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THEY HAVE PASSED ON.

During the past year there have been a great many losses to the Exercise by death, and this Christmastide has emphasised the toll that has been taken by the passing of two notable personalities, who have, in their respective spheres, rendered inestimable service to the art. Last week we recorded the passing of Mr. Joseph J. Parker; this week it is a melancholy duty to announce the death of the Rev. H. S. T. Richardson. The former had reached a ripe old age, and his main work for the advancement of ringing was done more than a generation ago. The results of those efforts are perhaps to-day taken for granted, but, in those now somewhat distant years, they were only achieved by patience and diligence. Mr. Parker was contemporary in his work with other great figures in the Exercise, men who left their mark on the art, but in his particular sphere of investigation he had no superior. The peals which he produced in all the Triples methods showed his complete mastery over the problems which many before him had endeavoured in vain to solve. Joseph Parker was another illustration of the fact that in ringing, even on its theoretical side, it is not always the men with the highest educational attainments who achieve the greatest ends. He gained his place in the Exercise by following up a keen curiosity for investigation with a painstaking pursuit of a subject which had previously baffled some of the ablest ringers, and, while his labours were applauded by those who could value his achievements, we doubt if, particularly in recent years, the Exercise has shown the appreciation of his work that it merits. But Joseph Parker was a modest man; he was content in the knowledge of a task well done.

The services which Harold Richardson rendered to ringing were in another category. He was of a later generation, and his work was unobtrusively done in the Central Council. As a member of the Peals Collection Committee, of which in later years he was convener, he undertook the proof of the thousands of Treble Bob peal compositions in the collection in the Council's Library. That in itself was a great task, and, in addition, Mr. Richardson carried on the other work of the committee, and was for some years hon. sec. of the Hereford Guild. Apart, however, from the position which he held in the Council, Mr. Richardson was one of that band of clerical ringers who seem to be rapidly diminishing in the Exercise. They were men who stood out in the efforts they made to put ringers and ringing in the place they ought rightly to occupy, and who were themselves among the leaders of our art. It may be that, in course of time,

(Continued on page 862.)

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another generation will take their places, but recent years seem to have robbed us of a body of clergy who were honoured, not only because they were members of the cloth, but because of the real service which they rendered to the advancement of ringing and the building up of the Exercise. And the Rev. H. S. T. Richardson was one of them.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

BIRMINGHAM.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Monday, December 27, 1937, in Three Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 37 cwt. in C.

JACK M. CRIPPS Treble	*FRANK SKIDMORE 7
WILFRED WILLIAMS 2	HARRY J. SANGER 8
*C. ERNEST SMITH 3	PERCY N. G. RAINEY 9
*RAYMOND OVERY 4	FRANK E. DARBY 10
KENNETH FORD 5	FREDERICK W. ROGERS 11
*FREDERICK A. TARGETT 6	JOSEPH T. DYKE Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by WILFRED WILLIAMS

* First peal on 12 bells. First peal on 12 bells as conductor.

WORCESTER.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 27, 1937, in Three Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 49½ cwt.

GEORGE E. LARGE Treble	THOMAS W. LEWIS 7
SIDNEY T. HOLT 2	CHARLES H. WOODBERRY 8
WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT 3	RAYMOND G. COUSINS 9
JOSEPH D. JOHNSON 4	REGINALD WOODYATE 10
GROFFREY J. LEWIS 5	CHARLES CAMM 11
JOHN S. MASON 6	JACK A. WAUGH Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.

Rung as the annual peal for the association.

IPSWICH.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, December 27, 1937, in Three Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-LE-TOWER,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAXIMUS, 5232 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

FREDERICK J. TILLET Treble	SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER 7
*BERTHA REEVE 2	*CLAUDE SNOWDEN 8
HARRY R. ROPER 3	CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE 9
GEORGE A. FLEMING 4	*JOHN W. WARD 10
ROBERT H. BRUNDLE 5	GEORGE E. SYMONDS 11
*HILDA G. SNOWDEN 6	FREDERICK J. SMITH Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

* First peal of Kent Treble Bob Maximus.

TEN BELL PEALS.

LEEDS, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 18, 1937, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

*EDWIN A. BARNETT Treble	THOMAS E. SONE 6
TOM SAUNDERS 2	WILLIAM WENBAN 7
†DEREK M. SHARP 3	†HERBERT A. HOLDEN 8
*GROFFREY V. MURPHY 4	GEORGE KENWARD 9
HARRY BAKER 5	PHILIP A. CORBY Tenor

Composed by A. P. CANNON. Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.

* First peal of Treble Ten. † First peal of Treble Ten on tower bells. ‡ First peal of Treble Ten away from the treble.

APPLETON, BERKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thursday, December 23, 1937, in Three Hours,
At the Church of St. Laurence,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

*FRANCIS A. WHITE Treble	ARTHUR H. WHITE 6
FREDERICK C. WHITE 2	F. STEDMAN WHITE 7
CUTHBERT G. WHITE 3	GEORGE HOLIFIELD, JUN. ... 8
HENRY C. WHITE 4	RICHARD WHITE 9
FREDERICK MESSENGER 5	FRED WHITE Tenor

Composed by G. HOLIFIELD, SEN. Conducted by G. HOLIFIELD, JUN.

* First peal.

LONDON.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Monday, December 27, 1937, in Three Hours and Forty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Martin-in-the-Fields,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5066 CHANGES;

WILLIAM J. NODDS Treble	CECIL J. MATTHEWS 6
CHARLES T. COLES 2	GEORGE H. CROSS 7
*ARTHUR RADLEY 3	FREDERICK J. CULLUM 8
ERNEST W. FORBANK 4	WALTER AYRE 9
GEORGE RADLEY 5	THOMAS BEVAN Tenor

Composed by F. W. PERRENS. Conducted by CHARLES T. COLES.

* First peal of Stedman Caters and first attempt.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, December 18, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Margaret,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 15½ cwt.

CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE ... Treble	SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER ... 5
KEITH W. WHITTELL 2	GEORGE MORE 6
WILLIAM S. KINSEY 3	GEORGE A. FLEMING 7
CHARLES SHEMMING 4	HARRY D. LISTER Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH.

Conducted by G. A. FLEMING.

ECKINGTON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, December 18, 1937, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

A. PERCIVAL KNIGHTS... Treble	G. GORDON GRAHAM ... 5
WILLIAM A. WOOLER 2	WALTER ALLWOOD 6
ARTHUR KNIGHTS... .. 3	WILLIAM BIGGIN 7
PERCY J. JARVIS 4	THOMAS E. LEE Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by A. P. KNIGHTS.

A birthday compliment to the composer. The composition, No. 219, was rung for the first time.

BOCKING, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 18, 1937, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt. in E.

CLAUDE SNOWDEN Treble	FREDERICK RIDGWELL... .. 5
MISS HILDA G. SNOWDEN ... 2	FRANCIS G. GLEAVES 6
RONALD SUCKLING 3	LEWIS W. WIFFEN 7
JOHN W. WARD 4	ALBERT WIFFEN Tenor

Composed by F. BENNETT.

Conducted by LEWIS W. WIFFEN.

DEVIZES, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 18, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 19½ cwt. in D.

*A. JAMES COLLEY Treble	A. ERNEST STEVENS 5
SIDNEY HILLIER... .. 2	GEORGE J. WINTER 6
†SIDNEY GRANT 3	WILLIAM C. WEST 7
†WILLIAM G. MORTIMER ... 4	JESSE STONE Tenor

Conducted by Wm. C. West.

* First peal away from the tenor. † First peal. ‡ First peal of Triples. Rung as a welcome to the Rector (the Rev. E. S. Dabbs) and as a birthday compliment to the tenor ringer.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 22, 1937, in Two Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes

At the Bell Foundry,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

MIDDLETON'S.

Tenor 6½ cwt.

*GEOFFREY HARRISON ... Treble	CHARLES ALLSOP 5
*LESLIE STEVENS 2	FREDERICK H. DEXTER ... 6
RICHARD F. DEAL 3	RALPH NARBROUGH 7
*FREDERICK A. SALTER ... 4	COLIN HARRISON Tenor

Conducted by COLIN HARRISON.

* First peal in the method.

NETHERSEAL, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 22, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

J. J. PARKER'S THREE-PART, No. 2.

Tenor 12 cwt.

MAURICE SWINFELD ... Treble	ERNEST W. BEARDSMORE ... 5
JOHN H. SWINFELD 2	W. RICHARDSON DRAGE ... 6
SIDNEY F. PALMER 3	JAMES GEORGE 7
JOSEPH BAILEY 4	JOHN CURTIS Tenor

Conducted by MAURICE SWINFELD.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. W. W. Worthington, of Maple Hayes, Lichfield.

CHATHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 27, 1937, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation).

Tenor 25 cwt.

*RONALD E. NORRIS ... Treble	CHARLES E. J. NORRIS ... 5
†DANIEL THOMAS HILL ... 2	EDWARD A. G. ALBEN ... 6
FRANCIS J. CHEAL 3	WILLIAM A. J. KNIGHT ... 7
VICTOR A. JARRETT 4	WILLIAM J. WALKER Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM A. J. KNIGHT.

* First peal. † First peal of Grandsire.

SIX BELL PEALS.

