THE RINGING WORLD

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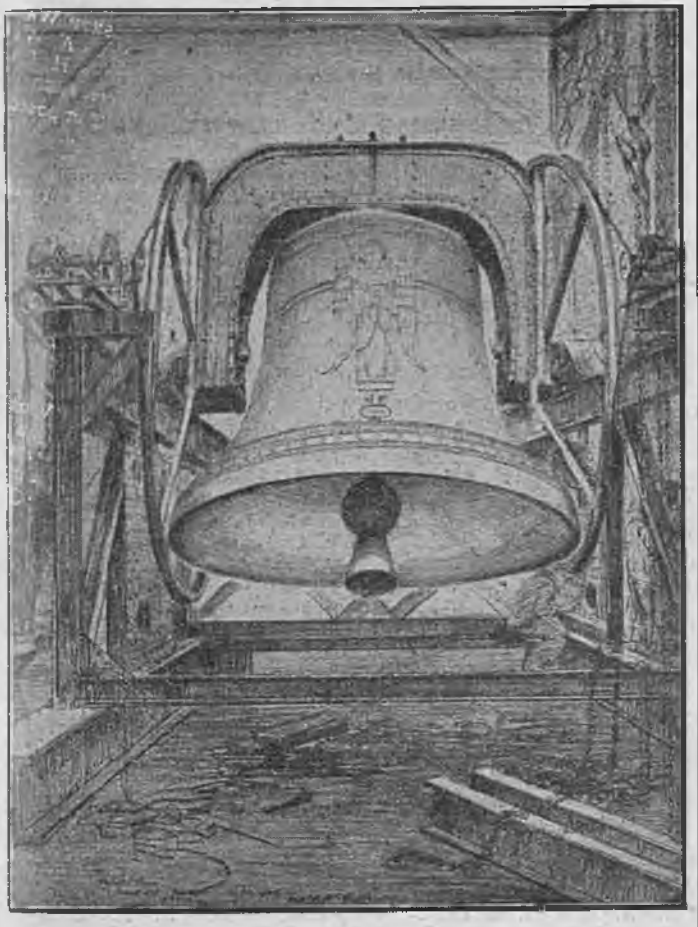

THE 18¼ TON RINGING BELL.
the Bourdon of the Carillon of 64 Bells, about to be installed at
RIVERSIDE CHURCH, NEW YORK, U.S.A.

A DISSENTIENT VOICE.

The Central Council met at Liverpool on Tuesday, and a summary of the proceedings appears on another page. During the past year the associations who elect representatives have been asked to pass a resolution to add to their rules a clause to the effect that they will loyally abide by the rules and decisions of the Council. As the Council is representative of the whole Exercise, exists by the support and good-will of those who elect the members, and endeavours to guide and co-ordinate the work done in the interests of the art, it was only a reasonable request to make, and its reasonableness is proved by the fact that with, as far as we know, only one exception, all the associations have readily accepted the suggestion, and in future will recognise and act upon the Council's rulings. The majority of the associations and guilds have done so for years, and by incorporating the clause in their rules have merely implemented what they had already observed in the spirit. They have appreciated the value of the Council to the Exercise; they have recognised that without it there would be no cohesion of thought or action in many things which go to produce order and progress in the art. But beyond this, the Council serves as the keystone of the arch which binds together all the units that go to make up the structure of the Exercise. It can never be accused of having done anything hurriedly — indeed, it has not moved fast enough for some. It has always been anxious not to interfere with the privileges of associations or individuals, but it could do a great deal to raise still higher the standards of ringing if it had the guarantee that the associations, abiding by decisions arrived at, would carry into effect any recommendations which might result from the collective wisdom of the Council.

It is a pity, therefore, that the Sussex County Association should have failed to come into line with the rest of the leading organisations which send representatives to the Council. At their annual meeting the association declined to adopt the suggested rule. We have only seen one argument adduced in the course of the dicussion, and it would be unfair to say that it was solely this which induced the members to come to the decision they did. But for this one argument it can be said, briefly, that there is not the slightest foundation. According to the report the Master, who presided, said that to undertake loyally to abide by the rules and decisions of the Council 'would be like signing a blank cheque.' This is a curious statement to come from a member of the Council. The rules and decisions of the Council are in black and white for everyone to read and no alterations can be made in them without every representative of every

(Continued on page 338.)

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affiliated association having the opportunity of expressing an opinion, of criticising, and, if he can get sufficient support, of amending the proposals. Where is the 'blank cheque' about this? The argument is blank nonsense. Presumably the Sussex Association expects its affiliated members to observe its rules; why then should not the Central Council expect its affiliated societies to do likewise? It is of little use joining in any organisation if one is afraid to accept the ruling of the majority, and we hope that upon a later occasion the Sussex Association will see its way to follow the example of other societies of like importance.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

WOLVERHAMPTON.

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

On Saturday, May 23, 1931, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 33 cwt. 2I lb.

GEORGE E. FEARN	...Treble	*CHARLES HAZELDEN	7
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH	2	JAMES HUNT	8
HERBERT KNIGHT	3	CYRIL TANSELL	9
SIDNEY T. HOLT	4	ROBERT MATTHEWS	10
FRANK W. PERRENS	5	ALBERT WALKER	11
FRANK BENNETT	6	JOSEPH T. DYKE	...Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by JOHN S. GOLDSMITH.

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

BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Whit Monday, May 25, 1931, in Three Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 37 cwt. in C.

ALBERT WALKER	...Treble	CHARLES HAZELDEN	7
GEORGE E. FEARN	2	ALBERT H. WARD	8
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH	3	JAMES HUNT	9
FRANK E. PERVIN	4	JOHN NEAL	10
HENRY H. FEARN	5	JOSEPH T. DYKE	11
FRANK BENNETT	6	JAMES H. SHEPHERD	...Tenor

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by JOHN S. GOLDSMITH

A birthday peal for C. Hazelden.

LIVERPOOL.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Whit Monday, May 25, 1931, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 39 cwt. 3 qr. 10 lb.

EDWIN BARNETT, SEN.	...Treble	EDWIN H. LEWIS	7
GEORGE R. PYE	2	EDWARD JENKINS	8
GEORGE H. CROSS	3	T. REGINALD DENNIS	9
CHARLES T. COLES	4	WALTER AYRE	10
JOHN PERRY	5	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN.	11
HERBERT KNIGHT	6	RUPERT RICHARDSON	...Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by CHARLES T. COLES

TEN BELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 16, 1931, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CLEMENT DANES, STRAND, W.C.,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5002 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

GEORGE H. GRAINGER	...Treble	FREDERICK W. THORNTON	6
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER	2	WILLIAM D. GRAINGER	7
*MISS BERTHA M. MILLS	3	FRANK CORKE	8
ERNEST J. KING	4	HARRY MANCE	9
E. RALPH MACKRILL	5	REGINALD T. NEWMAN	...Tenor

Composed by FREDK. DENCH. Conducted by THOMAS H. TAFFENDER

* First peal on ten bells.

PLYMOUTH.
THE DEVON GUILD.

On Tuesday, May 19, 1931, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 35 cwt.

*H. FRED S. MYERS ...	...*Treble*	ALFRED MITCHELMORE ...	6
WARREN HORNBROOK ...	2	WILLIAM HAMLYN	7
JAMES E. LILLEY	3	ALF WILLIAM MYERS	8
CHARLES R. LILLEY	4	G. HARRY MYERS	9
†SIDNEY O'SHAUGHNESSY ...	5	THOMAS G. MYERS ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. R. LILLEY. Conducted by G. H. MYERS.

* First peal above six bells. † First peal of Royal 'inside.'

SOUTH CROYDON, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 23, 1931, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 30¼ cwt. in D.

DAVID WRIGHT	...*Treble*	WILLIAM S. SMITH	6
BERT N. NEWSON	2	FRANK E. DARBY	7
FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN...	3	*ERNEST DENHAM	8
*HARRY E. WILLS	4	FRANK JENNINGS	9
*WILLIAM BULPITT	5	CHARLES H. KIPPIN ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by D. WRIGHT.

* First peal of Treble Ten. Arranged to commemorate the opening of the new Parish Hall, which took place prior to the commencement of this peal.

LEICESTER.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 23, 1931, in Three Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

FRANK HOWE	...*Treble*	HAROLD J. POOLE	6
REDVERS F. ELKINGTON ...	2	CYRIL F. HOWITT	7
LOUIS ALLEN	3	WILLIAM WILLSON	8
REV. R. P. FARROW, M.A. ...	4	JAMES HUTCHBY	9
HARRY L. SMITH	5	WILLIAM L. JACQUES ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by WM. WILLSON. Conducted by WILLIAM L. JACQUES

Rung half-muffled in memory of Dr. H. J. Blakesley, M.R.C.S. First peal of Bob Royal on the bells.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

STAINES, MIDDLESEX.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 16, 1931, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES

Tenor 17 cwt.

WILLIAM H. FOSSELL...	...*Treble*	HARRY WINGROVE	5
PHYLLIS M. MAYNE	2	*WILLIAM WELLING	6
STEPHEN H. HOARE	3	GEORGE MARTIN	7
WILLIAM HENLEY	4	CECIL C. MAYNE ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by FRANK BENNETT. Conducted by GEORGE MARTIN.

* 250th peal.

PULHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 16, 1931, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALEN,

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

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

HERBERT FULCHER ...	...*Treble*	*CECIL BARRETT	5
GEORGE HOWLETT	2	RUSSELL RICHES	6
ERNEST WHITING	3	*CHARLES LOOME	7
CHARLES BAKER	4	FREDERICK BORRETT ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by F. BORRETT.

* First in method.

WATFORD, NEAR RUGBY.—On Friday, May 8th, in 50 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes) in ten different callings: E. Mee 1, Mrs. A. Marlow 2, A. Marlow (conductor) 3, A. Brown 4, C. Green 5. Longest touch for treble and 2nd ringers. All are of the local band.

BENENDEN, KENT.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, May 17, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

FREDERICK WHITE ...	...*Treble*	FRANK JENNINGS	5
WILLIAM H. LAMBERT ...	2	DANIEL COOPER	6
JOHN F. GALYER	3	CHARLES H. KIPPIN	7
FREDERICK E. COLLINS ...	4	JOHN AVERY	...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHAS. H. KIPPIN.

Arranged to enable Mr. Avery to ring a peal at his birthplace.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION
AND ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE SOCIETY.

