THE RINGING WORLD

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THE YOUNG CONDUCTOR

WITH the arrival of the New Year and the resumption or intensifying of the weekly practices there will be in many towers learners in various stages of efficiency. There will be those who have learned to handle a bell and now wish to learn to ring rounds; there will be those who have approached the study of change ringing and desire to practise hunting; some, more advanced, will be anxious to push on to inside work; and, in addition, it may be that someone will wish to try his hand at conducting. This latter person is one of the most interesting and important of all the learners.

In days gone by there were towers in which one man kept all the conducting in his own hands and gave to the aspirant no opportunity to assist or supersede him. Such towers may or may not have been so common as we have been led to suppose, but they did indeed exist, and it may be that they can still be found. But in most belfries to-day a more enlightened view is taken. The wise leader of a band is always on the look out for anyone showing interest in bob calling, knowing full well that one more conductor usually means one more safe ringer. He knows, too, that it is not good for the band to have to rely on the constant presence of one man in order to be able to ring the Sunday service touches. Where conducting in a tower to-day remains in the hands of the leader, it is likely to be because nobody has troubled to study the art of calling, or else it is because a youngster attracted by the idea feels too timid to venture to navigate upon what appear to be such perilous seas.

To the beginner the case presents considerable difficulty. How can he know that he will ring the method correctly when he is calling? Suppose he makes himself look foolish by putting a call in the wrong place? Suppose the bells get displaced, what then? And how can he venture to correct one of these old and experienced ringers should a mistake be made? These are real problems, and any one of these considerations may be enough to cause a young conductor to shrink from putting himself forward, keen as he may be to practise this fascinating art.

The matter calls, of course, for great tolerance and forbearance on the part of the band, and much quiet encouragement and unobtrusive supervision by the leader. The band should be prepared to place itself under the guidance of the new conductor without quibble, without patronising, and ringing in its very best form in order to give the caller every possible assistance. Some leaders will prefer to know the touch beforehand and to correct any mistake made in the calling; others take the view that the novice is best left to himself. The latter course has much to commend it, seeing that it gives to the conductor complete responsibility right from the start and provides its own lesson if a call should be missed or misplaced.

Where a young conductor shows promise and is clearly keen to pursue the study of conducting, what it may be asked, is the next step? What should we do for him next and how should we advise him to follow up his investigations? Much depends, as is usual in all the arts, upon the natural ability of the student. Some will need little or no direct assistance; they will have seen straight away the line they ought to take and the essentials that must be mastered. For others it may be valuable to indicate to them lines of study at home and points for observation in the belfry.

Paper work is, of course, absolutely essential. The conductor must be able to prick changes, first in full, then by lead ends, then by course ends. By the use of scales of bobs and singles he should lose no opportunity of constructing touches (whether original or not is of no consequence): he should acquire some knowledge of the meaning of the In and Out of Course of changes, so that he is clear in his own mind upon certain elementary facts, such as why no 120 of pure Doubles can be obtained with bobs only, or why Grandsire Triples cannot be brought round at handstroke without an odd number of singles. Then, one may perhaps reasonably suggest, he should study the simple principles of calling bells into rounds, taking for study not the long course Major methods but Grandsire Doubles, Bob Minor and Grandsire Triples, the figures of which lend themselves admirably to manipulation. In this study there is no need to burden the mind with lists of rules for bringing the bells round. Some of these lists and instructions are so involved that they completely defeat their end. The basis of the whole thing may be studied with interest and profit in the very simple rules for bringing 5, 6, 7 together in Grandsire Triples and 5, 6 together in Bob Minor.

In the tower the results of the above study should be apparent. Here the beginner should lose no opportunity of studying calling, whether he is actually ringing or not. He may with profit stand behind the experienced conductor and imagine himself to be calling; he may occa-

sionally inquire what touch the leader is to call, so that he himself may follow the working out of the changes. For his practical work one important suggestion may here be offered. As soon as possible let him practise calling from a non-observation bell. Let the touch be short and let the fundamentals of the touch be simple, and no great harm is then done if it comes to grief. If the method is Grandsire Triples much valuable experience may easily be gained in calling bells Before, In and Out of the Hunt, Home, and so on, without committing the band to any very lengthy touches.

So let our budding conductor appear in the tower, eager to learn, bringing with him his scrap of paper on which he has worked out the touch he wishes to call. We must not make fun of his piece of paper. It is a most healthy sign, an indication that he has given thought to his essay and has spent time in getting ready for this moment. Let us assist him all we can, not grudgingly nor patronisingly, knowing that his progress in the art will be our gain, and looking for the day when he shall be able to rule us with authority and with the confidence of one who knows his job.

There are many text books for the beginner in the art of ringing; for the conductor there is none. Articles on the subject have been written and still appear. What would be of interest and great value would be a graded course of study, both theoretical and practical, written specially for young bob callers. Our greatest conductors rise to such heights of genius as we can never hope to reach, and no text book will bring a conductor to such brilliant efficiency. But the genius needs no such book; the course of study suggested here would indicate, and instruct in, certain simple fundamentals, presented in logical order, from which a very ordinary ringer could, with patience and enthusiasm, gain a working knowledge of conducting. How far he advanced beyond that stage would depend on his natural ability and opportunity for practice.

E. C. S.

TWELVE BELL PEALS

MACCLESFIELD, CHESHIRE.
THE CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 26, 1953, *in* 3 *Hours and* 42 *Minutes,*
At the Church of St. Michael and All Angels,
A PEAL OF 5280 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAXIMUS
Tenor 26 cwt. 22 lb.

*Samuel Jones, jun.	*Treble*	John E. Bibby	7
Fred Dunkerley	2	John Worth	8
Wilfred Stevenson	3	Henry O. Baker	9
C. Kenneth Lewis	4	Peter Laflin	10
Basil Jones	5	Edward Jenkins	11
Alan A. Potts	6	Ralph G. Edwards	*Tenor*

Composed by W. Pye Conducted by John Worth.
* First peal of Surprise Maximus.

LEICESTER.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Thurs., Dec. 31, 1953, *in* 3 *Hours and* 24 *Minutes,*
At the Cathedral Church of St. Martin,
A PEAL OF 5019 STEDMAN CINQUES
Tenor 25 cwt.

*Samuel A. Martin	*Treble*	Redvers F. Elkington	7
Harold J. Poole	2	Brian G. Warwick	8
*Brian Martin	3	S. Anthony Jesson	9
Mrs. H. J. Poole	4	Richard Grant	10
Winifred M. Burton	5	William J. Root	11
Peter J. Staniforth	6	Terence A. Thornber	*Tenor*

Composed by Fredk. H. Dexter. Conducted by Peter J. Staniforth.
* First peal on 12 bells.

TEN BELL PEALS

BIRMINGHAM.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Sat., Dec. 19, 1953, *in* 3 *Hours and* 23 *Minutes,*
At the Cathedral Church of St. Philip,
A PEAL OF 5040 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE ROYAL
Tenor 31 cwt. 21 lb. in D.

G. Ronald Edwards	*Treble*	*Richard M. Currie	6
Muriel Reay	2	George E. Fearn	7
Bryan D. A. Woolley	3	*Peter Border	8
John Pinfold	4	Clifford A. Barron	9
*Geoffrey K. Dodd	5	G. Ralph Edwards	*Tenor*

Composed by C. J. Sedgley. Conducted by Clifford A. Barron.
* First peal of Yorkshire Royal.

PRESTON, LANCASHIRE.
THE LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 26, 1953, *in* 3 *Hours and* 32 *Minutes,*
At the Church of St. John,
A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE ROYAL
Tenor 25 cwt.

*Patricia Bourne	*Treble*	†Roger Leigh	6
Cyril Crossthwaite	2	‡Jack Clegg	7
†Thomas Barker	3	‡E. Roger Martin	8
Charles Clegg	4	†Ernest J. Gower	9
G. Alec Dimmock	5	†Arthur Hatch	*Tenor*

Composed by J. A. Burford. Conducted by Cyril Crossthwaite.
* First peal on ten bells. † First peal of Cambridge Royal. ‡ First peal of Cambridge Royal 'inside.' First peal of Cambridge Royal as conductor.

Rung as a compliment to the Vicar, Rev. Canon W. G. Fallows, M.A., on his appointment as a Chaplain to H.M. the Queen.

SLOUGH, BUCKINGHAMSHIRE.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 26, 1953, *in* 3 *Hours and* 18 *Minutes.*
At the Church of St. Paul,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB ROYAL
Tenor 17¼ cwt.

William Birmingham	*Treble*	†John M. Ellwood	6
William Welling	2	*Brian T. Lister	7
William J. Rawlings	3	‡Derek M. Stone	8
*Brian L. Taylor	4	*§Allen D. Rivers	9
*Frederick Scott	5	William Butler	*Tenor*

Arranged by C. W. Roberts. Conducted by William Birmingham.
* First peal of Bob Royal. † First peal of Bob Royal 'inside.' ‡ First peal on ten bells. § First peal 'inside'. First peal of Bob Royal on the bells. The conductor's first peal of Royal as such. He has now rung each bell in this, his home tower, to a peal.

EIGHT BELL PEALS

CONISBOROUGH, YORKSHIRE.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 19, 1953, *in* 2 *Hours and* 56 *Minutes,*
At the Church of St. Peter,
A PEAL OF 5120 SPLICED SURPRISE MAJOR
Containing 1,600 London, 1,440 Rutland, 640 Cambridge, and 480 each of Bristol, Superlative and Yorkshire, with 129 changes of method.
Tenor 13¼ cwt.

Frederick J. Jackson	*Treble*	J. Frederick Milner	5
Milton C. Fowler	2	W. Eric Critchley	6
*Howard Scott	3	*Norman Chaddock	7
*John J. L. Gilbert	4	Wilfrid F. Moreton	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by W. Eric Critchley.
* First peal of 6-Spliced Surprise methods.

EDENBRIDGE, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 19, 1953, *in* 3 *Hours and* 4 *Minutes,*
At the Church of SS. Peter and Paul.
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Parker's Twelve-part (7th Observation). Tenor 14 cwt. 7 lb.

Edward C. Leigh	*Treble*	Edward J. Jenner	5
William A. Kitchenside	2	Kevin S. Hohl	6
Arthur F. Lewry	3	Luther J. Honess	7
John T. Medhurst	4	William Manser	*Tenor*

Conducted by Arthur F. Lewry.

To commemorate the record number of 21st birthdays in Edenbridge during 1953.

HETHERSETT, NORFOLK.
THE NORWICH DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 19, 1953, *in* 2 *Hours and* 55 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. REMIGIUS,
A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 9 cwt. 74 lb. in G.

*MICHAEL J. DAY	*Treble*	RAYMOND G. LOFTY	5
CHARLES H. MOORE	2	F. NOLAN GOLDEN	6
HENRY TOOKE	3	JOHN MOORE	7
ARTHUR G. BASON	4	WILLIAM CLOVER	*Tenor*

Composed by G. H. CROSS. Conducted by WILLIAM CLOVER.
* First peal (age 15 years).
Rung in honour of the 25th anniversary of the ordination to priesthood of the Rev. R. G. Heawood, Rector of Hethersett.

BIRMINGHAM.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Mon., Dec. 21, 1953, *in* 2 *Hours and* 43 *Minutes,*
AT BISHOP RYDER'S CHURCH,
A PEAL OF 5088 RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 12 cwt. 3 qr. 24 lb. in F sharp.

MURIEL REAY	*Treble*	PETER BORDER	5
*EVELYN M. FLETCHER	2	*WILLIAM E. THOMPSETT	6
GEORGE E. FEARN	3	CLIFFORD A. BARRON	7
ARTHUR V. PEARSON	4	FRANK E. HAYNES	*Tenor*

Composed by CHARLES W. ROBERTS. Conducted by PETER BORDER.
* First peal in the method.

BOREHAM, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Tues., Dec. 22, 1953, *in* 3 *Hours and* 5 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF 5024 KENT TREBLE BOB MAJOR
Tenor 13 cwt. 19 lb. in F.

*ROY BENTLEY	*Treble*	PETER J. CAME	5
ARTHUR H. EDWARDS	2	†IVAN J. M. SAUNDERS	6
*ROY JOSLIN	3	JOE E. G. ROAST	7
PETER J. CHILDS	4	PETER J. EVES	*Tenor*

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by PETER J. EVES.
* First peal. † First peal of Major. First peal in method as conductor.

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wed., Dec. 23, 1953, *in* 2 *Hours and* 25 *Minutes,*
AT THE BELL FOUNDRY CAMPANILE,
A PEAL OF 5056 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 6½ cwt.

MRS. H. J. POOLE	*Treble*	JOHN M. JELLEY	5
WINIFRED M. BURTON	2	HAROLD J. POOLE	6
HAROLD MARCON	3	ERNEST J. JELLEY	7
G. RONALD EDWARDS	4	*WILLIAM THORNLEY	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by WILLIAM THORNLEY.
* First peal in the method.

HORNCHURCH, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Thurs., Dec. 24, 1953, *in* 3 *Hours and* 7 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. ANDREW,
A PEAL OF 5040 LITTLE BOB MAJOR
Tenor 19¾ cwt.

DAVID W. BEARD	*Treble*	LEONARD E. LAST	5
DONALD M. SALISBURY	2	SIDNEY PENFOLD	6
JOAN M. PEACOCK	3	CHAS. E. WILLMINGTON	7
ANDREW J. SALISBURY	4	FRANK V. GANT	*Tenor*

Composed by NATHAN J. PITSTOW. Conducted by FRANK V. GANT.
The first peal in the method on the bells, and by all the band with the exception of the ringer of the 5th.

WORCESTER.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
On Thurs., Dec. 24, 1953, *in* 3 *Hours and* 12 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-BAPTIST,
A PEAL OF 5088 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 15½ cwt.

GERALD BOWEN	*Treble*	†DAVID BEACHAM	5
R. GEORGE MORRIS	2	*E. TREVOR NEWBURY	6
SIDNEY T. HOLT	3	REGINALD WOODYATT	7
*ALLEN MORGAN	4	THOMAS W. LEWIS	*Tenor*

Composed by N. J. PITSTOW. Conducted by THOMAS W. LEWIS.
* First peal of Yorkshire Surprise. † First peal of Surprise. First peal in the method as conductor.

BADSEY, WORCESTERSHIRE.
THE WORCESTERSHIRE AND DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION.
(Southern Branch.)
On Sat., Dec. 26, 1953, *in* 3 *Hours,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JAMES,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Parker's Twelve-part (7th Observation). Tenor 15 cwt. 4 lb.

*JOY WORTHINGTON	*Treble*	GEOFFREY J. HEMMING	5
GERALD C. HEMMING	2	R. ROGER SAVORY	6
*ROBERT W. COLE	3	WILFRED J. NEWMAN	7
BRENDA M. SMITH	4	†GORDON A. CROPPER	*Tenor*

Conducted by GERALD C. HEMMING.
* First peal on eight bells. † First peal. First peal as conductor. The ringer of the 5th has now 'completed the circle' at this tower.
Rung as a compliment to Mr. and Mrs. M. G. Savory (parents of the 6th ringer) on their silver wedding anniversary.

