

THE RINGING WORLD

No. 729. Vol. XX

FRIDAY, MARCH 6th, 1925.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
transmission as a newspaper.]

Price 8d.

RINGERS AND FREEMASONRY.

The Johnson Commemoration Dinner at Birmingham on Saturday lacked nothing in its traditional enthusiasm and cordiality. Although the days of Johnson are fast receding and the number of those who knew him in the flesh is gradually but surely diminishing, his memory is still green, while, through this popular event, there must be many who, although they never saw Henry Johnson, and indeed knew nothing of ringing until long after his death, feel as if the famous old man had been a personal friend. This annual gathering not only serves the purpose of preserving the memory of one of the greatest ringing intellects of all time, and of one of the most lovable of characters that ever graced the Exercise, but it provides a fine illustration of the spirit of what we like to call freemasonry among ringers.

In this connection we would draw attention to a suggestion made in the course of his speech by Alderman Pritchett, who presided. There are in the ranks of ringers a great many members of the craft of Freemasonry, and the chairman, who is himself one of the foremost Masons in the country, suggested that a Ringers' Lodge should be formed in London. We imagine that Masons belonging to the ringing Exercise will welcome the proposal as cementing still more firmly the bonds of brotherhood which exist in both spheres and uniting them in a manner which is not at present attainable. To ensure that the Lodge shall retain its characteristic and remain essentially a ringers' Lodge, Alderman Pritchett's idea is to make it a necessary qualification that candidates for membership shall have rung a peal. This is a condition which would maintain the exclusiveness of the Lodge, and should attract to it all those who combine Freemasonry and ringing.

Having mooted the subject, doubtless Alderman Pritchett will see that the proposal is given the opportunity of taking shape. He is admittedly the very best person to launch the scheme, both from his knowledge of and his standing in the craft, as well as from his long and active connection with ringing. There have already been Freemasons' peals rung on eight and ten bells, and there is a keenness among members to associate the two things. A Lodge thus formed would enable those ringers who are connected with Masonry not only to enjoy a closer contact, but through their more intimate association in the lodge to come together much more often, as members of their ancient order, in the belfry. We hope Alderman Pritchett's idea will materialise at an early date, for we are quite certain that he will have the full support of all ringers who are also Freemasons.

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rick's, Manchester and Worcester Cathedrals, etc.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

LONDON.
THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
(LATE THE ST. JAMES' SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, February 28, 1925, in Three Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-BOW, CHEAPSIDE,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 53 cwt. 0 qr. 22 lb. in B.

ARTHUR J. NEALE Treble	*ALBERT TURNER 7
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER 2	GEORGE A. CARD 8
WILLIAM J. NODDS 3	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY 9
FRANCIS E. DAWE 4	JEFFREY R. GAMMON 10
HERBERT J. SKELT 5	T. J. GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. 11
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 6	ERNEST BRETT Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY.

Conducted by T. H. TAFFENDER

* First peal on twelve bells.

TEN BELL PEALS.

TROWBRIDGE.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 18, 1925, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

JOHN TAYLOR Treble	WILLIAM A. CAVE 6
JESSE FRANCIS 2	ARTHUR PRINCE 7
MISS N. G. WILLIAMS 3	CHARLES W. BELL 8
WILLIAM LOUD 4	CHARLES T. ANDREWS 9
HORACE TAYLOR 5	THOMAS HOGSFLESH 10

Composed by EDGAR GUISE.

Conducted by ARTHUR PRINCE.

NORTH SHIELDS, NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, February 23, 1925, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT TYNEMOUTH PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 19½ cwt.

*JOSEPH ROBERTSON Treble	ALFRED F. HILLIER 6
WILLIAM H. BARBER 2	JAMES E. SCOTT 7
†ARTHUR PAYNE 3	WILLIAM STORY 8
†WILLIAM SHUCKFORD 4	JOSEPH E. KEEN 9
†ERNEST GOSDEN 5	EDWARD A. HERN Tenor

Composed and Conducted by W. H. BARBER.

* First peal. † First peal of Kent Royal. Great credit is due to ringer of treble, who commenced ringing twelve months ago. It was his first attempt for a peal.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 28, 1925, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 19½ cwt.

*CHARLES T. W. COLES Treble	JAMES C. ADAMS 6
CHARLES T. COLES 2	ROBERT MAYNARD, JUN. 7
NORMAN A. TOMLINSON 3	WILLIAM PICKWORTH 8
†HAROLD A. EDWARDS 4	FRED C. MAYNARD 9
ROBERT MAYNARD, SEN. 5	ALFRED G. CRANE Tenor

Composed by JAMES GEORGE. Conducted by R. MAYNARD, JUN.

* First peal, aged 14. † First peal of Grandsire Caters.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

MELLS, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 18, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 12 cwt.

*DONALD FLOWER Treble	THOMAS M. GRIFFIN 5
JOHN G. HAMBLETON 2	WILLIAM KERVILL 6
REGINALD BECK 3	JOSEPH T. DYKE 7
RONALD BECK 4	*CHARLES LEDBURY Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH T. DYKE.

* First peal.

NOTTINGHAM, NOTTS.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 19, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 8040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 21 cwt.

L. CHADBURN Treble	F. BRADLEY 5
M. WARD 2	A. BARRATT 6
*E. FORT 3	G. WEST 7
†F. BAILEY 4	A. LEADER Tenor

Conducted by A. BARRATT.

* First peal on eight bells. † First in the method on a working bell.

SHERE, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 21, 1925, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 15½ cwt.

FREDK. W. RICE Treble	*THOMAS STREETER 5
HENRY F. EWINS 2	ALFRED J. BULL 6
GEORGE F. HOAD 3	GEORGE ELLIS 7
HUGH R. THORPE 4	OLIVER SIPPETTS Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by O. SIPPETTS.

* First peal in the method.

CORSTON.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 21, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 9½ cwt.

THOMAS HOGSFLESH Treble	WILLIAM A. CAVE 5
JOHN TAYLOR 2	JESSE HALLETT 6
MISS N. G. WILLIAMS 3	WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT 7
ARTHUR PRINCE 4	CHARLES W. BELL Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by ARTHUR PRINCE.

Mr. Cave has now rung a peal on each of the bells.

WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 26, 1925, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 13½ cwt.

ERNEST CUTSFORTH Treble	GEORGE PINCOTT 5
FRED GRUNDY 2	JOSEPH H. RIDYARD 6
BEN WELSBY 3	JOHN POTTER 7
JAMES DENNER 4	ARTHUR BURTON Tenor

Conducted by JOHN POTTER.

Rung with the bells deeply muffled, as a token of respect to Mr. R. Hall, a former churchwarden.

WORLINGWORTH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Friday, February 27, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 0 qr. 3 lb.

THOMAS H. CHAPPELL Treble	WILLIAM J. GROOM 5
LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN 2	HARRY HALL 6
DAVID COLLINS 3	WILLIAM C. RUMSEY 7
JOHN HALL 4	LESLIE G. BRETT Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by WILLIAM C. RUMSEY.

Rung as a compliment to David Collins on his 77th birthday.

THOS. J. GROOMBRIDGE

Church Bell Hanger,

CRAYFORD, KENT.

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED FOR NEW OR REPAIR WORK

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, February 28, 1925, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 20½ cwt. in E.

GEORGE WILSON Treble	GEORGE BAILEY 5
ALFRED KEEBLE 2	JAMES M. BAILEY 6
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY 3	JAMES G. RUMSEY 7
ERNEST S. BAILEY 4	CHARLES F. BAILEY Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

Conducted by CHAS. F. BAILEY.

Arranged for the Ringing Master, Mr. C. J. Sedgley, it being his first peal in the method, and his 100th peal. This was also the 100th Surprise peal on these bells.

ANSTEY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 28, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 9½ cwt.

ROLAND BARROW Treble	WALTER P. WHITEHEAD 5
MISS MARY L. CUFFLIN 2	WILLIAM H. CLARKE 6
CHARLES ALLSOP 3	EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD 7
ALBAN DISNEY 4	ERNEST MORRIS Tenor

Composed by W. H. INGLESANT.

Conducted by W. P. WHITEHEAD

Great credit is due to the ringer of the 2nd, this being her first touch in any Major method inside.

BENSON, OXON.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 28, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

BROOKS' VARIATION.

Tenor 16 cwt.

GORDON CAUDWELL Treble	JACK JUDGE 5
MRS. ALBERT E. LOCK 2	ALBERT E. LOCK 6
WALTER F. JUDGE 3	*FREDK. W. WOODWARDS 7
FRANCIS TAYLOR 4	CHARLES SPICER Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT E. LOCK.

* First peal in the method away from tenor.

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Saturday, February 28, 1925, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF BISHOP RYDER,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lb.

JAMES GEORGE Treble	*ERNEST J. BROOKS 5
THOMAS J. SALTER 2	SAMUEL GROVE 6
JOHN BASS 3	*JOHN SMITH 7
WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT 4	ROBERT MATTHEWS Tenor

Composed by F. BENNETT.

Conducted by R. MATTHEWS.

This peal was rung in memory of the late Henry Johnson, on the occasion of the annual dinner in Birmingham, and was the first peal of London on the bells since they were recast. * Proposed members previous to starting. Mr. Samuel Grove's 50th peal of London Surprise.

ALSAGER, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 28, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5030 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 10 cwt. 2 qr. 20 lb.

JOHN H. PARKER Treble	JOHN BRASSINGTON 5
*FRANK E. CORFIELD 2	FREDERICK H. CRAWLEY 6
THOMAS ARROWSMITH 3	ARTHUR PEAKE 7
GEORGE ADDISON 4	ALBERT CRAWLEY Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR PEAKE.

* First peal. Also first peal as conductor in this method. This peal was rung as a welcome to the new Vicar, the Rev. A. L. Moir. Also as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

PULFORD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 28, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qrs. 10 lb.

GEORGE F. SPERRING Treble	EDWARD HARRISON 5
ROBERT SPERRING 2	GEORGE R. JONES 6
EDWARD V. RODENBURST ... 3	THOMAS R. BUTLER 7
THOMAS BUTLER 4	JAMES H. RIDING Treble

Composed by G. WILLIAMS. Conducted by ROBERT SPERRING.

SOBERTON, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 28, 1925, in Three Hours and Four Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

ROY LINTER Treble	TOWER R. TAYLOR 5
GEORGE PULLINGER 2	GEORGE WILLIAMS 6
FREDERICK A. BURNETT ... 3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS ... 7
D. CECIL WILLIAMS 4	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY ... Tenor

Composed by N. J. PISTOW. Conducted by F. W. ROGERS.

