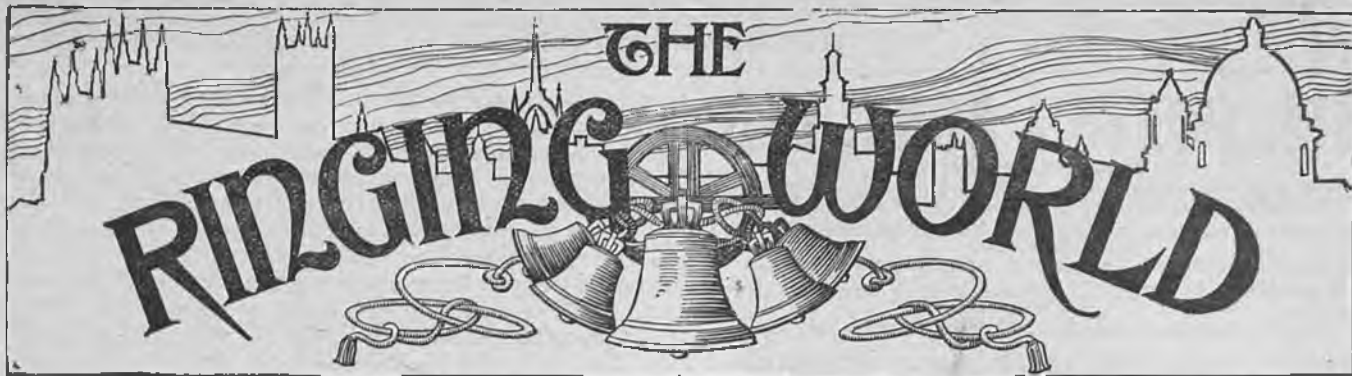




No. 1,147. Vol. XXVIII.

FRIDAY, MARCH 17th, 1933.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
transmission as a newspaper.]

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**GILLETT and
JOHNSTON**
Ltd.

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— — — — —
**Founders
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cast
in England.**

A CAMBRIDGE ATTACK.

An attack has just been levelled against the ringing of the celebrated bells of the Church of St. Mary-the-Great, Cambridge, and it has originated in the Town Council. One of the members, who dislikes the bells on practice nights, found that the Corporation was paying five pounds a year for bellringing purposes, and this apparently set him thinking. His idea is, presumably, that this payment gives the Council the right to say when and how the bells shall be rung, but the ultimate length to which the General Purposes Committee was prepared to go was to recommend that representations should be made that the bells on practice evenings should be muffled. The Council appears to have been nearly evenly divided on the subject, and eventually the matter was referred back for further consideration.

The reasons given for the proposed 'representation' are that the bells cause annoyance to the neighbours and disturb the studies of the University students who have rooms nearby. It is probably just one more of the sporadic outbreaks against bells, which burst into flame from time to time, but which is here given prominence because it emanates through the Town Council. While the feeling at the moment is against the weekly practice, nothing is said against the nightly ringing of the curfew for which, actually, the five pounds is paid by the Corporation, and which, we believe, plays an official part in connection with College regulations in Cambridge. For two hundred years the bells of Great St. Mary's have been rung; generations of townsmen and students have come and gone, but it is left to the people of an age turned hideous with other noises to try and muffle the voices of these bells for the one hour a week during which, apart from Sundays, they are usually rung.

We are glad to hear that the Vicar of Great St. Mary's does not view these 'representations' with favour. To suggest the regular ringing of muffled bells is in itself ludicrous, and reveals the customary ignorance of matters relating to bells which frequently characterises these protests. The Vicar appears to have gone a long way towards meeting any genuine cause for complaint, but, like Oliver Twist, the Council are asking for more. We hope the Vicar and the Church authorities will take a firm stand on the matter. Every concession leads to further demands; but usually behind the air of injured innocence assumed in these cases are personal feelings of no great importance. Presently, however, the storm in the teacup will doubtless blow itself out, and the bells of Great St. Mary's will go on ringing as they have done since Stedman's days. At the same time it might be well

(Continued on page 162.)

WM. POTTS & SONS. LTD.

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Maker to St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Imperial Insti-
tute, Canterbury, Edinburgh, St. Albans, Lincoln, Durham, Peter-
borough, Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's,
Manchester, Durban and Worcester Cathedrals, etc., etc.

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

if the Church authorities and the ringers assured them-
selves that all that is prudent has been done in blocking
up the louvres that overlook the houses. If there is room
for improvement they should not hesitate to make it, and
it might conceivably allay some of the hostility. No one
wants to provoke complaints and opposition, and from
all points of view, the public as well as the ringers',
properly stopped louvres are an infinitely better solution
than muffled bells, if there is any ground whatever for
the 'representations.'

TEN BELL PEALS.

MANCHESTER, LANC.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 4, 1933, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5009 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt.

ERNEST COTSFORTH Treble	THOMAS B. WORSLEY 6
BENJAMIN THORPE 2	WILLIAM PYE 7
* NORMAN HEAPS 3	FREDERICK PAGE 8
* WILFRED HALLIWELL 4	CHRISTOPHER GUDGEON 9
WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT 5	JAMES TURNER Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW.

Conducted by C. GUDGEON.

* First peal of Stedman Caters. First touch of Stedman Caters as
conductor. Messrs. F. Page and W. W. Wolstencroft's 200th peal.

SAFFRON WALDEN, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 7, 1933, in Three Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

* F. ROWLAND RIDGWELL Treble	LEONARD E. PITSTOW 6
HAROLD SKETCHLEY 2	* FREDERICK RIDGWELL 7
ERNEST G. HIBBINS 3	ALFRED H. SIMMONDS 8
GEORGE S. SPARROW 4	FREDERICK DENCH 9
T. REGINALD DENNIS 5	WALTER PARISH Tenor

Composed and Conducted by F. DENCH.

* First peal on ten bells. First peal of Grandsire Caters on the
bells. It was the 41st anniversary of the conductor's first peal.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 11, 1933, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt.

WILLIAM C. HART Treble	ALFRED H. GREENWOOD 6
KEITH HART 2	ALBERT D. STONE 7
MRS. F. I. HAIRS 3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS 8
FRANK I. HAIRS 4	WILFRED WILLIAMS 9
ALFRED W. GROVES 5	JOHN DEARLOVE Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by JOHN DEARLOVE.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 11, 1933, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5076 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. in D.

J. CARTER'S NINE-FART.	THOMAS J. HULL 6
WALTER H. L. BUCKINGHAM Treble	* GEORGE B. COLLINS 7
JOHN W. MALYAN 2	GEORGE W. DEBENHAM 8
HAROLD V. FROST 3	† ALFRED J. HOUSE 9
GILBERT E. DEBENHAM 4	JOHN DRYDEN Tenor
FREDERICK J. SPICER 5	

Conducted by G. W. DEBENHAM.

* First peal of Grandsire Caters. † First peal of Caters. First peal
of Grandsire as conductor. Rung on the eighth anniversary of the
induction of the Vicar (the Rev. H. Gathorne Crabbtree, M.C., M.A.).
It also marked the 46th anniversary of the ringing of Holt's Original
peal of Grandsire Triples on handbells (non-conducted) by Messrs. W.
H. L. Buckingham, J. C. Mitchell, C. F. Winney and the late Mr.
G. T. MacLaughlin.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sunday, March 5, 1933, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 21½ cwt.

WILLIAM J. BOTTON Treble	THOMAS W. LAST 5
ALBERT E. WHITING 2	WILLIAM C. RUMSEY 6
GEORGE BENNETT 3	THOMAS H. CHAPPELL 7
LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN 4	JAMES BENNETT, SEN. Tenor

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY.

Conducted by WILLIAM C. RUMSEY

ROMFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, March 7, 1933, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Edward,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

ERNEST W. PYE Treble	WILLIAM R. MADGWICK 5
GEORGE R. PYE 2	ERNEST J. BUTLER 6
FRANK G. RINGE 3	JAMES BENNETT 7
JOHN W. WARD 4	WILLIAM PYE Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by G. R. PYE.

WHITBY, YORKSHIRE.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, March 8, 1933, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

At the Parish Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 18 cwt.

*CHARLES TINDALE Treble	ALBERT V. COATES 5
*JOHN WALLER 2	WM. A. BRECKON 6
ALFRED E. OXLEY 3	HARRY SHORT 7
GEORGE WHITE 4	RICHARD HANSELL Tenor

Conducted by HARRY SHORT.

* First peal of Triples. First peal as conductor.

SAWLEY, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, March 8, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

M. SWINFELD'S ODD AND EVEN BOB IRREGULAR TWENTY-PART, No. 2

Tenor 9½ cwt.

JOHN H. SWINFELD Treble	J. CHARLES DICKEN 5
JOSEPH BAILEY 2	JAMES GEORGE 6
MAURICE SWINFELD 3	WALTER WALLACE 7
CHARLES DRAFER 4	W. RICHARDSON DRAGE Tenor

Conducted by M. SWINFELD.

This composition is now rung for the first time, and was a birthday compliment to J. Charles Dicken and J. J. Parker, of Farnham Royal.

NORTHFLEET, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, March 8, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Botolph,

A PEAL OF NORTHFLEET LITTLE BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

EDWIN BARNETT Treble	GEORGE L. BUTCHER 5
EDWIN A. BARNETT 2	JOHN H. CHEESMAN 6
EDWARD J. BEER 3	HARRY HOVERD 7
THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. 4	HERBERT E. ADDSLEY Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by T. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.

This method is now rung for the first time.

BRAINTREE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 9, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael-the-Archangel,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 11½ cwt. in G.

*SAMUEL WARNE Treble	*BASIL RIDGWELL 5
*MISS ELSIE E. PETTITT 2	†ALBERT WIFFEN 6
EDWARD P. DUFFIELD 3	LEWIS W. WIFFEN 7
*GEORGE WIFFEN 4	*HERBERT C. REASON Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by LEWIS W. WIFFEN

* First peal in the method. † First peal in the method on an 'inside' bell. Miss Pettitt is the first lady to take part in a peal of Bristol Surprise in the county and for the association. With the exception of the ringer of the 3rd, all are regular service ringers, and the band wish to associate with the peal Mr. C. H. Howard, who had practised with the band.

LONDON.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 9, 1933, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Mary, LEWISHAM,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 22½ cwt.

HARRY WARNETT, SEN. Treble	HARRY WARNETT, JUN. 5
CHARLES H. WALKER 2	CHARLES DAVIS 6
JAMES BENNETT 3	JACK DAFTERS 7
JOHN J. LAMB 4	*ARTHUR H. ROWE Tenor

Conducted by HARRY WARNETT, SEN.

* First peal. Specially arranged and rung as a 70th birthday compliment (March 15th) to the conductor, who has been a ringer at this tower for 43 years and captain of the band for 37 years. He called the same composition for his first peal as conductor on June 10th, 1893. The peal was also a birthday compliment (March 14th) to the ringer of the 6th and the wife of the ringer of the 7th (March 12th). The ringer of the 3rd has now 'completed the circle' in this tower.

TRING, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, March 10, 1933, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

GROVES' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 24 cwt.

WALTER AYRE Treble	FREDERICK C. REEVE 5
FREDERICK J. REEVE 2	HARRY BULL 6
*HAROLD BRACKLEY 3	†CHRISTOPHER BADRICK 7
HAROLD BISHOP 4	*NATHAN BRACKLEY Tenor

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal on eight. Arranged and rung as a compliment to Miss M. Bright, who had the bells restored in memory of her parents. Also as a birthday compliment to Master John Wedgwood T. Wood, son of the Vicar. First peal on the bells since restoration. All are members of the local company except the conductor.

PRESTON.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 11, 1933, in Three Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. John,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 25½ cwt.

