THE RINGING WORLD

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RAISING AND LOWERING IN PEAL

IN his 'Ropesight,' Jasper Snowdon expresses a doubt about any written description of raising and falling in peal being of much practical use. The subject has not been referred to very much in 'The Ringing World' and few, if any, handbooks of instruction give any hints about it. Would it be extravagant to say that many first-class ringers are strangers to the practice? Yet, as Snowdon says, the raising and falling in peal is too obvious a beauty to be neglected by anyone who has once heard it really well done. Those who take a pride in it find it well worth while, and can there be anything quite so thrilling as a perfect fall?

But there is a technique in raising and falling which does call for study and some ringers may be glad of a little guidance, however elementary.

It is taken for granted that the ringer has mastered the uncoiling and coiling up of the rope necessary for the proper control of the bell in raising and lowering. Much depends upon the neatness of that operation. Let it be noted at the outset that there are four primary needs for a correct performance : (1) Practice; (2) a sense of rhythm; (3) concentration from start to finish; and (4) accurate handling.

On the word of the treble ringer all the bells should begin to swing one after the other; the little bells, especially the second, coming in close on the treble. On a lightish ring all the bells should speak at the check on the *third* swing—on heavy bells as many as possible—keeping an equal interval between each and gradually widening out that interval as the bells get higher. The main essential is for all the bells to strike a compass from the start.

Stress must be laid on the importance of handling the sally at the earliest possible moment, also of keeping a tight rope. When the bells are about a third of the way up the control of the sally must be carefully looked after and a little more weight given to that stroke so as to ensure the feel of the bell at the backstroke. A slight check may be required every now and then at backstroke to keep the bell in the right place, but not too much, for any cutting down may widen or lessen the interval between the bell in front and the one following, with a consequent gap or clip which is likely to upset the compass.

Close concentration of ear and eye is called for all the time, no one looking about, for everyone is part of the whole effect. The compass, once felt, must be kept throughout. Until the bells are nearly up no interval should be apparent between the treble and the tenor. The open handlead should not really come until both hand and backstrokes are near the balance. The tenors must concentrate upon the widening interval, and where any bell is falsely clappered the ear must be relied upon so that instinct rather than ropesight is doing the work, which is really true in any case. Indeed, it is questionable whether any perfect rise and fall can be expected from ropesight alone.

Once the treble begins to rise a little weight must be given to each stroke as the rope is paid out. The bells will not swing up of themselves and any slackness will make for unevenness and, perhaps, a feeling of rush.

Now a hint or two about leading up. This is not so easy as it may appear. Once the rise has begun on no account must the treble be brought down even to the slightest extent. She may be held nearing the half-way if any unsteadiness behind manifests itself, but only for a short space until the compass is recovered. The treble man must ignore any dropping in of the tenors at any time. He is not dependent upon them but they upon him, although, of course, he will be considerate to the weight behind him. He should be able to lead up with his eyes closed, or with his back to the other bells; the ear should tell him the compass, for the gradual widening of which he is responsible.

Leading down is perhaps slightly easier. The backstroke must be looked after carefully and must never be loose. It is really the key to a good fall. The treble man must not race down. As he shortens his rope he will wait for the effect upon the back bells before shortening again. On the word 'downward' every ringer must be prepared for a gentle cut in on both strokes, especially on the middle bells. The treble should be swinging considerably when the tenor comes to the chiming position. She will not be cut right down until the leader is certain that all the bells are ready for the chiming position and that no bell is swinging too far. This takes longer than may be expected.

When all are just gently chiming a clean finish can usually be assured by a call to miss one sally blow and catch the succeeding one, holding on tight to bring the bells completely to rest. Never leave the bell to swing at all after the final catch has been made.

Where all the bells clapper truly and are well hung a good rise and fall is possible on six, eight or ten bells with tenors up to 25 cwt. On a heavy ten the tenors will probably cease to speak on one side before reaching the chiming position and, in that case, if the effort to chime them is too great, the wiser plan is to leave the front six to complete the fall. Intenser concentration will, of course, be required where bells are false struck and do not go too well.

Let it be remembered that some bells, even the lighter ones, will clapper up the wrong side unless they are made to speak at every check on the rope from the beginning until they reach the height for the double blow. The treble ringer will, therefore, keep fairly well down until he hears that all is well behind.

It is folly to assume that any expert change ringer will be able to take a bell up and down in peal if not accustomed to do so. He will soon find himself in a difficulty. Nothing but practice will make perfect, for raising and falling in peal is an art in itself, and one unpractised hand taking part may ruin the whole effect as the other ringers are really at his mercy. And nothing is more deplorable than an untidy lowering of the bells before a service.

C. C. C.

TWELVE BELL PEALS

LEICESTER.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Mon., Jan. 21, 1952, in 3 Hours and 33 Minutes,
At the Cathedral Church of St. Martin,
A PEAL OF 5040 SPLICED SURPRISE MAXIMUS
Being 672 each of Rutland, Pudsey, Lincolnshire, Cambridge, Yorkshire and Belgrave, and 1,008 Superlative, 97 changes of method.
Tenor 25 cwt.

Mrs. P. J. Staniforth	*Treble*	S. Anthony Jesson	7
Dorothy M. Udale	2	Harry G. Wayne	8
Ernest W. Rawson	3	Shirley Burton	9
John Hill	4	Herrick B. Bowley	10
Peter J. Staniforth	5	William J. Root	11
John R. Smith	6	Harold J. Poole	*Tenor*

Composed by A. J. Pitman. Conducted by Harold J. Poole.
First peal of Spliced Surprise Maximus to be rung in seven methods. A compliment to Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Wayman, of Surfleet, on the birth of a son.

LEICESTER.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Jan. 26, 1952, in 3 Hours and 40 Minutes,
At the Cathedral Church of St. Martin,
A PEAL OF 5019 STEDMAN CINQUES
Tenor 25 cwt.

Derek G. Goodman	*Treble*	Alfred Ballard	7
Albert Walker	2	J. Frederick Milner	8
Margaret Beamish	3	S. Anthony Jesson	9
*Mrs. A. Beamish	4	Richard Grant	10
Winifred M. Burton	5	John Hill	11
Brian G. Warwick	6	†John Rawson	*Tenor*

Composed by John Carter. Conducted by Albert Walker.
* First peal of Stedman Cinques. † First peal on 12 bells.

TEN BELL PEAL

BRISTOL.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Jan. 26, 1952, in 3 Hours and 30 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary, Redcliffe,
A PEAL OF 5007 STEDMAN CATERS
Tenor 50 cwt. 2 qr. 21 lb. in B.

Frederick G. Leaker	*Treble*	William H. Parker	6
Alfred E. Reeves	2	†Alan A. Hilliar	7
John M. Stallard	3	Albert M. Tyler	8
*Jean McDowall	4	Emlyn F. Hancock	9
Norman H. Coombs	5	Francis C. Mogford	*Tenor*

Composed by Sir A. P. Heywood. Conducted by Emlyn F. Hancock.
* First peal of Stedman Caters. † First peal of Stedman on an 'inside' bell. First peal in the method as conductor. Rung to welcome the Rev. R. Fox Cartwright as Vicar.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

BIRMINGHAM.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Sat., Jan. 19, 1952, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,
At the Roman Catholic Cathedral of St. Chad,
A PEAL OF 5088 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 15 cwt. 3 qr. 6 lb. in F.

Edgar C. Shepherd	*Treble*	Wilfrid F. Moreton	5
G. William Critchley	2	Frank E. Haynes	6
*Claudia A. Harding	3	Henry H. Fearn	7
George E. Fearn	4	John Pinfold	*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. Parker. Conducted by G. William Critchley.
* First peal of Bristol.

COSELEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Sat., Jan. 19, 1952, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,
At Christ Church,
A PEAL OF 5088 RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 11 cwt 61 lb.

Muriel Reay	*Treble*	*J. Dennis Holden	5
*Arthur Pritchard	2	Arthur V. Pearson	6
Frederick E. Wilshaw	3	Eric E. Speake	7
*Richard J. Warrilow	4	John R. Mayne	*Tenor*

Composed by George Baker. Conducted by Eric E. Speake.
* First peal in the method. First peal in the method for the Society. A birthday compliment to the ringer of the fourth.

HALEWOOD, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Jan. 19, 1952, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Nicholas,
A PEAL OF 5024 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 11 cwt.

Thomas Robinson	*Treble*	Thomas W. Hesketh	5
Julia M. Preston	2	Edwin C. Birkett	6
John Roberts	3	Joseph Ridyard	7
David Vincent	4	Percival W. Cave	*Tenor*

Composed by J. W. Parker. Conducted by Percival W. Cave.
The quickest peal of Major on the bells.

HANDSWORTH, BIRMINGHAM.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Sat., Jan. 19, 1952, in 2 Hours and 40 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Mary,
A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 10 cwt.

Muriel Reay	*Treble*	Terry R. Hampton	5
Henry H. Fearn	2	John R. Mayne	6
*Bryan D. A. Woolley	3	George E. Fearn	7
Arthur V. Pearson	4	Wilfrid F. Moreton	*Tenor*

Composed by Arthur Craven. Conducted by Wilfrid F. Moreton.
* First peal of Yorkshire 'inside.'

WEST HALLAM, DERBYSHIRE.
THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Jan. 19, 1952, in 2 Hours and 54 Minutes,
At the Church of St. Wilfred,
A PEAL OF 5024 CHESTERFIELD SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 8 cwt.

Jack Bailey	*Treble*	Mark Barker	5
Edward F. Gobey	2	Francis R. Lowe	6
Albert Thompson	3	Philip Whitaker	7
Harold Taylor	4	Denis R. Carlisle	*Tenor*

Composed by George Freebrey. Conducted by Denis R. Carlisle.
First peal in the method. Rung to celebrate the silver wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Brown, of West Hallam.

HARTLEBURY, WORCESTERSHIRE.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Sun., Jan. 20, 1952, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,
At the Church of St. James,
A PEAL OF 5056 RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 20 cwt. (approx.).

John R. Mayne	*Treble*	G. William Critchley	5
Muriel Reay	2	Arthur V. Pearson	6
*Shirley Rymer	3	George E. Fearn	7
J. Martin Thorley	4	Wilfrid F. Moreton	*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. Roberts. Conducted by Wilfrid F. Moreton.
* First peal of Rutland.

LINDLEY, YORKSHIRE.
THE HUDDERSFIELD AND DISTRICT ASSOCIATION.
On Sun., Jan. 20, 1952, in 3 Hours and 10 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. STEPHEN,
A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR
Tenor 18 cwt. 1 qr.

CLIFFORD AARON	*Treble*	FRANK RHODES	5
FRANK POPPLEWELL	2	ARTHUR HINCHCLIFFE	6
GEOFFREY GEE	3	ALBERT W. BOND	7
DEREK SHARPLES	4	ARNOLD ROTHERY	*Tenor*

Composed by J. THORPE. Conducted by ALBERT W. BOND.

Rung as a farewell to Geoffrey Gee, who is leaving the district and also as a birthday compliment to his baby daughter.

BALCOMBE, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Tues., Jan. 22, 1952, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5088 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 9 cwt. 10 lb. in A.

*T. JAMES LAKER	*Treble*	§DAVID J. LAKER	5
†MRS. EVELYN M. HICKS	2	JOHN H. G. GARDNER	6
ALBERT E. LAKER	3	ERIC H. KNAPP	7
‡ROGER S. SQUIRE	4	FRANK H. HICKS	*Tenor*

Composed by F. HOPGOOD. Conducted by FRANK H. HICKS.

* 25th peal. † First peal on eight. ‡ First peal of Bob Major. § First peal on eight and 'inside.' The ringer of the seventh has now completed the circle. Rung with bells half-muffled in memoriam to the Rector, Rev. A. R. Atkins, whose funeral took place at the above church in the morning.

CANNOCK, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.
On Tues., Jan. 22, 1952, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LUKE,
A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR
Tenor 14 cwt.

*ARTHUR S. WILLIAMS	*Treble*	SAMUEL BIRCH	5
ALAN ELSMORE	2	RICHARD J. WARRILOW	6
J. NORMAN HADLEY	3	HARRY GRIFFITHS	7
ERNEST STITCH	4	HOWARD HOWELL	*Tenor*

Composed by JOHN REEVES. Conducted by HOWARD HOWELL.

* First peal in the method. First peal in the method on the bells.

CRAYFORD, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Tues., Jan. 22, 1952, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PAULINUS,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Holt's Ten-part. Tenor 12 cwt. 1 qr. 10 lb. in F.

GEORGE J. BUTCHER	*Treble*	*JOHN E. CANNELL	5
JAMES BENNETT	2	WALTER J. LEMON	6
*BARBARA A. MITCHELL	3	PHILIP A. CORBY	7
RALPH BIRD	4	TOM BRETT-SMITH	*Tenor*

Conducted by PHILIP A. CORBY.

* First peal in the method.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wed., Jan. 23, 1952, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,
A PEAL OF 5184 LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 6½ cwt.

MRS. H. J. POOLE	*Treble*	J. FREDK. MILNER	5
ERNEST W. RAWSON	2	HERRICK B. BOWLEY	6
JOHN R. SMITH	3	ALAN E. JACQUES	7
MRS. J. R. SMITH	4	HAROLD J. POOLE	*Tenor*

Composed by FREDK. DENCH. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

ERITH, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., Jan. 25, 1952, in 2 Hours and 59 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF 5088 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 15 cwt. in G.

MICHAEL FULLER	*Treble*	HERBERT E. AUDSLEY	5
RALPH BIRD	2	FRANK B. LUFKIN	6
ARTHUR S. RICHARDS	3	*JAMES BENNETT	7
ALFRED G. HILL	4	FREDK. J. CULLUM	*Tenor*

Composed by C. J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by JAMES BENNETT.