BORDEN, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 26, 1953, *in* 2 *Hours and* 56 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 22 cwt. in E.

*TERENCE BARTON	*Treble*	†EDWARD C. BARTON	5
FRANCIS J. CHEAL	2	‡ERIC NAYLOR	6
CYRIL S. JARRETT	3	PETER F. BORER	7
GEORGE A. NAYLOR	4	GEORGE KENWARD	*Tenor*

Conducted by ERIC NAYLOR.
* First peal. † First peal of Triples. ‡ 100th peal.
A birthday compliment to Eileen S. Wyles and Eric Naylor.

BRENCHLEY, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 26, 1953, *in* 3 *Hours and* 12 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5056 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
J. A. Lambert's Variation of J. R. Pritchard's. Tenor 18 cwt.

*BETTY TESTER	*Treble*	†PERCY REEVES	5
REGINALD E. LAMBERT	2	FREDERICK J. LAMBERT	6
ARTHUR F. LEWRY	3	WILLIAM KITCHENSIDE	7
*COLIN A. TESTER	4	ROBERT T. LAMBERT	*Tenor*

Conducted by ROBERT T. LAMBERT.
* First peal. † First peal of Major.

BROMHAM, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 26, 1953, *in* 3 *Hours and* 25 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. OWEN,
A PEAL OF 5120 DOUBLE NORWICH COURT BOB MAJOR
Tenor 23 cwt.

DEREK P. JONES	*Treble*	RONALD J. SHARP	5
CHARLES H. HARDING	2	ANDREW C. SINFIELD	6
JAMES G. NEWMAN	3	LEWIS H. BYWATERS	7
DENIS KNOX	4	C. EDWARD JEFFERIES	*Tenor*

Composed by C. W. ROBERTS. Conducted by LEWIS H. BYWATERS.
Rung in honour of the forthcoming marriage of Miss Patricia Gilbert, late of Bromham, to Mr. Douglas Johnstone on December 28th.

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CAMBRIDGE.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 26, 1953, *in* 3 *Hours and* 24 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF OUR LADY AND THE ENGLISH MARTYRS,
A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR
Johnson's Variation. Tenor 32 cwt. in D.

MARIE K. ROBERTS	*Treble*	HARRY L. MARTIN	5
PHILIP A. F. CHALK	2	WILLIAM J. RIDGMAN	6
GEORGE E. CRISP	3	MANSFIELD GINN	7
T. REGINALD DENNIS	4	PETER BORDER	*Tenor*

Conducted by PETER BORDER.
Rung in honour of the marriage of Graham John Gipson and Joan Elizabeth Cook, which took place at Newton earlier in the day.

CLARE, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 26, 1953, *in* 3 *Hours and* 13 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF SS. PETER AND PAUL,
A PEAL OF 5024 PLAIN BOB MAJOR
Tenor 28 cwt. in D.

GEORGE WATERMAN	*Treble*	OWEN BALLARD	5
ROSEMARY SEABROOK	2	SAMUEL J. TWITCHETT	6
REG. RIPPINGALE	3	*THOMAS BIRD	7
PETER MAYLE	4	URBAN W. WILDNEY	*Tenor*

Composed by J. BARKER. Conducted by ROSEMARY SEABROOK.
* 100th peal. First peal as conductor.
Rung for the Festival of Christmas.

KING'S LANGLEY, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec 26, 1953, *in* 2 *Hours and* 43 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5056 SUPERLATIVE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 10¾ cwt.

ALBERT C. WENBAN	*Treble*	WILLIAM WENBAN	5
CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	2	D. KAY ADKINS	6
MARGARET D. WOOLLEY	3	GEOFFREY W. SEAMAN	7
REGINALD ROWLEY	4	JOHN R. MAYNE	*Tenor*

Composed by C. H. HATTERSLEY. Conducted by GEOFFREY W. SEAMAN.
First peal in the method as conductor.

SHEFFIELD.
THE YORKSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 26, 1953, *in* 3 *Hours and* 30 *Minutes,*
AT THE R.C. CHURCH OF ST. MARIE,
A PEAL OF 5088 RUTLAND SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 25¾ cwt.

JOHN W. GIBSON	*Treble*	W. ERIC CRITCHLEY	5
*HOWARD SCOTT	2	*GORDON BENFIELD	6
ARTHUR FIRTH	3	JOHN J. L. GILBERT	7
*WILFRED L. ROBINSON	4	*NORMAN CHADDOCK	*Tenor*

Composed and Conducted by W. ERIC CRITCHLEY.
* First peal in the method.
Rung on the 25th anniversary of the induction of The Right Rev. Mgr. Canon J. Dunn, D.D., Ph.D., V.F., V.G.

SWINDON, WILTSHIRE.
THE GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 26, 1953, *in* 2 *Hours and* 55 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARK,
A PEAL OF 5040 OXFORD BOB TRIPLES
Tenor 11 cwt.

FRANCIS G. WILTON	*Treble*	VICTOR GRIFFIN	5
ENID LLOYD ROBERTS	3	ANTHONY R. PEAKE	6
PAULINE MANNING	3	BRIAN BLADON	7
JOHN E. MANNERS	4	ROBERT J. STOKES	*Tenor*

Composed by J. J. BARKER. Conducted by ENID LLOYD ROBERTS.
The first peal in the method by all the band.
Rung on the Feast of St. Stephen, and as a compliment to Miss Pauline Manning and Mr Francis Wilton on their engagement.

SOUTHWELL, NOTTS.
THE SOUTHWELL DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 26, 1953, *in* 3 *Hours and* 20 *Minutes,*
AT THE CATHEDRAL AND COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY,
A PEAL OF 5056 KIRKLINGTON SURPRISE MAJOR
Middleton's. Tenor 28 cwt. 3 qr.

MRS. H. J. POOLE	*Treble*	ERNEST MORRIS	5
ERNEST W. RAWSON	2	E. ALAN JACQUES	6
S. ANTHONY JESSON	3	TERENCE A. THORNBER	7
J. FREDERICK MILNER	4	HAROLD J. POOLE	*Tenor*

Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.
This method is E. W. Tipler's B9/1 and is now rung for the first time.

WICKEN, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 26, 1953, *in* 2 *Hours and* 55 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-EVANGELIST,
A PEAL OF 5040 STEDMAN TRIPLES
Sir A. P. Heywood's Transposition of Thurstans' Four-part.
Tenor 15 cwt. 1 qr. 20 lb.

THOMAS E. ROBERTS	*Treble*	FREDERICK C. CASE	5
*ALBERT H. HINTON	2	FREDERICK VICKERS	6
WILLIAM A. YATES	3	†GEORGE W. HOLLAND	7
K. MARY COWLEY	4	GEORGE E. GREEN	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE W. HOLLAND.
* First peal of Stedman. † 50th peal. First peal of Stedman as conductor.

DUNSTABLE, BEDFORDSHIRE.
THE BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.
On Mon., Dec 28, 1953, *in* 3 *Hours and* 16 *Minutes,*
AT THE PRIORY CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5056 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR
Middleton's. Tenor 24 cwt.

WALTER AYRE	*Treble*	FRANCIS KIRK	5
DEREK P. JONES	2	D. KAY ADKINS	6
ARTHUR E. SHARMAN	3	JOHN R. MAYNE	7
RONALD J. SHARP	4	GEOFFREY W. SEAMAN	*Tenor*

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

REPTON, DERBYSHIRE.
THE MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.
On Mon., Dec. 28, 1953, *in* 2 *Hours and* 58 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. WYSTAN,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE TRIPLES
Parker's Twelve-part. Tenor 17¼ cwt. in E.

SIDNEY H. JONES	*Treble*	JOSEPH H. BRITTAN	5
AUDREY S. NOBLE	2	JOSEPH WM. COTTON	6
MRS. S. H. JONES	3	BARNABAS G. KEY	7
RHODA HEMMINGS	4	WILLIAM E. MINOR	*Tenor*

Conducted by BARNABAS G. KEY.

LEICESTER.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Tues., Dec. 29, 1953, *in* 2 *Hours and* 50 *Minutes,*
AT THE ROYAL FOUNDATION CHURCH OF ST. MARY-DE-CASTRO,
A PEAL OF 5056 YORKSHIRE SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 16 cwt

JOHN A. ACRES	*Treble*	TERENCE A. THORNBER	5
MRS. H. J. POOLE	3	S. ANTHONY JESSON	6
HAROLD J. POOLE	3	G. RONALD EDWARDS	7
ALFRED BALLARD	4	RALPH G. EDWARDS	*Tenor*

Composed by E. W. TIPLER. Conducted by HAROLD J. POOLE.

WATFORD, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Tues., Dec. 29, 1953, *in* 3 *Hours and* 8 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5056 ALDENHAM SURPRISE MAJOR
Tenor 24 cwt. 1 qr. 6 lb. in E flat.

*ERNEST H. DURRANT	*Treble*	WILLIAM WENBAN	5
*JOHN SCHOFIELD	2	WALTER AYRE	6
D. KAY ADKINS	3	GEOFFREY W. SEAMAN	7
REGINALD ROWLEY	4	JOHN R. MAYNE	*Tenor*

Composed by C. H. MARTIN. Conducted by GEOFFREY W. SEAMAN.
* First peal of Surprise. First peal in method on the bells and by all except ringers of 6th and 7th. First peal in the method as conductor.

SIX BELL PEALS

MOUNTSORREL, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Nov. 28, 1953, *in* 2 *Hours and* 27 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. PETER,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR
Being seven extents differently called. Tenor 8 cwt.

*KENNETH GRAHAM	*Treble*	ERNEST F. PAYNE	4
†ROYSTON WILMORE	2	ROGER G. W. SOARS	5
‡HUGH MATTHEWMAN	3	B. STEDMAN PAYNE	*Tenor*

Conducted by B. STEDMAN PAYNE.
* First peal. † 25th peal. ‡ First peal 'inside.'

PACKWOOD, WARWICKSHIRE.
ST. MARTIN'S GUILD FOR THE DIOCESE OF BIRMINGHAM.
On Mon., Dec. 7, 1953, *in* 2 *Hours and* 22 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. GILES,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 7½ cwt.

RICHARD G. MORRIS	*Treble*	*JAMES CORBETT	4
GEORGE E. FEARN	2	†H. ERIC JOHNSON	5
MURIEL REAY	3	CLIFFORD A. BARRON	*Tenor*

Conducted by CLIFFORD A. BARRON.
* First peal of Minor. † First peal.

STOCKLAND, DEVONSHIRE.
THE GUILD OF DEVONSHIRE RINGERS.
On Sat., Dec. 12, 1953, *in* 2 *Hours and* 44 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MICHAEL,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores (ten callings). Tenor 14 cwt.

HERBERT W. PEARCE	*Treble*	ALBERT W. DYER	4
WALTER H. POOLE	2	WILLIAM E. TURNER	5
RAYMOND P. SELWAY	3	*CYRIL F. JOYCE	*Tenor*

Conducted by WALTER H. POOLE.
* First peal, a member of the local band. Believed to be the first peal on the bells.

PURLEIGH, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Fri., Dec. 18, 1953, *in* 2 *Hours and* 55 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ALL SAINTS,
A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents from C.C.C. Nos. 55, 59, 67, 68, 69, 73, 74.
Tenor 12 cwt.

JOE E. G. ROAST	*Treble*	*BARRIE SYDENHAM	4
ERNEST E. S. JOHNSON	2	†JOHN WEST	5
†IVAN J. M. SAUNDERS	3	PETER J. CAME	*Tenor*

Conducted by JOE E. G. ROAST.
* First peal. † First peal of Surprise.
Rung as a compliment to Mr. John West and Miss Yvonne Drewe on their engagement.

CLODOCK, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 19, 1953, *in* 2 *Hours and* 30 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. CLODOCK,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Tenor 10 cwt.

DEREK CLARKE	*Treble*	LESLIE W. COLCOMBE	4
THOMAS J. GUNDY	2	*AUBREY J. PROBERT	5
REGINALD G. POWELL	3	RICHARD A. COLCOMBE	*Tenor*

Conducted by REGINALD G. POWELL.
* First peal 'inside.' Believed to be the first peal on the bells after being recast and restored by John Taylor and Co.
Rung as a birthday compliment to the ringer of the treble.

LITTLE WALTHAM, ESSEX.
THE ESSEX ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 19, 1953, *in* 2 *Hours and* 42 *Minutes,*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARTIN,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent each of: Double Court, Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob, Kent Treble Bob, Double Oxford, St. Clement's and Plain Bob. Tenor 12 cwt.

*JOE E. G. ROAST	*Treble*	ALAN SYDER	4
†HOWARD W. EGGLESTONE	2	TERRY EARLE	5
*ERNEST E. S. JOHNSON	3	DENNIS A. S. SYMONDS	*Tenor*

Conducted by JOE E. G. ROAST.
* 25th peal together. † 25th peal.

OXFORD.
THE OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Mon., Dec. 21, 1953, *in* 2 *Hours and* 46 *Minutes.*
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. THOMAS,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Comprising one 720 of Double Bob, two 720's of Kent Treble Bob, and four 720's of Plain Bob. Tenor 7½ cwt.

LAURENCE H. W. BUSBY	*Treble*	BRIAN BLADON	4
*LINDA R. BINNINGTON	2	HARRY P. FLOYD	5
DOUGLAS O. WILKS	3	ALAN R. PINK	*Tenor*

Conducted by ALAN R. PINK.
* First peal in more than one Minor method 'inside.'
Rung for the Feast of St. Thomas.

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BELL FOUNDERS
AND
CLOCK MAKERS

CROYDON

UPCHURCH, KENT.
THE KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Tues., Dec. 22, 1953, in 2 Hours and 52 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being 30 six-scores, 10 callings, Grandsire, and 12 six-scores, four callings, Plain Bob. Tenor 12½ cwt.

EMILY B. P. WALKER	*Treble*	GEORGE A. NAYLOR	4
EDWARD C. BARTON	2	GEORGE KENWARD	5
FRANCIS J. CHEAL	3	CHARLES GRANSDEN	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE A. NAYLOR.

Arranged and rung as a birthday compliment to William J. Walker, of Upchurch, father of the treble ringer.

BRIGG, LINCOLNSHIRE.
THE LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wed., Dec. 23, 1953, in 2 Hours and 33 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JOHN-THE-EVANGELIST,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

In seven methods: Double Court, Single Oxford, Double Oxford, Thelwall, St. Clement's, Childwall and Plain Bob. Tenor 8½ cwt.

WILLIAM BAINS	*Treble*	C. AUBREY HARRISON	4
HAROLD MORWOOD	2	JACK BRAY	5
GEORGE E. FEIRN	3	PHILIP BARNES	*Tenor*

Conducted by GEORGE E. FEIRN.

