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FRIDAY, MARCH 4th, 1938.

[Registered at the G.P.O. for
transmission as a newspaper.]

Price 3d.

GILLETT AND JOHNSTON LTD

CROYDON

Founders
of the
heaviest bells
cast
in England.

DERELICT BELLS.

A Consistory Court at York has had before it an application for the disposal of a peal of six bells, which formerly hung in a church in that city, but which has now been demolished. At Chester it is sought to dispose of another ring of bells which have never been hung for ringing in the present tower. In London, the bells of All Hallows', Lombard Street, will have to find another home. Ringers will watch the ultimate fate of these bells with interest, and will be gratified with the attitude taken by the Chancellor of the diocese of York. In the case before him permission was sought to remove the bells to a church in Middlesbrough when the tower is completed, and this application will ultimately be given effect to if no evidence is forthcoming that the public object to having the bells set up among them. The Chancellor is anxious not to have them transferred to a place where they will not be used. Moreover, his opinion that the bells should be moved as a complete ring and not dispersed as single bells to different churches is one which we hope will be accepted everywhere where peals are, for any reason, to change their abode.

In the case at Chester, the proposal is to sell the bells for the benefit of the endowment fund. As four of them have stood silent on the window sills of the belfry for fifty years, and there is no likelihood of their being hung for ringing where they are, we hope they will find a parish ready to purchase them and use them for the purpose for which they originally found their way to Chester. That, indeed, we think, should be a condition upon which the church is permitted to dispose of them. It would be a great pity if they were merely sold as 'scrap,' and we hope the resolution of the Chester Guild on this matter will be given due weight. The future of All Hallows' bells is not yet settled, as far as we are aware. The hope is that, like those of St. Andrew's, Wells Street, they may be taken intact to some other tower where they can be made full use of.

Perhaps it would be a good thing if some of the other peals about the country, which have been allowed to become derelict, could be moved to other churches where they would be better appreciated. It is curious that bells, although sometimes the most expensive furniture of the church, are often the most neglected. There was never a time when so many new bells were being placed in churches, and yet there are a very large number of instances, particularly in cities and large towns, where peals hang uncared for and unring. In these churches one bell would suffice to comply with the rubric, and, although it may seem heresy to suggest it, it might be a

(Continued on page 138.)

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Late of BERMONDSEY and PECKHAM.

Maker to St. Paul's Cathedral, Westminster Abbey, Imperial Institute, Canterbury, Edinburgh, St. Albans, Lincoln, Durham, Peterborough, Melbourne (Australia), Rochester, Dublin, St. Patrick's, Manchester, Durban and Worcester Cathedrals, etc., etc.

Mufflers, Ringing Mats, Matting, Flag Lines, etc., etc.

good plan to transfer some of these unused bells to other churches who desire peals but cannot afford to install them. But, no doubt, if that were seriously suggested the owners of the silent bells would be the first to raise objection.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
(LEICESTER CATHEDRAL SOCIETY.)

On Thursday, February 17, 1938, in Three Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 25 cwt.

WILLIAM BOTTRILL Treble	*DR. F. S. POOLE 7
*ERNEST W. RAWSON 2	*SIDNEY CHENEY 8
HAROLD J. POOLE 3	FREDERICK H. DEXTER 9
*HERBERT W. PERKINS 4	*A. JAMES HARRIS 10
†HARRY WAYNE 5	HARRY BROUGHTON 11
HAROLD G. JENNEY 6	JOHN GRANT Tenor

Composed by C. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

* First peal of Cinques. † First peal. Ring as a farewell to the Very Rev. F. B. Macnutt, M.A., late Provost of the Cathedral, who left Leicester the preceding day for Canterbury Cathedral.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

(ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)

On Saturday, February 19, 1938, in Three Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAXIMUS, 5016 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

WILLIAM TILLET Treble	WILLIAM P. GARRETT 7
*SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER 2	GEORGE A. FLEMING 8
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY 3	CHARLES A. CATCHPOLE 9
*HOBART E. SMITH 4	*CECIL W. PIPE 10
HARRY R. ROPER 5	GEORGE E. SYMONDS 11
WILLIAM J. G. BROWN 6	*FREDERICK J. SMITH Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by CHARLES J. SEDGLEY.

* First peal of Double Norwich Maximus.

WEST BROMWICH, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, February 19, 1938, in Three Hours and Twenty-Six Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5016 CHANGES;

Tenor 22½ cwt.

HOWARD HOWELL Treble	AUBREY M. PICKERING 7
HERBERT KNIGHT 2	FRANCIS BROTHERTON 8
BARNABAS G. KEY 3	CHRISTOPHER WALLATER 9
BERT HORTON 4	WILLIAM FISHER 10
EDGAR T. SMITH 5	THOMAS J. ELTON 11
RICHARD C. INGRAM 6	*ALBERT J. HUBBLE Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER.

Conducted by THOMAS J. ELTON.

* First peal on twelve bells.

TROWBRIDGE, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, February 23, 1938, in Three Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF BOB MAXIMUS, 5016 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

*CHARLES F. ANDREWS ... Treble	*ERNEST PARKER 7
*HAROLD SMITH 2	*WILLIAM J. PRESCOTT 8
J. FRANK SMALLWOOD 3	CHARLES J. GARDINER 9
*JESSE FRANCIS 4	BERTRAM W. KYNASTON 10
*CHARLES BUTCHER 5	*SAMUEL J. HECTOR 11
*THOMAS F. KING 6	*GILBERT H. HARDING Tenor

Arranged by C. F. ANDREWS.

Conducted by GILBERT H. HARDING.

* First peal of Maximus. First peal of Maximus on the bells, in the county and by the Guild.

TEN BELL PEALS.

GREAT YARMOUTH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 19, 1938, in Three Hours and Thirty-Three Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5093 CHANGES;

Tenor 30½ cwt. in C sharp.

CLIFFORD BIRD	...Treble	STANLEY W. GALL	6
GEORGE MAYERS	2	ARTHUR G. KING	7
NOLAN GOLDEN	3	HENRY TOOKE	8
JOHN G. W. HARWOOD	4	WILLIAM CLOVER	9
R. WILLIAM BARBER	5	HERBERT JERMY	Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

A silver wedding compliment to Mr. William E. Bason, formerly a member of St. Nicholas' company and now of Thetford.

LONDON.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH
SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 19, 1938, in Three Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS, WEST HAM, E.,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt.

GEORGE HAYDEN	...Treble	ROBERT C. HEAZEL	6
THOMAS W. TAFFENDER	2	*NORMAN H. MANNING	7
MISS OLIVE L. ASHBROOK	3	HENRY T. WILSON	8
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER	4	ERNEST W. FURBANK	9
CLARENCE H. DOBBIE	5	EDWARD D. SMITH	Tenor

Composed by YORK GREEN Conducted by EDWARD D. SMITH.

* First peal of Treble Bob Royal.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 19, 1938, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5017 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE	...Treble	J. E. LEWIS COCKEY	6
CHARLES T. COLES	2	*REGINALD W. DARVILL	7
GEORGE R. PYE	3	GEORGE W. STEERE	8
JAMES BENNETT	4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	9
HERBERT W. LIDBETTER	5	HARRY BROOKS	Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by CHARLES T. COLES.

* First peal of Caters in the method. Rung as a compliment to the president of the association, the Rev. W. P. Cole-Sheane, on his appointment as Prebendary of St. Paul's Cathedral.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

BENGEO, HERTFORD.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Three Hours and Three Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 7½ cwt.

GEORGE GRAY	...Treble	REGINALD DORE	5
EDITH K. FLETCHER	2	JOSEPH LADLEY	6
CONSTANCE DITTON	3	GEORGE W. FLETCHER	7
STANLEY A. CARTER	4	SIDNEY CADLE	Tenor

Conducted by EDITH K. FLETCHER.

First peal in the method on the bells.

RAINHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 18 cwt.

FRANK BELSEY	...Treble	WILLIAM J. WALKER	5
*BERT W. MAY	2	GEORGE A. NAYLOR	6
WILLIAM A. J. KNIGHT	3	VICTOR A. JARRETT	7
FRANCIS J. CHEAL	4	EDWARD A. G. ALLEN	Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE A. NAYLOR.

* First peal of Grandsire Triples on an 'inside' bell. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the late Mr. W. A. Cooke, secretary of the local band.

MEASHAM, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

WASHBROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 10 cwt.

JOSEPH WM. COTTON	...Treble	WILLIAM A. WOOD	5
ERNEST W. BEADSMOORE	2	ALFRED BALLARD	6
ARTHUR E. ROWLEY	3	FRANK K. MEASURES	7
WILLIAM H. CURSON	4	F. GEORGE BAILEY	Tenor

Conducted by FRANK K. MEASURES.

A birthday compliment to W. H. CURSON.

CURDRIDGE, HANTS.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

FIRSTOW'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 26 cwt.

GEORGE WILLIAMS	...Treble	WILFRED ANDREWS	5
*LESLIE TREMBER	2	HAROLD P. REED	6
LOUIS J. LOCKYER	3	REGINALD A. REED	7
FRANK BENNETT	4	JAMES H. SHEPHERD	Tenor

Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

* First peal of Triples.

CHESTER-LE-STREET, CO. DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes.

AT THE COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

AND ST. CUTHBERT,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt.

JOHN ANDERSON	...Treble	FREDERICK SHERATON	5
STEPHEN THOMPSON	2	ADAM DEAS	6
WILLIAM SHERATON	3	CHARLES E. LAWSON	7
JOHN A. BROWN	4	WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON	Tenor

Composed by A. RICHARDSON.

First peal of Bob Major on the bells.

Conducted by W. J. DAVIDSON.

LLANGIBBY, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CYBI,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 14 cwt.

TREVOR M. RODERICK	...Treble	ERNEST STITCH	5
JOHN W. JONES	2	GEORGE TALBOT	6
ALBERT J. PITMAN	3	JOHN PHILLIPS	7
REV. IVOR J. RICHARDS	4	ROBERT SMITH	Tenor

Conducted by JOHN PHILLIPS.

SCUNTHORPE, Lincs.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Three Hours.

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Tenor 18½ cwt.