On Monday, May 18, 1931, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

SAMUEL WOOD	...*Treble*	SIDNEY MARSHALL	5
JOSEPH MELLOR	2	ALBERT ADAMS	6
MISS M. E. THORP	3	WILLIAM BRAMMER	7
JAMES CARTER	4	BENJAMIN THORP	...*Tenor*

Composed by THOMAS DAY. Conducted by BENJAMIN THORP.

Rung to celebrate the 48th anniversary of the 16,608 in the same method rung at Mottram in 1883. Mr. Wood and Mr. Mellor are the only two surviving members of that band.

BRIDSTOW, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, May 20, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BRIDGET,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 9 cwt.

WILLIAM T. POSTON ...	...*Treble*	JOHN J. WEBB	5
REGINALD POSTON	2	*ARTHUR ALFORD	6
ROBERT E. SUMMERS	3	WILLIAM POSTON	7
EDWIN H. FOSTER	4	ALFRED T. POULTON ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by W. POSTON.

* First peal.

APPLETON, BERKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, May 20, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART. Tenor 14¾ cwt.

*FREDERICK C. WHITE	...*Treble*	FREDERICK MESSENGER ...	5
CUTHBERT G. WHITE ...	2	GEORGE HOLIFIELD, JUN. ...	6
GEORGE HOLIFIELD, SEN.	3	RICHARD WHITE	7
FRANCIS E. TAYLOR	4	FRED WHITE...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by G. HOLIFIELD, JUN.

* First peal. Mr. G. Holifield, sen., rang his first peal in 1875.

GRUNDISBURGH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Thursday, May 21, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

JAMES BENNETT, JUN. ...	...*Treble*	GEORGE A. FLEMING	5
WILLIAM C. RUMSEY	2	GEORGE BENNETT	6
JOHN W. WARD	3	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL ...	7
ALBERT G. FLEMING	4	CECIL W. PIPE	...*Tenor*

Composed by JAMES PAGETT. Conducted by WILLIAM C. RUMSEY

CRAYFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, May 22, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 12¾ cwt.

EDWIN BARNETT, SEN.	...*Treble*	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ...	5
THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.	2	GEORGE H. CROSS	6
THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN.	3	WILFRED WILLIAMS	7
HARRY HOVERD	4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. PIGOTT. Conducted by T. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.

First peal in the method as conductor.

KELSALE, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, May 23, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF ROCHESTER SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 16½ cwt.

LEONARD P. BAILEY ...	...*Treble*	GEORGE WILSON	5
ALFRED KEEBLE	2	JAMES G. RUMSEY	6
ERNEST S. BAILEY	3	CHARLES F. BAILEY	7
JAMES M. BAILEY	4	FREDERICK J. SMITH ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by CHAS. F. BAILEY
First peal in the method on the bells.

WOOBURN, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, May 23, 1931, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
MATTHEWS' TWELVE-PART. Tenor 18 cwt.

*EDWARD T. BARRETT	...*Treble*	ERNEST W. ELDRIDGE ...	5
WILLIAM E. TAYLOR... ...	2	FREDERICK J. RUSSELL ...	6
†GEORGE J. BERRY	3	GEORGE GILBERT	7
†THOMAS J. FOWLER	4	ERNEST TUCK	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE GILBERT.
* First peal. † First peal of Grandsire with a bob bell.

SAMLESBURY, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(PRESTON BRANCH.)

On Saturday, May 23, 1931, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD-THE-LESS,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 19¾ cwt. in E.

JAMES HARRISON	...*Treble*	FRED RIGBY	5
MISS M. CLAYTON	2	JOHN BROWN...	6
JOHN T. BIMSON	3	BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS ...	7
E. ROGER MARTIN	4	JOHN H. GARTSIDE ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS (368). Conducted by B. A. KNIGHTS
Rung half-muffled as a token of respect to Mr. A. E. Woodhouse, who was interred at the mother church of St. Leonard at Walton-le-Dale on the 20th inst.

ST. GERMANS, CORNWALL.
THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, May 23, 1931, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF ST. GERMANUS,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt.

WILLIAM B. RICHARDS	...*Treble*	ALAN R. PINK	5
*MISS E. JESSIE C. ANGWIN	2	ARTHUR S. ROBERTS	6
CHARLES R. LILLEY	3	THOMAS G. MYERS	7
WILLIAM J. RUNDLE... ...	4	†JOSEPH WOODLEY ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by the late J. CARTER. Conducted by CHARLES R. LILLEY
* First peal of Major. † 60th peal and 50th for the Devon Guild.

THORNE, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, May 23, 1931, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF NORFOLK SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb.

*WILLIAM A. WOOLER	...*Treble*	J. EDWARD CAWSER	5
JOHN R. BREARLEY	2	*HARRY MORGAN	6
*EDWARD DALINGWATER ...	3	*JOHN A. BREARLEY	7
*ALBERT NASH	4	*ARNOLD HILL	...*Tenor*

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by J. EDWARD CAWSER
* First peal in the method. First peal of Surprise on the bells. J. R. Brearley's 100th peal for the Yorkshire Association.

HADLEIGH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
(ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, May 23, 1931, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

GEORGE A. FLEMING	...*Treble*	CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE ...	5
*HAROLD E. SYMONDS ...	2	CHARLES CLARKE...	6
ALBERT A. FLEMING	3	CECIL W. PIPE	7
WILLIAM J. G. BROWN ...	4	GEORGE E. SYMONDS ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by FRANK HOPGOOD. Conducted by GEORGE E. SYMONDS
* First peal in the method, No. 45 Central Council Collection.

MILVERTON, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 23, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION. Tenor 20 cwt.

ALFRED J. WYATT ...	...*Treble*	ARTHUR H. REED	5
SYDNEY A. WYATT	2	WILLIAM GIGG	6
HENRY NORMAN...	3	†PERCY MERSON	7
*HENRY CHURCHILL	4	S. GEORGE COLES ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by P. MERSON.
* First peal on eight bells. † 100th peal for the association.

WALKDEN, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 23, 1931, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 18½ cwt.

JAMES W. GROUNDS ...	...*Treble*	CHRISTOPHER GUDGEON ...	5
F. FRANKLAND RIGBY	2	JOSEPH H. RIDYARD	6
JOHN DENNER	3	WILFRED J. MOSS	7
JOHN BOOTH	4	JOHN POTTER	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by JOHN POTTER.

LIVERPOOL.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, May 23, 1931, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARNABAS,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 24 cwt.

GEORGE WILLIAMS ...	...*Treble*	T. REGINALD DENNIS	5
JOHN W. JONES	2	WILLIAM H. SHUKER	6
GEORGE R. JONES	3	ARTHUR E. SHARMAN	7
ROBERT SPERRING	4	JAMES MELDRUM	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.
This is the first peal of Stedman on the bells since being recast and rehung.

LEISTON, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Whit Monday, May 25, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF DUBLIN SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 20½ cwt.

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

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by CHAS. F. BAILEY
* First peal in the method.

G. & F. COPE & CO., NOTTINGHAM,
TOWER CLOCK MANUFACTURERS.
ESTIMATES SUBMITTED FOR NEW CLOCKS, CHIME ADDITIONS, REPAIRS, OR REPAINTING OF DIALS.

LIVERPOOL.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Whit Monday, May 25, 1931, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE R.C. CHURCH OF ST. FRANCIS XAVIER,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 16 cwt.

GEORGE WILLIAMS ...	...*Treble*	HENRY W. WILDE	5
*FREDERICK M. MITCHELL	2	THOMAS R. BUTLER	6
JOHN W. JONES	3	ARTHUR J. PITMAN	7
WILLIAM H. HOLLIER ...	4	JOHN PHILLIPS	...*Tenor*

Composed by HENRY DAINS. Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.
* 200th peal. First peal in the method on the bells.

SIX BELL PEALS.

SADDLEWORTH, YORKSHIRE.
HALIFAX AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 9, 1931, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,
A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven different extents. Tenor 12½ cwt.

JACK SMITH	...*Treble*	HARRY NUTT	4
*LESLIE DAWSON...	2	JOHN E. FIELDING	5
JOSEPH BURGESS	3	HAROLD SHAW	...*Tenor*

Conducted by JACK SMITH.
* First peal. First peal on the bells since rehanging by Messrs. J. Taylor, of Loughborough.

HITCHAM, BUCKS.
THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.
On Monday, May 18, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of St. Clement's Bob, Cambridge Surprise, Canterbury Pleasure, Oxford Treble Bob, Single Oxford Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 6 cwt. 11 lb: in G.

WILLIAM E. TAYLOR ...	...*Treble*	LEONARD STILWELL	4
WILLIAM T. BEESON	2	WILLIAM HENLEY	5
GEORGE H. GUTTRIDGE ...	3	GEORGE GILBERT	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEO. GILBERT.
Arranged specially for Mr. Beeson. 100th peal as conductor.

BARLEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, May 19, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 changes each of Double Oxford, Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 8 cwt.

HARRY HOWARD... ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM A. TACK	4
WALTER MANSFIELD... ...	2	†ALEC WHITMORE	5
*GRAHAM PRATT	3	ROBERT HOWARD ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ROBERT HOWARD.
* First peal in seven methods. † First peal.

TRUMPINGTON, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, May 21, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 10 cwt.

ARTHUR C. WILSON ...	...*Treble*	FRANCIS G. GLEAVES	4
MISS KITTY WILLERS... ...	2	CHARLES W. COOK	5
BERRY WAYMAN	3	FRANK WARRINGTON ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.

TRURO, CORNWALL.
THE TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Friday, May 22, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT KENWYN PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven 720's. Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 20 lb.

*HENRY WILLIAMS ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM H. SLEEMAN ...	4
†MISS LUCY WILLOUGHBY...	2	ARTHUR S. ROBERTS	5
MISS E. JESSIE C. ANGWIN	3	ALAN R. PINK	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.
* First peal. † First peal of Minor 'inside.'

COSBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 23, 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 13 cwt.

ERNEST MORRIS	...*Treble*	T. HENRY WRIGHT	4
ALFRED BALLARD	2	FRED COTTON	5
JOSEPH BEALE	3	GEORGE A. NEWTON ...	...*Tenor*

An 'all-Conducted' peal.
Each ringer called 120 of the first 720, starting at tenor upwards, then each called a 720 in the same order.

STALBRIDGE, DORSET.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, May 23, 1931, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being seven extents. Tenor 17 cwt. 3 qr. 10 lb.

EDWARD G. L. COWARD	...*Treble*	†SIDNEY A. RICKETTS	4
H. JIM RALPH	2	WILLIAM C. SHUTE	5
*EDWARD T. GRIFFIN	3	*THOMAS E SETTER ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by W. C. SHUTE.
* First peal of Treble Bob Minor. † First peal of Minor. First peal on the bells.

