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— — — — —

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THE WORK OF THE ASSOCIATIONS

More than one association is at this moment overhauling its rules. There are some few organisations whose rules have stood almost unaltered from their foundation, and those who planned them must have done their work well for it to have stood the test of something like half a century. But since the territorial associations first came into existence there has been a vast change in the circumstances surrounding their activities, and the altered conditions have made it desirable that rules of fifty years ago should be remoulded. When, in the seventies and eighties of last century, ringing associations were formed all over the country, conditions in the belfry were totally different to those of to-day. The ringer, with few exceptions, had no standing in the Church; the tower was more often than not, a place apart, and the art of ringing was largely in a state of stagnation.

What the associations have done by way of 'reform' can scarcely be realised by those whose memories do not go back to those early days. In generalising, we realise that there were notable exceptions, but for the most part the men who were the ringers then were of a different type to those who ring the bells to-day. Education and the general raising of standards has had much to do with the improvement, but the persistent efforts of the ringing societies to lift the level has also had an important bearing upon this, as upon the more material side of things. The belfry is not now, as it often was fifty years ago, the lumber room of the church, and everyone in these days recognises that it is as much a portion of the consecrated building as the vestry or any other part of the edifice. It took time for these things to be instilled into the minds of the responsible people, but it can now be said that both clergy and ringers are conscious of the position which the latter should hold in the church, and of the relation which the belfry bears to the rest of the building.

But more than this, we think it is no exaggeration to say that the associations practically saved the art of change ringing. Round about the middle of last century it had reached a stagnation which threatened extinction, and in the combination of belfry reform and the promotion of the art of change ringing the new associations rescued the latter when it appeared to be almost in its death throes. What a contrast to-day! True to their trust, the associations, by steadfast labour in fostering the art, by drawing ringers into a closer fraternity, by encouraging interchange of ideas and even a friendly rivalry, have enabled the Exercise to grow to its present stature and change ringing to reach a stage undreamt of two generations ago. To meet the needs of to-day, old

(Continued on page 106.)

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rules have to be revised and adapted, and there is as much work ahead now as the founders could have foreseen when they started. There are diminishing numbers in some places, and empty belfries in others; 'canned' bells are being introduced, the need of studying a noise-racked public is becoming more and more apparent. These are present challenges to the ringing organisations, and it is their duty to face up to them.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

CHRISTCHURCH, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 5, 1938, in Three Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE PRIORY CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt.

GEORGE WILLIAMS Treble	FREDERICK G. COLE 7
JACK M. CRIPPS 2	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY 8
WILFRED WILLIAMS 3	HARRY W. SIMMONDS 9
FRANK E. DARBY 4	WILLIAM A. CAVE 10
C. ERNEST SMITH 5	JOSEPH T. DYKE 11
GEORGE PRESTON 6	FREDERICK W. ROGERS ... Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by WILFRED WILLIAMS.

First peal of Stedman Cinques on the bells.

TEN BELL PEALS.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 29, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5001 CHANGES;

Tenor 6½ cwt.

CHARLES MCGUINNESS ... Treble	*FRANK W. VERNON 6
HAROLD J. POOLE 2	†JACK L. MILLHOUSE 7
*KENNETH W. MAYER 3	JOHN FLINT 8
GEORGE E. FOSTER 4	COLIN HARRISON 9
J. FREDERICK MILNER 5	RALPH NARBOROUGH ... Tenor

Composed by F. H. DEXTER.

Conducted by J. F. MILNER.

* First peal of Caters. † First peal of Stedman Caters.

CHELMSFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 2, 1938, in Three Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes

AT THE CATHEDRAL,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 34½ cwt.

JACK BELCHAM Treble	WALTER D. TAYLOR 6
HENRY T. WILSON 2	†REGINALD C. THRIFT 7
*HIRZEL EDWARDS 3	ALBERT E. NORTH 8
†LESLIE J. CLARK 4	FRANK B. LUFKIN 9
*ERNEST J. RUNTER 5	*WALTER ARNOLD ... Tenor

Conducted by L. J. CLARK.

* First peal on ten bells. † First peal of Bob Royal. Rung at the conclusion of the service in the Cathedral, at which Canon E. N. Gowing, of Prittlewell, was installed as Archdeacon of Southend.

WILLENHALL, STAFFS.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, February 5, 1938, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5067 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

CHRISTOPHER WALLATER ... Treble	WILLIAM FISHER 6
HERBERT KNIGHT 2	GEORGE E. OLIVER 7
HARRY BOSWELL 3	WILLIAM SAUNDERS 8
JOHN PERRY 4	BERT HORTON 9
EDGAR T. SMITH 5	*ARTHUR E. REBD ... Tenor

Composed by J. E. GROVES.

Conducted by C. WALLATER.

* First peal of Stedman Caters. First peal of Caters on the bells since recasting and augmenting. Rung as a birthday compliment to Miss Ethel Annie Wallater.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

ROMFORD, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, February 1, 1938, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Edward,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 502 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt.

JAMES BENNETT Treble	ERNEST BUTLER... .. 5
ELLEN E. DAVIS 2	*ERNEST PYE 6
GEORGE R. PYE 3	JOHN CRAMPION 7
ERNEST FURBANK 4	JAMES E. DAVIS Tenor

Composed and Conducted by JAMES E. DAVIS.

* First peal in the method.

CHIDDINGFOLD, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, February 2, 1938, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

ERNEST J. AYLIFFE Treble	KENNETH SHELLING 5
KEITH HART 2	WILLIAM T. BRESON 6
JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 3	RAYMOND OVERY 7
NELSON ELLIOTT 4	C. ERNEST SMITH... .. Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by C. ERNEST SMITH
First peal of London as conductor. First peal of Major on the bells since they were recast in October, 1936.

TENTERDEN, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

On Wednesday, February 2, 1938, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes

At the Church of St. Mildred,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

REV. C. D. P. DAVIES' VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 30 cwt.

ALFRED J. TURNER Treble	FRANK BENNETT 5
ROBERT EDWARDS 2	FREDERICK H. DALLAWAY... 6
H. RICHARD FRENCH 3	WILLIAM WENBAN 7
HAROLD S. HOBDEN 4	CECIL H. BALLARD Tenor

Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

OLDSWINFORD, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 2, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt.

WILLIAM SHORT... .. Treble	C. HOWARD STANLEY 5
CLIFFORD SKIDMORE 2	THOMAS HEMMING 6
*HENRY H. FEARN 3	WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT 7
ROBERT MATTHEWS 4	*GEORGE E. FEARN Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by R. MATTHEWS.
* First peal of Bristol Surprise. Rung in honour of the conferring of a knighthood on Mr. S. Law, an honorary member of this association.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 3, 1938, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Parish Church, PRITTLEWELL,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

HENRY RICHARDSON Treble	HENRY S. WILSON 5
GORDON BACON 2	HENRY T. WILSON 6
FRANK B. LUFKIN 3	ALBERT E. NORTH 7
WALTER D. TAYLOR 4	ERNEST W. FURBANK Tenor

Composed by FRANK BENNETT. Conducted by F. B. LUFKIN.
Rung in honour of the installation of the Vicar of Prittlewell (Canon E. N. Gowing) as Archdeacon of Southend on the previous day at Chelmsford Cathedral.**BELL ROPES**MADE FROM ITALIAN HEMP, OR ITALIAN FLAX.
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ROYSTON, HERTS.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 3, 1938, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 11½ cwt. in F sharp.

JAMES W. QUINEY Treble	ALBERT E. AUSTIN 5
ALFRED E. PITSTOW 2	FRANCIS G. GLEAVES 6
MISS KITTY WILLERS 3	REGINALD L. LATHBURY ... 7
GEORGE SPARROW 4	JOHN W. WARD Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by ALFRED E. PITSTOW
A birthday peal for the ringer of the 6th.

QUEENSBURY, BRADFORD.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 3, 1938, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

At the Church of the Holy Trinity,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

EDGAR WHITELEY Treble	HAROLD PEARCE 5
*PAUL BIRKETT 2	HARRY WILD 6
ARTHUR SKELTON 3	WILLIAM AMBLER 7
EDGAR DRAKE 4	SAM LONGBOTTOM... .. Tenor

Composed by YORK GREEN. Conducted by SAM LONGBOTTOM.

* First peal. First peal in the method as conductor.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, February 4, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

At the Bell Foundry,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 6½ cwt.

GEOFFREY HARRISON Treble	CHARLES ALLSOP 5
JOHN P. FIDLER 2	ALFRED W. HEATH 6
LESLIE STEVENS 3	JOHN SADDINGTON 7
JOHN W. JONES 4	COLIN HARRISON Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by COLIN HARRISON.

CRANBROOK, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 5, 1938, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Dunstan,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 23 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb. in E flat.

FREDK J. LAMBERT, SEN. ... Treble	ARTHUR F. LEWRY 5
FRANK H. HICKS 2	JOHN E. LYDDIARD 6
HARRY BAKER 3	WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE ... 7
GEOFFREY V. MURPHY 4	A. PATRICK CANNON Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by A. P. CANNON.

SUNDERLAND.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 5, 1938, in Three Hours,

At the Parish Church of St. Michael and All Angels,

BISHOPWEARMOUTH,

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

Tenor 12 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb. in F sharp.

ADAM DEAS Treble	REV. JOHN P. PELLOE 5
WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON 2	CHARLES E. LAWSON 6
JOHN ANDERSON 3	KENNETH ARTHUR 7
JOHN PICKERING 4	ROBERT L. PATTERSON Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by W. J. DAVIDSON.

ROTHWELL, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, February 5, 1938, in Three Hours,

At the Church of the Holy Trinity,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

*GEORGE WARD Treble	THOMAS W. STRANGEWAY 5
*ARTHUR G. WOOD 2	*ALBERT WORMALD 6
*FRANK ELLIS 3	*PERCY MASSAM 7
GEORGE W. STEEL 4	*HARRY HOMER Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by T. W. STRANGEWAY.

