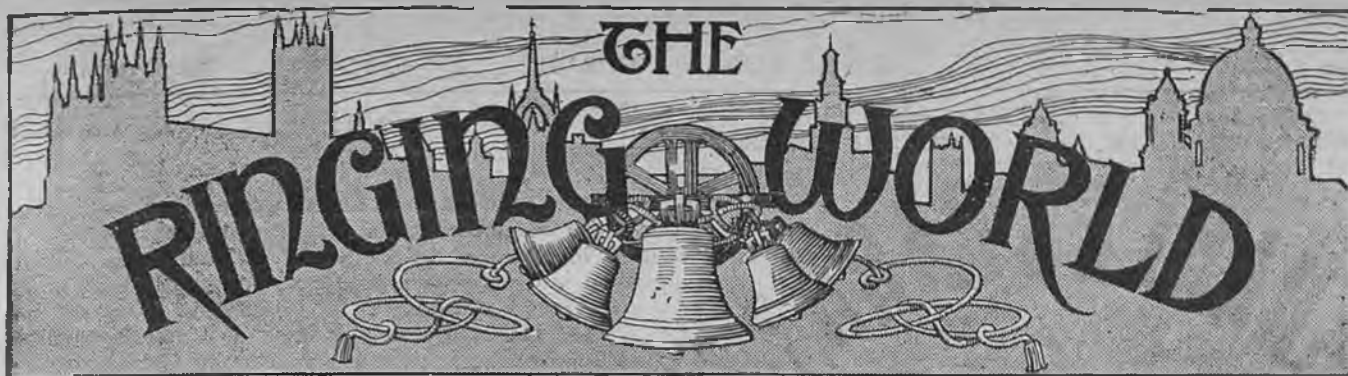




No. 842. Vol. XXII.

FRIDAY, MAY 13th, 1927.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
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PEAL RINGING, PAST & PRESENT.

The tabulated summary of the peals rung in the year 1926 appears in our pages this week, and once again the Central Council's Committee deserve the thanks of the Exercise for the labour which they have expended in the compilation of this interesting record of a year's activities among the peal ringers. The statistics will be examined with interest by those who follow peal ringing, for there can be no question that, taken year by year, peals do indicate very largely the standard of ringing which has been reached. The progress of this or that association can be watched, and it becomes the more striking when comparison is made with a distant year.

In 1926 there was a slight falling off in the number of peals rung, but there was nothing like the extraordinary drop which occurred in the preceding twelve months, when the total fell by no fewer than 171 as against 1924. Last year's decline of 22 is trivial, and against this can be set a marked extension in the variety of methods rung. This year, for instance, there were five methods of Maximus rung as against three in 1925; twelve Surprise Major methods against ten, and four of Surprise Royal against three. There is thus no cause for misgiving in reduced numbers; while a distinctly encouraging feature is an increase in the number of conductors of peals.

We have before us as we write an old analysis table, which provides some most interesting comparisons with the state of peal ringing now and thirty-three years ago. In 1893 the total number of peals rung was 705, and the most active association, the Sussex, could then claim only 68 peals, against 130 rung last year by the Midland Counties Association, who in 1893 rang only 35. Two other associations in 1893 rang over 50 peals in the year; in 1926 fifteen societies exceeded this number. In those now seemingly distant days Maximus was confined to Treble Bob; Surprise ringing to London, Cambridge and Superlative. In Triples 219 peals of Grandsire were rung, and only 70 of Stedman; whereas in 1926 Stedman topped the bill with 209 and Grandsire came next with 182. The ringing of Surprise Royal and Maximus thirty-three years ago was a thing only to be talked about, most of the Surprise Major methods rung last year had not been invented; while 'splicing' was a thing almost undreamed of. With the three Surprise methods then rung it is interesting to compare the relative practice to-day. Last year there were 68 peals of London; in 1893 the total in this method was two only. Eighty-nine peals of Cambridge Major were rung in 1926; but only five in the year under comparison, when Superlative was the chief attraction and 29 peals were rung. Last year the number in this method was 44. In addition, of course, must be

(Continued on page 290.)

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reckoned the twenty peals of Bristol and the twelve in other methods rung in 1926, which find no counterpart in 1893.

One other point, among many, we would refer to, and that is the disappearance of several of the societies which figured in this old table. Some, of course, have been absorbed into other organisations, but others have gone from the realm of ringing. We no longer have with us the United Counties Association, the Waterloo Society or the Trinity Youths; the Heavy Woollen District Association or the Birmingham Amalgamated Society. Gone, too, are many of the famous names that appeared among the conductors. The passage of time has made striking differences in the Exercise, but there have in this period been marked advances. In every direction we can see where progress has been made, and, while in peal ringing we are able, thanks to the statistics so painstakingly and so regularly compiled, to make definite comparisons, the advance in other respects has been no less certain and no less beneficial to the art.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

WINCHESTER, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 7, 1927, in Three Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL OF THE HOLY TRINITY AND ST. SWITHIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5002 CHANGES;

Tenor 30 cwt. 0 qr. 4 lb. in C.

GEORGE WILLIAMS Treble	FRANK BENNETT 7
HARRY BARTON 2	FRANK BLONDELL 8
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL 3	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY 9
MISS EDITH K. PARKER 4	KEITH HART 10
FREDERICK W. ROGERS 5	GEORGE W. FLETCHER 11
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 6	JAMES H. SHEPHERD Tenor

Composed by GEORGE NEWSON. Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

Rung as a compliment to the conductor, the Master of the Guild, on his 70th birthday.

LONDON.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 7, 1927, in Four Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR, SOUTHWARK,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 6280 CHANGES;

Tenor 50 cwt.

CHARLES T. COLES Treble	CHARLES W. ROBERTS 7
MRS. FRANK I. HAIRS 2	WILLIAM J. NUDDS 8
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 3	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY 9
THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. 4	HAROLD W. CLARK 10
FRANK I. HAIRS 5	WILLIAM PYE 11
GEORGE R. PYE 6	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, SEN.

TEN BELL PEAL.

MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 7, 1927, in Three Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 27½ cwt.

ERNEST JONES Treble	ARTHUR LINTOTT 6
JOHN WILKINSON 2	HERBERT LODKIN 7
THOMAS HAMMOND 3	THOMAS C. LARKEY 8
GEORGE R. NEWTON 4	EDWARD CAUNCE 9
THOMAS W. GILMOUR 5	ALBERT A. GRIFFITHS Tenor

Composed by the late SIR A. P. HEYWOOD.

Conducted by G. R. NEWTON.

* First peal of Stedman Caters. First peal of Stedman Caters on the new bells.

BECKENHAM, KENT.—On Thursday, May 5th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: W. Smith (conductor) 1, W. Rawlings 2, F. King 3, W. Hollamby 4, Miss R. Thomas 5, G. Wickens 6, F. Terry 7, W. Meek 8.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

GILLINGHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, April 28, 1927, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

At the Parish Church of St. Mary Magdalene,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

EDWARD A. G. ALLEN ... Treble	THOMAS BEAUMONT ... 5
VICTOR JARRETT, Mus. R.E. 2	WILLIAM J. WALKER ... 6
JOHN HAIGH ... 3	CHARLES NORRIS ... 7
FRANK BELSEY ... 4	WILLIAM HAIGH ... Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER.

Conducted by W. HAIGH.

Rung in honour of the wedding, at Rochester Cathedral, of the Vicar of Gillingham (Rev. C. E. Webb) and Miss G. Tait, daughter of the Archdeacon of Rochester and Mrs. Tait.

PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 30, 1927, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary, Portsea,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt. in F.

GEORGE WILLIAMS ... Treble	HARRY L. AITKEN ... 5
TOWER R. TAYLOR ... 2	RICHARD J. STONE ... 6
FREDERICK A. BURNETT ... 3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS ... 7
WILLIAM R. MADGWICK ... 4	FRANK BLONDELL ... Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by F. W. ROGERS.

Rung on the eve of the birth of the new diocese of Portsmouth.

HIGHAM FERRERS, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

(WELLINGBOROUGH BRANCH.)

On Saturday, April 30, 1927, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 22½ cwt.

*LEWIS CHAPMAN ... Treble	JOHN J. MAWBY ... 5
JAMES GARRATT ... 2	JOHN R. MAIN ... 6
WALTER PERKINS ... 3	GEORGE BASFORD ... 7
JAMES T. WARD ... 4	ANDERSON Y. TYLER ... Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by ANDERSON Y. TYLER.

* First peal in the method.

QUEDGELEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(GLOUCESTER BRANCH.)

On Saturday, April 30, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' VARIATION.

Tenor 9 cwt.

THOMAS BALDWIN ... Treble	THOMAS HART ... 5
ARTHUR SMITH ... 2	EX-SERGT. J. WILLIAMS ... 6
WILLIAM H. HARRIS ... 3	*EDWIN SIMS ... 7
GEORGE CONDICK ... 4	*HERBERT SELWYN ... Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS BALDWIN.

* First peal.

DARESBURY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 30, 1927, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt. in E.

REV. C. A. CLEMENTS ... Treble	FRANCIS BIBBY ... 5
CYRIL VALENTINE ... 2	EDWARD JENKINS ... 6
JOHN E. BIBBY ... 3	JOHN WILKINSON ... 7
WILLIAM BIBBY ... 4	JAMES H. RIDING ... Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN.

Conducted by E. JENKINS.

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ROTHWELL, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, April 30, 1927, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of the Holy Trinity,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. in F.

*HARRY WARD ... Treble	†PERCY MASSAM ... 5
†ARTHUR G. WOOD ... 2	†ALBERT WORMALD ... 6
THOMAS WM. STRANGEWAYS 3	†HAROLD L. JONES ... 7
†ERIC WARD ... 4	GEORGE WM. STEEL ... Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by G. W. STEEL.

