

THE RINGING WORLD

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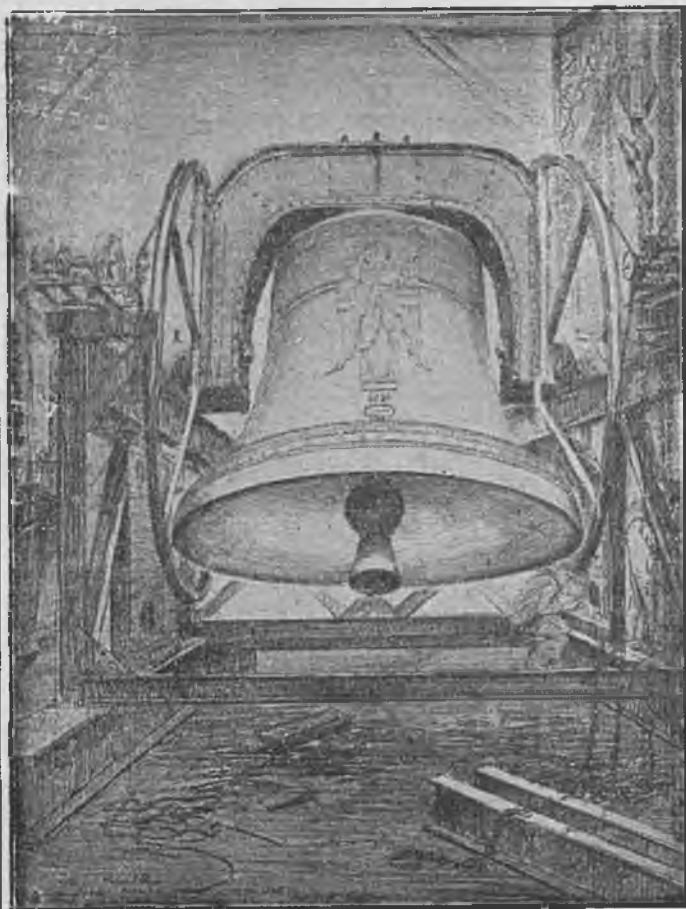
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HENRY LAW JAMES.

Another of the brilliant coterie of men of a fast disappearing generation has been called home. Henry Law James, priest, one of the men who have led the thought of the Exercise and influenced the development of the art of ringing for something like forty years, has been gathered to his fathers. His death has come with work still uncompleted, but he has given to ringing the benefit of his great ability in no unsparing measure. There is probably no one with a greater knowledge of the deeper problems of the science than he had. They had been his study for nearly half a century; he revelled in them, and his mathematical mind enabled him to plumb many depths which defied others less gifted. There was no greater authority than he upon method construction and extension, and he, with others, has left a practical legacy to the Exercise in the 'Collections of Methods' which have been published by the Central Council.

He has been one of the greatest composers that the Exercise has ever had; not that he produced peals in large numbers. His claim is based on other grounds. He did not compose merely for the sake of 'getting' peals; had he done so he could doubtless have produced them by hundreds in all the methods in which this is possible. Like his distinguished contemporary, the late Rev. C. D. P. Davies, his serious work was devoted to some specific end, to obtaining peals with new or hitherto undeveloped properties; or to new features of composition. One of his greatest contributions to this phase of ringing was, perhaps, his exploration of Minor, which made method 'splicing' possible. He was the first to show the manner in which a number of Minor methods could be joined up into true extents and by his peal in the four best known Surprise Major methods he extended the scope of 'spliced' ringing into a field hitherto unapproached.

There was originality in nearly all that he did — as there is with men of real genius. Not all of his opinions met with popular favour, and some of the views which he put forward were definitely 'turned down' by the Exercise, such, for instance, as the assertion which he made some years ago that a peal of real Stedman Triples, Caters or Cinques had not yet been rung. He used to describe the peals in this method which he himself had taken part in as in the 'Norwich variation,' and while in later years he let the subject drop, he nevertheless, championed it with considerable zeal in the days when he was endeavouring to convert the Exercise to his point of view. He was always dogmatic and unbending in his opinions, and whenever they clashed with conflicting

(Continued on page 98.)

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ideas, he was forceful and, to waverers, convincing in argument. But these occasional differences only accentuated his independence of thought and were typical of the originality of effort which marked his work for the Exercise. To his labours for the cause of ringing in other directions reference is made elsewhere, but this much must be said here that, particularly in his younger days and before failing health laid a restraining hand upon him, he stimulated the practical side of ringing wherever he went. In Gloucester, at Cambridge and in Lincolnshire he did more than useful work for the art. The death of Henry Law James is a severe blow to the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, to the Central Council, of which he was a distinguished member, and to the Exercise at large, but the results of his labours will live on.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, February 3, 1932, in Three Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;
Tenor 32 cwt.

ERNEST J. BUTLER 7	JOHN ARMSTRONG 7
CHARLES T. COLS 2	JAMES BENNETT 8
GEORGE R. PYE 3	JOHN T. KENTISH 9
MRS. EDITH K. FLETCHER ... 4	GEORGE W. FLETCHER ... 10
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 5	WILLIAM PYE 11
JOHN H. CRAMPION 6	EDWARD P. DUFFIELD ... Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by CHARLES T. COLES.

TEN BELL PEALS

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 30, 1932, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, POPLAR.

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 25 cwt.

HORACE BELCHER Treble	EDWIN F. PIKE 6
WILLIAM H. HEWETT 2	CHARLES W. GRIMWOOD ... 7
RONALD BULLEN 3	JOHN T. KENTISH 8
FREDERICK DIGBY 4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS 9
JAMES E. DAVIS 5	REUBEN SANDERS Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by W. H. HEWETT.

First peal of Cambridge Royal on the bells. This composition is now rung for the first time.

LONDON.

THE ST. CLEMENT YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 6, 1932, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CLEMENT DANES, STRAND.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 6003 CHANGES;
Tenor 24 cwt.

MISS DORIS M. BRYANT ... Treble	JOSEPH S. HAWKINS 6
WILLIAM S. LANGDON 2	THOMAS LANGDON 7
MAJOR J. H. B. HESSE 3	ALFRED B. PECK 8
HARRY R. PASMORE 4	HERBERT LANGDON 9
ROBERT W. GREEN 5	FRANCIS W. H. SERGISON ... Tenor

Composed by HENRY G. MILES. Conducted by H. LANGDON.

Rung to celebrate the silver wedding of the Rector, the Rev. W. Pennington Bickford, M.A., and Mrs. Pennington Bickford.

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DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

**SURFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On Saturday, February 6, 1932 in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,
At the Church of St. Lawrence,

**A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 12 cwt. 9 lb.**

GEORGE LADD 2	HORACE M. DAY 6
RUPERT RICHARDSON 2	MRS. RUPERT RICHARDSON 7
CHARLES MCGOINNESS 3	JOHN WALDEN 8
WILLIAM G. THORPE 4	FREDERICK W. STOKES 9
ARTHUR I. HOLMES 5	JOHN A. FREEMAN Tenor

Composed by H. J. TUCKER. Conducted by RUPERT RICHARDSON
Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of deepest respect to the Rev. H. Law James, who was interred at Surfleet on the above date.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

**CHADDESLEY CORBETT, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**

On Saturday, January 23, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
At the Church of St. Cassian,

**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 6024 CHANGES;
REVERSE VARIATION OF PARKER'S. Tenor 16 cwt. 23 lb.**

FRANK LAWRENCE 2	HAROLD F. MARTIN 5
ARTHUR J. MARTIN 2	WILLIAM RANFORD 6
DENIS R. MORRIS 3	CYRIL TANSSELL 7
SIDNEY T. HOLT 4	CHARLES CAMM Tenor

Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

**RATBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**

On Saturday, January 23, 1932, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
At the Church of SS. Philip and James,

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 10 cwt.**

G. E. PRIESTNALL 2	J. H. SPENCER 5
C. ALLSOP 2	C. A. PRIESTNALL 6
E. T. GARDINER 3	H. B. BOWLEY 7
W. BALL 4	P. INGRAM Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by C. ALLSOP.

First peal on the bells since they were augmented on December 5th, 1931. First peal on eight bells by all except ringers of 2nd and 7th, and rung at the first attempt. All are local ringers, except the conductor, who is an ex-member of the band.

**DRIGHLINGTON, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION**

On Saturday, January 23, 1932, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
At the Church of St. Paul,

**A PEAL OF SPLICED TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
KILLMARSH VARIATION. Tenor 15½ cwt.**

VERNEY BAIRSTOW 2	WILLIE PROCTOR 5
*WILLIAM H. SENIOR 2	ARTHUR BAIRSTOW 6
JOHN WINDLE 3	*THOMAS W. STRANGWAYS 7
*HARRY MARSDEN 4	WILLIAM AMBLER Tenor

Composed by CHARLES SEVERN. Conducted by Wm. AMBLER.

* First peal in Spliced methods.

**DUNMOW, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.**

On Saturday, January 23, 1932, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

**A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 21½ cwt. in E.**

JOSEPH JENNINGS 2	WALTER SMITH 5
*FRANK HARRINGTON 2	ERNEST TOWNSEND 6
FREDERICK RIDGEWELL 3	ARTHUR SAUNDERS 7
ALBERT WIFFEN 4	WALTER ARNOLD Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by W. ARNOLD.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor.

SHIRLEY, WARWICKSHIRE.—On Saturday, January 23rd, at the Parish Church, in 45 mins., a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes): *T. Abbotts 1, E. C. Shepherd (conductor) 2, Miss F. Foster 3, *C. Blizzard 4, A. Morris 5, *W. Beach 6. * First quarter-peal.

CHESTER-LE-STREET, CO. DURHAM.

THE DURHAM & NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 23, 1932, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,
At the Church SS. Mary and Cuthbert,

**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
WASHBROOK'S VARIATION OF MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 21 cwt.**

FREDERICK SHERATON 2	RICHARD A. GOFTON 5
JOHN ANDERSON 2	ADAM DEAS 6
WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON 3	THOMAS H. REEVES 7
JOSEPH E. KEEN 4	WILLIAM H. BARBER Tenor

Conducted by Wm. H. BARBER.

**EARL SHILTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
(HINCKLEY DISTRICT.)**

On Saturday, January 30, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
At the Church of SS. Simon and Jude,

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 12 cwt.**

FRANCIS R. DEACON 2	ERNEST E. PICKERING 5
ALFRED BALLARD 2	THOMAS H. WRIGHT 6
HECTOR A. KNIGHTS 3	PERCIVAL A. ALDHAM 7
HERRICK B. BOWLEY 4	GEORGE A. NEWTON Tenor

Composed by W. H. INGLESANT. Conducted by G. A. NEWTON.
Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to Mrs. Morison, Mrs. Colver and Mr. Charles Thompson (grandfather of the conductor), three members of the church, who were interred during the week previous to the peal.

