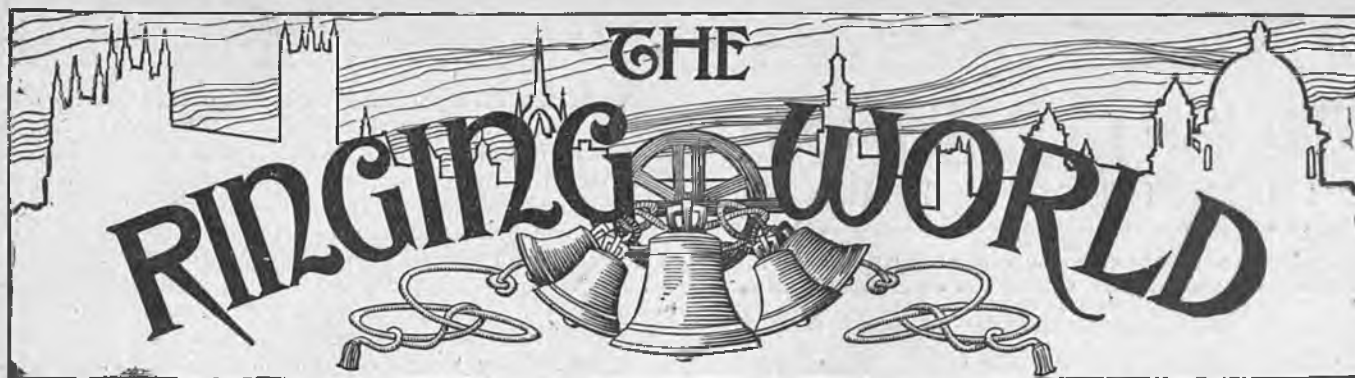




No. 1,186. Vol. XXVIII.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15th, 1933.

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

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BAD STRIKING—AND A REMEDY.

It is doubtful if ringers as a whole fully appreciate the amount of bad striking that prevails through the faulty handling of bell ropes. The man who does not manipulate his rope properly cannot hope to strike his bell correctly, simply because he has not got full control. Nine times out of ten the fault arises from improper instruction. The teacher, perhaps, has not taken sufficient trouble to insist on the pupil handling his rope in the right way, and the defects of manipulation have grown on the young ringer until they have become a habit. Or it may be that the teacher himself has never developed a correct style; therefore he is not in a position to put his pupil in the right way from the start. There may be other reasons why there are so many ringers up and down the country—it is really surprising how many there are—who do not handle a rope properly, but laxity or ignorance on the part of teachers has been the most prolific cause of the production of bad ringers—bad in the sense that, not having learned properly to control a bell, they are inefficient in their striking, although many of them, perhaps, would be the last to admit it.

From now onward, however, there will be no excuse for ignorance on the subject; although we are afraid that nothing will cure the laxity which characterises some people's methods of instruction. The Central Council have just printed a cheap booklet, compiled by two of the best authorities on this subject—Canon G. F. Coleridge and Mr. J. T. Dyke—and we have no hesitation in saying that, if a copy were placed in the hands of every ringer in this country and the advice acted upon, the average standard of striking would be improved by one hundred per cent. in twelve months. The value of the pamphlet lies in the simplicity of the instruction given, supplemented by half-a-dozen full page photographs of how to hold and how not to hold a bell rope. It is advice to the instructor as well as to the learner; it can be studied with profit by all ringers, for there are, we hope, very few who at some time or other do not take their share in teaching others, and there are many who, even though they have long since left what they would deem to be the beginner's stage, might 'learn something to their advantage.' Coupled with the hints on the fundamental instruction of the learner—and others whom it may concern—is a simple explanation of the first steps in change ringing, which the teacher will find a valuable aid to putting the novice on the road to acquiring an elementary knowledge of the art.

We would repeat that this book should be in the hands of every ringer and it has been one of the objects of the

(Continued on page 786.)

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Central Council to publish it at a minimum cost, so that it can come within the reach of all. The issue price is twopence, including postage, but this is a pamphlet the distribution of which ought not to depend on individual sales. The associations themselves ought to take the copies up in bulk, and it would be to their advantage to distribute them free of cost to every member. They would get a quick return, we believe, in improved ringing among their members. In any case, we hope the booklet will be placed in the hands of every association instructor, every tower captain and every new ringer. It is something which has been wanting in the Exercise for years, and now that it is provided at such insignificant cost we hope the associations will make full use of it. Those who desire to obtain their copy quickly should send their twopence to the Central Council Librarian.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

CENTENARY PEAL.

CHELTENHAM, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 9, 1933, in Three Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 22½ cwt.

WILLIAM T. PATES 2	JOSEPH D. JOHNSON 7
ERNEST E. BISHOP 2	WILLIAM H. THOMAS 8
SIDNEY T. HOLT 3	WILLIAM B. KYNASTON 9
JOHN AUSTIN 4	EDWARD EVANS 10
*CHARLES J. GARDINER 5	GEOFFREY J. HEMMING 11
*THOMAS W. LEWIS 6	JOSEPH T. DYKE Tenor

Arranged by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Conducted by JOHN AUSTIN.

* First peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus. Rung on the centenary of the long peal of Treble Bob Maximus at Painswick, 1833, composed and conducted by William Estcourt. The above peal is the last eight courses of the original peal.

TEN BELL PEALS.

WALTHAMSTOW, ESSEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, December 7, 1933, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5055 CHANGES;

Tenor 19½ cwt.

CHARLES W. BIRD 2	JAMES C. ADAMS 6
GEORGE R. PYE 2	ROBERT MAYNARD, SEN. 7
ALFRED PYE 3	JOHN H. CRAMPION 8
ERNEST PYE 4	JAMES BENNETT 9
CHARLES T. COLES 5	ERNEST E. HOLMAN Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by CHARLES T. COLES.

Arranged for the treble ringer, who hails from Kettering.

SOLIHULL, WARWICKSHIRE.

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

On Saturday, December 9, 1933, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALPHAGE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5057 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

WILLIAM LEESON 2	FRANK E. PERVIN 6
GEORGE E. FEARN 2	ALBERT WALKER 7
*THOMAS J. WARNER 3	SAMUEL BRAGG 8
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD 4	ROLAND BRAGG 9
WILLIAM C. DOWDING 5	JOHN BRAGG Tenor

Composed by EDGAR C. SHEPHERD.

Conducted by ALBERT WALKER

* First peal. First peal on the bells since their recasting. Rung to celebrate the completion of the restoration of the chancel, which was rededicated by the Bishop of Birmingham on December 13th.

MACCLESFIELD.—At the Parish Church, on Sunday afternoon, November 12th, for the Mayoral service, 1,188 Grandsire Cinques: W. Matthews (conductor) 1, E. Atkins 2, W. Gayes 3, N. Lomas 4, J. Bradbury 5, W. Stevenson 6, J. Worth 7, S. Dean 8, V. Norbury 9, J. Westwood 10, A. Burgess 11, P.C. F. Yates 12.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

FARINGDON, BERKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 2, 1933, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S TEN-PART.

Tenor 17½ cwt. in E flat.

RICHARD T. HIBBERT Treble	EDWARD HUGHES 5
MISS STELLA DAVIS 2	*FREDERICK WHIPP 6
CYRIL J. HIBBERT 3	WILLIAM HIBBERT 7
HUBERT E. TAYLOR 4	JOHN BEESLEY Tenor

Conducted by R. T. HIBBERT.

* First attempt for a peal of Triples.

TIPTON, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, December 2, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 0 qr. 23 lb.

GEORGE HUGHES Treble	C. HOWARD STANLEY 5
WILLIAM SHORT 2	THOMAS HEMMING 6
CLIFFORD SKIDMORE 3	HECTOR G. BIRD 7
JOHN BASS 4	ROBERT MATTHEWS Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by R. MATTHEWS.

First peal in the method on the bells. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. J. George with the band's best wishes. Thanks are due to Mr. Stanley for so kindly making up the band at very short notice.

NEWPORT, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 4, 1933, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

*REV. IVOR J. RICHARDS Treble	†FREDERICK BULLOCK 5
TOM FORD 2	JOHN W. JONES 6
†FRANK MILLARD 3	GEORGE DAY 7
†LESLIE BAINHAM 4	HARRY BULLOCK Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by JOHN W. JONES.

* First peal of Grandsire Triples. † First peal and first attempt. † First peal. Arranged specially by the junior members of the tower and rung as a compliment to the conductor on the eve of his 68th birthday. All are Sunday service ringers at this church excepting the ringer of the treble, who is curate at St. Mark's, the Mother Church of All Saints'.

STREATHAM, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 4, 1933, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOHN LEE Treble	T. WILFRED TAFFENDER 5
*MISS E. E. HARDCASTLE 2	JOHN W. EUSTON 6
EDWARD G. TALBOT 3	CHARLES W. ROBERTS 7
FRANK JENNINGS 4	RUEBEN SANDERS Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.

* First Surprise peal.

BLACKBURN, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 5, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*JACKSON PICKUP Treble	†ARNOLD BRUNTON 5
FRED HINDLE 2	ARTHUR TOMLINSON 6
NORMAN KENYON 3	JOSEPH A. TOMLINSON 7
WILLIAM MILLER 4	*WILLIAM CATLOW Tenor

Conducted by A. TOMLINSON.

* First peal. † First peal of Triples. Rung as a welcome to the Rev. William Bellwood, who was instituted and inducted to the above parish the previous day.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 5, 1933, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. EDWARD,

A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON BRISTOL, CAMBRIDGE, & SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 6024 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

ERNEST W. FORBANK Treble	JAMIE BENNETT 5
MRS. R. F. DEAL 2	CHARLES W. ROBERTS 6
*ALFRED PYE 3	JAMES E. DAVIS 7
GEORGE R. PYE 4	WILLIAM PYE Tenor

Composed by The REV. LAW JAMES. Conducted by WILLIAM PYE.

* First peal of Spliced Surprise. This peal contains 2,944 London, 608 Bristol and 736 each of Cambridge and Superlative, the two latter methods being rung in alternate courses.

WICKEN, NORTHANTS.

THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

(TOWCESTER BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, December 5, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART

Tenor 15½ cwt.

*FRANK J. GREEN Treble	FREDERICK C. CASE 5
†JOHN A. GREEN 2	THOMAS E. ROBERTS 6
ERNEST C. LAMBERT 3	ALBERT J. GREEN 7
†GEORGE J. WHITEHEAD 4	*HARRY O. READ Tenor

Conducted by T. E. ROBERTS.

* First peal and aged only 12 years. † First peal in the method with a bob bell. ‡ First peal in the method.

ERITH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 7, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

JOHN H. CHEESMAN Treble	HERBERT E. ADDSLEY 5
EDWIN A. BARRETT 2	HARRY A. HOVERD 6
JAMES E. DAVIS 3	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. 7
ALFRED G. HILL 4	FREDERICK J. CULLUM Tenor

Composed by JOSEPH W. PARKER.

Conducted by FREDERICK J. CULLUM.

First peal in the method as conductor. The 100th peal rung on these bells by F. J. Cullum. Rung on the 55th anniversary of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. E. Audsley, parents of the ringer of the 5th, the band extending to them hearty congratulations.

