THE RINGING WORLD

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RINGERS' INTEREST IN THE COUNCIL

Among the motions down for discussion by the Central Council at Whitsun is one designed to give representatives on the Council a better opportunity of ascertaining the feelings of their members on any point which may arise. At present one month's notice of any motion has to be given, and the agenda usually appears about three weeks before the Council meeting. The new proposal is to require three months' notice, with a correspondingly earlier publication of the agenda, so that the various associations may have the opportunity of discussing the items and giving expression to their views as a guide to their Council representatives. The existing arrangement practically precludes this, and there has been more than one instance where a subject has been discussed by the Council and deferred for a year, in order to give members time to consult their respective associations.

The question is being brought up as the result of discussion at the last annual meeting of the Winchester Diocesan Guild, when it was felt that if ringers generally had the opportunity of talking over proposals that were to come before the Council, there would be a much wider interest taken in the work of the central body. A very considerable number of the affiliated societies meet at, or soon after, Easter, and the publication of matters, which the Central Council will debate, in time for review by the various county and diocesan guilds should tend to deepen the interest of the ordinary ringer in the Council's proceedings. That such an extension of general interest is desirable no one will dispute, and the proposal now made should be worth a trial. Any step that may bring the rank and file of the Exercise into closer touch with the work of the Council deserves every support, and any administrative difficulties which might arise through adoption of the Winchester Guild's proposal ought readily to be overcome. What is wanted is that the agenda and any controversial reports by committees should be published before Easter. Even this, of course, would not enable all affiliated bodies to have the Council's business before them at their annual meeting, but with three months' notification practically every society could discuss the items of the agenda at district or quarterly meetings, even if the annual meeting were ruled out. The Winchester Guild's proposal, therefore, has a good deal to commend it. There is still a far too widespread indifference to the Council's work, which many ringers look upon as something apart from their common interests. If greater opportunity is given to show that the Council is working for the good of the Exercise and the advancement of the Art, and that many of the questions with which it deals

(Continued on page 322.)

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are, after all, matters concerning ringers in general, a useful step will have been taken. When this has been secured, it will be up to the elected representatives to endeavour to infuse into their associations some of the interest which they themselves should take in the Council.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD
On Saturday, May 14, 1927, in Three Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;
Tenor 26 cwt. in D.

ALFRED BARNES	...*Treble*	TITUS BARLOW	7
BENJAMIN THORPE	2	RICHARD T. HOLDING ...	8
JOHN WILKINSON...	3	JAMES H. RIDING	9
EDWARD JENKINS...	4	PETER LAFLIN	10
TOM WILDE	5	HARRY CHAPMAN...	11
THOMAS B. WORSLEY... ...	6	JOSEPH NORBURY	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by E. JENKINS.
First peal of Cinques in the county and by the Guild.

WEST BROMWICH, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM
On Saturday, May 21, 1927, in Three Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;
Tenor 23 cwt. in E flat.

ERNEST T. ALLAWAY	...*Treble*	MORRIS J. MORRIS	7
JAMES E. GROVES	2	FRED PRICE	8
GEORGE F. SWANN	3	THOMAS MILLER	9
THOMAS H. REEVES	4	JAMES GEORGE	10
*THOMAS W. CHOWN	5	JOSEPH E. SYKES	11
JOHN NEAL	6	*JESSE SCREEN	...*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by THOMAS H. REEVES.
* Proposed life members of the Guild previous to starting. Rung with the bells half-muffled in the inverted tittums and hand-stroke home positions, as a last tribute of respect to Charles Dickens, a trustee and highly respected member of the above Guild.

TEN BELL PEALS.

SOUTH CROYDON, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, May 16, 1927, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5021 CHANGES;
Tenor 30 cwt. 20 lb. in D.

DAVID WRIGHT	...*Treble*	STEPHEN W. HOLDAWAY ...	6
*BERT N. NEWSON	2	THOMAS G. BANNISTER ...	7
THOMAS A. G. BLOXHAM ...	3	DANIEL D. COOPER	8
WILLIAM BULPIT	4	CHARLES H. KIPPEN	9
FREDERICK W. LARBY ...	5	FREDERICK E. COLLINS	...*Tenor*

Composed by HENRY JOHNSON. Conducted by DAVID WRIGHT.
* First peal of Grandsire. This peal was arranged as a 21st birthday compliment to Thomas A. G. Bloxham, a member of the local band.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 21, 1927, in Three Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 25½ cwt.

ALBERT D. STONE ...	...*Treble*	FRANK BENNETT	6
JOHN T. RICKMAN	2	JAMES E. DAVIS	7
GEORGE R. PYE	3	KEITH HART...	8
CHARLES T. COLES	4	JOHN DEARLOVE	9
JAMES BENNETT	5	WILLIAM PYE	...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

HENLEY, SUFFOLK.
THE NORFOLK GUILD.
On Saturday, May 14, 1927, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 8 cwt. 3 lb. in A flat.

H. CHARLES GILLINGHAM	*Treble*	CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE ...	5
REVD. WILLIAM C. PEARSON	2	WILLIAM T. LAST	6
ALBERT A. FLEMING	3	GEORGE A. FLEMING	7
*HERBERT W. SHEMMINGS	4	FREDERICK J. TILLETT	*...Tenor*

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by A. FLEMING.

* First peal in the method on an inside bell. For composition, see Ely Diocesan Association Report for 1913, No. 432. Commemorates the twenty-fifth anniversary of the opening of the bells as a ring of eight, May 15th, 1902.

BURTON LATIMER, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 14, 1927, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 10¼ cwt.

MISS KITTY MOORE ...	*...Treble*	*FREDERICK PAYNE	5
HARRY BAXTER	2	JOHN R. MAIN	6
MISS CECIL E. HEPBURN ...	3	GEORGE LINES	7
FREDERICK J. TITE	4	ROBERT G. BLACK ...	*...Tenor*

Composed by the late JAMES PLATT. Conducted by R. G. BLACK.

* First peal of Major inside. Arranged to mark the twenty-first birthday of Miss May Reeves, of Burton Latimer.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Saturday, May 14, 1927, in Three Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
HUBBARD'S VARIATION OF J. PATRICK'S.

FREDERICK A. POULSON ...	*Treble*	*LAWRENCE POULSON... ...	5
WILLIAM R. J. POULSON ...	2	ARTHUR SYMONDS	6
STEDMAN H. SYMONDS ...	3	FREDERICK F. MORTLOCK...	7
SHELFORD SPARROW	4	ARTHUR GRIMWOOD ...	*...Tenor*

Conducted by S. H. SYMONDS.

* First peal in the method. Messrs. Grimwood and Sparrow hail from Stowmarket, the rest are local men.

NORTHFIELD, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Saturday, May 14, 1927, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOSEPH H. COX	*...Treble*	JOSEPH B. FENTON	5
JOSEPH D. JOHNSON	2	JOSEPH S. CARTER	6
JOSEPH A. FENTON	3	JOSEPH PIGOTT	7
JOSEPH H. W. WHITE ...	4	JOSEPH E. SYKES... ...	*...Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by JOSEPH PIGOTT.

The ringer of the treble is from Cradley, 2nd from Evesham, 3rd and 5th from Rugby, 4th from Coventry, 6th from Leicester, 7th from Smethwick, and the tenor from Huddersfield. The band wish to thank the Rector for the use of the bells, also Mr. J. Withers for having everything in readiness.

WORLINGWORTH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Sunday, May 15, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 12 cwt.

*WILLIAM C. BUNN ...	*...Treble*	GEORGE CATTERMOLE... ...	5
WILLIAM J. G. BROWN ...	2	HARRY HALL	6
ALFRED H. WATSON... ...	3	JOHN HALL	7
ALPHÆUS J. BERRY	4	FRANCIS W. NAUNTON	*...Tenor*

Composed by the late HENRY DAINS. Conducted by F. W. NAUNTON

* First peal on eight bells and first attempt. Great credit is due to the treble ringer for the way he rang his bell throughout the peal, he being only 16 years of age, and this was his second 'touch' on eight bells.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Monday, May 16, 1927, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb.

LIONEL CLOUGH	*...Treble*	WILLIAM FERNLEY	5
JAMES FERNLEY, JUN.... ...	2	WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT	6
JAMES FERNLEY, SEN.... ...	3	TOM WILDE	7
HARRY LANGLEY...	4	JOHN W. HARTLEY ...	*...Tenor*

Composed by JAMES S WILDE (No. 1). Conducted by TOM WILDE.

First peal in the method on the bells, and also by all the band.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, May 18, 1927, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 13¾ cwt.

JOHN S. MORLEY ...	*...Treble*	ALFRED J. BULL	5
*GEORGE OLIVER	2	CECIL NICE	6
BERNARD WELLS	3	NELSON ELLIOTT...	7
CHARLES H. SURRIDGE ...	4	OLIVER SIPPETTS... ...	*...Tenor*

Composed by J. E. BURTON. Conducted by O SIPPETTS.

* First peal on eight bells. A birthday compliment to the conductor and the ringer of the 5th.

HASLEMERE, SURREY.
THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wednesday, May 18, 1927, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PITSTOW'S VARIATION. Tenor 13 cwt. 6 lb.

ALFRED H. PULLING...	*...Treble*	C. ERNEST SMITH	5
*RAYMOND OVERY	2	FRED BOWDEN	6
*JOHN P. MCDERMOTT ...	3	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH	7
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON ...	4	JOHN H. B. HESSE ...	*...Tenor*

Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

* First peal in the method and first attempt.

NEWPORT, ISLE OF WIGHT.
THE WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thursday, May 19, 1927, in Three Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qr. 6 lb.

*SIDNEY MOODY	*...Treble*	†ALBERT CALLAWAY	5
HARRY BURTON...	2	†WALTER SCOTT, JUN.... ...	6
†WILLIAM JOHNSON	3	†WILLIAM UPTON	7
WALTER SCOTT, SEN. ...	4	GEORGE WILLIAMS ...	*...Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

* First peal of Major. † First peal of Plain Bob. First peal of Major on the bells. A commemoration peal for William Rayner, buried at Arreton May 15th, 1823, who for 50 years carried on change ringing in the Island. The band wish to express their appreciation of the Vicar's consideration in cancelling evensong and thus making this peal possible.

