THE RINGING WORLD

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CLOSER TIES WITH THE CHURCH.

Interest in the subject to which we referred in this column last week—the relations between clergy and ringers—has not only been reawakened among the latter in many parts of the country, but in the area in which it originated on this occasion a section of the clergy, at any rate, has been stirred up from the publicity given to it by the local Press. Since the speech made by the president of the Central Council at Guildford, at least two prominent clergymen have made public references to it. They showed sympathy with the object which was urged in the speech, but, not unnaturally perhaps, retaliated with the argument that ringers were partly to blame. It is at least something gained if the clergy are prepared to discuss the ringers' claim to more consideration, for the whole point of the contention from the belfry is that it has been too often ignored.

Last week we summed up, not unfairly we hope, the ringers' case against the parsons, and we believe that the conditions of which complaint is made are not restricted to any particular areas, but are common to most counties and dioceses. At the moment we do not think that Diocesan Guilds can claim to be in any better relation to the clergy than the county associations, but it seems to us that the diocesan link gives ringers' organisations a greater claim upon the consideration of the clergy, despite the fact that county associations have the same objects in view. We believe that a great deal more ought to be made of the diocesan nature of the work than is at present done, even by Diocesan Guilds. We believe also that the future of church bellringing, and with it the art itself, is dependent upon its becoming more and more an integral part of church work and organisation. As a secular occupation it would stand little chance if, as is not impossible, a concerted attack were made upon church bellringing by those societies—of which there are many—who are anti-everything. But as a recognised part of the Church's organisation, with all the weight of the Church to defend the usage of church bells, the future practice of the art would have bulwarks strong enough to resist any attack, short of such as would sweep away the Church itself.

The importance of this phase of the question cannot be overrated. There seems at present little desire on the part of some of the county associations even to change their names, but we are of the opinion that they might well consider this action as a first step to a still closer unity with the Church. The Middlesex County Association (which already has 'London Diocesan Guild' as its sub-title) is, however, contemplating making an altera-

(Continued on page 66.)

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tion; and last year the Essex Association decided to take a referendum on a proposal to become the Chelmsford Diocesan Guild. The vote has not yet been taken, but when it is there seems good reason why the members should decide for diocesan status. There would be no complications in this case and, except that there may be among some members a reluctance to part with the old title, there seems nothing to lose and everything to gain. Anything that will tighten the bonds between ringers and clergy, between ringing organisations and the church, makes for the future security of change ringing as a living art.

TEN BELL PEAL.

WEST HAM.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 27, 1934, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

*JOHN MCPHAIL ... ...*Treble*		GEORGE HAYDEN	6
†ERNEST E. HOLMAN	2	ALFRED PRIOR	7
EDWARD D. SMITH	3	†ALBERT J. BAYNES	8
†ARTHUR G. CHAPLIN	4	FRANK C. NEWMAN	9
WILLIAM H. THEOBOLD ...	5	GEORGE DAWSON ... ...*Tenor*	

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by ALFRED PRIOR.

* First peal. † First peal of Grandsire Caters. A birthday compliment to A. J. Baynes.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

TETTENHALL, WOLVERHAMPTON.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Saturday, January 20, 1934, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 14¾ cwt.

WILLIAM SHORT ... ...*Treble*		*FRANCIS BROTHERTON ..	5
ROBERT MATTHEWS	2	EDWARD V. RODENHURST ...	6
CLIFFORD SKIDMORE	3	THOMAS HEMMING	7
JOHN BASS	4	HECTOR G. BIRD ... ...*Tenor*	

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by R. MATTHEWS.

* First Surprise peal 'inside.'

WAREHAM, DORSET.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.
(WIMBORNE BRANCH.)
On Saturday, January 20, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

*FREDERICK O. DAY ... ...*Treble*		FRANCIS G. BLAKE	5
MISS MARCIA WHITE ...	2	†HENRY W SAUNDERS ...	6
ANTHONY V. DENT	3	CYRIL F. TURNER	7
EDWARD T. GRIFFEN ...	4	*JOHN C. H. HUGHES ... ...*Tenor*	

Conducted by C. F. TURNER.

* First peal. † First peal on eight bells. First peal in the method on the bells. The band was kindly entertained to tea by H. W. Saunders, captain of the local band. Rung as a compliment to Mr. F. J. Marshallsay and Miss M. White on their engagement.

ALDENHAM, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 20, 1934, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF ST. ALBANS SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt.

WILLIAM SEELEY... ... ...*Treble*		FRANCIS KIRK	5
HENRY HODGETTS	2	WALTER AYRE	6
STEPHEN H. HOARE	3	HAROLD G. CASHMORE ...	7
FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW ...	4	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT ...*Tenor*	

Composed and Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

The first peal in the method. Rung at the first attempt after one practice. Rung and named as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the 5th, a resident of St. Albans.

HETHERSETT, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, January 22, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. REMIGIUS,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 10½ cwt.

WILLIAM CLOVER	*Treble*	HENRY TOOKE	5
GEORGE MAYERS	2	CHARLES H. MOORE	6
MISS HELEN BILL	3	GEORGE T. PEGNALL	7
NOLAN F. GOLDEN	4	WALTER R. FARROW	*Tenor*

Composed by J. THORP. Conducted by W. CLOVER.

DARTFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, January 22, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PITSTOW'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 18 cwt.

THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.	*Treble*	JOHN H. CHEESMAN	5
JOHN WHEADON	2	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY	6
FRANK WALKER	3	ALFRED J. HOUSE	7
JAMES BENNETT	4	HENRY SIMMONS	*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN H. CHEESMAN.

LONDON.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Monday, January 22, 1934, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 20 cwt.

JAMES E. DAVIS	*Treble*	ERNEST BRETT	5
ALBERT LAWRENCE	2	ERNEST W. FURBANK	6
HARRY HOSKINS	3	CHARLES W. ROBERTS	7
EDWIN F. PIKE	4	JOSEPH MARKS	*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by J. E. DAVIS.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL GUILD.)
On Tuesday, January 23, 1934, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
On the Dixon Eight. Tenor 17 cwt. 16 lb. in G flat.

JOSEPH ROWELL	*Treble*	JOSEPH E. R. KEEN	5
JOHN ANDERSON	2	ADAM DEAS	6
CHARLES L. ROUTLEDGE	3	WILLIAM H. BARBER	7
WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON	4	*RICHARD THOMPSON	*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by W. J. DAVIDSON.

* First peal in the method. The ringers wish this peal to be recorded as a birthday compliment to Miss Alice Margaret Dixon, of Newcastle, who was 90 years of age on Wednesday, January 24th. Miss Dixon was the donor of the auxiliary bell employed in this peal.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, January 24, 1934, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART Tenor 6 cwt. 2 qr. 13 lb.

*H. DENNIS MANN	*Treble*	†JOSEPH T. PACK	5
JAMES S. HUTCHBY	2	CHARLES ALLSOP	6
JOHN SADDINGTON	3	F. HORACE E. STUBBS	7
†GEORGE E. FEIRN	4	COLIN HARRISON	*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES ALLSOP.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal of Grandsire.

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SUNDERLAND, DURHAM.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, January 25, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. IGNATIUS-THE-MARTYR,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt.

NORMAN PATTERSON	*Treble*	JOHN PICKERING	5
*WILLIAM ARMOUR	2	HAROLD B. DITCHBURN	6
GEORGE S. TAYLOR	3	JOSEPH W. PARKER	7
FRANK AINSLEY	4	ROBERT L. PATTERSON	*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. PARKER. Conducted by R. L. PATTERSON.

* First peal in the method 'inside.' Rung to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the conductor's wedding day.

GREASLEY, NOTTS.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, January 25, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 14¾ cwt.

*FREDERICK JUSTICE	*Treble*	WILLIAM STIRLAND	5
WILLIAM DICKINSON	2	*HENRY BYFIELD	6
THOMAS STORER	3	TOM CLARKE	7
*JOSEPH JOHNSON	4	FREDERICK A. SALTER	*Tenor*

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by FREDERICK A. SALTER.

* First peal of Major. Rung in honour of the wedding of the Rev. J. S. Galloway, Vicar of this church, to Miss Joan Barber, who were married earlier in the day by the Right Rev. the Lord Bishop of Southwell.

EGHAM, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thursday, January 25, 1934, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF CHILTERN SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES
Tenor 17 cwt.

WILLIAM H. FUSSELL	*Treble*	WILLIAM WELLING	5
GEORGE GILBERT	2	LEONARD STILWELL	6
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH	3	FRANK CORKE	7
ERNEST S. T. FARR	4	ALAN R. PINK	*Tenor*

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

The first peal in the method (Carter's No. 6). Rung without any previous practice.

CRAYFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, January 26, 1934, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,
A PEAL OF PUDSEY SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 12¾ cwt.

THOS. GROOMBRIDGE, SEN.	*Treble*	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY	5
JOHN H. CHEESMAN	2	FREDERICK J. CULLUM	6
*EDWIN A. BARNETT	3	GEORGE J. BUTCHER	7
*THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.	4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS	*Tenor*

Composed by A. CRAVEN. Conducted by E. A. BARNETT.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

HERTFORD.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 27, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 16 cwt.

BARNARD PATMORE	*Treble*	WILLIAM K. NORTH	5
GEORGE W. DEBENHAM	2	SIDNEY CARTER	6
STANLEY CARTER	3	JOHN WELCH	7
REGINALD DORE	4	JOSEPH LADLEY	*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by J. LADLEY.

A birthday compliment to the conductor, who has completed 50 years as a ringer.

GREAT TOTHAM, ESSEX.—On Sunday, January 14th, a quarter-peal of Minor (1,260 changes), consisting of 720 Oxford Treble Bob, 360 Kent Treble Bob, and 180 Plain Bob: G. W. Barber (first quarter-peal and first attempt) 1, W. V. Mills 2, H. E. Seager 3, E. J. Shynn 4, F. W. Shynn 5, P. C. Sayer (conductor) 6. Rung as a birthday compliment to ringers of 5 and 6.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.
On Saturday, January 27, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST ANDREW,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation).

*STANLEY PRESTIDGE...	...*Treble*	CHARLES W. COOPER ...	... 5
HARRY PRICE	2	DOUGLAS W. TURNER...	... 6
ALBERT PRESTIDGE, JUN. ...	3	JOHN GOODMAN	... 7
HAROLD SHUCK	4	THOMAS A. TOWNSEND	...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. GOODMAN.

* First peal and first attempt. Quarterly peal for the Guild. Mr. H. Price has now 'completed the circle' in this tower three times.

BOLSOVER, DERBYSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)
On Saturday, January 27, 1934, in Three Hours,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND LAWRENCE,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 14¾ cwt.

JOHN H. BROTHWELL ...	...*Treble*	*HAROLD JACKSON	 5
JOHN FLINT	... 2	CHARLES MASON	 6
THOMAS RILEY	... 3	JOSEPH SAXTON ...	 7
BENJAMIN A. COOPER ...	... 4	STANLEY SLANEY	... ...*Tenor*

Composed by CORNELIUS CHARGE. Conducted by JOHN FLINT.