**LONG CRENDON, WILTS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On Saturday, January 30, 1932, in Three Hours,
At the Church of St. Mary,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.**

GEORGE HOLFIELD, JUN. 2	REV. C. W. O. JENKYN 5
MISS STELLA DAVIS 2	WALTER F. JUDGE 6
FRANCIS E. TAYLOR 3	RICHARD T. HIBBERT 7
MISS PAT HOLLOWAY 4	RICHARD WHITE Tenor

Conducted by WALTER F. JUDGE.

First peal on the bells since their rehanging by Mr. R. White, their 'go' being all that can be desired.

DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 30, 1932, in Three Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,
At the Cathedral,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 30 cwt.**

*ERNEST L. ALLISON 2	ROLAND PARK 5
GEORGE W. PARK 2	NORMAN PARK 6
†JAMES R. TEMPLE 3	FREDERICK SHERATON 7
‡CHARLES F. VASEY 4	ERNEST E. FERRY Tenor

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by E. E. FERRY.
* First peal and first attempt. † First peal on eight bells. ‡ First peal in the method. First in the method on the bells. The ringers of the treble, 3rd and 4th are Cathedral ringers.

**MAIDENHEAD, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(EAST BERKS AND SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)**

On Saturday, January 30, 1932, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
At the Parish Church of All Saints, Boyne Hill,

**A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 15½ cwt.**

*THOMAS J. FOWLER 2	JESSE ELDRIDGE 5
WILLIAM H. FUSSELL 2	WILLIAM H. WALKER 6
WILLIAM HENLEY 3	GEORGE MARTIN 7
THOMAS S. GOODCHILD 4	HARRY WINGROVE Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by GEORGE MARTIN.
* First peal of London. By kind consent of the Vicar, the attempt was arranged by Mr. Arthur Martin, who was unable to take part in it owing to influenza.

BANBURY, OXON.—On Wednesday, January 20th, at St. Mary's, as a birthday compliment to the captain of the band, Mr. F. Baldwin, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: W. Watson 1, W. Tandy 2, F. Baldwin 3, E. Pearson 4, T. Impoy 5, F. Selwyn 6, H. Inip (conductor) 7, W. Aston 8.

MOORSIDE, OLDHAM.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(OLDHAM SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, January 30, 1932, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

*GEORGE BARLOW Treble	JAMES LEES 5
OGDEN MOORES 2	WALTER E. HOWARTH 6
ERNEST MOORES 3	HERBERT BARLOW 7
SYDNEY GOULDEN 4	VERNON SYMES Tenor

Composed by E. FRANCIS. Conducted by VERNON SYMES.

* First peal in the method. First peal as conductor in this method. A compliment to Mr. E. B. Shaw, who, at the age of 72 years, has just retired from active ringing.

DEANE, BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 30, 1932, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 12½ cwt.

WILFRED HALLIWELL Treble	WILLIAM HORAN 5
CHRISTOPHER GUDGEON 2	HERBERT DAVENPORT 6
THOMAS WALLWORE 3	TITUS BARLOW 7
ROBERT WALLWORK 4	THOMAS B. WORSLEY Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by THOS. B. WORSLEY

BRAUGHING, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 30, 1932, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 19 cwt.

CHALLIS F. WINNEY Treble	JOSEPH LADLEY 5
MADRICE N. HAINES 2	*JOHN WELCH 6
SIDNEY CARTER 3	REGINALD T. NEWMAN 7
BARNARD PATMORE 4	WILLIAM K. NORTH Tenor

Conducted by C. F. WINNEY.

* First peal of Stedman.

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 30, 1932, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor 14½ cwt.

*SAMUEL THOMPSON Treble	HAROLD V. COOPER 5
*SIDNEY G. THOMPSON 2	HECTOR BIRD 6
GEORGE E. FEARN 3	CLIFFORD SKIDMORE 7
JOHN BASS 4	JOHN LLOYD Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by C. SKIDMORE.

* First peal in the method and first attempt.

HALLOW, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(WESTERN BRANCH.)

On Sunday, January 31, 1932, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PHILIP AND JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 21½ cwt.

*ALBERT H. TYLER Treble	LEONARD CLAY 5
CHARLES G. BOWKETT 2	*FREDERICK W. GRIFFITHS 6
*PERCY BLISSETT 3	*THOMAS G. GREEN 7
SIDNEY T. HOLT 4	*FREDERICK C. PUGH Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS G. GREEN.

* First peal and first attempt. Rung as the quarterly peal for the Western Branch. All except the ringer of the 4th are regular Sunday service ringers at this church.

CHESTER.—At the Church of St. Mary-within-the-Wall, a quarter-peal of Superlative Surprise Major (1,248 changes): W. Thomas 1, G. R. Jones 2, R. Sperring 3, H. W. Wilde 4, J. Swindley 5, P. Swindley 6, J. Morgan 7, S. Jones, jun., 8. First touch in the method for ringers of 1, 5, 6 and 8.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, February 2, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, WILLESDEN,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt.

HARRY KILBY Treble	THOMAS COLLINS 5
ALBERT W. COLES 2	*ALFRED J. HOUSE 6
GEORGE M. KILBY 3	JAMES BENNETT 7
*JOHN H. BOHAM 4	†ALICK CUTLER Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by J. BENNETT.

* First peal of Major. † First peal of Bob Major.

CHURCH, LANC.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 2, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

JOHNSON'S VARIATION OF MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 14½ cwt.

*JAMES PARR Treble	RICHARD BALDERSTONE 5
*WILLIE AARON 2	*JAMES INGHAM 6
WILLIAM HORAN 3	*FRED READ 7
ARNOLD BRUNTON 4	LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS Tenor

Conducted by L. J. WILLIAMS.

* First peal of Surprise Major. First peal of Surprise Major as conductor and first on the bells.

FOLKESTONE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 2, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND EANSWYTHE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PITSTOW'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 25½ cwt.

EDWIN G. BOESDEN Treble	WILLIAM BIDNELL 5
ARCHIBALD C. KAY 2	RICHARD T. CLARK 6
CHARLES TURNER 3	HARRY PARKES 7
CHARLES R. MILLWAY 4	HORACE WHITEHEAD Tenor

Conducted by EDWIN G. BOESDEN.

Arranged and rung as a birthday compliment to Messrs. C. R. Millway and H. Whitehead, also to the son of Mr. Harry Parkes.

HETHERSETT, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 3, 1932, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. REMIGIUS,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

*ALBERT E. BRACEY Treble	GEORGE HOWCHIN 5
NOLAN GOLDEN 2	GEORGE MAYERS 6
†HAROLD QUANTRILL 3	CHARLES H. MOORE 7
†CYRIL CROWE 4	ARTHUR G. BASON Tenor

Composed by WM. E. BASON. Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal of Major. † First peal, and first attempt. These ringers are members of the Hethersett company.

EAST DEREHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 6, 1932, in Three Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CAMPANILE OF THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

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

Tenor 23 cwt. 2 qr. 17 lb. in E flat.

GEORGE HOWCHIN Treble	GEORGE MAYERS 5
WILLIAM B. DUNCAN 2	FREDERICK J. HOWCHIN 6
NOLAN GOLDEN 3	WILLIAM E. BASON 7
JOHN A. GODFREY 4	EDWIN R. GOATE Tenor

Composed by WM. E. BASON. Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

A birthday peal for Fred Howchin. First peal on the bells since rechanging. This 42-course composition, containing all combinations of 4, 5 and 6 in 5-6 without the second in 5-6, is now rung for the first time.

'ASHTEAD' SURPRISE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Allow me to congratulate and thank the ringers who took part in the first peal of the above method at Ashlead on the 18th ult.

Let me also thank you for publishing a lead of the method, and at the same time it will be well if I point out that a bob at the first lead-end produces the Before, i.e., 17864523, not 16874523 as given.—Yours faithfully,
GEORGE BAKER.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

KIDSGROVE, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 16, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Biddulph, London, York, Wells, Durham, Ipswich and Cambridge. Tenor 11 cwt.

*ELLIOTT COOPER Treble	JAMES STANWAY 4
CHARLES S. RYLES 2	WILLIAM HAZLEDINE 5
JOHN E. WHEELDON 3	JAMES WALLEY Tenor

Conducted by JOHN E. WHEELDON.

* First peal. Rung to commemorate the Vicar (Rev. F. G. Llowellin's) 25 years' faithful ministry in the Church of England. First peal of Surprise on the bells.

GREAT TEY, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, January 16, 1932, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARNABAS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different 720's. Tenor 15½ cwt. in F sharp.

E. PERCIVAL Treble	G. EVANS 4
B. WEBB 2	S. PIPER 5
T. EVANS 3	J. DYER Tenor

Conducted by J. DYER.

The ringer of the treble is only 15 years of age. Believed to be the first rung by a local band for over 100 years, the last one, in 1828, being recorded on a board in the belfry.

GLASTON, RUTLAND.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 16, 1932, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Chase and St. Dunstan's, 960 each of Canterbury Pleasure and Plain Bob, and 1,680 of Grandsire. Tenor 8 cwt.

PERCY AMOS Treble	JOHN R. NICHOLS 3
JOHN H. BLUFF 2	GEORGE SLADGHTER 4
	RONALD RUSSELL Tenor

Conducted by JOHN H. BLUFF.

First peal in five methods by all except the ringers of the tenor. First peal on the bells.

STONE-IN-OXNEY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.)

On Tuesday, January 19, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and five of Plain Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

*MRS. PATTENDEN Treble	ALFRED DAW 4
CYRIL WENHAM 2	FREDERICK BURT 5
KENNETH PATTENDEN 3	CHARLES W. PLAYER Tenor

Conducted by C. W. PLAYER.

* First peal in more than one method. A birthday peal for Mrs. Pattenden. This is the first peal on the bells by an entirely local band.

GREAT HORMEAD, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 23, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Ten callings. Tenor 14 cwt.

FREDERICK BARKER Treble	WILLIAM H. CLEMENCE 4
WILLIAM K. NORTH 2	†WILLIAM BARDWELL 5
*JEFFREY WILLIAMS 3	†WILLIAM SINN Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM K. NORTH.

* First peal of Doubles. † First peal away from tenor. † First peal. First peal on the bells.

CAMBERWELL.—For evening service, on January 10th, a quarter-peal of Bob Royal (1,260 changes): Miss H. F. Mills 1, Miss B. M. Mills 2, J. H. Lucas 3, T. H. Taffender 4, G. H. Grainger 5, E. Hancox 6, E. J. King 7, W. D. Grainger 8, F. Corke (first quarter in the method) (conductor) 9, W. Rogers 10.

DEEPIING ST. JAMES, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 23, 1932, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

*THOMAS A. COOPER Treble	WILLIAM H. WALDRON 4
†WILLIAM V. BENNETT 2	ROGER W. DANIELS 5
HORACE M. DAY 3	JOSEPH O. LANDAN Tenor

Conducted by H. M. DAY.

* First peal on six. † First attempt. Both are local men. The peal was a 21st birthday compliment to Walter Waldron, son of the 4th ringer.

