THE RINGING WORLD

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THE PERSONNEL OF THE COUNCIL.

A letter in another column to-day makes comment upon the personnel of the Central Council. There are probably a lot of young ringers who think, with Mr. Pat. Cannon, that many of the representatives are not the best that could be found. It is doubtful if any representative body of nearly a hundred and fifty members ever contained exclusively the best men that could be found for the office, but we do not hesitate to say that the Central Council in its last session—the new body has not yet, of course, been elected—comprised a very large proportion of able ringers; many of them the peal ringers and organisers that Mr. Cannon calls for. It is only the inexperience of youth which leads some of the young ringers of to-day to think of the Council as a collection of unpractical nobodies. Here and there may be instances of men with no very vast knowledge of ringing, elected by their associations purely as an honour, but for the most part the members of the Council have been elected by their fellows for their experience and competence. And let it not be forgotten that when these qualifications have not entered into their selection, it is the associations themselves that are to blame. The elections are in their hands, and if the youthful element, who now complain of the type of men who form the Council, desire something different they should bend their energies to that end. But let us say at once that nothing could be more mistaken than to imagine that the man best fitted for the Council is the man with the best peal record. Some of the best peal ringers would, and have, cut a sorry figure on the Council. If his ringing mind runs purely in the peal ringing groove he would be of very little use as a member. Something far beyond this is necessary to make the ideal representative. He needs a wide knowledge of ringing affairs generally — a knowledge which usually only comes with the years—he should know something of the human side of the ringer, his peculiarities and idiosyncracies—and they are many—and above all, should have vision, courage and the ability to express his thoughts. Not every member of the Council by a long way can claim all these attributes, but they are the things which should be looked for in men whom it is proposed to elect to the Council. The future of the art of change ringing needs more careful consideration to-day than ever it did. The lead in these things can only come from a central authority. That authority, by common consent, is the Central Council, and during the next year ringing associations have to make their choice of representatives. It is their responsibility to choose the men in whose hands they feel the future can best be trusted—not necessarily

(Continued on page 486.)

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the man who is 'hail fellow well met,' not necessarily the most prodigious peal ringer, but the one who is most likely to strive to promote the best interests of the art in every direction, and particularly as a definite branch of church work and as a pursuit to be followed for its intellectual and physical advantages.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

EAST MEON, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, July 22, 1935, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART. Tenor 19¼ cwt.

*PERCY L. WRIGHT ...	...*Treble*	*CYRIL S. WEST	5
GEORGE WILLIAMS	2	CHARLES E. BASSETT ...	6
REGINALD C. H. CONNOLLY	3	ARCHIBALD J. GARRETT ...	7
FREDERICK S. BAYLEY ...	4	†MERVYN G. PALMER...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES E. BASSETT.

* First peal of Triples. † First peal. First peal of Triples as conductor.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, July 23, 1935, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF SPLICED KENT AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Containing 2,848 Kent, 2,208 Oxford and 51 changes of method.

Tenor 10 cwt.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE	...*Treble*	CHARLES T. COLES	5
ERNEST C. S. TURNER... ...	2	GEORGE R. PYE	6
GEORGE M. KILBY	3	JAMES H. RIDING...	7
MISS K. M. BRADFORD ...	4	THOMAS J. LOCK	...*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN REEVES. Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

This arrangement is by Mr. A. G. Driver, and is believed to be now rung for the first time.

WISBECH, CAMBS.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, July 24, 1935, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5060 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

WALLACE COUSINS ...	...*Treble*	*LEWIS BUSH	5
ALFRED BACON	2	WALTER FREEMAN	6
*JOSEPH FRANCIS...	3	FRED WIGMORE...	7
*RONALD THAXTER	4	CLAUDE COUSINS ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by F. BENNETT. Conducted by FRED WIGMORE.

* First peal of Major. First peal on the bells since they were rehung by Mears and Stainbank, the only previous peal being Stedman Triples in 1906, conducted by the Rev. F. E. Robinson.

BRIDGEND, GLAMORGANSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, July 24, 1935, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ILLTYD.

A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S SIX-PART, No. 13. Tenor 16 cwt.

*EDWIN M. SMITH ...	...*Treble*	CHARLES H. PERRY	5
†BENJAMIN J. TOBY	2	*ALFRED W. WRIGHT ...	6
‡FREDERICK HANNINGTON ...	3	D. REES JAMES	7
ERNEST STITCH	4	‡FRANK MORGAN	...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES H. PERRY.

* First peal in the method away from the tenor. † First peal in the method with a bob bell. ‡ First peal in the method. E. Stitch's 50th peal on the bells. The conductor's 65th peal on the bells, also his 50th peal as conductor. Especially arranged for Mr. F. Hannington, Cardiff's one armed ringer.

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EDGBASTON, BIRMINGHAM.
THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Thursday, July 25, 1935, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 10 cwt.

H. JAMES TURNER ...	...*Treble*	C. HOWARD STANLEY... ...	5
HENRY H. FEARN	2	ROGER W. DANIELS	6
GEORGE E. FEARN	3	SAMUEL GROVE	7
WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT ...	4	FRANK E. HAYNES ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by F. BENNETT (No. 30). Conducted by W. B. CARTWRIGHT

Specially arranged and rung as a wedding compliment to Miss Gwendoline Ethel Victoria Seabourne and Mr. Ian Fremantle (son of the parish clerk, Mr. Sidney Fremantle), who were married at this church earlier in the day. They have the best wishes of the band.

WRAXALL, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 27, 1935, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 23¾ cwt.

KENNETH FORD	...*Treble*	HARRY J. SANGER	5
ALFRED G. REEVES	2	EDWIN J. RIDLER	6
NORAH G. WILLIAMS	3	RONALD G. BECK...	7
DAVID MACKAY	4	JOSEPH T. DYKE	...*Tenor*

Composed by Rev. H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by J. T. DYKE.

HILLINGDON, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, July 27, 1935, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF SPLICED EALING, LONDON, RUTLAND, BRISTOL, CAMBRIDGE AND SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5216 CHANGES;
Tenor 13¾ cwt.

*PERCY E. JONES... ...	...*Treble*	†THOMAS J. LOCK...	5
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE ...	2	†ERNEST C. S. TURNER ...	6
GEORGE M. KILBY	3	HARRY KILBY	7
†MISS K. M. BRADFORD ...	4	†FRANK CORKE	...*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

* First peal of Spliced Surprise Major. † First peal in six Surprise Major methods. This peal consists of 960 each of Ealing, London and Rutland, 896 of Bristol, 736 of Cambridge and 704 of Superlative, and is the first time that a peal consisting of these six methods has been rung. There were 140 changes of method.

PENTRE RHONDDA, GLAMORGANSHIRE.
THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, July 27, 1935, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 27 cwt.

WILLIAM PAGE	...*Treble*	JOSEPH LOVETT	5
JOHN W. JONES	2	WILLIAM J. CROSS	6
*GEORGE PAGE	3	ERNEST STITCH	7
GEORGE POPNELL	4	FREDERICK LASBURY ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ERNEST STITCH.

* First peal 'inside.' Specially arranged and rung to celebrate the marriage of Mr. Christopher P. Gudgeon to Miss Doris Cooper, which took place the same afternoon at St. Mark's Church, Worsley, Manchester. Mr. Gudgeon is a frequent visitor to South Wales.

SIX BELL PEALS.

WESTON, BATH.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, June 22, 1935, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 14¼ cwt.

GEORGE CROSS, JUN.	...*Treble*	GEORGE CROSS, SEN.	4
*ALEXANDER EVANS	2	SEALY S. WOODBURN	5
†GEORGE J. HAWKINS ...	3	R. MADRICE SMART ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by S. S. WOODBURN.

* First peal of Doubles. † First peal.

STAUNTON-ON-WYE, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sunday, July 21, 1935, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Being five 120's of Canterbury, five of Grandsire and 16 240's of Lindoff's, Pitman's and Morris'. Tenor 13 cwt.

ARTHUR MILES	...*Treble*	*ALBERT E. JONES	4
G. JAMES R. PRICE	2	JAMES P. HYETT	5
JAMES T. RANDLE	3	*FRANK THOMAS	...*Tenor*

Conducted by J. P. HYETT.

* First peal in two methods.

CHILCOMPTON, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, July 22, 1935, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of York, Wearmouth, Lightfoot, Beverley, Wells, London and Cambridge. Tenor 20 cwt.

DAVID TARGETT	...*Treble*	*DAVID MACKAY	4
E. JOHN TARGETT	2	*†RONALD G. BECK	5
LEONARD DUNFORD	3	†FREDERICK A. TARGETT...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by RONALD G. BECK.

* 25th peal together. † 50th peal together. First peal in seven methods of Surprise Minor by all the band and on the bells.

TIMSBURY, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, July 23, 1935, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being 720 each of York, Beverley, Wearmouth, Lightfoot, Wells, London and Cambridge. Tenor 12 cwt.

*FREDERICK FEAR	...*Treble*	DAVID MACKAY	4
E. JOHN TARGETT	2	RONALD G. BECK...	5
LEONARD DUNFORD	3	FREDERICK A. TARGETT	...*Tenor*

Conducted by RONALD G. BECK.

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

BINFIELD, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wednesday, July 24, 1935, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being a 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Single Oxford Bob, and two 720's each of Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

*EDWARD S. T. FARR...	...*Treble*	JACK RANCE	4
†ARTHUR J. N. RANCE ...	2	ALAN R. PINK	5
WILLIAM WELLING	3	LEONARD STILWELL ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* First peal in five methods. † First peal in more than one method. Rung as a welcome to the Rev. C. J. Ellwood, who was inducted to the living previous to the peal.

BIGBY, LINCS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)
On Thursday, July 25, 1935, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob, two of Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 6 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb.

GEORGE E. FEIRN ...	...*Treble*	*RONALD BOWNESS	4
FREDERICK HOLDSTOCK ...	2	GEORGE L. HALL	5
MARTIN WALKER...	3	GEORGE DOBBS	...*Tenor*

Conducted by G. E. FEIRN.

* First peal 'inside.' Mr. G. E. Feirn has now 'circled the tower.'

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MITCHAM, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, July 24, 1935, in Two Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Two 720's each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, one 720 of Plain Bob. Tenor 7 cwt. in B flat.

*HARRY W. SIMMONS ...	...*Treble*	EDWARD G. TALBOT	4
FRANK COOKE	2	DANIEL COOPER	5
MRS. CHARLES H. KIPPIN	3	CHARLES H. KIPPIN ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES H. KIPPIN.

* First peal of Minor. Arranged for Mr. F. Cooke, of Selston, Nottingham.

HATHERN, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, July 25, 1935, in Three Hours.

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's called differently. Tenor 9 cwt.

*COLYN DERBY	...*Treble*	*THOMAS MACLEY	4
JOHN SADDINGTON	2	JACK BOOTH...	5
CHARLES ALLSOPP	3	LESLIE W. STEVENS...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by LESLIE W. STEVENS.

