

THE RINGING WORLD

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

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THE PASSING

RINGERS by their vocation, are very close to the heart of the Nation. To the majority of us this week has fallen the melancholy task of proclaiming to the people the passing of King George VI. It is our responsibility to give an audible expression of the Nation's sorrow. We look back over the past 16 years of the King's reign with a sense of thankfulness to the leadership he gave the Empire in a period of unparalleled difficulty. His death, so unexpectedly, leaves a blank difficult to fill. He gave to this country two things in particular—a sense of courage in adversity and an unshaken belief in the divine hand of God. There were many examples in his broadcasts, but one we will quote again given in the blackest days of the last war: 'Let us go forward as one man, a smile on our lips and our heads held high and with God's help we shall not fail.' Those words are equally applicable to-day.

The sympathy of Church Bell Ringers throughout the land has been expressed in a telegram sent to Buckingham Palace by Mr. G. W. Fletcher, secretary of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers, and a gracious acknowledgment has been received. Every man and woman in the land and the Commonwealth is conscious of a personal loss; since Wednesday, February 6th, a quiet and reverent Nation has gone about its normal avocations with a feeling of gratitude to one who, though neither born nor trained to be King, was called upon to ascend the Throne under circumstances which must have been particularly painful to him. His strong sense of duty and the assiduous manner in which he attended to the affairs of State won for him a place of deep affection in all hearts.

We also think of our King and gracious Queen as those who delighted in knowing and understanding our people. At times we ringers feel that we are the unseen section of the community and, providing the bells are rung, we do not enter into the general picture of things. There were, however, times when ringers were brought into close contact with the Royal Family. There was a memorable occasion at Chester when the ringers were introduced, and also quite recently when the Queen deputised for the King in a visit to Manchester. Her Majesty went out of her way to chat to the ringers. Probably other tower captains can remind us of similar incidents.

On such occasions as this the question is naturally asked what is the correct procedure—should the bells be rung half muffled or fully muffled? At the passing of King George V. there was no measure of agreement and more than one writer made a request to 'The Ringing World' for a ruling from the Central Council on the subject. A school of thought then advocated that for the passing of the King the bells should be rung fully muffled and for other personages half muffled. While we at Guildford do not in any sense wish to give the correct interpretation of the procedure to be adopted, our observation took this form. On the day of the King's death and on every other day before the funeral, except for the day of the Proclamation of Queen Elizabeth II., the knell was tolled on the tenor at noon. On the evening of the day of the King's death the bells were rung fully muffled to touches of Stedman with the exception of the tenor, which was half muffled. This was followed by the 'whole pull and stand' for the late King's age. The same procedure it is proposed to adopt for the memorial service.

The late Mr. J. Armiger Trollope, who in many respects was an authority on matters of procedure, when approached for his opinion as to whether ringing should be half or fully muffled, said there was no way more correct than another; the only question was which sounds the best. He added, 'Probably the most effective is to ring the "whole pull and stand" half muffled very slowly, with a whole pull on the tenor alone between each change and varying the order in which the bells are rung. To do this properly you would want a good band. When changes are rung either in touches or peals, half muffled is infinitely superior to fully muffled, but quick ringing ruins the effect, and Major is preferable to Triples. . . . The tolled bell is the only official way of commemorating Royalty. Fully muffled ringing is not much more than 200 years old and half muffled considerably less.'

Whether the ringing adopted in your tower is half muffled or fully muffled, we sincerely trust that every band in the country will recognise its special responsibility and ring on the day of the funeral and at any local memorial service that will be arranged. The clergy and the public expect it of us and also there is our own personal desire to be associated with the Nation in the tribute to one who was held in such affection by us all.

TWELVE BELL PEAL**BIRMINGHAM.**

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Tues., Feb. 5, 1952, in 3 Hours and 54 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,

A PEAL OF 5280 PUDSEY SURPRISE MAXIMUS

Tenor 37 cwt. in C.

G. WILLIAM CRITCHLEY ..Treble	HENRY H. FEARN 7
*CLAUDIA A. HARDING .. 2	*WILFRID F. MORETON .. 8
EDGAR C. SHEPHERD .. 3	*JOHN WORTH 9
ALBERT WALKER 4	*JOHN R. MAYNE 10
*FRED DUNKERLEY 5	GEORGE E. FEARN 11
*FRANK E. HAYNES 6	*EDWARD JENKINS Tenor

Composed by WILLIAM BARTON. Conducted by EDWARD JENKINS.
* First peal of Pudsey Surprise Maximus.

TEN BELL PEALS**DERBY.**

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 26, 1952, in 3 Hours and 22 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW, LITCHURCH,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 18 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb.

DENIS R. CARLISLE ..Treble	*SAMPSON WALKLATE .. 6
MARK BARKER 2	HAROLD MARCON 7
EDWARD F. GOBEY 3	ALBERT E. THOMPSON .. 8
WALTER P. WHITEHEAD .. 4	HAROLD TAYLOR 9
PHILIP WHITAKER 5	FRANCIS R. LOWE Tenor

Composed and Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

* First peal of Surprise. A farewell peal for the Vicar, the Rev. T. Parfitt, M.A., who is leaving for Madagascar, having been consecrated to the Bishopric.

LEICESTER.

THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

(Hinckley District.)

On Sat., Feb. 2, 1952, in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-DIVINE,

A PEAL OF 5017 STEDMAN CATERS

Tenor 21 cwt.

FRANK K. MEASURES ..Treble	*ALLEN HOUGH 6
*EDWARD A. SOWMAN .. 2	WILLIAM A. WOOD 7
*MICHAEL E. BROWN .. 3	GEORGE A. NEWTON .. 8
ALFRED BALLARD 4	W. ARTHUR RIDDINGTON 9
*CECIL E. CARR 5	*CURZON CLARKE Tenor

Composed by JOHN CARTER. Conducted by FRANK K. MEASURES.

* First peal on ten bells. First peal on ten as conductor. First peal ever rung on ten bells by all-Hinckley District band. A compliment to Mr. E. C. Turner on the birth of a grandson.

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 2, 1952, in 3 Hours and 25 Minutes,

AT CHRIST CHURCH.

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL

Tenor 23 cwt. 2 qr. 23 lb.

JAMES A. MILNER ..Treble	C. KENNETH LEWIS .. 6
*BASIL JONES 2	JOHN WORTH 7
FRED DUNKERLEY 3	WILFRED STEVENSON .. 8
NEIL D. LOMAS 4	JOSEPH W. WHITTAKER .. 9
ANNE WORTH 5	PETER LAFLIN Tenor

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

* First peal of Cambridge Royal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS ***WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.**

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Jan. 17, 1952, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5088 ACTON SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt.

ERNEST H. KILBY ..Treble	LEONARD H. BOWLER .. 5
RICHARD F. B. SPEED .. 2	THOMAS J. LOCK 6
ANNE B. STOCKDALE .. 3	ALFRED J. HOUSE 7
ALICK CUTLER 4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS .. Tenor

Conducted by CHARLES W. ROBERTS.

This is the first peal ever rung in the method.

WORCESTER.

THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 26, 1952, in 3 Hours and 3 Minutes,

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

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 15½ cwt.

*WILLIAM RANFORD ..Treble	WILLIAM LEWIS 5
REGINALD WOODYATT .. 2	ALBERT E. HUMPHRIES .. 6
SIDNEY T. HOLT 3	CHARLES CAMM 7
THOMAS W. LEWIS 4	CYRIL TANSELL Tenor

Composed by ERNEST MORRIS. Conducted by SIDNEY T. HOLT.
* 500th peal.

WILLESDEN, MIDDLESEX.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY ASSN. & LONDON DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Jan. 31, 1952, in 2 Hours and 42 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5024 WARNHAM SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt.

C. EDWARD LANKESTER ..Treble	LEONARD H. BOWLER .. 5
THOMAS H. FRANCIS .. 2	RICHARD F. B. SPEED .. 6
ANNE B. STOCKDALE .. 3	ALFRED J. HOUSE 7
ALICK CUTLER 4	CHARLES W. ROBERTS .. Tenor

Composed by R. F. B. SPEED. Conducted by CHARLES W. ROBERTS.
First peal in the method by all the band and for the Association.

SURFLEET, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Feb. 1, 1952, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. LAWRENCE,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt. 9 lb.

JOHN E. ALLEN ..Treble	CYRIL WANDER 5
STANLEY E. BENNETT .. 2	AUBREY D. MILLS 6
HAROLD BARSLEY 3	HORACE BENNETT 7
BERNARD H. DALTON .. 4	JOHN G. AMES Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by JOHN G. AMES.
Rung in honour of the birth of a son to Mr. and Mrs. Jack H. Wayman, and grandson of the late Rupert and Mrs. Richardson, of Surfleet.**BIRSTALL, YORKSHIRE.**

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION

On Sat., Feb. 2, 1952, in 3 Hours and 7 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5184 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 22 cwt. 1 qr. 7 lb. in E.

*FRANK POPPLEWELL ..Treble	†LESLIE BOUMPHREY .. 5
ERNEST H. SIMPSON .. 2	ERNEST B. BETTS 6
VERNON BOTTOMLEY .. 3	ROY BETTLEY-COOK 7
EDWARD JENKINS 4	FRED HODGSON Tenor

Composed by W. E. CRITCHLEY.

Conducted by EDWARD JENKINS.
* First peal of Surprise. † First peal of Yorkshire. Arranged and rung as a 21st birthday compliment to Miss Mary Shearsmith, of Pudsey.**BOWDON, CHESHIRE.**

THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 2, 1952, in 3 Hours and 8 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 1 qr. 25 lb. in F sharp.

JEAN C. BROWN ..Treble	ROY BROOME 5
*RUTH JACKSON 2	ALAN N. BROWN 6
STELLA WAIN 3	ALAN J. BROWN 7
DOUGLAS KIRKPATRICK .. 4	DAVID VINCENT Tenor

Composed by J. R. PRITCHARD.

Conducted by ALAN J. BROWN.
* First peal. A 17th birthday compliment to Miss Ann P. Brown.**BRENCHLEY, KENT.**

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 2, 1952, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 18 cwt.

*BETTY M. VIDLER ..Treble	BENJAMIN F. BAKER .. 5
FREDERICK S. MACEY .. 2	REGINALD E. LAMBERT .. 6
THOMAS E. SONE 3	ROBERT T. LAMBERT .. 7
FREDK. J. LAMBERT, JUN. 4	S. GEOFFREY WATERS .. Tenor

Composed by H. W. WILDE.

Conducted by THOMAS E. SONE.
* First peal on eight bells. Rung with the bells half-muffled in memorial of the Rev. Sir Henry Fitzmaurice, the beloved Vicar of Brenchley.

**DEBENHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.**
On Sat., Feb. 2, 1952, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY MAGDALENE,
A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 21½ cwt. in E.

WILLIAM J. BUTTON Treble	LESLIE G. BRETT 5
GEORGE A. FLEMING 2	WALTER W. MILLER 6
GEORGE W. PIPE 3	ALBERT E. WHITING 7
FRANK L. FISHER 4	CECIL W. PIPE Tenor

Composed by CHARLES J. SEDGLEY. Conducted by GEORGE W. PIPE.

First touch in the method as conductor.

**DUNSTABLE, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.**
On Sat., Feb. 2, 1952, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,
AT THE PRIORY CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 24 cwt.

*JOAN NEWMAN Treble	*DENIS KNOX 5
JAMES G. NEWMAN 2	ANDREW C. SINFIELD 6
*JOHN SINFIELD 3	ARTHUR E. SHARMAN 7
RONALD J. SHARP 4	LEWIS BYWATERS Tenor

Composed by SIR A. P. HEYWOOD. Conducted by ARTHUR E. SHARMAN.

* First peal of Double Norwich Court Bob Major.

FULBOURN, CAMBRIDGESHIRE.
THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY GUILD.
On Sat., Feb. 2, 1952, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. VIGOR AND ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5120 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 12 cwt.

E. C. BATES (Caius) Treble	R. D. EDGE (Queens') 5
MISS G. A. SMITH (Newn.) 2	A. R. GUY (Jesus) 6
E. J. LINDLEY (Trinity) 3	C. M. P. JOHNSON (Selw.) 7
F. E. ROBERTS (Selwyn) 4	P. A. F. CHALK (Selwyn) Tenor

Arranged and Conducted by EDWIN J. LINDLEY.

HEAVITREE, EXETER, DEVON.
THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.
On Sat., Feb. 2, 1952, in 3 Hours and 28 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF 5024 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor 26 cwt.

MRS. E. S. POWELL Treble	REGINALD BEALE 5
RENATE BUCHTHAL 2	FREDERICK WRE福德 6
E. MAURICE ATKINS 3	REV. J. G. M. SCOTT 7
WILLIAM HOWE 4	JACK W. DREW Tenor

Composed by REV. E. S. POWELL. Conducted by JACK W. DREW.

Rung on the Feast of the Purification.

HEPTONSTALL, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Feb. 2, 1952, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS A BECKET,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 18 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb. in E.

*MARGARET E. JACKSON .. Treble	PETER E. PARRY 5
PHILIP P. CARTER 2	DEREK OGDEN 6
†BRIAN H. WOOD 3	BRIAN HARRIS 7
ERIC NIXON 4	WILFRED L. ROBINSON .. Tenor

Conducted by PHILIP P. CARTER.

* First peal. † First peal in the method. First peal as conductor.

HOOK NORTON, OXON.
THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Feb. 2, 1952, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

J. J. Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 20½ cwt.

FRANCIS J. POWELL Treble	FREDERICK KINCHIN 5
WILLIAM MALE 2	HAROLD HUXLEY 6
FREDERICK C. LYNE 3	C. ARTHUR MANNING 7
WILLIAM COLLETT 4	ERNEST H. BOSWORTH .. Tenor

Conducted by C. ARTHUR MANNING.

