THE RINGING WORLD

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AN INTERESTING QUEST.

The letter which appeared in our last issue, asking for information with regard to past performances of Grandsire Caters, is a reminder that, although a great deal has been done to recover and collate the peals of distant years, there is still much that might be done to enlarge our knowledge. The history of methods is not made up entirely of the records of ringing performances; there is a good deal that might be learned about the development of the art if it were possible to discover the compositions that were rung, showing the advances that have been made in peal construction. This has been possible at any rate in regard to such methods as Grandsire and Stedman Triples, in which the researches of Jasper Snowden brought to light a great deal of most interesting material; and there can be little left in this direction that is not now well known. Treble Bob Major, too, has been investigated. The Surprise methods are for the most part too modern a development to provide much field for research. Nearly all is known about them that can be known, and already Mr. J. A. Trollope has written a fairly exhaustive history of early Surprise ringing, that is waiting publication with the book on Surprise methods which the Council hopes eventually to print. But because the text books on ringing which have been published deal little with methods on more than eight bells, there still seems to be scope for investigation into the development of ten and twelve bell ringing, such as that which Mr. Edgar Shepherd is conducting into Grandsire Caters.

What little we know of the past we owe mostly to the peal boards that have been preserved in the towers up and down the country and to the records of the old societies, where they have been preserved. But while these have saved for us some account of peals that were rung, and the names of the men who rang them, there are very few instances where, except perhaps in the case of Holt's peals of Grandsire Triples, there is any record of what was rung. There are a few examples to be found where the course-ends of the peals are painted on the boards, and thus preserved to us; but, generally speaking, there is nothing to tell us what compositions were used when those old peals were rung.

Our forefathers did not set the store upon these details that we do to-day, when many societies go to the expense of printing compositions in their annual reports, and there is little hope that much can now be found to help us. But it is worth while making an effort to get together such material as is available and building up into a more or less cohesive whole what fragments have been spared to us. Mr. Shepherd has embarked upon the

(Continued on page 134.)

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interesting quest in connection with Grandsire Caters, and, despite all that has been done in various directions, there are other similar fields which could occupy the attention of the studious and interested ringer. Too much of the history of ringing is buried in the limbo of the forgotten past, and such morsels as can be salvaged for the benefit of the present and future generations will be well worth the labour of collecting. No one, we believe, has yet written a comprehensive history of the Plain Bob method. It may not be so interesting a task as some of the rest, but it is all part of the history of ringing, and something that needs doing. If it is done well it will be much more than a mere collection of records of early peals.

TWELVE BELL PEAL.

LONDON.

THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.

On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL, CORNHILL,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CINQUES, 5019 CHANGES;

Tenor 41 cwt.

ERNEST G. FENN... ...	...*Treble*	WILLIAM H. PASSMORE ...	7
WILLIAM HIBBERT	2	HENRY G. MILES...	8
HENRY R. NEWTON	3	RAYMOND G. COUSINS... ...	9
HERBERT LANGDON	4	JACK A. WADGH	10
RICHARD T. HIBBERT	5	ALFRED B. PECK	11
R. CONGREVE PRIDGEON ...	6	RICHARD F. DEAL ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by HERBERT LANGDON.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Messrs. S. E. Andrews, R. T. Hibbert, H. R. Newton and A. B. Peck.

TEN BELL PEALS.

WEST HAM, ESSEX.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

Tenor 28 cwt.

ERNEST W. PYE... ...	...*Treble*	ALFRED PRIOR	6
ERNEST E. HOLMAN	2	GEORGE DAWSON	7
*MRS. J. H. CRAMPION ...	3	EDWARD D. SMITH	8
*AIDAN J. BOYACK	4	ERNEST W. FORBANK	9
FRANK C. NEWMAN	5	JOHN H. CRAMPION ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. H. CROSS. Conducted by JOHN H. CRAMPION.

* First peal of Royal.

NEWPORT, MONMOUTHSHIRE.

THE LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE PRO-CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. WOOLOS,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5151 CHANGES;

Tenor 21 cwt. 2 qr. 20 lb. in D.

ALBERT M. TYLER ...	...*Treble*	GEORGE POPNELL	6
MISS N. G. WILLIAMS ...	2	CHARLES GREEDY	7
JOHN W. JONES	3	FRANK SKIDMORE...	8
WILLIAM A. CAVE	4	JOSEPH T. DYKE	9
DONALD C. CLIFT	5	FRANCIS C. MOGFORD ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by J. T. DYKE.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTS.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,

A PEAL OF BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;

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

Composed by REV. H. LAW JAMES. Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN

* First peal of Royal. † First peal of Bob Royal. Rung to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the consecration of the first Bishop of Chelmsford at St. Paul's Cathedral on February 24th, 1914.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

KIBWORTH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WILFRID,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

WILLIAM A. BOLTON	*Treble*	ALFRED BALLARD	5
ALBERT MARTIN	2	FRANK K. MEASURES	6
J. EDWARD CLOUGH	3	NIGEL W. BOLTON	7
STANLEY BOLTON	4	FRED STANIFORTH	*Tenor*

Composed by ERNEST MORRIS. Conducted by F. STANIFORTH.

HARLOW COMMON, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, February 13, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 12 cwt.

WILLIAM ALEY	*Treble*	EDWARD ROCHESTER	5
FRED WHITBY	2	LEWIS CORDELL	6
BEN COPPIN	3	STANLEY CLARK	7
EDWIN LARTER	4	WILLIAM WHEELER	*Tenor*

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by W. WHEELER.

Rung as a birthday compliment to Mr. George Dent (Master of the band) and to Mr. F. Clark, churchwarden of the above church.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 18¼ cwt. in E flat.

*JOHN S. PINK	*Treble*	MISS GWENDOLINE KIPPIN	5
HERBERT J. SKELT	2	FRANK E. MITCHELL	6
CHARLES POTHECARY	3	CHARLES H. KIPPIN	7
GEORGE H. HUMPHRIES	4	EDWARD G. TALBOT	*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES H. KIPPIN.

* First peal.

COLLINGHAM, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OSWALD,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 8½ cwt.

RONALD H. DOVE	*Treble*	MRS. E. BRADLEY	5
ERNEST LINDLEY	2	ROBERT LANCASTER	6
CHARLES PARKER	3	WILLIAM HAWLEY	7
LEONARD DRAKE	4	EDWARD BRADLEY	*Tenor*

Composed by YORKE GREEN. Conducted by EDWARD BRADLEY.

HERNHILL, KENT.
CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL COMPANY
AND KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
∞*On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL.
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 10 cwt. in A flat.

REGINALD H. WALTON	*Treble*	BERTRAM J. LUCK	5
FREDERICK G. BRETT	2	JOHN W. UNWIN	6
JABEZ WALTER	3	*PETER J. SMALL	7
EDWARD E. TRENDELL	4	FREDERICK R. WELLER	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by FREDERICK R. WELLER.

* First peal of Major. First peal as conductor.

WOODFORD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, February 20, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 11 cwt.

MRS. J. H. CRAMPION	*Treble*	†ALFRED G. BASS	5
*JOHN C. PETTY	2	‡CHARLES R. MORSS	6
FRANCIS W. CORNEY	3	RAYMOND G. COUSINS	7
STANLEY WEBB	4	JOHN H. CRAMPION	*Tenor*

Composed by F. DENCH. Conducted by J. H. CRAMPION.

* First peal in the method. † First peal of Major.

DISS, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
(ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN SOCIETY.)
On Tuesday, February 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 23 cwt. 2 qr. 26 lb. in D.

DAVID WHITING	*Treble*	*W. ARCHIE LOCK	5
CLEMENT J. MORE	2	ALBERT G. HARRISON	6
GEORGE ARCHER	3	FREDERICK C. ROPER	7
*LEONARD H. LOCK	4	WILLIAM STEGGALL	*Tenor*

Composed by C. CHARGE. Conducted by C. J. MORE.

* First peal in the method. Rung for the wedding of Miss Elizabeth Gaze, of Diss, and Mr. Philip E. Rackham, of Stanfield Hall, Wymondham.

NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, February 21, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
THURSTANS' FOUR-PART. Tenor 17 cwt. 16 lb. in G flat.

ROLAND PARK	*Treble*	CHRISTOPHER HETHERINGTON	5
W. NORMAN PARK	2	KENNETH W. CHEESEMAN	6
WILLIAM J. DAVIDSON	3	HAROLD WALKER	7
JOHN ANDERSON	4	ERNEST WALLACE	*Tenor*

Conducted by W. J. DAVIDSON.

Rung in celebration of the visit of their Majesties the King and Queen to the city.

BUSHEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, February 23, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, BRISTOL, SUPERLATIVE & CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 13 cwt.

WILLIAM G. WHITEHEAD	*Treble*	FRANCIS KIRK	5
HENRY HODGETTS	2	FREDERICK W. BRINELOW	6
*EDWIN JENNINGS	3	MAURICE F. R. HIBBERT	7
CECIL C. MAYNE	4	HAROLD G. CASHMORE	*Tenor*

Composed by A. J. PITMAN. Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.

* 200th peal. The peal consisted of 2,496 London, 960 Bristol, 800 Superlative and 768 Cambridge, with 98 changes of method.

EYNSFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, February 23, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 12 cwt.

DENNIS G. BROWN	*Treble*	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY	5
DOUGLAS G. BROWN	2	PHILIP A. CORBY	6
DEREK M. SHARP	3	GEORGE W. FOGDEN	7
*ALBERT G. GRAVETT	4	ARTHUR S. RICHARDS	*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by GEORGE W. FOGDEN

* First attempt for a peal. First attempt for a peal as conductor.

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NOTTINGHAM.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, February 23, 1939, in Three Hours and Eighteen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES;
Tenor 21 cwt. in E.

RALPH NARBOROUGH ...	...*Treble*	E. FREDERICK GOBEY ...	5
JACK BAILEY	2	J. ALFRED BARRATT	6
WILLIAM LANCASTER	3	*WALTER NICHOLS	7
ALEX HUTCHESON	4	FREDERICK A. SALTER	...*Tenor*

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by F. A. SALTER.
* First peal in the method and first attempt.

CLAINES, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(WESTERN BRANCH.)
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

PRITCHARD'S FOUR-PART.		Tenor 14 cwt.	
*HORACE HOUGH... ...	...*Treble*	ALLEN MORGAN	5
WALTER H. RAXTER	2	WILLIAM LEWIS	6
GEORGE E. LARGE	3	THOMAS W. LEWIS	7
WILLIAM RANFORD	4	REGINALD WOODYATT...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by REGINALD WOODYATT.
* First peal. First peal of Major as conductor.

