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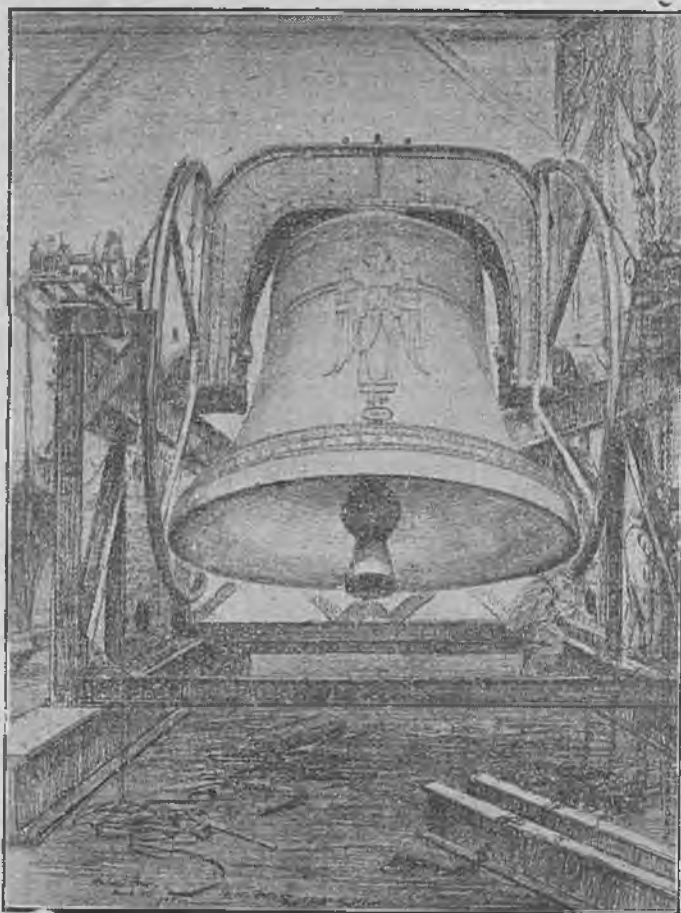
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A FINANCIAL QUESTION.

The agenda of the Central Council, which appeared in our last issue, promises to provide an interesting meeting at Chelmsford, as a good deal of the business relates to matters which affect the Exercise generally and in which ringers as a whole can take an interest. This early publication of the details gives the associations the opportunity of considering the business of the Council, so far as it concerns them, and of expressing their views. Easter and the period up to Whitsun Tuesday, when the Council meet, is the time when the majority of the affiliated organisations hold their annual meetings and are thus able to consult their members on any special points that may be raised. Although the representatives are, under the constitution of the Council, free agents to vote as they choose, there are matters in this year's agenda upon which they may like to consult their associations. One of these is certainly the proposal to increase the affiliation fee.

Ever since the Council was inaugurated the subscription has been half-a-crown for each elected member, and this has formed the sole revenue of the Council. Its work has been carried on with this meagre financial support, out of which, in addition to the expenses of the meetings, the Council has financed the issue of its many useful publications. It has always been the aim of the Council to publish these at the lowest possible price, with the result that there has been, on the whole, a net monetary loss to the Council in this department, but a great gain to the Exercise by the wider circulation of knowledge which this low cost made possible. On a very small income the Council has done a great deal for the advancement of the art; on a doubled income, it could do a good deal more. From time to time we have suggested that the Council needed more money for its work, and if the associations had only to provide the affiliation fees there would be little to quibble about in raising the paltry half-crown subscription to five shillings. But the liability of most of the associations does not end here. Practically all of them pay the out-of-pocket expenses of their representatives, and this, when the meeting place is a distant one, is a heavy drain on those organisations which have only limited resources.

Much as we should like to see the Council's funds supplemented, the possible result must not be overlooked that an increased subscription might reduce the number of representatives elected. We can hardly think that affiliated bodies would curtail their representation merely because they were asked to pay another half-a-crown for each member they send to the Council, but when we find

(Continued on page 178.)

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one association, which is entitled to four representatives, electing only one; and another seriously considering withdrawal altogether, because of dissatisfaction with the constitution of the central body, the possible effect of an increased subscription ought not to be lost sight of. Here, therefore, is one case where the early publication of the agenda may help to a considered vote being given at Chelmsford. All the associations which hold their annual meetings between this and Whitsun Tuesday should take care to bring the subject before their members so that the representatives may know their feeling on the matter. It will be better to know the views of the associations beforehand than to regret an action after it has been taken.

TEN BELL PEALS

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 16, 1929, in Three Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt.

HERBERT MARKWELL ... Treble	ARTHUR T. VERRELLS ... 6
*ALFRED T. GREENWOOD ... 2	FRANK BENNETT ... 7
GEORGE WILLIAMS ... 3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS ... 8
ALFRED W. GROVES ... 4	JOHN DEARLOVE ... 9
FRANK I. HAIRS ... 5	STAFFORD H. GREEN ... Tenor

Composed by WILLIAM PYE. Conducted by FREDK. W. ROGERS.

* First peal on ten bells.

WEDNESBURY, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, March 16, 1929, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

JOHN C. ADAMS ... Treble	MORRIS J. MORRIS ... 6
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER ... 2	THOMAS J. ELTON ... 7
ROBERT PICKERING ... 3	WILLIAM FISHER ... 8
JOHN PERRY ... 4	HERBERT KNIGHT ... 9
JOSEPH PIGOTT ... 5	BENJAMIN GOUGH ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by JOSEPH PIGOTT.

This peal, at the same church and by the same band standing in the same order, replaces the one rung on June 9th last

BROMSGROVE, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 16, 1929, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

*ARTHUR H. MARTIN ... Treble	*CLIFFORD SKIDMORE ... 6
ROBERT MATTHEWS ... 2	*HAROLD V. COOPER ... 7
*MISS AMY JOHNSON ... 3	HARRY PRICE ... 8
WILLIAM SHORT ... 4	*THOMAS HEMMING ... 9
*WILLIAM H. COOPER ... 5	*ALFRED HACKETT ... Tenor

Composed by N. J. PIRSTOW.

Conducted by R. MATTHEWS.

* First peal of Bob Royal.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 16, 1929, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTON, STEPNEY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 6043 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

ARTHUR CUTMORE ... Treble	WILLIAM G. WHITEHEAD ... 6
MAJOR J. H. B. HESSE ... 2	ERNEST BRETT ... 7
THOMAS LANGDON ... 3	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT ... 8
HERBERT LANGDON ... 4	JAMES BULLOCK ... 9
JOHN T. KENTISH ... 5	JOSEPH S. HAWKINS ... Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by H. LANGDON

Rung with the clappers half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Lord Phillimore, the Rector's father.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, March 11, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate,

A PEAL OF PUDSEY SURPRISE MAJOR, 6056 CHANCES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

*ERNEST BRETT Treble	WILLIAM R. MADGWICK ... 5
CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 2	GEORGE H. CROSS ... 6
RONALD H. BULLEN ... 3	JAMES E. DAVIS ... 7
JOHN T. KENTISH ... 4	*EDWARD P. DUFFIELD ... Tenor

Composed by G. H. Cross. Conducted by C. W. Roberts.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor. Rung as a birthday compliment to J. T. Kentish.

KIRBY-LE-SOKEN, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, March 13, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

*PERCY ALMOND Treble	GEORGE ANDREWS ... 5
WILLIAM J. NEVARD ... 2	*EDWARD E. DAVEY ... 6
*CHARLES H. ANDREWS ... 3	GEORGE GREEN ... 7
*JOSEPH BOWELL ... 4	*MORRIS J. LING ... Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE GREEN.

* First peal of Grandsire. Messrs. Almond and Nevard are from Great Bentley, Andrews (2) from Thorington, Bowell from Bromley, and Green from Great Baddow. M. J. Ling belongs to the local band.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, March 15, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Paulinus,

A PEAL OF HERWARD BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. ... Treble	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 5
JOHN H. CHEESMAN ... 2	RONALD H. BULLEN ... 6
MISS FREDA ORR ... 3	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. 7
FREDRICK M. MITCHELL ... 4	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by E. BARNETT, SEN.

First peal in the method by all the band and by the association. The method is No. 13 in Central Council Collection of Plain Methods.

NORTHFLEET, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 16, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Botolph,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 6056 CHANCES;

Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

GEORGE H. DAYNES ... Treble	JOHN H. CHEESMAN ... 5
FREDERICK WHITE ... 2	FREDERICK J. CULLUM, JUN. 6
EDWIN F. PIKE ... 3	HERBERT E. AINSLEY ... 7
*HERBERT A. HOLDEN ... 4	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. Tenor

Composed by GEO. H. CROSS. Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN

* First peal of Superlative, also first peal in the method on the bells. Rung as a birthday compliment to ringer of the 6th.

BEBINGTON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(WIRRAL BRANCH)

On Saturday, March 16, 1929, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANCES;

Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 15 lb. in A flat.

*MISS GWEN F. STORER ... Treble	THOMAS ROGERS ... 5
†JOHN GORST ... 2	JOHN COOKE ... 6
G. RONALD EDWARDS ... 3	JOHN BREESE ... 7
WALTER J. BATTLE ... 4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON ... Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by J. C. E. SIMPSON.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal of Major. ‡ First peal in the method.

BEDWELLY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 16, 1929, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

At the Church of St. Sannans,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

*GLYN WILLIAMS Treble	PERCY JONES ... 5
WILFRED WILLIAMS ... 2	GEORGE POPNELL ... 6
JOHN PHILLIPS ... 3	JOHN W. JONES ... 7
HAROLD C. CASSEL ... 4	*TIMOTHY POPNELL ... Tenor

Composed by H. W. TAYLOR. Conducted by GEORGE POPNELL.

* First peal of Triples.

BOLVENDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND ROMNEY MARSH AND
DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, March 16, 1929, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANCES;

PISTOW'S VARIATION.

Tenor 16 cwt.

ROBERT EDWARDS Treble	ARCHIBALD KAY ... 5
CHARLES TRIBE ... 2	CHARLES FRANKLIN ... 6
CHARLES W. PLAYER ... 3	HARRY PARKES ... 7
KENNETH PATTENDEN ... 4	ALFRED J. BATTIN ... Tenor

Conducted by HARRY PARKES.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor and the ringer of the 4th.

DEANE, BOLTON.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 16, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr. in G.

ERNEST CUTSFORTH Treble	*LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS ... 5
EDWARD JENKINS ... 2	PETER LAFLIN ... 6
GEORGE R. NEWTON ... 3	TITUS BARLOW ... 7
ALLAN F. BAILEY ... 4	THOMAS B. WORSLEY ... Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by EDWARD JENKINS.

* First touch of Cambridge. First peal of Cambridge on the bells.