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

ICKLETON, CAMBS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 5, 1938, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF ICKLETON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt.

EDWIN JENNINGS Treble	FRANCIS KIRK 5
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY ... 2	HAROLD G. CASHMORE ... 6
STEPHEN H. HOARE 3	WALTER AYRE 7
FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW ... 4	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT ... Tenor

Composed by Rev. H. L. JAMES. Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.
The first peal in the method.

REDENHALL, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 5, 1938, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

ROBERT D. GUNTON Treble	ERNEST WHITING 5
GEORGE W. HOWLITT 2	FREDERICK W. MUNNINGS ... 6
STANLEY W. COPLING 3	RUSSELL RICHES, JUN. ... 7
FREDERICK C. GUNTON 4	CHARLES LOOME Tenor

Composed by F. HOPGOOD. Conducted by CHARLES LOOME.

PINCHBECK, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 5, 1938, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S SIX-PART. Tenor 18 cwt. 9 lb.

*MISS N. WIGGINGTON Treble	*GEORGE SEWELL 5
ARTHUR J. FARR 2	GEORGE LADD 6
*NEVIL HOLLINGWORTH ... 3	JOHN G. AMES 7
CYRIL R. BURRELL 4	JOHN CURRY Tenor

Conducted by JOHN G. AMES.

* First peal of Triples. Rung as a birthday peal for the conductor.

FARNDON, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 5, 1938, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12 cwt. 22 lb.

ROBERT SPERRING Treble	J. WILLIAM CLARKE 5
GEORGE F. SPERRING 2	REGINALD L. INCE 6
WALTER THOMAS 3	JAMES MORGAN 7
*THOMAS W. SIMON 4	ALBERT E. RICHARDS ... Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by R. SPERRING.

* First peal of Major. Mr. Robert Sperring's 500th peal for the Guild.

SWANSCOMBE, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 5, 1938, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

CYRIL BRETT-SMITH Treble	PHILIP A. CORBY 5
GEORGE W. FOGDEN 2	HERBERT A. HOLDEN 6
DEREK M. SHARP 3	ARTHUR S. RICHARDS 7
EDWIN A. BARNETT 4	GEORGE J. BUTCHER ... Tenor

Composed by AMBURN WILSON. Conducted by P. A. CORBY.

COLSTON BASSET, NOTTS.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 5, 1938, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 22½ cwt.

FREDERICK W. STOKES Treble	WALTER WHITE 5
MISS IDA B. THOMPSON 2	JOHN WALDEN 6
CHARLES MCGUINNESS 3	JOHN A. FREEMAN 7
JOHN FREEMAN 4	GEORGE W. CREASEY ... Tenor

Conducted by JOHN A. FREEMAN.

STALYBRIDGE, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 5, 1938, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL, STALY,

A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 18 cwt.

JOSEPH WHITTAKER Treble	JAMES A. MILNER 5
WILLIAM FERNLEY 2	WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT 6
JAMES FERNLEY 3	LIONEL CLOUGH 7
REV. FRANK BONNER 4	JOHN WORTH Tenor

Composed by J. S. WILDE. Conducted by JOHN WORTH,
150th peal as conductor. First peal of Surprise Major in Stalybridge.

BRENTWOOD, ESSEX.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 5, 1938, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS-OF-CANTERBURY,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 19½ cwt.

WILLIAM T. FORRESTER ... Treble	NORMAN SUMMERHAYES ... 5
PERCY GREEN 2	ROBERT C. HEAZEL 6
ARTHUR H. EVERETT 3	ERNEST W. FORBANK 7
RONALD SUCKLING 4	EDWARD D. SMITH ... Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by EDWARD D. SMITH.
Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. W. Nevard, of Great Bentley.

STREATHAM, SURREY.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 5, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

A. DISERENS Treble	EDWIN L. MILES 5
JAMES W. CHAPMAN 2	*LESLIE G. FRANKS 6
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER ... 3	THOMAS W. TAFFENDER ... 7
ERNEST J. KING 4	NORMAN H. MANNING ... Tenor

Conducted by A. DISERENS.

* First peal inside 'Stedman. First peal as conductor.

NETHERTON, WORCESTERSHIRE.

THE DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Saturday, February 5, 1938, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Tenor 13 cwt.

NORMAN G. LEECH Treble	HAROLD SHUCK 5
ALFRED ROWLEY 2	HENRY HUBALL 6
JOHN GOODMAN 3	CHARLES W. COOPER 7
THOMAS TOWNSEND 4	*SAMUEL E. WEBB ... Tenor

Conducted by NORMAN G. LEECH.

* First peal on eight bells. First peal of Grandsire Triples on the bells since they were recast. A birthday compliment to the conductor.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 5, 1938, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BOTOLPH, BISHOPSGATE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt.

JOHN R. WILSON Treble	GEORGE A. PARSONS 5
*JOHN W. HUMPHRIES 2	JAMES BENNETT 6
GEORGE R. PYE 3	JAMES E. DAVIS 7
CHARLES T. COLES 4	ERNEST W. PYE Tenor

Conducted by JAMES BENNETT.

* First tower-bell peal. Rung fully muffled in remembrance of William H. Hollier, hon. treasurer of the association, who died on December 29th, 1937.

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CODDENHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, February 5, 1938, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

HARRY D. LISTER 1	treble	GEORGE FARNISH... .. 5
ARTHUR GRIMWOOD 2		ROBERT J. STEED... .. 6
*JAMES W. JENNINGS 3		ARTHUR R. WOODARD... .. 7
SHELFORD SPARROW 4		EDWIN A. CRACKNELL Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by HARRY D. LISTER.

* First attempt for a peal of Treble Bob Major. A birthday compliment to Mr. Arthur Grimwood.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

GRESSENHALL, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, January 30, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's.

Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

JOHN A. GODFREY 1	treble	R. WILLIAM BARBER 4
WILLIAM CLOVER 2		ARTHUR H. HOLLIDAY 5
ROBERT C. BUNNING 3		HENRY TOOKE Tenor

Conducted by H. TOOKE.

First peal of Minor in the method by all except the ringer of the treble.

BERGH APTON, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 3, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising seven extents: One of St. Clement's, two each of Double Oxford and Plain Bob, and one each of Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob.

Tenor 9 cwt. in A flat.

NOLAN GOLDEN 1	treble	† LIONEL A. LESTER 4
* HERBERT C. BOGGIS 2		ROBERT A. WARMAN 5
† GEOFFREY A. TAYLOR 3		CECIL V. EBBERSON Tenor

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal in more than one method. † First peal.

CHELSEFIELD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 3, 1938, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN-OF-TOURS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising one extent of Cambridge Surprise and Oxford Treble Bob, two extents of Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob.

Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 12 lb. in G.

HUGH MACKINDER 1	treble	HERBERT A. HOLDEN 4
* GEOFFREY V. MURPHY 2		ARTHUR S. RICHARDS 5
DEREK M. SHARP 3		A. PATRICK CANNON Tenor

Conducted by A. P. CANNON.

* First peal on six bells. The first peal on the bells.

HALLATON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 5, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's in 12 methods, viz.: (1) Wavertree, Childwall, St. Clement's, College Single; (2) Oxford Bob, College Reverse, Single Court; (3) Cambridge Surprise; (4) Oxford Treble Bob; (5) Kent Treble Bob; (6) Double Oxford; (7) Plain Bob.

Tenor 11½ cwt.

RONALD RUSSELL 1	treble	WILLIAM A. WOOD 4
J. GEOFFREY GEARY 2		ERNEST MORRIS 5
ALFRED BALLARD 3		JOHN H. BLUFF Tenor

Conducted by JOHN H. BLUFF.

First peal in 12 Minor methods on the bells and by all the band. Specially rung to welcome the new Rector, the Rev. C. M. P. Heath, M.A.

CROYDON.—At the Parish Church on Sunday, January 2nd, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Caters (1,259 changes) in 51 minutes: E. Acock 1, H. J. Skelt 2, C. Parks (longest length on a working bell) 3, F. E. Mitchell 4, H. G. Pratt 5, D. Buxton 6, D. Cooper (conductor) 7, G. H. Humphries 8, F. E. Collins 9, R. Davies 10.

ADWICK-LE-STREET, DONCASTER.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, February 5, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's.

Tenor 10 cwt.

HARRY GOODALE 1	treble	FOORD P. NEWTON 4
HOWARD SCOTT 2		WILLIAM FAY 5
* ALAN HARDING 3		CHARLES NOTTAGE Tenor

Conducted by H. GOODALE.

* First peal. First peal as conductor. Rung on the occasion of the wedding of Miss Phillis Nottage and Mr. Harold Cromack.

STANWELL, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 5, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Oxford Bob, Double Oxford Bob, Double Court, Plain Bob, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob, each called differently.

Tenor 13 cwt.

EDWARD LANKESTER 1	treble	THOMAS COLLINS 4
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE 2		ERNEST C. S. TURNER 5
GEORGE M. KILBY 3		CECIL C. MAYNE Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

The first peal on the bells.

LEADENHAM, Lincs.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 5, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. SWITHIN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Double Court, Sandal, London Scholars, Kingston, Court, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

Tenor 13 cwt. 9 lb. in F sharp.

R. THOMAS VESSEY 1	treble	KENNETH W. MAYER 4
MISS DOROTHY VESSEY 2		FRANK W. VERNON 5
JACK C. VESSEY 3		JACK L. MILLHOUSE Tenor

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

CLIFTON, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 5, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, St. Clement's, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob.

STANLEY H. WALLIS 1	treble	EDMUND WAGSTAFFE 4
ARTHUR W. DILLEY 2		JOHN CHURCH 5
LEWIS H. BYWATERS 3		HERBERT SHERMAN Tenor

Conducted by L. H. BYWATERS.

