

THE RINGING WORLD

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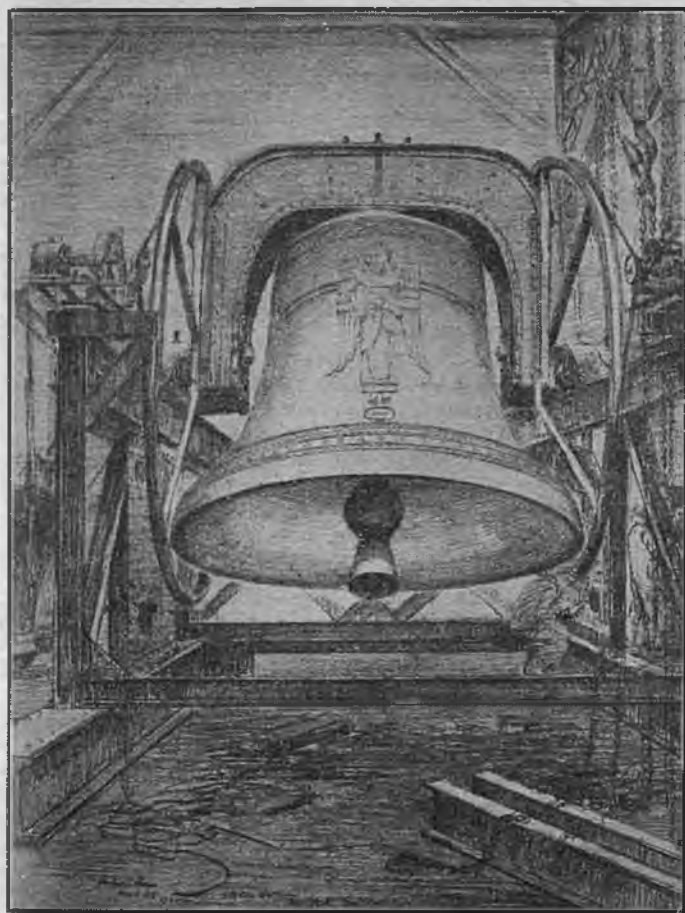
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A DROP IN PEALS.

Our readers will doubtless turn with interest to the study of the peals analysis for last year and to the report of the Analysis Committee. Those who judge the progress of the Exercise by the peals that are rung may read this report with some misgivings. There was a falling off of no fewer than 139 peals, which is perhaps disappointing in some respects, after the revival which 1927 showed upon the two immediately preceding years, but, surveying the post-war position as a whole, this falling off is hardly as serious as may appear at first sight. The year 1927 showed an exceptional jump forward of over a hundred and seventy peals, so that, compared with 1925 and 1926, there is nothing very alarming in the drop in 1928. The number rung (1,702) is well below the average for the last eight years, during which it may be said peal ringing returned to something like its pre-war conditions, but it was still above the number rung in the two years before 1927. Perhaps the most disquieting feature of the year's peal ringing is the drop of 46 in the peals of Grandsire Triples. If this were offset by more peals in more advanced methods it might have been attributed to the progress of the ringers, but the decline is spread through all the grades of ringing and the drop in Grandsire seems to point in some measure to a lack of aspiration on the part of young ringers.

There is, however, another probable contributory cause, and that is that most associations are now holding more meetings and practices than they used to do. This somewhat curtails opportunities for peal ringing, but expands the work of the ringing organisations, which is really a more important matter. Many other things may, of course, easily make a difference of a hundred or so peals in the aggregate. Even the element of uncertainty attaching to peal ringing might weigh more heavily against the ringers in one year than in another and so affect the total. There is, therefore, no need for pessimism. Peal ringing is bound to have its ups and downs; its good years and its leaner years. At the same time, those twenty-seven associations whose peal totals have dropped during 1928 compared with 1927 might do well to look into the causes of the falling off. If it is lack of interest or enthusiasm, now is the time to try and infuse a little more keenness into the members, because, when all is said and done, it is usually the peal ringers who are most competent as service ringers. Peal ringing, as a rule, not only makes a man a better method ringer, but often a better striker. This advantage which peal ringing gives is often overlooked by those who say that peal ringing is of no importance to anyone but those

(Continued on page 290.)

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taking part. Unquestionably it is a factor in improving a person's ringing, and, if it does this, it is worth wide encouragement. At present the number of people who take part in peals is small compared with the total number of ringers and the general standard of ringing would be raised if more could be induced to interest themselves in peal ringing.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Tuesday, April 30, 1929, in Three Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

ERNEST T. ALLAWAY 1	WILLIAM DOWDING 7
ALBERT E. NORMAN 2	MORRIS J. MORRIS 8
FRED PRICE 3	ERNEST MANSSELL 9
FRANK W. PERRENS 4	JAMES H. SHEPHERD 10
GEORGE F. SWANN 5	JAMES GEORGE 11
JOHN NEAL 6	ALBERT WALKER 12

Composed by JAMES E. GROVES. Conducted by ALBERT WALKER

The band met for Maximus, but time did not allow of this being rung, and Cinques was therefore substituted. A birthday compliment to Messrs. Allaway and Mansell.

WORCESTER.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, May 4, 1929, in Three Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes.

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. JOHN.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 49½ cwt. in B.

PERCY O. LAFLIN 1	FRANK E. PERVIN 7
ERNEST T. ALLAWAY 2	J. FRANK SMALLWOOD 8
ALBERT WALKER 3	JAMES H. SHEPHERD 9
FRANK W. PERRENS 4	JOHN NEAL 10
FRED PRICE 5	A. PADDON SMITH 11
THOMAS H. REEVES 6	JAMES GEORGE 12

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by ALBERT WALKER.

The Guild thank the Dean and Chapter for kindly granting permission for this peal, and the Rev. B. G. Isaac, bell warden, for making the necessary arrangements. The peal was also a birthday compliment to Mrs. F. W. Perrrens, Miss Phyllis Smallwood, Mr. E. T. Allaway and the conductor.

LIVERPOOL.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 4, 1929, in Four Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5136 CHANGES;

Tenor 39 cwt. 3 qr. 10 lb.

JOHN HOLMAN 1	THOMAS HAMMOND 7
EDWARD JENKINS 2	*JOHN COOKE 8
LESTER L. GRAY 3	TITUS BARLOW 9
*JOHN BREESE 4	†JAMES C. E. SIMPSON 10
THOMAS B. WORSLEY 5	BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS 11
ARTHUR KNIGHTS 6	A. PERCIVAL KNIGHTS 12

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by B. A. KNIGHTS.

* First peal of Maximus. † First peal of Treble Bob Maximus. First peal of Maximus as conductor.

SUTTON COLDFIELD BELLS REHUNG.

The bells of the Sutton Coldfield Parish Church were reopened on Tuesday, April 30th, after having been rehung and placed in ball bearings by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, of Whitechapel Foundry, London.

Touches of Stedman Triples, Bob Major, and Grandsire were rung during the evening, members of the Sutton Coldfield tower and the following visitors taking part: Messrs. Wm. Davies, J. W. Pemberton, F. Rishworth, G. Sims, F. Dickens and T. Bloore. The conducting was shared by Messrs. B. Leedham (Ringing Master, Sutton Coldfield), J. W. Pemberton, Wm. Davies, and T. Bloore. The Vicar and churchwardens expressed their delight at the excellent manner in which the work had been completed, and thanked the ringers and visitors. The 'go' of the bells is all that can be desired.

TEN BELL PEALS.

TRURO, CORNWALL.

THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, May 3, 1929, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5004 CHANGES;

Tenor 33 cwt. 3 qr. 10 lb.

*JOHN SEDGLEY Treble	REV. E. S. POWELL 6
†MRS. E. S. POWELL 2	FREDERICK G. VILES 7
HAROLD BENNETT 3	*WILLIAM H. SLEEMAN 8
*ARTHUR S. ROBERTS 4	JAMES H. SHEPHERD 9
†ALAN R. PINK 5	*WILLIAM H. SOUTHBEARD ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by the REV. E. S. POWELL.

* First peal on ten bells and first attempt. † First peal of Grandsire Caters. The conductor has now called peals of Grandsire Doubles, Triples, Caters and Cinques. Mrs. Powell was elected a member of the Guild prior to starting. Rung to mark Canon E. F. Corfe's completion of 25 years as Precentor of the Cathedral.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 4, 1929, in Three Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5017 CHANGES;

Teno 21 3/4 cwt. in E flat.

HAROLD J. POOLE Treble	FREDERICK H. DEXTER 6
C. HARRY WEBB 2	WILLIAM H. CLARKE 7
JOSIAH MORRIS 3	ERNEST MORRIS 8
ALFRED BALLARD 4	PERCY HARRISON 9
REUVERS F. ELKINGTON 5	JOHN GRANT Tenor

Composed by F. H. DEXTER. Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

Rung half-muffled to the respected memory of the greatly esteemed president of the association, Mr. R. B. Chambers, B.A., J.P., who passed away Sunday, April 28th, aged 79 years.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, May 4, 1929, in Three Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,

AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES;

G. ARTHUR BAKER Treble	CHRISTOPHER WALLATER 6
HERBERT KNIGHT 2	FRANCIS BROTHERTON 7
JOHN PERRY 3	WILLIAM A. COOPER 8
JOHN C. ADAMS 4	WILLIAM H. LAWLEY 9
HERBERT T. PIPER 5	HARRY BOSWELL Tenor

Composed by J. E. GROVES. Conducted by H. KNIGHT.

Rung as a peal of welcome to the Rev. Robt. L. Hodson, who was instituted Rector of St. Peter's the previous evening; also as a compliment to Mr. J. W. Perry (son of the 3rd ringer) on his 21st birthday, and to the wife and daughter of Mr. W. A. Cooper.

DUDLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, May 4, 1929, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. 2 qr.

