

THE RINGING WORLD

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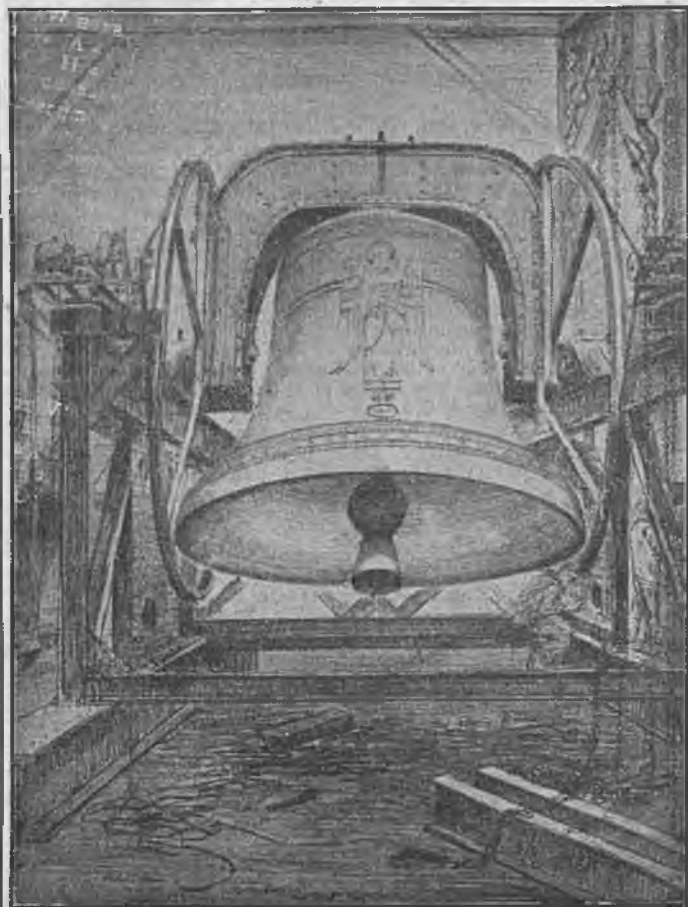
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THE 18 1/2 TON RINGING BELL,
the Bourdon of the Carillon of 64 Bells, about to be installed at
RIVERSIDE CHURCH, NEW YORK, U.S.A.

AN INTERESTING EXPERIMENT.

The announcement that a ringing instructor is on his way to America to take up an appointment as tutor of the art at one of the big public schools of the United States is, we hope, the opening of a new chapter in the history of ringing abroad. Hitherto, 'missionary' work overseas has been of a casual kind, and bands have been established largely by 'importation' rather than by local product. But with all that has been done, in Boston by the late Dr. Nichols, who established the Boston Guild; at Groton, by Mr. Warren Sturgess; in Vancouver, by Mr. A. C. Limpus; in South Africa—both at Woodstock and Durban—in Australia and in New Zealand, change ringing has had a very precarious existence, like a flickering flame that dies down almost as soon as it springs to life. Apparently indigenous to the British Isles, the art has failed to thrive on any other soil, as much, perhaps, from the lack of bell towers as from the absence of ringers. In the case of Boston, two or three rings are within reach, but peals of bells in the British Dominions are so exceptional that they are hundreds if not thousands of miles apart, and the number of ringers who settle near any one of them is, naturally, extremely small. The art has really had no chance to flourish.

But there is something new, and, we hope, more promising, in the development which is beginning at Kent, Connecticut. The bell tower is attached to the great public school in that city, and the donor of the bells has made it a stipulation that the art of ringing shall be taught there. It was while on a visit to this country that this gentleman heard and admired the ringing of bells in the traditional English manner and learned of the way in which ringers in this country are organised. In the hope that, by teaching the art of ringing to the students, there may gradually be spread in America a love of bells rung in English fashion he has made his gift to the school. His desire also is to see established in connection with it an organisation like the Oxford University Society and the Cambridge University Guild, which will provide a permanent link between all those who take up a study of the art while under the ægis of the school, from which the members will go out to their homes in the States as 'missionaries' of, to them, the new art, thus creating an interest which, in course of time, may lead to the provision of other towers and bells. If ever this vision should be realised, the art will owe a great deal to the inspiration and generosity of the donor of these bells, who is not content merely to provide the instruments, but to do what is humanly possible to ensure that they shall be used for the special purpose

(Continued on page 173.)

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Muffers, Ringing Mats, Matting, Flag Lines, etc., etc.

for which they are designed. Only the future can tell what success will attend this step. Will young America take to this fresh pastime with any interest or zest? If, before they leave the school, the students can get to the stage when method ringing has become something of the fascination which it is to the real enthusiast, there may be great possibilities before the scheme, especially if there can be developed with it that spirit of service, in which, as church workers, English ringers find so much incentive. The experiment at Kent School will be watched with great interest by members of the Exercise at home, and no small responsibility for its success rests upon the shoulders of the first instructor, Mr. Isaac Attwater, who has just gone from London to take up the appointment.

TEN BELL PEALS.

LONDON.

ANCIENT FREE AND ACCEPTED MASONS OF ENGLAND
AND THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 7, 1931, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTON, STEPNEY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 31 cwt. in C.

BRO. JOHN D. MATTHEWS, M.M. Rose of Denmark Lodge, No. 975. Master of Royal Cumberland Youths. ... Treble
BRO. ERNEST BRETT, M.M. Harrow Lodge, No. 1310. ... 2
BRO. EDWIN BARNETT, JUN., M.M. Gavelkind Lodge, No. 4266. 3
BRO. H. E. C. GOODENOUGH, M.M. Semper Fidelis Lodge, No. 4393. ... 4
BRO. REGINALD BROUGH, M.M. Frederick Lodge of Unity, No. 452. ... 5
BRO. WM. G. WHITEHEAD, M.M. Abercorn Lodge, No. 1549. 6
BRO. GEORGE W. STEERE, M.M. Sowest Lodge, No. 5797. ... 7
BRO. FREDERICK WHITE, M.M. Holmesdale Lodge, No. 874. ... 8
BRO. WILLIAM BOTTRILL, M.M. Polaris Lodge, No. 4407. ... 9
BRO. STAFFORD H. GREEN, M.M. Whitgift Lodge, No. 3617. Tenor

Composed by BRO. FREDERICK A. HOLDEN, M.M.

Conducted by BRO. JOHN D. MATTHEWS, M.M.

The ringers of 1, 3, 5, 7 and 9 are members of the Royal Cumberland Youths, and of 2, 4, 6, 8 and tenor the Ancient Society of College Youths. The Brethren desire to express their great appreciation of the kindness of the Rector of Stepney for the use of the bells, also to the local company of the Ancient Society of College Youths for their welcome and for giving the band the privilege of scoring the first peal since the bells were relung by the founders, Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. The 'go' of the bells is first class, and reflects great credit on the bellhanger. The ringers of 4, 6 and 9 were elected non-resident members of the K.O.A. previous to starting.

LONDON.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH
SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Friday, March 13, 1931, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, WEST HAM,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERERS, 5001 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt.

ALFRED PRIOR ... Treble * REGINALD F. NEWMAN ... 6
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ... 2 † JAMES A. PRIOR ... 7
WILLIAM H. THEOBALD ... 3 † GEORGE DAWSON ... 8
CHARLES A. HUGHES ... 4 EDWARD D. SMITH ... 9
FRANK C. NEWMAN ... 5 † ROBERT MOLTON ... Tenor

Composed by J. P. BRADLEY. Conducted by THOMAS H. TAFFENDER
* First peal. † First peal in the method on ten bells. ‡ First peal in the method. § First peal on ten bells. Rung half-muffled as a mark of respect to the late Mr. William Miller, a Sunday service ringer at this church, and who took part in the evening ringing on the 1st inst.

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DAVID MAXON, Rope Works, Grantham

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 14, 1931, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 19½ cwt.

WILLIAM J. ELLIS Treble	FRED C. MAYNARD 6
ROBERT MAYNARD, JUN. ... 2	JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. ... 7
HAROLD A. EDWARDS 3	JAMES G. A. PRIOR 8
CHARLES T. COLES 4	EDWARD D. SMITH 9
ROBERT MAYNARD, SEN. ... 5	ERNEST E. HOLMAN Tenor

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

HATFIELD, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 14, 1931, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Etheldreda,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 26 cwt.

JOHN T. KENTISH Treble	*JOHN A. WADGH 6
HORACE BELCHER 2	JAMES E. DAVIS 7
EDWIN F. PIKE 3	JOHN H. CRAMPION 8
*ALBERT R. LAWRENCE ... 4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 9
WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE ... 5	*P.S. ALBERT LAWRENCE ... Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by J. T. KENTISH;

* First peal of Treble Bob Royal. First peal of Royal on the bells.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

HARMSTON, Lincs.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 21, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF ST. CLEMENT'S COLLEGE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

FRANK LORD Treble	H. LESLIE PASK 5
LEWIS SNELL 2	*GEORGE W. CREASEY ... 6
CHARLES MCGUINNESS ... 3	JACK BRAY 7
HAROLD MARCON 4	HAROLD WALKER Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by HAROLD WALKER

* First peal of Major. First peal in the method on the bells and for the Guild. First peal in the method by all except the conductor. First peal in the method as conductor.

WOLVERHAMPTON, STAFFS.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, March 7, 1931, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Luke,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S ONE-PART.

ARTHUR BAKER Treble	ABRAHAM GREENFIELD ... 5
HERBERT E. BOOTH 2	HAROLD L. FLAVELL 6
ALBERT D. COLLINS 3	ALFRED FALLON 7
HARRY BOSWELL 4	JAMES SHAW Tenor

Conducted by A. D. COLLINS.

This peal was rung as a birthday compliment to the ringers of the 3rd and 6th.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, March 9, 1931, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

At the Church of St. Botolph, Bishopsgate,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

P.S. ALBERT LAWRENCE ... Treble	WILLIAM R. MADGWICK ... 5
JOHN T. KENTISH 2	JOHN H. CRAMPION 6
JAMES E. DAVIS 3	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... 7
EDWIN F. PIKE 4	WILFRED WILLIAMS Tenor

Composed by G. LEWIS. Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to the late Mr. William Miller, who was for thirty-three years the leader of the St. John-the-Baptist, Leytonstone, company of ringers.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 12, 1931, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Edward,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

JAMES E. DAVIS Treble	JOSEPH WAGHORN, JUN. ... 5
GEORGE R. PYE 2	JOHN H. CRAMPION 6
ALFRED PRIOR 3	ERNEST W. FURBANK 7
ERNEST J. BUTLER 4	WILLIAM PYE Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

WEST WYCOMBE, RUCKS.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 14, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Lawrence,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt.