* First attempt for a peal.

WOMBOURNE, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 27, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BENEDICT,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 10 cwt.

*HENRY L. LANGLEY ...	...*Treble*	SIDNEY O'C HOLLOWAY	... 5
†KENNETH I. PARDOE ...	... 2	ERNEST A. TURNER	 6
CYRIL N. WINWOOD ...	... 3	NORMAN G. LEECH	 7
*BARNABAS G. KEY ...	... 4	JOHN S. MASON	... ...*Tenor*

Conducted by NORMAN G. LEECH.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal of Triples 'inside.' The band tender their thanks to the ringers of the 4th and 5th, who made up the company at the last moment. The previous longest touch by the ringer of the 4th was 120 changes.

WEST WYCOMBE, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
(EAST BERKS & SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)
On Saturday, January 27, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 16 cwt.

VICTOR EVANS	...*Treble*	A. REGINALD BLABY ...	... 5
FREDERICK G. BIGGS ...	... 2	P.S. CECIL A. SMITH ...	... 6
JAMES W. WILKINS ...	... 3	ROLAND BIGGS	... 7
ARTHUR NEWTON... ...	... 4	PERCY NEWTON	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ROLAND BIGGS.

The above was rung to commemorate the passing of the historical village of West Wycombe into the keeping of the National Trust. Incidentally this, too, was the birthday of the wife of P.S. Smith, to whom best wishes were conveyed by his brother ringers. Third and sixth ringers belong to High Wycombe Society, the rest to Hughenden.

GREAT HOLLAND, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 27, 1934, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt.

*W. SOUTHGATE ...	...*Treble*	ALAN ANDREWS	... 5
M. LING	... 2	E. E. DURRANT	... 6
†U. WILDNEY	... 3	*H. A. WRIGHT	... 7
‡R. K. MOWFORTH ...	... 4	E. E. DAVEY	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHT. Conducted by E. E. DAVEY.

* First peal in the method. † First peal in the method away from treble. ‡ First peal. First peal as conductor in the method. Rung on the occasion of the wedding of Mr. C. H. Wildney, brother to the ringer of the 3rd. All are Sunday service ringers of St. Michael's Church, Kirby-le-Soken, except the ringer of the 5th, who is from Thorington.

LONDON.
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
On Saturday, January 27, 1934, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE, HOLLOWAY.
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 18 cwt.

CHALLIS F. WINNEY ...	...*Treble*	ALBERT TURNER ...	 5
EDWIN F. PIKE	... 2	ALBERT C. DARNELL ...	... 6
JOSEPH S. HAWKINS ...	... 3	CHARLES W. ROBERTS	... 7
J. E. LEWIS COCKEY ...	... 4	CHARLES H. VITLER ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by C. F. WINNEY.

BOCKING, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 27, 1934, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 18½ cwt. in E.

*SAMUEL WARNE... ...	...*Treble*	LEWIS W. WIFFEN	 5
†REGINALD GRAINGER	... 2	CHARLES W. BURTON ...	... 6
ALBERT WIFFEN ...	... 3	WILLIAM KEEBLE	 7
*ALBERT L. DIXEY ...	... 4	ARTHUR SAUNDERS	... ...*Tenor*

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE.

* First peal in the method. † First peal of Treble Bob.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

BARKBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 20, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being six six-scores of St. Dunstan's, eight each of Plain Bob and Canterbury Pleasure and 20 of Grandsire. Tenor 15 cwt.

JOSEPH NORTON	...*Treble*	HENRY PAYNE	 3
HENRY FAULKNER ...	... 2	GEOFFREY GEARY	 4

NORMAN GEARY ... ...*Tenor*
Conducted by GEOFFREY GEARY.

First peal on the bells since they were rehung by Messrs. John Taylor and Co. in 1932.

PENSNETT, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, January 20, 1934, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 42 six-scores, ten different callings. Tenor 10¾ cwt.

JOHN S. MASON	...*Treble*	ERNEST A. TURNER ...	... 4
*KENNETH I. PARDOE ...	... 2	NORMAN G. LEECH ...	... 5
DOUGLAS W. TURNER	... 3	†ARTHUR D. FELLOWS	...*Tenor*

Conducted by NORMAN G. LEECH.

* First peal 'inside.' † First peal. First peal of Doubles for all the band. First peal of Doubles on the bells. A birthday compliment to Mr. F. William Gibbs, of Stourbridge.

LEA, LINCS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, January 20, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 13¾ cwt.

*HENRY BINGHAM ...	...*Treble*	GEORGE F. SMITHSON ...	... 4
CHARLES H. BAKER ...	... 2	HARRY MORGAN ...	 5
*GEORGE LESLIE A. LUNN...	3	GEORGE W. CREASEY ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by G. W. CREASEY.

* First peal. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to the ringer of the 3rd.

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LEMPSFIELD CHART, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.
(SOUTHERN DISTRICT.)

On Monday, January 22, 1934, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

EDWARD E. TIDY ...	...*Treble*	JAMES W. KNIGHT	4
*WILLIAM D. ASHDOWN ...	2	JOHN O. WELLER	5
H. F. HYLTON TIDY... ...	3	LEONARD A. TIDY ...	...*Tenor*

Arranged by Rev. H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by LEONARD A. TIDY

* First peal of London.

NEWBURN-ON-TYNE.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 27, 1934, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Double Oxford and Plain Bob spliced, Plain Bob and St. Clement's spliced, Double Court, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 16 cwt.

HERBERT P. CLIFF ...	...*Treble*	KENNETH W. CHEESMAN ...	4
ROBERT W. LEIGHTON ...	2	STEPHEN THOMPSON	5
WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON ...	3	ADAM DEAS	...*Tenor*

Conducted by W. J. DAVIDSON.

BOSBURY, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 27, 1934, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of College Single, Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 18 cwt.

JAMES WOODYATT ...	...*Treble*	CHRISTOPHER BOWERS ...	4
WILLIAM NUTT	2	WILLIAM LEWIS	5
GEOFFREY LEWIS...	3	GEORGE JORDAN	...*Tenor*

Conducted by GEOFFREY LEWIS.

TWYNING, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 27, 1934, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Double Bob, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 11 cwt.

J. WILLIAM HEATH ...	...*Treble*	SIDNEY T. HOLT	4
JAMES HEMMING	2	FRED HAWKES	5
JOSEPH D. JOHNSON	3	CHARLES CAMM	...*Tenor*

Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

HANDBELL PEALS.

BARNEHURST, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, January 21, 1934, in Three Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,

AT 9, BEVERLEY ROAD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

*STUART SANDFORD	1-2	EDWARD J. BEER	7-8
HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ...	3-4	GEORGE J. BUTCHER	-10
GEORGE H. CROSS	5-6	HARRY HOVERD	...11-12

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by GEORGE H. CROSS.

Umpire—Mrs. G. H. Cross.

Witnesses—Mrs. E. J. Beer and Miss Kathleen Beer.

* First peal of Cinques. 50th peal by George J. Butcher. First peal in the method 'in hand' by the association and in the county, also by all the band except the ringer of the 5-6. First in the method 'in hand' as conductor.

COLCHESTER, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, January 24, 1934, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT 19, NORTH HILL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

GEORGE M. RASHBROOK ...	1-2	WILLIAM CHALK	5-6
WILLIAM KEEBLE...	3-4	WILLIAM DENT	7-8

Composed by W. SOTTANSTALL. Conducted by WILLIAM KEEBLE.

(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over.)

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

SONNING DEANERY BRANCH ANNUAL MEETING.

Members of the Sonning Deanery Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild foregathered in force at Wokingham on Saturday, January 20th, for their annual meeting.

Ringing was carried on prior to the service in All Saints' Church, which was conducted by the Rev. Gordon Kenworthy, Rector. In his address (from Ezekiel 47, the vision of the temple stream), the Rector first voiced his great pleasure at welcoming the ringers to All Saints', especially in view of all they did for the clergy and for churchpeople and of the devotion and regularity of their service, for which he thanked them. He knew something of the skill required, of the art of bellringing, of the steady perseverance, the giving up of leisure time; also of the joy that came as Sunday by Sunday they rang out their call from God.

Tea followed in the Church House, All Saints' parishioners providing a warm and generous welcome to the visitors. Miss A. H. Walker was in charge, and her assistants were Mrs. Ward, Mrs. Wigmore, Misses Baker (2), Finch (3), Hatwell, Grenside and Wescott. Col. H. I. E. Palmer, Mr. W. Houlton and others carried out the duties of carvers. Among those present were the Revs. Canon Anderson (Rural Dean), A. P. Carr (St. Sebastian), F. D. Browne (White Waltham), R. D. Weller (Finchampstead), Mr. A. J. Wright (hon. treasurer of the Guild), Mr. R. T. Hibbert (secretary), Churchwardens Goddard and J. C. Hammond, etc.

The handsome festival cake, kindly given by Mrs. P. O. Watson, of Cantley, with its sugar icing and tiny bells, was much admired.

Mr. W. J. Paice (branch secretary) spoke with feeling of the absence of their chairman (Canon G. F. Coleridge) as the result of his accident. He would specially voice their feelings when he wrote to the Canon an account of the present meeting, and would tell him how sorely they missed him and were longing to know that he would soon be restored to health again (applause).

Mr. Fred Dentry was voted to the chair and expressed grateful thanks to Miss Walker and her friends for the excellent tea. Canon Anderson then proposed a comprehensive vote of thanks to the two Wokingham Rectors for the use of their belfries; the Rector of All Saints' for taking the service and for his appropriate sermon; the hon. auditor, Mr. O. Goddard, and all who had helped to the success of the gathering were also mentioned. The Rural Dean also emphasised how much they missed Canon Coleridge, and recalled his splendid spirit and the way in which he always spoke to them.—The vote was carried by acclamation.

The Rev. G. Kenworthy thanked them for their appreciation and said he had much enjoyed their visit.

The Chairman, with feeling, recalled the decease during the year of the beloved Master of the Guild, the Rev. C. W. O. Jenkyn, of whom he was sure Canon Coleridge would have spoken. The work and interest he had in the Guild were wonderful, as were the love and esteem every member had for him. He was always ready to attend any meetings, and especially the branch annual meetings, where he would, had he been there, have given them words of encouragement for the great work he had so much at heart. The Chairman also referred to the death of Mrs. Robinson, whose late husband (the Rev. F. E. Robinson) was for so many years Master of the Guild.

At the call of the chairman, the meeting stood in silence for a time in memory and respect.

The secretary then read a warmhearted letter from Canon Coleridge, expressing his regret and good wishes to everyone (applause).

The balance sheet, with £9 2s. 5d. surplus, and a branch restoration fund of (now) £5 19s. 6d., as well as the secretary's report of the year, were passed. The latter showed a membership of 25 honorary and 144 ringing members, and the report referred to the loss of the Master of the Guild and to the removal of Canon Long, who had always been their very kind friend. Col. H. I. E. Palmer, Mr. O. Goddard and Mr. H. E. A. Wiggett had become hon. members, and these they welcomed (applause). The secretary thanked the foremen of towers and the members for their continued support.