FRANK LORD	...Treble	ERNEST BRITAIN	5
FRED LACEY	2	JACK BRAY	6
*PHILIP BARNES	3	HAROLD JUDD	7
*FRED JEFFERY	4	C. BERT CHESTER	Tenor

Conducted by JACK BRAY.

* First peal of Triples.

BILLINGSHURST, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, February 13, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

*HAROLD F. WOOD	...Treble	JOHN COOK	5
WALTER CHARMAN	2	CECIL H. WOOD	6
WILLIAM STANFORD	3	RAYMOND WOOD	7
PETER CHARMAN	4	RAYMOND WOOD, JUN.	Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

* First peal of Major.

Conducted by R. WOOD, JUN.

FRAMSDEN, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Monday, February 14, 1938, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 16 cwt.

*GEORGE WIGHTMAN Treble	JAMES BETTS... .. 5
BERTIE CHILVERS 2	SIDNEY W. ARBON 6
ALFRED S. WIGHTMAN 3	WILLIAM BUTTON 7
WILLIAM WIGHTMAN 4	LESLIE G. BRETT... .. Tenor

Composed by J. REEVES.

Conducted by G. WIGHTMAN.

* 300th peal.

CRAWLEY, SUSSEX.

THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, February 16, 1938, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 13½ cwt.

OLIVER SIPPETTS Treble	KENNETH SNELLING 5
MISS FLORRIE WYMAN 2	RAYMOND OVERY 6
WILLIAM T. BEESON 3	CECIL NICE 7
NELSON ELLIOT 4	ALFRED J. BULL Tenor

Composed by F. BENNETT.

Conducted by O. SIPPETTS.

HELMINGHAM, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Wednesday, February 16, 1938, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF CLACTON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 18½ cwt.

ALBERT E. WHITING Treble	GEORGE BENNETT 5
JAMES BENNETT, JUN. 2	GEORGE WHITING 6
GEORGE PRYKE 3	T. WILLIAM LAST 7
LESLIE C. WIGHTMAN... .. 4	LESLIE G. BRETT... .. Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by L. G. BRETT.

The first peal in the method, which is No. 22 in G. Lindoff's collection.

SOUTH WIGSTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 17, 1938, in Three Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
WASHBROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 14½ cwt.

WALTER P. WHITEHEAD ... Treble	CHARLES MARSHALL 5
HAROLD KILBY 2	EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD 6
JOHN E. CLARKE 3	J. LESLIE WILLARS 7
W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON ... 4	GEORGE SPENCER... .. Tenor

Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

Specially arranged for the ringer of the 2nd, it being his first attempt for a peal.

MARSHAM, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 19, 1938, in Three Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
Tenor 7½ cwt.

SIDNEY FLINT Treble	JOHN A. GODFREY 5
MRS. HANBURY F. CARTER ... 2	ARTHUR H. HOLLIDAY 6
HANBURY F. CARTER 3	WILLIAM R. WEST 7
JACK A. HINDRY 4	ERNEST V. BLAKE... .. Tenor

Composed by JAMES MOTTS.

Conducted by E. V. BLAKE.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 19, 1938, in Two Hours and Thirty-Five Minutes,

AT THE BELL FOUNDRY,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

DEXTER'S VARIATION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 6½ cwt.

COLIN HARRISON Treble	RONALD A. SALTER 5
GEOFFREY HARRISON 2	J. FREDERICK MILNER... .. 6
JOHN HOLMAN 3	RALPH NARBOROUGH 7
FREDERICK A. SALTER... .. 4	WALTER NICHOLS... .. Tenor

Conducted by J. F. MILNER.

Rung in honour of the birthday of Lady Robinson, Kirklington Hall, Notts.

PRIVETT, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 19, 1938, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY.

A PEAL OF SPICED SUPERLATIVE AND CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 12½ cwt.

JACK M. CRIPPS Treble	TOWER R. TAYLOR 5
KENNETH SNELLING 2	WILLIAM T. BEESON 6
C. ERNEST SMITH 3	FREDERICK W. ROGERS 7
FREDERICK S. BAYLEY 4	OLIVER SIPPETTS Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD.

Conducted by OLIVER SIPPETTS

First peal of Spiced Surprise in the county and by the Guild. This peal contains 2,752 Superlative and 2,304 Cambridge, with 114 changes of method, and is believed to be the first peal in these two methods rung on this plan, arranged by John Topp, of Portsmouth.

BRIDGNORTH, SHROPSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, February 19, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 20 cwt.

BERTRAM H. HEAD Treble	GEORGE E. OLIVER 5
WILLIAM HEAD 2	WILFRED OVERTON 6
JOHN ELCOCK 3	HORACE W. OVERTON 7
HAROLD G. THOMAS 4	WALTER FOUKES Tenor

Conducted by WILFRED OVERTON.

A birthday compliment to H. G. Thomas and Mr. John Overton, the esteemed foreman ringer at St. Leonards.

CALVERLEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, February 19, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRED,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 10½ cwt.

WILLIAM BARTON... .. Treble	*WILFRED HALL 5
WILLIAM E. SCRIMSHAW 2	GEORGE AMBLER 6
WILLIAM STANHOPE 3	*CHARLIE SCOTT 7
ROWLAND S. MYERS 4	JOHN AMBLER Tenor

Composed by A. CRAVEN.

Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON.

* First peal and first attempt.

ERDINGTON, BIRMINGHAM.

THE ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Saturday, February 19, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. BARNABAS,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5184 CHANGES;

Tenor 15½ cwt.

WILLIAM C. DOWDING ... Treble	HENRY H. FEARN 5
GEORGE F. SWANN 2	*ALBERT E. NORMAN 6
WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT ... 3	FRANK E. HAYNES 7
*SIDNEY O'C. HOLLOWAY ... 4	FRED PRICE... .. Tenor

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK.

Conducted by FRANK E. HAYNES

* First peal in the method. First peal of London Surprise as conductor.

SIX BELL PEALS.

ASHBOCKING, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sunday, February 6, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

One extent each of London, York and Cambridge Surprise, Kent and Oxford Treble Bob, Double Court and Plain Bob. Tenor 10½ cwt.

RONALD W. STEWARD Treble	GEORGE BENNETT 4
MISS SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER ... 2	ALAN R. ANDREWS 5
GEORGE A. FLEMING 3	JAMES BENNETT, JUN. Tenor

Conducted by JAMES BENNETT.

WICKHAMBLEAUX, KENT.—On Sunday morning, February 13th, for service, 720 Plain Bob: Winnie Tucker 1, H. Smith 2, S. Walter 3, J. Walter 4, S. White (conductor) 5, E. Wood 6. The ringer of the treble is 13 years old. Rung as a compliment to Sidney Walter on his birthday.

CLIVE, SHROPSHIRE.

THE SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Three Hours and Thirty-One Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Tenor 25 cwt. 9 lb. in D.

WALTER LYCETT Treble	WILLIAM J. CHESTER 4
THOMAS PRICE 2	ARTHUR PRITCHARD 5
JOHN W. GRIFFITHS 3	EDWARD V. RODENHURST ... Tenor

Conducted by ARTHUR PRITCHARD.

Rung as a welcome to the new Vicar of Clive, the Rev. H. S. Scott.

DESFORD, LEICESTERSHIRE.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of 720 Plain Bob, two 720's of Oxford Treble Bob and four of Kent Treble Bob.

J. BAILEY Treble	LEONARD P. WARD 4
*FRANK BAILESS 2	CHARLES GEARY 5
*JOHN H. BAILESS 3	WILLIAM R. DRAGE ... Tenor

Conducted by WILLIAM R. DRAGE.

* First peal in three methods. Rung half-muffled in memory of Mrs. H. Geary, mother of the ringer of the 5th.

COLNE ENGAIN, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

(ST. ANDREW'S GUILD, EARLS COLNE.)

On Saturday, February 12, 1938, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent of Kent Treble Bob, two of Oxford Treble Bob, one each of Double Court and St. Clement's and two of Plain Bob.

Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

HARRY CARTER Treble	REGINALD G. SIMMONDS ... 4
ALBERT L. DIXEY 2	ROBERT C. LYON 5
ALEC M. GENERY 3	RALPH BIRD Tenor

Conducted by RALPH BIRD.

STISTED, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, February 13, 1938, in Two Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being an extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Double Oxford, Double Court, St. Clement's and Plain Bob.

Tenor 9½ cwt. in A.

ALBERT SAUNDERS Treble	REGINALD G. SIMMONDS ... 4
VICTOR MORLEY 2	HILDA G. SNOWDEN 5
RALPH BIRD 3	RONALD SUCKLING ... Tenor

Conducted by R. SUCKLING.

HUISHCHAMFLOWER, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

(DUNSTER DEANERY BRANCH.)

On Thursday, February 17, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 11 cwt. 8 lb.

ALBERT TOUT Treble	CLAUDE TARR 4
*WILLIAM G. HARTNELL ... 2	*GEORGE SPARKES 5
*CLIFFORD W. PARKMAN ... 3	†WILLIAM J. NURCOMBE ... Tenor

Conducted by A. TOUT.

* First peal of Stedman. † First peal. First peal of Stedman on the bells.

BERGH APTON, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, February 17, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Tenor 9 cwt. in A flat.

*SYDNEY FLINT Treble	LIONEL A. LESTER 4
LESLIE H. JERMY 2	*REGINALD H. DRANE ... 5
ROBERT A. WARMAN 3	NOLAN GOLDEN Tenor

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

* First peal of Minor. First peal in six methods by the ringer of the fourth.

BRAMFORD, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Friday, February 18, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different 720's. Tenor 11½ cwt.

*MRS. LESLIE WRIGHT ... Treble	†LESLIE WRIGHT 4
MISS DAISY M. ANDREWS ... 2	RONALD W. STEWARD ... 5
MISS SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER 3	URBAN W. WILDNEY ... Tenor

Conducted by URBAN W. WILDNEY.

* First peal at first attempt. † First peal away from treble. A wedding compliment to Mr. H. A. Wright, uncle of the treble and 4th ringers.

COTGRAVE, NOTTS.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Friday, February 18, 1938, in Three Hours.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven different extents. Tenor 17½ cwt.

