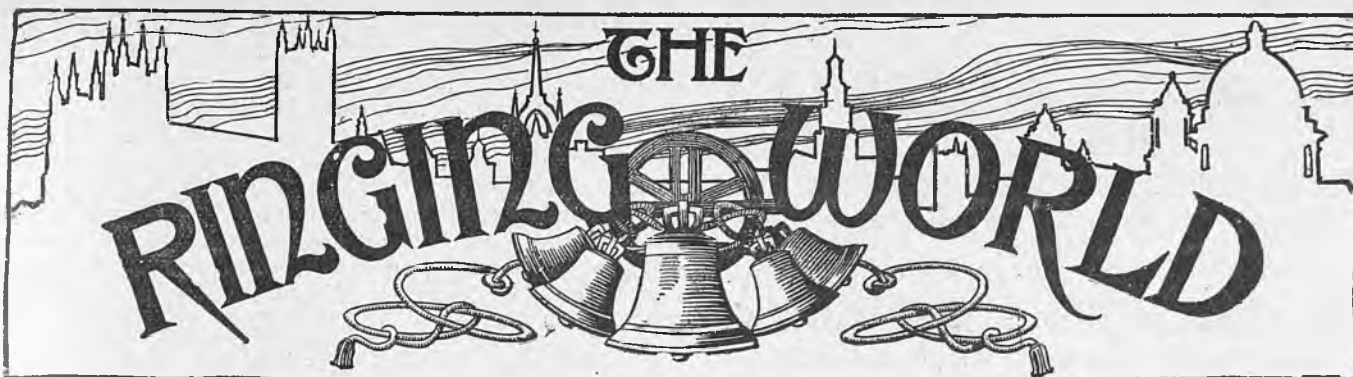




No. 1,409. Vol. XXXIII.

FRIDAY, MARCH 25th, 1938.

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

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GILLETT AND JOHNSTON LTD CROYDON

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THE FUTURE OF LONDON RINGING.

Matters of more than usual interest concerning ringing in London were discussed at the annual dinner of the Royal Cumberland Youths on Saturday. Incidentally, this gathering was evidence of an increased interest in this old society, which from its earliest days has been the 'rival' of the College Youths, but the friendly spirit which at present exists in their relations was shown by the presence of many members, including the Master and other officials of the Ancient Society. The speeches throughout the evening turned very largely on the subject of the many silent bells of London and the relationships between the various ringing organisations which now cover the metropolis, and if any improvement in either direction results it will be all to the good.

A close investigation of the state of ringing in the metropolis can only result in a feeling of disappointment to those who would like to see it occupying a position commensurate with the importance of London as a centre of our art, and a great city of bells. London could provide inexhaustible opportunities if even one-half of the silent peals were to be regularly heard again. It is a reflection upon the Church authorities and upon the ringing organisations that in only about twenty, out of seventy churches with rings of bells, is there any semblance of regular Sunday service ringing, and in not all of these is there ringing every Sunday. Many factors have led to this state of affairs, but we feel sure that some of the churches are losing their congregations in part from the fact that they fail to signify their existence by the best means at their disposal, the ringing of the bells. The very presence of the church, in some areas, must be unknown to a great many of whatever 'resident' population is left, for the bells are the best if not the only advertisement for the church's services, and these they never hear.

There is a tremendous problem before those who would rehabilitate the bells of London, even in a comparatively modest way. Individual efforts there have been to restore their use in two or three churches, and these are wholly commendable, but to make any real impression some more organised effort is necessary and the interest of the clergy must be awakened. We hope that something may come of the round-table conference suggested and approved by some of Saturday's speakers. It is only by a thorough discussion that any concerted action can eventuate, and the parties to it must be ready, not to talk for the purpose of putting up obstacles, but determined to find a way, if possible, to surmount the difficulties, and to pool their energies and resources for the ultimate general good. The conference must be entered

(Continued on page 190.)

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into with the will to get something done, and not in a defeatist spirit to find excuses for doing nothing. The condition of bells and of ringing in London is a challenge to all the societies to unite in one great effort to bring about a better state of affairs. There is a youthful element growing up in London ringing; in its hands the future lies. If this element can be brought together and encouraged in a spirit of unity, instead of in the older atmosphere, which has tended to keep London ringers apart, then there is a future before London ringing brighter than any in its history.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

LEICESTER.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 12, 1938, in Three Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 33 cwt.

JOSIAH MORRIS 1	Treble	JOHN S. MASON 7
*LOUIS D. ALLEN 2		HAROLD G. JENNEY 8
GEORGE E. FEARN 3		ERNEST MORRIS 9
FRANK W. PERRENS 4		FRANK E. HAYNES 10
GEORGE S. MORRIS 5		HAROLD J. POOLE 11
FRANK E. PERVIN 6		ALBERT E. NORMAN 12

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY.

Conducted by F. E. PERVIN.

* First peal of Maximus. First peal of Maximus as conductor.

MANCHESTER.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 19, 1938, in Three Hours and Forty-Two Minutes.

AT THE TOWN HALL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 43 cwt.

LESTER L. GRAY 1	Treble	*CHARLES H. PAGE 7
THOMAS W. HAMMOND 2		LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS 8
ARNOLD BRUNTON 3		EDWIN C. BIRKETT 9
THOMAS B. WORSLEY 4		HERBERT DAVENPORT 10
GEORGE R. NEWTON 5		PERCIVAL W. CAVE 11
BENJAMIN THORP 6		CHRISTOPHER GUDGEON 12

Composed by J. E. GROVES.

Conducted by G. R. NEWTON.

* First peal of Cinques. First peal of Stedman Cinques on the bells. Rung in honour of Manchester's centenary as a city.

TEN BELL PEALS.

ISLEWORTH, MIDDLESEX.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 12, 1938, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5080 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

*EDWIN L. MILES 1	Treble	JAMES GEORGE 6
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER 2		*FRANCIS D. BISHOP 7
MISS OLIVE L. ASHBROOK 3		NORMAN H. MANNING 8
E. RALPH MACRILL 4		†ROY K. MOWFORTH 9
†CHARLES W. OTTLEY 5		EDWARD D. SMITH 10

Composed by F. E. DARBY.

Conducted by THOMAS H. TAFFENDER

* First peal of Royal. † First peal of Royal and in the method.

† First peal of Treble Bob Royal.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 12, 1938, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

No. 3 VERSION.

Tenor 18½ cwt. in E flat.

FREDERICK E. COLLINS 1	Treble	TONY R. PRICE 6
*MISS GWENDOLINE KIPPIN 2		WILLIAM H. HEWETT 7
MRS. CHARLES H. KIPPIN 3		FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN 8
THOMAS G. BANNISTER 4		DANIEL COOPER 9
ROYDON DAVIES 5		CHARLES H. KIPPIN 10

Composed and Conducted by CHAS. H. KIPPIN.

* First Surprise peal away from the treble.

NOTTINGHAM.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 12, 1938, in Three Hours and Eight Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 37 cwt.

*RONALD F. SALTER Treble	R. ALLAN HICKTON 6
RALPH NARBOROUGH 2	FRANK BRADLEY 7
ARTHUR J. CHAMBERLAIN ... 3	J. ALFRED BARRATT 8
J. FREDERICK MILNER 4	FREDERICK A. SALTER... .. 9
JOHN E. HOBBS 5	WALTER NICHOLS Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER.

Conducted by J. A. BARRATT.

* First peal on ten bells. First peal on the ten since they were recast in 1935.

HASLEMERE, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 19, 1938, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes,

At the Church of St. Bartholomew,

A PEAL OF YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt. 6 lb. in F.

JOHN H. B. HESSE Treble	WILLIAM T. BRESON 6
JACK M. CRIPPS 2	FREDERICK S. BAYLEY... .. 7
FREDERICK W. ROGERS ... 3	C. ERNEST SMITH 8
FRANK E. DARBY 4	OLIVER SIPPETTS 9
KENNETH SNELLING 5	WILFRED WILLIAMS Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by C. ERNEST SMITH.

First peal of Yorkshire Royal as conductor, on the bells and by the Guild.

STONHAM ASPALL, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, March 19, 1938, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,

At the Church of St. Lambert.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

HARRY D. LISTER Treble	SHELLFORD SPARROW 6
ERNEST F. POPPY 2	EDWIN A. CRACKNELL ... 7
*WILLIAM E. WATHEN 3	ARTHUR R. WOODARD ... 8
MISS SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER 4	*URBAN W. WILDNEY... .. 9
JAMES BETTS 5	*EDWARD E. DAVEY Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 35).

Conducted by HARRY D. LISTER

* First peal on ten bells. A birthday compliment to the conductor.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

WRITTLE, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 26, 1938, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Church of All Saints,

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

Tenor 18½ cwt.

ERNEST RUNTER Treble	LESLIE J. CLARKE 5
CLAUDE SNOWDEN 2	MISS HILDA SNOWDEN ... 6
*MISS ANNIE WHITE 3	LEWIS W. WIFFEN 7
*HENRY SHADRACK 4	H. WALTER SMITH Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE.

Conducted by L. W. WIFFEN.

* First peal in the method.

MAYFIELD, SUSSEX.

THE EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.

On Wednesday, March 9, 1938, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Dunstan,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 21½ cwt. in E.

HOLT'S TEN-PART.	
E. JOHN RELFE Treble	ALBERT RELFE 5
ERNEST H. EVEREST... .. 2	FRANK H. HICKS 6
*WILLIAM F. MOON 3	WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE... 7
ARTHUR F. LEWRY 4	LESLIE EVEREST Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST H. EVEREST.

* First peal and first attempt.

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NUNEATON, WARWICKSHIRE.

THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.

On Thursday, March 10, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Nicholas,

A PEAL OF ASHTEAD SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

THOMAS W. CHAPMAN ... Treble	WILFRED H. J. HOOTON ... 5
FRANK W. PERRENS 2	DOUGLAS H. ARGYLE 6
JOSEPH H. W. WHITE... .. 3	FRANK E. PERVIN 7
JOSEPH A. FENTON 4	FREDERICK H. DEXTER ... Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE.

Conducted by F. W. PERRENS.

First peal in the method by the Guild, on the bells and by all the band.

BURNHAM, BUCKS.

THE SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.

On Saturday, March 12, 1938, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

JOHN E. TAYLOR Treble	BRYAN O'NEILL 5
GEORGE H. LIMMER 2	GORDON W. LIMMER 6
MARTIN A. BLAMEY 3	THOMAS BEVAN 7
CYRIL A. BURGESS 4	GEORGE GILBERT... .. Tenor

Composed by JOHN THORP.

Conducted by GEO. GILBERT.

BOREHAM, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 12, 1938, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew.

