THE RINGING WORLD

No. 931. Vol. XXIV. FRIDAY, JANUARY 25th, 1929. [Registered at the G.P.O. for transmission as a newspaper.] Price 3d.

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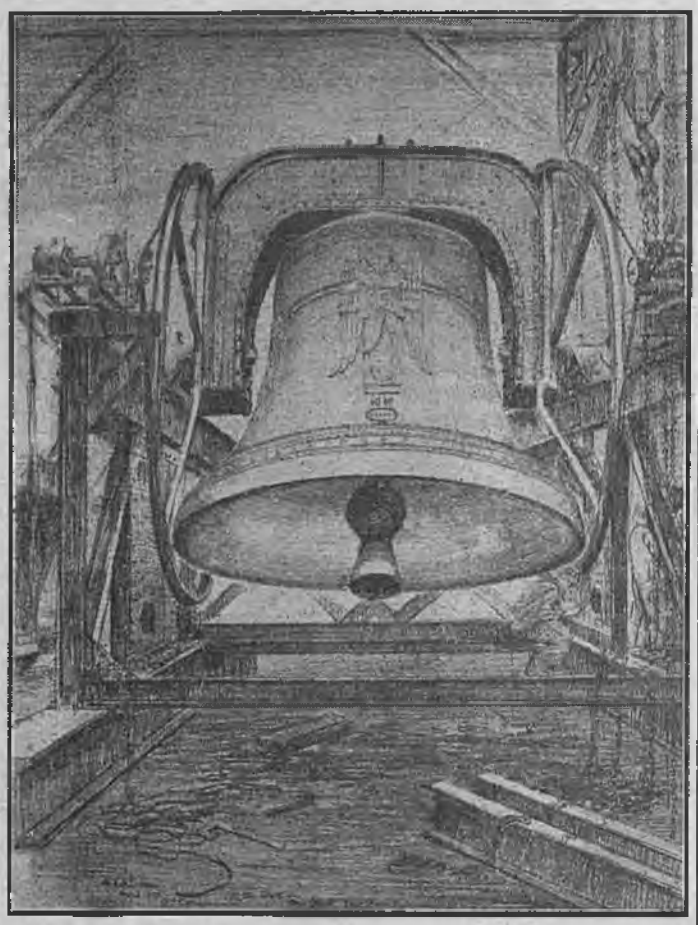

THE 18¼ TON RINGING BELL,
the Bourdon of the Carillon of 64 Bells, about to be installed at RIVERSIDE CHURCH, NEW YORK, U.S.A.

THE EXAMPLE OF BRISTOL.

A concrete example in the Ringing Exercise of the old adage that unity is strength is to be found in Bristol, where, in a city with more rings of bells than any other place in the world, in proportion to its size, the ringers have since the war been brought together in a brotherhood of common aims and purpose by a step which in its inspiration was a stroke of genius. The inauguration of the Bristol United Guilds brought together in one local body all the different companies in the city to develop the fraternal side of ringing and its unqualified success can be measured by its achievements. The annual dinner is, of course, the outstanding event each year, and this alone would be ample justification for the existence of the organisation. These gatherings have grown to be among the most important social functions in the Exercise, and this importance is increasing each year, as shown by the widening interest which is evoked.

But Bristol United Guilds have done much more than stage an annual dinner. In many ways they have encouraged the spirit of brotherhood among the bands in Bristol, and they have done some practical work in other directions. To their initiative is due the first 'Ringers' Directory,' which made its appearance last year and which, as time goes on, will become more and more complete in its information and correspondingly valuable to the Exercise. It was like most new things in connection with the Exercise, a venture of faith, and Bristol United Guilds, by undertaking the task, showed not only enterprise, but a desire to render useful service to ringers in general. Another matter in which the Guilds achieved success was in the manner in which they shouldered and so admirably discharged all the responsibilities entailed in the celebration of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association's jubilee festival last year; and now, to round off an excellent piece of work, they have provided the association with a considerable portion of the funds required to defray the expenses. It is a crowning gesture which provides, if it were needed, proof of the spirit which permeates the activities of the United Guilds—a desire to render service.

Opportunities such as have presented themselves to the ringers of Bristol and which they have so readily seized, do not occur everywhere, but there are centres in which an organisation with the objects of the Bristol United Guilds might very usefully be started. Unfortunately, it is sometimes the case that personal grievances or petty friction keeps neighbouring bands of ringers apart, with the result that ringing inevitably suffers because of divided forces. A common meeting ground, providing

(Continued on page 50.)

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openings for common service, is the best antidote, and such societies as the Bristol United Guilds form the medium. A spread of such organisations could only be to the advantage of the Exercise, because the promotion of the social atmosphere strengthens and extends the bond of brotherhood which is a characteristic of the ringing fraternity.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 19, 1929, in Four Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. SAVIOUR, SOUTHWARK,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 59 cwt.

WILLIAM J. NUDDS	...Treble	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN	7
GEORGE H. CROSS	2	JAMES E. DAVIS	8
GEORGE R. PYE	3	LEWIS W. WIFFEN	9
CHARLES T. COLES	4	*HAROLD W. CLARK	10
ALBERT W. COLES	5	REUBEN SANDERS	11
EDWARD P. DUFFIELD	6	WILLIAM PYE	...Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

* First peal in the method.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

NORTHAMPTON.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHAMPTON BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, January 9, 1929, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS'. Tenor 18 cwt.

WILLIAM ATTERBURY	...Treble	WILLIAM ROGERS	5
FRED HOPPER	2	THOMAS LAW	6
FRED WILFORD	3	TOM TEBBUTT	7
SIDNEY J. LAWRENCE	4	ALFRED MONK	...Tenor

Conducted by TOM TEBBUTT.

Rung to celebrate the 80th and 50 birthdays respectively of the Rev. E. C. Channer and Mr. F. Hopper, both late presidents of the late Central Northants Association.

HEENE, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, January 9, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FIVE-PART. Tenor 10¼ cwt.

HORACE TULETT	...Treble	EDMUND H. LINDUP	5
ARTHUR G. ARNELL	2	*HARRY COLLEY	6
ALFRED W. GROVES	3	WILLIAM HILLMAN	7
GEORGE J. NORRIS	4	†FREDERICK MERTEN	...Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM HILLMAN.

* First peal of Stedman. † First peal.

DAYBROOK, NOTTINGHAMSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 12, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 10½ cwt. in G.

*F. CLAUDE ALVEY	...Treble	THOMAS H. SNOOK	5
*PERCY E. BALL	2	J. ALFRED BARRETT	6
*RICHARD ELSON	3	*WILLIAM STANNER	7
WILLIAM H. JOHNSON, V.C.	4	*JAMES MELLORS	...Tenor

Conducted by J. A. BARRETT.

* First peal. First peal on the bells by an entirely local band, all of whom are Sunday service ringers. Rung to celebrate the coming of age of Miss Marjorie E. Elson, a member of the above band, daughter of the third ringer, who is Ringing Master and churchwarden. Ringers of the 5th and tenor were made members of the association before starting for the peal.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(East Berks & South Bucks Branch.)
On Saturday, January 12, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Heywood's Transposition of Thurstans' Four-part.
Tenor 12 cwt. (approx.) in F sharp.

Mrs. Arthur D. Barker	*Treble*	Roland Biggs	5
Miss Winifred F. Bolt	2	William L. Gutteridge	6
Arthur D. Barker	3	F. Donald Boreham	7
*Harry Howard	4	Frank West	*Tenor*

Conducted by Arthur D. Barker.
* First peal in the method.

EARLSHEATON, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 12, 1929, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,
At the Church of St. Peter,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt.

Walter Idle	*Treble*	*Maurice Hodgson	5
*Percy Byram	2	Fred Hodgson	6
Harry Armitage	3	William B. Frith	7
Ernest B. Betts	4	Herbert Dransfield	*Tenor*

Composed by G. H. Hardy. Conducted by F. Hodgson.
* First peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. W. Idle.

WEST WYCOMBE, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(East Berks & South Bucks Branch.)
On Sunday, January 13, 1929, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
At the Church of St. Lawrence,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Johnson's Transposition of Middleton's. Tenor 16 cwt.

William H. Fletcher	*Treble*	*Leonard Stilwell	5
Phyllis M. Moss	2	William Henley	6
William H. Fussell	3	Harry Wingrove	7
*Jesse W. Harrison	4	Cecil C. Mayne	*Tenor*

Conducted by C. C. Mayne.
* First peal of Surprise Major inside. Rung on the twelfth anniversary of the wedding of the ringer of the 7th, and as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 2nd.

PULHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORFOLK GUILD.
On Tuesday, January 15, 1929, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin,
A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt.

Frederick Borrett	*Treble*	*William Bolwell	5
Ernest Whiting	2	Frederick Roope	6
Charles Baker	3	William Steggall	7
Albert Harrison	4	Townsend Adcock	*Tenor*

Composed by J. Platt. Conducted by F. Borrett.
* First peal in method.

BRIDGEND, GLAMORGANSHIRE.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, January 16, 1929, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
At the Church of St. Illtyd,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 16 cwt.

*William H. Evans	*Treble*	Charles H. Perry	5
Benjamin J. Toby	2	Alfred W. Wright	6
John W. Jones	3	David R. James	7
Ernest Stitch	4	Bert Weaver	*Tenor*

Composed by Rev. E. B. James. Conducted by Charles H. Perry
* First peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Richard Evans on his 65th birthday. He has been a ringer at the above church for over 40 years, but was unable to stand in the peal owing to ill-health. It was also a birthday compliment to the sister of the ringer of the 4th.

TUNSTALL, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 19, 1929, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
At the Parish Church of St. John,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

William Wood	*Treble*	William Wenban	5
William Spice, jun.	2	William Walker	6
William Spice, sen.	3	William Nye	[illegible]
*William Unwin	4	William Haigh	*Tenor*

Composed by William Sottanstall.
Conducted by William Haigh.
* First in the method, and rung on the 20th anniversary of his wedding. The Williams thank, and appreciate the kindness of, Mrs W. Spice, sen., for her usual hospitality after the peal.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 19, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes.
At the Bell Foundry Campanile,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES

Charles H. Webb	*Treble*	E. Harry Stoneley	5
Ernest Morris	2	*Alfred Ballard	[illegible]
James Hutchby	3	Percy Harrison	7
J. Frederick Milner	4	Redvers F. Elkington	*Tenor*

Composed by G. Lindoff. Conducted by Redvers F. Elkington
* First 'touch' in the method.

CHILHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.
On Saturday, January 19, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Pitstow's Variation of Thurstans'. Tenor 18¾ cwt.