DARLINGTON, CO. DURHAM.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Wed., Dec. 23, 1953, in 2 Hours and 29 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven 720's in 13 methods, viz.: (1) Lightfoot and Wearmouth, (2) Alnwick and Newcastle, (3) Chester and Munden, (4) London and Wells, (5) York and Durham, (6) Surfleet and Beverley, (7) Cambridge. Tenor 6 cwt. 3 qr. 9 lb. in B flat.

ROBERT T. SIMPSON	*Treble*	THOMAS COOKE	4
FREDERICK W. COOKE	2	W. NORMAN PARK	5
RICHARD BUSBY	3	ROLAND PARK	*Tenor*

Conducted by ROLAND PARK.

FOY, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Wed., Dec. 23, 1953, in 2 Hours and 22 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 six-scores. Tenor 9 cwt.

REGINALD T. JONES	*Treble*	*PHILIP G. MORGAN	4
MOLLIE TILBURY	2	JOSEPHINE GREEN	5
*ANTHONY P. MORRIS	3	F. ERIC ROBERTS	*Tenor*

Conducted by REGINALD T. JONES.

* First peal.

WETHERDEN, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Thurs., Dec. 24, 1953, in 2 Hours and 47 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MINOR

Being seven different 720's. Tenor 16 cwt.

KENNETH G. BROWN	*Treble*	*GEORGE E. CATTON	4
JOHN S. WYBREW	2	LEONARD SHARPE	5
ALAN G. FEVER	3	DAVID BRAND	*Tenor*

Conducted by KENNETH G. BROWN.

* First peal 'inside.'

Rung as a birthday compliment to Patricia Clarke.

CRAMLINGTON, NORTHUMBERLAND.
THE DURHAM AND NEWCASTLE DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sat., Dec. 26, 1953, in 2 Hours and 58 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. NICHOLAS,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Consisting of four extents of Plain Bob and an extent each of Cambridge Surprise, Oxford Treble Bob and Kent Treble Bob, the Plain Bob being rung in the odd extents. Tenor 20 cwt.

MARGARET GIBSON	*Treble*	*KENNETH ARTHUR	4
M. ANN SOFTLEY	2	J. ALAN AINSWORTH	5
STEPHEN THOMPSON	3	*†ERIC N. HARRISON	*Tenor*

Conducted by KENNETH ARTHUR.

* 25th peal together † 50th peal.

WELLOW, SOMERSET.
THE ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.
On Sat., Dec. 26, 1953, in 3 Hours and 17 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. JULIAN,
A PEAL OF 5040 CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MINOR

Being seven extents. Tenor 22½ cwt.

RONALD G. BECK	*Treble*	VICTOR SAVAGE	4
GEORGE W. MASSEY	2	A. GEORGE CLARE	5
DAVID HOARE	3	EDWARD J. CHIVERS	*Tenor*

Conducted by RONALD G. BECK.

ALMELEY, HEREFORDSHIRE.
THE HEREFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sun., Dec. 27, 1953, in 2 Hours and 51 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY.
A PEAL OF 5040 DOUBLES

Being five extents each of Reverse Canterbury and Plain Bob, one 240 of Morris's Variation, and 30 extents of Grandsire (10 callings). Tenor 10 cwt.

*COLIN GOODWIN	*Treble*	†ARTHUR WILLIAMS	4
MRS. E. CHANDLER	2	A. BRYAN ELLSMORE	5
†JOHN HOPE	3	†JOHN GOODWIN	*Tenor*

Conducted by A. BRYAN ELLSMORE.

* First peal. † First peal in three methods. First peal in three methods as conductor.

APSLEY END, HERTFORDSHIRE.
THE HERTFORD COUNTY ASSOCIATION.
On Mon., Dec. 28, 1953, in 2 Hours and 50 Minutes,
AT THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5040 SURPRISE MINOR

In seven methods: (i) Chester, (ii) Lightfoot, (iii) Netherseale, (iv) Norwich, (v) Cambridge, (vi) York, (vii) London. Tenor 14½ cwt.

TERENCE G. MORTON	*Treble*	WALTER AYRE	4
*EDWIN H. LEWIS	2	WILLIAM C. HUGHES	5
AUGUSTIN V. GOOD	3	CHRISTOPHER W. WOOLLEY	*Tenor*

Conducted by WALTER AYRE.

* Has now rung 1,000 720's.

HANDBELL PEALS

BARROW-UPON-SOAR, LEICESTERSHIRE.
THE LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sun., Nov. 15, 1953, in 1 Hour and 25 Minutes,
IN THE BELFRY OF THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY TRINITY,
A PEAL OF 5040 GRANDSIRE DOUBLES

Being 42 extents.

F. KEVON THOMPSON	1—2	B. STEDMAN PAYNE	3—4
ROYSTON WILMORE	5—6		

Conducted by ROYSTON WILMORE.

A birthday peal to Miss Mary A. Carpenter.

FINEDON, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 26, 1953, in 2 Hours and 8 Minutes,
IN THE BELFRY OF THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY,
A PEAL OF 5008 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 11 in G.

PATRICK I. CHAPMAN	1—2	JOHN KING	5—6
ROBIN G. TURNER	3—4	MALCOLM KING	7—8

Composed by E. M. ATKINS. Conducted by ROBIN G. TURNER.

A birthday compliment to Mr. John R. Main, of Finedon.

WITNESHAM, SUFFOLK.
THE SUFFOLK GUILD.
On Sat., Dec. 26, 1953, in 2 Hours and 30 Minutes,
AT THE RESIDENCE OF G. A. FLEMING.
A PEAL OF 5184 OXFORD TREBLE BOB MAJOR

GEORGE A. FLEMING	1—2	WILLIAM WIGHTMAN	5—6
*FRANK L. FISHER	3—4	WILLOUGHBY E. MAULDEN	7—8

Composed by ARTHUR KNIGHTS. Conducted by GEORGE A. FLEMING.

* First peal of Oxford Treble Bob 'in hand.' First first as conductor 'in hand.'

WOODDITTON, CAMBS.
THE ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION.
On Sun., Dec. 27, 1953, in 2 Hours and 14 Minutes,
AT SUNNY VIEW,
A PEAL OF 5040 PLAIN BOB MAJOR

Tenor size 19 in F.

J. REGINALD HEATH	1—2	JOHN A. ACRES	5—6
*ALBERT E. AUSTIN	3—4	THOMAS F. VARNEY	7—8

Composed by E. M. ATKINS. Conducted by JOHN A. ACRES.

* 200th peal.

WELLINGBOROUGH, NORTHAMPTONSHIRE.
THE PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.
On Mon., Dec. 28, 1953, in 1 Hour and 42 Minutes,
AT 53, LEYS ROAD,
A PEAL OF 5040 MINOR

Being one extent of Kent Treble Bob, one of Canterbury Pleasure and Reverse Bob, one of Fulbeck and Double Bob, and four of Plain Bob. Tenor size 8 in C.

*PATRICK I. CHAPMAN	1—2	ROBIN G. TURNER	3—4
*JOHN KING	5—6		

Conducted by ROBIN G. TURNER.

* First handbell peal in six methods. The first handbell peal in six methods for the Guild.

LETTERS

MUFFLED RINGING

Dear Sir,—In answer to Mr. Malcolm S. Cloke, of Harwell, Bucks, re muffled ringing ('Ringing World,' November 20th, page 759). In my book, 'History and Art of Change Ringing,' pages 506-9, I deal with the history of this side of our art which seems to have been practised in the late 17th and early 18th centuries, and I there quote the rules of the London Scholars (1702) on this subject. The first muffled peal of 5,000 changes was rung at Bromley, Kent, in 1817. ERNEST MORRIS.

Leicester.

Dear Sir,—In a Beccles (Suffolk) ringer's diary commencing January 1st, 1781, in which the weather for each day is recorded (also other local news) are the following entries:—

December 26th, 1781.—Mrs. Margerom buried, bumbled the bells.

June 10th, 1782.—Cuddon married, wrung dum peal. (Did the ringers play Mr Cuddon a joke?)

August 25th, 1782.—Miss Carter married, 3 Guineas for wringing. (Large sum in those days.)

June 27th, 1784.—Bells bumbled, Mrs. Murrell buried.

June 21st, 1788.—Mrs. Lillistone buried, wrung the mourning peal £1 11s. 6d.

December 12th, 1789.—Mrs. Crowfoot buried by torches, the bells bumbled began at 4 ceased at 9. 2 Guineas for ringing.

By the foregoing it would appear the muffled ringing was practised prior to 1781.

This manuscript book was the property of Mr. Henry Hopson, instigator of rehanging Beccles bells, who died early in this century. His father, Mr. William Hopson, rang a peal of Bob Royal at Beccles in 1836.

GEORGE E. SYMONDS.

Ipswich.

THE FALSE PEAL AT BULWELL

Dear Sir,—Will all those who took part in the peal of Treble Bob Major at Bulwell in April last kindly accept my greatest apology for the error made in the composition of the peal, the falseness being pointed out by Mr. J. Seagar.—Yours truly,

E. C. GOBEY.

Ilkeston, Derbys.

MATHEMATICAL APPROACH TO EXTENDED GRANDSIRE

Dear Sir,—With reference to my letter which you kindly included in a recent issue of 'The Ringing World' (page 839), I am sorry to trouble you again in this matter, but a slight misprint has occurred in the sign between 'Coefficient of Performance' and the next phrase. It should be a 'plus/minus' sign, not an 'equals' sign.—Again yours helpfully,

Stourbridge. BERNARD C. ASHFORD.

RINGERS' VINTAGE CARS

Dear Sir,—The reference in Belfry Gossip to the ringer with the 1926 Bentley car is perhaps indicative of the peculiar ways of those who practise the art of ringing. A member of the Cambridge University Guild of Change Ringers has acquired an equally ancient London taxicab, driven it home 164 miles with a leaking radiator and crankcase, devoted many hours to the engine, chassis and body, and now contemplates returning to the seat of learning in a manner which will excite the envy, admiration, respect and gratitude of his fellow ringers. —Yours in amazement,

ARTHUR M. MORRIS.

Wrexham.

'CHURCH BELLS—AS HEARD BY THE POETS'

Dear Sir,—I was interested to read the article 'Church Bells—as heard by the Poets' in this journal of December 24th. No reference was made, however, to 'On hearing the full peal of ten bells from Christ Church, Swindon, Wilts,' by John Betjeman. This must be one of the very few poems by a recognised poet dedicated to a particular ring of bells. I am enclosing a copy which I trust you will be able to publish in full.

While those residing on villa'd hill are not unanimous with John Betjeman in his opinions, any ringer pausing awhile on a Sunday evening while Stedman Caters is pouring forth from this tower must agree that there is some truth in what he has to say.—Yours faithfully,

R. J. STOKES.

Swindon.

'ON HEARING THE FULL PEAL OF TEN BELLS FROM CHRIST CHURCH, SWINDON, WILTS'

By John Betjeman

Your peal of ten ring over then this town,
Ring on my men nor ever ring them down.
This winter chill, let sunset spill cold fire
On villa'd hill and on St. Gibert's spire,
So new, so high, so pure, so broach'd, so tall,
Long run the thunder of the bells through all!
Oh still white headstones on these fields of sound,
Hear you the wedding joybells wheeling round?
Oh brick-built breeding boxes of new souls,
Hear how the pealing through the louvres rolls!
Now birth and death-reminding bells ring clear,
Loud under 'planes and over changing gear.

John Taylor & Co.

LOUGHBOROUGH

The LEADING BELL FOUNDERS

'THE RINGING WORLD'

The Official Journal of the Central Council of Church Bell Ringers

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Central Council of Church Bell Ringers.

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SUBSCRIPTION REMINDER

The prompt payment of your postal subscription greatly facilitates the clerical work of 'The Ringing World' staff. Remittances should be sent without delay to Mr. J. E. Jeater, Greystones, Cusgarne, Truro, Cornwall.

BELFRY GOSSIP

The quarter peal rung at Herne (Kent) is of special significance. Thomas Hollis, who was saved from death in Blean Forest by the sound of the bells of St. Martin's, Herne, bequeathed a gold noble to be paid to the ringers for ringing the bells on St. Thomas' night. The Charity Commissioners have now fixed the payment at 3s. 4d.

We regret to hear that Mr. J. T. Dyke is in bed again with gout as a makeweight. The Exercise wishes him a speedy recovery.

A reader is anxious for particulars of the peal of 10,080 Grandsire Bob rung at Gislingham (Suffolk) in 1822. Was this Grandsire on five bells with the tenor behind, of Bob Minor? he asks.

A reader has to dispose of his unbound copies of 'The Ringing World' from 1944 to June 29th, 1951. Will anyone who can provide a 'good home' for them please communicate with the Editor.

The calling of the peal of Doubles at Ticehurst, Sussex, on December 15th, 1953, should read eight extents each of St. Martin's, St. Simon's, April Day and Plain Bob and ten extents of Grandsire.

Mr. Roger Coles, who for nearly ten years has been a regular ringer at St. Andrew's, Headington, Oxford, was married on Boxing Day. He received a barometer from the ringers and servers of the church as a wedding present.

One of Mr. Ernest Morris' many correspondents is Fr. Dunstan Massey, O.S.B., of The Benedictines of Westminster Abbey, Vancouver, B.C. They are planning to build a tower and look forward to the time when their chimes will be swinging bells. In preparation for this great day the monks have been supplied by Mr. Morris with ringing literature and they have already mastered Grandsire and Stedman Doubles.

Mr. Harold N. Pitstow's name appeared in the New Year Honours List. He has been appointed a member of the Order of the British Empire for his services as conductor and secretary of the bell ringers of Westminster Abbey. The Exercise will join with us in sending him our warmest congratulations.

The peal at Upchurch (Kent) on December 22nd was followed by a tea party, the hosts being the Misses Walker. The hospitality is gratefully acknowledged in our columns.

Mr. Fred Price, of Bournemouth, has been visiting old friends at Longdon, Worcestershire. He was not permitted to depart without ringing a quarter peal on the Parish Church bells.

It was unfortunate that the peal attempt in honour of Mr. George Preston's 84th birthday at his own tower, Christchurch Priory, was unsuccessful. Honour was paid by a quarter peal of Stedman Triples.

The Peals Analysis Committee cannot complete their onerous task without all the material at their disposal. Will conductors please note that the issue of February 26th is the latest date that peals can be included in the 1953 Analysis.

Members of the Ladies' Guild doubtless noticed the splendid performance of Mrs. H. J. Poole recorded in last week's issue of three peals in a day on December 12th. These were rung at Quorn, Shepshed and the Loughborough Bell foundry.

Among the towers whose bells rang early on Christmas morning was Somerton, Somerset. A quarter peal was planned for the 7 a.m. Communion service, but ten minutes before the end, at 6.45 a.m., there was an electricity breakdown, plunging the tower into complete darkness. Candles were lit and ringing was continued till service time.