*JOHN T. BIMSON Treble	*JOHN BOOTH 5
*JOHN CHARNOCK 2	E. ROGER MARTIN 6
BENJAMIN A. KNIGHTS 3	*JAMES W. GROONDS 7
FRED HARWOOD 4	*WILLIAM SHARPLES Tenor

Composed by EDWIN TIMBRELL. Conducted by E. R. MARTIN.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor. First Surprise peal on the bells. Ring as a farewell to the Vicar, the Rev. Canon Morris, M.A., who left on the above date to take up duties near Canterbury.

G. & F. COPE & CO., NOTTINGHAM,
TOWER CLOCK MANUFACTURERS.

ESTIMATES SUBMITTED FOR NEW CLOCKS, CHIME ADDITIONS, REPAIRS,
OR REPAINTING OF DIALS.

LYTHAM.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(FYLD BRANCH.)

On Saturday, March 11, 1933, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. COTHBERT,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

DAY'S SIX-PART.		Tenor 14 cwt.	
HARRY C. INGRAM	Treble	CHARLES SHARPLES	5
GEORGE MARIES	2	PETER CROOK, JUN.	6
WILFRED HALLIWELL	3	PETER CROOK, SEN.	7
*JOHN H. FOSTER	4	EDWARD IDDON	Tenor

Conducted by P. CROOK, JUN.

* First peal of Grandsire. † 50th peal. ‡ 150th peal.

HERSHAM, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, March 11, 1933, in Three Hours,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 8½ cwt.	
JOHN E. BEAMS	Treble
JOHN BEAMS	2
JOHN B. HESSEY	3
JOHN H. WHITE	4
JOHN HOYLE	5
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH	6
JOHN GILL	7
JOHN H. B. HESSE	Tenor

Composed and Conducted by JOHN S. GOLDSMITH.

The first 'John' peal of Bob Major. All the band are resident members of the Guild.

QUEENSBURY, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 11, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.	
JAMES W. BAKENDALE	Treble
SAMUEL WARD	2
WILLIAM H. SENIOR	3
WILLIAM BARTON	4
JOHN AMBLER	5
GEORGE AMBLER	6
*WILLIAM AMBLER	7
PERCY J. JOHNSON	Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON.

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

NORWICH.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 11, 1933, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL-AT-COSLANY,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.	
*ARTHUR J. SMALLS	Treble
GEORGE HOWCHIN	2
GEORGE MAYERS	3
FREDRICK J. HOWCHIN	4
BERTIE J. HOWCHIN	5
ARTHUR G. BASON	6
WILLIAM E. BASON	7
WILLIAM CLOVER	Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by WILLIAM E. BASON.

* First peal in the method.

DUNMOW, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 11, 1933, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S.		Tenor 21 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lb. in E.	
GEORGE GREEN	Treble	WILLIAM CHALK	5
WILLIAM KEEBLE	2	WALTER SMITH	6
LEWIS W. WIFFEN	3	ERNEST W. FURBANK	7
FRANK G. RINGE	4	ARTHUR HEAD	Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE.

The band represents eight towers from four divisions of the county.

WRITTLE, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 11, 1933, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.	
THOMAS LINCOLN	Treble
CHARLES T. COLES	2
GEORGE R. PYE	3
WILLIAM LINCOLN	4
SIDNEY TAYLOR	5
ERNEST J. BOTLER	6
JAMES BENNETT	7
WILLIAM PYE	Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

WEST MALLING, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 11, 1933, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5216 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. in G.	
CHARLES H. SONE	Treble
*HORACE GILBERT	2
MRS. H. BAKER	3
HARRY BAKER	4
TOM SAUNDERS	5
THOMAS E. SONE	6
WILLIAM BOTTON	7
LUTHER J. HONESS	Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

* First attempt for a peal of Major. The composition (No. 382) is now rung for the first time.

WHITWORTH, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(OLDHAM AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)
On Saturday, March 11, 1933, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART.		Tenor 16 cwt.	
JOSEPH OGDEN	Treble	BENJAMIN THORPE	5
STEPHEN PARRY	2	WILLIAM H. SLACK	6
JAMES LEES	3	VERNON SYKES	7
GEORGE BARLOW	4	HERBERT BARLOW	Tenor

Conducted by VERNON SYKES.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. J. Lees, whose birthday was on March 9th.

LONDON.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 11, 1933, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OLAVE, HART STREET, CITY,
A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb. in F sharp.	
CHARLES W. ROBERTS	Treble
WILLIAM HEWITT	2
*JOSEPH MARKS	3
EDWIN F. PIKE	4
FRANK BENNETT	5
WILLIAM R. MADGWICK	6
JAMES E. DAVIS	7
REUBEN SANDERS	Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

* First peal in the method; also first peal in the method on the bells. This composition is now rung for the first time, and contains the 5th and 6th the extent in 5-6.

MANGOTSFIELD, BRISTOL.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 11, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.		Tenor 10 cwt.	
FRANK SKIDMORE	Treble	ERNEST PALMER	5
JOHN W. JONES	2	JOHN AUSTIN	6
GEORGE POPNELL	3	JOHN G. JEFFERIES	7
*SIDNEY G. RICHES	4	*ALBERT C. BAKER	Tenor

Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

* First peal of Stedman and first on eight bells. The conductor's 400th peal for the Gloucester and Bristol Association.

STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Saturday, March 11, 1933, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND MARY,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.	
ARTHUR GRIMWOOD	Treble
GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL	2
GEORGE LILLEY	3
*WILLIAM WATHEN	4
KEITH W. WHITTELL	5
GEORGE W. ABLITT	6
SHELFORD SPARROW	7
HARRY D. LISTER	Tenor

Composed by W. E. BASON. Conducted by HARRY D. LISTER.

* First peal in the method away from the treble. The tenor ringer has now 'completed the circle' in this tower.

SLATE PEAL TABLETS.—Now at 1914 prices. Inscriptions carved in correct Roman alphabet: for 6 bell peals, from £3; for 8 bell peals, from £4 each; same as supplied for the record peal at Appleton. Ringers' memorial tablets in slate, suitable for the belfry, from £2 each.—C. H. WEBB, CROFT, LEICESTER.

TETTENHALL, STAFFS.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, March 11, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

ERNEST MORRIS' TRANSPOSITION OF PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt.

NORMAN H. SMITH Treble	BENJAMIN DALTON 5
HAROLD L. FLAVELL 2	FRANCIS BROTHERTON 6
ALBERT D. COLLINS 3	HARRY BOSWELL 7
ROBERT PICKERING 4	THOMAS W. BATE Tenor

Conducted by HARRY BOSWELL.

Mr. R. Pickering has now completed the 'circle' twice in this tower. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. H. Griffiths, of St. Peter's, Wolverhampton.

CLAINES, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 11, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES,

Tenor 14 cwt.

WILLIAM SHORT Treble	ROBERT MATTHEWS 5
CLIFFORD SEIDMORE 2	HECTOR G. BIRD 6
GEORGE E. LARGE 3	CYRIL TANSSELL 7
JAMES HEMMING 4	GEOFFREY J. HEMMING Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by R. MATTHEWS.

* First peal of Cambridge.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

GOLDHANGER, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 28, 1933, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 College Exercise and two 720's each of Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 6½ cwt.

*WILLIAM J. WHITE Treble	CHARLES J. MANN 4
JOHN D. BUCKINGHAM 2	ARTHUR APPLETON 5
JOHN R. OWERS 3	BENARD C. MANN Tenor

Conducted by BERNARD C. MANN.

* First peal. Rung to celebrate the coming of age of the conductor, and was his first peal in that capacity. It was also a birthday compliment to the ringers of the 2nd.

KIRKBY MALLORY, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

(HINCKLEY DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, March 4, 1933, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores with varied callings. Tenor 9 cwt.

NORMAN STATHAM Treble	HECTOR A. KNIGHTS 3
*CLAUDE A. COE 2	FRANCIS R. DEACON 4
ERNEST E. PICKERING Tenor	

Conducted by E. E. PICKERING.

* First peal and first attempt. First peal as conductor. Rung as a welcome to the Rev. E. Mills to the living of Kirkby Mallory, whose induction by the Bishop of Leicester took place on this day.

BERRINGTON, SHROPSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(LUDLOW AND CHURCH STRETTON DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, March 4, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, ten different callings. Tenor 13½ cwt.

WILLIAM DOWNES Treble	LOUIS PIERCE 4
FREDRICK OWEN 2	WILLIAM LEWIS 5
WILLIAM J. BENIAMS 3	DAVID EVANS Tenor

Conducted by WM. J. BENIAMS.

First peal by all except the conductor.

HORNCHURCH, ESSEX.—On Sunday, February 26th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,280 changes): S. Miles (first quarter-peal) 1, A. Rolph 2, J. Dale 3, J. Cross 4, J. G. Macdonald 5, G. Playle 6, J. Blay 7, J. Cornford (conductor) 8.

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 11, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of 720 Spliced Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, and two 720's each of Kent, Oxford and Plain Bob. Tenor 14 cwt. (approx.).

STANLEY NOBLES Treble	WILFRED STEVENSON 4
WILLIAM GAYES 2	JOHN WORTH 5
JAMES A. MILNER 3	JACK WADMSLEY Tenor

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

Mr. W. Gayes' 50th peal.

ULCOMBE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 11, 1933, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being five six-scores each of St. Simon's and Plain Bob, ten of Stedmann and 22 of Grandsire. Tenor 16 cwt.

ALAN MISSING Treble	WILLIAM J. HENNIKER 4
JOSEPH T. PACK 2	ALEXANDER WADDINGTON 5
WILLIAM A. OLDFIELD 3	C. FREDERICK GOOD Tenor

Conducted by A. WADDINGTON.

First peal in four methods by all. Believed to be the first peal on the bells.

MR. T. GROOMBRIDGE, SENIOR'S 700 PEALS.

The peal of Superlative at Eynsford on February 4th was the 700th peal rung by Mr. Thomas Groombridge, sen. This total is made up as follows:—

Method	Rung	Conducted
Doubles	1	—
Minor	18	15
Grandsire Triples	82	45
Oxford Bob Triples	4	1
Bob Triples	1	—
Erin Triples	1	—
Stedman Triples	147	72
Bob Major	44	12
Hereward Bob Major	1	—
Double Oxford Bob Major	4	—
Double Norwich Court Bob Major	73	12
'Real' Double Norwich Court Bob Major	3	2
Kent Treble Bob Major	69	28
Oxford Treble Bob Major	2	—
Granta Treble Bob Major	1	1
Little Bob Major	1	—
Erith Little Bob Major	1	—
Superlative Surprise Major	30	5
Cambridge Surprise Major	51	4
New Cumberland Major	3	—
London Surprise Major	19	1
Bristol Surprise Major	8	1
Grandsire Caters	3	—
Stedman Caters	32	—
Bob Royal	3	—
Kent Treble Bob Royal	15	4
Forward Royal	2	—
Dnfield	1	—
Double Norwich Court Bob Royal	1	—
Cambridge Surprise Royal	10	—
Grandsire Cinques	1	—
Stedman Cinques	43	—
Bob Maximus	1	—
Kent Treble Bob Maximus	6	1
Superlative Surprise Maximus	2	—
Cambridge Surprise Maximus	16	3
Total	700	207

Of the above peals, one each of Stedman Triples, Double Norwich Major, Cambridge and Superlative Surprise Major were 'non-conducted,' 168 have been rung with his son, Mr. T. Groombridge, jun. (including 'father and son' peal of Cinques). He has taken part in peals of Stedman from Doubles to Cinques, including the 12,675 of the latter, and peals of Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise from Minor to Maximus, including 7,392 of Cambridge Maximus. Fifteen peals were rung on handbells, of which he conducted two.

WRINGTON, SOMERSET.—On February 8th, at All Saints', a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,257 changes) in 53 minutes: T. Gunning 1, H. H. Yeats 2, T. Ferris 3, Mrs. H. Knight (first quarter-peal on ten bells) 4, J. Gait 5, A. Ferris 6, F. Nipper 7, T. Brice 8, H. W. Knight (conductor) 9, H. Vowles 10. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to William Axford, who was sidesman of the Church for many years.

