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NORWICH ASSOCIATION'S ACHIEVEMENT

Some striking statistics have been worked out by a correspondent, Mr. A. J. Corrigan, prompted by the announcement made in our last issue that the Norwich Diocesan Association had recently rung its five thousandth peal. The association has always stood high in its peal ringing activities, and its peals, rung during the sixty years of its existence, give an average of over eighty per annum. Actually, of course, the number rung in the early years was comparatively small, about twenty or so being the yearly total. This only goes to prove how consistently, as time has progressed, the Norwich Diocesan Association has upheld its position, a position, indeed, worthy of the association which includes in its area the tower where the first recorded peal was rung.

The analysis which Mr. Corrigan has made shows how high is the average of peals rung in the Norwich diocese per head of the ringing population compared with some other centres, and his comment on the number of peal conductors and the variety of methods is alike enlightening and well worthy of attention. The fact that the association has rung over a hundred peals a year in the last year or two shows an ever increasing enthusiasm, and this, as those who know Norfolk are aware, is coupled with a loyal attention to Sunday service ringing at a very high percentage of the affiliated towers. It must not be overlooked, either, that when the Suffolk Guild was formed, after the severance of the diocese of St. Edmundsbury and Ipswich from Norwich, the association lost many of its peal-ringing bands, so that the recovery which has been made is all the more gratifying to those who have the welfare of the association at heart.

The letter from our correspondent directs attention once more to another question about which some people, we think, occasionally exhibit unnecessary concern. Mr. Corrigan shows that the ringers of Norfolk keep their own bells fully occupied, and suggests, in associations where there are folk who object to peal ringing by 'unattached' ringers, that they should go and do likewise. There is a good deal in the view that ringers who do not care, or are not able, to ring peals themselves should not stand in the way of those who wish to do so, even if, for some reason, they may not be attached to any particular tower. Every ringer should, if possible, associate himself with a tower, so that he may do his share of service ringing and at least repay the debt he owes to the church as a whole for his opportunities of indulging in peal ringing, but that is not to say that a ringer who is attached to no particular tower should be excluded for that reason alone. There is, of course, not much excuse for people

(Continued on page 50.)

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who ring peals to satisfy their own ambitions and do not raise a finger to help in promoting the art in other directions; who, as it were, take all there is to be got and give nothing in return; but these are not the only folk to be blamed. There is just as much selfishness on the other side of the account, where ringers act in the spirit of dog in the manger, and, while they do not care about peals themselves, put every possible obstacle in the way of others enjoying the use of the bells in their towers. The Norwich Association seems, happily, to suffer little from either cause, and the result of this excellent state of affairs is manifest in the success which follows their efforts. Associations will lift their hats to Norwich upon being the first to reach the great total of five thousand peals.

TWELVE BELL PEALS.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS.

THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Wednesday, January 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 31 cwt.

FRED HAYES	Treble	WILLIAM HENLEY	7
J. E. LEWIS COCKEY	2	*EDGAR HANCOX	8
LEONARD STILWELL	3	RALPH COLES	9
*EDWARD S. T. FARR	4	FRANK CORKE	10
F. DONALD BORRHAM	5	HARRY WINGROVE	11
WILLIAM BIRMINGHAM	6	WILLIAM PLUMRIDGE	Tenor

Composed and Conducted by FRED HAYES.

* First peal on twelve bells.

WALSALL, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Thursday, January 19, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

JAMES S. EASTWOOD	Treble	WALTER R. HUGHES	7
AUBREY M. PICKERING	2	ARTHUR T. DUTTON	8
EDGAR T. SMITH	3	GEORGE W. HUGHES	9
CHRISTOPHER WALLATER	4	GILBERT HARDING	10
BARNABAS G. KEY	5	THOMAS J. ELTON	11
HAROLD SMITH	6	HOWARD HOWELL	Tenor

Composed by J. CARTER.

Conducted by G. W. HUGHES.

Rung as a compliment to the Rev. H. J. Carpenter, M.A., Vicar of Walsall, on his appointment to a Prebendal stall in Lichfield Cathedral. First peal as conductor.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

(St. Mary-le-Tower Society.)

On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Four Hours,

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

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;

Tenor 32 cwt.

GEORGE A. FLEMING	Treble	SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER	7
CHARLES J. SEDGLEY	2	ALAN R. ANDREWS	8
WILLIAM P. GARRETT	3	JOHN H. CRAMPION	9
HOBART E. SMITH	4	CECIL W. PIPE	10
*ERNEST W. PYE	5	GEORGE E. SYMONDS	11
WILLIAM J. G. BROWN	6	FREDERICK J. SMITH	Tenor

Composed and Conducted by CHARLES J. SEDGLEY.

* First peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus.

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TEN BELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CLEMENT DANES, STRAND,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERPILERS, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

CHARLES A. HUGHES Treble	*CHARLES W. OTTLEY 6
MISS BERTHA M. MILLS 2	JOHN G. NASH 7
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER 3	ERNEST W. FORBANK 8
ERNEST J. KING 4	EDWARD D. SMITH 9
MISS OLIVE L. ASHBROOK 5	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE Tenor

Composed by G. R. FARDON.

Conducted by ERNEST J. KING.

* First peal in the method.

NORTH STONEHAM, HAMPSHIRE.

THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, January 17, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERPILERS, 5039 CHANGES;

Tenor 9 cwt. 26 lb.

*JOHN R. FAITHFULL Treble	†PERCY WHITFORD 6
REGINALD A. REED 2	†ARTHUR V. DAVIS 7
†LESLIE TREMBER 3	REV. E. BANKES JAMES 8
FREDERICK J. BAYLEY 4	GEORGE WILLIAMS 9
*ROBERT H. ROBINSON 5	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE Tenor

Composed by H. HUBBARD.

Conducted by GEORGE WILLIAMS.

* First peal on ten bells. † First peal of Grandsire Caterpilers.

STAFFORD.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 19 cwt. 11 lb.

*JOHN WARRILLOW Treble	WILLIAM CARNWELL 6
HOWARD HOWELL 2	*RICHARD J. WARRILLOW 7
*J. DENNIS HOLDEN 3	BARNABAS G. KEY 8
BERT HORTON 4	†ARTHUR W. HALL 9
HAROLD SMITH 5	THOMAS J. ELTON Tenor

Composed by N. J. PIRSELOW. Conducted by THOMAS J. ELTON.

* First peal of Royal. † First peal on ten. A birthday compliment to R. J. Warrillow.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERPILERS, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 30½ cwt.

FREDERICK W. DEXTER Treble	WILLIAM SMITH 6
HARRY WAYNE 2	JOHN GRUNDY 7
CHARLES ALLSOP 3	JOSEPH A. FENTON 8
ERNEST RAWSON 4	HARRY BROUGHTON 9
COLIN HARRISON 5	JOHN GRANT Tenor

Composed by F. H. DEXTER.

Conducted by COLIN HARRISON.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Sixteen Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, PRITTLEWELL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERPILERS, 5079 CHANGES;

Tenor 30½ cwt.

JOHN W. CORNFORD Treble	FRANK B. LUFKIN 6
*ALBERT E. NORTH 2	†DENNIS T. BROCK 7
MRS. F. W. HOUSDEN 3	ERNEST W. FORBANK 8
ERIC B. HARTLEY 4	REGINALD W. DARVILL 9
FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN 5	HORACE J. MANSFIELD Tenor

Composed by LOUIS HEAD.

Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN.

* First peal of Stedman Caterpilers. † First peal on ten bells and in the method. First peal of Stedman Caterpilers as conductor.

LUTON, BEDS.—At the Parish Church on December 24th, 1930
 Stedman Triples: H. Walker 1, A. King 2, B. Wilson 3, A. J. Smith 4, F. Hunt 5, A. E. Rushton 6, L. A. Goodenough (conductor) 7, E. Shane 8.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

LONDON.

THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, January 10, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, LAMBETH,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5089 CHANGES;

Tenor 16½ cwt.

ARTHUR S. RICHARDS Treble	FRANCIS D. BISHOP 5
MISS OLIVE L. ASHBROOK 2	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY 6
THOMAS H. FRANCIS 3	NORMAN H. MANNING 7
THOMAS H. TAFFENDER 4	THOMAS W. TAFFENDER Tenor

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by THOS. W. TAFFENDER

TARPORLEY.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,

A PEAL OF ST. CLEMENT'S BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 10 cwt. 10 lb.

GEORGE SPERRING Treble	FRED HARTMAN 5
ROBERT SPERRING 2	HARRY PYE 6
WILLIAM E. FLETCHER 3	RALPH G. EDWARDS 7
FRANK VARTY 4	PERCY SWINDLEY Tenor

Composed by J. MORGAN.

Conducted by PERCY SWINDLEY.

First peal in the method for all except R. Sperring.

WOOLWICH, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

*ERNEST H. OXENHAM Treble	*CYRIL BRETT-SMITH 5
*FRANCIS C. SHORTER 2	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY 6
ARTHUR S. RICHARDS 3	JOHN O. WELLER 7
DEREK M. SHARP 4	A. PATRICK CANNON Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS.

Conducted by G. V. MURPHY.

* First peal in the method. First peal of Treble Bob as conductor.

RISHTON, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes.

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 13 lb.

HARRY HARGREAVES Treble	FRED READ 5
THOMAS HILLMAN 2	HERBERT C. RAWCLIFFE 6
WILLIAM E. MILLER 3	WILLIAM PROCTOR 7
WALTER BRIGGS 4	RICHARD BALDERSTONE Tenor

Composed by T. LOCKWOOD.

Conducted by FRED READ.

NEWHEY, LANC.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Nine Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

TAYLOR'S SIX-PART.

Tenor 10½ cwt.

*SELWYN HOLT DEARDEN Treble	IVAN KAY 5
STEPHEN LLOYD PARRY 2	JOHN MEADOWCROFT, JUN. 6
†HARRY KERSHAW 3	HAROLD HAMER 7
*HARRY BYROM 4	ALBERT BUCKLEY Tenor

Conducted by J. MEADOWCROFT, JUN.

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

BARROW-IN-FURNESS, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Three Hours and Six Minutes.

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Tenor 15½ cwt.