BRIGHTLING, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 16, 1929, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

At the Church of St. Thomas-a-Becket,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANCES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

WILFRED BOOTH Treble	ERNEST J. LADD ... 5
GEORGE KING ... 2	THOMAS HOAD ... 6
PHILIP S. THOMPSON ... 3	ALBERT E. EDWARDS ... 7
ALBERT HOEDEN ... 4	FREDERICK J. LAMBERT, JUN. Tenor

Composed by J. E. BURTON. Conducted by F. J. LAMBERT, JUN.

First peal of Major as conductor. Rung as a birthday compliment to Miss Patricia Lambert.

BURNLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 16, 1929, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANCES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

JOHN BOOTH Treble	JAMES W. GROUNDS ... 5
HAROLD HAMER ... 2	HERBERT DAVENPORT ... 6
WALTER STAFF ... 3	*JOHN H. C. MASSEY ... 7
JAMES INGHAM ... 4	WILLIAM HORAN ... Tenor

Composed by FRED ROBINSON. Conducted by WILLIAM HORAN.

* First peal in the method.

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SIX BELL PEALS.

TIMSBURY, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 12, 1929, in Two Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of ten six-scores of Old Doubles, ten of Bob Doubles and 22 of Grandsire Doubles. Tenor 12 cwt.

WILLIAM YOUNG Treble	JOHN FEAR 4
GILBERT HASSELL 2	R. THOMAS CLARK 5
WILFRED YOUNG 3	FREDERICK BROWN Tenor

Conducted by R. T. CLARK.

First peal in three methods by all the band. Rung as a birthday compliment to George Thomas Bevir, one of the local ringers. At the conclusion of the peal the ringers were entertained to supper by Dr. and Mrs. Bevir, whose hospitality was greatly appreciated.

LOWICK, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 16, 1929, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's of Kent, two of Oxford Bob, and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 14 cwt.

*ERNEST E. WHITMORE ... Treble	GEORGE JEFFES 4
*WILLIAM J. WHITMORE ... 2	AMOS SMART 5
CYRIL WILSON 3	†FRANK KIRK Tenor

Conducted by AMOS SMART.

* First peal and first attempt. † 80th peal.

OVER, CAMBS.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(THE OVER SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, March 16, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven variations of 720's. Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qr.

*DENNIS ADAMS Treble	FRANCIS G. GLEAVES ... 4
†WILLIAM BAVIN 2	†ARTHUR J. GINN 5
†A. WILLIAM T. GINN ... 3	FRANK WARRINGTON ... Tenor

Conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.

* First peal, and aged 16. † First peal in the method. Rung with muffled clappers in memory of John Thoday, a much-respected churchwarden and past ringer, and William Warrington, father of the tenor man. Mr. Thoday was interred on the above date, the latter on February 9th. Dennis Adams kindly took a rope at the last minute.

MISTLEY, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 16, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven true and complete 720's. Tenor 12½ cwt.

GEORGE W. MOSS Treble	WILLIAM J. NEVARD ... 4
*CHARLES HONEYWOOD ... 2	WILLIAM KERBLE 5
STANLEY MOSS 3	WALTER HONEYWOOD ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM KERBLE.

* First Surprise peal. First Surprise and quickest peal on the bells.

HUISH CHAMPFLOWER, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 16, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt. 8 lb.

*HARRY PURCHASE Treble	JESSE TOUT 4
*ALBERT TURNER 2	ALBERT TOUT 5
†CHARLES QUICK 3	WALTER JOHN SMITH ... Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT TOUT.

* First attempt. † First peal. Ringers of 1st, 2nd and 3rd are from Chipstaple, 5th from Milverton.

SHENFIELD, ESSEX.—On Thursday, February 28th, 720 Double Court Bob Minor in 21 mins.: W. H. Poole 1, J. C. Furlong 2, G. Miles 3, J. W. Leggett 4, H. Turner (conductor) 5, W. D. Leggett 6. First 720 by the ringers of 1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A SIX-BELL MEETING.

The North and East District meeting of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild, held at St. Ann's Church, Stamford Hill, on Saturday last, attracted some thirty members, who thoroughly enjoyed their afternoon's ringing on the pretty peal of six bells. These bells were cast at the Whitechapel Foundry in 1865, and were recently quarter-turned, reclappered and rehung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, with excellent results. The tone of the bells is greatly improved, and during the afternoon and evening of the meeting were rung to as many methods as have been rung on them during their whole previous existence.

The Vicar (Rev. A. T. Morgan) gave an interesting address at the service, speaking about the various uses of bells, and how they affected our daily lives. The school bells, when we were young, bid us come to receive education, without which it would be impossible to progress; later, the factory bell called us to the work, without which life would be useless indeed. Empty is the life of those who go through it without finding it necessary to do useful work. Next the fire bell warned us of danger, and the church bell called us to worship. So all through our lives bells had their uses in many ways.

After tea, which was served in the Church Hall, the usual business meeting was held. The Vicar took the chair and was supported by Mr. W. Pickworth (vice-president), Mr. N. A. Tomlinson (Master), and Mr. C. T. Coles (hon. secretary). Included in the company was Mr. H. A. Barnett (Tottenham), who has recently celebrated his golden wedding, and whom everybody was especially glad to see.

Ten new members were elected. St. James', Clerkenwell, was chosen for the next meeting of the district on May 4th, when, the hon. secretary mentioned, the recast peal of eight would be opened. He hoped members would note this date, as it was especially desired to get a good meeting. The Vicar had been good enough to invite members to tea.

Notice was given of the annual general meeting, which is to be held at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, on April 6th.

The business over, Mr. W. Pickworth moved a vote of thanks to the Vicar for his address, and for permitting the meeting to be held; also to Mr. Ringrose and the ladies who had prepared tea. This was seconded by Mr. C. H. Ross and carried unanimously.—Mr. Ringrose briefly acknowledged the thanks of the members, and the meeting terminated.

Another visit was then paid to the tower, and many methods rung, including Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, St. Clement's Bob, Double Court, Double Oxford and Cambridge and London Surprise Minor.

SOUTH AND WEST DISTRICT.

After 20-odd years the South and West District held a Saturday afternoon meeting at Christ Church, Ealing, on March 8th, by permission of the Rev. Prebendary King (Vicar). Ringing commenced shortly after 3 p.m., the Ringing Master, Mr. E. Goodfellow, being in charge. A short service from the Ringers' Service Manual was conducted by the Vicar, who in his address gave the association a hearty welcome. Tea was served in the schoolroom, where about thirty assembled, presided over by the vice-president, Mr. C. S. Bird, and supported by Mr. J. A. Trollope (hon. treasurer), the Ringing Master and others. One ringing member was elected, and votes of thanks were accorded the Vicar, organist, hostess and assistants. Last, but not least, votes of thanks were also accorded to Messrs. W. G. Wilson and H. Burton for their invaluable services in arranging the meeting and tea, and the successful social and dance that followed in the Church Hall in aid of the Isleworth Bell Fund. Ringing ceased at 7.20 p.m., and dancing started at 7.30, the 'Double U' dance band being engaged for the occasion.

Some fine selections were rendered on handbells at intervals by Mr. J. R. Mackman and his son Howard, who were heartily applauded for their performances. Mr. H. Burton made and presented to the fund a beautiful cake, which realised 15s. There was also a mystery box, the lucky winner being Mrs. J. H. Hunnisett.

The hon. secretary, on behalf of the fund, thanked the company for their support, also Mr. Mackman and his son for entertaining them with their handbells, and Mr. Harry Burton for his generous gift, and for his services as M.C. The amount realised for the fund was £8 2s. 1d., and the total to date is £132 10s. 7d., plus ten pounds promised.

MANCHESTER RECORD.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In answer to the letter re Manchester record by W. Brown, published in 'The Ringing World' of the 8th inst., the ring of bells at the Manchester Cathedral were made into a peal of ten bells in the year 1825. Therefore a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal could have been rung in 1830, as stated in the 'Manchester Guardian' of January 24th.

The print does seem rather bad, but put it under a powerful glass and you can see the year 1825 all right.—Yours faithfully,

A. RIVARD.

NORFOLK GUILD'S PROPOSED REORGANISATION.

A PLEBISCITE TAKEN.

At the annual meeting of the Norfolk Guild at Norwich on Easter Monday a decision will be taken on the question of reorganising the area of the Guild for administrative purposes. In the meantime, in order to ascertain the feeling of members, a plebiscite is being taken, and the following memorandum has been sent out by the president (the Ven. G. M. MacDermott) and the secretary (Mr. Arthur L. Coleman):—

'Doubtless all members are aware of the proposal for the reorganisation of our Guild. This proposal has been considered at all our general meetings in 1928; the reform suggested is to group the eleven existing districts into three large districts, corresponding to the areas of three archdeaconries of the diocese.

'Each of these districts to have a committee consisting of chairman, secretary, and three or more elected members to work the necessary local business and to arrange meetings, etc.; the officers and committee to be elected at an annual meeting of each district.

'It is hoped thereby to secure more active co-operation of our members in the country districts and to strengthen the work of the Guild.

'At the various meetings held during the year it was thought inadvisable to come to a decision until individual members had been offered an opportunity of expressing an opinion.

'At a special general meeting held at King's Lynn on October 29th, 1928, the committee was accordingly instructed to issue a circular letter with questions attached for members to answer.'

THE QUESTIONNAIRE.

The questions upon which the members have been asked to say 'Yes' or 'No' are:—

- (1) Are you in favour of having three large districts instead of the present eleven small districts?
- (2) Do you approve of these districts covering the areas of the archdeaconries of the diocese? The incumbent of your parish will tell you the name of your archdeaconry. The Aylsham, Great Yarmouth, and Norwich districts are in the Norwich Archdeaconry; Dereham, Diss, Louth, and Redenhall and Wymondham districts are in the Norfolk Archdeaconry; Fakenham, King's Lynn and Thetford are in the King's Lynn Archdeaconry.
- (3) And should the new districts be called: (a) The Norwich Archdeaconry? (b) The Norfolk Archdeaconry? (c) The King's Lynn Archdeaconry?
- (4) Do you consider a committee consisting of chairman, secretary, and three or more elected members can be got together for carrying out the work of your own new district as proposed?
- (5) Are you in favour of changing the title to: (a) The Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers (the original title of the Guild)? or (b) The present title of the Guild to remain, viz., The Norfolk Guild of Ringers, for the Diocese of Norwich?

It is pointed out in connection with (5) that in the event of the suggested reorganisation coming to pass, the Bishop of the diocese thinks the title should be 'Norwich Diocesan' rather than 'Norfolk,' it being a diocesan society, and the members office holders in the church. It should be noted that 'Norfolk' does not express the true area of the Guild, part of West Norfolk being in the diocese of Ely, and part of East Suffolk being in the diocese of Norwich, hence the title 'The Norwich Diocesan Association of Ringers' is the correct expression to denote the area covered by the Guild. Of course, the title could remain as at present, but, if so, the whole title, 'The Norfolk Guild of Ringers for the Diocese of Norwich,' might be printed in the same type.