* 50th peal on the bells.

ENDERBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Jan. 26, 1952, in 2 Hours and 38 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR
Middleton's. Tenor 11¼ cwt.

*FRANK HANSFORD	*Treble*	NORMAN BAGWORTH	5
MRS. J. R. SMITH	2	PETER J. STANIFORTH	6
WINIFRED M. BURTON	3	HERRICK B. BOWLEY	7
BRIAN G. WARWICK	4	ALFRED BALLARD	*Tenor*

Conducted by PETER J. STANIFORTH.

* First peal of Major. A birthday compliment to Mrs. A. Ballard.

GALLEYWOOD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Jan. 26, 1952, in 3 Hours and 13 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS,
A PEAL OF 5088 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR
Tenor 14½ cwt.

ALBERT G. BARTHOLOMEW	*Treble*	PETER CHILDS	5
ARTHUR H. EVERETT	2	*WILLIAM J. BARRETT	6
PERCY GREEN	3	DR. P. T. SPENCER-PHILLIPS	7
REGINALD C. THRIFT	4	ERNEST W. FURBANK	*Tenor*

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by PERCY GREEN.

* First peal in the method on an 'inside' bell. Rung with the bells half-muffled as a token of respect to Mr. Roger Sharpington, an old and much respected ringer at this church for nearly 50 years, who was interred the same day.

GRAVESEND, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Jan. 26, 1952, in 2 Hours and 57 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 18¼ cwt.

*RICHARD C. CONSTANT	*Treble*	THOMAS E. TAYLOR	5
†MICHAEL FULLER	2	RALPH BIRD	6
CYRIL S. JARRETT	3	GEORGE J. BUTCHER	7
*ROBERT W. CONSTANT	4	RICHARD A. CONSTANT	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE J. BUTCHER.

* First peal. † First peal of Triples.

HALSTEAD, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Jan. 26, 1952, in 2 Hours and 53 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 14½ cwt.

*MRS. MAUDE E. MOORE	*Treble*	CLAUDE SNOWDEN	5
ALBERT CATTERWELL	2	RONALD SUCKLING	6
JOHN WARNER	3	HILDA G. SNOWDEN	7
FRANK CLAYDON	4	WALTER ARNOLD	*Tenor*

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD. Conducted by HILDA G. SNOWDEN.

* First peal. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. A. Snowden, mother of ringers of 5 and 7.

'Smith of Derby' CLOCKS

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New Installations : Repairs : Maintenance
Estimates and Advice Free
JOHN SMITH & SON, Midland Clock Works, DERBY, LTD.

JESMOND, NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Jan. 26, 1952, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 18½ cwt.

CHARLES MCGUINESS	*Treble*	THOMAS W. CROWE	5
J. ALAN AINSWORTH	2	THOMAS M. COX	6
*KATHLEEN SOFTLEY	3	ERIC N. HARRISON	7
KENNETH ARTHUR	4	WILLIAM E. ROBINSON	*Tenor*

Composed by H. W. WILDE. Conducted by ERIC N. HARRISON.
* First peal in method. First peal as conductor.

LEYTON, ESSEX.
LONDON COUNTY ASSOC. & N. SOUTHWARK DIO. GUILD.
On Sat., Jan. 26, 1952, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 8½ cwt.

*ROBERT G. LAY	*Treble*	SQUIRE CROFT	5
MRS. OLIVE L. ROGERS	2	FRANCIS D. BISHOP	6
CHARLES A. HUGHES	3	HAROLD W. ROGERS	7
THOMAS E. DAVIES	4	EDWARD C. HOLTON	*Tenor*

Composed by C. MIDDLETON. Conducted by HAROLD W. ROGERS.
* First peal.

NEWCHURCH, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Jan. 26, 1952, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5056 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR
Tenor 12 cwt. in F sharp.

WILLIAM GOULD	*Treble*	JOHN J. YATES	5
*MARJORIE ABBOTT	2	†C.P.O. H. R. C. GRICE	6
SYDNEY LEATHERBARROW	3	CECIL RADDON	7
HAROLD WORRALL	4	JOSEPH LEATHERBARROW	*Tenor*

Composed by T. B. WORSLEY. Conducted by JOSEPH LEATHERBARROW.
* First peal in the method. † First peal of Major. Rung as a farewell to the ringer of the 6th, who is leaving the district.

OLNEY, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Jan. 26, 1952, in 3 Hours and 23 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF 5056 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR
Comprising 1,472 Superlative and 3,584 Cambridge, with 90 changes of method. Tenor 25 cwt. in D.

*CYRIL H. KINCH	*Treble*	*GEORGE F. BURTON	5
FREDK. A. H. WILKINS	2	*REV. C. ELLIOT WIGG	6
*HERBERT H. ALEXANDER	3	*EDGAR J. SMITH	7
*EDMUND E. PEARSON	4	ALAN R. PINK	*Tenor*

Composed by C. H. MARTIN. Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.
* First peal of Spliced Surprise Major. Rung for the feast of the Conversion of St. Paul.

PORTSMOUTH, HAMPSHIRE.
THE WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Jan. 26, 1952, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,
AT THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS-OF-CANTERBURY,
A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR
Tenor 25½ cwt.

BLANCHE M. BALL	*Treble*	*LESLIE D. DUGUID	5
*WALTER H. GLASSPOOL	2	PETER N. BOND	6
*JOYCE COX	3	JOHN H. HUNT	7
*†MAURICE J. BUTLER	4	FREDK. W. BURNETT	*Tenor*

Composed by GABRIEL LINDOFF. Conducted by FREDK. W. BURNETT.
* First peal in the method. † 25th peal.

SEDGLEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Sat., Jan. 26, 1952, in 3 Hours and 5 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5184 PUDSEY SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 16 cwt. 2 qr.

ANTHONY AGER	*Treble*	*BRYAN D. A. WOOLLEY	5
*SHIRLEY V. RYMER	2	TERRY R. HAMPTON	6
ARTHUR V. PEARSON	3	J. MARTIN THORLEY	7
MURIEL REAY	4	JOHN R. MAYNE	*Tenor*

Composed by E. A. BARNETT. Conducted by ARTHUR V. PEARSON.
* First peal of Pudsey.

SELLY OAK, BIRMINGHAM.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Jan. 26, 1952, in 2 Hours and 48 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Parker's Twelve-Part (7th observation). Tenor 12¼ cwt.

*JEAN OATES	*Treble*	*TERENCE L. ELLIOTT	5
*CLIVE P. PARKER	2	HARRY W. HASLAM	6
*KEITH H. T. HASLAM	3	NORMAN J. GOODMAN	7
EDWARD LARGE	4	WILLIAM B. CARTWRIGHT	*Tenor*

Conducted by NORMAN J. GOODMAN.
* First peal. First peal as conductor. By the Sunday service band.

UFFORD, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Sat., Jan. 26, 1952, in 2 Hours and 56 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY-THE-VIRGIN,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Holt's Original. Tenor 13½ cwt.

RONALD W. STEWARD	*Treble*	GEORGE W. PIPE	5
MAX PAGE	2	WILLIAM J. BUTTON	6
WILLOUGHBY E. MAULDEN	3	GARNHAM A. BLAXCELL	7
CHARLES E. FISHER	4	FRANK L. FISHER	*Tenor*

Conducted by FRANK L. FISHER.
The conductor has now called Holt's Original from treble to tenor.

BIRMINGHAM.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Mon., Jan. 28, 1952, in 3 Hours and 2 Minutes,
AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH,
A PEAL OF 5280 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR
Containing 1,600 each of London and Rutland, 480 each Bristol and Cambridge, 320 each of Superlative, Lincolnshire and Yorkshire, and 160 Pudsey, with 145 changes of method.
Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. in F sharp.

HENRY H. FEARN	*Treble*	JOHN PINFOLD	5
G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY	2	*TERRY R. HAMPTON	6
CLAUDIA A. HARDING	3	†FRANK E. HAYNES	7
*ARTHUR V. PEARSON	4	GEORGE E. FEARN	*Tenor*

Composed by W. ERIC CRITCHLEY. Conducted by G. WM. CRITCHLEY.
* 100th peal together. † First peal of Spliced Surprise in eight methods.

MILES PLATTING, MANCHESTER.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Mon., Jan. 28, 1952, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-EVANGELIST,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 12 cwt. 22 lb.

JOSEPH HALL	*Treble*	RAYMOND JOHNSON	5
ALAN WARD	2	ALEC CAIRNS	6
*STELLA P. WAIN	3	PETER E. PARRY	7
BESSIE A. CARTER	4	DEREK OGDEN	*Tenor*

Composed by HORACE HOWLETT. Conducted by ALAN WARD.
* First peal 'inside.' First peal as conductor. Rung for the 72nd birthday of Joseph Hall and 31st birthday of Stella P. Wain. A birthday compliment to Frank Dawson.

BULKINGTON, WARWICKSHIRE.
THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wed., Jan. 30, 1952, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Parker's Twelve-part (7th observation). Tenor 12¼ cwt.

AUDREY A. TIMMS	*Treble*	*DAVID A. CARPENTER	5
MARGARET E. L. BEAMISH	2	HUBERT E. ASHLEY	6
*MARGARET A. BAILEY	3	LEONARD TREVOR	7
DOROTHY E. BEAMISH	4	*F. ANTHONY ELSON	*Tenor*

Conducted by LEONARD TREVOR.
* First peal in the method. Rung half-muffled to the memory of Lovelace John Hinde (aged 77 years), clerk, verger, chorister and bell-ringer of this church, who was interred earlier in the day.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wed., Jan. 30, 1952, in 2 Hours and 25 Minutes,
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,
A PEAL OF 5056 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 6½ cwt.

*JANE M. HOOKE	*Treble*	†S. ANTHONY JESSON	5
ERNEST W. RAWSON	2	ALAN E. JACQUES	6
J. FREDERICK MILNER	3	HERRICK B. BOWLEY	7
JOHN R. SMITH	4	HAROLD J. POOLE	*Tenor*

Composed by HENRY DAINS. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.
* First peal of Bristol Surprise. † First peal of Bristol Surprise on a working bell.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

NORWICH, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Mon., Jan. 14, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 37 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GEORGE, COLEGATE,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Double Oxford, St. Clement's, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, and three extents of Plain Bob. Tenor 9¼ cwt.

E. G. SHORTING	*Treble*	W. LOVE	4
REV. A. G. G. THURLOW	2	H. W. BARRETT	5
D. HEIGHTON	3	A. G. BASON	*Tenor*

Conducted by A. G. BASON.

PENWORTHAM, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
(Preston Branch.)
On Sat., Jan. 19, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 52 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being three extents of Kent Treble Bob and four extents of Plain Bob, all different callings. Tenor 9 cwt.

*DAVID BATTERSBY	*Treble*	FRED HOWARTH	4
*RICHARD PRICE	2	*JOHN E. BRIGGS	5
FRANK STEAD	3	CYRIL CROSSTHWAITE	*Tenor*

Conducted by CYRIL CROSSTHWAITE.
* First peal.

SOMERBY, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Jan. 19, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 50 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being eight extents each of Plain Bob, April Day and Canterbury, and 18 of Grandsire. Tenor 11 cwt. 1 qr. 9 lb. in G.

ALFRED HINMAN	*Treble*	CYRIL TYLER	4
HAROLD T. BONSHOR	2	DENNIS TOON	5
*REGINALD LOOKER	3	†ALBERT THOMPSON	*Tenor*

Conducted by DENNIS TOON.
* First peal of Doubles. † First peal. First peal as conductor.

TIMBERLAND, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Jan. 19, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 50 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Cambridge Surprise, St. Clement's, Single Court, Plain Bob, Oxford Bob, Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob. Tenor 13 cwt.

MOSES BILLINGS	*Treble*	PETER MASON	4
*FRED INGALL	2	†RONALD APPLEWHITE	5
AMOS INGALL	3	LOUIS WILLDERS	*Tenor*

Conducted by MOSES BILLINGS.
* First peal in seven methods 'inside.' † 25th peal. A birthday compliment to Mrs. E. Ingall, of Timberland, mother of the ringers of 2nd and 3rd, on her 91st birthday.

LEICESTER.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Mon., Jan. 21, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 35 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 8¾ cwt.

*MRS. F. E. WILSON	*Treble*	JOHN E. COOKE	4
MRS. H. J. POOLE	2	WM. THORNLEY, JUN.	5
ALAN CATTELL	3	†FREDK. E. WILSON	*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM THORNLEY, JUN.
* First peal of Minor. † First peal of Minor in the method.

COWFOLD, SUSSEX.
THE SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Tues., Jan. 22, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 39 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of Kent Treble Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Cambridge Surprise and four extents of Plan Bob. Tenor 8½ cwt.

BASIL W. WHITE	*Treble*	FREDERICK J. ROBERTS	4
*BERNARD G. MOORE	2	CECIL R. LONGHURST	5
EDGAR R. RAPLEY	3	LEONARD STILWELL	*Tenor*

Conducted by LEONARD STILWELL.
* First peal in four methods. The conductor's 100th Minor peal.

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BELL FOUNDERS
AND
CLOCK MAKERS

CROYDON

ACCRINGTON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Thurs., Jan. 24, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 49 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 9¼ cwt.

GORDON WHEWELL	*Treble*	NORMAN SMITH	4
KENNETH HARTLEY	2	ROGER LEIGH	5
*CHAS. J. ABRAHAMS	3	BRIAN H. WOOD	*Tenor*

Conducted by BRIAN H. WOOD.
* First peal 'inside.' First peal as conductor.

ST. BRIDE'S MAJOR, GLAMORGAN.
LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thurs., Jan. 24, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 46 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. BRIDGET,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 11 cwt. in G.