MARLESFORD, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, February 5, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 16 six-scores of Plain Bob with four callings and 26 six-scores of Grandsire with ten callings.

Tenor 10 cwt.

HENRY J. VINCE 1	treble	WILLIAM G. COOPER 3
ALFRED J. FORD 2		GEORGE R. FINCH 4

GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL ... Tenor

Conducted by GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL.

SPONDON, DERBYSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 5, 1938 in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WERBURGH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Tenor 10 cwt. (approx.).

* WILLIAM H. CURSON 1	treble	HOWARD HOWELL 4
WILLIAM LANCASTER 2		JOSEPH W. COTTON 5
BARNABAS G. KEY 3		* JACK BAILEY Tenor

Conducted by JACK BAILEY.

* First peal in five methods.

STISTED, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 5, 1938, in Two Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents. Tenor 9½ cwt. in A.
ALBERT SAUNDERS ... Treble | ALEC M. GENERY ... 4
VICTOR MORLEY ... 2 | REGINALD G. SIMMONDS ... 5
THOMAS BIRD ... 3 | RALPH BIRD ... Tenor

Conducted by R. BIRD.

SHOULDHAM, NORFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 5, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty-Nine Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising an extent each of Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Combined Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and two extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt. in G.
SYDNEY FLINT ... Treble | NOLAN GOLDEN ... 4
CLAUDE COUSINS ... 2 | EDWARD BARKER ... 5
WALLACE W. COUSINS ... 3 | CECIL V. EBBERSON ... Tenor

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

HANDBELL PEAL.

LINCOLN.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Wednesday, February 2, 1938, in Two Hours and Thirty-Nine Minutes,
AT 95, SINCIL BANK.

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor size 16 in B.
JOHN FREEMAN ... 1-2 | FREDERICK W. STORES ... 5-6
CHARLES MCGUINNESS ... 3-4 | JOHN A. FREEMAN ... 7-8

Conducted by JOHN A. FREEMAN.

First peal as conductor 'in hand.' First peal of Stedman 'in hand' by all the band, and for the Guild by a resident band.

FALSE PEALS OF BOB MAJOR.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—With reference to the statement in 'The Ringing World' concerning the false peals of Bob Major by the late Mr. Arthur Craven, the following figures appear on page 96 of the newly-issued report of the Yorkshire Association:—

2345678 W 5th's B H	2375468 W 5th's In H
35264 1	72354 —
63254 —	37254 —
56234 —	25374 —
2375468 — —	5263478 S — 2

Five times repeated.

I regret that the peal is false, all the 4.6.8's are in-course and all the 6.4.8's are out-of-course; therefore, one is false against the other. Certain course-ends in the 4.6.8's will be found to repeat at the Wrong lead-ends of certain 6.4.8's and vice versa. Repetitions also occur in the 3rd lead of one against the 5th lead of the other.

Unfortunately this composition is given as a true variation of a false peal by the same author, which was rung at Eastwood, Rotherham, on June 15th, 1937, the figures of which are published on the same page in our report with a footnote setting out where the peal is false. The error has arisen by my doing what I have often advised other ringers not to do—taking too much for granted where figures are concerned.

The whole matter is rather involved, but briefly this is what has happened. The report of the Rotherham peal did not reach my hands until last October, just at the time when I was in the midst of compiling the annual report; I checked the peal and found it false, and, having an idea that I had seen the figures before, I turned up my cuttings from 'The Ringing World' and found that the peal had been published on March 29th, 1929. Mr. Craven, I have learned since, was told that the peal was false, and he immediately wrote to 'The Ringing World' tendering his apologies and giving as a true variation of the peal which is the subject of this letter. His accompanying words, 'this ... puts everything true,' together with the fact that my time was limited, will, perhaps, be taken as sufficient excuse for my precipitancy. However, after making sure that the error in the first peal had been expunged, and knowing Mr. Craven's abilities, I took the figures on trust.

I offer my sincere apologies to my fellow-members for my oversight and I hope that this announcement will prevent the composition being used by anyone who sees it in the Yorkshire Association report.

WILLIAM BARTON, Hon. Peal Secretary, Y.A.C.R.

PEAL NOTES.

ANOTHER NEW SURPRISE METHOD RUNG.

A Hertfordshire band has scored a peal in another fresh Surprise method, which they named after the place where it was rung—Ickleton. It was conducted by Mr. Harold Cashmore, the composition being the Rev. H. Law James' well-known peal of London Surprise.

The Vicar of Prittlewell, which is part of Southend-on-Sea, was installed at Chelmsford Cathedral as Archdeacon of Southend on February 2nd. After the service a peal of Bob Royal, in which five of his own ringers took part, was rung on the Cathedral bells, and, on the following day, a peal of Bob Major, in honour of the Vicar's elevation, was rung on the bells of his own Parish Church.

Mr. Edgar Whiteley rang his fiftieth peal on February 3rd, when he took part in a peal at Queensbury, Bradford.

The progress of handbell ringing in Lincoln made another very gratifying step on February 2nd, when the local men rang a peal of Stedman Triples 'in hand,' the first by all the band and for the Lincoln Diocesan Guild by resident ringers.

A knighthood has been conferred upon Mr. S. Law, an honorary member of the Worcestershire and Districts Association. In honour of the distinction thus bestowed, a peal was rung at Oldswinford on February 2nd.

The first peal at Chelsfield, Kent, where the bells were augmented to six in 1936 by the addition of a treble by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, was rung on February 3rd. The back five are 'maiden' bells cast in 1672.

When Mr. C. Ernest Smith, Ringing Master of the Guildford District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild, rang his first peal of London Surprise Major as conductor, at Chiddingfold, Surrey, on February 2nd, it was his fiftieth peal in the method. It was the first peal of Major on the bells since they were recast, with additional metal, in October, 1936, by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank.

FIVE HUNDRED PEALS FOR CHESTER GUILD.

Mr. Robert Sperring, of Chester, has achieved the distinction of being the first member to ring 500 peals for the Chester Diocesan Guild. He accomplished this on February 5th at the Parish Church of his native village of Farndon, where he learned to ring.

Mr. A. E. Richards rang the tenor to this peal and completed the 'circle' of the tower.

Four local men took part in the first five-method peal of Minor at Bergh Apton, Norfolk, on February 3rd. Two of them scored their first peal and one his 'first in more than one method.'

Mr. Frank Bennett, of Brighton, and Mr. A. J. Turner, of Lewes, rang in a peal of Stedman Triples, which the former called, at Ten-terden, Kent, on February 2nd. It was discovered that it was their 151st peal together. A real case of 'jolly old pals.'

It is not often that a ringer makes his first peal as conductor a peal of Stedman Triples called from the treble, but Mr. A. Diserens did this at Streatham on February 5th. By ringing the 2nd, Mr. J. W. Chapman completed the circle of the tower.

A peal of Cambridge Surprise Major was rung at Brentwood, Essex, on February 5th, by Cumberland Youths as a birthday honour to the Essex octogenarian, Mr. W. J. Nevard, at whose expense the bells of his Parish Church, Great Bentley, are now being rehung.

Mr. John Worth, of Macclesfield, who has taken a conspicuous part in advancing the record in Spliced Minor ringing, rang his 150th peal as conductor when he called the first peal of Surprise Major (Bristol) in Stalybridge on February 5th.

To ring peals in a method on all the recognised numbers of bells is always an interesting achievement; to do so within the space of one month must, we think, be almost unique. During January, Messrs. Henry Tooke and William Clover, well-known Norfolk ringers, rang peals of Kent Treble Bob on 6, 8, 10 and 12 bells, completing the quartet with their first peal of Kent Minor at Gressenhall on January 30th. In the same peal Mr. R. W. Barber completed his sequence.

The first peal on the bells at Stanwell, Middlesex, was rung on February 5th. The tower had been selected for a peal because there were five bells there, and the band wanted to ring a peal of Doubles. Accidentally they discovered that just before Christmas a treble had been added, and so they made it seven Minor methods. Their peal in a five-bell tower has yet to be rung.

The bells at Willenhall, Staffs, were recast and augmented to ten just before the Coronation. The first peal of Caters on them since that occasion was rung on February 5th, when Mr. Chris. Wallater, the enthusiastic leader of the local band, called a peal of Stedman. It was a birthday compliment to Miss E. A. Wallater.

The hon. secretary of the Llandaff and Monmouth Association (Mr. J. W. Jones) and Mr. A. W. Heath wandered a long way from home on February 4th, when they rang a peal (specially arranged for them) on the light ring at Loughborough Bell Foundry.

In the peal in 12 Minor methods at Hallaton on February 5th, six towers were represented, viz., Hallaton, Billesdon, Burbage, Croft, Leicester (St. Margaret's) and Stanford. The newly-inducted Rector, the Rev. C. M. P. Heath, to welcome whom the peal was rung, came into the tower before the peal to wish the ringers 'good luck' in their attempt.

The additional methods were put into the first two 720's, and in one there were 48 changes of method and in the other 24 changes of method. It was the first peal in twelve methods by all the band.

FIRST PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES AT CHRISTCHURCH.

(Continued from previous column.)

The first peal of Stedman Cinques on the bells of Christchurch, Hants, was rung last Saturday. Four of the band made the 100-mile journey by road from Croydon and Mr. H. W. Simmons rang his first peal on 12 bells. Mr. G. Preston, who recently celebrated his 50th anniversary as a ringer at the Priory, rang his first peal of Stedman Cinques. It is interesting to note that the late William Pye rang his last peal of Cambridge Maximus on these bells on Easter Monday, 1934, which he also conducted.

Mr. Jack L. Millhouse rang his fiftieth peal for the Lincoln Diocesan Guild at Leadenham, Lincs, on February 5th, when he called a peal in seven six-bell methods.