LIMPSFIELD, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.
(SOUTHERN DISTRICT.)
On Saturday, May 23, 1931, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two 720's of Woodbine, two 720's of Oxford, and three 720's of Kent. Tenor 18 cwt.

JAMES W. KNIGHT ...	...*Treble*	CHARLES W. CLINCH	4
BERNARD H. WELLS	2	LEONARD A. TIDY	5
*JOHN O. WELLER	3	ALFRED J. BULL	...*Tenor*

Conducted by LEONARD A. TIDY.
* First peal of Treble Bob.

HARESFIELD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 23, 1931, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE & ST. DUNSTAN'S DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

ALBERT WRIGHT	...*Treble*	BERT JONES	4
WILLIAM JONES	2	THOMAS BAILEY	5
HUBERT SCRIVENS	3	TOM PRICE	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALBERT WRIGHT.

HANDBELL PEALS.

ARMLEY, LEEDS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, May 16, 1931, in Two Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT 28, ARMLEY GRANGE VIEW,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

JOSEPH THACKRAY	1-2	*T. W. STRANGEWAY	5-6
JOHN W. MOORHOUSE	3-4	*CHARLES E. LAWSON	7-8

Composed by JOHN E. BURTON. Conducted by JOHN W. MOORHOUSE
* First peal on handbells.

STOCKPORT.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, May 21, 1931, in Two Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT 23, GREEK STREET,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor size 15 in C.

ALFRED BARNES	1-2	FREDERICK PAGE	5-6
ALLEN F. BAILEY	3-4	PETER LAFLIN	7-8

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by A. F. BAILEY.

ARMLEY, LEEDS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
AND LEEDS AND DISTRICT AMALGAMATED SOCIETY.
On Sunday, May 24, 1931, in Two Hours and Two Minutes,
AT 28, ARMLEY GRANGE VIEW,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

MALCOLM MOORHOUSE ...	1-2	JOHN W. MOORHOUSE	5-6
JOSEPH THACKRAY	3-4	HENRY G. GRIMWOOD	7-8

Composed by W. SOTTANSTALL. Conducted by J. W. MOORHOUSE
First peal in the method by H. G. Grimwood.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

TUESDAY'S MEETING AT LIVERPOOL.

The second session of the fourteenth Council was held at the Town Hall, Liverpool, on Tuesday, when 79 members, representing 37 associations, attended.

Splendid arrangements had been made by a local committee, of which Archdeacon Howson was chairman. The details were carried out by Mr. Claude I. Davies and Mr. G. R. Newton, who were indefatigable in their efforts to secure the comfort of the visitors. The week-end was spent by many in ringing at various churches and in visits to places of interest. Several peals were rung.

The Council met in the Council Chamber on Tuesday morning, when the Lord Mayor (Alderman Edwin Thompson) took the chair at the outset, supported by the Bishop of Liverpool (Dr. David), the president of the Council (Mr. E. H. Lewis), and the hon. secretary (Mr. E. Alex. Young).

The Lord Mayor extended a cordial welcome to the Council, and said, to his mind, one of the most beautiful sounds was a really good peal of bells on an English countryside. 'I wish,' he said, 'we had more appreciation of bellringing in this country. I hope that as a result of your meeting the art of bellringing may be a little better known in Liverpool than it is at present, and if you can encourage Liverpool to adopt bellringing more generally I think this city will be well served.'

THE NEW SECRETARY OF THE COUNCIL.



MR. GEORGE W. FLETCHER.

The Bishop of Liverpool (Dr. David) expressed the gratitude of the Church to bellringers for their services in administering 'the sacrament of sound.' It was the privilege of bellringers to maintain a peculiarly English tradition and to adapt and even extend it in the changed conditions of to-day. One of the subjects to come up for discussion was the attitude of churchwardens towards church bells. The Bishop was sure that any suggestion which the conference had to make which would tend to increase the practical care of bells by the clergy and churchwardens would be welcome. 'Some of us feel,' added Dr. David, 'that bellringers stand a little outside the fellowship of what we call church work, and some of us are desirous of taking them into the practical fellowship of the Church. I hope you will encourage that harmonious team spirit which is the very essence of your beautiful art.'

The President said that during the past forty or fifty years the position of ringers had entirely changed, and generally now they could consider themselves as effective churchworkers. It had been said 'church ringers would more often make their appearance in church if the clergy more often made their appearance in the belfry.'

HON. SECRETARY RETIRES.

Mr. Young having intimated that he desired to be released from the office of hon. secretary and treasurer, which he had occupied (in succession to the Rev. C. D. P. Davies) for ten years, Mr. G. W. Fletcher, on the nomination of the Standing Committee, was unanimously elected. Mr. Young was cordially thanked for his services.

The balance sheet of the Council was adopted, and for the first time for some years there was a balance on the right side on the sale of publications, there having been a profit of £2 8s. 1d.

The Rev. H. S. T. Richardson was re-elected an hon. member of the Council, and vacancies, two of them caused by death of the Rev. C. D. P. Davies and the resignation of Mr. J. W. Parker, were filled by the election of Mr. Stephen W. Wood, Mr. E. W. Elwell, and Mr. A. A. Hughes.

On behalf of the Standing Committee, Mr. Young reported that certain work had been carried out for the maintenance of the Carter Ringing Machine in the South Kensington Museum, and it was resolved that Mr. A. A. Hughes be appointed a trustee in the place of the late Rev. C. D. P. Davies. Mr. G. R. Fardon and Mr. Sharman were appointed demonstrators, and thanked for their services in connection with the repair of the machine.

THE COUNCIL RULES.

A discussion took place on the amendment of the rules of the Council—a matter which had been referred to the committee at the last annual meeting.

The committee put forward a motion to add a new sub-clause to Rule 2 providing for affiliation of the associations to the Council.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith moved, and Mr. G. Grover seconded, an amendment, which introduced a clause providing that affiliated associations should subscribe to an undertaking loyally to abide by the rules and decisions of the Council, and providing that the basis of representation of territorial associations and guilds should be the number of annual subscribing honorary and ringing members and resident life members.

Mr. E. W. Elwell, on a point of order, moved that the Council proceed to the next business, and this was agreed to, it being understood that the matter would be reconsidered by the Standing Committee and brought up at the next meeting after due notice had been given.

Subsequently, however, it was resolved to appoint a special committee to deal with the matter.

Reporting on the work of the Peal Collection Committee, the Rev. H. G. T. Richardson said the collection of peals of Treble Bob Major with tenors parted had been completed, but were not yet typed. They were waiting to include the peals of Royal and Maximus.

An interesting report, on behalf of the Literature and Press Committee, was presented by the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards, and the committee was requested to draw up a brief bibliography of works on bellringing, which would be a guide to ringers desiring to form tower libraries.

The Peals Analysis Committee's report, as already published, was adopted, with a few minor corrections, but no action was taken on a suggestion that a peal of Plain Minor methods rung at Isham should be deleted from the analysis on the ground that it did not comply with the Council's definitions, there being divided opinion as to whether or not it conformed to the decisions of the Council.

THE MINOR METHODS COLLECTION.

The Methods Committee's report led to a discussion on the subject of the delayed publication of the Collection of Minor Methods. The Standing Committee had come to agreement on the subject, but opposition to their proposal was offered by Mr. J. A. Trollope (a member of the committee). Eventually, however, the Council accepted the suggestion of the Standing Committee that the names of both the committee and the officials of the Council should appear on the cover and title page. The issue of the book will now be proceeded with at once.

It was also resolved that the committee should take in hand the work of revising the Collection of Triples Methods, which will appear as a separate publication.

Reports from the members of the Towers and Belfries Committee were presented, and that by the president, relating to the restoration of the bells at St. Benet's, Cambridge, will be found under a separate heading.

No report was forthcoming from the Record Committee, as the papers—which were in the possession of the late Mr. T. Hervey Beams—had not yet come back to the Council.

On the motion of the Rev. F. Ll. Edwards, seconded by Mr. W. A. Cave, the following motion was passed: 'When any peal, practice or ringers' meeting previously arranged, happens through unforeseen circumstance to coincide with an occasion of public mourning, whether national or local, it should be the normal procedure to make emergency arrangements with the proper authorities for the muffling of the bells before use, care being taken, unless otherwise directed, to have the muffles removed at the conclusion of the ringing.'

SUGGESTED REGISTER OF COMPOSITIONS.

Mr. G. R. Newton proposed, and Mr. O. E. Sharman seconded, 'That in the interests of the Exercise this Council takes such steps as they deem necessary for the registration of compositions,' but after it had been pointed out that there were great difficulties in the way of what would prove an enormous task, it was resolved that

members of the Peals Collection Committee should prepare a pamphlet on peal variations.

The following motion was carried on the proposition of Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, seconded by Mr. A. H. Pulling: 'That this Council deprecates the ringing of peals of Minor with a covering bell or bells and peals of Doubles with more than one covering bell, and recommends guilds and associations to discourage this practice.'

A motion by the Rev. H. Drake in the following terms was defeated: '(a) That the words Reverse, Double, Little or Bob be not used as names of methods, and (b) that the terms "shunt" or "hunting backwards" are not approved.'

The Council decided to meet next year at Plymouth, which secured a narrow majority over Bath.

Mr. Faulkner suggested that in future notice of the meetings of the Council, with the agenda, should be sent to individual members of the Council—at present notice is published only in 'The Ringing World.' The proposal, however, did not find favour, and was defeated.

The President proposed a vote of thanks to the Lord Mayor for his welcome, for placing the Council Chamber at the disposal of the members, and for his hospitality; to the Bishop of Liverpool for his presence; to the Lancashire Association for their welcome and hospitality, and especially to Mr. C. I. Davies and Mr. G. R. Newton for the work they had done in connection with the Council's visit.—Canon Elsee replied for the Lancashire Association, and the meeting terminated with a vote of thanks to the president.

The members who had been entertained to luncheon at headquarters, the Stork Hotel, by the Lancashire Association, took tea in the Town Hall at the invitation of the Lord Mayor, who with the Lady Mayoress was present to greet his guests. While tea was in progress selections were given by the Liverpool Police Band. In the evening a social gathering took place at the Stork Hotel.

MASONIC RINGERS AT GATESHEAD-ON-TYNE.

