THE RINGING WORLD

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YORKSHIRE AND THE DISTRICT SOCIETIES

The vast area of Yorkshire presents its special difficulties to the County Association, difficulties which, in some ways, have not been entirely overcome. There are at least two hundred and fifty rings of bells in Yorkshire, the majority, of course, in the crowded industrial areas of the south and west; but no insignificant number, also, in the widely scattered districts north and east. They have their own differing problems. In the first instance no one organisation can hold meetings at all the churches in either of the populous districts with that degree of frequency which, in ordinary circumstances, keeps a tower in close touch with its association. In the case of the scattered towers there are all the handicaps of isolation and distance, magnified in Yorkshire beyond most areas. In this territory, another association exists, but few of the sixty or so towers show anything like a full membership of either.

This apart, the Yorkshire Association retains among its members an enthusiasm unexcelled anywhere in the country, and it occupies a position both in numbers and finance that is a hallmark of successful administration. Part of this success, we think, has been due to the smaller societies which have long been working within the area and which, while attempting in no way to sap the allegiance of members of the Yorkshire Association, have in fact proved a recruiting ground and have kept local interest alive when the task might have been beyond the power of the county organisation. If at any time this overlapping has produced friction, it has been only trivial and personal. Officially the relations between the smaller societies, like the Leeds, the Sheffield and the Barnsley District Societies and the big brother have been cordial and helpful.

Recently a new society has come into the field in the Huddersfield area, and it is gratifying to read of the cordiality that was evinced at a joint meeting with the Yorkshire Association on Saturday. Indeed, a vice-president of the Halifax Society spoke of his organisation as a 'nursery' for the larger association, and if this spirit prevails the existence of the one within the other can have no result but good. The local societies can help the cause of ringing not only by expending their energies in their own particular areas, but by encouraging loyalty to the county association which brings them all together in one larger brotherhood. There are many ringers who are inclined to take too narrow an outlook. They cannot see beyond their own tower, or their own district, or their own association. This restricted vision hampers their own activities, and is a drag upon the

(Continued on page 166.)

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wheels of progress throughout the whole Exercise. In Yorkshire, however, the smaller societies do not look upon themselves as rivals to the county association. They act almost as self-contained branches which, in the long run, bring support to the parent organisation. That the new Huddersfield District Society will follow this line seems assured after last Saturday's meeting, and will, we hope, prove a source of strength rather than of disintegration, as some may have feared.

TEN BELL PEALS.

BRISTOL.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

On Saturday, March 4, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS WITH ST. LEONARD,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5007 CHANGES;

Tenor 36 cwt.

EDWIN J. BROWN	*Treble*	WILLIAM H. PARKER	6
*MISS BERTHA JORDAN	2	ALBERT L. GALE	7
RICHARD CLARK	3	*LEONARD DERRICK	8
GILBERT PEARCE	4	JOHN A. BURFORD	9
ALFRED PEARCE	5	GEORGE H. BURCHER	*Tenor*

Composed by H. W. HALBY. Conducted by EDWIN J. BROWN.

* First peal on ten bells. Rung as a compliment to the Vicar of St. Nicholas', the Rev. J. M. D. Staucomb, and his bride, Miss Mabel Margaret Wicks, on the occasion of their marriage, which took place at St. Nicholas' Church.

LOUGHBOROUGH.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Thirty-Four Minutes,

AT THE PARISH CHURCH,

A PEAL OF STEDMAN CATERS, 5091 CHANGES;

Tenor 30½ cwt.

JOHN H. B. HESSE	*Treble*	FREDERICK H. DEXTER	6
GEOFFREY HARRISON	2	COLIN HARRISON	7
WILLIAM J. ROBINSON	3	LESLIE STEVENS	8
ERNEST J. AYLIFFE	4	ALFRED H. PULLING	9
JOHN GRUNDY	5	HARRY BROUGHTON	*Tenor*

Composed by EDGAR BENNETT. Conducted by A. H. PULLING.

WORSLEY, LANCASHIRE.

THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Nineteen Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,

A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE CATERS, 5003 CHANGES;

Tenor 24 cwt.

HUGH REYNOLDS	*Treble*	STANLEY HARRISON	6
ARTHUR JAMES	2	PERCY H. DERBYSHIRE	7
FRANK REYNOLDS	3	RICHARD BENSON	8
HARRY PARKER	4	JOSEPH H. RIDYARD	9
*NORMAN BERRY	5	CYRIL RADDON	*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 154). Conducted by J. H. RIDYARD

* First peal of Caters.

EIGHT BELL PEALS.

NORWICH.

THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Thursday, March 2, 1939, in Three Hours and Ten Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL-AT-COSLANY.

A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;

Tenor 14½ cwt. in F sharp.

BERTIE J. HOWCHIN	*Treble*	GEORGE SAYER	5
NOLAN GOLDEN	2	ALBERT E. BRACEY	6
MISS G. E. M. TUNNADINE	3	GEORGE BAILEY	7
FREDERICK J. HOWCHIN	4	CECIL V. EBBERSON	*Tenor*

Composed by D. PRENTICE. Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

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DAVID MAXON, ROPE WORKS, GRANTHAM

LYDNEY, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, March 2, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
TAYLOR'S SIX-PART. Tenor 16 cwt.

C. GOULDING	...Treble	J. W. DAVIS	5
O. THOMAS	2	A. H. CARTER	6
N. REES	3	J. HILL	7
W. H. HARRIS	4	*A. WOODWARD	...Tenor

Conducted by A. H. CARTER.
* First peal.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 4, 1939, in Three Hours and Three Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 14 cwt.

DONALD M. SWINDLEY	...Treble	KENNETH SNELLING	5
ALBERT W. STEELE	2	ALBERT E. LAKER	6
BERNARD V. COLLISON	3	JOHN O. WELLER	7
ERNEST J. LADD	4	OLIVER SIPPETTS	...Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by O. SIPPETTS.

EAST DEREHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 4, 1939, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
AT THE CAMPANILE OF THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF CHECKENDON MAJOR, 5020 CHANGES;
Tenor 23 cwt. 2 qr. 17 lb. in E flat.

JOHN A. GODFREY	...Treble	NOLAN GOLDEN	5
MISS G. E. M. TUNNADINE	2	GEORGE SAYER	6
GEORGE MAYERS	3	BERTIE J. HOWCHIN	7
HENRY TOOKE	4	WILLIAM CLOVER	...Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.
Presumably the first peal in the method.

GRIMSBY, LINCS.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, March 4, 1939, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
PARKER'S TWELVE-PART (7th observation). Tenor 18¾ cwt.

WILLIAM MUMBY	...Treble	ERNEST BRITTAIN	5
*GEORGE SNELL	2	JOHN E. KENNINGTON	6
JACK BRAY	3	GEORGE E. FEIRN	7
CHARLES W. TAYLOR	4	HERBERT J. MINGAY	...Tenor

Conducted by J. BRAY.
* First peal 'inside.' Rung to celebrate the jubilee of the first peal of Triples on the bells, rung on Saturday, March 4th, 1889.

DEPTFORD, LONDON.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, March 6, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 20½ cwt.

DEREK M. SHARP	...Treble	GEORGE W. FOGDEN	5
*WALTER HUNT	2	PHILIP A. CORBY	6
DENNIS G. BROWN	3	JACK DAFTERS	7
ARTHUR S. RICHARDS	4	A. PATRICK CANNON	...Tenor

Composed by F. HOPGOOD. Conducted by P. A. CORBY.
* First peal in the method.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Monday, March 6, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
HEYWOOD'S TRANSPOSITION OF THURSTANS' FOUR-PART.
Tenor 8½ cwt.

FRANK BENNETT	...Treble	†RONALD PANKHURST	5
HAROLD G. F. REYNOLDS	2	EDWARD BRAY	6
*MISS BETTY RAYFIELD	3	FREDERICK H. DALLAWAY	7
HAROLD S. HOBDEN	4	LOUIS FAULKNER	...Tenor

Conducted by FRANK BENNETT.
* First peal. † First peal of Stedman Triples.

ERITH, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, March 7, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF ASHTEAD SURPRISE MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;
Tenor 15 cwt.

HERBERT A. HOLDEN	...Treble	DEREK M. SHARP	5
HERBERT E. AUDSLEY	2	ARTHUR S. RICHARDS	6
HARRY HOVERD	3	GEORGE J. BUTCHER	7
FREDERICK J. CULLUM	4	PHILIP A. CORBY	...Tenor

Composed by A. G. DRIVER. Conducted by P. A. CORBY.
First peal in the method by all the band, on the bells and for the association.

SOUTHPORT, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, March 7, 1939, in Three Hours and One Minute,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 10 cwt.

JAMES MARSH	...Treble	JOHN BROWN	5
THOMAS S. HORRIDGE	2	JAMES W. GROUNDS	6
GEORGE R. NEWTON	3	ERNEST F. BENNETT	7
JOHN BOOTH	4	JOSEPH RIDYARD	...Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by GEORGE R. NEWTON.
Rung with the bells half-muffled as a last tribute of respect to the late Mr. Arthur Knights. First peal in a Surprise method on the bells.

NORTH LOPHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, March 9, 1939, in Three Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF ASHTEAD SURPRISE MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 10½ cwt. in F sharp.

WALTER ELSEY	...Treble	CECIL V. EBBERSON	5
BERTIE J. HOWCHIN	2	FREDERICK C. ROPER	6
ERIC G. BENNETT	3	ALBERT G. HARRISON	7
NOLAN GOLDEN	4	WILLIAM CLOVER	...Tenor

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.
First peal in the method by all, in the diocese and for the association.

ENDERBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Thursday, March 9, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5024 CHANGES;

WALTER P. WHITEHEAD	...Treble	W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON	5
LEONARD H. WHITEHEAD	2	ARTHUR CATTELL	6
CECIL E. CARR	3	EDWARD R. WHITEHEAD	7
*RONALD W. SWANN	4	ARTHUR DEBENHAM	...Tenor

Composed by H. DAINS. Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD
* First peal in the method.

LEYTON, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 8½ cwt.

ERIC J. COE	...Treble	JAMES E. DAVIS	5
ERNEST W. FURBANK	2	MRS. F. W. HOUSDEN	6
ERNEST W. PYE	3	FREDERICK W. HOUSDEN	7
CHARLES A. HUGHES	4	JOHN H. CRAMPION	...Tenor

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by J. H. CRAMPION.
Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. John H. Crampion, wife of the conductor.

BARKING, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Seventeen Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR, 5120 CHANGES;
Tenor 22½ cwt.