KIRBY-LE-SOKEN, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Feb. 2, 1952, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF 5008 DOUBLE OXFORD BOB MAJOR

Tenor 8½ cwt.

GORDON CLARKE Treble	GEORGE A. ANDREWS 5
GEORGE N. ORMAN 2	EDWARD E. DAVEY 6
EDWARD B. SMITH 3	RONALD G. BUGG 7
*URBAN W. WILDNEY 4	ALAN R. ANDREWS Tenor

Composed by SIR ARTHUR HEYWOOD. Conducted by ALAN R. ANDREWS.

* 100th peal for Essex Association. The first peal in the method by all the band and on the bells.

OVERSEALE, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.
On Sat., Feb. 2, 1952, in 2 Hours and 44 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MATTHEW,
A PEAL OF 5024 BRISTOL SURPRISE MAJOR

Tenor 10 cwt. in A flat.

JOSEPH WM. COTTON .. Treble	FRANCIS R. LOWE 5
*ROLAND BENISTON 2	HAROLD TAYLOR 6
*ALBERT E. THOMPSON .. 3	SIDNEY H. JONES 7
JOHN UNDERWOOD 4	WALTER P. WHITEHEAD .. Tenor

Composed by ERNEST MORRIS. Conducted by WALTER P. WHITEHEAD.

* First peal of Bristol Surprise Major. This composition is now rung for the first time.

TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT.
THE EAST GRINSTEAD AND DISTRICT GUILD.
On Sat., Feb. 2, 1952, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5184 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 14 cwt. 2 lb. in F.

*EDWARD J. JENNER .. Treble	BERNARD V. COLLISON .. 5
ERNEST J. LADD 2	DORIS E. COLGATE 6
ALBERT RELFE 3	†JOHN O. WELLER 7
CHARLES A. BASSETT .. 4	ROBERT COLLINS Tenor

Composed by G. H. CROSS. Conducted by ROBERT COLLINS.

* First peal in the method. † 150th peal. First peal as conductor on eight bells. Rung for the institution and induction of the new Vicar, the Rev. H. R. Ward.

WELLINGTON, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Feb. 2, 1952, in 3 Hours and 15 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Bruerton's Twelve-part. Tenor 19 cwt. 1 qr. 5 lb. in E.

*DOUGLAS LENTELL .. Treble	†DAVID NORTH 5
DOUGLAS BELLAMY 2	CYRIL STEVENS 6
†GEOFFREY GAMMON 3	GORDON WALFORD 7
†WILLIAM SLOCOMBE 4	†ALBERT HAWKINS Tenor

Conducted by DAVID NORTH.

* First peal away from the tenor. † First peal on eight bells. First peal on the recast bells. All members of the local service band.

PRITTLEWELL, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sun., Feb. 3, 1952, in 3 Hours and 1 Minute,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE B.V.M.,
A PEAL OF 5024 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR

Tenor 18½ cwt.

*BERNARD SADLER .. Treble	VICTOR W. GRIMWADE .. 5
ERNEST W. FURBANK .. 2	*PHILIP SADLER 6
WILLIAM S. MAY 3	FRANK B. LUFKIN 7
FRANK C. MAY 4	GERALD FROST Tenor

Composed by CHARLES W. ROBERTS. Conducted by FRANK B. LUFKIN.

* First peal of Double Norwich.



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EVESHAM, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
 (Southern Branch.)

On Wed., Feb., 6, 1952, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Parker's Twelve-part (7th observat on). Tenor 12½ cwt.
 *BRENDA M. SMITH Treble | WILFRED J. NEWMAN .. 5
 CLIFFORD J. DARKE .. 2 | CHARLES N. EDWIN .. 6
 R. ROGER SAVORY .. 3 | GEOFFREY J. HEMMING .. 7
 GERALD C. HEMMING .. 4 | REGINALD W. KYTE Tenor

Conducted by GEOFFREY J. HEMMING.

* First peal. Rung half-muffled in memory of Philip Thomas Mills, ringer and chorister at this church.

COLEORTON, LEICESTERSHIRE.
MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.

On Thurs., Feb. 7, 1952, in 2 Hours and 45 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Holt's Ten-part. Tenor 13 cwt. 1 qr. 8 lb.
 WALTER G. SOAR Treble | †JOSEPH W. COTTON .. 5
 ERNEST MORRIS .. 2 | JOHN UNDERWOOD .. 6
 *PETER MARRIOTT .. 3 | ROLAND BENISTON .. 7
 WM. F. WOODWARD .. 4 | SIDNEY H. JONES Tenor

Conducted by ROLAND BENISTON.

* First peal in the method. † 250th peal. First peal in method as conductor. In memoriam King George VI.

FIVE AND SIX BELL PEALS

NEWTON-ST.-LOE, SOMERSET.
THE BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Jan. 26, 1952, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being sixteen 240's (four Pitman's, four Morris's and eight Lindoff's) and ten 120's, 26 different callings. Tenor 11½ cwt.

WILLIAM J. TOVEY Treble | †LESLIE R. G. TAYLOR .. 4
 *MRS. H. L. PARFREY .. 2 | HAROLD L. PARFREY .. 5
 †SIDNEY G. KING .. 3 | †CEDRIC J. A. BROWN (15) Tenor

Conducted by HAROLD L. PARFREY.

* First peal of Grandsire Doubles. † First peal of Doubles and first peal 'inside.' † First peal.

Rung for the induction of the Rev. J. W. Tunwell to the parish of Newton-St.-Loe, to be held in plurality with his present parish of Corston, and also on his election of chairman of the Bath Branch of the above Association.

FELKIRK, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
 (Barnsley District Society.)

On Sun., Jan. 27, 1952, in 3 Hours,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 TREBLE BOB MINOR

In ten methods: (1) College Exercise, Norbury and Duke of Norfolk, (2) St. Albans, (3) Neasden, (4) Wragby, (5) Kingston, (6) London Scholars Pleasure, (7) Sandal and Oxford. Tenor 10 cwt.

WILLIE GREEN Treble | *HERMAN RUSBY .. 4
 HAROLD CHANT .. 2 | *NOEL F. MOXON .. 5
 *FRED COWLING .. 3 | DANIEL SMITH Tenor

Conducted by DANIEL SMITH.

* First peal in more than seven methods. Rung in honour of the diamond wedding of Mr. and Mrs. H. Smith, of Ruardean Hill, near Drybrook, Gloucestershire (parents of the conductor). They were married at Holy Trinity Church, Drybrook, on January 9th, 1892.

HUNTINGDON.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., Feb. 1, 1952, in 2 Hours and 31 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Tenor 8 cwt. 3 qr. 25 lb.

*MICHAEL J. DYER (14) .. Treble | R. FRANK BAKER .. 4
 FRANK WARRINGTON .. 2 | HAROLD S. PEACOCK .. 5
 CYRIL J. YOUNG .. 3 | STANLEY GILBERT Tenor

Conducted by STANLEY GILBERT.

* First peal. A compliment to the Rev. J. M. E. Bagley on completion of six years as Rector of this church.

BLACKWELL, DERBYSHIRE.
THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Feb. 2, 1952, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WERBURGH,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 9 cwt.
 *MARION BRADLEY Treble | ALBERT WHEELER .. 4
 JOAN SMITH .. 2 | FRANK BRADLEY .. 5
 ARTHUR SMITHSON .. 3 | WILFRED RILEY Tenor

Conducted by FRANK BRADLEY.

* First peal. First peal of Plain Bob on the bells.

HALSALL, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 2, 1952, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CUTHBERT,

A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Rev. Banks James' arrangement. Tenor 10 cwt. 3 qr. 19 lb. in A flat.
 WILLIAM PILKINGTON .. Treble | WILFRED CORE .. 4
 MARGARET RIDYARD .. 2 | CUTHBERT ACKERS .. 5
 ARTHUR MAWDSLEY .. 3 | *RONALD KENRICK Tenor

Conducted by RONALD KENRICK.

* 100th peal.

HARLAXTON, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
 (Southern Branch.)

On Sat., Feb. 2, 1952, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF SS. MARY AND PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being two extents each of Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob and three of Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt. (approx.).

*FREDK. WM. PINCHBECK .. Treble | FREDK. S. PARSONS .. 4
 GEORGE WM. CREASEY .. 2 | JAMES H. MUSSON .. 5
 DENIS A. FRITH .. 3 | H. REGINALD WOODS .. Tenor

Conducted by H. REGINALD WOODS.

* First peal of Minor in three methods. First peal of Minor as conductor.

KINGS BROMLEY, STAFFORDSHIRE.
THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sat., Feb. 2, 1952, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 LONDON SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor 11 cwt.
 CLIVE M. SMITH Treble | JOAN BERESFORD .. 4
 PETER BERESFORD .. 2 | WALTER J. COPE .. 5
 DENNIS BERESFORD .. 3 | GEORGE E. OLIVER Tenor

Conducted by GEORGE E. OLIVER.

First peal of London Surprise Minor by all the band, on the bells and for the Society.

NORTH KILWORTH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Feb. 2, 1952, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being thirty 120's (ten callings) and six 240's (two each of C.C.C. Nos. 11, 12 and 13). Tenor 11½ cwt.

COLIN N. BENNETT Treble | *JOSEPH S. HAYNES .. 3
 PETER J. THOMAS .. 2 | DENIS H. ALLSOPP .. 4
 *KENNETH H. ROWLANDS .. Tenor

Conducted by PETER J. THOMAS.

* First peal. First peal as conductor. This is the first peal on the bells by the local Sunday service band. Rung for the purification of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

RIPPLE, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 2, 1952, in 3 Hours,
 AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven 720's. Tenor 13 cwt.
 *KENNETH SPIERS Treble | †CHARLES HAYTINGS .. 4
 R. GEORGE MORRIS .. 2 | R. WOODYATT .. 5
 C. TANSSELL .. 3 | JACK ROBERTS Tenor

Conducted by C. TANSSELL.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal of Minor 'inside.' Mr. Jack Roberts has 'circled' the tower.

SNODLAND, KENT.

THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 2, 1952, in 2 Hours and 39 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being one 240 of Morris's and 40 six-scores, ten callings. Tenor 10 cwt.

*MRS. L. C. WELLS .. Treble	VICTOR A. JARRETT .. 4
FRANCIS J. CHEAL .. 2	CYRIL S. JARRETT .. 5
†LEONARD C. WELLS .. 3	ALBERT GREEN .. Tenor

Conducted by CYRIL S. JARRETT.

* First peal. † First peal of Doubles. First peal of Doubles as conductor.

WICKHAM MARKET, SUFFOLK.

THE SUFFOLK GUILD.

On Sat., Feb. 2, 1952, in 3 Hours,

AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In five methods, viz., Cambridge Surprise, Oxford, Kent, Double Court and Plain Bob.

A. CUTHBERT Treble	A. LING 4
G. BERRY 2	N. HALL 5
A. SMITH 3	J. PREASTNER .. Tenor

Conducted by J. PREASTNER.

A 70th birthday compliment to Mr. G. Berry.

BRITFORD, WILTSHIRE.

THE SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Sun., Feb. 3, 1952, in 2 Hours and 55 Minutes,

AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being five different extents. Tenor 8 cwt. in A flat.

*JAMES LEWIS Treble	RONALD N. MARLOW .. 4
HERBERT H. ABRAHAMS .. 2	LESLIE A. PAGE .. 5
†MARGARET R. PAGE .. 3	JACK MUSSELL .. Tenor

Conducted by HERBERT H. ABRAHAMS.

* First peal of Minor. † First peal. First peal of Minor as conductor.

HANDBELL PEALS

WARWICK.

THE COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Thurs., Jan. 17, 1952, in 2 Hours and 13 Minutes,

AT 21, THE BUTTS,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 12 extents (four callings) of Plain Bob and 30 of Grandsire (ten callings). Tenor 3½ in. diameter in A flat.

WILLIAM H. MALE .. 1-2-3-4 | THOMAS MALE .. 5-6

Conducted by WILLIAM H. MALE.

First peal 'in hand' by both ringers.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Wed., Jan. 23, 1952, in 1 Hour and 38 Minutes,

AT SALTLEY COLLEGE,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different extents. Tenor size 14 in D.

BRIAN G. WARWICK .. 1-2 | WILFRID F. MORETON .. 3-4

*BRIAN R. SUTTON .. 5-6

Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.

* First peal of Minor on handbells.

BRISTOL.

THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sun., Jan. 27, 1952, in 2 Hours and 5 Minutes,

AT 22, YORK STREET, REDFIELD.

A PEAL OF 5056 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 G. BENNETT. Conducted by JOHN F. PEDLER.

Rung to celebrate the birth of a daughter (Victoria Jennifer) to Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Davey (née Bennett) on January 22nd.

BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Mon., Jan. 28, 1952, in 2 Hours and 19 Minutes,

IN THE BELERY OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP,

A PEAL OF 5152 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 16 in B.

JOHN R. MAYNE 1-2 | WILFRID F. MORETON .. 5-6

*SHURLEY V. RYMER 3-4 | BRIAN R. SUTTON .. 7-8

Composed by FREDK. DENCH. Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.

* First peal of Major on handbells.



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CROYDON



BIRMINGHAM.

ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.

On Wed., Jan. 30, 1952, in 2 Hours and 27 Minutes,
IN THE BELFERY OF THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF ST. PHILIP,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL

Tenor size 16 in B.