*MALGWYN M. WILLLIAMS	*Treble*	*JULIAN PAULEY	4
*HENRY GREEN	2	*DOUGLAS DIMOND	5
DAVID HOARE	3	GEORGE FRANCIS	*Tenor*

Conducted by DAVID HOARE.
* First peal of Minor. Believed to be the first peal on the bells. Rung for the conversion of St. Paul.

CARLTON-JUXTA-SNAITH, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Jan. 26, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 52 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 6 cwt.

JOHN J. TAYLOR	*Treble*	*ERNEST SMITH	4
MRS. W. GRAVES	2	WILLIAM GRAVES	5
*MRS. E. SMITH	3	LESLIE M. WOODHEAD	*Tenor*

Conducted by LESLIE M. WOODHEAD.
* First peal. A 24th wedding anniversary compliment to Mr. and Mrs. E. Smith.

CATFIELD, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Jan. 26, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 47 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being three extents each of Reading and St. Martin's, six each of Stedman, St. Simon's, Plain Bob and Canterbury, and twelve of Grandsire. Tenor 10½ cwt. in G.

*DAVID HEIGHTON	*Treble*	KENNETH L. BROWN	3
†ARTHUR G. BASON	2	GEORGE SAYER	4
NOLAN GOLDEN	*Tenor*		

Conducted by NOLAN GOLDEN.
* First peal of Doubles. † First peal in seven Doubles methods. First peal on the bells.

LLANELLY, CARMARTHENSHIRE.
THE ST. DAVID'S DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Jan. 26, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 36 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ELLI,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different callings. Tenor 9¾ cwt.

D. CURTIS	*Treble*	*A. REYNOLDS	4
J. T. WILLIAMS	2	G. FRANCIS	5
R. SCUDAMORE	3	C. H. HAWKINS	*Tenor*

Conducted by C. H. HAWKINS.
* First peal of Minor.

NORTH CREAKE, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Jan. 26, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 58 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 ST. CLEMENT'S BOB MINOR

Being seven 720's. Tenor 12 cwt. in F sharp.

ROY OWEN	*Treble*	PETER BEALES	4
JACK S. WILLIAMSON	2	JOHN COUZENS	5
ROBERT ALLCOCK	3	TONY OWEN	*Tenor*

Conducted by TONY OWEN.
The first peal in the method by all the band.

PITMINSTER, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Jan. 26, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 50 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND ANDREW,
A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN DOUBLES

Being 42 extents, 10 different callings. Tenor 16 cwt .(approx.).

GORDON WALFORD	*Treble*	BENJAMIN T. BURSTON	4
ROBERT W. SHIRE	2	WILLIAM G. GIGG	5
CYRIL J. STEPHENS	3	*A. GEORGE SAGE	*Tenor*

Conducted by WILLIAM G. GIGG.
* First peal. First peal in the method on the bells.

QUEENBOROUGH, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Jan. 26, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 37 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being four extents each of Plain Bob, Reverse Canterbury, Stedman, and 30 extents of Grandsire. Tenor 9 cwt.

GEORGE A. NAYLOR	*Treble*	FRANCIS J. CHEAL	4
*WILLIAM A. WOOD	2	GEORGE KENWARD	5
*STANLEY V. RAYFIELD	3	GEORGE WOOD	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE A. NAYLOR.
* First peal of Doubles. First peal of Doubles on the bells. Arranged and rung after the service of institution and induction of the Rev. H. A. Daws as Vicar of Holy Trinity, conducted by the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Fisher.

HANDBELL PEALS

LONDON.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Tues., Jan. 15, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 10 *Minutes,*
AT 83, HURSTBOURNE ROAD, FOREST HILL, S.E.23,
A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

MRS. P. A. CORBY	1-2	*JOHN THOMAS	5-6
MRS. J. THOMAS	3-4	PHILIP A. CORBY	7-8

Composed by A. KNIGHTS. Conduced by PHILIP A. CORBY.
* 900th peal.

WALLASEY, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wed., Jan. 16, 1952, *in* 1 *Hour and* 55 *Minutes,*
AT 9, PONSONBY ROAD,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Comprising one extent each of Single Oxford Bob, St. Clement's Bob, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Reverse Bob, Double Bob. and Plain Bob. Tenor size 11 in G.

ALEX. J. WEBSTER	1-2	ERIC J. GILBERT	3-4
FRANK VARTY	5-6		

Conducted by FRANK VARTY.

BRISTOL.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Thurs., Jan. 17, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 9 *Minutes,*
AT 22, YORK STREET, REDFIELD,
A PEAL OF 5184 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor size 15 in C.

ERIC SUTTON	1-2	REGINALD G. HOOPER	5-6
FREDK. J. SAMPSON	3-4	JOHN F. PEDLER	7-8

Composed by J. CARTER (short course). Conducted by JOHN F. PEDLER.

EPSOM, SURREY.
THE SURREY ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., Jan. 18, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 14 *Minutes,*
AT 74, HOOKFIELD,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor size 16 in B.

GILLIAN R. BRITTAIN	1-2	RUTH M. K. HOW	5-6
EDWIN J. LINDLEY	3-4	*ALBERT J. ADAMS	7-8

Composed by E. M. ATKINS. Conducted by RUTH M. K. HOW.
* 50th peal. First peal as conductor.

NEWTON-LE-WILLOWS, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sun., Jan. 20, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 4 *Minutes,*
AT 97, BIRLEY STREET,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR
Tenor size 15 in C.

KENNETH EDWARDS	1-2	GORDON HALLS	3-4
JOHN ASHCROFT	5-6		

Conducted by JOHN ASHCROFT.

BURTON-ON-STATHER, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thurs., Jan. 24, 1952, *in* 2 *Hours and* 21 *Minutes.*
AT TRENTWOOD,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor size 14½ in C sharp.

MRS. J. BRAY	1-2	JACK BRAY	5-6
GEORGE E. FEIRN	3-4	*C. AUBREY HARRISON	7-8

Composed by N. PITSTOW. Conducted by JACK BRAY.
* First peal of Major 'in hand.'

ALDERSHOT, HANTS.—On Jan. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Barbara Woods (first quarter) 1, W. Viggers (cond.) 2, Muriel Lewis 3, Shirley Corke (first quarter 'inside') 4, K. Williamson 5, M. Bailey 6, Betty Stewart 7, H. Williamson 8.

AYLESTONE, LEICS.—On Jan. 20th, 1,264 Bob Major: Mrs. F. E. Wilson 1, Eileen Burton 2, J. Walton 3, T. Bollingbroke (first 'inside') 4, W. Wills 5, H. Bray 6, C. Weston 7, F. E Wilson (cond.) 8. First quarter Major 1, 5 and 7.

BOCKING, ESSEX.—On Jan. 13th, 1,260 Bob Doubles: Mrs. L. James (first quarter) 1, Miss J. Strasling 2, Mrs. H. Moore 3, Miss H. G. Snowden 4, R. Suckling (cond.) 5, H. Moore 6. First quarter by a local Sunday service band since the war.

COTTON, SUFFOLK.—On Jan. 12th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: L. Forster 1, B. Chilvers 2, Alb. Lockwood 3, Alf. Lockwood 4, T. W. Lockwood (cond.) 5, R. Ward 6. Rung half-muffled in memory of W. Goffer, a member of the company, who was buried the same day.

ECCLESTON, CHESHIRE.—On Dec. 13th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: H. Morgan 1, S. Jones 2, W. Pugh 3, G. Pugh 4, H. Thomas 5, S. Jones, jun. (cond.) 6, J. W. Clarke 7, W. Ince 8.

FAREHAM, HANTS.—On Jan. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss P. Dawkins (first quarter) 1, Miss B. M. Ball 2, Miss J. Sturgess 3, W. Linter 4, A. H. Sturgess 5, A. Noble 6, J. H. Hunt (cond.) 7, A. J. Dye 8.

HATTON, WARWICKS.—On Jan. 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Lilian F. Stain 1, A. J. Hobley 2, D. Harrison (cond.) 3, A. R. Barret 4, A. C. Morris (cond.) 5, H. M. Windsor 6. First quarter 1 and 3. The conducting was shared.

HOLLOWAY, LONDON.—At St. Mary Magdalene's, on Jan. 27th (morning), 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss D. A. Deverell 1, R. Newman 2, E F. Pryor 3, W. D. Prockson 4, A. F. Lancaster 5, G. A. Parsons (cond.) 6, R. H. Begrie 7, H. W. Barnard 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to Miss D. A. Deverell. Also, in the evening, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: J. A. Hales 1, T. H. Taffender 2, Miss A. Castle 3, N. G. Hollingworth (cond.) 4, C. W. Ottley 5, E. T. Beauchamp 6, R. H. Begrie 7, J. Bullock 8. Rung as a birthday compliment to Mrs. V. I. Begrie.

QUARTER PEALS

LITTLE MISSENDEN, BUCKS.—On Jan. 26th, 1,260 Doubles (660 Stedman, 600 Grandsire): H. Baldwin 1, E. Howe 2, S. Orchard 3, F. Onions 4, G. R. Goodship (cond.) 5, A. Turney (first quarter) 6. Rung half-muffled as a token of respect to Henry Fordham, who was interred the same day.

LYMINSTER, SUSSEX.—On Jan. 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss J. Elliott 1, Miss H. Haselgrove (first quarter) 2, Miss B., Haselgrove (first quarter 'inside') 3, H. Hunt 4, J. B. Daughtry (cond.) 5, Miss J. Mills 6.

MARDEN, KENT.—On Jan. 10th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: P. Heasman 1, P. Carter 2, B. M. Vidler 3, H. Dobell 4, S. G. Waters (cond.) 5, T. Pert 6, C. Clayes 7, F. Mitchall 8.

NAILSEA, SOMERSET.—On Jan. 26th, 1,260 Doubles (being one extent each of Union, Old, Norfolk, Reverse St. Bartholomew, 2 of April Day, 3 of Plain Bob and 180 of Grandsire): Miss J. Abbott (first quarter) 1, J. Yeates (cond.) 2, M. Horseman 3, L. Derrick 4, E. Shearn 5, H. Hardridge 6.

NETHERTON, WORCS.—On Jan. 26th, 1,280 Superlative Surprise Major: S. Prestidge 1, Muriel Reay 2, G. E. Fearn 3, B. D. A. Woolley (first quarter in method) 4, A. V. Pearson (cond.) 5, T. R. Hampton 6, J. M. Thorley 7, J. R. Mayne 8.

NORTH KILWORTH, LEICS.—On Jan. 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: C. Bennett 1, P. J. Thomas (first quarter as cond.) 2, J. Haines (first quarter) 3, D. Allsopp 4, H. Rowlands (first quarter) 5. Rung on the eve of the Conversion of St. Paul, and as a birthday compliment to the treble ringer.

PEWSEY, WILTS.—On Jan. 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: H. E. Amor (first quarter) 1, Miss E. Bennett 2, C. Chandler (first quarter) 3, T. B. Holloway (cond.) 4, A. G. Moore 5, S. F. Ludlow 6.

PULBOROUGH, SUSSEX.—On Jan. 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss H. Haselgrove 1, Miss J. E. Curtis 2, E. Fosberry 3, B. Luff 4, L. Atfield 5, A. C. Greenfield 6, P. R. Blackman (cond.) 7, F. Lewis 8. Marks progress for 1, 2, 3 and 4.

RIPPLE, WORCS.—On Jan. 12th, 1,260 Doubles (480 April Day, 540 Bob, 240 Grandsire): P. Bennett 1, C. Haylings 2, K. Spiers 3, B. Spiers 4, J. Roberts (cond.) 5, A. Williams 6. Rung as a compliment to B. Spiers and Miss E. M. Hawker on their engagement.

ST. ALBANS, HERTS.—At St. Peter's Church, on Jan. 27th, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: M. Webb (first on ten away from tenor) 1, R. W. Darvill 2, Miss A. Bailey 3, C. F. Sayer 4, T. J. Southam 5, B. C. Johnson (cond.) 6, F. J. Spicer 7, W. J. Southam 8, H. V. Frost 9, F. J. Bailey 10.

ST. CRANTOCK, CORNWALL.—On Jan. 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Roberts 1, Rev. W. H. R. Trewhella 2, D. Docking 3, J. B. Blond 4, A. H. Eplett (cond.) 5, D. M. Stephens (first quarter) 6. Rung to welcome Canon Peeke, a ringer, as Vicar to the neighbouring parish of Newquay.

SANDHURST, BERKS.—On Jan. 27th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor (540, 720): Miss J. J. Burdett (first quarter) 1, W. J. Paice 2, Mrs. F. Wilcox 3, C. Fennell 4, A. Arlott 5, W. J. Parker (cond.) 6.

SHOREHAM, SUSSEX.—On Jan. 20th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: B. Chalen 1, F. Green 2, R. Wood 3, R. Wilson 4, H. Weaver 5, M. Thomas 6, F. Page (cond.) 7, R. Chalen 8.

SILSOE, BEDS.—On Jan. 15th, 1,260 Doubles (240 St. Simon's, 240 April Day, 360 Plain Bob, 420 Grandsire): D. R. Brazier (first quarter) 1, S. J. Ivin 2, R. J. Sharp (cond.) 3, T. P. Harris 4, A. C. Sinfield 5, T. W. Allen 6. First quarter on the bells.

STEEP, HANTS.—On Jan. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Mrs. Rosemary Howard (first quarter) 1, Mrs. F. Bowden 2, Miss C. C. Roberts 3, F. Bowden (cond.) 4, H. Gauntlett 5, A. D. Howard 6.

