THE RINGING WORLD

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## A VINDICATION.

The London County Association, at its Annual Meeting on Saturday, took the only reasonable and honourable line open to it in regard to the unwarranted aspersion it had thrown upon the Guildford Diocesan Guild in a letter sent, on the Association's behalf, to the 'Ringing World' a month ago, wherein the finger of scorn was pointed at the Guild for encroaching upon the areas of other associations. It would have been an unfortunate departure from good manners to introduce such an expression into a matter in which the Guild had no concern, even if the allegation of encroachment had been true, but when the accusation had no shadow of foundation, or when, as must have been the case, no attempt was made to verify the facts, it was not only grossly unfair but lacked even the elements of decency in public letter writing. However, amends have now been made and the honour of the Guildford Diocesan Guild vindicated. It was, nevertheless, only done after a stiff fight to evade the issue on a point of order. Had this attempt succeeded it would have been a great pity, but the Master, in whose hands the matter lay, wisely permitted the motion (proposing that the offending paragraph be withdrawn) to be discussed, and afterwards showed his appreciation of the untenable situation into which the Association had been led by the letter, by accepting the facts as presented by the mover of the resolution and counselling a retreat.

The discussion that took place was not at all times edifying, but neither was the letter that was written to the 'Ringing World.' When personal feeling enters the door good sense sometimes flies out of the window—if we may adapt an old adage. There is a moral to all this, and we hope it may be taken to heart in those quarters—and there are many—where personalities are inclined to enter into a controversy. Abuse gets nowhere in an argument; it only leads to bad tempers and retorts that go deeper to wound than there is any need for. Particularly does courtesy demand that Associations dealing with other like bodies should be scrupulous in the statements they make. It is often fatal to jump to conclusions, and things written in haste are often repented at leisure. There can be hard hitting without personalities, and a controversy conducted without animosity can be enlightening as well as entertaining. It is always a mistake to assume that you have landed a knock-out blow when you have said something nasty about an opponent. This type of argument has an unpleasant habit of recoiling. It is good, sometimes, that the fresh air of criticism should be let in upon the methods and actions of organisations—even ringing organisations—and any discussion which

(Continued on page 102.)

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may ensue, if carried on in the right spirit, can only be conducive of good. But there are some golden rules which should be observed when one is tempted to take up the cudgels, especially in print. Make certain that you have a good case; be sure of your facts put up reasoned arguments and not abuse; and above all, if you have not got a good case, say nothing.

## TWELVE BELL PEALS.

CROYDON, SURREY.

THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Four Hours and Two Minutes,*

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

**A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;**

Tenor 36 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb. in C sharp.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| HORACE BELCHER | *Treble* | FREDERICK E. COLLINS | 7 |
| GEORGE R. PYE | 2 | DANIEL D. COOPER | 8 |
| WILLIAM H. HEWETT | 3 | GEORGE W. STEERE | 9 |
| FRANK E. DARBY | 4 | CHARLES H. KIPPIN | 10 |
| CHARLES T. COLES | 5 | EDWARD P. DUFFIELD | 11 |
| JAMES BENNETT | 6 | REUBEN SANDERS | *Tenor* |

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by W. H. HEWETT.

First Surprise Maximus on the bells.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

(ST. MARY-LE-TOWER SOCIETY.)

*On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,*

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

**A PEAL OF YORK SURPRISE MAXIMUS, 5280 CHANGES;**

Tenor 32 cwt.

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

Conducted by CHARLES J. SEDGLEY.

This is the first peal of York Surprise Maximus to be rung.

## TEN BELL PEALS.

BRISTOL.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, February 4, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-One Minutes.*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN-THE-MARTYR,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;**

Tenor 21 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *ALBERT TYLER | *Treble* | GILBERT PEARCE | 6 |
| ALFRED REEVES | 2 | WILLIAM THOMAS | 7 |
| MRS. WILKINS | 3 | WILLIAM PARKER | 8 |
| ALFRED PEARCE | 4 | ARTHUR PRINCE | 9 |
| J. FRANK SMALLWOOD | 5 | CECIL MOGFORD | *Tenor* |

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by ALBERT TYLER.

First peal as conductor. A birthday compliment to Mrs. Wilkins and the conductor.

WEDNESBURY, STAFFS.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

*On Thursday, February 9, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5039 CHANGES;**

Tenor 24 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *ALBERT J. HUBBLE | *Treble* | †AUBREY PICKERING | 6 |
| ALBERT D. COLLINS | 2 | RICHARD J. WARRILOW | 7 |
| †MAURICE G. TURNER | 3 | NORMAN G. LEECH | 8 |
| ‡GEORGE W. HUGHES | 4 | HOWARD HOWELL | 9 |
| BARNABAS G. KEY | 5 | KENNETH KNOWLES | *Tenor* |

Composed by J. CARTER. Conducted by B. G. KEY.

* First peal on ten away from 'tenor behind.' † First peal on ten bells. ‡ First peal in the method. First peal of Grandsire Caters and first peal on ten bells as conductor.

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
*On Saturday, February 11, 1939 in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN, PRITTLEWELL,
**A PEAL OF ERITH LITTLE BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;**
Tenor 18½ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| EDWIN A. BARNETT | *Treble* | ARTHUR S. RICHARDS | 6 |
| ALBERT E. NORTH | 2 | HENRY S. WILSON | 7 |
| EDWIN BARNETT | 3 | REGINALD W. DARVILL | 8 |
| HARRY HOSKINS | 4 | ERNEST W. FURBANK | 9 |
| FRANK B. LUFKIN | 5 | PHILIP A. CORBY | *Tenor* |

Composed by G. H. CROSS. Conducted by E. A. BARNETT.
First peal of Royal in the method by all the band, by the association, and the first rung on tower bells.

SHEFFIELD.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(SHEFFIELD & DISTRICT SOCIETY.)
*On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Six Minutes,*
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
**A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;**
Tenor 40 cwt. 10 lb. in B.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *TOM BROTHWELL | *Treble* | †JOHN J. L. GILBERT | 6 |
| JOHN THORPE | 2 | †ERNEST THORPE | 7 |
| SIDNEY F. PALMER | 3 | †C. ALLEN HEWITT | 8 |
| HAYDN THORPE | 4 | †NORMAN CHADDOCK | 9 |
| †HAROLD CHANT | 5 | †REGINALD PAYNE | *Tenor* |

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by J. J. L. GILBERT
* First peal in the method. † First peal of Stedman Caters.

CREWE, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
(CHESTER AND CREWE BRANCHES.)
*On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,*
AT CHRIST CHURCH,
**A PEAL OF ERIN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ROBERT SPERRING | *Treble* | HARRY OVERTON | 6 |
| GEORGE A. PACKER | 2 | SAMUEL JONES, JUN. | 7 |
| RICHARD D. LANGFORD | 3 | HARRY PYE | 8 |
| HARRY T. HOLDING | 4 | JAMES H. RIDING | 9 |
| JAMES SWINDLEY | 5 | HARRY THELWELL | *Tenor* |

Composed by JOSEPH W. PARKER. Conducted by SAMUEL JONES.
First peal in the method on the bells; first for the Chester Diocesan Guild in the county by a resident band.

WRINGTON, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
*On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Five Minutes*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
**A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5040 CHANGES;**
Tenor 37 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| GEORGE POPNELL | *Treble* | *FREDERICK A. TARGETT | 6 |
| DONALD G. CLIFT | 2 | *FRANK SKIDMORE | 7 |
| ALFRED E. REEVES | 3 | ALBERT A. HUGHES | 8 |
| JOHN H. B. HESSE | 4 | *RONALD G. BECK | 9 |
| HERBERT W. KNIGHT | 5 | JOSEPH T. DYKE | *Tenor* |

Composed by G. H. CROSS. Conducted by J. T. DYKE.
* First peal of Bob Royal.

## EIGHT BELL PEALS.

CHILVERS COTON, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.
*On Saturday, February 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;**
Tenor 13½ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| THOMAS W. CHAPMAN | *Treble* | PERCY STONE | 5 |
| FRANK W. PERRENS | 2 | *HARVEY J. DAKIN | 6 |
| CHARLES H. WEBB | 3 | ERNEST STONE | 7 |
| JOHN W. TAYLOR | 4 | JOHN E. S. MORETON | *Tenor* |

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by FRANK W. PERRENS.
* First peal.

HERSHAM, SURREY.
THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.
*On Saturday, February 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**
Tenor 8½ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *HAROLD W. ROGERS | *Treble* | JOHN B. HESSEY | 5 |
| THOMAS H. TAFFENDER | 2 | CLARENCE H. DOBBIE | 6 |
| MISS OLIVE L. ASHBROOK | 3 | †FREDERICK W. ALLEWAY | 7 |
| ERNEST J. KING | 4 | THOMAS W. TAFFENDER | *Tenor* |

Composed by T. DAY. Conducted by THOMAS H. TAFFENDER.
* First peal on more than five bells. † First peal in the method.

BRENTWOOD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
*On Tuesday, February 7, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST THOMAS-THE-MARTYR,
**A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**
Tenor 19¾ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ROBERT C. HEAZEL | *Treble* | HARRY TURNER | 5 |
| ALBERT NORTH | 2 | JOHN SITCH | 6 |
| ERNEST J. RUNTER | 3 | FRANK B. LUFKIN | 7 |
| HENRY W. SHADRACK | 4 | ERNEST W. FURBANK | *Tenor* |

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by H. TURNER.

GUILDFORD, SURREY.
THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
*On Wednesday, February 8, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifteen Minutes,*
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
**A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**
Tenor 23 cwt. 3 qr. 8 lb. in D.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| FREDERICK OLDROYD | *Treble* | *DOUGLAS R. HAYES | 5 |
| RICHARD HAYES | 2 | JOHN H B. HESSE | 6 |
| WILLIAM J. ROBINSON | 3 | GEORGE E. CLODE | 7 |
| ERNESY J. AYLIFFE | 4 | ALFRED H. PULLING | *Tenor* |

Conducted by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by A. H. PULLING.
* First peal in the method.

BUSHEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
*On Thursday, February 9, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
**A PEAL OF BEDFORD SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;**
Tenor 13 cwt.

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

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Composed by H. G. CASHMORE.
The first peal in the method.

SURFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(ELLOR DEANERIES BRANCH.)
*On Thursday, February 9, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAURENCE,
**A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**
Tenor 12 cwt. 9 lb.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| THOMAS E. WHITE | *Treble* | CHARLES C. RAWDING | 5 |
| MISS ELSIE LAKIN | 2 | MRS. R. RICHARDSON | 6 |
| RUPERT RICHARDSON | 3 | NORMAN T. KING | 7 |
| CYRIL DOBNEY | 4 | JOHN W. CARTER | *Tenor* |

Composed by F. BENNETT. Conducted by JOHN W. CARTER.

GRIMSBY, LINCS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)
*On Friday, February 10, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Five Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation).
Tenor 15 cwt. 2 qr. 25 lb.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| HERBERT I. MINGAY | *Treble* | *WILLIAM MUMBY | 5 |
| MRS. J. BRAY | 2 | JACK BRAY | 6 |
| STEPHEN BROMFIELD | 3 | GEORGE E. FEIRN | 7 |
| CHARLES W. TAYLOR | 4 | FRANK LORD | *Tenor* |

Conducted by JACK BRAY.
* First peal and first attempt.