The following officers were elected for the year: Chairman, Canon G. F. Coleridge; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. W. J. Paice; Branch Committee, the foremen of the towers; representatives to the Guild Committee, Messrs. F. Dentry, J. Moth, J. Rance and J. White.

Recommendations from the Branch Committee were passed as follows: (1) That one half-yearly meeting be held instead of quarterly meetings; and (2) that combined practices be held on Wednesdays and Saturdays as before.

Mr. A. J. Wright reported that the Guild was maintaining its position financially. He also congratulated the branch upon its excellent officers and work.

Mr. R. T. Hibbert, who had recently seen their chairman, brought an encouraging message from him. Mr. Hibbert appealed for the Jenkyn Memorial Fund, and gave some good advice to young ringers.

An honorarium of three guineas was voted to Mr. Paice with a warm expression of appreciation of his services as hon. secretary.—Mr. Paice expressed his thanks.

The secretary took orders for photos of the late Master at 3d. each.

The Rural Dean thanked Mr. Dentry for presiding, and this concluded the business.

FIFTY YEARS OF PEAL RINGING.

MR. GEORGE WILLIAMS CELEBRATES A JUBILEE.

An interesting anniversary was celebrated on January 17th at Soberton. Exactly 50 years earlier, on January 17th, 1883, Mr. George Williams rang his first peal at this little Hampshire village. The event, at that time, was probably of minor importance, for the real object of the occasion was the first peal on the bells, which had recently been augmented, and the first peal in the county by the then young Winchester Diocesan Guild. To raise a change ringing band two counties had had to be combed, and the peal was rung by G. H. Barnett (Farnham, Surrey) 1, G. Williams 2, J. Hewitt (Gosport, Hants) 3, F. Hill (Fareham, Hants) 4, W. Marks (Leatherhead, Surrey) 5, T. Newnham (Winchester, Hants) 6, S. Brooker (Leatherhead, conductor) 7, J. Weaver (Winchester) 8. The method was Grandsire Triples and the time occupied 3 hours 5 minutes. The peal is commemorated in the tower by a stone tablet, which also bears the names of the Rector, the curate and the churchwardens of that time and the name of the captain of the local ringers, Mr. G. H. Child. With the exception of Mr. Williams, all those whose names appear on the tablet have passed away.

Since that peal was rung much ringing history has been made, and in the making of it George Williams has played his part. Throughout his long ringing career Mr. Williams has accumulated a big list of peals, his total is now just over 1,350, but his services to the art of ringing are not to be measured by the number of peals he has rung. Without the slightest reflection upon any of the great ringers, past or present, we have no hesitation in saying that no one has done more to help and encourage young ringers than has Mr. Williams. In his earlier days, when the famous band which rang at St. Peter's, Brighton, between 30 and 40 years ago, was in the heyday of its success, Mr. Williams was one of the most brilliant conductors the Exercise has known, but then, as now, he was just as ready in and never happier than when helping a beginner through his first peal of Grandsire or a struggling company through a touch or their first peal in some simple method. Grandsire or London Surprise—it is all the same to George Williams. He expects a high standard of ringing, but he is always ready to make allowance for the failings of the beginner and to help him to overcome them.

At the age of 76 Mr. Williams leaves the 'heavy end' to others, but his almost uncanny ability to strike any bell perfectly, his keenness and mental alertness is in no wit impaired, while his physical fitness is something which many men 20 years his junior may well envy.

It was not unnatural that Mr. Williams should be anxious to celebrate the jubilee of his first peal, and what more fitting than to do so with a peal at Soberton? So a 'Wednesday afternoon' band was got together and the peal was rung: Holt's Ten Part in 3 hours 5 minutes—the same bells, the same method, the same composition, the same time, and Mr. Williams ringing the same bell!

Afterwards, over the teacups, a pleasant hour was spent together by the ringers, full of reminiscences which were a reminder that the conditions of ringing have vastly changed in these last 50 years.

Those who, to-day, are 'spoon fed' with their instruction, or who find their Surprise ringing available for the asking, have no conception of the difficulties which confronted the aspiring recruit in the 'Eighties,' when few country bands could ring even Grandsire Triples, and peals were few and far between. To men like George Williams, who spend their lives striving to spread the art and lift it to higher standards, the ringers of to-day owe far more than they will, probably, ever realise.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY

RECEIVE A PUDSEY WELCOME.

As time rolls on the generosity of the Pudsey company to the Leeds and District Society remains as great as ever, and once more on the occasion of the monthly meeting on Saturday, January 20th, the welcome to Pudsey was as cordial as ever. The bells were rung up about 3 p.m., and ringing continued until 9 p.m. Tea was taken in relays at the Park Hotel, where, later in the evening, the business meeting was held.

The president was in the chair, and members were present from Armley, Batley, Bramley, Birstall, Burley, Calverley, Drighlington, Earlsheaton, Felkirk, Headingley (St. Chad's and St. Michael's), Idle, Leeds Parish Church, Northowram, Rothwell, Shipley, Tadcaster and the local company.

Six new members were elected—Messrs. F. Armitage, of Burley; J. Hogg, of Leeds Parish Church; D. Smith, of Felkirk; R. Lancaster, F. Addison and H. Clayton, of Tadcaster.

The President proposed that the best thanks of the society be accorded to the Vicar and churchwardens of Pudsey for the use of the bells, and also to the local company for their splendid generosity in providing tea and refreshments.—This was seconded by Mr. H. Grimwood and carried, Mr. J. Proctor replying on behalf of the Pudsey company.

The secretary desires that all members travelling to Ripon on Saturday for the Yorkshire Association meeting shall ask for a special ringer's ticket, at the reduced fare of 3s. return (from Leeds).

THE LATE MR. EDWIN GIBBS.

MEMORABLE PEALS RECALLED.

Mr. Edwin Gibbs, whose death at Crayford we recorded in our issue of Jan. 19th, was a native of Eye, where he learned to ring. He migrated to London as a young man at the time that John Cox, Geo. Newsom, Henry Dains, Henry Haley, Jas. Pettit, Matthew Wood, Challis Winney, Ezra Carter, Edwin Horrex and others were making ringing history. With these men Mr. Gibbs did his part, and among many peals he rang with them was 8,099 Grandsire Caters at Westminster in 1876, conducted by J. W. Cattle; 8,896 Treble Bob at Highgate in 1877, conducted by George Newson; and 11,111 Stedman Caters at Fulham in 1883, conducted by James Pettit. He was a member of the St. Paul's Cathedral band for many years.

For the past ten or twelve years he had been crippled with rheumatism, and had been bedridden since he came to Crayford four years ago, but his interest in ringing had never waned. On many occasions he forgot his breakfast when his 'Ringing World' and the meal arrived together, and on more than one occasion has the writer had to go and read the 'riot act' to the newsagent if he had forgotten to deliver it to time.

Edwin Gibbs was a most lovable man, and to spend an hour with him was something to look forward to. Those Sunday afternoons that the writer has spent with him since he has been at Crayford have been most enjoyable. His mind and his wonderful memory were as clear as ever they were right up to the end.

The last visit was on Christmas Day, when Mr. Gibbs talked of the times when he and George Newson used to have to walk home from Highgate to Walworth where they lived, after peals and practice, and many other experiences of those days, just as if they were yesterday. He was then his old self, and had every appearance of going on for a long while, but a fortnight later his heart began to give out, and he quietly passed away on January 13th.

On that day a peal had been arranged at Crayford for his old friend, Mr. F. E. Dawe, to call. Just before the start the sad news was received, so the bells were muffled, and the peal rung to his memory. It was very fitting that Mr. Dawe should conduct the peal, as they rang together in the 11,111 at Fulham 50 years ago as well as in many others.

The funeral took place at Crayford on Tuesday, January 16th. In addition to the family mourners, the following ringers were present: Messrs. C. F. Winney, J. E. Davis, T. H. Taffender, H. Hoskins, E. Butler, of London, and T. Groombridge, jun., H. E. Audsley, W. E. Bond, E. Barnett and Miss Redpath, of Crayford. After the committal a plain course of Stedman Triples was rung on handbells over the grave by E. Barnett 1-2, T. H. Taffender 3-4, C. F. Winney 5-6, T. Groombridge, jun., 7-8. As the mourners were leaving, the whole pull and stand was rung on the tower bells by C. F. Winney 1, T. Groombridge, jun., 2, T. H. Taffender 3, H. Hoskins 4, J. E. Davis 5, H. E. Audsley 6, E. Barnett 7, Miss M. Redpath 8.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SOUTHERN DISTRICT AT 'ROCHESTER ROW.'

The annual meeting of the Southern District was held on Saturday, Jan. 20th, at St. Stephen's, Westminster. This is a very fine church, known to a previous generation as 'Rochester Row,' and doughty deeds were here done on the splendid peal of eight (tenor 24 cwt.), by Mears and Stainbank, some 30 or 40 years ago. Records in the shape of peal boards tell what stores of energy these 'Rochester Row chaps' must have had. Some of that band are, happily, still with us, and some of their favourite methods were rung at this meeting, viz., the standard methods and Surprise up to and including London.

Tea was taken in the Napier Hall, Vincent Square, the number sitting down being 26—oh! and a half (Frank), of whom more, perhaps, in ten years' time.

At the business meeting the secretary was able to produce a very satisfactory balance sheet, also a pleasing resumé of the year's work. It was, he said, generally admitted to be the best in recent times, and the average attendance had gone up to 28 as compared with 19½ last year (laughter).

The officers were re-elected and a vote of thanks passed to the Vicar (the Rev. S. Shepley Smith) for the use of the bells, and to Messrs. Carter, Carter and Kemp for the splendid welcome and arrangements for the visitors' welfare, comfort and enjoyment, Mr. J. Carter briefly responding.

Some tunes were rung on handbells by Messrs. Ellingham, Goddard and Herbert, and Grandsire Triples by the same, plus Mr. F. Hawthorne. This having driven the remainder back to the steeple, the bells were going again till 8.30. Some 45 members and friends attended during the afternoon and evening from a wide area, and the gathering was graced by a number of the fair sex.

RINGING IN NEW ZEALAND.

In distant Dunedin, in the south island of New Zealand, Mr. J. S. Wilde is 'keeping the flag flying' with a small handbell band. They meet regularly for weekly practice and occasionally knock off 720's of Plain Bob, Kent, and Oxford Treble Bob Minor. On December 7th, at Mr. Wilde's residence, 9, Balmoral Street, Opoho, they rang 720 of Court Bob Minor: J. S. Wilde 1-2, Charles Wilde 3-4, Joseph Whipp (conductor) 5-6.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

NORTH AND EAST DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING.

