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A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

By The Rev. Canon C. CAREW COX

CHRISTMAS cards; Christmas presents; Christmas dinners; Family gatherings; Children's parties; Fireside stories, and all the other accompaniments of the festive season! How much they will occupy our time and thoughts! What thrills and joys they may be expected to bring! What memories they will stir!

But can all that be enough? Surely some other thoughts will be welling up; imbedded deep and, maybe, beyond expression; linking one with the Divine Wonderful Mystery and, at the same time, with the highest conception of human life imaginable yet altogether possible; 'Glory to God in the Highest, and on earth peace, goodwill among men.'

No finer song has ever been sung: no more glorious promise has ever been echoed: no more precious foundation for national and family life has ever been conceived. More than the mind of man, seeking this or that new achievement, shall ever surpass. Voiced that one night at Bethlehem so long ago when the Son of God was born of Mary.

'Born that man no more may die, Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth.'

For that is what the Church has to say and has always had to say to the world on Christmas Day. That is why the church towers stand to rock in sympathy with the joyful ringing of the bells. That is why the bells are there to move us to 'sing merrily unto God our strength'; to be the double-forte accompaniment to the greetings being exchanged everywhere, notwithstanding that

By day men go their ways
Hearing the music as they pass,
But deeming it no more, alas!
Than the hollow sound of brass.'

And if the association of the church bells with the proclamation from Bethlehem goes unperceived there must be a hollowness in the Christmas festivities: they must lose much of the old simplicity and be in danger of developing into something wild and coarse, unmeaning and unedifying. It is at least a shocking thought that there could be anything in the nature of a 'hang-over' after the keeping of Christmas Day. We do not wish one another a 'Merry Christmas' with that idea. First and foremost we give the greeting because it is the Feast of

Him Who came down into this world with the Love to draw homewards and welcome such as the prodigal son, so that (if the poet will forgive a change of word)—

'Perchance some sleepless wight
May listen with a calm delight
To the Christian melodies:
Till he hears, or dreams he hears
Intermingled with the song,
Thoughts that he has cherished long;
Hears amid the chime and singing
The bells of his own village ringing,
And wakes, and finds his slumberous eyes
Wet with most delicious tears.'

And, to-day, the Feast of the new-born Saviour may be celebrated very simply in a mud and wattle church in some far off African or Indian village, or in some glorious lofty cathedral amid a busy city where the Eucharist is offered with more elaborate ceremonial. The one will be as real as the other, for what matters most is that the Feast begins at the Altar where the Babe of Bethlehem is now the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Therefore the bells will ring out the welcome which can truly be that of Bethlehem in our day to the multitudes far and near; and no doubt people in their hundreds will be streaming towards the churches for midnight or early services. Would it might be said that the buildings are not spacious enough nor numerous enough to embrace all the would-be worshippers!

We do not forget there will be those whose Christmas will be tinged with sorrow; with whom the memories will conjure up perhaps overwhelming longings; who will scarcely have the heart for joining with others who make merry. True, but the Love which came down at Christmas is for them as well and without it they would indeed be forlorn and bereft of hope. The myrrh was one of the significant offerings to the Holy Child, the prophetic symbol of the endurance of grief for the sake of sealing the joy which shall eclipse all earthly joys in the Heavenly Home.

And what of the ringers standing to the ropes for the Christmas services? We wish them, one and all, the real joys of the Festival and the best of music in their hearts. Sad it must be if any belfries are closed, or any ropes unmanned; either because of poor conditions or for lack of ringers: sadder still if for lack of comradeship.

[Continued next page

But here and now we shall expect the song to penetrate through the belfry, 'Peace on earth, goodwill among men.' This is the time to sink all differences and to make good any breaches existing. That is the ringers' part at Christmas-tide, those who know that the instruments they handle are not giving out 'hollow sounds of brass,' but the sure and lovely tones of the Christian call to praise and worship the God and King of Redeeming and Consoling Love.

TWELVE BELL PEALS

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM. On Sat., Dec. 11, 1954, in 3 Hours and 44 Minutes, AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP,

A PEAL OF 5280 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAXIMUS Tenor 31 cwt 21 lb in D.

EDGAR C. SHEPHERD	Treble	TERRY R. HAMPTON		7
CLAUDIA A. CRITCHLEY	2	ARTHUR V. PEARSON	 	8
ALBERT WALKER	3	GEORGE E. FEARN	 	9
G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY	4	JOHN PINFOLD	 	10
J. EDWARD CAWSER	• 5	PETER BORDER	 	11
FRANK E. HAYNES				
Con	ducted by .	JOHN R. MAYNE.		

First peal of Maximus as conductor.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. Albert Walker upon the 56th anniversary of their wedding.

LINCOLN.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 11, 1954, in 3 Hours and 26 Minutes, IN ST. HUGH'S TOWER AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY,

A PEAL OF 5103 GRANDSIRE CINQUES

lenor 23 cwt. 3	gr. 13 lb. in D.
*CHARLES E. BROWN Treble	†George H. Randles 7
JOHN WALDEN 2	*George E. Feirn 8
*GWEN I. RUSBY 3	*RAYMOND F. SMITH 9
*NORAH M. BIBBY 4	*‡SYDNEY A. CHAMBERS 10
*WALTER TOMLINSON 5	HERBERT LOWMAN 11
*JACK L. MILLHOUSE 6	*STANLEY E. BENNETT Tenor
Composed by RICHARD F DEAL.	Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

* First peal of Grandsire Cinques. † First peal on 12 bells. ‡ 100th

peal. In memoriam Lewis Snell.

TEN BELL PEALS

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM On Thurs., Dec. 9, 1954, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST PHILIP, A PEAL OF 5040 OAKHAM SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 31 cwt. 21 lb. in D.
CLIVE M. SMITH ... Treble TERRY R. I
EVELYN M. FLETCHER ... 2 PETER BOR
MURIEL REAY 3 RODNEY E
JOHN PINFOLD 4 RALPH G.
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD ... 5 GEORGE E. *TERRY R. HAMPTON PETER BORDER RODNEY B. MEADOWS . . 8 RALPH G. EDWARDS .. GEORGE E. FEARN .. Composed by Frank E. Darby. Conducted by George E. FEARN. * 100th peal on the bells. First peal in the method for the Guild

Rung to celebrate the birth of a son and heir to Mr. and Mrs. Paul

L. Taylor.

BRISTOL BRISTOL.

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SOCIETY.

On Sat., Dec. 11, 1954, in 3 Hours and 14 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN,

A PEAL OF 5021 GRANDSIRE CATERS

Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

P. EDWARDS ... Treble | ‡E. GEOFFREY BEYNON ...

.. Treble *TUDOR P. EDWARDS DAVID J. MARSHALL ... ENID L. ROBERTS 2 G.. 3 PATRICIA M. BOURNE MICHAEL T. SPRACKLING.. MICHAEL T. SPRACKLING. 4
ROBERT J. STOKES 4
FRANK D. MACK 5 JACK R. WORRALL

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE. THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD On Sat., Dec. 11, 1954, in 3 Hours and 29 Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, A PEAL OF 5077 STEDMAN CATERS Tenor 30½ cwt. in C sharp.

*RALPH F. LOWINGS....Treble COLIN HA
HAROLD J. POOLE ... 2 †LEONARD
BRIAN MARTIN ... 3 †HORACE J.
PAUL L. TAYLOR ... 4 PEIER J.
ERNEST W. RAWSON ... 5 LESLIE W.
Composed by F. H. DEXIER. Conducted
* First peal. † First peal of Steman Caters.
Rung to celebrate the birth of a son to Mr. COLIN HARRISON PETER J. STANIFORTH ... LESLIE W. STEVENS ... Tenor Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

Rung to celebrate the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. Paul Taylor.
SHREWSBURY, SHROPSHIRE.
THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 11, 1954, in 3 Hours and 36 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD.

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 39 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb.

Treble | Fiven W. JOHN W. GRIFFITHS .. Treble | CLIFFORD A. BARRON .. 2
FREDERICK E. WILSHAW .. 3 *WILLIAM A. FARMER .. PERCY SWINDLEY RODNEY B. MEADOWS . . 4
*F. HECTOR BENNETT . . 5 TRALPH G. EDWARDS ARTHUR PRITCHARD .. Tenor Composed by W. Pre.

* First peal of Surprise Royal.

Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.

Author Princhard.

Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.

prise Royal rung in Shrewsbury.

Rung to mark the 100th birthday of Miss Annette Sandford, of Shrewsbury, and the 86th birthday of Mr. S. Jones, of Eccleston,

EIGHT BELL PEALS

Tenor 13 cm.

Leonard Stilwell ... Treble

TREAGUS ... 2
3 †W. LESLIE WELLER FREDERICK A. MUNDAY.. 7
WILLIAM T. BEESON .. Tenor Conducted by C. ERNEST SMITH.

Rung for the Patronal Festival.

ELLAND. YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 4, 1954, in 3 Hours,
At the Church of St. Mary,
A PEAL OF 5056 SPLICED KENT AND OXFORD TREBLE
BOB MAJOR
Tenor 153 out

Tenor 15} cwt.

Treble | Geoffrey Crossley *SIDNEY H. BARRON .. Treble ALBERT W. BOND .. 6 FRANK LINFOOT . . . 2
CYRIL F. SUTCLIFFE . . 3
ARNOLD ROTHERY 4 JOHN PEARSON JOHN PEARSON 7

*HENRY H. SMITH Tenor ARNOLD ROTHERY ... 4 Conducted by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by JOHN PEARSON.

* First peal of Spliced Treble Bob Major. This peal contains 2,528

changes of each method with 18 changes of method.