METHERINGHAM, LINCS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

*On Saturday, Febuary 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,

**A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, RUTLAND, CAMBRIDGE, SUPERLATIVE, LINCOLNSHIRE, PUDSEY, YORKSHIRE, BRISTOL, NORFOLK, & NEW GLOUCESTER SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;**

Tenor 7¾ cwt.

| | |
|---|---|
| GEORGE FLINTHAM ... ...*Treble* | JOHN FREEMAN ... ... ... 5 |
| JACK L. MILLHOUSE ... ... 2 | JOHN WALDEN ... ... ... 6 |
| CHARLES MCGUINESS... ... 3 | WALTER TOMLINSON ... ... 7 |
| FREDERICK W. STOKES ... 4 | JOHN A. FREEMAN ... ...*Tenor* |

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by JOHN A. FREEMAN.

First peal of Spliced Surprise Major in ten methods by all the band, in the county and by the Guild. This peal contains 1,440 London, 1,184 Rutland, 416 Cambridge, 384 Superlative, 320 Lincolnshire, 320 Pudsey, 160 Yorkshire, 320 Bristol, 288 Norfolk and 288 New Gloucester. Rung at the first attempt.

UPTON-ON-SEVERN, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(WESTERN BRANCH.)

*On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

**A PEAL OF OXFORD BOB TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

J. J. PARKER'S SIX-PART, No. 6. Tenor 17½ cwt.

| | |
|---|---|
| EDWARD MAUND ... ... ...*Treble* | WILLIAM RANFORD ... ... 5 |
| FRANK LAWRENCE ... ... 2 | *ERNEST F. CUBBERLEY ... 6 |
| THOMAS W. LEWIS ... ... 3 | CHARLES CAMM ... ... ... 7 |
| REGINALD WOODYATT... ... 4 | HENRY BISHOP ... ... ...*Tenor* |

Conducted by CHARLES CAMM.

* First peal in the method. The quarterly peal for the branch.

WICKEN, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-EVANGELIST,

**A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;**

Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.

| | |
|---|---|
| HARRY G. RIDGWAY ... ...*Treble* | ERNEST C. LAMBERT ... ... 5 |
| JOHN A. GREEN ... ... ... 2 | JOSEPH MARKS ... ... ... 6 |
| *REGINALD H. HOWSON ... 3 | THOMAS E. ROBERTS ... ... 7 |
| A. NUNNELEY WOOD... ... 4 | ALBERT J. GREEN... ... ...*Tenor* |

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by A. J. GREEN.

* First peal in a Surprise method.

HILLINGDON WEST, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Two Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.

| | |
|---|---|
| WILLIAM H. JOINER ... ...*Treble* | WILLIAM HENLEY ... ... 5 |
| PERCY E. JONES ... ... ... 2 | *WILFRED S. CHILDS ... ... 6 |
| EDGAR HANCOX ... ... ... 3 | FRANK CORKE ... ... ... 7 |
| WILLIAM WELLING ... ... 4 | ARTHUR BRAY ... ... ...*Tenor* |

Conducted by FRANK CORKE.

* First peal of Stedman 'inside.'

NORTHOWRAM, HALIFAX.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,

**A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**

Tenor 15¾ cwt. in F.

| | |
|---|---|
| WILLIAM WOODHEAD ... ...*Treble* | KENNETH SIMPSON ... ... 5 |
| HARRY DAVISON ... ... ... 2 | GEORGE ROBINSON ... ... 6 |
| MISS MARY WHITE ... ... 3 | ERNEST H. SIMPSON ... ... 7 |
| JAMES F. HARVEY ... ... 4 | LESLIE W. G. MORRIS ...*Tenor* |

Composed by E. TIMBRELL. Conducted by LESLIE W. G. MORRIS.

First peal of Surprise on the bells.

## ERIN TRIPLES IN SCOTLAND.

The first quarter-peal of Erin Triples in Scotland and by all the band was rung at St. Cuthbert's Church, Edinburgh, on Sunday, January 29th, for service: Miss A. Whitsun 1, Miss M. Holland 2, D. Holland 3, Mrs. N. Ross 4, Miss F. Hogg 5, W. C. Heathcote 6, J. Marshall (conductor) 7, E. Rose 8.

LEOMINSTER, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

*On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,*
AT THE PRIORY CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,

**A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 23 cwt.

| | |
|---|---|
| *THOMAS R. PAYNE ... ...*Treble* | GEORGE R. HANKS ... ... 5 |
| JOHN BOURNE ... ... ... 2 | LESLIE EVANS ... ... ... 6 |
| WILLIAM H. SYMONDS ... 3 | ERNEST F. SALMONS ... ... 7 |
| RICHARD J. RAWLINGS ... 4 | *ERNEST WILLIAMS ... ...*Tenor* |

Conducted by ERNEST F. SALMONS.

* First peal on eight bells.

NORTHCHURCH, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and One Minute,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF NORTHCHURCH SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**

Tenor 15¼ cwt.

| | |
|---|---|
| JOHN E. ROOTES ... ... ...*Treble* | JAMES C. E. SIMPSON ... ... 5 |
| HENRY HODGETTS ... ... 2 | EDWIN JENNINGS ... ... ... 6 |
| CECIL C. MAYNE... ... ... 3 | MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT ... 7 |
| FRANCIS KIRK ... ... ... 4 | HAROLD G. CASHMORE ...*Tenor* |

Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

The first peal in the method.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Two Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

**A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor 24 cwt.

| | |
|---|---|
| JOSEPH H. RIDYARD ... ...*Treble* | PETER CROOK, JUN. ... ... 5 |
| CECIL RADDON ... ... ... 2 | RICHARD BENSON... ... ... 6 |
| *FRANK BARRACLOUGH ... 3 | PETER CROOK, SEN. ... ... 7 |
| PERCY H. DERBYSHIRE ... 4 | ARTHUR JAMES ... ... ...*Tenor* |

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by P. CROOK, SEN.

* First peal in the method.

MILNROW, LANCS.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES

**A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;**

Tenor 18 cwt.

| | |
|---|---|
| *ALWYN TAYLOR ... ... ...*Treble* | STEPHEN L. PARRY ... ... 5 |
| *JOHN MEADOWCROFT, JUN. 2 | *JOHN BUTTERWORTH ... ... 6 |
| *SELWYN HOLT DEARDEN ... 3 | HAROLD HAMER ... ... ... 7 |
| *HARRY BYROM ... ... ... 4 | IVAN KAY ... ... ... ...*Tenor* |

Composed by A. CRAVEN. Conducted by H. HAMER.

* First peal in the method.

STOWMARKET, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

*On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirteen Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND MARY,

**A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5008 CHANGES;**

Tenor 24 cwt.

| | |
|---|---|
| SHELFORD SPARROW ... ...*Treble* | WILLIAM E. WATHEN ... ... 5 |
| KEITH W. WHITTLE ... ... 2 | ARTHUR GRIMWOOD ... ... 6 |
| GEORGE W. ABLITT ... ... 3 | GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL ... 7 |
| HARRY D. LISTER ... ... 4 | ARTHUR R. WOODARD ... ...*Tenor* |

Composed by G. H. CROSS. Conducted by HARRY D. LISTER.

PULHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and One Minute,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,

**A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;**

Tenor 14 cwt.

| | |
|---|---|
| FREDERICK ROOPE ... ...*Treble* | NOLAN GOLDEN ... ... ... 5 |
| CHARLES W. LOOME ... ... 2 | FREDERICK C. ROPER ... ... 6 |
| ALBERT G. HARRISON... ... 3 | RUSSELL W. CURSON ... ... 7 |
| FREDERICK C. GUNTON ... 4 | ERNEST WHITING... ... ...*Tenor* |

Composed by G. LINDOFF. Conducted by ERNEST WHITING.

## SIX BELL PEALS.

WOODHOUSE EAVES, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
(LOUGHBOROUGH BRANCH.)

*On Saturday, February 4, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAUL,

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

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

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *JOHN V. E. HUNT | ...Treble | †E ROLAND STOCKWELL | 4 |
| ALAN JACQUES | 2 | HENRY HAYNES | 5 |
| *ERNEST JACQUES | 3 | G. RONALD EDWARDS | ...Tenor |

Conducted by G. R. EDWARDS.

* First peal. † First peal 'inside.' First peal in four methods by all except conductor.

BASSINGHAM, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(NORTHERN BRANCH.)

*On Sunday, February 5, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Eight Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,

**A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Being seven extents in nine methods: (1) Oxford and Kent Treble Bob; (2) Cambridge Surprise; (3) Plain Bob; (4) Double Oxford; (5) Oxford Bob; (6) St. Clement's; (7) Double Court and Court Bob.
Tenor 10½ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| ERIC WILLCOCK | ...Treble | JOHN C. VESSEY | 4 |
| S. GEORGE VESSEY | 2 | JACK L. MILLHOUSE | 5 |
| MISS DOROTHY VESSEY | 3 | KENNETH W. MAYER | ...Tenor |

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

APSLEY END, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

*On Monday, February 6, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

**A PEAL OF BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Tenor 14¾ cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| *ALBERT HARRIS | ...Treble | †WILLIAM FEAREY | 4 |
| †BRIAN MCKAY | 2 | WILLIAM J. PUDDIFOOT | 5 |
| REGINALD S. COOK | 3 | WILLIAM J. RANDALL | ...Tenor |

Conducted by WILLIAM J. RANDALL.

* First peal of Minor and first attempt. † First peal 'inside.' A birthday compliment to Mr. A. V. Good.

ROCKWELL GREEN, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

*On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,*

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

**A PEAL OF TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;**

Four 720's of Oxford and three of Kent, each called differently.
Tenor 12 cwt.

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| JAMES HUNT | ...Treble | RONALD W. HAYWARD | 4 |
| *ALEC A. WALKER | 2 | WILLIAM G. GIGG | 5 |
| *HERBERT H. WALKER | 3 | HENRY CHURCHILL | ...Tenor |

Conducted by JAMES HUNT.

* First peal of Treble Bob. Rung in memory of Mr. S. Wyatt, who was laid to rest on February 9th.

HOLLOWAY.—At St. Mary Magdalene on Sunday, January 22nd, for morning service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: R. Charge 1, H. Franks 2, *F. Barker 3, R. Newman (first quarter-peal of Stedman 'inside') 4, G. Charge 5, E. Holman 6, A. Turner (conductor) 7, *A. Johnson 8. * First quarter-peal of Stedman.


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by E. S. and M. POWELL.

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## DEVONSHIRE GUILD.

MEETING AT BRIDGERULE.

Bridgerule, where a meeting of the North-West Branch of the Devon Guild was recently held, is a combined parish which, till the Rectification of Boundaries Act in 1844, was one half in Cornwall and the other half in Devon. The Tamar divides West Bridgerule from East Bridgerule, and, even to-day, there are separate ratings and councils for the divisions. In ancient times a court was held on the bridge, where the jurors or magistrates met. In case of a dispute between the two areas, six men were chosen from either side and then stood facing each other across the middle of the bridge. The side which pushed the other across the bridge won the case. Hence may be ascribed the word Bridgerule.

The chairman of the branch (the Rev. W. H. Ravenhill) was supported by the Rev. E. V. Cox, president of the Devon Guild, with members from Holsworthy, Bradworthy, Marland, Petrockstowe, Poundstock, Plymouth and the local band.