First peal as conductor. * First peal and first attempt. Both are local ringers at this church.

DRAYCOTT, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE NORTH STAFFS AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 27, 1935, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 14 cwt.

*WILLIAM PERKINS ...	...*Treble*	†EDWARD STEELE	4
†JAMES WILLIAMS	2	CHARLES H. PAGE	5
†HAROLD ROSE	3	*FREDERICK SHELLEY...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES H. PAGE.

* First peal. † First peal of Doubles. Arranged for the treble and tenor ringers, of the local band. They are the first Draycott ringers to ring a peal.

PURLEIGH, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, July 27, 1935, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

*N. TOWNSEND	...*Treble*	S. BAYBUTT...	4
*W. D. TAYLOR	2	*F. LUFKIN	5
*A. NORTH	3	G. BACON	...*Tenor*

Conducted by F. LUFKIN.

* First peal of Minor. First peal as conductor. First peal on the bells since rehanging with the addition of a new treble.

A 'FAMILY' GATHERING.

The annual joint meeting of the North-Western District of the Surrey Association and the Leatherhead District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild was again held at Ranmore Common on Saturday, July 27th, and was favoured with glorious weather. Ringing was rather late in starting, but a touch of Stedman Triples was rung for service, which was conducted by the Vicar at 4.30. A company of 33 sat down to tea and included ringers, their wives and families; in fact, it was quite a family party. The tower was again visited afterwards, when, everyone having been refreshed, ringing started in earnest, and this glorious peal of eight bells was kept going throughout the evening in methods to suit all tastes, ranging from call changes and Grandsire Triples to four Surprise methods spliced. The bells were lowered in peal at 9 o'clock, and thus ended another very enjoyable summer meeting at Ranmore, one of Surrey's beauty spots on the summit of the hills.

FOR BEGINNERS.

MORE ABOUT 'COMPOSING AS YOU GO.'

Continuing our little talk on 'composing as you go,' let us turn to Grandsire Triples for a moment. It is not quite so easy to extend touches in this method in the same orderly fashion as Bob Major, unless it is done by the use of singles. Usually the conductor who wants to extend what he started to call just 'mixes them up,' and eventually, following a more or less recognised procedure, calls the bells round. This 'calling the bells round' in Grandsire must form the subject of another article.

The object of this article is to deal only with some simple forms of extension. It is presumed that the young conductor knows that he can double the length of a touch, made up entirely of bobs, by calling a single for the last bob and repeating it. But he may not desire to ring as much. He can, therefore, join on after the single some shorter length, although, unless he has exercised special care, he may have some of the changes repeated. That, however, is not of much consequence if it is only a practice touch. He can guard against one of the pitfalls if he joins together two touches, each of which comes home at a bob. That saves the risk of ringing at the end some of the course that may have been rung at the beginning, but it does not even then follow that part of that course has not been rung in the middle of the touch. It is a further safeguard to begin the touch with a bob at the first lead. But do not run away with the idea that even this will necessarily avoid falseness.

In ordinary twin-bob touches of Stedman Triples the lengths can be conveniently extended, for the reason that any pair of bobs repeated produces two courses. For a touch of 168 you can call 3.4 or 5.6 or 7.8 or 12.13 twice, and, within limits, you can splice these into another touch. Suppose you set out to call 12.13 twice, and decide to go on, you can put either of the other pairs in between and make your two courses into three, say

12.13
5.6
5.6 12.13

After the 5.6's you can put another pair, such as

12.13
5.6
5.6.7.8
7.8 12.13

Or you can begin at the other end and add to your 3.4's, and instead of two courses, you can expand it a course at a time.

3.4 3.4 3.4
3.4.5.6 or 3.4.5.6 or 3.4.5.6
5.6 5.6.7.8 5.6.7.8
7.8 7.8.12.13
12.13

And out of this you will, with pencil and paper and by practice in the tower, be able to make up for yourself a great variety of touches.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD

BANBURY BRANCH MAKING STEADY PROGRESS.

The annual meeting of the Banbury Branch of the Oxford Guild held at Adderbury was attended by about 30 ringers from Banbury, Deddington, Lower Heyford, Great Tew, Sandford St. Martin, Enstone, South Newington, Cropredy and visitors from Oxford, Bucklebury, High Wycombe and Abingdon.

The service in the lovely old church was conducted by the Rev. G. Miller, and the Rev. A. L. E. Williams preached.

The business meeting followed tea, at which the following appointments were made: President, the Rev. A. L. E. Williams; chairman, the Rev. C. A. Ward Jackson; secretary and treasurer, Mr. E. Pearson; auditor, Mr. T. Miller; representatives on General Committee, Mr. H. Impey, Mr. F. Pritchett and Mr. L. J. Malings. One new ringing member was elected.

The statement of accounts showed a balance in hand of over £20, and the secretary's report showed that the steady progress from the ringing side was maintained. Cropredy was chosen as the place of the next meeting.

Mr. Malings proposed a comprehensive vote of thanks to all who had made the meeting such a happy one. The meeting welcomed the usual few words by the Rev. C. E. Wigg (Deputy Master of the Guild) and Mr. R. T. Hibbert (general secretary), who spoke encouragingly to the members.

Ringing was resumed on the fine peal of eight at Adderbury, and the bells at Banbury and Deddington were also kept going throughout the evening.

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CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

ANNUAL FESTIVAL AT NORBURY.

Memorial to the Late Rev. A. T. Beeston.

The annual festival of the Chester Diocesan Guild was held at Norbury, Hazel Grove, on Saturday. There was a representative gathering from all parts of the diocese, with a few friends from Lancashire. The proceedings opened with a service in St. Thomas' Church, when the memorial to the late Rev. A. T. Beeston was dedicated and unveiled. The memorial, placed at the foot of the staircase leading to the belfry, consists of a mural tablet with suitable inscription.

The tablet is worded as follows :—

1861—1933

In Memoriam
Arthur Thomas Beeston,
priest.

For 25 years hon. treasurer and for 16 years hon. secretary of the Chester Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers. Hon. secretary 1904 to 1924, hon. treasurer 1907 to 1928. Chairman 1928 to 1933 of the Bowdon, Stockport and Mottram Branch. Member of the Central Council of Church Bellringers 1911 to 1929.

This tablet is erected by his fellow-ringers and friends in grateful remembrance of his faithful service to the ringing craft. R.I.P.

The Vicar of Norbury, the Rev. A. J. Humphreys, who performed the ceremony, gave an eloquent address on the work of the late Rev. A. T. Beeston,

Directly after the dedication and unveiling a course of Grandsire Caters was rung on handbells by five members of the Bowdon and Stockport Branch.

At the business meeting held after the service, Mr. J. W. Milner, chairman of the Wirral Branch, occupied the chair. The general secretary (the Rev. W. R. Ingham) apologised for the absence of the Master, the Rev. C. A. Clements, who had been ill for some time and desired to tender his resignation, which was accepted with regret.

The report and accounts were approved on the recommendation of the committee

After recording with regret the death of members, the report said: As a whole, the Guild generally has had a very quiet year. Sunday service ringing has been maintained at its previous standard, but there have been regrettable occasions when the attendance has not been sufficient to enable the bells to be rung. Members of tower bands, as indeed of any team, should look upon it as a matter of solemn obligation to turn up punctually and regularly unless prevented in some really unavoidable manner. We fancy that ringing activity has been somewhat crippled by the effects of the hard times, though we are happy to think that this phase is passing, and hope sincerely that all our members are increasingly sharing in the general financial recovery, and, therefore, are becoming more able to afford attendance at meetings. Various efforts have been made by the branches to bring, or bring back, into union towers that have been out of union. What a splendid thing for the towers individually and for all the Guild it would be if every tower in the diocese were in active union. We must never rest content till this is so. The Guild and branch finances are all in good condition. As far as the Guild finances are concerned, there has been an increase of over £12 in the bank balance, and it is recommended that £100 be invested by the trustees in some suitable stock. For the fourth year in succession we are really sorry to report a decrease in the number of peals rung, namely, 47, as against 64 in 1933 and 113 in 1930. This represents a gradual and continuous decline, which is not very encouraging. Various reasons for this are suggested; the exacting claims on those who are working; the financial difficulties of those out of work; the senior members are not ringing so many peals, and the younger members are not rising to take their places. If there have been—as probably is the case—many failures, this suggests that practices are not serving their purpose as they should, which leads us to another cause, namely, lack of interest. This, however, cannot be said of our special multi-method Minor band, which has created yet another record in ringing a peal of Treble Bob Minor in 39 methods. We wish to congratulate them most heartily and urge them on to further heights, or rather lengths, and others to follow their good examples. The majority of this band has also rung for the first time in a peal of Manchester Surprise Major, a method composed by one of the band, and, in addition, the first peal of Spliced Surprise Major for the Guild. Congratulations are also due to the five members who rang their first peal, to one who conducted his first peal, and not least to Mr. Robert Sperring, who rang his 500th peal. It should be noted that only 98 members, as against 162 last year, rang in peals, which means that less than 16 per cent. of our members took part.

During the year the ring of four bells at Bosley, near Macclesfield, has been augmented to six, with a tenor of 5½ cwt. We believe that a regular band is in process of being formed. The other rings of bells in the diocese are reported to be in fairly good condition, although, as we pointed out in the last report, there is still plenty of room for improvement in some towers.

(Continued in next column.)

HERTS RINGERS IN HANTS.

On a recent Saturday, the members of the Apsley and Hemel Hempstead towers again combined for a very pleasant and successful day to tour Hampshire. Fourteen members, including Mr. F. Elliot, of Rickmansworth, made a very early start, and, after a pleasant ride via Windsor Great Park, Basingstoke and Whitchurch, arrived at Laverstoke at 9 a.m., where they found a local enthusiast had changed his 'shift' in order to meet them. The Vicar was also there to offer a welcome, and showed them his beautiful church. The bells—a nice six—were set going to various Minor methods, the bells being lowered in peal at 10 o'clock. On descending the tower, after expressions of thanks for the courtesy shown, some ringers were missing—but they had been 'feeding the fish' in the river—the bus driver regretting he hadn't brought 'rod and line.'

Going on to Andover, the party were met by two local ringers, and two more 'popped in' afterwards to add to the welcome. The rather peculiar winding staircase gave some 'a peculiar feeling.' However, the bells were soon going to Grandsire, Stedman, Plain Bob and Kent Major.

The next call was Winchester (St. Maurice's), where Mr. C. Russell made the travellers very welcome—but as they were late, only a few short touches could be got in—including Cambridge and London. The inner man now called, and lunch—a good one—was soon put 'out of course' at Dumper's Restaurant.

After this had been properly dealt with, a hurried visit to the Cathedral gave great pleasure to all—many regrets being expressed at having to leave such a beautiful building.