*RONALD A. WILTON Treble	ARTHUR STEDMAN 5
NICHOLAS M. NEWBY 2	FREDERICK H. CRAWLEY 6
JOHN BAGNALL 3	ALBERT CRAWLEY 7
JAMES E. BURLES 4	MICHAEL G. WHEAT Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT CRAWLEY.

* First peal.

BICESTER, OXFORDSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. Edburg,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 15 cwt. 7 lb.

*BERNARD S. NICHOLS ... Treble	ALBERT E. LOCK ... 5
MRS. A. E. LOCK ... 2	FRANCIS E. TAYLOR ... 6
† WILLIAM C. PORTER ... 3	REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG ... 7
MISS MARIE R. CROSS ... 4	WALTER F. JUDGE ... Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON.

Conducted by W. F. JUDGE.

* First peal of Major. † First peal of Surprise.

HANDSWORTH, BIRMINGHAM.

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

On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

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

Tenor 12 cwt.

RICHARD INGRAM ... Treble	* WILLIAM PETTIGREW ... 5
* RONALD I. SHEPHERD ... 2	FREDERICK W. RISHWORTH ... 6
* ARTHUR H. S. RAINEY ... 3	† PERCY N. G. RAINEY ... 7
MORRIS J. MORRIS ... 4	† ALBERT PETTIGREW ... Tenor

Conducted by PERCY N. G. RAINEY.

* First peal of Grandsire Triples. † First peal of Triples and first as conductor on eight. ‡ First peal.

DRAYTON, SOMERSET.

THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Three Hours and Fourteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. Catherine,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

CARTER'S TWELVE-PART.

Tenor 19½ cwt.

* RICHARD DABINETT ... Treble	SYDNEY DABINETT ... 5
PERCY H. LOCK ... 2	† JACK STEVENS ... 6
J. THOMAS LOCKE ... 3	† EDMUND DABINETT ... 7
† EDWARD STEVENS ... 4	* ALBERT SANDFORD ... Tenor

Conducted by J. THOMAS LOCKE.

* First peal. † First peal with bob bell. ‡ First peal on eight bells. First peal on eight as conductor. All belong to the local band.

BRISTOL.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

At the Church of St. James

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt.

ALBERT M. TYLER ... Treble	WILLIAM H. PARKER ... 5
ALFRED PEARCE ... 2	DONALD G. CLIFT ... 6
GILBERT PEARCE ... 3	ARTHUR PRINCE ... 7
ANDREW J. CORRIGAN ... 4	FRANCIS C. MOGFORD ... Tenor

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by DONALD G. CLIFT.

Rung to commemorate Mr. F. T. Jewell's 55 years' service as steeple-keeper at this church.

BRIERLEY HILL, STAFFS.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

On Tuesday, January 17, 1939, in Three Hours,

At the Church of St. Michael,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt. in F.

PERCY RICHARDS ... Treble	BERNARD LAWTON ... 5
CLIFFORD SKIDMORE ... 2	* WILLIAM SMITH ... 6
WILLIAM POTTER ... 3	WALTER E. MASTERS ... 7
BERNARD ASHFORD ... 4	JOHN LLOYD ... Tenor

Composed by H. HOWLETT.

Conducted by C. SKIDMORE.

* First peal in the method. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a tribute to the late George Allport, for many years sexton at this church.

NORTHMOOR BAND'S FIRST QUARTER-PEAL.

The first true quarter-peal on the bells by a local service ringing band at Northmoor, Oxfordshire, was rung on New Year's Eve, 1,280 of Grandsire Doubles with ten callings: F. Trinder 1, C. Bowsher 2, P. Trinder 3, V. Clifton 4, H. Farmer (conductor) 5, J. Pimm 6.

BUSHEY, HERTS.

THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, January 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

At the Church of St. James,

A PEAL OF QUEENSBURY SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 13 cwt.

JOHN E. ROOTES ... Treble	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT ... 5
HENRY HODGETTS ... 2	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW ... 6
EDWIN JENNINGS ... 3	CECIL C. MAYNE ... 7
FRANCIS KIRK ... 4	HAROLD G. CASHMORE ... Tenor

Composed and Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

The first peal in the method. A birthday peal for Mr. F. Kirk.

REDENHALL, NORFOLK.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Three Minutes

At the Church of St. Mary,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt. in D.

ROBERT D. GUNTON ... Treble	ERNEST WHITING ... 5
WILLIAM J. FLATT ... 2	FREDERICK W. MUNNINGS ... 6
FREDERICK C. GUNTON ... 3	RUSSELL RICHES ... 7
STANLEY W. COPLING ... 4	CHARLES W. LOOME ... Tenor

Composed by G. LINDOFF.

Conducted by ERNEST WHITING.

COLESHILL, WARWICKSHIRE.

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

On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,

At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (2nd observation).

Tenor 13½ cwt.

GEORGE F. GARRISON ... Treble	WILLIAM C. RHODES ... 5
RONALD I. SHEPHERD ... 2	JOHN FIFIELD ... 6
RICHARD C. INGRAM ... 3	WILLIAM DAVIES ... 7
FREDERICK W. RISHWORTH ... 4	FRED PRICE ... Tenor

Conducted by RONALD I. SHEPHERD.

First peal as conductor.

GRAVESEND, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, January 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

At the Church of St. George,

A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

Tenor 18½ cwt. in E.

ERNEST H. OXENHAM ... Treble	JAMES E. BAILEY ... 5
NORMAN SUMMERHAYES ... 2	DEREK M. SHARP ... 6
JOHN WHEADON ... 3	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY ... 7
GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ... 4	GEORGE J. BUTCHER ... Tenor

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW.

Conducted by GEO. J. BUTCHER.

SIX BELL PEALS.

NOTTINGHAM.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, January 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Peter,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

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

* HAROLD PARFREMENT ... Treble	J. ALFRED BARRATT ... 4
FRANK BRADLEY ... 2	RALPH NARBOROUGH ... 5
* WALTER NICHOLS ... 3	FREDERICK A. SALTER ... Tenor

Conducted by F. A. SALTER.

* First peal of Minor. A compliment to Mr. Thomas Jennison on his 65th birthday.

WICKHAM SKEITH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Thursday, January 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,

At the Church of St. Andrew,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being two extents of Kent Treble Bob, two of Oxford Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

LESLIE FOSTER ... Treble	LEONARD H. LOCK ... 4
BERT CHILVERS ... 2	RUSSELL WARD ... 5
SIDNEY W. ARBON ... 3	W. ARCHIE LOCK, JUN. ... Tenor

Conducted by W. A. LOCK, JUN.

First attempt to conduct a peal.

LLANELLY, CARMARTHENSHIRE.
THE SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ELLI,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven different 720's.

*D. LEWELYN Treble	*D. G. FRANCIS 4
*MISS R. O. ROBERTS... .. 2	*G. E. PARMENTER 5
J. WILLIAMS 3	C. H. HAWKINS Tenor

Conducted by C. H. HAWKINS.

* First peal of Minor.

PITMINSTER, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND ANDREW,
A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven 720's called differently. Tenor 16 cwt.

ALEC A. WALKER... .. Treble	JACK ROY 4
ALFRED J. WYATT 2	HENRY CHURCHILL 5
JAMES HUNT... .. 3	WILLIAM G. GIGG Tenor

Conducted by W. G. GIGG.

First peal of Minor on the bells. A birthday compliment to Mr. W. Oakes, of Trull.

PURLEIGH, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Six Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Woodbine, Cambridge Surprise and Oxford Treble Bob, and two 720's each of Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob.
Tenor 12 cwt.

GEORGE A. WIGHTMAN ... Treble	HORACE J. MANSFIELD ... 4
GERALD FROST 2	FRED CHALK 5
FRANK C. MAY 3	FRANK B. LUFKIN... .. Tenor

Conducted by F. B. LUFKIN.

RIPPINGALE, Lincs.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(SOUTHERN BRANCH.)

On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Double Oxford, Double Court, Court Bob, Oxford Bob, Plain Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob.
Tenor 12½ cwt.

*BERNARD H. DALTON ... Treble	CHARLES WILKINSON ... 4
ALBERT E. SCOTT 2	CUTHBERT T. H. BRADLEY... 5
†LEONARD P. WILSON ... 3	THOMAS L. BAINBRIDGE ... Tenor

Conducted by C. T. H. BRADLEY.

* First peal. † First peal in seven methods on an 'inside' bell.

LYTCHETT MATRAVERS, DORSET.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Seven differently called extents. Tenor 8 cwt.

WILLIAM M. LIGHT Treble	HAROLD E. WHITE 4
*MISS VIOLET M. MARSH ... 2	WILLIAM C. SHUTE 5
†DONALD R. HARVEY... .. 3	PHILIP H. TOCOCK Tenor

Conducted by W. C. SHUTE.

* First peal 'inside.' † First peal of Minor.

FRANT, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
AND THE EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.
On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Double Bob, Double Oxford, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford and Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 9 cwt.

CHARLES A. BASSETT ... Treble	ARTHUR F. LEWRY 4
WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE ... 2	ALBERT RELFE 5
LESLIE W. JARVIS 3	FRANK H. HICKS Tenor

Conducted by ALBERT RELFE.

First peal in seven methods by all except the conductor.

STAPLEFORD, NOTTS.

On Saturday, January 14, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Seven Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three extents of Plain Bob and two each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 7½ cwt.

W. R. DRAGE Treble	G. RIGBY 4
*P. L. PARROTT 2	H. TURNER 5
W. VARNAM 3	W. THORNLEY, JUN. Tenor

Conducted by W. THORNLEY, JUN.

* First peal. First peal as conductor.

WORMINGFORD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Sunday, January 15, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 8 cwt. in A.

*EDWARD LEGGETT Treble	RALPH BIRD 4
†JAMES H. EDWARDS 2	ALSC M. GENERY 5
VICTOR MORLEY... .. 3	ALBERT L. DIXEY... .. Tenor

Composed by REV. E. BANKES JAMES. Conducted by R. BIRC.

* First Surprise peal. † First peal of Surprise 'inside.'

MAULDEN, BEDS.

THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Monday, January 16, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven extents in 12 methods: (1) Sandal, Kingston, London Scholars' Pleasure and Oxford Treble Bob; (2) College Exercise and Duke of Norfolk; (3) Norwich Surprise; (4) Cambridge Surprise; (5) Kent Treble Bob; (6) St. Clement's and Plain Bob; (7) Oxford Bob. Tenor 10½ cwt. in F sharp.