A service in the ancient church was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. J. H. Kingdon), assisted by the Rev. W. H. Ravenhill, who read the lesson.

Tea, prepared by lady friends of the local band, was served in the Parish Hall.

At the business meeting which followed, the Rev. W. H. Ravenhill (chairman), Mr. J. W. Sangwin (hon. secretary), Mr. W. J. Shears (treasurer), Mr. F. Sangwin (Ringing Master) and the Rev. W. H. Smale, Mr. A. J. Metters, with Mr. F. Sangwin, were all thanked for their services and re-elected for the ensuing year.

The president made a statement regarding his proposed deletion of Rule 12, 'That no member shall take part in any competitive ringing.'—After some discussion it was decided that the branch should support the motion.

Petrockstowe was fixed for the annual meeting of the branch on October 7th.

Votes of thanks were accorded the Rector for his service and the use of the bells, the organist and the ladies who assisted.

BRANCH MEETING AT TOTNES.

The ancient borough of Totnes, with its very fine church and peal of bells, was the venue of the annual meeting of the Mid-Devon Branch of the Devon Guild of Ringers on February 11th, when an enjoyable time was spent. Ringers attended from Exeter, Brampford Speke, Petrockstowe, Dawlish, Newton Abbot, Buckfastleigh, Torquay, Paignton, Collaton St. Mary and Torquay.

After ringing in the afternoon, a service was conducted by the Rev. Preb. J. Heywood Waddington (Vicar), assisted by the Rev. O. L. Willmott (curate). The Rev. Willmott, who is a member of the branch, gave a very able address.

Following tea at the Commercial Hotel, the business meeting was presided over by the Rev. E. V. Cox (president of the Guild) in the unavoidable absence of the branch chairman.

The secretary reported that the collection, which was to be devoted to the fund for the provision of a peal of bells at St. Andrew's Church, Northampton, amounted to 7s. 6d.

The secretary's report, which was adopted, showed that at three meetings held during the past year the attendances had not been quite so satisfactory. Four peals had been rung in the branch, whilst a number of new members had been elected and a number withdrawn.

The treasurer's report showed that although there was still a satisfactory balance in hand there was a decrease of 6s. 10d. on the year's working.

The following officers were unanimously elected: Chairman, the Rev. W. R. D. Mills; secretary, treasurer and Ringing Master, Mr. A. L. Bennett; auditor, Mr. C. R. Walker; three representatives on the General Committee, Messrs. C. R. Walker, H. C. Collyer and R. Whiting.

On the proposition of the chairman, a very hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Bennett for his past work in the branch.

It was resolved to hold the next meeting at St. Saviour's, Dartmouth, on June 10th, subject to the necessary permission being obtained.

Mr. E. J. Taylor, of Torquay, was transferred to the list of honorary members.

Mr. Bennett proposed a very hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar of Totnes for the use of his bells and for conducting the service, to the Rev. O. L. Willmott for his address, to the organist for her help, and to the local steeplekeeper for having everything in readiness.—The Vicar, in a humorous speech, very suitably replied, and welcomed the visitors to Totnes.

At this juncture the president had to leave the meeting to fulfil another engagement, and the chair was occupied by Mr. C. R. Walker for the remainder of the evening.

A letter was read from the president stating that at the next committee meeting he would move that Rule 2, which debars members from taking part in competitive ringing, be deleted from the Guild rules, and after a general discussion it was decided to inform the president that no objection would be offered by the branch.

The members then returned to the tower for further ringing. The methods rung during the afternoon and evening were Grandsire Triples and Stedman Doubles and Triples.

# PEAL NOTES.

## SPLICED SURPRISE IN TEN MAJOR METHODS.

The Lincoln ringers have achieved another very fine performance, by ringing a peal of Spliced Surprise Major in ten methods at the first attempt. This is the more meritorious in that they had never had the opportunity of practising all the methods in one touch. The practices at the Cathedral are always so well attended that there is no opportunity of ringing anything of ten method length.

The peal was rung at Metheringham, where the bells, a rather poor old lot, are rung from the ground floor, with a long draught of rope and no guides.

The greatest number of Surprise methods spliced into one peal of Major up to the present is 12, rung by the Middlesex Association under the conductorship of the late Mr. William Pye.

Two more new Surprise Major methods this week by the Hertfordshire band. Bedford Surprise, a method published in 'The Ringing World' on April 7th, 1911, was rung for the first time on Thursday week at Bushey; two days later Northchurch, named after the village in which it was rung.

The peal of Bedford was rung to a Treble Bob composition by Arthur Knights, and the Northchurch to a composition which has been used many times and belongs to no one in particular.

The peal at Northchurch was Mr. Francis Kirk's 150th peal and Mr. Edwin Jennings' 25th Surprise Major method.

By the way, it was said in these notes last week that the peal of Zetland was rung by the Watford band. It is a mistake to call this company a Watford band, for, although most of them live not far from Watford, they are none of them attached to Watford tower. Zetland was rung by five members of Bushey tower, one each from Oxhey and St. Albans, and one unattached.

## IPSWICH SOCIETY'S NEW ACHIEVEMENT.

Meanwhile St. Mary-le-Tower Society have added to their laurels by ringing yet another method of Surprise Maximus, which is the seventh in which the society has been first to score a peal. This was York Surprise, a method by Mr. Gabriel Lindoff, and was rung on Saturday. Mr. W. P. Garrett has taken part in all seven of the first peals, the first of which was Cambridge in 1908. The first plain course of York was rung as recently as January 25th, and only five courses have been rung in all, while no bob in the Maximus had been called previous to starting for the peal.

The method can be highly recommended for its regular extension from Minor upwards, and it is more musical than Cambridge. Care must be exercised in peals of Major, as in this there are five false course-ends. Royal and Maximus, however, have a clean proof scale. By the peal on Saturday Mr. Charles A. Catchpole brought his total to 300, and Mr. Harry R. Roper completed 100 peals for the Suffolk Guild.

Members of the Chester and Crewe branches of the Chester Diocesan Guild rang a peal of Erin Caters at Christ Church, Crewe, on Saturday. It was the first peal in the method for the Guild by a resident band, and the ringers wish to thank Mr. W. Edge, the towerkeeper for having everything in readiness for the peal attempt.

The composition, a 5,007 by Mr. Joseph W. Parker, of Sunderland, is a musical and interesting one:—

| | |
|---|---|
| 1234567e9 | |
| 534612978 | 1 2 3 5 9 10 12 |
| 134652 | 4S. |
| 625413 | 4 6 7 |
| 431562 | 4 6 7 |
| 513462 | 5 6 |
| 423561 | 6 7 |
| 532461 | 5 6 |
| 613254 | 4 5 7 |

These last five courses 17 times repeated, except in 3rd and 12th repetitions when the last course is called S.4 only, and in the 8th repetition when the last course is called S2.4.5.9.11.12 to produce the handstroke position (614253879). The bells come round at the third change of the last course.

Six members of the band rang their first peal of Stedman Caters and one his first peal in the method at Sheffield Cathedral on Saturday. It was Mr. John Thorpe's 50th peal on the bells.

His friends in Herefordshire are looking forward to Mr. William Symonds' 100th peal. He rang his 99th on Saturday at Leominster.

A peal of Stedman Triples at Worsley, Lancashire, on Saturday, rung after meeting short for Caters, was a birthday compliment to Mr. Fred Grundy, of the local company, Mr. Arthur James, who rang the tenor to the peal, and Mr. Dick Newton, of Boston, U.S.A., formerly a well-known Lancashire ringer.

## A PROMISING YOUTH.

Albert Tyler, who called a peal of Stedman Caters at Bristol on Saturday, and thus rang his first peal as conductor, is a son of the late Mr. Jesse Tyler and a nephew of Mr. John Thomas. Still in his 'teens, he is one of the most promising youngsters in the West of England.

Mr. H. F. Dakin, of Tamworth, who, at Chilvers Coton, Warwickshire, on February 4th, rang his first peal, has been ringing for the past 25 years, and has made nearly, if not quite, 40 previous attempts. This surely is a case of perseverance rewarded, although tardily.

A copy of the composition of the peal of Bob Royal, rung at Wrington on Saturday, blew in through our office window on Monday. It is a very good composition with the sixth at home for the last 24 courses. On the bottom of the slip which reached us is a string of names from Annable to Dyke and the inquiry 'Whose *is* it?'

| 23456 | W | M | H |
|---|---|---|---|
| 42635 | — | — | 3 |
| 62534 | | — | |
| *24536 | | — | 2 |
| 32546 | — | | 3 |
| 43526 | — | | 3 |
| 52436 | — | | — |
| 32456 | S | | 3 |

Repeat from * calling W instead of M. Well, whose *is* it?

Since we asked this question we have learned that the original composer was Mr. G. H. Cross. So there is really no need for the inquiry, but we will let it go.

The peal was rung as a birthday compliment to Miss R. E. A. Knight, whose father took part in the peal.

The composition of the peal of Superlative—a one-part by J. W. Washbrook—rung at Wicken on February 11th, was first rung as a 6,048 at Drayton, Berkshire, on July 30th, 1887, and was published in 'The Bell News' September 10th that year. It was the first composed with the 4th and 6th their extent in 5-6 and the 4th, 5th and 6th only in sixth's place at the course-ends.

The quarterly peal of the Western Branch of the Worcestershire Association was rung at Upton-on-Severn on Saturday, February 11th. Mr. Ernest F. Cubberley, a member of the Kempsey (six-bell) band, rang his first peal of Oxford Bob Triples.

Charles Camm, Branch Ringing Master and conductor of the peal, is in charge at Upton. He encourages the six-bell ringers to visit his tower on Fridays for eight-bell practice, with the result that several who would otherwise still be six-bell ringers can now ring several Triples methods.

As Charlie keeps 'open house' at Upton, it is open to members of the many six-bell towers in the vicinity to prove that they wish to progress. Incidentally, it may be remarked that 'Hercules' bark is 99 times worse than his bite.

The first peal of Erith Little Bob Royal on tower bells was rung at Southend on Saturday.

Mr. R. Hayes, of Haslemere, Surrey, and his son Douglas rang their first peal together on February 8th, when they took part in a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at Guildford Cathedral. Mr. Dick Hayes has been peal ringing for many years, and his son has taken part in several, but they had not before this been in the same peal band.

## ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

### SUCCESSFUL MEETING AT WALTHAMSTOW.

A meeting of the South-Western Division of the Essex Association was held at St. Mary's, Walthamstow, on Saturday, February 4th, attended by some 35 members and friends from Leytonstone, Leyton, Wanstead, Woodford, Romford, Brentwood, South Weald, Bentley, Colchester, Maldon, Southgate, Bishopsgate, Wimbledon and the local band.

After a good spell of ringing in the afternoon, a short service was conducted by the Rev. Watts, at which he gave the association a hearty welcome to St. Mary's, and expressed the Vicar's disappointment of his inability to be with them, as he was just recovering from a severe cold.

Tea, kindly arranged by the local band, was then partaken of, followed by the business meeting, presided over by Mr. J. Chalk, Master. In his opening words, the Master referred to the proposed Benevolent Fund, saying he was frankly disappointed with the way in which his proposition had been received by some members of the Central Committee, and, therefore, intended writing to every tower affiliated to the association, enclosing copy of suggested rules, asking each one to give their own opinion, and he hoped to have something further to report at the next district meeting.

