THE RINGING WORLD

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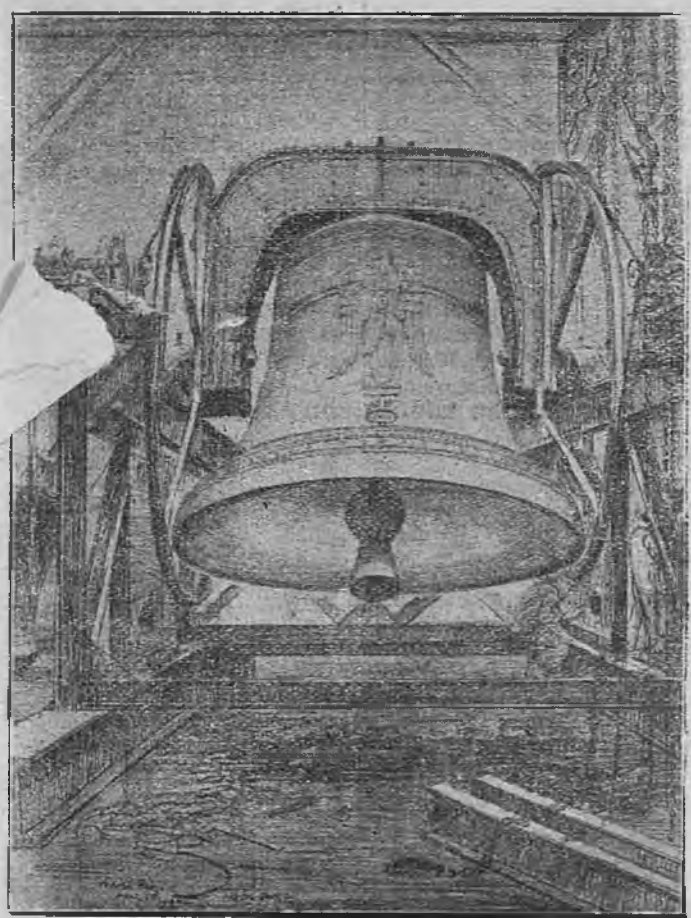

THE 18¾ TON RINGING BELL,
the Bourdon of the Carillon of 64 Bells, about to be installed at RIVERSIDE CHURCH, NEW YORK, U.S.A.

NO TAMPERING WITH 'TRUTH'!

Few questions which have been debated in the Exercise have stirred the interest of ringers so much as that at present under discussion regarding what shall be recognised as a true peal of Minor or Doubles. It is a matter which goes to the very heart of ringing, and, now that thinking ringers are seriously considering the subject, there is a growing volume of feeling that nothing must be done to tamper with the old standards of truth in composition, and even the Rev. E. Bankes James' arrangement of Cambridge Surprise Minor is threatened with repudiation, in the determination to exclude from recognition such arrangements as the Rev. H. Law James' London Surprise Minor and Mr. Morris' Grandsire Doubles. Those who have been endeavouring to justify the two latter have certainly done a disservice to the former, and it is a little difficult to know where some of them stand. For instance, Mr. Trollope, in 'The Ringing World' of December 14th last, said the 720's in the Rev. E. B. James' arrangement of Cambridge 'are all true'; in our issue of January 25th he said that this arrangement 'contains six false and incomplete 720's.' Which statement does he wish the Exercise to accept? In a letter in another column the Rev. H. Law James challenges Mr. Severn's assertion that the 720's are false and calls upon him to substantiate or withdraw the allegation. How does Mr. Trollope stand in this matter?

Again, those writers who are so anxious to read into the Hereford resolution something which is certainly not apparent on the face of it, are endeavouring to persuade the Exercise that they alone know what the Council intended. Thus we have the Rev. H. Law James persisting in the view that the resolution means, not what it says, viz., 'seven true and complete 720's,' but seven differently constructed 720's. In this definition of a peal of Minor the word 'seven' is used, we take it, with the same meaning that it has always been used since the Council defined a peal of Minor; it is used in conjunction with the words 'at least' to indicate that any number of 720's less than seven do not constitute a peal. It ought not to have been necessary to emphasise a point like this, but the argument that only by an arrangement of seven different 720's can a peal of London Surprise Minor be got, which would comply with the Hereford resolution, shows the shifts to which members of the Methods Committee are reduced to justify the views which have been put forward. Mr. James would hardly contend that in the corresponding resolution relating to Doubles the 'forty-two' means that number of differently constructed six-scores.

(Continued on page 98.)

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Then the Rev. E. S. Powell suggests that the Hereford resolution was pushed through a jaded Council at the end of a tiring day; as if the matter were sprung upon them and they were mentally so exhausted that they were unable to grasp the issues. Mr. Powell's implication is entirely misleading, for, as everyone interested in the proceedings of the Council knows, the exact words of the resolution were published three months before the meeting, and it was actually discussed at a number of association meetings up and down the country. The majority of the Council was, at all events, wide awake enough to know what it intended, although some of the Methods Committee may have been so nearly asleep that it took them six months and the shock of an article in 'The Ringing World' to come to the conclusion that the resolution did not represent the intentions of the Council.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

SHEFFIELD, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(SHEFFIELD & DISTRICT SOCIETY.)
On Saturday, February 9, 1929, in Three Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL,
A PEAL OF BOB MAXIMUS, 5016 CHANGES;
Tenor 40 cwt.

*SIDNEY BRIGGS	...Treble	SIDNEY F. PALMER	7
JOHN THORPE	2	*FREDERICK A. ADAMS	8
*ALBERT SMITHSON	3	*MAURICE E. WILSON	9
*ALBERT H. WARD	4	WALTER WOLSTENCROFT	10
*WILLIAM BARTON	5	HAYDEN THORPE	11
ARTHUR KNIGHTS	6	A. PERCIVAL KNIGHTS	...Tenor

Composed and Conducted by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.
* First peal of Bob Maximus. Quickest peal of Maximus on the bells.

TEN BELL PEALS.

IPSWICH.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
(ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)
On Saturday, February 9, 1929, in Three Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,
A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;
Tenor 32 cwt.

*HAROLD E. SYMONDS	...Treble	HARRY R. ROPER	6
WILLIAM P. GARRETT	2	FREDERICK J. TILLETT	7
CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE	3	*LESLIE G. BRETT	8
*LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN	4	GEORGE E. SYMONDS	9
*JOHN F. TILLETT	5	*EDWARD P. DUFFIELD	...Tenor

Composed by W. H. BARBER. Conducted by GEORGE E. SYMONDS
* First peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal.

LEICESTER.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 9, 1929, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes.
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 21¾ cwt.

C. HARRY WEBB	...Treble	E. HARRY STONELEY	6
*J. FREDERICK MILNER	2	PERCY HARRISON	7
†ALFRED BALLARD, JUN.	3	HAROLD J. POOLE	8
C. FERGUSON HOWITT	4	ERNEST MORRIS	9
REDVERS F. ELKINGTON	5	FREDERICK H. DEXTER	...Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by REDVERS F. ELKINGTON
* First of Cambridge Royal, and 100th M.C.A. peal. † First on ten bells. Quickest peal of Royal on these bells. Rung as a token of thanksgiving for the convalescent of H.M. King George V. after his prolonged and serious illness.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, January 26, 1929, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

STEDMAN H. SYMONDS	...*Treble*	*FREDERICK BOREHAM	5
*MAURICE T. SYMONDS	2	FREDERICK F. MORTLOCK	6
ARTHUR SYMONDS	3	LAURENCE POULSON	7
THOMAS CHINERY	4	WILLIAM R. J. POULSON	...*Tenor*

Composed by H. HARDY. Conducted by S. H. SYMONDS.

* First peal in the method. T. Chinery belongs to Long Melford, the rest are local men. Rung as a compliment to Mr. A. Symonds, towerkeeper, on reaching his 71st birthday.

HEADINGLEY, LEEDS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, January 30, 1929, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

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

Tenor 20¼ cwt.

G. WILFRED SLACK	...*Treble*	GEORGE W. SLACK	5
MRS. J. COTTERELL	2	GEORGE ROBINSON	6
JAMES COTTERELL	3	SYDNEY SADLER	7
JOSEPH BROADLEY	4	PERCY J JOHNSON	...*Tenor*

Composed by E. BARNETT, SEN. Conducted by PERCY J. JOHNSON

Rung with the bells half-muffled, as a last tribute of affection and respect to the late Mr. Henry Williams, who was conductor at Headingley for more than thirty years.

WORKSOP, NOTTS.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
(SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, February 2, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE PRIORY CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND CUTHBERT,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

JOHN H. BROTHWELL	...*Treble*	CHARLES MASON	5
REV. R. F. WILKINSON	2	JESSE J. MOSS	6
*JOHN HOLMAN	3	ARTHUR PASHLEY	7
HAROLD KENT	4	JOHN FLINT	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by J. FLINT.

* 250th peal. First peal in the method on the bells. Rung to commemorate the rebuilding of the south transept of the Priory Church, which was reopened for service on January 24th, after being in ruins 400 years.

OLDHAM.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(ROCHDALE BRANCH AND OLDHAM AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, February 2, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FIVE-PART.

*G. BARLOW	...*Treble*	J. LEES	5
A. TAYLOR	2	G. W. SCHOFIELD	6
B. THORP	3	H. BARLOW	7
O. MOORES	4	*J. WARBUTTON	...*Tenor*

Conducted by G. W. SCHOFIELD.

* First peal.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, February 5, 1929, in Three Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

EDWARD LANKESTER	...*Treble*	CHARLES T. COLES	5
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE	2	GEORGE R. PYE	6
GEORGE M. KILBY	3	JAMES BENNETT	7
ALBERT W. COLES	4	WILLIAM PYE	...*Tenor*

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

First peal in the method by all the band, and by the association. It was rung without previous practice. First peal in the method in the South of England. For composition, see "The Ringing World," October 26th, 1923.

CHESTER-LE-STREET.
THE DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Tuesday, February 5, 1929, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CUTHBERT,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

*THOMAS J. A. EDMONDSON	*Treble*	WILLIAM BROWN	5
ERNEST E. FERRY	2	GEORGE SIDDLE	6
*SAMUEL C. WALKER	3	JOHN CRAWFORD	7
*LOADMAN DONNISON	4	FREDERICK SHRATON	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. PARKER. Conducted by E. E. FERRY.

* First peal. All are service ringers at the above church except the conductor.

TWYFORD, BERKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, February 6, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 12¾ cwt

*GORDON CROSS	...*Treble*	FREDERICK DENTRY	5
MISS MARIE CROSS	2	RICHARD T. HIBBERT	6
MISS VERA ROBINSON	3	GEORGE GILBERT	7
MISS STELLA DAVIS	4	*WALTER BRADLEY	...*Tenor*

Conducted by R. T. HIBBERT.