SAMUEL DANIELS... .. Treble	RONALD J. SHARP 4
ANDREW C. SINFIELD 2	REGINALD J. HOUGHTON ... 5
C. HENRY HARDING 3	C. EDWARD JEFFRIES Tenor

Conducted by C. E. JEFFRIES.

The first peal in twelve methods by all and the first time that twelve methods have been rung in seven extents by the association.

DEEPING ST. NICHOLAS, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Tuesday, January 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,

A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 each of Double Court, Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, St. Clement's, Double Oxford, Oxford Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 6½ cwt.

FRED BRIGHTMAN ... Treble	*CHARLES PERKINS 4
*WILLIAM DUFFY 2	*EDWARD BROWN... .. 5
CHARLES E. BLACK 3	FRANK TAYLOR Tenor

Conducted by FRANK TAYLOR.

* First peal in seven methods. The conductor's first peal on an 'inside' bell in seven methods.

HANDBELL PEALS.

PUDSEY, YORKSHIRE.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Tuesday, January 17, 1939, in Two Hours and Two Minutes,

AT 9, PEMBROKE ROAD,

A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;

PERCY J. JOHNSON... .. 1-2	WILLIAM BARTON... .. 5-6
MRS. J. COTTERELL 3-4	JOHN AMBLER 7-8

Composed by GEORGE LEWIS. Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON,

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thursday, January 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT 20, ABERDEEN CRE. CENT,

A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor size 20 in E.

ALFRED BARNES 1-2	ALLEN F. BAILEY... .. 5-6
HAROLD JACKSON 3-4	PETER LAPLIN 7-8

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by A. F. BAILEY.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. A. F. Bailey.

(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over).

PEAL NOTES.

INTERESTING DETAILS ABOUT PERFORMANCES.

The peal of Bob Major rung on handbells at Pudsey, Yorkshire, on January 17th, was a composition by Mr. George Lewis with the full combination of 4, 5 and 6 in 5-6 in the minimum number of courses (36) and changes (5,008). It was rung for the first time and is believed to be the first ever produced with these qualities.

Not many peals are rung nowadays at Handsworth, Birmingham, which was once upon a time a happy hunting ground for members of St. Martin's Guild. On January 14th, however, a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung there, with three of the band scoring their first in the method. The conductor, Mr. P. G. Rainey, rang his first peal of Triples and completed peals of Grandsire from Doubles to Cinques.

Mr. Albert Crawley, of Crewe, rang his 90th peal when he took part in Grandsire Triples at Barrow-in-Furness on January 14th.

Five out of the band rang their first peal in seven methods when a peal of Minor was rung at Frant, Sussex, on January 14th.

The Rev. E. Bankes James' arrangement of 5,040 Cambridge Minor was rung for evening service at Wormingford, Essex, on Sunday, January 15th.

A half-muffled peal of Bob Major was rung at Brierley Hill, Staffs, on January 17th, in memory of the late Mr. George Allport, at one time a ringer and for many years sexton at the Parish Church.

A peal in seven Minor methods at Rippingale, Lincs, was a birthday compliment to the conductor, Mr. Cuthbert T. H. Bradley, of Folkingham. The peal was rung on January 14th.

The first time that twelve Minor methods have been rung in a peal of seven extents by the Bedfordshire Association was at Maulden on January 16th. There were five methods in the first 720.

Mr. W. Thornley, jun., scored his first peal as conductor, when, at Stapleford, Notts, on January 14th, he rang his 25th peal. It was in three methods of Minor.

The long service of Mr. F. T. Jewell, who has been for 55 years steeplekeeper at St. James' Church, Bristol, was celebrated on January 18th, when a peal of Bob Major (which was substituted for Royal when the band met short) was rung in his honour.

AN ANNIVERSARY PEAL.

The peal of Grandsire Caters at North Stoneham on January 17th was, in effect, the celebration of the Rev. E. B. James' first peal, rung 50 years ago last month. A peal had been arranged on the actual anniversary, but the weather conditions of snow and ice made it impossible for the band to meet.

Last week's peal was rung on the 55th anniversary of the first peal by the Winchester Guild in Hampshire (one had previously been rung in Surrey), in which Mr. George Williams took part. Now, at 81, he has called this peal of Grandsire Caters.

John R. Faithfull, of Southampton, who rang the treble, is only just 14 years of age. He deserves the highest commendation upon the way in which he rang. His only other peal has been the treble to Cambridge Surprise Major.

Mr. Maurice Hibbert, who took part in the first peal of Queensbury Surprise Major, which was rung at Bushey on January 19th, has now rung 50 different Surprise methods or extensions on 6, 8, 10 or 12 bells, and is, we believe, the first to do so.

This list is made up of peals of Major in 39 methods, Spliced Surprise in two to six methods, seven Surprise Minor methods, London Minor, Cambridge Minor, Royal and Maximus and Yorkshire Royal.

A local band at Drayton, Somerset, rang a peal of Grandsire Triples on January 14th—the first peal on eight bells rung by a band residing in Rochester Deanery.

The peal of Treble Ten at St. Mary's, Stafford, on Saturday, January 21st, was arranged to give Mr. J. Warrilow, the respected steeplekeeper at this tower, and his son, Mr. R. J. Warrilow, the opportunity of ringing their first peal of Royal.

The Vicar of St. Matthew's, Walsall (the Rev. H. J. Carpenter), has been appointed to a Prebendal stall in Lichfield Cathedral, and on Thursday of last week, ringers of the Archdeaconry of Stafford rang a peal of Stedman Cinques at Walsall in honour of the preferment. Mr. George W. Hughes rang his first peal as conductor, and he is the fourth member of the local band to call a peal of Stedman Cinques in the tower.

Mr. Stanley Copling, of Loddon, Norfolk, rang his 100th peal when he took part in a peal of Superlative Surprise Major at Redenhall on Saturday, January 21st.

A peal of Minor in seven methods was rung by the local band at Deeping St. Nicholas, Lincs, on January 17th. It was a birthday compliment to Mr. C. Perkins, and was the first peal on an 'inside' bell in seven methods by the conductor, Mr. Frank Taylor.

It is interesting to note that Mr. Ronald Shepherd has rung his first peal as conductor. This was Grandsire Triples at Coteshill, Warwickshire. He has been ringing only about two years and is a most promising member of the Aston band. We look forward to a great ringing future for this young enthusiast.

Archie Leck, jun., made his first attempt to call a peal on January 12th at Wickham Skeith and was successful in conducting seven 720's in three methods.

Another new conductor is Mr. J. Meadowcroft, jun., of Newhey, Lancs, who on Saturday called a peal of Grandsire Triples in his home tower.

(Continued in next column.)

DEATH OF MR. CHARLES SLINGSBY.

BRITAIN'S OLDEST BELL-RINGER.

The death occurred on January 19th at his home at Aldington, Kent, of Mr. Charles Slingsby. He was 101 years of age.

He was born on May 26th, 1837, and was Britain's oldest bell-ringer.



MR. CHARLES SLINGSBY.

Indeed, he was actively engaged in ringing until he was 90. He started at the age of ten years, and had been connected with the Church all his life. He was a foundation member of the Kent County Association, which was established sixty years ago, and rang in the association's second peal.

When, on the occasion of his one hundredth birthday in 1937, there was a large gathering of ringers at Aldington to celebrate the auspicious event, and Mr. Slingsby received a present consisting of a wallet containing Treasury notes, the association's peal book recording this peal was produced by Mr. F. M. Mitchell, and the page was signed by Mr. Slingsby without the aid of glasses.

On this occasion, too, Mr. Slingsby was able to mix with the party and thoroughly enjoy the proceedings.

He was one of the ringers who founded the Romney Marsh and District Guild, and he took the keenest interest in ringing affairs right up to the end. He was not a man of great physique, but he had a tough constitution which enabled him to enjoy good health throughout his long life.

TRIBUTE TO DECEASED RINGER.

On Friday, January 13th, the bells of St. Helen's, Willingham, near Gainsborough, were rung half-muffled as a token of respect to Mr. H. Plowright, who died at his home in Springthorpe and was buried at Willingham earlier in the day.

A 720 of Grandsire Doubles was rung by W. Roberts 1, H. Bingham 2, George L. A. Lunn 3, F. Grimshaw 4, N. B. Thurlby 5, C. Hooton 6. The conducting was shared by N. B. Thurlby and George L. A. Lunn.

Mr. Plowright was one of the original members of the band who rang at Willingham when the bells were increased from three to five and subsequently to six in 1905.

STOP PRESS NOTICES.

Notices of the following meetings reached us too late for insertion in the proper column:

Ely Diocesan Association, at Old Chesterton, February 4th.
Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild, Andover District, at Amport, on February 4th.

Lancashire Association, Wigan Branch, at Wigan Parish Church, on February 4th.

Lancashire Association, Furness and Lake District Branch, at Ulverston, on February 4th.

(Continued from previous column.)

Mr. J. Williams, of Morriston, earned the thanks of a Swansea and Brecon Guild band by making up the company for a peal of Minor at Llanelly, Carmarthenshire, on Saturday, when all the other ringers, except the conductor, scored their first peal of Minor.

What is believed to be the quickest peal rung at St. Mary's, Woolwich, was brought round on Saturday in 2 hours 52 minutes. The tenor is 13 cwt. The peal of Oxford was Mr. Geoffrey Murphy's first peal of Treble Bob as conductor.

To celebrate the birthday of Mr. W. Oakes, the 'grand old man' of Trull, Somerset, who has reached the age of 76 years, the first peal of Minor on the bells at Pitminster was rung on Saturday. It was in this tower that Mr. Oakes learned to ring.

Another birthday peal was that at St. Peter's, Nottingham, where a peal of Minor in three methods on the front six of this ring of ten celebrated Mr. Thomas Jennison's 65th anniversary.

Seven out of the eight ringers who scored a peal of St. Clement's Bob Major at Tarporley, Cheshire, on Saturday, rang their first peal in the method. The exception was Mr. Robert Sperring, who was one of the band that some years ago first exploited some of these departures from the commonplace.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.**SOUTHAMPTON SECRETARY'S APPEAL TO DEFICIENT BANDS.**

The annual meeting of the Southampton District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild was held at Southampton on January 14th. Over 70 members and visitors were present from most of the towers in the district and from places as far away as Ryde, Portsmouth, Salisbury and Bournemouth, and included Messrs. G. Williams, F. W. Rogers, W. Andrews, W. T. Tucker, F. Romaine, etc.

