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## NOTES BY THE WAY.

The most important event of the past year undoubtedly was the Australian tour, which has succeeded beyond all expectation. To-morrow the band will be back in England, and they will receive the welcome and congratulations of the whole Exercise.

At home the year has been one of steady progress, and though here and there there may have been waning enthusiasm and depleted bands, there is no justification for those pessimists who tell us that ringing as an art has reached its climax. The interest of the general public in bells is shown by the many restorations and augmentations of peals in different parts of the country. Two fresh towers, Tewkesbury and Trowbridge, have rings of twelve, and two others, Kidderminster and St. Albans, will shortly have them. Other notable restorations were at Sherborne Abbey and Preston. Death has taken its usual toll, and among those whom the Exercise has lost we may mention Edwin Gibbs, for so many years a prominent London ringer, Philip Sadler, of Norwich, an indefatigable collector of historical items, especially relating to the old Norwich Scholars, Walter Prime, G. R. Farden, Jas. Fernley, Albert Wright, who will always be remembered as the composer and conductor of long peals of Grandsire Cinques, and, last, Edward P. Debenham, whose fortune it was to live long enough to be president of the Hertford County Association, which he had helped to found, in the year of its jubilee.

The Central Council meeting at Warwick was notable for two things—the efficient way in which its business was transacted under the control of the president and hon. secretary, and the settlement (if only partial) of the much vexed and debated Minor question. The vote of the Council shows that the Exercise is prepared to accept and use any developments in the art of change ringing, but only after they have been thoroughly tested and debated.

No peal of record length has been scored, but though not so many five thousands are rung as just before the war, they are of very much greater variety. On handbells, Shipway's Court Major (conducted by W. H. J. Hooton) and Erith Little Bob Royal (conducted by George Cross) were rung for the first time, but the most notable performance was the London Surprise, conducted by Harold Cashmore, at Watford. I can testify to the extraordinarily good striking of that band on handbells.

In the tower, on twelve bells the Ipswich company added to their fine record by ringing two peals of Rochester Surprise Maximus, and on ten bells the Beddington band rang Bristol Surprise Royal. On eight bells one

(Continued on page 2.)

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very notable peal was the Bob Major rung at Crayford with J. J. L. Johnson as conductor. Surprise Major ringing is increasing. Not only were the four standard methods rung, but peals in such methods as Yorkshire and Norfolk are becoming fairly common, and peals in no fewer than nineteen new Surprise methods were scored. Five of them were rung at Helmingham, and the Helmingham band have altogether rung peals in 27 Major Surprise methods, an extraordinary feat and a record for any company. Five new methods were also rung by a band in the Windsor district under the conductorship of Alan R. Pink, and three in Cheshire conducted by J. Worth. Mr. Worth also conducted two or three six-bell peals of great merit. Spliced ringing has become a regular practice. Law James' peal in the four standard methods was rung many times, and one peal in five Surprise methods was composed by Ernest Turner and conducted by him from an inside bell. This was, I think, the most outstanding individual performance, but I am biassed, and it must be no mean feat to call one of the six-bell peals in many methods, several of which were rung during the year. Six-bell ringers have been active, and the range of methods performed was very great. Peals in 21 and 26 methods were rung at Disley, and one in 35 methods at Felkirk in Yorkshire. Not less meritorious in their way are the many peals of Doubles rung by the less advanced ringers.

As we look back we may do so not without satisfaction, and as we look forward we may do so not without confidence and hope.

\* \* \*

This is the last Note by the Way, at least of this series. To-morrow the Editor will be back in England. It only remains for me to say how much I have enjoyed the brief time I have been in harness. Mr. White, of the 'Surrey Times,' and I, who have jointly been responsible for the paper, have worked together in the completest harmony. We have tried to keep the flag flying bravely while the Captain has been away. We offer our thanks to the many friends who have sent us kind and encouraging messages, and it is not only our own hope but that of all the Exercise that Mr. Goldsmith's holiday has been beneficial to him in health, and that he will continue to go on for many years as Editor of 'The Ringing World.'

J. A. TROLLOPE.

## AUSTRALIAN TOUR PEALS.

BALLAARAT, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD  
AND THE BALLAARAT SOCIETY.

On Tuesday, November 13, 1934, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes.

ON THE 'ALBERT BELLS,' AT THE TOWN HALL,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 6040 CHANGES;**

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 22 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb.

WILLIAM LINTER, JUN. ... <i>Treble</i> 1	CHARLES SHARPLES ... .. 5
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH ... .. 2	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL ... .. 6
MRS. R. RICHARDSON ... .. 3	GEORGE MARTIN ... .. 7
REV. E. BANKES JAMES ... .. 4	ROBERT RICHARDSON ... .. <i>Tenor</i>

Conducted by GEORGE MARTIN.

The first peal of Stedman Triples outside the British Isles. The conductor's 400th peal.

LONDON.—At the Church of St. Lawrence Jewry on November 25th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: H. K. Markwick 1, A. A. Hughes 2, R. Allen 3, E. Murrell 4, S. Stenard 5, F. G. Shorter (conductor) 6, G. Moody 7, E. Owen 8. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute of respect to the memory of the Rev. Walter P. Besley, M.A., M.V.O., Rector from 1920, who passed away on Friday, November 23rd.

**SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA.  
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On Tuesday, November 20, 1934, in Three Hours and Twenty-Four Minutes,  
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARY BASILICA,  
**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**  
Tenor 26 cwt.

WILLIAM LINTER, JUN. ... Treble	CHARLES SHARPLES ... .. 5
MRS. R. RICHARDSON ... .. 2	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL... .. 6
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH ... .. 3	GEORGE MARTIN ... .. 7
JOSEPH HARDCASTLE ... .. 4	RUPERT RICHARDSON ... Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by GEORGE MARTIN.  
First peal on the bells. First peal of Major in New South Wales.

**SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA.  
ST. MARK'S SOCIETY, DARLING POINT  
AND THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On Thursday, November 22, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK, DARLING POINT,  
**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 22 lb.

RUPERT RICHARDSON ... Treble	WILLIAM H. FUSSELL ... 5
MRS. R. RICHARDSON ... .. 2	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH ... .. 6
WILLIAM LINTER, JUN. ... 3	GEORGE MARTIN ... .. 7
CHARLES SHARPLES ... .. 4	*J. ALBERT KEARNS ... Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE MARTIN.

\* First peal. First peal on the eight bells. First peal of Stedman in New South Wales. Rung on the occasion of the visit of H.R.H. the Duke of Gloucester to Sydney.

**ON THE PACIFIC OCEAN.  
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On Sunday, November 25, 1934, in Two Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,  
ON BOARD S.S. 'BENDIGO,'  
**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 6058 CHANGES;**

MRS. R. RICHARDSON ... .. 1-2	REV. E. BANKES JAMES ... 5-6
RUPERT RICHARDSON ... .. 3-4	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH ... .. 7-8

Composed by F. BENNETT. Conducted by RUPERT RICHARDSON.

A compliment to the conductor's mother on her 83rd birthday. First peal on the Pacific and rung between Lat. 38 degrees 22 feet South, Long. 148 degrees 21 feet East, and Lat. 38 degrees 38 feet South, Long. 147 degrees 38 feet East; distance 37 miles.

**ON THE SOUTH INDIAN OCEAN.  
ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL SOCIETY, MELBOURNE.**

On Monday, December 10, 1934, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,  
ON BOARD S.S. 'BENDIGO,'  
**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5182 CHANGES;**

JOHN S. GOLDSMITH ... .. 1-2	REV. E. BANKES JAMES ... 5-6
RUPERT RICHARDSON ... .. 3-4	CHARLES SHARPLES ... .. 7-8

Conducted by RUPERT RICHARDSON.

The composition was the Rev. E. B. James' 'Bendigo' adaptation of W. Royle's peal. First handbell peal by the society. Rung as a compliment to St. Paul's Society by returning English visitors, as a mark of appreciation of many kindnesses extended to them. The peal was rung between Lat. 15 degrees 54 feet South, Long. 99 degrees 2 feet East, and Lat. 15 degrees 24 feet South, 98 degrees 34 feet East; distance 40 miles.

**TEN BELL PEALS**

**NORWICH.**

**THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

On Wednesday, December 26, 1934, in Three Hours & Thirty-Three Minutes  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER, MANCROFT,  
**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 6000 CHANGES;**

Tenor 37 cwt. 3 qr. 15 lb. in C.

WILLIAM J. CLOVER ... Treble	BERTIE J. HOWCHIN ... .. 6
*ARTHUR J. E. SMALLS ... 2	CECIL V. EBBERSON ... .. 7
GEORGE MAYERS ... .. 3	WILLIAM G. MAYERS ... .. 8
NOLAN GOLDEN ... .. 4	WILLIAM C. DUFFIELD ... 9
ERNEST F. POPPY ... .. 5	TONY PRICE ... .. Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

\* First peal of Treble Bob 'inside.' Sixtieth Norwich Association peal in 1934 by conductor.

**ST. ALBANS.**

**THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

On Saturday, December 22, 1934, in Three Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,  
**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;**

G.O. Collection No. 50. Tenor 23 cwt. in D.

WALTER AYRE ... .. Treble	WILLIAM NASH ... .. 6
THOMAS J. HULL... .. 2	HAROLD V. FROST ... .. 7
GILBERT E. DEBENHAM ... 3	HORACE E. C. GOODENOUGH 8
STEPHEN H. HOARE ... .. 4	GEORGE W. DEBENHAM ... 9
BRN. JARMAN ... .. 5	FREDERICK J. SPICER ... Tenor

Composed by W. WILLSON. Conducted by G. W. DEBENHAM.

Rung half-muffled to the Glory of God and to the eternal memory of Edward Percy Debenham, president of this association 1907, 1915, 1923 and 1934, who passed away December 16th, 1934, aged 76 years and 18 days.

**BRIGHTON, SUSSEX.**

**THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**

On Wednesday, December 26, 1934, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,  
**A PEAL OF SPLICED YORKSHIRE AND CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor 25½ cwt.