CHALLIS F. WINNEY Treble	JAMES W. WILKINS 5
ERNEST BRETT 2	WILLIAM R. MADGWICK ... 6
JOSEPH S. HAWKINS 3	F. DONALD BOREHAM 7
FRANK WEST 4	THOMAS JOYCE Tenor

Conducted by C. F. WINNEY.

TREVETHIN, PONTYPOOL, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE LLANDEFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 14, 1931, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Cadoc,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt.

*EDWARD H. STRADLING ... Treble	SYDNEY T. RACKHAM 5
GEORGE HAWKINS 2	GEORGE POPNELL 6
JOHN W. JONES 3	ERNEST STITCH 7
ARTHUR HAWKINS 4	DONALD D. CLIFT Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by DONALD D. CLIFT.

* First peal of Major. First peal of Major on the bells. Rung on the 40th anniversary of J. W. Jones' wedding day.

DRAYTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 14, 1931, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Catherine,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt.

JOSEPH T. DYKE Treble	*WILLIAM G. GIGG 5
ALFRED J. WYATT 2	DAVID G. TAYLOR 6
JAMES HUNT 3	WILLIAM H. LLOYD 7
ARTHUR H. REED 4	†PERCY MERSON Tenor

Composed by H. W. BROWN. Conducted by J. T. DYKE.

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

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 14, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Paulinus,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

EDWIN BARNETT, SEN. ... Treble	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... 5
GEORGE M. KILEY 2	THOMAS GROOMSBRIDGE, SEN. 6
JAMES BENNETT 3	EDWIN BARNETT, JUN. ... 7
GEORGE R. PYE 4	WILLIAM PYE Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

PULHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 14, 1931, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary Magdalen,

A PEAL OF NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 22 lb. in F.

FREDERICK BORRETT ... Treble	FREDERICK ROOPE 5
CHARLES BAKER 2	NOLAN GOLDEN 6
*CHARLES SAYER 3	ERNEST WHITING 7
*ERIC BENNETT 4	EDWIN GOATE Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW.

Conducted by F. BORRETT.

* First in method.

STOKE PRIOR, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 14, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART,

Tenor 9½ cwt.

*JOHN NEAL Treble	HARRY PRICE 5
THOMAS W. LEWIS 2	ROBERT LEWIS 6
A. OLIVER LEWIS 3	HAROLD F. MARTIN 7
ARTHUR J. MARTIN 4	WALTER H. RAXTER Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD F. MARTIN.

* First peal on eight bells. Rung as a birthday compliment to F. Bernard Martin, brother of the conductor, and Mrs. A. O. Lewis.

CROSTHWAITHE, CUMBERLAND.

THE CUMBERLAND COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 14, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. KENTIGERN,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

*GEORGE BOWE Treble	THOMAS S. JEFFERSON 5
EDWIN JENNINGS 2	*WILLIAM T. HOGG 6
FRANK WILSON 3	HUBERT RICHARDSON 7
JIM TEBAY 4	*FRANK BARNES Tenor

Conducted by EDWIN JENNINGS.

* First peal. The 7th ringer was elected a member previous to starting.

CRADLEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 14, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 12½ cwt.

HAROLD SHUCK Treble	ARTHUR E. WHATMORE 5
ALFRED WILLIAMS 2	CHARLES WILLIAM COOPER 6
SIDNEY THOMPSON 3	JOHN GOODMAN 7
JOSEPH H. COX 4	WALTER FARLEY Tenor

Conducted by JOHN GOODMAN.

Quickest peal on the bells.

WHITCHURCH, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 14, 1931, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL HALLOWS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

BERT GARRETT Treble	*HENRY GARRETT 5
SIDNEY QUINTON 2	REGINALD W. REX 6
WILFRED ANDREWS 3	GEORGE WILLIAMS 7
LEONARD BATTING 4	† PHILIP TIBBLE Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

* First peal of Triples. † First peal. Rung after meeting short for Stedman. The band were kindly entertained to tea after the peal at the Vicarage by the Rev. M. S. and Mrs. Douglas. Mr. L. Bating was elected a member previous to starting.

SALBHURST, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(HASTINGS AND DISTRICT GUILD.)

On Saturday, March 14, 1931, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

JAMES GOODSSELL Treble	ALBERT E. EDWARDS 5
FREDERICK MORGAN 2	EDWARD MILLS 6
REV. NORL E. HOPE 3	WILLIAM H. HOAD 7
THOMAS HOAD 4	ALBERT HOAD Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM H. HOAD.

First peal for the Hastings and District Guild.

BELGRAVE, LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 14, 1931, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 14 cwt. 23 lb. in F.

ROLAND BARROW Treble	*HERRICK B. BOWLEY 5
MISS MARY COFFLIN 2	ALBAN DISNEY 6
ERNEST MORRIS 3	WILLIAM H. CLARKE 7
REDVERS F. ELKINGTON 4	JOSIAH MORRIS Tenor

Composed and Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

* First peal on eight. This short-course composition, rung for the first time, has 70 singles and 135 bobs.

CUCKFIELD, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 14, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

*WALTER CHARMAN Treble	ROBERT SWIFT 5
GEORGE OLLIVER 2	C. ERNEST SMITH 6
KENNETH SNELLING 3	GEORGE ELLIS 7
REGINALD V. JOHNSON 4	OLIVER SIPPETTS Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by O. SIPPETTS.

* First peal of Cambridge.

OSWALDTWISTLE, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 14, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF IMMANUEL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 11½ cwt.

FRED HINDLE Treble	*ISAAC WHALLEY 5
MISS M. CLAYTON 2	JOHN BROWN 6
ARTHUR TOMLINSON 3	JOSEPH A. TOMLINSON 7
NORMAN KENYON 4	JAMES HARRISON Tenor

Conducted by A. TOMLINSON.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method on bells. Mr. F. Hindle's 100th peal.

NORTH LOPHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, March 15, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF ST. CLEMENT'S BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 10½ cwt. in F sharp.

ALBERT G. HARRISON Treble	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL 5
FRANK S. CLARKE 2	NOLAN GOLDEN 6
ALPHAUS J. BERRY 3	ERIC G. BENNETT 7
CHARLES F. GOODMAN 4	WALTER GIBBINS Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

First peal of Triples in the method by all and in Norfolk, and first peal of Triples on the bells. Mr. A. G. Harrison has now completed the circle here.

SIX BELL PEALS.

LEYTONSTONE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

(ST. JOHN'S SOCIETY, LEYTONSTONE.)

On Monday, March 9, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720's each of Beverley, Surfleet, London, Wells, York, Durham and Cambridge.

Tenor 14 cwt.

ROBERT MOLTON Treble	ALFRED PRIOR 4
ERNEST J. BUTLER 2	GEORGE DAWSON 5
WILLIAM H. THEOBALD 3	EDWARD D. SMITH Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE DAWSON.

Rung with bells muffled as a last token of respect to William Miller, for 33 years Master of the St. John's Society (Leytonstone), who was interred in the City of London Cemetery (Ilford) on this day.

NUTTALL, NOTTS.—At St. Patrick's Church, on Monday night, March 9th, 720 London Surprise Minor: E. Wilcox 1, R. Harrison 2, A. Harrison (conductor) 3, R. Jenkinson 4, P. Beardsmore 5, G. Burton 6. First 720 of London on the bells and by all the band.

HANLEY CASTLE, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Monday, March 9, 1931, in Two Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GABRIEL.

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 12 six-scores of Plain Bob and 30 of Grandsire, ten different callings. Tenor 10½ cwt.

*JOHN RRA Treble	CHARLES CAMM 4
WILLIAM HALFORD 2	CHARLES YOUNG 5
FRANK LAWRENCE 3	HENRY BISHOP Tenor

Conducted by C. CAMM.

* First peal. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to him.

SIMPSON, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, March 10, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH.

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

ALBERT FLEET Treble	HORACE H. SMITH 4
A. EDWARD HANKS 2	CHARLES W. SMITH 5
*MISS BETTY COX 3	EDMUND J. HOBBS Tenor

Conducted by E. J. HOBBS.

* First peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to Miss Cox, who attained her majority on the 14th.

HILPINGTON, WILTS.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, March 12, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's. Tenor 7½ cwt. in B flat.

MRS. W. C. WEST Treble	WILLIAM A. SWIFT 4
JESSE FRANCIS 2	NORMAN V. ANDREWS 5
VINCENT E. SWIFT 3	WILLIAM C. WEST Tenor

Conducted by Wm. C. WEST.

This peal was arranged and rung to celebrate the birth of a son and heir to Mr. and Mrs. W. A. Swift.

HAWKLEY, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 14, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being four six-scores of Canterbury Pleasure with four different callings, 16 six-scores of Plain Bob with four different callings, and 22 six-scores of Grandsire with ten different callings. Tenor 10 cwt.

ARTHUR WATTS Treble	VICTOR SHADBOLT 4
WILLIAM READ 2	CHARLES E. BASSETT 5
CYRIL S. WEST 3	ARTHUR NORRIS Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES E. BASSETT.

First peal on the bells. First peal in three methods by all the band. Rung as a birthday compliment to the daughter of the ringer of the 2nd.

WINFORD, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 14, 1931, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 12 six-scores of Plain Bob and 30 Grandsire, with 14 different callings. Tenor 16 cwt.

*WILFRED G. GRIFFEN ... Treble	JEFFREY TOSSELL 4
ERNEST TOSSELL 2	HAROLD E. BLACKER 5
EDWARD J. AVERY 3	SIDNEY ROWE Tenor

Conducted by H. E. BLACKER.

* First peal. First peal on the bells since rehanging by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, the 'go' of them being excellent. Believed to be the first peal in two methods on them. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. E. J. Avery.

BELBROUGHTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 14, 1931, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720's of Oxford Bob Minor, and four 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 13½ cwt. (approx.).

*CHARLES DARBY Treble	*P.C. ALFRED HOLLIS ... 4
WILLIAM CARTER 2	RALPH PARTON 5
WILLIAM SHORT 3	ERNEST CALCUTT Tenor

Conducted by E. CALCUTT.

* First peal of Minor. First peal of Minor as conductor. C. Darby was re-elected a member of the association. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect for the late Henry Martin, who was a ringer at Belbroughton for sixty years and conductor for fifty years.

WORDSLEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 14, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*SAMUEL THOMPSON ... Treble	ROBERT MATTHEWS 4
JOHN BASS 2	*HAROLD V. COOPER 5
*CLIFFORD SIDMORE ... 3	*TOMAS HEMMING Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD V. COOPER.

* First peal of London Surprise Minor. First peal of Surprise method as conductor. The quarterly peal for the Northern Branch.

BROMHAM, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 14, 1931, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OWEN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and two 720's each of Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 23 cwt.