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 13½ cwt.

*CHRISTOPHER JAGUARD ... Treble	HENRY WARN 5
NORMAN GRINHAM 2	PERCY GREEN 6
HIRZEL EDWARDS 3	*WALTER DORKING 7
ARTHUR EVERETT 4	RONALD SUCKLING Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by ARTHUR EVERETT.

* First peal. First peal as conductor.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Saturday, March 12, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

At the Church of St. Margaret,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5104 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

WILLIAM S. KINSEY ... Treble	URBAN W. WILDNEY 5
*HERBERT SHEMMING 2	GEORGE E. SYMONDS 6
HARRY R. ROPER 3	GEORGE MORE 7
JAMES W. JENNINGS 4	CHARLES SHEMMING Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

* First peal of Bob Major.

LONDON.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 12, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Olave, Hart Street, City,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 10½ cwt.

FREDERICK J. CHAPLIN ... Treble	WILLIAM H. JOINER 5
ERNEST BRETT 2	ARTHUR C. CHAPLIN 6
WILLIAM J. NORTON 3	ALBERT C. DARNELL 7
JAMES R. WILSON 4	JAMES BULLOCK Tenor

Composed by J. E. BURTON.

Conducted by J. BULLOCK.

TADCASTER, YORKS.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

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

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5048 CHANGES;

Tenor 20½ cwt.

HENRY CLAYTON Treble	ALAN DENNISON 5
ROBERT LANCASTER 2	NORMAN BARTON 6
ERNEST LINDLEY 3	FRED E. ADDISON 7
WILLIAM FAY 4	ALFRED BARKER Tenor

Composed by J. J. PARKER.

Conducted by FRED E. ADDISON.

Rung as a welcome to the new Vicar, the Rev. J. H. Hall.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 12, 1938, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE, HOLLOWAY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

Tenor 20 cwt.

REUBEN CHARGE 1 Treble	ERNEST E. HOLMAN 5
* RICHARD NEWMAN 2	CHARLES W. R. GRIMWOOD ... 6
FREDERICK BARKER 3	GEORGE CHARGE 7
CHARLES POTHECARY 4	ALBERT TURNER Tenor

Conducted by A. TURNER.

* First peal of Treble Bob Major.

LONDON.

THE ST. ANDREW'S, HOLBORN, GUILD.

On Tuesday, March 15, 1938, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW, HOLBORN, CITY,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 26½ cwt.

WILLIAM R. DENNIS 1 Treble	THOMAS BEVAN 5
JOSEPH S. HAWKINS 2	ERNEST BRETT 6
WILLIAM J. NORTON 3	URBAN W. WILDNEY 7
WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT ... 4	RICHARD F. DEAL Tenor

Composed by H. HUBBARD.

Conducted by U. W. WILDNEY.

Bung as a welcome to the Rev. J. R. Howden, B.D., to the living of St. Andrew's, Holborn.

EGHAM, SURREY.

THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, March 16, 1938, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

Tenor 16½ cwt.

WILLIAM SIMMONDS 1 Treble	NORMAN V. HARDING 5
* WATKINS MASSEY 2	JOHN S. GOLDSMITH 6
FRANK E. HAWTHORNE 3	WILLIAM WELLING 7
† WALTER A. PECK 4	† JOHN GREENOUGH Tenor

Conducted by JOHN S. GOLDSMITH.

* First peal on eight bells and first peal of Stedman. † First peal of Stedman.

WHISTON, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

(SHEFFIELD DISTRICT SOCIETY.)

On Wednesday, March 16, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt.

JOHN BROTHWELL 1 Treble	JOHN J. L. GILBERT 5
TOM BROTHWELL 2	SIDNEY PALMER 6
GORDON GRAHAM 3	HERBERT CHADDOCK 7
COLIN RYDER 4	NORMAN CHADDOCK Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NORMAN CHADDOCK.

Rung to celebrate the gift of a son to Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Chaddock.

LONDON.

THE NATIONAL POLICE GUILD.

On Thursday, March 17, 1938, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE-THE-MARTYR, SOUTHWARK,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

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

* P.C. FRANK AKERS 1 Treble	Ex-P.C. ERNEST BRETT 5
P.C. JAMES G. A. PRIOR 2	P.C. NORMAN S. BAGWORTH ... 6
Ex-P.S. ALBERT LAWRENCE ... 3	Ex-P.C. FREDERICK PAGE 7
P.S. CHARLES WILLMINGTON ... 4	* Ex-P.C. WILLIAM WINTER Tenor

Conducted by Ex-P.C. FREDERICK PAGE.

* First peal.

LONDON.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON
DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 19, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, WILLESDEN,

A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt, in A flat.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE ... Treble	GEORGE R. PYE 5
* ERIC B. HARTLEY 2	ERNEST C. S. TURNER 6
GEORGE M. KILBY 3	CECIL C. MAYNE 7
JOHN H. CRAMPION 4	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON Tenor

Composed by F. DENCH.

Conducted by J. C. E. SIMPSON.

* First attempt for a peal of London.

COWBRIDGE, GLAMORGANSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 19, 1938, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

HOLT'S ORIGINAL.

Tenor 17 cwt. (approx.).

TREVOR M. RODERICK ... Treble	ERNEST STITCH 5
* ALFRED HANNINGTON 2	JOHN EVANS 6
† HOWARD L. MORGAN 3	GEORGE TALBOT 7
ROBERT E. COLES 4	† LLEWELLYN WILLIAMS Tenor

Conducted by E. STITCH.

* First peal of Triples 'inside.' † First peal of Triples. ‡ First peal and first attempt.

NEW ROMNEY, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, March 19, 1938, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANCES;

Tenor 19½ cwt.

ROBERT T. LAMBERT 1 Treble	FREDERICK H. DALLAWAY 5
FREDERICK J. LAMBERT, SEN. 2	ALFRED G. PANKHURST 6
HIGHWOOD S. HUMPHREY ... 3	WILLIAM WENBAN 7
FRANK BENNETT 4	FREDERICK WHITE Tenor

Composed and Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.

First peal of Double Norwich on the bells. Rung to commemorate the laying of the foundation stone of the new Church of All Saints', St. Mary Bay, by the Bishop of Dover.

WEST WYCOMBE, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

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

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 16 cwt.

FREDERICK J. SMITH 1 Treble	REV. R. F. R. ROUTH 5
* RICHARD SMITH 2	WILLIAM HENLEY 6
MISS KATH. E. FLETCHER ... 3	WILFRED EDWARDS 7
GEORGE MARTIN 4	HARRY WINGROVE Tenor

Composed by F. BENNETT.

Conducted by GEORGE MARTIN.

* First peal in the method.

GILLINGHAM, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

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

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 11½ cwt.

* LEONARD HARMER 1 Treble	WILLIAM SPICE 5
CHARLES E. J. NORRIS 2	WILLIAM J. WALKER 6
DANIEL T. HILLS 3	WILLIAM A. J. KNIGHT 7
JOHN E. SPICE 4	ALFRED H. TAYLOR Tenor

Conducted by W. A. J. KNIGHT.

* First peal and a member of the local tower.

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WORLD'S OLDEST MAKERS

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J. B. JOYCE & CO. LTD.

WHITCHURCH, SALOP

We have experts visiting all parts of the British Isles, and shall be
pleased to carry out restorations or give reports regarding
any make of Tower Clock

SIX BELL PEALS.

THORINGTON, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 5, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent of Cambridge Surprise, two of Kent Treble Bob, two of Oxford Treble Bob and two of Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt. 22 lb. in G.

GEORGE A. BUTTON Treble	VICTOR D. KERRIDGE 4
HARRY J. MILLATT 2	ALAN R. ANDREWS 5
WILLIAM J. NEVARD 3	GEORGE A. ANDREWS Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.

WIVETON, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 12, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising two extents of Kent and Oxford Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt.

*BERTIE W. MARSH Treble	*JACK R. HINDRY 4
FREDERICK R. WILLBY 2	ERNEST V. BLAKE 5
*ROBERT MARSH 3	WILLIAM R. WEST Tenor

Conducted by E. V. BLAKE.

* First peal of three methods.

GREAT HORKESLEY, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, March 13, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Viz.: Two extents of Kent Treble Bob, two of Oxford Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 16 cwt. in F.

RONALD W. STEWARD Treble	JAMES W. JENNINGS 4
WILLIAM J. NEVARD 2	VICTOR E. KERRIDGE 5
STANLEY G. DAVEY 3	ALAN R. ANDREWS Tenor

Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.

HAMPTON-BISHOP, HEREFORDSHIRE.

THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sunday, March 13, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven 720's called differently. Tenor 10 cwt.

*ERNEST WILLIAMS Treble	GEORGE T. COUSINS 4
WALTER S. EVANS 2	AUSTIN T. WINGATE 5
†GILBERT R. GWATKIN 3	ERNEST F. SALMONS Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST F. SALMONS.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal of Minor 'inside.' A compliment to Mr. George Griffiths, who has retired after having served 47 years as parish clerk.

HEYTESBURY, WILTS.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Monday, March 14, 1938, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two extents, ten callings. Tenor 20 cwt.

*S. COUSINS Treble	V. MERRETT 4
†R. GOULD 2	W. A. AVERY 5
H. BLANCHARD 3	H. TROLLOPE Tenor

Conducted by W. A. AVERY.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.' A 21st birthday compliment to H. Blanchard.

CORSCOMBE, DORSET.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

(West Dorset Branch.)

On Tuesday, March 15, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two extents of St Dunstan's, four of Reverse Canterbury, six of Plain Bob and 30 of Grandsire, with 20 callings. Tenor 17 cwt. in F sharp.

*ROBERT J. LATHRY Treble	H. DENNIS W. BISHOP 4
†CHARLES H. LATHRY 2	HAROLD C. R. VINE 5
*JOSEPH L. GLYDE 3	*WAITHER C. POOLE Tenor

Conducted by H. D. W. BISHOP.

* First peal. † First peal in four methods 'inside.'

PLYMOUTH, DEVON.

THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.

On Thursday, March 17, 1938, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW, STOKE DAMAREL,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Consisting of seven 720's each called differently.

Tenor 15 cwt. in F (approx.).

JOHN HENRY GLUYAS Treble	G. HARRY MYERS 4
A. WILLIAM MYERS 2	*CECIL L. GUY 5
THOMAS G. MYERS 3	HARRY T. CHANDLER Tenor

Conducted by THOMAS G. MYERS.

* First peal of Minor. First peal on the bells, which were cast by T. Bilbie in 1787. Specially arranged and rung to celebrate the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Chandler.

WATLINGTON, NORFOLK.

THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 17, 1938, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Comprising an extent each of Childwall, St. Clement's, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob, Plain Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 8 cwt. 2 qr. 2 lb.

SYDNEY FLINT Treble	WILLIAM BUCKENHAM 4
JOHN BUCKENHAM 2	CLAUDE COUSINS 5
WALLACE W. COUSINS 3	CECIL V. EBBERSON Tenor

Conducted by C. V. EBBERSON.

TAXAL, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, March 19, 1938, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF SPLICED TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents in 25 methods: (1) Crowland, Combermere, Vale Royal, St. Werburgh and Abbeyville Delight; (2) Ockley, Duke of Norfolk, College Exercise, Norbury and Morning Star Treble Bob; (3) Newdigate, Old Oxford, College Bob IV., Willesden and Marple Delight; (4) Charlwood and Braintree Delight; (5) Neasden, St. Albans and Wragby Delight; (6) Sandal, London Scholars' Pleasure and Kingston Treble Bob; (7) Capel and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 11½ cwt.

JOSEPH WHITTAKER Treble	C. KENNETH LEWIS 4
*REV. FRANK BONNER 2	*WILFRED WILDE 5
THOMAS TAYLOR 3	JAMES A. MILNER Tenor

Conducted by C. K. LEWIS.

* First peal in 25 methods. Eighty changes of method.

HANDBELL PEALS.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.

THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, February 22, 1938, in Two Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT 45, WALSINGHAM ROAD,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

*EDITH K. FLETCHER 1-2	E. MAURICE ATKINS 5-6
*GEORGE W. FLETCHER 3-4	CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY 7-8

Composed by J. R. FLEMING. Conducted by E. MAURICE ATKINS.

* First peal in the method.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Wednesday, March 16, 1938, in Three Hours and One Minute,

AT THE ROYAL MASONIC SCHOOL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

HENRY HODGETTS 1-2	*CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY 7-8
EDITH K. FLETCHER 3-4	†GEORGE W. FLETCHER 9-10
*HAROLD G. CASHMORE 5-6	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW 11-12

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by EDITH K. FLETCHER.

Umpire—Edwin Jennings

* First peal of Cinques 'in hand.' † First peal of Stedman Cinques 'in hand.' First peal of Cinques 'in hand' as conductor.

(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over.)

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MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.**SOUTH AND WEST DISTRICT AT EALING.**

A successful meeting of the South and West District of the Middlesex County Association and London Diocesan Guild was held at Ealing on March 12th, about 40 members and friends being present from Chalfont St. Giles, Denham, Duffield, Derby, Ealing (Christ Church, St. Mary's and St. Stephen's), Harrow, Heston, Hillingdon (St. John's), Kensington, Kingsbury, Northwood, Ruislip, Twickenham and Uxbridge.

Ringling took place at all three of the eight-bell towers at Ealing, St. Stephen's (3 to 4 p.m.), Christ Church (7.30 to 9 p.m.) and the Parish Church (before and after the meeting), the two first mentioned being under the control of Mr. W. F. Ellingham, Deputy Ringing Master, Mr. J. Herbert, Ringing Master, being in charge at the Parish Church. Methods rung ranged from Grandsire Doubles and Bob Minor to Cambridge and Superlative Surprise Major, many good touches being brought round.

A short service was held at the Parish Church (St. Mary's), conducted by the Vicar of Ealing, the Rev. H. Greatbatch, assisted by the curate, the Rev. P. M. Roberts, and was well attended. A striking and eloquent address was given by the Vicar from the text, 'I beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,' Extending a warm welcome to those present, the Vicar expressed his pleasure that the meeting was held on an Ember Day, a day of prayer for the ministers of the Church and very appropriate for the occasion, and of great importance in the life of the Church. A vocation, the Vicar remarked, was a calling given by God, their vocation being that of ministers of the Church, a minister being one who served, and they were fellow-workers with and not under or for God. Except for the wireless, remarked the Vicar, the voice of the bells carried far beyond that of the preacher, and ringers in their vocation were a constant reminder to those outside of the worship within. The Vicar referred to the many dusty old records in belfries about the country, reminding them how ringers in the past had served God as his ministers. He concluded by remarking that, as he came along and heard the bells ringing out their message, the thought came to him that with the 'pot' of Europe boiling and the future so uncertain, the message of the bells came as a challenge and as a reminder that God is King, still lives, still loves and still reigns.

A tea followed in the beautiful new Church Hall, those present including the Vicar, curate and Mr. A. S. Ling, churchwarden. Before leaving, and in response to a vote of thanks, the Vicar again referred to the calling of the ringers, the difficulties caused by some objectors to the ringing, and concluded by expressing the strong hope that Sunday evening ringing would soon be resumed at his church.

The business meeting was presided over by Mr. J. A. Trollope, vice-president, and routine business was carried through.

The next meeting was provisionally fixed for Chiswick on Saturday, May 21st, and it was arranged that the Southern District of the London County Association should be invited to join in this. A further meeting was provisionally arranged for Sunbury-on-Thames on June 18th, with Feltham as an alternative.

Votes of thanks to the three incumbents, the staff of St. Mary's, and the local band for the arrangements, including tea, was carried by acclamation and concluded the business.

STOKE-BY-NAYLAND BELLS.**FIRST PEAL ON BAD GOING SUFFOLK RING.**

Suffolk has been noted for fine church towers and many fine bells, and one of the best peals of six hang in probably the finest tower in the county at Stoke-by-Nayland. It is 120ft. high, and, having triple buttresses at each corner, presents a solid and dignified appearance, dominating the countryside as a landmark for miles around. The bells are mostly ancient, the treble and 2nd are dated 1725, by Thomas Gardner, 3rd and 4th have no date, but are possibly pre-Reformation bells. They have very rich lettering. The 5th is dated 1699 by H. Pleasant, and the tenor is dated 1811. The diameter is 53 inches. An awkward peculiarity is that the ropes fall in a circle running 1.2.3.6.4.5!

The 'go' of the bells has, however, been considered rather bad, and two previous bands have attempted peals, but have lost them through the indifferent 'go.' Nothing daunted, however, a band from Essex, Cambridge and London decided to make an attempt. Arrangements were most ably carried out by Miss Hilda Snowden, Northern District secretary of the Essex Association. A good band was got together, and, after tightening the nuts on the headstocks and oiling the bells thoroughly (this being kindly done by a local ringer), an excellent peal was rung, ably conducted by Miss Snowden, as recorded in our issue of March 11th. The ringer of the 5th, Mr. Ronald Suckling, is to be congratulated on ringing and striking a bad going, odd struck bell, which he did very efficiently.

The Vicar (the Rev. C. L. Clibbon) and his wife watched the ringers start, and came into the tower at the conclusion and congratulated everyone.

Afterwards he most kindly provided an excellent tea at the Vicarage, and the band wish to record their thanks to him and his wife for their very welcome hospitality. He also promised to see about a peal board to record the performance.

Mr. Claude Snowden thanked him, on behalf of the ringers, for his kindness, and also for permission to ring.

On the way home, the peal ringers called in at All Saints' Church, Sudbury, where the local company were practising, and enjoyed two courses of Double Norwich on the grand ring of eight, recently rehung.

PEAL NOTES.**FEBRUARY KEEPS UP THE PACE.**

Following upon January's large crop of peals, February has made what, we believe, is a record. No fewer than 189 peals were rung during the month, compared with 166 in January and 136 in February last year.

The peals we have recorded for the month have been seven twelve-bell, 14 ten-bell, 98 eight-bell, 59 six and five-bell, and 11 handbell. The numbers in February last year were 7, 11, 63, 44 and 11 respectively.

The peak year of peal ringing was 1913, when 2,359 peals were rung. In the February of that year 152 peals were rung. The two months of 1938 have far eclipsed those of 1913. January and February of that year produced 326 peals; in the first two months of this year the total was 350.

It was not so long since that only Cambridge was rung as a Surprise Royal method. Yorkshire, in some respects a better method, is now growing into popularity on ten bells, and at Haslemere, Surrey, the first for the Guildford Diocesan Guild was rung on Saturday.

Even London Surprise Royal is receiving attention in at least one tower—Beddington—and the Surrey Association rang another peal there on Saturday week, composed and conducted by Mr. C. H. Kippin, and in which his wife and sister took part. It was a birthday peal for Mrs. Kippin and Mr. T. G. Bannister.

To commemorate the laying of the foundation stone of a new church at St. Mary Bay, Kent, by the Bishop of Dover, a peal of Double Norwich Major was rung at New Romsey on March 19th. It was the first peal in the method on the bells. Mr. H. S. Humphrey has now 'circled' New Romsey tower.

St. Andrew's Guild, Holborn, welcomed their new Rector, the Rev. J. R. Howden, who has recently been inducted to the living, with a peal of Bob Major on March 15th.

The National Police Guild rang a peal of Grandsire Triples at the headquarters of the London Police Guild, St. George's, Southwark, on Thursday week. Four of the band are serving members of the force and the remainder are on the retired list.

Two birthdays were celebrated by a peal of Kent Treble Bob at St. Mary Magdalene's Church, Holloway, on March 12th, namely, those of Mr. George Charge, who is 62, and Mr. Albert Turner, who is 50.

Thirteen proved lucky on March 19th at Cowbridge, Glamorgan-shire. Hitherto peal attempts there had been unfortunate. For instance, Mr. Ernest Stinch had previously made nine unsuccessful attempts in the tower, four of Stedman and five of Grandsire, but the 'hoodoo,' or whatever it was, has now been laid, and a peal of Grandsire Triples scored. Perhaps it was the piece of white heather that Mrs. Talbot sent along. At any rate, it was Mr. T. M. Roderick's and Mr. R. E. Coles' thirteenth peal. Mr. Stinch has now called the Original in twelve towers.

THE SICK PARADE.

When the band that rang the peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus met at St. Margaret's, Leicester, on March 12th, it looked like a sick parade on the morning of a route march. The local sergeant-major, we are told, was suffering from an attack in the interior (someone suggested the reason for this was not being allowed to ring the tenor). Another Leicester stalwart had been having a spot of bother with his dentist and looked like a piece of 'chewed string,' and when the Birmingham contingent arrived it was found that the substitute for one who was hors de combat had sent another substitute in his place.

However, it's an ill wind that blows no good. The senior of the Morris ilk volunteered to ring the treble, while two young ringers got their first peal of Cambridge Maximus. J. S. Mason rang particularly well considering that he had not struck a blow in Maximus before starting for the peal, and Frank Pervin got home his first peal of Maximus as conductor.

The Warwickshire Guild have had Ashtead Surprise added to the methods which have been rung by their members. The first peal for the Guild was rung on March 10th at Nuneaton, and it was the first in the method, too, for all the band.