* First peal. First peal of Grandsire on the bells.

PLYMPTON, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, February 9, 1929, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 15 cwt. (approx.).

*BERTRAM WEBBER	...*Treble*	†WILLIAM G. LAVERS	5
WILLIAM A. WONNACOTT	2	WILLIAM RONDLE	6
*FRANK PACKER	3	THOMAS G. MYERS	7
WILLIAM RICHARDS	4	ALFRED WONNACOTT	...*Tenor*

Conducted by W. A. WONNACOTT.

* First peal of Triples. † First peal of Grandsire Triples with a bob bell. First peal of Grandsire Triples as conductor. Ringers of the treble, 2nd, 3rd, 5th and tenor are residents of Plympton.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 9, 1929, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES,

Tenor 10 cwt.

EDWARD LANKESTER	...*Treble*	GEORGE R. PYE	5
WILLIAM PYE	2	HARRY KILBY	6
CHARLES T. COLES	3	WILLIAM J. NUDDS	7
THOMAS LOCK	4	JAMES BENNETT	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by CHARLES T. COLES.

DUNMOW, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 9, 1929, in Three Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

JOHNSON'S VARIATION OF MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

WALTER SMITH	...*Treble*	ALBERT WIFFEN	5
BASIL REDGWELL	2	WILLIAM KEEBLE	6
WILLIAM J. NEVARD	3	WALTER ARNOLD	7
LEWIS W. WIFFEN	4	ARTHUR SAUNDERS	...*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE.

First peal in the method on the bells. Rung to celebrate the 75rd birthday of Mr. W. J. Nevard.

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NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.
(The Nuneaton Society.)

On Thursday, February 7, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Heywood's Transposition of Thurstans' Four-part.
Tenor 14½ cwt.

HN THOMPSON	...*Treble*	WALTER STONE	5
ARRY ARGYLE	2	ALFRED KING	6
HOMAS W. CHAPMAN ...	3	DOUGLAS H. ARGYLE	7
STONE	4	ABRAHAM WILKERSON...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by D. H. Argyle.

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Friday, February 8, 1929, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Holt's Ten-part. Tenor 19¾ cwt.

JOHN GOOCH	...*Treble*	GEORGE WHITING	5
WILLIAM WEEDEN	2	ERNEST E. LANHAM	6
GEORGE PRYKE	3	GEORGE BENNETT	7
JAMES BENNETT, JUN.... ...	4	ALBERT E. WHITING ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by G. Whiting.

All the above are Sunday service ringers at the above church.

CHESTER.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 9, 1929, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary-without-the-Walls,

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

Tenor 20 cwt.

GEORGE R. JONES... ...	...*Treble*	HENRY W. WILDE	5
ROBERT SPERRING	2	JAMES SWINDLEY	6
EDWARD V. RODENHURST ...	3	JAMES H. RIDING	7
JOHN HAYES	4	ARTHUR E. PEGLER ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by H. W. Wilde. Conducted by J. H. Riding.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. A. E. Pegler and Mr. H. W. Wilde.

WORCESTER.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(Western Branch.)

On Saturday, February 9, 1929, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
At the Church of St. Helen,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Middleton's. Tenor 18¾ cwt.

*DENNIS MORRIS... ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM RANFORD	5
FRANK LAWRENCE	2	WILLIAM LEWIS	6
WILLIAM C. JONES	3	CYRIL TANSELL	7
SIDNEY T. HOLT	4	CHARLES CAMM	...*Tenor*

Conducted by Sidney T. Holt.

* First peal of Major.

SWANSEA, GLAMORGANSHIRE.
THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 9, 1929, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 19¾ cwt.

GEORGE POPNELL ...	...*Treble*	GWYN L. LEWIS	5
JOHN W. JONES	2	JOHN PHILLIPS	6
ALBERT J. PITMAN	3	WILFRED WILLIAMS	7
JOHN E. BLOXHAM	4	ERNEST STITCH	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. Pritchard. Conducted by E. Stitch.

First peal of Major on the bells. First peal of Major in the diocese for the Guild. 50th peal together by the ringers of 3rd and tenor. Thanks are given to Mr. A. Edwards for having bells up and everything ready.

BURNHAM-ON-SEA, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 9, 1929, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Thurstans' Four-part. Tenor 23 cwt.

ALEXANDER EVANS ...	...*Treble*	*CLIFFORD POPLE	5
ALFRED WYATT	2	DAVID TAYLOR	6
WILLIAM COLES	3	JOSEPH T. DYER	7
PERCY MERSON	4	HARRY LAWRENCE ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by A. Evans.

* First peal and first attempt.

WROTHAM, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 9, 1929, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. George,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt. 10 lb. in E flat.

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

Composed by C. H. Hattersley. Conducted by Stafford H. Green

Believed to be the first peal in the method on the bells.

WICKEN, NORTHANTS.
TOWCESTER AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 9, 1929, in Three Hours and One Minute.
At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Groves' Transposition of Parker's Twelve-part.
Tenor 18 cwt.

HARRY CASHMORE ...	...*Treble*	LEONARD A. SMITH	5
ALBERT J. GREEN	2	FREDERICK C. CASE	6
*HARRY G. RIDGWAY ...	3	THOMAS E. READ	7
THOMAS E. ROBERTS ...	4	GEORGE FODDY	...*Tenor*

Conducted by T. E. Read.

* First peal on eight bells. First peal as conductor.

CALDICOT, MON.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 9, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 6 lb.

WILLIAM DODD	...*Treble*	†WILLIAM ALSOP...	5
*CYRIL G. HOOPER	2	SAMUEL JONES	6
ARTHUR G. SPARKES... ...	3	WILLIAM MARGETTS... ...	7
ARTHUR LEWIS	4	WILLIAM HOOPER ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. Parker. Conducted by Samuel Jones.

* First peal inside. † First peal.

ALMONDSBURY, GLOS.
GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 9, 1929, in Three Hours and Four Minutes.
At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Groves' Transposition of Parker's Twelve-part.
Tenor 22 cwt. in D.

HAROLD ROBBINS ...	...*Treble*	ALBERT R. W. WHITE ...	5
CECIL H. PAWSEY	2	STEPHEN H. WOOD	6
*ALBERT NASH	3	GEORGE E. CAPEWELL ...	7
VICTOR WILLS	4	HENRY KINGTON	...*Tenor*

Conducted by Stephen H. Wood.

* First peal an an inside bell. Rung as a farewell peal to the Rev. Canon F. R. Wood, father of the conductor, who is leaving the parish after 30 years' devoted ministry. He has always taken a keen interest both in his bells and his ringers.

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ROWLEY REGIS, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Saturday, February 9, 1929, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 13¾ cwt.

*HARRY BOSWELL	...Treble	†HERBERT T. PIPER	5
LOUIS S. GRIFFITHS	2	*THOMAS E. TAYLOR	6
ABRAHAM GREENFIELD	3	FRANCIS BROTHERTON	7
SAMUEL J. HUGHES	4	*ALBERT ADDISON	...Tenor

Conducted by ABRAHAM GREENFIELD.

* First peal of Grandsire Triples. † First peal on eight bells. The conductor, who has previously rung a peal on each of the above bells, has now conducted a peal on each bell, and is the first ringer to accomplish this in this tower.

BIRSTALL, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 9, 1929, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 22 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lb.

THOMAS B. KENDALL	...Treble	ARTHUR H. HORNER	5
MRS. JAMES COTTERELL	2	ALBERT C. FEARNLEY	6
JOSEPH BROADLEY	3	THOMAS W. STRANGEWAY	7
JAMES COTTERELL	4	LESLIE W. G. MORRIS	...Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS W. STRANGEWAY.

Thomas B. Kendall's 200th peal. Ringer of the treble from Shipley, 2nd, 3rd and 4th from Bradford, 5th and 6th from York, 7th from Rothwell, tenor from Armley.

SIX BELL PEALS.

HITCHAM, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 2, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being three extents of Oxford and four of Kent, rung alternately.
Tenor 6½ cwt.

WILLIAM E. TAYLOR	...Treble	*MISS KATHLEEN FLETCHER	4
MISS BERTHA M. MILLS	2	*MISS D. R. FLETCHER	5
GEORGE MARTIN	3	GEORGE GILBERT	...Tenor

Conducted by GEO. GILBERT.

* First peal of Minor. Rung as a birthday compliment to Miss F. Berry, at whose house the band were afterwards entertained to a sumptuous repast.

PINCHBECK, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(ELLOE DEANERIES BRANCH.)
On Wednesday, February 6, 1929, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two extents each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and two of Double Court, and one of Plain Bob. Tenor 21 cwt.

WILLIAM H. SUTTON	...Treble	GEORGE LADD	4
ARTHUR GROUND	2	JOHN CURRY	5
GEORGE SEWELL	3	JOHN G. AMES	...Tenor

Conducted by JOHN G. AMES.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor.

HENDON, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 9, 1929, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven 720's, each called differently. Tenor 16½ cwt.

CHARLES H. MARTIN	...Treble	FREDERICK S. TUBB	4
WILLIAM J. NORTON	2	ERNEST BONFIELD	5
FREDERICK CHERRITT	3	FREDERICK A. BARKER	...Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK A. BARKER.

Rung to commemorate the 36th anniversary of the wedding of Mr. C. H. Martin, who very kindly consented at the last moment to fill the place of one of the band who was taken ill. Ernest Bonfield was elected a member of the association prior to starting the peal. The band wish to thank the Rector for the use of the grand old bells dating back 300 years.

CADELEIGH, DEVON.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.
On Saturday, February 9, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 six-scores with ten different callings. Tenor 10 cwt.

FRANK J. DAVEY	...Treble	ARTHUR G. SELLEY	4
SAMUEL J. HOPKINS	2	HARRY POOK	5
*RICHARD HARRIS	3	*RICHARD WILMOT	...Tenor

Conducted by FRANK J. DAVEY.

* First peal. First peal on the bells.

WINCHCOMBE, GLOS.
THE FOUR SHIRES GUILD
On Saturday, February 9, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 120's, with 13 callings

P.S. E. ASTON	...Treble	W. LARGE	4
W. COLEMAN	2	G. HIATT	5
J. GARDNER	3	C. W. LOCKE	...Tenor

Conducted by W. LARGE.

First peal on the bells.

STAPLEFORD, CAMBS.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 9, 1929, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF DURHAM SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven 720's. Tenor 7 cwt. in A flat.

ROBERT HOWARD	...Treble	ALBERT E. AUSTIN	4
MISS KITTY WILLERS	2	FRANK HARPER	5
JOHN W. WARD	3	EDWARD H. FINCH	...Tenor

Conducted by ROBERT HOWARD.