NORTH CRADLEY, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, December 14, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Parish Church,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Ten callings.

Tenor 13 cwt. in F.

S. WILTSHIRE Treble	F. PENN 4
*MRS. F. PENN 2	P. HARDING 5
*E. SIMONS 3	F. SLATFORD... .. Tenor

Conducted by P. HARDING.

* First peal. Rung in honour of the birthday of His Majesty the King.

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NEWTON-IN-THE-ISLE, CAMBS.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, December 17, 1937, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and five 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 10½ cwt.

SIDNEY FLINT Treble	*THOMAS BUSH 4
FRED WIGMORE 2	WALLACE COUSINS 5
*JACK PETCH 3	CLAUDE COUSINS Tenor

Conducted by F. WIGMORE.

* First peal in three methods.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 18, 1937, in Two Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES:

Being forty-two 120's, viz.: 4 Stedman, 8 Plain Bob, 10 St. Dunstan's, 20 Grandsire, with 26 callings. Tenor 6½ cwt.

SIDNEY HARRISON Treble	J. GEOFFREY GEARY 4
RONALD RUSSELL 2	*ARTHUR WILLIAMS 5
ERNEST MORRIS 3	JOHN H. HILL Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.

* First peal 'inside.' † First peal and first attempt, aged 13.

WELLAND, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 18, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one 720 each of College Single and Kent Treble Bob, two of Oxford Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.

ROBERT G. KNOWLES Treble	HARRY PRICE 4
*LEONARD SHEASBY 2	WILLIAM RANFORD 5
FRANK LAWRENCE 3	CHARLES CAMM Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES CAMM.

* First peal.

LANGLEY, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, December 18, 1937, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of London, Norwich and Cambridge Surprise, Double Court, St. Clement's, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 16 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lb. in E.

LEONARD SYLWELL Treble	WILLIAM HENLEY 4
GEORGE MARTIN 2	CECIL C. MAYNE 5
WILLIAM WELLING 3	TONY PRICE Tenor

Conducted by TONY PRICE.

Rung in honour of the wedding of Mr. George H. Limmer, of St. Peter's Society, Burnham, and Miss Mary Leach, of Langley, who were married at this church immediately before the peal.

TUDDENHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, December 18, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three extents of Plain and two each of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 8 cwt.

CHARLES W. PARKER Treble	CECIL H. ALDHOUS 4
JOHN R. CROOKS 2	PERCY K. PARKER 5
OLIVER J. KIDBY 3	WILLIAM J. G. BROWN Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM J. G. BROWN.

Specially arranged as a compliment to the ringer of the treble on attaining his 73rd birthday.

SHARNBROOK, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 18, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, and two 720's each of Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

JOHN HILSON Treble	WILLIAM STOCK 4
HERBERT L. HARLOW 2	HENRY W. GAYTON 5
LEONARD WILLIAMS 3	DONALD L. COCKINGS Tenor

Conducted by HENRY W. GAYTON.

The conductor's 300th peal.

THURLASTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, December 18, 1937, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 6040 CHANGES;

Seven extents. Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 3 lb.

*GEORGE A. CHARLTON Treble	WILLIAM A. WOOD 5
*JOHN H. BAILESS 3	ALFRED BALLARD 5
*FRANK BAILESS 4	FRANK K. MEASURES Tenor

Conducted by FRANK K. MEASURES.

* First Surprise peal. First peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor by all the band, except ringer of the fifth, and first attempt.

APSLEY END, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Monday, December 20, 1937, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF SURPRISE MINOR, 6040 CHANGES;

(1) Cuneacastro; (2) Beverley and Surfleet; (3) Lightfoot; (4) York and Durham; (5) London and Wells; (6) Cambridge and Primrose; (7) Netherseale. Tenor 14½ cwt.

WILLIAM FEASEY Treble	AUGUSTIN V. GOOD 4
WILLIAM J. PODDEFOOT 2	*FRANCIS KIRK 5
HORACE L. WAITE 3	WALTER AYRE Tenor

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

* First peal in 11 methods. There were 54 changes of method. First Surprise peal in 11 methods by all the band, in the county and by the association. A 21st birthday compliment to Miss Hilda Palmer.

WALPOLE ST. ANDREW, NORFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, December 22, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, St. Clement's and three 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 15½ cwt.

SIDNEY FLINT Treble	*GEORGE MASON 4
WALLACE COUSINS 2	LEWIS BUSH 5
FRED WIGMORE 3	CLAUDE COUSINS Tenor

Conducted by F. WIGMORE.

* First peal in five methods on a working bell.

NETTLEHAM, Lincs.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, December 23, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob, St. Clement's, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 11½ cwt.

CLIFFORD A. VESSEY Treble	JOHN FREEMAN 4
*RAYMOND SMITH 2	KENNETH W. MAYER 5
MISS DOROTHY VESSEY 3	JACK L. MILLHOUSE Tenor

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

* First peal in seven methods 'inside.'

BRAMFORD, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Friday, December 24, 1937, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's each called differently with the tenors right way. Tenor 11½ cwt. in G flat.

*RONALD W. STEWARD Treble	FREDERICK J. SMITH 4
CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE 2	GEORGE A. FLEMING 5
MISS SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER 3	*URBAN W. WILDNEY Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE A. FLEMING.

* First peal of Cambridge Minor.

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PEAL NOTES.

AN INCIDENT AT APSLEY END.

The first peal by the Hertford County Association in eleven Surprise Minor methods was rung at Apsley End on December 20th. Four of the 720's were rung with two methods apiece and altogether there were 54 changes of method.

The band, of course, locked themselves in the tower, and at the finish, having lowered the bells in peal, descended the stairs. Someone fumbled with the key; failed to move the bolt of the lock, and then broke the key! The position required a 'council of war,' which was duly convened and the question of escape discussed.

Fortunately the tower is connected to the body of the church by a flat roof. The lightest member of the party was lowered to the ground (about 20ft. below) by a spare rope. He proceeded to the Vicarage, some distance away, for a duplicate key. On arrival—no key! Returning to the outside of the door, he was ordered to go and find a large screwdriver. This he did and the implement was hauled up, taken down and, fortunately, 'did the trick,' being sufficiently strong to remove old screws.

By this time 10 p.m. had struck, which, we gather, was another bit of bad luck.

After a peal of Grandsire Triples on December 18th at St. John the Baptist's Church, Devizes, rung as a welcome to the new Rector (the Rev. E. S. Dabbs) and a birthday compliment to Mr. Jesse Stone, the latter kindly entertained the band to tea. The peal was called by Mr. W. C. West, hon. secretary of the Devizes Branch of the Salisbury Guild, and it was his fiftieth peal as conductor.

Derek M. Sharp rang a peal of Treble Ten at Leeds, Kent, on December 18th, and thus completed peals of Kent Treble Bob from Minor to Maximus on tower bells. It was Tom Saunders' 175th peal, and Tom Sene called a composition, not hitherto rung, by Pat Cannon.

Incidentally, Pat was engaged on the same day ringing the 45 cwt. tenor at Beverley Minster to Treble Ten, but the job had to be 'packed up' after two and a half hours owing to the 'go' of the bell.

Mr. William A. Wood rang his fiftieth peal for the Midland Counties Association when he took part in seven 720's of Cambridge Surprise Minor at Thurlston on December 18th. Three of the band rang their first Surprise peal and two others their first of Cambridge Surprise Minor—all of them at the first attempt.

Mr. Henry Gayton, of Harrold, Beds, rang his 300th peal at Sharnbrook, Beds, on December 18th. He called it from the 5th, the bell on which he rang his first and his one hundredth peal.

Clifford Vessey and Jack Millhouse rang their 40th peal together on December 23rd when the latter called the first peal in seven Minor methods on the bells at Nettleham, Lincs.

The Worcestershire Association's annual peal was rung at Worcester Cathedral on Boxing Day, when Mr. Sid Holt called a peal of Stedman Cinques. A peal on these bells is among the 'big jobs,' and Mr. Jack Waugh, who is the junior steward of the College Youths, rang the tenor.

On the same day a party of twelve paid a flying visit to Birmingham and scored a peal of Stedman Cinques in the Bull Ring. Half a dozen went from the London end and the same number from Bristol district, and the peal was rung for the College Youths.

They were given a welcome and a send-off by a number of Birmingham ringers, including Messrs. Albert Walker, Frank Pervin, Harry and George Fearn, and the youthful veteran, James George.

A peal arranged as a birthday compliment to Mr. W. W. Worthington, of Maple Hayes, Lichfield, and rung at Netherseal, Derbyshire, has also a somewhat pathetic touch. Mr. Maurice Swinfield called Joseph J. Parker's three-part peal of Stedman Triples (No. 2).

The composition was rung for the first time, and it is thought that this was the last peal of Stedman Triples composed by Mr. Parker, whose death took place only two days before the peal was rung.

The peal of Cambridge Minor at Bramford, Suffolk, on Christmas Eve, was rung at the request of the Rector, and was brought round just before the 11.30 p.m. service. It was Urban W. Wildney's fiftieth peal.

The peal at Holbrook, Suffolk, on December 3rd, was Ronald W. Steward's 17th peal and was rung on his 17th birthday. An interesting coincidence.

