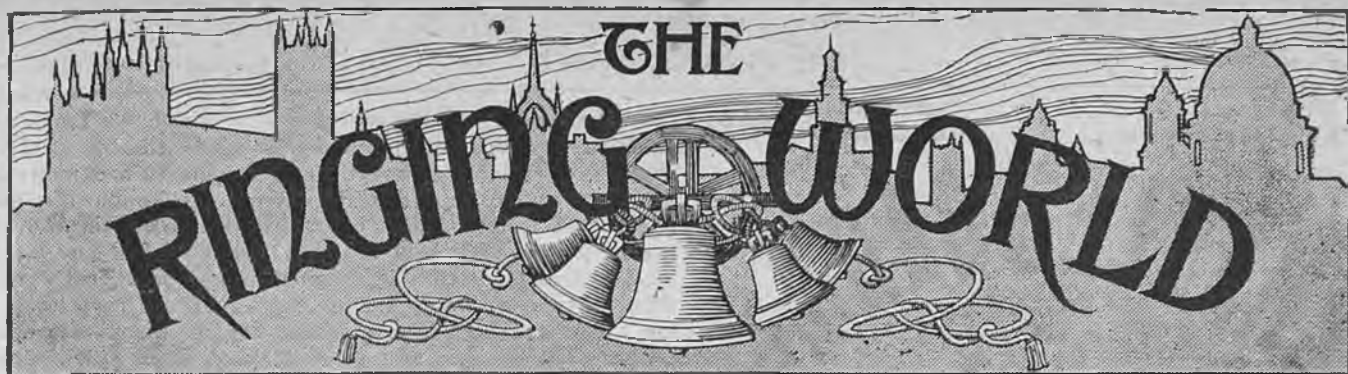




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FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12th, 1926.

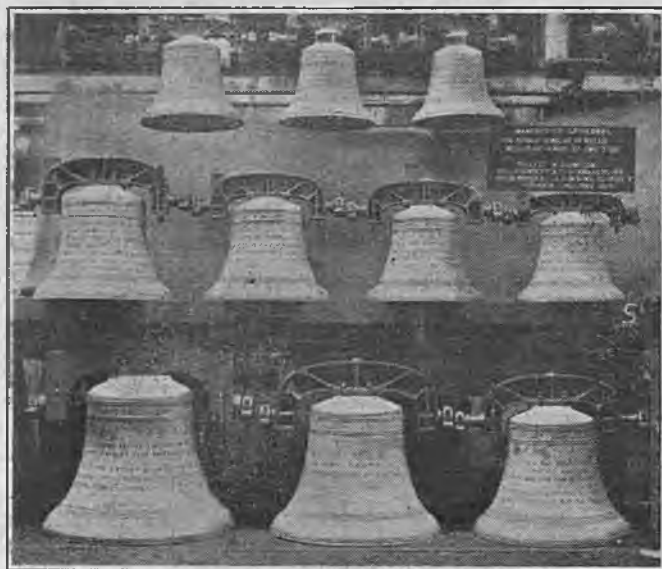
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ORGANISED PEAL RINGING.

A question which has more than merely local interest was referred to in the report of the Western Division of the Durham and Newcastle Association, which appeared in our last issue. Comment was made that there was a noticeable slackness in peal ringing throughout the Association, and that, what peals were rung, were generally shared by a favoured few, the passing over of deserving ringers being harmful and against the best interests of the Association. What happens in the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan area and its effect upon the Association is best known to its members, but in a wider aspect much of the same kind of thing exists in many associations. A study of the report of any society will show that peal ringing is not general among members, and an analysis of the peal ringing activities of some of the leading associations indicates that, even where the annual list of peals makes a good showing, the proportion of members taking part averages only from 25 to 30 per cent for the year, and where, of course, the number of peals are few, the percentage is considerably less.

Peal ringing is not, and ought not to be, the be-all and end-all of our art—there are other claims upon the energies of ringers which should come first—but peal ringing does mark to some degree the standard and efficiency of the band or association. Peal ringing, however, is very much the result of individual effort and organisation; it is seldom an undertaking initiated or organised by an association as part of a policy of furthering the art. Associations encourage peal ringing inasmuch as they give permanent record to such performances in their archives—albeit sometimes at the personal cost of the performers—but it is seldom one hears of an officially organised peal. It may be, perhaps, that the present method of leaving peal ringing to private enterprise is the best course, but it has got the drawback which was mentioned in the Durham and Newcastle Association, that deserving ringers sometimes find no opportunity of getting into a peal. It is individual 'push,' or somebody else's convenience, which more often than not gets a man his place in his first peal. There are many conductors ready to give a man a chance when he asks for it, but conductors are rare who make a practice of inviting 'deserving' men to come and try their hand, purely for these men's encouragement. It is not all due to selfishness. It is only natural that he who organises a peal should get the best-trying and most reliable men he can lay his hands upon; he does not always want to be schooling the inexperienced—and who can blame him? And yet there is the other side to be considered. In our view it is up to the associations themselves to organise peals for their members, just as they organise meetings—it should be

(Continued on page 98.)

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part of that larger educational policy which we have so constantly advocated, for there is no finer training in the ringing of a method or greater encouragement to a man to aspire to higher things in the art than to enable him to ring a peal. Associations cannot do this unless they have the support of their best conductors, but we feel sure that all the leaders in this department would periodically put their services willingly at the disposal of the association for their less fortunate brethren if the question were properly approached and dealt with on some systematic plan.

TEN BELL PEALS.

LLANDAFF.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes

AT THE CATHEDRAL.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt.

HARRY PAGE Treble	FREDERICK LASBURY 6
*FRANK J. BAILEY 2	FRED CHAMBERLAIN 7
GEORGE LARGE 3	TOM PAGE 8
GEORGE CROSS 4	WILLIAM PAGE 9
SIDNEY DAVE 5	WILLIAM BOLTON Tenor

Composed by F. HOLDEN.

Conducted by HARRY PAGE.

* First peal of Kent Royal. First peal in the method on the bells.
Rung as a birthday compliment to the mother of the three brothers Page.

GOSFORTH, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 3, 1926, in Three Hours & Twenty-Two Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN GATERS, 5079 CHANGES;

Tenor 22½ cwt.

*ROBERT ANDERSON Treble	JAMES E. GOFTON 6
ERNEST E. FERRY 2	WILLIAM H. BARBER 7
JOHN ANDERSON 3	JOHN FOREMAN 8
JOHN F. BIRD 4	ADAM DEAS 9
THOMAS T. GOFTON 5	JOSEPH E. KEEN Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER.

Conducted by T. T. GOFTON.

* First peal on ten bells. Rung with the bells muffled as a tribute of respect to Mr. Norman Cuthbertson Fleck, a ringer at the above church; also for Mrs. Fleck, his mother, and Mr. Martin Dodsworth, a sidesman at this church.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

WOLSTANTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE STOKE ARCHIDIACONAL ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 12, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S SIX-PART.

THOMAS HURD Treble	ALBERT E. ALDERSEA 5
WILLIAM FITCHFORD 2	*JOSEPH SIMISTER 6
THOMAS HILDITCH 3	CHARLES H. PAGE 7
ALBERT VAUGHAN 4	*A. FIRKIN Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM FITCHFORD.

* First peal. † First peal inside.

SUNDERLAND, DURHAM.

THE DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 26, 1926, in Three Hours and Three Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. IGNATIUS THE MARTYR,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S VARIATION.

Tenor 13 cwt.

FRANK AINSLEY Treble	HAROLD B. DITCHBURN 5
GEORGE S. TAYLOR 2	JOSEPH W. PARKER 6
MICHAEL F. HARRISON 3	JOHN J. LEIGHTON 7
ROBERT WALKER 4	ROBERT L. PATTERSON Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH W. PARKER.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect, after the funeral of Elizabeth Naisby, a zealous church worker, and wife of Mr. Thomas H. Naisby, a service ringer at this church.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5162 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt. 3 lb.

FREDK. J. LAMBERT, SEN. ... Treble	WILLIAM COLLISON ... 5
REGINALD E. LAMBERT ... 2	ROBERT T. LAMBERT ... 6
*WILLIAM LATTER ... 3	HERBERT MARKWELL ... 7
FREDERICK WHITE ... 4	STAFFORD H. GREEN ... Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by STAFFORD H. GREEN.

* First peal in the method.

WHITTLE-LE-WOODS, LANCs.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(PRESTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF STEOMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 21 cwt. 1 qr. 23 lb.

*JOHN H. GARTSIDE ... Treble	WILLIAM SHARPLES ... 5
†ALFRED BLOGG ... 2	WILLIAM TAYLOR ... 6
FRED RIGBY ... 3	EDWARD ARMSTRONG ... 7
HARRY FRANCE ... 4	BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS ... Tenor

Conducted by B. A. KNIGHTS.

* 50th peal. † First peal of Stedman.

CHURCH LAWTON, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION. Tenor 8½ cwt.

JOHN PARKER ... Treble	HARRY PARKER ... 5
THOMAS HURD ... 2	ARTHUR ALLMAN ... 6
JOHN BRASSINGTON ... 3	ALBERT CRAWLEY ... 7
FREDERICK CRAWLEY ... 4	G. WILLIAM BIDDULPH ... Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT CRAWLEY.

Rung in honour of the arrival on the 24th inst. of a son and heir to Mr. W. Longman, secretary of the above tower.

OLD WINDSOR, BERKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(EAST BERKS & SOUTH BOCKS BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb.

WILLIAM H. FUSSELL ... Treble	HARRY WINGROVE ... 5
WILLIAM WELLING ... 2	ARTHUR MARTIN ... 6
*ARTHUR CROSS ... 3	WILLIAM HENLEY ... 7
GEORGE MARTIN ... 4	CECIL C. MAYNE ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM WELLING.

* First Surprise peal.

GRAVESEND, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 18½ cwt.

CHARLES P. CHALK ... Treble	†ERNEST W. FURBANK ... 5
LIONEL H. PAGE ... 2	*STANLEY W. BAYBUTT ... 6
HENRY T. WILSON ... 3	JOHN W. CORNFORD ... 7
WILLIAM DUDLEY ... 4	WILLIAM H. JUDD ... Tenor

Composed by the late EDGAR WIGHTMAN.

Conducted by HENRY T. WILSON.