SYSTON, LEICS.—On Jan. 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss J. A. Brooks 1, Miss A. Mansfield 2, A. Mansfield 3, Miss M. C. Payne 4, B. S. Payne (cond.) 5, H. M. Payne 6, H. Humphreys 7, E. F. Payne 8.

UPTON-ON-SEVERN, WORCS.—On Jan. 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. A. Jopp (first quarter on 8) 1, F. Hawkes 2, A. Jopp (first 'inside' on 8 bells) 3, H. Willett 4, J. Moule (first quarter on 8) 5, E. F. Cubberley 6, C. J. Camm (cond.) 7, E. Maund 8.

WOOD GREEN, LONDON.—On Dec. 20th, 1,440 Oxford Bob Minor: C. Yardley 1, Miss E. Bettridge 2, Miss W. Bettridge 3, T. Yardley 4, R. Stroud 5, H. Kirby (cond.) 6. Also on Dec. 27th, 1,260 Oxford Bob Minor: Miss E. Bettridge 1, Miss L. Fox 2, Miss W. Bettridge 3, T. Yardley 4, R. Stroud 5, H. Kirby (cond.) 6.

YATTON, SOMERSET.—On Jan. 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: G. Miles 1, E. A. Price 2, D. E. Vowles 3, Miss P. M. Barnard 4, R. Brice 5, H. Marshall 6, H. A. Price (cond.) 7, J. Baker 8.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

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SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER

We are still waiting for a number of our readers of long standing to renew their subscriptions for 1952. These should be sent without delay to Mr. J. E. Jeater, 11, Frankswood Avenue, Petts Wood, Kent. Subscription rates are quoted above.

BELFRY GOSSIP

An attempt for a peal of Cambridge Surprise Royal at Worsley on January 26th came to grief after 5,000 of the 5,040 changes had been rung in 3 hours and 20 minutes. This was Mr. George Hesketh's second attempt for his first peal of Cambridge Royal. On the first occasion he also reached the last course. The two attempts have involved 6 hours and 35 minutes' ringing without success.

Errata.—The peal rung at Beccles on January 2nd was for the Suffolk Guild and not as printed.

By ringing the tenor to a peal of Cambridge Surprise Minor at All Saints' Church, Leicester, Mr. Frederick E. Wilson has now completed the Cambridge family

Three members of Birmingham University whose handbell peal is recorded in another column inform us that they intend to form a Birmingham University Society in the near future.

'E. C. G.' writes: Touches of Grandsire Triples can be brought round from Whittington's by calling single, plain lead, bob, single. This would reduce the three touches published on page 64 by four leads.

Over Christmas Mr. Graeme W. Heyes and a fellow-ringer from Ballarat, Victoria, hitch-hiked to Adelaide, a distance of 400 miles each way to advance their knowledge of ringing. While at Adelaide they rang two handbell quarters and one tower quarter.

After losing their welcome peal for the new incumbent, the ringers of St. Mary Redcliffe successfully concluded Stedman Caters on Saturday, January 26th. The band wish to associate Mr. Frank Hansford—Ringing Master of the Guild—with their success, he being unable to be present for the second attempt.

Interest in peal ringing was shown by the Archbishop of Canterbury when he instituted and inducted the Rev. H. A. Daws to the benefice of Holy Trinity, Queensborough, Kent. After the ceremony a peal attempt was made. His Grace visited the belfry and wished the ringers every success. The peal, one of Doubles in four methods, was brought round in 2 hours and 37 minutes.

We have received an enquiry as to what is the longest peal of Minor on record. Where was it rung and when?

By ringing a peal at All Saints', Sedgley, Staffs, on January 26th, Miss Muriel Reay and Miss Shirley V. Rymer became the first ladies to ring in a peal in this tower.

It was a big disappointment to Mr. Sidney A. Cheney that owing to indisposition he could not ring in the first peal of seven Spliced Surprise Maximus, which was rung by the Leicester Cathedral band on January 21st.

The peal at Gravesend, on January 26th, was rung at the Church of St. George, which is now closed for repairs and will be opened as a Chapel of Unity. The bells are being retained there for ringing for special services. A last-minute rescue by three members of the Constant family enabled the peal to be rung as three of the original band could not make it owing to weather conditions. It was a case of 'ever constant, ever sure.'

Porthkerry ringers held their annual dinner at the Victoria Hotel, Barry, on January 17th. The 13 ringers were joined by the Rector and churchwardens and entertainment was provided by two friends of Mr. Malling and Mr. D. Dimmond. Mr. Malling scored a strong point in impressing upon the band the importance of homework in learning a method. His advice might well be followed in other towers!

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Etc.

THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD

Increase in Annual Subscription Approved

The sixth annual meeting of the Midland Counties Guild was held at the Church of St. Wystan, Repton, on January 12th.

Repton is an historic little town lying in the peaceful meadows beside the River Trent, near the Staffordshire border, about six miles south-west of Derby. It is best known now as the home of a famous public school but in the seventh century it was the Christian capital of Mercia, one of the first great Saxon kingdoms. The ancient church with its graceful spire—210 feet high—possesses a ring of eight bells second to none.

Upwards of 60 ringers attended the meeting from as wide an area as Crewe, Duffield, Derby, Stafford and Kingsbury. Shortened evensong was conducted by the Rev. D. P. Roberts, Vicar of Marston Whitgreave, Stafford, who gave an inspiring address. The Ven. H. E. Fitzherbert, Archdeacon of Derby and president of the Guild, was also present. Miss Noble, a ringer at Repton, was the organist. Tea, which was kindly provided by the local ringers, followed the service.

The Archdeacon opened the meeting by welcoming the members and visitors, also expressing thanks to the Rev. D. P. Roberts for conducting the service, and in conclusion wished the Guild continued success throughout 1952 and a happy New Year to all present.

One honorary and one non-resident life member (Mr. F. W. Stenson, of Crewe), were elected before the secretary (Mr. J. W. Cotton), in presenting the annual report, spoke of the special efforts arranged by the Guild to commemorate the Festival of Britain. These included three peals, a quarter peal and a 60-mile bus tour of the area covered by the Guild. Seven meetings had been held with an average attendance of 33. One honorary, 12 ringing and 10 non-resident members had been elected. Fifty-nine peals had been rung in 27 churches, in four counties, with 15 conductors.

Noteworthy performances of which the Guild could feel particularly proud were the peal of 10,368 London Surprise Major and the three peals of London Surprise rung in three counties on December 15th. Five members scored their first peal and something fresh was accomplished in no less than 37 cases.

Mr. W. P. Whitehead headed the list of conductors with a total of 15, followed by Messrs. J. W. F. Trotman 9, F. W. Grocott 7, J. W. Cotton 6, A. Cattell 5, Ernest Morris 4, J. Bailey 3, S. H. Jones 2, R. Beniston 2, B. G. Key, W. F. Woodward, W. G. Soar, W. G. Hair, J. J. Morris and F. E. Wilshaw one each.

The balance sheet was read by Mr. J. H. Brittan (treasurer), and showed that receipts balanced payments. Both reports were adopted.

The officers and auditor of the Guild were re-elected, namely:—President, Ven. H. E. Fitzherbert; chairman, Mr W. H. Curson, Ringing Master, Mr. S. H. Jones; treasurer, Mr. J. H. Brittan; secretary, Mr. J. W. Cotton; auditor, Mr. T. Pryce; committee, Messrs. E. W. Beadsmoore, W. G. Soar, W. F. Woodward and A. E. Greening.

Written notice had been given by Mr. S. H. Jones, supported by Mr. W. G. Soar, that Rule 2B be amended to read: 'That ringing members subscribe 2s 6d. per annum.' An amendment put forward by Mr. W. Steen that the annual subscription remain at 2s. was defeated, and the meeting approved the increased subscription to operate from January 1st, 1952.

Meeting cards for 1952 were distributed and it is hoped that the necessary arrangements will be made to carry out the list as follows:—March 1st, Burton; April 19th, Ticknall; May 24th, Netherseale; July 12th, Cole Orton; August 16th, Hoar Cross; October 4th, Rolleston; and November 15th, Newball.

A collection taken for the H. Pailing Memorial Fund amounted to £3 1s. 4d.

The meeting closed with the usual votes of thanks and the chairman appealing for increased support of 'The Ringing World.'

Further ringing from rounds to Surprise methods continued until a late hour.

Towers represented were:—Burton, St. Modwen's and St. Paul's, Ashby, Measham, Netherseale, Overseale, Lullington, Hoar Cross, Newchurch, Ticknall, Rolleston, Melbourne, Crewe, Stafford, Derby Cathedral, St. Peter's and St. Andrew's, Ockbrook, and Kingsbury.

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION

He Sang Stedman Triples

The first 1952 joint meeting of the Derby and Ilkeston Districts, held at St. Luke's, Derby, was a pleasant affair. The bells are a fine, heavy eight (tenor 30 cwt.) and sound particularly impressive from outside, not that one wanted to hear them from outside on January 26th, as the weather was bitterly cold.

Feeling so comfortable after an excellent tea in the Church Room and so thoroughly warm from the heat of two fires that members did not want to move after the business meeting had concluded. Clement Glenn was with the company and he was invited to play a touch of Stedman Triples on the piano but unfortunately there was not a complete octave on it. Failing mechanical instruments, it was suggested that he should sing Stedman. With some misgiving and apology for lack of tone in his voice he made the venture. It went something like this:

de, da, dee, dar, te, ta, dum, Dom;
da, de, dee, te, dar, dum, ta, Dom;
da, dee, de, dar, te, ta, dum, Dom,
dee, da, dar, de, ta, te, dum, Dom; etc.

It was perfect striking with open headstroke leads and immaculate backstroke leads. On the course went with pauses for breath at the handstroke leads and occasional interjections such as 'six in quick,' 'seven in slow' until the conclusion came with rhythmic rounds and delighted applause.

It was fascinating, particularly as very few had witnessed this type of virtuosity before; frustrating, too, for those who could never aspire to such accomplishments.

What is the key to this ability to tap out or sing touches of a method? Merely, we are assured, by a knowledge of the place-making. Practice, certainly, but surely also a natural inborn aptitude. Of all ringers only a small proportion have developed this art to a limited extent and only a handful to the extent of, say, Harry Withers.

Mr. Glenn stated he was first attracted to ringing by the sound of his village bells and knew the music of Grandsire Triples by listening outside, before he even dared to approach the ringers with a view to learning to ring.

Anyway, the meeting was really pleasant; good bells, original company and an ample tea in comfortable conditions. What more could a ringer want? Our thanks are expressed to the Vicar of St. Luke's, Mr. Parsons and Mrs. Lowe.

P.S.—One wonders if Mr. Glenn lulls himself to sleep at night by singing Carter's Odd Bob peal. If he ever finished it could he claim it as a peal sung for the Southwell Diocesan Guild? Perhaps they would want a witness to make sure he didn't fall to sleep in the middle of it and wake up to finish it with Holt's Original.

FORTY YEARS AGO

Extract from 'The Ringing World' of February 9th, 1912

ODD CHANGES

'One well-known conductor during January rang two peals but had no fewer than eight failures. The causes which brought the attempts to an end are varied and not uninteresting:—

January 1st, Cambridge Major.—Tenor man had to give up after an hour's good ringing.

January 3rd, Bristol.—Shift course after 2½ hours.

January 6th, Double Norwich.—Given up after seven courses owing to bad-going bells. Attempt for Stedman Triples, bells called round in 4th part through rain coming in and soaking tenor man.

January 12th, Stedman Caters.—Treble man set up in slight trip.

January 13th, Stedman Caters.—Shift course.

January 25th, Bristol.—Breakdown.

January 26th, Stedman Triples.—Stopped through knocking at door—choirmaster sent to say he would be glad if the ringers would finish so that he could get on with his practice.

January 27th, Stedman Caters.—Seventh rope came down after three hours' ringing.'

The 'Irish Bell News' enquires what is the recognised practice in ringing for weddings and funerals. Should ringing take place on both occasions before and after the service?

LEADING PEAL RINGERS OF 1951

Supplementary List

In our issue of January 18th we published a list of leading peal ringers of 1951. The following records have since been received:—

	Tower	Hand	Total
Ernest Morris	64 (28)	12	76
John E. Bibby	57 (8)	—	57
Herrick B. Bowley ..	48	—	48
Ernest Rawson	46	—	46
Harry W. Howard .	41	—	41

RINGING RHYMES

No. 2—Striking

When you can set your bell at will
And with good style our place can fill,
Just as, on musical instrument,
The scales make player proficient,
So you in rounds may now take part.
But bear in mind that, from the start,
Your ear must be your foremost guide—
Good striking to be satisfied.

Your bell's own note you first must know
And strike her with a well-timed blow.
Precisely in a rhythmic beat
Among the others. 'Tis a feat
You must achieve before you try
Your method ringing to apply.

When from the pull-off to the 'clang'
You gauge exactly, then no 'bang'
Will mar the peal's sweet roundelay.
Then next—'call changes' you may play.

A. Y-B

MR. JOHN THOMAS RINGS HIS 900th PEAL

His many friends in all parts of the country will read with pleasure that Mr. John Thomas, now in his 70th year, has rung his 900th peal. Mr. Thomas has been associated for very many years with Messrs. Mears and Stainbank and wherever he has worked he has joined local ringers in their activities. A brilliant conductor both on tower bells and handbells, he has assisted many a struggling band during his short stay with them.

Mr. Thomas is one of a select few able to ring two tower bells and is noted for his ability to strike any bell, however oddstruck.

Readers will remember the remarkable achievements of the young band at Edmonton both on tower bells and handbells during and after the war. These young ringers were taught with infinite patience and skill by Mr. Thomas, ably assisted by his wife.