The afternoon was a fairly heavy one—Curdridge (eight, tenor 26 cwt.), but some fairly good ringing was done—finishing with Cambridge Minor on the back six, then lowering them in peal. The next item was 'camera-breaking,' but results have proved that some were not so bad looking after all. Thoughts of strawberry teas caused a clearance of the stock of one shed, but though the temptation was great, the writer noticed the 'chips' were almost complete on reaching the journey's end.

Bishop's Waltham was the next stop. A cordial welcome, some good ringing—including London—plenty of talk—Thanks!—on to Petersfield for a real ringers' tea at Hall's Cafe. This occupied some time, 'ample justice' being paid to good things and plenty of them.

Then came the final call—Bramshott—where the company was met by the Rev. E. A. Berrisford, who offered a cordial welcome. A variety of methods was rung here, everyone being fully satisfied. The Canadian cemetery was visited, the neatness, etc., being much admired.

After according thanks to the Rector, the return journey was commenced—but somehow it soon stopped—(Bramshott is dry!). However, after handbell ringing, etc., the run was continued, Apsley being reached about 12.45 a.m. after a most enjoyable and successful day.

The company offer sincere thanks to all who helped in any way towards another most enjoyable 'annual.' W. A.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

PROPOSED COMBINED MEETING.

The summer meeting of the Tonbridge District of the Kent County Association was held at Chiddingstone on Saturday, July 13th. In spite of the date, the very hot weather and the fact that Chiddingstone is rather 'off the map,' about 28 members were present, representing nine towers. Owing to the great heat, very little ringing was indulged in.

Service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. E. M. Bickersteth), with Mrs. Bickersteth at the organ. Tea was partaken of and the business meeting held on the lawn of the Castle Inn.

The District Secretary said he had been in communication with the secretary of the Maidstone District as to the possibility of a combined meeting at Marden in August.

Mr. A. Battin proposed that the meeting should be held, and this was carried, the date being left open.

The usual votes of thanks were passed, including thanks to the Rector and Mrs. Bickersteth and to the churchwarden for the very hearty welcome they had given the members.

A little further ringing ended a perfect day.

(Continued from previous column.)

The report concluded with thanks to all Guild and branch officials for much time and trouble given towards the welfare of the Guild and the furtherance of its objects.

With the exception of the Master, all the officials were re-elected, Mr. J. W. Milner being elected Master.

It was also decided to make grants of £5 and £7 10s. respectively to Woodchurch and Christ Church, Macclesfield.

After a short discussion it was decided that the annual festival be held at Liscard (Wirral) on August Bank Holiday, 1936.

Votes of thanks were accorded to the Vicar of Norbury for his address at the service and for the use of the bells, and also to the incumbents at Stockport (St. George's and St. Mary's), Cheadle, Poynton, Disley and Marple, and to the ladies who served tea, which was partaken of in the Schools after the meeting.

THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

MORE 'PRACTICAL' RINGERS ASKED FOR.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I have just read your leading article this week, and it has set me thinking. Do the Central Council representatives really *represent* their respective associations? How many ringers take any interest in the Council's proceedings, as being applicable *to them*? Let us get down to brass tacks. In most districts, amongst most ringers the 'Central Council' is merely a name discussed as a rather awe-inspiring body of men! Actually they are quite a worthy collection of ringers, noticeable for presenting contrasts in their abilities. Here we have Mr. So-and-So, an exceptionally able *practical* ringer; there we have Mr. What's-His-Name, and some of us wonder how on earth he managed to get elected, because he never rings any peals, and his *practical* interest in ringing is nearly nil! What I am leading up to is that there are many much more worthy ringers all over the country who should be given a place on the Council. Please do not think I wish to belittle anyone, but I do think that a committee of any sort should consist of '*live wires*.'

And not only the Central Council—they are, perhaps, the least offenders. Among associations, committees are elected, including people who have no right whatever to be on them. Only in to-day's 'Ringing World' in the Oxford Diocesan Guild report Mr. A. D. Cullum himself asks, what is their committee for? They never meet! Surely it is time, if you hope to interest young ringers (and old), to have a clean sweep throughout each association. Resign all members who do not take a very active part in the *practical* ringing of their association. Elect in their places keen and enthusiastic ringers, preferably with an organising ability, who, when they meet, can really improve the welfare of the ordinary ringer—the 'man in the street,' shall I call him, who pays his 2s. a year, but gets very little in return. It could all be done without giving offence to anyone, and I am sure the result would be excellent.

One thing I should like to see, that more secretaries of districts should be better *practical* ringers—peal organisers, with an encouraging personality. When meetings are held, peals could then be arranged for young ringers wanting first peals—of which I know there are many.

You may have noticed that I have used the word 'practical' several times, and I think there should be no 'beating about the bush.' Call a spade a spade and let us see *every* leader in *every* tower, *every* member of *every* committee, etc., a really *enthusiastic* and active change ringer.

Throw out the 'stick-in-the-muds,' and replace them with *ringers*—not figureheads, even though the latter may be a so-called 'worthy.' There is no one I admire myself more than an expert ringer—like the late William Pye—an example to everyone, but I do hate to see people put on a pedestal simply for what he has *not* done, but for what he *might* have done, had opportunity allowed him. There are opportunities everywhere. Please use them.

A. PATRICK CANNON.

Deal, Kent.

A 22 HOUR DAY.

ROTHERHAM RINGERS' VISIT TO LONDON.

The ringers of St. Stephen's Church, Eastwood, Rotherham, visited London for their annual excursion. They left Rotherham by train at 6.25 a.m., taking with them the handbells to help pass the time during the long train journey. Reaching London at 11 a.m., they made their way to Messrs. Mears and Stainbanks' bell foundry, where they were met by Mr. Hughes, who kindly showed them through the foundry, where there was plenty to thoroughly interest them. Three of the ringers and Mr. Hughes rang a course of Bob Major on a tiny peal of handbells, which, in spite of their small size, were of beautiful tone.

Before saying 'Goodbye,' Mr. Hughes showed the visitors the way to the Globe, where lunch was partaken of. They then went to St. Andrew's, Holborn, where they were met by Mr. J. S. Hawkins, who very generously sacrificed the rest of the day in looking after the visitors. Several touches of Major and Triples were rung at St. Andrew's, everybody being pleased at the tone of the bells. The ringers then went to look round St. Paul's Cathedral, and on to St. Clement Danes, where they indulged in more ringing, after which the bells were lowered in peal.

After snatching a hasty tea, the visitors, guided by Mr. Hawkins, made their way to St. Lawrence Jewry, where the Ladies' Guild were holding their annual meeting. After a good ring (thanks to the ladies) they spent the remainder of the evening in viewing the sights of London. After a late dinner at one of Lyons' Corner Houses, the ringers returned to St. Pancras Station and caught the train for home, arriving in Rotherham at 4.20 a.m. on Sunday (and in spite of this late arrival the eight bell at St. Stephen's were pealing merrily at 10.15 a.m. for morning service). Everybody had a really enjoyable and interesting day, thanks being due to Mr. Hughes and Mr. Hawkins for their kind reception and guidance and for arranging for the visitors to have the pleasure of ringing as a visiting band at the fine churches of St. Andrew and St. Clement Danes. N. C.

QUESTIONS FOR THE METHODS COMMITTEE.

MR. GEORGE BAKER'S CATECHISM.

Dear Sir,—The Methods Committee have not replied to 'Owen Kay's' inquiry in 'The Ringing World' of July 12th.

If you can find room for the enclosed Treble Bob method, its proof and false course-ends, there are a few questions that I wish to put to the Methods Committee in the hope that they will reply to the satisfaction of myself and the Exercise generally.

(1) Can they explain this Treble Bob method (No. 114) by the formula—productive of thousands of so-called Surprise methods?

(2) Will they give the Exercise their opinion as to whether or no they consider No. 114 an intricate method?

(3) Have they come across in their researches this set of false course-ends, all simple transposition rows, which will permit of 30 true plain courses?

(4) Can they tell the Exercise how many round blocks of *five false course-ends* there are that will permit of 30 true plain courses?

These questions will be sufficient for the time being. I may have more to say to the Methods Committee after seeing their reply.

GEORGE BAKER.

No. 114.

12345678
21435687
12346578
21364587

23146857
32418675
32146857
23418675

24381765
42837156
24831765
42387156

43278516
34287561
43825716
48352761

84537261
85473216
58742361
85724316

87542136
78451263
87452136
78541263

75814623
57186432
57814623
75186432

71568342
17586324
71853642
17583624

17856342
4th's place bob.

Proof.
7683524
7684325
7486523
7582634
7583624
5823674
5842673
2753684
2754638
4582673
2584637
7483625
5783624
7658324
7586324
7836524

False course-ends.
45236
32654
56423
24365
63542

EAST ANGLIA MEETS AT ELVEDEN.

A very pleasant meeting, under the auspices of the South Norfolk Branch of the Norwich Diocesan Association and the Suffolk Guild, was held at Elveden, Suffolk, on Saturday. Besides a good muster from Gressenhall, Norwich, North Walsham, Saxlingham, Pulham Market, Garboldisham, Starston, Wymondham (Norfolk), Bury St. Edmunds, Mendlesham, Newmarket and the local tower (Suffolk), Messrs. J. E. Davis (Bishopsgate), G. Dent (Harlow), W. G. Paul (Watford), G. B. Lucas, sen. (Walthamstow), A. Pye (Seven Kings), A. W. Rolfe and G. Clarry (Chevington) turned up to give the gathering a 'cosmopolitan' atmosphere. The fine peal were used to advantage during the afternoon and evening, and a number of methods, including London Surprise, rung. The trees in the adjoining park offered a welcome shade to those who wished to take advantage of the beautiful natural surroundings and to hear the bells.

The business meetings were of a routine character. A number of members were elected to both the Norwich Association and the Suffolk Guild. The visitors received an 'official' welcome, for which thanks were returned, and the feeling of the gathering was that a meeting at this venue should be made an annual event.

The South Norfolk Branch decided to hold its next meeting at North Lopham on October 12th, when it is hoped that a good number will avail themselves of an opportunity to hear this grand 'lightweight' peal.

VISIT TO NORTH YORKSHIRE TOWERS.

The ringers of the Rotherham Parish Church, accompanied by ringing friends from Trecton, Wath-on-Dearne and Wortley and non-ringing friends, wives and other ladies, made an enjoyable tour of belfries in North Yorkshire. Setting off at 6.40 a.m., the first port of call was at Northallerton, where a substantial breakfast was first partaken of, and then to the Parish Church for a ring of Little Bob, Treble Bob, London, Yorkshire and Cambridge Surprise. From here a pleasant journey to Catterick (old spelling Kathericke) ended in Double Norwich, Yorkshire, London and Plain Bob; then to Richmond, through beautiful country, to ring Little Bob, Double Norwich, Treble Bob, Stedman and Cambridge, ceasing a bit earlier than intended owing to a service. At Middleham, Double Norwich, Plain Bob, Little Bob and Bristol were rung, after which at Leyburn a first rate meat tea was enjoyed by everyone. The last tower was then visited, Bedale, where London, Yorkshire, Double Norwich and Little Bob were rung, after which liquid refreshment was in demand before setting off on the return journey, which was completed in the utmost comfort and to the satisfaction of all. The ringers wish to thank most heartily all the incumbents and ringers who allowed the use of their bells and for the arrangements made. A. N.

