THE RINGING WORLD

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THOMAS POST

Ringer, Shepherd and Poet

LAST Christmas our editorial, 'Lord be thankit,' was based on a painting of the old shepherd who 'for three score years he rang his simple praise.' Inspired by this, Mr. George H. Head, of Hampton, Middlesex, has forwarded to us a selection of verses written by Thomas Post, of Wye, Kent, and published when he was aged 84. Post was of such a character as the aged bell-ringer; he was a shepherd, poet and ringer.

Perhaps some of our older readers in the Kent and Sussex border country knew him. Mr. Head did and had rung with him. The story of the publication of Post's verses is of interest. In December, 1899, an appeal was launched for widows of men killed in the war in South Africa. Thomas Post walked into the office of 'The Kentish Express,' Ashford, and to the editor said: 'I have come to see if I can help your War Fund. I have no money, but everybody should do his little bit. I wish to help if you will only let me.' Then from his capacious pocket he drew a scroll of manuscript. 'There,' said he, his eyes glistening with pardonable pride, 'I wrote those lines myself. I should like to sell them and give the money to the soldiers' widows and orphans.'

The late Mr. Charles Igglesden, the then editor of 'The Kentish Express,' describes Post as being entirely self-educated. After spending a few years in the Army, he became a shepherd. His manuscript was written in capital letters, as these were the only letters he understood. Rhyming has come naturally to him—a gift which in a highly educated man might have led to the loftiest steps of the ladder of fame. But for the alteration of a word here and there, the verses in the volume are left just as he wrote them—crude, but strangely flavoured with the intense earnestness that characterises their author.

For seventy years Thomas Post was a bell-ringer, and he is reputed to have rung peals in 53 different churches in Kent. Even as a child he had a marked predilection for bells, and he tells of the days of his boyhood when he produced his first chimes on some old scythes he had found in an outbuilding. The most notable event in his ringing career was the establishment of a ringing record in East Kent in May, 1846. This took place at St. Leonard's, Hythe, where 13,440 changes were rung in 7 hours and 55 minutes.

Mr. George H. Head adds his recollection of Post. He writes: 'It was about 50 years ago, after an unsuccessful attempt for a peal of Bob Major, that I visited the dear old chap in his humble home and spent some time with him. I well remember him showing me the manuscript of his poems. I only remember ringing with him once, at Ashford, and the way he handled the tenor was a lesson to me as a beginner. He was then about 70.'

Typical of Thomas Post's verse is the following, entitled, 'To all my brothers strings':—

Many miles I have walked
To meet my brother string,
And for to meet
It was a treat
To make the bells to ring.

Many ringers I've taught to ring,
As you may understand:
Some of them
Be good men
And captains of a band.

* * * *

Let us meet, we ringers all,
And ring within the steeple;
They hear the sound
For miles around,
We call a waiting people.

Christmas Day; rejoicing day!
We make the bells to ring.
The people hear
And all come near
To praise the Lord and King.

Four score years are gone and past,
Old age has come, you see.
Brother string,
When you ring,
Pray sympathise with me.

When ringing days are over,
I pray the Lord to bless
All his faithful ringers
When they lay down to rest.

TWELVE BELL PEALS

BIRMINGHAM.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Sat., Nov. 25, 1950, in 3 Hours and 46 Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP,
A PEAL OF 5280 SPLICED SURPRISE MAXIMUS
Consisting of 2,880 Cambridge and 2,400 Yorkshire, with 40 changes of method. Tenor 31 cwt. 21 lb. in D.

*ALBERT WALKER	*Treble*	TERRY R. HAMPTON	7
G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY	2	ARTHUR D. COOK	8
†EDGAR C. SHEPHERD	3	‡ARTHUR V. PEARSON	9
FRANK E. HAYNES	4	PAUL K. WILLIAMSON	10
FRANK W. PERRENS	5	HENRY H. FEARN	11
JOHN PINFOLD	6	GEORGE E. FEARN	*Tenor*

Arranged by GEO. E. FEIRN. Conducted by G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY.
* 450th peal on twelve bells. † 300th peal. ‡ 50th peal this year. The first peal of Spliced Surprise Maximus for the Guild and by all the band.

BRISTOL.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 25, 1950, in 4 Hours and 13 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY, REDCLIFFE,
A PEAL OF 5280 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS
Tenor 50½ cwt.

TERENCE A. THORNBER	*Treble*	ALFRED BALLARD	7
EMLYN F. HANCOCK	2	J. FREDK. MILNER	8
FRANK E. PERVIN	3	E. ALAN JACQUES	9
JOHN R. SMITH	4	HAROLD J. POOLE	10
G. STEDMAN MORRIS	5	WILLIAM J. ROOT	11
SHIRLEY BURTON	6	JOSEPH T. DYKE	*Tenor*

Composed by WILLIAM PYE. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.
In memoriam Stephen H. Wood.

TEN BELL PEALS

BIRMINGHAM.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Tues., Nov. 28, 1950, in 3 Hours and 18 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,
A PEAL OF 5079 STEDMAN CATERS
Tenor 37 cwt. in C.

EDGAR C. SHEPHERD	*Treble*	G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY	6
ALBERT WALKER	2	HENRY H. FEARN	7
WILLIAM C. DOWDING	3	FRANK E. HAYNES	8
GEORGE E. FEARN	4	JOHN N. LINDON	9
JOHN F. BUTLER	5	JOHN SCOTT	*Tenor*

Composed by J. H. R. FREEBORN. Conducted by FRANK E. HAYNES.
A compliment to Mr. James George, who was 97 on November 27th. This composition, rung for the first time, has the 6th in 2nds place with the 5th in 5ths, and the treble in 2nds with the 6th in 5ths, in alternate quarters.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thurs., Nov. 30, 1950, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes.
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,
A PEAL 5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL
Tenor 6½ cwt.

HAROLD J. POOLE	*Treble*	SHIRLEY BURTON	6
COLIN HARRISON	2	JOHN R. SMITH	7
PAUL L. TAYLOR	3	TERENCE A. THORNBER	8
ERNEST W. RAWSON	4	HERRICK B. BOWLEY	9
PETER J. STANIFORTH	5	E. ALAN JACQUES	*Tenor*

Composed by CHAS. J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by PETER J. STANIFORTH.

YEOVIL, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 2, 1950, in 3 Hours and 38 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL
Tenor 40 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb.

ARTHUR H. REED	*Treble*	RODNEY B. MEADOWS	6
G STEDMAN MORRIS	2	ROGER O. FRY	7
MARGARET L. TUTT	3	HARRY J. SANGER	8
WALTER F. JUDGE	4	GILBERT H. HARDING	9
FREDK. A. H. WILKINS	5	JOSEPH T. DYKE	*Tenor*

Composed by WILLIAM PYE. Conducted by WALTER F. JUDGE.

CREWE, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 2, 1950, in 3 Hours and 24 Minutes,
AT CHRIST CHURCH,
A PEAL OF 5039 GRANDSIRE CATERS
Tenor 20 cwt.

*STEPHEN LAYLAND	*Treble*	WILFRED KERR	6
RICHARD D. LANGFORD	2	GEORGE A. PACKER	7
†HARRY F. HOLDING	3	EDWARD V. RODENHURST	8
IVOR R. NICHOLS	4	HOWARD HOWELL	9
†RICHARD T. HOLDING	5	W. FRANK STENSON	*Tenor*

Composed by G. HAYWARD. Conducted by GEORGE A. PACKER.
* First peal. † 100th peal together. A 62nd birthday peal for the tenor ringer and for Mr. W. Edge, the towerkeeper at Crewe

EIGHT BELL PEALS

DRAYCOTT-LE-MOORS, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 18, 1950, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARGARET,
A PEAL OF 5088 LINCOLNSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 11 cwt. 25 lb.

FREDK. WM. GROCOTT	*Treble*	*RONALD BARLOW	5
*JUNE M. HENSHAW	2	FREDK. E. WILSHAW	6
*CATHERINE M. TRIST	3	CHARLES H. PAGE	7
ARTHUR PEAKE	4	*NEVILLE R. HOLLAND	*Tenor*

Composed by WM. BARTON. Conducted by FREDK. WILLIAM GROCOTT.
* First peal in the method. First peal of Surprise on the bells. Rung in honour of the wedding of the Rev. F. Chadwick, Rector of Draycott.

GORLESTON-ON-SEA, SUFFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 18, 1950, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 10 cwt.

*JAMES W. FORDER	*Treble*	HERBERT J. ELDRED	5
CHARLES BAILEY	2	ARTHUR W. BIRD	6
*ALFRED W. FULCHER	3	GODFREY G. WALPOLE	7
JOHN DENTON	4	H. WILLIAM BARRETT	*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by H. WM. BARRETT.
* First peal. Rung as a 21st wedding anniversary compliment to Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Bird.

NORWICH.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Wed., Nov. 22, 1950, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL-AT-COSLANY,
A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR
Middleton's. Tenor 14 cwt. in F.

NOLAN GOLDEN	*Treble*	H. WILLIAM BARRETT	5
ERNEST G. SHORTING	2	ARTHUR G. BASON	6
*JACK KING	3	GEORGE SAYER	7
*GEORGE P. ADAMS	4	*BERT GOGLE	*Tenor*

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.
* First peal in the method.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.
MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thurs., Nov. 23, 1950, in 2 Hours and 41 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5088 ROCHESTER SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 10 cwt.

C. EDWARD LANKESTER	*Treble*	ALICK CUTLER	5
LEONARD H. BOWLER	2	MAURICE HODGSON	6
C. EDWARD JEFFRIES	3	THOMAS H. FRANCIS	7
RICHARD F. B. SPEED	4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS	*Tenor*

Composed by A. WILSON. Conducted by CHARLES W. ROBERTS.

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FRODSHAM, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Fri., Nov. 24, 1950, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,
A PEAL OF 5056 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR
Containing 2,944 London, 640 Bristol, 736 Cambridge, 736 Superlative. with 112 changes of method. Tenor 12¼ cwt. in F sharp.

ERIC J. GILBERT	*Treble*	JOHN WORTH	5
WALTER ALLMAN	2	JAMES C. E. SIMPSON	6
C. KENNETH LEWIS	3	EDWARD JENKINS	7
JOHN E. BIBBY	4	RALPH G. EDWARDS	*Tenor*

Composed by E. C. S. TURNER. Umpire: HENRY O. BAKER.
This is the first silent peal of Spliced Surprised Major.

GILMORTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Fri., Nov. 24, 1950, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5152 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 10½ cwt.

*S. ANTHONY JESSON	*Treble*	*TERENCE A. THORNEBR	5
J. FREDERICK MILNER	2	SHIRLEY BURTON	6
ELIZABETH FAULKNALL	3	JOHN R. SMITH	7
ERNEST W. RAWSON	4	HAROLD J. POOLE	*Tenor*

Composed by FREDK. H. DEXTER. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.
* First peal in the method.

BOURNEMOUTH.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Nov. 25, 1950, in 3 Hours and 16 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Parker's Six-part. Tenor 20½ cwt. in E.

*ROY PECKHAM	*Treble*	*REV. JOHN COUTTS	5
MARY E. DAVIS	2	*JOHN H. GILBERT	6
FRED PRICE	3	ARTHUR V. DAVIS	7
*TREVOR HEXTALL	4	BRUCE B. ROGERS	*Tenor*

Conducted by ARTHUR V. DAVIS.
* First peal. Rung on the 18th birthday of the treble ringer.

ENFIELD, MIDDLESEX.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 25, 1950, in 3 Hours and 9 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 20 cwt.

*D. G. SCOTT	*Treble*	†ARTHUR J. BULL	5
G. WILFRED SLACK	2	J. ROBERTS	6
LEONARD LADLEY	3	J. R. TOWERS	7
W. T. HOLMES	4	J. G. M. SCOTT	*Tenor*

Composed by J. REEVES. Conducted by G. WILFRED SLACK.
* First peal. † First peal of Major.

HETHERSETT, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 25, 1950, in 3 Hours,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. REMIGIUS,
A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 9 cwt. 74 lb. in G.

*SHEILA BARKER	*Treble*	GORDON D. ELVIN	5
EILEEN BRACEY	2	CHARLES H. MOORE	6
WILLIAM CLOVER	3	RAYMOND G. LOFTY	7
GEORGE H. MOORE	4	HENRY TOOKE	*Tenor*

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conducted by HENRY TOOKE.
* First peal, age 16 years. Rung as a welcome to the new Rector. Rev. R. G. Heawood.

UTTOXETER, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION AND THE STOKE ST. PETER'S SOCIETY.
On Sat., Nov. 25, 1950, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5024 IPSWICH SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 20 cwt. in E.

*FREDK. W. GROCOTT, SEN.	*Treble*	FREDK. E. WILSHAW	5
MARGARET RIGBY	2	NEVILLE R. HOLLAND	6
CATHARINE M. TRIST	3	†CHARLES H. PAGE	7
†ARTHUR PEAKE	4	FREDK. W. GROCOTT, JUN.	*Tenor*

Composed by H. G. CASHMORE. Conducted by F. W. GROCOTT, JUN.
* First peal of Major. † 50th peal together. First peal in the method by all the band, on the bells and for the Association. First peal of Major for the St. Peter's Society. Rung as a compliment to Mr. A. G. K. Davies, churchwarden for 20 years, and as an appreciation of his 50 years' membership of St. Mary's Church, Uttoxeter.