'PEAL GRABBERS.' DAYS OF 'OPPORTUNITY.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I was delighted to see Mr. E. P. Duffield's excellent reply to Mr. N. G. Leech's letter in your issue of February 24th. I support the whole of his remarks. There is not an atom of justification for the statements made by Mr. Leech, and if he attended meetings, as I have done for a number of years, he would see for himself who gets the greatest part of the ringing, the learner or the 'Great I Ams,' as he terms them.

If he has ambition and mental ability, he would find no trouble to advance to any method in these days of 'opportunity.' Had he lived over 50 years ago he might have found difficulty in getting practice with a change ringing band at all, as it was only by cycling 15 miles each way that I was able to get my first plain course of Grandsire Triples. Now it is only to learn to handle your bell first, learn up the method you want to ring, go to district meetings and take the opportunity offered you.

GEORGE WILLIAMS.

Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild.

PROMINENT RINGER'S VIEW.

Dear Sir,—There appears in your Feb. 24th issue a letter from Mr. N. G. Leech, of Dudley, to which I, for one, take strong objection. Evidently his views of what constitutes progress are of a very one-sided nature. I have no wish to blow my own trumpet; results will always speak for themselves. There may be some talented ringers who refuse or neglect to give a helping hand to beginners, or, shall I say, less apt pupils than they may have been themselves, but they are few and far between. Each case must be judged on its merits. May I point out to Mr. Leech that there are many factors to be taken into consideration, to few if any of which he has given a thought. In one case to my knowledge a Surprise band who were continually ringing peals have been very hard hit by the depression, and at one time 15 of them were unemployed. Yet they have managed to keep the band together, and, besides ringing Surprise peals, have taught several young ringers in their own tower. Now I come to my own district and what is being done there. Having rung nearly into the seventh century, including nearly 100 peals of London Surprise Major and five rung double-handed, I suppose Mr. Leech will term me a 'peal grabber.' He is quite at liberty to enjoy his point of view, but I would like to ask him whether we were not making greater progress by keeping our band select, if you so like to term it, practising London double-handed and ringing peals of the same. I submit that if we had devoted our time to teaching others instead of ringing London double-handed, the first peal might have yet had to be rung. One more point for Mr. Leech's information. Quite recently I rang 16 peals in three weeks, including two Surprise, two Treble Bob, three Double Norwich and two of Bob Major on tower bells besides handbell peals. These were rung with 51 ringers, 11 of whom scored their first in the method, one first in two methods and five first peals. I ask Mr. Leech to draw his own conclusion, as doubtless many of your readers will do.

W. KEEBLE.

Feering.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ALL.

Dear Sir,—Correspondence on the subject of 'Peal grabbers' has before appeared in 'The Ringing World,' and I trust you may find space in your valuable paper to insert my humble reply. With reference, first of all, to Mr. G. Gilbert's letter in the issue of the 17th February, I must quote the old saying 'Those in glass houses should not throw stones.' With reference to the remarks in the issue of Feb. 24th, I would like to know what business Mr. Leech has to criticise the creditable performances of other ringers and openly accuse them of bad striking? He writes rubbish. In the first place, he cannot know the men he describes as 'Great I Ams.' If he is an 'all round' man, he will understand why Surprise peals are rung. He has no right to judge what men should or should not ring, for, so far, 'our beautiful hobby' is not limited to anything where the range of methods is concerned, and ringers are free to go for whatever method they desire.

Why does not Mr. Leech state who he considers are the 'Great I Ams'? Naturally we have an idea who he means, but I am confident of one thing when I state that peals rung by men like the Pyes, Coles, Roberts, Hewitt, Kippen, Pink, Sippells, Keeble, Pulling and the Ipswich, Helmingham and Leiston towers leave nothing to be desired where good ringing is concerned. I feel sure that if any ringer expressed a wish to stand in a peal, Plain or otherwise, with any of these bands, it would be arranged and they would be met with a welcome.

I risk stating that if Mr. Leech has at any time heard a second-class peal by the 'Surprise cliques,' it was quite probably when he himself has been pulling with them, or else when his complaining friends, afraid of putting their backs into a method by learning it thoroughly at home first, have to be driven through the peal after previously explaining to the conductor that it was most important the peal be rung for some particular reason.

These are the people who voice their complaints against their more brilliant friends, especially when the conductor brings the attempt to

a finish through lack of knowledge of the method of one or two men who expect good ringers to waste their time and money over them.

I am of the opinion that if Mr. Leech and his colleagues care to go to the trouble of thoroughly learning a method on PAPER FIRST and then travel a few miles to practise it, they would find out if they have the ability to ring it. If they can absolutely master the method and strike it, they can be fairly certain of finding favour with our Surprise bands, who have had to tread the elementary stages of practice solely by determination, self-will and study.

On the other hand, if Mr. Leech wants a peal of Plain Bob he can easily follow the example of the 'Great I Ams' by getting the tower, choosing his ringers and going ahead. He has the liberty, and the credit would be his.

CECIL W. PIPE.

Staines.

PEAL RINGERS AND BEGINNERS.

Dear Sir,—The letter of Mr. Norman Leech is most opportune. Surprise peal ringing, like everything else, is all right in its place. No one minds it being rung if those who take part in these peals would be a little more public spirited and help the learner with a peal in a simpler method, too. The majority of the men when they have reached that stage usually, however, want the whole thing to themselves. Whenever anything turns up which is likely to affect the lesser ringer, these Surprise eight, ten and twelve-bell men are generally the first to criticise and say what ought or ought not to be. I am reminded of that by the recent Doubles and Minor controversy. For a considerable time past I have been keen to try to score my first peal of Grandsire Triples 'inside,' having rung a number of peals of Doubles and the treble to some 30 of Triples, Major and Caters. Until a fortnight ago I had still to ring my first of Minor 'inside.' This I have now done, thanks to the assistance of Leicestershire friends, and to get this I had to do a return journey of 78 miles.

I suppose there are some who will say I need not go far to find all I want. I once put this question of a peal of Grandsire Triples 'inside' to a well-known Surprise conductor. His reply was, 'If I could ring Grandsire, why not Double Norwich or Treble Bob?'

Is it not asking a bit too much of a learner to jump from Doubles to these methods? Others have been asked, too, but, as Mr. Leech puts it, the reply is generally 'otherwise engaged.' If the learner happens to be one GIVEN to the art and who within a few months could ring his first peal in some Treble Bob method, these men are usually eager to help, but in most cases only for the notoriety they are going to get in turning out such a ringer. (WHAT A CHRISTIAN SPIRIT!)

P. AMOS.

Wellingborough.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

A PLEASANT AFTERNOON AT CHISWICK.

The South and West District of the Middlesex County Association visited Chiswick on Saturday last, some 30 members and friends attending. The weather was springlike and the old Chiswick Mall and river were looking their best. Naturally, however, the bells of St. Nicholas' Church claimed most attention, and many methods were rung, including some 'Chiswick Surprise' by the locals! A very enjoyable service was held, in the course of which the Vicar (the Rev. C. Mayne) delivered a very fine address. He mentioned the wonderful change that had been effected in helries all over the country during the last 50 years. He congratulated members on the excellent reputation that bellringers now had, and asked them to do all in their power to keep it.

A very nice tea was served in the old National Schools. The Vicar, who was unable to stop for this part of the proceedings, said a few kind words before his departure, and was heartily thanked by the vice-president, Mr. J. A. Trollope.

During tea music was provided by 'our 'Enery and his boys' over the radio. It would have gladdened the heart of the famous 'Kate' to have seen association stalwarts listening to 'Darling, I love you,' and the like! It was decided to postpone the commencement of the business meeting until football fans had heard the results. It was hoped the delay was justified!

Miss F. Humphrey (Kensington) and Messrs. J. E. Lewis Cockey (Wealdstone) and C. G. Lovegrove (Ruislip) were elected ringing members. Members were reminded that the association annual meeting was to be held on April 29th at Clerkenwell. It was decided, therefore, that the next district meeting should be held in May at Feltham.

The hon. secretary (Mr. F. W. Goodfellow) announced that he had copies of 'The Ringers' Handbook' and Mr. Cave's 'Cambridge' for sale. Several sales were effected. The meeting concluded with expressions of appreciation of the warm welcome extended to the association by the Vicar and his ringers. Members were particularly grateful to Mr. T. Thurley and his sister for preparing the tea—and the radio!

Further ringing on the tower bells ended an excellent meeting, and a happy commencement of Mr. E. C. S. Turner's term of office as Master.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**EASTERN DIVISION.**

The annual meeting of the Eastern Division was held at Eastbourne on Saturday, March 11th. The gathering was a very representative one. The bells of St. Mary's, the mother church of Eastbourne, were kept going to various touches in the standard methods, and service was conducted by the Vicar of Eastbourne (the Rev. R. P. Hughes), assisted by the organist and choir. The Vicar gave an interesting and inspiring address, eulogising the efforts of church bellringers, with special reference to their team work, and emphasising the fact that through the endeavours of the ringers the voices of the bells reached those who never heard another preacher, thus bearing a message to those who may have wandered from the fold to return. Tea was served at the Pitman Institute, and between 30 and 40 sat down. In the unavoidable absence of the Vicar, Mr. W. D. Smith presided at the business meeting which followed. Three new members were elected—Messrs. A. Coggan, H. Webb and J. Marshall, of St. Mary's, Eastbourne.

The whole of the executive officers were re-elected. A cordial vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for his interesting address, also to the organist and choir for their very kind assistance at the service. Thanks were also given to the Vicar of St. Saviour's (8) and All Saints' (8) for so readily placing their bells at the disposal of the members of the association.

SPICED MINOR.

The enterprising band at Lamberhurst, Kent, have rung a 720 Spiced Cambridge and Primrose Surprise: E. Woodage 1, T. Fuller 2, J. Bassett 3, J. Waghorn, jun. (first 720 of Surprise) 4, A. Relfe (conductor) 5, W. Durham 6.

This 720 was rung to a five-part composition, given below, from which it will be seen that one of Mr. J. W. Parker's 2nds-6ths courses are rung between each lead of the plain course. It will serve for both groups that splice by this plan.

23456 H Group	23456 N Group
— 35642	— 64235
42563 L "	52364 K "
26435	35426
63254 H "	43652 N "
54326	26543
— 42635	— 35264

Four times repeated.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**NORTH BUCKS BRANCH CHAIRMAN RETIRING.**

A very pleasant meeting of North Bucks Branch was held at Old Bradwell on Saturday, March 4th, and was well attended by about 40 members from Bletchley, Fenny Stratford, Hanslope, Newport Pagnell, Stony Stratford, Whaddon, Weston-under-Wood and the local ringers, with several visitors, including Mr. Shepherd, of Swindon. It had been many years since a meeting had been held at Old Bradwell, and a very hearty welcome was given to the branch on this occasion. Ringing took place both in the afternoon and evening, and service was conducted by the Rev. Conway Davies (Vicar).

After tea the business meeting was held, the Rev. L. Moxon presiding—The secretary (Mr. W. Sear) said how pleased he was to see the chairman of the branch, who had come from Weston Turville on purpose to preside at the meeting. He felt sure all the members would appreciate the action. He added that as the usual Saturday for the annual festival fell on Whit Saturday, it would be inconvenient to hold the meeting that day. He had, therefore, arranged for it to take place on June 17th.—This was agreed to. The secretary also said that they had to find another chairman by the annual festival to succeed the Rev. L. Moxon, who was then retiring owing to having left the district.

The Chairman proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar of Old Bradwell and to the ladies responsible for providing tea.—The resolution was passed and suitably responded to.

Good practice was given to all those who were willing to ring and learn, the methods ranging from Grandsire and Stedman Doubles to London Minor.