SHARNBROOK, BEDS.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 9, 1929, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven 720's.

WILLIAM SHARP	...Treble	WILLIAM STOCK	4
HENRY W. GAYTON	2	EDMUND J. HOBBS	5
WALTER PERKINS	3	CHARLES W. CLARKE	...Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES W. CLARKE.

BLETSOE, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 9, 1929, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 Cambridge, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob and two 720's each of Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 16 cwt.

*ERNEST ARQUE	...Treble	JOHN POTTER	4
†JOHN R. SMITH	2	HERBERT L. HARLOW	5
*JOSEPH CRISELL	3	JOHN T. NEWINGTON	...Tenor

Conducted by J. T. NEWINGTON.

* First peal in five methods. † First peal. J. R. Smith was elected a life member of the association in the tower.

WELLINGORE, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, February 9, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of College Single, Double Court, Single Court, St. Clement's, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob, and Plain Bob.
Tenor 11¾ cwt.

JOHN WALDEN	...Treble	HARRY CARTER	4
CHARLES MCGUINESS	2	CHARLES CLAYDON	5
MOSES BILLINGS	3	FREDERICK STOKES	...Tenor

Conducted by F. W. STOKES.

DUBLIN.—At St. Patrick's Cathedral, on Tuesday, January 22nd, 720 of Plain Bob: *R. George 1, *E. A. George 2, G. Lindoff (conductor) 3, D. Gibson 4, G. Lindoff, jun., 5, J. Tough 6, *J. Colbert 7. * First 720.

MORTON, DERBYSHIRE.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTINGHAMSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 9, 1929, in Two Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising 720 of College Single, one of Spliced Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, two each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, one of Plain Bob. Tenor 4¾ cwt.

BERNARD BAILEY	...*Treble*	FRED WHEELER	4
ERNEST T. MALLENDER ...	2	BERNARD WHEELER	5
FRED CLARKE	3	FRED KNOWLES	...*Tenor*

Conducted by F. KNOWLES.

Rung in honour of the wedding in India of W. G. Latham, son of Rector of the above church.

HANDBELL PEAL.

CAMBRIDGE.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

On Sunday, February 3, 1929, in Two Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

IN TRINITY COLLEGE,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 17 in A.

E. M. ATKINS (St. Cths.)...	1-2	S. H. WOOD (Magdalene) ...	5-6
C. W. WOOLLEY (Selwyn)...	3-4	F. E. HAYNES (St. Cths.)...	7-8
		J. R. DUFFIELD (Selwyn) ..	9-10

Composed by E. M. ATKINS. Non-Conducted.

This peal was not conducted, but it is not claimed as strictly silent, and there was no witness. It was rung to celebrate the jubilee of the above Guild, which was founded on February 4th, 1879.

KING'S NORTON GUILD.

The King's Norton Guild spent a very pleasant evening on Saturday, February 2nd, as the guests of their late Ringing Master, Mr. F. B. Yates. The company, which included Messrs. F. J. Smallwood (Derby) and Albert Walker and James George (Birmingham), sat down to an excellent dinner of Christmas fare at the Bull's Head, King's Norton. After dinner, and the loyal toast had been enthusiastically received, the ringers settled down to a very enjoyable programme of music and handbell ringing. Songs were capitally rendered by Messrs. A. S. Downes, W. Dowding and Harry Withers. The host gave the toast of 'The Guild,' and expressed his regret that he had been obliged to resign from the position of Ringing Master. He should, however, continue to support the interests of the Guild and join the ringers in the tower as often as possible in the future. He regretted the absence from the gathering of Mr. P. O. Laflin, through illness, and expressed the indebtedness of the Guild to Mr. Laflin for the excellent work he had done for it in the past. He hoped he would speedily recover, and be back amongst them again soon. He expressed his confidence in his successor, Mr. Chas. Webb, and congratulated him upon his appointment as Ringing Master.

Mr. Smallwood supported the remarks of Mr. Yates, and wished the Guild every success.

Mr. Webb, in replying, pointed out that the future of the Guild depended very much upon what the members made it.

Mr. Spencer proposed the chairman's health. This was supported by Mr. A. Walker, and received with musical honours.

All those who contributed to the evening's enjoyment acquitted themselves well, but special mention must be made of the redoubtable Mr. Harry Withers, who, in addition to playing several touches in ringing methods on the piano, produced a whistle and 'rendered' items in a style which astonished the company and produced much mirth. It is a far cry from the playing of a whistle to a performance on a carillon, but Mr. Withers appears to be able to completely fill the space.

One very pleasing incident during the evening was the toast of 'The Ringing World' at 9 p.m., by Mr. Albert Walker, who said that the Editor would be raising his glass at that moment to all the ringers then assembled together.

Auld Lang Syne and the National Anthem brought to a conclusion a most enjoyable and successful gathering.

METROPOLITAN POLICE GUILD.

At the Church of St. George-the-Martyr, Southwark, for morning service, on Sunday, January 27th, 720 Grandsire Doubles, with 4-6-8 covering: P.C. Willmington 1, P.S. Schleuter 2, Inspector Bottrill (conductor) 3, H. Spink 4, P.C. Digby 5, J. Ridpath (churchwarden) (first 720) 6, P.C. Davis 7, P.C. Stapleton (first 720) 8.

This tower is now the headquarters of the Metropolitan Police Guild of Change Ringers, who hope to instruct the local ringers in method ringing, as only call changes have been rung here for many years.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

PRESENTATION TO THE HON. TREASURER.

The annual meeting of the Yorkshire Association was held at Far Headingley, Leeds, on Saturday, January 26th. The day's proceedings commenced with the audit in the Church Schools, by Messrs. G. B. S. Webb and G. Noble. The day being exceptionally fine, a large number of visitors arrived to take advantage of the ring of eight at St. Chad's and the ring of eight in the neighbouring tower of St. Michael's Church. The annual service took place in St. Chad's Church, previous to which Mr. H. Percy Richardson gave a recital on the splendid organ, which was much appreciated. The sermon was preached by the Vicar of Headingley (Rev. Canon R. H. Malden). Taking as his text 1 Cor. x. 31, the preacher stated that the ringing of bells was a Christian thing. All art was born of religion, and bellringing existed for religion. There was sometimes a danger of that link being forgotten, as some who rang seldom, if ever, entered the House of God. Such ringing must be regarded as hypocritical, and any such ringers must have forgotten the words of the text. It would seem that more was thought of self-glory than the glory of God. This outlook on life, where it existed, was wrong, and the art should be actuated by the desire to serve religion.

Tea was served in St. Chad's Schools, and (as is the custom) many more visitors required tea than those who had ordered it, to the embarrassment of the providers.

The business meeting followed immediately afterwards, with the president (Mr. R. C. C. Marshall) in the chair, he being supported by Mr. Raymond Hepper and the principal officers of the association. Apologies for non-attendance were received from Messrs. J. H. Blakiston, J. W. Addison and T. Cole.

In proposing the acceptance of the annual report of the committee, the President called attention to the attendance at the Snowdon dinner, and urged members to make an effort to attend that function in future. Attention was also drawn to a resolution by the general committee, 'That as the peal of Liversedge Spliced Treble Bob, rung at Liversedge on February 4th, does not comply with the rulings of the Central Council, in that Bob Major lead-ends are not produced, nor is it possible to ring a plain course in the method, it does not desire a repetition of this performance, and it requests all members to respect the rulings and decisions of the Central Council when contemplating the ringing of a peal in any method.'

Opportunity was taken of congratulating Mr. J. Broadley on having rung 33 peals for the association, this being the highest number rung by any member resident in the county.

The President, in moving a vote of condolence to the widow of the late Mr. Henry Williams, of Headingley, paid a warm tribute to the deceased, who had served the association in turn as general committee man, trustee and general secretary.—This vote was carried by the members rising in silence.

The balance sheet was carried, on the motion of Mr. B. G. S. Webb, seconded by Mr. W. Barton, and the auditors were thanked for their services on the motion of the president, seconded by Mr. Cotterell.

Opportunity was taken at this meeting to mark the completion of twenty-one years of office as hon. general treasurer by Mr. James Cotterell, and he was presented with a gold watch as a token of the regard and esteem of the members. In making the presentation, the President thanked Mr. Cotterell for his many valued services, and conveyed the good wishes of the association to him, trusting that he would be spared for many years to continue in the post he has filled so long and honourably.—Mr. Cotterell made an eloquent reply.

It was moved by Mr. J. Wooler, seconded by Mr. W. O. Talbot, that a meeting be arranged if possible at Whitby on Easter Monday. A vote of thanks to the Vicar of Far Headingley and wardens, also to the preacher and organist, was moved by Mr. P. J. Johnson, seconded by Mr. C. D. Potter, this motion including a vote to the Rev. Canon R. H. Malden for his sermon, and to the wardens of Headingley for kindly granting the use of the bells.

A vote of thanks to the local company, and the ladies who waited at the tea tables, was responded to by Mr. G. E. Lawson, who gave a warm welcome to the association.

It was moved by the President, and seconded by Mr. G. Lewis, that Mr. Raymond Hepper be elected an honorary member, and on this being agreed to, Mr. Hepper made a most interesting speech.—Messrs. J. Smith, W. E. Townend, F. Alderson, W. Hick, E. West and the full band at Marsden, were elected as members of the association, and the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman, who occupies the dual offices of Vicar of Far Headingley and the president of the Yorkshire Association. Thus ended a most pleasant day and meeting, train time calling a halt eventually to all the ringing activities.

A BIRTHDAY COMPLIMENT.

At Lavenham, Suffolk, on Sunday, January 13th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 48 mins.: A. Symonds 1, W. R. J. Poulson 2, W. Fayers 3, F. F. Mortlock 4, M. Symonds 5, S. H. Symonds (conductor) 6, F. A. Poulson 7, F. A. Turner 8. This quarter-peal is the composition of the editor, of 'The Ringing World' (Mr. J. S. Goldsmith), and was rung as a birthday compliment to him, the band wishing him many happy returns.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

READING BRANCH'S SUCCESSFUL YEAR.

The annual meeting of the Reading Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild was held at Reading on Saturday, February 2nd. During the afternoon touches of Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Double Norwich, and Grandsire Caters were rung on the bells of St. Lawrence's and St. Giles'. A service was held at St. Giles' Church, conducted by the Rev. E. Sheppard and the Rev. F. Phillips. The Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn (Master of the Guild) gave the address, his text being, 'Let us wait on our ministering' (Rom. xii. 7).