UNPAID SUBSCRIPTIONS.

The annual report of the Guild, which has just been issued, after alluding to the activities of the past year, records the death of ten members, amongst whom were two original members of the Guild, viz., Mr. Robert Whiting, of Pulham Market, and Mr. Frederick Knights, of Norwich.

'Twenty-one members,' adds the report, 'have lapsed during the year, but we are glad to report that 29 new members have been elected and six re-elections of our members, the grand total of members being 806 against 801 in 1927.

'We would like to call the attention of members to one item in the balance sheet, and to remind them that the petty cash account for £4 18s. 3d. is unpaid and due to our secretary and treasurer. The secretary's appeal to some of the district secretaries and collectors for unpaid subscriptions to be remitted before the end of the year in the result was disappointing, inasmuch as a larger amount than usual, viz., £6 3s., is outstanding for the year ending December 31st, 1928, thus resulting in a deficit of £4 8s. 10d. instead of a credit balance of £1 14s. 2d. in hand.

'There has been a tendency of recent years, on the part of those responsible, in deferring the collection of subscriptions until well toward the end of the year, but as such method often leads to two years' subscriptions becoming due together, and means sometimes the loss of a year's subscription due to the Guild, we would remind all members that "all subscriptions shall be payable in advance and become due on January 1st in each year."

(Continued in next column.)

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

NORTH BUCKS BRANCH.

The quarterly meeting of the above branch was held at Sympson on Saturday, March 16th, when about thirty members attended, representing the following towers: Bletchley, Bradwell, Beachampton, Penny Stratford, Great Brickhill, Milton Keynes, Newport Pagnell, Stony Stratford, Shenley, Whaddon, and the local ringers. Bells were ringing from 2.30 p.m. until service time. Unfortunately, owing to illness, the Vicar of Sympson (Rev. J. T. Lawson) was unable to be present. The Rev. D. R. James, of Great Brickhill, officiated in his absence. This was the first occasion on which a meeting had been held at Sympson, and it was quite a successful one. Tea had been prepared at the Plough Inn, where lots of good things had been provided.

After tea the chairman of the branch (the Rev. L. Moxon) had to apologise for having to leave early owing to other important business.

The Secretary appealed to all to attend the annual festival of the branch at Shenley in June.

Several matters were discussed, and Mr. W. Sear proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to the Rev. D. J. James for coming at short notice to officiate, also to the Rev. J. T. Lawson for arranging the meeting, regret being expressed that he was unable to attend. This brought a very pleasant afternoon to a close. Ringing during the day ranged from Grandsire and Stedman Doubles to Cambridge and London Minor.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The Northern District of the Essex Association held a meeting at South Hackney on Saturday, and, despite a rather poor start, some good ringing was achieved. At 5 p.m. a service was held in the church, conducted by the Rector of South Hackney, and then an adjournment was made to St. Andrew's Hall, in Well Street, where, under the supervision of Mr. Briggs, a bountiful tea awaited the members. The business meeting was afterwards held. No new members were forthcoming. Whitechapel was chosen for the next meeting, to take place on the third Saturday in May.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the incumbent for the use of his bells, and to Messrs. Riley and Briggs for having all in readiness in the tower, also to Mr. Free, the organist. The young ladies who helped at the tea were not forgotten.

After this the tower was again visited, and further ringing indulged in until 9 p.m., Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob, Treble Bob and Double Norwich being rung. Although the attendance was not as good as it might have been, it is believed that all present enjoyed themselves.

MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT'S 150 PEALS.

	Rung.	Conducted.
Cambridge Surprise Minor	1	1
London Surprise Minor	1	1
Seven Surprise Minor methods	1	—
Grandsire Triples	5	4
Erin Triples	1	1
Original Triples	1	1
Stedman Triples	44	8
Bob Major	2	1
Kent Treble Bob Major	12	—
Oxford Treble Bob Major	2	—
Double Norwich Court Bob Major	6	1
Superlative Surprise Major	22	4
Cambridge Surprise Major	10	1
New Cambridge Surprise Major	3	—
Norfolk Surprise Major	1	1
Bristol Surprise Major	10	1
London Surprise Major	7	1
Grandsire Caters	1	—
Erin Caters	1	1
Stedman Caters	6	—
Cambridge Surprise Royal	3	—
Stedman Cinques	6	1
Kent Treble Bob Maximus	1	1
Cambridge Surprise Maximus	3	—
Total	150	29

Rung in 43 towers. Every peal conducted is a different composition.

(Continued from previous column.)

'Fifty peals in twenty different methods were rung during the past twelve months, against 44 peals in 1927. 130 members took part in these peals, which were conducted by 18 members. In conclusion, we have to thank Mr. G. P. Burton for auditing the Guild accounts for the 22nd time, and all other officers for their services during the past year.'

The balance sheet shows in the current account subscriptions amounting to £33 2s.; other receipts £2 8s. 6d. The expenditure was £40 1s. 11d. The outstanding subscriptions amount to £6 3s. The Guild has a reserve fund of £131 5s.

PEALS OF MINOR AND DOUBLES. TESTS OF A DEFINITION.

To the Editor.

Sir,—On March 1st, the official minutes of the last Council meeting at Hereford were printed. The definition of a peal of Minor is as follows: 'On six bells: That peals of Minor consist of at least seven true and complete 720's, rung without interval and without "rounds" or any other row being included more than once in any 720, etc.'

Now, 'Minormania' has complained that I very often fail to make my point plain, and I must plead guilty to having made two statements about this rule without making them plain.

(1) I have stated that we must ring seven different 720's. Does the word 'seven' mean seven different 720's, or can it mean the same 720 rung seven times?

Test the two statements thus: Does seven changes of Bob Major mean the same as one change of Bob Major six times repeated?

12345678	12345678
21436587	21436587
24163857	12345678
Etc.	Etc.

Obviously they mean two different things, and seven 720's therefore mean seven different 720's.

(2) Seven true and complete 720's. Does this mean that each 720 must be completed before another is begun, or, given seven true and complete 720's, may we mix them?

Test this as follows: A peal of Grandsire Triples must consist of 72 true and complete plain courses. Does this mean that each plain course must be completed before the next is begun, or may we mix them?

If my brother's peal of Cambridge Minor does not contain seven true and complete 720's, and if my peal of London Minor does not contain seven true and complete 720's, then Holt's ten-part of Grandsire Triples does not contain a single plain course of Grandsire Triples.

I believe that I have now covered all the ground. If, however, I have failed to make any point clear I am open to answer questions as far as possible.

H. LAW JAMES.

FOR THOSE WHO HAVE MISSED THE POINT.

Sir,—Most of your correspondents seem to appreciate my purpose in publishing the incomplete peal of Grandsire Triples. For those, however, who have missed the point, perhaps I may explain that I had two objects in view.

First, I wished to make it clear that no group of 720 rows of one of Rev. E. B. James' 2,160's of Cambridge Minor is true and complete in itself. Let me guard myself here by adding that this does not imply, as many people suppose, that it is therefore false.

In the second place I hoped by means of the example to reveal to some readers at least that there is all the difference in the world between rows and changes. It is natural for those who have not gone below the surface to assume that 'rows' and 'changes' are only two ways of expressing the same idea. Yet this is not so. Everyone is aware that there are but 5,040 different orders in which seven figures can be arranged, and you would naturally imagine that if you ring all these without repetition you have accomplished a true peal. My example of Grandsire Triples proves that this is not necessarily the case. In actual ringing we are concerned with changes and not rows. Thus in a 720 there must be 720 true changes, and any such resolution as that of which Messrs. Whittington and Pulling have given notice is altogether beside the point.

There is another point on which I should like to make a few observations. There has been a great deal of harping on truth and falseness, and this again is a matter on which there is need of clear thinking. Really it amounts to this. Is a peal of 5,040 changes of Bob Minor to be regarded as a whole or is it seven independent touches of 720 each? No doubt everyone will reply 'The former,' for we are all agreed that if a band sets out to ring a 7,200 of Bob Minor and breaks down in the eighth or a subsequent 720 it cannot claim to have rung a 5,040. But in effect a considerable number of your correspondents have adopted the latter interpretation. We all know that you can call the Single in Burton's 5,056 of Bob Major at the first Wrong and ring the second half of the peal before the first half. And the result is just as true as in the form in which the composition appears in the Central County Collection.

If a 5,040 of Bob Minor consists of seven parts of a single whole, there is equally no reason (so far as the truth of the composition is concerned) why you should not alter the grouping of the parts by splicing or other device. Thus, when we are told we must not sacrifice truth, some of us are left cold.

Of course this does not imply that all such arrangements are of equal value, or that there may not be some which it would be much better not to ring.

At the present time the volcano of six-bell composition is in full eruption. Much of what is being thrown up will doubtless prove to be mud on examination, but until it is given time to solidify it is

(Continued in next column.)

PRESENTATIONS TO NORTH WALES RINGER.

MR. A. J. HUGHES' DEPARTURE TO YORKSHIRE.

Mr. Albert J. Hughes, of Rhyl, who has recently been promoted to a position at Bradford, after a sojourn of some years in North Wales, has been the recipient of a number of parting gifts by old friends and colleagues.

The ringers of St. Thomas', Rhyl, gave him a beautiful walking stick suitably inscribed, and to his son, Mr. Albert H. Hughes, they presented a silver bell chain pendant with inscription. These presentations were made by Mr. Charles Egerton and Mr. Ben Collis respectively.

Mr. Hughes, who was district foreman in the engineering department of the L.M.S. Railway at Rhyl, received a handsome Jacobean oak bookcase from the supervisors in the Chester and Holyhead district, and his staff presented Mr. and Mrs. Hughes with an umbrella each. These gifts were handed to Mr. Hughes at a gathering of railway men, when Mr. Tudor Williams, the secretary and one of the organisers of the movement, referred to his long association with Mr. Hughes, whom he had known all his lifetime. They were members of the Railway Institute Boys' Brigade at Bangor together, Mr. Hughes serving as an officer and Mr. Williams as the instructor. Again during the Great War they had met in trying circumstances, but their friendship was a source of mutual cheer. After the war Mr. Hughes was sent from Bangor to take charge of the Rhyl Station alterations and the Prestatyn extension, when they again met. They worked harmoniously together for ten years, when Mr. Williams was transferred to the Denbigh district, and he to Low Moor, near Bradford. Mr. Hughes had a sympathetic feeling towards all who were ill or suffering in any way.

Mr. Tomlinson, who presided over the gathering, then asked Mr. Mathews, stationmaster of Rhyl, to hand over the valuable gift. Mr. Mathews, in doing so, said he was grieved to lose a friend and a neighbour. Mr. Hughes had always been very willing and most efficient in every service he undertook.