STOCKPORT RINGERS' OUTING.

The St. George's Society, Stockport, with wives and friends, had their outing on July 13th. Leaving shortly after 2 p.m. in two cars and a motor-coach, a visit was paid to the tower of Prestbury, near Macclesfield. While the wives and friends were inspecting the fine old church and village, the ringers made full use of the time available by ringing touches of Stedman Triples, Grandsire Triples and Double Norwich. The journey was then continued to the very pretty village of Gawsworth. Here the party gathered in front of the Harrington Arms Hotel to listen to some fine handbell ringing by Messrs. A. F. Bailey, P. Laffin, H. Jackson, A. Barnes and W. Washbrook, who rang a variety of methods while the finishing touches were being put to the tea. After 'doing full justice' to the meal, the ringers paid a visit to Gawsworth Church, where touches of Bob Major, Grandsire Triples and Double Norwich were rung on the fine toned tower bells, also a touch of Stedman Caters on the handbells. The Rector of Gawsworth greeted the visitors. Returning to the Harrington Arms Hotel, the party thoroughly enjoyed an impromptu concert. The return journey was made via Holmes Chaple and Alderley Edge. The outing was voted 'a great day,' and thanks were given to those who contributed to its success, particularly the Vicar of Prestbury and the Rector of Gawsworth for the use of the bells.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

PLEASANT MEETING AT HADLEY.

A very pleasant meeting of the North and East District took place on Saturday, July 20th, at Hadley. Ringing commenced at 3 p.m., and, with the exception of the interval for service, tea and the meeting, was kept going until 8.30 p.m.

As usual, under the able direction of the Ringing Master (Mr. A. W. Coles), the methods were very varied, from Minor to Cambridge Major, and those struggling in the early stages of the various methods had every opportunity for good practice.

The service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. G. Richardson), who gave the association a most cordial welcome. Tea followed, after which a short agenda of business was transacted.

Mr. G. W. Fletcher (vice-president) occupied the chair, and the assistant secretary deputised for Mr. C. T. Coles, who had to fulfil another engagement.

Amongst the visitors were Mr. I. J. Attwater, ringing instructor at Kent Schools, U.S.A., and Det.-Sergt. H. J. Poole, of Leicester.

After tea handbells were brought into use, both the visitors taking part.

The meeting concluded with votes of thanks to all who had made the meeting a success—the Rector and Mr. Orbin, of Hadley, and also the Rev. P. C. Deane, of Barnet, who had placed his bells at the disposal of the association.

It was, however, considered expedient to use only one tower, and, with the concurrence of Mr. Eldred, of Barnet, Hadley bells were kept going for the rest of the evening.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

The members of the Frome Branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association held their quarterly meeting at Leigh-on-Mendip. It was preceded by a service in the church, conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. Lloyd Williams), who also gave an address.

The towers represented were Frome, Doulting, Chilcompton, Kilmersdon, Westbury, Warminster, Paulton and Timsbury.

The ringers were entertained to tea by the Vicar, and later rang a number of methods on the bells, including Cambridge, London, Wells, York, Beverley, Stedman, Plain Bob, Kent, Grandsire and 'Swelp me bob.'

The Vicar was warmly thanked for his hospitality by Mr. J. T. Dyke, of Chilcompton.

The president, the Rev. M. K. Warren, was unavoidably absent.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Only a few days remain to make certain of your copy of 'The Great Adventure.' Afterwards you will have to take your chance, for the edition is only a limited one. When you have seen it, you will be sorry if you have not secured a copy. Further particulars will be found in another column.

We learn that the bells of St. Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, are now at the Loughborough Foundry to be fitted with iron headstocks. They are to be rehung on ball bearings and are expected back in the tower in October.

On Trinity Sunday, the ringers of Holy Trinity Church, Hobart, Tasmania, presented Sir Ernest Clarke, the Governor of Tasmania, with a 'bell' spoon, engraved as follows: 'From the bellringers, as a token for his kindness.'

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Stenton, of South Anston, Sheffield, will celebrate their golden wedding on Sunday, and will have the best wishes of the whole ringing fraternity. They were married at Doddington, Lincolnshire, on August 4th, 1885.

Mr. Stenton has been a ringer at South Anston for 48 years, and, despite the fact that he will be 77 on August 20th, he still rings regularly. Two of his sons are also ringers.

'Teddy' Barnett, of Crayford, whose ringing achievements long since broke all juvenile records, had a good week-end in his scholastic career last week. He was notified of his success in the London matriculation examination, was awarded his school colours for cricket, and was elected president of the 'John Dunkin' Historical Society.

The first local ringers to ring a peal at Draycott, Staffs, are W. Perkins and F. Shelley. The bells there have recently been overhauled by Taylor and Co. and 'go' splendidly.

After little more than a year's experience, C. Derby and T. Macley have rung a peal at their local tower. They are the first local ringers to ring a peal on the bells at Hathern, Leicestershire, for well over 20 years.

LONG-FORGOTTEN RINGING SOCIETIES.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I recently discovered, in the Bodleian at Oxford, records of two long-forgotten ringing societies, which may be of interest to your readers, viz., the Northerne Youthes of London and the Greenwich Youths, who flourished in the second half of the 17th century.

The title page of the Northerne Youthes' Rule Book reads thus:—

> 'Orders conceived and agreed upon by the company exercising the arte of ringing knowne and called by the name of the Northerne Youthes in London, begining and soe continued from the one and thirtieth day of May Anno Dom. 1669.'

Then follow the rules, which are drawn up on the lines of most societies of this period and indexed. The book is signed by all the members entering the society, and by the officers appointed from year to year. The last entry is of a resolution passed at a meeting held at St. Sepulchre's on 7th July, 1676, condemning the negligence of the stewards.

The rules of the Greenwich Youths are written on a single sheet, dated 25th March, 1683.

FREDERICK SHARPE.

Launton, Oxon.

LITTLE BOB IN PEALS OF MINOR.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—With regard to the second paragraph in 'Belfry Gossip' this week re extents (480) of Little Bob being rung in peals, I took part in a peal containing 480 Little Bob at Stoke-on-Tern, Shropshire, on Sunday, July 20th, 1924. It was conducted by the late Joseph E. Sykes, and is the only peal ever rung on these bells. It was, however, not a 5,040, so the question as to its being 'legitimate' does not arise. The extent of Little Bob was rung in addition to the seven 720's, making the number of changes 5,520. It was published as 'a peal of Minor, 5,520 changes, being 2,160 changes of Oxford Treble Bob, 2,160 changes of Kent Treble Bob, 720 changes of Plain Bob, and 480 changes of Little Bob Minor.'

E. V. RODENHURST.

The peal at Stoke-on-Tern referred to by Mr. Rodenhurst comes within the Central Council's definition of a peal of Minor, which permits the addition of the whole or part of a 720 after the ringing of the first seven 720's.—Ed., 'R.W.'

BRING RINGERS AND BELLS TOGETHER.

To the Editor.

Sir,—The remarks of the chairman, Mr. J. Bartram, at the North Notts meeting, reported in last week's 'Ringing World,' certainly raises a question worth consideration. While there are peals of bells without ringers, there are ringers forced to live in places where there are no bells, and having to travel miles for a pull, who would gladly accept any congenial employment to be in their place regularly on Sunday. Obtaining work is the trouble. Could not the associations, the clergy and the employers of labour get together and form some scheme whereby this state of things could be overcome? Good jobs are found for bandsmen, footballers and cricketers. Why not for ringers?

HARRY PROUT.

Langwith, Notts.

ANOTHER RING OF BELLS FOR TASMANIA.

ST. DAVID'S CATHEDRAL TO HAVE PEAL OF EIGHT.

Other Bells to be hung for Chiming.

One of the results of the visit of the English tourists to the island of Tasmania is that St. David's Cathedral, Hobart, is to have a ring of eight bells.

Although the Cathedral has been in existence for fifty years, it is only recently that steps to complete the building by the erection of a tower has been made possible by a generous gift and when the English visitors arrived a decision had just been come to to place a chime of 13 small bells (tenor about 7 cwt.) in the tower. It seemed such a pity that so fine a building, linked closely in its structure with the ancient cathedrals of the old country, should not receive the crowning glory of a ringing peal, that all the persuasion that was possible was brought to bear on the authorities to at least have some of the bells hung for ringing and to increase their weight. Useful advice was given as to the adaptation of the tower, which is more or less surrounded by public buildings and hotels, and it is gratifying to know that as an outcome, eight of the 13 bells are to be hung for ringing and the tenor is to be 15 cwt. Messrs. Taylor and Co. have been given the contract, and they are also to fit an Ellacombe chiming apparatus.

A few years ago the base of the tower was built, together with a long porch connecting it with a south-west entrance. The happy link with the English Cathedrals, referred to above, is to be found in stones from some dozen or more of them set in the walls of the porch and each identified by a small brass plate.



When the English tourists were in Hobart, the base of the tower had been carried up to the roof level of the porch, and it was expected that the further work, which had not then been begun, would be finished in about eighteen months.

Our picture shows the architect's completed design.

The only other peal in the island, which is nearly as large as Ireland, is at Holy Trinity Church, Hobart, which has a ring of eight with 9¾ cwt. tenor.

SPLICED KENT AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR.

METHODS CHANGED AT THE LEAD ENDS.

The peal of Spliced Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Major which was rung at St. Mary's Church, Willesden, on July 23rd, was arranged as follows: Each course was rung, in leads, K.O.K.K.K.K.O. Thus Kent was rung to the M. lead, when the method was changed to Oxford. Any bobs M. were, of course, rung as Oxford. At the lead when the tenor came into fourth's place, the method was changed to Kent, which was rung until the W. lead, four leads in all. Oxford was then rung for one lead, until the H. lead. Any bobs W. were rung as Oxford, and bobs H. as Kent.

This arrangement, which is by Mr. A. G. Driver, of Belvedere, is, we believe, now rung for the first time.

Any peals of Treble Bob with the tenors together will run true to this arrangement, but it must be understood that the changes of method *must* be called alike in *all* courses. The following variations may, however, be made. All Kent leads may be rung as Oxford, and all Oxford leads as Kent, *but each course must be rung alike*. Another variation may be had by calling as shown, with Oxford at the H. leads, with a similar proviso, that all courses must be alike.

The composition rung on this occasion was a 5,056 by J. Reeves, in 13 courses, commencing with two bobs Home. Thus there were 51 changes of method, and *no full courses* of either method throughout. The changes of method were, of course, made at the lead ends.

BENHILTON RINGERS' OUTING.