After having served the Parish Church of Hampton Bishop, Herefordshire, for 47 years as parish clerk, Mr. George Griffiths has retired. On Sunday, March 13th, a peal of Bob Minor was rung as a compliment to him.

The first peal on the recast ten bells at St. Mary's, Nottingham, was rung on March 12th. The recasting and rehanging was done by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston in 1935, and the late Mr. Albert Coppock, then Ringing Master at St. Mary's, was largely instrumental in getting the restoration carried out.

Among the veterans still peal ringing to-day, Mr. W. J. Nevard, of Great Bentley, must have been ringing as long as any. On March 13th he took part in a peal of Minor at Great Horkeley, where he learned to ring 70 years ago.

The Senior Steward of the Royal Cumberland Youths, Mr. T. Bevan, pays an annual visit to Burnham, Bucks, where the Cumberland flag is kept flying by a young band which Mr. George Gilbert has trained. On the occasion of his last visit on March 12th a peal of Kent Treble Bob was rung, with seven other local Cumberlands taking part.

A band of bachelors rang a peal of Bob Major at Boreham, Essex, on March 12th. Are they lucky or unlucky? It depends, we suppose, on the point of view, but if they desire to keep their 'freedom' they ought not, perhaps, to have advertised their eligibility.

(Continued in next column.)

LADY'S ACHIEVEMENT.

(Continued from previous column.)

Mrs. E. K. Fletcher, hon. secretary of the Ladies' Guild, has added to her many achievements by conducting a peal of Stedman Cinques 'in hand.' This she did on Wednesday week, when a peal was rung at Bushey, in which the four 'Spliced Surprise' experts and the hon. secretary of the Central Council were the other members of the band. It was a birthday peal to Mr. James Parker, Mrs. Fletcher's father, and, incidentally, the fiftieth peal together by Messrs. Harold Cashmore and Chris. Woolley.

Mr. Charles Shemming has 'circled' the tower at St. Margaret's, Ipswich. He finished off the job by ringing the tenor to a peal of Bob Major on March 12th.

A welcome to the new Vicar of Tadcaster, Yorks (the Rev. J. H. Hall), was offered by the ringers on March 12th when a peal of Grand-sire Triples was rung. The Vicar was inducted a week earlier.

A peal of Kent Treble Bob Royal was rung on March 12th at Isleworth, Middlesex, as a birthday compliment to the mother of Miss Olive Ashbrook, who took part in the peal.

The Chertsey District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild is not rich in peal ringers, but five members belonging to this area took part in a peal of Stedman Triples on March 17th at Egham, three ringing their first peal in the method.

The first peal of Stedman Cinques on the new bells at Manchester Town Hall was rung on Saturday with a mixed band of Lancashire ringers. It was, fittingly, rung in honour of Manchester's centenary as a city.

The bells at Stoke Damarel, Plymouth, were cast by T. Bilbie in 1787, but it was not until last week that a peal was rung on them; and even that had a narrow escape.

The peal was specially arranged to celebrate the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Chandler, and splendid ringing had been maintained for two and a half hours. The last 720 had just been begun when, without warning, the electric light was switched off. Confusion reigned for a few moments, and the peal almost 'went west.' Fortunately there was a powerful street light about 100 yards away which shone almost directly into the window. The ringers gradually got used to the conditions and went on to complete the peal. To ring a 720 almost in darkness speaks well for the ringers' 'earsight'! However, we understand they have no desire to repeat this feat, and are not likely to forget their experience.

MADELEY, SALOP.—On Sunday, March 6th, for morning service, 720 Oxford Bob Minor: H. Harrison 1, J. W. Tranter 2, S. H. Tranter 3, T. S. Wilkes 4, H. Newbrook 5, J. L. Stainer (conductor) 6. First 720 of Oxford Bob by all the band, also the first on the bells by Sunday service ringers at this church.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

The annual meeting of the Eastern Division of the Sussex County Association was held at St. Saviour's, Eastbourne, on March 5th, when between 30 and 40 members attended from Waldron, Heathfield, Rotherfield, Mayfield, Battle, Chiddingly, Willingdon, Brighton (St. Nicholas'), Eastbourne (St. Mary's, Christ Church and St. Saviour's), Hastings (All Saints', St. Clement's, Christ Church, Blacklands). Mr. A. Piper (Eastbourne) was also present.

The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. Claude Williams), who gave an interesting address.

The tea was presided over by the Master of the association, Mr. H. R. Butcher, who also occupied the chair at the meeting, which took place in the tower shortly after. The whole of the outgoing officers were re-elected. Four new members were elected, viz., Messrs. Ivan Pollard (All Saints', Hastings), J. Taylor (Willingdon), J. Gallop and T. Carlton (Hastings).

A hearty vote of thanks was proposed to the Vicar for the use of the bells and to Mr. A. Piper for covering part of the cost of the tea. Members then carried on further ringing and good practice was put in.

RINGERS' 'COMING OF AGE'

At the Parish Church of St. Mary's, Over, Cambs, on Thursday, March 3rd, a quarter-peal (1,344 changes) of London Surprise Major: J. Parish 1, O. W. Cook 2, Miss K. Willers 3, E. G. Hibbins 4, A. E. Austin 5, S. Brown 6, R. L. Lathbury 7, F. Warrington (conductor) 8. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to the ringer of the treble, after a peal attempt failed. First quarter-peal of London by ringers of 1 and 6, also on the bells.

At the Church of St. Mary, Liscard, Cheshire, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung on Thursday, March 3rd: *R. G. Edwards 1, P. W. Cave 2, *G. Ledsham 3, G. R. Newton 4, L. L. Gray 5, W. E. Fletcher 6, *F. Varty (first quarter-peal of Stedman as conductor) 7, *T. Rogers 8. *First quarter-peal of Stedman. Rung as a 21st birthday compliment to the conductor.

RINGER CALLS WIFE'S FIRST QUARTER-PEAL.

Mr. F. E. Collins, who is well known in many parts of the country for his work as a bellhanger formerly with Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, had the pleasure of calling his wife's first quarter-peal, which was rung at Croydon Parish Church before evening service on Sunday, March 6th. It was 1,260 Grandsire Triples, rung by Mrs. F. E. Collins 1, H. J. Skelt 2, C. Parks 3, F. E. Mitchell 4, D. Buxton 5, G. H. Humphries 6, F. E. Collins (conductor) 7, R. Davies 8.

APPRECIATION.

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ST. ANDREW'S PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL, BANWELL, SOMT.

"Dear Sirs,

"This Council views with much satisfaction the completion of the work on the bells of this Church which was entrusted to you, and desires to congratulate you on the efficient manner in which the contract was executed.

"There is no doubt but that the new metal frame is a great improvement on the old wooden one—allowing all eight bells to be hung on the same level and also giving more space for inspection and adjustments whenever necessary.

"The ease with which the bells can now be rung came as a great surprise to the ringers, who previously had to expend much energy and in some cases a certain amount of caution when engaged in ringing.

"The tone of the new bells in conjunction with that of those retuned, is exceptionally good, and the ringers and parishioners are delighted with the result.

"Will you please accept our hearty thanks for the way in which our requirements have been met and for the excellent results obtained."

Yours faithfully,

WM. J. S. SHEPPARD,
FRED. D. DAY,
Churchwardens.

T. H. AMOS,
Vicar of Banwell.

Banwell Church bells are a ring of eight, tenor 23 cwts., augmented, tuned and hung with new fittings in a new framework.

18th March, 1938.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

At the annual meeting of the Irish Association, held at Drogheda, on St. Patrick's Day, the Irish Association celebrated the fortieth anniversary of its founding.

During these 40 years Mr. Gabriel Lindoff has been the hon. secretary, and the occasion was marked by the presentation to him of a gold watch and an address, as a mark of the appreciation of his long service. A report of the proceedings will appear in our next issue.

St. George's Church, in the Borough, is to be the headquarters in London of the Ladies' Guild, and efforts are to be made to arrange a rota for Sunday ringing at least six times during the year.

Two veterans of the College Youths celebrated their birthdays last week. Mr. Challis Winney was 80 on St. Patrick's Day and Mr. F. E. Dawe was 76 on the previous day. Both of them have been ringing for 60 years, and the good wishes of the whole Exercise will be extended to them.

Mr. Winney has given up peal ringing, but Mr. Dawe is still seeking new worlds to conquer.

The church magazine, 'The Sentinel,' for April contains an illustrated biographical sketch of Mr. Ernest Morris, F.R.Hist.S., hon. secretary of the Midland Counties Association, and verger and clerk to the Governors of the Select Vestry of St. Margaret's, Leicester.

A NEW 'STEDMAN.'

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Your readers may be interested to know that I have written a book on Stedman for Miss Snowdon, that it is in the printer's hands and will be published in a few weeks. It is not a revision of C. D. P. Davies' work, but an entirely new book, except that Jasper Snowdon's 'History' has been edited and brought up to date and incorporated.

I understand that Miss Snowdon has still a few copies of Davies' book left, and I should advise those who have not got one to take the opportunity of securing a copy, for it will never be reprinted, and every ringer should try and get as complete a library of ringing books as possible. I can recommend both books with a clear conscience, because, of course, I have no financial interest in them.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

COMPLYING WITH THE RUBRIC.

THE SERVICE BELL.

To the Editor.

Sir,—It is instructive to read that at Ufford no more than 30 strokes may be chimed on a single bell at any one time. It seems a reasonable rule for those places where only one bell is installed, for its monotonous sound can be very trying to neighbours.

I would like to refer to another custom which works well in this parish. It happens more often than not that the service bell is rung until the entry of the choir and clergy, thereby producing utter discord with the incoming voluntary on the organ. For many years it has been the rule here to start the five-minute bell (an unmelodious extra to the octave) when change ringing stops, but, as soon as the organist 'settles,' it also is silenced. The congregation appear long ago to have become used to this arrangement, as one hears no complaints, and the practice brings dignity to the opening of the service.

The writer in this case is the organist and a would-be ringer. It is a remarkable fact that although the ringers have control of the master-switch to the organ-blower they have never yet silenced the organ in favour of the five-minute bell!

J. G. STILWELL.

Yateley, Hants.

FREE-LANCE PEAL RINGERS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I had every intention of keeping out of this debate, as I consider there is no reasonable excuse for ringers to dissociate themselves from the obvious use of church bells when they can travel long distances on weekdays for the purpose of 'tower grabbing' and peal ringing. How in the world a highly talented ringer, such as Mr. Bibby mentions, could keep away on Sunday from the band he had the pleasure of ringing with on practice nights is surely past all understanding.