Mr. Hughes, in replying, thanked the promoters and subscribers for the fine gift, and dwelt on the comradeship which had always characterised their relations as railway workers, and on the encouragement received from those in authority on the North Wales district of the L.M.S.

After the presentation at the station the party went to the Bee Hotel, where a convivial gathering took place. Refreshments were kindly given by the host and hostess, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur. Here Mr. Hughes had a 'surprise packet,' when Mr. Sibley, on behalf of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur, presented him with a pipe in case as a souvenir of good fellowship and a token of good wishes.

Mr. Hughes has taken up his residence at Low Moor, Bradford, and will thus lose his position as the representative of the North Wales Association on the Central Council. He has already been warmly welcomed into Yorkshire ringing circles.

All Correspondence intended for this Journal
should in future be addressed to—

The Editor,
'The Ringing World,'
WOKING, SURREY.

(Continued from previous column.)

premature to declare that this or that will not turn out to be solid rock. Instead of the craze that has smitten certain members of the Exercise to condemn wholesale, would it not be better to await the acid test of experience? It is very noticeable that those who are most ready with clear-cut solutions are in nearly every case eight-bell ringers with small knowledge of six-bell problems.—Yours faithfully,
E. S. POWELL.

'BROUGHT ROUND?'

Dear Sir,—It was a pleasure to read the Rev. H. Law James' letter in your issue of March 15th until, speaking of the three leads of Bob Singles he had produced, he said, 'Each of these can be rung by itself and brought round.' No plain ringer will admit there is any legitimate method of ringing the second lead of Bob Singles before the first lead has been rung, let alone ringing it by itself and bringing it round. Repetition is one thing, but changes can be 'brought round' only at the occurrence of a round—123, etc.

I write in this way because it is usual for Mr. James in his arguments to start off well and blunder past the bounds of reason before he ends.

I read the second half of his letter several times, and ultimately congratulated myself upon unravelling exactly what was in the writer's mind. The letter was written for the benefit of the junior members of the Exercise, and in case the latter ladies and gentlemen did not measure it, the last sentence occupied over seven lines of small print. With apologies for a little aberration, I remain, yours faithfully,

Norwich.

J. F. DUFFIELD.

A LINK WITH JASPER SNOWDON.**DEATH OF MR. ARTHUR CRITCHLEY.**

Another link with the days of Jasper Snowdon and those who founded the Yorkshire Association has been broken by the death, which occurred, on the 9th inst., of Mr. Arthur Critchley, of Ilkley, who was 73 years of age. The deceased joined the Yorkshire Association in the year of its commencement in 1875, and although he had rung only two peals he remained a member until his death. Mr. Critchley was a member of a family which had a long association with Ilkley. His grandfather was a warden of the Ilkley Parish Church, and his father, Mr. T. J. Critchley, was for many years a member of the old Ilkley Local Board.

Mr. Arthur Critchley, who was the eldest son of the family, was educated at the High School, Ilkley, and the Spofforth Academy. He was perhaps best known in Wharfedale as an expert angler. His father was for many years hon. secretary of the old Burnsall Angling Club, and Mr. Arthur Critchley was a member of this club, and was amongst the earliest members of the Ilkley Angling Club, with which he was closely associated throughout its long history. He was one of the cleverest makers of flies in the valley and many young anglers came to him to gain the benefit of his expert advice and skill.

He was a lover of music, a violinist and a vocalist of considerable ability, and in his younger days was a member of the Ilkley Vocal Society and of the Ilkley Parish Church Choir. At one time he was a playing member of the Ilkley Cricket Club.

The funeral took place at the Ilkley Cemetery on Tuesday, March 12th, following a service conducted by Canon C. J. Hamer, Vicar, at the Parish Church.

On Sunday, with the bells half-muffled, the Ilkley ringers rang 504 Stedman Triples.

PEALS OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—In your issue of March 15th there are two peals of Cambridge Surprise Major 'by T. B. Worsley,' quite a capable composer. But, sir, in the second peal at any rate, I contend that four courses are Mr. Worsley's, and the other nineteen belong to Middleton and Johnson. Why not, then, 'Worsley's Variation'?—Yours faithfully,

J. F. DUFFIELD.

Norwich.

MARVELS OF THE EXERCISE.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I noted your remarks in 'The Ringing World' re Mr. James George, who, no doubt, is a marvel for his age, but in the peal rung at Ipswich is a man whom I consider a far greater marvel. Mr. Robert Brundle is 78 years old, and has rung quite a lot of peals of Surprise Maximus recently.—Yours faithfully,

ERNEST F. POPPY.

RINGER'S GOLDEN WEDDING.

The many friends of Mr. H. A. Barnett, of All Hallows', Tottenham, will be interested to learn that the golden anniversary of his wedding fell on March 9th. After an association of over 50 years with the belfry, Mr. Barnett is still one of the most valued of the ringers—one of those whose steadiness and reliability go so far to ensure 'coming into rounds' at the proper time. The ringers presented Mr. and Mrs. Barnett with a clock as a mark of their esteem.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.

A very successful meeting of the Eastern District of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association was held at Gateshead on Saturday, March 9th. The bells of St. Mary's were set going to Stedman Triples, Kent Treble Bob Major, and Double Norwich, and, later, 21 sat down to an excellent tea in the Anchorage, adjoining the church, those present including the president, Mr. E. E. Ferry, Rev. Canon Stephenson, Rev. Welch, and ringers from Houghton, West Hartlepool, Durham, Newcastle, Sunderland and the local belfry.

The treasurer, Mr. G. S. Taylor, proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and Mr. R. Parkinson thanked the ladies for waiting on the party at the tables.

During the meeting Messrs. Ferry, Story, Davidson and Robson entertained the company with some excellently struck Grandsire Triples on the handbells.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Durham City on Saturday, May 4th.

MUFFLED BELLS.

On Tuesday, March 12th, at St. Nicholas' Church, Liverpool, 1,248 Cambridge Surprise Major on the back eight (tenor 39½ cwt.) in 55 mins.: W. Fisher 1, J. Breese 2, L. L. Gray 3, T. Hammond 4, G. R. Newton 5, J. Cooke 6, E. Caunce 7, J. C. E. Simpson (conductor) 8. This was rung half-muffled, after meeting short for a peal attempt, as a last token of respect to the late Rev. G. A. Studdert-Kennedy ('Woodbine Willie').

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

As Good Friday comes in next week, 'The Ringing World' will be published one day earlier. All communications for that issue should reach us as early as possible, and in no case later than Monday next.

The meeting of the Chesterfield District of the Midland Counties Association at Bolsover to-morrow has been cancelled, owing to illness near the church.

Many of the visitors to Bristol for the last dinner of the United Guilds will remember the Chilcompton bus. We are credibly informed that this vehicle has now done 43,500 miles, and that it has never yet been washed.

Mr. E. F. Poppy, of Eye, writes that it would be interesting to know how many ringers there are who have rung a hundred peals on the bells at their own church. There must be quite a number who have done this.

The peal of six (tenor 19½ cwt.) at Winslow, Bucks, restored by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, will be rededicated at 11.15 a.m. on Easter Day. There will be ringing at noon, when visitors will be welcomed.

On this day in the year 1734 a peal of 6,876 Grandsire Caters was rung at New College, Oxford. An old chronicler records that 'twas a glorious performance, for tho' there were two very great blunders and some other bad ringing, yet, considering the great length of the peal, it was admirable ringing, such as can hardly be mended, unless it be by the Londoners, it being a thing, as it were, next to impossible to go through such a long, tedious work without faults.

This record of the peal is interesting, in that it gives the vocations of the ringers, who were:—

1. Hearn, the Taylor.
2. Mr. Vickers, second Butler of New College.
3. Mr. George, the Taylor.
4. Mr. Guy Terry, the Potash Maker in St. Clement's.
5. Mr. Yates, second Cook of Magdalen College.
6. Mr. John Broughton, Barber.
7. Mr. Richard Smith, Glover.
8. Mr. Barnes, second Cook of Christ Church.
9. Mr. Arthur Lloyd, of Holywell, Carpenter and Bell Hanger.
10. Mr. Nicholas Benwell, who shows Great Tom.

On March 27th, 1815, a peal of 10,008 Grandsire Caters was rung on the same bells.

A peal of 7,104 Treble Bob Maximus was rung at Southwark on March 22nd, 1802, by the Royal Cumberland Youths.

On March 23rd, 1783, a peal of 5,020 Old Double Caters, 'being the first peal ever rung in that method,' was achieved by the College Youths at Fulham. It would be interesting to know exactly what 'Old Double Caters' is.

James Barham called the first peal of Reverse Bob Major at Harrietsham, Kent, on March 23rd, 1751.

Elijah Roberts' great performance of 'tapping' 19,440 changes on handbells took place on March 23rd, 1837.

A peal of 5,160 'Double Twelve In' was rung at St. Bride's, Fleet Street, by the College Youths, on March 24th, 1784, and two days later they rang 6,048 'Real Double Twelve In' at St. Saviour's, Southwark.

The climax to the rivalry which extended over many years between the College Youths and the Cumberlands, for the longest length of Treble Bob Royal, was reached on March 27th, 1784, when the Cumberland Society scored the famous 12,000 at Shoreditch in 9 hrs. 5 mins., a record which was unbroken for over a hundred years.

Another method, which from its old name we do not recognise today, was rung for the first time on March 28th, 1750. It was 5,040 'New Double Tripples, being the only peal that was ever completed in that method,' and was rung by the Cumberlands at Shoreditch.

BROADCAST OF ST. MARTIN'S BELLS, BIRMINGHAM.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Will those ringers in various parts of the country who listened to the ten minutes' broadcast ringing from St. Martin's Church, Birmingham, 7.50 to 8 p.m. on Sunday last, kindly forward to the undersigned their opinion as to how the twelve bells came through, as the B.B.C. officials here are very anxious to know if the microphone as placed for this broadcast is now in the right position for 'radioing' St. Martin's new peal.—Yours faithfully,

81, Baker Street, Sparkhill, Birmingham. **ALBERT WALKER.**

THE FIRST PEAL IN WALES.

After all, the peal of Grandsire Caters at Wrexham in 1803 was not the first peal in Wales. A peal was rung at St. Giles Parish Church there on March 26th, 1729, exactly two hundred years ago next Tuesday.

Mr. Thomas Cathrall writes from Wrexham as follows:—

'In your issue of March 1st the claim of the College Youths to the first peal in Wales is disproved by Mr. Jas. E. Groves, and he refers to a peal of Grandsire Caters rung here on July 27th, 1803. We have no records of this peal in our possession, but there is a board in this tower recording a peal of Grandsire Triples, 5,040 changes, rung on March 26th, 1729, by a local band.'

TRAGIC DEATH OF MR. JOSEPH E. SYKES.

'GASSED' AT COPENHAGEN.