* First peal in the method. † First peal in the method 'inside.' The ring of the 2nd was elected a non-resident life member of the above association before starting the peal. All the above band are Sunday Service ringers at St. Mary's, Prittlewell, Essex, and of the Essex Association, and are all non-resident life members of the Kent Association. This peal, by the late Edgar Wightman, is now rung for the first time. The band wish to thank the Rector of Gravesend for the use of the bells.

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

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, BATTERSEA.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 15 cwt.

WILLIAM H. WOOD ... Treble	*DANIEL COOPER ... 5
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ... 2	*WILLIAM ESSERY ... 6
RALPH MACKRILL ... 3	AMOS W. CLARK ... 7
HARRY H. MANCE ... 4	HARRY MANCE ... Tenor

Conducted by HARRY MANCE.

* First peal in the method.

BILLINGSHURST, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt.

WALTER CHARMAN ... Treble	PERCY H. DOICK ... 5
ALBERT FIEST ... 2	JAMES BURDFIELD ... 6
RAYMOND WOOD ... 3	JOHN COOK ... 7
PETER CHARMAN ... 4	WILLIAM STANFORD ... Tenor

Composed by HY. JOHNSON.

Conducted by W. STANFORD.

ALVERSTOKE, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 13½ cwt.

GEORGE WILLIAMS ... Treble	TOWER R. TAYLOR ... 5
MISS EDITH K. PARKER ... 2	FREDERICK W. ROGERS ... 6
*FREDERICK A. BURNETT ... 3	FRANK BLONDELL ... 7
FREDERICK S. BAYLEY ... 4	GEORGE W. FLETCHER ... Tenor

Composed by FREDERICK DENCH. Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

First peal of Surprise on the bells. * First peal of London.

EPSOM, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Three Hours,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qr. 4 lbs in F sharp.

FREDERICK E. COLLINS ... Treble	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 5
GEORGE MARRINER ... 2	ALBERT HARMAN ... 6
*MISS FRED A. ORR ... 3	*FRANK E. DARBY ... 7
†ALFRED J. TRAPPITT ... 4	†CHARLES H. KIPPIN ... Tenor

Composed by CHAS. MIDDLETON. Conducted by C. H. KIPPIN.
First peal of Surprise as conductor. * First Surprise peal. † First peal of Cambridge Major.

CHESTER, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-WITHIN-THE-WALLS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt.

ROBERT SPERRING ... Treble	JOHN HAYES ... 5
FREDERICK EVANS ... 2	WILLIAM JONES ... 6
ALBERT J. HUGHES ... 3	WALTER THOMAS ... 7
JAMES SWINDLEY ... 4	SAMUEL JONES, JUN. ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by ROBERT SPERRING.

NORWICH.
THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-DE-SEFOLCHRE,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 10 cwt.

*GEORGE CLAXTON ... Treble	GEORGE MAYERS ... 5
BENJAMIN S. THOMPSON ... 2	WILLIAM CLOVER ... 6
FREDERICK J. HOWCHIN ... 3	GEORGE H. CROSS ... 7
LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN ... 4	†WILLIAM E. BASON ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM E. BASON.

* First peal of Surprise. † First peal in the method as conductor.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICTS GUILD.

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes.

At THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 1040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

SAMUEL J. HUGHES Treble	ALFRED ROWLEY 5
ABRAHAM GREENFIELD 2	REDDEN HALL 6
SAMUEL BAKER 3	CYRIL WINWOOD 7
BENJAMIN GOUGE 4	*JAMES N. REED Tenor

Conducted by A. GREENFIELD.

* First peal. Quarterly peal for the above Guild, and rung half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the late Mr. Thomas Griffiths, aged 95, a member of the above church, and who was the first person baptised in the church in the year 1830. He was the oldest miner in England.

WEDNESBURY, STAFFS.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Three Hours and Two Minutes.

At THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, WOOD GREEN.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

AMOS COOPER Treble	THOS. HILL, SEN. 5
WM. HILL 2	CHAS. TYLER 6
*THOS. HILL, JUN. 3	EDWIN J. TYLER 7
EDGAR MARLOW 4	OLIVER BROWN Tenor

Conducted by EDWIN J. TYLER.

All the ringers are employees of Edward Elwell, Ltd., of Wednesbury Forge, whose family built and partly endowed the church over 50 years ago. * First peal.

ALBURGH, NORFOLK.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, February 1, 1926, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes.

At THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5888 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb.

ERNEST WHITING Treble	CHARLES CLARKE 5
GEORGE HOWLETT 2	WALTER BARRETT 6
*WILLIAM ELDRIDGE 3	LEWIS LOVE 7
JAMES ELDRIDGE 4	CHARLES CUTTING Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by ERNEST WHITING.

* First peal.

BARNWOOD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 3, 1926, in Three Hours.

At THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

VICARS' SIX-PART.

HUBERT JONES Treble	GEORGE L. BRUNSDON 5
JOHN AUSTIN 2	WILLIAM C. JONES 6
JESSE GILLET 3	ERNEST E. DAVIS 7
WILLIAM H. HARRIS 4	THOMAS HAWKES Tenor

Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

Rang with the bells muffled as a last token of respect to Mr. Walter B. Wood, chairman of the Gloucester Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 3, 1926, in Three Hours and Five Minutes.

At THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5840 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S VARIATION.

Tenor 18 cwt.

PHILIP A. COARD Treble	GEORGE ADES 5
FRANK BENNETT 2	WILLIAM C. HART 6
GEORGE H. SHUCKER 3	JOHN DEARLOVE 7
JOHN C. JAY 4	HENRY STALHAM Tenor

Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

Great credit is due to Mr. P. A. Coard for the able way he rang throughout the peal. He is in his 77th year, and it was his first attempt for a peal of Stedman.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 4, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes.

At THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

WILLIAM BOND Treble	JOHN H. CHEEFMAN 5
EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. 2	WILLIAM MARTIN 6
HERBERT E. AUDSLEY 3	EDWIN BARNETT, JUN. 7
ISAAC G. SHADE 4	JAMES GEORGE Tenor

Composed and Conducted by E. BARNETT, SEN.

HEREFORD.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, February 4, 1926, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes.

At THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 17½ cwt.

CHARLES EDWARDS Treble	WALTER T. BENNETT 5
ALLEN E. GWYNNE 2	*WILLIAM POSTON 6
GEOFFREY W. TAYSON 3	WALTER TAYLOR 7
ARTHUR W. DAVIS 4	JOHN CLARK Tenor

Composed by W. HARRISON. Conducted by CHARLES EDWARDS.

* First peal in method. First peal of Major in the method in the city.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, February 4, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes.

At THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER, WALKWORTH, S.E.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLIAM J. NODDS Treble	GEORGE R. PYE 5
ROBERT GRIMWOOD 2	EDWIN PIKE 6
ISAAC EMERY 3	ERNEST BRETT 7
RICHARD DEAL 4	JAMES E. DAVIS Tenor

Composed by F. H. HOLDEN. Conducted by JAMES E. DAVIS.

WOKINGHAM, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, February 5, 1926, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes.

At THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

MISS STELLA DAVIS Treble	WILLIAM J. BROOKS 5
MISS MARIE CROSS 2	HARRY TUCKER 6
WILLIAM HIBBERT 3	HENRY SIMMONDS 7
MISS VERA ROBINSON 4	RICHARD T. HIBBERT Tenor

Composed by J. BUCKLEY. Conducted by R. T. HIBBERT.

ASHTED, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 6, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes.

At THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

JOHN BRAMS Treble	JOHN H. WHITE 5
LEONARD MANNERING 2	*GEORGE COOK 6
JOHN HOYLE 3	ALFRED H. WINCH 7
GEORGE MARRINER 4	ALBERT HARMAN Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by ALBERT HARMAN.

* First peal of Superlative with a bob bell. † First Surprise peal.

TUNSTALL, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 6, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 9½ cwt.

WILLIAM SPICE Treble	C.S.M. J. BENNETT, R.M. 5
ERNEST J. DOBBIE 2	GEORGE KENWARD 6
SAMUEL E. TAYLOR 3	WILLIAM NYE 7
GEORGE M. EASTMAN 4	EDWARD H. SPICE Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by J. BENNETT, R.M.

CHESTER.

THE NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION AND
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 6, 1926, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary-without-the-Walls,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 20 cwt. in E flat.

JAMES SWINDLEY... .. Treble	ALBERT J. HUGHES 5
ROBERT SPERRING 2	HENRY W. WILDE 6
HARRY CHAPMAN... .. 3	JAMES H. RIDING... .. 7
EDWARD JENKINS... .. 4	ARTHUR E. PEGLER Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by A. E. PEGLER.

Rung on the occasion of the birthday of the Rev. T. Lewis Jones, M.A., the president of the North Wales Association, and Messrs. A. E. Pegler and D. P. Roberts. Also to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the wedding day of Mr. and Mrs. H. W. Wilde.

GILMORTON, NEAR LUTTERWORTH.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 6, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
At the Church of All Saints,
A PEAL OF STEOMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
F. H. DEXTER'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb.

WILLIAM COPE Treble	ERNEST W. TIPLER 5
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD 2	ALFRED G. GRANT 6
LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD 3	WILLIAM H. CLARKE 7
RICHARD J. JACKSON 4	GEORGE BROUGHTON Tenor

Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

Mr. R. J. Jackson was elected a member of the above association before starting. Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the treble. Also to Mr. C. H. Belton, of Barwell.

OVERSEAL, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 6, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
At the Church of St. Matthew,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
A. J. PITMAN'S SIX-PART No. 2. Tenor 10 cwt.

JOHN H. SWINFELD Treble	*ARTHUR E. ROWLEY... .. 5
JOSEPH W. COTTON 2	JOHN CURTIS 6
WILLIAM E. CLAYFIELD 3	ERNEST W. BEADSMORE 7
MAURICE SWINFELD 4	WILLIAM BROOKER Tenor

Conducted by M. SWINFELD.

* First peal of Triples. This composition, now rung for the first time, contains all the 6-7's, 7-4's and 4-6's at back stroke.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 6, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,
At the Church of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate,
A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 20 cwt.

CECIL V. EBBERSON Treble	JOHN T. KENTISH 5
GEORGE R. PYE 2	*WILLIAM BOTTRILL 6
EDWIN F. PIKE 3	JAMES E. DAVIS... .. 7
HAROLD W. CLARK 4	WILLIAM PYE Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

* First peal in the method.