ARTHUR S. RICHARDS	...Treble	GEORGE W. FOGDEN	5
*WALTER BEARD	2	*SIDNEY J. HOLGATE	6
HERBERT A. HOLDEN	3	ERNEST G. COTTIS	7
HARRY HOSKINS	4	PHILIP A. CORBY	...Tenor

Composed by A. KNIGHTS (No. 322). Conducted by P. A. CORBY.
* First peal of Treble Bob.

MARSHAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF NORTHREPPS MAJOR, 5060 CHANGES;
Tenor 7 cwt. 3 qr. 5 lb. in A flat.

JOHN A. GODFREY	*Treble*	NOLAN GOLDEN	5
MISS G. E. M. TUNNADINE	2	GEORGE SAYER	6
GEORGE MAYERS	3	ROBERT W. BARBER	7
HENRY TOOKE	4	WILLIAM CLOVER	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.

Presumably the first peal in the method and rung without previous practice.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.
THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR, 5088 CHANGES;
Tenor 10 cwt.

MRS. J. H. BOTHAM	*Treble*	ALICK CUTLER	5
J. ARMIGER TROLLOPE	2	JOHN H. BOTHAM	6
ERIC B. HAFTLEY	3	HARRY KILBY	7
GEORGE R. PYE	4	JAMES BENNETT	*Tenor*

Composed by EDGAR WIGHTMAN. Conducted by J. BENNETT.

BOCKING, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Nine Minutes,
AT THE DEANERY CHURCH,
A PEAL OF SPLICED LONDON, BRISTOL, CAMBRIDGE & SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;
Tenor 18¾ cwt. in E.

CLAUDE SNOWDEN	*Treble*	RONALD SUCKLING	5
FRANK CLAYDON	2	BASIL REDGWELL	6
REGINALD MARTIN	3	LEWIS W. WIFFEN	7
HILDA G. SNOWDEN	4	ALBERT WIFFEN	*Tenor*

Composed by J. TOPP. Conducted by LEWIS W. WIFFEN.

First peal of Spliced Surprise Major by all the band. The peal consisted of 2,560 London, 1,216 Bristol, 768 Cambridge and 512 Superlative, with 120 changes of method.

DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Seven Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
BROOK'S VARIATION OF THURSTAN'S FOUR-PART,
Tenor 21½ cwt. in E flat.

CECIL W. PIPE	*Treble*	FREDERICK J. SMITH	5
SYLVIA R. E. BOWYER	2	CHARLES J. SEDGLEY	6
ARTHUR V. PEARSON	3	GEORGE A. FLEMING	7
HOBART E. SMITH	4	WILLIAM LAET	*Tenor*

Conducted by CHARLES J. SEDGLEY.

CRAYFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN TRIPLES, 5040 CHANGES;
CARTER'S ODD BOB. Tenor 12¾ cwt.

EDWIN BARNETT	*Treble*	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY	5
EDWARD LANKESTER	2	ERNEST C. S. TURNER	6
HARRY HOVERD	3	DEREK M. SHARP	7
HERBERT E. AUDSLEY	4	ERNEST H. OXENHAM	*Tenor*

Conducted by ERNEST C. S. TURNER.

SIX AND FIVE BELL PEALS.

SPRINGFIELD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Tuesday, March 7, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Eight Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Being two 720's each of Oxford and Kent Treble Bob and three 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

JOHN MYBILL	*Treble*	*WILLIAM BARRATT	4
MISS ANNIE WHITE	2	ERNEST J. RUNTER	5
EDWARD A. KEMP	3	HENRY W. SHADRACK	*Tenor*

Conducted by H. W. SHADRACK.

* First peal of Minor. First peal as conductor.

FELKIRK, YORKS.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE BARNSLEY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.
On Thursday, March 9, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty-Five Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER.
A PEAL OF SPLICED TREBLE BOB MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Seven extents as follows: (1) Oxford and Kent; (2) St. Albans and Charlwood Delight; (3) Neasden and Wragby Delight; (4) College Exercise and Ockley; (5) Duke of Norfolk and Norbury; (6) London Scholars' Pleasure and Capel; (7) Sandal and Kingston. Tenor 10 cwt.

*PETER WOODWARD	*Treble*	CLIFFORD ROBINSON	4
†J. THOMAS WHITE	2	HAROLD CHANT	5
ROLAND HILL	3	DANIEL SMITH	*Tenor*

Conducted by H. CHANT.

* First peal and first attempt. † First peal in 14 methods. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to the memory of Arthur Knights, the well-known ringer and composer.

SUNNINGWELL, BERKSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thursday, March 9, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LEONARD,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;
Comprising two extents of Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob, and three extents of Plain Bob, each called differently. Tenor 8½ cwt.

*BERNARD S. NICHOLS	*Treble*	*GEORGE AYRES	4
JONATHAN HONEY	2	*WILLIAM C. PORTER	5
MARIE R. CROSS	3	ALAN R. PINK	*Tenor*

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.

* First peal of Minor and in three methods. First peal of Minor on the bells.

HEATHFIELD, TAUNTON, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Thirty-One Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF STEDMAN DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 10 cwt.

HARRY PURCHASE	*Treble*	WILLIAM G. GIGG	3
*CYRIL J. STEVENS	2	CLAUDE W. J. TARR	4
*HARRY CHURCHILL	*Tenor*		

Conducted by HARRY CHURCHILL.

* First peal of Stedman Doubles.

LONGBRIDGE DEVERILL, WILTS.
THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Three Hours and Four Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF GRANDSIRE DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;
Forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 14 cwt.

*W. MADDOCK	*Treble*	*A. WOODS	4
R. GAULD	2	W. A. AVERY	5
P. MERRETT	3	H. TROLLOPE	*Tenor*

Conducted by W. A. AVERY.

* First peal and first attempt.

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SANDIACRE, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.
On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Three Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,
A PEAL OF MINOR, 5040 CHANGES;

Being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Double Bob, Double Court, Plain Bob and Oxford Treble Bob, and two extents of Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 16¼ cwt.

*A. SHEPPARD	*Treble*	*G. RIGBY	4
*P. L. PARROTT	2	W. R. DRAGE	5
*W. VARNHAM	3	H. TURNER	*Tenor*

Conducted by H. TURNER.

* First peal in six methods.

PEMBRIDGE, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Saturday, March 11, 1939, in Two Hours and Forty-Seven Minutes,
AT THE DETACHED TOWER OF THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being four 120's of Plain Bob, eight of Canterbury Pleasure, ten 240's of Pitman's and five of Morris' arrangements of Grandsire. Tenor 16 cwt.

*GRAHAM EVANS	*Treble*	JAMES P. HYETT	3
WILLIAM J. PREECE	2	A. BRYAN ELSMORE	4
LESLIE EVANS	*Tenor*		

Conducted by J. P. HYETT.

* First peal in three methods.

AYMESTREY, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sunday, March 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifty Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST AND ALKMUND,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being four 120's each of London, Plain Bob, Canterbury Pleasure and Reverse Canterbury, three 240's of Pitman's and five each of Lindoff's and Morris' arrangement of Grandsire. Tenor 10 cwt.

*GRAHAM EVANS	*Treble*	WILLIAM J. PREECE	4
*A. BRYAN ELSMORE	2	JAMES P. HYETT	5
LESLIE EVANS	3	*THOMAS R. PAYNE	*Tenor*

Conducted by J. P. HYETT.

* First peal in five methods. Also the first in five methods on the bells.

HANDBELL PEALS.

CRAYFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Friday, March 3, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Nine Minutes,
IN THE BELFRY OF THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

FREDERICK W. BUDGEN ...	1-2	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ...	5-6
DEREK M. SHARP	3-4	†JOHN O. WELLER	7-8

Composed by C. H. MARTIN. Conducted by D. M. SHARP.

* First peal of Major 'in hand.'

DARTFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, March 5, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Eight Minutes,
AT 20, SWAISLAND ROAD,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5056 CHANGES;

*HARRY HOVERD	1-2	GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ...	5-6
DEREK M. SHARP	3-4	†JAMES E. BAILEY	7-8

Composed by J. E. BURTON. Conducted by D. M. SHARP.

Witnesses—Mrs. James E. Bailey and John Wheadon.

* First peal 'in hand' away from the tenors. † First peal 'in hand.'

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wednesday, March 8, 1939, in Two Hours and Twenty-Seven Minutes,
AT ASH MOUNT, PETER STREET,
A PEAL OF BOB MAJOR, 5152 CHANGES;
Tenor, size 12 in F.

HARRY FARRER	1-2	JOHN WORTH	5-6
JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER ..	3-4	GERALD FARRER	7-8

Composed by C. K. LEWIS. Conducted by JOHN WORTH.

STOCKPORT, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thursday, March 9, 1939, in Two Hours and Nineteen Minutes,
AT 20, ABERDEEN CRESCENT.
A PEAL OF OXFORD TREBLE BOB ROYAL, 5000 CHANGES;
Tenor, size 12 in F.

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

HARRY ASHTON 9-10

Composed by G. R. NEWTON. Conducted by A. F. BAILEY.

Witness—Mrs. A. F. Bailey.

Rung as a 72nd birthday compliment to Mr. Hiram Meakin, Master of St. George's company, Stockport.

BEXLEY, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sunday, March 12, 1939, in Two Hours and Fifteen Minutes,
AT WHICHFORD, HURST ROAD,
A PEAL OF DOUBLES, 5040 CHANGES;

Being 12 extents of Plain Bob (four callings) and 30 extents of Grandsire (ten callings).

*KENNETH B. JONES	1-2	DEREK M. SHARP...	3-4
†GEOFFREY V. MURPHY ...	5-6		

Conducted by DEREK M. SHARP.

Witness: Mrs. K. B. Jones. * First attempt for a peal 'in hand.' † First peal of Doubles 'in hand.' First peal of Doubles 'in hand' in two methods as conductor.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD.

ANNUAL MEETING AT DUDLEY.

The annual meeting of the Dudley and District Guild was held at Dudley on Saturday, March 4th, and, in spite of the inclement weather, was well attended. The bells were kept merrily going in various methods prior to the service, which was conducted by the Ven. A. P. Shepherd, D.D., Archdeacon and Vicar of Dudley and president of the Guild. The Rev. W. H. Waring (curate) gave a very interesting address.

A substantial tea, provided out of funds collected by the secretary (Mr. Herbert Sheppard) from prominent members of St. Thomas' congregation and other friends, was served in the School Hall. It was prepared and served by ringers' wives, daughters and other friends. Upwards of 90 members sat down.