HENFIELD, SUSSEX
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sun., Nov. 26, 1950, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 16 cwt. 2 qr. 7 lb. in E.

*SYLVIA M. WHITE	*Treble*	*FREDK. W. PARSONS	5
EDGAR R. RAPLEY	2	BASIL W. WHITE	6
*FRANK E. CRUTTENDEN	3	CECIL R. LONGHURST	7
*ERNEST LISH	4	*ERNEST F. PACKHAM	*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN E. BURTON. Conducted by BASIL W. WHITE.
* First peal of Plain Bob Major. The conductor's 25th peal. Rung for the christening of David Arthur Cruttenden, son of the ringer of 3rd.

SEFTON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sun., Nov. 26, 1950, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. HELEN,
A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR
Tenor 11 cwt. 2 qr. 11 lb. in F.

SYDNEY FLINT	*Treble*	THOS. W. HAMMOND	5
THOMAS S. HORRIDGE	2	WM. H. DEACON	6
THOMAS LARKEY	3	*WILFRED RILEY	7
GEORGE SKELLAND	4	WILLIAM COURT	*Tenor*

Composed by J. THORP. Conducted by WILLIAM H. DEACON.
* First peal in the method. A 70th birthday compliment to the ringer of the 5th.

HETHERSETT, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Mon., Nov. 27, 1950, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. REMIGIUS,
A PEAL OF 5144 SPLICED PLAIN MAJOR
Being seven methods: 1,536 changes of Double Oxford, 672 of Double and Reverse Bob, 648 of Little Bob, 624 of Plain Bob and 496 changes each of Double Norwich and St. Clement's College Bob; 261 changes of method. Tenor 9 cwt. 74 lb. in G.

CHARLES H. MOORE	*Treble*	ARTHUR G. BASON	5
*SIDNEY MARSHALL	2	HENRY TOOKE	6
NOLAN GOLDEN	3	BERT GOGLE	7
GEORGE SAYER	4	WILLIAM CLOVER	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.
* First peal of Spliced Major. First peal in seven Major methods by all, on the bells and for the Association.

CLAYBROOKE, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wed., Nov. 29, 1950, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5056 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 14 cwt.

*WINIFRED M. BURTON	*Treble*	HAROLD J. POOLE	5
†JOHN HILL	2	J. FREDERICK MILNER	6
SHIRLEY BURTON	3	E. ALAN JACQUES	7
†HUBERT E. ASHLEY	4	LEONARD TREVOR	*Tenor*

Composed by HENRY DAINS. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.
* First peal of Major. † First peal of Bristol Surprise.

NORWICH.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Wed., Nov. 29, 1950, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES-ON-THE-HILL,
A PEAL OF 5056 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 13 cwt. 104 lb. in F.

*RALPH SITCH	*Treble*	NOLAN GOLDEN	5
JACK KING	2	BERT GOGLE	6
ERNEST G. SHORTING	3	GEORGE SAYER	7
GEORGE P. ADAMS	4	ARTHUR G. BASON	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.
* First peal of Surprise.

KIDLINGTON, OXON.
THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.
On Thurs., Nov. 30, 1950, in 3 Hours and 11 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR
Tenor 23½ cwt

ELIZABETH BROWN	*Treble*	*EWART H. EDGE	5
*JOHN B. GUY	2	N. GERARD MCCRUM	6
*W. GWYN THOMAS	3	PETER BORDER	7
*KENNETH M. GRAYSON	4	FRANK P. WRIGHT	*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. WASHBROOK. Conducted by FRANK P. WRIGHT.
* First peal in the method. First peal in the method as conductor

ERITH, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., Dec. 1, 1950, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF 5024 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

PHILIP A. CORBY	*Treble*	FRANK I. HAIRS	5
RALPH BIRD	2	JAMES BENNETT	6
MRS. F. I. HAIRS	3	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY	7
ALFRED G. HILL	4	FREDK. J. CULLUM	*Tenor*

Composed by CHAS. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by FREDK. J. CULLUM.
Rung to welcome to Erith the Rev. and Mrs. Philip Lea, M.A., the former being inducted Vicar of Erith the previous day.

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Fri., Dec. 1, 1950, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Matthew's Twelve-part. Tenor 7¼ cwt.

JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER	*Treble*	‡STANLEY NADEN	5
*JUNE M. HENSHAW	2	‡DENIS HEAPY	6
†NEIL D. LOMAS	3	JOHN WORTH	7
‡ANNE WORTH	4	HAROLD BROUGH	*Tenor*

Conducted by JOHN WORTH.
* First peal of Grandsire Triples. † First peal on eight bells. ‡ First peal of Grandsire.

LONG SUTTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 2, 1950, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.
A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 15 cwt.

CHARLES C. RAWDING	*Treble*	HORACE BENNETT	5
GEORGE R. G. BUTLER	2	WILLIAM ROSE	6
WILLIAM A. RICHARDSON	3	HORACE HARRISSON	7
THOMAS H. CHARLTON	4	C. HAROLD WHITTON	*Tenor*

Composed by FRANK BENNETT. Conducted by C. HAROLD WHITTON.

MAIDSTONE, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 2, 1950, in 3 Hours and 12 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS.
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
J. J. Parker's One-part. Tenor 31 cwt. 3 qr. 2 lb.

GEOFFREY DODDS	*Treble*	*BRIAN D. THRELFALL	5
DENIS N. LAYTON	2	MALCOLM S. CLOKE	6
LEONARD MANNERING	3	S. GEOFFREY WATERS	7
FREDERICK HOGAN	4	FRANK P. THWAITES	*Tenor*

Conducted by DENIS N. LAYTON.
* First peal in the method and first of Triples.

RIPLEY, DERBYSHIRE.
THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 2, 1950, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5056 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR
Tenor 16¼ cwt.

SAM SCATTERGOOD	*Treble*	†HERBERT E. TAYLOR	5
BESSIE MOSS	2	CYRIL WRIGHT	6
*DOUGLAS ROOKE	3	GORDON C. BRIGGS	7
*†WILFRED L. ROBINSON	4	STANLEY SLANEY	*Tenor*

Composed by ARTHUR CRAVEN. Conducted by GORDON C. BRIGGS.
* 25th peal. † First peal in the method. The conductor's 100th peal.

TICHMARSH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 2, 1950, in 3 Hours and 14 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF 5120 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR
Tenor 17 cwt. 3 qr. 22 lb.

CHRISTINE DUNNINGTON	*Treble*	FRANK WARRINGTON	5
HERBERT GOAKES	2	FRANK W. LACK	6
*HAROLD S. PEACOCK	3	FRANK H. NEWMAN	7
*R. FRANK BAKER	4	STANLEY GILBERT	*Tenor*

Composed by J. REEVES. Conducted by FRANK WARRINGTON.
* First peal of Treble Bob Major. Birthday compliment to Rev. Canon Luckock, Mr. Jeffs and Mary, granddaughter of Mr. H. Goakes.

WESTHOUGHTON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 2, 1950, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,
A PEAL OF 5088 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR
Tenor 14¼ cwt.

JAMES L. WRIGHT	*Treble*	JOSEPH LEATHERBARROW	5
FRANK BARRACLOUGH	2	ALBERT GREENHALGH	6
MURIEL REAY	3	*ARTHUR TOMLINSON	7
SYDNEY LEATHERBARROW	4	RICHARD BENSON	*Tenor*

Composed by J. HUNT. Conducted by ARTHUR TOMLINSON.
* 500th peal on tower bells.

WRITTLE, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 2, 1950, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES
Sir A. P. Heywood's Ten-part, No. 1. Tenor 18½ cwt.

ROBERT C. HEAZEL	*Treble*	*HARRY J. MILLATT	5
*RONALD SUCKLING	2	JOHN H. CRAMPION	6
HENRY T. WILSON	3	HARRY TURNER	7
DENNIS A. S. SYMONDS	4	H. WALTER SMITH	*Tenor*

Conducted by HARRY TURNER.
* First peal of Stedman Triples. First of Stedman Triples as conductor.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

THURLASTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Nov. 11, 1950, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES
Being three 720's of Kent Treble Bob and four 720's of Plain Bob.
Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 3 lb.

GEORGE PICKERING	*Treble*	PETER HALLAM	4
THOMAS K. DEACON	2	JOSEPH TAYLOR	5
GEORGE A. NEWTON	3	ERNEST MORRIS	*Tenor*

Conducted by ERNEST MORRIS.
Rung half-muffled to the memory of the men of Thurlaston, who gave their lives in two world wars.

CASTLE EATON, WILTSHIRE.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 25, 1950, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.
A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN DOUBLES
Being forty-two six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 7½ cwt. (approx.).

*ROGER W. DAVIDGE	*Treble*	†WILLIAM W. T. DANIELL	4
BERNICE M. STRANGE	2	W. BERTRAM KYNASTON	5
†MARGARET E. RICHARDS	3	EDWARD G. ADAMS	*Tenor*

Conducted by W. BERTRAM KYNASTON.
* First peal. † First peal of Stedman Doubles. A compliment to a former ringer, Mr. William Card, on his golden wedding.

KIRKBY LONSDALE, WESTMORLAND.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(Lancaster Branch.)
On Sat., Nov. 25, 1950, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes.
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN.
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR
Being seven different extents. Tenor 12 cwt.

MARJORIE BRAITHWAITE	*Treble*	JOHN A. STOREY	4
EDWARD PROCTER	2	GEORGE E. BRAITHWAITE	5
*BENJAMIN SHAW	3	ALAN W. CASSON	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE E. BRAITHWAITE.
* First peal.

SAXMUNDHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Sat., Nov. 25, 1950, in 2 Hours and 46 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR
Comprising an extent each of Double Court, Plain Bob, Cambridge Surprise, Woodbine Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and two extents of Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 9½ cwt.

LEONARD WOOLLARD	*Treble*	ARTHUR E. SMITH	4
RAYMOND PECK	2	NORMAN R. BAILEY	5
JACK PILGRIM	3	WILLIAM F. SMITH	*Tenor*

Conducted by NORMAN R. BAILEY.
A birthday compliment to the conductor.

SILK WILLOUGHBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Nov. 25, 1950, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DENIS.
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR
Being seven extents. Tenor 6 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb.

*MRS. MILLICENT SHORT	*Treble*	‡DENIS A. FRITH	4
FRANK R. MITCHELL	2	*CHARLES R. MUXLOW	5
†HUGH LONGLAND	3	JAMES H. MUSSON	*Tenor*

Conducted by JAMES H. MUSSON.
* First peal. † First peal of Minor 'inside.' ‡ 25th peal. Mr. F. R. Mitchell has now completed the circle.

ST. ALBANS, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 25, 1950, in 2 Hours and 31 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR
Being 2,160 York and two 720's each of London and Cambridge.
Tenor 13 cwt.

JOHN E. ROOTES	*Treble*	FRANCIS KIRK	4
FREDK. W. BRINKLOW	2	CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	5
WILLIAM WENBAN	3	HAROLD G. CASHMORE	*Tenor*

Conducted by CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY.

STEBBING, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 25, 1950, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR
Being seven different extents. Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

*SHIRLEY BARRINGER	*Treble*	*ALFRED LITTLE	4
*FRANK HARRINGTON	2	GEORGE SAUNDERS	5
*RONALD BOYKETT	3	RONALD SUCKLING	*Tenor*

Conducted by RONALD SUCKLING.
* First peal of Cambridge Minor. First of Cambridge Minor as conductor. An engagement compliment for ringer of 3rd.

WATERINGBURY, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Nov. 25, 1950, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR
Being four extents of Plain Bob and three of Oxford Bob called alternately. Tenor 8½ cwt.

*JOHN T. MEDHURST	*Treble*	ALBERT W. KELVIE	4
LEWIS NEWMAN	2	LUTHER J. HONESS	5
EDNA M. SILLS	3	WILLIAM R. MANSER	*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM R. MANSER.
* 25th peal. A 21st birthday compliment to Miss Cynthia Wells, of Wateringbury, niece of the ringer of the 4th.

HOLKAM, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sun., Nov. 26, 1950, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WITHIBURGA.
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR
Being seven extents. Tenor 19 cwt. 29 lb.

JOHN COUZINS	*Treble*	DONALD PEGG	4
ROBERT ALCOCK	2	JACK S. WILLIAMSON	5
ALBERT J. COOTE	3	TONY OWEN	*Tenor*

Conducted by TONY OWEN.

BOURNE, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
(Southern Branch.)
On Mon., Nov. 27, 1950, in 3 Hours,
AT THE ABBEY CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR
Being one extent each of St. Clement's, Double Court, Single Oxford, Single Court and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 16 cwt. 1 qr. 4 lb.

*ALBERT E. LARKINSON	*Treble*	CECIL WADE	4
RAYMOND WADE	2	FREDERICK W. FRENCH	5
JAMES HAW	3	ALBERT SCOTT	*Tenor*

Conducted by CECIL WADE.
* First peal. A birthday compliment to James George.