For the last five years Mr. and Mrs. Thomas have lived in Mrs. Thomas' native Worcestershire, at Hinton-on-the-Green. Needless to say, two such popular ringers have an active part to play in the affairs of Worcestershire ringers.

THE CURFEW IN ENGLISH LIFE

By ERNEST MORRIS

(Continued from page 60)

IN the old play 'Merry Devil of Edmonton' (1631) the curfew is mentioned as being sometimes rung at nine o'clock, thus the sexton says: 'Well. 'tis nine o'clock, 'tis time to ring curfew.' In Lyson's 'Environs' i., page 232, is the following extract from the churchwarden's accounts of Kingston-on-Thames: '1651. For ringing the curfew bell for 1 year £1 10s.'

In some parishes the continuance of the ringing of the curfew was sought to be secured by an endowment provided by persons who, in times when the roads were badly defined and crossed open, unenclosed country, lost their way in the gloom of evening or in the darkness of winter nights, but were enabled to find their village homes by its welcome sound: with reference to this end it is sometimes only rung in winter months. 'The bell of Lambourne was rung nightly as a guide to travellers over the interminable downs of Berkshire; and one at York as a signal to persons travelling the Galtres forest' (Soc. Arch. page 68). These instances could be multiplied by many others in all parts of the country.

One of the larger bells is generally used for this purpose, which is sometimes rung, sometimes tolled:—

'The Curfew tolls the knell of passing day' (Gray's 'Elegy in a Country Churchyard').

The great bell called Peter, at Exeter Cathedral, is tolled as the curfew as eight o'clock, and the popular impression is that, should the tolling be omitted, the Dean and Chapter would lose all their estates!

THE DAY OF MONTH TOLLED

As before mentioned, in many places the day of the month was tolled at the conclusion, as at Melton Mowbray, Louth, Horncastle, Market Rasen, etc. A curious custom prevails at Sheepy Magna, Leics, where the ringing is discontinued between the death and burial of a parishioner. At Bottesford it is not rung during Whitsun week; nor at South Luffenham, Rutland, during a fortnight at Christmas.

At some places the curfew is rung on Saturday evenings at seven o'clock instead of eight o'clock, and at Sleaford it is rung at this hour, not only then, but on the eve of Christmas, Ascension and other occasions when some special service is to be held. At Grantham the ringing of curfew is omitted on the Vigils or Eves of Holy Days named in the Church Calendar, and at Horncastle it is not rung on 'red letter days.' This appears to be in accordance with ancient practice, for

'it appears by the Statutes of Lichfield that the **Ignitegium** was sounded every night at the seventh hour, excepting on the Festivals. The not tolling the curfew on Festivals may be accounted for by the ancient ritual of the English Monks, A.D. 1085, which commanded all bells to be rung at Festivals "et hanc pulsationem classicum vocant."' (Ellacombe 'Bells of the Church,' page 197.)

THE 'NOWSTER'

Middleton, Lancs, supplies a probably unique instance of an evening bell which is not a survival of mediæval usage, but an introduction of recent times. The Rector, early in the last century, ordered a bell to be rung nightly at ten minutes to ten o'clock as a signal for closing the shops and a hint to all who were abroad to go home. It is known locally as the 'Nowster,' a name which no one seems to be able to explain, although the good folk of Middleton say it means 'Now stir!' The curfew which used to be rung in the parish has been discontinued in place of the above.

At Oxford the 101 strokes rung on Great Tom, of Christ Church, at nine p.m. are familiar to all Oxford men, the number of strokes being (as Verdant Green's cicerone pointed out) 'the number of students on the foundations.' Here the object of the ringing is to warn all students, whatever degree, to return to their respective Colleges and Halls.

The last verse of Dr. Aldrich's celebrated catch will be remembered:—

'Tingle, tingle, ting, goes the small bell at nine
To call the bearers home,
But ne'er a man will leave his cann
Till he hears the mighty Tom.'

IN LONDON

In London the ringing of curfew must have been pretty general. Stow says: 'The Church of St. Martin's-le-Grand, with those of Bow, Cripplegate and Barkin, had its curfew long after the servile injunctions laid on the Londoners had ceased.' In 1848 the curfew was rung at eight p.m. at St. Edmund's, Lombard Street; St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate; St. Michael's, Queenhithe; St. Antholin's, Bridge Row; St. Mildred's, Bread Street; Christ Church, Spitalfields; and Shoreditch. Referring back to 'Bow Bell,' Stow tells us that the old steeple of St. Mary-le-Bow Church was rebuilt in 1469, and it was ordained by the Common Council that the Bow bells 'should nightly be rung at nine of the clock.'

In the Calendar of letter book of the City of London (L) occurs: 'Saturday, 22 April 9 Edward IV. (A.D. 1469) an ordinance of the Common Council to the effect that whereas it had been of old accustomed, for the peace of the City and keeping due time at night, for the great bells, and especially the great bell called "Bowbell" and the bells in the churches of All Hallows, Berkyng, St. Giles without Crepilgate, and St. Bride in Fletestrete, to be struck at the accustomed hours—viz: at the ninth hour on festivals and holidays [ferialibus] . . . .' (Ends abruptly.)

Mr. Donne, a mercer, had devised two tenements in Bow Lane (then called Hosier Lane) for the ringing of the tenor bell of Bow Church at six o'clock in the mornings and eight o'clock in the evenings. Mr. Lott, after a considerable search for this bell, dated 1472, eventually discovered it in the Husting's Court of London. The early ringing was supposed to be for the waking up of London apprentices. The poetical remonstrance of those personages to the parish clerk of Bow, in consequence of his neglect of his duty, is also recorded by Stow:—

'Clerke of the Bow bell,
With thy yellow locks,
For thy late ringing
Thy head shall have knocks.'

The clerk of the day was a match for the young complainants and replied in equal poetical vein:—

'Children of Chepe
Hold you all still,
For you shall hear the Bow-bell
Ring at your will.'

(To be continued)

DEATH OF MR. A. W. BRIGHTON

We regret to announce the death of Mr. Alfred W. Brighton, 71, South Esk Road, Forest Gate, E.7, on January 28th. We hope that one of his friends will send a memoir.

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

Eastern District

The quarterly meeting (joint with the Beverley and District Society) was held at Beverley Minster on January 12th. There was an excellent attendance of 62 members from Beverley Minster and St. Mary's, Hutton Cranswick, Hessle, York Minster, Patrington, Scarborough, Hemingbrough, Sutton-on-Hull, Carlton-juxta-Snaith, Goole, Ulceby, Cottingham, Pocklington, Rise, Bridlington Priory, Thorne, Hull (Holy Trinity) Market Weighton and Kirk Ella.

The beautiful ring of ten bells at the Minster was rung during the afternoon, the service touch consisting of Grandsire Caters (Mr. S. H. Steel conductor).

The service was held in the choir, conducted by the Rev. R. C. Collwyn Hargreaves. During the singing of Psalm 150, a pause allowed a Plain Course of Grandsire Triples to be rung on handbells by Messrs. L. Rodmell 1-2, S. H. Steel 3-4, C. Barker 5-6, H. Walker 7-8. An interesting address was given by the Rev. G. Storer, R.D., who spoke on 'Play the Game.' Mr. J. Grainger, headmaster Minster Boys' School, was the organist.

Tea was served in the Parish Room, followed by the business meeting, Mr. A. E. Sellers (vice-president) occupying the chair. Mr. Sellers said it was with regret that he had to inform the meeting that the secretary, Mr. H. S. Morley, who had been ill for about two months, had undergone a serious operation in Leeds Infirmary of January 7th. He would be an inmate at the Infirmary for about three weeks. The acting secretary was requested to convey the best wishes of the meeting to Mr. Morley for a speedy recovery.

A further announcement was made by Mr. Sellers to the fact that instead of the usual collection being made for the Bell Repair Fund, the amount subscribed at this meeting is to be forwarded to 'The Ringing World' as a donation from the Association. Mr. F. W. Dale kindly made the collection which realised £2.

New members elected were Misses Alison Davies, Irene Hall, Lily Cromack and Mr. J. B. Ibbotson. The next meeting will be held at Holy Trinity, Hull, and Lowgate (joint with the Beverley and District Society) on March 15th, and the June meeting will be held at Bridlington Priory.

Mr. H. Walker proposed a hearty vote of thanks to the Vicar (the Rev. G. Storer), the organist and to all who had helped to make the meeting a success. Mr. S. H. Steel seconded and the motion was carried with acclamation. The Rev. G. Storer and Mr. F. Wilkinson suitably replied. Mr. B. Sutton also thanked the local company for arrangements. Mr. C. Barker, responding, emphasised the necessity of names being submitted for tea in future.

Methods rung during the day included Grandsire and Stedman Caters, Kent Treble Bob Royal, Stedman Triples, Plain Bob Major and Minor and rounds.

Several members were shown 'Big John' and heard the bell ring out. Thanks are extended to Mr. Southwick who kindly escorted the visitors.

PRIZE RINGING 200 YEARS AGO

The following extract from the file of 'The Western Gazette,' Yeovil, of 200 years ago (1752) will be of interest to our readers:—

This is to give NOTICE THAT there is to be rung for on Shrove Tuesday, at Mary Scott's, at the Sign of the Rose and Crown, in Bradford Abbas, Two Silver Bowls, one of Forty Shillings Price, and the other Twenty: Each Sett to bring their Umpire and the Sett that rings the best Peal is to have the best bowl, and the second best the second Bowl, and to be there by Twelve o'clock at Noon, and that they may depend upon very good Usage from their humble servant,—MARY SCOTT.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

PEALS ANALYSIS—1951

Dear Sir,—In a preliminary survey of the peals rung during 1951, there has been a grand total of 2,957 peals.

This does not take into account any deletions which may be made for irregular methods or 'odd' number of changes.

The leading Guilds or Associations are as follows:—Leicester Diocesan 251, Kent County 183, Lincoln Diocesan 173, Chester Diocesan 172, Lancashire Association 165, Oxford Diocesan 145, with the Leicester Guild well to the fore.

Some people, apparently, ring so many peals that they do not know whether they have sent off the particulars or not, until some time after, as is shown in the fact that in 'The Ringing World' dated January 11th, 1952, there are reports of peals rung in July, August and November, while in the current issue is the report of one rung in October.

It would be helpful if peal reports could be cleared up monthly in 'The Ringing World,' irrespective of whether they were rung on twelve or six bells.—Yours respectfully,

W. AYRE,
(For the Peals Analysis Committee).

PEALS BY THREE SISTERS

Dear Sir,—In reply to your query in 'Belfry Gossip,' may I point out that the peal at Claybrooke on January 14th was not the first in which three sisters have taken part. My two sisters and I rang a peal of Grandsire Doubles 'in hand' on September 18th, 1950. I believe I am correct in saying that peals had previously been rung by two other groups of three sisters—the Misses Richardson and the Misses Look—but I have no details of these performances. I should like to congratulate the Misses Proctor on their peal.—Yours sincerely,

KATHLEEN E. FLETCHER.

THE BILBIES

Dear Sir,—In reply to Mr. Gould regarding a secret formula which is reputed to have died with them, the last of the Bilbies founded bells at Cullompton, Devon, from 1787 to 1813 after which the business passed to William Pannell, who first traded as W. and C. Pannell and then as W. Pannell and Son. This business was transferred to Exeter where it ended a few years later.

The Chewstoke Bilbies cast many bells on the spot, the octave at Beaminster being a notable example.—Yours sincerely,

WILLIAM SHEPHERD.
Addlestone, Surrey.

THE MEMBURY DEDICATION

Dear Sir,—When I was talking to the writer of the account, published in your issue of January 11th last, I knew the original date but mentioned 50 years in round numbers. Mr. William Shepherd is correct about that date when the five bells were re-opened after being rehung in a new oak frame by Stokes, of Woodbury, namely June 21st, 1900. I was a call-change ringer of six months' standing then, but after another 18 months I began to learn half-pull ringing, thanks to help at Oxford and Honiton (under instruction by two Ottery ringers), for which I can never be grateful enough.—Yours sincerely, E. V. COX.
West Hill, Ottery St. Mary.

OXFORD BOB IN SUSSEX

Dear Sir,—Re the peal of Oxford Bob Minor rung at Fittleworth on Sunday, December 16th, 1951. This is not the first peal of Oxford Bob for the Sussex Association. A peal of Oxford Bob Triples was rung as recently as June 30th, 1951, at All Saints', Hastings, conducted by C. Alfred Levett.—Yours sincerely,

East Grinstead. FRANK H. HICKS.

GRANDSIRE TRIPLES AT EXETER CATHEDRAL

Dear Sir,—I notice that no one has paid tribute to the ringer of the second (Mrs. Jean M. Harris) in both the peals of Grandsire Triples at Exeter, but I had the pleasure on both occasions of ringing next to her and her performance was faultless as to style, correctness and spacing.

Anyone who can stand the crashing boredom of this aspirational tomb of so many hundreds of young ringers is to be congratulated on doing so for the extent of a peal. It is not surprising that the Devon Guild is so far behind the others in performance for, apparently, having been reared on the turgid milk of this intellectual sow, pencil and paper fall from their nerveless fingers and the struggle to progress is given up—but I digress

I, too, would like to pay tribute not only to the fine ringing of the tenor by two young men without distress, but to the 'Monarch of all I survey' on the 11th, the conductor and other young men who were so good that their presence was almost unnoticed and that is a compliment well worth earning.

As to the striking—after the brief settling down process I believe even Chilcompton would have been 49½ per cent. alkaline.—Yours sincerely,

STAFFORD H. GREEN.
Sampford Peverell, Devon.