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UNIVERSITIES ASSOCIATION NEW YEAR REUNION

PROBLEM OF FINDING RINGERS FOR CITY CHURCHES — DR. HATCHER REVIEWS SEVEN YEARS' PROGRESS — MR. BRIAN D. THRELFALL THE NEW SECRETARY — CANNED BELLS: AN ANIMATED DISCUSSION

THE tenth annual dinner of the Universities Association, held on Jan. 1st at the Victoria Hotel, London, marked the end of an era in the history of the Association. It was the last function that Dr. John Hatcher attended as hon. secretary and treasurer, a post he had held for seven years. A company of 50 was present with the president, Mr. E. H. Lewis, as a genial chairman.

At the annual meeting, which followed the dinner, an animated discussion took place on canned bells, which was introduced by Mr. Charles McGuiness, who mentioned the concern in the North of England over the matter.

Following the toast of 'The Queen' the president acknowledged with gratitude the gift of a gavel to the Society made with the head in the form of a bell. It is carved in walnut wood and was presented by Inst.- Lieut. T. Watt, R.N.

The toast of 'The Church' was presented by Mr. F. E. Haynes, who said during the years he had been ringing he had met many different ringers and among them many different attitudes towards the Church. When he first went to Birmingham he stood outside a church admiring the sound of the bells and commented upon their excellent quality to a very good ringer. His comment was 'There is only one thing wrong with those bells; they are hung in a church tower.' He thought the parson must have dropped him on the floor at his baptism (laughter).

On another occasion, about 20 years ago, he was standing outside St. Martin's, Birmingham, listening to a peal of Stedman Cinques. A well-known ringer and a distinguished citizen of Birmingham asked him how long they had to go. He told him and his friend then remarked, 'The public would never stand for it but for one thing. They ask "What are they ringing for?" and receive the reply "Something for the Church," and they are quite content with that.'

Most of them took the view that it was a very fortunate thing that more than 90 per cent. of their bells were hung in church towers. They realised their responsibilities and were proud of the fact that they were servants of the Church, and he liked to think that ringers and bells exercised an influence for good.

'NOT WHEN THE CHURCH BELLS RING'

On a practice night a ringer arrived late and went to one of those establishments often found near a church. As he was being served a person on his right whispered something in the ear of the barmaid and she replied, 'Oh no, sir, not when the church bells are ringing' (laughter). The bells certainly influenced actions.

He had indicated in 'The Ringing World' that it was rather difficult for them to preserve a proper sense of values. They were interested in the progress and advancement of their art of change ringing. As the result of that they tried to ring as good as possible and to ring peals. In consequence some of them tended to forget that they were servants of the Church and it was a difficult thing to keep a proper balance. Sometimes their clergy did recognise that difficulty.

There were in the past a number of famous ringing clergymen but their number was steadily dwindling; in fact it would not surprise him that in a few years' time instead of proposing the toast of 'The Church' it would be that of 'The Minister of Education.' In coupling the name of the Rev. R. S. Hooke, Vicar of St. Luke's, Chelsea, with the toast, he thanked him for letting the Society use his bells and for taking the service.

The Rev. R. S. Hooke, in his reply, confessed that he had not much to do with ringing until he came to Chelsea 18 months ago. In his former church there were five bells rung by callow youths. Their ringing alternated between 'Now the day is over' and 'Fight the good fight.' They always played the latter for a wedding (laughter). He was most fortunate in his present ringers, who were very keen.

When he was at Ridley Hall, Cambridge, he was taken to Selwyn College to ring handbells, but he must admit that he made little progress. Outside Selwyn there was some Greek which freely translated was 'Quit you like men.' The great advantage of Selwyn was its proximity to Newnham College (laughter).

Mr. A. A. Hughes, who deputised for the Master of the Ancient Society of College Youths (Mr. John Chilcott), proposed the toast of 'The Universities Association.' He said he was most happy to propose the toast as he knew of the good job of work the Association was doing—both on the practical and theoretical side.

ON CONDUCTING

In response to the many requests made to the Editor, we present to our readers this week the first of a series of articles dealing with conducting.

Mr. Wilfrid G. Wilson, the author, has written these in a simple style, the aim being that they can be readily assimilated by those who desire to master this essential side of change ringing.

We are indebted to Mr. Wilson for the many hours of labour involved in compiling such a valuable series of notes. His immediate co-operation when the Editor suggested the articles is much appreciated.

LONDON'S SHORTAGE OF RINGERS

As they all knew, they had not enough ringers to man the bells and there was a very big need of pupils and teachers and it was on the teaching side that their Association could shine very strongly. In the City of London there was a big dearth of ringers. New rings of bells were being installed and bells restored but unfortunately there were not sufficient ringers coming forward. He was wondering of members of their Association living in London could help. At Stepney there was Tom Fox with a young band, and if anybody had any time on a Wednesday evening he would be glad of their help.

At. St. Olave's, Hart Street, he had the greatest difficulty in persuading the Rector to hang the bells for ringing instead of their being stationary. He said, 'Why should I spend this extra money? I shall never get any ringers.' Fortunately, with the great help of their Master and Mr. Herbert Langdon, a good band was assembled there on Christmas morning. The Rector had some young people coming forward and he (Mr. Hughes) had offered to help in teaching them. He hoped those members in London would devote their energies far more to teaching than peal ringing. He was of the opinion that there was too much peal ringing.

Dr. E. S. J. Hatcher, who replied, said seven years ago he was elected to the office of secretary, an unexpected and unlooked-for honour. John Spice, through whose enthusism and energy the Universities Association had less than four years earlier come into being, had quite suddenly found it necessary to hand over his charge.

WEEKS RECALLED

There was no ringing week in 1947 but in 1948 they went to Chester and on that occasion he put his complete trust in the advice of members of the Chester Guild and of the Lancashire Association. Exeter was the rendezvous for 1949, where they indulged in luxury accommodation at Thomas Hall. Their taste of Devonshire was much to their liking.

Lincoln was an amazing week organised for them by Mr. John Freeman, Master of the Lincoln Diocesan Guild; 1951 was distinguished in another way, for at Bristol their hosts were, for the first time, a University Society. They remembered Chewton Mendip, Wells, Evercreech, Queen Camel, Sherborne and Ditcheat, all bagged in one day.

In the Nottingham week, in 1952, they compressed into a week many notable occasions. This was really a three counties tour—Leicestershire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire—and for this complex co-ordinated programme they had the genius of Mr. Clement Glenn.

The success of the 1953 week at Oxford, where the Universities Association was formed in 1943, which was organised by Miss Marie Cross, was never in doubt. Among the party of over 40, as representative as it could possibly be, were several of John Spice's Oxford contemporaries and they found it good to be back.

'We may, I think, just say that the Universities Association has completed a second phase of its life and it is a good thing that it is to enjoy the freshness and vigour of new custodians. In some respects the Universities Association has quite grown up, but in doing so it is making increasing demands on enterprise and initiative. Personally, I shall follow its subsequent career with great interest knowing that it will continue to fulfil the hopes of those who brought it into being.'

THE ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting followed at which the president, Mr. E. H. Lewis, took the chair. The retiring secretary, Dr. Hatcher, announced an apology from Mr. Yorke-Bramble.

The financial statement showed that the year started with a balance of £12 9s. 10d. and ended with £13 5s. 4d. being carried forward. There was a profit on the Oxford week of £4 6s. 6d. and a loss on the dinner of £3 9s.

The following new members were elected:—Brian A. Tomlinson, Nancy B. Hopkinson, W. Alan Cooper, C. Anne Muirhead, Ruth M. Jackson, Daniel T. Robinson (Manchester University), E. Margaret Mitchell (London), N. J. Diserens (London), the Rev. W. H. R. Trewhella (Oxford), Angela Faulkner (Bristol), Brian Perrett (Bristol), W. T. Cook (Cambridge).

Mr. E. H. Lewis was re-elected president, and in thanking the members for the confidence they had placed in him told them that they must look out for a new president.

The Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow was elected vice-president, and Mr. Brian D. Threlfall as hon. secretary and treasurer in succession to Dr. Hatcher. Miss Marie Cross was re-elected representative to the Central Council.

The president moved that the Association recorded it sincere thanks to Dr. Hatcher for his work as secretary during the last seven years. The resolution was carried with acclamation.

The ringing week for 1954 would be at Hereford from August 13th to August 20th, and Dr. Hatcher reported that arrangements

(Continued on page 26)

UNIVERSITIES REUNION—Cont.

were well in hand and more advanced than any other week.

The president said that there was one thing that struck him about the last two tours. With the large numbers attending, the time at each tower was very small and some of the beginners had not time to settle down to the beat before the touch came to an end. He suggested that fewer towers should be included in the day's programme and longer time spent at each tower so as to give beginners a chance to ring 200 changes and get the rhythm of the bells.

The Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow suggested that it might be possible to have two towers open at the same time.

Mr. C. McGuiness said he gathered from Mr. Wilfred Morton that he might have difficuty in getting as many towers in the Hereford area as in previous tours and consequently there would be longer time for ringing.

It was decided to hold the 11th annual dinner on Friday, January 7th, 1955, at the Victoria Hotel.

CANNED BELLS — CENTRAL COUNCIL MOTION WANTED

Mr. C. McGuiness said he would like to raise a matter which was of vital concern to ringers in the North. They had had a newspaper controversy over canned bells, and in their neighbourhood they were asking their Central Council representative to propose a motion at the next Central Council meeting recommending ringers not to make records of bell recordings. They felt that if there were no records it would affect this canned bell business.

There was a strong feeling in York that if they had known, they would not have made the record they did, and there was no doubt that St. Margaret's, Westminster, felt the same. They thought the correct method would be not to make any more records.

Mr. Brian D. Threlfall said he felt that the suggestion sounded very much like restrictive practices of trade unions. Some recordings were of very great value, such as that of Bow bells.

Mr. McGuiness replied that any band of ringers who permitted their ringing to be recorded should stipulate that the records should not be used for broadcasting from church towers.

Mr. E. J. Lindley said there was the question of copyright. The only way a band that had such a copyright could retain it was by prosecuting the offenders. He could not see Mr. McGuiness travelling up and down the country taking such action. He also doubted whether they could expect a band of ringers to take much notice of such a recommendation.

PREFERENCE FOR REAL BELLS

Mr. T. Watt said in his own parish they had recorded bells. They heard rings of ten, eight and six bells, all in different keys. The locals had, however, expressed the opinion that it would be much nicer to have real bells sounding from their tower, which was strong enough to take a ring of bells. The general public disliked this recording of bells as much as the ringers.

Mr. F. Haynes said the recording of bells was something artificial and not real and English people did not like unreal things. He thought the whole thing would die down and it was best to take no notice of it.

Mrs. Dodds said she knew the church at Earsdon. There were three bells which were cracked and the clock struck on these bells. She must agree that a record sounded better than these cracked bells.

Dr. Hatcher said there were two sides of the question. There were two classes of churches. One was where there was a tower strong enough to take a ring of bells but there were the newer towers in the new housing areas which were not designed to take bells. What had been said was relevant to towers that could take bells, but there still remained the

(Continued in next column)

DEDICATION

TOTTERNHOE, BEDS

On Saturday afternoon, December 12th, two new trebles to make a ring of eight at Totternhoe, Bedfordshire, were dedicated by the Vicar (the Rev. A. Ll. Jones, B.A.).

The inscription on each bell reads:—

'In grateful memory of Edith Muckleston, faithful benefactress of this church, 1952. "Glory to God in the highest."'

During the singing of the second hymn the Vicar went in procession to the tower and, after the dedication prayers, the bells were rung in rounds by members of the local band. The Vicar prefaced his address with a warm welcome to visiting ringers.

As the congregation left the church a selected band rang the opening touch of Stedman Triples. Further ringing continued until 5 o'clock, when the company assembled at the Church Hall for tea. This was a grand meal provided by the ringers' wives and friends and was appreciated by all. Miss Evelyn Steel, president of the Bedfordshire Association, proposing a vote of thanks to the ladies, commented on the high standard of teas provided at District meetings held in the village.

Ringing was afterwards continued until 8 o'clock in various methods.

Ringers were present from Biddenham, Cardington, Clifton, Dunstable, Henlow, Kempston, Luton, Linslade, Maulden, Barking, Leatherhead, Loughton, Riseley and Woodford.

THE BELLS

Following a fire that destroyed the frame in 1923, the five bells were quarter-turned and rehung in a new wooden frame on ball bearings. In 1930 a new treble was added to make a ring of six, and now two more trebles have completed the octave. All this work has been carried out by Messrs. Mears and Stainbank, who were represented by Mr. W. A. Hughes. All present were full of praise for such a 'good splice.' The new bells blend perfectly with the older ones and reflect great credit on the founders. A special word of praise is also due to the bellhanger, Tom Lawrence, whose conscientious work helped in no small way to make this augmentation such a success. This will provide Bedfordshire with another very nice light eight (tenor approximately 9 cwt. in F sharp).

INSCRIPTIONS

Treble.—'In grateful memory of Edith Muckleston, faithful benefactress of this church, 1952. "Glory to God in the highest." Mears and Stainbank, 1953.'

Second.—Ditto.

Third.—'Erected by the ringers, 1930. Gloria in Excelsis Deo. Mears and Stainbank, Founders, London.'

Fourth.—'Chandler Made Me. 1655.'

Fifth.—'Cast by John Warner and Sons, London. 1865.'

Sixth.—'Chandler Made Me. 1654.'

Seventh.—'Chandler Made Me. 1654.'

Tenor.—'Chandler Made Me. 1654. Recast by John Warner and Sons Ltd., London. 1892.'

(Continued from previous column)

question of the churches where they could not take bells.

The Rev. A. G. G. Thurlow called attention to the tower at Acle, Norfolk, where there was a ring of bells but the tower did not support the bells. He suggested that where a tower could not take bells, handbells should be rung and amplified. It would be a piece of teamwork and skilled work and not a mechanical thing.

Mr. Lindley moved that the discussion be adjourned and that the Central Council representative be given a free hand in the light of the discussion. This was agreed to.

Ringing took place during the day at St. Mary's, Wimbledon, St. Stephen's, Clapham, St. Mary's, Battersea, and St. Luke's, Chelsea. The service was held at St. Luke's, Chelsea.

KIRKLINGTON SURPRISE

A Warm Welcome

Boxing Day seems to be an annual event in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Milner, of Kirklington — at least, that is what the writer found out when, for the first time, he had the pleasure of joining in this very happy hospitality. After five weddings, one after another, at St. Margaret's, Leicester, Ernest M. was collected in the famous green van and—after a run round the city looking for the elusive 'Tony'—we set off at a spanking pace to Kirklington, where Mr. and Mrs. President awaited to guide us to Southwell. Here, after the long ascent of the spiral stairway, thence along the narrow passage above the triforium looking down on the transept floor far below, one enters the unique ringing gallery. The ropes hang ten feet apart, two on either side of this huge, square tower, with a great yawning 'hole' in the middle. It is a great experience to ring here and it needs a team of experts to get the best results from this grand octave (tenor 28 cwt.). In addition to the difficulties of sight through the wire mesh which rises above the rail around the gallery, the bells run the wrong way round (anti-clockwise).