A splendid tea was then served at the Silver Street Hall, a company of 55 sitting down, members being present from most of the towers in the branch, together with the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn (Master), Mr. A. J. Wright (treasurer), Mr. L. Joyce (branch chairman), Mr. W. S. Pearton, the Rev. St. George Edwards, the Rev. H. G. Harding, and visitors from Faringdon, Hillingdon, Newbury and Bucklebury.

The business meeting and election of officers followed. Mr. L. Joyce was elected chairman with acclamation. The balance sheet was read and adopted, and the secretary's report showed it had once more been a successful year, there being an increase in hon. and ordinary members, and an increased balance. The quarterly meetings held during the year, too, had been successful.

The Master spoke of the restorations which had taken place in the branch during the year, namely, Henley, Nettlebed, and St. Mary's, Reading.

The hon. secretary (Mr. F. W. Hopgood) was then re-elected, and Messrs. Wiggins and Foster were elected auditors. The general committee, Messrs. W. Appleby, H. Tucker and J. Swain, were re-elected.

The quarterly meetings for 1929 were arranged for Shiplake, Nettlebed and Henley.

Satisfactory tower reports were given from most of the foremen of the branch.

Thanks were accorded to the Vicar, the Rev. Canon F. J. C. Gillmor, R.D., and the organist, Mr. P. R. Scrivenor, F.R.C.O., of St. Giles', for the beautiful service which was rendered.

An impromptu concert followed. Miss Peggy Pocock sang delightfully, accompanied by her sister, Miss Vera Pocock. Messrs. Fordery and Gash also entertained with songs, and Miss D. Ford with recitations. Humorous stories were enjoyed from Messrs. Curtis, Gash, and Hopgood.

The meeting concluded with the singing of the National Anthem.

DEVON GUILD.

The spring quarterly meeting of the Exeter Branch was held at Newton St. Cyres on February 9th, about 80 members being present, including representatives from 15 bands in union, several honorary members, and visitors from other branches. The service in church, at which the Vicar, the Rev. J. E. B. Ball, officiated and gave a most inspiring address, was followed by a tea and business meeting, the Rev. E. V. Cox presiding.

Six change ringing certificates were presented by Mrs. Powell, wife of the president, and three new associate members were elected to the branch. The date of the autumn meeting was fixed for September 7th, at Kenn.

Parties visited the towers of Newton St. Cyres and Upton Pyne, where the use of the bells was much appreciated.

LADIES' GUILD.

The quarterly meeting of the Northern District was held on Saturday, January 26th, at Worksop, Notts, and although the weather was exceptionally favourable the attendance was very poor. Consequently the quality of the ringing left much to be desired, the methods being limited to Grandsire Triples and Bob Major. A splendid tea was provided in the old Gate House, which stands at the entrance to the grounds of the Priory.

After the tea, which was thoroughly enjoyed by all, the business meeting took place, the Vicar's wife, Mrs. D'Arcy, presiding.

A decision regarding the design and inscription of the peal tablet which is to be placed in Handsworth belfry commemorating the first peal of Major ever rung by ladies, was subsequently arrived at, and the work is to be started at once. The subscription list still remains open, as the necessary amount is not yet forthcoming, and donations, however small, will be very gratefully acknowledged.

Duffield was suggested for the next meeting, and the date fixed for April 14th, when it is hoped all members will endeavour to attend.

Votes of thanks were extended to Canon D'Arcy for the use of the bells, to his wife for taking the chair, and to those responsible for providing such an excellent tea, credit for this being chiefly due to Mrs. Scott, of Rotherham, who had personally undertaken the catering.

All those present then attended the short evensong, and before going back to the belfry stayed to inspect the glories of the magnificent old Priory Church, which is a splendid specimen of Norman architecture, dated 1103 A.D. Further ringing took place in the evening, and brought an enjoyable meeting to a close.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

One hundred and forty years ago to-morrow, St. Martin's Youths, Birmingham, rang a peal of 14,224 Bob Major at Aston in 8 hrs. 45 mins.

London lost a ring of twelve bells on February 17th, 1836, when a destructive fire occurred at Christ Church, Spitalfields.

The old Society of Trinity Youths, now defunct as an organisation, but some of whose members are still to be found, rang their first peal, which was Grandsire Triples, at St. Nicholas', Deptford, on February 18th, 1782.

The first peal of College Single Major was rung 40 years ago next Monday at Warnham, Sussex.

Henry Haley, one of London's greatest ringers, was born on February 19th, 1819. He did many brilliant things, including composing and conducting the first peal of Stedman Cinques rung on handbells. Altogether he rang 182 peals, of which he conducted 155 and composed 105. He was the first to utilise in a peal composition the 'handstroke' position in Stedman Caters.

The first 'silent' peal of Stedman Cinques on handbells was rung at Leicester on February 21st, 1903.

The sender of a report of a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major, rung at Moorside, Oldham, on February 2nd, has omitted the number of changes.

JUBILEE OF THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

The Cambridge University Guild celebrated its 50th birthday on February 4th, having been founded on that date in 1879.

Owing to the unfortunate death of thhe Rev. H. B. Woolley, one of the Guild's oldest members and firmest friends, it was decided to postpone the jubilee celebrations till September, when the Guild will be holding its annual tour in the Cambridge district.

The occasion was, however, celebrated by a non-conducted peal of Bob Royal, which was rung on handbells in the rooms of the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, president of the Guild, in Trinity College, on the evening preceding the jubilee day (as reported elsewhere in this issue).

PARSON WHO 'LOATHES' CHURCH BELLS.

St. Michael's Church, Derby, has no bell, but the Cathedral Church on one side and St. Alkmund's on the other each possesses a peal. The ringing of the bells apparently interfered with the parochial meeting at St. Michael's, and the Vicar, the Rev. C. A. Page, made the following outburst:—

'Personally I absolutely loathe church bells. They are like a red rag to a bull to me. They are a mere row—no music at all.

'I always class three things together—church bells, Scottish bagpipes and cats at night. I do not know which is the worst.

'I often wish that campanologists were made to camp on Salisbury Plain and stay there.'

We have to thank a great many correspondents for sending us copies of the above, and regret we cannot print all the comments which we have received thereon.

One writer, however, asks what Mr. Page is going to do about his future destination. 'There may be bells in heaven,' he says; 'in the other place there would be no risk of hearing them—the temperature would melt them.'

DEATH OF ANOTHER SUSSEX PIONEER.

Another old pioneer of ringing in Sussex passed away on January 30th, in the person of William Palmer, who was for about 40 years a member of the St. Nicholas' Society, Brighton, and for some 35 years of that period was captain and steeplekeeper. In early life he was a sailor, but settling in Brighton he joined the St. Nicholas' Society, and in company with the late James Searle, John Jay, G. F. Attree, Harry Weston and others, laid the foundation of change ringing in Brighton. He joined the Sussex Association at its start in 1885. He kept no record of his peals, but he rang about 170 altogether. An excellent treble ringer, he rang that bell to a large number of Surprise peals in and around Brighton. Through ill-health he gave up ringing about three years ago, and about two years ago had, under the doctor's orders, to give up work. Though well provided for, to walk about doing nothing was more than 'old Bill' could stand, and he had to be taken to the Mental Hospital, at Haywards Heath, where he died, and was buried on February 2nd. Thus passes another veteran, highly respected by all who knew him.

A FALSE PEAL.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I have been informed by the composer, Mr. A. Knights, that a peal of 5,728 Kent Treble Bob Major, rung at Willesden by members of the Middlesex County Association on January 10th, 1925, is false. This peal is therefore being withdrawn from records. I had expected this to be notified by the conductor, Mr. J. E. Sykes, but it is possible that he is away from home.—Yours faithfully,

C. T. COLES,
Joint Hon. Sec.

PEALS OF MINOR AND DOUBLES.

CONSTRUCTION OF LONDON MINOR GROUP.

To the Editor.

Sir,—'The Ringing World' of February 1st contains a leading article, a letter from Mr. Parker and another from Mr. Severn, which show the writers have not yet understood my position.

About 15 months ago someone wrote and asked me for seven 720's of London Minor in which 5-6 never come up the wrong way about at the back. Under the old definition this is impossible; there are only four 720's which will do so.

When the motion was moved at Hereford, I seconded it, because I could see that it would enable us to get a real peal of London Minor containing this very important condition. That answers Mr. Severn's question.

Mr. Parker publishes what he calls a mixed 5,040 of London Minor, which he states contains four extents having the tenor called WRW, but this is impossible. There can be only one extent in which the tenor is called WRW, and there is only one in which the 5th is called RWR, and so Mr. Parker's arrangement does not satisfy the condition.

To satisfy the definition as passed at Hereford we must have seven 720's, not one repeated seven times.

Here are the four old ones which keep 5-6 the right way about behind:—

A	C	D
23456	23456	23456
64235.1	64235 —	42635
64352.4	52643 —	56423 —
23645.1	36524 —	34562 —
34256.4P	53462	25346 —
	45236	32654
Q sets bobbed.		
25	62453 —	63425
35	34625 —	54632 —
45	56342 —	26543 —
B	35264	35264 —
23456	42356 —	42356 —
23564.4	Q sets bobbed.	Q sets bobbed.
45236.1	25 34	26 34
45362.4	24 35	24 36
34256.1.P	23 45	23 46
	56	56
Q sets bobbed.		
26 36 46		

There are five more which also keep 5-6 right, and I select the following three:—

E	F	G
23456	23456	23456
64235 —	42635	42635
52643 —	56423 —	56423 —
36524 —	34562 —	45362
53462	25346 —	34256
45236	32654	2 rep.
62453 —	63425	26543
34625 —	54632 —	
56342 —	26543 —	52364
35264	35264 —	35426
23456	23456	43652
		64235
34256	34256	52643 —
Treated the same.	and 42356	36524 —
42356 —	ditto	2 rep.
ditto		Q sets.
Q sets.	Q sets.	23
23 34	23 34	24
24 35	24 36	34
25 45	26 46	

Now E and F have 18 bobs in each, but they fall into three separate round blocks. G has 9 bobs and falls into two three-part round blocks.

We introduce one of these round blocks into E and the other into F, and obtain two round blocks containing three true and complete 720's. The Q sets of each are differently treated. Thus we get the seven:—

23456 E G	23456 F
56423.2	56423.2
62345.3 E	34562.1
53624.1	25346.1
46532.1	54632.3
63254.3	26543.1.G
42635.1	52643.5.H
56423.1	36524.1.F
34256.2.F	45362.1
	34256.1.P

Finally, Mr. Severn states that my brother's seven 720's of Cambridge are all false.

It is very easy to make false statements, and Mr. Severn must either withdraw this statement or prove it true, and this he cannot do.

H. LAW JAMES.

AGREEMENT DESIRED.