GEORGE WHITE Treble	SYDNEY FOSKETT 4
*GEORGE WRIGHT 2	ERNEST FREEMAN 5
HARRY GAYTON 3	HAROLD G. BEARD Tenor

Conducted by H. GAYTON.

* First peal.

HANDBELL PEAL.

GOSFORTH, NORTHUMBERLAND.

THE DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL GUILD.)

On Sunday, March 8, 1931, in Two Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT NO. 1, SALTER'S ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

JOHN ANDERSON 1-2	WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON ... 5-6
WILLIAM H. BARBER ... 3-4	ADAM DEAS 7-8

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by W. J. DAVIDSON.
First peal 'in hand' and in the method as conductor. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. Arthur Payne, secretary of the Newcastle Cathedral Guild.

MUFFLED BELLS.

On Wednesday, February 25th, at All Saints', Inworth, with the bells half-muffled, a half-peal of Doubles consisting of 1,680 Grandsire and 960 St. Simon's: G. Knights (longest touch) 1, J. Mason 2, E. Mingay 3, R. W. Pye 4, S. A. Pye (conductor) 5. Longest touch on the bells. Rung in memory of Rev. F. W. Dickenson, who was buried at Bath on the same day. For 38 years he was Rector of Inworth.

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OR REPAINTING OF DIALS.

VARIATION AND TRANSPOSITION.

BY J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

(Concluded from page 166.)

I could go on giving examples of variation and adaptation almost indefinitely, but it is not necessary. It will be clear, even to those who have only cursorily followed my articles, that the two ideas on which the old standards were based cannot stand. No composition or method can possibly be original in the old sense of the word. Each is related to others in many ways, and even in the case of the most striking and outstanding peals the composition is largely the same as that of other peals. Nor can we say that the composer of the most original peal really creates anything which did not exist before. Peals and methods are the expression of certain mathematical laws, and the job of the composer is to find out how these laws work.

It follows that even if a complete register of compositions were possible it would not do away with the difficulty, and certainly such a register is not possible. No one can possibly know what peals have been composed. The old idea was to take into account only those which had been published or rung. That idea is really an absurd one, and no one can be sure what has been rung and what not. I was turning over the pages of 'The Bell News' of about thirty years ago. In the correspondence column all the leading composers of the day were discussing the originality and qualities of a method lately published. None of them knew that it had been rung nearly two hundred years before, or that Benjamin Annable had said exactly the same thing against it that Mr. Bankes James was now saying.

The conclusion of the matter seems to be that for ordinary peals strict originality need not be insisted on. If a man wants to call a certain class of peal and is able to put it together, I do not think he is bound to go to any great amount of trouble to find out whether or no it has ever been published. He may be pretty sure that it is more or less a variation of an old peal, but that need not stop him using it. Whether he puts his own name to it or not, is a matter in which he would be well to use some discretion. Young composers should remember that it is still true what Jasper Snowden wrote over fifty years ago: 'That a man may put himself to much trouble and make himself the laughing stock of the Exercise by reproducing a variation of some well known peal and putting it forth as an original composition.' In doubtful cases I should not blame the young composer who gave himself the benefit of the doubt, but the best plan would be to put no composer's name at all. In the early days they did not, except in special cases, and we could very well follow their example.

Of course, when a man is able to get something really new like Mr. Law James' Spliced Surprise he is entitled to call it his own and to have all the credit for it.

ROCHESTER SURPRISE.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Whilst taking a glance through 'The Ringing World' of March 13th I find in Mr. Trollope's remarks upon 'Transpositions and Variations' a method under the heading 'Rochester Surprise.' This, I believe, is an error, or, may be, a slip of memory, but I think I am correct when I say that the method published is not 'Rochester.' I will admit that it was rung by the Leiston band as such on October 6th, 1923, but Mr. Craven claimed the method as his under the title of 'Lancashire.' Later, the same band rang another method by Mr. Lindoff, and this was called 'Rochester,' and as such it has stood until now. Perhaps Mr. Trollope has overlooked this. I have appended the method 'Rochester,' which he may have mislaid.

Rochester.

12345678
21436587
12346857
21438675

24183657
42816375
42183657
24816375

42861735
48267153
84621735
86427153

68472513
86745231
87654213
78562431

87652341

Yours truly,

E. W. TIPLER.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

THRIVING ON AN ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION OF SIXPENCE.

The annual meeting of the Dudley and District Guild was held at Dudley on Saturday, March 7th, when there was an attendance of about 100. Service was conducted at St. Thomas' Church by the Vicar (Canon A. H. Phelps), the address being given by the Rev. A. H. Messiter (Vicar of Kingswinford). After tea, prepared by the ringers' wives, and served in the Church Hall, Canon Phelps, who is president of the Guild, presided over the first part of the annual meeting, and when he had to leave the chair was taken by Mr. Harry Mason, one of the vice-presidents.

The President (Canon Phelps) voiced the regret of the Guild that Mrs. Sheppard, the wife of their excellent secretary, was prevented being with them owing to a serious illness, and on behalf of the members he asked Mr. Sheppard to convey their sympathy to her, together with hopes for restored health. After expressing regret that Councillor Shuttleworth was not able to be with them, Canon Phelps extended to all the members of the Guild and their friends a hearty welcome to Dudley.

The Secretary, in his annual report, reviewed at considerable length the activities of the Guild during the past year. It was pleasing to report that the Guild still kept up its average performing members, and that the finances remained satisfactory. Regret was recorded that the quarterly assemblies were not so largely attended as could be wished. They trusted that the coming year would witness more peals attempted, additional meetings for general practice, the spread of good fellowship among the members, and that the work of the Church would prosper in every way (applause).

Mr. Harry Mason, moving the adoption of the report, offered congratulations to the secretary upon the excellent resume he had furnished of the Guild's activities throughout the year.—This was seconded and carried.

The balance sheet showed a credit balance of £7 6s. 4d., against £7 4s. 12d. a year ago; and Mr. Mason, in moving its acceptance, said it was extremely satisfactory that they had been able not only to hold a credit balance, but to increase this to a slight extent. He imagined there was no other ringers' association in the land able to meet their liabilities and to have an effective and live organisation upon a membership fee of 6d. That they did so was a very great compliment to their secretary (hear, hear).—The balance sheet was approved.

Canon Phelps was re-elected president, the vice-presidents, with the addition of Mr. A. Winbow, were re-elected, and the following officers were also reappointed: Ringing Master, Mr. John Goodman, junior; hon. secretary, Mr. H. Sheppard; hon. treasurer, Mr. S. J. Hughes; auditors, Messrs. F. Evans and T. H. Justice.

The following were elected members of the Guild: Mr. J. H. Cox (Halesowen), Messrs. Andrew Round and Leslie Prestidge (Nether-ton), Messrs. D. Roberts, A. Turley, F. Austin, V. Holloway, S. Holloway, and F. Padbury (Smethwick), and Mr. J. B. Court (Sedgley).

The Rev. A. H. Messiter (Vicar of Kingswinford) was elected an hon. member of the Guild.

The ensuing quarterly meeting was fixed to be held at Kingswinford, and the Ringing Master was authorised to make arrangements for the annual peal to be attempted in Dudley.

AFFILIATION WITH CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The Secretary read a communication from the Central Council of Church Bellringers on the subject of the affiliation of guilds of church bellringers.

The Chairman (Mr. H. Mason) said the communication was important, and he hoped that Guild would accord it the consideration it merited. The Central Council was the recognised official body for regulating affairs associated with ringers, and his own view was that it was very desirable the Dudley and District Guild should be affiliated with it. As that Guild had hitherto had representation on the Central Council, he asked that meeting to consider the desirability of going a step further and becoming affiliated.

Mr. S. J. Hughes (treasurer) said he was one of the Central Council representatives. This question had previously been before that Guild for consideration, and his view was that it was advisable to accept the invitation to affiliate.

The Chairman later proposed that the Guild affiliate with the Central Council of Church Bellringers and loyally abide by the rules and decisions thereof.

Mr. W. Farley seconded, and the proposition was unanimously carried.

On the motion of the chairman, thanks were accorded to Canon Phelps for his continued interest in the ringers, to the Rev. A. H. Messiter for the address given to the Guild that afternoon, to the assistant organist (Mr. F. Cox), to their friends for the generous hospitality shown to them, and to the ladies who had prepared and served the tea; and also to their secretary for the hard work he did.

Mr. Hughes seconded the chairman's words of appreciation, and the resolution having been carried the meeting terminated.

During the day ringing took place at St. Thomas' Church, and ringers were present from Dudley, Stourbridge, Wollaston, Oldswinford, Kingswinford, Kidderminster, Netherton, Lye, Cradley, Rowley, Halesowen, Bromsgrove, Bradley, Bilston, Cosley, Sedgley, Wolverhampton, Smethwick, etc.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT.

The quarterly meeting of the Southern District of the Swansea and Brecon Guild was held at Aberavon on Saturday, March 7th, when members attended from Cadoxton, Gorscmon, Llanelly, Swansea, and the local band, and visitors from Pembrey, Bridgend and Newport, Mon. The Vicar (Rev. W. H. Jones) conducted a short service and gave a very helpful address containing much good advice. A meat tea was served in the schoolroom, kindly provided by the churchwardens and a few ladies of the church, and was very much appreciated and enjoyed by all.

At the business meeting, with the Vicar in the chair, the secretary presented the balance sheet, which was adopted. This showed that the year 1930 had been a good one. After two-thirds of the balance had been sent to the general fund, £9 9s. 5d. was left to the credit of the district.

It was decided to go to Burryport for the next meeting, with a view to encouraging change ringing there. It was also thought it might help towards getting another bell to make a ring of six. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the Vicar for conducting the service, taking the chair, and for the use of the bells, to the organist for presiding at the organ, and to the churchwardens and ladies for the tea and their kindness in waiting at the tea tables.

The Vicar, in reply, said how pleased he was to have the ringers there, and to do what little he had done to make the visit a pleasant one.

The bells were kept going in various methods until about 7.30 p.m., when they were lowered in peal, bringing to a close a very happy meeting.

A FINE RECORD.

Fifty-two years as a bellringer—and still going strong—is a record of which Mr. Alfred Hugh Garner, of Leverington, is justifiably proud. Mr. Garner, who recently celebrated his 67th birthday, resides in Leverington, where he has been a ringer for 32 years.

His early days were spent in Wisbech St. Mary, where his grandfather was sexton, and at the age of 15 he had his first lesson in bell-ringing. He has been ringing ever since, and he says he intends not to give up while he can swing a bell.

Mr. Garner, as one of the Wisbech band, rang for the celebrations of Queen Victoria's jubilee in 1887. For the past thirty years he has lived in Leverington, and during that time he has not missed the opportunity of indulging in his hobby.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

A Special Investigator has this week dealt with the inquiries of correspondents. We accept no responsibility for his replies.