After the usual preliminaries a start was made for the new method, Kirklington, and after the first course, getting used to the 'blue line,' we settled down to a good beat and went along merrily till just 'before the Before' the conductor was seen to be in difficulties (not with the bell, but with his scanty wearing apparel). We had seen quite a good bit of his middle torso for some time, but when his outer nether garments slid down it caused a flutter of amusement! Fortunately, his underwear decided to 'stay out' and the peal came round beautifully in 3 hours 20 minutes, much to the gratification of mine host, who naively remarked, 'It's better to lose one's trousers than to lose the peal'!!

Then the best part of the evening's activity took place. A quick run to Kirklington revealed a most sumptuous meal awaiting us. This was followed by a 'warming up' with a huge log fire. Ernest M. (not to be confused with Ernest W. R.) was forced to remove his coat, then his jumper. Tony and Alan also experienced this 'warming' business but seemed to bear up better. Anyway, Ernest's rheumatics in his right foot disappeared and came out in his left elbow! Midnight came all too soon, and the Leicester party, having been safely tucked away in the van, left on their long journey home, arriving at 1.30 a.m., tired out but with happy memories of Mr. and Mrs. Milner, to whom all thanks are due. M.

BEVERLEY & DISTRICT SOCIETY

Thirty-two members attended the monthly meeting at St. Mary's Church, Beverley, on December 12th. Standard methods were rung on six, eight and ten to suit all standards of accomplishment and some good ringing was enjoyed once the members had become acquainted with the heavy bells.

A service was held in St. Mary's Church conducted by the Vicar (Canon T. H. Tardrew). The Vicar's sermon was one of encouragement to the regular service ringers who continue to work hard to overcome the difficulties caused through bad attendance and slackness of their fellow-members at services and practices for the instruction of learners. It was an excellent sermon to those who heard it although it would have caused a few red faces to the absentees if it could have been broadcast.

A very good tea was served in the King's Head Hotel, followed by the business meeting. The annual dinner was discussed and fixed for the fourth Saturday in January to avoid clashing with the Selby and York dinners.

Further ringing took place after the meeting.

ON CONDUCTING

By WILFRID G. WILSON

I. INTRODUCTION

ONE of the first things we found out when we started to learn change ringing was that there was no finality to it—no time when we could say we had learnt all there was to know. There are always more and more intricate methods, more compositions, more difficult bells to ring. And there are always more people to teach if our art is to prosper. We can, however, only teach properly and with understanding if we are masters of our subject.

Many of us reach a stage sooner or later where we can call touches and peals—often in quite difficult methods—but somehow we just can't see how it is that old so-and-so knows just where all the bells should be at any time a trip occurs. We ourselves have to wait until the next observation place is reached to be sure whether the bells are right. And, of course, if the trip be a bad one we can't wait so we lose the peal.

These notes, which the Editor has done me the honour to invite, are designed to help ringers over this hurdle and to enable them to advance from what I will call the 'bob caller' stage and to become what I will call a 'real' conductor. They will be written in language as simple as I can find to explain what to a beginner must be a very complicated subject. Not being a mathematician I hope to use only expressions which will be known to any ringer who has reached the bob calling stage.

Right at the start I should like to make the following preliminary remarks. There are many ringers, already real conductors, who have much greater experience than I and who have proved this in the tower through hundreds of peals. To them I would say that I, as well as my readers, would welcome both criticism of these notes and any helpful hints or short cuts which their experience has proved to be useful.

Various touches and peals will be given in these notes, but they are only as examples. Except for this I make no attempt to give compositions for you to call. Plenty of those can be obtained from other publications. That is why I have not dealt with Minor and Doubles. You can find out how to 'call' these from any text book. But once you have learnt how to 'conduct' any of the methods which will be dealt with in these articles, you will find no difficulty in applying your knowledge to other methods and on other numbers of bells.

These notes will not at present be of help to the real novice at change ringing. But if they persevere, many beginners will reach a stage when advice on these lines will, I hope, make their progress easier.

When I write of 'bob callers' and of trying to show them how to become 'real' conductors, I do not mean in any way to belittle the former. If the Exercise had no bob callers, then ringing in most towers would be confined to plain courses. And not all of those would come round. Many ringers are perfectly content to ring one bell and leave to others the task of learning and calling touches and peals. And they are often more reliable ringers for that. They certainly do not go wrong themselves while telling someone else what to do.

Fortunately, however, for the health of the Exercise, certain ringers are always willing and even eager to take charge of the ringing. Their satisfaction and the willingness of the remainder of the band to ring under their leadership will be the greater the more they prove themselves masters of the art of conducting.

To the young ringer who wants to conduct I would also say this. Don't be discouraged or despondent if you have made a mistake and feel you have let a band down. If you have honestly done your best to learn and to call a touch or peal, then no decent band will blame you. The ringer who never calls a touch can never miss a bob and, conversely, the one who calls most will miss most—at first, anyway.

Here I would like to pay a tribute to those members of the Lancashire Association who were responsible for the publication 'Instructions and Diagrams for Beginners.' If you are fortunate enough to have a copy of this and can understand and put into practice the chapter on 'The Elements of Conducting,' then you will not need notes of mine to become an expert conductor.

I would also like, without in any way evading responsibility, to thank three prominent members of the Exercise—from Cheshire, Kent and Surrey—who have been so kind as to help me with understanding criticism and many valuable suggestions.

(To be continued)

CENTRAL COUNCIL OF CHURCH BELL RINGERS

Affiliation Fees

Association secretaries are reminded that affiliation fees to the Central Council (ten shillings per member) are now due. Will secretaries please certify membership in accordance with Rule 4, when forwarding the fees (i.e., the total of honorary, ringing and resident life members).

It would also be appreciated if those associations who wish to subscribe towards the cost of a case to contain the two Rolls of Honour, and who have not yet done so, would forward their contributions as soon as possible.

E. A. BARNETT.
Hon Sec. and Treasurer.

Cambridge Ringing Master Married

The marriage took place on Saturday, Dec. 26th, at St. Margaret's, Newton, Cambridge, of Mr. John Graham Gipson, of Meldreth, and Miss Joan Elizabeth Cook, of Newton.

The bridegroom is the Cambridge District Ringing Master and is well known among ringers in the Cambridge area. The bride is a daughter of Mr. Charles W. Cook, for some years Branch secretary of the Ely Diocesan Association.

As there are only three bells at Newton the following ringers rang handbells in the churchyard as the couple left the church:—Messrs. T. R. Dennis, E. G. Hibbens, F. Haynes, J. W. R. Quinney, W. J. Ridgman, P. Border.

A TOAST TO YORKE-BRAMBLE

During Christmas five ringers got together in 'the local' in the Midlands. Asked one of the others, 'What do you think to all this business about the grid analysis?'

Replied No. 1: 'I'd sooner have a piece of toast done under the grid.'

No. 2: 'I know more about a manhole grid outside my front door.'

No 3 (in a more serious vein): 'I don't profess to understand it, but after all, you must recognise one thing, and that is—we have recently had a war to preserve the privileges of a free Press, and unless you intend to destroy that, these men, whether we be interested or not, have every right to free speech.'

No 4 added: 'Only by free expressions of opinion can the unintelligent ever be made intelligent.'

In the end all concurred and finished with a 'toast to Mr. Yorke-Bramble.' P. A.

CONGRATULATIONS TO FATHER & SON

Congratulations to Sam Martin and his son Brian on ringing their first peal on 12 bells. They have joined the Leicester Cathedral band and are making good progress. Sam will be remembered as a member of the Leicester Guild multi-minor methods band. Although not a domino expert he is enjoying his experiences on the 'double-six.'

SUFFOLK GUILD PROBLEMS

Dear Sir,—I was glad Mr. Les Brett has backed up the proposal made at Halesworth, but he has written as one who is in easy reach of Ipswich and possesses his own transport.

My previous letter on the subject was a summary of conversations at meetings, practices, etc., during the past few years. The report stated that a number of Districts are without secretaries; this is more or less due to lack of support at Saturday meetings and the work involved in collecting the 2s. 6d. subscriptions of those members who are not deeply interested in the Guild.

We must ask ourselves, 'Why are there approximately 60 who can manage to ring Plain Minor in an East Suffolk District who have left ringing?' Three of the main reasons are temperament, health and wives but there must be others.

Anyone taking the trouble would be surprised at the number who are unable to attend meetings on Saturday afternoons whereas 99 per cent. have Bank Holidays off. West Suffolk has as much right to attend the annual meetings as East Suffolk, which means you must catch the 1.20 or the 2 o'clock to get to Ipswich, and leave again just after tea. Many of our keen members rely on the football excursions on Easter Monday mornings. Concerning the matter of spending all day at a ringing meeting, I will point out that half the day is spent travelling.

Let us also consider the public. Is it fair to shopkeepers to have the bells of St. Mary-le-Tower going when they are trying to serve customers, whereas on Bank Holidays the town centre is deserted?

I must resent the remark that some of our District members lack Christianity and are too mean to pay 4s. per annum. These people keep the Sunday service ringing going and their 2s. 6d. more than covers their share in the expenses. But why should they subsidise the people who are out to obtain personal peal totals, or even be asked to pay another 6d. if they ring a peal for a special occasion? We must also think of the youngsters who are not earning, and those living on pension

A study of your paper will reveal that many Associations and Guilds are troubled with this problem, and some issue a report every two years.

'The Ringing World' suffers in the same manner, and any genius who could come forward with a proposal to solve these problems should be awarded a medal.—Yours sincerely,

Bures, Suffolk. LESLIE D. MILLS.

P.S.—On Easter Monday, 1949, the attendance was between 150 and 200.

(Other letters on page 23)

FORTY YEARS AGO

Extract from 'The Ringing World' January 9th, 1914

ROMFORD, ESSEX
The Middlesex County Association
On Wednesday, December 31st, 1913, in 3 hours and 4 minutes
At the Church of St. Edward
A PEAL OF LONDON SURPRISE MAJOR
5,024 CHANGES
Tenor 17 cwt.

Wesley Watson	Treble
*Leonard A. Pye	2
George R. Pye	3
Charles T. Coles	4
William Billenness	5
Alfred Pye	6
Ernest Pye	7
William Pye	Tenor

Composed by B. Lindoff. Conducted by W. Pye.

* First peal in the method. L. A. Pye, who is 14 years and 10 months old, is the youngest ringer to accomplish a peal in this method.

[He was the son of the ringer of the 6th and nephew of the ringers of 3, 7 and tenor.]

NEWSPAPER MAN CAPTURES SPIRIT OF THE BELFRY

A Pen Picture That Will Enthral the Exercise

A great service to ringing has been performed by 'The Manchester Guardian.' In the Christmas Eve issue of the journal appeared an article by Normal Shrapnel entitled 'They ring to make our Christmas complete.' The writer captures the spirit of the belfry in a wonderful way, and below a layman tells a story that all ringers will delight to read:—

The Christmas bells, though they may seem the most disembodied of all seasonable sounds, are the product of a high alliance of sweat and skill. They are carried sweetly across the frosted fields or streets by the man-handling of tons of metal. They cannot speak without the aid of men in their shirt-sleeves, doing strenuous permutations. Only in churches which use recorded chimes is the music truly disembodied, and you would have to travel far among the bell-towers of the 5,439 ringing churches of Britain to find anything but scorn for those.

The ringers are friendly men, but of all the private world theirs must be among the most exclusive. Their ancient art grows steadily more complicated; they are silver-tongued mathematicians, their script being of numbers but their spoken language as sonorous as the bells themselves, so that they speak familiarly of Grandsire Caters, Stedman Sextuples, Plain Bob Royal or Bristol Surprise Major. They tend to live for their art and its terms. 'You must have known so-and-so,' one will say to another; 'he used to do a lot of ringing in the South.' Or, 'Nice chaps, but they're not what you'd call Stedman Cinques men.' The bell itself, in their terminology, doesn't ring. Its clapper is a tongue, and it speaks.

In the tower of an ancient Cheshire church the ringers are gathering. It is a famous ringing county, and holds a record of 21,600 Bristol Surprise Major changes achieved two years ago at Over in two minutes under thirteen hours. What strikes you at once is the variety of these voluntary prisoners in their stone tower. The oldest has been ringing for close on sixty years; the youngest is a National Service boy in uniform who was captured by the bells through living under them. One man has travelled all the way from Coventry 'just for a ring'; another is a teacher of mathematics who took to the complicated game as a scientist might take to heavy water.

WOMEN, ALSO

Two are women, who are increasingly succumbing to the bell-ringing urge; recently it was announced that the lady ringers of Bedfordshire had already scored quarter peals and hoped to achieve a full peal soon. And a letter in 'The Ringing World,' that unequalled source of esoteric information, reveals that a rector's daughter helped to break the war-time bell-silence during the invasion scare of 1940. 'She rang the sixth on that never-to-be-forgotten night.' She rang, and they were scattered.

That was comparatively silent war. Here is peace, tumultuous peace. 'Look to—treble's going,' warns the sixty-year ringer. 'She's gone!' Up and down go the ropes, controlled by the pumping arms, and the tower shakes and thunders with the music of the bells. It's more a knack than brute strength, you are assured, and remembering those record-breaking thirteen hours you believe it. Why were they not back-breaking, too? 'Always ring your bell, never let your bell ring you,' is a saying of the craft. It is easy to see the wisdom of this, especially when you discover the peril of mishandling a rope to a 'set' bell; this can fling you belfry-wards like a stone from a catapult, and the records say that men have died from time to time. But nowadays the hazards are not considered great; a toss taken here, a broken collar-bone there, is the extent of the damage. The novices are more sensible, and the old hands more sober. The old bell-tower fines for drinking, swearing, fighting or ringing with hat or spurs on have lapsed long since.

One rule, from Scotland, that 'the feelings and wishes of any sick person in the neighbourhood must be tenderly considered,' might still find support. The friends of synthetic bells argue that by eliminating practices they spare the public possible annoyance; the ringers reply that they find little evidence of such annoyance. Since a speaker at the Church Assembly called the use of recorded bells 'fraudulent,' the ringing world has been going at this issue with all clappers. They seem to be taking on in spite of the scorn of the 'live' ringers, who regard it as the last word in pretentiousness and vulgarity to install synthetic cathedral chimes in a village or small-town church.