* First peal of Major. † First peal of Treble Bob. Rung as a farewell to the Rev. W. S. Fisher, who is leaving Rothwell to take up duties at Chester.

BOLSOVER, DERBYSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 30, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Parish Church of SS. Mary and Lawrence,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

EDWARD ROBBINS ... Treble	ARTHUR CRAVEN ... 5
JOHN HOLMAN ... 2	*HAROLD KENT ... 6
*WILLIAM BARTON ... 3	JOHN H. BROTHWELL ... 7
CHARLES MASON ... 4	JOHN FLINT ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN.

Conducted by JOHN FLINT.

* First peal in the method.

EARL SHILTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 30, 1927, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Simon and Jude,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF BROOKS'.

Tenor 11 cwt. 3 qr. 13 lb.

THOMAS K. DEACON ... Treble	THOMAS W. CHAPMAN ... 5
C. HARRY WEBB ... 2	FREDERICK H. DEXTER ... 6
GEORGE A. NEWTON ... 3	PERCY L. HARRISON ... 7
ERNEST STONE ... 4	T. HARRY WRIGHT ... Tenor

Conducted by F. H. DEXTER.

Rung on the eve of the festival of SS. Philip and James. The ringer of 3rd has now rung each bell in this tower to a peal, and this was his first in the method away from the tenor.

TWICKENHAM, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, April 30, 1927, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 18½ cwt.

*REGINALD A. WAGNER ... Treble	WILFRED G. WILSON ... 5
†REGINALD G. ILSLEY ... 2	ROBERT A. FARDON ... 6
MISS RUBY HAWKSWORTH 3	ARTHUR HARDING ... 7
*EDWARD A. MORRIS ... 4	*JOSEPH LOVELL ... Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT A. FARDON.

* First peal. † First peal with bob bell.

BARTHOMLEY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

On Saturday, April 30, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Bertholine,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

*ERIC B. ALLMAN ... Treble	ALBERT BOOTH ... 5
JOHN BRASSINGTON ... 2	GEORGE ADDISON ... 6
ALBERT CRAWLEY ... 3	ARTHUR ALLMAN ... 7
THOMAS HURD ... 4	HARRY PARKER ... Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by HARRY PARKER.

* First peal on eight bells. Rung as an 81st birthday compliment to the mother of the ringer of the third.

CROYDON, SURREY.—On Saturday, May 7th, for the induction service of the Rev. Edward Sidney Woods, M.A., to the Vicarage of St. John-the-Baptist, Croydon, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples, taken from Groves' variation: R. Talbot (first quarter) 1, H. G. Humphries 2, J. Rumble 3, H. J. Skelt 4, J. Talbot 5, D. Cooper 6, A. W. Clark 7, J. Cawley 8.

COLERNE, WILTS.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, May 1, 1927, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. F. PENNING'S ONE-PART.

Tenor 18 cwt.

ARTHUR PRINCE Treble	*WALTER J. STARR 5
JESSE H. BRAZER 2	JESSE HULLETT 6
SIDNEY J. WILTSHIRE 3	CHARLES W. BELL 7
FRED LAMBETH 4	EDGAR C. LEWIS Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR PRINCE.

* First peal of Triples. This peal was rung for the morning service, on the first anniversary of the induction of the Rector, the Rev. H. W. St. Leger Chambers, to the Rectory of this parish, and who very kindly held the Holy Communion service at 7.30 to fit in with the ringing. Unfortunately, two of the cycle section arrived too late to participate in this service.

WARNHAM, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, May 2, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF COURT BOB TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S SIX-PART, No. 11.

Tenor 14 cwt.

PETER CHARMAN Treble	*OLIVER SIPPETTS 5
WALTER CHARMAN 2	*JOHN A. COLE 6
JOHN COOK 3	*ALFRED H. PULLING 7
*WILLIAM J. ROBINSON 4	ALBERT CHARMAN Tenor

Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

* First peal in the method.

ST. GERMAN'S, CORNWALL.

THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, May 4, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GERMAN'S,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

H. W. WILDE'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'. Tenor 13½ cwt. in E.

CHARLES R. LILLEY Treble	THOMAS G. MYERS 5
JAMES E. LILLEY 2	*ALFRED W. MYERS 6
G. HARRY MYERS 3	JOSEPH WOODLEY 7
REV. R. H. WHITFORD 4	*WILLIAM J. SYMONS Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

* First peal of Stedman Triples. Rev. R. H. Whitford is from Bristol.

BRIDGEND, GLAMORGANSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Wednesday, May 4, 1927, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ILTYD,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

A VARIATION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt.

ALFRED TALBOT Treble	CHARLES H. PERRY 5
ROYDON DAVIES 2	JOHN W. JONES 6
ERNEST STITCH 3	ALBERT J. PITMAN 7
FRANK ROWSELL 4	JOHN WEATHERSBY Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES H. PERRY.

Rung as a farewell peal to Mr. A. Talbot, a much respected member of the above association, who is leaving the neighbourhood, the band wishing him every success in his new home.

NORTH SHIELDS, NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, May 4, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt.

*ARTHUR TUGWOOD Treble	†JOSEPH ROBERTSON 5
*GEORGE TATE 2	JAMES SCOTT 6
ERNEST GOSDEN 3	EDWARD HERN 7
*JAMES GRAY 4	JOHN GEORGE Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITROW.

Conducted by E. HERN.

* First peal. † First peal of Kent Major. Rung in honour of the election of Mr. Harold Taylor as churchwarden at Christ Church. Also a birthday compliment to Mr. E. Gosden. Rung by an entirely local band.

A PEAL WITHDRAWN.

The peal of Rainham Forward Major, rung at Crayford on April 30th, is withdrawn, the composition having turned out to be false.

MEASHAM, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, May 4, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. H. EARLE-BGLWER'S FOUR-PART, No. 2.

Tenor 10 cwt.

E. HARRY STONELEY Treble	CHARLES DRAPER 5
RICHARD C. BELTON 2	THOMAS K. DEACON 6
MAURICE SWINFELD 3	JAMES GEORGE 7
JOHN H. SWINFELD 4	JOHN CURTIS Tenor

Conducted by M. SWINFELD.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, May 4, 1927, in Three Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 6056 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qr 8 lb. in D.

C. ERNEST SMITH Treble	WILLIAM J. ROBINSON 5
JOHN A. COLE 2	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE 6
JOHN T. SCOTT 3	GEORGE W. STHER 7
WILLIAM T. BEESON 4	ALFRED H. PULLING Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

W. J. Robinson's 50th peal.

LOWER BEEDING, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, May 4, 1927, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 10½ cwt.

WILLIAM WATTS Treble	Cecil NICE 5
ALFRED J. BULL 2	WALTER CHARMAN 6
CHARLES H. SURRIDGE 3	NELSON ELLIOTT 7
REGINALD V. JOHNSON 4	OLIVER SIPPETTS Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS.

Conducted by O. SIPPETTS.

First peal on the bells since they were restored.

MARSHFIELD, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 7, 1927, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 11 cwt.

*JOHN PHILLIPS Treble	GEORGE LARGE 5
SIDNEY DAWE 2	WILLIAM BOLTON 6
†CHRISTOPHER P. HEATH 3	ERNEST COOMBS 7
JOHN W. JONES 4	BERT WEAVER Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST COOMBS.

* First peal. † First peal on an inside bell.

PULFORD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 7, 1927, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 6008 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr 10 lb.

GEORGE R. JONES Treble	HAROLD EDWARDS 5
ROBERT SPERRING 2	EDWARD V. ROPENHURST 6
SAMUEL JONES, JUN. 3	ALBERT J. HUGHES 7
RICHARD T. HOLDING 4	JAMES H. RIDING Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by J. H. RIDING.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, May 7, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET.

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 20½ cwt. in E.

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

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF.

Conducted by CHAS. F. BAILEY.

Arranged for G. Bailey. A birthday compliment to W. W. Bailey.

SUNDERLAND, DURHAM.

THE DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, May 6, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. IGNATIUS-THE-MARTYR,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HRYWOOD'S VARIATION.

Tenor 13 cwt.

GEORGE S. TAYLOR Treble	THOMAS W. DITCHBURN ... 5
ROBERT WALKER... .. 2	JOSEPH W. PARKER 6
MICHAEL F. HARRISON ... 3	ERNEST E. FERRY 7
JOHN J. LEIGHTON 4	ROBERT L. PATTERSON ... Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH W. PARKER.

Rung with the bells half-muffled, as a token of regard and respect to the memory of Thomas H. Naisby, a member of the St. Ignatius Guild, whose interment took place the same day.

PRIVETT, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 7, 1927, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 6056 CHANGES,

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*NORMAN HARDING Treble	JOHN A. COLE 5
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON ... 2	OLIVER SIPPETTS... .. 6
JOHN T. SCOTT 3	WILLIAM T. BEESON ... 7
C. ERNEST SMITH 4	ALFRED H. POLLING ... Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by A. H. POLLING.

* First Surprise peal. This peal was arranged and rung as a compliment to Mr. G. Williams, Master of the Guild, on the occasion of his 70th birthday.

HESTON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 7, 1927, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE ... Treble	CHARLES I. EDWARDS ... 5
HORACE BELCHER 2	ERNEST R. GLADMAN... 6
HENRY C. CHANDLER... .. 3	WILLIAM H. HOLLIER ... 7
CHARLES S. BIRD 4	ARTHUR HARDING ... Tenor

Composed by JOHN REEVES. Conducted by J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

Rung to welcome the new Vicar, the Rev. George Craggs, M.A., to St. Leonard's, and as a compliment to Mr. Tom Beadle on his 77th birthday.

ARKSEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(DONCASTER & DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, May 7, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 3 qr. 20 lb. in F sharp.

HARRY BARNES Treble	*JAMES MCCLUSKY 5
MILTON C. FOWLER 2	FREDERICK CLARK 6
J. EDWARD CAWSE 3	FREDERICK G. LEWIS ... 7
ARTHUR WALKER, SEN. ... 4	HAROLD WALKER ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN. Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSE.

* First peal in the method. Arranged for Mr. A. Walker, of Pontefract.

MILVERTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 7, 1927, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

*DAVID G. TAYLOR Treble	*WILLIAM H. COLES 5
†SYDNEY WYATT... .. 2	*GEORGE COLES 6
†ALFRED J. WYATT 3	*PERCY MERSON 7
*ARTHUR W. HAYWARD ... 4	†JAMES HUNT Tenor

Composed by JOHN REEVES.

Conducted by JAMES HUNT.

* First peal of Treble Bob Major. † First peal of Oxford. First peal in a Treble Bob method on the bells.

Owing to the publication this week of the Peals Analysis, a number of contributions and peal reports are unavoidably held over.

BELGRAVE, LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 7, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt. 23 lb. in F.

Treble ERNEST MORRIS,	SON OF JOSHUA MORRIS ... 5
2 RICHARD C. BELTON,	SON OF RICHARD H. BELTON ... 6
3 ERNEST BARTRAM,	SON OF RICHARD H. BARTRAM ... 7
4 RICHARD GRANT,	SON OF JOHN GRANT Tenor

Transposed and Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

This is the first time four fathers and sons have rung a peal for the M.C.A.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, May 7, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

HERBERT KNIGHT Treble	ALFRED ROWLEY 5
SAMUEL BAKER 2	BENJAMIN GOUGH 6
ROBERT PICKERING 3	WILLIAM A. COOPER... .. 7
REUBEN HALL 4	*ABRAHAM GREENFIELD ... Tenor

Composed by GEORGE HAYWARD.

Conducted by ALFRED ROWLEY.

* 50th peal for the above society.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

SEALE, SURREY.

THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Easter Monday, April 18, 1927, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 6040 CHANGES;

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

*A. COURT Treble	E. BEAGLEY 4
*J. BEAGLEY 2	E. OLIVER 5
*C. NEWMAN 3	H. TINSEY Tenor

Conducted by H. TINSEY.

* First peal. First peal as conductor. This is the first peal ever rung by an entirely local band at this church, and it was rung at the first attempt.

STRETTON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, April 20, 1927, in Two Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents viz., one of Woodbine and two each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

JOHN H. DAVENPORT ... Treble	EDWARD JENKINS 4
*ALBERT BOOTH 2	*GEORGE VERNON 5
*HARRY W. HOWARD... .. 3	HARRY PARKER Tenor

Conducted by H. PARKER.

* First peal in four methods. J. H. Davenport has now 'completed the circle' in this tower.

DALBY MAGNA, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 23, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SWITHIN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Ten callings.

Tenor 11 cwt. (approx.).

EDGAR LEWIN Treble	A. NORMAN GEARY 3
JOSEPH NORTON 2	J. GEOFFREY GEARY 4

WILLIAM H. CLARKE Tenor

Conducted by W. H. CLARKE.

The second peal on these bells. First four ringers are from Bilbosdon, tenor ringer from Leicester.

HOWDEN, YORKSHIRE.—On Good Friday, April 15th, for morning service, at St. Peter's Church, a quarter-peal (1,260 changes) of Grand-sire Triples, with fully-muffled bells, in 53 mins.: J. Sherburn 1, R. Henton 2, R. Smith 3, R. B. Smith 4, H. Terry 5, W. A. Hudson 6, H. S. Morley (conductor) 7, E. Philpot 8. Ringers of 2nd and 7th belong to Selby, 5th and 6th to Hemingbrough, remainder to Howden.

HIGHAM-ON-THE-HILL, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
(HINCKLEY DISTRICT.)

On Wednesday, April 27, 1927, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,
At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's of Bob Minor, two of Single Court, three of Oxford Bob.
Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb.

ALBERT E. CLAYFIELD ... Treble	* WILLIAM MARTIN ... 4
ERNEST PULLEN ... 2	HORACE V. ROWLEY ... 5
KENNETH R. GILLIVER ... 3	ARTHUR E. ROWLEY ... Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR E. ROWLEY.

* First peal in three methods. Rung to celebrate the wedding of Miss Harrison and Mr. T. B. Griffin, which took place at the above church immediately prior to the peal. The band were afterwards entertained at the home of the bride.

HANDBELL PEALS.

CAMBRIDGE.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

On Thursday, April 21, 1927, in Two Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,
In Trinity College,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 19 in F sharp.

W. H. J. HOOTON (Queen's) 1-2	F. E. HAYNES (St. Cath's) ... 5-6
C. W. WOOLLEY (Selwyn) 3-4	S. H. WOOD (Magdalene) ... 7-8
J. R. DUFFIELD (SELWYN) ... 9-10	

Composed by E. M. ATKINS. Conducted by S. H. WOOD.

CAMBRIDGE.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

On Saturday, April 23, 1927, in Two Hours and Eleven-and-a-Half Minutes,
In Trinity College,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor size 16 in B.

C. W. WOOLLEY (Selwyn) ... 1-2	* F. E. HAYNES (St. Cath's) 5-6
W. H. J. HOOTON (Queen's) 3-4	* S. H. WOOD (Magdalene) 7-8

Composed by the Rev. E. BANKES JAMES.

Conducted by W. H. J. HOOTON.

* First peal in the method in hand.

CAMBRIDGE.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

On Saturday, April 30, 1927, in Two Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,
In Trinity College,

A PEAL OF SPLICED BOB ROYAL AND GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Containing 2,520 of Bob Royal and 2,519 of Grandsire Caters.
Tenor size 19 in F sharp.

C. W. WOOLLEY (Selwyn) ... 1-2	W. H. J. HOOTON (Queen's) 5-6
E. M. ATKINS (St. Cath's) ... 3-4	S. H. WOOD (Magdalene) ... 7-8
F. E. HAYNES (St. Cath's) 9-10	

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by S. H. WOOD.

This composition, the second of Spliced Royal and Caters to be rung, has the 6th at home during the Royal, and behind the 9th in the Caters.

CAMBRIDGE.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

On Sunday, May 1, 1927, in One Hour and Fifty-One Minutes,
In Magdalene College,

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor six 16 in B.

E. M. ATKINS (St. Cath's) ... 1-2	* F. E. HAYNES (St. Cath's) ... 5-6
W. H. J. HOOTON (Queen's) 3-4	* S. H. WOOD (Magdalene) 7-8

Composed by E. M. ATKINS. Conducted by W. H. J. HOOTON.

* First peal in the method.

BRAINTREE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, April 30, 1927, in Two Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
At 3, CRESSING WAY.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

FRANK CLAYDON ... 1-2	WILLIAM KEEBLE ... 5-6
LEWIS W. WIFFEN ... 3-4	GEORGE WIFFEN ... 7-8

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, April 27, 1927, in Two Hours and Fourteen Minutes,
At 18, WESTBERRIE ROAD, HAMSTEAD,

A PEAL OF LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

MISS E. K. PARKER ... 1-2	E. MADRICE ATKINS ... 5-6
* GEORGE W. FLETCHER ... 3-4	† J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE ... 7-8

Composed and Conducted by E. M. ATKINS.

* First peal in the method. † First peal in the method 'in hand.'

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, May 2, 1927, in Two Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,
At 34, CASTLETOWN ROAD, WEST KENSINGTON,

A PEAL OF STEEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

CEALLIS F. WINNEY ... 1-2	THOMAS LANGDON ... 5-6
HERBERT LANGDON ... 3-4	WILLIAM S. LANGDON ... 7-8

Conducted by H. LANGDON.

Umpire: JOSEPH S. HAWKINS.

Rung on the 76th birthday of Mr. William Knight.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.

RINGING PRACTICE AT MEETINGS.

On May 6th, with glorious weather prevailing, members of the above society visited Wortley, ringers being present from Ackworth, Barnsley, Bolsterstone, Ashton, Ecclesfield, Eckington, Handsworth, Norton, North Wingfield, Sholley, Sheffield Cathedral, All Saints' and St. Marie's. Ringing commenced at 2.45 and continued until dusk, many learners having ample opportunities in Minor and Major methods.

Tea was served at Burkinshaw's stores through the good offices of Mr. Wooler, of the local company, after which the president, Mr. Tarlton, presided at the meeting. He referred to the loss the society had sustained by the death of Mr. Wm. S. Plant, of Ranmoor, members standing in silence as a tribute to his memory, the secretary being requested to convey the members' sympathy to his widow and family. The Rev. Brashaw, Vicar of Wortley, was elected an honorary member.

Mr. Geo. Lewis referred to the practice of some members, who at meetings spent valuable time ringing a course of a method which they were perfectly familiar with. In one case, he quoted, all the members had conducted a peal in that particular method, and he contended that they would be serving the cause better by endeavouring to get learners through their rough passages. Whilst one cannot expect accomplished ringers to attend meetings for the sole purpose of doing 'spade' work, yet the present state of affairs could be materially improved if the local committee man (who is, according to rule, responsible for the order of ringing) would use a little tact and control the ringing order without fear or favour.

The secretary undertook to communicate with the committee men upon this matter, and hopes they will realise 'it is better to give than receive,' for there is much more pleasure derived from getting a learner through his first course or touch in a particular method, than standing up with a crack band to ring a course or touch which is only too familiar.