'Eggs.'—We do not as a rule deal with poultry problems in these columns, but we have it on very good authority that hens in certain parts of Gloucestershire lay very much better when the church bells are rung regularly. We fully appreciate the Mayor of Gloucester's feelings when the bells of St. Michael's are rung for his benefit.

'Sir Thomas.'—The problem you present to us is rather a tricky one, and has been submitted to our very Special Investigation Department. We do not think you can claim the four shillings from 'the man from Taylor's'; even if your claim were valid, we doubt very much whether you would get it. After going very carefully into the whole question, we are of the opinion that you are in his debt to the extent of sixpence. Our advice is, 'Pay up' and 'Smile.'

Numerous Enquirers, Bristol.—The most simple way (but not the cheapest) of getting a bottle of Scotch 'broth' in a Birmingham temperance hotel is to get a 'Wilbers,' soak it well and allow time to mature. When ready, serve in glasses, and add water as found necessary.

'Austin,' Glos.—We are sorry to learn of the loss of your hat, and can only advise that you use a much better quality of glue in order to keep it firm on the head. We sincerely hope that the one you 'found' is of much better quality. The driver of the taxi who took you home has been interviewed, and wants to know 'what about the empties?'

'Novice.'—The term 'pulling off the eleventh' is the 'deaf and dumb' sign for 'What's yours?'

'Perplexed.'—No, the damage to the Fidler's face was not caused by the 'Syston' turkey, or any other bird, but is the result of an accidental discovery. He found another way of dismounting from a bicycle.

'Curate.'—As far as we know the 'Bishops' of Swindon have not the influence you desire. Yes, there is another Shepherd to that flock, and he has been known to ring with his hat on during a rainy period.

'Supper Bar.'—There have not, as far as we know, been any invitations to fish and chip saloon proprietors for tenders for the discarded outer covers of the new 'Collection of Minor Methods.'

'Anxious,' Bristol.—We cannot answer your enquiry in this column regarding the dilemma of the damsels in blue.

'Antiquarian.'—Yes, the 'Syston' turkey is gone, but not forgotten.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

.....

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PHOTOGRAPHS WANTED.

PICTURES OF CHURCH TOWERS FOR
PUBLICATION IN 'THE RINGING WORLD.'

The Editor of 'The Ringing World' will be glad to receive photographs of churches, with a view to their future publication when suitable occasion arises.

The photographs should be accompanied by brief particulars of the bells, with their inscriptions and dates if possible, and any other interesting information about them.

Pictures should, for preference, be photographic post-cards, and, where there is any choice, the tower should be a feature.

Obviously, of course, all the pictures cannot be published at once, the object of getting a collection being that the photographs may be ready at hand for use when fitting opportunity occurs.

Will each tower secretary be good enough to send a photograph of his own tower? It should be forwarded in an envelope for protection, and addressed to The Editor, 'The Ringing World,' Woking, Surrey, and the sender should enclose his name and address.

BELFRY GOSSIP.

Mr. Stephen H. Wood, who is now residing in Glasgow, has been the 'victim' of appendicitis, but we are glad to say he is progressing satisfactorily after an operation.

Mr. D. K. C. Birt, the popular Master of the Surrey Association, is leaving within the next few weeks for a prolonged holiday in South Africa with his wife and daughter.

Exactly thirty years ago on Sunday, the band at St. Peter's, Brighton, rang the first peal of Bristol Surprise Major. It is the only new Surprise Major method that has really 'caught on' and achieved any real popularity out of the many that have been rung.

James Barham conducted at Harrietsham, Kent, the first peal of Reverse Bob Major 180 years ago next Monday.

A peal of 5,020 Old Double Caters, 'being the first peal ever rung in that method,' was accomplished at Fulham by the College Youths on March 23rd, 1783. What exactly was 'Old Double Caters'?

Will Mr. Maude please write again to the Forge, Handbridge, Chester, on behalf of ringers, his letter having been mislaid.

Owing to the illness of the Vicar of Upper Armley, the meeting of the Leeds and District Society which was to have been held there to-morrow has been postponed for a week, and will be held on the 28th inst. at Holbeck.

THE COLLECTION OF MINOR METHODS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Mr. Paddon Smith is mistaken in thinking that the Methods Committee has made any attempt to dictate to the Central Council the form its publications should take. Obviously this is a matter for the Council and not for the committee. It will be in the recollection of all members of the Central Council that the particular point at issue has not been decided, nor even discussed, at any meeting of the Council.

Our stand is taken on the principle that in the absence of a direct vote precedent must be followed, and that no official is entitled to depart from this without authority. In other words, we hold that, in effect, it is the secretary, and not we, who is dictating the form of the book. The last precedent that is parallel to the present one is the publication of 'Plain Major Methods,' and we have asked that that example should be followed now. I understand that Mr. Young claims the latest edition of 'Rules and Decisions of the Council,' as an argument for supporting his view, but surely there is no true comparison. For this last book the officers are clearly responsible, and it is more than difficult to see whose names it should bear if not theirs.

Unfortunately the question has been complicated by the raising (by Mr. Young) of the thorny problem of copyright. I do not wish to go into this point at this moment, but, speaking purely for myself, I feel there is a good deal to be said on both sides. On the whole, my opinion is that, in the Council's interest, it would be better for it to disclaim any rights and consequent responsibility that ownership of copyright would involve.

However that be, I would express the hope that this copyright problem be decided judicially and without heat, and, above all, apart from the controversies that have recently centred round the Methods Committee.—Yours, etc.,

E. S. POWELL.

The Rectory,
Clyst St. George, Exeter.

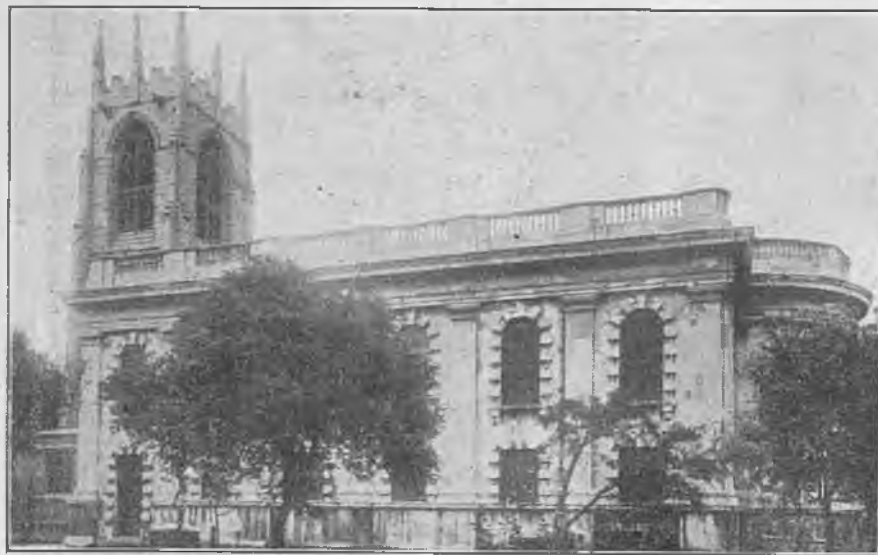
A 15th CENTURY TOWER.

THE HISTORY OF GAINSBOROUGH BELLS.

The early history of Gainsborough Church is unknown, but about the year 1180 the Church of Gainsborough, with its endowments, was given by Sir Roger Talbot to the Preceptory of the Knights Templars at Willoughton.

The church was doubtless served by their chaplains until 1220, when the perpetual Vicarage of Gainsborough was ordained by Bishop Hugh of Wells, and a house and competent endowment provided by the Knights, who remained Rectors and owners of the advowson and probably of the major part of the endowment.

These they retained until 1311, when the Order was dissolved and their place taken by the Knights of St. John of Jerusalem, who pre-



GAINSBOROUGH PARISH CHURCH.

sented to the Vicarage until their Order in England was dissolved by Henry VIII. in 1540.

In 1545 the next presentation was made by Nicholas Sutton 'by grant hac vice' from Bro. William Weston, late prior of the dissolved Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem, and the next but one by the Bishop of Lincoln.

The Bishops of Lincoln appear to have become Rectors in the place of the Knights and owners of the advowson.

The present tower belonged to a church built probably in the 15th century, being Perpendicular in style, and having some features in common with the Parish Church of Althorpe, said to have been built in 1483, and to the Vicarage of which the Knights of St. John presented alternately with the Master of St. Leonard's Hospital, York.

In 1748 the church itself was replaced by a building in Renaissance style, the architect being James Gibbs, who was consulting architect to the Chapter of Lincoln Cathedral and architect of St. Martin's-in-the-Fields and other well-known buildings. The Perpendicular tower was retained, but internally cut off from the main building, and serves the purpose of a somewhat dismal porch.

The ground floor and west doorway were raised, the west windows shortened, a ringing floor was inserted, the fan vaulting removed, and two new doorways broken through the wall of the turret stairs. No provision was made for vestries until about 1900, when adequate vestries were erected on either side of the tower in a somewhat composite style.

Of the early bells nothing is known, but in 1553 there were five great bells and one sanctus bell. There existed many years ago, of which all trace has now been lost, a charge on certain lands in East Stockwith (which a hundred years ago formed part of the ecclesiastical parish of Gainsborough) for the provision of ropes for the 2nd, 3rd, 4th and 5th bells.

When the new church was completed and furnished, a ring of eight bells from the foundry of Messrs. Lester and Pack was hung in the tower hearing, except the 5th and 6th, the names of the founders and the date 1764.

The inscription on the 5th bell is: 'In wedlock's bands all ye who join with hands your hearts unite; so shall our tuneful tongues combine to laud the nuptial rite.'

The tenor, in addition to the names of the founders and the date 1764, bears the names of the churchwardens, Joseph Hornby and John Coats. The 6th bell was recast in 1856 by Messrs. C. and G. Mears, and bears the names of the churchwardens, William Stanwell and John Ferris Marshall.

This bell may have suffered owing to the fact that its particular pit was of irregular shape to admit of entrance to the bell chamber, necessitating a short stay and a block slider running in a groove attached to the side of the frame and exerting a special strain on the head stock, which at a later date collapsed and caused the bell to fall, fortunately without injury.

In 1856 the new bell cost £76 8s. 7d., and the founders allowed £62 13s. 6d. for the old one, while £9 15s. 10d. was paid 'for taking down and refixing Bell, etc., etc.' The freight to and from London was 17s. 8d. The bell weighed approximately 11 cwt.

The 6th and 7th bells were recast by Messrs. John Taylor and Co. in 1883, and in the year 1908 extensive improvements were made in the tower. The bells were taken down, quarter turned and tuned, a steel frame was erected, the bells were supplied with new fittings and steel stocks, the camions removed, and new louvres inserted in the windows, which were partially blocked. The tone of the bells as well as the hanging is now excellent, and the ring has a high reputation among ringers. The weight of the bells varies from 5½ cwt. to 20 cwt.