Fred G. Brett	*Treble*	Edwin G. Buesden	5
*Fred R. Weller	2	Charles Franklin	6
Charles W. Player	3	Harry Parkes	7
Kennett Pattenden	4	Percy Page	*Tenor*

Conducted by Edwin G. Buesden.
* Proposed a member of the Guild previous to starting.

BOLSOVER, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
(Sheffield District Society.)
On Saturday, January 19, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes.
At the Parish Church,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor 14¾ cwt.

Harry Prout	*Treble*	Charles Mason	5
Jesse J. Moss	2	Harold Kent	6
Thomas Riley	3	Edward Robbins	7
John H. Brothwell	4	John Flint	*Tenor*

Composed by Arthur Craven. Conducted by John Flint.

EAST GRINSTEAD, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION
AND EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.
On Saturday, January 19, 1929, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,
At the Church of St. Swithun,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Parker's Six-part. Tenor 23¾ cwt.

*Herbert D. Whyte	*Treble*	Ernest J. Ladd	5
George Lambert	2	Joseph Wren	6
†Richard D. Divall	3	Albert E. Edwards	7
Frederick J. Lambert, jun.	4	George S. Diplock	*Tenor*

Conducted by Albert E. Edwards.
* First peal. † First peal of Grandsire. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. J. Wren. The ringers were kindly entertained to tea by Mr. and Mrs. J. Wren.

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SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

THURLASTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, December 29, 1928, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 6000 CHANGES;
Being eight different extents and 240.

*B. LINNETT ... ...*Treble*	G. WRIGHT, JUN. 4
G. HURD 2	J. BARFIELD 5
G. WRIGHT 3	J. TAYLOR ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. TAYLOR.

* First peal.

HEVER, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 12, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Rev. E. B. James' Arrangement. Tenor 8½ cwt.

GEORGE EDWARDS ... ...*Treble*	WILLIAM D. ASHDOWN ... 4
GEORGE FULLER 2	JAMES BASSETT 5
LEONARD A. TIDY 3	ALBERT RELFE ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALBERT RELFE.

TEMPSFORD, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 12, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH.
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Kent, and Oxford Treble Bob, Double Court, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

HERBERT FIELDS... ... ...*Treble*	HERBERT SHERMAN 4
MISS CATHERINE FIELDS ... 2	PEARL INSKIP 5
SIDNEY G. COLEMAN 3	THOMAS BARTRAM ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by PEARL INSKIP.

MARSTON BIGGOTT, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, January 13, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Forty-two six-scores, ten different callings. Tenor 7 cwt.

*LEONARD WILLMOTT... ...*Treble*	*WILLIAM H. MILLS 4
WILLIAM C. SHUTE 2	FRANK D. RICKARDS 5
EDWARD G. L. COWARD ... 3	*EDWARD M. CURTIS ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by F. D. RICKARDS.

* First peal.

MARDEN, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sunday, January 13, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 21 Spliced 240's. Tenor 16¾ cwt.

ROLAND F. W. KINSEY ...*Treble*	*FRANCIS J. WILLIAMS ... 4
WILLIAM G. T. BARRETT ... 2	JAMES P. HYETT 5
THOMAS W. ROWLEY 3	HAROLD H. W. KINSEY ...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. P. HYETT.

* Re-elected a member before starting.

GRAFTON UNDERWOOD, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
(KETTERING BRANCH.)
On Saturday, January 19, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being eight six-score each of Plain Bob, and St. Simon's, four each of Canterbury, New Doubles, Old Doubles, and Chase, and ten of Grandsire. Tenor 7 cwt. 1 qr.

FREDERICK RANDALL ... ...*Treble*	SIDNEY MUNTON 3
GEORGE BROWN 2	RONALD COLEMAN 4

REGINALD WILLIAMSON ...*Tenor*

Conducted by REGINALD WILLIAMSON.

Rung by kind permission of the churchwardens. The band take this opportunity of thanking Mr. and Mrs. Walpole for kindly entertaining them to tea after the peal.

LONGBOROUGH, GLOS.
THE FOUR SHIRES GUILD
On Wednesday, January 16, 1929, in Two Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH.
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 six-scores, with ten different callings.

P. S. E. ASTON ... ...*Treble*	N. BRYAN 4
W. COLEMAN 2	W. LARGE 5
F. JONES 3	N. SHILLAM ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by W. LARGE.

HANLEY CASTLE, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(WESTERN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, January 19, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GABRIEL,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of York, London and Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford and Double Bob.
Tenor 10½ cwt.

FRANK LAWRENCE ... ...*Treble*	WILLIAM RANFORD 4
WILLIAM NIBLETT 2	CYRIL TANSELL 5
SIDNEY T. HOLT 3	CHARLES CAMM ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

SILVERDALE, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(FURNESS AND LAKE DISTRICT BRANCH.)
On Saturday, January 19, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two 720's each of Duke of York and Kent and one each of Violet, Woodbine and Oxford.

*WALTER HOWSLEY ... ...*Treble*	WILFRED BOLTON 4
EDWIN JENNINGS 2	JOSEPH W. HAYTON 5
JOHN HOLME 3	THOMAS F. TAYLOR ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. W. HAYTON.

* First peal, and elected a member before starting. First peal as conductor. The 2nd ringer belongs to Kendal, the rest to Silverdale.

CHEDDINGTON, BUCKS.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 19, 1929, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different extents. Tenor 13 cwt.

*HENRY B. WHITNEY ... ...*Treble*	*FREDERICK J. PLUMMER ... 4
*EDWARD B. CHAPPELL ... 2	ARTHUR E. SHARMAN ... 5
FREDERICK VICKERS 3	AUGUSTIN V. GOOD ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by A. V. GOOD.

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

SUTTON, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, January 19, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 21 Spliced 240's. Tenor 11 cwt.

*WILLIAM E. KINSEY ... ...*Treble*	FRANCIS J. WILLIAMS... ... 4
WILLIAM G. T. BARRETT 2	THOMAS W. ROWLEY 5
JAMES P. HYETT 3	HAROLD H. W. KISEY ...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. P. HYETT.

* First peal away from the tenor. Re-elected a member before starting.

CLUTTON, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 19, 1929, in Two Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. AUGUSTINE,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
42 six-scores, ten callings.

CHARLES FIELD ... ...*Treble*	ERNEST BATH 4
WILLIAM BALCH 2	HAROLD E. BLACKER ... 5
JEFFREY TOSSELL 3	*WILLIAM CROKER ... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by H. E. BLACKER.

* First peal.

DENTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(STOCKPORT BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 19, 1929, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANNE,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Duke of Norfolk, College Exercise, Norbury, Sandal, London Scholars', Kingston and Oxford. Tenor 15 cwt.

ALFRED BARNES	*Treble*	WILFRID WILDE	4
TOM WILDE	2	JAMES FERNLEY, SEN.... ...	5
HARRY BARDSLEY	3	WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT	*Tenor*

Conducted by JAMES FERNLEY, SEN.

Rung muffled as a tribute to the memory of the late Mr. Joseph Heckingbottom, a member of the local band from 1905 to 1924.

HORSMONDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 19, 1929, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, College Single, Oxford Bob, Canterbury Pleasure, and Plain Bob. Tenor 19¾ cwt.

REGINALD E. LAMBERT ...	*Treble*	*FREDERICK J. LAMBERT, SEN.	4
GEORGE BURT	2	FRANK PATTENDEN	5
*ALAN BROMLEY	3	ROBERT T. LAMBERT	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ROBERT T. LAMBERT.

* First in seven methods on an inside bell. First peal in seven methods as conductor. Rung as a birthday compliment to Miss V. Lambert, daughter of the ringer of the 4th.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

PROPOSED CHANGE OF NAME.

The 61st quarterly meeting of the Guild was held at Chilvers Coton on Saturday, January 19th. The bells of the Parish Church were used until 4.30, when the Guild's service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. J. A. B. Davies. This was the first time the Guild had held a meeting here since the induction of the Vicar, and he cordially welcomed the members. Mr. H. Argyle, a ringing member of Nuneaton, read the lesson, and Mr. J. H. White kindly officiated at the organ.

At the business meeting, which followed tea in the Schoolrooms, the Vicar was voted to the chair, in the absence of the president. Meetings for February and March will be held at Allesley and Bedworth.

Mr. F. W. Perrens gave notice of motion, supported by Mr. O. J. Hunt, to come up at the annual meeting in April, that the name of the Guild be changed to 'The Coventry Diocesan Guild.'

The Secretary informed the members that the annual report would be ready for distribution at the annual meeting.

Mr. H. Argyle proposed that the regret of the Guild should be recorded of the recent death of a late president, the Rev. H. A. C. Back, who held that office for ten years.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar, organist, and the ladies of the parish brought the meeting to a close.

During the day touches and courses in most Plain and Surprise methods were rung.

DEATH OF MR. J. EVINSON.

LOSS TO SHEFFIELD RINGING CIRCLES.

The interment of the late Mr. James Evinson, of Clarence Street, Sheffield, took place on Saturday week, at the City Road Cemetery, and in addition to the family was attended by numerous workmates and friends. The deceased, who was of a genial disposition, was well known over a wide area as a campanologist, being a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths, the Yorkshire Association, and the Sheffield and District Societies. He had taken part in many peals on eight, ten, and twelve bells in various methods and towers in different parts of the country.

Formerly a member of the St. John's, Ranmoor, and the Cathedral companies, he had been connected with St. Marie's, Norfolk Row, since the Armistice, that company having had losses caused by the war.

Being a skilful exponent on the handbells, his services were always given in aid of charitable objects and gatherings. He was, unfortunately, attacked by illness about three months ago, and was admitted to the Royal Hospital, where he died on January 8th.

As is the custom on such occasions, a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells at the graveside by his old colleagues.

Wreaths from the staff and workpeople of Messrs. W. Batt and Co., Sycamore Street, where the deceased had worked many years, and various other sources, testified to the esteem in which he was held, and ringing in various methods took place at St. Marie's with the bells muffled.

DEATH OF A WELL-KNOWN KETTERING RINGER.

MR. F. W. SAWFOOT'S SUDDEN END.

It is with regret we have to record the death of Mr. Frederick William Sawfoot, a well-known Kettering ringer, who passed away on Thursday, January 10th.

The shock of a wife awaking to find her husband breathing his last was described with emotion at the inquest on Saturday week by Mrs. Margaret Hilda Sawfoot, who said her husband was apparently in his usual health when he came home from work on Thursday evening. She did not consider he was so well as he should be, but he had not complained. He was operated upon for appendicitus three years ago. He went to bed at about a quarter to nine, and witness followed. About a quarter-past eleven she awoke and found her husband was breathing heavily. He passed away before medical assistance arrived. A post-mortem examination disclosed that deceased had an enlarged and fatty heart, degeneration of the heart being the cause of death.