BEACONSFIELD, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Five Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH OF ST. MARY AND ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;

THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.		Tenor 21½ cwt.	
KATHLEEN E. FLETCHER	...*Treble*	REV. R. F. R. ROUTH ...	5
*RICHARD A. SMITH	2	JESSE W. HARRISON	6
†ALBERT C. BRIDGES	3	HARRY WINGROVE	7
DOROTHY R. FLETCHER ...	4	*FREDERICK J. SMITH ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by H. WINGROVE.
* First peal of Stedman Triples. † First peal.

LONDON.
THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DUNSTAN-IN-THE-EAST, E.C.,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 24 cwt.

DOUGLAS G. BROWN ...	...*Treble*	CLARENCE H. DOBBIE ...	5
*LEONARD J. FOX	2	GEORGE J. BUTCHER	6
EDWIN A. BARNETT	3	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY... ...	7
*GEORGE W. CECIL	4	PHILIP A. COREY	...*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 195). Conducted by P. A. COREY.
* First attempt for a peal in the method.

THATCHAM, BERKSHIRE.
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
On Saturday, Febuary 25, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 13 cwt. 22 lbs.

ALBERT SMITH	...*Treble*	HARRY W. SMITH	5
EDGAR HUMFREY	2	FREDERICK A. MONDAY ...	6
ALBAN R. POYNTZ	3	CHARLES W. MUNDAY ...	7
*DONALD W. NASH	4	†ARTHUR H. BROWN ...	...*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES W. MUNDAY.
* First peal of Grandsire on an 'inside' bell. † First attempt for a peal.

BUNGAY, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Twelve Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor 18½ cwt.

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

Composed by E. WIGHTMAN. Conducted by ERNEST WHITING.
Rung on the eve of the Wingfield memorial service.

NANTWICH, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Six Minutes,
AT THE PARISH CHURCH,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 14½ cwt.

*JOSEPH BOYER	...*Treble*	*JOHN E. BROUGH	5
HARRY F. HOLDING	2	RICHARD D. LANGFORD ...	6
*EDWARD J. BOFFEY	3	J. WILLIAM EDGE	7
*R. THOMAS HOLDING ...	4	GEORGE A. PACKER ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by GEORGE A. PACKER.
* First peal of Major. First peal of Major as conductor.

CHURCH, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 14½ cwt.

ANTHONY CHADWICK	...*Treble*	LESTER L. WILLIAMS ...	5
SYDNEY BROWN	2	†CHARLES BLAKEY	6
JAMES PARR...	3	LAURENCE J. WILLIAMS ...	7
*FRED PLACE	4	JACK CLEGG...	...*Tenor*

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by J. CLEGG.
* First peal. † First peal of Major. First peal as conductor.

THORNE, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb. in F.

EDWARD BRADLEY ...	...*Treble*	FRED TERRY	5
HORACE S. MORLEY	2	RONALD H. DOVE...	6
MRS. EDWARD BRADLEY ...	3	ARTHUR GILL	7
WILLIAM HAWLEY	4	DANIEL SMITH	...*Tenor*

Composed by G. LEWIS. Conducted by D. SMITH.
First peal in the method on the bells.

NORBURY (HAZEL GROVE), CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,
A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt. 3 qr. 21 lb.

JOSEPH WHITTAKER ...	..*Treble*	WILLIAM FERNLEY	5
C. KENNETH LEWIS	2	JAMES A. MILNER	6
JAMES FERNLEY	3	TOM WILDE	7
REV. FRANK BONNER	4	JOHN WORTH...	...*Tenor*

Composed by FRANK BENNETT. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

LONDON.
THE LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE, WOOLWICH,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt.

THOMAS H. CULVER ...	...*Treble*	THOMAS H. FRANCIS	5
NORMAN H. MANNING ...	2	BERTIE W. ALDRIDGE	6
FRANCIS D. BISHOP	3	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ...	7
*ALFRED E. BARKER	4	DEREK M. SHARP	...*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by NORMAN H. MANNING
* First peal of Major. First peal as conductor.

NORTH STONEHAM, HANTS.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Eleven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICOLAS,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5376 CHANGES;
Tenor 9 cwt. 26 lb.

*ALICE M. SCOTT... ...	...*Treble*	ANNE M. GUY	5
GEORGE WILLIAMS	2	WILLIAM R. MELVILLE ...	6
CHARLES J. FRAY	3	REGINALD A. REED	7
LEONARD KNOTT	4	LESLIE A. TREMEER ...	...*Tenor*

Composed by H. JOHNSON. Conducted by REGINALD A. REED.
* First peal, at first attempt.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

MARPLE, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being three extents of Kent Treble Bob, three of Oxford Treble Bob and one of Plain Bob. Tenor 17 cwt. (approx.).

*FRANK WALTERS	...Treble	WILFRED WILDE	4
ALBERT T. BANCROFT	2	*EDMUND WALTERS	5
C. KENNETH LEWIS	3	JAMES A. MILNER	...Tenor

Conducted by C. KENNETH LEWIS.

* First peal, and first attempt at Kent.

COTGRAVE, NOTTS.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 18, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 720 of Oxford Bob and two 720's each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 17 cwt.

GEOFFREY HARRISON	...Treble	ARTHUR J. CHAMBERLAIN	4
COLIN HARRISON	2	EDWARD C. GOBEY	5
WALTER WHITE	3	J. FREDERICK MILNER	...Tenor

Conducted by J. F. MILNER.

Specially rung as a compliment to Mrs. W. E. White (wife of the hon. treasurer of the Midland Counties Association) on attaining the age of 70 years.

STISTED, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, February 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-Two Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF ANNABLE'S LONDON SURPRISE MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Tenor 9½ cwt. in A.

KENNETH G. SMITH	...Treble	ALEC M. GENERY	4
VICTOR MORLEY	2	*RALPH BIRD	5
*REGINALD G. SIMMONDS	3	RONALD SUCKLING	...Tenor

Conducted by RALPH BIRD.

* 50th peal. Thirty-fifth peal as conductor. First peal in the method by all, in the county and for the association.

BURLESCOMBE, DEVON.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, February 19, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 17 cwt. (approx.).

*WILLIAM C. NEWBERRY	...Treble	WALTER STEVENS	4
GEORGE ALDERMAN	2	CLAUDE W. J. TARR	5
FREDERICK ALDERMAN	3	†D. CHARLES ENTICOTT	...Tenor

Conducted by FREDERICK ALDERMAN.

* First peal away from tenor. † First peal. First peal on the bells.

BARNBY-IN-THE-WILLOWS, NOTTS.
THE NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, February 21, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Two Minutes
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, St. Clement's, Double Oxford, Plain Bob, Oxford Bob and Court Bob. Tenor 8 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lb. in C.

*KENNETH M. WILLCOCK	...Treble	FREDERICK G. HOOPER	4
†ERIC WILLCOCK	2	JACK L. MILLHOUSE	5
R. THOMAS VESSEY	3	JOHN C. VESSEY	...Tenor

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal 'inside' and first attempt.

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DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

MILTON REGIS, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Wednesday, February 22, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two six-scores, ten different callings. Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 13 lb.

*THOMAS W. BAKER, JUN.	...Treble	MISS DORIS G. DOBBIE	4
MISS JOAN NAYLOR	2	GEORGE A. NAYLOR	5
ARTHUR S. BOAR	3	LESLIE D. DOBBIE	...Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE A. NAYLOR.

* First peal and first attempt. A 21st birthday compliment to Thomas W. Baker, jun.

MURSLEY, BUCKS.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Forty-two extents, ten callings. Tenor 9½ cwt.

*N. GOODE	...Treble	*F. WARD	4
†C. DICKINS	2	*C. KNIGHT	5
W. SAYERS	3	*E. FLETCHER	...Tenor

Conducted by C. KNIGHT.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal 'inside.' Rung as a welcome to the new Rector (the Rev. G. E. Oliver).

EAST BEDFONT, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Double Court, St. Clement's, Double Oxford, Plain Bob, Cambridge Surprise, Kent Treble Bob and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 7 cwt. 1 qr. 14 lb.

J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE	...Treble	ERNEST C. S. TURNER	4
WILFRID G. WILSON	2	HARRY KILBY	5
GEORGE M. KILBY	3	CECIL C. MAYNE	...Tenor

Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

KERESLEY, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 42 six-scores with different callings. Tenor 6½ cwt.

*WALTER ENSER	...Treble	C. HENRY WEBB	3
SIDNEY J. OUGHTON	2	†ALBERT BRISCOE	4
JACK OUGHTON	...Tenor		

Conducted by JACK OUGHTON.

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

WILLESBOROUGH, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, February 25, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being seven different one-part extents, with 5-6 the right way.

PERCY PAGE	...Treble	FREDERICK WANSTALL	4
ALBERT J. LANCEFIELD	2	WILLIAM J. LANCEFIELD	5
CHARLES L. SMITH	3	EDWARD S. RUCK	...Tenor

Conducted by EDWARD S. RUCK.

First peal of Kent Minor by all the band and the first peal of Kent Minor by the Ashford District.

HANDBELL PEAL.

OXHEY, HERTS.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, February 24, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT 28, FIELD ROAD.
A PEAL OF BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;

HENRY HODGETTS	1-2	HAROLD G. CASHMORE	5-6
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	3-4	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW	7-8

Composed by W. HARRISON. Conducted by H. G. CASHMORE.
Umpire—Edwin Jennings.

(Other peal reports are unavoidably held over).

PEAL NOTES.

COLLEGE YOUTHS HONOURED.

Four old members of the College Youths were honoured on Saturday when, to celebrate their respective birthdays, a peal of Stedman Cinques was rung at Cornhill. They were Messrs. S. E. Andrews, R. T. Hibbert, H. R. Newton and A. B. Peck (the hon. secretary of the society). The three last named, who rang in the peal, have passed through the chair, Mr. Newton for the first time as long ago as 1898. The Acting Master (Mr. E. G. Fenn) and another past Master (Mr. W. H. Pasmore) also took part in the peal.

Mr. Ernest Whiting rang his 70th peal of Superlative Surprise on Saturday, when he called a composition by Edgar Wightman at Bungay, Suffolk.