MRS. F. I. HAIRS ... Treble	NELSON ELLIOTT... .. 6
JOHN DEARLOVE ... .. 2	C. ERNEST SMITH ... .. 7
FRANK I. HAIRS ... .. 3	JACK M. CRIPPS ... .. 8
KENNETH SNELLING ... .. 4	ALFRED T. GREENWOOD ... 9
FREDERICK W. ROGERS ... 5	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... Tenor

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.

Contains 2,800 Yorkshire and 2,240 Cambridge, the former method being rung to the Wrong and the latter from the Wrong to the Home. First peal of Spliced Yorkshire and Cambridge Surprise Royal rung.

**WIMBORNE, DORSET.**

**THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.**

On Wednesday, December 26, 1934, in Three Hours & Twenty-Five Minutes,  
AT THE MINSTER CHURCH OF ST. CUTHBERTA,  
**A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor 29½ cwt.

*WILLIAM M. STONE ... Treble	†FREDERICK E. PITMAN ... 6
†WILLIAM HOULTON ... .. 2	†HERBERT MITCHELL... .. 7
†EDWARD T. GRIFFIN... .. 3	†ARTHUR V. DAVIS ... .. 8
A. F. MARTIN STEWART ... 4	*FREDERICK E. COLLINS ... 9
†LUISE J. LOCKYER ... .. 5	*WILLIAM E. CHEATER ... Tenor

Composed by J. A. TROLLOPE. Conducted by W. E. CHEATER.

\* First peal of Bob Royal. † First peal on ten bells. ‡ First peal of Royal. First in the method for ringer of the 7th. First peal on ten bells as conductor.

**CARDIFF.**

**THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**

On Thursday, December 27, 1934, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,  
**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;**

Tenor 27 cwt. in D.

*HENRY J. TRIM ... Treble	GEORGE LARGE ... .. 6
EVAN COLES ... .. 2	ERNEST COOMBS ... .. 7
CHARLES L. SADLER... .. 3	HENRY J. TAYLOR ... .. 8
JOHN W. JONES ... .. 4	FREDERICK CHAMBERLAIN ... 9
ERNEST STITCH ... .. 5	SEYMOUR R. BARKER ... Tenor

Composed by J. GEORGE. Conducted by FRED CHAMBERLAIN.

\* First peal of Caters. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. John Clutterbuck on reaching his 87th birthday. He is one of the original members of the association.

MORECAMBE, LANCs.—At 29, Beecham Street, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor on handbells, 1,260 changes: Stanley Clifford 1-2, Ernest Swain 3-4, Edwin Jennings 5-6. Umpire, H. Palmer.

TO ARCHITECTS AND CHURCH AUTHORITIES

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**EIGHT BELL PEALS.**

PRITTLEWELL, ESSEX.  
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 15, 1934, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**

Tenor 18½ cwt.

*NORMAN TOWNSEND ... .. 2	HENRY T. WILSON ... .. 5
FRANK LDFKIN ... .. 2	GEORGE E. WILSON ... .. 6
JOHN W. CORNFORD ... .. 3	ERNEST W. FURBANK ... .. 7
WILLIAM DUDLEY ... .. 4	GORDON A. BACON ... .. Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN. Conducted by H. T. WILSON.

\* First peal. Rung on the anniversary of the birthday of the ringers of the 4th.

DEANE, BOLTON.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 17, 1934, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**

Tenor 12 cwt.

ERNEST CHITSFORTH ... .. 2	THOMAS B. WORSLEY ... .. 5
EDWARD WEBSTER ... .. 2	JOHN W. JONES ... .. 6
ARTHUR HEYWOOD ... .. 3	THOMAS SMITH ... .. 7
FRED DUNKERLEY ... .. 4	CHRISTOPHER GUDGEON ... .. Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by C. GUDGEON.

Rung in honour of the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. F. Dukerley. W. Jones hails from Newport, Mon.

NORTHFLEET, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 19, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH.

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**

Tenor 16½ cwt.

RICHARD SMITH ... .. 2	EDWARD J. BEER ... .. 5
*ERIC PEARTREE ... .. 2	E. GEORGE MORRAD ... .. 6
JOHN H. CHEESMAN ... .. 3	HARRY HOVERD ... .. 7
JOHN H. WHEADON ... .. 4	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... .. Tenor

Composed by G. J. BUTCHER. Conducted by EDWARD J. BEER.

\* First peal.

ECCLES, LANCS.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 19, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor 20 cwt.

MISS ANNIE POTTER ... .. 1	THOMAS JONES ... .. 5
J. FRANK SMALLWOOD ... .. 2	NORMAN HEAPS ... .. 6
JOHN W. JONES ... .. 3	CHRISTOPHER GUDGEON ... .. 7
WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT ... .. 4	RONALD H. DOVE ... .. Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by C. GUDGEON.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON  
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, December 19, 1934, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE,

**A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**

Tenor 20 cwt.

HORACE BELCHER ... .. 2	JAMES E. DAVIS ... .. 5
HARRY HOSKINS ... .. 2	WILLIAM R. MADGWICK ... .. 6
ALFRED J. HOUSE ... .. 3	JAMES BENNETT ... .. 7
FREDERICK DIGBY ... .. 4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS ... .. Tenor

Composed by G. E. SYMONDS. Conducted by C. W. ROBERTS.

EXETER, DEVON.

THE DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

(ST. THOMAS' SOCIETY.)

On Friday, December 21, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 15 cwt.

*CLIFFORD J. HOSGOOD ... .. 2	ERNEST HILL ... .. 5
WILLIAM H. HOWE ... .. 2	HENRY J. CORRY ... .. 6
†ROY RUNDLE ... .. 3	EDWARD W. BIFFIN ... .. 7
WILLIAM A. WILLS ... .. 4	FREDERICK WREDFORD ... .. Tenor

Conducted by EDWARD W. BIFFIN.

\* First peal. † First peal 'inside.' Rung for and on the festival of St. Thomas.

NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Saturday, December 22, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

**A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**

Tenor 14½ cwt.

THOMAS W. CHAPMAN ... .. 2	HAROLD ARGYLE ... .. 5
*CHARLES H. WEBB ... .. 2	ERNEST STONE ... .. 6
JOSEPH B. FENTON ... .. 3	†HENRY W. FRANKLIN ... .. 7
†LEONARD TREVOR ... .. 4	FRANK E. PERVIN ... .. Tenor

Composed by F. DEXTER.

Conducted by F. E. PERVIN.

\* First peal in the method on 'inside' bell. † First peal of Major.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 22, 1934, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;**

Tenor 15 cwt.

ARTHUR R. MILES ... .. 2	*ERNEST J. LADD ... .. 5
*ARTHUR F. LEWRY ... .. 2	*WILLIAM KITCHENSIDE ... .. 6
TOM SAUNDERS ... .. 3	LUTHER J. HONESS ... .. 7
THOMAS E. SONE ... .. 4	ALEX RICHARDSON ... .. Tenor

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.

\* First peal in the method. Mr. E. J. Ladd's 50th peal. Rung to welcome the Rev. H. L. Penn, who has been appointed Vicar of St. Peter's; also a birthday compliment to the composer, Mr. Arthur Knights, who celebrated his 75th birthday on December 17th. The composition, No. 401, is rung for the first time.

HARMSTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 22, 1934, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

**A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**

Tenor 12 cwt.

HAROLD MARCON ... .. 2	GEORGE W. CREASEY ... .. 5
LEWIS SNELL ... .. 2	JACK BRAY ... .. 6
CHARLES MCGUINNESS ... .. 3	JOHN WALDEN ... .. 7
FREDERICK W. STOKES ... .. 4	JOHN A. FREEMAN ... .. Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 83).

Conducted by JOHN A. FREEMAN

First peal in the method by all and on the bells, and for the Guild by a resident band. The 18th anniversary of the wedding of Mr. and Mrs. J. Walden.

STANMORE, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON  
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 22, 1934, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

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

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 12 cwt. 19 lb.

CHARLES T. COLES ... .. 2	GEORGE R. PYE ... .. 5
EDWARD ASHEY ... .. 2	CHARLES DYER ... .. 6
Miss ELSIE K. FULTON ... .. 3	JOHN E. ROOTES ... .. 7
GILBERT R. GOODSHIP ... .. 4	GEORGE A. HUGHES ... .. Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES T. COLES.

Rung as a compliment to the Rector (the Rev. W. A. Hewett) on the tenth anniversary of his induction. After the peal the band were entertained to tea by the Rector and Mrs. Hewett.

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WEST WYCOMBE, BUCKS.  
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.  
(EAST BERKS & SOUTH BUCKS BRANCH.)

On Saturday, December 22, 1934, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;  
MIDDLETON'S. Tenor 16 cwt.

JAMES W. WILKINS ... .. Treble	ROLAND BIGGS ... .. 5
MISS DOROTHY R. FLETCHER 2	MISS KATHLEEN E. FLETCHER 6
FREDERICK G. BIGGS ... .. 3	REV. C. ELLIOTT WIGG ... 7
*MISS MARIE CROSS ... .. 4	HARRY WINGROVE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by HARRY WINGROVE.

\* First peal in the method 'inside.'

BOLTON, LANCASHIRE.  
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 22, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
THURSTANS' FIVE-PART. Tenor 17½ cwt. in E.

J. NORMAN BROWN ... .. Treble	JAMES TAYLOR ... .. 5
EVEREST FORD ... .. 2	PETER CROOK, SEN. ... .. 6
MISS G. ANNIE CROOK ... .. 3	THOMAS W. SMITH ... .. 7
GEORGE THOMAS JENKS ... .. 4	WILLIAM O. FARRIMOND ... Tenor

Conducted by PETER CROOK.

Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor's wife and daughter.

ORMSKIRK, LANCs.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 22, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 25 cwt.

JAMES MARSH ... .. Treble	THOMAS W. GILMOUR ... 5
THOMAS HAMMOND ... .. 2	GEORGE R. NEWTON ... .. 6
*EDWIN C. BIRKETT ... .. 3	*JOHN W. PILKINGTON ... 7
EDWARD CAUNCE ... .. 4	LESTER L. GRAY ... .. Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE R. NEWTON.

\* First peal of Stedman.

HUGHENDEN, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, December 24, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 12½ cwt.

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

Conducted by P. NEWTON.

RAUNDS, NORTHANTS.  
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.  
(St. Peter's Society.)

On Monday, December 24, 1934, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;  
Tenor 22 cwt. 8 lb. in E flat.