PLYMPTON, DEVON.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

(South-West District Branch.)

On Saturday, February 6, 1926, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Holt's Ten-Part. Tenor 30 cwt.

ALFRED T. WESTCOTT ... Treble	WILLIAM H. WONNACOTT 5
ERNEST W. MARSH 2	THOMAS A. MAYERS 6
REGINALD J. BEER 3	JOSEPH WOODLEY 7
HAROLD ASHTON 4	*WILLIAM PRICE... .. Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST W. MARSH.

* First peal. First peal on the bells for over 20 years.

SIX BELL PEALS.

TEYNHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, January 23, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of College Single and Plain Bob, and three 720's of Oxford Bob, each called differently. Tenor 11 cwt.

ROBERT HODGES... .. Treble	ALFRED BAKER 4
CHARLES TUMBER 2	EDWARD W. TUMBER 5
EDWARD W. GAMBELL ... 3	WILLIAM NYE Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM NYE.

This is R. Hodges' and A. Baker's first 5040, R. Hodges being elected a member previous to starting.

GRESSENHALL, NORFOLK.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Wednesday, January 27, 1926, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes
At the Church of St. Mary,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two 720's each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, and three 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.

*ERNEST NAYLOR Treble	†GEORGE LOVE 4
†WILLIAM LOVE 2	†BENJAMIN HAMMOND ... 5
†FREDERICK R. WILLBY ... 3	BERT GOGLE Tenor

Conducted by BENJAMIN HAMMOND.

* First peal. † First peal in three methods. First peal as conductor.

HOLMER, HEREFORD.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, January 29, 1926, in Three Hours,
At the Parish Church,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's each called differently. Tenor 11 cwt.

*ALBERT H. DOWNES... .. Treble	†WILLIAM H. SYMONDS ... 4
*WILLIAM J. DOWNES 2	*WILLIAM DOGGAN 5
†FRANK DOWNES... .. 3	CHAS. EDWARDS... .. Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES EDWARDS.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal away from the treble. Local ringers on the 1st, 2nd, 3rd and 5th. The ringer of the 4th kindly took a rope through illness of one of the local men. First peal of Minor on the bells.

IBSTOCK, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Denys,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different callings.

JOHN W. HOPKINS Treble	JOSEPH CADLE 4
JOHN A. MOULT 2	HORACE MOULT 5
JOHN H. DEAN 3	EPHRAIM W. RANDS Tenor

Conducted by E. W. RANDS.

First peal by the ringer of the treble, who is over 70 years of age. He was elected a member of the association prior to the start. First peal of Minor by all; also on the bells. The tenor is supposed to be 400 years old.

CROYLAND, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
At the Abbey,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Oxford Bob, Double Oxford, Double Court, Plain Bob, Oxford, Kent, Cambridge Surprise. Tenor 10 cwt. (approx.)

JOSEPH LANDON Treble	HORACE M. DAY... .. 4
MISS PHYLLIS HARE 2	WILLIAM ROSE 5
ARTHUR RIGGALL 3	WILLIAM TILLEY... .. Tenor

Conducted by H. M. DAY.

First peal in seven methods on the bells. The band wish to thank Mr. Holland, the sexton, for getting the bells ready; also for entertaining them to tea after the peal. Rung on the Rector's 50th birthday.

FREISTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 30, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven differently called 720's. Tenor 15½ cwt.

WALTER STAPLES Treble	FRANK DEWEY 4
JOHN PHILLIPS 2	WILLIAM E. CLARKE 5
JOHN T. BROWN 3	ARTHUR H. PALMER Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR H. PALMER.

LITTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 2, 1926, in Three Hours.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

42 six-scores, 10 callings.

Tenor 11 cwt.

WILLIAM T. WEBBER Treble	HERBERT W. PEARCE 4
REGINALD F. BECK 2	RONALD G. BECK 5
FRED A. TARGETT 3	THOMAS SNELL Tenor

Conducted by HERBERT W. PEARCE.

First peal as conductor.

CHILDSWICKHAM, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, February 2, 1926, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores in ten different callings. Tenor 12½ cwt. in F.

† HERBERT NEWBURY Treble	RALPH HARRIS 4
* MISS ALICE V. LAMPITT 2	FREDERICK J. JOHNSON 5
* MISS ROSALIE JOHNSON 3	JOSEPH D. JOHNSON Tenor

Conducted by F. J. JOHNSON.

* First peal. † Proposed a member before starting. Rung as a birthday compliment to Miss Alice Victoria Lampitt and Miss Rosalie Johnson.

BRINDLE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(PRESTON BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, February 2, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Tenor 12½ cwt.

FRED BLACKLIDGE Treble	* HERBERT BLACKLIDGE 4
THOMAS STOTT 2	WILLIAM SHARPLES 5
* JOHN R. SCOTT 3	WILLIAM FOWLER Tenor

Conducted by W. SHARPLES.

* First peal in seven methods. Rung to celebrate the marriage of Mr. John Greaves, of Brindle, and Miss Neild, of Accrington; also as a birthday compliment to Mr. Joseph Greaves, churchwarden of the above church for 51 years.

WYBUNBURY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 6, 1926, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob, two of Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 15 cwt.

HORACE J. SMITH Treble	HARRY PARKER 4
FREDERICK H. CRAWLEY 2	EDWARD V. RODENHURST 5
* GEORGE H. CRAWLEY 3	ALBERT CRAWLEY Tenor

Conducted by A. CRAWLEY.

* 50th peal. First peal on the bells.

[Other Peal Reports are unavoidably held over.]

MR. TROLLOPE'S CONVERSION.

To the Editor.

Sir,—On December 11th last, you printed a long article by Mr. Trollope, entitled 'History—as written by Mr. Drake,' in which he attempted to prove, with much sarcasm, the absurdity of my contention, that besides Plain Changes and Cross Peals, there were also, 'Bob Methods—methods which were all dodging, or as nearly so as possible.'

On January 15th, he now turns quite round, and publishes the actual proof of what I said, by giving the figures for the first method on eight bells in 'The School of Recreation,' viz., Imperial Bob.

On December 11th he writes, 'The first Cross Peals pretty obviously were variations of Plain Changes'; and on January 15th, 'Imperial Bob is an interesting example of a Cross Peal being made out of and on the lines of the older Plain Changes.' It would be interesting to see how he is going to prove these doubtful statements. In any case, Imperial Bob is not a Cross Peal at all.

One is always glad to find anyone giving up the error of their ways, but it would have been, to say the least, more graceful if Mr. Trollope had acknowledged the fact that I had already drawn attention to what he seems to claim as his own discovery.

I must thank Mr. Trollope for pointing out (what I had forgotten) that 'The School of Recreation' tells us that these Bob Methods were the product of the London School of Ringers in those days, it being, in that book, opposed to Grandsire Bob, the Bob Method of the provinces (in which we note that the town of Cambridge is, perhaps pointedly, omitted).

What, however, emerges from both our accounts, is that a Bob Method is one that is noticeable for its dodges; either in an extra pair of columns, or for its being nearly all dodges; as opposed to the incessant place-making of Plain Changes, or to the unrelieved hunting of Cross Peals. To attempt to identify a Bob Method by places, as Mr. Trollope proposes to do in future, is shown from his own researches to be contrary to history, misleading to use, and false to write.

HERBERT DRAKE.

RINGING IN AMERICA.

The visit to America of Mr. Cyril Johnston, of the Croydon Foundry, in connection with the official opening of New York's great carillon, resulted in some ringing being done by the Boston Guild. A party was got together to meet him at Watertown, Massachusetts, and on the back six bells of the Perkins Institute for the Blind, on January 4th, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung by Joseph Goodhead 1, Cyril F. Johnston 2, William Bashford 3, Richard Newton 4, Rowland G. Henson (late of Doncaster) 5, Reginald A. (Tony) Price (conductor) 6.

Mr. S. W. Sturgis motored 36 miles from Groton Schools to ring with Mr. Johnston, but as only seven met, kindly stood out while the 720 was rung.

Very little ringing is now done in the Boston district, as the ringers are very scattered.

DONCASTER & DISTRICT SOCIETY.

On Saturday, Jan. 23rd, the annual meeting of the Doncaster and District Society was held at Arksey. The meeting should have been held at Doncaster, but owing to the fact that the bells of St. George's Church cannot be rung, Arksey was chosen as the venue. The beautiful light ring of eight bells of Arksey Church was utilised at intervals during the afternoon and evening, touches of Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob Major, Grandsire and Stedman Triples being rung. There was a representative gathering of members, about 30 being present from all parts of the district. Choral evensong was conducted in the church by the Vicar (the Rev. H. C. Fraser), and the bell ringers' hymn was sung to the tune, 'Belfry Praise.'

Tea was provided by the local band, and was partaken of in the Schoolroom, the Vicar presiding. At the business meeting, which followed tea, three new members were elected, and Mr. G. Clarke, of the Arksey band, was re-elected Ringing Master, to serve another three years.

The secretary's report for 1925 and the balance sheet were considered satisfactory. The secretary was instructed to make arrangements for the annual outing, to be held on the last Saturday in June, the venue being York.

It was suggested that the proposed great rally of South Yorkshire ringers should be held at Rotherham.

Adwick-le-Street was chosen as the next place of meeting.

RAYNE RINGERS.

On Saturday, January 9th, the All Saints' Guild of Ringers, Rayne, Essex, held their third annual supper in the Old Schoolroom. The Rector and Mr. H. Hance, churchwarden, were present, and thanked the ringers for their good services.

Mr. H. Redgwell was elected leader for the year, and the question of providing a set of handbells was discussed, the Rector promising to bring the matter up at the next meeting of the Parochial Church Council.

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CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**AN EFFORT TO IMPROVE THE STANDARD OF RINGING.**

The annual meeting of the Stockport Branch was held at Stockport (St. Mary's) on Saturday, January 30th. The church, being situate in the Market Place, and the day being market day, it would be hardly fair to say that further pandemonium was let loose at 3 p.m., when the early arrivals commenced to ring, but the miscellaneous collection of quack doctors, cheap-jacks and other vendors, who had taken up position immediately under the tower, might not agree.