Mr. Sydney Brown 'completed the circle' of the tower at Church, Lancashire, when he rang the second to a peal of Bob Major on Saturday.

As a birthday compliment to Mr. George Dent, the esteemed Master of the company at Harlow Common, Essex, and also to Mr. F. Clark, churchwarden, a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major was rung at this church on February 13th.

In honour of the visit of H.M. the King and Queen to Newcastle, a peal of Stedman Triples was rung on the Dixon eight at the Cathedral on February 21st. The extra bell provides an octave with a tenor of 17 cwt. in G flat.

The 25th anniversary of the consecration of the first Bishop of Chelmsford was marked by a peal of Bob Royal at Bishop's Stortford on Saturday.

The first peal by a local band on the bells at Mursley, Bucks, was rung on Saturday. It consisted of 42 extents of Grandsire Doubles and was the first attempt for a peal by four of the band. It was rung as a welcome to the new Rector (the Rev. G. E. Oliver).

Another place where, on Saturday, the first peal by a local band was rung was Keresley, Warwickshire. This, too, was Grandsire Doubles.

Thomas W. Baker, jun., rang his first peal at the first attempt for his 21st birthday on February 22nd at Milton Regis, Kent.

The Bishop of Winchester last week returned from a tour in India, and on Sunday consecrated an extension of North Stoneham burial ground. In honour of these events a peal of Bob Major was rung on Saturday.

Miss Alice Scott, who rang the treble, made her first attempt for a peal. She is one of the 'Guides' who have recently been enlisted into the band at St. Mary's, Southampton, and has been ringing for six months only.

Another composition of Treble Bob Major by Mr. George Lewis was rung on Saturday at Thorne, near Doncaster, for the first time. It contains the 6th its extent in 5th's and the 4, 5 and 6 their extent in 6th's. It was the first peal of Kent rung on the bells.

The peal of Grandsire Caters at Worsley on February 14th took 3 hours 33 minutes, not 2 hours 33 minutes as printed.

BRISTOL SURPRISE 'IN HAND.'

After Spliced Surprise peals double-handed, a peal of Bristol Surprise on handbells may not sound extravagant, but it is a notable performance all the same. The Hertfordshire celebrities rang a peal of it 'in hand' last Friday.

On the previous day the tower-bell party had rung a peal in four Surprise Major methods, and Mr. Edwin Jennings scored his 200th peal.

The peal of Grandsire Triples rung by members of the College Youths at Thatcham, Berks, on Saturday, was a birthday compliment to Mr. Arthur H. Brown, who made his first attempt for a peal and afterwards kindly entertained the band to tea.

The first peal of Kent Treble Bob Minor by members of the Ashford District of the Kent County Association was rung on Saturday at Willesborough. It consisted of seven one-part extents with 5-6 the right way throughout and it was the first peal of Kent Minor by all the band.

Mr. Horace Hough, late of Melbourne, Derbyshire, and now residing in Worcester, rang his first peal last Saturday at Claines. It is not so very long since he returned from Canada, where he worked for several years. He was able to do a little change ringing before he went out to the Dominion, and has made rapid strides since his return. Reg. Woodyatt, who is a member of the Claines band, called his first peal of Major and at the same time completed the circle in his own tower.

Sunday service ringers at Beaconsfield, including their Rector (the Rev. R. F. R. Routh), rang a peal of Stedman Triples on Saturday, the first in the method at this church by a local band.

AN OLD SURPRISE MINOR METHOD.

A peal of seven 720's of Annable's London Surprise Minor was rung at Stisted, Essex, on February 19th, the first peal in the method by all, in the county and for the Essex Association. This method, one of the earliest Surprise Minor methods (if its name goes for anything) has seldom, if ever before, been rung exclusively in a peal.

This was the 50th peal for two of the band, Messrs. R. G. Simmonds and Ralph Bird, and it was the latter's 35th as conductor. Comparatively few ringers can have called so large a proportion of their first half-century of peals.

(Continued in next column.)

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

THE BELLS OF ST. ANDREW'S, GRIMSBY.

The annual meeting of the Grimsby District of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild was held at St. Andrew's Church, Grimsby. After very nearly six years of silence, the bells did not go badly, especially in view of the fact that they have been in the tower 51 years without being rehung. Members attended the meeting from Bigby, Barton-on-Humber, Scunthorpe, Burton-on-Stather, Barrow-on-Humber, Ulceby, Killingholme, Mablethorpe, Louth, Waltham, Old Clee, and Mr. and Mrs. Bramwell, of Goxhill, and some of the local members were also present. The bells were rung to various methods during the afternoon and evening, and service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. A. H. Howard), who gave an interesting address. Mr. L. Mingay presided at the organ.

Forty members had tea in the Church Hall. The president (Archdeacon Parry) presided, supported by Canon Marsden (Vicar of St. James') and the Rev. A. H. Howard (Vicar of St. Andrew's).

The reports of the secretary and Ringing Master were read, and both were thanked for the reports and their services.

All the officers were re-elected. Mr. N. Dale, of Old Clee, was re-elected a ringing member, and Mr. F. Cook, of Mablethorpe, and Mr. S. Neave, of Goxhill, were also elected.

The collection for the bell fund of the district amounted to 12s., and it was decided to give it to St. Andrew's to start a bell restoration fund.

The District Bell Fund accounts were presented and accepted.

Future meetings were arranged as follows: May 13th, Mablethorpe; June 10th, Bigby; June 22nd, Elsham; September 16th, Ulceby; October 28th, Scunthorpe; and combined practices as follows: February 25th, Thornton Curtis; March 18th, St. James', Grimsby; April 1st, Barton-on-Humber.

It was with deep regret the secretary reported the death of Mr. Fred Overton, affectionately known amongst his fellow-ringers as 'Little Fred.' He was taken suddenly ill on January 12th and passed away in the Grimsby and District Hospital on January 16th, at the age of 56 years. He was an old member of St. Andrew's company and for the last six years a member of St. James'. He will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

The secretary also referred to the passing of Mrs. Rushby, wife of Mr. Harold Rushby, the district organist, after years of suffering.—To show their deepest respect, members stood in silence.

A vote of thanks was accorded from the chair to the Vicar for conducting the service and for his excellent address. Archdeacon Parry hoped that when possible the ringers would rally round him and get the bells going again. The Chairman then thanked Canon Marsden for his presence at the meeting, also Mrs. H. Mingay for giving them a splendid tea at such small cost. He also thanked the organist.

The Vicar, in reply, said how glad he was to welcome the Guild at St. Andrew's. Now that he had settled down he hoped that they would soon get a band together again. He thanked the secretary and Mrs. Bromfield, who had done so much to get the bells and belfry in order again.

After a vote of thanks to the president for presiding, members returned to the tower for further ringing.

(Continued from previous column.)

The first peal on the bells at Burlescombe, Devon, was rung on February 19th. The bells are now a ring of six with a tenor of about 17 cwt.

St. Dunstan's College, at Catford, S.E., owes its origin to the historic City Church of St. Dunstan-in-the-East. Mr. Douglas Brown, who rang the treble to the peal of Double Norwich at St. Dunstan's on Saturday, is an old boy of the college and is almost certainly the only old boy of the school to ring a peal at the church.

At Barnby-in-the-Willows, Notts, on February 21st, Messrs. Jack L. Millhouse and John C. Vessey rang their 25th peal together, and F. G. Hooper rang his 25th peal. It consisted of seven different Minor methods, but what makes the performance more noteworthy is that the brothers Kenneth and Eric Willcock scored their first peal and their first peal 'inside' respectively at the first attempt.

Until a short time ago they were members of a stoney band at the five-bell tower at Balderton, near Barnby. They are to be congratulated upon their rapid progress in change ringing. Prior to this peal Eric had never previously struck a blow in either Oxford Bob or St. Clement's.

Mr. J. H. Crampion, who had the gratification of calling his wife's first peal of Royal on February 18th at West Ham, conducted a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major at Woodford on February 20th to celebrate his own birthday.

Mr. E. E. Trendell has been elected president of the Canterbury Cathedral company, and as a compliment to him a peal of Bob Major was rung by members, at Hernhill, Kent, on Saturday. It was the Cathedral company's first peal since 1933. It was also a birthday compliment to Mr. F. G. Brett.

The 70th birthday of Mrs. W. E. White, wife of the popular hon. treasurer of the Midland Counties Association, was celebrated by a peal of Minor rung at Cotgrave, Notts, on Saturday, and afterwards Mr. and Mrs. White entertained the ringers.

DOUBLES AND MINOR METHODS.

NEW EDITION OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL'S COLLECTION.

A new edition of that invaluable book published by the Central Council, the 'Collection of Doubles and Minor Methods,' which has done so much to encourage the development of six-bell ringing, has been completed and is on sale this week. The work has been thoroughly revised, and, although it covers the whole field of Doubles and Minor in a thoroughly efficient way, the elimination of unnecessary material, the rearrangement of the methods and compositions and the inclusion of a selection only of Alliance methods, has reduced the size and, consequently, the price of the book, which is now issued at 2s. Moreover, the economising of space in these directions has made it possible to include a much expanded section on spliced extents, with numerous compositions, which will be welcomed by that rapidly growing section of six-bell ringers who find a new interest in multi-method ringing. There are also a larger number of other compositions, and compressed into the ninety or so pages ringers will find a most comprehensive work, the outcome of long experience and painstaking and patient labour. The Methods Committee have carried out their task well, and ringers, whether they possess the previous editions or not, will find this new book essential to them if they are interested in any degree in five or six-bell ringing. Even those who seldom concern themselves with Doubles or Minor should add it to their library, for it is just one of those books that may be unexpectedly needed at some odd moment.

A DISCLAIMER.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—I understand that recently an application was made in my name for permission to use the bells of St. Peter's Church, Belgrave, Leicester, for a peal attempt, the application being made by telephone on Sunday for the following Thursday.

As I had no knowledge of this at all, I most strongly deprecate such liberties being taken, and as it is possible that similar applications may be made elsewhere in the future, I wish to state that any bona-fide application from me will be made either personally or by letter on the printed notepaper of the association.

Any incumbent or towerkeeper receiving an application by 'phone purporting to come from me is respectfully asked to withhold the necessary permission.

HERBERT W. PERKINS,
Hon. Sec., Leicester District, M.C.A.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR JUBILEE CELEBRATION.