Sir,—It is surely a little unreasonable on your part to cry out because you cannot eat your cake and keep it. As Mr. Trollope has already stated, the Methods Committee propose to insert in the new edition groups of 720's on the Bankes James' plan suitable for all Treble Bob methods as well as grouping, like those of his brother for London, etc, and also six-scores of Grandsire Doubles on the lines indicated in Mr. Atkins' letter in your issue of January 11th last.

The weight of opinion expressed in your correspondence columns during the past weeks is undoubtedly due to the effect that all these are excluded by the actual wording of the resolutions passed at Hereford. Some writers think that certain of the arrangements can get through the meshes, but most take the view that all are excluded.

At the same time there is a strong feeling (whether that of the majority, time alone can show) that some at least of them should be permitted. And if they are to be allowed I am convinced that the members of the Exercise would wish to have the recognised arrangements permanently available in the new collection. At the same time it would be obviously improper for the Methods Committee to issue groupings of 720's and six-scores which are not to be accepted for peal ringing purposes. As a committee, we are not interested either way. It is for the Central Council to lay down its policy, and then, whatever the decision, we shall carry it out.

But with all respect to you, sir, there is grave doubt at the moment as to what the real policy of the Council is. The resolutions themselves were passed somewhat hurriedly at the end of a long session, when the members were quite obviously tired. Moreover, the gentlemen responsible for bringing the matter up have spoken with diverse and even contradictory voices. Mr. J. W. Parker would insist on 720 different rows being rung, and then another 720 rung similarly, and so on, but is apparently indifferent as to how the seven groups are spliced together, but on no account would he accept spliced extents such as those in Mr. Atkins' letter. Your position in leading articles is somewhat similar, while Mr. Goldsmith, in proposing the resolutions at Hereford, stated categorically before the Council that they were intended to admit groupings on the plan mentioned by Mr. Atkins. Mr. Law James, who seconded the resolutions, published a few weeks later the composite London 720's, which are similar in principle to Mr. Atkins' 120's, and which Mr. Parker repudiates so strongly in your issue of February 1st. No one will imagine that Mr. James would have put these out had he then thought they were forbidden by a resolution which he himself had assisted in fathering.

Let me state once more that in a matter of this kind the intentions of those who proposed or voted on the resolutions is not the really important consideration. Committees of Guilds and Associations are bound to take the wording of resolutions as they stand and act on them, and not on the supposed intention of those who have legislated for them. And your correspondence goes to show that some associations would feel bound to reject all peals of Minor and Doubles in which the 720's and 120's are not in round blocks, while other associations would accept some and reject others.

As an Exercise we have got to make up our mind what we want and get it laid down in terms about which there can be no dispute.

—Yours, etc., E. S. POWELL.

AN APPEAL FOR FIVE-BELL RINGERS.

Dear Sir,—When Mr. W. Willson objects to 'niceties of expression' and 'hair splitting' he forgets that these words describe his own letters. They are 'expressions of his disagreement with others,' and he 'splits' the differences of epithets to describe them, finally plumping for the term 'freak.' With this conclusion I thoroughly agree. But most developments in nature, as well as in art, have started with a freak. The first 'cross peal' must have appeared a freak to men who only knew 'plain changes,' and spliced ringing certainly seemed a freak at first. If we try to legislate against the possibility of freaks appearing, we shall bring about the sterility of death. We want our art to develop, and when freaks appear we want to test them thoroughly, to see if they can produce a healthy development.

Mr. Willson tells us that a splice makes what is joined stronger than before; but I would remind him that this does not apply to a splice that is bad or incomplete or imperfect. And it is because I am afraid that one of these terms applies to these splices, that I am not enamoured of them.

I should like to say how much I agree with all that Mr. Trollope has written on this matter, but, unfortunately, his last letter but one comes to a conclusion inconsistent with the former one; and as

I have already expressed my agreement with the former letter I am now in somewhat of a difficulty. Before, we understood that those spliced arrangements were true but not complete. Now he says that such a peal is neither true, nor complete, nor an extent.

Let us see. Suppose we write out the six rows of the changes on three bells on six cards. Now these cards can be arranged in two orthodox ways, one of which would be a Stedman Quick Six, and the other a Slow Six (or you can call one a six in Even Movement, and the other in Odd).

But we could also arrange them in other ways, say, by drawing from a hat. Now each of these arrangements would be true, for obviously no row could be used twice. Also each would be an extent, for all the cards would be used. And if each is true and an extent, it does not seem possible to deny that each is complete. What is missing is not truth nor completeness, nor the extent, but something which perhaps may be better described as perfection. Really, it is a correct rhythm which is missing, but probably it would be best described by saying that these sixes are imperfect.

To say that they are unorthodox at present is begging the question, as the question is whether we are to allow them to be ranked as orthodox.

(Similar arguments, applying to splicing, could be used with arrangements of 12 cards, on which the six rows were written out twice over.)

With regard to Mr. Trollope's question as to what is to be done with regard to the Report, obviously he cannot get a definite answer from your columns. It is by no means certain that he would get an answer if he left it to the next Council meeting. The Council might well follow precedent, and say it is not a matter on which they were capable of deciding.

Would it not satisfy everyone if these arrangements were inserted in the Report, with a note saying that they are contrary to a decision of the Council, but seem worth recording?

(Similarly, would it not be possible to note that some call the 'Bob' method 'Plain,' and also to suggest an alternative to the two names which are still objected to.)

But what I should like to support with all the power I can is the cause of five-bell ringers. Think of it, having to ring the same old 120's week after week! I am glad to hear that a large number of new five-bell methods are to be published, and I hope that while we may be as rigid as we like on seven or more bells—nay, even (if you will) on six—yet let us give what relaxation we can of the rules, whether of methods or calling, for five-bell ringers.

HERBERT DRAKE.

SUGGESTION TO ASSOCIATIONS.

Dear Sir,—With reference to the discussion which is going on, as to whether the Central Council shall, or shall not, admit 'unorthodox' compositions of Doubles and Minor, I should like to bring again to the notice of all ringers the concluding part of your leading article in the issue of February 1st. Please print it again: 'If the bells in a peal on six bells are not to strike in 720, or on five bells in 120 different orders before beginning the next 720 or 120, then the accepted canons of peal ringing . . . will be scrapped.'

Surely that puts the whole thing as plain as a pike staff. And, as you remark again in your leader of January 11th, 'the Council and the Exercise . . . must decide the plain question, what is and what is not to be recognised as a true peal of Minor or Doubles.'

May I suggest, sir, that all district secretaries be asked to include this item on the agenda for discussion at their meetings between now and the next meeting of the Central Council, and take a vote on the question, so that the representatives (or delegates) they are sending to the Central Council meeting may know exactly the opinion of their members on the question, **and vote accordingly.** It might be put to them in some such form as follows: 'Is it your considered opinion that the Central Council should admit compositions of Minor and of Doubles in which the bells **do not** strike in 720 and 120 different orders respectively, before beginning the next 720 or 120? **Yes** or **No.**'—Yours faithfully,

ROBERT WHITTINGTON,
Guildford Diocesan Guild.

(Other letters are unavoidably held over.)

(Continued from next column.)

sue the bell founders for the value of the bells unlawfully taken possession of and broken up by them. I must, therefore, sanction a course of dealing of which I entirely disapprove. I have heard this case (though the petition is unopposed) in Court because it is a typical instance of what takes place too often in regard to our churches, and I would appeal to bell founders and to all concerned in contracting for Church work that they concern themselves not only with the gains but with the good order of the transaction and see that the proper sanction which alone makes it legal is given. I am sure that in so doing they will gain the esteem of the community at large and at the same time render good service to the Church.'

THE RESTORATION OF CHURCH BELLS.

IMPORTANCE OF OBTAINING A FACULTY.

At a Consistory Court held at St. Paul's Cathedral, the Chancellor of the Diocese of London (Mr. F. H. L. Errington) heard a petition of the Vicar and churchwardens of the parish of St. James, Clerkenwell, for a faculty to confirm the removal of the bells from the church, and repairs to the organ, which had been carried out without a faculty having first been obtained. It was stated that the bells had been broken up and were ready to be recast, after which it was intended to replace them in the church with whatever inscriptions they previously bore. There was no opposition to the petition.

Evidence was given by the Vicar (Rev. C. J. Parker), Mr. How (Vicar's churchwarden), and Mr. C. F. Johnston, of the Croydon Foundry.

THE JUDGMENT.

The Chancellor, in delivering judgment, said that sanction for a minor work in connection with the organ was also asked for, and this would be granted as a matter of course. Proceeding, the Chancellor said that the church was consecrated in 1792 with a peal of eight bells made by an old-established firm of bell makers, whose business is now carried on under the style of Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of Whitechapel. He had no evidence that the bells were not a good average ring. In 1904, however, one bell cracked and was recast by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. No faculty was asked for or obtained. In 1924 the bells were in need of repair, and Messrs. Mears and Stainbank reported that they were in such a condition that they must be either properly hung or left alone, and that the fittings needed renewal. At the end of January, 1925, Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, of Croydon, were called in and were mainly responsible for what followed.

In February, 1925, they recommended various repairs, involving the renewal of numerous fittings, and gave an estimate of £187, which included the removal of the bells to their works. Owing apparently to lack of funds nothing was done until July, 1928, when the matter was re-opened by the petitioners, and the same firm offered to do the repairs at the reduced price of £180. This quotation was accepted, and the bells were removed, no faculty being obtained.

On September 12th, 1928, Messrs. Gillett and Johnston for the first time suggested the recasting of the bells. In a letter of that date they set out the advantages of the Five Tone Harmonic or Simpson principle of tuning. The retuning would involve the recasting of the bells, and they gave an estimate of £275 for the work, or, with certain improvements in weight and otherwise, £345. The estimate of £345 was accepted and a contract signed. According to Messrs. Gillett and Johnston this system of tuning was practised in the Netherlands 300 years ago, and had been lately rediscovered and improved. Opinion, however, was not unanimous on the advantages of this system. What was gained in tunefulness might be lost in power; and, however this might be, there was obviously a great difference between tuning the original bells in this fashion and breaking up and recasting an existing peal.

AN APPEAL TO BELL FOUNDERS.

Referring to the fact that no faculty had been applied for until after destruction of the bells, the Chancellor said: 'The interest in the preserving of old things which now happily exists has, owing to the more expert knowledge required, not yet spread to the bells; and they greatly need the protection of this Court. They are frequently taken away, mutilated by cutting off the canons and otherwise, and then put back without reference to the Court on the ground that these are mere repairs. This is, in fact, the excuse put forward by the incumbent in the present case. I desire to point out that when repairs amount really to a remaking of the object concerned or involve its removal from a church (I am not concerned, of course, with trifling matters) they require a faculty. The incumbent has in this case also pleaded ignorance, which I have to accept, though it is a source of constant surprise to me that many incumbents take so little pains to acquaint themselves with the rules relating to their temporary occupation of their churches. Such ignorance on the part of the churchwardens who are the officers of the Ordinary, is still less excusable.