The service was held at Holy Rood Church, the Rev. G. H. Goodall officiating, and the ringers had tea in St. Michael's Hall.

At the business meeting, the Rev. G. H. Goodall presided.

The secretary (Mr. G. Pullinger) presented the accounts, which showed a very satisfactory state of affairs. Although the total membership was four below that of last year, being 116 against 120, increased balances were paid to the general treasurer and also carried forward. Several towers in the district, the secretary said, were below strength, St. Mary's, Southampton, being one.

In every case where there was a shortage of ringers Sunday service ringing suffered, the services of the church suffered and the reputation of the Guild suffered. Every effort would have to be made to remedy this by bringing in new ringers who would treat their ringing as a contribution to the work of the church. Irregularity and unpunctuality on the part of some ringers, which made Sunday service ringing but a half-hearted affair or ruined a practice, was often the cause of bands falling away. He appealed to all concerned to remedy this. At Romsey monthly practices had been arranged and this effort was making steady progress. At Upham a course of instruction was being given. Most promising of all, however, was the number of keen young ringers, both men and women, who were coming along in various parts of the district.

No restoration work had been carried out in the district during the year, and, generally speaking, the bells were in good order.

The Rev. R. A. R. Spread (Vicar of St. Michael's) thanked the ringers for their work and paid a tribute to Mr. Pullinger.

The district officers were elected as follows: Chairman, the Rev. G. T. Tritton; Ringing Master, Mr. G. Williams; hon. treasurer and secretary, Mr. G. Pullinger; auditor, Mr. C. Fray; representatives on Executive Committee, Mr. R. Brown (Southampton) and Mr. W. Viney (Romsey).

District meetings were arranged as follows: Bishopstoke, February 18th; Fawley, May 20th; Sherfield English, July 22nd; Upham, October 28th; annual (Southampton), January 13th.

During the afternoon and evening ringing took place upon the bells of St. Mary's, Holy Rood, and St. Michael's Churches, and ranged from rounds and call changes to Surprise Royal.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.**'FAMILY' GATHERING AT PUDSEY.**

The society's first meeting of 1939 was held at Pudsey. The bells were rung up soon after 3 p.m., when a happy couple, who had just been married, had the sound of the bells to add to the festive occasion.

Tea was served at the Park Hotel, where the generous spirit that always prevails when Pudsey is visited was again in evidence. Ample justice was done to the provisions, and while the later arrivals were having tea, the secretary was busy writing out the notes of a new ballad, in which all voices joined in the opening words of 'How much do I owe?'

The business meeting was presided over by the Rev. J. H. B. Andrews, and members were present from Armley, Batley, Birstall, Bradford Cathedral, Calverley, Drighlington, Elland, Headingley (St. Chad's and St. Michael's), Idle, Liversedge, Leeds Parish Church, Pontefract, Rothwell, Selby, Sherburn, Shipley and the local company.

At the outset the President asked the members to stand for a few moments in silence in memory of the late Mr. Harry Lockwood, for 60 years ringer at Leeds Parish Church and one time president and trustee of our society.

Four new members were elected, viz., Messrs. E. Baldwin and H. Hodgson, of Liversedge, C. Brown, of Pontefract, and G. Varley, of Selby.

A comprehensive vote of thanks to the Vicar, churchwardens and the local company was proposed by Mr. Johnson, who, in thanking the ringers for their continued generosity at this meeting, wondered whether they should not call it a family gathering. Many ringers made a special effort to be present at Pudsey, and if the association did not visit Pudsey, there would be many faces they would not see. The whole gathering was warmed by the friendliest feeling and camaraderie, and, judging by the numbers present, the efforts of the local company were appreciated. He hoped their efforts would continue for another 99 years.—Mr. W. Barton, replying for the Pudsey ringers, said he would see what they could do with regard to the time mentioned by Mr. Johnson, and he hoped Mr. Johnson would be present at them all (laughter).

The next meeting is to be held at Liversedge on February 25th.

The secretary gave a detailed statement with regard to the society's jubilee meeting, to be held at Leeds Parish Church on March 25th. The bells would be open prior to a service, which would be followed by a hot-pot supper and entertainment (1s. 9d. per head) at Sherwin's Restaurant, Lands Lane.

Good use was made of the handbells, with further visits to the tower until 9 p.m. Afterwards handbell ringing at the hotel brought another wonderful meeting to a close.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Bristol United Guilds contemplate issuing another edition of their valuable 'Ringers' Directory' this year.

We understand, also, that they will organise another of their 'ringing' weeks in August. Those held in the past have been highly successful. These excursions are not peal ringing expeditions.

The ringers at Doncaster Parish Church are very eager to get their bells restored. The Vicar called a meeting of the ringers, to discuss ways and means, on a recent Sunday at 7.45 p.m., after the evening service. One of the ringers was so keen that he arrived at the church for the meeting at 7.45 a.m.

Last Saturday, Mr. James Hunt was elected Ringing Master of the Taunton Deanery for the twenty-first time.

The gentleman (we presume it was a gentleman and not a lady) who left his pipe on the table after the Bristol dinner on Saturday can have it by applying to Mr. Edgar Guise.

Certain London ringers who visited Bristol on Saturday and went to Long Ashton on Sunday morning to get their shoes 'soled and heeled' came away disappointed. An arm of the law was standing by to see that the Shop Hours Act was observed.

Mr. Ben Gough, who has been staying in the Beeches Nursing Home in Wolverhampton for a considerable time, sends his greetings to all old ringing friends, and would be pleased to see anyone who can make it convenient to pay him a visit.

The members of Newcastle Cathedral Guild were delighted on Sunday to welcome back to the tower after his recent illness Mr. W. H. Barber, whose many friends throughout the country will be glad to know he has recovered sufficiently to climb again the belfry steps.

DEATH OF AN EDENBRIDGE RINGER.

Many ringers who have been associated with the Kent County Association, and especially with the Edenbridge tower, will be sorry to hear of the passing of Mr. 'Jimmy' Heasman.

He was a member of the Edenbridge stoney baud which joined the Kent Association in 1896, and started to learn change ringing.

For over 50 years he was a regular service ringer at Edenbridge, for many years held the post of captain, and spent endless hours in teaching youngsters. He rang at least 39 peals in his own tower and many others elsewhere.

He composed several peals, and many touches of his are still rung for service in the district. He took part in the ringing when the bells of Edenbridge were broadcast a few years ago, although nearly blind.

He died at Chingford, Essex, on January 15th, and was buried at the cemetery at Edenbridge on the 19th. Four of his brother ringers, Messrs. G. Malyau, E. Leigh, W. Leigh and E. C. Leigh, acted as bearers. The floral tributes included a wreath from the Tonbridge District of the Kent County Association.

The bells he loved so well were rung half-muffled during the evening.

A. E. R.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

LADY ELECTED RINGING MASTER OF GAINSBOROUGH DISTRICT.

The annual meeting of the Gainsborough District of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild was held at All Saints', Gainsborough, on Saturday, January 21st. After a belated start, due to the late arrival of some of the members, the fine peal of eight were set going to various methods.

Service was conducted by the Vicar, Canon E. A. G. Whitworth, and tea was served at the Tudor Cafe.

At the business meeting the district secretary took everybody by complete surprise when he announced that he felt he could no longer hold office. Much to the regret of all, his resignation had to be accepted after two years of excellent work.

Considerable discussion followed on the difficulties of secretaries, and after much persuasion the Ringing Master agreed to resign that office and take over the duty of secretary. In acknowledging his election, he said it was not the work entailed that he was thinking of, but he felt he was taking over a 'sinking ship.' 'If,' he said, 'the district would make a supreme effort to improve the practices and ringing generally, he would do his part.'

Mrs. E. Gray, a popular lady ringer of Gainsborough, was unanimously elected Ringing Master.

A discussion then followed on the pros and cons of starting a Belfry Repair Fund to assist towers in the district where schemes for restoring or augmenting their bells were started. It was suggested that a collection should be taken at each meeting. Eventually this was agreed to and the first collection made. In view of this it was impossible to help the restoration fund of Bronlly, for which an appeal had been received.

Votes of thanks were passed and a return made to the tower. Unfortunately, owing to an important function in a neighbouring chapel, ringing had to cease at 7.30.

Methods rung during the day ranged from Grandsire Triples to Cambridge Surprise Major, a course of London coming to grief two leads from home.

The towers represented included Blyton, Lea, Upton, Willingham, Gainsborough, Retford, Lincoln, Surfleet, Bolsover, Treeton and Fellingham.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—55.

FRANK W. PERRENS.

A ringers' 'strike' was the cause of Mr. Frank Perrens' entry into ringing and giving the art one of its most able exponents. While he was living at Willenhall, Staffs, in 1910, the ringers there went on strike, because the church authorities would not provide them with new ropes. The Vicar appealed to members of the Young Men's Club, connected with the church, for recruits to learn to ring. Mr. Perrens happened to be one who was persuaded to volunteer. It was a circumstance that has had gratifying results. It was not long, indeed only November 5th in the same year, before he rang his first peal, which was one of Grandsire Triples at St. Paul's, Wood Green, Staffs, where, incidentally, he also rang his first Surprise peal (Cambridge) nearly five years later. His first peal as conductor was also Grandsire Triples at St. Giles', Willenhall, on October 30th, 1911, in which there were four other 'firsts.' It was also the first peal on the bells by a local band, although the bells were increased to eight in 1873.

Mr. Perrens' connection with Willenhall lasted until 1915, but out of this period he spent his college days in London, where he had many happy meetings with ringers and he has pleasant recollections of the kindness extended to him. From 1915 to 1921, interrupted by war service with the R.A.F., Mr. Perrens rang at Sutton Coldfield and naturally took an early opportunity of visiting St. Martin's, Birmingham, where handbell ringing was then 'going strong.' He became greatly interested in this phase of ringing and took it up with enthusiasm. His first handbell peal was Stedman Cinques, the first handbell peal on twelve bells in the city of Birmingham and for St. Martin's Guild. Out of the 45 peals which Mr. Perrens rang in this period, 26 of them were on handbells.