EWELL, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 21, 1927, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt. 3 qr. 20 lb.

C. ERNEST SMITH ...	*...Treble*	WILLIAM T. BEESON... ...	5
JOHN BEAMS...	2	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE ...	6
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON ...	3	*CHARLES E. REED	7
JOHN A. COLE	4	ALFRED H. PULLING...	*...Tenor*

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

* 101st peal.

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NEWCHURCH, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 21, 1927, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF IPSWICH SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. in F sharp.

*ERNEST CUTSFORTH ...	...*Treble*	EDWARD JENKINS...	5
JOSEPH LEATHERBARROW...	2	JOHN POTTER	6
THOMAS B. WORSLEY ...	3	TITUS BARLOW	7
JOHN E. BIBBY	4	HARRY CHAPMAN	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. REEVES. Conducted by E. JENKINS.

* 100th peal. First peal rung in the method.

BUNBURY, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 21, 1927, in Three Hours and Four Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BONIFACE,

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

Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr. 11 lb.

GEORGE R. JONES ...	...*Treble*	EDWARD V. RODENHURST ...	5
ROBERT SPERRING	2	ALBERT J. HUGHES	6
JOHN HAYES...	3	JAMES SWINDLEY...	7
SAMUEL JONES, JUN.	4	JAMES H. RIDING... ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by ROBERT SPERRING.

MIDDLETON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 21, 1927, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART. Tenor 12¾ cwt.

HERBERT DAVENPORT ...	...*Treble*	JAMES H. LEES	5
THOMAS K. DRIVER	2	GERALD W. SCHOFIELD ...	6
WALTER STAFF	3	*HAROLD DEAN	7
JOHN SMITH	4	WILLIAM HORAN ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GERALD W. SCHOFIELD.

* First peal, and first attempt. First peal as conductor. Arranged for Mr. Harold Dean, of Macclesfield, who was elected a non-resident member of the Lancashire Association before the peal was commenced.

GRAVESEND, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 21, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 19¾ cwt. in E.

FREDERICK A. MITCHELL ...*Treble*		JOHN BURLES	5
FREDERICK M. MITCHELL ...	2	JOHN H. CHEESMAN... ...	6
CHARLES WINSER	3	*EDWARD J. BEER	7
WILLIAM HAIGH	4	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY	...*Tenor*

Composed by E. BARNETT, SEN. Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN

* First peal in the method.

HARRIETSHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 21, 1927, in Three Hours,

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

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt. in G.

THOMAS E. SONE... ...	...*Treble*	LEWIS NEWMAN	5
SAM E. TAYLOR	2	WILLIAM J. WALKER	6
TOM SAUNDERS	3	CHARLES H. SONE	7
GEORGE KENWARD	4	GEORGE GILBERT... ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN THORP. Conducted by GEORGE GILBERT.

First peal of Major on the bells since their restoration.

THORVERTON, DEVON.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, May 21, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

EDWIN SHEPHERD ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM HOWE	5
TOM G. BARTLETT	2	JOHN M. SKINNER	6
ALFRED MONKLY...	3	JOHN R. HAYMAN	7
FRED DIMOND	4	GEORGE RENDELL ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN R. HAYMAN.

THRAPSTON, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 21, 1927, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

*JAMES M. NICKERSON ...*Treble*		GEORGE BASFORD	5
JOHN R. MAIN	2	JAMES T. WARD	6
JOHN J. MAWBY...	3	WALTER PERKINS	7
HARRY CHAMBERS	4	ANDERSON Y. TYLER ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by ANDERSON Y. TYLER.

* First peal in the method, also on the bells. This peal was rung on the eve of the 30th anniversary of the first peal rung on the bells, which were installed by Messrs. Taylor and Co. in 1897.

WYARDISBURY, BUCKS.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD AND THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 21, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

WILLIAM H. HOLLIER...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM HENLEY	5
MISS PHILLIS M. MOSS ...	2	FRANK CORKE...	6
WILLIAM WELLING	3	CECIL C. MAYNE...	7
WILLIAM L. GOTTERIDGE ...	4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by CHARLES W. ROBERTS.

Arranged and rung as a combined peal between the two Guilds. W. H. Hollier and C. W. Roberts were elected members of the Oxford Diocesan Guild previous to attempting the peal.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, May 21, 1927, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET.

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 20½ cwt. in E.

ALFRED KEEBLE ...	...*Treble*	JAMES G. RUMSEY	5
*REGINALD C. KERSEY ...	2	GEORGE WILSON...	6
*HARRY C. BALLS	3	CHARLES F. BAILEY	7
ERNEST S. BAILEY	4	FREDERICK J. SMITH ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by CHAS. F. BAILEY.

* First peal in the method. Rung with muffled clappers to the memory of the late Rev. R. Gordon Roe, who died at Acle, Norfolk, and who was from 1909 to 1915 Rector of Leiston.

HALESOWEN, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 21, 1927, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 17 cwt.

THOMAS J. SALTER ...	...*Treble*	ROBERT MATTHEWS	5
JOHN BASS	2	ALFRED HACKETT	6
VICTOR WHITE	3	ABRAHAM GREENFIELD ...	7
WILLIAM BROWN...	4	JOHN SMITH	...*Tenor*

Conducted by R. MATTHEWS.

This peal was specially arranged to celebrate the completion, by Mr. Matthew Hackett, of 50 years' service as a ringer at this church, and also a birthday compliment to Mr. Elijah White, another veteran of 83 years.

ST. GERMANS, CORNWALL.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

(SOUTH-WEST DISTRICT BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 21, 1927, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GERMANUS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

ERNEST W. MARSH ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM RUNDLE	5
WALTER H. MARSH	2	*THOMAS G. MYERS	6
*WILLIAM WONNACOTT ...	3	REV. EVERARD S. POWELL	7
WILLIAM RICHARDS	4	†WILLIAM G. HISCOTT	...*Tenor*

Composed by H. HUBBARD. Conducted by REV. EVERARD S. POWELL

* First peal in the method. † Fiftieth peal. First peal in the method on the bells.

USK, MONMOUTHSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD
On Saturday, May 21, 1927, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLIAM V. COWLEY	*Treble*	WILLIAM BISHOP	5
JAMES BISHOP	2	THOMAS LADE	6
BRUCE P. CHEW	3	WILLIAM POSTON	7
GEORGE WILKS	4	CHARLES MORGAN	*Tenor*

Conducted by W. POSTON.

Ringers of 1st, 6th and 8th hail from Trevethin, and were elected members before starting. Ringers of 2nd, 4th and 5th are from Ruardean, 3rd from Mitcheldean, and 7th from Bridstow.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

BROMFIELD, SHROPSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(LUDLOW AND CHURCH STRETTON DISTRICT.)
On Friday, May 13, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 six-scores, 11 callings. Tenor 9 cwt.

GEORGE RANDLE	*Treble*	CHAS. TIPTON	4
JOHN W. HARDWICK	2	WILLIAM MAPP	5
WM. J. BENIAMS	3	GEORGE JONES	*Tenor*

Conducted by W. J. BENIAMS.

Rung as a farewell peal to Rev. Canon Chesshire.

WOLLASTON, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
(WELLINGBOROUGH BRANCH.)
On Saturday, May 14, 1927, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Court, Oxford Bob and two 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 19 cwt.

WILLIAM STOCK	*Treble*	WILLIAM SHARP	4
*AUBREY BAILEY	2	AMOS SMART	5
HENRY W. GAYTON	3	†ALBERT WINNEY	*Tenor*

Conducted by AMOS SMART.

* First peal. † First peal of Minor. First of Minor as conductor.

MENDLESHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Saturday, May 14, 1927, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 12 six-scores of St. Simon's, 14 of Plain Bob and 16 of Grandsire, with ten different callings. Tenor 18 cwt. in E.

*RICHARD FINBOW	*Treble*	ARTHUR CLEMENTS	3
*RUSSELL WARD	2	WILLIAM FORSTER	4
GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL	*Tenor*		

Conducted by GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL.

* First peal. First peal as conductor.

ST. BUDEAUX, DEVONSHIRE.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
On Saturday, May 14, 1927, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BUDEAUX,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven 720's. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.

JOHN H. GLUYAS	*Treble*	WARREN S. HORNBROOK	4
CHARLES R. LILLEY	2	WILLIAM HAMBLYN	5
FRANK HOCKADAY	3	THOMAS G. MYERS	*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY.

First peal on the bells.

BALCOMBE, SUSSEX.—On May 3rd, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor, with the bells half-muffled, standing, as a token of respect to the late Viscount Cowdray: H. Stoner 1, T. Exeter (first quarter-peal) 2, A. Laker 3, A. C. Gasson 4, H. Holman 5, A. E. Gasson (conductor) 6.

MALDON.—At St. Mary's Church, on Tuesday, April 26th, 720 Bob Minor: R. Bird 1, E. Williams 2, D. A. Haun 3, G. Matthews 4, S. C. Card (conductor) 5, C. Wachter 6. First 720 by the 2nd and 4th.

OLD WARDON, BEDS.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 14, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven 720's, each called differently.

HERBERT L. HARLOW	*Treble*	†GEORGE R. DILBY	4
ALFRED PRATT	2	*HERBERT SHERMAN	5
*ALFRED HATTON	3	TOM BARTRAM	*Tenor*

Conducted by H. L. HARLOW.

* First peal away from the treble. † First peal.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 14, 1927, in Two Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being three 720's of Oxford Treble Bob and four of Kent.
Tenor 2 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb. in F sharp.

E. HARRY STONELEY	*Treble*	WALTER P. WHITEHEAD	4
EDWARD C. GOBEY	2	FREDERICK A. SALTER	5
J. FREDERICK MILNER	3	PERCY PRICE	*Tenor*

Conducted by E. HARRY STONELEY.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 14, 1927, in Two Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two 720's each of Double Oxford, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and 720 Bob Minor. Tenor 6½ cwt.