All Saints', Benhilton, ringers had their annual outing on July 21st and visited Westerham, Godstone and Warnham. Only handbells were rung at Godstone, because of a case of sudden serious illness near the church. Two ringing parsons accompanied the party—the Rev. C. F. T. Willis, assistant priest at Benhilton, and Canon G. H. Ridout, who is home on holiday from Johannesburg—and everyone had a thoroughly enjoyable time. Thanks are hereby tendered to the various incumbents for the use of the bells, and to the local ringers for their kind assistance.

SUNDAY SERVICE TOUCHES.

IPSWICH. — On Sunday morning, July 14th, at St. Mary-le-Tower Church, 1,056 Cambridge Surprise Maximus: W. Tillett 1, Miss P. E. Tillett 2, C. J. Sedgley 3, H. E. Smith 4, H. E. Symonds 5, E. Talbot (Beddington) 6, G. A. Fleming 7, J. Euston (Tooting) 8, C. A. Catchpole 9, W. P. Garrett 10, W. J. G. Brown 11, F. J. Tillett 12. First touch of Cambridge Maximus by E. Talbot.

KINGSBURY, MIDDLESEX.—At St. Andrew's Church on Sunday evening, July 14th, a quarter-peal of Bob Major (1,264 changes): E. B. Hartley 1, Miss E. Lakin 2, E. Lankester 3, F. Wilson 4, G. M. Kilby 5, F. Barrett 6, H. Kilby 7, J. H. Riding (conductor) 8. Ringers of 1, 2, 4 and 6 belong to Kingsbury, the rest to Willesden, and this was the first quarter-peal on the bells since their removal, with the church, from Wells Street, London.

DEATH OF MR. W. STEED.

A WELL-KNOWN KENT RINGER.

After having been in indifferent health for some time, Mr. William Steed, a well-known ringer at Tonbridge, Kent, and Master of the Parish Church ringers, passed away on July 22nd at the age of 66 years. Mr. Steed was an excellent ringer and formerly rang many peals.

A native of Hildenborough, he had completed 50 years of service with the firm of Messrs. H. T. White and Co., Ltd. (of which he rose to be a director), and its predecessors. He was very highly respected by his fellow-townsmen and was one of the oldest members of the Town of Tonbridge Lodge of Oddfellows, of which he was a P.G. and treasurer up to the time of his death.

He leaves a widow (a sister of Mr. Keith Hart, of Brighton), three sons and a daughter in bereavement.

The funeral took place on Thursday week, a service in the Parish Church preceding the interment in Tonbridge Cemetery. The Rev. Canon Stuart H. Clark conducted the service. The family mourners were Mrs. Steed (widow), Mr. and Mrs. William Steed (son and daughter-in-law), Mr. Rupert Steed and Mr. Leslie Steed (sons), Mr. Robert Steed (brother), Mr. and Mrs. V. Croad (son-in-law and daughter), Mr. and Mrs. H. Hart (brother-in-law and sister-in-law), and Mr. Keith Hart (brother-in-law).

The 'Town of Tonbridge' Lodge of Oddfellows was represented, and many of deceased's fellow-townsmen were present to pay a last tribute of respect. There were a large number of wreaths.

AN APPRECIATION.

The death of Mr. William Steed has robbed the Kent County Association of an old and valued member. We had rung some 24 peals together, the first being at Tonbridge, on Easter Monday, 1895. This was followed by many at Edenbridge, Brighton, Lewes, Worthing, Warnham, Ashford, Staplehurst, Rolvenden, Westerham, Crawley and Havant (Hants); and on one occasion, on Tuesday, December 27th, 1898, we rang together three complete peals in one day, at Lewes, Ringmer and Buxted, which were conducted by Mr. Keith Hart. Mr. J. S. Goldsmith also took part in these peals. I well remember we had rung a peal at Warnham the previous day and stayed the night at Brighton. Catching the 5.40 a.m. train next morning to Lewes, it struck 12 midnight as we were walking up Tonbridge High Street after a very strenuous day.

Previous to his marriage we spent many holidays together at Brighton, where peals had been arranged, meeting ringers from Bedford, Kidderminster and other places.

Mr. Steed was of a most amiable disposition, a keen ringer and good striker. He was a member of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, and for many years he was elected as representative of the Tonbridge District to the Kent County Association. Until his illness some two years ago Mr. Steed was always in his place for Sunday service ringing, never despising ringing Grandsire Doubles with three covering bells if that was the best that could be had. Altogether he had rung over 70 peals.

J. S.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH-WESTERN DIVISION AT BENTLEY.

The meeting of the South-Western Division at Bentley, although favoured by glorious weather, was not quite so well attended as usual, only 35 members and friends putting in an appearance, but, despite this, everyone present had a most delightful time.

The church at Bentley is situated in the midst of pinewoods, a most delightful spot. The bells, a light five, were soon going to various methods. In the absence of the Vicar, who was on holiday, the service was conducted by the Rev. F. H. Proctor, Rector of South Weald, who gave an inspiring address. Mr. and Mrs. Sherry having kindly given permission to use their grounds, another most delightful spot, the ringers found awaiting them a tea arranged by the members of the Bentley band, their wives and friends, everything having been provided by the lady members of the church.

At the business meeting three new members were elected, and Havering chosen as the place of next meeting, to be held on Saturday, September 21st next (will other district secretaries please note?).

The business concluded with a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for allowing the use of tower and bells, the Rector of South Weald for kindly taking the service, the organist and organ blower, to Mr. and Mrs. Sherry, to the donors and helpers at the tea, and to Mr. G. Wyatt and members of the Bentley band for making the necessary arrangements.

After the business had been disposed of, some of those present again visited the tower, whilst others made their way to South Weald for a pull there. The remainder preferred hiking and enjoyed a walk back to Brentwood via the fields and Weald Park, one well-known ringer especially being very much struck by the charm and beauty of this part of Essex. During the afternoon members were present from Brentwood, Prittlewell, South Weald, Shenfield, Romford, Bentley, Leytonstone, Walthamstow and Fryerning, and many six-scores of various five-bell methods were rung.

TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

150 RINGERS AT FESTIVAL.

The annual festival was held at Stratton, in the extreme north-east of Cornwall, on Saturday, July 20th. The weather cleared from a rather wet morning, and there was an excellent attendance of some 150 ringers. The majority of the Guild are round ringers and attend in bands or 'sets,' and many, who came from the extreme west, made an early start and rang in wayside towers on the way up.

At the festival itself the following towers were available: Bridgerule (8), belonging to the Devon Guild, where there is an expert change ringing band, Stratton (8), Marhamchurch, Kilkhampton, Whitstone and Poundstock, all six-bell towers.

Evensong was sung at Stratton, followed by tea, at which the Ringing Master expressed his appreciation of the fact that for the first time since its revival the festival was thoroughly representative, all the officers being present and representatives of all branches and life members.

The hon. secretary (the Rev. W. H. Trewhella), proposing thanks to the various incumbents and other helpers, also welcomed the guests, the Bridgerule men. He 'took off his hat,' he said, to them, who, by sheer determination during the few years the bells had been there, had raised themselves to such efficiency. They set an example which other change ringers might follow.

Dr. J. Symons, the president, seconding the vote, said that it was always a great pleasure for him to come to Stratton, where he had learnt to ring and where he met many descendants of old friends; though one of his greatest friends wasn't married, and 'he didn't think he left any descendants.' Subdued laughter began to ripple round the room as it penetrated our thick skulls! says our correspondent.

The bands represented included Callington, St. Stephen-in-Brannel, South Petherwyn, St. Dennis, Redruth, Zennor, Towednack, Stratton, Lanceast, Werrington, St. Stephen-by-Launceston, St. Mary Launceston, Cury and St. Anthony-in-Meneage, who rang rounds and call changes. Half-pull ringers were represented by Bridgerule, Plymouth (St. Andrew's), Truro Cathedral, Gulval, Manaccan, St. Gluvias, Penryn, Tuckingmill, Camborne and Landulph.

SUFFOLK RINGERS IN ESSEX.

The Helmingham, Suffolk, band, accompanied by a few friends, went on a tour in Essex for their annual outing. Starting at 6 a.m. by motor-coach, the party, numbering 19, had a lovely run of 75 miles to Loughton, where Mr. E. J. Butler met them and acted as pilot. After an hour's ringing here they went on to Leyton, where another hour was spent on the light ring of eight. After lunch, which Mr. C. A. Hughes had kindly arranged for them at the Old Vicarage, the party went on to St. Saviour's, Walthamstow, and then to West Ham, ringing at both places before going to Barking, where Mr. E. Moore had kindly arranged tea, which was very much enjoyed. A course or two on the tower bells finished the ringing for the day. Home was reached about midnight, and so ended a perfect day. The ringing during the day included the four standard Surprise methods, Stedman Triples and Caters, Kent Treble Royal and Major and Double Norwich. One course of Kent was rung by fathers and sons, namely, William G. and Hector Crickmer, George and James Bennett, Albert E. and George Whiting, and Alfred S. and Leslie C. Wightman. The party would like, through 'The Ringing World,' to thank all incumbents for the use of bells and steeplekeepers for having everything ready, and last, but not least, Mr. Hughes, Mr. Moore and Mr. E. J. Butler for making possible this delightful day.

DISS RINGERS EXPLORE LINCOLNSHIRE

On Saturday, July 13th, the ringers of St. Mary's, Diss, with Messrs. E. Whiting, Alphæus Berry, J. Mayes and Harry Moss (well known to the local ringers as 'Sugar Beet Harry'), left Diss at 6.45 a.m. for their annual outing. The first call was at Long Sutton and the ringing commenced with a well-struck course of Superlative Surprise on this fine new ring of eight. Then on to Boston, where up in the wonderful 'Stump' Kent Royal was rung. After lunch Surfleet was visited, where touches of Bob Major, Stedman Caters and rounds on the twelve were rung, after which they had tea and went on to Spalding (eight bells). A halt was made at Narborough on the return journey, and, not finding a tower, the handbells were brought into use. Finally Diss was reached at 11.45 p.m. after travelling 170 miles during the 17 hours. The only serious mishap was as 'Alphæus' was descending Boston Stump and a visitor was ascending, a 'jam' occurred half-way down. Someone suggested 'Alphæus' should try a course of slimming, which he commenced at lunch time. Through the medium of 'The Ringing World' thanks are expressed to the clergy for the use of the bells and to the ringers who assisted, especially Mr. Rupert Richardson, who kindly helped with the arrangements.

A. G. H.

APSLEY END, HERTS.—For 6.30 p.m. service on Sunday, July 28th, 720 London Surprise Minor: William Feasey 1, Horace L. Waite 2, Francis Tompkins 3, Augustin V. Good 4, William J. Randall 5, Walter Ayre (first of London as conductor) 6. First of London by all except the conductor and first attempt.

SEVEN 720's IN 32 SURPRISE METHODS.

ARRANGED BY A. G. DRIVER.