The death has occurred at Copenhagen, Denmark, under tragic circumstances, of Mr. Joseph Edwin Sykes, one of the best-known ringers in England. Mr. Sykes, who was the eldest son of Mrs. Sykes and the late Mr. D. F. E. Sykes, a former well-known solicitor, of Ainsley House, Marsden, Yorks, was employed by Messrs. W. O. Holmes and Co., the well-known gas engineers of Huddersfield, and travelled all over the world superintending the erection of gas manufacturing plant. He had been engaged in this work in the Danish capital and was found gassed in a room in the works, with one of the gas cocks turned on. He died without recovering consciousness. The cause of the tragedy is not yet known.

Mr. Sykes had carried out work for his firm in many parts of the world. He had visited most of the countries in Europe, had erected gas plant in distant Manchuria, and in Canada, and in the course of his business had visited almost every corner of the British Isles.

He was an enthusiastic ringer, and wherever he pitched his tent would hunt up the ringers in all the towers around. His sole 'relaxation' was found in ringing, and he was never happier than when on the rope of a heavy bell. Tall and muscular, he was well fitted for some of the big tasks he undertook when visiting neglected towers where bells go badly. He was a ready writer, with a sense of humour, and a pungent critic. To large numbers of ringers throughout the country he was known as 'Uncle Joe,' and many contributions in this journal from his pen appeared over the name of 'Samivel Peppery.'

His absence from England often took him away from ringing for long periods, as, for instance, when he was in Manchuria for eighteen months, but he never lost his interest in the art, and returned to activity in the belfry like a giant refreshed. He received 'The Ringing World' in more countries than any other man, and he was a frequent and entertaining correspondent. About six months ago, however, he retired from ringing, for what actual reason he never divulged. The Editor of 'The Ringing World' received a letter which Mr. Sykes described as his 'Swan Song,' and asking to be allowed to retire 'to his chimney corner' without comment.

And thus he slid out of the Exercise, but he left many friends, who will deeply regret his tragic end and sympathise with the bereaved wife and mother who are left to mourn their loss.

BIRMINGHAM'S VETERAN'S DEATH.

FOUNDER OF THE HOLT SOCIETY.

St. Martin's Guild has again, through death, lost another of its old members in William Kent, one of the vice-presidents, who passed away on March 8th. The writer of these few lines has been happy in knowing and ringing with him for 58 years, and can testify as to what manner of man he was.

'Bill,' as his intimates called him, was a St. Martin's Youth, first and last. As a youth he drifted down to St. Martin's, along with Baldwin, Bastable, Avery, Johnson, jun., Buffery, Farmer and others, who were brought up under the eyes of Henry Johnson, sen., Lates, Perks and Day, who taught them how to ring, and they learnt the lesson well. Later on, William Kent took over from young Henry Johnson the towerkeeping of the famous Aston Church, started the Holt Society, and gathered around him a splendid band, of whom the only ones now left are Charlie Stanbridge and the writer. Mr. Kent also used to go on Saturday nights to Sutton Coldfield, as instructor, when the bells were made into eight, and among others who came under his influence were Charles and Fred Dickens. He was a good conductor, but never avaricious, and anyone who was capable could call.

As a composer he was of no mean ability. He had some splendid short course peals of Grandsire Caters. As a ringer, in his day none were better. He was a good handbell ringer, and took part in the first peal of Grandsire Triples 'in hand' in Birmingham, along with Bastable, Avery and Johnson, jun., with Day and Johnson, sen., as referees. He also rang 3-4 in the first peal of Stedman Cinques and the long peal of Grandsire Cinques at St. Martin's. I do not know at the moment how many peals he had rung, but it must have been a good number, and so one could go on. But of the man himself I should like to say a few words. Of a quiet, unassuming disposition, he was generous almost to a fault, and was never known to speak harshly to anyone. In the 58 years the writer has known him, there has never been the slightest jar to mar that long friendship, and that was how he had been all through his long life.

And so he was laid to rest on Thursday, March 14th, in Erdington Parish Churchyard (with his wife who had predeceased him by a year or two) in the presence of the sorrowing male members of his family and friends. Included among the wreaths was one from St. Martin's Guild, whose members were represented by Messrs. A. Walker (Deputy Ringing Master), G. Swann, T. Miller, J. George, F. Dickens and A. Paddon Smith. The first four rang a course of Grandsire Triples over the grave, and last Tuesday St. Martin's bells were rung muffled.

And thus we leave him, certain that he has left behind him the beautiful memory of one of Nature's gentlemen.

TOM RUSSAM.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WESTERN DIVISION.

The annual meeting of the Western Division of the Yorkshire Association was held at Pudsey on Saturday last, members from the following towers being present: Bradford, Goiseley, Keighley, Armley, Leeds, Queensbury, Ilkley, Lindley, Headingley, Birstall, Bingley, Lightcliffe, Bramley, Shipley, Idle, Rothwell, Calverley, and the local company. At the service the address was given by the Rev. W. T. Grange, in the absence of the Vicar through illness. Tea was served in the West End Cafe, and the business meeting was held in the Park Hotel, Mr. J. Cotterell (vice-president) being in the chair.

The following officers were re-elected: Mr. H. Peel (Birstall) and Mr. J. Lawson (Lightcliffe) to the committee; and Mr. F. Hutchinson (St. Chad's), secretary. Mr. C. E. Lawson (St. Chad's) was elected on the committee in the place of Mr. E. H. Simpson (Shipley), who expressed a wish to retire owing to his inability to attend meetings.

There were no invitations for the June meeting, and it was proposed to endeavour to arrange one at Marsden.

Votes of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, to the Rev. W. T. Grange for his address, and, to the local company for the arrangements made, were carried unanimously.—Mr. P. Cordingley responded. A vote of thanks to the secretary brought the business meeting to a close. Ringing on tower bells and handbells was afterwards further indulged in.

SOUTHERN DIVISION.

The annual meeting was held at Ranmoor, Sheffield, on Saturday last, when the majority of the towers in the division were represented, about 40 ringers being present from Sheffield Cathedral, St. Marie's, All Saints', Handsworth, Conisborough, Sprothborough, Doncaster, Arksey, Rawmarsh, and Dartfield. A short service was conducted by the Rector (Canon Lee Nicholls), a practical ringing member of the association, and whose address on the various uses of bells was very much appreciated. A splendid tea was provided in the Institute by the local company, and the business meeting was held in the same place.—The Rector was voted to the chair, and opportunity was taken to congratulate him on his appointment as an hon. Canon of Sheffield Cathedral.

Mr. W. Bilson, of Ranmoor, was elected a member of the association. Mr. F. Clark was re-elected as secretary and thanked for his past services. Mr. G. Holmes (St. Marie's), Mr. S. F. Palmer (Cathedral), and Mr. G. Clark (Arksey), were elected to the general committee of the association, and Mr. C. D. Potter, of Barnsley was re-elected to the local committee.

For the annual joint meeting of the societies in the southern area, Whiston, near Rotherham, was selected, the date being fixed for June 22nd.

A committee consisting of Mr. G. Lewis, Mr. S. F. Palmer, Mr. R. Harrison, jun., Mr. G. Holmes, and Mr. M. Wilson, was elected to make the necessary arrangements for the annual dinner of the association which will be held this year in Sheffield on September 21st next, and all present were asked to make this known and help to make the event successful.

Votes of thanks to the chairman, to the ladies for their services at the tea, to the organist, and to the local company for their kind welcome, were heartily carried, and replied to by the Rector, who promised that, at the first opportunity, he would have the bells at his church put into a condition which would make them second to none in the county.

MINOR METHOD NAMES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I wonder what Mr. Trollope would have us read into his letter of March 15th? Are his remarks to be construed into gentle reproach?

Following my letter of enquiry, his passing reference to it means:—

- (1) It is the business of the Methods Committee alone as to why the Central Council motion, in part, has been ignored.
- (2) That Minor ringers must await the new 'Collection' and pay their 1s. 9d. for the privilege of correcting the book for which the Central Council already has charged.

The first, certainly, is not our business, other than that we are interested in the 'rummy' doings of a body which is going to ask us (through our various associations) to contribute our mites toward an affiliation fee of 5s. per member.

The second certainly is our business, if only for the reason that we have paid our 9d. for our 'Collections.' The least that Mr. Trollope (impersonally, please) could have done was to have told us why we are called upon to wait for the names. The new 'Collection' has been put back on account of the 'peal controversy,' otherwise, we are told, it was ready for the printers' hands.—Yours faithfully,

GEORGE L. JOYCE.

St. John's, Leytonstone.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The Annual Meeting of the Council will be held at Chelmsford on Whitsun Tuesday, May 21st, 1929, at 11 a.m. precisely.

Agenda, 1929.

1. Minutes of the last meeting.
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Statement of accounts and of sale of publications.
4. Election of honorary members.
5. Presentation of new members to the President.
6. To receive and discuss the reports of the Standing and other committees.

MOTIONS.

7. That this Council will not recognise as a peal of Minor or Doubles any composition in which the bells do not strike in 720 or 120 different orders respectively, before beginning the next 720 or 120. (Mr. R. Whittington and Mr. A. H. Pulling.)
8. (a) That honorary members pay an affiliation fee of 5s. each per annum. (b) That associations in future pay a fee of 5s. per representative per annum. (Mr. E. W. Elwell and Rev. O. W. O. Jenkyn.)
9. (a) The Council asks each association to appoint a consultant to the Advisory Committee or Committees in its area. (b) The Council asks each association to make every effort to get as many ringers as possible elected to Parochial Church Councils, to Diocesan Committees and to the Church Assembly. (Rev. H. Drake and Mr. Ch. J. Sedgley.)
10. That the rules of the Council be amended in order to provide that the notice and agenda of each annual meeting of the Council be published at least eight weeks, instead of twelve weeks, prior to such meeting. (Mr. J. S. Goldsmith and Mr. C. T. Coles.)
11. That a committee be appointed to consider the best method of dealing with cases of extraordinary sickness amongst members of our affiliated change ringing associations, with power to report to the next annual meeting. (Mr. W. Ayre; seconder not yet given.)
12. To fix the place of next year's meeting.
13. Other business, if any.

(N.B.—The detailed agenda will be published a fortnight before the meeting.)

E. ALEX. YOUNG,

Hon. Secretary.

155, Rushey Green, S.E.6.

To the Editor.