A CENTENARIAN'S BIRTHDAY.

On Saturday, March 4th, when Mrs. Horwood, of Goring, Oxon, mother of General Sir W. Horwood, celebrated her 100th birthday, the congratulations which she received from a large number of friends, both in the village and out, included a telegram from His Majesty the King. Flowers filled her room and a basket of South African fruit came from her son, arriving in splendid condition. A good many friends visited the house and admired the lovely flowers and presents.

The ringers did their part to celebrate the interesting event by ringing two good touches of Grandsire Triples. Several of the ringers rang on the occasion of her 90th birthday. Those who took part were J. Bower, G. Wilson, L. Haynes, R. Barkas, sen., R. Barkas, jun., H. Tull, W. Napper, J. Napper and W. Perry.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

The attempt on the record peal of London Surprise Major at Warnham, Sussex, on Saturday, was short-lived. The ringers did not settle down, and, a trip causing a shift course at the end of an hour, the bells were stopped. Later in the day the band rang a peal of Bristol Surprise.

The new treble bells at Newbury are to be dedicated on Sunday afternoon, April 2nd. About £25 is still needed to meet the cost of the work, and donations should be sent to Mr. H. W. Curtis, captain of the tower, Church Road, Shaw, Newbury.

The Johns, who have previously provided bands for London and Superlative Surprise Major and Stedman Cinques, made a modest effort on Saturday, when they rang a peal of Bob Major. In this instance, however, they were all resident members of one Guild.

The bells of St. John's Church, Hoylandswaine, Yorks, have been rehung in ball bearings by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., and will be reopened on April 1st.

The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. George Williams, of Eastleigh, will learn with regret that Mrs. Williams had to undergo an operation in a Southampton nursing home last week. The latest report is that she is going on as well as can be expected, and we hope she will have a speedy recovery.

Mrs. Williams was the first lady to ring a pair of bells to a handbell peal. This was at Brighton on March 24th, 1892, and was conducted by Mr. Williams. Mrs. Williams rang two other peals on handbells in 1897.

The conductor of the peal of Rutland Surprise Major, rung at Bushey Heath, Herts, on March 4th, asks us to say it was not the first peal in the method by the association, as claimed, a peal in the same method having been rung at Edmonton some years ago.

The peal of Oxford Treble Bob Major at Dore, Sheffield, was rung on Saturday, March 4th, not Sunday, the 5th.

The Chester Guild meeting at Daresbury has been postponed to March 25th.

AMERICA'S 'YOUNG IDEA.'

PROSPECTS AT KENT SCHOOL.

When Mr. I. J. Attwater, the ringing instructor at Kent School, Connecticut, returned to the U.S.A. last autumn, he had to make what was virtually a fresh start with his students, as six of the best ringers had graduated at the end of the school year. He now has two bands going, numbering 15 in all. The seniors are at present ringing short touches of Grandsire Triples, the longest length having been 336, which has been rung several times.

Some very promising students have started this year, and as they will be at the school from three to four years before they graduate—if their interest can only be held while they are being got through the initial stages—they should have the making of a Caters band for the school year beginning next September, as all but one of the present first band will be at the school next year.

Hymn tunes and set changes are played regularly twice on Sundays, after the ringing for the morning service, and, while the school students naturally prefer to hear the tunes, the change ringing, on the whole, is appreciated, especially in the town of Kent, half a mile away. The chairman, L. Roche, a '6th former,' helps Mr. Attwater to control the ringing practices etc., while R. Abbe, a '5th former,' is his first student conductor. Several of the youngest ringers have to stand on boxes to reach the sallies, and all the ringers are between 13 to 18 years of age. They ring regularly four times a week.

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES MEMORIAL.

SIXTH LIST OF SUBSCRIPTIONS.

Amount previously acknowledged, £158 0s. 10d.; W. Storey (second donation), 5s.; A. E. Wreaks, 2s. 6d.; F. E. Robeson, 10s.; R. K. Knight, Leytonstone (second donation), 2s. 6d.; Cheltenham Branch meeting, Cowley, 12s.; Cheltenham Branch meeting, Charlton Kings, 11s.; Chester Diocesan Guild, £2 2s.; W. Nevard, 5s.; St. Paul's Society (Dundee), 4s.; E. H. Lewis (Brasted), £2 2s.; the Rev. Theodore Lewis (Epsom), £1; E. S. A., 2s. 6d.; Canon Ridout (South Africa), £1; Cheltenham Branch, Badgworth, 12s.; Cheltenham, St. Mark's, 7s.; — Hartland, £2; — Douglas, £1 1s.; Codrington, 10s. 6d.; Mothers' Meeting (Aston), 6s.; St. Paul's, Chippenham, 4s.; St. Andrew's, Chippenham, 4s.; the Rev. W. F. Wood, Chippenham, 2s.; E. Denison Taylor (Loughborough), £2 2s.; H. Knight (Wolverhampton), 5s.; S. H. Wood (Cold Ashton), 10s.; Mr. and Mrs. P. C. Williams, £1 1s.; Mrs. D. C. Williams, 10s. 6d.; Florence Tili, 5s.; total £176 18s. 4d.

Acknowledged by Lloyds Bank, Ltd., the Rev. E. Saleby, P. C. Williams and E. Guise.

DEBENHAM BELL FUND.

The following further donations to the Debenham Bell Fund are acknowledged with thanks: Mr. James Bennett (second donation), 5s.; Mr. C. Taylor, 2s.; Mr. G. Whiting, 2s.; Mr. G. Ablitt, 2s.; Cathedral Company, Bury St. Edmunds, per Mr. G. Ablitt, 10s.; previously acknowledged, £10 18s. 6d.; total £11 18s. 6d. The fund is still open and contributions towards it will be gratefully received by Mr. W. C. Rumsey, Debenham, Stowmarket.

THE BELLS OF GREAT ST. MARY'S, CAMBRIDGE.

TOWN COUNCIL WANTS THEM MUFFLED.

The Town Council of Cambridge entered upon a solemn discussion with regard to the ringing of the bells of Great St. Mary's Church at their meeting on Thursday in last week. It arose on the minutes of the General Purposes Committee, which stated: 'The town clerk submitted a suggestion of the Finance Committee that representations should be made that the bells of St. Mary's Church on practice evenings be muffled. It was resolved that the committee approve of such representations being made.'

The Mayor explained that representations had been made, and the Vicar had pointed out that practice had been reduced by half an hour, from 7.30 to 8.30, instead of going on to 9 o'clock. The muffling would prove a laborious business. The early morning 'peal' had been stopped.

Alderman Franklin thought everything had been asked for that could reasonably be asked of Great St. Mary's, and Alderman Pollock moved that the Council proceed to the next business.

Councillor Freyer, who had raised the matter in committee, on finding that the Council 'paid £5 out of the rates for ringing the bells,' did not want 'to proceed to the next business.' He wanted the bells muffled, as he had had, he said, a good many complaints about them. He demanded to know how much justification there was for the suggestion that it would be difficult to muffle the bells.

Councillor Cameron, who is master of Caius College, testified 'willingly and gratefully' that a great deal had been done, the time had been shortened and the half-hour knocked off was a very important half-hour for many of those living in the neighbourhood.

'By what they have already done,' he remarked, 'they have done more to encourage Christian feeling than might be accomplished by many sermons' (laughter). More might well be done, however, and he was very anxious they should not be weary in well-doing (laughter).

Capt. Longley pointed out the £5 was for ringing the curfew, and he thought it was an asset to the town. It might annoy those who had no ear for music, but he thought there was nothing more beautiful than to hear that peal of bells a little way out in the outskirts. Muffled bells would sound most mournful.

After other members had talked on the subject, the motion to proceed to the next business was three times voted on before it was formally lost, the second voting being 25 for and 26 against, and the third, when the names were taken, being 27 for and 29 against.

Alderman Raynes then formally moved that the matter be referred back, and there was then an opportunity for further misstatements, such as made by one Alderman, who said that 'three times a year they had a kind of competition of bellringers which lasted all day long.'

Councillor Wing said there were people who never got used to the bells or enjoyed them. He hoped something definite would be done to abate the nuisance. 'There was all the difference in the world between a dumb peal and muffled bells.'

Alderman Brown said it was not everybody who understood the difference. People coming into Cambridge would ask at once, 'Who's dead?' (laughter).

The motion to refer the matter back to the committee was carried unanimously.

VICAR'S ATTITUDE.

And now, what next! The Town Council cannot dictate, and without the acquiescence of the Vicar the bells cannot be silenced. We understand that the attitude of the Vicar is that every concession that can reasonably be asked has been made, and he does not concur with the view either that the bells should be muffled or that ringing should be suspended. In spite of the hostility abroad, the Cambridge Youths will endeavour to keep the bells going and concentrate as far as possible on ringing for the Sunday evening services, which they do, wherever a hand is available, on the first and third Sundays in the month. At the same time, it may be well for outside ringers to realise that there may be difficulties in the way of obtaining the use of the bells either by those visiting Cambridge during the forthcoming outing season or for peals.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

A quarterly meeting of the West Dorset Branch was held at Bourton on Saturday. The peal of six was raised at 3 p.m. and kept going in various methods up to Cambridge and London during the afternoon. The Guild office was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. H. S. B. Roden), who also gave a short address and extended to the members a hearty welcome to Bourton. Tea and meeting followed in the Vicarage Hut, nearly 70 being present, including visitors from Bruton, Buckland Newton, Chilcompton, Cucklington, Evershot, North Cadbury and Warminster.

New members were elected from Longburton and Siltton, the latter adding another five-bell tower to the Guild.

It was decided to make a collection at the next quarterly meeting towards the Sherborne Abbey Bell Restoration Fund.

Ringing was afterwards continued till 9 p.m., Zeals and Siltton bells also being available.

STEDMAN TRIPLES.

WASHBROOK'S OWN DESCRIPTION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—The following is the footnote to a peal of Stedman Triples rung at All Saints', Boyne Hill, Maidenhead, February 15th, 1890, conducted by J. W. Washbrook (see 'Bell News'):

'This peal is produced by Thurstans' four quarter-peals and is the first peal of Stedman Triples rung without the use of "extras," and all the four bob sets being while the 6th is behind. The four quarter-peals are united by the use of common singles at 2 and 14 only, only six of which are used.'

Also for the same peal in J.W. Washbrook's MSS.: '5,040 Stedman Triples. A variation of the late Thomas Thurstans' four-part. Footnote: In this variation the sixth dodges 6-7 up whenever four consecutive calls are made. (Date and place same as above.) Conducted by the Arranger.'

Another variation of Thurstans', conducted by the arranger, J.W.W., using Brooks' three-course blocks and six singles, thus giving quadruple calls throughout. First rung on January 23rd, 1904, at St. Saviour's, Arklow, by the Irish Association (J.W.W.'s MSS.).

A. F. BAILEY.

TWO VARIATIONS.

Dear Sir,—Appended are two variations of Thurstans' Four-part, which I think you will agree makes it into a 20-part. I have made inquiries, but it does not seem to be known. The 'T' is an ordinary part of the peal; the 'T(E)' is an ordinary part with extras; the 'T(O)' is an ordinary part with omits; the parts marked 'A', 'B', 'C', 'D' are as set out herewith:—

No. 1.	No. 2.	231456	S	H	L	v.	vi.	Q
231456	231456							
532146 A	342516 T	A—	246351	x	x			
315426 T	134526 C		532146	x	x			
412356 T(O)	351246 T		246351	x	x			
324156 B	523416 T	B—	432561	x	x			x
215546 T	514233 D		142365	x				x
152436 T	435216 T(E)		412356	x				
541326 T	324156 T							
125346 T(E)	532146 C	C—	523416	x	x			
421536 A	315426 T							
254316 T	412356 T(O)		246351	x	x			
342516 D	453126 D		432561	x	x			x
453126 T	245136 C	D—	45231	x				
514236 T	143256 T(O)		524361	x	x			x
435216 T(E)	421536 T		254316	x				
134526 A	254316 T							
351246 T	213546 D							
523416 T	152436 T							
245136 T	541326 T							
143256 T(O)	125346 T(E)							
231456 B	231456 T							

W. A. CAVE.

A VETERAN PASSES.