BROMLEY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 7, 1933, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

*ERIC E. BARRETT Treble	GEORGE E. RAWLINGS 5
JOHN J. LAMB 2	JOHN E. LYDDIARD 6
†ALLISON PURDOM 3	JAMES HURRELL 7
HARRY HOSKINS 4	WILLIAM J. JEFFERIES Tenor

Composed by I. G. SHADE. Conducted by WILLIAM J. JEFFERIES.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal in the method. A birthday peal for the ringer of the 6th.

CLAYBROOKE, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 9, 1933, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

W. H. HUMBERSTONE Treble	FREDERICK R. ROE 5
*L. ALBERT WARD 2	†DENIS H. DALBY 6
A. H. CARTER 3	†FRANK W. LLOYD 7
KENNETH ROE 4	JOSEPH S. CARTER Tenor

Conducted by JOSEPH S. CARTER.

* First peal away from treble. † First peal of Surprise. First peal of Surprise as conductor. First of Cambridge Major by all the band. Rung on the fourth anniversary of the opening of the octave. All are Sunday service ringers at All Saints', Wigston Magna.

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

On Saturday, December 9, 1933, in two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
At the Church of St. Barnabas,

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

Tenor 15½ cwt.

GEORGE H. WILLIAMS Treble	FREDERICK W. RISHWORTH ... 5
MRS. PHILLIS HUMPHREY ... 2	RALPH PARTON 6
GEORGE F. SWANN 3	RICHARD C. INGRAM 7
CUTHBERT T. H. BRADLEY ... 4	JONATHAN PRESTON Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE F. SWANN.

Specially arranged and rung to enable Mrs. Humphrey to ring her first peal of Stedman on the bells of the church she attended when a resident of Erdington.

WYMONDHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 9, 1933, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,
At the Abbey Church of SS. Mary and Thomas of Canterbury

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt. 1 qr. in D.

GEORGE HOWCHIN Treble	*WILLIAM J. LEE 5
JOHN G. W. HARWOOD ... 2	GEORGE T. PEGNALL 6
*GEORGE MAYERS 3	NOLAN GOLDEN 7
ROSSELL W. CURSON ... 4	WILLIAM J. CLOVER Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal of Bob Major. Arranged as a birthday compliment to W. J. Lee, of Great Yarmouth, and his daughter, whose birthdays occur on this date.

SELLY OAK, BIRMINGHAM.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 9, 1933, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (6th observation).

Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 17 lb. in G.

*HAROLD G. ATKINS Treble	H. JAMES TURNER 5
CHARLES WEBB 2	WILLIAM J. CARTWRIGHT ... 6
JOHN F. ATKINS 3	SAMUEL GROVE 7
*ERNEST G. FLETCHER ... 4	JOHN E. EATON Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT.

* First peal. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last token of respect to Christopher Gibbs, the towerkeeper at Selly Oak, and a member of the local band, who was killed in a motor-cycle accident while on his way to ringing practice on November 29th last.

BURNHAM, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 9, 1933, in Three Hours and One Minute,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 16 cwt.

*MRS. W. E. TAYLOR Treble	THOMAS S. GOODCHILD ... 5
WILLIAM E. TAYLOR ... 2	WILLIAM WELLING 6
GEORGE H. LIMMER ... 3	GEORGE GILBERT 7
LEONARD STILWELL ... 4	B. THELWALL HARRISON ... Tenor

Conducted by LEONARD STILWELL.

* First peal. Seventeenth wedding anniversary compliment to Mr. and Mrs. W. Wellings.

GALLEYWOOD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 9, 1933, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt. in G.

THOMAS LINCOLN Treble	WILLIAM LINCOLN 5
WILLIAM KEEBLE 2	GEORGE GREEN 6
CHARLES W. BURTON ... 3	WALTER ARNOLD 7
PERCY GREEN 4	ARTHUR HEAD Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHEROOR. Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE.

Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Nevard, of Great Bentley, in honour of the 55th anniversary of their wedding (December 5th, 1878).

ROCHESTER, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 9, 1933, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Catherine,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. in D.

G. DENNIS DRIGHTON Treble	HERBERT L. HARLOW 5
HENRY W. GAYTON 2	CYRIL WILSON 6
ERNEST E. WHITMORE ... 3	PEARL INSKIP 7
STANLEY G. ROBINSON ... 4	WILLIAM J. WHITMORE ... Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by Wm. J. WHITMORE.

WOKING, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 9, 1933, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 17½ cwt. in E.

JOHN S. GOLDSMITH Treble	JOHN HOYLE 5
MRS. C. HAZELDEN 2	CHARLES W. R. GRIMWOOD ... 6
JOHN BEAMS 3	WILLIAM H. PASMORE 7
CHARLES HAZELDEN ... 4	JOSEPH S. HAWKINS Tenor

Composed by W. HYDE INGLESANT.

Conducted by JOHN S. GOLDSMITH

Rung to celebrate the 30th anniversaries of the weddings of all the ringers, who, five years before, rang a 'silver wedding' peal together. First peal on the bells since they were retuned and the 6th recast as the Guild's memorial to the first hon. treasurer, Admiral T. P. Walker, D.S.O.

GRAVESEND, KENT.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, December 9, 1933, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. George,

A PEAL OF PUDSEY SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

JOHN H. CHEESMAN Treble	HARRY HOVERD 5
MRS. GEORGE H. CROSS ... 2	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY 6
EDWARD J. BEER 3	GEORGE J. BUTCHER 7
GEORGE H. CROSS 4	LEONARD H. BAYBUTT Tenor

Composed and Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS.

First peal in the method by the society, on the bells and by the ringers of the 2nd, 3rd, 5th and 7th. First blow in the method by the ringer of the 2nd.

BOLNEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 9, 1933, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

KEITH HART Treble	FRANK I. HAIRS 5
KENNETH SNELLING 2	STANLEY E. ARMSTRONG ... 6
MRS. F. I. HAIRS 3	ROBERT SWIFT 7
JACK M. CRIPPS 4	JOHN DEARLOVE Tenor

Composed by MIDDLETON.

Conducted by JOHN DEARLOVE.

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE NATIONAL POLICE GUILD OF RINGERS.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 9, 1933, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

At the Church of the Holy Trinity,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

SIR A. P. HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS'.

Tenor 17 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb. in E.

P.C. JOHN MULLINER, Manchester City Police Treble
P.S. PETER CROOK, Bolton Borough Police 2
P.C. WILLIAM PYE, Manchester City Police 3
Chief-Insp. JAMES MELDRUM, Liverpool City Police 4
P.C. DONALD BROWN, Manchester City Police 5
P.C. FREDERICK PAGE, Manchester City Police 6
P.C. THOMAS R. BUTLER, Liverpool City Police 7
P.C. GEORGE R. PYE, Manchester City Police Tenor

Conducted by P.C. THOMAS R. BUTLER.

Rung to celebrate the christening of the conductor's niece, Barbara, daughter of P.C. Herbert Williams (Liverpool City Police) and Mrs. Williams, which event took place the following day.

SIX BELL PEALS.

GREAT TOTHAM, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, October 31, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of College Exercise, two 720's of Kent Treble Bob, 720 of Double Court, two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob and 720 of Bob Minor.

H. E. SEAGER	Treble	E. J. SHYNN	4
V. W. MRLLS	2	E. J. SEAGER	5
L. W. SHYNN	3	P. C. SAVER	Tenor

Conducted by P. C. SAVER.

Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. A. Brookes, who was laid to rest that day, and who was a member of the choir for over 50 years.

MORECAMBE, LANCs.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, November 18, 1933, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents. Tenor 9 cwt.

*HERBERT PALMER	Treble	ALAN W. CASSON	4
GEORGE E. BRAITHWAITE	2	EDWIN JENNINGS	5
ERNEST SWAIN	3	NICHOLAS NEWBY	Tenor

Conducted by E. JENNINGS.

* First peal. Rung in honour of the wedding of one of the ringers, Mr. George E. Braithwaite.

MINSTERWORTH, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 2, 1933, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Ten six-scores of Grandsire and 32 six-scores of St. Dunstan's, each called differently. Tenor 11½ cwt.

HUBERT SCRIVENS	Treble	ERNEST MATTHEWS	4
TOM WORRALL	2	WILLIAM JONES	5
THOMAS BALDWIN	3	HARRY NEWMAN	Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS BALDWIN.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the treble ringer on attaining his 75th birthday.

DELWYN, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 2, 1933, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being twenty-one 240's, each called differently. Tenor 12 cwt.

GEORGE E. HUMPHRIES	Treble	THOMAS E. STEAD	4
JAMES T. RANDLE	2	JAMES P. HYETT	5
LESLIE EVANS	3	THOMAS R. ECKLEY	Tenor

Conducted by J. P. HYETT.

Rung to mark the bicentenary of the bells, 1733-1933. G. E. Humphries and T. R. Eckley rang their first and only previous peal 8½ years ago on these bells.

NAVENBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 2, 1933, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

One extent of St. Clement's and two each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

FREDERICK W. STOKES	Treble	PERCY HOLMES	4
CECIL J. MAYER	2	WILLIAM A. BETTLES	5
KENNETH W. MAYER	3	JOHN WALDEN	Tenor

Conducted by JOHN WALDEN.

First peal in four methods by the ringers of 2, 3 and 4.

CHURCH STRETTON, SHROPSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

(LUDLOW AND CHURCH STRETTON DISTRICT.)

On Saturday, December 2, 1933, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 11½ cwt.

JAMES J. PRICE	Treble	JAMES HUGHES	4
WILLIAM J. BENIAMS	2	*WILLIAM H. LLOYD	5
HUBERT JONES	3	ARTHUR C. NASON	Tenor

Conducted by W. J. BENIAMS.

* First peal.

HILPERTON, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, December 5, 1933, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 7½ cwt. in B flat.

NORMAN V. ANDREWS	Treble	A. OWEN WRINTMORE	4
REGINALD H. NEWTON	2	CHARLES F. ANDREWS	5
WILLIAM C. WEST	3	WILLIAM R. BAXTER	Tenor

Conducted by C. F. ANDREWS.

First peal of Stedman Doubles by all the band and on the bells. The conductor has now rung peals of Stedman from Doubles to Cinques.

FULMER, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, December 5, 1933, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being a 720 each of Annable's London Surprise, Norwich Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 7½ cwt. in A.

RONALD H. BULLEN	Treble	LEONARD STILWELL	4
MISS K. M. BRADFORD	2	EDWARD S. T. FARR	5
GEORGE H. GUTTERIDGE	3	ALAN R. PINK	Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

A birthday compliment to the conductor, and a farewell to Ronald H. Bullen, who was leaving the district for Lowestoft.

MINCHINHAMPTON, GLOS.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, December 5, 1933, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Beverley, York, London and Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

F. CANTER	Treble	F. SIMMONDS	4
E. JFFFERIES	2	H. BARNETT	5
H. PHELPS	3	F. PONTING	Tenor

Conducted by F. PONTING.

First peal in seven methods by all except ringer of 5th. First in seven methods for the association. All are members of the local band. Rung as a birthday compliment to ringer of 4th.

HATHERN, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 9, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and three 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt. 2 qr. 12 lb.

JOHN SADDINGTON	Treble	JOHN W. BOOTH	4
FELIX SUTTON	2	ERNEST MORRIS	5
JAMES S. HUTCHBY	3	COLIN HARRISON	Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

First peal on these bells since augmentation by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. This is the 118th tower in the Leicester Diocese where the conductor has rung peals of 5,000 and over.