First peal as conductor.

WEST MALLING, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 28, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 12 cwt.

FRANK TUCKER Treble	JOHN MORTON 5
LEWIS NEWMAN 2	JAMES LEONARD 6
GEORGE BELL 3	LOUIS HEAD 7
GEORGE NEWMAN 4	WILLIAM DAY Tenor

Conducted by LOUIS HEAD.

SIX BELL PEALS.

PIPE-CUM-LYDE, HEREFORDSHIRE.

On Sunday, February 15, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

42 six-scores with ten different callings.

*W. DAVIES Treble	W. WILLIAMS 4
†J. BOURNE 2	†G. HANKS 5
I. RAWLINGS 3	†A. MORRIS Tenor

Conducted by W. WILLIAMS.

* First peal away from tenor. † First peal with a bob bell.

‡ First peal. First peal as conductor.

LINCOLN.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Monday, February 23, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 each of Double Court, Single Court, Oxford Bob, Double Oxford, Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob.

Tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb.

FREDERICK WALKER Treble	HERBERT LOWMAN 4
ROBERT CHESTER 2	JOHN A. FREEMAN 5
ROBERT H. HORST 3	WILLIAM H. LLOYD Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM H. LLOYD.

Birthday peal for the conductor.

BURNHAM-ON-SEA.—On Saturday, Feb. 14th, at St. Andrew's Church, before the induction of Prob. Wake, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung in 45 minutes by the following band: W. Russell 1, A. Routley 2, A. Evans 3, W. Rossiter 4, C. Pople 5, W. Worgan 6, G. Chamberlain (conductor) 7, H. Lawrence 8.—On Tuesday, Feb. 24th, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Mr. F. Baker as a chorister of St. Andrew's, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 47 mins.: H. Hobbs 1, A. Evans (conductor) 2, J. Baker 3, F. Hey 4, C. Pople (first in the method) 5, G. Chamberlain 6, W. Worgan 7, H. Lawrence 8.

NEWINGTON-NEXT-SITTINGBOURNE.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 24, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Double Oxford, College Single, Oxford Treble Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, Kent Treble Bob, Single Oxford and Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt. 14 lb. in F.

JOHN H. HARRIS Treble	C.S.M. J. BENNETT, R.M. ... 4
GEORGE KENWARD 2	WILLIAM J. WALKER 5
THOMAS JULL 3	C.Q.M.S. G. GILBERT, R.E. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE GILBERT, R.E.

WORCESTER.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, February 24, 1925, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-IN-BEDWARDINE,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of London and Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, College Single and Plain Bob.

Tenor 16 cwt.

JAMES WOODYATT Treble	WILLIAM RANFORD 4
JOHN J. JEFFERIES 2	WILLIAM LEWIS 5
SIDNEY T. HOLT 3	CHARLES CAMM Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

CLAPHAM, REDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 24, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS-A-BECKET.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5030 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores with twelve callings.

HERBERT L. HARLOW ... Treble	LEONARD A. WILLIAMS ... 4
HARRY SMITH 2	RICHARD SHIMMANS 5
*ERNEST ASQUE 3	JOHN BARKER Tenor

Conducted by H. L. HARLOW.

* First peal. Rung with the bells half-muffled, as a last tribute of respect to John Cooper, one of the local ringers, who died suddenly on February 7th.

BULKINGTON, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, February 28, 1925, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 23 lb.

*ARTHUR H. BEAMISH ... Treble	THOMAS W. CHAPMAN ... 4
ABRAHAM WILKERSON ... 2	WILFRED H. J. HOOTON ... 5
†MISS GLADYS M. DODDS... 3	†JAMES F. CLARKE, JUN. ... Tenor

Composed by REV. E. BANKES JAMES.

Conducted by W. H. J. HOOTON.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal of Cambridge Minor inside. The band take this opportunity of thanking their Bulkington friends for their kind hospitality after the peal.

NORTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE STOKE-ON-TRENT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 28, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, College Pleasure, Duke of York, Violet, Woodbine, Kent and Oxford. Tenor 11 cwt.

*REGINALD PRESTON ... Treble	THOMAS HILDITCH 4
JOHN E. WHEELDON 2	WILLIAM P. DEANE 5
†THOMAS HURD 3	JAMES WALLEY Tenor

Conducted by JOHN E. WHEELDON.

* First peal. † First peal in seven methods. Rung with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to William Tabernor, one of the 'old school' of Norton ringers, and also to the late Henry Page, one of the founders of the Stoke-on-Trent Association, and for many years the genial and popular leader at the Stoke-on-Trent belfry.

PENISTONE, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 28, 1925, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Duke of Norfolk, Sandal, Norbury, Kingstone, College Exercise, London Scholars' Pleasure, and Oxford.

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr.

LEWIS WILKINSON	... Treble	WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT	4
* JOHN ARCHIE BREARLEY ...	2	ARTHUR GILL	5
JOHN REDFERN BREARLEY ...	3	GEORGE HILL	Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE HILL.

* First peal of Minor.

ARLESEY, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 28, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of Woodbine, three 720's of Oxford Treble Bob, two 720's of Kent Treble Bob, and one of Plain Bob, each called differently.

Tenor 13 cwt.

JOHN T. NEWINGTON	... Treble	CHARLES J. BALL	4
TOM BARTRAM	2	HERBERT E. DAY	5
ERNEST W. DAY	3	GEORGE T. CROFT	Tenor

Conducted by G. T. CROFT.

Ringers of the 3rd, 5th and tenor were made members before starting the peal. Believed to be the first peal on the bells since 1902.

CROSTHWAITHE, WESTMORELAND.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(FURNESS AND LAKE DISTRICT BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 28, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

HAROLD HARDY	... Treble	* EDWIN JENNINGS	4
FREDERICK HEWERTSON ...	2	THOMAS B. NEWTON	5
WILLIAM ATKINSON	3	WILLIAM ROBINSON	Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM ROBINSON.

* First peal. Arranged for the ringers of the 3rd and 4th. who are from Kendal. The ringers of treble, 2nd, 5th and tenor are from Ambleside.

BROMHAM, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 28, 1925, in Three Hours & Twenty-Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Owen,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Kingston Treble Bob, London Scholars' Pleasure, College Exercise, Woodbine, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob.

Tenor 23 cwt.

HENRY STAPLETON	... Treble	ALFRED ROBINSON	4
WILLIAM SHARP	2	WILLIAM STOCK	5
HENRY W. GAYTON	3	CHARLES W. CLARKE	Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

HANDBELL PEAL.

COVENTRY.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Thursday, February 26, 1925, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At 45, ENGLETON ROAD, RADFORD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERERS, 5067 CHANGES;

Tenor, size 15 in C.

FRANK E. PERVIN	1-2	JOSEPH H. W. WHITE	5-6
FRANK W. PERRENS	3-4	HUBERT SUMMERS	7-8
JOHN TAYLOR	9-10		

Composed by J. E. GROVES. Conducted by F. W. PERRENS.
Referee: OSWALD J. HUNT.

EXETER.—On February 19th, at St. Sidwell's Church, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob Major, in 1 hour: E. Shepherd (conductor) 1, A. Monkley 2, T. Bartlett 3, W. Richardson 4, W. Howe 5, E. Sargent 6, F. Murphy 7, G. Betts 8.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION.

GLASTONBURY DEANERY SECRETARYSHIP.

The annual meeting of the Glastonbury Deanery Branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association was held at Glastonbury on Saturday, February 21st, when the Rev. L. S. Lewis presided, and about twenty members were present. The towers represented included Glastonbury, Street, Croscombe, West Pennard, Pilton, Doulling, Shepton Mallet and St. Ebbe's, Oxford.

The ringer's form of service was conducted at St. John's, and the Vicar gave the members a very helpful address.

Tea was partaken of at the Misses Taylor's Restaurant, and was followed by the business meeting.

The Rev. L. S. Lewis briefly referred to the loss the branch had sustained in the departure of Mr. Walter Farley, the hon. secretary and treasurer of the branch, and moved a vote of thanks to him for his valuable services. — This was seconded by Mr. W. Marsh (Street), and carried with acclamation.

The Hon. Secretary read a report on the past year's work, together with a statement of accounts, which were unanimously adopted.

The re-election of the Rev. L. S. Lewis, as president for the ensuing year, was moved by the Hon. Secretary, seconded by Mr. H. J. Trim, and carried. — The Rev. L. S. Lewis suitably responded.

The next business was to elect an hon. secretary and treasurer and a representative on the general committee. — The President brought forward the name of Captain Babington, of the Abbey House, Glastonbury, and proposed him as an hon. member. — This was seconded by Mr. J. Thyer. — Capt. Babington was then proposed as hon. secretary for the branch.

Mr. W. Marsh (Street), moved, as an amendment, that the election of hon. secretary be left over till the next meeting, and this was seconded by Mr. Rowse.

Mr. H. Collins (Croscombe) moved the election of the temporary hon. secretary, and proposed Mr. F. D. Rickards. — Mr. T. Willmot seconded, and this, on being put to the meeting, was carried. — Mr. Rickards briefly responded.

Three probationers from Street, and the like number from Pilton, were elected. — The tower of West Pennard agreed to rejoin the Deanery Branch, and Pilton also joined up.

The place of the next meeting was fixed for West Pennard, on the proposition of the hon. secretary, seconded by Mr. H. J. Trim.

Votes of thanks, proposed by the Rev. E. S. C. Lock, of West Pennard, were accorded to the Vicar, the choir, and organist, and all who helped towards the arrangements of the meeting, and these were carried unanimously.

Touches on the bells, before service and afterwards, helped to make up a most enjoyable meeting.

DEVON GUILD.

The quarterly meeting of the Exeter Branch, was held at Exminster on Saturday, February 21st. Proceedings opened with a splendid service in the Parish Church, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. D. G. Samuel), who extended a very hearty welcome to the Guild.

After the service a move was made to the Victory Hall for tea. At the meeting which followed, among those present were Mr. E. Shepherd (chairman), Mr. T. Laver (hon. branch secretary, pro tem.), Mr. J. C. Oke (assistant secretary), the Rev. E. S. Powell (President of the Guild), the Rev. E. V. Cox (general secretary of the Guild), the Rev. D. G. Samuel, and about 60 members.

The Chairman warmly welcomed the President and secretary to the branch meeting, and hoped they would be seen often on those occasions.