JOHN PRICE Treble	JOHN GOODMAN 6
SAMUEL BAKER 2	BENJAMIN GOUGH 7
SAMUEL J. HUGHES 3	WILLIAM GREEN 8
HERBERT SHEPPARD 4	WALTER FARLEY 9
JOHN ROUND 5	CHAS. WM. COOPER Tenor

Composed by WM. MICKLEWRIGHT. Conducted by J. GOODMAN, JUN.

This was the annual peal for the Guild. The ringers of treble and 8th belong to Old Hill, 2nd and 7th to Cosely, 3rd to Smethwick, 4th and 6th to Dudley, 5th to Netherton, 9th to Stourbridge, tenor to Lye.

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EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BOURTON-ON-THE-WATER, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, April 26, 1929, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt.

*MRS. F. A. CLEMENTS ... Treble	*FREDERICK CLEMENTS ... 5
HENRY GILLET 2	THOMAS BANNING 6
*WILLIAM WRIGHT 3	BERNARD PHILLIPS 7
*CECIL PRATLEY 4	*HORACE JAMES Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS BANNING.

* First peal of Triples. First peal in the method by local band.

PULHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, April 29, 1929, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt.

ERNEST WHITING Treble	HERBERT FALCHER 5
TONY PRICE 2	HENRY ADCOCK 6
CHARLES BAKER 3	RUSSELL RICHES 7
FREDERICK R. BORRETT 4	TOWNSEND ADCOCK Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by ERNEST WHITING

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Tuesday, April 30, 1929, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 1/2 cwt.

*GEORGE R. SOUTHGATE Treble	GEORGE WHITING 5
†JAMES BENNETT, JUN. ... 2	JAMES BENNETT 6
WILLIAM WIGHTMAN 3	GEORGE WIGHTMAN 7
GEORGE PRYKE 4	GEORGE BENNETT Tenor

Composed by HENRY DAINS. Conducted by JAMES BENNETT.

* First peal. † First peal of Treble Bob on a bob bell. The ringer of the tenor has now completed the circle to a peal in this, his Sunday service tower. The conductor's 450th peal.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, May 3, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,

A PEAL OF SPLICED CAMBRIDGE AND SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 3/4 cwt.

EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. ... Treble	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. 5
EDWARD J. BEER 2	CHARLES W. ROBERTS 6
JOHN H. CHEESMAN 3	EDWIN BARNETT, JUN. ... 7
FREDERICK M. MITCHELL ... 4	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY Tenor

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN.

First peal of Spliced Surprise for the above association, and rung at the first attempt, without previous practice. Rung as a compliment to the late secretary, the Rev. F. J. O. Heimore, and to the new secretary, the ringer of the 4th.

BADSEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 4, 1929, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 17 cwt. in F.

WILLIAM D. SPARROW ... Treble	JOHN HALL 5
JAMES HENNING 2	JOHN C. PERKINS 6
HARRY MIDDLETON 3	GEOFFREY J. HEMMING ... 7
*HERBERT JORDAN 4	GEORGE MOISEY Tenor

Conducted by GEOFFREY J. HEMMING.

* 50th peal. First peal as conductor. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of sincere respect to the memory of Edwin Knight, of Badsey, and Miss E. M. Johnson, of Hinton-on-the-Green.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, April 30, 1929, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,

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

Tenor 15 cwt.

CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... Treble	ALFRED PYE 5
WILLIAM H. THEOBALD ... 2	ERNEST J. BUTLER 6
GEORGE R. PYE 3	JOHN MOULE 7
*FRANK G. RINGE 4	JAMES E. DAVIS Tenor

Composed by EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. Conducted by JAMES E. DAVIS

* First peal in the method.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, April 30, 1929, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

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

*LESLIE C. W. HUNTER ... Treble	†RAYMOND S. PHILPOTT ... 5
†CHARLES N. BURDOCK ... 2	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ... 6
ALFRED H. PULLING... .. 3	WILLIAM T. BEESON... .. 7
C. ERNEST SMITH 4	JOHN H. B. HESSE Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

* First peal. † First peal in the method.

BLETCHLEY, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 4, 1929, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

WALTER SEAR Treble	EPHRAIM LATHALL 5
*EDWARD WHITLOCK 2	HARRY SEAR 6
†ARTHUR CRANE 3	†HARRY V. SEAR... .. 7
JOSEPH MARKS 4	ERNEST SMITH Tenor

Conducted by HARRY V. SEAR.

* First peal on eight bells. † First peal inside. Rung as a birthday compliment to A. Crane, also to Mr. E. Marks, an old and respected member of the local band.

ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, May 4, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARNABAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 15½ cwt.

JOSEPH W. PEMBERTON ... Treble	WILLIAM C. RHODES ... 5
CHARLES COTTRELL 2	*ALAN SHORT 6
GEORGE F. SWANN 3	FREDERICK W. RISHWORTH 7
WILLIAM DAVIES... .. 4	JOHN E. PYWELL Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE F. SWANN.

* First peal and first attempt for Stedman. Rung by special request of the Vicar to celebrate the laying of the foundation stone of St. Mary's, Pye Hayes, Erdington, by the Bishop of Birmingham. It was also a birthday compliment to Mr. W. J. Meers, Ringing Master, and Percy Rishworth, only son of the ringer of the 7th.

SCORTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(FURNESS AND LAKE DISTRICT BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 4, 1929, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

*WILFRED BOLTON ... Treble	†WILLIAM ROBINSON ... 5
†EDWIN JENNINGS 2	JAMES E. BURLS 6
THOMAS HANNAN 3	THOMAS METCALF 7
†RAYMOND FORSHAW 4	RICHARD RAINFORD Tenor

Conducted by EDWIN JENNINGS.

* First touch on eight bells. † 25th peal together. ‡ First peal away from treble, and first attempt. This is the first peal on these bells, which were opened on June 28th, 1879.

SIX BELL PEALS.

PERRANARWORTHAL, CORNWALL.

THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, April 29, 1929, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PIRAN,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents.

Tenor 12 cwt.

*W. EWART MINORS ... Treble	*WILLIAM H. SLEEMAN ... 4
*WILLIAM H. SOUTHEARD... 2	†ARTHUR S. ROBERTS... 5
*REGINALD A. WATTS ... 3	ALAN R. PINK Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal of Minor 'inside.' First peal as conductor. Arranged for the conductor, who hails from Dorking, Surrey. First peal of Minor on the bells.

HIGHAM-ON-THE-HILL, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(HINCKLEY DISTRICT.)

On Tuesday, April 30, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 6040 CHANGES;

Being two extents each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb.

*†WALTER ALLEN ... Treble	*†JOSEPH BEALE 4
CHARLES R. CLIFFORD ... 2	HORACE V. ROWLEY ... 5
HARRY HILL 3	ARTHUR E. ROWLEY ... Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR E. ROWLEY.

* First peal in three methods. † First extent of Treble Bob. ‡ First extent of Oxford.

DEEPING ST. JAMES, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, May 1, 1929, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Double Court, Single Court, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 19½ cwt.

EDWARD A. SNEATH ... Treble	WILLIAM TILLEY... .. 4
KATHLEEN A. JUTSON... .. 2	HORACE M. DAY 5
JOHN J. JUTSON 3	JOSEPH O. LANDAM Tenor

Conducted by H. M. DAY.

Rung to celebrate the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. George H. Wells, who were married at West Deeping on May 1st, 1879.

SHILTON, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, May 4, 1929, in Two Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's.

Tenor 6 cwt. 3 qr. 20 lb.

GEORGE GARDNER ... Treble	JOHN W. TAYLOR... .. 4
OSWALD J. HUNT 2	THOMAS W. CHAPMAN ... 5
HUBERT G. SUMMERS... .. 3	JOSEPH H. W. WHITE ... Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH H. W. WHITE.

This is the first peal in the method on the bells.

HANDBELL PEAL.

MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, April 29, 1929, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT 16, LIME GROVE,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor size 18 in G.

*ALFRED BARNES... .. 1-2	ALLEN F. BAILEY 5-6
*HAROLD JACKSON 3-4	*FREDERICK PAGE 7-8
†PETER LAVLIN 9-10	

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by A. F. BAILEY.

* First peal of Oxford 'in hand.' † First peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal. First peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal on handbells in the county and by the association. Rung at the first attempt. A birthday compliment to the conductor.

(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over.)

DEATH OF LADY RINGER.

LOSS TO THE WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

It is with deep regret we have to record the death of Miss E. M. Johnson, of Hinton, near Evesham, which took place at her home on Saturday, April 27th, at the early age of 28 years. She was the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. F. J. Johnson, and for several years held an important post in the Income Tax department at Evesham, and later was transferred to Hereford. At the end of 1925 she was compelled, through failing health, to resign her post and live an open-air life, which it was hoped would renew her vigour. Although her illness was a lengthy one, she bore it with great fortitude and cheerfulness, and her thoughts were always for others rather than for herself. Although every care and attention was bestowed upon her, she passed away as above stated.

Miss Johnson was a member of the Worcestershire and Districts Association, the St. Martin's Guild, and the Ladies' Guild, and had on many occasions travelled long distances to be present at the meetings of the latter. She was an adept handbell ringer, and never happier than when ringing a pair of handbells in a peal. Her last peal was rung last December, and was her 51st, 50 of which were rung with her brother Joseph.

Referring to her death at the Sunday evening service, the Rector, the Rev. V. C. Blythe, said Miss Johnson had a great love for God and His Church. She had been a Sunday School teacher, a member of the Church Council, and of all whom he had been privileged to visit he had never seen anyone who showed such sincerity and readiness for the last call. The important thing in our life, he said, was two-fold—the influence we leave behind us and the character we take away with us. Nellie Johnson always showed gentleness, quietness of manner, ability, kindness and love, and he hoped her influence would be for the good of all his hearers.