BRAFIELD, NORTHANTS.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Mon., Nov. 27, 1950, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE.
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES
Being 720 each of St. Simon, London, Antelope, Reverse Canterbury Pleasure, April Day, Plain Bob and Grandsire. Tenor 12 cwt. 7 lb.

*GWENDOLINE M. RAINBOW	*Treble*	RONALD NOON	3
PHILIP JONES	2	GEORGE CARE	4
LESLIE BATTISSON	*Tenor*		

Conducted by PHILIP JONES.
* First peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to the conductor and also a birthday compliment to Mrs. A. Noon, mother of Ronald Noon.

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TILNEY, NORFOLK.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Mon., Nov. 27, 1950, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents of Oxford Treble Bob, one of Kent, one of St. Clement's and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 16 cwt. 2 qr. 5 lb.

STANLEY J. ELSEY	*Treble*	WALLACE COUSINS	4
ERNEST MASTIN	2	CLAUDE COUSINS	5
JOHN E. FOX	3	WILLIAM ROSE	*Tenor*

Conducted by ERNEST MASTIN.
First peal on the bells since rehanging.

SILK WILLOUGHBY, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wed., Nov. 29, 1950, in 2 Hours and 23 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. DENIS,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being six extents of Plain Bob and one of Single Court. Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 18 lb. in A.

HORACE BENNETT	*Treble*	HENRY P. COLLIN	4
DENIS A. FRITH	2	†C. HAROLD WHITTON	5
*FRANK R. MITCHELL	3	JAMES H. MUSSON	*Tenor*

Conducted by JAMES H. MUSSON.
* First peal in two Minor methods. † 25th peal.

CHATTERIS, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thurs., Nov. 30, 1950, in 3 Hours and 4 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lb.

PERCY SMITH	*Treble*	WILFRED YOUNG	4
FRANK WARRINGTON	2	*VICTOR HURT	5
ERIC SMITH	3	WILLIAM SEEKINGS	*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM SEEKINGS.
* First peal 'inside.' Rung half-muffled in memoriam Mr. A. J. Abrams, interred this day. R.I.P.

DEEPING ST. NICHOLAS, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thurs., Nov. 30, 1950, in 2 Hours and 29 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being 720 each of Primrose, Ipswich and Cambridge Surprise, St. Clement's, Plain Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 6½ cwt.

STANLEY E. BENNETT	*Treble*	ERNEST BRITTAIN	4
*MAURICE BENNETT	2	FRED BRIGHTMAN	5
KENNETH W. DUFFY	3	FRANK TAYLOR	*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK TAYLOR.
* First peal in seven methods on an 'inside' bell.

DUNHOLME, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Fri., Dec. 1, 1950, in 2 Hours and 35 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CHAD,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Norwich Surprise, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Bob, Single Court, Plain Bob, Kent Treble Bob and Oxford Treble Bob. Tenor 10 cwt.

GEOFFREY R. PARKER	*Treble*	†OWEN A. NEEDHAM	4
*MARGARET A. SWANN	2	WILLIAM R. PARKER	5
CHARLES MCGUINESS	3	JACK L. MILLHOUSE	*Tenor*

Conducted by JACK L. MILLHOUSE.
* First peal in seven methods. † 50th peal.

BLAYDON-ON-TYNE, CO. DURHAM.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 2, 1950, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CUTHBERT,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being 720 changes each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, St. Clement's Bob, and two 720's each of Kent Treble Bob and Plain Bob. Tenor 6½ cwt.

*ALAN AINSWORTH (15)	*Treble*	CHRISTOPHER T. LAMB	4
†ERIC HARRISON (14)	2	KENNETH ARTHUR	5
STEPHEN THOMPSON	3	THOMAS W. CROWE	*Tenor*

Conducted by KENNETH ARTHUR.
* First peal in five methods. † First peal.

HARTFIELD, SUSSEX.
THE EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 2, 1950, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven 720's, each called differently. Tenor 12½ cwt.

*HAROLD JORDAN	*Treble*	†DAVID CORNFORD	4
KEVIN HOHL	2	FREDK. J. LAMBERT, JUN.	5
HENRY N. VAUGHAN	3	WM. A. KITCHENSIDE	*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM A. KITCHENSIDE.
* First peal. † First peal of Minor.

CHURCH MINSHULL, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 2, 1950, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BARTHOLOMEW,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being twenty-one 120's of Grandsire Doubles, nine 120's of April Day and twelve 120's of Plain Bob Doubles, calling all the different extents, including Morris's 240 of Grandsire. Tenor 10 cwt. in G.

HAROLD G. SMITH	*Treble*	J. DEREK SMITH	3
KENNETH W. MACKINTOSH	2	*JOHN E. BROUGH	4
EDWARD J. BOFFEY	*Tenor*		

Conducted by JOHN E. BROUGH.
* 50th peal for the Guild. First peal on the bells.

HANLEY CASTLE, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 2, 1950, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN DOUBLES

Being 42 extents, with ten different callings. Tenor 14 cwt.

R. GEORGE MORRIS	*Treble*	*CLAUDIA A. HARDING	4
*GEOFFREY J. LEWIS	2	GEORGE E. LARGE	5
*JEAN A. SOUTHERST	3	FRED HYDE	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE.
* First peal of Stedman Doubles. Ringers of 2 and 3 have now completed Stedman from Doubles to Cinques. Rung to celebrate the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Lewis, of Worcester.

TAXAL, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 2, 1950, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF 5040 TREBLE BOB MINOR

Consisting of one extent each of Capel, London Scholars' Pleasure and Oxford and two extents each of Sandal and Kingston. Tenor 11¾ cwt.

*IAN D. LOMAS	*Treble*	*DENIS MOTTERSHEAD	4
*†ANNE WORTH	2	SIDNEY HOUGH, JUN.	5
*NEIL D. LOMAS	3	JAMES A. MILNER	*Tenor*

Conducted by JAMES A. MILNER.
* First peal in five methods. † First peal of Minor.

HANBURY, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Sun., Dec. 3, 1950, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 15 lb.

ARTHUR V. PEARSON	*Treble*	GEORGE E. LARGE	4
CLAUDIA A. HARDING	2	*TERRY R. HAMPTON	5
*JEAN A. SOUTHERST	3	GEORGE E. FEARN	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE E. LARGE.
* First peal of Cambridge Minor, and have now completed peals in this method from Minor to Maximus.

HANDBELL PEALS

LEICESTER.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Mon., Nov. 20, 1950, in 2 Hours and 17 Minutes,
IN ST. MARGARET'S SELECT VESTRY HALL,
A PEAL OF 5152 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR
Tenor size 17 in A.

JOSEPH A. FENTON	1-2	ERNEST MORRIS	5-6
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD	3-4	JOHN BRAMLEY	7-8

Composed and Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

BOURNEMOUTH.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wed., Nov. 22, 1950, in 2 Hours and 11 Minutes.
AT 26, WELLINGTON ROAD,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor size 14 in D.

MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY	1-2	ROY C. HURST	5-6
DANIEL T. MATKIN	3-4	*JOYCE GIBBONS	7-8

Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.
* First peal on eight handbells.

STANMORE, MIDDLESEX.
MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wed., Nov. 22, 1950, in 2 Hours and 21 Minutes,
AT 73, BRAITHWAITE GARDENS,
A PEAL OF 5120 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

Consisting of 960 London, 640 each of Wembley, Ealing and Rutland, 480 each of Bristol, Superlative, Cambridge and Pudsey, and 320 of Ashtead, with 139 changes of method.

CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	1-2	HAROLD G. CASHMORE	5-6
ERNEST C. S. TURNER	3-4	FREDERICK W. BRINKLOW	7-8

Composed and Conducted by HAROLD G. CASHMORE.
Umpire: WILLIAM WENBAN.
The first peal in nine Surprise methods on handbells. A birthday compliment to the ringer of 1-2.

STOKE-ON-TRENT, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE NORTH STAFFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Thurs., Nov. 23, 1950, in 2 Hours and 13 Minutes,
IN THE NAVE OF ST. PETER'S CHURCH,
A PEAL OF 5056 KENT AND OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR
Ilkeston's Variation. Tenor size 12 in F.

*RONALD BARLOW	1-2	*FREDK. E. WILSHAW	5-6
FREDK. WM. GROCOTT	3-4	*CHARLES H. PAGE	7-8

Composed by ERNEST MORRIS. Conducted by FREDK. W. GROCOTT.
* First peal of Treble Bob 'in hand.' First peal of Treble Bob Major 'in hand' as conductor. First peal of Treble Bob Major 'in hand' for the Association.

BOURNEMOUTH.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Nov. 25, 1950, in 2 Hours and 23 Minutes,
AT 26, WELLINGTON ROAD,
A PEAL OF 5093 GRANDSIRE CATERS
No. 33. Tenor size 17 in A.

ROY C. HURST	1-2	DANIEL T. MATKIN	5-6
MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY	3-4	JAMES E. DANIELS	7-8
MICHAEL J. E. BEST	9-10		

Composed by M. J. MORRIS. Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.

LEICESTER.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.
On Sat., Nov. 25, 1950, in 2 Hours and 12 Minutes,
IN ST. MARGARET'S SCHOOLS,
A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES
Washbrook's. Tenor size 17 in A.

JOHN BRAMLEY	1-2	WALTER P. WHITEHEAD	5-6
ERNEST MORRIS	3-4	HECTOR A. KNIGHTS	7-8

Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

BOURNEMOUTH.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Mon., Nov. 27, 1950, in 1 Hour and 57 Minutes,
AT 26, WELLINGTON ROAD,
A PEAL OF 5008 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor, size 17 in A.

ROY C. HURST	1-2	DANIEL T. MATKIN	5-6
MRS. F. J. MARSHALLSAY	3-4	FRED PRICE	7-8

Composed by JAMES GEORGE. Conducted by DANIEL T. MATKIN.
Rung as a compliment to the composer on his 97th birthday.

LONDONDERRY, NORTHERN IRELAND.
THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.
On Mon., Nov. 27, 1950, in 1 Hour and 34 Minutes,
IN THE CATHEDRAL SCHOOLS,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES
Being 42 six-scores. Tenor size 14 in D.

JOHN J. FIELDING	1-2	FREDERICK E. DUKES	3-4
JACK CAMPBELL	5-6		

Conducted by FREDERICK E. DUKES.
Rung in honour of Terry R. Hampton's engagement.

LONDONDERRY, NORTHERN IRELAND.
THE IRISH ASSOCIATION.
On Mon., Nov. 27, 1950, in 1 Hour and 41 Minutes,
IN THE BELFRY OF ST. COLUMB'S CATHEDRAL,
A PEAL OF 5040 ST. COLUMB'S DOUBLES
Being 42 six-scores. Tenor size 14 in D.

JOHN J. FIELDING	1-2	FREDERICK E. DUKES	3-4
JACK CAMPBELL	5-6		

Conducted by FREDERICK E. DUKES.
First peal in the method by all the band, in Ireland and for the Association. A 97th birthday compliment to James George.

LEICESTER.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tues., Nov. 28, 1950, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
AT THE WAYSIDE, 150, NARBOROUGH ROAD SOUTH,
A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL
Tenor size 18 in G.

HAROLD J. POOLE	1-2	PETER J. STANIFORTH	5-6
ALFRED BALLARD	3-4	JILL POOLE	7-8
TERENCE A. THORNBER	9-10		

Composed by WILLIAM PYE. Conducted by PETER J. STANIFORTH.
A 97th birthday compliment to James George.

PUDSEY, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Wed., Nov. 29, 1950, in 2 Hours and 4 Minutes,
AT 9, PEMBROKE ROAD,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

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

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM BARTON.
Rung to mark the retirement, on November 27th, of Mr. W. Barton from the peal secretaryship of the Yorkshire Association, an office he has held for 30 years.

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EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

A notable event reported this week is the first peal in nine Surprise methods on handbells at Stanmore, Middlesex. It was composed and conducted by Mr. H. G. Cashmore and involved 139 changes of method.

BELFRY GOSSIP

Miss Jean Southerst, of Worcester and Leeds, has scored a double event in two days. At Hanley Castle, Worcs, on Dec. 2nd, she completed the Stedman range by a peal of Doubles, as did also Mr. G. J. Lewis, of Powick. On the following day at Hanbury, a peal of Cambridge Minor completed this method on all numbers for her, as well as for Mr. Terry Hampton, of Birmingham.

Mr. H. T. Rooke expresses his thanks to those who replied to his query re peals at Tibshelf, Derbyshire.

Congratulations to David Verrier, who rang his first quarter at St. Maurice's, Winchester, after about five weeks' tuition.

The vigour of Mr. Joseph T. Dyke, the hon. secretary of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association, is unabated. He has just turned in the 50¼ cwt. tenor of St. Mary's, Redcliffe, to a peal of Cambridge Surprise Maximus!

Bakewell (Derbyshire) Parish Church ringers will be heard on the B.B.C. Northern programme on December 21st at 10.45 p.m. in a programme of tower bells and handbell (tunes) ringing.

Following Leicester's recent performance of Spliced Surprise Maximus, St. Martin's Guild are in our peal columns this week with Spliced Cambridge and Yorkshire. The occasion was memorable for Mr. Albert Walker—his 450th peal on 12 bells, a feat never before reached.