A number of new members were elected, which shows that the branch is steadily making headway.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Crediton.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for so kindly conducting the service; also to the organist, choir, and the ladies who assisted at the tea. The bells at Exminster and Topsham were rung during the afternoon and evening, some excellent striking being heard.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A very successful meeting of the above was held at Baring on Saturday, February 21st. Ringing commenced at 3 o'clock, and service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. Granville Sharp), assisted by the Rev. H. P. Brewer, a life member of the association, who gave an interesting address, Mr. W. E. Pitman, Mus.Bac., presiding at the organ.

After service, at the kind invitation of the Rector, tea was partaken of at the Church Classroom, 40 members sitting down, and 14 towers being represented.

At the business meeting which followed, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded the Rector (who was elected an honorary member of the association) for his kindness; also to the churchwarden and to the ladies who had helped to make the meeting a success.

CONSTRUCTIONAL SHUNTS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—A word of appreciation is due to Mr. Trollope for his very lucid article, 'Concerning Constructional Shunts.' I venture to say that nothing clearer, or more easily understood, has ever been written on ringing intricacies. It is not everyone who understands the difficulty of clear writing. Easy reading means hard writing. Not only must a man have a gift of expressing himself well, he must also have the industry to be content to re-write over and over again, until what seems natural, but is really hard-won, clearness is attained.

But I am bound to add that I could not have understood this article had it not been for the discussion on the word 'Shunt' a few weeks ago. Knowing that to shunt anything is to push it away, to remove what is an obstruction, to discard what is unwanted for the time being, I should have been all the time looking out for what was in the way, or what it was that was being discarded. As this article will not always be read in conjunction with the correspondence referred to, why does Mr. Trollope reduce his writing to merely ephemeral interest, by the use of such a dubious word? Even when he clearly says that 'Each shunt is one step in the Treble's cyclical path in coursing order,' he does not point out what is absolutely necessary, if his words are to be understood, viz., that there is no discarding of anything.

Moreover, the error here is not only that of doing what ought not to be done, but of not doing what ought to be done. For Mr. Trollope speaks of blemishes which have to be removed. Obviously these are the things that have to be shunted, and the 'means' of which he speaks, by which they are removed, are the true 'Constructional Shunts.'

Now, truth in language is at least as important as truth in a method, or in a peal. And if we once begin to play fast and loose with it, we shall never know when to stop on the facile descent from the tableland of rectitude. So one is not surprised to find that everyone else who uses this error of Mr. Trollope's uses it with a fresh distinction of perversity, until we get to Mr. George Baker, with his fantastic Single, Double and Treble Shunts, and other fancy terms, which make what he writes so impossible to understand that one wonders if he understands it himself!

But, after all, why this difficulty? Mr. Trollope keeps on telling us that a 'Shunt' is a 'Step.' I suppose there cannot be a greater contradiction in terms. A Shunt may be a 'push aside,' or a 'glide aside,' but it can hardly be a 'step aside,' much less can it be a 'step,' with the 'aside' left out. Well, what is the matter with the good old word 'Step'? From a former article, it seemed as though the idea of a lift was more in Mr. Trollope's mind, but in this article he presses the word 'Step.' What then can be better than to say, 'A Step is the operation by which a bell is lifted a degree in its cyclical path in coursing order through the method.'

If, however, a distinctive term is still sought, for some reason, at any rate let it be one connected with the word 'step,' and not with a railway train—about the last thing in the world that can 'step'! Such words are 'grade,' 'graduate,' 'degree.' How would a 'gradum,' or to 'graduate,' answer the purpose?

Ufford Rectory.

HERBERT DRAKE.

ST. MARY ABBOTS GUILD, KENSINGTON.

On Tuesday evening, Feb. 10th, the annual dinner of the above Guild was held in the St. Mary Abbots' Parish Hall, 21 members and friends being present, including Mr. R. Carter (treasurer), the Rev. Stanley A. Spackman (chaplain), Messrs. R. A. Daniell, A. F. Harris, G. H. Harding (Bath) and Mrs. R. J. Wilkins (Bristol). The company was not so large as in previous years, Sir Stanley Von Donop, Captain Feilden, and Messrs. C. F. Winney and R. Holloway being unable to be present owing to illness. Dr. Forrest Browne, in a letter regretting his inability to be present, stated how much the parishioners appreciated the bell ringers' work, but said that for reasons of health, he was obliged to decline all invitations to dine out in the evening.

In the absence of the Vicar (the Rev. E. Marling-Robert) Mr. R. Carter took the chair, and an excellent dinner was done full justice to by all.

Several toasts were most enthusiastically drunk, and between the speeches some good songs were sung by Messrs. A. B. Bennett, R. A. Daniell, H. G. Miles, A. F. Harris and E. G. Locke, the Rev. S. A. Spackman presiding at the piano.

Mr. Carter told the company some humorous stories from his extensive repertoire, which were much appreciated by all. A course each of Stedman Triples and Grandsire Caters was rung on the handbells by Messrs. W. E. Garrard, H. G. Miles, W. E. Judd, C. W. Roberts and A. F. Harris.

The members desire to thank Mr. Carter, the Rev. S. A. Spackman, and those who did so much to make this gathering a success.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

DERBY DISTRICT AND PROPOSED CHANGES IN RULES.

A meeting of the Derby District was held at Ripley on Saturday, February 28th, members being present from Alvaston, Derby, Duffield, Elvaston, Long Eaton, Ripley and Swanwick. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Double Norwich Major were brought round during the afternoon.

A business meeting was held in the belfry, presided over by Mr. G. Freebrey, and it was agreed to hold the next meeting at Spondon on March 23rd.

A discussion took place on the proposed new rules, recommended by the Nottingham District. — It was unanimously agreed that these alterations were too drastic, and the secretary was instructed not to support them, but vote for a rule authorising the payment of printing and postage from the general funds for local district meetings, etc.

The Secretary drew the attention of members to 'The Ringing World,' and pointed out the desirability of all ringers subscribing to the paper.—This was supported by Mr. Wallace.

Tea was partaken of in a near-by cafe, after which some of the members left for Ockbrook to ring handbells at a concert, while others returned to the belfry for more ringing, and this brought an enjoyable half-day to a close.

RINGER'S WEDDING.

On Saturday, February 28th, a touch of 700 changes of Grandsire Triples was rung at Sible Hedingham: H. Wiseman 1, L. Wiseman (conductor) 2, O. Brody 3, F. Wiseman 4, A. Wash 5, C. Barker 6, R. Young 7, W. Cross 8. This was rung immediately after the wedding of Mr. Ronald Rayner, one of the local company. Owing to another service at the church a peal could not be attempted on that day, but an attempt was made on Sunday, March 1st. This, however, came to grief after ringing 2,016 Grandsire Triples, through the conductor missing a bob, and the bells were allowed to run round: L. Wiseman (conductor) 1, B. Pettitt 2, Miss E. Pettitt 3, H. Cooper 4, A. Wash 5, C. Barker 6, S. Wilding 7, W. Cross 8.—For evening service, 504 Grandsire Triples: H. Wiseman 1, R. Rayner 2, L. Wiseman (conductor) 3, F. Wiseman 4, A. Wash 5, B. Pettitt 6, S. Wilding 7, W. Cross 8.

THE LATE LADY MARY HOWARD.

During the past week, Sheffield lost its first Lady Mayoress, by the death of Lady Mary Howard. Being the late Duke of Norfolk's sister, it fell to her lot to hold the companion office of Lady Mayoress at the time her brother was Mayor of Sheffield, the Duchess having died some time previously. The generous support which the Howard family have given to the Roman Catholic Church of St. Marie's, Norfolk Row, Sheffield, will always be remembered by local ringers, for it was through the instrumentality of the late duke that the very fine peal of eight were erected.

The death of Lady Mary Howard thus severs another link with the past, and as a token of respect, St. Marie's bells were rung muffled for evening service on Sunday last.

DARTFORD LITTLE BOB MAJOR.

We recorded last week the first peal of Dartford Little Bob Major, and we give below the method and the composition.

THE METHOD. 5,040, by G. H. CROSS.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	23456	M	W	H
21436587	54236	—	S	
24135678	25436	—	—	
42316587	42536	—	—	
24315678	53426	—	—	
42136587	64325	—	—	
41263857	36425	—	—	
14628375	42365	—	—	
14263857	53264	—	—	
Bobs and Singles	25364	—	—	
as in Bob Major.	32564	—	—	
	45263	—	—	
	24563	—	—	
	52463	—	—	
	34265	—	—	
	23465	—	—	

Five times repeated, with B for S in all but the 4th part.

First rung at Dartford, Feb. 21st, 1925, conducted by E. Barnett, senr.

TREETON, YORKS.—At St. Helen's Church, on Tuesday, Feb. 24th, 720 London Surprise Minor: J. Haywood 1, F. Hanson (conductor) 2, A. Pashley 3, S. Haywood 4, A. Allwood 5, A. Tinkler 6. First 720 in the method for all ringers.

DUMB-BELL APPARATUS.*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Occasionally, in quite unexpected quarters in the realm of literature, one comes across a reference to bell ringing. For instance, there is in that interesting book, 'Here, There, and Everywhere,' by Lord Fredk. Hamilton (who was acquainted with the late Canon Simpson), a lengthy paragraph in appreciation of the 'Simpson' tuning of bells.

My attention has just been called to a chapter in 'Leaves from the notebooks of Lady Dorothy Nevill,' describing Knole, the beautiful treasure house of the Sackvilles, wherein there is an account of a curious dumb-bell apparatus. I quote verbatim:—

'A curious feature of Knole is the attic which for generations has been known as the Dumb-bell Gallery, on account of its containing a quaint wooden machine something like a windless without handles. Around the middle of the roller is wound a rope, and at each end are four irons terminating in a ball of lead. The rope formerly passed through a hole in the floor into a gallery below, and anyone pulling it would cause the roller to revolve and rewind the rope again, giving the person pulling the same exercise as is obtained by ringing a church bell. In the seventeenth century, bell ringing was a very popular pastime, and probably it was about this time that the machine was set up, in order to afford opportunities for silent practice.

'A dumb-bell machine of the same kind, or rather the remains of it, was also in existence up to some few years ago at New College, Oxford—indeed, it may be still there to-day.'

I am wondering whether anyone at Oxford, or in the neighbourhood of Knole, could give any further information as to the dumb-bell apparatus in question, and as to any helves where such an apparatus is, or was, installed.—Yours very truly, G. P. BURTON.

YOUNG RINGER'S DEATH.