The annual Masonic service, on Sunday, May 17th, in the Durham Province, was held at Gateshead Parish Church, and the ringing was done by an entirely Masonic band—a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples for service and a touch of 252 to ring the brethren out. This was also rung to celebrate the appointing to the Justices of the Peace of the Borough, and his raising to the Master Mason's degree—both occurring on Friday, the 15th—of the treble ringer: A. Payne, M.B.E., J.P. (1626) 1, J. Rowell (3189) 2, G. Pickering (W.M. 406) 3, W. Story (P.P.G.W., 1626) 4, C. L. Routledge (P.P.G. treasurer, 1616) 5, A. Deas (406) 6, Jos. E. Keen (3937) (conductor) 7, W. G. Beardall (3886) 8. Tenor 15 cwt.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

LEICESTER DISTRICT.

A very pleasant and enjoyable meeting was held at Saddington, near Kibworth, on Saturday, May 9th. About 25 ringers were present from Leicester, Husbands Bosworth, Kibworth, Anstey, Wigston Magna, Great Glen, Birmingham and Saddington. The nice-going peal of five (tenor 8 cwt.) was raised at 3.30 p.m., and some good ringing was indulged in, various methods of Doubles being rung during the afternoon and evening. Tea was partaken of at the local hostelry. At the business meeting, two new members were elected, viz., Leonard W. Allen and Alec Arnold, both of Great Glen, and two rejoined. It was an excellent day for a meeting at this rather outlandish place.

BURTON DISTRICT.

A ringing meeting was held at Measham on Saturday, May 2nd, when upwards of fifteen members, representing the towers of Measham, Ashby, Hugglescote, Melbourne, Overseal, St. Paul's, Burton, and four members from Erdington, Birmingham, were present. Excellent use was made of the bells, touches of Stedman and Grandsire Triples, Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Double Norwich being rung.

At the business meeting, held in the schoolroom, it was decided to pay a visit to Rolleston-on-Dove for the next meeting, the date being fixed for June 20th. A vote of thanks to the Vicar of Measham (Rev. J. L. King) concluded the meeting, and also a very enjoyable afternoon.

BOYS BARRED.

In the Kennington (Ashford) Parish Magazine for May the following paragraph appears:—

'It has come to the Vicar's knowledge quite recently that one of our boys, aged fourteen, is anxious to learn ringing, and has been permitted, to some extent, to pull the ropes. Bellringing is not an occupation that can be taken in hand quite easily by anyone; a considerable amount of care is needed even by men who are learning. Accidents do sometimes happen to "beginners" getting entangled in the ropes, and the Vicar is naturally anxious that this should not happen in our belfry, especially to a boy. He understands that one or two boys are already learning to ring in neighbouring churches. A promise, however, has been made by the ringers that the greatest of care will be taken by them to see that all goes well with the lad. "In future, no other boys at that age must be allowed to begin ringing"—whatever happens in other parishes. It is a man's job.'

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Bristol, the city of bells, is to have yet another ring of eight. As the result of a bequest by the late Mr. George Feltham, a former churchwarden, a tower is to be built at the Church of the Holy Nativity, Knowle, and a ring of eight bells and an electric chiming clock installed by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston.

The new hon. secretary of the Central Council (Mr. George Fletcher) began his ringing career before the war at Southgate, and has been ringing at Edmonton for the last ten years.

Thirty years ago to-day the first and only peal ever rung on the sea was accomplished by a band crossing from Dublin to Holyhead. This was a peal of Stedman Caters, rung by Messrs. W. Short, W. H. Barber, W. Pye, G. R. Pye and the late Mr. E. Pye. The same day the first Surprise peal in Wales was rung.

A hundred and ninety years ago to-morrow the College Youths rang a 5,000 of Union Bob Royal at St. Sepulchre's, Snow Hill.

On June 1st, 1912, 14,031 Stedman Caters was rung on handbells at Guildford.

THE REMOVAL OF CHURCH BELLS.

WHEN A FACULTY IS NEEDED.

BY THE REV. H. DRAKE.

While it is quite right to say that the removal of bells from a church tower needs a faculty, it must be remembered that the word is used of permanent removal, and not necessarily of temporary removal for purposes of repair, or for similar reasons.

If a bell is cracked, it ought not to be left in its damaged condition, and it is the duty of the Parochial Church Council to place it as soon as possible in a proper state of repair. Otherwise it is failing in its duty of maintenance.

A bell (whether cracked or not) should never be recast without a faculty, for recasting involves the breaking up of a bell into fragments, and melting them down with other metal; so that in the new bell little or none of the old metal may remain. Actually it is safest to consider the recasting of a bell as the selling of the old bell to the founder and the buying from him of a new one.

But whichever way we look at it, these are acts, none of which should be performed without a faculty to legalise them.

However, in welding a bell none of such acts are performed. The crack is merely knit together, and this repair no more requires a faculty than does the repair of a crack in a wall or elsewhere. It is the duty of the Parochial Church Council to repair such cracks, and no faculty can issue to enable anyone to do what is already their duty.

At the same time such repairs; and other repairs requiring serious alteration to the bell frames and fittings, or to the walls, or to the chambers in the tower, should not be undertaken without competent advice. They may be referred to the Bishop (or, at least, to the Archdeacon) for his sanction. This would certainly be readily given, if the work was to be entrusted to trustworthy, efficient and experienced workmen. The Church authorities are always properly anxious that repairs should be promptly executed.

Similar remarks apply to ventilation. All parts of the tower, and especially the beams, and the ringing chamber should be sufficiently, but not excessively, ventilated. Unless this is done, the building cannot be said to be maintained in proper order.

LIGHTING AND PROTECTING THE BELFRY.

While the Factory Acts do not directly apply to bells as being machinery in motion, it is possible that the incumbent might be held liable for injury sustained by neglect to have the bells and belfry properly lighted and guarded. The arrangements for lighting and protecting the belfry need not be either elaborate or costly, but it is possible that the Parochial Church Council or other authorities may object to them being carried out. In that case, they should be asked to undertake to indemnify the incumbent against such claims.

Unless the tower is cleaned from top to bottom each year, and birds absolutely excluded each spring (neither of these cost very much) it cannot be said that the Parochial Church Council are doing their duty in caring for, and maintaining, the church.

DEATH OF MR. A. E. WOODHOUSE

The death occurred of Mr. A. E. Woodhouse, who was a well-known ringer in the Preston area, at Walton-le-Dale on May 18th at the age of 52 years. The bells of St. Leonard's, Walton-le-Dale, were rung fully muffled by the local band on Tuesday evening, and prior to the interment on Wednesday, May 20th. A large and sympathetic company attended the funeral service, which was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. H. D. Benyon, B.A. After the service a 360 Bob Minor was rung with open backstroke, and a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung at Samlesbury, where deceased rang most of his peals, on Saturday, May 23rd. Of a genial and unassuming disposition, 'Albert,' as he was popularly known, was a safe ringer and an accurate striker, was always to be found at the heavy end, and his 36 peals include the first by the Preston Branch of Double Norwich, Superlative and Treble Bob Minor. He joined the Lancs Association in 1900, and had been a service ringer since that year at St. Leonard's, Walton-le-Dale. During the war period he carried on the duties of branch secretary. He leaves a widow, son and two daughters.

THE STEDMAN TERCENTENARY.

CENTRAL COUNCIL'S APPROVAL OF THE SCHEME.

The Central Council on Tuesday gave its approval and support to the scheme for commemorating the Tercentenary of Fabian Stedman, on the lines set forth in these columns, which has appealed in so remarkable a fashion to the imagination of the Exercise. By their action the Council have stamped the proposals with the seal of a national scheme, and, in addition to voting a sum of £10 10s. to the fund, have appointed representatives to serve on a committee with the local church authorities to carry out the restoration.

It is essential, however, that the money required shall be given or promised before the work can be put in hand, and we therefore invite ringers individually, or as bands, to send contributions to the fund as quickly as possible. Donations should be sent to:—

The Editor,
'The Ringing World,'
Woking, Surrey,

and will be acknowledged in these columns. The Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn (Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild) is treasurer of the fund.

The second list of subscriptions will be published next week.

CENTRAL COUNCIL'S VOTE.

The president of the Central Council, speaking on the report of the Towers and Belfries Committee at the Council meeting on Tuesday, referred to the proposals for the restoration of St. Benet's bells.

The Standing Committee, he said, had considered the subject and had recommended that the Council should vote a grant of ten guineas to the commemoration fund; and that they should elect certain members to co-operate with the Parochial Church Council of St. Benet's for the carrying out of the scheme—the Parochial Council, being the people, must get the faculty and be responsible for the work. It was suggested that the selection of members of this committee should be left to the Towers and Belfries Committee.

The Rev. F. Ll. Edwards seconded the proposal.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith said, as the instigator of the scheme, the proposals put forward by the president of the Council had his approval, and the motion was carried.

Mr. Willson suggested that two more bells should be added, but the President said that the tower itself made this impossible.

The Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn was asked to continue as hon. treasurer of the fund, and Mr. J. S. Goldsmith agreed to continue his efforts as 'publicity agent.'

On Monday, the Essex Association voted £5 5s. to the fund, the Devon Guild £5 5s., and the Hereford Diocesan Guild £3 3s.

A COMMON PURPOSE.

To the Editor.

Sir,—From time to time in the past, those who are practised in the noble art of ringing bells have been moved to criticise severely, or even, it may be said, to attack the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings in regard to its interest, in the beautiful instruments from which such giant and melodious music is drawn. Again and again the society has endeavoured to show that its interest in the material beauty and history of bells, bell cages, and bell towers is but another aspect of the pleasure that is the proud possession of the men and women who stand at the swinging ropes and by their means turn full circle the swaying metal that voices our common gladness or our common sorrow.

For many years now, some of those who ring, and of those who love to listen to the sound of bells, and to see the true metal hanging silent or in full motion, have recognised that their interests in the matter rest on the common certainty that the whole business that resides in bells is one of art. They have seen that in the fulfilment of all this word embodies, whether in relation to moving and sound-giving bells, or in relation to the bells themselves while resting silent in potential power, there is but one single ideal—to make and preserve beauty. That beauty rests in all aspects of this art is undoubted. In its central object, the making of vast music, there can be no other purpose. In the formation of the substance of a bell art again floods the perspective. In the body and framing of the cage in which bells are hung to swing with even and mighty motion, there is art; and, finally, in the towers, where such frameworks have their beds, the art of building is pre-eminent. It is an astonishment to those who think of these matters that petty wrangling among men devoted to such art should find any cranny through which to press its evil presence. Yet heated controversy, prejudice, and even anger have been stirred into vigorous life by this poison.