The peal of Plain Bob Royal at Kingston-on-Thames on November 11th was rung as a farewell to Mr. H. W. Barrett on leaving Kingston after 20 years' service, and the time taken was 3 hours and 33 minutes. Mr. Barrett is now living at Fernhill, Loddon, Norfolk, and has been privileged to continue his peal-ringing proclivities with the Norwich Diocesan Association.

Chester Diocesan Guild are having a vintage year in 1950. Latest achievement is the first silent peal of Spliced Surprise Major, and the umpire, Mr. H. O. Baker, in his report, published in another column, states, 'This was a perfect peal without a single trip.' The Exercise should be very proud of the Chester Diocesan Guild.

The peal at Henley Castle celebrated the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. T. W. Lewis, of Worcester. Tom Lewis, the happy father, is a member of the Worcester Cathedral band and well known in ringing circles. His wife, a member of the Johnson family of Hinton-on-the-Green (Evesham), is also a ringer.

By fitting 'Davis' silencers, a peal has been rung at St. Peter's, Bournemouth; otherwise the authorities would not have permitted a peal attempt. The occasion was four first peals, including the Rev. John Coutts, who is the first clergyman on the staff to take up ringing.

Peal ringers will notice with this week's issue a change in the printing of the title of a peal to enable a modern type face to be introduced which is in keeping with the text. We trust that the omission of the word 'changes' will not cause consternation amoung those accustomed to the traditional style of printing peals.

St. Laurence's, Reading, has suffered a great loss by the departure of Mr. and Mr. C. J. Watts to London. Cyril Watts and Nancy have been for over 20 years most loyal Sunday service ringers. At the weekly practice they could be relied on to strengthen the band in ringing from rounds to Surprise. As a farewell and symbol of appreciation of their good fellowship, 1,323 Stedman Cinques was rung by the local company.

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DIARY OF THE LATE MR. W. H. FUSSELL

Edited by ERNEST MORRIS

Among his 'general notes' Mr. Fussell says, 'In 1877 I bought a small sketch book at Mr. Herbert's in High Street. This I frequently used in my visits to all country places, my sketches at that time being very rude and in quite an amateur style. After carefully putting my name on the first page I used it at Stoke Poges to make a sketch of several two-light windows, these being my first attempts.' After giving notes of several churches he rang at and sketched, he has pasted in several 720's received from J. J. Parker at Farnham Royal.

BULLDOG IN BELFRY.

An amusing entry is given under date 1878: 'Joynes of the Malt House was the means of my brother having a bulldog—a terror to everyone but a faithful companion to me, a big-hearted, ugly, ferocious-looking beast. After he had had him (Jack was his name) for about two years, he took to biting people. While ringing at Burnham the dog walked round the belfry and got caught in one of the ropes. He was immediately jerked up about 12ft. high. When he got his wind again, he at once fastened on to the trousers seat of the man who was ringing the tenor, with a tight grip. This quite alarmed the man, for he could not tell quite what had happened as the rope of the tenor came down right in the corner, and to ring the bell conveniently the ringer always faced the corner, turning his back to the others. There was a general commotion at this! At last the dog was got away, but soon after, while in the Slough tower, he caught hold of Joynes' leg. The dog was then sent to Stoke to a man to try and cure him of this habit of biting people, but one day he bit a man's arm and was shot soon after.'

Under the date 1874 he writes: 'The previous tower to the present one at Farnham was a very dilapidated place, the old peal of six were stacked in a barn where they were chipped and knocked about very much by farm labourers and others. The children threw stones at them until at last they were about to be sold when the relations of the late Dodd (to whose memory there is a fine tomb in the churchyard) had the tower rebuilt and the bells were consequently reinstated. From the time the bells were opened till last year, I had not failed once to attend the anniversary meeting there on Whit Monday.

RINGING FOR NEW HATS

'At the time I learned to ring I was living in Church Street, Slough, not more than 120 yards from the tower. I continued a parish ringer up to 1881. I often heard Mr. Steel speak of ringing for new hats which took place at Langley every year. Both him and Tom Joy had won one in competition.

'At the time Datchet bells were being fixed Steel went over to see the work and found the builders building the frame and timbers in with the stone work and masonry. He told them no one would be able to ring the bells, but the workmen offered to throw him down if he didn't mind his own business.

'When the Slough men went to open them, they had to leave the tower and the bells anyhow, for it rocked so much that they expected to see it fall. Nothing further was done. They are now chimed by a machine (and in pencil) 'and have never been rung since!'

Under date 1878 Mr. Fussell has this amusing note: 'During one of our visits to Burnham, Mr. Pinnafore got the worse for drink and had some difficulty in getting along. He always went out in a high box hat, but this dropped into a ditch. On going to pick it up he fell on top of it, making it a shape like a concertina. I believe he passed the night there. The Burnham ringers found that gentleman and his high box hat in the morning early.' A pencil note states: 'His hat was one of those discarded by the Provost of Eton, Dr. Hornby.'

ST. MARY'S, SLOUGH

Where Mr. W. H. Fussell did so much of his early ringing. Later he made a gift to the church of the tenor, the bell being inscribed 'The gift of William H. Fussell, to the glory of God. A humble thankoffering to St. Mary's Church by a native of the town. "The curfew tolls the knell of parting day."'

ROPE ROUND NECK.

Under date 1875, 'The old brick tower of our church had the lower part used as a vestry, the ringing room being over. This was reached by a staircase in a turret on the south side of the entrance and a walk along the gallery. There was rather a long draught, and my brother got the rope of the 4th while ringing under his arm and round his throat. Had his arm not been in the rope he would certainly have been hung. As it was, he was not allowed to work for two weeks, the arm, side and neck and throat being skinned and rasped with the rope and very painful. He rings left-handed, and the door then opened close by the 4th, that then causing the mishap.'

Mr. Fussell then gives a drawing of the ringing room.

BELFRY REFORM.

Mr. Fussell goes on to say: 'The popularity of the Slough Ringers' Society gradually increased, more especially about my ringing, as I was only on 13 years old when I started to learn. While on a visit or outing, for me to be seen handling a church bell or ringing handbells equal to some of the old fogeys who had been at it for about 40 years, seemed very unusual at that time of the world. During this year (1878) belfry reform was gradually creeping into several towers close by, and young blood was speedily brought to the Exercise. The West Middlesex Association had been in existence since 1874. The East Berks and South Bucks Association was also in existence. Both were very much talked about in Slough belfry as well as elsewhere, many vows made against them and objections raised out of mere nothings. The good of them and their use was fully discussed, and not much faith expressed —not the slightest wish to learn change ringing. But, as old John Steel told them, "it's bound to come some day, you'll see.'

'Another trip to Burnham made, melodious call changes rung as usual. When out on a ringing excursion our friend, Mr. Leader, used to carry a long roll of white paper with some Stedman changes figured on it. Both ends of the sheet had a small roller. This was also produced for him to call the changes from and created quite an impression in the country towers. He had two rolls, one for Grandsire besides the Stedman.

'A visit to Stoke Poges was also enjoyed during this year. This place was a regular infernal hole for beer, tobacco, swearing and pitch and toss up to very recently. The beer was carried all the way from the Dog and Pot, a public-house quite 1½ miles away. When the new treble was added to the old five previous to being hung, it was fixed mouth upwards in the Red Lion Inn and filled with ale to christen it. Anyone could go and dip a mug and drink. It was propped up with sacks of corn round it. The bell itself is very much out of tune and spoiled the peal. It was presented by Squire Coleman.'

FIRST STEPS IN CHANGE RINGING.

Mr. Fussell gives an account of his early career by stating that in the latter part of 1879 he and his brother Alf very frequently rode to Maidenhead and walked to Boyne Hill, where they rang plain courses of Grandsire Triples—Alf on the 4th and himself on the 2nd. In 1880 the Slough men, able to ring Grandsire Doubles, began to practise Minor. In April that year the bells were rehung by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, and Mr. Fussell says, 'I little thought I should work in the same foundry with the man who came to hang them—John Collier.' He adds: 'I had no work on change ringing at this time, and had to borrow my brother's book (Troyte), from which I copied out the Grandsire method rules. I bought a copy of Troyte's "Change Ringing" at Luff's, High Street, for 3s. 6d.' (November, 1880).

To be continued.

IMPORTANT NOTICES

Some of our postal subscribers received last week an old subscription reminder with their last issue.

The subscription rates for 1951 are as follows:—

£1 for a year;
10/6 for six months;
5/6 for three months.

Guild and District secretaries are advised that notices of meetings to appear in 'The Ringing World' issue of December 29th must reach the Editorial Offices by Friday, December 22nd. The issue of this journal for that week will go to press early on Saturday, December 23rd.

It is important that all editorial communications, including peals, should be sent as early as possible to facilitate publication.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FIRST SILENT PEAL OF SPLICED SURPRISE

UMPIRE'S REPORT ON PERFECT PERFORMANCE.

Dear Sir,—I have the pleasure to enclose herewith my report of the silent peal of Spliced Surprise Major rung at Frodsham on Friday, November 24th, 1950.

The peal was rung strictly silent from start to finish without a single word being spoken or sign being made by any ringer.

Throughout the peal I kept a careful watch, noting all bobs made and checking every lead end. I was the only one to speak, and I only uttered two words, viz., 'Go' and 'Stand.'

This was a perfect peal without a single trip, and the ringers should be congratulated on this fine performance. Incidentally this was the same band that rang the first peal of Silent Bristol last March at Hyde.—Yours faithfully,

HENRY O. BAKER.

Chester. Umpire.

KNEBWORTH PEAL SURVIVORS' CONGRATULATIONS

Dear Sir,—Will you allow me the medium of your pages to extend my hearty congratulations to the band that rang the 21,600 of Bristol Surprise Major at Over on the 4th ult.

I can well appreciate the high merit of the performance, as I had the privilege of ringing in the first long peal in the method, 12,160 at Knebworth on April 8th, 1912.

This, the extent with the tenors together, was eclipsed a few months later by a 15,000 odd at Hornchurch, but it has taken close on 40 years for these figures to be exceeded.

This last performance leaves our figures a long way behind, and has set up an amazing record.

The physical endurance of 13 hours' ringing is stupendous, and Bristol is a method that has traps for mind wearied by long concentration and bodily fatigue.

Whatever the opinions in the Exercise may be towards long peals, everyone must admit the high merit of this great achievement and join in a meed of generous praise

I am sure the surviving members of our Knebworth peal will join me in saying 'Well done.'—Yours faithfully,

F. WHITE.

Luton.

AN APPEAL FOR MUFFLED RINGING

Dear Sir,—I have been learning ringing for the last six months at the beautiful 15th century church of St. John the Baptist, Cardiff, where we have a glorious ring of ten bells (tenor 27 cwt. in D). I also regularly take 'The Ringing World,' and notice that in most copies there is a notification of a muffled peal being rung either at a ringer's funeral or in memory of a ringer who died some time ago.

This is a very fine gesture on the part of the ringers and a practice that should have a wider field of scope. Why isn't it made a rule by all Diocesan Guilds that the bells be muffled whenever a sad festival or season comes round, e.g., Lent and Good Friday, the six weeks in the Church's year when all church bells throughout this land **should be muffled,** Good Friday especially ?

Remembrance Sunday is another day when muffled bells should be the order of the day, as Great Britain then goes to church and to the war memorials to pay tribute to her fallen.

We cannot emphasise enough the indispensable part bells and their ringers have played in Church ritual down the ages to the present day. They are a part of the Church and its services and, therefore, should ring clear and muffled as the occasion demands.—Yours truly,

PETER J. ROBERTS.

Barry, Glam.

'YE RASCALLY RINGERS'

Dear Sir,—The 'Old Somerset Rhyme' I believe to be of Norfolk origin!

James Hooper, in his 'Notes on the Church of St. Peter Mancroft' (1895), says that 'An old parish clerk of Mancroft was so exasperated by the ringers starting at six on Sunday mornings that he vented his spleen in the following lines:—

Ye rascally ringers—inveterate foes,
Disturbers of those who are fond of repose;
I wish for the peace and quiet of these lands,
That ye had round your necks what ye pull with your hands.

Unfortunately, I am unable to say precisely when this worthy flourished. Was the old parish clerk guilty of plagiarism? Another version, endorsed by many wishers, is:—

Disturbers of the human race,
Your bells are always ringing.
I wish the ropes were round your necks,
And you upon them swinging.

Yours sincerely,

NOLAN GOLDEN.

Norwich.

DOGS AND BELLS

Dear Sir,—What is the effect of church bells on dogs ? My little terrier howls pitifully if she hears one bell, but does not mind when all our bells are ringing.

As soon as we lower the bells on a practice night or after a peal she comes to the church to greet me.

A few weeks ago she was missing from home. After a search of two hours she was found asleep on the matting in the ringing chamber, which is on the ground floor.—Yours sincerely,

JAMES H. MUSSON.

Lincs.