The funeral of Arthur Cooper, who died at the age of 21 years, took place at St. Thomas's Church, Newhey, on Thursday, Feb. 26th. The deceased was a ringer at this church, and a member of the Rochdale Branch of the Lancashire Association, and in the evening, as a last token of respect, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) was rung with the bells muffled: J. Meadowcroft 1, R. Thompson 2, J. Wood 3, J. L. Rhodes 4, E. Smith 5, C. Dearden 6, C. A. Smith 7, S. S. Pittou 8.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

The spring meeting of the Newbury Branch took place at Nease-more on Saturday, Feb. 21st. The following towers were represented: Beedon, Brightwalton, Bucklebury, Cheiveley, East Hsley, Newbury, Thatcham and Yattendon, together with the local men.

The Rector (the Rev. C. T. Hayes), who is an honorary member of the Guild, officiated at the service, and gave an address. Tea followed in the Church Room, about 60 sitting down. After tea, the Rev. E. W. Thorp proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector, organist, and the ladies who had so kindly provided the tea.

Bucklebury was chosen for the summer meeting, and a bye-meeting is to be held at Compton on April 24th.

A sum of four guineas was voted to the Brightwalton Bell Fund, and two guineas to the Washbrook Memorial Fund, several companies promising sums of 10s. and upwards in addition.

This concluded the business, and the tower was again visited, ringing being kept up until 8.30.

The methods rung comprised Plain Bob, Grandsire, Stedman and Treble Bob.

A most successful meeting of the East Berks and South Bucks Branch was held at Penn on Saturday last, the methods rung ranging from Grandsire Doubles to London Surprise.

Although only a six-bell tower, a band could have been made up from the attendance for Stedman Cinques or Treble Twelve. An excellent tea was arranged by Mrs. A. W. Randall, some thirty persons doing justice to it. The Master (the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn) and the general secretary (Mr. R. T. Hibbert) were present, their support being much appreciated. Ringing was continued until 9 p.m., when a fine 'run down' brought a pleasant meeting to a close.

SONNING DEANERY BRANCH.

A combined practice was held at Binfield on February 28th, when 21 members were present from St. Lawrence's, Reading, Wokingham, Easthampstead, Sandhurst, Twyford, Wargrave, Hurst, Waltham St. Lawrence and Binfield. Touches of Stedman, Grandsire, Plain Bob, Oxford and Kent and Cambridge Surprise were rung.

WINCHESTER.—On Saturday, Feb. 21st, at the Cathedral, on the back ten, 537 Stedman Caters: E. P. Duffield 1, G. Williams (conductor) 2, G. Pullinger 3, W. Tate 4, R. Paine 5, F. S. Bayley 6, W. Andrews 7, G. Noice 8, J. W. Trappitt, senr., 9, F. W. Rogers 10. Also touches of Bob Royal, Treble Ten and Stedman Triples.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The 'gathering of the clans' during last week-end at Birmingham brought together ringers from nearly half the counties of England—at any rate residents in at least seventeen English counties and one Welsh county were present.

The proceedings began, as usual, with ringing and the Henry Johnson Dinner on Saturday, and were continued throughout Sunday. Several of the visitors did not find their way home until Monday.

Mr. Tom Russam, who was present, has not missed a Johnson dinner since the inception, and Mr. A. Padden Smith and Mr. Harry Withers have attended no fewer than 27 without a break.

The death, from pneumonia, is announced of the Rev. C. C. Child, of St. Agnes', Kennington, who was one of the original members of the Oxford University Guild, and rang, we believe, in the Guild's first peal, and was also in the first clerical peal, at Drayton.

At Solihull they have something to Bragg about. Ten close relatives rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters on Sunday evening and seven of the band can boast of the name of Bragg.

The hon. secretary of the Middlesex Association must be very proud of his son and heir. At the age of 14 years, Charles, junior, has scored his first peal, having rung the treble to Grandsire Caters. Congratulations to father and son.

His many friends will regret to hear that Mr. George N. Prier is ill, and his condition is serious.

The great scheme for recasting York Minster bells is progressing, and the old peal have been removed from the tower to the Loughborough Foundry.

A peal of 'Double Bob Royal 10-in' was rung at St. Mary's, Nottingham, on March 7th, 1791. The peal was called by W. D. Crofts, and there were two men on the 9th and two on the tenor. There would be few bands to-day prepared to ring a peal under these conditions.

One of the very earliest long peals, and a truly remarkable performance for those days, was the 12,603 Grandsire Caters at Norwich on March 8th, 1737. It was only in the previous year that the bells had been augmented to ten. The tenor was rung singly by a young ringer for 8,000 changes, and by a second ringer for the rest of the peal, which was completed in 8 hours 15 minutes.

On March 10th, 1784, a peal of 7,008 Oxford Treble Bob Maximus was rung at Southwark in 5 hours 48 minutes by the College Youths.

March 12th is the anniversary of the first peal of Treble Bob Maximus. This was in 1758, and was also rung at Southwark by the College Youths.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL BELLS.

LONG-SILENT PEAL TO BE AUGMENTED.

As a memorial to the late Dean of Carlisle (Dr. Hastings Rashdall) Mrs. Rashdall has generously offered to defray the cost of rehanging and adding to the Cathedral bells, which, except for a doleful ding-dong and a mechanical hymn tune, have been silent for the best part of a century.

The tradition is that the bells were rung last to welcome 'Bonnie Prince Charlie' in 1745, and that, in consequence of this indiscretion the Government forbade them to be rung again. The legend was taken so seriously in 1837 that Queen Victoria wrote to ask Dean Close whether it was because of this supposed embargo that the bells of Carlisle were conspicuously silent at her Jubilee.

The present peal of six, with a tenor of about 20 cwt. is to be increased to eight, and the work is to be carried out by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

J. W. WASHBROOK MEMORIAL FUND.

The treasurer of the above fund, Mr. A. J. Wright, of 40, Harton Road, Reading, has received from various associations, towers and friends the sum of £60, and has the promise of a few pounds more. Whilst thanking all those who have contributed, we must point out that a great deal more is needed before the work can be put in hand, and, therefore, ask all intending subscribers to send their contributions to A. J. Wright and R. T. Hibbert, joint secs.

INCUMBENTS IN THE BELFRY.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In reference to the above, I should like to point out that our Rector (the Rev. F. R. Bonsey, late President of the Middlesex County Association) rings regularly twice on a Sunday—for morning and evening services—and once a week for practice. He also takes part in any additional ringing that there may be. He is always to be found in the belfry with a smile. He is not only popular amongst his ringers, but also amongst his parishioners generally, especially the sick.—Yours truly,

Wrentham, Suffolk.

F. W. NAUNTON.

HENRY JOHNSON COMMEMORATION DINNER.

REPRESENTATIVE GATHERING AT BIRMINGHAM.
SUGGESTED FREEMASONS' LODGE.

Characterised by all the enthusiasm of former years, and given a special interest because it was the first public appearance of the Rector-Designate of Birmingham, the 37th annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner was held at Birmingham on Saturday. Always a great attraction, on account of the extremely friendly atmosphere which pervades the whole proceedings, the gathering this year drew together a company of nearly 170 from all parts of the country. Not only were the visitors from afar welcomed by the members of St. Martin's Guild, under whose auspices the dinner is held, but the utmost cordiality prevailed, and a warm hospitality was found round the festive board, and both in and out of the towers. Ringing took place at St. Martin's, the Cathedral and Bishop Ryder's Church in the afternoon, and at the dinner the chair was taken by Alderman J. S. Pritchett (Presiding Ringing Master of the Guild), the chief guest of the evening being the Rev. Canon S. Guy Rogers (late of West Ham), who was to be inducted three days later as Rector of Birmingham. Among others supporting the chairman were Mr. J. J. Kendall (churchwarden of St. Martin's), the Rev. Canon Blofeld (Vicar of Edghaston), the Rev. Dunn (King's Norton), the Rev. Jenkins (curate of St. Martin's), Mr. P. Yates (Ringing Master, St. Nicholas' Guild, King's Norton), Mr. W. R. Heaton, Mr. J. W. Tiller and Mr. Tunstall (Harborne), Mr. A. Paddon Smith (hon. secretary) and Mrs. Paddon Smith, Mr. A. Walker (Deputy Ringing Master) and Mrs. and Miss Walker, Mr. A. A. Hughes (London), Mr. W. H. Phillips (churchwarden of Aston) and Mrs. Phillips, Mr. J. S. Goldsmith (Woking), etc. The members of the Guild were present in large numbers, and included Messrs. J. H. Shepherd, W. Kent and T. Russam (vice-presidents), C. Dickens (trustee), T. H. Reeves and J. Preston (auditors), Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Groves, Mrs. Russam, Messrs. J. Neal, T. Miller, E. Mansell, H. Withers, P. Luffin, J. George, J. W. Pemberton, etc. Among the visitors were the following: Mr. J. D. Matthews (Master), Mr. J. Sparrow (hon. secretary) and Mr. C. Matthews (Royal Cumberland Youths, London), Mr. and Mrs. R. F. Deal (London), Mr. P. J. Jackson (hon. secretary, Yorkshire Association), Mr. A. E. Sharman (hon. secretary, Beds Association), Mr. A. Payne (Durham and Newcastle Association), Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Hughes (Rhyl), Mr. H. W. Wilde (Pulford, Cheshire), Mr. J. Oldham (representing Messrs. Taylor and Co.), Mr. S. J. Roper (representing Messrs. Gillett and Johnston), Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. J. Paget, Mr. and Mrs. S. Dawson, Miss Faulk and Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Smallwood (Derby), Mr. S. F. Palmer (Sheffield), Mr. E. C. Shepherd and Mr. F. Price (Beeston), Mr. and Mrs. W. Thomas, Mr. W. Knight and Mr. J. Burford (Bristol), Mr. T. King (Bath), Mr. J. Ausin (Gloucester), Mr. A. E. Parsons and Mr. Madden (Old Hill), Mr. W. Nevard and Mr. D. Elliott (Essex), Mr. W. J. Hazell (Edmonton), Mr. T. J. Salter (Kidderminster), Mr. F. W. Perrins (Coventry), Mr. W. Saunders (Coalbrookdale), and many others.

Apologies for absence were received from the Rev. J. H. Richards (Colchill), the Rev. T. B. Harvey Brooks, Archdeacon of Aston, the Rev. W. J. Cole (Aston), Mr. H. Buckingham (churchwarden of Aston), Mr. C. F. Johnston (Croydon), Mr. Pryce Taylor (Loughborough), Mr. Harry Mason (Bournemouth), Mr. J. Jagger (Oldbury) and Mr. W. Mead (Clun). A telegram with best wishes for a successful evening was received from Messrs. Cockerell and Rowbottom, of the College Youths. The toast list and programme, prepared by the secretary, was again a happily conceived souvenir of the occasion, containing a photograph of Henry Johnson, and being studded with apt quotations from a variety of sources, which added piquancy to more prosaic items in the menu and toast list.