Let us consider how opportunity for dispute arose. As far as members of the ringing fraternity and members of the society, of which I am secretary, are concerned, excuse was found for this almost fierce controversy in some ideas that accompany such words as 'modern methods,' 'ancient beauty,' 'progress,' 'mediævalism,' and the like. The mistaken disciples of the 'modern' gave to that work exclusive merit, though in their souls they knew, and by their words they showed, that in the fullness of life they loved the modern of old days as well as the modern of the present moment. They sang the praises of Stedman's 'modern' methods, now old, and by some, no doubt, found 'out of date.' They enjoyed the beauty and full being of Norman castles—the 'modern' means, when they were built, of keeping a subject people in obedience; and they admired the winding lanes shadowed by great elm trees, lanes loved of the modernist, although the many twists and the fallen autumn leaves turned to winter's mud are a hindrance to the means of transit used to-day. None of these modernists, none of these devotees of progress, would have wished all the remains of an ancient modernity to disappear and be no more. And those who stressed the values of antiquity did not fear, or were innocent of, the inconsistency they showed when, on rubber wheels turned by the impulse of refined earth oils, they sped on concrete roads to indulge their sentiment for stones heaped together in old days on mortar beds, or for ploughs and wagons drawn even until yesterday by heavily collared oxen. These people, the one overstressing one aspect of the life they loved, the other insistent that beauty resides alone in works long finished, sought too often no better occupation than to score some verbal point in argument against the theories they themselves assumed held sway in their imagined rivals' minds.

It is the desire of the writer himself to forget all but the art of bellringing, and the bells so rung, and to use his influence that others may be persuaded to forget the poison of controversy, and to put the best of human resources to reach a just appraisement of the noble values that are wrapped up in every ring of bells.

The essence of art and poetry and music lies in sentiment, in an alert sensitiveness for sunshine and shadow, for the transparent green of spring leaves, for the works and thoughts of living men, and of men now dead, for the 'being' of life itself, whether the life of nature uncontrolled by man, or the life that man by his power gives to the product of nature.

I think that none of the readers of these words, even those who are committed to an almost deliberate misunderstanding of the object of the society I serve, will, if they drop their fears that I am laying some controversial trap for them, deny this statement to be true. I do not see how it can be otherwise than true.

Do I venture too far when I express the belief that on such common ground there is no longer cause for petty wrangling; that, in fact, we can leave this heated argument to the past as an evil resultant upon befogged minds, or minds partly inert and only partly used? If I am right, it remains to us, who once perhaps took pleasure in tripping up our neighbours, to use our best powers now to preserve and to create the material bones of poetry.

Fortune has given us the opportunity. In one of the towers most mediæval, most out of date, most lacking in the signs of progress—in a word, in the Saxon tower of St. Benedict's at Cambridge are six good bells, all just as they were cast, all but one just as they were rung by the 'father' of the art of bellringing. They hang motionless, and have so hung for too many years. The ringers of England, out of sentiment for their art, and not without sentiment for these very bells and for the tower and the cage in which they hang, desire again to draw music from these metal throats. The men and women who, out of sentiment for old buildings and old crafts, are members of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings, desire to hear again from this so English tower the sound of bells once rung aloud by Stedman. Here is common purpose; here is chance for common endeavour. Here is opportunity to give over quarrels. Let us work together for one end. And let us truly hope that in other places and on other occasions a like sentiment and a like sincerity of action may be present. For everywhere, where bells hung and may be rung from towers built in olden time, an honourable sentiment exists. There is no cause for shame in this, but rather cause for pride. In future let our common purposes be served by sanity and no excess; let us do nothing in the false name of progress, nor yet anything in the deceptive name of sentimentality, but with a wise appreciation of the attributes of life in this matter, and not without the proper consideration of a right economy, set about, as occasion arises, the service of bells, bell cages and bell towers. It is the whole 'being' of these that is important—not their looks alone, or their age alone, or their shape alone, or their sound alone, but some common whole, which in the person of a living man is called his soul.—I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

A. R. POWYS,
Secretary of the Society for the Protection of Ancient Buildings.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ITS RELATIONS WITH CENTRAL COUNCIL.

The Sussex County Association adopted the unusual procedure this year of holding their annual meeting in a town where there is no peal of bells. The gathering took place at Elfinsward, Haywards Heath, the residence of the Bishop of Lewes (the Rt. Rev. Hugh Hordern), a vice-president of the association, and the service was held in the chapel, the Bishop giving an interesting historical survey of bells, in the course of which he made particular reference to the old bells at the neighbouring villages of Lindfield, Cuckfield and Bolney, upon which the members had the opportunity of ringing later in the day.

At the annual business meeting, which preceded the service, the Master (Mr. J. Thornton Rickman) presided, and members were present from Aldrington, Balcombe, Battle, Billingshurst, Brighton (St. Peter's, St. Nicholas' and the Good Shepherd), Coleman's Hatch, Crawley, East Grinstead, Heathfield, Horsham, Lindfield, Lower Beeding, Shoreham, Upper Beeding and Warnham.

The report stated that the association wished to express its appreciation of the deep interest taken by the Bishop of Lewes in it and its work, and of his continued and valued support. The satisfactory financial position of a year ago had been still further improved: and the advantages which the members derived from this, both in allowances for rail fares and other expenses connected with the meetings compared favourably with those offered to its members by any other association. The question of certificate of membership had for some time past been under consideration by the committee, and it was hoped that the issue of a new certificate or a reissue of the old one might be possible. The work of the association went steadily forward, and the average attendance at district meetings had been satisfactorily maintained. While the present situation gave every ground for encouragement, they would welcome a still further increase of younger members, to whom the association must look for the carrying on of its work in the future. All should do their best to enlist new recruits and spare no pains to bring the association to the highest possible degree of efficiency. In conclusion, the report reminded the members that regular and punctual attendance re service ringing should take the first place in their activities.

The accounts showed that the balance in the general fund had been increased during the year from £128 5s. 8½d. to £145 8s. 1d., the total receipts having been £74 11s. 7d., and the expenditure £57 9s. 2½d. In addition there was in the reserve fund £50, and in the benevolent fund (from which grants amounting to £6 6s. had been made during the year) a balance of £72 2s. 4½d.

The report and accounts were approved.

'LOYALTY' RESOLUTION REJECTED.

The election of officers resulted as follow: Master, Mr. J. Thornton Rickman; hon. treasurer, Mr. J. Thornton Rickman: hon. general secretary, Mr. A. D. Stone, Brighton; hon. auditors, Messrs. W. C. Hart and F. C. J. Turner, Brighton; hon. peals secretary, Mr. Frank Bennett, Hove; Central Council representative, Mr. J. Thornton Rickman.

The Peals Secretary reported that the number of peals in 1930 was 78—an increase of 24 on the previous year.

The question of a certificate of membership was considered, and the Secretary reported that an effort was being made to discover the old plate. It was decided that a committee, consisting of Mr. F. B. Tompkins, of Chichester (an hon. trustee of funds), Mr. J. Thornton Rickman, and Mr. Stone should deal with the matter.

A communication from the Central Council was read suggesting that the following should be added to the rules of the association: 'This association be affiliated to the Central Council of Church Bellringers, and loyally abide by the rules and decisions thereof.'

The Chairman said the real issue lay in the last clause. To agree to that would be like signing a blank cheque. Several other members spoke against the addition, and it was decided, on the motion of Mr. J. Cripps, of Shoreham, seconded by Mr. Keith Hart, of Brighton, to reject it.

The meeting concluded with votes of thanks to Mr. J. Thornton Rickman, to Mr. R. J. Dawe (retiring auditor), and to Mr. Turner, who filled the breach.

Tea was enjoyed in the refectory, and in the evening the three eight-bell towers of Bolney, Cuckfield, and Lindfield were visited for ringing, the methods rung ranging from Grandsire Triples to Cambridge, Superlative, Bristol and London Surprise Major.

EASTWOOD'S NEW BAND

A new band of ringers has recently been formed at Eastwood Parish Church, near Rotherham, where the bells have been silent except on the occasions when visiting ringers have had the use of them. The belfry is now spick and span, and new ropes have been provided, for which the ringers have made themselves responsible.

On Saturday week, at the invitation of the band, a special meeting of the Sheffield and District Society was held at Eastwood. All the band were elected members of the society, and the Vicar and churchwardens were elected hon. members. Mr. Silrey (churchwarden), in the absence of the Vicar, who was ill, welcomed the visitors, and Mr. J. E. L. Cockey wished the new company every success. Mr. Colin Ryder thanked the ladies for preparing the splendid tea.

Ringing took place during the afternoon and evening.

YOUNG AMERICA TAKES UP RINGING.

ENTHUSIASM AT KENT SCHOOL.

NEW BELLS OPENED.

The installation of a ring of ten bells at Kent School, Connecticut, one of the public schools of the U.S.A., has led to great enthusiasm among the students. The bells are from the Whitechapel Foundry, and the donor, Mr. Frank G. Humphrey, stipulated that the art of ringing as practised in England should be taught. Mr. Isaac Attwater, of London, was appointed instructor, and as soon as the bells were in order after his arrival he lost no time in selecting the first material to work on. Sixty of the boys handed in their names and twelve were picked out, with the object of getting at least six who would be capable of ringing rounds by Easter, which was only one week ahead. The band was to be made up by Mr. Attwater and Mr. John Thomas, of the Foundry staff, who had been supervising the hanging of the bells.

The instructor had a real stiff week's work, but the youths of 16 to 18 years of age put their enthusiasm, mingled with curiosity, into it, with the result that, after practising with the clapper stays on at any time they could come up to the tower—and they kept Mr. Attwater busy—they were able to practise 'dummy' rounds on the Thursday and Friday evenings following the start, with half a dozen sore hands and three broken stays as casualties. The founders had sent reserve stays for all the bells, and as sore hands and blisters are part of a ringer's glory, the students were all in readiness on Easter Eve to ring at the close of the service, to usher in the Festival in real English style.

The boys came away from the service just before the finish of it, and rushed up into the belfry quite excited, some shaking at the knees and wondering what the result of their week's practice would sound like. As they had never heard these or any other bells in rounds, their feelings can, perhaps, be imagined. Mr. Attwater took the treble, and Mr. Thomas the tenor, and after giving instructions to the boys not to take any notice of the sound of the bells to begin with, but to put their whole mind on following each other by the ropes, as they had in 'dummy' practice, they started when the signal was given, and the bells were heard in rounds for the first time. Although there was room for improvement, the effort was a highly creditable one.

Since Easter the bells have been rung 'open' four half-hours a week, namely, on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday evenings, and Sunday morning, 9.30 to 10 p.m. At present the instructor is sticking to call changes on the back eight and front six until really good striking is obtained. Progress is being made every week. Seventeen of the students can now handle the bell allotted to them quite nicely, and twelve take part in the set changes. At any time in the day after 11 a.m. they come up to the belfry in ones and twos for handbell and 'dummy' practice, with some figuring thrown in for the enthusiasts, as several have already caught the 'disease.'