The peal of Grandsire Triples at Chatham on Boxing Day was rung as a birthday compliment to the daughter of the conductor (Mr. W. A. J. Knight), and on the wedding anniversary of Mr. C. E. J. Norris, who rang the fifth.

Another White, of the well-known Appleton family, has become a peal ringer. On December 23rd, Francis A. White, son of Mr. Richard White, the bellhanger, scored his first peal, in which seven other members of the family took part, including Mr. F. Stedman White, who rang his first peal of Grandsire Caters 62 years ago.

We hope the newest addition of this family so long associated with the bells at Appleton will prove a worthy representative in the ringing sense. He has started well by the unusual performance of Caters for his first peal.

Incidentally the peal was rung on the 33rd anniversary of the wedding of Mr. Fred White and the 32nd anniversary of the wedding of Mr. Arthur H. White.

(Continued in next column.)

FOR BEGINNERS.

INDEX TO ARTICLES.

The pressure on our space in the last few months has caused an interruption in our series of articles for beginners, but we hope to resume them in the new year.

For the convenience of reference we append an index to the articles which have appeared in 1937.

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OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

NORTH BUCKS BRANCH.

A quarterly meeting of the North Bucks Branch of the Oxford Diocesan Guild was held at Buckingham on December 4th. In spite of the wretched weather, a snowstorm being in full force, over 30 members attended, and the bells were rung in various methods. Service was conducted by the Rev. C. D. Read, of Tingewick, and at the meeting after tea the secretary reported that he had been approached by the secretary of the Luton District of the Bedfordshire Association as to whether a joint meeting could be arranged at a later date. He thought that it would do good. It was left to him to arrange the meeting at some convenient date.

The secretary apologised for the absence of the chairman (the Rev. H. Adean Byard, of Newport Pagnell), and thanked the Rev. Read, of Tingewick, for coming at short notice to officiate at the service and for taking the chair at the meeting.

The secretaries of the Central Bucks and Banbury Branch attended the meeting, and a very hearty welcome extended to them.

Ringings varied from Grandsire and Stedman Triples to Cambridge Major.

PEAL NOTES.

(Continued from previous column.)

Another wedding peal was rung on Saturday week at Langley, Bucks, the bride being Miss Mary Leach, of Langley, and the bridegroom Mr. Geo. H. Limmer, member of St. Peter's Society, Burnham.

Miss Sylvia Bowyer and Mr. George Fleming rang their twenty-fifth peal together on Saturday week, when they took part in a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at St. Margaret's, Ipswich.

As a birthday compliment to Chesterfield's veteran composer, Mr. Arthur Knights, a peal of Kent Treble Bob was rung at Eckington, Derbyshire, on Saturday week.

Mr. Knights took part and the peal was called by his son Percival. Another of his compositions, No. 219, was rung for the first time.

A peal of Doubles in four methods was rung on the back six at the Bell Foundry, Loughborough, on Saturday week. John H. Hill rang the tenor and scored his first peal at the first attempt, at the age of 13 years. The peal was conducted by Mr. Ernest Morris, hon. secretary of the Midland Counties Association, who has now called peals of Doubles, Minor, Triples, Major, Caters and Royal on these bells.

THE HERTFORD COLLEGE YOUTHS. THE HISTORY OF AN ANCIENT SOCIETY.

By J. A. TROLLOPE.

Hertford possessed one of the earliest peal ringing bands that we know of, and as early as December, 1724, a month before Annable and the College Youths scored their first five-thousand, they rang 'the whole peal of Tripples.' Then follows a blank, and we hear no more about the doings in the town until September 5th, 1767, when some young and excellent ringers formed themselves into a company and called themselves the Hertford College Youths.

They were not a branch of the London Society, and had no other connection with it than that they borrowed its name, a thing at the time not unusual with provincial bands.

They numbered fourteen, and, so far as we can tell, they belonged to much the same class as do ringers today. The principal officer of the company was the Beadle, for, though the society had a Master and Stewards, they were, as we shall see presently, not ringers, and had nothing to do with the the belfry. There was also a Treasurer and Clerk.

Candidates for election as 'steeple ringers' must have previously rung at least 1,000 changes, and they were ballotted for by 'such of the other steeple ringers as shall be particularly summoned for that purpose.' An entrance fee of one shilling was to be paid to the Beadle. All money received for paid ringing was handed to the treasurer and was shared out on the first club night after Christmas, and upon the feast day, but nothing was paid to anyone who had not rung 1,000 changes. The fines and forfeits were spent on the evening of the first Thursday after Christmas.

The Society rang its first peal two months after its foundation, one of Bob Major at All Saints' Church; a month later they rang 7,056 in the same method; and between then and December, 1788, ten more of Plain Bob and Oxford Treble Bob. Two of these were six-thousands and one was conducted by Thomas Blakemore, the junior partner in the firm of authors who wrote the *Clavis*.

The society shared the exclusive spirit common to the ringers of the time. They paid visits to the St. Alban's College Youths and received return visits, but they did not allow their members to associate with the ringers of the other towers in Hertford, and when it was brought to their notice that Edward Baker had rung several times at St. Andrew's steeple for hire, it was resolved that he be expelled; and he was expelled accordingly.

Like all these old bands they had their quarrels and dissensions. Isaac Spencer, senior, was their most prominent member; at any rate, he was the first to sign the roll when the society was founded. When the first Beadle died he succeeded to the job, but a twelve-month later, at a meeting in All Saints' belfry, it was unanimously resolved that he, having at divers times illiberally reflected upon several members of the society, be expelled; and he was accordingly expelled.

William Hillier took his place, but he did not fare very much better. After three years' service, a meeting, held at the World's End, suspended him from executing the

office of warner or beadle 'for having' ill-treated and abused several members at their meeting last night in All Saints' steeple.'

We can imagine that there was a pretty rough house and not much ringing on that occasion.

However, Hillier made a public submission and was reinstated, but only on very severe terms. 'If in future the said William Hillier shall refuse to obey the reasonable requisitions of the majority of the members or behave to the said members in an unbecoming manner, he shall be immediately discharged and expelled the Society, and if, after such expulsion, any member shall again propose or move for his readmission, such member shall be expelled himself.'

But Hillier had his own party, and later on a general meeting was called which included the stewards, steeple ringers, and handbell ringers, and the last-resolution was expunged. Isaac Spencer was also readmitted.

Another original member, Thomas Phenix, fell out with the company and told them to strike his name off the list, which they did. But some years later he was ringing peals with them.

The steeple ringers were only a section of the Society of Hertford College Youths. There is a reference, noted above, to the handbell ringers who would be tune players, but are not again mentioned. And there were other members whose only interest in the society was the annual feast. In fact, the society was an excuse for a number of the principal men of the town and some of the surrounding country gentleman and parsons to meet once a year and have a good dinner. The first of these feasts was held in 1770, and they continued yearly until 1808. To arrange and manage them there were a Master and four Stewards. The Master, of course, took the chair, and the Stewards were the people who made themselves responsible for the arrangements and the finance.

In the handbook of the Ancient Society of College Youths we are told that the chair was usually taken by the Marquis of Salisbury, supported by Lord Dacre and others of the old country families. That, however, is (to put it mildly) an exaggeration. The chair was not once taken by the Marquis of Salisbury, though that nobleman, when he was as yet only an earl, did attend on one occasion. Lord Fairford was then the Master, and these two are the only noble names that occur, for there is no mention of Lord Dacre. There is mention of a certain Alderman Baron Nathaniel Dimsdale, who was three times Master, but Baron was his Christian name. Three Members of Parliament were Masters and several aldermen, but never one of the steeple ringers.

After the first few years some of the London College Youths attended the feast and sometimes acted as stewards. Thomas Blakemore's name appears in 1776, and afterwards James Darquit, John Lyford, Robert Bly, William Lyford, John Lyford and others. John Briant, the Hertford bell founder, was also a steward on one occasion.

I imagine that what happened here was similar to what happened at St. Stephen's, Bristol. The feast began as a ringers' function, but eventually became an end in itself.

The society made two subscriptions, both for worthy purposes. One of £16 was towards the cost of recasting the two trebles at All Saints'; the other of £10 10s. towards the payment of the National Debt. No doubt this

last amount seems somewhat inadequate to the purpose, but, as was said on an historic occasion, 'every little is a help.'

The last feast was held in 1808, and it seems that before then the ringing in the tower had declined, and soon afterwards practically came to an end; but on Easter Monday, April 20th, 1829, an attempt was made to resuscitate the society and twenty-six men signed as members. They included Edward John Osborn, who was born a Hertford man, and who had already rung his only peal, Grandsire Triples, at St. Andrew's. But it came to nothing, and Osborn, who shortly afterwards left for London, wrote lugubriously, 'It is no longer itself. Friendship gone. Pleasure crash'd. Science lost. And all gone for ever.'