GEORGE BERNARD SHAW

Dear Sir,—Mr. Hesketh Pearson, in an obituary article in 'The Listener' (November 9th, 1950), writes:—

'He declined honours of all kinds, including the Nobel Prize for Literature. He told me that when the first Labour Prime Minister, Ramsay MacDonald, offered him a peerage, he said, "I cannot afford to be a Duke, and you cannot decently offer me anything less." "In that case," returned MacDonald, "we must give you the Order of Merit." "I have already conferred it on myself," replied Shaw, an example of his whimsicality.'

It is very doubtful, therefore, that, were it possible to ask him, he would favour the idea of an 'in memoriam' peal.

But I think my old friend Dan Matkin is mistaken in describing him as an atheist.

Hesketh Pearson recalls a visit to G.B.S. just after his 90th birthday:—'I asked him if he would write his own obituary for the postscript which I was preparing for my biography of him. "But I am not dead yet," he exclaimed. I replied that a man could not very well write his own obituary unless he were alive. He saw the point and at once began to dictate a synopsis of his philosophy; which was equality of income and equality of truth between men, and a belief that God was in every one of us.'

St. John Ervine, in a companion article writes: 'His serenity of mind endured to the last; he faced his end without fear. I said to him one day that Thomas Hardy had told me that death meant no more to him than removal from one room to another. Shaw nodded his head. "That's how I think of it," he said.'

The Editor, in his leading article, writes: 'Shaw was a worthy fraction of that Life Force which he worshipped.'

The idea of God admits of many interpretations.

JAMES F. HARVEY.

Edgbaston, Birmingham.

OLDEST LIVING TOWER-BELL PEAL RINGER

Dear Sir,—Referring to Mr. R. Biggs' (Hughenden) statement in 'The Ringing World' of December 8th, I do not agree with his remarks. I still claim to be the oldest tower-bell peal ringer on the peal at 85 years and nine months

I lost my left leg on July 2nd, 1940, at the age of 86 years and seven months and I rang a record peal on handbells on my 95th birthday. This proves that I am mentally active with my intellect, and that, as I rang a handbell peal at 95 years, with one leg, I could easily do it if I had my two legs, so no ringer will disappoint me doing it with two legs. I still make my claim until any ringer does it with one leg. Therefore James W. Wilkins, of High Wycombe, has no claim.

I lost a peal of Stedman Triples at the age of 92 years on the second bell at the tower of Bishop Ryder, Birmingham, when the ringer on the treble broke down after ringing two hours and twenty minutes.

JAMES GEORGE.

Poole, Dorset.

THE FOUR GEORGES

Dear Sir,—It is very interesting to read from the diary of the late Mr. W. H. Fussell. The four Georges referred to were the late Mr. George Williams, Mr. George Martin, Mr. George Pye and myself. It was during Mr. Frank Bennett's Newcastle ringing tour in August, 1936, that a peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal was rung at North Shields. Prior to starting, Mr. Fussell commented on the fact that we had four Georges in the band and they stood in consecutive order.

Please forgive me for interposing, but I felt that I would like the correction. The 'George Newson' referred to was most probably given in mistake for my name.—Yours sincerely,

GEORGE R. NEWTON.

Liverpool.

DUDLEY AND DISTRICT GUILD

A well-attended meeting was held at Wednesbury on December 2nd in very wintry weather, when 40 members and friends braved the elements.

The bells were kept going in various methods until the service, which was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. Dr. Lavelle, who gave a very interesting address and afterwards conducted the party around the beautiful church and explained many of the interesting possessions, which included a valuable picture and a Jacobean pulpit.

After an excellent tea the business meeting took place, the Vicar presiding. It was decided to hold the annual meeting at Dudley on March 10th.

The usual votes of thanks were passed to the Vicar, organist, and the local ringers for their assistance, and members returned to the belfry for further ringing.

ST. MATTHEW'S, CLAPTON

The ringers of St. Matthew's, Clapton, held a parish social on December 2nd in their Church Hall, which was well attended both by ringers and parishioners. Over 100 turned up and a very enjoyable evening was spent. The aim was to help reach a target of £76 for repairs to, and soundproofing of, the belfry.

Games, dances and raffles, etc., helped to fill the evening, but the gathering nearly didn't have refreshments as a certain person crashed into the table of crockery during a blindfold game and most of the cups came to a sad end. However, after several persons had gone for more cups, refreshments were served. An additional collection was made and over £1 was collected for new cups and saucers.

At the end of the evening, the organisers were able to add £12 to the repair fund. Thanks are due to all who kindly helped in the effort; for their donations and by their presence at the social.

C. F. N.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD

WEST DORSET BRANCH

At the annual meeting of the West Dorset Branch held at Bridport on December 2nd, some eight affiliated towers were represented with visitors from Abbotsbury and Axminster, totalling about 50.

The Rector of Bridport, Canon G. C. Clare, conducted the service in church, the Master of the Guild (Rev. C. Carew Cox) giving the address.

Following tea in the Church House, the Rev. C. Carew Cox presided over the business meeting, supported by Canon Clare, the Rev. A. W. Wheeler, Vicar of Beaminster and Mr. Chapman, churchwarden, of Bridport.

The chairman asked that the Branch might consider electing someone in his place as he had now occupied the office for 21 years. On the motion of Canon Clare, however, the members unanimously voted for his re-election; also for the Rev. O. L. Willmott's re-election as vice-chairman. Mr. C. H. Lathey, the hon. secretary, wished it to be known that he would be undergoing hospital treatment in the near future and would not be able to carry out his duties for a period. Tribute was paid to his invaluable work with the best wishes of the members for his speedy recovery, and Mr. Critchard, hon. assistant secretary, kindly agreed to act for him during the emergency. The Ringing Master, Mr. H. D. W. Bishop, with his deputies, Messrs. H. G. Keeley and J. Barrett, were re-elected unanimously.

The following new members were welcomd: Messrs. L. A. Follett and K. R. Gardiner (Bridport); Miss A. Lyle, Messrs. G. Bird, F. Cartwright, J. Fox, W. Lucas and K. Knight (Evershot) and Mr. H. J. Arscott (Whitchurch).

Little Cheney, Beaminster, Evershot and Netherbury were chosen as the towers for the four quarterly meetings next year. The Branch voted for Mr. G. S. Morris as its nominee for the next election to the Central Council.

The chairman expressed the thanks of all to Canon Clare for his welcome and the use of the bells, to Mr. B. Elsworth, the Branch organist, and to Mr. C. H. Lathey for his arrangements for the meeting.

Ringing during the afternoon and evening included call changes, Grandsire and Stedman Triples, Plain Bob and Kent Treble Bob Major, Double Norwich and Yorkshire Surprise Major, the latter being, it is believed, the first touch in that method on the bells.

BATH & WELLS ASSOCIATION

CHEW DEANERY BRANCH

The annual meeting of the above branch was held at Wrington on December 2nd.

The Association service was conducted by the Rector (the Rev. Chetwynd-Talbot) who gave a short address.

Forty-five people sat down to a sumptuous tea followed by the usual business meeting. All the branch officers were re-elected for the ensuing year. One new member from Portishead was elected as well as two life members from St. Ambrose, Bristol, and one honorary member from Winford.

Subject to necessary permission being given, it was decided to hold meetings as follows:—Practice meetings for January, February and March at Clevedon (St. John's), Publow and Tickenham respectively. Should the tower repairs at Tickenham not be complete in time, this meeting will be transferred to Butcombe and Nemnett Thrubwell. There will be a corporate communion at Chew Magna on April 1st and a quarterly meeting at Long Ashton on April 21st.

In addition to branch members, ringers were present from Abbots Leigh, Bath, Bathwick, Bristol, Keynsham, Kewstoke, Leicester, Locking, Marksbury, Stonehouse and the University of Bristol Society.

Ringing on the ten bells in the tower was then resumed in standard methods up to Little Bob and Cambridge Royal and was under the direction of the Ringing Master, Mr. H. W. Knight.

M. J. H.

OBITUARIES OF THE WEEK

MR. JOHN L. GORNALL

Ringing in Lancashire has suffered a loss by the death of Mr. John L. Gornall, of Penwortham, Preston, on November 24th, after an illness of ten days' duration.

Mr. Gornall was a faithful ringer for over 53 years at St. Mary's, Penwortham, and head ringer for ten years. For one period of ten years he was neither absent nor late for a service.

Of a retiring disposition, John was at all times dependable, slow to anger and the possessor of infinite patience; he was the true embodiment of the ideal church bellringer.

The funeral was on November 28th, the coffin being borne by four local ringers. On December 3rd, a quarter peal of Plain Bob Minor was rung to his memory on the bells he loved so well.

MR. EDWARD STEELE

It is with regret that we announce the death of Mr. 'Ted' Steele, of Longton, Stoke-on-Trent, on November 25th, at the age of 60. 'Ted' had been a ringer at Longton St. John's for about 40 years, and had been leader for about 16 years. Always of a quiet nature, he at all times made visitors and friends feel at home in his company. He was truly one of nature's gentlemen.

He played a big part in teaching a band of ringers at Draycott-in-the-Moors, where he gave the second bell (in memory of his first wife), when the bells were augmented to eight in 1939. He would go miles to teach would-be ringers to set a bell; nothing was too much trouble to him where ringing was concerned. Being a potter, he became infected with that disease peculiar to his trade, silicosis, and had not done much ringing for the past two years.

He had been treasurer for a great number of years for the North Staffs Association and was very interested in his work for that Association, for which he had rung over 60 peals.

The funeral took place at Draycott on Nov. 30th. Ringers from Draycott and Cheadle acted as bearers and the bells were rung half-muffled before and after the service by ringers representing several towers in the Association. He has left a good sum of money for the upkeep of the bells at Longton, Draycott and Dilhorne, and he will be greatly missed in the district. May his soul rest in peace.

A. W. H.

CANON G. D. OAKLEY

The ringers of St. Mary's, Walthamstow, much regret to record the death of the Vicar of St. Mary's, the Rev. Canon G. D. Oakley, on December 2nd, in his 80th year.

He was inducted to the living in February, 1927, for which occasion the local band rang a peal of Grandsire Caters. Although he knew little about ringing affairs, during the whole of the period he was with us he was popular with all the ringers. The request for the use of the bells was always readily given, and he was very interested when the record length of Cambridge Royal was rung in the tower many years ago.

The various Associations were made very welcome by him on the occasions when meetings were held at St. Mary's, and he was most generous with catering for hungry bellringers. We shall miss him and his charming personality, as indeed will all the parish.

The funeral was on Dec. 6th, and during the evening a half-muffled quarter peal of Stedman Triples was rung to his memory.

H. R.

MR. H. C. WALTERS

Pontefract has lost an able ringer in the death of Mr. Harry C. Walters, which took place at Northgate Lodge Infirmary on Monday, November 27th.

Six months ago Mr. Walters had a major operation in Pontefract Infirmary, from which he only made a partial recovery. After treatment in Leeds Infirmary, he returned home and was removed to Northgate Lodge Infirmary three weeks before his death.

Mr. Walters joined the Yorkshire Association in 1905, and was a member of the general committee, and at one time was Ringing Master of the Eastern Division of the Association.

Business prevented him being a great peal ringer; his total, however, was 115, of which he had conducted 43. His favourite method was Stedman Triples, which comprised half of his peals.

The funeral took place at the Pontefract Cemetery on November 30th, after a service in the Parish Church, conducted by the Vicar of Pontefract (the Rev. J. Peel) assisted by the Rev. J. A. Griffiths, assistant priest. As the cortege approached the church, the local ringers rang a short touch of Stedman Triples with the bells fully muffled.

There was a large congregation present. The Yorkshire Association was represented by the president, the Ven. C. O. Ellison, Archdeason of Leeds, and the local ringers.

The Vicar, in a short address, spoke of Mr. Walters' devoted service to the church and belfry over a period of 47 years. He was only 17 years of age when he took up ringing, and through all these years he was always at his post of duty, helping learners and setting a great example.

Mr. Walters was funeral director for the Pontefract Industrial Co-operative Society, Limited, with whom he was employed for 28 years. The secretary of the Co-operative Society, announcing the death of Mr. Walters, on behalf of the Society, wrote: 'His unselfish life, his kindly, unassuming manner, and his genial temperament, endeared him to us all, and we shall sorely miss him.'

Mr. Walters leaves a widow and three sons. His eldest son was killed during the last war.

In the evening, a quarter peal of Stedman Triples was rung at the Parish Church with the bells fully muffled by A. Walker 1, J. H. Lenton 2, B. Moody 3, W. Hawley 4, H. Newton 5, J. E. Atkinson 6, F. Newton (conductor) 7, A. Heckingbottom 8.

'DAVIS' SILENCERS

The peal at St. Peter's, Bournemouth, reported this week, was rung with 'Davis' silencers.

In response to our enquiry, Mr. Arthur Davis, the local captain, writes that they are of the same type as used at St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, and were designed by J. E. Davis. 'We made our set locally to a pattern sent to us by Messrs. John Taylor and Co., Loughborough.

'They consist of a thick piece of leather over which is laid a sheet of steel plate and are tied by cords in much the same way as you double-muffle a bell clapper.

'The effect is a little different from full-muffled ringing, the blow being sharper but the noise of the ringing is much reduced and the tone rather pleasing. In fact, many people like hearing the bells with them on as they give a distant bells effect quite near the tower.