RINGERS' ANXIETY

Some fear that before long only five-star rings and virtuoso ringing will be tolerated, under this demand for nothing but the best, even if canned. Anxiety is also being voiced about what might happen if a few competitive firms, pushing their synthetic bell apparatus, got busy with sales talk; it appears that faith in the proper response of incumbents and church councils is not universal. The ringers' official journal admits, all the same, that a good deal of blame rests on the ringers themselves in not ensuring that all bells are properly rung for services, and making insufficient effort to fill the gaps in their ranks. Another aspect is legal. Bells—even by those who may dislike them—are commonly accepted as a privileged form of praise. Have recordings the same immunity from legal process as a public nuisance?

In their Cheshire tower these things may well be in the ringers' minds as they draw to the end of their peal. Though nurtured on four famous stanzas of Tennyson, they must be having second thoughts about the line, 'Ring out the old, ring in the new.' More reassurance, perhaps, in the time-honoured closing call: 'That's all—stand.'

OBITUARY

MR. N. R. SUMMERS

On December 16th, 1953, there died a ringer of Tanworth-in-Arden Church whose skill and personality will be greatly missed from the tower.

Norman Robert Summers was born in Tanworth 61 years ago, a member of a family of engineers and wheelwrights resident in the parish for 150 years. He was a first-class engineer who specialised in the motor car, and in 1919 his garage in Tanworth became his life's work.

From the age of eight years he rang the bells which were used in those days to signify the time, and sang solos in the choir as a boy. In 1931 he installed electricity in the church and recently electric heating in the chancel He and his father maintained the bells and bell frame up to the restoration in 1949 and his family had always wound the church clock which his grandfather installed in 1873.

Mr. Summers removed the clock to the floor above the ringing room, where it now keeps time to within 15 seconds a month, though he was unable to complete this work due to ill-health.

On the evening of his funeral a quarter peal of Grandsire Doubles was rung as a tribute to one who used his craftsmanship to the benefit of all with whom he came in contact, by L. Mole 1, Miss E. Boffey 2, J. H. Jones 3, J. W. Jones 4, J. Corbett (conductor) 5, A. J. Collins 6.

MR. FREDERICK G. SPRINGHAM

It is with sincere regret that we record the death on December 19th of Mr. Frederick Springham, Ringing Master at Much Hadham, at the age of 56 years after a painful illness.

Mr. Springham learned to handle a bell at Broxbourne, Herts. Later he joined the band at St. Michael's, Bishop's Stortford, where his father and brother were also ringers and where he rang for over 30 years. After the lifting of the ban he assisted the local band at Much Hadham and when the bells were augmented to eight in 1950 became Ringing Master.

Although he rang few peals he was a devoted service ringer and a keen churchman. During the time he held the office of Ringing Master at Much Hadham his valuable work as an instructor resulted in the building up of a strong Sunday service band. He will be greatly missed by the local ringers and by his many ringing friends.

Among the floral tributes were wreaths from his fellow ringers at St. Michael's, Bishop's Stortford, and at Much Hadham. Half-muffled quarter peals were rung to his memory by the local company and by a representative band from the surrounding towers.

Mr. Springham leaves a widow to whom we extend our deepest sympathy. P. A. F. C.

MRS. WALTER W. WOLSTENCROFT

An Appreciation

By the death of Mrs. Wolstencroft, those who knew her feel they have lost a friend, and many more than a friend. The Ringing Exercise, too, has lost a patron in more ways than one. As a ringer's wife she was an outstanding example by her support and encouragement. When there was a shortage of ringers during the first world war she took up ringing seriously at her home tower of St. Peter's, Ashton-under-Lyne, Lancashire. Although she was not a prolific peal ringer she nevertheless followed the peal ringing activities of her husband and friends with a keen interest. 103, Victoria Street, Ashton, was an address that was stamped indelibly on many ringers' minds, for there there was always a welcome, and those who had the pleasure of experiencing her hospitality never forgot her kind and genial disposition —nothing was too much trouble to make the visitor feel 'at home.' Who can forget those teas she organised on the occasion of Branch meetings or those small special gatherings at 103 which invariably followed a peal attempt, successful or otherwise, gatherings which taxed the accommodation at 103 to its utmost limit? It was a sad day when indisposition, caused by an accident in 1946, prevented her taking further part in the non-ringing activities of her ringing friends. For the past seven years both she and Mr. Wolstencroft had been living with their daughter Ida at Stoke Poges, and there they enjoyed a well-earned retirement. Our sympathies go out to her husband and daughter, and may they be happy in the knowledge that she was one of the best.

J. P. F.

Guild of Devonshire Ringers

A number of members of the Guild of Devonshire Ringers held a successful half-day outing on Boxing Day, when a few towers in the Mid-Devon area were visited. The first tower was Chudleigh, where a pleasant hour was spent, after which visits were paid to Bovey Tracey, Dean Prior and Beckington, and in the first three places the ringers were welcomed by the respective vicars.

The visitors were subsequently entertained to tea by Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Lilley, of Perry Farm, Highweek, Newton Abbot, after which handbell ringing was indulged in.

Thanks were expressed to Mr. and Mrs. Lilley for their very kind hospitality.

A. L. M.

QUARTER PEALS

ALDRINGTON, SUSSEX.—On Dec. 25th, 1,260 Plain Bob Doubles: Diana M. Gough 1, D. H. Paine 2, S. W. Brown (cond.) 3, Valerie Mepham 4, H. W. Brown 5, R. D. Brown 6. Rung for the festival of Christmas.

ARELEY KINGS, WORCS.—On Dec. 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. J. Stanier 1, J. N. Diserens 2, Miss S. Jackson 3, G. Bowen 4, D. Beacham (cond.) 5, G. Lewis 6. A birthday compliment to J. J. Stanier.

BEDDINGTON, SURREY.—On Dec. 24th, 1,320 Cambridge Surprise Minor (on the back six): S. Kimber 1, Mary Fuller 2, J. Cannel 3, F. Jennings 4, R. Bird 5, F. Darby (cond.) 6.

BISHOP'S CANNINGS, WILTS.—On Dec. 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Sheila Douglas (first quarter) 1, G. Winter 2, W. Mortimer 3, J. Romain 4, S. Grant (cond.) 5, D. Beresford 6, F. Hale 7, G. Oram 8.

BIDDENDEN, KENT.—On Christmas Day, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Baldock (first quarter) 1, H. Payne 2, H. Baker 3, L. Payne 4, G. Waters (cond.) 5, R. Watts 6, V. Paine 8.

BURNHAM-ON-CROUCH, ESSEX.—On Dec. 24th, 1,272 Minor (720 Oxford, 552 Kent): E. Rouse 1, D. L. M. Bigmore 2, E. G. Deacon 3, K. Everett 4, G. M. Rouse 5, H. Stebbings (cond.) 6. Rung before the midnight service.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS, SUFFOLK.—At the Norman Tower, on Dec. 25th, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob Major: W. Stannard (cond.) 1, H. Everett 2, C. Stannard 3, W. Goodship 4, A. Gillings 5, J. Kerrey 6, F. Buckle 7, J. W. Banks 8. Before divine service.

CALVERTON, BUCKS.—On Christmas Eve, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Eales (first quarter) 1, H. C. Edwards (cond.) 2, A. Daniels 3, A. W. Dillow 4, A. Hurst 5, J. Dillow (first quarter) 6. Rung for midnight Communion.

CARDIFF.—On Dec. 26th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Mrs. W. Oatway 1, Jean Powell 2, R. Lucas 3, T. Yeoman 4, F. Rowsell 5, W. Oatway 6, R. Davies (cond.) 7, W. Dare 8.

CHRISTCHURCH, HANTS.—On Dec. 19th, 1,260 Stedman Triples: Miss J. Gray 1, H. Mitchell 2, M. Best 3, J. Daniels 4, F. Price (cond.) 5, D. Reed 6, J. Hartless 7, E. Doel 8. Rung after an unsuccesstul attempt for a peal in honour of the 84th birthday of George Preston, still active ringing master after nearly 70 years.

DARLINGTON, CO. DURHAM.—On Dec. 24th, at St. Cuthbert's Church, 1,264 Plain Bob Major: M. Airey 1, Mrs. T. Cooke 2, Miss M. Reed 3, R. Busby 4, R. James (first of Major) 5, D. R. Airey 6, T. Hill 7, T. Cooke (cond.) 8.

DEAL, KENT.—At St. Leonard's Church, on Dec. 29th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. H. Baxter (cond.) 1, Miss J. Milner (first 'inside') 2, Miss G. Rich 3, W. Rich 4, R. Rees 5, M. Milner 6. First quarter peal by a local band.

DUFFIELD, DERBYS.—At St. Alkmund's Parish Church, on Dec. 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles (4, 6, 8 covering): Miss R. Carr (first on changing bell) 1, G. Bradley 2, D. Gebbett 3, J. MacArthur 4, M. Hatch (cond.) 5, Miss V. Horton (first quarter) 6, F. Stone 7, Rev. G. Hatch 8. Rung for the feast of St. Stephen. Also on Sept. 27th, 1,260 Doubles (540 Grandsire, 360 Plain Bob, 360 April Day), 4, 6, 8 covering: J. MacArthur 1, D. Gebbett 2, Miss E. Foulke 3, Miss B. Nelson (first quarter) 4, F. Stone 5, Miss R. Carr 6, M. Hatch (cond.) 7, W. Baker 8. Miss Nelson (12) is the youngest lady ever to ring a quarter peal at Duffield.

EDINBURGH.—At St. Mary's Cathedral, on Christmas Eve, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss P. Craig 1, Miss E. McLean 2, Miss K. Branson 3, J. Moss (first quarter 'inside') 4, W. H. Pickett 5, A. W. Lloyd 6, C. R. Raine (cond.) 7, Rev. C. Preston Thomas 8. First quarter for 1 and 8. Rung before the carol service.

ELTHAM, KENT.—On Dec. 27th, last quarter of Holt's Original: G. Hurrell 1, Miss M. Ashdown 2, F. Hurrell 3, J. Hurrell 4, G. Ashdown 5, J. Richardson 6, E. B. Crowder (cond.) 7, P. Sherman 8. Rung for Evensong.

ENFIELD, MIDDLX.—On Dec. 20th, 1,260 Oxford Bob Triples: J. D. Duggan (first quarter) 1, I. J. Attwater (cond.) 2, Miss M. Smith 3, J. Towers 4, S. Scott 5, G. Russell 6, D. Towers 7, J. W. Dyer 8.

GOOLE, YORKS.—On Dec. 26th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Mrs. J. J. Taylor 1, Susan Harrop 2, A. H. Hawcroft 3, Sylvia Iredale 4, J. M. Harrop 5, J. J. Taylor 6, L. M. Woodhead (cond.) 7, H. Drake 8. A wedding compliment to Mr. Philip Robert Shaw and Miss Marlene Whiteley.

GREAT WYMONDLEY, HERTS.—On Dec. 20th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: F. Croft (cond.) 1, K. Timbury (first 'inside') 2, J. Church 3, W. Todd 4, G. Cherry 5, P. Croft 6.

HIGHAM FERRERS, NORTHANTS.—On Christmas Day, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: R. Whiting 1, A. J. Wilson 2, C. Palmer 3, J. Clarke (first on 'inside' bell) 4, C. Underwood 5, G. D. Deighton 6, W. Wilby (cond.) 7, R. Blackwell 8. Rung prior to the 11 o'clock Sung Eucharist.

HILLESDEN, BUCKS.—On Dec. 22nd, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: W. Townsend 1, C. Gough 2, J. Knibbs 3, F. Vickers 4, W. Yates (cond.) 5, F. Pateman 6.

HITCHIN, HERTS.—On Dec. 20th, 1,280 Superlative Surprise Major: M. Collings (first of Surprise Major) 1, M. Orme (16) 2, W. Hitch 3, L. W. Wiffen 4, H. Werrett 5, C. V. Hare (75) 6, P. Mehew 7, D. Jones (first of Surprise Major as cond.) 8. First of Surprise Major 'inside' by 2 and 3. First of Superlative 'inside' by 5 and 7.

HORNCHURCH, ESSEX.—On Dec. 27th, 1,360 Plain Bob Major: A. H. Worboys 1, D. M. Salisbury 2, J. Carrott 3, Miss J. Peacock 4, F. V. Gant 5, S. Penfold 6, T. East 7, A. J. Salisbury (cond.) 8.

HORSMONDEN, KENT.—On Dec. 24th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Miss B. Tester (first quarter) 1, R. E. Lambert 2, C. A. Tester (first of Minor) 3, H. J. Hammond 4, E. Bromley 5, R. T. Lambert (cond.) 6.

HORSHAM, SUSSEX.—On Christmas Day, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Audrey M. Trott 1, E. R. Rapley 2, Nan Ickeringill 3, E. Fosberry 4, J. Smart 5, S. A. Paice 6, L. Stilwell (cond.) 7, C. Denyer 8. Also on Dec. 27th, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: D. Lynor 1, Audrey M. Trott 2, I. Windwood 3, E. Fosberry 4, J. Smart 5, E. R. Rapley 6, L. Stilwell (cond.) 7, C. Denyer 8.

KELVEDON, ESSEX.—On Dec. 28th, 1,320 Oxford Treble Bob Minor: C. Button 1, J. Papworth 2, C. Burton 3, J. Elliott 4, R. Pye (cond.) 5, A. Elliott 6. Rung half-muffled in memory of those who lost their lives in the great New Zealand railway accident on Christmas Eve.

LONGDON, WORCS.—On Dec. 20th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: F. Lawrence 1, C. Young 2, H. Price 3, G. Camm (cond.) 4, F. Price 5, L. Dovey 6. Rung for Evensong, and to enable Mr. F. Price (Bournemouth) to ring again with his 'very old' friends.

LUTON, BEDS.—On Christmas Eve, at St. Mary's Church, a quarter peal of Stedman Caters: J. Scott 1, A. Burton 2, June Gladman 3, J. Herbert 4, Enid Preston 5, W. Bottrill 6, L. Goodenough (cond.) 7, A. Smith 8, A. Rushton 9, C. Mann 10.

OXHEY, HERTS.—On Dec. 25th, 1,260 Doubles (480 Plain Bob, 480 Grandsire, 300 Stedman): Gillian Flitton 1, Mary Flitton 2, F. W. Brinklow (cond.) 3, J. Bentley 4, Mary Delderfield 5, C. Randall 6. A 21st birthday compliment to the twins (Gillian and Mary Flitton).

PITMINSTER, SOMERSET.—On Dec. 16th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: R. Lee (first quarter) 1, W. Moore 2, R. Shire (cond.) 3, G. Salter 4, B. Burston 5, P. Holway 6. Rung as a compliment to P. Holway, tower-keeper and ringer, for his birthday.

REIGATE, SURREY.—On Christmas Eve, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: Miss B. Mayers 1, Miss B. Saggers 2, C. S. Hoad 3, G. F. Hoad (cond.) 4, F. T. Hoad 5, W. H. Inwood (first quarter) 6, A. T. Shelton 7, M. A. Northover 8.