WOMEN RINGERS OF 1884

Dear Sir,—Your great number of women ringers may be interested in the enclosed! Harvey Reeves, the Editor, was prompted to write this, as the previous week had seen the report of a date touch at Huntsham, Devon—the composition of Miss E. Cruwys Sharland, of Tiverton, a member of the Devon Guild, and also by the fact that three daughters of Sir (then Mr.) Arthur P. Heywood, of Duffield, (and founder of the Central Council), with Mr. J. W. Taylor, of Loughborough, had rung a course of Grandsire Triples, on handbells, at a garden party at Duffield. The daughter ringing the trebles was only seven years of age!

The Editor, early on in his article, refers to these two occasions and then proceeds to point his moral, as enclosed! I thought it might be useful—and pertinent—as a tailpiece!—Yours sincerely,

C. E. BORRETT.
Sheringham.

PART OF THE EDITORIAL OF 'THE BELL NEWS,' AUGUST 23rd, 1884.

'The fact of members of the fair sex coming to the front as ringers, is certainly worth more than ordinary notice. The time may come when we can hear of them in the steeple, taking a light bell and ringing or calling a touch. This may appear irregular, perhaps, from several points of view. But the presence of a lady in the belfry does not appear to us at all out of place We know the healthful effect of refined female influence under many conditions of our social life and such influence would not be out of place in a church belfry. And ringing a light bell in a touch now and then with the village company would be far preferable to many of those enervating occupations which the female portion of the human family are at the present time, in obedience to the vagaries of fashion, called upon to take part.'

SOLD OUT

Will readers please note that 'The College Youths,' by J. Armiger Trollope, is now out of print.

A CHURCHMAN'S VIEWPOINT

Dear Sir,—I am a comparative newcomer to the art of bell-ringing but I hope you will allow me to comment on F.E.H.'s article. I came to bell-ringing via the Church, so perhaps I may put what I think is the Church's case.

My first point is that for a devout Churchman everything should be done for the glory of God. Our bell-ringing should carry out this principle. Ringing should, therefore, start with prayer and end with a short prayer of thanksgiving for being allowed to ring. Then all the ringers, being devout churchmen, should attend church on Sunday according to the individual's private rule.

We now meet the difficulty of a ringer who, when introduced to the art is indifferent to the Church's worship. At this point the Church Evangelical should come in. God may be calling this man to him through bell-ringing and we must be careful not to stand in God's way. It is the duty of the ringer to bring this man into the active life of the Church.

This may seem a burden to the ringers, but they should remember that a good example and prayer may be all that is needed. They should also seek the help of the parish priest in the matter.

Up to the moment I have been talking about an ideal tower: I have never come across one, but then my experience is very small.

To ring Church bells for enjoyment and not as an act of worship is wrong. The enjoyment must come with the act of worship, the latter coming foremost. The above, as I have pointed out, is not true in individual cases. Nothing could be worse for a church than to force people to go. There would be no spirit of devotion in that church.

The responsibility of keeping the church a sacred building rests with the priest. He cannot in the nature of things allow the bells to be rung without devotion for ever: he must eventually take action. His first action should be to attempt an increase in the devotion of the ringing. If this fails he may have no other course than to close the tower. How can he ever hope to fill his church when its servants are not interested. The responsibility falls on the priest and all ringers who worship with that church.—Yours faithfully,

DEREK V. MORETON.
University Association, Manchester.

NOTE.—We agree that Sunday service ringing is an act of worship. Indifferently performed and without practice and care as to good striking, it ceases to be an act of devotion.—ED.

CHILVERS COTON'S HONOUR

Dear Sir,—May I point out to your correspondent in last week's issue of 'The Ringing World,' regarding his statement that Pakefield, (Suffolk) Church was the first war-damaged church in England to be rebuilt, that All Saints' Church, Chilvers Coton, Nuneaton, Warwickshire, was rededicated almost two and a half years earlier. The church, like Pakenham, was destroyed by incendiaries, with the exception of the tower, on May 17th, 1941, and rebuilt between May, 1944, and 1947 by the voluntary labour of German prisoners of war officers and rededicated on September 27th, 1947. During the rebuilding the bells were augmented from eight to ten and the two trebles dedicated on May 17th, 1947, the sixth anniversary of the raid which destroyed most of the church.—Yours sincerely,

DOROTHY E. BEAMISH,
Hon. Gen. Sec.,
Coventry Diocesan Guild.

THE RESULT

Dear Sir,—With reference to Mr. A. Turner's letter of January 25th re Plain Bob on odd numbers, surely if the extra bell is put in the hunt and the places moved to fit, the resulting method is Grandsire.—Yours faithfully,

N. D. LOMAS.
Wilmslow, Cheshire.

THE UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL SOCIETY

Reunion and Dinner

THE annual dinner and reunion of the University of Bristol Society of Change Ringers was held on January 26th. Proceedings commenced with a visit in the morning to All Saints' Church, Long Ashton, where, besides visitors from Swindon and Gloucester, a special welcome was paid to Mr. A. Patrick Cannon, whose arrival was totally unexpected.

The first tower in Bristol to be visited after lunch was SS. Philip and Jacob's, Old Market, followed by St. Stephen's and Christ Church (City). At the last-named church the Rector, the Rev. H. C. B. Roden, conducted a short service in which he gave a very interesting address on the history of the bells. The organist was Mr. Kenneth E. Pinney and the lesson was read by Mr. Robert J. Stokes.

A company of 31 members, visitors and guests sat down to dinner in the Senior Common Room Dining Room of the University Refectory, Professor R. J. Brocklehurst being in the chair in the absence of the president, Professor S. H. Piper, who is recovering from an attack of bronchitis.

After the toast of 'The King and The Church,' Professor Brocklehurst submitted the toast of 'The Exercise.' He remarked that when composing his speech he was advised by a non-ringing member of his family to begin by saying 'The hunt is up; give her a blow behind!' This proves the contention that a little knowledge can be a dangerous thing. He thanked the Bristol City ringers for their helpful co-operation, thus enabling the Society to ring regularly in the local towers. The attitude taken by the author of the recent leading article in 'The Ringing World' on the Swanwick strike was to be regretted in that too much emphasis was laid on the recreational aspect of ringing. He agreed that the clergy should not insist on ringers attending services but was pleased to observe that ringers as a rule did so. He thanked Mr. Bennett for maintaining the St. John's Ringing School; it was impossible to overstate the debt owed to him.

'TRADE TERMS OF RINGING'

In his reply, Mr. A. Bennett, hon. secretary of the Bristol City Branch, said that the remedy for the succession of ringers' strikes was to recruit regular churchgoers. In his view, the ideal was to teach ordinands at Theological Colleges, as he had done, so producing 'a race of parsons who can appreciate the "trade terms" of ringing.' As one of the founders nine years ago of the University Society, he appealed to all members to keep the Society going. It was only through much perseverance and hard work in the past that the Society's present state of well-being had been attained.

The hon. secretary of the University Society, Mr. Lance C. I. Watson, proposed the toast of 'The Visitors.' On behalf of the Society, he thanked Professor Brocklehurst for so ably taking the chair at very short notice. He read a letter of greetings from Dr. E. S. John Hatcher, hon. secretary of the Universities Association, who regretted his inability to attend. Officers, and members of the Gloucester and Bristol Diocesan Association were welcomed as was also Mr. A. Patrick Cannon, 'that travelling schoolmaster of high renown.' He wondered whether he was considering raisin' record peal bands in the future! It was pleasant to note that three former Masters and a former lady secretary of the Society were present. After quoting from a secretary's lament recently published in 'The Ringing World,' he encouraged budding scapegoats (i.e., secretaries) with these words, once uttered by the University's vice-chancellor, Sir Philip Morris: 'A secretary is a person who can do his master's business better than his master—and who possesses sufficient tact not to let anyone know it.' With extreme tact he reverted to his original theme and raised the toast.

Mr. A. Patrick Cannon, who replied, wished to correct the secretary on one point; he was no longer a schoolmaster and presumably Mr. Watson had got the wrong end of the stick! He congratulated Mr. Jack R. Worrall on his remarkable progress and said that he was responsible for putting the Society in its present position as one of the leading University Societies. He noticed that one of the members was Mr. Alan P. Cave, grandson of the famous William A. Cave, and he hoped that he would eventually prove to be as great a ringer as his grandfather. Although a lover of slow ringing, he would have to quicken up somewhat if he rang with the Society for long, judging by the service touch of Stedman Caters at Christ Church. He wished to thank the Society for their very kind invitation; when he arrived at Bristol that day he did not visualise being a visitor to the dinner.

The toast of 'The Society' was proposed by Mr. F. G. Leaker, who conveyed hearty greetings from officers and members of the Bristol City Branch, of which he is chairman. He offered another solution to the ringers' strikes in that the clergy should get to know their ringers as well as they do their choirmen. He feared that All Saints' bells would never be available until the demise of a certain churchwarden, who was under the impression that several hundred pounds' worth of damage would be caused if they were rung! He wished the Master every success in his teaching career.

MASTER'S REPORT

In his reply, Mr. Jack R. Worrall, Master of the University of Bristol Society, thanked Mr. Leaker for his kind wishes. A few amusing anecdotes arising out of his teaching practice at Gloucester then followed, the 'piece de resistance' being a question asked by one of his pupils: 'Please sir, does Folies Bergère mean Shepherd's Delight?' Briefly recapitulating the Society's activities during the past year, he mentioned that four tower bell peals had been rung, one of Grandsire Triples being conducted by the present Deputy Master, Miss B. Enid Lloyd Roberts. She was the first lady to conduct a peal for the Society. Two unsuccessful attempts at Grandsire Caters had also been made. One quarter peal worthy of mention was that of Stedman Triples rung at Christ Church in honour of the former Master's 21st birthday. Three peals 'in hand' marked the continued progress of handbell ringing, even touches of Cambridge Minor had been successfully brought round towards the end of last term. Several learners had been taught recently and it was pleasing to note that one of them was present that evening. The year had been one of progress and he hoped that it would be maintained.

Handbell ringing brought the evening to a close. Ringing took place at St. John-on-the-Wall and the Lord Mayor's Chapel, this being Mr. Cannon's 1,427th tower, on Sunday morning and at Christ Church in the evening.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD AT DORCHESTER

Branch's Successful Year

Ringers of the Dorchester Branch held their annual meeting at the Church of St. Peter, Dorchester, on January 19th. The eight bells were available at 2.30 p.m. and were rung until 4 o'clock, when the Guild service was conducted by the branch chairman, Canon A. Wilkinson Markby, who gave the address. Tea was taken at St. Peter's Institute, served by ladies of the church.

Canon Markby presided at the business meeting. Apologies for absence were read from Canon C. C. Cox, Master of the Guild, and the Ven. J. C. Chute, vice-chairman of the branch. The hon. secretary's report gave brief details of the year's activities, meetings being held at Dorchester, Martinstown, Bere Regis, Fordington, Cattistock and Milton Abbey, with an average attendance of nearly 50. Membership was now 187, of which 161 were ringers, 8 honorary, 17 associates and 1 life member.

Four peals were rung and 27 quarter peals. The branch practices, said the secretary, had been very popular, but he still appealed for better attendances as these occasions were ideal for those who had ambitions in the way of becoming better ringers.

All the officers were re-elected:—Chairman, the Rev. Canon A. W. Markby; vice-chairman, the Ven. Archdeacon J. C. Chute; hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. J. H. Hayne; assistant hon. secretary, Mr R. H. Duke; Ringing Master, Mr. F. Precey; Deputy Ringing Masters, Mr. F. Stedman and Mr. E. T. P. Field.

Meetings for 1952 were provisionally arranged for Wool, April 19th; Milton Abbey on a Thursday in June, subject to confirmation by the Vicar; Abbotsbury in September; and Wyke Regis in November, also to be confirmed by the Rector.

Invitations were also considered from Frampton and Preston for by-meetings, Preston hoping to have their augmented ring of six available by June. The next branch practice was fixed for February 2nd, at Wyke Regis.

It was proposed that the charge for tea be increased to 2s. per head, but after an amendment by Mr. Whalley, it was agreed that adult members should pay 2s. but that the charge should remain at 1s. for those members who were of school age.

New members elected were Miss R. Slade, Mr. P. Rose and Mr. L. Frost, of Stratton, and Mr. A. Brown, of Wool.

A grant of £2 towards the cost of a board to record the peal rung to the memory of the late Mr. G. T. White, a former Ringing Master of the branch, was approved unanimously.

The proposed repairs to the church at West Lulworth were discussed and it was mentioned that there were some doubts as to whether the bells would be replaced in the tower. Although no ringing has taken place at this church for a number of years, it was the opinion of all present that some plea should be made to those responsible to replace the bells and that the members of the branch would be ready to help stimulate interest in the parish in order to get them ringing again.

The chairman thanked all those who had helped to make the gathering a success, and the meeting then closed, the ringers returning to the tower to ring until nearly nine o'clock.

Fordington's six bells were also available and a number of members found their way there after the meeting. J. H. H.

THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION

Northern District

The annual meeting of the Northern District was held at Braintree on January 19th when 70 members were present from 18 towers. The service in St. Michael's Church was conducted by the Vicar (the Rev. P. H. James).

At the meeting it was reported that 10 peals had been rung in the District in 1951. The District Master Miss H. G. Snowden, was re-elected; also the secretary, Mr. H. A. Pratt. Messrs. J. Warner (Braintree) and J. Elliott (Kelvedon) were appointed to the general committee and seven new members were elected.

An appeal was made for funds to rehang the bells and recast the tenor at Stebbing. After the meeting some members rang handbells whilst others went on to Bocking for ringing.

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN

Paulton Ringer For New Zealand

At a representative gathering of ringers of the Frome and Midsomer Norton Deanery at the Paulton tower on January 24th, a presentation was made to Mr. F. Savage, who for some years has been the captain of that tower and who, with his wife and family, is shortly leaving to take up a new life in New Zealand.