Since 1921 Mr. Perrens has been connected with All Saints', Allesley, Coventry, a six-bell tower, and it was not until some time after going there that his career as a conductor really started. In 1923 he called his first peal of Major (Cambridge Surprise), and although his peal ringing since then has been a little more rapid, he has only on two occasions rung more than 20 peals in a year; but they have gone to make up an interesting record.

For instance, Mr. Perrens conducted the first peals ever rung of Lincolnshire, Warwickshire, York, Wigston and Stratford Surprise Major, and called the first peals for the Warwickshire Guild of seven Surprise Minor methods, New Cambridge, Ipswich, Yorkshire, Staffordshire, Pudsey and Ashted Surprise Major, New Cambridge Royal and Duffield Major, and the first handbell peals of Stedman Caters and Cinques. Most of the Surprise peals were the first in the method by all the band, and, with one exception, were rung at the first attempt without any previous practice. In addition, Mr. Perrens conducted the first peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus for the Oxford Diocesan Guild and has rung in the first peals of Cambridge Maximus in several counties, including the great performance at Exeter Cathedral on October 15th, 1932. He has taken part in the only two peals rung at Buckfast Abbey, the first being rung from the narrow gallery round the central tower. Other of his interesting peals have been the first peal of Erin Cinques on handbells, a silent peal of Stedman Triples, and a silent peal of Stedman Cinques on handbells, in which the position of the ringers of the first five pairs of bells was drawn out of a hat.

Mr. Perrens has rung 322 peals, of which 89 have been on handbells, and he has conducted 121, of which 25 have been 'in hand.' Practically all the peals that he has conducted have been called from working bells, a policy which he holds should be instilled into budding conductors. His peals have been rung in 82 different towers, including 21 twelve-bell towers, in 20 counties and for 18 different societies and guilds. They include well over one hundred peals of Surprise and over a hundred on twelve bells, as well as a good number of peals of Minor up to seven Surprise methods.



MR. FRANK W. PERRENS.

THE NORWICH ASSOCIATION'S RECORD

SOME SIGNIFICANT FACTS.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I am sure that the Exercise as a whole will wish to congratulate Norwich very heartily on its magnificent performance, the completion of a 'peal of peals.'

There are some striking features about this achievement that Mr. Golden with characteristic modesty does not comment upon. First and foremost must be the part that he himself and the present generation of Norfolk ringers have played in producing the grand total, for the men of Norfolk are not riding on the shoulders of past giants; they have for the last two years at least rung over a century of peals in the twelve months on their own account.

Next is the extraordinary average put up by the Norfolk men of to-day in the matter of peal ringing. Their membership is small—325 performing members in the 1937 report, who yet rang 108 peals involving 812 ringers, which works out at participation in 2.3 peals per head of the ringing population within the compass of a single year. This is surely not alone a contemporary record, but it must be something like an all-time record as well. How high the figure is may be judged by the following comparative figures, representing the 'peal index' for 1937 unless otherwise stated for the guilds named: Winchester and Portsmouth, 0.42; Bristol, 0.38; Bath and Wells, 0.26; Guildford (1936), 0.36; Devon (1935), 0.031. Even the energetic Southampton district (which includes North Stoneham, a peal ringing tower of no mean order) could only score 1.25 for the Coronation year. All figures are based on resident membership alone.

There is much still to be said about Norfolk. There were in the 1937 report 31 peal conductors, an average over the whole membership of one peal conductor to every eleven members approximately, so that the honours of the big figures must be spread very widely indeed over the county. The variety of the methods rung is well known and needs no comment, but the most significant fact of all remains to be stated. It is that all the 1937 peals (and I think all the 1938 as well) were rung by resident members alone, with a few very trifling exceptions. No visiting bands helped to swell the total—Norfolk did it all unaided.

I have called this last the most significant fact of all, since it has so great a bearing upon the sporadic controversy that occupies your columns from time to time. Unattached ringers ring no peals in Norfolk, not because they are deliberately opposed by anybody concerned, but simply because the ringers of Norfolk keep their own bells fully occupied. Those who object to 'unattached' peals should go and do likewise. If they do not use their own bells they must not be surprised when other people do it instead, and they should put the blame where it belongs—upon their own incompetence or indolence—or both.

May the ringers of Norfolk long continue to show us how it is done.
Bittern, Bristol.

A. J. CORRIGAN.

NO RINGING AT PRESTBURY FOR VISITORS.

CHESTER GUILD ASKED TO CONSIDER VICAR'S REFUSAL.

The Macclesfield Branch of the Chester Diocesan Guild held its general meeting on Saturday, January 14th, and despite torrents of rain in the evening was very successful. Promptly at 3 o'clock the early arrivals commenced to ring up the tenor of the magnificent peal of twelve bells at the Parish Church, and it was not long before the Ringing Master had all his work cut out to provide for all tastes, both highbrow and lowbrow.

The special Guild service was conducted by the Vicar of Macclesfield (the Rev. N. A. Vesey), who is also the chairman of the branch, and a very interesting address was given by the curate (the Rev. K. Lee), which touched on the words of the special hymn for ringers, particularly the last verse, 'Our lives, like bells, while changing, an ordered course pursue.'

Tea was served in the Alexandra Cafe, when 31 members assembled. The business meeting followed, and apologies for absence were read from the Vicars of Chelford and Christ Church and the Rector of Gawsorth. The Vicar of Bosley and the Rector of Alderley had intended to be present, but were prevented at the last minute from attending.

The secretary was congratulated upon an excellent report, which revealed that there had been an increase in membership over 1937 of three honorary and 13 ringing members. Ringing meetings have been very well attended, the average being 27 per meeting. Twenty-one members took part in 44 peals for the Guild, ten members rang their first peal, nine at the first attempt, two their first on eight bells and two their first on ten. The officers for 1938 were re-elected en bloc for 1939.

The secretary pointed out that the ringing meeting proposed for July at Prestbury would have to be cancelled owing to the fact that the Vicar would not allow the bells to be used at any time by visiting ringers.

After some discussion it was decided to place the matter in the hands of the Guild secretary as an item affecting Guild principles.

Three further ringing members were elected, and the meeting concluded with votes of thanks to the chairman, secretary and treasurer, also to the organist for presiding at the organ for the service.

Further use of the bells was then made, and before finishing time several more stragglers found their way into the ringing chamber to complete the happy gathering.

BRISTOL UNITED GUILDS. LARGE GATHERING AT ANNUAL DINNER. Need for Recruitment in Belfries.

The annual gathering organised by Bristol United Ringing Guilds continues to grow in popularity and interest. Last Saturday ringers were attracted to Bristol not only from the immediate counties of Gloucestershire, Somerset and Wiltshire, but from places far distant, among them London, Sheffield, Manchester, Birmingham, Hereford, Newport, Swansea, Port Talbot, Plymouth and Southampton. The gathering has become more than the formal dinner with which it began 18 years ago. It has developed into a 'week-end,' and visitors find the warmest hospitality extended to them. On Saturday afternoon, in addition to the usual ringing at a number of the city churches, an excursion to Bristol Zoological Gardens had been arranged, and there was also afternoon tea for all who desired it at St. Thomas' Parish Room.

The trip to the Zoo was thoroughly interesting, and over 30 visitors, who were taken by motor-coach, availed themselves of the opportunity to inspect the specimens. Of course, there was not lacking the wit who said that the animals also enjoyed the entertainment provided for them. Clifton Zoo has been in existence more than a hundred years, and the visitors had the advantage of being conducted round the gardens by Mr. Ralph Guise (brother of the hon. secretary of Bristol United Guilds), who is one of the Zoo officials, but who, for some six months, has been incapacitated from work through one of his arms being badly mangled by a gorilla. Happily Mr. Guise is now recovering from his severe injuries. The two things which probably most interested the ringing visitors were the opportunity of fondling a lion cub only five weeks old, and inspecting a giant gorilla, weighing 28 stones—which they had no desire to fondle. This gentleman, however, was apparently more interested in his afternoon meal of bananas and raw onions than in the public.

After the tour of the gardens the visitors were entertained by the United Ringing Guilds to 'tea and bun' in the Pavilion and went on to ring at Clifton Parish Church.

BIG DINNER PARTY.

Dinner was served in the Ball Room at the Grand Hotel and over 260 sat down. During the meal they were entertained with light music, provided by an orchestral quintette. The chair was taken by Mr. E. J. Brown (St. Philip's), who was accompanied by Mrs. Brown, and he was supported by the Ven. Archdeacon of Bristol and Mrs. Alford, the Rev. Canon E. S. Swann (Vicar of St. Mary Redcliffe), Canon E. J. Phillips, the Rev. M. Paterson (Vicar of St. Thomas'), the Rev. Noel Hope (Vicar of Chedworth and Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association), Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Wood, Mr. A. A. Hughes (London), Mr. and Mrs. J. F. Smallwood (Bath), Mr. and Mrs. T. E. King (Bath), Mr. and Mrs. G. E. Ford, Mr. and Mrs. C. Read, Mr. and Mrs. W. Emery, etc.

Mr. W. Abraham (St. Thomas') was vice-chairman, and among the visitors were Mr. J. T. Dyke (hon. secretary of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association), Mr. J. W. Jones (hon. secretary, Llandaf and Monmouth Diocesan Association), Mr. W. H. Shuker (hon. secretary, Lancashire Association) and Mrs. Shuker, Mr. S. F. Palmer (hon. treasurer, Yorkshire Association), Mr. M. Wilson (hon. secretary, Sheffield District Society) and Mrs. Wilson, etc. Apologies for absence were received from, among others, Mr. and Mrs. A. Walker (Birmingham), Mr. J. P. Fidler (Loughborough), Mr. and Mrs. S. Romans (Gloucester) and Mr. Charles Thomas (of the Ancient Society of St. Stephen's Ringers). After an enjoyable meal, the Master submitted the loyal toast.

APPEAL TO RINGERS WHO HAVE DRIFTED.