An appeal was made to all members to attend the joint meeting of the Yorkshire Association, Barnsley, Doncaster and Sheffield District societies at Conisborough on June 17th, the one opportunity of the year when all ringers in the Southern District of Yorkshire can meet to make and renew friendships.

DEATH OF A SHEFFIELD RINGER.

On May 3rd, the Ranmoor (Sheffield) company lost a respected and valued member in the person of Mr. Wm. S. Plant, who passed away after an illness lasting 10 days. Deceased, who was in his 68th year, had suffered for a long period from bronchitis and asthma, and, despite his more or less ailing nature, his death came as a shock and surprise to his brother ringers.

Mr. Plant had been with the Ranmoor company for 44 years, having joined them in January, 1883, and was a member of the Sheffield District Society and the Yorkshire Association. His peals totalled 29, rung principally at Ranmoor Church for the credit of the County Association, and the majority of them were performed under the conductorship of the late Mr. Sam Thomas.

Although a good ringer, Mr. Plant was of a retiring disposition, and did not go far away from home for his ringing, but, so far as his health would permit, he regularly attended for Sunday service ringing and on practice nights, his last pull being on Easter Sunday.

The interment took place on Friday, May 6th, at Fulwood Cemetery, ringers being present from the local company, St. Marie's, Dore, All Saints' and Sheffield Cathedral. Brother ringers carried him to his grave, where a course of Grandsire Triples was rung by: A. Craven 1-2, C. Harrison 3-4, J. E. L. Cockey 5-6, J. Thorpe 7-8, and in the evening at St. John's Church, with the bells half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung as a tribute to his memory by: J. Osguthorpe 1, A. Craven 2, C. Harrison (conductor) 3, J. Thorpe 4, J. Parker 5, H. Thorpe 6, C. Haynes 7, Wm. Biggin 8.

FATHERS'-AND-SONS' PEAL AT BELGRAVE.

As reported in our peal columns, four fathers and their sons met and successfully rang an excellent peal at Belgrave, Leicester. All are Leicestershire ringers, the two Bartrams hailing from Melton Mowbray, the Beltons from Barwell, the Grants and Morris from St. Margaret's, Leicester. As may be expected of such a performance, it could not go by without some facetious remarks, but it is not true that one of the 'dadas' threatened the rope-end to his 'offspring' for suggesting 'putting the old 'uns on the heavy end to wear them out first,' although he glared rudely when the remark was made, 'I hope you eekers will show us youngsters how to ring properly.' Anyhow, they did, in true 'fatherly' fashion, and it was well that Grandsire was rung, for it afterwards was pointed out that each respected father was also a 'grandsire.' Another peculiar feature of this peal is that there were four Richards (Dicks), two sons being so named, and the other two Ernests. Further, four were left-handed and four were right-handed ringers, although an argument on this point failed to convince the 'lefts' that they were not 'right.'

PEAL ATTEMPT AT EXETER.

Misfortune attended an attempt for a peal of Stedman Cinques on the great ring of bells at Exeter Cathedral on Saturday. The arrangements had been made by Mr. F. E. Dawe and Mr. F. J. Davey. The band was collected from many sources, and the loss was disappointing to all concerned. After 4,378 changes had been rung in 3 hrs. 26 mins., Mr. Davey, who was ringing the eleventh, had to give up. His big task was made all the more difficult by the sudden burst of hot weather, and that he should have had to surrender when so near the end (only 726 changes remaining to be rung) elicited the sympathy of all the band. The following members of the Devon Guild were the ringers: J. Arbury (Exeter) 1, T. H. Taffender (London) 2, A. W. Searle (Exeter) 3, E. Beck (Chilcompton) 4, Rev. E. S. Powell (Plymouth) 5, A. Wright (Painswick) 6, E. Bishop (Swindon) 7, F. E. Dawe (Guildford), composer and conductor 8, A. E. Reeves (Bristol) 9, J. T. Dyke (Chilcompton) 10, F. J. Davey (Exeter) 11, A. G. Betts (Sowton) and G. C. Woodley (Tallaton) 12. The tenor is 72 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb. in B flat.

HANDBELL RINGING IN NEW ZEALAND.

On Tuesday, March 8th, at Opoho, Dunedin, New Zealand, 720 of Kent Treble Bob Minor: Charles Wildo (conductor) 1-2, James S. Wilde 3-4, Jos. Whipp 5-6.

Lancashire and Cheshire ringers will be particularly interested to read the above.

WINCHESTER GUILD MASTER HONOURED.**OLD FRIENDS CELEBRATE A BIRTHDAY.**

To do honour to the Master of the Winchester Diocesan Guild, Mr. George Williams, on his 70th birthday, a peal of Stedman Cinques was rung at Winchester Cathedral on Saturday. The band included a number of old friends, who had rung peals together between thirty and forty years ago, and it was a great delight to them to be able to meet and suitably celebrate the occasion. Peals at Winchester Cathedral are few and far between, and, on account of the services, it is always a middle-of-the-day job. Consequently, some of the company found it necessary to rise at, for them, an unusually early hour, to reach the ancient city in time. But it was a glorious May morning, and well repaid any unwonted effort. Soon after eleven o'clock they gathered in the Cathedral belfry, from London, Brighton, Slough, Woking, Swindon, the Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton. Several Winchester ringers were also present to join in the good wishes which were extended to Mr. Williams, and then, with barricaded doors to prevent any intrusion from visitors to the Cathedral, the ringing began. At first, about four courses were rung by way of practice, so it was said, although there was really a different reason for stopping. Then the bells went away again at noon, and were back into rounds just six minutes before the expiry of the time limit. The ninth man had a terrible gruelling on account of the bad 'go' of his bell, but he stuck it like a hero, although for an hour and a half most of the band had had serious misgivings as to the outcome of the valiant struggle that was going on on that particular box.

Afterwards the ringers, with Mrs. Bayley and Mrs. Goldsmith, were kindly entertained to tea by Mr. and Mrs. Williams, and over the teacups the party naturally became reminiscent. One ringer could claim to have rung a peal with Mr. Williams 38 years before, and others well over thirty. 'Anno Domini' is thus rapidly passing with many, but none has it treated more kindly than George Williams, who, except for a few grey hairs, is the same active and enthusiastic George as of old.

Mr. Williams' first peal was rung at Soberton, Hants, on January 17th, 1884, and was the first peal by the Winchester Guild in Hampshire. His total is now well over a thousand, and throughout this long period he has laboured unceasingly for the benefit of young ringers, a great number of whom owe their early instruction in the art to him. In addition, he was for twelve years secretary of the Central Division of the Sussex County Association; he has been hon. secretary of the Winchester Diocesan Guild, and has now, for some time, filled the office of Master. He has been a member of the Central Council from its formation.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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THE

LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

ANALYSIS OF PEALS RUNG DURING THE

Compiled by the Committee appointed by the Central Council of

Number Corresponding with Last Column.	ASSOCIATIONS.	Number of Conductors	MAXIMUS.										CINQUES.			ROYAL.			CATERS.			MAJORS.										Number Corresponding with First Column.			
			Cambridge Surprise	Treble Bob	Plain Bob	Forward	Duffield	Stedman	Grandsire	Cambridge Surprise	London Brighton Version	Superlative	Middlesex	Treble Bob	Plain Bob	Spliced Plain Bob and Grandsire Caters	Stedman	Erin	Grandsire	Spliced Stedman, Erin and Grandsire	London Surprise	Bristol	Superlative	Cambridge	Norfolk	Suffolk	New Gloucester	Surprise	Rochester	Yorkshire	Clarendon		Guldford	Belgrave	Double Norwich
1	Anc. Soc. Coll. Youths...	12	1					2								4					2	1	2	1											1
2	Bath and Wells	19														2																			2
3	Bedfordshire	9																																	3
4	Cambridge U. Guild	4																																	4
5	Chester Diocesan	23									2					1					5		1	2										5	
6	Cleveland and N. Yorks	5																																6	
7	Devonshire	16											1			2		2						1										7	
8	Dudley and District	2																																8	
9	Dorham and Newcastle	13												1		4		4		1														9	
10	Ely Diocesan	9																																10	
11	Essex County	18						1								2		1		12		12	6											11	
12	Gloucester and Bristol	25						1	1						1	5		1				1	1											12	
13	Hereford Diocesan	13																																	13
14	Hertford County	19														2					2	1	2	1										14	
15	Irish Association																																		15
16	Kent County	37														3						6	7					1						16	
17	Ladies' Guild	1														1																		17	
18	Lancashire Assoc.	45							1							4		1		4	1	2	1											18	
19	Lincoln Diocesan	20																																19	
20	Llanelli & Monmouth	11																																20	
21	London County	7						1																											21
22	Middlesex County	20	2					2		4			1	1		4		1		1	6	3	d9											22	
23	Midland Counties	46							1	d3						6		5		3	1	3	1	e7	1									23	
24	Norfolk Guild	21		1																	3	1	3	d7										24	
25	North Notts	1																																	25
26	North Wales Assn	5																																	26
27	Oxford Diocesan	22						1								1				2		1	2											27	
28	Peterboro' Diocesan	16								1						1																		28	
29	St. Martin's Guild, B'ham.	10														2				1		2	1											29	
30	Salisbury Diocesan	12																																	30
31	Shropshire Association	3																																	31
32	Stafford Archdeaconry	13							1																										32
33	Soc. Royal Camberlands	4							3																										33
34	Suffolk Guild	21																																	34
35	Surrey Association	24		1	1	1	1	3													6	2	1	3		1		3						35	
36	Sussex Association	18																																	36
37	Swansea & Brecon	7																																	37
38	Warwickshire Guild	3																																	38
39	Winchester Diocesan	14																																	39
40	Worcester & Districts	16																			16	4	2	5										40	
41	Yorkshire Assn	34																			2	1		e2										41	
42	Independent Societies...	29						1	1					2	1						1		2	1										42	
TOTALS...			3	2	1	1	1	16	5	19	1	1	1	20	3	1	53	1	32	1	68	20	44	89	2	1	1	3	1	2	1	100	2		

SPLICED PEALS.