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STEEPLE ASHTON, WILTS.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, December 6, 1933, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents. Tenor 19 cwt. in E flat.
SIDNEY HILLIER Treble REGINALD H. NEWTON ... 4
CHAS. D. HEGINBOTHOM ... 2 FRANK GREEN ... 5
*PERCY HARDING ... 3 WILLIAM C. WEST ... Tenor
Conducted by W. C. WEST.

* First attempt for Minor.

EARDISLAND, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, December 7, 1933, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 13 cwt.
WILLIAM E. JAINE Treble FREDERICK A. JAINE ... 4
THOMAS E. STEAD ... 2 LESLIE EVANS ... 5
WILFRED E. BROOKES ... 3 THOMAS ECKLEY ... Tenor
Conducted by L. EVANS.

First peal as conductor. Rung as a compliment to the conductor on his 21st birthday. He is believed to be the youngest member of the Hereford Diocesan Guild to conduct a peal. Quickest peal on the bells.

BURTON-IN-KENDAL, WESTMORLAND.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 9, 1933, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob, four 720's of Kent Treble Bob and one of Plain Bob.
*WILLIAM LONG Treble JOHN McLEAN ... 4
*JAMES E. BURLS ... 2 EDWIN JENNINGS ... 5
*NICHOLS NEWBY ... 3 GEORGE E. BRAITHEWAITE ... Tenor
Conducted by E. JENNINGS.

* First peal in three methods. Rung muffled as a mark of respect to the late Rev. W. Y. Potter, M.A., for ten years Vicar of this parish, who died on Thursday, the 7th inst.

LAMBERHURST, KENT.

On Saturday, December 9, 1933, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Carlisle, London, Hanley, Milton, Ipswich, Primrose and Cambridge.
JAMES WAGHORN, SEN. Treble ANDREW MARSHALL ... 4
THOMAS FULLER ... 2 JAMES BASSETT ... 5
ALBERT RELFE ... 3 JAMES WAGHORN, JUN. ... Tenor
Conducted by ALBERT RELFE.

Rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. B. Luck and Miss M. Fullbrook, which took place at Canterbury on the above date. First peal in seven methods by the tenor ringer, who only started Surprise ringing this year.

CAMBERWELL.—At St. Giles' Church, on Sunday, November 12th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Stedman Caters: Miss A. Fisher (Aldershot) (first quarter-peal of Caters) 1, Miss H. F. Mills (Aldershot) 2, Miss B. M. Mills 3, F. E. Hawthorne 4, A. W. Durham 5, D. G. Barnard 6, E. J. King (conductor) 7, W. H. Thomas 8, T. H. Taffender 9, G. H. Daynes 10.

OLNEY, BUCKS.—For evensong on Sunday, November 5th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (Holt's Original): Roland Perkins 1, S. Smith 2, B. Fisher 3, Roger Perkins 4, W. Cook 5, W. Freeman 6, P. Boswell 7, L. W. Jacques (conductor) 8. Arranged for the conductor, who was on a visit from Mansfield.

TAUNTON.—At the Church of St. James for harvest thanksgiving on Sunday, October 1st, by the St. James' Guild, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: H. Walker 1, A. Walker 2, H. W. Burden 3, A. H. Reed 4, W. H. Pole 5, J. Hunt 6, W. G. Gigg (conductor) 7, J. Roy 8. Longest touch of Triples by ringers 1 and 2.

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A NORTHANTS AUGMENTATION.

A GENEROUS GIFT TO WELFORD CHURCH.

In 1919 the peal of five bells at the Church of St. Mary the Virgin, Welford, were rehung by Messrs. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, in a new frame with provision for three new bells. Thursday, November 30th, 1933, saw the completion of this work, when three new trebles, presented by Mr. T. H. Scrimshire, of Welford, in memory of his two sisters, were dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Peterborough.

Each bell bears the following inscription: In memory of my sisters Ann and Alice. Presented by T. H. Scrimshire, 1933. F. C. Woodhouse, Vicar. F. Lovell, W. G. Brown, Churchwardens.

Service, which was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. F. C. Woodhouse), commenced with the hymn, 'We love the place, O God.' Psalm 122 was sung, and the lesson was read by the Rural Dean (Canon Gornall). After the lesson the hymn, 'Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven,' was sung while the Bishop, clergy and churchwardens proceeded to the belfry. Immediately after the prayers of dedication, and as the procession returned, a few rounds were rung by the following: W. Perkins 1, F. Wilford 2, W. Wood 3, E. Bott 4, E. A. Marsh 5, Dr. F. S. Poole 6, G. A. Hollick 7, F. E. Hollick 8.

A striking address by the Bishop was appreciated by all, and with the hymn, 'Angel voices ever singing,' and the Blessing, the service concluded.

As the congregation left the church a touch of Stedman Triples was rung by W. Wood 1, F. Wilford 2, E. A. Marsh 3, Dr. F. S. Poole 4, A. Smart 5, F. Ball 6, W. Perkins (conductor) 7, G. A. Hollick 8. The bells were then at the disposal of visitors, and various methods were rung.

Messrs. Taylor and Co. were represented by Mr. J. Oldham, and all agreed that the work had been carried out in an efficient manner, the tone and 'go' of the three new bells being all that could be desired, and an excellent 'splice' effected.

On Saturday, December 2nd, a quarterly meeting of the Guildsborough Branch of the Peterborough Diocesan Guild was held for the purpose of a ringers' opening. Branch members attended from Husbands Bosworth, South Kilworth, Stamford-on-Avon and the local band, together with the branch president (the Rev. T. W. Long) and visiting ringers from Northampton, Wigston Magna, Higham Ferrers, Coventry, Leicester, Market Harborough, Burbage, Lutterworth and Folkingham (Lincs).

The bells were rung during the afternoon and evening in the various standard methods.

In the absence of the Vicar, service was conducted by the branch president.

Tea was partaken of at the Shoulder-of-Mutton Inn, and was followed by the business meeting, at which the January meeting was arranged for Guildsborough. The Chairman said he was sorry to see such a poor number of branch members present, but welcomed the visitors, some of whom had come long distances, and hoped they would spend a pleasant evening in ringing on the newly-augmented peal. After the usual votes of thanks had been accorded, a return was made to the belfry, where a pleasant meeting terminated about 8 p.m.

G. A. H.

WEDDING.

The bells of St. Mary's Church, North Mimms, Herts, rang out merrily on Saturday, December 2nd, when Miss Catherine Ruth Nash, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. Nash, was married to Mr. Donald Pinder, of Hatfield, Herts. The brother of the bridegroom acted as best man and the bride was given away by her father. The service was fully choral, the hymns sung being 'Lead us, Heavenly Father, lead us' and 'The Voice that breathed o'er Eden.' The Rev. Leonard Buxton (Vicar) performed the ceremony and afterwards gave an appropriate address, in which he bid the newly-wedded couple 'God-speed and good luck' for the future, sentiments which were heartily reciprocated by those present.

A very happy company afterwards assembled in the Scout Hut nearby, where the wedding breakfast was served, and the bride and bridegroom received further congratulations and good wishes from the many friends assembled. It was fitting that Mr. A. Shepherd, the president of the Hertford County Association, was able to be present, not only as a very sincere friend of the family, but as representing a great body of ringers in Herts and Middlesex, among whom Mr. and Mrs. Nash are worthily esteemed, and who rejoice with them in the consummation of a very happy event. Mr. Nash is the popular hon. secretary of the St. Albans District of the Hertford County Association.

'A SIMPLE QUARTER-PEAL.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It may be of interest to ringers to know that the quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples appearing in this week's issue of 'The Ringing World,' and given as having been composed by E. H. Behan in 1899, was published in 'The Bell News' of June 17th, 1892 (No. 11). The composer was W. A. Tyler, of Willesden. If the single is called at the first lead in the 5th part, the part end will be 24356 and the 2nd still undisturbed throughout, without using a Holt's single.

Forest Hill.

A. P. CANNON.

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

A very pleasant quarterly meeting of the North Bucks Branch was held at Bletchley on Saturday, December 2nd, when about 40 members were present, representing the following towers: Bletchley, Bradwell, Beachampton, Hanslope, Newport Pagnell, Newton Longville, Simpson, Stony Stratford, Weston Underwood and Woughton. Service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. F. W. Bennitt), and a very inspiring address was given by the Rev. D. R. James, Vicar of Great Bucknill. Tea, provided in the Schoolroom, was followed by the usual business meeting, the president of the branch (the Rev. Adeane Byard, Vicar of Newport Pagnell) taking the chair.

The Chairman extended a very hearty welcome to the Rev. C. Elliot Wigg, Deputy Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild, who unexpectedly paid his first visit to the North Bucks Branch.

The hon. secretary (Mr. W. Sear) read the minutes of the last meeting, which were accepted, and one or two points arising were fully discussed.

The secretary made an appeal on behalf of the Little Holwood Bell Fund. He explained the position and the sum of £3 3s. was voted.

One new tower, with eight members, was proposed and accepted.

A general discussion on monthly meetings took place and was referred to the next meeting for further consideration as to the best way such a plan could be worked.

The Deputy Master addressed the meeting, expressing his pleasure and appreciation at seeing such a good gathering on his first visit to North Bucks. He wished the branch every success and continued progress.

The usual votes of thanks were extended to the Rev. F. W. Bennitt for making arrangements for the service, to the Rev. D. R. James for his address, and to the ladies for providing tea.

The methods rung during the afternoon ranged from Grandsire and Stedman Triples to Cambridge Surprise Major.

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION.

On Wednesday evening, December 6th, as a birthday compliment to Mr. E. Pearson, secretary of the Banbury Branch of the Oxfordshire Diocesan Guild, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,259 changes) was rung at St. Mary's Church, Banbury. The ringers, who were all local men and regular Sunday service ringers, were: R. Higham 1, W. Watson 2, W. Tandy 3, F. Selwyn 4, E. Pearson 5, L. J. Malings 6, T. Impey 7, H. Impey (conductor) 8, J. Simons 9, W. Aston 10. First quarter-peal of Caters by the ringers of the 6th and tenor bells.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.**EXETER BRANCH PROGRESS.**

The Exeter Branch of the Devonshire Guild held its annual meeting at St. Sidwell's, Exeter, on Saturday, December 9th, when there was an attendance of 61 members and visitors. Service was held at St. Sidwell's Church, conducted by the Rector (the Rev. H. Lanyon Owen), who gave an excellent address. Mr. D. J. Reed was at the organ.

Tea was held at St. Sidwell's Institute, and was followed by the business meeting, with Mr. C. G. Glass in the chair, supported by the president of the Guild (the Rev. E. V. Cox), the Rev. H. Lanyon Owen, the Rev. Rhys James and the general hon. secretary (Mr. T. Laver).

The secretary and treasurer's report showed an increase in membership and in the funds of the branch since last year's report.

The chairman, secretary and assistant secretary were all re-elected, and it was resolved to hold the next meeting at Crediton on February 10th, subject to the Vicar's approval.

The President congratulated the chairman on having such a lot of young members in the branch and the secretary upon the manner in which he had compiled his report on the year's work. He also wished the branch every success, and hoped they would continue to prosper, not only in the way of membership, but also in ringing higher methods.