JOHN R. MAYNE	1-2	WILFRID F. MORETON	5-6
*J. MARTIN THORLEY	3-4	BRIAN G. WARWICK	7-8

GEORGE E. FEARN 9-10

Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.

* First peal of Royal on an 'inside' pair.

EDGBASTON, BIRMINGHAM.

THE UNIVERSITIES ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Jan. 30, 1952, in 1 Hour and 50 Minutes,

AT THE GUILD OF UNDERGRADUATES UNION,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven independent extents.

Tenor size 16 in B.

*PETER C. RIDGWAY	1-2	JOHN R. MAYNE	3-4
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HARRY POYNER 5-6

Conducted by HARRY POYNER.

* First handbell peal.

BURTON-ON-STATHER, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Fri., Feb. 1, 1952, in 2 Hours and 20 Minutes,

AT TRENTWOOD,

A PEAL OF 5040 SPLICED MAJOR

Comprising eight methods: Wellington Little Court, Gainsborough Little Bob, Little Bob, Reverse Bob, Double Bob, Plain Bob, Crayford College and St. Clement's; 246 changes of method.

Tenor size 14½ in C sharp.

MRS. J. BRAY	1-2	JACK BRAY	5-6
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GEORGE E. FEARN	3-4	*FRANK PRICE	7-8
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Composed and Conducted by GEORGE E. FEARN.

* First spliced peal 'in hand.'

DARLINGTON, CO. DURHAM.

THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.

On Sat., Feb. 2, 1952, in 1 Hour and 53 Minutes,

AT 38, SWALEDALE AVENUE,

A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being eighteen 120's of Grandsire and twenty-four 120's of Plain Bob.

Tenor size 14 in D.

MICHAEL P. MORETON	1-2	ROLAND PARK	3-4
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THOMAS COOKE 5-6

Conducted by ROLAND PARK.

Witness: IRENE PARK.

OXFORD.

THE OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY.

On Sat., Feb. 2, 1952, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,

AT HERTFORD COLLEGE,

A PEAL OF 5000 KENT TREBLE BOB ROYAL

Tenor size 15 in C.

*ROBIN G. TURNER	1-2	WILLIAM L. B. LEESE	5-6
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*MICHAEL SLANEY	3-4	WILFRID F. MORETON	7-8
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*PETER BORDER 9-10

Composed by ERNEST MORRIS. Conducted by WILFRID F. MORETON.

* First peal of Kent Royal on handbells.

LICHFIELD, STAFFORDSHIRE.

THE SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.

On Sun., Feb. 3, 1952, in 2 Hours and 15 Minutes,

AT 35, MARKET STREET,

A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 17 in A.

*PETER BERESFORD	1-2	*GEORGE E. OLIVER	5-6
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†JOAN BERESFORD	3-4	*DENNIS BERESFORD	7-8
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Composed by H. HOWLETT. Conducted by DENNIS BERESFORD.

* 50th peal together. † 50th peal together.

BURTON-ON-STATHER, LINCOLNSHIRE.

THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.

On Mon., Feb. 4, 1952, in 2 Hours and 20 Minutes,

AT BRITANNIC,

A PEAL OF 5088 SPLICED MAJOR

Consisting of 12 methods: Colville, Romsey, Cheltenham, Leamington, Pulford, Avalon, Painswick, Kiddington, Double Oxford, Double Norwich, St. Clement's and Crayford College; 317 changes of method.

Tenor size 14½ in C sharp.

MRS. J. BRAY	1-2	JACK BRAY	5-6
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GEORGE E. FEARN	3-4	PHILIP BARNES	7-8
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Composed and Conducted by GEORGE E. FEARN.

RISLEY, DERBYSHIRE.

THE DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.

On Wed., Feb. 6, 1952, in 2 Hours and 37 Minutes,

AT 85, DERBY ROAD,

A PEAL OF 5024 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 11 in F.

DENIS R. CARLISLE	1-2	JACK BAILEY	5-6
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CLEMENT GLENN	3-4	*PHILIP WHITTAKER	7-8
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Composed by GEORGE LEWIS.

* First handbell peal.

Conducted by CLEMENT GLENN.

QUARTER PEALS

COWLEY, OXON.—On Jan. 31st, 1,440 Cambridge Surprise Minor: E. G. Moore 1, W. F. Holloway 2, D. O. Wilks 3, C. Coles 4, E. J. Smith 5, A. R. Pink (cond.) 6. Rung for 13th anniversary of the institution of the Rev. A. G. Whye.

DARTFORD, KENT.—On Feb. 3rd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Betty Allen (first quarter) 1, H. Hovard 2, F. Walker 3, K. Noye (first quarter) 4, H. Audsley 5, W. Lemon 6, R. G. Rayfield (cond.) 7, G. Hucklest 8. A 21st birthday compliment to Miss Kathleen Panis.

FASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.—At St. Mary's, on Jan. 3rd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss S. Evans (first quarter) 1, E. Gower 2, L. Baldock 3, R. W. R. Percy 4, H. G. F. Reynolds 5, J. W. Rollison 6, R. W. Pankhurst (cond.) 7, P. H. Rollison 8. For Patronal Festival.

EGHAM, SURREY.—On Feb. 3rd, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. D. E. Knowles (first quarter) 1, L. U. C. Knowles 2, F. G. Fairhead 3, Mrs. D. Hiscok 4, E. W. Butler 5, N. Summerhayes 6, W. A. Peck (cond.) 7, M. W. Harbott 8. In honour of the 21st birthday of Mr. L. U. C. Knowles.

GODMANCHESTER, HUNTS.—On Jan. 20th, 1,260 Bob Triples: T. Howes 1, F. Warrington (cond.) 2, W. Ransom 3, R. F. Baker 4, A. Clements 5, H. S. Peacock 6, S. Gilbert 7, J. Witney 8.

HEMINGFORD ABBOTS, HUNTS.—On Jan. 27th, 1,320 Ipswich Surprise: G. L. Perkins 1, F. Warrington (cond.) 2, F. R. Nicholls 3, W. Ransom 4, A. Clements 5, H. S. Peacock 6. First quarter in method on the bells, by all the band and in the county. Also on Feb. 3rd, 1,272 Cambridge Surprise Minor: J. R. G. Spicer 1, F. Warrington (cond.) 2, A. Clements 3, G. Perkins 4, F. L. Nicholls 5, H. S. Peacock 6.

HORNCHURCH, ESSEX.—On Jan. 27th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: D. Salisbury 1, J. Cornford 2, J. Carrott 3, J. G. Richardson (first in method) 4, C. E. Wright 5, S. Penfold 6, T. East 7, F. V. Gant (cond.) 8.

HUNTINGDON.—On Feb. 3rd, at All Saints', 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: M. J. Dyer 1, H. B. Bull 2, J. R. G. Spicer 3, C. J. Young 4, H. S. Peacock 5, S. Gilbert (cond.) 6.

IPSWICH, SUFFOLK.—At the Church of St. Lawrence, on Dec. 31st, 1,260 Doubles (360 St. Martin's, 360 St. Simon's, 540 Plain Bob): S. Arbon 1, D. A. Woodward 2, Max P. Page (cond.) 3, C. G. Shemming 4, G. R. Page 5. Rung half-muffled for the passing of the old year.

KINGSBURY, WARWICKS.—On Feb. 3rd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Basford 1, K. Lane 2, L. Wood (first 'inside') 3, W. Lane 4, G. Lane (cond.) 5. Rung half-muffled in memory of Margaret Turner, aged 29.

LITTLE BADDOW, ESSEX.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,260 Doubles (360 Winchendon Place Bob, 360 St. Simon's, 540 Plain Bob): Miss M. Shearnum (first of Doubles) 1, R. Gardiner 2, J. E. G. Roast (cond.) 3, P. J. Came 4, J. West 5.

LUDGVAN, CORNWALL.—On Feb. 2nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Margaret Grenfell (first quarter) 1, Mrs. A. S. Roberts 2, Miss E. Symons 3, Rev. A. S. Roberts (cond.) 4, H. Taysom 5, G. W. Taysom 6. Rung on the Feast of the Purification.

NEWINGTON-NEXT-FOLKESTONE, KENT.—On Feb. 5th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Soles 1, M. J. Martin 2, G. F. Gray 3, E. J. Walker 4, C. A. Wratten (cond.) 5, T. J. Wilson 6. Rung in honour of the dedication of the alterations to the war memorial.

PADBURY, RUCKS.—On Feb. 1st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: W. H. Yates 1, Miss D. Spokes (first quarter 'inside') 2, W. Yates (cond.) 3, C. Gough 4, G. W. Holland 5, Miss M. Coleman 6.

SANDHURST, BERKS.—On Feb. 3rd, 1,260 Doubles (480 Plain Bob, 780 Grandsire): Miss S. Revell (first quarter, aged 13) 1, W. J. Parker (cond.) 2, Mrs. F. Wilcox 3, J. A. Parker 4, A. Ariotti 5, S. Cripps (first quarter) 6.

WISBECH, CAMBS.—On Feb. 5th, 1,259 Grandsire Caters: G. Duffield 1, Miss M. Longbottom 2, S. Haw 3, T. Bevis 4, Miss M. Whitlock 5, Miss W. M. Elliott 6, F. M. Moyes 7, F. Wigmore (cond.) 8, W. Storey 9, H. M. Perkins 10. First quarter of Caters by 4, 6 and 10.

WOLVEY, WARWICKS.—On Feb. 5th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Willis 1, F. A. Elson (first quarter in method) 2, J. Taylor 3, W. Thorpe 4, J. H. Beale 5, J. Hood 6. A silver wedding compliment to the ringer of the 4th, and a golden wedding compliment to Mr. P. Toone, churchwarden for 28 years.

ASHBOCKING, SUFFOLK.—On Feb. 3rd, 1,260 Bourne Surprise Minor: R. Steward 1, D. A. Woodard 2, R. E. Lester 3, D. A. Collins 4, Max P. Page (cond.) 5, G. Page 6.

ASHTON-UNDER-LYNE, LANCs.—On Feb. 3rd, at St. Peter's, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss B. A. Carter 1, W. Harrison 2, Miss P. S. Gatty (first quarter 'inside') 3, R. H. Wimpenny 4, J. B. Robinson 5, R. M. Edwards 6, D. Ogden (cond.) 7, B. Redfern 8.

ASTON, BIRMINGHAM.—On Jan. 27th, 1,264 Bob Major: A. Allen 1, F. W. Rishworth 2, J. L. Gray 3, A. Short 4, A. Rainey 5, H. Dickens 6, G. Davis (cond.) 7, E. J. Franklin 8. First quarter in the method for 1 and 6. Rung in honour of the Patronal Festival.

BALLARAT, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA.—On Jan. 27th, at St. Peter's, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: J. Wilson (first quarter) 1, R. Nogare 2, P. Cooper (cond.) 3, G. W. Heyes (first quarter 'inside') 4, W. Wilson 5, G. Waldron (first quarter) 6. First quarter on the bells after 36 years' silence. Also on Jan. 28th, at City Hall, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: T. Wilson 1, G. Heyes 2, W. Wilson 3, R. Nogare 4, P. Cooper (cond.) 5, G. Waldron 6. Rung half-muffled in memorial to William A. Calley, retired captain of City Hall Bellringers' Society.

CARDIFF, GLAM.—On Feb. 3rd, 1,277 Grandsire Caters: L. Muller 1, Mrs. A. R. Price 2, W. Prosser 3, F. Hannington 4, J. Davies 5, J. Evans 6, F. Rowsell 7, A. R. Price (first quarter of Caters as cond.) 8, T. Yeoman 9, S. R. Barker 10.

CHICHESTER, SUSSEX.—On Feb. 3rd, 1,260 Court Bob Triples: Joy Gumbrell (first of Triples) 1, F. Lewis (first 'inside' in method) 2, J. T. Finney 3, E. Winifred Keys 4, W. G. Challen 5, R. G. Blackman 6, P. R. Blackman (cond.) 7, H. F. Dunford 8.

CHINNOR, OXFORD.—On Jan. 14th, 1,260 Doubles: Miss June Lovell 1, W. Clarke 2, Aubrey Seymour (cond.) 3, M. J. Clarke 4, P. Harman 5, T. Wallington (aged 76) 6. Rung as silver wedding compliment to the parents of the ringer of the 4th.

CONGRESBURY, SOMERSET.—On Jan. 30th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: G. Westlake 1, E. Shearn 2, Miss M. Legg 3, H. W. Knight 4, E. Standen 5, L. Derrick 6, G. Prescott (cond.) 7, E. Fisher 8. First quarter of Stedman Triples for 1 and 5.

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD Salisbury Branch

The annual meeting of the Branch was held at St. Paul's, Salisbury, on February 2nd, 40 members and visitors being present from 18 different towers.

The secretary and treasurer (Miss Y. Eloie) presented the accounts for the year, showing a balance carried forward of £21 15s. 1d., a slight increase on the last year. Six towers had been visited during the year for meetings and practice. Guild certificates for proficiency had been gained by eight members, and two peals had been scored in the Branch.

The chairman (Mr. H. A. Roles) spoke of the need of increasing co-operation between the ringers and the clergy, saying that he had found in his experience that if the ringers tried to fall in with the wishes of the incumbent, he in turn stood by his ringers and co-operated with them. He also referred to the marriage during the year of Mr. Frank Harris and Miss Jean Brown, to the recording of Sarum St. Thomas' bells and to the rehanging of Broadchalke and Donhead St. Mary bells.

The Branch officers were re-elected:—H. A. Roles, chairman; W. Chalke, vice-chairman; Miss Y. Eloie, secretary and treasurer; H. Roles, J. Mussell and H. Abrahams, Ringing Masters; C. Haines and A. Haines were elected to the committee. Seven new ringing members were elected including Raymond Haines, aged seven, of Wilton.