Mention has been made of the first Marquis of Salisbury. He was the first respectable member of the family since Robert Cecil, the first earl, and he owed much to a very remarkable wife who, in old age, was burnt to death in a fire at Hatfield. Osborn says that he was interested in bells and ringing and had sent a fat buck to the Hertford College Youths for their feast. In 1786 he recast the six bells at Hatfield and made them into a heavy ring of eight. The London College Youths were invited to ring the first peal. They stayed three days and, owing to the hot weather, had several unsuccessful attempts before they succeeded. The peal was 5,280 changes of Treble Bob. John Povey conducted, Samuel Muggeridge rang the tenor, and the band included James Darquit, William Lyford, James Worster and Joseph Holdsworth. During their stay they were entertained to dinner at the Salisbury Arms by the Marquis, who presided.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

MONTHLY MEETINGS IN WIMBORNE BRANCH.

A meeting of the Wimborne Branch of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild was held on Saturday, December 18th, at St. James', Poole, 51 members attending. After the service, at which the Rector gave the address, tea was partaken of at the Church House and was followed by the business meeting.

The hon. secretary's report was very gratifying. It showed a record year, in the course of which 13 peals were rung by the branch. Poole bells had been augmented to ten and one other peal was rung in the branch by members of the Ancient Society of College Youths to commemorate the tercentenary of that society.

The monthly meetings throughout the year had not been too well attended, but it was decided to carry on with them for another year, and all meetings were fixed for the fourth Saturday in each month.

The officers were re-elected en bloc, and each made a suitable reply.

The Guild Ringing Master (the Rev. R. H. Gundry) was present, and congratulated the branch on the year's work. They had, he said, a record to encourage them to even greater efforts for the coming year.

Visitors included Mr. G. Preston, secretary of the Christchurch branch of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild, Mr. C. H. Jennings, secretary of the Dorchester Branch of the Salisbury Guild. Other towers represented were Wimborne, Poole, Bournemouth (St. John's and St. Peter's), Corfe Mullen, Lytchett Minster and Lytchett Matravers, Dorchester, Lulworth and Swanage.

Several new members were elected.

The ringing was of a very good standard generally, and the methods rung were rounds, Grandsire Triples, Cambridge Major, Grandsire and Stedman Caters, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob Royal. Many of those present heard the ten bells for the first time, and many remarks were passed about the splendid splice made by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank. The ten bells were lowered in peal at the close of a very successful meeting.

GOLDEN WEDDING.

The service ringers at St. Stephen's, Hampstead, rang their first 720 of Grandsire Doubles on December 19th for service, also in honour of the golden wedding of Mr. and Mrs. Hillard: Mrs. G. Francis 1, R. Harman 2, D. Harman 3, D. Pestell 4, T. Bevan (conductor) 5, G. Octell 6.

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■■■■■

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

A Happy and Prosperous New Year to all readers of 'The Ringing World.'

Mr. A. B. Peck, hon. secretary of the Ancient Society of College Youths, wishes all members of the Society and ringing friends a happy and prosperous New Year.

During ringing at Woodstock, Oxfordshire, on Bank Holiday, a gudgeon of the 17 cwt. tenor broke and the bell fell into the frame.

Naturally the ringers had a fright when the crash came, but it was an exaggeration to say, as did some newspapers, that the ringers 'ran for their lives.'

The Bishop of Manchester has appointed the Rev. Arthur Scott, president of the Lancashire Association, to be the Rector of St. Luke's, Miles Platting, Manchester. The Rev. Arthur Scott is at present Lecturer of Bolton and senior curate of Bolton Parish Church.

It frequently occurs that someone loses either a glove or umbrella in a belfry, but after the opening of Thetford bells one ringer found himself in possession of seven hats, providing him with one for each day of the week, unless they have since been claimed.

'RINGERS' HANDBOOK.'

NEW EDITION OF THE EIGHT-BELL VOLUME.

The best evidence that the 'Ringers' Handbook' fulfils a very useful purpose is the fact that the first print of the complete volume has sold out, and the authors (the Rev. E. S. and Mrs. Powell) have published a new edition. The matter has been carefully revised and some slight changes made, notably in the peals of Grandsire Triples. Holt's Ten-Part disappears, Parker's Twelve-Part is given with transpositions, and a peal by the Rev. E. B. James included.

The book is an excellent instructor. It carries the subject from handling a bell up to the four standard methods—Grandsire and Stedman Triples; Plain Bob and Treble Bob Major—and explains the way to call them. A variety of peals, with explanatory notes, is included. This revised edition is published at 2s. 9d., or six copies for 15s. It can be obtained only from the Rev. E. S. Powell, Staverton Vicarage, Daventry. The six-bell section, as a separate publication, has not yet entered a second edition.

CLASHING OF MEETINGS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I was pleased to see two replies to my letter regarding the clashing of meetings. I am also pleased to hear that Mr. A. H. Smith's meetings are fixed early in the year. As a matter of fact, I knew this already, and consequently as I also know that the Surrey Association meetings are fixed early in the year, it was a still greater amazement to me to see that they would clash. No secretary is asked to know anything about another's meetings of 50 miles distant, but I think it only to the mutual advantage of everyone that they should know something about those held within three miles. It was known that this clash would take place, probably eight months ago, and, therefore, there is absolutely no excuse whatever for either secretary. It showed an extreme lack of co-operation. Anyway, I sincerely hope that both meetings were well attended, and that each tower enjoyed a course of London.

Regarding the Twickenham and Isleworth 'clash,' I am sorry this is the second one this year. Mr. W. G. Wilson apparently thinks he has caught me napping, but I expected someone to bring up about the unfortunate clash between the London County Association, Southern District, meeting at Chiswick and the South and West Middlesex District at Harlington on July 17th. The London County meetings are fixed for the third Saturday in alternate months, and the South and West Middlesex are fixed for the second Saturday. I kept to my Saturday and knew nothing of the Harlington meeting until I saw the notice in 'The Ringing World.' I did, however, mention the date of our next meeting in 'The Ringing World' for June 4th; so facts speak for themselves. Also, as I purposely took note of everyone who attended at Chiswick (it was a very poor attendance, only 18), I learnt that no one at my meeting would have attended at Harlington in any case. Further comment is unnecessary.

I might add, in passing, that I am greatly against any association regarding a tower as in their own territory. A meeting is held at a tower through the courtesy of the local incumbent and the captain of the ringers, and to my way of thinking it matters nothing under whose auspices the meeting is held. But whoever arranges a meeting should first make sure that it does not clash with a neighbouring society, and this can be done by everybody keeping to fixed dates as far as possible, and, if the date has to be altered, getting into communication with the society that has kept to its date. Good feeling will then be retained.

118, Sarsfield Road, Balham, S.W.12.

OLDEST COLLEGE YOUTH.

The oldest member of the Ancient Society of College Youths and Master of the society in 1885, Mr. J. Martin Routh, now living at Tilehurst, Berks, celebrated his 91st birthday on Monday.

Members of St. Michael's, Tilehurst, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples in his honour on December 26th: J. Marsh 1, H. Hunt 2, E. Langley 3, H. Goodger 4, A. Haines 5, J. Lewendon 6, R. Runham (conductor) 7, D. Sellar 8.

DEATH OF THE REV. H. S. T. RICHARDSON.

HON. SECRETARY OF HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

We deeply regret to announce the death of the Rev. H. S. T. Richardson, Rector of St. Nicholas', Hereford, and hon. secretary of the Hereford Diocesan Guild, which took place on December 23rd at Moorcocks, Brasted, Kent, the residence of his brother-in-law, Mr. E. H. Lewis. Mr. Richardson had been seriously ill for some months, and his resignation of the living of St. Nicholas was already in the hands of the Bishop and would have taken effect from the end of the year. He was 55 years of age and leaves a widow and four daughters, to whom, as to his sister, Mrs. Lewis, the sympathy of the whole Exercise will be extended.

Harold Samuel Temple Richardson was the son of the Venerable John Gray Richardson, some time Archdeacon of Nottingham and Rector of Southwell Cathedral. He was at Nottingham High School, and became a Scholar of Trinity College, Cambridge, in 1901. He took a first class in the Classical Tripos 1904, when he took his B.A., a second class in the Theological Tripos in 1906, and proceeded to his M.A. in 1910.

After leaving Cambridge, where he spent five years, he went to Bishop's Hostel, Bishop Auckland, and was ordained deacon in 1907 and priest in 1908. He was curate of Holy Trinity, Darlington, 1907-8, and domestic chaplain to the Bishop of Durham and head of the Bishop's Hostel, Bishop Auckland, 1908-1911.

He then went to St. Mary the Great, Cambridge, under the late Rev. A. H. F. Boughey, where he spent about a year, and afterwards became organising secretary of the Church of England Sunday School Institute, which position he held from 1912 to 1917. Returning to parochial work, he was curate of St. George's, Camberwell, 1917 to 1919 and curate at Ashburton, Devon, 1919 to 1921. In the latter year he married Miss Edith Bond, daughter of the Vicar of Ashburton, and became Rector of Honesay, where he remained until 1927, when he became Rector of St. Nicholas', Hereford.

Mr. Richardson's interest in ringing began when he went up to Cambridge, where he joined the Cambridge University Guild in the same year as Mr. E. H. Lewis, Dr. F. S. Poole and the late Rev. B. H. Tyrwhitt-Drake.

He became treasurer of the Guild in 1902 and held the office of Master in 1903, 1904 and 1905. His first peal was rung with the Guild on June 17th, 1903, a peal of Bob Major at St. Andrew's, Cambridge. Afterwards he took part in many peal performances both for the University Guild and other societies.