*CHARLES BARKER ... .. Treble	ERNEST E. WHITMORE ... 5
FRED STUBBS ... .. 2	STANLEY G. ROBINSON ... 6
FRANK KIRK ... .. 3	WILLIAM J. WHITMORE ... 7
WALTER COPPERWHEAT ... 4	CHARLES M. WHITNEY ... Tenor

Composed by HENRY DAINS.  
\* First peal and first attempt.

Conducted by W. J. WHITMORE.

CRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 24, 1934, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;  
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 12½ cwt.

*MISS MOLLIE REDPATH ... Treble	EDWIN A. BARNETT ... .. 5
THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. 2	ALFRED G. HILL ... .. 6
REGINALD BROUGH ... .. 3	THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, SEN. 7
JOHN WHEADON ... .. 4	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ... Tenor

Conducted by T. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.

\* First peal of Stedman. Rung on the 43rd anniversary of T. Groombridge, sen.'s first peal.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

WROXHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 17, 1934, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;  
Seven extents with 5-6's at back stroke. Tenor 9 cwt. in G.

*ERIC A. STEVENSON ... .. Treble	*CHARLES GRIFFIN ... .. 4
GEORGE MAYERS ... .. 2	HERBERT C. READ ... .. 5
NOLAN GOLDEN ... .. 3	GEORGE BAILEY ... .. Tenor

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

\* First peal in method.

LITTLE MUNDEN, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

(THE LITTLE MUNDEN SOCIETY.)

On Tuesday, December 18, 1934, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 6040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of New London Pleasure, Woodbine, Oxford Delight,  
Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.  
Tenor 13 cwt.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS ... .. Treble	ARTHUR PHILLIPS ... .. 4
ARTHUR WOOLSTON ... .. 2	SIDNEY CARTER ... .. 5
*SIDNEY HEAD ... .. 3	WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE.

\* First peal. First peal upon the bells since rehung. Rung as a birthday compliment to W. H. Lawrence, also to commemorate the jubilee of the County Association.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 19, 1934, in One Hour and Fifty Minutes,  
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;  
Seven differently arranged 720's with all 5-6's right.  
Tenor 2 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb. in F sharp.

F. HORACE E. STUBBS ... Treble	JOHN OLDHAM ... .. 4
COLIN HARRISON ... .. 2	HAROLD J. POOLE ... .. 5
Geo. STEDMAN MORRIS ... 3	ERNEST MORRIS ... .. Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

CAMERTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 20, 1934, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,  
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;  
Being seven 720's. Tenor 10 cwt.

WILLIAM SHERBORNE ... Treble	*DAVID MACKAY ... .. 4
*E. JOHN TARGITT ... .. 2	RONALD G. BECK ... .. 5
*LEONARD DUNFORD ... .. 3	JOSEPH T. DYKE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by RONALD G. BECK.

\* First peal of Surprise and on the bells.

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BRAMFORD, SUFFOLK.  
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Wednesday, December 19, 1934, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Bob, Double Court, Double Oxford, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr.

WILLIAM KINSEY... .. Treble	KEITH W. WHITTLE ... .. 4
JAMES DURRANT ... .. 2	JAMES ROSE ... .. 5
EDGAR RIVERS ... .. 3	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL ... Tenor

Conducted by GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL.

Rung with half-muffled clappers as a last token of respect to the late Mr. Walter Brown, who was for upwards of 50 years a ringer at the above church, and was interred on the 21st.

HETHERSETT, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, December 20, 1934, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Remigius,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising an extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Double Court, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Plain Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

*CHARLES H. MOORE ... Treble	RUSSELL W. CURSON ... 4
NOLAN GOLDEN... .. 2	*WALTER R. FARROW... .. 5
GEORGE MAYERS ... .. 3	HARRY TOOKE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

\* First peal in seven methods. First peal in seven methods on the bells.

STURMENSTER NEWTON, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 22, 1934, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 10 six-scores of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, 12 of Plain Bob and 20 of Grandsire, with 18 callings. Tenor 20 cwt.

*H. CHARLES CLUETT ... Treble	E. T. PAUL FIELD ... .. 4
†HAROLD C. R. VINE ... .. 2	D. W. CHARLES CHANT ... .. 5
H. JIM RALPH ... .. 3	WALTER J. GOSNEY ... .. Tenor

Conducted by E. T. P. FIELD.

\* First attempt for a peal. † First peal in three methods 'inside.' First peal in three methods as conductor. First peal on the bells since their recent restoration and believed to be the first on them.

MARSTON BIGOTT, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 22, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Leonard,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's: (1) Wells Surprise; (2) London Surprise; (3) York Surprise; (4) Cambridge Surprise; (5) Oxford and Kent Treble Bob; (6) Double and Single Oxford; (7) Double and Single Court. Tenor 7 cwt.

JOHN E. METCALFE ... Treble	HARRY J. SANGER ... .. 4
MISS NORAH G. WILLIAMS ... 2	RONALD G. BECK... .. 5
FREDERICK TARGETT ... .. 3	JOSEPH T. DYKE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by J. T. DYKE.

This is the 100th peal rung by the 5th and tenor men together for the association.

HITCHAM, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 22, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two 720's each of Reverse Canterbury Pleasure and Single Oxford Bob and three 720's of Plain Bob (methods rung alternately). Tenor 6 cwt.

*R. G. TAYLOR (age 13) ... Treble	*JOHN E. TAYLOR (age 13)... 4
*GORDON W. LIMMER... .. 2	†GEORGE H. LIMMER... .. 5
*EDWARD T. BARRETT ... .. 3	GEORGE GILBERT ... .. Tenor

Conducted by GEO. GILBERT.

\* First peal of Minor. † First peal of Minor 'inside' in more than one method. Rung for the wedding of Miss Frances Berry (eldest daughter of Mr. George Berry, captain of Hitcham band). All except ringer of 3rd are members of the St. Peter's Society, Burnham.

HORSMONDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 22, 1934, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Church of St. Margaret,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different 720's. Tenor 20 cwt.

REGINALD E. LAMBERT ... Treble	†EDWIN H. LEWIS ... .. 4
A. WINGFIELD DURHAM ... 2	*STAFFORD H. GREEN ... .. 5
*HERBERT MARKWELL ... 3	ROBERT T. LAMBERT ... Tenor

Conducted by A. W. DURHAM.

\* First peal on six bells. † First peal of Cambridge Minor. First in method as conductor.

DENBY, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 22, 1934, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary-the-Virgin,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two extents each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

PERCY WESTON ... .. Treble	ARTHUR ELLIOTT ... .. 4
WILLIAM THORNLEY, SEN. ... 2	†WILLIAM THORNLEY, JUN. ... 5
*WILLIAM P. STIRLAND ... 3	ROGER D. ST. J. SMITH ... Tenor

Conducted by R. D. ST. J. SMITH.

\* First peal of Minor. † First peal of Minor 'inside.' Rung as a welcome to the Rev. J. C. T. Taggart on his appointment as Vicar of Denby.

CUMNOR, BERKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 22, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 20 six-scores and 11 240's of Pitman's. Tenor 16 cwt. (approx.).

*GEORGE CLACK ... .. Treble	FREDK. MESSENGER, SEN. ... 4
JONATHAN HONEY ... .. 2	†CHARLES BETTERIDGE ... .. 5
JOHN NOBES ... .. 3	*FREDK. MESSENGER, JUN. Tenor

Conducted by JOHN NOBES.

\* First peal. † First peal 'inside.' First peal on the bells. Rung to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the wedding of the Vicar (the Rev. H. E. Hall) and Mrs. Hall, who kindly provided refreshments for the ringers after the peal.

WALPOLE ST. ANDREW, NORFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 24, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 each of Double Court, Double Oxford, Single Oxford, St. Clement's, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qr. 18 lb. in F.

EDWARD BARKER ... .. Treble	FRED WIGMORE ... .. 4
ALFRED BACON ... .. 2	CLAUDE COUSINS... .. 5
*WALLACE COUSINS ... .. 3	TONY PRICE ... .. Tenor

Conducted by TONY PRICE.

\* First peal in seven methods 'inside.' Quickest peal on the bells.

WICKHAM ST. PAUL'S, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 24, 1934, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 10 six-scores each of New Doubles, St. Simon and Grandsire and 12 of Plain Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

*REGINALD RIPPINGALE ... Treble	GEORGE PANNELL ... .. 3
†CHARLES WEAVERS ... .. 2	†GORDON WARREN ... .. 4
THOMAS BIRD ... .. Tenor	

Conducted by THOMAS BIRD.

\* First peal of Doubles. † First peal in four methods.

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**HANDBELL PEALS.**

GREAT SHELFORD, CAMBS.  
THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

*On Friday, December 21, 1934, in Two Hours and Eight Minutes,*

**A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor size 15 in C.

C. W. WOOLLEY (Selwyn) ... 1-2 | W. H. J. HOOTON (Queens') 5-6  
J. B. WOOLLEY (Jesus) ... 3-4 | REV. B. F. SHEPPARD (Trin.) 7-8

Composed by Sir A. P. HEYWOOD (Trinity).

Conducted by W. H. J. HOOTON.

GREAT SHELFORD, CAMBS.  
THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.

*On Monday, December 24, 1934, in One Hour and Fifty-Seven Minutes,*

AT HARBLEDDOWN,

**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 6088 CHANGES;**

Tenor size 15 in C.

J. B. WOOLLEY (Jesus) ... 1-2 | W. H. J. HOOTON (Queens') 5-6  
C. W. WOOLLEY (Selwyn) .. 3-4 | REV. B. F. SHEPPARD (Trin.) 7-8

Composed by W. HARRISON. Conducted by W. H. J. HOOTON.

GRAYFORD, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

*On Friday, December 28, 1934, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,*

IN THE BELFRY OF ST. PAULINUS' CHURCH,

**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5058 CHANGES;**

\*JOHN A. C. ABSON ... 1-2 | THOMAS GROOMBRIDGE, JUN. 5-6  
EDWIN A. BARNETT ... 3-4 | \*GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ... 7-8

Composed by C. H. MARTIN. Conducted by T. GROOMBRIDGE, JUN.

Umpire—E. Barnett.

\* First peal 'in hand.'