GESTINGTHORPE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 23, 1932, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's, each called differently. Tenor 16 cwt.

*A. S. SYMONDS Treble	BERNARD PETITT 4
*ARTHUR C. RIPPINGALE 2	ERNEST TURNER 5
CLAUDE SNOWDEN 3	OLAVE E. BROYD Tenor

Conducted by O. BROYD.

* First peal and first attempt, and elected members of above association previous to starting. Rung as a birthday compliment to Miss Ena Warnes and Miss Evelyn Smith.

SOUTHMINSTER, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, January 27, 1932, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being four 720's of Kent and three 720's of Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.

WILLIAM G. GRIDLEY Treble	REGINALD G. HARVEY 4
STANLEY W. BIGMORE 2	HARRY S. BARKER 5
HARRY STEBBINGS 3	EDWARD J. HOWARD Tenor

Conducted by HARRY S. BARKER.

This peal was rung by six members of the St. Mary's Guild from Burnham-on-Crouch, Essex.

BIDDENHAM, BEDFORDSHIRE.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, January 28, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, London Scholars' Pleasure, Kingston, College Exercise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob.

EDWARD PROSSELL Treble	NORL WILES 4
*HERBERT L. HARLOW 2	REGINALD WEST 5
NORMAN J. INSKIP 3	PEARL INSKIP Tenor

Conducted by PEARL INSKIP.

* 200th peal.

NORTH MARSTON, BUCKS.

On Saturday, January 30, 1932, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Ten different callings. Tenor 13½ cwt.

*ALBERT HODGES Treble	†F. HOBBS 4
WM. H. JONES 2	*H. D. GRACE 5
*F. G. ALDERMAN 3	*C. G. GILDER Tenor

Conducted by WM. H. JONES.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.' First peal in the tower.

MISTLEY, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 30, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720's of Kent and four of Oxford. Tenor 12½ cwt.

ALFRED HONEYWOOD Treble	WALTER HONEYWOOD 4
WILLIAM STIFF 2	WILLIAM DENT 5
GEORGE W. MOSS 3	STANLEY G. MOSS Tenor

Conducted by STANLEY G. MOSS.

A 21st birthday peal for the conductor, and his first peal as conductor. Ringer of the 5th is from St. Peter's, Colchester, the rest are local.

FRAMPTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(EASTERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 30, 1932, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Single Court, Single Oxford, Double Court, Canterbury Pleasure, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 13½ cwt.

*ARTHUR YOUNG Treble	WILLIAM WILKINSON ... 4
*GEORGE COLEMAN 2	*JOHN R. YOUNG 5
*JOHN R. KEMP 3	WILLIAM E. CLARKE ... Tenor

Conducted by W. E. CLARKE.

* First peal in seven methods. First peal in seven methods as conductor. Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of 5th and to E. Kemp, son. of J. R. Kemp.

FINBOROUGH, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, January 30, 1932, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising seven different extents, one 720 of Double Court and two 720's each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 12½ cwt. in G.

*HERBERT C. FORDHAM ... Treble	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL ... 4
KEITH W. WHITTELL 2	†P.C. HENRY J. VINCE ... 5
ARTHUR GRIMWOOD 3	†LAURENCE POOLSON ... Tenor

Conducted by GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL.

* First peal. † First peal in four methods.

HANDBELL PEALS.

GOSFORTH, NORTHUMBERLAND.

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

On Monday, January 18, 1932, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

At No. 1, SALYER'S ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

JOHN ANDERSON 1-2	WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON ... 5-6
WILLIAM H. BARBER 3-4	*ROBERT S. ANDERSON ... 7-8
ADAM DEAS 9-10	

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by WM. H. BARBER.

* Fiftieth peal.

GOSFORTH, NORTHUMBERLAND.

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

On Wednesday, February 3, 1932, in Two Hours and Forty-One Minutes,

At No. 1, SALTER'S ROAD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor size 15 in C.

JOHN ANDERSON 1-2	WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON ... 5-6
WILLIAM H. BARBER 3-4	ROBERT S. ANDERSON ... 7-8
ADAM DEAS 9-10	

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by W. J. DAVIDSON.

First peal of Caters as conductor.

LINCOLN.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, February 3, 1932, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At 269, WRAGBY ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

MRS. J. BRAY 1-2	JACK BRAY 5-6
CHARLES MCGUINNESS 3-4	HAROLD MARCON 7-8
*MRS. C. MCGUINNESS 9-10	

Arranged and Conducted by JACK BRAY.

* First peal of Royal.

A number of other peal reports are unavoidably held over.

SOUTHGATE.—At Christ Church, on Jan. 24th, for evening service, in 49 mins., a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major (1,264 changes): Denis Ovington 1, J. Armstrong (conductor) 2, G. Plater 3, J. G. Nash 4, H. Miller 5, N. Tomlinson 6, J. E. Miller 7, W. Pickworth 8. First quarter-peal in this method by ringers of treble, 3rd, and 4th bells.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
FURTHER DONATION VOTED TO STEDMAN FUND.

The annual meeting of the North and East District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild was held at All Saints', Edmonton, on Saturday, January 30th. The service was very well attended, and a useful address was given by the Vicar (Rev. E. C. Evill). The organist was Miss Church, of Waltham Abbey, herself a ringer. Some 54 members sat down to an excellent tea, after which the usual business meeting was held, with Mr. W. Pickworth in the chair.

At the outset the hon. secretary (Mr. C. T. Coles) gave a short account of the Stedman Tercentenary Commemoration at Cambridge in December, at which the association was represented by Mr. W. Pye (Master), Mr. W. Pickworth (vice-president), Mr. F. W. Good-fellow (South and West District Master), Mr. G. R. Goodship (assistant hon. secretary) and himself, besides several prominent members. The hon. secretary caused general amusement by stating that everybody was anxious about the picked band of association Masters who had the privilege of ringing the opening touch, but they managed to render a good account of themselves. The next touch, by a band of ladies, was also very well struck, in spite of the organ being played at the same time. Needless to say, however, the picked band of secretaries (of which he was one) rang the best touch of all (laughter). Mr. Coles ended by congratulating Mr. Goldsmith and Mr. Fletcher, who between them were responsible for the arrangements, for so well organising the whole affair.

Mr. J. Parker stated that more money would very likely be required to meet the cost of the memorial, and he proposed that the district should vote the sum of £1 ls., to be paid in the event of a further appeal for funds being made.—This was seconded by Mr. W. Pye and carried.

The balance sheet, which showed an increase of over £7 in the assets of the district, as compared with the previous year, was adopted.

Several new members were elected, and the whole of the officers were re-elected for another year.

St. Matthew's, Upper Clapton, was chosen for the next meeting on March 5th, with St. Giles-in-the-Fields for the next annual meeting of the district.

Mr. Joseph Waghorn, sen., whom everybody present was pleased to see in good health, expressed his pleasure at being able to attend the meeting, and during the afternoon it was noticed that he rang in a touch of Stedman Triples.

Mr. Wm. Pye received general congratulations, at the instance of the District Master (Mr. A. W. Coles), on having recently rung his 1,000th Surprise peal.

Early during the proceedings the hon. secretary proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for his useful and instructive address at the service, and for the use of the bells; to Miss Church for presiding at the organ; and to Mr. W. J. Bowden for the excellent arrangements he had made. This was carried unanimously.—The Rev. R. C. Evill, who had to leave the meeting early, gave the members a very sincere welcome to Edmonton, and expressed the hope that they would come again.

Mr. W. H. Hollier (hon. secretary, South and West District) was a very welcome visitor to the meeting.

A course of Stedman Caters was rung on handbells by Mrs. G. W. Fletcher, Messrs. G. R. Eye, W. Pye, G. W. Fletcher and J. Thomas, and a course of Bob Royal by Mr. G. R. Pye, Mrs. G. W. Fletcher, Messrs. G. W. Fletcher, J. Thomas and G. B. Collins. This was reported to be the first course of Bob Royal rung double-handed by Mr. G. R. Pye!

The ringing arrangements, with the District Master in charge, went off excellently, and little time was wasted. Most of the standard methods were rung, as well as an excellent touch of Spliced Surprise Major in four methods.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

EASTERN DISTRICT.

A meeting of the Eastern District was held at Sunderland on Saturday, January 30th. There was a fair attendance of members, and the bells of Bishopwearmouth Church were kept going merrily until 5 p.m., after which the ringers had about half an hour's brisk walk to St. Ignatius' Institute, where tea awaited them.

A short meeting was held afterwards, presided over by Mr. R. L. Paterson, vice-president, who was supported by the Rev. P. N. W. Strong. Mr. J. W. Parker proposed a vote of thanks to the incumbents for the use of the bells, and the Rev. P. N. W. Strong, in reply, heartily welcomed the visitors. He said he was always pleased to see the comradeship that existed among the ringers at these meetings; they seemed to him like a happy brotherhood.

Mr. J. Tilt proposed a vote of thanks to the ladies for providing such a bountiful tea.

It was proposed that Houghton-le-Spring be the next place of meeting, which is to be held on Saturday, April 2nd.

After the meeting, St. Ignatius' Church was visited, and the bells were rung down at 7.30 p.m. Methods practised during the day were Kent and Oxford Major, Grandire and Stedman Triples and Double Norwich.

KING'S NORTON RINGERS' DINNER.**A PRESENTATION.**

A most enjoyable evening was spent by the King's Norton ringers and their ringing friends of St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham, on Saturday, January 23rd, when they met for dinner as the guests of Mr. Frank B. Yates. In the afternoon the bells of St. Nicolas' Church were rung in various methods, London, Cambridge and Double Norwich being the most popular. After ringing had ceased, the ringers adjourned to the Bull's Head, where a well-served dinner awaited them.

The programme which followed was of a varied character, Mr. Albert Walker being the leader of the handbell ringing and accompanist at the piano. Mr. A. S. Downes, Mr. Sam Grove and Mr. Harry Withers were the vocalists, the late-named rendering his old favourite, 'Sweet Bob Major.'

An important event of the evening was the presentation of a chiming clock to Mr. H. James Turner, of Northfield, on the occasion of his marriage. In making the presentation, the Chairman (Mr. F. B. Yates) said that Mr. Turner was well esteemed by the King's Norton ringers, for his disposition and his careful striking, which made his presence in the tower a pleasure.—In reply, Mr. Turner said that his progress was due to the practice he had obtained at King's Norton, and warmly thanked the ringers for their gift.

Apologies were read from Mr. T. H. Reeves (hon. secretary of St. Martin's Guild), who was away from home; from Mr. F. J. Smallwood, who is now living many miles away, and from Mr. W. C. Dowding, who was attending a police ringers' meeting in London.

Mr. A. S. Downes proposed the toast to the chairman (Mr. F. B. Yates), saying that he thought there were few towers that had a gentleman who took such an interest, not only in the ringing, but in the ringers themselves.—Mr. Albert Walker, supporting this toast, paid a tribute to the capable manner in which Mr. Yates always struck his bell.