The annual meeting of the North and East District was held at Edmonton on Saturday last, a bright afternoon bringing a good attendance of members, some 60 of whom put in an appearance. Ringing commenced punctually at 3 o'clock, under the guidance of the District Master (Mr. A. W. Coles), who gave everybody present ample opportunity of ringing the method they desired.

A short service was held, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. R. C. Evill), who, in his address, gave the members a cordial welcome and some good advice.

Tea was served in the Institute, presided over by the Vicar, who was supported by Mr. W. Pickworth (vice-president), Mr. W. H. Oram (hon. treasurer), Mr. G. W. Fletcher (hon. secretary, Central Council), Mr. J. Parker, Mr. W. H. Hollier, Mr. G. R. Goodship, Mr. W. Pye, etc. After a meal which was much enjoyed, the business meeting was held, at which the chair was taken by the vice-president. Various routine matters were disposed of, the balance sheet, showing a credit of £6 10s. 6d. on the year's working, with cash in hand of £41 7s. 2d. and stock of £73 13s. 8d., was adopted.

Four new members were elected, and the whole of the retiring officers, Central Committee, auditors and trustees re-elected.

The proposal to alter the title of the association, which had been referred to the districts at the last annual general meeting, and which may come up for final decision at the next annual general meeting, was mentioned by the hon. secretary, but no decision was arrived at.

Mr. W. H. Hollier proposed that a letter be sent to the Bishop of London congratulating him on having attained his 76th birthday and wishing him many more years of health and happiness.—This was seconded and carried.

The very serious accident which recently happened to the young son of Mr. George Kilby, one of the association's most useful and respected members, was referred to, and it was resolved that a letter of sympathy be sent to Mr. and Mrs. Kilby, with an expression of hope that their son will recover. Raymond Kilby, who is 14 years of age, and who is well known to members of the association, was knocked down on the pavement by a skidding motor lorry whilst on his way to school, and received injuries which almost terminated his short existence. Whilst he is not yet out of danger, it is comforting to hear of an improvement in his condition.

It coming to the knowledge of the members during the meeting that one of the foundation members of the association, Mr. F. Pratt, of Hendon, had recently passed away, a vote of condolence to his

(Continued in next column.)

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

There was an excellent attendance of ringers at the meeting of the West Tyne Division, held at Newburn on Saturday, January 13th, when members of the following towers enjoyed the ringing: Newcastle Cathedral, Chester-le-Street, Newton Hall, Benfieldside, Whickham, Newburn and Blaydon.

The Vicar (the Rev. G. E. O. Jackson) visited the belfry with his wife and extended a hearty welcome to the ringers. He hoped, he said, it would not be long before they returned again, as this was the first visit made during his 14 years as Vicar.

Tea was served at the residence of Mr. J. Swan, a local ringer.

After returning to the tower, Mr. Storey moved a vote of thanks to the Vicar and churchwardens for the use of the bells, and Mr. Sheraton voiced the thanks of the members to Mrs. Swan and her helper for the excellent tea they provided.

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES IN AMERICA.

KENT SCHOOL BOYS RING LONGEST TOUCH.

The Kent School Guild, Connecticut, U.S.A., rang their longest touch recently. This was on Sunday, December 17th, for morning service, when they brought round 644 Grandsire Triples: T. Terry 1, A. D. Bosson 2, W. Abbe 3, I. J. Attwater (conductor) 4, R. L. Westlake 5, R. B. Abbe 6, S. M. Wheelock 7, R. Davies 8. For practice on handbells, 336 Grandsire Triples was rung by H. Van Rendaleur 1-2, I. J. Attwater (conductor) 3-4, A. D. Bosson 5-6, S. M. Wheelock 7-8. This is also the longest length on handbells by this year's band. Mr. I. J. Attwater is the instructor of the band and is officially attached to the staff of the school.

(Continued from previous column.)

relatives was passed, and, to show their respect, all present stood in silence for a few moments.

St. Giles-in-the-Fields was chosen for the next annual meeting of the district.

The Chairman proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for his address at the service and for the use of the bells, and to Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Fletcher for making arrangements for the meeting. He also expressed regret at Mrs. Fletcher's absence through a severe cold.—The Rev. R. C. Evill acknowledged the thanks of the members, saying that it gave him much pleasure to see so many ringers present, and especially to see such a large proportion of young ringers. He wished the association every success.

Afterwards the bells were kept going until after 9 o'clock in a great variety of methods, to suit all tastes and abilities, the peak being reached with a well-struck touch of Spliced Surprise Major in four methods.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

His many friends on the Central Council and in ringing circles in the Midlands and London will learn with deep regret of the bereavement of Mr. A. Paddon Smith, for 20 years hon. secretary of St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham. Mrs. Smith died on Saturday and was buried at West Bromwich on Tuesday.

Mr. C. L. Routledge took part in a peal of Cambridge Surprise Major at Newcastle Cathedral last week. It is just over 50 years since he rang his first peal—one of Kent Treble Bob Major at North Shields on January 1st, 1884.

January is only just out, but already this year peals have been rung in three new Surprise methods: Leatherhead at Leatherhead, Surrey; St. Albans at Bushey, Herts, and Chiltern at Egham, Surrey. What would ringers 30 years ago have said to such 'goings on'?

The restored and augmented peal at Rammoor, Sheffield, in memory of the late Mr. Sam Thomas, is to be dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Sheffield on Saturday, March 31st, at 3 p.m.

We regret that owing to pressure on our space several reports of meetings and other contributions are unavoidably held over.

The rededication of the bells at Brixham, Devon, took place on January 24th. Messrs. Gillett and Johnston have added two trebles, recast one of the other bells and tuned the rest. A report of the opening will appear in our next issue.

WOODBRIDGE BELLS—AND OTHERS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—A letter which appeared in your issue of January 26th from 'Old Ringer' leaves one with the impression that the previous remarks of the Rev. Herbert Drake are not to be taken seriously. On the contrary, Woodbridge bells have always been considered a very fine eight, and although the statements of Mr. Drake and 'Old Ringer' bear a certain amount of truth, they are neither accurate. The eight at Woodbridge were cast by Thomas Osborne in 1799, and those of the Norman tower at St. James Cathedral, Bury (not St. Mary's, Bury), were cast by the same founder 14 years previously. Woodbridge were in the key of D, 26 cwt., while the Norman tower are D flat, 30 cwt. The Rev. H. Drake means that Woodbridge bells are ONE of the finest OF THEIR KIND in existence in Suffolk.

Ringers with a knowledge of bells will certainly wink at the remarks by Mr. Drake when he says that a period of desolation set in just afterwards and the quality of bells deteriorated. There are a few peals that were cast after Woodbridge, and I leave it to those who know them for judgment.

The very fine peal at Diss were cast at the same foundry as Woodbridge in 1832 by William Dobson, who succeeded Osborne. They are similar in tone to Woodbridge and in the same key, but only 23½ cwt. The Downham Market foundry cast bells on the same principle as Miles Gray. They were large bells, but thin, consequently giving a soft but mellow tone.

Returning to 'Old Ringer's' remarks on Colchester and Thetford. Neither of these towers are in Suffolk, and I imagine the Rev. Drake knew what he was saying, because he was speaking of Suffolk alone. And I presume 'Old Ringer' is referring to age when he says Colchester and Thetford beat Woodbridge easily. For grandness there can be no comparison, as Colchester St. Peter are only 20 cwt. in E by Lester and Pack, 1763, while Thetford are only 18½ cwt. in E by Osborne. There are numerous peals in the Eastern Counties by Osborne, with the exception of one or two bells in each peal, after Woodbridge were turned out, and it is my opinion there are MORE good peals in existence, that were cast in the 19th century, than there are bad ones. Almost every ringer who has heard Woodbridge and Helmingham states they are almost identical with each other, the latter being cast by Mears in 1815 in E flat, 19¾ cwt. There really is a close resemblance with the exception of that half-tone. (Perhaps the Rev. H. Drake has never heard Helmingham.) St. Gregory's, Sudbury, are by Mears, 1821, 16 cwt. in F, with the exception of the tenor, cast by Pack and Chapman, 1774. The back ten at Yarmouth are by Mears, 1807, 30 cwt. in C sharp. St. Nicholas', Lynn, are by Taylor, 1869, an excellent little peal, 19 cwt. in F. Wells, Norfolk, also by Taylor, 1890, 16½ cwt, F. sharp. Wisbech St. Peter were put up by Dobson, 1823, a nice peal of ten, 21½ cwt. in E flat.

While looking through old notes about peals of bells in the Eastern Counties I find there are numerous rings of 19th century bells far superior in quality to the 17th and 18th century stuff, and I shall be pleased to supply details to any who care to ask for same.

Seriously, I wonder whether the Rev. H. Drake and 'Old Ringer' are really good judges of a peal of bells. I once heard Mr. Drake state that Grundisburgh (my old home, by the way) were a pretty peal of bells. Messrs. Roberts, Pye and a few more who ought to know a bell when they hear one, asked me whether they were made with rubber or wood!

All the same, Woodbridge were a 'grand peal,' and I daresay they are even better now. I must hear what my friend Challis Winney has to say about them.

CECIL W. PIPE.

Staines.

THE CLERGY AND RINGERS.

COMMENTS ON CENTRAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S SPEECH.

General interest has been aroused among ringers throughout the country by the speech made by the president of the Central Council at the Guildford Diocesan Guild's dinner with regard to the attitude of many clergy towards those who ring in the church towers. A good deal of prominence was given to the matter by the local Press, and clergy in the Diocese of Guildford have certainly taken notice of it.

Preaching to the Guildford District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild on the occasion of the annual meeting on Saturday, the Rev. D. Railton, Vicar of Shalford (a parish in which the happiest relations exist between the incumbent and his ringers), referred to the subject. His text was from Psalm xix., verse 4: 'Their sound has gone out into all lands and their words unto the ends of the world.'

The preacher said that from the little experience he had gained from coming among ringers, he realised that if he had been among bands of men like them before he was ordained he would have felt the spiritual significance of what they associated with bells more than one did at that time. The president of the Central Council had told them that it was difficult to teach a clergyman to become a ringer after he had become a clergyman. The reason why that was so he did not know unless it was that ringers were frightened to say things to a man who wore a 'dog collar' as plainly as they would otherwise, and one could not make a good ringer unless he had been talked to 'pretty plainly.' That statement by the president, said the preacher, could be put in quite another way, although, of course, it could not be applied to any of those present. They might often with justice say: 'It is difficult to teach a bellringer to become a good churchman after he has become a bellringer. One does not know the reason, unless the clergy are frightened to say things plainly to the ringers, and a good churchman cannot be made without plain talking.'