A=Double Norwich and Plain Bob. B=Double Norwich and Double Oxford; Double Oxford and Plain Bob; Double Norwich and Plain Bob. C=Bob Major and Grandsize Triples; Bob Major and Oxford Bob Triples. F=Canterbury Pleasure and Bob Major; Little Bob and Plain Bob; 2 Bob Major and Grandsize Triples.

D=1 New Cambridge.

E=2 New Cambridge.

G=Includes 10,400.

REPORT OF THE ANALYSIS COMMITTEE FOR THE YEAR 1926.

Again we have to report a comparatively uneventful year of peal ringing. As was the case in 1925, very few peals with exceptional features have been rung, and the total number continues to decrease. 1,667 peals in all were rung, being 22 less than the previous year. On eight bells and upwards, the decrease is actually 80, including 14 on twelve bells, six on ten bells, and 60 on eight bells, while Minor shows an increase of 19, and Doubles of 39. Separating the handbell peals, Cinques show a decrease of four, otherwise there is an all-round increase of one on ten bells, five on eight bells, three of Minor, and two of Doubles.

The following table shows the totals for the year:—

	Tower Bells.	Handbells.
Maximus	8	0
Cinques	21	2
Royal	46	13
Caters	86	7
Major	615	32
Triples	398	5
Minor	297	5
Doubles	129	3
	1,600	67

N.B.—Where spliced peals contain odd and even bell methods, they are included in the higher number.

The Midland Counties Association takes first place for the greatest number of peals, with 130, including one on handbells, as against 143 last year. The Kent County, which led in 1925 with 157, has only 112,

YEAR 1926.

Church Bell Ringers.

Number Corresponding with First Column.	MAJOR																TRIPLES					MINOR AND DOUBLES.					Grand Total of Peals.	Number Corresponding with First Column.
	Duffield	Treble Bob	Prince Albert T.B.	Plain Bob	Little "	Canterbury Pleasure	Crayford Little Bob	Spliced Methods	Stedman	Erin	Grandsire	Oxford Bob	Court "	Plain "	Original	Spliced Grandsire and Oxford Bob	Handbells.											
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
3	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
4	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
5	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
6	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
7	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
8	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
9	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
10	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
11	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
12	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
13	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
14	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
15	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
16	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
17	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
18	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
19	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
20	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
21	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
22	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
23	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
24	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
25	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
26	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
27	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
28	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
29	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
30	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
31	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
32	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
33	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
34	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
35	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
36	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
37	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
38	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
39	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
40	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
41	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
42	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
1 158	1 102	5	2	1	10	209	1	182	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1											
67	1667																											

all tower bells, the only other association to reach the century being Lancashire with 102, including three on handbells, as against 131 peals last year.

It is remarkable that more than half of the societies (24) show no decrease; in fact, 20 of them show an increase. Surrey has increased by 32, Yorkshire by 29, and Sussex by 28, a gratifying feature being Devonshire's increase from 12 to 28. Eighteen societies together show a decrease of 211 peals, while twenty societies show a total increase of 189.

There seems to be little compensation for the drop in the total number rung. Certainly, London Surprise Major has increased from 49 to 63, but taking all the Surprise methods together we find a decrease of 24 peals. Bristol Major one less, Cambridge Maximus six less, Cambridge and New Cambridge Royal three more, Major ten less, Superlative Major 28 less. Other methods, Royal one more, Major two less.

The variations of Treble Bob have slightly more than held their own, with an increase of three peals. The 186 peals are made up as follows: Maximus, two of Kent; Royal, 20 of Kent, one Granta and one Spliced; Major, 121 of Kent, 35 of Oxford, one Prince Albert, and five spliced; Oxford Major showing a gain of 10 peals.

Double Norwich has decreased from 111 to 102; Double Oxford again has two peals. Plain Bob has fallen from 147 to 139. To set against this there are: One peal of Forward Maximus, two peals of Canterbury Pleasure Major, one peal each of Duffield Maximus and Major, one Double and one Reverse Bob Major on handbells, 12 Spliced peals containing plain Royal and Major methods, and an increase of two peals in Little methods.

TOWER BELL PEALS OF MINOR AND DOUBLES rung during the Year 1926.

Associations.	MINOR.									Total.	DOUBLES.						Total.	Grand Total Peals.
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9		1	2	3	4	5	6		
An. Soc. Coll. Ya.									1	1							1	
Bath & Wells	5	3	6							14	19	1					20	34
Bedfordshire	1	1	1	2				14	1	17	1	1					2	19
Choster Dio.	11	6	4	1				3		25	1		1				2	27
Devonshire	1	1	1							1	6						6	7
Dur. & Newc'stle	2		1					1		4		1					1	5
Ely Diocesan	6	2	2					3		13		1		1			2	15
Essex County	2	2						5		9	2	1					3	12
Glos. & Bristol	3	2								5							7	12
Hereford Dio.	2	1						4		6	17		3				20	26
Hertford Co.	1	1						5		6	2						2	8
Kent County	1	2	2	1				4		9	1						1	10
Lancashire	10	2	3	3				1		19	1						1	20
Lincoln Dio.	3	2	3	1	1			5		15							1	15
Llandaff & Mon.	1	1								1	3						3	4
London County	1	1								2							1	1
Middlesex Co.	1	1	1							2							1	2
Midland Co.	8	2	1	3						14	6	5	1	2			14	28
Norfolk Guild	10	4			3	1				18							1	19
North Notts.	1	1	1							2							2	2
Oxford Dio.	7	1								8	2						2	10
Peterboro' Dio.	17	1			4		3	1	1	27	11			2	1		14	41
St. Martin's G.										1	1						1	1
Salisbury Dio.	2	1	1							4	4						4	5
Soc. Roy. Cum. Y.							1			1	1						1	1
Shropshire Ass.										1	1						1	1
Suffolk Guild	2	2	3	1	4	1	3			16	2						9	18
Surrey Assoc.	4	2		3			4			13	1						1	14
Sussex Assoc.	4				1	1				6			1	1			2	8
Swansea & Br.	1									4	5						5	9
Winchester Dio.	4			4						5								5
Worcestershire	3	1				1	9			14	3						3	17
Yorkshire	4	1	2				3			10	6	1					10	10
Ind. Societies					1	1	5				6	1	1				8	16
Total	119	20	40	21	17	4	73	2	1	297	95	15	9	6	4	1	129	426

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(Continued from previous page.)

later, a spliced peal of Grandsire and Oxford Bob Triples with bobs only, by the Llandaff and Monmouth Association, the first peal of Stedman Caters by the Masonic Craft, under the auspices of the St. Martin's Guild, a 'Frederick' peal of Grandsire Triples by the Kent County Association, a peal of London Surprise Major by the Chester Guild, being the first peal in the method by six of the band, first peal of Stedman Cinques by Freemasons, a 'Charles' peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, a handbell peal of Doubles with one man ringing 1, 2, 3, 4, non-conducted peals of Stedman Cinques and Grandsire Triples by the St. Martin's Guild, and the Midland Counties scored the first 'Ernest' peal.

The number of peals rung each month in 1925 and 1926 is shown in the following table:—

	1925.	1926.		1925.	1926.
January	161	173	July	88	99
February	148	130	August	156	121
March	104	101	September	142	135
April	109	136	October	158	174
May	171	119	November	183	186
June	124	109	December	145	184

The peals rung on each particular day of the week show very little variation, the most notable being an increase of 23 Sunday peals. The figures for 1926 are as follows: Sunday 87, Monday 165, Tuesday 117, Wednesday 133, Thursday 144, Friday 71, and Saturday 950.

Analysing the footnotes, we find that ringers of their first peal numbered 584, of their first in a different method or method on a different number of bells, 1,045, inside 68, away from tenor 55, in method inside 55, Maximus 3, Cinques 1, Royal 26, Caters 25, Major 64, Triples 25, Minor 101, Doubles 28, on 12 bells 29, on ten 48, on eight 36, on six 6, Surprise 39, Surprise Royal 11, in hand 13, in method in hand 27, Royal in hand 4.

New conductors number 69, and conductors of a fresh method 96.

Peals by local bands number five, and by Sunday Service ringers 18.

A further 62 peals are recorded as being the first on the bells, 29 as first after restoration, etc., and 173 the first in the method on the bells. Half-muffled and muffled peals number 61.

Peals were rung for birthdays 234, weddings (silver, golden and diamond included) 62, church festivals 26, Empire Day 5, Armistice Day 16, anniversaries 51, memorials 3. Welcome and farewell peals 45, and three Masonic peals are also recorded.

The ladies still continue their activities, and the number taking part in peals during the year was 79. A peal of Stedman Caters was rung by 10 ladies, this being the first peal on ten bells by ladies only. One peal was rung with seven ladies, one with five, one with four, four with three, 27 with two, and 200 with one lady in the band. The methods rung numbered 25, and ranged from Doubles to Cambridge Surprise Maximus. The number of Surprise peals was 43, an increase of seven over last year. Handbell peals numbered 14, being eight of Royal, one of Caters, one of Major, three of Minor, and one of Doubles.

The individual performances of the ladies were as follows: Two rang 21 peals, one 15, one 14, two 12, one 11, one 10, one 8, four 7, five 5, five 4, five 3, eighteen 2, and twenty-nine 1. The conductors numbered six, one lady having conducted three peals and five one peal each.