WALTER THOMAS	*Treble*	GEORGE JONES	4
ALBERT E. RICHARDS	2	J. WILLIAM CLARKE	5
HENRY W. WILDE	3	JAMES MORGAN	*Tenor*

Conducted by JAMES MORGAN.

This is the first peal for the Chester Diocesan Guild in Leicestershire.

SKENFRITH, MONMOUTHSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 14, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BRIDGET,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Ten callings. Tenor 8 cwt.

JAMES P. HYETT	*Treble*	JOHN BOURNE	4
WILLIAM E. WILLIAMS	2	GEORGE R. HANKS	5
*WILLIAM E. DAVIES	3	FRANK BOURNE	*Tenor*

Conducted by J. P. HYETT.

* First peal inside. J. P. Hyett's 100th peal, the 100th tower in which he has rung, and the 50th tower in which he has rung a peal, and the 25th tower in which he has called a peal for the Guild. The peals were rung with over 200 different ringers. First peal of Doubles on the bells.

WOODCHESTER, GLOS.
GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, May 15, 1927, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE & ST DUNSTAN'S DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

FRANK GARLAND	*Treble*	THOMAS WITTS	4
GEORGE LATHAM	2	LESLIE BARRY	5
BASIL LATHAM	3	P.S. GEORGE HASTINGS	*Tenor*

Conducted by LESLIE BARRY.

DARLINGTON.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, May 16, 1927, in Two Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Surfleet, Beverley, Cambridge, York, Durham, London and Wells. Tenor 7½ cwt.

*EDWARD BROWN	*Treble*	GEORGE W. PARK	4
†WILLIAM OLIVER	2	FRANK W. LUPSON	5
ROLAND PARK	3	NORMAN PARK	*Tenor*

Conducted by NORMAN PARK.

* First peal. † First peal of Surprise Minor. First peal as conductor. First peal of Surprise Minor in seven methods by all except the ringer of the 4th.

CONGERSTONE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 14, 1927, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 12 six-scores of Plain Bob, 30 Grandsire consisting of 18 ordinary, and six 240's of Pitman's arrangement. Tenor 7 cwt. in A.

RONALD H. DOVE ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM E. CLAYFIELD ...	3
ERNEST MORRIS	2	JOSEPH W. COTTON	4
NORMAN S. BAGWORTH	...*Tenor*		

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

First peal on these bells, erected by Earl Howe in 1841. The Rector very kindly entertained the band to tea at the conclusion.

DUSTON, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, May 17, 1927, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different 720's, containing all singles.

*KENNETH CATER ...	...*Treble*	†FRANK BURGESS	4
GEORGE PARKER	2	‡ROWLAND ADAMS	5
ISAAC BENNETT	3	THOMAS WISE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by THOMAS WISE.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal in the method. ‡ First peal of Minor inside. This is the first peal of Minor so rung for the Guild and by all the band. Also rung as a welcome to the new Vicar (Rev. A. E. A. Jones), and as a 21st birthday compliment to the ringer of the treble.

EXHALL, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Thursday, May 19, 1927, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent of Cambridge Surprise, two extents of Oxford Treble Bob and four extents of Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 6½ cwt.

CHARLES G. BATES ...	...*Treble*	THOMAS W. CHOWN	4
*MISS D. E. LEWIS	2	JAMES H. RAPER...	5
ALFRED E. BACON	3	JOSEPH E. SYKES	...*Tenor*

Conducted by JOSEPH E. SYKES.

* First peal of Minor. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. D. F. E. Sykes, of Huddersfield, mother of the conductor, and on the silver wedding day of Mr. Joseph H. W. White, of Coventry. It was Alf Bacon's 100th peal.

ALLESLEY, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, May 21, 1927, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's. Tenor 12 cwt.

*JOHN W. TAYLOR ...	...*Treble*	*J. FRANK SMALLWOOD ...	4
*FRANK E. PERVIN	2	JOSEPH H. W. WHITE ...	5
*HUBERT G. SUMMERS ...	3	SAMUEL GROVE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by JOSEPH H. W. WHITE.

* First peal of Cambridge Minor, also the first on the bells. Rung upon the occasion of the silver wedding of the conductor. The ringer of the 4th has now rung Cambridge Minor, Major, Royal, and Maximus.

HANDBELL PEAL.

EARL'S COLNE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 14, 1927, in Two Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes,

AT, 6, BROOKHILL COTTAGES,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

FRANK CLAYDON	1-2	GEORGE WIFFEN	5-6
WILLIAM KEEBLE	3-4	ARTHUR SAUNDERS	7-8

Composed by CORNELIUS CHARGE. Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE

Umpire: WALTER ARNOLD.

Rung as a birthday compliment to G. Wiffen.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND, KENT.—On Tuesday, May 17th, 720 Cambridge Surprise (21 bobs): F. Seabright 1, C. M. Mitchell 2, J. Burles 3, F. M. Mitchell (conductor) 4, F. A. Mitchell 5, G. Morrad 6. First 720 of Surprise on a bob bell by Cyril Mitchell, and first attempt.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT PINNER.

The North and East District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild held a very successful meeting at Pinner on Saturday, May 14th, when some 45 members put in an appearance. Divine service was held at 5 p.m., when the Rev. D. S. Carey (curate) preached a very interesting sermon, which was greatly appreciated. After an excellent tea, the usual business meeting was held. The chair was taken by the Rev. D. S. Carey, who was supported by the Rev. C. S. Durham (Harrow Weald), Mr. W. Pye, Mr. J. C. Jackson, etc.—It was decided to send a letter of sympathy to Mr. W. Pickworth (vice-president), who was prevented by an attack of pleurisy from attending.

A vote of condolence to the relatives of the late Mr. C. Dickens, a member of the association since 1904, was passed by those present standing in silence for a few moments.

The Vicar of Pinner (the Rev. C. E. A. Rowland) was elected as an honorary member, and six ringing members were admitted.—It was decided to hold the next meeting at Harrow Weald and Stanmore on July 9th.

A hearty vote of thanks was proposed by the Hon. Secretary to the Vicar for the use of the bells, to the Rev. D. S. Carey for his address at the service and for so ably presiding at the meeting, and to Mr. J. C. Jackson for making excellent arrangements. The Hon. Secretary also expressed his pleasure at the progress made by the Pinner band during the last few months under the guidance of Messrs. G. and H. Kilby.

The Rev. C. E. A. Rowland, who had arrived during the course of the meeting, replied, thanking the association for the help given to his ringers, and extending to the members a hearty welcome.

The bells, which are a very fine peal of eight, with a tenor of 19 cwt., were retuned and rehung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank in October last, and they were greatly admired. During the afternoon and evening many touches in a great variety of methods were rung, including Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Double Norwich, Superlative, Cambridge, London, and Bristol Surprise Major.

SOUTH AND WEST DISTRICT.

A meeting was held at Feltham on Saturday, May 14th, when good practice on the bells was had during the afternoon. The Rev. E. P. Cole Sheane, Vicar of Twickenham, visited the tower and rang the tenor to a touch of Stedman. A short service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. J. Browell, after which the company adjourned to the Church Hall, for tea, business meeting and social. Mr. and Mrs. Horace Belcher and family entertained the company to several selections on the handbells, which were greatly appreciated.

Mr. R. Holloway (Ringing Master) presided, and 33 members and friends sat down to tea ably served by Mrs. Cromwell.

After the routine business had been transacted, thanks were accorded to the Vicar, Mr. and Mrs. Belcher and family, Mr. Lewis, of the local band, and the hostess and her assistants.—The Vicar, in reply, said it was a very great pleasure to him to welcome the association again to Feltham on such an occasion.

A touch of Grandsire Caters on the handbells and more selections were followed by another visit to the tower. The total attendance during the meeting was 38.

LAMBETH RINGER'S DEATH.

LINK IN LONG CHAIN BROKEN.

The death of Mr. William Stoneman at the age of 68 on April 5th last ends a long family connection with the bells and steeple of the Parish Church of St. Mary, Lambeth. The late Mr. Stoneman retired from ringing through ill-health in 1921, after 32 years as steeplekeeper, in which office he followed his father, who put in 40 years. He in his turn took the office from John Jaggers, his father-in-law. At least three generations of the Jaggers family served the church as bell ringers and steeplekeepers, the name appearing on old peal boards in the belfry as far back as the end of the 18th century.

The late Mr. Stoneman took part in several peals in his earlier days, always ringing the tenor behind. He was a member of the old St. James' Society.

On Sunday, April 10th, the bells were rung half-muffled before evening service. After service, the whole pull and stand was rung by the local ringers, assisted by Mr. T. H. Taffender and Mr. S. Moye: T. H. Taffender 1, F. Holland 2, C. Maul 3, S. Moye 4, W. A. Batten 5, W. Hardy 6, T. W. Wyatt 7, H. Bell 8.

The funeral took place on April 12th, at Tooting Cemetery. The first part of the service was taken at the Parish Church by the Rev. K. E. N. S. Lamplugh, chaplain to the belfry. Several of the local ringers and a number of the parishioners were present.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A successful meeting of the Western District was held at Chester-le-Street on Saturday, May 14th, when some good ringing was done. Touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Kent and Plain Bob were rung. Members attended from Whitley Bay, Durham, Houghton-le-Spring, Consett, Tanfield and the local ringers. Tea was served at the Crown Hotel, and it was arranged to hold the next meeting at Consett Parish Church on Saturday, July 2nd.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A well-attended quarterly meeting of the Western District was held at Horsham on Saturday, May 21st, between 40 and 50 members and their friends being present from Heene, Pulborough, Crawley, Billingshurst, Warnham, Slinfold, Lower Beeding, Shipley, West Grinstead, West Tarring, Shoreham, Rudgwick, Itchingfield, Merstham and members of the local band. Some very good courses and touches were rung in the standard methods during the afternoon.

After a substantial meat tea at the Queen's Head Hotel, a short business meeting was held, Mr. Walt Charman presiding.—No new members were forthcoming.