'Free Lance' (I do wish correspondents would sign their names) certainly puts forward an argument which in some places would be a good excuse for not wanting to associate oneself with service ringing. Paid ringing is, in some cases, a stumbling-block, both to the standard of ringing and to its future maintenance.

Mr. A. W. Durham has mentioned Tunbridge Wells, and as I think his last paragraph might lend itself to misconstruction, I feel obliged, as captain of St. Peter's band, to state the following facts. Our secretary, Mr. Housden, and the rest of the band practice what they preach as far as is humanly possible. We have twelve members, nine of whom are on the electoral roll of the church. We are, as Mr. Durham suggests, no exception in regard to the standard of service ringing. Contrary to some bands, we are, however, trying hard to raise this standard, both by regular attendance and good striking, and in so doing cannot have any very warm feeling towards the 'free lance.' Any ringer will be heartily welcome at St. Peter's at any time, but with the full authority of the churchwardens we do not encourage the use of our bells by 'free lances' for the purpose of peal ringing.

St. Peter's, Tunbridge Wells.

ALEC E. RICHARDSON.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—II.**ROBERT SPERRING.**

Among the ringers of Cheshire, Mr. Robert Sperring has long been one of the leading conductors. Born at Farndon just 60 years ago, he learned to ring there as a lad, when only call-changes were practised. Afterwards he was apprenticed to the building trade in Chester and rang at the Church of St. Mary-Without-the-Walls. Later on he became leader of the band at the Church of St. Mary-Within-the-Walls, to which he has been ever since attached.

Mr. Sperring conducted the first peal he rang. It was Grandsire Doubles at Holt, Denbighshire, on October 19th, 1902, and was not only the first peal by all the band, but also the first peal of Doubles in Wales. Since that time his activities have ranged over a wide field, and he has now rung 560 peals, of which he has conducted 318.

Many of these have been interesting performances, among them the first peals of Stedman Caters and Kent Treble Bob Royal for the North Wales Association, which he called at St. Giles', Wrexham, on Jan. 8th, 1909, and Nov. 30th, 1909, respectively. He was the first to conduct Holt's Original in the Chester district, which he did on October 1st, 1904, and he called the first peal of Stedman Triples in Chester, rung in 1906. In the latter year he took part in a 6,048 of Double Norwich at Halewood, Lancs, the longest length in the method by the Lancashire Association and in the county at that time.

Of Kent Treble Bob Major Mr. Sperring has conducted many peals, among them four long lengths, including the record, within the space of seven weeks. This was in the year 1923, when he conducted 7,008 at Pulford on June 2nd; 9,344 at Tarporley on June 9th; 7,488 at Bunbury on June 30th; and 17,280 at Over on July 21st.

On February 9th, 1924, he called the longest peal rung in Wales, 10,400 of Kent Treble Bob Major at Rhyl.

Mr. Sperring's peals have been rung in Cheshire, Shropshire, Lancashire, Flintshire, Denbighshire and Carnarvonshire, and have included Grandsire from Doubles to Cinques, Plain Bob from Minor to Maximus, Kent Treble Bob from Major to Maximus, and Cambridge Surprise from Minor to Maximus.

On the 5th of last month he rang his five hundredth peal for the Chester Guild, a peal of Bob Major at his native Farndon. He has also served the Chester Guild in other ways, for he was hon. secretary of the Chester Branch from 1907 to 1919, represented the Guild on the Central Council from 1927 to 1929, and is still a member of the Guild Committee.

Next week: Mr. William Barton.

A NORFOLK RESTORATION.**DUFFIELD FAMILY 'OPEN' FORNCETT BELLS.**

The Lord Bishop of Norwich dedicated on Sunday, March 13th, the restored peal of five bells at St. Peter's, Forncett. The church was crowded to overflowing, and over 38 ringers from Attleborough, Buxton, Caston, Colchester (Essex), Cotton (Suffolk), Dersingham, Diss, Garboldisham, Mulbarton, Norwich, Pulham, Saxlingham, Stoke Ash (Suffolk), Watton, Winfarthing and Wymondham were present.

The opening touch of the extent of Bob Singles was rung by Mr. William L. Duffield and four of his sons, James F., Harry T. S., William C. and Edward P. After the service the same band rang the first extents of Grandsire and Plain Bob on the bells. This was the first change ringing on the bells for upwards of 40 years.

Tea was kindly provided by Mr. W. L. Duffield at the School, and over 40 availed themselves of his hospitality.

The restoration of the bells was made possible by the benevolence of the Barron Trust, and Messrs. John Taylor and Co. were entrusted with the work, which has been very well carried out. The treble has been recast. The second and third are late sixteenth century bells. The fourth is a Newiman bell (1743), and the tenor, a Warner (1875), weighs 14 cwt. 1 qr.



MR. ROBERT SPERRING.

DUDLEY GUILD SECRETARY.
TWENTY-FIVE YEARS' SERVICE.
Presentation to Mr. H. Sheppard.

The services of Mr. Herbert Sheppard as hon. secretary of the Dudley and District Guild for 25 years were acknowledged on Saturday week, when, at the annual meeting of the Guild, he was presented with an easy chair. Ringing on the bells of St. Thomas' Church preceded the service, at which the address was given by the Archdeacon of Dudley, who is Vicar and president of the Guild.

The meeting followed tea in the Church Schools, at which upwards of 90 members were present, and the president was supported by the vice-presidents.

The accounts, which were adopted, showed an increased balance and were considered very satisfactory.

The Ringing Master (Mr. A. Davies) reminded the meeting that Mr. Sheppard had completed 25 years of efficient service as secretary, and it had been decided to mark their appreciation by presenting him with an easy chair. In addition there was a small balance which had been put into a purse.

The Archdeacon said he was honoured by being called upon to make the presentation to one whom he had known so well since he came to Dudley. Mr. Sheppard, or 'Herbert' as he always called him, had no doubt been a very efficient secretary to the Guild during the past 25 years. He was also his parish clerk, and in that capacity he had found him very zealous in his duties.

In his capacity of Archdeacon he often had to induct clergymen to their living, and, indicating how he took their hands in his to place them in their stall, he now took Mr. Sheppard's and placed him in his chair, with the hope that he would be spared to enjoy many happy hours in it.

Mr. Arthur Spittle, on behalf of the vice-presidents, spoke of many years' friendship with Mr. Sheppard, and wished him every success in the future.

Mr. Sheppard, replying, said that when he took over the secretaryship from the late Mr. William Micklewright he never thought he would be the recipient of a presentation such as they had just made him. It was a gift that he would always appreciate, and whenever he sat in it his thoughts would always be of them. He thanked the Vicar and subscribers for their beautiful gift.

The election of officers then took place. The president and vice-presidents were re-elected. Mr. Alfred Davies was re-elected Ringing Master, Mr. Herbert Sheppard treasurer, and Mr. T. Justice and Mr. G. T. Guest hon. auditors. A good number of new members were elected.

Mr. H. Sheppard proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar, assistant priest, the organist, vice-presidents, ladies for presiding at the tables and preparing and serving the tea, and to every one who had done anything to make the annual meeting such a success. —The Vicar replied for all concerned and closed the meeting with prayer.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.**A VETERAN AMONG PRESTON BRANCH RINGERS.**

The annual meeting of Preston Branch was held at Chorley Parish Church on March 12th. There were over 40 ringers present during the day from Preston, Penwortham, Leyland, Whittle-le-Woods, Brindle, Higher Walton, Hoghton, Brownedge, Goosnargh, Coppull, Chorley, Adlington, Bolton, Standish and Wigan.

Amongst those present was Mr. W. H. Timbrell, an old stalwart of the association thirty or forty years ago. He and his brothers used to ring family peals on handbells. Mr. Timbrell said his visit brought back memories of the first peals of Treble Bob rung on the Chorley bells, in which he took part with his brother Edwin, the Potter brothers from Walkden, and the late Titus Barlow, of Deane, Bolton.

Except for the interval for tea and meeting, which was held in the Institute nearby, the bells were kept going during the afternoon and evening. Mr. F. G. Bradley presided at the meeting.

The Chairman was again re-elected for two years.—Mr. Bradley thanked the members for re-electing him and also for their support whilst in office. He also appealed to them to attend the meetings as often as they could.

The secretary presented his annual report, and he also asked the members to try and attend the meetings as they did a few years ago.

The Chairman gave a full report of the committee's meeting at Wigan. The chief business related to the provision of the memorial to the late president of the association, Canon Elsee.

The place and date of the next meeting having been fixed, the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to all those who had contributed to an enjoyable meeting.

During the day the methods rung were Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob, Double Norwich, Superlative and Cambridge Surprise Major, the striking being fairly good on the whole.

DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAXIMUS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I must not let Mr. Sedgley's reference to the 'un-authenticated' peal rung at Norwich pass unnoticed. We can be as sure as we can of anything that has happened in the past that the method was what is now called Double Norwich.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE.

ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS' DINNER.

LONDON BELLS AND BELLRINGING.

Conference of Societies Suggested.

The speeches at the annual dinner of the Society of Royal Cumberland Youths, held at Anderton's Hotel on Saturday evening, were very largely devoted to the conditions of London bells and bellringing. Among the suggestions put forward was one for a round table conference by representatives of the various interested societies with the idea of evolving, if possible, some co-operative line of action. The dinner had been preceded by ringing at Shoreditch, St. Olave's and St. Clement Danes' Churches, and the company numbered 125.

Mr. George H. Cross, Master, presided, and among those present were the Rev. Pat McCormick (Vicar, St. Martin-in-the-Fields), Preb. T. Wellard (Rector, St. Olave's, Hart Street), the Rev. W. Pennington Bickford (Rector, St. Clement Danes, Strand), Mr. E. H. Lewis (president, Central Council, and Master of the College Youths), the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow (Wokingham), Mrs. G. H. Cross, Mr. T. Bevan (Senior Steward) and Mrs. Bevan, Mr. R. Heazel (Junior Steward) and Mrs. Heazel, Mr. G. W. Steere (hon. treasurer), Mr. N. Summerhayes (hon. secretary), Mr. A. Hardy (trustee), Mr. F. Symonds (auditor) and Mrs. Symonds, Mr. T. H. Taffender (Master, London County Association), Mr. G. W. Fletcher (hon. secretary, Central Council) and Mrs. Fletcher (hon. secretary, Ladies' Guild), Mr. A. A. Hughes (hon. treasurer of the College Youths), Mr. J. A. Waugh (Master, Northern District, London County Association, and Junior Steward of the College Youths), Mr. G. Williams (Master, Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild), Mr. G. Pullinger (Bishopstoke), Mr. Martin Stewart (Wimborne), Mr. J. S. Goldsmith (Guildford Diocesan Guild), Mr. E. Alex. Young, Mr. W. H. Fussell, (Slough), Mr. F. E. Dawe (Woking), Mr. C. T. Coles (hon. secretary, Middlesex County Association) and Mrs. Coles, Mr. G. Gilbert (Maidenhead), Mr. R. Narborough (Nottingham), Mr. and Mrs. J. Parker (Edmonton), and members and visitors from Gravesend, Leytonstone, Bishopsgate, Halstead, St. Olave's, Hart Street, Chislehurst, Melbourne, Cambs, Walthamstow, Streatham, Portsmouth, Guildford, St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, St. Andrew's, Holborn, Edmonton, Sevenoaks, Nottingham, Highcliff, Hants, Dartford, Colchester, Broxbourne, Burnham, Wimborne, Christchurch, Brentwood, Boreham, Woodford, St. Dunstan's, Stepney, Lincoln, Oxhey, St. Lawrence Jewry, Hitcham, Reading, Ipswich, etc.