The funeral took place on Tuesday, April 30th, when the pretty church was filled with mourners and friends. The Rector, the Rev. V. C. Blythe, and the Rev. J. H. Stallard, Vicar of Hallow, officiated. The grave was beautifully lined with flowers, and at the end of the service four of her very near ringing friends with whom she had rung many handbell peals rang a course of Grandsire Triples over the grave, viz.: H. Middleton 1-2, J. Hemming 3-4, G. J. Hemming 5-6, J. Hall 7-8. Later, muffled touches and the whole pull and stand were rung on the tower bells, as a token of respect and esteem in which deceased was held. No less than 45 beautiful floral tributes were sent by relatives and friends, including two from her colleagues from the Evesham and Hereford tax departments. The greatest sympathy will be extended to the bereaved parents and family.

The following is a list of Miss Johnson's peals:—

	Handbells.		Tower Bells.
	Rung.	Conducted.	
Doubles, 1 to 8 methods	7	2	
Minor, 1 to 7 methods	2		3
Grandsire Triples	10	2	
Grandsire Caters	12	1	3
Grandsire Cinques	1		
Plain Bob Major	5		1
Plain Bob Royal	2		
Kent Treble Bob Royal	2	1	
Kent Treble Bob Maximus	1		
Erin Caters	1		
Cambridge Surprise Major			1
Total	43	6	8

DEATH OF MR. J. H. BATING, OF BEACONSFIELD.

It is with deep regret that the Beaconsfield ringers have to announce the death of Mr. James H. Bating at the comparatively early age of 53 years. Born at Beaconsfield in 1875, he had been a member of the local band about 35 years, and for the greater part of that period had acted in the official capacity of steeplekeeper. He had been ailing for some time past, and an operation was found necessary, which was carried out at the King Edward Hospital at Windsor. From this, however, he never rallied, and quietly passed away on April 26th. The interment took place on Wednesday, May 1st, at the Beaconsfield Cemetery, and was attended by a large gathering of relatives and friends. The burial service was impressively conducted by the Rev. R. Wells (Rector of Beaconsfield), and the sympathy of all goes out to the bereaved wife and children in their great loss.

Mr. Bating's death leaves a gap in the ranks of the Beaconsfield ringers which will be hard to fill as he was always at his post for service ringing. He was not a great peal ringer, as he was debarred from ringing many peals owing to a weakness left by a serious illness which he had some twenty-five years ago. He had, however, taken part in a few peals, including the only local peal on the Beaconsfield bells. He was a very safe ringer in most of the standard methods, his favourite method for service ringing being Stedman Triples. After the interment the local ringers rang a 504 in this method at the Parish Church with the bells half-muffled: F. W. Buckland 1, Miss K. Fletcher 2, Miss D. Fletcher 3, W. H. Fletcher 4, H. Wingrove 5, J. Blackmore 6, R. Buckland 7, A. S. Bagley 8.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The Third Session of the Thirteenth Council (37th Annual Meeting) will be held in the Cathedral Hall, Chelmsford, on Whitsun Tuesday, May 21st, 1929, at 11 a.m. precisely.

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

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

AGENDA, 1929.

1. Minutes of the last meeting.
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Statement of accounts and of sale of publications.
4. Election of honorary members.
5. Presentation of new members to the President.
6. To receive and discuss the reports of the following committees, viz.:

- (a) Standing.
- (b) Peal Collection.
- (c) Literature and Press (sub-committee).
- (d) Methods.
- (e) Peals' Analysis.
- (f) Towers and Belfries.
- (g) Records.
- (h) Legal Liability.
- (i) Broadcasting.

MOTIONS.

7. That this Council will not recognise as a peal of Minor or Doubles any composition in which the bells do not strike in 720 or 120 different orders respectively, before beginning the next 720 or 120. (Mr. R. Whittington and Mr. A. H. Pulling.)
8. (a) That honorary members pay an affiliation fee of 5s. each per annum. (b) That associations in future pay a fee of 5s. per representative per annum. (Mr. E. W. Elwell and Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn.)
9. (a) The Council asks each association to appoint a consultant to the Advisory Committee or Committees in its area. (b) The Council asks each association to make every effort to get as many ringers as possible elected to Parochial Church Councils, to Diocesan Committees and to the Church Assembly. (Rev. H. Drake and Mr. Ch. J. Sedgley.)
10. That the rules of the Council be amended in order to provide that the notice and agenda of each annual meeting of the Council be published at least eight weeks, instead of twelve weeks, prior to such meeting. (Mr. J. S. Goldsmith and Mr. C. T. Coles.)
11. That a committee be appointed to consider the best method of dealing with cases of extraordinary sickness amongst members of our affiliated change ringing associations, with power to report to the next annual meeting. (Mr. W. Ayre and Mr. E. A. Young.)
12. To fix the place of next year's meeting.
13. Other business, if any.

E. ALEX. YOUNG,

155, Rushey Green, S.E.6. Hon. Secretary.

TRAVELLING FACILITIES.

Owing to the small number of applications received, no vouchers for cheap tickets to Chelmsford will be issued through the secretary of the Central Council. The following information will, therefore, probably be welcomed by members and friends:—

Dear Sir,—The L. and N.E. Company now issue cheap tickets daily from Liverpool Street to Chelmsford at the single fare for the return journey, viz., 3s. 11d. These tickets are available on the outward journey by any train after 9.30 a.m., and on the return journey by any train the same day. A fast train leaves Liverpool Street at 10.3 a.m., arriving at Chelmsford 10.52. This should suit Council members staying in London. Earlier trains at ordinary fares are run at 8.15 and 8.45. These timings are, of course, for Whit Tuesday. A special service will be run on Whit Monday, and cheap fares under above conditions will be available. The times of these trains are not yet published.

Week-end tickets are available from Friday, Saturday or Sunday until Monday or Tuesday, available by any train. Fare, 5s. 3d. return.

This information may be of use to members of the Council.—Yours faithfully,

21, Vincent Road, E.4. C. T. COLES.

MORE YOUTHFUL RINGERS.

On Monday evening, April 29th, for practice, 720 Plain Bob Minor was rung by: G. Battle 1, W. Bailey 2, Miss M. Cooke 3, S. Bailey 4, W. J. Battle 5, J. Cooke (conductor) 6. The first 720 on an inside bell for the ringers of the 2nd and 4th, the latter being only 12 years of age.

ST. JAMES' CLERKENWELL.

GREAT RINGERS' GATHERING AT OPENING OF BELLS.

A great gathering of ringers on Saturday attended the meeting of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild, arranged in connection with the opening of the new ring of bells, which Messrs. Gillett and Johnston have installed at St. James' Church, Clerkenwell. A description of the work which has been done was given in our last issue, and suffice it now to say the visiting ringers found that the bells and the 'go' fully upheld the reputation of the Croydon firm. An interesting point about the new ring is that they are the first in the city of London tuned on the Simpson principle, which gives them power as well as tone, and the probability is that something will have to be done to lessen the sound in the streets around, and possibly to reduce the volume in the ringing chamber itself. Everyone was extremely pleased with the bells, and the church authorities are to be congratulated upon the successful issue of their big restoration scheme.

Everybody was accommodated with a pull during the afternoon or evening, under the tower mastership of Mr. William Pye, and in all about 120 ringers took part.

A bright service was conducted by the Vicar (Rev. C. J. Parker), the singing being led by the choir, and a solo was sung by Miss Dawson. The Vicar gave a most appropriate and thoughtful address.

Subsequently the Vicar and churchwardens entertained the ringers to tea in the crypt of the church. This is now a commodious parish hall, complete with stage and other necessary accommodation. 'Twas not always thus. It is not so long since that it was a vast vault, piled six feet high, with rotting coffins and mouldering bones. These were reverently removed and buried elsewhere, and then came a somewhat daring building scheme. The huge brick pillars, eight feet thick, supporting the church overhead, were cut away and the arches supported on girders carried on stanchions, with the result that there is now a large and well-lighted apartment for parochial use.

The ringers' gathering was presided over by the Vicar, supported by Mrs. Parker, Mr. C. F. Johnston, Mrs. Johnston, his mother, Rev. O. A. Archer and Rev. T. E. Thear (curates), Mr. W. Pye (Ringing Master), Mr. W. Pickworth (North-East District vice-president), Mr. C. T. Coles (hon. secretary), Mrs. How, Mr. A. J. Duncombe (churchwarden). Tea was served by members of the congregation.

Afterwards a brief business meeting was held, at which five new members were elected, and it was left to the secretary, in conjunction with the district secretaries of the Essex and Herts Associations, to arrange the venue of the joint meeting between these three organisations. There was a sprightly discussion, however, before a decision was come to.

ONE OF THE FINEST PEALS IN LONDON.