Mr. B. G. Key and Mr. Howell rang their fiftieth peal together, and Mr. W. H. Curson and Mr. J. W. Cotton rang their twenty-fifth peal together when they all took part in the peal of Minor at Spondon, Derbyshire, which was rung at the suggestion of the Vicar within the octave of the feast. The church is dedicated to St. Werburgh. It was the first peal on the bells since they were rehung.

The first peal of Grandsire Triples on the bells at Netherton, Worcestershire, since they were recast was rung on February 5th as a birthday compliment to the conductor, Mr. Norman G. Leech.

Another birthday peal on the same day was that at Coddham, Suffolk, where Kent Treble Bob Major was rung as a compliment to Mr. Arthur Grimwood.

A band of service ringers at Rothwell, Yorkshire, rang a peal of Superlative Surprise Major at their Parish Church in honour of one of their number becoming a grandfather. Six of them rang their first peal in the method.

Messrs. Adam Deas, William J. Davidson and John Anderson rang their one hundredth peal together on February 5th when they took part in a peal of Double Norwich Major at Bishopwearmouth. It is not often that three ringers are able to do this in one peal.

One of the 'brass hats' of the T.G.U. finds Kent a happy hunting ground. Cranbrook went into 'the bag' on February 5th; it was the 80th tower in which he had rung a peal, 55 of them being Kentish belfries.

It is very nice to ring peals in as many different towers as possible, but there is a danger of it becoming a selfish hobby.

The tenor ringer in the peal of Grandsire Doubles at Curry Mallet, Somerset, on January 20th, was Donald James Tout.

The peal at North Elmham, the report of which appeared in our issue of February 4th, was rung on Monday, January 24th, and for the Norwich Diocesan Association (not the Sussex Association as printed).

A birthday peal of London Surprise Major was rung at Royston, Herts, for Mr. F. G. Gleaves.

GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.**VISIT TO BRADWORTHY RECALLS NOTORIOUS VICAR.**

The North-West Branch of the Devon Guild held its annual meeting at Bradworthy on Saturday, February 5th. Bradworthy is away to the west, within a few miles of Hartland Point. The village is a large one and has a spacious square. Its church is Early English in character with a lofty western tower, and within the edifice there are an Early English font, a Jacobean pulpit and a section of ancient tiling. Bradworthy had a notorious Vicar in 1640. He began life as a sand-carrier, became Vicar and Sheriff's bailiff, forged documents, and, when discovered, fled to Ireland. After obtaining a pardon from his Bishop he returned to his office and also became a solicitor, frightening his flock by threats of actions. He set up a public-house in his Vicarage and sent his daughter into the pulpit to catechise the children. Eventually he was tried in the Star Chamber and sent to prison.

There was a good attendance of members from Bridgerule, Marland, Holsworthy, Sutcombe and the local tower, as well as friends from the Exeter and Plymouth branches.

The service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. Dobson, R.D., and the chairman, the Rev. W. H. Ravenhill (Sutcombe), gave a much appreciated address. Other clergy present were the Rev. W. H. Smale, Petrockstowe, the Vicar of Lulworth and the Rev. E. V. Cox, president of the Devon Guild.

A sumptuous tea was provided by lady friends of the local ringers at the nearby inn.

At the business meeting which followed, the report and balance sheet for the year were accepted. The chairman (the Rev. W. H. Ravenhill), the secretary (Mr. J. W. Sangwin), the treasurer (Mr. W. Shears) and the Ringing Master (Mr. F. Sangwin), as well as the committee and representatives to the General Committee, were re-elected.

A comprehensive vote of thanks, proposed by the Rev. W. H. Smale, expressed appreciation to the officers of the branch, the Vicar and Rural Dean for the use of the bells and the service; the organist, Mrs. Payne, L.R.A.M.; Mr. Collacott, the local captain, and all the ladies who helped in serving the tea.

In the course of an interesting reply, the Rural Dean expressed the hope that the time would come when all the bells in the county would be rung by 'scientific' ringers.

The bells, a handy peal of six, tenor 12 cwt. and recently tuned and rehung on ball bearings by J. Taylor and Co., were kept going before and after the service. Touches of Grandsire Doubles, Stedman Doubles, Bob Minor, Kent Treble Bob Minor and Cambridge Minor were brought round with success.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

■■■■■

THE

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

We understand a movement is on foot to restore the bells at Farnham Royal, Bucks, as a memorial to the late Mr. Joseph J. Parker. If this scheme is carried out there will be many ringers throughout the country who will desire to be associated with it.

A humble village shoemaker, sub-postmaster and beekeeper, Mr. Parker was one of the few men whose name will last as long as change ringing continues. His work in composition was an outstanding contribution to the advancement of the art.

Visitors to Leatherhead on the occasion of the Guildford Diocesan Guild meeting on Saturday were sorry to find that old stalwart, Mr. Arthur Dean, still confined to his house. He has been in ill-health now for a long time and has not been out for more than a year, but he has not lost his cheerfulness. His many friends will wish him quicker progress to recovery.

Miss Marie Cross must surely be able to claim a record—certainly among ladies if not among ringers generally. She has never yet conducted a peal, but she has rung an inside bell to two strictly non-conducted peals—Stedman Triples a year ago, and Cambridge Surprise Major last month.

This is a distinctly fine performance, but Miss Cross is among the safest of ringers in anything she attempts. She is the only lady who has rung a peal at Queen Camel, where is the heaviest ring of six in the country.

Visitors who propose to attend the Henry Johnson dinner in Birmingham on March 5th are reminded that it is to be held at the White Horse Restaurant, Congreve Street. This is a change of venue after many years.

After 13 years as hon. secretary of the Jurisdiction of Glaston Branch of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association, Mr. F. D. Rickards has resigned, through having moved to Bath. He is succeeded by Mr. W. H. Marsh, of Street.

The report of the East Grinstead and District Guild for 1937, just issued, says that perhaps the most satisfactory and encouraging feature of the past year has been the increased membership, over 25 new members' names appearing on the list. Financially the year was very successful. The balance in hand was increased from £14 13s. to £20 10s. 10d. Twelve meetings were held during the year.

Do any readers know of former ringers residing in or near Toronto, Canada? If they do, will they kindly forward information, with addresses, to Mr. J. Merrick, 3, Scott Street, Brampton, Ontario.

SIXTY YEARS A RINGER.

RETIREMENT OF MR. R. COUPE, OF BOLSOVER.

Ringers in the Bolsover District will regret to hear of the retirement from active ringing of Mr. Remaliah Coupe through failing eyesight after 60 years of faithful service in the Parish Church, the whole of that time in the belfry and for 40 years as chorister. Remaliah, better known as 'Mailer,' was born and has lived in Bolsover all his life. There is little that he doesn't know about the old Parish Church and Castle.

He began to ring in 1878 when Bolsover had its first peal of six bells. These were destroyed by fire in 1897, and in 1898 the back six of the present octave were put in, with a frame for the trebles, added by Taylor and Co. in 1902. Mr. Coupe was very active in getting the two trebles to complete the ring, and this was purely the ringers' effort.

'Mailer' never aspired to peal ringing and never rose beyond Plain and Treble Bob methods, but he has always been looked upon as one of the best of fellows to be connected with any band of ringers—always punctual at every service 104 times a year, and the same for practice. Always willing to stand down for others, he sacrificed everything for the bells and gave up much time to teaching others. Deep regret at his enforced retirement is felt by his colleagues.

BELLS OF ST. GEORGE-IN-THE-EAST.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Your readers will doubtless recollect seeing, in one of your recent issues, an appeal for pecuniary assistance towards the restoration of the bells of St. George's-in-the-East. It has now been agreed by the Rector that the undersigned will, if possible, pursue the matter further with the Exercise.

The parish of St. George's-in-the-East is one of the poorest in London, and the local people have done their best by raising £170 of the £320 required for the bells out of general restoration costs of over £500. It is felt, therefore, that there is real justification for appealing for help from outside sympathetic sources.

It is felt also that in addition to the ready sympathy usually shown by ringers in such circumstances, a special interest arises here by virtue of the weight, quality and history of St. George's bells, and we appeal confidently to ringers generally, and to lovers of a heavy ring of eight particularly, to do what they can in this case.

Contributions of whatever amount will be very gratefully received by any one of the undersigned, and will be acknowledged through the official channels in due course.

Finally we thank you for your kind sympathy and the use of your valuable space.

J. A. WAUGH, 8, Fullers Road, Woodford, E.18.

G. W. CECIL, 97, Belgrave Street, Stepney, E.1.

J. G. A. PRIOR, 12, Bovington Road, Fulham, S.W.6.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—6.

GEORGE R. PYE.

One of a famous family of ringers, Mr. George R. Pye has rung more peals than any living ringer, his total now being 1,808. Only his brother, the late Mr. William Pye, rang more than this. Moreover, we imagine that no one has taken part in more record lengths than Mr. 'Bob' Pye. A number of them still stand, including the 15,312 Cambridge Surprise Maximus at Ashton-under-Lyne which few will deny to be the finest performance among all the long lengths that have yet been rung. Other records in which Mr. Pye has taken part have been the 14,112 of London Surprise Major, at King's Norton, Worcester-shire; 10,440 Cambridge Surprise Royal, at Walthamstow, Essex; 15,264 Bristol Surprise Major, at Hornchurch, Essex; and 11,111 Stedman Cinques, at Birmingham. He also rang in the 18,027 Stedman Caters at Loughborough in which performance one band 'rang the clock round' for the first time, the peal taking 12 hours 18 minutes. Another peal which was a record at the time was the 15,072 Double Norwich Major at Erith: while among his handbell peals Mr. Pye called the Stedman Cinques record of 6,063.

With his two brothers, William and Ernest, and Mr. W. Keeble he rang some of the earliest Surprise peals on handbells, including one of Superlative non-conducted, and the first of New Cambridge, London and Bristol, while he also rang in the first peal on the sea—a peal of Stedman Caters rung between Dublin and Holyhead.