We conclude our report by giving the number of peals rung in representative years since 1881, the total of the whole period being 49,998:—

1881	156	1902	1,313	1915	259	1922	1,885
1885	500	1905	1,519	1917	130	1923	1,885
1889	797	1909	1,628	1919	1,048	1924	1,860
1894	859	1913	2,358	1920	1,471	1925	1,689
1898	1,002	1914	1,415	1921	1,632	1926	1,667

(Signed)

A. T. BEESTON, Hillcroft, New Mills, Stockport.

GEORGE WILLIAMS, West End, Southampton.

EDITH K. PARKER, 17, Wellington Road, Enfield.

JOSEPH W. PARKER, 5, Amberley Street, Sunderland.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

A successful meeting of the Newbury Branch was held at East Garston on Saturday, April 23rd, when about 50 ringers were present. Service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. Thomas), and an address given by the Master of the Guild (Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn). It is interesting to note that East Garston is Mr. Jenkyn's native place, and where he first learned to ring a bell.

Tea, in the Parish Hall, was kindly given by the Rev. and Mr. Thomas, about 50 sitting down, including the Master (Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn), the Guild secretary (Mr. R. T. Hibbert), the Guild treasurer (Mr. A. J. Wright), the branch chairman (the Rev. L. R. Majendie) and the branch secretary and treasurer (Mr. H. W. Curtis).—A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rev. and Mrs. Thomas for their kindness, to the Master for his address, and to Miss Palmer for presiding at the organ.

This was the first Guild meeting held at East Garston, where the band only recently joined the Guild.

The tower was again visited after tea, and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Cambridge Minor were rung.

The summer meeting will be held at East Ilsley about the end of June.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**THE ANNUAL MEETING.**

Following an unbroken custom, the annual meeting of the Bedfordshire Association was held at Bedford on Easter Monday, when members gathered from various parts of the county and enjoyed ringing at St. Paul's and St. Peter's Churches. Luncheon, followed by the business meeting, took place at the Silver Grill Hotel, and was presided over by Canon W. W. C. Baker, the president of the association.

The committee's report included the following:—

'It is again with much pleasure that we present our 43th annual report, which shows a slight increase in membership, both honorary and ringing. We hope that the coming year will show a still larger increase to our ranks, as we feel there is still much to be done, and many ringers in the county whom we should be glad to welcome to our association. There is, we note, a great falling off in the number of peals rung during 1926—the number being 24 against 42 for 1925, which number was of course a record for the association. The peals rung comprised: Cambridge Surprise Major 2, Kent Treble Bob Major 1, Stedman Triples 1, Minor, 7 Methods 13, Minor, 5 Methods 2, Minor, 3 Methods 1, Minor, 1 Method 1, Doubles, 3 Methods 1, Doubles, 1 Method 1, Grandsire Caters (on handbells) 1 (the latter peal being the first peal in the method in hand for the association). During the year, meetings for furtherance of the art have been held in each of three districts, and on the whole have been well attended. We are glad to welcome back to the county the Rev. A. Rust, for many years secretary of the association, and also to welcome the return of the Husborne Crawley Company back to our ranks. In conclusion, we again wish to express our thanks to our honorary members for their continued help, and to the clergy for welcoming us to the various parishes in the county, as we feel it is only by this continued goodwill and help that we can hope to carry on and make progress in our art.'

In proposing the adoption of the report, Canon Baker recalled that the association was 45 years of age that day (April 18th). Mr. Edwin Ransom had missed very few of their annual meetings, but he was absent that day as his health was not very good. They were pleased to have with them again the Rev. A. Rust, and Mr. Harry King, of Biddenham. Mr. King and the chairman were the only members present who attended the first meeting in 1882.

After the report had been received, Canon Baker was unanimously re-elected president.

Mr. E. Ransom, Miss Steel, Mr. A. King (Luton), and Mr. Cyril Herbert were re-elected vice-presidents, and the chairman was instructed to write to Mr. Ransom conveying the meeting's good wishes.

The Chairman said they must congratulate Miss Steel on having rung a hundred peals for the association. Mr. Harry Clayton, of Harrold, had performed the same feat.

Mr. Sharman was unanimously re-elected hon. secretary and treasurer, the Chairman remarking: 'I don't think we could get a better.'

Mr. Fred Tanqueray, of Woburn, was again appointed hon. auditor, and Canon Baker reminded the meeting that Mr. Tanqueray called the first 720 ever rung for the association. Mr. Tanqueray did no ringing now, but he looked after their money for them all right (laughter and applause).

The president and secretary were elected the association's representatives on the Central Council for the next three years.

PROPOSED JOINT MEETING WITH HERTS.

A discussion arose as to where the next annual meeting should be held, and Canon Baker said the association had never varied from their first choice. He did not think there was anywhere so central and so easily accessible for the whole of the county as Bedford.—For the 46th time, therefore, Bedford was unanimously chosen for the Easter meeting.

The committee recommended Luton for the summer festival, but an amendment in favour of Woburn, as being a more ideal place for a summer gathering, was carried by a majority of four.

The Chairman congratulated the Woburn company on ringing a peal of London Surprise. It was a great achievement, he said.

Mr. Stapleton suggested a meeting with the Hertfordshire Association, and said he thought that eventually there would be one association for the whole diocese.

The Chairman thought the present arrangement of an association for each archdeaconry was preferable, but that a joint festival could be arranged at St. Albans in connection with the jubilee of the diocese.

At the request of the meeting, the Chairman promised to approach the Hertfordshire Association upon the matter.

Miss Steel made an appeal for a 'little subscription' to help Tilsforth, who were 'frightfully hard up,' and wanted to re-hang their bells. A subscription of a guinea would show this little village, she said, that they had won the interest of the ringers of the county.—It was stated that the association had a balance in hand of £25, and a member suggested the subscription should be £5.—The President warned the meeting of the danger of making a precedent. The bells at Southill, he said, were getting very 'rocky.'—A member said Harrold needed about £1,000 for their bells.—The Chairman: There you are, opening the floodgates!—Miss Steel's resolution was carried.

The Vicar of St. Paul's and the Rector of St. Peter's were then cordially thanked for the freedom of their towers; and the meeting concluded.

BELFRY GOSSIP.

Death removed a well-known Midland ringer on Sunday, when Mr. Charles Dickens, of Sutton Coldfield, died quite suddenly. He had been at work on Saturday, and appeared to be in his usual health. Mr. Dickens was a very fine ringer and striker, and a valued member of St. Martin's Guild, but of late years business had prevented him doing much peal ringing.

It was on this day in 1909 that Mr. Harry Withers 'called' a peal of Superlative without being in the tower. He stood about 30 yards away, and signalled the bobs by a bell fixed in the ringing room.

Ninety years ago next Sunday, the old St. James' Society rang a peal of 12,096 Grandsire Caters in 7 hrs. 50 mins. at All Saints' Church, Fulham. It was, at the time, claimed to be the longest peal rung by ten men only, and was conducted by Thomas Tolladay. Unfortunately for the St. James' Society and the ringers, there was no 'Ringing World' in those days, or they would have known that 20 years before the Painswick Youths had rung a peal of 12,312 changes.

May 15th also recalls the then longest length of Superlative Surprise Major, a peal of 8,800 rung at Loughborough in 1894, composed and conducted by Nathan J. Pitstow. The present president of the Central Council was one of the band, and the tenor was rung by the late Mr. John W. Taylor.

As last week's list of the long lengths of Treble Bob will have reminded our readers, the 16,608 Kent Treble Bob Major was rung at Mottram, Cheshire, on May 18th, 1883. Mr. Sam Wood, the conductor, is still on the active list, and but for indifferent health would probably have been in the still longer length of Oxford last Easter Monday.

Exactly a hundred and fifty years ago next Thursday, 11,080 Treble Bob Royal was rung by the College Youths at Shoreditch, and this, in just over a week, surpassed the previous record of 10,200 rung by the Cumberlands on the same bells.

The same day is the centenary of the second peal of Double Norwich Major, which was rung at St. Giles', Norwich, on May 19th, 1827.

The handbell peal rung at Islington and recorded last week, was umpired by Mr. F. G. Symonds.

Around the tenor at Brinklow, Warwickshire, is the inscription:—

'My mournfull sound doth warning give
That heere men cannot always live.'

The back five bells were cast in 1705, and Messrs. Taylor and Co. added the treble. The first peal on them was rung last Saturday.

There are still some Goldstreamers from whom Mr. F. Alleway, of 13, Athelstone Road, Wealdstone, Harrow, Middlesex, is desirous of hearing, especially Corpl. Sugg and Pte. Banwell, both of Somerset. Will these ringers, and any others who have been connected with the Goldstream Guards, who have not already done so, kindly write to Mr. Alleway?

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL'S SECRETARY.

Mr. E. Alex Young, the hon. secretary and treasurer of the Central Council, is at present in Gordon Hospital, Vauxhall Bridge Road, London, where he has undergone an operation. We are glad to be able to say that he is progressing favourably.

It is a strange coincidence that his predecessor in office, the Rev. C. D. P. Davies, should also be in a London Nursing Home for a similar reason, and, stranger, still, that they should accidentally have met in a tube lift when on their way to Harley Street to consult their respective specialists a few weeks ago.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL MEETING.

We are informed by Mr. Young that the issue of cheap railway tickets to members and their friends to London at Whitsun are, at the moment, confined to Monday to Wednesday only. Mr. Young is endeavouring to get the tickets made available for the previous Saturday.

DEATH OF A TONG VETERAN.

By the death of Mr. Henry Oddy, of Tong, which took place on April 26th, another link has been broken between the Yorkshire Association and its early members. The deceased commenced ringing in 1877, at the Parish Church of Tong, long famous in ringing annals as the scene of the labours of the late Mr. G. B. Bolland, and rang his first peal at Tong in 1878. The only surviving member of this band is Mr. William Bolland, now in his 80th year.