After an excellently served dinner, the loyal toast was enthusiastically honoured.

Mr. J. J. Kendall proposed the toast of 'Church and State.' It was well to connect the two in one toast, he said, because it would be a fatal day for England if Church and State were separated.

BIRMINGHAM'S NEW RECTOR.

Canon Guy Rogers had an extremely cordial reception on rising to reply. He said he had really no right to appear there that evening, because as yet he was not their Rector, but he regarded it as a great honour to make his first public appearance in Birmingham in connection with that honourable and famous St. Martin's Guild. He bore from the Essex Association a greeting to them. In the old church at West Ham, from which he had just come, they had a peal of ten bells, and the fame of St. Martin's Guild was well known there, and he was charged to bring them a message of greeting (applause). He regarded himself as extraordinarily fortunate in com-

ing to a church which had such a reputation in the bell ringing world as St. Martin's, Birmingham, and, therefore, he was proud to be associated with them that night. One of his old ringers had said to him in a humorous way that he was one of the people who made a noise up aloft. He (the speaker) thought he might add to that, that he (Canon Rogers) was one of those who made a noise down below (laughter). They up aloft with the bells, if they did their part in the right spirit, helped people towards a sense of worship and an understanding that religion counted for something in the world, just as much as he did who tried to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ down below. He rejoiced that they were associated in this splendid work, not only in making religion the common possession of the people of England, but trying to present it to them in an attractive way as well. He supposed there were occasions when the Church and State had sometimes been presented to the world in a somewhat sinister connection, but when they thought of the real meaning of that toast they all agreed it was worth while proposing, and that it was an honour to respond to it. It meant that they, the people of this country, could not really do their best, or be their best apart from religion, and they were rendering a service to this country in making the religion of Jesus Christ known and felt to its uttermost borders. He supposed there were three things people asked of religion. One was that it should give them a reasonable answer to the riddle of existence; secondly, that it should set before them a moral standard; and, thirdly, that it should give them power to perform it. They all needed an answer to the questions where they had come from and where they were going to, and what was the meaning of life, and he believed their religion supplied that answer. He believed if they were to pull down all the churches of this country, a demand would presently arise to rebuild them, because man needed religion, and because he must have an answer to the riddle of existence. And they must have an answer to the question, 'What is the moral standard to which they should live up?' Religion supplied them with that standard; it was a standard which had not varied from generation to generation, and it set before them the standard to which all men in all time should approximate. It also supplied them with the power to perform their duty. It was not merely for the clergyman to do his duty in this matter, but for all of them to join together in this great profession of making religion a real living thing. It depended on the bell ringers of Birmingham, as well as the clergy, and it was only when the clergy and laity were joined in one great force and made the Gospel of Jesus Christ a reality that the Church and State could fulfil their proper function and bring in the Kingdom of God (applause).

Mr. T. J. Bratton was entrusted with the toast of 'The Immortal Memory of Henry Johnson.' He said he first made the acquaintance of Henry Johnson just fifty years ago, when the Birmingham worthy brought a band to Shrewsbury, where he (the speaker) was living. It was this acquaintance with Mr. Johnson and the Birmingham men which became the inspiration of what he was able to do later in Shrewsbury and Welshpool, just in the same way as acquaintance with Mr. Johnson became the inspiration of many another man. Henry Johnson had the privilege of living in the mid-Victorian age, which was the finest period the world had ever seen. He was a genius of his day, and he left many beautiful compositions behind him. That gathering was, as it were, the ashes of Henry Johnson, and his memory was embalmed with them, and would ever remain.

The toast was drunk in silence, and afterwards three leads of Treble Rob Fourteen were rung by Messrs. T. Russam, A. Walker, P. Luffin, G. F. Swann, J. E. Groves, A. E. Norman and M. J. Morris.

REVIEW OF THE YEAR.

The Chairman then submitted 'Continued Prosperity to St. Martin's Guild.' He was happy, he said, for the first time for many years to say that their ranks had not been thinned by death in a single instance, but they lamented the absence from that gathering of their old friend, Mr. W. Rock Small. He was now 85 years of age, but, he was pleased to say, was in better health at the present time than he had been for the past two years. Mr. John Buffery, now the 'father' of the Guild, was also prevented by ill-health and infirmity from being present, and Mr. John Carter had also written to say he would be present with them in spirit, but on account of his infirmity he could not join them. He hoped their secretary would write to these three gentlemen and inform them that they

were in the thoughts of all present that evening (hear, hear). He was very pleased to see that they had such a magnificent gathering that night, and that they had with them many distinguished guests. One especially he would like to mention, because of the remarkable performance in which she had recently taken part, when she rang in a peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus; a performance that marked her as one of the most distinguished campanologists in this country; he referred to Mrs. Dick Deal (applause). The past year had been a most successful one for the Guild. From the report of his deputy, Mr. Albert Walker, he found that they had rung 39 peals, 32 in the tower, and seven on handbells. Amongst the most notable of these was a peal at Lichfield Cathedral, on one of the rare occasions when a peal was allowed, this being to celebrate the jubilee as a ringer at the Cathedral of Mr. Fred Cope. Then there was the splendid peal of Stedman Cinques at Exeter Cathedral, on the famous ring with its 72½ cwt. tenor, the first peal rung on these twelve bells. Congratulations on this peal came in from all parts of the country, and the members of the Guild would be glad to know that the magnificent performance was to be properly commemorated by a suitable tablet, by permission of the Dean and Chapter. Then there was the successful twelve-bell week, when peals were rung at Leicester, Birmingham, West Bromwich, Painswick and Cirencester, the only failure being at Wolverhampton, where a rope broke. This tour enabled members of the Guild residing outside Birmingham to meet and ring peals in towers other than St. Martin's. It was also interesting to know that the peal rung during that week at St. Martin's was the 200th peal on the bells, and they had in their peal books a complete record of every peal from the year 1755 down to the present day (hear, hear). In November, by kind invitation of the Vicar of Cheltenham, the Guild visited the Parish Church, and rang the first peal of Stedman Cinques on Cheltenham bells. There had been, continued the speaker, a very fair attendance on practice nights, but it might have been better. The service ringing had been splendidly maintained throughout the year, and the ringers in May last broadcast three courses of Stedman Cinques, the first time that bells rung in changes had ever been heard by wireless. The experiment was most successful, and only on the preceding Sunday a similar experiment was carried out from St. Philip's Church, when a touch of Stedman Caters was broadcast. Proceeding, Alderman Pritchett said he desired to mention the splendid services rendered to the Guild by his Deputy, Mr. Albert Walker (applause). As presiding Ringing Master he shone by Mr. Walker's reflected glory (laughter). It was he who, with the secretary, kept the Guild together (applause). On behalf of the Guild, Mr. Walker had attended dinners at Bristol, York and London, and he would like to add, that he (the speaker) attended the College Youths' Dinner, and on that occasion celebrated the 50th anniversary of his membership (applause).

SUGGESTED RINGERS' LODGE OF FREEMASONS.

There was an attempt to ring a Masonic peal on the 27th December, when eleven ringers, who were also Freemasons, came from all parts of England, only to meet with disappointment, through the failure of the twelfth man to reach Birmingham. Disappointments were not rare in ringing, and he never knew disappointment in one or two instances to prevent success at last, and he was quite certain that there would be the first Masonic peal of Cinques rung at St. Martin's Church in that town (applause). And while he mentioned Freemasonry and ringing, he would like to see a Freemasons' Lodge of ringers established in London, the qualification being that every member must have rung a peal. He had no doubt if such a lodge were started there would be a very large number of country members who would join it. Continuing, Alderman Pritchett said the continued prosperity of that Guild depended largely on Mr. Walker, the Deputy Ringing Master, and still more largely on Mr. Smith, their indefatigable secretary (applause). No words could express the value of their services, and were he to do them justice it might seem fulsome exaggeration to those who did not know them as well as the members of the Guild did (applause).

The toast was coupled with the name of Mr. A. Paddon Smith, whose health was drunk with musical honours.

Mr. Paddon Smith, in responding, said he would like to take that, the earliest opportunity he had had, of saying how exceedingly proud they were to have the Rector-to-be of Birmingham with them. They were exceedingly fortunate to have him with them, and he had done that old Guild the greatest honour (applause). However many dinners he attended in the future it could not mean so much to them as having him there with them that night (applause). And after all it was not inappropriate that the Rector should come first among the ringers in entering his new parish, for on approaching the church the first thing one saw was the spire, the first thing one heard was the bells, that was, if they were in time (laughter), and the first people to greet the Rector were the ringers, and it was in accordance with the fitness of things, therefore, that the ringers should be the first of all his new organisations to welcome him to the great

city of Birmingham on his first public appearance (applause). If the Rector held any wrong ideas with regard to ringers and ringing, that gathering might help to remove some of the reproaches with which they had been saddled for generations by ignorant people (hear, hear). They had some eminent clergy present, and he would like to take that opportunity of submitting, with all due deference, that the time had come when they should cease to stress the point that the ringers' task was to call the people to church. Whatever case there was in the past for holding that view, he contended it had entirely disappeared in these days of universal clocks and watches. They ought to regard ringing, and especially ringing on Sunday before the services, as a great act of praise and thanksgiving (hear, hear), frequently the greatest act of praise performed at the church on a Sunday morning, and far transcending the sermon in importance (laughter). The Rector had already referred to them as the people who made the noise up aloft, and that was not a bad idea, for the voice of the bells reached out in the open spaces and the sunless slums, they reached out to many places where the preacher's voice could never reach. There were people who would not come to hear the preacher, but unless they moved—and there were certain difficulties about moving in these days—they had got to hear the bells (laughter). He considered in this matter that they were carrying out the Psalmist's injunction to 'Praise Him on the loud cymbals; praise Him on the well-tuned cymbals.' The bells were the cymbals, and it was up to the parsons to see that they were well-tuned. At King's Norton they had lately taken a great step, and had indeed got well-tuned cymbals (hear, hear). They had an excellent band of ringers to ring them, but, unfortunately, they had only eight bells. He hoped before long they would find them turned into an equally splendid peal of ten (applause).

A course of Stedman Cinques was rung by Messrs. Laffin, Swann, Walker, Smallwood, Norman and Withers, and the Chairman then announced that the 115th anniversary of the birth of Henry Johnson had been celebrated that day by a peal of London Surprise Major rung at Bishop Ryder's Church.