The Chairman thanked the Rector of St. Sidwell's for the service and his excellent address, the organist and all those who had helped to make the meeting a success. Grandsire Doubles, Triples and Caters, also Stedman Doubles and Triples, were rung at the city towers during the evening.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**BLACKBURN BRANCH SOCIAL.**

The Blackburn Branch of the Lancashire Association held its 18th annual social gathering on Saturday, December 2nd, at Holy Trinity Church, Burnley. During the afternoon mixed bands of ringers rang touches in various methods. All the ringers and their relatives and friends met in Mitre Street School for tea, which was served by ladies connected with the local tower. Preceding the social the Vicar (the Rev. B. E. Hughes, M.A.) extended a hearty welcome to all present, and hoped they had enjoyed the excellent tea provided.

A good concert was given by the Zipps Concert Party, and this was followed by dancing.

PLYMOUTH, DEVON.—On Sunday, October 8th, for harvest festival morning service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: R. W. Pugsley 1, E. W. Marsh 2, G. Godard 3, W. G. Lavers 4, W. G. Hiscott (conductor) 5, R. J. Baldry 6, J. Woodley 7, F. W. Baldry 8.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

A very mixed band, hailing from Congresbury, Bristol, London and Newport, had on Wednesday week a great disappointment, when a peal of Stedman Triples came to grief at Mangotsfield, Gloucestershire, only a few changes from home, owing to the rope of the second bell breaking. The conductor was Mr. John Thomas, of London.

Frank J. Green, at the age of only 12 years, has just rung his first peal, at Wicken, Northants.

An interesting performance of 80 years ago was 'the first peal of Stedman Triples ever rung on handbells retained in hand, which was performed in the presence of 19 members of the College Youths and Cumberland Societies,' on December 19th, 1853, by four members of the Cumberland Youths: John Cox 1-2, Thomas Powell 3-4, Henry W. Haley 5-6, Thomas Brittan 7-8. Several of the witnesses, the old record adds, had the figures of the peal before them, and ticked off the sixes as they were rung.

On December 18th, 1823, members of the Junior College Youths rang at Newington 'a true and excellent peal of Grandsire Triples on Stedman's principle . . . the greatest performance ever achieved upon any peal of bells in the Kingdom.' The peal contained 598 bobs and 122 singles, 'and is the most perfect of the kind ever produced, but has never been rung until the present occasion, when every bob and single was regularly called and made.'

Thus 'The Times' of that day. The report adds something which is a great testimony to the perseverance of the band. 'Two years have elapsed,' it is remarked, 'since the society first attempted to ring this peal, during which time they have assembled every Thursday evening to perform it, and in the various unsuccessful attempts which have been made they have rung upwards of 200,000 changes in this most difficult of all the systems in the art of ringing.'

THE YOUNGEST PEAL BAND.

In connection with the 'youngsters' peal recorded in our last issue, Mr. C. H. Kippin, hon. secretary of the Surrey Association, writes that the youngest eight-bell peal band all belonged to Beddington, and they rang a peal of Grandsire Triples in their own tower in 1926. They were all under 21 and the total years of their ages numbered 145.

The band which rang the peal of Major at St. Olave's, Hart Street, totalled 147 years.

BELL BROADCASTS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—Having read your footnote re the above, I hasten to say that in no part of my letter did I give any intimation that you did suggest that broadcast ringing should be dealt with by a central body. On the other hand, there is a number of ringers who think that broadcasting should be controlled by a central body, but, instead of saying so straight out, they hint at it in a kind of indirect way.

Mr. Groombridge's suggested instruction by a Central Council committee would, we should ultimately find, lead to the whole thing being taken over by the Central Council, and God help broadcast ringing if that ever came about. Some, I know, will say it would be all to the good; but, as I said last week, one can see a lot of friction being caused by this, and, therefore, I fail to see where the best interests of the art would be served by it being controlled by any other than the local bands.

I hold no biased opinion with regard to Surprise ringing, and would say at the outset, 'By all means give a selection of Surprise ringing if the broadcast is to be from a tower where a Surprise band exists.' On the other hand, a Grandsire band should have the same privilege of giving a selection when the broadcasting is from their tower; but such a privilege one can see being denied to them if these programmes were controlled by a central body.

Where the Central Council or such a body could do good would be to advise the B.B.C. to give MORE bell broadcasts, AND GIVE THEM FROM BETTER TOWERS! Gransley, for instance, has three bells that are cracked. Instead of these, why not Kettering (back eight) or Rothwell? Daventry has a very musical octave; why does not someone push for a broadcast of these? Other peals worthy of mention are St. John's, Leicester (10), St. Margaret's, Leicester (12), Claybrooke, near Rugby (8), Oakham (8), Bromham, Beds (6), and Monk's Kirby, near Rugby (8).

Wellingborough.

P. AMOS.

[Does Mr. Amos realise that bell broadcasts on Sunday evenings are only incidental to the broadcast service? There are hundreds of peals of bells, besides those which he mentions, which would be better for broadcasting than some of those we hear over the ether, but the B.B.C. would not entertain a Sunday evening bell broadcast from any church unless it be the prelude to a service. It is not the bells which would decide the place of service, but the place of service which decides the broadcast of bells.—EDITOR, 'Ringing World'.]

FAMOUS DEVON BELLS.

RESTORATION AT PLYMPTON ST. MARY.
CROYDON FIRM CONGRATULATED.

The Plymptons—St. Mary and St. Maurice—have several claims to fame—the birthplace of England's greatest portrait painter, Sir Joshua Reynolds; a borough that returned two members to Parliament for several centuries until disfranchised in 1832, of which borough Reynolds became Mayor and which included the distinguished architect, Sir Christopher Wren, among its representatives in the Commons; a wonderful priory dating from the early part of the 12th century, which priory was preceded by a Saxon college, whose foundation is known to have been earlier than 904; and a castle of Celtic or British type. These are things of the past. But at Plympton St. Mary there stands to-day a noble Parish Church with a tower of massive proportions, 91ft. up from ground to battlements, and having corner pinnacles 20ft. high. The tower is worthily equipped with a ring of eight bells, whose tenor is 25 cwt. 1 qr. 11 lb. in D. It was long popularly supposed to be 31 cwt. Two of the bells, the fourth and tenor, date from 1614; the fifth and seventh from 1725; the third, 1766; the treble and second, 1868, when the sixth was recast. The three last mentioned were the work of Warner and Sons; the others were made by members of the famous Purdew family. Among the inscriptions are the names of Treby, Parker (now represented by the Earls of Morley) and Strode, indicating gifts by notable residents.

MARIE STRODE'S TENOR.

Several traditions are associated with the tenor, which has conspicuous quality. One is that Marie Strode, who is described in the inscription as 'the founder of this bell,' threw 'a lapful of silver' into the metal. That would have been a misfortune. It is more probable that she put in some blocks of tin, but the spectators of the casting, which seems to have been in the churchyard, thought, perhaps, that the lady would not be content with anything less than silver. George Purdew, the actual founder, evidently ensured the correct processes, for the bell was described by the late Rev. H. T. Ellacombe (who during 1864 and 1865 examined the bells in 457 towers in Devon) as 'very splendid.' Another tradition connected with the tenor is conveyed by the lines:—

'What makes me ring so loud?
'Twas Lady Marie Catherine Strode.'

This Lady Marie or Mary was the first wife of Sir William Strode, who was one of the Members of Parliament for the borough, and she is thus described on a monument in the church:—

'Mary, incarnate virtue, soule and skin
Both pure, whom death not life convinced of sin,
Had daughters like seven Pleiades, but shee
Was a prime star of greatest charitie.'

She had three sons as well as seven daughters. The second son, William, who successively represented Plympton and Bere Alston (another of the old 'pocket' boroughs) in the Commons, was one of the five members whom Charles I. attempted to arrest on a charge of high treason in 1642, and thereby precipitated the Civil War.

'GIRT DEBEN PASSEN.'

There was change ringing on the old six bells in 1864, when Mr. H. R. Trelawny's band from Calstock (Cornwall) rang 'six different peals of six-score Grandsire Doubles.' In 1895, when a party organised by the late Rev. Maitland Kelly (for many years president of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers) went to Plympton St. Mary for a peal on the augmented ring, the local men asserted that neither the 7th nor the tenor could be rung single-handed for one hour; they themselves had double ropes and two men for each of the big bells. But they 'hedged' a little when the Giant of Cadbury (now Canon Coleridge and highly esteemed by his fellow Dimplings), the 'star' campanologist of his time (James W. Washbrook), the champion Stedman Tripler (the Rev. F. E. Robinson) and the jovial Master of St. Martin's, Salisbury (William Gifford) came under their ken. With four such hefty back-enders, the Plympton prophets thought the visitors 'mit du eet.' And 'du eet' they did, for a well-struck peal of Stedman Triples was duly scored, Washbrook conducting from the seventh and the 'terrible girt passen' slogging through the tenor with rare rhythm. The visitors clinched their reputation by ringing a peal of Double Norwich on the bells of the neighbouring parish of Plympton St. Maurice, where the tenor, however, is just under 12 cwt. 'Us niver shud a' bleev'd sich things eef us had'n bin yur and 'urd eet,' was the comment made in the parishes on the performances, with the smug addition, 'An' thay cud'n a bin dude'd eef min ad'n ad thic thear girt Doben passen.'

'MAGNIFICENT.'

The whole of the bells have been recently rehung by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, of Croydon. Their work has included the installation of a new iron A frame, which is carried on steel girders; equipping the bells with iron headstocks and all the latest improvements in fittings; and just sufficient tuning to add to the musical qualities of the peal. They have also restored the clock. At the opening, which took place on December 2nd, the Bishop of Exeter officiated, and a large congregation contained about 200 ringers. The service was followed by a presentation by the Bishop on behalf of parishioners to Engineer Captain P. Olford (who has been one of the churchwardens, but now resides at Harrogate), in recognition of his great help in

parochial work during the last five years, and especially as regards the installation of heating plant for the church and furtherance of the scheme for restoration of the bells. The Vicar (the Rev. C. R. Bull) and Col. F. R. Phillips, D.S.O. (churchwardens), paid tributes to the services of Capt. Olford, who, in replying, said he had inspected the work done in the bell chamber, and, knowing something about engineering, felt he must congratulate Mr. Cyril Johnston (who was present) and the members of his staff on the magnificent piece of engineering they had carried out. The gift to the Captain consisted of a handsome silver salver and a beautifully bound and illuminated album containing the names of subscribers.

Among the places represented by ringers were the Plymptons, Plymouth (three or four towers), Exeter, Yealmlpton, Dawlish, Newton Abbot, Totnes, Tavistock, Lamerton, Saltash, St. Budeaux, Ugborough, West Bickleigh, Modbury, Kingsteigton, Shaugh, Cornwood and Bramford Speke. Most of the bands were round ringers, but there was a good sprinkling of 'scientific' men, who included the Rev. E. V. Cox, president of the Devonshire Guild. All expressed themselves delighted with the 'go' of the bells, and eulogised the enhancement effected by the tuning of some of the units.

The bells and their weights are as follow:—

No. 1.—Note D. The gift of Henry Hele Treby. Cast by John Warner and Sons, London, 1868. 6 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb.

No. 2.—C sharp. In memory of Henry Hele Treby from many friends. Cast by John Warner and Sons, London, 1868. 6 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb.

No. 3.—B. John Parker Senior, John Parker Junr. and Mount Parker Esqrs. 1766. R. Honny: W. Wayatt. C.W.: I.P.: F.A.P.M. 8 cwt. 1 qr. 21b.

No. 4.—A. G:P: Anno Domini. 1614. 9 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb.