Plain courses of Grandsire Triples 'double handed' on handbells are now an everyday occurrence. With six more weeks to go before the summer recess begins, Mr. Attwater feels confident that when the boys come back in September they will get a real and progressive move on. The ages of the lads at the school are between 12 and 18 years, while the 17 ringers are between 16 and 18 years, but four of these will be leaving in June. The instructor naturally feels the need of a staid ringer or two to help to steady the practice on the tower bells, but he is training the most reliable ones to adapt themselves to any bell, for bell control is the chief weakness to be overcome before good striking can be attained.

The official opening of the bells took place on May 2nd, and was attended by Mr. A. A. Hughes, of the Whitechapel Foundry. Ringers from Groton and Boston were also present. Afterwards 'The Kent School Bellringers' Guild' was formed, and a letter of congratulation read from the Ancient Society of College Youths. A cable was received from Lord Rothermere, in which he said, 'My sincere congratulations to Father Sill, yourselves, and all at Kent School, and wishes for infinite pleasure from the ringing of the bells.'

CHANGE RINGING IN THREE WEEKS.

Learning to handle a bell at Grundisburgh during Holy Week, Master Christopher and Master Richard Round-Turner made such satisfactory progress that they were given a farewell practice at Burgh Church on Wednesday evening, April 22nd, and each was successful in scoring a touch of three courses of Bob Minor, in addition to ringing plain courses in the same method. They maintained good striking throughout. They are aged 15 and 13 years respectively, and are to be congratulated on their performance.

Their father, Admiral Round-Turner, was very well known as a ringer at Grundisburgh some twenty years ago, as was also the Rev. Harry Round-Turner, their uncle, and these young gentlemen seem to have inherited the art.

Having now returned to school at Sherborne, their progress at Yeovil will be watched with interest by those who know them.

The same evening 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor was rung by L. J. Lash 1, F. Crapnell 2, F. Clarke 3, J. Bennett, jun., 4, A. Grey (first 720 in the method) 5, G. Bennett (conductor) 6. Kent Treble Bob Minor, with C. W. Pipe taking part, was also rung.

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS, 1750-1788.

BY J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

V. THE NEW COMPANY.

When the split came in the College Youths' Society did the opposition form a new society? The question is important, because if they did the present Society of College Youths was founded not in 1637, but in 1756, nine years after the Cumberlands. Osborn says they did; and Lukis and Ellacombe accepted his conclusions and repeated them. It certainly does look as if it were so. A new band was formed, the majority of which were not College Youths at all. This new company did not meet the old Society; they had, after a little while, if not at first, their own headquarters, their own officers, and their own peal book. The 'Clavis' says twice distinctly that there were two societies of College Youths. Still more significant is the fact that after they had rung a peal of Bob Maximus in 1757, they entered it in their peal book as their 'first peal' (Note 7). And, indeed, it is not easy to see how they could have remained members of the old College Youths' Society.

In early days ringing societies were not like our modern associations, wide and rather loose organisations, which can include any number of independent bands. A society was a close community, consisting of one company only. Its life centred in the meeting room and was largely social as well as for ringing. At the meeting room they kept their property, transacted their business, made up their bands, and went forth to ring at different churches. They had no official connection with any particular church. Some towers were the close preserves of certain societies, some were open to all. It depended, no doubt, on the steeplekeeper. In the College Youths' book of rules, 1894, it is stated that the headquarters of the Society were held at St. Martin-in-the-Fields for about sixty years and were removed to St. Saviour's, Southwark, and then to St. Paul's. I suppose this was to make it look more respectable to modern eyes, but it is not true. The headquarters were 'The Barley Mow,' Salisbury Court, Fleet Street, then 'The Barn,' St. Martin's Lane, then a tavern in Winchester Street, Southwark, and then 'The Goose and Gridiron,' St. Paul's Churchyard. There is nothing whatever to the discredit of the old societies in this. They were frankly secular bodies, they did no service ringing, and the present idea that bell ringers are church workers was quite unknown. Each member of the society was in close personal touch with the rest and was bound to obey instructions when selected for any particular ringing or peal.

Here are some old rules:—

'Imprimis.—That this Society meet at the House of Mr. Hill, the Barn in Saint Martin's Lane, every Thursday evening between the hours of Seven and Eight o'Clock.'

'That the Society do not make it later than Nine o'Clock before they go up to ring.'

'That no Stranger be admitted into the Society without Leave first obtained from either Master or Stewards and, in case the Master and Stewards are not present, then a Majority of Voices from the sitting Members must be had before the Admission of such Stranger.'

'That on any Meeting Night the Society shall think proper to make an Appointment to ring a Peal in any Place in Town or Country, it is desired that no Member will promise to go before he has considered whether he can make good his Promise, a Disappointment of this Nature being the greatest Consequence. And if any Member violate this Rule, unless he can prove that he was indisposed, he must submit to be fined One Shilling to be Spent. It is Expected that this Rule be paid Attention to as no Method of Expulsion can be made use of for this Offence.'

It is true that there were members who lived in the country and could not and did not take any active part in the Society. Now and then there were whole bands in the country who were members. The Norwich band, for instance, in 1777 were all Cumberlands, and there were several College Youths at Twickenham, Isleworth and other places in the Thames Valley. But that was a different thing altogether to a rival band in the heart of London. A London ringer was a member so long as he belonged to the one band. If he went and joined another band he ceased automatically to be a member of the Society. The College Youths have now a rule 'that any member joining the Cumberland Society will cease to belong to this company.'

In the old time there was no such rule; it was unnecessary. No one dreamt that he could belong to two companies at the same time. But they had two stronger rules. One said 'that if any Member of this Society shall meet any other Society with the Intention of becoming a Member thereof, and should be rejected, such Member shall be excluded the Society unless upon his due Submission and acknowledging his Fault, the Society in this Case may think proper to ballot whether he shall continue in this Society a Member as before.' And the other enacted that if a member should revolt and join another society and afterwards want to come back he should not be allowed to do so until he had been balloted for and paid a double fee to the Beadle or Warner of the Society.

These are two of the 'Rules and Orders to be observed by the Ancient and Respectable Society of College Youths, 1735.' As they were in force when the split came, it is difficult to see how the seceders could remain College Youths. And there is this further difficulty that half at least, probably more than half, were Eastern Scholars. How could they be got into the Society, and how could new members be legally elected? In a few years' time there was not one member of the band who had ever been regularly elected by the original Society.

On the other hand, the new band called themselves College Youths, and everybody seems to have looked on them as College Youths. Osborn says they were known as the Junior Society of College Youths. It may be so. People would want some way of distinguishing them from the original—the 'ancient'—society. But I can find no trace of their being so called. On their peal boards and in their peal book they are the Society of College Youths without any qualification. What happened, I believe, was that when the split came they refused to be driven out of the Society and formed a band solely with the idea of getting good ringing and scoring peals. And then later on, more by force of circumstances than by deliberate intention, they assumed the usual organisation of an independent and separate society. Writing in a different connection Osborn says 'they never had any rules, but were guided by a verbal understanding between themselves alterable at any time according to circumstances.' They did not have a peal book until 1773.

NOTE 7.—This is the second peal in the second volume of the College Youths' peal book. There is nothing new about it being the 'first' peal, but the present entry is not original. Osborn had copied the original before it was destroyed. It is, of course, possible that he added the remark about it being the first peal, but not in the least likely. He was very careful to copy old records accurately, and if he had any remark to make he did it by a footnote and signed it 'E. J. O.'

MR. BLACKWELL'S GIFTS TO CIRENCESTER RINGERS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—When reading Mr. Trollope's interesting history of the College Youths, I noticed the name of Mr. Blackwell, of Ampney Park, Cirencester, mentioned. It may be of interest to your readers to know that the Cirencester ringers still have in their possession the following interesting articles presented to them by Mr. Blackwell: An old peal of handbells; a handsome oak chair with a bell carved on it; and a silver-mounted ram's horn drinking cup, which bears the following inscription on a silver plate:—

'Prosperity to the Cirencester Ringers. In tactum sileo percute dulce cano 1785.'

The first peal rung on the bells was a peal of Grandsire Cinques by members of the Ancient Society of College Youths on January 7th, 1767, conducted by William Underwood, and the band was evidently invited to come and ring this peal by Mr. Blackwell.

Mr. Blackwell died in 1785, the same year in which he presented the Cirencester ringers with drinking horn.—Yours faithfully,

Cirencester. F. J. LEWIS.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

At the meeting of the Western Division, at Redbourne, on Saturday, May 9th, more than twenty ringers were present from Berkhamsted, Tring, Flamstead, St. Albans, Hitchin, Harpenden, Hemel Hempstead and local band. The methods rung ranged from Grandsire Doubles to Cambridge Surprise Minor. A short service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. H. B. Berry), who afterwards very kindly entertained the visitors to tea, and presided at the business meeting which followed. Mr. H. Bishop deputised for Mr. J. Puplett, the district secretary, who was unable to attend through illness. Hemel Hempstead was selected as the place of next meeting in June, and a very hearty vote of thanks was expressed by Mr. W. Ayre to the Vicar for his great help towards the meeting.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

DISCUSSION ON REPRESENTED TOWERS.

A quarterly meeting of the Ely Archdeaconry was held at Soham on Saturday, when members and friends were present from Burwell, Cambridge, Cherryhinton, Dry Drayton, Fulbourne, Harlow, Keystone, Melbourn, Newmarket, Raunds, Royston, Rushden, Sawston, Stapleford, Trumpington and of the local band. Various methods were rung on eight and ten bells. A service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. P. F. Boughey, assisted by Rev. L. Mason. Mr. H. J. Hazel, A.R.C.O., was at the organ.

Mr. A. E. Austin, District Ringing Master, presided over the business meeting. Mr. E. Cawston, of Cherryhinton, was elected a member. It was decided to hold a by-meeting at Barrington on July 4th. The problem of unrepresented towers was discussed, and as a result it is hoped to hold fortnightly practices at Soham in order to help the local band and ringers from neighbouring towers to learn change ringing. The meeting closed with a very hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and for his warm welcome.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

EASTERN BRANCH AND THE STEDMAN TERCENTENARY.

The quarterly meeting of the Eastern Branch was held at Swineshead on Saturday, May 9th. Members were present from Algakirk, Benington, Boston, Butterwick, Bicker, Frampton, Leake, Sibsey, and the local band. A short service was conducted by the Vicar (Rev. C. J. Gurnhill). Afterwards tea was partaken of at the Griffin, when upwards of forty sat down.