Mr. Oddy took part in many peals of Minor, chief among these being a 10,440 rung in 1896, this being still the record for Minor by the Yorkshire Association. In all, Mr. Oddy rang 47 peals, the last one being at Drighlington in 1912. Leaving his native district to take up a post at Thornhill, near Dewsbury, caused a break in his ringing career, and broken health since his return home prevented his taking part in ringing of any note.

The funeral took place at the neighbouring Church of St. Paul, Drighlington, where many old friends assembled. A plain course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells at the graveside by Messrs. W. Idle, W. Popplewell, J. Thackray and P. J. Johnson, after which muffled ringing took place at Tong Church, as a last tribute of respect to an old and honoured friend.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. THE ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual general meeting of the Kent County Association was held on Easter Monday at Bromley for the first time. It is somewhat strange that throughout the forty-seven years of the association's existence this attractive centre should have been passed over in favour of far less desirable places, in the district. Almost, if not quite, as delightful as on last Easter Monday, the weather was all that could be desired for holiday makers, or for wedding couples, who monopolised a great part of the morning, and thus kept ringers idle, except for a few minutes between one service and another. Doubtless, they were gratified by getting a wedding peal for nothing. Other towers, indeed, were open for ringing where matrimony was not so fashionable—Chislehurst, Beckenham, Eltham, and St. Luke's, Bromley Common. In the afternoon, Hayes (six) was also available.

The usual meeting of the Central committee was held at noon in the Church Committee Room. The annual service was dovetailed in between two weddings, the clergy present being the Vicar, Canon Wilson, Rev. H. T. James, assistant curate, and Canon Thompson (Hayes). The preacher was the Rev. H. P. Kennedy, Skipton, F.R.Hist.Soc. The organist of the church, Mr. Fertel, accompanied the service, and the collection for the benevolent fund of the association amounted to £1 19s.

Dinner followed in the Old Town Hall, nominally at 1.30 p.m., but it was nearly 2 p.m. before grace was said by Canon Wilson. The Mayor of Bromley, Councillor F. W. Hard, was in the chair, supported by the Vicar, Revs. Canon Thompson, F. Hassard Short (St. Luke's), H. T. James, the hon. secretary (Rev. F. J. O. Helmore), and members of the committee. The female element was not quite so much in evidence as on some former occasions, but the presence of Mrs. H. Baker (Frittenden), Mrs. Pitman (Canterbury), Mrs. A. Clark (Croydon), and Misses Hardcastle and Orr (Balham) prevented the entire predominance of the male. The company numbered 120.

Grace after meat having been said, the Mayor gave the toast of 'The King,' which was duly honoured.

Mr. F. White proposed the toast of 'The Archbishop and Clergy,' especially thanking the preacher for his address and Canon Wilson for his kindness in granting the use of the church and bells. These gentlemen having suitably replied, Canon Thompson expressed the hope that some would pay a visit to Hayes, and offered to give one or two a lift in his car.

The Hon. Secretary proposed 'The Health of the Mayor,' who responded in a neat little speech, welcoming the association to Bromley, and hoping that, as that was the first, so it would not be the last visit.

The business meeting followed. After reading the minutes of last year's meeting, the Secretary read his report, in which mention was made of the new system of combining two methods in one peal, 'splicing,' as it has been called, rather suggestive of matrimony; another uncomplimentary epithet had been applied to it, which would seem to cast a doubt on the legitimacy of such peals. Special mention was made of the death of Messrs. I. G. Shade (Greenwich), W. Harper (Swanscombe), G. Durling (Bromley), and John Carter.

The adoption of the report and balance sheets was proposed by Mr. Pitman, seconded by Mr. J. W. Steddy, and passed.

The re-election of officers followed, the names of two trustees, Messrs. White and Jeffries, being added, and Mr. S. H. Green being elected in place of Canon Clarke (Faversham).

Mr. F. M. Mitchell proposed the insertion of the words 'two trustees' in Rule 6, and to make 'eight' the number to form a quorum instead of 'three.'—This was seconded by Mr. J. Wheadon and carried.

An alteration of the rule respecting the election of new members before the start of a peal, proposed by Mr. W. J. Jeffries and seconded by Mr. I. Emery, was defeated by a large majority, only fourteen voting for it.

The voting for Central Council representatives resulted in the re-election of the old members, Messrs. E. Barnett, J. H. Cheesman, T. Groombridge, sen., and the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, the three other candidates, Messrs. Mitchell, Green and Thornton, receiving comparatively few votes.

Business being finished, somebody tried to propose a vote of thanks to the secretary, but the company had had enough, and wanted to get out into the open en route for towers, where ringing could be enjoyed. So the room soon cleared, and the secretary was spared. What ringing was actually done, 'history doth not relate,' but it was generally felt that members had had a thoroughly successful and enjoyable day.

ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD SOCIETY.

The third quarterly meeting of the society's year was held at Bloxwich on Saturday, April 30th. A short service was held in church, when the Rev. J. C. Hamilton, Vicar, delivered a helpful address.

A capital tea was provided in the schoolroom, to which upwards of 30 sat down, following which a summary of the business transacted in committee was explained by the Rev. C. H. Barker, who also moved a vote of thanks to the Rev. J. C. Hamilton for his address, use of the bells, etc., and to the ladies for preparing tea and waiting at the tables.

In responding, the Vicar expressed his pleasure at having the visitors there, and kept the company in roars of laughter by his customary witticisms.

The annual meeting is fixed to take place at Lichfield on June 25th.

NOTICES.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at 'St. Magnus' on the 26th, 'St. Paul's Cathedral' on the 17th, St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 19th, Southwark Cathedral on the 24th, 'St. Giles', Cripplegate, on the 31st; all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., 'Frodingham,' 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Preston St. Mark's on Saturday, May 14th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. The bells have recently been rehung by Mears and Stainbank.—Fred Rigby, Branch Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A meeting will be held at Feltham on Saturday, May 14th. Tower open at 3. Tea arranged as usual. Sunbury June 18th. All ringers welcome.—Wm. H. Hollier, Hon. Sec., 29, Duke Road, W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. —A meeting will be held at Churchkirk on Saturday, May 14th. The bells (recently augmented and recast) will be available from 3 p.m. Business meeting at 6.30 p.m. It is requested that all outstanding subscriptions be paid in at this meeting. —J. Watson, Hon. Branch Sec., 48, Palmer Street, Blackburn.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. —Northern Branch. —The annual meeting will be held at Sleaford on Saturday, May 14th. Service in St. Deny's Church 4.30. Tea at the Church Hall 5.15. Bells (8) available.—F. S. W. Butler, Hon. Sec., 6, Spital Terrace, Gainsborough.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—Meeting at Pinner, Saturday, May 14th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service at 5. Tea, 1s. each, at 5.30. Please advise me if you require same. Cheap tickets from Marylebone, Baker Street and Met. Station. Members and friends welcomed.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—A meeting of the above district will be held at Daybrook on Saturday, May 14th. Tower open from 2.30 to 8 p.m. All ringers welcome.—F. Blood, Local Sec. (pro tem.), 91, Dame Agnes Street, Nottingham.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. —Loughborough District.—The next meeting of the district will be held at Kegworth and Diseworth on Saturday, May 14th. Bells (6) open from 3 o'clock. Business meeting 4.30. Diseworth bells open in the evening. All ringers and friends heartily invited.—J. Saddington, Hon. Dis. Sec.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—A quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, May 14th, at King's Norton. Bells (10) available at 3 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., 'Donnor,' Wellington Road, Handsworth Wood, Birmingham.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Elmdon on Saturday, May 14th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Short service at 4.45 p.m. Tea at 5.15 p.m., followed by business meeting. We are hoping to see a good attendance. —C. Beeston, King Street, Bishop's Stortford.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting will be at Wolvey on Saturday, May 14th. Bells available from 4 p.m. All ringers and friends welcome.—W. Cope, Local Sec., Smockington, Hinckley.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ely District. —A meeting will be held at Over on Saturday, May 14th. Bells (6) available 2.30 p.m. Rail service, Swavesey Station (L.N.E. Railway). Short service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—F. Warrington, Long Stanton, Cambs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Prescott on Saturday, May 14th. Bells at 4. Meeting at 6.—Walter Hughes, 3, Shrewsbury Place, Garston.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—The Guild Festival will be held in Wimborne on Saturday, May 14th. Service in the Minster at 12.30 p.m. Preacher, Rev. A. L. Keith. Collection for Diocesan War Memorial. Luncheon in the Masonic Hall at 1.30 p.m. Tickets 1s. 6d. each to members. Business meeting to follow. President, Lord Shaftesbury. Bells available: Peal of 10, Wimborne Minster from 10.30 a.m.; peals of eight, Cranborne, Blandford, Poole, peals of six, Canford Magna, Corfe Mullen, Hampreston, St. Giles, Sturminster Marshall, Lytchett Minster, 10-11.30 a.m. and 3-9 p.m.; peal of 5, Hinton Martell.—F. Llewellyn Edwards, Hon. Sec.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Framlingham District.—A district meeting will be held at Bedfield on Saturday, May 14th. Bells (6) at Parish Church available 3.30 p.m. to 9 p.m. All ringers invited.—J. Hall, Hon. Dis. Sec., College Road Framlingham.