DOUBLE LITTLE BOB.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I notice Mr. Barnett objects to the title of 'Double Little Bob' on the ground that the method was first rung at Crayford, under the name of Erith.

Given that, with the treble as far as fourth's and treble bob above fourth's, the method is 'Little Bob,' then the method we rang with three pull dodging in 5-6 and 7-8 and places in 3-4 down, is Double Little Bob—call it Erith, Wigan or Timbuctoo, if you will—just as 'Dartford' Little Bob is Little Oxford Bob.—Yours faithfully,
NOLAN GOLDEN.

RINGER'S DIAMOND WEDDING.

To celebrate the diamond wedding of Mr. and Mrs. H. Champness, of Bishop's Stortford, on March 9th, two quarter-peals were rung at St. Michael's Church. The first was for morning service on Sunday, March 8th, a quarter of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 46 mins. by: Harold Wacey 1, R. Hayden 2, W. T. Prior 3, H. A. Wacey 4, H. Bull 5, H. M. White 6, F. Bird (conductor) 7, E. Ansell 8. On Monday, March 9th, a quarter of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 45 mins.: Miss D. Wacey 1, F. Springham 2, H. M. White 3, Rev. F. W. Lane 4, F. Bird (conductor) 5, W. W. Tucker 6, W. T. Prior 7, P. Springham 8.

Mr. Champness is the oldest member of the Bishop's Stortford hand.

LOST! FIVE SURPRISE RINGERS.

Much concern is being felt in ringing circles in the West Riding of Yorkshire, writes a correspondent, regarding the whereabouts of five 'Surprise ringers,' who, it is believed, set out from various districts in the counties of 'clogs' and 'broad acres' to visit a certain Yorkshire tower to attempt a peal of Surprise on Saturday last, but who, up to the time of going to press, have never been seen there. Exhaustive enquiries at Old Trafford and Elland Road have proved unavailing, and it is thought possible that the party may have journeyed to Wembley to ensure adequate accommodation for the pending F.A. Cup final.

Should this be the case, it may be possible that the 'cinquettette' may be detected by the 'Cinques,' and, providing they are able to 'call round,' may thus be 'roped in' for 3s. 6d. instead of 7s. 6d., and that gruesome qualification of a course of Stedman Cinques on a concertina.

Even the 'Gold Dust Twins,' whom it was thought inseparable, failed to function in that capacity; and thus the 'High Jenks' it was hoped to pull off was converted into a peal of 'Solo Singles,' which was brought round in 1 hour 30 mins., with an interval of eighty minutes between the going off and homing courses. As neither the method nor this mode of peal ringing conform to the rules laid down by the Central Council, the ringers' names had best remain secret.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.

PEAL BOOKING FEES.

The annual meeting of the Surrey County Association, held on Saturday at Kingston-on-Thames, was attended by about 90 ringers. Although it is the administrative centre of the county, Kingston is not easy of access from the eastern parts of Surrey, and it speaks well for the interest of the members that so large a number were present. Kingston is full of historical interest, and among its treasures is the King's Stone upon which several Saxon monarchs were crowned. The ancient church has a peal of ten bells, a mixed lot of indifferent quality, but they were kept busily engaged during Saturday afternoon in touches and attempts in a variety of methods. Nearly twice as many ringers turned up at the Church Hall for tea as had intimated their intention of coming, but the caterers eventually surmounted the difficulties.

The business meeting was presided over by the Master (Mr. D. K. C. Birt), who was supported by the hon. secretary (Mr. C. H. Kippin), the hon. treasurer (Mr. C. Dean), and the district officers.

The treasurer's statement showed that receipts in the general fund during the year amounted to £15 11s. including £4 2s. from the Southern District, £6 4s. from the North-Western District, and £3 5s. from compounding members' subscriptions. The expenditure was £17 8s. 6d., leaving a balance of £14 5s. 10d., against £18 3s. 4d. at the end of the previous year.

Mr. Dean moved the adoption of the accounts, and Mr. F. G. Woodiss, in seconding, pointed out that the statement did not show the real position of the association, as the treasurer's balance sheet contained no details of the financial position of the districts. He suggested that in future there should be either three balance sheets presented to the meeting, or one comprehensive statement.

The Chairman said that if Mr. Woodiss' suggestion was carried out they would have to alter the rules under which the districts had the right to deal with their own money subject to the payment of a certain proportion to the general treasurer. It might or might not be desirable to have a comprehensive balance sheet, and perhaps the committee might consider the matter.

The Hon. Secretary pointed out that the three financial statements appeared in the annual report, and it only needed a little simple arithmetic to calculate how the association was getting on.

The balance sheet was then adopted.

A NEW PRESIDENT.

The committee, in their report, stated that 41 peals were rung during 1930, an increase of 18 on the previous year, 104 members having taken part. The financial position of the association was also sound, the balances on December 31st amounting to £60 5s. 2d., as against £47 7s. 8d. at the end of 1929. The new certificates had been paid for since—an item of £21—but it was hoped that members who had not obtained certificates would do so, so that the funds might be reimbursed. It was the desire of the committee that the official peal record should be brought up to date. It was now several years in arrear, the last volume having been completed, and it was recommended that another book be purchased in order that the writing up of the peals might be continued. The report added that Sunday service ringing would be improved if the jangling of single bells before and after ringing were eliminated. The committee recommended that raising and falling in peal should be practised and carried out as far as possible. For several years the association had been without a president, and, representations to Dr. Garbutt (Bishop of Southwark) to occupy the position having been without effect, the committee were pleased to announce that the Bishop of Croydon had kindly consented to become president. During the year the association had lost two members by death, viz., Messrs. P. Tidy (Limpsfield Chart) and J. D. Talbot (Croydon). In the North-Western District five district meetings had been held during the year, with an average attendance of 32, and two joint meetings, one with the Guildford Diocesan Guild and the other with the London County Association. One fresh tower (Benhillon) had come into the association, and 23 new members had joined. There were now 113 attached and 46 unattached members, a total of 159, in the district—an increase of 10. In the Southern District there were 109 ringing and two hon. members. At the six district meetings there had been an average attendance of 26, and 20 peals had been rung against ten in the previous year. The bells and belfries were in good condition, and most hands had made good progress.

Mr. W. Hewell raised the question as to whether it was worth while going to the expense of having another peal book, in view of the fact that the details of the peals were published in the annual report. An amendment that no further book should be purchased, however, found no seconded.

It was stated that the last volume of peals brought the record only up to August, 1923, and that the outstanding peals would probably fill the new book. It was also mentioned that if the association purchased the book now required, a further book would probably be presented to the association.

It was agreed that the committee should proceed with the purchase of a new book and the writing up of the peals.

UNPAID BOOKING FEES.

The Hon. Secretary then moved that four peals rung in the Southern District, for which no booking fees had been paid, should be deleted from the records of the association. He pointed out that the rule of the association was that a booking fee should be paid of 3d. per popo for all peals, but there were four peals for which the fees had not been paid. All these peals were conducted by Mr. Oliver Sippetts. A few years ago the association was well on the way to bankruptcy. They had a reorganisation, and as one means of assisting their funds they decided to charge a booking fee for their peals. They had to thank the rules and the officers for bringing the association back to a more satisfactory position, until now they had a balance of about £60. They could not, however, allow a member to break the rules after they had been made. If one person could do without paying booking fees, they must license others to do the same; and if they broke one rule they could break another. He proposed, therefore, that the four peals be deleted.—Mr. F. E. Darby seconded.

Mr. A. J. Bull (hon. secretary of the Southern District) said he thought they should approach Mr. Sippetts on this matter before finally deleting the peals.

The Hon. Secretary said he was prepared to incorporate that suggestion in his amendment, so that Mr. Sippetts should have the opportunity of paying the fees. If, however, he did not do so the peals should be automatically taken out.

In reply to a question, Mr. Bull said that none of the ringers paid the fees for the four peals in question, and the hon. secretary pointed out that it was the conductor's duty to collect and forward the money.

A member said he would pay the fees for one of the peals—rung at Reigate.

The Master said they would all be sorry to delete the peals, but they must abide by the rules (hear, hear). Last year they discussed the question of abolishing the booking fees, but did not see their way to doing so. Perhaps now they had got over the expense of providing the new certificate they might in the near future be in sufficient funds to enable them to abolish the fee once for all. In the meantime there seemed no option but to delete those peals unless the rules were complied with. He suggested that, in regard to the three remaining peals, the time for the payment of the fees should be extended to Easter.

The motion was carried, and Mr. Bull then stated that the secretary need not take any further action, as he would pay for the three peals.

This offer led to objection in several quarters and further discussion, the view being taken that the motion having been carried, the application for the fees should be made to the conductor.

The report with this proviso was then adopted.

The following new members were elected: Messrs. H. C. Duffell and H. S. Barber (Kingston), J. A. Cook (Merton), W. Sparkes (Mitcham), F. Bell (Streatham) and Miss Ivy Kippin (Beddington), Mr. James Parker and Mrs. E. K. Fletcher (Edmonton), and Mr. E. S. Turner (Falling) were elected compounding members.

Four places were proposed for the next annual general meeting, but, it being pointed out that it was the turn of the Southern District next year, three were withdrawn, leaving Reigate without opposition.

No other nominations having been received, the election of the following officers was confirmed with acclamation: President, the Bishop of Croydon; Master, Mr. D. K. C. Birt; hon. treasurer, Mr. C. Dean; hon. secretary, Mr. C. H. Kippin; assistant secretary, Mr. F. E. Darby; auditor, Mr. E. G. Talbot.

Thanks were accorded to Mr. Housden, the retiring auditor, who has removed to Grays, for his services.

On the motion of Mr. Northover, cordial thanks were given to the Master and the hon. secretary for their services, and Mr. Kippin having replied, the Master thanked the treasurer and the district officers for their work during the past year.

Thanks to the Rector of Kingston for the use of the bells, and to Mr. J. Howes, of the local band, for his share in the arrangements, brought the meeting to a close, and the majority of the ringers then returned to the tower.

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In a review of Mr. Ernest Morris' new book, 'The Sunday Times' of March 8th says that the Ancient Society of College Youths derives its name from the College of the Holy Ghost and Hospital of God's House, founded by Dick Whittington. This, of course, is a repetition of the statement in the society's official hand-book, but it cannot possibly be true. The College Youths had no more to do with Whittington and his college than they had with the Man in the Moon, and it is not in the least likely that they got their name from any church on College Hill. It is not a tradition of the Exercise, but a myth which has grown up on very slender foundations. No one knows or ever will know how they did get their name, but I think we can make a guess somewhat nearer the truth.—Yours truly,

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

DEATH OF MR. W. MILLER.**THIRTY-THREE YEARS MASTER OF LEYTONSTONE SOCIETY.**

It is with regret that we have to record the death of Mr. William Miller, of Leytonstone, who passed away suddenly on Wednesday, March 4th. About two years ago he had a severe illness, from which he never completely recovered, it having left him with a weak heart which ultimately caused his sudden demise, much to the sorrow of all who knew him, especially his ringing friends in London, Essex and Suffolk.