CHURCH & TURRET CLOCKS

New Installations: Repairs: Maintenance Estimates and Advice Free

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

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.	BASINGSTOKE, HAMPSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.	THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sun., Dec. 5, 1954, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes, At the Bell Foundry Campanile,	On Sat., Dec. 11, 1954, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,
	AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL, A PEAL OF 5024 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR
A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR	Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb.
Johnson's Variation. Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb. in B. NORMAN V. HARDING Treble WILFRED L. ROBINSON 5	*Norman J. SmithTreble Frank W. Lewis 5
Norman V. HardingTreble Wilfred L. Robinson 5 Clifford A. Barron 2 David Vincent 6	RONALD F. DISERENS 2 *JOHN N. DISERENS 6
W. Eric Critchley 3 Wilfrid F. Moreton 7	*Geoffrey K. Dodd 3 Reginald W. Rex 7
S. Anthony Jesson 4 Peter Border Tenor	†CYRIL E. LEWINGTON 4 NOEL J. DISERENS Tenor
Conducted by Peter Border.	* First peal in the method. † First peal of Surprise Major 'inside.'
Rung to mark the birth this day of a son, John William, to Mr. and	
Mrs. Paul L. Taylor.	CHATHAM, KENT. THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
LEICESTER.	On Sat., Dec. 11, 1954, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. On Mon., Dec. 6, 1954, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,	AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
At the Royal Foundation Church of St. Mary-de-Castro,	A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES	Tenor 25 cwt. DEREK NORRIS Treble WILLIAM J. RAWLINGS 5
Dexter's Variation. Tenor 16 cwt.	LEONARD MANNERING 2 RONALD T. NORRIS 6
E. Charles Turner Treble Samuel J. Haines 5	PERCY J. SPICE 3 WILLIAM A. J. KNIGHT 7
Mrs. H. J. Poole 2 John A. Acres 6	THOMAS BEAUMONT 4 CHARLES E. J. NORRIS Tenor
WINIFRED M. BURTON 3 PETER J. STANIFORTH 7 ERNEST W. RAWSON 4 FRANK C. CRANE Tenor	Composed by John R. Pritchard. Conducted by Wm. A. J. Knight.
Conducted by Peter J. Staniforth.	75th peal as conductor.
Rung half-muffled to the respected memory of the Rt. Rev. John	COSELEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.
Jamison Willis, C.B.E., D.P., formerly Assistant Bishop of Leicester.	THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
COMPANIA PONIAN	On Sat., Dec. 11, 1954, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes, AT CHRIST CHURCH,
SOWTON, DEVON. THE CITED OF DEVONSHIPE PINGERS	A PEAL OF 5088 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR
THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS. On Tues., Dec. 7, 1954, in 2 Hours and 43 Minutes,	Being 3,552 Cambridge and 1,536 Superlative, with 90 changes of
At the Church of St. Michael,	method. Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 5 lb. in G. *EDMUND A. MALINTreble †TREVOR REYNOLDS 5
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES	*DEREK J. TRANTER 2 ERIC E. SPEAKE 6
Holt's Ten-part. Tenor 9½ cwt.	*ALAN A. ELSMORE 3 *RICHARD J. WARRILOW 7
DEREK REEKS Treble ARTHUR TAPLEY 5	*J. Dennis Holden 4 *Harry Griffiths Tenor
ARTHUR GOODING 2 JOHN SALWAY 6 WILFRED PANTER 3 WILLIAM REEKS 7	Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by ERIC E. SPEAKE.
WILFRED PANTER 3 WILLIAM REEKS 7 WILLIAM SELDON 4 LEONARD BURNETT Tenor	Method arrangement (C.C.C. note on p. 58). * First peal of Spliced Surprise. † First peal of Surprise. First peal
Conducted by WILLIAM REEKS.	of Spliced Surprise as conductor, first peal of Spliced Surprise for the
Rung as a silver wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. William	Society, and rung by a resident band at the first attempt.
Reeks, whose son rang the treble. Also a 70th birthday compliment to	Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. H. Knight, of Wolverhamp-
William Seldon.	ton.
William Seldon. LODDON, NORFOLK.	ton. ECCLESTON, CHESHIRE. THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
William Seldon.	ton. ECCLESTON, CHESHIRE. THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. On Sat., Dec. 11, 1954, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,
William Seldon. LODDON, NORFOLK. THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION, On Wed., Dec. 8, 1954, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes, At the Church of The Holy Trinity,	ton. ECCLESTON, CHESHIRE. THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. On Sat., Dec. 11, 1954, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes, At the Church of St. Mary.
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PENTRE, RHONDDA, GLAMORGAN. THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. On Sat., Dec. 11, 1954, in 3 Hours and 24 Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER, A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR Tenor 26 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb. in E flat. RICHARD J. BOWDEN	CROFT, LEICESTERSHIRE. THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. On Sat., Dec. 4, 1954, in 2 Hours and 21 Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS, A PEAL OF 5040 KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR Being seven different extents, FREDERICK WATSON Treble JOHN VERNON 2 WILLIAM THORNELY 3 WILLIAM A. WOOD 4 ERNEST MORRIS 5 ARTHUR E. ROWLEY Tenor Conducted by ARTHUR E. ROWLEY Tenor Conducted by ARTHUR E. ROWLEY Tenor William Thornely 5 ARTHUR E. ROWLEY Tenor Onducted by ARTHUR E. ROWLEY Tenor Onducted by ARTHUR E. ROWLEY Tenor Onducted by ARTHUR E. ROWLEY Tenor Conducted by ARTHUR E. ROWLEY Tenor
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THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION. On Sat., Dec. 11, 1954, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID. A PEAL OF 5024 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR Tenor 9 cwt. 1 qr. 1b FRANCIS R. LOWE Treble WILLIAM LANCASTER . 2 SYDNEY J. MERRY 3 *MARK J. BARKER 4 Composed by Arthur Knights. First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor.	MIDDLE LITTLETON, WORCESTERSHIRE. THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION. On Sat., Dec. 4, 1954, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS, A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR Being one 720 cach of Cambridge Surprise, St. Clement's, Single Oxford, Double Oxford, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. MRS. J. THOMASTreble E. TREVOR NEWBURY 4 GERALD C. HEMMING 2 JOHN THOMAS 3 GEOFFREY J. HEMMING Tenor Conducted by JOHN THOMAS.
DOVERIDGE, DERBYSHIRE. THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION. On Sat., Nov. 27, 1954, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CUTHBERT, A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES Being 42 different extents, 960 changes each of Stedman, St. Simon's, St. Martin's, 480 each of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob. and 1,200 Grandsire. Tenor 14½ cwt. in G. VIVIENNE HORTON Treble DAVID K. WALKLATE Tenor Conducted by DEREK P. JONES. First peal in six Doubles methods for the Association and by all except conductor. CUCKNEY, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE. THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD. On Tues., Nov. 30, 1954. in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, A PEAL OF 5040 WESTMINSTER SURPRISE MINOR Being seven 720's. DORIS MARSHALL Treble *GEORGE CHALLANS 4 FREDERICK FINT 2 ARNOLD HILL 5 DOUGLAS H. ROOKE 3 HERBERT T. ROOKE Tenor	ROYSTON, NEAR BARNSLEY, YORKS. THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. (Barnsley District Society.) On Sat., Dec. 4. 1954, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN, A PEAL OF 5040 TREBLE BOB MINOR Being one extent each of St. Albans, Neasden, Wragby, Oxford, London Scholars, Kingston and Sandal. JAMES W. BUXTON Treble DANIEL SMITH 4 CYRIL RUSBY 2 HERMAN RUSBY 5 FRED COWLING 3 NOEL F. MOXON Tenor Conducted by DANIEL SMITH. Rung in memoriam Harry Spencer, a ringer of Sandal, near Wakefield, who died suddenly on November 29th. WILLINGHAM, CAMBRIDGESHIRE. THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION On Sat., Dec. 4, 1954, in 2 Hours and 36 Minutes, AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS, A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR Being four extents of Kent Treble Bob and three extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt. *KEITH F. BONAS Treble *DONALD A. MORILOCK 4 GEOFFREY A. LUCAS 5 MANSFIELD GINN Tenor Conducted by MANSFIELD GINN Tenor Conducted by MANSFIELD GINN Tenor Conducted by MANSFIELD GINN Tenor
* First peal in the method. Rung as an 80th birthday compliment to Sir Winston Churchill, K.G. HORSELL, SURREY. THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. On Fri., Dec. 3, 1954, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes, At the Church of St. Mary, A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR Being seven different extents. *David G. Wright Treble *George Oliver 4 †Doreen M. Gibbons 2 Jack R. Worrall 5 John A. Martin 3 Roy Collins Tenor Conducted by Jack R. Worrall. *First peal. † First peal * inside.*	DEEPING ST. NICHOLAS. LINCOLNSHIRE THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD On Mon., Dec. 6. 1954, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes. AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS. A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR Being one extent each of Primrose and Ipswich Surprise. Double Court. Plain Bob. Oxford Treble Bob. Kent Treble Bob, and Cambridge Surprise. ERNEST BRITTAINTreble JOHN G. AMES

GAMSTON, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE. THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD On Mon., Dec. 6, 1954, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Peter,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 81 cwt. 4 ANNE READ Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD DENMAN.

* First peal.

BATHFORD, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tues., Dec. 7, 1954, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SWITHUN,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Tenor 10

Being seven different extents. Tenor 10 cwt. Conducted by DAVID J. MARSHALL. * First peal of Minor.

> CRONDALL, HAMPSHIRE.
> THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. On Sat., Dec. 11, 1954, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR
Being one 720 each of Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob and five 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 18 cwt. *PUGALD MACPHERSON ...Treble | ROLAND W. MORANT ... 4

†MONICA E. COLLINS ... 2 | E. JOHN WELLS 5

EILEEN M. TURNER ... 3 | A. PATRICK CANNON Tenor

Conducted by E. JOHN WELLS.

* First peal in three methods ... † First peal in three methods 'inside.'

First peal in three methods on the bells.

ELSTON, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.
THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Dec. 11, 1954, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES
Being 42 extents, 10 different callings.
Tenor Tenor 91 cwt. J. Bryan Smith ... Treble WILLIAM L. EXTON 4
SIMON L. BARLEY ... 2 F. WILLIAM MIDWINTER ... 5
GEORGE E. FOSTER ... 3 J. LESLIE SMITH ... Tenor

Conducted by George E. Foster.

A birthday compliment to J. Bryan Smith and his first peal away from cover bell.

WATERINGBURY, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 11, 1954, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 61 cwt. Being seven different extents.

Janice E. Grenham ... Treble
Betty M. Vidler ... 2 Colin A. Tester ... 5
Reginald E. Lambert ... 3 Robert T. Lambert Tenor

Conducted by Robert T. Lambert.
Rung as an 87th birthday complment to Mrs. F. J. Lambert, mother of the ringers of the 3rd, 4th and tenor.

HANDBELL PEALS

HANDBELL PEALS

HOLYWOOD, CO. DOWN.
THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Nov. 20, 1954, in 1 Hour and 48 Minutes,
IN THE BELFRY OF THE CHURCH OF SS. PHILIP AND JAMES,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one 720 Kent Treble Bob and six extents of Plain Bob.
Tenor size 11 in G.

JEAN STEWART 1—2 | JOHN T. DUNWOODY ... 3—4

WILLIAM HALL 5—6

Conducted by JOHN T. DUNWOODY.

Rung for the seventh anniversary of the wedding of Her Majesty and the Duke of Edinburgh.

NORTHFLEET, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Mon., Dec. 6, 1954, in 1 Hour and 49 Minutes,
AT '51, DOVER ROAD,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR
Tenor size 1

Being seven extents.

*Trevor A. Cross ... 1-2 | †George J. Butcher Tenor size 11 in G.

*Cyril S. Jarrett ... 5—6
Conducted by C. S. Jarrett. Witness: Mrs. A. E. Butcher.

* First peal 'in hand.' † First peal of Minor 'in hand,' also 250th



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CROYDON

AMPTHILL, BEDS.—On Nov. 29th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: G. Kirby 1, M. Sinfield 2, A. Murphy 3, A. C. Sinfield (cond.) 4, C. Mann 5, B. Holder 6. For the patronal festival.

BARKING, ESSEX .- On Dec. 5th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: C. Fenn 1, S. T. Ford 2, Christine Ford 3, R. W. Stannard 4, A. W. Beard 5, D. W. Beard (cond.) 6, D. M. Salisbury 7, E. G. Cottis 8. First in method for 2 and 3.

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS .-- On Dec. 1st, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: H. Wingrove 1, M. Swift (first of Minor) 2, Dorothy R. Fletcher 3, J. Harrison 4, A. Bridges 5, B. A. Richards (cond.) 6, A. Slade (first quarter) 7. Rung, with tenor covering, for Confirmation service.

BETCHWORTH, SURREY.—On Dec. 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss B. Saggers 1, W. B. Judd 2, C. S. Hoad 3, G. F. Hoad (cond.) 4, Rev. K. G. Hoare 5, W. H. Inwood 6, F. T. Hoad 7, A. T. Shelton 8.

BEXLEY, KENT.-On Dec. 5th, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Miss P. Stephenson (first quarter) 1, Miss B. Thompson 2, Miss J. Cox (first 'inside' of Major) 3, P. Brown 4, Miss M. Ward 5, Miss M. Andrews 6, D. Beresford (cond.) 7, P. Beresford 8. For Confirmation service.

DERBYS .- On Dec. 5th, Doubles (480 Bob, 540 Grandsire, 240 St. Simon's): F. Bradley 1, A. Smithson (cond.) 2, D. Armstrong 3. W. Riley 4, A. Wheeler 5. For evening service.

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS .- On Dec. 3rd, 1,246 Spliced Triples (11 methods): A. Mallen 1, F. Jukes 2, J. Lloyd 3, A. Peakman 4, T. Hemming 5, B. Lawton 6, C. Skidmore (cond.) 7, S. Mallen 8. For the dedication of the new organ by the Bishop of Stafford,

BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH, ESSEX.—On Dec. 12th, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob Minor: D. Sims 1, K. Everett 2, S. W. Bigmore 3, H. Stebbings 4, A. T. M. Perry 5, G. Rouse (first of Kent as cond.) 6.

CAWTHORNE, YORKS.—On Dec. 8th, 1,320 Bob Minor: Miss V. Flint (first quarter) 1, W. Broadhead 2, F. Cowling 3, I. Crossland 4, H. Rusby 5, N. F. Moxon (cond.) 6.

CORFE MULLEN, DORSET.-On Dec. 12th, 1,260 Double Oxford Minor: R. Lowle 1, P. Mogg 2, D. French 3, W. Mogg 4, W. C. Shute (cond.) 5, C. Ridout 6. First in the method for all. For Confirmation service.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.-On Dec. 5th, 1,260 Grandmire Triples: Miss A. Miles 1, Miss Skeet 2, M. Jennings 3, G. Jennings 4, W. Slaughter (cond.) 5, S. Arnold 6, B. Moore 7, A. Stoner 8.