At the business meeting which followed, the Archdeacon presided, supported by Mr. W. R. Edwards (people's warden), the Rev. W. H. Waring, Messrs. Herbert Sheppard (secretary), John Goodman (treasurer) and W. E. Barry (ex-warden).

The President gave the members a hearty welcome to Dudley and said how pleased he was to be with them again.

The hon. treasurer presented the balance sheet, which showed total receipts of £19 0s. 7d., which included the balance of £13 11s. 1d. from last year. The expenses had been £6 9s. 9d., leaving a balance of £12 10s. 10d. in the treasurer's hands, which was considered very satisfactory.

The following were again elected vice-presidents: The Rev. E. L. Warren (Vicar of Netherton), the Rev. Prebendary H. W. Jones (Vicar of Wednesbury), the Rev. L. Wilson (Vicar of Old Hill), Dr. P. S. Blaker, Messrs. J. W. Nayler, C. E. Lloyd, A. E. Meredith, Arthur Spittle, A. Winbow, W. E. Barry, J. McDougal Tait and W. R. Edwards.

Mr. Walter Farley, of Stourbridge, was unanimously elected Ringing Master and Mr. Herbert Sheppard secretary. Mr. John Goodman was re-elected treasurer, and Messrs. G. T. Guest and T. H. Justice auditors and thanked for their services. Mr. T. Colclough was re-elected representative on the Central Council.

Several new members were added to the roll and it was decided to hold the next quarterly meeting at Clent, subject to the usual permission being obtained. It was proposed to attempt the annual peal at Dudley, the arrangements being left with the Ringing Master.

After some discussion it was decided to continue the monthly practices at Dudley Parish Church (ten bells) on the first Monday in each month at 7.30 p.m.

Mr. Sheppard proposed that the best thanks of the meeting be given to the Archdeacon, to the Rev. W. H. Waring, to the organist, to the donors of the tea fund, to the ladies who presided at the tables and prepared and served the tea, and to all who had in any way assisted in making the meeting a happy and successful one.—The Archdeacon briefly replied on behalf of all concerned and then closed the proceedings with prayer.

Further ringing took place in the evening and brought an enjoyable meeting to a close.

QUICKEST PEAL AT ASHBRITTLE.

To the Editor.

Sir,—The last paragraph of 'Peal Notes' in your last issue states that the quickest peal on Ashbrittle bells was rung in 2 hours 39 minutes on February 25th. This is incorrect, as a peal was rung on the same bells in 2 hours 32 minutes on April 18th, 1920.

Milverton, Somerset. A. TOUT.

PEAL NOTES.

METHODS ON A NEW PLAN.

A band under the conductorship of Mr. Nolan Golden, the indefatigable hon. secretary of the Norwich Diocesan Association, has just scored the first peal in two new Major methods, which are a combination of Little and Alliance. The treble is a dodging bell in 1-2 and 3-4 and a plain hunt bell in 5-6. When it reaches 6th's it turns round and goes down, so that it is never in 7-8. The length of a course is 140 changes and both methods have a 6th's place bob.

The first of the two methods was Checkendon, a peal of which was rung at East Dereham on March 4th, and the second Northrepps, rung at Marsham last Saturday. Both peals were composed and conducted by Mr. Golden, and are another interesting departure from the beaten track which seems to offer extensive variety.

Here is half a lead of each method:—

Checkendon.	Northrepps
12345678	12345678
21435687	21436587
12346578	12346578
21436587	21435687
24163857	24136578
42613875	42315687
24168357	24135678
42618375	42316587
46281735	24361857
64827153	42638175
68472135	46283157
. . . . .	. . . . .
17583624	16847253
15738264	18674523
Bob 15738642	Bob 18674235

Another band has broken into Spliced Surprise Major ringing. Ringers from Earls Colne, Halstead and Braintree have been practising together, and last Saturday at the third attempt a peal in four methods was accomplished, under the conductorship of Mr. Lewis Wiffen, at Bocking.

The successful band wish to associate with the peal the names of Mr. H. Felton, of Braintree, who stood in a previous attempt, Miss E. Pettit and Mr. W. Arnold, who have attended the practices. The first attempt for a peal was lost after 2 hours 30 minutes, and in the second the ringing lasted two hours.

The peal on Saturday was the fiftieth which Miss Hilda Snowden and her brother, Claude, have rung together.

The peal of Stedman Triples rung at Christ Church, Eastbourne, on March 6th, was a 16th birthday compliment to Miss Betty Rayfield, who scored her first peal. It was afterwards discovered to be a birthday compliment to the ringers of the 5th and tenor (Messrs. Pankhurst and Faulkner), whose birthdays are March 7th and 8th respectively, there being exactly half a century between the ages of Miss Rayfield and Mr. Faulkner. The peal was also rung almost on the 50th anniversary of Mr. Frank Bennett's first peal—Grandsire Triples at S. Nicolas', Guildford, on March 2nd, 1889.

TWO BANDS RING THEIR FIRST PEAL OF ASHTEAD.

All the band who took part at Erith, Kent, on March 7th, rang their first peal of Ashtead Surprise without previous practice. It was the first peal in the method on the bells and for the Kent County Association. The composition by Mr. A. G. Driver was also rung for the first time, and has the 4, 5 and 6 their extent in 5-6 at course ends.

Another band last week also rang their first peal of Ashtead Surprise at the first attempt without having rung the method before. This was at North Lopham, Norfolk, on March 9th, and was the first in the method in the diocese and for the Norwich Diocesan Association.

At North Lopham the tenor is 10½ cwt., but the peal did take 3 hours 28 minutes (as recorded in our peal columns) and it did contain only 5,088 changes. Ringing on the ground floor makes it difficult to hear the bells—a very fine-toned ring by Mears and Stainbank, which 'tell a fine tale' when rung slowly—without opening the trap door—and nobody thought of that on this occasion. However, the record time for the slowest 5,088 in this tower was when the redoubtable John Souter called a 5,088 of Oxford Treble Bob Major and rang the tenor for 3 hours 34 minutes thirteen years ago. Incidentally, the conductor of the peal last Thursday week rang the tenor to seven extents of Minor in 2 hours 22 minutes on October 25th, 1930.

The peal at St. Nicholas', Deptford, on March 6th, was a birthday compliment to Mr. J. Dafters, of Lewisham, the ringer of the 7th. It was a compliment well earned and the reward of much perseverance. The 'go' of the bells is not good and the 7th is about the worst. Mr. Dafters' attempts for a peal at 'St. Nick's' have been spread over 16 years, and this is his first success.

In the same peal, Mr. Walter Hunt, who recently rang Superlative as his first peal, rang the 2nd, an oddstruck and awkward-going bell, very well to score his first peal of Bob Major.

Some of the young men in the Crayford district are filling up their odd moments with handbell ringing, and we record this week three peals conducted by Derek Sharp. One of them, rung on March 3rd, was his 150th peal.

Four members of the Guildford Diocesan Guild (Messrs. A. H. Pulling and W. J. Robinson, from Guildford, and Messrs. J. H. B. Hesse and E. J. Ayliffe, from Haslemere) made the long journey to Loughborough and back on Saturday and enjoyed a peal of Stedman Caters on the glorious bells of the Parish Church. Messrs. Fred Dexter and Harry Broughton, of Leicester, who also took part, both finished the 'circle' of the tower.

The peal at Barking, Essex, on Saturday, was the first there for six years. The excellent 'go' of the bells testifies to the care and attention they receive at the hands of Mr. Caleb Fenn. The ringers of 2, 6 and 7 are of the local company and two of them rang their first peal of Treble Bob. The rest of the band were from North Kent. The composition, by the late Mr. Arthur Knights, was rung for the first time.

Barking is the 50th tower in which Mr. Arthur Richards, of West Wickham, Kent, has rung a peal. The fact that it was his 99th peal shows that he has gone in search of ringing rather than allow himself to stagnate in one district.

A JUBILEE PEAL.

The first peal of Triples at St. James' Church, Grimsby, was rung on Saturday, March 4th, 1889, and among those who took part was Mr. A. B. Sheppard, who rang his first peal. Mr. Sheppard is still a member of the local band, and the Grimsby District ringers offer their best wishes to those still living who were in that peal of 50 years ago. On Saturday, March 4th, 1939, a peal of Grandsire Triples was rung to celebrate the jubilee.

There are some people—and some quite good ringers, too—who do not like Stedman, but on occasion they have to come to it, if they want to ring. Last Saturday a band went to Debenham for a peal of Major (in the best East Anglian tradition), but, meeting one short, they found a tenorman in Mr. William Last and rang a peal of Stedman Triples. 'Stedman Cinques last week and Stedman Triples this week—I don't know what we are coming to,' writes one of these 'Stedmanophobes.'

As a compliment to Mr. Hiram Meakin, Master of St. George's company, Stockport, for his 72nd birthday, a peal of Oxford Treble Bob Royal was rung on handbells by Stockport company on March 9th.

The five ringers who took part in the peal of Stedman Doubles at Heathfield, Som., were from five different towers. Saturday's peal was rung as a welcome to the new Rector (the Rev. J. H. Davies), who has recently been inducted to the living of Halse with Heathfield.

As a last tribute to the memory of the late Mr. Arthur Knights, a peal of Cambridge Surprise Major was rung with the bells half-muffled at Southport, Lancashire, on March 7th.

Enderby was the spot chosen by the Leicester 'Thursday-ites' on March 9th, and in their 'lucky' tower were happy to record another success when they rang a peal of Kent Treble Bob Major under the conductorship of Mr. Walter P. Whitehead.

St. Mary's Church, Pembridge, Herefordshire, has a detached tower. The quickest peal on the bells, which have a 16 cwt. tenor, was rung on March 11th, 5,040 of Doubles in three methods being brought round in 2 hours 47 minutes.

Two of the local ringers at Aymestrey, Herefordshire, James Owen and William Marsh, were so interested in seeing how a peal was rung that they sat in the tower for nearly three hours on Sunday while members of the Diocesan Guild rang a peal of Doubles in five methods. We hope next time a peal is rung at Aymestrey their interest will have carried them far enough to enable them to take part in it instead of being merely spectators. This peal was Mr. J. P. Hyett's 150th as conductor for the Hereford Guild.

A peal of Minor rung at Springfield, Essex, on March 7th, was a birthday compliment to Rosamond Laura, youngest daughter of the Rev. and Mrs. R. C. Collwyn Hargreaves, and to Mr. R. Turner, a member of the local company.

The first half-muffled peal on the bells at Felkirk, Yorks, was rung on March 9th in memory of Mr. Arthur Knights. It consisted of seven spliced extents of Treble Bob Minor in 14 methods.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

MEMBERS MEET AT LUNCH.