He was elected an honorary member of the Central Council in 1908 and devoted a great deal of labour to the work of the Peals Collection Committee. Among the tasks he undertook was the proving of the thousands of peals of Treble Bob, from Major to Maximus, which are in the Council's Library. He was not always able to attend the Council meetings, but whenever he took part in debate, his opinions carried considerable weight among the members.

After he took up residence in Herefordshire he was elected hon. secretary of the Diocesan Guild, and he held this office and his membership of the Council up to his death.

The funeral took place at Brasted on Tuesday afternoon.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

HELP FOR ST. GEORGE'S BELL FUND.

A meeting of the Northern District of the London County Association was held on Saturday, December 18th, at the Church of St. John at Hackney. The bells at this church are a peal that go well if the band ringing 'knows them,' so that, as might be expected, the striking at times was not particularly good. Various methods were rung before the tea interval, when the services of 'Lyons' were requisitioned.

At the business meeting, held in the tower, five new members were elected, and it was announced that the district annual meeting would be held in the city of London on January 8th at St. Lawrence Jewry.

The district secretary (Mr. J. G. A. Prior) announced that he would not seek re-election for the coming year.

A discussion took place regarding the appeal by the Rector of St. George-in-the-East for assistance towards the restoration of the ring of eight at his church. A donation from the district funds of 10s. was agreed upon and a collection realised the sum of 30s. Other plans for assisting the appeal were discussed, and a committee of three was appointed to co-operate with the authorities at St. George-in-the-East.

The District Master then proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector for the use of the bells, and to Mr. Frank Start, Master of the Hackney band, for making the arrangements.—This was carried by acclamation, and Mr. Start briefly replied.

Further ringing then took place in methods up to Cambridge and Superlative.

A pleasing feature of the meeting was that the attendance was comprised almost entirely of district members. Visitors are always very welcome at Northern District meetings, but in the past the success of the meetings has depended largely upon the support of non-district members, a state of affairs that had not reflected much credit on the district members.

'BELLS OVER LONDON.'

MISS DOROTHY L. SAYERS AND THE DISPUTE WITH THE B.B.C.

To the Editor.

Sir.—Mr. J. A. Waugh has, I think, in your last issue, put his finger on the real source of the trouble in this unfortunate dispute, viz., 'the failure of the B.B.C. to obtain agreement with the participants before publishing their programmes.' I should like to explain that all I knew of the matter was that I was asked by the B.B.C. to take part in a programme arranged (as I was informed) by them in conjunction with the A.S.C.Y. The passage selected from my book was not my own choice, and I said at the time that I thought it ill-chosen; but I naturally supposed that it had been decided upon by both parties concerned. I knew nothing whatever about any disagreement until I was rung up by 'The Star' and informed, much to my surprise, that (according to 'The Daily Herald') I was involved in a 'row at the B.B.C.' Needless to say, had I imagined for one moment that any objection to my part in the programme had been raised by Mr. Roughton or any other member of the Ancient Society, I should have refused to collaborate. I strongly deprecate the suggestion that has (probably unintentionally) been conveyed that I had or have any intention of putting myself forward as an authority on change ringing: nothing could be farther from the truth. I am extremely sorry that I should have been made to appear in any way discourteous to the society, who have gone out of their way to do me every possible kindness.

DOROTHY L. SAYERS.

Witham, Essex.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

IS IT TOO BIG FOR EFFICIENT ADMINISTRATION?

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am sure your trenchant criticism in the last issue of 'The Ringing World' will be welcomed by all those who have the welfare of the Lancashire Association at heart. The picture is really blacker than you have painted it: silent towers on Sundays (there are at least three in the Manchester area and one in Preston area that I know of); poorly attended meetings with apparently little or no interest shown by most of the towers.

If we exclude the Liverpool area (which is fairly prosperous), then we can say that the decline in Lancashire is pretty general. I am not criticising our officials, but I wonder if they have ever discussed ways and means of combating this insidious lethargy which has taken possession in the county. I ask, in all seriousness, is our association too big and unwieldy for efficient administration? There are three dioceses in Lancashire; would it be better to form three separate guilds instead of one?

Some few years ago my own branch tabled a motion that each branch should be allowed to control 75 per cent. of its own funds. The committee moved and carried 'that the motion be allowed to lie on the table.' Yet this is already done in the most progressive associations. I mention this to show that there will have to be a different spirit from the committee downwards if this decline is to be arrested. Your leader will make the enthusiastic members think seriously. Let us hope their thought will be transferred into vigorous action.

Preston.

E. R. MARTIN.

A NEW EIGHT IN THE FYLDE BRANCH.

The monthly meeting of the Fylde Branch of the Lancashire Association was held at Poulton on Saturday, December 18th. The big attraction was the new octave by the recent addition of two trebles to the ancient ring of six. All the bells have been cast by Mears and Stainbank and much interest was aroused in the branch as to the success or otherwise of the 'splice.'

The tenor being only around 8 cwt., Poulton can now claim to have the lightest ring of eight bells for many miles around. Owing to the light weight of the bells and easy running (except the tenor), it took quite a long time to bring round easy touches of Bob Major or Grandsire.

Great enthusiasm exists among some of the local ringers for change ringing, and, although they have not yet scored a plain course of Bob Major, the leader has hopes of scoring a peal by about Easter next.

Touches of Bob Major, Grandsire Triples and Stedman Triples were successfully brought round, the bells being rung down in peal at 7 p.m. after an enjoyable meeting.

It was decided to hold the next meeting at Bispham in January.

A TASMANIAN BELL FOUNDER.

In a letter to a Hobart newspaper, Mr. W. C. Elham, of Sandy Bay, wrote: On the occasion of a reception in England by English bellringers, Archdeacon Blackwood expressed a wish that we had a bell foundry in Australia. It will be news to many to learn that a bell foundry existed in Hobart in the 1860's. It was in Barrack Street, and later was used as an engineering factory by Davidson and Brown. J. Swain was the bell founder, and many of his castings still exist in Tasmania, including two of the most sonorous and full-toned bells in Australia, still in use at the St. Joseph's Church and St. George's Church. The Swain family were staunch adherents of St. George's Church. It is generally understood that Swain was the only bell caster in Australia.

RESTORED PEAL AT THETFORD, NORFOLK.

SUCCESSFUL REOPENING MEETING.

After a silence of nearly two years, St. Peter's bells were heard again on Saturday, December 18th, on the occasion of the rededication of the restored peal by the Rev. Canon H. K. Johnston, Rural Dean, Vicar of St. Cuthbert's, Thetford.

The Rector of St. Peter's, the Rev. S. C. Webb, conducted the service, which took the form of a shortened evensong.

Canon Johnston gave an address, in the course of which he referred to St. Peter's bells as not only being of interest to the parish of St. Peter's, but a personal concern of everyone in the ancient borough of Thetford. He expressed the belief that the tones of the bells mingled with the emotions of all, sometimes gladly sometimes sadly, and everyone rejoiced that the restored peal could now fulfil its accustomed task.

Following the address, a procession was formed, consisting of the Rev. Canon H. K. Johnston (Vicar of St. Cuthbert's), the Rev. S. C. Webb (Rector of St. Peter's), the churchwardens (Messrs. T. E. Rudling and W. C. Goodman), and proceeded to the ringing chamber, where the ringers were waiting.

After the dedicatory prayers, and whilst the clergy and churchwardens returned from the tower, eight local ringers rang rounds to announce that the bells were again in use.

At the conclusion of the service, various touches were rung by visitors, and over 40 proceeded to St. Peter's Church Room, where tea was provided, and the Rural Dean, the Rector, churchwardens, and Mr. S. R. Roper, representing Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, were present.

The bells have been tuned and cleaned and rehung in the strengthened oak frame, complete with ball bearings and modern fittings. Everyone expressed their appreciation of the way in which the restoration had been carried through to a highly successful conclusion and of having the peal in perfect ringing order once again.

Gratification was also expressed at the improvement effected by the tuning of the bells, and the visiting ringers voiced their complete satisfaction with the 'go' of the peal, both of which facts reflect credit on the bellfounders.

After tea all the ringers returned to the tower and indulged in Plain Bob, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Double Norwich Court Bob, Cambridge and Superlative Surprise.

The meeting, which was declared the most successful that could be desired, was attended by three district secretaries of the Norwich Diocesan Association, Messrs. H. Tooke (North), A. G. Harrison (South) and J. G. W. Harwood (East Norfolk), and members from Attleborough, Bury St. Edmund's, Caston, Diss, Elveden, Fakenham, Garboldisham, Garvestone, Great Yarmouth, Gressenhall, Hockwold, Norwich, Redgrave, Saxlingham, Shelfanger, Winfarthing, Wymondham and the local company.

The inscriptions, notes and weights of the bells are as follow:—

Treble.—F. Cum Voco Venite. Thos. Osborn Fecit 1790. 6 cwt. 26 lb.

2nd.—E. Thos. Osborn Founder 1790. 6 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb.

3rd.—D. Thos. Osborn, Downham, Norfolk, Fecit 1790. 6 cwt. 3 qr. 16 lb.

4th.—C. 7 cwt. 2 qr. 10 lb.