EVERCREECH, SOMERSET.-On Dec. 6th. 1,260 Grandsire Triples: A. White 1, Miss B. Sanger 2, D. Hill 3, R. Crago 4, A. Sanger 5, J. Badman 6, H. J. Sanger (cond.) 7, F. Field 8. Rung for Matins, and in honour of the 80th birthday of Fred Reakes, who. after nearly 50 years' ringing, is still a regular Sunday service ringer in this tower.

FOLKINGHAM, LINCS.—On Nov. 30th, 1,260 Minor (720 Single Court, 540 Plain Bob): J. Lindsey Mettham 2, H. Collins 3, W. Weston 4, C. T H. Bradley 5, J. H. Musson (cond.) 6. For the patronal festival, and for the Prime Minister's 80th birthday.

GREAT WYMONDLEY, HERTS.—On Dec. 5th, 1,440 Cambridge Surprise Minor: G. Cherry 1, R. Head 2, K. C. Timbury 3, W. F. Todd 4, F. W. Croft 5, P. W. Croft (cond.) 6, Rung for Evensong.

HALESWORTH, SUFFOLK.—On Dec. 1st, 1,360 Plain Bob Major: R. Prime (first quarter) 1, Miss M. Thompson 2, W. Kerrison 3, G. A. Sozherland 4, R. S. Payne 5, E. J. Thurlow 6, J. W. Blythe (cond.) 7, H. Wm. Barrett 8.

HALSTEAD, ESSEX .- On Dec. 13th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: Hilda M. Snowden 1, A. Catterwell 2, F. Claydon 3, H. G. Felton 4, J. H. Brett 5, L. W. Wiffen 6, W. Arnold 7, Hilda G. Snowden (cond.) 8. Rung with clappers half-muffled in memoriam Mrs. R. A. Butler, whose funeral took

HORNCHURCH, ESSEX.—On Nov. 28th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss J. Peacock 1, D. M. Salisbury 2. J. Carrott 3, R. Brown 4, J. Fowler 5, A. House 6, T. East 7, F. V. Gant (cond.) 8. For the civic service.

HUNTINGDON.—At All Saints' Church on Dec. 5th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: S. E. Dyer 1, Miss L. Allen 2, G. D. Whitehead 3, J. R. G. Spicer 4, M. J. Dyer 5, H. S. Peauock (cond.) 6. Before morning service.

QUARTER PEALS

HUNTSHAM, DEVON .- On Dec. 5th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: M. P. Bolt 1, V. Bolt 2, Miss J. Lewis 3, A. Cook 4, J. Kelland (cond.) 5, Miss D. Lewis First quarter 1 and 2. By Sunday service band

ITCHINGFIELD, SUSSEX.-On Nov. 30th, 1,260 Doubles (480 Reverse Canterbury Pleasure Bob and 780 Plain Bob): F. L. Weller 1, M. A. Richardson 2, Miss J. M. Burroughs 3, Miss S. A. Richardson 4, W. L. Weller (cond.) 5, Rung as an 80th birthday compliment to Sir Winston Churchill.

LEYTONSTONE, ESSEX .- On Dec. 5th, 1,280 Lincolnshire Surprise Major: L. Batley 1. R. Smith 2, Mrs. R. F. Deal 3, C. Hughes 4, D. Beard 5, C. Wilmington 6, E. Smith 7, J. Crampion (cond.) 8.

LODDON, NORFOLK.—On Nov. 8th, 1,260 Plain Rob Minor: N. Brown (aged 70, first quarter) 1, C. Bailey 2, S. W. Copling 3, C. Goodman 4, M. Goodman 5, H. W. Barrett (cond.) 6.

MANCHESTER.—At the Cathedral, on Dec. 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Caters: B. Walshaw 1, H. Reynolds 2. F. Barraclough 3, G. Pye 4, H. Melbourn 5, A. Ridyard (cond.) 6, W. Pye 7, A. Ward 8, R. Longden 9, G. Longden 10. Rung as a farewell to H. Melbourn, who sails for Australia on December 24th.

MAULDEN, BEDS .- On Dec. 5th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: G. Kirby 1, A. C. Sinfield (cond.) 2, M. A. C. Sinfield 3, M. J. Lockey 4, R. J. Sharp 5, A. Murphy Mann 7, S. Sharp 8. A birthday compliment to W. Sinfield, father of the conductor and grandfather of the ringer of the 3rd.

NEWPORT, MON .- On Dec. 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss D. Hulbert 1, Miss J. Powell 2, Miss D. Atwell 3, J. E. Morgan 4, Miss J. S. Evans 5, G. Jenkins 6, D. J. King (cond.) 7, G. Skidmore 8. Rung for the 89th birthday of Mr. J. W. Jones. NORTH MYMMS, HERTS.—On Dec. 8th, 1,260

Grandsire Triples: A. J. Skull (first quarter) 1, Mrs. T. J. Lock 2, P. L. Baycock (first in method ' inside ') 3, Mary F. Lawrence 4, J. R. Lofty 5, P. J. Coles 6, J. G. Hall 7, T. J. Lock (cond.) 8.

NORTON, HERTS .- On Dec. 5th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss J. Sanderson 1, Miss I. Werrett 2, R Dixon 3, I.Werrett 4, H. Werrett 5, W. Hitch (cond.) 6, M. Collings 7, Miss J. Merrill 8. For morning

PENTRE, GLAM .- On Dec. 5th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Beryl Jones (first quarter) 1, D. J. Marshall (cond.) 2, R. Brabham 3, T. Edwards 4, K. Jones 5. Lovett 6, K. Hartnoll 7, H. Crabb 8. Rung for

PLYMOUTH.—On Dec. 2nd, at Emmanuel Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Muriel McClellend (first quarter) 1, A. Weatherly 2, W. J. Harvey 3, F. E. Day 4. G. Goddard 5, H. H. Thomas 6, J. P. Sirus (cond.) 7, R. F. Hocking (first quarter) 8. Rung for Confirmation service, at which two young ringers, Sylvia Sims and Elizabeth Lydon, were confirmed by the Bishop of Plymouth

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PETERBOROUGH.-On Nov. 30th, at St. John's Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: D. Bell 1, R. Morgan 2, H. Goakes 3, G. Bush 4, L. Hadman 5, W. Rose (cond.) 6, J. Haw 7, F. Boyall 8. Rung in bonour of the birthday of Sir Winston Churchill

SOUTH CADBURY, SOMERSET.-On Dec. 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: A. Sargent 1, D. Gare 2, F. Andrews 3, W. Tiley (cond.) 4, C. Thomas 5, J. Rendell 6. A 69th birthday compliment to Mr. F. Mead, a ringer for 55 years.

sowerby, Yorks.—On Dec. 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: H. Lumb 1, C. F. Sutcliffe 2, G. A. Briggs 3, D. Hoyle 4, K. Harrison 5, T. H. Brown 6, P. Carter (cond.) 7, E. Wilde 8. First quarter peal rung on the bells since being recast and rehung. Rung by the local band.

SPAXTON, SOMERSET.—On Dec. 7th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Cavill 1, E. Ford 2, H. Cavill 3, S. Parish 4, J. Ford (first as cond.) 5, R. Ford 6. First quarter for 1, 4 and 6. First quarter 'inside' 2 and 3.

STAMFORD HILL, N.-At St. Ann's Church, on Dec. 5th. 1,250 Grandsire Doubles: A. Robson 1, Miss E. M. Perrin 2. Miss P. Lentz 3, I. M. Parry (cond.) 4, E. J. Rowe 5, F. Riddleston 6. First quarter. by local band since rebuilding of spire.

ST. ALBANS, HERT.-At the Cathedral, on Dec. 12th, 1,260 Stedman Trpiles: J. Ewer (15, first quarter) 1, H. E. C. Goodenough 2, G. Dodds 3, Mrs. J. Dodds 4, Geo, Blake 5, R. F. Ewer 6, W. J. Arnold (cond.) 7, R. H. Hofton 8. A birthday compliment to Frances, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. Dodds.

SWINESHEAD, LINCS .- On Dec. 11th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: P. H. Reynolds 1, Rhoda Brown 2, J. P. Morriss 3, W. E. Clark 4, A. E. Flatters 5, A. H. Bennett 6, W. B. Dawson (cond.) 7, C. Stub-

TEDBURN ST. MARY, DEVON.—On Dec. 11th, 1,440 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: R. Pitman 1, R. Perry 2, S. Skinner (cond.) 3, C. Deem 4, J. Carter 5, J. Quick 6. First in method for all except 3 and 6. Also 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: S. Skinner 1, R. Pitman (first 'inside') 2, J. Carter 3, R. Perry 4, C. Deem 5, J. Quick (cond.) 6.

WALMER, KENT.—On Nov. 21st, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. M. Stephons 1, F. B. Lufkin (cond.) 2, Mrs. F. W. Lawrence 3, J. F. Penfold 4, F. A. Ryc 5, P. J. Rye 6, F. W. Lawrence 7, E. T. Dixon 8. First of Stedman for 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8. A 61st birthday compliment to Lt.-Col. H. A. C. Webber, churchwarden.

WELLINGTON, SOMERSET.—On Nov. 20th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: A. H. Reed 1, Mrs. E. S. Powell 2. Mrs. P. J. Moore 3, S. N. Bristow (first of Stedman) 4, G. J. Gammon 5, A. J. North 6, F. W. Slocombe (cond.) 7, D. W. Lentell 8. For the wedding of Gordon Walford and Miss S. Burton.

WEST WICKHAM, KENT.-On Nov. 21st, 1,320 Minor (720 Frodsham Bob and 600 St. Clement's): Mary Fuller 1, A. S. Richards 2, L. W. G. Skinner 3, M. Fuller 4, R. Bird (cond.) 5, J. E. Cannell 6. First extent of Frodsham for all.

WILLESBOROUGH, KENT.-On Dec. 5th, 1,260

Plain Bob Minor: Miss R. E. Gower (first quarter) 1, Miss P. Lawes 2. E. S. Ruck 3. D. Staples 4, L. Smith 5, M. S. Lancefield (cond.) 6. Also 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Miss R. A. Gower (first quarter) 1. W. J. Lancefield 2. C. T. Hillis 3, M. S. Lancefield (cond.) 4, W. P. Garner 5, A. J. Lancefield 6. For

WIMBLEDON, SURREY .- On Dec. Grandsire Doubles, 7, 6, 8 covering: Mrs. Sinden 1, Mrs. Devenish 2, P. Devenish 3, M. Sinden 4, F. Corfield (cond.) 5, A. S. Bishop 6, J. Tomsett 7, J. Brickell 8.

WITNEY, OXON.—On Nov. 28th, 1,260 Doubles (240 Old, 240 April Day, 300 Grandaire and 480 Plain Bob): F. Patrick (first in four methods) 1. L. Olliffe 2, E. J. Hill (first as cond.) 3, J. Coggins 4, G. Wright 5, D. Smith (first quarter) 6.

WOLSTANTON, STAFFS.—On Dec. 5th, 1,280 Bob Major: G. D. Whalley 1, E. A. Edge 2, Rachel M. Snell, Shelagh C. Collins 4, P. S. Whalley 5, D. R. Whalley 6, W. Massey 7, G. W. Biddulph 8.

YATTON, SOMERSET.—On Dec. 12th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: E. A. Price 1, Mrs. I. Beechey 2, IL Brice 3. H. Marshall 4. D. E. Vowles 5, M. O. Davis 6. H. A. Price (cond.) 7, S. Smith (first quarter) 8. Rung for the birthdays of the ringers of 2 and 7, for the treble ringer's daughter, Bridget:

SHEFFIELD & DISTRICT SOCIETY

Three towers were available at the last meeting of the above Society on December 4th at All Saints' (8) in the afternoon, and Sheffield Cathedral (12) and St. Marie's (8) in the evening. Ringing ranged from rounds to Surprise Major, Cinques and Maximus.

In his address of welcome, after tea in All Saints' Institute, the Vicar (the Rev. M. Penfold) said how pleased he was that his own ringers were always well represented at the church services, and he expressed appreciation of the ringers' services, which, he said, were an important branch of church work.

It was announced that the next meeting would be held at Dore on January 1st. The modern ring of eight bells at this church has not been rung for some time and it is hoped that this meeting will stimulate ringing activities there.