The business meeting was preceded by the Guild's service in St. Paul's Church, conducted by the Rector (the Rev. N. Ashenden), who gave an address on variety in unity—different members of the body working together.

The bells at St. Paul's were kept going during the afternoon and evening, and St. Thomas' and South Newton also in the evening, from rounds and standard methods to Double Norwich and some Cambridge, Bristol and London.

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION Presentation to Retiring Chairman

In spite of bad weather conditions which prevented, amongst others, the Ringing Master from attending, there was a good attendance at the annual meeting of the Ilchester and Merston Branch held at Martock on January 26th. Proceedings commenced earlier than usual to enable the retiring chairman, Preb. G. W. Saunders, to get to his new home near Bridport.

The Association service was conducted by Preb. Saunders assisted by the Vicar of Stoke-under-Ham, the Rev. Douglas Ballard. Mr. Shepherd was the organist.

The first business of the meeting was a presentation to Preb. Saunders to commemorate his 32 years in office. This consisted of a specially- and beautifully-bound copy of the 'Bells of All Nations.' by Mr. Ernest Morris.

The new Vicar of Martock, the Rev. L. E. Walsh (a ringer), was elected chairman; other officers re-elected were: Mr. T. Setter, vice-chairman; Mr. F. Farrant, secretary; and Mr. W. H. Poole, Ringing Master. Somerton and Stoke-under-Ham were places chosen for the year's meetings. Several new members were elected from Somerton, Martock, West Coker and Haselbury Plucknett.

After tea, which followed the meeting, the bells were kept going until 9 p.m. F. F.

GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGED

The Editorial Committee of 'The Ringing World' gratefully acknowledge the following contributions towards the increased cost of producing the journal:—

Personal.—Mr. W. Viggers 10s. 9d.

Peals.—Galleywood 4s., Surfleet 4s., Tunbridge Wells 4s., Brenchley 5s.

Quarter peals.—Piddlington 1s., Washington 1s. 6d., Chichester 2s., Little Baddow 2s. 6d., Slough 4s., Eastbourne 2s. 6d.

RINGING CUSTOMS AT DALLINGTON

Special ringing at St. Mary-the-Virgin's, Dallington, in addition to ringing for matins and evensong, includes:—

Ringing in the New Year.

Easter: 6.30—7 a.m. and after communicating for 8 a.m. communion; also after evensong.

Ascension Day: Evening service.

Whitsun, Harvest Festival and Armistice Sunday (half-muffled) after evensong.

Dedication Festival, 6.30—7 a.m. and after communicating ringing for 8 a.m. communion; also after evensong.

Christmas: 11.15—11.45 p.m., 6.30—7 a.m. and 10.30—11 a.m.

Ringing out the Old Year (half-muffled).

In addition five quarter peals and one peal (one peal lost after 41 120's owing to rope breaking) were achieved by the local band.

E. N.

RINGING RHYMES

No. 3—Covering

In method ringing every stroke
Succeeds a different bell. No cloak
Can muffle clashes, made so oft
When ringers let their minds go 'soft.'
How find we then the bell to follow?
(Beginners sometimes here find sorrow !)
Well, first the ear will tell the sound
To make you instantly glance round
And check with eye, 'gainst falling rope,
The stroke you're making. In the hope
That you may progress towards this end
Some 'covering' practice best may trend.

So, while a steady pull you keep
Behind all others, list! And peep!
Thus find each new, successive bell;
But listen hard, to cover well.

A. Y-B.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central
Council of Church Bell Ringers

EDITORIAL OFFICE: c/o Woodbridge Press,
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EDITOR: T. W. WHITE.

Llandaff Cathedral bells have been removed by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank to be tuned, quarter turned and rehung. These bells have not been rung since the disastrous blitz of 1941, when the tower was rendered unsafe for ringing. A large team of young people is now learning to ring at the local parish church of St. John.

The meeting of the Winchester District of the Winchester and Portsmouth Guild at Hursley has been postponed to February 23rd.

Mr. Arthur V. Pearson informs us that the asterisk against his name in the peal of Lincolnshire Surprise Major at Lye on January 16th, should read '100th peal of Surprise Major.'

London ringers visiting Leeds for the Chelsea v. Leeds United cup-tie will be welcomed at the Leeds Society's meeting at St. Chad's, Headingley.

Mr. Charles Haylings has completed 25 years as sexton and clerk at St. Mary's, Ripple, Worcs.

The rings of six at Tywardreath and Lelant, Cornwall, have been removed from the towers and sent to Loughborough prior to being rehung by Messrs. J. Taylor and Co.

Great pleasure was given to the band who rang the quarter peal at Dartford, Kent, to have Mr. Harry Hoverd back with them after two years' illness.

His many friends in the Exercise will join the All Saints', Maidstone, band in congratulating Mr. E. Spiller, their captain for the past 29 years, on completing 50 years as a ringer. Mr. Spiller rang his first peal in 1903 and although he has many peals to his credit it is as a Sunday service ringer that his sterling qualities have been directed. Seldom absent, never late, always ready to help beginners and to welcome visitors, he is, indeed, one of the pillars of the Exercise.

BELFRY GOSSIP

The youngest ringer in the Salisbury District is Raymond Haines, aged seven and a half, who was elected to full membership of the Salisbury Diocesan Guild at their recent annual meeting. His father, Mr. C. F. Haines, of 17, Shaftesbury Road, Wilton, says that Raymond was his easiest pupil and can now, after only three months' tuition, ring 120 of Grandsire with very little prompting. Raymond rings regularly for Sunday services at Wilton (tenor 8 cwt.) and has already started 'tower snatching' with about a dozen rings to his credit.

The Snowdon dinner will be held at York on October 25th.

Titchfield, Hants, has a promising local band which should go far. They record their first of London Surprise Minor.

A novel memorial picture appeared in 'The Birmingham Post' of Mr. George E. Fearn, Ringing Master at Birmingham Cathedral, tying a muffle on the clapper of one of the bells.

Miss Brenda, M. Smith, who will be 17 in March, has rung the 36-cwt. tenor at Evesham bell-tower (behind on the back eight). Has any other lady ringer handled this weight of metal at this age?

Mr. F. W. French, of Bourne, Lincolnshire, celebrates his jubilee as a ringer this year. He chimed the bells of Market Deeping Parish Church at the age of seven. For three years he was a district ringing master of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild.

Sixteen-year-old Miss B. M. Vidler, of Marden, Kent, was warmly congratulated by the band who rang with her in her first peal on eight bells—Double Norwich Court Bob Major—at Brenchley. She started ringing 12 months ago and her opportunities to practise Major have been very limited.

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TO A BELOVED KING

THE SYMPATHY OF THE EXERCISE

The sympathy of the ringers of the Nation in the death of H.M. George VI. was expressed by the following telegram sent by Mr. George W. Fletcher, hon. secretary of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers, to Buckingham Palace on February 7th:—

To the Private Secretary, Buckingham Palace.

On behalf of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers I beg to offer to your Majesty and your family our deepest sympathy in the grievous loss you have sustained through the passing of our beloved King.

Fletcher, Hon. Sec.

The following acknowledgment has been received:—

Hon. Secretary, Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

Her Majesty has deeply appreciated your telegram of sympathy.

Private Secretary,

SUDDEN DEATH OF DR. J. C. E. SIMPSON

The sudden and unexpected death on February 7th, at the early age of 43, of James C. E. Simpson, M.Sc., Ph.D., has removed from the Exercise a well-known and brilliant conductor and ringer.

He was taken ill on January 20th at his brother's house at Wrexham and was removed to Wrexham Hospital for what was expected to be a routine operation. It was discovered that the trouble was more serious than had been anticipated and more than one operation was necessary. He appeared to recover from the operations and was considered to be out of danger when he collapsed and died.

The funeral service was at St. Oswald's Church, Chester, on February 9th, when, in addition to the family mourners, the Archdeacon of Chester, the Master and general secretary of the Chester Guild and several of his ringing friends were present. Cremation followed at Landican Crematorium where more ringers had gathered to bid a last farewell to their friend. At an appropriate place in the service a well-struck course of Grandsire Triples was rung by a band representing four branches of the Chester Guild.

Dr. Simpson was born at Wallasey, Cheshire, on Aug. 14th, 1908, and after studying at Liverpool University and a stay in America of two years, he took up an appointment at the University of London. Subsequently he returned to Liverpool to take up an appointment with the School of Tropical Medicine and on the transference of his department to Manchester he went to reside there and was appointed Honorary Lecturer in Organic Chemistry at the University of Manchester.

Of a shy and retiring nature his influence was usually indirect but he could and did speak in a very forthright manner when the occasion demanded it. He was an excellent conductor and had made a speciality of all the different one-part long course 5.024's of London Surprise Major by G. Lindoff, and had only recently completed this task. He called the first peal of Spliced Surprise Major in Lancashire for the Lancashire Association, and, in Cheshire, the first peals of Loughborough Bob Major, St.

Lawrence Bob Major and several Surprise Major methods.

In the field of Spliced Surprise he was the first to call a peal in five methods and six methods in which all the bells do all the work of all the methods and he conducted the present record of Spliced, 8,032 at Frodsham, on December 30th, 1950. The attempt for 9,568 made on December 29th, 1951, failed and a peal of Ealing, his last peal, was rung instead, conducted by him. This failure was a great disappointment to him and it had been hoped to make the attempt this year. Whether this will be done or whether, as has been suggested, the record be left as a tribute to his memory is something which his friends will have to decide.

In spite of his slight build he was a first-rate heavy-bell ringer and it was here that his scientific training showed itself for he carefully considered each tenor he rang and the amount of energy he needed to put into each pull to do the job well. His finest feat was, in the opinion of many of his friends, to ring Beverley Minster tenor to an almost perfect peal of Cambridge Royal during which he never saw the ringers of 6, 7, 8 and 9, for he had his back to them, and yet he placed his bell impeccably. Other fine performances were turning in Wells Cathedral tenor to Cambridge Royal with John Worth as strapper; St. Nicholas', Liverpool, tenor, and Durham Cathedral tenor to Cambridge Major.

He had the gift of getting the best out of a band without speaking a word. One felt that seeing him at work on the box the least one could do was to support him up to the hilt. Among his many performances one might single out the first peal of Cambridge Maximus in the North of England (Liverpool, in 1928), the first peal of Cambridge Maximus in Ireland (at Dublin) and the 15,480 Cambridge Royal at Worsley on December 15th last. His ringing of the eighth to that peal was masterly and his attention to small details of striking, a marked characteristic of his, was never more apparent than in the way he kept the eighth off the tenor in the 08's at the back.

(Continued in next column)

FIRST TRIBUTES

Since the sad news of the death of King George VI., in most cathedrals and churches there has been muffled ringing for the King's passing, as a mark of respect and affection to a beloved Monarch.

At St. Paul's Cathedral, London, the procedure which has been adopted since the death of Queen Victoria was followed. Immediately on the news of the death of the Monarch, Big Tom is tolled, and this sad observance took place on Wednesday. To-day (Friday) the whole pull and stand will be rung on the twelve bells, half-muffled.

Appended are first quarter peals to hand:

ARDLEIGH, ESSEX.—On Feb. 6th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: F. Southgate 1, F. Erith 2, A. Cole 3, T. Cole 4, G. Barnes 5, P. G. Barnes (cond.) 6. Rung fully-muffled on the back six.

DARLINGTON.—At Holy Trinity Church, on Feb. 6th, 1,272 York Surprise Minor: Mrs. W. N. Park 1, J. T. Titt 2, Miss D. M. Killingley 3, M. P. Moreton 4, W. N. Park 5, R. Park (cond.) 6. Rung half-muffled.

EASTBOURNE, SUSSEX.—On Feb. 6th, at the Church of St. Mary, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. Waymark 1, J. W. Rollison 2, L. Baldock 3, R. W. Percy 4, P. H. Rollison 5, F. Dallaway (cond.) 6, H. G. F. Reynolds 7, R. W. Pankhurst 8. Rung fully-muffled with tenor open at back stroke.

EAST CROMPTON, SHAW, NEAR OLDHAM.—On Feb. 6th, 1,260 Minor (36 Plain Bob, 504 Kent, 720 Oxford Treble Bob: J. Butterworth (cond.) 1, J. R. Buckley 2, R. H. Byrom 3, T. Ogden 4, F. Butterworth 5, G. Abbott 6. Rung with the bells fully muffled.

FAREHAM, HANTS.—On Feb. 6th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss R. Marwood 1, G. Privett 2, P/O E. A. Marsh, R.N., 3, Miss B. M. Ball 4, A. H. Sturges 5, J. W. Meade 6, J. H. Hunt (cond.) 7, F. W. Burnett 8. Rung fully-muffled.

HALSALL, LANCs.—On Feb. 6th, 1,440 Minor (720 Oxford Bob, 720 Plain Bob): Barbara Haldane (first quarter) 1, Vera Draper 2, W. Core 3, J. Pounds 4, H. Sergeant 5, A. Mawdsley (cond.) 6. Rung half-muffled.

LYME REGIS, DORSET.—On Feb. 7th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Mrs. C. W. Powell 1, Canon C. C. Cox 2, C. W. Powell 3, G. S. Morris (cond.) 4, G. H. Whitmore 5, R. Keeley 6, W. Rogers 7, H. G. Keeley 8. Rung half-muffled.

NEWMARKET, SUFFOLK.—At All Saints' Church, on Feb. 6th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: D. Moon (first quarter) 1, R. C. Sharpe 2, S. Ward 3, S. Howlett 4, J. A. Acres (cond.) 5, A. E. Austin 6. Rung half-muffled.

