plans, cross sections and pictures. Second edition, much improved; no increase in price.

MISCELLANEOUS

OVERSEAS RINGER wishes to purchase books and pamphlets on campanology for establishment of a 'campanological library'. Send list of items offered, with price expected and description of condition, to Box 4015, c/o 'The Ringing World', Guildford, Surrey. 4015

PEAL CARDS & QUARTER PEAL CARDS can now be ordered at 5s. a set of 12, post free (minimum charge). Order and remittances must be sent with peal report. For quarter peals write separate copy in same style as peals.

MEETINGS

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The annual meeting will take place at Dudley on Saturday, March 6th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 p.m.—R. A. Peakman, Sec., 47, High Street, Kingswinford. 4001

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—N.E. District.—District meeting at Great Bromley, Saturday, March 6th. Bells (6) 2 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15.—J. H. Gould, Fir Tree Cottages, Great Bromley. 3139

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Saturday, March 6th, Aldenham (8), 3 p.m. Tea 5.30.—R. G. Bell, 131, Hamper Mill Lane, Watford. Tel. Watford 7936. 3986

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Cheshunt on Saturday, March 6th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 o'clock. 3994

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern.—Practice meeting, Crawley, March 6th, 3 p.m. Tea for those who advise G. T. Jennings, 5, Malthouse Road, Crawley. Please note the Northern Division secretary is now Mrs. E. Rapley, 48, Swindon Road, Horsham. 3968

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester District.—Practice meeting, Twyford, March 6th. Bells (8) 2. Service 4.15. Tea 5 in Parish Hall. Names to R. F. Brewer, Dean, Sparsholt, Winchester. 3980

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—No practice at Southwark Cathedral on Tuesday, March 9th.—A. B. Peck. 4050

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Next meeting, St. John-the-Baptist, Leytonstone, March 13th, 3.30. Business meeting, The Ship, Talbot Court, Gracechurch Street, E.C., 6 p.m. Preliminary notice: A summer meeting will be held at Leicester on May 8th; details later.—A. B. Peck. 3996

BARNESLEY DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at Ecclesfield, near Sheffield, March 13th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea provided for those who notify, not later than March 10th, Mr. L. E. Smith, 57, Sycamore Road, Ecclesfield. — D. Smith, Hon. Sec. 4047

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.—Taunton Branch.—Practice meeting, Hilfarance, Saturday, March 13th. Bells 6.15 p.m.—A. H. Reed, Hon. Sec. 4030

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Southill on Saturday, March 13th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Tea at 4.45 at the White Horse. A new band has been formed at this tower so let's have a good meeting.—L. H. Bywaters, Sec. 4023

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—Church Lawton, March 13th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea must be received by March 10th.—W. Kerr, 26, Davenham Crescent, Crewe. 4031

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Grappenhall Branch.—Meeting at Daresbury, Saturday, March 13th. Bells (8) 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Please notify, by 10th, H. Worrall, 5, Causeway Avenue, Warrington, Lancs. 4028

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Meeting, Holy Trinity, Darlington, Saturday, March 13th. 2.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. for those who notify, by Thursday, March 11th. Mrs. W. N. Park, 10a, Woodlands Terrace, Darlington.—D. R. Airey. 4029

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—Meeting at Fryerning (6) on Saturday, March 13th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m.—A. H. Everett, Hon. Sec. 3993

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—Highworth (8), March 13th. Tea.—Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Rodbourne Cheney, Swindon. 4016

DEVON GUILD.—Exeter Branch.—Practice, Brampford Speke, Saturday, March 13th. Bells 3.15. Special methods: Bob Minor, Bob Doubles. Cups of tea available; bring own food.—F. Wreford, Hon. Sec. 4026

HEREFORD GUILD.—Ludlow and Church Stretton District.—Quarterly meeting, Stanton Lacy, Saturday, March 13th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Teas.—G. Randle, Ashford, Ludlow. 4042