NETHERTON SURPRISE MAJOR

Rung at Netherton, October 30th, 1954

FORTY YEARS AGO

Extract from 'The Ringing World'
December 25th, 1914

WALTHAM ABBEY BELLS
Ring Increased to Twelve
The dedication [of the new ring] took place
on Thursday afternoon of last week
and immediately after the service the following
band of College Youths rang five courses of
Stedman Cinques: E. Horrex 1, E. Gibbs 2,
W. Garrard 3, H. Pasmore 4, H. Springall 5,
W. A. Alps 6, E. Wallage 7, C. F. Winney (conductor) 8, C. Burden 9, T. H. Taffender 10,
H. R. Newton 11, A. B. Peck 12.

[This was the third ring of 12 to be

[This was the third ring of 12 to be dedicated during a period of 15 months in Essex, a county which formerly possessed none at all, and which has had no further such augmentation since. Whether 12 bells in a tower are necessarily an asset is a matter of opinion,

Gratefully Acknowledged

The Editorial Committee acknowledge with

The Editorial Committee acknowledge with gratitude the following donations to meet the cost of producing 'The Ringing World':—
Personal.—J. B. 10s., Anon. 5s.
Peals.—Evercreech 5s., Arundel 5s., Deeping St. Nicholas 3s., Elland 10s., Sowton 4s., Eccleston 5s., Chatham 5s., Bristol 5s., Elston 3s., Edmonton 4s., Pentre 4s., West Hallam 4s.
Quarter Peals.—North Mymms 2s., South Cadbury 3s., Cawthorne 2s., Plymuoth 4s., Betchworth 2s. 6d., Spaxton 3s., Huntsham 1s., Sowerby 5s., Evercreech 3s., Burnham-on-Crouch 3s. 6d., King's Norton 3s. 6d., Kingsbury 2s. 6d., Wimbledon 2s. 6d., Hutton 2s. 6d., Corfe Mullen 12s., Trull 1s. 6d., Lyme Regis 2s., St. Albans 2s., Halstead 2s. 6d., Yatton 4s., Tedburn 1s. 6d., Wolstanton 4s., Swineshead 2s. 6d.

GUILD of DEVONSHIRE RINGERS

New Secretary for Aylesbeare Branch

The Aylesbeare Deanery Branch at its annual meeting on December 3rd at Woodbury elected a new secretary. Mr. Brian Pidgeon felt he could not continue in office as he was living out of the Branch's area. Mr. R. Perry was appointed his successor. The Ringing Master, Mr. J. L. S. Glanvill, who was re-elected, thanked Mr. Pidgeon for all the work he had done for the Branch during his 12 years in office. The chairman, the Rev. H. V. Christie, was also re-elected. was also re-elected.

Three certificates were presented to members of the Branch by the Guild president (the Rev. Preb. E. V. Cox) and three new members were elected.

The chairman thanked the Vicar (the Rev. A E. Osmond) for conducting the service, and also the organist. The ladies who provided such an enjoyable tea were also thanked. East Budleigh was chosen for the next meeting on March 5th.

Ringing during the afternoon and evening was directed by Mr. J. L. S. Glanvill.

BEVERLEY & DISTRICT SOCIETY

Forty-four members and friends attended the meeting at Pocklington on November 13th, a village noted for its good teas, which on this occasion well maintained the tradition, thanks to local ringers' wives:

Standard methods were rung during the afternoon and the service was conducted by Canon F. Richardson (Vicar). At the business meeting an address was given by Mr. A. Taylor, a member of the committee, on attendances and work of the Society. Further ringing on the bells concluded a successful meeting.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

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JOSEPH T. DYKE.
HAROLD J. POOLE.
R. S. ANDERSON.

EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

Mr. Percy D. Baldock, of Stamford, has left hospital after having two major operations and is now progressing slowly but satisfac-

Sowerby, where a quarter peal was scored after two attempts for a full peal had come to grief, is the village in the West Riding of Yorkshire where William Sottenstall lived, and St. Peter's is the church where he rang when he compiled his book on 'Bell Ringing.' He was here laid to rest. The bells have been recast and rehung by Messrs. John Taylor and Co. and were dedicated by the Bishop of Wakefield on July 4th.

Miss Valerie Flint, daughter of the Vicar of Cawthorne, has scored her first quarter peal after only five weeks' experience of change ringing.

Mr. D. R. Whalley, of 77, Dunsdale View, Porthill, Stoke-on-Trent, is 'The Ringing World' correspondent for the North Staffs Association.

With the peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal on December 11th, Mr. Clifford A. Barron has rung Cambridge from Minor to Maximus in his native town of Shrewsbury.

Mr. A. Simpson, the conductor, has notified us that the peal rung at North Muskham on November 27th has since been proved false in the fourth 720. He apologises to the band.

The quarter peal at Queenborough, reported in our last issue, was also a compliment to Frank Fagg, the secretary of the Milton Regis band, and Brenda Harris, a member of the Queenborough band, on their engagement.

Mr. Trevor Reynolds, of Wolverhampton, has not only rung on all the ringable rings in Staffordshire, but by ringing at Leaton on Occember 4th also completed Shropshire. Congratulations. Leaton was also Mr. Clive M. Smith's (Lichfield) 275th tower this year. Has anyone rung in more than this number in any 12 months?

BELFRY

West Riding enstall lived, here he rang tell Ringing.' Is have been a Taylor and the Tay

There were ten first peals of Grandsire Cinques recorded in the peal at Lincoln Cathedral on December 11th.

Congratulations to John J. Jelley on ringing his 50th peal at the age of 16 years. He achieved this by taking part in a peal of Stedman Triples at Oakham, Rutland.

Congratulations to Mr. Charles E. J. Norris on completing 57 years' service at St. Mary-the-Virgin's Church, Chatham. He joined as a choirboy in 1897. At the laying of the foundation stone of the tower in 1904 he left the choir and joined the belfry. He has served under nine rectors of Chatham.

A peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major was rung on December 11th on the fine octave of St. Peter's Church, Pentre, Rhondda. The band would like to express its appreciation of the warm welcome extended by Mr. Harry Crabb and Mr. Joe Lovett, who had everything in readiness and who kindly entertained the band after the peal.

'One could hardly think that the 'oranges and lemons, said the bells of St. Clements', which used to peel out, would reappear, but if it did it would perhaps be a fitting monument to the bounty of the testatrix.'—'The Times' in the report on the bequest for restoration of St. Clement Danes' of nearly £27,000 which was held to be valid. A consolation to the Editor of 'The Ringing World' that some of the great ones at times have literals.

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MUFFLES

THE BEAST AND THE BELL(E)

or THE TYRANT OF THE TOWER A COMIC OPERA IN ONE ACT By S. A. HILL

DRAMATIS PERSONÆ

Despard (The tower captain). Adam Brokenstay (An old ringer).

Stella Queens (Strolling hand-bell ringers).

(An old spinster ringer dis-Anastasia guised as a bell-rope peddler).

1st tower snatcher. 2nd tower snatcher.

No chorus (Thank goodness).

The scenes take place before the tower of the small English village of Much Clattering.

Date: Before you were born anyway.

Any resemblance between characters in the opera and living persons is entirely intentional.

Scene: The tower of Much Clattering at the back and right. The tower captain's dwelling (a sumptuous villa) on the left. An old ringer (Adam) is seated outside the tower apparently asleep.

Enter Anastasia, and speaks through finale of overture which leads straight into first

song.

An.: Bell-ropes. Who'll buy my fine bell-

ropes? She sees Adam, approaches him and, finding him apparently asleep, puts down her ropes, adopts a haughty attitude, advances to the centre of the stage and sings.

Tune: 'When our Gallant Norman Foes.' Though in this ragged guise I stand before your eyes,

No gypsy I, no peddler woman stupid. A ringer see in me, of highest pedigree, But victim to the subtle shaft of Cupid. A week ago or two determined I to woo The son of our renowned tower captain, Himself a ringer true, and in the future due To inherit the glory that his father now is Wrapt in.

Chorus:

While ropes may rot and sallies wear

My love-lorn quest I'll never give in. I'll follow him from tower to tower. Until again he's in my power.

But this eligible son was not so easy won. For he'd an infantile infatuation

For a paltry village maid who hadn't I'm afraid.

The advantage of my elevated station. Wooing him availed me nought, so other means I sought:

His father's assent and co-operation; And ere the week was out I'd dispelled his every doubt,

And secured the contract for our prompt unification.

Chorus:

The wedding day arrived. The father, in

his pride, Had spent a fortune on the preparation. But when his son was sought, of his presence found we nought:
The lovers had effected an evasion.

Foiled of my amorous whim, I gathered news of him.

As strolling hand-bell ringers they are pos-

But disguised by these old ropes I mean to blast their hopes,

And catch my promised husband dozing. Chorus:

PLAGUE on all pretty maids. Time was when I was as fair as any of them. Once I was the most sought after maid in the parish, but none of my suitors was worthy of one so fair. But, just when I had made my choice and was awaiting the proposal, my father, then the tower captain and a person of considerable rank, authority (and means), happened to miscall a peal of Cambridge Royal after four hours and was demoted from captain to mat scrubber with corresponding retain to mat scrubber with corresponding reduction of income. For some incomprehensible reason my suitors deserted me in a body. I can only surmise that the shock of my father's fall caused a radical and disturbing change in my previous Venusian beauty. But ever since that day I have been seeking to regain my position in ringing society by marrying into a suitable family, and now that I have the marriage contract for my union with the son of a tower cantain signed and sealed the son of a tower captain signed and sealed,

the son of a tower captain signed and sealed, no one shall thwart me of my desire.

I have reason to believe that the pair of them, Jack and his young lady, are even now in this village. I will to the local tavern to see if aught is known of them. EXIT. Enter Jack and Stella left, carrying six hand-bells. Stella is leaning on Jack.

S.: Let's rest for a moment, Jack. I feel a little tired. (She sits down, exhausted.)

Very well. Stella, I suppose it is inevitable that one should feel tired after tramping 30 miles in a morning, but I dare not rest long while Anastasia is following us. I had house of tiring her but her beautiful and the stellar transfer in the s had hopes of tiring her out, but women of her calibre seem to have the wind of a horse—and the face. But I believe we have at last managed to evade her.

S.: Oh! Jack, I do hope so. (Jack sits down beside her.)

None shall part us, Stella. Let us see the vicar at once, and by noon, if all goes well, we shall be man and wife.

S.: Oh! Jack. (They embrace.)

(Suddenly jumping up.) Jack! I have just remembered. We have no money to pay the marriage fees.

J.: Good heavens. You're right. We must make some at once. But there seems to be only this old man that we could ring for, and he is sleeping so soundly it would be a shame to awaken him.

(Adam yawns, stretches, and rises. He sees J. and S., apparently only then aware of their presence.)

A.: Why, good morning. And who may you be. pray?

This is Stella Queens, and I am Jack Tittums.

Adam Brokenstay at your service. did I not hear you say that you are handbell ringers?

J.: You did not, sir. But we are.

A.: Then I would hear you ring. will join you. (They ring some rounds, very badly.)
Well done, well done. Here (He gives
Jack a purse), buy the young lady a wed-

ding ring.
(Jack looks at him in surprise.)
Then you were not asleep after all. (A. winks.)

S.: We can never thank you enough.

A.: Come, we will ring some more.

(They recommence. Despard storms out of his house.)

D.: Whatever is this jangling din, this terrifying tintinnabulation, this . . . (sees Stella.)
Oho! What have we here?

J.: We are two strolling hand-bell ringers, sir. I, Jack Tittums, and this, Stella Queens.

D, (looking hard at Stella): Delighted, I'm sure, J.: And pray whom have we the honour of

addressing? D.: You don't know? Then listen, and I will tell you.

2. Tune: 'A More Humane Mikado.'

A more beloved tower captain never did exist.

To nobody second, I'm certainly rec-koned a true campanologist.

(Aside) (I rule this tower and ringers cower beneath my biting tongue.

At any error they shrink in terror and wish they'd never rung.)

I any means employ, none can my in-

Tany means employ, none can my intent cloy,

To make this tower a heavenly bower and ringing here a joy.

A close community in perfect amity,

I and my band go hand in hand (unless they me annoy).

(The man who makes seconds a time too often

While ringing a touch of Kent, The troublesome fellow will turn

green and yellow

When I my anger vent.)
In concord we ring and will do any-

thing

Each other to aid, and quite rightly; If one loses his place I don't swear in his face

But merely correct him politely.
(The fool who runs in when he should

have made 3rds,
Or behind for a time should have

waited, Dare not show his face again in the

place
Until my fierce temper's abated,
And if in Bob Doubles he misses a

dodge

Or something else quite as fantastical, The rage I develop that will him en-

velop Is positively demonastical.)

any means employ, none can my

intent cloy, To make this tower a heavenly bower

and ringing here a joy.