'So far as concerns the bell founders, and having regard to their large connection with churches, they are, in my opinion, the worst offenders because they are ignoring that law in their own interest. Had the petitioners applied for a faculty in the usual way the matter would have been referred to the Advisory Committee, and the petitioners would without any expense have obtained an expert opinion as to the work to be done. On its coming before me I should have been able to exercise an informed discretion as to the best mode of carrying it out. But by the precipitate action of the petitioners, the Court has been deprived of all discretion.

'I cannot leave the church without its bells and I do not desire to adopt the alternative course of directing the churchwardens to

(Continued in previous column.)

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Though my hand is still suffering from the attack which overtook me a month ago, I cannot refrain from trying to write a line to say how deeply interested I am in the historical question at present at issue regarding Holt's Original and other early compositions, and with what keenness I look forward to its unravelling. Both in Grandsire and Stedman I simply followed the lead of Mr. Jasper Snowdon, and, with all others, am only too glad to welcome any additional light that can be shed upon it. Being a College Youth, I shall be sorry if we have to abandon our claim to its first performance with the conductor himself ringing, but truth is truth, and comes before all other considerations.—Yours truly,

CHARLES D. P. DAVIES.

Kemerton,
February 8th, 1929.

ANCIENT RECORDS UNKNOWN TO SNOWDON.

Dear Sir,—As I was the one who showed to 'The Ringing World' who first called Holt's Original as well as ringing it, may I be allowed to answer Mr. Price's question? I claim that the 'Original' was first rung at Norwich by eight men only. 'The Norwich Mercury' gives the record of the peal and also describes the composition as 'having been rang in London and Stoubam Aspal, but was rang by these men without a prompt.' The record also states 'that it was thought so intricate that no man could ring a bell and call the bobs.' It was again rung in Norwich a short time after. Mr. Price asks 'if the statement now claimed of there being two previous performances of this peal at Norwich and Saffron Walden is correct, how can it be explained that Snowdon should have ignored them altogether?'

May I inform him that Mr. Snowdon visited Norwich in 1877 or 1879, and got what information he could, but at that time the ringers at Norwich had lost sight of the performances and forgotten all about them. They did not know of their existence. If they had, when they reorganised their society (the Norwich Scholars) they would have included these two peals in their list of performances. In a copy of the rules of the Norwich Scholars in my possession, dated 1884, no mention is made of a peal being rung between 1737 and 1760, and for the information relating to the peals rung in 1760 and 1763 they relied on the Osborne MSS.

Between these dates the Norwich men rang a peal at King's Lynn in 1766, also 10,192 Bob Major in 1768, neither of which appears in the list of peals rung by the Norwich Scholars. Thus it is easily explained. The men that rang at Norwich did not know of these peals, and the records of them were brought to light and made known through the efforts of Mr. P. Sadler and Samuel Slater, who carefully searched all the East Anglian newspapers seeking for ringing history. Mr. Snowdon did not know of the existence of these peal records. They were not brought to light until after his death.

On page 118 of his 'Grandsire' Mr. Snowdon says from what source the College Youths got their information relating to the peal in 1689-90 he is unable to say, and that he believed that tradition was the only source to which this statement can now be traced. I have heard the question asked, 'Where did they get their information from?' and all the change ringing historians have up till now been unable to answer the question.

On page 118 of Snowdon's 'Grandsire' the author states: 'As far as he is aware, there is no existing record of a true peal of 5,000 changes having been rung previous to the peal at Norwich in 1715.' I have not a record of one having been rung earlier.—Yours truly,

Hunt's Hill, Glemsford. THEODORE E. SLATER.

[Mr. Slater's letter, which was received after our leading article of last week was written, came to hand just too late for insertion in the last issue. It bears out our suggestion that Jasper Snowdon was unaware of the existence of these records.—Ed. 'R.W.']

'REVISION OF HISTORY.'

Sir,—With reference to your leader under the above heading, everyone who has studied the numerous books by the late Jasper W. Snowdon cannot fail to be astounded at the amount of research into history he made, spending—as he must have done—much time, money, and energy in personal investigation and patient enquiry. Indeed the Exercise owes a great debt to his memory, for undoubtedly he was one of the greatest historians. Yet even he could not hope to include all the earliest peals. Many of these records are lost for ever; many have come to light since his time; many may yet come to light.

I know of several peals of Triples, for instance, not shown in Snowdon's 'Grandsire,' such as at Yarmouth 1728, Bungay 1732, Leicester 1730 and 1731, the latter record stating that 'a considerable wager was won thereupon by five minutes' (will Mr. W. Willson note this peal in his Leicester ringers' book, as I don't think this is shown therein), Kettering 1730, when the ringers say 'which we think as great a performance as that of the Leicester Scholars.'

In Norwich, I am told, several ancient peal records have been found that even the Norwich men of later days were unaware of, even by tradition.

The numerous extracts from old newspapers made by the late Samuel Slater form a most valuable asset to ringing history, and have revealed many performances that would doubtless have been lost sight of or forgotten. I have—through the generosity of his son, Mr. Theodore E. Slater—been given certain copies and inspected others, many of which would have been unknown to Snowdon.

I might add that I have recently undertaken to write a 'History of Change Ringing,' and during the past few weeks have been privileged to scan and take extracts from valuable MSS. and books, lent through the generosity of many ringing friends throughout the Exercise. As you, sir, are aware, my own researches and books on the subject are fairly extensive, yet even so, there are many ancient performances of which I am ignorant. Will you, therefore, allow me to appeal to any friends (especially in the North of England, where 'ancient' records seem few), who have, or know of, early performances or records of old societies, kindly to send me copies for inclusion in my forthcoming 'history'?—Yours sincerely,

24, Coventry Street, Leicester. ERNEST MORRIS.

PEALS OF TRIPLES.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I beg to give notice of my intention to invite a band of ringers to ring with me the following arrangement of Grandsire Triples, and in order to avoid subsequent controversy I wish to be assured beforehand that there will be no cavil made unreasonably afterwards against its being accepted as a peal. The ringing will start from handstroke instead of the usual backstroke, the first change being:

1234567
1325476.

From this point the calling will be that given in Snowdon's 'Grandsire,' page 113, the last row being 2161735. This completes the peal of 5,040 true and complete rows, and as you have been good enough to inform us more than once, 5,040 true and complete changes. That it is not a round block is unfortunate, but it is inevitable on the plan proposed. It is, in fact, exactly similar in all respects to any individual 720 in Mr. Banks's James' arrangement.—Yours, etc.,

E. S. POWELL.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A very successful meeting was held at Sandy on Saturday, February 9th, members being present from the following towers: Biggleswade, Roxton, Everton, Kempston, Bromham and Southill, Mr. J. Shephard, of Swindon, and the local company. At the meeting held after tea four new members were elected, and it was proposed to hold the next meeting at Eaton Socon on Saturday, February 23rd.

Some good touches were brought round during the afternoon and evening, the methods rung being Cambridge Surprise, College Exercise, Kent, Oxford and Woodbine Treble Bob, Oxford and Plain Bob.

The secretary wishes to thank all those present for coming on such a wet afternoon to help make the meeting the success it was. He would especially thank those from Kempston, who are a great help to the Biggleswade District.

BEDFORD DISTRICT SECRETARY RETIRES.

The annual meeting of the Bedford District was held in St. Peter's Church Hall on Saturday, February 2nd, about 30 members being present. The balance sheet for 1928 and the secretary's report were presented and accepted, and the following officers for 1929 were elected: Secretary, Mr. J. T. Newington; committee, Messrs. H. Gayton, H. Stapleton, H. Beard, H. Tysoe and E. Freeman.

Messrs. Gayton and Stapleton were appointed to attend the association's annual committee meeting. One new member was also elected, and Sharnbrook was agreed upon as the next place of meeting on March 9th.

It was decided to hold monthly instead of quarterly meetings during the current year.

Votes of thanks to the Rector for the use of St. Peter's bells and for conducting the service which preceded the meeting, and to Mr. W. Stapleton, the resigning secretary, were recorded.

St. Peter's bells were made good use of during the afternoon and evening, numerous methods being rung.

DEATH OF THE VICAR OF FULHAM.

The Rev. Gerald K. S. Marshall, Vicar of Fulham, passed peacefully away on Sunday evening, January 27th, after a short illness at the age of 62 years. He had been Vicar of Fulham for 15 years. He was buried in the old churchyard on Wednesday, Jan. 30th, the Bishop of London conducting the service. There were also present the Bishops of Kensington, Willesden, Stepney, Buckingham, and Fulham, and over 30 other clergy. The ringers met in the evening to pay their last tribute of respect, and with the bells half-muffled rang the "whole pull and stand": W. H. Hollier 1, W. E. Judd 2, A. Cutmore 3, A. Waddington 4, W. T. Elson 5, A. H. Fulwell 6, P. Skevington 7, E. Edwards 8, J. A. Trollope 9, J. W. Driver 10. Touches of Grandsire and Stedman Caters followed. Other ringers taking part were H. C. Page, H. Ellis, F. C. Norris, G. A. Block, M. A. Smith and others.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

THE QUESTION OF UNATTACHED MEMBERS.

The quarterly meeting of the Lewisham District of the Kent County Association was held at St. John's, Lewisham, on Saturday, January 26th. The bells were kept going in various methods, ranging from Grandsire Triples to London Surprise, throughout the afternoon and evening. The association form of service was conducted by the Vicar (Rev. R. R. Neil), assisted by Rev. J. McLaren (curate), a very interesting address being given by the former.

After the service, a magnificent repast, generously provided by the Vicar and churchwardens, was served in the adjoining Church Hall, some sixty-five members participating. Several of the local ladies ministered to the members' creature comforts. Immediately after tea a course of Grandsire Cinques was rung on handbells by Messrs. Barnett, Audsley, R. Brett-Smith, T. Brett-Smith, T. Groombridge, jun., T. Groombridge, sen.

The business meeting followed. Mr. W. J. Jeffries apologised for the absence of the churchwardens, who were unavoidably detained, and stated that the Vicar was unwell, and had gone to his home to rest. He had asked him (Mr. Jeffries) to preside. Three ringers were elected members of the association.

Mr. J. Emery (district representative) then gave a report of proceedings at the association's central committee meeting, mentioning among other things the general secretary's aversion to the growing list of unattached members.