NEGLECTED LONDON BELLS.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith submitted the toast of 'The Church' and spoke of the indebtedness of ringers to the Church for all the facilities which made the art of ringing possible. The Church had provided the towers and the bells, and, if the practice of bellringing had not always been closely allied to the church services, there was a unity to-day of happy association and mutual advantage. The speaker went on to refer to the grave condition of neglect which existed in many London churches with regard to the bells. When they heard the bells of St. Paul's Cathedral ringing on Sundays, and the bells at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields and St. Clement Danes and some few other churches, they might get the impression that all was well, but that was far from being the case. Within five miles' radius of Trafalgar Square there were over 70 peals of bells, bells which bygone benefactors had given for the enrichment of the churches and which should be treasured and used, yet one-third of them were derelict or, from other causes, never rung; more than one-third more were seldom heard for the purposes for which they were provided; only some 15 were rung regularly, and five others periodically for Sunday services. Such a condition, he thought, was a crying shame. He was certain it could not entirely be attributed to the fact that ringers were unobtainable, as there were striking examples of bands being built up. Much of it was due to the condition of the bells and belfries, resulting from the apathy and indifference of the Church authorities. He appealed for some effort between Church authorities and ringers to bring about a better condition of affairs in London. In coupling the name of the Rev. Pat McCormick with the toast, the speaker referred to the broadcast services which come from St. Martin's Church. The Rector of St. Martin's, he said, gave them a practical religion for to-day, a religion which had also inspired that great social work, full of deep human sympathy, which came from the same centre and of which the Rev. Pat McCormick was the mainspring.

In reply, the Rev. Pat McCormick said he was surprised to learn that there were so many peals of bells within five miles of his own church. He had no notion where they all were, but it was a shame that so many should be derelict and unringed. There were, of course, many churches where there was great difficulty in raising funds, not only for bells, but for the whole of the parochial work, and he thought that was at the back of much of the neglect. Continuing, he said he was always delighted to be among bellringers, because they were such a jovial crowd. He had known a good deal of them in parts of his life, although for 12 years, while in South Africa, he never heard a peal of bells. At his church in Johannesburg he had one bell. When he pushed a button the bell began to ring and went on ringing until he pushed the button again (laughter). Referring to the broadcasts from St. Martin's, he said it was a tremendous privilege to be allowed to do it, but it was an awful responsibility. He felt that every time, and he found it just as difficult now as when he first started lest he should make a 'bosh' of it. He reminded

his hearers that the whole vision of broadcast services from St. Martin's-in-the-Fields came from that great man, whom they lost last year, Dick Sheppard. His death brought a tremendous loss to the Church and to broadcasting, because he had a wonderful gift, not only of being able to 'put it over,' but of knowing what the people wanted before they knew it themselves. It was really his genius to see a little further than anyone else. He reminded those present that the responsibility for the prosperity and welfare of the Church was just as much theirs as it was the clergy's. The real backbone of the Church was the laity, through whom the work was going on and would go on despite any setbacks.

A HISTORY TO BE PROUD OF.

Prebendary Wellard proposed 'The Royal Cumberland Youths' and referred to the fact that in his Church of St. Olave was the oldest ring of bells in the City of London. The society, he said, had a wonderful history, which dated in its present form from 1745, although its beginnings seemed to be lost in the past. Their long history was something to be proud of. The bells of his own church took them back to the days of Samuel Pepys, they frequently tolled in the days of the Plague, they were rung for the victory over the Dutch and they had probably rung on every great occasion since. When Elizabeth was released from the Tower the bells were rung for joy, and she promised to provide silken bell ropes. The churchwardens obtained the ropes, but they never got the money out of the Queen (laughter). It was an extraordinary thing, continued the speaker, that in all these centuries there had been so little change in regard to bellringing. Certain improvements had been made, but ringing remained very much the same. In these days of mechanisation, when nearly everything was done by machinery, it was a very good thing to know they had not got 'potted' bells. He hoped they never would have. After all there was only one way to use bells and that was to ring them (hear, hear). Prebendary Wellard went on to refer to the unity that existed in the craft of bellringing, and said he had been struck with the wonderful enthusiasm the ringers showed for their job. They thought nothing of going a hundred miles to ring someone else's bells and going at their own expense. They set a high example to all who worked for the Church in their enthusiasm. He hoped they would long continue to carry on their splendid work, for which the Church was both indebted and grateful (applause).

The Master, in responding, thanked all the clergy who gave the society permission to ring at their churches. He said he had received a letter from their old friend, Mr. William Keeble, who sent his greetings and was sorry to be unable to be with them. He would be very pleased to receive a visit from any friends when they were in the neighbourhood of Colchester. Continuing, the Master said with regard to 'potted' ringing, they frequently heard it at All Hallows', Barking. He thought that ringers who made records of change ringing should make some sort of stipulation that these records should not be used for broadcasting from churches. Comments had been made, said Mr. Cross, on broadcasts in which the ringing was not as good as it might be. They had broadcast for twelve months from St. Martin's, and each time he went into the belfry he thought it was rather a nerve-racking job, so they should be rather careful in their criticisms (hear, hear). The Master added that he had spoken to the Rector about practices at St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, and he thought they might be able to get the bells at this church for a week-night practice about once in two months (applause).

A UNITED LONDON SOCIETY?

Mr. J. E. Bailey, who proposed the toast of 'Kindred Societies,' said they were very pleased to welcome representatives of associations and guilds from all over the country, and the society appreciated their help and support. Some ringers joined all sorts of societies all over the place, he said, and adopted the attitude of taking whatever they could get. He did not know that was altogether for good. Where associations were adjoining they often found two or three from each getting together to ring peals, but they never seemed to help their own towers or others who were struggling. He thought it would be better if ringers tried to help just one or two societies instead of dashing about everywhere and grabbing what they could for their own glorification. He was not decrying tours or outings when ringers went to remote parts of the country and created a stir and an interest by providing some really good ringing where it was seldom heard; indeed, he thought outings and meetings could be a great asset. They revealed a spirit of unity and comradeship among ringers, and he took that opportunity of thanking the various societies into whose territory the Cumberlands had been able to go to hold their own quarterly meetings.

He sometimes wondered, he continued, whether there was a lack of comradeship among ringers in London. He thought there were some London ringers who were inclined to ride the high horse: they rather put themselves on a pedestal and tried to make the people who came from the country feel a little inferior. He was not sure that that attitude was justified. It was perhaps a relic of the days gone by when London ringing was a standard by which the rest of the ringing in the country was judged. He did not think they could claim anything of that sort to-day. There were now country ringers who were as good as any to be found anywhere. Some suggestion had been made that the two old London societies should break down the rule by which they were kept apart, and that those living within a certain radius should be allowed to join both. He thought that was quite

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A SOCIETY TO EMBRACE ALL LONDON.

(Continued from previous page.)

impossible. He did not think anybody would be prepared to say how far out of London they should draw the line. He suggested, however, that it might be possible some time in the future to form a society that would embrace the whole of London for ringing purposes. By doing that they would get more co-operation among the ringers in London and their difficulties could be better faced. They might say, perhaps, that that would kill rivalry. He thought they only wanted the example of peals rung in London to get their answer. The majority of peals rung for the different societies in London were rung more or less by the same men. A united London ringing society would overcome the question of Sunday ringing much better, although he admitted the problem of Sunday ringing in London was very great, on account of the distances that most of the ringers had to travel, but, he believed, if more co-operation were forthcoming more ringers could be obtained. If the London ringing societies would get together and discuss the question he thought some good might come of it. At present they were struggling along independently of each other (applause).

RESTRAINT IN BROADCASTING.

Mr. E. H. Lewis, who first replied to the toast, said it was at the last dinner of the society that the Rev. Pat McCormick announced that tunes had been broadcast from the bells of St. Martin's Church for the last time, and that, in future, the bells were to be rung for the broadcast services. He was quite sure that all the other societies in the country were pleased to hear that change ringing was to take the place of the tunes and that the society of Cumberland Youths was to be responsible for the broadcast ringing from St. Martin's (hear, hear). He had not been able to listen on every occasion when this had taken place, but he had been pleased to hear, whenever he had listened, that they had rung Caters and not Cinques. He praised their restraint in not ringing Cinques, because he did not believe the public understood Cinques, whereas they could more or less appreciate the music of Caters. They appreciated even more the ringing of eight or six bells. Change ringing on the highest number was more or less an acquired taste. He commended the society's restraint and hoped they would continue to exercise it.

Something had been said about the critics of broadcasting. He was afraid he was one of the culprits and he was going to continue to be (hear, hear). They had present that night three or four of their members from Nottingham. He heard their broadcast from St. Mary's a year or two ago, just after they had the new bells, and it was one of the best he had heard yet. They had a new band and they did not attempt to ring Caters, but contented themselves with ringing rounds and did it very well indeed. First they rang rounds on the front six, then without stopping they brought in the four tenors, and, again without stopping, they dropped the two trebles, leaving eight; so that the ringing was not monotonous. The striking was good, and because they used that restraint and rang only what they knew they could ring well it was one of the best broadcasts he had heard (hear, hear). As he had been blamed once or twice for criticising, he would like to say that quite recently they had had two excellent broadcasts, from Blackwall and Bridgnorth. In both cases there were only six bells, but the ringing was practically perfect, because the ringers exercised restraint and rang only what they could ring properly.