BUSHEY, HERTS.—On December 9th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: W. Seeley 1, J. Allen 2, H. Hodgetts 3, J. B. Woolley 4, F. A. Smith 5, P. Parslow 6, C. W. Woolley (conductor) 7, W. Cross 8. Arranged for the ringer of the 4th on leave from the Dutch East Indies.

**SPLICING AND ITS ORIGIN.**

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—I have read Mr. Trollope's 'Notes by the Way' in this week's 'Ringing World' with mixed feelings. Please allow me to fill a few gaps. I certainly intended to ring four quarters at one time, and wrote the Rev. C. D. P. Davics for an opinion of the Central Council. He replied expressing strong disfavour unless spliced in one complete whole. I then wrote to Mr. J. W. Parker, who assured me that the four quarters could not be spliced as such.

Mr. W. Ayre, who was in close touch with our district, went home on holiday, and, meeting the Rev. H. Law James at Surfleet, told him of the position. This inspired Mr. James to investigate the matter, and he produced his first composition, now so well known. This was sent to Mr. Ayre, who handed it over to me. We did not have a good enough band at that time for this, and after a while Mr. James let Mr. Pulling have it, as he naturally desired it rung. An arrangement was made to ring the four quarters at Bushey on March 12th, 1927, but by that time Mr. Ayre had written to me that a spliced composition had been invented. We never started for the quarters; a peal of London was substituted, which failed after 40 minutes. As a method of splicing had been found, to ring four plain quarters would have been useless and obsolete.

I can assure Mr. Trollope that if no system of splicing had been discovered, the four quarters would certainly have been rung. The Exercise could then have decided afterwards what its opinion was about it. To say that one person's opinion, however eminent, would have deterred me makes me laugh.

In conclusion, when Mr. Trollope says the tenor is the only bell worth ringing in Stedman he is talking through his hat (as he well knows). If every other method was abolished, Stedman by its infinite variety would still satisfy, and do as it does now, produce the most pleasing music on church bells. MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT.

Bushey, Herts.

**WHY THE TENOR?**

*To the Editor.*

Sir,—Mr. Trollope, in his 'Notes by the Way' last week, states, 'I was allowed to ring the tenor, which, of course, is the only bell worth ringing to that method.' Will he kindly explain what he infers by those two words. The Exercise is very easy going and does not worry much about criticism of method names, etc., but it certainly will not stand a dictator in regard to our individual likes of music and methods. In these days it is about the only one free thing we have left in ringing. A. H. PULLING.

Guildford.

**John Taylor & Co.**

LOUGHBOROUGH.

.....

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## BELFRY GOSSIP.

The Society of Royal Cumberland Youths will hold their annual meeting at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields on Saturday, February 9th.

Mr. S. H. Green, by a peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor at Horsmondan, Kent, on December 22nd, has rung peals of Cambridge from Minor to Maximus.

The Cadena Cafe, where the Bristol United Ringing Guild are holding their annual dinner on January 19th, is in the same block of buildings as the Grand Hotel.

Mr. R. G. Cartmel, B.Sc., of the School of Economics and Political Science, London University and Ridley Hall, Cambridge, the youngest son of Mr. G. W. Cartmel, of St. Albans, was recently ordained a deacon at Southwark Cathedral. He has been licensed to Christ Church, Purley, Surrey.

The peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor at Loughborough Foundry on December 19th in one hour fifty minutes is the quickest tower-bell peal ever rung. The previous quickest was Bob Minor on the same bells in 1927, which was in one hour fifty-four minutes. The conductor of both peals was Mr. Ernest Morris, of Leicester.

The price at which the Ringers' Handbook, by E. S. and M. Powell, is published does not permit of allowing trade discounts. There has recently been a practice of applying for copies through trade circles. If this habit is continued the only alternative will be to increase the price, a step the authors are loath to take. In future the book will be available solely from the Rev. E. S. Powell, Staverton Vicarage, near Daventry, post free 2s. 9d.

In the handbell peal at Crayford, the ringers of 1-2 and 7-8 are only 16 and 15 years old respectively. It is just a year ago that they learnt to handle a bell, and in this short period J. A. O. Abson has rung four peals of Grandsire and Plain Bob, and G. V. Murphy nine peals, from Cambridge Surprise to Grandsire Triples. The ringer of 3-4 is only 16, so that this peal is the youngest handbell peal yet rung for the association, the average age of the band being 21 and 3 months.

The peal of Double Norwich rung at Raunds, Northants, on December 24th, was the first peal in that method rung by an entirely local band since 1911. F. Kirk and F. Stubbs, who were also in the peal, have been regular Sunday service ringers at this church for the past 40 years. It is largely due to them that the present band is in existence. They have, like many more instructors, taught many young men to ring with varying degrees of success, but with years of patience and perseverance they have succeeded in obtaining several young men who are 'stickers,' and it is hoped that they will be spared many more years yet to help along ringing at this tower.

## 'IN TOWN TO-NIGHT.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Having just listened to 'In Town To-night' on the wireless, together with other members of the Ipswich St. Mary-le-Tower Society, I must write and congratulate Mr. E. P. Duffield, Master of the A.S.C.Y., also the other four. The pleasure of hearing all their voices was immense, especially to those, like myself, who know them personally. It is a pity the hellinging portion was of so short duration. Like Oliver Twist, we ask for more, so that the general public may become still more interested in our art.

Ipswich.

GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

## CLARIFY THE POSITION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—In my collection there are hundreds of methods, Plain, Treble Bob and Surprise, that have never been named.

There was a sentimental reason for the name of 'Horsham,' but as the late Mr. A. Craven has the prior claim to the method (which was unnamed in his collection), the sentimental reason for calling it 'Horsham' no longer exists, and as 'Ealing' Surprise may the method have the popularity it deserves.

Brighton.

GEORGE BAKER.

P.S.—It is high time that the definition of what is a Surprise method was clarified, seeing that Treble Bob methods exist that are more complicated than any known 'Surprise' method.—G. B.

## FIRST PEAL CONGRATULATIONS.

George Clack.	Cumnor, Berks.
Fredk. Messenger, jun.	Cumnor, Berks.
Eric Peartree.	Northfleet, Kent.
Clifford J. Hosgood.	Exeter, Devon.
H. Charles Cluett.	Sturminster Newton, Dorset.
Charles Barker.	Raunds, Northants.
Sidney Head.	Little Munden, Herts.
Norman Townsend.	Prittlewell, Essex.



# THE AUSTRALIAN TOUR.

## Enthusiastic Reception at Inland Towns.

### A PEAL OF STEDMAN AT BALLAARAT TOWN HALL.

After their Anglo-Australian peal of Grandsire Cinques at Melbourne Cathedral on Armistice Day, the English ringers touring Australia visited Bendigo and Ballaarat. At the latter place they rang a peal of Stedman Triples on the bells at the Town Hall.

Melbourne.  
November 17th, 1934.

I referred briefly in my last letter to a visit which was paid to Geelong. From reports which had been received of hurried attempts to make the bells ringable, it was hoped they would be found in reasonably good condition, but it was discovered that all the attentions of the local 'bellhanger' had been of little use. The bells, with tenor of 13 cwt. 3 qr. 17 lb., were cast by Mears and Stainbank in 1867, and the last time they were rung was on New Year's Eve, 1883! They are in a light two-tier frame, and their condition is such that nothing but expert rehangings is likely to make them passably ringable.

On a first visit to the tower the most that was possible was a course of Kent Treble Bob Minor on the back six. This was a great disappointment to many members of the public, who had assembled outside the church to listen to the bells. Later a course of Bob Major was rung, but further attempts were abandoned until a survey was possible next morning. It was then found that the bearings were dry and even rusty; the frame much too light for its job and movement in the tower itself considerable. The ropes went down at all sorts of angles, some of them through big iron screw eyes, against which they were rubbing. Castor oil supplied enough lubricant to enable two touches of Stedman Triples to be rung, but most good, it is hoped, was done in the subsequent talk with the architect. Some locally made ropes had been provided, but these were totally unsuitable. It was as much as one could do to reach round the sallies with both hands stretch. These are going back to the makers and a new set is to be obtained from England. But for our emergency set, which were brought into use, ringing at Geelong, such even as it was, would have been out of the question. But if the bells were a disappointment, the hospitality was once more characteristic of Australian kindness.

#### WELCOME HOME TO-DAY.

A stop-press message from Mr. J. S. Goldsmith indicates that he will probably disembark at Plymouth to-day (Friday) from the S.S. 'Bendigo.'

Returning to Melbourne on Saturday night (November 10th), the party were the guests at dinner of the Cathedral Society, Mr. J. L. Murray, the captain, presiding. After the toast of 'The King' had been honoured, Mr. Savage proposed 'The Visitors,' to which Mr. Fussell and the Rev. E. B. James responded. Touches on handbells, recitations, community singing, etc., made a pleasant evening pass all too quickly.

The next day came the great central event of the tour. The ringing for the Armistice commemoration and the dedication of the Shrine of Remembrance, followed by the Anglo-Australian peal of Grandsire Cinques, concerning which a report has already been published.

On Monday, November 12th, we set out on a circular tour to Bendigo and Ballaarat, two cities of romantic interest which sprang into existence in the gold rush of 80 years ago. We travelled the 101 miles to Bendigo by train and visited the city at the invitation of the Rev. Dr. Griffiths, the Rector of St. Paul's Church. There are no ringable bells at Bendigo, but there is a band of ringers who chime the octave for the services, Mr. Cambridge being the director of this phase of the church work, having succeeded his father, who occupied the office for many years before him. Associated with the church are the handbell ringers, of whom Bendigo is proud. Under Dr. Bush a party of eight are highly proficient in tune ringing on a set of over a hundred handbells, and we had proof of their accomplishments during our stay.

We were warmly received at the railway station by Dr. Griffiths and those ladies and gentlemen who were to act as our hosts and hostesses, and in the afternoon we had our first glimpse of the Duke of Gloucester. We had been close upon his heels from the time we reached Colombo; we were in Melbourne on Armistice Day when he dedicated the Shrine, but our duties kept us at the Cathedral and we had no opportunity of seeing His Royal Highness. At Bendigo,

however, where the town was en fête, we were able to join the loyal and enthusiastic crowds in giving a welcome to the royal Prince.