No. 5.—G. John Parker Esqr. Trism.: Avant: Gent: John: Pearse: C.H.Wardens: C.P. 1754. 11 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lb.

No. 6.—F sharp. Cast by John Warner and Sons, London, 1868. 13 cwt. 0 qr. 18 lb.

No. 7.—E. John Parker and Francis Parker Esquires. Stephen Cudlip: Richard Tehemah: Wardens: C.P. 1725. 19 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb.

No. 8.—D. Marie: Strode: the: founder: of: this bell: Anno Domini: 1614: G:P: 25 cwt. 1 qr. 11 lb.

Total weight: 100 cwt. 2 qr. 14 lb.

A. W. S.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

ORGANISED RINGING AT WESTERN DIVISION MEETINGS.

The quarterly meeting of the Western Division was held at the Cathedral Church of St. Peter, Bradford, on Saturday, December 9th. In spite of cold and unsettled weather, about 40 members were present from the following towers: Armley, Burley, Brighouse, Batley, Biratall, Calverley, Denholme, Drighlington, Headingley (St. Chad's and St. Michael's), Holbeck, Idle, Keighley, Leeds, Low Moor, Pudsey, Rothwell, Queensbury and Shipley, together with visitors from the Northern Division and the local company. The bells were kept going in various methods from Treble Bob Major to London Surprise, several members also getting their first touch of Treble Bob Royal and Stedman Caters.

The business meeting was held in the Captain Street Schools, Mr. P. J. Johnson (vice-president) being in the chair.

The question of organised ringing, raised at the Ilkley meeting, was discussed by the committee, and, after hearing the evidence, it was resolved that the case in point was one of exceptional circumstances, but for future occasions, in the absence of the Ringing Master, the duties must fall on the senior member of the committee.

Mr. G. W. Creasey, of Gainsborough, was elected a member of the association.

On the motion of Mr. H. Lofthouse, seconded by Mr. J. Cotterell, it was resolved to accept the invitation of the Army company to hold the annual meeting at that tower on Saturday, March 10th, 1934.

A vote of thanks to the Provost, churchwardens and the local company was proposed by Mr. H. Lofthouse, seconded by Mr. V. Bairdow and cordially adopted.—Mr. J. Broadley suitably replied on behalf of the local company.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WESTERN BRANCH OFFICERS RE-ELECTED.

The quarterly meeting of the Western Branch of the Worcester and Districts Association was held at Claines on Saturday, December 9th. About 40 members were present, representing 14 towers of the branch, and including visitors from Bromsgrove, Badsey, Evesham and Willersley.

The bells were 'got going' at 3 o'clock, and at the service which followed an excellent address was given by the Vicar (the Rev. A. H. Clinch).

Tea was then partaken of, by the kind invitation of the Vicar, at the Claines Institute.

At the subsequent meeting all the branch officers were re-elected for the ensuing year, and Kempsey was chosen as the place for the spring meeting.

After the meeting closed the tower was again visited, where many touches were successfully brought round. Methods rung ranged from Grandsire to Stedman Triples and Cambridge and Double Norwich Court Bob Major.

THE GREAT BELL OF LAMBETH.

VICISSITUDES OF AN OLD TENOR.

The restoration of the bells of the ancient Parish Church of St. Mary, Lambeth, recalls the fact that even in the distant past those who were responsible for the care of the bells were not unmindful of their responsibilities. The church has some well-preserved documents which throw a light on the transactions of the 16th and 17th centuries, and during that period the tenor bell seems to have given a good deal of trouble.

But first of all what about this? Two penny nails—3d. This item figures in the churchwardens' accounts in the year 1602-3 and seems to strike a humorous note. Was the churchwarden who made the entry a wag or was his book-keeping at fault? This is the extract as it appears in Stahlschmidt's 'Church Bells of Surrey':—

1602-3.—Item payde for ij peny nayles that mended the wheeles that wer taken asunder. iiij d.

There were five bells in the tower at this time, and they were there before the inventory taken in the reign of Edward VI., which records 'five great belles in the stople.' In 1584-5 there is an item for 'ye new castinge of iiij belles.' These were probably the front four, for about 14 years later the tenor was recast by Robert Mott, who established himself at the Whitechapel Foundry in 1570.

Two years after the recasting of the four bells, one of them apparently went back to the foundry for some purpose, for in 1586-7 Mr. Mote, of Whitechappell, was paid 16/8 'for ye bell bringinge home and for ye clapper and bawdricke,' and 21 pence was paid 'for makinge ye drinke when they brought home ye Bell and other honest men with them.'

The entries will regard to the recasting of the tenor are interesting. This is how they read:—

Item the old greate belle that was broken in the tyme of Roger Winsio Richard Thorpe and John Lucas beyng churchwardens in the yeare of oure Lorde 1598 did containe in waighte xiiij c one quarter xxij li.

Item also the newe greate bell that now ys in the stepell do the waye xv c a half and xxi li.

Item also for new castenge careunge hangeng and all other charges to be alowed and he to have a xj s the hundred viii li

Item also yt was agreed that he shold have for the over plusse of mettell that he put into the bell viij d the pound so theare was put in more then was in the old bell bi one hundred and xxvij li iiij li xii s viij d

Item for the new clapper for the new great bell wayeinge lviij li at vj d the pound xxix s

Item for the newe workyngs of the clapper that was in the old great Belle x s

In the following year (1599-1600) are entries showing two of the contributions received towards the recasting, one from the parish and the other from the Archbishop of Canterbury, who gave 40 shillings.

Red. of the pish towards the charges of the greate bell vj li ijs id

Red. more of my Lordes grace towards the same bell xl s

Then come other records of payments in the same year:—

Item payd for a quittans the xxiiij day of Auguste when we payd master mote viij li the fyrst tyme vj d

Item paid for carydge of to brase pulles and a great capell rope frome Motes howse at Whitechappell to Lambeth Church for to truse the great bell and when we had donne wyth yt for caredg home agane from Lambeth Church to Master Mot's howse xviij d

Item paid for the brussinge of the great belle and for nayles the xxv day of awguste iiij s

Item paide to Mr. Mote for the new bell xiiij li xi s viij d

Something about this 'great bell' or its hanging must have been unsatisfactory, for in the year 1602, a payment of 12 pence was made on September 8th, 'when the great bell was pulled downe to laborers that did help to make them drinke.' Sixteen pence was 'payde to a carpenter that looke off the wheeles and altered the frame'—it was then that threepence was paid for two penny nails—and later, on November 13th and 14th, a carpenter was paid 8s. 6d. 'when the great bell came home and mending the third bell wheele and for boords and nayles that was occupied those three dayes.' A bricklayer and his labourer were also paid 2/4 'for one dayes worke' on November 13th.

In March, 1604, the great bell was once more taken down, and 2s. was paid to 'them that did helpe.'

Presumably it must have been again recast, for in the following year's accounts, although probably still in the year 1604, Parkes, the smith, was paid 6s. 10d. for 'worke which he did about the bells and the clocke when the new bell was finished and the frame,' and the 'bell carpenter' received 12s. 6d. for mending three of the bells that were 'lose in the stockes and the goodgings when the greate bell was set into the frame.'

Mr. Moet received 40s. on September 7th 'in part paiement of his byll for the bell,' and on the same day, at a cost of 6d., a bill was executed 'betweene Mr. Moet and the parishes.' On October 18th Mr. Moete was paid £5 for the great bell in the presence of John Howard and James Johnson and others, and a further £5 on January 5th in the presence of Thomas Purcas and Edward Davis.

The vicissitudes of the 'great bell' of Lambeth were, however, not yet at an end. In 1609-10 it was again recast, for there is in the accounts an item of £3 7s. 'for the mettall that was put into the great bell,' and £11 'paid in part for the casting of the great bell,' 10d. 'for brende and beare' at the taking down of the bell and 18d. at its hanging up. Fifty shilling was paid 'for the taking downe and hanging up agayne of the great bell,' and later in the same year there appears to have been another mishap, for 21s. 6d. was paid 'for newe hanging agayne of the great bell and a new godgen the old bing broken.'

That, apparently, was not the end of the troublous times through which this old bell passed, for the accounts indicate that there was yet another recasting. Having in 1614-15 paid for recasting the 3rd bell, and 'for hanging up of the 3rd bell and to the ringers,' 13s. 4d., the parish in 1615-16 raised a subscription for the repair of the church and recasting the 3rd and great bells, and in the same year paid William Carter, Bellfounder, £11 'for the casting of the great Bell or Tenor.'

In 1617 the churchwardens discharged some old debts in regard to the bells:—

Payde to Philipp Walton an olde debte being for the hanging up of the third bell in 1613 £1 13s. 4d.

Payde to Walter Barton for an olde debte owenge to Carter the Bellfounder for casting of the third bell £4

And so the ancient history of the old bells comes to an end, and there is a gap until 1723, when Richard Phelps recast them into a new peal of eight.

There is another item of interest in these age old accounts. Mats for the bell ropes to drop on are no new thing. 'Mats to the bells' were provided at a cost of 2s. for the belfry at Lambeth in 1593, and again, in 1615, 'matts for safegarde of the bell roapes' cost eighteen-pence.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION MEET AT LAMBETH.

A meeting of the Southern District was held at the Church of St. Mary, Lambeth, on Saturday, by kind permission of the Rector (the Rev. A. Llewellyn Jones). Soon after 3 o'clock the newly-tuned and restored peal of eight were set going under the direction of the hon. secretary, rounds for beginners being the first item. After a touch of Stedman, the Master arrived and took charge of the proceedings, and several touches in various methods were rung with more or less success. The attendance had by this time become rather large, but all tastes were catered for. As tea time drew near it seemed as if the 'defaulters,' of whom there were quite a few, would have to go without, but they managed to get accommodated, largely at the expense of those who, fortunately, would 'spring a penny' for a postcard.

Tea was held at the new Archbishop Davidson Institute, near the church, built on the site of the Old Brew House. Quite a few remarks were passed as to the contrast in the two buildings, and the fact that a huge fireplace used to give warmth in the old building, very 'homey' and sociable. Are modern radiators things to sit round and chat? One does not see many doing it. After tea more ringing was indulged in, anything up to and including London being rung. Later the business, mostly routine, was transacted. Two new members were elected, and a hearty vote of thanks passed to the Rector for the use of the bells, and to Messrs. Hardy and Wyatt, of the local band, who have worked so hard to help forward the restoration scheme, in connection with which it may be said the account in the current number of 'The Ringing World' as to the go of the bells, the tuning and the engineering only do the contractors justice.

Ringling was brought to a close at 8.30, when the gathering of 50 or 60 which had attended during the afternoon and evening dispersed—mostly with collars up. J. H.

STOKE-ON-TRENT RINGER'S JUBILEE.

Mr. S. Churton, the leader of St. Peter's, Stoke-on-Trent, ringers, has completed 50 years' service as a ringer. He has been leader for 33 years. In 1921 his brother ringers at Stoke presented him with a gold chain and bell pendant on his completing 21 years as leader. Mr. Churton was at one time Eight-Bell Ringing Master and for a great number of years instructor on eight bells to the North Staffordshire Association. He has rung 30 peals, of which he has conducted 15 in various methods.

Although he has not taken part in any peals for some time, he takes a great interest when a peal is arranged by the younger members.