Another stalwart of a past generation of pioneers has passed away in the person of Edwin Jordan. He was the last of the brothers who, with the band in the little village of Capel, on the Surrey and Sussex border, made ringing history in the early 'nineties. One of their achievements was a peal of 14 extents in different Surprise and Treble Bob Minor methods. The late Mr. Jordan also took part in the long length of 10,176 Kent Treble Bob Major, rung at Warnham in 1891, and in the then record length of Superlative Surprise Major (9,312), rung at Crawley in 1894. He was a member in those days of the Sussex and Surrey Associations, the Winchester Diocesan Guild and the Royal Cumberland Youths.

WEDDING BELLS.

On Tuesday, February 28th, at St. Andrew's Church, Farnham, for the wedding of Miss N. Langham (daughter of Mr. E. W. Langham, churchwarden) and Mr. F. O. M. Taylor, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: C. W. Denyer 1, C. Edwards 2, G. Upshall 3, S. Meadows 4, C. Wells 5, F. Kemp 6, T. Upshall (conductor) 7, A. E. King 8. Also 672 in the same method, with F. Hammett ringing the treble.

A DATE TOUCH.

At St. Peter's Church, Hook Norton, on Saturday evening, February 11th, a date touch of Grandsire Doubles (1933 changes) in 1 hour 10 minutes, with 6, 4, 8 covering: F. K. Hopkins 1, J. E. Fairbrother 2, A. E. Borsberry (conductor) 3, E. Hull 4, Rev. Nind 5, E. Phipps 6, F. Davis 7, E. Marshall 8.

FIFTY YEARS A RINGER.

On February 22nd, at St. Mary's, Banbury, in honour of the 74th birthday of Mr. G. Bliss, for over 50 years one of St. Mary's band of ringers, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: R. Higham 1, W. Watson 2, E. Pearson 3, F. Selwyn 4, T. Impey 5, W. Tandy 6, H. Impey (conductor) 7, W. Aston 8.

EDINBURGH RINGERS' ANNUAL DINNER.

A GENEROUS BENEFACTRESS.

A company of 90 people spent a delightful evening on Shrove Tuesday on the occasion of the annual dinner of the St. Cuthbert's Parish Church Society, Edinburgh. The gathering took place at the Caledonian Hotel, and was presided over by the Very Rev. Dr. Norman Maclean. The dinner is given every year out of funds provided by the late Mrs. Anderson, the donor of St. Cuthbert's bells. Her portrait during the proceedings hung on the wall, and she benignly looked down on the diners.

The Chairman proposed the principal toast, 'The Memory of the Donor of the Bells.' He assumed that the kindly lady was really looking with approval on that gathering. Mrs. Anderson, he said, was one of the most generous benefactors of St. Cuthbert's, having given them the great peal of bells and provided the endowment so that every Shrove Tuesday they should fortify themselves for the six weeks of Lent with this banquet (laughter). They were greatly indebted to Mrs. Anderson for the enrichment she had given to St. Cuthbert's.

She had provided a wonderful discipline for the change ringers. He did not know whether there was any discipline better than that of being a change ringer. A change ringer, unlike a child, was heard, but not seen (laughter). It was a great thing to serve without having the inspiration of being seen—except once a year, on Shrove Tuesday (laughter). She had ensured that the whole of the West End of Edinburgh should be made musical by this calling to worship. Mrs. Anderson would be a firm believer in what the Americans called a wet climate (laughter). She would have felt sympathy with that dear old lady who said to him twelve years ago, 'I do dislike teetotallers; they are all hypocrites' (laughter). Looking round the table, she would realise how few hypocrites there were that evening (laughter). Mrs. Anderson was one of those splendid Scotswomen of whom the generation had never passed away, who kept their feet firmly upon the earth, but whose heads soared up into the realm that was unseen. As they looked on her portrait, they realised she was not far away from any of them. He asked them to stand up and, turning their faces towards her, express their deepest gratitude and devotion to her memory.

The toast was honoured in silence.

Dr. Fergus Hewat proposed 'St. Cuthbert's Society of Change Ringers'. In the bellry of the church, he said, a great deal of hard, arduous labour was done. They had with them bellringers who had been ringing St. Cuthbert's bells since their initiation in 1902—thirty-one years of bellringing. They were unique in Scotland, because they had five ladies amongst them (applause). These ladies had been there since 1916, ardently pulling these bells.

Mr. James Ballantine, who replied, said the gathering that evening recalled many happy reunions. Two ladies came up in 1914 and offered their services, and since then the society had been always supported by the ladies. But for them he did not think the society would have been able to continue (applause).

Mr. T. Muirhead Jenkins proposed 'Kindred Societies,' and Mr. W. B. Sampson replied. The toast of the guests was proposed by the Rev. W. White Anderson, and the Very Rev. Dr. Harry Miller replied. Dr. James Robb proposed the health of the chairman.

A feature of the programme was the ringing of Grandsire Caters on the handbells which quite captured the imagination of the visitors.

BAND MEETS AFTER TEN YEARS.

Just over ten years ago the first peal was rung at Earl Shilton on the new eight, installed by Messrs. Taylor and Co. in 1921. This peal (Grandsire Triples) was rung by the then local band, who, fortunately, are not scattered very far apart, P.C. F. E. Wilson, of the Leicester City Police, being the farthest away. Father Time has been very kind, as the band is still in good preservation, and, by kind permission of the Vicar (the Rev. E. Pillifant), they met and rung together, standing in the same order as in the peal, a touch of 336 Grandsire Triples, conducted by the same conductor who called the peal ten years ago. There is also a very strong band of young ringers under the excellent leader Mr. George Newton, and many of these met the old band and rang with them. A touch was also rung by the youngsters, who have nearly all rung their first peal. It is worthy of note that Mr. Newton and his young band have rung three quarter-peals of Grandsire Triples on three consecutive Sunday evenings for service with three different conductors. A coincidence is that three of the old band called quarter-peals on the bells.

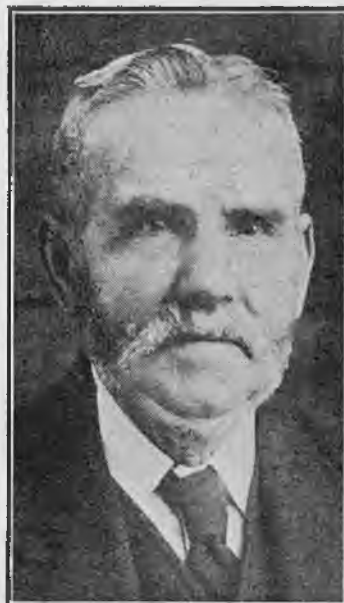
Several ringing friends were invited to be present, including Mr. A. Callard, of Stoney Stanton, who conducted a very nice touch of Stedman Triples. Three leads of Kent Treble Bob Major concluded the ringing. As soon as the bells were lowered in peal, Mr. Cecil Nixon, the newly-appointed organist, gave a short recital on the new organ, this being quite enjoyed by the ringers who stayed to listen. After this, a convivial hour was spent with the handbells, young and old ringers taking part in tunes and courses of Grandsire Triples. The band take this opportunity of thanking Mr. Arthur Waters, of the original band, for his kind hospitality during the evening. A vote of thanks was accorded the Vicar for the use of the bells.

C. H. W.

JOSEPH J. PARKER, 1853—1933.

A large number of ringing friends met at Farnham Royal on Tuesday, March 7th, to do honour to Mr. Joseph J. Parker on the 80th anniversary of his birthday.

A retrospect of his activities would fill many columns, suffice it to say that as beekeeper, chorister, composer, entertainer, musician and ringer, he has made a wide-spreading circle of friends, and although the 'twelve-part' will live for ever, there are some who will agree that the qualities of his honey and mead are in every way as excellent.



MR. JOSEPH J. PARKER.

Various methods were rung, and mention should be made of a touch of Stedman Triples by T. S. Smith 1, J. J. Parker 2, R. Buckland 3, G. H. Gutteridge 4, W. H. Fussell 5, J. Blackmore 6, F. Boreham (conductor) 7, Mrs. A. D. Barker 8; also a course each of Cambridge and London Surprise, Mrs. A. D. Barker ringing the tenor to the London.

Nine o'clock came all too soon, the evening being brought to a close with a few words from the secretary and Mr. Fussell, Mr. J. J. Parker responding.

The bells having been lowered in peal, the party dispersed by hike, bike and mike (in a bus), some having time for a 'cup o'

kindness' with their old friend.

A peal of London Surprise Minor was rung at Stoke Poges to commemorate the occasion, and will be recorded in the proper column.

Mr. Parker has been associated with ringing at Farnham Royal since 1877, when the six bells were opened in a rebuilt tower, and he collected the funds in 1897 to add two trebles to commemorate Queen Victoria's diamond jubilee. He was tower keeper as well as captain for many years. Altogether Mr. Parker has rung 131 peals, of which he has conducted 56. Of these no fewer than 101 have been rung for the Oxford Diocesan Guild, of which Mr. Parker was one of the first members.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT.

A meeting of the Southern District was held at Charlwood on Saturday, when ringers were present from Aldershot, Beddington, Buckland, Croydon, Hillingdon, Horley, Merstham, Reigate and the local band. Ringing commenced shortly after 3 o'clock, but owing to the unavoidable absence of the Rector, the usual service did not take place.

At the meeting which followed, with Mr. C. H. Kippin in the chair, it was proposed that the next quarterly peal be attempted at Leigh, and Mr. J. Wallis, jun., of Buckland, to be the conductor.

Combined practice is to be held at Kingswood in April.

Thanks were tendered to Mr. A. Kuapp for making all arrangements. Afterwards the tower was again visited and ringing enjoyed until nearly 9 p.m. Touches in various methods were rung from Grandsire Doubles to London Surprise Minor.

NORTHFLEET LITTLE BOB MAJOR.

BY E. A. BARNETT.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	5,040 by N. J. Pitstow.
2 1 3 5 4 7 6 8	23456 W M H
2 3 1 4 5 7 8 6	
3 2 4 1 7 5 6 8	54236 — 8
2 3 4 1 5 7 8 6	42535 — 2
3 2 1 4 7 5 6 8	34526 — 3
3 1 2 4 5 7 8 6	52346 — —
1 3 2 5 4 7 6 8	32645 — 3
	56243 — —
1 3 5 2 7 4 8 6	52463 — 2
Calls as in Bob Major.	23465 — 2

Five times repeated, bob for single, except in 4th part.

First rung at Northfleet, March 8th, 1933, conducted by T. Groombridge, jun.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD. ANNUAL MEETING AT DUDLEY.

The annual meeting of the Dudley and District Guild was held at Dudley on Saturday, March 4th, in splendid spring weather. The bells were kept merrily going from three o'clock until 4.30, when the beautiful form of service used by the Guild at its meetings was conducted by the Rev. A. P. Shepherd, M.A., D.D., Vicar of Dudley, who also gave a very interesting address. A substantial tea was served in the Parish Hall, provided by funds collected by the secretary (Mr. Herbert Sheppard) from prominent ladies and gentlemen of St. Thomas' congregation and other friends, and was admirably served by a contingent of ladies, from among whom the following presided at the tables: Mrs. Shepherd, Mrs. P. S. Blaker, Mrs. T. W. Watson, Miss Bessie Sheppard, Miss M. Dovey and Miss Rees. Upwards of 50 members and friends sat down to tea, and it was regretted that not more members availed themselves of the glorious afternoon to be present to partake of the good things that were provided.