Ringers from Chilcompton, Kilmersdon, High Littleton, Wells and Paulton were present and touches of Grandsire and Stedman Doubles, Oxford and Double Oxford Bob, Double Court and Cambridge Surprise Minor were rung.

In opening the proceedings Mr. E. J. Chivers, the hon. secretary of the Deanery, gave an apology from Mr. R. Beck, the Ringing Master, who was prevented from being with them by reason of being at work. The presentation was made by Mr. J. T. Dyke, the general hon. secretary of the Bath and Wells Diocesan Association, who voiced the respect and friendship in which their departing member was held and that his loss to this country represented the gain of New Zealand and, in the name of all whom he represented, he wished Mr. and Mrs. Savage and family a safe voyage and prosperity in their new life. Mr. Savage suitably responded.

The gift, subscribed by a large number of old ringing friends was of a folding camera, which the recipient greatly appreciated.

W. J. G.

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH

Portsmouth District

Thirty-six members and friends attended the annual meeting of the Portsmouth District at St. Mary's, Portsea, on January 19th, the company including the Guild Master (Mr. G. Pullinger).

The service was conducted by the Vicar (Canon W. J. Smith), which was followed by tea and the business meeting in St. Mary's Institute.

The retiring officers re-elected were:—Chairman, Mr. W. Linter; hon. secretary, Mr. J. H. Hunt; auditor, Mr. F. W. Burnett. A ballot for Central Committee members resulted in the election of Mr. S. J. Harding. New members elected were:—Honorary, Miss E. M. B. Wharton (Horndean); compounding, Miss Stella M. Wickens (Twineham, Sussex); ringing, Mr R J. W. Jurd (Alverstoke).

A notification had been received from Shedfield that it would be more convenient to hold the May meeting there. This was agreed to.

J. H. H.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY

South and West District

The six at Brentford and the eight at St. Mary's, Ealing, were chosen for the South and West District meeting on January 5th.

St. Lawrence's, Brentford, bells have very recently been rehung on ball bearings by Messrs. Gillett and Johnston, Ltd., who are to be congratulated on a fine engineering job. Everyone was greatly impressed with the change. The old clock case, so much in the way of the two trebles, had been removed and the clock was lying on the floor awaiting removal.

There is quite a lot of timber and rubbish still in the ringing chamber, as the work of redecorating the room is temporarily held up through lack of funds. Any dust that may have just settled on the seats was soon removed by the number of ringers who soon arrived. The bells are a pleasant ring, with an ancient Culverden bell of c. 1510, a Rudhill, a Mears and three Warner bells including the tenor, with a reputed weight of 11 cwt. 2 qr. 1 lb. Ringing was varied, ranging up to Spliced Surprise, including Brentford Bob.

In the evening ringing was at St. Mary's, Ealing. Here, thanks to the excellent maintenance by Arthur Harding, the bells went very well.

SOCIETY FOR ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD

It was a real winter afternoon on the occasion of the Society's meeting at St. Matthew's, Walsall, on January 26th. There had been a light fall of snow and it was bitterly cold, with every indication of more snow to come. Under such adverse weather conditions the attendance of 60 was highly satisfactory. If it was cold outside, then it was certainly warm in the church and ringing chamber

Good use was made of the grand ring of 12 bells and Mr. George Oliver carried out the duties of Ringing Master in his usual efficient manner. The service was conducted by the Vicar of Walsall, Canon A. T. Jenkins, assisted by the curate, the Rev. T. Morgan. In his address Canon Jenkinson stressed the importance of the office of a ringer in proclaiming the Christian message to thousands who were not connected with organised religion. The very nature of such office demanded that ringers should realise their obligations to the Church and be regular in their attendance at Sunday services.

Tea was served in the Blue Coat Schools. In his remarks following tea, the hon. lay secretary requested tower secretaries to impress on their ringers the necessity of turning up for tea if they had sent in their names. The Society had suffered financial loss owing to members failing to attend after ordering tea.

On behalf of the members present, the Rev. C. H. Barker and Mr. George Oliver thanked Canon Jenkins, the Rev. T. Morgan, Mr. W. Walker and his daughter, Mrs. Jones, the members of the Walsall band and the organist of St. Matthew's for their part in making this meeting so successful.

The next meeting of the Society will be at Tamworth on March 29th.

F. C. A B

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD

Kettering District

About 38 members attended the annual meeting of the Kettering District on January 12th at Kettering. The president, the Rev. C. R. Nercock, conducted the service.

Mr. G. E Watson, secretary and treasurer, in his report stated that the general account indicated an increased balance of £4, but support for the Guild Restoration Fund had decreased. Membership at 130 was slightly lower and progress on the whole was satisfactory. He regretted that it was nearly always the same members who attended meetings.

Officers elected were:— President, the Rev. C. R. Nercock; secretary-treasurer, Mr. G. E. Watson; auditor, Mr. S. G. Leasby; Guild Committee, Messrs. L. Teseland and B. Austin; Branch Committee, Mrs. K. Billsen, Messrs. B. Cope, C. Bird and H. Baxter.

Ringing ranged from rounds to Cambridge Surprise. The next meeting will be at Weekley on April 26th.

'THE CLOCK AND BELL'

We have received the first copy of the house magazine of Gillett and Johnston, edited by Mr. A. Patrick Cannon. It is an attractive publication bringing to the notice of readers the various services of the firm and its latest contracts.

Antiquarians interested in foundry marks will note that the firm has adopted a new foundry mark designed by Mr. H. M. Howard and symbolic of the two crafts of bell-founding and clock-making. The new mark reads: 'Gules, three church bells or, a chief embattled argent, at Honour Point a sundial sable.'

Its predecessor, used as a foundry mark only, was derived from the armorial bearings of the late Mr. Cyril F. Johnston. It reads: 'Or, a saltire gules between four church bells sable, on a chief gules three woolpacks or.'

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL

Bristol Rural Branch

Some 113 members and friends met at the Salvation Hotel, Henbury, for the branch's annual supper and social on January 19th. After a sumptuous supper the social evening commenced, highlights being the three Misses White, Mr. Bennett (a literal illusionist), Mr. C. Williams (in crafty-art!) and finishing with dancing. Those present included Mr. J. G. Jefferies (Master), Mr. P. C. Williams (treasurer), Mr. E. Bennett (Bristol City branch secretary) and our own branch officials.

ANNUAL MEETING

Henbury was again the venue—a week later, January 26th—where after an hour's ringing, the service, and a very welcome tea, the business meeting commenced with Mr. C. R. Harding in the chair, the Association Master having declined this honour.

The business included the re-election of Mr. C. R. Harding as branch chairman (now entering his 14th year of office!) by unanimous consent; retirement of Mr. F. Skidmore as Master and the election of Mr. R. Hooper for 1952 Master; retirement of secretary and the election of Mr. F. Scudamore (of Mangotsfield) as the new branch secretary and treasurer. All the officers had optimistic reports of enthusiasm, knowledge gained and of £25 10s. paid into Association funds from the branch accounts.

N. D.

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY

The first meeting of the Society held in 1952 was by kind permission of the Provost and local company of Wakefield Cathedral. Owing to local conditions ringing was allowed from 4 p.m.; a good turn-up ensured the success of the meeting.

Ringing was enjoyed until 7 p.m. when the business meeting was held in the tower. The president (Mr. J. W. Benten) presided and members were present from Armley, Batley, Drighlington, East Ardsley, Guiseley, Headingley St. Michael's, Huddersfield, Kippax, Leeds Parish Church, Ossett, Pudsey, Rothwell, Wakefield, and ringing friends from York, Elland and Brighouse.

Five members of the Wakefield company—Mrs. T. Chadwick, Miss A. White, Messrs. J. H. Kirby, J. E. Kirby and H. Naylor—were elected new members of the Society. The vote of thanks to the Provost, churchwardens and local company was proposed by Mr. T. W. Strangeway and seconded by Mr. L. Drake. Mr. J. H. Kirby acknowledged the thanks and volunteered to convey them to the respective persons.

The next meeting is due to be held on February 23rd.

The secretary introduced the Harold Pailing Memorial Fund and asked for the views of the members. After discussion it was decided to take a collection which totalled £2 8s. 6d.; donations from members not at the meeting increased the total to £3 13s. 6d.

The meeting was then declared closed and further ringing enjoyed until 8.30 p.m.

GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED

The Editorial Committee gratefully acknowledge the following contributions to meet the added cost of 'The Ringing World':—

Personal.—T Cooper 7s., Yorkshire Association, Eastern District, £2, H. Haynes 2s. 6d., the Rev. C. Jarvis 2s. 6d., M. Hollowell 1s., Copt Oak Spliced Minor Band 12s. 6d., Bert Sutton 2s.

Peals.—Burton-on-Stather 2s., Pitminster 2s. 6d., Newton St. Loe 2s., St. Bride's Major, Glam, 3s., Carlton-juxta-Snaith 3s., Jesmond 1s. 9d.

Quarter peals.—St. Crantock 3s., Steep 3s., Cotton, Suffolk, 3s., Sandhurst 2s. 6d., Wood Green 2s. 6d., Pulborough 2s., Pewsey 3s., Holloway 4s., Hatton 2s. 6d., Silsoe 2s. 6d., Little Missenden 1s. 6d., Lyminster 3s.

5,007 STEDMAN CATERS

By SHIRLEY BURTON

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(a) 5, 6, 7, 8, 11, 12, 16, 18, 20

First rung at All Saints', Loughborough, September 22nd, 1951, conducted by Brian G. Warwick.

LATE NOTICES

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—Saturday, Feb. 16th, Selston. Bells (6) available 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea, not later than Wednesday, Feb. 13th, to Mr. A. L. Rawson, 14, Lindley Street, Selston, Notts. Executive meeting after tea. 263

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Rossendale Branch.—Next meeting at Rawtenstall, Saturday, Feb. 16th. Bells from 3. All welcome.—J. Porter. 262

MR. J. BRAY'S 500 PEALS

Mr. J. Bray, of Burton-on-Stather, has completed 500 peals, of which he conducted 230. His list is of special interest, particularly in regard to multi-method performances.

TOWER BELLS

Doubles.—1 to 4 methods, rung 9, (conducted 8).

Minor.—1 to 8 methods 88 (60); 12 to 34 methods 9 (2); 43 to 70 methods 5; 100 methods 1; 102 methods 1; 104 methods 1; 125 methods (9 extents) 1; Cambridge Surprise Minor 7 (3); London Surprise Minor 2 (1); Surprise Minor, 3 methods, 2 (1); Surprise Minor, 7 methods, 1 (1).

Triples.—Grandsire 27 (21); Stedman 12 (8).

Major.—Plain Bob 21 (11); Little Bob 9 (5); Gainsborough Little Bob 1 (1); St. Clement's 4 (2); Double Oxford 1 (1); Double Norwich Court Bob 13 (7); Loughborough Bob 1; Winchester Bob 1 (1); Wymondham Bob 1; Original Bob 1; Kent Treble Bob 15 (8); Oxford Treble Bob 2 (1); Kent and Oxford Treble Bob 6 (5); Spliced in 12 Plain Major methods 1.

Surprise Major.—Cambridge 20 (6); Superlative 9 (3); London 4, Bristol 5; Yorkshire 3 (1); Spliced, 4 methods, 1.

Caters.—Grandsire 3; Stedman 5 (1).

Royal.—Plain Bob 1 (1); Kent Treble Bob 1; Cambridge Surprise 1; Yorkshire Surprise 2.

Cinques.—Stedman 14.

Maximus.—Cambridge 1.

Total.—313 (159).

HANDBELLS

Doubles.—Three methods, rung 2 (conducted 1).

Minor.—Plain Bob 3 (2); 7 to 19 methods 8 (1); 50 to 69 methods 3; 91 methods 1; 105 methods 1.

Triples.—Grandsire 21 (14); St. Clement's 1.

Major.—Plain Bob 45 (20); Little Bob 3; Gainsborough Little Bob 5 (2); Double Bob 5 (1); St. Clement's 2 (2); Double Norwich 5 (1); Double Oxford 1; Kent Treble Bob 9 (5); Hereward Bob 1; Spliced, 2 to 12 methods, 16 (2); Spliced, 17 to 36 methods, 10; Spliced 42 methods, 1; Spliced, 46 methods, 1; Spliced, 50 methods, 1.

Caters.—Grandsire 15 (9); Stedman 1.

Royal.—Plain Bob 17 (8); Little Bob 1; Plain Bob, 2 methods, 2 (1).

Cinques.—Grandsire 2 (1); Stedman 1.

Maximus.—Plain Bob 2 (1); Maximus, 2 methods, 1.

Total.—187 (71).

THE SOUTH AFRICAN PEAL

Raw, Blistered Hands and Swollen Feet

In 'The Ringing World' of January 18th we published a record of a peal of Grandsire Doubles rung at Woodstock, South Africa, on December 27th.

The following story of the peal that appeared in 'The Sunday Tribune,' South Africa, will be read with interest by English peal ringers:—

'Six men in Cape Town have raw, blistered hands because on Thursday night they stood for three hours in the ringing chamber of St. Mary's Church, Woodstock, and rang a peal of 5 040 changes for the first time in Africa since 1908.

'The ropes of the bells passed through each pair of hands 5,040 times. The men could not wear gloves because the wearing of gloves is a breach of bell-ringing etiquette. All were exhausted after their tremendous effort; their feet swelled and by the end of the peal one man was ringing in his bare feet.

'"This is only the third time that a real peal has been rung on the entire continent of Africa,' said Mr. Robert Stickley, of Napier Street, Woodstock, who was the conductor. "The peal was one of Grandsire Doubles. Six bells were used weighing a total of 6 140 lb. We started at about 7.50 p.m. and finished at about 10.45 p.m."'