The annual lunch of the Oxford University Society was held at the Randolph Hotel, Oxford, on March 2nd. The president, the Rev. C. E. Wigg (Keble), presided and 21 members were present. The guests of the society were Alderman C. H. Brown (president, Oxford Society), Mr. V. Bennett (secretary, Oxford Society) and the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow (Cambridge University Guild).

After the loyal toast had been proposed by the president, Alderman Brown proposed the toast of 'The Oxford University Society.' The treasurer of the society, Mr. M. C. G. Hayter (Christ Church) responded.

'The Visitors and Kindred Societies' was proposed by the Master, Mr. R. D. St. J. Smith (Jesus), and to which the Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow responded.

After lunch, members of the society, accompanied by Mr. Bennett, went on to New College, where, by kind permission of the Warden, the bells were rung during the afternoon. Grandsire and Stedman Triples and Plain Bob Major were rung, in addition to rounds on the ten bells.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.

NORTHERN DIVISION DISCUSSES PROPOSED BENEVOLENT FUND.

A meeting of the Northern Division of the Essex Association took place at Coggeshall on February 25th, when 40 ringers attended from 18 parishes, including the local company.

A short service was conducted by the Rev. F. N. Brown (Vicar), who, in the course of his address, gave the ringers a hearty welcome.

Tea was afterwards served in the Co-operative Hall, having been nicely prepared by lady churchworkers.

At the business meeting which followed, with the District Master (Mr. F. Ridgwell) in the chair, four new ringing members were elected, and it was decided to hold the next meeting at Stisted on April 1st.

The District Master reported the proceedings of the recent Central Committee meeting, and much discussion ensued on the question of the proposed Benevolent Fund.

Mr. Ridgwell briefly explained the suggested rules that Mr. Chalk had undertaken to send out for consideration.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar, the organist and the ladies for preparing the tea was proposed by the Master, and, in reply, the Vicar said he hoped the ringers would visit Coggeshall many more times during his ministry there. The ringers then returned to the tower for further ringing.

THE BELGRAVE INCIDENT.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—With reference to the letter under the heading 'Misinformed' in your last issue, how very convenient for Mr. Riddington to consider the matter closed after making an accusation which was unfounded. Who the disappointed ringers are I have not the faintest idea or even interest in.

The information that I had applied for the bells for the peal referred to came from the Vicar himself, who very definitely was under the impression that the particular application was from myself as secretary of the Leicester Branch, otherwise permission would not have been given at such short notice. This transpired during a conversation in which I was making arrangements for a ringing meeting at Belgrave. Of course, having made no such application, I informed the Vicar accordingly and apologised to him for someone having taken such liberties without my knowledge. The Vicar has since informed me that the application was made on Sunday evening, as stated in my previous letter.

HERBERT W. PERKINS.

LADIES' GUILD.

NORTHERN DISTRICT'S GOOD MEETING IN CHESHIRE.

In spite of poor weather, there was a very good attendance at the quarterly meeting of the Ladies' Guild (Northern District) at Norbury, near Stockport, on March 11th. There was a satisfactory number of members, representing towers as far apart as Ashton, Manchester, Hazel Grove, Todmorden, Leeds (St. Chad's and Armley), Sherburn-in-Elmet, Macclesfield and Stoke-on-Trent.

Ringing in the afternoon was followed by a short service, conducted by the Vicar of Norbury (the Rev. A. J. Humphreys), assisted by the Rev. Frank Bonner. After the splendid tea which was served in the schools, a very hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Vicar for his words of welcome and his very interesting address, to the ladies who so kindly prepared tea, and others who helped to make such a successful meeting.

In his reply, Mr. Humphreys admitted that he had only recently learned of the existence of the Ladies' Guild, but hoped that it would not be long before another such meeting was held at Norbury.

At the short business meeting which followed there were many expressions of regret at the illness of Mrs. Kelly and of hope that she will soon be well enough again to ring.

Two new members were elected, and everyone was asked to make a note of the annual meeting of the district, to be held on June 10th at St. Chad's, Far Headingley, Leeds.

Mrs. Wolstencroft proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar for his kindness, to Mrs. Fernley and other ladies who had done so much in providing tea, and to Mr. Fernley for his help as organist at the service.—This was carried unanimously and Mrs. Fernley replied.

Further ringing, both on handbells and in the tower, concluded a most enjoyable meeting.

DEATH OF A YORK MINSTER RINGER.

For 27 years a member of York Minster company, Mr. Charles William Fountain has passed away at the age of 67 years, to the deep regret of all his colleagues, among whom his conscientious discharge of his duties made him highly valued.

Two years ago Mr. Fountain, who was a brass finisher at the Carriage and Wagon Works, York, retired from the service of the L. and N.E. Railway.

He began his ringing at St. Mary's Church, Bishophill Senior, and joined the Yorkshire Association in 1906.

The Minster bells were rung muffled after the funeral.

The deceased leaves a widow, two sons and two daughters in bereavement.

APPRECIATION

"

The Sanctuary,
Probus,
Cornwall.
8th March, 1939.

MESSRS. J. TAYLOR & CO.

Dear Sirs,

The dedication of the bells took place on February 25th. About 20 towers were present, and we had ringing for about 7 hours. All expressed extreme pleasure both at the tone and quality of our restored peal and at the ease in ringing, and were loud in praise of the work you had done and the way in which it was carried out. I should like to add my own appreciation, which is quite unqualified. We are all extremely grateful to you for enabling us to have what must be one of the finest peals in the country.

Yours most gratefully,
(Signed) T. G. HAMMOND. "

Probus peal has been tuned and augmented from 6 to 8 bells and hung in a new frame by John Taylor & Co., 1939. Weight of tenor 20 cwts. 0 qr. 11 lbs.

MEARS & STAINBANK,

Foundry Established A.D. 1570 (12th year of reign of Elizabeth).

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HANDBELLS
in sets of any number.

BELL ROPES, MUFFLES, &c.

BELFRY GOSSIP.

One of the longest continuous bell broadcasts was that made from the Cathedral of the Holy Rosary, Vancouver, on New Year's night, when the bells were on the air for 27 minutes 17 seconds. In this time well-struck short touches of Grandsire Triples were rung, conducted by Mr. George Roberts, who formerly lived in Bristol and who saw the bells, now in the tower at the Cathedral, before they left the Bristol foundry of Llewellin and James.

After several years of valuable work as joint hon. secretaries of the Winchester District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Diocesan Guild, Mr. George Noice and Miss Noice have retired and their place is being taken by Mr. W. G. Goodchild, of 139, Stanmore Lane, Winchester.

The annual meeting of the Guildford Diocesan Guild has been fixed for April 29th and will be held, as usual, in Guildford.

Mr. George Horner, the popular secretary of York Minster Society, who recently underwent a serious operation, is, we are pleased to say, making a good recovery and is now at home convalescing.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank B. Yates, of King's Norton, are being entertained to dinner by some of their Birmingham ringing friends on Saturday at the Crown Hotel, Corporation Street.

To-day that old London worthy, Challis F. Winney, a member of St. Paul's Cathedral Society, celebrates his 81st birthday. His friends everywhere will extend their hearty congratulations to him.

Yesterday one of Mr. Winney's oldest ringing friends, Mr. Francis E. Dawe, celebrated his 77th birthday and attempted a peal at his birthplace, West Meon, Hants. We hope he was successful. Mr. Dawe is the only man who has been five times Master of the College Youths. He was first elected in 1888.

'RINGING UP.'

INEXPERIENCED BAND SEEKS ADVICE.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—We ring up badly in our tower, and are not likely to make much improvement, because we cannot agree among ourselves as to what is the cause.

The peal is a recently rehung six, tenor 17 cwt. My own feeling is that the treble does not get ahead fast enough at the start, after the first dozen pulls, so that the back bells have to pull down again from their normal swing. I base this contention on the reversed position when ringing down, for in this case when the back bells are almost down to chiming position the front bells are still well up in comparison. The other important point I consider to be that the bells should be really close together in the early stages.

Another point bearing on this is that one member says the tenor does not start chiming and ringing up soon enough. I, who usually ring it up, have always been taught that the bells should chime round by degrees, first the treble and 2nd, then 1, 2 and 3, with the other bells being added at approximately each whole pull. This allows the front bells to get up a little before the tenor starts, which, in my opinion, is the correct position for a good 'up,' so long as the trebles keep up.

As none of us in the tower is an expert, and each backs his own opinion, could we have some guidance—not necessarily from an expert change ringer, but from someone who knows what is wrong and can help us put it right. 'YOKEL.'

CLERGY IN THE TOWER.

A YORKSHIRE VICAR'S VIEWS.

The March meeting of the Barnsley and District Society was held at Kirkthorpe, near Wakefield, on Saturday. The attendance was very poor, as only about a dozen members were present, representing Barnsley, Felkirk, Sandal and the local company. No doubt the wet weather was to blame.

The bells were rung in the afternoon until 5 p.m., when those present adjourned to the Parish Room for an excellent tea.

The business meeting took place, with the Vicar (the Rev. J. Willoughby) in the chair.

The president of the association (Mr. C. D. Potter) opened a discussion on the editorial article in 'The Ringing World' of March 10th on the subject of educating the clergy, and it was the general feeling of the meeting that the ringers in the various towers should invite the clergy to join them on practice nights and do all in their power to make them understand what the art really is, and enable them to feel at home.

The Vicar said while he agreed with the principle of the suggestions, he thought a Vicar was too busy to take part in actual ringing on Sunday. Even if he could, he thought it was not possible for him to come out of the belfry after some mistake had been made or something had upset the mind, and to conduct the service with the same reverence. He fully agreed with co-operation of ringers and clergy, and pointed out that although the bells were the freehold property of the Vicar, he thought where there was harmony it was best not to interfere.

Horbury was chosen for the next meeting, to be held on Saturday, April 8th.

The Vicar offered the bells of Kirkthorpe for the society's annual shield contest, to be held in July, and this was accepted with thanks.

After the usual vote of thanks, further ringing followed.

LEADING CONDUCTORS—62.

ALBERT NASH.

It is not always the number of peals that a man has rung and called that puts him in the forefront among ringers, but his ability in the tower as a leader and his skill as a conductor. Measured by totals, the record of Mr. Albert Nash, Ringing Master at Rotherham Parish Church, is a modest one compared with some, but his capacity and versatility as a conductor have placed him in a position with few equals in the County of Broad Acres, where, during the more than 60 years of the Yorkshire Association's existence, there has been a wider tendency than in most areas to share the calling of peals. Although the association peal records now reach a total well over four thousand, the present resident members who have called over a hundred peals could, we believe, be numbered upon the fingers of one hand. Mr. Nash's total of 84 peals conducted, most of which have been rung for the Yorkshire Association, show him, therefore, to be among the most active of the conductors in the county.