Mr. Albert Walker proposed 'The Visitors,' and remarked that they had the support that evening of friends from the College Youths, the Cumberland Youths, the Surrey Association, the Gloucester and Bristol Association, the Durham and Newcastle Association, the Chester Diocesan Guild, the Lancashire Association, the Midland Counties Association, the Shropshire Guild, the North Wales, the Bath and Wells, the Essex, the Bedfordshire, the Herts, the Yorkshire, the Worcestershire, and other Associations, they had also with them representatives of the great foundries at Whitechapel, Loughborough and Croydon, and to all the visitors they extended a hearty welcome. They missed one or two faces from among visitors of past years, notably Mr. Ted Horrex, who was 87 that day, Mr. John Carter and Mr. Harry Chapman, of Manchester, who were prevented from attending by indisposition. They were always glad to welcome visitors to Birmingham, and he hoped that those who were with them that evening would join them on many future occasions (applause).

Mr. A. A. Hughes first responded, and expressed the appreciation of the visitors of the kindness shown to them at Birmingham on that and many similar occasions. At the meeting of the College Youths on the preceding Tuesday evening he was requested to convey the hearty greetings of that society to all their friends at Birmingham, and he wished, on behalf of all the visitors, to thank St. Martin's Guild for their most cordial welcome.

A STORY OF JASPER SNOWDON.

Mr. P. J. Johnson, referring to an injunction by the chairman at the outset of the proceedings that speeches were not to exceed five minutes each, said he was reminded of a perfectly authentic story told in connection with a great Yorkshire ringer—the founder of their association. He was a man of indomitable energy, and was not particularly patient when he had to listen to long sermons. His father was Vicar of Ilkley, and one Sunday morning, when he was preaching, the son, who was in the congregation, pulled out his watch and looked at it with some sign of impatience. To the astonishment of everyone the preacher leaned over from the pulpit, and said, 'All right, Jasper, I shan't be long now' (laughter). The Chairman, continued Mr. Johnson, had said that he lived in the reflected glory of his Deputy Ringing Master. He thought many of the visitors to Birmingham lived in the reflected glory of the Deputy Ringing Master, so far as ringing achievements were concerned. He personally was indebted to the Guild for carrying a distinctly raw novice through certain handbell peals, which he was certain the other ringers would remember if he did not (laughter). He believed he was correct in saying that the Yorkshire Association was the oldest of the county associations in the country, and he felt it a compliment to his own association to be asked to respond to that toast on behalf of the visitors, because they felt they had in their own founder a man than whom the Exercise had never known a greater, and they were conferring honour on the name of Snowdon in coming to pay tribute to one of his great predecessors in the art of change ringing. He thanked them most heartily for the welcome extended

to the visitors, and he could assure them that, whether they liked it or not, he intended to come to those gatherings as long as he was able (laughter and applause).

Mr. T. H. Reeves proposed the toast of 'The Ringing World.' He said the ordinary Press was lamentably ignorant on ringing matters, and it was, therefore, essential that the Exercise should have its own paper. They had that paper in 'The Ringing World,' and every ringer should support it, because the better it was supported the more it would increase in value and interest. Referring to the controversies which took place in the columns of the paper between the experts, he suggested that it would be far better if the experts would conduct their arguments through the post, because much of what they had to say did not interest the ordinary ringer.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, whose name was coupled with the toast, alluding to the experts' controversies, pointed out that there was also another side to the one put by the proposer. While the experts might never agree on some subjects, the publication of their views led others to think over these more advanced matters for themselves, and eventually to profit from what they had read. In this respect it enabled progress to be made, which could not be so general if the experts had to limit themselves to the post.

CHAIRMAN'S MANY-SIDED ACTIVITIES.

Mr. Paddon Smith submitted the 'Health of the Chairman,' and referred to the many departments in life, apart from ringing, in which Alderman Pritchett achieved fame, notably in Freemasonry, in civic affairs, and in the law. It was true, he said, that their chairman had not yet been Lord Mayor of Birmingham, but the Lord Mayor had to do what Alderman Pritchett told him (laughter). He was the honoured Presiding Ringing Master of their Guild, and he (the speaker) realised that there was nothing further that they could offer him, unless he could become the Lord Bishop of Birmingham (laughter). So long, however, as he was prepared to accept the office which he now held they desired no other occupant (hear, hear). He had not only the confidence and esteem, but the love of every member of the Guild, and the Guild was honoured in having at its head such an honoured and highly placed gentleman (applause).

The Chairman, in replying to the toast, which was enthusiastically received, said the Guild had conferred on him the highest possible honour in making him their Presiding Ringing Master. It was one of the proudest things of his life to have held that position. He had had a long life, a healthful life, and a pleasurable life, and one of the greatest pleasures in his long life had been his association with bells and bell ringing (applause). In conclusion, the Chairman thanked the artists, Mr. Tom Davies and Mr. Dai Thomas, and the St. Martin's Quartette for their delightful entertainment, which had been appreciated and enjoyed by everyone.

The two first named contributed songs and duets, and the latter sang a number of quartettes, in which their well-balanced voices were heard to perfection.

Mrs. Tom Davis was the accompanist.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, Feb. 28th, a very successful meeting of the Yorktown District was held at Ottershaw, and there was a very good attendance of members from the various towers in the district—a great improvement on some past meetings. Ringing commenced at three o'clock, and various methods were rung, both before and after the service and meeting, ranging from Grandsire Doubles to Cambridge Surprise Minor.

The Vicar (the Rev. G. S. Richards) conducted the service, and attended the tea, but was unable to stay to the business meeting.

The Ringing Master (Mr. H. J. Chaffoy) was elected to the chair, and was supported by Mr. G. Atfield, Vicar's warden.

Two new members were elected, and it was proposed to hold a combined service at Pirbright in March, and Chobham or Bagshot in April.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar for granting permission to hold the meeting, and for conducting the Guild's service; also to Mr. G. Atfield for having the bells in readiness, and for making the necessary arrangements for the tea.

TOTTENHAM.—At All Hallows', on Sunday evening, Feb. 22nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: W. Dickinson 1, H. A. Barnett 2, W. J. Ellis 3, S. W. Crabbs 4, H. W. H. Strickland 5, H. Ellis 6, C. A. Bulton (conductor) 7, E. A. Hull 8.

COLESHILL.—On Sunday, January 11th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Bob Triples, in 45 mins.: F. Clayton (conductor) 1, T. Davis 2, E. Morris (first quarter inside) 3, J. Field 4, T. Goldby 5, G. Dale 6, G. Davis 7, W. Simmonds 8.—For evening service, on January 18th, another, in 42 mins.: Miss E. Morris 1, F. Clayton (conductor) 3, rest as before. Also 120 Stedman Doubles. First 120 by T. Davis and E. Morris.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.

THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Surrey Association was held at Leatherhead on Saturday, when about 40 members were present from all parts of the district. The business meeting was presided over by Mr. Chas. R. Reading, of Christ Church, Mitcham, while all the secretaries were present.

Mrs. Hobson, wife of the Vicar of Leatherhead, looked in at the meeting, and tendered her husband's apologies for his absence, which was in consequence of his being called to Winchester. — A vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells, and Mrs. Hobson was asked to convey this to him.

The place of the next annual meeting was fixed for St. Peter's, South Croydon, in January next.

Mr. J. D. Drewett wrote tendering his resignation as Ringing Master, on the grounds of illness, but the members felt Mr. Drewett had so long been connected with the association, and had so endeared himself to them, that they much preferred his remaining master, even if the position was only held nominally, and, therefore, he and all the other officers were re-elected for the year.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded Mr. Arthur Dean for arranging the tea and obtaining the use of the bells. Ringing commenced at 3 o'clock, and continued until late in the evening, touches in various methods from Cambridge Royal downwards being rung.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

STOCKPORT BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING.

Cheadle was the venue of the Stockport Branch annual meeting on Saturday, February 21st, and as usual there was a good attendance. The Parish Church, dedicated to St. Mary, is a typical old Cheshire Church, a good photograph of which appears in the Rev. F. E. Robinson's book, 'Among the Bells' (page 496). Ringing is performed on the ground floor, consequently there is a long draught, which is a source of difficulty to visitors at first. The back six bells were cast by Abel Rudhall in 1749, with a tenor of 13½ cwt. In 1882, two trebles were added by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. These were requisitioned in good time, and kept going until 4.30 p.m., when service was held. This was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. W. Brown Pollock), who gave an excellent address.

Tea was provided at the Parish Hall, and no trouble or pains had been spared in making provision for the visitors. There were fifty members present, and the Rector joined the party at tea, but, as he was unable to stay through the business meeting, he was accorded a cordial vote of thanks, and to this he made a hearty reply.

The Hon. Secretary reported the deaths of Mr. Joshua Howcroft, of Hyde, and Mr. Joseph Brockellhurst, of Hayfield, and intimated that he had sent letters of condolence to the relatives. His action was confirmed, and it was decided to place on record the sending of these letters.

In presenting his annual report, the Hon. Secretary commented on the lack of interest displayed, and appealed for a little more 'ginger' to be administered. Five meetings had been held during 1924, at which the average attendance was 35, a decrease of five on the previous year. The membership totals at the end of the year were: 20 honorary and 168 ringing members, two honorary and 10 ringing members having been elected during the year. Only six peals had been rung, four of which were Minor, one Double Norwich Major, and the other Kent Treble Bob Major.

The Hon. Treasurer reported that, including the balance in hand of £3 16s. 1d. at the commencement of the year, the total receipts were £25 13s. 0½d., and after meeting all expenses there was a balance on the right side of £5 9s. 7½d., which was very satisfactory. There were, however, a number of subscriptions outstanding, and it was hoped these would soon be forthcoming.

The reports were accepted, and all retiring officers were re-elected.

After much discussion, it was again decided to arrange the places and dates of the meetings for the year, and the following were fixed, subject to the approval of the respective authorities: Business meetings: Warburton, May 9th; Marple, July 25th; Disley, Sept. 19th; and Stalybridge (H.T.), November 28th. In addition, there will be a special practice meeting at Taxal on June 27th. These will be duly advertised as they fall due.

The following motion was passed for consideration at the next general committee meeting: 'That the annual festival of the Guild shall be held in each branch area in turn.'

Pleasure was expressed at having the company of the general secretary, Mr. E. W. Elwell, who, since his appointment, has lost no time in getting thoroughly conversant with the doings of each branch.

Seven new ringing members were elected, and arrangements for reviving the quarterly peal attempts were left in the hands of Mr. T. Wilde and the branch secretary.