The Chairman, in proposing the toast of 'The Church,' said, as ringers, they owed a great deal to the Church and particularly to the clergy. They had cause to be grateful to the clergy in many ways, especially for the courtesy they showed when ringers visited churches other than their own for the purpose of ringing peals, special practices, or ringers' outings, largely for their own gratification, but nevertheless enabling them to practise their art in a far broader sense than otherwise they could do. Ringers were aware, too, of the kindly willingness of the clergy to co-operate with ringing associations when those associations held their periodical meetings. The Chairman proceeded to appeal for a closer bond between clergy and ringers, and said he thought it could be strengthened if the clergy showed a little more interest and went to the belfry sometimes and got to know their ringers better. He knew there were some who took a real interest in that branch of church work, but in many towers an occasional visit from the Vicar, with perhaps a word of encouragement now and again, would not only go far to make ringers feel less out of things, but would have a definite effect for good, particularly among young ringers in the learner stage. He also appealed to those ringers who had for some reason or other drifted from the belfry and no longer took a rope on Sunday. Their absence constituted a serious loss to the Church and to the Exercise, particularly in these days of depleted bands. He appealed to those ringers, difficult though it might appear at first sight, to try and sink any differences they might have and return to the belfry and rejoin their brothers in what, after all, was their duty and service to the Church; keeping uppermost in their minds that service to the Church was a service to God (applause).

The Archdeacon of Bristol, who responded, referring to the chairman's description of the clergy as 'the stalwarts of the Church,' said

he disagreed with him in that. He always felt that the stalwarts of the Church were the laity and the people who backed up the clergy in every possible way. What the incumbents would do without the help they got from the laity, men and women, he shuddered to think. It was just because they had round them such bands of willing helpers as the ringers and other lay workers that they were able to carry on. Continuing, the Archdeacon referred to the anxious times in which we are now living, and said he hoped the bells, in the words of the poet, would ring out the old bad things in the world and that the ringers would translate into their sounds the message of peace. Ringers could do something as evangelists; they could tell the world that some of the old ideas are wrong; they could tell the world they did not want to talk of war, but wanted to talk of peace. They needed to ring the bells of peace throughout the world. He thought the Church should take a far greater lead than she did in talking of peace and of the things that would bring about peace. They prayed for peace when there was an emergency, as there was last September, and then went on telling people to become A.R.P. workers, as if they did not believe God had brought them peace in answer to their prayers. He was not a pacifist—he had been for 17 years a chaplain in the Forces—but something was wrong with what the Church taught. Every one of them, however small a part they played in the work of the Church, should try above all things at this time to preach peace. He wondered whether they could take away a message that night, and in future, through the bells, lift up their voices for peace. In that way in city and country the 250 who were there that night might go out and be a power for good. It had got to start from somewhere; it might well be that it could start there—the gospel of peace, because they were ringing the bells of peace (applause).

RELATIONS OF CLERGY AND RINGERS.

The Rev. M. Paterson, who proposed the toast of 'The Ringing World,' said the ringers of Bristol were, he knew, grateful for what they at St. Thomas' were able in a small way to do for them, but he sometimes wondered whether they gave gratitude where it ought to be given. They often thanked him, but their gratitude should really go to the churchwardens. Last year, he continued, he was allowed by the courtesy of the Dinner Committee to speak to them on the relationships that existed between the clergy and the ringers. He hinted, they would remember, that although there might be faults on the side of the clergy, there also might be some faults on the side of those immaculate people, the ringers (laughter). If the clergy and ringers were to come closer together there must be advances not only by the clergy, but also by the ringers. Many years ago when he was a young curate he went to a church where there were bells, and ringers who rang Sunday morning and evening and on one evening in the week for practice, but, so far as he could see, so long as the tower and bells were preserved, they would not have troubled if the whole church was burned down. They were entirely aloof from all parochial activities. It might have been his fault, and probably it was, because he was not so old or so wise then as he was now, and he ought to have made the first advance, but if those ringers had shown any interest, even a small interest in what interested him, if they had made some advance to the young curate who came amongst them, he would have been a ringer to-day.

Continuing, Mr. Paterson said that was the sixteenth dinner of the Bristol United Guilds that he had attended, and he was beginning to wonder whether there would be, for him, a seventeenth or an eighteenth. He had met with extreme courtesy from their committee; of later years they had placed his speech in a prominent place in their programme, but he felt that now he had said to them all he had got to say. Moreover, he had to confess that, with his advancing years, more and more did he value the quiet Saturday evening. He did most earnestly hope that they would be able to get some younger clergyman into the towers of Bristol and that he would be able to speak to them with more power and influence than he (Mr. Paterson) had been able to do. If that happened he could assure them that he would read that speech in 'The Ringing World.' Mr. Goldsmith knew perfectly well that he esteemed him, but the ringers of Bristol knew far better than he (the speaker) did the work Mr. Goldsmith did for ringers and the value of the paper (applause).

Mr. Goldsmith, in replying to the toast, said he sincerely hoped Mr. Paterson did not intend that speech to be his 'swan song.' They always appreciated Mr. Paterson's wit and wisdom, and hoped he would long be spared to join them at that gathering and enlighten and cheer them with his words (applause). Of the value of Mr. Paterson's speeches on those occasions they had proof last year, when as the outcome of what he said on the relations between ringers and clergy, the Archdeacon made reference to the matter in his charge (applause).

MORE RECRUITING NECESSARY.

Mr. F. J. Smallwood submitted the toast of 'The Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association and the Bristol United Ringing Guilds.' He said they had to thank the Bristol United Ringing Guilds for the work they were doing in creating unity among the ringers of the west country. They were proud of the work that was being done, and those gatherings were a great testimony to the efficiency with which it had been done. They had that day provided entertainment for their visitors as usual, but there was a subtle humour about the proceedings. He was very puzzled about the Zoo business. He understood that they were accompanied by one of the members of the Guild's Committee, and it was only with the greatest difficulty the authorities could be persuaded to let him come away (laughter). A

resolution had been moved that afternoon at the Zoo in the following terms: 'We, the animals housed at Clifton Zoo, desire to place on record our appreciation of the action of the Bristol Dinner Committee in arranging for their visitors to be brought to our Zoo to-day. We think they were a most interesting selection of the human species, and we should like to see more of them. (Signed) U. B. Chimpansa' (laughter).

Continuing, Mr. Smallwood said he asked the secretary for the number of performing members in the association at the present time, and he got a slight shock when he found it was less than it was in 1928. He thought that called for a good deal of inward reflection by them all. They ought to consider this question of recruitment of ringers more seriously. He threw out the hint to those people who had any influence with the authorities how useful it would be to get into the towers the choirboys after their voices had broken. They ought to rope them in and they might also recruit from the boy scouts. He thought there would be a useful field for recruitment there. They must not overlook the fact that they must recruit or their art would become a dying one. Meteoric performances were interesting to old timers, but the great thing they had to work for was the continuance of this wonderful art, and they could only secure it by continually recruiting young blood into their ranks (applause).

HIGHER STANDARD SHOULD BE AIMED AT.

The Rev. N. E. Hope replied to the toast and said when he shouldered the office of Master of the Gloucester and Bristol Association he felt it was a great responsibility, but he had come to find that it was a nice responsibility, for much of it was taken from him by their excellent secretary (applause). Then he had absolutely no financial worries, because he had Mr. Williams, the treasurer, behind him. He rather trembled when he looked at the list of former Masters and saw among them so many great ringers such as he could not hope to follow in that respect. The association was formed 60 years ago, and he was born in a Gloucestershire village shortly afterwards. There was a six-bell tower there, and in it he was taught the intricacies of Grandsire Doubles. He was sorry to say that ringing at that tower had not advanced. They were still ringing Grandsire and Bob Doubles (laughter). They could not do without those methods, but surely by this time there ought to be some advance. He would ask them all, whatever their standard, to try and go one better than they were at present in all their towers. There was, he thought, no art in the world that required so much concentration—they could not stop in the middle of a peal, for instance, to have a cigarette (laughter)—and they must do all they possibly could to keep up that art. Referring to the objects of the association, which were the reform of the belfry and the cultivation of change ringing, the speaker said these things went very much hand in hand. They could often tell the quality of the ringing at a tower by the state of the belfry. No good change ringing band would tolerate an untidy belfry. Recruiting was a frequent subject at ringers' dinners. There were two sides to the question. The old ones blamed the youth of the day with regard to bellringing because they would not stick to it, but if they had an enthusiastic trainer he would spread enthusiasm, and that was where there must be give and take on the part of the older men and the younger men. They had seen what had happened at Ipswich. The success there had been due to the fact that they never allowed the band to get under strength; they were always trying to learn something new and to train and give a chance to the young conductors, so that it was never a one man job. Those were three points which could always well be borne in mind.

BEST FIRMS SHOULD BE EMPLOYED FOR RESTORATIONS.

Another matter to which he would like to refer was that the association was always prepared to give expert advice where bell restoration was concerned. He would ask the members, if they were having anything done to their bells, to ensure that it was done by an expert firm. He knew of cases where money had been spent, but the best people had not been employed and the result was that the bells did not go well. It was one thing that was important to the clergy, and if they were having anything done to their bells they should get the Vicar to see that the best firms were employed. If they could not do that, they should write either to the secretary or to him. Mr. Hope added that he hoped ringers would not forget that the bells belonged to the Vicar or Rector, as the case might be, and they should, therefore, make friends with the incumbent. They wanted co-operation between incumbents and ringers, and the ringers should also see that they had one of their number on the Church Council (applause).

The Vice-Chairman proposed 'Kindred Societies and Visitors,' and referred to the fact that such an occasion as that afforded a valuable opportunity for ringers to make contact with members of other societies. As secretary of one of the Bristol towers he had often had to make arrangements for ringing in towers covered by other associations and had always been treated with kindness and consideration. He welcomed the members of other associations at that gathering and hoped for even closer contact in the future (applause).

Mr. A. A. Hughes, in acknowledging the toast, said the Bristol gatherings got better and better every year, and that day the visitors had been given a wonderful entertainment. The social side of ringing was very important and without it he thought ringing would not go very far. He knew of two towers in his own experience where the ringing consisted of going into the tower and ringing on practice nights and Sundays, and the men saw nothing else of each other all

(Continued on page 63.)