	23456	Hanley		23456	Rossendale		23456	Beverley	
—	23564			35264	Stamford	—	35642		
	36245		—	56423	Rossendale		42563	Hexham	
	64352			62534	Stamford		26435		
	45623	Allendale		23645			63254	Beverley	
—	45236			34256	Rossendale		54326		
—	45362			45362		—	42635		
	56423	Hanley	—	56234	Annable's London	—	23564	Surfleet	
	62534			34625			64352		
	23645			25463			52436		
	34256			63542			36245		
—	34562			42356			45623		
	46325		—	56342	Lightfoot	—	52364	Durham	
	62453		—	64235	Wearmouth		26543		
	25634			35426	Lightfoot		64235		
—	25346			26543	Wearmouth		43652	York	
—	25463	Milton		43652			35426	Durham	
	42356			52364		—	35264	Berwick	
	34625		—	26435	Netherseale		56342		
	63542			54326			64523	Beverley	
	56234			63254		—	42356	Durham	
—	42563	Hanley		42563			25463		
	26435			35642			56234		
	63254		—	42635	Lightfoot		63542		
	35642	Westminster	—	23564			34625	York	
—	35426			64352	Rossendale	—	34256		
—	35264			45623	Stamford		45362	Durham	
	56342	Hanley		52436	Lightfoot		56423		
	64523			36245			62534		
	42635		—	64523			23645		
	23456			23456		—	23456		

	23456	Chester		23456	London		23456	Northumberland	
—	23564	Newcastle		42635			56342	Carlisle	
	45623			64523	Wells		64523		
	36245			56342	London		42635	Northumberland	
—	45236		—	23564	Cunecastre	—	23564	Sandiacre	
	62345	Alnwick		36245		—	45236	Northumberland	
—	45362	Munden		64352			36524	Carlisle	
	56423			45623			62345		
	62534	Chester	—	45236			24653	Northumberland	
	23645		—	45362	London	—	45362	Sandiacre	
	34256			34256			34256		
Repeat twice			Repeat twice.			Repeat twice.			

	23456	Cambridge		23456	London
—	35642	Norfolk		42635	
	26435	Ipswich		64523	Wells
	42563	Hull		56342	London
	63254	Cambridge	—	23564	Cunecastre
	54326			36245	
—	42635	Ipswich		64352	
—	56423	Primrose		45623	
	62534	Bourne	—	45236	
	45362	Ipswich	—	45362	London
	34256			34256	
Repeat twice.			Repeat twice.		

In this peal there are 110 changes of method. It contains the greatest number of Surprise methods that can be rung in seven 720's. It was rung at Lamberhurst, Kent, on March 2nd, 1935.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD

ANNUAL FESTIVAL AT SKETTY.

The Swansea and Brecon Guild held its twelfth festival at Sketty on Saturday, July 20th. There was an excellent attendance from all parts of the diocese. The festival service, held at St. Paul's Church, was intoned by the Rev. J. Thomas, the lesson read by the Lord Bishop, whilst the sermon was preached by Canon H. J. Stewart, Vicar of Sketty. Mr. Clifford H. Trotman, L.T.C.L., presided at the organ. After service, tea was partaken of at the Church Hall, by kind invitation of Mrs. Stewart, who was unable to be present through indisposition.

At the annual meeting, over which the Bishop presided, the statement of accounts, showing a credit balance of £47 19s. 1d., was presented by the hon. treasurer and passed.

The president (Lord Bishop of the Diocese) and vice-presidents were re-elected. Canon Edwards Davies, Vicar of Swansea, was appointed vice Canon W. T. Havard (now Bishop of St. Asaph), and Col. J. J. Jones was unanimously appointed as an additional vice-president. Mr. S. T. Rackham (Master of the Guild), Mr. Charles Powell (hon. treasurer), Mr. L. T. Havard (hon. secretary) and Mr. E. I. Rowlands (hon. auditor) were re-elected. Mr. Gwyn Lewis was re-elected as Central Council representative for a further term of three years, with Mr. Edward Phillips (Cadoxton) to act as deputy. Committee members, with the exception of two deletions, were re-elected.

The Chairman extended a hearty invitation to the Guild to hold its next festival at Brecon. With regard to the ringing competition for 1936, Neath requested the Guild to hold the event at their tower, provided that the necessary arrangements could be made. It was decided to accept the invitation, but in the event of failure, Mr. D. J. Lewis assured the meeting that the competition could be held at Cadoxton.

On the proposition of Mr. E. Stitch, the meeting decided to send a message of congratulation to Mr. Gwyn Lewis (the Guild's popular Central Council representative) upon his recent marriage.

Discussion took place upon the old question of contributions to the parent Guild by the districts, but it was decided that the rule in its present form should remain.

The meeting closed with a hearty vote of thanks to Canon Stewart for his address, and to Mrs. Stewart for catering for the large company present.

A BROADCAST FROM FINCHLEY.

On Sunday, July 28th, at the Parish Church of St. Mary, Finchley, 720 and 360 Bob Minor was rung for the broadcast service, the last five minutes being radiated from the Regional station: F. Tubb 1, P. Blake 2, W. J. Norton 3, F. Cherrett 4, A. Warren 5, F. Barker (conductor) 6.

LINCOLNSHIRE RINGERS' JOY RIDE.

COMMENTS ON THE BELLS THEY MET WITH.

On Saturday, July 20th, ringers from the Frampton (near Boston) district spent a day ringing in the neighbourhood of Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire.

The party made their first stop at Croxton Kerrial. Here a quite pretty six, which have only been rung once (on Jubilee Day) in the last two years, were soon set going to Single and Double Court, Kent Treble Bob and Willesden Delight. The striking was quite good considering how bells suffer from lack of use, and the fact that two bells repeatedly threw their ropes.

The next stop was made at Waltham-on-the-Wolds, where the pretty six (tenor 10 cwt.) were utilised. It was rather surprising that although these bells move quite considerably in the frame, they 'go' quite well.

After lunch the party went on to Asfordby, where a tricky six (due to a 40ft. rope fall without guides) were soon rung to Old Oxford, College Bob IV. and London Bob.

Whissendine was then visited. These bells (six, tenor 17 cwt.) are not rich in tone, being rather dull, and also rather heavy at hand stroke. At Langham, where Single and Double Court, Kent Treble Bob and Cambridge Surprise were rung, it was certainly a delight to hear such a pretty six well struck. They were worthy of the pains. After tea in Melton, the party left for Ashby Folville, where there is a delightful but very light eight. This, it is sad to relate, rather spoilt some of the striking, but touches of Grandsire, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob Major were brought round. Following this the party journeyed home via Oakham, Stamford and Bourne, arriving about 12.30 a.m. after spending a most enjoyable day, with everyone pleased at having rung in six new towers.

The party were most cordially received at every church, which they greatly appreciated. It helps to foster a feeling of fellowship amongst the ringers of neighbouring counties.

GREAT TEY RINGERS' OUTING.

The ringers of St. Barnabas', Great Tey, Essex, had their annual outing on July 17th, and were again honoured by having the Vicar and two churchwardens with them. They also had a beautiful day. They rang at St. Mary's, Dunmow; Bishop's Stortford; St. Mary's, Ware; St. Andrew's, Hertford; a peep at St. Albans Cathedral, then on to St. Mary's, Watford, and St. Edward's, Romford, reaching home at 10.45 p.m.

The ringers would like to thank, through 'The Ringing World,' all incumbents and steeplekeepers for having everything in readiness, which greatly added to the pleasure of the day.

AGE AND YOUTH AT BIRCH.

TENOR BELL FAILS IN FAREWELL PEAL.

At the invitation of the Vicar (the Rev. A. E. Horner) and wardens of St. James' Church, Birch-in-Rusholme, Manchester, ringers from the Manchester diocese attempted a peal of Grandsire Triples on July 20th, on the occasion of the retirement of Mr. Edwin Burroughs, after 57 years, and Mr. Walter Ryder, after 48 years' service as ringers at St. James'. The peal, however, failed owing to the tenor running badly in spite of the efforts of the local enthusiasts to assure every comfort and ultimate success. Mr. J. Wilson, ringing the tenor, was compelled to relinquish the task, asking that the bells be brought into rounds after one hour, the attempt ending after 1,740 changes. Ringing was, however, to be continued, the Birch youth, eager to know what had gone wrong, stormed the belfry, and, with the assistance of the visitors, several touches of Grandsire Triples were rung. The youths are mostly learners, and would welcome assistance on Thursday, the weekly practice night.

In the Schoolroom, known as the 'Old Birch,' some 30 people partook of a sumptuous tea. The Rev. A. E. Horner spoke of the meritorious service rendered by the retiring stalwarts of the belfry, and as a fitting remembrance a tablet is to be placed in the belfry recording their faithful service to the church. The Vicar thanked the visitors for the splendid effort to honour their ringing comrades, and said he was sorry the tenor bell would not rise to the occasion. However, Mr. Mossely had informed him the home team had had an opportunity of getting a pull with more experienced ringers, and he assured the visitors the youths had enjoyed it very much. He (the Vicar) felt very proud of his young band, who consisted of undergraduates at Oxford and Cambridge Universities, a clerk-in-orders, engineers and young men of good understanding, but they had much to learn. They were, however, ambitious, and would in due course 'make something of the long list of figures with zig-zag lines running through them.'

Mr. Wallace Hatton, proposing a vote of thanks and a hearty welcome to the visitors, hoped the visit, although disappointing regarding the peal, would foster friendship between the visitors and the youth of Birch.

Mr. W. W. Woistencroft, responding on behalf of the visitors, spoke encouragingly to the young ringers, urging them not to neglect their theory at home, but to study there and put it into practice in the tower. He thanked the Vicar, wardens and ladies for their reception, and wished Mr. Burroughs and Mr. Ryder good health for many years to come in their well-earned retirement.

A course of Grandsire Caters was rung on handbells by the visitors, and, returning to the tower, short touches of Kent, Stedman, Plain Bob and Grandsire completed a very happy evening despite the lost peal.

RINGERS' OUTINGS.

The ringers of St. Peter's Church, Chatteris, Cambs, visited Haverill, Great Yeldham, Castle Hedingham, Gestingthorpe and Lavenham on their annual excursion. They were accompanied by Messrs. E. Waking (Somersham), F. Warrington (Over) and G. Whybro (Cambridge). At Gestingthorpe 720 Cambridge Surprise was rung. Tea was had at Sudbury, before going to Lavenham. Everyone present voted it the most pleasant outing ever arranged, and they were particularly delighted with the bells at Lavenham.

SWINDON RINGERS VISIT LOUGHBOROUGH.