Mr. Churton took part in the first peal of Stedman Triples in North Staffs, and also conducted the first peal of Stedman Triples on Stoke bells. In addition he has taken part in the first peals in other towers. He is still very regular in his attendance at the belfry, and it is hoped he will long be spared to continue his good work.

RESTORATION SCHEME COMPLETED. SOLIHULL CELEBRATION.



SOLIHULL PARISH CHURCH.

The completion of the renovation of the chancel of Solihull Church, Warwickshire, was consummated on Wednesday, when the work was rededicated by the Bishop of Birmingham. The restoration of the bells was part of the big scheme undertaken by the parish, and they were recast and rehung as a peal of ten. This portion of the work was carried out some time ago, but the first peal on the bells was rung on Saturday, as part of the celebration in connection with the completion of the chancel.

THE LOUGHBOROUGH COCKEREL.

On Saturday, November 24th, Leicester lads and Loughborough men met together for a 'cock supper,' and a most enjoyable evening was spent. It was a happy sight to see four and twenty ringers discussing six birds and two joints, with spiced 'veg,' and the keenest of critics did full justice.

After supper the more daring ones of the company burst into song, and voices seldom heard in the belfry were crooning bedtime stories. The company were entertained to violin solos by Mr. Collins, sen., with Miss Collins at the piano.

Ten o'clock came all too soon, and the Leicester party regretfully left the carcasses to the care of Loughborough. Leicester was reached by Iron Road or borrowed ride.

Thanks were proposed by Mr. James Harris to Mr. David Collins and Miss Collins and other Loughborough friends for making the gathering possible. Such an evening could not but end in harmony, and more of them would do much to cement the brotherhood of the ringing fraternity.

The Loughborough Cock has gone to Pot
And ducks are in the Queue;
Myself, I'm GAME for anything,
But draw the line at Stew.

A FLAT.

THIRTY YEARS WEDDED.

PEAL BAND'S UNIQUE DISTINCTION.

Five years ago at Ewell, Surrey, eight ringers rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major as a collective celebration of their silver weddings. It was a unique gathering.

On Saturday the same eight ringers met at Woking and rang the same peal to commemorate 30 years of wedded life completed in the year 1933. That performance is also unique. It was not possible to make the attempt at Ewell, owing to the bells being out of order.

Some of the band had not seen others in the interval, and it was a happy experience to find them all in good health and 'none the worse for wear.' The peal, delayed in the start for an hour, owing to one of the ringers missing a train connection, went off without a hitch, and, naturally, gave great satisfaction to the participants.

Mr. and Mrs. Hazelden have added to their records by sharing in this performance. They were the first married couple to ring together in both tower bell and handbell peals, they took part in the first peal rung by husbands and wives, and were the first married pair to ring 50 peals together.

After the peal on Saturday the ringers had tea (a very late tea) together, and the 'wedding cake'—decorated with the dates '1903-1933'—was cut with due ceremony. Mrs. J. S. Goldsmith was present, but it was a matter of regret that from various causes the remainder of the 'better halves' could not join the company. However, their share of the cake was dispatched to them in the care of their respective spouses, so that, as one gentleman put it, they could sleep with it under their pillow and dream of their next husband. Among those who were present at tea were Mr. J. Brackley (captain) and Mr. D. Munday (hon. secretary of the local ringers), who were cordially thanked for having made arrangements for the peal.

It is not uninteresting to note that four of the ringers could claim the title of 'grandfather,' three of them having gained that distinction since the silver wedding celebration.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

ILCHESTER DEANERY'S ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the Ilchester Deanery Branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association was held at Yeovil on Saturday week and was well attended. Service was held in the fine old church, the Vicar (the Rev. J. E. S. Harrison) officiating. Subsequently tea, provided by Mrs. John Goodchild and a committee of ladies, was served in the Schoolroom.

Preb. G. W. Saunders, supported by the Rev. J. E. S. Harrison, presided at the meeting at the outset, but vacated the chair for the election of officers.

The secretary (Mr. F. Farrant) proposed the re-election of Preb. Saunders as president, and took the opportunity of congratulating him on recently being appointed to the Prebendal stall of Timberscombe.—Mr. J. E. Baker seconded the proposition, and endorsed the congratulations.

Preb. Saunders, in accepting the office for another year, expressed his thanks for their congratulations.

Mr. T. Setter, of Yeovil, was elected as Ringing Master. Mr. F. Farrant was re-elected secretary, and to represent the branch on the General Committee.

The President thanked the Vicar of Yeovil for his welcome and for the use of the bells, etc., and the Vicar, replying, said they would be welcome on any future occasion at Yeovil.

Montacute, North Perrott, Langport and Kingsbury were the places chosen for the quarterly meetings.

New members were elected as follows: C. Willmott, A. Samways, R. Trask, A. Peach, D. Willmott, S. Rodford and D. Rodford, of North Perrott; Mrs. Rendall, Miss Turner and S. Hawkins, of Hardington; and J. Lock, of Somerton.

The business concluded with a hearty vote of thanks to Mrs. Goodchild and the ladies who had provided such an excellent tea.

Ringers were present from Yeovil, Ilminster, Taunton, Castle Cary, Langport, Martock, Trowbridge, Stoke-under-Ham, Norton-sub-Hamdon, Montacute, Somerton, North Cadbury, Hardington, Mandeville, North Perrott, Templecombe and Buckland Newton.

Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob were some of the methods rung during the afternoon and evening. All taking part in the ringing were pleased with the excellent 'go' of the bells, and to have the opportunity of ringing on such a fine peal.

CHRISTCHURCH BAND'S SUCCESS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I would like to thank, through 'The Ringing World,' all those, and they are many, who have written to congratulate the Christchurch band on their success in ringing their first peal on the twelve bells. This peal was rung at the second attempt, the first attempt being on April 24th last, when we got to within 800 of the finish, after ringing just on 2½ hours. We often ring 1,320 for the Sunday evening service, and I shall be pleased to arrange such for any ringers who may be in the district if they will drop me a card.

G. PRISTON.

3, Waterloo Place,
Christchurch, Hants.

TRAGIC DEATH OF SELLY OAK RINGER. ACCIDENT ON WAY TO RINGING PRACTICE.

On Wednesday, November 29th, Mr. Christopher Gibbs, one of Selly Oak's most promising ringers, met his death in very tragic circumstances. He was on his way to practice at St. Mary's Church on his motor-cycle when he was involved in an accident at the entrance to the Church Drive. Another motor-cyclist crashed into him broadside, throwing him some 15 to 20 yards and inflicting severe injuries from which he died about three hours after being admitted to Selly Oak Hospital.

Chris Gibbs will be missed very much at St. Mary's, where he was tower keeper. He joined the band when it was reorganised on the restoration of the bells about two years ago. Although he could only ring call-changes then, he rang his first peal (Grandsire Triples 'inside') on October 28th last, and was beginning to ring Stedman very well.

He was 34 years of age, and a native of Somerton in Somerset, from whence he came about 14 to 15 years ago.

He was an excellent tower keeper, as was evidenced by the improvements in the belfry which he brought about. He was a member of the Worcestershire Association and the St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham.

The funeral took place on December 4th at his home town in Somerset.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

PROPOSED JOINT MEETING FOR DORSET AT MILTON ABBEY.

The ringers of St. James' Church, Poole, fulfilled most cordially an act of fellowship on Saturday, December 2nd, when they welcomed the Wimborne Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild to their tower for its annual meeting. The good work that the local band has achieved is something noteworthy among the whole community. Its progress is almost certainly due to the keen and untiring efforts of Mr. F. W. Townsend (Ringing Master), admirably supported by Mr. J. I. Davis. It is easy to understand that here is a band working earnestly for the art and sacrificing much to achieve its true objects, ready to greet any who care to venture among them, and in preference standing aside to enable the visitor to share in the ringing. The learner finds his steps made less steep through combined assistance. The Ringing Master has established among the juniors a company of qualified handbell ringers, who deserve meritorious mention, and, as a proof of what service can be rendered, one should view the ringing chamber, which has been perfected by these young people.

A very helpful address was given at the meeting by the Rev. C. A. Phillips (secretary and treasurer to the branch), who urged ringers to be ready to perform some kind deed among others and put self second. They should work first for God. He recalled the ideal inscription on a bell at Whitchurch Canoncorum: 'Come when I call, come to church all. Come to serve God, or come not at all.'

Tea was afterwards provided in the Church House by the kindness of Mr. J. I. Davis (the local correspondent), who was assisted by Mrs. Davis, Mrs. Rose, Miss Davis and Miss Marshall. The Rev. Canon E. C. Eddrup, of Corfe Mullen, presided at the meeting which followed.

Reviewing the work of the year, the Rev. C. A. Phillips said continued progress and good fellowship characterised it. Meetings had been held during the year at Wimborne St. Giles, Kingston, Swanage and Poole, and practices were held at Wareham, the Lytchetts, St. Giles', Wyke Regis and Cranborne, and evening practices took place at Wimborne and Poole. At Wimborne they bade farewell to the Rev. and Mrs. Elliot, and met the Rev. C. C. Cox, of West Dorset. A peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung at Lytchett by the local band.

The report was adopted with a satisfactory financial statement, and high tribute and thanks were accorded Mr. Davis and Mr. Townsend. The Rector of Poole was also heartily thanked for the hospitality offered. New members admitted were Mr. William Young and Mr. E. T. Griffin, of Yeovil.

Mr. C. H. Jennings proposed, and it was unanimously agreed, that the whole of the officers and members of the Wimborne, Dorchester, West and North Dorset branches should be invited to a united gathering at Milton Abbey, which was the best meeting place he (Mr. Jennings) could conceive, and it would be the 1,000th anniversary year of the Abbey foundation.

On the motion of Mr. Martin Stewart, it was decided to send hearty congratulations to the Christchurch ringers on their recent performance in scoring the first twelve-bell peal at the Priory Church, and he commented on the happy relations which had always existed between the two branches.

The officers of the branch were re-elected en bloc. It may be added that the Rev. F. Llewellyn Edwards (hon. secretary of the Guild) was to have given the address, but was unable to attend because of celebrations in his parish of Kingston Magna to mark his completion of 25 years as Rector.

MARKET HARBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.—On Sunday, October 22nd, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes): W. Hector 1, A. Manning (conductor) 2, E. Measures 3, W. Wallington 4, R. March 5, J. Chester 6, N. Bolton 7, F. Wallington 8.

BELLS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA. THE STORY OF A VANISHED PEAL.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I wonder if a few lines from far away Vancouver would be amiss? At any rate, I am taking the liberty to correct a little error in that long and interesting article by 'W. H. F.' on the bells of Cumberland. The passage I allude to appears in the issue of September 22nd on page 602. Referring to bells given by the late Baroness Burdett Coutts, 'W. H. F.' said, 'Speaking from memory, I believe the Baroness also in 1861 presented the bells to Vancouver, B.C., thus indirectly helping the first peal in the Dominion, 1911, a jubilee peal.'

A letter written by myself and published in 'The Ringing World' of August 16th, and continued on August 25th, 1918, gives a full and correct history of these bells and the peal rung on them—a coronation, not a jubilee peal. But the reference to the bells at New Westminster, B.C., given by the late Baroness, prompts me to give you the history of those bells, gathered both from my personal knowledge and from what I have been told by those who, at one time, rang them.