A short committee meeting was held at 4 p.m., and fixed the meetings of the year as follows:—Rosthorpe, May 15th; Chapel-en-le-Frith, July 3rd; Bowdon, September 18th; and Ashton (St. Peter's), November 27th. It was recommended that the meetings, in future, be arranged at the last meeting of the year, as had been suggested by the Crewe Branch.

The usual service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. C. G. Calthrop), who also gave the address, and the presence of a choir of twenty boys was much appreciated. Those who state that ringers are not musical have never attended a meeting of this branch. It is a common practice for a certain section to get the organist to play for them after service; very rarely, if ever, is a refusal given, and, on this occasion, every stop was well tried out.

Under the supervision of Mrs. W. Gordon, a splendid tea was provided in the Schoolroom, to which fifty members and friends sat down. The twenty choir boys were also provided with tea, all under a cost of £2, which speaks well for those in charge. During the course of the tea, Mr. E. W. Elwell, Guild secretary, put in a belated but welcome appearance.

At the business meeting, which followed, the Hon. Secretary (Mr. J. P. Fidler) presented his annual report. The general condition of affairs remained about the same as for previous years. Five meetings had been held during the past year, with an average attendance of thirty. Six peals had been rung, ranging from Doubles to Major. There was, however, vast room for improvement.—All officers were re-elected to the respective posts.

After due consideration, it was resolved that the following resolution be sent to the General Committee: 'That the Central Council be asked, through diocesan or other channels, to draw the attention of Rural Deans, when they have no technical or practical knowledge of bells, to appoint as their deputy, for the purpose of inspecting bells and belfries, an official of the ringing organisation in whose area the tower to be inspected stands, who has the requisite knowledge.'

The places and dates of the meetings fixed by the committee were confirmed, and it was resolved their recommendation be adopted.—Eight new members were elected.

It was reported that the bells of Holy Trinity, Stalybridge, were to be recast and rehung in a new frame, the contract having been let to Messrs. J. Taylor and Co.—It was decided to open a subscription list in aid of the restoration fund.

As a means of trying to improve the standard of ringing, the hon. secretary was instructed to ascertain whether the bells of each tower would be placed at the disposal of the branch for the purpose of combined practices, one evening per month, and to try and arrange such practices.

The usual votes of thanks concluded the business. Further ringing took place, the bells of St. George's, Heaviley, and St. Thomas', Norbury, being also available.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting of the Rochester district was held at Upchurch on Saturday, January 30th. The peal of six at this church has recently been rehung in a new steel frame by Mr. Bowell, of Ipswich. Nearly 50 members attended, which, taking into consideration the weather and the limited transport to such an out-of-the-way place, was very satisfactory. The bells were going from 3 till 5, when the association service was held in the church, conducted by the Vicar, during which a collection, in aid of the local Bell Restoration Fund, realised 10s. 6d.

Tea followed in the Convalescent Home adjoining, and it was very different to a convalescent group that sat down.

The business meeting followed, presided over by the Vicar. Twelve new members were elected, and Cliffe-at-Hoo was chosen as the next meeting place, on Saturday, April 24th.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded all concerned in making the arrangements for such an excellent meeting, and the Vicar suitably responded.

Minor methods up to Cambridge Surprise were rung, and the bells were lowered at 8.30 on a very successful meeting.

HASTINGS.—On Monday, January 11th, at Christ Church, Blacklands, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 48 mins.: A. Groome 1, Miss G. Clift 2, W. Franks 3, J. Livermore 4, S. Driver 5, J. Downing 6, A. Levett (conductor) 7, E. Prior 8. First quarter for A. Groome and E. Prior. W. Franks is from Battle. Miss Clift and A. Levett are from All Saints', Hastings. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. S. Driver.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

We hear that there is prospect of an attempt in the near future to set up a new tower bell record, and that on the famous bells of Leeds, Kent, where James Barham and his merry men (13 of them, it is recorded) once rang a 40,320 of Bob Major, certain enthusiasts will go for something over 22,000 of Stedman Caters.

The death has taken place suddenly of Mr. William Lomas, one of Sheffield's oldest ringers. He had been connected with the belfry at the Cathedral for over 50 years.

A peal of Bob Major rung at Silverdale, Staffs, on January 23rd, was claimed in our issue of January 29th as the first peal of Bob Major on the bells. Mr. C. H. Page, of Stoke-on-Trent, writes to say that a peal in that method was rung on the bells by the Stoke Association on May 27th, 1909.

As recorded in our peal columns, the St. Mary's, Prittlewell, Essex, band visited Gravesend on Saturday, January 30th, and rang a good peal of Double Norwich Major for the Kent County Association, they being all non-resident life members of the latter. It would be interesting to know if such a peal has previously been rung, in which a band all from one tower go into another county and ring a peal as members of the county association whose area they are visiting.

Mr. P. C. Williams has, much to the regret of the members, resigned the secretaryship of the Bristol Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association. The vacancy has been filled by the election of Mr. C. H. Jennings, who has had previous experience of office as secretary of the Dorchester Branch of the Salisbury Guild.

For the first time for over 20 years a peal has been rung at St. Mary's Church, Plympton, Devon, and the ringers found that the bells badly need rehangings.

Mr. John Carter's wonderful creation, the ringing machine, is now in the Campanological Exhibit, at the Victoria and Albert Museum, South Kensington, and is to be found on Second Floor, 'E' Centre Gallery, Science.

Last Saturday the first peal on the bells was scored at Wyburnbury, Cheshire. These bells were cast in 1791 by J. Rudhall, of Gloucester, and were rehung 26 years ago by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. The tower is a landmark for miles around, as it is known as the Wyburnbury 'Lighthouse.'

Mr. G. M. Eastman, who took part at short notice, to fill a gap, in a peal of Kent Treble Bob, at Tunstall, Kent, had not rung a peal for nearly twelve years, and his only previous practice in Major ringing was one plain course. He is congratulated by the band on the capable and masterly manner in which he rang, and thanked for obliging them at the last moment.

About a hundred years ago they used to 'do things' at Oldham, where, in these days, there is a peal of twelve bells packed into the tower in three tiers. On February 12th, 1821, a peal of 14,016 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung there in 7 hrs. 26 mins., and on Feb. 15th, 1825, a peal of 9,999 Grandsire Major was rung. There were also other long peals rung about that time.

The first 7,000 of Grandsire Cinques was rung at Cornhill on February 14th, 1731. The same day is the anniversary of the 13,001 in the same method, rung at Painswick in the year 1920.

There has been a lot of Stedman Caters rung on the famous bells of St. Dunstan's, Stepney, but the first peal in the method was rung there on February 15th, 1834.

St. Martin's Youths rang a 14,224 of Bob Major at Aston on February 16th, 1789. Probably they were unaware of the 14,480 which had been rung at Oldham five years before, for it seems strange they should have stopped short of the existing record for the sake of less than three courses. But then, there was no 'Ringing World' in those days.

Ninety years ago next Wednesday, which, by the way, in that year was Ash Wednesday, Christ Church, Spitalfields, was destroyed by fire, and in the conflagration the peal of twelve bells was lost.

A round ten thousand of Oxford Treble Bob Royal was rung at Shoreditch on February 18th, 1777. On the same date in 1822 the first peal of what we now call New Cambridge Surprise Major was rung at Huddersfield.

The bells of Croyland Abbey were to have been broadcast on Sunday night, but soon after they started to ring, the transmission ceased, and it was ascertained that a land line had been deliberately cut. When these bells were broadcast on a previous occasion an unsuccessful attempt was made to stop them by the same means, but the culprit severed the wrong wire.

MUFFLED RINGING FOR CENTENARIAN.

On Wednesday evening, February 3rd, at Christ Church, Blacklands, Hastings, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 minutes: H. Parkin 1, Miss G. Clift 2, W. H. Easton 3, S. Driver 4, H. Ropley 5, J. Downing 6, A. Levett (conductor) 7, J. Livermore 8. Rung, with the bells half-muffled, as a token of respect to the late Mrs. Slade, who passed away in her 103rd year, and whose funeral had taken place earlier in the day.

THE ATTEMPT ON LONDON SURPRISE RECORD. A BREAKDOWN IN THE FOURTEENTH COURSE.

The attempt to beat the London Surprise Major record on Saturday was unsuccessful. As our readers are aware, a band, under the auspices of the Sussex County Association, was to endeavour to ring the Rev. H. Law James' composition of 14,144, at Warnham, a tower where, in the past, a number of long lengths in various methods have been rung and where, thirty or more years ago, the local band were so favoured that they were able to ring at almost any hour of the day or night without complaint from the parishioners. The same spirit prevails there to-day, apparently, and there was considerable local interest in the attempt which was made on Saturday to beat the 14,112 of London rung at King's Norton, Worcestershire, by the St. Martin's Guild on May 11th, 1903.

The band which Mr. A. H. Pulling has got round him is one now well in practice in the method, and there was every hope that they would pull off the attempt. When the company arrived on the scene they found Mr. Harry Withers, of Birmingham, who had come to act as witness for St. Martin's Guild, awaiting them. He had been there since 7 a.m., so we imagine he had travelled all night. He brought with him St. Martin's Guild's best wishes for the success of the attempt. The ringers took their places as follows: J. H. B. Hesse (Haslemere) 1, J. A. Cole (Godalming) 2, W. T. Beeson (Walton-on-Thames) 3, O. Sippetts (Crawley) 4, G. Steere (Guildford) 5, C. Dobbie (Teddington) 6, G. Gilbert (Aldershot) 7, A. H. Pulling, conductor (Guildford), 8. The bells went into changes at 11.10 a.m. In the fourth course a 'treble-bob-7-8-8-man' wanted to come down too soon, but was soon put right. From that point to the 14th course there was some excellent ringing, but then someone went astray. The trip was got over, but a shift had occurred, and 'stand' was called in the 15th course.

Mr. Harry Withers had been seated in the church during the ringing recording the course ends as they came up, and his quick ear had caught the error, and when he went up to the ringing chamber, after the bells had stopped, was able to tell the ringers which pair of bells had turned over, and thus confirmed the conductor's observations. London Surprise with the tenors parted is not easy stuff to pick out, but Mr. Withers had got it down in black and white! What an ear!