The February meeting of the Leeds and District Society was held at Liversedge on Saturday. To a visitor who does not know the district very well, this church is awkward to find, and a few members had difficulty in discovering the road to the church, but all's well that ends well and the meeting was worth a little trouble in arriving. The bells were rung up at 3 p.m. and ringing continued until 5 o'clock when those present did 'ample justice' to a splendid tea provided by the local company. Ringing was then further indulged in and later the business meeting was held in the tower.

The president (the Rev. J. H. B. Andrews) took the chair, and members were present from Armley, Batley, Birstall, Bradford Cathedral, Burley, Calverley, Drighlington, Headingley (St. Chad's), Huddersfield, Idle, Leeds Parish Church, Pudsey, Rothwell, Shipley and the local company.

Two new members, Messrs. H. Bradley and J. Bradley, of Sherburn, were elected.

A comprehensive vote of thanks to the Vicar, churchwardens and the local company was proposed by the president (the Rev. J. Andrews), who thanked all concerned and especially the local company for arranging the tea.—This was seconded by the Rev. C. C. Marshall, who said that he was pleased that he had been able to ring at Liversedge once again. When he visited Liversedge he was reminded of the time when (as a curate at a nearby church) he was learning to ring and often was able to practise at Liversedge. Mr. Fernie (now Vicar of Liversedge) was the curate who succeeded him when he left the district.

Mr. F. Hodgson acknowledged the vote and promised to pass on the thanks to all concerned.

The next meeting will be the society's jubilee gathering. Tickets (1s. 9d. each) are now ready and can be obtained from the secretary or at various towers.

It was decided to dispense with the business meeting on that occasion, and members are asked to note that nominations and election of officers for the year 1939-40 will take place at the April meeting.

The arrangements for the jubilee gathering are ringing from 2.30 p.m., service 4.45 p.m., hot pot supper and entertainment 6 p.m.

A LANCASHIRE VETERAN.

At Penwortham, Lancs, after a Confirmation service, on February 25th, and also as a 79th birthday compliment to Mr. J. R. Taylor, of the local band, 720 Kent Treble Bob Minor was rung after meeting short for Bob Major: K. Martin 1, H. Hall 2, E. R. Martin 3, J. R. Taylor 4, W. Loxham 5, K. Hall 6, J. Gornall 7.

John Taylor & Co.

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BELFRY GOSSIP.

Members of the Lancashire Association are asked to note that the meeting of the Liverpool District at St. Helens is to be held on March 11th and not March 4th as advertised last week.

Mr. A. Waddington has resigned the post of Maidstone District secretary of the Kent Association, and Mr. R. G. Rayfield, Downs View, 25, Spring Lane, Ightham, has been elected to the vacancy. All district subscriptions and communications should be sent to him.

A hundred and sixty years ago: 'On Shrove Tuesday a complete peal of 10,260 Grandsire Caters was rung upon the deep melodious peal of ten bells at St. Mary's Church in Nottingham, being the first and only attempt made for the same. The above performance continued 7 hours and 20 minutes and was performed by eleven of the Nottingham Society. The tenor, as customary with bells of that weight, was rung by two men and the other nine single-handed. St. Mary's bells are the heaviest peal of ten bells within 100 miles of the place, York Minster excepted.' Thus the 'Cambridge Chronicle' of March 7th, 1778.

Shrove Tuesday in that year was on March 3rd and the peal was called by W. D. Crofts.

The two peals of Erith Little Bob Royal four days apart bring to mind a similar coincidence 47 years ago this month, in which the grandfather of the conductor of the Prittlewell peal was concerned. On the Tuesday the late Mr. E. Barnett, sen., called the first peal of Double Norwich for the Kent County Association and on the following Thursday Mr. Lindoff called a peal of it at Gillingham. Neither conductor knew of the other's intention.

'Tis a small world, after all. When the English ringers were in Australia in 1934 they visited St. Augustine's Church, at Unley, Adelaide, a new and imposing building, and were presented with souvenir buttons bearing a miniature picture of the church.

The Vicar of St. Augustine's at that time is now Vicar of Liversedge, Yorkshire, where a meeting of the Leeds and District Society was held on Saturday. Mr. Joe Hardcastle produced his souvenir button, to the amazement of the Vicar—and then tongues wagged. At St. Augustine's the Vicar raised £16,000 for the new church, and although he saw the building finished, he left before they got a hoped-for peal of bells.

DEATH OF MR. ARTHUR KNIGHTS.

We deeply regret to record the death on Wednesday morning of Mr. Arthur Knights, the well-known ringer and composer, of Chesterfield. He was 79 years of age.

GOOD FRIDAY RINGING.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I never can understand why so few of our bells are rung on Good Friday. It seems to me to be the special occasion when good muffled ringing would have a direct appeal.

Many ringers, I imagine, have not heard the solemn effect of double muffled ringing, with the tenor open at back-stroke.

I venture to recommend this method. WILLIAM STORY.

QUICKEST PEAL ON CHURCH BELLS.

To the Editor.

Sir,—I note with interest in 'Peal Notes' the peal of Minor rung at Buckland, Surrey, in 2 hours 1 minute, and reference made to a quicker peal having been rung at the Bell Foundry, Loughborough. If my memory serves me aright, the Loughborough peal was rung on the front six of the ten. It is interesting to note on the same page in 'The Ringing World' as the Buckland peal a peal of Minor rung on the back six at the Bell Foundry, Loughborough, tenor 6¼ cwt., in 2 hours 21 minutes. The Buckland peal would have looked much better with another 720 tacked on to it. C. H. WEBB.

NEWCASTLE CATHEDRAL RINGER'S DEATH.

Newcastle Cathedral Guild have lost one of their original members by the death of Mr. John Foreman, who passed away on February 13th. He had been steeplekeeper for many years, during which time he carried out his duties most efficiently and always had everything in perfect order for ringing on all occasions.

As a Sunday service ringer he was one of the keenest, and many will also remember him ringing peals, which totalled 55. Most of them were rung for the Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association, which he joined in 1901. Unfortunately, indifferent health kept him out of peal ringing recently. At the graveside after the funeral service the handbells were rung as a last token of respect by C. L. Routledge (Ringing Master, Newcastle Cathedral Guild) 1-2, Murray Oubridge (president, Durham and Newcastle Diocesan Association) 3-4, W. J. Davidson 5-6, Adam Deas 7-8.

A DUBLIN QUARTER-PEAL.

A quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles (1,260 changes), ten different callings, was rung at St. Patrick's National Cathedral, Dublin, by D. McGregor 1, G. Lindoff 2, F. E. Dukes (conductor) 3, O. H. Jones 4, H. W. Jones 5, M. Doolan 6. It was the first quarter-peal by all (except 2nd ringer) in the method. F. E. Duke's first quarter-peal as conductor. Ringers of 2, 4 and 5 members of St. Patrick's, remainder from St. George's, Dublin.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—60.

WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

Leicester has produced many very able ringers, but few of them have begun their ringing career at so early an age as Mr. Walter P. Whitehead. Born on December 20th, 1907, in the parish of All Saints', Leicester, the youngest of the three brothers, he was taught to handle a bell by his eldest brother, Edward, at the age of 13.

With the aid of push bikes, Walter (who later was to be nicknamed by the Leicester leading lights, Messrs. W. Willson, F. H. Dexter and E. Morris, as 'Tich,' being only 4ft. 2in. in height) and his brother Edward would tour the villages round the district for experience.

MR. WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

After twelve months of practice, 'Tich' scored his first peal on the treble to Stedman Triples at All Saints', Thurcaston. This was on February 24th, 1922, having turned 14 years only two months previously. In the same year he accomplished peals of Superlative, Cambridge and London Surprise Major on an 'inside' bell.

Full of enthusiasm and anxious to go ahead, Tich began conducting under the tuition of Mr. William Willson, and while still a mere lad of 15 called at the first attempt Holt's Original and was the youngest to call the one-part.

Six months later he composed and conducted peals of Bob Major and Superlative Surprise.

One peal which 'Tich' specially cherishes is a peal of Stedman Caters 'in hand' on 1-2, three months after his 15th birthday. This was the first peal 'in hand' by all and the first of Stedman Caters as conductor.

Altogether Mr. Whitehead has rung 266 peals and conducted 161. Of these 21 have been rung on handbells, 15 of which he has conducted. Amongst the total are 104 peals of Stedman Triples, 81 of which he has conducted (six 'in hand'), rung in 53 towers for three associations with 286 ringers.

Mr. Whitehead is a member of St. Saviour's, Leicester, where his brothers, L. H. and E. R. Whitehead (towerkeeper) are also ringers.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

A meeting of the North Forest Branch of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association was held at Huntley on Saturday. Six towers of the branch were represented and there were visitors from Gloucester, Cheltenham and Coventry. The service was conducted by the Rector of Huntley (the Rev. Thackwell).

After tea the members stood in silence as a mark of respect to the late Mr. G. Grosvenor, captain of Longhope tower, who had always taken a great interest in the branch and was always to be found at the branch meetings.

At the business meeting it was decided to hold the next meeting at Corse.

A vote of thanks was accorded to the Rector of Huntley for the use of the bells and for taking the service.

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD

NORTHERN DISTRICT AT BRECON.

The annual meeting of the Northern District of the Swansea and Brecon Diocesan Guild took place at Brecon on Saturday, February 18th. The bells were made good use of until service time, when the Bishop's Messenger conducted the Guild's special form, also presided at the organ and gave the address, the Vicar (Canon Roberts) being in the congregation. Tea was partaken of at the Church House, 31 sitting down as the guests of the Vicar. Visitors attended from Ebbw Vale and Tredegar, and the Guild Ringing Master (Mr. J. Hoare) and the general secretary (Mr. D. J. Williams) were also present.

The Vicar presided over the business meeting, at which the officers were all re-elected with the exception of the district auditor, who will be leaving during the summer. The Rev. J. C. Hill was elected in his place.

The usual votes of thanks concluded the meeting and the ringers returned to the tower.

RECRUITMENT.

AN ANNUAL CAMPAIGN SUGGESTED.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—Your leading article and the letter of your correspondent in last week's issue of 'The Ringing World' on 'Recruitment' are timely, for I think that unless something energetic is done to fill the depleted bands of ringers all over the country, the Exercise will be faced with a most serious prospect of decadence in the near future!

The instruction of beginners is a most difficult and disappointing task, and even skilled ringing instructors admit that the percentage of successes is low. However, this would be of small import if recruits came forward in large enough numbers. In this respect I feel that *every* ringer could help a lot more than he does, and should not just leave the matter to the captain of his band.