The funeral service, which was held in the Parish Church, was conducted by the Rev. S. M. Morris and the Rev. C. B. Lucas, M.A. Before the arrival of the cortege, the bells of the Parish Church were chimed for fifteen minutes by the local ringers, who headed the procession from the church to the cemetery.

After the committal portion of the service a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells by Messrs. A. V. Inns, J. E. Chapman, D. J. Nichols, and A. Henman. The ringers then returned to the tower and rang touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples with bells half-muffled.

In addition to the family mourners, there were present, representing the Peterborough Diocesan Guild, the Rev. R. C. Thursfield, Cranford (president), Mr. E. Wilford, Northampton (Master), Mr. T. Wilson, Isham (treasurer), Miss S. Thursfield, Miss Hepburn (Ladies' Guild), and Messrs. D. J. Nichols, R. F. Turner, A. Payne, C. W. Bird, J. E. Chapman, A. V. Inns, P. Inns, A. Henman, G. Goodman, H. Warren and G. Warren (members of the Parish Church band. Mr. F. Pack and Mr. H. Taylor (representing Messrs. Patrick's, Ltd.), where Mr. Sawfoot worked; Mr. A. Inns, and Mr. F. Bridgeman (representing the Conservative Club).

Among the many beautiful floral tributes was one 'With deepest sympathy from his fellow-bellringers, Kettering Parish Church.'

In the evening the bells were again rung half-muffled in touches of Grandsire and Stedman Triples, and 'the whole pull and stand.' Mr. R. G. Black (general secretary), Mr. H. Baxter (branch secretary), Mr. F. Tite (Barton Seagrave), and Mr. J. C. Shatford (Wellingborough), also took part in the ringing. Mr. Shatford was for many years a member of the Kettering band before removing to Wellingborough.

Mr. Sawfoot went to Kettering from Harrold, Bedfordshire, some 28 years ago to follow his employment as 'leather dresser,' and joined a newly-formed band of ringers at the Parish Church.

From the year 1903, the company made rapid progress, and the deceased assisted in ringing peals of Stedman Triples, Double Norwich, Superlative, Cambridge, and London Surprise Major, these being the first peals ever rung in the methods on the bells by a local band of ringers, and are all recorded on tablets in the tower.

For the Central Northants and Peterborough Diocesan Guilds he rang 131 peals in various methods, his last being a peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal, rung at St. Giles', Northampton, on October 17th, 1925. Although no further peals were attempted since he had an operation some three years ago, Mr. Sawfoot continued to attend the weekly practices, and to ring for the Sunday services, and took part in the ringing on the Tuesday before he passed away. A good striker, and a man who knew his methods well, his place will be hard to fill.

The peals rung by Mr. F. W. Sawfoot were as follows:—

	Tower Bells.	Handbells.
Doubles	5	—
Minor in one method	6	1
Minor in four methods	1	—
Minor in seven methods	18	—
Minor in eight methods	1	—
Grandsire Triples	5	5
Grandsire Caters	1	2
Stedman Triples	14	—
Stedman Caters	4	—
Plain Bob Major	6	18
Plain Bob Royal	—	2
Kent Treble Bob Major	1	5
Kent Treble Bob Royal	1	—
Cambridge Surprise Major	3	—
Cambridge Surprise Royal	1	—
Superlative Surprise Major	13	—
London Surprise Major	1	—
Double Norwich Major	15	—
Little Bob Major	—	2
Totals	96	35

DEATH OF LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION'S TREASURER.

LAST SURVIVOR OF ASSOCIATION'S FIRST PEAL.

With sincere regret we have to record the passing of Mr. Henry Wm. Jackson, of Bolton, the hon. treasurer of the Lancashire Association, which took place on January 13th.

Deceased, who had reached the advanced age of 83 years, was one of the founders of the association 52 years ago, and, during the past 47 years held the office of hon. treasurer. He was the last survivor of the band who rang the first peal for the association on December 22nd, 1877.

To him, and an enthusiastic band round him in those early days, Lancashire ringers owe a great deal for the interest now shown. This band was in great demand for the opening of new bells in Lancashire wherever they had been installed.

Credited to him in the Annual Report are 13 peals, but he rang many before the formation of the association, and many more half-peals, the half-peals at that time apparently being popular, as they were recorded. His last peal (a College Youths' peal) was rung at Holy Trinity, Bolton, on April 23rd, 1926. A good striker himself, Mr. Jackson always insisted on good striking.

Holy Trinity Church, Bolton, had always been his place of worship, and it was here, at the age of 13 years, he learned to ring, and there are recorded half-peals of which he was conductor at the age of 17. It was about this period he was appointed leader, an office which he held to the last. During his time he had seen the old six bells recast, later augmented to eight; this eight destroyed by fire and a new ring of eight installed.

He was always punctual and regular in his attendance, and he told the writer about 12 months ago, when he began to feel his old age, that up to that time he had been ringing well over 65 years, and during that period had only been absent three half-days—a wonderful record. He would come back from his holidays to ring for service, and in spite of infirmity he continued to ring almost to the last.

He was feeling better about Christmas, and decided to ring on the last Sunday in the year and again to ring the old year out and the new year in, and then resign. He caught a chill, however, and from this he never recovered.

On hearing of his illness the ringers gave him a pleasant surprise. They took the handbells and rang a course of Grandsire Triples outside his door shortly before midnight on New Year's Eve. He was delighted. He loved to hear bells, and always crept round his old church whenever peals were being rung.

He was interred at St. Michael's, Great Lever, Bolton, on Wednesday, January 16th, after the first portion of the service had been conducted at Holy Trinity Church by the Vicar, the Rev. G. A. Deakin, M.A.Sur., assisted by the president of the Lancashire Association (the Rev. Canon Elsee, M.A.), who spoke of the good work which the deceased had done, and the good example which he had set up.

The organist and choir were in attendance, and there was a large congregation.

Holy Trinity ringers acted as the bearers, four of whom rang a course of Grandsire Triples on handbells over the grave: A. Sandeford 1-2, Peter Crook, jun., 3-4, Peter Crook 5-6, Edward Edwards 7-8.

Many ringers gathered from the surrounding districts and rang the tower bells (which were half-muffled) for the 'whole pull and stand.' Later in the evening a touch of 504 Grandsire Triples was rung, and at St. Bartholomew's, Bolton, an attempt for a peal came to grief after 53 minutes, as also did an attempt at Holy Trinity on Saturday afternoon, after two hours' ringing, by a band of College Youths, of which Mr. Jackson had been a member since 1892. Mr. W. R. Shuker, the hon. secretary of the Lancashire Association, officially represented the association and the College Youths at the funeral.

Mr. Jackson had been treasurer since 1892 of the Freetradesmen Lodge of the Bolton Oddfellows. He had also been treasurer since 1906 of the Bolton branch of the Amalgamated Engineering Union, offices which he held until the time of his death. Representatives from both these societies were present at the last obsequies.

THE LATE REV. H. C. COURTNEY.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I noticed in 'The Ringing World' of the 11th inst. a report of the death of Rev. Henry Courtney Courtney, and that he was hon. treasurer of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association 1901-2. I beg to say this is not correct, as he was never hon. treasurer, but Master 1901-3. He was followed by Rev. C. D. P. Davies for eleven years, then I had the honour of holding office 1914-1916.

I rang several peals of Stedman Triples under the conductorship of Rev. F. E. Robinson, including the one at Thornbury, in which the Rev. Henry Courtney Courtney took part on August 20th, 1904.

Mr. Courtney was an enthusiastic push-bike rider years ago, and I have often seen him riding through Thornbury, and I met him in other districts.—Yours faithfully,

F. K. HOWELL.

Thornbury, Glos.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Castle Cary Deanery was held at Ditcheat on Saturday. The splendid peal of eight bells was kept going throughout the afternoon and evening. A short service was held in the Parish Church, conducted by the Rector (the Rev. H. H. Tripp), and tea was served in the Church Room. The business meeting followed, the towers represented being Evercreech, Castle Cary, Shepton Mallett, Maperton, North Cheriton, North Barrow, West Lydford, Pylle, Stoke Trister, Barton St. David, Bruton, Cranmore, West Pennard, Buckhorn Weston and Ditcheat.

The Rev. H. Tripp was voted to the chair. Preb. D. M. Ross was elected president for the year, and, in proposing the re-election of Mr. E. Creed as hon. secretary, said they could not do better. Mr. Creed was also appointed as the representative on the General Committee.

The balance sheet having been adopted, Mr. E. Creed proposed that four meetings be held in the coming year instead of three. This was agreed to, the places selected being Wincanton, West Lydford, North Cadbury and Evercreech. Seven new members were made.

The Master of the association (Rev. E. C. Lock) commended the secretary upon his fine balance sheet and upon the progress made in the deanery.

Prebendary Ross proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to the Rector for his address, for the use of the bells and for presiding at the meeting, also to the organist and choir for helping at the service, and to the ladies who waited at the tea tables.—The Rector, in replying, said how pleased he was to see such a great gathering. Afterwards, the members returned to the tower for further touches on the bells.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

POOR SUPPORT IN SWINDON DISTRICT.

The annual meeting of the Swindon Branch was held at Christ Church, Swindon, on Saturday, January 12th. Good use was made of the splendid peal of ten bells during the afternoon until 5 p.m., when the 'Football Cup-tie section' arrived all smiles. It was easy to see by their faces who had won, but with the rush of football visitors, tea had to be postponed until 5.30, as some ringers in the district are not sufficiently interested in their Branch to notify their secretary if they require tea, so that adequate arrangements can be made beforehand. The business meeting was therefore held in the belfry before tea. Mr. E. Bishop was elected to the chair.

The balance sheet and report were presented, and showed an increase of two performing members, but a loss of two hon. members, one through death and one (Archdeacon Talbot) by removal. Seven meetings had been held during the year, but with poor attendances. At one meeting only the branch chairman, hon. secretary and one member of the branch attended, but a number of visitors who turned up enabled some ringing to be done.

All the branch officers were re-elected. The branch charman (Mr. C. J. Gardiner) and hon. secretary (Mr. S. Hopper), on being re-elected for 1929, appealed to the members for more support at the meetings during the coming year.

About twenty members and visitors were present, representing the following towers: Burford, Chippenham, Elkstone, Fairford, Faringdon, Melksham, Woodford, Wootton Bassett, and the two local towers.