Our voices shall with joyful sound
Make hills and valleys echo round.
5th.—B flat. T. Osborn 1790. 8 cwt. 1 qr. 1 lb.
In Wedlock hands all ye who join
With hands your heart unite,
So shall our tuneful tongues combine
To laud the Nuptial rite.

6th.—A. T. Osborn Fecit 1790. 9 cwt. 3 qr. 6 lb.

7th.—G. T. Osborn Founder 1790. 12 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb.

Tenor.—F. Town of Thetford 1790. T. Osborn Fecit. Percute Dulce Cano. 18 cwt. 1 lb.

DEATH OF A DOVER RINGER.

The death of Mr. J. B. Saunders, of Dover, removes one of the band of St. Mary's who decided to plod into the art of change ringing some 36 years ago. Joining the Kent County Association, he took part in the first local peal on May 20th, 1903. For a number of years he was hon. secretary, but recently he had ceased to take an active part in ringing owing to ill-health.

The funeral took place on Thursday, December 16th, and in the evening a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung half-muffled by S. A. Wells 1, T. Durham 2, L. Leach 3, W. Kitchen 4, T. Anderson 5, H. Whitehead 6, C. Turner (conductor) 7, E. T. Ellender 8.

LLANISHEN LEADER DEAD.

Mr. Harry Nott, leader of the St. Isen's band, Llanishen, where he had been a ringer for 35 years, passed away on December 16th at the age of 66 years.

Members of the local band attended the funeral and acted as bearers. Touches of Doubles with the bells half-muffled were rung for service on the following Sunday as a tribute to his memory by the following members of the local band: Messrs. Aldridge, A. Bassett, G. Chamberlain, G. Champkin, E. Coles, W. Freeman, A. Porter and G. Talbot.

TWO NEW SURPRISE MAJOR METHODS.

WATFORD.	EASTBURY.	5,120 CHANGES By H. G. Cashmore.				
12345678	12345678	23456	M	B	W	H
21436587	21436587	54632	—	—	—	—
12346857	12346857	35642	—	—	—	—
21438675	21438675	64352	—	—	—	—
24183657	24183657	45623	—	—	—	—
42816375	42816375	32654	—	—	—	—
24186735	24186735	53624	—	—	—	—
42817653	42817653	62534	—	—	—	—
24871635	24871635	23645	—	—	—	—
42786153	28476153	34625	—	—	—	—
47281635	82741635	42635	—	—	—	—
74826153	87246153	42356	—	—	—	—
47286513	78426513	35426	—	—	—	—
74825631	74825631	43526	—	—	—	—
47826513	47286513	54326	—	—	—	—
74285631	42785631	32546	—	—	—	—
72458361	24758361	53246	—	—	—	—
27543816	27453816	25346	—	—	—	—
72548361	72548361	34256	—	—	—	—
27453816	75243816	23456	—	—	—	—
72543186	57423186	34256	—	—	—	—
27451368	54721368	42635	—	—	—	—
24753186	45273186	42356	—	—	—	—
42571368	42571368	35426	—	—	—	—
24517386	24517386	43526	—	—	—	—
42153768	42153768	54326	—	—	—	—
24513678	24513678	32546	—	—	—	—
42156387	42156387	53246	—	—	—	—
41265378	41265378	25346	—	—	—	—
14623587	14623587	34256	—	—	—	—
41263857	41263857	23456	—	—	—	—
14628375	14628375					
14263857	14263857					

16423857 Bob 16423857 Bob

Watford and Eastbury were first rung by the Hertford County Association and the peals were composed and conducted by Mr. Harold G. Cashmore. The same composition was used for both methods. Watford was rung on May 12th, 1937, and Eastbury on November 20th, 1937.

CHRISTMAS BELLS.

At Lyme Regis, Dorset, for midnight Eucharist, Christmas Eve, 720 Bob Minor: R. Keeley 1, J. E. Philbrick 2, H. G. Keeley 3, Rev. C. C. Cox (conductor) 4, F. E. Blackmore 5, C. W. Powell 6. On the feast of St. Stephen, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: Miss L. Keeley (first quarter of Stedman) 1, G. W. Powell 2, J. E. Philbrick 3, S. J. Philbrick 4, Rev. C. C. Cox (conductor) 5, H. G. Keeley 6, G. H. Whitmore 7, F. Price 8.

Ringers at the Cathedral, Manchester, carried out their custom on Christmas Day of ringing both at the Cathedral and at Sacred Trinity Church, Salford. For morning service at the Cathedral they rang 820 Grandsire Triples: J. Simpkins 1, H. Hollingworth 2, J. Bolton 3, A. Ridyard (conductor) 4, H. Langden 5, B. Wilshaw 6, R. Longden 7, J. Wright 8. Immediately afterwards they journeyed across the city boundary and rang for morning service at Sacred Trinity Church, Salford. The company extend their greetings to all ringing friends.

FIRST QUARTER-PEAL.

EDINBURGH. — At St. Cuthbert's Parish Church for afternoon service on December 19th, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: Miss Holland 1, Miss Taylor 2, D. Holland 3, Miss Whitson 4, W. C. S. Heathcote 5, J. Marshall 6, G. Marshall (first quarter-peal of Stedman and first attempt) (conductor) 7, J. Ritchie 8.

BURTON HASTINGS. — At St. Botolph's Church in honour of the King's birthday on Tuesday, December 14th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles: W. Noon (Burton Hastings, first quarter-peal away from tenor) 1, A. Beamish 2, J. E. S. Moreton 3, J. Draycott 4, C. Rayson 5. The four latter are members of All Saints', Chilvers Coton.

LATE START SPOILS PEAL CHANCE

Owing to a late start for a peal in seven Surprise Minor methods at St. Mary's Church, Waverton, on November 13th, the bells were brought round after ringing 720 each of the following: London, Wells and Cambridge: W. E. Fletcher 1, L. L. Gray 2, F. Hartman 3, G. Ledsham 4, P. Swindley 5, F. Varty (conductor) 6.

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WHERE LORD BRERETON IS BURIED.

THE COLLEGE YOUTHS' FIRST MASTER.

The Parish Church of St. Oswald at Brereton, near Crewe, in Cheshire, has a special interest for ringers, for it was the burial place of William, Lord Brereton, the founder and first Master of the Society of College Youths. Until recently nothing was known about Lord Brereton, but when writing the history of the College Youths, Mr. J. A. Trollope made researches among the state papers and other sources of information, and discovered that Brereton in his time was

at the time; and the Treasury Books contain entries which show how much some of the country gentlemen had suffered and how they expected to be compensated. Lord Brereton asked for a legal office, which apparently he did not get. He also applied for a grant of the customs of French wines at the port of Chester and was refused. He did get a money grant from the King.

There are five bells at Brereton Church, and we cannot doubt that there Lord Brereton did most of his actual ringing, but unfortunately



ST. OSWALD'S CHURCH, BRERETON, CHESHIRE.

[From a drawing by Mr. J. W. Clarke, Chester.]

a person of very considerable importance. He was one of the local leaders of the Royalist party in the Civil War, and after suffering for his loyalty, during the Commonwealth, was rewarded after the Restoration by being made Lord Lieutenant of Cheshire; but he did not live to enjoy his honours very long.

Among the papers at the Record Office are one or two autograph letters of Brereton to the Secretary of State, which throw light, not only on the man himself, but on the political condition of the country

no record now exists of any actual performances by him either in Cheshire or in London among the College Youths. The church contains no memorial to him, but on the tercentenary the College Youths sent a wreath in commemoration of his connection with the society, and a peal of Doubles was rung by Cheshire members of the society, conducted by Mr. Albert Crawley.

Mr. Trollope's book, 'The College Youths,' can be obtained direct from 'The Ringing World,' price 5s. 6d. post free.

A LEICESTERSHIRE RING RESTORED.

COPT OAK BELLS REDEDICATED.

A service of thanksgiving and the rededication of the bells of the Church of St. Peter, Copt Oak, Leicestershire, took place on Sunday, December 19th. The special service, which followed evening prayer, was modelled upon the form used at Leicester Cathedral last April. After intercessions and thanksgivings had been said, Psalm 150 was sung and a procession was made to the tower for the hallowing ceremony, which was performed by the Archdeacon of Loughborough (Ven. W. P. Hurrell, M.A.). After he had charged the ringers to see that the bells were rung with reverence and devotion to a sacred trust, the bells were raised in peal by the following members of the Hugglescote band: H. O. Over 1, W. Johnson 2, J. H. Dean 3, J. Cadle 4, E. J. Tovel 5, A. E. Rowley 6. Meanwhile the procession returned to the chancel. The Archdeacon gave an inspiring address on the history of bells, their uses and their beauty.

After the service short touches of Grandsire Doubles, Bob Minor and Kent Treble Bob Minor gave an opportunity to all desirous of trying the improvements.

The bells have been rehung on ball bearings and provided with new ropes through the generosity of the Barron Bell Trust, who have defrayed the whole cost. The work has been carried out by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co., of Loughborough, who have carried out the work with the highest efficiency.

RINGERS SEE THEMSELVES IN FILM.

PICTURE TAKEN IN LOWESTOFT BELFRY.