The Chairman, responding, thanked the ringers for the many fine touches he had rung with them throughout the year, and said that he derived much pleasure from them.

Mr. Harry Withers 'tapped' a course of Double Norwich on the piano, which was greatly appreciated.

On Monday, January 25th, a quarter-peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major (1,312 changes) was rung at Northfield as a birthday compliment to Mr. F. B. Yates: C. Webb 1, A. Chambers 2, H. H. Feavn 3, G. E. Feavn 4, J. Withers, jun., 5, J. Withers, sen., 6, S. Grove (conductor) 7, C. H. Stanley 8.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.**INCREASED INTEREST IN SWINDON BRANCH MEETINGS.**

The annual meeting of the Swindon Branch took place at Christ Church, Swindon, on Saturday, January 23rd. Service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. J. Gilbert) and the Rev. N. S. Willis, Vicar of Purton, who is also a ringing member of the branch. At the business meeting which followed tea in the Parish Hall, Mr. E. Bishop presided.

The hon. secretary's report and balance sheet showed steady progress, an increase of one performing member over the previous year, and a little better attendance at the meetings. At the nine meetings during the past year there had been an average of just under 25 per cent. of the membership, but the secretary said he would like to see 50 per cent.

All the branch officers were re-elected en bloc.

Seven new members were made, and the Rev. J. Gilbert, Vicar of Swindon, was elected an honorary member, and Mr. T. W. Timms, of Burford, a non-resident life member.

Rodbourne Cheney was selected for the February practice meeting, and Stratton St. Margaret for the quarterly in April, due notice of which will appear in 'The Ringing World.'

Mr. E. Bishop moved a vote of thanks to the ladies for the catering and to the Vicar for the bells. This concluded the business, and a move was made to the tower for further ringing, the methods rung in the afternoon and evening being chiefly Grandsire and Stedman Caters and Triples for those not so far advanced. Thirty-three members and visitors sat down to tea, representing the following towers: Burford, Bishopstone, Blunsdon, Fairford, Gloucester, Christ Church and St. Mark's, Swindon, Shrivensham, Stratton, Purton, Rodbourne Cheney and Wootton Bassett.

ARMLEY'S DIAMOND JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS.

Four quarter-peals were rung for service at Armley, Leeds, in connection with the diamond jubilee celebrations of the church. On Sunday, January 17th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,280 changes): G. Gaunt 1, J. Hey 2, J. W. Moorhouse 3, Miss O. Renton 4, H. Grimwood 5, A. Fieldhouse 6, J. Thackray 7, G. Moorhouse (conductor) 8. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes): J. Hey 1, H. Loft-house 2, J. W. Moorhouse 3, G. Moorhouse 4, J. Thackray 5, A. Fieldhouse 6, M. Moorhouse (conductor) 7, J. W. Benten 8. On Sunday, January 24th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major (1,280 changes), and for evening service a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes).

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal rung at Great Yarmouth on January 23rd was not, as stated in the footnote to the peal, the first peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal rung there. This was accomplished in 1843 by a company of Norwich and Yarmouth ringers.

Mr. J. E. Lewis Cockey, after nearly ten years' service, during which time the offices of churchwarden, member of the Diocesan Conference, parochial church councillor and Ringing Master have been held by him, has resigned all connection with Christ Church, Dore. During his term of office as Ringing Master, some notable recruits to the Exercise have been introduced, some notable peals have been rung, many improvements have been carried out to the bells and ringing chamber, and the standard of ringing has been raised from 'rounds and eall changes' to the 'quarter-peal standard' for Sunday service ringing.

SURPRISE RINGING IN SUFFOLK

Up to the end of 1931 the Suffolk Guild had—thanks to the enterprising band at Leiston and the one centred around Helmingham—rung peals in no fewer than twenty-two different Surprise Major methods, thirteen having been rung in 1931. Can any association show a bigger list?

The following are the methods: Bristol, Cambridge, New Cambridge, Camdon, Clarendon, Dublin, Edinburgh, Guildford, Ipswich, Kent, Lancashire, Lincolnshire, London, Norfolk, Premier, Pudsey, Rochester, Rutland, Suffolk, Superlative, Surrey and Yorkshire.

THE WILL—AND THE WAY—TO LEARN.

TOM SPRY'S PRACTICAL ADVICE TO BEGINNERS.

BY W. C. R.

Many years ago, in the village of Little Puddington, the bells of the Parish Church were ringing and a new band of ringers was formed to make the music which had long been silent. Nearly all of the ringers were beginners, but some of them at least were very keen.

Tom Spry, an experienced ringer from the neighbouring town, happened to meet Will Slowman, one of the new ringers, and asked him how he was getting on.

'Not very fast,' said Will; 'I get so little practice.'

'But I thought you practised once a week,' said Tom.

'So we do; but last week, for instance,' grumbled Will, 'the others began and rang Grandsire Doubles for half an hour. Then they said to me, "Now you have a try," and I did, but we kept on breaking down, and the captain said, "We are making an awful row, and the neighbours will complain; let's go back to the original six ringers." In the end I got no more ringing, and had only ten minutes out of the hour's practice.'

'But what were you doing during the other 50 minutes?' said Tom.

'Why, nothing, of course,' said Will gloomily.

'Why, there's the secret of the whole trouble,' said Tom. 'You used ten minutes and wasted 50 by doing nothing. Doing nothing for 50 minutes a week will never make you a ringer, even if you kept on at it for 20 years. You used ten minutes when learning was difficult; you wasted 50 minutes when learning was easy. There are three main things to be learned: (1) To handle your bell, (2) rope sight, and (3) the rules of the method. You must learn those three, but you need not learn more than one at the same time. You must handle the bells to learn how to do it; you must watch the ropes to learn rope sight; but you needn't be handling one rope while you are learning to watch the order of the other five. During the 50 minutes when you were doing nothing, you should have been standing behind the best of the other ringers and saying to yourself, "If I were ringing his bell, what work should I have to do, and what bells should I follow." In that way no harm would be done, if you made a mistake. Whereas, when you yourself are ringing, if you make a mistake, you make things more difficult for yourself, and for the other ringers, and make a hideous noise for the people outside. As to learning the method, that must be done at home before you try to ring. There is an old saying in the belfry, "If you don't know what you want the bell to do, how is the poor bell to know?"'

And so the friends parted, and Tom Spry said to himself, 'He wants to learn; his will is good, but his way is bad; and if he sticks to the bad way of learning it will cripple the will to learn, and perhaps kill it.'

MR. JOSEPH WAGHORN'S BIRTHDAY.

At All Hallows' Church, Tottenham, on Sunday, February 7th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: S. G. Peck 1, J. G. Nash 2, Mrs. E. H. King 3, H. Ellis 4, W. Dickinson 5, W. J. Ellis 6, E. E. Holman (first quarter-peal as conductor) 7, C. J. Davidson 8. This quarter-peal was also rung for the 89th birthday of Joseph Waghorn, sen., for many years a member of the society.

DEATH OF THE REV. H. LAW JAMES. HIS GREAT WORK FOR RINGING.

We deeply regret to record the death of the Rev. Henry Law James, M.A., Vicar of Surfleet, Lincs., and one of the outstanding personalities of the ringing Exercise. Mr. James had been far from robust in health for some time, but his final illness was of short duration. He was confined to the house with a cold for a few days, but on Thursday, January 28th, having arranged a peal attempt, he met his band of ringers at the church, but the ringing lasted only a few minutes, for the Vicar was obviously far from well. He went straight home to bed and stayed there by order of his medical adviser. Up to the morning of Tuesday in last week he appeared to be making good progress, but unfortunately in the evening he took a turn for the worse, and on Wednesday, about midnight, just after his brother, the Rev. E. Bankes James, had arrived, he breathed his last.

Mr. James was 63 years of age, and was born into the Church. His father was Canon George James, Rector of St. Michael's, Gloucester, and his mother the daughter of the Rev. Edward Bankes, Canon of Gloucester, Bristol and Norwich, and Rector of Corfe (Dorset). Educated at Malvern College, (Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge, where he graduated B.A. (honours) in the Natural



THE LATE REV. H. LAW JAMES.

Science Tripos in 1889, the Rev. H. Law James was at first science master at Stamford Grammar School, and, after being ordained deacon in 1891 and priest in 1892, was assistant curate at St. Martin's, Stamford. From there he went, in 1898, to Surfleet, where he did a wonderful work in the restoration of the church. When he first came there the fabric was in a very dilapidated condition, and the interior fittings consisted of the old high pews and a three-decker pulpit. Mr. James immediately set to work to raise funds for its restoration. The church was resented, the walls repaired, the tower arch opened out, and the floor of the tower lowered about 4ft. to get to the bottom of the west door. Then followed a new organ, wood screen and loft, new high altar and the repair of the exterior from the east end of the church to the top of the spire. He transformed the building from a state of dilapidation to a beautiful country church.

On one of his early visits he found in the tower a clock about 400 years old, and said to the churchwarden, 'I am going to make that clock go,' and he did. One day it struck 120.

Also in the tower he found five bells, in an old wooden frame, the middle one of which was cracked. This he proceeded to mend himself. He turned the bell upside down, plastered the side up with clay or something similar to hold chemicals, added a few electric wires and left it, paying a visit every few days to see how the cure was proceeding. This, however, was one of his very few failures in life, for the treatment was of no avail, and the bell was eventually recast at the expense of the churchwarden.

A new treble was added for the coronation of King Edward VII. This was hung by the Vicar and his churchwarden, and although at the station at 9 a.m., it was hung in the tower and had been rung to two 720's before 9 p.m. In 1913 Mr. James, at his own expense, added the four trebles, recast the present 6th and tenor, and rehung the whole peal in a new iron frame.

EARLY PEALS AT CAMBRIDGE.

His ringing activities, which had begun early in life, were stimulated and rapidly developed while he was at Cambridge University. Although the University Guild had been founded in 1879, no peal had been rung for it when he arrived on the scene, and, with the later advent of his brother, the Rev. E. Bankes James, rapid progress was made with handbells. On April 28th, 1890, Mr. Law James called the Guild's first peal, Bob Triples, rung 'in hand' by the Rev. A. H. F. Boughiey, Edward B. James, Henry L. James and C. F. Wedemeyer. It was also the first peal by the Guild's president and Mr. Wedemeyer. A peal of Bob Major, in which the tenors were rung by Mr. (as he then was) C. A. Clements, was the prelude to the first peal of Double Norwich Major ever rung on handbells, which was accomplished for the Guild on February 23rd, 1891. Both these were conducted by H. L. James. He also conducted the first tower bell peal for the Guild, which was rung at Sawston on April 17th, 1894, and which, incidentally, was the first peal by, among

others, the present Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild (Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn).

About the time of his coming to Surfleet there were four different ringing associations in Lincolnshire. These he thought would be better amalgamated, so in 1899 he convened a meeting in the Chapter House at Lincoln Cathedral, and the Lincoln Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers was formed. From then until his death he filled the office of Ringing Master, and right well he carried out his duties. He feared no one, and if he had anything to say, he said it. He was loved and respected by every member of the Guild, and they have sustained a loss that can never be replaced.