BARNSELEY & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Felkirk on Saturday, May 14th. Bells ready 1.30 p.m. Barnsley Traction Bus service is discontinued to Felkirk, but Messrs. Cipkin Bros.' bus runs pass church, leaving Barnsley 2.10, 3.40, 5.0 p.m., etc. Cheap return bookings. The Hoylandswaine Cup contest takes place Saturday, June 25th. First and second prizes, in addition to cup, will be awarded to those finishing in that order. All towers in the association are invited to enter at once.—Apply Mr. Lewis Wilkinson, Jackson Terrace, Hoylandswaine, Penistone.—C. D. Potter, Hon. Sec.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Ludlow and Church Stretton District.—A quarterly meeting of this district will be held at Tenbury Wells on Saturday, May 21st. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. Kindly advise me not later than Wednesday, May 18th, number attending requiring tea.—W. J. Beniams, Hon. Dis. Sec., 33, New Street, Ludlow.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Portsmouth District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Hambledon on Saturday, May 21st. Bells (6) available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock. Will those requiring tea kindly inform me by Tuesday, May 17th? All ringers welcome.—F. W. Rogers, Hon. Sec., 52, Samuel Road, Portsmouth.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—A meeting of the Kent County Association will be held at Rolvenden on Saturday, May 21st. Tower open at 2.30. Tea at 5 o'clock, followed by business meeting. All ringers invited. A good attendance hoped for.—A. C. Kay, Dis. Sec., 6, Sturges Road, Ashford.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Berkshire Branch.—Annual meeting will be held on May 21st at Blewbury. Service 3.30 p.m. Preacher: Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, M.C. Tea 4.30 p.m. Business meeting after. Those intending to be present please notify me early.—Albert E. Lock, 35, East Street, Helen Street, Abingdon, Berks.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—A meeting will be held at Waltham Abbey on Saturday, May 21st. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service at 5 o'clock, followed by tea and business. All welcome.—J. A. Hales, Hon. Sec., 20, Aspland Grove, Hackney, E.8.

LADIES' GUILD.—Southern District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Staines, on Saturday, May 21st. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service 5 o'clock, followed by tea and meeting in the Hall. All welcome. Will those requiring tea inform me by Tuesday, May 17th?—H. F. Mills, 1, Lower South View, Farnham.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Witney and Woodstock Deaneries Branch.—The branch spring meeting will be held at Combe, near Woodstock, on Saturday, May 21st. The following is the order of proceedings:—3 p.m., service in the Parish Church, preacher: Rev. F. R. Marriott; 4 p.m., tea at the Schoolroom, at 1s. per head; business meeting to follow. The following bells will be available during Saturday afternoon and evening, by kind permission of the incumbents: Combe, Bladon, Woodstock and Cassington. Members who intend to be present must let me know by Thursday, May 19th.—W. Evetts, jun., Hon. Sec., Tackley Park, Tackley, Oxon.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting will be held at Elstow on Saturday, May 21st. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m.—W. Stapleton, Dis. Sec., 24, New Fenlake, Bedford.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Southill on Saturday, May 21st. Bells (6) available at 3 o'clock. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome.—C. J. Ball, Dis. Sec., 2, Tempsford, Sandy.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—A meeting for combined practice in 10-bell methods will be held at St. Nicolas' Church, Guildford, on Saturday, May 21st. Will those attending please learn either Plain Bob, Treble Bob or Cambridge Surprise Royal? Bells available at 3 o'clock.—A. C. Hazelden, Guildford.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ilchester Deanery Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Langport on Saturday, May 21st. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock. Meeting to follow. Curry Rivel (8), Drayton (8) and Huish Episcopi (6) are also available.—F. Farrant, Hon. Branch Sec., Martock.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leominster District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Himbolton on Saturday, May 21st. Bells (6) available 3.30. Tea at the School 5.30. Please notify for tea not later than May 18th.—F. A. Jaine, Dis. Sec., The Smithy, Kimbolton, near Leominster.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Clare District.—A meeting will be held at Clare on Saturday, May 21st. Bells (8) available at 2 p.m. Tea at 5.15 at Bell Hotel. All requiring tea please make known to Granville C. Bixby, Dis. Sec., Hall Street, Long Melford.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Cirencester Branch.—A meeting will be held at Lechlade on Saturday, May 21st. Bells open from 3 o'clock. Tea 5 o'clock, for those who let me know by the 18th inst.—F. J. Lewis, Branch Hon. Sec., 67, Chester Street, Cirencester.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Winterbourne on Saturday, May 21st. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30, followed by tea and meeting. Will those requiring tea kindly notify by the 18th inst.?—C. H. Jennings, Hon. Sec., 10, Lilymead Avenue, Knowle, Bristol.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—Next meeting will be held at Tring on Saturday, May 21st. Bells available afternoon and evening. Short service, followed by tea and meeting. All members and friends from this and other associations cordially welcomed. Let me know by Wednesday previous if you want tea.—W. Ayre, Leverstock Green, Hemel Hempstead.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Taunton Deanery Branch.—A meeting will be held at Pitminster on Saturday, May 21st. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business at the Schools after service. Will those who require tea please let me know by the previous Tuesday?—P. Merson, Bishop's Hull.

NORFOLK GUILD.—A practice meeting will be held at Saxlingham, Nethergate (8), Saturday, May 21st, 3.30 p.m. A good muster is requested; young ringers from any district will receive a hearty welcome.—B. S. Thompson, Dis. Sec., 148, The Avenue, Colman Road, Norwich.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Horsham on Saturday, May 21st. Bells available from 2.30. Tea at the Queen's Head at 5 o'clock. Those intending being present please advise me by May 17th.—A. W. Groves, Amherst Ham Road, Worthing.

HERTS ASSOCIATION.—Rickmansworth.—Saturday, May 21st. Bells open 3.30. Tea 5.45, meeting after. (Cheap trains from Baker St.) Number for tea by Wednesday.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey, Herts.

HERTFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—A meeting will be held at Offley, Saturday, May 21st. Bells (6) available at 2.30. Tea at the 'Red Lion', 5.30. Good bus services from Hitchin and Luton, and very pretty country. Everyone welcomed.—Geo. T. Croft, Dis. Sec., 37, Burnell Walk, Letchworth.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Dorset Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Bourton on Saturday, May 28th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock (6d. for members). Meeting to follow. Towers available: Bourton (6), Mere (8), Buckhorn Weston (6), Kington Magna (5). Will all members who wish to be present kindly let me know by May 24th at the latest?—R. E. P. Gorringer, Manston Rectory, Sturminster Newton, Dorset.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—A bye meeting will be held at Chartham on Saturday, May 28th. Tower open 3 p.m.—Fred J. O. Helmore, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Leigh Parish Church on Saturday, May 28th. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Brighton on Saturday, May 28th. St. Peter's and St. Nicholas' will be open for ringing from 2 till 2.30 and after the meeting. A special service in the Parish Church (St. Peter's) at 3.45 p.m.; address by the Vicar of Brighton (Canon F. C. N. Hicks, D.D.). Meat tea at St. Nicholas' Hall, St. Nicholas Road, at 5 p.m., followed by business meeting. Tea, 2s. 6d. each (1s. 3d. to members). Half rail fare (maximum 2s. 6d.) allowed to resident members. Those intending to be present should notify the hon. general secretary not later than Tuesday, May 24th.—A. D. Stone, 16, Belgrave Street, Brighton.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Yorktown District.—A quarterly meeting of this district will be held at Farnborough on Saturday, May 28th. Bells available 3 p.m. Guild's service 4.45 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting.—J. B. Hessey, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Queen Street, Chertsey.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Horsmonden on Saturday, May 28th. Nearest station Goudhurst. Tower open at 3.30. Service at 5. Business meeting after service.—W. Latter, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Northern Districts.—The summer meeting will be held at Whitby, on Saturday, May 28th. Bells available from 2 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m.—F. Barker, Hon. Dis. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Preliminary Notice.—The 48th annual meeting will be held at Chelmsford on Whit Monday, June 6th.—F. J. Pitstow, Gen. Sec.

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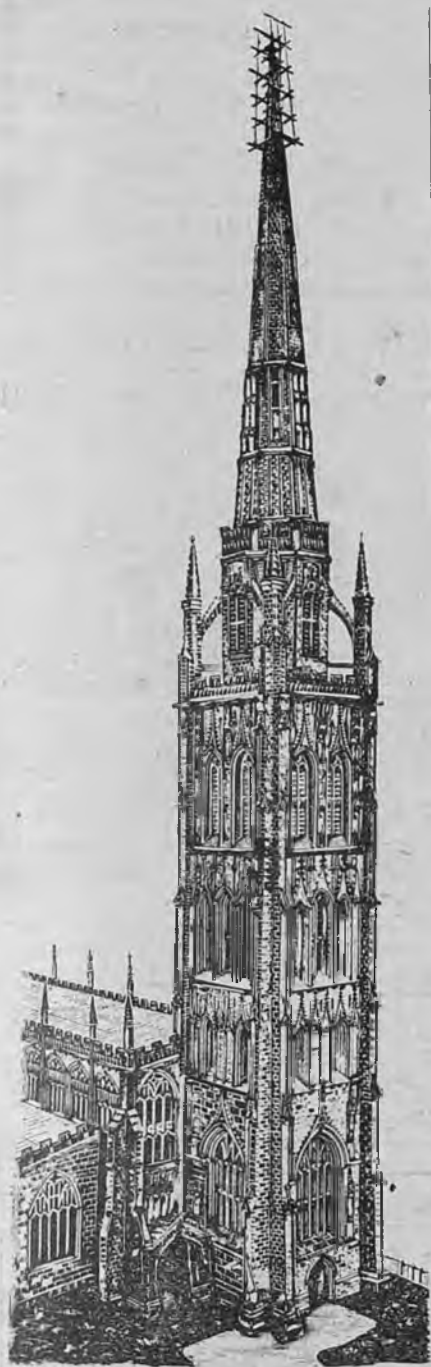
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