Members of St. Margaret's Society, Lowestoft, with the Rector (Canon H. J. Enraght, M.A.), Mr. J. Woodger (secretary of the society) and Mrs. Woodger, had the pleasure of being entertained by a well-known resident, Mr. Sydney Taylor, and Mrs. Taylor at their residence, Hillingdon, Gunton Cliff.

A month previous, by the kind permission of the Rector, and with the assistance of the St. Margaret's ringers, Mr. Taylor took a film of the ringers at work in their belfry, with the result that a very unique film was obtained. The entertainment opened with views in Switzerland taken by the host when on holiday there, then a film of scenes at a recent wedding at Fakenham. The 'piece de resistance' followed, and the ringers expressed the view that it was a success. The ringers who are shown in the film, ringing two short touches of Bob Major, are W. Baldry 1, Miss K. Lewis 2, F. Adcock 3, R. T. Woodley 4, E. Newson 5, D. Carr 6, R. W. Coates 7, A. E. Coleman (conductor) 8. A record of Bow Bells was put on during the time the film was showing. The company afterwards partook of refreshments, and at the conclusion of the evening the Rector, on behalf of the ringers, thanked Mr. and Mrs. Taylor for the entertainment they had provided, and also for their hospitality.

RINGER, KNOW THYSELF!

BY GEORGE L. JOYCE, HORNCHURCH.

It is a great pity that everybody cannot believe that most of us have a genuine desire to better our art, and that we write, perhaps mistakenly, only with the idea of helping. I am grateful for Mr. Lewis' balanced and restrained reply to my letter about 'good striking,' which held nothing intended to be personal to him as a ringer. As 'first ringer in the land' his name was used impersonally, but it so happened that he also is Master of the society which broadcast exhibition ringing that I humbly consider to have been 'poor striking.'

The letter from Mr. Alec E. Richardson is an excellent example of the necessity to 'know thyself.' Devoid of any vantage of constructive matter, it complains that I write without construction! I am prepared to try to construct in its place, but the plain fact is that so many of us think it is all the other fellow, while we, ourselves, are helping toward the imperfection of the whole. And who is there to tell the 'older hands' of this? How many would up and tell a man of the standing and known opinions of (say) Mr. Lewis to 'shove her along at back, dol!'—even if the critic were tolerably sure of his ground?

Time and again the 'old uns' bully the youngsters in the circle, or the meekest there—usually there is a 'goat.' I suppose we cannot resist the temptation, but it is an unpleasant fact. My own experience has taught me that it is not meant unkindly. But who has not suffered and feared the big fellow 'on the box,' who bellows '... pull it, man, pull it!' to the nervous offender? Or the genial general secretary who, when we try Stedman Cinques once in a while, helps us so little with '... don't drag those little bells ...'? Who does not remember the P.M. of the College Youths who, eyes to the ground, plaintively (yet fiercely withal) would bleat '... stri-i-k'm ...'? Is this sort of thing 'constructive' help? Contrast it with the gentle courtesy of the popular Master of a Middlesex Association, who, from behind, will whisper, '... now third's, and she is a little slow at hand ...' No wonder that he is popular!

I cannot remember ever reading a definition of 'good striking'; in fact, most authorities have shied at one. Constructively to be the fool 'where angels fear to tread,' let me try. Twenty-five years ago I spent a day in Hornchurch Dell and the fields around, reading and lazing in the sun, mainly to please a certain 'lil' ol' lady.' Thus it happened that I, a young and keen ringer, on May 27th, 1912, for nearly ten hours listened to the record peal of Bristol. The monotony of the clockwork striking almost sent us to sleep. Rumour has it that Isaac Shade missed his 1-2-1, and there came a moment when rhythm was broken, quickly to be righted. Say for—what?—a minute or less? Something under a minute in ten hours!

On the other hand. Twenty-five years later a competent musician sat with me and listened to the College Youths' broadcast; although no ringer, he 'knew' ringing. His verdict of the St. Clement's record ran, 'The monotony I should have expected from exhibition ringing was decidedly poor. One bell in particular was in the first quarter of his time-unit the whole way through.' In other words, he was 'shoving her too much.'

This is how I would define 'poor striking.' Not the man who momentarily forgets his places; not the beginner feeling his way; not the youngster who 'drops her' now and then. But that persistent horror of the clip-clip-clip to the bitter end. And the worst of it is the best of us are prone.

A few months back, working in my garden some 200 yards or so from Hornchurch tower, I listened to a peal of Cambridge—four locals and four visitors 'up.' Asked by a local what I thought of it, I said it might have been better if the —th had been rung by a visiting expert. 'But it was, — rang it,' I was told. And so, for three solid hours, a man of wide experience and many peals had clipped his horrid way through Cambridge Major. Curiously enough, two of those visitors have been awarded highest honours.

And the cause of bad striking? Old timers recently have written that it is due to the 'Bradshaw-guide-surprise-jangling,' which, from a broad view, is utter nonsense. I can 'see' anything on six and eight bells, provided I know the diagram and the others 'ring' it. Thus I ring London and Plain Bob with equal facility, and strike the one no worse than the other. A priceless gift to a ringer also, fortunately, is mine—the ability to isolate the mind channel which 'guides' the rope (even to the extent of conversing aside). I believe, in fact I know, that this 'isolation' is an essential step toward the development of the 'listening channel.' On ten and twelve bells it is not so clearly mine. There I am compelled to concentrate on ropes—to 'search' as opposed to 'seeing all' without effort (due, I suppose, to lack of practice). Consequently the listening suffers, and striking is worse than usual.

Much has been written about ears. Ears for what? The average youngster is under the impression that he has to pick out the note of his bell from amongst the jangle. In a belfry I could not do that in a hundred years. What I do hear is the 'thump' (of any old note in tone) which my listening channel registers at a fraction of time after my guiding channel puts the rope into a given place. Thus, when dodging in 3-4 up, I hear: 'dum-dum-Mine'; 'dum-dum-dum-Mine'; 'dum-dum-Mine'—and so on.

(Continued in next column.)

'THE COLLEGE YOUTHS'

A History of the Society

by J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE

'This is one of the very few books I have read which seem to me might, with advantage, have been considerably longer.'—*The Dean of St. Paul's.*

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BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

CHANGE OF OFFICERS IN TAUNTON DEANERY.

Mr. P. Merson Retires from Secretaryship.

The annual meeting of the Taunton Deanery Branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association was held at Wilton Church, Taunton, on December 11th. Service was held in the church, conducted by the Vicar, the address being given by his brother, the Very Rev. F. S. M. Bennett, formerly Dean of Chester.

Tea was served and the meeting held in the Parish Hall, the president (the Rev. F. L. Grosvenor) being in the chair. The secretary (Mr. P. Merson) presented the balance sheet and gave his annual report.

In his report, Mr. Merson stated that the year had been a quiet one and that the peals rung had reached the lowest figure since the war, only three being recorded. He thanked the president for his services during the past five years and also thanked the various incumbents for the use of their towers and others who had assisted him. He concluded by hoping that some special effort would be made during the coming year to help those towers which were somewhat backward.

The report was adopted and the secretary thanked for his work. The meeting then went on to the election of officers, and the Rev. F. L. Grosvenor announced that he would be unable to carry on as president of the Deanery. In a survey of his term of office as president, he said that he had found ringers were 'not such a bad lot' as he had been led to believe, and expressed his gratitude to Mr. Merson for the help which he had rendered him.

On a proposal by Mr. Coles, seconded by Mr. Merson, the Deanery's appreciation of the president's work for them was recorded.

The Rev. W. H. Heaton-Renshaw, Vicar of St. Mary's Church, Taunton, was proposed by Mr. Merson and seconded by Mr. J. Hunt as president, and his election was carried with acclamation. Mr. Heaton-Renshaw said that his reasons for accepting the post were his admiration of the retiring president and his appreciation of the work of his own ringers at St. Mary's.

Mr. Merson said that after 27 years as secretary he thought that someone else should take on the duties, and proposed by Mr. R. W. Hayward, of Wilton, as his successor. In making this proposal, Mr. Merson said that Mr. Hayward came from an old family of ringers, was himself a good ringer, and, moreover, had youth on his side.—The proposal was seconded by Mr. Hunt and carried.

Mr. Hayward, although nearly overcome by the praise he had heard of himself, managed to thank those present and hoped that he would not let the Deanery down.

Mr. Coles proposed the re-election of Mr. Hunt as Ringing Master, saying that they could not possibly obtain a better one, and this was agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. Hunt, Mr. Hayward was elected as representative on the General Committee of the association.

Combe Florey, Wiveliscombe and West Monkton were selected as places for the quarterly meetings for the coming year, with Ashbrittle as substitute if one of these places cannot be obtained.

The President thanked the Vicar of Wilton for his hospitality and those who had provided the tea for their services.

Touches, ranging up to Kent Treble Bob Major, were rung on the bells.

(Continued from previous column.)

I believe that this can easily be developed, once the concentrated effort to 'see' has been overcome, provided the learner is told what to listen for. And, with practice, it becomes instinctive. From that point it is purely a matter of physical ability—which I lack to a very marked degree.

There seems to be a lot about me; but who else can I analyse? I am trying to 'know myself.' Go, thou, and do likewise—and Many Happy New Peals to you!

NOTICES.