He was the principal advocate of the scheme for getting the bells at Lincoln Cathedral recast, and afterwards, as a memorial to members of the Diocesan Guild who fell in the war, augmented to twelve, and he called the first peals, Cambridge Maximus and Stedman Cinques, on them. The former was a great performance and a noteworthy achievement for all concerned. Among other peals which were of conspicuous interest were the first (and only) peal of Superlative Surprise Royal, rung at Surfleet, very largely, we believe, to establish a claim to the title for Shipway's method. Mr. James also took part in what was, at the time, believed to be the first peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal, and the first peal of Double Norwich Caters. His peals of Minor included the first peals of seven true 720's in 8, 9 and 14 methods, the last being in Surprise methods and demonstrating for the first time the possibilities of method 'splicing.'

COMPOSITION.

It is not so much for his peal ringing, however, that the Rev. H. Law James will be remembered as for his work in composition. He was one of the greatest composers the Exercise has ever had. This side of the science appealed specially to his mathematical mind, and he was constantly searching for new avenues of advance. He has given us peals of Grandsize Triples, Stedman Triples (the first seven-part peal ever produced), Caters and Cinques, London and Superlative Surprise Major, Superlative and Cambridge Surprise Royal, Double Norwich and a seven-part peal of Kent Treble Bob Major. Perhaps, however, his greatest contribution of all was his peal in the four Surprise methods—London, Cambridge, Superlative and Bristol—which opened up an entirely new field of Major ringing.

On matters of both ringing and rehanging of bells his advice was sought throughout the whole diocese, Church authorities and Church Councils applying to him where trouble arose. Many a beautiful peal has been rehung following his advice. At Lincoln Cathedral we have a specimen of his practical knowledge. His advice was sought by those in authority and taken in every detail with regard to the twelve bells, bell chamber and belfry. The result one hears when ringing Lincoln bells, for they are one of the best light rings of twelve in the country, and heard everywhere, both inside and outside the tower, to the best advantage. One of his last consultations was over the rehanging of Boston bells. In conjunction with Mr. E. H. Lewis, president of the Central Council, a report was submitted to the Restoration Committee. As a result, an order has been given for a new peal of ten.

The Rev. H. Law James was one of the most distinguished members of the Central Council, on which he represented the Lincoln Diocesan Guild. He served on many of the committees, and for years was one of the members of the Methods Committee, which has been responsible for the publication of the various collections of methods—Minor Methods, published in 1907 and revised and reissued last year; Major and Cater Methods published in 1926. He was still engaged upon work in connection with future publications. Mr. James was also a member of the Standing Committee and the Records Committee.

A SURPRISE ARTICLE.

The story of the Rev. H. L. James' early ringing days, as told by his brother, the Rev. E. Bankes James, will be read with interest:—

'It was in 1876 that the clock bell, Great Peter, was last rung up—for the funeral of Sir John Seymour, Canon of Gloucester—and I well recollect going up the Cathedral tower with my brother to see her raised.

'We were living in the Deanery at that time, and every now and then, when we were having breakfast, he would start up with a cry, "Oh, there's the Cathedral bells." Then came a wild rush up to the ringing chamber. He led the way, and I panted far behind. He was then 10 years old, and it must have been about this time that he learnt to handle a bell.

'We both went to Malvern College in September, 1883, and it was the jubilee year, 1887, that really was the opening of his career as a change ringer.

'The old ring of six at the Priory Church, Great Malvern, were to be augmented to eight and rehung. He went to see the six, and wrote an article on them, which he sent to our school paper, "The Malvernian." The article that he wrote escaped the notice of the editors, but was sent to the printers, and came out in the paper, much to the surprise of the former. It was then copied into the Malvern local paper, and his notes on the old mediæval convent bell, which was condemned to be recast, raised such an outcry amongst the local archaeologists that a subscription was raised to save the bell, and it still hangs in the old Priory Church tower.

It was at this time, too, that he urged my father, until he persuaded him, to start a scheme for the bells of St. Michael's Church in Gloucester, which were increased to eight for the jubilee, and the Society of St. Michael's Juniors was founded on September 8th, 1887.

He rang his first peal, Grandsire Triples, on June 30th, 1888, at Upton St. Leonards, conducted by W. J. Sevier.

It was on January 21st, 1898, that he took part in a peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal at St. Mary's, Cheltenham, which was thought at the time, though erroneously, to be the first peal of Cambridge Royal ever rung. At all events it was a most important peal, as it gave new life to the method of Cambridge Surprise. The next day he left us at Gloucester, and came to take up new duties as Vicar of Surfleet.

He afterwards was in an attempt for a peal of Cambridge Maximus at Cirencester, which failed after ringing 1,000 changes, and that, I believe, was the first time that 12 bells were "turned in" for Cambridge.

Mr. James, who was a bachelor, was extremely fond of boys, and gave much time and spent much money in his efforts to make the Surfleet Troop of Scouts, of which he was Scoutmaster, one of the most virile in the county. As a young man, Mr. James was a fine athlete, and he was the possessor of several cups won for sprinting. He was also a keen cyclist, and had covered the length and breadth of the country on his pedal machine.

THE FUNERAL.

With simple yet dignified ceremony the mortal remains of this devoted and revered parish priest were laid to rest in Surfleet churchyard on Saturday. The coffin was carried to the church on Friday afternoon, and was guarded throughout the night and the following day by relays of parishioners and Boy Scouts.

The Rural Dean, Canon B. Nicholas, read the opening sentences of the funeral service, the remainder being taken by Bishop Hine, an old friend of the dead Vicar. After the playing of the Dead March in 'Saul,' the procession, headed by the choir, proceeded to the grave, which was near the chancel door. Over 600 parishioners and friends gathered in the churchyard to pay their last respects to their beloved Vicar and friend. The hymn, 'On the Resurrection Morning,' was sung, and then a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on the handbells by Mrs. Rupert Richardson 1-2, Frederick W. Stokes 3-4, Rupert Richardson 5-6, George W. Fletcher 7-8. About 20 clergy were present at the funeral, among them being Rev. G. H. Clark, president of the Elloe Deanery Branch of the Lincoln Guild, and Rev. D. Rowlands, president of the Southern Branch. Among the ringers present, in addition to the members of the Surfleet company, were Mr. G. W. Fletcher, hon. secretary, representing the Central Council, Mr. J. Oldham, of Messrs. John Taylor and Co., Loughborough, Mr. F. W. Stokes, Blankney, secretary of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, Messrs. G. Ladd, J. Phillips and C. T. H. Bradley, secretaries of the Elloe Deanery, Eastern and Southern Branches of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild, Messrs. J. A. Freeman, H. M. Day and W. E. Clark, Ringing Masters of the Lincoln, Southern and Eastern Branches respectively. Numerous members of the various branches were also present.

Afterwards a muffled peal of Bob Royal was rung at Surfleet Church. A half-muffled peal of Treble Ten was also rung at Rochester Cathedral.

At the Middlesex County Association meeting at Isleworth, on Saturday, the hymn, 'Let Saints on Earth,' was specially sung at the service, and later a tribute to the late Mr. James was paid by Mr. J. A. Trollope, and the members stood in silence as a mark of respect.

The following is the list of peals rung by the Rev. H. Law James:—

	Tower bells.	Hand-bells.	Conducted.
Doubles in 4 methods	2		2
Minor in 1 method	7		6
Minor in 2 methods	2		2
Minor in 3 methods	1		1
Minor in 4 methods	5		5
Minor in 5 methods	6		4
Minor in 7 methods	7		7
Minor in 8 methods	4		3
Minor in 9 methods	2		1
Minor in 12 methods	1		1
Minor in 14 methods	1		1
Minor in 16 methods	1		1
Bob Triples	2	1	2
Bob Major	21	1	11
Bob Royal	14		10
Bob Maximus	1		1
Grandsire Triples	16	3	8
Grandsire Caters	18	1	10
Grandsire Cinques	1	1	1
Stedman Triples	52	4	17
Stedman Caters	14		8
Stedman Cinques	1		1
Double Norwich Court Bob Major	41	6	33

(Continued in next column.)

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

ROCHESTER DISTRICT'S BIG MEETING.

On Saturday, January 30th, the quarterly meeting of the Rochester District at Rainham was undoubtedly the most representative and best gathering held in the district for many years. A good number of ringers took advantage of the early opening of the meeting, and by 3 p.m. little space was available in the ringing chamber of St. Margaret's tower. The 'locals' were pretty well at full strength, and in addition members put in an appearance from Gravesend, Milton-next-Gravesend, Frindsbury, Rochester Cathedral and St. Margaret's, Chatham, Gillingham, Upchurch, Newington, Sittingbourne, Tunstall, Lynsted, Queenborough and Minster, together with visitors from Egerton.

The association's form of service was conducted by Mr. F. M. White, B.A., one of the local band, who is a licensed lay reader. The choir was present, and the singing was accompanied by the organ, at which Mr. W. Cooke, the local tower secretary, presided.

Mr. White's inspiring address, as from one ringer to others, was much appreciated, as was also the rendering of the descants by the choir during two of the hymns. At the close of the service a collection, which realised 16s. 8d., was made for allocation to the benevolent fund of the association.

A sumptuous tea, provided by the generosity of the Church Council, and to which approximately 90 sat down, was ably served by the ladies connected with the church, and every endeavour was made 'to bring home this touch of Rainham Pleasure,' which was conducted by Mrs. W. Cooke.

Mr. White presided at the business meeting, and was supported by the Rector of Chatham, the Vicar of Newington, Mr. F. M. Mitchell, general secretary, and Messrs. Belsey and Spier, district representatives. The chairman welcomed the association in the name of the Vicar of Rainham, who was unfortunately away from the district, and assured the members of the great pleasure it would have given the Rev. Hodgson, a practising ringer, to have been present at such a fine gathering.

The Vicar of Newington, the Rev. Robertshaw, was elected an hon. member of the association, and five practising members were also elected, in addition to the ratification of one who had been elected previous to a peal.

The district secretary read a letter from the Rev. F. J. O. Holmote, thanking the district for their kind expressions on the occasion of his eightieth birthday.

Queenborough was chosen for the next district meeting, Mr. W. Wood humorously remarking that the bridge connecting the Isle of Sheppey with civilisation had now been freed from toll.

The general secretary made reference to the necessity for the payment of contributions early, and earnestly asked the district to continue their support of the Benevolent Fund.

Votes of thanks were carried, with acclamation, to the Vicar, Mr. White, Mr. and Mrs. Cooke, and the ladies who had contributed so much to the success of the meeting, and the tower was again visited, ringing continuing until 9 p.m., when the bells were lowered in peal.

(Continued from previous column.)