Mr. Pye was born at Chadwell Heath, where he still lives, and rang his first peal on March 30th, 1891, at Romford, which is his 'home' tower. His first peal as conductor was Grandsire Triples, rung at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, on December 31st, 1894. He, of course, rang an enormous number of peals under the conductorship of his famous brother, William, but he has himself called 361. Of his total, 177 peals have been rung on handbells, of which he has conducted 25. His peals have been rung in no fewer than 539 towers in 56 counties in England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales, and we believe he holds another record in the number of peals of Surprise Maximus, of which he has rung well over 80.

Mr. Pye has represented the Essex Association on the Central Council since 1918, and serves on the Peals Analysis and Records Committee.

Next week: Mr. Nolan Golden.

DEATH OF MR. WALTER HUGHES.

LOSS TO LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

By the death of Mr. Walter Hughes, the Liverpool District of the Lancashire Association has sustained a great loss. Mr. Hughes had been for upwards of 50 years a regular Sunday service ringer at Garston, and in the tower of that church he will be greatly missed. Mr. Hughes was formerly for 27 years secretary of the Liverpool Branch of the Lancashire Association. He was also a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

Mr. Hughes was 73 years of age and had rung 73 peals, the major portion being for the Lancashire Association. Most of his peals were in the standard methods, and many of them he conducted.

He died on January 31st and was interred in Garston Churchyard on Thursday, February 3rd, when there were present at the graveside many of his old ringing friends in addition to the family mourners. Mr. Hughes leaves a widow and grown-up family, two of his sons being ringers.

In the evening after the funeral a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung at Garston Parish Church with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect: J. Hooley 1, E. Breeze 2, G. Hislop 3, T. Jennion 4, G. R. Newton (conductor) 5, J. W. Meldrum 6, E. Caunce 7, W. E. Hughes 8.



MR. GEORGE R. PYE.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT GOUDHURST.

There was an excellent attendance at the quarterly meeting of the Tonbridge District of the Kent County Association, held at Goudhurst on February 5th. Ringers were present from Brasted, Hawkhurst, Horsmonden, East Peckham, Penshurst, Sevenoaks, Tunbridge Wells, Chislehurst, Staplehurst, Lamberhurst, Tenterden, Sturry, Hartfield, Uckfield, Coleman's Hatch, East Grinstead, All Saints', Hastings, Biddington and St. John's, Croydon.

The bells, a fine peal of eight, having a tenor weighing 27 cwt., were kept going during the afternoon and evening in the following methods: Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Bob Major, Oxford Treble Bob Major, Kent Treble Bob Major, Double Norwich Court Bob Major and Cambridge and London Surprise.

Service was conducted by the Rector of Goudhurst, the Rev. W. Britton. Tea was partaken of in Ye Olde Starre and Crowne Hotel, to which about 50 sat down.

The business meeting was presided over by Mr. E. H. Lewis. Eighteen new members were elected, several of whom were under 16 years of age.

Mr. T. Saunders, of East Peckham, district representative, read a report of the central committee meeting, which was held at Maidstone. The members stood for a few moments in silence as a mark of respect to the late Canon Cropper, of Penshurst, who had been an honorary member of the association for many years.

The district secretary, Mr. Alec Richardson, read a report from Brasted of the ringing done there in 1937. It contained details of 36 720's rung at various times, in 16 different methods. The secretary asked that other towers should send in similar reports, as it would help him, when giving his report at the end of the year, to be more accurate.

Mr. E. J. Ladd, the Ringing Master, gave a recital of bell records on a portable gramophone. The records were kindly lent by Mr. E. W. Housden, secretary of the Tunbridge Wells band.

A course of Grandsire Caters was rung upon handbells.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING AT EARLS COLNE.

The Northern Division of the Essex Association held a very enjoyable meeting at Earls Colne, when 50 ringers and friends, representing 21 towers, attended. The bells were going soon after 3 p.m., first for a wedding and then for the meeting, and continued, with the exception of a break for service and tea, until 9 p.m. Service was conducted by the priest-in-charge (the Rev. C. A. Gibbons). He welcomed the ringers, and said how very pleased he was to have a meeting of the Essex Association at Earls Colne during his brief stay there.

An excellent tea was prepared in the Co-operative Hall by the wives of the local ringers. Before the business meeting the District Master (Mr. F. Ridgewell) asked the ringers to stand for a few moments in silence in memory of a very old respected member, Mr. W. Elliott, of Kelvedon, who passed away on December 24th. The District Master presided at the meeting, supported by the district secretary (Miss H. G. Snowden), and the general secretary (Mr. L. J. Clark) was also present. Mr. Charles Pope, of Colne Engaine, was elected a ringer member, and Halstead was chosen for the next meeting on April 2nd.

Thanks were accorded to the Rev. C. A. Gibbons, to the organist (Mr. R. Wenden), and to the ladies who had kindly served the tea.

Methods rung during the afternoon and evening were Bob Major, Double Norwich, Grandsire, Stedman, Kent Treble Bob, Superlative, Cambridge, London and Bristol Surprise Major.

HALF-PEALS.

A NEW LIGHT RING IN OXFORDSHIRE.

On the new ring of six bells at Tetsworth, Oxfordshire, with a tenor of only 4½ cwt., a half-peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung on February 1st in honour of the donors, Messrs. A. and J. Hutt. It was rung in 1 hour 40 minutes by a band of Tetsworth Sunday service ringers: John Stone 1, Richard Lindars 2, Alfred Peasley 3, James Hedges 4, James Gibbard (conductor) 5, Thomas Lay 6.

As a 21st birthday compliment to Miss Winifred Berry, daughter of Mr. William Berry, a half-peal of Bob Minor (2,520 changes) was rung at the Parish Church, Middleton, Lancs, on Saturday, January 29th. It had been intended to attempt a peal of Grandsire Triples, but the band met short. The ringers were William Berry (conductor), Miss Hester Bell, Miss Rose A. Bell, T. K. Driver, H. Hamer, J. H. Barlow and A. Ogden.

DEATH OF A SUFFOLK RINGER.

Mr. Henry Philips, of Kelsale, Suffolk, passed away on February 2nd, after a painful illness of nearly five years, patiently borne. Deceased, who was 66 years of age, had been a safe ringer and splendid striker.

Among those who attended the funeral were old ringing friends, Mr. F. Page, of Kelsale, and Mr. F. Watling, of Saxmundham. Many beautiful wreaths were sent.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. NORTH AND EAST DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING.

Anticipating a Revision of Rules.

Upwards of 70 members attended the annual meeting of the North and East District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild, which was held at St. James', Clerkenwell, on Saturday, January 29th. At the time advertised for ringing to begin quite a large number were present, and there was no delay in raising the bells and getting on with the ringing.

Service was attended by a large congregation, welcomed by the Vicar (the Rev. C. L. Parker). In his address he took for his text one that is quite frequently used at ringers' meetings, 'In that day shall there be on the bells of the horses, holiness unto the Lord.' The address itself, however, was quite apart from the all too frequent style.

A feature of the service was the hymn, 'Hark, hark, my soul,' sung as a solo by Miss G. Bailey, one of the local ringers.

After service, tea was served in the crypt. About 70 sat down to an enjoyable meal, at the conclusion of which Mr. G. W. Fletcher (vice-president of the district) thanked the Vicar for his address and for allowing the meeting to be held. They were also, he said, very pleased to see Mrs. Parker present amongst them.—The Vicar, who said he regretted that he had to leave so early, once again welcomed the association to Clerkenwell, and wished everybody success in their ringing.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE MR. W. H. HOLLIER.

The business meeting followed. Before the reading of the minutes, the Chairman (Mr. Fletcher) called attention to the loss sustained by the association through the death of Mr. W. H. Hollier. He asked Mr. C. T. Coles to say something about Mr. Hollier's work.

The hon. secretary said that Mr. Hollier was a member of the association for some years before the war, but it was after the war, on rejoining, that he put in many years of work. He was hon. secretary of the South and West District for some ten years, and was mainly responsible for the augmentation of Isleworth bells. On giving up his secretarial duties he became hon. treasurer of the association, which position he occupied until his death. From 1924 he had represented the association on the Central Council, on which body he was convener of the Peal Records Committee.

As a mark of respect all present stood in silence for a few moments.

The usual business of the meeting was then proceeded with. First, twelve ringing members were elected, and the Rev. C. L. Parker, Vicar of Clerkenwell, elected as an hon. member.

The whole of the retiring officers were re-elected, on the understanding that in the event of the new draft rules, which were to be discussed at the annual general meeting, and which provided for the appointment of a general secretary, being passed, it might be necessary for the present assistant secretary to take over the duties of hon. secretary of the district.

The balance sheet was presented by the hon. treasurer (Mr. W. H. Oram). It showed a satisfactory state of affairs, there being a balance on the year's working of £4 8s. 1d., with total assets to the value of £113 4s. 2d.—The balance sheet was adopted.

The Chairman said that since their last meeting several members had been lost by death. The Rev. H. S. T. Richardson, of Hereford, died on December 23rd; Mr. W. Webb, of Finchley, a foundation member, died on December 25th, at the age of 81; whilst Mr. J. J. Parker, the famous composer of peals, died on December 21st, aged 84. They also deplored the death of Mr. H. E. Newton, churchwarden at St. John's, Leytonstone, who was a very enthusiastic supporter of the William Pye memorial scheme.

Mr. Atkins spoke of the many years of work done by the late Rev. H. S. T. Richardson in proving the Treble Bob peal collection, which was a monumental task; and his good work for the Central Council was testified to by Mr. Fletcher, who is hon. secretary of the Council.

The regrets of all present at the loss of so many members was shown by a vote of sympathy being passed in the usual way.

DECREASED ATTENDANCES AT MEETINGS.