Eight new members were elected, and North Weald was selected as the place for the next meeting, to be held on Saturday, April 29th.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar for allowing use of tower and bells, to Mr. Watts for conducting the service, to the organist for accompanying the hymns, to Mr. F. C. Maynard and the St. Mary's band for making all the necessary arrangements, and to the ladies for serving the tea, was carried with acclamation.

Mr. F. C. Maynard replied and expressed his pleasure at seeing such a good number. He hoped the Essex Association would not leave it so long next time before they paid a visit to St. Mary's.

After some handbell ringing, the members returned to the tower, where touches in various methods from Grandsire to Cambridge, including a well-struck course of Yorkshire, were brought round.

## WELCOME TO NEW RECTOR.

On Tuesday, January 17th, at St. Lawrence's Parish Church, Chorley, Lancashire, a quarter-peal of Bob Minor was rung as a welcome to the new Rector, the Rev. Canon A. Boddington, who was recently inducted. *H. Fisher 1, *H. Southworth 2, *T. Lucas 3, J. H. Gartside 4, *H. Kearsley 5, F. Rigby (conductor) 6. * Longest length of Minor.

## DEATH OF A TAUNTON RINGER.

It is with great regret that we have to record the death of Mr. Sydney Wyatt, of Taunton, who passed away on February 6th at the age of 63 years.

Mr. Wyatt had been a ringer and member of the Diocesan Association for 45 years. An excellent striker and safe ringer, deceased rang about 40 peals, conducting one. He had been in business about 45 years as a nurseryman.

He was laid to rest in Wilton Churchyard on the 9th inst. amid many manifestations of regret and respect. After the funeral representatives of the three churches in Taunton rang half-muffled touches of Stedman Triples on Wilton bells. Amongst the numerous floral tributes was one in shape of a bell from his brother ringers of Wilton and one from St. Mary's band, to which he was attached for a number of years.

Deceased leaves a widow, a son and two daughters, also his father, to mourn their loss.

## RINGER'S TRIBUTE TO FRIEND

### OLD CHORISTER'S DEATH AT SUTTON-IN-ASHFIELD.

On Tuesday, January 31st, Mr. Harry Oscroft, a pillar of the church and a chorister for more than 50 years at Sutton-in-Ashfield, Notts, was laid to rest. All who knew Mr. Oscroft were drawn to him by his unique personality. Here was one of nature's gentlemen, a man to whom everyone looked with respect.

A hosiery worker, he had a heart attack about a week before his death and died, lamented by all who attended St. Mary's and a large circle of other friends. His death leaves a gap in the parish which will not easily be filled, and the ringers, who rang a half-muffled quarter-peal in his memory, wish to tender their sincere sympathy to the bereaved widow and family.

Although Mr. Oscroft was not intimately connected with ringing, he always had a kind word for the ringers and their 'applied mathematics' as he so often termed them.

The quarter-peal was of Bob Minor, and was the first by all the band. It was rung by Wilfred Stocks 1, Colin Evans 2, Clifford Beeby (conductor) 3, John Beeby 4, Frank Bradley 5, Cyril Heathcote 6.

## NEARLY ALL UNCLES AND NEPHEWS.

What had been intended as an uncles and nephews' performance at Waltham St. Lawrence on January 19th did not quite materialise. One of the nephews was unable to keep the appointment at the last minute and his place was filled by Mr. T. Tilley. The following rang a 720 of Plain Bob Minor: S. Darvill (first of Plain Bob) 1, W. Pearson (first 'inside') 2, A. Pearson (first 'inside') 3, R. Darvill (conductor) 4, V. Darvill 5, T. Tilley 6.

## MR. NOLAN GOLDEN'S PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Mr. Nolan Golden has an unfortunate habit of making for his compositions claims which he would have great difficulty in substantiating; his latest are as well rather difficult to understand.

If he means that his 5,216 of Double Norwich is the first to be rung in less than 48 seven lead courses, in which all the course-ends with 4-5-6 in 5-6 and those with the 6th at home appear, may I say that I called a 5,184 with similar qualities, and with no other changes used, on December 2nd, 1936. Having doubts of its originality, I put it down as 'arranged and conducted,' and subsequently Mr. C. W. Roberts informed me that it had been published by Edgar Wightman in 1901. Whether it had been rung in the intervening period I do not know.

E. A. BARNETT.

Crayford.

### QUALITIES DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN.

Dear Sir,—I was interested to read in 'Peal Notes' your description of Mr. Nolan Golden's 5,216 of Double Norwich Court Bob Major.

Although the wording describing the qualities of the peal is rather vague, I imagine that the composition contains the full combination of 4-5-6 in 5-6, with the 6th the extent at home, and that only 48 course-ends are introduced. If this is so, Mr. Golden is to be congratulated on his production, but I should like to point out that the late Edgar Wightman composed a 5,184 with these qualities, which is the shortest peal yet obtained on these lines. Possibly Mr. Golden's peal contains some additional qualities not present in the 5,184, and this would place it in a class by itself, as peals in 48 courses only, with these course-end qualities, are extremely difficult to obtain. I am sure that this peal will be welcomed by conductors who appreciate musical compositions.

CHARLES W. ROBERTS.

## SOMERSET AND LONDON.

An attempt was made to ring a quarter-peal in Somerset for morning service and in London for evening service on the day after the Bristol United Guild's dinner by two of the London contingent. They succeeded in the morning at Barrow Gurney, but the evening effort at St. Andrew's, Holborn, was not so successful.

At Barrow Gurney, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples was rung by J. S. Hawkins (London) (conductor) 1, W. Townsend 2, P. E. Clark (London) 3, W. Tend 4, C. W. Martin 5, W. C. Rose 6, R. G. Gilbert 7, T. Boreham 8.

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## BELFRY GOSSIP.

We regret to say that Mr. Arthur Knights, the famous composer, is ill at his home at Chesterfield. We learn that he is suffering from cardiac debility and bronchitis and that his condition is very weak.

His friends throughout the Exercise, and they are legion, will extend their sympathy and good wishes to Mr. Knights in his illness.

There is good news of Mr. W. H. Fussell, of Slough. He was able to leave Windsor Hospital on Tuesday after having been a patient there for more than six weeks. The operation on him has been successful.

He thanks the many friends who wrote to him for their sympathy. Their letters have been very helpful to him and reminded him of many a happy day in distant belfries. He regrets that he has been unable to answer them individually, but he is grateful to those who wrote him.

The interment of the late Mr. C. S. Burden, at Nunhead Cemetery on Monday, is a reminder that another great London ringer of an earlier generation lies buried there. John Cox, who died on January 29th, 1885, was interred at Nunhead on February 7th.

One of the longest lengths of Bob Major on record was rung 150 years ago yesterday. On February 16th, 1789, St. Martin's Youths rang a peal of 14,224 at Aston in 8 hours 45 minutes.

Fifty years ago to-morrow the first peal of College Single Major was rung at Warnham, Sussex, and there is still in harness at that tower one who rang in the peal, Mr. Walter Charman.

On Sunday, another interesting anniversary occurs. Henry Haley, one of the most celebrated of a past generation of London ringers, was born at Bethnal Green on February 19th, 1819. Henry Haley rang 182 peals, of which he conducted 155 and composed 105.

He conducted at Philadelphia in 1850 the first peal rung in America, where he went with a handbell concert party. He was first a member of the Cumberland Youths, but joined the College Youths in 1854 and took part in many historic performances.

We regret we are compelled to hold over several letters to the Editor.

## ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL BELLS.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—After the publication of my letter in your issue of December 2nd last, I was astonished to see a further communication on the 13th inst., still arguing the point, and can only in reply again refer your correspondent to my previous letter. I am also surprised to find that anyone pins their faith entirely on the book mentioned (I have a copy of it), seeing that, at the time, it was merely regarded as an overlooked printer's error! Anyhow, I have abundant evidence as to the accuracy of my previous statements, as the order was definitely given for 'a ring of 12 bells having a 3 ton tenor speaking the note D flat.'

Your correspondent is *entirely* wrong when he says that I have quoted words from the book in question. I have never done anything of the kind! My remarks are word for word from a much more reliable letter I received on the subject from the only gentlemen who know anything at all of the matter!

The late Mr. J. W. Taylor, sen., once told me 'they let Sir Edmund have his own way as regards the rings of eight at Burton, Ossett and Doncaster, but could not under any circumstances do so in such an important ring of bells as that of St. Paul's!'

Woking. F. E. DAWE.

### WHAT LORD GRIMTHORPE SAID IN 1874.

Dear Sir,—I have a copy of Lord Grimthorpe's work, 1874 edition, in which, on page 340, he says: 'There is a project for a large peal of ten or twelve bells for St. Paul's Cathedral, and I have recommended a B tenor of 3 tons for it. . . .'

This seems to settle the question.

Sedbergh. G. F. WOODHOUSE.

## DEATH OF MR C. S. BURDEN.

### MEMBER OF ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL COMPANY.

We much regret to announce the death, which occurred on Wednesday of last week, of Mr. Charles S. Burden, for many years one of the ringers at St. Paul's Cathedral. For some time past Mr. Burden had been in failing health and unable to take part in ringing, but he will be much missed by his colleagues.

He did not aspire to fanciful heights in the art of method ringing, but what he did was done to perfection, and it can be said without exaggeration that he was a fine ringer. Never was there a kindlier or more unassuming man, and all who met him realised that in him was one of nature's gentlemen.

Mr. Burden was a native of Wiltshire and learned to ring at Potterne well over 50 years ago. He had, however, lived in London for a long period and was a very old member of the College Youths, in which society he was held in high esteem. He served as Master for a year, being elected to that office in 1909.

Mr. Burden had lived in Bermondsey, and the first part of the funeral service on Monday was held in St. James' Church, where once he used to ring. The interment took place at Nunhead Cemetery and many of his Masonic and ringing friends were at the graveside. After the committal, four of his brother ringers of St. Paul's rang a course of Stedman Triples at the graveside: Messrs. H. Langdon, A. B. Peck, P. H. Taffender and E. G. Fenn. Other ringers present were Messrs. C. F. Winney, F. M. Butler, H. Hoskins, J. E. Davis, F. E. Darby, G. W. Debenham, etc.

## LEADING CONDUCTORS—58.

### JACK BRAY.

Among the many enthusiastic ringers to be found in the Lincoln Diocesan Guild is Mr. Jack Bray, of Burton-on-Stather, who has for a number of years done a great deal in many directions for ringing in North Lincolnshire. In his own village, for instance, he has for a number of years been the mainstay of the ringing company and was largely responsible for getting the bells augmented to eight about a year ago. But his interest in the Church has extended beyond the belfry, and for 14 years he has been a member of the Church Council and for nine years he has been a representative on the Ruri-decanal Conference.

Mr. Bray has lived all his life in Burton-on-Stather, where he was born on June 30th, 1900. He rang his first peal on March 26th, 1924, a peal of Bob Minor at Barton-on-Humber. Less than two months later he rang his first peal as conductor; it consisted of Grandsire and Plain Bob Doubles, at Burton-on-Stather. It was rung by the regular service ringers and was the first by all except the conductor.

MR. JACK BRAY.