The usual business meeting followed, the president (Rev. J. R. Trotter) taking the chair. Six new ringing members were duly elected, and Old Bolingbroke was selected as the place for holding the summer meeting.

The matter of the Stedman Tercentenary was brought forward by the secretary in accordance with the decision arrived at at the annual meeting of the Guild in Lincoln in April last. It was unanimously decided to subscribe £3 3s. to fund out of the general funds of the branch.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and for conducting the service concluded the business. The tower was again visited, and ringing in various standard methods kept up until close upon 9 p.m. Friends from the Elloe Deaneries and Southern Branches were present during the afternoon and evening.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the Rochdale Branch was held at St. Thomas' Church, Leesfield, Oldham, on Saturday, April 25th. Members were present from Todmorden, Milnrow, Middleton, Balderstone, Hamer, Friezland and Oldham, the total attendance being 25.

A service was conducted by the Vicar, after which a tablet commemorating a peal of Bob Major rung by the local band was unveiled. Mr. T. K. Driver presided at the business meeting. Ringing then continued until 8.30 p.m., the methods rung during the day including Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob and Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major.

RECORD PEAL ATTEMPT.

On Saturday, June 6th, an attempt will be made at Warnham, Sussex, under the auspices of the Sussex County Association for a record peal of 14,144 London Surprise Major, starting at 10.30 a.m.

The present record length in the method is 14,112.

METHOD NO. 67.

FALSE COMPOSITIONS.

Mr. George Baker writes that the peals in Treble Bob Method No. 67, which were given by him in the article published in our issue of May 15th, are false. Any peal of Treble Bob Major, with tenors together, is true for the method, but in getting out the figures of the peals specially arranged for the article, Mr. Baker overlooked a fundamental point in the composition of peals in this class of method.

HOW BREAGE GOT 'ONE GREATE BELL.'

CORNISH PARISH AFRAID OF 'IDLENESS AND EXPENCE.'

The following interesting extract is from a booklet now being printed, 'Breage in the 18th Century,' by Canon G. H. Doble, of Wendron, Cornwall. Breage is a coast parish in West Cornwall, formerly famous for smuggling and wrecking:—

'In 1770 there is an entry which must be, I should think, almost unique in the history of our ancient parish churches. "At a publick Vestry held this 28th of June after due Notice being given on the Occasion . . . Unanimsly agreed—that in Consideration of the Parish being at this time Burdend with a Numerous poor & of the Idleness & Expence which a sett of Bells would probably introduce among the Parishioners—application be forthwith made by the Church Wardens to the Houble. & Right Revd. the Lord Bishop of this Diocese that he will grant a faculty for Casting the three present Bells into one greate Bell to be errected in the Tower of the Church of Breage. It is farther unanimsly agreed that the present Church Wardens do provide a large Clock to be errected in the uper parte of the saud Tower to strike on the said great Bell with two handsome Dyall plates, one on the north & the other on the south side of the said Tower as witness our hands—E. Marshall Vicr." (& 10 others).

'It is hard to see how the possession of 3 bells could occasion very much "Idleness & Expence" in the parish of Breage! (This huge bell was melted down in 1928 and a peal of six, cast by Gillett and Johnston, hung in the tower.)'

AN OLD RINGER'S QUAINT WILL.

DIRECTIONS FOR FUNERAL CHANGES.

The 'Hertfordshire Mercury' has published the following copy of the quaint will, dated 1809, of John Carrington, a farmer who died in 1810, aged 84, and was buried at Tewin churchyard. He is described as High Constable for the Hundred of Cashio and Assessor and Collector of Taxes for the Parish of Bramfield, and it is stated that his funeral was attended by over one thousand persons:—

'When shall it please God to call me Home let me not be laid out immediately on cold boards but lye in the bead, and James Lawrance or George Hafier to make coffin either as shall be thought, of no plate, no nailes, but 6 or 8 handles and good letters J*C ag. 84th year no date and not to be buried under 8 days and to digg down till come to the side of my Dame's coffin, and no lower, and set my coffin on the edge of hers and no lower; no hatbands nor gloves for nobody, except my children choose to provide for themselves and nobody to be asked, but hope all friends and neighbours will come and be made welcome, and to be at church about 3 o'clock afternoon (2 winter) to be carried on the bier, eight persons to be appointed to carry at 2s. 6d. each to have a pall, but nobody appointed to hold up, but if anyone choose so be it. As I have been used to Sing and Ring at Tewin Church give Mr. Pridmore or Singers to sing a psalm at funeral if they choose £10 and Ringers £10 to ring thus

1 2 3 4 5 2 4 1 3 5
O Lord have mer-sey on us when we dye
2 holepools each 2 holepools each
4 2 3 1 5
that we hap-py be
2 holepools each

and to raise the bells singly and to sink them singly without jangling for one hour.

'To be buried in my shirt and cap no shrowd and no wiue except curant or raison wine for the women. If my beer is not good, have plenty from Ware and take care of the poor children as been buried in linen 5s. Shall of bread you will take care be given to the poor of Bramfield at 2 different times and these poor widows if living I leeve them 2s. 6d. each

Bramfield	Tewin
Dame Monk H.	Wid. Chalkley
Wid. Molds B.	,, Sewill
,, Mills	Sall Welch
,, Adams	John Squier and his wife
,, North and her daughter Sake	

30 quarts of beer to the poor in Tewin Workhouse at 3 different times from sons.'

NOTICES.

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

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE of 'THE RINGING WORLD,' WOKING, SURREY.

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

LADIES' GUILD.—Southern District. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Cranleigh on May 30th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting in Church Hut. All welcome. — H. F. Mills, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Tyldesley on Saturday, May 30th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m. —Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District. — A meeting will be held at Leigh, near Reigate, on Saturday, May 30th. Tower open at 3. Service at 5. Tea and business to follow. — A. J. Bull, Hon. Sec., Jesmond, Queen's Road, Horley, Surrey.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District. —The next meeting will be held at Beddington on Saturday, May 30th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Tea at the White Post Tea Rooms at 5 p.m., followed by business meeting. All ringers are heartily welcome.—D. Cooper, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Harrison's Rise, Croydon.

HASTINGS AND DISTRICT GUILD. — The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Bexhill, on Saturday, May 30th. Tower open at 3 p.m.—A. E. Amies, Hon. Sec., 4, Stockleigh Road, St. Leonards-on-Sea.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District. — Knebworth, Saturday, May 30th. Bells (8) ready at 3 p.m. Tea and business meeting at Lytton Arms at 5 p.m. Kindly do your best to make the meeting a success. — Don Mears, Hon. Dis. Sec., Offley, Hitchin.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD. — Northern District.—The next meeting will be on Saturday, May 30th. Ringing at St. Dunstan-in-the-East 3 till 5 and St. Magnus 7 till 9. Tea at Lyons.—J. G. A. Prior, Hon. Dis. Sec., 77, Anthony Street, St. George's, E.1.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Peak District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Dore on Saturday, May 30th. Christ Church, 8 bells (tenor 11¼ cwt.) available afternoon and evening. Tea will be arranged provided not less than 12 applications are received by the undersigned not later than May 29th. Subscriptions due. Reports ready. Visitors welcome.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec., Leamwood, Dore, near Sheffield.

MONK'S KIRBY, WARWICKSHIRE.—A combined practice will be held at Monk's Kirby on May 30th. Bells available 3.30. It is hoped a good number will turn up. All ringers welcome.—T. Pittham.

NOTTINGHAM SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS (Established 1672).—A meeting of tht above will be held at Orston on Saturday, May 30th. Tower open 3 p.m. Tea at nominal charge. Special business meeting after tea. Members, please try and attend.—F. Blood, Hon. Sec., 91, Dame Agnes Street, Nottingham.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Bridgnorth Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Much Wenlock on Saturday, May 30th. Ringing at 3 p.m. (8 bells). Service at 4.30. Tea at 5 followed by business meeting.—W. Hayward, Hon. Sec., 21, North Gate, Bridgnorth.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Guiseley on Saturday, May 30th. Usual arrangements.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Armley, Leeds.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Tempsford on Saturday, May 30th. Bells (6) available at 2.30. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome. A good company is requested. — C. J. Ball, Hon. Dis. Sec., 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Western Division. — A quarterly meeting will be held at Rudgwick on Saturday, May 30th. Bells available from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock.—A. W. Groves, Amherst, Dominion Road, Worthing.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. —Bath Branch. — A special meeting will be held at Keynsham on Saturday, May 30th. Bells (8) 3. Service 4.30. Tea to follow. — T. Grant, Branch Sec., Swainswick, Bath.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—The next practice has been arranged at Braywood (5 bells) on Saturday, May 30th, at 3.30 p.m. —A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — The committee meeting will be held in the Vestry of St. Michael's, Macclesfield, on Saturday, May 30th, at 4 p.m. Tea will be supplied at a cost of about 2s. per head.—J. C. E. Simpson, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at *St. Paul's Cathedral on June 2nd and 30th, St. Magnus' on the 4th and 18th, Southwark Cathedral on the 11th, *St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 16th, St. Andrew's, Holborn, on the 25th; all at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — Next monthly meeting will take place at Bolsover (bells 8) on Saturday, June 6th. The Cup Contest will also take place at this meeting. Entries for Cup Contest should reach me not later than Thursday, June 4th. For tea notify without fail Mr. J. Flint, 45, Oxcroft Lane, Bolsover. — M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 221, Hanover Street, Sheffield.

PRYCE TAYLOR MEMORIAL, LOUGHBOROUGH. — The Bishop of Leicester will dedicate the Memorial Screen at the Parish Church on Saturday, June 6th, at 3 p.m. The rings of ten bells of the Parish Church and the bell foundry tower will be at the disposal of visitors, and, by kind permission of the Rev. Canon Briggs, the Rectory Grounds will be open. Tea will be provided in the Fearon Hall for those who apply for tickets by Thursday, June 4th, to Mr. D. S. Collins, 145, Paget Street, Loughborough.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—A by-meeting will be held at Lyminge on Saturday, June 6th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Will all those intending to be present please notify Mr. Alec. Webb, 2, Kimberley Terrace, Lyminge, before Thursday, June 4th?—Percy W. Smith, Hon. Dis. Sec.

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—A ringing meeting will be held at Cuckfield on Saturday, June 6th. Tower opened 3 p.m. Will all those requiring tea kindly notify me not later than Wednesday, June 3rd? All ringers welcome.—G. Lambert, Drummond Hay, East Grinstead.