Mr. C. T. Coles said they had heard that day perhaps the finest peal in London: if it was not the finest it was not far away from it. It was the first peal tuned on the Simpson principle in the county of London. There were one or two very close outside London, in Surrey, but that was the first one in London, and he thought that all who had heard them would say they were a very fine peal of bells indeed, and a great credit to the firm of Gillett and Johnston (applause). They congratulated Mr. Johnston and his staff on a very fine piece of work. Many ringers did not like bells hung on ball bearings because one of the drawbacks was that bells so hung had a tendency to whip back, which resulted in the ringer having to hold the bell, but no one who had rung on these new bells could complain of that. That was the first time he had rung bells on ball bearings which went so easily. Many ringers disliked ball bearings on bells because, they said, the ringer had more worry than work. In this case they could say there was neither worry nor work. As regards the tone, they were a very fine peal of bells, both inside and outside the tower. Outside, perhaps, they might be improved a little if the louvres were blocked up a little more. The bells were still very noisy near the tower, and he hoped something might be done in that respect. Continuing, Mr. Coles thanked the Vicar, on behalf of all present, for inviting them to that 'ringers' opening' and for meeting them in the very fine style he had done. He wished to couple with that vote of thanks the names of the churchwardens, Mr. Howe and Mr. Duncombe, who, with the Vicar, had given them that excellent tea (applause). For a district meeting, that was a record for their association. On one or two occasions they had had more at their annual meeting, but to his knowledge never at a district meeting. They were most grateful to the Vicar and churchwardens for their kindness (applause). Mr. Coles also thanked the ladies of the congregation of St. James' who had waited upon them, and also the choir and organist and the soloist for their help at the service. He congratulated the Vicar on being the possessor—almost the sole possessor of this fine peal of bells. He understood that St. James' was one of three churches in the country where the bells and other property of the church were vested in the Vicar and churchwardens for ever, and even Advisory Boards and Chancellors had no power over them. He had even heard it said they could burn the lot down as long as they did not burn the house opposite (laughter). Whether that was true or not, it was true that the property of the church was vested in the Vicar and churchwardens, and that the Chancellor had no control over the bells at all (laughter). Mr. Coles added that a local band

was to be formed at St. James'. There was already a nucleus from those who remained of a company he had the pleasure of helping a few years ago. They hoped to get some more young men locally, and the association would arrange for an instructor. The practice night would be Friday, and he hoped, after a few weeks, when they got going, that other members would come along and assist them (applause).

'A SHOW JOB.'

Mr. Cyril Johnston seconded the vote of thanks to the Vicar and wardens for their hospitality. He said a few years ago there was a popular song that told them, 'Every cloud has a silver lining,' and in the dedication service last Sunday he seemed to catch from the Vicar a fleeting glance which reflected that sentiment (applause). Proceeding, Mr. Johnston said: 'Although this is essentially a "bell gathering," I know you all would wish to congratulate him, his wardens and the people of the parish on the successful issue of their magnificent efforts. It is not every Vicar, who, with his wardens, can celebrate at one and the same time the restoration of the organ, the spire, the bells, the ancient registers, the installation of electric light—all at a cost exceeding £3,500—and then proceed to indulge in the entertainment of a large body of bellringers. Although we are told that nobody has any money nowadays, the Vicar has given a great lead to other churches, some of which have done nothing to their bells for three or four centuries. I ought not to say too much about this, perhaps, because we are contractors. The story of that part of the restoration of St. James' for which my firm has been responsible—that of the bells—might be summed up in the following short interview that took place. To put it tersely, I said to the Vicar, "Look here, let's have a show job," Churchwarden How, at his elbow, ejaculated, "Shall us?" and the Vicar said "Let's" (laughter). Not only were they anxious to have the last word in modern fittings and musical bells, but I want to tell you how readily they adopted every suggestion for improvement of the ringing room and for the ringers' comfort generally. The verdict has been pronounced very generously by Mr. Coles to-day, and on behalf of myself and my staff I wish to say how much we appreciate what he has said. A bell founder's calling in these days would seem to require many and increasing qualifications. He must be versed in engineering, music, bellringing, business methods, organisation, finding his way by road to a little village that is not on the map—and now, I am told, in ecclesiastical law as well (laughter).

ST. JAMES' UNUSUAL TRUST.

We work in places that are full of interest and historical associations, and not the least of these has been St. James' Church, Clerkenwell. This church was rebuilt in 1784, and is, I believe, as Mr. Coles has told you, one of only three churches in the country that have a peculiar constitution. By an Act of George III's reign, it was vested in the Vicar and wardens as trustees in perpetuity, and 'the property in the bells, pews, seats, books, and all goods, chattels, and ornaments, in the said new church and churchyard shall also be vested in the said trustees for ever upon the same trust.' Our own interest has been a special one, for Mr. William Gillett set up his factory in Clerkenwell a hundred years ago, before we moved to our present site in 1844, and intimate personal associations with the neighbourhood have lasted right down to the present day through the British Horological Institute and the local members of the clockmaking industry. There are, we know, some ringers who do not approve of the progress that has been achieved in this country in the art of tuning bells. I am sure,' continued Mr. Johnston, 'that they are considerably in the minority. It is hard to believe that anyone with the faintest pretension to possessing a musical ear can prefer a succession of false chords, with no regular sequence of the falsities. They say they like the good bold tone of our predecessors' pattern—well, in our opinion, and in that of the Vicar and wardens, the bells of St. James' were a bold, had lot. They have now been given a new lease of life that will be measured probably in centuries, and I trust you will find that they have gained nobility of character. They were cast or recast previously at varying dates from 1791 to 1904, and therefore no question of antiquity entered into the problem. That rather leads me to refer to the difference of opinion that occurs on occasion between some of the ecclesiastical authorities or societies with antiquarian interests and the bellfounders, in the matter of the restoration of church bells. Is the old wood frame to be used again?—it has been here. If a new frame is necessary, should it be of wood or metal? Ought the bells to be recast, or ought they not? How old should a bell be before it either deserves retention in a peal to the musical detriment of the whole, or relegation to a museum? Every case ought to be treated on its merits, and I am confident that if Advisory Committees and those interested in the care of churches and church bells would get more in touch with the bellfounders, who have the practical knowledge, difficulties would be removed, obstruction of schemes avoided and satisfaction gained by all parties. In concluding, I want to express our appreciation of the spirit in which the Vicar and wardens have entered into this whole scheme. It is difficult to realise that Mr. Parker has been here as curate or Vicar for 42 years. Surely he must have taken Holy Orders at that period of his life when Mellins' Food was his principal nourishment (laughter). I would like to refer to the enthusiasm of our staff and employes, who have worked with a will in the foundry and in the tower to

give you of their best, and, last but not least, I want to thank personally Mr. Coles, Messrs. Pye and their band of ringers, who not only rang the peal so successfully at last Sunday's ceremony, but were good enough to give us a trial run on Friday before the great day. If only we could take them to every opening job we have in every part of the world, I feel sure we should sell a new peal of bells every day' (laughter and applause).

The Vicar, in responding, referred with regret to the absence of Mr. How, who for the last few months had given nine-tenths of his time to the repairs which had been going on in the church, and it was a great joy to him to see everything so quickly nearing completion. For himself, he thanked God they had been enabled to do this work. With those who let their churches go for century after century without doing anything, he sympathised very much, because he knew the difficulties when they had not got the money. In St. James' they had been able to raise the money, but there were so many parishes where they had not got it. He respected those who declined to incur liabilities if they had no guarantee of being able to pay. In that parish they had a legacy left them just in the nick of time. The bells had not been rung for over two years, because the steeple was not fit. The organ was dropping to bits week by week, and the organist spent more time in the organ repairing it than he did at the keyboard. The money came just in time to justify them putting the work in hand. As far as the bells were concerned, it was a great gratification to him that they approved of them, and that they liked them. For himself, without any technical knowledge, it had been a great pleasure to listen to the bells. They were of brilliant tone, and, as far as he had ever heard bells, he knew of none that gave a better result than these (applause). The Vicar, in conclusion, expressed his pleasure in seeing such a large gathering, and hoped they would have pleasant memories of their visit. He added his thanks to the ladies who had assisted at the tea.

Following further ringing, a social evening was spent at the Victoria Hotel, Charterhouse Street, and was attended by Mr. C. F. Johnston, Mr. J. H. R. Freeborn, Mr. Jones (works manager), and several others of the foundry staff, besides a large number of association members and friends. Mr. Freeborn acted as M.C., and songs were given by Miss Dawson (daughter of Mr. G. Dawson, of St. John's, Leytonstone), whose item, 'Ring, Bells, Ring,' was especially appreciated and was asked for a second time; also by Mr. Freeborn, Mr. Dave Wright (Croydon), and Mr. G. L. Joyce (Leytonstone). Miss Windsor and Miss Lamb were the accompanists. On handbells, courses of Stedman Caters and Cinques, Cambridge Major, and a

(Continued in next column.)

THE MINOR METHODS COLLECTION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In reply to your request the following is a list of the compositions at present in the MSS. of the 'Collection of Minor Methods.' It is, of course, subject to revision and alteration.

DOUBLES.

1. The standard callings of Stedman and Carter's Principle.
2. All the standard callings of Grandsire.
3. A 5,040 made up of spliced six-scores. This gives the greatest variety of calling possible.
4. Examples of six-scores with bells other than the treble as the Whole Hunt. These variations are as old as Fabian Stedman.
5. Pitman's arrangement of Grandsire.
6. Morris' arrangement of Grandsire.
7. The standard callings for Plain Bob, New Bob, and suchlike methods.

MINOR.

8. Fifty 720's for the different Plain and Treble Bob Methods.
 9. Five selected 720's, with mixed Bobs and Singles, for Plain Bob. These with the two standard callings make a very suitable 5,040 for Bob Minor.
 10. Thirty-five 720's which, with two Singles, are applicable to various Plain methods. When the Singles are omitted, these give incomplete 720's, which can be used as in the Bankes James' arrangement of Cambridge.
 11. A selection of arrangements similar to the Bankes James' Cambridge for Treble Bob methods with sixth's place at lead-end.
 12. Law James' arrangement of London.
 13. Compositions for spliced Little and Alliance methods.
- It will be seen that all those about which there is any controversy are referred to in the committee's report, and they comprise only a small proportion of the total number.—Yours truly,

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

(Continued from previous column.)

touch of Double Norwich, were given by Messrs. G. R. Pye, W. Pye, G. H. Cross, C. W. Roberts, W. Hewett and T. Groombridge. Mr. G. F. Johnston saw that nobody lacked refreshments, and during the evening proposed 'Success to the Middlesex Association and health to its officers.' Mr. C. T. Coles (hon. secretary) acknowledged the toast, and took the opportunity of thanking Mr. Johnston for his hospitality, and the several artistes who had so kindly entertained the company.

The proceedings were eventually terminated by the singing of the 'National Anthem.'