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

NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN TUESDAY.

'The Ringing World' can be sent direct by post from the Editorial Office for 4s. per quarter.

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ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—The annual meeting will be held on Saturday, January 1st, 1938, at the Tamworth Arms, Moor Street. Ringing at St. Martin's Church from 5 to 6 p.m. Business meeting at 6.15 p.m. prompt.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham, 11.

LADIES' GUILD.—Central District.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, January 1st, 1938, at St. George's, Southwark, S.E. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea to follow. Gentlemen cordially invited.—M. L. Cross, Hon. Sec., 9, Beverley Road, Barnhurst, Kent.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Winchester District.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Maurice Hall, Colebrook Street, Winchester, on Saturday, January 1st, 1938. Business meeting at 3.15, followed by tea at 4 o'clock. Service in the Cathedral at 5.15; preacher, Rev. P. H. McGuire, Rector of Leckford. Cathedral bells and St. Maurice's bells available at 1.30. Please let us know if you are coming.—G. and Miss Noice, Hon. Dis. Secs., 6, Cathedral View, High Cliffe, Winchester.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Eastwood Church, Rotherham, on Saturday, January 1st, 1938. Tea, 1s. each. Please notify Mr. N. Chaddock, 33, Brecklands, Broom, Rotherham. All welcome.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 13, St. Ronan's Road, Sheffield, 7.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Long Ashton on Saturday, January 1st. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea and business meeting 5 p.m.—J. T. Dyke, Hon. Sec., Chilcompton.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the West Norfolk Branch will be held at Fakenham on Saturday, January 1st, 1938. Bells at 2.30. Service at 4.30.—W. J. Eldred, Branch Sec., 4, Wellington Street, King's Lynn.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for January, 1938: St. Paul's Cathedral, 4th; St. Magnus', 6th; Southwark Cathedral, 13th; St. Mary-le-Bow, 18th; St. Magnus', 20th; all at 7.30 p.m.; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 27th, at 8 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual Dinner, Saturday, January 8th, 1938, at the Lion Hotel, Guildford, at 6 p.m. Tickets 5s. 6d. each, from J. S. Goldsmith, Hon. Sec., Southover Cottage, Lower Pyrford Road, Woking, Surrey. Bells of S. Nicolas' Church available 3.30 to 5.30 p.m.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—The annual district meeting will be held on Saturday, January 8th, 1938, in the City. St. Lawrence Jewry will be available in the afternoon from 3 p.m., and Jewry will be available in the afternoon from 3 p.m. Full details later.—James G. A. Prior, Dis. Sec., 31, Limerston Street, S.W.10.

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.—North-East Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Tiverton on Saturday, January 8th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Will those intending to be present please notify me by Monday, January 3rd?—R. Harris, Park, Silverton, near Exeter.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—The next practice meeting will be held at St. James' Church, Barrow-in-Furness, on Saturday, January 8th, 1938. Bells available at 2.30 p.m. Reports to hand.—N. M. Newby, Hon. Sec., Brewery Mount, Ulverston.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Leeds (10 bells) on Saturday, January 8th. Usual arrangements. Everybody welcome.—A. Waddington, Hon. Dis. Sec., Egerton.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Howden on Saturday, January 8th, 1938. Bells (8) available from 2 till 8 p.m. Service at 4.15 p.m. Tea, 1s. 6d., at 5 o'clock. Please advise Mr. J. W. Thompson, 16, Northalmby Street, Howden, by Wednesday, January 5th.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Sec., 5, Ebor Street, Selby.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting at Shrewsbury, Saturday, January 8th. Bells: St. Mary's, 3 p.m. to 4 p.m.; St. Chad's, 4 p.m. to 5 p.m., and 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. Those requiring tea must notify W. A. Farmer, 6, Mayfield Terrace, Shrewsbury, by January 5th certain.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery.—The annual meeting will be held at Weston-super-Mare on Saturday, January 8th. Bells (8) from 2.30 p.m. Divine Service, 4.30. Tea and meeting 5 p.m.—H. Minifie, Hon. Sec., Royston, Uphill, Weston-super-Mare.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Devizes, St. John's, on Saturday, January 8th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea, in Parish Room, 5 o'clock. St. James' (Southbroom) and St. Mary's bells also available. A card for tea would oblige.—W. C. West, Hon. Sec., 584, Semington Road, Melksham.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual meeting of Southampton District at Southampton on January 8th. Bells: St. Mary's, from 2.30 and after tea; St. Michael's, from 2.30 to 4.30 p.m.; Holy Rood, 6.30 to 8 p.m. Service, St. Michael's, at 4.30. Tea 5 p.m., in St. Michael's Hall. Names for tea by January 6th.—G. Pullinger, 17, Stoke Park Road, Bishopstoke.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Paul's, Burton-on-Trent, on Saturday, January 8th. Bells (10) available at 3 p.m. Meeting 4.30. Tea at 5 p.m. Hearty welcome to North Staffs and Derby District members. Don't forget postcard for tea, to be sent to me by Wednesday, January 5th.—Joseph Wm. Cotton, Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—Newport Pagnell Deanery.—A meeting at Stoke Goldington, Saturday, January 8th. 2.30 ring up. 4 service. 4.45 tea.—Rev. J. F. Amies, Ravenstone Vicarage, Olney, Bucks.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Frome and Midsomer Norton Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Chewton Mendip on Saturday, January 8th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea and meeting 5 p.m.—E. H. Nash, Hon. Sec., The Talbot, Mells.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—All Loughborough District members are expected to attend the annual meeting to be held at the Bell Foundry on January 8th. Tower open 3 p.m. Friends cordially invited. Please make own tea arrangements.—H. O. Over, Hon. Dis. Sec., Hugglescote.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Norton on Saturday, January 8th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Will those who require tea kindly notify Mr. W. Corfield, The Fields, Norton, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, on or before January 5th?—Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Lindfield on Saturday, January 8th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Everybody welcome. Please notify by the 6th for tea.—B. Saunders, 18, New Road, Ridgewood, Uckfield, Sussex.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting will be held at Anston on Saturday, January 8th.—R. Towler, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—The annual meeting will be held on January 8th. Ringing on six to 12 bells at Leicester Cathedral will commence at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. for those who notify me by January 6th. Meeting at 6 p.m.—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec., 53, Landseer Road, Leicester.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Upholland on Saturday, January 8th. Bells from 3 p.m. For tea (small charge) please notify S. Forshaw, Branch Sec., 38, Poolstock, Wigan.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Ross District.—The annual meeting will be held at Ross on Saturday, January 8th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Service 4.30, with music and new edition. Tea 5 p.m. (Williams' Central Cafe). Business meeting to follow. All ringers welcome. Will all those requiring tea kindly notify me not later than January 5th?—John Clark, Hon. Sec., Fernlea, Ross.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—Meeting at St. Nicholas', Liverpool, on Saturday, January 8th. Bells (12) from 3 p.m. Peel tablets to be unveiled at 5 p.m. Service 5.15. For tea notify Mr. G. Newton, 6, Langham Avenue, Liverpool.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Practice at St. Giles',

Cripplegate, on Wednesday, January 12th. Bells from 7.30 to 9 p.m. All ringers welcomed. The annual meeting of the North and East District will be held at St. Giles-in-the-Fields on Saturday, January 29th.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Third quarterly (general) meeting at Repton, Saturday, January 15th. Bells (8) available all afternoon. Committee meet 3.45 p.m. Tea and general meeting 4.45 p.m. in Court Room. Those requiring tea must apply for tickets to J. W. Cotton, Coronation Street, Overseal, Burton-on-Trent, not later than the 12th inst. No ticket, no tea, or cater for yourselves.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Leyton on Saturday, January 15th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea to follow. Will all those intending to be present kindly advise me not later than Wednesday, January 12th? Subscriptions for 1938 are now due.—E. J. Butler, Dis. Sec., 313, Mawney's Road, Romford, Essex.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Sittingbourne on Saturday, January 15th. See next week's 'R.W.' for full particulars.—G. H. Spice, Hon. Sec., 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wirral Branch.—The annual meeting of the Wirral Branch will be held on Saturday, January 15th, in St. Saviour's Parish Hall, Storeton Road, Oxton. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service at 6 o'clock. Tea, meeting and social evening afterwards. We hope to have a good attendance of members.—Harry S. Brocklebank, Hon. Sec., 30, South Hill Road, Birkenhead.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Leyland Parish Church, January 15th. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Reports to hand. Come and make this a successful meeting.—A. Blogg, Branch Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—Annual meeting at Wokingham on Saturday, January 15th. Service in All Saints' Church 4 p.m. Preacher, Rev. Hon. P. J. Hepburn Scott, M.A., Rector of St. Paul's, Wokingham. Tea in St. Paul's Parish Room 4.45. Tickets, 1s., must be applied for by January 11th. Usual ringing arrangements.—W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec., Merrel, California, Wokingham.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The annual district meeting will be held at St. Giles', Camberwell, on Saturday, January 15th. Further particulars next week.—A. P. Cannon, Hon. Dis. Sec.

DEATH.

TAYLOR.—On December 25th, 1937, at Loughborough, Mary Elizabeth, daughter of the late John William Taylor, sen., bell founder, aged 82.

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