At the business meeting which followed, the Vicar occupied the chair, supported by the Rev. K. F. Morris (assistant priest), Mr. Harry Mason (vice-president), Mr. S. J. Hughes (treasurer) and the secretary. Apologies were announced from Councillor and Mrs. Shuttleworth, Mr. and Mrs. Winbow, Mr. Arthur Spittle and Mr. C. W. Cooper.

After Mr. Mason had briefly introduced the new Vicar of Dudley to the members, the Vicar said how pleased he was to be among them and gave them a hearty welcome to his church and to Dudley.

The balance sheet for the past year, as presented by the secretary, was passed, and, having regard to the strenuous times in which we are living, it was considered favourable. It was stated that the membership, both honorary and performing, had increased, and, financially, the Guild was still in a prosperous condition.

Mr. Mason, in a happy speech, proposed that the new Vicar of Dudley be elected president. This was seconded by Mr. T. A. Townsend (Netherton) and carried with acclamation.

The following gentlemen were again unanimously elected vice-presidents: Messrs. J. W. Naylor, Arthur Spittle, Dr. P. S. Blaker, Mr. Harry Mason, Councillor Shuttleworth, Mr. A. Winbow and the Rev. K. F. Morris (assistant priest at Dudley Parish Church). The following were added to the list: The Rev. E. L. Warren (Vicar of Netherton), Messrs. T. W. Watson and A. E. Meredith.

Mr. John Goodman, jun., was again elected Ringing Master, and Mr. Herbert Sheppard hon. secretary.—The latter was accorded a special vote of thanks for his valuable services to the Guild during the past year.

Mr. S. J. Hughes was re-elected treasurer, and Messrs. P. Justice and T. A. Townsend (the auditors) were also re-elected and thanked for their services.

Mr. Fred Colclough (Bilston) was elected the Guild's representative to the Central Council in the room of Mr. S. J. Hughes, who wished to resign for various personal reasons, his resignation being accepted with regret. He was thanked for his services as their representative for upwards of ten years.

It was proposed that the arrangements for the next quarterly meeting be left with the secretary, and it was also proposed to attempt the annual peal for the Guild at Dudley, the necessary arrangements as to date and the band being left with the Ringing Master.

Several new performing members were added to the roll.

At the close of the business, on the proposition of Mr. Mason, a hearty vote of thanks was given to the Vicar for conducting the service in church, also for the address, for presiding at the meeting, also for the use of the tower and bells. Special thanks were also given to the donors to the tea fund, to the ladies who presided at the tables and those who prepared the tea and kindly looked after the comfort of those present. Thanks were also given to the organist. At the close of the meeting further ringing took place in various methods, and this brought another happy and enjoyable afternoon at Dudley to a close.

THE LAST OF HIS RACE.

DESCENDANT OF KENTISH BELLFOUNDERS.

There has just passed away at Lenham, Kent, Mr. James Troup Hatch, a descendant of the great Kent bellfounding family, and one who loved his county and especially the village in which he passed so many years of his life. Deservedly, remarks the 'Kentish Express,' he was known as 'The Squire,' and there was nothing of a public character beneficial to the place in which he did not take the keenest interest, and, all the time, with hand unseen, he was helping the poor with lavish generosity.

He was stricken with illness in the last few years of his life and lived in complete retirement.

The actual founder of the family was Thomas Hatch, of Ulecombe, who died in 1599, but the foundry became more famous under Joseph Hatch, who died in 1639, leaving behind him for evidence of his great industry over a hundred and fifty bells that were placed in Kent church towers by him. All over the county you can see bells inscribed 'Joseph Hatch me fecit.'

Nothing is now left of the old foundry, and Mr. James Troup Hatch was the last of his race. The bellfounding had ceased to exist at the time of the Stuart Civil War.

LEICESTER AND DISTRICTS ANNUAL DINNER. RECORD GATHERING SPENDS HAPPY EVENING.

On Saturday, March 4th, there gathered together a good company of ringers of the local towers and surrounding country churches for the Leicester and Districts annual dinner, there being present members from Burbage, Croft, Loughborough, Melton, Husbands Bosworth, Theddington, Lutterworth, Syston, Stoke Golding, Great Glen, Wigston Magna and South Saddington, etc. Among the welcome visitors were Mr. and Mrs. Rupert Richardson (Surfleet), Mr. and Mrs. C. T. Coles (London), Mr. and Mrs. F. Perrens, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. W. White (Coventry), Mr. A. H. Ward (Derby), Mr. P. Amos (Wellingborough). Ringing was indulged in at All Saints' (5), the Cathedral (10), St. John's (10) and St. Margaret's (12). At the latter at one period there were some 40 members in the belfry at once! The ringing included rounds for those who could not join in the higher methods, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Caters and Cinques, Kent Minor and Maximus, Cambridge Royal and Maximus.

At 6.30 p.m. the company proceeded to the George Hotel, and on being counted up numbered 78, which just beat the previous record by about four. A very good dinner was served, to which full justice was done. Later a 'free and easy' convivial was held, the local president (Mr. A. James Harris) announcing that it had been decided to cut out the usual set programme, also speeches, the latter being restricted to one only and its reply. During the very pleasant time which followed the company were entertained by an impromptu turn or two, songs being given by Messrs. T. Vallance, J. Morris, H. J. Poole and J. P. Fidler, and Mr. Colin Harrison on the piano led some community singing. St. Martin's Quartette sang tunes on handbells, and a course of Stedman Caters was also rung. The Chairman gave the toast of 'The Visitors,' welcoming all those who had supported this venture by their presence, and especially those from a distance.—The Rev. W. Groome-Merrilees responded and thanked the Leicester ringers for such a splendid entertainment. 'Rupert the Great' (in more ways than one), when called upon, said he was no public speaker, but, after Mr. Coles had said a few words, would give a recitation, which he did in his inimitable style.

Mr. Coles said he had not—as someone had facetiously suggested—come to Leicester specially to get a good feed! He had come to visit old friends, and in reminiscent mood recalled his first visit a number of years ago when H. J. Poole astonished him by ringing double-handed London Surprise, he then being little more than a boy! He had seen more of his great achievements since then. He recalled, too, when on a visit to Derby to win the chess championship, Mr. Ernest Morris meeting the party and conducting them to a 'pub'! and another occasion when peal ringing (a voice interjected 'grabbing') they had made Mr. E. Morris' sides ache by the tales told, especially of the man who wanted land. It was all very pleasant to recall, and, on behalf of all the visitors, he thanked the Leicester Society for providing such a good afternoon and evening's entertainment.

Detective-Sergeant Turner kept the company rocking with laughter by his 'stories,' which reached a climax when the colonel told the tramp to 'go and get a hot one.' A very fine musical interlude was provided by Mr. C. Grimes, who on various 'gadgets' not only made farmyard noises, but 'rendered sweet music' in most unexpected ways. A great tribute must be paid to Messrs. J. Harris and E. H. Bagworth for their work in arranging such a treat, and all hope they will repeat it again for many years to come.

BOURNEMOUTH RINGER'S GOLDEN WEDDING.

MR. C. FORFITT'S SERVICES AT ST. PETER'S CHURCH.

It must fall to the lot of very few change ringers to ring in celebration of their own golden wedding anniversary, yet to judge by the manner in which Mr. C. Forfitt, of St. Peter's band, Bournemouth, turns up to service ringing and also by the excellent quarter-peal that was rung in honour of the occasion, he must have many years' useful ringing yet in front of him. The ringers of St. Peter's trust so, for no band in the country can possess a better example of unflinching devotion to service ringing. If 'Charlie' shows half a dozen 'absences' at the end of the year it is a lot and due to unusual circumstances. Over 70 years of age, he is a reliable 'rope' in all the standard methods, and is always prepared to assist anyone in difficulties. One must of necessity number him amongst the 'grand old men' of the Exercise, but we must warn the reader only to whisper the 'old' when 'Charlie' is within earshot.

A member of St. Peter's band for upwards of 30 years, Mr. Forfitt has taken part in several peals, and has hopes of adding yet one more to the list shortly in celebration of the happy anniversary. Service ringing, however, is his 'forte,' and both he and his wife are justly proud of his record in this direction. The anniversary fell on Sunday, February 26th, and the quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples attempted on that day unfortunately went to pieces within six leads of home. Success attended the attempt made on the following Tuesday, however, the ringers being H. Osborne 1, L. V. Davis 2, C. Lovell 3, R. Dear 4, C. Forfitt 5, E. Waters 6, A. V. Davis (conductor) 7, C. Chandler 8.

THE SINGLE BELL NUISANCE. RESTRICTION NEEDED NOW.

To the Editor.

Sir,—What Mr. Ernest Morris writes about French bells is very interesting, but it hardly bears on what I wrote. I was not referring especially to French ringing, but to that abroad generally; nor did I refer to the ringing of two bells, which is what his French correspondent writes about.

Many years ago someone who evidently knew what he was talking about (it may have been Mr. Dennison Taylor's father) told me that they had rings of bells in some towers on the Continent which were not unlike our rings; but that they never rang them or chimed them as we do, but only jangled them all together, the object being to make as much noise as they could.

The only place where I heard this done was in the Roman Catholic Cathedral in St. John's, Newfoundland. There they had six or eight bells which may have been English ones. I heard them every Sunday for a year, but never saw them. From the sound, I should say that they got a number of men to pull them half up, and keep them there, without any attempt at a succession of sounds, but merely clashing as much as possible. It may be that there were only one or two men, who rang each bell half up in turn, leaving it to fall, and sound with the others while so doing. I was told again that this was the way bells were rung on the Continent.

In France I have not myself noticed any church where there were more than the usual two bells, but I believe there are a few. In Dinard in Brittany I saw through the open west door the sexton come and pull the bell more than half way up, and then leave it to fall unattended, while he went away, presumably to attend to other matters, afterwards coming back and repeating his efforts.

In Provence, the church bell is usually on the top of the tower giving a curious effect on the skyline. At Antibes in the ancient Roman tower there are two bells, more than an octave apart I think. Usually only one was rung, but for special services both were rung together, one being chimed and the other rung up, quite correctly, and with a regular stroke. My recollection is that this was done for an hour, or at least for half an hour. I certainly did not notice here or in Brittany any restriction to five minutes. But this may be either that those two provinces are the most Catholic in France and the law is not strictly enforced there. Or it may be that the ringing was broken off at five minute intervals without my noticing it.

The fact that the ringing of church bells is restricted by law in France adds point to what I wrote about the Church Assembly. There is no doubt whatever that the ringing of a single bell, when prolonged, causes much irritation and leads many people to dislike ringing altogether.

When this is pointed out, three forms of excuse are made: (a) The custom is a legal one. (b) Those who complain knew when they came to live where they are now that they would be near church bells. (c) If anything is done about it, it will be the thin end of the wedge to have bells stopped altogether.

I cannot say that I think these reasons either fair or adequate; and if ringers persist in them, they will only have themselves to blame if unreasonable laws are passed later on. If there is a genuine cause of complaint, and if ringers are wrongly connected in most men's minds with it, it is surely up to them at least to do what they can (and they can do a lot), both to remove the cause of complaint and to dissociate themselves from it.

The Enabling Act was passed to enable the Church, through its Assembly, to formulate laws which could be sanctioned by Parliament, in cases where legislation of a hostile character was threatened, if the grievances were not attended to by the Church itself in time. There cannot be a case to which this applies more exactly than in that which we are now considering. It is true that the threat at present is not very serious, but if we wait until it is, it will clearly be too late for us to act. Our opportunity will be gone, and the State will insist on a law on the lines of the French one, allowing us to ring bells for five minutes at a time. If we act at once, while we have the chance, we shall show the electorate that we wish to be considerate and reasonable; and if a Measure is now passed such as is generally acceptable, we shall be safe from further legislation for at least a generation. We cannot hope to do more than this, but we ought not to do less.

HERBERT DRAKE.