It seems to me that it cannot be beyond any ringer's capacity to introduce at least one new person to the belfry each year, and to secure his interest sufficiently for him to commence learning. If every ringer were to do this each year and even if only 10 per cent. of the recruits so obtained became successful ringers, in nine years our numbers would be doubled, rings of bells now silent would be pealing, and, amongst other things, the circulation of 'The Ringing World' would increase!

May I suggest that an annual campaign should be launched through the medium of your valuable paper in any agreed month, reminding ringers that it is time they brought their recruit to the tower. This campaign could be followed by a series of articles giving instructions to instructors at the various stages of the learner's progress.

Haywards Heath, Sussex. RAYMOND OVERY.

AN OPPORTUNITY AND A BONUS.

At Clent, Worcestershire, the seeking after recruits is helped by the Vicar. In last month's issue of the Parish Magazine was the following paragraph:—

'The unique opportunity—which cannot be extended indefinitely—is for lads who have time on their hands and need a hobby. The chance of being taught to ring now by our old friend William Short, who knows everything about it and much more than many ringers do; the reward—a small bonus when proficient, offered by the Vicar. More ringers are needed—Learn now while Mr. Short is still able to teach you.'

They also interest the parishioners of Clent in the bells by various activities. For the past few years a bellringers' social has annually raised funds for a variety of belfry improvements.

DEARTH OF RINGERS AT ADWICK.

RECTOR'S REGRET AT SILENCE OF BELLS.

A meeting of the Doncaster and District Society was held at Adwick-le-Street on Saturday, February 25th, and the peal of six bells was rung to a large variety of methods during the afternoon and evening. Seventeen members and friends sat down to tea in the Old School.

The business meeting which followed was presided over by the Rector of Adwick, the Rev. S. A. Taylor.

The Rector welcomed the society 'from selfish motives.' Adwick bells, he said, had been silent for a long time, and he thought perhaps when the bells were once more heard ringing out, sufficient interest might be aroused among the people of Adwick to keep them going and the present state of affairs brought to an end. It was no fault of his own ringers that this had come about. They had brought learners in, taught them and then for one reason or another they had dropped out, and the band had been gradually depleted till it had finished altogether. For the first time since they were installed the bells failed to ring out the old year and welcome the new year. A number of the residents, he said, were continually asking the reason the bells were not rung, and he assured the meeting that, despite the criticism they got sometimes, the bells were sadly missed when they were silent.

Mr. Lloyd said it was a peculiar fact that while Adwick had the bells and no ringers, Doncaster had the ringers and no bells. In addition to a first-class company, they had a band of learners coming on very well, who were being taught on handbells till the tower bells should be put in order. Among these were a number of young ladies, and Mr. Lloyd pointed out to the Rector that if he could not get young men he must get young women.

Mr. Clark endorsed Mr. Lloyd's remarks. He said in many places they had an old-fashioned prejudice against girls and women in the belfry, but in his experience he found that they were treated with extreme courtesy. He mentioned the fact that there was such a thing as a Ladies' Guild with a large membership, and that Doncaster district towers had quite a number of lady ringers. He advised the Rector to try this remedy. He went on to say that since he first came to the district he knew there had been a struggle to keep things going at Adwick. Then for a short time they had a first rate band capable of ringing, and striking, a large number of methods, and now they had none. He hoped that this position would soon be altered.

Tickhill was decided upon as the venue of the next meeting, to be held on Saturday, March 25th.

Votes of thanks to the Rector and wardens for the use of the bells and to the ladies for providing tea brought the meeting to a close, and the handbells and tower bells were set going once more.

JOHNSON COMMEMORATION DINNER.

REPRESENTATIVE GATHERING AT BIRMINGHAM.

Lord Mayor's Appeal for Cathedral Worthy of the City.

The memory of Henry Johnson, most famous of all Birmingham ringers, who was born 130 years ago and died nearly 50 years ago, was honoured again last Saturday, when the annual gathering took place in his native city, under the auspices of St. Martin's Guild.

Those who knew or rang with Henry Johnson are a fast dwindling band, but there were seven among last Saturday's company who had met him in life.

The dinner, which is the chief event in the commemorative proceedings, was attended by the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Birmingham, and apart from the fact that the Lord Mayor sprang a surprise by revealing that he was the son of a former well-known Bromsgrove ringer, Mr. Elijah Crump, and had himself learned to pull a bell, he made a notable speech urging the building in Birmingham of a cathedral worthy of so great a city.

Ringing took place at St. Martin's, the Cathedral and Aston in the afternoon, and a company of nearly 140 gathered at the Imperial Hotel in the evening under the genial chairmanship of Canon S. Blofeld, Vicar of Edgbaston. He was accompanied by Mrs. Blofeld and was supported by the Lord Mayor (Alderman James Crump) and the Lady Mayoress, Councillor A. Paddon Smith (vice-president of the Guild), Mr. T. H. Reeves (hon. secretary), Mr. F. E. Haynes (Ringing Master), the Provost of Birmingham (the Very Rev. J. H. Richards), the Archdeacon of Aston and Mrs. McGowan, the Rev. W. S. Power (Vicar of Erdington), Col. J. W. Danielsen (churchwarden of Erdington), Messrs. F. W. Stevens and E. B. Tomlinson (churchwardens of Edgbaston), Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Yates (King's Norton), Messrs. J. George, J. H. Shepherd, A. Walker (vice-president) and Mrs. Walker. The visitors included Mr. W. Short (Ringing Master of the Worcestershire Association), Mr. F. W. Rogers (hon. secretary, Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild) and Mr. R. Philpot (Portsmouth), Mr. R. Richardson (Master of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild), Mrs. and Miss Richardson, Mr. H. Knight (hon. secretary, Archdeaconry of Stafford Society), Mr. E. Guise (hon. secretary Bristol United Guilds) and Mrs. Guise, Mrs. Wilkins, Mr. Williams and others from Bristol, Mr. J. F. Smallwood and Mr. T. F. King (Bath), Mr. C. F. Johnston (Croydon), Mr. J. Austin (Gloucester), Mr. J. Williams (Newent), Mr. W. Saunders (Coalbrookdale), Mr. J. P. Fidler (Loughborough), Mr. F. W. Porrens and Mr. and Mrs. F. E. Pervin (Coventry), Mr. and Miss Griffin (Walsall), Mr. E. Nash (Mells, Somerset), Mr. S. Holt (Worcester), Mr. Bishop (Ruardean, Glos.), Mr. W. Viggers and Miss E. Pascoe (Aldershot), etc. There was also a representative company from nearly all the towers in the diocese.

After an excellent repast, the toast of 'The King' was given by the chairman.

BIRMINGHAM'S CONTRIBUTION TO HISTORY.

Mr. F. E. Haynes proposed the combined toast of 'Church and State' and 'The City of Birmingham.' He said opinion had been growing in recent years that the terms Church and State should have a universal application. When they talked of the State they meant the World State; and when they talked of the Church they meant a Church that would embrace the whole world, but for himself he found that wide application of the words was very unsatisfying and difficult to understand. When he spoke of Church and State he thought, and he believed most of those present also thought, of the Church as it more strictly concerned themselves and of the State as more strictly concerning the British Isles. He thought it would be a pity if they allowed their ideas of Church and State to become less definite, because much of the progress of the world that had been made in every aspect had been due to the rivalry between nations and the feeling of each one of them was that their own State and their own Church was the best. If they took that as their idea of Church and State, they must admit that they owed a debt both to the Church and to the State, but whereas they were compelled to perform in some degree their duty to the State, the Church made no such compulsion upon them. If, therefore, the Church and State were to exist side by side, and prosper as they would wish them to, it was obvious that they depended upon them as individuals to make them successful. It was in that connection that they welcomed the addition of the words 'City of Birmingham' to the toast that night. It was added in appreciation of the great honour they felt had been bestowed upon them by the visit of the Lord Mayor (applause). When they looked back through the history of the country the City of Birmingham had played no mean part, both in regard to the State and the Church. Many men connected with Birmingham were among the famous churchmen, statesmen, inventors, artists and so on of the past, and at no time had the City of Birmingham ever deserved better of the State than at the present moment. They were all proud to think that it was a citizen of Birmingham who was now piloting the Ship of State (applause).

The Lord Mayor, who first responded, thanked Mr. Haynes for his references to the City of Birmingham and expressed his great pleasure at being present at the dinner as the guest of the Guild. Birmingham was a city that had helped to make the country famous throughout the world, and that week they were holding in Birmingham part of the British Industries Fair. There was no prouder man than he was on Tuesday morning when he was presented to Queen Mary, on her visit to the fair, and she said to him, 'I want to congratulate you on the Birmingham exhibits at the fair this year. I am pleased to see that they have got such a fine exhibition.' That, said the Lord Mayor, was a great compliment, and he was delighted to pass it on to the people of Birmingham (applause).

LORD MAYOR SPRINGS SURPRISE.

Proceeding, the Lord Mayor surprised the company by informing them that he was once associated with their calling. 'When my secretary said to me that I had an invitation to the bellringers dinner and added, "You cannot do it. You are booked at the British Industries Fair for lunch, again for tea at 4.30 and another one at 5," I told him,' said the Lord Mayor, 'that I was going to the bellringers' dinner and that if they wanted me at the B.I.F. they must bring their time table forward (laughter and applause). They did that,' said the Lord Mayor, 'and candidly if they hadn't I should have missed those teas, because I wanted to be here' (applause).

'I go back,' he continued, 'a long number of years, 55 or more, when I used to go regularly with my dear old dad to St. John's Church, Bromsgrove, where he was a ringer. I have been with him here in Birmingham to meetings at St. Martin's Church, and accompanied him to many other churches in the Midlands where there are bells. I think I can say I took an interested part in ringing, because my father was treasurer of the society; but he was treasurer in name only, because I did the book-keeping (laughter). I still have in my possession an interesting emblem which commemorates a record in bellringing. This is what it says, "The Worcester Diocesan Association of Change Ringers. On Saturday, February 2nd, 1884, was rung in the tower of St. John's Church, Bromsgrove, a true and complete peal of Grandsire Triples, comprising 5,040 changes in three hours seven minutes, conducted by Elijah Crump." One of the ringers was James Hinton, who was stone deaf, and Mr. Allnutt stood by the side of him and gave him two taps when a bob was called and one for a single (laughter). I did that many times myself,' said the Lord Mayor, 'but that was for ordinary ringing and not for a peal. Now I can't tap them even once for a bob (loud laughter). That peal was unique and it states on the bottom of the card that it was a record for ringing at that time (applause). At a later date they tried for a peal at Hanbury with Mr. Hinton, who was deaf, and Mr. Hughes, who had only one arm, but near the end the conductor forgot to call a bob and what would have been a further record was lost. Once,' continued the Lord Mayor, 'I had to walk to Stoke Prior, where they had just got a new bell, and I remember going to the schoolroom to have tea. Afterwards my father used to go to Stoke Prior to teach the young men how to ring, and I had to accompany him, hail, rain or snow (laughter). I was not much of a ringer myself,' said the Lord Mayor, 'but I used occasionally to help ring the people into church and tell them it was church time (applause). We used to keep the handbells at our house and they were hung on a broomstick across a wooden bedstead so that we could tap them (laughter).