*LESLIE HENSON Treble	*FRED RICHARDS 4
†HARDY FURMIDGE 2	*GEORGE PAYNE 5
WALTER WHITE 3	GEORGE W. CREASEY ... Tenor

Conducted by G. W. CREASEY.

* First peal. † First peal of Minor.

COPPULL, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 19, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes.

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

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven extents called differently. Tenor 16 cwt.

*HERBERT KENYON Treble	JAMES BLACKBURN 4
JAMES MAWDESLEY 2	JOSEPH H. RIDYARD 5
ALAN CARPENTER 3	ERIC W. YATES Tenor

Conducted by ERIC W. YATES.

* First peal. First peal as conductor.

HILLFARRANCE, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 19, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three 720's of Oxford Treble Bob and two 720's each of Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

JAMES HUNT Treble	ALFRED J. WYATT 4
HARRY PURCHASE 2	WILLIAM G. GIGG 5
*RONALD W. HAYWARD ... 3	WILLIAM H. LLOYD ... Tenor

Conducted by W. H. LLOYD.

* First peal of Minor.

BIDDENHAM, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 19, 1938, in Four Hours and Two Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 7560 CHANGES;

Being 720 changes each of College Exercise, Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Double Court, Single Oxford and Plain Bob, and 360 changes of Plain Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt. in F sharp.

HERBERT SHERMAN Treble	JOHN CHURCH 4
C. EDWARD JEFFRIES 2	LEWIS H. BYWATERS ... 5
HENRY W. GAYTON 3	PEARL INSKIP Tenor

Conducted by PEARL INSKIP.

The longest length by all except H. W. Gayton.

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SOFT AND PLIABLE IN HAND. ALL ROPES SENT
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DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, CRANTHAM

HANDBELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE ST. MARY ABBOT'S GUILD, KENSINGTON.*On Friday, February 18, 1938, in Two Hours and Thirteen Minutes,**IN THE BELFRY OF ST. MARY ABBOT'S CHURCH.***A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor size 18 in C.

CLARENCE H. DOBBIE ... 1-2 | ERNEST C. S. TURNER ... 5-6
WILLIAM E. JUDD ... 3-4 | ARTHUR J. W. HUGHES ... 7-8

Conducted by C. H. DOBBIE.

First peal as conductor and first attempt.

LINCOLN.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

*On Sunday, February 20, 1938, in One Hour and Fifty-Two Minutes,**At 31, VINE STREET,***A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor size 11 in G.

*GEOFFREY M. MAYER ... 1-2 | *KENNETH W. MAYER ... 3-4
†JACK L. MILLHOUSE ... 5-6

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

* First peal of Bob Minor and first peal 'in hand.' † First peal of Minor 'in hand.'

(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over.)

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

RINGERS CONDUCT SERVICE.

The Chertsey District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild had a representative attendance at the annual meeting at Chertsey on Saturday. The district is not strong numerically, but the 25 district ringers who put in an appearance covered something like 75 per cent. of the membership in the area. This part of Surrey has never shown any real general interest in any ringing organisation, so that the attendance at Chertsey was a pleasing response.

The ringing during the afternoon and evening covered most of the common ground between rounds and Cambridge Surprise, but no one wanted long touches, for visitors found that the back bells needed a considerable expenditure of energy to 'place' them.

Through some misunderstanding neither of the parochial clergy was present to conduct the usual service, but the organist was in attendance, and the members, therefore, sang two hymns, a lesson was read by Mr. C. Hazelden and the special prayers in the Guild's service form were read by the general secretary.

After tea in the Parish Hall, the general secretary presided over the business meeting and declared the following district officers duly elected (there having been no other nominations for the respective posts): Ringing Master, Mr. J. B. Hessey; hon. secretary, Mr. F. E. Hawthorne; hon. member on Executive Committee, the Rev. F. A. Woodard (Horsell). Messrs. W. Massey and E. Morey were elected by ballot to serve on the Executive Committee.

Mr. W. Simmons, retiring Ringing Master, presented a report, in the course of which he said interest was spreading in the district, there being signs of life at Horsell and Otlands. Speaking generally, he said he would like to see a greater improvement in striking before pushing on to higher methods.

The hon. secretary reported a slight increase in the attendance at district meetings. If it was maintained in the coming year he would consider his work well worth while, but, if not, he was afraid some drastic measures would have to be taken. The number of paid up members showed a slight decrease, but they would have the pleasure of welcoming the Horsell band into the Guild this year. He urged the members to come to the meetings and so advance themselves, at the same time helping weaker brothers over the stile.

Mr. Hawthorne expressed regret at the coming retirement of the general secretary. They would be sorry to lose his services, but the Guild would be fortunate to secure the services of Mr. G. L. Grover.

The balance sheet, which was adopted, showed £3 17s. received from subscriptions and a balance carried forward of £1 18s. 7d., a reduction of 8s. 6d. on the year.

It was resolved to hold district meetings at Ottershaw, East Molesey, Weybridge, Esher and Chertsey, and joint meetings at Kingston, with the Surrey and Middlesex Associations, and at Egham, with the Surrey and Middlesex Associations and Oxford Diocesan Guild.

Messrs. W. Tucker and H. Kingston, of Ottershaw, were elected members, and one member from Weybridge was re-elected.

Mr. G. L. Grover was nominated as general hon. secretary of the Guild, and Mr. J. S. Goldsmith as a vice-president. The other retiring officers were renominated en bloc.

A vote of thanks to the chairman, to the Vicar for the use of the bells, to the organist, to Mr. Hessey for making the arrangements, and to the Chertsey ringers was carried by acclamation, on the motion of Mr. Hawthorne, seconded by Mr. H. J. Chaffey, the latter paying a tribute to the services rendered to the Guild from its formation by the retiring general secretary.

After discussion, a sum of 10s. was voted to the restoration of Walton tower, and 3s. 9d. was collected for the Northampton Fund.

PEAL NOTES.

A GOOD RECORD.

A band of Sunday service ringers rang a peal of Stedman Cinques at St. Martin's Cathedral, Leicester, on February 17th, as a farewell to the Provost (the Very Rev. F. B. Macnutt), looked upon as 'Father' of the bells, who has gone to Canterbury Cathedral.

The strength of the company at Leicester Cathedral can be gauged from the fact that this peal band included eight members who could not be found a rope in the first peal on the bells on Coronation Day, in which, also, the ringers were regular Sunday service men. Twelve and eight are twenty—Sunday service ringers in one tower who have rung a peal of Stedman Cinques. That, by any reckoning, is a good record.

A ringer who had never previously been into a twelve-bell tower came at short notice on February 19th to ring the tenor to a peal of Stedman Cinques at West Bromwich. Not many peals are rung in these days at West Bromwich. The bells are packed closely in the tower and the ringers have little elbow room.

The first peal of Maximus at Trowbridge, the first in Wiltshire and by the Salisbury Guild, was rung on February 23rd. There were nine 'first peals of Maximus' among the band, and special mention should be made of Harold Smith, who, 18 years of age, had previously only rung two peals of Minor. Great credit is due to him for the admirable way in which he rang and struck his bell.

Peals of Double Norwich Maximus are not frequently rung, but another was scored on February 19th at Ipswich, where the majority of the peals in the method have been rung. Four of the band, including Miss Sylvia Bowyer, rang their first in the method.

Miss Olive Ashbrook, of Isleworth, is the first lady to ring a peal at West Ham, where peal ringing has been done for something like 200 years. She took part in a peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal on February 19th, on the 42nd anniversary of Mr. George Hayden's first peal in the tower.

When a peal of Bob Minor was rung at Coppull, Lancashire, on February 19th, four local ringers rang the front four bells, and the other two came from Worsley. One of the latter, Mr. Eric Yates, who called his first peal, was formerly a ringer at Coppull.

The president of the Middlesex County Association, the Rev. W. P. Cole-Sheane, has been installed a Prebendary of St. Paul's Cathedral, and on February 19th members of the association rang a peal of Stedman Caters in his honour at Isleworth.

A QUESTION FOR THE CENTRAL COUNCIL.

Bedfordshire ringers scored the longest 'finished touch' by their association when they rang 7,560 of Minor at Biddenham in 4 hours 2 minutes on February 19th. It consisted of ten 720's in ten methods and a 360 of Plain Bob added at the end.

Now here is a reminder that the Central Council has got to do something about these 'odd bits.' Until last meeting they were permissible at the end of a peal of Doubles or Minor; then, for no very apparent reason, except that Mr. J. A. Trollope asked them to do so, they decided that these odd lengths should not be admitted in future peals of Doubles.

We have heard no logical reason why they should not be admitted, except that no one rings odd lengths of Triples, but what is sauce for the Doubles goose should be sauce for the Minor gander.

A peal in three Minor methods rung half-muffled at Desford, Leicestershire, in memory of Mrs. H. Geary, mother of one of the ringers, was the one hundredth peal together by Messrs. J. Bailey and W. R. Drage.

A new method, No. 22 in Mr. Gabriel Lindoff's collection, has been rung by the Helmingham, Suffolk, men, and named Clacton. The peal was rung at the first attempt, and was conducted by Leslie Brett on February 16th. The method belongs to the Bristol group.

Some people's enthusiasm knows no bounds—they will even go without dinner to ring a peal. Alan Andrews, of Thorington, Essex, did this on February 6th, and that after having ridden a push bike about 25 miles to Ashbocking! And after the peal he went to St. Mary-le-Tower, Ipswich, to ring for evening service—still without his dinner.

The name of the ringer of the tenor in the peal at Bushey Heath on February 12th should have been given as Frederick W. Alloway.

Mr. George Wightman rang his 300th peal when he called a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at Framsdon, Suffolk, on February 14th.

To welcome the new Vicar, the Rev. H. S. Scott, to Clive, Shropshire, on February 12th, a peal of Minor in six methods was rung on the heavy ring of six. The tenor turns the scale at 25 cwt. and the peal took 3 hours 31 minutes.

By ringing the treble to the peal of Stedman Triples at Measham on Saturday, February 12th, Mr. J. W. Cotton 'completed the circle' at the second tower within the Burton District of the M.C.A. The peal was also a noteworthy performance for Mr. A. Ballard and Mr. F. K. Measures, who rang their 150th peal and 25th peal respectively.