DAVENTRY SURPRISE MAJOR.

To replace the false peal of Daventry Surprise, rung at Helmingham on December 12th, another was rung on January 19th, the following being the composition:

5,120 BY GABRIEL LINDOFF.
23456 W 54 M

54326	x	—
43526	—	x
35426	—	x
45623	—	—
56423	—	x
64523	—	x

Four times repeated.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. SUGGESTED CHANGE OF PLANS FOR ANNUAL MEETING.

The pre-Lent meeting of the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association was held at Darlington on Saturday, February 25th, and although one of the worst snowstorms for many years had been raging for some days, 23 members, from Saltburn in the south to Newcastle in the north, gathered together in the 'Quaker Town' and had a good time. The fine peal at St. Cuthbert's (tenor 17 cwt.) was found to be in good order, and touches of Grandsire, Stedman, Superlative and Cambridge were rung during the afternoon. After an excellent tea at the Cameron Hotel, a short meeting was held, the president (Mr. J. Anderson) being in the chair.

Thanks were accorded to the Vicars of St. Cuthbert's, St. John's and Holy Trinity Churches for the use of the bells, on the motion of Mr. W. Storey, and visitors from the Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association were welcomed, on the motion of Mr. G. W. Park, Mr. T. Metcalf replying. Thanks were also accorded to Mr. G. W. Park, on the motion of Mr. W. J. Davidson, for the excellent arrangements he had made for the meeting.

This being the first meeting of the association since the death of the late president, Mr. E. E. Ferry, it was decided to send a letter to his relatives expressing sympathy with them in their loss, and the members stood in silence for a short period. Sympathy was also expressed with Mr. William Storey in the recent death of his wife, and, in replying, Mr. Storey said that among the many condolences he had received, he valued that of his ringing friends very highly.

The annual meetings of the association are, according to rule, held alternately at Newcastle and Durham, but as the ringing facilities in Durham are very poor, the Chairman suggested that in future the meetings be held at Newcastle, Durham, Sunderland, Darlington, or West Hartlepool; that the afternoon be devoted to ringing, and the festival service be held at, say, 5 o'clock, the dinner at 6, followed by the annual meeting, and the remainder of the time be devoted to a social evening. The scheme met with the approval of those present, and they were asked to get the feelings of the other members on the matter, and let the president have any further suggestions.

DEATH OF A COLCHESTER RINGER.

The death occurred on March 1st of Mr. W. J. Button, of 80, Harsnett Road, Colchester, in his 68th year.

A native of Leiston, deceased had taken part in about 30 peals, including a 10,304 Bob Major in April, 1888, at Leiston. For many years he was a member of the St. Peter's company, Colchester, previous to the restoration of St. Leonard's bells at the Hythe (which had been silent for about 100 years), when he took an active part in forming and instructing a young company.

The funeral service was held there on March 7th and was conducted by the Rev. G. A. Newcomen. Mr. F. W. Drake, A.R.C.O., officiated at the organ. The bells were rung half-muffled by Messrs. F. Dale, T. E. Rodgers, H. Finch, P. Grimsey, L. Wilson (local members), W. J. Schofield and G. M. Rashbrook. The interment took place at Ipswich.

On Sunday, March 5th, six of his old colleagues of St. Peter's rang at St. Leonard's Church, previous to evening service, 720 Oxford Treble Bob half-muffled: H. T. Pye 1, G. M. Rashbrook 2, W. J. Schofield 3, W. Dent 4, R. W. Stannard 5, E. P. Duffield (conductor) 6.

At St. Peter's Church on the day of the funeral, with bells half-muffled, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: H. T. Pye 1, R. W. Stannard (conductor) 2, G. M. Rashbrook 3, F. L. Bumpstead 4, W. J. Schofield 5, W. Dent 6, W. Chalk 7, G. Wightman 8. The composition was by Mr. Gabriel Lindoff, a brother-in-law of deceased.

MUFFLED BELLS.

At Mossley, Lancashire, on Tuesday, March 7th, at the Church of St. George, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,280 changes): R. Taylor (conductor) 1, H. Jackson 2, F. Welham 3, H. Pickles 4, J. Radcliffe 5, R. Walker 6, E. Garside 7, J. Clayton 8. Rung with the bells muffled as a mark of respect to the late Councillor R. Taylor, Vicar's warden and a member of the Town Council, who was laid to rest on that day.

TROWBRIDGE.—At St. James' Church, on Tuesday, March 7th, 1,257 Stedman Caters: J. Francis 1, C. F. Andrews 2, C. Butcher 3, J. Gilby 4, W. Loud 5, S. J. Hector 6, W. Baxter 7, C. Reason 8, N. V. Andrews (first touch of Caters as conductor) 9, S. Francis 10. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to Mrs. Harding, wife of Mr. S. L. Harding (people's warden at this church), who was interred on this day.

On Tuesday, February 21st, at Holy Trinity Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: F. W. Bond 1, the Rev. N. E. Hope (Chedworth, first quarter-peal of Stedman) 2, J. C. Eden 3, F. J. Lewis, sen., 4, H. C. Bond 5, H. S. Parsons 6, W. H. Hayward (conductor) 7, F. J. Lewis, jun., 8. Rung with the clappers half-muffled to the memory of the late Mrs. Andrews, wife of Mr. S. G. Andrews, chapel warden, and for many years a ringer at Holy Trinity Church, and brother of Mr. Wilfred Andrews, of Winchester Cathedral.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

BRISTOL.—At St. Ambrose Church on Sunday, March 12th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): Mrs. F. Skidmore 1, A. G. Baker 2, G. S. Wiltshire 3, E. J. Ridler 4, A. T. Maggs 5, F. Skidmore (first quarter-peal as conductor) 6, S. Phillips 7, A. Wiltshire 8. Rung as a compliment to the ringer of the 2nd, who was confirmed on this date. All the above are regular Sunday service ringers at St. Ambrose.

TOTTENHAM.—At All Hallows' Church, on Sunday afternoon, March 12th, for Confirmation service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major: S. G. Peck 1, Mrs. E. H. King 2, J. Thomas (conductor) 3, W. Bowden 4, W. Dickinson 5, H. W. H. Strickland 6, E. H. King 7, J. G. Nash 8.

EXETER.—On Sunday, March 12th, for evening service at St. Thomas' Church, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: R. Rundle 1, F. Willis (first quarter-peal 'inside') 2, J. Hosgood 3, E. Wreford 4, R. Truman 5, W. Willis 6, E. W. Biffin (conductor) 7, E. Hill 8.

LONDON.—At St. Botolph's Church on Sunday, March 12th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: W. H. Hewett (conductor) 1, W. W. Worthington (Lichfield) 2, R. F. Deal 3, E. F. Pike 4, J. Davis 5, W. Madgwick 6, C. W. Roberts 7, H. Belcher 8. Specially arranged for Mr. W. W. Worthington, who wished to ring a quarter-peal of Stedman in London.

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKS.—On Sunday, March 12th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Cambridge Surprise Major (1,280 changes) by members of the local band: Frank Buckland 1, Miss K. E. Fletcher 2, Miss D. R. Fletcher 3, E. G. Swift 4, J. Harrison 5, J. Blackmore 6, R. Buckland 7, H. Wingrove (conductor) 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to H. Wingrove, also to Mrs. Blackmore, wife of the 6th ringer, and Mr. W. H. Fletcher, father of 2nd and 3rd ringers. Believed to be the first quarter of Surprise Major on the bells by a local band.

OVER, CAMBS.—At the Parish Church for evening service on Sunday, March 5th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: M. Ginn 1, C. Robinson 2, R. Smith 3, B. J. E. White 4, the Rev. E. B. Shepherd 5, A. W. T. Ginn 6, A. J. Ginn 7, F. Warrington (conductor) 8. Arranged for Mr. White (Master, Cambridge University Guild) and the Rev. E. B. Shepherd, who preached at this service.

OXFORD.—At St. Ebbe's Church on Sunday, March 5th, a quarter-peal of Spliced Major (1,440 changes): George Horwood 1, C. Coles 2, R. Post 3, F. May 4, F. Taylor (conductor) 5, F. W. B. Wilkins 6, T. Newman 7, P. W. Wilkins 8. Mr. T. Newman was on a visit from London.

WITCHAM, ESSEX.—At St. Nicolas' Church on Sunday, February 12th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Kent Treble Bob Major (1,280 changes): B. Rawlinson 1, W. Butler 2, W. S. Butler 3, W. Mellin 4, V. Glass 5, A. Evers 6, E. Bright (conductor) 7, J. Redgewell 8. First quarter-peal of Major rung at this tower by an entirely local band.

LONDON.—On Sunday, February 12th, for evensong at St. Giles', Cripplegate, E.C., a quarter-peal of Stedman Cinques (1,299 changes): C. W. Roberts 1, W. H. Hewett (conductor) 2, Mrs. R. F. Deal 3, H. Hoskins 4, J. Marks 5, E. F. Pike 6, W. Madgwick 7, J. E. Davis 8, C. W. Grimwood 9, H. Belcher 10, R. Sanders 11, H. Folkhard 12.

EXETER.—At St. Sidwell's Church on Sunday, February 12th, 1,299 Stedman Caters: E. Shepherd (conductor) 1, W. Drake 2, A. Monkley 3, W. Howe 4, T. Bartlett 5, A. Searle 6, W. Richardson 7, G. Betts 8, A. Truman 9, J. Harris 10.

SOUTHGATE.—At Christ Church, on January 22nd, for morning service, 1,440 Cambridge Surprise Royal: A. R. Glasscock 1, Miss M. Pack (first touch of Cambridge Surprise Royal, aged 16 years) 2, J. G. Nash 3, S. Wade 4, G. E. Plater 5, E. H. King 6, N. A. Tomlinson 7, H. Miller 8, J. E. Miller 9, J. Armstrong (conductor) 10. For evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters (1,263 changes): Mrs. King 1, E. H. King 2, G. E. Plater 3, D. Ovington 4, N. A. Tomlinson 5, J. Armstrong (conductor) 6, H. Miller 7, J. Miller 8, W. Pickworth 9, A. G. Crane 10.

HADDENHAM, CAMBS.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday, January 15th, 720 Bob Minor: F. Warrington (conductor) 1, J. Thurbon 2, H. Markwell 3, W. Markwell (first 720) 4, M. Ginn 5, H. Collins 6. First 720 on the bells since they were rehung by Mears and Stainbank, the 'go' being excellent. For evening service another 720 by the same band.

TAUNTON.—At St. George's Church, Wilton, on Sunday, January 15th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: S. Wyatt 1, A. J. Wyatt (conductor) 2, A. W. Hayward 3, H. E. Causley 4, S. A. Wyatt 5, D. F. Sheldon 6, S. G. Coles 7, H. J. Moggridge 8. Also for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: A. J. Wyatt 1, A. W. Hayward (conductor) 2, D. F. Sheldon 3, H. E. Causley 4, R. W. Hayward 5, W. A. Sivier 6, S. G. Coles 7, S. A. Wyatt 8. First quarter-peal for the ringers of the 5th and 6th. Rung as a farewell to the Vicar, the Rev. A. F. Judd, who was leaving later in the week to take over the parish of Christ Church, Forest Hill.

ABINGDON.—On January 8th, for evensong at St. Helen's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: A. Gammon (first quarter-peal) 1, Mrs. A. E. Lock 2, A. E. Lock 3, F. Barrett 4, H. J. Balcombe 5, R. G. Rice 6, G. Caudwell (conductor) 7, J. Gerring 8. The youthful ringer of the treble made his first bob in the method only a week before ringing this quarter-peal.

NOTICES.

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

Notices must be received not later than Tuesday.

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PROPOSED MEMORIAL TO SIR A. P. HEYWOOD, BART.