It was proposed to hold the next meeting at Eastbourne. This is a new tower for this division, the whole band having been made members of the association at the Central Division meeting held at Henfield a few weeks ago.

After votes of thanks to the chairman for presiding, and to Mr. S. Paice for making the necessary arrangements, some of the company visited the tower again for further ringing, whilst others, on their way home, visited Warnham and Billingshurst towers.

Thanks are due to Messrs. W. Charman and J. Burdfield for obtaining permission to ring at these places.

TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

INCREASING MEMBERSHIP.

The Truro Diocesan Guild has 'come of age,' and the 21st annual report, just issued, is a cheering document for those who, like the Master, Dr. J. Symons, have laboured so long in the cause of change ringing in Cornwall. In an area where it is necessary to point out the rules that the Guild 'does not exist for the encouragement of competitive prize ringing,' and where there is one rival organisation, if not more, which puts prize ringing first, it will be realised that the Truro Diocesan Guild has uphill work. The committee, however, report continued progress, and during the past year five fresh towers have become affiliated, viz., Mabe, Illogan, Gwennap, Zennor and Altarnun, while the membership of the Guild has increased by about fifty, the total roll being now about 650. The finances of the Guild are also in excellent condition.

The report refers to the visit of the ringing tourists last year, who rang six peals in methods unfamiliar to Cornwall.

The committee emphasise the value of the Minor Festivals, and remark that those held last year were well attended.

Mr. W. H. Southeard (Truro) has been appointed representative of the Guild on the Central Council.

GLOUCESTER & BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The monthly meeting of the Bristol Branch was held at Winterbourne on Saturday last, when about 30 members attended, representing 11 towers. The bells were raised in peal at 3 p.m., and good practice was made (especially for the learners) until 4.30, when service was conducted by the Rev. P. Gay, who gave an interesting address. After the service, an adjournment was made to the schoolroom, where tea was awaiting the visitors. At the business meeting which followed, the secretary stated he had received a telegram that morning from the chairman (Mr. J. Gould), saying he was unable to attend. The Rev. T. C. Fowler (vice-president) was therefore elected to the chair.

Mrs. H. Way was elected an associate member, and Mr. Cornish (Winterbourne) a performing member.

The Secretary stated that the annual summer meeting to Dyrham Park was fixed up for the usual Saturday (the last in June), and he hoped all those intending to be present would signify their intention in good time, especially for the seats in the motor.

Mr. H. Way, proposed, and Miss E. Smith seconded, a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for the use of the bells, and also to the Rev P. Gay for taking the service, to the organist and organ blower, to the ladies for assisting at the tables, and Mr. E. Thomas and the local band.—This was carried with acclamation. The Rev. P. Gay responded in a humorous speech. Mr. Thomas also thanked the association for coming there and giving them such good practice in change ringing.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman, who was always willing to come to their meetings to assist them. Good practice was again made in the tower, and the bells were rung till 8.45.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A very successful meeting was held at Offley on Saturday, May 21st, ringers being present from Hitchin, Great Wymondley, Graveley, Kimpton, King's Walden, and a number of the local band, who as yet are not very far advanced in change ringing. The bells are a handy ring of six, and were kept going during the afternoon and evening with just a break for tea excellently prepared at the Red Lion, and at which 20 members sat down.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for the use of the bells, and there was then a hurried retreat for the tower. Methods rung during the day were Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob, Oxford Bob, Double Court, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, London and Cambridge Surprise. About 7 p.m., two ringers from Stapleford called in, and some good Surprise ringing was done during their short stay. During the day some of the local ringers rang their first courses.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Mr. E. A. Young, the hon. secretary of the Council, is now out of hospital. While still very weak, he is progressing satisfactorily.

A peal of Ipswich Surprise, a method by Mr. Arthur Craven, published in the recently issued 'Surprise Methods,' has been rung for the first time by a Lancashire Association band under the conductorship of Mr. E. Jenkins.

A 'Joseph' peal has now been rung. There have been previous attempts, but none of them successful. One member of the band started for a 'name' peal twenty-four years ago, and has had to wait until now to put it in his book.

As no further peals will be rung on the bells of St. Martin's, Birmingham, until their restoration has been completed, a half-muffled peal of Stedman Cinques in memory of Mr. Charles Dickens, an old member of St. Martin's Guild, and one of its officials, was rung at West Bromwich. The peal was called by Mr. Tom Reeves, and one of the ringers was Frederick Price. It is interesting to recall that 35 years ago Samuel Reeves and Charles Price, the respective fathers of these two ringers, rang together in a peal of Grandsire Caters in the same belfry.

Sixty-five years ago to-day the bells at St. Andrew's Cathedral, Sydney, New South Wales, were opened.

The first peal of Stedman Caters, which a hundred years after turned out to be false, was rung at St. John's, Horsley Down, London, on May 28th, 1787.

The Bristol Surprise Major record was made fifteen years ago to-morrow, when Mr. W. Pye called the 15,264 at Hornchurch, Essex.

To-morrow is also the anniversary of the first Surprise peal rung out of England (Superlative at Bray, Ireland), and Sunday the anniversary of the only peal rung on the sea (Stedman Caters, between Ireland and England), and the first Surprise peal in Wales (New Cambridge at Bangor). These three peals were rung in the year 1901.

The first peal of New Cumberland Surprise was rung at Burton-on-Trent on May 31st, 1886.

CHEAP RAILWAY TICKETS.

All ringers visiting London for Whitsun and returning after the Central Council meeting on Tuesday should apply at once to the hon. secretary (Mr. E. A. Young, 155, Rushey Green, Catford, S.E.6) for vouchers enabling them to obtain return tickets at single fare and a third. These tickets, which are available also for wives and friends, extend until Wednesday; Whitsun excursion tickets are only available until Tuesday. A minimum issue of 200 is necessary to secure continuation of these facilities in future years, and ringers should support this effort to obtain a cheap rate of travelling for them. The programme arranged for the holidays will provide plenty of entertainment for visitors, apart from the multifarious attractions which London has to offer, and ringers who are not actually members of the Council will find during Whitsun congenial company and varied amusement in the Metropolis.

COVENTRY'S LOSS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—You will remember that the famous peal of ten English bells of the Coventry Cathedral has lately been recast by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston on the Simpson principle. The new peal was dedicated on Easter Eve.

In my opinion, the change is deplorable, and the worst fears of those who opposed it appear to have been realised.

The general opinion among local people old enough to remember the former peal when it was rung is that the tone and virility of the original bells have been lost to a considerable extent, and that we are left with a set of 'chimes' instead of the magnificent peal of bells now irretrievably lost.

The only good that can come out of our evil case is that other people may take warning by our example.—Yours truly,

RICHARD CALDICOTT.

29, High Street, Coventry.

GAINFORD BELLS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—My attention has been drawn to a paragraph in your issue of April 8th, giving some account of a visit paid to our bells on Saturday, March 5th, by ringers from Darlington and Hurworth. I do not know who sent you the paragraph, but it was worded in such a way that it seemed to cast some reflection upon the way in which Messrs. Taylor and Sons, of Loughborough, had carried out their work. I therefore write to say that the difficulty experienced on that occasion of the first two bells casting their ropes was entirely due to the stiffness of the new ropes, and now that the ropes have had more use there has been no further trouble in this respect. Further, I wish to say that our ringers, the Church Council and myself are thoroughly satisfied with the way in which Messrs. Taylor and Sons have carried out the work of re-hanging our bells.

I trust that in fairness to Messrs. Taylor you will give this statement the same publicity as the previous one.—Yours faithfully,

R. A. BIDWELL.

The Vicarage,
Gainford, Co. Durham.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The First Session of the Thirteenth Council (35th Annual Meeting) will be held (by the courtesy of the Lord Mayor) in the Egyptian Hall, The Mansion House, City of London, on Whitsun Tuesday, 7th June, 1927, at 11 a.m. precisely.

The morning sitting will be adjourned from 1 p.m. till 2.30, from which hour the Council will sit, if necessary, until 5.30 p.m.

The Standing Committee will meet previously at 9.45 a.m. in the same room.

AGENDA, 1927.

GENERAL.

1. Election of president, of hon. secretary and treasurer and of hon. librarian.
2. Minutes of the last meeting.
3. Apologies for absence.
4. Statements of accounts and sale of publications.
5. Election of honorary members.
6. Introduction of new members to the president.
7. Election of standing committee.
8. To receive and discuss the reports of the following committees; and to reappoint or alter the constitution of the committees, as may be thought desirable, viz.:—
   (a) Peal collection.
   (b) Literature and Press.
   (c) Methods.
   (d) Peals' analysis.
   (e) Towers and belfries.
   (f) Records.
   (g) Nomenclature.
9. Honorary secretary to present second edition of the Book of Rules and Decisions and to move certain verbal alterations of the Rules and an amendment of the decision re member's leaflet. (Revs. Ll. Edwards and C. D. P. Davies.)

MOTIONS.

10. Rule 9. Substitute in line 3 for the words 'one month' the words 'three calendar months.' Rule 12. Substitute in line 3 for the words 'fourteen days approximately' the words 'twelve weeks approximately.' Rule 14. Substitute in line 5 for the words 'one month' the words 'three calendar months.' (Messrs. G. Williams and A. H. Pulling.)
11. That the Council shall issue, at a small charge, peal diplomas for the encouragement of young ringers. (Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn and Mr. E. A. Young.)
12. That since William Shipway extended Superlative Surprise Major to Royal and the first peal of Royal was rung at Wakefield in 1826, the Council cannot accept any extension to Maximus which does not agree with the Major and the Royal. (Rev. H. Law James and Mr. R. Richardson.)
13. That the Council approach the British Broadcasting Company with a view to the broadcasting during the evening programmes of a series of instructional talks on change ringing, with handbell demonstrations. (Messrs. T. H. Taffender and A. D. Barker.)
14. That a committee be appointed to report to the Council on the legal relationship between (a) bells, (b) ringers and (c) ringing respectively on the one hand, and (d) the incumbent, (e) the churchwardens and (f) the parochial councils respectively on the other hand, and any other legal matters affecting the Exercise. And, further, to consider the advisability of issuing a statement on these matters for the guidance of ringers and other persons affected. (Messrs. J. A. Trollope and A. A. Hughes.)
15. To fix the place of next year's meeting.
16. Other business, if any.