SOLIHULL, WARWICKS.—On Feb. 6th, 1,367 Grandsire Caters: W. Leeson 1, C. Dale 2, V. W. Rigg 3, T. Warner 4, E. C. Shepherd (cond.) 5, N. D. Lane 6, H. Bragg 7, J. Bragg 8, C. Bragg 9, T. Abbotts 10. Rung half-muffled.

SUNNINGWELL, BERKS.—On Feb. 7th, 1,260 Doubles (240 each Southcrops Pleasure, Clifford Pleasure, Reverse Canterbury, Plain Bob, April Day and 60 Grandsire): Miss J. Jones (first quarter) 1, Jas. Honey 2, Jonathan Honey 3, D. Wilks 4, W. Cudd 5, J. Wilks 6. Rung half-muffled.

TITCHFIELD, HANTS.—On Feb. 6th, 1,440 London Surprise Minor: Miss S. Wickens 1, A. Page 2, P. Page 3, F. C. Love 4, G. Barton 5, T. Page (cond.) 6. First quarter peal in the method by all, on the bells and by a local band. Rung half-muffled.

DR. J. C. E. SIMPSON.—Continued

His peal total must be in the region of 550 but when his peal book has been obtained a detailed analysis will be made.

His unexpected death has stunned his friends who considered him to be the fittest man among them, for among his other interests were tennis, badminton, fell walking and singing. It is hard to believe we shall never see his lithe figure nor hear his quiet voice again but one thing, I feel sure, all his friends can do, is to strive to reach the standards of performance which he would have had us reach.

An attempt for a memorial peal at Macclesfield in 12 Spliced Surprise Major methods (he called the first one in Cheshire) failed after 1½ hours' good ringing, but a memorial peal of Stedman Triples was rung at Liscard.

C. K. L.

We hope to publish other appreciative pages next week.

THE CURFEW IN ENGLISH LIFE

By ERNEST MORRIS

(Continued from page 90)

In many parish records the curfew is described as 'Bow-bell.' Shakespeare, who must, one would suppose, have been familiar with the sound of the curfew tolling from many various steeples, nevertheless refers to it as indicative of the most unusual hours. In 'Romeo and Juliet' (Act IV., Sc. 4), Lord Capulet says:—

'Come, stir, stir, stir, the second cock hath crow'd,

The **coufrehw** bell hath rung, 'tis three o'clock.'

In 'Measure for Measure' (Act IV., Sc. 4) occurs the following:—

'Duke: The best and wholesom'st spirits of the night

Invellop you, good Provost, who call'd here of late?

Provost: None since **curfew** rung.'

In another of his plays he fixes yet another hour. Thus in 'Tempest' (Act. V., Sc. 1), Prospero says:—

'You, whose pastime

Is to make midnight mushrooms, that rejoice To hear the solemn **curfew**.'

And in 'King Lear' (Act III., Sc. 4), Edgar exclaims:—

'This is the foul fiend

Flibbertigibbet; he begins the **curfew** and walks to the first cock.'

Milton in 'Il Penseroso' (74/75) speaks of the **curfew**:—

'Oft on a plot of rising ground,

I hear the far off curfew sound

Over some wide-watered shore,

Swinging low with sullen roar.'

ONE ACRE FOR THE CURFEW

At Byfield, Northants, we read: 'A bell is rung here at four in the morning, and at eight in the evening, for which the clerk hath 20s. yearly paid to him by the rector.' In Dorset at Mappowder there is mention of land being given 'to a man to ring the morning and curfew bell throughout the year,' also at Ibberton is mentioned, 'one acre given for ringing the 8 o'clock bell, and £4 for ringing the morning bell.'

At Claybrooke we read that 'the custom of ringing **curfew** is still kept up, has probably obtained without intermission since the days of the Norman conqueror' (Macauley, 'History of Claybrooke,' 1791). It is probable in the Middle Ages some superstitious regard was paid to the ringing of **couvre-feu**, for we often find, as shown by the examples quoted—land and money left for its upkeep. This feeling does not appear to have been altogether extinct even at the close of the 16th century. for in Bishop Hall's 'Fourth Satire' occurs the following:—

'Whoever gives a paire of velvet shoes To th' Holy Rood, or liberally allows

But a new rope to ring the **couvre-feu** bell But he desires that his great deed may dwell

Or graven in the chancel window glasse,

Or in his lasting tombe of plated brasse.'

We find the curfew mentioned as a common and approved regulation in most monasteries and towns of North Europe, the intent being to prevent accidents by fires. All the common houses at this time consisted mostly of timber, and Moscow, for instance, being built of this material, generally suffered once, at least, in every twenty years. That this happened in London, Fitzstephen proves:—'Solæ pestes Lundonia sunt stultorum immodica potatio et frequens incendium.'

IN SCOTLAND

The 'Saxon Chronicle' also mentions the frequent burning of towns, which might be expected for the same reason, the Saxon term for building being *zerimbian*. The Hon. Daines Barrington tells us:—

'Curfew is written *curphour* in an old Scottish poem, published in 1770 with many others from the manuscript of George Bannatyne, who collected them in the year 1568. It is observed in the annotations on them that by Act 144, part 13, Jam. I., 'this bell was to be rung in burghs at nine in the evening, and that the hour was afterwards changed to ten, at the solicitation of the wife of James the Sixth.'

There is a narrow street in Perth, Scotland, still called 'Couvre-feu Row' leading west to Black Friars where the *couvre-feu* bell gave warning to the inhabitants to cover their fires and go to rest, when the clock struck ten.

In 'The Fair Maid of Perth,' referring to this same street in February, 1396, Sir Walter Scott says:—

'Curfew bell, then rung at seven o'clock at night: the custom has long ceased, but the street in which the bell was situated, and where The Fair Maid lived, is still called Curfew Row.'

Mr. Jesse Salisbury in his 'Glossary of Words and Phrases' used in S.E. Worcestershire, 1893, states:—

'The curfew bell is rung at Pershore at eight o'clock in the evening from November 5th until Candlemas Day. It was formerly also rung at five o'clock in the morning, but owing to the old Sexton—named Blake—who for many years performed the duty of ringing the curfew bells, making a mistake as to the time on one occasion, and ringing it five hours too early, the practice was discontinued.'

Bell's 'Weekly Messenger,' September 28th, 1895, quotes: 'The curfew bell in old St. Giles, Cripplegate, which has been allowed to be neglected, and almost forgotten, has now been replaced in the cupola of the ancient church. It has been remounted in a strong English oak frame, and can be seen from the surrounding district. There can be little doubt that the old bell which has been restored was the same which rung the nightly signal when Milton lived under its shadow.'

NORTH OF ENGLAND CUSTOM

A custom which still lingers in the north of England shows the true meaning of the word **curfew**, and the reason why the curfew was rung. It is usual to keep the kitchen fire burning all night. About nine p.m. in the winter, and rather later in summer, a quantity of 'raking slake' was shot out of a wooden coal box upon the fire. The box was like a big wooden shoe or slipper, with a handle on each side. Then water out of a lading can was thrown upon the fire to make it 'crozzil' better. About five in the morning in summer, and six in winter, the fire was revived by putting in a few sticks. Owing to the increased price of coal and also the invention of matches, this custom has generally become discontinued, but it is remembered by old people. In some houses in South Yorkshire the fire is still 'slaked' and kept burning all night in winter to maintain warmth. In earlier times, when wood was burnt, a big log of wood, once known as the 'head brand' or 'hearth stock,' was put at the back of the fire and then 'slaked' or covered up for the night, by pulling this big log down and raking other pieces of wood on it.

Amongst Greeks and Romans it was a sacred obligation for the master of every house to keep up the fire night and day. Woe to the house where it was extinguished! Every evening he covered up the coals with ashes to prevent them becoming entirely consumed. In the morning the first care was to revive the fire with a few twigs. On these grounds we may conclude that the curfew bell was rung as a signal—at least, where the above customs prevailed—not to put the fire out, but to keep it in by 'covering up with slake' and so to bed.

In Worcestershire also it is a custom for cottagers to keep the fire burning all night in this way. Henry Kirke White alludes to it in his 'Description of a Summer Eve':—

'The mistress sees that lazy Kate

The happing coals on kitchen grate has laid . . .

In 'The Ringing World' (1930) was given notice of a bequest for curfew to the parish of Sturminster Newton. The testator, Mr. Frederick Giles Symonds, a retired bank manager, who died on May 10th of that year at the age of 83, left estate of gross value of £14,707. By his will he left £100 upon trust to pay the income to the Vicar and churchwardens of Sturminster Newton towards keeping alive the ancient custom of ringing the curfew from Michaelmas Day to Lady Day, any surplus to be paid the Vicar for the Sick and Needy Fund. He left other bequests to the church and parish.

CHERTSEY ABBEY BELL

We have shown how Shakespeare and Milton refer to the curfew and many other allusions could be repeated from our best-known writers and poets. It may not be generally known that the story told in the poem 'The curfew must not ring to-night,' is, in all probability, true. It is stated that the bell which the heroine, Bessie, prevented from ringing to save her lover's life, still hangs and rings in the belfry of Chertsey Parish Church. It is known as the Abbey bell, because it was originally made for Chertsey Abbey, but was preserved and given to the Parish Church on the Dissolution of the Monasteries in the 16th century. But even if the poem be not true, the bell is interesting (1) because it was tolled for Henry VI. when his body was taken to Chertsey Abbey for burial, and (2) because it was cast in 1310 and is therefore one of England's oldest bells.

Longfellow thus speaks of the curfew in 'Evangeline':—

'Thus passed the evening away. Anon the

bell from the belfry

Rang out the hour of nine, the village cur-

few, and straightway

Rose the guests and departed; and silence reigned in the household.'

Longfellow also has this to say about it:—

'Solemnly, mournfully,

Dealing its dole,

The Curfew Bell

Is beginning to toll.

Cover the embers

And put out the light;

Toil comes with the morning,

And rest with the night.

Dark grow the windows.

And quenched is the fire,

Sound fades into silence—

And footsteps retire.

No voice in the chambers.

No sound in the hall!

Sleep and oblivion

Reigns over all.'

(Concluded)

FORTY YEARS AGO

Extract from 'The Ringing World' of
February 16th, 1912

THE BENEVOLENT FUND PROPOSAL

'We are glad to see that the suggestion that a Ringers' Benevolent Fund should be established is being seriously considered in many parts of the country. . . . The Kent County Association is leading the way and the scheme put forward by the honorary secretary, the Rev. F. J. O. Helmore, as the result, we are proud to think, of the question being opened up in this column, is receiving enthusiastic support in all the districts, making it almost certain that at the next annual meeting Mr. Helmore's proposals will be adopted. . . .

[The Kent County Association's Benevolent Fund has now a balance in hand of some £370. Over £500 has been paid out since it was established.]

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

THREE SISTERS IN A PEAL

Dear Sir.—While congratulating the three sisters, the Misses Proctor, on ringing their peal together at Claybrooke, not forgetting congratulations to the conductor, this has already been accomplished on several occasions by members of the Johnson family.

The first occasion was a peal at Offenham (Worcs) in 1931, when Rosalie, Amy and Florence took part with their father and two brothers in a family peal. Later, Amy (now Mrs. J. Thomas) conducted a peal of Grandsire Doubles with Margaret and Kathleen, and a second one with Florence and Kathleen. Still later, Amy, Margaret and Kathleen took part in a peal of Grandsire Triples with their elder brother, Joseph—these last three peals on handbells.—Yours faithfully,

DAPHNE J. MARTIN (Mrs.).

Sedgeberrow, Worcs.

Dear Sir.—At the Church of St. Mary Magdalene, Ditchat, Somerset, on April 19th, 1949, three sisters, Misses Vera, Audrey and Beryl Look, rang 2, 3 and 4 respectively, to a peal of Grandsire Triples.—Yours faithfully,

H. C. LINTERN.

Shepton Mallet, Som.

A PERFECT SQUARE ON AN EIGHT-BELL CHANGE

Dear Sir.—Once again I had much enjoyment from Kewsett's Christmas Quiz, and the least I can do is to answer his S.O.S. in a recent issue of 'The Ringing World' to find a change on eight bells that is a perfect square.

Here are all the changes on eight bells that are perfect squares:—

13527684	=	3678 ²
34857216	=	5904 ²
65318724	=	8082 ²
73256481	=	8559 ²
81432576	=	9024 ²

Yours faithfully,

T. G. HAWKINS.

Stoke Poges.

Mr. R. C. H. Connolly, Watford, also replies and adds no change on eight bells is a perfect cube, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth or tenth power.

TOUCHES OF GRANDSIRE TRIPLES

Dear Sir.—I thought that one of your readers more expert than myself would have pointed out that the touch of 476 Grandsire Triples on page 64 is false.

It would appear that rounds has been produced from Whittington's by grafting on the corresponding part of the 308 on the same page; unfortunately this entails three consecutive bob leads.

I subjoin one possible alternative which runs again to 476:—

275346	
642537	2S
326475	3S
753642	2
267453	1
234567	2P

Yours faithfully,

ROGNVALD ST. C. WILSON.

Portobello.

'IN PLAIN ENGLISH'

Dear Sir.—In reply to Mr. Stafford Green's comment on the Guild of Devonshire Ringers in your issue of February 8th, I shall be pleased to give him opportunity to air his criticism in plain English at our annual meeting at Combe Martin on Easter Monday.