Sir,—With most of your leading article on the subject of the Central Council as reflecting, or failing to reflect, the views of the Exercise at large, I heartily agree. For instance, though I think that a Council elected triennially is much to be preferred in many ways, by all means let us have an annual election if such an arrangement would conduce to greater efficiency. But I think that the wisdom of experience leads the other way. I notice that you make no allusion to one of my (implied) arguments, which is that the Council is founded on the model of the House of Commons, which is usually taken as being at least fairly representative of opinion in the country, and has a life even longer than three years. And just as there are ways for members to consult with their constituents with a view to learning their constituents' views on any particular question, and of either giving effect to those views by their vote, or of resigning if they find themselves in hopeless conflict with them, so, surely, it is with members of the Central Council. If some members think that there is a strong general feeling in favour of diplomas, by all means let the Council postpone its decision for a year, asking each and every association affiliated to it to pass a resolution in the meanwhile stating its view definitely on the subject. The Council must guard itself against hasty decisions, which, after being passed, turn out, when all is said and done, to be nothing more than the crotchets of a few well-meaning but mistaken people.—Yours, etc.,

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

DECISIONS BY DEMOCRATIC METHODS

Sir,—Now that the agenda for the coming meeting of the Central Council is published, may I call the attention of all ringers to item No. 7 on that agenda. May I also be allowed to suggest that all district secretaries should place that item on their own agendas for consideration at any meetings which they may be arranging between now and Whitsuntide, and arrange also to take a vote on the question, 'Yes' or 'No,' and forward the result to the general secretary of their association or Guild, who would thus be in the position to instruct the representatives who are going to Chelmsford of the exact opinion of their members on the question.

There are, of course, subjects which come up for discussion at the Central Council meetings of a nature on which it is certainly impossible to give an intelligent vote, except only after hearing the

full discussion, and on such subjects such a request as I have made above would be silly, and impracticable. On the other hand, on such definite questions as, say, 'Diplomas for young ringers,' of last year, or item No. 7 on the present agenda, I contend, sir, that decisions should be reached by democratic methods, and should certainly reflect the opinion of the members of the affiliated associations. Anyway, here is the chance for the rank and file of ringers to have their say—if they wish to. I hope every district secretary will give them the opportunity to do so.—Yours truly,

ROBERT WHITTINGTON,
Cranleigh (Guildford Diocesan Guild).

The motion referred to above is as follows: 'That this Council will not recognise as a peal of Minor or Doubles any composition in which the bells do not strike in 720 or 120 different orders respectively before beginning the next 720 or 120.'

RULES SHOULD BE REVISED.

Sir,—Your leading article of March 15th stands in many ways as a reply to Rev. C. D. P. Davies. There are one or two additional points, however.

Firstly, during the last eight years (during the first four of which we had one member, and during the latter four three members upon the Central Council) the cost to the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association of its connection with the Central Council has been £19 10s. 1d. (During the last four years the expenses count for two members only, the third respected member not applying for expenses.) This is surely one reason why the associations should have a recognised status.

If the answer to that is to be read in the Central Council rules, it is in words to this effect: 'Associations (according to their numerical strength) elect representatives upon the Council.' Now in the 'English Dictionary' this word means delegate. We know what happened about this word at Hereford, and the least that is indicated is that the rules of the Council should be altered to 'Associations (according to their numerical strength) elect the members of the Council.' This would put matters clearly that an association could send members as members if they choose, and there would be no doubt in the minds of ringers throughout the country that the people whom they sent would be there as free agents, and not mere 'automata' or 'Robots.'

Mr. Davies says in his letter: 'Of course, it goes without saying that the association which sends him to represent them will be exceedingly foolish if they have not taken every care to satisfy themselves before electing him that his views are in general, and in particular, on crucial points in sympathy with their own,' etc.

With regard to this, I would point out a difficult position of the person at Hereford who said, 'I was instructed by my association to vote for diplomas for ringers, although, personally, I am against them.' At this point the president said, 'You are here to vote as a member, and not as a delegate.' I take that as an indication that the association he represents will be foolish if that member is elected again.

Another point is the reference to House of Commons members. We, the electors, are usually inundated with letters from prospective candidates telling us what they are going to do if we put them in, and we have a good idea who not to put in. Not so in Central Council matters. For instance, how few, as members of the Council, will vote against No. 8b on the agenda this year, yet, upon the other hand, would they vote for it if they had the work to find the money? There is much to do in spending associations' monies to provide change ringers by means of local instruction. I have at my hand seven reports of other associations and I fail to find in any of the rules given reference to the Central Council. I have not picked these out; they are all I have.

This shows, therefore, that the rules of associations should be revised upon the question of the central body, but first the Central Council must pave the way by revising its own rules, either by removing the word 'representative' or by adhering to its correct meaning.

Now a few questions: Why did the Council refer an item to the associations?

Why do the associations refuse to give the Council 'powers to enforce'?

The expense of the Central Council each year must be about £100 to the associations throughout England. Is it really worth it? I put it to the Gloucester and Bristol members to settle this matter from their local standpoint.—Yours faithfully,

EDGAR GUISE,

Central Council member,

and Hon. Sec., Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

HONORARY MEMBERS' SUBSCRIPTIONS

Dear Sir,—The agenda which is published in this week's 'Ringing World' contains a resolution, in the name of the general secretary of the Chester Guild, which proposes that honorary members of the Central Council shall in future pay an affiliation fee of 5s. per annum.

The Chester Guild has one member, and one only, who is qualified to take a seat on a Council of ringers (Mr. H. W. Wilde, of
(Continued in next column.)

SPICED SURPRISE MAJOR IN TEN METHODS.

A PEAL OF 5,760 BY A. J. PITMAN.

The following remarkable composition by Mr. A. J. Pitman introduces ten Surprise Major methods into one peal:—

- 4263857 Rutland.
- 2357486 Cambridge, Superlative, Yorkshire or Lincolnshire.
- 4523878 Rutland.
- 2465837 Rutland, London or Bristol.
- 5347286 Cambridge or Superlative.
- 2453678 London.
- 6524837 London.
- 4357682 Cambridge or Superlative.
- 6543278 London.
- 4625837 London.
- 5367482 Cambridge or Superlative.
- 4653278 London.
- 2548837 London.
- 5637284 Cambridge, Superlative or Lincolnshire.
- 2356478 Rutland.
- 5236478 Gloucestershire
- 3526478 Gloucestershire

Repeat four times, ringing last lead of all Rutland for Gloucestershire, produces:—

- 6234857
- 4527683 Cambridge or Superlative.
- 6245378 Rutland or London.
- 3462857 Rutland or London.
- 2547386 Cambridge, Lincolnshire or Pudsey.
- 6342857 Norfolk.
- 2537684 Cambridge or Superlative.
- 6325478 Rutland or London.
- 2643857 Rutland.
- 6357284 Cambridge or Superlative.
- 2563478 Rutland.
- 6245837 London or Bristol.
- 5327684 Cambridge, Superlative or Yorkshire.
- 6253478 London.
- 5642837 Rutland.
- 2367584 Cambridge, Superlative or Lincolnshire
- 5623478 Rutland or London.
- 4256837 Rutland or London.
- 6327485 Cambridge, Lincolnshire or Pudsey.
- 5426837 Norfolk.

Repeat as from 6234857 four times, ringing last lead of all Rutland for Norfolk, and finish with a bob.

Note that fourth's place bobs are made at the end of the leads of Norfolk, thus it may be considered as the second's place variation of that method.

This composition may be rung in from five to ten methods. Bristol may be rung at the home leads where shown, which cuts out the Middle and Wrong leads. Thus the ten available leads rung as Bristol will reduce the peal to 5,120 changes. The peal contains the 60 Middle, Wrong and Home leads, and may be reduced in several ways.

MERIVALE MEDLEY.

To the Editor.

Sir,—The six-score in this week's 'Ringing World' called 'Merivale Medley' is a six-score of Original Doubles having 32 bobs and 2 singles. The Q sets are as follows: First half, when 1-2 change in front first time at S, second time a bob, third time plain, when 2-3, 1-5, 4-3, 2-5 and 1-4 change places in front bob; second half, 1-2 in front S.B.P., 2-5, 1-3, 4-5, 2-3 and 1-4 bobs.

It is a similar composition to the 720 of Bob Minor with 14 bobs and 2 singles. You can bob 1-3 in the first half and 1-5 in the second half: this gives another six-score with 38 bobs and 2 singles.

You can also bob 3-5 in both halves, 38 bobs and 2 singles, etc.

H. LAW JAMES.

(Continued from previous column.)

Eccleston). He has been an honorary member of the Council for some years, and rarely misses a meeting, giving his time and paying his own expenses. I should like to suggest, through 'The Ringing World,' that at all branch meetings held by the Chester Guild between now and Whitsuntide, a resolution should be passed instructing the Guild's representatives not to be influenced by any pros or cons which may be expressed at the meeting, but to give a direct negative to the proposal.

If the Council want cash, and we all know they cannot carry on without it, let them give each member of the Exercise, through their respective associations, an opportunity of providing it, and not stick their fingers in the pockets of those who are already bearing a major portion of the burden.—Yours truly,

W. BIBBY,

Frodsham.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

GENEROUS DONATION TO DUDLEY 'SPIRE FUND.'

The annual meeting of the above Guild was held at Dudley on Saturday week in beautiful springlike weather. The bells were placed at the disposal of the members from three o'clock, and they were kept merrily going. The beautiful form of service used by the Guild at its meetings was conducted by the Rev. Dr. Worger-Slade (assistant priest) at the Parish Church, the lesson being read by the president, the Rev. Canon Phelps, R.D., Vicar of Dudley. The address was given by the Rev. S. G. Lavery (assistant priest of Netherton Parish Church).

After the service an adjournment was made to the schoolroom, where a substantial tea was in readiness, provided by funds collected by the secretary (Mr. Herbert Sheppard) from prominent ladies and gentlemen of St. Thomas' congregation and other friends, and was admirably served by a contingent of ladies, from among whom the following ladies kindly presided at the tables: Mrs. Blaker, Mrs. Worger-Slade, Mrs. J. Goodman, sen., and Mrs. Parkes. Upwards of eighty members and friends sat down to the tea, and it was regrettable that not more members availed themselves of the glorious afternoon to be present to partake of the good things provided. At the business meeting the president occupied the chair, supported by Dr. P. S. Blaker (vice-president), Revs. Dr. Worger-Slade, H. C. Kemp (Vicar of Netherton), and S. G. Lavery. Apologies were received from Mrs. Phelps, Mr. Churchwarden, and Mrs. Shuttleworth, Rev. Dr. Swindell, Vicar of Sedgley, Mr. Arthur Spittle, Mr. James Rayliss, and Mr. and Mrs. Ben Gough. After business of a routine character had been disposed of, the secretary read his report of last year's activities, which considering the difficulty of the times, was favourable. The membership, both honorary and performing, had increased, and financially the Guild was still in a prosperous condition.

The President congratulated the officials and members on the favourable report and balance sheet, and they were unanimously adopted.

The election of officers for the ensuing year then took place, Dr. Blaker occupying the chair during the election of president. The Rev. Canon Phelps was again unanimously elected to this office, and on rising to thank the members for the honour that they had again conferred on him was received with loud cheers. He was also thanked for his kindness and support to the Guild during the past year.