A close community in perfect amity,
I and my band go hand in hand;

Our bond none may destroy.

J.: Why, sir, it is for such a happy and amicable community that we are scarching. Would it be possible for us to join your band?

D.: But, of course. And until you find other accommodation pray use this, my humble dwelling, as your home.

J.: You are generosity itself.

D.: Think nothing of it. Now I'm sure you will not say no to a little refreshment.

Adam, take these young people down to the 'Bob and Single' and buy them some dinner. (He gives Adam some money.)

A. (gruffly): Aye. (Aside to D.) I think I see your evil intentions, Despard. Take thought ere ye do what you may regret.

D.: Keep thy advice for thyself, old man.

Now begone.

(Execute Advant Leiberger)

(Exeunt Adam, Jack and Stella.)

Meddlesome old bob-caller! But this Stella be as fair a maid as ever I set eye upon. And how lucky to have caught the eye of one of my wealth and position. Now that my ambition to become tower captain has been fulfilled, a wife is all I

The Beast and the Beli(e)—Cont.

need to complete my conquests. When I was first introduced to a bell-rope, I swore I should reach the rank of tower captain whether worthy of the position or not, for only in such a position could I rule the ringing community and at the same time not have to do too much ringing myself. I hate exerting myself.) I decided that, on the death of my fosterfather, then captain, all I needed to do was to convince the other ringers that I was exceptionally well versed in the craft and I would be elected. So it turned out. When I quoted long passages of Troyte and Snowdon, and spoke in airy terms of Yorkshire, Superlative and London, I was elected at once. As they never ring anything but Plain Bob and Grandsire, I was on perfectly safe ground. on perfectly safe ground.

3. Tune: 'If You're Anxious for to Shine.'

When you're anxious to advance you must

when you re anxious to advance you must lead them all a dance
With your ringing knowledge rare.
You must know your Jasper Snowdon and be sure of all Troyte's lowdown,
Strip the Central Council bare.

You must know your early history and have a mental list of the

Forefathers of our intellectual craft; Be able to review all methods old and

However weird or daft.

And everyone you meet will gape as you repeat

How so-and-so did this and that at such and such a time.

Astonishing perhaps, but of irrelevance

sublime.

And then if you are pally with Picasso, Klee and Dali It will prove of priceless worth, For it's easy then to sham a method dia-

Of surrealistic birth.

If you're able to devise a cubist York Surprise

Everybody will be eloquent in praise.

And nothing could be finer than a Double

Court Bob Minor

In a purely abstract phase.

And everyone will stare at those lines of

And everyone will stare at those lines of beauty rare;
And even though it's bound to be away beyond them far.
Your skill they'll never doubt and so loud your praises shout
That your progress none can mar.

But soft. Here comes Stella alone. Now is my opportunity.
(Enter Stella.)
Stella—may I call you thus?

S.: Why, of course, sir.

- D.: Stella, know that ever since I first set eyes upon you, I have been consumed by a burning passion. I love you, Stella, with a fervent, undying love. You shall have everything you desire. Your every wish shall be my command; and you will receive all the honours accorded to the wife of the highest official in the tower. Now of the highest official in the tower. what sayest thou?
- S.: Sir, please do not speak to me of love. Why, I have only known you a few minutes and—my heart is already given.
- D.: Given? To whom?
- S.: To dear Jack, my companion.
- D.: Then you actually refuse me?
- S.: It is for the good of both of us. sir.

4. Tune: 'Kind Sir, You Cannot Have the Heart'

Kind sir, you cannot have a mind our lives to bind;
I am a poor and lowly maid and unworthy.
You t'would degrade and probably bring misery

To many other loving hearts more suited for thee.

There must be many maids in Clattering

love you,
So why not seek a wife from those wellfavoured ladies.

Before your own career you stem, do look at them

And pause ere you make up your mind and ere too late 'tis.

Ah me! 'Tis true though high and low be wed,

That gulf no bridge can span until sweet life is fled.

(Exit Stella.)

She spurns my love. This is an insult I cannot brook. But she will be my wife, that I swear. And as for her companion . . .

(Enter Anastasia, unseen.)
I'll break his bones, I'll rend him limb from limb. . . .

An.: What truly admirable passion. At la I have found a man worthy of my love.

D.: I'll hang him from the top of the tower and leave him till the crows peck out his eyes. . . .

An.: O rapture! O bliss!

D.: Worst torture of all: He shall be made to sit through a peal of Minor rung by our own band. (He laughs devilishly at the thought.)

An.: O bliss! O rapture!
(She falls noisily in a fit of ecstasy.)

D. (noticing her for the first time): Why, whoever's this? (He walks over to her.)

An. (faintly): Buy a bell-rope, sir.

D.: Bell-ropes? We've no need of thy wares here, old hag. Come. (Helps her up with considerable difficulty.) Take thy moulting sallies elsewhere. You're littering the street. (She stares adoringly into his eyes for a moment and then exits slowly as if in a daze.)

D.: How very strange. But now I must retire for forty winks while my brain devises some devilish scheme to effect my desires. (Exits into his house.) (Enter the two Tower Snatchers, wearing shorts, ankle socks and Y.H.A. badges, and with billies dangling from their belts to indicate their calling, with their coat collars turned up to indicate their criminal tendencies. They approach the centre of the stage furtively and sing:)

5. Tune: 'Twenty Love-sick Maidens We.'

(Both) Ruthless tower snatchers we. Criminals against our will: Twenty years hence we shall be Ruthless tower snatchers we; Damned forever now we be. Ruthless tower snatchers we, And of crime we drink our fill. Twenty years hence we shall be Ruthless tower snatchers still.

Babes, we were kidnapped and (1st T.S.) transported then.

(Both) Ah miserie.

By tower snatchers unto their dark (1st T.S.) den.

(Both) Ah miseric. (2nd T.S.) Thus we, by stroke of fate, in that company were dropt; We had no option that life to

adopt.

(Both) Ah miserie. Would that innocent were we, But irredeemable we be. Beyond hope now we are, We have sunk down far too far. Ah miserie. Ruthless tower snatchers we, Criminals against our will. Twenty years hence we shall be Ruthless tower snatchers still. Ah miserie.

(1st T.S.) (In alarm.) Someone comes. They hurry to the seat before the tower and hide behind it, raising their heads slowly over the back to observe. Despard enters, groaning and holding his head.)

6. Tune: 'Love unrequited robs me of my rest.'

Terrible nightmares numb my aching brain; Bells, ever bells, my thoughts confused encumber;

Bells, and more bells; bells and more bells

again, Dozens, scores, hundreds, bells without number.

You're lying awake with a dismal head-ache, indigestion your torments enhancing.

You open your eyes and note with surprise a bell on the counterpane dancing.

It's followed by more until there's a score of them dancing Quadrilles on the

sheeting.

With a jangling din they polka and spia; it sounds just like a Quarterly Meeting.

You think you're in bed but you find the instead you are ringing a quarter of Norwich

On bells odd-struck and tinny, which make such a din even you'd prefer eating cold porridge.

There's a pain in your head and your bell is like lead while the serpentine rope

is like lead while the serpentine rope tries to strangle you.
You thrust it away but try as you may the slippery coils still entangle you.
A hideous face suspended in space, devilfeatured, with horns like a viking.
Thrills you with fear as it screams in your ear that spine-chilling phrase: "Watch your striking."
You're beginning to reel when the rope

You're beginning to reel when the rope slips the wheel and your wild clutching hands fail to check it. The bell crashes back, hits the stay with a crack that is more than sufficient to

wreck it.

While you're still in a daze all the sliders and stays shower down like a hail-

storm around you,
While a rainbow-hued sally (who's been to
the ballet) does dances that really astound you.

But now your spine tingles as fierce bobs and singles swarm into the belfry before you.

While headstocks and bearings with shriek-

ings and glarings show plainly how much they abhor you.

Now the clappers appear, and they yell in your ear as their leader with malice

arranges

With all of his might to madden you quite with some devilish forms of callchanges

Amid lightning and thunder, the clappers fall under the galloping feet of the handbells

Who, with metal-parts gleaming, run off, brightly beaming, to a Sunday School Treat in St. Anne's Wells.

The Beast and the Bell(e)—Cont.

You're on your last legs, and your throbbing brain begs for just one minute's rest while the fear in your breast makes you tremble and sweat for what's to come yet as those torturing bells tolling, tolling their knells lead you plainly to see what the ending will be, for your sanity's going and rapidly flowing away is your strength and you know that at length you will have to awake or expire. have to awake or expire.

But the dream's at an end; your frayed

nerves can mend;
The nightmare's been long, and so has my song, and thank goodness I now can

But away with these fears and mournful thoughts. I must think of some way to secure Stella's hand. If only I could enlist the aid of some good honest criminals.

(T.S.s look at each other, and then emerge from their place of concealment.)

1st T.S.: Er

D.: (turning and noticing them) Well?

1st T.S.: We happened, purely by accident, to overhear your latter remark. You see before you two of the honestest criminals in the underworld. Can we be of any assistance to you?

D.: What a providential occurrence. Now this is the dirty deed I desire done. . . .

(They go into a huddle from which evil laughs and anticipative hand-rubbings emerge at intervals.)
... Here are 20 crowns. Another
50 await you when all is accomplished.

2nd T.S.: The deed is good as done.

6.5 Tune: 'Hereupon we both agree.'

(T.S.s)Hereupon we are agreed For a small consideration
To execute the deed
Without more investigation.
The maiden we shall find,
Her companion there with her;
The latter we shall bind.
And bring the maid hither.
Then returning,
I'll he wearning (1st T.S.) (2nd T.S.) (1st) (2nd) (Both) (D.) (T.S.s) (D.)

I'll be yearning. With our capture. Oh rapture! (All)

What a deed of villainy; Worst we've e'er done, and we've done many

Deed tremendous, Heav'n defend us, What a deed of villainy.

(D. re-enters house, and T.S.s hide behind seat.)

(Enter Stella and Jack.)

J.: All is arranged. In half an hour, Stella, you will be my very own little wife.

And you, Jack, will be my own tall, strong and handsome husband. (They have a fervent embrace.)

Tune: 'What ought we to do?' (1st T.S.) See them hug and pet. What a pretty sight. We cannot bash him yet. Twould not be polite.

(2nd T.S.) Let us wait until they've done their bit of singing, and meantime we will discuss the local ringing.

Yes, yes, discuss the local ringing. (Both) Are you aware dear brother mine (1st T.S.) How very singularly fine These bells of Clattering must sound To anyone that's underground?

(2nd T.S.) Quite so, and with me you'll agree How sweet their sound must also be To all those people, overjoyed. Who of their hearing are devoid.

Upon this point we both agree. How joyful deaf and dead must be That while in torment dire are we, (Both) They of the ghastly din are free. Yes on this point, etc.

Did ever learner under such a know-(S.) ing tutor Find in him an ardent, tender, lov-

ing suitor? Was ever ringer, dodging being her

usual duty, Called to course with one of such exceeding beauty?

(J.)Ah yes, ah yes, I have exceeding beauty.
(T.S.s are about to leap out, but J. and S. embrace again. T.S.s repeat song.)

(1st T.S.) Are you aware, etc.

Did ever ringer in the hunt for love's devotion Of such superlative loveliness e'er have a notion?

(T.S.s)Are you aware, etc.

Was ever ringer, dodging being her (S.) usual duty, Called to course with one of such exceeding beauty,
Ah yes, ah yes, ah yes.

(J.)Did ever ringer in the hunt for love's devotion. Of such superlative loveliness e'er have a notion? Ah yes, ah yes, ah yes.

(T.S.s now leap on Jack. Stella screams and runs off, followed by 1st T.S. 2nd T.S. knocks Jack unconscious with his cosh (a sally), D. emerges from his house and helps him carry Jack inside. Enter Adam.)

A.: Very strange. I was sure I heard a great commotion. What could it have been? (He looks round, and then draws into the shadow of the tower as D. and 2nd T.S. reapers.)

reappear.)

reappear.)
D.: (To T.S.) Quickly, follow them.
(T.S. exits.)
Now that Jack is safely under lock and key, I can proceed with my plans. I shall inform Stella that unless she consents to marry me, Jack will die in awful agony. She will have to consent.
(Enter T.S.s with Stella, struggling.)