Some 75 years ago, British Columbia was an almost unknown wilderness of mountains, its southern boundary being ill defined, as arrests were being made as far north as Langley on the Fraser river by the United States officials. Vancouver Island was a separate Crown Colony, with Sir James Douglas as Governor, and practically no authority on the mainland, but in the gold rush to Cariboo from California he took upon himself, with Colonel Begby as magistrate, to administer British justice and law. First Hope, then Port Langley and later New Westminster in turn became the capital. New Westminster was but a very small settlement in those days, and there was considerable controversy as to the name it should be known by. Finally it received its name from the late Queen Victoria, and, therefore, was called New Westminster, the Royal City. The late Baroness was a great friend of Queen Victoria and decided to give an iron church to the new city, which was duly sent to the capital of British Columbia. Meanwhile, Vancouver Island was incorporated in British Columbia and the capital moved to Victoria. The little iron church was held in that city, instead of being transhipped to New Westminster. When word of this reached the Baroness, she said she would send another to New Westminster, but, on being informed that that city had already built a substantial church and tower, decided to send out a beautiful peal of bells instead.

On arrival at Victoria (in those days everything was transhipped at Victoria), those bells were held, but, after a costly law suit, were finally sent on to New Westminster and erected and hung in a wooden frame in the churchyard, and rung in rounds by what ringers could be found. There was never any change ringing done on them, and after two years, the frame becoming unsafe, they were taken down and housed in a sort of wooden house in the yard—all except one, which was hung in the tower.

Mr. J. B. Cherry, brother to the late Lord Chief Justice of Ireland, was a resident in New Westminster, and offered to hang the bells in the tower for 500 dollars, but for some reason his offer was not accepted and the bells were left in their hut and finally destroyed in the great fire of Westminster, which also burned the church, the tower falling with the one bell, which, though somewhat pitted, survived the conflagration and is the only one left.

The Baroness, on being informed of their condition, was asked her pleasure with regard to them, it being probably expected that she would have them recast, but her answer was short and severe, viz.: 'You have had a splendid peal of bells and kept them in a box for 40 years, not even thinking enough of them to put them in the tower, therefore, I have no further pleasure in them whatsoever.'

The metal was finally sold to some San Francisco firm and the money used to restore the church.

On climbing up to the belfry, I found the one bell hung on a clumsy wooden frame, with a stout piece of pipe for gudgeons and a home-made wheel. The bell itself is inscribed with the donor's name and date, cast by Mears. There are also seven clappers with clapper staples attached, which I measured, and, from what I can guess, the remnant of the peal is the third of a ring of eight, tenor probably about 1½ tons. I wrote to the Baroness to see if I could get her interested in sending another peal for a splendid tower on the side of the hill overlooking the river, but her secretary replied that she was then very ill, and, as a matter of fact, in a few days had passed away.

A. O. LIMPUS.

208, Union Street, Vancouver, B.C.

[In Mears' list the weight of the tenor at New Westminster is given as 26 cwt., and the total weight of the peal as 103 cwt.—EDITOR, 'Ringing World'.]

FOR DEDICATION SERVICE.

At Christ Church, Alsager, on Wednesday, December 6th, for a special service when the memorial tablet to the memory of two earnest churchworkers (the late Mr. G. E. Barker and the late Mrs. S. E. Edwards) was dedicated and electric lighting which had been installed in the church was officially opened a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung: E. Moseley 1, B. Fernyough 2, H. Dixon 3, A. Thompson 4, G. W. Whalley 5, E. Poole (first quarter-peal 'inside') 6, D. R. Whalley (conductor) 7, R. Moseley 8.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD. ENTHUSIASTIC MEETING AT NETHERTON.

The quarterly meeting of the Dudley and District Guild was held on Saturday, December 2nd, at St. Andrew's Church, Netherton, Worcestershire, and was fairly well attended. The bells were placed at the disposal of the members from three o'clock, and were kept merrily going until service was held in church. The Guild's special form of service was used, and was conducted by the Vicar of Netherton (the Rev. E. L. Warren), who also gave a very interesting address.

At the close of the service an adjournment was made to the Church House, where an excellent tea was in readiness, generously provided by the churchwardens (Messrs. E. Baker and F. W. Jordan).

The business meeting followed, at which the Vicar occupied the chair, supported by his wardens, Mr. J. Goodman, jun. (Ringing Master), Mr. S. J. Hughes (treasurer) and the secretary (Mr. H. Shoppard).

The Chairman announced apologies from the Rev. K. F. Morris (Netherton), Mr. H. Mason, Mr. John Price and Mr. T. Hemmings. He said how pleased he was to meet the Guild, and, on behalf of himself, the wardens and Church Council, he gave them a hearty welcome to Netherton.

After business of a routine character had been disposed of, several new members were added to the roll, including the churchwardens, who readily consented to their names being added to the list of honorary members.

It was resolved to hold the next meeting, which is the annual one, at Dudley on Saturday, March 3rd, 1934. It was also decided to attempt the quarterly peal at Netherton, the necessary arrangements being left with the genial captain of St. Andrew's ringers.

It was agreed that the secretary (Mr. H. Shoppard) send a letter of condolence and sympathy to Mrs. Thomas, widow of the late Rev. P. C. Thomas, late Vicar of Clent, who died recently.

At the close of the meeting, on the proposition of Mr. S. J. Hughes and seconded by Mr. John Goodman, jun., best thanks were given to the Vicar of Netherton for readily granting permission to hold the meeting at his church, also conducting the service and for his admirable and interesting address, for the use of the tower and bells and for the use of the Church House in which to hold the meeting and tea. Grateful thanks were also given to the churchwardens for providing the bounteous tea and for their presence and support; to Mr. Malcolm Melville for the musical part of the service; to the ladies for preparing and serving the tea. Mr. Albert Prestidge was also thanked for his part in making the necessary arrangements, as were all those who had assisted in any way in making the meeting a happy and successful one. The Vicar responded on behalf of himself and all others concerned.

Several of the members afterwards returned to the belfry and kept the bells going in various methods, and so ended a happy and enjoyable afternoon.

THE PEAL AT HANLEY.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I should like to congratulate the band who rang the peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal upon ringing the first in the method for the North Staffs Association, but the claim of being the first in the county must fail, as ten members of the Society for the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang a peal at Walsall on November 29th, 1913, conducted by

T. J. ELTON.

The conductor, Mr. J. Worth, has since written withdrawing the claim which was made, but saying that it was the first peal of Oxford Royal in the Potteries.

DEATH OF MR. JAMES ANDERSON.

CHESTER-LE-STREET'S THIRD LOSS THIS YEAR.

The Chester-le-Street band has suffered its third loss this year by the death of Mr. James Anderson, who had been a member of the Durham and Newcastle Association since 1883.

He rang in the first 720 of Minor by local ringers in 1887, and also in the first 5,040 of Minor in 1896, and in the first peal of Major on the bells of Chester-le-Street in 1910.

The funeral took place on Tuesday, December 5th, the service being conducted by the Rector (Canon F. W. Jackson), and Mr. J. A. Brown, one of the ringers, being at the organ. In addition to his brother ringers, many were present from Tanfield and Houghton-le-Spring, and during the evening several half-muffled touches were rung on the bells as a mark of respect for an old friend and esteemed colleague.

NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 2nd, a combined practice was held at St. David's Church, Bangor. Ringers from Rhyl, Llandudno, Portmadoc and the local band were present, and three hours' good practice was put in in Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Bob Minor, Treble Bob Minor, Grandsire Triples and Bob Major. The next meeting will be held at St. Thomas' Church, Rhyl, on Saturday, January 13th.

DEATH OF MR. H. P. HARMAN. FORMER PROMINENT BROMLEY RINGER.

The death has occurred at Bromley, Kent, of Mr. Herbert Palfrey Harman, who was formerly well known as an active ringer in Kent and the London area. Mr. Harman had been in indifferent health for a considerable time, and had done no ringing for about 15 years. On Monday week he left business in the afternoon and collapsed. He passed away the same evening at the Bromley and District Hospital, whither he had been taken.

Mr. Harman, who was 65 years of age and leaves a widow and a family of nine children in bereavement, had carried on the business of photographer, established by his father. He had always taken an active interest in local affairs, having been an enthusiastic volunteer, deputy superintendent of the Voluntary Fire Brigade, a special constable and a leading member of Bromley Literary Institute. He also played cricket formerly with Bromley Cricket Club, and was a member of Bromley Bowling Club and other social organisations.

The funeral took place at Holy Trinity Church, Bromley, on Saturday, when Mr. F. Groombridge represented the Ancient Society of College Youths and the Kent County Association, and Mr. G. H. Kite, at one time a ringer at Bromley Parish Church, was also present.

MISCELLANEOUS PERFORMANCES.

TRURO, CORNWALL.—At the Cathedral Church of St. Mary for evensong on the dedication festival, Sunday, November 5th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: Miss E. Robinson 1, Miss E. J. C. Angwin 2, A. S. Roberts 3, Miss L. Willoughby (conductor) 4, H. Williams 5, F. W. Marshall 6, W. H. Southard 7, W. H. Sleeman 8. Rung after meeting one short for Grandsire Caters, Howard Stephens kindly standing out.

BRADFORD-ON-AVON.—At Christ Church, on November 5th, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Bob Major by Trowbridge band: J. Bilby 1, W. Loud 2, N. Andrews 3, C. Raison 4, J. Francis 5, W. Baxter 6, S. Hector (conductor) 7, C. Andrews 8. Trowbridge bells being out of order, the band has the invitation to other towns, which is greatly appreciated.

LAVENHAM, SUFFOLK.—At SS. Peter and Paul's Church, on Sunday, November 5th, for evensong, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes): S. H. Symonds (conductor) 1, S. Webb 2, D. A. S. Symonds 3, A. Symonds 4, L. Pryke 5, W. Jarvis 6, M. T. Symonds 7, W. F. Corney 8. First quarter of Bob Major by S. Webb, who with W. F. Corney hails from South Woodford.

ISLEWORTH.—At All Saints' Church on Sunday, October 1st, for harvest festival service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: Miss Olive Ashbrook 1, W. Ellingham 2, C. F. Winney 3, F. G. Goddard 4, Miss Doris Lidbetter 5, H. W. Lidbetter 6, F. Hawthorne (conductor) 7, H. Brooks 8. At the close of service 233 Grandsire Triples with same band.

KEYNSHAM, SOMERSET.—For All Saints' Day, on November 1st, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): J. Williams 1, M. Harris 2, P. Cruickshank 3, F. W. Beer 4, F. O. Mogford (first quarter-peal as conductor) 5, F. Day 6, C. J. Ford 7, A. J. Coles 8. First quarter by all except the ringers of 2nd and 5th. Second ringer from Gloucester, 3rd and 4th from Bilton and conductor from Pensford.

NEWPORT, MONMOUTHSHIRE.—At All Saints' Church on Wednesday, November 1st, All Saints' Day, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: H. Bullock 1, T. Ford 2, J. James 3, L. Baynham 4, F. Bullock 5, G. Day 6, J. W. Jones (conductor) 7, O. Amos 8. Rung for the 35th anniversary service of the opening and dedication of All Saints' Church. First quarter-peal for the ringers of the 3rd and 4th. All are Sunday service ringers at this church.

FAIRFORD, GLOS.—On Wednesday, November 1st, the 15th anniversary of Canon R. C. S. Jones' residence as Vicar of Fairford, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): G. Law 1, Miss F. M. Hope 2, S. J. Worsfold 3, W. A. Law (first quarter-peal on an 'inside' bell) 4, H. R. Acok 5, E. Cooper 6, J. Hope (conductor) 7, S. R. Stevens 8. The quarter-peal was also a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 3rd.