After his departure, the Mayor and Mayoress kindly received us at the Town Hall, and, in addition to a speech by His Worship, other members of the Town Council extended a welcome in words of cordial greeting. Mr. Fussell acknowledged the welcome given to us and took the opportunity of urging that as soon as opportunity occurred the church bells should be hung for ringing.

These bells are in a tall brick tower, and, when any rehangings takes place, could, with advantage, be brought about 20ft. lower.

During the afternoon most of the party had the opportunity of visiting the gold mines in the district, work having been restarted in three or four of them during the last few years, and some of them, despite an apparently low yield, are said to be paying their way on account of the present high price of the precious metal.

A visit to one of the many fruit farms in the district was also highly interesting, but a living is not won from this industry without great labour, and there is always, as in England, the additional attendant risks of loss from weather and pests. But a well-kept fruit farm is a joy to the eye, and it was gratifying to see that this season's crop promises to be a big one.

The chief event of our visit to Bendigo was a concert in the evening, at which the Bendigo Handbell Ringers performed, and we were put up to demonstrate change ringing. The work of the Bendigo handbell band was spectacular, especially at the big end, where bells a foot across were operated. The audience, to whom it was by no means new, thoroughly revelled in it, and yet when Bill Fussell and George Martin rang them a few tunes 'four-in-hand,' they saw something which made them open their eyes wide, and they metaphorically brought down the house. The Rev. E. B. James gave a short talk on change ringing, and two illustrations were given—one a course of Grandsire Caters and the other a course of Bob Major. The audience was quite interested in this feature of the programme, although they could hardly be expected to understand it. There were other items in the programme, including songs, violin, flute and piano solos.

Afterwards the visiting ringers and their hosts and hostesses were entertained to supper, when various toasts were honoured, speeches being made by, among others, Dr. Griffiths, the Dean of Bendigo, Dr. Bush, Mr. Cambridge, Mr. W. H. Fussell and Mr. J. S. Goldsmith. The informal gathering was a very pleasant one, but owing to the late hour, could not be unduly protracted, for the visitors had to leave next morning at half-past seven on a 70 miles' motor-coach run to Ballaarat.

The visit to this city was among the most eagerly anticipated of all our excursions, the promise of a peal attempt on the bells of the Town Hall adding to the interest. Eighty years ago Ballaarat was a sheep run. Came the discovery of gold, and within twelve months it had a population of one hundred thousand people, mostly living under canvas and under conditions of great privation and hardship. Very quickly, however, it was reduced to an orderly community, and while the gold lasted it was a thriving centre of activity. But gold mining is finished in Ballaarat, unless some new discovery is made. The city, however, has not decayed. Its inhabitants quickly adapted themselves to new conditions, and now it is the marketing and manufacturing centre of a big area; with prosperous looking streets of shops and its commercial future based upon a less romantic but more substantial foundation.

The Mayor gave us these facts when offering us a civic reception at the Town Hall, and we were afterwards able to see for ourselves that Ballaarat is no mean city. The Mayor said that in receiving visitors from the Old Country they felt they were receiving a band of brothers. Ballaarat was favoured by having a band of voluntary bellringers, whose services were forthcoming on various occasions, grave and gay, and the announcement that there would be a visit by English bellringers was received with great interest. He added that in addition to the ringing bells in the Town Hall they had had a mechanically played carillon, which, however, had fallen into disrepair and was not now used.

Mr. W. Holden, on behalf of the bellringers of Ballaarat, welcomed the visitors, and Mr. Harold Maddern, hon. secretary of the Bellringers' Club, added to the cordial greetings. The visit, he said, had been looked forward to for three or four months, and he hoped the English ringers would take away with them happy memories of Ballaarat. The bells in the Town Hall tower had been placed at their disposal by the Council, through the Mayor, and he hoped the visitors would be successful in ringing a peal on them.

Mr. Fussell, in responding, said while the visitors desired to see something of Australia and its wonderful progress, their main object was to see something of Australian bells and shake hands with Australian bellringers. The Mayor had mentioned that the Ballaarat carillon was no longer used. The English bellringers would not regret it. They hoped to do something to aid in inducing young Australia to take up the fascinating art of campanology.—Mr. J. S. Goldsmith was also called upon to acknowledge the greeting, and expressed the thanks of the party, not only for the reception given them, but also for the facilities offered by the Town Council for ringing and the arrangements made by the Ballaarat ringers for their entertainment and pleasure. They had heard of Ballaarat bells before they came away from England, he said, and had for months been looking forward to personal experience of them.

The afternoon was devoted to a peal attempt at the Town Hall, and a very good toned ring of bells was found. They were cast by Mcears and Stainbank and were first rung at 6 a.m. on Christmas

However, all's well that ends well, and the conclusion was greeted with rounds of applause. The conductor also received the congratulations of the band, not only upon his pluck and endurance, but also upon having rung his 400th peal. It was naturally a great satisfaction to have scored the first peal of Stedman Triples outside the British Isles, and the Mayor, who was the first to congratulate us, declared that the performance should be suitably recorded on a tablet in the ringing room.

\* \* \*

While in Ballaarat we were told that between thirty and forty years ago a 'peal' was rung on the bells, but careful inquiry and search have failed to reveal any further evidence of it, and it seems more than likely that this peal of Stedman is the first peal at Ballaarat Town Hall.

It was not the first peal in Ballaarat, for on February 1st, 1897, a peal of Minor in seven methods was rung for the first—and only—



BALLAARAT TOWN HALL,  
where the first peal of Stedman Triples outside the British Isles was rung by the Australian tourists.

Day, 1871. They are known as the 'Alfred' bells, after the former Duke of Edinburgh, and the tenor is 22 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb. in E flat. The ringing chamber, opening from a wide corridor, is a well-appointed apartment, with carpeted floor, and equipped with cloth-covered table and ample provision in chairs. And these last were fully occupied by spectators when we gathered for the peal attempt. We anticipated it would only be for the preliminary operations, but we quickly learned that the spectators had come intent to see the peal through.

It would have been an act of ingratitude to refuse them; therefore, we compromised. Three of the local ringers stayed in the ringing room, the rest were accommodated with chairs in the corridor, from which vantage point they were able to watch our operations through the open door. Several, including one elderly lady, stayed throughout the afternoon, and dozens of others came and went throughout the progress of the ringing.

At first we thought of ringing Double Norwich Major, but abandoned this for Stedman Triples, and, as things turned out, it was well we did, for the longer we rang the worse the seventh went, and George Martin had the task of his life. In the last hour he had a real grueling, but stuck to it like a real Briton, and had the satisfaction of calling 'This is all' after 3 hours 17 minutes. George was a hero, and, had the place and circumstances been different, everyone would have been willing, for his sake, to 'pack up' long before the end. The rest of the bells went well enough, and as the seventh and tenor are on ball bearings and the bell got worse as ringing proceeded, we could only come to the conclusion that the seventh bell frame must gradually have loosened.

time in Australia, at St. Peter's Church, where there are six White-chapel bells hung for ringing, and two (added as an afterthought) in a frame too small to enable them to swing. The tenor of this peal has on the waist, 'To the honour and glory of God, this peal of bells was presented by James Fry, M.D., B.C., to St. Peter's Church, Ballaarat, 1892.' A tablet on the tower wall, for all to see, records the peal of Minor, consisting of Oxford Treble Bob, Oxford Delight, Violet, Bob Minor, New London Pleasure, Oxford Bob and Kent Treble Bob, and rung by J. Thomsett, C. Fleay, W. Struck, J. Patterson, H. Sandberg and T. Biddle (conductor).

We should have tried the bells at St. Peter's, but there were no ropes. The Town Hall bells, we knew, were equipped with a nearly new set, and, therefore, we had not brought our spare ropes. In any case, it would hardly have been worth while spending time to put them on and take them off again for a few minutes' ringing.

That night we were the guests at theatre and supper of the Ballaarat Bellringers' Society, of which we had, earlier, been elected hon. members. At the supper gathering the toast of 'The Visitors' was proposed by the captain (Mr. Colley), and responded to by Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, who handed to the hon. secretary some of the Central Council publications, with the hope that they would study them and in course of time be able to ring a peal themselves. He wished them every success in the future.

The gift was acknowledged by Mr. Maddern.

There is a band of ten ringers at the Town Hall, who not only ring on all suitable public occasions, but actually ring regularly every Sunday morning. They can only ring call changes at the moment, but our performance showed them the possibilities of change

ringing which they had never quite realised before, and we left them fired with a determination to make further study of the art.

Wednesday was spent in visits to the Botanical Gardens and Trout 'Hatchery,' while for those interested in agriculture there was also free admission to the annual show, which coincided with our visit. Rupert is an authority on these matters, and this was not the first show he had been to in Australia. In these matters he is convinced the Old Country can still show the Commonwealth a thing or two, from which reflection we can take some comfort.

Our visit to Ballarat was not only successful, but highly enjoyable, and for this we have to thank the Bellingers' Society, and particularly Mr. Maddern, who was largely responsible for the arrangements and devoted much time to us during our visit.

When we again reached Melbourne, late on the evening of the 14th, it was to a sad 'homecoming.' Our English mail was brought to the railway station by Mr. Savage, and Mrs. Richardson learned that on October 5th she had been bereaved by the death of her mother, Mrs. Parkin, of Woodston, near Peterborough. This news naturally cast a gloom over the party, and Mrs. Richardson had the deep sympathy of us all.

On the following evening we were the guests of the Royal Society of St. George, a branch of the English organisation, which is carried on in Melbourne to bring together Englishmen, irrespective of creed or party, and to encourage and strengthen the spirit of patriotism throughout the world. A gathering of about a hundred assembled at the Oriental Hotel to meet us, and, after introductions, the evening was spent in social intercourse, songs, a recitation by the Rev. E. B. James, and courses and tunes on the handbells. Of course, there were complimentary speeches, and before we parted light refreshments were served.

Friday had been intended solely for repacking and generally clearing up; but our plans had to be modified. That morning was the closing celebration of Holy Communion in the Cathedral in connection with a great Australian Church Congress which was in progress. We were asked to ring for this service, and it was a request we could not refuse.