After an interval for refreshment a start was made for the part of the peal with the tenors parted. But the interest was to some extent gone, and in tenth course a shift again took place. The conductor, however, let the bells run on to the fourteenth course to see exactly what happened on the first occasion, and when that was settled, the bells were stopped. It is evidence of the spirit which prevails at Warnham that the band were informed before the second start that if they got to the end of the portion with the tenors parted, and cared to go on in an attempt to complete the full length, 'it would be all right,' although that would have meant ringing until nearly eleven o'clock!

During the ringing visitors from Brighton and London came on the scene. Some stopped until the evening and enjoyed, with those of the peal band who remained, touches in various Surprise methods. Everyone spent a pleasant time, and the band look forward to another attempt at a future date.

The conductor has no illusions since this attempt about the fact that it is 'a different story' to pick up a trip in London Surprise when the tenors are parted, compared with the task when they are together. The band would like to thank all those who sent their good wishes for success—one by telegram—and especially Mr. Albert Walker, Deputy Ringing Master of St. Martin's Guild, who sent a most encouraging message from the Guild. They also desire to thank the Warnham church authorities and the local band, and especially Mr. Walter Charman, who had everything ready, and to whom they are much indebted for the preparations made.

A REPLY TO MR. GEORGE WILLIAMS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I must thank Mr. Williams for his good wishes for the peal on Saturday last, but his other remark was quite unnecessary, and a little unkind, and would have been better left unsaid. It hurt some of my friends' feelings. Mr. Williams must be quite aware that we do not mind what association we ring under, but it is not always convenient for men who only ring occasional peals to pay out railway fare, and, in addition, 5s. for an association fee for an afternoon trip, even if it is only 'once for all.' I may say it is a pleasure for me personally to ring peals for the Sussex Association, as I am a Sussex man by birth.—Yours, etc., A. H. PULLING.

GRAMOPHONE RECORDS.

Mr. H. F. Cooper writes that three leads of Grandsire Triples were taken from the back eight of the old peal of ten at St. Mary's Church (now the Cathedral), Chelmsford, by Mr. Judge, of the Market House, Chelmsford, in 1912. Six leads, also a course, proved too long for the barrel record, but three leads were a success. He adds that he is not sure if Mr. Judge still has the record.

COVENTRY BELLS.

'TIN CAN' TYPE.

To the Editor.

Sir,—On reviewing the evidence for and against the retention of these bells, one cannot help being struck at the predominance of the 'Simpson' tuning theorists. No one else was supposed to know anything or to have any ear for music except Dr. Starmer, and our newest critic, Dr. Brazil, who seems to have suddenly sprung into prominence as an authority on bells. While we are all ready to acknowledge their ability as musical critics, we must not lose sight of the fact that they are not ringers, and, therefore, in my opinion, should not be allowed to sit in judgment on matters of such vital importance affecting ringers.

No wonder, when a bell hanging job is required to be done, the incumbent and church authorities often do not know whether they are standing on their heads or their heels, when they are told by these so-called bell experts that their bells are badly out of tune (some of them being, perhaps, a few vibrations per second out), and in the end allow themselves to be talked over, and perhaps sanction the breaking up and recasting of what may be a priceless peal of beautiful old bells, in order to replace them by a 'Simpson' tuned peal of 'noisy howlers' which can only be heard to advantage about a mile or more away, while the people who live in the vicinity are punished by the howling noise they make. Is it any wonder, under such circumstances, that some people object to the ringing of church bells? I think it is quite time these self-styled experts were told to mind their own business, and not interfere with matters they know very little about.

It is all very well to bamboozle and hoodwink the public with fractions and a few vibrations per second, and all that kind of talk, but an experienced musical ringer knows a good bell when he hears one, quite as well, or even better, than some of those critics who are not ringers.

What would these musical experts say if two eminent ringers were consulted to determine the fate of a grand old church organ in defiance of the opinions of skilled organists? This, I contend, is exactly the position of the Coventry decision.

A Simpson tuned bell is always a thin bell, and when it is rung, gives out a note which savours very much of the 'tin can' type, because it has been robbed of the amount of metal necessary to produce a good, bold, rich note. I can assure the bell founders that the outcry against the Simpson tuning of our church bells is far more general among ringers throughout the country than perhaps they imagine, for they are beginning to recognise that it is slowly but surely killing our beloved art, and I appeal to all ringers and lovers of church bells to do their utmost to stop this wicked vandalism and wholesale destruction of our lovely old bells.

E. BARNETT, Sen.

MODERN BELL TUNING.

Dear Sir,—Mr. Walker's letter seems to suffer from 'indeterminate undertones,' inasmuch as some of your readers construe its purport as they would it should be. He refers, however, to St. Clement's bells; may I, therefore, make a few remarks? Though the various founders were, two or three years ago, more than willing to melt them down, they are still as cast in 1693. They went to Whitechapel simply to be adjusted in the modern tuning machine, of which we heard at Coventry. But strangely enough their overtones are now more pronounced, so that some of my Simpsonian friends almost mark them for their own. The bells, however, have the major-thirds and the flat seventh hum-note, and so far have not started 'howling,' so one trusts that everyone is satisfied.

Personally, I think that modern work is over-clappered, and the balance of tone disturbed thereby, whether the bells are Simpson or old style.—Yours faithfully, E. ALEX. YOUNG.

SIMPSON TUNING.

Sir,—Mr. Walker asked those who had new peals to express an opinion. Holy Trinity, Guildford is a peal with four bells recast and the others retuned. Those of us who remember the old bells—a good old peal, lovely tenor—will willingly admit we have gained by having them recast. It is worth going miles to hear this peal ringing in Bristol Surprise. Of course, it is my tower, so people may say I am not in a position to judge.

I have in mind a peal of eight by each of the three principal founders, all practically the same weight, but, to my ear, different peals altogether. Now which are we to say is the true Simpson tuning? If our bells are Simpson tuned, then personally I am in favour of modern tuning, but, to speak candidly, I would sooner listen to some of the old peals, even if some of the bells are vile, than to some of the present day 'howlers.'—Yours, etc., A. H. PULLING.

In the reports of the peals at Chislehurst and Bromley the conductors' names were transposed. The Chislehurst peal was conducted by Mr. T. Groombridge, senr., and the Bromley peal by Mr. T. Groombridge, jun.

NOTES BY THE WAY.

SINGLE, DOUBLE AND REVERSE METHODS.

BY J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

The first recognition of the fact that some methods can exist in three variations, Single, Double and Reverse, occurs in Stedman's 'Tintinnologia' (1668). He is describing Doubles and Singles on four bells, i.e., Plain Bob Minimus. He goes on: 'With one hunt this peal may be rang six wayes (viz.), three wayes in hunting it up at the beginning of each peal, and three other wayes by hunting it down; the three wayes in hunting it up differs only in the making the extream changes; in one of the three wayes you must make an extream change every time the hunt comes before the bells to lead. Another way is to make an extream every time the hunt comes behind. And the third way is to make an extream every time the hunt comes before and behind the bells.'

So far as Plain Bob and Grandsire are concerned the Exercise early recognised these variations, and they were all practised during the early part of the eighteenth century, not only on six and eight bells, but also on ten and twelve. Benjamin Annable seems to have had a liking for Double Bob and Double Grandsire, and when he was supreme among the College Youths that society rang several peals in these variations. The first peal of Double Bob Major was at St. Dunstan's, Fleet Street, on January 14th, 1726. This was only eight months after the first peal of Bob Major, which was rung at St. Bride's at the other end of Fleet Street, on April 26th, 1725. James Barham called the first peal of Reverse Bob Major at Harrietsham in Kent on March 23rd, 1751. The first peal of Double Grandsire Caters was rung by the College Youths in 1732, and four years later the same society rang the first peal of Double Grandsire Cinques. Altogether the College Youths rang in these early days six peals of Double Bob Major, one of Royal, and one of Maximus; two peals of Real Double Bob Maximus; two peals of Reverse Bob Major; two of Royal and one of Maximus; two peals of Double Grandsire Caters and one of Cinques, and one peal of Reverse Grandsire Caters.

Towards the end of the eighteenth century the practice of the Double and Reverse variations died out. In recent years one or two peals of Double Bob Major had been rung, but Reverse Bob is quite obsolete, except for a solitary peal that Mr. Edwin Barnett called a year or two ago in Kent.

As to what are the proper Single and Double variations of Plain Bob and Grandsire there never has been, and never could be, any doubt. The single variation has the place made when the treble is leading; the reverse variation has the place made when the treble is behind; the double variation has both places. But when you get to the more complex methods a great deal of doubt and disagreement has arisen as to what are the correct single and reverse variations. William Shipway was a man with a very methodical brain, and he it was who first tried to establish this classification as a general law for all methods. The system he adopted was a thoroughly scientific one, but it has never been entirely accepted by subsequent writers and leading men of the Exercise; and the definitions of Single, Double and Reverse methods, at present officially adopted, although founded on his system and mainly the same, differ in one important point.

If you examine the lead of any plain method you will find that the path of the treble divides it into four triangles.

One of the chief rules in the construction of a regular method is that if you fold the lead along the line CD then the places made in CDEF must fall on those made in ABCD. This is what we call the 'Law of Symmetry,' and the reason for it will appear later.

According to the official definition, a Double Method is one in which the arrangement of the places in all four triangles is exactly alike, and if the places are alike it follows, of course, that all the hunting, dodging and other work are alike.

A method in which places are made above the treble only is a Single Method.

A method in which places are made both above and below the treble (but which is not a double method) is a Compound Method.

To get the Reverse variation of a Single Method transfer the places from ARD to ACD.

To get the Reverse variation of a Compound Method transfer the places in ABD to ACD, and those in ACD to ABD.

If you have a skeleton course of a Single or of a Compound Method, and you hold it up in front of a looking-glass, what you will see there is the skeleton course of the reverse variation. If you do this with a double method you will find that the mirror will give you the same thing as the original.

Shipway's idea of a double method was one in which the places made in DEF are the same as those made in ACD, and the places made in CDE are the same as those made in ABD. A good many methods, which we should now call unsymmetrical compound methods, he ranks as double methods.

To get the Single variation he substituted continuous plain hunt-

ing for all the work below the treble; and to get the Reverse variation he substituted continuous plain hunting for all the work above the treble.