Largely by Mr. Bray's efforts the quality and variety of peal ringing in North Lincolnshire has been greatly extended, and he has given great impetus to handbell ringing. Of the three hundred peals he has rung, exactly one hundred have been on handbells, and of the total he has conducted 152. His peals have been rung in 52 towers with 190 ringers, and they range from Grandsire Doubles to Cambridge Surprise Maximus. He has taken part in peals of Minor up to 53 methods and in a number of Major methods which have been firsts for Lincoln Diocesan Guild, including Gainsborough Little Bob, St. Clement's, Loughborough, Winchester, Wymondham and Original, and conducted the Gainsborough and Winchester. He was also in the first peal of Bristol Surprise Major by a resident Lincolnshire band.

Among his handbell peals have been peals of Minor up to 19 methods and he conducted the first peal rung in six Major methods 'in hand.' This was a great achievement, for there were no fewer than 378 changes of method to be called, as well as the 145 bobs and four singles. Mr. Bray's handbell peals also include peals on all numbers from Doubles to Maximus, and he conducted the Lincoln Guild's first handbell peals of Cinques and Maximus. It is, of course, extremely interesting to note that in many of the peals Mrs. Bray has also taken part.

Mr. Bray has served the Lincoln Guild in various capacities. He has been Grimsby District Ringing Master since 1929, Northern Branch hon. secretary since 1937, and a representative on the Central Council since 1936.

## BERKSHIRE RING AUGMENTED

The bells of Coleshill, Berkshire, after being silent for many years, were reopened on Saturday, February 4th, after being rehung and augmented to six by the addition of a new treble, installed by the village and friends to the memory of the late Hon. Mrs. D. Pleydell-Bouverie. The work has been very satisfactorily carried out by Mr. R. White, of Appleton.

The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. W. S. Porter), and the address was given by the Rev. C. E. Wigg, Deputy Master of the Oxford Diocesan Guild.

Tea was kindly given by Miss M. Pleydell-Bouverie in the reading room and was greatly appreciated by 60 ringing friends from Reading, Twyford, Appleton, Swindon (Christ Church), Cirencester, Fairford, Faringdon, Chillingford, Shrivenham, Uffington, Abingdon, Buckland, Stratton St. Margaret, Blundon, Maiseyhampton, Aldershot, Lechlade, Nether Winchandon, Northmoor, etc. Good use was made of the bells after tea.

## AT SHAKESPEARE'S CHURCH

At Holy Trinity Church, Stratford-on-Avon, on Tuesday evening, January 24th, a quarter-peal of Court Bob Triples was rung for practice A. J. Print 1, F. Lyne 2, the Rev. H. Benson 3, W. Rawlings 4, H. Price 5, H. Brookes 6, V. B. Hunt (conductor) 7, R. Chapman 8.

## PLAYING THE GAME.

*To the Editor.*

Dear Sir,—Your leading article in 'The Ringing World' of February 3rd must make a great number of ringers think of the neglect which is evident in many guilds. During the period when I was 'just another' at meetings I noticed these same faces always there to do the right thing; and now, in the role of Ringing Master, I see for myself those same faces holding the meetings together.

Most meetings are held at eight-bell towers, and the thing which strikes me most is the good work done by six-bell ringers. I know several of such who have refused the chance to stand in ten-bell peals, but have been 'playing the game' at ten-bell meetings.

The use of a register can do a lot in giving facts of attendances, but it is not a method which I am inclined to support.

If there are to be any bouquets in association work, hand them to those who *do* play the game; by this I mean the learner who takes notice of the more experienced ringer, and the latter who is ready to impart knowledge to the 'timid fellow.'

In a recent report on attendances, several names came up for full marks; there were also medals for the 'runners-up.' Certainly, the majority were worthy of the praise, but two things struck me as very unfair. Several of the regular attendants had not rung anything at meetings to warrant their names being mentioned, and in one case a ringer had not rung 1,500 changes throughout the year's 12 meetings.

In the second instance no less than six names were forgotten, because they had missed more than two meetings, yet they, in their own association, are among those who make their presence felt in the tower.

I do not think that your article will be forgotten in a hurry by a great number of our fraternity, but until ringers realise the importance and privilege which is before them by their presence in the church, association work will be held up to ridicule by a few and used by others to satisfy their own selfish desires.

'BOB TRIPLES.'

## LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

### FIRST MEETING AT EBBW VALE.

Ebbw Vale extended a hearty welcome to the members of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association on Saturday last on the occasion of the first ringers' meeting ever held there. Early in the afternoon members arrived by bus, car and railway. To those who had not previously been to the tower it was a joy to find such a spacious and well-kept ringing chamber and a magnificent ring of bells, with a tenor of 25 cwt., installed by Taylor and Co. 17 months ago.

The local leader, Mr. R. Alsop, cordially welcomed everyone. Various methods were rung until 4.30. Service was then conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. Oliver Davies), who also gave the ringers a welcome to Ebbw Vale and delivered an inspiring address.

Tea followed in the adjoining Schoolroom. This had been most kindly provided by ladies of the parish, the Vicar championing these ladies as 'the very best of all.'

The business meeting followed, the Vicar taking the chair. Instructors' reports, restorations and augmentations were reported upon and several new members were elected.

A proposition put forward by Mr. E. Stitch was unanimously carried that a record be made in the minutes of what recently appeared in 'The Ringing World' with regard to the hon. secretary ringing his first and his 500th peal on the same bell in Caerleon tower with a span of 50 years.

The best thanks were accorded the Vicar and his wardens for the magnificent effort they made in procuring such a grand new octave of bells, thus giving the members of the association another ring of eight for their activities.—The Vicar, in reply, gave the history of how he originated the idea.

After the usual votes of thanks to all concerned, the meeting closed and the bells were afterwards rung in methods ranging from Grandsire to Cambridge. The meeting proved a huge success.

## NORTH STAFFS ASSOCIATION

### EIGHT-BELL RINGING MASTER TO RETIRE.

A meeting of the North Staffordshire Association was held at Longton on Saturday, February 4th, when 44 members attended from Burslem, Crewe, Cheadle, Derby, Draycott, Fenton, Hanley, Kidsgrove, Kingsley, Lawton, Longton, Leek, Newcastle, Repton, Stoke-on-Trent, Stone, Stafford, Wistaston and Wolstanton.

A short service was held, at which the Rev. T. H. Brookes (Rector of Longton) officiated. He extended a hearty welcome to Longton, and paid tributes to the former leader and leader of Longton tower.

After tea at the Dorothy Cafe, the Rector, in welcoming the representative gathering, said a meeting like that must be of great value to ringers. He added that he missed meeting his friend, Mr. J. H. Swinfield, of Burton-on-Trent.

Mr. Alan D. Steel thanked the Rector and ringers for the way the meeting was prepared and the very inspiring address given by the Rector. He also referred to the advancement of Longton ringers during the past three years.

This was supported by Mr. Arthur W. Hall, and Mr. Edward Steele, leader of Longton, expressed his gratitude in having five more members present than last year.

The Ringing Master for eight-bell towers (Mr. Alan D. Steel) intimated that he wished to resign this position after the March meeting.

# AN UNFOUNDED ACCUSATION.

## CHALLENGE TO THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

### Offending Paragraph to be Withdrawn.

There was a sequel on Saturday, at the annual meeting of the London County Association, to the letter, which appeared in 'The Ringing World' on January 13th, signed by the secretary of the association, and written in reply to a leading article which appeared in our issue of December 23rd. Notice of motion had been given in the following terms: 'That this association desires emphatically to dissociate itself from the insinuation of its secretary, Mr. T. W. Taffender, made against the Guildford Diocesan Guild, in his letter to "The Ringing World," published on January 13th last, and calls upon him to withdraw, through the same channel, the expression used in the name of this association.'

The meeting was held in St. Clement Danes' Parish Hall, and was attended by some 60 or 70 members. The Master (Mr. T. H. Taffender) presided, supported by the principal officers of the association.

In the minutes of the quarterly meeting, held on January 2nd, which were read and confirmed, it was stated that the leading article in 'The Ringing World' relating to the association was considered and a letter in reply was put before the meeting. Objection was taken to some of the contents of the letter and an amendment moved that these should be deleted. The amendment was lost and a resolution carried that the letter, as drafted, should be sent for publication.

#### A POINT OF ORDER.

Mr. J. S. Goldsmith proposed the motion, of which he had given notice, and at once Mr. A. H. Keighley raised a point of order that the motion could not be submitted, as the association had taken action at a quarterly meeting and its decision could not be altered.

Several members immediately rose to protest, and Mr. F. E. Hawthorne said there were many instances in which a minute made at one meeting was altered at a later meeting. There was nothing in the rules and there were no standing orders that prevented any subject dealt with at a quarterly meeting being brought up again at the annual meeting.

Mr. N. H. Manning (assistant secretary) said this was not a question of the correctness of a minute, but the reopening of a matter that had already been settled.

Mr. Goldsmith appealed to the meeting not to let the subject be sidetracked on a subterfuge. An injustice had been done to a friendly neighbouring Guild, and they ought to have courage enough to admit the mistake if it was proved that a mistake had been made. They came to a conclusion at the quarterly meeting without knowing the facts.

A member said that the Guildford Guild had sent them from their annual meeting, through Mr. Dawe, a message of goodwill, and he thought they should leave it at that.

Mr. Goldsmith said it did not come from the annual meeting, but was expressed in an after dinner speech. Members of the Guildford Guild, with whom he had spoken, felt strongly about this matter.

Miss E. Bedford said although the Guildford Guild had sent their good wishes, the London County Association had not sent their good wishes back.

The Master said the association would be only too pleased to do so; they wished to remain in friendly relations with all societies. It was no good digging up the hatchet again.

Mr. Worboys said it was not a question of digging up the hatchet. The letter, he contended, was not a fair representation of the views of the association. Who were they to point the finger of scorn at anybody? It was up to them to withdraw it and to apologise. He asked who was responsible for the letter.

The Master said the letter was approved, after discussion, and the whole general body of members was responsible.

Mr. Worboys: May I then suggest that as a body they also make an apology?

#### A SLUR ON THE GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

After further discussion, Mr. Keighley, who said that although he was present at the quarterly meeting and did not agree with all that the letter contained, suggested that the chairman should exercise his prerogative and rule the motion out of order, even though it might be unpopular, or take a vote upon whether it should be proceeded with. The letter might not have represented the views of a majority of the association, but it was passed by a majority present at the quarterly meeting. If the other members were not satisfied with what was done at quarterly meetings, they should attend them all.

Eventually the Master ruled that Mr. Goldsmith should be allowed to state his case.

Mr. Goldsmith said when he heard the minutes of the quarterly meeting read he was amazed to learn that a body of men could have been induced to assent to such a letter as was written in their name; they could not have realised its true import or all its imputations. He regretted that it should be necessary to bring this motion, but he had felt compelled to do so for two reasons. First, the paragraph of which he complained cast an unwarrantable slur upon the Guildford Diocesan Guild, and it cast an equal slur upon the conduct of the London County Association that the statement should be allowed to stand in its name without a full and complete justification. He pointed out that all he was concerned with on that occasion was with the reflection upon the Guildford Guild. This was what this offensive paragraph said:—

'This association (the London County Association) has in no way ever ignored its title and now points the finger of scorn to the Editor and the Diocesan Association of which he was the instigator encroaching on the areas already covered by other associations.'