MR. ALBERT NASH.

He was born at Wath-on-Dearne on April 27th, 1885, and in 1904 conducted the first peal he rang—a peal in seven Treble Bob Minor methods. He also conducted his first peal of Major; Treble Bob rung in 1905. Although his peals range from Minor to Cinques, he has always had a keen interest in six-bell ringing, and has rung at one time or another every Minor method in the Central Council's collection, and scores besides, which are now looked upon as unorthodox.

Mr. Nash's peals total 188, of which 36 have been on handbells, and of these he has conducted four. He took part in 1906 in the 11,232 Kent Treble Bob Major, rung at Wortley, the longest peal rung in Yorkshire. He conducted a peal in ten Surprise Minor extents at Crofton in 1930, and at All Saints', Rotherham, in January of the next year, conducted another Yorkshire record of 10,800 of Surprise Minor, made up of 15 extents in different methods. But Mr. Nash's activities as a conductor have by no means been limited to Minor, and he has called peals of, among other methods, Bristol, London, Pudsey, Rutland, and Superlative Surprise Major and Cambridge Major and Royal.

His record would doubtless have been a longer one had it not been that business kept him out of ringing from 1912 to 1916, and then he was blown up and seriously incapacitated for a further seven years, in the first four years of which he underwent many operations. Indeed, the marvel is that he was ever able to return to ringing and achieve such a measure of fresh success.

THE POPE'S CORONATION.

In honour of the Coronation of His Holiness Pope Pius XII., the following ringing was done at the Church of St. Francis Xavier, Liverpool, on Sunday, March 12th, before evening service: 656 Bob Major: T. W. Hammond 1, G. R. Newton (conductor) 2, T. Egan 3, C. S. Benwell 4, J. W. Meldrum 5, T. W. Gilmour 6, E. Caunce 7, P. W. Cave 8. After evening service, a quarter-peal of Stedman Triples: P. W. Cave 1, G. R. Newton 2, C. S. Benwell 3, E. Caunce 4, J. W. Meldrum 5, T. W. Gilmour 6, T. W. Hammond (conductor) 7, H. Roberts 8.

After morning service at St. Marie's Church, Norfolk Row, Sheffield, to mark the occasion of the crowning of His Holiness the Pope, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Triples was rung by George Holmes (conductor) 1, J. Osguthorpe 2, F. Brightmore 3, M. E. Wilson 4, H. Chaddock 5, R. Harrison 6, E. Thorpe 7, P. Lowe (first quarter-peal) 8. By a coincidence, it was also the 60th anniversary of the conductor's membership of the Ancient Society of College Youths and of his first peal.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor.

Dear Sir,—It was with regret that I read the letter in your issue of March 10th from the pen of Mr. C. T. Coles re the London County Association.

I should have thought that any thinking person would realise the bitterness and ill-feeling which will be caused if this matter is allowed to go any further.

I could say much, if I expressed my own personal feelings, but I do feel that the interests of both guilds concerned and of the Exercise generally will be better served if the matter is speedily forgotten.

W. SIMMONDS,
Member of Guildford Diocesan Guild and London County Association.

GOOD FRIDAY RINGING.

To the Editor.

Sir,—With reference to Mr. Box's letter on the above subject, I, in common with probably 99 per cent. of your readers, plead guilty to his charge of ignorance of the liturgical traditions of the Church.

Whether adherence to these traditions is applicable or advisable under present conditions is a matter of opinion. It may be possible that they have become obsolete, like many other ancient usages, owing to the change and progress of human thought and ideals.

My suggestion as to ringing on Good Friday is, I think, in definite accord with the Archbishop's appeal for a national 'Recall to Religion.' The only order with regard to calling the people to the services of the Church I can find in the Book of Common Prayer is in the Preface, as follows: 'The curate . . . . shall cause a bell to be tolled thereunto a convenient time before he begin that the people may come to hear God's Word and to pray with him.'

The mode of ringing on certain special occasions is, I presume, under the direction of the Vicar of the parish, where I am content to leave it.

WILLIAM STORY.

Bournemouth.

MISSALS DO NOT PROHIBIT MUFFLED RINGING.

Sir,—The letter from Mr. Box on the subject of Good Friday is most interesting, but the rubrics of the ancient Missals cannot be regarded as prohibiting muffled ringing. The 'silence' enjoined obviously refers only to open ringing, as muffled ringing was then unknown

For my own part, I strongly advocate a muffled peal on Good Friday, to mark the solemnity of the day. One of the most impressive effects that I have ever heard was that of eight bells at Bath Abbey rung muffled at a late hour on Good Friday and again on Easter Eve.

It is interesting to find that St. Chad's, Birmingham, has adopted the modern Anglican custom of refraining from open ringing all through Holy Week, as well as on the two days named in Mr. Box's letter.

The 24 bells of Seville Cathedral are still rung at the Gloria on Easter Even.

F. LL. EDWARDS.

Kington Magna.

TRADITIONS MUST SOMETIMES BE BROKEN.

Dear Sir,—How prone we are to try to convince the 'other' fellow that he knows little or nothing or that he 'shows deplorable lack of knowledge' should he make a suggestion. That word *tradition* too, how often is it misused as a big gun to blow a constructive scheme to atoms. It usually means, 'We've never done it before,' or 'We always used to do——'

Mr. William Story is at present in Bournemouth and we enjoy his assistance at the Parish Church tower, but curiously enough he was not aware that we had adopted his suggested practice of full muffled ringing on Good Friday several years ago.

The 'traditional' method at St. Peter's was to toll the tenor 33 times at the close of the three hours' devotion. The muffled ringing was adopted to remind the general public in this holiday resort of the solemnity of Good Friday. From the appreciative comments we have heard concerning the practice I think we can say it has gained its objective.

To move with the times, ancient traditions and customs must sometimes be broken, and no institution has found this to be so more than the Church. That is why Mr. Box is forced to refer to the '*few* remaining ancient traditions.' A few years ago Bournemouth was mainly a residential town, to-day it is a very popular holiday resort, demanding a very different administration from its citizens.

ARTHUR V. DAVIS.

Bournemouth.

A CHURCH OCCASION FOR MUFFLED RINGING.

Dear Sir,—I agree with Mr. Story that Good Friday is the special occasion for muffled ringing, and, indeed, the only day in the Church's year. The muffles are used for national and personal occasions, but never, I believe, for a church occasion.

In some churches, to emphasise Easter, the bells are only chimed during Lent, but if they were rung fully muffled on Good Friday this would have the same (if not greater) effect and may save the ringers the monotony, etc., of chiming. As Mr. Box, in your issue last week, does not mention muffled ringing, I conclude he is referring to open ringing, which, I think, would be out of place on Good Friday.

St. Mary Bourne. J. HOLLOWAY.

MUFFLED BELLS ADD SOLEMNITY.

Sir,—May I remind Mr. Wilfred E. Box that this is the reign of George VI.—not George I. In the days when the books he refers to were written, muffled ringing was something unheard of; but to-day few things stir the feeling of solemnity among the people more than do muffled bells, particularly fully muffled. From the day I took up ringing 18 years ago to the present time I have only heard bells rung fully muffled once, on the day of the death of H.M. King George V., and on that occasion I heard more outside comments of appreciation of bells than ever before or ever since. The King's passing was a memorable event in itself, but there was something about hearing the bells rung fully muffled which added to the

(Continued on next page.)

DISTRICT ASSOCIATIONS IN YORKSHIRE.

HELPFUL TO COUNTY ORGANISATION.

Smaller Societies' Useful Work.

Another page in the history of the Yorkshire Association was commenced when the Western District held a joint meeting with the newly-formed Huddersfield and District Association at the Church of St. Mary, Elland, on Saturday, March 11th. In spite of the very unsuitable weather, for it was bitterly cold and rained incessantly throughout the afternoon and evening, there was a very good attendance and a representative gathering of between 60 and 80 was present.

The bells, a fine peal of eight with a tenor 15¾ cwt., are really in remarkable condition when it is remembered that they are considerably over 100 years old and comparatively little has been spent on them for a number of years. They are reputed to be one of the last peals cast by Dobson, of Downham Market. The bells were raised in peal about 2.30, and during the day a large variety of methods was rung, ranging from Plain Bob to Cambridge and Superlative Surprise. At times the capacity of the tower was taxed to its utmost, but good feeling prevailed and touches were kept as short as possible.

A short service was held, conducted by the Rev. T. Mathieson and the Rev. A. L. Minns, both vice-presidents of the Huddersfield and District Association, and this was greatly appreciated by the large gathering present. Afterwards a splendid tea was served in the Parochial Hall, about 60 members sitting down.

A rather lengthy but important business meeting of the Western District was held in the Church Schools, at which the vice-president, Mr. P. J. Johnson, occupied the chair, supported by the association president, Canon C. C. Marshall, M.A. One new member, the Rev. A. L. Minns, of St. John's, Birkby, was elected.

As this was the annual meeting of the district, various officers were due for re-election. On the motion of Mr. H. Lofthouse, seconded by Mr. F. G. Sherwood, the vice-president, Mr. P. J. Johnson, was unanimously re-elected for a further period of three years, and tribute to his untiring efforts and efficiency in conducting the meetings were endorsed.

In answering a question regarding the attendances of the retiring members of the committee, the secretary pointed out that he was not justified in putting one member's name forward for re-election, as only 25 per cent. of the meetings had been attended. It was pointed out that when officers were elected, it was expected that the fullest support would be given in attending the meetings.

Mr. W. H. Senior and Mr. H. Armitage were accordingly re-elected for a further period, and Mr. L. Drake, of Burley was elected to fill the remaining vacancy. Mr. Armitage was also re-elected to serve on the General Committee.

Owing to pressure of other business, it was intimated that Mr. R. Bottomley, of Keighley, had been compelled to resign his office, and Mr. John Cooper, of Silsden, was thereupon elected to fill the vacancy and complete the period of office.

BELL RESTORATION FUND APPROVED.

The Chairman brought forward the question of a Bell Repairs Fund, a proposal which had been made by a member from another district. At the previous meeting no definite decision was made, and the matter had been left open for further consideration until the present meeting. He explained that the committee had given this careful thought, and had put forward a proposal that the scheme be accepted in principle, but that the collections be confined to the annual district meetings and the general meetings only.