S.: Unhand me, you villains.
(She tears herself free and runs to Despard.) Sir, save me from these uncouth persons and help me to find and rescue poor Jack, whom they have cruelly and maliciously

assaulted D.: There, there. (To T.S.s). Here is your fee. Now go, but do not leave the village. I may need you again.

(Exit T.S.s.)
Stella, once I asked you to marry me, but you refused.

S.: I did.

D.: I make you that offer again. Will you, of your own free will, accept me as your husband?

Sir, you know that I cannot. But please help me to find and rescue poor Jack.

'Poor Jack' is in my power. In the tower behind you are, as you know, six bells. The tenor is at this moment up, and a noose in the end of the rope encircles Jack's neck. At a word from me the bell will be pulled off, and

S.: (horrified) You monster.

D.: That is as may be. But as it only requires your assent to our union to bring about his immediate release. I am confident that he has many years of happy ringing ahead of him.

You leave me no choice. (Exeunt D. and S.)

(Enter Jack from Despard's house.)

J.: The villain. So he was misleading us all the time. And now he hires two assassins to liquidate me and bear Stella away. But I'll catch him yet. It takes more than a broken skull and strangled neck to incapacitate Jack Tittums.

A.: (Emerging from concealment) Young sir.

J.: Yes?

8. Tune: 'Kind Captain, I've Important Information.'

(A.) Young Sir, I've some important information Sing hey, the Tower Tyrant and the Belle. About a certain forthcoming relation; Sing hey, the Tower Tyrant and the Belle.

(D.) Good fellow, if my Stella it's concerning, Sing hey, the Tower Tyrant and the Belle; For any information I am yearning.
Sing hey, the Tower Tyrant and the Belle.

(A.) Young sir, that tyrant Despard is aheading,

Ring hey, the merry, merry wedding bell. Within the hour your Stella to be wedding. Ring hey, the merry, merry wedding bell. Good fellow, you have given timely warning

ing, Ring hey, the merry, merry wedding bell. By supper time your captain you'll be mourning.

Ring hey, the doleful, doleful funeral bell.

(During the last chorus, Despard enters with the T.S.s and directs them to the seat, behind which they conceal themselves unobserved. He exits, and returns at the end of the song with Stella. When she catches sight of Jack, she runs to him and they embrace.)

S.: Oh Jack; Are you all right?

J.: Perfectly, apart from a fractured skull and lacerated larynx.

Well, hug and kiss as much as you like. But remember, Stella, I have your promise and in a few minutes you will wed me.

J.: Stella. How could you?

S.: I had no choice, Jack. He told me that unless I assented you would be hung from the tenor bell.

J.: The scoundrel! He merely locked me in the bathroom, from which I managed to escape without assistance.

S.: But Jack, what are we to do? I have given my word, and must therefore marry him.

There seems to be but one solution. Despard alive you must marry. But Despard dead. (He makes as if to attack D., but Adam intervenes.)

A.: Wait a moment, Jack. That will not help. If a dead Despard cannot marry Stella, neither can a Jack convicted of murder. No, there is only one solution. I am an old man and, although I do not wish to die, if in that way I can bring happiness to two young wives, it will be worth the sacrifice.

S.: Whatever do you mean?

A.: Listen, and you will find out.

(Anastasia has now entered and is alsolistening with interest.)

Tune: 'When Frederic was a Little Lad.' Long years ago, twenty maybe, when I was fairly handsome,

My three small sons were kidnapped and held to a costly ransome

I was an impecunious man (rope-splicing

then my trade was),
And all my hard-earned savings but one third it I'm afraid was.
And so I managed to reclaim the eldest of my brood, sir,
The others ne'er saw again, though I did all I could, sir.

(Continued next page)

The Beast and the Bell(e)—Cont.

Now only child, the one redeemed received

all my affection,

Spoilt he became, and soon 'twas clear to anyone's inspection

That his mad jokes were now beyond the realms of infant pranking,

And all were soon aware how ineffectual

was spanking.

At last they caught him in the act of melting down the treble.

The penalty of death was duly passed upon

the rebel.

One night I managed to release him from his prison cheerless.

For miles we galloped; through it all my infant son was fearless.

I left him on the doorstep of the captain in this parish,
Who took him in and on him all his loving
care did lavish.

Return I could not as there was a price upon my head, sir;
Old Adam I became, and let my friends think I was dead, sir.

My true identity I ne'er revealed to my son though, For even if he was exposed, yet I would

still be safe so.

What love of mine for my own son at this sad time remained

Was lost when the exalted rank of Captain he attained.

For this oppressive despot, this tyrant is my son, sir.

And now you may do what you will. My story now is done, sir.

So you see that Despard is a wanted man, and I, as accessory, must suffer the same fate.

D.: (Who, as Adam's song proceeded, was more and more affected until he finally collapsed into Anastasia's arms) To think that for all these years my own father has been living in the same village but would not own me because of my despotic nature. What a monster I must be.

ALL: You are.

D.: I deserve whatever is coming to me. Here (he hands Stella to Jack), take her. She's

A.: All that remains is for you, Jack, to hand us over to the appropriate authorities that the sentence passed upon us so many years ago may at last be executed.

D.: Pray don't use that word.

3.: But wait a moment. I see no need why your true identities need ever be made public. Despard, you have fully reformed, have you not?

D.: I have.

J.: And would you promise to be a good, kind, upright and honest Tower Captain in the future?

D.: Oh I do, I do.

J.: Well then. Stella and I may be trusted to keep your secret, and I'm sure that were you, Despard, to offer your hand in marriage to Anastasia, she would have no cause to betray you.

D.: Perhaps it would be better to give ourselves up.

A: Nonsense. (Grabs him firmly.)

J.: Then your secret is still safe.
(Stella turns suddenly and catches sight of the T.S.s peering over the seat. She screams.)

S.: Oh Jack, Jack. There are those awful men. (Jack leaps to the seat and hauls them out.)

J.: So you are still waiting to knock out my brains.

1st T.S.: (pointing at D.) He asked us to be around in case we were needed.

A.: One moment, Jack. Surely I have seen these men before. Why, of course. They look just like. . . But no, they couldn't be. And yet. . . . Tell me, how did you come to take up such a dastardly profession?

1st T.S.: We were kidnapped in infancy.

2nd: And held to ransome.

1st: And the ransome wasn't paid.

2nd: So we had no option 1st: That life to adopt.

Both: Ah miserie.

A.: Then you are. Clarence, Claude. Don't you recognise me? (They look at him hard.) Both: Father.

(They embrace him.)

10. Tune: 'Never Mind the Why and Wherefore.'

(T.S.s)We were lost, now we're discovered; Ostracized, but now recovered; From our deeds criminalistic we reformed now return. And from felonology to campanology we turn.
Ring the merry bells in Clattering Our reform to celebrate; No more will we go a-battering, Our past we'll eradicate. (1st) So away with Cosh and D.A. (2nd) Get ye gone Edwardian drainpipes.

(1st) Throw away your cut-throat razor, (2nd) We are now respectable types. (Both) Ring the merry bells, etc.

(D. & AN.) I was once a tyrant hated, To oppressive power fated, But Papa's unselfish sacrifice com-

plete reform has caused. (Though it probably would not have if for further thought I'd/he'd paused.)

Now a dreadful choice awaits me/

him. Aged wife or hangman's rope. Either way it matters little, Gone is all remaining hope.

(AN.) Gallows grim, or chair electric, (D.) Or a waistline supermetric.

(AN) Guillotine or block and chopper, Or a wig of fading copper. (D)

(Both) I/He might choose the rope provided If the choice was mine/his alone;

But another has decided. So she's/I'm now my/his very own. Once we feared that we'd be parted (J. & S.) By this person brutal-hearted, But his ways he's changed and left us in our former happy state.

We'll be conjugally mated at the very earliest date.
Set the wedding bells vibrating, Set the ringers to their job. The event we're celebrating With a peal of Oxford Bob.

Twould be quite a feat I wager:

We would ring a peal of Major (S.) If it were within our power.

(J.)

For it's but a 6 bell tower. (ALL) Hear the tintinnabulation Bring an end to all our troubles. We'll begin the celebration With a touch of Grandsire Doubles. Ring with joy the air above For the joy of fervent love. Ring with joy the air above For the joy of fervent love.

FINIS.

Any Brethren in the Masonic Craft interested in standing in a peal attempt at St. Giles', Ashtead, on January 15th, kindly communicate with W. G. Newberry, 55, Stag Leys, Ashtead, Surrey.

NORTH STAFFS ASSOCIATION

Resignation of Mr. W. Carnwell

The resignation was received with regret at the annual meeting of the North Staffordshire Association, on December 4th, at Stoke, of Mr. W. Carnwell from the post of hon. secretary, a position he had held for many years. The president (Archdeacon P. Harthill) was in the chair, the meeting following tea, which was attended by 61 members. In welcoming the Association to Stoke the president said it was the 20th time the Association had visited Stoke.

Stoke.

In his report on the year's activities the secretary said that 11 meetings had been held during the year with an average attendance of 34. Ten new resident and two non-resident members had been elected. Sixteen peals had been rung (four 'in hand'), Conductors had been F. W. Grocott 8, F. E. Wilshaw 3, W. Carnwell, G. A. Hall, C. A. Page, D. R. Whalley and J. Worth one each.

The Association had lost by death five members, viz: A. Rowley (Stone), W. Fraddley (Bucknall), W. A. Fitchford (Wolstanton), G. Wainwright (Marchington) and H. Carnwell

(Kingsley).

The accounts showed a balance in hand of £58 18s. 1d. The report and accounts were adopted.

The following officers were elected:—Chairman and Central Council representative, Mr. R. S. Anderson; vice-chairman, Mr. A. W. Hall; secretary, Mr. E. H. Edge; Ringing Masters: eight bells, Mr. W. P. Deane; six bells, Mr. W. Hazledene, auditor, Mr. C. H. Page; peal recorder, Mr. A. Gaunt; 'Ringing World' correspondent, Mr. D. R. Whalley.

World correspondent, Mr. D. R. Whalley. The chairman (Mr. R. S. Anderson), in reviewing the past year, again stressed the need of all ringers becoming subscribers to 'The Ringing World.' If this was achieved those responsible for its issue would have no need for further financial worry. He was very sorry that Mr. W. Carnwell found it impossible to carry on with the secretarial work of the Association. He was quite sure that those present would wish him to say 'Thank you, for serving the Association during the years.' He also thanked Mr. W. Edwards (Kingsley), Mr. A. W. Hall (Cheadle R.C.) and Mr. A. Moore for their services as assistant secretary, auditor and Ringing Master (eight bells). auditor and Ringing Master (eight bells).

A fine tribute was paid by Mr. D. R. Whalley, on behalf of the Association, to the services ley, on behalf of the Association, to the services given by two founder members who had died during the year—Mr. Henry Carnwell and Mr. W. A. Fitchford. Mr. Carnwell had been a ringer for 65 years, and leader at Kingsley for 50 years, having rung 44 peals (40 Minor and four Major). Mr. W. A. Fitchford had been a ringer for 67 years and had nearly completed 50 years' service as conductor at Wolstanton. He had rung 91 peals, mostly Triples, and had conducted 67. The company stood in silence in memory of them.

Ringing continued until 8.30 p.m. in various Ringing continued until 8.30 p.m. in various

methods from rounds to Surprise.. D. R. W.

JOINT MEETING AT SHOREDITCH AND **BISHOPSGATE**

The Society of Royal Cumberland Youths and the Middlesex County Association held a successful joint meeting at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, and St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, on December 4th.

A truly magnificent tea was provided at St. Botolph's Church Hall by Mrs. Davis and her helpers. On behalf of the Cumberlands Mr. P. N. Bond welcomed the Middlesex County Association, and Mr. W. H. Coles suitably replied Thanks were accorded to Mrs. Davis and the incumbents.

So cordial was the joint meeting that it is hoped to make it an annual fixture.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'DELIGHT METHODS'

Dear Sir,—The writers of recent correspondence on this subject may be interested to learn that Kirkstall Delight (Cambridge 'up' and Morning Star 'in') will extend to 8, 10 and 12 bells. This is one of the most pleasant Minor methods in the Central Council Collection tion, and on higher numbers it should sound similar to Yorkshire.