Mr. Miller was a native of Pakenham (Suffolk), where he first learned to handle a bell on the ring of five at the Parish Church, after which he used to walk to Bury and back regularly in order to obtain practice on the eight and ten bell peals at St. Mary's and the Norman tower. After a time he migrated to Leytonstone, where he had resided since 1894. At that time all changes only were rung at St. John's, but on January 20th, 1898, the Leytonstone (St. John's) Society was formed by Mr. Miller, the late Mr. T. Hervey Beams and Mr. J. Moule, the latter now being the only surviving member of the original band. Mr. Miller was elected Master, a position he retained till his death (thirty-three years). Change ringing was then taken up, and several notable exponents of the Exercise have from time to time belonged to the Leytonstone company, amongst whom may be mentioned the late Sam Hayes, W. Doran, H. Torble, etc., all contemporaries of Mr. Miller. It was mainly through the efforts of the late Mr. Edgar Wightman that Surprise Minor was practised in this tower, and he with the Leytonstone band at that time, together with those previously named, with the addition of Messrs. W. Keeble and G. Dawson, and a few others, raised the standard of ringing at St. John's to a high degree, which has been maintained ever since.

Mr. Miller's peals total 208, of which he conducted 35, amongst them being 62 peals of Surprise Minor in seven methods, one in 22 methods, and one in 23 methods of Spliced Surprise Minor, a peal of Stedman Caters at the Imperial Institute, the band for which was drawn from ten different counties, the William peal of London Surprise at St. Giles-in-the-Fields, and the two peals of Middlesex Surprise Royal.

On Sunday week a memorial service, conducted by the Vicar, Canon Brown, was held at St. John's Church, a large number attending, amongst whom were the members of deceased's family and the present Leytonstone company, the bells being rung muffled both for this and also the evening service. The Vicar paid a high tribute to Mr. Miller's capabilities as a ringer, and also to the great interest he took in the Church's work generally.

The funeral took place on Monday, March 9th, at the City of London Cemetery (Ilford), a large number of ringers and friends being present, amongst whom were Messrs. W. Pye (Master, representing the Middlesex Association), E. J. Buller (the Essex Association), T. H. Tuffender (the London County Association), C. Hayden (the Royal Cumberlands), Messrs. Petty and Chalk (the Wanstead band), and Mr. G. R. Pye (the Romford band). The service was conducted by Canon Brown, and after the interment a course of Grandsire Triples was rung over the open grave by Messrs. G. Dawson 1-2, T. H. Tuffender 3-4, G. R. Pye 5-6, W. Pye 7-8. Amongst the 47 wreaths were those from the clergy and churchwardens of St. John's, the Leytonstone band, and Mr. W. J. Nevard, Mr. G. A. Black, Mr. D. Vincent (Sunderland), Mr. and Mrs. Moule, and also the Wanstead band. After the funeral, a muffled peal of seven Surprise Minor methods was rung by members of the Leytonstone band, and also one of Superlative Surprise at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, which appear in their appropriate place in the peal columns.

This brief account of the passing of William Miller is but a slight appreciation of the esteem in which an old friend was held by all who knew him, and his passing will leave a gap amongst ringers, especially in the south-western portion of Essex, which will be hard to fill. One of his chief delights was looking forward to the time for the Leytonstone band's outing, every one of which he had attended since their inauguration. His delightful demeanour and cheery smile will be sadly missed. E. J. B.

BELBROUGHTON RINGER'S DEATH.**SIXTY YEARS AT ONE CHURCH.**

The death occurred on Friday, March 6th, of Mr. Henry Martin, of Belbroughton, Worcestershire, at the age of 86 years. He was one of the founders of the Worcestershire Association, formed in 1882. He did a great deal of spade work for the association in its early days, often walking miles to the neighbouring towns and villages on practice nights to help other members to learn the art of change ringing. Not a great peal ringer, he rang 17 for the association and conducted 4. He started ringing at the age of 16, and was made conductor when he was 25. He was a ringer at Belbroughton Church for more than 60 years.

The funeral took place on Wednesday, March 11th, when the bells were rung half-muffled. In the evening the local ringers rang 720 Grandsire Doubles.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.**STANDING COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATIONS.**

A meeting of the Standing Committee was held, by kind permission of the president, at his office in London on Tuesday, October 21st, 1930, when there were present Mr. E. H. Lewis (president) in the chair, Mr. E. Alex. Young (hon. secretary), Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn (hon. librarian), Mrs. E. K. Fletcher, Mr. A. A. Hughes and Mr. W. A. Cave. Mr. C. T. Coles regretted he could not be present, and Mr. C. F. Johnston telephoned to say that a heavy cold prevented his attendance.

The suggested new rules, as published in 'The Ringing World,' were gone through, and it was agreed that the suggested Rule 2 might be adopted, as seeming to give more prominence to the associations than to the representatives thereof. The only other suggestion that seemed to call for discussion was the second part of Rule 2: 'That the Council shall consist of (1) representative members elected annually.' The committee were unanimous against any alteration in the three-year system.

It was agreed that any alteration that might be made in the rules at the Liverpool meeting should be printed on a slip and inserted in the copies of 'Rules and Decisions of the Council' in the same way as the corrigenda of peals has been done.

Lantern slides.—A register of those in existence (that are known) to be made, and report to be made to the Liverpool meeting.

The other resolution of the Rev. H. Drake, 'That notices of motions shall be sent in the names of either of individual members or of affiliated societies, and shall reach the secretary in time for them to be published a week before Easter as a preliminary agenda. Within a fortnight after Easter other resolutions may be sent to him, but in this case only in the names of the societies,' was approved.

At the conclusion of the business for which the meeting was called, Mr. Young informed the members that he was very pleased to report that at last he had been successful in getting someone to master the Carter ringing machine. In fact, there were two gentlemen now who were capable of demonstrating the machine to interested people.

He also mentioned that he had been successful in his quest for a successor to himself in the post of hon. secretary to the Council.

TREBLE BOB METHODS.

Since his letter on the 'Construction of Methods' appeared in our columns a fortnight ago, Mr. George Baker has been investigating 'Treble Bob' methods. He has discovered a great many which are based on no plain method, and some of them are more intricate than most Surprise methods. 'This,' he says, 'shows how ridiculous it is to lay down arbitrary rules.'

The following is his latest production on these lines, and it will run true to Middleton's peal of Cambridge—and will want a great deal more ringing than that method:—

12345678

21354768

12537486

21357468

23175648

32716584

23176548

32715684

37251864

73258146

37521864

73528146

75382416

57328461

53724816

35274861

32547681

2nd's place at the lead-end and 4th's place bob.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

SOUTHGATE.—At Christ Church, on March 13th, for Confirmation service, by the Bishop of Willesden, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 48 mins.: J. Armstrong (conductor) 1, D. Pink 2, G. Plater 3, D. Ovington 4, J. Miller 5, H. Miller 6, W. Pickworth 7, A. G. Crane 8. Also a birthday compliment to J. Armstrong and H. Miller.

WICKEN, NORTHANTS.—On Tuesday, March 10th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): G. Foddy 1, J. A. Green (first quarter-peal with a bob bell) 2, A. J. Green 3, F. Walton 4, F. Case 5, F. Pateman 6, T. Roberts (conductor) 7, C. Warner (first quarter-peal) 8.

HECKINGTON, Lincs.—At the Church of St. Andrew, Heckington, Lincolnshire, on Friday, March 6th, for Confirmation service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in 46 mins.: *B. Slack 1, *H. Connell 2, *N. Brown 3, J. Hy. Clark (conductor) 4, *G. Slack 5, *F. Mason 6, A. Dixon 7, *N. Asher 8. *Longest length rung.

RESTORATION OF INGRAVE BELLS.

The five bells at Ingrave, Essex, having recently been restored by Messrs. Bowell and Sons, a good attendance of members of the South-Western Division of the Essex Association and friends gathered there on Saturday for a pull on this handy ring. Soon after 3 p.m., the bells were going to Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, everybody expressing pleasure at the splendid 'go' of this rather heavy peal. The association service was conducted by the Vicar, and it was most gratifying to have the full choir, and also a large number of the villagers present. After service all present were invited by the Rector to the tea kindly provided for them in the Parish Hall.

At the business meeting the whole of the Ingrave band were elected members, and the Rector himself an honorary member. In addition, two other ringing and two honorary members were also elected.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Woodford on Saturday, May 9th, the district secretary having previously made the arrangements.

The meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to the Rector (Rev. W. Lindsay) for kindly allowing use of tower and bells and for his hearty welcome, to the organist, Miss Boardman, and to the choir, to the members of the congregation for waiting at the tea, and to the Ingrave band for having everything in readiness.—This was responded to by the Rector, who expressed the hope that the association would endeavour to pay another visit to Ingrave as soon as possible, and also by Mr. W. F. R. Boardman on behalf of the choir.

Before commencing the meeting, the members stood in silence for a minute as a mark of respect to the late Mr. William Miller, of the Leytonstone band, who had passed away the previous week.

During the afternoon, between 20 and 30 members were present from Brentwood, Braintree, Romford, Leytonstone, South Weald, Maldon, All Saints', Bentley, together with the local men, and six-scores of various methods were rung, the bells being lowered in peal at 8.30 p.m., all agreeing that most enjoyable and profitable afternoon had been spent.

AN INTERESTING MASONIC PEAL.

A Masonic peal of special interest was rung at St. Dunstan's, Stepney, on Saturday week, when five members of the Ancient Society of College Youths and five members of the Royal Cumberlands stood side by side as brothers of the craft, and accomplished a 5,000 of Kent Treble Bob Royal. In that respect the performance was unique.

It was the first peal on the bells since they were rehung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and it speaks volumes for the way the work has been done that it was possible to turn the bells with a 31 cwt. tenor to a peal of Treble Ten in 3 hrs. 16 mins.

The local company gave up their privilege of ringing the first peal to enable the Masons to make this attempt, and their action was, naturally, very much appreciated.

DEATH OF A MERROW RINGER.

The band at Merrow, Surrey, has lost by death Mr. Adolphus John Boniface, who for many years was captain of the local company. Mr. Boniface's ringing was not of the spectacular kind, but he kept the Sunday service ringing going at his own church in face of many difficulties. He was a member of the Winchester Diocesan Guild and of the Guildford Diocesan Guild from its formation.