SOUTH SHIELDS, CO. DURHAM.—On Dec. 21st, 1,280 Kent Treble Bob: Miss K. Softley 1, Miss E. Softley 2, Miss M. Softley 3, Miss B. Softley 4, B. Bovill 5, R. Bell 6, C. N. Lea 7, Mrs. N. I. Lea (cond.) 8. Rung to mark the wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. C. N. Lea.

UPPER CLAPTON, E.—At the Church of St. Matthew, on Christmas Eve, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: C. F. Neal 1, Miss G. L. Friswell 2, Mrs. R. K. C. Wilkings 3, Miss N. Hales 4, J. Hales 5, D. Neal (cond.) 6, R. K. C. Wilkings 7, D. A. Sydenham 8. Rung for midnight Mass. Also on Dec. 27th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: Mrs. R. K. C. Wilkings 1, Miss G. L. Friswell 2, Miss N. Hales 3, J. Hales 4, R. K. C. Wilkings 5, D. Neal (cond.) 6. Rung to celebrate the engagement of Miss G. L. Friswell and Mr. D. Neal, both of the local band.

WALLASEY, CHESHIRE.—At the Church of St. Mary, Liscard, on Dec. 12th, 1,280 Cambridge Surprise Major: L. L. Gray 1, Miss J. M. Webster 2, Miss M. E. Webster 3, C. B. Pemberton 4, S. D. Sutton (first quarter of Surprise Major) 5, T. Rogers 6, A. J. Martin (cond.) 7, J. Ridyard 8. Rung to mark the dedication by the Bishop of Chester of a tablet to the memory of Canon A. E. Simpson (father of the late Dr. J. C. E. Simpson).

WESTON FAVELL, NORTHANTS.—On Nov. 21st, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss G. Bugby 1, Mrs. G. Roome 2, F. Rollings 3, G. Roome 4, P. Amos (cond.) 5. Rung for the wedding of Miss S. J. Law to Mr. R. H. Luck, both of Weston Favell. Also on Dec. 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: Miss S. Parker 1, Mrs. G. Roome 2, B. Linnell (first quarter 'inside') 3, P. Amos 4, G. Roome (cond.) 5. For the Christmas festival. Miss Parker was on a visit from Bournemouth, Hants.

WESTON TURVILLE, BUCKS.—On Dec. 9th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Ranger (first quarter) 1, Dorothy Hancock 2, K. Vaughan 3, D. Walton 4, B. Collins (cond.) 5. First quarter by Sunday service band. Also on Dec. 24th, 1,260 Grandsire Doubles: J. Ranger 1, Dorothy Hancock 2, D. Walton 3, B. Collins (cond.) 4, K. Vaughan 5. Rung for the midnight service.

THOMAS EAYRE, of KETTERING (1691—1757)

Although remembered principally as a bell-founder of no mean ability, Thomas Eayre was a remarkable man in several other ways. Perhaps the first occupation he knew was that of blacksmith, the trade of his father. In a copyhold admission of October, 1726, he is described as clockmaker, and was commissioned by the Vestry of All Saints,' Northampton, in 1727, to keep the clock and chimes in good repair. He was employed by George, third Earl of Cardigan, in cleaning and winding the clocks at Deene Hall, and in keeping the jacks and other machinery in good order. Similarly he was employed by the Marquess of Rockingham to look after the great clock at Great Hawarden between 1748 and 1756.

That he was also a surveyor we gather from the fact that surveying articles are included in the list of property advertised as for sale by auction in 1762, which were left to his son, Thomas III., in his will of December 24th, 1757. He was clearly very interested in antiquarian subjects, as we may gather from a letter to Sir Edmund Isham, of Lamport, dated March 24th, 1738-9, in which he describes in detail a large tesselated Roman pavement discovered three weeks before in a field at Weldon, and appeals to the baronet to try to persuade Lord Hatton to take steps to preserve it.

Eayre was one of several topographical artists commissioned by John Bridges to make drawings for his great 'History of Northamptonshire,' which contains some of his work including one in ink of the portico of All Saints', Northampton. Among the other drawings are a plan of the Roman remains at Castor: 'The North East Prospect of Higham Ferrers,' a plan of Peterborough and a sectional view of the Cathedral from the south side. Eayre's greater and by far his most important work was his map of the county of Northants, which is deservedly well known in that it was the first of the county on a large scale (one mile to one inch).

These accomplishments, however, did not afford Eayre his living completely. His main means of livelihood was his bell foundry, which appears to have come into being in about 1717, when we find bells at Cranford and Yelden. He was a great admirer of Hugh Watts' bells, and when he recast the sixth at St. Margaret's, Leicester, he put this inscription on it:—'Hugh Watts, of Leicester, the foremost in his art, cast the 6 largest bells 1633. T. Eayre, Kett: Recast this 1739. Morte Beata Nihil Beatius.'

Watts' inscriptions were very often used by Eayre, for instance, 'I.H.S. Nazarenus Rex Judeorum Fili Dei Miserere Mei' appears on the 9th at Kettering and in many other places, including Bringhurst, Humberstone, Lubenham, etc. About 200 bells cast by Eayre are extant, in Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Lincolnshire, Warwickshire, Rutland, Huntingdonshire and Bedfordshire, by far the greater number in Northamptonshire and Leicestershire (approximately 70 each). We can get some idea of prices of those days by considering those at Daventry in 1738, for recasting five old bells and increasing them to eight—£209 14s. In 1752, for recasting and augmenting the ring at Grantham to eight, £516 0s. 2d. In 1754 the ring of six at Loughborough were recast at a cost of about £119.

Thomas Eayre was buried at Kettering on January 3rd, 1758, and though the location of his grave is now lost, his name will be remembered as long as his bells remain to bear witness to the craft of a versatile and brilliant man.

P. I. C.

NEW ALRESFORD, HANTS.—On Dec. 26th, 1,440 Plain Bob Minor: C. J. Dando (first in the method) 1, F. N. Lane 2, A. D. Tremeer 3, E. M. Lane 4, G. Allen 5, L. A. Tremeer (cond.) 6, F. W. Mansbridge 7.

RINGERS' RULES (ANCIENT & MODERN)

Mr. Ernest Morris has received the following appreciation of his articles from Mr. Frank Huckle, of Swanage, Dorset:—

'I have found your records of the above, published in "The Ringing World," very interesting and have ventured to compile a few verses using some of these old rules. I take the liberty in sending you a copy.'

THE BELLS OF ST. MARY'S

If a ringer you wish to be,
Come then to Swanage by the sea.
For at St. Mary's you will find
The finest eight bells of their kind.

We ringers here are no one's foes,
But those who want too much repose.
For there's no music, played or sung,
Like unto bells when they're well rung.

If you've a mind to be enrolled,
Then to these orders you must hold.
It's not good to hear men wrangle,
And much worse to hear bells jangle.

That every change be true and clear,
You must ring well with hand and ear.
List'ning too for Bob or Single,
With an eye upon the treble.

If any should our church neglect,
Or Captain's orders disrespect.
It is a rule of old most clear,
That such a one cannot stay here.

One night each week we all do meet,
To practise and to records beat.
On Sunday twice a day we're there,
Calling both good and bad to prayer.

If to our laws you do consent,
Then take a bell we are content.
He that in ringing takes delight,
Will never lack for friends aright.

Now comes the Captain's final call,
And so to rounds and that-is-all.
Ring down the bells so ringers keen,
God bless the Church, God save the Queen.

5,056 SUPERLATIVE, YORKSHIRE AND NEW CAMBRIDGE SURPRISE MAJOR

By WILLIAM THORNLEY

23456	B	M	W	H
34256				2
32546			—	2
43526			—	3
25634		—	—	
32654			—	3
53624			—	3
53246	—			—
52436			—	2
42635		—		3
62534		—		
45236		—		—
23456			—	—

Rung at the Bell Foundry, Loughborough, to Superlative, on Wednesday, December 23rd, 1953, conducted by the composer.

Gratefully Acknowledged

The Editorial Committee acknowledge with gratitude the following donations to meet the cost of producing 'The Ringing World':—

Personal.—G. Moorhouse 2s. 6d., T. J. Thurley 2s. 6d., J. G. Wood (Cape Town) 7s. 6d., 'In Memoriam' 5s.

Peals.—Wincanton 4s., Gravesend 3s., Wellow 3s., Stockland 3s., Witnesham 2s., Edenbridge 4s., Slough 4s., Wicken 1s. 6d., Woodditton 2s., Swindon 2s., Conisborough 3s., Bury St. Edmunds 2s., Cramlington 2s. 6d.

Quarter peals.—Christchurch 2s., Longdon 2s., Edinburgh 4s., Calverton 2s. 6d., New Alresford 3s. 6d., Areley Kings 2s. 6d., Luton 2s. 6d., Oxhey 2s., Burnham-on-Crouch 3s., Higham Ferrers 2s. 1½d., Pitminster 2s., Reigate 3s. 6d., Hillesden 1s. 6d., Clodock 2s. 6d., Herne 2s., Biddenden 1s., Mossley 2s., Enfield 2s., Upper Clapton 4s.

NOTICES

Scale of Charges

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

Other Notices one penny per word, minimum 3s.

All notices must be prepaid.

Notices must be received on the Monday preceding publication.

ENGAGEMENT

OLIVER—PURSER. — The engagement is announced of Antony G. Oliver and Iris, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. H. Purser, of Guildford. 3776

PUBLICATIONS

'THE CHURCH BELLS OF OXFORDSHIRE.' Vol. IV. (Final Volume). Price 10s. Supplied to purchasers of previous volumes only. Obtainable from the author, Mr. Frederick Sharpe, Derwen, Launton, Bicester, Oxfordshire. 3566

'BELLS OF ALL NATIONS,' by Ernest Morris, F.R.Hist.S., F.R.G.S., M.R.S.L. A few copies only left at original price, 21s. Ideal for Christmas present. From the author, Verger's Lodge, St. Margaret's Vicarage, Leicester. 3454

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

MISCELLANEOUS

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Nominations and notices of motions in accordance with Rule vi. and Rule ix. should be forwarded to me by Feb. 1st, 1954.—F. V. Gant, 3, Central Drive, Hornchurch. 3740

EXTRA COPIES. — It is an advantage if those requiring extra copies will send their orders at the time copy of peals or quarter peals is submitted.

PEAL CARDS & QUARTER PEAL CARDS can now be ordered at 5s. a set of 12, post free (minimum charge). Order and remittances must be sent with peal report. For quarter peals write separate copy in same style as peals.

MEETINGS

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Macclesfield Branch.—Combined annual meeting and social, Saturday, Jan. 9th. Bells open: Christ Church (10) 2 p.m.-3.30 p.m.; St. Michael's (12) 3 p.m.-5.15 p.m. Service 5.15 p.m. Business meeting 6 p.m. Bells at St. Peter's (8) will be available from 5.45-6.45 p.m. for visitors. Hot-pot supper and social in the Beehive Restaurant at 7 p.m. 3628

DERBYSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Quarterly general meeting at Ripley (8) on Saturday, Jan. 9th, at 3 p.m. Please note: No tea arrangements; cafes nearby. 3731

EAST GRINSTEAD GUILD. — Coleman's Hatch (8) Jan. 9th.—C. A. Bassett. 3722

GLOUCESTER AND BRISTOL ASSOCIATION.—Wotton-under-Edge Branch.—Meeting, Slimbridge (6), Jan. 9th, 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Notify for tea.—Mary Drew, Bibstone Farm, Cromhall. 3741

HEREFORD GUILD.—Ross District.—Annual meeting, Ross, Jan. 9th. Bells from 3 p.m. Service 4. Tea and meeting 4.30. 3707

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Maidstone District.—Meeting at Wrotham (8) on Saturday, Jan. 9th. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea 5. Everybody welcome. 3728

LADIES' GUILD.—Midland District.—Annual District meeting, Saturday, Jan. 9th, at South Wigston (8). Bells available 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea 5.—J. Staniforth, Hon. Sec. 3715

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Blackburn District.—**Correction:** Annual Branch meeting, Whalley, Jan. 9th (not Jan. 2nd). Ringing 3 p.m. Tea 5. Meeting to follow. Cups of tea provided.—Charles W. Blakey, Branch Sec. 3709

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Preston Branch. — Annual branch meeting, Saturday, Jan. 9th, Preston Parish Church. Light refreshments provided.—L. Walmsley. 3747

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Liverpool Branch.—The next meeting will be held at Christ Church, Bootle, on Saturday, Jan. 9th. Bells available 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea 5.15 p.m. in the schoolroom. 3738

LEEDS AND DISTRICT. — Meeting at Wakefield Cathedral, Saturday, Jan. 9th. Bells available 4 p.m. Business meeting in tower at 7 p.m. Own arrangements for tea.—I. Slack, Hon. Sec. 3708

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Loughborough District.—Annual meeting, Loughborough Parish Church, Jan. 9th, 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea, Fearon Hall, 5. Evening, Bell Foundry. 3691

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD.—Northern Branch.—Lincoln Diocesan annual meeting, St. Giles', Lincoln Jan. 9th. 3699

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—N. and E. District.—Meeting at St. Mary's, Church End, Finchley (near Finchley Central Underground Station) on Saturday, Jan. 9th, 3 p.m. No service, no tea arrangements. Business 4 p.m. District annual meeting at St. Giles-in-the-Fields on Feb. 13th.—T. J. Lock. 3713

MIDLAND COUNTIES GUILD.—Annual meeting at St. Paul's, Burton, Saturday, Jan. 9th. Bells (10) 2.30. Service 4.30, followed by tea and meeting. All ringers welcome.—B. G. Key, 54, Rolleston Road, Burton-on-Trent. 3680

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD.—Banbury Branch. — Quarterly, Adderbury (8), January 9th. Service 4 p.m. Subscriptions due.—E. Pearson, Adderbury West, Oxon. 3679

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — South Oxon Branch.—A meeting will be held at Thame, Oxon, on Saturday, Jan. 9th. Bells at 2.45 p.m. Service at 4. Tea for those who notify me.—H. Badger, The Blue Man, Thame, Oxon. 3702

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Kettering Branch. — Annual meeting, Desborough, Jan. 9th, 2.30 p.m. 3732

SUFFOLK GUILD. — Sudbury-Lavenham District.—Annual District meeting, Sudbury, on Saturday, Jan. 9th. All Saints' 2.30; St. Gregory's after tea. Tea 5 o'clock.—L. D. Mills, Hon. Dis. Sec. 3714

MIDDLESEX ASSOCIATION.—S. and W. District.—Committee meeting Heston Vicarage, 7 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 13th. Annual meeting, Heston, Jan. 16th. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting in Church Room (names, please). St. Mary's, Norwood Green (6), 2.30–3.30; Heston (8) from 3.30. 1954 subscriptions now due.—F. W. Goodfellow, Hon. Sec., Seaford, Slough Road, Iver Heath, Bucks (Iver 1039). 3748