Whilst methods in the 'Daffodil' group (Peveril, Leasowe, Melandra, etc.) apparently do not extend satisfactorily, the following contains the characteristic work of this group and

Perhaps this could be named Daffodil Delight, thus adding a little variety to the present system of nomenclature.—Yours sincerely,

D. MOTTERSHEAD Wilmslow, Cheshire.

STEDMAN-HIGHEST PERCENTAGE OF CONCENTRATION

Dear Sir,—Mr. G. W. Pipe's reference to the monotony of Stedman fails to impress me. His reason is that all methods which contain Plain Bob lead ends are monotonous to the experienced ringer. Stedman has to be rung with the highest percentage of concentration because the treble is not leading at the lead end and the previous fixed observations are not available. I have rung peals in various Suravailable. I have rung peals in various Surprise methods, but Stedman is very elusive and I find that as I am unable to follow the com-position, there is tremendous fun and entertainment in watching the working of the other

He refers to mistakes being hard to rectify, but surely this only makes a peal of Stedman more valuable. I am unable to convince myself that people enter a peal band with the intention of relying on the conductor to correct

A few years ago I was told that if I wanted a peal of Stedman Triples I should have to get Mr. So-and-so to conduct it. I promptly replied if that was the case then I did not want

The type of advancement Mr. Pipe refers to will be truly a credit to those who ring one with irregular lead ends, which the Central Council do not allow. The Rev. K. W. H. Felstead has very ably clarified the reason why

we don't ring them.

We have this year attempted quarter peals in various methods with our local band. The last one, on December 1st, was Superlative for Confirmation, and what promised to be a perfect 1,280 was lost in the last five leads, which reverse acceptation is the keywhich proves again concentration is the key-note of success.—Yours truly, Bures, Suffolk. LESLIE D. MILLS.

ALL THE WORK OF SEVEN SURPRISE MAJOR METHODS

Dear Sir,—May I offer my congratulations to Mr. R. F. B. Speed and the band at Willesden on ringing a peal with all the work of seven Surprise Major methods.

In view of the interesting correspondence on this subject, perhaps I may say a little about the composition, which was published in 'The Ringing World' two or three years ago. The intention was, if possible, to produce a regular three-part but in this I was not successful, although I do not doubt it is possible; however, I have not had time since to go much further into the matter.

As all the methods are of the same group, the problems which arise are entirely different from those which confronted Messrs. Cashmore and Pitman, and others such as Messrs.

J. W. Parker and E. C. S. Turner, in their work on peals including the four standard methods. In some respects the task is much easier; for instance, one can take a simple basic composition, knowing that the absence of reversed course heads and of 2-3 from sixths place simplifies proof considerably. On the other hand there is much less room for manœuvring, as all the work of 2-3-7-8 in each of the seven methods would, in a completely regular peal, have to be contained in eight courses, one of which is shortened. I hope someone may feel encouraged to tackle this.—Yours faithfully,

E, A. BARNETT.

LEGAL CASES

Dear Sir,-I was interested to read the letter from my friend, Mr. E. L. Humphriss, in which he referred to a case stated for bell ringing by Lord Justice Goddard.

When writing the Legal Survey, which was published a little while ago, I made a fairly extensive search for any cases decided by the Courts with reference to the subject of bell ringing. Unfortunately I did not at that time since reading the letter I have made further search on the scanty information available, but have been unable to trace it in the Law Reports.

I am not in possession of any 'Ringing Worlds' for the relative period and have not been able to make a search there. I should, however, be grateful if any reader can throw any further light on the subject, either by giving more details of the case of the pages of the more details of the case, e.g., the names of the parties and the Law Report in which it was published or alternatively by published, or alternatively, by reference to the issue of 'The Ringing World' in which the case was reported.

I was also recently informed that another similar case was decided in a County Court in one of the southern counties. This case also does not appear to have been published in the Legal Press and I would appreciate any further information relating thereto. If any other information is forthcoming I shall be only too pleased to pursue the matter further and, if necessary, to prepare a further article on the facts as they then appear.—Yours faithfully, I was also recently informed that another

INDISPENSABLE

More and more ringers are finding the Ringer's Notebook and Diary an indispensable companion. The Diary for 1955 has been improved upon its predecessors in the light of the experience gained from past publications. The section dealing with touches and quarter peals is of great value to conductors, young and old.

OBITUARY

MR. R. ALSOP

Christ Church, Ebbw Vale, has sustained additinct loss by the death of their first Ringing Master, Mr. R. Alsop, who died in hospital on November 31st after a short illness.

When the bells were installed in September, 1937, as a thanksgiving for the re-opening of the works, Mr. Alsop took on the leadership. He collected around him a band of ringers, several of whom are still alive. His genial character will be greatly missed in the circle of

Always an ardent service ringer and equally interested in all branches of ringing at meetings in the district and elsewhere—he really loved the

The interment took place at Ebbw Vale on Thursday, December 2nd, after a service in Christ Church.

In the evening the bells were rung half-muffled as a tribute to his memory. To his widow and children his fellow ringers extend their heartfelt sympathy.

TWO WELSH ASSOCIATIONS HOLD JOINT MEETING

A successful joint meeting of the Llandaff Branch and the Southern District of the Swansea and Brecon Guild was held at Cowbridge on December 4th. The bells were made good use of very early in the afternoon, and ring-ing was in the very capable charge of Mr. Fred Bailey, Branch Master of the Llandaff Branch, well known for his excellent care of young

The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. E. O. T. Lewis, R.D.) assisted by the curate (the Rev. R. L. Cole). An interesting address by the Vicar reminded ringers of their great responsibilities to the church,

A very appealing array of refreshments pre-pared by Cowbridge ringers' wives and friends was thoroughly enjoyed by all. For this, the Branch Master gave a hearty vote of thanks to those concerned in arranging such a welcome

With the Vicar in the chair, the Swansea and Brecon Guild held their business meeting first. Prior to the Llandaff Branch meeting members were asked to stand in silence in respect of two late members—Mr. D. Rees-James, of Bridgend, and Mr. Alsop, of Ebbw Vale.

Mr. Fred Bailey proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for his sincere welcome to the two Associations and for taking charge of both business meetings. In this he was supported by Mr. T. M. Roderick on behalf of the Swansea and Brecon Guild.

R. E. C.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

Some 30 ringers attended the annual meeting of the Taunton Deanery Branch at St. James Taunton, on December 4th. The Branch chairman (the Rev. E. Hurst) conducted the service and tea was served in the Church Room.

At the ensuing business meeting the following officers were elected:—Chairman, the Rev. E. Hirst: vice-chairman, Mr. A. Hayward; secretary and treasurer, Mr. A. H. Reed; Ringing Master, Mr. W. Gigs. The A.G.M. for 1955 will be held at Wellington, with quarterly meetings at Trull, Wilton and Staplegrove.

In his annual report the Branch secretary reported that membership remained static at 106 and that during the year six peals had been rung in the Deanery. Ringing during the meeting included Double Norwich Court Bob Major and Cambridge Surprise Major.

THE LOUGHBOROUGH ATTEMPT

Seen Through American Eyes The Loughborough record attempt, according to the Associated Press of America:-

. After 9 hours the sniffling Jesson was in trouble. But he refused to stop. All eyes were on Jesson, clinging grimly to his rope and appearing barely conscious as the clock showed that 9 hours 48 minutes had passed.

'Then it happened. Critchley, the caller—a man known to the ringing art as a perfectionist—failed to "call a bob." This smarled the ringing order and the umpire called a halt."

BUNTER VOLUNTEERS

Dear Edditer.-I was thrilled to reed of the menyoo which the ringers had last week in the peel attempt. If Mr. Critchley writes to me, I will gladly aksept a posishun in the next long peel.

Agchully, I havnt dun much ringing yet, but Tom Merry, who wrings the skool bell after lessuns (he misses two minnits of every lessun, the beest) will teech me if I ask him. When my postal order arrives, I will have enuff munney to pay my single fair to Lorburuh.—Yours faythfully,

WILLIAM GEORGE BUNTER. Greyfriars Skool.

P.S.—Ask Mr. Critchley to get sum-lemonade to drink during the intervals in the pecl.—W. G. B.

In Defence

'The Bristol Evening Post' defends bellringing. Replying to the London journalist
'who worked himself into a tantrum about the
Loughborough bellringers who recently tried
to break the world's record of bell-ringing
by "carrying on their murderous cacophony
for a whole day and night," the writer says:—
'I cannot understand for the life of me why
the inaudible practice of an art that combines music, science, accuracy and considerable
athletic strength should have roused our vitriolic stentor to such flight of acid vituperation. It should be remembered that every person has points of difference—another way of
saying that it takes all sorts to make a world saying that it takes all sorts to make a world—and the practice and interest of the campanologist is no more nor less praiseworthy than his neighbours' interest in the Test Match or football. Ah, you say, but the neighbours' interest is less noisy. Noise! Good heavens, this is the age of noise and we must learn to lump it. Can the melodious tinkling of church bells compare with the screaming roar and occasional explosions of aircraft and the bombination and bellowing of motors?

THE LADIES' GUILD West Midland District

Members of the Ladies' Guild, together with the usual gentleman supporters, enjoyed the winter meeting, which was held at St. Barnabas', Erdington, on December 4th.

Canon W. S. Power (the Vicar) conducted the service, which was held in the Lady Chapel, and tea was served in the Church Hall,

New members elected at the meeting were three from Walsall, one from Lichfield and one from Little Aston. Methods rung were Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob, Kent, Cambridge and learners' rounds.

A Suffolk Version

'XYZ,' a popular dialect writer in the 'Suffolk Chronicle,' has these interesting observations on the record attempt at Loughbor-

'When the long peal was rung at Deb'num a few years back, the bor Dearvud and I hung about in the churchyard to give the ringers a hand for breakin' the record. As it turned out, they brook down instead—and I'm still sure that it was the raisins that stopped 'em.

'A chap who starts ringin' at quarter-past four in the mornin', and expects to keep at it non-stop for about ten hours is likely to be a bit peckish come elevenses and dinner-time. Therefore he puts some sustenance handy in the belfry, and nibbles as he pulls. By the rules he mustn't be handed his grub by some-

"Well, there was another go at the record peal on Sat'day—at Loughborough. Accordin' to the reports the ringers' eats were varied. One account says they had glucose tablets, chewin' gum, ham sandwiches, and treacle tart; another tells us it was mainly raisins, grapes, chocolate and glucose.

'Now I've got nothin' against raisins, which are excellent in cakes and puddin's, but I'm pretty sure it was raisins that made the pains in the tum-tum of the tenor at Deb'num and stopped the long peal.

SILENT PEAL

This Loughborough peal was highly humanitarian. Held in the campanile of Taylors' bellfoundry, all the louvres and chinks had been bunged up, and unless the local lieges got within 30 yards of the tower they wouldn't have known the ringers were at it.

'Just a bit more science, bor, and someone'll invent a silent bell. That'd be much appreciated by such as the Ipswich theatre on practice nights at the Tower! Anyhow, when one of the Loughborough ringers turned up queer the windows were opened to let in some air, and in the general hubbub somethin' went wrong with the call.

with the call.

'That's happened at solo whist, nap, and similar, and the result's always the same. The ringers came down, the record stands, and I look forward to another day out with bor Dearvud when the next attempt on the record is made here in Suffolk.

'But no raisins, please. I also have doubts about treacle tart, which lays heavy on the chest. Can't someone compound vitamins and so on in pills that the ringers can park in their weskit pockets?'

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

The annual nomination meeting of the Farnham District was held at St. Michael's Church, Aldershot, on December 11th. Whether it Whether it was due to the cold weather or to the changing minds' of other Districts, the number catered for did not appear. Nevertheless there was a good attendance.

The ringing started at 2.30 p.m. under the leadership of the joint Ringing Masters, Mr. T. Page and Mr. E. J. Wells.

At 4.15 p.m. representatives of the towers

in the District met in the Church Room to re-port on their year's work. On the whole this port on their year's work. On the whole this was found to be quite satisfactory, most towers being able to boast of new recruits and Sunday ringers. This 'captains' meeting was followed by an excellent tea, and after Mr. C. W. Denyer had proposed a vote of thanks to the tea organisers the whole gathering went back to the church for the ringers' service conducted by the Rev. A. L. E. Hoskyns-Abrahall. M. A. C. M. A. C.

Christmas Greetings

The Editor of 'The Ringing World' extends his sincere Christmas Greetings to all corre-spondents and readers. May every happiness attend your Christmas ringing.

Apsley St. Mary's, Herts, ringers send sincere greetings for a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year to their many ringing friends. May goodwill be the keynote throughout the coming year.