Mr. F. W. Thornton proposed a vote of thanks, coupled with the meeting's congratulations, to Mr. Emery for his report. He (Mr. Thornton) regretted to say that his name was one of the newcomers among the unattached members, and was afraid that it must continue so, as long as change ringing was foreign to St. Alphege's, Greenwich.—Mr. J. J. Lamb seconded the proposition, and endorsed Mr. Thornton's remarks with regard to Greenwich.—The vote of thanks was passed with applause.

The next business was the choice of a place for the next meeting. Mr. Thornton suggested that a visit to Greenwich might result in good missionary work being done.—Supporting this suggestion, Mr. A. Petrie proposed, and Mr. E. Barnett, sen., seconded, that Greenwich be chosen for the April meeting.—This was carried, no other nominations being made.

Mr. T. Groombridge, jun., referred to the splendid response that had been made to the appeal on behalf of Mrs. Bates, especially mentioning the donations received from other associations. He proposed that that meeting should support the appeal issued on behalf of a ringer of Pendleton, near Manchester, a member of the Lancashire Association. This was seconded by Mr. R. A. Jenkins, and carried. The collection resulted in the sum of £1 12s., and Mr. Groombridge undertook to forward this sum to the appeal organiser.

Mr. F. W. Thornton proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, for conducting the service, and his address, and asked the chairman to convey the meeting's regret at his absence and sympathy with him. Also a hearty vote of thanks to the organist for his services, to the Vicar and churchwardens for their generous hospitality, to the ladies for their valuable attentions to their comfort, and to the chairman for presiding at the meeting. —The motion having been carried with applause, the Chairman briefly responded. This concluded a very successful meeting. Then followed a short selection of tunes on the handbells by Messrs. T. Groombridge, jun., and R. Brett-Smith, assisted by E. Barnett, jun. This was much appreciated. The ringers then returned to the tower for further ringing.

CANTERBURY DISTRICT.

The annual meeting of the Canterbury District was held at Canterbury on Saturday, February 9th, when 72 members attended from Dover, St. Peter's Thanet, Ashford, Canterbury, St. Nicholas', mer, Charing, Wingham, Herne, Maidstone, Selling, Wye, Worksop (Notts), and Littlebourne.

Service, conducted by Rev. Carter, of St. Alphege's, Canterbury, and assisted by Rev. Taylor, Wingham, was held at St. Alphege's Church, the Rev. Carter giving an appropriate address.

The tea and business meeting followed at the Oddfellows' Hall. The Rev. Carter presided, and the district secretary, Mr. Percy W. Smith, and the two district representatives, Mr. H. Smith and Mr. F. Brett, were unanimously re-elected.

Meetings for 1929 were resolved upon as follows: Summer meeting, Lyminge; autumn meeting, Wingham; and the annual meeting, Canterbury. Suggestions invited for place of next bye-meeting resulted in Petham being defeated by Walmer by a small margin.

The Rev. Taylor, of Wingham, was elected an honorary member, and five practising members were also elected. Two new towers were brought into union with the association, Chartham with eleven members, and Chilham with nine probationer members, both towers being proposed by Mr. E. G. Buesden.

At the conclusion of the business, the Chairman expressed regret at the absence of Rev. Canon F. J. O. Helmore, through illness. He said he felt the meeting was incomplete without Canon Helmore's presence, and on behalf of that meeting he would take the opportunity of wishing him a speedy recovery.

(Continued in next column.)

GLOUCESTER RINGERS' DINNER.

SUCCESSFUL GATHERING TO BE MADE AN ANNUAL EVENT.

The members of the Gloucester Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association held a dinner at Mercer's Hall, Gloucester, on Saturday, January 26th, when 55 members sat down to an excellent repast splendidly served by Mr. Urch. The Rural Dean (the Rev. H. M. Braithwaite) presided, supported by the Rev. E. D. S. Camus (Rector of St. Mary de Crypt), Mr. George Jackson (churchwarden of St. Mary de Lode), Messrs. W. H. Harris (hon. branch secretary), T. Baldwyn, J. Austin, G. L. Brundon, J. Clarke (secretary, Hereford Guild), J. T. Dyke (secretary of the Bath and Wells association), etc.

The toast of 'The King' having been duly honoured, the Chairman alluded to the fact that the bells of his own Parish Church (St. Michael's) were not available for any extended ringing, by the architect's advice, and referred to the curfew bell and to the many historic occasions on which St. Michael's peal had been rung. He expressed the hope that that dinner would be made an annual event.

The Rector of St. Mary de Crypt also urged the desirability of closer fellowship amongst the members, and supported the Rural Dean in the suggestion that the dinner should be an annual affair.

Mr. J. Austin said St. Michael's had a peal of six bells until 1837, when two trebles were added in honour of Queen Victoria's first jubilee, and a further pair in 1897 at the diamond jubilee, making a peal of ten. St. Michael's Juniors were among the first to ring Surprise methods and Norwich Caters, also the first to ring Cambridge Maximus. To accomplish the latter they frequently travelled to Cirencester and Cheltenham to practise, having no twelve-bell peal in the city. Of late years, with St. Michael's tower declared unsafe for ringing, the practice of campanology had fallen off in the old city.

Mr. J. Williams (Newent) agreed with the previous speaker regarding practice, stating that ringers were like singers, unless they had practice they could neither sing nor ring.—Mr. J. Clarke (Ross) and Mr. J. T. Dyke also spoke and concurred in these views.

Mr. Geo. Jackson heartily congratulated the branch secretary on the success of the gathering, this being the first attempt to hold such an event in Gloucester.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Harris was passed.

Mr. W. H. Harris (branch secretary), in reply, said he was extremely pleased to see so many ringing friends assemble on that first occasion. When the matter was first mooted it had been suggested to him that the issue might be doubtful, but the many smiling faces around him proved to the contrary. It had been suggested by previous speakers that the dinner should be held annually, and as he was always willing to do his best for the association and members, he would propose the following resolution: 'That the dinner be an annual event, and open to members, wives and sweethearts and lady ringers.'—The Rural Dean put the proposition, and it was carried unanimously.

The rest of the evening was devoted to handbell ringing by different members and tune playing on the handbells by Messrs. Austin and Williams.

Apologies for absence were received from the Rev. C. D. P. Davies (Master of the association), who was ill, Rev. H. G. Hadow (chairman of branch), Rev. J. H. Seabrook, Rev. Canon Billett, Rev. Canon Bryce, and Mr. Horace Barnes.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTS.—On Sunday, February 10th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Cambridge Surprise Major (1,470 changes) in 50 mins.: F. Bird 1, W. Prior 2, W. Morris 3, T. Jordan 4, T. J. Watts 5, S. Clark 6, W. T. Prior 7, G. Jordan (conductor) 8. First quarter-peal of Cambridge on the bells since they were rehung and retuned. Rung as a birthday compliment to H. Wacey and B. Marfleet, members of the local band.

PORTSMOUTH.—On Sunday, February 10th, for evensong, at the Cathedral Church, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob (1,280 changes) in 54 mins. F. A. Burnett (conductor) 1, E. Martin 2, Mrs. F. A. Burnett 3, C. Shepherd 4, P. Giles 5, F. W. Burnett 6, L. P. Cook 7, H. L. Aitkin 8. This is the first quarter in the method and on the bells by the local band.

HOUNSLOW.—On Sunday, February 3rd, at St. Paul's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: H. Gash 1, F. G. Goddard 2, J. Kent 3, C. J. Tricker 4, W. Ellingham 5, E. A. Passam 6, F. E. Hawthorne (first quarter as conductor) 7, C. Gash 8.

WANTAGE, BERKS.—On Sunday, January 27th, before evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 47 mins.: H. Gregory 1, H. C. Mulford 2, H. J. Balcombe 3, E. A. Gregory 4, H. Sims 5, W. Seymour 6, R. G. Rice (conductor) 7, E. White 8.

(Continued from previous column.)

A vote of thanks to the chairman for presiding, and for the service, also to the organist for the musical arrangements, was carried by acclamation, and concluded the meeting. The ringers then adjourned to the various towers, where the bells were available for ringing.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

SUCCESSFUL GATHERING AT LOUGHBOROUGH.

On Saturday, February 2nd, the Midland Counties' Association held its third quarterly meeting at Loughborough. Always an attraction, the 'bellopolis,' as Loughborough has been termed, kept up its tradition in spite of the inclement weather prevailing. Quite early, visitors arrived from all districts of the association's activities, and good use was made of the ten bells of the Parish Church, noted for the famous long peal of Stedman Caters rung on them, and as one of the best peals of their weight in the kingdom.

The centre of attraction was, of course, the world-renowned bell foundry, which, through the courtesy of Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., was open to visitors and friends. Bells, frames, and fittings in great profusion and in all stages of the 'bell founder's art and craft' were to be seen. There were twenty-five old peals from churches all over the country, amongst them being the fine new peal of twelve (tenor 26 cwt.) for Walsall Parish Church, which was 'tapped' round so that the visitors might hear them. There was also a carillon for St. Helens (Lancs), and bells for Nassau, Bahamas; West Maitland, Australia; Mombasa, East Africa; Tsolo, South Africa; Lagos, West Africa; Cranbrook, Michigan; Ames, Iowa, U.S.A.; and others too numerous to mention. It was indeed pleasing to all to note how busy the Taylor bell foundry was, and keeping fully up to the traditions of their glorious past.

The small peal of ten bells in the foundry campanile (tenor 6½ cwt.) was also available for ringing, and some very amusing antics were seen by visitors trying to handle the little bells; nevertheless, some touches did come round.

MESSAGE FROM MR. E. D. TAYLOR.

The committee met at 4 p.m. and carried through the routine business, and added several recommendations for the general meeting. An excellent meat tea was served in the Fearon Hall at 5 p.m., some 120 members and friends sitting down. At the conclusion, the general hon. secretary (Mr. Ernest Morris) first read letters of apology for absence through illness from the president (Mr. R. B. Chambers, J.P., the vice-president (Mr. J. Griffin), and hon. treasurer (Mr. W. Wallace). He then made the announcement that Mr. E. Denison Taylor, who, although in Florida, U.S.A., where the firm have just erected a huge carillon of 61 bells (tenor 10½ tons) at the Mountain Lake—particulars and photos of which have already appeared in these columns—sent his regards and kind wishes to the assembly, and further asked to be allowed to defray all expenses of the tea. Needless to say, this met with great acclamation, and both Mr. J. H. Swinfield, of Burton, and Mr. W. E. White, of Cotgrave, spoke on the subject, remarking that within living memory no meeting had been held at Loughborough without a Taylor being present.

Mr. Colin Harrison, in a few well-chosen words, replied on behalf of Mr. E. D. Taylor and the firm, promising to convey the members' best wishes and thanks for the generosity bestowed. The general hon. secretary has also written similarly.