The usual votes of thanks closed the meeting, when the bells were again requisitioned.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

RICKSMANSWORTH.—On Sunday, Feb. 22nd, at the Parish Church, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Bob Major: W. Croseley 1, C. Lord 2, J. E. Jones 3, G. Foster 4, J. A. Jones 5, E. Hookham 6, J. B. Marks 7, J. H. R. Freeborn (conductor) 8. First quarter-peal in the method by all except 7 and 8.

EXETER.—On Sunday, Feb. 22nd, by members of the Cathedral band, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,259 changes) was rung in 59 minutes on the back ten of Exeter Cathedral: J. Arbury 1, J. Oke 2, T. Laver 3, T. Bartlett 4, W. Lethbridge 5, F. Gardner 6, F. Murphy 7, J. Sandover 8, F. Davey (conductor) 9, W. Mitchell and C. Glass 10. First quarter for Messrs. Arbury, Gardner and Mitchell.

PORTSMOUTH.—On Sunday, Feb. 22nd, for evensong, at St. Mary's, 504 Stedman Triples: J. J. Symons 1, T. R. Taylor 2, C. Groves 3, J. Topp 4, J. D. Harris 5, W. Tate 6, F. W. Rogers (conductor) 7, E. J. Harding, senr., 8.—Also on Sunday, Feb. 15th, 504 Grandsire Triples: J. Topp 1, J. J. Symons 2, C. Groves 3, J. Pater-son (first 504) 4, F. W. Rogers 5, W. Tate 6, J. D. Harris (conductor) 7, E. J. Harding, senr., 8.

LEICESTER.—At St. Margaret's Church, on Sunday, Feb. 22nd, for morning service, 672 Grandsire Triples: *D. Grant 1, G. S. Morris 2, L. Johnson 3, T. Bert 4, J. Morris 5, E. Whitehead 6, E. Morris 7, J. Grant 8.—For evening service, 989 Grandsire Caters: *D. Grant 1, E. Morris 2, L. Johnson 3, J. Morris 4, W. P. Whitehead 5, W. H. Clarke 6, E. Whitehead 7, G. S. Morris 8, A. Cattell 9, J. Grant 10. Both conducted by Ernest Morris. * Longest length.

BRIDGEND, GLAM.—At St. Illtyd's Church, on Sunday, Feb. 22nd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Spliced Union and Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 49 mins.: A. W. Wright 1, R. Evans 2, A. C. Jones 3, J. Evans 4, C. H. Perry 5, A. J. Pitman (composer and conductor) 6, D. R. James 7, H. Wright 8. This is the first quarter-peal of Spliced Triples ever rung.

EXETER.—On Sunday, January 25th, at St. David's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, in 44 minutes: A. W. Searle 1, J. Arbury 2, F. Gardner 3, C. Carter 4, J. Oke 5, W. Lethbridge 6, F. Davey (conductor) 7, S. Milton 8. First quarter in the method by the St. David's Society.—On Sunday, Feb. 8th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,259 changes), in 44 minutes: J. Arbury (conductor) 1, G. Luxton 2, W. Huxtable 3, F. Gardner 4, J. Oke 5, W. Lethbridge 6, F. J. Davey 7, F. Rowland 8. First quarter as conductor, and first quarter for 2nd and tenor men.

DARLINGTON.—On Sunday, January 25th, at Holy Trinity Church, for evensong, a 720 London Surprise Minor: E. Brown 1, *W. Oliver 2, R. Park 3, W. H. Porter 4, F. W. Lupson 5, W. N. Park (conductor) 6. * First 720 in the method inside.—On Sunday, Feb. 8th, 840 Wells Surprise Minor: *W. Oliver 1, W. H. Porter 2, *R. Park 3, *W. N. Park 4, *F. W. Lupson 5, G. W. Park (conductor) 6. * First 720 in the method.

THE LATE MR. CHARLES GILES.

AN APPRECIATION.

It was with great sorrow that all who knew him learned that 'Charlie' Giles—as he was familiarly called—had passed away on Sunday, February 8th. Never very robust, he had been in a weak state of health for over a year, and had to take ringing and other things much easier than before. It was hoped that with care his life might be prolonged for some considerable time, but it was not to be. He contracted a chill which developed seriously, and after keeping to his bed for a day or two the end came quite suddenly.

Mr. Giles had been attached to one or other of the Reading towers during all his ringing career, but he was last and longest at St. Mary's, where he took the greater share of the conducting. His first peal was in 1892 (Grandsire Triples, conducted by F. Hopgood). Others soon followed, and included a non-conducted of Stedman Triples, and several in the most popular Surprise methods. Besides ringing many for the Oxford Guild, he also took part in a good number with his Winchester Guild friends, especially in those Winchester tours which the late Rev. F. E. Robinson so much enjoyed. On one of these tours, he took part in the first peal of Stedman Caters in Hampshire.

He was one who, to use St. Paul's words, 'studied to be quiet, and to do his own business,' and as such was always welcomed, whether as a member of a company or as a ringer in a touch or peal. With him in the band a conductor would feel that, no matter what the method or the length, there would be at least one who would really ring the method and the bell throughout, who would be able to help the wanderer, and in the case of a breakdown would be able to point out the mistake with accuracy.

He leaves a wife and daughter to mourn his loss, and to them is offered the true sympathy of his many ringing friends.

GLOSSOP & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

The annual dinner of the Glossop and District Association took place at the Crown Hotel, Glossop, on Saturday, Feb. 7th, when a large company of ringers and several visitors, among whom were Mr. J. W. Pemberton, of Erdington, Birmingham, a native of the town, and a former member of the parish church service ringers, Mr. H. Davis and Mr. S. Greenhaigh, of Manchester, were present.

After the dinner, the Rev. F. Whalley presided, supported by the Rev. H. Lawrance, M.A., Vicar of Dinting, Alderman J. Malkin, J.P., Major F. H. Morris, O.B.E., Mr. T. Beardwood, Mr. C. H. Woodward, and Mr. W. A. Atkinson.

Good vocal and other music flowed freely during the evening, the chief contributors being a quartette party of the Whitfield Church choir, with Mr. R. Malkin, who performed skilfully at the piano.

The Chairman expressed his great pleasure at presiding over the gathering, and submitted the toast of 'The King,' which was honoured in loyal manner.

Other toasts which followed included 'The Glossop Change Ringers' Association,' proposed by Major F. H. Morris, and responded to by Mr. J. Neal, the respected hon. secretary of the association.

5,184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR.

By J. W. PARKER (No. 51).

	23456	1	4	5	6
23456	—	—	—	—	—
26354	—	—	—	—	—
63254	—	—	—	—	—
26435	—	—	—	—	—
62534	—	—	—	—	—
35264	—	—	—	—	—
52364	—	—	—	—	—
23564	—	—	—	—	—

Five times repeated S at 1 in the last course of the 3rd and 6th parts.

First rung at St. Mary's, Lambeth. Conducted by R. D. Marshall.

MR. T. W. LAST'S 100 PEALS.

	Peals.	Conducted.
Bob Minor, 4 methods	1	2
Bob Major	7	11
Kent Treble Bob Major	21	2
Oxford Treble Bob Major	11	1
Grandsire Triples	4	2
Stedman Triples	6	2
Double Norwich Court Bob Major	26	12
Cambridge Surprise Major	11	5
Superlative Surprise Major	8	1
London Surprise Major	1	2
Little Bob Major	2	1
Erin Triples	1	1
Kent Treble Bob Royal	1	
Total	100	39

DEATH OF A BOTTESFORD VETERAN.

On Sunday, February 22nd, there passed to his rest one of Bottesford's stalwarts, in the person of Mr. Thomas Rawdin, who had been a member of St. Mary's Belfry for 50 years, although he retired from active ringing about five years ago, on account of his advanced age. Deceased, who was 78, was a regular and consistent Sunday Service ringer, as well as at practice (a fine example for all to follow). Although he never mastered the inside work of change ringing he was a very good treble man, and had the honour of ringing the first peal on the bells by the local hand about 14 years ago, that being his only peal. He was a member of the choir for 46 years.

The deceased was buried on Wednesday, Feb. 25th, close to the church he loved so well, the service being conducted by the Rector (the Rev. F. Walford).

In the evening, as a last tribute of respect, the bells were rung half-muffled, when a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (his favourite method) was brought round in 49 mins.: C. Hallam 1, M. Bend 2, C. H. Jallands 3, C. Briggs 4, S. Proctor 5, A. W. Ward 6, J. W. Kirtou (conductor) 7, J. H. Branston 8. First quarter-peal of Triples by C. H. Jallands, who is the youngest Bottesford ringer to score a quarter-peal.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. WESTERN DIVISION AT PETWORTH.

The annual meeting of the Western Division of the Sussex Association was held at Petworth on Saturday, Feb. 21st, when 30 members attended by motors, cycles, etc., from Brighton, Heene, West Tarring, Shoreham, Hunfield, Pulborough, Billingshurst, Kirdford, Arundel and Lymington. Ringing began with Stedman Triples, and ranged up to Cambridge Surprise Major. A meat tea was enjoyed, Mr. Knight, the local secretary, being the caterer.

At the business meeting, with the Master of the Association (Mr. J. T. Rickman) presiding, 15 new members were elected.

Mr. A. W. Groves was again elected as secretary, Messrs. Doick, Challen and Lindup were appointed on the committee, with Messrs. Charman, Burdfield and Burtenshaw as the Committee of Advice.

It was proposed to hold the next meeting in May, at Walberton.

After votes of thanks to the Rector of Petworth for the use of the bells; to Mr. J. T. Rickman for presiding also to Mr. Knight for making the local arrangements for the meeting, the members again made their way to the belfry, and the bells were kept going to 7.30.

Petworth now possesses one of the best peals in Sussex, and Messrs. Gillett and Johnston are to be congratulated on the excellent 'go' of the bells.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

The annual meeting of the Hereford District was held at Hereford on February 21st. During the day the members made use of the bells at the Cathedral, All Saints' and St. Nicholas' Churches. A service was held in the afternoon, and an excellent address given by the Rev. H. W. Hill, who also presided over the subsequent meeting. He was supported by the Very Rev. R. Waterfield, D.D., Dean of Hereford, Miss M. Bull, the Rev. G. W. Turner, the Rev. J. Dent, and Mr. C. Edwards (secretary). The following towers were also represented: Madeley, Tyberton, Kingstone, Allensmore, Much Dewsbury, St. Nicholas, Cathedral and All Saints' (Hereford), Burg-ill, Wellington, Withington, Lugwardine, Hampton Bishop, Holme Lacy, Bodenham, Clifford, Talgarth, Bedwelty and Ross.