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION

Peak District Annual Meeting

The eight bells at St. Helen's, Darley Dale, were made good use of at the annual meeting of the Peak District on January 19th. Tea in the Church Schools was shared with the Sunday School party.

The Rector (the Rev. R. J. Stanford), an honorary member of the Society, presided at the business meeting and welcomed the visitors.

The secretary gave a brief review of the year's activities and stated that membership had been maintained but that there was room for a better attendance of the local ringers at some of the towers visited. Matters of interest discussed included the dates of the monthly meetings to give a better opportunity of arranging a few peals. At the election of officers Mr. D. Scott, of Darley Dale, was re-elected secretary; Mr. A. Richardson, of Buxton, chairman, Mrs. A. Richardson and Mr. H. E. Taylor members of the Committee; Mr. G. H. Paulson was appointed Ringing Master. Mr. and Mrs. R. Bullen (late of Ely), who are now residing at Matlock, were made members of the Society and the District is looking forward to Mr. Bullen being a very needed help in the District.

GUILD of DEVONSHIRE RINGERS

Mid-Devon Branch at Teignmouth

The Mid-Devon Branch held its annual meeting at St. Michael's, Teignmouth, on January 26th when visitors attended from London, Exmouth, Exeter, Kenn, Teignmouth, Newton Abbot, Paignton, Totnes and Buckfastleigh. The president (the Rev. Preb. E. V. Cox) and the general secretary (Mr. E. J. Taylor) were also present.

The bells were well utilised during the afternoon and the service was conducted by the Rev. N. F. D. Coleridge, of Newton Abbot, who gave a short and interesting address.

After an excellent tea the usual business meeting followed with Mr. J. E. Lilley in the chair. Two new members were elected, viz., Captain A. R. Povntz, of Shaldon, and Mr. Michael Heath, of Totnes.

The secretary's report showed among other activities that several new members had been elected and that six peals in various Major methods had been rung in the branch. The treasurer's report was also produced and adopted, this showing an increased balance in hand in the General Fund.

The following officers were elected:—Chairman and Ringing Master, Mr. J. F. Lilley; secretary and treasurer, Mr A. L. Bennett; assistant secretary, Mr. W. J. Harvey; auditor, Mr. E. M. Atkins; and three members to serve on the general committee—Messrs. E. M. Atkins, C. F. Austin and W. C. Wakley

In accordance with the 1952 programme, the next quarterly meeting is due to take place at Cornworthy and Dittisham on April 19th, subject to the usual permission being obtained.

Arising out of a discussion it was resolved to send a donation to the fund which is being organised of behalf of the family of a Midland ringer who was recently killed by accident in his own tower.

Hearty votes of thanks were accorded to the Vicars of St. Michael's and St. James', the Rev. N. F. D. Coleridge, Mr. J. W. M. Price (organist), Mr. E. M. Atkins (for making the arrangements) and to the branch secretary for his work during the past year. Further ringing took place at St. James' in the evening.

A. L. B.

IRISH NEWS

Thirty-two resident members of the Irish Association scored peals during 1951. There were 12 first peals and six conductors.

Visitors to Belfast have noted the bell at the ticket barrier at the G.N.R. Station, Great Victoria Street. It fell off its headstock recently and broke in pieces.

NOTICES

Scale of Charges

The charge for Notices of Meetings is one penny a word, minimum 2s. 6d. For additional insertions with no change of type one half of the above charge for each insertion.

Other Notices one penny per word, minimum 3s.

All Notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received on the Monday preceding publication.

HANDBELLS FOR SALE

FOR SALE.—Set of 8 handbells in G by H. Shaw. £12 or near offer to Mr. F. Miller, 22, South Street, Cuckfield, Sussex. 251

HOLIDAY ACCOMMODATION

SCARBOROUGH.—Comfortable board residence, bed and breakfast or B.B. and evening meal. One minute buses all parts. Terms on application to Mr. and Mrs. Bert Sutton, 12, Highfield, Scarborough. 241

PUBLICATIONS

'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.

NO LOVER OF BELLS should be without 'Bells of All Nations,' an encyclopædia of every type the world over. Profusely illustrated. Autographed copies, price 21s., plus 10d. postage, direct from the author.—Ernest Morris, F.R.Hist.S., F.R.G.S., M.R.S.L., The Verger's Lodge, St. Margaret's, Leicester. 34

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MISCELLANEOUS

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BLOFIELD, NORFOLK.—Ringing practice is now on Wednesday evening at 7.30. Visitors are always welcome. whether experienced or otherwise. Bus services are 7 and 7B. 239

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TO THOSE ORDERING BACK NUMBERS.—The following issues of 1951 are out of print; Jan. 5th, Jan. 12th, Feb. 16th. Copies of other numbers can be obtained from the Editor. price 4d. plus postage.

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MEETINGS

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD. — Meeting, Hartfield. Saturday. February 9th. Names to Mr. D. Cornford, Parrock Street.—C. A. Bassett. 228

GUILDFORD GUILD.—Leatherhead District.—Annual meeting at Leatherhead, February 9th. Bells 3—9. Service 4.30. Tea. The Institute, followed by business meeting. 209

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Hereford Branch.—Annual. Hereford, February 9th. Ringing 3. Service (Cathedral) 4.30. Tea 5. Garrick Hotel.—J. W. Downes. 208

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—Meeting. Snodland (6) Saturday, February 9th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Names to Dr. E. S. J. Hatcher, Kimmeridge, Ditton, Maidstone. 212

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION AND LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.—South and West District.—Annual meeting at Acton on Saturday, Feb. 9th. Ringing: Christ Church, Ealing Broadway, 2,30—4 p.m.; St. Stephen's, West Ealing, 3—4 p.m.; Acton 3.30—4.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Meeting 6 p.m. Ringing (Acton) afterwards. 198

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Bicester Deanery Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Middleton Stoney, Saturday, February 9th. Bells (6) at 2.30. Service 4. Tea 5. Names for tea to Mr. C. Kinch, 3, The Causeway, Bicester. 201

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Reading Branch.—Annual meeting, St. Mary's, Reading, Saturday, February 9th. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea, at Church House, 5.30. St. Laurence's bells in evening. 194

SUSSEX COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Southern Division.—Annual meeting, St. Peter's, Brighton (10), Saturday, February 9th. Tower open 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. —B. W. White. 217

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Western Branch.—Meeting at Earls Croome, Saturday, February 9th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Tea provided.—E. F. Cubberley. 231

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Meeting at Bell Foundry, Saturday, Feb. 16th, 3 p.m. St. Botolph's, Bishopsgate, afterwards.—A. B. Peck, Sec. 261

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Chew Deanery. — Meeting, Chew Stoke, Feb. 16th, 4 o'clock.—Percy G. Yeo, Long Ashton. 253

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Luton District.—Meeting, Dunstable, Saturday, Feb. 16th, 3 p.m. Cafes available for tea.—Dennis Knox, Dis. Sec. 250

BRAMLEY, HANTS.—Dedication of augmented ring of eight bells, by Bishop Lang, Saturday, February 16th. 3 p.m. Bells available till 9 p.m. Names for tea. by February 12th, to Miss Osler, Bramley, Basingstoke. 203

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Crewe Branch.—Holmes Chapel, Feb. 16th. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea must be received by 12th. — W. Kerr, 26, Davenham Crescent, Crewe. 252

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Wirral Branch.—Annual meeting, Feb. 16th, Eastham (6). Tower open 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea provided for those notifying me by 12th at latest. Annual dinner, entertainment and dance, Saturday, March 1st, Coach and Horses Inn, Moreton. Tickets (15s. each) now available.—A. J. Martin, 19, Falcon Road, Birkenhead. 258

CLEVELAND AND NORTH YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Monthly meeting at Guisborough (6) on Saturday, Feb. 16th, at 3 p.m. Methods for practice: London and York Surprise.—P. W. S. Semmens, Hon. Sec. 255

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Coventry and Rugby District.—Meeting, Meriden, Feb. 16th. Bells 3. Tea arranged for those notifying Michael Callow, 4, Whichcote Avenue, Leys Lane, Meriden, near Coventry. 237

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Chesterfield District.—Monthly meeting, Barlborough (6), Saturday, Feb. 16th, 3 p.m. Names for tea by Feb. 13th to Mr. A. Ashby, 16, Boughton Lane, Clowne, Chesterfield. 257

DEVON GUILD.—Aylesbeare Branch.—Topsham, Feb. 16th. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names to B. Pidgeon, East Budleigh. 176

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — North-Western District.—Nazeing (6). Dedication of bells by Bishop of Barking and meeting on Saturday, Feb. 16th. Service at 3 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. free, providing names sent before Wednesday, Feb. 13th, to C. Mansfield, Long Yard, Upper Nazeing, Essex.—G. Blake, Dis. Sec. 225

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — South Eastern Division.—Meeting, Little Waltham (6), Saturday, February 16th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Numbers for tea to A. Everett, 24, The Chase, Boreham. 190

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting, Feb. 16th, Goudhurst (8 bells), 3 p.m. Names tea to reach G. Billenness, 3, Grasmere Terrace, Hawkhurst, Feb. 13th. 243

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — A committee meeting will be held at St. James', Poolstock, Wigan, at 4 p.m on Saturday, February 16th. Names for tea to be in not later than Monday, February 11th, to Mr. A. Parker, 89, Barnsley Street, Wigan 64

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Wigan Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Poolstock, Wigan, on Saturday, Feb. 16th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Names for tea not later than Monday, Feb. 11th, to Mr. A. Paker, 89, Barnsley Street, Wigan.—W. Farrimond. 260

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Quarterly general meeting at Melton Mowbray on February 16th. Bells (10) 2.30 to 4.30 and 6.15 to 8.15. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting, Colles Hall at 5. Names, by February 13th, latest, to Mr. H. Clayton, 17, Bayswater Road, Melton Mowbray.—W. A. Wood, Hon. Gen. Sec. 220

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. — Lincoln and Gainsborough Districts.—Joint meeting at Saxilby (6) on Saturday, February 16th. Service at 4.15 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. for those who notify, by Wednesday previous, C. Brown, 3, Altham Terrace, Lincoln.—L. Lunn and C Brown, Hon. Secs. 223

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSOCIATION.—Quarterly meeting Pentre, February 16th. Bells 2.30 Service 4. Tea and business to follow.—F. J. Hannington, 32, Surrey Street, Canton, Cardiff. 213

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION — East Norfolk Branch. — Annual meeting at Gorleston-on-Sea (8) Saturday, February 16th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea, Matthes Assembly Rooms, Englands Lane, at 5 p.m. Names or numbers for tea by Wednesday, February 13th, **the very latest**, to J. Harwood, 189, Palgrave Road, Great Yarmouth 199

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Western Division. —Annual, Arundel, February 16th, 2 p.m. Business meeting 4.45. Service 5.45. Dinner (reservations, by February 6th, to Hon. Div. Sec.) 6.45. Social evening after.—E. Treagus. 206

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester District.—Practice meeting, Hursley, Saturday, February 16th. Bells (8) 2. Service 4.15. Tea 5 in King's Head Hotel. After tea, Cambridge practice. Names, by previous Tuesday, to Mr. J. A. C. King. 29, Fox Lane, Stanmore, Winchester. 207

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH. — Andover District.—Annual, Feb. 16th, Andover. Bells (8) 2.30 onwards. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. White Hart Hotel. Names to J. A. Hill, Maesteg, Anna Valley, Andover. 254

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Southern District.—Quarterly meeting, Hemsworth, Saturday, Feb. 16th. New peal of 8 available from 2.30 p.m. Names for tea by 14th to Mr. C. Moxon, 13, Cemetery Road, Hemsworth, Pontefract.—J. J. L. Gilbert. 259

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Bristol Rural Branch.—Monthly meeting at St. Werburgh's (6), Feb. 23rd, 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. Business meeting 6 p.m. Names for tea by Feb. 18th to W. F. Scudamore, 6, Sandringham Avenue, Downend, Bristol. 244

(Continued on next page)

NOTICES—Continued

HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bromyard District.—Annual meeting will be held at Bromyard on Saturday, Feb. 23rd. Ringing at 3. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Numbers for tea by Wednesday, 20th.—A. S. Tomkins, Harp Cottage, Bredenbury, Herefords. 245

LADIES' GUILD.—Midland District.—Meeting at St. Mary de Castro's, Leicester, Feb. 23rd. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mrs. P. J. Staniforth, 150, Narborough Road South, Leicester, not later than Wednesday, Feb. 20th. All ringers welcome.—J. Staniforth, Hon. Sec. 248

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. — Elloe Deaneries Branch.—Annual meeting, Spalding, Saturday, Feb. 23rd. Bells from 2.30. Names for tea to Mr. J. G. Ames, 22, Willow Walk, Spalding, before Saturday, Feb. 16th. 247

NORWICH ASSOCIATION. — Western Branch.—Meeting, Gaywood, King's Lynn, Saturday, Feb. 23rd. Bells (6) 3 o'clock. Service 3.40. Tea application not less than three days prior, please. — W. J. Eldred, 4, Wellington Street. King's Lynn. 249

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Witney and Woodstock Branch.—The annual meeting will be held at Southleigh on Saturday, Feb. 23rd. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 3.45 p.m. Names for tea by Thursday, Feb. 21st, to Miss Lottie Pimm, High Street, Eynsham, Oxon. 246

DEVON GUILD.—S.W. Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Plympton St. Maurice, March 1st. Usual arrangements. Names for tea by Feb. 25th to T. G. Myers, 79, Regent Street, Plymouth. 240

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Annual general committee meeting, Oxford, March 15th. Details later.—Hibbert, General Secretary. 238

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