However, the packing was duly completed, and two or three of our party managed to put in an hour or two at the Woodfull-Ponsford testimonial cricket match, which opened on the famous Melbourne ground, the teams being (except for Bradman) that which won the Ashes and the rest of Australia.

We took our formal farewell of our Melbourne friends in the evening at a joint practice at the Cathedral. The ringing was of little moment, but our association with the Melbourne Society was cemented and it was with many regrets, handshakes and good wishes that we parted from a warmhearted company, who had made us greatly welcome and had done everything in their power to promote our pleasure. We hope, in return, we have given them some encouragement, and we believe the Anglo-Australian peal of Grand sire Cinques will be an inspiration to them to go on and eventually accomplish great things on their own account. The evening finished with supper with Mr. and Mrs. A. A. Savage, whose home has been a veritable 'home from home' for us all. The door was always open, and we appreciated more than words can tell the unstinting hospitality extended to us at all times. Some of us will be seeing Melbourne and the Melbourne ringers again on our return, but for the remainder it was 'Good-bye' to many good friends, whose acquaintance we shall always remember and cherish.

Among those who came to see us off when we sailed on the S.S. 'Esperance Bay' for Sydney on Saturday, November 17th, were Mr. and Mrs. Savage, Mr. and Mrs. Murray and Mr. J. Nolan. We are spending a week at Sydney and then we begin the long voyage home; Messrs. Fussell, Martin, Harcourt, Maude and Linter via New Zealand, where they will visit Auckland and Christchurch; the rest of us by the route we came out. Those who travel by Suez are due in England on January 5th; the others on January 23rd.

#### DEATH OF MR. FRANCIS HENRY BANKS.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Francis Henry Banks, the aged towerkeeper at St. Martin's Church, Birmingham, in tragic circumstances. After receiving his usual Christmas greeting in the belfry on Christmas morning, he descended the steps and a few minutes later was found lying about twelve steps from the bottom. He was taken to hospital, but passed away the same evening, having sustained a fractured skull. He had been towerkeeper for over 30 years and was in his 87th year.

**FARNHAM, SURREY.**—At St. Andrew's Church on December 30th for evening service, in honour of the first occasion of the Bishop of Guildford preaching at the church since his enthronement, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes): F. Hammett 1, G. Upshall 2, C. Wells 3, S. Meadows 4, H. Kemp 5, F. Kemp 6, R. Hasted (conductor) 7, T. Upshall 8. At the conclusion of the ringing a message was sent to the tower by the Bishop saying he would like to meet the ringers after the service. In the vestry he was introduced to and shook hands with each of them, and thanked them for ringing, a compliment he very much appreciated.

#### DEATH OF MR. E. P. DEBENHAM. PRESIDENT OF THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION A CHRISTIAN LEADER IN MANY WALKS OF LIFE.

One of the outstanding personalities in change ringing was Mr. Edward Percy Debenham, president of the Hertfordshire County Association. His death on December 18th at his home, Weyvercourt, Avenue Road, St. Albans, at the age of 76 years, is deeply regretted by a wide circle, and his passing is a great loss to the Exercise.

By profession he was a solicitor, being the senior partner of Messrs. Thompson and Debenham, of St. Albans, one of the oldest legal firms in the country. He succeeded his brother, the late Mr. A. H. Debenham, as town clerk of St. Albans in 1909, and upon his retirement in 1921 he was appointed city solicitor, which office he held at the time of his death. Mr. Debenham was a prominent Freemason, and among the offices he held were P.G. Deacon of England, P.G. Soj. (R.A.) of England and P.G. Deacon of Mark Degree.

It was by his long connection with change ringing that Mr. Debenham was known to readers of 'The Ringing World.' At the age of 16 he was identified with the St. Albans Association of Change Ringers, which was formed in 1876, and in 1878 he took over the conductorship of the St. Peter's Society, and spent practically all his spare time in coaching young ringers. He rang his first peal in March, 1878, at St. Matthew's, Belhnal Green, where he also rang his first peals of Stedman Triples and Treble Bob Major. In April, 1883, he took part in the first recorded peal on the St. Albans Abbey bells since the year 1765. He had rung between 70 and 80 peals, including a number on handbells. Within the past month he had been ringing at St. Peter's, St. Albans, and during the year had rung two quarter-peals there.

Mr. Debenham's great service to ringing was his initiative in forming the Hertford County Association in October, 1884, and his sustained interest in the association. On the resignation of the Rev. W. Wigram in 1888 he was elected secretary and treasurer of the association. He resigned from the secretaryship in 1904, when Mr. G. W. Cartmel, who had been acting as his assistant, became secretary, but he retained the office of treasurer to the last. In 1907 Mr. Debenham served as president, and was again elected to that office in 1915. No happier choice could possibly have been made than his selection once more to occupy the presidential chair during this jubilee of the association. That memorable gathering on November 3rd, over which Mr. Debenham presided, will long be remembered by those present, and when the peal at St. Albans Abbey is augmented to twelve, many will recall that dream of the late president becoming a reality. The Ancient Society of College Youths have lost by the passing of Mr. Debenham a revered member.

The funeral service was at St. Peter's Church, with which Mr. Debenham had had a life-long connection. It was at this church he was christened and where since 1896 he had served faithfully as people's warden. An impressive feature of the service was the ringing, on handbells, of a touch of Grand sire Triples by members of the Hertford County Association—Messrs. G. W. Cartmel, W. H. L. Buckingham, H. E. C. Goodenough and W. Ayre. The interment was at St. Albans Cemetery. Later in the day the bells were rung muffled in various churches in the area of the association in memory of a Christian leader in many walks of life.

#### AN APPRECIATION.

The Hertford County Association of Change Ringers, the City of St. Albans and the whole diocese are the poorer in the passing away of Mr. Debenham. There was a large and representative attendance at the funeral service at St. Peter's Church on Thursday, December 20th, when all classes of people came together to pay a last tribute to the memory of a courteous, kindhearted, benevolent, true Christian gentleman. Mr. Debenham, in the course of a long life (he was born November 28th, 1858, at Ivy House, St. Albans) had identified himself with most public bodies, municipal, educational, diocesan, Masonic, yet he found time to take a lasting interest in change ringing. At the time of his death he was people's warden at St. Peter's Church, a post he had held since Easter, 1896.

His love for his church was expressed in so many ways, in matured judgment, his sympathy with the bereaved of all classes, or in acts of generosity. It was his second 'home,' and it was a proverbial saying that if you wished to find him on a Sunday he could be found in church or belfry. His life can be summed up in one word—service—and the power for consecrated service came the way he sought it, by prayer, for he was a man of prayer. Whilst mourning his loss we thank God for his life and influence. So recently he presided so capably as chairman at our jubilee celebrations, and it was a pleasure for all to see him inspired with new strength for the occasion, and our hearts rejoiced. But his 'coming home course' was near, unknown to us, but known to the Heavenly Conductor. He has finished his course, and has joined that great host who worship the Lamb, where 'they shall hunger no more, neither thirst any more . . . for the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them.'

By the kindness of the Vicar of St. Peter's, four representatives of the Hertford Association rang a course of Grand sire Triples on handbells before the close of service, the music of which was a revelation to many; also at all the churches in the city half-muffled ringing took place. The sympathy of all members is extended to Mr. George Debenham, Mr. Gilbert Debenham and other members of the family.

G. W. CARTMEL.

**OSSETT'S PEAL OF TEN.****'TAYLOR'S GLORY,' MURMURS VETERAN RINGER.**

Yorkshire, a county famed for many beautiful peals, has been enriched by the rededication of a new peal of ten at Ossett Parish Church by the Lord Bishop of Wakefield on December 22nd. The original peal of eight, with a tenor 26½ cwt., was installed in the tower and dedicated in 1865 as the gift of Mr. Benjamin Ingham, of Palermo, and Mrs. Joshua Whitaker, of Ossett. The cost of recasting and the addition of two treble bells has been £830. Dismantling and re-erecting the clock shafts and redistributing the hammers of the chime has involved another £30. The bulk of the money was raised by the 1934 bazaar, but it is noteworthy that the ringers raised £66 themselves and returned £20 due to them. The cost of the work was reduced by £170 by the generosity of Mr. E. Denison Taylor, of Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., who not only undertook the recasting at half the actual cost, but also gave a generous donation.

The service of dedication was one of great beauty. The Bishop delivered a charge to the local ringers, who were assembled on the chancel steps, impressing upon them that ringing was really a part of the church service and that ringing was really for the glory of God. Handing the key of the belfry to the leader of the ringers, the Bishop said: On behalf of the Vicar, wardens and Council, I commit this key into your keeping as leader of the ringers of this church. Ring these bells with reverence and faithfulness, remembering always that it is the service of God in which you work.

The Bishop's address was particularly appropriate. He explained what a peal of bells really meant to the English Church, the difference between a peal of bells and the carillons on the Continent. Change ringing was an art only practised among British people. Ringers, he reminded the congregation, were active participants in the actual service instead of being just bell-pullers away up in the tower.

At the conclusion of the dedication ceremony the bells were rung in rounds, and then it was revealed to all present the beauty of a modern peal.

After the service the local ringers with a little help rang a course of Grandsire Caters, a course of Stedman Caters and the usual three leads of Treble Ten.

Following tea, the bells were kept going until 9 p.m. in various methods, and all ringers present were satisfied with the go and the tone of the peal. 'I was listening outside in the darkness,' writes our correspondent. 'I could not see who it was or distinguish them by their voices, but three old ringers of over 40 years' experience just murmured, "This is really Taylor's glory." The remarkable thing is this. I had labelled the bells that previously, but never uttered those words. It is really a magnificent peal of ten without blemish.'

Ringers were present from Shipley, Armley, Leeds Parish Church, Burley, Holbeck, Drighlington, Batley, Worthy (near Sheffield), Earlsheaton, Horbury, Wakefield, Mirfield and other towers, and they hope to entertain many more on Ringers' Day, January 5th.

'THE SECRETARY.'

**AUGMENTATION OF ST. ALBANS ABBEY CHURCH BELLS**

To celebrate the jubilee of the Hertford County Association and the St. Albans Cathedral Society, the Dean of St. Albans has issued an appeal for funds to increase the present ring by adding four lighter bells, to make a ring of twelve.