'In the belfry we have to open up a door or two and then we hear the bells quite well.

'I sometimes use them for practice when our hall is in use, which is much better than cancelling the practice. We do not overdo it because some people would want them *always* in use.'

TOWER CORNER (21)

'STEDMAN—THE GRID-PATTERN.'

Dear Improvers,—Continuing with Lesson XII., on learning Stedman as a first method, we have first to look at the Grid-pattern, so as to get some idea of the inter-working of the bells themselves. Then we shall develop the Blue Line, and finally derive some tips for ringing it.

The Division.—Recalling all we said, at the close of the previous instalment, of the perfect symmetry of a Stedman Division, let us examine this as illustrated in figure 8, and let us compare carefully the annotation with that of figure 7 in instalment 19. (There we gave the diagram of a Division of a typical hunt-controlled method—St. Clement's Bob.)

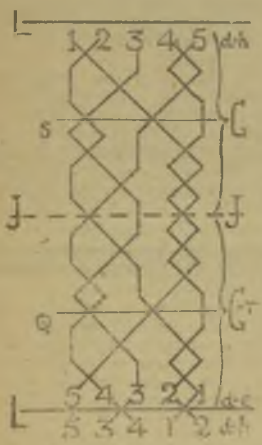

FIG. 8.

You will recall that we showed that the 'sixes' are not coincident with the Divisions, in Stedman, and here we see how this comes about. But note that the arrangement of the Stedman Division into the two symmetrical halves, is identical with that of any other method Division. Note at J the form of the Junction in this method, a 3rds place one: and note at L the form of Link, a 1sts place one.

Position Sequence. — In a hunt-controlled method we find, at each Link, the same bell (the Treble) coming to lead there. In an omni-working method (all bells doing same work), such as Stedman, we find, at each Link, a different bell coming to lead there. In Stedman it is as though the Treble got mixed up with another bell in the 4-5 dodging and lost its identity, coming down to lead as the fifth, at the first Link. A glance at figure 8 should illustrate this point. Now the order in which these bells come to lead at the Links is in that of the Position Sequence, and if you have forgotten what this implies, turn back to instalment 18. For Stedman Doubles this order is: 5-2-3-4-1. (Cyclic.) This fact may be checked by examination of the d-h (Division-head) rows themselves. For the full plain course—five divisions—they are as given in figure 9 alongside. Note that the figures in each *column* are of the cyclic order just quoted, i.e., the Position Sequence.

1st d-h	12345
2nd d-h	53412
3rd d-h	24153
4th d-h	31524
5th d-h	45231
	12345

Fig. 9. The Division - heads of the plain course of Stedman Doubles.

Basic Coursing Order.—Now examine something equally, if not more, important, a feature we know as 'Basic Coursing Order.' This is often referred to as 'Bob Major Lead Ends'—a bad name indeed. 'Bad,' because the principle involved is not applicable *only* to Bob Major, nor are the rows quoted those which come at the 'end' of a so-called 'lead' of rows. (We pricked this bubble, anyway, in a previous instalment.) However, the important thing is to grasp just what is implied by 'Basic Coursing Order.' It has become a convention in ringing that methods should, in the main (there are a few exceptions) have the bells turning up at the Division-heads in a certain cyclic order. In a plain course this order appears as ascending even numbers and descending odd numbers. This is the order for forward hunting only. For backward hunting it is the reverse. Figure 10 illustrates this and gives the complete cycle for all numbers of bells up to and including 12. For 'treble-dominated' methods '1' is omitted, and for method stages less than Maximus, the higher numbers are to be omitted accordingly. The cyclic order indicated then holds for all cases. Accordingly, from figure 10, the order for Stedman Doubles should be 24531.

FIG. 10.

Basic C.O. of the Division-Heads.—Test the Stedman Doubles d-h's (refer to figure 9) for the presence of this basic C.O.—2-4-5-3-1. As these Division-heads are all in 'quick' sets, the hunting is all 'forward' at the Links. To read off the order for forward hunting start with the second figure of the row, as that is the next bell to come to lead; and in the order in which bells come down to lead is to be found their 'coursing' order. (Correspondingly, for backward hunting, start with the first figure of the row.) From the starting figure continue with alternate figures to the right, and return likewise to the left, in the row. For example, applying this to the first d-h (rounds) we get the order 2-4-5-3-1. The second d-h gives the order 3-1-2-4-5. And so on. In fact, these and the remaining d-h's are all in the cyclic order we derived from figure 10, i.e., the Basic C.O. We may now remind you that at the end of the previous instalment we promised to indicate another qualification for the way of 'dividing' the Stedman method; and you have now seen that the Stedman Doubles Division-heads are all in Basic Coursing Order.

Starting Row of Stedman.—To more experienced ringers—and there are some!—who say it is not known why Stedman started his Doubles from inside a 'six,' you will now be able to show that it was evidently to provide his method with Divisions having symmetry of structure and with head-rows in basic coursing order. They may refer you to the Triples stage, and, whilst agreeing about the symmetry, point out the absence of basic coursing order in the d-h's there. To this you may reply that the extension to Triples was of later origin, and that it is one of the few exceptions abovementioned. Union Triples is another.

Deriving Blue Line from Grid.—Having studied the Grid-pattern (see the rows bracketed as 'G' in figure 8) and note particularly the symmetry of the grid-pattern throughout the Division and the inter-working of the bells themselves, we pass to the development of the method's Blue Line. And later we can apply the test of a statement we made in instalment 19, where we said, 'All we need for making out a method in any given stage is the group of rows marked "G," i.e., the rows in the Grid.' This is true, of course, only if we have positioned the Link correctly amid the successive rows. That we have done so in the present case is already apparent from the test just applied, for there are no other positions of symmetry with basic C.O. head-rows anywhere in the plain course of Stedman Doubles.

Omission of Conventional Information in these articles.—To conclude this instalment, we digress a little. By now it will have become apparent, especially to more experienced readers, that, although it may not be unknown to those who have devoted some rational thinking to these matters, yet some of what we have to say has not, up to now, been published. It is no part of our policy in these articles to 're-hash' conventional information that is already available in the several good ringing publications. But it is our object to present a new approach on a logical basis, with fresh matter that is fundamentally sound, and is calculated to help in the attainment of a broader outlook on the study and practice of ringing as a whole, with a closer correlation of viewpoints.

Bibliography.—We shall assume that beginners who have followed us thus far will be able to gain access to some of such ringing publications; to which, therefore, we shall from time to time refer them. They may thus study those fundamentals which not only would take up, unnecessarily, valuable space in these columns, but also could not be better put.

References to the method now being studied, then, may be found in:—

'Stedman'—Rev. C. D. J. Davies (Snowdon series) (now out of print).

'Stedman'—J. A. Trollope (Snowdon Series).

'Instructions and Diagrams for Beginners' (Lancashire Association).

'Standard Methods'—Diagrams and Letterpress (Snowdon).

Some of these and other relevant publications are advertised on the back page of this journal.—Cordially yours,

CORN: R. STONE.

BEVERLEY & DISTRICT SOCIETY

The Society held its November meeting on the 18th at Pocklington, 34 members coming to ring on the six bells (tenor 16 cwt.) with friends and visitors from York, Loughborough and Walmer and Hawkhurst, Kent.

The Vicar, Canon Richardson, welcomed the ringers at the service held in All Saints' Church and gave an interesting talk on the link that bells formed between the church and the people.

Tea was taken in the Seller's Hall and served by the wives of the ringers who had brought along large quantities of their home-made pastries.

The bells were rung again in the evening to Grandsire, Stedman, Bob Minor, Kent, Oxford and Cambridge, and settled at 8 p.m. after a good meeting.

5,024 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

By NOLAN GOLDEN.

B.	M.	W.	H.	23456
		—	3	52436
		—	3	42635
		—	3	62534
		—	— —	43526
—				
—				32465
			A	26354
		—		52364
		—	—	36524
—				
				62345
		—	2 B	63425
	A			42356
	—	—		53624
	B			35426
		—		23456

Contains, within the limits of the method, all combinations of 4-5-6 in 5-6 and the 6th extent home. The 2nd and 3rd never dodge in 7-8 with the tenor.

Rung at Terrington St. Clement, September 2nd, 1950.

QUARTER PEALS

APPLETON, BERKS. — On Dec. 2nd, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: R. Holmes 1, R. White 2, R. Sargent 3, F. White 4, F. Messenger 5, C. G. White 6, H. C. White 7, F. A. White (first of Caters as cond.) 8, F. C. White 9, Fred White 10. Rung for the 73rd birthday of Mr. R. White.

BARTON STACEY, HANTS.—On Dec. 2nd, 1,320 Doubles (960 Plain Bob, 360 Grandsire): W. Harrison 1, R. M. Curric 2, P. N. Bond 3, H. D. Buckingham 4, J. A. C. King (cond.) 5, D. Verrier (first quarter) 6. First in two methods by 2, 4 and 6.

BEVERLEY, YORKS.—At St. Mary's on Nov. 13th, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: H. Turgoose 1, G. F. Williams 2, C. Ellerington 3, J. Southwick 4, J. G. Hodson 5, G. Dowling 6, A. E. Sellers 7, F. Osgerby 8, C. Barker (cond.) 9, G. Braithwaite 10. Rung for the 50th anniversary of the first quarter peal on the bells.

BLETCHINGLEY, SURREY.—On Dec. 2nd, 1,260 Minor (720 Cambridge, 360 Kent Treble Bob and 180 Plain Bob): C. J. Champion 1, G. Olliver 2, F. T. Hoad 3, L. A. Tidy 4, W. Slaughter 5, A. P. Cannon (cond.) 6.

BOURNEMOUTH.—At St. John's Church on Dec. 3rd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: G. Evenden 1, F. Price (cond.) 2, B. Gould 3, M. Best 4, Miss K. Fletcher 5, A. Rose 6, H. Mitchell 7, G. Miller 8.

BRIGHTON, SUSSEX. — On Dec. 5th, at St. Nicholas', 1,260 Bob Royal: Miss E. Baddeley (first of Royal) 1, Miss B. Stephenson (first 'inside') 2, F. Bennett (cond.) 3, A. W. Gravett 4, A. W. Bond 5, G. Ades 6, H. Woolven 7, J. Whitehead (first of Royal) 8, W. Hart 9, H. Statham 10. Rung for the patronal festival.

BURFORD, OXON.—On Nov. 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. J. Westmacott 1, B. J. Forest 2, M. C. F. Collett 3, H. C. Parker 4, J. W. Dixon 5, T. W. Timms 6, W. J. Dixon (cond.) 7, G. R. Miles 8. In memoriam Miss H. M. Emeris, interred earlier in the day, sister of the former Vicar of Burford. Rung half-muffled.

CHERTSEY, SURREY. — On Nov. 28th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. Hunt 1, Mrs. Crocker 2, D. Sleet 3, J. B. Hessey (cond.) 4, W. Goldstone 5, R. Andrews 6, J. Crocker 7, T. Warden 8.—On Dec. 3rd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: J. Hunt 1, W. Goldstone 2, Miss N. Stevens 3, Miss Joan Crocker 4, R. Andrews 5, J. B. Hessey (cond.) 6, J. Crocker 7, T. Warden 8. A birthday compliment to Mrs. Savory, a generous donor to the church.

CONISBOROUGH, YORKS.—On Nov. 28th, 1,472 Yorkshire Surprise Major: S. Harrison 1, A. Hill 2, W. Robinson 3, G. C. Briggs 4, E. Thorpe 5, J. E. Turley 6, H. O. Chaddock 7, N. Chaddock (cond.) 8. First in the method for 1 and 2.

CROYDON, SURREY.—At the Church of St. John-the-Baptist on Dec. 2nd, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: Mrs. W. Oatway 1, Miss P. Steere 2, P. Humphries (first quarter on 'inside' bell) 3, F. E. Mitchell 4, C. Parks 5, W. Oatway 6, R. Abbott 7, H. G. Humphries 8, D. Cooper (cond.) 9, R. Davies 10.

DAGENHAM, ESSEX.—On Dec. 3rd, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Miss R. L. Hopkins 1, D. G. Blows 2, Miss D. J. Fleetwood 3, I. Campbell (first quarter) 4, S. Kelly 5, A. C. Chaplin 6, J. Armstrong (first of Major as cond.) 7, J. R. Fleetwood 8.

EAST CROMPTON, NEAR OLDHAM, LANCS.—On Dec. 3rd, 1,260 Minor (36 Plain Bob, 504 Kent Treble Bob Minor and 720 Oxford Treble Bob Minor): J. Butterworth 1, J. R. Buckley 2, R. H. Byrom 3, T. Ogden 4, F. Butterworth 5, G. Abbott 6. To celebrate the christening of daughter of tenor ringer.

EPSOM, SURREY.—At St. Martin's on Dec. 1st, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: M. F. Layton (first on ten) 1, D. N. Layton (cond.) 2, Jill Brittain 3, E. J. Lindley 4, Barbara Pottinger 5, R. D. Tomlin 6, G. F. Oakshott 7, C. W. Munday 8, A. J. Adams 9, J. E. Beams 10. Rung for the induction of the Rev. W. G. Howard as Vicar.