In his last edition, Hubbard copied Shipway's idea of a double method. When he wrote his first edition it is clear he was not acquainted with Shipway's book, and he makes no attempt to give any Single or Reverse variations of any method other than Double Bob. I think, too, it is extremely likely that later on he did not get his idea of a double method directly from Shipway, but through other people. What he calls a single method is one in which you ring the full method while the treble is going up, and all the bells plain hunt when the treble is coming down. Bannister simply copied Hubbard.

Sir Arthur Heywood's idea of the Single variation of Double Norwich was that the places in fourth's and third's should be retained, while those in sixth's and fifth's should be omitted. In Reverse Norwich the places in sixth's and fifth's should be retained, and those in fourth's and third's omitted.

Shipway prints a method which he calls Double Court Bob Major. It was his own composition, and he held (not without some reason) that it is the correct extension to eight bells of Double Court Minor. In it he makes Court places in 3-4, when the treble is going up, and in 5-6, when she is coming down. According to Heywood the first half lead would be Single Norwich, and the second half lead Reverse Norwich.

In the forthcoming Central Council Collection of Plain Major methods no method that is not symmetrical is printed, and consequently this one is omitted. But, if you make the places in 3-4, both with the treble ascending and descending, you have a really good method, which is included under the name of Shipway's Court Bob.

In estimating the value of Sir Arthur Heywood's opinion we must remember that he was writing solely from the point of view of Double Norwich. Shipway and Hubbard both had a system that could be applied generally to methods. It will hardly be doubted that the latter is the correct way to deal with the matter.

But both Shipway and Hubbard, in working out their systems, lost sight of the importance of the Law of Symmetry.

Now, I should not like to say at this time of day that no unsymmetrical method is ever worth ringing, but the experience of the Exercise is that this is a rule that generally should be kept. In practical ringing you can tell a symmetrical method by noticing that there are two places in the plain course where the work is reversed, where you begin to do backwards what you have already done forwards. These places we call the turning places of the methods. In London Surprise they are second's and centre fifth's; in Cambridge and Superlative second's and seventh's; in Double Norwich the whole pulls before and behind in full work; in Bob Major second's and the full lead when the treble is behind, and so on.

One of the greatest defects of an unsymmetrical method is that it is very liable to internal falseness, which does not show at the lead ends.

A notable instance of this is a method which Hubbard prints, and which he calls Yorkshire Court. It was his own composition, and is constructed by making the fourth's and third's of Double Norwich when the treble is going up, and second's place when she is leading. All the bells plain hunt when the treble is going down. This method was widely practised on six bells, and was included in many peals of Minor, no one suspecting its falseness. But one day Mr. J. J. Parker pointed out that no true 720 was possible in the method, and all those peals were brought to naught.

If you take Yorkshire Court Major and turn it into a symmetrical method by making the places in 3-4 when the treble is descending as well as ascending, you have a first-rate method. This was what we rang at Willesden in 1924, under the name of Winchester Bob.

The following example will show you how Yorkshire Court Minor and other unsymmetrical methods can run false internally, without showing at the lead ends:-

123456	154632
214365	516423
241356	561432
423165	A 654123
243615	564213
426351	652431
449631	625341
645213	263514
A 654123	236154
561432	321645
516342	312465
153624	134256
156342	132465

A DATE TOUCH.

At St. Thomas's Church, Moorside, Oldham, on Wednesday, February 3rd, a date touch of Stedman Triples (1,926 changes) was rung in 1 hour and 16 minutes: J. Lees 1, H. Barlow 2, Miss C. Thorp 3, A. Clegg 4, C. Platt 5, T. Chapman 6, B. Thorp (composer and conductor) 7, J. Cox 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. James Cox, of Oldham.

THE LADIES' GUILD. NORTHAMPTONSHIRE DISTRICT.

Saturday last was an important occasion in the history of the Northamptonshire District of the Ladies' Guild, when the members had the pleasure of welcoming the general secretary of the Guild to their meeting at Cranford. A large number of members attended to show their appreciation of Miss Parker's visit, and the meeting was also extremely well supported by members of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild.

The Guild service was conducted at 4 o'clock by the Rev. R. C. Thursfield, who also gave an address, the lesson being read by Mr. F. Wilford, Master of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild.

After tea a hearty welcome to Miss Parker from the whole company was expressed by the Rev. R. C. Thursfield, and in seconding this Mr. Wilford added congratulations on the ladies' peal of Stedman Caters. Miss Parker, in replying, expressed her pleasure in finding the Northamptonshire District of the Guild so well supported by gentlemen, and said that she was also very pleased to meet so many members.

The general secretary took the chair at the business meeting which followed, when eight new ringing members and one honorary member were elected.

The bells were rung in various Minor methods during the afternoon and evening, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise being rung by the Ladies' Guild.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. GOOD GATHERING AT INGATESTONE.

A meeting for the South-Eastern Division was held at Ingatestone on Saturday, Feb. 6th. After ringing during the afternoon, a service was held, conducted by the Rector (the Rev. Pemberton), Mr. C. H. Howard, Master of the Association, reading the lesson.

A splendid tea was provided in the Parish Room by the Rector. Forty-five members, representing twelve different towers, were present, including Mr. C. H. Howard, Mr. W. H. Dyson (secretary of the Northern Division), Mr. E. J. Butler (secretary of the South-Western Division), and Dr. Spencer Phillips from Great Baddow.

At the business meeting, over which Mr. Geo. Green (District Master) presided, four new members and two probationary members were elected.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Great Waltham, in May, and a bye-meeting at Galleywood, when the restoration work there is finished.

Mr. Howard proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector for making the association so welcome, and to the organist for helping with the service. A welcome such as they had received, he said, brought the ringers in closer touch with the clergy, and enabled them to carry on their work with a feeling that they were doing a work for the church.

Fryerning tower was open for ringing during the evening, and several members proceeded there, while others returned to Ingatestone tower and brought round touches on the handbells.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. GRIMSBY DISTRICT.

The annual meeting of the Grimsby District was held at Grimsby on Saturday, January 30th. Members attended from Uleby, Bigby, Barrow, Burton-on-Stather, and the local members, St. James's bells (8) and St. Andrew's (8) were open to the members both afternoon and evening. The service was conducted by the Vicar of St. James's (Canon A. A. Markham), who also gave an address. Tea was served in the Church House, 23 members sitting down, the catering by Mrs. Long being much appreciated.

The business meeting followed, when the Rev. H. T. Parry was re-elected president, Mr. E. I. Mingay secretary, Mr. C. W. Taylor to serve on the General Committee, Mr. G. Blanchard ringing master, and Mr. J. Bray deputy ringing master.

Two new members were elected, and two members were re-elected. The Secretary read his report for 1925, and places and dates of meetings were chosen: Uleby June 5th, Barrow July 3rd, Elsham July 31st, Scunthorpe August 21st, Burton October 23rd.

The President referred to the great loss the district had sustained through the death of the Rev. H. C. Frith, the late Vicar of Elsham, who only recently had removed to the living of Hemingford Abbots, Hunts. He had done a great work in Elsham for the art of change ringing, he himself being a ringer and an honorary member of the branch. Canon H. A. Markham also paid a tribute to the deceased gentleman, and members showed their respect by standing in silence.

Votes of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, for conducting the service, and for the excellent address were carried, and also to the caterers for such an excellent tea, which brought a very pleasant meeting to a close. Members then adjourned to St. James's and St. Andrew's towers for more ringing. The methods rung were Stedman Triples, Grandsire Triples, Bob Major, Bob Doubles and Kent Treble Bob.

DEATH OF MR. EDWARD SNOWDON. MEMBER OF FAMOUS RINGING FAMILY.

The death occurred on January 28th, at Embay, of Mr. Edward Snowdon, brother of Mr. Jasper Snowdon, and the last surviving and youngest son of the late Rev. John Snowdon, who was Vicar of Ilkley from 1842 till his death in 1878. The present Ilkley Vicarage was built in 1848, and Edward Snowdon was the first child to be born there, on August 14th, 1849. He was educated at Rossall School. Along with his more famous brothers in the bellringing world, Jasper Whitfield and William Snowdon, he was, for many years, a regular bellringer at the Parish Church. He married, in 1885, Ellen (eldest daughter of the late Mr. Richard Armitage, of Highfield, Ilkley), who survives him, along with three daughters. His only son, Jasper Whitfield (named after his uncle) was killed in action near Basra in Mesopotamia, whilst serving with the Worcester Regiment, on February 17th, 1917, in his 21st year. A tablet to his memory, the gift of his uncle, the late Dr. Edward Armitage, was unveiled in the Parish Church within the last year.

The greater part of the late Mr. Edward Snowdon's business career was with Messrs. Lister and Co., Ltd., of Manningham Mills, Bradford, and in latter years he had resided at Embay.

The funeral took place at Ilkley Cemetery on Monday, February 1st. The mourners were Mrs. Snowdon (widow), Miss Olive Snowdon (daughter), Mr. and Mrs. Graham (son-in-law and daughter), Mrs. Carter-Squire (sister), Miss Agnes Carter-Squire and Mrs. Eulich (nieces), Mr. John Carter-Squire and Major B. H. Archer (nephews), Others present included Mrs. Symes and Mrs. Harrison (Ilkley), Professor Stuart (Leeds), Mr. and Mrs. Corns (Embay), Mr. and Mrs. Tom Philip, Messrs. Tom and Fred Dean and Mrs. Isaac Dean and others. The service was conducted by Canon Haymer, assisted by Rev. Lister, Vicar of Embay.

A UNIQUE ACHIEVEMENT. WEDNESBURY FIRM'S EMPLOYEES' PEAL.

Except it be a firm of bell founders or a big corporation like a railway company, there are few concerns which possess a complete band of change ringers. One such, however, is Messrs. Edward Elwell, Ltd., of Wednesbury Forge, and a company of employees rang a peal of Stedman Triples on Saturday week. The peal took place at St. Paul's Church, which the Elwell family partly endowed over fifty years ago, and it is a remarkable fact that the ringers, without exception, were all born within a stone's throw of the church, were baptised there, were all taught in its Sunday School, and prepared for Confirmation by its clergy. Between them they have 177 years' service with the firm of Elwell, an average of over 22 years each.

Incidentally, it may be mentioned that it was not only a works' peal, but also a parochial officers' peal, as the ringers have held, or are holding, practically every position in the parish it is possible for laymen to hold, including the offices of churchwarden, vice-chairman of Parochial Council, Sunday School teachers, superintendents and secretary, vergers, sidesmen, choristers, lay preacher, leaders of Young Men's Club, leader and secretary of Bible Class, etc.