Swindon Parish Church ringers' outing proved a very successful excursion. The party left Swindon at 6.55 a.m. by rail to Oxford, where a motor-coach was provided. At Southam a few touches were brought round on the nice peal of eight, and then they went on to Dunchurch for refreshments. The objective of the outing was Loughborough, and on arrival an excellent lunch was served at the King's Head Hotel. A visit was then paid to Messrs. John Taylor and Co.'s foundry, and a very interesting time was spent under the guidance of Mr. Colin Harrison. The inspection was followed by a pull on the foundry's light peal of ten, and then, at the Parish Church, ringing on this fine ten was very much enjoyed. Going next to Leicester, half an hour's ringing took place at St. Margaret's, everyone being delighted with this beautiful peal of twelve. Afterwards a leisurely journey was made to Oxford, the party eventually reaching Swindon at 11.30 p.m. after a long but very enjoyable day. The ringing ranged from rounds to Stedman Cinques, and cordial thanks are extended to the Rev. O. M. Jones, of Southam, and the verger, Messrs. J. Taylor and Co. and Mr. Harrison, and Messrs. Josiah and Ernest Morris for their help in making the outing a success.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

SWINDON BRANCH.

The half-yearly meeting of the Swindon Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association was held at Highworth on June 15th. Visitors were present from Faringdon and Aldbourne. At the business meeting reference was made to the loss sustained by the death of Mr. Ernest Bishop, the members standing for a few moments as a last token of respect.

No meeting was arranged for July owing to the G.W.R. works holidays. Bishopstoke and Stratton St. Margaret were proposed for August and September respectively.

'A GREAT ADVENTURE.'

TO BE PUBLISHED ON AUGUST 14th.

The story of the Australian and New Zealand ringing tour will appear in the book 'A Great Adventure,' to be published by 'The Ringing World' on Aug. 14th. There has been a great demand for this interesting record of the historic bellringing journey and those who desire to possess a copy must order it at once, or they may be too late, as only a limited edition will be printed.

The book, illustrated with forty photographs and bound in stiff covers, is 2s. post free. *Write now*, enclosing remittance to secure a copy, to

'The Ringing World,'
Woking, Surrey.

Those who previously intimated their intention to subscribe should, if they have not already done so, forward a remittance at once, so that the book can be despatched to them immediately on publication.

LYME REGIS RINGERS IN SOMERSET.

CONTRASTS IN BELLS.

The Lyme Regis ringers mustered in full strength for their annual outing on July 20th, an early start enabling them to reach Shepton Mallet by 9.15 a.m., where some good touches were rung on this fine eight. A short break was taken for buns and coffee, then on to Chewton Mendip. This is one of the gems of Somerset, certainly for the situation of its church and beautiful tower, but specially for its bells, glorious in their depth of tone. Some well-struck Stedman and Major whetted the appetite for more, but, Bath being the objective for lunch, time did not permit. A stop at Corston provided a fierce contrast in metal; here was a tenor of 9 cwt. and seven other screaming little bells. At least that was the effect inside the tower. Quite a short spell of ringing sufficed and Bath was reached about 1.15.

After lunch St. Michael's eight were available for just half an hour, which period was made good use of with touches of Stedman and Kent Major. Freedom for shopping and a look round filled the afternoon, but, alas! the time table suffered severely, for at the hour scheduled for departure the bus could not be found! Eventually after a game of hide and seek using up a precious 40 minutes, the retrieved wheels were turned towards Bradford-on-Avon. On arrival tea had to be first realised, and there was not much time to explore the quaint old town, for the hill had to be climbed again to obtain a ring on the pleasant Christ Church eight. Leaving Bradford in the evening sunshine, the route to Castle Cary was particularly interesting, giving extensive views, on one side the 'White Horse' of the Downs and Glastonbury Tor, backed by the Mendip Hills on the other. Only a brief ring was possible at Castle Cary, as Yeovil was the final tower on the programme and the clock was speeding round. At 8.40, however, the bus came to a halt by Yeovil Church, and those who were not too tired thoroughly enjoyed half an hour's Grandsire and Stedman on the back eight. Home was reached again just before 11 p.m.

The Lyme Regis band wish to thank most warmly all the incumbents who so readily gave permission for their bells to be used; also Mr. Prescott, of Bath, Messrs. Andrews and Slade at Bradford-on-Avon, Mr. Creed at Castle Cary, Mr. Baker and others of Yeovil, who met the visitors with such kindly welcome and had everything in readiness for them.

C. C. C.

ROUND THE TOWERS OF NORFOLK.

The annual outing of the ringers of St. Clement's Church, Ipswich, took the form of a tour of Norfolk towers. They were accompanied by friends from Rushmere, the party, numbering 14, travelling by motor-coach. The first stop was at Eye (eight bells). Calls were then made at Dickleburgh (five), Long Stratton (six) and Saxlingham Nethergate (eight) before dinner. This was excellently served at the Red Lion Hotel, Stoke Holy Cross. There being no bells here, the next stop was at Shottesham All Saints (five), where access to the belfry is by an iron spiral staircase outside the tower. This church stands in ideal country. Then on to Brooke (six), a round tower: Bergh Apton (six) and Loddon (eight), where the bells required ringing. On the return journey, after tea at Loddon, a call was made at Norton Subcourse (six), where, as also Long Stratton, was found another round tower. Here the bells and ropes required some attention. Time being lost at some of the towers, it was decided to leave out the last call at Laxfield, and run straight home, which was reached at 10.45 after a most enjoyable day. The weather, although dull, was ideal. The ringers wish to thank all who met them or helped to make the excursion a success.

MARRIAGE OF MR. CHRISTOPHER GUDGEON.

On Saturday, July 27th, the wedding of Mr. Christopher Gudgeon and Miss Doris Cooper was solemnised at St. Mark's Church, Worsley, Lancs. Canon Elsee, president of the Lancashire Association, officiated, assisted by the Rev. J. Renshaw, Vicar of Worsley.

The bride, who was attired in peach satin, was given away by her father, and attended by four bridesmaids, who were attractively dressed in blue, with crinoline hats.

As the guests arrived at the Mill Brow Cafe, a great surprise awaited them when Canon Elsee took possession of the two trebles and a course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells, the party including the bridegroom: Canon Elsee 1-2, Christopher Gudgeon 3-4, John Potter 5-6, Joseph H. Ridyard 7-8.

Following the wedding breakfast, a happy party celebrated the occasion until a late hour, the proceedings being brought to a close with a course of Stedman and the singing of Auld Lang Syne, and good wishes for the health and success of the happy pair.

BURNHAM'S YOUTHFUL RINGERS.

The voluntary society at St. Peter's, Burnham, Bucks, have had their second annual 'busman's holiday.' Leaving Burnham at 1.30 by coach, with Frensham as the first objective, the party proceeded via Crowthorne and Farnborough (where they were fortunate enough to meet their Majesties the King and Queen returning from the Royal Review), on through Farnham (where they were badly delayed by traffic jams), arriving at Frensham half an hour late, with Mr. Chuter waiting to greet them at the tower. A pleasant pull on the six bells, then to Frensham Pond, where bathing was indulged in. In order to pick up the lost half-hour, bathing was curtailed, only to lose the half-hour again by the bus waiting on one road whilst the party stayed on another. At Haslemere Mr. and Mrs. F. Bowden were waiting at the tower with a welcome. It was here that the St. Peter's Society's very first pull on ten bells produced quite a good course of Grandsire Caters. After tea they went to S. Nicolas', Guildford, but the party were doomed to be half an hour later everywhere, for en route one one of the firm's buses was found at Milford (the bus should have been at Bognor). However, Mr. and Mrs. C. Hazleden were waiting to receive the party at their second ten-bell tower, where a pleasant half-hour was spent. An unexpected pleasure was the presence of Mr. Pulling, Mr. W. Denyer and Mr. C. W. Denyer. Afterwards, hiring a couple of boats, a race took place on the River Wey. The boat with a lady in the crew was the winner. One can understand the energy of this party, as the captain and deputy captain are 25 and 22 respectively, while the remainder of the band with one exception ranged from 17 years down to 13. The return journey was via Bagshot and Windsor, Burnham being reached about 10.30 p.m. The bus was lined with fruits, crisps, biscuits, pop, 'grown-up pop' and music. Good weather, bells, scenery and company made No. 2 outing taste 'more-ish.' Thanks are given to all incumbents and steeplekeepers for what turned out a most enjoyable outing.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

A quarterly meeting was held at Monks Kirby on Saturday, July 20th, when a good muster of ringers and friends were present. Although but a tiny village with few inhabitants, Monks Kirby boasts of a fine and imposing church, whose bells were augmented and rehung by Taylors in 1921.

The Guild's form of service was conducted by the Rev. B. Richardson (curate), who also gave the address, while the lesson was read by Mr. W. A. Stote.

Tea in the Denbigh Arms, at which between 40 and 50 sat down, was followed by the business meeting, Mr. J. H. W. White (Ringing Master) taking the chair.

The following places were decided upon for the next three meetings: Berkswell for August, Bulkington for September, and Warwick for the quarterly meeting in October.

One new member was elected, namely, E. R. Hawke, of Bedworth.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Vicar for the use of the bells and for the service.

The bells were rung to most of the standard and Surprise methods during the afternoon and evening, and the following towers were represented: Allesley, Chilvers Coton, Nuneaton, Rugby and Stoke, together with the local band.

It is rumoured that 20 ringers were so taken up with Monks Kirby that it was after 11 o'clock before they decided to leave, in spite of the fact that the Denbigh Arms had closed at ten.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

The July meeting was held at Otley on Saturday. It is many years since the society had a meeting at this spot. The church is very old and interesting. The bells were rung up at 3.15 p.m., and, except for a break for tea and the business meeting, were kept going until 9 p.m.

Mr. L. Drake presided at the business meeting, held in the tower, when Mr. Jackson Ewbank, of Birstwith, was elected a member.

The vote of thanks to the Vicar, churchwardens and local company was proposed by Mr. L. W. G. Morris, who, pointing out that this was the third Saturday in succession when the bells had been rung (mainly by ringers from the Leeds District), said they ought to be very thankful for a concession of this nature.

The next meeting is due to be held at Shipley on August 31st.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

ALTON AND PETERSFIELD DISTRICT.

A quarterly meeting of the Alton and Petersfield District was held at Steep on Saturday, July 20th. It is believed to be the first meeting of ringers ever held there and warranted a larger attendance. Members were present from Blackmoor, East Meon, Petersfield and Steep, and a visitor from Farnborough. The bells were rung during the afternoon and evening. The Guild's service was conducted by the Rev. N. M. Livingstone (Vicar), who gave an excellent address. Tea at the Village Hall was admirably supplied by the wives of the Steep ringers.

A short business meeting followed, and the hon. secretary explained that the meeting was then being held at Steep, as it was inconvenient to go to Newton Valence as arranged, in the absence of the Vicar.

It was decided to hold an evening meeting some time in August, and the next quarterly meeting was fixed for September 28th at Froyle.

PORTSMOUTH DISTRICT.

A quarterly meeting of the Portsmouth District was held at Bishop's Waltham on Saturday, when members and friends attended from Alverstoke, Bishopstoke, Bishop's Waltham, Curdridge, Fareham, North Stoneham, Portsmouth (St. Mary's), Swanmore, Southampton, Soberton and Wickham. By kind permission of the Rector (the Rev. N. H. Stubbs), the bells were available to the members during the afternoon. The Guild's service was held, after which the members adjourned to the Rectory garden, where an excellent tea was served.