The next meeting will be in February, at Purton, and the quarterly meeting in April at South Marston, if the bells are available. Due notice will be published in 'The Ringing World.'

EASTBOURNE RINGER'S DEATH.

The mortal remains of the late Mr. Joseph Sharp, of Eastbourne, whose death on the 3rd inst. has already been recorded in our columns, were interred at Ocklynge Cemetery, the first portion of the service being at Christ Church, where for many years he was a ringer. Many friends and brother ringers were present at the church and graveside, and in the evening the 'whole pull and stand' was rung at Christ Church, with the bells half muffled, followed by a touch of Stedman Triples.

Mr. Sharp was born at Nottingham on July 1st, 1867, and came to Eastbourne many years ago. He joined the Sussex County Association in 1886, and in his day he has taken part in some first-class performances on church bells, and when circumstances required it he figured as conductor. He was ever ready to lend a hand to young and aspiring ringers. About twenty-five years ago he took part in three peals in one day, in three different towns. Eastbourne, Hailsham and Lewes. Of this event he was justly proud. On January 15th, 1909, he conducted Thurstans' four-part peal of Stedman Triples at Christ Church, Eastbourne, the first peal in the method by all local men. He had taken part in between 150 and 200 peals on church bells, his last being on May 2nd, 1928, when he took part in a peal of Double Norwich Major at St. Mary's, Eastbourne. This was the first peal on the bells after their restoration by the Whitechapel Foundry.

The memory of the deceased will ever be held in highest respect and veneration by his many friends in the Sussex County Association.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The annual general meeting of the Northern District was held at West Ham on Saturday. Ringing commenced at about 3 p.m., and Grandsire, Stedman, Plain and Treble Bob were rung until 5 p.m., at which hour the service was held, conducted by the Rector of West Ham. After the service the members adjourned to the Church Hall, where an ample tea awaited them. The Rector joined the company, and told them that he came from St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich. He had much to say concerning the beautiful ring of twelve there, and had always been fond of bells. After the tea the business meeting was held, at which the whole of the officers were re-elected, excepting the steward and treasurer, which posts were filled by the election of Messrs. Reeves and Molton respectively.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector both for the use of the bells and the welcome given to the association. The steeplekeeper, Mr. G. Haden, was also thanked for having all in readiness for the meeting. After this an adjournment was made to the tower, where ringing in standard methods continued until 8.30 p.m.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Southern District was held on Saturday at Putney and Fulham. The bells at Putney were raised at three o'clock, and a four-course touch of Stedman Triples was well rung. Touches of various methods followed up to five o'clock, when the bells were lowered. By this time some 25 members had put in an appearance, and all had been accommodated with a pull in some method or other.

Tea was partaken of at the Cosy Cafe, opposite the church, a jovial party sitting down under the presidency of Mr. Mance (Master). After disposing of the good things provided in this direction, the business meeting was held, when the balance sheet, showing an increase in funds, and the report, were adopted, views being expressed on the satisfactory nature of both items.

All the officers were re-elected, and the usual routine items were disposed of.

Votes of thanks were passed to the officers for their work during the past year; to the Vicars of Putney and Fulham for the use of the bells at their respective churches; and to Mr. Bolton and his company for their welcome.

The party afterwards adjourned to the neighbouring county, where Fulham bells were available from 7 o'clock. Mr. Driver, having met the members, conducted them to the tower, where Grandsire and Stedman Caters and Kent Treble Bob Royal were rung. Altogether it was quite a successful meeting.

AN ANCIENT CROYDON SOCIETY.

BI-CENTENARY NEXT YEAR.

The annual dinner celebrating the 199th anniversary of the Croydon Parish Church Ringers' Society, which was founded in 1730, was held at the Rose and Crown on Wednesday, January 16th. Ringers, with their wives and friends to the number of twenty-five, sat down under the genial chairmanship of the Rev. G. Wright, M.C., and an excellent repast was served by Host and Hostess Ellis. The toasts of 'The King' and 'The Church' were honoured, after which a splendid course of Grandsire Caters was rung on handbells.

The Chairman, in a humorous speech, then tendered best wishes and congratulations to the members, and expressed the regret of the Vicar that he was unable to be present.

Following a fine song by the veteran Mr. D. Wright, of South Croydon, Mr. J. E. Cooper replied on behalf of the society.

Humorous songs were rendered in first-rate style by Mr. H. Pratt and Mr. C. F. Johnston, the latter also giving some very amusing reminiscences of his busman's holiday in America.

Mr. C. H. Kippin, of Beddington, delighted the company with selections on his 'Parlour carillon.'

'The health of Mr. C. F. Johnston.' was drunk with musical honours, after which Mr. J. Rumble, sen., tendered the thanks of all present to the host and hostess, to which Mr. Ellis responded.

Further songs were rendered by Mr. J. Rumble and Mr. D. Wright.

Mr. J. Cooper, on behalf of all present, and especially the members of the society, asked Mr. Amos Clark (the leader) and Mrs. Clark to accept the heartiest thanks for their hard work during the year. They have both worked like Trojans, and no band could possibly have a better leader.—Mrs. Clark briefly replied, and the rest of the evening was devoted to harmony, Mr. Kippin leading on his carillon. A very enjoyable evening came to a close shortly before 11 p.m., with three ringing cheers for the jovial chairman.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

There are now three generations of 'Teddy' Barnetts actively ringing, Edwin, sen., and Edwin, jun., have long been known to the Exercise; now, Edwin jun.'s son Edwin has been introduced into the art. On Saturday, he was elected a member of the Royal Cumberland Youths—with which father and grandfather have long been connected—and rang rounds on the twelve bells of St. Martin's. He is only ten years of age, but he handled his bell as to the manner born. Mr. Joe Waghorn, now 85, was also present, and thus met probably the oldest and youngest of our active church bellringers.

The Williams have rung another peal. Eight of them have scored a peal of Treble Bob. Which reminds us that it is just twenty-five years ago that the first (and only) 'John' peal of London Surprise Major was rung. All the eight are still on the active list. The peal was rung at St. Stephen's, Westminster.

On January 26th, 1735, a peal of '10,080 Bob Majors' was rung by the Fulham Youths at Fulham, and on January 27th, 1803, a peal of 10,386 Grandsire Caters was rung at Kingston.

A peal of '5,040 real Double Eight in with two bobs in a lead, as many 7th's as 2nd's, with bobs behind and before alternately,' was rung at Richmond, Surrey, on January 28th, 1816. But what is described in 'The Clavis' as the first peal of Double Bob was rung at Whitechapel on January 29th, 1769.

DEATH OF THE REV. H. B. WOOLLEY

We much regret to announce the death, which took place last Saturday, after a very short illness, of the Rev. Horace Bernard Woolley, Rector of Long Stanton, Cambs. Mr. Woolley was well known as a ringer. He took part in several peals on the bells of All Saints', Long Stanton, which during his incumbency he augmented to a charming ring of eight. He also rang some peals on handbells.

He was closely connected both with the Ely Diocesan Association (for some years he was local secretary for the Hunts Archdeaconry) and with the Cambridge University Guild. He was always delighted to welcome at Long Stanton ringers from all parts, especially from his own university, with a ready kindness and hospitality, which will long be remembered.

The Rev. H. B. Woolley took the services and rang as usual on the Sunday preceding his death.

On Sunday afternoon, before a special service, the bells of Long Stanton were rung half-muffled to 504 Treble Bob by F. Warrington 1, F. J. Cooke 2, F. G. Gleaves 3, C. W. Cook (conductor) 4, G. E. Crisp 5, F. E. Haynes 6.

HALEY, COX AND JOHNSON.

To the Editor.

Sir,—When the Princess Mary and the Viscount Lascelles came to Shifnal for their honeymoon, the local papers record that two ancient bellringers (the late Reuben Hall and myself) played 'Sweet Marie' on the handbells. Now I am beginning to think that some of us who rang with the above celebrities are getting ancient. Mr. Johnson's last peal was on February 23rd, 1884, and the band was: H. Bastable 1, G. H. Philott 2, H. Johnson, sen., 3, H. Johnson, jun., 4, W. R. Small 5, J. Jaggar 6, Rev. C. D. P. Davies 7, J. Buffery 8, W. Wakley 9, S. Reeves 10.—Yours faithfully, JOHN JAGGAR.

A MEMORIAL PEAL.

On Saturday, January 19th, a muffled peal was rung at Denton, Lancs, by representatives of five towers in the Stockport Branch of the Chester Guild, as a tribute to the memory of the late Mr. Joseph Heckingbottom, who died at Blackpool, where he lived in retirement after 46 years in the postal service. Mr. Heckingbottom commenced his ringing career in his native town of Pontefract, moving to Armley, Leeds, in 1887. In 1905 he was appointed postmaster at Denton, Manchester, and became associated with St. Anne's, Denton, where his efforts were greatly appreciated, and did much in furthering the progress of local change ringing. On his retirement in 1924, he moved to Blackpool, where he continued his ringing at St. John's Church until his death. He was a keen peal ringer, having scored 46 peals in all, 35 for the Yorkshire Association and 11 for the Chester Diocesan Guild.

THE BATES APPEAL

The following further sums have been received for the fund for the assistance of Mrs. Bates and family:—

	£	s.	d.
Amount already acknowledged	53	4	9
Kent County, Maidstone District meeting at Ightham, Saturday, January 12th (per Mr. C. H. Sone)	1	4	0
Mr. A. J. Chamberlain		2	0
Mr. E. Foster		2	0
Mr. G. E. Foster		2	0
Mr. H. F. Clulow		2	0
St. Peter's, Tunbridge Wells, ringers, and a few ringing friends (per Mr. W. Latter)		17	0
Upper Armley Society, Leeds (per Mr. H. G. Grimwood)		6	0
Total	£55	19	9

BRISTOL UNITED GUILDS.

ENJOYABLE REUNION.

HANDSOME GIFT TO GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.

The now well-established event, the annual dinner of the Bristol United Ringing Guilds, continues to grow, both in the size and importance of the gathering, and last Saturday's reunion was one of the most enjoyable in the series. A record number attended, and many came from long distances to share the pleasures of the occasion, and to show the good-will which exists throughout the country for this active and enterprising organisation. In the afternoon the ringers took part in touches at the famous Temple Church, where the tower leans heavily and the bells run none too well; and at St. Stephen's, where, by contrast, the stately steeple is a much-admired architectural feature of the city, and the bells go like the proverbial fiddles. Old friends met and yarned over the teacups in St. Thomas' Parish Room, and in the evening the whole party, over hundred and sixty in number, concentrated at the Grand Hotel, where, in the spacious ballroom, they sat down to dinner. The Rev. R. H. Whitford, this year's chairman of the United Guilds, presided, and Mr. W. H. Thomas was in the vice-chair.