In the course of his report, the Secretary stated that the year was started with a balance of £5 5s. 11d., and finished with £7 15s. 9d. in hand. The membership had decreased by four, but they had now three lady hon. members in the district. Excellent progress had been made in change ringing, although the number of peals rung was not so great as last year. He wished particularly to thank the Rev. K. O'Neil, the Rev. Brooke-Bradely and the Rev. J. Dent for the kindness they had shown the ringers during the year, also the clergy as a whole for the use of the bells at various combined practices.

The Dean proposed, and Mr. C. Sparkes seconded, that the balance sheet be adopted.

Mr. Edwards intimated that as he had now been made Master of the Guild he wished to be relieved of his office as secretary. Mr. A. Gwynne was elected as his successor.

Mr. C. Edwards was elected hon. treasurer; Mr. W. Taylor and Mr. G. Taysom were again elected Ringing Master and Assistant Ringing Master, respectively.

It was decided to hold quarterly meetings at Woolhope, May; Withington, August; and Madeley, November.

RINGER'S WEDDING AT BONVILSTON.

On Saturday, February 21st, a pretty wedding was solemnised at St. Mary's Church, Bonvilston, South Wales, by the Rev. G. Thomas, Vicar of the parish. The bridegroom was Mr. Alfred Hannington, one of the local ringers, and the bride, Miss Ada Caroline Thomas. The bride, who was given away by Mr. E. Thomas, leader of the local band of ringers, was attired in a navy blue costume, grey hat and grey fox fur. She was attended by Miss Muriel Kellow as bridesmaid. Mr. John Hannington, brother of the bridegroom, acted as best man.

The reception was held at Bonvilston Cottage, kindly given by Mrs. L. G. Williams, and about 30 guests were entertained. After the reception, the happy couple left for Burnham-on-Sea, where the honeymoon was spent.

The bells were rung in the evening by the local band, in honour of the event. The ringers presented the bridegroom with a silver tea-pot as an appreciation of his regular and faithful service as a ringer, and with best wishes for a long and happy married life.

At Farnham, Surrey, on January 24th, at St. Andrew's Church, on the occasion of the wedding of Miss Dorothy Davies and Mr. Humphrey Tanner, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 48 mins.: J. Read 1, C. Wells 2, S. Meadows 3, H. Prior 4, F. Clapshaw 5, T. Upshall 6, R. Hasted (composer and conductor) 7, A. E. King 8.—Later in the day at the time the happy couple left for their honeymoon, 657 Grandsire Triples: J. Read 1, C. Wells 2, S. Meadows 3, A. J. Le Clercq 4, H. Prior 5, T. Upshall 6, R. Hasted (conductor) 7, A. E. King 8.

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 3d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with a minimum charge of 1/6.

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SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.

—The quarterly meeting will be held at Trowbridge on Saturday, March 7th. Bells (10) ready at 3 p.m. Service 4.40. Tea 5. Meeting directly after tea. — F. Green, Hon. Sec., 53, Avon Road, Devizes.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—

A meeting will be held at Finchley on Saturday, March 7th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Short service at 5.30. Tea at 6 p.m., 1s. to members. Members are reminded that subscriptions for 1925 are now due.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 49, Wood Street, E.17.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—

The annual meeting will be held at Selby on Saturday, March 7th. Bells (10) available from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Service in the Abbey at 4 p.m. Tea in the Hawdon Institute at 5 p.m., followed by business meeting. For further details see circular.—A. B. Cook, Hon. Dis. Sec., 58, Wyndham Street, Hull.

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—

The quarterly meeting will be held at Portishead on Saturday, March 7th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., at White Cot Dairy. — E. E. Emm, School House, Evercreech, Bath, Somerset.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—

The next meeting will be held at Wickwar on Saturday, March 7th. Bells from 3 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock.—H. G. Phillips, Branch Hon. Sec., The Lynch, Berkeley, Glos.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth

District.—A district meeting will be held at Petersfield on Saturday, March 7th. Bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5, in the Church Hall, to be followed by business meeting. Subscriptions for 1925 are now due. All ringers welcome.—F. W. Rogers, Hon. Sec., 52, Samuel Road, Portsmouth.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—A new peal board will be opened at Braintree on Saturday, March 7th, at 4 p.m. Any visiting ringers will be welcomed and a tea provided at a small charge.—W. H. Dyson, High Street, Braintree.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Worksop on Saturday, March 7th. Bells available 1.30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tea provided, 1s. 4d. each. Nominations for officers for the ensuing year to be in my hands not later than March 31st.—T. W. Chown, Hon. Sec., 68, Canada Street, Sheffield.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—

A ringing meeting will be held at Parbold on Saturday, March 7th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. — Jas. Grounds, Sec., 8, School Lane, Standish.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS

(Established 1637).—Meetings will be held at: *St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, on March 10th; St. Andrew's, Hol-

born, on the 12th (8 p.m.); St. Michael's, Cornhill, for service, on the 15th (6 p.m.); St. Magnus, on the 19th; *St. Paul's Cathedral, on the 24th; Southwark Cathedral, on the 31st; at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 'Frodingham,' 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The next meeting will be held at Chiswick on March 14th. Tower open at 2.45. Tea arranged for 5.30 at 9d. each. All ringers welcome.—W. H. Hollier, Hon. Sec., 29, Duke Road, W.4.

LADIES' GUILD (Midland District) will hold a quarterly meeting at Edgbaston Parish Church on Saturday, March 14th. Bells available 3.30 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea 5.30. Business meeting after tea. Gentlemen cordially invited. All intending to be present kindly send in their names not later than Wednesday, March 11th, to Mrs. Groves, 43, Malvern Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—North and South Forest Branch.—A meeting will be held at Lydney on Saturday, March 14th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea at Feathers Hotel at 4.45 p.m., followed by business meeting. We would like to have the support of any members of other branches.—Edgar Guise, Gen. Hon. Sec., 39, Tankard's Close, St. Michael's Hill, Bristol.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Walton-le-Dale on Saturday, March 14th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Tea, at 1s. 3d. a head, to all who notify Mr. A. E. Woodhouse, 104, Victoria Road, Walton-le-Dale, not later than Wednesday, March 11th. A good attendance is requested.—Fred Rigby, Branch Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Rickmansworth, Saturday, March 14th, 4 p.m. Tea and meeting at 6 o'clock. Tea 1s. 3d. each to those who notify me by 10th.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Widnes on Saturday, March 14th. Bells ready at 3. Service at 5.30. Tea at 6. Members intending being present please send word to secretary. Tea, 6d. each.—Walter Hughes, 3, Shrewsbury Place, Garston.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Kendal on Saturday, March 14th, at 5 p.m. Tea will be provided at 4 p.m. Bells (10) available all day.—W. T. Clark, Branch Sec., Broughton-in-Furness.

BARNESLEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Darfield on Saturday, March 14th. Tea will be provided for those applying to Mr. T. Hilton, 28, Victoria Street, Darfield, before March 12th. The bells have been rehung in a new frame, and a full and representative gathering is desired. Tower open 2 p.m.—C. D. Potter, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, on Saturday, March 14th. Bells ready 3.30. Meeting 7 o'clock. Subscriptions due. Reports to hand.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting, Manchester.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The next meeting will be held at Darlington on Saturday, March 14th. The bells of St. Cuthbert (8), St. John (8) and Holy Trinity (6) will be available. All ringers are welcome, and are asked to meet at St. John's tower at 1.30 p.m. Tea at the St. John's Mission Room at 5 p.m., at 9d. each, to all those who notify me on or before Tuesday, March 10th. Half-fare tickets are issued by the L.N.E.R. to Darlington on Saturdays.—A. Hunter, Hon. Dis. Sec., 22, Dickinson Street, Darlington.

NOTTINGHAM SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS (Established 1762).—The next practice will be held at Ruddington on Saturday, March 14th. Bells ready 5 p.m.—F. Blood, Hon. Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Eaton Socon on Saturday, March 14th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome. A good attendance is requested.—C. J. Ball, Dis. Sec., 2, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Meetings for March: St. Clement Danes, Sunday, the 1st, at 10 a.m., and Mondays, the 16th and the 30th, at 7.30.—A. H. Keighley, Gen. Sec., 18, Merrick Square, S.E.1.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Harlow on Saturday, March 21st. All members are asked to make a special effort to attend. Subscriptions for 1925 are now due.—C. Beeston, King Street, Bishop's Stortford.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Meeting on Saturday, March 21st, at St. John of Jerusalem, South Hackney. Ringing 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea in St. Andrew's Hall (Wells Street) 5.30 p.m., followed by business meeting. Ringing till 9.30 p.m. Will members and friends please do their utmost to attend? Those desiring tea please notify me by the 18th.—W. Bottrill, Hon. Sec., 62, Thorpedale Road, Holloway, N.4.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Stanford-le-Hope on Saturday, March 21st. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea to follow.—E. Butler, Dis. Sec., 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—The annual meeting of the division will be held at Bexhill on Saturday, March 21st. Tower open at 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m., followed by the usual business meeting. Half rail fares allowed (maximum 1s.).—Geo. W. Stokes, Hon. Div. Sec., 22, Melbourne Road, Eastbourne.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at the Church of All Saints, Sheffield, on Saturday, March 21st. Bells (8) ready at 2.30. Service at 4.30. Preacher, the Lord Bishop of Sheffield. Tea will be provided in the Institute at a charge of 6d. per head to those who notify Mr. W. Stubley, 13, Rising Street, Pitsmoor, Sheffield, by Thursday, the 19th. The business meeting for the election of officers, etc., will be held immediately after tea, and a good attendance is desired.—F. Clark, Hon. Sec.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The annual meeting of this Guild is postponed until further notice.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting will be held at Leicester on Easter Monday. Nominations for the offices of president, hon. treasurer and hon. secretary should (vide Rule 7) reach me one month before the meeting.—A. C. Wright, Hon. Sec., Strathallan, Darley Dale, Derbyshire.

ADDRESSES.—The address of Mr. P. O. Laffin is now 1691, Pershore Road, Kings Norton, Birmingham.—Mr. R. G. Marshall's address is now 73, Sydney Road, Eastbourne, Sussex.

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At Belgrave, Leicester, on Wednesday, January 21st, at St. Peter's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 48 mins.: H. W. Martin 1, J. Pole 2, A. Disney 3, E. R. Whitehead (first quarter-peal as conductor) 4, H. L. Smith 5, R. Barrow 6, H. Reeve 7, J. A. Bishop 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the late Miss Edith Shelton, a much esteemed church worker in this parish.

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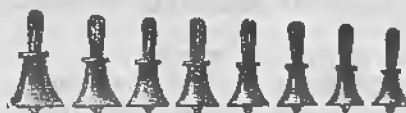
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