It passed his comprehension, he said, why the association should have gone out of its way to insult the Guildford Guild, which was neither concerned nor interested, as a guild, in the affairs of the London County Association or the subject which led to the letter. But whatever the reason the motion would give the association the opportunity either of justifying or withdrawing the reference to the Guildford Guild. He proposed to give them some facts to assist them.

First of all there was the accusation that the Editor of 'The Ringing World' was the instigator of the Guildford Guild. Nothing was further from the fact. When, in 1926, it was proposed to split up the diocese of Winchester, a meeting of the Guildford District of the Winchester Diocesan Guild discussed the formation of a separate ringing Guild for the new diocese. He (Mr. Goldsmith) opposed it at that stage, but a proposition that the Guild be formed was carried. But as it was the decision of the majority that a separate Guild be formed, he did not sulk in a corner because he did not get his own way. Realising that the Guild, if it were to be a success, must have everyone's support, he, like many others, pulled his weight to achieve this end. There was nothing dishonourable in that and certainly nothing that justified pointing the finger of scorn (applause).

#### ATTITUDE OF THE WINCHESTER GUILD.

Then with regard to the encroachment upon the areas of other associations. That accusation was equally untrue in the sense in which it was intended in the letter. The Guildford Guild took over from the Winchester Guild only that territory which had been severed from the diocese of Winchester to form the diocese of Guildford. They took over not an inch more, nor had the Guild made any attempt since to do so, and there was no intention of extending its boundaries. As a matter of fact, the change was one more of organisation than of territory, and it was prompted by reasons similar to those which led to the division of the diocese itself.

What was the attitude of the Winchester Diocesan Guild to it? The Winchester Guild at its annual meeting in 1927 passed several resolutions on the subject. One was: 'That, as meetings of both Guildford and Yorktown Districts of this Guild have passed resolutions in favour of forming a separate organisation for the diocese of Guildford, as from January 1st, 1928, subject to the approval of the Bishop of Guildford, a separate Guild be formed for the diocese of Guildford and that part of Surrey as may be found convenient, and that the remainder of the Guild be formed into one or more diocesan organisations as the resident members may desire.'

It would be noted, Mr. Goldsmith continued, that an even further division of the Winchester Guild was contemplated at that time. At the same meeting another resolution was passed providing for a reciprocal arangement, by which members of one Guild could become compounding members of the other upon the nominal payment of one shilling, and, what was more, it was resolved to divide the funds of the Winchester Guild proportionately with the new Guild; while a further resolution was passed specifically stating that these arrangements were made from a general desire that when the old Winchester Diocesan Guild ceased to function it should be in the most friendly and fair way possible.

'Does that,' asked Mr. Goldsmith, 'look as if the Guildford Diocesan Guild did anything which deserves the finger of scorn being pointed at it?'

#### RELATIONS WITH SURREY ASSOCIATION.

He then dealt with the relations with the Surrey Association. He pointed out that the Winchester Guild was founded in June, 1879, but that the Surrey Association did not come on the scene until October, 1880. In so far as there was any encroachment, therefore, it was on the part of the Surrey Association, but he did not blame them for that. In those days the number of interested ringers was small, that part of Surrey was a long way from the centre of the diocese and no doubt the Surrey men thought they would get more advantages from their own county association than from the Diocesan Guild. But when the Guildford Guild was contemplated there were only six towers in that corner of the diocese which were really concerned in the overlapping, and in those six towers in 1927 the Surrey Association had 32 members. When the scheme for the Guildford Guild was put before the Surrey members it was made plain that there was no desire that they should give up their allegiance to the Surrey Association, and he quoted the following from the official statement laid before a meeting at Leatherhead in October, 1927: 'The Organising Committee desire to make it as plain as they possibly can that in coming into that district they did so with no designs whatever upon the Surrey Association They recognised the loyalty which many towers in that area had given to the County Association, but as they were organising a diocesan Guild and that area was within the diocese, they would be failing in their duty, and they would be unable to claim to be a truly diocesan body, unless they set up their organisation in that district as in the other parts of the diocese. Whatever might be the outcome of future negotiations, the earnest desire of the Guildford Committee was that the two associations, which had common interests, should work amicably side by side.'

'Again I ask you,' said Mr. Goldsmith, 'is there anything in that action which merits the pointing of the finger of scorn?' He added that the very happiest relations had always existed between the Surrey

Association and the Guildford Guild. They held joint meetings and rang peals together; in fact, there were in the area in 1927, thirty-three members (out of 39 in Guildford Guild and 36 in the Surrey Association) who were members of both.

On these facts he asked the meeting to judge whether there was any ground for the unkind remarks made in the letter with regard to the Guildford Guild, and said that the least they could honourably do was to withdraw them and to express regret (applause).

Mr. Keighley said Mr. Goldsmith had put up a convincing case that there had never been any encroachment by the Guildford Guild, but when the letter was sent to him as Editor of 'The Ringing World,' knowing the facts, he thought he should have returned it to the secretary, pointed out the error and asked for its withdrawal. Instead, he now come there in his personal capacity and asked the association to apologise. He thought it was inconsistent and that Mr. Goldsmith was equally to blame for allowing it to appear.

Mr. Goldsmith said the letter was a reply to an article in 'The Ringing World' and it was not for him to interfere with it. If he had done so he would probably have been accused of acting unfairly.

Mr. J. G. A. Prior (Northern District secretary) seconded the motion and asked what the association would have said if Mr. Goldsmith had refused to publish the letter. He asked the meeting to take into account the opinion of the Northern District meeting. Not one of the members present at that meeting was in favour of the secretary's letter and he held they should withdraw it.

MASTER COUNSELS WITHDRAWAL.

The Master said he was sure they would be satisfied with Mr. Goldsmith's statement—personally he was satisfied and he thought they would agree that that portion of the letter should be withdrawn (hear, hear).

Mr. Worboys asked at whose dictation the phrase 'points the finger of scorn' was put into the letter.

The Master said he did not think any useful purpose would be served by pursuing that point.

Mr. Worboys: It is a reasonable question and I should like an answer.

The Master said the letter was approved by the quarterly meeting, and those who voted for it agreed to it.

Mr. Worboys pressed for an answer.

Mr. Manning said the question had been answered.

A Voice. We are not in Germany or Russia (laughter).

The Master: I am in favour of that portion of the letter being withdrawn. It must be understood it was not intended against any association. We wish to work with everybody in a friendly spirit.

Mr. Worboys: If it was not directed against any association, who was it directed against? There must have been somebody in mind. The Editor we know, but who was the Diocesan Association to which we pointed 'the finger of scorn? You cannot get away from it, if it was pointed at anyone it was pointed at the Guildford Guild. Mr. Master, may I have an answer to my question?

The Master said he saw no useful purpose in going on with the discussion. To continue it would only cause bad feeling.

Mr. Worboys: As a member of this association the writing of that letter puts part of the responsibility on me. Who were we pointing the finger of scorn at; I think I ought to have an answer?

No answer was forthcoming.

Mr. Heazell said if the association had made a mistake and had done something with which the majority of members disagreed, would it not be well to apologise? He proposed that that portion of the letter be withdrawn and an apology sent.

PRACTICALLY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

After further discussion, Mr. Goldsmith agreed, with the consent of his seconder, to withdraw his motion, on condition that the association, through 'The Ringing World,' withdrew the offending paragraph and expressed regret to the Guildford Guild for its publication.

On this being agreed to by a practically unanimous vote, the secretary was understood to say that he declined to send the withdrawal.

Mr. Worboys said it was the secretary's business to do as he was instructed. He was instructed by the quarterly meeting to send the letter which caused the trouble, and he did so, and now that it was the instruction of that meeting that the paragraph should be withdrawn it was the secretary's job to do it. He should either get on or get out (hear, hear).

The Master said this form of discussion did not help the association. The matter was settled.

Mr. Worboys: The secretary has refused to write the letter—I think that is what he says. That shows personal animosity.

The Master: We have other secretaries who can do it.

Mr. Worboys: The person who wrote the first letter should send this one, or withdraw from his office.

The Secretary: You are quite welcome to it.

The Master said they must realise he disagreed with the Editor on his article relating to the association, but he agreed with him in a thousand and one of his other leading articles. Only the previous week there was one relating to the work put upon secretaries. They did not realise the work their secretary put in. He put in five nights in the previous week. It was voluntary work. Were they going to keep caning those people who tried to do all they could for the association?

Mr. Worboys continued to press for an answer to his question as to whether the secretary would send the withdrawal, and eventually the Master replied in the affirmative and this closed the debate.

## KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

BENEVOLENT FUND'S HELP FOR AGED MEMBERS.

The quarterly meeting of the Lewisham District was held at St. Nicholas', Chislehurst, on Saturday, February 4th, and was attended by members from Beckenham, Bexley, Bromley, Bromley Common, Chislehurst (The Annunciation), Crayford, Dartford, Deptford, Eltham, Erith, Lee, Lewisham, Penge, Woolwich and the local band, together with several unattached members. A welcome visitor was the general secretary, Mr. F. M. Mitchell.

Ringing during the afternoon was followed by the association service, read by the Rector (the Rev. Canon J. R. Lumb), who incorporated an interesting address.

Fifty-seven members partook of tea, served in the Tiger's Head, the Rector occupying the head of the table. At the conclusion of the meal, the handbells were in demand. A course of Grandsire Caters, rung by G. V. Murphy, D. Sharp, G. H. Cross, F. Groombridge and T. Groombridge, jun., and a course of Double Norwich by G. V. Murphy, D. Sharp, E. A. Barnett and E. Barnett (four members of the Crayford band), received well-merited applause.

The business meeting was held in the belfry. In the unavoidable absence of the Rector, Mr. F. M. Mitchell was elected to the chair.

Ten ringers were elected to membership of the association, and the elections of two members previous to peals were confirmed.

Messrs. F. J. Cullum and E. Barnett presented a report of proceedings at the committee meeting held at Maidstone in November last.—This report was adopted, with a vote of thanks to the authors for its preparation.

Commenting upon statements contained in the report, Mr. F. M. Mitchell thought it a matter of congratulation that the association's Benevolent Fund had been able to assist aged members to the amount of £38 3s. during the year, especially bearing in mind that this expenditure had been met out of income except for the odd shillings.

Also arising from the report a resolution was carried to place on the agenda of the annual general meeting a motion to amend the rules by the addition of the following: 'Any member whose conduct is, in the opinion of his or her district, prejudicial to the well-being of the association shall be reported to the committee. A member so reported to be given the opportunity of attending when the complaint is investigated. If it is found that the charge is justified, the committee shall have power to erase the member's name from the books.'

St. Alphege, Greenwich, was selected as the place of the next meeting.

Arising from the explanation by the district secretary as to why the present meeting was being held at Chislehurst instead of at the place nominated, it was decided to ask the bands tendering subscriptions to define their relations with the association before publishing the tower as being 'in union' in the annual report.

A cordial vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector of Chislehurst for the use of the bells, for the service and address and for his presence at tea, to the organist, to Mr. T. Groombridge, sen., and Mr. W. R. Rawlings for their kindness in arranging for their towers to be at the disposal of the members, and to Mr. F. M. Mitchell for presiding at the business meeting.

Further use of the tower bells followed and terminated a successful meeting. Ringing on this occasion ranged from rounds for novices to Bristol Surprise for the initiated.

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ACTIVITY IN TONBRIDGE DISTRICT.