At a meeting of the committee of the Hertford County Association held on December 15th at St. Albans, the object was approved, and it was suggested that the ambition should be to raise sufficient money to provide one bell. The treble bell has already been given by Dr. and Mrs. Madge, of St. Albans, in memory of a son recently deceased.

Subscriptions may be sent to the district hon. secretaries of the association, or to Mr. G. W. Cartmel, hon. secretary, at Duffield, Russell Avenue, St. Albans.

**AN INTERESTING SUFFOLK RESTORATION.**

One of the oldest complete rings of five in Suffolk is in St. Laurence's Church, Ipswich, all the bells being of pre-Reformation date. In 1882 the tower of some 98ft. was restored and a new oak frame put in and some new fittings added. Owing to lack of interest and close proximity of a twelve-bell tower, these bells have rarely been rung, but have been chimed. This caused them by 1919 to become entirely unringable.

On a change of conditions through the amalgamation of parishes, the bells have just been overhauled with new gudgeons and bearings by Mr. Alfred Howell, of Ipswich, and they were rung on Christmas morning by members of the Suffolk Guild for the first time since 1919. After service the bells were kept going to Stedman, Grandsire and Plain Doubles. The weight of the tenor is approximately 12 cwt. and are of good tone. The framework was also put in by the same firm.

Mr. A. Howell has also just rehung the heavy peal of eight at Sittingbourne, Kent, and the six at Milton Regis; also the ring of six at Arkesden, Essex. They also have in hand the rehanging of Little Waltham, Essex, bells.

**RINGERS' SCREEN AT LOWESTOFT.**

A ringers' screen was dedicated at St. Margaret's, Lowestoft, by the Rector, Canon H. J. Enraght, M.A. (vice-president of the Norwich Diocesan Association), assisted by the Rev. G. W. Holmes (curate), on December 16th, to the memory of Mr. Thomas Sergeant, who was instrumental in getting the peal of eight bells for the church. The screen was the gift of Mrs. Sergeant, who was present with Mr. J. Woodger (secretary of the St. Margaret's Society) and Mrs. Woodger.

Previous to the dedication the eight senior ringers rang two touches of Bob Major, viz.: W. Baldry 1, E. Newsome 2, E. Jermy 3, F. Baldry 4, R. T. Woodley 5, A. Whitting 6, R. Coates 7, A. E. Coleman (conductor) 8.

It was considered desirable that the screen should be produced locally, thus reverting to the mediæval practice whereby the decoration of churches was almost invariably the work of local craftsmen, and the work was carried out by Messrs. J. Beamish and Reeve to the design of Mr. Foster Nash.

The screen in design and proportion blends with the Early English arch, which looks comparatively so small at the end of the large perpendicular nave. Had space in the tower permitted, it was intended to locate the screen either midway in the arch or immediately to the west of it, and so not obscure the stonework. These positions would have made the space insufficient for the ringers and were impracticable. The screen is oak in the fourteenth century style. The length of the screen is approximately 10ft. and 10ft. 6in. high. To a height of 4ft. it is divided into eight panels, the four centre panels for two doors and two panels either sides. There are four moulded uprights. The top frieze carved panel runs the whole length of the screen, the whole being surmounted by a crest of alternate M's and Fleur-de-llys. The inscription, carved on the middle rails, reads, viz.: 'In memory of Thomas Sergeant, given by his widow, Christmas, 1934.'

The service was well attended, and all present greatly admired the addition to this fine old church.

R. T. W.

**ALL COMMUNICATIONS to 'The Ringing World,' including News as well as Notices of Meetings, should now be addressed to The Editor, 'The Ringing World,' Woking, Surrey.**

**LATE NOTICES.**

**GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—South Forest Branch.—Annual meeting will be held at Lydney on Saturday, January 12th. Bells (8) open 3.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m., meeting to follow in Church Room. Any ringers who require tea must let me know by Wednesday, January 9th.—Oliver Thomas, Branch Hon. Sec., 44, Newerne Street, Lydney, Glos.

**YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—The annual general meeting will be held at Doncaster on Saturday, January 26th. The bells (8), tenor 30 cwt., will be available from 2 till 4.25 p.m., and again after the meeting till 9 p.m. Service at 4.30, when the address will be given by the Rev. Canon R. Brook, Vicar of Doncaster. Tea, 1/3, in the Memorial Hall, near the Church, at 5.15 p.m., and all who intend to be present should notify Mr. G. Halksworth, 30, Auckland Road, Doncaster, by Tuesday, January 22nd. The annual general meeting will be held in the same hall at 6 p.m. There are frequent train and bus services from all directions. The annual report will be available at this meeting.—J. E. Cawser, Hon. Gen. Sec., Grange Villas, Ravenfield Common, near Rotherham.

**GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Farnham District.—The district annual meeting will be held at Farnham on Saturday, January 26th. Further particulars later.—C. W. Denyer, Dis. Sec.

**NOTICES.**

**SILKSTONE, YORKSHIRE.** — The bells will be rededicated by the Bishop of Wakefield on Saturday, Jan. 5th, at 3 p.m. The ring of six has been restored by John Taylor and Co., Loughborough.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Church Kirk on Saturday, Jan. 5th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members cordially invited. Reports to hand. Subscriptions due. — F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

**ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM** (Established 1755).—The annual meeting will be held at St. Martin's Hotel, St. Martin's Lane, on Saturday, Jan. 5th. Ringing at St. Martin's Church from 5 to 6 p.m. Business meeting 6.15 prompt.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham, 11.

**SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—The next meeting will be held at Creswell (eight bells) on Saturday, January 5th. For tea, please notify Mr. L. W. Bacan, Thanet House, Elmlton Road, Creswell, without fail.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 221, Hanover Street, Sheffield, 3.

**LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Eastern Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Swineshead on Saturday, Jan. 5th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea at Griffin Hotel 5 p.m. Business meeting afterwards.—W. E. Clarke, Park House, Norfolk Street, Boston, Lincs.

**OSSETT, YORKS.**—New ring of 10 by Taylor & Co., of Loughborough. Ringers' day, Saturday, Jan. 5th. All welcome.

**WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Winchester District.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Maurice Hall, Winchester, on Saturday, Jan. 5th, at 3 p.m. Tea follows at 4. Service in the Cathedral at 5.15. The Cathedral bells (12) and St. Maurice (6) available at 1.30 p.m. Please let me know if you are coming. — George Noice, Hon. Dis. Sec., 6, Cathedral View, Winchester.

**MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.**—Hinckley District.—The annual meeting will be held at Earl Shilton on Saturday, January 5th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.45, followed by tea (free) and meeting. Subscriptions for 1935 now due.—A. E. Rowley, Hon. Sec., Station Road, Higham-on-the-Hill, Nuneaton.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held on Saturday, January 5th, at Upholland Parish Church. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Meeting 7 p.m. For tea, 1s., please notify Mr. Sherratt, 3, Moss Road, Orrell, near Wigan. —Wm. O. Farrimond, Branch Sec.

**NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**—A meeting will be held at Tunstall, on Saturday, January 5th. Tea will be provided for all who notify Mr. W. Thompson, 29, Furlong Road, Tunstall, Stoke-on-Trent. —C. S. Ryles, Hon. Sec.

**SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.** — Devizes Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. John's, Devizes, on Saturday, January 5th. Bells (8) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Meeting to follow. St. James' (6) and St. Mary's (6) also available. All ringing friends welcome.—W. C. West, Hon. Sec., Melksham.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.** — Biggleswade District.—The annual meeting will be held at Biggleswade on January 5th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome. Let's start 1935 with a good meeting.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

**LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Jan. 6th, New Year Sunday Service Ringing, St. Clement's, Strand, 10 a.m.; Jan. 7th, special quarterly meeting, 8.15 p.m., following a practice at 7 p.m., St. Clement's, Strand; Jan. 21st, practice at 7.30, St. Clement's, Strand; Jan. 29th, practice at 8 p.m., St. Mary's, Lambeth. Will members make a special note of our annual meeting, which will be held on Saturday, Feb. 9th. A Very Happy New Year to all ringers. — Chas. O. Moore, Hon. Gen. Sec., 7, Station Road, Camberwell, S.E.5.

**ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS** (Established 1637).—The subscription of 1s. 8d. which enables members who have not made 20 attendances in the past year to vote on matters of finance is now due. Meetings for practice will be held at St. Andrew's on Jan. 31st, at 8 p.m.; \*St. Paul's Cathedral on the 8th; St. Magnus' on the 10th and 24th; Southwark Cathedral on the 17th; \*St. Mary-le-Bow on the 22nd; at 7.30 p.m. \*Business meeting afterwards.—Wm. T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Ed geley Rd., Clapham, S.W.4.

**LADIES' GUILD AND SURREY ASSOCIATION.**—A joint mid-week meeting will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 9th, at the Parish Church, Mitcham. Bells available 3.30 p.m. Tea at the Parish Hall 5.30 p.m. Notifications for tea to be sent to Mr. H. Tourle, 12, Lind Road, Sutton, not later than Friday, January 4th. All ringers heartily welcome.—Mrs. E. K. Fletcher and D. Cooper, Hon. Secs.

**THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.**—Meeting at Christ Church, West Bromwich, on Saturday, January 12th. Bells (12) from 3. Service at 4.45, with an address by the Rev. F. Jones, Vicar. Tea (1s.) at 5.30. Please reply by January 8th. —H. Knight, 15, Rugby Street, Wolverhampton.

**GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—The fifth annual dinner will be held at the Lion Hotel, Guildford, on Saturday, Jan. 12th, at 6 p.m. Tickets 5s. 6d. each, for which applications (with remittance) should be made to me not later than Jan. 7th. Bells at S. Nicolas' Church available 4 to 5.30.—G. L. Grover, Acting Hon. Sec., Epsom Road, East Clandon, near Guildford, Surrey.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.** — Maidstone District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at West Malling on Saturday, Jan. 12th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. A good attendance hoped for. Those intending to be present please notify Mr. W. A. Sloman, St. Leonards, West Malling.

**ESSEX ASSOCIATION.** — South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Hornchurch on Saturday, Jan. 12th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at King's Head to follow. Will all those intending to be present please notify me by Wednesday, Jan. 9th?—E. J. Butler, Dis. Sec., 313, Mawneys Road, Romford.

**ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Archdeaconry of Ely.—A meeting at Old Chesterton, Cambridge, on Saturday, January 12th. Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea in Church Hall at 5 o'clock, price 6d. each.—K. Willers, Dis. Sec., Sweetbriars, Trumpington, Cambridge.

**BUCKFASTLEIGH, DEVON.**—On Saturday, January 12th, at 3.30 p.m., the Bishop of Exeter will dedicate the new ring of eight bells installed by John Taylor and Co., Loughborough.

**MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.**—South and West District.—The third annual supper and social will be held in the Village Hall, Heston, on Saturday, January 12th, at 6 p.m. Tickets, 3s. 6d. each, can be obtained from association officials until January 5th. Heston and Hounslow (St. Paul's) bells available in the afternoon.—F. W. Goodfellow, Hon. Sec., 108, Pole Hill Road, Hillingdon Heath.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Broughton on Saturday, January 12th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Tea arranged at 1s. each to all who notify Mr. J. Smith, 1, Black Bull Cottages, Broughton, not later than Wednesday, January 9th. Meeting after tea. Please try to make this meeting a success.—J. Charnock, Branch Sec.

**WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Annual district meeting at Southampton on January 12th. Bells (St. Mary's 10 and St. Michael's 8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service in St. Michael's at 4.15. Tea at 5 p.m. Business meeting afterwards. Names for tea by January 10th please.—G. Pullinger, 17, Stoke Park Road, Bishopstoke, Hants.

**HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Ross District.—A Happy New Year to all ringers. The annual meeting of the above district will be held at Ross on Saturday, January 12th. Bells (8) will be available at 3 o'clock. Service 4 o'clock. Tea in Church Hall at 4.45. Business meeting and election of officers will follow. Please notify J. Clark, Chase Road, Ross, Herefordshire.

**BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Bedford District.—The annual meeting of this district will be held at Bedford on Saturday, January 12th. The bells of St. Peter's (6) available from 3 p.m. Tea at 4. Meeting after.—Frank C. Tysoe, Dis. Sec., 10, Grange Road, Bromham, Beds.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Lancaster Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Morecambe on January 12th. Bells at 2 p.m. Tea (1s. 3d.) at 4.30 p.m. to all who notify me by Wednesday, January 9th.—E. Swain, 29, Beecham Street, Morecambe.

**EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.**—A ringing meeting will be held at Cuckfield on Saturday, January 12th. Tower open 3 p.m. Will all attending kindly notify me not later than Wednesday? All ringers welcome.—G. Lambert, Drummond Hay, Moat Road, East Grinstead.

**LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—The quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Pinchbeck on Saturday, January 12th. Bells (8) available from 2 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.15 p.m. Business meeting afterwards. Will those intending to be present kindly let me know by January 7th?—George Ladd, Hon. Sec., Pinchbeck, Spalding.

**BARNSELY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.**—The annual general meeting will be held at Barnsley on Saturday, January 12th. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Meat tea 1s. 6d., plain tea 1s., at 5 p.m. at the Station Restaurant. For tea please notify Mr. L. W. Carbutt, 79, Park Grove, Barnsley, by Thursday, 10th. Business: Auditor's report, election of officers. Subscriptions due. A good attendance hoped for.—A. Panther, Hon. Sec.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Liverpool Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. Nicholas', Liverpool, on Saturday, January 12th. Bells (12) available 3 p.m. Service 5.30 p.m. Tea at Institute 6.15. For tea it is essential to notify Mr. W. Fisher, 90, Old Hall Street, Liverpool, by Wednesday, January 9th. Please make an effort to attend to welcome the new warden, Canon How.—Claude I. Davies, Branch Sec.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rossendale Branch.—A business meeting will be held at Christ Church, Bacup, on Saturday, January 12th, and a good attendance is requested. Tower open 3. Meeting in tower 6.30. Reports are now ready. Subscriptions are due. All are welcome.—J. Porter, Hon. Sec.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Kettering Branch.—The branch annual meeting will be held at Pytchley (5) on Saturday, January 12th, when the report and balance sheet will be presented and officers elected. Usual arrangements. Please notify me if you require tea.—H. Baxter, 256, Windmill Avenue, Kettering.

**LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**—The next meeting will be held at Pudsey on Saturday, January 12th. Usual arrangements.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Leeds 12.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Thrapston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Thrapston (8) on Saturday, January 12th. Service 4.30. Business: Election of officers, report and balance sheet. Those requiring tea must advise me by January 9th.—J. Nickerston, Halford Street, Thrapston.

**ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Archdeaconry of Wisbech.—The next district meeting will be held at Terrington St. John on Saturday, January 12th. Bells (6) available afternoon and evening. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Everybody welcome.—Edward Barker, Dis. Sec., Shouldham, King's Lynn.

**DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Southern District.—The next meeting will be held at Bishop Auckland on Saturday, January 12th. The bells of St. Andrew's (12) are available for ringing from 2 p.m. Tea at 4.30 p.m.—R. Jeff, Dis. Sec., 29, Reid Street, Darlington.

**LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Lincoln District.—Annual meeting at Harnston (eight bells) on Saturday, January 12th. Bells open 2 p.m. Service 4.30 followed by tea and business meeting. Tea only for those who send names by Monday previous to Harold Marcon, Hon. Dis. Sec., 269, Wragby Road, St. Giles, Lincoln.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Ilchester Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Martock on Saturday, January 12th. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. For tea please notify early.—F. Farrant, North Street, Martock.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Todmorden Parish on Saturday afternoon, January 12th. Tower open for ringing at 3 p.m. Meeting in the tower at 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend. Please look up Double Norwich.—H. Hamer, Hon. Sec., 3, Nall Street, Milnrow.

**BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Burnham-on-Sea on Saturday, Jan. 12th. Bells (8) open 2.30. Service (please note) 3 p.m. Tea and busi-

ness meeting 5 p.m. Tower secretaries will greatly assist by notifying secretary how many will be in attendance.—L. G. Tanner, 4, Hopkins Street, Weston-super-Mare.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Canterbury District.—By the kind permission of Rev. F. B. Beavan, a special meeting of the district will be held at Wingham on Saturday, January 19th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.15 p.m. A free tea will be provided at the Red Lion Inn at 4.45 p.m. It is important that all those intending to be present should notify me on or before Thursday, January 17th.—Percy W. Smith, Fair View, Littlebourne, Canterbury.

**KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**—Rochester District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Sittingbourne on Saturday, January 19th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea at Cremers at a charge of 1s. per head. Business meeting afterwards. Please inform me not later than Tuesday, 15th.—Stanley J. T. Shellock, Hon. Sec., 162, Barnsole Road, Gillingham.

**NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**—The annual meeting of the South Norfolk Branch on Saturday, January 19th, at Saxlingham. Bells available from 2.30. Tea at 4.30 for those who let me know by the 16th, followed by business meeting. New Year greetings.—Nolan Golden, Berridge House, 8, Waldemar Avenue, Norwich.

**PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Wellingborough Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Finedon on Saturday, January 19th. The arrangements will be as usual, and owing to the importance of the business, when the report and balance sheet will be presented, and the election of officers takes place, it is hoped that every member will make an effort to attend. Will those who hope to be present please notify Mr. G. Basford, 15, Orchard Road, Finedon, not later than Tuesday, January 15th?—F. Barber, Branch Sec.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at St. James' Church, Accrington, on Saturday, January 19th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members cordially invited. Reports to hand. Subscriptions due.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

**OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**—Sonning Deanery Branch.—Annual meeting at Wokingham on Saturday, January 19th. Service in St. Paul's Church 4 p.m.; preacher, Rev. B. H. B. Attlee, D.D. Tea in Parish Room 4.45, by ticket, members 1s., visitors 1s. 6d. Business meeting to follow. Usual ringing arrangements. Please apply for tea tickets not later than January 15th.—W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec. and Treas., Merrel, California, Wokingham, Berks.

**LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting of the above branch will be held at Manchester Cathedral on Saturday afternoon, January 19th. Tower open for ringing at 5 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend. Subscriptions due. Practice night at Miles Platting, Tuesday, January 8th.—D. Brown, Hon. Sec.

**WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.**—Northern Branch.—A meeting of the above branch will be held at Lye on Saturday, January 19th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service, with address by the Vicar, Rev. W. Smith, at 4.15. Tea will be provided for

those who notify me not later than January 15th of their intention to be present.—W. B. Cartwright, Branch Sec., 81, Quinton Road, Harborne, Birmingham.

**BRISTOL UNITED RINGING GUILD'S** 14th annual dinner will be held at the Cadena Cafe, Wine Street, Bristol, on Saturday, January 19th, at 6 p.m. Among the afternoon arrangements is a visit (limited number) to the Red Lodge, where interesting and historic collections are on view, including properties and charters of the Ancient Society of St. Stephen's Ringers (1620). Tickets for dinner 4s. 6d., from officers, stewards, tower representatives, or from Edgar Guise, Hon. Sec., 46a, Tankard's Close, St. Michael's, Bristol.

**HERTFORD ASSOCIATION.**—Saturday, January 19th, meeting at Watford. Tower open from 3.30 p.m. Tea at 5.30. Cheap tickets by coach or train from all parts.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey. Tel. City 4270.

**SOUTHAMPTON.**—The Bishop of Southampton will re-dedicate the bells at Holy Rood Church on Wednesday, January 23rd, at 8 p.m. The ring of eight has been restored by John Taylor and Co., Loughborough.

**SURREY ASSOCIATION.**—North-Western District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Croydon on Saturday, January 26th. Full details later.—D. Cooper, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Harrison's Rise, Croydon.

#### WANTED.

A SOUND SET of 8 HANDBELLS; state price and particulars to J. Powell, 56a, Newmarch Street, Llanfaes, Brecon, S. Wales.

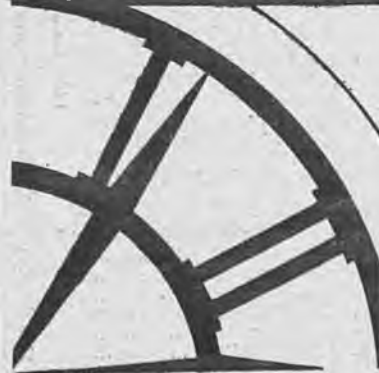
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