E. ALEXANDER YOUNG,
Hon. Secretary.

155, Rushey Green,
Catford, London, S.E.6.

RAILWAY FACILITIES.

The concession for cheap tickets is now extended to cover the period from Saturday to Wednesday at Whitsuntide, and those desiring the necessary signed voucher should apply to me without delay.

The tickets will be issued from any station to and from London, at 1⅓ the ordinary single fare, and they may be used by ringing members of our affiliated Guilds (who should apply to me through their general secretary), as well as by the elected and honorary members of the Council itself. The tickets may also be used by wives accompanying their husbands, who also will be welcome to attend the social meetings being arranged on the Monday.

The charge per voucher is 2d. (post free), which should be sent with an addressed envelope to me as under. It is hoped, in view of the future, that at least 200 tickets will be used.

155, Rushey Green, S.E.6. E. Alex. Young,

SOCIAL PROGRAMME.

London being very full, it is difficult to arrange cheap accommodation for any large group of ringers, but at Faulkner's Hotel, Villiers Street, Charing Cross (Gerrard 3051), 15 rooms will be reserved for the Council until the Wednesday before Whitsun (bed and breakfast 8s.). The Council's notices will be exhibited in the lounge, and members in town can sign the roll there. Apply (mentioning Central Council) direct, or through the hon. secretary.

The private launch, 'Sovereign' (accommodation about 65), has been reserved for the Council. The party will leave Westminster on Sunday afternoon at 2.25 sharp, and, proceeding down the river for Greenwich, will heave-to at Bankside for the purpose of hearing St. Paul's bells from the water. The famous Greenwich Naval Hospital will be visited, also Greenwich Park and Observatory, and the party will return at 6.30. Charge, including tea, about 4s. (according to number). Names to be given in to the hon. secretary early.

A personally conducted party, provided sufficient number of names are sent in, will be taken to Kew Gardens on the Bank Holiday afternoon. In the morning, a visit to the dome of St. Paul's, or other place of interest, will be arranged if a sufficient number so desire.

E. ALEX. YOUNG.

RINGING.

The following towers will be open for ringing:—

Sunday, June 5th: St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, 5 p.m.; St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, 5.15 p.m.; St. Giles', Cripplegate, 5.30 p.m.

Tuesday, June 7th: St. Paul's Cathedral, 6 to 7.30 p.m.; St. Clement Danes', Strand, 6 to 7.30 p.m.

On Saturday, June 4th, visitors will be welcomed at St. Mary's Church, Ealing, between 6 and 9 p.m.

Mr. W. E. Garrard will be pleased to welcome visiting ringers to St. Mary Abbots, Kensington, on Whit Sunday, at 10.50 a.m. and 5.45 p.m., and on Whit Monday at 10.30 a.m.

Should any of the Central Council members care to visit one of the rural beauty spots of Kent, there will be ringing at Chislehurst Parish Church on Whit Sunday, at 9.30 a.m. and 5.30 p.m. Trains every half-hour from Charing Cross and London Bridge (ten miles).

SOCIAL MEETINGS.

Saturday, June 4th: King of Denmark, Old Bailey, 7.30 p.m.
Sunday, June 5th: King of Denmark, 7 p.m.
Monday, June 6th: The Coffee Pot, Warwick Lane, 7.30.
Tuesday, June 7th: The Bedford Head, Maiden Lane, Strand, 7.45.

DEVON GUILD.

FUNDS SPENT ON TUITION.

'Steady progress' is the keynote of the report of the general committee of the Devon Guild for 1926. Sunday ringing and weekly practices have been the rule in all branches.

The monthly Cathedral practices have not been so well attended as expected, and the committee urge on all members, who feel themselves capable, to unite and attend regularly.

The South-West Branch are to be commended for their enterprise in the practice of higher methods, and it is hoped that similar practices will be initiated in other branches, thereby carrying into effect the Guild's motto, 'Perseverentia omnia vincit' (perseverance conquers all things). Three new bands were affiliated during the year, making a total of 59, and the support given by honorary members is much appreciated. Forty-six certificates were issued to performing members. Twenty-two peals were rung by affiliated bands, 16 in Grandsire, four in Stedman and two in Plain Bob methods, also six peals in various methods by non-resident members who visited Devon and Cornwall on a tour organised by Mr. W. H. Fussell, of Slough.

The statement of accounts, although showing a diminished balance, is considered to be satisfactory.

The year began with a balance of £51 6s. 9d., and ended with £38 17s. 2d., the receipts being £43 15s. 6d., and the expenditure £56 5s. 1d., no less than £10 having been granted to the Exeter and Mid-Devon branches for the excellent purpose of tuition. Altogether the Guild spent £12 6s. 4d. in travelling expenses for instructors.

WEDDING BELLS.

At the Parish Church, Witham, Essex, on Saturday, April 30th, on the occasion of the wedding of one of the local ringers, Mr. P. Ashcroft, who was married at All Hallows' Church, Tottenham, 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor and 720 Double Court Minor: V. Glass 1, W. Butler 2, W. Mellin 3, A. Evers 4, W. S. Butler 5, E. Bright (conductor) 6. The bells were afterwards 'fired.'

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

ANNUAL FESTIVAL.

Members of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild gathered in considerable numbers at Wimborne on Saturday, May 14th, when the annual festival was held. Service was held in the Minster at mid-day, and was conducted by the Vicar (Rev. A. Keith), the lesson was read by the Earl of Shaftesbury, president of the Guild, and prayers were said by the honorary secretary and treasurer. The organist and choir kindly gave their assistance, and the service was fully choral. The Vicar gave a short address based on the text, 'I will magnify my office' (Romans xi. 13), and referred to the fact that the offertory would be devoted to the Guild's war memorial in Salisbury Cathedral.

Luncheon in the Masonic Hall, at which Lord Shaftesbury presided, was followed by the annual business meeting.

Lord Shaftesbury, in offering the delegates a warm welcome to that corner of the diocese, said it was some time now since the Guild came to Wimborne, but the more often they could come the more they would be pleased. There were several towers in the neighbourhood which were looking forward to a visit from them that afternoon, amongst others that of Wimborne St. Giles, which he hoped they would include in their itinerary and persuade the ringers there to join the Guild and benefit by their methods. He was glad that the Guild was extending its prestige and also its numbers. It was to him a very attractive body, because he thought there was no association of men or women which were more constant in their devotion to their duties, duties of a voluntary character, than the bell ringers of the diocese (applause). It was only the other day in a village in that county the Rector assured him his six ringers had been ringing there without interval or break getting on for fifty years. Lord Shaftesbury confessed that he was a 'rather old rusty bell ringer,' because he was afraid he was rusty for the want of practice. He loved the bells, and he hoped that Guild would always continue to flourish, and they might go on adding towers to their numbers in the diocese, ringing forth peals as they ought to ring and as they looked to them to do (applause).

OFFICERS RE-ELECTED.

The balance sheet for the year indicated that the receipts amounted to £122 5s. 10d., which included a sum brought forward of £60 11s. 4d. Expenses totalled £49 0s. 2d., leaving a balance in hand of £73 5s. 7d. —The statement was adopted.

On the proposition of Captain J. B. M. Ridout (Swanage), those present testified their appreciation of the excellent work the officers had done by re-electing them en bloc—the Master (Rev. R. H. Gundry, Shroton); hon. secretary and treasurer (Rev. F. Ll. Edwards); hon. assistant secretary (Mr. T. Hervey Beams, Bradpole); and the hon. auditors (Rev. A. Allan, Wimborne, and Mr. H. M. Hopkins, Kington Magna).

The Master, in acknowledging the compliment, having incidentally paid tribute to the keen interest taken in the Guild by Lord Shaftesbury, assured the members that he (the speaker) would be delighted to do all he could to help them in the great work they had before them. He was very glad to note that the Guild was going strong, and that there was an increase in the number of towers which had become affiliated. It was especially gratifying to note the increase of younger members, who would doubtless take the place of the older ones when they were past the work. He felt there was a great opportunity for the Guild, and the stronger they could make it the stronger their position would be and the greater good they would be able to do. The work of the Guild first and foremost was the work of the Church, and he felt that members, when carrying out the duties of ringers, were indeed doing that work in a very forcible and practical, and, indeed, a very manly way, putting Christianity before the world in a way which would appeal to all men of the country. He wanted them to feel, he added, that they were doing an excellent and influential work, and work which was going to do a tremendous lot of good not only for themselves but for their country. The work was also good for themselves bodily, as ringing was one of the finest exercises—it trained the mind, eye, and kept the body fit. What could they have better? (applause).

The Rev. F. Ll. Edwards and Mr. Beams also acknowledged their election. The latter wished the individual members would take a little more personal interest in the Guild and not leave quite so much to the officers (hear, hear). The Guild would then grow far more in numbers and greater in influence.

The committee chosen (in addition to the officers of the Guild and of the branches) were the Rev. C. Wood, Mr. J. R. Jerram, and Mr. E. B. Barter.—The Secretary announced that the committee had appointed Mr. Wm. Shute (Buckhorn Weston) instructor to the Guild.—Representatives on the Central Council elected were Mr. Hervey Beams, Rev. C. C. Cox (West Moors), the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards, and Mr. S. Hillier (Devizes).

It was decided that the War Memorial Fund should remain open for another year, and that a final appeal should be made to the towers which had not yet subscribed.

BELL RESTORATIONS.

The Secretary announced the receipt of applications from the towers of Loders, Coombe Bissett, and Market Lavington for grants towards the cost of the restoration of bells. Each one of those cases, he said, was thoroughly deserving, and his proposition that a grant of two guineas to each should be made was agreed to.

It was decided the secretary should forward the Guild's congratulations to Mr. H. Brownlee West, of Devizes, on the occasion of his recent golden wedding.