A happy Christmas and prosperous New Year to all our ringing friends, old and new, wherever they may be.—Mr. and Mrs. W. Ashdown, Beare Cottage, Broadclyst, Devon. 5520

A very happy Christmas to all our ringing friends in Sussex and Kent. Come and try our new octave in the New Year. — Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Bassett and Ann, Wadhurst, Sussex. 5555

Greetings to all the clergy and ringers who have welcomed us to their churches on our tours and ringing week-ends. We wish you joyous Christmas peals and a New Year abounding with well-struck touches.—The Bedfordshire Young Ringers.

Mr. Peter N. Bond sends every possible good wish for a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year to all his ringing friends, especially to fellow Cumberlands.

5526

A merry Christmas and a happy and successful New Year is the sincere wish of Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Bullen, of Darley Dale, Derbyshire, to all ringing friends and acquaintances. 5537

A happy Christmas to all our ringing friends, especially those of the Peterborough Diocese, Bedfordshire, Norfolk, Huntingdonshire, London, Birmingham, Leicester, Newcastle, Brighton, Somerset, Hertfordshire, Warwickshire, Lancashire, Surrey, Kent and Lincolnshire. We extend our warmest thanks and greetings to all who have made us so welcome on tower grabs and in peal attempts in their belfries and homes.—Bryan S. Cope, 181, Station Road, Burton Latimer; Patrick I. Chapman, 8, Ash Road, Kettering.

To all our friends and visitors of the past years, the ringers of Combe Martin, Devon, extend hearty Christmas greetings and wish you a prosperous New Year. We look forward to welcoming many ringers on holiday next summer.

To all our ringing friends, especially the Royal Cumberland Youths, we wish a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

—Marjorie and George H. Cross, Pinneys Cottage, Chardstock, near Axminster, Devon. 5566

The ringers of Danbury (Essex) Church tower send Christmas greetings to all their friends, both near and far, and best wishes for a happy New Year and good ringing in 1955.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Diserens and family wish their friends a happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

'Plain Bob' wishes all members of the Coventry Guild and all ringers and friends 'A merry Christmas, a prosperous New Year, and the best of health.'—Edden, Deppers Bridge.

Mr. I. Emery and Mr. P. J. Spice, of Brom-ley, extend their best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to all ringing friends, both far and near

Paul, Flo and Mischief Field extend sincere Christmas greetings and best wishes for 1955 to all their ringing friends wherever they may be.

To all my ringing friends, both near and far, kind thoughts and best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.—John Fowler. 5524

Mr. and Mrs. Frank I. Hairs wish all friends a season of joy, and for the New Year—12 months of happiness.—Lee Grounds, Titchfield,

All good wishes for Christmas and the New Year to ringing friends, near and far.—Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Kynaston, 37, Vicarage Road, Swindon, Wilts.

5540

Christmas greetings and every good wish for the coming year to all our ringing friends.— From Mr. and Mrs. Ernest J. Ladd and Margaret, Tunbridge Wells, Kent.

5545

Greetings and best wishes for Christmas and 1955 to all our old ringing friends; also to our new ones at Lichfield and in Cheshire who made us so welcome on our holiday our best wishes for 1955.—Mr. and Mrs. R. Lathbury and Miss Nora Shorter, Walton-on-Thames.

A happy Christmas and prosperous New year to all our ringing friends.—Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Marshallsay, 11, Exton Road, Bourne-

A very happy Christmas and good fortune in the New Year to all our ringing friends.— From David, Frances, George and Hilda George and Hilda Massey, Parbury Bungalow, Frome.

Hearty Christmas greetings and every good wish for the New Year to all our ringing friends.—Mr. and Mrs. Cecil J. Matthews, 177, Engadine Street, Southfields, S.W.18. 5571

Mr. and Mrs. F. M. Mitchell, 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend, Kent, send to all ringing friends hearty Christmas greetings and best wishes for the coming year.

Christmas greetings and best wishes for the New Year to all ringing friends.—From Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Poole, Marlow, Bucks. 5554

Mr. and Mrs. Fred Price wish happiness for Christmas and good luck for 1955 to all their friends.—St. Michael's, 9, Fisherman's Avenue, Southbourne, Bournemouth. Telephone S.46005.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Skidmore, Bristol, send heartiest greetings and good wishes for a very happy Christmas and all the best for the Year to ringing friends everywhere. 5547

Mr. and Mrs. T. E. Sone, Warrington House, Paddock Wood, Kent, send sincere Christmas greetings and best wishes for the New Year to all our ringing friends, far and near.

Best wishes for a merry Christmas and very happy New Year to all my ringing friends, at home and overseas.—Evelyn Steel. 5527

Hearty Christmas and New Year's greetings to all ringing associates.—Frank Warrington, St. Ives 5562

Season's greetings and all good wishes are voiced by Mr. E. Alexr. Young to his ringing friends. Toast is—'Health, Happiness, Good Luck.

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.

ENGAGEMENT

JUKES-SIMMONS. - The engagement is announced between Frederick Edward Jukes, Fremar, Dudley Road, Kingswinford, Staffs, and Kathleen Sylvia Simmons, Corona, Broad Street, Kingswinford. Mr. Jukes is a ringer at St. Mary's, Kingswinford. St. Mary's, Kingswinford.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Mr. Martyn W. Harbott is now residing c/o 200, The Broadway, S.W.19. Telephone No. LIBerty 2607 (at the usual unreasonable hours)

PUBLICATION

A FEW COPIES remain of 'The Church Bells of Flintshire,' 3s. 6d.; 'Ayrshire,' 3s. 6d.; 'Stirlingshire,' 3s.; 'Scottish Rings of Bells,' 2s. All post free from the author, Ranald Clouston, Swanslea, Westerfield, near Ipswich.

MISCELLANEOUS

of motion and nominations for office for A.G.M., 1955, must reach me by Feb. 1st, 1955 Frank V. Gant. ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Rule IX. Notices

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR GREET-INGS will be published in 'The Ringing World' of December 17th and December 24th. Price 3s. for 36 words.

EXTRA COPIES.—It is an advantage if those requiring extra copies will send their orders at the time copy of peals or quarter peals is submitted.

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

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Walton-on-Thames bells available Monday, Dec. 27th, 10.30 to 1. All welcome.—W. Parrott, Hon. Sec.

ARCHDEACONRY OF HALIFAX GUILD.
—Annual meeting, Halifax Parish (12), Saturday, Jan. 1st. Bells 2.15 to 4.30 and 6.30 to 8.30. It is hoped to provide tea, otherwise numerous cafes are within short distance. 5522
BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Bedford District.—Meeting at Harrold (6) on Jan. 1st. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Teas. Names for tea, by Dec. 29th. to Rev. J. A. Macwilliam, The Vicarage, Harrold, Beds. Annual meeting: Bedford, Feb. 5th.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ely District.—Annual meeting at Ely on Saturday, Jan. 1st. Bells (8) 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Election of officers at business meeting.—R. J. Housden, Dis. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Gloucester Branch.—Annual meeting, Barnwood (8), Jan. 1st, 3 p.m. Numbers for tea, by Dec. 29th certain, to Larner, 37, Green Lane, Hucclecote, Gloucester.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kington District.—Annual meeting at Eardisland, Saturday, Jan. 1st. Bells (8) available 2,30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Business after. Names for tea, by Wednesday, Dec. 29th. to J. Preece, Lea Lodge, Staunton-on-Arrow, Leominster.

5536
KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—Meeting at New Romney on Jan. 1st. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names for tea to Mr. H. S. Humphrey, 29, The Churchlands, New Romney, by Dec. 28th. Don't forget your nominations for new members.—W. P. G.
KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Tonbridge District.—Meeting at Sevenoaks (8) on Saturday, Jan. 1st. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea (1s.) 5.15 p.m. Names, with cash, please, to Miss D. Colgate, 38, Buckhurst Avenue. Sevenoaks.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. -- Sonning Deanery Branch.—A combined practice will be held at Finchampstead on Jan. 1st at 6 p.m.—

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. -North

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch.—A monthly meeting at Fenny Stratford. Saturday, Jan. 1st. Bells (6) at 5 p.m. All welcome.—R. H. Howson. 5541 SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch. — Annual meeting, Devizes, Jan. 1st. Bells at the three churches from 3 p.m. Service, St. John's, 4.30. Names for tea to Slatford, North Bradley, Trowbridge. 5563

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIO-CESE OF BIRMINGHAM.—Annual meeting at Tamworth Arms, Moor Street, at 6 p.m., Jan. 1st. St. Martin's bells (12) available 4.30 p.m.—George E. Fearn, 92, Etwall Road, Hall Green, Birmingham, 28. Phone: Springfield

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY .-Meeting at Dore, near Sheffield, on Saturday, Jan. 1st, 3 p.m. Cups of tea in Church Hall; bring own food. All welcome.—N. Chaddock, Hon. Sec. 5532

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Nottingham Dis-SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Nottingham District.—Annual meeting Saturday, Jan. 1st, at St. Mary's, Nottingham. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. in Church Institute, Barkergate, for those notifying Mr. W. Nichols, 179, Eltham Road, West Bridgford, Nottingham, by Wednesday, Dec. 29th. Business meeting after

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Eastern District.—Quarterly meeting at Goole, Saturday, Jan. 1st. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., School, near Church. Names to Mrs. J. J. Taylor, 165, Dunhill Road, Goole, by Dec. 29th.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Sec., 40, New Lane. Sclby. New Lane, Selby.

DEVON GUILD.—N.E. Branch.—Annual meeting, Silverton, Saturday, Jan 8th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 Names for tea to A. G. Selley, 3, Exeter Road, Silverton.—W. Ware, Hon. Sec. 5506

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western.— Annual general meeting, Brentwood, Jan. 8th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. followed by meeting. Names for tea to Mr. J. Sitch, Angle Cottage, Priests' Lane, Shenfield. 5531

HEREFORD GUILD.—Ross District.—Annual meeting at Ross, Jan. 8th, from 3 p.m. Service 4. Tea (Central Cafe) 4.30. Names for tea to W. T. Poston, Viewlands, Walford Road, Ross-on-Wye. 5544

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Maidstone District. —Quarterly meeting at Headcorn, Saturday, Jan. 8th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Names, please, to R. L. Sills, The Square, Wrotham.

LADIES' GUILD.-North-Eastern District. LADIES' GUILD.—North-Eastern District.—Second annual meeting, Darlington, Saturday, Jan. 8th. Ringing 2.30 p.m. at St. Cuthbert's and St. John's. Service, St. Cuthbert's, 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Ringing, Holy Trinity, in evening. Names for tea, by Thursday, Jan. 6th, to Mrs. Cooke, 24, Leafield Road, Darlington. Special bus will leave Central Garage, Newcastle, at 2 p.m. There are still a few seats vacant on this bus. Anyone interested, please contact Mrs. N. I. Lea, 9, St. Vincent Street, South Shields.

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—South and West District.—Annual meeting, Jan. 8th, St. Margaret's (not St. Andrew's), Uxbridge. Service 4.30. Tea and business in Church Hut, Belmont Road. Bells (8) from 3. Hillingdon (10) after tea. Every tower represented, please.—F. W. Goodfellow, Hon. Sec. 5568 OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Banbury Branch.—Quarterly at Swalcliffe (6), Jan. 8th. Service 4. Tea 5. Please notify E. C. Pearson, Adderbury West. Phone: Adderbury 350. 5535

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. Oundle Branch.—Annual meeting at Oundle (8), Jan. 8th, at 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow at Brereton Rooms. Names for tea, by Jan. 1st, to Mrs. P E. Clarke, 7, Bassett Place, Oundle

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Annual meeting. Wellington, Jan. 29th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., Parish Hall. Names, by Tuesday previous, to Mr. A. Pritchard, 51, Hadley Park Road, Hadley. Wrockwarding. also in evening if required.

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WORCESTER,—At All Saints' Church, on Nov. 28th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss S. Jackson 1, 28th, 4,200 Staddman Triples: Miss S. Jackson 1, J. N. Diserens 2, A. Diserens (cond.) 3, N. J. Diserens 4, C. Tansell 5, R. F. Diserens 6, T. W. Lewis 7, J. Stanier 8. First of Stedman Triples for 1 and 2. Also on Nov. 29th, at the Cathedral, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: P. Newing 1, W. Sidwell 2, P. Blissett 3, D. Sayers 4, J. J. Stanier 5, R. Woodyatt (cond.) 6, C. Tansell 7, G. Ambler 8. Rung on the back eight.

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