The preacher added that the clergy ought to be willing to take more interest in the ringers than some of their brethren took, and he believed many of them would, in the sense of becoming members, except for this one reason: The ringers themselves rightly set a very high standard in regard to regular attendance. There were many things in a parish at which a clergyman had to turn up, and if he was a ringer and could only turn up once in five or six times on practice nights, he would be of no use to the keen ringers. That, he believed, was one of the fundamental reasons why the clergy participated so little in ringing, but the more he saw of the ringers' art and heard of it, the more he realised that if everybody in church work set as high a standard as the ringers did on their art, it might mean that they would have fewer workers, but their work would be more real. He hoped that what had been said on the subject would do something to help the clergy face up to this matter, and he hoped, if he might say so with great respect, that there would be with them no occasion when it could be said, as a working man once said to him in another parish, that religion was really humbug, because he knew some of the people supposed to be religious who did not even worship. When he was asked what he meant, the man said that the ringers went and rang the bells and then disappeared and did not go in to worship. He (the preacher), therefore, asked the ringers to make their work more and more real. He believed they might be challenged very severely in the near future upon the very existence of things they held most dear, and one of their greatest safeguards was in gathering men together in worship and prayer and mutual discussion on religious matters. He believed that through the belfries of this country alone, if they had no one else to help them, they would still maintain the great cause of Christ.

RINGERS' OPPORTUNITY.

Preaching at Farnham on the previous Saturday to the Farnham District, Canon E. M. Girling, the Rector (who was formerly Vicar of Leiston), made a suggestion that ringers should wear some distinctive badge, with, if possible, a cross of some kind.

Continuing, Canon Girling said he would be glad to see the bellringers affiliated to the C.E.M.S., and he did not see that it was insuperable to form some kind of affiliation between those two bodies. Referring to the recent bellringers' dinner at Guildford, the Rector said that, according to the Press reports, there had been a good deal of criticism of the clergy. It was said that the clergy did not attend the dinners or climb the tower. Fortunately there was no criticism in Farnham on either side. 'I do climb to the belfry on certain occasions,' he said, 'and we have a very happy, united body here.'

Many of them, he went on, were keen churchmen and communicants. But he heard that it was not the same everywhere. It was said that they went in by the tower door and that that was all they saw of the church. After they had rung the bells they went off with the hope that there was somebody in church as a result of their ringing. 'I have been fortunate,' he said, 'but I do hear that there are such cases. You cannot expect the clergy to take very much interest in ringers who do that kind of thing or anything like it. I think you will recognise that when you have rung others to church there is plenty of opportunity for you to come to church also. Oh, I know there are difficulties—you get hot, I know—but there are opportunities, and I am perfectly certain if you do that the clergy will be staunch in your support.'

THE CLERGY'S SIDE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Though this is in no way an answer to your leader of to-day's date, there is one point on the side of the clergy which should not be overlooked.

There must be many churches where, in ringing for the half-hour before service, the ringers go for a touch of 504 changes, or something of that nature. Now on a Sunday the average parson needs all the rest he can get; if he wishes to greet the ringers he has the choice of going to the church half an hour before he is due, or visiting the belfry while ringing is in progress. In the latter case the touch naturally 'goes west,' and many of the ringers will wish him elsewhere, especially if, instead of a 504, they are going for a quarter-peal. The parson will naturally notice that his presence is not welcome, and is not likely to repeat his visit.

Swanage. J. B. M. RIDOUT.

MINISTERS IN BELFRIES.

Sir,—I should very much like to say a word concerning a letter in 'The Ringing World' of last issue, in which Mr. Cross referred to ministers in the belfry. We have at our village a Vicar very keen on his ringers. He is not a ringer, but during the 16 months he has been here he has entered the belfry every Sunday morning and shaken hands right round the belfry. Our belfry is not on the ground level, it is approached by rather a bad staircase, but the Vicar knows where the bells and the ringers are, as some of the clergy do not.

The first New Year's Eve (1932), when the ringers were ringing out the old, he was seen approaching the belfry, and after the bells were set up he wished all a happy new year and also waited while we rang in the new. This year he was unable to do so, as we could not ring owing to illness near the tower. This, I must say, is very encouraging to the ringers, and I wish a few more clergy would do the same, for this shows we are recognised as churchworkers and not just as bellringers. J. DYER.

Great Tey.

A VICAR WHO RINGS.

Dear Sir,—May I beg a little of your space in reply to the letter in your last issue of P. Cross? I have been luckier than he, as the Vicar of Husborne Crawley (Bedfordshire) is not only waiting to greet the ringers at new year, but to 'do his bit' in helping to ring out the old and ring in the new. He also shares regularly in the Sunday service ringing. 'A HUSBORNE CRAWLEY RINGER.'

DEATH OF AN OLD CUMBERLAND YOUTH.

We regret to record the death, which took place on Friday, January 19th, of Mr. William Western Thorne, of Ockham, Surrey, who passed away at the age of 70 years.

Mr. Thorne, who was a native of Dunster, Somerset, where he learned to ring, was at one time an active member of the Royal Cumberland Youths, with whom he rang many peals in the company of George Newson, Henry Dains and other notable men of the end of last century. Nearly 40 years ago Mr. Thorne went to live at Guildford, and later became estate carpenter on the estate of the Earl of Lovelace at Ockham. From that time most of his ringing was done with the company at S. Nicolas' Church, Guildford, but his peals were few and far between.

The funeral took place at Ockham on the following Tuesday, when ringers were present from S. Nicolas' and the Cathedral, Guildford, and Cobham, with the hon. general secretary of the Guildford Guild. At the conclusion of the service a course of Grandsire Triples was rung over the grave by Messrs. A. C. Hazelden, J. S. Goldsmith, A. H. Pulling and S. Radford. Many fellow workmen from the estate were present and representatives of the Fire Brigade, of the committee of which Mr. Thorne was a member. Among the many wreaths were those from the Countess of Lovelace, the Fire Brigade and the ringers of S. Nicolas' and Cobham Churches.

OLD BEEDON RINGER'S DEATH.

Chorister and bellringer at Beedon for over 50 years, Mr. Thomas Curtis passed away in his sleep on the morning of January 8th at the age of nearly 86 years. He had lived in Beedon all his life, and had served under six different vicars.

Mr. Curtis' four sons were all ringers, and Mr. H. W. Curtis is hon. secretary of the Newbury Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

The funeral service was preceded by a requiem, celebrated at Beedon Church and attended by members of the family.

On the following Sunday a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung with the bells half-muffled by C. E. Curtis 1, T. H. G. Curtis 2, Tom Curtis 3, H. T. E. Curtis 4, H. W. Curtis (conductor) 5, J. Wakefield 6. The ringers included three sons and two grandsons of Mr. Curtis.

NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.

A combined practice was held at St. Thomas' Church, Rhyl, on Saturday, January 13th. Ringers from Bangor and Llandudno were present, also Mr. R. Sperring and Mr. P. Swindley from Chester and the local band. Good practice was put in in Grandsire Triples, Stedman Triples and Bob Major.

BRISTOL UNITED GUILDS.

(Continued from page 58.)

PRESIDENT OF CENTRAL COUNCIL AND CLERICAL RINGERS.

Mr. E. H. Lewis, responding at the dinner of Bristol United Guilds to the toast of 'The Central Council, its Affiliated Societies and the Visitors,' said he was glad that the Central Council and its affiliated societies had been included in one toast, because he hoped they all realised that the Central Council was the affiliated societies and the affiliated societies were the Central Council. They were one and the same thing. If that was more generally recognised, he thought the Central Council would gain in the value of the work which it was able to do. He thanked the Bristol United Guilds for their hospitality, both in inviting them to that dinner and for the ringing they had allowed them to have. Last year he said something about the West Country striking and of the open leads which he would have enjoyed much more if they had been at hand stroke instead of at back stroke. That afternoon they had had some ringing of the kind they usually got when mixed bands joined together, and while they were ringing he looked round carefully at the ropes and found that, as far as he could judge, those who were responsible for the rough striking were those who were not handling their ropes properly. If they would spend twopence in buying the Central Council's latest publication they would see there some photographs showing how to do it and how not to do it.

On the previous Saturday he said something at Guildford about the clergy being present on such occasions as that. That morning he had received a letter from a clergyman in the Midlands who was not very pleased with what he had said, and thought he had been rather hard on what had been termed the 'dog collar fraternity.' Unfortunately last week all the clergy went away before his speech came on, and he did not have the opportunity of speaking to them, but that night he was glad to see that the clergy in that part of the world were, should he say, better mannered towards their ringers. He could say something very nice about the clergy so far as they were concerned with ringers if only there were more of them of the right sort (laughter). There had been some wonderful clerical ringers who had taken the lead in the ringing fraternity in years past, but his point was they wanted more clerical ringers, and if they wanted good clerical ringers who were good strikers, it was up to them to get them, if possible, before they put on the 'dog collar.' He suggested they should try to find out the young men who were going to the theological colleges. If they could teach them to ring before they were ordained it was likely they would be good strikers as well as good on the theoretical side.

REPRESENTATIVES ON DIOCESAN BOARDS

Proceeding, Mr. Lewis said one of the most important sides of the work of the Council was done in connection with towers, and he wished that the Central Council was more closely in touch with the various Diocesan Advisory Committees than it is. It was unfortunately very difficult to get into touch with these bodies. They looked at the Council as self-appointed experts, 'and we,' said Mr. Lewis, 'know they are self-appointed, and we know we know much more about bells than they do, while they seem to think they know more than we do, and we don't get much further except in isolated cases.' He hoped sincerely there would soon be a competent person, either a ringer or an engineer who has some knowledge of ringing, on every diocesan advisory board; or, if not actually on the board, at least attached to it, so that he could be called in whenever a bell case had to be considered (applause).

Mr. E. A. Young responded for the affiliated societies, and thanked the B.U.R.G. for the kindly reception extended to them. He was very happy to meet again so many of the old friends he knew during the years that he was hon. secretary of the Central Council. He had the honour this year to be the reigning Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths. It was one of the oldest ringing societies, and he believed they had in Bristol another old ringing society, the St. Stephen's Society, which, with the exception of the Westminster Abbey Society, was the oldest of the unofficial ringing societies in the kingdom. All these old ringing societies were in the habit of holding an annual feast, and the reason for them was that this social side knitted them together in a most wonderful way and enabled the members to know one another better. These reunions were all to the good, and whilst the Bristol United Guilds had that end in view and reinforced their ringing ideal with the social side, they would not want success (applause).

The Rev. M. Paterson acknowledged the toast on behalf of the visitors. He said he hoped when the Bishop came to St. Thomas' Church he would allow him (the speaker) to conduct him to the belfry to meet the ringers. To his fellow-clergy he would say this: If they did not come into very close contact with their ringers, if they would go into the ringing chamber and get to know their men, they would not get all they wanted, they might sometimes be disappointed, but they would get something that was worth having, they would get the respect and perhaps they would get the affection of their ringers who were men (applause).

'THE RINGING WORLD.'