The first quarterly meeting of the Tonbridge District of the Kent County Association was held at Sevenoaks on Saturday, February 4th. About 50 ringers attended, the following towers in the district being represented: Brasted, Edenbridge, Leigh, East Peckham, Penshurst, Seal Chart, Sevenoaks, Tonbridge, Tunbridge Wells and Westerham. Visitors were also present from Beddington, Leytonstone, Croydon (St. John's), Stepney and Hayes (Kent).

The bells were put to good use during the afternoon and evening, under the leadership of the Master (Mr. E. J. Ladd), and service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. F. W. Argyle).

The business meeting, which followed, was presided over by Mr. E. H. Lewis, the president of the Central Council and vice-president of the association. He was supported by Miss D. Colgate (the local secretary), Mr. T. Saunders (district representative), Mr. E. J. Ladd (Master), Mr. H. J. Ford (captain of the Sevenoaks band) and the district secretary, Mr. A. E. Richardson.

Nine new members were elected, including three lady ringers.

A short appreciation of the late Mr. J. Heasman, of Edenbridge, was given by the secretary, and the members stood for a few moments in silence as a mark of respect.

A report from the local secretary of the Sevenoaks band to the district secretary showed that during the last year 48,229 changes were rung by them in eight different methods, nine of the members taking part in the conducting. A similar report from Brasted showed that in 1938, 46 complete 720's in 17 different methods was rung there.

Mr. T. Saunders gave a brief report of the Central Committee meeting held at Maidstone in November last. Mr. Ladd also reported on the district's first quarterly peal attempt, which was successfully brought round at Tonbridge, resulting in one member ringing his first peal and one his first on a working bell. The next attempt, the Master intimated, would be for Stedman Triples, and asked for names from which a band could be picked.

A vote of thanks to the Rev. F. W. Argyle, for his warm welcome, and to the members of the local band concluded the meeting.

# GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.

## FARNHAM DISTRICT'S POSITION.

### Encouragement For Beginners.

There was a large attendance at the annual meeting of the Farnham District of the Guildford Diocesan Guild, held at Farnham on January 28th. Over 60 ringers and friends were present, and ringing both in the afternoon and evening was carried out under the direction of the District Ringing Master (Mr. R. Hasted). Service was conducted by the Rector (Canon E. M. Girling), and an interesting address was given by the curate (the Rev. P. W. Wheeldon).

The annual meeting followed tea, the Rector presiding, supported by the Rev. P. W. Wheeldon, Mr. C. W. Denyer (hon. secretary and treasurer), Mr. R. Hasted (Ringing Master), Mr. G. L. Grover (general secretary), Mr. J. Corbett (general treasurer), Capt. H. J. Cann (Brookwood), Mr. W. A. Dollimore (Aldershot) and Mrs. D. Meadows, Messrs. A. E. Smith, A. J. Stedman, H. Penrose and Mrs. C. Edwards (honorary members, of Farnham), Mr. W. J. Cope (Guildford district secretary), and Mrs. Cope.

Towers represented were: Seale, Farnham, Aldershot, Bagshot, Guildford (S. Nicolas'), Ash, Bentley, Yorktown, Hawley, Portsea, Cranleigh and Clandon.

The Rector welcomed the Guild to Farnham, and the following officers were then re-elected: Ringing Master, Mr. R. Hasted; hon. secretary, Mr. C. W. Denyer; hon. auditor, Mr. P. Eldridge.

As a result of a ballot, Mr. W. Dollimore (Aldershot) was elected a representative of the Executive Committee for three years, Mr. T. Upshall (Farnham) for two years, and Mr. F. Nye (Bagshot) for a year.

The accounts, which were adopted, showed a credit balance of £13 7s. 8d. Receipts amounted to £32 8s. 11d. (including balance brought forward £15 12s. 8d. and subscriptions £16 6s. 6d.), and expenditure to £19 1s. 3d. (including expenses of meetings £2 18s. 6d. and donation to the Cathedral bells fund £2 2s.).

### TOWER DIFFICULTIES.

In his report, the secretary said the district officers looked back over the year 1938 with mixed feelings. The activities were fully maintained, and in some directions extended, but against this has to be set the difficulty experienced in some towers of obtaining the full support of all its ringers.

The ringing membership had increased by nine and honorary membership by five, the total now being 159 (127 ringing and 32 honorary), as compared with 145 in 1937. This sounded very satisfactory, he said, but unfortunately success could not be entirely proved by the number of members who pay their subscriptions. If membership were counted on the regular attendance of ringers at service ringing, practices and Guild meetings, the number would be considerably reduced. However, they still hoped for improvement in this direction, and looked forward to the time when a ringing membership of 127 would mean 127 keen, enthusiastic ringers, each doing his or her utmost to help in the affairs of the Guild.

Financially they were still in a sound position. The balance in hand, although down on the previous year, was substantial, and the increased expenditure was partly accounted for by the donation of two guineas to the Cathedral Bells Fund. The Benevolent Fund boxes had yielded only £3 0s. 2d. and this amount came from six towers. It might be suggested that several towers were not pulling their weight in this matter. If one member in each tower were to be responsible for bringing the collecting box forward at practices and meetings, and if each ringer would put one halfpenny or one penny in each week, the result would be very helpful in swelling this worthy fund. The Cathedral Bells Fund had also received varying sums from their towers.

The average attendance at the six district meetings was 31. As usual, the district contributed their share in attendances at Guild functions, and this they must keep up. It would be much more encouraging to Guild officials if more fresh faces were seen at these meetings. At a district committee meeting held at Aldershot towards the end of 1938, nine towers sent representatives. These committee meetings appeared very popular, and the suggestions and criticisms put forward were extremely helpful.

Organised combined practices are not held, but in the future it was thought that considerable assistance would be given if each tower were visited once or twice on its regular practice night. They were asked not to leave it to one or two members to visit these belfries. It was everybody's duty to support these efforts.

Peal ringing was not one of their strong features. Four attempts were made, but only one was successful.

### WEDNESDAY MEETINGS.

This was the first year they had held Wednesday gatherings. That at Crordall in May was a remarkable success, but the Aldershot mid-week meeting was not so well attended. If mid-week meetings were to be continued, those members able to attend on Wednesday afternoons must give wholehearted support. It was not intended to arrange Wednesday meetings if success must depend on the Saturday supporters, who could only show up in the last hour in the evening.

The report concluded with words of encouragement to the less experienced ringers, who were urged not to get disheartened because they did not appear to make much headway and not to be over-sensitive when mistakes were corrected. 'Only by continually grind-

(Continued in next column.)

# LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

## ANNUAL MEETING AND HANDBELL COMPETITION.

The annual meeting of the London County Association was held on Saturday when members had the opportunity of ringing at several of the city churches as well as at headquarters, St. Clement Danes, where service was held, conducted by the Rector (the Rev. W. Pennington Bickford). The address was given by the Rev. J. N. Taylor, who based his interesting remarks upon 'Our ministry.'

The business meeting was held in the evening at St. Clement's Parish Hall, under the chairmanship of the Master (Mr. T. H. Taffender).

Mr. H. J. Hazell, of St. Albans, and Mr. R. A. Johnson, of Durham, were elected members of the society.

The report, presented by the Master, referred to the loss by death of ten members, and those present stood in silence as a mark of respect.

Twenty-four peals had been rung during the year, an increase of three over 1937. In these 65 members took part. Practices had been well maintained, the number of members attending having largely increased, while an advance in the methods rung had taken place. The bells at St. George's-in-the-East had been restored and a local band formed, and at St. Mary's, Battersea, where there had also been a restoration, the local company were making progress in change ringing. At St. John-the-Divine, Kennington, where nothing had been done for many years, the Senior Steward had formed a new band, while at Isleworth Miss Ashbrook had formed a new company, which was making excellent progress.

The statement of accounts showed that the balance in hand had increased by £4 5s. 6d., the receipts including £8 7s. from new members.

It was decided to transfer £5 from the funds in the hands of the treasurer to the P.O. Savings Bank.

There was a long discussion and some criticism on some of the details in the balance sheet, which was eventually adopted.

The officers nominated at the previous meeting were elected, including the Master (Mr. T. H. Taffender), the hon. secretary (Mr. T. W. Taffender), who were re-elected, but some changes were made in the other appointments.

The discussion on the association's recent letter to 'The Ringing World' is reported under a separate heading.

The business closed with votes of thanks to those who had made the arrangements for the meeting, to the Rector of St. Clement's and the Rev. J. N. Taylor, also to the officers, and to the Master.

Afterwards the annual handbell competition for the F. E. Dawe cup took place, but it was regretted there were only two entries, these being two young bands from Isleworth, who each rang a course of Grandsire Triples. The judges' award went to No. 2 team.

Afterwards other handbell ringing took place.

(Continued from previous column.)

ing away at the less interesting methods and round ringing is it possible to attain the position of a sound, reliable ringer.'

The report was adopted with congratulations to the hon. secretary.

It was agreed to visit the following towers in 1939: Hawley (8 bells), Seale (6), Bentley (6), Bagshot (8) and Frensham (6) on Saturdays, and Ash (6) on a Wednesday.

All the retiring Guild officers were renominated, with the addition of Mr. W. H. Viggers (Aldershot) a representative on the Central Council.

A proposition by the District Committee that a Guild bronze badge be given to new members on ringing their first quarter-peal, the cost to be paid out of the district funds, was unanimously agreed to.

Mr. J. Gardner (Bentley) and Mr. E. Kavanagh (Yorktown) were elected members of the Guild, and a letter of congratulation and good wishes was sent to Mr. E. Clapshaw, the oldest member of the Farnham band, on celebrating on the previous Thursday his 94th birthday.

At the close Mr. J. Corbett proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector, the Rev. P. W. Wheeldon, Mr. R. Hasted, the verger, organist, the local ringers and the caterers.

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## NOTICES.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, on Saturday, Feb. 18th. Ringing at 6 p.m. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—Joseph H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The pre-Lent meeting will be held as a joint meeting with the Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association at West Hartlepool on Saturday, February 18th, when the bells of St. Oswald's (10) and St. Aidan's (8) will be available. Committee meeting in St. Oswald's Vestry at 4 p.m. Tea will be provided at a reasonable charge in St. Oswald's Church Hall at 5 p.m.—Roland Park, Hon. Sec., 23, Oaklands Terrace, Darlington.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—A meeting of the Maidstone District will be held at All Saints', Maidstone, on Saturday, Feb. 18th. The peal of 10 bells will be available from 3 till 5, and after tea. A special business meeting will take place following the tea at the Old Palace.—A. Waddington, Hon. Dis. Sec., Malthouse Farm, Egerton.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next meeting is to take place on Saturday, February 18th, at Arley (6 bells), instead of Exhall as arranged. Bells available during afternoon and evening. Tea provided.—D. E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District and Romney Marsh Guild.—A combined meeting will be held at Tenterden on Saturday, February 18th. Bells ready 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—P. Page, Hon. Dis. Sec., 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—V.W.H. Branch.—The spring meeting will be held at Uffington on Saturday, February 18th. Bells (5) available at 2.30. Service at 4.30.—R. Gilling, Hon. Sec., Fernham, Faringdon, Berks.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Meeting of Southampton District at Bishopstoke on Saturday, February 18th. Bells from 2.30 p.m. Tea 5.—G. Pullinger, 17, Stoke Park Road, Bishopstoke, Hants.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Newbury Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Shaw-cum-Donnington on Saturday, February 18th. Bells (6) available at 3 o'clock. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea, 5 p.m., at 6d. each. All ringers welcome.—T. J. Fisher, Hon. Sec., Arniston, Manor Lane, Newbury.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—A meeting will be held at Hathern on Saturday, February 18th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service at 4.30, followed by tea and meeting at 5 p.m. Good bus services from Loughborough, Coalville, etc. Please make an effort to attend, and don't forget a postcard to Mr. C. Durby, Hathern, near Loughborough, Leicester, if you want your tea. Subscriptions for 1939 are now due.—A. E. Rowley, Hon. Sec., Hyom, Penistone Street, Ibstock, Leicester.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Leicester District.—A mid-quarterly meeting will be held at St. Mary's, Knighton, Leicester (5 bells), on February 18th. Ringing at 3 p.m. Service at 4.30.—H. W. Perkins, Hon. Dis. Sec., 53, Landseer Road, Leicester.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—North-Eastern Division.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Great Bentley (bells 8) on Saturday, Feb. 18th. Service in Church at 4.30, followed by the meeting at 5 p.m. Will all those intending to be present please notify me as soon as possible? — J. R. Sparling, Dis. Sec., Station Hotel, Wivenhoe.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Crewkerne Deanery Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Ilminster on Saturday, February 18th. Bells at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Service 6.30 p.m. Please notify early for tea.—D. G. Taylor, Braeside, Ilminster.