THE REV. R. H. WHITFORD.

The guest of the evening was Canon G. R. Wood (Vicar of Almondsbury and Rural Dean), and among those present were Rev. W. G. and Mrs. Heber Thomas (St. Stephen's), Rev. F. H. Crews, Mr. J. Bullock (Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths), Mr. A. A. Hughes (treasurer of the College Youths), Mr. A. Walker (Deputy Ringing Master, St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham) and Mrs. Walker, Mr. C. F. Johnston (Croydon), Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Goldsmith (Woking), Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Ford, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Paul, Mr. and Mr. C. Spurrier (Bristol), Messrs. S. Palmer, H. Thorpe and J. Holman (Sheffield), J. W. Jones (hon. secretary, Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Guild), J. T. Dyke (hon. secretary, Bath and Wells Diocesan Association), S. Jones (Newport), J. P. Fidler (Loughborough), S. R. Roper (Croydon), C. H. Jennings (Wyke Regis), W. H. Lloyd (Taunton), and Sergt. Harding (Cheltenham). In addition to the large number of Bristol and district ringers present, there were also representatives of bands at Bath, Keynsham, Evercreech, Weston-super-Mare, Dursley, Mere, Chew Magna, etc. Apologies for absence were received from Mr. J. Hunt (Taunton), Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Smallwood (Derby), and Mr. Anderson (Bristol's oldest ringer).

At the conclusion of an excellent repast the loyal toast was honoured.

AN EXTRAORDINARY CHANGE.

The Chairman, in proposing the toast of 'The Church,' said it was a very happy thing that the Bristol United Guilds should choose, for the honour of being chairman, sometimes from the laity and sometimes from the clergy, so that in proposing that toast they got, as it were, impartial expressions of opinion from both sides. He supposed it was natural to reflect, at a gathering of that kind, that by the term 'Church' they might mean two things. First, there was the material building, and then there was the spiritual building. It was obvious that if the material building did not exist, if, that was to say, there were no churches and church buildings, there would be no such gatherings as that, because there would be no bells, and there would be no need of ringers. When they took the spiritual meaning of the Church, they might reflect that ringers were also like the Church, because, as the Church was made up of all sorts and conditions of men and women, so were ringers. They had in their ranks, he believed, certain of the nobility. They had admirals of the Fleet, they had those who were officers in His Majesty's Army, workmen, labourers, clerks, and last, but not least, they had a few clergy. He put that last because, in the history of the Church, and of ringing, they saw a most extraordinary change. When bells were first used in the services of the Church of God, the ringing of them was entrusted almost entirely to the clergy, or those, at any rate, who were at that time in minor orders. That was insisted upon in the Church. They had heard a good deal during the past few years of rules and rubrics, and one of the rules of the Church originally read that when a service was held, the curate of the parish should toll a bell. Evidently, the clergy of those days had to know how to ring. Unfortunately, in the course of time, indeed, within the course of a few years, those words which seemed to insist that the clergy should be ringers, were changed, and the sentence read that they should cause a bell to be tolled. Apparently, the clergy got too lazy for their office and deputed the ringing to others. That, he thought, was unfortunate in many ways. After that, things went from bad to worse; the clergy let things slide, and the belfries of the church became noted as the meeting-place for all the scallywags of the parish, and if they read some of the inscriptions on the bells they would see that somehow or other belfries and bells and beer became associated together. After that period, belfries and bellringers got into a better condition, and nowadays—he spoke as a ringer—ringers were more and more definitely recognised by those in authority in the Church (applause). He did not say entirely as they ought to be. He had often been asked questions by Bishops and others about many things, but never by any of those in authority whether he could ring a bell or not—as if that did not matter. While they, as ringers, rejoiced in the fact that they were being more and more recognised as churchworkers, he hoped all ringers would do everything they could to keep that respect and recognition (hear, hear). There was a danger to-day—they came across it once or twice last year when certain bodies of ringers went out on Sundays on what was obviously a pleasure jaunt, and desired to ring in churches on their way, and, maybe, they were refused, and as ringers they wanted to keep up their reputation in the eyes of those in authority. Let them not endanger that reputation by lowering the dignity of Sunday and the way in which it was spent. One thing he desired to say in conclusion. They had during the past year or two heard a great deal about crises in the Church. When one read history one found that from the beginning there had always been crises in the Church. What had been the result? Controversies and conflicts had raged, and high words had been used, but the Church had always come out of these crises stronger and better. If any minds were troubled by the squabbles and difficulties of the present day, let them just look at the history of the Church, and they would see how, time and again, she had gone through these conflicts and had come out of them a stronger, a better and a more glorious Church (applause).

MEMORIES OF 'THE GOOD OLD DAYS.'

Canon G. R. Wood, who replied, said he was glad to be present, not only for his own sake, but also in the sense of representing his bell-ringing son (applause). It was extremely gratifying to find that some of them knew him. His son wrote to him from Glasgow and begged him to say how sorry he was that he was not able to be there himself, but he would be very much with them in spirit, and hoped they would have a very pleasant evening. His son had also asked him to say that, although he was having a very busy life, he was not being idle campanologically. He was in touch with another 'conspirator' in Glasgow, Mr. Lewis, who was known to many of them, and they were hoping before long to be able to record a peal by residents in Scotland (hear, hear). Canon Wood continued that the controversies within the Church were a sign that the Church was alive, that the Church was awake, and, despite all her faults, she was trying to do her job. He added that so far as his experience went the relations between the clergy and ringers, which were so important, were steadily improving. There was a growing feeling of friendly understanding between them, and there ought to be. When he looked back to his early days at Almondsbury, thirty years ago, he could contribute a little personal evidence in support of what the chairman had said as to the conditions of the belfries in what they called 'the good old days.' At that time he found his relations with his ringers were not altogether of the very best. They were sometimes a little strained, and perhaps it was not to be wondered at. The ringers steadily refused to acknowledge that the belfry was a part of the church; they maintained that the incumbent had no right in the belfry, and had nothing whatever to say to the ringers about the bells (laughter). He could see now, in his mind, the barrel of beer in the corner of the belfry, which was fairly frequently used (laughter), and the ringers regarded the belfry as a clubroom. Those days, he was glad to say, had come to an end. He did not know if there were still any belfries to be found where such a condition existed, but as far as his knowledge went he believed there had been a wonderful improvement. He could not speak for other dioceses, but he could say that in the diocese of Bristol the great art of ringing was looked upon most favourably and kindly by the authorities of the diocese. The clergy generally were deeply sensible of the deep debt of gratitude which they owed to the ringers. They made what some of them thought—although, perhaps, it was not universally allowed—sweet music on the bells; they kept alive what was a peculiarly English tradition and custom of change ringing. They called the people to church, and if they did not all come they heard the summons. The ringers showed a wonderful keenness and enthusiasm in their job, and although there might be differences of opinion—that was only natural and inevitable—they did show a wonderful example of brotherhood and fellowship, which was good for all to see (applause).

GUILD'S GENEROUS GIFT.

The Chairman said they would all know that the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association had had a particularly active and busy year, inasmuch as they had, some months ago, celebrated their jubilee. It was his business and pleasure to hand to the association

from the Bristol United Ringing Guilds the sum of £45 to meet the expenses connected with the jubilee meeting and other purposes (applause). Notices were sent out widely, and this sum was in part the response to that appeal. He also wished to say that the Bristol United Guilds had published a ringers directory. It was their desire to make it more and more perfect as time went on. About a month ago he received from a man hundreds of miles from Bristol a letter, hoping that in course of time they would be able to include with the names the occupations and amusements of the ringers, and, perhaps, the club they belonged to (laughter). He asked the treasurer of the association to receive the cheque for £45 towards the expenses of the association (applause).

Mr. W. Lansdown accepted the gift with the grateful thanks of the Gloucester and Bristol Association, and thanked the Bristol United Guilds for the wonderful work they did, and the help they gave in connection with the jubilee. The whole of the arrangements were carried out by the Guilds, and now, in addition, they had contributed that very handsome sum towards the expenses. He desired to thank everyone who had in any way contributed to this end, and especially he wished to thank Mr. Guise for the wonderful work he had done as secretary.

The toast of 'The Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association' was submitted by Mr. A. A. Hughes, who took the opportunity, on behalf of his colleague of the Ancient Society of College Youths, Mr. James Bullock, the Master, to greet them heartily. Continuing, he said they all had read that excellent review of the history of the association in last year's report, written by their Master (Rev. C. D. P. Davies). It was a wonderfully interesting account of the work of the association, and showed them how devotion to the cause enabled the founders to overcome the extraordinary difficulties which presented themselves at the time the association was started in 1878. He could only repeat that the association stood for better ringers, better ringing, better belfries, and much better conditions of rings of bells. He wished prosperity and continued success to the association, and hoped it might always have as efficient and devoted officers and as loyal support in the future as it had at the present time (applause).

Mr. Edgar Guise, the hon. secretary of the association, briefly responded, and thanked Mr. Hughes for his kindly remarks and good wishes.

BELLS AND THE MICROPHONE.

The Vice-Chairman proposed 'The Visitors,' who, he said, had come from north, south, east and west to support them. Some of the visitors had become 'hardy annuals,' and he hoped they would become hardier than ever. Some had come for the first time that night, but he felt it would not be their last visit (hear, hear). The members of the Bristol United Guilds were delighted to see them all.

Mr. Albert Walker, who first responded, congratulated the Bristol United Guilds and the Gloucester and Bristol Association on their efforts during the past year. The jubilee celebrations had been a wonderful success, thanks to the organisation of the committee and the work of Mr. Edgar Guise. Another wonderful work which they had carried out was the compilation of the Ringers' Directory, and he hoped that eventually it would grow until it contained the names of all ringers. They were glad to hear that their friends at Gloucester were inaugurating a dinner. He hoped it would be well supported, and that it would prove the beginning of a renewed activity in ringing in Gloucester (applause). He invited all who could to attend the Johnson celebration dinner at Birmingham on March 2nd, and promised any visitors a cordial reception. Referring to the broadcasts of the new bells at St. Martin's, Birmingham, Mr. Walker said on the first occasion it was, he believed, very successful, but the B.B.C. engineers wanted to see if it could be further improved, and therefore, on the last occasion, the microphone had been moved to another position. The result, however, was not so satisfactory, and a further change would be made before the next broadcast. In this connection, he added that no one should judge bells, especially, new bells, by hearing them over the wireless. The position of the microphone made all the difference, and when the engineers at York had found the proper position for the microphone at the Minster they would have much better reception (hear, hear).