The Rector was voted to the chair for the business meeting, when the Rev. E. L. Thornton (Rector of Wickham) was elected an honorary member. Messrs. R. Davies, J. Sutton and W. H. Spenser were elected ringing members from Curdridge.

It was proposed to hold the next quarterly meeting at Hambledon on Saturday, October 19th. Votes of thanks were accorded the Rector for the use of the bells, for his kindness to the members in allowing the use of his garden, also to his wife and the ladies who catered for tea.—The Rector suitably responded.

The members then returned to the tower for further ringing, which consisted of rounds, Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Bob Minor, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob Minor, Cambridge and London Surprise Minor.

DEATH OF AN OLDHAM RINGER.

A large circle of friends will regret to learn of the death of Mr. George Barlow, son of Mr. Herbert Barlow, both service ringers at St. Mark's, Gledwick. Mr. George Barlow passed away at the early age of 24 years at Westhulme Hospital on Friday, July 5th, after about six months' trying illness. The interment took place on Tuesday, July 9th. Service was held at St. Mark's, Gledwick, where about 20 ringing friends met the cortege and the 'whole pull and stand' was rung as it came to the church. Mr. J. Kirk, Mr. William Cockshott, Mr. Arthur F. Taylor and Mr. Vernon Sykes, four of the deceased's fellow-ringers, were the bearers. The interment took place in Moorside Churchyard. It was at this church Mr. Barlow began his ringing at 14 years of age. The bells were rung here also, and Mr. Charles Platt (Moorside), Mr. Donald Brown (Manchester), Mr. Vernon Sykes (Oldham) and Mr. Ben Thorpe (Ashton) rang a course of Grandsire Triples over the grave. In the early evening a muffled quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung: A. F. Taylor (conductor) 1, W. Breamer 2, E. Greary 3, S. Holt 4, W. Cockshott 5, J. Kirk 6, V. Sykes 7, C. Platt 8.

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NOTICES.

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ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice will be held at Southwark Cathedral on August 29th, *St. Mary-le-Bow on the 6th, St. Magnus' on the 8th and 22nd, St. Michael's on the 13th, St. Andrew's on the 15th, *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 20th at 7.30 p.m. *Business meeting afterwards.—William T. Cockerill, Hon. Sec., Frodingham, 32, Edgeley Road, Clapham, S.W.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held at All Saints', Higher Walton, on Saturday, Aug. 3rd. Bells ready from 3 p.m. Meeting 6 p.m. All welcome and a good attendance hoped for.—J. Charnock, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held at Blackburn Cathedral on Saturday, Aug. 3rd. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Business important. Members and non-members cordially invited.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Central Branch.—A meeting will be held at Histon on Saturday, Aug. 3rd, at 3 p.m. Good bus service, also trains, Histon, L.N.E. Railway.—F. Warrington, Dis. Sec.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hereford District.—A quarterly meeting of the district will be held at Wellington on Saturday, August 3rd. Bells (6) available 3.30 to 8.30 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea 5.45. 'Red' buses leave Hereford at 3, 3.45 and 4.30 p.m. Fare 10d. return.—R. H. Stickley, Dis. Sec., The Lodge, Fownhope, Hereford.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Eastern Branch.—The quarterly meeting of the above will be held at Langton-by-Spilsby on Saturday, August 3rd. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m.—W. E. Clarke, Hon. Sec., Park House, Norfolk Street, Boston.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held on Bank Holiday Monday, August 5th, at Rotherham Parish Church. Ten bells. Tower open at 1 p.m. Cafes near church. All welcome.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 221, Hanover Street, Sheffield, 3.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Stoke Trister.—The new treble bell will be dedicated by the Bishop of Taunton on Thursday, Aug. 8th, at 7 p.m. New bell by Taylor and Co., Loughborough, making a peal of six. Ringing friends, please note time and date.—S. J. Pound, Bayford.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Newton, near Wisbech, on Saturday, Aug. 10th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock. All ringers welcome.—Edward Barker, Dis. Sec., Shouldham, King's Lynn.

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD.—A ringing meeting will be held at Speldhurst on Saturday, Aug. 10th, commencing at 3 p.m. Will all requiring tea kindly notify me not later than Wednesday next?—G. Lambert, Drummond Hay, Moat Road, East Grinstead.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Archdeaconry of Ely.—A meeting at Stapleford on Saturday, Aug. 10th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service at 4.30.—K. Willers, Sweetbriars, Trumpington, Cambridge.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Edwinstowe on Saturday, Aug. 10th. Bells ready from 2 p.m. Please notify me if you require tea. All ringers welcome.—Robt. W. Stockdale, Hon. Sec., c/o W. J. Bowman, East Markham, Newark.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755). — A bi-quarterly meeting will be held at the Parish Church, Harborne, Birmingham, on Saturday, Aug. 10th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham 11.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch. — The annual meeting of this branch will be held at Ransford Parish Church on Saturday, Aug. 10th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Business 7 p.m. Nominations of officers for the following year. Will all those requiring tea please notify Mr. James Hall, Bank Villas, Ransford, before Wednesday, Aug. 7th?—Wm. O. Farrimond, Branch Sec., 293, Ormskirk Road, Spring Bank, Wigan.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—Meeting will be held at Kirkthorpe on Saturday, Aug. 10th. Bells ready at 2.30. Owing to difficulty in catering, please notify me for tea by Tuesday, 6th (sure). All are welcome.—A. Panther, 29, Avenue Road, Wath-on-Dearne, near Rotherham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Whitworth on Saturday, Aug. 10th. Tower open for ringing at 3 p.m. till 9 p.m. Meeting in the tower at 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend. — H. Hamer, Hon. Sec., 3 Nall Street, Milnrow.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—A meeting will be held at Ruislip on Saturday, Aug. 10th. Bells (8) from 3.30 p.m. Service at 5. Tea, in Fabb's Restaurant, at 5.30 p.m. Quarterly business meeting afterwards. A hearty welcome to all ringers and their friends.—F. W. Goodfellow, 108, Pole Hill Road, Hillingdon Heath.

HERTFORDSHIRE AND MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATIONS.—A joint meeting will be held at Northaw on Saturday, Aug. 17th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service at 5 o'clock. Tea, 1s., each, at 5.30. Please

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KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—A by-meeting will be held at Margate on Saturday, Aug. 17th. Teas will be arranged only for those who notify Mr. Arthur A. Saxby, 117, Canterbury Road, Margate, of their intention to be present, on or before Thursday, Aug. 15th.—Percy W. Smith, Hon. Dis. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — A special joint meeting of the Maidstone and Tonbridge districts will be held at Marden on Saturday, Aug. 17th. Tower open at 2.30 p.m. Special short service, important nature, at 5 p.m. Special attention will be given to members desiring to ring Grandsire and Kent. Please notify Mr. F. Mitchell, Knowles, Howland Road, Marden, for tea, by Wednesday, Aug. 14th.—Alec Richardson, Hon. Sec., Tonbridge District.

LADIES' GUILD AND SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District.—A joint mid-week meeting will be held at Beddington on Wednesday, Aug. 21st. Bells available 3.30 p.m. Tea, 5.30 p.m., at The Harvest Home. All are welcome. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. C. H. Kippin, 6, Courtney Road, Croydon, by Monday, Aug. 19th. — Mrs. E. K. Fletcher and D. Cooper, Hon. Secs.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preliminary Notice. —The fourth annual dinner of the above association will be held on Saturday, October 26th, at the Baths Assembly Rooms, Library Street, Wigan. Arrangements are now well in hand, and a full and interesting day is assured. Tickets 4s. each, and early application will save a lifetime of regrets. Tickets may be had from the following: Mr. A. Parker, 245, Gidlow Lane, Wigan; Mr. N. Brown, 11, Cygnet Street, Wigan; Mr. W. Farrimond, 293, Ormskirk Road, Spring Bank, Wigan. Please apply early. Fuller details later.

MARRIAGE.

GUDGEON—COOPER.—On July 27th, at St. Mark's Church, Worsley, by Canon H. J. Elsey, Philip Christopher Gudgeon to Doris Cooper. Future address: 3, Rhodes Villa, Whitefield, Manchester.

APARTMENTS.

WESTON-SUPER-MARE.—Board residence, terms from 35s. inclusive; August 2 guineas; near sea front.—L. G. Tanner, 4, Hopkins Street ('Phone 348), Secretary, Axbridge Deanery.

PUBLICATIONS.

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SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

MEETING AT DITCHLING.

The Southern Division of the Sussex County Association met at Ditchling on Saturday, June 29th. Good use was made of the light left-handed ring during the course of the afternoon, until a break was made for service and tea.

At the service the Vicar (the Rev. C. P. Williams) gave an interesting address on the text, 'They have neither speech nor language, but their voice is heard among them,' using as an illustration the position of the bells in the tower and their message speaking over the countryside, not in words, but in signification.

The Vicar presided over the business meeting which followed tea in the Church Room. Two new members were elected, namely, Mr. James Topp, of Portsmouth, a non-resident member, and Mrs. M. Kemp, of Seaford, as a practising member.

A hearty vote of thanks was proposed to the Vicar for his welcome to Ditchling, his address and for presiding at the meeting; also to the organist and to the local tower secretary for their work which had contributed to the success of the function.

Members were present from Arundel, Brighton (St. Nicholas', St. Peter's and the Good Shepherd), Shoreham, Lindfield, Turners Hill, Lewes, Twineham, Ditchling, and, later in the evening, Hurstpierpoint and Burgess Hill, a total of about 35.

Ringing consisted of methods ranging from Grandsire Triples to London Surprise, while Minor was rung on the peal of six at Keymer, which were available after tea.

RINGERS' OUTING.

Tunstall, Sittingbourne and Queenborough ringers had a very successful outing. They visited Staplehurst, Cranbrook, Tunbridge Wells on their outward journey, and Speldhurst, Penshurst, Ightham and Wrotham on the homeward run. A ring at all the above towers was much enjoyed, thanks to those in charge for their kind welcome. The methods rung included Grandsire, Plain Bob, Treble Bob, Cambridge Surprise, Stedman and Double Norwich.

FIRST QUARTER PEALS.

BATHWICK.—On July 17th, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung by H. W. Brown 1, A. Evans (conductor) 2, W. Brown (first quarter in any method) 3, R. J. Cousins 4, J. Hallett 5, F. Merrett 6, W. J. Prescott 7, M. Smart 8.

HORNCHURCH, ESSEX.—On Sunday, July 21st, for evening service, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: G. L. Joyce (conductor) 1, T. Sparrow 2, J. Dale 3, A. Rolph 4, J. G. Macdougal 5, C. Wilmington 6, J. Trimmer 7, J. Blay 8. First quarter in the method by ringers of 2, 4, 5, 6 and 8.

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