The falling off in the attendances at district meetings during 1937 was strongly commented upon by the hon. secretary. Mr. Coles said that it was fashionable in these days to speak plainly—he hoped he would be plain enough, without anybody having cause to take offence. The attendances at meetings last year had fallen off very considerably, the average being 33, against 48 in 1936. The secretary nearly always attended, so did the Ringing Master and other officers; they were expected to be present, and it was the duty of members to do their utmost to attend. If all members attended at least two meetings every year, what a difference it would make, and what encouragement it would give to the officers. Mr. Coles went on to say that there might be a cause of the decreased attendances, but the only possible reason he could think of was the 'special method' being unpopular, although there was no evidence to show that this was so. He, therefore, asked members for an expression of opinion.

Mr. A. J. Harding (Pinner) moved that the special methods be discontinued, on the ground that they kept learners away from meetings.—Mr. E. B. Hartley (Willesden) seconded.

Mr. Goodship (Harrow Weald) supported the special methods, Miss K. M. Bradford (Willesden) was rather against them, on the ground that very few members took the trouble to learn them.

(Continued in next column.)

RINGER DIES IN A WORCESTER BELFRY. COLLAPSE DURING PRACTICE.

Not often does a ringer die at his post, but such was the case on Tuesday, February 1st, when, during the combined practice of the St. John's and Claines bands at St. John's, Worcester, Mr. Charles J. Green passed away suddenly. Having just rung the treble to a touch of Grandsire Triples, lasting about ten minutes, he sat down, and, just as another touch had begun, collapsed and died.

Mr. Green, who was 69 years of age, had spent most of his life farming in or near the sleepy Worcestershire village of Berrow, and here, during the time he was churchwarden, he was instrumental in having three new bells and a new steel frame added, and the existing two recast. Mr. Green gave a large sum towards this object, which was to commemorate the Coronation of King George V.

In 1925 he retired and went to reside in Worcester, a year or two later joining the newly-formed Claines band soon after the augmentation of the bells from five to eight. Never a great ringer—probably because in the Berrow district he had had too few opportunities—when they did come in Worcester he was too old. He will best be remembered by those who knew him personally for his old-fashioned courtesy, his quiet and unassuming manner and for his keen interest in the art he was himself unable to master thoroughly. He leaves a widow, son and daughter to mourn their loss.

He was laid to rest in Pendock churchyard (parish of Berrow-cum-Pendock) on Saturday, February 5th, and the Worcestershire Association was represented by Messrs. G. E. Large (hon. secretary, Western Branch), E. Wilson, R. Woodyatt, D. R. Sayers, R. W. Sayers, R. C. Sayers, F. G. Yates, all members of the Claines band, who rang handbells over the grave, after which the bells of Berrow Church nearby were rung half-muffled by the same ringers.

Among the wreaths was one from Mr. E. P. Thomas (vice-president) and Mrs. Thomas, and another from the St. John's band.

On Monday evening, February 7th, a half-muffled peal of Oxford Bob Triples was rung at Claines by members of both St. John's and Claines towers, six of whom were with Mr. Green in St. John's belfry when he passed away.

FIRST QUARTER-PEALS.

YORKTOWN, SURREY.—On Wednesday, February 2nd, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples (1,260 changes): *V. Wilkinson 1, C. W. Denyer 2, F. Marchant 3, T. E. Denyer 4, †S. Beck (conductor) 5, H. Hunt 6, F. J. Ewens 7, †Ed. Hunt 8. * First quarter-peal. † First quarter-peal of Triples.

MAISEY HAMPTON.—On Sunday, January 30th, for morning service at the Church of St. Mary, a quarter-peal of St. Dunstan's Doubles, 1,260 changes (10½ six-scores): E. H. Pearce 1, J. E. Godwin 2, W. C. Cuss (conductor) 3, L. W. Cuss 4, W. A. Godwin 5, N. J. Pearce 6. First quarter-peal in this method and first attempt by all except the conductor.

(Continued from previous column.)

Mr. G. L. Joyce, a visitor from Hornchurch, said that the decline in attendances was not confined to this association; it seemed pretty general. As regards special methods, he was generally in favour, provided that all who wished to ring the method chosen were given an opportunity to do so.

Mr. A. W. Coles (Master) supported the special methods. Other speakers included Mr. E. E. Holman (Walthamstow); Miss B. Hart, (Kilburn), who wanted easier methods; and Mr. E. M. Atkins (Kilburn).

Ultimately the proposal to discontinue the methods was defeated by a fairly big majority.

As is generally known amongst members, a proposal to make a drastic revision of the rules will come up for discussion at the annual general meeting on April 30th. In the meantime, to enable the rules, if passed, to come into operation on January 1st next, it was necessary to pass the following resolution, which had also to be passed by the other district of the association to enable it to become effective: 'This annual meeting of the North and East District resolves that, in the event of the revised rules being adopted by the annual general meeting, the funds of the district shall be transferred to the central fund of the association as from January 1st, 1939.'

This was proposed by the hon. secretary, seconded by Mr. G. B. Lucas and carried.

The sum of £2 2s. was voted to the St. George-in-the-East Bell Restoration Fund, the hon. secretary stating that it was at this tower that his brother and himself learned to ring, and they hoped the money to rehang the bells would soon be raised.

The arrangements for the next meeting were left to the hon. secretary. Kent Treble Bob was chosen as the special method.

Edmonton was selected for the next annual meeting of the district.

The Chairman moved a vote of thanks, which embraced those who had helped in any way towards the success of the meeting. These were Messrs. W. Bailey and E. W. Sawbridge (churchwardens), Mr. Rideaux (organist), Miss G. Bailey and friends, who arranged tea, and Mr. R. W. Rixon, the local secretary.—This was carried with applause.

The meeting closed after a vote of thanks to the officers of the district had been moved by Mr. E. M. Atkins and carried by the meeting.

Ringings afterwards took place, ceasing shortly before 8.30 p.m.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.**ISLE OF WIGHT DISTRICT.****Bell Rope the Clergy's Fishing Line.**

The annual meeting of the Island District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild was held at Ryde on Saturday, January 29th, when representatives were present from the towers of Portsmouth Cathedral and St. Mary's, Portsea, Ryde, Newport, Carisbrooke, Ventnor and Godshill churches. The early afternoon was spent in ringing in the tower of All Saints' Church, placed at the disposal of the Guild by the Vicar (the Rev. Canon Moxon, D.D.), who subsequently conducted a ringers' service in the church. Mr. E. G. Weish was at the organ and the singing was led by a contingent of the choirboys, who were entertained to tea at the Welby Institute.

The annual meeting followed, with the president of the district (Dr. J. B. Williamson) in the chair.

The report of the hon. auditor (Mr. H. A. Phillips) showed receipts of £11 3s. 11d., including a balance of £5 5s. from the previous year. The expenditure included £2 10s. 5d. remitted to the general treasurer of the Guild, and a credit balance of £5 8s. 3d. remained.

Mr. H. P. James, the hon. secretary and treasurer, in his report, referred to a gratifying increase in the number of ringers attending the meetings, and thanked the president for his deep interest in the work of the district. The clergy who had allowed the ringers the use of bells and all who had in any way assisted in the progress of the district were thanked.

REVIVAL IN INTEREST.

The Ringing Master (Mr. H. Barton) reported that he was satisfied with the ringing he had heard in the Island churches. After giving a summary of the peals rung during 1937, the Master said he felt sure of a revival of interest in ringing.

Dr. Williamson was unanimously re-elected president.—In returning thanks, he referred to the fact that the clergy often complained if the bells of their tower were not rung for service on Sundays, and asked how often the clergy themselves visited the belfry when the ringers were there. He claimed that the bell rope was the clergy's fishing line and expressed the opinion that more frequent visits on their part to the belfry would create new interest amongst the ringers. He appealed to the clergy not to lose sight of the fact that a bell-ringer was a churchworker.

The officers were re-elected and cordially thanked for their services. Four new members were elected.

The meeting discussed and deprecated the use of amplified gramophone records in church towers, and passed a resolution in support of the protest against this practice, particularly in churches where bells are available.

The quarterly meeting is to be held at Godshill in April, with a by-practice meeting in March at Arreton and Newchurch, subject to permission to use the bells.

The meeting terminated with thanks to the Vicar, the organist and choirboys, and to the Portsmouth ringers for their interest. Further ringing in the tower and on the handbells followed.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**NORTH NORFOLK BRANCH OFFICERS.**

The annual meeting of the North Norfolk Branch was held at Buxton on Saturday, January 29th. The bells of the Parish Church were rung to various methods from Bob Minor to London, York, Norwich, Cambridge and Beverley Surprise Minor, while on handbells Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Double Norwich and Cambridge Surprise Major were rung.

The service was conducted by the branch chairman (the Rev. H. W. Benson) and the association's form was used.

Between forty and fifty members sat down to tea in the Parish Hall. At the business meeting, which followed, the Rev. H. W. Benson presided, supported by the Rev. E. W. Blyth (Rector of Northrepps), Mr. A. L. Coleman (vice-president), Mr. F. Tooke (branch secretary), Messrs. G. Bailey, W. Clover, W. C. Duffield and G. Mayers (members of the committee), and representatives from Aylsham, Buxton, Cromer, Hovingham, Northrepps, Norwich, Scottow, Wiveton, Wroxham and Wymondham. Other branches were represented by Messrs. W. J. Lee and J. G. W. Harwood (chairman and secretary, East Norfolk Branch) and members from Acle, Gressenhall, North Elmham and Reedham.

The election of officers resulted as follows: Chairman, the Rev. H. W. Benson; secretary, Mr. H. Tooke; committee, Messrs. G. Bailey, W. Clover, W. C. Duffield, A. H. Holliday and G. Mayers. Messrs. G. Bailey and W. C. Duffield were re-elected to the Standing Committee of the Association. The Rev. Newton Kent and Mr. F. A. Bainbridge, of Scottow, were elected honorary members. The belfry elections of Miss Olive Lowe, of Scottow, and Mr. Fred Barton, of Buxton, were ratified, and the following new members were elected: Messrs. W. Abel, R. G. Durrant and C. H. Kiddle (Garveston) and G. C. G. Greenacre (Wroxham).