Mr. S. H. Wood proposed the toast of 'The Ringing World,' and referred to recent letters which had appeared in the paper in criticism of the Editor. These letters had been, he said, most uncalled for. It was true that the Editor was responsible for the conduct of the paper, but the control of it, he submitted, both as regards price and, to a certain extent, the contents was in the hands of the ringers as much as those of the Editor. He know that some of them found threepence a week a lot to pay, but he believed he was right in saying that if two or three thousand more ringers would become regular subscribers the price could be reduced to twopence. They might think that two or three thousand more was a lot, but it was not really so when they considered that there were 46,000 ringers in the country, and only a very small proportion of them at present bought the only ringing paper regularly. With regard to the subject matter of the journal, Mr. Lewis, speaking at that dinner last year, made a forcible appeal to ringers to refrain from resorting to personalities. He wanted to make a similar appeal that night. If ringers wanted to write to the paper, let them stick to the point of the argument. There had often been a tendency among the writers of letters to drift away from the subject they started to write about and personalities then began to show themselves. He was afraid the last case was the worst. On that occasion someone started a discussion upon the important subject of bellringing broadcasts. They had not gone very far before they had one of Mr. Goldsmith's excellent leading articles on the subject, and thereupon came a letter criticising the Editor first of all for being on the Central Council and then for being a diocesan secretary and one or two other things. That might be the opinion of the gentleman who wrote from Wellingborough, but it was not the opinion of anyone else as far as he knew. He thought he was speaking for everyone there when he said they were very fortunate in having as Editor of their ringing paper a man who by his ringing ability and by his knowledge and experience of ringing matters had earned for himself a well-deserved place on the Central Council, had made him one of the most successful diocesan secretaries and enabled him to turn out week by week those leading articles for his paper which were a delight and an inspiration to read (applause). He wondered if they all realised what kind of a mess they would be in if they had no ringing paper? Suppose Mr. Goldsmith told them that night that for some reason or other next week's issue would be the last? Where would they be, with no peal reports, no means of knowing what was happening in any other part of the country. He wondered whether they would be having that dinner if there had been no ringing paper. They might have done, but he was very certain they would not have had so many visitors from other parts of the country as they had there that night and who they were all so pleased to welcome.

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN RINGERS AND CLERGY.

Proceeding, Mr. Wood said the co-operation and understanding between ringers and clergy had improved out of all knowledge during the last 20 or 30 years, but he thought they would agree with him that there was room for still further considerable improvement. He thought the way seemed obvious, that the ringers must go more frequently into the churches, and the clergy, to get closer to the ringers, must come more frequently into the belfries. He would like to indicate one or two ways in which the clergy might do their part to further the cause of church bellringing. In the first place, they could do away completely with all paid ringing for Sunday services (hear, hear). He did not say that no ringing should be paid for. When private individuals wanted the bells rung for a wedding or a funeral they should pay for it; and on state and national occasions it was right that the ringers should be paid, but ringing for Sunday services should be purely voluntary. In the majority of cases up and down the country where the ringers were paid the ringing was generally not of a very high standard. On the other hand, ringers ought to get much more consideration than they often receive. Mr. Wood gave some instances in which ringers, having given their service for special ringing, had been neglected in the facilities which were given them for attending these functions, one instance being at the Redcliffe thanksgiving service, when the twelve ringers, who had been asked to ring, had to stand for 2¼ hours through the service before ringing because there were no reserved seats for them. He contrasted this with the treatment of ringers in Glasgow while he was there, when, at the enthronement of the Bishop, seats for the ringers were reserved immediately behind those of the Lord Mayor and Corporation. Mr. Wood went on to appeal to the clergy to assist the ringers in their practices in noisy towers by taking steps to have annoyance to neighbours prevented by the proper blocking up of the louvres. He was sure a high percentage of city churches ought to be treated in this way, and the parochial church councils as well as the clergy ought to interest themselves in this. They ought also, he added, to impress on all parsons and church councils who contemplated any improvements with regard to bells that they had their diocesan advisors and that it would pay them to get their helpful advice.

The toast to 'The Ringing World' was cordially drunk, and Mr. Goldsmith briefly replied, thanking Mr. Wood for his kindly remarks and saying that, despite all the criticism, he knew that he had many friends throughout the country who appreciated his efforts to promote the best interests of ringing.

Mr. A. J. Blackwell proposed 'The Artistes,' whom he cordially thanked and Mr. C. Read, I.S.M., the accompanist, responded. The proceedings then ended with 'Auld Lang Syne.'

(Continued on page 76.)

THE MINOR QUESTION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—There is one thing which should not be forgotten, and it is this—you cannot have the full number of true changes on any number of bells unless you finish with the same row that you started from. That is mathematical law, and no power on earth can alter it. You may juggle with words as much of you like, but if you start from rounds you cannot ring a true 720 unless you finish with rounds. That is the truth which the Exercise has always recognised from the earliest times.

I am against Mr. Bankes James' draft resolution in every way. I am for seven or more true extents as the normal thing in six-bell peals, and I will support any resolution to that effect, provided that nothing is done to say that people may not ring things which are exceptions to the rule, if they think they have sufficient reason for doing so.

I will ask those people who keep talking about 720 true rows being a true 720 to tear up their paper and go into the tower and RING. Would they say they had rung a true 720 of Bob Minor if the final single was not correctly made? And, if so, what is the use of that single at all?

In the Bankes James Cambridge Minor, six of the seven 720's (considered as 720's) are false. You cannot get away from it. It does not alter the fact because they are nearly true; 719 true changes are not 720 true changes, and no casuistry can make them so. I have rung a peal of Doubles without a true six-score in it and a peal of Minor without a true 720 in it. I am prepared to justify those performances, but on the right grounds.

One more point. Because some people do not like these irregular compositions is no valid reason why they should try and prevent those who do from ringing them. I protest against any attempt to stop our younger and more intellectual members from making experiments. All the progress that has been made in ringing from the very first time has been due to experiments and the breaking of rules. And these men who have produced these irregular compositions —Mr. Bankes James and his brother, Mr. Pitman, my own friend Ernest Turner and the others—are intellectually the very salt of the Exercise. We may not like all their compositions, but it is to such as they that we owe all our progress.

With reference to the point raised by Mr. Bankes James, the reason why we always start with rounds—I mean the actual historical reason —is because it is the natural musical sequence in which the bells are tuned and hung. The reason why we always end with rounds (if we can) is because ringing is cyclical movement of the bells, and nothing is finished until that cyclical movement is completed. These things belong to the very fundamentals of the art. The reason Mr. James gives is only a fancy one.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

A CONVERSATION AND A CHALLENGE.

Sir,—I do not wish to weary you, your readers, or myself (!) with old 'hash' which has proved to be so very useless, but in view of the fact that the letter from the Rev. E. Bankes James may revive the question of 'rows and changes,' the following may be of some slight interest, coming, as it did, from one who has been so insistent on the difference between them.

At tea prior to the Middlesex (Bloomsbury) meeting last year, Mr. J. A. Trollope and I drifted into argument (much to the evident amusement of our table, let it be admitted), and apropos of seven extents containing each change seven times (mark the 'seven,' please, while remembering that each extent should be 'different'), the following conversation took place:—

G. L. J.: 'Do you assert that each change occurs seven times in a peal?'—J. A. T.: 'Certainly! It should be obvious.'

'Then a given row bobbed is the same change as that row plained?' —'Yes.'

'Let me be certain that I get you aright. When I produce 123456 from 132465 by a bob, I ring the same change as I do when I plain 123456 from 124365?'—'Decidedly! The change occurs within the row.'

'In other words, the row is the thing that counts in "truth"?'— 'It must do.'

'Why, then, may I not count the first row (of rounds)?'—'You may, if you put something different in front.'

'But I cannot; rounds must be first, by "definition."'—'Exactly; and, therefore, it is not a change.'

'I see. A row in one place can be a change, and in another, not!'— 'If you put it in that way, yes.'

I offer no comment here—it is another's point of view, that is all; but when next the 'Middlesex group (of Majors)' are trying to straighten matters for the Minors, there is one tiny domestic point which they might bear in mind.

The Minors are required to produce the 'backstroke' of the lead end in order to establish truth in their peals. This means that (say) Norfolk Surprise Major requires eighth's-place to be made at the lead end before it may truly be called 'Norfolk,' and some years ago the Middlesex Association rang 12 Surprise Major methods in a peal, in which was included 'Norfolk with fourth's-place bobs.' I challenge any who took part in the peal, or any of the executive of this association, logically to prove on paper or in practice their right, definitely and irrevocably, to name 'Norfolk' the method as rung in that peal.

Mr. James' definition in your issue of January 19th covers what is many Minor ringers' idea of a peal, but why separate the Minor? Let the existing definition read, for ALL PEALS, 'to begin and end with rounds,' and Mr. James' end is attained. The controversy would die; his Cambridge remain, together with its like; and forgotten the Law James London and others, including such as THE TURNER KENT.

GEORGE L. JOYCE.

A QUESTION.

Sir,—The Rev. E. B. James again raises the question of peals of Minor. Before the correspondence develops I would like, with your permission, to ask him one simple question.

He states in his letter no one wants the same row coming up more than once in each block of 720. Then he goes on to suggest that each performance should begin and end with rounds. I should like to ask, does he mean that rounds at the end of the performance shall be counted as one of the 5,040 rows to complete the performance? A simple answer, 'Yes' or 'No,' will be much appreciated by

C. SEVERN.

Killamarsh.

THE BANKES JAMES' ARRANGEMENT.

Sir,—With regard to the Bankes James' arrangement of Cambridge Minor, quite a number of ringers fail to understand that although the 720th change or row does not come up 123456, a true 720 is rung. By a variation of the calling of the two blocks, 30 varied 720's can be had at least. Everyone must own that the Bankes James' arrangement is almost on a par with Middleton's Major.

I hope when the Central Council meet again they will acknowledge such a good arrangement as that by Mr. Bankes James. Generally speaking, such things come to the Exercise only at very wide periods and should be recognised on the footing that they really are only first class. These gentlemen, who put in so much time for the benefit of ringers, would not do so if they knew it was not required. I quite agree that Mr. Bankes James has put the definition very plainly and one which might be adopted.

FRANK WARRINGTON.

Over, Cambs.

SUGGESTED DEFINITIONS.

Sir,—As we have not usually seen alike on this question, I wish to say at once that I agree entirely with your article on 'The Minor Question.' To it I should like to add a further suggestion, that we let the Doubles question wait till the other is settled.

I should also like to say how grateful I am to the Rev. E. Bankes James for the definition he has proposed. Its great advantage over all previous proposals is that it really means what it says. I do not take any definite sides on the merits of this controversy, but I am very interested in the wording of the definitions set before us. It is no use wasting our time on proposals which cannot be of use, because they are wrongly worded. For instance, I was prepared, if any of the three proposals put before the last Council meeting had been carried, to have arranged for a peal to be rung, which would have kept the letter of the definition, but have been entirely contrary to its intention.