E. V. COX, President.

Guild of Devonshire Ringers

DUTY AND SERVICE RINGING

Dear Sir.—In our village we have five bells. For the last two years or more we have had six ringers. Of these, one is a policeman and usually on duty; one is the postmistress and, believe it or not, works quite hard on Sundays; and one is a country doctor who is, of course, always on duty. Of these three, all can, with an effort, usually attend for half an hour's ringing, but they could not manage the extra hour if they stayed to the service. But we ring twice every Sunday and every ringer stays to either morning or evening service.

We also ring for three services on Christmas, Easter and Whit Sunday and, of course, we ring the Old Year out and the New Year in.

I gather from some of the correspondence in 'The Ringing World' that it would be better if our bells were silent.

I dislike anonymous letters though I am obviously one of the ringers mentioned, and sign my name so that those who feel they are entitled to can 'cast the first stone'.—Yours truly,

C. N. VAISEY.

Freshford, Somerset.

Dear Sir.—Please grant me a small space in our esteemed paper to respond to the front page article re ringers and church by F. E. H. The action of those Swanwick ringers seems to me to be very much flavoured with that dreadful monster, Communism. I uphold to the utmost the action of the incumbent. I myself experienced the very same thing in my parish—seven young men twice weekly at practice but never once at divine service.

I understand church bells are consecrated for the purpose of calling people to worship and to our God. I feel that when men talk and write about their rest, their foremost thoughts are upon themselves. Who to-day is overworked, when worship is rest? If anybody is overworked is it not the clergy, supposed one day a week men? Come in ye weary ones and take a rest. Have not and are not the present-day clergy pulling their weight both in belfry and in ringing meetings, etc., uplifting the moral and spiritual wants of both sides?

It appears to me that F. E. H. has a foot in each place. Be bold, sir, and favour no tender treatment of such men. Try and picture, if you can, all towers taking the action the Derbyshire men have done. They would very quickly be ringing their Nunc Dimittis.—Yours very humbly,

E. W. F.

Dolau, Llandrindod Wells.

AN HONEST INTERPRETATION

Dear Sir.—Any Rector has, of course, the right to tell ringers who have the honesty to admit that they are interested in ringing primarily as a mental exercise to build secular towers and ring in them—just as any ringer has the right to tell such a Rector to man his ropes from his regular congregation, but where is the gain? History shows that such intolerance leads to aridity and not growth.

Sanctimonious attempts to show others 'the light' often lead to harm, and in my own experience have driven out of ringing those who can probably be of great value, that is church-going ringers. It is one thing to choose your course of action—another to have it dictated to you.

It seems to me that F. E. H.'s article is an honest account of the attitude of the majority of ringers and his reasonable arguments much more likely to recall those who are not churchmen to a sense of their obligations than the inflamed exhortations of some of your correspondents, which will only reaffirm the converted in their piety—a pleasing, but fruitless occupation.—Yours faithfully,

MADLINE M. CROFT.

Southampton.

IRREGULAR METHODS

Dear Sir.—I was interested to read M. R. P.'s criticisms of my letter of December 21st in a recent edition of 'The Ringing World.' May I be permitted to make the following observations on them?

(1). **Campanological Balderdash.**—It is, I assume, the duty of the Editor and the Editorial Committee to present to their readers, among other things, a true cross-section of opinion, and so will publish many letters whose views do not coincide with their own. In such circumstances it is inevitable that certain material will appear falling into the category I mentioned. If M. R. P. or any others have not read that which they consider comes under this heading, then their gullibility must be greater or their perspicacity smaller than most people's.

(2). **Cartwheeling.**—To a simple question, a simple answer—Yes! Logic is our strong point.

(3). **Woodbine, etc.**—Woodbine with 5ths when the treble is behind ceases to be Woodbine and becomes Neasden. Oxford with 5ths in a similar place becomes Sandal. Is Sandal better than Oxford? Should Oxford not then be rung? Oh, I had almost forgotten. The comparison is unfair. There is the small matter of irregular lead ends. But you already have my views on that subject.

(4). **6-5's at backstroke don't matter.**—The phrase quoted by M. R. P. has been removed from its context, and as originally written: 'Here, with close leads, even 6-5's at backstroke don't matter . . . ' is not a matter of opinion but a plain statement of fact.

(5). I am not aware, nor do I find on re-reading, that my letter stated, or contained the suggestion, that 'The Central Council' consisted of a 'band of theoretical nobodies.' Nor can I find any sarcastic references to them in my letter. I have the greatest respect for the Central Council: I was, after all, once a member myself! What I said was that many of them have but 'an academic interest in the subject.' This, I am afraid, is still true. True, also, they can't compel anyone. But if they refuse to recognise Minor peals containing methods with irregular lead ends, this amounts to practically the same thing. No, I think that the Central Council should realise that in excluding these methods it is robbing Minor ringers of interesting and useful material and should, therefore, take steps necessary to remedy the injustice.

My list does not include M. R. P.!—Yours faithfully,

H. CHANT.

Wakefield.

P.S.—All good wishes to 'open leaders' and others for 1952.—H. C.

AN EXAMPLE FROM SHEPTON BEAUCHAMP

Dear Sir.—Although not wishing to uphold the attitude of non-church-attending ringers (I should think their consciences coupled with moral duty should tell them which is right), it is evident that the fault is not all theirs. Is sufficient encouragement with tact given from the other side?

Shepton Beauchamp Church has for many years had the fullest support from its ringers; each succeeding Rector has enjoyed their co-operation both inside and outside of the church and belfry, and I believe this is due in the main to the following reasons which have been in operation for many years. Two ringers are members of the Parochial Church Council, two are servers, several are members of the choir and all are regular churchgoers. If their attendance in church was missed, the Rector would say so tactfully, without an ultimatum. I think your correspondents would do well to ponder awhile and say 'Are they wholly to be blamed?'—Yours sincerely,

R. BEALE.

Shepton Beauchamp, Somerset.

SOUTHEND & DISTRICT GUILD

An encouraging first year was reported upon at the annual meeting of the Southend and District Guild held at St. Mary's, Prittlewell, on January 26th.

Ringling was brought to an abrupt end shortly before the service by the snapping of the rope of the third bell.

The service was marked by the dedication by the Vicar of a Credence Table, the gift of the ringers of St. Mary's, in appreciation of the Vicar's work in the parish.

After tea in the Guildhall, attended by 60 ringers and their wives, the Vicar thanked the ringers for their gift to him and said that during his 35 years at the church there had been other gifts made to him but what inevitably happened was that the donors told him that they were going to give him a gift and then immediately asked his wife what she would like. He thanked Mrs. B. Sadler who had presented an iced first-anniversary cake to the Guild, and also the ladies who had prepared the tea.

The president, Mr. F. B. Lufkin, who presided at the business meeting, apologised for any shortcomings there might be in the books, as the secretary had been taken to hospital, and Mr. Grimwade, the assistant secretary, had endeavoured to make a report and draw up the minutes of the last annual general meeting from what facts he could accumulate at little more than 24 hours' notice.

The assistant secretary presented the secretary's report which stated that during the last year there had been six ringing meetings—at South Benfleet, Downham, Leigh, Great Wakering and two at Rayleigh. There had been an average of 27 members at these meetings with the highest attendance at Downham, with 35 members. Two services had been held at South Benfleet and Great Wakering. The main object of the Guild was to help learners and the accent on the meetings consequently had always been on easier methods. The week's ringing holiday in Oxfordshire, Gloucestershire and Buckinghamshire had been a great success and 35 towers had been visited.

Mr. B. Sadler presented the treasurer's report which showed a balance of £2 2s.. This, he said, was mainly due to the fact that all the stationery had been presented to the Guild.

The president informed the meeting that Mr. Coombes, the secretary, was unable to stand for re-election owing to his bad health and Mr. Grimwade, the assistant secretary, was also unable to stand as he was due for National Service.

The following officers were elected:—President, Mr. F. B. Lufkin; Master, Mr. G. Blower; Assistant Master, Mr. B. Sadler; secretary, Mr. P. Sadler; assistant secretary, Mrs. C. Woodgate; treasurer, Mrs. B. Sadler. Mr. Oliver, of Downham, Mr. Sharman, of Thorpe Bay, and Mr. Sparrow, of South Benfleet, were elected to the committee as tower representatives.

The meeting closed after Mr. Sparrow had proposed a vote of thanks to all retiring officers in addition to the vicars and tower masters who had allowed the ringing meetings to be held at their churches. A social evening followed.

V. W. G.

5,040 CAMBRIDGE MAXIMUS

Dear Sir,—Referring to 'Belfry Gossip' that the peal of 5,040 Cambridge Maximus at Macclesfield was the third with this number of changes, I wish to state this was the fourth. On April 12th, 1930, 5,040 New Cambridge Maximus was rung by having the first lead Primrose thereby bringing up the wrong and cutting out the preceding leads.

On November 30th, 1932, the same number was rung of Cambridge Maximus by making the 6th bob bell three times, cutting out 240 changes.

Both were rung at St. Mary-le-Tower's, Ipswich, conducted by Charles J. Sedgley and yours truly.

Ipswich.

GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

WHEN YOU MEET SHORT

The President's Suggestions

The following Foreword Mr. E. H. Lewis, president of the Central Council, appeared in the January issue of 'The Belfry,' the quarterly magazine of the Maidstone District of the Kent County Association.

Many years ago I knew a tower where practice was timed for eight o'clock. The ringers waited outside the tower and if, when the clock struck, there were not eight ringers present, there was no practice. Probably such a custom does not prevail to-day.

It is not always possible for a full band to be present at starting time and I would like to mention a few ways of filling in any time occupied in waiting for a full company. If handbells are available, as I think they should be in every tower, you can begin as soon as number two arrives. There are at least thirteen methods of getting the 24 changes on four bells, though only three of them without more than two blows in a place. They all make good practice for a beginner. As soon as number three arrives turn over to Doubles or Minor, and to Triples or Major when the fourth turns up. A start could also be made on tower bells. If it is an eight-bell tower instead of ringing the front four or the back four, very good practice in striking can be had by using treble, 4, 6, tenor. This, if properly struck, sounds very well outside the tower.

When the numbers reach five I would suggest that occasionally, for variety, Doubles be tried on the front five bells of six without the tenor. It is good for a beginner who can use his ears because the music in a minor key, while rather pleasing if well struck, is completely ruined by bad striking.

As soon as the sixth ringer appears a good practice can be had whatever the number of bells in the tower. Again for variety I would suggest in an eight-bell tower that Minor be sometimes rung on treble, 3, 4, 6, 7, tenor. At Frodsham we used to call this the 'Irish' six as the notes are the same as in 'Wearing of the Green.'

In ten-bell towers there is a good choice of the front six, the back six, or 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, tenor. Better still to learn how to hold up the trebles, and for musical effect ring Minor on treble, 2, 3, 6, 8, tenor.

All these hints on what may be done when 'meeting short' I have tried when teaching and found them useful.

I would like to congratulate those responsible for 'The Belfry' on their production and wish the paper a long continuation of its high standard.

EDWIN H. LEWIS.

MR. W. CARNWELL'S 100 PEALS

Mr. William Carnwell, hon. secretary of the North Staffordshire Association, completed his first 100 tower-bell peals by a peal of Plain Bob Minor on January 12th. His list is appended:—

Maximus.—Kent Treble Bob 2.

Royal.—Cambridge Surprise 1, Kent Treble Bob 3, Oxford Treble Bob 1, Plain Bob 2.

Caters.—Stedman 2.

Surprise Major.—Cambridge 3, Staffordshire 3, London 1, Superlative 1, Lincolnshire 1, Yorkshire 1, Bristol 1, Spliced Cambridge and Superlative 1.

Major.—Kent Treble Bob 18 (conducted 1), Oxford Treble Bob 6, Plain Bob 5.

Triples.—Stedman 2, Grandsire 2.

Minor.—Surprise Minor (seven methods) 5, Ipswich Surprise 1, Treble Bob (seven methods) 11 (4), Ditto (six methods) 1, Ditto (five methods) 8 (2), Ditto (four methods) 2, Ditto (three methods) 5 (3), Plain Bob 10 (7).

Doubles.—Two methods 1.

Total.—100; conducted 17.

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD

Christchurch District

About 35 members assembled at Christchurch on January 26th for the annual meeting of the District. The Vicar of Christchurch, Canon R. P. Price, M.A., conducted the service held in the historic choir of the Priory and also presided at the business meeting. He was supported by his churchwardens and Mr. George Pullinger, Ringing Master of the Guild.

The hon. secretary presented his report on the year's activities and also a balance sheet which showed a slight increase in the balance in hand.

The following District officers were elected:—Chairman, Mr. David Reed (Ringwood); hon. secretary and treasurer, Mr. Arthur V. Davis (Bournemouth); Joint Ringing Masters, Mr. William E. Cheater (Ringwood) and Mr. Daniel T. Matkin (Bournemouth); representatives on committee, Mrs. F. J. Marshall (Bournemouth) and Mr. R. Marlow (Fordingbridge); hon. auditor, Mr. R. Hurst (Bournemouth).

It was proposed and carried unanimously that the South of England Ringers' Rally and George Williams Commemoration Dinner be held on May 3rd at Bournemouth. The following were elected to the committee to make the arrangements: Mrs. F. J. Marshall, Mr. F. Price, Mr. R. Hurst, Mr. D. T. Matkin and Mr. W. Whitworth with Canon R. P. Price, M.A., as chairman, and Mr. A. V. Davis hon. organising secretary.

Quarterly meetings for the year were arranged and it was decided to hold the next annual meeting before Christmas—December 13th, at Christchurch. After a vote of thanks had been passed, with acclamation, to the Vicar and churchwardens and to the lady organist, the meeting was adjourned.

Ringling took place on the Priory twelve bells in a variety of methods until 9 p.m.

The dinner committee met at Christchurch on January 30th and decided to hold the dinner at the Devonshire Hotel, Richmond Hill, Bournemouth.