Speaking of the derelict bells in London, Mr. Lewis referred to the peal of five at St. Bartholomew's the Great, Smithfield. They were just outside the city boundary, but they were the only complete ring of five pre-Reformation bells in the country. It was a great shame that these bells should be silent. He knew of only one other complete ring of pre-Reformation bells, and that was at St. Botolph's, Cambridge, but they were only four in number. They, unfortunately, were also silent. He believed that the reason at Great St. Bartholomew's was not lack of funds or lack of interest, but was due to the architect having said that the tower was not safe for the bells to be rung in. He would like to meet that architect very much (laughter and hear, hear). After the Tay Bridge disaster the Board of Trade made a rule that no bridge or similar structure should be allowed to be built unless it could withstand a lateral pressure of at least 56 lb. per square foot. That was an excessive figure and had probably never been reached. It would need a wind of something over 100 miles per hour. But a wind pressure of 14 lb. per square foot was quite possible and was often felt in a strong gale. If they took almost any church tower and measured the area of the walls above the point where the bells hang and multiplied it by 14 lb. per square foot, they would find the pressure on that tower was greater than any lateral strain that could be set up by ringing bells; the only thing they need worry about was that the bells should be properly attached to the tower. It was nonsense to say that it was unsafe for the bells to be rung, unless the architect also felt that it was unsafe for the wind to blow (laughter). He believed a similar excuse had been made about the tower of All Hallows', Barking. He thought it was a great shame that those bells, which were rung not so many years ago, should be silent because the architect thought the tower was not strong enough.

A THORNY SUBJECT.

Proceeding, Mr. Lewis said that the difficulties arising from the existence of so many societies in the Metropolitan area was a thorny (Continued in next column.)

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

NEW CONDUCTORS GETTING TO WORK.

A meeting of the North Staffordshire Association was held at Newcastle-under-Lyme on Saturday, March 5th, a company of forty attending during the afternoon and evening from Burslem, Burton-on-Trent, Cheadle, Crewe, Draycott, Hanley, Kingsley, Leek, Longton, Lawton, Norton, Newcastle, Silverdale, Stoke-on-Trent and Wistaston. A short service was conducted by the Rev. C. J. Watkins, Rector of Newcastle, and tea was held in the Parish Hall.

The Rector welcomed the association once more to Newcastle, and hoped they would look forward to coming again as much as he was looking forward to meeting them.—Mr. G. E. Plant proposed the vote of thanks to the Rector and ringers of Newcastle for the use of the bells and having everything in 'apple-pie' order. Mr. G. E. Plant also remarked upon the beautiful church and tower. He thought Newcastle must be the nicest church in North Staffordshire. The tower is kept in excellent condition and possesses the best set of handbells he had seen.

The vote of thanks was seconded by Mr. T. Hurd.

Mr. J. E. Wheeldon, in proposing the vote of thanks to the ladies who had served tea so well, took the opportunity of referring to the response to the secretary's 'S.O.S.' at the annual meeting for more young ringers to take up conducting. He thought it had been answered very well, for A. D. Steel had conducted Grandsire Triples, C. H. Page and A. Crawley were doing great work amongst first pealers, J. Rider called Bob Royal, A. W. Hall conducted his first peal of Kent Treble Bob Major like a veteran, J. Cartledge did well in starting with Bob Minor with all first pealers in the method, W. Carnwell was ready to start conducting, and W. P. Deane lost a peal of Cambridge Major through no fault of his as conductor. Although he (Mr. Wheeldon) thought he would not be able to ring many more himself, he wished every young member great success.

Three new junior members were elected, viz., Leonard Bourne, Clifford Downing and Frank Marsh, all of Newcastle. Leonard Bourne, who is still a schoolboy, rang the treble to Grandsire Triples during the afternoon. Newcastle ringers invite all ringers to their practice on Friday, March 25th, at 7.30 p.m.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

The Chertsey District had a very successful meeting at Ottershaw, a six-bell tower, on March 12th. Some 25 ringers were present, mostly from the district, and some very useful practice was put in, Grandsire Doubles, for the benefit of a number of beginners, being given a lot of attention. Many other methods were also rung, and some experiments made, with more or less success, on the 'blue lines,' which one of the six-bell experts produced.

The Vicar conducted the usual service and the hymns were sung unaccompanied.

After tea in the Parish Hall, the Vicar presided over a short business meeting, at which he was elected an honorary member, and a sub-committee was formed to consider the possibility of holding a district summer outing.

Thanks were accorded to the Vicar and the local band for the arrangements made.

(Continued from previous column.)

subject. In the College Youths he could say there was no exclusiveness and country ringers were welcomed. There was only one tower where there was exclusiveness in regard to the ringing and that was in the tower of St. Paul's Cathedral (hear, hear). They were not everybody's bells and they were certainly not beginners' bells. Personally he had not met any feeling of exclusiveness in London, although he must say he had not rung in many London churches on Sundays.

'There are difficulties,' continued Mr. Lewis, 'but I think it would be a good thing to try and make ringing in London more successful, and if it is thought that two or three members from each society should meet and discuss the matter, I am quite sure the College Youths would be very glad to meet the other societies and talk over the subject' (applause).

There was, he said, a difficulty at some churches with regard to ringing, because they were so near other buildings that ringing might cause a nuisance. At Westminster Abbey, although the ringing is not curtailed for that reason, but for other traditional reasons, it was quite close to Westminster Hospital. Some of the other churches were quite close to offices, which made it difficult to practice in the week, and some were apt to cause a nuisance on Sunday, but that trouble could be got over if ringers or church authorities would take a little trouble to see that the sound of the bells was properly modified. It was not a difficult or expensive thing to do. Mr. Lewis referred to two cases which had recently come under his notice, in one of which the protest against the bells had got to the stage of calling upon the police to serve a notice requiring the abatement of the nuisance. But, by the use of tact and some cabot quilt, the difficulty had been got over, and it had been done at the expense of the chief objector (laughter and applause). In the other case no arrangement had yet been come to. He hoped that where ringing was prevented in the Metropolis through the bells being an annoyance to the public, the authorities would take steps to modify the sound, which could be done at a cost of only about five or ten pounds (applause).

(To be continued.)

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.**JOINT MEETING OF NORTH AND EAST BRANCHES.**

A joint meeting of the North and East Norfolk Branches was held at Blofield on Saturday, March 5th. Ringing took place during the afternoon, and service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. Shillito). Tea in the Church Hall was attended by 42 members. A short business meeting was afterwards presided over by the Rector, supported by the Rev. H. M. McMullan (president of the association), the Rev. J. H. Williams (Rector of Acle), Mr. A. L. Coleman (vice-president), Mr. J. W. Lee (chairman of the East Norfolk Branch), Mr. F. Nolan Golden (general secretary), Mr. J. G. W. Harwood and Mr. H. Tooke (secretaries of the East and North Branches). Two new members were elected and the Rev. Shillito elected an honorary member.

The next meeting of the Eastern Branch will be at Ranworth on May 28th.

The Association Standing Committee held a meeting afterwards, presided over by the president, and was well attended.

A vote of thanks was passed to the Rector for the use of the bells and the hall.

Members attended from Norwich, Yarmouth, King's Lynn, Wymondham, Diss, North Lopham, Fakenham, Dersingham, Garboldisham, Redgrave, Halvergate, Winfarthing, Shelfanger, Wroxham, Reedham, North Walsham, Acle, Norton, Bergh Apton and Blofield. The Rector of Acle also gave permission for the bells of his church to be rung.

ST MARY ABBOT'S GUILD.**ANNUAL DINNER.**

A very enjoyable evening was spent by members of St. Mary Abbot's Guild on the occasion of their annual dinner, held at Slater's Restaurant, Knightsbridge, nearly 30 members and friends being present under the presidency of the Rev. Prebendary Arthur Smith, M.A. (Vicar), supported by Major N. L. Garratt, churchwarden, and the Rev. Kenneth Wood, the Chaplain of the Guild.

The loyal toasts were duly honoured, and, in reply to that of 'The Guild,' proposed in felicitous terms by Major Garratt, Mr. W. E. Judd, the Master, gave some particulars of the work during the past year, including peals rung in honour of the induction of the chairman as Vicar of St. Mary's and of the Coronation of their Majesties. He also expressed satisfaction with the attendance for Sunday morning ringing, but would always like to see a full band for the evening services.

'The Church' was proposed by Mr. G. J. Strickland, who remarked upon the warm interest the Vicar had shown in the work of the Guild and their gratification at his presence at their summer outing.

The evening was concluded by a very pleasant musical entertainment, including touches on handbells by members of the Guild, tune ringing by Mr. J. R. Mackman and songs by Mrs. P. Humphrey, Mrs. Frances Botham and Messrs. Miles, Selby, Strickland and Warner, the thanks of the party being especially due to Mrs. Beck for her 'excellent striking' at the piano, undertaken at rather short notice, her repertoire of 'old favourites' seeming inexhaustible.

SOUTH WALES NEW BAND'S PROGRESS.

As a compliment to Mr. A. Huxley, Vicar's warden, who was largely responsible for the installation of Christ Church bells, Ebbw Vale, the new band of ringers on Sunday, February 27th, after evening service, rang a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles, with 7-6-8 covering: T. Stephens 1, J. Lewis 2, W. Tomsett 3, R. Hallett 4, R. Stephens (conductor) 5, R. Alsop 6, J. Alsop 7, F. Baskerville 8. It was the first quarter-peal by the band.

In this district there are three townships in close proximity, each with a population of over 30,000, and Christ Church is the first to have a ring of bells.

SUDDEN DEATH AFTER SERVICE RINGING.

With tragic suddenness the death took place on Sunday evening, March 13th, of Mr. G. Went, of Usk, Monmouthshire. He rang for the 6.30 evening service, and, not feeling well, returned home whilst his wife attended the service. When she reached home about 7.30 she discovered him dead in the house.

Mr. Went had been one of the Sunday service band at Usk ever since the restoration of the bells in January, 1926. He was a most loyal and regular attendant at the tower and will be sadly missed.

He had not been well for some time and was home for a fortnight in January, but previously had the appearance of a strong healthy man. He was a member of the Llandaff and Monmouth Association and had rung nine peals, all of Grandsire Triples, his first on April 7th, 1928, and his last on February 13th, 1935.

The funeral took place at Usk on Thursday, March 17th, a large number of townfolk attending, while among the ringers present were the Master of the association (the Rev. Ivor J. Richards), the hon. secretary (Mr. J. W. Jones), and Mr. T. Atwell, of St. Woolos', Newport. Immediately following the service a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung half-muffled by the following: G. Thomas 1, F. Atwell 2, G. Knight 3, A. Hawkins 4, the Rev. Ivor J. Richards 5, L. Jones 6, J. W. Jones (conductor) 7, S. Kear 8.

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 3d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with the minimum charge of 1/6. NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN TUESDAY.

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

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BURTON-IN-KENDAL, NEAR CARNFORTH, LANCS.—The ring of six bells rehung by John Taylor and Co., will be reopened to-morrow, Saturday, March 26th, at 3 p.m.