On the proposition of Mr. C. D. Heginbothom (Devizes), seconded by Mr. A. F. Martin Stewart (Ferndown), a cordial vote of thanks was tendered the Vicar, organist, and other church officials of the Minster, the incumbents of neighbouring towers, and all others who had helped towards the success of the re-union. Mr. Stewart (a past Master) mentioned that the Minster tower could vie with any other in regard to the long service of its ringers. Mr. Alfred Osman not only had rung for 50 years, but his father before him held a similar record, whilst Mr. Edward Tubbs also had seen 50 years' service in the belfry. Unfortunately, they were now unable to ring as often as they would like, but their services had been greatly appreciated. The Guild, too, greatly appreciated the welcome extended them that day by the Minster ringers (of which Mr. F. Hart is captain).

A cordial vote of thanks was also tendered the president for his appreciated presence and help, on the initiative of Mr. Hervey Beams, and Lord Shaftesbury responded. It would be his pleasure always to do all he possibly could for that excellent Guild (applause).

Afterwards there was ringing in several methods at various towers in the district, and as far distant as Fordingbridge, the methods including Grandsire, Stedman (Triples and Caters), Kent Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise Major.

DEVIZES BRANCH.

By the kind permission of the Vicar, a combined practice, in connection with the Devizes Branch of the Salisbury Guild, was held at Erlestoke on Wednesday, May 18th.

Ringers were present from Devizes (including Mr. C. D. Heginbothom, chairman of the branch, and Mr. F. Green, secretary), Bratton, Westbury and Trowbridge, and Mr. H. Sturgess, captain of the local band. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Plain Bob Minor and Kent Treble Bob were rung.

Erlestoke is a pretty village, and was formerly the property of the Watson-Taylor family who lived at Erlestoke House. The church contains six bells, and a brass plate in the porch records: 'This church, consecrated under the name of the Holy Saviour, was built to the glory of God, by the Lady Hannah Charlotte Watson-Taylor, wife of Simon Watson-Taylor, of Erlestoke Park, in memory of her father, George, 8th Marquis of Tweedale. A.D. 1880.'

SIX BELLS FOR GOODRICH, HEREFORDSHIRE.

NEW TREBLE DEDICATED.

A new treble bell was dedicated at the Parish Church, Goodrich, Herefordshire, by the Rev. H. L. Bickley, Vicar, on Saturday, May 14th. The Rev. Preb. H. E. H. Probyn, Rural Dean, and Vicar of Bridstow, and Preb. G. W. Turner, Vicar of Madley and hon. secretary of the Hereford Diocesan Guild, were also present. About 40 ringers from various towers in the Ross district attended the service, which commenced with the hymn 'Ring forth, holy bells,' followed by prayers and Psalm 150. The lesson was read by Preb. Probyn, and after the Magnificat and Creed the dedication took place, followed by a few rounds rung on the bells by the local band.

The address was given by Preb. Turner, who took for his subject 'Bells, and the way in which they are rung.' Mentioning that bell ringing was a subject on which people were ill-informed, Preb. Turner gave a description of how bells were rung, how changes were produced, and said that, owing to the great difficulties of ringing, in his opinion only a small proportion of men became really proficient ringers. He appealed to those parishioners present to take an interest in their ringers, who were not seen at their work like choirmen, but with them contributed equally to the good of the Church.

The service terminated with the singing of the hymn 'Angel voices ever singing' and the Blessing pronounced by the Vicar.

Immediately following, 240 Grandsire Doubles were rung by a selected band. All the ringers present were entertained to tea by the Vicar on the Vicarage lawn, and, following this, the quarterly meeting of the Ross District of the Hereford Guild took place.

The Vicar expressed the regret of all present at the approaching departure of Preb. Probyn for St. Andrew's, Oxford.

Business concluded, ringing was resumed, short touches being the order of the day. All present had an opportunity of ringing in Grandsire and Stedman Doubles and Bob Minor, the Vicar himself ringing the tenor very well to 120 of Doubles.

The work of adding the new treble has been efficiently carried out by Mr. J. E. Groves, of Birmingham, who a few years ago rehung the old five bells in a new iron frame. The 'go' of all the bells was quite satisfactory to the ringers present, and Goodrich now possesses a very musical ring of six bells with a tenor of about 11 cwt.

W. P.

SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE.

'Owen Kay' sends the following: The first five constructional places of 'Superlative' Major produce the lead-head of 145236 plus extra pairs of bells from Minor to Infinity.

The first five constructional places of Shipway's Royal produce the lead-head of 153246 plus extra pairs of bells from Minor to Infinity.

15324678 is not 14523678.

DEATH OF MR. CHARLES DICKENS.

A TRUSTEE OF ST. MARTIN'S GUILD.

Friend after friend departs;
Who hath not lost a friend?—Jas. Montgomery.

As briefly announced in our last issue, Mr. Charles Dickens passed away on Sunday, May 8th, at his residence at Sutton Coldfield. A few months ago Mr. Dickens had a serious illness, only just escaping pneumonia, but he had apparently recovered his usual robust health, and his death from heart failure, which occurred with tragic suddenness in the early hours of the morning, came as a great shock.

Born on March 2nd, 1871, Mr. Dickens, with his brothers Fred and Harry, were members of the Parish Church choir as boys, and curiosity led them to the belfry, where there was at that time a 'stony' band. Their interest being roused, they purchased a set of handbells from Barwell's, and so came in touch with Mr. W. H. Godden (then, as now, employed by Messrs. Barwell). Through this acquaintance they became imbued with a desire to learn change ringing, and eventually Mr. William Kent was engaged as instructor to a band of youngsters, and started them straight away on Stedman, and in a few months they rang their first quarter-peal, which was listened to outside by the late Henry Johnson, Alfred Thomas and Mr. Godden.

Charles Dickens became an excellent ringer, judged by that best of all standards—striking, at which he was an artist. Being a good striker himself, he was impatient with bad or indifferent ones, and nothing annoyed him more than when, meeting for a peal, he would find someone included in the band who was not, in his opinion, a first-class striker.

He had taken part in some noteworthy peals, but had never concerned himself with conducting.

He was also a keen business man, and had built up a good and lucrative business as a painter and decorator. Of late years this business had made such calls upon his time that he had few opportunities for peal ringing, but he had compiled a total of approximately 250, more than 200 of which were rung for the St. Martin's Guild, the rest being rung for the Staffordshire, Worcestershire, Midland Counties and Middlesex County Associations.

Mr. Dickens took part in the 11,111 Stedman Cinques at St. Martin's, Birmingham, on December 26th, 1901, in 8 hrs. 2 mins., also the first peals of Cambridge in the City of Birmingham and Bristol in the county of Warwick. His first peal was one of Stedman Triples at Perry Barr, on July 27th, 1889.

He was elected a trustee of St. Martin's Guild in 1912 on the death of Thomas Reynolds, and held this office till the end.

Of powerful build and genial disposition, he was a well-known figure at Birmingham ringers' gatherings, and will be sadly missed by many.

The funeral took place at Sutton on Thursday of last week, the Rector officiating. After the committal sentences, a course of Grandsire Triples was rung round the grave by A. Walker 1-2, T. Russam 3-4, G. F. Swann 5-6, J. George 7-8. In the evening, a quarter-peal was rung on the Parish Church bells half-muffled, also the 'whole pull and stand' 56 times, denoting the age of deceased.

Chief mourners at the funeral were the widow and son (Maurice), Mr. and Mrs. Fred Dickens, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Dickens and daughter, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Dickens, Mrs. Woodford (London) (brothers and sisters-in-law); Mrs. E. Hall and daughter, Cheltenham (sister and niece); and Mrs. C. E. Hosted.

The bearers were Messrs. T. Hardy, P. Cassidy, A. Jeffs, George Smith, W. Betts, and G. Swann.

Among others present were Mrs. B. Witchell, and Messrs. Simpson, J. Adcock, Frank Lamb, D. Whittaker, J. Stevens, J. and A. Wood, and S. Tirlby.

On Tuesday evening, several touches of Stedman Cinques were rung on the half-muffled bells of St. Martin's, also the 'whole pull and stand' 56 times by the following: P. O. Laflin 1, E. T. Allaway 2, Fred Dickens 3, Albert Walker 4, James George 5, Morris J. Morris 6, F. Price 7, J. Pemberton 8, Ernest Mansell 9, John Neal 10, A. Paddon Smith 11, W. T. Froggatt 12.

And thus the Guild says 'Goodbye' to one who had been a loyal, capable and highly esteemed member for nearly forty years.

Charles Dickens was called away when he was apparently enjoying the best of health, at the comparatively early age of 56, leaving a widow and one son to mourn their loss.

Catch, then, oh catch the transient hour;
Improve each moment as it flies!
Life's a short summer, man a flower;
He dies—alas! how soon he dies!

Samuel Johnson.

A. P. S.

'SPLICED' MINOR.

At Stapleford, Cambs, on Wednesday, May 18th, a spliced 720 of London and Wells Surprise: E. G. Hibbins 1, Miss K. Willers 2, W. A. Tack 3, A. E. Austin 4, R. Howard 5, E. H. Finch (conductor) 6. First 720 of spliced Surprise by all, and rung at the first attempt. Rung as the result of a visit to Chigwell on May 7th of two of the band, who wish to express their appreciation of the welcome received and the trouble taken to explain method splicing.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

PORTSMOUTH DISTRICT'S RECORD MEETING.

A quarterly meeting of the Portsmouth District was held at Hambledon on Saturday last, and although the weather was somewhat uncertain, over 60 members and friends were present from Alverstoke, Bramshott, Fareham, Havant, Hambledon, North Stoneham, Netley, Portsmouth (St. Mary's and St. Thomas'), Swanmore and Wickham, together with the Master and general secretary. The peal of six were kept busy during the afternoon until 4.30, when a very enjoyable service was held in the church, at which the Vicar (Rev. E. Kynaston) officiated. An excellent tea was provided at the George Hotel, and although more attended than was expected, they were all provided for in a short time.

The business meeting, which followed, was presided over by the Vicar, who is an honorary member of the Guild. Two probationers from St. Mary's, Portsmouth, were elected.