Mr. J. P. Fidler also responded in a humorous speech.

A SCHEME FOR THE FUTURE.

Mr. W. A. Cave proposed 'The Ringing World.' He said they constantly spoke of powerful men in the Exercise. Different men had different sorts of power. When he started ringing, the most powerful man in the Exercise, he always thought, was Mr. George Williams, because he was the leading man in those days. They had with them that night another powerful man—Mr. Jas. Bullock, Master of the College Youths (applause). He was not very big, but last Easter Monday he rang St. Paul's Cathedral tenor to a peal of Stedman Cinques (applause). Then they had representatives of the bell founding firms with them, and Mr. Johnston knew something of power in putting up an 18 ton bell. He thought, however, the most powerful man in the Exercise to-day was the Editor of 'The Ringing World,' who wielded a power that reached all over the land. Continuing, Mr. Cave said one of the most interesting matters that was published in 'The Ringing World' last year was an article with reference to certificates for ringers. There were always two opinions on the subject, and even in their own association one branch strongly supported the proposal for diplomas, and another was just as strongly against it. The subject came before the Council, and it was defeated, because if the Council did a thing they did it thoroughly and well. He thought diplomas and certificates might come, but, if so, it would be on a proper basis. He would like the Editor of 'The Ringing World' to advocate a plan modelled on the procedure of the great Musical Societies (hear, hear). If the thing was worth anything at all, it was worth paying for, and it would be more appreciated if those who went in for certificates paid in the same manner that candidates paid for musical examinations. They should be properly, examined by proper examiners and receive recognised certificates if they qualified for them. He suggested that examinations should be held quarterly in all the dioceses, and that there should be practical and theoretical examinations. He suggested that in the practical examinations there should be five grades—the first for round ringing and call changes, to prove that the ringer had proper command of his bell before passing on to the next grade. His candid opinion was that in their endeavour to make change ringers to-day they started them on change ringing too soon as a general rule—they started change ringing before they could handle a bell properly (hear, hear). There were, in his scheme, other grades running up to No. 5, which would be for ability to ring a peal of Surprise Major, or, what was, perhaps, even a little higher, to ring seven 720's in seven Surprise methods. The theory examination should be on similar lines, and to cover the cost they should charge, say, 5s. per entrant, to be paid to the Central Council, who would provide the examiner. Such a scheme might not come in their time, but if ringing and ringers were to be raised to the status he would like to see, something of that sort would come presently. He threw out these suggestions to the Editor, in the hope that he might be able to take them up. The Exercise, he added, had never been better served by the Editor of any ringing paper than by Mr. Goldsmith, but if there was one thing which he would like to see introduced as a feature in 'The Ringing World' it was a page of compositions, which would be of great interest to all conductors.

The toast was accorded musical honours, and Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, in reply, while disclaiming that he had any special power in the Exercise, said it had been the object of 'The Ringing World' during the eighteen years of its existence to use its influence to elevate the art and the status of the ringers, and that would continue to be its policy. 'The Ringing World' would advocate anything calculated to advance that end, and it would give all its support to any practicable scheme of diplomas that could be formulated on lines suggested by Mr. Cave. With regard to the suggestion that a page of compositions should form a regular feature of the paper, Mr. Goldsmith said no one would be more pleased than himself if it could be adopted, but, apart from considerations of space, there was always the difficulty of securing original compositions. Many people were anxious to get their figures published merely to ascertain if they were original, and some even to find out if they were true, and it was hardly fair to ask 'The Ringing World' to become the medium for that kind of thing. Further, the Central Council had published several books of peals, and the difficulty of finding any really new compositions to make a regular feature was considerable. At the same time, efforts were made to publish the figures of as many new peals as possible. In conclusion, Mr. Goldsmith expressed thanks to Mr. Cave for his kindly remarks, and thanked the company for their enthusiastic reception of his name.

Mr. H. J. Way gave the toast of 'The Artistes,' and said that as their hon. secretary had taken part in the handbell ringing, he was able to include Mr. Guise in the thanks which they desired to give those who had kindly entertained them. They had now had eight of those dinners, and Mr. Guise had conducted the business arrangements for them all, and they knew the success which he had achieved. The musical part of the proceedings had been in the hands of their old friend, Mr. Read, for many years. He was part and parcel of the Bristol Ringers' Guild, and with Mr. Emery annually provided them with a most delightful programme. They heartily desired to thank these gentlemen and all who had contributed to their entertainment.

Mr. Charles Read, replying, said it was always a pleasure to do what they could to assist the Bristol United Guilds.

This concluded the toast list. The musical programme was of a very diversified nature. It was arranged by Mr. W. S. Emery and Mr. C. Spurrier, and Mr. C. Read, L.S.M., was the accompanist. Miss D. Roberts and Mr. Courteney Hyde Frost sang songs, and Mr. Harold Knott gave a humorous recital and a clever exhibition of 'chapeauography.' Another clever turn was a demonstration of 'paperography' by Miss Molly Hyde, and by permission of the management of the Princess Theatre Miss Jennie Hartley and Mr. George Lacy, of the Pantomime cast, very kindly gave up a few minutes to entertain the company. In addition, there was handbell tune ringing and change ringing, all of which went to make up a most enjoyable evening, which concluded with 'Auld Lang Syne.'

The splendid arrangements made for the gathering were carried out by a committee consisting of the chairman and vice-chairman, Messrs. P. C. Williams (hon. treasurer), W. A. Cave, J. G. Jefferies, W. Knight, Miss E. Smith and Mr. H. Way (stewards), Messrs. U. Braven, J. A. Burford, J. Gould, F. T. Jewell, W. Lansdown, H. Pring, F. G. Leaker, W. H. Parker, H. Burt, R. C. Seager, W. S. Emery and G. H. Way, with Mr. Edgar Guise as hon. secretary.

PEALS ON FIVE AND SIX BELLS.

MINOR METHOD COLLECTION HELD UP.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Until the question of six-bell peals is settled, we cannot finish the new Collection of Minor Methods, and that must be my excuse for writing about it.

The old idea of a six-bell peal was that it must consist of at least seven true and complete extents. The words 'true' and 'complete' and 'extent' have been used in the Exercise for a couple of centuries, and they always have had, and have, a definite and unmistakable meaning. Then came Mr. Bankes James' arrangement of Cambridge Minor. The Exercise has fully agreed that this is a valuable composition. It meets a need; whether or no it falls within the old ideas of what a peal should be, it cannot be ruled out.

The resolution passed at Hereford was an attempt to adapt the old rule to the altered conditions; and it is, I think, not unfair to say that the intention of its promoters was to make just sufficient alteration to admit this arrangement (and, of course, any others exactly similar), but to exclude anything further. They feared, not without cause, that a wider rule might tend to lower the standard of six-bell peal ringing. The plan they adopted was to approximate this arrangement as far as possible with the old rule, and they tried to bring it within its spirit, if not within its letter. They argued something like this. If you write out the rows which comprise Mr. James' Cambridge you will find that, although it does not consist of seven Round Blocks, yet, if you count Rounds at the start, you have 720 true rows, followed by another 720 true rows (not beginning and ending with rounds), and so on for seven times, and therefore the arrangement does consist of seven true and complete extents. I think the argument is quite wrong, and I think that if you consider what ringing actually is and what happens in the tower, you will see why it is wrong. In the first place, ringing is change ringing, and not row ringing. The distinction goes to the very nature of ringing. The starting round is not a change. The Exercise never has considered it as a change, and does not do so now. It is a misuse of the word 'change' to call it so. And unless you do count rounds at the start as a change, six of the seven 720's cannot by any stretch of the word be considered true.

I cannot see why people should boggle at the meaning of the word 'change.' It is an ordinary English word with an ordinary and definite meaning. It is not used in ringing in a technical sense, except so far as we usually restrict it to the orders in which bells are rung. Primarily the word means the alteration from one thing to another, or one state to another; and it is essential that for one change there should be two things. By a not uncommon process in the English language the word is used in a secondary sense of the thing produced by the alteration. The double use of the word is as old as change ringing, and was quite familiar to the early ringers. Thus, if you are going away for a week-end you might say, 'I think I will take a change with me,' meaning that you would put an extra suit in your bag. But you must have two suits before you can have one change. You would not call the suit you stood up in 'a change.'

When we apply the word to ringing we can easily see what Stedman meant when he said that in Bob Minor there are seven hundred and twenty changes to be made. You start with 123456. Your first change is 214365, and it is a matter of mathematical fact that if you are going to have a true and complete extent, the 720th must be 123456. If it is anything else, the 720 is neither true nor complete, nor an extent. If you want any proof of this you have only to take the action and opinion of the Exercise for three hundred years. Nobody would dream of saying that Holt's Ten-part was true or complete or an extent unless the last Single is made, although rounds was rung at the beginning.

Well, then, if we can allow (as we assuredly must allow) an arrangement of Cambridge which contains six false and incomplete 720's, how can we in either justice or logic disallow an arrangement like Mr. Morris' 240's of Grandsire Doubles? It may be that you would not care to ring it yourself in a peal, but how can you forbid others to do so? J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

MORRIS' ARRANGEMENT OF DOUBLES.

Dear Sir,—Evidently it appears that my remarks hitherto on the subject have, so far as you are concerned, failed to convey the orthodox and logical interpretation I specially intended they should do. Have ever I claimed that the individual 120's that constitute the blocks of 240's are true and complete? Certainly not. I made this quite clear in my first letter of the 14th ult. Yet in your remarks upon my last letter you particularly centre your criticism in this direction, so that it would appear otherwise. What I did claim, and still claim, is that each of the complete blocks of 240 changes in both Morris' and Pitman's arrangements were true and complete in themselves, inasmuch as each of the respective 240 blocks contain each of the possible 120 changes twice. Where then, I ask, are they (the complete 240's) false?

I would further like to point out (especially addressing Mr. Willson) that plain speaking does not consist of abuse and ridicule, but the opinions and conclusions, courteously expressed, one arrives at as a result of an unbiassed review and careful survey of the facts pertaining to the case, and, still further, that his arguments repudiating all compositions in this category are entirely beside the point at the present time. Doubtless, in the near future, definite measures will be taken to establish a recognised understanding as to the acceptance or abolition of such peals, but in the meantime statements of this nature merely represent an individual opinion.