Mr. Harold Judd 'completed the circle' at Scunthorpe, Lines, when he rang the 7th to a peal of Grandsire Triples on February 15th.

Mr. Walter P. Whitehead rang his 150th peal as conductor at South Wigston, Leicestershire, on February 17th, when he called a peal of Stedman Triples, in which Mr. Harold Kilby made his first attempt for a peal.

The first peal in six Minor methods on the bells at Bergh Apton, Norfolk, was rung on February 17th.

(Continued in next column.)

AN INTERESTING SPLICED PEAL.

(Continued from previous column.)

In interesting peal of Spliced Superlative and Cambridge Surprise Major was rung at Privett, Hants, on February 19th. It was not only the first peal of Spliced Surprise in the county and by the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild, but it is arranged on a new plan, by Mr. J. Topp, of Portsmouth.

There are long and short courses in the peal, and the only bobs are at Before and Home. This omission of calls at Middle and Wrong cuts out the necessity of changing methods at a bob. Another advantage of the arrangement of the methods is that any peal of Superlative not having course ends with the bells reversed in 5-6 can be rung:—

23456	B	H	24536	B	H
42356	—	—	52436	—	—
34256	—	—	45236	—	—
34562	—	—	45362	—	—
34625	—	—	45623	—	—
63425	—	—	64523	—	—
46325	—	—	56423	—	—
62453	—	—	56234	—	—
62534	—	—	25634	—	—
62345	—	—	25346	—	—
24653	—	—	These 9 courses repeated.		
24536	—	—			

Courses containing bobs Before must be rung S.C.C.S.; the other courses S.C.S.C.S.C.S. The peal, with 114 changes of methods, contains 2,752 Superlative and 2,304 Cambridge.

Handbell peal ringing is spreading in Lincolnshire. We have recently published peals showing that quite a number of members of the Lincoln Guild have been devoting a good deal of attention to it. Now we print a record of a peal of Minor showing that the 'fever' has caught others.

Three ladies rang in a peal of Bob Minor at Bramford, Suffolk, on February 18th. Mrs. Leslie Wright, ringing the treble, scored her first peal at the first attempt and her husband his first peal away from the treble. The peal was a wedding compliment to their uncle, Mr. H. A. Wright.

Members of the Sunday service band at Bridgnorth, Shropshire, rang a peal of Stedman Triples on February 19th in honour of the birthday of Mr. H. G. Thomas, who took part, and to Mr. John Overton, the esteemed foreman ringer at St. Leonard's tower, who reached the advanced age of 87 years on February 15th.

Four members of Wiveliscombe, Somerset, band rang their first peal of Stedman, when they took part in 42 six-scores of Doubles at Huishchamflower on February 17th. The band was made up by two ringers from Milverton. It was the first peal of Stedman on the bells.

PROPOSED SALE OF CHURCH BELLS.**ACTION OF A CHESTER PARISH.**

The parochial meeting of Holy Trinity Church, Chester, decided to apply for a faculty to sell the six bells in the church tower.

The Rev. J. R. Beresford (Rector), who presided, said there were six fine bells in the church tower, which had never been hung, and were never likely to be hung in the tower, because it had not been built to carry the vibration of such heavy bells. They could not sell them without a faculty, and that would not be readily given. The Church Council, however, has passed a resolution that the question of the disposal of the bells should be referred to that meeting, and recommended that they apply for a faculty for their sale. If it was the desire of the meeting to do that, he suggested that the money obtained from the sale should be put to the Endowment Fund.

The meeting decided that the faculty should be applied for.

RINGERS WANT THEM PUT TO PROPER USE.

The matter came up for discussion at the meeting of the Chester Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild on Saturday week.

Mr. J. W. Clarke, the branch secretary, said the bells were cast by the famous firm of Abram Rudhall, of Gloucester, about the middle of the eighteenth century, and formerly hung, presumably as a ringing peal, in the old church. When this building was demolished they were preserved and hoisted to the tower of the present church. Only two of them, however, were hung, the other four being placed on the sills of the louvre openings, where they still remain. The weight of the tenor bell was about 9 cwt.

The meeting expressed the hope that if these bells, which had been within the City Walls for two centuries, must be sold, they would not be disposed of as scrap metal, but a purchaser could be found for them, who would put them to their proper use in a church tower.

The meeting was attended by some fifty members, who, after ringing on the Cathedral bells during the afternoon, attended evensong. Tea was served in the Refectory and the business meeting was afterwards held in the Parlour. Mr. H. A. Heywood presided.

The hon. treasurer (Mr. A. E. Richards) presented the accounts for the past year, showing that the financial affairs of the branch were in a sound condition. In his report, the hon. treasurer said it was gratifying to note that eight young ringers from the tower of St. Mary's-within-the-Walls had become junior members, thus setting a fine example for others to emulate. The recruiting of young members was necessary if the art was to be kept alive and flourishing.

It was decided that, subject to the agreement of the incumbents of the parishes concerned, the branch should hold meetings during the year at Tattenhall, Farndon and Christleton, in May, July and September respectively.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

On Tuesday evening the Ancient Society of College Youths did further honour to their late hon. secretary, Mr. W. T. Cockerill, when they presented him with a suitably inscribed gold watch.

To-morrow's meeting of the Southern District of the Worcestershire Association has been transferred to Hinton.

The Rev. Arthur Scott, M.A., president of the Lancashire Association, will be inducted as Rector of St. Luke's, Miles Platting, Manchester, on Saturday, March 26th, at 3.30 p.m.

Mr. William Keeble much appreciates the letters he has received from ringing friends. His address is Ward 1, Severalls, Colchester, Essex.

The bells of Burton-on-Stather in North Lincs have been increased to eight. They were dedicated on Sunday, and on May 9th there will be a ringers' opening.

A band ringing at Willesden had a bit of terribly bad luck the other day. They went for a peal of Spliced Surprise Major in nine methods, London, Bristol, Superlative, Cambridge, Rutland, Yorkshire, Ealing, Watford and Wembley, and rang what they thought was a really good peal. The composition was true, but in the calling the conductor transposed Cambridge and Yorkshire in one place, which made the peal false. He discovered this afterwards.

Something of the same kind happened when William Pye was calling a peal in many methods. He made a slip in the method, but when it was afterwards submitted to the composer it was found that in that case it did not affect the truth of the peal.

PEAL RINGING BY NON-SERVICE RINGERS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Mr. F. W. Housden's letter, 'Should bells be rung by non-service ringers?' in your issue of Feb. 25th reminds me strongly of the political situation as it is to-day.

Like one of our late Ministers, Mr. Housden is an idealist, and on paper his theory is admirable, but we must view it from the realist point and ask ourselves, 'Would it, if carried out, tend to raise the standard and good feeling now existing among ringers?'

The present state of the League of Nations is an example of trying to force ideals, and should a ringing association attempt to enforce Mr. Housden's policy the result would be, not progress, but stagnation.

Let us, therefore, continue to 'work together for good,' and in the end right will surely triumph.

F. S. MACEY.

Sutton Valence, Kent.

ONLY SERVICE RINGERS SHOULD BE MEMBERS OF ASSOCIATIONS.

Dear Sir,—I fully endorse what Mr. F. W. Housden has said. I would also suggest that such ringers ought not to be members of any association, unless they are members of a service ringing company within a five miles' radius of where they reside, ruling out, of course, places where bells are unringable.

G. S. LEE.

Eastwood, Rotherham.

Mr. Housden's letter was quite clear that he referred to peal ringing by 'free lances.' Through an error the word 'bells' was printed in the heading instead of 'peals'.—EDITOR, 'Ringing World.'

DEATH OF MR. W. T. PEGLER.

FORMER MASTER OF NORTH WALES ASSOCIATION.

We regret to announce the death of Mr. William T. Pegler at the Bangor Infirmary on February 19th.

Mr. Pegler, who was 70 years of age, started his ringing career at his native village, Hempstead, Gloucestershire, in the year 1886. In 1895 he joined the St. Michael's Juniors, Gloucester, and made rapid strides, taking part in nearly all the peals rung at that time. In 1900 and 1901 he held the office as Master.

While at Gloucester he took part in the first peals of Bob and Treble Bob Maximus by the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association, at Cirencester, as well as in what at the time was believed to be the first peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal, rung at Cheltenham in 1898. He also rang in the first peal of Gloucester Surprise Major, rung by St. Michael's Juniors, and in the first peal (Treble Ten) on the bells at Hereford Cathedral.

In 1902 he went to Bangor and was appointed conductor of the band at St. David's Church. When the North Wales Association was founded in 1903 he was elected Master, a position he held for many years. He took part in the first peals of Double Norwich and Superlative rung by a local band in North Wales.

Mr. Pegler had rung about 250 peals and had conducted over 100. During the last few years, however, ill-health had kept him away from the tower.

The funeral took place on Wednesday, February 23rd. The Rev. R. C. Jones (Vicar) officiated, and the first portion of the service was held at St. David's Church. At the graveside handbells were rung by A. E. Pegler, sen. (brother), T. Jones, S. Turnbull and A. E. Pegler, jun. (nephew).

After the funeral the church bells were rung muffled, including the 'whole pull and stand' 70 times.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—8.

SIDNEY T. HOLT.

The Worcestershire Association has an able and enterprising conductor in Mr. Sidney T. Holt, of Crowle, and is fortunate in the fact that he is one of the 'post war' men who have reached eminence in the art, and has, therefore, we hope, many years before him in which to advance the interests and performances of the association.

Mr. Holt was born at Crowle, a village five miles east of Worcester, and has lived there all his life. He learnt to handle a bell at his Parish Church towards the end of 1919, and, but for the enterprise to which we have already referred, might still have been a 'stoney' ringer. At the time he began his ringing career, there had never been a change ringing band at Crowle nor any individual who had practised the art there.

Not content with call changes, however, Mr. Holt's keenness to make progress led him to travel regularly to Worcester for practice in change ringing, and within a year, namely, on October 10th, 1920, he rang his first peal—Double Norwich at Hanbury. His first peal as conductor was rung at Upton-on-Severn, where he called Grandsire Triples on April 18th, 1922.