GLOSSOP, DERBYS. — On Dec 2nd, 1,768 Kent Treble Bob Major: Miss E. Wise 1, R. A. Johnston (first of Kent Treble Bob Major) 2, N. Allan 3, F. Booth 4, N. Haile 5, B. Walshaw 6, H. Bradshaw 7, Frank Johnson (cond.) 8.

HIGH WYCOMBE, BUCKS.—On Dec. 3rd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Sheila Pearce (first quarter) 1, Sylvia Coker (first as cond.) 2, Doreen Coker 3, E. Markham 4, F. Hayes 5, P. Baldwin (first 'inside') 6, R. Coles 7, A. L. James 8.

HILLINGDON, MIDDLESEX.—On Dec. 3rd, at St. John's Church, 1,400 Kent Treble Bob Royal: P. E. Jones 1, T. G. Bannister 2, A. R. G. Twinn 3, H. W. Impey (first of Kent Royal) 4, F. Corke 5, A. R. Turley (first of Royal) 6, C. H. Chapman 7, W. H. Coles 8, W. N. Genna 9, F. W. Goodfellow (cond.) 10.

HITCHIN, HERTS. — On Dec. 3rd, 1,280 Oxford Treble Bob Major: W. F. Todd 1, C. V. Hare 2, A. E. Symonds 3, G. Cherry 4, L. Fidler 5, E. W. Winters 6, D. C. Mears 7, F. W. Croft (cond.) 8.—On Dec. 3rd, 1,280 Double Norwich Court Bob Major: W. F. Todd 1, L. Fidler 2, A. E. Symonds 3, G. Cherry 4, D. C. Mears 5, W. Croft 6, E. W. Winters 7, F. W. Croft (cond.) 8.

HONITON CLYST, DEVON.—On Dec. 3rd, 1,260 Oxford Bob Triples: Miss R. Lake 1, A. Holway 2, Mrs. G. E. Retter 3, D. Callard 4, E. E. Retter 5, G. E. Retter 6, J. Salway (cond.) 7, G. Richards 8. A silver wedding compliment to Mr. and Mrs. G. Richards.

KING'S NORTON, BIRMINGHAM.—On Dec. 3rd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: J. Blake 1, P. Williams 2, M. Flynn 3, J. Oliver 4, J. Cole 5, W. B. Cartwright 6, N. J. Goodman (first in method as cond.) 7, E. V. Blake 8. First quarter in method for 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5.

KIRDFORD, SUSSEX.—On Dec. 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: W. Sopp 1, C. Tovey 2, Miss Shirley Sopp (aged 16 years) 3, V. Nicholls 4, P. Duneton (cond.) 5, G. Wakeford 6. Rung for the occasion of the marriage of Mr. R. Thompson, a ringer at this church.

LAMBETH, LONDON.—On Dec. 3rd, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: E. T. Beauchamp 1, T. H. Taffender 2, Miss A. M. Castle 3, B. A. Richards (first quarter of Major) 4, C. A. Hughes 5, T. W. Taffender (cond.) 6, W. D. Grainger 7, J. Bullock 8.

LUTTON, LINCS.—On Dec. 3rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: P. Campling 1, Mrs. G. R. G. Butler 2, C. A. Reeder 3, P. G. Butler 4, G. R. G. Butler (cond.) 5. First quarter by 1, 3 and 4.

MARKFIELD, LEICS. — On Nov. 30th, 1,260 Doubles: Jack Wardle 1, W. E. Geary 2, V. Geary (cond.) 3, S. R. Gardner 4, Derek Dodson 5, Harry Wardle 6. A compliment to the Rector on his recent marriage.

MILTON-NEXT-GRAVESEND, KENT. — On Dec. 2nd, 1,260 Stedman Triples: F. M. Mitchell 1, F. A. Mitchell 2, Mrs. F. Mitchell 3, H. Argent 4, R. A. Munn 5, R. A. Constant 6, J. Burles (first as cond. in the method) 7, W. Gorringe 8. Rung for the dedication of the new vestries by the Bishop of Rochester.

OXFORD.—On Dec. 3rd, at St. Mary-the-Virgin's, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Shirley V. Rymer 1, M. Elizabeth Roe 2, D. Woodley 3, K. M. Grayson 4, E. H. Edge 5, M. E. H. Barrow (cond.) 6.

PENWORTHAM, LANCS. — On Dec. 3rd, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: D. Battersby (first quarter) 1, R. Price (cond.) 2, J. Bailey 3, J. Roskell 4, F. Haworth 5, W. E. Loxham 6. Rung half-muffled as a tribute to the late John L. Gornall, a ringer at this church for over 53 years.

PITMINSTER, SOMERSET. — On Dec. 3rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: E. Quick (cond.) 1, W. Burston 2, R. Shire 3, G. Salter 4, J. Summerhays 5, B. Burston 6.

READING, BERKS.—At St. Laurence's on Dec. 3rd, 1,323 Stedman Cinques: Mrs. C. J. Watts 1, Mrs. S. Catherall 2, R. G. Burton (cond.) 3, W. Hibbert 4, Miss P. Hart 5, A. D. Cullum 6, Mrs. P. Lewington 7, Tom Lanaghan 8, E. Humphrey 9, A. W. Tyler 10, Cyril J. Watts 11, V. Cherrill 12. A farewell to Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Watts, members of the Sunday service band for over 20 years, who are leaving for London.

RINGWOOD, HANTS.—On Dec. 3rd, 1,440 Surprise Minor (being 240 each of Canterbury, Beverley, Chester, Carlisle, London and Cambridge): Jack Mussell 1, W. C. Shute 2, D. R. Reed 3, J. Hartless 4, W. E. Cheater (cond.) 5, R. N. Marlow 6. First quarter in six Surprise methods by all the band.

SHRIVENHAM, BERKS. — On Nov. 29th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss P. Partridge 1, T. Stone 2, E. Boardman 3, E. Grainger 4, B. Bladon (cond.) 5, M. Collins 6, P. Anger 7, E. Vincend 8. Rung half-muffled in memoriam to C. Clark, ringer for 25 years.

SIDBURY, DEVON.—On Dec. 5th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: K. Clarke 1, P. Davis 2, R. Pike 3, R. Woodley 4, C. Deem 5, E. W. Rowe 6, J. Glanville (cond.) 7, M. Denner 8. First quarter of Stedman for 1, 2, 3 and 8, also first of Stedman on the bells.

SPALDWICK, HUNTS.—On Nov. 28th, 1,440 Kent Treble Bob: E. Whiting 1, H. Goakes 2, F. Warrington (cond.) 3, G. L. Perkins 4, F. H. Newman 5, R. F. Baker 6. Rung before induction of Rev. Morley Wells.

ST. IVES, HUNTS.—On Advent Sunday, 1,248 Plain Bob Major: W. Noble (first quarter Major) 1, G. Nicholls 2, F. Warrington (cond.) 3, G. L. Perkins 4, F. R. Nicholls 5, A. Clements 6, L. W. Fisher 7, G. H. Dunnington 8.

TURRAMURRA, SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA. — On Nov. 26th, 1,440 Reverse Canterbury Minor: K. Stacey 1, J. Rainsford 2, R. Ferris 3, L. Butcher 4, A. R. Botting 5, W. Smith (cond.) 6. Longest touch in method for all the band. Believed to be longest touch in method in Australia. Rung as a farewell compliment to His Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury and Mrs. Fisher on leaving Sydney for New Zealand.

UPPER CLAPTON, LONDON.—At the Church of St. Matthew, on Dec. 3rd, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: Miss G. L. Friswell 1, Miss M. A. Prockson 2, Miss I. B. Cording 3, Miss J. H. Friswell 4, W. D. Prockson 5, R. K. C. Wilkings 6, G. A. Parsons 7, D. Neal (cond.) 8.

WRINGTON, SOMERSET.—On Nov. 19th, 1,277 Grandsire Caters: Eveline Kingcott 1, Elizabeth Fauiknall 2, T. E. Ferris 3, J. R. Smith 4, G. Prescott 5, A. E. Ferris 6, T. M. White 7, W. H. Kingcott (cond.) 8, H. W. Knight 9, W. M. Prescott 10. Rung for evening service after the christening of the conductor's daughter.

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD

WIRRAL BRANCH SOCIAL.

The fourth annual social of the Wirral Branch was held on November 25th, at St. Hilary's Parish Hall, Wallasey, and proved equally as successful as previous functions. The event attracted a company of over 230 ringers and friends.

An innovation this year was the fancy dress competition, and there was a fair sprinkling of costumes throughout the hall. Prizes were awarded to Miss Houston as 'The Bell Tower' and to Mr. C. B. Pemberton as 'Robin Hood.' The programme of dances, and games proved very enjoyable, young and old being able to participate with equal facility.

Excellent refreshments were provided, and many persons are still trying to fathom how so much could be provided at so little cost. After the interval, the Rector, Rev. J. R. Spencer, welcomed the company and thanked those responsible for organising the function.

The second half quickly passed and midnight and 'Auld Lang Syne' came all too soon for the happy throng.

GUILD of DEVONSHIRE RINGERS

EAST DEVON BRANCH.

A branch practice was held at Payhembury on December 2nd, when about 30 members attended from Buckerell, Honiton, Broadhembury, Payhembury, Ottery St. Mary, Sidbury and Sidmouth.

The six bells (tenor 15½ cwt.) were kept going to Grandsire and Stedman, and several had the pleasure of ringing through their first 120 of Stedman. Talaton (six) and Buckerell (six) were also visited by several members.

These practice meetings are arranged to encourage change ringing amongst the scattered towers in this area.

CHRISTMAS GIFTS

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BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO MR. J. W. JONES

Eight members of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association were unsuccessful in their efforts to ring a peal of Grandsire Triples, in honour of the 85th birthday of Mr. J. W. Jones, of Newport, Monmouthshire. The peal came to grief after ringing for 2 hours 50 minutes, and with only 400 changes to go. The peal attempt took place at All Saints', Newport, where Mr. Jones has rung ever since the church's dedication in 1898.

Mr. Jones, who is widely known in ringing circles throughout the country, still takes an active part in ringing, and a regular attendant at the Sunday services as well as practice nights. He also faithfully attends all Association meetings.

Mr. Jones has rung over 500 peals and rung in well over 600 towers. He has been a prominent member of the Llandaff and Monmouth Diocesan Association throughout the Association's history, and was secretary for 43 years, during which period he held the interests of the Association close at heart.

Born in Caerleon on December 5th, 1865, Mr. Jones was taught bellringing by the late Mr. Evan Davies, schoolmaster at Caerleon, and rang his first peal at Caerleon in January, 1889.

Throughout his life, Mr. Jones has been of great assistance in all matters concerning bells and ringing, and has shown unfailing energy in the tuition of new ringers, and teaching them the art of change ringing.

The many friends and acquaintances of Mr. Jones throughout the country will be pleased to hear that he still enjoys fairly good health. To him, on his 85th birthday, go the good wishes of all who have met him.

Those taking part in the unsuccessful peal attempt were Donald C. Clarke 1, L. F. G. Bainham 2, G. Large 3, Rev. Roy Hallett 4, A. W. Heath 5, Rev. I. J. Richards 6, R. E. R. Smith (conductor) 7, Norris Watkins 8.

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD

SOUTHERN DISTRICT.

In fine weather the annual district meeting was held on December 2nd at St. Paul's Church, Sketty, Swansea.

The recently hung bells were kept going until four o'clock, when the service was conducted by the Vicar, the Rev. H. Williams. In his address the Vicar thanked the local ringers for the work they were doing for the church and also all ringers who were doing the same in their own towers.

At the business meeting, with the Vicar in the chair, the officers elected were: Hon. district secretary, J. A. Hoare; hon. district auditor, T. Roderick. Five new members were elected.

It was the desire of all members present that Mr. E. Stitch continue as a ringing member for life without payment of further subscriptions in appreciation of his long service to the Guild. An invitation from Baglan Church for the next quarterly meeting was accepted.

The members then returned to the tower for further ringing and brought to a close a very enjoyable meeting.

J. A. H.

UXBRIDGE, MIDDLESEX.—On Nov. 26th, 1,280 Plain Bob Maior: P. E. Jones 1, T. G. Bannister 2, Mrs. A. R. Turley 3, S. Chi'ds 4, A. R. Tur'ey 5, F. W. Goodfellow 6, F. Corke (cond.) 7, H. W. Impey 8.

WORCESTER.—At the Cathedral, on Nov. 30th, for St. Andrew's Day, 1,349 Grandsire Caters: R. G. Morris 1, C. A. Harding 2, P. Blissett 3, J. Thomas 4, W. Lewis 5, D. R. Sayers 6, A. E. Humphries 7, J. J. Jeffries 8, C. Tawsell (first on ten as cond.) 9, T. W. Lewis 10.

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL

SOUTH FOREST DEANERY BRANCH

There was a record attendance, 83 sitting down to tea at Lydney, on December 2nd, for the annual meeting of the South Forest Branch. At the opening, the company stood in silent tribute to the late Mrs. E. Shelswell, wife of ex-Supt J. F. Shelswell, who presided, and expressed his gratitude for the many expressions of sympathy he and his son Frank had received in their bereavement.