A WORTHY CATHEDRAL WANTED.

'It is this far off connection with your bellringing,' said the Lord Mayor, 'that made me tell my secretary that I was going along to your dinner (laughter). Both the Lady Mayoress and myself are delighted to be here with you, and we shall watch your progress with interest and, I hope, listen to many peals. My only regret is that we do not possess a cathedral worthy of our great city. There is plenty of money in the country and they could do it if only they would get down to it (applause). Birmingham is worthy of it. While we admire St. Philip's, it is not dignified enough for a great city like Birmingham to say, "That is our Cathedral" (applause). Why cannot we do as other places have done, make a bold bid to build a cathedral? If there is anything I can do to help in that direction I shall be only too delighted to do it (loud applause). I don't profess to be a good man, because I should be a hypocrite if I did, for I've been a lad in my time (loud laughter), but I am quite serious when I say that anyone who has lived any length of time in Birmingham must agree that we ought to have a cathedral worthy of our great city' (applause).

The Chairman, who also replied, said he hoped the order of the toast would always be preserved. It should be the toast of 'Church and State,' for that was how best they could mark the value that the Church could be to the State. He was grateful to the Lord Mayor for what he said about the Cathedral (applause). He was not going to dwell upon it, but it must be at the heart of lots of people in Birmingham that they should have a cathedral worthy of their great city.

The Chairman went on to say how proud they were in Edgbaston to have such a fine peal of bells, the finest in Birmingham, he added, and such a devoted leader and team of bellringers. He spoke of the co-operation necessary in ringing; it was necessary for each one to do his bit and to face the correction of mistakes. The message of the bells, of harmony and not discord, was a message for the whole of life. He referred to the introduction of machinery in nearly every department of life, but he hoped it would be long before the human element was removed from bellringing and the sound of the bells reproduced by machinery (applause). They could not put the clock back and machinery was necessary where a lot of hands were not available, but in the case of bells he hoped the human element would ever

remain, because bellringers were fellow-workers with God. They were not in the belfry simply doing a job; they were sharing in the kind of work that many of them were called upon to do, work for God and His purpose. He concluded by remarking that he valued the privilege of being in the chair on that occasion, and he hoped the Guild would go on always with that end in front of it, which was God's harmony.

HENRY JOHNSON'S LETTERS.

Mr. F. E. Dawe, who was one of the seven in the room who knew Henry Johnson in the flesh, proposed the toast to the memory of the famous old Birmingham ringer. He said he had been present at nearly all these dinners, which had been held during more than 50 years, and attended the first one on Henry Johnson's 80th birthday. Twenty-seven years ago he had the honour of being chairman. He would never forget, on the occasion of the first dinner, the touch of five courses of Stedman Cinques rung on handbells. It was the most perfect handbell ringing he had heard, but to-day there was only one of those six ringers left, and that was their old friend Tom Miller, who was with them that night (applause). Mr. Dawe went on to say that he knew Henry Johnson personally for about 11 years. Although there was so much difference in their age, they were real chums and no one ever knew the reason except that he had a marvellous respect for such a wonderful old man, who even in his later years was clear in intellect, very versatile, with a fund of anecdote and as sharp as a needle. He was a wonderful personality. He went to work before he was nine years of age, so he got no college education, but he had great natural gifts and was a born mathematician. The problems which came before him he could solve in his own peculiar way. At one of those early dinners Professor Thompson produced an instrument which was called a decadahedron, by which he could prove any peal of Treble Bob Major up to 8,000 odd. On this occasion he spent several minutes proving a peal, which was known to be false, and showing where it was wrong. Henry Johnson looked at it and told them in 30 seconds where it was false.

Continuing, Mr. Dawe said that for some years he had had it in mind to hand over to ringers of the present day some of the letters he had received from famous men of the past. He had brought with him that day some twenty or so of Johnson's letters written to him, and some of various other individuals, who were shining lights of those distant days, together with several of Johnson's original compositions. He wanted to hand them over to the esteemed secretary of St. Martin's Guild for preservation in the society's records (applause). He regretted that he had been unable to find for the moment a packet of letters that he had received many years ago from their secretary's father, Mr. Sam Reeves, who was a friend of his 60 years ago and was Master of the College Youths when he was elected a member of that society. He also now regretted that many years ago he made three gifts from among his letters. Some, containing some of Johnson's proof scales, he passed on to Jasper Snowdon and others he gave to Sir Arthur Heywood, but there were included among the letters he had brought a peal of Grandsire Caters which Johnson composed in 1886 on a somewhat new plan and which he (Mr. Dawe) called at St. Mary's Cathedral, Edinburgh, in August of the same year—the first ten-bell peal ever rung in Scotland. Another letter was one inviting him to call the last peal on the famous bells at St. Michael's, Coventry. Unfortunately he was unable to leave London on the date selected and the peal was called by Harry Bastable. Among the letters were two or three from Henry Johnson's son, one dated January 8th, 1890, telling him of his father's death on the previous day. He (Mr. Dawe) was the first ringer in London who had the news, and he arranged a muffled peal of Double Norwich Major, which was rung in memory of this grand old patriarch of ringing. He was perfectly certain Johnson never had an enemy and he often felt his motto must have been 'A soft answer turneth away wrath.' Men like Henry Johnson, concluded Mr. Dawe, were the backbone of the Exercise in their day, and it was only fitting they should do honour to their memory.

The toast was drunk in silence, and afterwards a course of Stedman Cinques was rung on handbells by members of the Guild.

THE GUILD'S LONG HISTORY.

Mr. Albert Walker proposed the toast of 'Continued Prosperity to St. Martin's Guild.' They all regretted, he said, the absence of the beloved Master. Alderman Pritchett, who for many years had proposed that toast, in the course of which he had given them a resumé of the activities of the Guild. For the benefit of the non-ringing friends who were present, Mr. Walker pointed out that the Guild was formed as long ago as 1755, when the society was called St. Martin's Youths, and rang their first peal at St. Philip's Church. From that time the society had been prominent in ringing circles, not only in Birmingham and district, but further afield. In 1814, for instance, they opened the new peal of bells at St. Nicholas' Church, Liverpool, and were awarded a silver cup for ringing 3,000 Grandsire Cinques. In the years which followed they had among them many celebrated ringers, including such men as Thurstans and Cooper, and, later, Henry Johnson. The name of the society was, some time during that period, changed to St. Martin's Society and later St. Martin's Guild was formed, its functions having chiefly to do with the ringing at St. Martin's, St. Philip's and Aston. Then, after the formation of the Diocese of Birmingham, the society became the St. Martin's Guild for the Diocese of Birmingham. The society had existed since 1755, with all its old traditions and history, and when it came to the formation of a diocesan guild, they could not leave out St. Martin's, which they at that time and still thought was the proper title. St. Martin's Society existed as long ago as 1755, whereas the diocese of Birmingham was not formed until 1905.

The Guild, he continued, had been fortunate in finding very capable men to carry on its affairs. In the early days they were national heroes; to-day they had some very efficient men who deserved every help and support that could be given them. During the past year the Guild rang 31 peals and 80 ringers took part in them. A most gratifying thing was the youth that was now in their ranks, and in this they were particularly fortunate at Aston, which now had a very capable band, including a number of young ringers. They had rung a twelve-bell peal with their own band, and their outstanding performances had been peals of Stedman Triples and Caters 'in hand' (applause). Among the tower-bell peals by the Guild had been one rung at Manchester Town Hall. It had been a feature of the Guild that they had in the past been able to go to many parts of the British Isles and ring peals. Another notable peal was a peal of Spliced Surprise rung by a mixed company of that Guild and Worcestershire members. They were fortunate in having round them territorial associations like the Worcestershire, the Warwickshire and the Archdeaconry of Stafford, with all of whom they lived in perfect harmony and friendly rivalry (applause). In this connection Mr. Walker referred to a letter which appeared in 'The Ringing World' on the previous day suggesting a National Association. He thought in such an association individuality would be lost; and it was much better that they should have separate diocesan or territorial associations and live in harmony with one another (hear, hear). In conclusion, Mr. Walker referred to the work of the secretary, Mr. Reeves. They greatly appreciated his work, he said, and hoped he would live for many years to be their secretary (applause).

HIGH STANDARD OF STRIKING.

Mr. T. H. Reeves, who replied, first thanked Mr. Dawe for the gift of Henry Johnson's letters to the Guild. They would value them very much; they would read them with interest and they would be taken great care of in the archives of the Guild. He personally would also be very happy to have the letters written by his father. Having next thanked the artistes for their contribution to the programme, Mr. Reeves went on to say that he would like to see more members at their quarterly meetings, and Mr. Haynes would be very glad to see more members at the bi-quarterly meetings, which were held for the improvement of the art of change ringing. In spite of that, however, their good old Guild was going on; it was making progress and was held in higher esteem to-day than ever before (applause). They could go about the country ringing in various towers and were respected. Other people expected something good from them and he thought he could truthfully say they gave it. It was one of the traditions of the Guild that they did give good striking (hear, hear). In spite of what they sometimes heard about the good old men who used to ring at St. Martin's, he believed they were still getting equally good striking in the Bull Ring on Sunday mornings (applause). He believed that the spirit which permeated the Guild would maintain the standard of ringing expected of it. They had a happy band of officers and the members generally gave them wholehearted support. While he sometimes felt that the work of secretary was becoming a little bit irksome, yet he did get a lot of pleasure in carrying on the duties, and he appreciated the honour of being the secretary of such a Guild (hear, hear).