MIDDLESEX AND HERTFORD ASSOCIATIONS. —A joint meeting of these associations will be held at Barnet on Saturday, June 6th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Tea at 5 (new caterers), 1s. each. Please advise one of the undersigned by June 3rd. All members and friends of these associations heartily welcomed.—C. T. Coles, 21, Vincent Road, E.4, W. Nash, North Mimms, Hatfield, Hon. Secs.

SIBLE HEDINGHAM. — A monthly practice for Double Norwich and Surprise methods will be held. All ringers invited, first practice commencing at 6.30 p.m., June 6th, and continuing until further notice. — B. W. Pettitt, Hon. Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch.—The annual festival of the above branch will be held at Shenley on Saturday, June 6th. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. All ringing visitors heartily welcomed. Names for tea by June 2nd.—Walter Sear, 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—Exeter Branch.—A meeting will be held at Stoke Canon on June 6th. Service 4.30. Tea at 5, 1s. each. Bands and visitors please notify me by May 29th.—W. H. Howe, Hon. Sec., 8, Courtenay Road, St. Thomas, Exeter.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Tarleton on Saturday, June 6th. Bells available from 2.30.—Fred Rigby, Hon. Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Kingswinford on Saturday, June 6th. Bells available from 3. Service 4.30. Business meeting afterwards. — Herbert Sheppard, 113, Himley Road, Dudley.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — The dedication of the new Church of SS. James and Basil, Fenham, Newcastle, is fixed for June 6th, and the bells will be opened by a representative band of the association. The Rev. S. Redman, Vicar, invites the members generally on Saturday, June 20th. Bells available from 2.30 to 4.30 and 6 to 8.30. Tea will be provided at St. Monica's Church Hall at 5 o'clock for whose only who advise me before Tuesday, June 16th.—G. S. Taylor, Sec., 149, St. Leonard Street, Sunderland.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wirral Branch.—A meeting will be held at Capenhurst (6 bells), on Saturday, June 6th. Service at 5.30 p.m. Tea and meeting afterwards. Will those requiring tea please let me know? —Harry S. Brocklebank, Hon. Sec., 3, Ridley Street, Birkenhead.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch. —The monthly meeting will be held at West Lavington on Saturday, June 6th. Bells (6) ready 3 p.m. Guild service 4.40. Tea 5. Short business meeting follows tea. All ringers welcome.—F. Green, Branch Sec., 53, Avon Road, Devizes.

NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION. —A meeting will be held at Madeley on Saturday, June 6th. Tea will be provided for all who notify me on or before June 3rd.—C. S. Ryles, Hon. Sec., 72, Station Road, Milton, Stoke-on-Trent.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cirencester Branch. — A meeting will be held at Northleach on Saturday, June 6th. Bells open at 3.30. Tea, by kind invitation of the Vicar, 5 o'clock. Service 6 o'clock. Will those who intend being present let me know by June 2nd and greatly oblige?—F. J. Lewis, Branch Hon. Sec., 67, Chester Street, Cirencester, Glos.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Eastern District.—The spring meeting will be held at Benington on June 6th. The bells will be open during the afternoon and evening. Tea will be given by the Rector. Business meeting after.—W. H. Lawrence, Hon. Dis. Sec., Little Munden, Herts.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. — Northern Branch. —The annual meeting will be held at Sleaford on Saturday, June 6th. Service 4.30. Tea, in the Church Room, 5 p.m. (resident members free, non-members 1s. 6d.) for those who notify Mr. R. Scott, Westlea House, Westgate, Sleaford, by the Wednesday previous. Bells (8) available 2.30 to 4.30 and 6.30 to 9 p.m. Welcome to all. —F. S. W. Butler, Hon. Sec., 43, Etherington Street, Gainsborough.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—Next meeting at Westerleigh, June 6th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Please note alteration of date from May 30th, as this coincides with the annual outing of the St. Stephen's Guild of Ringers.—Harry Bennett, Branch Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.— The dedication of the two new bells at Isleworth, by the Bishop of Kensington, will take place on Saturday, June 13th. Service at 3.30. It is hoped that members and all ringing friends from other societies will endeavour to be present on this auspicious occasion. A hearty welcome to all. Tea will be arranged in the Church Hall about 5.30 for those requiring same at 1s. Please send card by June 10th. Ringing after tea.—Wm. H. Hollier, Hon. Sec. to the Bell Fund, 29, Duke Road, W.4.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division. — A meeting will be held at Burnham-on-Crouch on Saturday, June 13th. Bells (6) 2.30. Service in church and dedication of peal board at 4.30. Tea (1s. per head) at the Railway Hotel at 5.15. Will all those who require tea please let me know by Wednesday, June 10th. Towers open for ringers during the afternoon and evening: Southminster (6), Tillingham (6) and Bradwell-on-Lea (5). Will members please turn up in good numbers and help to make this meeting a success. — A. E. Coombes, Hon. Sec., 8, Council Houses, Galleywood, Chelmsford.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Western Division. — The next meeting will take place at Hemel Hempstead on Saturday, June 13th. Bells ready at 3 p.m., followed by a short service. Tea and meeting. All ringers heartily welcomed. I trust this meeting will be as well attended as it was last year.—C. Puplett, Hon. Sec., Hillock Villa, Aylesbury Road, Tring.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. —The next branch meeting will be held at St. Philip's Church, Nelson, on Saturday, June 13th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Everybody welcome.—F. Hindle, Hon. Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

THE ANNUAL JOINT MEETING of the Societies in the Southern Area of the Yorkshire Association will be held at Whiston, near Rotherham, on Saturday, June 13th. Bells (8) available from 1 o'clock. Tea, at 5 o'clock, at a moderate charge. Will those requiring tea please notify Mr. F. Roddis, Revill Villa, Whiston, near Rotherham, by Friday, the 12th? Buses leave Gas Works Offices, Frederick Street, Rotherham, every 35 minutes from 2.20 p.m. and every 15 minutes after 5.30 p.m. — F. Clark, Hon. Sec., 56, Broughton Avenue, Doncaster.

PETERBOROUGH GUILD. — Towcester Branch. — The annual festival will be held on Saturday, June 13th, at Wicken, when the Lord Bishop of the Diocese will dedicate the bells. 11.30 a.m.: Service and dedication of the bells. 1 p.m.: Lunch (2s. to members of the branch, 2s. 6d. to other ringers). 5 p.m.: Tea (no charge to members of the branch; 1s. to other ringers). Ringers from other districts who wish to have lunch or tea must send their names to the Secretary (Rev. R. Howes, Cold Higham Rectory, Towcester), by June 9th.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—A meeting will be held at East Ardsley on Saturday, June 13th. The bells of St. Michael's will be available from 2.30 p.m. Tea will be provided at a charge of 1s. 6d. per head to all those who send in their names to Mr. E. Watson, 56, Bradford Road, East Ardsley, near Wakefield, not later than Thursday, June 11th.—F. Hutchinson, Dis. Sec.

LYDNEY SALMON SUPPER.—By special request, it has been decided to 'resurrect' the once popular event, and to please the crowd it has been decided to invite those who are interested to attend on Saturday, June 20th, at the Swan Hotel. Will all ringers who intend having supper kindly let me know by June 16th, not later? Price, 2s. 6d. per head. — Oliver Thomas, Hon. Sec., 44, Newerne Street, Lydney, Glos.

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SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

BUCKINGHAM.—For evening service, on Empire Day, May 24th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): F. Pateman 1, L. Smith 2, H. Ridgway 3, F. Walton 4, H. Cashmore 5, T. Roberts (conductor) 6, A. J. Green 7, F. Case 8.

TOTTENHAM.—At All Hallows', on Whit Sunday, May 24th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: Mrs. E. H. King 1, E. H. King 2, W. Dickinson 3, W. J. Ellis (conductor) 4, H. W. H. Strickland 5, W. Bowden 6, H. Ellis 7, E. A. Hull 8.

NORTHAMPTON.—At St. Peter's Church, for evensong, on Whit Sunday, May 24th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes) in 42 mins.: F. Hopper 1, H. Hoare 2, A. Slade 3, W. H. Austin 4, W. J. Dove 5, W. Sturgess 6, T. E. Sibley (conductor) 7, J. Wilkins 8.

FARNHAM, SURREY.—On Sunday, May 24th, at St. Andrew's Church, for morning service, and in commemoration of Empire Day, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes) in 48 mins.: H. Burmingham 1, J. Read 2, C. Edwards 3, J. Beagley (first quarter in the method) 4, C. Wells (first quarter-peal as conductor) 5, J. W. Wells 6, R. Hasted 7, A. E. King 8.

NORTH CADBURY, SOMERSET.—At St. Michael's Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles for Sunday morning service, May 24th (tenor 19 cwt. 1 qr.), in 40 mins.: W. Laver 1, L. Davis 2, J. Laver 3, S. Laver 4, W. Osborn (conductor) 5, J. Kempster 6. This is the first attempt by the band, who have lately learned the art of change ringing.

HEADINGTON, OXON.—At St. Andrew's Parish Church for evensong, on Whit Sunday, 720 changes of Grandsire Doubles in 35 mins.: W. Bock 1, F. Beckett 2, C. F. Wigg (Keble) 3, R. Post (conductor) 4, T. S. Williams (Keble) 5, G. Horwood 6.

PLYMOUTH.—At St. Andrew's Church for evening service, on Whit Sunday, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,259 changes) in 52 mins.: Charles Holmes 1, J. Gluyas 2, Fred Myers 3, Tom Myers 4, Will Myers 5, Alf Mitchelmore 6, Will Hamlyn 7, Sid O'Shaughnessy 8, G. Harry Myers (conductor) 9, George Marshall 10.

PLYMOUTH, DEVON.—At Emmanuel Church, on Whit Sunday, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples in 44 mins.: J. Woodley 1, J. E. Lilley 2, W. G. Hiscott 3, G. Godard 4, W. J. Rundle 5, W. J. Richards 6, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 7, S. Symons 8. Also for evening service, in 43 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: G. Line 1, C. R. Lilley (conductor) 2, G. Godard 3, J. E. Lilley 4, R. J. Baldry 5, A. Triggs 6, J. Woodley 7, F. Baldry 8.

LITTLE MUNDEN.—On Sunday, May 17th, for morning service, 720 Cambridge Surprise: W. Williams 1, S. Carter (conductor) 2, J. Williams 3, A. Phillips 4, A. Woolston 5, W. H. Lawrence 6. For evening service, 720 Woodbine Treble Bob: W. Williams 1, J. Williams 2, S. Head 3, W. H. Lawrence 4, A. Phillips 5, S. Carter (conductor) 6.

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