DARLEY DALE.—For evening service on Sunday, October 22nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: R. Allsop 1, W. Blagshaw 2, B. Allsop 3, J. H. Paulson 4, H. E. Taylor 5, J. Marshall 6, G. H. Paulson 7, H. Austin 8. Composed and conducted by H. E. Taylor, all the calls being singles. Arranged for Mr. J. Marshall, who was on a visit.

ECCLES.—On Sunday, October 22nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: W. Parkinson 1, Leonard Brookes 2, John Myles 3, John Wood 4, N. Heaps 5, S. Boothman 6, F. Colley 7, J. Stimson 8. Arranged and conducted by N. Heaps. Rung for the birth of a daughter to Mrs. Benyon, sister of the ringer of the second, also for the harvest festival.

DOVER, KENT.—On Sunday, October 22nd, for evensong, the St. Mary's Society rang a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples (1,260 changes), composed by Gabriel Lindoff: F. Savwell 1, T. W. Robinson 2, H. J. Saunders 3, C. R. Millway 4, E. J. Walker 5, R. T. Clark 6, C. Turner (conductor) 7, E. T. Ellender 8. Also rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. R. T. Clark.

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.

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ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637). — The subscription of 1s. 8d. which enables members who have not made 20 attendances to vote on matters of finance is now due. Meetings for practice will be held at St. Magnus' on the 28th and Southwark Cathedral on the 21st, at 7.30 p.m.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the Gloucester Branch will be held at Barnwood on Saturday, December 16th, by kind permission of the Rector, the Rev. Canon Bryce. Bells (8) open at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea (free) at 5.15 p.m.—W. H. Harris, Branch Hon. Sec., 4, Railway Terrace, Lydney, Glos.

SURREY ASSOCIATION. — North-Western District.—The next meeting will be held at All Saints', Benilton, Sutton, on Saturday, Dec. 16th. Tower open 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea and meeting following. All ringers heartily welcome.—D. Cooper, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Harrison's Rise, Croydon.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Southern Division. — The quarterly meeting will be held at Rotherham Parish Church on Saturday, Dec. 16th. Bells (10) available from 2.30 p.m. Tea in the Church Hall, Moorgate (200 yards from church) at 5 p.m., at a nominal charge.—F. Clark, Hon. Sec., 35, Finkle Street, Bentley, Doncaster.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division. —The district annual meeting will be held at Leyton on Saturday, Dec. 16th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea to follow. Will all those intending to be present kindly advise me as soon as possible and oblige? — E. J. Butler, Dis. Sec., 313, Mawneys Road, Romford, Essex.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Western Division.—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, Dec. 16th, at Bishop's Stortford. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m. Those intending to be present kindly advise me.—H. A. Wacey, Hon. Sec., 73, Rye Street, Bishop's Stortford.

ROMNEY MARSH AND DISTRICT GUILD. — The next meeting will be held at Rolvenden on Saturday, Dec. 16th. Bells ready 2.30. Tea 5 p.m. — P. Page, Hon. Sec., 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Willoughby on Saturday, Dec. 16th. Usual arrangements. — W. C. Moore, Braunston Road, Daventry, Northants.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Hertford on Dec. 16th., when the bells of All Saints' (10), St. Andrew's (8) and Bengoe (8) will be open. Service, tea and business meeting. All will be heartily welcome. — W. H. Lawrence, Dis. Sec., Little Munden.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at West Hartlepool on Saturday, Dec. 16th. St. Oswald's (10) available from 2.30 p.m., and St. Aidan's (8) after tea. Tea, 5 p.m., in St. Oswald's Mission Hall, Dale Street. All are welcome, so come in crowds.—F. Robson, Hon. Dis. Sec., 77, Durham Street, West Hartlepool.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at West Retford on Saturday, December 16th. Good attendance requested. Tea for those who notify Mr. D. A. Piercy, 60, Wharton Street, Retford.—R. W. Stockdale, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next practice meeting of the above branch will be held at Manchester Town Hall on Saturday afternoon, December 16th. Tower open for ringing at 3 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—D. Brown, Branch Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD (South and West District).—A meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Twickenham, on Saturday, December 16th (by kind permission of the President, Rev. W. P. Cole Sheane). Bells (8) available from 3.30 p.m. Evensong at 5. Tea at St. Mary's Hall, Church Street, at 5.30. Have you bought your ticket for the supper yet? All members of the Committee have them. The date is January 13th, 1934.—F. W. Goodfellow, Hon. Sec., 108, Pole Hill Road, Hillingdon Heath.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Crewe Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Sandbach (8 bells) on Saturday, Dec. 16th. Ringing from 3 o'clock. Please note that the list of meetings to be held during 1934 is compiled at this gathering.—Richard D. Langford, Hon. Sec., 6, Laura Street, Crewe.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. — The next meeting will be held at All Souls', Bolton, on Saturday, Dec. 23rd. Bells available 3 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at the Pro-Cathedral Church of St. Woolos, Newport, on Tuesday, Dec. 26th. Service at 4 o'clock. Tea and business meeting to follow in Waters Lane Mission Room. The bells of both St. Woolos' and All Saints' available from 2 o'clock.—John W. Jones, Hon. Sec., Cartref, Alteryon View, Newport, Mon.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch. — A meeting will be held at St. Anne's-on-Sea Parish Church on Saturday, December 30th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Meeting 6 p.m. Subscriptions due. Reports ready. — C. Sharples, Branch Sec., 35, Berwick Road, Blackpool.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. —The next meeting will be held at Churchkirk on Saturday, Jan. 6th, 1934. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6 p.m. Members and non-members cordially invited. These bells will go to any method.—F. Hindle, Hon. Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — The annual dinner will be held at the Lion Hotel, Guildford, on Saturday, Jan. 13th, 1934. Tickets 5s. 6d. Further details later.—J. S. Goldsmith, Hon. Sec., Southover Cottage, Pyrford, Woking.

BRISTOL UNITED RINGING GUILDS.—Annual Dinner, Grand Hotel, Broad Street, Bristol, Saturday, Jan. 20th, 1934, 6 p.m. Chairman, Mr. Frank Skidmore; chief guest, Rt. Rev. the Lord Bishop of Bristol. Tickets, 5s. 6d., from Messrs. J. Hawkins (London), A. Walker (Birmingham), S. Palmer (Sheffield), J. Austin (Gloucester), J. Dyke (Bath), T. King (Bath) and officers, stewards of B.U.R.G., or direct from Edgar Guise, Hon. Sec., 46, St. Michael's Hill, Bristol.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—The next practice has been arranged at Wooburn (8 bells) on Saturday, Dec. 23rd, at 6 p.m. Tea can be obtained near the church by early arrivals.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—The address of Miss H. F. Mills, hon. sec. of the Southern Division of the Ladies' Guild, is now 'Maidencombe,' Northbrook Road, Aldershot.—Mr. R. H. Bullen has removed from Langley, Bucks, to 18, Pakefield Street, Lowestoft (South), Suffolk.

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RINGING IN NEW ZEALAND.

EFFORT TO STRENGTHEN CHRISTCHURCH CATHEDRAL COMPANY.

A special effort is being made at Christchurch, New Zealand, to create increased interest in bellringing at the Cathedral, where there is already a band under the mastership of Mr. G. H. Claydon. More recruits are being sought, and recently an article appeared in one of the local newspapers appealing for more ringers. It describes the bells (a peal of ten by Messrs. Taylor and Co.) and many of the attractions of ringing; but with the layman's customary misunderstanding of ringing terms, some of the statements make amusing reading. For instance, we learn that one set of English ringers holds the amazing record of 18,027 peals, by ringing continuously for 12 hours 18 minutes, and that the Rev. F. E. Robinson during his life rang 15,000 peals; 'he rang three times a week and described his hobby as "the finest of medicines,"' 'The more simple peals,' the readers are told, 'are those favoured by learners; collectively they are known as "Churchyard" peals.' But this by the way. It is entirely forgivable in the good cause which the writer had in view.

More to the point is the following: 'The present master ringer, Mr. Claydon, is an experienced English ringer, and his enthusiasm for the art knows no bounds. His anxiety to increase the membership and improve the financial position of the Society of Bellringers is based on a knowledge of the beauty of the Cathedral bells and the desire to let Christchurch people know their real worth. Members of the society are keen, too, to be able to provide adequate facilities for several peals, which it is hoped to arrange for the visit of Sister Jutson, of the Flying Column of the Church Army, who is a clever peal ringer, and who will be visiting Christchurch next month.

'Mr. Claydon has 11 men ringers under his control, and he is anxious for many more, and for women members, particularly in view of Sister Jutson's visit. Additional ringers would greatly improve the bellringing, he said, and would give the finances a very necessary fillip.'

Miss Kathleen Jutson was formerly of Peterborough.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

SOUTHGATE.—On Sunday, October 22nd, for morning service, 1,280 Bristol Surprise Major: A. R. Glasscock 1, S. Wade 2, G. E. Plater 3, W. J. Bowden 4, N. A. Tomlinson 5, H. Miller 6, J. E. Miller 7, J. Armstrong (conductor) 8.—For evening service, 1,265 Stedman Caters: Mrs. Tomlinson 1, J. G. Nash 2, W. Pickworth 3, E. H. King 4, W. J. Bowden 5, G. E. Plater 6, H. Miller 7, J. Armstrong (conductor) 8, J. E. Miller 9, A. G. Crane 10.

CARDIFF.—On Sunday evening, October 15th, at St. John-the-Baptist's Church, for harvest festival, a quarter-peal of Bob Royal (1,260 changes): F. Hannington 1, E. Coles 2, W. Heath 3, E. Hunt 4, J. Davies 5, F. Chamberlain 6, T. Woods 7, P. Heath 8, E. Coomes 9, J. Phillips (conductor) 10.

OXFORD.—On Sunday, October 15th, at the Church of All Saints and St. Martin, 1,280 Stedman Triples: W. Simmonds 1, A. Gammon 2, Miss M. E. Reynolds 3, A. Badder 4, R. Green 5, W. F. Judge 6, J. P. Pelloe (first quarter-peal in the method as conductor) 7, E. G. Vingo (first quarter-peal) 8. Rung in celebration of Mr. W. Simmonds' birthday.

CUCKFIELD, SUSSEX.—At Holy Trinity Church for morning service on Sunday, October 15th, 720 Bob Minor with tenor covering: J. W. Jeffrey 1, F. R. Hounsell 2, G. Woods 3, C. L. Mitchell (conductor) 4, T. Mitchell 5, G. Apps 6, A. E. Mitchell 7. Rung with the bells muffled as a token of respect to the late Mrs. A. Yeates, who was a lady ringer during the war period.

WATFORD, HERTS.—On Sunday, October 8th, at the Parish Church, for evening service, a quarter-peal of London Surprise Major (1,280 changes): R. B. King 1, W. Paul 2, H. L. Long 3, S. H. Hoare 4, C. N. Lemon 5, R. G. Bell 6, G. E. Howchin 7, H. G. Cashmore (conductor) 8. First quarter of London on the bells and by ringers of 1, 2, 3 and 6. All are regular service ringers. Rung to mark the opening of a ten days' mission at this church, conducted by Canon S. M. Warner, of Eastbourne.

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