Mr. A. L. Coleman proposed a vote of thanks to the Rev. Benson for allowing the branch to visit Buxton, for the use of the bells and for conducting the service. Mr. Tooke proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. W. C. Duffield for all the work he had done in making the arrangements for the meeting.

The next meeting of the branch will be held at East Dereham on Saturday, April 30th.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.**COMING CHANGES AMONG OFFICIALS.****Diminished Membership Warning.**

A falling off in the membership of the Guildford District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild was reported at the annual meeting by the district hon. secretary, Mr. G. L. Grover, who pointed out that if the district was to be as useful in helping bell restorations in the future as in the past, the membership must at least be maintained.

There was ringing during the afternoon at the Cathedral and S. Nicolas' Church, service being conducted at the latter by the Rector (the Rev. E. de G. Lucas).

The meeting was presided over by Mr. W. Harrison (vice-president of the Guild), and the following district officers were elected for the year: Ringing Master, Mr. C. Ernest Smith; hon. district secretary, Mr. G. L. Grover; hon. auditor, Mr. A. C. Hazelden. After a ballot Messrs. W. Cope and R. Whittington were elected on the Executive Committee.

Presenting the balance sheet, Mr. Grover said that the balance in hand for 1936 was £25 6s., and for 1937 it was £21 19s. Total receipts were £41 0s. 6d., which included £14 for subscriptions, and on the expenditure side the district meetings cost £1 12s. 3d., and there were grants of £5 to the new Cathedral bells fund, and £2 2s. to the benevolent fund, while £8 0s. 9d. had been remitted to the general fund.

The Ringing Master reported that during the year 31 peals were rung in the diocese. Of that number, 19 were rung in the district in seven towers, of which Guildford Cathedral headed the list with six peals. Coronation peals totalled four, rung at the Cathedral, Chiddingfold, Haslemere and Witley. Mr. A. H. Pulling headed the list of conductors of peals with 14 to his credit. Sunday service ringing had been well maintained, and at practically every tower in the district ringing for the national event had taken place.

On the whole, continued Mr. Smith, meetings had been fairly well attended, but one meeting, at Godalming, had had to be cancelled owing to the close proximity of its date to Coronation Day.

ANOTHER RING OF EIGHT.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith said that it had been decided to rehang Ewhurst bells and augment them from six to eight. The two trebles were gifts, and the bells were being rehanged by the Barron Trust.

In his report, Mr. G. L. Grover said ten years ago there were 142 members, and during the eight years to 1935 the number rose to a peak of 171, but had since fallen to 145. In 1931 there were 30 hon. members; the number now was 10. There were seven towers in the district which did not contribute one member to the present total.

All but one of the proposed district meetings were held, and were fairly well attended, but one in particular could have been bettered. It was, however, said Mr. Grover, discouraging to lose touch with such towers as Merrow and Old Woking, which for years had contributed members to the Guild. The Guild subscribed £5 to the Cathedral Bells Fund, and a donation of £2 2s. was paid to the Benevolent Fund. During the last ten years the district had subscribed over £20 to various objects, principally restorations or installations, and, said the secretary, 'if we are to be as useful in the future in this direction as we have in the past, we must see that our membership is at least maintained.'

Mr. Grover said that the members would regret to learn that the guild secretary, Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, had decided that he could no longer undertake the secretaryship, and a sub-committee of the Executive Committee had persuaded him (Mr. Grover) to accept the office. That change had necessitated the Executive Committee finding someone to take up the duties of district secretary, and they had approached Mr. Cope, of S. Nicolas' tower. He had expressed his willingness to undertake the duties. He hoped the members would give Mr. Cope their support, and thanked all those who had supported him during the past nine years. Mr. Grover concluded by reminding the members that there were 164 bells in the district, and only 145 ringing members, and asked that this should be noted and the necessary action taken.

It was decided to hold district meetings in 1938 at the following places: Godalming, Bramley and Womersley, Pirbright, Old Woking and Dunsfold.

Nominations were received for guild offices as follows: Mr. G. L. Grover, general secretary; Mr. J. S. Goldsmith, vice-president; all the other officers were nominated en bloc.

Nine new members were elected to the Guild, and one life ringing member, Rodney Hesse, the 12-year-old son of Major J. H. B. Hesse (Master of the Guild).

Mr. C. Hazelden proposed a vote of thanks to all who had made the meeting a success.

After the meeting there was ringing at Shalford and S. Nicolas' Churches.

(Continued on next page.)

FENHAM, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.—At SS. James and Basil's Church, on Sunday, January 30th, a quarter-peal of Erin Triples (1,260 changes): J. Roach 1, C. E. Lawson 2, N. Fairman 3, E. Wallace 4, P. Wishart 5, T. W. Crowe 6, K. Arthur (conductor) 7, R. Crosby 8. This was the first quarter-peal in the method by all and on the bells.

MORE HONORARY MEMBERS WANTED. LEATHERHEAD DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING.

(Continued from previous page.)

The annual meeting of the Leatherhead District was held on Saturday, February 12th, and attended by members from seven of the eleven towers in the area and a number of visitors. The Rector (the Rev. G. H. B. Coleridge) having been called away from home by the illness of his son, the Rev. P. W. H. Isdell-Carpenter (curate) conducted the service and afterwards presided at the meeting.

The district balance sheet showed £6 5s. received in subscriptions from 61 ringing and two honorary members. A grant of £2 had been made to the new Cathedral bells fund £3 2s. 6d. remitted to the general treasurer. The balance in hand was £5 9s. 6d., compared with £6 7s. 4d. the previous year.

The hon. secretary (Mr. A. H. Smith), in his report, said they had finished the year with the same number of ringing members, but he hoped they would be able to increase the number of hon. members. They had fewer honorary members than any other district in the Guild.

During the year four peals were rung in the district, three of them for the Coronation. Among the peals were Oxford Bob Triples and Boveney Surprise Major rung for the Guild for the first time. The sum of £1 15s. was received from the collecting boxes for the Benevolent Fund.

The district officers were re-elected, with thanks for their services. They are Messrs. A. Harman, Ringing Master; A. H. Smith, hon. secretary, and W. J. Whiting, hon. auditor. Messrs. G. Marriner and W. J. Whiting were elected on the Executive Committee.

Commenting on the report, the general hon. secretary (Mr. J. S. Goldsmith) supported the appeal made by the district secretary for more honorary members. He pointed out that these could be best secured by the local ringers, because the personal touch was more effective than a formal letter from the district secretary. He asked them to do what they could in this direction in their own parishes, and not confine their efforts to the parson.

It was decided to hold meetings during the year at Banstead, Ockley, Ranmore (jointly with the Surrey Association), Ewell and Ashted, with the annual meeting at Leatherhead.

Mr. G. L. Grover was nominated for the office of guild secretary, and the other guild officers were renominated.

On the motion of Mr. A. Harman, seconded by Mr. F. G. Woodiss, a resolution was passed expressing regret at the coming resignation of the general hon. secretary, and thanking him for what he had done for the Guild. It also recommended that, in recognition of past and in anticipation of future services to the Guild, Mr. Goldsmith be elected a vice-president of the Guild.

It was decided to carry on the combined practices, with some variation of detail in the arrangements, and the meeting terminated with an omnibus vote of thanks to all who had contributed to its success.

Ringing on the ten bells at the Parish Church was enjoyed during the afternoon and evening and ranged from rounds to Cambridge Surprise Royal.

WREXHAM, NORTH WALES.—A quarter-peal of Stedman Triples on January 19th, to celebrate the marriage of Miss Virginia Stewart-Brown and Mr. Ian Edward Hargreave: A. Lea, sen. 1, E. Millington 2, P. Cross 3, J. Camper 4, W. Catherall (first quarter-peal as conductor) 5, T. Catherall 6, A. Lea, jun. 7, F. Mitchell 8.

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GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—The annual meeting of the district will be held at St. Peter's, Chertsey, on Saturday, February 19th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. at Church Hall. All ringers and friends welcome. Subscriptions for 1938 are now due.—F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Sec., 39, Queen's Road, Thames Ditton.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The annual general meeting will be held at East Grinstead on Saturday, February 19th. (Please note date.) Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15, by kind invitation of the Guild president (the Rev. Dr. C. Golding-Bird). Business meeting to follow. Everybody welcome.—B. Saunders, 18, New Road, Ridgewood, Uckfield, Sussex.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held in the Church of the Sacred Trinity, Salford, on Saturday, February 19th. Tower open for ringing at 6 o'clock. Members and non-members are cordially invited.—J. H. Ridyard, 35, The Crescent, Worsley, Branch Sec.