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Mr. Albert Walker, Deputy Ringing Master of St. Martin's Guild, has been elected a vice-president of the Birmingham Association of Mechanical Engineers, of the Council of which he has been a member for six years.

That inveterate veteran, James George, has been at it again. He is 75½, but on Tuesday of last week he rang the 11th at St. Martin's, Birmingham, to a peal of Cinques, and on Saturday put the 49½ cwt. tenor at Worcester Cathedral through a peal. This knocks the proverbial spots off anything that anyone of his age has ever done before.

A peal at Worcester Cathedral is still a 'man's job,' despite the magnificent rehangings of the new peal by Messrs. Taylor and Co. The tower still (metaphorically) wanders all round the cathedral while the bells are ringing (formerly it used to make a wider tour of the whole precincts), and the peal on Saturday was, without doubt, one of the greatest performances in Mr. George's wonderful career.

Incidentally the peal at Worcester was the one hundredth which he and Mr. Albert Walker have rung together.

The peal of Cambridge at Brading, Isle of Wight, on Saturday last, was the second Surprise peal to be rung on the Island. It is nearly 33 years ago (August 3rd, 1896) that the last Surprise peal was rung there. This was Superlative at All Saints', Ryde, and was conducted by George Williams.

The bells of Scorton, Lancs, were opened fifty years ago next month (June 28th, 1879), but the first peal was not rung on them until last Saturday. Messrs. E. Jennings and W. Robinson, who took part, rang their 25th peal together, and are the first Westmorland ringers to ring this number together.

A hundred and fifty years ago to-day a peal of 12,240 Bob Major was rung at Braughing, Herts.

To-morrow is the anniversary of the record peal of London Surprise Major rung at King's Norton in 1903. The 14,112 changes occupied 8 hrs. 40 mins., and this is still the longest peal of London yet rung.

A memorable Superlative Surprise performance took place on May 15th, 1894, at Loughborough, when a peal of 8,900 was rung in 6 hrs. 16 mins. Canon Coleridge and Dick Lane are among the survivors.

The ringer of the 9th in the peal at Blackburn on April 27th was J. T. Bimson and not Brinson, as published last week. With the peal of Maximus at Liverpool, Mr. Ben Knights has now called a peal of Kent Treble Bob on six, eight, ten and twelve bells.

The bells of St. Martin's, Birmingham, will be broadcast on Sunday evening from 7.50 to 8 p.m.

Mr. George Wells, of Deeping St. James, Lincs, who with his wife has just celebrated his golden wedding, has been a ringer for 61 years, and is still learning fresh Surprise Minor methods, and hopes shortly to score a Surprise peal on a light ring. Unfortunately, he did not feel equal to standing in the peal arranged in celebration of his wedding jubilee.

Writing with regard to the peal at Henstridge, Somerset, which was claimed to be the first on the bells, Mr. E. F. Creed writes that a peal was rung there on June 3rd, 1911, by Castle Carey and Ditchat members of the Bath and Wells Association.

The peal rung at Twickenham on April 27th was the first by Miss K. M. Bradford and not by C. H. Brown. It was a twenty-first birthday compliment to Reginald A. Wagner.

Mr. Edwin H. Lewis, who has been residing at Wishaw, Scotland, for a number of years, and has been general manager of the Glasgow Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., has now taken up an important position in London as a director of the Tunnel Portland Cement Co., Ltd., and of Messrs. F. L. Smidth and Co., Ltd.

Before leaving Wishaw, Mr. and Mrs. Lewis were the recipients of numerous parting gifts, including presents from the employees of the Glasgow Iron and Steel Co., Ltd., the West of Scotland Iron and Steel Institute's Council, by whom they were entertained to dinner, and the congregation of St. Andrew's, Wishaw, of which Mr. Lewis was Rector's warden, lay representative and lay elector.

Later in the year Mr. and Mrs. Lewis will settle at Brasted, Kent, in what is now the Rectory. Mr. Lewis' business ties have kept him from any very active part in ringing for some years, but we hope he may now be able to find a little more time to join in the art.

The demands on our space this week by the analyses tables and report have necessitated holding over a number of reports and letters to the editor.

'NARROW ESCAPES.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I was very much interested to read, under 'Belfry Gossip,' of the narrow escape a party of ringers had of losing a peal of London Surprise Major at Milford-on-Sea. We had exactly the same experience when ringing a peal of Doubles at Dinder, Somerset, on Easter Monday last (recorded in your issue of April 12th), the rope of the tenor falling at my feet just as the conductor said 'That's all.'—Yours truly,
EDWARD J. ROWE.

Stourton, Zeals.
Several other correspondents have written, telling of ropes breaking after the bells had come round or when the bells were being lowered after the peal.

TOWER BELL PEALS OF MINOR AND DOUBLES

rung during the year 1928.

Table with columns for Associations, MINOR Number of Methods (1-8), Total, DOUBLES Number of Methods (1-11), Total, and Grand Total of Peals. Rows include Barnsley and Dist., Bath and Wells, Bedfordshire, etc.

(a) 21 methods. (b) 22 methods. (c) 14 methods. (d) one 9 and one 10 methods. (e) 10,800.

HANDBELL PEALS rung during the Year 1928.

Table with columns for MAXIMUS, CINQUES, ROYAL, CATERS, MAJOR, TRIPLES, MINOR, DOUBLES, Total Handbell Peals. Rows include Anc. Soc. Col. Yo., Cambridge Un. Gc., Chester Diocesan, etc.

REPORT OF THE ANALYSIS COMMITTEE.

The peal ringing of the year 1928 shows a serious decline as compared with 1927. It falls short of last year by 139 peals, the total number being 1,702, against 1,841 in 1927.

The following table shows the total peals rung under the different categories:—

Table with columns Tower Bells, Handbells. Rows include Maximus, Cinques, Royal, etc.

Peals of Maximus and Royal are more than last year, but there is a falling-off in Cinques, Caters, and Triples, as the following table, compared with that of last year, shows:—

Table with columns Other Plain Methods, Stedman, Grandsire, Erin. Rows include Cinques, Caters, Triples.

Stedman peals are 14 less, Grandsire 53 less, and other methods 7 less. Triples show a great loss of 53 peals, Stedman accounting for only one of these, a decrease of 46 peals in Grandsire Triples being remarkable.

Major also shows a serious falling-off of 40 on tower bells and 23 on handbells.

Surprise ringing has not maintained last year's disappointing level; in Major Bristol shows 5 peals less, Superlative 15 less, other methods 2 less.

A large proportion of the decrease in Major peals is in Treble Bob, there being no fewer than 46 peals less, but there is compensation in the fact that there are 9 more peals on all numbers.

These last are included in the Spliced Major column in the table. It is satisfactory to note that Double Norwich continues to increase, showing 14 more peals than last year, a total of 124.

Other methods of Plain Major are 5 more, while Spliced peals on all numbers (other than Surprise and Treble Bob) are 2 less.

Minor peals are 5 less, and Doubles 7 less than last year. The Midlands Counties Association again have scored the most peals, having 150 tower and 3 handbell peals, a decrease of 30 peals on last year's total.

Thirteen societies show an increased number, totalling 99 more peals. Three newly-affiliated total 38 peals, while six associations have the same number.

New Cambridge Surprise Maximus, York Surprise Royal, Kent and Lincolnshire Surprise Major, Gainsborough Little Bob Major, and the Liversedge variation of Spliced Treble Bob Major, were rung for the first time.

Unlike last year, long lengths on 8-10 bells are conspicuous by their absence, the only one to report being 10,800 of Minor in three methods by the Suffolk Guild.

Peals worth noting are Stedman Cinques by the London County, the band consisting of six fathers and six sons; the first 10-bell peal by members of the Police Force, being Grandsire Caters for the Lancashire Association.

Following are the number of peals rung each month in 1927 and 1928:—

Table with columns 1927, 1928. Rows include January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, September, October, November, December.

An analysis of the footnotes shows that ringers who have scored their first peal number 593, being 18 less than in 1927. Ringers of peals in a different method, or method on a different number of bells total 1,135, an increase of 39 on last year's total.

(Continued in next column.)

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting of the Lewisham District was held at St. John's, Erith, on Saturday, April 27th. The bells were made good use of during the afternoon and evening, touches being brought round in methods ranging from Grandsire Triples to London Surprise Major. The Vicar (Rev. W. M. Browne) conducted members who were not ringing on a very interesting inspection of the church, which is of great historical interest.

The Vicar officiated at the service, and gave a very interesting address. At the conclusion of the service the members repaired to the G.F.S. hut, there to partake of tea, kindly supplied by the Vicar, who heartily welcomed the members to Erith.

The business meeting followed, the Vicar presiding. One new member was elected, and the election of another previous to a peal was ratified.

Mr. E. Barnett, jun., gave a report of proceedings at the association's committee meeting on Easter Monday, at Maidstone, and called attention to the circular by the new secretary (Mr. F. M. Mitchell). Eynsford and Shoreham (Kent) were proposed for the next meeting, and Shoreham finally chosen for a date in July.

Mr. W. J. Jeffries moved a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells, for his kind help to the members in describing the church, for conducting the service and address, and for his generous hospitality in supplying the tea; to the organist for his services, and to the ladies for their attention to the visitors' creature comforts.—This was carried with applause.

The Vicar briefly responded and voiced his thanks that Mr. F. J. Cullum, the veteran captain of his ringers, was sufficiently recovered from his recent illness to be present on that occasion. This concluded the meeting, and after a few touches on handbells, which were warmly appreciated, the members returned to the tower for further ringing.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A GAIN TO THE ASSOCIATION.