	Tower bells.	Hand-bells.	Conducted.
Double Norwich Court Bob Caters	1		1
Double Norwich Court Bob Royal	1		1
Kent Treble Bob Major	22	2	18
Kent Treble Bob Royal	4		3
Kent Treble Bob Maximus	1	1	1
Kent Treble Bob Major (Granta Var.)	1		1
Kent Treble Bob Royal (Granta Var.)	1	1	1
Cambridge Surprise Major	13		11
Cambridge Surprise Royal	17		11
Cambridge Surprise Maximus	1		1
Double Oxford Major	3		3
Little Bob Major	4		4
Little Bob Royal	2		2
Oxford Treble Bob Major	4		3
Oxford Treble Bob Royal	1		1
Surfleet Treble Bob Caters	2		2
Superlative Surprise Major	9		5
Superlative Surprise Royal	1		1
Canterbury Pleasure Triples	1		1
Canterbury Pleasure Major	1		1
Gloucester Surprise Major	1		1
London Surprise Major	2		2
Double Oxford Court Bob Royal	1		1
Double Bob Royal	1		1
Double Bob Major		1	1
Single Norwich Court Bob Major	1	1	1
Cambridge Court Bob Major		2	2
Total	313	27	202

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.**GENEROUS GIFT TO STOCKPORT BRANCH.**

The annual meeting of the Bowdon, Stockport and Mottram Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild was held at Norbury on Saturday week. After service and tea, served by the wives and lady friends of the local ringers, to which 64 sat down, the business meeting was presided over by the Rev. A. T. Beeston (chairman of the branch). At the outset, reference was made to the loss the branch had sustained by the death of Mr. James Shaw, one of the oldest members of the Guild, and Archdeacon Thorpe, an hon. member, and the members stood in silence as a mark of respect and a vote of condolence with the relatives was passed.

After a vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens, the chairman mentioned that this was an interesting year in the life of the Guild. It was 50 years ago that Archdeacon Barker set on foot the scheme which resulted in the Guild's formation. He did not know what steps would be taken to recognise the occasion, but something would probably be decided by the general committee. He had personally had a lot to do with the Guild, and was very proud of its success. Continuing he said it was a cause for self-congratulation that their peals were better than ever in quality, and he urged them to continue to go ahead. He referred to what had been done by the Norbury company, and he hoped they would go on to further successful achievements.

The Hon. Secretary (Mr. T. Wilde) said the reason why further methods were not being rung at Norbury was that it was usual for 15 or 18 ringers to attend on practice nights for Surprise ringing, and the local band did not get as much practice as they otherwise might. They, however, welcomed the visitors, and hoped they would continue to come to the tower and become proficient in Surprise ringing. In assisting them in this way the Norbury band believed they were doing good work. The hon. secretary then read the annual report and the balance sheet. The latter showed that an adverse balance of 16s. 6d. at the beginning of the year had been turned into a balance in hand of £1 9s. 2d.—The report and balance sheet were adopted, the Chairman pointing out that every member had paid his subscription.

Seven new members were elected, and all the officers were re-elected.

The chairman sought to relinquish office on the ground of advancing years and inability to get about as well as formerly, but was persuaded to continue, Mr. James Fernley being elected vice-chairman to assist him with his duties.

It was decided to continue for the year the arrangement by which members paid sixpence each for tea at the meetings.—A suggestion that new members admitted after the third meeting of the year should pay a reduced subscription for that year was not accepted.

The hon. secretary undertook to try and arrange peal attempts for members who wanted them.

The chairman offered his collection of ringing papers, including the complete issues of 'Bell News' and 'The Ringing World,' to the branch. These, he said, covered a period of over 40 years, and he offered them subject to their being left in his care as long as he wanted them.

The Hon. Secretary, in thanking Mr. Beeston, said not only were the volumes complete and well bound, but Mr. Beeston had compiled an index of their contents. This must have been a labour of love for many years.

Other members added their thanks and appreciation, and a sub-committee, to draw up a list of rules to govern the custody and use of the books, was appointed, consisting of Rev. A. T. Beeston, Messrs. J. Fernley, A. Barnes, W. Gordon, H. Jackson, E. Bennett and the hon. secretary.

A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the local ringers for all they had done to make the day so enjoyable, and to the ladies for providing the tea. A return was then made to the tower, where the bells were kept going in methods ranging from Minor to Bristol and London Surprise Major, which brought to a close a notable and interesting gathering which augurs well for the continued success of the branch.

DEATH OF A NOTTINGHAM RINGER.

We regret to record the death of Mr. E. Hughes, of Nottingham, which took place on Thursday, January 28th. Mr. Hughes, who had reached the age of 70 years, had been a ringer at St. Peter's Church for 30 years. Although he had not been able to take any part in ringing for the last three years owing to failing health, Mr. Hughes will be remembered by Midland ringers years ago as editor of the 'Bellingers' Corner' in the Nottingham 'Weekly Express,' under the non-de-plume of 'Bob Major.'

The funeral took place on Monday, February 1st, at the General Cemetery, Nottingham, when a plain course of Grandire Triples was rung over the open grave by: F. Salter 1-2, J. A. Barratt 3-4, A. Coppock 5-6, H. R. Cobbin 7-8. Ringers from the various towers in the district were present at the service, and on Thursday evening following, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute: F. Salter 1, S. Pinder 2, F. W. Bailey 3, F. Bradley 4, W. Dickinson 5, L. Chadburn 6, J. A. Barratt (conductor) 7, E. Clemence 8.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**'MISSIONARY' WORK IN THE PEAK DISTRICT.**

The annual meeting of the Peak District was held at Bakewell, and was very successful, though the attendance was somewhat spoilt by the bad weather. About 20 ringers, however, turned up from Bakewell, Baslow, Darley Dale, Dore, Eyaun, Matlock and Norton-in-the-Moors, and some good ringing was accomplished on the fine peal of bells in Oxford Treble Bob, Little Bob, Plain Bob and Grandire and Stedman Triples! A substantial tea was partaken of at the White Horse Hotel, and was followed by the business meeting, presided over by the Rev. W. P. Wright (Eyaun), supported by the Rev. A. E. J. B. Barrow, Vicar of Bakewell.

The secretary's report showed a further satisfactory year. It had had its ups and downs, he said, but generally progress had been in the right direction. Ten meetings had been held and had generally been successful, with an average attendance of about 20. 'We have had our usual warm and enthusiastic welcomes and free teas at Hathersage and Tideswell,' continued the report, 'and I think that we ought again to express our appreciation of the kindness extended to us at these places, and our thanks to the locals at the other places where we have been made welcome. At nearly all these meetings we have managed to rope in some new members, and we have also, I think, managed to give some help to learners, and at the same time obtain a little welcome practice for these more advanced. I would again like to throw out the suggestion that one particular method should be adopted for special practice at these meetings. As to future policy, it seems to me,' stated the secretary, 'that the system of monthly meetings has justified itself, and should be continued, but I would like to make an appeal for more support from some towers, and to urge novices not to be afraid to attend and to take a rope. There is always help available. I would urge members, too, to keep in touch with the secretary and committee, and to bring forward suggestions or grievances. Further, too, the general quarterly meeting should be attended, where fuller experience can be obtained and where the general policy of the society is settled.' Reference was also made in the report to the increase of subscriptions, to the possibility of obtaining more hon. members, and to the forthcoming jubilee meeting of the M.C.A. at Derby. An appeal, also, for better support for 'The Ringing World' was made.

VICE-PRESIDENT'S RETIREMENT.

The secretary then referred with deep regret to the decision of the Rev. W. P. Wright to retire from the vice-presidency, but this regret was tempered by the knowledge that they would still have him among them. Mr. Wright was the founder of the Peak District, and with his genial personality had been the heart and soul of the meetings, and they could not adequately express their appreciation of all he had done. 'Finally,' added the secretary, 'I should like to again express my personal thanks for all the kindness and courtesy extended to me, and to express my appreciation of the pleasant spirit and good feeling existing in the district. We are the youngest but by no means the least active of the eight districts of the M.C.A., and I claim that we are doing a good and in many ways an unselfish work for that body. We are still at the moment very much of a missionary body, and have a somewhat uphill task in trying to do a little towards improving the standard of ringing in a somewhat difficult area. In the nature of things we cannot expect great ringing performances just yet, but we shall improve as time goes on, and there is plenty of scope for us if only members will back up the committee and attend meetings regularly. I might add, too, that there is great pleasure in store for visitors, whom we are always ready to welcome to our meetings, in the beautiful churches and rings of bells and in the glorious scenery of the Peak.'

In regard to the vice-presidency, as stated above it was with real regret that it was felt necessary to accept Mr. Wright's resignation. A somewhat indefinite reply had been received from Canon Prior, and these present were not quite sure as to his acceptance. It was therefore left with the secretary to find out definitely the position, and if Canon Prior found himself unable to accept, to approach the new Vicar of Bakewell.

Since the meeting, the Vicar of Bakewell has very kindly accepted the office, and has expressed his intention of attending as many of the meetings as he can. It is hoped that as many members as possible will attend the next meeting at Great Longstone on February 20th to welcome him.

Mr. J. E. Lewis Cockey was re-elected secretary amid applause, those present thanking him for his report and for all he had done to make the meetings so successful.—Mr. A. G. Wallace (Bakewell) was re-elected to the committee, and Mr. H. E. Taylor (Darley Dale) was elected in place of Mr. E. H. Holmes (Matlock), who found himself unable to attend as he would like.

The Rev. A. E. J. B. Barrow, M.A., Vicar of Bakewell, was elected an hon. member. The next meeting was, as mentioned, fixed for Great Longstone on February 20th. Mr. W. J. Alexander (Bakewell) was deputed to act as unofficial Ringing Master for the year in order to see that all who attended had their share of the ringing. Hearty votes of thanks were accorded to the Rev. W. P. Wright on his retirement, to the Vicar of Bakewell and to the local company.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY'S DIAMOND JUBILEE.

PAST AND PRESENT MEMBERS CELEBRATE THE EVENT.

On February 2nd, 1872, the Oxford University Society of Change Ringers was established. It was founded by a few of the undergraduates interested in ringing, who got together and met for regular weekly handbell and tower bell practice. The society has not had an unbroken period of activity. There have been times when it has flourished and done excellent work in interesting members of the University in the art of ringing; but there have been others when it has sunk into a state of quiescence, with hardly a ringer in any of the colleges to keep the spark of existence alive. Nevertheless, many men of mark in the Exercise have had their interest in ringing kindled or stimulated by the society, and more than anything else the Exercise owes to it the formation of many of our most successful diocesan and county ringing organisations, for among the founders of some of the earliest of them were men who had come from the Oxford University Society.