NOTICES.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Quarterly meeting at Gillingham on Saturday, January 28th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at 5 o'clock, followed by tea and business meeting in the Memorial Room (adjoining Vicarage).—G. H. Spice, Hon. Dis. Sec., 35, Woodstock Road, Sittingbourne.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Leeds on Saturday, January 28th. The bells of the Parish Church (12) will be available from 2 to 4.15 p.m. and 7.30 to 9 p.m.; St. Michael's, Headingley (8), and St. Chad's, Far Headingley (8), will also be available from 2 to 3.45 p.m. and 7.30 to 9 p.m. A service will be held in the Parish Church at 4.30 p.m. Tea (1s. 6d.) will be served in St. Peter's Hall at 5.30 p.m. The general meeting will take place immediately afterwards in the day schools. Subscriptions are now due, and reports will be available.—L. W. G. Morris, Gen. Sec., 65, Lilycroft Road, Heaton, Bradford.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Annual meeting at Farnham on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business at Darracott's, West Street.—C. W. Denyer, Dis. Sec., 120, Ash Road, Aldershot.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—North-Western District.—The annual district meeting will be held at St. Peter's, South Croydon, on Saturday, January 28th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service 5 o'clock. Tea at 5.30 p.m., followed by business meeting. Ringing again in the evening. All ringers welcome.—F. G. Woodiss, Hon. Dis. Sec., 28, Strathearn Road, Sutton, Surrey.

LADIES' GUILD.—Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Diss, Norfolk, on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., conducted by the Rector. Tea at the Waveney Hotel, price 1s. per head, at 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow. Gentlemen are cordially invited to attend. Palgrave bells (8) also available.—Sylvia R. E. Bowyer, Hon. Sec., 32, Gatacre Road, Ipswich.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bromyard District.—The annual meeting will be held at Bromyard on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (6) available 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea at 5.15.—A. S. Tomkins, Post Office, Bredenbury, Hereford.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—The annual meeting will be held at All Saints' Church, Edmonton, on Saturday, January 28th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Short service at 4.45 p.m. Tea in the Church Hall at 5.15 p.m., for which 1s. will be charged. Business meeting after tea, at which district officers and representatives on Central Committee for 1939 will be elected. All members and friends welcomed.—C. T. Coles, for Hon. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at Bispham on Saturday, January 28th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Business meeting and tea 5.30.—C. Sharples, Fylde Branch Sec.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Basingstoke District.—The annual meeting will be held at Basingstoke on Saturday, January 28th. Bells available from 2.30. Service in St. Michael's Church at 4. Tea at 5, followed by the meeting.—J. G. Stilwell, Hon. Dis. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bath Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Bathwick, on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.25. Tea and meeting to follow.—Theo Grant, Swainswick, Bath.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The annual committee meeting will be held at Hitcham (Old School) on Saturday, Jan. 28th, at 3.30 p.m. Bells (6) available to all at 6 p.m. Subscriptions for 1939 now due.—A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

NATIONAL GUILD OF POLICE RINGERS.—The annual meeting will be held in London on Saturday, January 28th. Ringing, St. George's, Southwark, 10.30 to 11.30 a.m. Tour of Houses of Parliament, 12 noon to 1 p.m. (Members and friends to meet at Norman Porch Door, Victoria Tower, Old Palace Yard, S.W.1, at 12 noon prompt). Lunch, 2s. 6d., Euston Tavern, Euston Road, W.C. (opposite St. Pancras Station), at 1.15 p.m. Meeting to follow. Ringing: St. Lawrence Jewry, 4 to 5 p.m.; St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, 5.15 to 6.30 p.m. Social, Euston Tavern at 7.15 p.m.—Norman S. Bagworth, 21, Stokenchurch Street, Fulham, S.W.6.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—The annual meeting for the election of officers, etc., will take place on January 28th at St. Martin-in-the-Fields. Ringing at St. Olave's, Hart Street 3-4 p.m. (nearest stations, Fenchurch Street and Mark Lane (Underground) and at St. Martin's 4-5.30 p.m. Tea in St. Martin's Crypt. Business meeting in Vestry Hall at 6.30 p.m. Further ringing until 9 p.m. St. Martin's bells.—Norman Summerhayes, 28, Bean Road, Bexleyheath.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kington District.—The annual meeting for the district will be held at Lyonshall on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (6) available 4 p.m. Service 5. Tea 5.30. Business meeting to follow.—H. Preece, Dis. Sec., Lea Lodge, Staunton-on-Arrow, Leominster.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch. The annual meeting of the Grimsby District will be held at St. Andrew's, Grimsby, on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 to 4.15, and after meeting till 9 o'clock. Service 4.15, address by the Vicar, the Rev. A. H. Howard, late of Ashby-de-la-Launde. A meat tea will be provided at a moderate charge, in the Church Hall at 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow. Outstanding subscriptions can be paid at this meeting. Please make this a reunion. All ringers and old friends welcome. Lincoln District please take note.—H. Mingay, Hon. Dis. Sec., 394, Wellington Street, Grimsby.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—St. Albans District.—A meeting will be held at Harpenden on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Short service 5 p.m. Tea at West's 5.30 p.m. Special methods for practice: Double Norwich and Cambridge. Any other methods will be rung as desired.—Harold V. Frost, Dis. Sec., 4, Kimberley Road, St. Albans.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at the Cathedral, Manchester, on Saturday, January 28th. Tower open for ringing at 6 o'clock. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—Joseph H. Ridyard, Branch Sec., 35, The Crescent, Worsley.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Dunster Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Dunster on Saturday, January 28th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea at the Village Hall at 5 p.m. Business meeting to follow.—G. Stacey, Hon. Local Sec., 6, Park Street, Minehead.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—General quarterly meeting, Saturday, January 28th, at Hugglescote. Bells (8) open all afternoon. Committee meet 4 p.m. Meat tea (1s. 9d. per head) 5 p.m., both at the Castle Hotel, followed by general meeting.—Ernest Morris, Gen. Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A joint meeting of the Liverpool and Wigan Branches will be held at St. Nicholas', Liverpool, on Saturday, January 28th. The tower will be open at 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m., to be followed by tea and the meeting in the Church Institute. All ringers are cordially invited to this meeting. Tea will be provided for all, but it would help materially if word were sent by those who intend to be present.—S. Forshaw and G. R. Newton, Branch Secs.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Stockport Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. George's, Stockport, on Saturday, January 28th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. For tea, please advise Mr. G. L. Burgess, 107, Rostrevor Road, Adswold, Stockport.—C. K. Lewis, Hon. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Axbridge Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Congresbury on Sat., Jan. 28th. Bells (8) available at 2.30 p.m. Divine service 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. All ringers welcome.—H. Minifie, Branch Sec., Royston, Uphill, Weston-super-Mare.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—The monthly practice at Chelmsford Cathedral will be resumed on Saturday, January 28th, at 7.30 p.m. The special method for practice is Cambridge up to Royal, and it is hoped that these practices will be well supported.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Cary Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Castle Cary on Saturday, January, 28th. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Other bells available. Please notify for tea.—W. A. Osborn, Galhampton, Yeovil. Phone, North Cadbury 230.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Edenham on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (8) available from 2 to 9 p.m. Service 6 p.m. Tea, followed by business meeting, will be held at Five Bells Inn at 5 p.m. All welcome!—C. T. H. Bradley, Hon. Sec., Folkingham, Lincs.

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SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Calne Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Wootton Bassett on January 28th. Bells (8) from 3 o'clock. Tea and meeting in the National School.—L. A. Wilson, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Church Kirk on Saturday, January 28th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Everybody welcome.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chester Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at the Cathedral on Saturday, January 28th. The bells will be available from 3 until the service at 4.30, and again in the evening.—J. W. Clarke, Mollington, Chester.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637). — Meetings: *St. Paul's Cathedral, January 31st, at 7.30 p.m. February: St. Magnus-the-Martyr, 2nd and 16th; Southwark Cathedral, 7th; St. Clement Danes, 9th; *St. Mary-le-Bow, 14th; St. Giles', Cripplegate, 21st; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 23rd; *St. Paul's Cathedral, 28th. * Business meeting afterwards. All at 7.30, except St. Andrews', 8 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

BRANDON, SUFFOLK.—The ring of 6 bells, tuned and rehung in new oak framework by John Taylor & Co., Loughborough, will be rededicated on Sunday next, 29th inst., at 3 p.m.

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hereford District.—The annual meeting will be held at Hereford on Saturday, February 4th. Bells available as follows: Hereford Cathedral (10), 2.30 to 4 p.m.; St. Nicholas' Church (6), 2.30 to 8.30 p.m.; All Saints' Church (8), 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. Service at St. Nicholas' Church at 4.15 p.m. Tea (6d. to those notifying me not later than Tuesday, January 31st), followed by the annual meeting, at the Kerry Arms Hotel, Commercial Square, Hereford.—R. H. Stickley, Dis. Sec., The Hollies, Lugwardine, Hereford.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—A meeting will be held at Royston, Hertfordshire, not Yorkshire, on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (8) available at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30, followed by tea, at the kind invitation of the Rev. F. F. Greig. Numbers for tea to me by Wednesday, February 1st. No postcard, no tea. All welcome.—R. Thos. Newiman, Lafayette, Salisbury Road, Baldock, Hon. Dis. Sec.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District.—The next meeting will be held at Danbury on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Please let me know numbers for tea by Wednesday, February 1st.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Upper Arbour Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—The annual meeting will be held at Isleworth on Saturday, February 4th, at the Church of All Saints (10 bells, tenor 16 cwt.). Ringing 3 to 4.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and meeting in the Church Hall 5 p.m. Ringing after. Tea, 1s., guaranteed only to those who notify the undersigned by Feb. 1st. Business: Financial statement, annual report, election of officers, etc. A good attendance is requested. Subscriptions for 1939 are now due.—J. E. Lewis Cockey, Hon. Dis. Sec., 16, St. Stephen's Road, West Ealing, W.13.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Walthamstow (St. Mary's) on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (10) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea to follow. Will those intending to be present kindly advise me not later than Wednesday, February 1st? Subscriptions for 1939 are now due.—J. H. Crampion, Dis. Sec., 7, Cedar Avenue, Chadwell Heath, Essex.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Lewisham District.—The quarterly meeting will be held at St. Nicholas', Chislehurst, on Saturday, February 4th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service at 5, address by the Rector, Rev. Canon J. A. Lumb. Tea at Tiger's Head at 1s. 3d. per head. Names for tea to be sent to Mr. T. Groombridge, 35, Albany Road, Chislehurst, not later than Tuesday, January 1st. Subscriptions for 1939 are now due, and should be paid at this meeting. Important business requires that every tower should be adequately represented on this occasion.—A. G. Hill, Hon. Dis. Sec., 24, Stanmore Road, Belvedere, Kent.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—Annual meeting at Guildford on Saturday, February 4th. Cathedral bells (8) available 3 to 4 p.m. S. Nicolas' (10) from 3 p.m. Service at S. Nicolas' 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting at Ayers' Hall (next church). Numbers for tea by February 1st, please.—W. F. J. Cope, Hon. Sec., 26, Curling Vale, Onslow Village, Guildford.