Anyone who has read my recent letters on the subject will have noted that the sole purpose and objects I had in view was not so much to 'foist' anything on the Exercise, but to emphasise that all compositions or arrangements on this plan (true in themselves), being all guilty of violating the Central Council's ruling, which, as I have previously stated, demands that 'on all numbers of bells a true peal shall in all cases start from and end with rounds,' must necessarily all be dealt with in the same manner. I regret, sir, my repeated letters in reference to this subject, but I feel it necessary in the ends of justice to bring to the fore the exact situation as it is at present, and to emphasise that it must inevitably remain thus, until such definite measures, as I have already spoken of, are sanctioned and endorsed by the Central Council.

Leeds, Yorkshire. LESLIE W. G. MORRIS.

THE GRANDSIRE DOUBLES TROUBLE.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Perhaps I ought to feel humiliated, chastised, make obeisance, then hide myself in a corner; but somehow the spell does not work, and I am as truculent as ever. I am afraid I am too weatherbeaten and impervious to any pinpricks that Mr. J. T. Dyke can inflict. This is not a time for niceties of expression, or academic dissertations of hairsplitting. The late Sir A. P. Heywood once called a certain method 'a bastard—a mongrel.' The quidnuncs of his day turned up their eyebrows, but it made no difference to Sir Arthur, who usually called a spade by its proper name. Mr. Dyke says that he could exercise me in Doubles. Well, he might; but 'I hae my doots.' Forty-eight years ago, when I first began to ring changes, 'Grandsire Doubles' with inside bells as treble, was a common thing to the old brigade.

When he says that I 'am castigating the five and six-bell ringers,' he is wrong. He and I have rung seven-method peals together. I could call it by an English word common in Limehouse, but let us say his statement is a 'terminological inexactitude.' There! That is in the nicest and best boudoir style, and will not offend the susceptibilities of the æsthetic Dominie.

This cold fact remains: The foundation of change ringing is TRUTH. Shall we allow this foundation to be undermined by mixing false and true?

I say that the word 'Splice' in this connection is a misnomer. You can splice methods, or two articles, making them stronger than before. The transposition of figures is not splicing.

At the foot of Mr. Dyke's letter was another, asking the same queries, but from a famous six-bell ringer, Mr. C. Severn, who has been a conductor of multi-method peals as long as I can remember. He calls the latest innovations, 'Freaks,' and HE KNOWS.—Yours,

W. WILLSON.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCATION.

EASTERN DIVISION AT EASTBOURNE.

A most successful meeting of the Eastern Division was held at Eastbourne on Saturday, January 12th, 42 members attending from Brighton (St. Peter's and St. Nicholas'), Eastbourne (St. Mary's, St. Saviour's, and All Saints'), Hastings (St. Clement's), Heathfield, Lewes, Mayfield, St. Leonards, and Shoreham. The bells at St. Mary's Church were kept going merrily during the afternoon. A splendid tea had been provided at the Pitman Institute through the kindness of the Vicar (the Rev. Canon Streatfeild), who presided, and also occupied the chair at the business meeting which followed.

The Hon. Secretary reported the death of an old and respected member, Mr. Joseph Sharp, of Eastbourne, and the company stood in silence as a token of respect.

Two new members were elected, Messrs. C. P. Grant and C. Anderson, of St. Clement's, Hastings, and the election of the following non-resident life members was also confirmed: Mr. P. Page, of Kennington, and Mr. C. W. Franklin, Ashford, Kent.

Mr. W. D. Smith, in moving a vote of thanks, congratulated the Vicar on having been appointed Suffragan Bishop of Lewes. Canon Streatfeild had always been a kind friend to the ringers of Sussex. He had been connected with the Church since 1889 (a period of 40 years), and during that time he must have had a great experience of ringers. The ringers of Eastbourne especially would lose a kind friend. Mr. Smith also thanked the Vicar for the use of the bells and for the substantial tea which he had provided, and added that the company wished him God-speed in his new appointment.

Canon Streatfeild, in reply, thanked the members for their kind wishes. He hoped the association would inform him when the next meeting was to be held, and he would try to attend.

After the meeting, some of the ringers returned to the St. Mary's tower, and other members proceeded to St. Saviour's, where a good hour's ringing was indulged in, methods from Grandsire to Superlative and Cambridge Surprise being practised.

NOTICES.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS. (Established 1637.) — The subscription of 1s. 8d., which enables members who have not attended twenty times in the past year to vote on matters of finance, is now due. Meeting for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on January 31st, at 7.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Lewisham District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. John's, Deptford, on Saturday, Jan. 26th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., with address by the Vicar. Tea will be provided by the Vicar and local ringers. Subscriptions are now due and should be paid at this meeting.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 53, Hengist Road, Erith, Kent.

CROFTS MEMORIAL DINNER. — The seventh annual dinner will be held at the Welbeck Hotel, Nottingham, on Saturday, Jan. 26th, at 6 p.m. Ringing, St. Mary's, 3 to 5.30. Tickets, 5s. each, obtainable from the hon. secretary. The new Bishop of Southwell will be present. Visitors heartily welcomed.—F. Blood, Hon. Sec., 91, Dame Agnes Street, Nottingham.

GUILDFORD GUILD. — The annual meeting of the Farnham District will be held at Aldershot Parish Church on Saturday, Jan. 26th (owing to Farnham bells being unavailable). Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.45. Tea 5.15 p.m. Business meeting to follow. All ringers welcomed, and a good attendance requested.—B. H. Clark, Hon. Sec.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Central District. — The annual meeting of the district will be held at St. Martin's, Epsom, on Saturday, Jan. 26th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service at 5, followed by tea and business meeting, in the Church Room. — A. J. Trappitt, Hon. Dis. Sec., 57, Mellows Road, Wallington.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—S.E. District.—Next meeting at Widford on Saturday, Jan. 26th. Bells (8) available 2.30. Service at 4.30, followed by tea and meeting at White Horse. Chelmsford Cathedral bells available in the evening. Subscriptions are now due.—H. W. Kirton, Hon. Dis. Sec., Longmeads Cottages, Writtle, Chelmsford.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bath Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Twerton-on-Avon on Saturday, Jan. 26th. Bells ready 3.30 p.m. Evensong 4.30. Tea and business meeting 5 p.m. —Theo Grant, Branch Sec., Swainswick, Bath, Som.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Lincoln District.—Annual meeting will be held at Branston (6), Saturday, Jan. 26th. Tower open 2 p.m. Excellent bus service to and from St. Mary's Street and St. Mark's. All ringers heartily welcome. Notification for tea to Harold Marcon, Dis. Sec., 269, Wragby Road, Lincoln.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Central Division.—A meeting will be held at Aldrington (Portslade Station) on Saturday, Jan. 26th. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5, in Church Hall. Half rail fare (maximum 1s. 6d.).—A. D. Stone, Hon. Div. Sec., 16, Belgrave Street, Brighton.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The annual meeting will be held at Charlwood on Saturday, Jan. 26th. Tower open at 3. Service at 5. Tea at 5.30, business meeting to follow.—A. J. Bull, Hon. Dis. Sec., Jesmond, Queen's Road, Horley.

YORKS ASSOCIATION. — The annual general meeting of the Yorkshire Association will be held at Far Headingley, Leeds, on Saturday, Jan. 26th. Bells (8) available from 2.30. Also St. Michael's (8) from 2.30. Divine service, in St. Chad's Church, at 4 p.m. Preacher: Rev. Canon R. H. Malden. Tea, 6d. per head. Subscriptions for the current year are now due, and should be paid without delay. A presentation will be made at this meeting to the honorary treasurer (Mr. J. Cotterell) to mark his completion of 21 years of office, and it is hoped that a large and representative gathering will assemble to honour the occasion.—P. J. Johnson, Hon. Gen. Sec., 396, Meanwood Road, Leeds.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — The annual meeting will be held at St. Chad's, Shrewsbury, on Saturday, Jan. 26th. Bells available from 2.30. Tea in St. Chad's Room 6 o'clock. Meeting 6.45. — Rev. F. Tennison, Hon. Sec., St. Alkmund's Vicarage, Shrewsbury.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A dinner in connection with the Gloucester Branch will take place on Saturday, Jan. 26th, in Mercer's Hall, Cross Keys Lane, Southgate Street, Gloucester, at 6 p.m. (sharp). Tickets 3/- each. St. Mary de Lode bells (6) will be open from 4 to 5.30. All ringers welcome.—W. H. Harris, Sec., 15, Painswick Road, Gloucester.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Rochester District.—A meeting will be held at Frindsbury on Saturday, Jan. 26th. Tower open at 3. Association service in church at 5, conducted by the Vicar. Tea in the Village Hall and business meeting to follow. Subscriptions for 1929 can be paid at or before the meeting. — Fred M. Mitchell, Dis. Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—Mid-Devon Branch. — The annual meeting will be held at Paignton on Saturday, Jan. 26th. Bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business to follow. All ringers welcome. —H. J. Hole, Hon. Sec., Tauntonia, Church Street, Paignton.

LADIES' GUILD.—Northern District. — Quarterly meeting will be held at Worksop, Notts, on Saturday, Jan. 26th.—H. F. Jacques, Hon. Sec.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD. — Portsmouth District.—The annual meeting will be held at Fareham on Saturday, Jan. 26th. Bells (8) available 2.30. Service 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. Titchfield (6) also available. All ringers welcome. —F. W. Rogers, Hon. Sec., 52, Samuel Road, Portsmouth.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. — Northern Branch, Sleaford District.—The annual meeting will be held at Sleaford on Saturday, Jan. 26th. Bells (8) available 2.30 p.m.—Reginald Scott, Westlea House, Sleaford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Bolton Parish Church on Saturday, Jan. 26th. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