Since then he has conducted 224 peals for the Worcestershire Association, including the association's first in the following methods: Little Bob Major, Royal and Maximus, Yorkshire Surprise Major and Royal, Double Norwich Caters and Royal, Oxford Treble Bob Maximus, Erin Cinques, New Cambridge Surprise Royal, Pudsey, Rutland and Whitbourne Surprise Major and Spliced Surprise in four and five methods. He has conducted peals of Grandsire and Stedman from Doubles to Cinques, and Cambridge Surprise from Minor to Maximus. He took part in the first peal at Buckfast Abbey, when the ringing was done from the narrow gallery round the tower, and in that great performance, Cambridge Surprise Maximus, at Exeter Cathedral. Indeed, his first peal of Maximus was Cambridge at Winchester Cathedral in 1929. He took part, also, in the non-conducted peal of Cambridge Maximus at Birmingham.

Altogether he has rung 436 peals and conducted 241. Of this number 385 have been rung for the Worcestershire Association. His peal ringing has been spread over 13 counties and under the auspices of 12 associations.

Mr. Holt was Ringing Master of the Western Branch of the Worcestershire Association from 1923 to 1928. He has been auditor of the association since 1932, and in 1936 was elected a representative of the association on the Central Council.

Next week: Mr. Alfred H. Pulling.

FUNERAL OF MR. F. SMITH.

The funeral of Mr. Frank Smith, whose death was reported in our last issue, took place at Highgate Cemetery on February 24th. The mourners were the widow, Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Matthews (son-in-law and daughter), Mr. A. Smith (son), Mrs. A. Smith, Mrs. W. Elsley, and Miss H. Smith (sisters). A service was held in St. Martin's Church, Gospel Oak, attended by many ringers and friends. After the committal service four members of the Royal Cumberland Youths rang handbells over the grave.

Among the numerous wreaths were tokens from the St. Martin-in-the-Fields ringers, the Royal Cumberland Youths, Mr. J. Hunt (Taunton) and Mr. W. Upton (Newport, Isle of Wight).

About 30 ringers took part in half-muffled ringing at St. Stephen's, Hampstead, St. Martin's, Gospel Oak, and St. Anne's, Highgate, in the evening, and among the touches were the following:—

At St. Anne's, Highgate, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: A. Hardy 1, F. A. Barker 2, H. J. Norton (conductor) 3, R. Newman 4, T. Bevan 5, R. Charge 6, G. Charge 7, C. J. Matthews 8.

At St. Martin's, Gospel Oak, 720 Kent Treble Bob: A. Hardy 1, F. Symonds 2, F. A. Barker 3, C. J. Matthews 4, C. Martin 5, W. Nudds (conductor) 6.



MR. SIDNEY T. HOLT.

DISPOSAL OF A YORK PEAL.

MAY GO TO MIDDLESBROUGH.

Chancellor and Possible Objections.

An interesting pronouncement by the Chancellor of the Diocese of York (Mr. H. V. Vaisey, K.C.) was made at a Consistory Court on February 24th, when he heard an application to transfer the peal of six bells which formerly hung in the tower of Christ Church, King's Square, York, to a tower to be built at St. Barnabas', Linthorpe, Middlesbrough. Christ Church was demolished a few months ago.

In the petition the Vicar and churchwardens of St. Barnabas' stated that the estimated cost of the tower was £3,000, towards which £1,100 had been received.

The scheme had been held up in order not to clash with the Archbishop's appeal. That appeal was closed, so far as the first part was concerned, and it was intended to push forward with the scheme for building the tower, which they hoped to complete by 1942, which would be the jubilee of building the church.

The Rev. G. F. Townley, Vicar of St. Barnabas', told the Chancellor they had now raised £400 more for the Tower Fund.

The Chancellor asked if there had been any objections to the proposals to have bells in the parish. 'In these days, when every offensive noise that can be devised by human ingenuity surrounds us, there are still to be found people so misguided as to dislike the sound of church bells; they object to the beautiful cadence of church bells. Have you received any objections, such as, "Do not ring the bells at night time"?'

MIDDLESBROUGH BADLY OFF FOR BELLS.

The Vicar said he had not. Middlesbrough was very badly off for bells. He added that there was no suggestion for installing 'synthetic bells' through a gramophone.

The Chancellor: That is something which only takes place in the South so far.

Mr. Price, churchwarden, said the tower was to be a memorial to their first Vicar and founder, and they thought a peal of bells, on which the old Vicar had set his heart, would be the best form of memorial.

The Chancellor said he thought that the peal must be kept together, and not one bell given to this place and another bell elsewhere. Middlesbrough was a very modern borough compared with the ancient city of York, and if he were to permit the transfer he would be very disappointed if the people of Middlesbrough did not appreciate the sound of these bells which had, in years gone by, rung out in the ears of the citizens of York.

The Chancellor said he could not at this stage decree a faculty, but he would decree a citation calling on people to show cause why a faculty should not be granted.

If the church tower was built, free from debt, say up to £500, by St. Barnabas' Day, 1941, then the faculty would issue. But if those conditions were not fulfilled, then the matter could be mentioned to him again.

If the reason for the delay was a good one he might grant an extension of time, but if the failure to complete the tower was due to lack of interest, he should treat that as an indication that the parishioners were tired of the project and did not seriously want the bells.

BELL BROADCASTS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir.—I only know of one solution to secure only the best ringing for broadcasts, and that is to have an audition before the responsible section of the B.B.C., for surely they are musical enough to know the desires of the general public.

If they themselves think not, then I suggest that the different associations should appoint an unbiased member to co-operate with the B.B.C. for these broadcasts. This would at least lessen the responsibility.

JOSEPH BURGESS.

Friesland.

NO HELP FOR INEFFICIENT RINGERS.

Sir,—I fully agree with the remarks of Mr. Pink on the Bedale broadcast, but I have no doubt that the ringers gave of their best. There is very little hope of any assistance being rendered to them by ringing associations, as Bedale is a remote country village.

My experience is that ringing associations do not exist to benefit inefficient bands, *except to collect their contributions.*

I reside in a town where there are two eight-bell towers and one six-bell tower, also in the town reside the general secretary, the treasurer, a member of the sub-committee and, till quite recently, a district secretary of the County Association. The two eight-bell towers have a total membership in the association of five members, while the six-bell tower boasts nine members.

As a member of the association, I appealed to the officials for combined practices in the town in order to assist learners and the inefficient, definitely promising at least six more members to the association if these practices were brought about, but it was of no avail. One of the excuses was that those making the appeal were not sufficiently expert to warrant these practices.

Your leading article last week correctly describes the disease from which the world of ringing is suffering. 'Too much jealousy and far too little co-operation,' and, may I add, *too much selfishness.*

Darlington.

A. COATES.

RECTOR DENOUNCES 'CANNED' BELLS

'BIG STICK' WAITING IN WORCESTERSHIRE.

Comments at Ombersley Meeting.

'Impotent, potted music from steeples and towers,' 'feeble' tubular bells, and 'canned' bells were denounced in no mincing terms by the Rector of Ombersley, the Rev. G. W. Gillingham, in a memorable address to 70 members of the Worcestershire Association, who met at Ombersley on Saturday, February 19th, for the first Western Branch meeting of the year.

The village of Ombersley straddles the main Worcester-Kidderminster road some five and a half miles from Worcester, and is held in esteem by Midland tourists as a beauty spot. The church is modern as churches go, being little over a century old, and forms a contrast to the half-timbered houses nearby. The remains of a previous church can still be seen in the churchyard and serve as a mausoleum for the ancient family of Sandys, whose seat is in spacious grounds nearby, the present occupier being Lord Sandys.

The tower, surmounted by a graceful spire, contains six bells with a tenor of a ton. For years they had been in a bad condition, especially the fifth, so that the tuning and rehanging carried out in 1936 by Taylor and Co. was long overdue. Ringing began soon after 3 o'clock under somewhat awkward conditions, for the ringing chamber is small; so the door leading into the gallery was opened to accommodate the overflow.

The usual short service was held, with an outspoken address by the Rector. In it he traced the origin of bells before the Christian era until the present time. The purpose of bells in early times was, he said, to frighten away demons and devils, as the ancients thought that the clash of metal upon metal had this desired effect. Even late in the Christian era it was still thought that the ringing of the 'passing bell' prevented lurking evil spirits from stealing away the soul as it left the body at death. Those were the days of superstition—to-day they are those of the superhet (referring to the Weymouth controversy and the efforts of the Dorchester ringers to suppress 'canned' bells). Continuing, the Rector said they were living in a mechanised age in which moving coils, loud speakers and the like played a large part, until now they were threatened with the amplification of gramophone records from their towers. They did not want this 'impotent, potted music.' They, as change ringers, would resent intrusion into the ringing chamber of any instrument of amplification, for 'tubular bells are feeble enough, "canned" bells are the limit!' Concluding his address, the Rector said that the physical strength and skill of change ringing was to the glory of God, and constituted the super-excellence of praise.

Tea was served in the Memorial Hall by the wives of the local ringers, after which tunes on handbells were played by Messrs. P. Richards, W. Short and J. Bass. Following upon this, the Rector introduced an item of his own in the form of two conjuring tricks—producing coloured handkerchiefs from a member's hat—and turning a penny into half-a-crown, or vice versa! After an unsuccessful attempt for Caters, a good course of Grandsire Triples was rung by Messrs. J. Bass, W. Short, C. H. Woodberry and T. W. Lewis, and then followed the record of 'Spliced' Surprise Major in five methods by the Bushey band, very kindly provided by Mr. G. J. Lewis, of Powick.

This entertainment finished, the business meeting was held, the Rector taking the chair and supported by the Master (Mr. W. Short), the Western Branch officers: Messrs. C. Camm (Ringing Master), S. T. Holt (auditor and Central Council representative), W. Ranford (Central Committee), R. G. Knowles (lay vice-president) and G. E. Large (hon. secretary). Many Northern Branch towers were represented, among them being C. H. Woodberry (Central Council representative), J. Bass (Central Committee) and J. S. Mason (hon. secretary), while visitors included that 'globe-trotter', Mr. W. A. Stote (Coventry), and Mr. A. Jones, jun. (Colwell, Hereford).