As the 10 bells at Duffield, which was the home of Sir Arthur Heywood, and where he was a Sunday service ringer for many years, are about to be recast, the committee of the Midland Counties Association invite subscriptions from all ringers towards the expenses of recasting one of the bells and adding a suitable inscription.

Sir Arthur was, as is well known, the founder of the Central Council, and its president for a quarter of a century. He was also president of the M.C.A. for 29 years, and the committee feel that there are many, particularly those who knew him personally, who will welcome this opportunity of being associated with the scheme, and it is with confidence that they appeal for generous support from one and all.

Donations, however small, will be thankfully received and acknowledged by the hon. treasurer of the M.C.A.,

W. E. WHITE,

Ivy Cottage, Cotgrave, Nottingham.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at St. Andrew's, Holborn, on March 30th at 8 p.m.; St. Magnus' on the 23rd; *St. Michael's, Cornhill, on the 21st at 7.30 p.m. * Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—Next meeting at St. Mary's, Hornsey, on Saturday, March 18th. Bells 3 o'clock. Service at 5. Tea at 5.30, 1s. each. Please advise me. Wood Green bells available after business meeting. Subscriptions for 1933 are now due.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held jointly with the Yorkshire Association on Saturday, March 18th, at Doncaster.—E. Cooper, Hon. Sec., 33, Church Street, Bentley, Doncaster.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—A meeting will be held at Sapcote on Saturday, March 18th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Tea (6d.) and meeting at 5 p.m. All members and friends cordially invited.—A. E. Rowley, Local Hon. Sec., Station Road, Higham-on-the-Hill, Nuneaton.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Doncaster on Saturday, March 18th. Bells (8) ready at 3 p.m. Tea at the Co-operative Cafe, Printing Office Street (three minutes from church), 5.15 p.m., at a moderate charge. The business meeting for election of officers, etc., will be held in the Clergy House, adjoining church, at 6.30 p.m. Subscriptions for 1933 are now due and the annual report available.—F. Clark, Hon. Sec., 35, Finkle Street, Bentley, Doncaster.

DEVON GUILD.—A joint meeting of the Mid-Devon and South-West Branches will be held at Buckfastleigh on Saturday, March 18th. Bells available: Parish Church (6) from 1.45 p.m., St. Mary's Abbey (12) from 3 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Tea (1s.) in the National Schoolroom at 5 p.m. All ringers welcome.—A. L. Bennett, 9, Bossell Terrace, Buckfastleigh.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—A meeting will be held at St. Stephen's, Rochester Row, Westminster, on Saturday, March 18th. Ringing 2.45 to 5.15 and 6.30 to 8. Tea and business to follow at 5.30. Postcards from tea-takers appreciated by the Hon. Dis. Sec., J. Herbert, 17, Grimston Road, S.W.6.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—Meeting at Puttenham on Saturday, March 18th. Bells at 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30.—G. L. Grover, Hon. Sec., East Clandon, near Guildford.

LADIES' GUILD (NORTHERN BRANCH) AND SHERWOOD YOUTHS.—Meeting 3 p.m., Saturday, March 18th, at Long Eaton. Lady ringers interested invited to join the Guild. Subscription, 1s.—I. B. Thompson, 52, Lace Street, Dunkirk, Nottingham.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—The annual meeting of the above will be held at Horbury (via Wakefield) on Saturday, March 18th. Bells (8) available 2 p.m. Tea will be provided at 1s. per head. All ringers welcome. Further particulars on circulars.—Wm. Ambler, Hon. Dis. Sec.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—A general meeting will be held at Ufford on March 18th. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. Tea in St. Mary's Hall at 4.30 p.m. Meeting follows.—H. Drake, Ufford, Woodbridge.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next practice meeting of the above branch will be held at St. Mary's Church, Eccles, on Saturday, March 18th. Tower open for ringing at 6 p.m.—D. Brown, Hon. Sec.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—Allesley, near Coventry, is the meeting place for Saturday, March 18th. Bells (6) available during afternoon and evening. Tea at 5 o'clock, at the Rainbow Inn, 1s. each. The Vicar will preside. Frequent bus service from Coventry.—Mrs. D. E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., Green Ways, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Andover District.—Combined practice at St. Mary Bourne, Saturday, March 18th. Bells (6) available from 5.30.—Rev. P. S. H. Marle, Hon. Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Grappenhall Branch.—The branch meeting to be held at Daresbury on the 18th inst. has been postponed until the 25th inst.—John E. Ashcroft, Hon. Sec., P.O., Grappenhall.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—A meeting will be held at Uckfield on Saturday, March 25th. Ringing from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at the Holly Bush, 1s. 3d. each, 5.15 p.m., followed by business meeting, and bells available again afterwards.—J. M. Cripps, Div. Sec., 4, Hooper Cottages, Old Shoreham, Sussex.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. John's and St. Peter's (R.C.) Churches on Saturday, March 25th. Bells ready 2.45 p.m. Meeting 4 p.m. A good attendance requested.—C. Sharples, Fylde Branch Sec., 35, Berwick Road, Blackpool, S.S.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Goole on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (8) available from 2 to 9 p.m. Service in church at 4 p.m. Tea in schoolroom near church at 5 p.m., at 1s. 6d. each. Business meeting for election of officers, etc., immediately after tea. Subscriptions for 1933 are now due, and annual report available at this meeting.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Ebor Street, Selby.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—The fifth annual dinner of the Gloucester Branch will be held on Saturday, March 25th, at the Spread Eagle Hotel, Market Parade, at 6 p.m. prompt, His Worship the Mayor (Mr. W. L. Edwards) presiding, supported by Councillor Eggleton and other gentlemen. Tickets 3s. Towers opened during the afternoon: Barnwood 2 p.m., St. Mary-de-Lode 3 p.m., St. Michael's 4.30 p.m. Peal can be arranged if required. Will those requiring tickets kindly let me know by the 22nd inst?—W. H. Harris, Branch Sec., 15, Painswick Road, Gloucester.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Sandy on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (6) available at 2.30. Tea at 5. All ringers welcomed. Please come. Train and bus service from all districts.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy, Beds.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Braughing on March 25th. Bells available during afternoon and evening. Service at 5 o'clock. Tea after at the usual place. All friends will be heartily welcome.—W. H. Lawrence, Dis. Sec., Little Munden.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Davenport Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Badby (six bells) on Saturday, March 25th. Usual arrangements. Will those requiring tea kindly notify me at their earliest convenience?—W. C. Moore, Braunston Road, Davenport, Northants.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Nomination meeting.—The next meeting will be held at Armley on Saturday, March 25th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea (1s. per head) will be provided at 5 p.m. Business meeting in the tower at 7 p.m. Members are requested to send their names to me if they require tea.—H. Loft-house, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Leeds, 12.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next practice has been arranged at Winkfield (six bells) on Saturday, March 25th, at 3.30 p.m. Tea at 6d. per head for those who notify me not later than March 20th.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—West Dorset Branch.—A by-meeting of the above will be held at Symondsbury on Saturday, March 25th. Bells available from 2.30. No service or meeting. Tea at 5. Notifications for tea to C. H. Lathey, 10, Newfoundland, Bridport.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Deane, Bolton, on Saturday, Mar. 25th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

HASTINGS AND DISTRICT GUILD.—A meeting will be held at Salehurst on Saturday, March 25th. Tower open 3 o'clock. All ringers very welcome.—C. A. Levett, Hon. Sec., 238, Priory Road, Hastings.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Archdeaconry of Ely.—A meeting at Dullingham on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (5) available at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at Oddfellows' Hall, price 1s. each. Stetchworth tower also open if desired.—K. Willers, Dis. Sec., Sweetbriars, Trumpington, Cambridge.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION—Loughborough District.—The next meeting will be held at Kegworth on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (6) ready from 3.30 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. F. Sutton, Market Place, Kegworth.—D. S. Collins, Hon. Dis. Sec.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting will be held at St. Mary's Parish Church, Selly Oak, Birmingham, on Saturday, April 1st. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. at the People's Hall, Oak Tree Lane. Please advise regarding tea not later than Wednesday, 29th inst.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham.

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH, HOYLANDSWAINE.—The bells of the above church have been rehung in ball bearings by J. Taylor and Co., Loughborough, and will be reopened on Saturday, April 1st. The Bishop of Pontefract will conduct the service, which commences at 4 o'clock. Tea will be provided at 6d. per head to all who send their names to the Hon. Sec. before March 28th.—E. Brookes, Hon. Sec., Hall Lane, Hoylandswaine, Sheffield.

NEWBURY, BERKS.—The two new treble bells at St. Nicholas' Church, augmented to ten by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, will be dedicated by the Rt. Rev. Bishop Shaw on Sunday, April 2nd, at 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.30 at 1s. All ringers will be welcome. Come and try Newbury ten. Intending visitors must notify me for tea by Wednesday, March 29th.—H. W. Curtis, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Shaw, Newbury, Berks.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Preliminary Notice.—The annual general meeting will be held at Chislehurst on Easter Monday, April 17th. Tower open at 10. Service at 12 noon. Luncheon, with reasonable refreshment, at one o'clock, 1s. each to members, 3s. 6d. non-members. Business meeting to follow. Nominations for Central Council representatives must reach me by April 3rd next. Full particulars later.—Fred M. Mitchell, Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Preliminary Notice. The annual committee meeting will be held in Reading (D.V.) on Saturday, April 22nd. Will all branch secretaries and representatives please note? Details later.—Richard T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preliminary notice.—The second annual dinner will be held at Bolton on Saturday, October 21st, 1933.

PUBLICATIONS.

'GRANDSIRE DOUBLES AND TRIPLES, Simply Explained'; also 'Bob Minor and Major, Simply Explained,' for beginners. 6½d. each, post free; 5s. 9d. a dozen post free; from I. Roe and M. Broome, Byways, Hurst, Berks.

HANDBELL MUSIC, Revised Catalogue.—William Gordon, 37, Norwood Road, Great Moor, Stockport.

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TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

A WEEK OF SPADE-WORK.

The western portion of the Cornish Guild was fortunate in having the president of the Devon Guild and Mrs. Powell staying in the neighbourhood recently. This event was made the occasion of a week of much needed practice amongst the scattered bands struggling with the rudiments of the art.

The comparatively new band of St. Gluvias (new to half-pull ringing, that is, for the grandfather of the tower is 76 and a keen learner at that) were the first to give a welcome, and made a most favourable impression by their striking of Grandsire, whilst one of their members was enabled to get his first 120 of Stedman, without a correction, in a method he had merely studied on paper.

At Truro Cathedral on Tuesday (February 14th) an excellent practice was unfortunately stopped somewhat early by sickness in the vicinity.

At Camborne a very favourable impression was made by the round ringers being in force to give a welcome; and the new band at Tuckingwill were given some Grandsire.

Penzance and Gtval enabled the presidents of the two Western Guilds to meet for the first time: whilst Kenwyn gave opportunity for a quarter-peal of Grandsire by the following: W. H. Southeard, A. S. Roberts, Miss J. Angwin, C. M. Thomas, Rev. E. S. Powell, W. Sleeman, Mrs. Powell and C. Nicholls (first attempt on eight).

On Saturday a most useful week was brought to a close by a peal attempt at Lanivet, which failed after some 2½ hours' excellent ringing. We hope the visitors came safely through the snow which descended that night on the Western moors.

On Saturday, February 18th, for the wedding of the sister of one of the local band, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles in 45 mins.: C. Nicholls 1, Lt.-Col. C. F. Jerram 2, W. Sleeman 3, A. L. Nicholls 4, W. Wallace (first quarter and first attempt as conductor) 5, C. Bone 6.

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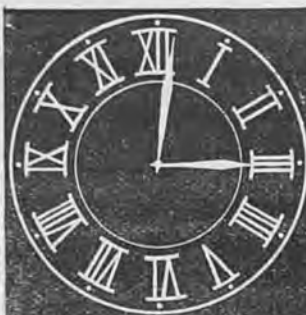
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