In the absence of the president, Mr. W. E. White was voted to the chair. Members elected since the September meeting, viz., 43 ringing, 3 rejoining, and 2 honorary, were duly confirmed.

The Chairman gave a brief account of the committee's recommendations respecting the 1928 report and balance sheet (two auditors were chosen to check the latter), and these were accepted by the members, and will be printed in due course.

An appeal for funds from Ashbourne, Derbyshire, was heard, and it was resolved to grant £5 5s. when the work of the bells was put in hand.

NEW PEAK DISTRICT.

The question of the formation of a new branch in the Peak District of Derbyshire was fully discussed, and it was felt by all that much good work could be done—indeed, has already been done by the Rev. W. P. Wright, of Eyam, and others—among those towers around Bakewell very difficult of access by other branches.—Mr. J. Lewis Cockey, churchwarden and leader of Dore ringers, who has been suggested as hon. secretary for the proposed branch, spoke at length on the subject, and was fully supported by all. As the C.A. rules forbid alteration except at the annual meeting at Easter, it was decided to vote on the subject then.

Hearty votes of thanks to the local committee for splendid arrangements, Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. for foundry bells and other attractions, the Rector for use of Parish Church bells, and ladies for catering, concluded a most successful meeting. Further ringing was indulged in until a late hour.

DARLINGTON RINGER'S DEATH.

It is with regret that we have to record the death on January 19th of Mr. R. B. Wilson, a member of Holy Trinity belfry, Darlington, since its formation in 1892, and of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association since 1893. He was verger of the church for the past 24 years, and had taken part in eight peals. He was in his 60th year, but being in failing health for some time had taken no active part in ringing for the past two years.

On Sunday, January 20th, touches of Kent Treble Bob and London Surprise Minor were rung with the bells half-muffled, and on the day of the funeral, January 22nd, the 'whole pull and stand' and touches of Plain Bob and London Surprise were rung. The funeral was attended by members of the belfry, and a wreath was sent as a last token of respect.

NOTICES.

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

THE EDITORIAL OFFICE of 'THE RINGING WORLD,' to which all communications should be sent, is 63, COMMERCIAL ROAD, WOKING.

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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, must be paid before February 28th. Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on the 28th; *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 19th; Southwark Cathedral on the 21st; all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards. — William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District and Romney Marsh and District Guild.—A joint meeting of the above will be held at Tenterden on Saturday, Feb. 16th, by kind permission of the Rev. M. L. Mann (Vicar). Tower available 2.30. Service at 5 o'clock, followed by tea at 5.30 and business meetings. All ringers welcome. —Kent County Association, A. C. Kay, 6, Sturges Road, Ashford; Romney Marsh Guild, A. Battin, Heronden Hall Gardens, Tenterden.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Bingham on Saturday, Feb. 16th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m.—F. W. Bailey, Local Sec., 42, Rupert Street, Nottingham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Brookfield Church, Gorton, on Saturday, Feb. 16th. Bells ready 3.30. Meeting 7 o'clock. Subscriptions due. Reports to hand. Hoping to have a good attendance.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting of the Chesterfield District of the above association will be held at Eckington on Saturday, Feb. 16th. —J. P. Tarlton, Hon. Sec.

LADIES' GUILD.—Northamptonshire District. — A meeting will be held at Thrapston (8) on Saturday, Feb. 16th. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 o'clock.—S. Thursfield, Cranford Rectory, Kettering.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—The annual meeting will be held at West Tarring on Saturday, Feb. 16th. Bells available from 2 o'clock. Service 5.45. Tea (free) 4.45. Heene bells will be available in the evening. — A. W. Groves, Dominion Road, Worthing.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—Combined practice at Binfield, Saturday, Feb. 16th, from 6 till 9 p.m. All welcome.—W. J. Paice, Branch Sec.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—A monthly meeting will be held at Allesley on Feb. 16th. Bells available during afternoon and evening.—J. A. Fenton, Hon. Sec., 6, Frederick Street, Rugby.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—A bye-meeting of the above will be held at Bearsted on Saturday, Feb. 23rd. Tower open for ringing 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30. Tea, by kind invitation, in the Parish Room after service. All ringers welcome. Kindly notify me not later than Tuesday, Feb. 19th.—C. H. Soné, Hon. Dis. Sec., Bungalow, Linton, Maidstone.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — West Dorset Branch.—The Langford memorial meeting will be held at Bradpole on Saturday, Feb. 23rd. Bells (8) ready at 2.30 p.m. Guild service at 4.30. Tea 5, followed by short meeting. Numbers for tea by 20th inst. — T. Hervey Beams, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Holy Trinity, Bolton, on Saturday, Feb. 23rd. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

HERTS ASSOCIATION.—Saturday, Feb. 23rd, meeting, Watford. Bells open from 4 till 8.30. Tea (Old School) 5.40. Number for tea by 20th. Cheap trains from all parts to Watford.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey. Tel. City 4270.

ST. MARY THE VIRGIN, ROLLESTON-ON-DOVE.—Burton District.—The dedication of new bells is on Saturday, Feb. 23rd, 3 p.m., by the Rev. H. E. Worthington, Rector of Seals. All ringers invited. Tea provided.—L. Smith.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting will be held at Barwell on Saturday, Feb. 23rd. Bells available from 3.30 p.m. Tea at 5, with business meeting to follow in the Schools. It is very important that those who require tea should send their names to Mr. C. H. Belton, High Street, Barwell, near Leicester; by Feb. 21st. A good attendance is hoped for, all ringers being welcome.—W. A. Cope, Smockington, Hinckley.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Eaton Socan on Saturday, Feb. 23rd. Bells (6) available at 3 o'clock. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome. A good company is requested.—C. J. Ball, 2, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION. — Swindon Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Purton on Saturday, Feb. 23rd. Tower open 3 p.m. Tea provided at the Vicarage, by kind invitation of the Vicar and Mrs. Willis, for all who notify me by Monday, Feb. 18th.—S. Hopper, Branch Hon. Sec., 79, Edinburgh Street, Gorse Hill, Swindon.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch. — The next ringing practice has been arranged at Marlow (8 bells) on Saturday, Feb. 23rd, at 6.30 p.m. Jubilee celebrations and annual meeting are fixed for April 27th. Please note date.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Adwick-le-Street on Saturday, Feb. 23rd. Bells (6) ready early. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. B. Burkitt, 68, Laurel Street, Skellow. Tower secretaries will greatly assist if they will collect yearly subscriptions and forward same to me.—Percy Gledstone, Hon. Sec., 34, Silverwood View, Conisborough.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Derby District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at West Hallam on Saturday, Feb. 23rd. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock, followed by business meeting. Those requiring tea kindly notify me by Feb. 21st. —Geo. Freebrey, Local Sec., 81, Roe Street, Derby.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. —The next meeting will be held at St. Michael's Church, Blackburn, on Saturday, March 2nd. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. A good attendance requested. Reports to hand. Subscriptions due. — F. Hindle, Hon. Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM. (Established 1755.)—The 41st annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, March 2nd, at 6 o'clock, when the chair will be taken by Canon T. Guy Rogers, B.D., M.C., Rector of Birmingham, Chaplain to the King. To fully qualified members tickets will be issued on payment of 2s., to other members and friends 6s. 6d. each. The bells of St. Martin's (12) will be available from 3 to 5 o'clock, the Cathedral (10) and Bishop Ryder's (8) from 4 to 5.30. Applications for tickets, accompanied by remittance, should be made to Thomas H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—A quarterly meeting, Hadleigh, on March 2nd. Bells (8) available, 2. Tea 4.30. Meeting follows.—H. Drake, Ufford, Woodbridge.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A meeting will be held at Christ Church, Ealing, on Saturday, March 9th. Ringing from 3.30 p.m. Tea arranged as usual. Following meeting, a dance and social will be held in Christ Church Parish Hall in aid of the Isleworth Bell Fund. Tickets, 1s. 6d. inclusive, may be had from the hon. secretary, Wm. H. Hollier, 29, Duke Road, W.4.

SURREY ASSOCIATION. — Preliminary Notice. — The annual meeting will be held at Reigate on Saturday, March 16th. New draft rules are now being circulated to members. Any proposed alterations should be sent to me in writing at once. Nomination for officers must be in writing and sent to me by March 2nd. Details of the meeting will be issued later.—Chas. H. Kippin, Hon. Sec., Winchester, Guy Road, Beddington, Croydon.

SITUATIONS WANTED.

Trustworthy married couple (turned 40) desire position as caretakers or any place of trust. At liberty any time. Man, change ringer on 8, 10 and 12 bells.—Box A, 'The Ringing World' Office, Woking.

HANDYMAN.—Unemployed, desires permanent situation. Married, aged 43 years. Abstainer. General repair work, joinery, turf laying, etc. Bellringer 26 years, St. Margaret's, Tanfield, Co. Durham. Further particulars and references on application to Wm. Irwin, Crookgate, Burnopfield, Newcastle-on-Tyne.

MARRIAGE.

BOWDEN-COLLARD.—On February 2nd, 1929, at the Parish Church, Haslemere, Surrey, by the Rector, the Rev. J. M. La F. McAnally, assisted by the Rev. O. S. Walford, Fred Bowden, third son of Mr. and Mrs. L. Bowden, of Haslemere, to Kathleen Elsie Emma Collard, elder daughter of Mr. and Mrs. T. H. Collard, of 1, Durham Street, Gosport.—Address:—Bridge Road, Haslemere.

DEATH.

KNIGHT.—On February 11th, at 105, Hainault Road, Leytonstone, Jane, the beloved wife of R. K. Knight, passed peacefully away in her 78th year. Mr. and Mrs. Knight were married at the Parish Church of St. Mary, Kidderminster, on March 4th, 1873.

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Wanted House, or Flat, London Suburbs. Regular ringer to nearest band (change ringer). — W. Bolwell, Harmony, Devizes.

LATE NOTICES

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch and Bristol United Ringing Guilds.—The next monthly meeting will be held at St. Peter's (City) on February 23rd. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea in Schoolroom 5 p.m. after which the annual meeting of the B.U.R.G. will be held. Business is important and interesting. Will all members make an effort to attend, advising G. Way, 12, Seymour Road, Bishopston, or Mr. E. Guise?

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Dunster Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Wootton Courtenay on Saturday, February 23rd. Tower open at 3, service at 4.15 p.m. Tea at the Schoolroom at 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow. Those intending to be present kindly advise me not later than February 18th.—G. Stacey, Hon. Local Sec., 6, Park Street, Minehead.

ACTON, MIDDLESEX. — No Wednesday night practice during Lent. Ringing, Sundays 5.30 p.m.—Robert Sardon.

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