The Chairman in a witty speech, welcomed the branch to Ombersley, and said it was the first time he had had the pleasure of meeting such a large company of ringers. He had been told that it was 14 years since a meeting had been held in his parish, and he hoped it would be no more than four or five years before they came again. Referring to the hon. secretary (Mr. G. E. Large), the Chairman said he himself and the Ombersley ringers had been grateful for the help that gentleman had given during the past year, and as a token of their appreciation had made him a member of their band. He (Mr. Large) was almost a foreigner now, because he had left Ombersley parish and had gone to live in that 'horrid parish of Claines' (laughter).

TWENTY-TWO NEW MEMBERS ELECTED.

Mr. W. Lewis reported the failure of the quarterly peal after two hours' ringing at St. John's, the method being Cambridge Major. Letters from the relatives of the late Mr. A. Hill (Cathedral) and Mr. C. J. Green (Claines) were read, expressing their appreciation of the branch's sympathy in their respective bereavements.

Mr. S. T. Holt proposed that the hon. secretary conduct the quarterly peal to be attempted at Ombersley, this to be a peal of Minor and to include as many of the local band as were capable of taking part. It was agreed that the summer meeting be held at Ripple, from which place strong invitations had been received. One hon. member and 21 performing members were elected, among the

(Continued in next column.)

DEATH OF MR. W. A. COOKE.

RINGER AND CHURCHWARDEN AT RAINHAM, KENT.

As briefly mentioned in our last issue, the death has occurred at Rainham, Kent, of Mr. William Austin Cooke, Lieutenant, R.N., retired. He passed away after a prolonged illness at the age of 67 years, and leaves a widow and daughter in bereavement.

He joined the Navy at the age of 23 and saw service in several of His Majesty's ships during the war, including H.M.S. 'Brilliant,' on which he was a warrant officer. Afterwards he was stationed at Chatham and retired 12 years ago.



MR. W. A. COOKE.

Before entering the Navy Mr. Cooke was a member of the band at St. Mary Magdalene's Church, Gillingham, in the days when Gabriel Lindoff was leader there, and took part in 1893 in the first peals of Superlative and Cambridge Surprise Major rung for the Kent County Association. He was also a very keen handbell ringer. His service in the Navy naturally considerably curtailed his opportunities for ringing, but he never lost his interest in it, and on settling down at Rainham ten years ago became actively identified with the band at St. Margaret's Church, and was secretary of the tower. For seven years, also, he had been churchwarden and had done much unobtrusive church work in other directions. He was a prominent Freemason and an enthusiastic member of Toc H.

Mr. Cooke had rung many peals, but he had kept no record. In addition to being a member of the Kent Association, whose meetings he attended whenever possible, he was also a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths.

The funeral took place at Rainham, and was attended by the following ringers: Messrs. W. Spice (Tunstall), W. G. Easter (Gillingham), W. J. Walker (Upchurch), V. A. Jarrett (Chatham), C. Belsey, F. J. Cheal, J. Morris and the Misses J. Naylor and K. Cheal (Rainham). Half-muffled touches were rung after the funeral service, and on February 12th a half-muffled peal was rung.

We are indebted to the 'Kent Messenger' for the photograph of the late Mr. Cooke.

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latter being one lady, Miss B. M. Boyle, formerly of Combe Martin (North Devon), and now residing in Malvern Wells. The elections of Messrs. J. A. Waugh and R. G. Cousins, both of London, were ratified, as their elections had taken place in the tower at Worcester Cathedral on Boxing Day prior to a peal of Stedman Cinques.

Mr. G. Hinton appealed for better support at the Cathedral practices, as they had had many disappointments by meeting short. These practices take place every other Thursday from 7.30 until 9 p.m., and for the convenience of anyone interested the next one is on March 17th.

A vote of thanks to the chairman, as well as to the organist and the ladies who had so ably catered, was proposed by the hon. secretary. In seconding this, Mr. Holt said their meeting was one of the best he had been to, quite unlike some they had had, which resembled lawyers' meetings! He was pleased to see many of the Northern Branch members present.

Mr. Short added a few words of thanks to the chairman for his encouraging address, and remarked that if ever 'canned' bells were contemplated in any tower in their diocese the association would be there with a 'big stick' (applause).

In his reply, the Rev. G. W. Gillingham thanked the members heartily for the vote of thanks. He asked them to remember the Bishop's appeal for funds towards new churches; to support their own Vicars by keeping their respective parish bells rung for Sunday services, and, lastly, to support the Worcestershire Cricket Club. (It must be remembered that the Rector himself is a keen cricketer and has played for Worcestershire Gentlemen in their matches against the Players.)

Ringling was resumed until 9 o'clock.

NORTHERN BRANCH ELECTS TWENTY NEW MEMBERS.

At the last meeting of the Northern Branch of the Worcestershire Association at Stourbridge, a peal board was unveiled recording a peal of Grandsire Triples rung in St. Thomas' belfry in honour of the Coronation of their Majesties.

The meeting, which was attended by about 100 ringers, coincided with Mr. William Short's jubilee as a member of the association. Mr. Short is now Master of the association and he was the recipient of many congratulations.

No fewer than 20 new members were elected.

Mr. W. A. Horse (churchwarden of St. Thomas') was recommended for election as a vice-president at the annual meeting at Worcester on Easter Monday.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

SOUTH AND WEST DISTRICT SECRETARY RETIRES.

Suggested Financial Changes.

The South and West District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild held its annual meeting at Heston on February 12th. After ringing at St. Paul's, Hounslow, and at Heston, about 40 members and friends enjoyed a substantial tea in the Church Room. The vice-president (Mr. J. A. Trollope) was in the chair for the business meeting and was supported by all the district officers and by Mr. A. E. Gurney (churchwarden). Welcome visitors included Messrs. G. T. and A. W. Coles, from the North and East District, and Mr. F. E. Hawthorne, of the Guildford Diocesan Guild.

The presence of the president of the association (the Rev. W. P. Cole Sheane) was greatly appreciated, though he would not take the chair, as he could not stay for the whole meeting. Mr. Trollope's announcement that the Bishop of London had honoured the president by appointing him a Prebendary of St. Paul's Cathedral was received with acclamation. Later in the meeting the president thanked the company for their welcome and congratulations.

SMALLER ATTENDANCE AT MEETINGS.

In his report for 1937, the hon. secretary (Mr. F. W. Goodfellow) stated that four members had died during the year (Mr. J. H. Lucas, of Uxbridge, Mr. H. A. Folkard, of Ealing, the Rev. E. Cornwall-Jones, Vicar of Ruislip, and Mr. W. H. Hollier, of Chiswick). Eight district meetings were held with an average attendance of 29—considerably lower than in 1936. On the other hand, the two joint meetings held (Guildford, Oxford, Surrey and Middlesex Associations at Staines in August, and Ladies' Guild and Oxford and Middlesex Associations at Hillingdon in October) were very successful, the attendances being 89 and 98 respectively. With a few exceptions, tower representation at district meetings was poor, and tower officials were urged to encourage a more active interest in the meetings. Sunday service ringing had generally improved, although in a few towers little is done apart from a casual visit by neighbouring ringers. All the rings of bells in going order were rung on Coronation Day. The total number of peals rung in the district was 14, three less than in 1936. Thirty-nine members were elected, as compared with 10 in 1936, but the number of subscriptions outstanding was still large. A new treble bell had been installed at Stanwell, which now possesses a fine ring of six. The report concluded with thanks to the district officers for their support.

The Chairman thanked the secretary for his instructive report, and expressed the hope that an improvement might be effected at the less flourishing towers.

The treasurer announced a balance of £2 17s. 9d. on the district accounts for 1937 and a balance of £15 18s. 10d. in the Bell Restoration Fund.

Mr. H. Chandler presented the account of the Supper Committee, showing a small balance, and the Supper Committee were re-elected (Messrs. Chandler, Goodfellow and Gladman, with the addition of the secretary). Three new members were elected (Mr. H. Hofton, Kensington, unattached, Mr. H. Joint, Hillingdon, and Miss F. M. Gutteridge, Iver Heath, life member), and the belfry election of Mr. R. A. Reid, North Stoneham, before a peal, was ratified.

It is the custom of the district when possible to elect a different Ringing Master each year, and Mr. J. Herbert was elected to succeed Mr. E. C. S. Turner. After a vote, Mr. Ellingham was elected Deputy Master. The treasurer, Mr. T. Collins, was re-elected.

As Mr. F. W. Goodfellow was unable to stand for re-election as hon. secretary, Mr. Bird proposed that Mr. J. E. Lewis Cockey be elected in his place. He pointed out that Mr. Cockey had had previous experience of the work, having been secretary of the Peak District of the Midland Counties Association and of the Sheffield and District Society, and he had confidence that Mr. Cockey would fill the position admirably.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Ellingham and carried, and Mr. Cockey, in promising to do his best for the district, pointed out that he depended upon the support of all the members.

A vote of thanks to Mr. Goodfellow for his services during the past six years was carried on the proposition of Mr. Hunnisett, who expressed the regret of the members at his decision and their gratitude for all he had done for the association.

The assistant secretary (Mr. W. G. Wilson), the Central Committee (Messrs. Chandler, Corke and G. Kilby), and the auditors (Messrs. Liddbetter and W. Coles) were all re-elected. Mr. Hunnisett and Mr. Cockey were appointed trustees.

THE PROPOSED CHANGE OF RULES.

On the motion of Mr. Goodfellow, seconded by Mr. Bird, it was resolved 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.

The Chairman explained that this was an enabling resolution only and would only apply if the revised rules, copies of which had been circulated to towers, were adopted in April.

At the request of the chairman, Mr. G. T. Coles explained the reasons for the revision of the rules, which were originally framed in 1897 and were out of date. He pointed out that while one district was financially in a good position, the other district was not, and neither was the Central Fund of the association. It was proposed that after

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ANOTHER SOMERSET PEAL RESTORED.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE AT CROWCOMBE.