Considerable discussion arose. Mr. Barton thought the collections should be taken at all meetings, for, as with no other hobby, bells costing anything between £500 and £1,200 were provided free of charge for their enjoyment. He asked the members to be honest with themselves and ask if they really ring the bells solely because of their love for the Church? Whatever hobby one took up, the fees and costs were greatly in excess of that of ringers.

The President said that, in his opinion, the scheme was sound in principle, and he hoped it would be adopted. They were perhaps preparing something for the next generation, as it would undoubtedly take several years before the fund could be used, but he was sure that when once it was started, they would find other ways and means of extending it if necessary.

Various other views were ventilated, but, on a vote being taken, the recommendation of the committee was passed by an overwhelming majority.

The Chairman, in putting this to the meeting, emphasised the fact that although the matter was now agreed in principle, the whole question would be reviewed together with the reports from the other districts, and the General Committee would no doubt report more fully at a later general meeting.

As no invitation had been received for the June meeting, it was proposed that the meeting be taken to Gargrave if possible, and be held on the last Saturday in June, so as not to clash with other meetings which were being arranged.

A hearty vote of thanks to the Rector and wardens for kindly granting the use of the bells, and also to the local company for their splendid arrangements, and to the organist who kindly gave his services during the service, was proposed by Canon Marshall, who spoke appreciatively of the hearty welcome they had all received.—This was seconded by Mr. W. H. Senior and carried.

The Rev. T. Mathieson, in replying, said how very pleased they were to welcome the association, and expressed his regret that the Rector was unable to be with them, owing to another engagement which had clashed. He was extremely sorry that the weather was not very kind, and kindly offered the use of the Institute in the Parochial Hall for those who were unable to find room in the tower. He hoped that everyone would thoroughly enjoy themselves and that they would come again at some future time.

NEW DISTRICT ASSOCIATION WELCOMED.

The Chairman expressed his pleasure at the arrangements for the joint meeting with the Huddersfield and District Association, and pointed out that such meetings were all to the good of change ringing. He was particularly pleased with the attendance from the surrounding district and also with the fact that the two vice-presidents were present. He thought that any differences of opinion there were between the two associations were more imaginary than real, and hoped that the members would come along to the other meetings more frequently, so that they could all understand one another better. He thought the Church was passing through a difficult period owing to shortages of ringers, but when one remembered that during the war a whole generation of ringers was swept away, it was easily understood. He congratulated the two vice-presidents for the interest they were taking in looking after the young ringers, and was sure that success would attend their efforts.

Canon Marshall also spoke of the very amicable relations which existed between the Yorkshire Association and the many district societies, and was pleased to extend a welcome to the newly-formed Huddersfield and District Association. Their county was very large, and it was sometimes very difficult to give the attention needed to all the areas. This was where the smaller societies could do the most useful work, and he promised them every support. Their existence was really necessary to maintain the progress required by ringers, and he hoped they would continue to be a help to the larger county association. As their president he wished the association every success and hoped that this first joint meeting would be the first of many.

The Rev. A. L. Minns, in replying, said he felt this to be a great day, when their County Association had come with such great pleasure to give their blessing to the newly-formed association. Although they were an infant society, they were growing, and he felt that their numbers now were really encouraging. He hoped the Yorkshire Association would look upon them as a nursery, preparing the young ringers for the larger County Association. By their meetings, which were arranged frequently, they were trying to give that encouragement and opportunity to the younger ringers. He thanked the president for his words of welcome and encouragement, and assured him of their unswerving loyalty.

Mr. Barton mentioned the great regret which they all felt at the passing of Mr. Arthur Knights, who, although not a Yorkshireman, had done so very much for the association. His heart and soul were in the work of the association, and when it was remembered that some 460 different compositions of his had been rung in the county, they would realise what benefit this must have been to them.—The members then stood in silence as a last token of respect.

This concluded the business of the meeting, and after handbells had been enjoyed, the tower was again visited and further ringing took place until about 9 o'clock. A pleasing feature was the presence of so many young ringers, and this augurs well for the continuance and progress of the newly-formed association.

The following towers were represented during the day: Addingham, Armley, Batley, Bradford Cathedral, Bramley, Brighouse, Burley, Elland, Halifax, Headingley (St. Chad's and St. Michael's), Huddersfield, Idle, Kirkburton, Leeds, Lindley, Liversedge, Longwood, Mytholmroyd, Northowram, Meltham, Pudsey, Queensbury, Ripponden, Rothwell, Silsden and Sowerby.

GOOD FRIDAY RINGING.

(Continued from previous page.)

solemnity of the day. I venture to say the effect would be the same on that day when the Church annually commemorates the death of the King of Kings.

Until I heard fully muffled bells I must confess I had no idea that fully muffled ringing could have such a soothing and beautiful effect, more so, to my mind, than half-muffled (though I like to hear bells ring in that way); and far more so than fully muffled with tenor open at back stroke, which Mr. Story advocates. The latter, I contend, sounds neither one thing nor the other. If we are going to have single bells tolled, let us have them as such, not mix the two things and spoil good music by one bell banging out above all the others. Fully muffled ringing is generally considered a symbol of extra sorrowfulness, and open ringing a symbol of rejoicing. What, then, can be more in keeping with the two great days than to hear the former on Good Friday and the latter on Easter Sunday?

Northampton. P. AMOS.

WEDDING BELLS.

In honour of the wedding of Mr. Stanley Stapleton, of the local company, and Miss Elizabeth Whitmore, on March 4th, a quarter-peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung at the Church of Our Lady, Keysoe, Beds: A. Stapleton 1, E. Asque 2, G. Seth 3, H. Swepston 4, D. Cockings (conductor) 5.

A VANCOUVER VETERAN.

DEATH OF MR. EDWIN CASHMORE.

Helped to Build Carter's First Ringing Machine.

There has recently passed away in Vancouver, B.C., an old ringer, who was an interesting link with ringing in the Birmingham district more than 70 years ago. Edwin James Cashmore, who, with his wife and young family, emigrated to Canada about 50 years ago, has died at the advanced age of 87. He was the eldest son of Paul Cashmore, of West Bromwich, a gunsmith, and leader of the ringers at West Bromwich Parish Church.

Edwin Cashmore, who at the age of eight became a chorister at West Bromwich, and afterwards developed a fine tenor voice, went first to Toronto and about 30 years ago went further west to Vancouver, where he established a successful sports business. In his youth in England it was, of course, only natural that, as soon as he was able, he should learn to ring, and his tutors were his father and his uncles, Edwin Cashmore, Samuel Marsh and Samson Marsh. In Toronto there was no church bell ringing to be had and he turned his attention to handbells, and he and a party which he taught became celebrated for their tune ringing skill with over 50 bells.

In Vancouver he became an active member of the band at the Cathedral of the Holy Rosary, and continued until age and rheumatism prevented further participation, but only a few months ago, when visited by four of his former ringing colleagues, he was able to ring 1-2-3-4 to a course of Grandsire Triples, a thing which very few ringers, even in constant practice, are able to do.

Edwin James Cashmore, however, had another interesting association with ringing. When he worked in his father's gun and pistol factory, there were, among the employes, two other youths, one of them named John Carter, and John Carter, like the rest of the people who worked for Paul Cashmore, learned to ring. He also, being a born mechanical genius, turned his attention to constructing a ringing machine, and it was in Paul Cashmore's workshop that the invention born in John Carter's mind first took practical shape. Paul Cashmore was interested in it and encouraged Carter; and Edwin James Cashmore and Sidney Smith, the other of the two youths mentioned above, helped him in the work, which was often done, with full approval, in their master's time as well as in their own. The machine which they built, however, is not the one now housed in the South Kensington Museum. Carter scrapped the original, after gaining from it much knowledge and experience, which he incorporated in the later model.

Edwin Cashmore emigrated to Canada; Sidney Smith married his master's daughter, and one of their sons is Mr. A. Paddon Smith, who was hon. secretary of St. Martin's Guild, Birmingham, for 20 years and is now one of the vice-presidents.

Paul Cashmore, who died in 1894, and is buried in the 'Cashmore Corner' where generations of the family lie in the beautiful churchyard attached to West Bromwich Parish Church, was, of course, contemporary with Henry Johnson, and many letters written by the latter to Paul are still in possession of a member of the family.

At the time when John Carter was working for Paul Cashmore, about 60 years ago, the latter employed in his West Bromwich factory, amongst others, a band sufficient to man the ropes at the Old Church, and, when the 'old man' felt like it, he would call the band together during working hours and adjourn to the belfry, which was only a few minutes away, for the purpose of ringing some favourite touch or other. The Vicar at that time had no objection to the bells being so rung, provided no services or funerals were taking place, and there were very few houses with the exception of the vicarage itself and one or two old cottages in the immediate vicinity of the church. One of the nearest houses was the house of refreshment known then, as now, as the Ring o' Bells, where it is still humorously claimed they sell beer by the pound. This is, of course, quite true as one of the old-fashioned 'pounds' (an enclosure for straying horses or cattle) still stands in front of the house.

Mr. Edwin Cashmore last visited England in the summer of 1928 and had a pull at West Bromwich, although the bells there now are not those he knew in his youth, for they were recast about 20 years ago. He was an excellent striker in such methods as he could ring.

Wherever he settled Edwin Cashmore became a chorister, for he was an ardent as well as an excellent vocalist, and in Vancouver was a member of the choir at St. Saviour's Anglican Church, in connection with which he was also a lay reader. He was an active Freemason, past master of his lodge in Toronto, a Royal Arch Mason, past illustrious master of the Cryptic Rite and a member of other lodges.

Mr. Cashmore and his wife, who predeceased him, celebrated their diamond wedding anniversary in 1936, and surviving him are four daughters and three sons.

BIRTH.

GOODFELLOW. — At Colwyn Nursing Home, Hayes, on March 13th, to Grace, wife of F. W. Goodfellow, of Seaford, Slough Road, Iver Heath, a son—Peter Herbert.

TRURO DIOCESAN GUILD.

COUNTY TOUR TO ENCOURAGE PEAL RINGING.

It was suggested at the annual meeting of the Truro Diocesan Guild, held at Truro, that a peal ringing tour in Cornwall, to last a week or ten days in June, should be organised among the members of the Guild. Although the past year had been, in some respects, a disappointing one, there is still a great deal of enthusiasm for ringing in Cornwall, in the view of Dr. J. Symons, president of the Guild, who welcomed the members.

The hon secretary, the Rev. W. H. R. Trewhella, Truro, reported that Landewednack and Wendron both joined the Guild during the year.