The diamond jubilee of the society was celebrated at Oxford on Saturday, when old members were delighted to join with men still at the University in honouring the event. Veterans of the Exercise like Aldermann Pritchett, Canon Coleridge and the Rev. J. F. Hastings returned to their former haunts, and over luncheon recalled the days of the '70's when they took their share in the activities of the society. Happily there has been in the last few years a distinct revival of interest in ringing in the University, and with Bishop Shaw as president, the Rev. W. C. Barrett as hon. secretary, and Mr. Harry Miles as a kind of perpetual 'father' to the youth of the society, some excellent progress has been made, despite the fact that few of the members remain in Oxford for more than three years or so. The present Master of the Society is Mr. Wilfred Thomas, son of a well-known Bristol ringer, Mr. W. H. Thomas, and the active members up in term time now number about twenty.

Bishop Shaw presided at the diamond jubilee luncheon, held at St. George's Cafe, and was supported by Canon Coleridge, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn (Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild), Rev. J. F. Hastings (Martley, Worcestershire), Rev. E. V. Cox (Bampton Speke, Devon), Rev. F. L. Edwards (hon. secretary of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild), Rev. W. C. Barrett (hon. secretary of the O.U.S.C.R.), Mr. W. Thomas (Master), Mr. A. G. G. Thurlow (Cambridge University Guild), Mr. H. Miles, Mr. J. S. Goldsmith (Editor of 'The Ringing World'), etc., the party numbering nearly thirty.

After the toast of 'The King,' the president gave 'The Visitors.' It was encouraging, he said, to find with them that day the veterans, some of whom in days long ago set the society going, and who through adversity as well as prosperity had given it their countenance and support. He particularly welcomed Canon Coleridge, the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, the Rev. J. F. Hastings, Mr. A. G. G. Thurlow (secretary of Cambridge University Guild), Mr. Connitt (representing the city ringers), the Editor of 'The Ringing World,' and, last but by no means least, Mr. J. S. Pritchett, Recorder of Lincoln and Master of the Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham.

EARLY MEMBERS.

The Rev. W. C. Barrett read an interesting letter from the Rev. A. du Boulay Hill, one of the original members of the society, who said he was much disappointed that under doctor's orders he was unable to attend the gathering. He was also sorry to hear that another of the first members, Mr. J. E. Acland, was very ill. He had before him one of the earliest photographs of members of the society, taken in Magdalen 'Quad.' There were 14 of them in all, and among them were C. C. Knollys, F. Bampfylde, J. S. Pritchett, G. H. Phillott, Foster, Du B. Hill, J. E. Acland, W. Poole, Barrow and the Rev. H. R. Bramley. Mr. Hill added his regret at being unable to meet the members, and he hoped they would have some good ringing to commemorate the event.

Alderman Pritchett, in responding to the toast, said he was not sure whether he was a visitor or not. He had paid for his dinner, but he had not paid the arrears of his subscription since 1878 (laughter). As he had not paid for about 55 years, he could not promise that he would pay them (laughter), but as he had paid his footing that day he might perhaps presume he was a visitor. That gathering, he continued, brought back many recollections of former times between the years 1873 and 1878. He could not lay claim to being one of the founders, for the society was founded in 1872, but immediately on coming to Oxford, in 1873, having previously learned to pull a rope, he joined the society and remained a member all the while he was at the University. There was one name that had not been mentioned—he did not know whether he was a member at the time the photograph was taken or not—one they all remembered with respect and affection, the Rev. F. E. Robinson, who was a graduate of Oxford University. His father was Rector of Appleton, and he (the speaker) used often to go there to ring with those whose names had been mentioned. At that time they were at a disadvantage in Oxford. There was no peal of eight, and what bells there were they could seldom get the opportunity of ringing. Those who were ardently enthusiastic used to go to Appleton, where they

met with a very kindly welcome. The refreshing draughts of old ale which they used to get at the Rectory he would never forget if he lived to be a hundred (laughter). Alderman Pritchett added that he was the senior member of that society present; he was in his 78th year, and was glad to be able to be there to represent the older generation. The society had been in existence for 60 years. It had been a fluctuating existence, but there had always been a little life in it. At the present time it was more flourishing than it had ever been (applause), and he trusted it would become more and more vigorous as the years passed, and that the youth who came to Oxford for education would in increasing numbers seek that physical and mental culture which they could get by becoming change ringers (hear, hear). They were greatly indebted to Mr. Barrett for having arranged that jubilee celebration and giving them the opportunity of meeting old friends. He was very glad they had been able to come there that day, and rejoiced in the continued existence of their society. He trusted that many similar functions might be arranged at which they would have the pleasure of being present (applause).

THE 'RIVAL' SOCIETY.

Canon Coleridge proposed the toast of 'Cambridge University Guild.' He recalled that at the Oxford Diocesan Guild jubilee last July there was some good-natured 'scrapping' between himself and the president of the Central Council, who was a Cambridge University man, as to the rival merits of the two University ringing societies. Then, about two months ago at Cambridge, on the occasion of the Stedman Tercentenary, Mr. Lewis presented him with a souvenir tied with an immense bow of light blue ribbon, which he still had on his table. Of course, they all stuck up for their own, but he would tell them this, and they knew it quite well, that in the matter of peal ringing Cambridge University Guild had gone far ahead of anything the Oxford University Society had done. Cambridge took the lead in that way, but Oxford had done a good deal in the way of founding different county and diocesan societies, and that was a great privilege (hear, hear). He believed there were only four older surviving members of the Oxford University Society than himself. In the Cambridge University Guild they had the Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, who had been president for over fifty years, a fact which had a vast influence on the fortunes of that Guild. If only Mr. Barrett had started 50 years ago as secretary of the Oxford University Society, they might have rung as many peals as Cambridge (laughter and hear, hear). Canon Coleridge referred to many of his friends among the members of Cambridge University Guild, and expressed deep regret at the news of the death of one of its most distinguished members, the Rev. H. L. James. The Cambridge University Guild, he added, had been held together in a most marvellous way, and they could only wish the Oxford University Society could have been held together throughout its existence in a similar manner.

Mr. A. G. G. Thurlow, who responded to the toast, emphasised what Canon Coleridge had said with regard to all Mr. Boughey had done for the Cambridge University Guild. They could not, he said, imagine the Guild existing without him. He was sorry to say Mr. Boughey was giving up his rooms in Trinity College this year, and the Guild, which had had its quarters there for so long, would have to migrate elsewhere. Referring to incidents which had happened in the history of his Guild, and particularly the one where a curate who, while a Guild peal was in progress, was about to hold a service, pushed up the trap door of the ringing chamber with his head to ask the ringers to cease, only to have the tenorman jump off the box on to the trap door, Mr. Thurlow spoke of the importance of all persons knowing something about bells and ringing, and as most persons came from the universities there was no better means of gaining that knowledge than by joining the University societies while they were undergraduates.

THE SOCIETY'S INFLUENCE.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith submitted the toast of 'The Oxford University Society,' and congratulated the members upon having reached their diamond jubilee. The society, founded in 1872, was not launched, he said, with any flourish of trumpets, or with the metaphorical booming of guns or wagging of flags. It appeared to have been started quite unostentatiously by men who had a serious purpose before them. He had searched the files of 'Church Bells,' then the only paper that dealt with ringing matters, for any record of the founding of the society, but nothing was said about it until April 28th, 1873, when a 720 'in the Grandrise method' was rung at Illey by the Rev. E. Bengough, R. Troyte, A. du B. Hill, F. Bampfylde, J. E. Troyte (conductor) and W. Poole. It was added that there were 22 members, and that there were two handbell and two steeple practices each week, with occasional visits to towers outside the city. That showed that the society made an excellent start. He had listened a week ago to an address to ringers in which it was stated that a large measure of the belfry reform which had taken place in the last half century was attributable to the Oxford Movement. How far the Oxford Movement influenced the founding of the Oxford University Society he could not say, but it was quite certain that the origin of

a number of the leading county and diocesan Guilds could be traced to the members of the Oxford University Society. These modern associations gave ringers a new conception of their duties, and church authorities a new idea of their responsibilities regarding their bells. The Devon, the Gloucester and Bristol, the Essex, the Winchester and the Salisbury Guilds were all founded by members of the Oxford University Society, and many of the associations which came afterwards were inspired by these earlier organisations, so that it was fairly safe to say that the Oxford University Society was, in fact, largely responsible for the ringing associations as we knew them today. Although the society had not had an unbroken life of activity, it was a very happy augury that at that diamond jubilee it was at one of the most flourishing periods of its history, and he wished the society continued and increased prosperity (applause).

PRESENTATION TO THE PRESIDENT.

The Master, who responded, spoke of the gratification which was felt that the society should now be in such a flourishing condition—more flourishing than it had been for a large number of years. It was not as easy to keep together a society like theirs as it was a band at a church, because most of them went away after a few years. They, therefore, had some reason to be proud of their present position (hear, hear). They had been fortunate in attracting several members of the right sort—men who would stick at it until they did succeed (applause). They had been fortunate in having Mr. Miles as a permanent member. They had his assistance both for the hand-bell and Saturday afternoon practices, and his help was tremendous (applause). He conducted their peal of Triples at Drayton, and everyone agreed they would not have rung it without his help. The Rev. W. C. Barrett became their secretary about three years ago, and their present prosperity was due in a large measure to Mr. Barrett's efficient secretaryship (hear, hear). Finally, they had as their president Bishop Shaw, who had filled the office for ten years (applause). By his able chairmanship he had greatly helped them in their business meetings each term, and on behalf of the society he had to present to him a framed photograph of the members of the society taken in New College Cloisters at the last annual gathering (applause).

The President, who accepted the gift amid applause, said the little he had been able to do was not deserving such recognition. It had been a great pleasure and interest to him to do what he could in a small way, but the prosperity of the society had really depended upon other people, and especially on Mr. Barrett, as the Master had said. The University Society was a peculiar body; the members come and go, and sometimes he did not even find out their surnames. He added that he thought it was very important that young men who were going to be ordained should, when they came to Oxford, be introduced to and join the Guild. He always used his best endeavours to get them to do so. When he first became president there was some difficulty, but as the society had developed and shown its ability there had been a better response, and he hoped the response would continue (hear, hear). In conclusion, Bishop Shaw said he would like to add his testimony to what had been done by Mr. Miles (applause).

This concluded the proceedings, and the party were afterwards photographed together in the cloisters of New College.

Later, many of the members visited Kidlington, where touches in the four standard methods were rung, with the help of Mr. Frank Simmons, of the Oxford city ringers. On Sunday an attempt for a peal of Steadman Triples was made by members of the society at Clanchief, but failed after just over two hours' ringing owing to a shift course. The striking on the whole was very good indeed. The following were the ringers: J. B. Howes (Kemble) 1, W. Thomas (Lincoln) 2, W. G. W. Warren (Oriel) 3, Rev. E. V. Cox (Kemble) 4, S. H. Taylor (Merton) 5, C. E. Wigg (Kemble) 6, H. Miles (St. Cath's) (conductor) 7, J. W. Ryder (Henford) 8.