The picturesque Church of Crowcombe, tucked away under the Quantock Hills between Taunton and Williton, was crowded on Sunday, February 20th, at 3 p.m. for a special service of thanksgiving in connection with the recent restoration of the bells.

Before the service commenced, one could not but help admiring the beautiful carved oak screen and bench ends, so familiar in many Somerset churches, and the narrowness of the seats was also commented upon by many who were visiting Crowcombe for the first time.

The Rector (the Rev. H. C. Young) conducted the service, assisted by the Rev. T. S. Dawson (Vicar of Carhampton) and Preb. H. C. Harman (a former Vicar of Bicknoller).

Special prayers were offered by Bishop de Salis (Archdeacon of Taunton), who also gave one of the best addresses ever heard by the writer in connection with bells and bell restorations.

The Bishop, who can still ring a bell if required, stated that the bells had been rehung on modern ball bearings, and new fittings throughout had been provided. The old wooden frame still remained, it being in good order and required only strengthening and securely fixing to the walls of the tower.

He stated that the work had been done by Taylors, of Loughborough, who carried out similar work for him when he first came to Somerset as Vicar in charge of a parish 50 years ago. That work still stood the test of time, and he was sure that the work done at Crowcombe would do likewise.

The Bishop went on to say that it was a great effort on the part of the parish to raise the necessary money (£146) to carry out the work in such a short space of time, and it showed that the people of Crowcombe were fond of their bells.

He was very pleased to note that so many peals of bells were being restored in Somerset, and this was all the more gratifying as there were so many fine churches and peals of bells in the county. 'May the day be long distant before mechanical bells or gramophone records come to our fine old churches,' he said.

The Bishop considered that the Guild of Ringers did a lot of good, especially with the scientific change ringers, but there were many towers and ringers outside the Guild who only rang the familiar West Country call changes. These ringers were, however, doing very useful church work, and they were to be encouraged just as much as the more experienced ringers.

At the conclusion of the service the bells (a heavy ring of six) were kept going in various methods, but some of the ringers found difficulty in handling the ropes, which were very low.

The absence of a Sunday train service on the Minehead Branch and the infrequent bus service to the village probably kept many ringers away, but there were eight from Carhampton (brought by the Vicar), five from Nether Stowey (brought by Capt. Cann, who was on week-end leave), and others from Chipstable, Milverton and Taunton.

ATTLEBOROUGH RINGERS' DEATH.

The death occurred at Attleborough, Norfolk, on Tuesday, February 8th, of Mr. William Benjamin Wiseman, aged 66. Up to the time of his death he was an active and well-respected ringer of the St. Mary's band, Attleborough, and a member of the Norwich Diocesan Association.

The funeral service took place in St. Mary's Church, and, following the interment, 720 changes of Bob Minor were rung on St. Mary's bells: W. N. Banham 1, C. E. G. Banham 2, W. Chandler 3, H. Allen 4, C. H. Cooke 5, L. Lawrence (conductor) 6.

(Continued from previous column.)

deducting working expenses each district should pay the balance into the Central Fund, which would then be better able to pay its way. The two districts were not separate associations, but parts of the one association, and it was appropriate that the Central Fund should reflect the position of the association.

In answer to Mr. Bird as to what had happened to the suggestion that resident members should cease to pay an annual subscription on reaching 65 years of age if more than 15s. had been paid in subscriptions, Mr. Coles explained that the sub-committee which revised the rules had decided against the proposal, largely on the ground of loss of revenue. If a member really could not afford his subscription, the association could always make him a free member.

It was agreed that if the new rules came into force, the money in the Bell Restoration Fund should be merged with the Central Fund and that the charge of 3d. a rope for each peal rung in the district should cease.

It was decided to invite the London County Association to a joint meeting at Chiswick in May or June and to invite the Ladies' and Oxford Guilds to the usual meeting at Hillingdon at the end of the year.

Mr. Hawthorne extended invitations on behalf of the Surrey Association and the Guildford Guild to joint meetings at Kingston and Egham, on dates to be arranged, and these were accepted with thanks.

Isleworth was chosen for the place of the 1939 annual meeting of the district. The meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Vicars of Heston and St. Paul's, Hounslow, to the local ringers and to the ladies who served tea.—Mr. Gurney replied and expressed the Vicar of Heston's regret at not being present. Further ringing then took place at Heston tower.

NORTH STAFFORD ASSOCIATION. SUCCESSFUL ANNUAL DINNER.

There was an excellent gathering at the North Staffordshire Association's dinner on Saturday, February 12th, a company of 118 spending a very enjoyable evening at the George Hotel, Burslem. During the afternoon, Hanley, Tunstall and Burslem towers were open for ringing, and the bells were fully employed.

Supporting the president (the Ven. Archdeacon Harthill, of Stoke-on-Trent) were Mr. Andrew Thompson (hon. secretary), Miss Ada Bourne, Messrs. Sidney Churton, Thomas Hurd (vice-chairman), Kenneth Thacker (assistant hon. secretary), Miss Betty Thacker, Mr. G. W. Walker, the Rev. S. F. Linsley, and ringers and friends from Hanley, Brown Edge, Draycott, Stone, Lawton, Tunstall, Kingsley, Biddulph, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent, Wistaston, Leek, Burslem, Norton, Newcastle and Fenton.

After the toast of 'The King,' the National Anthem was sung, and a pianoforte duet was rendered by Mrs. E. Thonger, A.T.C.L., and Miss H. Barry, A.T.C.L.

Mr. F. A. Forster proposed the toast of 'The Church.' He spoke of the influence of the Church on the lives of the people, and said his introduction to ringing was through attending a church at Silverdale. To give service to the Church in this direction had been a great pleasure.

The Archdeacon, who replied, congratulated the association on the splendid gathering at the first 'annual' dinner. It was the third time a dinner had been held, but that was the first 'annual' dinner and he suggested it would not be the last. The association they belonged to was something to be proud of. The Archdeacon went on to emphasise that the Church was made up of all classes of people, and said that church work was any kind of work done for the Church and the service of God. The art of bellringing in this country had always been closely connected with the Church, and the greatest association it had with the Church was that of calling men to the worship of God. He appealed to them all to be more thorough in their religion and to make a much bigger effort.

A course of Grandsire Caters was next rung on handbells by ringers from Leek tower.

The Rev. S. F. Linsley proposed the toast of 'The North Staffordshire Association.' Speaking first in lighter vein, he told the story of a parson he knew who was extremely deaf and whose custom it was to ring the bell before a service. Whilst doing this he always used to read a book. One night he was tugging away at the bell as usual and reading his book when the curate came in and asked him what he was doing. He replied that he was 'Ringing the bell, of course.' 'Oh no you're not,' said the curate, 'the clapper has broken off.'

Ringing, said the speaker, was really a dangerous art. He once had a curate who was learning to ring at the same time as himself. The stay on the curate's bell broke and he was carried almost up to the ceiling. Since then he had been most careful.

There was something wonderful, said Mr. Linsley, in the thought that in ringing the bells they were calling people to worship to turn their thoughts to higher things, and the bellringer was doing a great work in ringing out the greatest message that could be issued to the world. He hoped ringers would continue this work Sunday by Sunday and that the association would continue to hold its annual dinner.

EARLY DIFFICULTIES OVERCOME.

Mr. Andrew Thompson should have responded to the toast, but as Mr. G. W. Walker, one of the oldest members, desired to speak, the secretary requested him to take his place. Mr. Walker said he was privileged to attend the inaugural meeting of the association in 1882, but his membership card was dated January, 1883, and he had spent some very happy times among the members.

'It was not all beer and skittles forming the association,' he said. 'Courage was needed to overcome difficulties which faced the ringers, but eventually they succeeded. I am glad to have lived to see the association in such a flourishing condition as it is now. I hope it will continue to improve. Indeed, the sight of so many young men taking an interest in change ringing leads me to believe it will. But that is not all. I have found another very important factor in connection with the association—the friendship created between ringers. Another very pleasing fact is that the Archdeacon of Stoke is taking as great an interest in the association as did his predecessor, Sir Lovelace Stamer, who was one of the leaders in forming the association.'

Letters of regret of absence were received from Mr. H. Parker and Mr. J. P. Fidler.

Mr. S. Churton proposed 'The Visitors,' who, he said, they were all delighted to welcome. He said he was very pleased to see so many ladies present.

Mr. G. W. Biddulph replied. Some of them, he said, had been coming to the North Staffordshire meetings for a good many years and enjoyed the very good fellowship that prevailed in the North Staffs territory. He thanked the Leek ringers for their very enjoyable displays, and hoped the association would carry on in the future as it had done in the past.

Mr. T. Hurd submitted the toast of 'The Press' and thanked the 'Evening Sentinel' for its interest in the association. Referring to 'The Ringing World,' he said it had done more to foster good fellowship among ringers and to bring ringing associations together than anything else he knew of. Where, he asked, would ringing have been

(Continued in next column.)

NOTICES.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Southern branch.—The meeting which was to have been held at Stoulton to-morrow has been transferred to Hinton. Bells from 5 p.m. (no service or tea).—J. E. Newman, Hon. Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting of the district will be held at Elstow on Saturday, March 5th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Tea at the Red Lion. You will be very welcome.—Frank C. Tysoe, District Secretary, 10, Grange Road, Bromham, Bedford.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Archdeaconry of Ely Branch.—A meeting will be held at Ickleton on Saturday, March 5th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. A hearty welcome awaits our usual and all other visitors to this meeting. A postcard to Mr. P. Webb, Ickleton, Great Chesterford, Essex, for tea, would be appreciated.—C. W. Cook, Dis. Sec., Newton, Cambridge.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Poolstock, on Saturday, March 5th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Tea free.—S. Forshaw, 38, Poolstock, Wigan.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Greasley on Saturday, March 5th. Bells (8) ready 3 p.m. All ringers welcome. Please come and strike 'um. Will those wishing for tea kindly let me know in time to arrange?—E. C. Gobey, Trowell, Notts.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—A meeting will be held at Essendon on Saturday, March 5th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m., near church. Buses: St. Albans-Hertford or Barnet-Hertford. Northaw bells (6) will be available for the evening. All ringers and friends welcome.—H. V. Frost, Dis. Sec., 4, Kimberley Road, St. Albans.