The peal has only been secured after seven years of perseverance. First the hand of death removed one of the company; then, after teaching another, other hindrances arose, but by dint of the 'never say die' spirit, and after several unsuccessful attempts, the peal is now an accomplished fact. It is claimed to be unique in the annals of campanology.

GOSFORTH RINGER'S DEATH.

A muffled peal of Stedman Caters was rung at All Saints' Church, Gosforth, Newcastle-on-Tyne, on February 3rd, as a memorial tribute to Mr. Norman Cuthbertson Fleck, a regular ringer at this church for 18 years. He was buried earlier in the day, and after the funeral a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells over the open grave. He will be sadly missed from the belfry by his sorrowing comrades. The deceased was 34 years of age, and died as the result of being 'gassed' in the war. He leaves a widow and son and daughter, with whom much sympathy is felt.

Mr. Fleck's mother died exactly a week before her son and the peal was a last tribute of respect to her, and also to Mr. Martin Dods-worth, for many years a sidesman of All Saints' Church, who died recently.

A PROMISING YOUNG BAND IN IRELAND.

At Bray (Ireland) on Tuesday, January 19th, 720 Bob Minor, on the front six: F. Lane 1, G. R. Heatley 2, A. R. Mackenzie 3, R. H. Simpson 4, G. Lindoff (conductor) 5, J. B. Tough 6, W. F. Simpson 7, W. Smith 8.

This is the first 720 by all except ringers of 5 and 8. There is at this tower a young band, under the leadership of Mr. J. B. Tough, who are making promising progress.

It was at Bray that the first Surprise peal ever rung out of England was accomplished. This was a peal of Superlative by St. Martin's Guild rung in the year 1901.

GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**MR. P. C. WILLIAMS RETIRES FROM BRISTOL BRANCH SECRETARYSHIP.**

The annual meeting of the Bristol Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association was held on Saturday, January 30th, at St. Peter's (City), Bristol. St. Peter's is one of the oldest churches in Bristol, and the tower dates from the eleventh century. It appears, however, that another church stood on this site, dating about 600.

The weather was anything but pleasant for the meeting, and no doubt affected the attendance. There was good practice on the eight bells (especially for the learners) in Stedman, Grandsire and Bob Major, under the conductorship of Mr. Jack Brown. The association form of service was conducted in the church by the Rector (Rev. C. Dobson), the singing being led by the organist and choir. The Rector gave a thoughtful address.

Tea was held in the Parish Hall, 44 members sitting down. Miss N. Williams (Bath) and Messrs. F. Green and C. D. Heginbotham (Devizes) were welcome visitors, although the two latter had to leave early.

The business meeting followed, at which the Chairman (Mr. J. Gould) said he had visited several of the many towers in the Branch. He quoted some of the articles in 'The Ringing World,' which he referred to as good educational work, and he hoped in the future more time would be given to teaching the more advanced methods in the country districts. He found in the summer that some of the ringers gave up their ringing practice for cricket and gardening.

The Secretary's report gave a satisfactory account of the year's working, and was adopted. The balance sheet, which showed a balance on the right side of over £16, was received with acclamation and passed.

It was resolved to vote £5 towards the members' expenses in attending the annual meeting of the association at Painswick on Easter Monday. The quarterly meetings were arranged as follows: Henbury on April 24th, Almondsbury on July 24th, Abbots Leigh on October 30th, and the annual (if possible) at Christ Church, or, failing Christ Church, St. Philip's, Bristol, on January 29th.

The next monthly meetings were arranged: St. Matthew's, Kingsdown, on February 27th, and Winterborne on March 27th.

The Chairman, Mr. J. Gould, was re-elected, and thanked for his past services. Mr. J. G. Jefferies was re-elected on the Management Committee. Mr. P. Williams was proposed for re-election as hon. secretary and treasurer, but declined to be re-elected, and the members could not again induce him to accept office. He stated he had now acted as their secretary and treasurer for the past five years. It was a very large branch, and took up a great amount of time; in fact he could not give the necessary time to it. This was regretted very much indeed by all the members, and Mr. C. H. Jennings was then proposed and seconded, and general satisfaction was expressed when he decided to accept the office.

Mr. Jennings moved, and Mr. F. Leaker seconded, that a hearty vote of thanks be passed and placed on record to Mr. P. Williams for the great service he had rendered to the branch and the Guild in general, Mr. Leaker remarking that the branch was in a better position to-day than it ever was, thanks to Mr. Williams and the assistance that had been given him by Mrs. and Miss Williams (loud applause). Indeed, too much praise could not be given to him for the amount of time and work he put in on behalf of his fellow-members.

In conclusion, the Chairman proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for the use of the bells, for taking the service, and for the use of the Parish Hall, and to the organist, blower and the choir.

The members then repaired to St. Nicholas' Church, where the grand ring of 10 was placed at the disposal of the members, and, under the conductorship of Mr. W. A. Cave, some nice touches of Stedman and Grandsire Caters were brought round.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**BURTON-ON-TRENT BRANCH.**

The annual meeting of the Burton Branch was held at St. Paul's Church, Burton, on Saturday, January 23rd. There was a good attendance, over thirty members being present, and eight new members being elected.

The present general officers were nominated en bloc, and a vote of confidence in them was unanimously passed.

The district officers for the forthcoming year were elected as follows:—Mr. W. W. Worthington vice-president, and Messrs. E. W. Beadsmoore, A. J. Moore and R. H. Dove (local hon. secretary) committee.

A meeting was arranged to be held at Measham on February 20th, and the best thanks of the meeting were accorded to the Rev. and Hon. S. G. W. Maitland (Vicar of St. Paul's) for his presence in the belfry, and also for the use of the bells. The latter was carried with applause, and the meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the chairman.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

We regret that, owing to the demands upon the space available for Sunday Service Touches, we are unable to undertake to insert anything less than a quarter-peal on eight bells and upwards, and 720 of Doubles or Minor. Many correspondents send us quite short touches for publication and they must not be disappointed if we are unable to find room for them.

CLIPPING BARNET.—On Sunday, Feb. 7th, for evensong, at St. John's Church, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes), in 47 mins.: T. Smith (first quarter-peal) 1, S. Casley 2, W. Turling 3, F. Chandler 4, R. Roffey 5, F. A. Milne 6, H. J. Eldred (conductor) 7, G. Herbert 8.

HASLEMERE, SURREY.—For evening service, on Sunday, Feb. 7th, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), from Holt's Original: B. Elliott 1, R. Overy 2, F. Bowden (conductor) 3, J. H. B. Hesse 4, J. McDermott 5, G. Goodchild 6, F. White 7, W. Eldridge 8.

LONDON, W.—On Sunday, January 31st, at the Church of St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, for evensong, 1,257 Stedman Caters: G. W. Frayne 1, H. G. Miles (conductor) 2, P. L. Miles 3, E. G. Locke 4, F. V. H. Sinkins 5, R. Congreve-Pridgeon 6, A. Cutmore 7, W. E. Judd 8, C. H. Dobbie 9, C. W. Roberts 10.

TRUMPINGTON, CAMBRIDGE.—For morning service, on January 31st, 720 Stedman Doubles: Miss C. Fields 1, Rev. A. C. Moule 2, Miss K. Willers 3, F. Haynes 4, A. Wilson (conductor) 5. Arranged for Miss Fields, of St. Neots.

DORE, SHEFFIELD.—On Sunday, January 24th, for Mattins, and as a welcome to the Rev. E. S. Powell, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes) in 48 mins.: Everard Davenport 1, Norman Short 2, Ronald Johnson 3, Miss Molly Davenport 4, Arthur S. Robinson 5, J. E. Lewis Cockey 6, W. J. Thyng 7, Rev. E. S. Powell (conductor) 8. First quarter-peal by the ringer of the treble—aged 13, and first quarter on an inside bell by the ringer of the third—aged 15.

MORETON-IN-MARSH, GLOUCESTER.—On Sunday evening, January 24th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 42 mins.: P. S. A. Aston 1, C. Grimes 2, F. Jones 3, B. Timms 4, N. Brion 5, J. Gardner 6, W. Large (conductor) 7, H. Hiatt 8.

DEPTFORD.—On Sunday, January 24th, at St. John's, Deptford, for evening service, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. A. Fosdike 1, F. Bacon 2, J. Crowder 3, H. Norgate 4, E. B. Crowder 5, T. A. Easterby 6, W. J. Jeffries (conductor) 7, A. F. Bennington 8.

MARKET HARBOROUGH.—On Sunday morning, January 24th, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,344 changes) in 48 mins.: F. Clark 1, R. March 2, F. Pearcey 3, Fred Wallington 4, Frank Wallington 5, J. Chester 6, W. Wallington 7, A. Manning (conductor) 8.

FRINDSBURY.—On Sunday evening, Jan. 24th, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,280 changes), in 43 mins.: R. Paine 1, T. Beaumont 2, P. C. Springham 3, S. T. Jarrett 4, W. Evans 5, W. S. Beaumont 6, C. Winsor 7, E. A. G. Allen (conductor) 8.—On Sunday evening, January 31st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 42 mins.: Mrs. E. A. G. Allen 1, W. S. Beaumont (first quarter-peal as conductor) 2, R. Paine 3, P. C. Springham 4, E. A. G. Allen 5, S. T. Jarrett 6, T. Beaumont 7, C. Winsor 8. First quarter-peal by Mrs. Allen, also first in the tower in which a lady has taken part.

OSWESTRY, SHROPSHIRE.—On Sunday, January 24th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes), in 50 mins.: T. Marshall 1, R. Martin 2, R. Kynaston 3, R. T. Evans 4, H. Jarman 5, G. Williams 6, R. Edwards 7, E. H. Kynaston 8. Rang with the bells half-muffled, as a last token of respect to Mr. G. Thompson, for 16 years a ringer at St. Oswald's Church.

SPliced OXFORD AND GRANDSIRE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The figures of the Spliced Oxford and Grandsire Triples, as published, are not quite in correct order. The row 463257* was printed as the third row instead of the sixth in the composition. Also the footnote to the peal should read: First peal of Triples ever rung without Singles 'or Special Calls.'

Correct Order.

234567

672534	1
346257	2
573246	1
625473	1
346725	1
463257	2 *
574263	1
etc.	