The Ringing Master, Mr. W. H. Southeard, Truro, said they had had a disappointing year at Penzance, but he felt sure that the branch would again come back to full strength. Five ringers had been awarded the M class medal, and four the B class medal. A ringing tour in the county proved very successful. 15 peals out of 17 being rung. Some of the visitors had rung peals in Cornwall before, and several local ringers were invited to stand in. He would like to see more ringers brought into touch with visiting parties. This year he was going to try to arrange a tour in Cornwall amongst themselves, to last a week or ten days in June. There would be ringing to suit all ringers, and it would give them a chance to learn something from each other.

DEPLETED FUNDS.

The hon. treasurer, Mr. H. Dunstan, St. Ives, reported a balance of 8s. 9d., as against £4 12s. 9d. last year. They were not, he said, receiving the full amount in fees from the branches, one branch not having paid anything for two years.

Mr. Cyril E. Lanxon, Truro, peals secretary, reported an increase in the number of peals, but it was not due, he said, to the work of the Guild. Fifteen peals were rung by visitors. Since the formation of the Guild 125 peals had been rung.

Lt.-Col. C. F. Jerram said they were indebted to the visitors for allowing local ringers to take part in their peals because it gave them an opportunity of doing something different.

The reports were adopted.

There was a discussion as to the provision of medals for ringers. It was stated that owing to the depleted funds of the Guild the cost of providing medals ought not to fall upon the Guild, but should be borne by the recipients.

It was decided that a suggestion be made to branches that in future the cost of medals should be met by the towers of which the recipients of medals are members.

It was decided to hold the annual festival at Helston, and an invitation by the Rev. F. F. Gilbert to hold the next annual meeting at St. Stephen-in-Brannel was accepted.

The officers elected were: Patron, the Bishop of Truro; president, Dr. J. Symons, Penzance; Col. Jerram was added to the vice-presidents Ringing Master, Mr. W. H. Southeard, Truro; Assistant Ringing Master, Mr. W. J. Garland, Lezant; hon. secretary, the Rev. W. H. R. Trewhella, Truro; hon. treasurer, Mr. H. Dunstan, St. Ives; peals secretary, Mr. C. E. Lanxon, Truro; representative to the Central Council, Mr. Lanxon; committee, the Rev. J. H. Moysey, the Rev. J. S. Jenkin, the Rev. W. A. Kneebone, Miss Angwin, and Messrs. Taylor and W. J. Sanders.

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.

ALTON AND PETERSFIELD DISTRICT.

The annual meeting of the Alton and Petersfield District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild was held at Petersfield. Those present included Rev. E. C. A. Kent (Vicar of Petersfield), Rev. F. G. Eyres (district chairman), and ringing members from Alton, Blackmoor, Hawkley, Liss, New Alresford, Petersfield, Portsea, Ryde and Steep. The bells were rung in the afternoon and evening to the standard methods. The Guild's service was conducted by the Rev. E. C. A. Kent, who offered a warm welcome and gave a short and encouraging address. Tea in St. Peter's Hall was followed by the business meeting, presided over by the district chairman. The hon. secretary read his report and also the balance sheet, which showed a balance in hand of £11 14s.

Mr. George Hall, jun., and Mr. Reginald Thorrett, both of Blackmoor, were elected ringing members. Mr. A. H. Fisher, late of Petersfield, was elected a compounding member. The meeting learned with regret that the Rev. F. G. Eyres (district chairman) was resigning his office, and also that the vice-chairman (the Rev. C. Minton-Senhouse) was resigning as he had left the district. Votes of thanks were accorded in each case.

The officers were then elected as follows: District chairman, the Rev. E. C. A. Kent; hon. secretary, Mr. C. E. Bassett; hon. auditor, the Rev. T. N. Rathbone-Griffin; district representatives on committee, Mr. W. Read and Mr. A. Hardiman. The next annual meeting at Alton was fixed for January 27th, 1940, and the next quarterly meeting on April 15th, 1939, at Blackmoor.

The usual votes of thanks were accorded at the close of the meeting.

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

WESTERN BRANCH SECRETARIAL PROBLEM SOLVED.

To everyone's satisfaction, a solution was found to a problem that had become acute, namely, that of finding a successor to the retiring secretary (Mr. G. E. Large), when the Western Branch of the Worcestershire and Districts Association held its first meeting of the year at Hallow on Saturday week.

The parish of Hallow lies on the west bank of the River Severn, some three miles from Worcester, and the Church of SS. Philip and James possesses a fine octave (tenor 21½ cwt.) installed by Taylors in 1900 and rehung in 1937 by Mears and Stainbank. Eighteen of the 26 towers affiliated were represented, and there were visitors from the Northern and Southern Branches, as well as from the neighbouring county of Herefordshire.

Ringing during the afternoon was followed by a well-attended service. The Vicar (the Rev. C. M. Stickings), in his address, welcomed the members, and said in all his 35 years in the ministry, at home and abroad, he had never addressed a gathering of ringers before. He admired their constancy to each Sunday's duties, and asked them not to be discouraged if their efforts failed to bring an increase in the attendance at church. He felt sure those who heard the bells were reminded of their duty to come and worship, and could not ignore the message entirely.

An excellent tea, served in the Parish Hall, had been generously provided and served by a band of ladies, which included the Vicar's, churchwardens' and local ringers' wives. Some 71 members and friends sat down to the repast, but even this number failed to put away all that was provided. The Vicar presided and was supported by his churchwarden (Mr. C. H. Lock), who is an hon. member, Mr. L. Clay (leader of the local band) and the branch officers.

Mr. T. G. Green was proposed as the conductor of the quarterly peal to be rung at Hallow. Mr. Green is a talented member of the local band, but unfortunately his work prevents him from taking an active part in ringing apart from his own tower.

NEW SECRETARY ELECTED.

Mr. G. E. Large (retiring secretary) proposed the election of Mr. Ernest F. Cubberley, of Kempsey, as secretary and treasurer of the branch.—This was seconded by Mr. E. Wilson, whereupon Mr. R. G. Knowles sprang a surprise by proposing Mr. Edgar C. Barber, of Malvern Link, but as the latter found no seconder the first named was elected.

Mr. Cubberley acknowledged his election and said he would do his best to serve the branch.

Mr. S. T. Holt (Master) said they could not let the occasion pass without thanking Mr. Large for his services during his term of office. It was, he said, almost entirely due to him that the branch had now a membership never before obtained. Not only that, but Mr. Large had given valuable help in tutoring bands at several towers and they were sorry he had to give up.

At a later stage Messrs. R. G. Knowles (vice-president) and H. F. Martin also spoke in eulogistic terms of the retiring secretary.

In his reply, Mr. Large said he was thankful his services had been acceptable, and acknowledged the support he had received from members. He hoped they would give the new secretary that same support and more; and at the end of three, five or twenty years, if Mr. Cubberley wished to resign, he trusted he would not have the same difficulty over a successor as he himself had had.

Seven new performing members were elected—four from Ombersley, two from Shelsley Beauchamp and one unattached.

The chairman was proposed as an hon. member by Mr. Clay, and this was carried with applause.

In view of the recent affiliation of the Shelsley Beauchamp band, who now muster eleven members, it was not surprising that the summer meeting was proposed to be held there—a popular and unanimous vote.

A recommendation from the Central Committee regarding a new minute relating to the Belfry Repairs Fund was debated. Mr. J. D. Johnson (general secretary) explained that now the Southern Branch had come into line with the other two branches it was thought desirable to have the same minute on the three branch books. The new minute stated: 'That collections be taken at the quarterly meetings at the discretion of the incumbent and branch officers, and that such be given to the Belfry Repairs Fund.'

Mr. Holt said he wondered how that would affect them if they at some time desired to have a collection for a member afflicted by illness. Would it allow them to have a second collection?

This point was discussed further by Mr. Johnson, Miss Boyle and the retiring secretary, after which Mr. Holt proposed an amendment that instead of 'That collections be taken . . . .' the motion read, 'That a collection,' etc.—This was seconded by Miss Boyle and carried.

'Any other business,' as usual, brought a host of questions. Mr. H. F. Martin (Bromsgrove) extended a hearty welcome to the members when his branch (Northern) held their summer meeting at Hartlebury in June. The Hartlebury ringers, he said, had received tuition and assistance from Western Branch members, and he thought it would be nice if the latter joined in.—Mr. T. Hemming (Brierley Hill) supported this and extended a welcome to Southern Branch members, too.

After comprehensive votes of thanks, further ringing took place at both the churches at Hallow and Grimley (a nearby village).

NOTICES.

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. Tickets, 6s. each. The following towers will be open for ringing: St. Martin's-in-the-Fields, 4 to 5.30 p.m.; St. Clement Danes, 3.30 to 5 p.m.; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 4.30 to 6 p.m.—G. W. Steere, Sec., 46, Milton Avenue, Sutton, Surrey.

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 4.30. Bells available until 7.30 p.m.

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.

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.

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. 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. Business meeting for election of officers, etc., after tea. All welcome.—H. S. Morley, Hon. Dis. Sec., 5, Ebor Street, Selby.

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.

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Eye District.—A meeting of this district will be held at Yaxley on Saturday, March 18th. Bells (6) available at 2.30 p.m. Also Thornham (6) and Stoke Ash (5) and Brome (5). Service 4.30, conducted by the Rev. MacGee, followed by tea and meeting at 5 p.m. in the Village Hall. All are welcome.—R. J. D. Nelthorpe, Dis. Sec., Pitts Farm, Wattisfield, near Diss.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Central Branch.—A meeting will be held at Wilburton on Saturday, March 18th. Bells (6) available 2.30 p.m. Tea at Royal Oak, 5 p.m. Service if arranged.—F. Warrington, Station Road, Swavesey, Cambs. (Please note new address.)

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—The tenth annual dinner of the Gloucester Branch will be held on Saturday, March 18th, at the Spread Eagle Hotel, Market Parade, Gloucester, at 6 p.m. The Rev. N. E. Hope, Master of the association, will preside, supported by other gentlemen. The following towers will be open: Cathedral (8), 2 to 3 p.m.; St. Mary de Lode (6), 3 to 4; St. Mary de Crypt (8), 3.45 to 4.45; St. Michael's (10), 4.45 to 5.45. Dinner tickets 3s., obtainable from W. H. Harris, Branch Sec., Lydney Dock, Lydney, Glos.

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—The annual meeting will be held at Eastbourne (St. Mary's) on Saturday, March 18th. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5 o'clock (1s. 3d. per head). St. Saviour's from 7.15 p.m.—A. C. Pankhurst, Div. Hon. Sec., 13, Bradford Street, Eastbourne.