LADIES' GUILD.—Lincolnshire District. — A combined meeting with the Grimsby District of the Lincoln Guild will be held at Grimsby on Jan. 26th. St. Andrew's bells available afternoon and evening. St. James', afternoon 2 to 4, and evening, 7.50 to 9 p.m. Service at St. Andrew's 4.15. Tea 5 p.m., 1s. 9d. per head. Business meetings to follow. — A. Richardson, Hon. Sec., Surfleet.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District. — The annual general meeting will be held at Hinckley on Saturday, Jan. 26th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Special business. Election of local officers, etc. It is hoped a good number of members will be present. All ringers and friends are cordially invited.—W. A. Cope, Local Sec., Smockington, Hinckley.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wellingborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Irthlingborough on Saturday, Jan. 26th. Bells available at 2.30. Service at 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. As the report and balance sheet for the past year will then be presented, a good attendance is requested.—F. Barber, Branch Sec., School House, Gordon Road, Wellingborough.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch. —A meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Ramsbottom, on Saturday, Jan. 26th. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. Subscriptions are now due. Reports and new rules and diagrams to hand.—John H. Haydock, Branch Sec., 8, Oaklands Road, Edenfield.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755). — Annual meeting will be held at the Cathedral on Saturday, Jan. 26th. Bells available from 4 o'clock. Business meeting in belfry at 5.30.—A. Paddon Smith, Hon. Sec., Donnor, Wellington Road, Handsworth Wood, Birmingham.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Grappenhall Branch.—A meeting of the above will be held at Runcorn Parish Church on Saturday, Jan. 26th. Bells available from 3 p.m. The hon. secretary will be pleased to hear from ringers requiring tea.—G. A. Taylor, Hon. Sec., The Village, Grappenhall.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Basingstoke District. — The annual general meeting will be held at Basingstoke, on Saturday, Jan. 26th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Service in the Parish Church at 4 p.m. Tea at 4.30 p.m. in the Church Cottage. Business meeting follows.—Rev. D. L. Board, Hon. Sec., Wolverton Rectory, Basingstoke.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Presteign District.—The annual meeting will be held at Staunton-on-Arrow on Saturday, January 26th. Bells (6) available 4 p.m. Service at 5. Tea and meeting to follow. — Jabez Preece, Dis. Sec., Lea Lodge, Staunton-on-Arrow.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.—The quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, January 26th, at Oldham Parish Church. Bells available at 3 p.m. Meeting at 7 p.m.—S. Thompson, Hon. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch. — The annual branch committee meeting will be held at Bray on Saturday, Jan. 26th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Committee meeting to follow tea.—A. D. Barker, Branch Sec. and Treasurer, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—Practice meeting at Willesden, Tuesday, Jan. 29th. Bells from 7 to 9.30. All ringers welcome. A peal board, recording the first Spliced Surprise peal rung in the county, will be unveiled during the evening.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD. — North and East District. — The annual meeting will be held at All Saints', Edmonton, on Saturday, February 2nd. Bells from 3 p.m. Service, with address by the Vicar (Rev. R. C. Evill) at 5. Tea, 1s. per member (non-members 1s. 3d.), at 5.30. Business meeting to follow. All who require tea please advise me by Tuesday, Jan. 29th. All ringers cordially invited. — C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Kempsey on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Service at 4 p.m. prompt. Business meeting afterwards. The bells will be available. The branch secretary should be notified how many to expect by Wednesday previous. — J. Rowlatt, Branch Sec., Old Street, Upton-on-Severn.

BEDFORD ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Bedford, on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock, followed by business meeting.—W. Stapleton, Dis. Sec., 24, New Fenlake, Bedford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. —The next branch meeting will be held at Accrington on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. Reports to hand; subscriptions due. — F. Hindle, Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.— Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Hemel Hempstead on Saturday, February 2nd. Bells available from 3 p.m. Cheap trains to Boxmoor—then regular bus service. All are welcome.—W. Ayre, Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held at Edenbridge on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Tower open at 2.30. Service at 4.30. Tea, followed by business meeting, in the Church Room, after service. Members requiring tea must notify the district secretary not later than Tuesday, January 29th. Subscriptions are now due, and should be paid at the meeting or sent to the district secretary.—W. Latter, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Isle of Wight District. — The annual meeting will be held at Carisbrooke on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting at the Waverley Hotel. Will those requiring tea kindly notify me not later than Tuesday, Jan. 29th?—B. J. Snow, Hon. Dis. Sec., 2, Collingwood, Daniel Street, Ryde, I.W.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The third quarterly meeting will be held at Loughborough on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. The bells of All Saints' (10) and Foundry (10) available all afternoon. By the courtesy of Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. the bellfoundry will be open to visitors. Committee meet 4 p.m. at Fearon Hall. Tea, 1s. 6d. per head, 5 p.m., at Fearon Hall. General meeting follows. It is of utmost importance that those desiring tea acquaint Mr. D. S. Collins, 145, Paget Street, Loughborough, not later than Thursday, 31st inst., or they will be disappointed.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — The annual meeting will be held at Doncaster on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells ready early. Service at 5 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m., followed by business meeting. Presentation to the late secretary and also of attendance cup. A good attendance is requested. Subscriptions can now be paid.—P. Gledstone, Hon. Sec.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Leatherhead on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea at the Institute at 5 o'clock, followed by business meeting. Will all who intend to be present kindly notify Mr. Arthur Dean, 24, Church Walk, Leatherhead, not later than Thursday, Jan. 31st, so that adequate provision can be made?—F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Sec., 28, Strathearn Road, Sutton.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery.—The annual meeting will be held at Burnham-on-Sea on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells (8) available 2.30. Service 4.30, followed by tea. All ringers welcome.—L. G. Tanner, Local Hon. Sec., 51, Locking Road, Weston-super-Mare.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Hitchin on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Tea 5.30, followed by business meeting. Will all members who have not yet paid their subscriptions please endeavour to do so at this meeting, as it is the last meeting of the year? If you are requiring tea, a card will be appreciated. Thank you! — Donald C. Mears, Hon. Dis. Sec., The School House, Offley, Hitchin.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. — A billiard match and social will be held at the Bolton Borough Police Club, Old Hall Street, Bolton, on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Club open 6 p.m. (Names, please).—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A joint meeting of the Southern District, with the Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association, will be held at Northallerton on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells (8) available afternoon. Tea at Russell's Café 4.30 p.m. Members requiring tea please notify me by the morning of Jan. 31st.—J. Titt, Hon. Dis. Sec., 71, Surtees Street, Darlington.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Potterne on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells (6) ready at 3 p.m. Guild service 4.40. Tea 5. Short business meeting follows tea.—F. Green, Branch Sec., 53, Avon Road, Devizes.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Pudsey on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells available at 3 p.m. Usual arrangements.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Armley, Leeds.

HANSLOPE, BUCKS.—A peal board, presented by the ringers who took part in the peal of Bob Minor rung on July 14th last, will be dedicated by the Vicar (Rev. W. J. Harkness) on Saturday, Feb. 2nd, at 3.30 p.m. The bells will be available for ringing from 2.45. Will all who intend to be present and require tea let me know by Wednesday, Jan. 30th? — P. Amos, 47, Overstone Road, Northampton.

NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Kidsgrove on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea 5.30 p.m. Will all who require tea please notify Mr. J. A. Cook, Wharf House, Red Bull, near Kidsgrove, Stoke-on-Trent, before Jan. 30th?—C. S. Ryles, Hon. Sec.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northampton Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Pitsford on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells (5) 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 o'clock. Will all those who require tea please notify me not later than Tuesday, Jan. 29th?—T. Tebbutt, West Street, Moulton, Northampton.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch. — The annual meeting will be held at Butterwick on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells (6) available from 2 p.m. Divine service 4.15 p.m. Tea 4.45 p.m. Business meeting directly after tea. Will those intending to be present kindly let me know by Wednesday, Jan. 30th? — John Phillips, Hon. Sec., School House, Butterwick, Boston, Lincs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Hindley St. Peter's on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 6. A good attendance is requested. — James W. Grounds, Sec., 8, School Lane, Standish.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — Next meeting will be held at Penistone, February 2nd. Bells open early. For tea please advise Mr. James Tinker, Church Street, Penistone, as early as possible. — R. Harrison, Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Canterbury on Saturday, Feb. 9th. A special service will be held at St. Alphege Church at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting at the Oddfellows' Hall, Orange Street, at 5.15. The Cathedral bells will be available after 4 p.m. Will all those intending to be present kindly notify me on or before Thursday, Feb. 7th? Members' subscriptions for 1929 are now due, and may be paid at this meeting.—Percy W. Smith, Hon. Sec., Fair View, Littlebourne, Canterbury.

DEVON GUILD.—Exeter Branch.—A meeting will be held at Newton St. Cyres on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Service 4. Tea 4.45. Bells (6) available; also Upton Pyne (6) and Crediton (8). All ringers welcome.—Miss E. Lomas, Hon. Sec., Sandfords, Whimple, Devon.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — The annual general meeting will take place on Saturday, Feb. 9th, the bells of St. Clement Danes' being available from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., after which a short service will be held. There will be a tea and meeting after the service at the Parish Hall. The bells of St. Dunstan's-in-the-East will also be available during the afternoon. Meetings for February: St. Clement Danes', Sunday, the 3rd, at 10 a.m.; Monday, the 11th and 25th, at 7.30 p.m.; St. Mary's, Lambeth, Tuesday, the 19th, at 8 p.m.—S. C. Moye, Gen. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—A meeting will be held at Leesfield, Oldham, on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. Subscriptions now due. Reports and new rules and diagrams to hand. A peal board commemorating a peal by the local band will be unveiled at this meeting.—William Horan, Branch Sec., 2, Greenhirst Hey, Todmorden.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The usual monthly meeting will be held at Childwall on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 5.30 p.m. Tea, 1s. each (Childwall Abbey), 6 p.m. Those requiring tea must notify me on or before Tuesday, Feb. 5th.—Claude I. Davies, Branch Sec., Caerleon, Dunbabin Road, Wavertree.

MR. WILLIAM GIBBONS, of 24, Wigan Road, Ormskirk, has been appointed foreman of Christ Church Belfry, Aughton, Lancashire, in the place of the late Mr. W. Fairclough.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—C. R. Lilley's address is now Sherwood House, Bishop Street, Shrewsbury, Salop.

LATE NOTICES.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—V.W.H. Branch. — A meeting will be held at Buckland on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Tower open 2.30. Service 3.30. Those requiring tea must notify the secretary, G. A. Webley, Faringdon, by previous Thursday.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Reading Branch. — The annual meeting of the above branch will be held at Reading on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. The bells of St. Giles' available from 3 p.m. Application has been made for St. Lawrence's. A ringers' service will be held at St. Giles' at 5 p.m., to be followed by a meat tea. Business meeting and smoking concert at the Rising Sun Coffee House, Silver Street, at 6 p.m. Tickets 1s. each. All intending to be present please notify the secretary by Wednesday, Jan. 30th.—F. W. Hopgood, Hon. Sec., 75, Kensington Road, Reading.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Andover District.—The annual meeting will be held at Whitchurch on Saturday, Feb. 2nd. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting in the School. All requiring tea please notify by Jan. 30th the hon. secretary, the Rev. F. C. Sear, St. Mary Bourne Vicarage, Andover.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wednesday meeting at Houghton-le-Spring, on Jan. 30th. Bells available from 2.30. Tea at Parkinson's Café, Sunderland Street, at 5 o'clock, 1s. 6d. a head. Reply as to tea to Mr. Parkinson, 1, Northview Terrace, Fence Houses, by the 28th.—George S. Taylor, Sec.

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