The quarterly meeting of the North Eastern Division of the Essex Association was held at the parish of St. Osyth, near Clacton, on Saturday week, when 42 ringers were present from 18 parishes. The Rector officiated at the service, having previously conducted all the ringers round the church, explaining to them the various items of interest (of which there were many). The visitors much appreciated this extra 'turn,' in their welcome to this, one of the oldest parish churches in East Anglia. Among those present at the tea were the Rector, churchwardens and organist, Mr. C. H. Howard (Master of the Association), Mr. Nevard (District Master), Mr. R. W. Stannard (district secretary), and other well-known ringers, many of whom were visiting this out-of-the-way parish for the first time. At the subsequent meeting ten new members were elected, and Messrs. Howard and Nevard proposed and seconded respectively a vote of thanks to all.

St. Osyth is a gain to the association of a new tower, with its nine members, and there is a promise of having the bells restored shortly.

(Continued from previous column.)

their first peal inside number 51, away from the tenor 16, in the method inside 73, Maximus 1, Cinques 4, Royal 21, Caters 9, Major 77, Triples 25, Minor 82, Doubles 35, on 12 bells 18, on ten 59, on eight 33, on six 12, Surprise 21, 'in hand' 6, in method 'in hand' 23.

The number of new conductors totals 60, and conductors of a fresh method 79.

In addition, the footnotes show that 61 peals were the first on the bells, 38 since restoration or augmentation, and 158 the first in the method on the bells. Muffled and half-muffled peals number 81, birthday peals 269, wedding (including silver, golden and diamond) 63, church festivals and dedications 34, Empire Day 5, Armistice Day 22, anniversaries 60, welcome and farewell peals 50, complimentary 15, royal birthdays 16, golden wedding and retirement of the Archbishop of Canterbury 19, enthronement of the new Archbishop of Canterbury 3.

There is a slight decrease in the number of ladies who have rung peals. This year's total is 88. Two only appear among the conductors. Two peals—one of Rob Major and one of Cambridge Surprise Major—were rung by the Ladies' Guild.

Two peals of Doubles were published with faulty statements, corrections of which have been received from the secretaries concerned.

Again we conclude our report with the number of peals rung in each of representative years since 1881, the total for the whole period being 53,541:—

1881	...	156	1902	...	1,313	1915	...	259	1923	...	1,885
1885	...	500	1905	...	1,519	1917	...	130	1925	...	1,689
1889	...	797	1909	...	1,628	1919	...	1,048	1926	...	1,667
1894	...	859	1913	...	2,358	1920	...	1,471	1927	...	1,841
1898	...	1,002	1914	...	1,415	1921	...	1,632	1928	...	1,702

GEORGE WILLIAMS, West End, Southampton.
EDITH K. FLETCHER, 45, Walsingham Road, Enfield.
JOSEPH W. PARKER, 5, Amberley Street, Sunderland.

DEATH OF M.C.A. PRESIDENT.

CLOSE OF A LONG AND ACTIVE CAREER.

The Midland Counties Association has sustained a great loss by the death, which occurred on April 26th, of the president, Mr. Robert Baker Chambers, J.P., of Littleover, Derbyshire. Mr. Chambers was in his eightieth year, and had been in failing health for some little time past, as a result of which he had relinquished many of the public positions which he formerly held, but he retained until the last his office and his interest in the M.C.A. Mr. Chambers succeeded the late Mr. J. W. Taylor as president of the association, and he rendered it invaluable service by the transformation which he effected in its financial standing. By interesting his large circle of friends in the organisation, he secured what must be the largest list of honorary members in any ringing society, and thus he built up the association in a strong position. He was himself of a generous nature, and materially assisted in bell repair funds, almost invariably giving a private donation when the M.C.A. made a grant. The tenor bell at Peatling Magna, Leicestershire, bears his name as the donor at recasting in 1906, and he did much work anonymously in this direction.

Mr. Chambers was a man of many parts, who served his day and generation without sparing himself. A Derbyshire man, he was born at Wilne, near Shardlow, on January 5th, 1850. His father, Mr. Joseph Chambers, who was a farmer and landowner, died in the year 1856. His mother, a daughter of Mr. William Hall, of Peatling Magna, Leicestershire, owned considerable property in the parish, and also in the parishes of Boulton and Allestree, in the county of Derby. Mr. Chambers was educated at Mr. R. N. Wilson's School, Castle Donington, and at Ellesthorpe House School, near Rugby. For a time after leaving school he occupied a large farm, and took an interest in agricultural affairs, being a member of the Derbyshire Agricultural Society, and a steward at several shows. He took an active interest in athletics, and was president of the Sawley Cricket Club, captain of the Sawley Football Athletic and Rowing Clubs, winning numerous prizes in local walking and other competitions. During two seasons he played full-back for South Derbyshire Football Club. In 1870, Mr. Chambers matriculated at Magdalen Hall, Oxford, and during his residence there he rowed in his College Torpid and twice in his college eight. He won the College mile walking race from scratch in 8 mins. 15 secs., and was second in the three-mile walking race at Oxford University sports in 1872. He took his B.A. degree in 1875, Magdalen Hall in the meantime having been transformed into Hertford College. In 1876, Mr. Chambers took up his residence at South Stitch, Idrigehay, where he remained until 1893, still taking an interest in sport. He was also actively engaged in political matters, being four years a member of the Executive Councils for both the Midland and West Derbyshire Conservative Associations, and he represented the Wirksworth Rural Deanery on the Diocesan Council. In the year 1882, he was articled to Mr. A. H. Robotham, Derby, and was admitted as a solicitor in 1886. He was associated with the firm of Robotham and Co. for some years afterwards. In 1893, Mr. Chambers removed to Green Hill, Derby, and since then took an exceedingly useful part in town affairs. He had, for instance, been a churchwarden of St. Peter's, Derby. The notable restoration of that ancient church, which cost nearly £10,000, was in a large measure due to Mr. Chambers' efforts as hon. secretary to the restoration committee, as well as to his own generous gifts. He was a member of the Southwell Diocesan Conference, and of important committees connected with that body. He also actively co-operated in educational affairs. He became one of the Church of England members of the School Board in 1902, and continued thereon until the duties were taken over by the Town Council, and he then became a member of the Education Committee. He had twice been Mayor of Derby, having been first elected to the Town Council in 1903.

He was an ideal sportsman, and was associated with innumerable county organisations of a charitable or philanthropic nature.

The funeral at Littleover was attended by a very large and representative county gathering, and among those present were Mr. J. Griffin (vice-president), Mr. W. Wallace (hon. treasurer), Mr. E. Denison Taylor, and Mr. W. Wilson, representing the Midland Counties Association, and wreaths were sent by the M.C.A. and St. Peter's Church bellringers, Derby.

Muffled bells were rung in many parts of the area of the association's activities, including a peal at Leicester Cathedral and at St. Peter's, Derby (recorded elsewhere), and the touches given below.

One of the cherished possessions of the general hon. secretary (Mr. Ernest Morris) is a silver bell inkpot given to him (unknown to the general body of members of the association) by the deceased president in recognition of the clerical help which the secretary had given him. It is inscribed, 'E. M., 22nd January, 1927.'

At All Saints' Church, Wigston Magna, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes) by the Sunday service band, with the bells half-muffled: W. H. Humberstone 1, W. Brewin 2, A. Ward 3, A. Chamberlain 4, A. H. Carter 5, J. Carter (conductor) 6, F. Lloyd 7, E. Lloyd 8.

At Wingfield, 936 Bob Minor, with the tenor covering: J. P. Tarlton (conductor) 1, Olive Tarlton 2, Dorothy Tarlton 3, Doris Dilkes 4, B. Wheeler 5, W. Wain 6, P. Martin 7.

NOTICES.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on May 23rd, *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 14th, Southwark Cathedral on the 16th, *St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 28th, St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 30th; all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—S.E. Division.—The next meeting will be held at Great Waltham on Saturday, May 11th. Bells (8) available 2.30. Usual arrangements.—H. W. Kirton, Hon. Dis. Sec.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—The festival will be held at Bridport on Saturday, May 11th. Service at 12.30. Preacher: Right Rev. Bishop Joscelyn. Luncheon at Greyhound Hotel 1.15 p.m. Charge 1s. Annual business meeting to follow. Towers open: Beaminster, Bradpole, Bridport, Whitchurch Canoniorum (8), Burton Bradstock, Litton Cheney, Loders, Netherbury, Symondsby (6). All ringers welcome.—F. Llewellyn Edwards, Sec.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Isle of Wight District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Brading on Saturday, May 11th. Bells available at 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m., followed by tea at the Parish Hall and business meeting.—B. J. Snow, Hon. Dis. Sec., No. 2, Collingwood, Daniel Street, I.O.W.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bath Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Corston on Saturday, May 11th. Bells (8) at 3.30. Service 4.30. Tea to follow. A good attendance is requested.—Theo Grant, Branch Sec., Swainswick, Bath, Som.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Woking Parish Church, St. Peter's (at Old Woking). The two new church bells will be dedicated by the Bishop of Guildford on Saturday, May 11th, at 3.30 p.m. All ringers will be heartily welcomed to the dedication.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Cranbrook on Saturday, May 11th. Tower open at 2.30. Service at 4.30. Tea, at 9d. per head, after service, followed by business meeting: Half travelling expenses up to 2s. each will be paid to members attending.—W. Latter, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chipping Norton Deanery Branch.—The annual spring meeting will be held at Shipton-under-Wychwood on Saturday, May 11th.—J. Keyte, Hon. Sec., Charlbury, Oxon.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—A meeting will be held at Feltham on Saturday, May 11th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Arrangements as usual. All ringers welcome.—Wm. H. Hollier, 29, Duke Road, W.4.