He was a member of the choir for 34 years, and he took an active part in friendly society work in the village. He had been ill for a considerable period, and passed away in the Royal Surrey County Hospital on Sunday week at the age of 60 years.

The funeral on Wednesday of last week was choral, the Nunc Dimittis and the hymns, 'Now the labourer's task is o'er' and 'On the Resurrection morning,' being sung, while after the committal prayers a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells over the open grave by C. Hazelden, A. H. Pulling, R. Philpott and J. S. Goldsmith. The church bells were rung muffled before the service.

STEDMAN RINGING.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Mr. E. H. Lewis, in the course of his speech at the Johnson Commemoration Dinner, remarked that he had been 'exiled' for fifteen years in Scotland, and that a new generation of ringers had sprung up during that time, many of whom he did not know. With all due respect to the popular president of the Central Council, it would interest me to know on what source of information he bases his conclusion that (with one possible exception) nowhere did we get such good Stedman ringing as in Birmingham both on handbells and tower bells.—Yours faithfully,

H. JACKSON.

Stockport.

NORTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.—On Sunday, February 8th, for divine service in the evening at St. Bartholemew's Church, 720 Hanley Double Surprise Minor: J. W. Walker 1, C. S. Ryles 2, J. E. Wheeldon (conductor) 3, W. Corfield 4, W. C. Lawrence 5, J. Walley 6.

BELLS OF THE CHANNEL ISLANDS.

THE FIRST CHANGE RINGING IN GUERNSEY.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In your issue of November 21st, 1930, I note that Mr. F. W. Richardson is under the impression that no change ringing has ever taken place in either of the Islands. For the information of ringers generally, I draw attention to the fact that some time prior to 1914 (I forget the exact year) the St. Nicholas' Guild of Ringers, Bristol, chose the Islands for their annual outing, with the view of trying to ring a peal of Stedman Triples on the bells of St. Peter Port Church, Guernsey, which had, at that time, been rehung by a French firm of bellhangers. On arrival we found that the bells were almost unringable, and it was only through the labour of our steeple-keeper, Mr. J. Richmond, that we managed to ring them. Not to be deprived of the opportunity of recording what probably would be the first change ringing on the bells, Mr. J. Richmond spent most of the Sunday morning greasing and adjusting the stays and sliders, whilst his colleagues were paying a visit to the Vale Church and rang a 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor for morning service, this being the first completed attempt of change ringing in the Islands.

On our return to the Parish Church, we found a lot of improvement in the 'go' of the bells, and we started for a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples, which did not succeed owing to insufficient time to ring it, but we had the undisputed satisfaction of knowing that we had made the first attempt at change ringing on St. Peter Port bells. The report of our visit to the Islands was published in 'The Ringing World.' As regards Jersey bells, we visited that Island also, but it was unknown to the Bristol ringers that there were ringable bells there, or we should certainly have tried to ring there also.—Yours truly,

F. G. MAY.

Cape Town, South Africa.

THE INSTRUCTION OF BEGINNERS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Referring to a recent leading article in 'The Ringing World' on 'What is the best way to teach the art of change ringing?' I must say that I was rather disappointed that some experienced instructors have not given us more helpful information on the subject, although we have been told the correct way to hold the rope.

To say that ringers must possess certain qualities, and that nine-tenths hold the rope end wrongly, and that one-fifth are wrong at hand stroke, is somewhat disheartening, and not at all helpful, although I notice the writer thinks it safe to apply this to country ringers only.

Personally, I should imagine that one good quality a ringer or learner may possess would be 'enthusiasm,' and the instructor should certainly possess a knowledge of teaching on correct lines, so that learners are put on the way to grasp ropesight.

I notice that according to Mr. Dyke's letter, in which he told us how to hold a bell rope, the illustrations in 'Troyte's Change Ringing' and 'Snowdon's Ropesight' on the position of the tail end are incorrect, as they both show the rope end held with the 'eally' by the four fingers. I have used these books for instruction, and think they must be badly in need of revision if these incorrect illustrations have been allowed to stand for so long.

There is no doubt that proper instruction is badly needed, and I think the associations should do more to supply it. I believe some associations have one or two instructors and assistants, while others have none at all. I should like to suggest that there should be a qualified teacher present at ringing meetings as often as possible, and that occasional meetings be held for tower instructors only, where the technique as well as the science of ringing could be taught, and thus handed on. This would surely be real good work.

W. A. OSBORN.

RINGER'S BEREAVEMENT.

At Braintree, Essex, on Monday, March 9th, at the Parish Church, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major (1,280 changes) in 49 mins.: S. Warno 1, C. H. Howard 2, G. Lindridge 3, R. Martin (first quarter-peal in the method) 4, B. Ridgwell 5, A. B. Wiffen 6, L. W. Wiffen (conductor) 7, H. C. Reason 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to Mrs. W. H. Hammond, who died earlier in the day, and whose husband has been a ringer at Braintree for several years.

A DATE TOUCH.

On March 6th, at All Saints' Church, Abnoldbury, Yorkshire, a date touch of 1,931 Kent Treble Bob Major in 1 hour 10 mins.: John Robertson (conductor) 1, A. Garner 2, A. Armitage 3, W. E. Dransfield 4, C. Smithies 5, W. Moorhouse 6, J. W. Nutton 7, Jack Newton 8. Composed by Geo. H. Simons, of Elland.

WATFORD, HERTS.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, March 15th, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Major (1,280 changes) in 51 mins.: H. Milton 1, R. Picton 2, R. Bell 3, H. Long 4, S. Hoare 5, F. Crook 6, W. Norris 7, H. Cashmore (conductor) 8.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

LITTLE MUNDEN.—On March 15th, for morning service, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob: W. Williams 1, S. Carter (conductor) 2, S. Head 3, A. Phillips 4, A. Woodston 5, W. H. Lawrence 6. For evening service, 720 Bob Minor: W. H. Lawrence 1-2, S. Head 3, W. Williams 4, A. Phillips 5, S. Carter (conductor) 6.

KING'S NORTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, March 15th, at St. Nicholas' Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,259 changes): F. B. Yates 1, H. H. Fearn 2, P. O. Ladin 3, J. Withers, jun., 4, C. Webb 5, A. Downes 6, J. Eaton 7, G. E. Fearn 8, A. Chambers (conductor) 9, J. Withers 10. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. A. Downes and Mr. C. Webb.—On Thursday, March 12th, a 795 of Grandsire Caters, with the bells deeply muffled as a token of respect to Mrs. Buraston, wife of the late schoolmaster of King's Norton: C. Webb 1, H. H. Fearn 2, W. Dowding 3, J. Turner 4, H. Williams 5, A. Downes 6, H. Stanley 7, G. E. Fearn 8, A. Chambers (conductor) 9, J. Withers 10.

CHELMSFORD.—At the Cathedral on Sunday, March 15th, for morning service, 1,260 Bob Royal in 53 mins.: Miss K. Meadows 1, H. Allen 2, A. Hume 3, L. J. Clark (conductor) 4, E. Runter 5, R. C. Clark 6, W. Lincoln 7, H. Devenish 8, J. Wood 9, J. W. Cornford 10. This was the first quarter-peal of Bob Royal by all the band except the ringer of the tenor, and the first on the bells.

BRIGHTON.—At the Church of the Good Shepherd, for evening service, on Sunday, March 15th, 720 Grandsire Doubles in 25 mins.: C. J. Cooper 1, F. J. Sharpe 2, W. J. Webb 3, E. A. Andrews 4, S. E. Armstrong 5, J. C. Edwards 6. All are members of the local band, and this is the first 720 rung by them.

OVER, CAMBS.—On Sunday, March 15th, at the Church of St. Mary, for morning service, 720 Cambridge Surprise Minor: G. Whybrow 1, M. Ginn 2, F. Warrington (conductor) 3, E. Thoday 4, D. Adams 5, C. Robinson 6. For evensong, 720 London Surprise (21 bobs): M. Ginn 1, C. Robinson 2, B. Wayman 3, F. G. Gleaves 4, A. J. Ginn 5, F. Warrington (conductor) 6.

TOTTENHAM.—At All Hallows', on Sunday, March 15th, for matins, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 42 mins. (from the first quarter of Holt's Original): H. W. Strickland 1, H. Ellis 2, F. G. Symonds 3, W. J. Ellis 4, W. W. Dickinson 5, M. Fensom 6, J. G. Nash (conductor) 7, E. A. Hull 8.

DUFFIELD.—At the Parish Church, on March 8th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples for evensong service: R. Spencer 1, Miss F. Hartle 2, R. Bolton (conductor) 3, H. Hill 4, C. Draper 5, P. Dudley 6, S. Dawson 7, W. Baker 8. First quarter-peal by ringers of treble and tenor.

NOTICES.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Peak District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Baslow on Saturday, Mar. 28th. Church of St. Anne (6 bells) available afternoon and evening. Tea at the Rutland Arms at 5 p.m. It is hoped to arrange a visit to Edensor (in Chatsworth Park) after tea. Church of St. Peter (6 bells). Visitors welcomed. Subscriptions due.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec., Leamwood, Dore.

MARKET DRAYTON, SHROPSHIRE.—The recast peal of 8 bells and new cast iron framework by Taylor, Loughborough, will be dedicated by the Bishop of Stafford on Palm Sunday, March 29th, at 11 a.m. Bells available in the afternoon.

—TOWER CLOCKS—

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NOTICES.