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.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham, 11.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting of the above branch will be held at Olney on Saturday, March 5th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Names for tea in good time. A good attendance will be welcomed.—Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

(Continued from previous column.)

to-day without it? Ringing would have been much poorer than it is now. It kept them all in touch with what was going on and with one another, not only in this country, but with ringers overseas. It must mean a great deal to the ringers in Australia and New Zealand to receive their copy and read what was going on in the old country.

Selections were given on handbells by the Leek ringers, and songs were sung by Mr. W. Corfield and Mr. G. E. Plant, while community singing was much enjoyed. A very enjoyable evening was brought to a close with 'Auld Lang Syne.'

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Service ringing, St. Clement Danes, Strand, March 6th, at 10 a.m. Practices: St. Clement Danes, March 14th and 28th, at 7.30 p.m.; St. Mary's, Lambeth, March 29th, at 8 p.m.—T. W. Taffender, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice during March: *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 29th; St. Magnus' on the 17th; Southwark Cathedral, 8th; *St. Mary-le-Bow, 15th; St. Michael's, Cornhill, 22nd; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 24th. *Business meeting afterwards.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

LADIES' GUILD.—Central District.—The next meeting will be held at St. John's, Erith, Kent, on Saturday, March 12th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea to follow in Parish Room. Will all those requiring tea please notify me not later than Tuesday, March 8th. Gentlemen cordially invited.—M. L. Cross, Hon. Sec., 9, Beverley Road, Barnehurst, Kent.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Harlow Common on Saturday, March 12th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Tea will be provided for those advising me not later than Wednesday, March 9th.—H. A. Wacey, Hon. Sec., 69, Rye Street, Bishop's Stortford.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—A meeting will be held at Beccles (10 bells) on March 12th. Tea and meeting at Red Triangle Club, 5 p.m. Please send postcard to Mr. E. R. Goate, 47, Smallgate, Beccles, for tea. Ringing during afternoon from 2.30 p.m.—H. G. Herbert, Sec., 61, Acton Lane, Sudbury.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—Annual meeting at St. Michael's Church, East Ardsley, on Saturday, March 12th. Bells (8) available from 3 o'clock. Short service at 4.15 p.m. Tea (1s. 3d.) about 5 o'clock. Business meeting, election of officers, etc., afterwards. Those requiring tea must notify Mr. E. Watson, 56, Bradford Road, East Ardsley, not later than March 10th.—Frank Rayment, Hon. Dis. Sec., Bramley.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—A by-meeting will be held at Boxley (6 bells) on Saturday, March 12th. Details later.—A. Waddington, Hon. Dis. Sec., Egerton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The annual branch meeting will be held at Chorley Parish Church, on Saturday, March 12th. Tower open for ringing from 2.30 p.m. Tea 1s. per head. It will be esteemed a favour if all those coming to tea will kindly notify Mr. Fred Rigby, 8, Carrington Road, Chorley, not later than Wednesday, March 9th. All ringers cordially invited.—A. Blogg, Branch Sec.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch, Newport Pagnell Deanery.—A meeting at Sherington, on Saturday, March 12th. Ring up 2.30. Service 4. Tea 4.45. Business.—Rev. J. F. Amies, Ravenstone Vicarage, Olney, Bucks.

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Mangotsfield on Saturday, March 12th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Will those requiring tea kindly let me know by March 9th?—N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Weston, Bath.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, Ottershaw, on Saturday, March 12th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. All ringers and friends welcome. A postcard will be much appreciated if received by Wednesday, the 9th. It is hoped to have a good attendance.—F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Sec., 39, Queen's Road, Thames Ditton.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting is at Everton on March 12th. Bells available 2.30 to 8.15 p.m. Please send a card for tea to me before March 10th.—R. Towler, 69, Ordsall Road, Retford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Bury, on Saturday, March 12th. Bells from 3 p.m. A meeting in the tower at 7. A good meeting is assured if you turn up. Reports ready.—J. Porter, Hon. Sec.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—The next meeting will be held at Stanford-on-Soar on March 12th, and it is hoped as many as possible will make good use of this octave, which will be available from 3 p.m.—H. O. Over, Hugglescote.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Northill on Saturday, March 12th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers and their friends will be welcome. Please come; a good company is requested.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

BARNSELY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at South Kirkby on Saturday, March 12th. Bells ready 2.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. A. Dunn-Birch, 15, Northfield Grove, South Kirkby, near Pontefract, by Wednesday, March 9th. All are welcome.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., Rock Cottages, Shafton, near Barnsley.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cirencester Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Fairford on Saturday, March 12th. Bells (8) available 3. Tea 5 p.m. Service 6 o'clock. Please send card if you require tea to Mr. J. Hope, London Street, Fairford, Glos, by March 9th.—W. H. Hayward, Branch Hon. Sec., Cirencester.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Thrapston Branch.—A meeting for practice will be held at Aldwinle on Saturday, March 12th. Bells from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m.—W. J. Whitmore, Raunds, Northants.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. John's and St. Peter's (R.C.) Churches, Lytham, on Saturday, March 12th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Business meeting 5.30.—C. Sharples, Fylde Branch Sec.

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LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at St. Mary's Church, Dalton-in-Furness, on Saturday, March 12th. Bells available 2 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Meeting in Green Schools 5 p.m. Important: Please notify Mr. T. Metcalfe, 33, Skelgate, Dalton-in-Furness, for tea not later than Wednesday, March 9th, and oblige.—N. M. Newby, Hon. Sec.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Apsley on Saturday, March 12th. The bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Usual arrangements, but tea can only be arranged for those who notify their intention of needing same. All ringers and friends welcome. We can oblige all capabilities from rounds upwards.—W. Ayre, Leverstock Green.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Penshurst on Saturday, March 12th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Everyone welcome. Please notify by the 9th re tea.—B. Saunders, 18, New Road, Ridgewood, Uckfield, Sussex.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—The next meeting of the South and West District will be at St. Mary's, Ealing, on Saturday, March 12th. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. in the new Church Hall, The Park. Please notify me by March 9th if you require tea. Ringing: St. Mary's, 3 to 4.30 p.m., and after tea; St. Stephen's, 3 to 4 p.m.; Christ Church, 7.30 to 9 p.m.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Sec., 16, Stephen's Road, West Ealing, W.13.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Rodbourne Cheney on Saturday, March 12th. Six bells. Usual arrangements. Frequent bus service from Swindon Town Hall and station.—W. B. Kynaston, 3, Dumbarton Terrace, Victoria Road, Swindon, Wilts.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District.—The next meeting of this district will be held at Sapcote on Saturday, March 12th. Please let Mr. C. Brown, Sharnford Road, Sapcote, know how many to expect for tea. Look up your Minor methods and let us have a good meeting.—W. A. Wood, Hon. Dis. Sec.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Dorset Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Bourton on March 12th. Ringing from 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Bells at Stourton and Zeals also available. Visitors cordially invited.—W. M. Uphill, Hon. Sec., Stour Provost Rectory, Gillingham, Dorset.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The annual meeting will be held at Ranmoor Church (10 bells) on Saturday, March 12th. Committee meeting 4 p.m. Tea for 1s. each. Notify Mr. C. Haynes, 441a, Sandygate Road, Sheffield. Buses from Leopold Street every few minutes. Fare 1½d.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 13, St. Ronans Road, Sheffield, 7.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Walton, Liverpool, on Saturday, March 12th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m. Tea and meeting in the Institute. Those requiring tea please inform Mr. H. H. Barker, 42, Ireton Street, Liverpool, 4.—H. Grundy, Branch Sec.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Dudley on Saturday, March 12th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service in church at 4.30. Tea will be provided for those who notify me before Tuesday, March 8th. Business meeting afterwards, at which a presentation will be made to the secretary. Please let us having a good muster.—Herbert Sheppard, 49, Helier Street, Dudley.

FORNCETT ST. PETER, NEAR NORWICH.—The ring of five bells, rehung by John Taylor and Co., in a new oak bell frame, will be dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Norwich on Sunday, March 13th, at 3 p.m.

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. Towers open for ringing: St. Olave's, Hart Street, 3-4; St. Martin-in-the-Fields, 4-5; St. Clement Danes, Strand, 5-6. 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, Kent.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Handsworth on Saturday, March 19th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m., 1s. each. Please notify Mr. J. L. Gilbert, 25a, St. Joseph's Road, Handsworth, Sheffield, 9, by Thursday, the 17th, for same. Meeting for election of officers, etc., after tea, and a good attendance would be appreciated. The annual report is now available, and subscriptions for 1937-8 are due.—F. Clark, Hon. Sec.

EPWORTH, Nr. DONCASTER.—The new ring of 8 bells (tenor 17 cwt.) by John Taylor & Co. will be dedicated by the Bishop of Grimsby on Sat., March 19th, at 3.30 p.m.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting of the Southern Division will be held at Hurstpierpoint on Saturday, March 19th. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea, price 1s., 5 p.m. Half rail fare (maximum 1s. 6d.) allowed to members. Names for tea by previous Wednesday, please. The next Wednesday meeting will be at Henfield on June 15th.—S. E. Armstrong, Hon. Div. Sec., 70, Hollingbury Park Avenue, Brighton, 6.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Charlwood (6 bells) on Saturday, March 19th. Tower open 3 p.m. Service 5 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting 5.30 p.m. Please send me all numbers for tea not later than Tuesday, March 15th. All very welcome.—R. A. Tuffin, Hon. Dis. Sec., 65, Blackborough Road, Reigate, Surrey.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

MRS. FRANK SMITH and family thank all ringers and friends for floral tributes and expressions of sympathy.

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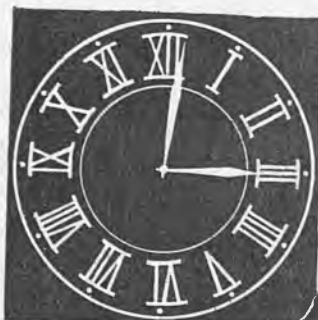
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