The following were elected as vice-presidents: Revs. F. J. Cheverton (Vicar of Rowley Regis), H. C. Kemp (Vicar of Netherton), Rev. Dr. Worger-Slade (of Dudley Parish Church), Messrs. J. W. Naylor, H. Watson, Arthur Spittle, H. Mason, F. R. McDowell, C. E. Lloyd, M.P., Dr. P. S. Blaker and W. Shuttleworth. Mr. John Goodman, jun., was re-elected Ringing Master and Mr. Herbert Sheppard hon. secretary, with a special vote of thanks for his valuable services to the Guild during the past year. Mr. S. J. Hughes was again re-elected hon. treasurer, and the hon. auditors, Messrs. F. Evans and T. H. Justice, were also re-elected and thanked for their services.

It was proposed to hold the next meeting at the Old Church, Smethwick, and Dudley was proposed for the attempt for the annual peal, the arrangements as to band and date being left in the hands of the Ringing Master.

The secretary brought forward a matter which had stood over from the last meeting. As Dudley Parish Church is the mother church of the Guild, he asked if it was possible to make a donation from the funds of the Guild towards the 'Spire fund' which is being raised to repair or rebuild the spire of the Parish Church which was partially blown down during the heavy gales last year. It was then unanimously resolved that £5 be given from the funds towards that object.

Dr. Blaker (Vicar's warden) briefly thanked the members for their generous gift and the Christian spirit which prompted it. The church officials, he said, would appreciate it also.—The President also thanked the members for their splendid gift as Vicar of Dudley, and said how much he, too, appreciated it.

The Secretary acknowledged the continued confidence which the members placed in him, and the business meeting ended with a proposition by Mr. S. J. Hughes, seconded by Mr. B. Fullwood, that a hearty vote of thanks be given to the Rev. Canon Phelps for presiding at the meeting, and for the use of the tower and bells, and also to the school managers for the use of the schoolroom, to the Rev. Dr. Worger-Slade for conducting the service, and to the Rev. S. G. Lavery for his interesting address. Special thanks were also given to the donors to the tea fund, to the ladies who presided at the tables, and to those who prepared and served the tea and looked after the comforts of those present. Mr. R. Pasfield (the assistant organist) was also thanked for the part he took in the musical portion of the service.—The President briefly replied on behalf of all concerned, and then closed the meeting with prayer.

Afterwards the bells were again kept merrily going until nearly nine o'clock, when another happy and enjoyable afternoon at Dudley was concluded.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

FULHAM.—At All Saints' Church, on Sunday evening, March 17th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 45 mins.: H. C. Page 1, W. H. Hollier 2, H. Belcher 3, J. W. Driver 4, A. Waddington 5, A. Harding 6, F. Skevington (conductor) 7, G. H. C. Block 8. Rung as a compliment to Mr. Challis Winney on his 71st birthday.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.—On Sunday, March 10th, at the Cathedral for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes) in 50 mins.: Chas. Walklate 1, H. E. C. Goodenough (conductor) 2, J. E. Sanders (first quarter-peal) 3, A. Kendall 4, J. G. Blow 5, Chas. Jeffs 6, F. Beeson 7, J. Dryden 8.

SEVENOAKS.—At St. Nicholas' Church, for morning service, on March 10th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 48 mins.: H. J. Ford 1, W. Turley (first quarter-peal 'inside') 2, H. D. Ford 3, P. Turley 4, H. Baker 5, R. Collins 6, F. Paige 7, S. Comber (first quarter-peal) 8. The above are regular Sunday service ringers at Sevenoaks, except R. Collins, who hails from Seal.

PAIGNTON.—On Sunday, March 10th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) at the Parish Church in 51 mins.: F. Allwood 1, J. Huxley 2, H. G. Lewis 3, H. Huxley 4, C. F. Austin 5, F. E. Parnell 6, H. J. Hole (conductor) 7, C. Boyce 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to the Lord Bishop of Exeter, also to welcome Messrs. H. G. Lewis and H. Huxley, who hail from Denbighshire and Warwickshire respectively.—On Sunday afternoon, March 3rd, for Confirmation service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes) on the back six of the Parish Church bells, in 43 mins.: F. Allwood 1, *H. G. Lewis 2, T. S. Collings 3, *A. L. Pope 4, H. J. Hole (conductor) 5, C. F. Austin (longest length on tenor) 6. * First quarter-peal of Doubles. Specially arranged for Mr. H. G. Lewis, who hails from Denbighshire.

DARLINGTON.—For evening service at St. John's, on March 3rd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples in 45 mins.: *A. W. Coates 1, A. Coates 2, Wm. Broadley 3, Wm. Dowson 4, Wm. Robinson 5, H. Broadley 6, H. Taylor (conductor) 7, *Robt. Wheadon 8. * First quarter-peal and first attempt.

UXBRIDGE.—At St. Margaret's Church, on March 3rd, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 45 mins.: G. H. Gutteridge 1, G. E. Swift (first quarter in the method) 2, R. Warnett 3, J. H. Lucas 4, P. E. Jones 5, E. Hancox (conductor) 6, F. Corke 7, A. G. Bray 8.—At St. Andrew's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 44 mins., for evening service on March 3rd: P. E. Jones 1, E. G. Swift 2, G. H. Gutteridge 3, R. Warnett 4, J. H. Lucas 5, E. Hancox (conductor) 6, F. Corke 7, C. Nicholls 8.

PEAL RINGING AT 81.

As recorded, a peal of Bob Minor was rung on the beautiful and recently restored ring at St. Ann's, Stamford Hill. It was rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. F. Ringrose, towerkeeper and tutor of the promising young band now being initiated into the mysteries of change ringing. The treble was rung exceedingly well by one of the 16-year-old 'colts,' who thus scored his first peal at the first attempt. Age was well represented by 'young' Tommy Deal, now in his 81st year, who rang his bell faultlessly throughout the peal, proving himself another veteran of the Exercise. It is interesting also that it was the first peal by the 5th ringer for 25 years, and the first peal on the bells since 1914 (Bob Minor) called by the same conductor.

RINGER'S SUDDEN DEATH.

We regret to record that Mr. A. Henley, a member of the Lambherhurst, Kent, band, died suddenly on March 14th. He was interred on Saturday, and on Sunday the bells were rung half-muffled as a last token of respect, for matins: W. Marshall 1, G. Fuller 2, A. Relfe (conductor) 3, J. Bassett 4, B. Luck 5, A. Smith 6. For evensong, 720 York Surprise: E. Woodage 1, A. Marshall 2, G. Fuller 3, A. Relfe 4, J. Bassett 5, B. Luck (conductor) 6.

DEATH OF MR. F. TERRY.

It is with great regret that we have to record the death, on March 6th, of Mr. Fred Terry, at the age of 69 years. He was a member of St. George's band, Beekingham, and had been associated with the church from boyhood, first in the choir, then as a ringer when only call changes were rung. In 1887 the old church was pulled down. When the present building and tower was completed in 1904, and the bells augmented to eight, he joined the new band and took up change ringing, and rang nine or ten peals in various methods. He was a most regular attendant for Sunday ringing, and on practice nights, and will be sadly missed in the belfry.

He was a member of the Kent County and London County Associations.

The funeral took place on Monday, March 11th, and ringers attending the service were Mr. J. Lamb (Blackheath), Mr. W. Martin (St. John's, Deptford), Messrs. P. Spice and E. Mounter (Bromley), and the local band.

In the evening, with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to his memory, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by: W. Rawlings 1, H. Hawkes 2, F. Leeks 3, F. Scutcher 4, E. Mounter 5, G. Wickens 6, W. Smith (conductor) 7, C. Austin 8.

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 8d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with a minimum charge of 1/6.

All communications should be sent to **THE EDITORIAL OFFICE** of 'THE RINGING WORLD,' WOKING, SURREY.

'The Ringing World' can be sent direct by post from the Editorial Office for 4/- per quarter.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Mayfield on Saturday, March 23rd. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock, to be followed by the business meeting.—Geo. W. Stokes, Hon. Dis. Sec., 22, Melbourne Road, Eastbourne.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at All Souls', Bolton, on Saturday, March 23rd. Bells available 3. Meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Laxfield on March 23rd. Bells (6) at 2. Tea, 1s. each, at the King's Head at 4.30. Meeting follows.—H. Drake, Sec., Ufford.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—A district meeting will be held at Croydon on March 23rd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.45. Tea 5.15 p.m. Meeting to follow. Bus services No. 7, 37 and 52 from Farnham Town Hall.—B. H. Clark, 17, St. James' Avenue, Farnham.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at East Grinstead on Saturday, March 23rd. Tower open 3.—Short service 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. Subscriptions are now due. All ringers welcome.—George Lambert, Drummond Hay, East Grinstead.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Hythe on Saturday, March 23rd. Bells ready 2.30. Tea and business meeting as usual. All ringers welcome.—A. J. Battin, Hon. Sec., Heronden Hall Gardens, Tenterden.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next ringing practice has been arranged at Cookham (6 bells) on Saturday, March 23rd, at 4 p.m. Tea, at 1s. per head, will be provided for those who send their names to T. J. Fowler, Dean View, Cookham Rise.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—The first quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, March 23rd. Bells of Groby (6) available from 3.15 p.m. till 4.45 p.m., and Ratby (6) from 6 p.m. till 7.45 p.m. Tea in Ratby Church Room at 5.15 p.m. Business meeting in Ratby Church Rooms at 8 p.m. All ringers and friends welcome.—Alban Disney, Hon. Dis. Sec., 19, Houlditch Road, Knighton Fields, Leicester.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—A meeting will be held at Blisworth on Saturday, March 23rd. Bells (5) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 o'clock.—T. Tebbutt, West Street, Moulton, Northampton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Chesterfield District.—There will be no meeting at Bolsover tomorrow (Saturday, March 23rd) because of illness close to the Church.—J. P. Tarlton, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting will be held at Sapcote on Saturday, March 23rd. Bells (6) available 3.45 p.m. A good meeting is hoped for. All ringers and friends cordially welcome. — W. A. Cope, Smockington, Hinckley.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. Matthew's, Kingsdown, on Saturday, March 23rd. Bells available from 3 p.m., service 4.30, tea at 5 p.m.—G. Way, 1a, Seymour Road, Bishopston, Bristol.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. Oxford and District Branch.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Oxford on Saturday, March 23rd. Bells of St. Ebbe's (8) from 3 p.m., St. Thomas' (6) after meeting. Service in St. Ebbe's Church 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. All ringers welcome.—William Simmonds, Hon. Sec., 2, Kington Road, Oxford.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Tickhill on Saturday, March 30th. Bells ready early. Tea will be provided for those who inform Mr. A. Hill, Sunderland Street, Tickhill, not later than the 28th. A good attendance is requested.—Percy Gledstone, Hon. Sec., 34, Silverwood View, Conisborough.