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Elloe Deaneries Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Spalding on Saturday, February 18th. Bells available from 2 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.15 p.m. Business meeting afterwards.—Geo. Ladd, Hon. Dis. Sec., Pinchbeck, Spalding.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—West Dorset Branch.—The Langford-Beams memorial meeting will be held at Beaminster on Saturday, February 18th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow.—C. H. Lathey, Sec.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Christchurch District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Milford-on-Sea on Saturday, February 18th. Bells available at Lymington at 3 p.m., Milford at 5.30.—G. Preston, 42, Waterloo Place, Christchurch.

BUSHEY.—Saturday, February 18th. Bells (8) available from 3.30 p.m. Tea at Bushey Cafe 5.30. Business meeting after. Tower open till 8.30. Excellent rail and bus service.—C. H. Horton, 53, Aldenham Road, Bushey. City 4270.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings, Feb.: St. Giles', Cripplegate, 21st; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 23rd; *St. Paul's Cathedral, 28th. *Business meeting afterwards. All at 7.30, except St. Andrew's, 8 p.m.—A. B. Peck, Sec., Branksome, 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate, Surrey.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—The monthly practice will be resumed at St. Leonard's Church, Shoreditch, commencing on February 23rd, at 6.30. All ringers heartily welcomed.—G. W. Steere, Hon. Sec., 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — East Norfolk Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Margaret's Church, Lowestoft, on Saturday, February 25th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Service at 4.15 p.m. Tea at St. Nicholas' House at 5 p.m. Business meeting after tea. All ringers welcome. But 'Mr. Harwood wants to know' the names or numbers for tea, so just send a postcard, chums. Address to J. G. W. Harwood, 4, Cobden Terrace, Northgate Street, Great Yarmouth.

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ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—The 51st annual Henry Johnson Commemoration Dinner will be held at the Imperial Hotel, Temple Street, Birmingham, on Saturday, February 25th, at 6 p.m. prompt, Rev. Canon Stuart Blofeld, B.A., Vicar of Edgbaston, in the chair. The following towers will be open: St. Martin's, Bull Ring (12) and Aston Parish Church (12), 3.30 to 5 p.m.; Cathedral Church of St. Philip (10), 4 to 5.30 p.m.; St. Chad's R.C. Cathedral (8), 3 to 4 p.m. Tickets will be issued to fully-paid-up ringing members at 2s. each; to other members and friends at 6s. 6d. each. Early application is requested, but latest date is 23rd inst.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec., 136, Newton Road, Sparkhill, Birmingham, 11.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern Division.—The next monthly practice at Chelmsford Cathedral will be held on Saturday, February 25th, at 7.30 p.m. The special method is Cambridge, up to Royal.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec., 7, Upper Arbour Lane, Springfield, Chelmsford

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — Northern Division.—A meeting will be held at Coggeshall on Saturday, February 25th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m. Tea and business meeting to follow. Will all those intending to be present please notify Mr. V. Morley, 10, St. Peter's Road, Coggeshall, Essex, not later than first post, Wednesday, February 22nd? Subscriptions for 1939 are now due.—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Dis. Sec., 3, Belle Vue, Hedingham Road, Halstead.

PEAK DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Six-bell meeting at Eyam on Saturday, February 25th. Bells available 2.30 to 7.30 p.m. Those expecting to be present please write me not later than Tuesday, Feb. 21st.—H. L. Warburton, Hon. Sec., 72, Causeway Head Road, Dore, nr. Sheffield.

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The annual meeting will be held at Hawkhurst on Saturday, February 25th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30, followed by tea and business meeting. Tea free to members who notify me Wednesday previous to meeting. A good attendance hoped for.—J. G. Powell, Hon. Sec., 1, Woodbury Road, Hawkhurst, Kent.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Adwick-le-Street on Saturday, February 25th. Bells (6) ready at 3 p.m. Will all those who require tea please notify me not later than Wednesday, 22nd? A good attendance is expected, so please turn up in your dozens and look up your methods.—E. Cooper, 6, Grosvenor Crescent, Arksey, Doncaster.

LEICESTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETIES.—The annual dinner will be held at the George Hotel, Leicester, near Clock Tower, on Saturday, February 25th, at 6.30 p.m. prompt. Ringing at Leicester Cathedral 4.30 p.m. till 6 p.m. St. Margaret's (12) and Belgrave (8) 3 p.m. till 4.30 p.m. Tickets, 3s. to be obtained from me not later than Wednesday, February 22nd.—H. W. Perkins, 53, Landseer Road, Leicester.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.— A meeting of the Wirral Branch will be held at Lower Bebington on Saturday, February 25th, Tower open at 3 o'clock. Service at 5.30 p.m. Tea and meeting afterwards. A good attendance is requested.—Harry S. Brocklebank, Hon. Sec. and Treas., 30, South Hill Road, Birkenhead.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—North Forest Branch.—Next meeting will be held at Huntley on Saturday, February 25th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m. (1s. each). Those requiring tea please notify me by Tuesday, February 21st. —A. J. Gibson, Hon. Sec., Westbury Court Cottage, Westbury-on-Severn, Glos.

SEMPRINGHAM ABBEY CHURCH.—The dedication of the two new bells, making a peal of six (work done by Mr. Alfred Bowell, Ipswich) will take place on Saturday, February 25th, at 3 o'clock. Tea will be provided in the school. Will captains of teams who wish to have tea communicate with the Vicar, Rev. L. G. Pilkington, the Vicarage, Sempringham, or Mr. J. T. Rolt, Pointon, Sleaford, not later than February 22nd? All ringers welcome.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Liversedge on Saturday, February, 25th, Bells available from 3 p.m. Tea will be arranged for all who notify Mr. F. Hodgson, 566, Halifax Road, Hightown, Liversedge, by February 22nd. Business meeting in the tower. H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Coalpit Heath on Saturday, February 25th. Bells (6) open from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Please advise for tea.—R. C. Gifford, Hon. Sec., Gifford House, Frampton Cotterell, near Bristol.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — St. Albans District.—A six-bell meeting will be held at St. Albans on Saturday, February 25th. St. Michael's bells, tenor 13 cwt., from 3 p.m. to 5.30. Tea and meeting at 'Nell Gwynn's', St. Michael's Street, to be followed by ringing at St. Stephen's, tenor 15 cwt. Both are very fine peals—come and enjoy a ring on them.—Harold V. Frost, Hon. Dis. Sec., 4, Kimberley Road, St. Albans.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. Peter's, Halliwell, on Saturday, February 25th. Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5, at small charge per head. Special invitation to friends in Wigan Branch. Names for tea to J. F. Wood, 51, Melrose Avenue, Bolton.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Eastern District.—A meeting will be held at Braughing (8 bells) on Saturday, February 25th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Service and tea as usual. Meeting to follow. Ringing for *all*.—A. Lawrence, Dis. Sec., Hatfield Park, Herts.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Sonning Deanery Branch.—Practice at Binfield, near Bracknell, Saturday, February 25th, 6 till 9 p.m. All welcome. — W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec.

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OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—The next practice has been arranged at Old Windsor (8 bells) on Saturday, February 25th, at 6 p.m. Subscriptions now due.—A. D. Barker, Branch Sec. and Treas., Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—A general meeting will be held at Acton on Saturday, March 4th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Tea at 4.45. Service, with address by the Rector, at 5.30. The Rector, Rev. P. Gough, invites members of the association to tea, and to the meeting; will all accepting advise me by Tuesday, February 28th? All information and alterations for Annual Report should be sent to me without delay.—C. T. Coles, Gen. Sec., 21, Vincent Road, E.4. Tel. Larkswood 1959.

WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.—Western Branch.—First meeting of the year will be held at Hallow (4 miles north of Worcester) on Sat., March 4th. Bells (8, tenor 21½ cwt.) recently rehung, from 3 p.m. Short service 4.15. Tea in the Parish Hall 5 (gratis to those who notify me not later than Tuesday, Feb. 28th). Business meeting afterwards, at which the problem of a new secretary *must* be solved.—G. E. Large, Branch Sec., 1, Windmill Cottages, Lower Town, Claines, Worcester.

SWANSEA AND BRECON DIOCESAN GUILD.—Southern District.—The next quarterly meeting will be held at Sketty on Saturday, March 4th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and business meeting to follow. Numbers for tea by Tuesday, February 28th, certain.—E. Stitch, Hon. Dis. Sec., 21, Cambrian Place, Port Talbot, Glam.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch. The next meeting will be held at Rishton on Saturday, March 4th. As there is a committee meeting the same day, there will not be any business done by the branch.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec.

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—The annual general meeting will be held at Southwark Cathedral on March 4th. Bells (12) available from 3 p.m. Evensong at 5 p.m. Tea (1s. per head) at The Chapter House, St. Thomas' Street, S.E.1, followed by meeting. Please send notifications for tea to me by 28th inst.—E. G. Talbot, Hon Sec., 53, Birchwood Avenue, Wallington, Surrey.

PRELIMINARY NOTICE.—The tenth annual dinner of the Gloucester Branch will be held on Saturday, March 18th, at the Spread Eagle Hotel, Market Parade, at 6 p.m. Full details later. Tickets 3s, now obtainable from W. Harris, Branch Sec., 4, G.W.R. Terrace, Lydney Dock, Lydney, Glos.

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—The annual dinner will take place on Saturday, March 18th, at 6.30 p.m., at the Old Bell Restaurant, Holborn, E.C. Tickets, price 6s. each, may be obtained from either of the following: Messrs. T. Bevan, J. Cornford, G. H. Cross, T. H. Francis, G. Gilbert, R. Heazell, J. Parker, G. Radley, A. H. Pulling, N. Summerhayes or the secretary. Arrangements for ringing will be announced later.—G. W. Steere, Sec., 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

Mr. T. J. LOCK, 57, Holloway's Lane, North Mimms, is now Hon. Sec. of the North and East District of the Middlesex Association. All correspondence relating to that district should be made to him.


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