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ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on the 26th, *The Coffee Pot, on the 24th, at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—The annual meeting of this division will be held at St. Saviour's, Eastbourne, on Saturday, March 21st. Bells (8) available at 2.45 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock, at the Church Room, South Street (by kind invitation). Business meeting to follow. The bells at All Saints' (8) and St. Mary's (8) will be available after the meeting.—George W. Stokes, 22, Melbourne Road, Eastbourne.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Elizabeth, Reddish, on Saturday, March 21st. Bells 6 p.m. A good attendance is requested.—J. Hall, Branch Sec., 22, Silver Street, Miles Platting.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Queensbury on Saturday, March 21st. The peal of 8 (tenor 14½ cwt.) at Holy Trinity Church will be available from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. Tea, at a charge of 1s. per head.—F. Hutchinson, Dis. Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Handsworth, near Sheffield, on Saturday, March 21st. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Preacher, the Rev. R. F. Wilkinson, Vicar of Ordsall. Tea at 5.30 p.m. at 1s. per head. The business meeting for election of officers, etc.; will be held immediately after tea. Further particulars will be sent to towers by circular, and a good attendance is desired.—F. Clark, Hon. Sec., 56, Broughton Avenue, Doncaster.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District meeting on Saturday, March 21st, at Shere. Bells available 3 o'clock. Service 4.30 p.m.—G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec., Merrow Cottage, East Clandon, near Guildford.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—A general meeting will be held at Ufford on Saturday, March 21st. Bells available from 2 p.m., also at Woodbridge, 6 p.m. Tea at St. Mary's Hall at 4.30. Meeting follows.—H. Drake, Ufford, Woodbridge.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Lawton on March 21st (8 bells). Ringing from 2.30 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock. Meeting to follow.—Richard D. Langford, Hon. Branch Sec., 6, Laura Street, Crewe.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting will be held at Claybrook on Saturday, March 21st. Bells (8) available 3.30 p.m. Tea provided. A good attendance is expected. All ringers cordially welcome.—W. A. Cope, Smockington.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—A bye-meeting will be held at Hartlip, by kind permission of the Vicar, on Saturday, March 21st. Tower open at 3 p.m.—Stanley J. T. Shellock, Dis. Sec.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—**BARKWAY**, Sat., March 21st. Bells (8) ready 3 p.m. Tea at Wheatsheaf at 5 p.m. Regret short notice. Last meeting of ringing year 1930-31, so please make a point of attending if possible.—Don Mears, Hon. Dis. Sec., Offley, Hitchin.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Bedworth on Saturday, March 21st. Bells available 3 o'clock. Tea at 5 o'clock in Central School (1s. per head).—D. E. Lewis, Gen. Hon. Sec., Firholm, King Edward Road, Nuneaton.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting of the Guild will be held at Eastwell on Saturday, March 21st. Bells available 2.30. Service and tea as usual. All ringers welcome.—A. J. Battin, Hon. Sec., Heronden Hall Gardens, Tenterden, Kent.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM. (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting will be held at King's Norton Parish Church, on Saturday, March 28th. Bells (10) will be available from 3 p.m. Short service in church at 4.30. Tea at Saracen's Head at 5, to be followed by usual business meeting. Please notify me regarding tea.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

LADIES' GUILD.—Northern District. — The third quarterly meeting will be held at Daybrook, Notts, on Saturday, March 28th. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.30, at 1s. 3d. per head. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. Snook, Standwell, Duke Street, Arnold, Notts, by March 25th. Gentlemen cordially invited.—L. N. Cawthorne, Hon. Dis. Sec., 394, Handsworth Road, Sheffield.

LADIES' GUILD.—Northamptonshire District. — A meeting will be held at Cranford (6) on Saturday, March 28th. The address at the service, to be held at 4 o'clock, will be given by the Lord Bishop of Peterborough. Please send numbers for tea by March 25th.—S. Thurstfield, Hon. Sec., Cranford, Kettering.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cary Deanery.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Charlton Horethorne on Saturday, March 28th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea, in the Schoolroom, 5 p.m. Meeting to follow.—E. F. Creed, Dimmer Farm, Castle Cary.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District. — A meeting will be held at Charlwood on Saturday, March 28th. Tower open at 3. Service at 5. Tea and meeting to follow. Those requiring tea please let me know by Wednesday, March 25th. — A. J. Bull, Hon. Sec., Jesmond, Queen's Road, Horley.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Archdeaconry of Ely. — A meeting at Stetchworth on Saturday, March 28th. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea following, by kind invitation, at the White Horse Hotel. Dullingham and Wood Ditton bells also available.—K. Willers, Dis. Sec., Sweetbriars, Trumpington, Cambridge.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Oxford and District Branch.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Wolvercote on Saturday, March 28th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Evensong 5 p.m. Tea 5.30. Meeting to follow. Numbers for tea by Wednesday, 25th. All ringers cordially invited.—W. Simmonds, Hon. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next practice has been arranged at Cookham on Saturday, March 28th. Bells (6) available at 3.30 p.m. Tea, at the Royal Exchange, at 1s. per head, for those who notify me not later than March 24th. — A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Amended Notice.—Nomination meeting. Owing to the serious illness of the Vicar of Upper Armley, the meeting at Armley for the 21st is cancelled. The nomination meeting of the society will be held at Holbeck on Saturday, March 28th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Usual arrangements.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Armley.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. James', Bristol, on Saturday, March 28th. Bells (10) available at 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow in Parish Room, Charles Street. Kindly notify by the 24th for tea.—Harry Bennett, Hon. Sec., Highfield, Runswick Road, Brislington.

KIDSGROVE, near Stoke-on-Trent.—The ring of six bells recast and hung in a new framework by Taylors, of Loughborough, will be dedicated on Saturday, March 28th, at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. — The next meeting will be held at St. George's, Bolton, on Saturday, March 28th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES' ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—The first quarterly meeting will be held at Enderby (8 bells) on Saturday, March 28th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Tea at 5 o'clock, in the Institute, followed by business meeting. All those requiring tea please let me know by Thursday, the 26th, first post, if possible. All members and friends welcome.—Ernest H. Bagworth, 36, Turner Road, Leicester.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District. — A meeting will be held at Sawbridgeworth on March 28th, when the bells will be open during the afternoon and evening. Service at 5, address by the Vicar. Tea after, at 5.30, 1s. each. I hope for a good muster. All ringing friends welcome. Essex friends give us a look up. — W. H. Lawrence, Hon. Dis. Sec., Little Munden.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Hatfield on Saturday, March 28th. Bells (8) ready early. Subscriptions are now due. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. A. Crowe, Town End, Hatfield, near Doncaster, not later than Friday, 27th inst. Special effort for this meeting.—Percy Gledstone, Hon. Sec., 22, Hameline Road, Conisborough.

RODBOURNE CHENEY, near Swindon.—The peal of five bells restored and augmented to six by Taylors, of Loughborough, will be dedicated on Sunday, March 29th, at 3.30 p.m.

HALSALL, LANCS.—The recast ring of 6 bells, together with the clock and carillon machine, by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, Croydon, will be re-dedicated by the Archdeacon of Warrington on Saturday, April 4th, at 2.45 p.m. All ringers welcome.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Albans on Easter Monday, April 6th. Service in the Cathedral at 4.30 p.m., with address by the Rev. R. F. R. Routh, Vicar of

Hitchin. Tea at the Ver Residential Hotel, Holywell Hill (near Abbey Station) immediately after the service, followed by annual business meeting for election of officers, etc. Towers open at 2 p.m., but ringing can be had at the two six-bell towers, during the morning, if early application is made to me.—G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Leckhampton, Cheltenham (through the kindness of the Vicar, Rev. Canon Sears), on Easter Monday, April 6th.

Service at 2.30 p.m., to be followed by the general meeting in the Parish Hall. Dinner and tea arrangements will be announced in these columns in due course. Prestbury Church bells (8) available 11 a.m. till 1 p.m., Leckhampton Church bells (8) before and after service and meeting, Charlton King's Church bells (8) from 6.30 p.m. Nominations for the various offices are requested.—Edgar Guise, Hon. Sec., 39, Tankard's Close, St. Michael's Hill, Bristol.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting of the association will be held at Norwich on Easter Monday, April 6th. By kind permission of the Incumbents, the bells at St. Peter Mancroft, St. Michael-at-Coslany, and All Saints', will be placed at the disposal of the members from 10 o'clock. Divine service will be held at St. Peter Mancroft at 12.30 p.m., when the address will be given by the Rev. Canon C. C. Lancheater. Luncheon will be served at the Bell Hotel, Orford Hill, at 1.30 p.m. Tickets, 2s. 6d. per head. Members intending to be present at luncheon are kindly requested to notify the secretary on or before Wednesday, April 1st. The annual business meeting will follow immediately after the luncheon. The committee will meet at 11.30 a.m. in the Vestry of St. Peter Mancroft.—Arthur L. Coleman, Secretary and Treasurer, High Croft, North Walsham, Norfolk.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The 51st annual general meeting will be held at Tonbridge on Easter Monday, April 6th. Committee meeting in the Parish Hall at 11.15. Association service in the Parish Church of SS. Peter and Paul at 12 noon. Address by the Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Rochester. Dinner in the Carlton Café, High Street, at 1.15, followed by business meeting. The following towers will be open for ringing from 10 a.m. till 11.30 and after the meeting: Tonbridge (8), Tunbridge Wells (8), Chiddingstone (8), Penshurst (8), Sevenoaks (8), Hadlow (8), Shipbourne (6) and Speldhurst (8). Application for dinner tickets (free to practising members, 3s. to non-members) must be made on or before last post Tuesday, March 31st.—Fred M. Mitchell, Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting at Derby on Easter Monday. Bells of Cathedral (10), St. Andrew's (10), St. Luke's (8), St. Peter's (8) open for ringing (times later). Committee meet at 3.15. Tea 4.45, followed by general meeting at King's Café, St. Peter's Street. It is regretted that Ald. Chambers' memorial will not be completed by this date, but will all members of committee possible meet at Littleover Church at 12 noon, to view and discuss final arrangements? — Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at Worcester on Easter Monday, April 6th. Business meeting

in the Cathedral Chapter House at 2.15 p.m. prompt. Chairman: The Very Rev. W. Moore Ede, D.D., President. Service, with address by the Rev. G. W. Webb, Vicar of Longdon, in the Cathedral, at 4.15 p.m. Tea will be provided at 5.30 p.m. for all those who notify me before Wednesday, April 1st. Bells available: Cathedral (12), 12.30 to 2, St. John-in-Bedwardine (8), 11 to 12 and after 5.30, All Saints' (10), St. Nicholas' (6) and St. Swithun's (6). Subscriptions should be paid and reports obtained in St. Helen's Church House between 11.30 a.m. and 12.30 p.m.—J. R. Newman, Hon. Sec., Sheepcote, Severn Stoke, Worcester.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District. —The next meeting will be held at Dorking on Easter Monday, April 6th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., tea and meeting following. Those requiring tea please notify me by Wednesday, April 1st. All ringers welcome. — D. Cooper, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Harrison's Rise, Croydon.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD. — The next quarterly meeting will be held on Saturday, April 11th, at the Parish Church, Cefn Coed. Ringing at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea and meeting at 5 p.m. The tea will be supplied by the generosity of the Vicar.—F. E. Thomas, Dis. Sec., Belle Vue, Brecon.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general committee meeting will be held at St. Laurence's Hall, Abbey Street, Reading, at 3 p.m., Saturday, April 11th (p.v.). Will branch secretaries notify me before that date the number of annual reports required for their respective branches? — Richard T. Hibbert, Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at St. James', Clerkenwell, on Saturday, April 11th. Full particulars later.—C. T. Coles and W. H. Hollier, Hon. Secs.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — Great Holland. Preliminary Notice. — Dedication by the Lord Bishop of Chelmsford of the new ring of eight erected to the memory of Miss Emma Barron, founder of the Barron Bell Trust, on Saturday, April 18th, at 3 p.m. Further particulars later.—C. H. Howard, Master.

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