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Shelley on Saturday, May 11th. Bells ready 1 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. All ringers and friends invited.—C. D. Potter, Hon. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—A meeting will be held on Saturday, May 11th, at Warehorne. Tower opens at 2.30. Tea at 5 o'clock. Ruckinge tower opens 6 till 8 o'clock. All ringers welcome.—A. C. Kay, Dis. Sec., 6, Sturges Road, Ashford.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The monthly practice at Netherton, Saturday, May 11th, 3.30.—Herbert Sheppard, Hon. Sec.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—Mid-Devon Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Staverton on Saturday, May 11th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.15. All ringers welcome.—H. J. Hole, Hon. Sec., Tauntonia, Church Street, Paignton.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.—The pre-Whitsun meeting will be held at Whitley Bay on Saturday, May 11th. The bells of St. Paul's will be available after 2.30 p.m. Committee meeting at the Victoria Hotel at 4.30 p.m. and tea (1/6 per head) at 5 o'clock.—Geo. S. Taylor, Sec., 129, St. Leonard Street, Sunderland.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next meeting will be held at Beeston on Saturday, May 11th. Bells (8) from 3.30 p.m. Members make own arrangements for tea.—F. W. Bailey, Local Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Halsall on Saturday, May 11th. Bells ready at 2.30.—James Grounds, Hon. Sec., 8, School Lane, Standish.

FOR 'RINGING THE CHANGES' try Bushey, Saturday, May 11th. Ringing from 3.30 till 8.30. Evensong 5. Tea (Institute) 5.30. Cheap tickets from all stations.—C. H. Horton, Bushey. Tel.: City 4270.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Witney and Woodstock Branch.—Spring meeting at Yarnton, to-morrow (Saturday), May 11th.—W. Evetts, Hon. Sec., Hill Court, Tackley.

ST. CLEMENT YOUTHS (St. Clement Danes', Strand, W.C.).—The annual general meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 15th, at 8.15 p.m. sharp. Practice 6.30 to 8 p.m. All members earnestly requested to attend.—F. W. H. Sergison, Hon. Sec.

A JOINT MEETING of the Surrey Association (North-Western District) and the Guildford Diocesan Guild (Leatherhead District) will be held at Ewell on Saturday, May 18th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea to follow in the Church Room. All ringers welcome. Will those requiring tea kindly notify Mr. C. E. Read, 1, Grove Villas, High Street, Ewell, not later than Wednesday, May 15th?—D. Cooper and A. R. Pink, Hon. Dis. Secs.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Hough-on-the-Hill (6) on Saturday, May 18th. Service in the church at 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. H. Haynes, Hough-on-the-Hill, Grantham, not later than Wednesday, May 15th.—C. T. H. Bradley, Hon. Sec., Folkingham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—Our next meeting will be held at St. Thomas' Church, Helmshore, on Saturday, May 18th. Bells ready at 3 o'clock. Meeting at 6.30. A good attendance is earnestly requested.—John H. Haydock, Branch Sec., 8, Oaklands Road, Edenfield.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Berkshire Branch.—Annual meeting at Appleton on Saturday, May 18th. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Those intending to be present please notify me not later than Wednesday, 15th.—Albert E. Lock, 35, East St. Helen Street, Abingdon, Berks.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Stand Church, Whitefield, on Saturday, May 18th. Bells ready 4 o'clock. Meeting 7 p.m. A good attendance is requested.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Petworth on Saturday, May 18th. Bells available from 2.30. Tea at Mr. Knight's Restaurant, Lombard Street, 5 p.m. All those intending to be present kindly advise by Wednesday previous to the meeting. Half railway fares, 1s. 6d.—A. W. Groves, Amhirst, Dominion Road, Worthing.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Blunson on Saturday, May 18th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea and business meeting at 5 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify me by Wednesday, 15th.—S. Hopper, Branch Sec., 79, Edinburgh Street, Gorse Hill, Swindon, Wilts.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern District.—Next meeting, May 18th, at Whitechapel. Bells (8) available 4.30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Service. Tea (at kind invitation of the Rector) and meeting at 5 p.m. Also St. Botolph's, Aldgate (8), 3 to 4.30 p.m.; St. Dunstan's (8), if required, 7 to 9 p.m. Everyone welcome. — J. A. Waugh, 8, Fuller's Road, Woodford.

A **JOINT MEETING** of the Winchester Diocesan Guild (Andover Branch) and the Oxford Diocesan Guild (Newbury Branch) will be held at Highclere, Hants, on Saturday, May 18th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea, 5 p.m., at 1s. All ringers welcome. Intending visitors please notify Mr. F. J. Knapp, Highclere Farm, near Newbury, not later than Thursday, May 16th, for tea. Good bus service from Newbury (five miles).—H. W. Curtis and the Rev. Seers, Hon. Dis. Secs.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Sonning Deanery Branch.—Combined practice at Hurst (8 bells), Saturday, May 18th, from 6 till 9. All welcome.—W. J. Paice, Branch Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Chesterfield District.—The next meeting of the above will be held at Ashover on Saturday, May 18th. Bells (8) open at 3 p.m. Will all those requiring tea notify J. P. Tarlton not later than May 16th? All ringers will be welcome. Reports can be had.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Potton on Saturday, May 18th. 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.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting will be held at Stoke Golding on Saturday, May 18th. Bells available from 3.45 p.m. A good meeting is requested; all ringers being cordially welcome.—W. A. Cope, Smockington, Hinckley.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — St. Albans District.—A meeting is arranged to be held at Harpenden on Saturday, May 18th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea arrangements will be made. Business: To discuss a joint meeting with the Bedford Association.—W. Nash, Dis. Sec., North Mimms, Hatfield.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—A meeting will be held at Cotton on Saturday, May 18th. Bells (6) from 2 p.m. Mendleshams bells (6) also available. Tea 5 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify by May 16th.—B. Chilvers, Cotton, Stowmarket.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Chippenham, Whit Monday, May 20th. St. Paul's (5) and St. Andrew's (8) available from 10 a.m. Other bells available by arrangement. Service 12 noon, St. Andrew's Church. Luncheon 1 p.m., 2s. 6d. (cold). Book direct to Mr. Dunford, Bear Hotel, Chippenham, on or before May 15th. General business meeting 2.30 p.m., St. Catherine's Schoolroom. Important business. Motions proposed include deletions to Rules I. and III. and additions to Rule XIII. and III. of branch rules. Copies and proposers may be had upon application. Tea 1s. per head, Bear Hotel. Some principal officials retiring and do not seek re-election. Please notify me for tea on or before May 18th.—Edgar Guise, Hon. Sec., 39, Tankard's Close, St. Michael's, Bristol.

NORFOLK GUILD.—General meeting will be held at Pulham Market on Whit Monday, May 20th. The ring of bells at Pulham Market (8) and St. Mary, Pulham (8) will be available. Dinner at the King's Head, St. Mary, Pulham (2s. 6d. per head), at 1.30 p.m., followed by business meeting. Members requiring dinner to notify the secretary not later than Thursday, May 16th, in order that the host will have the number specially to provide for. — Arthur L. Coleman, Sec., High Croft, North Walsham, Norfolk.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — The annual general meeting will be held at Kettering on Whit Monday, May 20th. The Central Committee will meet at 10.45 a.m. in the Parish Hall (near the church). Service in the church of SS. Peter and Paul at 12 noon, when the preacher will be the Very Rev. the Dean of Peterborough. Lunch at the Royal Hotel at 1 p.m., followed by the business meeting. Applications for lunch tickets must be made not later than Monday, May 13th, to the general secretary, with remittance, 2s. 6d. The bells available are Kettering (10) throughout the day, and Burton Latimer (8), Rothwell (8), Desborough (8), Weekley (6), Isham (6) and Barton Seagrave (5) after the meeting.—R. G. Black, Gen. Sec., Stamford Road, Geddington, near Kettering.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — The annual general meeting will be held at Brighton on Whit Monday, May 20th. The towers of St. Peter's and St. Nicholas' will be open from 2 till 3.30 and after the meeting. The Good Shepherd, Dyke Road, 7.30 till 9 p.m. Special service in St. Peter's Church, at 4 p.m. A meat tea will be provided in Parish Hall, adjoining church, 5 p.m., followed by business meeting. Tea 2s. 6d. (1s. 3d. to members). Half rail fare (maximum 2s. 6d.) allowed to resident members. Those intending to be present should notify honorary general secretary not later than Tuesday, May 14th.—A. D. Stone, Hon. Gen. Sec., 16, Belgrave Street, Brighton.

DEVON GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Tiverton on Whit Monday. Service in St. Peter's Church at noon. Dinner at Clapp's Restaurant 1 p.m. Towers open: Tiverton, Bickleigh, Calverleigh and Washfield. All ringers welcome.—T. Laver, Gen. Sec., 21, Cross Park, Heavitree, Exeter.

NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Gresford on Whit Monday, May 20th. Bells (8) available 1 p.m. Service 3 p.m., to be followed by meeting. Tea 4.30 p.m.—W. Cathrall, 20, Ffordd Estyn, Garden Village, Wrexham.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual Festival at Hereford, Whit Monday, May 20th. Service in Cathedral Ladye Chapel, 12.15. Dinner at Booth Hall Hotel, 1 p.m., 2/6. Dinner tickets from Mr. A. W. Davis, 102, Rylands St. Business meeting after dinner. Towers available Cathedral (10) 10.30 to 11.30, 6.30 to 8.30; All Saints' (8), St. Nicholas' (6) 10.30 to 12, 3 to 6. Other 8 and 6-bell towers in neighbouring villages during afternoon.—H. S. T. Richardson, Hon. Sec., St. Nicholas' Rectory, Hereford.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Marshland Branch.—District meeting at Terrington St. Clement on Whit Monday. Ringing at 11 a.m. (8 bells). Service at 4 p.m., followed by tea at King William Hotel, 1s. 6d. each. Numbers must be sent to me not later than Thursday, May 16th.—W. G. Cross, Hon. Branch Sec., 16, St. James' Road, King's Lynn.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. (Founded 1879. Jubilee 1929.)—The 30th annual meeting will be held at Chelmsford on Whit Monday, May 20th. 11 a.m.: Service at the Cathedral, with address by the Lord Bishop of Chelmsford. 12 noon: Meeting in Cathedral Hall. 1.15 p.m.: Lunch at Corn Exchange. Admission by ticket only, members 1s. 6d., non-members 2s. 6d. Applications, with remittance, to be sent to Mr. E. J. Butler, 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath, not later than Wednesday, May 15th. Towers open for ringing during day: Cathedral (12), Writtle (8), Widford (8), Galleywood (8), Great Baddow (8), Great Waltham (8), Boreham (8), Broomfield (6), Springfield (6). Private bus service will be provided between 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. to enable ringers to visit the various towers. No ringing permitted during service and meeting.—Charles H. Howard, Master; F. J. Pitstow, Gen. Sec. and Treasurer, 45, High Street, Saffron Walden.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—Grimsby District.—The next meeting will be held at Louth on Whit Monday, May 20th. Bells (8) ready 2 p.m. Service in the church at 4.15. Tea, 5 p.m., at Appleby's, Aswell Street, at 1s. 6d. Business meeting to follow. Those requiring tea kindly advise Mr. A. Drewell, 41a, James Street, Louth, not later than first post, Saturday, May 18th. The bells have been rehung, and a good attendance is hoped for. All ringers and friends welcome.—H. I. Mingay, Hon. Dis. Sec.,

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Ripon on Whit Monday, May 20th. The bells of the Cathedral (10, tenor 21 cwt.) are available for ringing from 11 to 2, 3.30 to 4.45 and 6 to 9 p.m. Services in the Cathedral at 10 a.m. and 4.45 p.m. Lunch will be provided at the Black Bull Hotel at 1 p.m. Members 2s., non-members 2s. 6d. Those intending to be at lunch please notify the secretary not later than Wednesday, May 15th. Annual business meeting to follow, and it is hoped that members will turn up in good numbers and make this meeting the success it deserves.—T. Metcalfe, Hon. Sec., 26, High Street, North Ormesby, Middlesbrough.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Ely Archdeaconry will be held at Sawston (8) on Satur-

day, May 25th. A good attendance is requested. Election of district ringing master, etc. Those requiring tea please notify by 22nd.—F. Warrington, Dis. Sec., Longstanton, Cambs.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Bentley on Saturday, May 25th. Bells (5) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. The Church of St. Paul, Bentley, is situated on the main Brentwood-Ongar Road, 3 miles from Brentwood, 4 from Ongar. Buses leave Brentwood (Yorkshire Grey) at 3, 3.30 and 4 p.m.—E. J. Butler, Dis. Sec., 3, Eustace Road, Chadwell Heath, Essex.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Clifton, near Rugby, on Saturday, May 25th, instead of on the 18th, as previously arranged. A plain tea will be provided at the Vicarage, by kind invitation of the Vicar, to all who notify me by Thursday, May 23rd.—Miss D. E. Lewis, Hon. Sec., Firholm, King Edward Road, Nuneaton.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—A ringing meeting will be held at Edenbridge on Saturday, May 25th. Tower open 2.45. Those requiring tea please let me know by Wednesday, May 22nd.—George Lambert, Drummond Hay, East Grinstead.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—A meeting will be held at Royston on Saturday, May 25th. The bells (8) will be available at 3 p.m. Short service at 5 p.m., to be followed by tea and business meeting. As Mr. Cowper, 88, Melbourn Road, Royston, is arranging the tea will all members who require tea notify him? A good attendance is requested. All ringers and friends welcome.—Donald C. Mears, Hon. Dis. Sec., The School House, Ofley, Hitchin.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—A general meeting will be held at Stowmarket on May 25th. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m.—H. Drake, Hon. Sec., Ufford, Woodbridge.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—District meeting at Chiddingfold on Saturday, May 25th. Ringing 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea (1s.) and business meeting. Numbers for tea to me by Friday, May 17th.—G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec., Mellow Cottage, East Clandon, Guildford.

SITUATION VACANT.

WANTED for country builder's office, JUNIOR CLERK, typewriting, with knowledge of shorthand, general office routine. Ringer preferred.—Apply 'S.,' Office of 'The Ringing World,' Woking.

HANDBELLS WANTED.

WANTED.—SET OF HANDBELLS, 2 octaves, chromatic (25 bells or more); suitable for concert work; must be cheap; what offers?—C. Deeprose, Hill House, Combs, Stowmarket.

FOR SALE.

Set of 19 HANDBELLS, in box, 10 gns., or near offer.—Lucas, Pitney, Langport.

HOUSE WANTED.

A peal ringer, 6 to 12, wants HOUSE, country cottage in Northumberland, Lancashire or Yorkshire.—'D.,' 'The Ringing World' Office, Woking.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

PUDSEY.—On Sunday, April 28th, at the Church of St. Laurence, for evening service, 224 Double Norwich Court Bob Major, 384 Cambridge Surprise Major, 384 Superlative Surprise Major, and 192 London Surprise Major: P. Cordingley 1, S. Ward 2, J. C. Booth 3, R. Myers 4, W. Barton (conductor) 5, J. W. Baxendale 6, J. E. Procter 7, J. Ambler 8. All members of the local company.

HOUNSLOW.—On Sunday, April 28th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 45 mins.: C. Collins 1, F. G. Goddard 2, W. F. Ellingham 3, J. Kent 4, S. Stilwell 5, C. J. Tricker 6, F. E. Hawthorne (conductor) 7, H. Gash 8.

EXETER.—On Sunday, April 28th, for morning service, at the Church of St. Thomas, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 43 mins.: W. Bailey 1, J. Hosgood 2, W. Howe 3, H. G. Lewis 4, C. Routley 5, E. W. Biffin (conductor) 6, A. Goad 7, W. A. Wills (first quarter-peal) 8. Arranged for the ringer of 4th, who hails from Hope, North Wales.

SOUTHGATE.—At Christ Church, on April 28th, for matins, Thurstan's quarter-peal of Stedman in 47 mins.: A. R. Glasscock 1, J. Armstrong 2, J. E. Miller 3, D. Ovington 4, W. Pickworth 5, H. Miller 6, F. E. Wade (conductor) 7, A. G. Crane 8. An innovation occurred at this service, so far as Southgate is concerned, i.e., the collection was for the bellringers of this church.

DUNSTABLE, BEDS.—On April 21st, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,280 changes): B. F. Calcott 1, C. Rollings 2, G. H. Sentance 3, G. Heley 4, C. E. King 5, A. G. Matthews 6, A. J. Smith (Luton) 7, A. E. Sharman (conductor) 8.

CARISBROOKE, I.O.W.—On Sunday, April 21st, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes, from Holt's Original): F. Taylor (conductor) 1, W. Legge 2, A. Drake 3, F. Priddle 4, C. Taylor 5, H. Barton 6, J. Bennett (London) 7, B. Sibbick 8.

WEST CLANDON, SURREY.—On Sunday, April 21st, for evening service, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: A. Walker 1, F. Day 2, F. Bennett 3, J. Boacher 4, N. Harding 5, G. Grover (conductor) 6. First extent of Surprise Minor by a local band for the Guildford Diocesan Guild.

UCKFIELD, SUSSEX.—At the Church of the Holy Cross, on Sunday, April 21st, for morning service, 504 Grandsire Triples: E. Avis 1, F. Tester 2, P. Marchant 3, B. Saunders 4, A. Richardson 5, F. Weller 6, J. A. Hart (conductor) 7, C. J. Hart 8. First 504 by ringers of treble, 4th, 5th, and 6th.

HAYES, KENT.—On Sunday, April 14th, for evensong, 720 London Surprise Minor: T. R. Flint 1, F. Keech 2, J. Hack 3, O. Gilbey (conductor) 4, H. Brown 5, J. Brown 6. 18 bobs by C. Severn.—Recently, 720 Stamford Surprise Minor: H. Reader 1, T. R. Flint 2, J. Hack 3, O. Gilbey (conductor) 4, F. Keech 5, J. Brown 6. First of Stamford on the bells and by all the band.

SHEFFIELD.—For Sunday evening service, on April 14th, at St. Marie's R.C. Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 49 mins.: J. Tuke 1, R. Harrison, sen., 2, W. Bugar (conductor) 3, Cyril Harrison (first quarter-peal in any method) 4, J. A. Dixon 5, G. Holmes 6, T. Lee 7, R. Harrison, jun., 8.

DEPTFORD.—At St. John's Church, in 40 mins., on Sunday, April 7th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): E. Rivett 1, W. A. Martin 2, A. F. Petrie 3, P. C. Elliott 4, P. S. Steers 5, P. C. Davies 6, W. J. Jeffries (conductor) 7, R. A. Fosdike 8.

HITCHIN.—On Sunday, April 7th, for evening service, at St. Mary's Church, Hitchin, Herts, a quarter-peal of Superlative Surprise Major was rung in 52 mins.: Rev. R. F. R. Routh 1, T. E. Scott 2, A. Symonds 3, G. T. Croft (conductor) 4, G. Wolfe 5, E. J. Newell 6, C. V. Hare 7, H. W. Day 8.

DEVIZES, WILTS.—On Sunday, April 7th, for morning service, at St. May's Church, 720 Bob Minor in 26 mins.: J. Ottaway 1, S. Hillier 2, E. G. Swift 3, W. A. Swift 4, R. Swift 5, F. Green (conductor) 6.

A HALF PEAL.

On Saturday, April 13th, at St. David's Church, Exeter, a half-peal of Bob Major (2,576 changes): Capt. Linter 1, Mrs. E. S. Powell (conductor) 2, Miss Sylvia Thursfield 3, T. Laver 4, William Howe 5, Frank Davey 6, John M. Skinner (longest touch in the method) 7, Rev. E. S. Powell 8. It had been arranged to attempt a peal, but owing to the funeral of one of the churchwardens on that afternoon there was insufficient time, and the bells were rung half-muffled.

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