The difficulty of a short series of independent motions such as you ask for is that no one wants to be the first to set up an Aunt Sally for everyone to knock down. However, to get going, I will make the following proposals as a start:—

1. An 'extent' is the full number of changes which can be rung on a fixed number of bells. These changes can be expressed by rows, which are written down in a certain order.
2. On seven bells a 'peal' consists of the extent of 5,040 changes, which can be expressed by 5,041 rows, of which only the first and last, being rounds, are alike.
3. On eight or more bells a block of not less than 5,000 changes makes a peal.
4. On six bells seven extents must be rung without any break or cessation of the ringing. These extents must be true, and may be complete.
5. Every peal must begin with at least two rows of rounds, and end with at least one. Therefore, the changes and rounds in a peal of seven or less bells cannot be expressed in less than 5,045 rows, or on eight or more bells by less than 5,003 rows.
6. A peal cannot claim to consist of 'complete extents' unless each begins with not less than two, and ends with not less than one row of rounds. Therefore, a peal of seven complete extents cannot be expressed by less than 5,061 rows, of which 21 are rounds.
7. In a peal which consists of several methods, systems, or principles, these may be spliced together between blocks, but not within any block. Peals which consist of extents that do not claim to be complete may have splices between blocks, but no splice may be within a block.

I do not put forward these proposals because I agree with them all, for I do not. But they say what they mean, and do so in such a way that anyone who wants to amend them, by omitting or inserting anything, can readily do so.

HERBERT DRAKE.

THE DEATH OF MR. RICHARD E. GROVE.

LEADER OF FORMER KIDDERMINSTER BAND.

Many of the older generation of ringers will have learned with regret of the death, which we briefly recorded last week, of this fine old pioneer of Worcestershire change ringing, who died in a Birmingham nursing home on January 18th, following a serious operation, in his 75th year. He leaves a widow and two sons to mourn their loss.

Mr. Grove joined the Kidderminster band about 1885, and rang his first peal (Grandsire Triples) in January, 1887. He rang, in all, 127 peals, of which number he conducted 90. With the exception of five, all these peals were rung between 1887 and 1901, when, owing to his many activities, he found himself unable to spare the art the time he had hitherto given to it. During the period mentioned, the Kidderminster band, under his leadership, went from strength to strength, and entered the realms of Surprise ringing in 1892 with a peal of Superlative, the first in the county and by the association. This honour they also claimed in the following methods: Stedman Triples, Shipway Major, Double Norwich Court Bob Major, Cambridge Surprise Major and London Surprise Major. All these peals were rung on the bells of St. Mary's, Kidderminster, and were conducted by Mr. Grove. In fact, 76 of his peals were rung in that tower. His longest length was 7,392 Double Norwich Major at Hanbury in 1893. This was really an attempt for a long peal, but the treble man had great difficulty in keeping awake, and the bells had to be brought round. It transpired that the ringer in question had not been to bed for two days and nights.

The Burton band were one of the finest in the country at this time, but the men of Kidderminster scored over them on one occasion. A board in the tower at Coalbrookdale, Salop, records a peal of Superlative, the first in the method in the county, rung by the Kidderminster band in 1894. Mr. Grove conducted this peal from the tenor. A week or two previously the Burton men had failed in an attempt for a peal of Surprise on these bells and pronounced the tenor unpealable.

On another occasion in a peal of Double Norwich Major at Old Hill, the late Mr. A. E. Parsons and Mr. Grove were ringing the 7th and tenor respectively, but the bad 'go' of the 7th bid fair to wreck the peal. At the 5th part-end they changed places, and it was brought to a successful conclusion. Mr. Grove also composed a few peals of Double Norwich Major, and had himself called two of these.

Mr. Grove was for 30 years organist at St. Barnabas' Church, Franche, a daughter church of St. Mary's. A keen historian, his knowledge of his native town and district was considerable, and he had, in conjunction with his brother, re-written and revised the 'History of St. Mary's Church,' a brochure which his father published some years ago. Mr. Grove was a member of the Hope and Charity Lodge, 377, of Freemasons and had passed the chair.

The funeral took place at Kidderminster on Monday, January 22nd, and the bells of the Parish Church were rung fully muffled before the service and half-muffled afterwards as a tribute of respect to one who had spent so many happy hours in the tower, and who will be sadly missed in his native town.

BARNETT MEMORIAL.

Previously acknowledged in 'The Ringing World' (July 7th, 1933), £23 2s.; F. Bennett, 3s. 6d.; Mrs. Bond and friends, 10s.; SS. Peter and Paul, Bromley, 12s.; Chislehurst band, 10s.; G. Lindoff, 2s. 6d.; W. J. Jeffries, £1 1s.; Deptford (St. John's), 12s.; Erith ringers, 10s.; total to date, £27 3s.

This fund will shortly be closed, and any further donations will be gratefully received and acknowledged by Mr. F. M. Mitchell, hon. treasurer, 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend, Kent.

RECORDS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—With reference to Mr. H. M. Day's enquiry whether anyone has called seven different extents (or methods) of Surprise Minor as their first peal as conductor, Mr. S. G. Coles has beaten that by calling ten different methods for his first peal as conductor. One up for the West Country. The first peal of Stedman Doubles, 42 different six-scores, starting in four different ways, was rung by Taunton ringers, making two up for the West. J. HUNT.

Taunton.

BRISTOL UNITED GUILDS' DINNER

(Continued from page 74.)

As usual, a most enjoyable entertainment, arranged by Mr. W. S. Emery and Mr. E. Guise, was given. A surprise item of handbell tune ringing was given by six boys of Christ Church Boys' Club (Clifton), and St. Thomas' handbell ringers also contributed to the programme. Songs, duets and monologues were rendered by Miss Marjorie Gordon, Mr. H. V. Spiller, Mr. Lawrence Tanner, Mr. H. F. Elworthy and Mr. Lloyd Williams. Clever cartoons were drawn with lightning rapidity by Mr. Harold Poole, and a sketch was performed by Mr. C. Craddy and Mr. M. S. C. Emery.

NOTICES.

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. Paul's Cathedral on the 6th, St. Magnus' on the 8th and 22nd, Southwark Cathedral on the 15th, *St. Mary-le-Bow on the 20th, at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Secretary, Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District will be held at Marden on Saturday, February 3rd. Tower open at 2.30. Service at 4.30. Tea (free) followed by business meeting after service. Subscriptions are now due, and can be paid at this meeting or sent to the district secretary.—W. Latter, Hon. Dis. Sec., 11, Dudley Road, Tunbridge Wells.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—Annual meeting will be held at Chertsey, February 3rd. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. All ringers welcome, and the presence of members of the Guild from other branches will be particularly appreciated.—K. Eastes, Hon. Sec., 5a, Moring Road, Tooting Bec., S.W.17.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—The annual general meeting will be held at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields on Saturday, February 3rd. Tower open at 4 o'clock. Service, by request of Vicar, at 5.15 p.m. Tea for members 5.45. Business meeting in Vestry Hall 7 p.m.—G. A. Card, Hon. Sec., 7, Gilstead Road, Fulham, S.W.6.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Arlesey on Saturday, February 3rd. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome. Please come. A good company is requested.—C. J. Ball, Hon. Dis. Sec., 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

LADIES' GUILD.—Central District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. Augustine's, Kilburn, on Saturday, February 3rd. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., followed by tea and meeting.—N. L. Cross, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Burnley Parish Church on Saturday, February 3rd. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30. Everybody welcome.—F. Hindle, Hon. Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Benington on Saturday, February 3rd, when the unveiling of the tablet, recording the record length of Bob Major, rung there on Whit Monday last, will take place. The band will be present. Tea will be at the Bell Inn, the old ringers' house. Buses from Hertford 1.50 and 3.45, Ware 2 and 3.55. Return from Benington to Hertford 6.43 and 9.33. From Stevenage to Benington 2.23 and 4.18; return 6.30 and 9 o'clock. All will be heartily welcome.—W. H. Lawrence, Little Munden.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Andover District.—Annual meeting at Whitchurch, Saturday, February 3rd. Bells from 2.30. Service in Parish Church 4.30. Tea in Church Hall 5. Business meeting follows. Those requiring tea place notify Mr. H. Clarke, London Street, Whitchurch.—Rev. F. S. H. Marle, Hon. Sec., Deane Rectory, Basingstoke.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — Northern Division. — A meeting will be held at Witham on Saturday, February 3rd. Bells (8) from 2.30. Service 4.30, tea and business meeting to follow.—F. Ridgwell, Dis. Sec., Queen's Road, Earls Colne.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Central Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Haddenham on February 3rd. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service and tea 5 p.m. All ringers welcome.—F. Warrington, Dis. Sec., Over, Cambs.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, February 3rd, at Boston. Bells (10) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. at Scala Cafe. Business meeting afterwards—W. E. Clarke, Hon. Sec., Park House, Norfolk Street, Boston.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—East Devon Branch.—The postponed meeting will be held at Feniton on Saturday, February 3rd. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting 5. Bells available 2 p.m. All are welcome. Application to ring at other towers in the district to be made to John H. Godfrey, Hon. Sec., Silver Street, Ottery St. Mary.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Beighton (six bells) on Saturday, February 3rd. For tea, please notify Mr. G. Fewkes, 1, Byron Road, Beighton. All are welcome.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 221, Hanover Street, Sheffield, 3.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Whitworth on Saturday, February 3rd. Tower open for ringing at 3.30 p.m. Meeting in the tower at 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—H. Hamer, Hon. Sec., 4, Nall Street, Milnrow.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Hythe on Saturday, February 3rd. Bells ready 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. Subscriptions may be paid at this meeting. Please notify me as early as possible.—F. Conley, Dis. Hon. Sec., 11, Park Road, Ashford, Kent.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Ledbury District.—The annual meeting will be held at Colwall on Saturday, February 3rd. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Short service at 5 p.m. Tea at 5.15 p.m., to be followed by business meeting. All ringers welcome.—A. Jones, Dis. Hon. Sec., The Reddings, Colwall, Malvern.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Bridgnorth Branch.—The next annual meeting will be held at Bridgnorth on Saturday, February 3rd. Ringing at three o'clock. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5, followed by meeting. Will those requiring tea please notify the undersigned? Tea 1s. each, members 6d. All ringers welcome.—George Case, Hon. Sec., 22, Severn Street, Bridgnorth.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—Mid-Devon Branch.—The next annual meeting will be held on Saturday, February 3rd, at St. Mary's Church, Torquay. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea, etc., 5 p.m. Babbacombe bells (8) also available after 6.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—H. J. Hole, Hon. Sec., Tauntonia, Church Street, Paignton.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Jurisdiction of Glaston.—The annual meeting will be held at Glastonbury on Saturday, February 3rd. Bells (8) available at 3 o'clock. Service at 4, tea to follow.—F. D. Rickards, 1, Prince's Road, Wells, Somerset.

PASTON, NORWICH.—Ring of five (tenor 10¾ cwt.) rehung in a new frame with new fittings, and tenor recast by Gillett and Johnston. Rededication by the Rev. C. W. Kershaw, M.A., Rural Dean, on Thursday, February 8th, at 7 p.m. All ringers welcome. Refreshments will be provided at the Vicarage from 6 p.m. to 6.45 p.m. to those notifying the Vicar, the Rev. R. E. V. Prichard, M.A., by Monday, February 5th.