Yours faithfully,

A. J. PITMAN.

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.

The **EDITORIAL OFFICE** of the 'RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 63, **COMMERCIAL ROAD, WORKING.**

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ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—The 38th Annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, March 6th, at 6 o'clock, when the chair will be taken by Canon T. Guy Rogers, B.D., M.C., Rector of Birmingham, Chaplain to the King. To fully qualified members tickets will be issued on payment of 2/-, to other members and friends, 6/6 each. Every full member should be clear on the books not later than Saturday, February 27th. The bells of St. Martin's (12) will be available from 3 to 5 o'clock, the Cathedral (10) from 4 to 5.30.—A. Paddon Smith, 11, Albert Road, Handsworth, Birmingham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch. — The next meeting will be at Lytham, St. John's and St. Peter's, on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells ready 2.30. Business meeting 6 p.m.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec., 320, N. Promenade, Blackpool.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hereford District.—The annual meeting of the district will be held at Hereford on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells available: St. Nicholas' (6), 2.30 to 4.30; All Saints' (8), 2.30 to 4.15. Cathedral (10), 6.30 to 9. Service St. Nicholas' 4.30. Tea, Spread Eagle Hotel, 5.30.—A. Gwynne, District Sec., Deanery Cottage, Castle Street, Hereford.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at East Ilsley on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea, 1s., at 5 p.m.—H. W. Curtis, Hon. Branch Sec., Church Road, Shaw, Newbury.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—A new treble bell has recently been hung in the tower of Bleadon Parish Church, near Weston-super-Mare, making a peal of six. The dedication ceremony will be performed on Saturday, Feb. 13th, at 3 p.m., by the Master Ringer (Rev. E. C. Lock, Vicar of West Pennard). Collection for bell fund. Bells available after the service. Tea at 1s. at Queen's Arms, near church.

SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS—Nottingham — (Established 1672). — A meeting of the above will be held at Beeston on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Tower open 5. Meeting in the Manchester Hall at 8 p.m. A good attendance is desired.—F. Blood, Hon. Sec.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, Feb. 13th, and all members are asked to attend if possible. Ringing at All Hallows', Lombard Street, from 1.45 to 3.15 sharp, and at St. Clement Danes from 2 to 3.30. Service at the latter at 4 p.m., before which, at 3.45, a group photograph will be taken if circumstances permit. Tea in the Parish Room, tickets for which should be obtained in advance, followed by business meeting.—A. H. Keighley, Gen. Sec., 18, Merrick Square, S.E.1.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A district meeting will be held at Farnham on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells (8) available at 2.30. Service at 4.30. Tea at Ransom's Restaurant. Short business meeting after.—E. Raddon, Hon. Dis. Sec., Hillcrest, Baillie Road, Guildford.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Wickham on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells (6) available 2.30 p.m., also Swanmore (6). Tea at 5 p.m., followed by business meeting. All ringers welcome.—F. W. Rogers, Hon. Sec., 52, Samuel Road, Portsmouth.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Dorset Branch. — The next quarterly meeting will be held at Motcombe on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 (Preacher, Rev. E. C. King, Vicar). Tea at 5 (6d. for members), to be followed by a short business meeting. Towers available: Motcombe (6), Holy Trinity, Shaftesbury (6), St. Peter's, Shaftesbury (6).—R. E. P. Gorringe, Manston Rectory, Sturminster Newton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—The next meeting of the district will be held at Hugglescote on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells (8). Business meeting 4.30. Bells open from 3 o'clock onwards.—J. Saddington, Hon. Dis. Sec.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, Feb. 13th, at Beddington. Will those intending to be at the tea please inform Mr. A. J. Trappitt, of 57, Mellows Road, Wallington, as soon as possible, so that the necessary arrangements may be made? The business meeting will include that relating to the Central District, as well as that usually transacted at the annual general meeting.—Chas. Dean, Hon. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held at Penshurst on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Tower open at 3. Service at 4.30. Tea at the Institute after service, followed by business meeting. Subscriptions are now due, and should be paid at the meeting or sent to the district secretary.—W. Latter, Hon. District Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Eccles on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells ready 3 o'clock. Meeting 7 p.m. Reports to hand. A good muster is requested.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting, Manchester.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Wanstead on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service 5.15 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Subscriptions for 1926 are now due. Will secretaries of bands note and forward to district hon. secretary?—E. Butler, 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Preston Parish Church on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m.—Fred Rigby, Branch Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD OF RINGERS.—Exeter Branch. — Meeting at Topsham Feb. 13th. Service 4 o'clock. Tea free to members. Adjacent towers open.—Further particulars from Stokes, 35, Okehampton Road, Exeter.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The annual meeting will be held at Isleworth on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Tower open at 3. Service at 5. Tea at 5.45, and business to follow. Members will be entertained to tea by the Vicar and churchwardens.—W. H. Hollier, Hon. Sec., 29, Duke Road, W.4.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Surfleet on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells (10) available from 12 noon. Service at 3.30 p.m. Tea at 4.15 p.m. Business meeting immediately after tea.—Geo. Ladd, Hon. Sec., Pinchbeck, Spalding.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The pre-Lent meeting will be held at Newton Hall on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Committee meeting at 4 p.m. and tea at 5 p.m. in the Church Institute (adjoining the church). Tea 1s. 6d. per head.—E. Ferry, Hon. Sec., 16, Gordon Avenue, Gosforth, Newcastle.

BARNESLEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Horbury on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells available. Those who desire tea should apply to Mr. Robert Thickett, Station Road, Horbury.—C. D. Potter, Hon. Sec.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—A meeting will be held at Baldock, on Saturday, February 13th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Tea and meeting 5.30 p.m.—E. W. Day, Dist. Sec., 117, Nightingale Road, Hitchin.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bridgnorth Branch.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Bridgnorth, on Saturday, February 13th. Ringing to commence at 3 p.m. Bells available: St. Leonard's (8), St. Mary's (6). Short Service at St. Mary's Church 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m., Castle Restaurant, followed by business meeting. Election of Officers for 1926. All ringers welcome.—W. Haywood, District Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members who have not made 20 attendances in the past year to vote on matters of finance, should be paid before the 28th inst. Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on the 18th, St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 21st (6 p.m.), for service; *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 23rd, at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William I. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. James', Waterfoot, on Saturday, Feb. 20th. Bells (6) ready at 3.30. Meeting at 7. Subscriptions are now due; reports to hand. A hot-pot will be provided for all those sending in not later than Feb. 17th to Mr. Alfred Fox, 11, Back Church Street, Newchurch-in-Rossendale, near Manchester.—John H. Haydock, Branch Sec., 31, St. Paul's Street, Ramsbottom.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. Phillip's, Nelson, on Saturday, Feb. 20th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m.—J. Watson, Hon. Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—A meeting will be held at Standish Parish Church, on Saturday, Feb. 20th. Bells available from 3 o'clock, meeting at 4.30. A good attendance requested.—James Grounds, Sec., 8, School Lane, Standish.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Vale of White Horse Branch.—A meeting will be held at Stanford-in-the-Vale on Saturday, Feb. 20th. Service 3.30, followed by tea and meeting. Ringing before and after meeting. Intending visitors to tea please notify me by Feb. 16th.—G. A. Webley, Hon. ec., Southampton St., Faringdon.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bromyard District.—The annual meeting will be held at Bromyard, on Saturday, Feb. 20th. Bells (6) available 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea, provided by the Vicar, at 5.15, at the Corner House, for those only notifying me by Wednesday, Feb. 17th.—A. Tomkins, Post Office, Bredenbury, Bromyard.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—The annual meeting of this Division will be held at Angmering, on Saturday, February 20th. Bells available from 2.30. Tea 5 o'clock, kindly provided by the Vicar and Churchwardens. Those intending to be present kindly advise me by the 16th inst.—A. W. Groves, 9, Sugden Road, Worthing.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Measham, on Saturday, Feb. 20th. Bells available from 2.30. Requests for tea (1/- per head) to be sent to the Rev. J. R. King, Measham Vicarage, as early as possible. All ringers welcome.—R. H. Dove, Hon. Dist. Sec., 128, Station Street, Burton-on-Trent.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Dunster Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Dunster, on Saturday, Feb. 20th. Towers open at 3 p.m. Service at 4.45. Tea in the Memorial Hall at 5 p.m., business meeting to follow. All those intending to be present kindly advise me not later than Feb. 16th.—G. Stacey, Hon. Local Sec., Park Street, Minehead.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bagshot, on Saturday, Feb. 27th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., followed by tea and short business meeting. Subscriptions are now due.—J. B. Hessey, Hon. Dist. Sec., 11, Queen Street, Chertsey.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Isle of Wight District.—Next quarterly meeting at Freshwater, on Saturday, Feb. 27th. Bells (6) available 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea, 5 p.m., provided by the President in Parish Hall for those who notify me before Tuesday, 23rd.—B. J. Snow, Hon. Dist. Sec., 2, Collingwood, Daniel Street, Ryde, I.W.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—The next meeting will be held at Kelvedon, on Saturday, Feb. 27th. The bells will be available during the afternoon and evening. The ringers' service will be held in the church at 4.15 p.m., tea and meeting afterwards. Members are reminded that their subscriptions for 1926 are now due. A hearty welcome given to all ringers.—W. H. Dyson, Dist. Sec., High Street, Braintree, Essex.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Hertford, on Feb. 27th, when the bells of All Saints' (10) and St. Andrew's (8) will be open for ringing: All Saints' before tea, both after. Service at 5, address by the Vicar of All Saints'. Tea at Farrow's Restaurant, Fore Street, 1/-, business after. All will be heartily welcomed, members or otherwise.—W. H. Lawrence, Little Munden.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Derby District.—A meeting of the above will be held on Saturday, Feb. 27th, at St. Alkmund's Church, Derby. Bells available 3 p.m. until 7 p.m. All ringers welcome.—C: Draper, Local Sec., 25, Western Road, Derby.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—Will all ringing friends please note new address of F. Alleway is: 13, Athelstone Road, Wealdstone, Harrow.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

Secretaries of Associations are reminded that subscriptions to the Central Council are now due, and should be sent to the Hon. Sec. and Treasurer, Mr. E. Alex Young, 155, Rushey Green, Catford, S.E. 6.

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