The Rev. H. F. Heal, Vicar of St. Briavel's, in proposing the re-election of Mr. Shelswell as chairman, said that both in stature and heart he was the ideal leader of that Association and they were greatly indebted to him for the most happy position they were in—he was unceasing in his efforts to make their work a most valuable contribution to church life in the Deanery.

Mr. Shelswell, in accepting the office of chairman for the 12th year, said it was a position that gave him a great deal of happiness. The attendance that afternoon, easily a record, proved how real was the advancement they were making. It was good for themselves, but more especially for the Church, which, in these most anxious days, needed all their help and interest. He thanked the Incumbents in the Deanery for the encouragement they were extending to them in their work and he gave a warm welcome to the Rev. R. J. Blakeway-Phillips (curate), Mrs. C. O. Carson, Mrs. Wild and Mr. Frank Skidmore (secretary of the Gloucester and Bristol Association), who were present.

Mr. Skidmore said the South Forest Branch had a fine record, and he paid high tributes to their officers.

The Rev. H. F. Heal was re-elected vice-chairman, Mr. J. C. Goulding, re-elected secretary, in his report of the year's activities said there were 106 performing members, 12 honorary members, two life members and 11 affiliated towers, an all round increase. Receipts totalled £18.

Dr. C. O. Carson, Lydney, Col. R. G. M. Street, Brockweir, and Mr. A. H. Carter, Cheltenham (Deputy Chief Constable, Gloucestershire), were elected honorary members, and there were also 14 new performing members elected. Mr. J. L. Smith was elected Ringing Master and to serve on the management committee of the Gloucester and Bristol Asociation.

The next meeting will be held at Tidenham.

Mr. Shelswell thanked the many lady helpers who had provided an excellent tea, and the meeting closed with the singing of a favourite old hymn—'The day Thou gavest, Lord, is ended.'

The Rev. R. J. Blakeway-Phillips officiated at the church service and gave a most interesting address. During the afternoon and evening the bells of St. Mary's Church were rung in various methods.

Towers represented: St. Briavel's, Tidenham, Hewelsfield, Lydney, Staunton, Newport, Littledean, Bristol, Ross, Llanbradach, Monmouth, Chepstow, Cheltenham, Gloucester, Westbury-on-Severn, Awre, Buckland Newton, Dorchester and Clearwell.

SWINDON BRANCH

The annual meeting of the Swindon Branch was held at Christ Church, Swindon, on December 9th, nearly sixty attending. The usual ringing and service were followed by tea, Christ Church ringers being the hosts.

At the business meeting it appeared that members were satisfied with the way in which the Branch was run, and all the retiring officers were re-elected. It was proposed that meetings be held at St. Mark's, Swindon, Stratton-St. Margaret and Rodbourne Cheney during the next three months.

A hearty welcome was extended to Mr. Frank Skidmore, general secretary of the Association. Other visitors were present from Aldbourne, Shrivenham, Thatcham, North Bradley, Bishops Cannings, Wootton Bassett, Melksham, Fairfield and Faringdon. Ringing ranged from rounds to Cambridge Royal.

W. B. K.

GRANDSIRE CATERS

By JAMES TOPP.

5,039.

23456789	1	2	3		
25394876	—			5	S6
32594	—	—	—		
43295	—	—	S		
54392	—	—	S		
25493	—	—	S		
42593	—	—	—		
34295	—	—	S		
64235978	—	S			
43265		—	—	4	
54362	—	—	S		
25463	—	—	S		
32564	—	—	S		
53264	—	—	—		
25364	—	—	—		
42563	—	—	S		
34265	—	—	S		
53462	—	—	S		
45362	—	—	—	A	
34562	—	—	—		
23465	—	—	S		
42365	A				
54263	—	—	S		
35462	—	—	S		
43562	—	—	—		
24365	—	—	S		
32465	A				

Repeat last 24 courses, calling first course 1, 3, 4.

First rung at Wrington, Somerset, on Saturday, October 14th, 1950.

5,079 STEDMAN CATERS

By J. H. R. FREEBORN.

231456789						
361452978	S1	2	6	9.10	S17	
		(5)	(16)			
162453		—	3			
263451		—	3	A		
364251		—	2			
461253		—	3			
412365879	1	S5	7.8.9.	15	18	
312564	A					
362451978	2	S5	9	S15	16	
462153	A					
415362879	1	7	S9	15	16	
214365	A	(omitting first course)				

Rung at St. Martin's, Birmingham, on November 28th.

1,260 STEDMAN TRIPLES

By S. JONES, NEWPORT, MON.

2314567	S.	H.	I.	Q.
641235		—	—	
426315	—	—		—
234165	—	—		—
635124	—			
324156	—	—		
316254	—		—	
123564	—	—		—
653214	—			—
514236	—	—		
526134	—		—	
215364	—	—		—
614325	—			
136245	—	—		—
321465	—	—		—
231456		—		

4th CENTENARY OF STAFFORD GRAMMAR SCHOOL

On December a special service was held in St. Mary's Church, Stafford, to commemorate the Fourth Centenary of the founding of King Edward VI. Grammar School, at which service the Lord Bishop of Lichfield was the preacher.

It had been decided to ring the bells for this service when the head ringer, Mr. R. J. Warrilow, himself an 'Old Boy' of the School, suggested that it would be very appropriate if, including a boy from the present-day scholars, a band representing past scholars could be arranged.

The suggestion was very favourably received by the ringers who had no connection with the School and who offered to co-operate by 'standing down,' or 'standing in' if not enough 'Old Boys' could be found. Contacts were made, with the result that all ringers for this purpose had connections with the School.

The service ringing was Grandsire Doubles with 7, 6, 8 covering. The ringers were A. B. Garbett (representing present scholars), H. F. Evans, B. A. Yeates, R. J. Warrilow, F. R. Wiggin, H. Slinn. N. Greenwood and A. Page (representing 'Old Boys'). Messrs. Garbett, Warrilow, Slinn and Page are regular Sunday service ringers.

The headmaster has expressed his gratitude and thanks for the ringing of the bells and that those taking part were associated with the School. A. E. G.,

RING OUT, WILD BELLS!

LEICESTER PRESS AND REMOVAL OF PURCHASE TAX

The decision of the Government to remove the purchase tax on church bells was announced in one of the Leicester newspapers under the heading 'Ring Out, Wild Bells!' as follows:—

Any day now, the housewife toiling from shop to shop in the chill autumn mists and reflecting bitterly that the only thing that seems to be going down is the thermometer, is due for a surprise. Without warning she may encounter a horde of her fellow-citizens hurrying down the road with purposeful intent.

They will not be on their way to protest at the latest cut in the bacon ration or to demonstrate against the increased cost of woollen underwear or ravon nighties. for they will be a happy band of pilgrims. Indeed, if she looks twice, she will see that their faces are wreathed in smiles as they hurry onward, calling down many a kindly blessing on a Board of Trade that has treated them so handsomely.

Carefree campanologists, they will be hastening to the nearest foundry, there to cash in quickly on the latest blessing to be conferred by a sympathetic and understanding Government. True to its avowed intention to reduce the cost of living as soon as possible, it has taken a bold step to benefit the community.

With one stroke of the pen it has removed all purchase tax on the sale of church bells—and this in plenty of time for our Christmas shopping. So celebrate this notable contribution to the common weal by ordering your set of tax-free church bells right away, and thus avoid disappointment.

And Bob Major's your uncle!

LATE NOTICE

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. — Elloe Deaneries Branch.—Practice meeting. Surfleet. Saturday, Dec. 23rd, at 6.30 p.m. Grandsire and Stedman Caters. Bob Royal. 8047

NOTICES

The charge for one insertion of a notice of a meeting is one penny per word, minimum 2s. For additional insertions with no change one-half above charge for each insertion.

Other notices one penny per word, minimum 2s. 6d.

All notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received not later than Monday.

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TWELVE DIATONIC HANDBELLS (tenor 16 C) including also semi-tones F sharp, G sharp, A sharp of back eight. Condition of all but F sharp good. Tone excellent and tune perfect. Nearest offer to £21.—Apply Box 8034, "Ringing World' Office, Guildford. 8034

PUBLICATIONS

'THE TOWER AND BELLS OF SOLIHULL CHURCH,' by Edgar C. Shepherd, 7s. 6d. post free from the author, Hollebeke, Witley Avenue, Solihull, Birmingham. The complete story of this ancient tower and its ringers. Illustrated with photographs and with drawings by the author. 7946

'CHESHIRE BELLS—PART I.' by J. W. Clarke. A detailed history and survey of the bells of the county, fully illustrated. Price 2s. post free from the author, Mollington, Chester. 8044

AN IDEAL CHRISTMAS GIFT to your ringing friends. 'The College Youths' by J. Armiger Trollope, price 5s. 6d. post free from 'The Ringing World,' c/o The Woodbridge Press, Limited, Guildford, Surrey.

'CHURCH BELLS AND RINGERS OF NORWICH,' by A. G. G. Thurlow, 5s. 6d. post free from the author, St. Clement's Rectory, 3, Colegate, Norwich. An account of the bells of one of England's most historic cities, well illustrated with plans, cross sections and pictures. Second edition, much improved; no increase in price.

MAJOR METHODS.—A collection of compositions in the popular Major Methods compiled by the Peals Collection Committee, is now available. Price 2s. 6d. post free from Mr. C. W. Woolley, 39, Titian Avenue, Bushey Heath, Herts.

MISCELLANEOUS

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS.—We hope to devote a page in our issue of December 22nd to Christmas Greetings. These should be forwarded to the Editor with a remittance of 2s. 6d.

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MEETINGS

YATTON, SOMERSET. — Dedication of restored ring of eight by the Ven. Archdeacon of Bath at 3 p.m on Saturday, Dec. 16th. Everyone welcome. P.C. only for tea by 13th to E. A. Price, Rectory Farm, Yatton, Bristol. 8031

HERTS AND ESSEX ASSOCIATIONS.—A joint meeting will be held at Bishop's Stortford (10) on Saturday, Dec. 16th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. (Long's Restaurant) All welcome.—S. Carter, North Road, Hertford.—G. Blake, Burford Street, Hoddesdon. 7983

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Taunton Branch.—Annual, Wellington (8), Dec. 16th. Bells 3. Service 4.15. Names for tea please, Rockwell-Green bells 7.—A. Reed, George Street, Taunton. 8018

CHERTSEY, SURREY.—Combined practice to-morrow (Saturday), Dec. 16th, 6—8 p.m. All are welcome. Please make an effort to attend. —J. B. Hessey. 8036

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Derby District.—Annual meeting, Saturday, Dec. 16th, St. Peter's, Derby, 2.30. 8019

GUILDFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Farnham District.—Combined practice at Aldershot (8) on Saturday, Dec. 16th, 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.—G. S. Joyce, Hon. Dis. Sec. 7999

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND N. NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—Saturday, Dec. 16th, Sutton-in-Ashfield (8). Bells available 2. Tea 4.30. 8002

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts District.—Whittlesey, Saturday, Dec. 16th. Bells, St. Andrew's (8) 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5. St. Mary's (8) available after tea.—S. Gilbert, Dis. Sec. 8025

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch (Gainsborough District). — The next meeting will be held at Blyton (5) on Saturday, Dec. 16th. Service 4.15. Tea 5. 8004

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—North and East District.—Meeting at St. Mary's, Hornsey (near Hornsey B.R. Station) on Saturday, Dec. 16th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea and business—T. J. Lock. 8014

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Western Division. —Quarterly meeting, Felpham, Dec. 16th, 3. 8000

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Quarterly meeting at Reigate (10) on Saturday, Dec. 16th. Ringing 3. Service 5. Tea and business following. Nominations for District officers for 1951 received at this meeting. Further ringing in the evening. 8026

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Southern Division.—Quarterly meeting, Maresfield (8), Saturday, Dec. 16th. Tower open 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. 8006

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Southern District. — Quarterly meeting, Handsworth, Saturday, Dec. 16th. Bells (8) from 2.30 p.m. 8021

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Western Division.—Quarterly meeting at St. Matthew's, Northowram, on Saturday, Dec. 16th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Tea, 2s. 6d. per head. 8001

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Witney and Woodstock Branch.—Annual meeting Saturday, Dec. 16th, at Woodstock. Service 3.45 p.m. Tea and meeting, 4.30 p.m.—W. Hibbert, General Secretary. 8029

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—East Berks and South Bucks Branch.—Windsor Parish Church, Saturday, Dec. 23rd, 6—8.30.—Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough. 8039

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—Ernest Turner will give a talk on Conducting in St. Giles-in-the-Fields' large vestry, 7 p.m. on Dec. 29th. 8042

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Ashford District.—Quarterly meeting, Wye, Dec. 30th. Bells (8) 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea to Mr. T. Cullingworth, 95a, High Street, Ashford, Kent. 8041

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Tonbridge District.—Meeting at Westerham (8), Jan. 6th at 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5.15. Names for tea to R. A. Whitehead, 19, Deakin Leas, Tonbridge, by Jan. 3rd 8033

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—The annual dinner will be at Retford on Jan. 27th. Full details later.—H. Denman. 8045

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