LADIES' GUILD.—Southern District.—A meeting will be held at Shalford on Saturday, February 19th. Bells 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting at the Sea Horse. All welcome.—H. F. Mills, Maiden Combe, Northbrook Road, Aldershot.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—A meeting will be held at Thorpe-le-Soken on Saturday, February 19th. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.15, and tea, which is provided free by Mr. Clarke, at 5 p.m. Will all those intending to be present please notify me as soon as possible so as to enable me to make necessary arrangements for tea, etc.—J. R. Sparling, Hon. Sec., Station Hotel, Wivenhoe.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—On February 19th, the Burton District will hold its first meeting of the year at Winhill (Tutbury bells not available). Bells (6) available at 3 p.m. Tea and meeting in Church Room 5 o'clock. Methods to suit all comers, including Cambridge Surprise. All ringers welcome.—J. W. Cotton, Overseale, Burton-on-Trent.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting will be held at Barwell (8 bells) on Saturday, February 19th. Usual times and arrangements. Subscriptions for 1938 are due.—Wm. A. Wood, Hon. Dis. Sec.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—The annual meeting of the Bromyard District will be held at Pencombe on Saturday, February 19th. Bells (6) will be available from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting 5 o'clock in the Parish Hall.—A. S. Tomkins, Post Office, Bredenbury, Hereford.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Meeting of Southampton District at North Stoneham on February 19th. Bells from 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. A bumper meeting please.—G. Pulinger, 17, Stoke Park Road, Bishopstoke, Hants.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—V.W.H. Branch.—The spring meeting will be held at Ashbury on Saturday, February 19th. Bells (6) available at 2.30. Service 4.30.—R. Gilling, Hon. Sec., Fernham, Faringdon, Berks.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Lancaster Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Hornby on Saturday, February 19th. Bells available from 2 p.m. Tea at 4.30 p.m. A hearty invitation is extended to all members and friends to spend an enjoyable afternoon.—E. Swain, 23, Thornton Road, Morecambe.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Ware on February 19th, when the bells will be open during the afternoon and evening. Service in church at 5 o'clock. Tea and business meeting near the church after. All ringing friends heartily invited.—W. H. Lawrence, Hon. Dis. Sec., Little Munden.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—A monthly meeting will be held at Wolvey on Saturday, February 19th. Bells available afternoon and evening. Tea will be provided.—Malcolm Melville, Gen. Hon. Sec., Exhall, Coventry.

SOCIETY OF SHERWOOD YOUTHS.—Meeting at Beeston, February 19th. Bells available 3.30 p.m. Tea may be had near the church. No. 4 bus from the Council Square, Nottingham.—I. B. Thompson, 52, Lace Street, Dunkirk, Nottingham.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—West Dorset Branch.—A meeting will be held at Bradpole on Saturday, February 19th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Everyone welcome.—C. H. Lathey, Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Goole on Saturday, February 19th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Tea at Hackforth's Cafe at 5.30 p.m.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Ebor Street, Selby.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northants Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Old Duston to-morrow (Saturday), February 19th. Usual arrangements.—J. C. Dean, Hon. Sec., 16, St. Peter's Street, Northampton.

CROWCOMBE, SOMERSET.—A thanksgiving service to be held on Sunday, February 20th, at 3 p.m.; preacher, the Right Rev. Bishop de Salis, Archdeacon of Taunton, following the restoration of the ring of six bells by John Taylor and Co.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Sonning Deanery Branch.—Combined practice at Easthampstead (6 bells), Wednesday, February 23rd, 6.45 p.m. Visitors welcome. Station, Bracknell.—W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meeting, February 24th, St. Andrew's, Holborn, 8 p.m. The subscription of 1s. 8d., which entitles members who have not attended twenty times during the past year to vote on matters of finance, is now due.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Usual monthly practice will take place at St. Leonard's, Shoreditch, on Thursday, February 24th, commencing 6.30 p.m. Any ringer welcomed.—Norman Summerhayes, 28, Bean Road, Bexleyheath.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Adwick on Saturday, February 26th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Will those requiring tea please notify me not later than first post Wednesday, the 23rd. A good attendance is hoped for at this meeting.—Ernest Cooper, Hon. Sec., 1, Grosvenor Crescent, Arksey, near Doncaster.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next practice has been arranged at Wooburn (8 bells) on Saturday, February 26th, at 6 p.m. Subscriptions are now due.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Stapleton on Saturday, February 26th. Bells (6) open from 3. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Please advise for tea.—R. C. Gifford, Branch Sec., Frampton Cotterell, near Bristol.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Bramley on Saturday, February 26th. Bells available from 3.45 approximately. (Wedding will delay start.) Tea (1s. per head) will be arranged for all who notify Mr. S. Helliwell, 19, Warrels Avenue, Bramley, Leeds, by Thursday. Business meeting in Schools 7.30 p.m.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Royston, Saturday, February 26th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Short service, followed by tea, given by the Vicar. If you wish for tea to be provided, drop card to the Rev. F. F. Greig, The Vicarage, Royston. We want a better meeting than we had last year, so book the date and don't be late! and please send a card; if you don't, and there isn't enough tea, don't blame me.—Don Mears, Fritton, Moor-mead Close, Hitchin.

HASTINGS AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Battle on Saturday, February 26th. Tower open 3 o'clock. Tea free to members, but all ringers will be heartily welcomed.—C. A. Levett, 238, Priory Road, Hastings.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next branch meeting will be held at Burnley Parish Church on Saturday, February 26th. Members and non-members cordially invited. Bells available 3 p.m. Meeting in tower, 6.30 p.m.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

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ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts Branch.—A meeting will be held at Hartford on Saturday, Feb. 26th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock.—H. J. Parker, Dis. Sec., Great Staughton, St. Neots, Hunts.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—The branch will meet at Watlington on Saturday, February 26th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. Please try to be present.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The pre-Lent meeting will be held at Whitley Bay on Saturday, February 26th, when the bells will be available during the afternoon and evening. A committee meeting will be held in the Church Hall at 4 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., followed by tea, at 1s. 3d. per person, in the Church Hall. Requirements for tea to reach me by the morning of Tuesday, the 22nd.—Roland Park, Hon. Sec., 23, Oaklands Terrace, Darlington.

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—A meeting for general practice at Penkridge on Saturday, February 26th. Bells from 3 o'clock. All are welcome.—H. Knight.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Spalding on Saturday, Feb. 26th. Bells available from 2 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.15 p.m. Business meeting afterwards. Will those intending to be present kindly let me know by February 22nd?—Geo Ladd, Hon. Sec., Pinchbeck, Spalding.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Wirral Branch.—A meeting of the Wirral Branch will be held at Bebington (8 bells) on Saturday, February 26th. Tower open at 3 o'clock. Service at 5.30 p.m. Tea and meeting afterwards. A good attendance is requested.—Harry S. Brocklebank, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Halliwell, on Saturday, February 26th. Bells available 3 o'clock.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

LANGLEYBURY.—Saturday, February 26th. Bells open from 3.30. Tea, Church Institute, 5.30. Coach and train service at frequent intervals. Bus service to church from Watford and other places. Number for tea must be in to me by the 23rd, so that arrangements may be made.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey (City 4270).

PEAK DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The first meeting of the 1938 season will be held on Saturday, February 26th, at Darley Dale. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Will all members and friends who intend being present kindly drop a card before Friday, the 25th, to H. E. Taylor, The Hill-side, Darley Dale, to ensure adequate arrangements for tea?—H. L. Warburton, Hon. Sec.

APPLETON, BERKS.—The 120th anniversary will be celebrated Saturday, March 5th. Bells available all day. Dinner at 4.30 p.m., 2s. 6d. per head. Please notify R. White, Appleton, Berks.

LEICESTER AND DISTRICT RINGING SOCIETIES.—The annual dinner will be held at the Hotel Victory (near the L.N.E. Railway Station) at 6.30 p.m., on Saturday, March 5th. Tickets, 3s., to be applied for not later than March 2nd.—H. W. Perkins, 53, Landseer Road, Leicester.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Reigate on Saturday, March 5th. Bells available from 3 o'clock and in the evening. Service 5 o'clock. Tea at the Parish Hall, Lesbourne Road, 5.45. Meeting 6.30. The bells of St. John's, Redhill (8), will also be available during the afternoon. Notifications for tea to be sent to Mr. Walter Claydon, 8, Chartfield Road, Reigate, by Wednesday, March 2nd.—E. G. Talbot, Hon. Sec., 8, The Ridgeway, Croydon.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—The Jubilee 'Henry Johnson' Commemoration Dinner will be held at the White Horse Restaurant, Congreve Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, March 5th, at 6 p.m. prompt, the Master, Alderman J. S. Pritchett, M.A., B.C.L., in the chair. The bells of St. Martin's (12), Aston Parish Church (12), and the Cathedral Church (10), will be available from 3.30 to 5 o'clock. Tickets will be issued to fully-paid ringing members at 2s. each; to other members and friends at 6s. 6d. each. Early application accompanied by remittance is essential, latest date being February 26th.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham, 11.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Newcastle on Saturday, March 5th. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Chester Guild ringers heartily invited. Special method, Cambridge Royal. Those who require tea will you kindly notify me before March 2nd?—Andrew Thompson, 37, Broad Street, Newcastle, Staffs.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The North and East Branches combine at Blofield on Saturday, March 5th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea in Village Hall 5 p.m., followed by business meeting. The Standing Committee meets at the Rectory at 6 p.m. (approximately). Numbers for tea (1s. 3d.) by March 2nd to Nolan Golden, general secretary and treasurer, Winton, 26, Brabazon Road, Norwich.—John G. W. Harwood and Henry Tooke, Branch Secs.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Eastbourne (St. Saviour's) on Saturday, March 5th. Tower open 2.45. Service 4 o'clock. Tea 4.45 (1s. 3d. per head). Will all those intending to be present kindly let me know by Wednesday previous to meeting?—A. C. Pankhurst, Hon. Div. Sec., 13, Bradford Street, Eastbourne.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Swansea on Saturday, March 5th. Bells (8) available 3. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. All ringers welcome. Numbers for tea by February 28th certain.—E. Stitch, Hon. Dis. Sec., 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glam.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—The annual dinner will be held at Anderton's Hotel, Fleet Street, E.C.4, on Saturday, March 19th, at 6.30 p.m. Tickets (6s. each) obtainable from Messrs. G. H. Cross, G. W. Steere, G. Gilbert, R. Heazel, G. Radley, E. J. Butler, and N. Summerhayes, Hon. Sec., 28, Bean Road, Bexleyheath.

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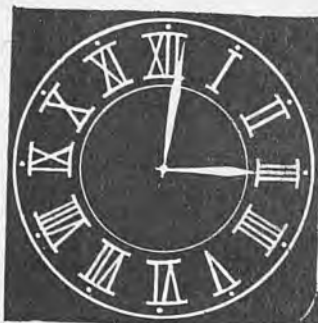
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