NORFOLK GUILD. — The annual general meeting will be held at Norwich on Easter Monday, April 1st. The rings of bells of St. Peter Mancroft (12), St. John-de-Sepulchre (8), St. Michael-at-Coslany (8) and All Saints' (5) will be available. Divine service will be held at St. Peter Mancroft at 12.30 p.m., when the address will be given by the Archdeacon of Norwich. Luncheon will be served at William Grix, Limited, Criterion Restaurant, White Lion Street, at 1.30. Tickets 2s. 6d. per head. Members intending to be present at luncheon must notify the same to the secretary not later than Wednesday, March 27th. The annual business meeting will follow immediately after luncheon.—Arthur L. Coleman, Sec., High Croft, North Walsham, Norfolk.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Next meeting will be held at South Anston on Easter Monday, April 1st. Bells open early. Tea provided to all those who advise Mr. C. Fowler, Princess Villas, South Anston. This is imperative. It is hoped as many as possible will attend.—R. Harrison, 41, Baltic Road, Sheffield.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting will be at St. Albans on Easter Monday. Bells available at 2 p.m. Service at Cathedral 5 p.m. Address by the Vicar of Aldenham. Tea at 6 p.m., followed by annual business meeting, at the Ver Residential Hotel, Holywell Hill, adjoining the river bridge. Notification of attendance will be appreciated, for the sake of the caterer and others. — G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec., Duffield, St. Albans.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Cambridge on Easter Monday, April 1st. Committee at St. Mary's Vestry 11.15 a.m. Service 12 noon. Address by the Vicar (the Rev. Dr. P. N. Waggett). Lunch, followed by the business meeting, at the Dorothy Café, at 1 p.m. Ringing at St. Mary-the-Great (12), St. Andrew-the-Great (8), Old Chesterton (6) and St. Mary and the English Martyrs (8) (after 3 p.m.). Will members who are able to attend please inform the secretary before March 26th?—Rev. R. Copeman, Owlstone Road, Cambridge.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Maidstone on Easter Monday, April 1st. Committee meeting in All Saints' Vestry at 11.15. Service in All Saints' Church at 12. Address by the Rev. H. de V. Watson, Rector of Harrietsham. Dinner in the Corn Exchange at 1 o'clock, followed by business meeting. Towers open for ringing; Maidstone (All Saints) (10), Leeds (10), Harrietsham (8), West Malling (8), Linton (8), Barming (6), Boxley (6), East Farleigh (6), Bearsted (6), St. Michael's, Maidstone (6). For dinner tickets apply before March 28th to Fred M. Mitchell, Assistant Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — A general meeting will be held at Whitby on Easter Monday, April 1st. Bells (10) available throughout the day. Tea will be provided at a charge of 2s. per head, and all applications for same must reach Mr. G. W. White not later than first post Tuesday, March 26th. Members are urged to attend.—Percy J. Johnson, Hon. Gen. Sec., 396, Meanwood Road, Leeds.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting, Easter Monday, at Leicester. Bells of St. Margaret's (12), Cathedral (10), St. John-the-Divine (10), St. Saviour's (8), Belgrave (8) (except between 10-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m.), All Saints' (5) available during the day. Committee meet 3.15. Tea 5 p.m., followed by general meeting. Convivial 8 to 10 p.m. All at Victoria Commercial Hotel, London Road. To avoid confusion and disappointment it is imperative that those requiring tea (1s. 6d. per head) must obtain tickets from me not later than Thursday, March 28th. (N.B.—1928 reports now ready, price 6d., post free 7½d.)—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Central District.—The next meeting will be held at Ashted on Easter Monday, April 1st. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea at Ashted Peace Memorial Hall 5 p.m. Business meeting following. Those requiring tea kindly notify Mr. G. Cook, Lavender Cottage, Crampshaw Lane, Ashted, by Wednesday, March 27th.—D. Cooper, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Harrison's Rise, Croydon.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Worcester on Easter Monday, April 1st. Business meeting in the Cathedral Chapter House at 2.30 p.m. prompt. Chairman: The Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, D.D., President. Service, with address, in the Cathedral at 4.15 p.m. Tea will be provided at 5.30 p.m. for all those who notify me before Wednesday, March 27th. Bells available: Cathedral (12) 12.30 to 2 and after service; All Saints' (10), St. Helen's (8), Claines (8), St. Nicholas' (6), and St. John-in-Bedwardine (6). Subscriptions should be paid and reports obtained in St. Helen's Church House between 11.30 a.m. and 12.30 p.m. — J. R. Newman, Hon. Sec., Sheepcote, Severn Stoke, Worcester.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting will be held at Leighton Buzzard on Easter Monday, April 1st. The bells of All Saints' (10) and St. Barnabas' (8) will be available from 10.30 a.m. Hot luncheon will be at the Plume of Feathers Hotel at 1 p.m., followed by the annual business meeting. Luncheon can only be guaranteed to those who notify Mr. J. Nicholls, 20, Grove Road, Leighton Buzzard, by Thursday, March 28th, or the undersigned, Arthur E. Sharman, Hon. Sec., 199, High Street N., Dunstable.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Ipswich on Easter Monday. Ringing all day (except 2-3) at St. Mary le Tower (12), St. Margaret (8), St. Clement (6), Rushmere (6). Committee meeting, 12 noon Service, St.-Mary-le-Tower, 2 p.m. Meeting in Oak Lane Rooms at 2.30. Tea, 4.30, at Lyons, 1s. each.—H. Drake, Ufford, Woodbridge.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Masham on Easter Monday, April 1st. Bells (8, tenor 17 cwts.) will be available for ringing during the day. Dinner will be provided at Ousbey's Café, members 2s., non-members 2s. 6d. Those intending to be at dinner please notify the secretary not later than Wednesday, March 27th.—T. Metcalfe, Hon. Sec., 26, High Street, North Ormesby, Middlesbrough.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—East Devon Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Seaton, Devon, on Easter Monday. Bells (6) from 2.30. Short service at 4.30, Parish Church. An address by the Rev. L. Stallard. Tea 5.15, Gould's Restaurant. Meeting follows. All ringers welcome.—John H. Godfrey, Hon. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Martock on Saturday, April 6th. Evensong 4 p.m. Tea and business 5 p.m. Nominations for C.C. representatives for the session commencing 1930 should reach me between now and July.—J. T. Dyke, Hon. Sec., Chilcompton, Bath.

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD.—The next quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, April 6th, at St. Ellyios' Church, Llanelly. Ringing at 2 p.m. Service at 5.30 p.m. Tea and meeting at 4 p.m. at Church Room. Tea will be kindly provided by the Vicar and Mrs. Davies.—F. E. Thomas, Dis. Sec.

HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION will hold an eight bell contest and quarterly meeting at Kirkburton (near) Huddersfield, on Saturday, April 6th. Draw to take place 2.45 p.m. All who require tea, 1s. 6d. each, must send word not later than April 1st to L. Hargreaves, 30, Bankfield View, Halifax.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Lincoln District.—Next meeting at Nettleham (6), Saturday, April 6th. Tower open 2 p.m. Bus leaves Unity Square 3 p.m. and 4.10 p.m. Bus leaves Nettleham 7.15 p.m., 8.10 p.m. and 9.35 p.m. Notifications to tea to Harold Marcon, Dis. Sec., 269, Wragby Road, Lincoln.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting will be held at Coleshill on Saturday, April 6th. Bells available from 3.30. Tea and business meeting at 5. Members requiring tea please notify Thomas H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—Our next meeting will be held on April 6th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. at Hoddlesden and Darwen. Meeting 6.30 p.m. A good attendance is requested. Reports to hand. Subscriptions due.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, on Saturday, April 6th. Service at 4.30 p.m. Preacher, Rev. W. Hudson Shaw (Rector). Tea in the Church Hall at 5.15 p.m., at a charge of 1s. As accommodation is limited, provision will only be made for those members

who advise either of the undersigned by Tuesday, April 2nd. Tea can also be obtained in the neighbourhood. The business meeting will be held at 6 p.m. Ringing arrangements are as follows:—St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, from 2 p.m. and after the meeting; St. Giles', Cripplegate, from 2.30 to 4 p.m.; St. Magnus', Thames Street, from 7 to 8.30 p.m.—C. T. Coles, 21, Vincent Road, E.4, W. H. Hollier, 29, Duke Road, W.4., Hon. Secs.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general committee meeting will be held at Reading on Saturday, April 6th, in St. Lawrence's Hall, Abbey Street (near Abbey Gateway), at 3.15 p.m.—Richard T. Hibbert.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Frittenden on Saturday, April 13th, by kind permission of Rev. H. M. Leathley. Tower open 2.30. Tea at 5 o'clock. A good meeting is hoped for. All ringers welcome. A card by 11th would oblige.—A. C. Kay, Dis. Sec., 6, Sturges Road, Ashford.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Guildford on Saturday, April 13th. Nominations of officers must be sent in to me not later than April 1st.—J. S. Goldsmith, Hon. Sec., Southover, Hockering Gardens, Woking.

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WEST GRINSTEAD, SUSSEX.—On March 14th, 720 Norwich Surprise Minor: W. Weaver 1, V. Goatcher 2, G. Warnett 3, F. Turrell 4, R. Stredwick 5, H. Turrell (first as conductor in a Surprise method) 6. The conductor is 68 years of age.

WOKING.—On Wednesday evening, February 27th, at St. Peter's Church, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor in 48 mins.: W. H. Edwards 1, J. Brackley (conductor) 2, Mrs. W. H. Edwards 3, F. Foot (first quarter-peal inside) 4, H. Greenhill 5, T. Strudwick 6.

TYLDESLEY, LANCASHIRE.—On Saturday, February 2nd, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 45 mins.: B. T. Allred 1, Robert Allred 2, Henry Smith (conductor) (Leigh) 3, M. Berry (Walkden) 4, W. Hindley 5, J. H. Ridyard (Worsley) 6, H. Allred 7, Walter Smith 8. Rung after the marriage of Mr. F. J. Rice, one of the local ringers, and Miss E. A. Millington, of Lynwood, Leigh.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

MINCHINHAMPTON.—At Holy Trinity Church, on March 12th, for Confirmation service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Doubles: F. Canter 1, E. Jeffries 2, F. Simmonds (conductor) 3, F. Ponting 4, H. Phelps 5, W. Kirby 6. First quarter-peal by the 1st, 3rd and 4th ringers, also first as conductor by the 3rd.

BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH.—At St. Mary's Church, on March 7th, 720 Bob Minor (42 Singles): A. H. Stebbings 1, T. Ringrose 2, W. Gridley 3, S. Bigmore 4, H. Barker (conductor) 5, H. Stebbings 6.

ELTHAM, KENT.—At the Parish Church, on February 28th, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Major (1,248 changes): F. Fraser 1, R. Brett Smith 2, J. Lamb 3, C. A. Bines 4, W. Anderson 5, E. A. Garvard 6, R. Bullen 7, W. J. Jeffries (conductor) 8. First quarter on the bells in the method, and first in the method by the ringers of the 4th and 5th.

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