Mr. A. Paddon Smith submitted 'The Visitors' and welcomed on behalf of the Guild the first citizen and chief magistrate of the second largest city in England and the sixth largest in the British Empire. They were very pleased that the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress had been able to find time, among their many activities, to grace those proceedings, and when in future in the Council Chamber he looked at the Lord Mayor, where he sat in majesty in the seats of the mighty, he would remember that he was a very human man (applause) and that he had associations with bellringers, which doubtless explained what a mellow man he was (laughter and applause). Mr. Smith extended a welcome to the many other visitors, whom he mentioned by name, saying they included their old friend Mr. John Austin, of Gloucester, who, at 76 years of age, had been able to make the journey because Sergt. Joseph Williams, aged 86, had promised to come to take care of him (laughter and applause).

BIRMINGHAM'S ATTRACTION FOR RINGERS.

Responding to the toast, Mr. C. F. Johnston expressed the visitors' thanks for the cordiality of their welcome, and said they were delighted to come to Birmingham because of its famous ringers, its first-class ringing and good bells. Those of them who had also been able to visit the British Industries Fair had seen what an astonishing exposition that was and what British engineers could do. Altogether he thought Birmingham must be a good place to live in, for on his way from Aston he had noticed a great placard which said, 'We don't cut prices, we murder them' (laughter).

Mr. J. F. Smallwood also replied, but said he did not feel that he was a visitor, for he was bred and born in Birmingham and learned his ringing there. Unfortunately he had been exiled for many years, but he was always very pleased to come back year after year to that gathering.

Mr G. E. Fearn, in proposing the toast of 'The Ringing World,' spoke of its indispensability to the Exercise. Without it, he said, it would be almost impossible to arrange successfully such a gathering

(Continued on next page.)

LADIES' GUILD.

LONDON DISTRICT TO HOLD MONTHLY PRACTICES.

A very successful meeting of the London District of the Ladies' Guild was held at Leyton Parish Church on February 11th, when 35 ringers were present, of whom 16 were members of the Guild. The handy ring of eight, just perfect in weight and 'go' for a ladies' meeting, were rung to a variety of methods, including Yorkshire Surprise Major.

The short service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. Robert Bren), who extended a warm welcome to the Guild. The lesson was read by the general secretary (Mrs. G. W. Fletcher).

At the conclusion of the service the Vicar invited everybody present to look round the ancient church, which possesses a number of unusual treasures, amongst them a very wonderful old hour-glass, an even finer example than the one in the Victoria and Albert Museum. The illuminated monument of a former Vicar, reposing under a glass cover at the foot of the chancel, was also revealed to the visitors.

Tea, by kind invitation of the Vicar, was held in the Old Vicarage, now used as a Church Hall, but actually the residence of the Vicars of Leyton in former days. In a short speech, the vice-president (Mrs. R. F. Deal) thanked the Vicar and Mrs. Bren, Mr. C. A. Hughes, the organist and everybody else who had helped to make the meeting a success

At the business meeting which followed three new members were elected: Miss L. G. Grayling, of Edmonton, and the Misses E. Bridge and C. Chinnery, of Orsett, Essex.

Beaconsfield was chosen as the place of the next meeting, to be held on May 6th. It will be remembered that this tower was to have been visited last October, but the meeting was cancelled at the Rector's request owing to the crisis.

The annual meeting of the district is to be held at St. George's-in-the-Borough on Saturday, July 1st.

A suggestion was made that the Guild should hold a monthly practice at St. George's (which is the headquarters of the Ladies' Guild) on the first Wednesday in every month.

The proposition having been enthusiastically received, Wednesday, March 1st, was chosen for the first practice, commencing at 7.30 p.m.

The members were asked to bear in mind that the annual general meeting of the Guild would be held at Ipswich on Saturday, July 8th.

Further ringing took place after the meeting, an outstanding item being an excellent course of Cambridge Major rung entirely by ladies.

WEDDING BELLS.

On January 28th, at the Parish Church, Whitbourne, Herefordshire, the wedding took place of Mr. E. C. Davis and Miss Eleanor Jones. Mr. Davis is a member of the local band, and a quarter-peal of Doubles in three methods, Plain Bob, Canterbury and Grandsire, was rung in 44 minutes by J. H. Griffiths 1, Fred Davis 2, E. Jones 3, G. Jones 4, R. J. Caswell 5, W. Morris 6. The conductor was G. Soley, who was unable to take a rope. Afterwards the ringers were entertained by the bridal pair.

THE JOHNSON DINNER.

(Continued from previous page.)

as that. They were, he said, sometimes inclined to forget some of the services rendered week by week by various men in the Exercise, for the very reason that they went on so regularly that they got used to them. The success of a newspaper depended entirely upon its editor, and in that respect they were fortunate in having a man such as Mr. Goldsmith as Editor of 'The Ringing World.' He had been carrying on for nearly 28 years, and during that time he had written between 1,400 and 1,500 leading articles. They must realise that it was a colossal task to find something fresh to talk about every week concerning one subject over so long a period. They hoped Mr. Goldsmith would continue as editor for at least another 28 years (laughter and applause).

Mr. Goldsmith acknowledged the kind reception given to the toast, and Mr. W. C. Dowding then submitted 'The Chairman' in a felicitous speech. He spoke of the pleasure it gave them all to see Canon Blofeld in the chair on that occasion; it was not only a compliment to him, but it was a compliment to the Guild to have him in that position. As their chairman he had upheld the traditions of many distinguished predecessors (applause). Mr. Dowding spoke of the hospitality which the Guild always received when they visited Edgbaston and of the homely addresses which they received on those occasions from Canon Blofeld. He hoped he would be spared for many years to carry on his good work at Edgbaston Parish Church and to join them at that annual dinner (applause).

The toast was drunk with musical honours, and the Chairman having briefly replied, the proceedings terminated with the National Anthem.

The musical items of the evening were provided by the Cathedral Quartet, whose singing was greatly enjoyed and warmly applauded.

Many of the visitors who stayed the night took part in ringing at various churches on Sunday, and there was at mid-day a 'gathering of the clans' at the headquarters, the Tamworth Arms, where St. Martin's Guild were the hosts. Altogether the week-end furnished another of the happy reunions characteristic of this annual commemoration.

NOTICES.

THE CHARGE FOR NOTICES of Meetings inserted under this heading is at the rate of 3d. per line (average 8 words) per insertion, with the minimum charge of 1/6.

NOTICES must be received NOT LATER THAN TUESDAY.

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

All communications should be sent to THE EDITORIAL OFFICE OF 'THE RINGING WORLD,' LOWER PYRFORD ROAD, WOKING, SURREY.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—A general meeting will be held at Acton on Sat., March 4th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service, with address by the Rector 4.45. Tea 5.30. 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.

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.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Newport Pagnell on Saturday, March 4th. Bells (8) available from 2.30 p.m. Service 3.30 p.m. Those requiring tea please send names in good time. A good attendance desired. All ringers welcome.—Walter Sear, Hon. Sec., 19, Albert Street, Bletchley.

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.—E. G. Talbot, Hon. Sec., 53, Birchwood Avenue, Wallington, Surrey.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Bedford District.—A meeting of this district will be held at Bromham on Saturday, March 4th. Bells (8) from 3 p.m. Tea at 5. You will be very welcome. All members please attend. Important business. — Frank C. Tysoe, Dis. Sec., 10, Grange Road, Bromham, Bedford.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District.—Annual meeting will be held at Dunstable on Saturday, March 4th. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. Tea and business at 5 p.m. All welcome.—F. J. Plummer, Dis. Sec., Leighton Buzzard.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Poolstock on Saturday, March 4th. Bells available from 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea, which will be free, in School at 5 p.m., for which please notify Mr. A. Parker, 89, Barnsley Street, Wigan.—S. Forshaw, 55, Poolstock, Wigan.

REWE CHURCH, NEAR EXETER.—Ring of five, tenor 9½ cwt. Bells rehung with new gudgeons and ball bearings and framework strengthened by Gillett and Johnston, Ltd. Re-dedication by the Lord Bishop of Crediton, Saturday, March 4th, at 3 p.m.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—Service ringing, St. Clement Danes, Strand, March 5th, 10 a.m. Practices: St. Clement Danes, March 13th and 27th, at 7.30 p.m., and St. Mary's, Lambeth, March 28th, at 8 p.m.—T. W. Taffender, Hon. Sec.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for March: Southwark Cathedral, 7th; St. Clement Danes, 9th; *St. Mary-le-Bow, 14th; St. Magnus-the-Martyr, 16th and 30th; 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.—A. B. Peck, Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The monthly meeting will be held at St Helens Parish Church (10 bells) on Saturday, Mar. 11th. The tower will be open at 2.30 p.m. Service at 5 o'clock, followed by tea and meeting. A hearty invitation is extended to all ringers. Please send word for tea to Mr. A. Wallace, 6, Brookside Avenue, Eccleston, St. Helens.—G. R. Newton, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Fylde Branch.—A meeting will be held at St. John's Church, Blackpool, on March 11th. Bells ready 3 p.m. Business meeting 5.30. All ringers welcomed.—C. Sharples, Branch Sec., Fylde.

LADIES' GUILD.—Northern District. — A meeting will be held at Norbury Parish Church, Hazel Grove, near Stockport, on Saturday, March 11th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names to Mrs. Fearnley, 7, Vernon Street, Hazel Grove, Cheshire. All ringers welcome. — E. Dorice Kelly, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Preston Branch.—The annual meeting of the branch will be held at Penewortham on Saturday, March 11th. Tower open at 3 p.m. Bells (8). A good attendance is requested.—A. Blogg, Branch Sec.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—A joint meeting of the Western Division and Huddersfield District Association will be held at St. Mary's, Elland, on Saturday, March 11th. Bells (8) available from 2 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea (1s.) 5.15 p.m., followed by business meeting — election of officers, etc. Names for tea to Mr. F. Linfoot, 2, Turnpike Street, Elland, by Thursday, March 9th. All welcome.—Frank Rayment, Dis. Sec., Bramley.

LADIES' GUILD.—Western District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Bitton on Saturday, March 11th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting to follow. Will those requiring tea please let me know by March 8th?—N. G. Williams, Hon. Sec., Weston House, Weston, Bath.

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—A ringing meeting will be held at South Normanton on Saturday, March 11th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock. Committee meeting at 5.45. Please send numbers requiring tea to me by Thursday, March 9th.—J. W. England, 49, The Common, South Normanton.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch, Newport Pagnell Deanery.—A meeting at Lathbury (5 bells) on Saturday, March 11th. Ring up 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 4.45.—Rev. J. F. Amies, Ravenstone Vicarage, Olney, Bucks.

EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.—The next meeting will be held at Ardingly (6 bells) on Saturday, March 11th. Tower open 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Everybody welcome. Please notify by the Wednesday previous if tea is required.—B. Saunders, 18, New Road, Ridgewood, Uckfield, Sussex.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Swindon Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Rodbourne Cheney on Saturday, March 11th. Light six. Usual arrangements.—W. B. Kynaston, 3, Dumbarton Terrace, Victoria Road, Swindon, Wilts.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wisbech Branch. — The branch will meet at Watlington on Saturday, March 11th. Bells (6) at 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at 5. All ringers welcome.—W. W. Cousins, Dis. Sec., Terrington St. John, Wisbech.

'TATER PIE AND BELLRINGING for all those who like it at Christ Church, Bacup, on Saturday, March 11th. Bells at 3 p.m. Meeting during the evening. Send your names by Thursday, March 9th, to Mr. A. Mills, 1, Stanley Mount, Lane Head, Bacup. A good turn-up requested.—J. Porter, Hon. Branch Sec., Lancs. Association.

NORTH NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting is at Barnby-in-the-Willows, near Newark (6 bells, tenor 6½ cwt.), on Saturday, March 11th. Look up your methods and then come and ring them, but send a postcard for tea before March 9th to R. Towler, 69, Ordsall Road, Retford.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The next meeting of the Southern District will be held at Heighington on Saturday, March 11th. Bells (6) available 2.30 p.m. Ringers requiring tea please notify me by 9th inst. Note, catering limited.—J. T. Titt, Hon. Dis. Sec., 54, Newlands Road, Darlington.

BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The next meeting will be held at Kirkthorpe, near Wakefield, on Saturday, March 11th. Bells (6) ready 2.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Those requiring tea please notify Mr. W. Riley, 12, Woodland Avenue, Kirkthorpe, not later than Wednesday, March 8th. Buses, Wakefield to Normanton, pass the church. All are welcome.—D. Smith, Hon. Sec., Rock Cottages, Shafton, nr. Barnsley.

SHEFFIELD AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The annual general meeting will be held at St. Marie's Church, Norfolk Row, Sheffield, on Saturday, March 11th. Bells (8) ready 2.30 p.m. Committee meeting 4 p.m. Business meeting 5 p.m. Tea can be had at the numerous cafes close by the church. All welcome.—M. E. Wilson, Hon. Sec., 13, St. Ronans Road, Sheffield 7.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION—Hinckley District.—The next ringing meeting will be held at Barwell on Saturday, March 11th. Usual times for ringing. Service at 4.30, followed by tea at 5. Names for tea should be sent to Mr. R. Belton, Westgate, Hinckley Road, Barwell, not later than Friday, March 10th. Subscriptions for 1939 are due.—W. A. Wood, Dis. Sec.

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GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Wotton Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Chipping Sodbury on March 11th. Bells (6) from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5 p.m.—W. J. Smith, 130, Station Road, Yate, Bristol.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Thrapston Branch.—A practice meeting will be held at Titchmarsh (8 bells) on Saturday, March 11th, at 6 p.m. All welcome.—W. R. Butcher, Hon. Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness and Lake District Branch.—The half-yearly meeting will be held at Holy Trinity Church, Kendal, on Saturday, March 11th. Bells (10) available at 2.30 p.m. Mr. Woodhouse, of Sedbergh, will demonstrate his change-ringing machine in the Parish Hall from 3 to 4.30 p.m. Please notify Mr. L. Towney, 3, Charles Street, Kendal, for tea by Wednesday, March 8th. Meeting in the Parish Hall after tea. All visitors welcome.—N. M. Newby, Hon. Sec.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Biggleswade District.—A meeting will be held at Northill, on Saturday, March 11th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5. All ringers will be welcome. Please come. A good company is requested.—C. J. Ball, 25, Tempsford Road, Sandy.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Western District.—A meeting will be held at Berkhampstead on Saturday, March 11th. Bells available 3 p.m.; service 5 p.m., followed by tea. Notifications for tea must reach me not later than Thursday next, 9th inst.—Walter Ayre, Hon. Sec., Leverstock Green.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Central Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Quainton (5 bells) on Saturday, March 11th. Usual arrangements.—F. Gibbard, Hon. Sec., Winslow, Bucks.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Daventry Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Braunston (6) on Saturday, March 11th. Usual arrangements.—W. C. Moore, Braunston Road, Daventry, Northants.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Dorset Branch.—Quarterly meeting at Shillingstone, Sat., March 11th. Visitors welcome. Service 4.30 p.m. Bells available at Childe Okeford and Okeford Fitzpaine.—W. Uphill, Hon. Sec., Stour Provost Rectory.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rochdale Branch.—Next meeting will be held at Oldham Parish Church on March 11th. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Short service 4.15 p.m. Meeting 6.30 p.m. All ringers and friends welcome.—Ivan Kay, Branch Sec.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—The next meeting will be held at St. James', Rusholme, Manchester, on Saturday afternoon, March 18th. Tower open for ringing at 6 o'clock. Members and non-members are cordially invited to attend.—Joseph H. Ridyard, Branch Sec.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Chew Deanery Branch.—A quarterly meeting will be held at St. Andrew's, Clevedon, on Saturday, March 18th. Bells available from 3 o'clock. Divine Service, 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 o'clock, with business meeting to follow.—Percy G. Yeo, Hon. Local Sec., Long Ashton.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual general committee meeting will be held at Reading on Saturday, March 18th, at 3.15 p.m., in St. Lawrence's Hall, Abbey Street.—Richard T. Hibbert, Gen. Sec., 69, York Road, Reading.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—The annual meeting will be held at St. Stephen's, Eastwood, near Rotherham, on Saturday, March 18th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Short service at 4.30 p.m. Tea in the Church Hall at 5 p.m. at 1s. per head, followed by business meeting. Those requiring tea, please notify Mr. S. Briggs, Clinton, Gerard Road, Rotherham. Please make an effort to attend this, the most important meeting of the year, and so make it a success. A hearty welcome is extended to all.—J. J. L. Gilbert, Hon. Dis. Sec.

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.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—North and East District.—A meeting will be held at St. Mary's Church, Finchley, on Saturday, March 18th. Ringing from 3 p.m. Service at 5 p.m. Tea to follow, for which please notify me by March 13th. The method for special attention is Double Court Minor; other methods will be rung as required. Subscriptions for 1939 are now due.—T. J. Lock, Hon. Dis. Sec., 57, Holloways Lane, North Mimms, Herts.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Eastern District.—The annual district meeting will be held at Goole on Saturday, March 18th. Bells (8) available from 2 o'clock. Service in church 4.15 p.m. Tea, 1s. 6d. per head, in Hockforth's Cafe. Names, please, to Mr. T. J. Twivey Wild, 38, Hilda Street, Goole, by previous Thursday. Business meeting for election of officers, etc., after tea. All welcome.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Ebor Street, Selby.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Guildford District.—A meeting will be held at Worplesdon on Saturday, March 18th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service, tea and meeting as usual. Please do not fail to send numbers for tea to Mr. S. Petter, The Laurels, Fox Corner, Worplesdon, Surrey.—W. F. J. Cope, Hon. Sec.

STANFORD-LE-HOPE, ESSEX.—The new ring of eight bells, installed by John Taylor and Co., will be dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Chelmsford on Saturday, March 18th, at 3 p.m. All ringers heartily welcome. Tea provided at 4.30 for those notifying Mr. A. D. Howell, 6, Copland Terrace, Stanford-le-Hope, not later than March 14th. Bells available until 7.30 p.m.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — The annual general meeting will be held at Erith on Easter Monday next. Service in the Parish Church of St. John at noon, followed by luncheon (free to practising members, 2s. others). Business meeting follows for the election of officers and Central Council representatives (4). Nominations must reach me by March 27th. New rule to be submitted. Further particulars later.—Fred M. Mitchell, Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

EGHAM, SURREY.—On Sunday, February 26th, for evening service, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples: A. Clark 1, J. B. Hessey 2, E. Armstrong 3, L. E. Scammell 4, E. Morey (first quarter-peal of Grandsire as conductor) 5, H. G. Andrews 6, W. Peck 7, J. Greenough 8.

COLCHESTER BELLS RESTORED.

The Bishop of Chelmsford (the Rt. Rev. H. A. Wilson) performed the rededication ceremony of the bells of St. Peter's, Colchester, after restoration, on Tuesday evening, February 21st. The service was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. R. B. Bertin), assisted by the Rev. J. H. Hickinbotham.

After the dedication, the bells were rung, previous to the address, by the Bishop, who congratulated the parish in having raised the necessary £275 for the renovation. Thanks were, he said, also due to another member of the congregation for having the belfry and approach cleaned up and painted.

The bells have been entirely refitted with iron stocks and hung on ball bearings. After the ceremony, touches of Bob Major, Double Norwich, Cambridge and Superlative were rung by the local company: Messrs. F. L. Bumpstead, G. Boyden, G. Birch, R. Cadamy, W. Chalk, E. P. Duffield, V. Kerridge, H. T. Pye and G. Rashbrook, assisted by the following visitors: W. J. Nevard, E. E. Johnson, C. Snowden and Miss Hilda Snowden (secretary of the Northern Division of the Essex Association). Messrs. Bumpstead, Birch, Chalk, Pye and Nevard were present 25 years ago when the new bells were installed.

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DEATH OF MR. JOHN SUMPTER, OF BARNET.

Yet another veteran has passed on in the person of Mr. John Sumpter, captain and steeplekeeper at Barnet Parish Church for 40 years, and a member of the Parish Church Guild for over 50 years. Prior to this he was a member of the Hadley Church band.

Mr. Sumpter was one of the original members of the old North-East Middlesex Society, which afterwards formed part of the Middlesex County Association. He was also a member of the Hertford County Association and Royal Cumberland Youths.

Of a very genial disposition, he was well known to many of the older generation of ringers.

The funeral, which took place at Barnet on Monday, February 6th, was attended by many ringing friends, including Mr. G. Lucas, who is also one of the original Middlesex members, and past and present members of the Hadley and Barnet bands, also Mr. and Mrs. Norman Tomlinson, of Southgate.

On Sunday, February 5th, a quarter-peal was rung with the bells half-muffled by the Barnet band as a last tribute of affection and respect.

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