DEVONSHIRE GUILD.—Aylesbeare Deanery Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Whimble on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service at 4 p.m. Tea, 1s. 0d., in the Hall at 4.45 p.m., meeting to follow. Those requiring tea, please notify me not later than Monday, January 30th.—R. Brook, Hon. Sec., 3, Greatwood Terrace, Topsham.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Tonbridge District.—Sevenoaks (not Speldhurst, as previously arranged) is the place, and Saturday, February 4th the date of the first meeting of year. Please come and start the district on another successful year. Also keep your New Year's resolution of notifying me for tea in good time, Wednesday, February 1st, being the latest date. Tower open at 2.45 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea and short business meeting to follow. Will those interested please look up Erin Triples and Duffield Major? Subscriptions for 1939 are now due.—Alec E. Richardson, Laurel Cottage, Victoria Road, Southborough.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—A meeting will be held at Longton, on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Chester Guild and Midland Counties heartily invited. Will those requiring tea kindly notify Mr. E. Steele, Hawthorne, Caverswall Wood, Meir, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, before February 1st?—Andrew Thompson.

LADIES' GUILD.—North Midland Branch.—A meeting will be held at Sutton-on-Trent on Saturday, February 4th. Bells available from 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea 4.30 p.m. Business meeting afterwards. Will those intending to be present kindly let me know by Wednesday, February 1st?—(Mrs.) A. Richardson, Hon. Sec., Glyn Garth, Surfleet, Spalding.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Next meeting will be held at St. Mary's Church, Balderstone, on Saturday, February 4th. All ringers and friends welcome.—Ivan Kay, Branch Sec.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Devizes Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at Holt on Saturday, February 4th. Ringing 3 p.m. Service at 4.30. Tea at 5. Meeting to follow. Please advise me early how many will attend the tea.—W. C. West, Branch Hon. Sec., 584, Semington Road, Melksham.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Alton and Petersfield District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Petersfield on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (8) available from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting in St. Peter's Hall 5.15. Please attend, and kindly let me know numbers for tea by Wednesday, February 1st.—C. E. Bassett, Hon. Dis. Sec., 32, Charles Street, Petersfield.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Peterborough Branch.—The annual meeting of the above branch will be held at Ginton on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (6) will be available from 2.30 p.m. Usual arrangements.—W. H. Waldron, Hon. Sec., 137, Scotney Street, Peterborough.

COLESHILL, NEAR FARINGDON, BERKS.—The re-dedication of the bells, rehung and augmented to six by R. White, of Appleton, will take place on Saturday, February 4th, at 3.30. Bells available in evening. Please notify for teas by Wednesday, February 1st, to Mr. V. Jones, Coleshill, Swindon, Wilts.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Nottingham District.—The next monthly meeting of the district will be held at Daybrook on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (8) ready from 5 p.m. till 8 p.m. All ringers welcome. Please come and try your methods.—E. C. Gobey, Dis. Sec., Trowell, Notts.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Northern Branch.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Oldbury, near Birmingham, on Saturday, February 4th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Service in church 4.15, followed by tea and business meeting. Tea, price 1s., will be provided for all who notify me by Wednesday, February 1st. Note: Subscriptions should be paid at this meeting.—Norman J. Goodman, Hon. Branch Secretary, 52, Lottie Road, Selly Oak, Birmingham 29.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—The next meeting will be held at Redbourn on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (6) available from 3 p.m. Usual arrangements. Tea only arranged for those who notify me by Feb. 2nd.—W. Ayre, Leverstock Green, Hemel Hempstead.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch will be held at Wisbech on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (10) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Hinckley District, Sapcote.—Social evening, Red Lion Inn, on Saturday, February 4th. Bells available 5.30 to 6.30. Will those intending to be present please notify Mr. C. Brown, Moss Cottage, Sapcote, Leics.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bradfield Deanery Branch.—Annual meeting will be held at Theale, Berks, on Saturday, February 4th. Ringing 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea (9d.) 5 p.m. Please notify me three days before meeting number for tea.—T. W. Palmer, Hon. Sec. and Treas., 128, Halls Road, Tilehurst.

NORWICH ASSOCIATION.—South Norfolk Branch.—The annual general meeting will be held at Saxlingham on Saturday, February 4th. Bells (8) afternoon and evening. Service 4.15 p.m., followed by tea (free) at the kind invitation of the branch chairman, Mr. W. L. Duffield, in the Church Hall. Meeting follows. Special business: Election of officers for 1939. Special method, 'Checkenham Major.' Send numbers for tea to me by January 31, please. All ringers welcomed. Please don't forget to be present, and also at the ladies' meeting at Diss to-morrow.—A. G. Harrison, Hon. Sec., 90, Denmark Street, Diss, Norfolk.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The Gloucester Branch meeting will be held on Saturday, February 4th, at St. Mary-de-Crypt Church, Gloucester. Bells (8) open 3.15 p.m. Tea 5.15. St. Michael's bells (10) available 6.30 to 7.30. Usual procedure. Card for tea not later than February 1st to W. H. Harris, Hon. Branch Sec., 4, G.W.R. Terrace, Lydney Dock, Lydney, Glos.

LANCS ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Bury, on Saturday, February 4th. Bells available from 3 p.m. A short service will be held in church at 5.30. Will those requiring tea, please let me know by Wednesday, February 1st, and I will do my best to find accommodation at a moderate figure.—J. Porter, 11, Chesham Bank, Huntley Mount Road, Bury.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guilborough Branch.—A special meeting will be held at East Haddon (6 bells) on Saturday, February 4th. Usual arrangements. Please notify hon. secretary not later than Tuesday, January 31st, of those requiring tea.—H. H. Shrivess, Hon. Branch Sec., The Mill, Long Buckby, Rugby.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Special practice at Cripple-gate (12 bells) on Wednesday, February 8th, from 7.30 to 9 p.m. All members and friends welcomed.—C. T. Coles, Hon. Sec.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts Branch.—A meeting will be held at Brampton on Saturday, February 11th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock.—H. J. Parker, Dis. Sec., Great Staughton, St. Neots.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Leatherhead on Saturday, February 11th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service at 5, tea and business meeting following at the Duke's Head. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. A. Dean, 24, Church Walk, Leatherhead, as early as possible and not later than February 9th.—A. H. Smith, Hon. Sec.

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Ebbw Vale on Saturday, February 11th. Bells (8) available at 3 o'clock. Service at 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow.—J. W. Jones, Hon. Sec., Cartref, 94, Alterryn View, Newport, Mon.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A meeting will be held at Storrington on Saturday, February 11th. Tower open 2.45 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15 p.m. at the Old Forge Tea Rooms, 1s. Half rail fares (maximum 1s. 6d.) to members.—F. H. Meeten, Hon. Div. Sec., 22, North Street, Worthing.

LADIES' GUILD.—London District.—Meeting at Leyton Parish Church, Saturday, February 11th. (Leyton station, L.N.E.R., from Liverpool Street.) Nice light peal of eight in a beautiful and historic church. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. Tea, by kind invitation of the Vicar (Rev. R. Bren), for all those who notify Mr. C. A. Hughes, 92, Stanley Road, E.18, without fail by Saturday, February 4th.—I. R. Housden, Hon. Sec.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual meeting February 11th. Ringing: St. James', Clerkenwell, 2.30 to 3.30 p.m.; St. Mary-le-Bow, Cheapside, 2.30 to 3.30 p.m.; St. Clement Danes, Strand, 3 to 4 p.m. and 6 to 7 p.m. Service, St. Clement Danes, 4.15 (new service books). Tea, Perdy's Restaurant, 5 p.m. Business meeting, Parish Room, 7.30 p.m., followed by handbell competition. Names for this and tea as soon as possible, please, to hon. secretary, T. W. Taffender, 26, Southway, Raynes Park, S.W.20.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—The spring meeting will be held at Walmer on Saturday, February 11th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m., tea following (1s. per head). Please send your names for tea to Mr. F. A. Rye, 6, Castle Road, Walmer, near Deal, not later than Thursday, February 9th. Subscriptions for 1939 are now due, and may be paid to me at this meeting.—B. J. Luck, Hon. Dis. Sec., 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

CHANGE OF ADDRESS.—The Rev. John Pellow wishes to inform his ringing friends that from February 1st his permanent address will be: St. Cuthbert's Clergy House, Philbeach Gardens, London, S.W.5. Telephone No.: FRObisher 3263.

(Continued from page 59.)

the week. By virtue of a little influence they were got together socially, their enthusiasm for ringing increased and with it the quality of their ringing. They must, said Mr. Hughes, always strive to keep the social side of ringing going, and such reunions as they had that evening did a wonderful lot of good (applause).

The toast of 'The Artistes' was proposed by Mr. Brian Huddleston (pro-vice-chairman), who thanked them for their services, and this was replied to by Mr. George Spikes.

A feature of the proceedings at this gathering is the entertainment which follows the dinner, and once more a programme of great variety was offered. There were songs by Miss G. E. Sadler and Mr. George Spikes, Billie Fields and his partner provided some extremely amusing dialogues, Mr. Harold Leaker, a son of one of the United Guilds' officials, mystified the audience with clever conjuring tricks, and a company under Miss Edie Ryan provided cabaret turns. St. Thomas' Guild of Handbell Ringers again greatly delighted the large company with their selections of tunes. The committee of the United Guilds, and particularly the energetic hon. secretary, Mr. Edgar Guise, deserve hearty congratulations upon the success of their great efforts.

On Sunday many of the visitors enjoyed ringing at churches in and around Bristol, and they said farewell after a lunch-time reunion at the Radnor Hotel.

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