NOTICES.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—The 44th annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, February 27th, at 6 o'clock, when the chair will be taken by Canon T. Guy Rogers, B.D., M.C., Rector of Birmingham, Chaplain to the King. To fully qualified members tickets will be issued on payment of 2s., to other members and friends 6s. 6d. each. The bells of St. Martin's (12) and Bishop Ryder's (8) will be available from 3 to 5 o'clock, the Cathedral (10) from 4 to 5.30. Applications for tickets, accompanied by remittance, should be made to Thomas H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.—ALL ENGLAND RINGERS' MEETING at CROYDON on Saturday, April 2nd, by invitation of Messrs. Gillett & Johnston, Ltd. Further details later.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—The subscription of 1s. 8d., which enables members who have not met twenty times to vote on matters of finance, should be paid in before the 29th inst. Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on the 25th, Southwark Cathedral on the 18th, *St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 23rd, at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting will be held at Elstow on Saturday, Feb. 13th. Bells from 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All welcome.—T. C. Bonnett, Stagsden, Beds.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held at St. Peter's, Tunbridge Wells, on Saturday, February 13th. Tower open at 2.30. Service at 4.30. Tea in the Parish Hall, followed by business meeting after the service. Subscriptions are now due, and should be paid at the meeting or sent to the district secretary.—W. Latter, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Leatherhead on Saturday, February 13th. Tower open at 3. Service at 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting at the Institute.—A. H. Smith, 37, Church Walk, Leatherhead.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Leyland, St. James', on Saturday, February 13th. Bells available from 2.30. Reports to hand. Subscriptions due.—Fred Rigby, Hon. Sec., 8, Carrington Road, Chorley.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Boreham on Saturday, February 13th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service in church 4.30, followed by tea and meeting at 5.15. Will members please make a special effort to attend? Subscriptions for the current year are now due.—A. E. Coombes, Hon. Sec., 8, Council Houses, Galleywood, Chelmsford.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Alton District.—The annual meeting will be held at Alton on Saturday, February 13th. Bells of the Parish Church available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea in St. Lawrence Church Room, Normandy Street 5. Business meeting follows.—C. C. Taylor, Binsted Vicarage, Alton.

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EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Blackwell on Saturday, February 13th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 at a moderate charge.—J. W. England, Welwyn, South Normanton.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Gainsborough District.—A meeting will be held at Gainsborough on Saturday, February 13th. Service at Parish Church at 4.15 p.m., followed by tea 1s. 3d. per head. Bells (8) available from 3. Visitors kindly inform H. Morgan, 45, Hawthorn Avenue, Gainsborough.

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Darton on Saturday, February 13th. Bells ready at 3 p.m.—A. Panther, Hon. Sec.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society).—Annual general meeting will be held on Saturday, February 13th. Ringing, St. Giles' in-the-Fields (8), 2.30 to 4.15 p.m.; St. Magnus the Martyr, London Bridge (10), 2.30 to 3.45 p.m.; St. Clement Danes' (10), 3.45 to 4.45 p.m. Service St. Clement's 4.45. Tea at Willow Restaurant, Essex Street, Strand, 5.30 p.m. Business meeting in Parish Hall, 6.30 p.m.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bromyard District.—The annual meeting will be held at Bromyard, on Saturday, February 13th. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea in the Church Institute at 5 p.m.—A. S. Tomkins, Post Office, Bredenbury, Hereford.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guilsborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at East Haddon on Saturday, February 13th. Bells (6) available 2.45 p.m. Service in church at 4. Tea 4.45. Please notify me for tea.—R. Adams, East Haddon, Northants.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—North Norfolk Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held at Wymondham, on Saturday, February 13th. Bells available from 3 p.m.—W. B. Duncan, Branch Sec., Reepham, Norwich.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Walton on Saturday, February 13th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 5.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. All welcome. These bells know Surprise Minor.—Claude I. Davies, Branch Sec., Caerleon, Dunbabin Road, Wavertree.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—V.W.H. Branch.—Meeting at Hinton Waldrist, Saturday, February 13th. Six bells. Tower open 2.30. Service 3.30.

SCARNING, NORFOLK.—The rehung and augmented ring of six, by Gillett and Johnston, Croydon, will be rededicated by the Lord Bishop of Norwich on Sunday, February 14th, at 3.15 p.m. All ringers will be welcome and will be entertained to tea. Will those intending to be present write to the Rev. W. Eugène Perrin, Scarning Rectory, East Dereham?

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the Western Division will be held at Heene on Saturday, Feb. 20th. Tower open from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at the Parish Rooms at 5. Will those intending to be present kindly advise me not later than February 14th?—A. W. Groves, Amherst, Dominion Rd., Worthing.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—A meeting will be held at Sandridge on Saturday, Feb. 20th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Frequent bus service from St. Albans. All ringers welcome.—W. Nash, Dis. Sec., North Mimms, Hatfield.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Standish on Saturday, February 20th. Bells available at 3 o'clock. Service at 5, followed by the unveiling of a peal tablet by the Rev. Canon Eisee. Tea served in the Schoolroom afterwards. Notify me for tea before Wednesday, February 17th. All ringers welcome.—Jas. W. Grounds, Hon. Sec., 8, School Lane, Standish.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—The Spring meeting will be held at Ripple, on Saturday, February 20th. Bells (6) ready 2.45. Service 4 p.m., with tea and business meeting to follow. Those intending to be present please notify me by Wednesday, February 17th.—F. S. Hawkes, Hon. Sec., Duddage, Twynning, near Tewkesbury.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester and Bolton Branches.—A joint meeting will be held at Holy Trinity, Bolton, on Saturday, February 20th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. to 6 p.m., followed by a social at Bolton Borough Police Athletic Club, Old Hall Street. As these are licensed premises it is essential that names be sent to 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton, not later than February 17th. All ringers and friends cordially invited.—Donald Brown, Peter Crook, Hon. Secs.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Allesley (6 bells) on Saturday, Feb. 20th. Tea will be provided at a moderate charge. Frequent bus service from Coventry and Birmingham.—Mrs. D. E. Beamish, Green Ways, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Branch.—Monthly meeting at Warmley on Saturday, Feb. 20th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.15 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. All ringers and friends welcome. Please notify me for tea not later than Wednesday, Feb. 17th.—F. Skidmore, Branch Hon. Sec., 80, Carlyle Road, Greenbank, Bristol.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The annual general meeting of the Guild will be held at Withyham on Saturday, February 20th. Tower opened 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., by kind invitation, followed by business meeting. Will all requiring tea kindly notify me not later than Tuesday, February 16th? All ringers welcome.—G. Lambert, Drummond Hay, Moat Road, East Grinstead.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at Bispham on Saturday, February 20th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Meeting 5 p.m. Reports ready. Subscriptions due. Visitors welcomed.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec., 118, Dickson Road, Blackpool.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—The next meeting will be held at Oadby on Saturday, Feb. 20th (Whetstone bells being unavailable). Bells of Oadby (6) ready at 3.30 p.m. Tea at the Lancashire Café. Subscriptions are now due, and can be paid at this meeting. Please turn up and make it a good meeting.—E. H. Bagworth, Dis. Sec., 36, Turner Road, Leicester.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Peak District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Great Longstone on Saturday, Feb. 20th. Church of St. Giles (6 bells, tenor 8 cwt.) available afternoon and evening. Tea and meeting at the White Lion 5 p.m. Please notify Mr. E. F. Blackwell, Sunny Bank, Great Longstone, by Feb. 17th. Subscriptions due. Visitors welcome.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec., Leamwood, Dore.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—A by-meeting will be held at Hollingbourne on Saturday, February 20th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service at 4.45. Tea in the Parish Hall, kindly provided by the Vicar. Subscriptions for 1932 are now due, and can be paid at this meeting. All ringers welcome. Please notify me not later than Tuesday, February 16th.—C. H. Sone, Dis. Sec., Bungalow, Linton, Maidstone.

STEVENTON, BERKS.—Ring of six, rebung in new frame by Gillett and Johnston, Croydon, will be rededicated by the Lord Bishop of Oxford on Saturday, February 20th. Service 3 p.m. Visiting ringers will be entertained to tea afterwards; names to be sent to the Rev. A. Robinson, Steventon Vicarage, Didcot.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting will be held at Barwell on Sat., February 20th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Tea (6d.) and meeting at 4.15. A good attendance is hoped for.—A. E. Rowley, Dis. Sec., Station Road, Higham-on-the-Hill, Nuneaton.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch. — A monthly meeting will be held at Rodbourne Cheney (Swindon) on Saturday, Feb. 20th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Tea, 5 p.m., for those who notify me by Wednesday, Feb. 17th. All ringers welcome. — S. Hopper, Branch Hon. Sec., 79, Edinburgh Street, Swindon, Wilts.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at New Romney on Feb. 20th. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. — P. Page, Hon. Sec., 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting of the Chesterfield District of the above association will be held at Alfreton on Saturday, Feb. 20th. Please roll up in good numbers.—J. P. Tarlton, Hon. Sec.

LADIES' GUILD.—Northamptonshire District. — A meeting will be held at Moulton on Saturday, Feb. 20th. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15, with handbell accompaniment to hymns, by ladies. Numbers for tea by Feb. 16th, please. — S. Thursfield, Hon. Sec., Cranford Rectory, Kettering.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wirral Branch. — A meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Rock Ferry, on Saturday, Feb. 20th. Tower open at 3 o'clock. Service at 5 o'clock. Tea and meeting at 6 p.m.—Harry S. Brocklebank, Hon. Sec., 3, Ridley Street.

LADIES' GUILD.—Southern District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Hersham, on Saturday, Feb. 27th. Bells (8) available at 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting at Church House. All welcome. Those requiring tea please notify me by Tuesday, Feb. 23rd. — H. F. Mills, 13, Cargate Avenue, Aldershot.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—The next meeting will be held at Northchurch on Saturday, Feb. 27th, when a service, tea and meeting will be arranged. Bells ready at 3 p.m. All ringing friends welcome. — J. Pulett, Hon. Sec., Aylesbury Road, Tring.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Reigate on Saturday, March 19th. Nominations for general officers to be made in writing by March 5th. Further details later.—Chas H. Kippin, Hon. Gen. Sec.

ST. MARY'S ASSOCIATION, PUTNEY.—Will friends and intending visitors please note that, owing to mid-week services, practice has been suspended during Lent. A resumption will be made on March 30th at 7.30.—C. E. G. Moody, Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Preliminary Notice.—Annual Committee Meeting.—Will members of committee please note that the annual committee meeting will be held at Oxford on Saturday, April 2nd? Particulars later.—Richard T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

SURREY RINGER has vacancy for paying guests.—Apply Box E, 'Ringing World' Office, Woking.

SITUATION WANTED.

Young man, 28, seeks occupation of any kind; qualified carpenter; good knowledge and experience as gardener; change ringer up to ten bells.—R. Russell, Halton, Market Harborough.

SITUATION VACANT.

WANTED early in March, house-parlourmaid and single-handed cook or good cook-general, 25 years or over. Usually 3 in family, extra in holidays. House boy kept. Good references essential. State wages and experience. — Mrs. Lewis, Moorcocks, Brasted, Sevenoaks.

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