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Redbourn (6), March 13th. 3 p.m. Names for tea, by March 10th, to J. Hobbs, 84, High Street, Redbourn.—R. Shutter, Dis. Sec. 4012

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—By-meeting, St. Lawrence, Thanet, March 13th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea at 2s. per head. Numbers for tea, with cash, please, not later than Tuesday, March 9th, to Mr. S. J. Gee, 22, Nethercourt Hill, Ramsgate, Kent.—B. J. Luck, 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury. 3985

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—The annual meeting will be held at Frome on March 13th. Bells (8) 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Names for tea to Mrs. Massey, Parbury Bungalow, Vallis Road, Frome.—M. Taylor, Dis. Sec. 4020

LADIES' GUILD.—Southern District.—Meeting, Saturday, March 13th, at Godalming, Surrey. Bells from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. All ringers welcome. Names, by March 8th, to Miss W. Oliver, 36, North Place, Guildford. 3997

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—Annual meeting will be held at St. Martin's, Bowness, on Saturday, March 13th. Bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. Service 4. Tea 4.45 p.m. Meeting after tea. Names for tea to F. Wilson, Woodside, Bank Road, Windermere.—N. M. Newby, Branch Sec. 4044

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Helens Parish Church on Saturday, March

13th. Bells available from 2.30. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5 followed by business meeting. Those requiring tea must send in their names, before Wednesday, March 10th, to Mr. A. Wallace, 11, Whitefield Road, St. Helens.—P. W. Cave, Hon. Sec. 4009

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—Meeting at St. James', Leyland, March 13th. Light refreshments provided. Please look up Double Court. Direct bus from Preston (Fox Street) 2.13 p.m. Frequent buses from Fox Street (Wigan and Leyland, Earnshaw Bridge) to Seven Stars.—L. Walmsley. 4010

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hinckley District.—Annual dinner and social at Co-operative Hall, Burbage, March 13th. Dinner (7s. each) 6.30 prompt. Please send names by Tuesday, March 9th, to F. K. Measures, 58, Lychgate Lane, Burbage, Hinckley. 3984

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Syston District.—Meeting at Humberstone, March 13th. Bells 3. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea (at 5 p.m.), by March 11th, to Mr. Bagworth, 36, Averil Road, Leicester. 4029

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Meeting March 13th. St. Bartholomew's, Smithfield. 3 p.m.—4 p.m. Own arrangements for tea. Business meeting St. Mark's, Dalston, 5.30 p.m., and further ringing.—L. Bullock, Dis. Sec. 4025

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at St. John-at-Hackney, Mare Street, E.9, on Saturday, March 13th. 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business.—T. J. Lock. 4039

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting, Norton, Saturday, March 13th. Committee meeting after tea. Names for tea to Mr. J. Walker, Leek Road, Norton Green, Stoke-on-Trent.—W. Carnwell, Hon. Sec. 4013

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—General committee meeting, St. Michael's Room, New Inn Hall Street, Oxford, Saturday, March 13th. 3 p.m.—W. Hibbert, Gen. Sec. 4007

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Central Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting at North Marston, Saturday, March 13th. Bells (6) 2.45. Service 4. Tea 4.45.—F. Gibbard, 30, Horn Street, Winslow, Bucks. 4043

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Rutland Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Glaston (6) on Saturday, March 13th. Names for tea, by Tuesday, March 9th, to E. E. Gibson, Estean, Market Overton, Rutland. 3969

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Dorset Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Shroton on Saturday, March 13th. Visitors welcome. Write: Rev. William Uphill, Stour Provost Rectory, Gillingham. 4027

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wimborne Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Warcham on Saturday, March 13th. Ringing from 2.45. Service at 4.30. Tea for those who notify, by March 10th, I. Davis, Restormel, 37, Sandbanks Road, Parkstone. 4034

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Meeting at Wednesbury Parish Church, March 13th. Bells (10) 3 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea (2s. 6d. per head at Wadsworth Restaurant) 5 p.m. Names for tea not later than March 10th.—Fred Bennett, Pool House Road, Wombourne. 3978