It was a very pleasant surprise to the members to see their old district secretary, Mr. E. J. Harding, sen., with them again, after an absence of over two years, and the Master said that it gave him great pleasure to propose that Mr. Harding be re-elected a member.—Mr. F. S. Bayley (Fareham) endorsed the Master's remarks, and the meeting unanimously supported the election.—Mr. Harding replied, saying that he was very pleased to be with them all again, and he hoped he would be spared to be amongst them more in the future.

Petersfield, Curdridge and East Meon were proposed as the venue of the next meeting, and on being put to the vote it was decided to hold it at East Meon on August 20th, due notice of which will appear in 'The Ringing World.'

The question of the Guild certificates was raised by Mr. W. E. Hunt (Hambledon), and the general secretary replied that he was only awaiting the signature of the Bishop, which is usually attached to them, before he distributed them to the district secretaries.

On the motion of Mr. T. Taylor, the meeting extended congratulations to Mr. G. Williams on his 70th birthday, which took place recently.

Votes of thanks were accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells and also to the organist, and before the meeting closed a course of Grandsire Caters was rung in hand by F. A. Burnett 1-2, F. S. Bayley 3-4, G. Williams 5-6, F. W. Rogers 7-8, T. R. Taylor 9-10, at the local ringers' request. The members then returned to the tower for further ringing in various methods, including Cambridge Surprise.

As there was such a large gathering, the Portsmouth contingent, who had made the journey by road, together with Messrs. Williams, Pullinger, Bayley and Linter, visited Soberton, where ready permission was given to ring, and an enjoyable hour was spent in methods from Stedman, Double Norwich, Cambridge and Bristol Surprise Major.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

NORTHERN BRANCH AT SLEAFORD.

For the first time since the formation of the new district for Sleaford, the annual meeting of the Northern Branch was held at that place on Saturday, May 14th. The hearty welcome extended by the members of that tower, and the excellent arrangements made for the comfort of the visitors, could not otherwise than impress gratitude and pleasure. Amongst the towers represented were the following: Bassingham, Blankney, Branston, Ewerby, Gainsborough, Hale Magna, Heckington, Lea, Lincoln, Ruskington, Timberland, and Washingborough, in addition to the local company. Members of the Guild were also present from Pinchbeck, Spalding, and Surfleet of the Elloe Deaneries Branch, and Folkingham and Hough-on-the-Hill of the Southern Branch. An apology for absence was announced on behalf of Messrs. H. I. Bingay and C. W. Taylor, Grimsby. The bells of St. Denys's, a nice ring of eight, were available, and were kept going in various methods during the afternoon and evening. Evensong was held in the side chapel, and very well attended. The Vicar of Sleaford (Rev. W. Norton Howe) officiated, and Mr. R. Scott (secretary of the Sleaford District) presided at the organ. A most attractive address was delivered by the Rev. H. Law James (Guild Ringing Master).

Subsequently, between eighty and ninety members and friends adjourned to the Church Hall, where they partook of an excellent tea.

The business meeting followed, at which Mr. F. F. Linley (Northern Branch president) took the chair, being supported by the Rev. R. Bond (president of the Lincoln District) and members of the committee. The whole of the officers were re-elected. Six new honorary and thirteen performing members were elected.

On the recommendation of the committee, Mr. J. A. Freeman, proposed and Mr. E. Dawber seconded, that a grant of £3 3s. be made from the Northern Branch funds towards the rehanging of Heckington bells.—On being put to the meeting this was carried.—A collection for the same purpose was taken at the service and tea tables, which realised the sum of £1 17s. 3d., thus bringing the amount to £5 0s. 3d.

In response to a desire from the members present, the president gave an account of the progress being made respecting the augmentation of the Cathedral bells, which proved most satisfactory.

Votes of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, the Rev. H. Law James for his address, Mr. R. Scott for presiding at the organ and making the necessary arrangements, the caterers and Mr. Linley concluded the business.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

BRENTWOOD.—At the Church of St. Thomas the Martyr, on May 22nd, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,280 changes) in 51 mins.: R. Heazel 1, J. C. Furlong 2, A. Rainbird 3, J. W. Leggett 4, F. G. Ringe 5, E. W. Furbank 6, H. Turner (conductor) 7, W. D. Leggett 8. First quarter-peal of Major by the ringers of 2nd and 4th.

GUILDFORD.—At S. Nicolas' Church, for evensong, on Sunday, April 24th, 1,295 Grandsire Caters: H. Mason 1, Mrs. Hazelden 2, F. Radford 3, E. A. Etheridge 4, C. Hazelden 5, E. Radden 6, W. Freeman 7, G. Tomsett 8, S. Radford (conductor) 9, G. Gibbs 10.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

The annual meeting of the North Berkshire Branch was held at Blewbury on Saturday, May 21st. By 3 p.m. there was a strong muster of ringers, and some well-struck touches were rung for the service, which was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. J. Smith, and the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, M.C., Master of the Guild, who gave the address. After service, about 60 members and friends were very kindly entertained to tea in the schoolroom by the ladies and churchwardens.

At the business meeting which followed, the secretary and treasurer's report showed the branch to be in a flourishing condition, both as regards members and funds, though during the year no less than £8 was spent in grants towards restorations and repairs of peals.

It was decided to hold next meeting at Steventon in September.

LADIES' GUILD.

A quarterly meeting of the Southern District was held at St. Peter's, Staines, on Saturday last, ringers attending from Aldershot, Ash, Brixton, Cranleigh, Enfield, Feltham, Guildford, Hounslow, Hillingdon, Norwood, Uxbridge, Seale and the local towers.

Various touches (including two by a band of ladies) were rung, and then the Guild service was conducted by the Vicar (Rev. F. Marriott).

The members were afterwards entertained by the Vicar to a splendid tea.

At the business meeting, with Miss E. K. Parker in the chair, Miss Hodgson, of Staines, and Miss Bailey, of Ash, were elected members, and Leatherhead chosen for the next quarterly meeting in September.

St. Mary's Church was then visited, and the bells kept going until members were obliged to catch trains, etc.

ANOTHER RING OF SIX FOR HANTS.

On Easter Sunday, during morning service, a new treble bell at the Church of SS. Peter and Paul, King's Somborne, Hants, was dedicated by the Vicar.

The old ring of five bells have been away to the Croydon Foundry to be retuned and the new treble added by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, who have made a good splice and carried out the job in their usual excellent style, and King's Somborne now possesses a handy ring of six with a tenor of 12½ cwt.

A special service was held in the evening, the preacher being the Bishop of Southampton. A service touch of 720 Bob Minor was rung by the following members of the Winchester Diocesan Guild: H. C. Nettle 1, G. Pullinger 2, H. Cook 3, G. Noice 4, A. Goulding 5, W. Andrews (conductor) 6.

Prior to the service, the ringers were very kindly entertained to tea by Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Smith. The Vicar presided, and mentioned that although a brass tablet in the church stated that the new treble bell was given by public subscription, it was due mainly to the efforts of Mr. Smith that it was accomplished.

The bells were open for ringing on Easter Monday, and Mr. C. Johnston kindly travelled all the way from Coventry in order to be present, and members of the Guild attended from Winchester Cathedral and Stockbridge, good use being made of the bells.

Messrs. Gillett and Johnston have in hand the recasting of the six bells at Ropley, Hants, which are to be dedicated by the Bishop of Winchester on May 4th.

NOTICES.

SHEFFIELD DISTRICT AND OLD EAST DERBYSHIRE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.—Owing to illness at Bolsover the June 4 meeting will, if arrangements can be made, be held at Cresswell (buses Clowne). Members may consider the fixture transferred to Cresswell unless they hear from me to the contrary. There are no cafes at Cresswell, so will intending visitors please advise me at the earliest possible date so that arrangements for tea can, if at all possible, be made with the Rector?—Colin Harrison, Hon. Sec., 62, Roach Road, Sheffield.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry branch. — Owing to unforeseen circumstances the meeting arranged for Norton Saturday, June 4th, is unavoidably cancelled.—W. C. Moore. Fircroft, Braunston Road, Daventry.

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, WOKING.

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

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Andrew's, Holborn, on June 2nd and 30th, St. Pauls Cathedral on the 7th (6 to 7.30 p.m.), St. Magnus' on the 9th and 23rd, "'The Coffee Pot,' Warwick Lane, on the 14th (8 p.m.), Southwark Cathedral on the 21st, 'St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 28th, at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec.,' Frodingham,' 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

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.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The May meeting of the Guild will be held at Warwick on Saturday, May 28th. The bells of St. Mary's (10) and St. Nicolas' (8) will be available for ringing from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tea has been arranged for 5 p.m. at the Dale Temperance Hotel, near St. Mary's. All ringers and friends welcome.—J. A. Fenton, Gen. Hon. Sec., 42, Bennett Street, Rugby.

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 3.30 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.—A. D. Stone, 16, Belgrave Street, Brighton.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Meeting at Haughley, on Saturday, May 28th. Bells (5) available at 2.30, and at Wetherden (5), at Stowmarket (8) from 6 p.m. Tea on Haughley Vicarage Lawn at 4.30 p.m., 9d. each to all sending names by May 24th to Mr. J. W. Nunn, Haughley, nr. Stowmarket.

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).—R. E. P. Gorringe, Manston Rectory, Sturminster Newton, Dorset.

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.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch. —The bells of Garston Parish Church will be reopened on Saturday, May 28th. Bells ready at 3. Service at 5.30. A good attendance is requested.—Walter Hughes, Hon. Sec.

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 District.—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.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Flixton on Saturday, May 28th. Bells ready 3.30. Meeting at 7 o'clock. A good attendance is requested. — J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Peterborough Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at Alwalton on Saturday, May 28th. Usual arrangements. —W. H. Waldron, Hon. Sec., 137, Scotney Street, Peterborough.

WINCHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Isle of Wight District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Brading, I.W., on Saturday, May 28th. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5.15 p.m., in the Parish Hall, followed by business meeting.—B. J. Snow, Hon. Dis. Sec., 2, Collingwood, Daniel Street, Ryde, I.W.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Presteigne District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Lyonshall on Saturday, May 28th. Bells (6) available 4 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea 5.45. Business meeting after. — Jabez Preece, Hon. Dis. Sec., Lea Lodge, Staunton-on-Arrow, Pembridge, Herefordshire.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bicester branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Launton on Saturday, May 28th. Service 3.30 p.m. Preacher, Rev. Canon Coleridge, R.D. Bells (6), Bicester (8) available.—E. A. Clifton, Hon. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next ringing practice has been arranged at White Waltham (6 bells) on Saturday, May 28th, at 6 p.m.—A. D. Barker, Branch Sec. and Treas.

EALING PARISH CHURCH.—The dedication of St. Mary's bells will take place on Sunday, May 29th, at 3.15, by the Rt. Rev. the Archdeacon of Middlesex, D.D. All ringers and friends heartily welcomed to the service. The bells will be opened for ringing on Saturday evening from 6 to 9 p.m. on June 4th. Any members of the Central Council requiring a pull will be welcomed Ealing way. Likewise, all ringers. — J. H. Hunnisett and W. H. Hollier.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Practice at St. John's, Wilton Road, Victoria, Monday, May 30th, at 7.30. Meetings for June: St. Clement Danes', Sunday, the 5th, at 10 a.m., and Monday, the 20th, at 7.30; St. Mary's, Lambeth, Tuesday, the 14th, at 8.—A. H. Keighley, Gen. Sec., 19, Pepys Road, S.E.14.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch.—The annual festival of the above branch will be held at Bletchley on Saturday, June 4th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. All those intending to be present kindly notify me in good time. Visitors welcomed. — Walter Scar, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Rainford Parish Church on Saturday, June 4th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. A good attendance requested. — James Grounds, Sec., 8, School Lane, Standish.

NOTTINGHAM SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS (Established 1672).—A meeting of the above will be held at Sutton-in-Ashfield on Saturday, June 4th. Tower open 3 p.m. Peal tablet unveiling. Tea arranged for those only who advise Mr. W. Allen, 36, Church Street, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts, not later than June 2nd. All ringers welcome.—F. Blood, Hon. Sec.

NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Leek on Saturday, June 4th. Tea at 5.30 p.m. Will all who intend to be present please inform Mr. E. A. Ridgway, 11, Shirley Street, Leek, by June 1st.—C. S. Ryles, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—A meeting will be held at Moorside on Saturday, June 4th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—William Horan, Branch Sec., 2, Greenhirst Hey, Todmorden.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — The annual meeting will be held at Northampton on Whit Monday, June 6th. Committee meeting in Holy Sepulchre's Institute at 11 a.m. Service in the Church of the Holy Sepulchre at 12 noon. Luncheon, followed by the business meeting, at the Plough Hotel, Bridge Street, at 1 p.m. Application for lunch tickets, with remittance (2s. 6d.), must be made to Mr. T. Tebbutt, 53, Louise Road, Northampton, on or before Monday, May 30th. Towers available: Kingsthorpe (6) from 10 to 11.30 a.m., St. Giles' (10), All Saints' (8), St. Edmund's (8) and Holy Sepulchre (8) from 10 a.m. throughout the day.—R. G. Black, Gen. Sec., Geddington, Kettering.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Newton Abbot on Whit Monday, June 6th. Service in St. Leonard's Chapel, at 12.15 p.m. Dinner in Ambulance Hall, East Street, at 1.0 followed by meeting. Highweek, Wolborough and St. Leonard's towers open for ringing.—T. Laver, Gen. Sec., 21, Cross Park, Heavitree, Exeter.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—The 48th annual meeting will be held at Chelmsford on Whit Monday, June 6th. 11.30 a.m.: Service at the Cathedral, with address by the Rev. Canon F. C. Macdonald, of Purleigh. 12.15 p.m.: Meeting in Cathedral Hall. 1.30 p.m.: Lunch at Hicks' Restaurant, High Street, members 2s. each: Towers open for ringing during day: Cathedral (12), Great Baddow (8), Writtle (8), Great Waltham (8), Widford (8), Springfield (6), Galleywood (8), Broomfield (6), Boreham (8). No ringing permitted during service and meeting. It is most important that notice of intention to be present should be sent to the hon. secretary not later than first post previous Tuesday, May 31st.—Chas. H. Howard, Master; F. J. Pitstow, General Sec. and Treas., 45, High Street, Saffron Walden.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Thirsk on Whit Monday, June 6th. Bells (8) available all day. Committee meeting 11.30 a.m. at the Church. Service in the Church at 12 o'clock. The address will be given by the Vicar of Thirsk. Dinner will be provided at the Golden Lion Hotel. Those intending to be at dinner please notify the secretary not later than June 1st.—T. Metcalfe, Hon. Sec., 26, High Street, North Ormesby, Middlesbrough.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held on Whit-Monday, June 6th Ringing at Stow-on-the-Wold from 12 noon. Lunch (3/6) may be had at the Unicorn Hotel. Ringing at Bourton-on-the-Water. Service 3 p.m. Business meeting and tea at Lansdown. Please notify me for tea.—Edgar Guise, Gen. Hon. Sec., 39, Tankard's Close, St. Michael's Hill, Bristol.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The 41st annual meeting will be held at Hereford on Whit Monday, June 6th. 11.45: Unveiling peal tablet in Cathedral Tower. Service in the Cathedral 12.15. Preacher, Rev. G. H. Jobling, Rector of Kingsland. Dinner at Boothe Hall Hotel (2s. 6d.) 1 p.m. Mr. C. Edwards (Master) in the chair. Those intending to be present at the dinner should write to me for tickets of admission by June 1st.—Rev. Preb. G. W. Turner, Hon. Sec., Madley Vicarage, Hereford.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The Whit Monday meeting will be held at Morpeth, on June 6th. The Watch Tower bells are open all day. Committee meeting at noon and Dinner (2/6 to members, 3/- to non-members) at 1 o'clock, at the Earl Grey Hotel, the Mayor of Morpeth, will welcome our members at the tower and at the dinner. Those coming to dinner please notify me by first post on June 1st.—E. Ferry, 16, Gordon Avenue, Gosforth.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Ipswich District. — A meeting will be held at Sproughton on Saturday, June 11th. Bells at Bramford (6) also available during the afternoon and evening. Tea, 9d., at 4.45, to those sending their names by June 8th. Every ringer welcomed.—G. E. Symonds, Dis. Sec., 28, Chevallier Road, Ipswich.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Archdeaconry of Ely.—A district meeting will be held at Stapleford on Saturday, June 11th. Bells (6) afternoon and evening. Short service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting 5 p.m.—F. Warrington, Long Stanton, Cambs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. —The next ringing meeting will be held at Clitheroe on Saturday, June 11th. Bells available from 3 p.m.—J. Watson, 48, Palmer Street, Blackburn.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Brindle Parish Church on Saturday, June 11th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. It is essential that those requiring tea should notify Mr. W. Sharples, Thorpe Green, Brindle, on or before Tuesday, June 7th.—Fred Rigby, Hon. Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD. — A quarterly meeting will be held at All Saints', Sedgley, on Saturday, June 11th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service in church at 4.30. A tea will be provided, for which a small charge may be made.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec., 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

ST. CLEMENT YOUTHS. — St. Clement Danes', Strand, W.C.—Annual outing will take place on Saturday, June 18th, at Brighton. Will members desiring to attend notify the hon. secretary by Wednesday, June 8th, to enable arrangements for reduced fares to be completed? — F. W. H. Sergison, York House, Watford Road, Wembley. Telephone: Wembley 1414.

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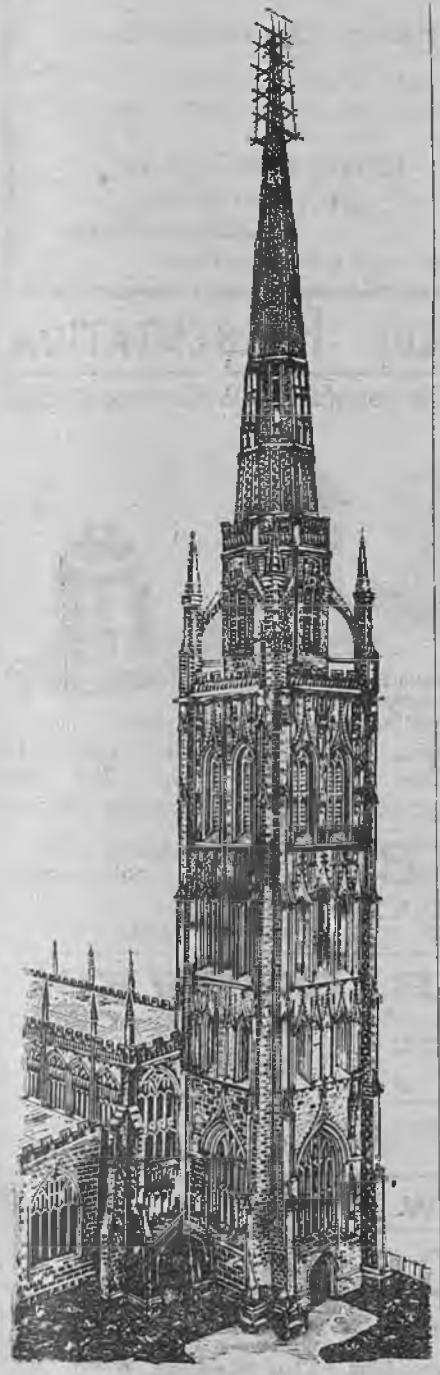
REDBOURN.—On Friday, May 13th, at St. Mary's Church, 1,259 Grandsire Doubles in 46 mins.: W. Lee 1, J. Hobbs 2, A. V. Good 3, G. Daniells 4, J. Stopp (conductor) 5, H. Hucklesby 6. There were 99 calls made, the 1,259 changes being made up as follows: 240 on Morris' plan, three different 240's on Pitman's, one 120 each with the 3rd and 5th observation, and 59 changes also on Morris' plan.

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