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD

Youth in Evidence at Nuneaton

The first quarterly meeting of the year was held at St. Nicholas', Nuneaton. 45 members from all parts of the area attending. A noted feature was the presence of youthful ringers at all stages, from round ringing to Spliced Surprise. The Vicar of Chilvers Coton (president of the Guild) joined the members for tea and the beginning of the business meeting but his commitments in his own parish curtailed his stay. The Master, Mr. F. W. Perrins, took the chair. Apologies were received from Mr. and Mrs. Hinde, Messrs. R. J. Edden (Stratford District secretary) and J. H. W. White.

The report of the committee meeting regarding the issue of handbooks instead of printed reports, to reduce cost, was adopted and the hon. secretary was asked to proceed with data for the handbooks and obtain quotations from printers to present at the annual meeting. The date of this was to be April 19th, and it was announced that an invitation had been received from the Mayor of Coventry to take tea with him in the Council House and to use the Council Chamber for the business meeting. Ringling would take place at Stoke and Allesley. New members elected were Miss Norma Hope and Mr. Donald Govan, both of the local tower.

Congratulations were extended to Mr. R. J. Edden, hon. secretary of the Warwick and Stratford District, together with his assistant, Miss H. Purkiss, both of Ladbroke, near Southam, for their great efforts in the Southam area on behalf of the Guild. What was once considered a dead area was now producing most encouraging results.

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION**Lewisham's 22 New Members**

The Lewisham District's quarterly meeting was held at SS. Peter and Paul's, Bromley, in conditions eminently suitable to the season!

Seventy ringers and friends attended and the recently-installed octave from the Croydon foundry was much in use during the time available. Mr. H. Hoverd, Ringing Master, had an exacting task fitting in the many requests and the belfry was probably the busiest spot in busy Bromley that afternoon!

The service was held in the temporary church, the Vicar (the Rev. Murray Walton) officiating. The lesson (the 150th Psalm) was read by Mr. E. Barnett (Crayford) and Mrs. Mary Walker was at the organ. The Vicar's address was very much enjoyed; it was, indeed, what its subject matter concerned—a 'cheerful noise.' The proceeds of the collection were paid to the rebuilding fund for Bromley Church.

After tea, at which the Vicar presided, the business meeting was held in the church. Mr. P. A. Corby was elected to the chair. Twenty-two ringers, including 14 from SS. Peter and Paul's, were elected members of the Association, and the elections of two members previous to peals were ratified.

Mr. A. S. Richards (West Wickham) read an excellent report of proceedings at the committee meeting held at Maidstone on November 24th, prepared by the reader and Mr. J. Dafters (Lewisham).

An invitation from the Rector of West Wickham to hold the next meeting at his church on April 26th was gratefully accepted.

It was agreed to hold the annual joint meeting with the N.W. District of the Surrey Association at Eynesford on October 11th, when it was hoped the attendance would demonstrate conclusively that there was a demand for these combined meetings.

Votes of thanks were accorded the organisers of the social meeting held at Christ Church, Erith, last December, and it was decided to hold one at the same place on December 6th this year.

Mr. J. Dafters urged that members should support much more fully the various activities of the District during the coming years.

The chairman moved a cordial vote of thanks to the Vicar, the organist, the verger, Mr. I. Emery and Mr. P. Spice for all they had done to ensure such a successful meeting, and extended a warm welcome from the Association to the newly-formed bands at Bromley and Chelsfield. This was carried with enthusiasm. Further ringing in the tower followed.

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION**Presentation to Mr. C. J. Ball**

The annual meeting of the Biggleswade District was held at Biggleswade on January 12th and 48 ringers sat down to a good tea provided and served by the wives of the local ringers.

At the business meeting the secretary (Mr. C. J. Ball) gave his report on the year's working which was satisfactory both on the ringing and financial side. He announced he was not seeking re-election owing to ill-health and was sorry to retire after 30 years as secretary of the Biggleswade District which was in a stronger position now than it was 30 years ago.

Miss E. Steel, of Bedford, spoke in appreciation of the work Mr. Ball had done for the Biggleswade District and hoped she would meet him at many more meetings.

Mr. C. J. Ball was presented with a chiming clock, suitably inscribed, by Mr. W. Wagstaffe, one of the oldest ringers of the District.

Mr. L. H. Bywaters was elected secretary; Mr. C. H. Harding chairman; committee—Messrs. C. J. Smith, M. Lockey, A. W. Dille and C. Main. Mr. C. H. Harding proposed a vote of thanks to the ladies for an excellent tea, and to the Vicar for the use of the bells.

Ringing during the afternoon and evening ranged from rounds to Surprise Major.

THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION**Sheffield's Warm Welcome**

A very successful general meeting of the Association was held at Sheffield on January 19th, when by kind consent of the respective authorities, the Cathedral bells (12) and St. Marie's R.C. (8) were at the disposal of the members.

The committee meeting was followed by an excellent tea served in the Wolstenholme Hall.

In the unavoidable absence of the president, the chair was taken by Mr. P. J. Johnson at the business meeting which followed. Apologies for absence were received from the president and Messrs. H. Walker, B. Sutton, R. B. Smith, H. S. Morley, A. E. Sellers, F. W. Dale, E. Hudson and T. W. Strangeway.

After the confirmation of the minutes a hearty vote of thanks was passed to the Provost of Sheffield and Cathedral Authorities for the use of the bells, coupled also with the authorities of St. Marie's R.C. Church. This was moved by Mr. F. Cardwell, seconded by Mr. F. A. Staveley. A similar vote of thanks to the local companies for making local arrangements and providing such an excellent tea was carried unanimously on the motion of Mr. N. Chaddock, seconded by Mr. D. Smith.

Mr. S. F. Palmer replied, saying that most of the work had been done by Mr. and Mrs. H. O. Chaddock, who had spared no effort to make the meeting a success.

Mr. Chaddock said that this was the first general meeting to be held at Sheffield for some years, and it had been a real pleasure to try and maintain the traditions associated with Sheffield and the Yorkshire Association.

The chairman announced that the committee had considered a kind invitation from Wakefield to hold the next meeting there, but felt that to accept would mean that two general meetings would thus take place successively in the same Division, which was contrary to Rule. The committee therefore recommended that the next meeting, which was the annual general meeting, be held at Bradford on Saturday, May 3rd, if the necessary arrangements could be made. Mr. D. Smith moved, and Mr. A. E. Marsh seconded, that the committee's recommendation be accepted, at the same time expressing appreciation and thanks to the Wakefield members for their kind invitation. This was carried.

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD**Sonning Deanery Branch**

About 70 members with visitors from Reading attended the annual meeting at Wokingham on February 2nd. Ringing commenced on the bells of St. Paul's Church at 3 p.m., after which a service was held in the church conducted by the Rector, the sermon being preached by the Rev. W. F. Cornell, Rector of Easthampstead.

The annual business meeting followed tea, the Branch chairman, Archdeacon Shaw, presiding. The secretary, in his report, mentioned a successful year's work, with good attendance at meetings and with all towers well manned for Sunday ringing. Twelve peals had been rung in the Branch during the year, mostly by resident members, eight of whom had rung their first peal.

All the officers were re-elected for 1952 as were the representatives to the general committee. A most encouraging feature of the meeting was the formal election of 16 new members.

On the recommendation of the Branch Committee £5 was voted to the Guild Memorial to Canon G. F. Coleridge, at Oxford.

During a discussion on rising Guild finances a resolution from the Branch that the annual subscription be increased was carried. After arranging meetings for the coming year the meeting closed and all dispersed to All Saints' and St. Paul's Churches for ringing until 9 p.m.

The secretary read a letter from the tower secretary at Bridlington Priory intimating that a festival week was to be held in June to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Priory bells, and asking if a preacher could be found to represent the Association. It was unanimously agreed to forward the letter to the president of the Association, who, unfortunately, was unable to be present at the meeting.

THE HON. TREASURERSHIP

The chairman announced that the committee had received with much regret the resignation of the hon. treasurer, Mr. S. F. Palmer, to take effect from the expiry of his triennial term of office at the annual general meeting. Mr. Palmer felt that, owing to advanced years, while he was still physically fit he could not foresee what might take place during another triennial period, and as it was against his principle to cling to office until something happened, he would prefer to hand over now to a younger man and be available with any advice or help he could give to his successor.

The chairman said that while Mr. Palmer, who had served the Association faithfully and well for many years, had regrets, equally so had the Association, and he hoped that Mr. Palmer would long be spared to come among them. At the appropriate place and time, a much fuller reference to Mr. Palmer's services to the Association would be made, but at that stage it was necessary to ask for nominations for the office which by Rule could be received, duly proposed and seconded, by the general secretary up to a month from the date of that meeting.

SNOWDON DINNER

The chairman reported that the committee had considered a kind offer from the York Minster Society to hold the Snowdon Dinner again at York, and had pleasure in recommending that the offer be accepted with thanks. It was unanimously decided to accept same, and in order to avoid a possible clash with other meetings, it was agreed that the Dinner take place at York on October 25th.

Miss Elizabeth Bate, of Handsworth, L. D. Holland and L. E. Bouan, of All Saints', Sheffield, Pauline M. Hall, of Horbury, and Stuart Carter, of Marsden, were elected members.

This concluded the business meeting, and an adjournment was then made to the two towers where further ringing was enjoyed.

L. W. G. M.

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE

A joint meeting of the Southern District and the Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association was held in Darlington on January 12th. The eight bells of St. Cuthbert's Church were available from 2.30 p.m. and after tea. St. John's eight bells were also available.

The meeting was very well attended and was the largest for some time at Darlington. This was mainly due to two reasons. One was the fact that it was a joint meeting and many ringers of the newly-formed Cleveland and North Yorkshire Association were present; the other being that it marked the retirement of Mr. J. T. Titt as secretary of the Southern District after 20 years in office.

Tea was kindly arranged by the wives of the local ringers in St. Cuthbert's Church Hall where about 40 ringers sat down to a very sumptuous meal.

Mr. W. N. Park proposed a vote of thanks to the Vicar, the Rev. G. E. Holderness, of St. Cuthbert's, for the use of the bells. Mr. Titt was then presented with a suitably engraved umbrella by the Rev. E. J. Simpson, Vicar of Holy Trinity, at which church Mr. Titt is a regular ringer. After a short business meeting presided over by Mr. T. Cooke, the District chairman, it was decided that the next meeting should be held on February 23rd at Hurworth-on-Tees.

D. R. A.

OBITUARY

MR. ALFRED W. BRIGHTON

Mr. Alfred W. Brighton, whose death was announced in 'The Ringing World' of February 8th, will be remembered by his many friends all over the country for his sterling qualities as a ringer and conductor.

He was born 77 years ago in Norwich and learned to ring with Frederick Knights and other Norwich ringers of the St. Peter Mancroft Society, among whom were J. A. Trollope, J. E. Burton and C. E. Borrett.

Although not so well known by this generation, due to the fact he did little ringing from 1913 till 1946, he was a leading figure in the Exercise in the early years of the century and rang peals in many parts of the country. Despite being small of stature and light in weight, he would often be seen at the 'heavy end' and had few superiors in that department.

His total peals numbered 242, of which he conducted 50. Eleven of his peals were 'in hand,' most of which were rung with the Pye brothers at his residence in Forest Gate. He was at home on all numbers of bells. His peals ranged from Bob Minor to Stedman Cinques and were rung in 160 different towers in 27 counties. He was a member of the Ancient Society of College Youths as well as many other Associations.

He will be remembered most of all for his eagerness to help local bands wherever his business took him, no matter whether there were five or twelve bells. Two peals, which he conducted, and of which he was justly proud, were at Harrogate and Workington, both Kent Treble Bob Major, and in which no fewer than six and seven ringers respectively rang their first peal. Other highlights in which he took part were:—The first peal at Exeter Cathedral; first peal of Cinques by the Middlesex Association; first peal of Double Norwich in the City of London, which he conducted; first peal at the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, rung on the occasion of the Coronation of King Edward VIII. and that great peal of Stedman Caters at Exeter, when William Pye rang the tenor single-handed. It is worth mentioning here that when he rang his first peal of Stedman Cinques at Ipswich, he cycled from Norwich to Ipswich and back on a pennyfarthing bicycle. His last peal was one of Bob Major at Woodford, on December 10th, 1949, on his golden wedding day.

Owing to failing health during the last few months he was not able to get out at all but he continued to take a keen interest until the end.

The funeral took place at the City of London Cemetery on Monday, February 4th. In addition to family mourners, officers of the Essex and London County Associations and fellow-ringers of the Leytonstone band (of which Mr. Brighton was a member) were present. A course of Grandsire Triples was rung on handbells at the graveside by Messrs. J. H. Crampion, T. H. Taffender, R. W. Stannard and E. D. Smith.

And so another great figure in our calling passes on, and we are the poorer for his passing. We shall miss his wise counsel and genial personality. May he rest in peace. J. W. C.

MR. CHARLES LITTLEWOOD

The Melton Mowbray District has lost one of its veteran ringers by the passing of Mr. Charles Littlewood, of Kirby-Bellars. He was within a few days of his 89th birthday.

Mr. Littlewood was born at Kirby where his father was parish clerk and sexton. He learned to handle a bell when quite a lad. A foundation member of the Gosport Society of Change Ringers, which will celebrate the 70th anniversary of its foundation this year. Mr. Littlewood retained his interest in ringing throughout his life.

On the day of the funeral, February 5th, five of his friends, all members of the Gosport Society, rang a half-muffled peal to his memory at Kirby-Bellars.