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—North Notts District.—Meeting at Cuckney (6), Saturday, March 13th. Please take own tea.—H. Denman. 4033

ST. DAVID'S GUILD.—Quarterly meeting at Burry Port on Saturday, March 13th. Bells (5) 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Names to C. H. Hawkins, 2, Embankment Road, New Dock, Llanelly, Carm. 3995

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, March 13th, St. John-the-Baptist, Croydon. Bells (12) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting Silverdale Hall, 5 p.m. Please notify, by March 10th, Mr. D. Cooper, 51, Waddon Road, Croydon, if you require tea.—W. F. Oatway, Hon. Gen. Sec. 3995

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.—J. W. Parker Commemoration.—St. Ignatius', Sunderland, March 20th. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. Committee meeting in the vestry 3.30. Names for tea, before March 18th, to F. Ainsley, 30, Aysgarth Avenue, Sunderland. 4045

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—Annual, East Grinstead, March 20th. Note altered date. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea, followed by business meeting in Small Parish Hall, 5. Names, by March 18th, to Miss Shepherd, 34, Cantelupe Road.—C. A. Bassett. 3982

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Meeting at Colne Engaine, March 20th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Earls Colne bells (8) available 7.15 p.m. Names for tea to A. L. Dixey, Croft Villas, Colne Engaine, Colchester. 4032

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Combined meeting at Rolvenden (8), March 20th. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5 at Bull Inn. Important: Those requiring tea inform, by Tuesday, March 16th, S. G. Waters, Bishopsdale Farm, Biddenden. 4021

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Gainsborough District.—The next meeting will be at Kirton Lindsey (not Broughton) on Saturday, March 20th. Bells available from 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. for those who notify, by Tuesday previous, Mr. G. E. Feirn, Cleatham, Kirton. Phone Kirton 316.—George L. G. Lunn, Hon. Sec. 4006

LINCOLN DISTRICT.—Northern Branch (Lincoln District).—Meeting at Eagle (6) on Saturday, March 20th. Tea for those who notify me by Tuesday previous.—C. Brown, Hon. Sec., 3, Altham Terrace, Lincoln. 4048

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—South Oxon Branch.—A meeting will be held on Saturday, March 20th, at Warborough, Oxon. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4. Tea for those who notify me by March 15th. Dorchester bells available after tea. **Preliminary Notice.**—Annual Branch meeting will be held at Watlington on June 19th.—H. Badger, The Blue Man, Thame, Oxon. 4022

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Towcester Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Gayton, March 20th. Names for tea, by March 13th, to W. A. Yates, Welsh Lane, Boycott, Buckingham. 4040

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Newark District.—Meeting at Farnsfield, Saturday, March 20th. Service 4.30. Bring own food; cups of tea available.—S. Barley, Hon. Sec. 4038

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Andover Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Whitchurch (8), March 20th. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5 at local hotel. Laverstoke (6) after tea. Names for tea by March 16th to Mr. G. K. Dodd, Andover Road, Highclere, near Newbury. (Continued on next page)

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WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Northern Branch.—Bi-quarterly meeting, Kidderminster (12), Saturday, March 20th, 3 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m. (own arrangements); Coventry or Oxford cafes near church.—Bernard C. Ashford, Sec. 4037

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Western District.—The annual quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, March 20th, at Bradford Cathedral. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Committed meeting 4.15 p.m. General business meeting 6 p.m. in the Cathedral Hall. Special business: Election of officers. Association badges now available.—A. E. Marsh, Hon. Dis. Sec. 4035

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Preliminary Notice.—The annual festival will be held at Salisbury on May 22nd, 1954. Details later.—W. C. West, Hon. Sec. 4041

LADIES' GUILD. — Central District. — Meeting at Norton, Letchworth, Saturday, May 29th. Transport from London will be arranged if sufficient support forthcoming. Members and friends interested please write for details to Mrs. T. J. Lock, 57, Holloways Lane, North Mimms, Herts, before March 31st. Gentlemen cordially invited. 4018

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