COTTESMORE, RUTLAND.—At 7 p.m., on Thursday, February 8th, the Rev. Canon E. E. Law, B.A., H.C.F., Rector of Empingham, will rededicate the ring of five bells restored by John Taylor and Co., Loughborough.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION (late St. James' Society).—The annual general meeting will take place on Saturday, Feb. 10th. Ringing at St. Dunstan's-in-the-East (8), Idol Lane, E.C., and St. Magnus the Martyr (10), London Bridge, 2.15 p.m. to 3.30 p.m., also at St. Clement Danes, Strand, 3.15 to 4.15 p.m. and after tea from 6 to 7 p.m. Service in St. Clement Danes 4.15 p.m. to 5 p.m. Tea in Willow Restaurant, Essex Street, at 5 p.m. Business meeting and handbell contest in St. Clement's Parish Hall 7.15 p.m. We are endeavouring to make all the above arrangements to be as bright and cheery as possible, and hope that all members will make a special effort to be there. — Chas. O. Moore, Hon. Sec., 7, Camberwell Station Road, S.E.5.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, February 10th, at St. Mary's Church, Brecon. Ringing at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting at 5 p.m. Tea kindly provided by the Vicar.—F. E. Thomas, Dis. Sec., Belle Vue, Brecon.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mark's, Preston, on Saturday, February 10th. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea arranged for all who notify Mr. F. Patchell, 3, Goodier Street, Preston, no later than Wednesday, February 7th. Next combined practice Whittle, Tuesday, February 6th, 7.30 p.m.—J. Charnock, Branch Sec., Carwood Lane, Whittle-le-Woods.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Broomfield on Saturday, February 10th. Bells (6) available 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Those requiring tea please notify me by February 7th.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., Brooklea, Danbury.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch. The next meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Ramsbottom, on Saturday, February 10th. Tower open for ringing at 3.30 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—J. Bracewell, Hon. Sec., 8, Regent Street, Bacup.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The pre-Lent meeting will be held at All Saints', Gosforth, on Saturday, February 10th. The bells (10, tenor 22 cwt.) will be available after 2.30. Committee meeting at 3.30. Service, with address by the Vicar, at 4 o'clock. Tea (1s. per head) in the Parish Hall at 4.30. Will members requiring tea please advise me not later than the 7th? After tea Mr. C. L. Routledge will give a lecture, assisted by handbell ringers, on 'The Art of Change Ringing.' The congregation is invited, as well as the association members, and we hope for a good attendance.—Geo. S. Taylor, Sec., 149, St. Leonard Street, Sunderland.

DEVON GUILD.—Exeter Branch.—A meeting will be held at Crediton, on February 10th. Service 4.30. Tea 5, 1s. each. Bands and visitors attending please notify me by February 4th. — W. H. Howe, Hon. Sec., 8, Courtenay Road, St. Thomas, Exeter.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Barking on Saturday, February 10th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea in St. Margaret's Hall 5.30 p.m. Meeting to follow. Will all those intending to be present and requiring tea kindly notify me by Wednesday, the 7th, without fail. Subscriptions for 1934 are now due.—E. J. Butler, Dis. Sec., 313, Mawneys Road, Romford, Essex.

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The pre-Lent meeting will be held at Thornaby-on-Tees on Saturday, February 10th. Bells (8, tenor 10 cwt.) will be available for ringing during the afternoon. Tea will be provided in the Parish Hall to those who apply to the secretary not later than Wednesday, February 7th. Members 1s., non-members 1s. 3d. It is hoped that members and friends will make a special effort to attend this meeting.—T. Metcalfe, Hon. Sec., Hewick House, Ormesby Road, North Ormesby, Middlesbrough.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan and Bolton Branches.—A special joint meeting of the above branches will be held at St. Peter's Church, Hindley, on Saturday, February 10th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Preacher, the Rev. Canon Elsee, M.A. Tea at 5.15 p.m. at 1s. per head. Please send names to Mr. Wm. Blackledge, 37, Platt Lane, Hindley, not later than Wednesday, February 7th. A special invitation is issued to all ringers and friends to this meeting.—William O. Farrimond and Peter Crook, Hon. Secs.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Guilsborough Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at West Haddon (five bells) on Saturday, February 10th. Usual arrangements. As the balance sheet and report for 1933 will be presented at this meeting a good attendance is hoped for. Please notify me for tea by Wednesday previous.—Geo. A. Hollick, Welford, Rugby.

PETERBOROUGH GUILD.—Towcester Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Stoke Bruerne on Saturday, February 10th. Service 3 p.m.—Rev. R. Howes, Cold Higham Rectory, Towcester.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Alton and Petersfield District.—The first annual meeting will be held at Alton on Saturday, February 10th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Business meeting follows. Will all those requiring tea please notify the Rev. T. N. R. Griffen, Alton Vicarage, not later than February 8th?

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—The annual meeting will be held at Dunstable on Saturday, February 10th. Bells at 2.45. Tea at 5 p.m.—A. E. Sharman, Hon. Sec., 199, High Street N., Dunstable.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The annual meeting will be held at Heston on Saturday, February 10th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service at 5, and tea in the Church Hall at 5.30. Business meeting to follow. If you require tea, inform me, if possible.—F. W. Goodfellow, Hon. Sec., 108, Pole Hill Road, Hillingdon Heath.

ST. JOHN'S, HILLINGDON.—The practice will be held on Friday at 730 p.m. until further notice.—F. W. Goodfellow, Tower Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at Walton on Saturday, February 10th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 5.30 p.m. Tea by invitation of the wardens, and meeting to follow. Special method, London Surprise Minor. For tea notify me before Wednesday, February 7th. All welcome.—Claude I. Davies, Caerleon, Dunbabin Road, Liverpool, 16.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Monk Bretton on Saturday, February 10th. Bells ready at 2.30 p.m. For tea, please notify Mr. J. Fitzgerald, Osborne Cottage, Monk Bretton, near Barnsley, by Tuesday, 6th. All are welcome.—A. Panther, Hon. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Dunster Deanery Branch.—The next annual meeting will be held at Dunster on Saturday, February 10th. Tower open at 2.30 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea at the New Inn at 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow.—G. Stacey, Hon. Local Sec., 6, Park Street, Minehead.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at South Anston, on Saturday, February 10th. Bells ready at 2.30 p.m. Tea will be provided for those who notify Mr. C. F. Fowler, North Anston, Sheffield, before February 8th. All ringers are welcome.—R. W. Stockdale and M. Revill, Hon. Secs.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—A ringing meeting will be held at North Wingfield on Saturday, February 10th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock for those who notify me by Wednesday, February 7th.—J. W. England, The Common, South Normanton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—A meeting will be held at Kirkby Mallory on Saturday, February 10th. Tea and meeting 5 p.m. Peckleton bells available later.—A. E. Rowley, Local Hon. Sec.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—A meeting will be held at Long Melford on Saturday, February 10th. Ringing from 2.30. Tea at 5. All ringers are welcome.—Harold G. Herbert, Hon. Dis. Sec., 61, Acton Lane, Sudbury.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Ilchester Deanery Branch.—A meeting will be held at Montacute on Saturday, February 10th. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock. For tea, please notify by Tuesday, February 6th.—F. Farrant, Martock.

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LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Lancaster Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Hornby on February 10th. Bells at 2 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., price 1s.—E. Swain, Hon. Sec., 29, Beecham Street, Morecambe.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—The annual meeting of the Gainsborough District will be held at Gainsborough on Saturday, February 10th. Bells (8) available 2.30 to 8.30. Service 4.15. Tea, Sun Hotel, 5 p.m., 1s. 6d. per head. Visitors kindly advise the district secretary.—H. Morgan, 22, Grey Street, Gainsborough.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hereford District.—The annual meeting of the district will be held at Hereford on Saturday, February, 10th. City bells available 3.30 to 8.30. Service All Saints' 4.30 p.m. Tea Booth Hall 5.15 p.m. Please notify me not later than February 6th.—A. Gwynne, Dis. Sec., Deanery Cottage, Castle Street, Hereford.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern.—Royston, Saturday, February 10th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. The Vicar, Rev. F. F. Greig, has offered tea to those who notify me not later than February 7th. This is always a good meeting. Make it a better one!—Don Mears, Hon. Sec., Fritton, Moormead Close, Hitchin.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at Chieveley on Saturday, February 10th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. at 1s. All ringers welcome. Please notify the Rev. H. Bonsey, The Vicarage, Chieveley, near Newbury, by Wednesday, February 7th, for tea. Good bus services from Newbury, five miles.—H. W. Curtis, Hon. Sec., Church Road, Shaw, Newbury.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—South Forest Branch.—Annual meeting will be held on Saturday, February 10th, at Lydney. Bells (8) open at 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., Church Room. Business meeting after. All ringers who require tea must let me know not later than Wednesday, February 7th.—Oliver Thomas, Hon. Sec., 44, Newerne Street, Lydney, Glos.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Eccles (8), on Saturday, February 17th. Tower open for ringing at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock, meeting to follow. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend. Tea, 1s. each, to all who NOTIFY Mr. F. Colley, 7, Park Road, Monton, Eccles, note later than Wednesday, February 14th.—D. Brown, Hon. Sec., 56, Greame Street, Manchester, 16.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—A meeting will be held at Lower Beeding on Saturday, February 17th. Tower open 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5, by kind invitation. Please notify the undersigned not later than February 14th if you intend coming. Half rail fare, maximum 1s. 6d.—R. Swift, Hon. Div. Sec., Iping, Ifield Road, Crawley.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—The annual meeting of the district will be held at Leatherhead on Saturday, February 17th. Service at 4.30. Tea in the Institute afterwards. Will those requiring tea please notify Mr. A. Dean, 24, Church Walk, Leatherhead.—A. H. Smith, Hon. Sec., Tudor House, Howard Road, Great Bookham.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—The 46th annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, March 3rd, at 6 o'clock prompt, when the chair will be taken by Canon T. Guy Rogers, B.D., M.C., Rector of Birmingham, Chaplain to the King. To fully qualified members tickets will be issued on payment of 2s., to other members and friends 6s. 6d. each. The bells of St. Martin's (12) and St. Chad's R.C. (8) will be available from 3 to 5 o'clock, the Cathedral (10) from 4 to 5.30. Applications for tickets, accompanied by remittance, should be made to Thomas H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham, 11.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Beddington on Saturday, March 10th. Further details in due course.—Chas. H. Kippin, Hon. Sec.

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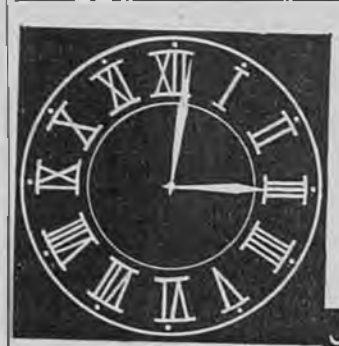

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