MR. L. J. HINDE

The Coventry Diocesan Guild has lost one of its most loyal members by the death of Mr. Lovelace John Hinde, of Bulkington, at the age of 77 years. He was a native of Brinklow, but had lived in Bulkington since 1913.

For 37 years he was foreman platelayer on the L.M.S. railway, retiring in 1939. He was clerk, verger, chorister and bellringer at the Parish Church of St. James for a number of years. He was connected with the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the Coventry Hospital Saturday Fund. He was a former scoutmaster and, during the war, a Civil Defence warden. Mr. Hinde rang one peal, at the age of 61, the tenor to a peal of Grandsire Doubles, at Bulkington, on March 7th, 1936, when six bells hung in the tower, but was instrumental in obtaining two more bells to complete the octave in 1949.

A number of fellow Guild members attended the funeral on January 30th, the following ringing a course of Grandsire Triples over the grave:—Mrs. D. E. Beamish (Guild general secretary) 1-2, L. Trevor 3-4, E. Sibley 5-6, H. E. Ashley 7-8. A half-muffled peal of Grandsire Triples was rung on the tower bells later in the day, as reported in the peal columns.

MR. HARRY F. DAWKINS

The death occurred on February 3rd of Mr. Harry Frederick Dawkins at Brentwood Mental Hospital at the age of 76 years. He had been a patient there since May, 1940, following a nervous breakdown.

Mr. Dawkins was a regular Sunday service ringer at St. Edward's Church, Romford, for 40 years and rang many peals there with the Pye brothers. He rang his 100th peal on March 19th, 1914, and since then he had kept no records. Always of a very cheerful disposition, he was ever ready to help his fellow men and he was beloved by all with whom he came in contact. He never said a bad word about anyone and was always eager to help a first-pealer. The writer has many recollections of him during the last 44 years. May he rest in peace.

A. B. W.

Mr. Dawkins' peals:—Grandsire Triples 5 (cond. 1, handbells 2); Stedman Triples 22 (cond. 1, handbells 4); Stedman Caters 6 (handbells 4); Bob Major 1; Double Norwich 7; Treble Bob Major 3.

Cambridge Surprise Major 5; Superlative Surprise Major 13; London Surprise Major 24; Bristol Surprise Major 14.

Total: 100.

NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION

North Norfolk Branch

The annual meeting of the branch was held at Hethersett on January 19th, and some 50 members and friends attended.

The Rector, the Rev. R. G. Heawood, conducted the service, the lesson being read by Mr. F. Nolan Golden (Ringing Master); Mrs. Alborough was at the organ.

At the business meeting, which followed tea, the Rector was voted to the chair in the absence of the branch chairman (the Rev. E. W. Blyth). Three new members were elected and Buxton was selected for the next meeting. The branch secretary proposed a vote of thanks to the Rector of Hethersett for the use of the bells, the organist and Mr. Lofty, who arranged the meeting.

SHREWSBURY, SALOP.—At St. Chad's, on Jan. 30th, 1260 Stedman Triples 'on the back eight': C. Golding 1, C. Lee 2, G. L. Hewitt 3, F. H. Bennett 4, W. G. Jones 5, L. G. Beddow (first quarter as cond.) 6, C. A. Barron 7, E. F. Willcox 8. Rung half-muffled as a token of respect for Preb. A. E. Lawson, D.D., Vicar of St. Michael's (and Rural Dean of Shrewsbury), who passed away the previous evening.

SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR

By A. J. PITMAN

5,376 Superlative, Pudsey, London, Hereford, Bristol and Cambridge

					No. 1	Methods
23456	M	B	W	H		
23564	—	—	—	—		SPPS
52364	—	—	3	—		LXHBBCPS
43265	—	—	3	—		LXHBBCPS
23645	—	—	2	—		LXHBBCPS
53246	2	—	—	—		BBHXL
34562	—	—	—	—		SPPS
54632	—	—	2	—		LXHBBCPS
32546	2	—	—	—		BBHXL
43526	3	—	—	—		SPCBHXL
24536	3	—	—	—		SPCBHXL

Repeat twice. X—Cambridge, Superlative or Pudsey.

To reduce to 5,088, call as follows in one part—

23645	M	W	H	
54632	—	—	—	BBC or SBB

					No. 2	Methods
23456	M	B	W	H		
23564	—	—	—	—		SPPS
52364	—	—	3	—		LXHBBCPS
35264	—	—	3	—		LXHBBCPS
42563	—	—	3	—		LXHBBCPS
54263	—	—	3	—		LXHBBCPS
32465	—	—	3	—		LXHBBCPS
43265	—	—	3	—		LXHBBCPS
24365	—	—	3	—		LXHBBCPS
34562	—	—	3	—		LXHBBCPS
25463	—	—	3	—		LXHBBCPS
45362	—	—	3	—		LXHBBCPS
25634	—	—	2	—		LXHBBCPS
45236	2	—	—	—		BBHXL
53462	—	—	—	—		SPPS
43652	—	—	2	—		LXHBBCPS
52436	2	—	—	—		BBHXL
43526	3	—	—	—		SPCBHXL
24536	3	—	—	—		SPCBHXL
53246	3	—	—	—		SPCBHXL
25346	3	—	—	—		SPCBHXL
32546	3	—	—	—		SPCBHXL
54326	3	—	—	—		SPCBHXL
35426	3	—	—	—		SPCBHXL
42356	3	—	—	—		SPCBHXL
34256	3	—	—	—		SPCBHXL
23456	3	—	—	—		SPCBHXL

X—Cambridge, Superlative or Pudsey.

To reduce to 5,088, call as follows—

25634	M	W	H	
43652	—	—	—	BBC or SBB

In this there are 159 changes of method, the arrangement of methods giving plenty of 86's, 67's and 78's behind.

LATE NOTICES

BATH AND WELLS DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Bridgwater Branch.—Practice meeting at West Huntspill, Feb. 23rd, 6.30 p.m.—R. Short, Chilton Trinity. 296

LADIES' GUILD.—Central District.—St. John's, Stanmore, Feb. 23rd, 3—4.45. Tea 5. Ringing after meeting. Names for tea, by Feb. 20th, to Miss M. Jackson, 34, Old Devonshire Road S.W.12. 293

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Manchester Branch.—Ringing meeting, Feb. 23rd, at St. Peter's, Swinton, 3 p.m. Cups of tea provided. All welcome.—R. Benson. 295

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Melton District.—Meeting at Harby, Saturday, Feb. 23rd, Bells 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea, in Institute, 5 o'clock. Names, by the 21st, to Mr. J. Butcher.—J. H. Cook. 292

NOTICES

Scale of Charges

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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

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

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Chesterfield District.—Monthly meeting, Barlborough (6), Saturday, Feb. 16th, 3 p.m. 257

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.—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. Names for tea to A. Everett, 24, The Chase, Boreham. 190

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Meeting, Feb. 16th, Goudhurst (8 bells), 3 p.m. 243

NORWICH ASSOCIATION.—East Norfolk Branch.—Meeting at Gorleston, Feb. 16th, cancelled till further notice.—J. Harwood, Sec., East Norfolk. 272

SELBY AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Monthly meeting, Howden, Feb. 16th. Bells (8) 2 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea (moderate charge). Names, by Feb. 14th, to Mr. E. A. Newham, 31, Pinfold Street, Howden, Goole.—L. M. Woodhead, Hon. Sec. 264

SUFFOLK GUILD.—Sudbury District.—Election of District secretary, Feb. 16th. Meet St. Gregory's 3 p.m. Names for tea to A. Haynes, 68, Queen's Road, Sudbury. 273

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

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Alton and Petersfield District.—Annual meeting, Feb. 16th. Petersfield bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Business meeting follows.—C. E. Bassett, Warsash. 277

YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Quarterly meeting, Hemsworth, Saturday, Feb. 16th. New peal of 8 available from 2.30 p.m.—J. J. L. Gilbert. 259

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Ilkeston and Derby Districts.—Joint meeting at Sawley on Saturday, February 23rd. Bells 3.15. Tea 5. All visitors welcome. Learners and youthful conductors encouraged. Names to W. Simpson, Turnbury, Draycott Lane, Sawley. 265

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Peak District.—Meeting at Bakewell (8) on Saturday, Feb. 23rd, 3 p.m. Tea, at Royal Oak Hotel, 5 p.m. Names for tea, by Feb. 19th, to D. S. Gregory, Orchard House, Hillside, Darley Dale. 266

DEVON GUILD.—Exeter Branch.—Meeting, Newton St. Cyres, re-arranged date Saturday, Feb. 23rd, same times. Names, by Monday, Feb. 18th, to F. Wreford, 24, Normandy Road, Exeter. 267

DONCASTER AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting, Adwick, Feb. 23rd. Bells (6) 2.30. Tea 5. Names for tea, by Feb. 21st, to Mr. H. Scott, 105, Doncaster Road, Woodlands, Doncaster.—R. J. Sanderson, Hon. Sec. 279

DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE ASSOCIATION.—Southern District.—Meeting, Hurworth (6), Saturday, Feb. 23rd, 2.30 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. for those who notify by Thursday, Feb. 21st, Dennis R. Airey, 20, Westbrook Villas, Darlington.—D. R. Airey. 290

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.—Hunts District.—Meeting, Buckden (5), Saturday, Feb. 23rd. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock.—H. S. Peacock, Dis. Sec. 276

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

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—Meeting at Stone, Feb. 23rd. Bells (6) 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Notify for tea by Feb. 20th.—Mary Drew, Bibstone Farm, Cromhall. 283

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

HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Northern District.—Stevenage. Feb. 23rd, 3 p.m. Tea 5.15. Names, by Feb. 19th, to W. Lawrence, 97, Letchmore Road, Stevenage. No tea shops near.—G. Buck, Dis. Sec. 271

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Maidstone District.—The postponed meeting at Snodland (6) will now take place on Saturday, Feb. 23rd. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Names to Dr. E. S. J. Hatcher, Kimmeridge, Ditton, Maidstone. 291

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

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Bolton Branch.—Meeting at All Souls', Bolton, on Feb. 23rd. Ringing at 3. Meeting 6 p.m. Cups of tea provided.—Peter Crook, Hon. Sec. 289

LEEDS AND DISTRICT SOCIETY.—Meeting at St. Chad's, Headingley, on Saturday, Feb. 23rd. Bells available 3 p.m. Tea (2s. per head) will be arranged for those who notify, by Thursday, Feb. 21st, Mr. F. Hutchinson, 118, Weetwood Lane, Leeds 6. Business meeting to follow tea.—H. Lofthouse, Hon. Sec. 286

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Market Harborough District.—Meeting, Lubenham, Feb. 23rd. Bells (5) 3. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Village Hall. Names, by 20th, to E. Carter, The Green, Lubenham.—L. W. Allen. 280

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

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Bicester Deanery Branch.—The postponed quarterly meeting will be held at Middleton Stony on Saturday, Feb. 23rd. Bells 2.30. Service 4. Tea 5.—C. Kinch, The Causeway, Bicester, Oxon. 278

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—E. Berks and S. Bucks Branch.—Meeting, Iver, Saturday, Feb. 23rd, 4 p.m. Names for tea by 18th.—Barker, Cambridge, Wexham, Slough. 281

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Annual general committee meeting at the Hind Hotel, Wellingborough, on Saturday, Feb. 23rd, at 3 p.m. Tea arranged for members. Ringing after meeting at All Hallows' Parish Church, starting approximately 5.30 p.m.—R. C. Noon, Guild Hon. Sec. 268

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Marlborough Branch.—Meeting, Ramsbury, Feb. 23rd. Names for tea essential.—T. A. Palmer, Baydon Hill, Aldbourne, Marlborough. 284

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Eastern Division.—Annual meeting, Hailsham, Feb. 23rd. Tower open 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea 5, followed by business meeting. Individual names for tea, not later than 21st, to P. H. Rollison, Hon. Div. Sec., 313, Victoria Drive, Eastbourne. 275

WINCHESTER AND PORTSMOUTH GUILD.—Winchester District.—Practice meeting, Hursley, Saturday, Feb. 23rd. 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

DEVON GUILD.—North Devon Branch.—Meeting, Chittlehampton, Shrove Tuesday, Feb. 26th. Bells available 7 o'clock. 256

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ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—South West Division.—Evening practice meeting, Romford (8), on March 1st at 6 p.m.—F.V.G. 269

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—North Bucks Branch.—A quarterly meeting at Whaddon, Saturday, March 1st. Bells (6) at 2.30. Service 3.30. Names for tea by Feb. 23rd.—R. H. Howson, 19, Greenfield Road, Newport Pagnell, Bucks. 282

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Nottingham District.—Meeting at Attenborough on Saturday, March 1st. Ringing from 2.30. Names for tea, by Wednesday, Feb. 27th, to Mr. A. Shakespeare, 9, Scrivelsby Gardens, Chilwell. 288

SWANSEA AND BRECON GUILD.—Southern Section.—Meeting, Dyffryn (Neath), March 1st. Bells 2.30. Service 4. Tea and business to follow. Names for tea, please.—J. A. Hoare, 6, Gendros Crescent, Swansea. 270

SURREY ASSOCIATION.—Annual general meeting, Reigate, Saturday, March 8th. Bells: Reigate (10) 3; Redhill (8) 2.30 to 4. Service, Reigate, 4.30. Tea, Parish Hall, 5.15, for those notifying by March 4th, Miss B. Mayers, 3, Church Road, South Park, Reigate—W. F. Oatway, Hon. Gen. Sec. 282

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION.—Western Division.—Annual meeting and dinner at Arundel postponed until March 8th. All reservations must be re-booked before Feb. 27th.—C. Treagus, 78, Kyoto Court, Bognor Regis. 287

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