BISHOP'S ITCHINGTON, NEAR LEAMINGTON SPA, WARWICKSHIRE.—The ring of five bells restored by John Taylor and Co., will be dedicated by the Bishop of Coventry on Saturday, March 26th, at 4.30 p.m.

HOLLESLEY, NEAR WOODBRIDGE, SUFFOLK.—At 3 p.m., on Saturday, March 26th, the Bishop of St. Albans will dedicate the new ring of eight bells installed by John Taylor and Co. Tea will be provided for visiting ringers.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Lancaster Branch.—Burton bells reopening. The next meeting will be held at Burton-in-Westmorland to-morrow, Saturday, March 26th, when the rehung bells will be opened by a short service at 3 p.m. All members and friends are cordially invited to be present, and tea will be provided for all who attend.—E. Swain, Hon. Sec.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. Matthew's, Bethnal Green, on Saturday, March 26th. Bells available from 3 o'clock until 8.30. Service at 5 o'clock. Tea, 1s. each, at 5.30. Special method for learners, Kent Treble Bob Major. Other methods as required.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4. Tel. Larkswood 1959.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—A by-meeting will be held at Goodnestone on Saturday, March 26th. Bells (6) available from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 1s.—B. J. Luck, Hon. Dis. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Michael's Church, Blackburn, on Saturday, March 26th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. Everybody welcome.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District meeting at Godalming on Saturday, March 26th. Bells from 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30.—G. L. Grover, Hon. Dis. Sec.

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

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Chesterfield District.—A ringing meeting will be held at Ashover on Saturday, March 26th. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea can be had close to the church. Subscriptions are due.—J. P. Tarlton, Hon. Sec., Greenfield Villas, Main Road, Stonebroom, Alfreton.

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

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—Next meeting at Hilgay on Saturday, March 26th. Bells (8) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Tickhill on Saturday, March 26th. Bells (8) ready at 3 p.m. Tea at 6d. per head. A good attendance is hoped for at this meeting.—Ernest Cooper, 1, Grosvenor Crescent, Arksey, Doncaster.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—The next practice has been arranged to be held at Great Linford (6 bells) on Saturday, March 26th, from 5 p.m. Visitors welcomed.—Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for practice during March: *St. Paul's Cathedral on the 29th; St. Magnus', 31st. *Business meeting afterwards.—A. B. Peck, Hon. Sec., Branksome, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—A meeting will be held at Halstead on Saturday, April 2nd. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service in church at 4.30 p.m. Will all those intending to be present please notify me by Wednesday, March 30th?—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Sec., 3, Belle Vue, Hedingham Road, Halstead, Essex.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting will be held at Aston Parish Church, Birmingham, on Saturday, April 2nd. Bells (12) available at 3 p.m. Short service at 4.30 p.m., to be followed by tea and business meeting. Kindly notify regarding tea not later than Wednesday, 30th inst.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham, 11.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual general committee meeting. This meeting will be held at Oxford, on Saturday, April 2nd, at 3.15 p.m., in the Chapter House, Christ Church.—Richard T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Chigwell Row on Saturday, April 2nd. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. Will all those intending to be present kindly advise me by Wednesday, March 30th, without fail?—E. J. Butler, Dis. Sec., 313, Mawney's Road, Romford.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The quarterly meeting will be held at Warminster on Saturday, April 2nd. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5, for which a card would oblige.—W. C. West, Hon. Sec., 584, Semington Road, Melksham.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting of the Bolton Branch will be held at St. George's, Bolton, on Saturday, April 2nd, instead of March 26th. Bells available 3 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec., 203, Devonshire Road, Bolton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District calling.—Measham is the tower chosen for meeting on Saturday, April 2nd, and a hearty welcome awaits Loughborough District members and Birmingham friends to try this octave again. Tower open at 2.45 p.m., and a very short service will be arranged before tea and meeting. Please inform me by Wednesday, March 30th, how many to expect for tea. Everybody welcome.—J. W. Cotton, Dis. Sec., Overseal, Burton-on-Trent.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Bucknall on Saturday, April 2nd. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea at 5.30. Will those who require tea kindly notify Mr. H. Billings, 4, Longton Road, Bucknall, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, not later than March 30th?—Andrew Thompson, Hon. Sec.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Beighton (6 bells) on Saturday, April 2nd. For tea, notify Mr. G. Fewkes, 1, Byron Road, Beighton, near Sheffield. All welcome.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 13, St. Ronans Road, Sheffield, 7.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next monthly meeting will be held at Colston-Bassett on Saturday, April 2nd. Bells (8) ready 3 p.m. Tea can be arranged. All come and try this grand peal, 22 cwt. tenor.—E. C. Gobey, Dis. Sec., Trewell, Notts.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The next meeting will be held at Wandsworth on Saturday, April 2nd. Ringing at Holy Trinity, West Hill, 3 to 4.30 p.m., followed by service. Tea 5 p.m. at Parish Hall. Business meeting afterwards. Further ringing from 7 to 8.15 p.m. at All Saints', High Street.—N. H. Manning, Dis. Sec., 21, Burlington Gardens, W.4.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guilborough Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Yelvertoft (5 bells) on Saturday, April 2nd. Usual arrangements. Please notify hon. sec. not later than Tuesday previous of those requiring tea.—Geo. A. Hollick, Hon. Branch Sec., West Street, Welford, Rugby.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The quarterly meeting of the West Norfolk Branch will be held at Watton on Saturday, April 2nd. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5 o'clock.—W. J. Eldred, Hon. Sec., 4, Wellington Street, King's Lynn.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division.—Annual meeting will be held at Crawley, on Saturday, April 2nd. Tower open 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. All welcome. Names for tea, please.—O. Sippetts, 10, Albany Road, Crawley, Sussex.

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LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District.—The next practice meeting will be held at St. Cuthbert's Church, Kirkby-in-Furness, on Saturday, April 2nd. Bells available at 2.30 p.m.—N. M. Newby, Hon. Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bedford District.—A meeting will be held at Bletsoe (6 bells) on Saturday, April 2nd. Short service 4.30. Tea will be arranged. You will be very welcome; come if you can.—Frank C. Tysoe, Hon. Dis. Sec., 10, Grange Road, Bromham, Bedford.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Coppull on Saturday, April 2nd. Bells available from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 pm. (9d. each), for which please notify Mr. F. Morris, 47, Kimberley Street, Coppull, near Chorley, by Wednesday, March 30th.—S. Forshaw, 38, Poolstock, Wigan.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Croston Parish Church, Saturday, April 9th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. A good attendance is requested.—A. Blogg, Branch Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The annual meeting will be held at Sherburn-in-Elmet on Saturday, April 9th. Bells (8) available afternoon and evening. Short service in church at 4.30. Tea at 5.15 p.m., will be provided free to all who inform Mr. R. H. Vigor, Grange Farm, Sherburn-in-Elmet, by Wednesday, April 6th. Meeting for election of officers, etc., in Church Hall after tea. Subscriptions are now due and annual reports available. A good attendance will be appreciated by the local company.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Sec., 5, Ebor Street, Selby.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Warwick, on Saturday, April 9th. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Committee meet 4 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea (1s. 3d. per head) at the Porridge Pot, East Gate, at 5.15, followed by annual general business meeting.—Malcolm Melville, Gen. Hon. Sec., Highfield House, Exhall, Coventry.

BEXLEY, KENT.—St. Mary's Parish Church. The augmented peal of eight bells, in new steel frame and latest fittings, by Mears and Stainbank, will be dedicated by Dr. King, assistant Bishop of Rochester, on Easter Sunday, April 17th, at 3 p.m. All ringers cordially invited.—H. H. Holden, Verger, St. Mary's.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Annual meeting, Easter Monday, at Leicester. Towers open from 10.30 a.m. to 4.15 p.m. (subject to weddings or services): St. Margaret's (12), St. John's (10), Belgrave (8), 2.30 to 4.30 and 7 to 8 p.m.; Cathedral (12). Committee meet at 3 p.m. in Church House, St. Martin's (side of Cathedral). Tea at 4.45 prompt at Oriental Cafe, Market Place, followed by general meeting. Tickets for tea must be obtained from Mr. H. W. Perkins, 53, Landseer Road, Leicester, not later than Thursday, April 14th. Only those who apply for and obtain tickets can be accommodated. All others must cater for themselves. A room will be reserved (particulars later) for social intercourse in the evening.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Margate on Easter Monday. Full particulars later.—Fred M. Mitchell, Gen. Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Albans on East Monday. Cathedral bells (12) available at 2 p.m., St. Peter's (10) 2.30 p.m. The bells of St. Michael's, St. Stephen's and Sandridge (6 each) open by arrangement with your secretary. Service in the Cathedral at 4.30 p.m., with special preacher, followed by tea and business meeting in the Abbey Institute. **If you want tea you must let me know, the latest by Easter Monday morning, post or phone 241.** Notice of alteration of rule: 'That the subscription be raised to 1s. 6d., commencing January, 1939.'—G. W. Cartmel, Hon. Sec., Duffield, Russell Avenue, St. Albans.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will take place at Norwich on Easter Monday, April 18th. The bells of St. Peter Mancroft, St. Giles', St. Michael at Coslany, and All Saints' are available. Service at noon in St. Peter Mancroft Church; preacher, the Ven. Thomas J. Perowne, Archdeacon of Norwich. Luncheon at 1 p.m. at St. Peter Mancroft Parish Hall, 2s. per head to resident members. The business meeting for the election of officers for the year follows. Please notify your intention of being present at the luncheon. Kindly note subscriptions are due.—Nolan Golden, Gen. Sec. and Treasurer, Winton, 26, Brabazon Road, Norwich.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Preliminary Notice.—The annual general meeting will be held at Guildford on Saturday, April 23rd. Further details later.—J. S. Goldsmith, Hon. Sec.

APARTMENTS.

SCARBOROUGH.—At the request of many of my ringing friends, I herewith insert this advertisement for Scarborough. The Jedburgh private hotel, Givendale Road, North Bay, will be open from Easter and all the year. Terms moderate; every convenience; and close to the sea.—Write for tariff to residential proprietors, Mr. and Mrs. G. Dean.

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BIRTHDAY COMPLIMENT TO BRANCH SECRETARY.

On Sunday evening, March 13th, after service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by the Ottery St. Mary band of ringers as a 69th birthday compliment to the leader of the band, Mr. John H. Godfrey: V. Pyne 1, C. Turner (conductor) 2, L. Hine 3, J. H. Godfrey, jun. 4, J. H. Godfrey 5, E. Marks 6, J. Arbury 7, W. Dornett 8.

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