ANCIENT SOCIETY OF COLLEGE YOUTHS.—Next business meeting, Whitechapel Bell Foundry, Saturday, Jan. 16th, 3 p.m.—A. B. Peck. 3719

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Chew Deanery.—Meeting, Chew Stoke, Jan. 16th, 4 o'clock.—Percy G. Yeo, Long Ashton. 3753

BATH AND WELLS ASSOCIATION. — Glaston Deanery.—Annual meeting, St. Cuthbert's, Wells, Saturday, Jan. 16th, 3 p.m. Service 4. Names for tea by Tuesday, 12th.—W. Marsh, 4, Dovecotes, Street. 3756

BEDFORDSHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Luton District. — Annual meeting, Dunstable, Jan. 16th. Bells 3 p.m. Business meeting 4.15 p.m. —Dennis Knox. 3755

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Crewe Branch.—Annual meeting, Crewe, Jan. 16th. Bells (10) 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Names for tea MUST be received by Jan. 13th.—W. Kerr, 26, Davenham Crescent, Crewe. 3762

CHESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Wirral Branch.—Meeting, Eastham (6), Jan. 16th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Tea provided free ONLY for those notifying by 12th. — Alexander J. Martin, 19, Falcon Road, Birkenhead. 3774

COVENTRY DIOCESAN GUILD.—Quarterly meeting at Nuneaton, Jan. 16th. Bells of St. Nicolas' (8) 3 p.m. Own arrangements for tea. Business meeting in vestry at 6 p.m. followed by ringing until 9 p.m.—Mrs. D. E. Beamish, Gen. Hon. Sec., 21, Gipsy Lane, Nuneaton. 3767

DEVON GUILD. — South-West Branch. — The annual meeting will be held at Plympton St. Maurice on Saturday, Jan. 16th. Usual arrangements. Names for tea by Jan. 11th to T. G. Myers, 79, Regent Street, Plymouth. 3742

EAST DERBYSHIRE AND NOTTS ASSOCIATION.—Monthly meeting, Shirland, Jan. 16th. Tea 5 p.m. Names for tea to Mrs. Mason, Town End, Shirland, Derbyshire, by Wednesday, 13th.—B. A. Sollis, Hon. Sec. 3746

ELY DIOCESAN ASSOCIATION. — Hunts District. — Annual meeting at Huntingdon on Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells: St. Mary's (8) 3 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.; All Saints' (6) 3 p.m. to 4.15 p.m. Service at St. Mary's 4.30 p.m. Tea 5 o'clock at All Saints' Hall. Both towers available after tea.—H. S. Peacock, Dis. Sec. 3751

ESSEX ASSOCIATION.—Northern District. — Annual meeting, Bocking, Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Names for tea, please, to Mrs. M. Moore, 244, Broad Road, Bocking, Braintree. 3725

HAWKHURST AND DISTRICT GUILD.—Annual meeting, Hawkhurst, Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Names for tea by Jan. 13th to G. Billinness, 3, Grasmere Terrace, Hawkhurst. 3744

HERTS COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Annual district meeting, St. Albans, Jan. 16th. Ringing, St. Michael's (8) 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., St. Albans Abbey (12) 6.45 p.m. Names for tea, please, by Thursday, Jan. 14th, to W. J. Southam, 14, Walton Street, St. Albans. 3763

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Rossendale Branch. — Next meeting at Rawtenstall, Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells from 3. Meeting in tower at 6. Make own arrangements for tea. All ringers welcome.—J. Porter. 3772

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION.—Furness & Lake District Branch.—Practice meeting will be held at Broughton-in-Furness on Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells (8) available 2.30 p.m. Names for tea to F. Langtree, Laurel Bank, Broughton-in-Furness. 3779

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Leicester District. — Annual district meeting, Saturday, Jan. 16th, in Leicester. Ringing, Cathedral (12) 2.30–3.30, St. John-the-Divine's 3–4.30 and in evening. Service, St. John's, 4.30. Tea 5. St. John's Schoolroom. Names for tea by Tuesday, Jan. 12th, to S. Harrison, 73, Hopefield Road, Leicester.—J. R. Smith, Hon. Sec. 3704

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Market Harborough District.—Annual district meeting, Kibworth, Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells 3 p.m. Service 4.30. Meeting 5 p.m. Provide own tea. —L. W. Allen, Dis. Sec. 3765

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD.—Melton District.—Annual meeting at Melton Mowbray (10), Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells 2.30 to 4.30, 6.15 to 8.15. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting 5 o'clock. Names MUST be sent by the 14th to Mr. H. Clayton, 17, Bayswater Road. 3768

LEICESTER DIOCESAN GUILD. — Syston District.—Meeting at Syston, Jan. 16th. Bells 3. Service 4.30. Names for tea to Payne, 6, The Green, Syston, Leics. 3775

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. — Gainsborough District.—The annual meeting will be held at Gainsborough on Saturday, Jan. 16th. Bells afternoon and evening. Service 4.15 p.m. Tea 5 p.m. for those who notify me by Tuesday previous.—Geo. L. A. Lunn, Hon. Sec., Crow Garth, Lea, Gainsborough, Tel. 2623. 3769

LLANDAFF AND MONMOUTH ASSOCIATION.—Monmouth Branch.—Annual meeting, Rumney, Jan. 16th. Bells (6) 2.30 p.m. Service 4 p.m. Tea and meeting to follow. Names for tea, by Jan. 12th, to Mr. Ronald Lucas, 1, Castle Avenue, Rumney.—J. S. Evans, Branch Sec. 3721

LONDON COUNTY ASSOCIATION. — Southern District. — Annual general meeting, Jan. 16th, St. George's, Camberwell (Wells Way) 3. Service 4.30. Tea and meeting, Church Hall. Evening ringing to be announced.—J. H. Lott, Hon. Sec., 152c, Walton Street, S.W.3. 3777

OXFORD DIOCESAN GUILD. — Bicester Deanery Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Islip (6), Jan. 16th. Bells 2.30. Service 4. Tea 5. Names for tea C. H. Kinch, Causeway, Bicester. 3770

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD. — Oundle Branch.—Annual meeting, Oundle (8), Saturday, Jan. 16th, 3 p.m. Names for tea by 11th Jan. to Mrs. Clarke, 7, Bassett Place, Oundle. 3739

SALISBURY GUILD. — Dorchester Branch. —Annual meeting, St. Peter's, Dorchester, Jan. 16th. Bells 2.30. Service 4. Tea and meeting follow. Names to Mr. J. Smith, 147, Damers Road, Dorchester, by Jan. 13th, please.—Hayne, Sec., Abbotsbury. 3745

SOUTHWELL GUILD.—Newark District.—Annual meeting at Sutton-on-Trent (8), Jan. 16th, 2.30 p.m. Service. Tea in Church Hall. Notify, by Tuesday previous, Miss Burchnall, Sutton.—P. N. White. 3716

SURREY ASSOCIATION. — Southern District.—Annual meeting at Horley, Jan. 16th. Bells (8) 3. Service 4. Tea and business meeting 5. Names for tea by Jan. 14th to A. J. Bull, Jesmond, Queen's Road, Horley. 3771

SUSSEX ASSOCIATION. — Southern Division. — Practice meeting, Uckfield, Jan. 16th. Look up Oxford Bob Triples. Tower open 3 o'clock. Please notify for tea by Jan. 13th to C. W. Linington, 11, Queen's Drive, Hassocks. 3781

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD. —Andover District.—Annual meeting, Andover, Jan. 16th. Bells (8) 2.30. Service 4.30. Tea 5. Names for tea to Mr. O. G. Smart, 28, The Drove, Andover. 3743

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD. —Annual district meeting, Fareham, Jan. 16th. Bells (8) 3. Service 4.15. Tea 5 p.m. Names to A. H. Sturgess, 40, Osborne Road, Fareham. —S. K. M. Knight. 3778

WORCESTERSHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Northern Branch.—Quarterly meeting, Brierley Hill, Sat., Jan. 16th, 3 p.m. Service 4.15 p.m., followed by tea and business. Names for tea by previous Thursday, please.—Bernard C. Ashford, Sec., Bowling Green Lane, Stourbridge. 3727

GUILDFORD GUILD. — Leatherhead District.—Annual meeting, Leatherhead, Jan. 23rd. Bells 3–8. Service 4.30. Tea at 5 in St. Nicholas' Hall. Please send numbers for tea by Jan. 20th to G. Marriner, 7, Poplar Avenue, Leatherhead. 3754

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — N.E. District. — Annual district meeting at Colchester St. Peter's, Saturday, Jan. 23rd. Bells (8) 2.30 p.m. Service 5. Tea 5.45. St. Leonard's bells (6) also available afternoon and evening. Numbers for tea not later than Jan. 20th to H. J. Millatt, 46, Beaconsfield Avenue, Colchester. 3758

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — N.W. District. — Annual meeting at Harlow Town (8) on Saturday, Jan. 23rd, at 3 p.m. Service 4.30 p.m. Tea at 5 p.m. in the Queen's Head.—G. Blake, Dis. Sec. 3764

ESSEX ASSOCIATION. — South-Eastern Division.—The annual general meeting will be held at Great Waltham (8) on Saturday, Jan. 23rd. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.30. Business meeting and election of officers for 1954 after tea. 3734

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Canterbury District.—Quarterly meeting, Birchington, Saturday, Jan. 23rd. Bells 2.30. Service 4.15. Tea is by kind invitation, but numbers for tea must reach Mr. J. A. Russell, 40a, Station Road, Birchington, not later than Thursday, Jan. 21st, and this is definite, no names, no tea. —B. J. Luck, 20, Beaconsfield Road, Canterbury. 3761

KENT COUNTY ASSOCIATION.—Rochester District.—Quarterly meeting at Rainham (8) on Saturday, Jan. 23rd. Bells 3 p.m. Please note change of date. Names for tea by Tuesday, Jan. 19th, to Cyril S. Jarrett, 1, Blenheim Avenue, Chatham. 3760

LANCASHIRE ASSOCIATION. — Manchester Branch.—Ringing meeting at the Town Hall (entrance Lloyd Street) Jan 23rd, 3 p.m. Nearby cafes. All welcome. Note change of date.—R. Benson. 3752

LINCOLN DIOCESAN GUILD. — Eastern Branch. — Meeting, Wrangle, Saturday, Jan. 23rd. Bells 2.30 p.m. Service 4.15. Tea at Angel Inn at 4.45 p.m. Names for tea to me by Monday, Jan. 18th. — W. E. Clarke, 99, Norfolk Street, Boston. 3757

PETERBOROUGH DIOCESAN GUILD.—Towcester Branch.—Annual meeting, Towcester, on Saturday, Jan. 23rd. Please notify Mr. V. Burt, Church Cottage, Towcester, for tea by Tuesday previous. Service 3.30 p.m.—W. A. Yates, Branch Sec. 3750

SALISBURY DIOCESAN GUILD. — Salisbury Branch.—Annual meeting, St. Martin's, Salisbury, Jan. 23rd. Service 4. Tea and meeting 5. Bells available: St. Martin's 3.15 and after meeting, St. Paul's 2.15 and 8, St. Thomas' 6.30–8. Please send names for tea by Tuesday, 19th, to Miss Eloie, 81, Hamilton Road, Salisbury. 3780

SOCIETY FOR THE ARCHDEACONRY OF STAFFORD.—Winter meeting, St. Mary's, Stafford, Jan. 23rd. Bells (10) 3 p.m. Choral Service 4 o'clock, with address by the Archdeacon of Stafford. Tea 5 o'clock. Names for tea not later than Jan. 20th to Mr. R. J. Warrilow, 197, Tixall Road, Stafford. 3773

SOCIETY OF ROYAL CUMBERLAND YOUTHS.—Annual meeting, Jan. 23rd, Shoreditch, 2.30, St. Martin-in-the-Fields 3.30. Tea 5 p.m. for those who notify me by Jan. 20th. —Mrs. C. J. Matthews, Hon. Sec., 177, Engadine Street, Southfields, S.W.18. 3766

WINCHESTER & PORTSMOUTH GUILD. — Winchester District. — Practice meeting, Ropley, Jan. 23rd. Bells (6) 2. Service 4.15. Tea 5 in Village Hall. Names by previous Tuesday to R. F. Brewer, Dean, Sparsholt, Winchester. 3759

ANNUAL EAST HARLING DINNER MARDLE.—To Norwich Area and all Norfolk Associations.—Saturday, Feb. 6th, Swan Inn, East Harling, 7 p.m. Tickets, 7s. 6d. each, limited to 50. Bells available: Quidenham (8), North Lopham (8), East Harling (6), Bur Street bell (1) and handbells. Please book early from Dr. P. Jonason, White House, East Harling, Norwich. 3726

OXFORD UNIVERSITY SOCIETY. — The annual lunch will be held on Feb. 6th at the George Restaurant, Oxford. Will old members interested please contact Miss P. Holborn, 130, Hady Hill, Chesterfield, for further details and ringing arrangements. 3696

READING, BERKS. — At St. Mary's on Dec. 20th, 1,280 London Surprise Major: Mrs. A. Diserens 1, A. Diserens 2, Miss A. B. Diserens 3, R. D. Tomlin (first in method) 4, A. H. Hinton 5, F. W. Lewis 6, R. F. Diserens 7, N. J. Diserens (cond.) 8.

QUARTER PEALS

ALDRINGTON, SUSSEX.—On Dec. 20th, 1,260 Plain Bob Minor: D. H. Paine (first of Minor) 1, Mary W. Brown 2, H. W. Brown 3, E. E. Trusler (first of Plain Bob Minor 'inside') 4, Valerie Mepham (first of Plain Bob Minor 'inside') 5, S. W. Brown (cond.) 6.

CIRENCESTER, GLOS.—On Dec. 20th, at the Parish Church, 1,260 Grandsire Triples: F. J. Lewis, sen. (cond.) 1, W. G. Cook 2, Sgt. L. Dixon, R.A.F. 3, V. R. Williams 4, H. L. Cooke 5, E. H. Jefferies 6, F. J. Lewis, jun. 7, W. H. Hayward 8. Rung for the Confirmation service and also as a farewell to Sgt. Dixon, who has been posted overseas.

DERBY.—At the Cathedral on Dec. 11th, 1,289 Stedman Caters: S. Walklate 1, G. A. Halls 2, J. A. Constant 3, C. Glenn (cond.) 4, P. H. Whitaker 5, A. E. Thompson 6, H. Taylor 7, D. R. Carlisle 8, F. R. Lowe 9, J. B. Stennit 10. A welcome to the Rev. Ronald Alfred Beddoes, M.A., instituted this day as incumbent and Provost of Derby Cathedral. —Also at St. Andrew's Church on December 21st, 1,260 Stedman Triples: P. H. Whitaker 1, C. Walklate 2, H. Letts 3, George Freebrey (cond.) 4, D. Walklate 5, S. Walklate 6, H. Taylor 7, R. A. Scott 8. First of Stedman for 5 and 8. A 72nd birthday compliment to the conductor.

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