WARWICKSHIRE GUILD.—The next meeting will take place at Brinklow, near Rugby, on Saturday, March 18th. Bells (6) available during afternoon and evening. Tea provided at 1s. a head.—D. E. Beamish, Hon. Gen. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Loughborough District.—A meeting will be held at Quorn on Saturday, March 18th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea at Hurst Cafe (1s. each) at 5 p.m. All ringers and friends cordially invited.—A. E. Rowley, Hon. Sec., Hyom, Penistone Street, Ibstock, Leicester.

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION AND NORTH SOUTHWARK DIOCESAN GUILD.—The next meeting will be held on Saturday, March 18th, at St. George-the-Martyr, Borough High Street (opposite Borough Underground Station). Ringing from 3 p.m. to 8.30 p.m. Short service 5 p.m. All ringers welcome.—N. H. Manning, Dis. Sec.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—A meeting of the Wirral Branch will be held at West Kirby (8 bells) on Saturday, March 18th. Tower open at 3 o'clock. Service at 5 p.m. Tea and meeting afterwards. We hope to have a good attendance to induce the local ringers to rejoin the Diocesan Guild of Church Bellringers.—Harry S. Brocklebank, Hon. Sec. and Treasurer.

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts Branch.—A meeting will be held at Hemingford Grey on Saturday, March 18th. Bells 3 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock.—H. J. Parker, Dis. Sec., Great Staughton, St. Neots.

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS (Established 1637).—Meetings for March: St. Giles', Cripplegate, 21st; St. Andrew's, Holborn, 23rd; *St. Paul's Cathedral, 28th; St. Magnus-the-Martyr, 30th. *Business meeting afterwards. All at 7.30, except St. Andrew's, 8.—A. B. Peck, Sec., 1, Eversfield Road, Reigate.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—The golden jubilee will be celebrated on Saturday, March 25th. Ringing at Leeds Parish Church from 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Hot pot supper and entertainment in Sherwin's Restaurant 6 p.m. Tickets 1s. 9d. each. Please book your ticket before March 20th.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec., 8, Wortley Road, Leeds 12.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Burton District.—Book this date, March 25th, for Parish Church, Ashby-de-la-Zouch. Bells (8) available from 3 p.m. The above district will hold its next meeting there, and a hearty invitation awaits all ringers. Excellent bus service from all parts. Usual tea arrangements for those who notify me by Wednesday, March 25th.—J. W. Cotton, Hon. Sec., Overseale, Burton-on-Trent.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION—Canterbury District.—The next meeting will be held at Elham (Chilham unavailable) on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (8) from 2.30. Service 4.30, followed by tea, 1s. per head. Please send your names in to Mr. F. Verney, Briar Bank, Elham, near Canterbury, not later than Thursday, March 23rd. Usual methods, but special attention to Double Norwich, please.—B. J. Luck, Hon. Dis. Sec., 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury.

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY. — The next meeting will be held at Tickhill on Saturday, March 25th. Bells ready at 3 p.m. Will all those who will require tea please send a card by Wednesday, the 22nd? Let us have a good meeting to welcome the new vicar. Send your card to Ernest Cooper, 6, Grosvenor Crescent, Arksey, Doncaster, Yorks.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION. — Derby District.—A meeting will be held at St. Luke's Church, Derby, on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (8, tenor 30 cwt.) available 3 p.m. All ringers cordially invited to try this splendid peal. Subscriptions now due. — Wm. Lancaster, Hon. Sec., 83, Albert Road, Chaddesden, Derby.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks & S. Bucks Branch.—The next meeting has been arranged at Fulmer (6 bells) on Saturday, March 25th, at 6 p.m. Subscriptions now due. Annual reports ready shortly. Note date of annual meeting, April 22nd, at Beaconsfield. — A. D. Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — St. Albans District.—A meeting will be held at Hatfield on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (10) available from 3 p.m. Short service 5. Tea at the Temperance Hotel (1s.) 5.30 p.m. All ringers welcome.—Harold V. Frost, Dis. Sec., 4, Kimberley Road, St. Albans.

PEAK DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Next meeting at Darleydale on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (8) available 3 p.m. All welcome. Those hoping to be present please write W. H. Taylor, The Hillside, Darleydale, not later than Wednesday, March 22nd.—H. L. Warburton, Hon. Sec.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Cirencester Branch. — The next meeting will be held at Northleach on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (8) open 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Service 6 p.m. Please send card for tea to W. H. Hayward, Hon. Sec., 1, Bowling Green Road, Cirencester.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South-Eastern District. — The next monthly practice at Chelmsford Cathedral will be held on Saturday, March 25th, at 7.30 p.m. The special method is 'Cambridge,' up to Royal.—H. W. Shadrack, Hon. Dis. Sec.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—A quarterly meeting will be held at Wye on Saturday, March 25th. Bells ready 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5 p.m.—P. Page, Hon. Dis. Sec., 110, Canterbury Road, Kennington, Ashford, Kent.

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Chertsey District.—The next meeting will be held at Chobham on Saturday, March 25th. Bells (8) available 3.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. at the White Hart. The Vicar is anxious to meet the diocesan ringers, so a hearty welcome is extended to the neighbouring districts and others. A postcard to me, stating number, by Wednesday, the 22nd, will ensure a good tea.—F. E. Hawthorne, Hon. Sec., 39, Queen's Road, Thames Ditton.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Blackburn Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Colne on Saturday, March 25th. Bells available from 3 p.m. Meeting at 6.30 p.m. Members and non-members cordially invited.—F. Hindle, Branch Sec., 58, Anvil Street, Blackburn.

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District. — The next meeting is at St. Ippollyt's on March 25th. Bells available at 3 p.m. Tea, by kind invitation of the Vicar. Numbers for tea by Wednesday, March 22nd, or no tea, to L. T. Newman, Hon. Dis. Sec., 36, Salisbury Road, Baldock.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Sonning Deanery Branch.—Meeting at Warfield (8 bells), Saturday, March 25th. Ringing from 4 p.m. Tea at small charge by notifying W. J. Paice, Hon. Sec., Merrel, California, Wokingham, Berks.

SHROPSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Meeting at Malins Lee, Wellington, on Saturday, March 25th. Usual arrangements. Visitors welcome, but please notify numbers for tea. — W. A. Farmer, 70, Oakfield Road, Shrewsbury.

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—A meeting will be held at Heathfield on Saturday, March 25th. The light ring of eight available after 3 p.m. Come and try them.—J. G. Powell, Hon. Sec., 1, Woodbury Road, Hawkhurst, Kent.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — North Bucks Branch. — Newport Pagnell Deanery. — A meeting at Weston Underwood, Saturday, March 25th. 2.30, ring up. 4.15, service. 4.45, tea.—Rev. J. F. Amies, Ravenstone Vicarage, Olney, Bucks.

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch. — The next meeting will be held at All Souls, Bolton, on Saturday, March 25th. Bells available 3 p.m. Business meeting 7 p.m.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec.

HORDLE, NR. LYMINGTON, HANTS.—The ring of five bells (one old and four new) will be dedicated by the Bishop of Southampton on Sunday, March 26th, at the 11 o'clock service. The work has been carried out by John Taylor and Co.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM (Established 1755).—Quarterly meeting will be held at Aston Parish Church, Birmingham, on Saturday, April 1st. Bells (12) available at 3 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m., to be followed by business meeting. Please notify Mr. W. Davies, 99, Rosary Road, Erdington, Birmingham, regarding tea not later than Thursday, 30th inst.—T. H. Reeves, Hon. Sec.

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Thrapston Branch.—A special meeting will be held at Twywell on Saturday, April 1st, to dedicate a tablet to the late Mr. W. Wainwright. Ringing at 3 p.m. Service at 4.15. Tea to follow, at the kind invitation of Mrs. Wainwright. It is necessary that all those wishing to attend should send p.c. not later than March 28th to W. R. Butcher, Woodview, Brigstock, near Kettering.

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern Division. — A meeting of this division will be held at Stisted on Saturday, April 1st. Bells (6) available from 2.30 p.m. Service at 4.30 p.m., followed by tea and business meeting. Will all those requiring tea please notify Mr. R. Suckling, 334, Church Street, Bocking, Essex, not later than Wednesday, March 29th. All ringers welcome.—Hilda G. Snowden, Hon. Dis. Sec., 3, Belle Vue, Hedingham Road, Halstead, Essex.

MORECAMBE, LANCS.—The new ring of eight bells installed by John Taylor and Co. will be dedicated by the Bishop of Blackburn on Sunday, April 2nd, at the 10.30 service.

MIDLAND COUNTIES ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, Easter Monday, at Burton-on-Trent. Bells open: St. Paul's (10) from 10 a.m; Rolleston-on-Dove (8), 11.30 to 12.30, 1.30 to 3.30; Winshill (6), 11 to 12 a.m., 1.30 to 4 p.m. Subject to weddings and funerals. Committee meet 3.30 p.m. Tea 4.45 prompt, followed by general meeting in St. Paul's Institute. Tickets for tea, members 1s. 9d., visitors 2s., to be obtained not later than Apr. 5th from J. W. Cotton, Coronation Street, Overseale, Burton-on-Trent. Owing to catering difficulties, please note, those without tickets must fend for themselves.—Ernest Morris, General Hon. Sec., 24, Coventry Street, Leicester.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—The 59th annual general meeting will be held at Erith on Easter Monday, April 10th. Committee meeting in St. John's Hall at 11.15 a.m. Service in the Church of St. John the Baptist at noon. Address by the Vicar of Erith (Rev. R. W. Thornhill, M.A.). Luncheon in St. John's Hall at 1 p.m. (free to practising members, 2s. 6d. others). His Worship the Mayor of Erith (Rev. J. W. Wilkinson) will preside. Business meeting follows for the election of officers and Central Council representatives (4). Nominations must reach me by March 27th. A new rule to be submitted. The tower of St. John's will be open for ringing from 10 a.m. and after the meeting. Other towers in the vicinity available will be announced later. All applications for luncheon tickets must reach me by Tuesday, April 4th, otherwise too late.—Fred M. Mitchell, Hon. Sec., 114, Sun Lane, Gravesend.

NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—The second annual dinner will be held at the George Hotel, Burslem, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffs, on Saturday, April 15th, at 6.30 p.m. Tickets, 3s. 6d. each, can be obtained from Andrew Thompson, 37, Broad Street, Newcastle, Staffs, not later than April 1st.

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